



The TR Times

Travelers Rest Resort
Dade City, FL



Vol. 39, No. 2

December 8, 2023

The TR Times is also available in color at www.travelersrestresort.com

Hi Lites

Water usage restrictions

Pasco County is now restricting water usage due to drought. See pg. 1.



Special Ministries

Today is the last day to donate gift cards for mothers in need.. See pg. 5.



Christmas celebrations in our area

Fill your schedule with Christmas cheer starting tonight, Friday, Dec. 8. See pg. 2.

Busch Hall Sunday Night

It's the most wonderful show of the year! It's Christmas with Katie and John. Sunday, Dec.10. See pg. 2



Golf Cart Parade, caroling and cookies

Celebrate the season on Tuesday, Dec. 12. See pg.

InTouch Link Classes

Learn to navigate InTouch Link on Wednesdays, Dec. 13 and 20. See pg. 15.

SkyMed Luncheon

Diana Hill hosts a pizza luncheon on Friday, Dec. 15. See pg. 3.

Dade City Symphony

Presents "A Holly Jolly Christmas" on Saturday, Dec. 16. See pg. 2.

Activity Reminders

TNM

Tuesday Night Movies start Tuesday, Jan. 2, 6:45 p.m.

Wednesday Night Concert Series

The first concert is Wednesday, Jan. 3, doors open at 6:30 p.m. in Busch Hall. See pg. 2.

Resident Forum

The next Forum is Monday, Jan. 8 at 3 p.m. in Busch Hall

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Second Forum of the season is well attended

by Margaret Emmetts

Although it is early in the season and many snowbirds have not yet returned to the park, the second Forum was well attended. All Board members were present.

Deborah May, Board President greeted the audience and noted that holiday activities are in full swing as sign-up sheets are already out for the Christmas Feast and the New Year's Eve Dinner.

Treasurer Jim Weigand advised that the park is currently undergoing an audit. It is the first one in over 25 years. Per current laws audits are not required, however legal counsel advised one based on issues raised over the past two years. Weigand stated he would not be able to discuss the park's financial status until the audit was complete. Weigand did take time to clarify something from the November Forum. He reassured shareholders that under current Florida laws the Board could not risk selling the park without a shareholder vote.

It was noted that the park paid over \$236,000 in taxes this month in addition to a \$23,000 solid waste assessment.

Regarding the new InTouch system, residents should go to the office to obtain a password for their account if they have not already done so. Classes on use of the system will be held in Busch Hall on Wednesdays, Dec. 13 and 20. The system will be available 24/7.

Residents had questioned why key cards were necessary to access buildings. May said that it was a security issue which the Board felt necessary. In the recent past outsiders have been found using the pool and showers. A vendor in the park recently had his laptop stolen. Fortunately the laptop contained a GPS system which enabled the police to quickly locate it and arrest the perpetrator. Growth in Pasco County has resulted in an increase in the crime rate. May advised that the office has records of who uses key cards, when buildings are entered and left.

Regarding work orders - any order over one year old is considered null and void. If you have such a work order it will be necessary to resubmit. May reminded residents that if the work order pertains to a residence, the owner must be in the park to have the work completed. An exception will be made if the order involves turning off the water supply.

Pasco County has a new person to assist the Director of Permits. The large increase in permits due to development rendered the Director incapable of dealing with all the permits. May advised residents NOT to buy new park models until the permitting situation is resolved. Also, do not turn off your electricity for six months. If you do so the electric company will not reconnect until you obtain and pay for a permit, which may take several days.

With reference to park roads, 1st Street, Oak Hill and all of the Village roads are owned by the County and are considered "B"

roads. The county does not maintain "B" roads. Many of these roads need work which will not be County provided. Village residents will be notified of a meeting to be held in Busch Hall in January regarding how to deal with the problem. Estimates for the work are being obtained. The work may be done in one year or over a period of four years and will be assessed to Village residents. Cost may range from \$2,500 to \$2,800. Once the roads are updated it is anticipated that they will last for 10 years.

A Final Permit has been obtained for the waste treatment facility. The cost to upgrade the system is expected to be \$125,000 per year for the next five years.

May stated that the Board will have some serious decisions to be made in the next year or so involving large capital expenditures. A new roof on Busch Hall and some of the other buildings,

Continued on page 3

Notice: TR new watering restrictions

by Margaret Emmetts

The following is a summary of the new watering restrictions issued by Pasco County. Please read carefully and be sure to abide by the regulations. It has been said that there is a \$100 fine for the first infraction which jumps to \$500 for each additional infraction.

Water conservation, scheduling and restrictions:

We've been in a drought and the South West Florida Water Management District is ordering customers to strictly follow local irrigation rules.

Irrigation with well water is once per week and with reclaimed water up to twice per week,

although one per week is encouraged. No irrigation between 8 a.m. and 6 p.m. on Monday through Friday. Saturdays and Sundays are designated as non-watering days.

Irrigation of established lawns and landscaping is authorized one day per week per Pasco County, Fla. Code of Ordinances, Part I, Chapter 62, Article II,

Division 3.

TR's scheduled day and time for irrigation is Friday morning between 12:01 and 8 a.m. and Friday evening between 6 and 11:59 p.m. No irrigation is to occur on Saturdays and Sundays.

Residential car washing and decorative fountain features are not permitted unless they provide

a necessary aeration and/or water quality benefit. Decorative water fountains or features using reclaimed water are permitted, however, a sign stating "using reclaimed water" must be posed next to the water fountain or feature.

Why Floridians need to conserve water

by Margaret Emmetts

Many ages ago the Florida peninsula was under water. It was a time of higher sea levels and Florida was covered with salt water. As was to be expected, the sea above our land was filled with sea creatures, many of which had shells.

Seashells are composed of calcium carbonate, the minerals which make up limestone. As these sea creatures died off, their shells fell to the sea bottom where they piled up. As the seas receded soil began to accumulate on these shells. Over the ages, as the pressure of the land increased, these shells were transformed into the sedimentary rock known as limestone.

If you have had any chemistry training, you were probably taught that water is the universal solvent. That means that more substances dissolve in water than any other liquid. We use water to dissolve minerals every day. We put salt in our cooking water, sugar in tea or coffee, both of which are primarily water and so on.

Unfortunately, limestone is also a substance that dissolves in water, especially water that has some acid in it. It is not difficult to get acidic water into the ground. Acid rain is produced by many manufacturing operations.

Sulfuric fumes in the air from paper production for instance will unite with rain to form a weak sulfuric acid, just one example of how simply acid rain may be formed.

As this acidic rain permeates the ground it encounters the limestone beneath Florida's soil. Over time the water dissolves the limestone forming caves. The formation of these caves is a mixed blessing. The caves become the aquifers which hold our groundwater, the freshwater supply from which our wells supply us with drinking water. As long as these caves remain relatively full of groundwater, they support the soil above them.

The problem arises when we begin to draw large amounts of water from the aquifers. As the volume of water in each aquifer decreases, so does the support for the soil above. When the aquifer fails to supply enough support, collapse occurs resulting in the sinkholes for which Florida is famous. These usually round sinkholes may eventually fill with rainwater and form "kettle lakes." If you have an opportunity to fly over Florida the multitude of these small round lakes is clearly evident from the sky.

So, one result of the overuse of water is the creation of sink-

holes. If you recall several years ago we had a particularly cold winter. Local farmers traditionally spray their strawberry and tomato plants with water to protect them from freezing. I won't go into the chemical reason for this, suffice it to say it works. During the winter in question, huge amounts of water were drawn from the aquifers to protect the plants. It was estimated that the water table, the top level of groundwater, dropped about 60 feet that year. As a result numerous sinkholes developed, one even in the middle of a highway.

Aside from the possibility of having structures collapse from being undermined, over use of water has a less evident result.

Since Florida is a peninsula, it is surrounded by the Atlantic Ocean and the Gulf of Mexico, both of which are saltwater. If our aquifers remain rather full, the hydrostatic pressure in them prevents the infiltration of sea water. However, should our freshwater aquifers be drained below a certain level, it would allow seawater to infiltrate. If this occurs, our wells would no longer be able to supply us with potable drinking water.

It is true that water can undergo a desalination process, by which the salt is removed.

However, this is an extremely expensive process.

If you were to vacation on the island of Bermuda you would find that hotels and restaurants only provide a glass of water at your table if you request it. The reason is that much of their water has to undergo the expensive desalination process.

Homes in Bermuda have white limestone roofs. These are used to collect water into cisterns for the home's freshwater use. Islanders have learned to conserve water or pay the price.

In Florida we are undergoing a building boom. More and more houses are being built without regard to how these homes will be supplied with freshwater.

It is in everyone's interest to conserve water. We live on the "blue planet" so called because over 70% of its surface is covered with water. However, that water is mostly salt water. Only 2.5% of Earth's water is freshwater, the kind that is needed for life to survive. Most of this 2.5% is locked up in glacial ice or is in groundwater. A mere 1.2% of all freshwater is surface water, a sobering thought.

Please do your part to conserve this natural resource that is so necessary for life.



BUSCH HALL Sunday Night

It's Christmas!

...with Katie & John!

The fun carols, the traditional hymns, the enchanting stories, the twinkling lights, the beautiful costumes, and a very special, surprise guest are only part of what make this Holiday Celebration so very special.

A live performance by Katie Brooks and John Wilson is more than a professional presentation of great music. It's an event that evokes memories, laughter, and tears. It's a sharing of anecdotes and universal truths.

**Busch Hall Sunday Night Presents:
Katie Brooks & John Wilson
Sunday, December 10
Ice Cream 6:15, Announcements 6:45
Showtime 7 p.m. NO Admission fee!**

Fall in love with Christmas all over again!

Katie & John are coming to town!

It's the most wonderful show of the year!

Christmas events in our local area

- **Dade City Christmas Parade** is tonight, Friday, Dec. 8 at 7 p.m. on 7th Street between MLK Jr. Blvd. and Church Street. Parade sponsors welcome you to bring blankets and chairs, but ask that you please leave your furry friends at home.
- Dade City's annual **Country Christmas Stroll** is scheduled for Saturday, Dec. 9 at 5 p.m. downtown at 7th Street and Meridian Avenue. It's a family-friendly free event filled with activities, entertainment and shopping.
- **Church Street Christmas** is Thursday, Dec. 21 through Saturday, Dec. 23, 7 to 9 p.m. on Church Street in Dade City. Come out and enjoy this free annual event along historic Church Street where you can stroll luminary-lit sidewalks, see and hear carolers, dancers and musicians and wonder at the brilliant holiday displays.
- **Symphony in Lights** is now through Dec. 31, every hour starting at 6 p.m. The Shops at Wiregrass, 28211 Paseo Drive, in Wesley Chapel hosts an array of dancing lights choreographed to music from the Trans-Siberian Orchestra, holiday festivities and snow for the whole family to enjoy at Center Court. Get in the holiday spirit while you shop.

Dade City Symphony

Presents

"A Holly Jolly Christmas"

December 16th @ 7 pm

Join us for an evening of holiday music

Admission is FREE

Pasco Middle School Auditorium
13925 14th St. Dade City, FL 33525
General Seating, Doors open at 6:30 pm

Visit us online at <http://www.dadecitysymphony.com>

by Ken and Sandy Langell

It's Christmas with Katie Brooks and John Wilson. As their promotional poster declares, "It's the most wonderful show of the year!" The fun carols, traditional hymns, beautiful costumes and a special surprise guest make this festive holiday celebration a real treat.

You may have seen John here recently at the Showcase. Judging from the surveys that were turned in, he was one of the top favorites.

John Wilson has had an exciting career, starting with two years as a member of Re-Creation (America's Ambassadors to Hospitalized Veterans). For the two

years with them he performed 300 plus shows a year throughout all of the 48 contiguous states. He later returned for another year as Road Manager and featured vocalist for the group.

You may have seen John through the years in one of his thousands of performances at Busch Gardens, Tampa or in his most unique role as circus ringmaster.

