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RANCHMOBILE

February 2015 Issue 12 38th Year Jeanette Taylor, Arlene Bell, Monthly Mania Winner! Dee Hall, & Jacqeline Weaver \$100 • Terry Frerkes of Pointe West are ASC Inc. ready for Mardi Gras! Delivered Door-to-Door by Park Residents FREE Every Month lew this newsletter on-line at www.monthly-media.com

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February Birthdays

| 1 | Ruby Borland | 2 | Donna Sprague | 2 | Fred Grant |
|----|---|-----|------------------|---------------|------------------|
| 2 | Paul Thibault | 30 | Louise Gross | $\frac{2}{4}$ | Cheryl Cruz |
| 4 | Gary Burk | 6 | Mike Davenport | 6 | Mike Nowak |
| 6 | Betyl Olson | 7 | Arnold Jungkind | 7 | Joan Shaughnessy |
| 7 | Carol D'Ascoli | 8 | Peg Gifford | 8 | Kenneth Rodgers |
| 9 | Annette Small | 9 | Paul Winn | 9 | Frank Niziolek |
| 10 | Dennis Kiernan | 10 | Sandra Sharpe | 10 | Derrick Frowen |
| 10 | Andre Lamy | -11 | Angele Lanovaz | 11 | Barbara Blais |
| | Mike Ray | 12 | Peggy Mozo | 12 | Lou Quenneville |
| | Bonnie Řuff | 13 | Terry Riley | 14 | Gerry Chantigny |
| | Dani Fairchild | 15 | Pat Richards | 15 | Lola Goller |
| | Bill Dixon | 16 | Don LeBleu | 16 | Dennis Waite |
| 16 | Marilyn McCartne | | Charles Lessa | 17 | Peggy Barrett |
| | Bill DeBar | 19 | Ken Marston | 21 | Shane Smith |
| 21 | Janie Lang | 22 | Cookie Caron | 22 | Glenn Gifford |
| | Vera Carver | 23 | Marianne Topjian | 23 | Sandra Thibault |
| | Ron Naglic | 24 | Mitch Frail | 24 | Brian Hurley |
| | Maurice Caron | 25 | Gloria Delanty | 25 | Laurie Arenburg |
| | Lori Dupras | 25 | BeaMeagher | 25 | Bob Bums |
| | Tom Fontaine | 26 | Janice McGillis | 26 | Norman McGillis |
| | Keith Carver | 27 | Don Croteau | 27 | Irwin Lett |
| | Sam Dow | 28 | Darrell Collins | | |
| _0 | ~ · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · | | 2 20111110 | | |

February Anniversaries

| 1 | Mike & Yoyo Cunningham | 1958 |
|----|------------------------|------|
| 1 | Ray & Claire Labbe | 1964 |
| 3 | Keith & Vera Carver | 2007 |
| 7 | Mike & Sharon Ray | 1959 |
| 11 | Bob & Carol D'Ascoli | 1961 |
| 14 | Glenn & Peg Gifford | 1959 |
| | Allen & Mary Tavernier | 2011 |
| | Charlie & Dianne Lessa | 1970 |
| 15 | Chet & Ellen Pszenny | 1964 |
| | Ray & Sandy Barrow | 1968 |
| | | |



AMERICAN/CANADIAN FELLOWSHIP DINNER

MERICAN/CANADIAN FELLOWSHIP DINNER will be held on Monday, Febmary 23rd, 6:00pm, at the clubhouse. Tickets will be sold starting February 4th to Ranch Mobile Residents ONLY for the first two days. (Residents who desire more tickets for family & friends will be put on a waiting list.) Cost is \$8.00 per person. You will have a choice of Rib dinner or Chicken dinner. Bernie Lake, Glenda Alford & Rose Paquette will be selling tickets starting Feb. 4th. Proceeds will go to the park improvement fund. Doors will open at NOON on Feb. 23rd. For more information contact Sharon Gowland.

Romance For Seniors on Valentine's Day

n older couple were lying in bed on Valentine's Day. The husband was falling asleep but the wife was in a romantic mood, brought on by the fact that it was Valentine's Day, and wanted to talk. She said: "You used to hold my hand when we were courting." Wearily he reached across, held her hand for a second and tried to get back to sleep. A few moments later she said: "Then you used to kiss me. "Mildly initated, he reached across, gave her a peck on the cheek and settled down to sleep. Thirty seconds later she said: "Then you used to bite my neck." Angrily, he threw back the bed clothes and got out of bed. "Where are you going?" she asked.

