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RANCHERO VILLAGE

• BULLETIN •

C

December • 2016

Issue 10 40th Year

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Articles Due by the 10th of EVERY month

Ranchero Village Co-op Board of Directors

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 Vice President Bob Flanagan
 Secretary Marilyn Willette
 TreasurerRon Dennis

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 Director Dave Neumore
 Director Richard Chiz
 Director Max Lutes
 Director Kay Voorheis

The Association of Ranchero Village Homeowners, Inc. - 2016

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 V Pres... Annemarie Maciel . Lot 720... (727) 330-6662
 Sec./Tres Don Sullivan . Lot 925.. (727) 286- 6478
 FMO Lia ...Anne Marshlow . Lot 1038 (727) 531- 3253

DirectorPeggy Fagley . Lot 355... (727) 444-0827
 DirectorJim Riggs . Lot 174... (727) 458-6517
 DirectorMichelle Hensel .Lot 1066 ..(716) 491-1667
 Director Ass. Larry Idoux . Lot 410 .. (314) 724-3336
 Webmaster Bruce Perry . Lot 266... (727) 831-5441

Social Activities Committee - 2016

President..... Pat Bryant, 535-2439
 Vice President Judy Lutes

Secretary Leslie VanHorn
 Treasurer Eileen Condon

Committee Members

John VanHorn
 Marilyn Giddings 754-2223
 Linda Lush, 729- 4313
 Sharon Dennis 531-1564

Kathy Bowersox, 531-4716
 Nelson Guenther, 531-1347
 Sue Plunkett
 Barbara Sparrer, 507-7512

Max Lutes
 Jerry Ray
 Leslie Van Horn
 Judy Long
 Boyd Lee 524-4096

Social Activities

Aerobics Suzanne Bourdeau 533-9258
 Bingo..... Barbara Sparrer 507-7512
 Co-Chair..... Shirley Nonemacher ... 539-0604
 Bocce..... Ron Lawson 315-789-7629
 Bowling Ch.....
 Bowling, CoCh. Vicki Gardner..... 524-3412
 Bridge..... Ernie Sharpe..... 532-3867
 Bridge (Sat.)..... Curt Branin 902-7555
 Cards (Mon.).....
 Chorus Linda Lush 729-4313
 Coffee Coord..... Nelson Guenther 531-1347
 Crafts..... Nancy Carns..... 437-7154
 Cribbage..... Connie Letendre 531-2306
 Dance Assn..... Marilyn Giddings 754-2223
 Sharon Dennis 531-1564
 Dart Baseball..... Joe Saulkaus.....
 Co-Chair..... Larry Carpenter.....
 Entertainment Boyd Lee 524-4096

Exercise..... Rita Reed..... 530-0178
 Euchre Carol Martin..... 559-1528
 Library..... Nancy Richardson..... 535-2798
 Little Theatre..... Kathy Bowersox 531-4716
 Men's Club..... John VanHorn
 Men's Monday Golf Leag... John Gaffney 531-7852
 Men's Legends of Golf... Gerry Campigotto .. 330-6636
 Outreach..... Dave Neumore 535-5852
 Asst.....
 Piano (Sat. Coffee).....
 Shuffleboard..... Pat Bryant 535-2439
 Sunshine Persons Ruth Coleman 536-2911
 Boyd Lee..... 524-4096
 Tennis..... Jim Peel..... 727-530-5040
 Doug West..... 724- 4732
 Welcome Chair..... Susan Post 531-3272
 Women's Club..... Judy Long
 Women's Golf Marilyn Willette..... 535-3531

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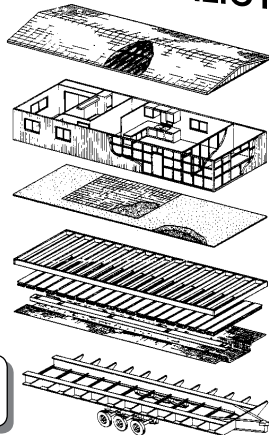
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Ranchero Village Co-op, Inc.

Gerry Soules, President

I want to take this opportunity to thank the many residents who have completed our requests to attend to some issues on their homes and landscaping. To those who as yet have not been able to do so, we ask you to make plans to complete the work necessary prior to the end of 2016. Your neighbors have done their part and we respectfully ask you to join them in our efforts to improve Ranchero Village. Resource Management have been instructed to ensure park owned homes are upgraded as well.

We will have another park wide inspection in January. We want to remind residents to please help us to help you.

The Holiday Season is now upon us and on behalf of myself and the Directors of the CO-Op, we take this opportunity to wish you a Merry Christmas and Happy New year!

HOA

Sandie Biddle, President

HOA (Homeowners Association) held their annual meeting on November 7th at the Hacienda Clubhouse.

We had 36 residents attended along with Gerry Soules and Bob Flanagan of the Co-Op Board. Lots of good discussion from the floor. Next workshop will be December 19th at the Lake Clubhouse at 10 a.m. everyone is welcome.

January 17th will be our second annual meeting, that will also be election of new board members. Jim Riggs at Lot 174 is taking names for anyone wanting to run for office.



January also begins our 2017 membership drive. Membership is only \$10.00 a year and with that you'll receive our MPD (merchant participation discount) card. We have a list of merchants that offer 10% with this card. Everyone is always welcome to our meetings and workshops.

SAC Committee

Pat Bryant, President; Judy Lutes, Vice President; Leslie Van Horn, Secretary; Eileen Condon, Treasurer

It is good to see everyone, those who have returned and those who live here with us all year. With all that has happened already in November, the Bazaar, the Thanksgiving dance, the Thanksgiving dinner catered by Bob Evans, plus much more for the different activity groups, everyone need to read their.

Bulletin and come to Coffee on Saturday morning to check and see what is happening at this point, where and when.

...continued on page 6



For Instance, in December, some of the things you don't want to miss are the Christmas cart Parade on Sunday, 12/11. (Look for separate announcement), the Holiday Chorus Concert, the Holiday dance, just to mention a few of the things going on.

The judging of the Holiday lights on the houses here in rancho will be on Friday, December 16th, at dark, and the winners will be announced at Coffee on Saturday morning, 17th. Hope there will be a lot of new homes out there displaying their beautiful decorations. Everyone should go out and enjoy them.

I am sorry to say, as of December 3rd , the price of coffee and a pastry will go up to \$2.00 due to the rise in our costs. We have put it off for a year, but we must at this time go forth with the increase in price.

The doors open for Coffee for EVERYONE at 7:30 a.m. so you can drink your coffee and enjoy your pastry while visiting with your friends. Our "Coffee Meeting" begins at 8:00 a.m. for a short informative and funny time of about 30 to 45 minutes.

On the second Saturday, there is free bread and pastries available after coffee is over.

Please come and join us. We sure don't want you to miss out on anything. Also remember coffee and a pastry are free if you are 85 years of age, or older. Tell the volunteer at the door.

