



Issue/5 July • 2017 41st Year Happy 4th of July! We wish everyone a safe and happy holiday! Delivered Door-to-Door by Monthly Mania Winner! \$100 • Alan Dusseault Park Residents FREE Every Month Underhome Armor view this newsletter on-line at www.monthly-media.com

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CALENDAR INFO SUPPLIED BY SOCIAL CLUB; CONTACT PRESIDENT, KATHY TROLL 727-400- 2768

MEMBERSHIP BECKY COLLINS 727-459-5185 TICKETS FOR EVENTS BECKY COLLINS 727-459-5185 WE CARE ANNETTE WILSON 727-236-0228

WELCOME WAGON WEDNESDAY SANDY RASMUSSEN 612-432-7874

REMINDERS: please submit articles for the Domei by the 10th of each month.

The majority of the calendar info is supplied by the Social Club, along with individual resident submissions.

If there are omissions, *please notify the editor, personally*, so the DOMEI can seek to avoid them in the future.

Most residents prefer to know about the events/articles well in advance, rather than the day of the event. This allows them to **place the calendar on the refrigerator**, as an easy reminder of what to plan for, avoiding conflict of scheduling.

SUMMER MEN'S ACTIVITY...

LED BY THE EVER PRESENT LOYAL LEADER/ZIGGY WYETH.

CALL ZIGGY FOR FURTHER DETAILS.. **727-559-1304**; golf tee off time is 8:30 AM; (ladies can stay home and enjoy their morning coffee and sweets, a.k.a caffeine and sugar) to start the day, aahh.

ANY CARD GAMES NOT LISTED, CONTACT CONNIE HOBBS 870-448-4435; connieronnie@yahoo.com



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Michael Ellis Pinellas Park, FL















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YOU CAN CHAIN ME...YOU CAN TORTURE ME ...BUT YOU CAN NEVER IMPRISON MY MIND...(GHANDI)

PRESIDENT'S LETTER

Kathy Troll

appy July! The **dog days of summer** are upon us. Don't let that keep you away from our planned activities. The Fourth of July celebration will begin at 3:00 pm and include a shuffleboard tournament, a golf cart parade, pot luck supper and music at the pool from our own Mr. Bill. Keep your eyes on our bulletin board for the sign up sheet for this and for all other postings for our upcoming summer activities. On another "cooler" note to all women, try joining us at 9'ish in the morning for water aerobics. A refreshing way to start your day! It's a light workout at your own pace with a lot of laughter! A very happy, healthy and safe summer to all.

THE BEST AND MOST BEAUTIFUL THINGS IN LIFE CANNOT BE SEEN OR TOUCHED.... THEY MUST BE FELT! (HELEN KELLER)

WHAT IS THE HISTORY OF JULY 4TH? AND INDEPENDENCE...

Noreen

re you aware of the overlapping intent and amendments involvement of both the Constitution and the Declaration of Independence, with many more to follow. Many more misinterpretation applications. The most frequently quoted and emphasized as the cornerstone is "the freedom of speech". It is usually without full understanding, only as a weapon.

What about the amendments over the years. What were the basics, the originations. Does Ellis Island ring any bells. I can still hear the phrase. "Bring me your huddled masses".

Over the years these have been added, race, religion, creed, color, sexual identification and right as a freedom of expression, etc. The number of amendments is massive and yet miniscule, that we must specify God given rights, amazes me.

Individuality of freedom is the basic element of the American way. You are determining what fits for you.

Even at this age I still remember my history teacher. She is the one who instilled that voracious curiosity for the rights of other, even at this age, I continue to learn.

SO, what is your freedom?

What is your interpretation of FREEDOM for yourself and others.

What does the **FOURTH OF JULY** mean to you? People have paid a high price so that we might have these freedoms, would you?



OOPS! DIRECTORY PROBLEM

Gene & Anita Francouer

The directories for 2017/18 were passed out by the Block Captains on the week of April 24th. Thanks to the block captains for their help. If you have not received one, please see the office as they have the balance.

