



Expectancy of the newborn savior

by Pastor Anthony Shipe
Micah 5: 2-5 NLT

I can imagine as the rooftops of Bethlehem appeared, the worn-out, dried and cracked feet of Joseph ached, and Mary was now breathing heavily with labor pains and contractions saying to Joseph, "We must hurry, the time is getting near!" The desperate couple began their descent down towards the tiny town of Bethlehem packed full of travelers waiting to be counted in the census.

Door after door was knocked upon only to find each room taken. Innkeepers and homeowners could offer no assistance in providing space, every bed was full. "What are we going to do Joseph?" said Mary. "It's now is beginning to hurt!"

What about our lives as we near Christmas Day? Our lives are packed full of busyness and preparation. A young mother and her three-year-old son were doing some last-minute Christmas shopping running from store to store. Suddenly, the mother had become aware that the hand of her son was no longer clutched in hers. In a panic, she retraced her steps and found him standing with his nose pressed flatly against a frosty window. The boy was gazing at a manger scene. Hearing his mother calling his name hysterically, (have you ever lost sight of your children for a moment or two, it's a gut-wrenching feeling, he turned and shouted with innocent glee: "Look mommy! It's the baby Jesus lying in the hay!" She impatiently jerked him away from the window saying, "We don't have time for that!" Sadly, that's the attitude of many people in the days leading up to Christmas. They don't have time for God. It's easy to become overwhelmed with everything that needs to be done. We need to make room for the One who is coming. Do you have any room within? Our lives are crowded with stuff, the things that we have collected and things that we have held onto. If God's Spirit is going to be born within us, we must make room. He is a big God and He will need lots of room.



File photo

The Christmas Creche by the Church Office.

The innkeeper in the biblical account is not mentioned. Of course, we know that he did not have a room for the young couple for the night. Think about that encounter. Many people have such fully occupied lives that when a stranger knocks at the door there is often no room to let them in. Perhaps had the innkeeper known who that special family was would it have made a difference?

Some of us have layers upon layers of complex scheduling and business that we become irritated or inconvenienced if there is a knock or an interruption outside our perimeters. The innkeeper was one example of someone who missed that special encounter with an entity that could have expanded his entire crowded life in ways unknown. He would never discover that divine intervention from a holy visit. The innkeeper closed the door.

Do you ever wonder about when God set forth His plan into action? You and I were on His mind along with all of mankind. In our tiny little towns and dwellings, the God of Everlasting Peace has come knocking at our door and He is looking for room in the CENTER of our lives. Ever since the first family wandered into Bethlehem that cold dark night, his plan has been to deliver peace into our homes. As all of the details of the

nativity were put into place so long ago, a tiny star was placed into the night sky. Its light shone bright and angelic voices rang out resulting in centuries of followers coming to see and hear the chatter.

Micah says that this ruler will stand as a shepherd and feed His flock in the strength of the Lord. By saying this, Micah was telling the people and us that if we depend completely on God, He will ensure that the people will dwell securely.

Good news to the small and weak. Mary, Joseph and the baby dwelled in safety in a little spot just out of harm's way. God values every life and creature that He has ever created. We are created in His image, and He sends us forth to bear His light. God came to tell each one of us "Greetings, you are highly favored, I hold you within the palm of My hand, and you will be bought with a significant price." The Virgin Mary heard similar words in Luke 1:28, "The angel came in unto her and said, thou art highly favored, the Lord is with thee...."

Just like Mary, some of us feel inadequate and small; we cannot imagine the Lord having anything to do with us. We often have a low self-esteem. Maybe you have felt this way.

I read a story about a kindergarten Christmas pageant that took place recently. A mother posi-

tioned herself in the audience so she could watch her son sing carols.

At the beginning of the play the curtains rose and the children began to sing. The kids were all dressed in fuzzy mittens, red and green sweaters and had big smiles on their faces. In our age of political correctness, everything biblical about Christmas had been replaced with reindeer, snowflakes and holiday cheer. Each of the kids held a letter on a big sign that one by one they would turn around. When all of the letters were revealed they would spell out the title of the pageant, "C-H-R-I-S-T-M-A-S L-O-V-E."

Everything was going smoothly; it was a beautiful song that everyone enjoyed. Slowly, each one of the children would turn their letter around. Then suddenly those seated in the audience noticed something quite different from what they expected. The little girl who held the letter "M" in "Christmas" turned her letter around and it was upside down. The kids started to snicker and laughed at the little girl, but she continued to sing and held her upside down "M" which appeared as a "W."

Then as all of the letters held by each of the children was turned around and the last letter revealed, the message read...

"C-H-R-I-S-T W-A-S L-O-V-E."

The message from that pageant rang out loud and clear.

At Christmas time we hear the words: Love, Joy and Peace. What difference does it make who this Baby Jesus is and why should we care? What does it mean to us that a Savior was born in Bethlehem? The way we answer these questions and explain them to others will greatly impact the world around us. This Christmas season, take time to walk down to the dilapidated old stable, kneel beside the manger scene and try to make sense about how much the Lord really cares about humanity and our salvation. God LOVES US more than we can ever imagine.

Continued on page 3

Hi Lites Merry Christmas

Christmas celebrations in our area

Fill your schedule with Christmas cheer. See pg. 2.

SkyMed Luncheon

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

Parkwide Yard Sales

With coffee and donuts, Saturday, Dec. 16, 8:30 to 11:30 a.m. at our neighbors' carports.

Praise and Worship

Saturday, Dec. 16, 4:30 p.m. in Busch Hall.

Dade City Symphony

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

Busch Hall Sunday Night

Celebrate Christmas at TR with music. Sunday, Dec. 17, 7 p.m. See pg. 2.

Veranda Chat

Monday, Dec. 18, 3 p.m. in front of Busch Hall.

InTouch Link Classes

Learn to navigate InTouch Link on Wednesday, Dec. 20, 1 p.m. in Busch Hall. See pg. 7.

Karaoke Night

Sing your heart out on Wednesday, Dec. 20, at 7 p.m. in Busch Hall.

Christmas Dinner

Monday, Dec. 25, 2 p.m. in Busch Hall. Sign up today.

Happy New Year

New Year's Eve Dance

Buy your tickets for Sunday, Dec. 31, 7 p.m. in Busch Hall. See pg. 7.

Wednesday Night Concert Series

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

Activity Reminders

Karaoke Night

Sing your heart out on Wednesday, Dec. 20, at 7 p.m. in Busch Hall.

TNM

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

Resident Forum

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

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To all our TR Times readers

May your holidays be filled with love and laughter captured near or far.

May you find blessing, joy and peace here or wherever you are.

Merry Christmas, and a safe, happy New Year to all.

Your friends and neighbors at The TR Times.



Submission deadline for the next TR Times

The deadline for submissions for the next publication of *The TR Times* is Friday, Dec. 29 at 5 p.m. *The TR Times* will not be published on Friday, Dec. 22 or Friday, Dec. 29

The TR Times
2023-24

publication schedule

12/01/23	02/02/24
12/08/23	02/09/24
12/15/23	02/16/24
01/05/24	02/23/24
01/12/24	03/01/24
01/19/24	03/08/24
01/26/24	03/15/24



BUSCH HALL

Sunday Night

Celebration Choir Christmas Cantata and other music



File photo

CELEBRATION CHOIR

by Bernadine Gutridge

On Sunday, Dec. 17 at 7 p.m. in Busch Hall the Celebration Choir will be performing the Christmas Cantata. The evening will open with the TR's very own Choir singing *It's Beginning to Look a lot Like Christmas*. This will be followed by the Handbell Ensemble, under the direction of Jean Cobb, ringing *Ding Dong, Merrily on High*. Next will be the TR Christmas Cloggers clogging to *Mary's Boy Child*.

The Celebration Choir, directed by Bernadine Gutridge, will then present the lovely cantata, *Night of the Father's Love*, written by Pepper Choplin. All the mystery, awe and excitement of that special night are captured in a mosaic that combines fragments of the familiar carols with Choplin's unique words and music. From the rhythmic pulse of *The Coming of the Lord* to the joyful strains of *Christ is Born, Noel!*, *Night of the Father's Love* guides the listener through the Christmas story, as

though hearing it again for the first time.

Adding to the music of the Celebration Choir will be the beautifully costumed cast that will add drama to the production. Gloria Polzin created the costumes. The ultimate result will be a seasonal worship experience that will both captivate and reassure all that, indeed, Christ is born! Noel!

Choir members: Director Bernie Gutridge, Accompanist Debbie Watson, Barb and Rick Aubrey, Roxi Bass, Peggy and Mike Biser, Marty Bracken, Marge Cantu, Mary Carpenter, Jean and Mickey Cobb, Cindy Conant, Bill and Gail Davis, Sandy Dinkledine, Dick Gutridge, Harold and Susan Keefer, Chuck Lemke, Elaine McCall, Carolyn Place, Tawnya Rowden, Barry Sellick, Joe Shipe, Mardelle and Phil St. John, Paula Snyder, Connie Swanson, Jackie Thackery, Joanna and Mark Waltz, Ellie Winterburn, Sandy Yeager, Carole Young.

TNM



by Carol & Jim Henrikson

Tuesday Night Movies (TNM) opens on Tuesday, Jan. 2, with the 2023 *Indiana Jones and the Dial of Destiny* movie.

TNM messages in *The TR Times* and InTouchLink will provide up-to-date information and scheduling for our entire 2024 season. If you have not tried InTouchLink, check the Movies option. We recommend it as a highly useful daytime/weekly planner.

The 2024 lineup kicks off with the recent release *Indiana Jones and the Dial of Destiny*. The 2023 release *Golda* is next. The 1994 classic *Quiz Show* and 2023 *Oppenheimer* are next in the queue for January.

The popular newly released *Barbie* and just released *Maestro* will be included in the February slate of films to be shown.

The upgrade equipment to the Sonos Audio system has arrived at TR and will be installed later this month bringing Citrus East to true cinematic excellence.

