



## Hi Lites

### Mardi Gras Dance

Tonight, Feb. 27 at 7 p.m. in Busch Hall. See Page 2.

### SkyMed presentation

Saturday, Feb. 28 at 9 a.m. in Citrus West. See Page 10.

### Busch Hall Sunday Night

Pops Chorus, Sunday, March 1, 7 p.m. Busch Hall. See Page 2.

### Blood Drive

Monday, March 2 at 8 a.m. beside the Fire Station. See Page 5.



Monday, March 2  
1 p.m. in Busch Hall

### Quilt-A-Rama

Tuesday, March 3, 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. in Busch Hall. See Page 6.

### Tuesday Night Movie

"Sarah's Oil" on Tuesday, March 3 at 6:55 p.m. in Citrus East. See Page 2.

### Wednesday Night Concert Series

One Hit Wonders and More on Wednesday, March 4, at 7 p.m. in Busch Hall. See Page 2.

### Coffee Seminar

Kumquats. Thursday, March 5 at 8 a.m. in Busch Hall. See Page 2.



Tuesday, March 10 at  
2 p.m. in Busch Hall.  
Doors open at 1 p.m.



## People and Places . . . Chapter 9 Gunny Gundrum

by Margaret Emmetts

Gunny Gundrum has led a varied and interesting life. One of 15 children, his childhood was not a pleasant one. At age 15 he ran away from his rural New York State home to live with his uncle in New York City. At age 17 he got into trouble and was given the choice of going to jail or joining the military. Thus he became a Marine and turned his life around.

Gunny underwent his 13-week boot camp at Parris Island, S.C. Upon graduation he was sent to Aircraft Mechanic School which was not his choice. After some additional training he was posted to El Toro Base in Santa Ana, Calif. An Inspector General was visiting the base. As the General's plane was landing, a large metal set of stairs was in the flight path. Seeing the danger, Gunny ran out to move the stairs, breaking his foot in the process. Noticing Gunny's bravery, the General visited the infirmary and told Gunny he was making him Marine of the Month. The General suggested that if he could do anything for him, his door was always open.

Taking him at his word, Gunny went to the General's office and asked to be recommended for embassy duty. After training at the Marine facility in Arlington, Va. he was assigned to the American Embassy in Moscow, Russia. Many dignitaries visited the embassy including Elizabeth Taylor and husband Mike Todd. They



**GUNNY GUNDRUM**

asked what the Marines did for nightlife and were told of a local tavern. While Gunny and friends were at the tavern, Elizabeth and Mike came in. When dared to ask Liz for a dance, Gunny put Tennessee Waltz on the juke box and asked Liz to dance. She said yes!



*Photos submitted by Gunny Gundrum*  
**Gundrum appears next to Dr. Martin Luther King during his "I have a dream" speech.**

After being posted to Paris, Gunny was assigned to provide security for President Eisenhower at a NATO

Summit between Eisenhower and Khrushchev. The Summit was canceled as a result of the U-2 incident when Russia shot down an American spy plane.

Upon his discharge from the Marines after serving for five years, Gunny went to Washington, D.C. for a college education. He supported himself by becoming a National Park Ranger in Arlington National Cemetery. It was here that he was chosen to guard Martin Luther King during his "I had a dream" speech and there that he was pictured next to King.

While at Arlington, President Kennedy and his Secret Service agents visited the Curtis Lee Mansion. After viewing the grounds,

Kennedy said "It is so beautiful, I could live here forever." Ironically several months later he was

assassinated. Gunny was on duty when Kennedy's family paid a visit and wanted to know where the President stood when he made the statement. The spot became Kennedy's burial location.

After seven years as a Park Ranger, Gunny was homesick for the mountains of New York. He became a New York State Trooper and served for 25 years, retiring as an investigator. During those years he received a call from the Governor who wanted to know why the New York State Thruway was closed. Gunny patrolled the area and discovered an amazing music festival taking place. Woodstock had so many attendees that they had blocked all roads including the Thruway.

Gunny still maintains a residence in New York State but has wintered at TR for 25 years. I'm sure that life here cannot begin to compare to the adventures or personalities Gunny encountered during his varied career.



**Gunny is pictured with Ken Burns, the award-winning filmmaker who creates historical documentaries.**

## Meet the Candidates review

by Margaret Emmetts

The TR Times usually hosts a Meet the Candidates program each year. In most past years it was felt that the program was needed because we had more candidates than we had open positions on the Board. For the first time, in my memory, we have fewer candidates applying for the number of open Board positions. As a result we currently have two individuals who are seeking nominations from the floor during the AGM.

In the past there have been at least two occasions when individuals were

nominated from the floor and received more votes than the candidates vetted by the Nominating Committee. As a result these individuals were elected to the Board.

The purpose of the Meet the Candidates program is to allow residents the opportunity to see and hear the various candidates in person. It is an opportunity to see how candidates respond to questions, their viewpoints and personalities. It may influence for whom you will vote.

Of the six candidates that appeared at the program, five will be elected! This means

that one, or both of the proposed floor nominees will become Board members. If this occurs, one of the candidates vetted by the Nominating Committee will lose the election. Think about this!

Regarding how to vote, there are some misunderstandings. When you cast your vote, you are NOT required to vote for five people. You may vote for anywhere from one to five persons.

When the votes are tabulated, the person(s) who receive the most votes will receive the longer position or positions. If there are more

candidates than openings, the person with the least number of votes is eliminated. Person(s) with the lower number of votes receive the one year position(s).

We were disappointed that so few residents took advantage of this opportunity to meet the candidates up close and personal. Residents should not be so blasé. They should realize that who is on the Board determines the future of TR.

Leadership is critical to your lifestyle here in the years to come.

# Busch Hall Sunday Night

by Katherine Shawver

Join us for Busch Hall Sunday Night on March 1 at 7 p.m. for a musical step back in time that you will be sure to enjoy.

The Pops Chorus is a singing group composed of your friends and neighbors. The chorus is now in its third year of sharing their love of music and having a good time together. The Pops Chorus is directed and accompanied by Ron Reeve on piano and Donna Probes on the drums. Ron has selected a great array of

music for your entertainment. There is something for everyone. Just to name a few titles, you will hear "Singing in the Rain," "Saturday in the Park" and other songs by Chicago, as well as Frankie Valli and Billy Joel.

The Pops Chorus will be selling root beer floats at the Art and Hobby Show on Wednesday, March 4, in Busch Hall as their annual fundraising event.

The Ice Cream Social, from 6:15 to 6:45 p.m., is followed by announcements.

## TRGA Italian Dinner reminder

by Kathy Reimann

To all who have tickets for the TRGA Italian Dinner, it is tomorrow, Saturday, Feb. 28.

Please provide your own dinner table setting and bring your beverage of choice. These can be brought to Busch Hall between 2 and 3:30 p.m. The doors open at 5:30 p.m. so be sure to bring your tickets, as assigned

tables are marked on them.

Baguettes, dipping oil and marinated cheese and olives will be on all tables along with small plates and napkins. Salad will be served to every table in red Solo cups with a small fork, followed by an amazing dinner. All will be served for your dining pleasure by our amazing divas.

Buon Appetito!

## Coffee Seminar: All about kumquats

by Leslie Ewing

There will only be one Coffee Seminar this week due to the Quilt-A-Rama in Busch Hall on Tuesday, March 3.

Greg, the Kumquat Guy, is making a return trip to TR. He will bring kumquats and show us how to eat them. Join us on Thursday, March 5 at 8 a.m. in Busch Hall for the Coffee Seminar. There will be kumquats available for tasting.

## Mardi Gras Dance tonight



by Pat Daubemier

I hope that you have found an assortment of beads, a feathery mask and your favorite yellow, green or deep purple shirt because it's Mardi Gras time in Busch Hall. The Travelaires invite you to join them for dancing and entertainment tonight, Friday, Feb. 27 from 7 to 9 p.m. Forget the diet tonight and enjoy your King Cakes or beignets; the dance floor is open to work off the calories. Hope to see you there.



by Nancy McDowell

Our next movie on Tuesday, March 3 in Citrus East, is "Sarah's Oil" starring Zachary Levi and Naya Desir-Johnson. It is a biographical drama telling the life story of Sarah Rector, the first Black female millionaire in the U.S. during the early 1900s.

Short clip is at 6:55 p.m., feature presentation follows. Please remember to silence your phones prior to the movie. Donations for movies and popcorn are always appreciated as they help keep this activity vital in our community. Do not forget to bring a comfy chair.

## Wednesday Concert Series March 4

by Katherine Shawver

Jimmy's Blast from the Past is a retro musical review of his favorite hit songs of the 60s and 70s, with a few of the 50s and the 80s thrown in just for fun! It includes many songs that everyone knows and loves but may not remember the name of the artist. These are the songs Jimmy grew up with and remembers fondly as he reaches back into his memory to recall what he was doing back then. The show consists of many major sing-along hits, number one hits and one-hit wonders.

You will hear *Brandy You're A Fine Girl*, *America, How Long Has This Been Going On*, *Don't Pull Your Love*, Elvin Bishop, *Vehicle*, The Grass Roots, *Baby Come Back*, Dion and the Belmonts, *Unchained Melody*, *You've Lost That Lovin' Feeling*, *Sugar Sugar*, The Archies, *Rock Me Gently*, The Guess Who, The Doobie Brothers, *Motown*, Roy



JIMMY MAZZ

Orbison, *Joy To The World* (better known as *Jeremiah Was A Bullfrog*), and *Cracklin' Rosie* by Neil Diamond.

There will also be a nod to Ed Sullivan featuring The Beatles, The Rolling Stones and The Monkees with a touch of the king, Elvis Presley and many more.

This high-energy concert-style show will have you smiling, laughing, singing, clapping, reminiscing and looking back to what you were doing, when. A must see show!

This concert will be on Wednesday, March 4, beginning at 7 p.m. in Busch Hall. Doors will be open at 6:30 p.m. This concert is \$15 per person.

## TR Welcome Committee news and updates

by Joan Ledbetter

The TR Welcome Committee would like to invite all new residents and visitors to stop by our information table each Sunday night. If you are new to our fabulous park and want to learn more about the various activities and things to do during your stay at TR, we would love to meet you.

We set up the welcome table every Sunday prior to Sunday night ice cream and entertainment in Busch Hall. The table is located near the door to the laundry area and conveniently close to the ice cream line. We will be available from 6:15 to 6:45 p.m. to answer your questions, provide information about the park and offer TR name



Photo by Joan Ledbetter

### SUNDAY WELCOME TABLE

tags to those who would like one.

If this is your first time visiting us, please come by so we can gift you with a welcome bag. These nifty drawstring bags contain valuable information about the park and the surrounding area to help you make the most of your stay. Come on down and say hello; we look forward to seeing you there!



