

Turtle Rock Newsletter

The Best Place on Palmer Ranch
December, 2019



**Turtle Rock's 21st Annual Trolley
Tour of Lights &
Potluck Appetizer /Dessert Reception
Saturday, Dec. 21st., 6-8 pm
Turtle Rock Community Center**



It's that time of year again, to get into the holiday spirit by taking a tour of Turtle Rock's Finest holiday lights displays on a Trolley sponsored by Claude Pierre CP Realty International! The trolley will be taking scheduled passengers around Turtle Rock at four separate departure times: 6:00, 6:30, 7:00 & 7:30. Enjoy the reception and some activities while you wait for the Trolley or when you return. When you make your reservation let us know if you will bring an appetizer or dessert.

Cost: \$5 per person- Cash Only – Place payment in an envelope addressed to Courtney Knowles with your families names on it in the black locked mailbox at the Community Center by the front door.

(More form and more info on p.14)

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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.



A Letter from the President

On behalf of the Board I would like to wish everyone a very happy Holiday Season and New Year.

2019 has been a very busy year for the board. The most exciting thing we did was installing the new street signs and adding some additional stop signs. We've received a tremendous amount of positive feedback on them. We've also been encouraged to look at replacing the mailboxes next. As I mentioned in last month's newsletter the Board approved installing a prototype mailbox outside the Community Center. If you haven't already done so please check it out when you get a chance. You'll be hearing more about the mailboxes in 2020 from the Mailbox Task Force.

We have three other task forces working on the ponds, traffic, and gatehouses. Our retention ponds are an important part of the Turtle Rock ecosystem and a lot of time and effort is being put in by the task force. They will be making recommendations to the Board within the next few months. The same holds true for the Gatehouse and Traffic Task Forces.

You should have received a mailing from Russ Gill in early November regarding nominations for 2020 TR HOA Board members. There will be two openings starting in Feb 2020, so we are looking for residents that would like to join the board and ask that you fill out the application that accompanied Russ's letter. I've really enjoyed my time on the board and grown to respect and appreciate the time and effort that each Board member puts in on your behalf.

The Board approved the budget at the last Board meeting and I'm happy to report there will be no change in your quarterly dues. We are fortunate to be in sound financial condition and are in a position to address the necessary improvements and maintenance of our infrastructure.

With the holiday season upon us I do want to once again ask everyone to obey the speed limit and come to a full stop at the stop signs. As I ride my bike in the morning, I see far too many people speeding and either running or rolling through the stop signs. And remember the pedestrian has the right of way in the crosswalks. If you see someone at the curb looking to cross, please stop and let them cross.

Robert N. Oram
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Report From The Treasurer



Submitted by David Tarlton

For the period ending October 2019:

	Actual	Budget
Total Receipts	\$107,257	\$106,566
Expenses		
General and Admin	\$ 30,200	\$ 32,966
Common Grounds	\$ 11,559 *	\$ 15,232
Access Control	\$ 29,330 **	\$ 20,725
Facilities Maintenance	\$ 12,079	\$ 13,325
Utilities	\$ 5,435	\$ 7,325

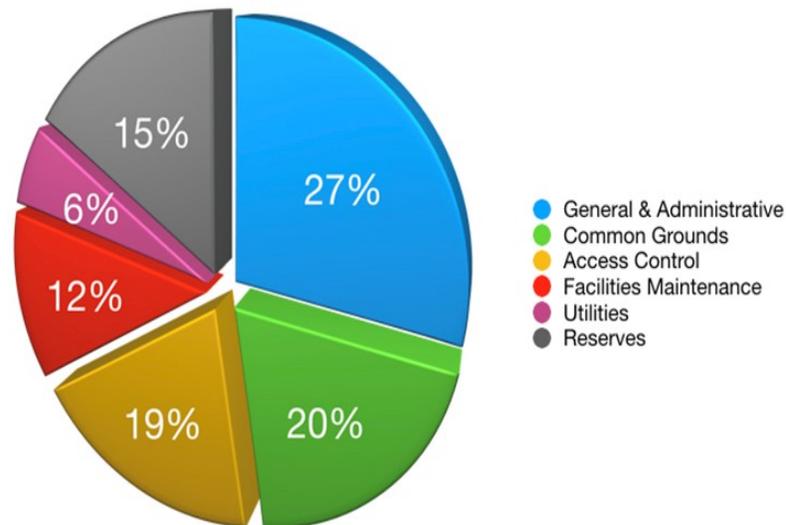
*Only monthly allocated expenses for standard landscape and irrigation maintenance incurred in October.