Katie Brooks sang her way through college with Re-Creation USA and then hit the road with her own Katie Brooks Show. She has performed with such notables as Brad Paisley, Boots Randolph, Chet Atkins, Jeff Foxworthy,

Crystal Gayle and The Oak Ridge Boys. As a BMI songwriter, Katie made her permanent move to Nashville when Loretta Lynn published two of her songs. Her songs have been recorded by country, pop and gospel artists.

Katie has performed for every VA Medical Center in the contiguous U. S. as well as many of the State Veterans Homes. Because of her concern for America's hospitalized veterans, she was given a Special Service Award by the Department of Veterans Affairs.

Plan to attend this most wonderful show of the year.

Wednesday Night Concert Series



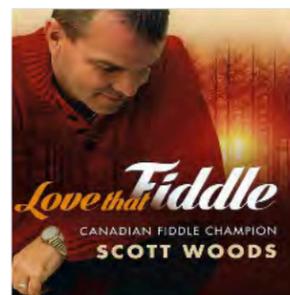
Jan. 3, Jimmy Travis

Jan. 17, Captivating Keyboards, Alan Tripp and Scott Griffin



Feb. 7, We've Only Just Begun: Carpenters Remembered Annual Spectacular

Feb. 21, Stephen Ditchfield and My Three Sons



March 6, Scott Woods and Company

March 20, Bill Chrastil's Country Music Legends



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Communications from the Board

by Deborah May
President

Not only do we live in a small piece of Paradise, but it looks like we also live in a Christmas Wonderland. The work of Linda Gavin and her elves in decorating our facilities is fantastic this year. The grounds, including the Golf Course, have really come alive with the decorations. To drive around the park after dark and see the lights is thrilling. The Star put up by the Ham Radio Club stands above the park as a reminder of what the season is about. Thanks to all the volunteers who gave so generously of their time and talents to make TR shine this season.

The TR Maintenance Committee (TRMC) was formed in 2008 and assigned the task to identify and prioritize maintenance issues and capital projects for TR long-term strategic planning. Given the age of our infrastructure their work is more



**DEBORAH MAY
BOARD PRESIDENT**

important than ever before in helping to ensure the longevity of our existence at the level we enjoy today.

The TRMC consists of no more than three members of the Board of Directors, the General Manager and a minimum of three TR shareholder residents. These resident representatives are chosen based on their expertise and

experience. The TRMC may have additional shareholder members based on the changing needs of the park. These additional members may be volunteers or solicited members based specifically on their expertise and experience in dealing with the issues on the committee's agenda. If you believe you have the expertise or experience that would be of use to the committee, please send your information to the Board. All members of the TRMC serve on a volunteer basis. Regular meetings are held during the November to March season.

The TRMC is charged with providing a prioritized plan of projects for BOD consideration. These plans are based on a three to five year outlook with valid cost estimates to complete. These plans must take into consideration the amount of available funding as identified by the Board.

Forum from page 1

a remodel of the Post Office and an upgrade of the water system being a few of the items under consideration.

Residents have recently suggested that it might be a good idea to do background checks on future Board members, etc. The Board is investigating the legality of this action which may require a stockholder vote.

May advised residents that Pasco County is now under a water restriction. Details may be found in the article on page 1 of this paper.

May concluded this portion of the meeting with the following statement: Board members are not allowed to respond to social media nor are they allowed to discuss employee matters. No Board member has told Ray Hill that he would be terminated. Performance reviews are done after the fact, meaning that any review of Hill's performance will be done by May in March of 2024 for the period 2023 to 2024. May wished Hill well in his current treatment program.

A question and answer period

followed:

Q - When will the audit be completed?

A - Weigand anticipated it would be done before the next Forum and noted that the park's financial report has to be included in the AGM packet.

Q - Could there be an amendment to the park's By-Laws to clarify that the Board could not sell the park?

A - The amendment would have to be made to the Articles of Incorporation which is possible providing the amendment is filed within the proper time limit. A show of hands was requested to indicate how many people present would like to see such an amendment adopted. Response was overwhelmingly positive.

Q - A resident was by Lake Margaret and encountered three people who were not park residents and questioned what she should do in a situation like this.

A - The veteran, in a wheelchair, is a neighbor from across the street. Ray Hill has granted permission for the man and his caretakers to go to Lake Margaret

each day. This is the veterans' time outdoors. May advised that if anyone meets someone and feels threatened they should call the sheriff's direct line, the telephone number for which is on the green magnets distributed last year.

Q - If Village roads are improved will taxes increase?

A - We have no way of knowing.

Q - Would it be possible for the park to take over the roads from the County?

A - That subject has already been broached and the County refuses.

Q - People on Golf View do not have key cards but are given a four digit passcode to get into buildings. Could residents also use a four digit code so they do not have to carry the key cards at all times.

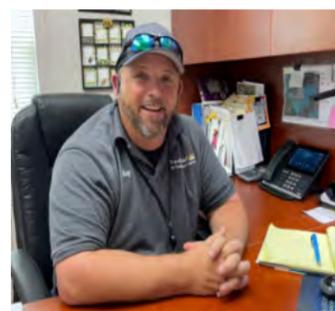
A - The matter will be discussed with Hill.

Q - A resident noted that his key card would not permit him to get into the Maintenance building to borrow a tool.

A - The key card for Maintenance is active seven days a week but only until 3 p.m.

Guy Weik announced that the Golf Cart Christmas Parade will be held on Wednesday, Dec. 13. Carts should line up at 3:45 p.m. The parade will first visit the Village. A brief memorial wreath ceremony will then be held at the Veterans' Memorial. The parade will then continue through the Cabana section and RV South. It will conclude with cookies, hot chocolate and music in Busch Hall.

From the Manager's desk



RAY HILL

by Ray Hill with Rich Kushman

Ray and I shared a nice morning chatting about our favorite community. One topic of note was the ongoing struggle for parking space between cars and golf carts around the Citrus activity area. Traffic in this area increases as folks come in for the season. Ray's idea to help solve this seems spot on. He would like to put a gravel path leading to a gravel

parking area only for golf carts in the rear of this activity area that would serve the Wood Shop, TR Times office, Jeri Miller Activity Building and Citrus leaving the roadside parking only for cars. Helping supply material for this project would be the road paving planned for next summer that would make road grindings available to pave the way for additional golf cart parking. Completion of the project should reduce congestion considerably.

We also talked about what happens to the old equipment and work vehicles that are replaced as needed. Unless these items are in salable condition, which is rare, they are used for parts or scrapped. Generally after many years of continued service, perhaps 10 to 15 years on the job, the equipment is quite used up, which is why replacement is clearly necessary.



It's a parade! Don't be a scrooge, decorate your golf cart and join us for the Christmas Golf Cart Parade on Tuesday, Dec. 12. Don't forget to join your neighbors for cookies, caroling and cocoa in Busch Hall following the parade. Look for details in Activity Affairs on page 6.

Summer rules versus winter rules



by Margaret Emmetts

It would seem that there are both unwritten summer and winter rules here at TR. During the summer the population of the park decreases substantially. As a result, residents tend to be a little more casual about things such as parking. Since spaces are not at a premium during the summer, it would seem okay to park your golf cart anywhere.

However, we are entering the winter or high season where the park usually fills to capacity. Now parking spaces come at a premium especially for cars.

The basic rule, be it unwritten, is that while golf carts may occupy car spots, there is no way a car can fit into a golf cart slot. Ergo the problem.

The area around Busch Hall has designated golf cart parking spaces. Please do not park your golf cart in the car slots. If the car slots are filled with golf carts,

where will the cars go? Traditionally golf carts park on the grass along the road in front of Busch Hall if the other golf slots are full.

One area of concern is the space between the Fire Station and Citrus. Several years ago a number of golf carts parked randomly in this area. The result was that a traffic jam resulted in which some carts were unable to leave the area. It has been suggested that golf carts park facing or perpendicular to the two buildings. This leaves the central area free for anyone to come and go. It has long been a custom for golf carts to park on the grass, so please avail yourself of this space. Cars, on the other hand, should remain on the pavement in the designated car parking spaces. The presence of Citrus, the Woodshop and the Fire Station in close proximity make this a particularly busy area. Your cooperation in how you park will make life easier for everyone.

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SkyMed luncheon scheduled



by Diana Hill

New SkyMed representative Diana Hill is hosting a pizza luncheon to thank current and new SkyMed members. During the luncheon, Hill will provide a brief introduction/review of SkyMed services and their 35th anniversary specials. Please join us on Friday, Dec. 15, 4 to 6 p.m. in Citrus West. A signup sheet is hanging in the Post Office Lobby.

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'Tis the season to be thankful!



Those of us who get to spend either the high season or the entire year at TR should be thankful for our good fortune. We snowbirds get to escape the winter weather, be it rain, snow, sleet or freezing cold in our home state. Instead we get to enjoy the warmth and sunshine in our "second home-Florida." No cabin fever for us. We are surrounded by friends and a plethora of activities designed to keep everyone occupied. Those of you who live here full time experience these benefits all year long.

In the coming weeks we will have opportunities to show our gratitude by sharing with others. Toys 4 Tots and gift cards for Sunrise are just a couple of the ways we might share our good fortune. Let's show our thanks for our good fortune by supporting the charities which help the less fortunate in our area. *mre*

TR Church Association

Choir Rehearsal..... 8:45 a.m.
Bernie Gutridge
Bible Study 9:30 a.m.
Hymn Sing 10:15 a.m.
Barb Swartz
Worship Service 10:30 a.m.
Pastor Anthony Shipe
Holy Communion 2nd Sunday of the month.

Praise and Worship
1st and 3rd Saturday of each month
Praise and Worship Service
4:30 p.m. in Busch Hall

Join Us
IN Worship



The Servant's Plow An Invitation to Grace

by Anthony Shipe

In Matthew 22, we read about a particular aspect of God's love for us - His grace. Grace, in its simplest form, is the unmerited favor of God. It is the love that God has for us, even when we don't deserve it. It is the forgiveness that God extends to us, even when we have done nothing to earn it. It is the invitation that God gives us to eternal life, even when we have done nothing to warrant such an invitation.

This invitation to eternal life is not just a simple invitation. It is not like an invitation to a birthday party or a wedding. It is not something that we can casually accept or reject. This invitation is a life-changing, eternity-altering invitation. It is an invitation that requires a response. It is an invitation that demands a decision. Will we accept God's grace? Or will we reject it?

To help us understand this concept of grace and the invitation to eternal life, we are going to be looking at a parable that Jesus told in the Book of Matthew. This parable is known as the Parable of the Wedding Banquet. Matthew 22: 1-15.

A Story of God's Grace

It's a story about a king who threw a wedding banquet for his son. He sent out invitations, but the guests he invited refused to come. So, he sent out more servants, more invitations, but still, they refused. This story is a picture of God's grace, His invitation to eternal life. He desires fellowship with us.

First, the king in the story represents God. He's the one throwing the banquet, the one extending the invitation. This isn't



ANTHONY SHIPE

just any old party. It's a wedding banquet, a celebration of love and commitment, a time of joy and feasting. This is the picture of eternal life that Jesus gives us - a celebration, a feast, a joyous occasion.

Second, the invitations represent God's grace. They're freely given, extended to all. The king doesn't discriminate, he doesn't pick and choose who gets an invite. He sends them out to everyone. This is how God's grace works. It's not something we earn or deserve. It's freely given, extended to all.

Now, let's look at the word "grace" in the original Greek. It's "charis," which means "gift." It's something given, not earned. It's a favor, a blessing, a kindness. This is what God's grace is - a gift, a favor, a blessing.

As the great theologian, Karl Barth once said, "Grace is the gift of Christ, who exposes the gulf which separates God and us and, by exposing it, bridges it."

Now, let's move on to the guests. They represent us, humanity. They're the ones who receive the invitations, the ones who are

given the opportunity to attend the banquet. But they refuse. They reject the king's invitation. They reject his grace.

This is the tragedy of the story, and it's a tragedy we see played out in our world every day. God extends His grace, His invitation to eternal life, but so many reject it. They turn their backs on the banquet, on the celebration, on the joy that could be theirs.