Also, we have been informed there are a few mistakes (a very few, thank the Lord). Our apologies for those that have been affected by these mistakes. We have already changed them in the directory for next year. If you would like to put the corrections in your own directory, we have them listed below

- 1. Joe Walker Phone = 727-538-2604 not 727-531-9686
- 2. Maggie Walker Phone 727-531-9686 not 281-760-6254
- 3. Kathleen Karlau Phone = 727-643-2248 not 727-763-2248
- 4. Carl Hardy = lives at 2648 Marco Polo, not 2627 Butterfly Dr.
- 5. Larry & Jo Ann Richman = own 2652 Rice Paddy Dr., also 2637 Sumo Dr.
- 6. 2627 Butterfly Dr. is a rental unit not Carl Hardy
- 7. Please remove the phone number for Marion Decker at 2655 Teakwood Dr. shouldn't have been listed.

We hope you use your 2017/18 directory and benefit from it. If you see another mistake as published please let us know so we can make the change for next year's publication. E-mail = gfranco2@maine.rr.com. Please do not bother the office with changes.

We left for Maine May 6th. If the e-mail doesn't work for you, we return to Butterfly Drive on or around the middle of October.

ALL TRUTHS ARE EASY TO UNDERSTAND ONCE THEY ARE DISCOVERED, THE POINT IS TO DISCOVER THEM .. GAILEO

65 YEARS OF MARRIAGE

By Dorothy Ravener

JAY, AUGUST 10, 2015

I did not know this morning that God was going to call you home.

In life I loved you dearly, in death I do the same.

It broke my heart to lose you, you did not go alone

For part of me went with you, the day God called you home.

You left me beautiful memories, your love is still my guide.

Although I cannot see you, you are always by my side.

Our family chain is broken and some things not the same, But as God calls us one by one, the chain will link again.

For Ever, Dorothy



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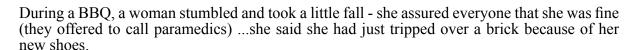
NEW SIGN OF STROKE ... AT ANY AGE !!!

Gail Connell

STROKE: Remember the 1st Three Letters.....

S. T. R.

STROKE IDENTIFICATION:



(Many of us have done the same thing, minimized or made excuses out of embarrassment? I did. Two weeks ago while taking out the laundry I fell down TWO little stairs. Did I mention it to anyone? Of course not.

After reading this article I swallowed my pride in hopes that personal experience will bring someone else to their senses. You choose, pride or life? I was "f.i.n.e., just a, s.n.a.f.u.", the first day. (most military men know what these mean, usually).

The second day I developed pounding headaches, swollen knee and "wrenched" back. Of course I will go to the doctor. If it gets worse and who pays attention to a few bruises anyway?.... Noreen)

The point being, have you checked on your neighbor, young or old, and even if it is just to say "hello". Yes, even younger people can have strokes. There is no age limit.

They got her cleaned up and got her a new plate of food. While she appeared a bit shaken up, Jane went about enjoying herself the rest of the evening.

Jane's husband called later telling everyone that his wife had been taken to the hospital - (at 6:00 PM Jane passed away.) She had suffered a stroke at the BBQ. Had they known how to identify the signs of a stroke, perhaps Jane would be with us today.

Some don't die. They end up in a helpless, hopeless condition instead.

It only takes a minute to read this.

A neurologist says that if he can get to a stroke victim within 3 hours he can totally reverse the effects of a stroke...totally. He said the trick was getting a stroke recognized, diagnosed, and

...continued on page 10



then getting the patient medically cared for within 3 hours, which is tough.

RECOGNIZING A STROKE:

Thank God for the sense to remember the '3' steps, STR. Read and Learn!

Sometimes symptoms of a stroke are difficult to identify. Unfortunately, the lack of awareness spells disaster. The stroke victim may suffer severe brain damage when people nearby fail to recognize the symptoms of a stroke.

Now doctors say a bystander can recognize a stroke by asking three simple questions:

S * Ask the individual to SMILE.