** This increase is due to billing overlap and will balance out with the following month.

Reserve Contribution \$16,992
 No reserve expenses were incurred in September.

Total Assessments Collected \$107,257
 Total Assessments Outstanding \$34,467 (previous month was \$13,010)

Turtle Rock YTD Expenses



Manager's Message



As you read this newsletter, we are now into December. Cooler weather is here, Thanksgiving has passed, and everyone is preparing for the December Holidays. I wanted to let everyone know what's happening around the community.

The self-nominating applications for the Board of Governors have been mailed out. If you want to serve on the board, please fill out the application and mail or bring it into the office. The applications must be in the office no later than December 26th.

All of Turtle Rock's committees and task forces have had a busy year and have done an excellent job. When you see one of the many members, please thank them for the hard work they have put in.

The new coupon books will be sent out the second week of December, so please be looking for them.

Compliance around the community seems to be improving, however there are still a lot of dirty roofs, sidewalks and driveways. Please be proactive.

All new and not so new owners in the community should be familiar with the Turtle Rock Owners' Manual. You can find this and other information at www.myturtlerock.com.

We are planning for the upcoming Trash to Treasure garage sale and the Chemical Collection Day. The tentative scheduled dates are, February 15th for the garage sale and February 25th for the chemical collection day. We are looking for a couple of volunteers to help with the organization of these two popular events.

Please e-mail or call me with any questions or concerns.

Ed Olson –Vice President / LCAM

Sunstate Management

941-870-9855

Edward@sunstatemanagement.com

HELP WANTED/NEEDED

Do you enjoy Turtle Rock?

Do you like the way it's maintained?

Do you like the way your dues are spent?

Do you want to keep it the same or are there changes you believe should be made?

Well then we need you to apply to join the Board of Governors.

In February Turtle Rock will be electing 2 new governors. You recently received in US mail a self-nominating form to put yourself into consideration for one of these positions. Please give serious consideration to nominating yourself to help determine the direction of Turtle Rock's future. If it is the wrong time for you to join the Board, please think about your neighbors and if there is someone that you think would be a good candidate, please encourage them to self-nominate.

If you have any questions please contact our association manager, Ed Olson, or the Nominating Committee chair, Russ Gill, or any of the Board members.

Thank you for considering joining the board.



Architectural Review Committee (ARC)



The ARC experienced a relatively light workload in November as we had only 15 new applications for exterior improvements to homes and landscape. Painting, new roofs, and tree removals dominated the applications. Painting is always on our list as we continually want to refresh the look of our homes, but roofs and tree removals are really the result of the age of our community.

With respect to tree removal, the Turtle Rock Owners' Manual (TROM) lays out the number and category of trees that must be present on each property, and that any tree removal must have ARC approval. In considering tree replacement, homeowners might consider replacing a large tree with smaller varieties. For example, the removal of an oak tree could be replaced with a Shady Lady (black olive) or even a Ligustrum. Both are deep green in color and very hardy and attractive. A crepe myrtle is also a nice choice and has blossoms of different colors. Even if you have the requisite number of trees on your property, it is still nice to add a tree. They are so important to the environment. If you do not have much room, an Italian Cypress is a very good choice for the area as it grows upright in a column. Landscape nurseries have an excellent selection at this time of year.

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 properties. We often receive calls from homeowners about trees, shrubs, and plants. But ARC members are not the authority on these, and we can only make suggestions. We always recommend that homeowners speak to a licensed nursery or landscape company for professional advice.