Finally, let's look at the servants. They're the ones who deliver the invitations, the ones who carry the king's message. They represent those who share the good news of God's grace, those who invite others to the banquet.

This is our role, friends. We're the servants, the messengers. We're the ones who carry the good news of God's grace to a world that so desperately needs it. We're the ones who extend the invitation to the banquet, to the celebration, to the joy of eternal life.

How will you respond to God's invitation? Will you accept His grace, or will you reject it? Will you clothe yourself in righteousness provided by the king? The choice is yours. But remember, God's grace is not just an invitation to eternal life. It's also the power to live a life that pleases God here and now. So, don't just accept God's grace.

Live in it, walk in it and let it transform every area of your life. The Christ Child in the manger is a reminder to us all that we are loved and valued by God. There is an invitation to visit Him in a very humble setting at the manger. Just come as you are. Blessings to you in the Season of Advent.

TR Special Ministries is collecting gift cards



by Pat Greene

We are collecting gift cards again this year for the women and children at the Sunrise Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault Center.

Many of the mothers at the Center have never had money. Sunrise teaches them how to budget their money. They provide a lot of training to help the ladies prepare for their new lives. The gift cards you donate are divided among the women depending on how many children they have.

These gift cards allow them to buy presents and food for their family for Christmas. If you would like to contribute to this worthy cause, please buy gift cards in

small denominations between \$5 and \$25. Gift cards from Walmart are particularly useful because the store has both food and items to purchase as presents. Don't forget to put the amount on each card. We also accept checks and cash. If donating by check, make it out to the Tr Church Association and put gift cards on the memo line.

You may bring your donations to Church, to Busch Hall Sunday Night programs or simply mail them to us at lot 06-03. To allow time for delivery to the shelter, please donate by Friday, Dec. 8.

Thank you for your continued generosity.



Sacred Heart Catholic Church

32145 Saint Joe Road
Dade City, Florida 33525

MASS SCHEDULE

Vigil Mass

Saturday, 4 p.m.

Sunday Masses

8 a.m. & 10:30 a.m.

Daily Masses

7:30 a.m. Monday - Friday

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION CLASSES

Sunday 9:05 a.m. - 10:20 a.m.

Rev. Krzysztof Gazdowicz, Pastor

(352) 588-3641

The TR Times
TRAVELERS REST RESORT, INC.
Box 2817, 29129 Johnston Rd.
Dade City, FL 33523-6128

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To view TR Times newspapers in color online go to www.travelersrestresort.com and click on Newspaper.



Pasco County Fire Rescue advises TR residents on fire safety

by Margaret Emmetts

Lisa Brekke and Dragna Peters from Pasco County Fire Rescue spoke to residents regarding fire safety. They advised that there are almost twice as many fires in mobile homes as occur elsewhere. This is due in part to the kind of materials now used in mobile homes. The new materials burn hotter and faster than wood or previously used materials. It is important to know that you may have no more than two minutes to escape your unit should it combust.

It is critical to have smoke alarms in your home as this may be the only method to alert you to a problem if you are sleeping. You should have an alarm in every bedroom and the living room. They are not suggested for kitchens.

Smoke detectors only function for 10 years. You may check the age of your detector by looking on the back where you will find their start date. If it is 10 years old it needs to be replaced, even if it still beeps when the test button is pressed.

It is also important to have more than one way to get out of your home. Your first inclination may be to leave via the way you usually enter the unit. However this way may be blocked, thus the need for an alternate escape route.

Most fires occur as the result of cooking. The optimal way to extinguish a cooking fire is to smother it by placing a non-flammable cover over the fire. Pouring baking soda, salt or flour is strongly discouraged because it might cause a dangerous flare-back.

The second leading cause of home fires is smoking. With the high flammability of mobile home materials it is suggested that if you must smoke, only do so outside.

Each unit should have a fire extinguisher and you should know how to use same. The acronym is PASS. P – pull the pin. A – aim. S – Squeeze the trigger. S – Sweep the stream from side to side. It was also suggested that you gently shake the extinguisher from time to time to keep the chemicals inside it properly mixed.

The ladies also discussed home safety noting that the most common home accident involves a fall. Wearing sensible shoes with good soles help to prevent tripping as does removing scatter rugs. If you get up during the night get up slowly and light your path. Having grab bars in the bath is an excellent idea. It was suggested that dizziness is not a normal condition. It may result from medication interactions, etc. If this occurs, consult your physician. Most important, if you do fall, call for help immediately. Do not wait until morning so as not to inconvenience the First Responders. Delaying help may exacerbate the problem. Having your cell phone handy or wearing a medical alert device is helpful. A variety of devices are currently available.

Should the Fire or Rescue team have to come to your aid they really do not want to have to break down your door to get in. They suggest a Knox Box be installed. The box will contain your key. When the box is installed a code is developed

which is given to the County and is registered in their computer. When you call for assistance the code is given to the responding team to access your key.

Pasco County Sheriff's Officer Art Madden brought in his therapy dog Miss Woodie and discussed how the dog helps in crisis situations. The department has 5 therapy dogs and a total of about 45 dogs that may be used for search and rescue, drug detection, etc. The therapy dog, a Plott hound, is noted for its friendly temperament. Trivia note, the dog is a "silent tracker." While most dogs howl when they are tracking, a Plott hound makes no sound. Officer and dog happily work and live together. Pasco County has the largest dog team in the state and its new training facility is used by other departments.

Deputy Ron Buzzetto had some suggestions for the lady holiday shoppers. He strongly suggested that you do not take your purses with you. Instead simply take your driver's license and credit cards and put them in a pocket. With no purse visible you become less of a target to criminals. Also, do not leave your purse or purchases within sight in your car. Buzzetto also stated it is not a good idea to put your purse in your car trunk while in a parking lot. Someone may be watching you and you again set yourself up as a target. Finally, he said to be aware of your surroundings. Do not park in a remote or hidden area. Look around before you leave your car. Do not allow yourself to be distracted. Your actions can help to protect yourself.

FIRE SAFETY STARTS AT HOME

TR Fire Station Siren

911 calls: A steady blast for one minute.

The siren is activated by Pasco County Fire/Rescue as a result of a call to 911. Watch for emergency vehicles and First Responders that have been activated by the siren. Yield Right-of-way so that they can pass.

Emergencies within the park: Five warbling blasts of the siren.

The siren is activated by pushing the RED BUTTON on the front of the Fire Station. The 911 system is NOT activated with this button.

Weekly Siren Test: Two warbling blasts of the siren.

Used as a siren test on Tuesday mornings at 9 a.m.

Tornado or Hurricane Warning:

Three long blasts, then a 15 second pause, then three more long blasts.

Important notice

When you push the button on the Fire Station it is critical that you remain there until help comes. Pushing the button does not call 911!



Healthy Tips

The ins and outs Celiac Disease

by Donna Neer, RN (retired)

Celiac disease is a digestive disorder that damages the lining of the small intestine and prevents the absorption of nutrients that are important for staying healthy. This damage is due to a reaction to eating gluten, which is found in wheat, barley, rye and possibly oats as well. It is estimated that one in every 100 people are affected by this disorder; children as well as adults.

Celiac disease can cause irreversible damage to the small intestine and can cause a multitude of problems due to the malabsorption of nutrients. Anemia, osteoporosis, infertility, frequent respiratory infections, as well as depression are just a few of the conditions that could result from having celiac disease. Children may suffer with stunted growth, delayed onset of puberty and failure to thrive due to celiac disease. Unfortunately, many people who suffer from it have no symptoms. This is particularly dangerous, as intestinal damage can occur even when no symptoms are present.

There are numerous symptoms that a patient can experience such as painful bloating which occurs when the stomach becomes distended and filled with gas after consuming gluten. Another symptom of celiac disease is chronic diarrhea that may be explosive and painful. While diarrhea is common in celiac sufferers, others may be afflicted with constipation caused by the sluggish movement of the contents of the bowels. Weight loss may result from the missing nutrients that are purged from the body during episodes of diarrhea. Some patients may gain weight because of poor eating habits as they eat in excess to achieve proper nutrition.

Fatigue is also a common complaint with those affected by

celiac disease. Other patients diagnosed with celiac disease have reported experiencing brain fog, distorted sleep, or numbness and/or tingling in their hands or feet after consuming food that contains gluten.

How is celiac disease diagnosed? In addition to obtaining a detailed medical history, your physician will order a blood test to measure for high levels of antibodies (substances produced by the immune system to fight harmful invaders). Additionally, he/she may perform other tests to detect nutritional deficiencies such as anemia. A stool sample may be tested to detect fat in the stool since celiac disease prevents fat from being absorbed from food. An endoscopy could also be performed to obtain a biopsy of the small intestine tissue.

Being diagnosed with celiac disease will require a change in your dietary habits. Foods with gluten (wheat, barley, rye and in some cases, oats) must be eliminated. Eliminating gluten from the diet may improve the condition within a few days. A gluten-free diet will result in a big change in your lifestyle! Rethinking your eating habits will become a way of life. Reading food labels as you shop for groceries is essential. Many restaurants list "gluten free" alternative menu items.

Because you have celiac disease does not mean that you cannot eat and enjoy a well-balanced diet! Fresh foods that have not been artificially processed such as fruits, vegetables, meats and fish are suggested to achieve optimal nutrition. A registered dietician/nutritionist can assist you with meal planning. Many hospitals offer support groups to aid patients with celiac disease.

(Ref: Dr. Peter Green, *Celiac Disease, a Hidden Epidemic*, WebMD, Medline).

How do you want people to remember you?

by Margaret Emmetts

The TR Times includes obituaries of former residents in its various issues. Sharon Cook is our Obituary Editor and is responsible for writing these obituaries. Often she is advised of the passing of a resident but has no family members to contact to gain information for the obituary. As a result she frequently has to result to notices placed by funeral homes or information gleaned from the Internet. Poor sources for developing an article



that truly reflects the individual and what they meant to TR.

If you wish to have some input in how you will be remembered, Sharon suggests that you provide her with information you wish to be included ahead of time.

You might include information regarding your family, career, special interests and activities in which you participated at TR. Where and when you were born is also significant information.

Sharon Cook resides at lot17-35. She may be reached by phone at 813-956-7977 or through email at Shermie@juno.com.

Think about how you want to be remembered and she will comply with your wishes.



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Activity Affairs

Christmas Golf Cart Parade and social updates

by Guy Weik

Many of you are just arriving back at TR so I am printing another article about this year's Christmas Golf Cart Parade. The Parade is scheduled for Tuesday, Dec. 12, one day earlier than originally planned so please make note on the Monthly Special Events in your *TR Directory*.

The Parade will once again wind through most of the streets in TR missing only the Village cul-de-sacs (Juniper, Willow and Holly Courts), 12th Ave. and 1st St., lots 23 through 35. These residents can catch the Parade by gathering at the entrance to their court, either end of 12th Ave. or the corner of 1st and 17th St. Please encourage your friends and neighbors to gather outside and cheer. Last year's participants said they appreciated passing all the cheering groups as much as the viewers enjoyed the carts. The prize for the winning golf cart decoration will



GUY WEIK

be two tickets to Rescue 33's Pulled Pork Dinner on Jan. 2, kindly donated by Chief Larry Polzin.

Golf carts should line up at 3:45 p.m. on Snack Shack Rd. facing Busch Hall. The Parade will be led by our fire truck and start at 4 p.m. We will parade through the Village and then have a short stop at the Veterans' Memorial to observe the Veterans' wreath laying ceremony. Parkers will

guide the golf carts into three lines to keep things orderly. The Parade resumes heading through the Cabana section and RV South. Previously the Parade has taken approximately 45 minutes giving viewers time to socialize with friends and neighbors while waiting for it to pass by.

Immediately following the Golf Cart Parade all residents are invited to gather in Busch Hall for caroling, cookies, coffee and cocoa. Please either bring a dozen cookies or consider helping Linda Spencer bake cookies in the Busch Hall kitchen on Dec. 10, 11 or 12. You can call Linda for more information 325-424-9604.