If you are 85+, and they will set you up for your free coffee and a donut for the rest of your life here at Rancho Village. Otherwise, if you are younger than 85, it is just \$1.00 for a cup of coffee and a donut. Please come because this is a place where you find out what is going on in the park and meet new friends and see old ones. Don't forget to look for the weekly repeats page in your Bulletin

Looking forward to seeing all of you! Thank you! Be healthy and have a good life!

Christmas Parade

Sponsored by SAC

Everyone is welcome. Decorate your cart, bicycle, or tricycle, scooter, yourself on roller skates, or a skateboard. The parade will be on December 11, 2016. Line up will be at 4:45 p.m. at the Hacienda Clubhouse, with the parade starting at approximately 5:00.

Please bring sandwiches, snacks, cookies or desserts to share with everyone. SAC will furnish coffee and water, plates, cups, etc. Bring your food to the Hacienda Clubhouse prior to the parade because we will end up there to eat and give out the prizes. Please come and join us and have a wonderful time!

If you have any questions , call me (Pat) at 535-2439.





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Men's Club

John VanHorn, President; Dave Neumore, Vice President; Max Lutes, Secretary; Paul Allard, Treasurer

Board Meeting ..December 3, 2016...Corral Clubhouse

General Meeting.. December 22, Hacienda Clubhouse...7:00 p.m.

The Largo Fire Rescue will be here with information on how to evacuate in case of a fire, how to operate the defibrillators in the clubhouse etc. Men and women are invited to attend this meeting.

Hot Dogs chips and a beverage will be served. So come out and get some valuable information from Largo Fire and Rescue! Sign up December 3rd at Saturday coffee.

Pancake Breakfast... December, 16..Hacienda C/H 7:30 to 9:00 a.m.

Serving: Orange juice, Pancakes, Scrambled eggs, Sausages, coffee or tea.

Tickets are \$4.00 on now, before and after coffee.

Christmas Dinner...Thursday, December 8th ...5:00 p.m. at the Hacienda Clubhouse

Doors open at 5:00 p.m. Handicapped will be admitted at 4:45 with one caregiver.

Menu: Salad, Chicken Francese, Roasted Potatoes, Penne Alfredo, Green Beans, Rolls ,Dessert,

Coffee or Tea...BYOB....50/50

Tickets are \$12.00. Last day of sales is Saturday, January 3rd

Chile Nite...January 24, 2016...Hacienda Clubhouse...Serving Chile, Bread and Dessert

Tickets are \$6.00 on sale January 7, 2017 before and after coffee. BYOB...50/50.

Women's Club

Judy Long, President; Betty Campora, Vice President; Linda MacLean, Secretary; Sandie Biddle, Treasurer

The Women's Club would like to thank all that helped to make the Bazaar such a huge success. Please join us for our Christmas Luncheon, Tuesday, December 13th doors open at 11:30 a.m.

Come see all the gifts and bikes that are being donated by the generosity of Rancho Village to Toys for Tots. Please join us afterward for lunch that will be served at noon. We are having a hearty lunch provided by Bob Evans. You will have a choice of a turkey bacon wrap or a grilled chicken wrap and broccoli cheese or chicken noodle soup. For dessert we will have Cheese Cake with a toppings bar. The cost of lunch is \$8:00 and please bring an unwrapped toy or monetary donation. For those unable to attend, please contact Pat Reynolds at 539-6943 or Sandra Maloney at 532-9985 for the toys. For the bikes, please contact,

Jodi VanHaitsma at 989-621-0679 or Kay Voorheis at 742- 2183.

We are having a big Ice Cream Social on January 14th at 6:00 p.m. Tickets will go on sale December 17th before and after coffee. More Information at coffee on Saturday.



Dance Committee

Marilyn Giddings & Sharon Dennis, Chairpersons

Holiday Dance

December 3, 2016...Hacienda Clubhouse...7:00 p.m. - 10:00 p.m. ...Music by AT LARGE
Doors open 6:30 p.m. BYOB...50/50...Door Prizes
Tickets are \$7.00 on sale November 19th after coffee.
Chairperson for this Dance: Ron and Sharon Dennis



New Year's Eve Dance

December 31,...Hacienda Clubhouse...8:30 p.m. to 12:30 a.m.
Doors open at 8:00 p.m. Music by Joey Royal.. BYOB.... 50/50
Reserved seating ...Tickets \$15.00 per person...
On sale Tuesday, December 13th ...9:00 a.m. in the Hacienda Clubhouse
Chairpersons : Melody Eagan and Peggy Fagley

Aerobics

Suzanne Bourdeau

- Day and Time- Tuesday/ Thursday - 8:15-9:15
 - Equipment - Hand weights and ropes
 - Place - Corral Clubhouse
- Come and join us. Everybody Welcome!



Cardio Aerobics

Rita Reed

- Day and Time - Monday, Wednesday and Friday 8:15 a.m. -9:15
- Equipment - Bring Mats and Ropes
- Place - Corral Clubhouse

Crafts

Terry Werton will be heading up crafts until the Bazaar is over in November. She is retiring from this activity after many years. So that means we are looking for a new volunteer leader. If you are a crafty person and interested in doing this or want more information call Terry..530-0818



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Happy Holidays!



Outreach

Dave Neumore, Chairperson

Outreach is in full swing. Our group meets every Thursday at the Corral clubhouse @ 9:30 a.m. to 11:00 a.m. If you like people and enjoy some great friendship, stop by and visit. We can always use help with ironing, cutting material, sewing etc. and just have a great time.

Ranchero Chapel

Joyce Oliver, Secretary

Non-Denominational services held in the Corral Clubhouse each Sunday. We meet folks at 9:30a.m. and the service begins at 10:00 a.m. All are welcome; residents, renters, visitors and friends. A ladies prayer circle meets the third Tuesday of each month at 2:00 p.m. at the Lakes Clubhouse for an hour of fellowship and prayer. Call Karen at 523-7265 for further information or a ride. Each Wednesday at 7:00 p.m., we hold a Cottage Prayer/ Bible study meeting at the Corral Clubhouse with each attendee bringing their own non-alcoholic beverage to drink.



Bowling Highlights ...Month of October, 2016

Vicki Gardner

Roy Peloquin	244	245	205	694	Judy Russo	225	212	198	635
Alvin Ernst	231	246	205	682	Pat Peloquin	181	199		519
John Lech	2212	212		612	Vicki Gardner				487
Jim Braier	269			597	Eileen Young				407
Ricardo DeLeon	194	192		563					
Mike Sowers	199			548					
Larry Grasso				490					



Some real hard splits were made in recent weeks: Mike sowers picked up the 3-10& 3-6-7-10 splits,

Alvin Ernst picked up the 4-9& 6-7-10 splits, Ricardo Deleon picked up the 4-5 split, Judy Russo picked up the 4-5 & 3-6-7-10 splits, Pat Peloquin picked up the 3-10, 2-7 & 2-7-8 splits and Vicki Gardner picked up the 3-9-10, 3-10 & 5-6 splits.

