

# Turtle Rock Newsletter

The Best Place on Palmer Ranch

November, 2019

INSIDE this ISSUE... Pg	
President's Letter	2
Treasurer's Report	3
Manager's Report	4
New Board Member	5
ARC Report	6
TR Academy	7-8
Landscape Report	9
Mailbox Task Force	10
Turtle Rock Stories	11
TR Men's Club	12
TR Women's Club	13
Trip Tips	14-15
Palmer Ranch News	16-17
Letters To the Editor	18
News From FPL	19

The Turtle Rock Newsletter proof readers check articles for errors in spelling, punctuation, grammar, and sentence structure.

The author of each article is responsible for the factual accuracy of his or her article.



**Eastern Standard Time  
begins at 2:00 a.m. on  
Sunday, November 3!**



## **A Letter from the President**

**On behalf of the board I want to wish everyone a Happy Thanksgiving.**

**At last month's board meeting the board nominated and unanimously voted to have Russ Gill fill Kevin Klein's vacated board seat. One of his first acts as a board member is chairing the nominating committee for new officers for Feb 2020. We are looking to fill two empty seats, so If you or a friend are interested in joining the board, please reach out to Ed Olson ([edward@sunstatemanagement.com](mailto:edward@sunstatemanagement.com)) or Russ ([governor2@myturtlerock.com](mailto:governor2@myturtlerock.com)).**

**Jodi Cunnison was appointed as liaison to the newly formed Mailbox Task Force. Please reach out to Jodi if you are interested in joining the task force. The board has approved placing a prototype outside the Community Center. Please take time to check it out and provide your feedback to Jodi.**

**One of the issues brought up at the last board meeting had to do with people being admitted to TR because their names were still on a residence guest list from the prior owner. Please take time to check with Robert at the north gate and make sure there are not any names on your list that don't belong there.**

**With the holidays approaching it is more important than ever for people to obey our 25MPH speed limit and come to a full stop at the stop signs. It is Florida law that pedestrians have the right of way in the crosswalks, so please stop if you see someone about to enter a crosswalk.**

**Robert N. Oram**  
8194 Deerbrook Circle  
941-924-5170  
203-856-1850 (cell)  
[oramm@aol.com](mailto:oramm@aol.com)



# Report From The Treasurer



**Submitted by David Tarlton**

**For the period ending September 2019:**

	<u>Actual</u>	<u>Budget</u>
Total Receipts	\$146,115	\$106,566

## Expenses

General and Admin	\$ 28,025	\$ 32,966
Common Grounds	\$ 54,343 *	\$ 15,232
Access Control	\$ 20,210	\$ 20,725
Facilities Maintenance	\$ 5,588 **	\$ 13,325
Utilities	\$ 5,284	\$ 7,325

\* The balance of the new street sign project expense was incurred in September.

\*\* Monthly allocated Wetlands Maintenance expense of \$5,217 was not incurred in September.

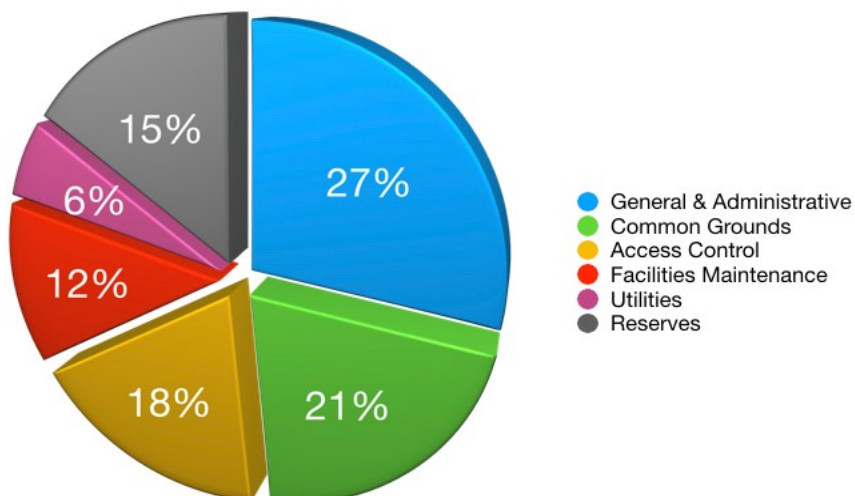
Reserve Contribution \$16,992

No reserve expenses were incurred in September.