T * Ask the person to TALK and SPEAK A SIMPLE SENTENCE (Coherently) (i.e. Chicken Soup)

R * Ask him or her to RAISE BOTH ARMS.

If he or she has trouble with ANY ONE of these tasks, call the emergency number immediately and describe the symptoms to the dispatcher.

*****New Sign of a Stroke ******

Stick out Your Tongue!

NOTE: Another 'sign' of a stroke is this: Ask the person to 'stick' out his tongue. If the tongue is 'crooked'. If it goes to one side or the other, it is also an indication of stroke.

THE SELF IS NOT WHAT ONE FINDS ... IT IS WHAT ONE CREATES

CRIMINAL INVESTIGATION

(OR INVITATION)

Think about it as you travel for the summer or the holidays. We have all heard the stories of property being "burgled", sometimes even while the residents are in their home, maybe even watching television or bathing.(Uggh!!)

Some sure fire indicators to the bad guys, that you or your home may be vulnerable:

- Place BLUE tape over your mail box...bright blue tape (an alternative would be to have the post office forward or hold your mail).
- Close your window covers... what's a little monsoon rain, or your possessions.
- Cover your car with full protectors, all of them.

These are only a few head scratchers that make you go, hmmmm. There has to be a better way. Unless, you want to really make things easier for criminals. Just post a sign out front that says "Come on in, help your self!" Well, it will save on window replacement, because they won't have to break a window to get in. No nasty police investigation, or insurance premiums increases because...wait for it...you invited them in.

And now you know why we need a NIGHT WATCH, be sure to contact Sandy Rasmussen for details.

10









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ADVICE IS ALWAYS EASY TO GIVE ... NOT TO FOLLOW

Wednesday Welcome Wagon

Speaking of Sandy Rasmussen, be sure to also discuss the Wednesday Welcome Wagon, 5pm to 7pm...another "FREEBIE".

This is her brainchild to bring together new residents, with those who have been here long term and can show the ropes to the "new guys". It is held after 5PM for those who are exhausted from still being employed.

Really, it's not just pot luck, dinner, dancing and donuts,50/50 raffles, door prizes, while watching television, grandchildren and the middle age spread, as you snore. What do YOU want? We can't change what we don't know is a problem.

How about a brainstorming session? Bring us your new ideas. Age does not mean that we are not open minded, just maybe "crotchety"

I'm thinking marathons of some kind. Cancel the speed limit for one day without complaint. Don't WALK around the park.. speed jog(?), put those high speed bikes to use. OK, maybe a specified time enmasse of anything with wheels, pets can ride along with you too.(so their feet don't touch the pavement, facilities available at the doggie park).

Would you be interested in leasing a bus to the casino for a full day of **GAMBLING**.

Everyone needs extra cash and fun while you fill your pockets.

CHÁ CHING!!

ORIGINALITY IS NOTHING BUT JUDICIOUS IMITATION (VOLTAIRE)

FOURTH OF JULY

Connie Hobbs

You are all cordially invited to our Annual Fourth of July Celebration. At 3:00 pm we will gather for a Shuffleboard Tournament; at 5:00 we will have a Golf Cart Parade and follow this at 6:00 pm with a potluck supper and music by Mr. Bill at the pool. We will also be having a 50/50 drawing.



We will then adjourn around 9:00 pm to the Bay for the awarding of prizes while we await the fantastic Fireworks over the Bay. The signup sheet is on the bulletin board to tell us how many residents to expect and what you are bringing to the pot luck.

CONTACT KATHY CURRIE FOR DETAILS ON UPCOMING WOMEN'S SUMMER LUNCHEON AT FAT CAT TAVERN
3665 EAST BAY DR. 11:30 FRIDAY JULY 7TH...ALL WOMEN INVITED



WHEN SOMETHING DOESN'T FEEL RIGHT...THAT'S THE TIME TO PAY ATTENTION

MEMORIAL DAY LUNCH

Connie Hobbs

That a great event! I was called early Monday morning. It was the first day I had off in a long time. I was planning to sleep in. It was Paul Troll, with the news that our President, Kathy Troll, was in the hospital. She would be unable to do the Memorial Day event. He asked if I could do it for her. Of course, I told him not to worry. I would be right down.