Marty Schencke is hard at work organizing musicians and has Christmas Carol lyrics ready for those who need them. Please join your TR friends and neighbors in Busch Hall immediately following the Parade and catch that special TR holiday spirit.

by Pat Butler

Once again it is time to make plans to join us for our annual TR Christmas Feast. The dinner is held each year on Christmas Day at 2 p.m. in Busch Hall. The normal procedure is to collect names in groups of 20 for each table with the top name on each list serving as host or hostess. The host or hostess usually furnish the meat(s) while the remaining guests bring sides to share with the table. Each table is also in charge of their own decorations, and this is usually done on Christmas Eve after the tables have been set up or on Christmas morning—whatever the group decides.

Normally each resident brings his/her own table service. Alcohol is allowed at this dinner while coffee, lemonade and iced tea are furnished by TR.

A new addition to the festivities this year is the Meet and Greet Table. This is the table designed for all newcomers as well as those who are looking to meet new friends and neighbors. If you don't have a group or you want to try something new, be sure to sign up to sit at this table. This table is sponsored by the TR Welcoming Committee. If it fills up, we will



add another just like it. The more the merrier!

All sign-up sheets can be found on the TR Events Bulletin Board inside Busch Hall. Look for the Christmas Feast signs. Plan on joining us for the dinner and fellowship, and then stay for the **TR Trivia Contest**. This contest will follow the meal and challenge the TR knowledge of the folks at each table. Expect great fun and spectacular prizes from semi-professional Master of Ceremonies Bill Wise.

Be sure to go down to Busch Hall and sign up to attend. We hope to see you there! If you have any questions contact Pat Butler at lot 14-07 or Beannie Wise at lot 14-09.

Chairperson changes for Habitat for Humanity Builds



File photo

TR Habitat for Humanity Builds crew is taking a break for a photo.

by Pam Watkins

Barbara Colson has chaired the TR Habitat for Humanity Builds for more than 12 years. This year she is hanging up her construction hat for one suitable to a travel planner as she prepares for what she calls her trip of a lifetime.

In accordance with our TR community spirit, a call for help to fill the position of chairperson was quickly answered. We welcome Charlie Mason as he steps up to lead this important activity.

Many thanks to Barbara for her past service and to Charlie for volunteering his time this season. Look for more information in future issues of *The TR Times* as he organizes this season's Habitat for Humanity Build.

Volunteer opportunity to welcome new residents

by Susan Stahley

If you are still wondering what your volunteer job might be to continue to make TR our special place, we could use you. If you are an out-front social person, we have the spots for you. However, if you prefer to work behind the scenes stuffing welcome bags and other tasks, then please come out to our committee meeting to join in the fun. The TR Welcoming Committee will be meeting on Thursday, Dec. 14, from noon to 1 p.m. in Citrus West. It's a great way to meet new people. For new guests, look for more information on Red Dot Socials in upcoming editions of *The TR Times* as well as on TR Facebook sites, InTouchLink and the TR website.

Updates to the TR Directory

by Guy Weik

Every year for various reasons some schedule changes are made after the *TR Directory* has been sent to the printer. Please make the following corrections in your *TR Directory*.

Building and time schedules:

- Sunday in Busch Hall, Church Association:
 - Choir Practice 8:45 to 9:30 a.m.
 - Bible Study 9:30 to 10:15 a.m.
 - Hymn Sing 10:15 to 10:30 a.m.
 - Church Service 10:30 to 11:30 a.m.
- Thursday in Citrus West
 - Zumba, 8:30 to 9:30 a.m., no longer in Jeri Miller Activity Building.
- Wednesday in Jeri Miller Activity Building:
 - Rock Painting, 10:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m., begins 30 minutes earlier.

Outdoor Schedules:

- Tuesday, 9 to 11 a.m., RC Sailboat Practice, new time.
- Wednesday and Saturday, 9 to 11 a.m., RC Sailboat Races, new time.

Activity Contact:

- Habitat for Humanity (#58), Charlie Mason, 317-525-7897, new contact.

A Flea Market update

by Amy Peebles

The TR Flea Market runs the first Saturday of the month Nov. through March from 8:30 to 10:30 a.m. in Busch Hall.

Volunteers set up tables from 7:15 to 7:45 a.m. To allow time for the volunteers to set up and number the tables, vendor checkin will change from 7:30 a.m. to 7:45 a.m. Vendors, please check in at the table by the laundry room door before setting up your table. If you need help finding your table, co-chair Rick Peebles can assist you.

Because January, February and March are busy Flea Market months and to be fair to all, we ask that you only sign up for one table or two at the most so everyone who wants to has a chance to participate. If all the tables are not full for those months by the Friday night prior to the Flea Market, you are welcome to take an extra table where available.

Thank you for your support of the TR Flea Market. We look forward to seeing you in January!

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Beyond the Resort

by Linda Spencer

• Friday, Dec. 8 at 7:30 p.m. **The Sixties Show** at The Reilly Arts Center, 500 N.E. 9th St., Ocala. Tickets and pricing information can be obtained from the Art Center at reillyartscenter.com. This is a show about time travel, going back to the 60s, based around the most remarkable musical re-creation show you will ever see. The band features former band members of the Who and John Fogarty (Creedence Clearwater Revival). Approximately 56 miles from TR.



• Sunday, Dec. 10, 1 to 4 p.m., the **Dade City Garden Club**, 13630 Fifth Ave., will welcome the community to experience a little holiday magic in the Gardens. All are invited. You can obtain more information by checking out the event calendar at dadcitycitygardenclub.com.

• The Happiest Place on Earth, **Disney World**, Orlando, is made up of The Magic Kingdom, Star Wars Galaxy's Edge, Fantasyland, Tomorrowland, Adventureland, Critter Country, Frontierland, Main Street USA, Mickey's Toontown and New Orleans Square, etc. Prices vary by park, for additional information call 714-781-4636. Approximately 59 miles from TR.

• You also might want to spend a day at **Universal Studios** where the parks are divided into Volcano Bay, Islands of Adventure, Universal Studios Hollywood and the original Universal Studios Florida. This is only six additional miles from Disney World on I-4. For additional information go to their website, universolorlando.com.

• **Giraffe Ranch**, 38650 Mickler Rd., Dade City is a wildlife



LINDA SPENCER

preserve that allows you to feed the animals. However unlike a zoo, the animals roam freely in an environment close to the one they are native to in Africa. For information call 813-482-3400.

• **Dade City Heritage Museum**, 14206 US-98 Bypass, will be interesting to visitors who want to know more about Central Florida and the people that settled it. Artifacts are on display and knowledgeable staff shares information and personal stories about living in the area. For information call 352-424-5778.

• At the **TreeHoppers Aerial Adventure Park**, 27839 Saint Joe Rd., Dade City, zipping is becoming a popular activity for adventure-minded, thrill-seeking people of all ages. It is the largest aerial park in central Florida and offers a unique and exciting way to enjoy this activity. There are several dozen zip lines with rope bridges, various courses and climbing challenges. For information call 813-381-5400.



• **Sweet Blossom Alpaca Farm**, 6143 Baseball Pond Road, Brooksville, where workers take pride in raising and working with these docile animals, who roam freely on 15 acres of farmland. During your visit, take a tour of the

farm and learn about the animals, how they are raised and take part in the feeding. I purchased yarn while there and it is marked with the name of the animal it has come from. Kinda personal.

• The perfect way to spend an afternoon or evening is to take a stroll along the **Tampa Riverwalk**. At 2.6 miles long, this pedestrian walkway runs along the Hillsborough River, travels past the downtown Arts District and Waterfront Areas of Tampa. Along the way you will see many parks,



restaurants, museums and shops.

• A day in Tampa is well spent at **Busch Gardens**, 10165 McKinley Dr., a large park with an African theme and a wide variety of things to see and do. Dozens of thrilling rides for all ages are on site. This includes nine roller coasters and two water-based rides for all ages. There is a zoo area with more than 200 species of animals and live entertainment shows featuring top-notch performers taking place throughout the day and everything is family friendly.

• Updated information regarding the outside world coming to TR:

• Go to ubereats.com to see the area restaurants that deliver to Travelers Rest. Personally we have had deliveries from Springhill, Hudson, Wesley Chapel, Lutz and many Dade City eateries. You must download the Uber Eats app and order through it. Delivery charges differ, no charge from AI's in San Antonio, \$10 from Spring Hill. Most are in the \$5 range.

• Kroger and Publix as well as most grocery stores continue to do food delivery within Travelers Rest. Check their websites for information.

• Welcome back Snowbirds. Address any specific questions to: Linda Spencer, lot 16-35 or call me at 352-424-9604. Happy Holidays.

Kay's lizard tale

by Richard Kushman

On a perfectly normal, quiet and pleasant Friday afternoon, Kay Blunda, as part of her normal day gathered up a load of laundry. Lifting the lid, she set the machine for deep wash, cold temperature, heavy spin, normal dirt, and with years of ingrained behavior, pushed start.

The lid automatically locked and would remain so for at least the next 61 minutes. Kay then enjoyed her time perhaps chatting with Frank, reading a good book from the TR Library or perusing the latest issue of *The TR Times*.

After 90 minutes, more than enough time for the washing machine cycle, she opened the lid to a finished load of whites. They were washed, rinsed and perfectly spun, and there perched on top of Frank's undershirt stood a four-inch, bright green anole lizard! Its neck stretched out and head cocked, he looked directly at Kay, and she will confirm this, with an



expression that clearly asked, "What in God's name just happened?"

Not shaken in the least, Kay carefully carried the shirt outside with the anole holding on for dear life and refusing to let go. Only after a good deal of sweet talk did she convince him or her to scamper off, possibly traumatized for life but absolutely squeaky clean.

Updates from Party Planners

by Linda Smith

Many thanks to everyone who donated toys for the Toys 4 Tots program. The toys go to the Marine Corps League Detachment 708 in Brooksville.

New Year's Eve Dance: Don't forget to get your tickets early for the New Year's Eve Dance. We have a limit of 225 tickets we will be selling for the dance. Tickets will be sold on Sundays, Dec. 10 and 17, in Busch Hall before the evening program and Wednesdays, Dec. 3 and 20, between 3 and 4 p.m. outside the Post Office. If you can't be here before Dec. 20 and still want to come, contact Joan Calao or Linda Smith and let them know when you'll be arriving. Dinner will be at 7 p.m. in Busch Hall with dancing starting at 8 p.m. going until midnight to ring in the new year. We will be having a baked

potato and salad bar this year. Tickets are \$20 per person. We have a new DJ for this event and we'd be interested in knowing if you have a special song you might like to hear that night. If you do, drop a note to Linda at lot 14-15 and let us know the song and artist. We will try to honor the requests, but there will be some limitations on that night for requests.

Game Night: Game Night will be starting on Monday, Jan. 8, at 7 p.m. at the Snack Shack Pavilion. We play a different game each week. It's team play, but you don't have to bring a full team, we will put teams together that night. It's a whole lot of fun and a lot of laughs. People ask why they waited so long to come down and play, so don't delay, it's a blast. Come on down. You may have the answer to the one question that stumps everyone else!

Looking Back

by Nan Lance

30 Years Ago - December 1993

- The Golden Anniversary Dinner attracted 126 people. The couple married the longest was Ethel and Davis Warren, married 63 years ago in 1930.
- Activities Coordinator Jean Knapp wrote the latest messages on the newly installed Post Office Bulletin Board.
- The Park's water problems are not over yet. A second well is still needed that could entail expenditures of approximately \$150,000.

20 Years Ago - December 2003

- Ruth Howes announced her retirement from the *TR Times* after 19 years of volunteering. Larry Halliday was selected as the new editor.
- Luminaries will glow on Christmas Eve. The Luminaries will follow the golf cart path from #6 tee to the Duffer's Deck, around both sides of the Park Entrance and TR Office and down TR Blvd. to the Flagpole Park at Busch Hall.
- The TR Board approves Park Models in principle. Details need to be worked out which will delay the final release of the park model specifications.

10 Years Ago - December 2013

- *The TR Times* has first and center pages printed in color.
- TR residents helped the Special Ministries of the TR Church Association give 915 food items and \$511 cash to
- Daystar Hope in Dade City.
- The TR Little Theatre and TR Travelettes will unite their talents in a musical production called "Over the Rainbow" to be performed March 25 and 26.