Total Assessments Collected \$101,067

Total Assessments Outstanding \$13,010 (previous month was \$14,722)

**Turtle Rock YTD Expenses**



## Manager's Message



November is here. We hope to finish up all the Halloween candy and look forward to Thanksgiving. Please look to the Turtle Rock Owner's Manual for the guidelines on decorating for the holidays. You can find it at [myturtlerock.com](http://myturtlerock.com) under "Documents."

For those of you who missed the last Governors' meeting, a homeowner brought up the question of what to do about trespassers. Remember, Turtle Rock does not have security guards. They are gate attendants. Please call the non-emergency number for the Sheriff's Department and report the trespassers. 941-316-1201. The homeowner permanent visitors list was also addressed. I am sure there is a large number of homeowners out there who haven't checked that list in years. If you would like a copy of your permanent list, please e-mail [communications@myturtlerock.com](mailto:communications@myturtlerock.com). Include your name, address and email address and we can send it to you. You will need to make the changes you want to make, and then send it back to us. The Access Control Task Force is looking into new technology for the gates including homeowners having online access to their guest list.

A lot of people have come in to ask about the newly appointed Mailbox Task Force. They are looking into new mailboxes for the community. The task force is in its fledgling stages and I am sure they will keep us all updated. While this is in process, the board has put mailbox violations on hold. Please take a look at your mailbox flag. If it is faded, (not red) please stop by the community center and pick one up for one dollar.

As always please e-mail or call me with any questions or concerns.

Thank you,

**Ed Olson –Vice President / LCAM**

Sunstate Management

941-870-9855

[Edward@sunstatemanagement.com](mailto:Edward@sunstatemanagement.com)



## **Meet our new Board Member... Russ Gill !**

As a new board member, I would like to introduce myself. I've lived in Turtle Rock with my wife, Jo, since 2015. We moved to Turtle Rock from Longboat Key where we bought a condo in 2000. From 2000 to 2008, we were "snowbirds" traveling between our home near Detroit and Longboat Key. From 2012 to 2015 I was a member of our condo association's governing board. I retired from the regional telephone company, Ameritech, in 1997. I then worked for a small IT consulting firm until 2010. I'm an avid swimmer and a member of the Sharks Master Swim team. I also enjoy gardening. Jo and I spend a lot of time in our yard, so if you are walking by, stop and say hi.

## **Single-stream recycling is coming to Sarasota County!**

Collection of recyclable materials will transition from a manual dual-stream, bin-based collection system to an automated, single-stream, cart-based system.

- One cart will replace the red and blue bins curbside.
  - Multi-family or common-area residences will have access to single stream recycling carts.
  - Twenty-seven new compressed natural gas-powered recycling collection vehicles are being purchased by Waste Management to service the recycling carts.
  - Trucks will use a robotic arm to lift and empty the recycling carts.
- There will be no changes to curbside collection services for trash or yard waste.

**For more information go to : [www.scgov.net/recycling](http://www.scgov.net/recycling)**



## Architectural Review Committee (ARC)



### Submitted by Curt Gilroy

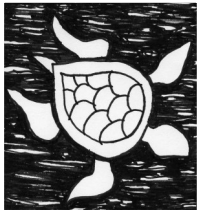
October brings back our snowbird friends, the hint of cooler weather to come, and a large decline in our rainfall. The northern part of our state is actually experiencing a “flash drought” that is causing problems for farmers. Here in Turtle Rock, many lawns and landscape beds are showing the signs of the reduced rainfall. This is a good time to check with your lawn service on their watering recommendations and to touch base with your sprinkler service to make sure your system is operating effectively and at capacity. The Turtle Rock Owners’ Manual (TROM) mentions the cycle and days that residents are allowed to water. Residents are still reporting low irrigation water pressure, and you might experience this as well.