But the real reason I'm writing this is that not only did I go right down, so did Janet & Bob, Charlotte, Rita, Patty, Florence: Sandy & Mark. Everyone I called came to help. We had it all set up in nothing flat. Even the entertainment (music), we had figured out and got it going.

It was really heart warming to see everyone come together, helping to make it a wonderful time for all.

Everything went smoothly. Volunteers stepped up. All you have to do is ask. I was amazed how many people just pitched in.

WALKING WITH A FRIEND IN THE DARK, IS BETTER THAN WALKING ALONE IN THE LIGHT (HELEN KELER)

FATHERS DAY - JUNE 18

Connie Hobbs

en got in free for this one. The ladies had to pay \$3.00. We had pizza, beer, sodas and water and of course, desert. We had a special gift for each man and had two baseball game tickets as door prizes for men only. Thanks so much for all my helpers that made this a memorable event.

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9 No cards	Cribbage 7:00PM	Ladies C Foot 12:
No cards	Cribbage 7:00PM	Ladies C Foot 12:
No cards	Cribbage 7:00PM	Ladies C Foot 12:
No cards	Cribbage 7:00PM	

Japanese Gardens

	—			
uesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1 Koffee Klatch 8:30 AM George Whyte Memorial
K 4 TION!! RGE ETS!! Cards - Hand & 30PM endence Day	5 Ladies Cards-PAY ME- 7:00 PM	6 NO CARDS	7 Men's Golf Tee Off: 8:30AM; Hand & Foot 12:30: Florida 7:00pm WOMENS SUMMER LUNCHEON	8 Koffee Klatch 8:30 AM KARAOKE
11 Cards - Hand & 30PM	Ladies Cards-PAY ME- 7:00 PM	NO CARDS	Men's Golf Tee Off: 8:30AM; Hand & Foot 12:30: Florida 7:00pm	15 Koffee Klatch 8:30 AM
18 Cards - Hand & 30PM	19 Ladies Cards-PAY ME- 7:00 PM	NO CARDS	21 Men's Golf Tee Off: 8:30AM; Hand & Foot 12:30: Florida 7:00pm	22 Koffee Klatch 8:30 AM International Potluck
25 Lards - Hand & 30PM	26 Ladies Cards-PAY ME- 7:00 PM WELCOME WAGON WEDNESDAY	NO CARDS	28 Men's Golf Tee Off: 8:30AM; Hand & Foot 12:30: Florida 7:00pm	29
	ADVANCE PLANNING? PUT THESE ON YOUR CALEN- DARS. AUGUST 12TH; Corn Bread and Bean Cook Off AUGUST 26TH; Pool Party SEPTEMBER 4TH; Labor Day Potluck SEPTEMBER 25TH; Just Us Two Duo.DANCE			S M T W T F S 1 2 3 4 5 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31























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JAPANESE GARDEN DOMEI JULY, 2017 C



THE ZIKA VIRUS IS STILL WITH US

Noreen

Tust when you thought it was safe to go outside. It is still in headlines around the world. The best defense is information. Zika came from the continent of Africa, then migrated across the South Pacific, ultimately arriving in Brazil. It can cause in some cases, rash, headaches, fever, paralysis, nerve damage, encephalitis, miscarriages, birth defects and deaths in newborn babies (like grandchildren).



The Zika virus is mostly caused by mosquitoes native to tropical regions, (that would be us). Oh, and yes it can also be sexually transmitted. (Don't cringe. We are old enough.) We all know ZIKA is with us, in America, even in the cocoon safety of Japanese Garden.

It can be basically prevented by air conditioning and window units, to filter the incoming air. Be sure to wear insect repellant and long clothing during "the season" when going outside.