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**Bulletin Board***Travelers Rest Resort Activities***ACOUSTIC JAM SESSION**

PICKIN? & GRINNIN? - Wednesdays, 3:30-5:30 p.m., Hobby House. December thru March.
Rob Werner
Harold Keefer

BRASS ENSEMBLE

Wednesdays, 2:30 to 4 p.m. in the Jeri Miller Activity Building. All Brass players welcome!
Bill Watkins

DIGITAL PHOTO- POST PROCESS

Tuesdays, 1 to 3 p.m. in Citrus East. January 9-March 18.
Carey Box

GENEALOGY

Fridays, 1:00 to 2:30 p.m. in Citrus East. January-March.
Sherry Wright

AMATEUR RADIO CLUB

2nd and 4th Thurs., 6:30 p.m. in the Jeri Miller Activity Building. November-March Meetings open to all. Amateurs can check into the 8 a.m. Two Meter Net on 146.430 Mhz Monday thru Saturday.
Dan Zile

BRIDGE: BEGINNERS

Tuesdays, 1 to 3 p.m. in Hobby House. January-March.
Jim Weigand

DINING WITH FRIENDS

2nd Saturdays, Busch Hall, 5:30 to 7 p.m., January thru March.
Harold and Marlene Hughes

GEOCACHING

Tuesdays, 9 to 10 a.m. in Citrus West. Outings 10 a.m.-3:00 p.m. January thru March.
Barbara Colson

AQUATICS - (WATER AEROBICS)

Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays 9:30 to 10:30 a.m. at the pool. Year Round.
Linda Smith

BRIDGE: INTERMEDIATES

Tuesdays, 1 to 3 p.m. in Citrus West. January-March.
Connie Bradley

DOMINOES

Thursdays, 6:30 to 9 p.m. in Busch Hall. January-March.
Linda Gough

GOLF - LADIES LEAGUE

Wednesday mornings at 9 a.m. at Starter Shack.
Sandy Nelson

BALLROOM DANCING

Mondays, 7 to 8 p.m. in Busch Hall. January 10 thru March 31.
Jeffrey Duquette

BRIDGE: PARTY/PARTNERS

Party Bridge with partners - Tuesdays and Thursdays, 6:30 to 9 p.m. in Citrus West. Partner not required. Singles will be teamed up. January-Maarch.
Barb Aubrey

DULCIMER JAM

Thursdays, 6:30 to 9 pm in Citrus East. October-April.
Lois Showers

GOLF - MENS LEAGUE

Thursdays at 8 a.m. and 10 a.m. at Starter Shack.
Barry English

BEADAHOLICS

Mondays, 10:15 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. in Citrus East. January 8 thru March 25.
Kathy Kushman
Kathy Lemke

BULLETIN BOARD IN BUSCH HALL

For information or help with a notice or ad contact:
Betsy Behler
Guy Weik

DULCIMER LESSONS

Mondays in Citrus West. Beginners: 9 to 10 a.m. Intermediates: 10 am to noon. January-March.
Lois Showers

GOLF - SCRAMBLES

2nd, 3rd and 4th Saturday mornings at 9:00 at Starter Shack.
Tom and Pat Butler

BIBLE STUDY- CO-ED

Mondays, 5:30-7:00 p.m. on the Busch Hall Stage.
Anthony Shipe

CALLIGRAPHY

Fridays, 7 to 8:30 p.m. in Citrus East. November-April.
Richard Peebles

ENTERTAINMENT SUNDAYS

Announcements begin at 6:45 p.m. with program following. Performances will be in Busch Hall.
Ken and Sandy Langel

GOLF ASSOCIATION MEETINGS

Monthly meeting 2nd Thursday, 1 to 4 p.m. in Hobby House. All members/golfers are welcome. December-March.
Roy French

BIBLE STUDY, WOMEN?S

Tuesdays, 3:00-4:30 p.m. in Citrus West. January-March.
Rosita Williams

CHOIR PRACTICE

Fridays, 9:30 to 11 a.m. and Sundays 8:45 a.m. in Busch Hall. Join us.
Bernie Gutridge

EUCHRE

Fridays, 7 to 9:00 p.m. in the Jeri Miller Activity Building.
Chairperson Needed

GOLF LESSONS

Tuesdays, Practice Range with all levels of expertise from 9 to 11 a.m.
Joan McLean

BICYCLING

Tuesdays and Fridays, meet at 8:45 a.m. at parking lot behind Busch Hall. Watch Cycling Bulletin Board in Busch Hall for rides.
Susan Delaney

CHURCH ASSOCIATION

Sunday Activities: All events in Busch Hall, 8:45 a.m.: Choir Practice 9:30 a.m.: Bible Study. 10:15 a.m.: Hymn Sing. 10:30 a.m.: Worship service, Holy Communion 1st Sunday of the month.
Anthony Shipe, Pastor

FIRE/RESCUE 33

Firefighters-Tues, 9 to 11 am- Fire Station. First Responders-Tuesday, 11 to 1, JMAB. Thursdays, 8:30 am to 12:30 p.m., Paul Rife Room. Business Meeting - 3rd Tuesdays, 9 a.m. in Paul Rife Room.
Larry Polzin

HABITAT FOR HUMANITY

Volunteer to help build homes in Pasco County. Projects January thru March TBA.
Vince Smith

BINGO

Nov.-Dec.: 1st and 3rd Saturdays; January-March: Weekly. 7 to 9 p.m. in Citrus East.
Linda Smith
Jim Walsh

CHURCH COMMITTEE

3rd Fridays, 1 to 3 p.m. in Jeri Miller Activity Building. November-April.
Bill Wise

FIVE CROWNS

Wednesdays (non-concert nights only), 6:30 to 9 p.m. in Citrus West. November-April.
Jackie Thackery

HAND AND FOOT

Thursdays, 6:30 to 9 p.m. in Busch Hall. November-March
Diane & Brian Krupicka

BIRDING

Tuesdays, 8 a.m. at Post Office Veranda. Bring binoculars and cameras. November-March.
Tom Butler

CLOGGERS OF TR

Tuesdays and Thursdays 9 to 11:30 a.m., Saturdays 10 to 11:30 a.m. in Citrus East.
Donna Neer
Donna Smith

FIVE HUNDRED - CARDS

Saturdays, 6:45 to 9 p.m. In Citrus West. November-March.
Pat McCallum

HARMONAIRES

Bring your harmonica and play with us! Beginners welcome. Thursdays 7 to 8:30 p.m. in Hobby House.
Joe Shipe

BLOOD DRIVE AT TR

Blood drives are held the 1st Monday in December and March. The Blood Mobile will be parked next to the TR Fire Station from 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. unless announced otherwise.
Ken Neer

COFFEE & DONUTS - RADIO CLUB

1st Saturday (during Flea Markets), and 3rd Saturdays during Yard Sales. 8:30 to 11:30 a.m. or until sold out. Donuts and coffee served in Busch Hall. Nov.-Mar.
Dan Zile

FLEA MARKET

Flea Markets are held in Busch Hall the first Saturday of each month, November thru March, 8:30 to 10:30 a.m. Setup at 7 a.m. Coffee & donuts for sale.
Rick and Amy Peebles

ICE CREAM SOCIAL

Sundays, 6:15 to 6:45 p.m. in Busch Hall.
Rosita Williams

BLOOD PRESSURE SCREENING

Tuesdays, 10:30 to 11 a.m. in Paul Rife Room.
Larry Polzin

COFFEE SEMINARS

Thursdays, 8 to 9 a.m. in Busch Hall. Watch The TR Times and online calendar for updates.
Billie Doell

FRIDAY AFTERNOON LIVE!

Certain Fridays, 3:30-5:00 p.m. at The Grove Stage. Check dates in the InTouch app and TR Booklet.
Donna Probes

IPHONE CLASS

Thursdays, 12:30 to 2 p.m. in Jeri Miller Activity Building. January-March.
Susan Stahley

BOCCE

Scheduled games and competitions, Mondays, Wednesdays, Thursdays, Fridays and Sundays at 1:30 p.m. Tuesdays at 7 p.m. December thru March.
Jim Ridolfi

COFFEE SOCIAL

Monday thru Friday, 7:30 to 9 a.m. in Busch Hall.
Jim Matkovich

FRIDAY NIGHT DANCES

Fridays from 7 to 9 p.m. in Busch Hall, starting January 19. The dance schedule and themes are listed in the TR Booklet and the InTouch app.
Sharon Fosnight

JOKER

Mondays, 6:30 to 9 p.m. in Citrus West. Fridays, 6:30 to 9 p.m. in Citrus West.
Bob & Deb Englert (Mon.)
Deborah May (Fri.)

BOOK BROWERS

2nd and 4th Wednesdays, 2 to 3 p.m. in Citrus West.
Nan Feeney Lance

CREATIVE ART GROUP (CAG)

Wednesdays, 3 to 5 p.m. in Citrus West. January-March.
Linda Spencer

GAMES NIGHT

Mondays, 7 to 9 p.m. at Snack Shack Pavilion. Non-contact games. New game each week. January-March.
Linda Smith
Joan Colao

JUBELLATION

Mondays, 10:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m. in Busch Hall. November-March.

BOWLING

Fridays at 2:00 p.m. at Pin Chasers Bowling Lanes, Zephyrhills. Dec. 1-March 22.
Lin Buczek

DIGITAL PHOTO- CAMERA

Mondays, 9:00 a.m. to noon in Jeri Miller Activity Building. January 8-February 12 (6-week class).
Carey Box

GARDEN CLUB

Tuesdays and Thursdays, 9 to 11 a.m. at Lake Margaret.
Stacy Grier

KARAOKE

Most non-concert Wednesdays, 7 to 9: p.m. in Busch Hall. December-March. Check InTouch schedule.
Glenn and Gabriella Young
Alan West



Bulletin Board

Travelers Rest Resort Activities

KNOTTY KNITTERS

Thursdays, 9:30 to 11:30 a.m. in Citrus West. All year.

Diane Fisher

POM-POM DRILL TEAM

Tuesdays, 3 to 4 p.m. and Fridays, 10:30 to 11:30 a.m. in Citrus East.

**Donna Neer
Deb Niles**

TENNIS

Open play, Mondays- Fridays, 9 to 11 a.m. November-April.

Betty Teichert

WEIGHTS & STRETCHING

Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays, 8 to 9:00 a.m. in Citrus East and West. Year-round.

Sheila Schencke

LIBRARY

Located in northwest corner of Busch Hall. Open 24/7. Honor system sign-out. Please reshelve your own books if you can. If not place in cart behind desk. Meetings: 1st Tues., 1:30 p.m. SSP.

**Mary Kosbab
Kay Blunda**

POWERBOAT RACING

Mondays and Fridays, 8 a.m. to noon at Mirror Lake.

**Howard Best
Don Meddles**

STONE & TIGHTEN

Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays, 9 to 10 a.m. in Citrus East. Strengthen your muscles. Bring mat and weights. January-March.

**Bev Weissinger
Louise McRoberts**

WELCOMING & RED DOT SPOT

Thursdays, 11:30 a.m.-1:00 p.m., Citrus West. Red Dot Socials: 1st and 3rd Thursdays. Welcoming Committee: 2nd and 4th Thursdays.

Diana Hill

LINE DANCING (IMPROVERS)

Mondays and Thursdays, 1 to 2:30 p.m. in Citrus East. January 8-March 23.

Alex Adair

PRAISE & WORSHIP

Contemporary Church Services - 1st and 3rd Saturdays, 4:30 to 5:30 p.m. in Busch Hall. December - March.

Marty Schencke

TR ROADRIDERS MOTORCYCLE

1st Mondays, 7 to 8 p.m. in Hobby House to plan rides. Tuesday Rides: 8 a.m.-noon. Thursday rides: 9:30 a.m.-4 p.m. Meet at Busch Hall parking lot. October-April.

Phil St. John

WIZARD

Tuesdays, 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. in Busch Hall. November-March.