Chairs are provided with the first several rows and are set up before you arrive. Some of you may wish to bring your own seating like a favorite lawn chair. There is usually lots of floor space left with the first rows setup. When choosing an alternate chair, please keep in mind those behind you wishing a clear view to the projection screen.

We usually prepare popcorn for your arrival to TNM. However, this will take the efforts of a volunteer(s) to make this happen. This is a first call for someone to help. Please text or phone us at 352-760-1150 if you care to help in this effort.

Wednesday Evening Concert Series



Nashville comedian Jimmy Travis here Wednesday, Jan. 3.

by Doug Pedersen

Laughter is good for the soul and comedian Jimmy Travis will provide plenty of music and humor on Wednesday, Jan. 3 opening the 2024 Concert Series. He has appeared here previously and the overwhelming response each time was to bring him back!

Multi-talented Jimmy Travis is truly unique and one of the most versatile entertainers in the industry today. He is the recipient of the Jimmy Durante Award for outstanding achievement in the field of family entertainment. His comedy is fresh, fun and clean and his original songs are also fully and cleverly entertaining and make a big hit. With over 150 television appearances to his credit, he has taken his hilarious comedy and upbeat music to the main showrooms of Las Vegas, Reno and Lake Tahoe as well as to theaters in Branson and Myrtle Beach, S.C.

He has also toured with some of the biggest names in show

business: Grammy Award-winning Wynonna, rock'n roll icons The Righteous Brothers, song and dance man Gregory Hines, country queen Barbara Mandrell, comedy legends The Smothers Brothers and the list goes on. Numerous other superstars including Mel Tillis have also chosen Jimmy to open their shows in major venues around the country.

Now based in Nashville, hundreds of companies, corporations and associations have used his diverse talents to help make their events a great success, IBM, Ford Motor Company, Kraft, NASCAR, Nissan, Toyota and Amway are just a few of the many organizations that have chosen him to entertain for them.

We all enjoy a good laugh and you will have plenty of opportunities Wednesday, Jan. 3. Come and enjoy the humorous music and clean comedy. Admission is \$15 payable at the door or with a season reserved seat ticket. Doors open at 6:30 p.m. and the program begins promptly at 7 p.m.

Showcase Survey Results

by Ken and Sandy Langell

If you were one of the TR residents that attended the Darlings Entertainment Showcase here on Wednesday, Nov. 29, you know what a great show it was. They presented 18 high quality acts, and 60 of you filled out and returned the surveys we distributed. We'd like to share the survey results with you of your favorite entertainment genres.

The top three all scored within one point of each other and they ranked much higher than other categories. They are as follows: Rock n Roll, Country, and 60s,70s, 80s.

The next four categories were from best to least: Folk, Rock, Broadway and 30s, 40s, 50s.

When we asked entertainers you would like to see again, you demonstrated spectacularly the varied tastes that exist at TR. The top choice on nearly everyone's response was the Byrne Brothers, an Irish band that will be performing here in the 2025 Concert Series. The two female solo vocalists, Mandi Jo John and Diva Safia were both very popular, as were Rich Wilson with his friend Kermit the Frog, comedian Glenn Hirsch and the Johnny Wild Trio.

You may have noticed Gabriella Young was assisting us at the Showcase. She has been a great help in compiling and interpreting the results of the survey. Her help is much appreciated.

There are a lot of factors involved in booking a season and it is a tremendous help when we know what you would like to see. There is another Showcase coming up Wednesday, Jan. 31, from Tin Pan Alley Talent Agency. If you missed last month's Showcase please try to attend the next one. After all, we have the opinions of 60 people but we'd like to hear from everyone!

Save the dates for two special Christmas events

Church Street Christmas is Thursday, Dec. 21 through Saturday, Dec. 23, 7 p.m. to 9 p.m. on Church Street in Dade City. Come out and enjoy this free 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 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.



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Communications from the Board

by Deborah May, President

Well, this year has certainly flown by. It's the middle of December already and I haven't even made a dent in my resolutions of things I was going to get done this year. Oh well, maybe next year. I hope everyone has most of their Christmas shopping done. The packages are pouring into the Post Office already. This can be a problem for Tracy and Tina due to the limited space they have available. If you are expecting a package, please check with the Post Office daily to help eliminate any backlog of packages that can accumulate very quickly.

Travelers Rest does have a policy that deals with Abuse of Residents or Employees. Policy C1010 prohibits guests, residents and employees from verbally or physically abusing, harassing, or threatening those in Travelers Rest Resort. This policy lists a number of examples of conduct that is



**DEBORAH MAY
BOARD PRESIDENT**

prohibited. The conduct that is prohibited not only includes verbal or physical acts but also written or graphic material that ridicules, denigrates (to criticize in a derogatory manner), insults, etc. another person. The policy includes all offensive or derogatory remarks directed to a specific group of people whose characteristics are protected by law.

Everyone is encouraged to report any perceived instances of abusive conduct to the General Manager. The General Manager will immediately review the instances of abusive conduct. He may submit the incident to the Compliance Committee for further action. The Compliance Committee can take further action as listed in the Policy.

If you are not familiar with this policy, which was revised 01/03/22, I suggest that you review it. This policy is available through the Resident Dashboard on the website or through InTouchLink on your phone.

We are all neighbors here. Let us treat one another with respect and dignity.

If you are traveling home for Christmas, be safe and enjoy your time with family. For those who are staying here, enjoy your Christmas dinner and the fellowship of your neighbors.

Expectancy from page 1

Isn't that what Christmas is all about? LOVE. Christ WAS love. God is Love and He wants us to be just like Him. We are all created in His Wonderful image, and yet no one here has ever seen the face of God. I imagine that the closest we have ever come to seeing the face of God was revealed in the face of the baby Jesus that Mary looked upon. How many of you have held a baby? You know the love that they give. We can bear his image with that same smile. AND when the world sees us, they get a good picture of what He looks like and the LOVE that He gives us.

The immediate benefit of Christ's Birth is Jesus was born to give us life. The Christmas story has all the drama of a death-to-life story, because the baby in the manger came to die to give life to all who believe in Him. But here is the burning question: What do you think that means? I think many of us have a strong belief and understanding of salvation, the forgiveness we have received in

Christ, and many of us have a sturdy hope of the future, the eternity we will spend with Christ, but we are not as sure about the present benefits of the work of Jesus in the here and now.

Some of us have a big gap in the middle of our understanding of how to deal with life in the present according to the gospel. One of the beautiful things about the Christmas story is that it doesn't offer just my past forgiveness and future hope, but everything I need right here, right now during struggles and setbacks.

Jesus came so that I would have everything I need to fight the discouraging battle with daily sin. Jesus came so that I would have everything I need to live at peace in an angry and hostile world. Jesus came so that I could stand against temptations. Jesus came so that I could form unity with others who struggle like me. Jesus came so that I could face the realities of life in a fallen world without doubt or despair. Jesus came so that I would

be granted not only the promise of daily forgiveness, but also the promise of fresh starts and new beginnings. Jesus came so that the hate and prejudice in my heart would be replaced with love and peace.

The right here, right now grace of Jesus frees us from those things that tend to capture our hearts and derail our living. He came so that we would be free from the power of:

1. *Fear.* Many of us are afraid of being known or afraid of honestly facing what's inside us. Here's the good news of the right here, right now benefits of the birth of Jesus. There's nothing that could ever be known, exposed, or revealed about us that isn't covered by the present grace that is ours because of the life, death and resurrection of Jesus.

2. *Regret.* Many are rendered timid or even paralyzed by choices, failures and sins of the past, and when you are, you carry around a heavy load of guilt and we tend to hide in shame. The right here, right now forgiveness of Jesus liberates us from the past.

3. *Discouragement.* Many of us are simply overwhelmed by what's on our plate. We feel incapable and think we are doomed to failure. God's right here, right now grace assures us that God will never call us to a responsibility without also gifting us with what we need to do what he has called us to do.

4. *Denial.* Many of us are tempted to grab a false sense of peace by denying the dark things that are still inside us and the struggles that are outside us. Jesus works assure us that whatever we're facing, we're not alone and we have help that is way beyond our limited personal resources. That is everlasting Peace.

5. *Desire for control.* Many of us wake up each morning wishing we had more control so we could free ourselves from what we find difficult. The right here, right now grace of Jesus assures us that the One who was born on Christmas now rules over all things for our sake. Our lives may be out of our control, but they are always under His control.

As you celebrate Christmas, celebrate the abundant life that is yours today because of the birth of that baby in the manger.

Merry Christmas to you and your family.



From the Manager's desk



RAY HILL

by Ray Hill with Rich Kushman

This week the Village roads was our first topic. Complete details will be discussed during the planned January meeting with Village residents but Ray helped clear up a few questions. The roads are owned by the county and are considered Class B. This means the county will repair reported potholes and safety issues but not replace the roads without assessing the cost to the homeowners. Having the county do the work would be far more expensive than hiring our own contractor.

There are 134 homes in the Village which is divided into 4 sections. Repairing one section a year would spread out the cost over time but the Village residents could vote to complete the project in one year and incur a one time estimated fee of \$2,800 to \$3,000 per home. Because the traffic on Oak Hill Road that abuts Golf View is primarily campers and maintenance equipment this section of road would be fully paid by the park.

Why do we need new roads? Can we simply live with a few

bumps and the obvious cracks? Ray explained that slowly but surely the water will continue eating into the spider cracks and damage the road base making future replacement more difficult and expensive. The average lifespan of asphalt roads in Florida is 10 to 15 years. We don't have a high volume of traffic, like a city street, so Ray expects that though our problem isn't to the drastic stage, maybe the time has come to make plans to address it.

The important January meeting, which all Village homeowners should attend, hopefully will present more details with clear and accurate financial information to help the Village homeowners make a well-informed decision.