Be sure to empty all water holding vessels, as they are breeding grounds for all, and any, types of mosquitoes and insects. These carry a variety of life threatening diseases, which seem like harmless bug bites at the time.

The consequences of not following a few simple instructions are truly life threatening.

BETTER TO BE TEACHING THE HARD WAY... THAN LEARNING THE HARD WAY

JAPANESE GARDEN AT THE BALLPARK

Connie Hobbs

June 3rd was our most recent baseball game. It rained all day, everyone wondered if this would happen. But, it did and the Threshers ended up winning 2 -1. It was military appreciation night so there were several young people sworn in to duty before the game and salutes to the armed services. Also some parachutists landed on the ball field. The last two that came down were connected to each other carrying a big American flag.

The fireworks were awesome as usual, even though we had to wait for it to get dart since the game ended early.

And, of course, we all stuffed ourselves with the great food and ice cream for desert

JUST AN ALL AROUND GREAT EVENING.



THE BLUES...YOU FEEL THEM, NOT SING, LISTEN OR HEAR THEM.... (BILLIE HOLLIDAY)

THE PERSONAL TOUCH

Noreen

Te deliver to your home, for those who do not have, cable (channel 96), internet or are physically not able to maneuver to the clubhouse. The DOMEI will help keep you informed.

THE FIRST CONDITION OF IMMORTALITY IS DEATH, GUILT IS MORE PAINFUL THAN DEATH.

GUILT IS A WONDERFUL THING ??!!

Noreen

specially the way I hammer and nag about volunteers. It actually works. Nagging, that is.

Originally, "Block Captains" were designated to deliver the DOMEI. It helped make the community more cohesive. Times and demographics have changed. We have many residents who are still in the work force. Also, many of our resident historians have moved back to be closer to their families, for a variety of reasons. Many are no longer with us. Some moved into Japanese Garden when the first shovel of dirt broke ground. Just ask Dorothy Ravener, or Charlie Braun. Guess what the cost was then.

Personally, I will miss many terribly. Their individual experiences are amazing. Once upon a time in the outside world we were all "someone", or held a job of great "import". Life changes. Now, we are different people, and our "import" has changed. Now, we find different ways to contribute to our community, society, and life. We become involved in many different things, some volunteer, and for that, I am grateful. Thank you ever so much for stepping forward.

One new **DOMEI Delivery Driver** volunteer is Annette Wilson, with the additional responsibility of We Care, and her contributions to the DOMEI by keeping us informed of the health and welfare of our residents, i.e. hospitalizations, rehab, returns home, and of course those who have passed on.

Betty Harrison. Betty is a "silent" volunteer. She is a "wing man", behind the scenes volunteer. She works without fanfare. Betty is also the sidekick of Annette Wilson, helping others, but never telling, or bragging. Just, helping her neighbors, with an ever present smile.

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Next is Kris Sandberg. He is a relatively new resident, but fantastic neighbor and great chef!! Welcome to the neighborhood and thank you for pitching in. (you would not believe the people he already knows, it's amazing)

Since we as a community have changed from origination, even to just ten years ago, until today, our delivery system has also changed. We are no longer "Block Captains", as it is too limiting in relation to the area covered by the number of available volunteers. If we only had "Block Captains" many areas /blocks would not receive their DOMEI. We want to reach everyone.

In that vein, many of our current drivers (year round residents) have stepped forward to increase coverage area, during the summer, while our northern volunteer drivers are away.

Please thank them all, for their contribution to the community as **DOMEI DELIVERY DRIVERS.**

This will help separation of delivery responsibilities, i.e. Domei, Night Watch tracking and reports, and fliers for individual upcoming events/activities. This will prevent concern of overlapping drivers, with each category making these decisions in recruiting choices. Regardless, we can't do it without you.

SOMETIMES WE DO RIGHT AND WE STILL LOSE.

INTERNATIONAL DINNER

Janet Episcopo and Connie Hobbs

JULY 22ND, SATURDAY, AT 1PM!!