"To get my teeth!"

Question and Answer Valentine's day jokes

- Q: What do squirrels give for Valentine's Day? A: Forget-me-nuts.
- Q: What did the valentine card say to the stamp? A: Stick with me and we'll go places!
- Q: What did the light bulb say to the switch? A: You turn me on.
- Q: Did Adam and Eve ever have a date? A: No, but they had an Apple.
- Q: What did one snake say to the other snake? A: Give me a little hug and a hiss, honey.
- Q: Why did the banana go out with the prune? A: Because it couldn't get a date.
- Q: What is a ram's favorite song on February 14th? A: I only have eyes for ewe, dear
- Q: What travels around the world but stays in one corner? A: A stamp.
- Q: What happens when you fall in love with a French chef? A: You get buttered up.

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RM DANCE CLUB NEWS

From: Dorothy Wade

The New Years Dance was an enjoyable evening for all, starting with our social hour which was followed by a lovely buffet dinner.

Door prizes were won by Roberta Patterson, Charlie Holwell, Karen Russell and Lori Rouleff. 0 Share the Wealth was won by Helga Frank, Mike Hurley, Annette Small, Joe Sullivan and Maggie Olson.

The club dues, by-laws and duties of officers were discussed and passed at our January meeting, and are currently in effect.

Our next dance is February 14", at 7:00pm. Music by "Reno". Tickets arre \$5.00 each.

Dance club elections will take place on March 12'h. Four positions will be coming vacant. If you would like to be a candidate, please contact Pam Katterheinrich, Sandy Barrow or Leanne Lowety.

We wish you all a Happy & Healthy New Year!!

The Best No-Bake Bars You'll Ever Eat!

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Ingredients:

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- 1/2 cup honey
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- 2 cups dry oats (not instant)
- 1 C shredded coconut
- 1/2 C chopped walnuts (optional)
- 1 1/4 cups dark chocolate chips
- 1 tsp. vanilla extract

Directions:

Melt peanut butter, honey and coconut oil over medium-low heat. Once melted, remove from heat and add oats, shredded coconut, chocolate chips and vanilla. Stir until chocolate is entirely melted. Pour into a 9x13 pan and cool in the fridge. When it's set, cut into bars and enjoy. Store in the fridge. If they last that long!!!!!



WEDNESDAY NIGHT EUCHRE SCORES

Sumitted by Marilyn Lett

December 10, 2014

| | · · | | |
|----------|---|---|---------------------|
| December | Lone Hands First place Second Place Third Place | Shirley Duke Irwin Lett Eleanor McDaniel Mary Jo | 3 54 51 51 |
| December | Lone Hands First place Second Place Third Place | Michael Ray Laurie Wookey Irwin Lett Betty Bobber | 5 62 57 55 |
| January | 7, 2015 | | |
| | Lone Hands First place Second Place Third Place | Eleanor McDaniel Shirley Higbie Mary Jo Ward Ron Nadon | 3 67 63 56 |

Hi Ranch Mobile Shufflers

Te are now into a new year of shuffling. We hope 2015 is going to be your best year ever. Don't forget the pancake breakfast every third Tuesday of the month (Feb 24th and March 24th). We have one fun day left (Feb 21st)and also two more shuffleboard meetings (February 3'd and March, 3rd). During January we sent over 20 shufflers to Fairway Village and invited a couple of other parks to shuffle here at Ranch Mobile.

We have our practice shuffling on Tuesdays (9:30am) and Saturdays (12:30) and we hope to see a lot of Ranchers come out to enjoy the fun of shuffling. Shuffling is a great way to meet new people. Keep an eye on the Ranch Mobile weekly bulletin and remember to mark down the dates and times for the event so that you don't forget to participate.

Lets make 2015 a great shuffle year where you come out and have fun, and at Ranch Mobile, that is what it all about, having fun, fun, and more fun.