Looks like the Coffee Social in Busch Hall from 7:30 to 9 a.m. will get a new treat this coming January. On Monday, Wednesday and Friday Steve D's Philly Cheesesteak will offer a breakfast sandwich and breakfast burrito cooked right in the Busch Hall kitchen. Steve D will pay a fee and leave the kitchen clean. Ray expects this arrangement will generate the "bread" to pay for the coffee.

We took a minute to address the struggle Ray is having with a localized return of his lung cancer. Ray will be spending 3 days a month over the next 3 months at the Moffitt Cancer Center undergoing infusions. The rest of the time Ray will be on the job here at Travelers Rest ready for your waves and smiles.

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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Are you InTouch



The park has added a new app for use by residents. It is called InTouchLink. This app may be used on your smartphone, tablet or computer. John Hannah is conducting classes on use of this app. The final class will be held in Busch Hall on Wednesday, Dec. 20 at 1 p.m.

When you log onto this app with your username, which is your email address, you will be asked for a password. You may go to the office and set up an individual password, or you may use the generic one which I will not print here since the app is only for the use of residents. But check with Hannah and he will be happy to clue you in.

What can this app do? Well for starters you can put in the name of any resident and learn their address, phone number and possibly their email address, if you gave the office permission to share this information. If you go to the Meals icon you will find the daily menus for the Snack Shack. Using the Schedule icon you will find the schedule of all the activities offered each week. This location will include when and where the activity meets as well as who is the chair. An important aspect of the Schedule portion of InTouch is that it enables Activity Director Guy Weik to make any changes that may occur before the changes appear in the Bulletin Board pages of *The TR Times*.

The site is easy to navigate even for those individuals who are not very computer savvy. Hope you will keep InTouch and use this new app. *mre*

TR Church Association

Choir Rehearsal Friday, 8:45 a.m.
Bernie Gutridge
Bible Study Sunday, 9:30 a.m.
Hymn Sing ... Sunday, 10:15 a.m.
Barb Swartz
Worship Service Sunday, 10:30 a.m.

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



Pastor Anthony Shipe
Holy Communion 2nd Sunday of the month.



Christmas in Harlem, 1916



by John Lawrence

As told to me by Marie Zito many years ago

It was the year 1916 and at that time we were four children, the youngest boy was five, one was six, I was eight and my brother was the oldest at nine.

As our parents spoke no English, only Italian, we all suffered with very low grades at school because of the lack of understanding of the English language.

We would come home very happy with the knowledge of *Chicken Little* and *Little Red Riding Hood*, most of which was acted out by the teacher.

We heard much of Santa Claus and how he comes down through the chimney and brings loads of toys to little children.

Just as we accepted *Chicken Little* and *Little Red Riding Hood*, so we gladly believed in Santa Claus.

We lived in Harlem at the time and some of the houses there had known better years. There was no longer an open fireplace, only a coal stove at the end of the kitchen. We noted that although the fireplace was now encased in a heavy tin sheet, it did have a hole that was only covered by a thin tin plate. No problem, we thought, for Santa Claus.

My Mom in her best Italian tried to prepare us for the disappointment that Christmas morning would bring. "We are very poor and so is Santa Claus. He will not be making his rounds at the homes of little children this year," she said.



We had already declared, in our own best Italian, what we wanted for Christmas. Santa would bring a doll for me, a flute for my older brother, a harmonica for the six year old and a fire engine for the youngest boy, who had seen the engine in a big store window on his way to school.

Christmas morning came and we all shouted to each other to see what Santa left us.

At first the disappointment was agonizing...and then one of us had the idea to take the tin plate off the fireplace, as that was what must have kept out Santa.

With the poker from the coal stove my eldest brother widened the hole in the fireplace and out came the doll I had longed for. He went on with the poker and bent more of the tin that covered the fireplace and out came the harmonica and then the flute. The only thing missing was the red fire engine that the youngest wanted.

Later that morning, on his way to cross the avenue to where the red fire engine reposed in the store window, my brother met the kind Policeman who always took us

safely across to the other side. The Policeman asked about our gifts, and my younger brother burst out crying. "I wanted a fire engine, and there it is, still in that store window," he wept.

The store was closed, of course, but the Policeman and my young brother made their way to the back of the store where the owners lived. They gladly opened it up to make a youngster happy. We thought that the Policeman was the hidden Santa Claus who could not come down our chimney because he was so big.

Only much later did we realize that the chimney held the toys of other children who had previously lived in the apartment. They had used the chimney as a convenient hiding place. They would never know that their forgotten toys would become miraculous gifts for children who shared such profound joy on an otherwise dismal Christmas day, happy in the Providence of their newly beloved Santa Claus.

Marie Zito is now 89 years old and lives in Amityville with her daughter.

Gift card drive is a great success

Thank you
Thank you
Thank you

There will be many thankful mothers and children this Christmas at Sunrise Shelter for Abused Women and Children. Thanks to your generosity we were able to contribute \$9,230! How Awesome! TR is a loving and generous community.

Committee chairs:
Pat Greene, Pat Butler, Beannie Wise

SPECIAL MUSIC

Sunday Worship Service

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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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The Siren



by Jean Bjorgen

Things happen . . . a fall, sudden illness, burns, snake bites, shortness of breath, chest pain. Often those things happen suddenly without warning requiring someone to make a decision rapidly to dial 911 and request an ambulance. Knowing when to call and when not to call is tricky. Some situations are obvious, such as a person is hemorrhaging, is not responding, is choking, or shows symptoms of a heart attack or stroke. In those situations help is needed immediately and calling 911 to get emergency services is critical for lifesaving care.

Ambulances are mini-emergency rooms on wheels. EMT's and paramedics are on board with lifesaving equipment and meds to assist with breathing, cardiovascular irregularities, pain management, drug overdose and other critical medical issues requiring immediate medical intervention. They determine if the patient needs to be airlifted in cases where time is of the essence such as trauma or stroke. They also decide which hospital is best equipped to handle the emergency if airlifting is not necessary.

When NOT to call an ambulance: Ask yourself: "Is this life-threatening?"

If you are preparing dinner and slice your hand peeling potatoes, there may be blood all over

Should I call an ambulance?

the area, but probably there is not a need for an ambulance. You still may need to go to the ER for wound care, stitches or other assessment of the severity of the cut.

If you fall playing pickleball and believe your wrist is broken (but there is no head injury), then you probably do not need an ambulance, and a friend's offer to drive you to the ER for medical assessment is adequate. If, however, bones are poking through the skin, the medical care given on an ambulance enroute to the ER can reduce pain, risk of infection and further injury.

Ambulance rides may cost you thousands of dollars for the care that is provided. If you have insurance, part or all of this cost may be covered. Pasco County Fire Rescue will bill insurance companies as a courtesy, however it is the patient's responsibility to follow up if there is a delay in payment. Call your insurance company to determine if you have coverage or you may receive a shocking bill months after you recover.

Should I call for an ambulance? If in doubt - call 911.

Here at Travelers Rest, First Responders will show up within minutes to assist you with a medical emergency. The ambulance will arrive shortly after that to further assess your illness or injury and determine whether you need ambulance transport.

ALERT: TR Fire/Rescue Pulled Pork Dinner - Jan. 20.

SECOND ALERT: TR Fire/Rescue hereby challenges any and all Pickleball players or clubs, i.e., Woodshop, Snack Shack, Golf Association, etc., to a fundraising Pickleball Tournament. Time, details and date to be determined. Text Joe Calao 516-662-3848.

Healthy Tips

Understanding fibromyalgia

by Donna Neer, RN (retired)

What exactly is Fibromyalgia? Fibromyalgia is a complicated neuromuscular condition that causes tenderness and pain throughout the body. Affecting more than five million people in the U.S. alone, Fibromyalgia is considered one of the most commonly treated chronic pain conditions.

Unfortunately, women are the most diagnosed with this condition. Fibromyalgia is not a psychological disorder. The pain experienced by those affected by this condition is very real.

What causes this pain? While the exact cause is still not known, Fibromyalgia is believed to have a biological cause; possibly due to changes in the central nervous system (brain, spinal cord and nerves). This over-activity of the nerves is thought to be responsible for the chronic "all-over" pain reported by patients.

Because of the complexity of Fibromyalgia, it can be difficult to diagnose. Patients often experience symptoms for years before they are actually diagnosed and

symptoms vary from person to person. In addition to overall, widespread pain and tenderness, patients may experience deep muscle pain and soreness, morning stiffness, sensitivity to touch, problems sleeping, fatigue, and difficulty performing every day tasks. A fibro-fog has also been reported by patients who experience difficulty with thinking clearly. Many of these symptoms may lead to feelings of depression, anxiety and stress to the patient. Needless to say, symptoms vary from person to person and finding treatment is often challenging both to the physician and to the patient.

As physicians and researchers have become more familiar with the subtleties of this disorder, they are now able to offer the most effective course of treatment. Key life-style changes may be suggested such as increasing activity level with exercise. Increased exercise has proved to be effective as reported by J.Teitelbaum, M.D. Medical Director of the nationwide Fibromyalgia and Fatigue Centers. Dr. Teitelbaum states

"...exercise stimulates the cardiovascular and central nervous systems and increases endorphins, the feel-good hormones that are natural pain killers. This in turn decreases fatigue." Dr. W. Wilke, staff physician in the Department of Rheumatic and Immunologic Diseases at the Cleveland Clinic in Ohio agrees that exercise can be beneficial in treating Fibromyalgia as "exercise aids weight loss, and having a healthy body weight boosts self-image and decreases wear and tear on the body."

Additionally, medications may be helpful in reducing the pain of Fibromyalgia. Physicians may order muscle relaxants, antidepressants, analgesics and/or sedatives to deal with specific symptoms.

Being diagnosed with Fibromyalgia can be challenging, but with proper treatment, the patient can lead a productive and active life.

References: MedicineNet.Com, WebMD.com, EverydayHealth.com, and UnderstandingFibromyalgia.com by Lyrica

TR Blood Drive was a success



Blood Donor HONOR ROLL

Thank you for participating in the blood drive at TR on Monday, Dec. 4, 2023.