### FOOD MENU

2026  
OPERATING HOURS  
MONDAY - FRIDAY  
11:30 - 1:30

MAINS		DAILY SPECIALS	
HAMBURGER	4.75	MONDAY	
CHEESEBURGER	5.00	CHILI	3.50
DBL HAMBURGER	6.00	TUESDAY	
DBL CHEESEBURGER	6.75	SOUP	3.50
HOT DOG	2.50	WEDNESDAY	
<small>ADD GRILLED ONIONS @ NO CHARGE</small>		CHILI DOG	2.75
ITALIAN SAUSAGE	4.50	PULLED PORK	4.50
<small>WITH GRILLED PEPPER BLEND</small>		THURSDAY	
HAM & CHEESE SAND	4.50	CHOWDER	4.00
TURKEY SAND	4.50	FRIDAY	
CHICKEN BREAST SAND	4.50	TUNA SALAD	6.00
HAM SALAD	6.00	TUNA SAND	4.50
TURKEY SALAD	6.00	BEVERAGES	
GRILLED CHICKEN SALAD	6.00	SODA POP	1.00
VEGGIE SALAD	4.50	ICED TEA	1.00
EXTRAS	.50 EA	BOTTLED WATER	1.00
COLE SLAW		TEA & COFFEE	1.00
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# Briefings from the Board

by Deborah May, President

Hydrate, hydrate, hydrate!  
I have continually cautioned TR residents to be sure and drink during their active days and during periods of hot weather. Obviously, I need to take my own advice. Often, we get caught up in so many activities that we forget to take care of our own bodies with adequate food and drink. Having a busy schedule—life here at TR—causes people to forget about the time, and before you realize it, hours have gone by. Finally feeling thirsty is not a good sign. That means you are already on the road to dehydration.

Dehydration is not limited to affecting only your kidneys. It can cause an electrolyte imbalance, such as reduced levels of sodium and potassium, which are critical to muscle function and heart health. It can also cause complications in chronic diseases. The kidneys require adequate fluid to filter waste from the blood effectively. The concentration of waste products in the blood can cause health complications like muscle cramps, weakness and irregular heartbeats. As someone who never really liked to



DEBORAH MAY

drink water, I can sympathize with people who say they are not a fan of water. But age increases the chances of having health complications from not drinking enough water.

Diabetes, celiac disease and Crohn's disease are just a few of the conditions that can be worsened by dehydration. During hot weather or intense physical activity, dehydration increases the risk of heat exhaustion and heat stroke. Our bodies rely on adequate hydration to regulate temperatures through sweating.

When I began having severe chest pain, I was sure it was a heart attack. After extensive heart testing, blood testing, and numerous other tests, the doctor informed me that my heart was perfectly fine, but asked, "Are you trying to kill your-

self by denying your body the water it needs to survive?" A little blunt, but a strong point. I had severe dehydration—the very thing I had worried about the elderly residents here getting. Which, I guess, I am officially part of now. After several bottles of IV fluid, my numbers started to rebound. When I asked, "How much water do I have to consume in a day?" He replied without hesitation, "I would like 80 ounces, but I will settle for 60 minimum." Drink water to live is now my new motto!

When dehydration becomes severe, it can lead to serious complications, such as seizures, brain damage, and even death if not treated promptly. This is particularly critical for vulnerable populations like the elderly and those with chronic health conditions. If you experience extreme thirst, dry mouth, or decreased urine output, it is critical to rehydrate your body immediately to avoid complications. You can increase your fluid intake by eating water-rich foods like vegetables, fruits and soups on a regular basis.

DRINK WATER TO LIVE!

# From the Manager's desk



CHAD BARBER

by Chad Barber with Pam Watkins

When it comes to planning for TR's future marketing plans, it's all about the data. Historic patterns, current feedback and new trends provide valuable insight for marketing. Tracking demographics, activity popularity, average length of stays and comparing rates and amenities with nearby resorts can assist management in marketing TR more favorably. This week Chad shared how data is shaping TR's guest outreach and long-term marketing strategies.

### Understanding market segments

Most travelers arrive with a purpose in mind. Different age groups, short-term travelers and seasonal residents all have different expectations for amenities, activities and atmosphere. These preferences play a pivotal role in a traveler's choice of RV resort. Chad says that with this information, we can focus on what makes TR unique—after all, we are not just your average RV park—and highlight and refine what TR has to offer to remain competitive in the market.

### How current data shapes decisions

Feedback from residents and RV guests plays a central role in shaping our marketing decisions. Although we have permanent residents, TR is mostly a winter destination, along with guests here for short stays. This means we must pay attention to a somewhat-limited window in our marketing efforts to reach travelers. Reading reviews and survey responses as residents and guests share their experiences and suggestions helps us to stay aware of a variety of expectations and ever-changing

trends. This data helps us to focus and prioritize our decisions.

### How historical data shapes decisions

Chad believes that historical data is priceless; it shows what has worked and the things that have given us a less-than-positive result. "We need to capitalize on historically successful strategies, but be willing to try new things as we grow," he explains. For example, recent feedback from younger, short-term guests, has highlighted opportunities to promote amenities and events that would be of immediate appeal to this newer group of travelers.

### How trending data shapes decisions

The new resort being built on Lake Iola Rd. is an ongoing topic of discussion for residents. Chad believes that the new resort will not diminish TR's appeal, as that development will include a waterpark, hotel and RV spaces designed primarily for short-term, all-ages travelers. TR, by contrast, offers a quieter and more relaxed environment. Chad is hopeful that older visitors, particularly grandparents traveling with RVs, will prefer staying at TR while younger family members enjoy the different level of amenities the new resort plans to offer.

### Looking ahead

Trending data also influences decisions about future amenities and is a path that Chad believes should be explored. As Dade City and surrounding areas grow, TR may naturally attract a slightly younger, more transient demographic. Nearby event venues may also increase short-term stays, many of which can occur outside peak season. Targeting these populations and welcoming them for short-term stays "may lead to long-term residents in the future," he says.

By combining historic, current and trending data, we can make informed decisions that protect what residents value most while adapting to future opportunities. The goal is to remain a premier resident-owned destination that provides an exceptional living experience.

# Graphic grins: The TR Times production staff



MARGARET EMMETTS  
EDITOR-IN-CHIEF



PAM WATKINS  
MANAGING EDITOR



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## More graphic grins next week!



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## Is seeing always believing?

There is an old adage that states “seeing is believing.” But is that always true?

During a recent cold snap here in Florida, TV meteorologists predicted possible snow flurries. As this is an extremely rare event in Florida, they requested that viewers take photos of the flurries if they should occur.

So anxious were they to obtain these photos that they actually did a rather extensive tutorial on how to best capture these images. Since snowflakes are white and tiny, photos should be taken against a dark background, such as a dark-colored car. If the event occurred at night, back-lighting should be used, such as a street light.

Imagine the meteorologists surprise when they received a video of blowing snow that looked like it was taken during a blizzard. Yes, the video was made right here in Florida. But how?

It seems the photographer had access to a power washer. By adjusting the machine to a fine spray, they could shoot the water into the air. The freezing temperatures instantly turned the tiny water droplets into snow. Photographed against back-light the result looked like a virtual blizzard.

The photographer had actually created a homemade snow machine, much like those used at ski resorts to create snow. How clever.

The moral to the story is that seeing is not always believing these days. *mre*

### The TR Times

#### Vision Statement

To be a trusted source of information for the TR Community.

#### Mission Statement

To promote activities and events, recognize achievements, encourage resident support of our advertisers and report topics of interest in a manner that positively supports the TR Community.

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

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## The Servant's Plow

### Beginning the journey of Lent

by Anthony Shipe,  
 Chaplain

Every year the season of Lent arrives quietly. There are no fireworks. No wrapped gifts. No countdown clock in storefront windows. It begins with a simple reminder: We are dust, and to dust we shall return.

Not exactly the kind of slogan that sells coffee mugs and yet, Lent may be one of the most powerful seasons of the Christian year.

Lent is not about gloom. It is about clarity.

For 40 days believers are invited to slow down, take inventory of the heart and walk deliberately toward Easter and Resurrection morning.

The number 40 is not random. Scripture is filled with 40-day journeys: 40 days of rain in Noah's time, 40 years in the wilderness for Israel, 40 days of fasting for Jesus in the desert. The number represents testing, preparation and transformation. It is long enough to matter, but not so long that we lose hope.

The truth is most of us live at a hurried pace. We rush from one commitment to another, one headline to the next, one distraction after another. Lent interrupts that rhythm. It asks us to pause and face the deeper questions: What has a hold on me? Where have I drifted? What needs to change?

That can feel uncomfortable. If we are honest, we would rather reorganize a closet than reorganize our soul. At least the closet lets us stay in control, but Lent gently removes the illusion that we are fully in charge. It reminds us that we are dependent on God for every breath.

Traditionally, Lent is marked by three practices: Prayer, fasting and giving.

Prayer during Lent is not about fancy words. It is about honesty. It is about sitting quietly before God and



CHAPLAIN  
 ANTHONY SHIPE

allowing Him to search our motives, our habits, our hidden resentments. Prayer during this season often sounds less like a speech and more like a whisper: “Lord, show me what I cannot see.”

Fasting is perhaps the most misunderstood practice. Many people think of it simply as giving up chocolate or soft drinks. While there is nothing wrong with small sacrifices, fasting is not spiritual dieting. It is about creating space. When we voluntarily lay something down—food, media and a daily indulgence—we are reminding ourselves that our deepest hunger is not physical. We are saying, “I will not let this control me.” That is freedom.

Giving, especially to those in need, rounds out the journey. Lent pushes us outward. It is hard to cling tightly to selfishness when we are actively helping someone else. Generosity loosens the grip of greed and reorients our heart toward compassion.

Lent prepares us for the joy of Easter by first leading us through reflection and repentance.

Repentance is not a word we should fear. At its core, repentance simply means turning around. Lent gives us permission to make spiritual U-turns without shame. It reminds us that God's mercy is greater than our missteps.

There is also something deeply communal about this season. When a church or a

community observes Lent together, there is a shared sense of pilgrimage. We are walking the same road. We are admitting together that we need grace. In a world that often encourages image management and self-promotion, Lent levels the field. We all stand on equal ground before the cross.

The honest truth is Lent will not automatically change anyone. Simply marking the calendar is not enough. Transformation requires intention. It may mean carving out time each morning for quiet reflection. It may mean apologizing to someone you have avoided. It may mean confronting a habit that has lingered too long. None of that is easy. Growth rarely is.

Yet there is hope woven through every step of this journey. Lent does not end in ashes. It ends in resurrection. The path leads to Easter morning, to the declaration that death does not have the final word. The self-examination of Lent is not about dwelling on failure; it is about clearing away what keeps us from fully embracing life.

If you choose to observe Lent this year, begin simply. Ask God to reveal one area that needs attention. Choose one practice—prayer, fasting, or giving—and commit to it with sincerity. Do not aim for perfection. Aim for faithfulness.

If you stumble along the way, start again. That, too, is part of the journey.

Lent invites us to step off autopilot and walk intentionally toward hope. It calls us to humility, to honesty and to trust. It reminds us that while we are dust, we are deeply loved dust—shaped by the hands of a faithful Creator.

Forty days can change a heart. The journey begins now.



**Travelers Rest**  
 CHURCH ASSOCIATION

#### Choir Rehearsal

Friday, 9:30 a.m.

Sunday, 8:45 a.m.

Bernie Gutridge

#### Sunday Service

Bible Study 9:30 a.m.

Hymn Sing 10:15 a.m.

Worship Service 10:30 a.m.

Pastor Anthony Shipe

#### Holy Communion

First Sunday of the month.



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 Catholic Church

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#### MASS SCHEDULE

##### Vigil Mass

Saturday, 4 p.m.