Sincerely Secretary Doris Coulombe

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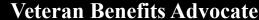




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THE OLD COOT SAYS IT'S TIME TO CHANGE

By: Merlin Lessler

It's a new year; it's time to take inventory, to throw out the stuff that doesn't work. Get an old coot to help with the process; we love to tell you what you're doing wrong. Start the assessment with how you view your birthday. Is your perspective out of whack? Are you making too big a deal of it? When you were a kid, your birthday was a monumental event; it meant you were old enough to take the next step-start school, get a two-wheeler, drive a car, buy a six-pack (with your very own ID) and vote. Your parents were excited as you reached each new plateau, but it doesn't matter anymore; nobody cares that it's your birthday. The fact that all the cards you get are "belated" should give you a clue; it's time to let it go.

Here's another harsh reality; you're not going to become the leader of the free world! I know your mother said you could grow up to be president, but it ain't gonna happen. Unless you get your mail at the governor's mansion in Albany, or the Senate Building in Washington you are out of the running. It's time to face the truth. And, speaking of faces, yours isn't getting any better looking even if you find a "good" mirror and cock your head at the precise angle to minimize the bump in your nose and the enormity of your ears. Hollywood won't be beating a path to your door.

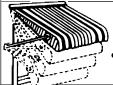
There are a lot of clues that tell you it's time to change, if you pay attention - Do you greet people with, "How's it going?" Have you noticed that this question gets you more than you bargained for? They go on and on about an ingrown toenail or a burned pot roast. While you are bored and not listening, ask yourself, "Do I go on like this too?" If the answer is yes, it's time to change. When you're asked how's it going, simply say, "Great!" - "Thanks for asking." You won't bore them and you won't give them an invitation to bore you.

Another conversation offense you need to be sensitive to is the, "You think that's bad syndrome." No matter what anyone says to you, you try to top them. They had a tooth filled and it hurt so bad they cried - you had an impacted wisdom tooth pulled and the dentist broke your jaw. Their car gets 30 miles to the gallon - yours can go 100 miles on fumes. If this is the pattern of your conversations, it's time to SHUT-UP! Don't take it personally, it's not just you, a lot of people mistakenly think that everyone is dying to hear how good or how bad you have it. They're not.

The saddest example of this syndrome is the young mother-to-be, who finds herself surrounded by a group of veterans who've given birth to a legion of children. She mentions the discomfort of her pregnancy; they chuckle and then attack as a pack with an endless stream of delivery nightmares. The poor girl flees in tears, wondering how she ever got herself into such a mess. She goes home and kicks her husband.

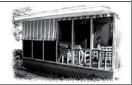
There are a lot of things to throw out. You need to accept yourself for who you are. You won't be getting any taller, or any thinner. Your hair won't get thicker and more lustrous. Your physique or figure won't improve. In fact, you'll be lucky if it doesn't slip several inches lower on your skeletal frame by the time you get your first Social Security check. So let it go! Face life as it is and enjoy the journey. It's the trip of a lifetime! (And, a short one at that.)

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Submitted by Betty Bober

| November 22, 20 | 14 | December 20, 20 | 14 |
|-----------------|-----|-----------------|-----|
| Sandy Pare' | 207 | Irwin Lett | 20 |
| Al Belli | 200 | Betty Bober | 19 |
| Mary Jo Ward | 195 | Don Duke | 19 |
| Louise Innes | 195 | Ruth S. | 19 |
| December 6, 201 | 4 | 10/10 | AL |
| Rachel Melanson | 199 | Y Viis | N. |
| Dotti Belli | 191 | | V |
| Shirley Duke | 191 | 01246 | |
| | | (B) | #/C |

BATHTUB THERAPY

Betty Bober

It doesn't hurt to take a hard look at yourself from time to time, and this should help you get started. During a tour visit to a mental institution, a visitor asked the Director what the criterion was which defined whether or not a patient should be institutionalized.

"Well," said the Director, "We fill up a bathtub, then we offer a teaspoon, a teacup and a bucket to the patient and ask him or her to empty the bathtub."

"Oh, I understand," said the visitor. "A normal person would use the bucket because it's • bigger than the spoon or teacup."

"No," said the Director, "A 'normal person' would pull the plug. Do you want a room with or without a view?"

DON'T FORGET YOUR ANNIVERSARY!

190

d was in trouble. He forgot his wedding anniversary. His wife was really ticked. She told him, "Tomorrow morning, I expect to find a gift in the driveway that goes from 0 to 200 in 6 seconds. And it better be there!!" The next morning Ed got up early and left for work. When his wife woke up, she looked out the window and sure enough there was a small box, gift wrapped, in the middle of the driveway. Confused, the wife put on her robe and ran out to the driveway and brought the box back in the house. She opened it and found a brand new bathroom scale. Funeral services for Ed have been scheduled for Friday.