**Imma Smith
Gary Smith**

LINE DANCING (BEGINNERS)

Tuesdays, 10 to 11 a.m. in Citrus West and Saturdays 3 to 4 p.m. in Citrus East. Jan. 2-March 23..

Alex Adair

QUILLING ON A BUDGET

Thursdays, 1-3 p.m. in Citrus West.

Pat Daubenmier

TR SINGING MEN

Wednesdays from 9 to 10:30 a.m. in the Jeri Miller Activities Building. All men are invited to sing along.

**Ron Reeve
Gene Gough**

WOOD SHOP

Monday thru Friday, 8 a.m. to 2:45 p.m. October-May. Membership \$20.

Larry Kurkowski

MAH JONG CHINESE

Mondays and Fridays, 12 to 2 p.m. in Citrus West.

Marcia Hatfield

QUILTING

Thursdays at 9:30 a.m. to 3 p.m. in Busch Hall. 2nd Thursday Guild Meeting/Show and Tell.

**Pat Greene
Cloie Morgan**

TR TRAVEL

Planned events advertised on Travel Board in Busch Hall. Watch for articles in TR Times.

Sharon Gilbert Zile

WOODCARVING

Wednesdays, 9 a.m. to noon in Citrus West. January-March.

Linda Murphy

MAH JONGG - NATIONAL PLAY

Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays, 1 to 3 p.m. at Hobby House. Lessons on Mondays.

Bette Gorman

RC AIRPLANE FLYING

Parlor - Thursdays, 3 to 5 p.m. and Saturdays, 1 to 3 p.m. in Busch Hall. Outdoor - Tuesdays, 8-11:45 a.m. , at the Golf Course 9th hole.

James Morrow, Sr.

TR TRAVELAIRES Ochestra

Tuesdays, 12:30 to 3 p.m. in Busch Hall. New members welcome.

Pat Daubenmier

YOGA

Restorative Yoga (Improves flexibility): Tuesdays, 7:15-8:15 a.m. Yoga for Athletes: Thursdays, 7:15-8:15 a.m. Both in Citrus West, January thru March.

Jean Renee DeTar

MATS FOR THE HOMELESS

Thursdays, 9:30 to 11:30 a.m. in Busch Hall

**Pat Dellamuth
Lorraine Gould**

RC MOTORSPORTS

Wednesdays and Saturdays, 9:30 a.m. at RC Motorsports track by the Snack Shack.

John Toombs

TRAVELETTES/WOMEN-CHORUS

Wednesdays, 12:30 to 2 p.m. in the Jeri Miller Activity Building. January-March.

Mary Beth Coldren

ZUMBA

Thursdays, 8:30 to 9:30 a.m., in Citrus West. November 30-March 28.

Bev Weissinger

MIRROR LAKE YACHT CLUB

RC Powerboat and Sailboat Activities at Mirror Lake. Powerboat Races: Mondays and Fridays 8 a.m. to noon. (January 1-March 15)

Jerry McRoberts, Commodore

ROCK PAINTING

Wednesdays, 10:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m. in the Jeri Miller Activity Building. December 6-April 15.

Marcia Hatfield

TRAVELOGUE

2nd and 4th Wednesdays, 3 to 4:30 p.m. in Citrus East. January thru March.

Bert Contractor

YACHT CLUB SAILBOATS

Sailboat Open Practice: Tuesdays, 9 to 11 a.m. Sailboat Races: Wednesdays and Saturdays 9 to 11 a.m. (November 22-March 15)

Barry Sellick

RUG HOOKING

Tuesdays, 9:30 to noon in the Green Room, Busch Hall. A small avid group. Join us and make something beautiful!

Tawnya Rowden

TUESDAY NIGHT MOVIES (TNM)

Tuesdays, doors open at 6:45 p.m., movie will start at 7:00 p.m., in Citrus East. Movie Night runs January thru March.

Jim and Carol Henrikson

MODEL RAILROAD

Fridays, 9:30 a.m. to noon in the Jeri Miller Activity Building.

Brian Krupicka

SEW SPECIAL AND EMBROIDERY

Mondays, 9:30 a.m. to 3 p.m. in Busch Hall. Welcome to cut out and sew. Bring machine, projects, ideas. 3rd Mondays - Show and Tell.

**Rosita Williams
Laura Lilawski**

UKULELE CLUB

Tuesdays, 3 to 4:00 p.m. in the Hobby House. Players share tips and tunes without weekly instruction. January thru March.

Donna Probes

OIL & ACRYLIC PAINTING

Fridays, 9 a.m. to noon in Citrus West. January-March.

Mary Kubiniec

SHUFFLEBOARD

Tuesdays, 1 to 3 p.m., Competition. Thursdays, 1 to 3 p.m., Dime Day.

Richard Von Qualen

VETERANS MEETING

2nd Mondays, 10:03 to 11 a.m. in the Hobby House. All year.

Darold Long, Commander

PET LOVERS CLUB

2nd Mondays, 3 to 4:30 p.m. in the Jeri Miller Activity Building. January - April.

Kim Roberts

SNACK SHACK

Currently weekdays, 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. Additional volunteers needed to add a Saturday crew. January 8-March 22.

**Lee Brenn
Mickey Cobb**

VILLAGE HAPPY HOUR

Thursdays, 4 to 5:30 p.m. at host residence. Meet in Hobby House if temperature is <60 or if it's raining. November thru April.

Mario Noll

PICKLEBALL

Over a dozen Pickleball activities from beginner to competitive play offered weekly. Check Outdoor Activities in the TR Booklet and InTouch app for current schedule.

Delia and Carey Box

SPORTS CLUB

Meet in the Jeri Miller Activity Building, 2nd and 4th Tuesdays, 7 to 8 p.m. (October-May) All welcome.

Ray LoPresti

WAIST WATCHERS

Thursdays, 8:30 to 9:15 a.m. in the Hobby House porch.

Jackie Thackery

PINOCHLE

Thursdays, 6:30 to 9 p.m. in Busch Hall.

John Delaney

STAINED GLASS

All times in Jeri Miller Activity Building, January-March: Mondays, 12:45 to 2:45 p.m. Wednesdays, 4 to 6 p.m., Fridays, 3:30 to 5:30 p.m. Instructor - Shari Harberts

**Shari Harberts
Laura Apgar**

WINTER WALKING AEROBICS

Monday thru Friday, 7:15 to 7:45 a.m. in Citrus East. November- March.

Gloria Polzin

POKER TEXAS HOLD?EM

Tuesdays and Saturdays, 7 to 9:30 p.m. in the Hobby House.

Tom Thompson

TABLE TENNIS/PING PONG

Mondays and Thursdays, set up at 2:30 p.m., play from 3 to 5 p.m. in Citrus East. Extra paddles available.

Ron Hicks

WATERCOLOR PAINTING

Wednesdays, 1 to 3 p.m. in Citrus East. November-March.

Amy Grier



All changes, additions or corrections to any Activity.

Contact Guy Weik

activities@travelersrestresort.com
352-584-6377



“Volunteers don't get paid, not because they're worthless, but because they're priceless.

~ Sherry Anderson



Contact Guy Weik and see how you can join the TR Team.

activities@travelersrestresort.com
352-584-6377

Travel News



DAN AND SHARON ZILE

by Sharon Gilbert Zile

As we prepare for the TR Travel Season with monthly day trips and a cruise circumnavigating the Hawaiian Islands, it is a perfect time to reflect on the many travel adventures of the “off-season.”

Dan and I had a season of 13,000 miles and 21 states that involved 187 nights in the Tin Can Hilton our 25-foot Airstream and countless beautiful memories. Traveling several weeks from St. Louis, Mo. to Rock Springs, Wyo. with TR Cabana residents Larry and Shala Wilson, we visited Walt Disney’s boyhood hometown in Marceline, Mo. Days later we were delighted by the antics of an aging mountain goat and hundreds of buffalo in Custer State Park, S.D. In Wyoming we all attended the Airstream International Rally, enjoyed the magnificent views of the Flaming Gorge on the Green River and experienced a serendipitous guided tour of a remote petroglyph site. After parting with our dear friends, Dan and I visited family near Glacier National Park, camped along the Salmon River, Idaho and explored Colorado mountain towns where we hiked a short portion of the Continental Divide Trail near Pagosa Springs and the Box Canyon Waterfall in Ouray. We towed our Tin Can Hilton along the Million Dollar Highway and ONE of us saw the magnificent views of this historic railroad highway that boasts ten percent grades and steep drop-offs. All of this was before we joined the Airstream Southwest Adventure Caravan and met up with 2023 TR seasonal residents and caravan co-leaders Jim and Vicki Prashch.

Highlights with the Caravan included hiking to Delicate Arch in Arches National Park, a mule ride and more hiking among the hoodoos of Bryce Canyon National Park, kayaking Ice Cream Canyon on Lake Powell in the Glen Canyon National Park and jeep rides in Moab, Utah and Canyon de Chelly. Our 53 day caravan concluded with VIP Camping just

a six minute walk from the launch field of the Albuquerque Balloon Fiesta where we walked among the hundreds of brightly colored hot air balloons as they prepared to decorate the sky. After these and so many more Big Deal experiences, we visited family in New Orleans and former TR residents Phil and Elaine Risher in Louisiana before returning home to Missouri.



Clemencia Arse sits in an iconic red Adirondack OK chair in Sydney, Nova Scotia.

Many of our TR residents also had exciting travel experiences during the summer. Village residents Peter Lipka and Clemencia Arse traveled from TR to Newfoundland in their Airstream. Among their breathtaking experiences was a hike and boat trip to Western Brook Pond, a Canadian fjord located in Grosse Mornin National Park and within



Photo by Phyllis Zitzer

A cyclist pedals up a hill in Sicily.

the most northern section of the Appalachian Mountains. They also walked in the earliest known North American encampment of the Vikings at UNESCO World Heritage Site Lans aux Meadows. To add to their adventure, the Lipkas experienced a weather-related window blowout on the trailer, a disabled ferry and hunker-



Photos submitted by Sharon Zile

TR Airstreamers at the International Rally in Rock Springs, Wy.

ing down in Sydney, Nova Scotia during a hurricane. If their journey to Newfoundland was not enough beauty and excitement, Peter and Clemencia also drove the famous coastal US Highway 1 from its point of origination in Maine to its most southern point in Key West.

Phyllis Zitzer another active TR traveler, is an RV South resident. Her bicycle touring took her to the Finger Lakes region of New York in June, the Shenandoah Valley in July and a fall tour from Harrisburg, Pa. to Wildwood, N.J. in September. Since that was not enough cycling for Phyllis, she traveled with the Bicycle Adventure Club on the Island of Sicily, Italy in October. The “off-season” is anything but “off” for those of us who love to travel. I’d love to hear about your summer adventures.

As your volunteer TR Tour Director I am turning my attention to a season of Central Florida day trips and a Big Deal cruise that docks at numerous islands and ports in Hawaii. While reservations for the TR Hawaii Island Hopper cruise are already made, our Dec. 12 day trip to Barn Antiques and Bok Tower and Gardens is just days away. Please call me to check on availability if you would like to go as there are often last minute cancellations. Detailed information is available on InTouch Community, look for the TR Travel button, the Busch Hall Travel Bulletin Board under the drinking fountain, and last



Shala and Larry Wilson joined the Ziles for a mountain top adventure in Custer, S. D.

week’s TR Times. Monthly day trips for January through March will be presented at a Busch Hall Coffee Seminar on Thursday, Jan. 4. Bring your checkbooks to make your reservation for several very

popular destinations. I look forward to traveling with you this season.

“Traveling – it leaves you speechless, then turns you into a storyteller.” Ibn Battuta

2023-24 Schedule for TR Travel

- Day trip to the Barn Antiques and Bok Tower Gardens - Tuesday, Dec. 12.
- TR Travel Busch Hall Coffee Seminar - Thursday, Jan. 4, 8 a.m.
- TR Hawaiian Island Hoppers Party/Meeting - Wednesday, Jan. 10, 4:30 p.m. in Citrus East.
- Day trip - Wednesday, Jan. 24, 8 a.m.
- Day trip - Wednesday, Feb. 22, 8:30 a.m.
- TR Hawaiian Island Hoppers Cruise - Feb. 29 through Mar. 9.
- Day trip - Wednesday, March 13, 8 a.m.