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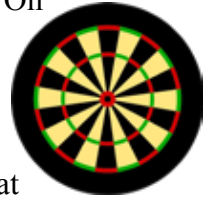
Dart Baseball

Joe Salkaus & Larry Carpenter, Co-chairpersons; Ruth Coleman, Treasurer;
Ruth Coleman, and Dino Sundin Stats; Josie Yeasted, Sunshine Lady

The Dart Baseball League has already started on November 18, 2016. On opening day we had about 40 players to play baseball.

Dart Baseball is played every Friday at 1:00 p.m. at the Hacienda. It's lots of fun and we always welcome new players. It is not too late to show up for League play

For dart baseball League information and questions call Joe Salkaus at 1-508-479-2270



Ranchero Village Chorus

President, Linda Lush

The Chorus will begin in January in preparation for our Spring Show in March 2017. If you enjoy singing, plan to join us on Monday mornings at 9:20 at the Corral. All voices are welcome-men and women,tenor, bass, alto, and soprano. Our Director Gordon, has a great program prepared, and it really looks like fun! More details regarding our first rehearsal in January will be available in next month's Bulletin.



Hope to see you there!

Shuffleboard

Pat Bryant, President....535-2439

The season is well underway. Welcome back everyone who were gone for a spell.

As usual we have had plenty to keep us busy and happy. Of course, one way is to play shuffleboard, and we will help you learn if you have never played before. We are looking forward to everyone joining us at the shuffleboard courts. We still play our silly game of "Horsecollar" on Tuesdays and Thursdays (weather permitting and the weather is fortunately is getting much better). Be there by 6:15 p.m. and we start at 6:30 p.m., and bring 25 cents. This is a game where nobody goes home empty-handed.

Also, we play competitive shuffleboard on Sundays at 6:30 p.m. Be there by 6:15 p.m., and bring three (3) dimes.

The courts are open daily until 10:00 p.m. for all adults to play. (Children 16 and under who play must be supervised by an adult.)

The Wednesday began on November 16, and Monday league began on November 21.

There is a schedule for each league on the bulletin boards at the courts.

...continued on page 19



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Carol Zapiecki, Clearwater, FL

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George Lordstrom, Saint Petersburg, FL



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If there is anyone that isn't on one or both teams already, and would like to be on one, call me (Pat) at 727-535-2439. Come and join us! We are looking forward to a great seson!

SEE YOU AT THE COURTS!

Little Theatre

President, Kathie Bowersox

Auditions will be held for THE REUNION, our Little Theatre play at the Hacienda Clubhouse on December 12, 2016 at 19:00 a.m.. If you need a copy of the script or would like to help out in a non-acting role, or if you have any questions, please contact Sam farmer at 531-9791. Rehearsals begin on Wednesday, January 4th.



This play, as well as our previous plays, written and directed by Sam Farmer, is a hilarious comedy filled with shock and surprise! Please plan on coming along with us to meet our old "class mates".

Our performance dates are February 20th and 21st at 7:00 p.m. so be sure to mark your calendar!

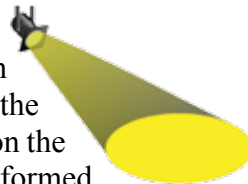
Ranchero Village Professional Entertainment

Boyd Lee, Chairperson

For the 9th season several professional shows have been booked and confirmed for Ranchero Village which will provide our residents the opportunity to have a very enjoyable evening at an affordable price.

The first show will be held on Monday, January 9th ,2017 at the Hacienda clubhouse with tickets at a cost of \$10.00 to go on sale in late December. The exact date for ticket sales will be announced at Saturday coffee.

Cahal Dunn, an international singer and pianist known as "Ireland's Happy Man" is one of the most popular entertainers to ever perform in ranchero Village and at your request he is returning. Cahal resides in the Pittsburg area but travels all over the world and as well he has appeared on the David Letterman Show, PBS and Entertainment Tonight. He has also performed for several American Presidents. This is a show for those who are Irish and those who wannabe Irish so purchase your tickets early.





The Heedless Hoarsemen Ride Again

Richard Smith, Publicity

Another great winter season at Rancho Village is about to start and the heedless Hoarsemen Male Chorus is looking for a few good men to join our friendly group of some twenty four voices singing four part harmony.

We practice from November through March then we perform for audiences inside the park and at various venues around Pinellas County, such as the local library and senior homes.

Ideal candidates would have had some choir experience, can read music and/or have played an instrument. Those who can sing in the higher tenor ranges may even get a signing bonus.

Others may they have a good singing voice or just love to sing in the shower!

Many of us heard that it was an ideal way to meet a very friendly group and have a lot of fun while entertaining many very appreciative audiences.

Some of us didn't even realize we could sing.

Why not just "try the Heedless Hoarsemen out" for a few weeks - no commitment - by coming to our **Tuesday 9:15 rehearsals at the Corral starting November 14.**

The "theme" will be **Beloved Favorites** from our vast repertoire of the past 20 years.

Please contact our Director, Ellen Bureau, at 230-3231 or our Manager, John Snow, at 812-6533.

Rancho Village Tennis Club

President, Jim Peel; Secretary, Doug West

Awarm welcome back to all Rancho residents and a special welcome to all tennis players!

We are geared up for another great season of tennis. Organized play is already underway. Would you be interested? Please have a look at our bulletin board at the Hacienda courts. Games are played on Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays... just sign up. All levels are welcome! If you are a beginner and would like to learn/improve, consider coming out to the Hacienda courts on Tuesday mornings and acquire some new skills. Membership fees are only \$15. For the entire season! Such a bargain!



Our first meeting of the season will be held on Tuesday, November 22, at the Lakes Clubhouse at 4 p.m.

Please put this date on your calendar! We look forward to seeing you on the courts soon!

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Legends of Golf

Gerry Campigotto, President

The pre-season warm-up is still going on. Sign-up in November was well attended. If you haven't paid your dues yet please see Steve Rummery. League play begins in January. It looks like we will have a few new members this year. We are always looking for players. Spares are needed as well. Hit'em straight!

Chics N Sticks Ladies Golf

Christine Campigoto

Our golf league is off to a good season. I'd like to welcome everyone back. This is my first year as president so please be patient as I learn the ropes. I'd like to thank Carol Martin, Deb Hill, Ardelle Luke and Connie Flanagan for all their help getting the league up and running this year. Best wishes for a speedy recovery to Ardelle although I hear that her cast is a new fashion statement. We are always looking for new golfers either as a team or spares. Contact me at chriscampigotto@gmail.com for any info. Thanks



Phase 10 and Hand & Foot

Sandi Biddle

Lately the "Phase 10" ladies have been playing Hand & Foot cards. So, we are going to set up several tables and you can choose which game you prefer to play. We are still at the Corral on Wednesdays at 1:00 p.m. See you Wednesday, Sandie

Mah Jongg

Fran Collins...530-3037

Wishing our northern players a safe trip home and a great summer. We look forward to your return in the fall. Mah Jongg continues to be played on Tuesdays at 11:00 a.m. at the Lakes Clubhouse.