The ARC continues to review applications, grant final approvals of work completed, and meet to approve or make recommendations to homeowners for exterior changes to their homes. When making an application, please make sure it is complete with all required samples, contractor licenses, and related information so that the ARC can go about its business efficiently. This also assists our Manager, Ed Olson, as he sends the completed packages to the ARC. Incomplete applications can result in delays in starting your projects.

For the month of September, the ARC saw an increased number of new applications for exterior home improvements – 24 new applications, some with multiple projects. The ARC also visited 31 residences for final approval. With respect to the latter, the ARC urges homeowners whose projects are completed to fill out the form for signing off their completed projects.

Again, ARC members stand by to assist homeowners as they contemplate new projects to renovate, repair, and beautify their homes and properties in Turtle Rock.

**To have your irrigation system evaluated for free contact University of Florida Extension Service    [WWW.sfyl.ifas.ufl.edu](http://WWW.sfyl.ifas.ufl.edu)**

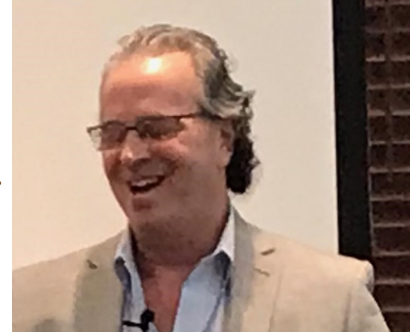


# Turtle Rock Academy Lecture Series

*Serving the TR Community through education,  
information and entertainment*

## Large Group Attends TR Academy Presentation on Cannabis

Dr. Daniel Stein gave a detailed talk and answered many questions about cannabis for a large group of Turtle Rock residents who attended the October Academy lecture.



Cannabis is a very old plant. It was already being used over 5,000 years ago for paper, oil and medicine. Eli Lilly sold cannabis products from 1910, but in 1937 there began a prohibition on cannabis for social and political reasons. For 80 years the Federal government has classified cannabis as a Class 1 substance which prevents research on the plant in the U.S.

The THC in cannabis makes a person high. The CBD does not. However, where money can be made, there has always been black market business which doesn't provide safe, unadulterated products.

Educating the public about cannabis, its current uses and potential, is what Dr. Stein thinks is important to returning cannabis to use not only to relieve anxiety, tremors, insomnia and treat chronic pain, but also to create wellness without impairment.

In order to use cannabis in Florida, one must register with the state and get a card. This usually costs about \$125 and takes two weeks. You must have a qualifying condition such as PTSD or anxiety or chronic pain. Dr. Stein reviews your complete medical history and then provides guidance for the appropriate means and strength of medication. Inhaled product is short acting, while topicals and edibles and capsules are longer lasting.



All sales of cannabis products and therapy must be in cash as banks and credit card companies are required to follow Federal rules. Medicare does not cover cannabis therapies.

If you would like to know more, check out  
**[www.neurologyofcannabis.com](http://www.neurologyofcannabis.com)**.

**Submitted by Janet Smith**

## **Turtle Rock Academy Lecture Series...cont'd**

### **Songs About Life**

**Thursday, November 14<sup>th</sup> –2:00**



We welcome back Lee Dougherty Ross, accompanying mezzo soprano, Amy Jo Connours. Many in Sarasota know Lee, who is the co-founder of the Artist Series Concerts for Sarasota now in its 24<sup>th</sup> year. Amy has toured in Spain, Ireland, Scotland and the Baltic countries. Lee and Amy will present a program about life in song.

### **Holiday Time at Historic Spanish Point**

**December 12<sup>th</sup>**

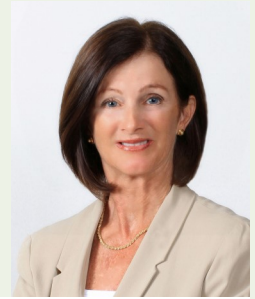
Historic Spanish Point is a destination that shows visitors how people lived and celebrated in earlier times. Darrell Ayers, Deputy Director at Historic Spanish Point will share what is on offer as well as what to look forward to.