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FEBRUARY•2015

| Sunday | Monday | Γ |
|--|---|---|
| National Freedom Day 7:00PM Bid Euchre | 9:00AM Walkercise 9:30AM Bowling 10:00AM Aquacise 6:00PM Poker @HH | 9:00AN Club M |
| 6:30PM Vespers 7:00PM Bid Euchre | 99:00AM Walkercise 9:30AM Bowling 10:00AM Aquacise 5:30PM Silver Circle 6:00PM Poker @HH | 9:00AN 9:30AN 1:00PM 7:00PM Ralstor |
| Susan B. Anthony Day 6:30PM Vespers 7:00PM Bid Euchre | 9:00AM Walkercise 9:30AM Bowling 10:00AM Aquacise 5:00PM Golden Agers 6:00PM Poker @HH President's Day | 9:00AN 9:30AN 1:00PN 7:00PN Vincen |
| 22 6:30PM Vespers 7:00PM Bid Euchre Washington's Birthday | 9:00AM Walkercise 9:30AM Bowling 10:00AM Aquacise 5:30PM AM/CAN Dinner 6:00PM Poker @HH | 9:00AN 8:00AN Break 9:30AN 1:00PM |

Ranch Mobile

| uesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday | Saturday |
|---|--|---|---|--|
| 3 A Dance Itg. | 8:15AM Koffee 9:00AM Walkercise 10:00AM Aquacise 10:00AM Line Dancing 6:30PM Bridge 6:30PM Triple Play& Cribbage 7:00PM Cards/Euchre | 9:00AM Walkercise 10:00AM Pool Club 10:00AM Golf 1:00PM Cribbage @CH 6:00PM Poker 6:30PM Bingo | 6 9:00AM Walkercise 10:00AM Aquacise 6:30PM triple Play & Cribbage 7:00PM Poker @ HH | 9:00AM Miniputt 12:30PM Shuffle 6:00PM Golf Dinner |
| 10 A Walkercise A Shuffle I Triple Play I Mark 1 @CH | 8:15AM Koffee 9:00AM Walkercise 10:00AM Aquacise 10:00AM Line Dancing 12:00PM BP Clinic 6:30PM Bridge 6:30PM Triple Play& Cribbage 7:00PM Cards/Euchre | 12 9:00AM Walkercise 10:00AM Golf 1:00PM Cribbage @CH 6:00PM Poker 6:30PM Bingo | 13 9:00AM Walkercise 10:00AM Aquacise 6:30PM triple Play & Cribbage 7:00PM Poker @ HH | 14 9:00AM Miniputt 12:30PM Shuffle 7:00PM Valentine's Dance Valentine's Day |
| 17 A Walkercise A Shuffle I Triple Play I John t Band @CH ardi Gras | Ash Wednesday 18 8:15AM Koffee 9:00AM Walkercise 10:00AM Aquacise 10:00AM Line Dancing 6:30PM Bridge 6:30PM Triple Play& Cribbage 7:00PM Cards/Euchre | 19 9:00AM Walkercise 10:00AM Golf 1:00PM Cribbage @CH 6:00PM Poker 6:30PM Bingo | 20 9:00AM Walkercise 10:00AM Aquacise 6:30PM triple Play & Cribbage 7:00PM Poker @ HH | 21 9:00AM Miniputt 10:00AM Shuffle Fun Day 7:00PM Court Whist |
| 24 A Walkercise A Pancake A Shuffle I Triple Play | 8:15AM Koffee 10:00AM Open Bd. Mtg. 10:00AM Aquacise 10:00AM Line Dancing 6:30PM Bridge 6:30PM Triple Play& Cribbage 7:00PM Cards/Euchre | 26 9:00AM Walkercise 10:00AM Golf 1:00PM Cribbage @CH 6:00PM Poker 6:30PM Bingo | 27 9:00AM Walkercise 10:00AM Aquacise 6:30PM triple Play & Cribbage 7:00PM Poker @ HH | 28 9:00AM Miniputt 12:30PM Shuffle |

OLD COOTS HAVE HIGHLY FUNCTIONING SHORT-TERM MEMORIES

By: Merlin Lessler

ld coots and young children have a lot in common: their interaction with society is erratic, they are self focused, have no patience, can be embarrassing to be with, cause public disturbances, wake up a lot in the middle of the night, won't share their toys and go around with name tags sewn into their clothes. We have the name tags for the same reason as the kids; we leave our stuff all over the place. All sorts of stuff.