##### Sunday Masses

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

##### Daily Masses

8:00 a.m. Monday - Friday

#### RELIGIOUS EDUCATION CLASSES

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

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## Amateur Radio Club members go to HamCation Convention

by Beverly Bean,  
KR4FDL

If TR seemed a little quiet last weekend – you were right! The 2026 Amateur Radio HamCation Convention and Rally was held last week, Feb. 13 to 15, at the Central Florida Fairgrounds in sunny Orlando. The TR Amateur Radio Club was well-represented with 21 members, nearly half its' membership, in attendance.

This large attendance is a real testament to the dedication of the TR Amateur Radio Club. What is HamCation you may ask? It is the second largest annual gathering of radio amateurs in the world.

This years' HamCation did not disappoint. There were three buildings packed with many vendors, radios, antennas and educational forums along with plenty of tailgating sprinkled in. This



is the stuff of dreams for die-hard Hams.

HamCation kicked off on Thursday with a Meet and Greet potluck lunch hosted by the RV Service Net, a subsidiary of the Wally Byam Caravan Club International. Throughout the week, people gathered for Happy Hours to socialize and talk about the events of the day and purchases they made.

On Saturday, the ladies at HamCation took Orlando by storm with a thrift-store-shopping trip planned by Jackie Thackery, and lunch at the White Wolf Cafe.



Photo submitted by Beverly Bean  
**Christine North shows off her new tag.**

Most of our attendees returned to TR by Sunday afternoon, still excited and engaged about all the things learned and shared at HamCation.

## Fire Rescue Station 33 trivia

by Gloria Polzin

Here are the answers to the Open House door prize questions. No one got all of the answers right, and we knew a couple of the questions would be pure guesses, but we wanted to make you think. See if you can remember how you did.

1. How many calls did our volunteer station have last year? 80
2. How much does a fireman outfit weigh including helmet, coat, gloves, pants, boots and air pack? 54 pounds
3. How long is a standard requirement for a fireman to get completely dressed and ready to respond? 60 seconds
4. Where in the park can you get immediate first responder help if you are without a phone? It is the red button by the red sign on the front of building. Please take time to glance at it, locate it and store it away in your memory.
5. What is our fire chief's name? Larry Polzin at lot 04-29. He can be called or visited anytime with any concerns or needs.

We sincerely hope you had as good a time as we did. It was a beautiful community day that went far and above our expectations. We wanted to give something to you for your past support of us, but once again your generosity blew us away. Thank you for the love and support you show us.

## Bloodmobile at TR this Monday

by Ken Neer

This Monday morning, March 2 at 8 a.m. two OneBlood Big Red Busses will be parked next to our TR Fire Station ready to take blood donations from TR residents. The busses will be on location until 2:30 p.m. Blood transfused to humans can only be produced by the human body (no known substitutions) and is almost always in high demand. Imagine yourself, a loved one or good friend being told “your pain-relieving elective surgery must be postponed indefinitely because of a blood supply shortage.”

All are welcome to gain Hero status by donating a small part of themselves to help area residents in need. Canadians are encouraged to donate. There are no age restrictions and if in doubt of your ability to donate (health/medications, etc.) you are encouraged to board a bus and inquire.

Besides the wellness check that includes pulse rate, temperature, blood pressure, iron count and a cholesterol screening (phone-in), you will receive a \$20 eGift Card and a St. Patrick's Day T-shirt. However, the greatest gift will be the feeling of knowing you donated the Gift of Life to someone in need.



Walk-ins are always welcome. Appointments, however, are encouraged, have priority and help keep the giving process (normally less than one hour) smooth and as short as possible for all. To make an appointment, please refer to my article in last week's edition of *The TR Times*. However, appointments must be booked at least 24 hours prior to the drive start. Please remember to bring a picture ID.

After giving, please walk across to the TR Fire Station where the dedicated team of TR First Responders will be set up encouraging you to take a short rest, hydrate, eat a small snack and participate in conversation with your fellow donors and first responders.

On behalf of all the unknown but in-need patients (up to three per donation) who will receive your TR blood donations, thank you.

## TR Veterans meeting is March 9

by Ken Hankinson

Our next TR Veterans meeting will be on Monday, March 9, 10 a.m. at the Vets Feeding Vets location, 4717 Airport Rd. in Zephyrhills.

The Vets Feeding Vets program has been incredibly successful in assisting veterans who suffer from food insecurity. Since its inception in 2024, the program has gone from feeding 12 to 15 vets per week to feeding over 250 per week. The program is run entirely by volunteers. It depends on monetary donations from a variety of organizations and donated food by several local companies and corporations. Based on the presentation at our January meeting, the TR Vets wanted to learn more about their oper-

ations and felt an actual visit would be very beneficial. Our veterans group hopes to learn how we may be of assistance in the future, whether it be in fundraising or assisting in their volunteering operations. Whether you are a regular attendee at veteran meetings or have never attended a meeting, this might be a great opportunity to get acquainted and learn more about the TR Veterans.

Donations to the Vets Feeding Vets program are always appreciated. For more information on the program please contact Marty Schencke at lot 2605 or Ken Hankinson at lot 2609 for assistance.

Thanks for your continued support of Veterans' programs.

## Flags new and old



by Ken Hankinson

It's always impressive to see the number of American flags being proudly flown at TR. As soon as you enter the park you will see the multiple flags being flown at the entrance, and as you drive by the Veterans Memorial Walk many flags are also being flown. No matter what area of the park you may pass through, including Golf View, you'll see American flags being proudly flown.

TR vets want to assist in keeping those American flags looking good and proudly flying. If your flag is looking a little aged, (faded is ok, but torn or ragged is not), TR vets offer new American-made 3 feet x 5 feet flags for a donation of \$25. If your flag is in need of replacement, please contact Bill Wise in RV South

lot 14-09 for a replacement.

Also, when leaving for the season, it might be a good idea to take your flag down for the summer to save it from the summer sun and seasonal storms.

The popular flag-retirement ceremony (burning of old flags) is not scheduled for the 2026 season since we previously decided to hold it on a bi-annual basis. The next flag retirement program will be scheduled in early March 2027. Watch for the actual date in a January issue of *The TR Times*. In the interim, flags that need to be retired can be placed in the footlocker located in the TR Post Office and will be collected by a TR veteran all year long.

Thank you for your assistance.

*Looking to travel? I would love to help!*

Hi! I'm Kelly Rehlander and I specialize in:  
Walt Disney World, Disneyland, Disney Cruise Line, Aulani Disney resort and spa, Universal Studios and other cruising!

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Facebook: Mickey Guru Kelly Website: [www.mickeyguru.com/kelly](http://www.mickeyguru.com/kelly)



## Activity Affairs

by Lora Davis

It is hard to believe that March is here! Guy Weik, the previous Activities Coordinator, once referred to this time of year as March Madness for Activities and for good reason. Scheduling end-of-season gatherings and rounding up Activity Update Forms for next season certainly fills my time these days.

Update Forms should be completed for all activities and special events since sometimes an activity will continue but with a new chairperson. We have many activities that start in November and December but most run January through March. It is important that all this information be included on the Activity Update forms. Please return these forms to Lora Davis at

lot 07-01 by Sunday, March 1 so that they don't get overlooked with all that is going on at the end of the season.

The annual Hobby and Arts Show with root beer floats takes place Wednesday, March 11. Anyone wishing to exhibit at the Show should email the name of activity or hobby, the exhibitor name (for a sign), a contact phone number and email address to [activities@travelersrestresort.com](mailto:activities@travelersrestresort.com). There is also a sign-up sheet on the Activities Bulletin Board in Busch Hall.

Other special activities coming up include the Russell Stover Candy, La Hacienda Restaurant, German Bakery & Winery Trip on Friday, March 13. Saturday, March 14 will

feature Dining with Friends, the Bingo Bonanza and the Mexican Pickleball Party at Night.

Did you know TR has a wide array of interesting hobby activities? Model trains, ham radio, remote control racing, rug hooking and quilting are only a few. It is not too late to explore any of these activities and possibly find something new to enjoy and some new friends with whom to enjoy it.

Finally, remember that InTouchLink will always have the most up-to-date event information. If you are unfamiliar with InTouch, it is a mobile app that you can download to keep up with what's happening at TR. Contact the Office if you need assistance.

## A very, very special school

by Pat Butler

TR is a paradise filled with friendly, loving, generous residents. This can be proven with all the many ways that this park has jumped in whenever and wherever there is a need. A group from TR Special Ministries recently were given a guided tour of a local school that is quietly and consistently changing the lives of many students.

Chris Dester is a man with a passion and he is in constant motion keeping the school he founded in 2017 with his wife running smoothly and empowering neurodivergent students to excel in their individuality and skills. When Chris and Tammy's three-year-old son was diagnosed with autism, the doctor advised the Desters to find a long-term living facility for their baby who was not expected to thrive in a "normal" setting.

The deeply spiritual Desters refused to accept this negative option and vowed to find a better solution. When public school was unsuccessful for Nicolas and then private school as well, the family turned to plan B. Tammy quit her job in the management division of Disney and Chris left the law enforcement field.

With faith and courage, donations, and teachers who excelled in special education, the Desters moved into a former church in Zephyrhills and opened The Academy of Spectrum Diversity.

Along with Nicolas, the school first opened with 10 students, and although



the facility has grown, the initial philosophies have been solidly in place from the beginning. Although the students are on the autism spectrum, they all have strengths and the teachers find and enhance those skills. The routine is regimented and posted in every classroom. Positive reinforcement is used and "planned ignoring" is employed. Students are able to earn Academy Bucks for good behavior, or many other positive actions, and can spend the money during the day. Snacks are \$200, switching seats is \$500, and for a whopping \$700 the students can skip an assignment. Each classroom is set up with minimal distractions to offer a calm and tranquil space for the students to learn.

The word of the week is on each blackboard, and is a meaningful Bible verse that the students are asked to recite along with the Pledge each morning. Each Friday brings all students together for Chapel.

This comprehensive school houses grades first through high school. The older students are divided into two groups, college-bound and those learning life skills which will help ready them for the outside world upon graduation. The educational program covers extensive work in areas that are academic, behavioral, social and spiritual. The

ratio is 1:5 staff-to-student. This attracts passionate educators and ensures personalized attention. Although the enrollment is full, 450 students are currently on the waiting list. In addition, a behavioral specialist is employed full-time to help those students who are acclimated to the classroom environment to troubleshoot behaviors that need to be refined.

Chris Dester is humbled and honored to be a part of this school. His long ago prayers for his baby son who was given no hope by the physician lead him to this endeavor. His school has a 98% retention rate, and currently 4 out of 5 of his recent graduates are in colleges. The growth of this Academy is by the generosity of local churches, businesses, organizations and community partnerships. Donors support the school, making it possible for families with limited means to access life-changing education.

Nicolas Dester is a testament to what ASD can accomplish. He moved through a school where the students obviously feel valued and treasured, not only by the staff, but by the other students as well. He graduated from The Academy of Spectrum Diversity and went on to study Robotics at USF, went for his pilot's license, is taking an HVAC course at Bahr's and works at Lowes. He is also dating!

TR Special Ministries would like to play a part, however large or small, in the success of this very, very special school.

## Quilt-A-Rama needs your help

by Joan Ledbetter

It's that time again! Please come to Busch Hall next Tuesday, March 3 from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. for Quilt-A-Rama 2026. This will be the 23rd year for this event.