We welcome anyone that wants to play or learn to play , Just show up!! Any questions, you can call me or just show up.



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Sunday	Monday	Tuesday
JANUARY 2017 S M T W T F S 1 2 3 4 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		
10:00 a.m. Chapel C 2:00 a.m. Movie	9:20 a.m. Chorus C 12:15 p.m. Shuffle C 6:30 p.m. Chapel Mtg. C	9:20 a.m. 10:00 a.m. W/C Bro 1:00 p.m. 3:00 p.m. Co-Op H 6:30 p.m.
10:00 a.m. Chapel C 2:00 p.m. Chorus Reh H 5:00 p.m. Cart Parade H 2:00 p.m. Movie C	9:20 a.m. Lil Theatre 7:00 p.m. Comm. Concert H	9:20 a.m. 12:00 n. 1:00 p.m. 6:30 p.m. 7:00 p.m.
10:00 a.m. Chapel C 2:00 a.m. Movie	10:00 a.m. HOA Mtg L 12:15 p.m. Shuffle C	9:20 a.m. 1:00 p.m. 2:00 p.m. Ladies C 6:30 p.m.
10:00 a.m. Chapel C 2:00 a.m. Movie	9:20 a.m. 1:00 p.m. 2:00 p.m.	9:20 a.m. 1:00 p.m. 2:00 p.m.
Christmas Day		

Ranchero Village

Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1 9:30 a.m. Outreach C 11:30 a.m. Bells C 1:30 p.m. Choir C 6:30 p.m. Shuffle 7:00 p.m. Co-Op Open forum H	2 9:20 a.m. Chorus C 1:30 p.m. Dartball H 1:30 p.m. Line Dance H 6:30 p.m. Movie C	3 8:00 a.m. Coffee H 9:30 a.m. M/C Brd. Mtg. C 9:30 a.m. Bridge C 7:00 p.m. Holiday Dance H
6 . Heedless C n. d. Mtg. C n. Watercolor C n. Brd. Mtg. H n. Shuffle	7 9:30 a.m. Crafts C 12:15 p.m. Shuffle C 12:30 p.m. Bowling 7:00 p.m. Bingo H 7:00 p.m. Bible Study C Pearl Harbor Remembrance Day	8 9:30 a.m. Outreach C 11:30 a.m. Bells C 1:30 p.m. Chorus C 5:00 p.m. M/C Xmas Dinner H 6:30 p.m. Shuffle	9 9:20 a.m. Chorus C 1:00 p.m. Dartball H 1:30 p.m. Line Dance H 6:30 p.m. Movie C	10 8:00 a.m. Coffee H 9:30 a.m. Bridge C
13 . Heedless C W/C Lunch H n. Watercolor C n. Shuffle n. VFW Mtg H	14 9:30 a.m. Crafts C 12:15 p.m. Shuffle C 12:30 p.m. Bowling 7:00 p.m. Bingo H 7:00 p.m. Bible Study C	15 9:30 a.m. Outreach C 11:30 a.m. Bells C 1:30 p.m. Choir C 6:30 p.m. Shuffle	16 9:20 a.m. Chorus C 1:30 p.m. Dartball H 1:30 p.m. Line Dance H 6:30 p.m. Movie C	17 8:00 a.m. Coffee H 9:30 a.m. Bridge C
20 . Heedless C n. Watercolor C n. Circle C n. Shuffle	21 9:30 a.m. Crafts C 12:30 p.m. Bowling 7:00 p.m. Bingo H 7:00 p.m. Bible Study C	22 9:30 a.m. Outreach C 11:30 a.m. Bells C 1:30 p.m. Choir C 6:30 p.m. Shuffle 7:00 p.m. M/C gen. Mg. H	23 1:00 p.m. Dartball H 6:30 p.m. Movie C	24 8:00 a.m. Coffee H 9:30 a.m. Bridge C 6:30 p.m. Chapel C Christmas Eve
27 . Heedless C n. Watercolor C n. Movie C	28 9:30 a.m. Crafts C 12:30 p.m. Bowling 7:00 p.m. Bingo H 7:00 p.m. Bible Study C	29 9:30 a.m. Outreach C 11:30 a.m. Bells C 1:30 p.m. Choir C 6:30 p.m. Shuffle	30 1:00 p.m. Dartball H 6:30 p.m. Movie C	31 9:30 a.m. Bridge C 8:30 p.m. New Year's Dance H New Year's Eve

Cribbage

Connie Letendre

Hi Everyone,
Welcome back to beautiful Rancho, hope you all had a wonderful summer. Just a reminder the Cribbage games will resume on Friday, December 2, 2016. Games are played at 6:30 at the Lake Clubhouse. The cost is only \$.25. Bring a friend and enjoy an evening out.



Watercolor

Lisette Norris

Interested residents are invited to register for Watercolor workshops, which will be held every Tuesday afternoon at the Corral Clubhouse from 1:00 to 4:00 p.m. starting November 15, 2016. There is no charge for the instruction provided. Beginners, please register at your earliest convenience by calling Lisette Norris at 533-8172...Lot 346

Line Dance

Bev Bowan

Come join us at the Corral Clubhouse for Line Dancing at 1:30 p.m. on Friday afternoon. Everyone is welcome. We have a lot of fun!!

Bocce

Ron Lawson, President

Our Bocce season will get off to a start with a short meeting on Wednesday, January 3, 2017 at the Lake House at 3:00 p.m.. There are sign-up sheets in all of the clubhouses so please add your name to one of the lists if you are interested in playing. Our first match will be on Tuesday, January 10th starting at 9:00 a.m. Call me with any question at 315-521-2702.



Jam Sessions, Tuesdays 7:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. Lakes Clubhouse

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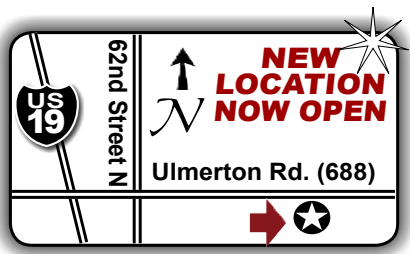
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Euchre and Bid Euchre

Carol Martin 559-1528

Due to past conflicts on Thursdays, such as Music night, Homeowners meetings and Thursday Socials at 4 p.m. our numbers for euchre have been steadily declining.

So I am suggesting that those who are still interested in a weekly or bimonthly game could sign up by e-mail or phone. I will make names and phone numbers available to everyone so you can arrange among yourselves for games in a suitable time in a member's home. Members can invite a table or two for a night of cards so we can keep these friendships going.

I will have two sign-up sheets, one for Euchre and one for Bid Euchre.