**Submitted by Janet Smith**



# Landscape Committee Report



The Committee met on September 25<sup>th</sup> and discussed several items with Shane from Bloomings. One issue was the lack of water pressure that homeowners have been experiencing when watering their lawns. Shane explained that much of the problem was due to the drought that we are experiencing, along with the inadequate pump at the main Palmer Ranch station.

**The good news received from the Palmer Ranch Master Association is that a new water main is being installed along Palmer Ranch Parkway, between McIntosh Road and the north entrance to Turtle Rock. The pipeline will provide increased pressure and flow in the reuse system for irrigation Please see page 14.**

Shane also confirmed during the meeting that the hedges along Turtle Rock Blvd will be trimmed and that extra bougainvillea has been planted at the western side of the south gate. Also, Bloomings will increase weed control in October.

Final quotes were provided to renovate the butterfly garden but the ongoing expenses to maintain the garden are still to be obtained.

Stantec is to begin clearing the nature trail that runs along the west side of our community in October and new signage for the nature trail will be ordered once pricing is established.

The community pool area still needs some painting. The new faucets and new water tank for the pool shower are still to be installed. Quotes are being obtained to replace or repair the pool furniture.

The Committee will be reviewing two sets of quotes at the next Landscape Committee meeting. One set of quotes is for the resurfacing of the community tennis courts and the other set of quotes is for the installation of a sidewalk along Central Sarasota Parkway, just outside of the south gate. Once the Committee has had a chance to review the various quotes, a recommendation will be made by the Committee to the Board of Governors at the November meeting.

**Submitted by Jodi Cunnison**

# Mailbox Task Force



The beautification of our community continues! A task force has been formed to look into the replacement of all the mailboxes in Turtle Rock. After the great improvement that the new street signs provided, it seemed that an upgrade of the mailboxes was in order. The current posts and boxes require a lot of maintenance by homeowners and are frequently in violation. Observe them as you drive around your neighborhood.

The task force includes residents from all areas of Turtle Rock: David Bryan, Jodi Cunnison, Curt Gilroy, Kathrin Harris, Kathy Wells, Patty Fleming representing Savannah, and Harry Hopes and Roberta Maloney from Somerset.

We are looking at examples of boxes and posts from several manufacturers, including Forsite, who supplied our beautiful street signs. Their posts, colors and lettering would match the street signs. We are requesting bids from them and at least one other supplier. A prototype is installed at the community center, (see photo below). We hope to present our findings to the Board soon so that a vote can take place and a decision made at a future Board meeting. We will keep you “posted”.



**Submitted by Roberta Maloney**

# Turtle Rock Stories ...

*the history of Turtle Rock as told by residents.*

*Got a short story about the people, places and times of Turtle Rock? Who have been special people? What happened that was "so Turtle Rock?" We all want to know.*

## **The attack of the mutant crayfish**

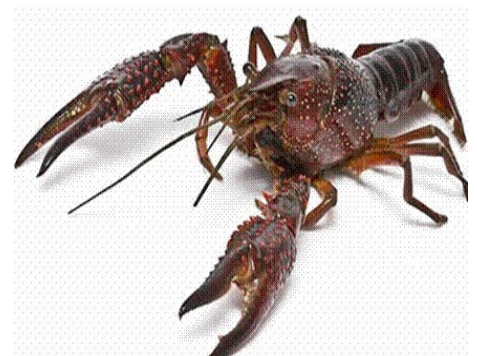
One night in 2009, my husband stopped the car in the driveway so I could step out before he pulled in the garage. I stepped down and something caught my eye on the driveway. Of course I screamed. My husband got a flashlight and we both thought it was a wood scorpion that can hide in mulch.

The next morning, we woke to find our driveway, sidewalk, front lawn, and the street in front of our house, as well as three of our neighbors, covered in literally **thousands** of these huge (4-6 inches long!), creatures. They were very aggressive; if you approached, they would rear up on their tails and snap their pinchers! We were stuck in the house—couldn't even walk the dog. Wearing long pants, boots and leather gloves, we were able to scoop one into a jar and took it to the Sarasota County Extension office. Yup, crayfish! They said they had never seen anything like it, but suspected that a "catastrophic event" had happened. By catastrophic, they meant someone dumped something into the creek/waterways, the crayfish mutated and came out of the water.