- Barbara Aubrey
- Frederick Aubrey
- David Bass
- Michael Biser
- Diane Bottom
- William Buczek
- Robert Colborne
- James Conant
- Cecil French
- Walter Gilson
- Arthur Golfis
- Linda Gower
- Terry Guerrette
- Roger Harbour

- Diana Hill
- Elizabeth Kacymircz
- David Ledbetter
- Cathy Locke
- Darold Long
- Robert Luther
- David Napoletano
- Kenneth Neer
- Susan Stahley
- Marie Stark
- Brenda Varty
- Judith VanSwol
- Rodney Waters
- Susan Wendt



facebook.com/myoneblood youtube.com/onebloodvideos twitter.com/my1blood oneblood.org



Photo by Rich Kufman

The Big Red Bus.

by Ken Neer

On Monday, Dec. 4, TR had its first of two in-season blood drives. Two OneBlood mobile units were parked next to the TR Fire Station taking donations from 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. We had 28 potential donors with 23 pints of blood being collected. Although the number of donors was lower compared to previous December TR blood drives, because a few donors volunteered to give double-red donations, according to the OneBlood representative Brian Olsen, the TR drive was credited with supplying 30 products.

Per Brian, during 2023, 76 pints of blood were collected, giving the Gift of Life to potentially 228 patients. This along with the other giving and volunteering efforts outside our park helps us make a positive impact in our surrounding community.

Although our TR numbers were down slightly, the OneBlood representatives consider the drive a success for two mobile units for one day. Please mark your calendars for Monday, March 4 when we will again have two OneBlood big red busses at our Fire Station for blood donations.



Photo by Ken Neer

Walt Gilson giving blood while Bill Buczek waits patiently for a bed.

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Activity Affairs

Activities Showcase set for Jan. 11



GUY WEIK

by Guy Weik

Each year TR offers an Activity Showcase where residents can learn about all the various activities planned for the new season. This year's event is scheduled for Wednesday, Jan. 10, 9 to 11 a.m. in Busch Hall. The Showcase gives new residents an opportunity to speak with activity organizers and see examples of what the activity has to offer. Residents who have lived at TR for a while might be reminded about learning something new that sparked their interest in previous years.

The 2023-2024 TR Directory has an Activity Contact section where all 134 of our activities are listed in alphabetical order. We have an activity to match most everyone's interests, including several different card games, music and jam sessions, technology, arts and crafts, sports, exercise classes and dancing. Many different indoor and outdoor games are played weekly, and we offer religious activities, gardening at Lake Margaret, along with several remote-control boats and cars and other out of the park activities. You will be amazed at the incredibly talented residents in this park who willingly share their time and expertise with their fellow TR friends and neighbors!

A participation sign up sheet for activity organizers will be placed on the activities bulletin board in Busch Hall after the Christmas Dinner signup sheets come down. Activity Contacts can also email their Showcase intentions to Guy Weik at activities@travelersrestresort.com or text me at 352-584-6377.

TR Directory updates

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.
- Wednesday in Jeri Miller Activity Building:
 - Rock Painting, 10:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m., begins 30 minutes earlier.
- Thursday in Citrus West
 - Zumba, 8:30 to 9:30 a.m., no longer in Jeri Miller Activity Building.
 - Red Dot Socials, noon.
 - Welcoming Committee meetings 11:30 a.m.
 - RV South Happy Hour during Inclement Weather, 4 to 5:30 p.m. in Citrus West.

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:

Please refer to the *TR Directory* for contact information.

- Flea Markets (#51): Rick and Amy Peebles
- Genealogy (#55): George Adamson.
- Habitat for Humanity (#58): Charlie Mason.
- Singing Men (#105): Change Dennis Ledbetter to Gene Gough.

Flea Market update

by Amy Peebles

The TR Flea Market runs the first Saturday of the month November 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 check-in 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!

Genealogy class

by Denise Anderson

The TR Genealogy class is held on Fridays, starting Dec. 15 from 1 to 2:30 pm in Citrus East. We welcome George Adamson as the new instructor. He is willing to share his wealth of knowledge in family history research with the class members. George lives in Ontario and has a rich TR history. His parents were snowbirds to TR and had an Airstream on lot 15-30 for more than 20 years. If you have an interest in starting research on your ancestors or continuing your work, think about exploring the TR Genealogy class.

'Tis the season for holiday food and fellowship!

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 furnishes 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** which will follow the meal and challenge folks at each of the tables with their TR knowledge. 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 on lot 14-07 or Beannie Wise on lot 14-09.



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Women's Bible Study "Believing Jesus" A Journey through the Book of Acts

by Rosita Williams

For the 2023-24 season at TR, we are pleased to present a Bible Study on the Book of Acts. Our sessions will begin on Tuesday, Jan. 9, from 3 to 4:30 p.m. in Citrus West. The last session will be on Tuesday, Feb. 27.

Are you truly willing to risk EVERYTHING? Join "out-side-the-box" Bible teacher, Lisa Harper, in this eight-session video-based study as she retraces the revolutionary steps of the early Christians in Acts. Drawing on her theological depth and comedic wit, Lisa reveals that while the early believers didn't have much of a road map to follow after Jesus ascended to heaven, the Holy Spirit catapulted them forward with so much power, grace and authority that they dramatically impacted the world.

She expounds on this New Testament book and shows how the first believers were willing to risk everything to follow Christ.

She keeps it real with humorous anecdotes and stories, but more importantly, she points readers back to the perfect love and sufficiency of Jesus Christ."

This eight-week study's session titles are as follows:

- The Declarations That Define Us
- Earth, Wind, and Celestial Fire
- Checkered Past Can Make Incredible Preachers
- What's Mine Is Yours
- Loving More People, More
- The Need to Be ReGospelized
- Turning Your World Upside Down
- Bearing the Chain Because

If you would like to join us for this enlightening study of Acts, please sign up on the Women's Bible Study clipboard, located in Busch Hall at the TR Church Bulletin Board, as soon as possible.

Looking forward to seeing you as we walk through this Bible Study together.

Ballroom dance classes will start Jan. 8



by Jeffrey J. Duquette

Ballroom dance classes will begin here at TR on Monday, Jan. 8, 7 to 8 p.m., in Busch Hall. Lessons will cover Rumba, Waltz, Swing, Foxtrot, Polka and ChaCha. They will be geared to the beginner, but even accomplished dancers will improve on their technique. All skill levels are welcome!

Masks are optional, but dancers will be spread out to avoid close contact.

The program has been revamped. Two classes in a row will cover the same dance. I was never trained as an instructor, but have learned a lot in the past few years and other instructors have been teaching me. For example, I

have been teaching more difficult competitive under arm turns. Now we will do much easier, social dance turns.

The first two lessons are on romantic Foxtrot, the dance of love. The following weeks will build on the base with different dances and easy to learn techniques. Learn how to do underarm turns, hold each other and move as one across the dance floor. Be ready for that next social event.

- Jan. 8 and 15, Foxtrot.
- Jan. 22 and 29, Rumba.
- Feb. 5 and 19, Waltz.
- Special Event: Feb. 12, Square Dance.
- Feb. 26 and March 4 - Swing.
- March 11 and 18 - TBA, Students will pick.



Jeff and Heidi Duquette with Anna Trebunskaya, center, from Dancing with the Stars.

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New Year's Eve Dance tickets are available now

by Linda Smith

New Year's Eve Dance: Don't forget to purchase your tickets early for the New Year's Eve Dance. We have a limit of 225 tickets. They 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'll try to honor the requests; 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!

Snowman Game



by Marcia Hatfield

Join Rock Painting in December to create your own Snowman Game. Make a 2 or 3 piece snowman with a head, a tummy and a base. Put 6 or more rocks in a bag and give it to your favorite little one. They get to decide which part goes with the other.

We will also continue painting Christmas Angles.

I'll have the rocks, paints, brushes and sealer sprays.

Wednesdays, 10:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m., in Jeri Miller Activity Center (behind Hobby House). Contact Marcia Hatfield at 614-946-4411

Dining with Friends

by Marlene Hughes

Test your new recipes with your friends in the park. The level of creative cooking within TR is amazing. The first Dining with Friends will be held Saturday, Jan. 13 from 5 to 7 p.m. at Busch Hall. There will be a sign up

sheet on the south wall of Busch Hall. Bring your own beverage of choice. Plates, silverware and utensils will be provided. We'd love to have you join us. If you have any questions please contact Marlene Hughes at 865-617-7092.

Top five reasons to join Amateur Radio as a new hobby



by David Baur W0UXB

1. Amateur Radio is fun and you will expand your circle of friends and enjoy the accompanying friendships. Everyone is eager to help new hams.

2. Getting a Technician License is an easy process and Morse code is no longer required.

3. It can be inexpensive with a new, entry level, hand-held transceiver as low as \$30. Once you are licensed you can also use the Ham Shack which is available to all TR Amateur Radio Club members.

4. Check in with TR hams all over the park and beyond every day at our 8 a.m. net and hear updates on activities and what folks are doing that day.

5. During the summer check out the weekly Internet link and hear where all your TR friends are vacationing, where they are headed and events they are attending. Typical net will bring in TR hams from 12-15 states and some foreign countries.

Here's what you need to know.

The FCC (Federal Communications Commission) designs every test, and they are administered by area hams who have been trained to monitor the tests as Volunteer Examiners. Each test is multiple choice and consists of 35 questions. These 35 questions are selected for each exam from a

pool of 412 questions. All questions are worded exactly as in the pool so if you read all 412 questions, they will appear the same on your 35-question test. You must answer 26 (74%) of the 35 questions correctly to pass.

Many new hams achieve their license after a condensed, one-day schooling while others prefer to study at a slower pace and use the many tools on the Internet or handy study guides available through the ARRL (Amateur Radio Relay League) or private companies. The TR Amateur Radio Club has purchased an ARRL Technician Manual and it is available for your study. Just contact any ham. MFJ Enterprises is a private company mfjenterprises.com that offers a study guide showing all 412 questions in the pool with only the correct answers. Additionally, they guarantee that you will pass the test on your first try or they will refund your money.