Bring the favorite Pot Luck dish of your nationality!

Soda and water will be provided. Get creative! Show your heritage. Yum! Yum!

FREE! NO CHARGE. If it's free, it's for me, Remember it's a good four letter word. FREE!!



A MANS' HEART CANNOT ACHE FOREVER.

A Complete Listing of Resident Services can be found on the page before your calendar



CORNBREAD AND BEAN BAKE OFF

Noreen

Tothing screams home cooked, stick to your ribs, Southern cooking (or Northern) like the comforting smell and taste of special family recipes, for cornbread and beans.

Families have been known to guard their family recipes like gold. The tradition of sweetest heritage.

From one generation to another, it could not be bought, no matter the price.

Hungry yet? Can you smell it and taste it? All your senses should be swimming by now.

So, bring your secret family concoction (not necessary to share guarded recipes) to the bake off CONTEST

Yes, it is a taste test, with prizes, for different categories.

Contact President Kathy Troll for further details.

YOU SEE WHAT POWER IS...HOLDING SOMEONE ELSE'S FEAR IN YOUR HAND AND SHOWING IT TO THEM

FREE MEDICATIONS

Noreen

heck it out. Pharmacies usually include those "annoying" paper inserts in your plastic bag when you pick up your prescription from Publix Pharmacy on South Belcher (a.k.a. Gulf to Bay and Belcher intersection). Sometimes we just glance at them and toss them. Who wants more paper advertising and less trees?

On my last trip to the pharmacy, I had time enough to actually read them. It had one of those good four letter words.

It seems Publix Pharmacies wants to help keep us healthy. Imagine that. They have made several commonly prescribed medications FREE, as long as your doctor prescribes them.

Ask your pharmacist about Amlodipine, Lisinopril, Montelukast, Metformin, and select oral antibiotics such as Amoxicillin, Ampicillin, Ciproflaxin XR, Sulfamethoxazole (SMZ-TMP).

These are only possibilities, and must always first be discussed with your pharmacist and doctor. I did. Based on our income, everyone is on a budget. We pinch pennies everywhere we can.

This information is simply that, information. I am not a doctor just frugal and wish to remind my friends and neighbors that Knowledge is Power. You decide how you choose to use it.

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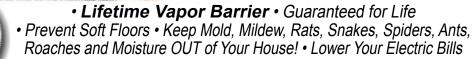
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Carol Zapiecki, Clearwater, FL





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George Lordstrom, Saint Petersburg, FL





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do. 710 and on the mo		bilotiolo villi pioti ap tilo tionoto alla li	ola a alaming. Il yo
(Allow 4-6 weeks for ma	ailing of c	heck). This month's cash	winners are:
Alan Dusseault\$	100	Underhome Armor	Bert Pattison
Charles Perry \$	\$10	Discount & Computer Repairs	Joan Taylor
		Suncoast Auto & Tire, Inc.	Jeffrey Stringfield
		Rod Runners, Inc.	Marvin Prochaska
Dan Baldassi \$	\$10	Ron Wyngarden MH Wash, LLC	Eugene Kerkay
Stan Dewey \$	\$10	Modern AC & Appliance Service	Effie Reed
Lynn Rasmussen \$	\$10	Doll Brothers Carpet Cleaners	Laurie Stockle
Michelle Smith	\$10 ASC	Aluminum Specialty Contractors	Paul Brown
Ralph Lamontagne \$	\$10 E &	E Gliddon Air Conditioning, Inc.	Doyce Hayth
		tures Resource Pest Control, Inc.	Elliot Cameron
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Yvonne Erfourth \$	\$10	Master Plumbers and Septic Inc.	James Cates
Raymond Bachara \$	\$10	Recreational Golf Carts LLC	Pat Jackson
		Appliance Specialty, Inc	Alfred Cyr
		Royal Enterprises	Harold Caldwell
Nicholls Maschak	\$5	Bill the Carpet Guy	Mary Wahl
		Air Masters of Pinellas, inc.	Jeanne Cole
		Florida Anchor & Barrier	Dave Uhlenbrauck
Barbara Carpenter	\$5	Bob's Mobile Home Washing	Donna Savery
Claudia Dell	\$5	Haseney Electrical Services, Inc.	James Fay
Jim Lyness	\$5	Jones & Sons Plumbing, Inc.	Sheila Pape
		Heller's Mobile Home Washing	Maryann Maitino
Mary Schmidt	\$5	Boss Electric Corp.	Deborah Arntz
Heidi Willeford	\$5	Appliance Specialty, Inc	Jeff Grimm