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

Submitted by Curt Gilroy



Turtle Rock Academy Lecture Series

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



Amy Jo Connours, a Sarasota native and mezzo-soprano, delighted the Turtle Rock Academy with songs that express joy, encouragement, sorrow and hope. Lee Dougherty Ross, founder of the Artist Series Concerts of Sarasota and a celebrated musician and singer in her own right, accompanied Amy Jo.



“On a Beautiful Day Like Today” began the program. In introducing music from “Carmen” by Bizet, Amy noted that the first production of this now-famous opera had a rocky start. It didn’t sell tickets, so tickets were given away to fill the hall. Slowly, “Carmen” caught on. Bizet however, didn’t live long enough to see it become famous.

The hope of immigrants to the United States is shown in the story of George Gershwin’s “Porgy and Bess.” Grateful for the opportunities and experiences he had in his new country, Gershwin wanted to write something new: a jazz opera. “Summertime” from “Porgy and Bess” has become an American classic.

“Climb Every Mountain” from “The Sound of Music” and “When You Walk Through a Storm” from “Carousel” have helped people through difficult situations.

“Sing God a Simple Song” from “Mass” by Leonard Bernstein tells us that whatever we do is significant and that it’s okay to make it up as we go along.

Amy Jo shared that she was honored to be asked by Lee Dougherty-Ross to sing “Yours Is My Heart Alone” for Lee and her husband’s anniversary. This song comes from a 1929 operetta “The Land of Smiles” and was recorded by Frank Sinatra. Celebrations are a part of life that music makes memorable.



The Friends of the Artist Series continued the celebration by providing refreshments after the program. The Friends have given out \$300,000 in **scholarships to young musicians.** The

Artist Series takes musicians into the Sarasota schools to encourage children to enjoy music.



Submitted by Janet Smith

Turtle Rock Academy Lecture Series...cont'd



Holiday Time at Historic Spanish Point December 12th 2:00

Many Visitors flock to Sarasota over the holidays. Historic Spanish Point is a destination that shows visitors how people lived and celebrated in earlier times. There are many stories to tell about ancient people that first lived there, the pioneers that came to begin new lives in a land many had never dreamt existed, the bee keepers who sent bees all over the world and the Cuban fishing rancheros that harvested mullet to send to Cuba. The Guptal House and the White House also have stories to tell.

Darrell Ayers, Deputy Director at Historic Spanish Point will share what is on offer as well as what to look forward to. Darrell is retired from the John F. Kennedy Center where he served as vice president for education and jazz programming.

Submitted by Janet Smith

Landscape Committee Report



The Landscape and Grounds Committee met on October 23rd. Shane Battle from Bloomings and Ed Olson were also at the meeting. The Committee went through the ongoing maintenance checklist with Shane and it was agreed that the Awabuki hedge along Central Sarasota Parkway would be trimmed and empty spots filled in, and that additional Jasmine would be added to the northeast corner of the northern entrance to Turtle Rock. Further, all of the debris from the last storm was to be cleared up.

The butterfly garden enhancement project is still in the works. The Committee recommended that an initial cleanup of the surrounding area bordering the small pond take place, including clearing out the dead overhanging vegetation and clumps of palms and trees in the grassy areas. Shane provided a quote to have this done in the amount of \$1200, which expenditure the Board of Governors approved at the November Board meeting. The plan is that in the spring of 2020 the rejuvenation of the butterfly garden bed can be completed.

The Committee reviewed two bids to have a 75-foot sidewalk installed on the Northeast corner of Turtle Rock Blvd and Central Sarasota Parkway. The bid by Howell Concrete and Land Services in the amount of \$2800 was recommended by the Committee and subsequently approved by the Board of Governors at the November Board meeting.

Bids have been obtained to have the community tennis courts resurfaced. A resident of Turtle Rock who has had extensive experience with this subject matter, has been asked to review the bids and provide his input to the Committee. Replacement of the tennis nets will also be done.