If you believe you might want to give it a try, here are some easy steps:

1. Talk to any ham you may know and attend one of our meetings held on the second and fourth Thursdays each month during the season.

2. Go on QRZ.com online and take their practice test. This website provides a sample test and gives you your grade. Each time

you take the test it contains new questions from the pool and will alert you when you are ready to take the test.

3. Purchase a Technician Study Guide from ARRL or MFJ Enterprises. The combination of these study guides and the online testing will guarantee your success. The online tests will even tell you automatically when you are ready to take the test.

4. Ham Test Online <https://www.hamradiolicenseexam.com/> offers a program that gives you tests, and if you miss any question the program shows and explains the correct answer. It also spots any area(s) of weakness and automatically keeps testing you on these until you master them. The introductory program is only \$29.95 and will help you study for three full months. They also offer programs for the General and Amateur Extra Licenses.

As you grow with the hobby you may want to upgrade to a General or Amateur Extra License, and these will require more study, but just getting started requires a minimum of effort and you do not need to go beyond this level if you do not wish.

Good luck and once again contact any of the hams here in the park and we will be happy to help you and answer your questions or call me at 207-650-8384.

InTouchLink classes offered



John Hannah is offering a final InTouchLink class this month on Wednesday, Dec. 20, at 1 p.m. in Busch Hall. Everyone is invited to bring their smart phone to class.

Beadaholics is Beginning

by Kathy Kushman

Monday, Jan. 8, will be our first beading gathering. We meet every Monday from 10:15 a.m. to noon in Citrus East. Nothing is needed for our first meeting but ideas and suggestions for the coming classes are most welcome.

Newcomers please come see what we're all about. No experience is necessary as we work together and help each other. We hope to see you on Jan. 8.

Looking Back

by Nan Lance

30 Years Ago

- Don Hammond is sure happy to have such a low golf score of 29.
- Despite cold weather, 14 brave souls came out on a very chilly Sunday to play Bocce.
- The Supper Club enjoyed the Travelettes chorus conducted by Mary McDaniels with Carol Hladchuk on piano.
- Herman Straub flew solo from Canada to Florida using his Cessna 150 two-seater. It took three flying days or 15 air hours.
- Florida State Tax charged for Park activities. The state says sales tax must be collected for admission to all activities, golf green fees and all food items sold.

20 Years Ago

- Skip and Ruth Steele reported her Ohio State Buckeye Banner missing. In its place lay a suspicious pile of ash.
- Kris Kringle cruised into TR in a kart! TR residents decorated carts, there was a hula hoop contest, there was a 50s and 60s dance and a hot dog sale. There were Santa's helpers in Busch Hall with punch, cookies and candy. A golf cart parade followed.
- Shiverrr at the Polar Bear Swim. The pool only loses part of a degree after we throw in a few ice cubes. Anyone who plunges in gets a certificate to prove they actually did. Come join us!
- Betty Gilson reports that her Santa gave her a Betty Boop Club head cover. "Sure do hope I don't hit the ball like Betty Boop!"

10 Years Ago

- Golf jokes from Maggie Crawford:
 - May your ball be in Green Pastures and not in Still Waters.
 - The difference between golf and government is that in golf you can't improve your lie.
 - Golf is a game invented by the same people who think music comes out of a bagpipe.

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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. December 15-March. George Adamson
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

POKER TEXAS HOLD?EM

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

Tom Thompson

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

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

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

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

LINE DANCING (IMPROVERS)

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

Alex Adair

POWERBOAT RACING

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

Howard Best
Don Meddles

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

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

PRAISE & WORSHIP

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

Marty Schencke

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 COMMITTEE

2nd and 4th Thursdays, 11:30 a.m.-1:00 p.m., Citrus West.

Diana Hill

MAH JONG CHINESE

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

Marcia Hatfield

QUILLING ON A BUDGET

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

Pat Daubemier

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

MAH JONGG - NATIONAL PLAY

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

Bette Gorman

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 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

MATS FOR THE HOMELESS

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

Lorraine Gould

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 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

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

RC MOTORSPORTS

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

John Toombs

TR TRAVELAIRES OCESTRA

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

Pat Daubemier

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

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

SOCIAL FOR NEW RESIDENTS

Red Dot Social - 1st and 3rd Thursdays, 1-2:00 p.m. in Citrus West. New residents learn about all that TR has to offer!

Diana Hill

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

MODEL RAILROAD

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

Brian Krupicka

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

OIL & ACRYLIC PAINTING

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

Mary Kubinieć

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

OPEN ART STUDIO

Mondays, 2-5:00 p.m. in Citrus West. November-March.

Sandy Langell

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

PET LOVERS CLUB

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

Kim Roberts

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

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

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

PINOCHLE

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

John Delaney

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



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

Beyond the Resort

by Linda Spencer

Life's journey is not to arrive safely at the grave, in a well-preserved body. But, to skid in sideways, totally worn out, shouting, "Holy Cow, what a ride!"

Brooksville Country Christmas, Thursday, Dec. 14 through Sunday, Dec. 17, 6 to 10 p.m. daily. Enchanting carriage rides and many seasonal Christmas events on the historic streets of Brooksville, South Brooksville Avenue to be exact. Approximately 10 miles from TR.

Grinchmas, Saturday, Dec. 16, 1 to 3 p.m. You have Santa this season but have you played a round of golf with the Grinch? Join in as we have crafts and grinch cookies. For \$10 you can play unlimited golf, get cookies and a craft. Please come to 7th Street Mini Golf and Game Parlor, 13841 7th Street, Dade City. Approximately 8 miles from TR.

Unique offers for TR Residents:

Capones Dinner Theater, 4740 West Hwy. 192, [Kissimmee.alcapones-shop.com](http://www.alcapones-shop.com), this site is where you can purchase tickets for your visit to the speakeasy. Tickets are all-inclusive: food, drink and show. By purchasing online ahead of time you automat-



LINDA SPENCER

ically receive 50% off regularly priced tickets and receive preferred seating. Tickets start at \$39.99 for adults. Go to the show calendar and pick the date that interests you most. Matinees are available. Approximately 60 miles from TR

Universal Orlando Season Pass is \$16 a month after initial down payment. There are so many variations to choose from, resident discounts available in all of them. When checking who qualifies for resident status they asked if I could provide a paid lease, yes, I could. Were my tickets being mailed to that leased address, yes. I qualified. Seasonal Residents qualify also. [Universalorlando.com](http://www.universalorlando.com) for additional information and to purchase tickets. Approximately 60 miles from TR.

Travel News

by Sharon Gilbert Zile
TR Tour Director

Scheduling-Reservations-Life- Cancellations. Those who travel are familiar with all four of these common features of a traveler's life. During the TR "off-season," Dan and I traveled 15,000 miles of the American West with our Airstream and spent 187 consecutive nights "on the road." Dan is tremendously well-organized when it comes to reservations. We knew which campgrounds, which Cracker Barrel parking lots and which relative's driveways we would be staying in. In May, our trip seemed very well planned, ensuring that even in a busy travel season we would have comfortable camping accommodations. With our itinerary, we had just a few nights that allowed for spontaneous decisions with regard to our overnight accommodations. Mostly we KNEW where we would be staying. Until we didn't.

The first disruption to our detailed travel plan came in the form of an email. It seemed that the Army Corps of Engineers Campground that we had reserved would be undergoing a major construction project and our



DAN AND SHARON ZILE

already-reserved site would be affected. Unfortunately no other campsite in the park was available for the needed dates. The park had cancelled our reservation. With just a little research for nearby campgrounds on the nights needed, voila, we had a new reservation for a suitable campground, albeit with a higher nightly rate. We resumed our adventure.

A couple of months later, we were enroute to Salt Lake City when a phone call informed us of a family member's death in northern Indiana. In our efforts to be with family as soon as possible, we continued to our reserved campground in Salt Lake City and began to make airline reservations. Our automobile and Airstream, the Tin Can Hilton, would remain at a rather pricey but secure campground near the light rail system. We wheeled our suitcase about a block, caught the train to the airport and flew to Indiana for five days. When we returned to Salt Lake City the Tin Can Hilton had survived the 107-degree temperatures and nightlife in a major city. With our unexpected trip departure, we had missed the opportunity for some serious genealogy research, but knew that we had been exactly where we were needed. No one plans for family emergencies, such is life. Our SLC campground reservation ended and we headed for the cooler air of the higher elevations.

TR Travel also requires reservations. After a planned day trip is scheduled with the bus company and TR residents and guests have made their paid reservations by the due date (usu-

ally about 2 weeks prior to the trip), there still might be necessary cancellations by the bus company or the venues we planned to visit. One such cancellation happened just a few days ago. Our 33 travelers were scheduled to visit the Barn Antiques before arriving at Bok Tower for lunch, the gardens and the historic carillon. When a medical crisis occurred, the owner of the Barn Antiques could not be open. As soon as Holly at Small World Tours became aware of the situation, an alternative visit to Southern Hospitality, a sprawling 75,000 square foot furniture and home decor establishment in Plant City was planned to be the first stop of the day before continuing to Bok Tower. When life gives you lemons, you make lemonade!

Occasionally one of our TR residents who has a paid reservation for a TR day trip is unable to make the trip. How do we handle those cancellations? If the cancellation is made before the "reservations due date," I am able to return their check to them. If the cancellation occurs after the "reservation due date," I am able to change names on the reservation if I have another TR resident who would like to go. We simply ask the new traveler to make their payment to the canceling traveler. If I have a waiting list for that particular bus trip, we can make the change very easily. Because life happens.