Drop in any place old coots gather, and you'll find it littered with the things we've left behind: baseball caps (with Mickey Mantle's signature embroidered across the brim), NY Giant Super Bowl XXV sweat shirts (with Phil Simms number on the back), eye glasses (with lenses the size of saucers), seven day pill dispensers (with 42 compartments), the New York Daily News (opened to a completed crossword puzzle with six misspelled words). The clothing items have a name tag inside; the rest of the stuff is engraved with our phone number. But, we never get anything back. It goes to the museum.

Of course those ID's wouldn't help us find the glasses we've frantically searched for, with them resting on the top of our head. Something we don't notice until we catch a glimpse in the hall mirror. Or, the car keys we carry around in our hand as we scour the house looking for them. Even though we've frantically switched them from one hand to the other while checking our pockets. A half dozen times!

But, contrary to popular opinion, the problem isn't due to a defective short-term memory. Just the opposite. Our short-term memories work too well; they immediately overwrite all previously stored information. Take the typical old coot situation; we walk into the kitchen to get something and stop dead in our tracks and mumble, "Why did I come in here?" It seems like a short-term memory problem to the uneducated, but it isn't.

On our journey to the kitchen we stopped to pick a wad of cat hair off the floor, walked over to the bathroom to throw it in the waste basket, unscrewed the filter on the sink faucet and cleaned the screen, peeked out the window to check the bird feeder and then went to the kitchen. All those new memories override the one that sent us there in the first place.

We don't deserve to be chastised for a short-tenn memory deficiency. Just the opposite; we should be praised for having a fantastic, short-term memory. I'd finish this thought with a clever ending, but I just looked out the window and saw a squirrel run up the tree with a black walnut in his mouth and lost my train of thought. Oh yes, Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!























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- It is true that love is blind but marriage is definitely an eye-opener.
- Getting married is very much like going to the restaurant with friends. You order what you want, and when you see what the other fellow has, you wish you had ordered that.
 - -It's true that all men are born free and equal, but some of them get married!
- -There was this man who muttered a few words in the church and found himself married. A year later he muttered something in his sleep and found himself divorced.
 - A happy marriage is a matter of giving and taking; the husband gives and the wife takes.
- -Son: How much does it cost to get married, Dad? Father: I don't know son, I'm still paying for it

Son: Is it true? Dad, I heard that in ancient China, a man doesn't know his wife until he marries. Father: That happens everywhere, son, everywhere!

WHAT WILL THE NEIGHBORS THINK?



Tack was living in Arizona during a heat wave when the following took place. "It's just too hot to wear clothes today," complained Jack as he stepped out of the shower. "Honey, what do you think the neighbors would think if I mowed the lawn like this?" "Probably that I married you for your money."

Check list for Fall-proofing your house

hink of this check list as a room by room "cheat sheet" for thinking about how well a house has been made senior friendly. Most of the items in this check list are important for "fall-L proofing" the home. The "member" is the older adult whose house is being "assessed".

Exterior entrances and exits

- 1. Are walk and drive surfaces even?
- 2. Is there a curb cut?
- 3. Are there handrails at the steps?
- 4. Are the handrails in good condition (Left, Right)?
- 5. Is there light in the driveway, walk, porch?
- 6. Do door and window locks work?

Interior doors, stairs and halls

- 1. Are doors wide enough for walker/wheelchairs?
- 2. Are there railings along the stairway? (And are they in good condition?)
- 3. Are there steps in the house? Is it easy to sec the change in the steps? Is it easy to notice





the first and last steps?

- 4. Is there adequate lighting? (Right level)?
- 5. Are there light switches at both ends of the stairs? Hallways?
- 6. Is there clutter in the hallways or on the stairs?
- 7. Is it easy to notice differences in the floor I carpet sm•face?

SP)

Bathroom

- 1. Are basin and tub faucets, shower control and drain plugs manageable?
- 2. Are hot water pipes covered?
- 3. Is minor height appropriate, sit and stand?
- 4. Is member able to reach shelf above, below basin?
- 5. Is member able to step in and out of the bath and shower?
- 6. Is there a bath bench in tub or shower?
- 7. Is member able to easily reach toilet paper? Flush toilet? Come from sit to stand posture?
- 8. Is space available for caregiver to assist?