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		Recreational Golf Carts LLC
Alfred Cyr	\$5 .	Largo Plumbing Co.
Harold Caldwell	\$5 .	Royal Enterprises
Mary Wahl	\$5 .	Ron Wyngarden MH Wash, LLC
Jeanne Cole	\$5 .	Florida Anchor & Barrier
Dave Uhlenbrauck	\$5 .	Royal Enterprises
Donna Savery	\$5 .	Sunset Appliance Service
James Fay	\$5 .	Hellers Mobile Home Washing
Sheila Pape	\$5 .	Barrons AC & Appliance Service
Maryann Maitino	\$5 .	
Deborah Arntz	\$5 .	AMS North West
Jeff Grimm	\$5 .	Bob's Appliance Repair

[•] Limit of one ticket per visit • Advertiser may have up to 4 winners per month • Advertiser must have bill paid current to qualify • No purchase necessary • Contest void where prohibited by law • Green tickets available at participating Monthly Media advertisers.



REVENGE IS NOT A PASSION, IT IS A DISEASE

A TYPICAL AMERICAN YOUTH- section 1.. to be continued.

by Mel Moen

nce upon a time, long, long ago and far, far away, a typical American youth was born.

As a toddler, they dream of growing up to be big and tall and strong, like their Dad.

Later, in their childhood, they dreamed of driving a BIG Truck or driving one of those Excavators (at that time, they pronounced it Excalators).

Then, of course, came the time when that dream changed to one of being a cowboy. Riding the plains . . . Rounding up cattle . . . Racing horses across the prairie. Wow!

As a pre-teen, the Dream became a "little more realistic". Like maybe a Fireman . . . Or maybe a Doctor?

At that age, the Dream also started to include, that special Girl. The one who would bring love, and a home, and home-baked cookies into their life. While they worked to take care of her and their home.

However, along with this aging process came the realization that society was going to do everything it could to prevent this Dream. Everything that they had learned, everything that they had heard, everything that they had seen, everything in their world, scream at them, that they could never have this Dream.

. . . . because this youth was born a female.



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A DIFFERENT PERSPECTIVE

Patty Gerboc

I love Japanese Gardens!

Every single day I find an opportunity (or more) to say "I am so happy here".

I love my home, the pool, golf cart living, Social Club events, the Canadians, the Northerners, and the relationships of small community living.

But like all small communities, familiarity can sour a relationship, especially if gossip goes unchecked. As a teenager my mother said "if you don't have anything nice to say, don't say anything at all". I'm sure you have heard this before and probably have even said it, too. But here in Japanese Gardens, we are no longer teenagers, we are grown ups! Every single one of us has lived a life of great joy and great sadness, most of us have raised kids, lost our parents, some have lost kids or spouses. We have overcome sickness, mental illness, violence and watched as our loved ones have succumbed. We've been CEO's, and secretary's and janitors, we've made money and lost money; we've been respected and look down on and we all wear our 'own lives' like a comfortable old robe.

Kindness should be the next order of business here. With the scars of life stamped on all of our hearts we should just hop on the road to compassion and live by some simple rules of life:

If it's not true, don't say it If it's hurtful, don't repeat it If it's not yours, don't take it If it's not right, don't do it

Japanese Gardens is filled with amazing, wonderful people, and no one should deliberately try to diminish the lives or accomplishments, of others.

In a world where you can be anything, be kind.



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-Monthly Media Staff

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