Submitted by Jodi Cunnison

Mailbox Task Force



The mailbox task force met for a second time on November 21. Committee members reported that the general consensus from residents is very positive and most were excited about the prospect, especially if they were going to match the street signs. The improvement to the curb appeal of the community should add value to all our homes. Hope you all have checked out the prototype at the Community Center.

We have received two bids from contractors, one of which is Forsite, the provider of our beautiful street signs. Specifics of the quotes need to be pinned down and discussed with the submitters before a selection can be made. Given the time of the year and the availability of the bidders, this will not take place until observatory sometime in January. After that, we will select one of the bidders and provide the Board of Governors with a proposal for approval.

Stay tuned.



Be sure to check out the prototype of the mailbox design being considered. It's between the Community Center and the Pool.

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.

Neighbors bonded in the driveway

For nearly 15 years (2005 – 2019), neighbors on Timber Chase Way had someplace to go on Thursday afternoons—the driveway at 5069. It began because Al Gates was bored. Mary Ann Gates played bridge on Thursdays, and players often stayed around afterward to socialize. One week, Al took his chair out to the driveway and had his afternoon drink there. The next week, Judy Kaufman, across the street from him, stopped by. Then her husband Lou. Then other neighbors joined. Pretty soon it was a routine on Timber Chase. “You going to the driveway this week?” people would ask each other. Yes. Yes, they were. “Driveway” began at 4 p.m. Al said that if no one had joined him by 4:30 he would take his chair in, though no one remembers that ever happening.

Not only was “driveway” a routine, it was a neighborhood benefit mentioned when houses were for sale. Of course you want to live here! You’ll get to come to “the driveway.” In 2014-16, attendance was routinely in the mid teens, and got as high as the mid twenties. Many people brought their own chairs, but deep in his garage, Al always found a chair when one was needed. If the evening got cool, Al dragged “tiger blankets” out of the closet. In 2018, attendance waned some. And then in the spring of 2019, Al decided it was time to stop.

Of course, now people on the street have relationships and memories that continue. “Driveway” may no longer be a weekly occurrence, but the friendships that were forged endure.

Thanks Al.



Submitted by Paula Griffin

Turtle Rock Men's Club



Despite a few dropouts, we had 45 people in the joint TRMC/TRWC group for the LeBarge Dolphin and Manatee watch cruise in October. Together with a few others who had paid full price, there were over 50 Turtle Rockers – a wonderful turnout! All in all it was a great excursion; the weather was beautiful, we saw several dolphins and a good time was had by all!

It was good to see 33 members attend the Men's Club meeting on November 13 when we discussed the tasks for which we need volunteers in 2020. We now have John Adams as Treasurer, Ken Rosemann as Secretary, and Fred Howe as Guest Speaker Coordinator. This is good progress but the tasks of running the meetings, selecting restaurants and menus within our target price range, writing newsletter articles, handling name badges, and organizing special events are still not covered.

The last Men's Club lunch meeting of the year will be held at noon on Wednesday December 18th in the Galleria room of Mattison's 41 at 7275 S. Tamiami Trail, Sarasota, FL 34231. It will feature as our Guest Speaker, Sara Kane who is the Sustainability Program Coordinator for the University of Florida. You will not want to miss her very informative Energy Upgrade Workshop or her free Do it Yourself Energy Savings Kits!

Club Secretary Jim Cerny will be contacting all Club members shortly to outline menu choices and ascertain attendance at the December lunch. Turtle Rock men who are not yet Club members are welcome to attend but they should phone Jim Cerny in advance to let him know they are coming and to make their menu selections.

Jim's number is (941) 926-7888.

Submitted by Keith Jones



Turtle Rock Women's Club

The Turtle Rock Women's Club is a welcoming group open to all women residing in our lovely Turtle Rock Community. We offer a variety of programs and events designed to build friendships, educate and engage our members. We would love to have you join us. Call Angela Pierre at 321-3994 or email turtlerockwomensclub@gmail.com.



In November we welcomed the return of many of our seasonal friends, which means more activities including a fun day out on LeBarge, a tour of Patriot Plaza and Sarasota National Cemetery. These events were blended with the members of the Turtle Rock Men's Club which made for even more fun.