Our chairs Peggy Sander and Diane Krupicka are ready for all volunteers to come lend a hand creating finished twin-size quilts for charitable organizations in our area. We hope you can come down to Busch

Hall and lend a hand. Sewing experience is not necessary, we have tasks for everyone. If you are a sewer and have a machine here, please come down to help.

The Snack Shack guys will be there taking lunch orders and delivering them, too.

All are welcome and appreciated at this one-day event. Hope to see you there!



Photo by Brian Krupicka

Hard work rewarded with best of show.

## Quilt-A-Rama 2026

by Joan Ledbetter

On Tuesday, March 3 from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. in Busch Hall your help is needed. No experience or sewing skills are necessary, but if you do have a sewing machine, please bring it. Come and lend a hand whenever you can. Many hands make many quilts!

## TR Model Railroad Club

by Brian Krupicka

Did you know several of the buildings, bridges and support scenery are NOT made from store bought kits but constructed by members using everyday materials and their own imagination. The nice thing about the hobby is that whatever you can dream

up can be built and is acceptable. If you have any questions, please contact Brian Krupicka at [TRTrains@dbcomserv.com](mailto:TRTrains@dbcomserv.com) or call 630-961-1243.

Please join us on Fridays at 9:30 a.m. to noon in the Jeri Miller Activity Building.

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# Advertiser Spotlight Ronnie's Carpets & Flooring



by Pam Watkins

Ronnie's Carpets & Flooring in Lakeland has been serving our surrounding communities since 1971, and remarkably, it still operates out of the exact same location where it first opened its doors.

The business is proudly family-owned and operated in the same community where owner Ronnie White has lived for many years. Family encouragement played a big role in its opening and when he started the business as a young man, he did not consider locating anywhere else. His business

the showroom, it is not required. A quick phone call can schedule an in-home appointment where samples are brought directly to the customer, measurements are taken and a quote is provided. RV owners are also welcome to leave their vehicles safely in the store's parking lot while new flooring is installed — a worry-free option that many may appreciate. The goal is simple, to help customers find the floor of their dreams around their busy schedules.

Community involvement has always been part of

**Ronnie's**  
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philosophy is rooted in connection. "Our goal is to make people's houses feel like home," he says. "By serving the community, we can also help make our neighborhoods feel like home."

Over the years Ronnie has employed family members, as well as people who are now considered to be part of the extended family. "Watching staff members grow up in the business and pass along their knowledge to the next generation has been one of the most rewarding parts of our journey," he remarks.

The business began as a simple carpet and rug shop, but over the years it has grown into a full-service flooring store. Today, customers can choose from carpet, tile, vinyl plank, laminate, ceramic and more. The store also offers decorative rugs, custom cut-to-size rugs, binding and seaming services and professional floor cleaning to help extend the life of existing floors.

Understanding that life gets busy, the sales team works hard to make the process of purchasing flooring convenient. While customers are welcome to visit

the company's mission. Ronnie's Carpets & Flooring happily provides products to the local Habitat for Humanity and helps local organizations such as the Kathleen Historical Society, Bethel Men's Ministry, Camp Gilead, the SPCA and the Lakeland Runners' Club. While they once participated in the Adopt-A-Highway program, Ronnie jokes that "U.S. 98 might need more help than they can currently give."

Ronnie's Carpets & Flooring has supported *The TR Times* with advertising for more than a decade. Community newspapers, they believe, still matter. While word-of-mouth remains their favorite form of advertising, local papers help introduce them to new residents and remind longtime customers that they're always ready to help.

Ronnie's Carpet & Flooring will come to Travelers Rest. For those looking to update their floors or clean their existing floors, customers can call 863-859-1441 to schedule an in-home visit. You can also visit their showroom at 12348 U.S. Highway 98 North in Lakeland.

# TR work on Habitat for Humanity rehab house this month in Dade City



Photos by Barbara Colson

Caravanners and TR Volunteers are happy after their day of work.

by Barbara Colson

Due to the previous floods from Hurricanes Milton and Helene, our annual Habitat for Humanity of East and Central Pasco County Build has not been able to have any new construction in a couple of years. However, we were lucky enough to be able to work on another rehab house this year. With this affiliate, when an owner, for whatever reason, decides

and to make it look brand new. We also primed some of the interior walls. Three of our team did some landscaping and painting at the main office of Habitat on Meridian in Dade City.

The house we worked on last year is now inhabited with a mother and her children. As Jose, the supervisor for the build said these houses are there for the people to continue to live in affordable housing. It is like the circle of life. There are

before a new family moves in.

Many of our Travelers Rest men have been volunteering for this affiliate longer than 2011. I started in 2011 with a Women's Build. We now build together, men and women, helping the people in the community we live in.

Of course, we must also thank our cooking ladies, led by Jackie Thackery, for a delicious lunch of pulled chicken sandwiches and



Bob Englert, Bob Slagle and Jose, the building supervisor, finish painting the foundation.

they no longer want to live in the house they had previously purchased from Habitat, Habitat for Humanity has first right of refusal to purchase the house back from the owner. The house we were rehabbing on Feb. 17 was one of the first homes Habitat built in Dade City. It was built between 2009 and 2012. The exterior with its vinyl siding still looks great. These homes are well-built.

Our job was to paint the lower portion exterior with a primer and a finish coat of paint to protect the house from getting moisture inside



Charlie Mason and the caravanners enjoy lunch together.

five houses in this area. Habitat wasn't sure we would be able to have our annual build. This house was just released by the courts, and the affiliates thought it would be perfect for us to work on this year. The house at the moment is gutted. It will get new appliances, fresh paint in all the rooms and any other items needed to bring the home to a pristine condition

potato salad. There also were brownies, cookies and cupcakes. It is so nice to have lunch with the caravanners who also work on the Habitat houses. It's great to get to know like-minded folks.

A big shout out goes to Jackie's crew: Pam Wood, Brenda Hatchel, Sharon Zile, Mary Ellen Deegan and Sandy Dinkledine. A special thank you to the TR Church Association for their monetary help in providing this lunch. Don't forget, February is our fundraiser month for Habitat for Humanity of Dade City. You can make your donation to Vince Smith or through the envelopes handed out in church.

Our building volunteers were Charlie Mason, Chris Bracknell, Bob Trotter, Randy Smith, Bob Slagle, Bob Englert, Jeff Montgomery, Vince Smith, Rose Taggart and Barbara Colson. Thanks to this hardworking crew.



Vonn, a returning caravanner, Chris Bracknell, Vince Smith and Jeff Montgomery having lunch.





## Bulletin Board

## Travelers Rest Resort Activities

**ACOUSTIC JAM SESSION**

PICKIN' & GRINNIN' - Wednesdays, 3:30-5 PM, Hobby House. Nov - Mar

Rob Werner  
Harold Keefer

**BRASS ENSEMBLE**

Wednesdays, 2:30 - 4:00 PM  
Jeri Miller Activity Building. Jan - Mar

Bill Watkins

**CRIBBAGE**

Mondays, 6:30 - 9:00 PM,  
Jeri Miller Activity Building. Jan-Mar

Bob Luther

**FRIDAY NIGHT DJ DANCE**

Various available Fridays in Busch Hall. 7-9 PM DJ or recorded music. Check InTouch schedule for updates.

Diana Hill

**AMATEUR RADIO CLUB**

2nd and 4th Thurs., 6:30-9 PM in the Jeri Miller Activity Building. Nov - Apr. Meetings open to all. Amateurs can check into the 8 AM Two Meter Net on 146.430 Mhz (PL 100.0) Monday thru Saturday.

Dan Zile

**BRIDGE (BEGINNERS)**

Tuesdays, 1:00 - 5:00 PM  
Hobby House. Jan - Mar

Jim Weigand

**DIGITAL PHOTO (CAMERA)**

Mondays, 9:00 AM - 12:00 PM  
Jeri Miller Activity Building. Jan - Mar 16

Carey Box

**GARDEN CLUB**

Tuesdays & Thursdays, 9:00 - 11:00 AM  
Lake Margaret Nov - Apr

Stacy Grier

**AQUATICS (WATER AEROBICS)**

Nov-Dec: Mon, Wed, & Fri 9:00-10:00 AM  
Jan-Apr: Mon, Wed, & Fri 9:30-10:30 AM  
Pool

Linda Smith

**BRIDGE (INTERMEDIATES)**

Tuesdays, 1:00 - 3:00 PM  
Citrus West. Jan - Mar

Connie Bradley

**DIGITAL PHOTO (POST PROCESS-**

Tuesdays, 1:00 - 3:00 PM  
Jeri Miller Activity Building. Jan - Mar 17

Carey Box

**GENEALOGY**

Tuesdays 1:00 - 3:00 PM  
Citrus East Feb - Mar

Linda Spencer

**BALLROOM DANCING**

Mondays, 7:00-8:00 PM in Busch Hall  
Wednesdays (Review) 10:00-11:00AM Citrus East. Jan - Mar

Jeffrey Duquette

**BRIDGE (PARTY/PARTNERS)**

Tuesdays & Thursdays, 6:30 - 8:30 PM Citrus West. Partner not required. Singles will be teamed up. Jan - Mar

Jen Furman

**DOMINOES**

Thursdays, 6:30 - 9:00 PM  
Busch Hall. Jan - Mar

Linda Gough

**GOLF - LADIES LEAGUE**

Wednesdays 9:00 AM  
Starter Shack.

Kathy Reimann

**BEADAHOLICS**

Mondays, 10:15 AM to 12:15 PM  
Citrus East. Jan - Mar

Kathy Kushman  
Kathy Lemke

**BULLETIN BOARD IN BUSCH HALL**

For information or help with a notice or ad contact: Betsy Behler or Lora Davis

Betsy Behler  
Lora Davis

**DULCIMER JAM**

Thursdays, 6:30 - 9:00 PM  
Citrus East. Jan - Mar

Lois Showers

**GOLF - MENS LEAGUE**

Thursdays 8:00 AM & 10:00 AM  
Starter Shack.

Barry English

**BIBLE STUDY (EVERYONE)**

Mondays, 5:30-7:00 PM  
Busch Hall Stage. Jan 12 - Mar 16.

Anthony Shipe

**CALLIGRAPHY**

Tuesdays, 3:00 - 4:30 PM  
Jeri Miller Activity Building. Jan - Mar

Rick Peebles

**DULCIMER LESSONS**

Mondays, 9:30 AM - 12:00 PM  
Citrus West. Jan - Mar

Lois Showers

**GOLF - SCRAMBLES**

2nd, 3rd & 4th Saturday mornings 9:00 AM  
Starter Shack.

Dave & Dawn Pulleyn

**BIBLE STUDY (WOMEN'S)**

Tuesdays, 3:00 - 4:30 PM  
Citrus West. Jan - Mar

Christy Trotter

**CHOIR PRACTICE**

Fridays 9:30 - 11:00 AM  
Sundays 8:45 - 9:30 AM  
Busch Hall. Join us

Bernie Gutridge

**ENTERTAINMENT SUNDAYS**

Announcements begin at 6:45 PM with program following. Performances will be in Busch Hall.

Kathy Shawver  
Lacy Shawver

**GOLF ASSOCIATION MEETINGS**

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

Gene Lockhart

**BICYCLING**

Tuesdays & Fridays, meet at 9:00 AM at parking lot behind Busch Hall. Watch Cycling Bulletin Board in Busch Hall for rides.