Kitchen

- 1. Is kitchen adequately lit?
- 2. Is there task lighting?
- 3. Can member comfortably reach/use sink and counter? Too high?
- 4. Are shelves and storage in reach of member?
- 5. Are "most used" items at level easily reached?
- 6. Are under sink hot water pipes covered?
- 7. Is there under-counter knee space?
- 8. Is there a nearby surface to rest hot foods on when removed from oven?
- 9. Are stove controls located in rear or front of stove?

Living, dining, bedroom

- 1. Do chair, sofa, bed heights allow easy transition from sitting to standing?
- 2. Do rugs have non-slip pad or rug tape?
- 3. Do chairs have arm rests? (to support when standing)?
- 4. Is member able to turn on light, radio, TV, place a phone call from bed, chair, and sofa?

Laundry

- 1. Is member able to hand-wash and hang clothes to dry?
- 2. Is member able to access automatic washer/dryer?
- 3. Are detergents and wash materials within easy reach?

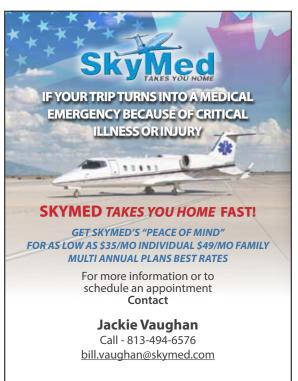
F

Telephone and door

- 1. Is phone jack location near bed, sofa, chair?
- 2. Is member able to get phone, dial, hear caller?
- 3. Is member able to identify visitors, hear doorbell?
- 4. Is member able to reach and empty mailbox?











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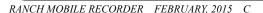
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EVENTS & PROGRAMS

BINGO, Thursday Nights, 6:30p.m., Paradise Island Clubhouse, 1001 Starkey Rd., Largo, 4 blocks south of East Bay. Kitchen open 4 to 6p.m. Dinner specials, sandwiches, Fries, desserts, drinks, ice cream, floats and sundaes. 29 games,\$50,\$250,\$250, payout-\$1850. Fun, Fun, Fun \$\$\$

Sat. Feb. 28, 8-1pm Flea Market, Colonial Village, 2000 East Bay Drive, Largo

Bingo, Friday nights 6:30pm - Four Seasons Estates Clubhouse, behind Largo Mall & Golden Coral. Variety of games; Prizes up to \$250!

SALE: Saturday, February 28. 8A-1P. Household, clothing, furniture, misc., bakery, lunch. Westwind I and II Clubhouses. 3301 Alternate 19 N., Dunedin. Enter off Alternate 19 or County Road 1

Silk Oak MHP Annual Bazaar 28488 US Hwy 19N, Clearwater, February 7, 2015. Great merchandise, food and raffle

Annual Bazaar - Shady Lane Oaks, 15777 Bolesta Rd. Off Roosevelt Largo - Sat. Feb 7, 8:30-1:30PM. Breakfast and Lunch Served

Gateway Park, 10100 Gandy Blvd., East of 4th St., West of Dog Track. Huge Park-Wide Sale, Feb. 7, Sat. only, 8am - 2pm Sat., Feb. 28, 8am - 1pm, BAZAAR. Doral Mobile Home Park. 29250 US hwy19N, (7/10 mile S. of Curlew). Two clubhouses full of: Clothes, furniture, bakery, trash/treasures, china, linens, electrical, etc. Morning coffee and doughnuts. Lunch at poolside begins at 10:30am.

Annual Rummage Sale, Sat. Feb. 7th 9-1, Harbor Lights MHP, 9191 Bay Pines Blvd

WHITE ELEPHANT SALE - DUNE-DIN, Sat, Feb. 14th 8am to 1pm, Lake Haven Mobile Home Park - Treasure Cove Club House, 1415 Main St (SR 580), Turn South on Lake Haven Rd, Turn East into Treasure Cove, Snack Bar Available

Vendors Wanted - Craft Sale - March 21, Park Royale MHP. Tables - \$15,00. Carol - 545-5430 Helen - 544-4178.