It was a best kept secret for over 30 years

by Margaret Emmetts

In the town of White Sulphur Springs, W.Va. is a very posh hotel called The Greenbrier. The hotel has been there for many years but during the Eisenhower administration it underwent a drastic change.

During Ike’s administration there was perceived to be an imminent threat of a nuclear attack. Eisenhower, who in many ways was ahead of the times, thought it would be prudent to prepare to keep the government intact should such an attack occur. His solution was to build bunkers that would protect the stability of our government.

The Greenbrier hotel was selected as a prime location for his plans. It was easy to reach by plane, train or auto from Washington, D.C. At the time it was thought that should an attack occur there

would be an hour or more warning, allowing time to evacuate the capitol.

It was decided that the public would be advised that the hotel was going to add a new wing to its structure. In truth this was a “cover” for the building of a blast-proof bunker. A large area was excavated, supposedly to house new public rooms for the hotel above which more hotel rooms would be built. In reality it was the site of a huge bunker. The new wing for the hotel was indeed constructed above the very secret bunker.

We are told that White Sulphur Springs was a rather small community with very patriotic citizens. As a result, anyone who suspected what was truly happening kept silent.

The bunker was designed to house the Legislative branch of the government, both the House and Senate. Two large meeting rooms were constructed to house these meetings. Dormitories were built to house some 500 plus persons representing both the politicians and their aids. The structure included complete medical and dental facilities. It was planned to the extent that prescriptions for all its potential residents were kept current. For over 30 years food supplies were rotated every three days. The food was not wasted but was used for the employees of The Greenbrier.

Included in the structure were generators, water supplies etc. all designed to make the area completely self-sustaining. It was anticipated that if it was necessary

to activate the bunker the legislators would be there for a minimum of 60 days until the radiation would abate. White Sulphur Springs is in a valley, protected on all sides by mountains. Prevailing westerly winds would carry the radiation east to the Atlantic Ocean.

The people who maintained the bunker for over 30 years while its location was top secret, worked both in the bunker and the hotel. Their cover was that they were the telephone and TV technicians.

Today there are 1.5 hour tours available of this once secret bunker. Reservations are necessary and only small groups are taken on each tour. You can still not bring anything with you on the tour, no phones, purses, cameras, etc.



THE GREENBRIER

The secret of the bunker was revealed several years ago when a reporter began to research the amount of materials used for the alleged hotel construction. An inordinate amount of concrete, two inch thick rebar and blast-proof doors aroused his suspicion and an expose was written.

With today’s rockets and technology there would no longer be an hour or more of warning should an attack occur, ergo the bunker could no longer serve the purpose for which it was designed.

I still find it remarkable that the location and purpose of the bunker was kept secret for over 30 years.



Garden News

by Leslie Ewing

Planning, purchasing and planting, the Three P's of Lake Margaret Garden Club (LMGC) is what the fun of gardening is all about. During the pandemic the LMGC was unable to do much of that. Thanks to the Irish Coffee House in March with entertainment by Doc and Donna, Ken Langell and Brode Morgan combined with the generosity of TR residents and the Board, the Club has the funds for this year's FUN.

Early bird members of the Club are already hard at work. Amy Grier, LMGC Artistic Director, planted colorful sedums on the Stump, which is what the Club calls the remains of the Live Oak we lost last year. Stacy Grier, Club President and Amy's husband, helped her with the hard work.

Randy Melville always finds something to fix on the watering system. Laura Weik is one of the energizing bunny workers in the Garden. Pam Forsyth keeps everybody in the loop with emails. (She also promptly answers my text messages when I ask about what to include in the next garden column.)

Phyllis Zitzer, Master Gardener, monitors what is happening in the Garden from wherever her bicycle takes her during the summer. Mary DeWeerd has a good eye for what goes where in the Garden. You can see those pesky weeds fly out of the Garden when Donna West is there.

The Three P's of Lake Margaret Garden Club



Photo by Leslie Ewing

Cathey Holley on the boardwalk, Laura Weik on the ladder and Donna West next to the boardwalk, are preparing to install lights and decorations.

Mike Lilawski worked to save the palm tree on the front lawn of the Garden. It lives! Laura Lilawski, Club Treasurer, keeps an eye on the finances. The Lilawskis also maintain the goldfish pond that children of all ages enjoy watching.

Members have planning sessions every Tuesday morning at 10:30 a.m. in front of the garden sheds. Workers actually have to be told to stop their work to come to

the meetings. The Club works in crews, so sometimes there is more chatting than working. That is just part of what makes gardening so enjoyable.

The decorations are in place! The Club hopes TR residents will enjoy the new look this year. The plan is to keep the lights turned on overnight. That's the plan anyhow. Come stroll the boardwalk some evening. See you in the Garden!

Book Browsers reading list for 2024

The TR Book Browsers invite you to join us in 2024 on the second and fourth Wednesdays of the month at 1 p.m. in Citrus West to discuss this season's recommended books. Let's get together and enjoy sharing our ideas and perspectives on the following titles.

Jan. 10 - *The Crooked Branch* by Jeanine Cummins

Jan. 24 - *Dead Wake: Lusitania* by Erik Larson

Feb. 14 - *Lab Girl* by Hope Jahren (nonfiction)

Feb. 28 - *West with Giraffes* by Lynda Rutledge

March 13 - *Demon Copperhead* by Barbara Kingsolver

March 27 - *The Reading List* by Sara Nisha Adams

"There is more treasure in books than in all the pirate's loot on Treasure Island." - Walt Disney

Library News



Meet a TR avid reader



Photo by Loretta Whitfield
MARILYN LONG

by Loretta Whitfield

Meet Marilyn Long – no stranger to most people at TR. She and Darold have been here since 2008 when they first heard of TR while visiting some friends in Venice. They decided to visit TR on their way to Texas and never made it to Texas.

Although they are both from Illinois, they met in Hawaii on June 19, 1957 and were engaged by July 19, 1957. In addition to

being parents to two children, Marilyn and Darold had a very interesting array of careers beginning with teaching. They have lived in several states, created their Texas business, T-shirts and Trophies and later ran their own RV park in North Carolina.

Marilyn is a big part of keeping the library in good condition, especially over the summer. The Religious section is her particular area throughout the year. She doesn't have any particular author who is a special favorite but enjoys many kinds of books and authors. She often uses the happy-face symbol on the spine to guide her selection. It isn't unusual for her to have four to five books on hand.

Right now she is enjoying *Searching for You* by Jody Hedlund which is a true story and *An Invisible Thread* by Laura Schaff and Alex Tresniowski.

Darold and Marilyn have played a huge role in the Special Ministries and charity work done at TR, with food drives and donations in support of Daystar Hope Center and Sunrise Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault Center.

New books at the TR Library

by Loretta Whitfield

Remarkably Bright Creatures by Shelby Van Pelt

This was a hard book to put down – a talking octopus at the Sowell Bay Aquarium? The author's main character, Tova Sullivan, is the evening cleaning woman at the aquarium. She has suffered some big personal losses over the years and appreciates the quietness of the aquarium job to keep her occupied.

Surprisingly, she enjoys conversing with the aquarium's animals, especially the octopus, Marcellus. He is an unusually intelligent creature whose thoughts about his captive circumstances are related to the reader.

Marcellus has learned how to escape from his enclosure and to travel through the aquarium looking for snacks. On one occasion, Tova finds Marcellus tangled in knotted cables in the director's office. When she helps free him, Marcellus recognizes that without Tova, he would have died. The two begin an unlikely friendship. He is an extraordinary animal who is

instrumental to the plot. Marcellus will win your heart. *Pachinko* by Min Jin Lee

This new donation to the TR library is a four-generational story about the survival and struggles of poor Korean families working through many hardships from the early 1900s to the 1990s due to colonialism, earthquake, WW II and ethnic bias.

The family you meet is hard working, running a boarding house to make ends meet. Their son, Hoonie, has some physical challenges and they are surprised when they are approached by a matchmaker who has a marriage offer. Hoonie and his wife run the boarding house, taking turns sleeping so they can accommodate more renters.

Their daughter, Sunjais, and her family continue to show their strength and endurance, keeping their families alive by working long hours, running boarding houses or by making and selling kimchi in the most grueling conditions in order to support the family and give them a better life.



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Birding Activity



Flightless Birds

by Tom Butler

Please don't take offense to the title. I just want to discuss flightless birds, a topic that includes the extinct Dodo. Good reason not to be one! The problems facing the nearly 60 species of flightless birds are so numerous that 50% of these birds are threatened or vulnerable and an additional 20% are either endangered or extinct. When they can't fly, they become vulnerable to loss of habitat, human hunting practices and predatory animals introduced into their environment.



Photo by Tom Butler
DODO BIRD

Most flightless birds existed on islands and remote areas around the world where they were safe from these issues. New Zealand once had the largest population of these grounded birds, but the introduction of man and their animals made short work of some. On the island of Mauritius, in the Indian Ocean, the last known Dodo disappeared in the year 1662. With no fear of man, they became an easy target for hunters and were extinct by the end of the first 100 years of coexistence with man. There is nothing to be proud of in that extermination.

Flightless birds have no keel bone in the breast region. This keel is the bone that wing muscles attach to which allows them to fly. While the lack of flying creates a lot of difficulties for these birds, many have compensated with the development of other abilities. The giant ostrich, for example, may not be able to fly but when you can run at speeds up to 45 mph, few predators could catch this

incredible grounded creature. The flightless Steamer Duck is not the fastest runner on land but x the water it escapes to offers excellent protection from predators that are not man. There is also a flightless parrot known as the Kakapos. This nocturnal bird is afforded some safety with the darkness of night. The Kakapos is an excellent climber and still makes use of its wings by gliding from limb to limb to hunt for food and escape enemies. But, as with many of the flightless birds, the struggle to stay alive still has fewer than 150 of these parrots surviving.

There are seven categories of these vertically challenged birds around our vast world. The first group would include the Dodo which, as I mentioned, has been extinct for nearly 700 years. The next group includes the largest living bird, the Ostrich, which was primarily found in Australia and Africa. It has now been transplanted into many countries globally.

New Zealand is home to the Kiwi, our smallest non-flying feathered friend. This bird is the New Zealand mascot and replaced the Moa in this role. The Moa was the largest of all birds, ever! It stood nearly 10 feet tall but went extinct in about 1000 AD.

Moving all the way to the South Pole we find another group that uses its wings as flippers – no mystery here – Penguins. While the wings of a Penguin are worthless for flight, they become incredible tools when they enter the water. Few can match their swimming skills.

The Emu is the second largest bird in our flightless categories. They can be found typically in Australia. As if being flightless isn't tough enough, this member of our grounded birds has joined the Ostrich in the commercial food supply. Wow! South America hosts the Rhea family, which is a similar bird to the Emu, but smaller. This member of the Ratite group is joined by the Ostrich, Emu and the Cassowary. All are long-legged birds with big bodies and an aggressive nature. Sharp toenails can be deadly when combined with a kick powerful enough to put it on any NFL roster. The Cassowary, considered to be one of the most dangerous creatures in this group, would not be found in a pet store.

Birds, along with all other creatures and plants, continue to struggle in our changing environmental conditions. Man has brought about most of these negative issues, but we need to remember that we also have the ability and the obligation to bring about positive change. This effort is needed to stem the loss of a growing variety of plants and animals worldwide. Take a walk around our beautiful park and be inspired by what nature has to offer and I hope you are motivated enough to become an advocate for all of nature.

Pet Lover's Club

by Kim Roberts

Hopefully everyone had a wonderful summer and is either back or soon will be.

This year there is a great deal to be accomplished at the new dog park and I have a lot of fun ideas as well.

The first thing on the agenda is to name the dog parks. Let's have a contest and pick the winners. You can email your suggestions to trdogpark@gmail.com or put them in mailbox 10-21. Once we get the suggestions collated, we can vote and name our parks. Suggestions

must be received by Wednesday, Jan. 31. Voting will take place at the February Pet Lovers meeting.