TR Travel plans have been made and will be announced at a Coffee Seminar, Thursday, Jan. 4, 8 a.m. in Busch Hall. Attendees will learn about three different day trips occurring in January, February and March. Bring your calendars and checkbooks to the Coffee Seminar, as we will be taking paid reservations and most trips are limited to one 55 passenger bus. In addition to learning about new day trips, a conversation will begin about next year's possible Big Deal trip. Traveler input is welcome!

"You can have a plan, but you have to be flexible. Every day is unpredictable and you just have to go with the flow." Jane Krakowski, who obviously knows about travel!

Did you know that Dade City holds an annual Gingerbread contest?

by Margaret Emmetts

Some years ago Dade City initiated a Gingerbread World activity with a view to bringing together family businesses. The gingerbread houses which represent various buildings in Dade City will be on display during Church Street Christmas. The display is open to all with no charge.

TR resident Bard Fuller and his sister Nancy Clemmons, who visits TR regularly, have entered the contest for a number of years. At this time of year the Fuller

household carries the aromas of nutmeg, ginger and cinnamon as the family bakes segments of their creation.

We are not talking the little gingerbread houses you may have built in the past. Some of Fuller's creations have been over 4' tall and weigh nearly 70 pounds. A structure of this size, unfortunately, has to deal with Florida's humidity which presents special problems. As a result Fuller's buildings now may

have an internal skeleton of pretzel rods, royal icing and several 1" x 2" pieces of wood to support the limp gingerbread.

The Fullers are on a year-round mission to collect the unusual candies to be used in their creations. Isn't it ironic that Bard, as a retired dentist, is seeking candy.

If you get to Church Street Christmas this year, follow the signs to the Christian Life Center to see the exhibit.

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2023-24 Schedule for TR Travel

- 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 March 9.
- Day trip - Wednesday, March 13, 8 a.m.

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Library News



Enjoy Christmas books and movies at the TR Library



Photo submitted by Amy Peebles

Library volunteers have decked the halls.

by Amy Peebles

Library volunteers invite you to visit the Library this Christmas season to enjoy all the festive holiday décor and lights magically supplied by our talented TR Decorating Committee elves. They made it a lovely place to browse the time away while you look for a Christmas book, DVD or CD to enjoy. Perhaps you may find an old favorite or two or something new which might begin a new Christmas tradition.

Several of the Christmas selections we have at the Library include books by popular authors Jennifer Chiaverini, Nora Roberts, Debbie Macomber and Richard Paul Evans to name a few. On the DVD shelves you will find old time comedian Christmas specials by Red Skelton, Abbott and Costello or Rowan and Martin's *Laugh-In*.

Movies include comedies like *National Lampoon's Christmas Vacation* or *Elf* and classics like *White Christmas* and *It's A Wonderful Life*. Musical specials by artists such as Bing Crosby, Johnny Cash or Kenny Rogers would provide a nice evening of holiday entertainment. Several festive musical CDs are also available for you to borrow and enjoy.

Whatever holiday entertainment you choose, all the Library volunteers wish everyone a safe and happy holiday. May your new year include some quiet moments and a cozy nook to nestle in with a good book. If you have read a book you would like to recommend to others, please fill out a Recommendation Slip on the Library desk and we will feature it on the Recommended Book shelf for others to enjoy.

Garden news

Lake Margaret Garden Club is ready for a Christmas stroll



Photo submitted by Pam Forsyth

Members of the Garden Club pose after preparing for their first Christmas Garden Stroll.

by Leslie Ewing

Lake Margaret Garden Club announces their first Christmas Garden Stroll will be held Sunday Dec. 17 from 2 to 3 p.m. at Lake Margaret Garden. LMGC will be serving cookies. TR residents can bring their own beverage.

The club wants to show off the new lights and decorations. Members crafted an artwork that is named "A Coastal Christmas Scene." TR residents can enjoy the boardwalk and decorations daytime and nighttime from now through Jan. 9. Members and volunteers completed most of the decorations on Tuesday, Dec. 5. The club served coffee, hot chocolate and cookies to thank everyone for their efforts.

The watering restrictions in place for Pasco County apply toward Lake Margaret Garden. The Garden is in good condition due to our irrigation system, but for now irrigation has been turned off. Hand watering will be done as needed until the watering restrictions have been lifted.



Because the season for the Garden won't start until January when everyone has returned from their summer travels, the new work just involves putting the holiday decorations in place. The club prepares for the season by cleaning up and repairing damage from the summer weather. Members who return before the season starts begin the cleaning process early. Usually it takes until the end of January before the Garden is really back in shape. Yes, there is weeding to be done.

The officers for this season are President Stacy Grier, Vice-President Linda Jackson, Secre-

tary Pam Forsyth and Treasurer Laura Lilawski. Amy Grier is Artistic Director. Phyllis Zitzer is Master Gardener. Randy Melville is in charge of irrigation. Mike Bly and Dave Harder are in charge of getting the azaleas around the Snack Shack ready for the spring blossoms. Mike and Laura Lilawski maintain the goldfish pond, among many other duties. Leslie Ewing will write the garden column for the newspaper. The club relies upon the efforts of many volunteers and members to perform all of the tasks involved. Members can always use another helping hand.

The schedule for the club includes gardening sessions on Tuesday and Thursday mornings from 9 to 11 a.m. Member meeting times have changed for this season to Tuesday mornings from 10:30 to 11 a.m. Holiday decorations will be taken down on Jan. 9. The Annual Garden Walk will be Sunday, March 10 from 2 to 4 p.m. See you in the Garden!



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Birding Activity



How high can you fly?



File photo

Ruppel's Griffon Vulture flying high.

by Tom Butler

My answer would be – all the way to the ground with a not so graceful landing. Birds, however, can reach heights that would have us reaching for an oxygen mask dangling in front of our face. If we explore the ten highest flying birds of our world, we will have to begin this flight at 15,000 feet above sea level. Yikes!

Let's get started with numbers 10, 9 and 8 on the highflier list. The Andean Condor is a South American raptor that feeds on carrion. This large bird survives at high altitudes to begin with but climbs to 15,000 feet on a regular basis. The White Stork comes in at number 9 with a breathtaking 16,000-foot climb. This wading bird is found in southern Europe and northern Africa. The Bar-tailed Godwit emerges at number 8 with a jaw-dropping 20,000-foot elevation. This bird has incredible distance endurance allowing it to fly up to 6,000 miles in seven or eight days. That makes my arms tired just thinking about it. Keep your oxygen mask close as we climb higher with the next group.

The next three birds begin at 21,000 feet and continue to climb higher. To give you some perspective, Mt. Everest is 29,000 feet at its peak. Oxygen please! The Mallard is our highest-flying duck with an altitude of 21,000 feet as it migrates south from North America and Europe. Moving from number 7 to 6 we gain additional elevation and size. The Bearded Vulture, at number 6, will push your altimeter to the 24,000-foot mark with little to no effort. This carrion feeding bird dines almost exclusively on bones. Small bones are swallowed and larger bones are dropped from various heights to break them into smaller pieces. I think 24,000 feet should get the job done. Number 5 on this list is the Alpine Chough which has been recorded at heights of 26,500 feet. This bird inhabits high elevations found in central Asia and south Europe. As a

member of the Crow family, it is found in picnic areas and near restaurants looking for handouts. Sound familiar? Take a deep breath as we continue to numbers 4, 3 and 2.

Are you ready? Number 4 is the Whooper Swan which is known to cruise along at 27,000 feet as it migrates from Europe to Germany, Britain and Denmark. These large birds move in V formations including thousands of specimens. That would be a sight difficult to forget. The Bar-headed Goose climbs to another level when it reaches the 29,000-foot mark. This central Asia resident has an enlarged lung capacity along with an increased number of blood cells that allow it to fly up to 1,000 miles a day at this eye-popping altitude. The Common Crane flies over the Himalayan mountains at 30,000 feet and grabs the number 2 spot on our list of highfliers. These long-distance migrating Cranes are spectacular birds, but in terms of altitude levels, they still fall short of the number one bird by nearly 7,000 feet. Drum roll please.

Ruppel's Griffon Vulture has no competitors when it comes to altitude. Soaring at up to 37,000 feet, this east African marvel will not share air space with anyone except NASA and the Air Force. In 2015, this amazing creature was placed on the critically endangered species list. High altitudes alone can't save this bird from the pressures of man. Laying only one egg per season makes the survival of each juvenile essential for the survival of the species. Poisoning is also a constant threat to all animals that scavenge for food. Lead poisoning from carrion killed by hunters using lead shot and the problem is compounded by poisons used to control pests. The birds of our beautiful world have many amazing colors, behaviors and adaptations but they still need our help to survive – sooo – be a nature advocate. You will be rewarded.

Pet Lover's Club

Retractable dog leashes are not permitted

Per Travelers Rest Resort, Inc. Policy Book, policy E1025:
PET CONTAINMENT:

- All outdoor pets must be properly controlled/contained on the owner's lot by use of a sturdy leash, chain, or cage.
 - Fences of any kind, including invisible electric fences and temporary portable small area pet fences, are not allowed. Currently existing temporary portable pet fences prior to November 29, 2011 are grandfathered.
 - The method of control and confinement must be suited to the size and temperament of the animal.
 - Pets must not be left unattended when tethered, chained, or confined in cages.
 - Pets must be kept in the RV or home overnight.
 - When off the owner's property, pets must be controlled by means of a sturdy leash not to exceed 8' (feet) in length.
 - Extend-a-leashes (retractable leashes) are **NOT PERMITTED at TR.**
 - Dogs must have current rabies vaccination tags displayed on their collars at all times.
 - All pets are required to be under the control and visual observation of their owners at all times. Allowing pets to run free will not be tolerated.
 - Health Department rules dictate no pets in bathrooms, laundry, game rooms, library, public buildings and the swimming pool area with the exception of Service Dogs.
 - Allowing your pet to bark uncontrollably, day or night, will not be permitted.
 - We encourage all pet owners to call in advance to inquire about any specific rules that might apply to their specific situation.
- (Approved 03-06-12) (Revised 12-11-12) (Revised 02-01-22)



File photo

The real danger of retractable leashes.

by Kim Roberts

There are multiple dangers to using a retractable leash. The top dangers are:

1. The length of retractable leashes, some of which can extend up to 26 feet, allow dogs to get far enough away from their humans so that a situation can quickly turn dangerous.
2. If a dog should run in the middle of the street or your pet is approached by an aggressive dog, it is nearly impossible to get control of the situation. It is very difficult to control or get your dog to safety at this distance in lieu of a six-foot standard flat leash.
3. The thin cord of a retractable leash can break especially when a powerful dog is on the other end of it. If a strong, good-sized dog takes off at full speed, the cord can snap. Not only can that put the dog and whatever he may

be chasing in danger but also the cord can snap back and injure the human at the other end.