Hopefully this will help people network among themselves. I will also post these lists on the bulletin boards in each clubhouse and e-mail the lists to all who are interested. Hopefully we will be able to keep this club going in a slightly different format.

We had 12 out for our first night and more are expected next week. Maybe our numbers are ok after all.

Thursday Evening Social Hour

Marilyn and Richard Giddings

Come join your neighbors on Thursdays from 4-6 p.m. at the Corral Clubhouse. This lighthearted gathering is to meet your neighbors, find residents from the same part of the country, discuss hobbies, etc. You might even be able to leave with a new recipe or two. Bring your own beverage and a snack to share if you'd like.

Horseshoes

The Horseshoe pits have been renovated and ready for play. Horseshoes are stored in the Shuffleboard shed. Horseshoers get out there and play! Enjoy!

Ranchero Village Communications

On a computer, search 'Next Door Ranchero Village' to join our village communication system. Meet neighbors & see all of the activities here. Also on HD TV, tune into channel 732, or on basic cable, tune into channel 98-1 to see what events are happening at Ranchero Village.

Saturday Morning Bridge Improvement

Curt Branin

Help and practice for novices. Review for beginners and intermediate bridge players.

Enjoy this fascinating game while meeting new friends. Saturdays after coffee at the Corral Clubhouse. (If there is a memorial service we will play at the Lakes Clubhouse.) If you have never played before and are willing to learn, call me at 902-7555 or just stop in Saturday morning.



Bulletin Boards

Ruth Coleman

Bulletin boards are in every clubhouse for the use of the residents. Each bulletin board has a Sheet of guidelines to follow in the use of the boards.

Guidelines for use of Bulletin Boards:

1. Boards are for the use of Park Residents only.
2. File cards are not to exceed 3x5 (other sizes will be removed.)
3. Name, date and phone number must be included.
4. Renewal date is every three months with a new card.
5. No outside services or vendors are permitted.

Note: Notices will be removed if guidelines are not met.

VFW

Jim Biddle, Commander

VFW meeting is on December 13th at 7:00 p.m. in the Hacienda Clubhouse.

A day to remember is December 7, 1941 Pearl harbor day.

We have flags for anyone needing one just contact any board member.

Need help with the VA call Jim Biddle 254-6287. We will see what we can do. You will need your 214.

Merry Christmas to all and a safe one. SANTA I have been good so I would like a Harley!





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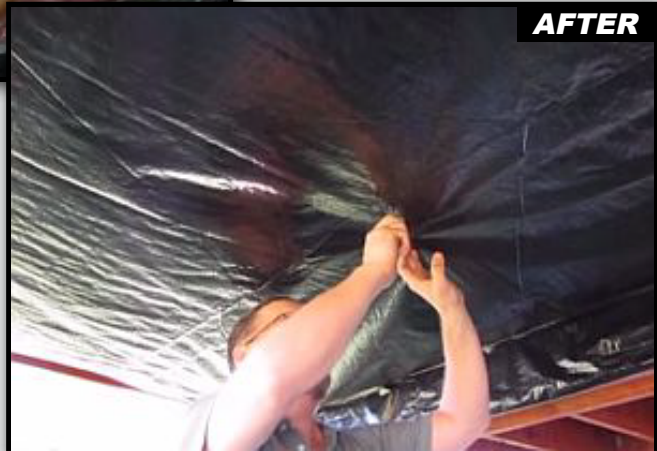
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VFW Dinner Dance

January 7, 2017...Hacienda Clubhouse...Doors open at 5:00 p.m. Handicapped will be admitted at 4:45 with one caregiver.

Menu: Tossed Salad, Chicken Cordon Bleu, Roasted Potatoes, String Beans, Penne Marinara, Roll & Butter

Desert and coffee or tea... BYOB... 50/50 ..Tickets are \$12.00 on sale December 10th
Last day of ticket sales is December 31st

Weekly Repeats

Mondays	12:00 n.	Cards	Lakes
	6:30 p.m.	Cards	Lakes
	6:30 p.m.	Bridge	Corral



Tuesdays	9:00 a.m.	WOW	Lakes
	11:00 a.m.	Mah Jongg	Lakes
	6:30 p.m.	Bridge	Corral
	7:00 p.m.	Jam Sessions	Lakes



Wednesdays	12:00 n	Cards	Lakes
	1:00 p.m.	Ladies Cards	Corral



Thursdays	4:00 p.m.	Social Hour	Corral
	6:15 p.m.	Euchre	Corral



Fridays	12 n.	Cards	Lakes
	6:30 p.m.	Cribbage	Lakes



Saturday	12 n.	Cards	Lakes
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Cardio Aerobics	Mon. - Wed. - Fri.	8:15 a.m.	Corral
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Aerobics	Tues. & Thurs.	8:15 a.m.	Corral
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Pilates	Wed. & Fri.	8:30 a.m.	Lakes
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	Mon thru Fri.	8:00 a.m.	Tennis
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Coupons for Troops

Bill Reynolds

Please cut your grocery coupons and save the ones you don't use. There is a box inside the front door of the Hacienda Clubhouse to put them in. The coupons are sent overseas by the Elk's They can be expired for up to six months. Any questions call Bill Reynolds @ 539- 694

From the Editor

Leslie Van Horn

The deadline for the bulletin is 10th of the month. You can bring your article to my home #625 or send them to me by e-mail: lesliev123@verizon.net

MESSAGE FROM THE MANAGE

MERRY CHRISTMAS AND A HAPPY HEALTHY NEW YEAR to all our wonderful Rancho family. We wish you safe travels and blessed times with family and friends through this beautiful season. The community office will be closed and all staff off December 23rd and 26th in observation of Christmas. The office will be open Dec. 31st (New Year's Eve) but closed on Jan. 1st2nd for New Year's Day. There will be no trash pick-up on neither Christmas Day nor on New Year's Day.

In case of a park related after hour's emergency, please call 727-346-4819

A Big Thank You!!

The Park is looking great. We have had many compliments from people as they are arriving back..

Thank you all for taking the time to weed, clean up, and paint.

TRASH AND RECYCLING

Please have trash and recycling out by 8:00am but not overnight. The routes have changed and they do very little back tracking. If you are using a trashcan, please make sure all trash is bagged. No loose trash will be picked up.

Please do not put plastic bags in with the recycling. It jams up the machine and the City of Largo gets very upset with us.

If you miss the trash truck, you can take it down to the maintenance yard. Please do not

...continued on page 37

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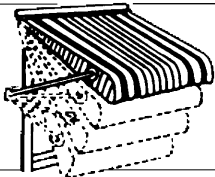
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put kitchen trash in the 2 big roll offs as you go through the gate. Kitchen trash is to go in the 4 dumpsters which are clearly marked “Kitchen Trash Only” Thank you.

NEEDLES AND SYRINGES:

Please dispose of all medical waste appropriately. If you are using syringes, please do not put them in the bag where someone can get stabbed with one. It is a major health concern.