White Elephant Sale. Sat. Feb. 28, 8 to 12. Down Yonder MHP 7001 142nd Ave. Largo

Sat. Feb. 7th, 8am-1pm Annual Bazaar Lincolnshire Estates, 1071 Donegan Rd

Attic Treasure Sale at Sugar Creek Clubhouse, also Carport Sale. 10265 Ulmerton Rd., Largo (Behind Pier One Store,) Feb. 21, Sat. 8am-2pm. Bake Sale - Lunch - Hamburgers & Hotdogs at Clubhouse. Lots of Stuff - All Good Stuff!

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| Bill Lipka | \$5 | Doll Bros. Carpet |
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| Sandra Cordone | \$5 | Sunset Appliance Service |
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Storage Space

- 1. Is member able to reach closet rods and hooks?
- 2. Is member able to open bureau drawers?
- 3. Is there a light inside the closet?

Windows

- 1. Are opening mechanisms at 42 inches from floor?
- 2. Are windows easy to lock? Easy to operate?

Electric outlet and controls

- 1. Are there sufficient outlets?
- 2. Are outlets at reachable height?
- 3. Are outlets located in convenient areas on wall?
- 4. Are there any extension cords hazards?

Heat, light, ventilation, security, carbon monoxide, water temperature control

- 1. Are there smoke, CO detectors, and a fire extinguisher/
- 2. Is the thermometer display easily readable?
- 3. Can member access environmental controls?
- 4. Is member able to open windows?
- 5. Is member able to slide patio doors?
- 6. Is member able to open drapes or curtains?

February Sudoku

| | | | | | 9 | 1 | 5 | |
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| | | | 5 | 8 | | | | |
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The Old Coot runs a smart race?

By: Merlin Lessler

T'participated" in the Franz Family, 5-K run last Saturday. I arrived at the Little League field in the "Flats" at 9:30, signed in, picked up my T-shirt, made a donation (this year the money went to the Multiple Sclerosis Recourses of Central New York) and hung out in the middle of a pack of elite athletes, eavesdropping on their race strategy and coming up with my own.

It was cold. Bitter cold. The young runners wore knit hats, thin gloves and lightweight nylon and polyester workout suits. My racing attire consisted of three layers of clothes, wool socks, insulated hunting boots, double thick gloves, ear muffs, a scarf and a hooded winter jacket. Five minutes after signing in, I was frozen, a human ice cycle. The elite runners were casually chatting back and forth, stretching to stay limber and jogging down to the corner and back. I spent my time looking through the crowd for a guy with a flask. To no avail!

Finally, it was time to race. We lined up at an imaginary tape and Tommy Franz, the Franz who came up with the idea as a memorial to his uncle, Ed Franz, gave a little speech thanking the crowd for participating, explaining the genesis of the event and the safety rules. Some rude, old guy in the back kept yelling, "Lets go! Lets go! It's freezing out here!" Tommy's mother, Pat, blew her car horn to help move things along too. Tommy looked my way and asked me to be patient; he'd get it started as soon as he finished. How do you say no to a bearded Franz wearing a fuzzy red, horned Viking helmet?

Finally, we were off and running. I stayed in the back, in accordance with my "Tortoise and the Hare" strategy. (Let the other runners burn themselves out. I'll catch up and win.) Bill Franz, a guy of my old coot vintage and mind set, hung back too. He said his foot was acting up; I told him my knee was having a bad day. We looked at each other, and when the pack was out of sight, we hustled to our cars. He headed east; I went south, returning a while later with my wife, Marcia, to the taproom at the Farmhouse Brewery. Tommy said we would meet there after we finished. Marty and Natalie Mattrazzo, their son Alex and their two friendly dogs, Sal and Sofia warmly greeted us at the door. We were the first ones in. Marty started us off with a flight of beers, saying it must be five o'clock someplace, though in the "Flats" it was just barely 11 a.m.

After 10 minutes or, so the real runners started to wander in; before we knew it, the place was abuzz with Franz family members and friends - all eager to check out the plethora (sorry about that highbrow word: I just love the way it rolls off your tongue) of beers that Marty had crafted. It was the best 5K run I ever "participated" in. Tommy thanked us again and announced that over \$800 was raised for Multiple Sclerosis. The crowd then serenaded him with a Franz family tradition. I didn't hear all the words, but the song ended with something about him being a horse's rear end. I'll be there again next year, the Saturday following Thanksgiving. I'll stick with the same game plan. It worked out great! I was the first one to the tasting room!





























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