4. If a dog walker gets tangled up in the cord of a retractable leash or grabs it in an attempt to reel in their dog, it can result in severe burns and cuts (often with unsightly scarring) to arms and legs and even amputation of fingers.
5. Dogs receive terrible injuries as a result of the sudden jerk on their neck that occurs when they run out the leash including neck wounds, lacerated tracheas and injuries to the spine.
6. Retractable leashes allow dogs more freedom to pull at the end of them which can look like aggression to another dog who may decide to fight back.

These dangers can be avoided by using a standard six-foot flat leash.

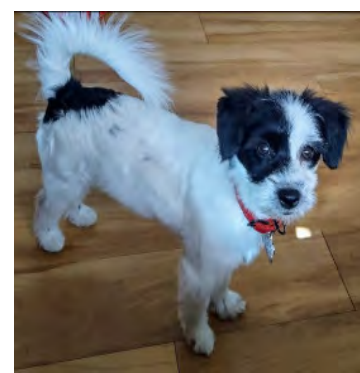
Pets on Parade



by Judy Leister

Janet Giliberty and Steve Laymon both love dogs. Their last dog came into their lives as a puppy and lived a long, happy life before it passed on. They went 15 years without another dog. Oh, they were plenty busy traveling but that's a long time for a dog lover to be without a pooch. The decision to add a four-legged family member had Janet searching puppy lists online. Maybe a Schnauzer or a Teacup Schnoodle? Nope, none available. Janet kept looking. They definitely wanted something small. Bingo...there was a litter of Pomapoos near Orlando.

They needed to hurry to visit the puppies if they were going to beat the other prospective customers. They made it and found three adorable little furry puppies waiting for them. They sat each puppy in their lap and as soon as "Fred" was lifted up there he gave



PHILLIP

them each lots of kisses. Without a doubt he was going home with them. The only thing that needed to change was his name. Steve wanted to name him Phillip so he could say, "Come along Phillip." Phillip it was!

Phillip was 10 weeks old. Janet said after those 15 years of no dogs she felt like a happy mom all over again. He was starting to understand what the piddle pad

was all about. His transition went smoothly. They are still working on Phillip acclimating to strangers but he's catching on.

Janet and Steve are fulltime residents in TR's Cabana section. They spend many of their evenings in the cabana and Phillip loves hanging out there too. When it's time for everyone to go to bed he heads into the motorhome with them and jumps in his own little bed where Janet tucks him in and covers him with his blanket. Soon everyone is enjoying happy dreams.

Steve is an early riser and is up every day by 5 a.m. He and Phillip go outside for a walk and then head back in for breakfast. Phillip started out eating four puppy meals a day but now that he is six months old he just needs three meals each day. Like most dogs Phillip likes a treat once in a while too. His absolute favorite snack is a raw baby carrot. First he plays with it. Then he bites it in half and then chomp, chomp... it's gone.

Of course toys are also important. He knows the names of each of his toys so if Janet tells him to get Squeaky Tiger or Foxy Loxy he knows just which one to grab. He also loves to tug. Toys are great but if Phillip could vote for his all time favorite activity it would be a trip to the TR Puppy Park where he can run and romp with his friends.

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Do you remember when ?



The park held a contest for building gingerbread houses. Was this one of Bard Fuller's winners?



Santa talks to one of Wes' children.

File photos



Reindeer were part of the decorations.



The interior of a 1970s Airstream sported the latest in TVs.



Teams of workers put out luminaries that lined TR Boulevard and the golf course. Traditionally there was one luminary for each year of the current date, ie 2000 in year 2000.



Walt Gilson as Santa, Jean Martin as Mrs. Claus and Schwend's granddaughter Mya as the elf, presided over the annual Christmas party and dinner.



Wayne Lewis portrayed Santa at one of the Christmas functions.

The Christmas season can be a time of nostalgia. In keeping with that theme the photos on this page represent some of the traditional TR activities once associated with TR's Christmas season.

For many years Larry Kurkowski headed a team that put out luminaries all along TR Boulevard and part of the golf course. The tradition was that each year one more candle would appear so that the number of luminaries equaled the number of the year.

The annual Christmas Feast, which is still on-going, featured a contest for best table decorations.

A Christmas party was held for residents, maintenance staff and their families. Each Maintenance workers' child would sit on the lap of Santa, Walt Gilson, and tell what they wanted for Christmas. The child received a small gift from TR management. It was interesting to see the children go from infants to teenagers over the years.



Two of Santa's helpers assemble one of the large wreaths used to decorate Busch Hall.



Jan Werner and Dot Picard took 2nd Place for their table decorations at the Christmas Feast in 2010.



The former creche that adorned the Church office.

TR Sports

Ladies' Golf League results for Wednesday, Dec. 6

by Kathy Reimann
Wednesday, Dec. 6
Low Handicap 0-12
Low Gross
 Sylvia Cole..... 36
 Linda Beausoleil 39
 Hazel English..... 39
Low Net
 Chris Marsh..... 30
 Eleanor Buchser 33
 Loraine Gould..... 33
Fewest Putts:
 Linda Beausoleil 14
 Hazel English..... 14
Birdies: Eleanor Buchser, Linda Beausoleil, Sylvia Cole

High Handicap +13
Low Gross
 Kelly Person..... 40
 Kathy Reimann 46
 Vicki Cloyd..... 48
 Marijo Noll..... 48
 Sandy Pemberton 48
Low Net
 Susan Stahley 33
 Marijo Noll..... 35
 Valerie Smith..... 35
 Pat McCallum 35
Fewest Putts:
 Linda M. Beausoleil..... 14
 Hazel English..... 14
Chip-Ins: Eleanor Buchser

Bowling Results

by Lin Buczek
Friday, Dec. 8
Men's Scratch High Game
 Bill Buczek..... 220
 Steve Niles 184
 Ken Neer 175
Men's Scratch High Series
 Bill Buczek..... 596
 Ken Neer 490
 Steve Niles 477
Men's Handicap High Game
 Bill Buczek..... 264
 John Schell..... 224
 Steve Niles 202
Men's Handicap High Series
 Bill Buczek..... 728
 John Schell..... 649
 Steve Niles 531
Men's High Average
 Bill Buczek..... 190



Women's Scratch High Game
 Leslie Price..... 167
 Lin Buczek..... 153
 Deb Niles 153
 Donna Neer 121
Women's Scratch High Series
 Lin Buczek..... 431
 Leslie Price..... 429
 Deb Niles 414
Women's Handicap High Game
 Lin Buczek..... 243
 Linda Smith..... 237
 Carol Schell..... 233
Women's Handicap High Series
 Lin Buczek..... 701
 Linda Smith..... 691
 Carol Schell..... 683
Women's High Average
 Leslie Price..... 152

Chinese Mah Jong is growing

by Marcia Hatfield

Barb Overly was a brand new member this week and of course she was a winner. We are always happy to have new members who win on their first day. Mah Jong is an easy game in which you design your own winning hand. All you need is four sets of three tiles each

as well as a pair. You decide which suits to use or whether to use any special tiles or not. Please join us on Mondays and Fridays from noon to 2 p.m. in Citrus West. Contact Marcia Hatfield at 614-946-4411 for questions or information.



500

by Pat McCallum
Saturday, Dec. 2

1 Deborah May 1970
 2 Connie Bradley 1850
 3 Jackie Thackery 1570

Saturday, Dec. 9

1 Barb Aubrey 2500
 2 Jackie Thackery 1870
 3 Pat McCallum 1440



National Mah Jongg League

by Bette Gorman
Monday, Dec. 4

Diane Phillips..... 210
 Linda Gower 100
 Pat McCallum 50
 Pat Butler 25

Wednesday, Dec. 6

Diane Phillips..... 85
 Linda Gower 50

Friday, Dec. 6

Bette Gorman 175
 Pat McCallum 50

Chinese Mah Jong

by Marcia Hatfield
Friday, Dec. 1

Barb Aubrey 3
 Connie Bradley 2

Monday, Dec. 4

Deborah May 3
 Marcia Hatfield 3
 Connie Bradley 2

Friday, Dec. 8

Connie Bradley 6
 Betty Brown 4
 Barb Aubrey 4
 Barb Overly 3
 Deb May 2
 Marcia Hatfield 2



Mirror Lake Yacht Club

by Bill Wise

Wednesday, Dec 6
DragonFlite 95 Class

1. Barry Sellick
 2. Jamie Hyde
 3. Jay Matthews

Soling Class

1. Bill Wise
 2. Barry Sellick
 3. Jay Matthews

Saturday, Dec 9
DragonFlite 95 Class

1. Barry Sellick
 2. Jay Matthews
 3. Jamie Hyde

Soling Class 1 Meter Class

1. Barry Sellick
 2. Jamie Hyde
 3. Jay Matthews



Wizard

by Imma Smith

Tuesday, Dec. 5
Table 1

Game 1
 Elaine Schwartz 300
 Kathy Prockett 220

Game 2

Elaine Schwartz 260
 Gary Smith 240

Game 3

Elaine Schwartz 280
 Linda Beausoleil 240

Table 2

Game 1
 Bob Luther 270

Game 2
 Jackie Thackery 400

Game 3 -
 Pat McCallum 470



Promote your activity in the TR Times

The TR Times would like to help promote your TR sports activity. Articles, photos and scores may be emailed to thetrtimes@gmail.com by 5 p.m. on Fridays. The submission will appear in the following week's publication.