If you do not have a box for disposing “sharps”, you can put them in a bottle and put the cover on so they don’t cause a problem.

DON’T FORGET TO SIGN IN:

Please remember to sign in at the office so we can update our records.

BUZZZZZZZZZZZZ

If you are having trouble with bees, please **DO NOT** try to exterminate them yourself. Call the community office for referrals if needed but do not try to spray them. Bees can be very dangerous and if the hive is Africanized it can be easily riled. Professional help is a must!!!

ONE WAY IS FOR BOTH CARS AND BICYCLES, GOLF CARTS, ETC.

I strongly urge residents to obey the one way arrows in the roads, especially around the clubhouses. Those following the correct direction of the arrows are not looking for those going the wrong way. We have seen many instances where someone has almost gotten run over because of someone going against the arrows. This applies to everyone, whether in car, truck, golf cart, bicycle, etc. And backing out is not approved just because the vehicle is facing the correct direction. We have some creative offenders!! Thank you for your cooperation in this safety measure.

KEYS

If you are leaving a position as officer of one of the organizations in the community, remember to return your keys to the Key Coordinator.

MESSY CONTRACTORS

Even though it may be a contractor doing the work on your house, it is still your responsibility to make sure that his mess is cleaned up and not left in the yard or street. You will be held responsible for any damage left by the people doing work for you.

Contractors are also required to take all debris and trash with them and not put it in the dumpsters at the maintenance yard. If you are doing your own work, please see the office for a Permit to dump your debris.

...continued on page 38



“FOR SALE”

Any items left at the end of driveways and marked as “for sale” will be confiscated as garbage. The annual carport sale will be in February and you are welcome to sell things that day.

MAILBOX FLAGS

The flags by the mailboxes at the Lakes and Hacienda Clubhouses are to be left down and only raised by the Mail Carrier. The mail person will raise the flag after delivering the mail, to signal that it has arrived. (The flags are not like rural mailbox flags which are raised to signal the carrier to pick up the out going mail. These signal in-coming mail.)

RENTERS

It is the responsibility of the homeowners to make sure that any additional occupants in their homes are properly registered with the park. If you are planning to rent out your home or have someone stay with you, review your Ranchero **Rules and Regulations** first.

Additional occupants and renters must be registered with the office and a background check performed prior to their arrival. It is the Homeowners responsibility to meet all the requirements. There is an application fee to cover this expense. Applications are available in the Office. They must be accompanied by two legible forms of identification for each person. For international applicants, copies of passports and driver’s licenses are required. These should be submitted at least 30 days in advance of the person’s arrival. Renters are to check in at the office upon arriving in the community.

IF YOU ARE A RENTER OR ADDITIONAL OCCUPANT and haven’t done the above, please come to the office immediately and get properly registered. Thank You!

PET RESTRICTIONS MUST BE OBSERVED BY ALL AND APPROVED BY MANAGEMENT BEFORE A PET CAN BE BROUGHT INTO THE COMMUNITY.

GUESTS

Guests staying more than 1 Week MUST be registered in the Community Office.

Guests **MUST** display Ranchero Village ID tags when at the pools. Residents should be accompanying their guests while at the pool or other location and are responsible for the behavior of their guests. Please review your Rules and Regs and acquaint your guests with the rules also. Children under 16 must be accompanied by an adult who shall assume full responsibility for their safety and conduct. No running, jumping or diving into the pool.

Guest pool tags are available in the office for a \$2.00 deposit each.

GOOD MORNING/GOOD EVENING signs are still available in the office for those who live alone and would benefit by having their friends/neighbors see a sign that all is well with them.

...continued on page 40

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HOT TUB USE is for adults only.

No one under 18. **Food and drink are not allowed in the pool/hot tub.** The hot tub is only meant for short sessions, no longer than 15 minutes. The use of alcohol combined with the relaxing heat of the hot tub can be a dangerous combination. A person can easily slip under the water unnoticed and tragedy can strike quickly. Never swim alone, use the buddy system for safety.

Also, for the health and well being of everyone, please do not go in the Hot Tub or Pools if you have wounds or open sores.

STOP SIGNS

Please stop at all STOP signs in the Park. Cars, golf carts, and bicycles, continue to roll through them and someone could easily get hurt one day. Just please pay attention.

DRIVEWAYS

When backing out of your driveway, please stop and look before entering the street. There have been several ‘close calls’ with residents backing out and not looking.

Landscaping and Mowing

If you have any problems with the landscaping or mowing, please contact the Rancho office and not the mowing crew. The office will contact their managers and get the situation resolved as quickly as possible.

GOLF CARTS

Golf carts are to only be driven by persons 18 years of age or older per Rancho Rules and Regulations.

SOLICITORS

DO NOT let them into your home!

Call the Largo Police Department (587-6730) immediately if you see solicitors and please let the management office know after you have called the police. We have been trying to catch and trespass them. If we can even get a license plate number it would help immensely. Management has been working with the police in an attempt to stop these offenders. Rancho is a plainly posted No Soliciting Community; no one should be coming to your door. These people are very bold and brazen; please help us stop them and any other solicitors before they take advantage of anyone else in our community.

GLASS BOTTLES

PLEASE REMEMBER that no glass of any kind is allowed around the pool area. We are getting reports of beer bottles around the pool. If glass is broken, you have the potential of

...continued on page 43

We Need Cover Pictures! Send in Your Interesting Photos!

Get Your Picture on the Cover - We select a new and interesting picture every month to be printed on the cover of your newsletter. If you or your neighbors have fun events or activities please send in a picture and we'll enter it to be selected. Please include a description of the image and a brief release allowing us to reprint the picture. Our mailing and email address are here:



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EVENTS & PROGRAMS

Ranch Mobile Park Wide Yard Sale, Saturday, January 7th, 8:00am - 2:00pm at 6800 - 150th Ave. N., Clearwater, (Largo).

CRAFT FAIR: December 10th, 2016, 9am to 1pm. Located @ Four Seasons Estates, 13225 101st St., Largo. Baked goods, donuts & lunch will be for sale.

CLOTHING SALE: Gently worn ADULT clothing: December 10, 2016 9am-1pm Located @ Four Seasons Estates, 13225 101st St. Largo.

Japanese Garden Art and Craft Show. Dec. 9-10, 9am-3pm. Artists wanted \$10 per table. Please call Charlotte 727-531-3651.

CARPOR SALE: Sat. Dec. 3rd, 8am-1pm. Park Royale MHP, 10611 66th St. N. Look for balloons.

CRAFT FAIR: Dec. 3rd 9-1. Southwind MHP 795 County Road 1, Palm Harbor.

Craft Fair Sunday Dec 4th Noon to 4PM. Down Yonder 7001 142nd Ave N, Largo.