Another interesting point—the vultures did not pick them up. Was that because they were still alive? Or something else?

The crayfish were there all day, and through the next night too. But by the following morning, they were all gone! We have never seen them again. Strange but true - and only in Turtle Rock!

***Donna and Barry Wolfson, Far Oak Circle***



# ***Turtle Rock Men's Club***



**As an eventful year winds down you will not want to miss the last two Men's Club lunch meetings or the Free Tour of Patriot Plaza.**

**The tour of Patriot Plaza at the Sarasota National Cemetery is from 10:30am till 12:00 noon on November 7<sup>th</sup>. You can register by contacting either Karen Howe or Jan Merchant of the Turtle Rock Women's Club.**

**The next Men's Club lunch meeting will be at noon on Wednesday November 13<sup>th</sup> at Miguel's Restaurant at 6631 Midnight Pass Road on Siesta Key.**

**Because our request for volunteers to serve on the Men's Club Board for the 2020 Calendar year prompted requests for clarification on what exactly needs to be done, we will devote the business part of the meeting to that subject. It's not rocket science but it's clearly important that any volunteer knows what he'd be letting himself in for. Accordingly, the current Board members will provide a brief outline on how the Club is run, provide specific details on those positions which still need to be filled and then open the meeting to questions and discussion. So, please come with an open mind and consider how you might be able to participate in running and enhancing the Turtle Rock Men's Club.**

**The last Men's Club lunch meeting of the year will be held on Wednesday December 18<sup>th</sup> at Mattison's 41 on Tamiami Trail and will feature Sara Kane and her Energy Upgrade Workshop. Postponed from a prior month, we are very glad that she will be with us to finish the year on a high note. You will not want to miss her workshop or her free Do it Yourself Energy Savings Kits!**

**Last of all, any Turtle Rock men who would like to attend a lunch to get to know us before joining the club can be assured of a warm welcome. Just be sure to phone Club Secretary Jim Cerny well in advance of the meeting to let him know you are coming and to make your menu selection. Jim's number is (941) 926-7888.**

**Submitted by Keith Jones**





## ***Turtle Rock Women's Club***

The Turtle Rock Women's Club gathers monthly at various locations around town to enjoy food, conversation and occasional guest speakers. In October we were delighted to learn about Southeastern Guide Dog and meet one of the "puppies in training", Cosmo.



Bunco is another fun monthly event that takes place in our Community Center. This is a wonderful opportunity to share in laughter, conversation and great food with your neighbors. Bunco is played on the third Wednesday of each month from 6:00 pm - 8:00 pm. Along with Bunco, we play a game or two of Left Center Right. We are always looking for new players so send us an email at [turtlerockwomensclub@gmail.com](mailto:turtlerockwomensclub@gmail.com) if you're interested in joining.



In November we will be taking a free guided tour of Patriot Plaza at Sarasota National Cemetery. This event will also be open to members of the Turtle Rock Men's Club.

**Submitted by Susan Neisler and Jan Merchant**



# *Trip Tips, if you travel to ..*

## **Canada and New England Discovery Cruise—Melinda and John Adams**



This was a great way to get away at the end of summer: a cruise from Boston, to Bar Harbor, to Nova Scotia, Prince Edward Island, Quebec and Montreal. It was relaxing, illuminating, and fun.

We chose the Holland America line, embarking from Boston harbor in mid-September. It was a mid-sized ship, very comfortable, excellent service.

### *Tips:*

*Booking agent:* We booked our cruise through AAA. They gave us a \$50 per person beverage coupon and coupons for dinner in two of the onboard restaurants that charge a supplemental fee. (All meals in the Lido buffet lounge or the Main Dining Room are included in the cruise fee.)

*Timing:* We recommend going on this cruise, or any cruise heading farther north, in the first two weeks of September, instead of in mid-September when we went. It was cold in Nova Scotia and Prince Edward Island!

What we loved: The food! We most often ate in the Main Dining Room (we chose Open Seating, so we could go whenever we wanted); we also enjoyed our dinners in the two restaurants.