A group of 22 men and women from Turtle Rock was led on a tour of Patriot Plaza at the Sarasota National Cemetery by our own Bob Arnet and two other guides on Thursday, November 7, 2019. We learned the significance of the number five and the art work specially designed for the Plaza. This was an interesting and inspiring tour. Thank you to all of our veterans for your service and sacrifice.

Submitted by Susan Neisler and Karen Howe

Turtle Rock Families Group

It's hard to believe Thanksgiving and the holiday season is upon us! First of all, I want to thank everyone who participated in the Halloween Party in any way. What a great night! We plan on continuing the fun every year! A special thanks to **Mira Mar Pool Care (941-926-7665)** for your generous donation to help us make it great!

Halloween Fun



Turtle Rock Holiday Lights Trolley is Saturday Dec. 21: 6-8pm

Remember, all participants must have pre-purchased their reservation. 1st choice Cost: \$5 per person- Cash Only – Place payment in an envelope addressed to Courtney Knowles with your family's names on it in the black locked mailbox at the Community Center by the front door.

1st choice time _____ 2nd choice time _____ (6:00,6:30,7:00 or 7:30)

Number of adults _____ Number of Children _____

Phone # _____

Type of dish you will bring _____

Sponsored By



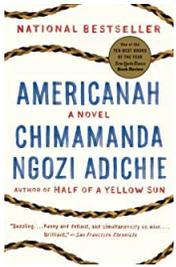
Claude Pierre GRI SFR Broker (941) 685-8441

claudejpierre@gmail.com

www.CPRealtyInternational.com

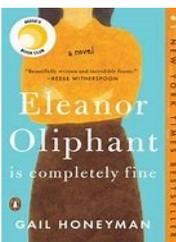
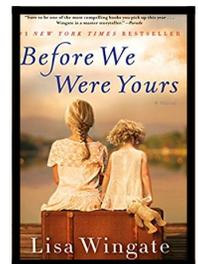
Turtle Rock Library

Recent Additions to the Turtle Rock Library. These titles are highly recommended by Edythe Wolf, Library Committee Chairman and Sora Yellin, Turtle Rock Women's Book Club Chairman.



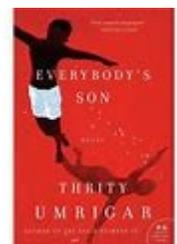
Americanah by Chimamanda Ngozi Adichie. Winner of the 2013 National Book Critics Circle Fiction award, this novel tells the story of a young Nigerian woman who immigrates to the United States to attend university and, for the first time, is forced to grapple with what it means to be black. The story traces her life in both countries threaded by her love story with high school classmate Obinze. Fifteen years later, they reunite in a newly democratic Nigeria, and reignite their passion—for each other and for their homeland.

Before We Were Yours by Lisa Wingate. A story about children taken from their parents through kidnapping or subterfuge and then placed for adoption. The plot is based on actual incidents and is a shameful indictment of a set of people who preyed upon the vulnerability of children and/or their parents.

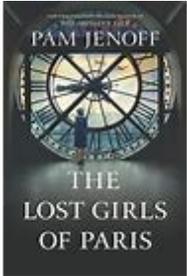


Eleanor Oliphant Is Completely Fine by Gail Honeyman. A story about the importance of friendship and human connection. Eleanor, an eccentric and regimented loner, struggles with appropriate social skills and tends to say exactly what she's thinking. Her life beautifully unfolds after a chance encounter with a stranger. Soon to be a major motion picture.

Everybody's Son by Thrity Umrigar. The bestselling, critically acclaimed author of The Space Between Us explores issues of race, class, privilege, and power and asks us to consider uncomfortable moral questions in this emotionally wrenching novel of two families—one black, one white.

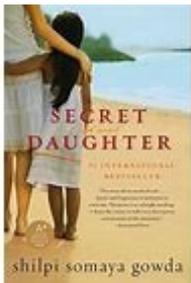
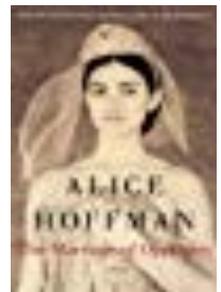


Turtle Rock Library contd.....