CRAFT SALE: Saturday, December 3rd, 2016, 8:30 am - 1:30 pm. Sugar Creek MHP @ Clubhouse, 10265 Ulmerton Road, Largo (Behind Pier One Store). Bake Sale and Lunch. Tables \$10.00. Call Sally 727-584-4204

Palm Hill Ccountry Club Bazaar, Craft & Bake Sale. Saturday, Dec. 3rd, 8:30-1:00. North Clubhouse - 401 8th Ave. SW, Largo

Amber Glades Estates Community Wide CARPORT SALE - corner of McMullen Booth and RTE 580. December 10th, 9a-2pm.



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• Advertise BUY, SELL, TRADE ITEMS by sending copy & check to Monthly Media at P.O. Box 1023, Venice, FL 34284.
 • Ads over 10 words must be accompanied by \$.80 per extra word or publisher will edit. • No mobile home sales, no professional products or services. SORRY: No ads accepted by phone or email. DEADLINE: 10th OF EACH MONTH.

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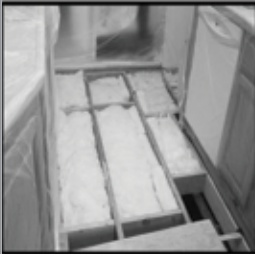
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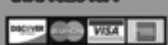


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THOUSANDS manufactured home residents have won over **\$135,000** since our contest began. It's simple to play ... when you patronize a current advertiser, ask for a Monthly Mania ticket (or a reasonable facsimile) and fill it out completely. Put the ticket in our Monthly Mania drop box in your community or **mail your paid receipt** to us at **Monthly Media • PO Box 1023 • Venice, FL 34284**. That's all you do. At the end of the month the Publishers will pick up the tickets and hold a drawing. If your ticket is drawn, we mail you a check.

(Allow 4-6 weeks for mailing of check). **This month's cash winners are:**

Carol Conner..... \$100	AMS, Inc.	Pauline Fowlston..... \$5	Debbie's Salon
Pat Silva..... \$10	Royal Enterprises	Dorothy Haller..... \$5	Heller's Mobile Home Washing
Jean Solana..... \$10	Velocity Air Conditioning, Inc.	Laura Schwanger..... \$5	Jones & Sons Plumbing, Inc.
Thomas Habel..... \$10	Dunedin Plumbing, Inc.	Ken Cox..... \$5	Imperial Electric
Daney Larocque..... \$10	Boss Electric Corp.	Judy Perszyk..... \$5	Doll Brothers Carpet Cleaners
Ron Paul..... \$10	Bill The Carpet Guy	Margaret Taylor..... \$5	Boss Electric Corp.
Carol Christensen..... \$10	Air & Energy	Nancy Valentyn..... \$5	Imperial Electric
Richard Gilbert..... \$10	Imperial Electric	Gail Lewis..... \$5	Buggin Out Pest Control
Judith Basco..... \$10	Air Masters of Pinellas	Chris Eckhart..... \$5	Battleline Termite & Pest Control
Gloria Finch..... \$10	O.E. Wilson	Lillian Papelian..... \$5	Jones & Sons Plumbing, Inc.
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Russell Brice..... \$5	Doll Brothers Carpet Cleaners	Roy Martin..... \$5	Perfect Repair & Construction, Inc.
Beth Tourtellotte..... \$5	Bill The Carpet Guy	Raymond Bachara..... \$5	Recreational Golf Carts
Mildred Wynn..... \$5	Jones & Sons Plumbing, Inc.	Connie Beaver..... \$5	Kathy's Cleaning
Peggy Mount..... \$5	Air Masters of Pinellas	Marge Murray..... \$5	Mobile Home Depot
Joan C. Athey..... \$5	Battleline Termite & Pest Control	Thelma Payne..... \$5	Battleline Termite & Pest Control
Florence Ballard..... \$5	Boss Electric Corp.	Shirley Spencer..... \$5	Bob's Mobile Home Washing
Claudia Dell..... \$5	Sunset Appliance Service	Gloria Dille..... \$5	Sunset Appliance Service
Walt Koszrzewski..... \$5	Haseny Electrical Services, Inc.	Bill McGill..... \$5	Heller's Mobile Home Washing
Sandra Moran..... \$5	Citrus Meadowood Homes of Florida	Sharon Rop..... \$5	Bill The Carpet Guy

• 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.



people getting cut. If glass is broken in the pool, it can be quite expensive to clean out.

No smoking at the pools

Please adhere to the No Smoking Rules at the pools and smoke only away from the pool area in the designated areas. This includes vapor and e-cigarettes.

TREE PERMITS

Permits MUST be obtained from the City of Largo for the removal of any tree with a trunk larger than 4" in diameter. Certain trees will require a fee before the permit can be obtained. The community office must submit the request to the City.

HOME SITE ALTERATIONS

If you are making any changes or additions to your home site or the exterior of your home please come to the office and submit a completed request form. Paint colors must be approved and a permit obtained from the office. The same applies to alteration requests; this includes plantings. Submit your written request and wait until you have received approval and a permit before proceeding with any work. Also, be sure to obtain any required City permits.

PUT IT IN WRITING!

All requests and complaints should be put in writing and signed. Anonymous reports will not be addressed. Forms are available in the office for your convenience

HANDICAP CHAIR LIFT

If you need assistance to go into a pool, we have a Handicap Chair Lift available at the Hacienda swimming pool.

STREET LIGHT OUT

Unknown to many, our streetlights do not belong to us. They are the property of Duke Energy and maintained by them. If a light is out please: Call Duke Energy @ 1-800-228-8485.

WATER SHUT-OFFS

The water is scheduled to be shut off for maintenance repairs **IF NEEDED** on Tuesdays, from approximately 9:00 a.m. to 12:30 a.m. (weather permitting). It is handy to keep a gallon of water on hand for these days and remember to **turn off your hot water heater.**

In-house Rancho Village Channel

If you have Bright House cable you can tune in to the Rancho Village channel.

If you have the cable box the channel is 732.

If you do not have the cable box the channel is 98-1

...continued on page 44



CLUBHOUSE CURTAINS:

Please do not pull on the curtains, use the curtain pulls when opening or closing them.

PLEASE WELCOME OUR NEW RESIDENTS

Joseph Paratore & Victoria Delong	Lot 412
Elizabeth Ward	Lot 1215

NEW PHONE NUMBERS OR CORRECTIONS

Alan Schwartenfeld	Lot 839	727-565-5511
Kathleen "Kay" Ramsey	Lot 1304	727-953-6670
Lois Hartsthorn	Lot 363	253-334-0491
Diane Loyd	Lot 260	949-290-0480

DEATHS

Ann Keith Kurtis	Lot 809	November 1, 2016
JoAnn Edwards	Lot 292	October 28, 2016
Jerry Duck	Lot 116	November 2, 2016

Love your neighbors!

By Michelle R.