Rick & Carol Yoder

**CHURCH ASSOCIATION**

Sunday Activities: All events in Busch Hall,  
8:45am: Choir Practice  
9:30am: Bible Study  
10:15am: Hymn Sing

Anthony Shipe, Pastor

**EUCHRE**

Fridays, 7:00 - 9:00 PM  
Citrus East. Nov - Mar

Mary De Weerd

**GOLF LESSONS**

Tuesdays, Practice Range with all levels of expertise from 9 to 11 AM

Lynn Meyers

**BINGO**

Nov - Dec: 1st & 3rd Weds 7:00 - 9:00 PM  
Jan - Mar: Sats 7:00 - 9:00 PM  
Citrus East.

Linda Smith  
Jim Walsh

**CHURCH ASSOCIATION - ADDI-**

10:30am: Worship service (non-denominational)  
Holy Communion 1st Sunday of the month.

Anthony Shipe, Pastor

**FIRE/RESCUE 33**

First Responders Training -Tue, 11am - 1pm in Jeri Miller Activity Building  
Business Meeting - 3rd Tue, 9 am in Paul Rife Room. Nov - Apr

Larry Polzin

**HABITAT FOR HUMANITY**

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

Barbara Colson

**BIRDING**

Tuesdays, 8:00 AM  
Busch Hall Front Porch.  
Bring binoculars and cameras. Jan - Mar

Tom Butler

**CLOGGERS**

Tuesdays 9:00 -11:30 AM  
Saturdays 9:00 - 10:30 AM  
Citrus East Nov - Mar

Donna Neer  
Donna Smith

**FIVE CROWNS**

Wednesdays (non-concert nights only),  
6:30 - 9:00 PM  
Citrus West. Nov - Apr

Jackie Thackery

**HAND AND FOOT**

Thursdays, 6:30 - 9:00 PM  
Busch Hall. Jan - Mar

Diane & Brian Krupicka

**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 AM to 2:30 PM unless announced otherwise.

Ken Neer

**COFFEE & DONUTS**

1st Saturday (during Flea Markets)  
3rd Saturdays during Yard Sales.  
8:30 to 11:30 AM or until sold out.  
Donuts & coffee in Busch Hall. Nov.-Mar.

Dan Zile  
Dee Manos

**FIVE HUNDRED CARDS**

Saturdays, 6:30 - 9:00 PM  
Citrus West. Dec - Mar

Deborah May  
Connie Bradley

**HAPPY HOURS**

Thursdays, 4-5:30 PM Backup venues (weather): Cabana: Jeri Miller Activities Building; RV South: Citrus West; Village: Hobby House.

Sandra Langell (Cabana)  
Ken Neer (RVS)

**BLOOD PRESSURE SCREENING**

Tuesdays, 10:30 - 11:00 AM  
Paul Rife Room.

Larry Polzin

**COFFEE SEMINARS**

Tuesdays & Thursdays 8:00 - 9:00 AM  
Busch Hall. Watch The TR Times and InTouch for updates.

Leslie Ewing

**FLEA MARKET**

1st Saturdays 8:30 - 10:30 AM  
Busch Hall Nov - Mar  
Setup at 7:00 AM Coffee & Donuts for sale.

Rick and Amy Peebles

**ICE CREAM SOCIAL**

Sundays, 6:15 - 6:45 PM  
Busch Hall, Nov - Mar

Kathy Shawver

**BOCCE**

Scheduled games and competitions,  
Mon, Wed, Thu, Fri & Sun at 1:30 PM  
Tue at 7:00 PM  
Jan - Mar

Rob Sunde

**COFFEE SOCIAL**

Monday - Friday, 7:30 - 9:00 AM  
Busch Hall. Jan - Mar

Jan Rubino

**FOODIES**

Tuesdays, Wednesdays, & Thursdays  
11:30 AM - 1:00 PM  
Busch Hall, Nov - Dec 18

Linda Smith

**IPHONE - LEARNING YOUR IPHONE**

Thursdays, 12:30 - 2:00 PM  
Jeri Miller Activity Building. Jan - Mar 19

Susan Stahley

**BOOK BROWSERS**

2nd & 4th Wednesdays, 2:00 - 3:00 PM  
Citrus West Book discussions.  
Jan - Mar

Nan Feeney Lance

**CONCERT SERIES (WEDNESDAY)**

First Wednesdays of the month, Jan - Mar. Busch Hall. Doors open at 6:30 PM, shows start at 7:00 PM Check InTouch and TR Times for program details. Season tickets or pay at the door.

Kathy Shawver  
Lacy Shawver

**FOODIES PREP TIME**

Mondays 10:30 AM - 2:30 PM  
Busch Hall Kitchen Nov - Dec 15

Linda Smith

**JOKER**

Mondays 6:30 - 9:00 PM, Jan - Mar  
Fridays 6:30 - 9:00 PM Nov - Mar  
Citrus West

Bob & Deb Englert (Mon.)  
Deborah May (Fri.)

**BOWLING (OUT OF PARK)**

Fridays at 1:30 PM  
Pin Chasers Bowling Lanes, Zephyrhills.  
Dec - Mar

Leslie Price

**CORNHOLE**

Wednesdays 7:00 PM  
Cornhole/Shuffleboard Courts, Jan - Mar

Dan Varner

**FRIDAY NIGHT DANCE (ORCHES-**

Fridays from 7 to 9 PM in Busch Hall, starting January 17. The dance schedule and themes are listed in the TR Booklet and on the InTouch app.

Pat Daubenmier

**JUBELLATION**

Mondays 10:30 AM - 12:00 PM  
Busch Hall. Nov - Mar

Bernie Gutridge



# Bulletin Board

## Travelers Rest Resort Activities

<p><b>KARAOKE</b></p> <p>Check InTouch schedule for selected Wednesdays 7 - 9pm in Busch Hall. Jan - Mar Dave Kat</p>	<p><b>NEWCOMERS RED DOT SOCIAL</b></p> <p>Happy Hour Newcomers: 4 - 5:30pm, Golf View Pavilion. Jan - Feb If you're a newcomer, stop by for a TR goody bag &amp; important info about the park! Diana Hill</p>	<p><b>RUG HOOKING</b></p> <p>Tuesdays, 9:30 AM - 12:30 PM Green Room, Busch Hall. Jan - Mar Tawnya Rowden</p>	<p><b>WALKING AEROBICS (WINTER)</b></p> <p>Weekdays, 7:15 - 7:45 AM Citrus East. Nov- Apr 10 Gloria Polzin</p>
<p><b>KNOTTY KNITTERS</b></p> <p>Thursdays, 9:30 - 11:30 AM Citrus West. Nov - Apr Diane Fisher</p>	<p><b>OPEN ART STUDIO</b></p> <p>Mondays, 2:00 - 5:00 PM in Citrus West. Bring your own project and supplies (Any medium, not a class). Jan - Mar Delia Box</p>	<p><b>SEWING</b></p> <p>Mondays, 9:30 AM - 3:00 PM Busch Hall Nov - Dec Barbara Olm</p>	<p><b>WEIGHTS &amp; STRETCHING</b></p> <p>Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays, 7:50 - 9am in Citrus East. Year-round. Wednesdays and Fridays, 7:50 - 9am in Citrus West also, Jan - Apr Sheila Schencke</p>
<p><b>LEFT, CENTER, RIGHT GAME</b></p> <p>Mondays, 7:00 - 9:00 PM Citrus East Jan - Mar 16 Gary Dietz</p>	<p><b>ORCHESTRA/TRAVELAIRES</b></p> <p>Tuesdays, 12:30 - 3:00 PM Busch Hall. Jan - Mar 17 Pat Daubenmier</p>	<p><b>SEWING THERAPY</b></p> <p>Mondays, 9:30 AM - 2:30 PM Busch Hall. Jan - Mar Laura Lilawski</p>	<p><b>WELCOMING COMMITTEE</b></p> <p>1st Thursdays, 11:30am - 1pm, Citrus West. Nov - Mar 1st Thursdays: Welcoming Committee organizational meetings Diana Hill Joan Ledbetter</p>
<p><b>LIBRARY</b></p> <p>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 Tuesdays, 1 - 2pm Citrus East Mary Kosbab Kay Blunda</p>	<p><b>PAINTING (OIL &amp; ACRYLIC)</b></p> <p>Fridays, 9:00 AM - 12:00 PM Citrus West. Jan - Mar. Pat Gallagher</p>	<p><b>SHOOTING CLUB (SPORTING CLAY)</b></p> <p>2nd &amp; 4th Tuesdays, 7:00 - 8:00 PM Jeri Miller Activity Building, Jan - Mar Ray LoPresti</p>	<p><b>WIZARD</b></p> <p>Tuesdays, 6:30 - 8:30 PM Busch Hall. Jan - Mar Kevin and Denise Weik</p>
<p><b>LINE DANCING (BEGINNERS)</b></p> <p>Tuesdays 10:00 - 11:00 AM Busch Hall Wednesdays 1:00 - 2:00 PM Busch Hall. Jan - Mar Alex Adair</p>	<p><b>PAINTING (WATERCOLOR)</b></p> <p>Wednesdays, 1:00 - 3:00 PM Citrus East. Jan - Mar Amy Grier</p>	<p><b>SNACK SHACK</b></p> <p>Currently weekdays, 11:30 AM to 1:30 PM January 6-March 21. Jim Walsh</p>	<p><b>WOOD SHOP</b></p> <p>Weekdays, 8:00 AM - 4:00 PM Wood Shop Oct-May. Membership \$20. Larry Kurkowski</p>
<p><b>LINE DANCING (IMPROVERS)</b></p> <p>Mondays &amp; Thursdays, 1:00 - 2:30 PM Citrus East. Jan - Mar Alex Adair</p>	<p><b>PARKINSON'S SUPPORT GROUP</b></p> <p>Thursdays, 11:15 AM - 12:15 PM Hobby House, Nov - Mar 19 Cyndi Brodeur</p>	<p><b>STAINED GLASS</b></p> <p>Wednesdays, 4:00 - 6:00 PM Mondays (Beginners), 12:45 - 2:45 PM Jeri Miller Activity Building Jan - Mar Betty Teichert</p>	<p><b>WOODCARVING</b></p> <p>Wednesdays, 9:00 AM - 12:00 PM Citrus West. Jan - Mar Linda Murphy</p>
<p><b>MAH JONG (CHINESE)</b></p> <p>Mondays &amp; Fridays, 12:00 - 2:00 PM Citrus West. Dec - Mar Rose Taggart</p>	<p><b>PENNY POKER</b></p> <p>Wednesdays, 7:00 - 9:00 PM Hobby House. Jan - Apr Bruce Anderson</p>	<p><b>TABLE TENNIS/PING PONG</b></p> <p>Mondays and Thursdays, set up at 2:30 PM, Play from 3 - 5pm in Citrus East. Extra paddles available. Jan - Mar Charles Mason</p>	<p><b>YARD SALES</b></p> <p>3rd Saturdays, 8:30 - 11:30 AM Nov - Mar Lora Davis</p>
<p><b>MAH JONGG (NATIONAL LEAGUE)</b></p> <p>Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays, 1 - 3pm at Hobby House. Lessons on Mondays. Nov.18 - Mar. Not on Forum Mondays Bette Gorman</p>	<p><b>PET LOVERS CLUB</b></p> <p>2nd Mondays, 3:00 - 4:30 PM Jeri Miller Activity Building. Jan - Mar Judy Leister</p>	<p><b>TAI CHI</b></p> <p>Mondays (except 2nd Mondays) &amp; Thursdays, 10:00 - 11:00 AM, Hobby House. Jan - Mar Janet &amp; Harold Baal</p>	<p><b>YOGA</b></p> <p>Restorative Yoga (Improves flexibility): Tuesdays, 7:15 - 8:15 AM Yoga for Athletes: Thursdays, 7:15 - 8:15 AM Citrus West, Jan- Mar Renee DeTar</p>
<p><b>MATS FOR THE HOMELESS</b></p> <p>Thursdays, 9:30 - 11:30 AM Busch Hall. Dec - Mar Lorraine Gould</p>	<p><b>PICKLEBALL</b></p> <p>Daily sessions available for all level of play. See InTouch calendar for schedule. Jan-Mar Nancy McDowell Shirley-Ann Appleby</p>	<p><b>TENNIS</b></p> <p>Open play, Mondays, Wednesdays, Fridays 9:00 - 11:00 AM Nov - Mar Betty Teichert</p>	<p><b>ZUMBA</b></p> <p>Thursdays, 8:30 - 9:30 AM Citrus West. Cardio dance. Jan - Mar Bev Weissinger</p>
<p><b>MIRROR LAKE YACHT CLUB</b></p> <p>Wednesdays &amp; Saturdays 9:00 AM- 12:00 PM at Mirror Lake Jan - Mar 18 Chris Farler</p>	<p><b>PINOCHLE</b></p> <p>Thursdays, 6:30 - 9:00 PM Busch Hall. Jan - Mar John Delaney</p>	<p><b>TONE &amp; TIGHTEN</b></p> <p>Mon &amp; Wed, 9:00-10:00AM, Sep - Dec Mond, Wed, &amp; Fri, 9:00-10:00 AM, Jan - Mar Citrus East Strengthen your muscles. Bring mat and weights. Bev Weissinger Louise McRoberts</p>	<h1>Activities</h1> <p>please note</p> <p>All changes, additions or corrections to any Activity, or to join our team. Contact Lora Davis activities@travelersrestresort.com 352-584-6377</p> <p>"Volunteers don't get paid, not because they're worthless, but because they're priceless." ~ Sherry Anderson</p>
<p><b>MODEL RAILROAD CLUB</b></p> <p>Fridays, 9:30 AM - 12:00 PM Jeri Miller Activity Building Jan 30 - Apr Brian Krupicka</p>	<p><b>POKER TEXAS HOLD 'EM</b></p> <p>Tuesdays &amp; Saturdays, 7:00 - 9:00 PM Hobby House Tom Thompson</p>	<p><b>TR TRAVEL</b></p> <p>Day trips by bus begin and end at TR. Watch for new trips in TR Times, BH Bulletin Board and InTouch. Sharon Gilbert Zile</p>	
<p><b>MOTORCYCLE CLUB (ROADRIDERS)</b></p> <p>1st Mondays, 7 - 8pm in Hobby House to plan rides. Tuesday rides: Meet at 8am, Busch Hall parking lot Thursday rides: Meet at 9:30am Busch Hall parking lot Jan - Mar Bruce Richmond</p>	<p><b>POPS CHORUS</b></p> <p>Wednesdays, 12:30 - 2:30 PM Jeri Miller Activity Building. Jan - Mar Mary Beth Coldren Ron Reeve</p>	<p><b>TRAVELOGUE</b></p> <p>2nd &amp; 4th Wednesdays, 3:00 - 4:30 PM Citrus East. Jan - Mar Bert Contractor</p>	
<p><b>MOTORSPORTS RC CLUB</b></p> <p>Mondays 5:30pm; Wednesdays and Saturdays, 9:30am at our track by the Snack Shack. Practice precedes race schedule. Jan - Mar Sean Neer Tom Stuart</p>	<p><b>QUILLING ON A BUDGET</b></p> <p>Thursdays, 1:15 - 3:30 PM Citrus West. Jan - Mar. Call or text to reserve spot. Pat Daubenmier</p>	<p><b>UKULELE CLUB</b></p> <p>Tuesdays, 3:00 - 4:00 PM in Citrus East. Players share tips and tunes without weekly instruction. Jan - Mar Susan Keefer</p>	
<p><b>MOVIE NIGHT (TUESDAYS)</b></p> <p>Tuesdays in Citrus East, Movie shorts at 6:45pm, feature movies start at 7pm. Movie Night runs Jan - Mar Nancy McDowell</p>	<p><b>QUILTING</b></p> <p>Thursdays 9:30 AM - 3 PM Busch Hall. 2nd Thursday Guild Meeting/Show and Tell. Nov - Mar Cloie Morgan</p>	<p><b>VETERANS MEETING</b></p> <p>2nd Mondays, 10:00 - 11:00 AM Hobby House. All year. Marty Schencke</p>	
<p><b>NEWCOMERS RED DOT SOCIAL</b></p> <p>Red Dot Social: Table will be set up along the Northeast wall prior to Bush Hall entertainment nights and during other special events. Jan - Mar Diana Hill</p>	<p><b>ROCK PAINTING</b></p> <p>Thursdays, 10:30 AM - 12:30 PM Jeri Miller Activity Building. Dec - Mar Marcia Hatfield</p>	<p><b>WAIST WATCHERS</b></p> <p>Thursdays, 8:30 - 9:15 AM Hobby House. Nov- Mar Jackie Thackery</p>	

