



Turtle Rock Newsletter

The Best Place on Palmer Ranch

February 2021

Congratulations to our winner

Steve West



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In 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.

He found the hidden word "pyrography" and his name was drawn to receive a \$25 gift card to Publix, donated by:



Full Service Pool Maintenance

Owned and operated by TR Residents



A Letter from the President

February's Annual Association meeting will be held via video conference. The link for the video conference and a call in phone number was provided in an email invitation.

It has been an entire year since I was elected as the association president and what a year it has been. When COVID-19 hit and we had to close down everything, I naively expected we would be back to almost normal by mid-summer, but that didn't happen. Therefore, we had to move forward with our projects; access control, mailboxes and pond remediation. By the end of the year we made decisions on all three projects and provided funding for these projects. The new access control system should be up and running by the time you read this letter. The installation of the new mailboxes should begin within a month. Finally a standing pond committee was established. We will be installing aquatic plants in the northern ponds and restorations of the ponds showing the most erosion have been scheduled. The whole association should be grateful for our dedicated individuals who continued to meet and provided us with solutions to existing association problems.

January Board of Governors Meeting

Actions at the January Board of Governors meeting were:

- Approved the **Landscape Committee** recommendations to replant the landscaping at both entrances.

- Approved TROM changes recommended by the **Mailbox Taskforce**; removed all reference to the current mailbox specifications and added a requirement that owners keep all landscaping and hardscaping at least 3-1/2 feet away from the mailbox post.

- Approved the charter for a **Finance Committee**.

- Approved minutes from ARC, Communications, Landscape/Grounds, and Ponds Committees/Task Forces.

The Board of Governors discussed the following items at the January meeting:

- Putting a top dressing of mulch down along Turtle Rock Blvd. Scheduling is to be determined.

- OnSpot Dermatology will have their mobile dermatology clinic in Turtle Rock, March 22 at the Community Center. As more information becomes available we will communicate specifics as to how to participate in their services.

Finally I want to thank all of the people that assisted me throughout the year and it has been my pleasure to serve as the association president.

February 2 is the Association Annual Meeting. Please attend.

Russ Gill, Turtle Rock Board President



Report From The Treasurer



Period Ending December 31, 2020

	Actual	Budget
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Income

Total Receipts	\$113,017	\$111,634
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Operating Expenses

General and Administrative	\$34,416	\$32,902
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Common Grounds	\$21,004*	\$15,936
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Access Control	\$19,560	\$21,617
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Facilities Maintenance	\$8,276**	\$13,820
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Utilities	\$7,792	\$7,325
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*Increased expense was incurred for Plant & Annuals Replacement

**Reduced expense was incurred for Wetlands Maintenance

Reserve Expenses

Contribution	\$20,035	\$20,035
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ASAP Mailbox - Double Mailbox Replacement Second Installment Payment
\$5,400

ASAP Mailbox –Single Mailbox Replacement Second Installment Payment
\$70,811

Bloomings – South Entrance Tree Installation \$1,265

Curt Gilroy – Purchase Three Madison Benches \$2,276

UBS Wealth Management – Annual Fee \$175

Assessments

Total Collected \$101,067

Total Outstanding \$12,355 (Previous Month \$18,356)

Submitted by John M Burke

Manager's Message



With football season almost over and only Kansas City and Tampa Bay fans still happy, I wanted to keep you updated on things that are coming up at Turtle Rock.

The Annual Members Meeting notice has been mailed out and the meeting is Tuesday at 6:30. Please bring your proxy to the community center. This will ensure that a quorum will be reached, and the association can hold the meeting.

You should have received your new coupon book for the 2021 assessments. If not, please call the management office so we can reorder one for you. Don't forget the first quarter payment was due January 1st.

There are a number of homeowners who paid the old amount of \$400.00 and still owe \$80.00. Please mail or drop off the difference at the community center so you will be paid in full for the first quarter.

Remember the Turtle Rock Owner's Manual is there to answer almost any question you can think of about the do's and don'ts here at Turtle Rock. You can find this and other information at www.myturtlerock.com.

We have scheduled the upcoming **Trash to Treasure garage sale and the Chemical Collection Day**. So far the numbers for the **Trash to Treasure** are down from previous years so please **sign up soon**. These have been scheduled for **February 13th for the garage sale, and ten days later on the 23rd for the chemical collection day**.