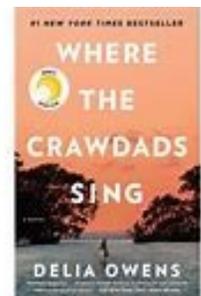
The Lost Girls of Paris by Pam Jenoff. From the author of The Orphan's Tale comes a true story of friendship and courage centered around three women and a ring of female spies during World War II.

The Marriage of Opposites by Alice Hoffman. From the author of The Dovekeepers and The Museum of Extraordinary Things, this is a story of forbidden love set on the tropical island of St. Thomas about the extraordinary woman who gave birth to painter Camille Pissarro, the father of Impressionism.



Secret Daughter by Shilpi Somaya Gowda, explores the emotional terrain of motherhood, loss, identity, and love through the experiences of two families—one Indian, one American—and the child that binds them together.

Where the Crawdads Sing by Delia Owens. A coming-of-age crime drama about a girl growing up alone in the marshes of North Carolina. Top of the N Y Times Best Seller list for more than a year.



Thank You

Many sincere thanks to our librarian Edythe Wolf for the countless hours shelving, arranging and generally taking great care of each book in our library at Turtle Rock.

Trip Tips, if you travel to ...



Mike and I went on a Silversea Galapagos Expedition Cruise in September. We flew into Quito, the capital of Ecuador, and spent a couple of days there before embarking on our tour of the islands. To get to the Galapagos Islands, which are 600 miles off the coast of Ecuador we flew on a small plane to one of the larger islands. There we boarded the Silversea ship that would be our home for our 7-day visit to the other islands.

Tip: We opted to book early and pay in full early, which meant we got a 10 percent discount on the cost of the entire tour, free airfare, and an extra night in the Quito hotel, as well as a tour of Quito.

There were 92 of us, from all over the world (England, Ireland, Canada, and China, among other countries). The ship was very nice, with ocean-views from each cabin, a veranda (for most cabins), a personal butler, and great food. We traveled to the various islands in small groups of 10-12 on Zodiac boats, each with its own naturalist tour guide so it was easy to hear and to ask questions. The weather was great, mostly in the high 70s, but for many of us the water was too cold for snorkeling.

Tip:

If you want snorkeling, it's best to go in the wet season, when there is quite a bit of rain, but the water is warmer (December-June); the dry season (July-November) has blue skies with very little wind, but much cooler water.



Trip Tips contd...

We learned so much and had such a great time! Here are some of my favorite memories.

*We were on the equator, literally. We put one foot on the north side of the equator, and one foot on the south side of the equator.

*We saw a Galapagos sea lion mother nursing her four-week old pup; we were able to get close to a giant tortoise—I had brought an issue of the Sarasota Observer with me and got a photo of it with the tortoise (the headline on the paper just happened to be “Until We Meet Again”!



*There were blue-footed boobies whose legs and feet are bright blue, Galapagos penguins, flightless cormorants who lost their ability to fly due to evolution because they are able to find food without using their wings, Great Blue Herons, and Galapagos hawks.

*We saw Sally-lightfoot crabs, Pacific green sea turtles, and Galapagos fur seals.

*The islands are volcanic, and there are mountainous areas (highlands), as well as lava fields.



*Each Galapagos Island has species that exist only in the Galapagos. Some islands have species that exist only on one or two of the islands.