Onboard activities: Cooking demos by America's Test Kitchen—like being on the set of Food Network TV! Shows every night—a great mix of excellent entertainment. The Spa and the Fitness Center.



**Quebec City**

Excursions: Our #1 favorite excursion was in Quebec, where we did a 3 hour walking tour. We also loved our time in Bar Harbor—we highly recommend seeing Acadia National Park, stunningly beautiful; our fabulous excursion included a delicious lobster meal. The other ports were all interesting: Charlottetown (Anne of Green Gables land) and Halifax (charming). Our tour of the small community of Sydney was the only disappointing excursion (it was also terribly cold here); we later heard rave reports from those who had chosen the full-day excursion to Peggy's Cove. We disembarked in Montreal, extended our stay by 2 nights, and took the Greyline "hop on and off bus" city tour, which gave us a great overview of the city. We thoroughly enjoyed our cruise and would highly recommend it. We were very satisfied with AAA.

## *Trip Tips contd...*

### Iceland Cean Cerny

To celebrate the 50<sup>th</sup> birthday of a friend, thirteen of us (five adults and eight young adults, including my daughter Caitlyn) went on an adventure tour arranged by Extreme Iceland. We had our own bus and our own tour guides.

Our six-day trip included:

Tours in the Inner Circle and the western side of Iceland, with one day in Reykjavik

Snorkeling in the Continental Divide (water was 2 degrees C/36 degrees F)

White water rafting , climbing a ice wall , a glacier hike

Hiking into a hole-in-the-ground cave, over rocks and boulders that had dropped into the hole

A relaxing spa day at a beautiful blue lagoon

We saw awe-inspiring waterfalls, fields of gloriously-colored flowers, lava-covered hills, white-water rivers and streams, glaciers...Our guides supplemented our clothing with outer layers for hiking and rafting, and with crampons (metal plates with spikes fixed to boots), ice picks, and ropes for ice climbing. We spent two nights in “volcano huts,” A-framed structures with bunkbeds and outdoor showers. We boarded a Super Jeep, which drove us through a rushing river and over rocks.

### *Tips:*

June was a great time to visit Iceland (unless you want to see the Northern Lights). There was daylight all day long; the temperature was in the 40s and 50s.

A private tour company allows you to see and do what most interests you. You can tailor the tour to what you want, and the tour company takes care of housing, transportation, extra clothing, and supplies.

This was truly an adventure, and a trip that each of us will always remember. The glaciers are shrinking quickly; we saw pictures of how they looked twenty years ago—and realized they will likely be gone in another twenty years. We met young people from Sweden, Norway, Australia, France, Spain, and other countries, who come to Iceland to work. Everyone is friendly and helpful. Reykjavik is charming. No wonder Iceland is on so many “want-to-visit” lists. Even if you don’t want to put on spiked boots, grab a rope and climb an ice mountain, there is plenty to see and do: trails to hike, lovely towns to visit, amazing waterfalls, lava fields, roaring rivers and holes in the ground to explore and marvel over.

**Diane Glynn-Reporter**





## **Relief for our low reclaimed water pressure...**

### **Turtle Rock McIntosh Reclaimed Water Main CIP #88023**

Sarasota County -scgov.net I 941.861.5000

#### **PROJECT SCHEDULE**

Design Start - July 2019 , Design Finish - September 2019

Construction Start - October 2019, Construction Completion - January 2020

#### **Project Description**

This project consists of the design, permitting, and construction of approximately 1,600LF of 16-inch reclaimed water main along the right-of-way on Palmer Ranch Parkway extension, between McIntosh Road and the northern entrance of Turtle Rock Boulevard. This pipeline will provide increased pressure and flow in the re-use system for irrigation within the Palmer Ranch community. Conversely, during periods of wet weather, the pipeline will allow additional reclaimed water to be disposed of down a deep injection well, located at one of the County's regional water reclamation facilities.

Since construction will be within the County right-of-way, there will not likely be any impacts to residential properties. However, pipeline connections at two intersections; Palmer Ranch Parkway extension and McIntosh Road and Palmer Ranch Parkway and Turtle Rock Boulevard (north entrance) will cause temporary disruption to vehicular and pedestrian traffic.