# Activities

please note

All changes, additions or corrections to any Activity, or to join our team.

Contact Lora Davis

activities@travelersrestresort.com  
352-584-6377

WE ♥ OUR VOLUNTEERS

"Volunteers don't get paid, not because they're worthless, but because they're priceless."  
~ Sherry Anderson





by Kathy Reimann

Trying to take advantage of the Florida sunshine and warmer temperatures, Wolf and I along with our friends Walt and Kelly, decided to grab an early dinner in Hernando Beach. Although there are several restaurants along Shoal Line Boulevard

including the Silver Dolphin, this Thursday we chose to try The Lazy Lizard. This waterfront tiki-bar and scratch kitchen provides a casual yet lively atmosphere overlooking the Weeki Wachee Preserve where they say you will likely see an alligator swimming in the water and yes, we did! We all enjoyed crab stuffed shrimp, barbecue wings, grilled fish and a huge loaded baked potato. The portions were generous and well-cooked. We could not help staring as



DELICIOUS

an adjacent customer feasted on the biggest BLT sandwich I have ever seen. By the number of napkins her husband handed her as she tried to take a big bite, she was unable to get her mouth around it but she sure provided some entertainment at the bar. All in good fun as we say.

The bar also has a schedule of live music and entertainment. Unfortunately, we were not able to stay for the evening trivia contest or the karaoke that followed. Be sure to check out The Lazy Lizard located at 3192 Shoal Line Blvd., Hernando Beach about a 50-minute drive, (27 miles), from TR when you are Out and About.

## Knotty Knitters

by Diane Fisher

Today I want to shine a light on Pat Daubenmier, a very creative, long-standing member of the Knotty Knitters. I asked Pat to share a little about herself.

Pat had many memories. "My mother-in-law taught me to knit and crochet when John and I first married. She bought me a crochet afghan kit for Christmas and I left Christmas dinner with several squares made. Knitting came later as she taught me on a visit to Michigan after we had moved there from Ohio." Life and work got in the way and she didn't really have time to keep up her skills.

After retiring, she found that she needed something to do in the evenings since she no longer had to grade papers. She discovered a group of knitters and crocheters at church who were sending projects to Knit for Kids through The Good Samaritan Society. She could recall how to crochet but knitting did not come back so easily. She crocheted a few sweaters and then decided to try to retrieve her knitting skills. She knit one size two sweater and decided that was enough.

She didn't give up. Over the past 17 years she has contributed her completed projects to many different groups. She donated approximately 75 hats, 20 afghans, 200 sweaters and 50 pairs of mittens to the Knit for Kids



Photo by Diane Fisher

PAT DAUBENMIER

program and an estimated 200 potholders to the Guatemala Mission Trip.

She has also created and donated sweater/hat sets for American Girl Dolls and many, many hats for Chemo and Preemie patients, hats for Veterans to put under their helmets, hats for Ukraine and hats for North Carolina flood victims.

She also finished projects for family loved ones who started them but were unable to finish. She has worked on countless gifts for family and friends: hats, mittens, a poncho, cowls, scarves, dish clothes and potholders.

Most projects were made from donated yarn or yarn purchased at yard or rummage sales or second-hand stores. She says she has eight Rubbermaid bins of yarn at home waiting to be used.

After all these years, I asked Pat if she had ever made anything for herself—not a thing! I think everyone would agree that Pat is committed to her craft, creative and very caring.



Photos submitted by Kathy Reimann

KATHY AND WOLF REIMANN AND KELLY AND WALT REIMANN



## Advertiser Spotlight SkyMed



by Pam Watkins

If you've seen the SkyMed name around TR and wondered what it's all about, you are not alone. Let's sit down and chat with SkyMed representative Diana Hill.

How long has SkyMed served TR? A SkyMed representative has been serving the TR community since 1998. Diana Hill assumed the role in 2023 having taken over the business originally represented by JJ Johnjulo.

Is SkyMed only for RV owners? "SkyMed is for everyone," Diana says. It works whether you're at home, away from home or traveling worldwide. SkyMed is an emergency transportation company that gets you back to your home hospital or medical network. A peace of mind if you need to return to your own doctors and family for major surgery or rehabilitation.

Does SkyMed offer travel or medical insurance? SkyMed is not travel insurance or medical insurance. Instead, it is specifically emergency transportation. That includes ground ambulances, helicopters and fixed-wing aircraft when medically necessary. In short, SkyMed gets you home.

Doesn't SkyMed provide more than patient transportation? Diana says, "Absolutely! That is one of our standout features. We also transport spouses, vehicles, and pets — and do so at the member's choice. We have transported several TR cou-

ples home in the past along with their vehicles, and pets," Diana remarks.

What type of membership packages do you offer? Diana is excited to share that SkyMed now offers the Ultimate Plan. Previously, members selected a basic plan with add-on services, but the Ultimate Plan now includes 18 different services in one package. Memberships are available for individuals or families, with options for one-year, three-year, or five-year plans paid in full, as well as affordable monthly plans. One-time trip protection is not offered, but monthly plans are available with a two-year minimum commitment. Multiyear plans remain the most cost-effective choice.

SkyMed has supported *The TR Times* with their advertisements for more than 25 years. Further, Diana is actively involved in the TR community, serving as chair of the TR Welcoming Committee and the TR Dance Night Committee. She finds that client gratitude is one of her greatest joys in serving the community. Many TR residents have used SkyMed, and their stories are reflected in testimonials on the SkyMed website, alongside members from neighboring RV parks and across the country.

To learn more about SkyMed membership, you may contact Diana at her business number, 352-535-8569, but you can also find her in the TR Directory.

**SkyMed presentation**  
Diana Hill will offer a presentation with pastries on Saturday, Feb. 28 at 9 a.m. in Citrus West. Please join us for this informational SkyMed presentation where you can start a new membership or renew your current membership.