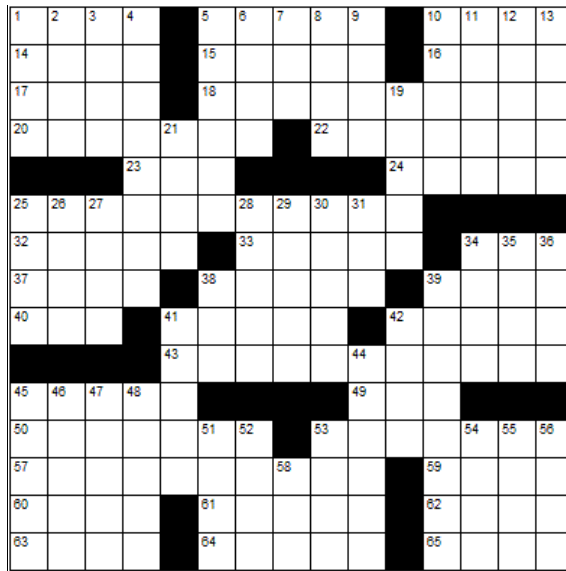
The way I got to know my next door neighbor was by complaining to her about her dog. Why? Because I thought she was breaking a rule. The funny thing is that I don't really care about the rule, so it must have been the what I like to call "crazy menopausal anger" that made me say something. Suddenly it dawned on me, in the middle of me complaining, that it wasn't her that I was mad at, nor the dog (if anything, the little guy was a peacemaker) it is anger at something else that made it boil to the surface. After all, why else would any rational person get angry over something so petty like their neighbor walking their dog? Of course, this was the day before the election, so maybe it was just a lot of hate in the air. And we have become quick to be uncivil to those who might have another perspective. Fortunately, my neighbor is one of those non-judgmental types who's really nice so I was able to make a friend instead of an enemy. If we have a problem with our neighbors it's best to stop talking, start listening and find out where they're coming from. Rules are a good thing and we know they're put in place for a reason, but let's not let them divide us. We live in a society where it's becoming more socially acceptable to be uncivil to someone who lives differently than you to the point you are spreading hate, not love. This year, before leaping to complain about our neighbors, let's try to understand them. Let's try to love our neighbors as we do ourselves.

Merry Christmas to All and Peace on Earth!!!!



ACROSS

- 1. On-line journal
- 5. Rhinoceros
- 10. Gangs
- 14. Former Italian currency
- 15. A red fluorescent dye
- 16. Send forth
- 17. A Freudian stage
- 18. Totally
- 20. Vixen
- 22. Hypodermic
- 23. L
- 24. Donkeys
- 25. Class chums
- 32. Held on tightly
- 33. Japanese cartoon art
- 34. Beer
- 37. Not yours
- 38. Inscribed pillar
- 39. Make unclear
- 40. Damp
- 41. Villain
- 42. Communion table
- 43. Self-restraining
- 45. A long-legged S. American bird
- 49. Dawn goddess
- 50. Windfall
- 53. Detective (slang)
- 57. Noble
- 59. Greek cheese
- 60. Actors in a show
- 61. Give a speech
- 62. Relating to urine
- 63. Beers
- 64. Waste conduit
- 65. Lake (Scottish)



DOWN

- 1. Ho-hum
- 2. Connects two points
- 3. By mouth
- 4. Square-rigged sailing ships
- 5. Summon to return
- 6. Owl sound
- 7. Belief
- 8. Bites
- 9. Unique
- 10. Anagram of "Smite"
- 11. Portents
- 12. Cause to leak
- 13. Infections of the eye
- 19. Delete
- 21. Blockage
- 25. Flat-bottomed boat
- 26. Hint
- 27. Offended
- 28. Married partners
- 29. Concerning (archaic)
- 30. Diacritical mark
- 31. An uncle
- 34. Countertenor
- 35. Hawaiian feast
- 36. Makes a mistake
- 38. Bro or sis
- 39. Happy
- 41. Lose consciousness
- 42. "Smallest" particle
- 44. Spay
- 45. Hemp
- 46. Small goat antelope
- 47. Licoricelike flavor
- 48. Sail supports
- 51. Animal menageries
- 52. Unit of land
- 53. Way in
- 54. Protagonist
- 55. Ear-related
- 56. Every single one
- 58. Uncooked

December Crossword



Did you know that December is also...

Buckwheat Month. Designated the “December Grain of the Month” by the Whole Grains Council, buckwheat contains higher levels of zinc, copper, and manganese than other cereal grains, along with a very high level of protein. It’s used in soba noodles, crepes, blintzes, pancakes, and other delicious foods.

National Impaired Driving Prevention Month. This holiday season, make sure to plan for a safe way home, especially if your plans involve alcohol. If someone you know is drinking, don’t let that person get behind the wheel. Remember, too, that just because you’re driving sober, others on the road may not be. Always buckle up, drive with caution, and call 911 to report a suspected drunken driver.

Safe Toys and Gifts Month. Prevent Blindness America has declared December Safe Toys and Gifts Awareness Month, encouraging gift-givers to consider whether the toys they plan on giving suit the age and individual skills and abilities of the child who will receive them—especially for children under age 3.



Universal Human Rights Month. This month commemorates the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, adopted by the General Assembly of the United Nations on Dec. 10, 1948. Driven by the human tragedy of World War II, this document represents the first global expression of human rights.



National Handwashing Awareness Week, Dec. 4-10. Remember these four principles of hand awareness to stay healthy: Wash your hands when they’re dirty and before eating; don’t cough into your hands; don’t sneeze into your hands; and avoid putting your fingers into your eyes, nose, or mouth.

Older Driver Safety Awareness Week, Dec. 5-9. Promoting greater understanding of the importance of mobility and transportation so older adults can remain active in the community by shopping, working, or volunteering—with the confidence that lack of transportation options will not strand them at home.

Computer Science Education Week, Dec. 5-11. Computer Science Education Week (CSEdWeek) is an annual program dedicated to inspiring K-12 students to take an interest in computer science. CSEdWeek is held in recognition of the birthday of computing pioneer Adm. Grace Murray Hopper (December 9, 1906).



Kwanzaa, Dec. 26-Jan. 1. A weeklong celebration held in the United States and in other nations honoring African heritage in African-American culture, culminating in feasts and gift giving. Kwanzaa was created by Maulana Karenga and was first celebrated in 1966–67.



The elephant's teeth

One day a hungry mouse in the jungle found a small nut. He tried to bite into it, but its shell was too hard and thick. Irritated, the mouse said, "Why did the gods give me such tiny teeth?"

Suddenly he heard the voice of a god from far above. "Mouse, go out and look at all the animals in the jungle. If you find one whose teeth you like, I'll give them to you."

Overjoyed, the mouse ran through the jungle, looking for the biggest teeth he could find. He looked at many animals but didn't find any teeth he liked until he spotted an elephant. Envious of the beast's thick tusks, he wandered over and asked, "Sir, are you happy with those big, long teeth?"

The elephant answered: "Friend, these are just for show. I can't use them to chew food as you do. At least you don't have to bear the weight of these huge teeth."

Hearing this, the mouse realized he was better off having tiny teeth and went off to find his nut again.



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