**It was definitely a trip we'll always remember,
and we recommend a Silversea Galapagos Expedition Cruise.**

Mike and Diane Geramanis

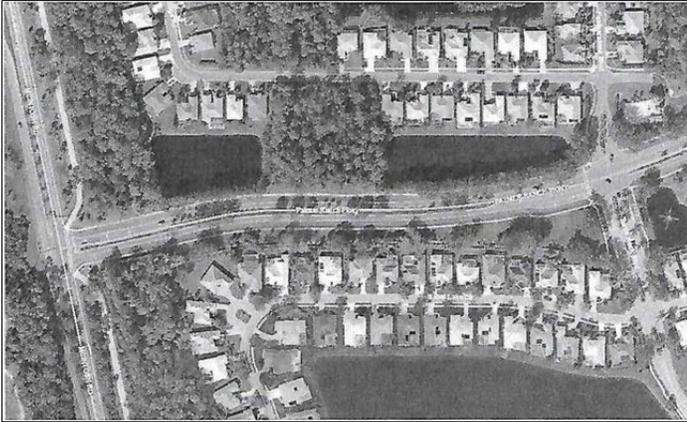
Diane Glynn—Reporter



Relief for our low reclaimed water pressure...

Turtle Rock McIntosh Reclaimed Water Main CIP #88023

Sarasota County -scgov.net I 941.861.5000



Construction has been re-scheduled to begin in May of 2020.

Sarasota County Recycles

Carts are being delivered now through Dec. 20.
Single-stream collection begins the week of
January 6, 2020.

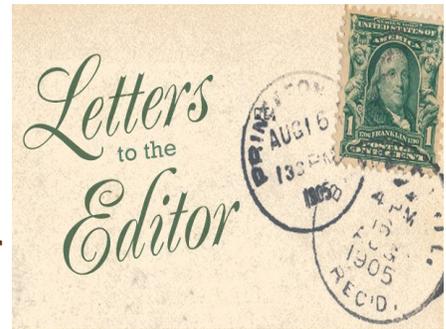
Keep using your red and blue bins until Jan. 3.

The county has provided residential and commercial solid waste collection services to its residents and businesses via a franchise system for more than 35 years. More than 154,000 residential customers and 2,500 commercial customers are serviced weekly equating to 14M+ collections annually. In 2020, Sarasota County will move to a system of single-stream recycling.

Dear Editor,

Hi Judy,

I think the bird photo is not identified correctly. It is not an American Kestrel. I'll send you a photo of that separately. It could be either a Sharpshinned or Coopers Hawk. The Coopers is longer.



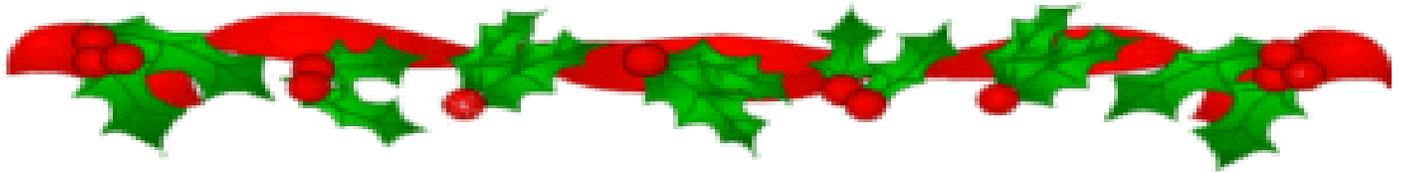
Janet Smith

Dear Janet

Thanks for your "hawk eye" observation and for reading the Newsletter last month. I really don't know very much about the study of birds, Ornithology, so I much appreciate your help.



Judy Bentz-Editor



It's that time of year for gift giving, and gift getting. Here are some phrases to use when receiving a gift when you are at a loss for words...

My word! What a gift.

Well, well, well...

Gosh, I hope I never lose this. We're always losing things around here.

Frankly, I don't deserve this.

Just my luck to get this on the very Holiday I promised to give all my gifts to charity!



Something new has been added....

Would you like to win a \$25.00 gift card to Publix???

What's the catch??? No catch!

Just locate the secret word hidden somewhere in this Newsletter, then send the word and the page and article you found it in to : Communications@myturtlerock.com.

Your name will be entered into a drawing to receive
the \$25.00 gift card,

(Sponsored this month by Claude Pierre, CP Reality)

Winner will be announced in the next Newsletter issue.

To find the secret word simply read each article carefully and when you notice an entirely inappropriate word, that doesn't belong in the article then you've located the answer.

One entry per email please.

Good luck!

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.

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

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