**Construction is anticipated to begin in late 2019 With completion in early 2020.**





**Interested in the Palmer Ranch Budget for 2020?  
WOULD YOU LIKE TO KNOW WHAT MAINTENANCE IS  
SCHEDULED FOR PALMER RANCH?**

***Would you be interested in a Senior Softball League?***

**How about PR Charity Events and Tournaments?**

**WANT TO KNOW WHY ARE THERE WEEDS IN THE DRAINAGE BASIN THAT  
FLOWS THRU YOUR COMMUNITY?**

**Answers to these questions and more can be found at:**

**[WWW.PalmerRanch.NET](http://WWW.PalmerRanch.NET)**

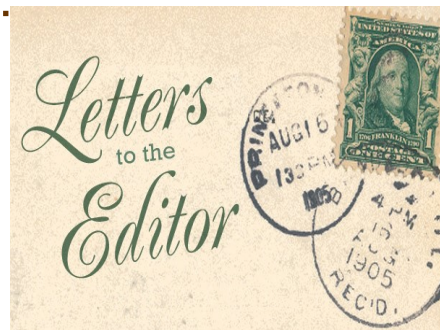


**Is this a special air mail  
delivery?? No, just our  
friendly Turtle Rock  
Kestrel !**

**Kestrels are a member of the falcon  
genus. When hunting they hover 30-  
60 feet over land and swoop down  
on small mammals, lizards or large  
insects. If you watch you may see  
them flying low between houses.**

**Dear Editor,**

I know almost all dog owners are so nice here about picking up after their dog. But when I go for my walks around the neighborhood I still see stuff that should have been picked up. Is there anything that can be done? What do other communities do? Step Watcher



Dear Step Watcher

Are you aware that there is such a thing as Doggie DNA Identification? Here's how it works. When you find some unknown doggie deposits on the sidewalk you use a simple and easy kit to send in a sample for DNA analysis. The pooch who pooped is identified and a letter is sent to the pooch parents and the homeowners association may take action as appropriate. Of course all dogs must be sampled and recorded first to be in the system. But who pays the bill for this scientific CSI? The owners of the guilty dogs of course! So you see there ARE steps that can be taken to reduce the number of number twos left lying around. So if all pet owners do their part, there will be no need for this expensive but targeted scientific evidence gathering. Meanwhile, no dog is subject to arrest without their lawyer present. There are new doggie bag dispensers conveniently located by the sidewalk on Turtle Rock Blvd.

**Our sincere "Thank You" to all those owners who do their duty-well and pick up after their dog.**

**Editor**





## **According to FPL..**

**Do you set your thermostat fan to auto or always on? Is there a difference in the price you pay to cool/heat your home?**

You bet there is! “AUTO” means the fan turns on automatically down the heating and cooling cycles. Once the desired temp is reached the system, including the fan shuts down.

**When the fan is set to “ON” it remains on constantly, meaning the fan will run approximately 200 extra hours an month.**

**A typical size central air conditioner would cost you about \$8.00 more a month, or about \$100 a year.**

Also keep in mind that a fan that runs all the time will wear out sooner and need to be replaced. Setting your fan to AUTO also provides better dehumidification.

**Submitted by Diane Geramanis**

## **The Communication Committee**

*The committee is looking for staff writers and photographers. If you have a knack for writing, have ideas for a monthly column or are willing to take photos of interest to the community, please contact us at [communications@myturtlerock.com](mailto:communications@myturtlerock.com).*

**THANKS for getting involved!**

### **Committee Members and Newsletter Staff**

Jim Cerny, Patricia Tarlton, Judy Bentz and Ed Olson of Sunstate Management.

Staff Writers: 3~4 Places to Visit—Paula Griffin, Trips Tips— Diane Glynn

Board Liaison: David Tarlton

Proofreader: Charlotte Jones

**Send comments, suggestions and articles for consideration to:**

**[communications@myturtlerock.com](mailto:communications@myturtlerock.com)**

(Text must be in Word, Photos as JPEG.)