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*Talking to Diana is well worth your time.*



# Library News

by Mary Kosbab

WOW was my first word when I went into the library for the first time this season this past Monday. That wow was followed by many more. The library looks so good. I was not surprised because I knew Amy Peebles and Kay Blunda and the entire library staff would keep it functioning as always but it looked particularly good to me after being away for so long. I love the special touches added by Amy and the other volunteers.

This is the first time in 26 years that we have had to bear the brunt of winter in western New York for the months of December and January. As you know, we picked a really bad one. We are so happy to be back in the sun and warmth for the remainder of the season.

First, I want to thank Amy and Kay and the entire staff for all they have done. When talking with Amy, she made the perfect analogy for our staff; we are all pieces of a puzzle keeping the library functioning by each doing our own little part. Without the input of each, our library could not be the special place that it is. The biggest piece of the puzzle are the many of you who donate current books to keep our library up-to-date.

I have heard for years that we do not accept books printed prior to five years from the current date. Every year I have written in *The TR Times* that we DO accept books published earlier. I realize that we have new people who do not know our policy. They hear that we have a general rule of only accepting books published within the past five years and

think we do not accept older books. We definitely do. All you have to do is take a Recommended Book slip from the box on the library desk, fill it out, put it in the book you are donating and put the book either on the desk or in the lower shelf of the cart behind the desk. These books get a smiley face on the spine and are not weeded out when we need to do so. We love, want and appreciate recommendations of both newly donated books or books you have read and feel are especially good. You don't have to put your name on your recommendation if you prefer and can even just use your own piece of paper. We know that there are very good books written before our cut off date and we welcome them to our collection. We have to put some limits on what we accept because of the size of our library.

I know we have a number of new volunteers and I look forward to meeting you. It is always good to get new perspective and new ideas. It also helps to keep the duties of maintaining the library enjoyable and not a burden for a few. When we first came to TR, the library was in the porch of the Hobby House. The books in the return cart were always overflowing because volunteers were needed to make sure this did not happen. We no longer have that problem thanks to you re-shelving your own books and volunteers who put books left in the cart back on the shelves.

We are so lucky to have the library we do and it is very good to be back to be a part of it.

# Garden News



by Nancy McDowell

Do not run with scissors! I know, Mom, I know, but we got the green light to start pruning the dead leaves off some of the plants and I could not wait to get started. Apparently all the volunteers this past week could not wait either. All the pruning tools were gone and all that was left by the time I got around to it were scissors. I was giving the Ponytail Cactus a trim, so it seemed appropriate.



Photos by Nancy McDowell

**A Ponytail cactus before and after pruning.**

What a relief it was to start ridding the garden of the unsightly brown and yellow of decay. The Hearts in the Garden Walk was a great time, but just not as delightful as we would have liked. Showcasing our garden and our volunteers' hard work is a highlight of our garden events. This deep freeze really did a number on our plants. It was a bit hard to be joyous around all that gloom. Those who joined us during this event saw the reality that is Nature and her cold side. Her very cold side.

But there is regrowth. Not everything died and

**Upcoming LMGCC events:**  
**Annual Garden Walk**  
**Sunday, March 8, 2 to 4 p.m.**

there really is so much to celebrate. It is making this Florida gardener rethink what a Florida garden should grow. If you missed Bob Rubino and Amy Gardner's Coffee Seminar last week you missed an opportunity to learn about old growth, how it sustains long enough to become old, and ecosystems here at TR that can thrive in the cruelest of weather conditions. More on these topics will be shared, so keep watching this space. Bob re-presented his talk at the Hearts in the Garden event. Fascinating material and potentially valuable to TR as a whole.

The Lake Margaret Garden Club is making a much more concerted effort to identify the native plants we have today in the garden. Future plant purchase decisions will be focused on native, non-invasive species. It may not be all daisies,

tulips and sunflowers, but we can have a vibrant garden with native plants.

If you are wondering what to replace your dead plants with - go native. There will be a list of native plants that we have in the garden on the Garden's bulletin board in Busch Hall. Please take one with you to a garden center near you.

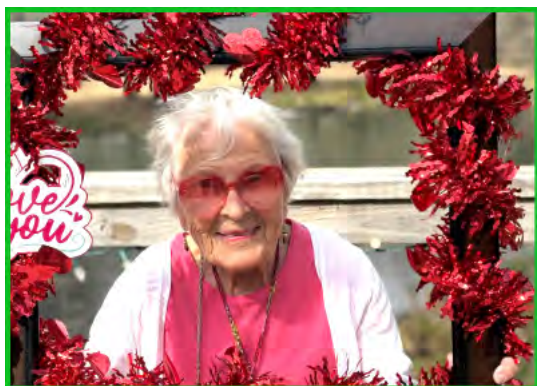
Breaking News: We have removed the old composting pile and we are asking all residents to not bring food or yard waste to this area any longer. The Garden Club is deciding what the future holds for this area. A big thank you to Cheryl and Terry Bias for their quick and efficient work in dismantling the pile and beautifying that space.

Come take a stroll through the Lake Margaret Garden and seek out some of our native plants.



The beginning of the new garden design.

# A snapshot of Hearts in the Garden



CECILE LEMAIRE



GUY AND LAURA WEIK



DONNA AND ALAN WEST



PAULA SNYDER AND JAN RUBINO



TAWNIA ROWDEN AND JIM WEIGAND.



RICH AND ROSEMARIE KUCHARICK

Photos by Marijo Noll

## Birding Activity

### Boone and Crockett Club

by Tom Butler

I know what you're thinking – as a bird advocate how could I be writing about a hunting club? Simple! This club was responsible for some of the most landmark conservation movements that altered the mindset of people interested in conservation. Even though the club was named after two of the most famous frontier hunters in history, the organization was founded to create protection of large game animals and their habitats. This movement expanded through the years and eventually led to the creation of our National Parks, National Forest Services, National Wildlife Refuge System and Wildlife Preserves nationwide because of the efforts of one individual.

Your next thought might be to wonder how this group formed in 1887 could have such a powerful influence on the positive change in rules and regulations for wildlife. I think it might be time to reveal the name of the founder of the Boone and Crockett Club. It was a man named Theodore Roosevelt. You may have heard of him. Roosevelt became Vice President to President McKinley in 1901. By Sept. 14 of the same year, McKinley died from injuries sustained in an assassination attempt. This sent Roosevelt into the Presidency. He wasted no time in establishing the above-mentioned agencies and set aside over 230 million acres of forested land for public protection. Talk about forward thinking. I have no doubt that many species of plants and animals are still alive today because of those actions.



Photo by Tom Butler  
**SNOWY EGRET**

Now let's talk about the Snowy Egret. Huh? I know this transition is strange but try to be patient and I will explain. The Snowy Egret is known for its beautiful lacy feathers and the ladies fashion experts agreed. This created a demand for the feathers, exploitation of the Egret and other birds and ultimately a need for conservation guardrails. Roosevelt to the rescue! In 1903 the Pelican Island National Wildlife Refuge in Clearwater, Fla. was established. This was the first wildlife area established. The Brown Pelican and the Snowy Egret were the primary birds in need at that moment in time. This area of protection met their needs and provided the safety of others. Forward thinking to the rescue!

Roosevelt's efforts saved many species but were a little late for some. The Passenger Pigeon comes to mind, dying out in 1914. The Carolina Parakeet and the Labrador Duck also fell victim to overhunting and habitat loss. Hopefully we can learn from our mistakes, educate others and take the necessary steps to prevent other species from becoming extinct. So, get out there, enjoy nature and do no harm!

## Pets on Parade

by Judy Leister

The Bernese Mountain dog originated in the Swiss Alps as a versatile farm dog used mostly for herding. The breed is good natured with a gentle temperament making it a great family pet too. Kathi and Eric Van Horn have always loved big dogs. When they decided to get a Bernese Mountain Dog Kathi started researching breeders and found one they really liked not too far from where they live in Ohio. That led to them getting Boomer and eventually Buster too. Sadly, last year Boomer passed over the Rainbow Bridge, so now it's just sweet seven-year-old Buster.

When not at TR, they are avid campers traveling in their Class C motorhome. It happens to have a huge slide out, so when Buster lays down in the middle of the aisle there is plenty of room to get around him. Here at TR they are in an Airstream. Airstreams are wonderful RVs but not quite as wide as an RV with a big slide out. Buster still loves to lay in the aisle, so it's a bit of a bigger step to get around all 115 pounds of him, but they are adapting. Even in the car he's a great traveler. He stretches out in the back seat and relaxes. He does take up the whole seat so if they happen to have an additional passenger it gets a bit tight, but everyone survives.

At home their house has very slippery floors, and Buster was struggling to get around without slipping. As a result, they put down lots of rubber-backed rugs and runners. It didn't take long for Buster to figure out that he could lumber all around by leaping from one rug to the next. They are in the

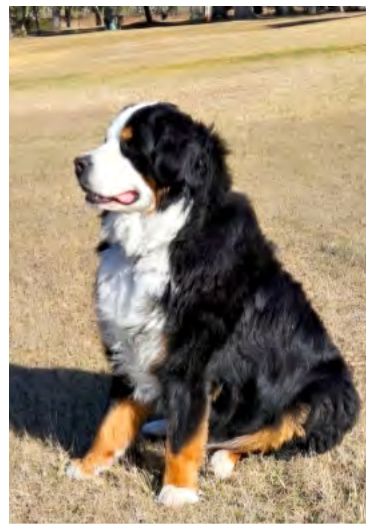


Photo by Judy Leister  
**BUSTER**

process of replacing the floor in their cabana here at TR. It looks like they'll be getting more rugs.

In the last couple of years, Buster developed some arthritis in his shoulders. At first he got rather grumpy and even had some aggressive moments, but the vet quickly diagnosed the situation and put Buster on meds that really helped. He's back to his happy, laid-back personality.

When I met Buster I saw him do something so cute. I probably should feel bad because I'm sure it is associated with the arthritis in his shoulders, but it doesn't seem to cause him any pain. He was all happy and bouncing around, and I think Eric gave him the "down" command. Buster obeyed and landed flat on his chest

and laid there, but instead of his front legs going straight out in front of him, they went sideways like wings. Adorable. He did his sprawl several times in a row. Boing. Splat. Boing. Splat. So cute.

If you happen to see them out taking a walk and Buster is lagging back and acting like he doesn't want to move, don't worry. He's not pulling back because of pain. He's a smart pooch and has figured out how to trick Dad into getting a yummy treat out of his pocket and coaxing him to keep on walking. All food is high on Buster's list. You don't want to be late in calling this hungry boy for dinner. He loves his food and in a few gobbles it's gone.

This breed has a very thick coat. It takes lots of brushing to get through all those layers of fur. Kathi admitted she didn't think they brushed him enough. Buster isn't nuts over all that grooming anyway, so I think he's happy just the way things are. Besides, he's handsome with or without lots of brushing.



**Travelers Rest** 

**Waste Management Program**

*Thank You*

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**Talk!**

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# TR crew travels back in time for the Speakeasy Murder & Other Acts of Prohibition

by Bob Curran

For 55 adventurous, fun-loving souls from TR, it was a golden opportunity to experience the phenomenon known as “time travel.”

On Friday, Feb. 20, they boarded a coach bus adjacent to Busch Hall and traveled 70 miles and 100 years back in time. Their destination: The Speakeasy Murder & Other Acts of Prohibition Dinner Theatre production in Orlando.

In high spirits and the outlandish garb that characterized the Prohibition era of the 1920s, this crew was well-prepared for the occasion. Several people had obviously raided local thrift shops or gone shopping on Amazon.