If you have any questions or would like help writing an article, please email the TR Times.

Five Crowns

by Jackie Thackery
Wednesday, Dec. 6

Game 1

Deborah May 45

Next lowest score

Jackie Thackery 105

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Holiday Greetings across the miles

We are missing TR and all the caring, wonderful friends who made our winter home so special over the past 20 years. Have a Merry Christmas. Enjoy family, friends and feasting as you celebrate the birth of Christ. May God bless you and yours in 2024.
- Jane and Bill Harrold
Niagara Falls, Canada

Christmas greetings from our house to yours. Wishing you a blessed holiday.
~ Pam and Bill Watkins

We are missing all our friends and neighbors that are not able to be with us at TR this holiday seasons. Wishing everyone a merry holiday season and a blessed new year!
- Bob and Karen Waldo

May the blessings of the season be with you and yours.
- Margaret Emmetts

Merry Christmas
- Rich & Kathy Kushman



Merry Christmas and Happy New Year
- Carole Young

To all my pickle dolls - Many wishes for a bright, beautiful and blessed Christmas.
- Pam

"Then the Grinch thought of something he hadn't before! What if Christmas, he thought, doesn't come from a store. What if Christmas... perhaps... means a little bit more!"
- Dr. Seuss

Obituaries

HELEN HICKAM

Helen (Prettyman) Progar Hickam, 88, of Wilmington, Del. passed away Sept. 16, 2023 at her winter home in TR. She was born in November 1934 in Laurel, Del. to Herbert and Evelyn (Paige) Prettyman.

Helen was an active student at Laurel High School, participating in band, choir and cheerleading. She graduated from Western Maryland College (now McDaniel College) in Sociology in 1955. On Dec. 18 of that same year she married Henry M. (Hank) Progar who had moved to Laurel a few years before to teach art in the Laurel schools.

Helen and Hank shared a good sense of humor and had an active circle of friends who often played bridge on Saturday evenings. Helen remained close with many of these friends even after moving upstate years later. Initially Helen was a stay-at-home mom but after their two children were in school she became a teacher at the North Laurel Elementary School. After moving with her family to Wilmington in 1968 she taught elementary school and later middle school social studies. Even though working she insisted on being a Super Mom, always preparing a cooked breakfast and delicious homemade dinner for her family every day.

The family spent many school holidays and summers traveling the country with their travel trailer, sometimes sharing their vacations with friends. They often visited historic sites that Helen could then better share with her history students, while Hank painted the diverse scenery they saw.

Sadly at the age of 47 Helen was widowed when Hank suddenly passed away. Not one to dwell on her grief, she turned to traveling to lift her spirits and encouraged her widowed sister-in-law to accompany her on a trip to visit her daughter in Austria.

After teaching for 25 years she retired and took on the task of caregiver for her parents in her home. For a while she also cared for her uncle. There were many jokes about her running an assisted

living facility in her house.

Seven years after Hank's passing Helen met J. Frank Hickam, Jr. whom she married on Nov. 24, 1989 in the company of all their children and grandchildren. Helen and Frank found they shared a love of traveling and eventually visited all 50 states and many U.S. National Parks in their various RVs with their beagle, Buddy. They bought a second home in TR on lot 2606 in the Village where they spent the winters for over 20 years. Helen enjoyed bridge, reading, writing for *The TR Times* and acting in the TR Little Theater.

They enjoyed entertaining and Helen shared her excellent cooking skills as one way of expressing her love. She was especially known for her chicken and "slippery" dumplings. Her grandchildren raved that she made the best chocolate chip cookies, which she was happy to bake even though she did not like them herself. She was known as the "Emanuel Dining Room Angel" at St. James Millcreek Episcopal Church because she and Frank sponsored the church's week serving the food kitchen.

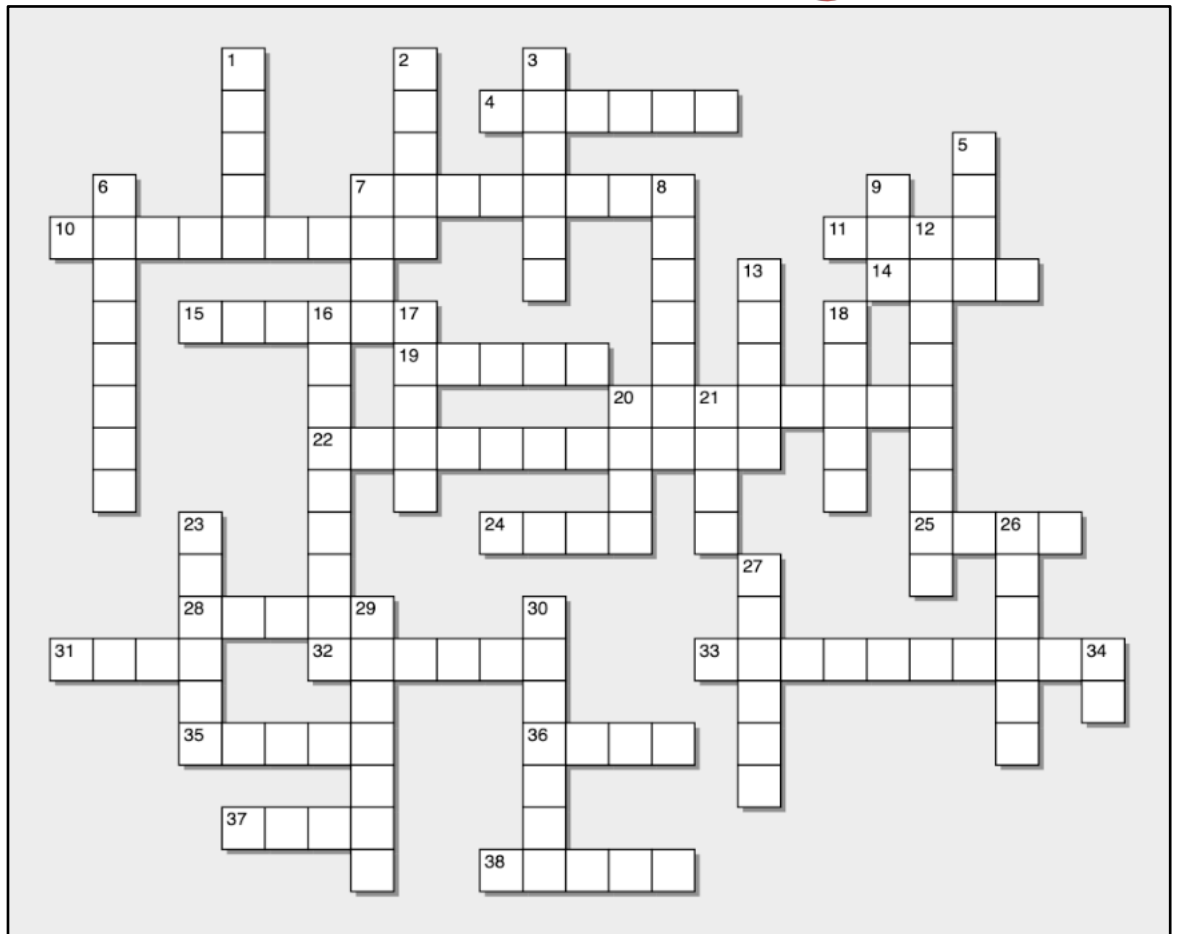
Just four weeks before her passing Helen was excited to see her granddaughter Sarah married in Minnesota wearing the wedding dress Helen wore when she was married in 1955.

Helen was preceded in death by her first husband, Hank Progar, in November 1982 after 27 years of marriage and her second husband, Frank Hickam, in October 2021 after 32 years of marriage, her parents and her brother Edwin Prettyman.

Helen is survived by her son Gary (Leslie) Progar, daughter Paige Progar and finance Richard Harrison, Frank's children Theresa Kolbe, Paula Durso (Loretta) and Jesse F. Hickam, III, seven grandchildren and two great grandchildren.

In lieu of flowers donations can be made to the American Lung Association, the American Heart Association or the American Cancer Society.

The TR Times PUZZLES Christmas in Song



Across

- 4. Straw-covered bed
- 7. On one chipmunk's wish list (two words)
- 10. Either white or blue in song
- 11. The place for the holidays
- 14. For kings, rings and decorations
- 15. Three of these heard on the housetop
- 19. She was caught kissing Santa
- 20. It was clear when it came
- 22. These glow alongside the candy canes in the Five and Ten (two words)
- 24. The red-nosed reindeer perhaps?
- 25. The old, sainted giver for short?
- 28. I want two this year
- 31. This facial expression is sure to keep Santa away
- 32. Christmas Day is soon when these bells ring
- 33. Frosty only paused for him (two words)
- 35. It can be silent and holy
- 36. The girl who wants a dolly in her stocking
- 37. What the night wind told the lamb he saw
- 38. She sat beside him in Jingle Bells

Down

- 1. Three traveling partners
- 2. Its his happy birthday
- 3. That first reindeer you know
- 5. Angels came on the first one
- 6. What I heard on Christmas Day (two words)
- 7. Pay attention to the singing angels
- 8. A popular Christmas pie
- 9. Weather that made Rudolph famous
- 12. These reply to the angels' joyous strains
- 13. My true love's gift on the seventh day
- 16. Roasted on an open fire
- 17. Mr. Grinch's home for termites
- 18. A pudding demanded by carolers
- 20. Did she know?
- 21. 52 cards the hall
- 23. Frosty's nose
- 26. Three of these heard on the housetop
- 27. Christmas fowl
- 29. Rudolph's best subject
- 30. Relative flattened by reindeer
- 34. Home to which st. for homemade dessert

**Take the crossword challenge
answer will appear in the Jan. 5 TR Times**



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