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

**TURTLE ROCK COMMUNITY The Annual Turtle
Rock “Trash to Treasure” sale will be held
AT INDIVIDUAL HOMES
on Saturday, February 13, 2021
from
8:00 a.m. until 11:30 a.m.**



Residents assume all responsibility and liability for their own sale. Gate attendants will distribute maps with the address of all participants as “shoppers” enter the community and will only allow entry during the hours listed above. To have your addresses included on the map of participants, please return the form below with the \$5.00 fee to cover the cost of advertising in the Herald Tribune and Observer to the Turtle Rock office (drop off or mail to 8500 Turtle Rock Blvd.) no later than Friday, February

Turtle Rock Community 2021 “Trash to Treasure”

Sale Participation Form

Resident Name: _____

Resident Address: _____

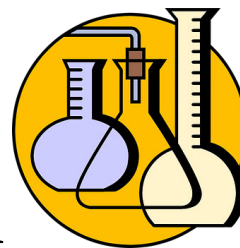
Resident Phone No.: _____

Resident Email (for sale info only):

**Return this form with the \$5.00 participation fee
(cash or check made payable to Turtle Rock Com-
munity Association) no later than Friday,
February 12th.**

Household Chemical Collection Event

Turtle Rock



Day: Tuesday

Date: Feb 23, 2021 10:00 am–12:00pm

8500 Turtle Rock Blvd Sarasota, FL 34238
(Clubhouse/Pool Area)

The collection event is for residential generated waste only. Waste generated by businesses & other organizations will not be accepted but you can receive information by contacting Brian Mangum at 941-735-6430 or 813-802-5970. We are asking residents to:

1. Stay in their vehicle; no walk up drops allowed
2. Place material in the vehicle's trunk
3. Leave staff to unload material.

Sarasota County reserves the right to limit the amount of waste accepted at any collection event. Collection event hosted by Turtle Rock Community Association. This community collection event is for Turtle Rock Community residents. Proof of residence may be requested before the county accepts any waste.

For Further Information Call:
861-1531 Hosted by Turtle Rock
Community Association.

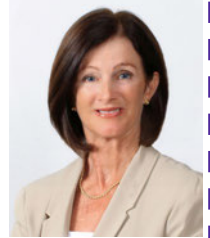
Types of Items accepted:

Aerosol Cans
Paint Thinner & Solvents
Automotive Products
Adhesives & Glues
Paint
Cleaners
Pool Chemicals
Fertilizers, Weed Killer
Insect Killer
Mercury
Household Fire Extinguishers
Propane Cylinders (BBQ size only)
Small Rechargeable Batteries
Fluorescent Bulbs
Vehicle Batteries
Motor Oil
Oil Filters ,Electronics
(No TVs or Monitors)

Items we will NOT be accepting:

Medications
Needles or Syringes, Ammunition
Fireworks, Flares
Radioactive Materials
Empty Container >5 gallons
Tires

Landscape and Grounds Committee



I hope that you are all enjoying the charm of the beautifully pruned oak trees along Turtle Rock Boulevard! The Committee met on January 13th with Shane Battle from Bloomings and property manager Ed Olson.

Several items were discussed: -Bloomings is still to provide bids to remove the oleander and pittosporum along the wall just inside the south gate and the pittosporum just south of Park Shore, along with a bid to add colorful plantings in the Boulevard corners. In addition, design plans are still needed for revision of the south entrance beds. A shady lady tree is still to be installed opposite the community center and a hibiscus tree will be installed along the wall at the south entry. Still to be done is removal of failing shrubs along the NW fence of the tennis courts, replacement of plantings in the island just inside the north gate and renovation of the bullnose areas at both the north and south gates. The re-landscaping of both corners at Sabal Lake Circle N and Turtle Rock Blvd has been completed.

In early February a top dress of mulch will be applied in all common areas along Turtle Rock Blvd.

Three community benches have been delivered and the installation should be occurring shortly. Please remember that Turtle Rock residents are welcome to purchase one of the benches and dedicate it to the memory of a loved one. One resident has already come forward with this request and the Committee is developing an information management sheet to provide to prospective donors.

The south entrance sign to Turtle Rock is fading and the Committee will gather bids to have this repainted.

The erosion along the sidewalk on Turtle Rock Blvd, between Meadow Rush Loop and Timber Chase Way, continues to be of concern. The Committee is working on a possible solution to this problem.

The Ponds Committee has requested the installation of alligator warning signs at each gate entrance and the design, location and size of the signs is being discussed.

Stewart Tennis has been asked to prepare a list of items that still need fixing at the community tennis courts.

AREN'T WE LUCKY TO LIVE IN PARADISE!!

Submitted by Jodi Cunnison



Communications Committee

Communications Committee Launches the Welcome Team!

When the Communications Committee began just a few years ago, one of our goals was to ensure that new owners and residents feel welcome and informed about our community and all that it offers. This has been made more difficult as Covid came to our gates. Now, however, we are ready! Ready, and we welcome your involvement.

We are in the process of putting together a protocol pursuant where all owners and residents will be met as they settle on their property and/or move in. During that meeting a member of the Welcome Team would share the Turtle Rock Owners' Manual (TROM) and Directory and the key information they include. We would touch on critical information about needed approvals for any changes to the exterior of their new homes; the Family, Men's, and Women's Clubs; how to get the gate access bar codes; entry code for the pool; Board meeting schedules; and, login setup for access to the Turtle Rock website, among other things. We also want to collect complete names, contact and emergency contact information, email addresses, and perhaps, health care emergency needs. Sarasota County has been urging communities like ours to do the latter for several years in order to be prepared for weather and other emergencies.