They wore beaded flapper dresses, feathered headbands, pinstripe suits, fedoras, suspenders, fascinators and long necklaces. Some had cigars, cigarette holders and violin cases, and one person had a toy machine gun.

The venue, designed to look like a smoky New York City speakeasy, offered table games like blackjack and craps during the cocktail hour.

The performance featured seven characters, all of whom mingled with the audience before and during the show. It centered on Charlie “The Tuna” Scarpelli, a notorious mob boss and his associates who worked in the club. Among

the TR folks beckoned onto the stage for hilarious, unrehearsed cameo appearances were Cherie Richman and Wolf Reimann.

The clever dialogue and a good deal of ad-libs throughout the performance only added to the enjoyment. There were anachronisms sprinkled here and there, such as references to contact lenses--which one cast member pointed out “hadn’t been invented yet”--and to Taylor Swift and the Eras tour.

The actress/singer playing the role of Rose Meadowlark was caught snacking on something during the performance when she was supposed to be answering a question and Charlie’s henchman, Mr. Cain, said to the audience, “Please don’t feed the actors!”

When Charlie gets murdered late in the performance, the audience voted (by applause) for which of the other actors they thought was guilty. They even asked questions before deciding.

We won’t spoil the ending for anyone who may have plans to see the production in the near future, but here’s our verdict: It was a big “hit” in more ways than one and, as one attendee told TR Tour Director Sharon Gilbert Zile on the bus ride home, “I love that you do all these outings. They are so much fun.”



Flappers, fedoras and folly abound at the Speakeasy Murder & Other Acts of Prohibition.



Who is guilty of Charlie’s “murder?” Our TR witnesses know!



BRUCE AND CHERIE RICHMAN



DONNA NEER AND CHERIE RICHMAN



SHARON AND DAN ZILE



BRENDA SCHULTZ AND CHRISTINE LESSIG



KATHY AND WOLF REIMANN



CHRISTINE AND GLEN LESSIG



KELLY AND WALT REIMANN



BETH AND JOHN FARRINGTON

Photos by Bob Rubino



JAN RUBINO



# TR Sports

## TR Sports Club

by Ray LoPresti  
Wednesday, Feb. 18  
Sporting Clays

50 clays

Bill Long.....	26
Howard Hughes.....	25
Tony Tartalone,	
Chuck Bocchino.....	22

Thursday, Feb. 19

Trap

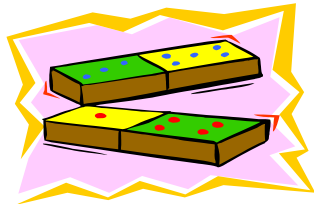
50 clays

Randy Emerson.....	39
Bill Long.....	36
Chuck Bocchino.....	34
Dennis Ledbetter.....	30
John Toombs.....	29
Chris Pundy.....	28
Tony Tartalone.....	25
Mike Harheck.....	24



Photo by Dennis Ledbetter

Taking turns shooting clays.



## Dominoes

by Linda Gough  
Thursday, Feb. 19

Table 1

Emily Fly.....	202
----------------	-----

Table 2

Doug Fenbert.....	239
-------------------	-----

Table 3

Matt Fadrowski.....	157
---------------------	-----



## Wizard

by Denise Weik  
Tuesday, Feb. 17

Table 1

Game 1

Shari Yingst.....	610
-------------------	-----

Game 2

Linda Murphy.....	380
-------------------	-----

Table 2

Game 1

Barb Watson.....	300
------------------	-----

Game 2

Barry and Barb Watson.....	280
----------------------------	-----

## RC Motorsports

by Tom Stuart  
Saturday, Feb. 14  
Top Point Earners

2WD Class

Charlie Gardner.....	34
Bruce Anderson.....	33
Craig Kubinieci.....	32

4WD Class

Steve Laymon.....	22
Kevin Cahill.....	20
Charlie Gardner.....	18

Wednesday, Feb. 18

2WD Class

Sean Neer,	
James Chambers.....	36
Eddie Fosnight.....	35

4WD Class

James Chambers.....	23
Kevin Cahill.....	20
Steve Laymon.....	19



## 500 cards

by Deborah May  
Sunday, Feb. 15

Barry Yingst.....	2090
Arlene Wykoff,	
Bob Luther.....	1920
Carol Jean Beard.....	1900

## Mah Jong

by Marcia Hatfield  
Friday, Feb. 20

Betty Brown,	
Rose Taggart.....	8
Kathy Bocchino.....	7
Marcia Hatfield.....	6
Nancy Moschler,	
Pam Weisberg,	
Rachel Brooks.....	5
Linda Gavin,	
Mary Brown.....	3
Jeanne McKenney,	
Jen Furman.....	2
Helen Werner, Ken Langell,	
Laurie Bania, Linda Gough,	
MaryBeth Coldren.....	1

## Chinese Mah Jong Super Stars

by Marcia Hatfield

This was an amazing week at the Chinese Mah Jong tables. It is very difficult to collect a special winning hand called an All Pairs and we had two players do it this week. These are the first since the season began in December. Congratulations to Pam Weisberg and Nancy Moschler.

Pam just learned to play Chinese Mah Jong about three weeks ago and won with a very rare hand. She collected All Pairs and had to do it all on her own. You cannot pick up a discard from someone else to make a pair unless it is to go Mah Jong. Of course you could have drawn all the tiles from the wall. Her win came very quickly because she started with four or five pairs and seven pairs make a winning hand. On her third turn of the game another player discarded just what she needed to complete her seventh pair and win. It was the first All Pair hand we had this season. Congratulations Pam!

Nancy was playing her usual game that she learned here at TR and has been playing for a few years. She often struggles more than the rest of us because of visual challenges. This winning hand took her by surprise since we usually have to collect sets of three identical tiles or a run of three consecutive tiles all in the same suit. She started the hand with only three pairs but she kept drawing and completing more pairs. Suddenly, she realized that she had six pairs and could win if she could



PAM WEISBERG

find a match for her remaining tile. On her next draw from the wall she found that matching tile and declared Mah Jong! Congratulations Nancy.



NANCY MOSCHLER

## Advanced Pickleball Jam winners

by Sherie Grissinger  
Tuesday, Feb. 17

- Ladies
1. Merendia Caldwell
  2. Sherie Grissinger
  3. Cathy Tucker

- Men
1. Wally Wilson
  2. Rob Grissinger
  3. Mike Caldwell

## Party Bridge

by Jen Furman  
Thursday, Feb. 19

Janet and Harold Baal.....	2740
Mike Clark and Casper.....	1730
Tawnya Rowden and Jim Weigand.....	810
Pat Dellamuth and Jen Furman.....	690

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# TR Sports cont.

## Cribbage

by Bob and Carol Luther

Monday, Feb. 16

Frank Bovenberg.....	601
Eric Van Horn .....	600
Dave Adams .....	599
Carolyn Orr,	
Carol Jean Beard.....	592



## Ladies Golf

by Kathy Reimann

Wednesday, Feb. 18

Low Handicap Gross

Hazel English.....	37
Paula Currier .....	38
Maureen Peet,	
Pat Gallagher.....	39

High Handicap Gross

Beth Farrington.....	42
Shannon Harkins.....	43
Ann Hugh.....	44

Fewest Putts

Paula Currier .....	11
---------------------	----

Closest to Pin 3

Kim Fenbert .....	8'1"
-------------------	------

Low Handicap Net

Kathy Reimann .....	30
Donna Stein.....	31

High Handicap Net

Cathy Vaugh.....	30
------------------	----

Chip Ins

Jen Furman, Barb Larose ..	1
----------------------------	---

Closest to Pin 5

Pat Daubenmier .....	42'3"
----------------------	-------

Birdies

Shirley-Ann Appleby,	
Jean Bjorgen, Paula Currier,	
Beth Farrington,	
Kim Fenbert .....	1

## Men's Golf

by Barry English

Thursday, Feb. 19

Low Handicap Gross

Dan Watson.....	35
-----------------	----

Low Handicap Net

John Youngblood, Ken Neer,	
Roy French.....	28

High Handicap Gross

Chris Furgerson,	
Dave Watson .....	38

High Handicap Net

Dick Myles.....	29
Frank Bovenburg,	
Serge Loiselle.....	30

Birdies

Wayne Schacht.....	2
--------------------	---

Closest to Pin 5

Barry English, Bill Harkins,	
Bruce Anderson, Dave Kat,	
Dan Watson, Dick Myles,	
John Youngblood, Ken Neer	
Mark Fedus, Paul Carr,	
Rob Prophet, Roy French..	1

Closest to Pin 5

Paul Carr .....	4' 3"
-----------------	-------

Closest to Pin 3

Frank Bovenberg.....	16' 7"
----------------------	--------

# Looking Back

by Nan Feeney Lance

30 Years Ago - 1996

- Popular comedian will entertain Sunday. John Timpanelli will be on stage at Busch Hall with new impersonations, music and fun-filled acts.
- Keyboard Klub's 17-Member Ensemble charmed Sunday Night audience with a concert. Gail Paulson introduced each of the 17 members and described the characteristics and quirks of keyboards.
- The Country Store serves a need at TR. It has been going for the past 19 years, but only with residents' patronage can it survive?
- Nine WBCCI Unit presidents live in TR. TR residents include seven unit presidents for five different regions, as well as 1st and 2nd vice-presidents and a member of an international standing committee.
- Honored Residents of TR married 900 years. There were 18 couples honored at the Annual Sweetheart Ball. Each couple completes 50 years of marriage in 1996.

20 Years Ago - 2006

- Comfort Dolls assembled for Africa. Check out the display case in the Post Office this week to see the colorful dolls which have been created by the TR Knitters. The dolls are used instead of Styrofoam in packing medical supplies in ICROSS shipments to Africa and other Third World countries. They are then distributed to children.
- Our cookbook has a name. The Cookbook Committee is delighted to report that we have been overwhelmed with hundreds of fantastic offerings to include in our TR Cookbook. The title, "Sharing our Best," really conveys what we are seeing in each submission.
- Sharing an historic moment. Travelers Rest recently had a visitor who played a role in an historic event. His name is Gunner (sic) Gundrum, called by his nickname, Gunny. He is the son-in-law of Walter Long at Lot 06-10.
- Our Parkers are the best! The mark of any first class campground is the service that one expects and the superb job being done by our all-volunteer TR parkers should make all of us proud.
- Chain, half a double and popcorn heard on Mondays. The crochet group has resumed winter meetings every Monday in the Paul Ruth Place. Those terms are all crochet patterns.
- 10 Years Ago - 2016
- A short history of the TR Church Association. It is a separate organization from Travelers Rest and has existed since the 1970s. Its mission is to provide interdenominational church and other support religious services to residents. A resident chaplain, church organist, pianist and choir director are positions paid by the Church Association.
- "Sprinkles of Living Waters" is now a book. The title, "Sprinkles of Living Water" struck a positive note when the wife of author Winston Pike, Lynda, first mentioned it over eight years ago as a heading for his regular newspaper article in *The TR Times*. His book was finally published in January of this year.
- Do you drive a golf cart? Parking becomes tight when free food is offered at Busch Hall or when it is cold or raining. Please park in the designated golf cart spaces or on the lawn near the Hobby House and Citrus Building. Leave the big parking spots for the bigger cars.

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