Our first meeting is on Monday, Dec. 11, 3 p.m. in the Jeri Miller Activity Building. Please come and join us to hear what ideas we have and make new suggestions. Remember that the Pet Lover's Club supports the maintenance of the dog parks. We need to keep things moving forward as we have more than 300 dogs when the park is filled to capacity.

Pets on Parade



by Judy Leister

Paula Snyder had an adorable little white dog named Kally who was getting up there in age and she realized it was time to bring another dog into her life. Kally had come from Ziggy's Legacy, a rescue shelter in Brooksville run by the wife of her veterinarian. Paula started looking at their Facebook page and saw a cute apricot poodle that needed a new home. As soon as she saw his picture she knew she wanted him.

He didn't have a name yet so Paula started looking online at lists of little boys' names. She saw the name Wyatt and liked it. That was February of this year. He was a bit timid when she first got him, like so many dogs that come from difficult backgrounds, his being from some kind of breeding situation. He was withdrawn, didn't bark and didn't play with toys.

It didn't take Wyatt long to settle into his new home and things changed. He loves to play with his toys and romp around. When he's not sharing the easy chair with Paula, he cuddles into his furry donut bed. He's sure not timid any more when it comes to playing. His absolute favorite activity is going to the dog park and playing with



Photo by Judy Leister
WYATT

his doggie friends. He loves to get all the other dogs running with lots of wagging tails.

Wyatt realizes his toys need a good rest at night just like he does, so as soon as he sees Paula start to get ready for bed, he runs around the house and gathers up all of his toys and brings them one-by-one to the bedroom so he can sleep with them.

When I went to Paula and Wyatt's house to do the interview for this article, I got to wondering what the name Wyatt meant so when I got home I Googled it. As it turns out, it's an old English name meaning "brave in war." I found that interesting. Wyatt obviously had to be very brave in his earlier life and it paid off because his new life is full of love, joy and happiness.

Would you like to join the Travelers Rest Resort Birding Group

by Pat Butler

Are you a nature lover? Do you have an interest in bird watching and identification? Do you enjoy getting out on TR's scenic trails? If so, you might want to join the TR Birding Group. Led by Tom Butler, this group takes a weekly walk around TR's extensive birding trail. There have been sightings of over 150 different species of birds here at our park and TR is officially known as a State of Florida birding hot spot. The group leaves the front of the Post Office at 8 a.m. each Tuesday morning. Along the trail the group identifies various birds and takes beautiful photos of the daily visitors. There is always time allowed for resting on nearby



benches. Occasionally the birders take a field trip to such nature preserves as the Circle B Ranch in Lakeland to witness the birds in nearby havens.

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Tennis and pickleball courts are refurbished



by Margaret Emmetts

Its been a long wait but the tennis courts are finally usable again. The old damaged surface has been removed and new asphalt laid down. A new drainage system was installed around the perimeter of the upper courts to drain off water and prevent puddling on the courts. The good news is that the project came in under budget.

While the contractors were here they repaired the pickleboard courts. Areas that needed help were drilled out and new surface applied.

The night time lights for the courts are currently being checked out.

Photos by Terry Halbrook

The tennis courts sporting their new layer of asphalt.



The old fence around the court is removed.



This new building which is located between the tennis and the pickleball courts houses storage areas. One is for the tennis equipment and the other is for pickleball equipment. The building also contains electricity and a drinking water fountain.

The Big Red Buses return to TR



The sign says it all.



Photos by Rich Kushman

A technician works on Barb Aubrey.



THE BIG RED BUS



Art Golfis awaits his turn to donate.



The interior of The Big Red Bus is quite spacious and can accommodate a number of donors at the same time.



Obituaries

JOHN DUANE COWEN

John Duane Cowen, age 82, of Dundee, Mich. passed away July 10, 2023 at the Hospice of Lenawee in Adrian, Mich. surrounded by his loving family. He was born Aug. 27, 1940 in Dundee, one of three handsome sons born to Donald Cowen and Roberta (Fisher) Kroeger. He attended Dundee Community Schools, graduating from high school with the class of 1958.

On Dec. 1, 1962 John married the love of his life Dolores "Dee" Weyher. Together the couple was blessed with two beautiful daughters, Karla and Kris. For more than 37 years John worked as a machinist for the Ford Motor Company before retiring in June of 2000.

A founding member of the Dundee Sportsman Club he was also very active in the TR Sporting Clay Shooting Club. He and Dee resided in RV South on lot 02-30 for 22 years. John was a nature lover and never missed an opportunity to spend time outdoors whether hunting deer in Northern Michigan near Houghton Lake or Hudson Lake in Lenawee County. John's favorite place to be was "in the woods."

He also enjoyed spending time at Fletcher's Floodwaters in Hillman, Mich. casting a line for his favorite catches of Largemouth Bass or Northern Pike. When John wasn't hunting or fishing he enjoyed the solitude of sitting by the campfire, often staking ground in Glennie, Houghton Lake and Hudson Lake in Michigan or Carlyle Lake in his garage or shed. He built his own paint booth and painted his own fishing lures made by hand out of wood. He always tested these in the Raisin River before sharing them with others. Most importantly John never let his work or his "tinkering" get in the way of family time. He adored his family especially his grandchildren. John took pleasure in spending time with them whether he was teaching David how to ride a two-wheeled bicycle or teaching Jacob, John's fishing buddy, how to cast a line.

Survivors include his loving wife of 60 years, Delores, two daughters, Karla (David) Caplinger and Kris (Michael) Vigliotti, a brother Ronald (Judy) Cohen and four grandchildren.

Memorial contributions can be made to the Dundee Firefighters Association, Hospice of Lenawee or The Duke University ALS Research Gift Fund.

JANET LYNN ROBERT GORDON

Janet Gordon was called Home to be with her Lord and Savior on June 6, 2023. The daughter of **Janet Lynn Robert Gordon** the late (William) Len Roberts and Jessie (Crockett) Roberts and elder sister to (William) Keith Roberts, Janet was born Sept. 3, 1946 at her parents' home in Sharon, Tenn.

Janet's life was marked by service to others, a deep love of family and a humorous outlook on life. She enjoyed spending time with friends and family, cooking, gardening, reading, making jewelry and especially traveling with her husband Phil. She held her greatest love for her family who referred to her as a "loving mother." Janet attended church and was a "child of God."

Growing up in Sharon, Janet was blessed to experience quintessential small-town America where doors were not locked, people never passed a stranger and neighbors were always ready and willing to help. In many ways these experiences shaped her love of people and her desire to be someone that friends and family could always count on no matter the circumstances.

Janet's heart and authenticity also attracted many people to her. During her senior year at Sharon High School she was named Homecoming Queen and many of the relationships she formed there lasted a lifetime.

While growing up in Sharon, Janet met and eventually married the love of her life, Phil Gordon. At the age of six Phil gave Janet the first of many gifts, a toy train. During 2nd grade both Janet and Phil would hang their coats on hooks next to each other. Phil and Janet started "going steady" in their Sophomore year of high school.

After high school Janet went on to the University of Tennessee at Martin. After college newlyweds Janet and Phil left their beloved hometown and began teaching in Florida. Even though Janet moved away, her love of Sharon stayed with her. In fact they moved back to Sharon after the birth of their first child Alisa.

During her career she worked the longest, eight years, at Sharon Elementary School becoming a key resource for the school and community.

Her faith and family were always at the forefront along with a devotion to Sharon Baptist Church, her beloved church family. As a testimonial to her commitment to her Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, Janet served continuously as piano player, choir member and Sunday School teacher. There was nowhere she felt more at home.

Janet's memory and legacy are carried on by her husband of nearly 56 years, Phil Thomas Gordon, her children, Alisa Lynn (Harry) Fish, Chris (Tammy) Gordon and Craig (Patrick) Gordon and seven grandchildren.

In lieu of flowers donations can be made to the Sharon Baptist Church or Woodlawn Cemetery where she served on the Board of Directors.

EURIE RHODEN

Eurie Jackson Rhoden, age 85, of San Antonio, Fla. went to be with the Lord on July 11, 2023. He was born in Lake Butler, Fla. on March 20, 1938 to Andrew and Mertie Rhoden. He will be joining his parents and four siblings in Heaven and dearly missed by his brother Eugene.

In his early years he played with rocks and sticks and rode his bicycle "all over the country" for fun. As a teenager he quit school and went to work hauling pulp wood to help his family through tough times. Eurie married Patricia Crawford and they had three children, Steve, Cindy and Carol. After their divorce Eurie was in a car accident where he nearly lost his left arm, forcing him to move to Pennsylvania for proper treatment. It was there that he began the second half of his life when he met Phyllis Ellis, who soon became Phyllis Rhoden.

He returned to Florida with his new bride and two stepsons, Ron and David Ellis, where he reunited with his own children creating quite the collection of kids. Over the years they have added 11 grandchildren and 9 great-grandchildren. They even added a few great-granddogs with Cookie and Murph.

Eurie took care of the TR Golf Course greens at TR for almost 20 years before he retired. His wife Phyllis ran the TR Office.

He made many friends and memories through his adventures.

He manicured lawns and our Golf Course.

He fixed and painted.

He collected tools and garages.

He fixed up classic cars.

He instilled values.

He set standards.

He raised the bar all the way to the top.

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He was Papa.

He was Blue Papa

He will be missed by so many

and remembered for

generations to come.

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Send your holiday greetings across the miles



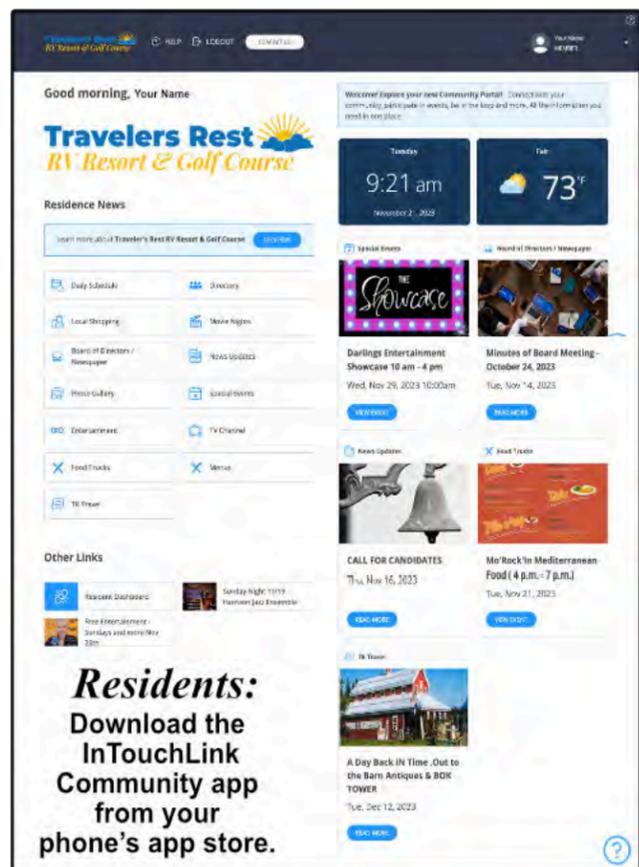
The TR Times invites you to submit your holiday greetings across the miles for publication in our Friday, Dec. 15 issue. This invitation is also extended to those who read our digital paper on the web.

Your greeting may not exceed 50 words and cannot include photos or graphics. It should include your name(s) and lot number or location if you are not currently in the park.

Submit your greetings via email to thetrimes@gmail.com by **Saturday, Dec. 9 at 5 p.m.** We will make every attempt to publish all submissions.

InTouch Link Classes scheduled

Learn to navigate InTouch Link on Wednesday, Dec. 13 and Wednesday, Dec. 20 at 1 p.m. in Busch Hall. Everyone is invited to bring their smart phone to the class.



wanted



Cartoonist for The TR Times. Position includes providing a weekly cartoon for each edition of the paper. If interested, please contact *The TR Times* at 352-588-4993 or thetrimes@gmail.com for further details.





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