We have a good start on the framework for the Team. We will also be working with our Savannah community, to learn about their established Welcome Team, and with our Manager to work out details. We hope to develop, in addition to the TROM and the Directory, a true welcome packet that would include "gifts" from local business. With several local business owners also being Turtle Rock homeowners, we hope to get a good start.

**If you would be interested in
being part of the Welcome
Team, contact Grace Sammon
at gmsamon@gmail.com.
Come join us!**



Architectural Review Committee (ARC)



***If your palm trees could talk...
...they'd tell you they are unique plants
that need special care.***

So my husband and I discovered, after we noticed that two queen palms in our front yard were looking increasingly wilted and sad. Much research and two arborist assessments later, we are forced to replace these old beauties with two young Alexander palms. Here's what we've learned.

Background: Botanists tell us that palms are not trees, but large, woody herbs. Trees feature secondary growth (hence the rings you see when you look down at the stump of a cut tree). The so-called trunk of a palm is really a stem, with tiny circular vessels (vascular tissues) that keep the stem narrow and stiff and aid it in supporting the crown of fronds. And the "bark" isn't really bark at all, but hardened cells formed when the plant sheds its fronds.

Nutrition for palms: Many palms growing in Turtle Rock require nutrients beyond what the soil provides. Our soil is rich in potassium and nitrogen, but does not supply sufficient magnesium, manganese, boron, or iron for optimal palm health. The best way to deliver fertilizer to palms is with a slow-release palm fertilizer, applied typically three times a year. Slow-release formulation is important because a few rains will wash quick-release mix away, which doesn't help your palms or the environment. Arborists recommend sprinkling the mix in a ring 18" from the base. Palm fertilizer is sold at most garden centers. Also, local tree care companies offer affordable fertilization programs.

Continued on next page...

Architectural Review Committee (ARC) Cont'd

Water for palms: Palms vary in their drought resistance. Generally, they like moist soil. When you first plant a palm, you should water it every day for a week, then every second day the next week. After that, new palms like water a couple of times a week. Established palms can be watered once every week or two, depending on the variety. It's easy to over-water a mature palm. A little mulch around the base (but not piled up against the stem, which can cause rot) helps retain an appropriate amount of moisture and keep soil cooler.

Trimming: Over-trimming palms is a common mistake, often recommended by less-expert tree services. The popular "hurricane cut" removes live fronds that hold nutrients vital to the palm. It can mark the beginning of the end for previously healthy palms. Palms also need a full crown to protect the bud (the point that sticks up on top) from wind damage during storms. Generally, your tree service should remove only completely dead fronds. Make sure they sterilize their saws, to avoid spreading disease from other palms.

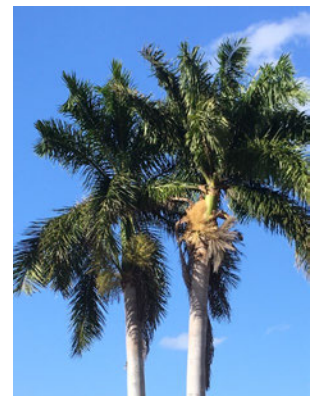
The value of an arborist: Consider engaging a certified arborist to assess and recommend care for your palms. Such companies can provide a complete program including fertilization, trimming, and monitoring of damage and solutions.

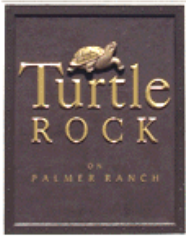
In a subsequent article, we'll discuss types of palms that are particularly well-suited to our region, and ways to avoid common palm maladies.

Submitted by Michelle van Schouwen

Retention Pond Committee Secretary

Royal Palms: Photo courtesy Donald Robear





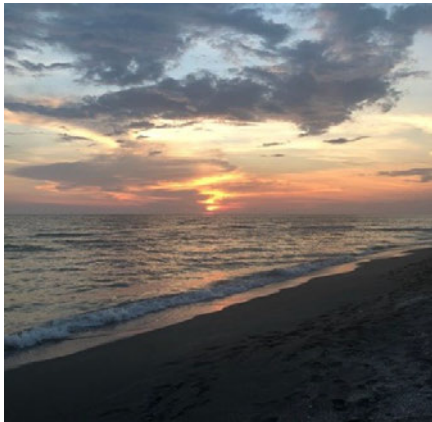
Turtle Rock Women's Club

Although group activities are still somewhat limited, the Turtle Rock Women's Club continues its new tradition of hosting a sunset gathering at a local beach.

Please join us at our next socially distant event on

**February 26th at 6:00 pm at
Turtle Beach on Siesta Key.**

Sunset is at 6:30 pm and there will be a waxing gibbous (almost full) moon rising at 6:00 pm. Bring a chair, blanket or towel to sit on, beverages, snacks and whatever else you would like.



There's free parking, clean restrooms and easy beach access. We'll meet on the beach. Look for the friendliest group. No reservations required -- just show up! Please contact Karen Howe at kmhowe001@yahoo.com or 315-632-2247 for more information.

Some of our special interest activities are ongoing as well. Water aerobics at the Community Center pool, golf and book clubs continue to meet.

Don't forget now is a great time to join TRWC! If you'd like more information on membership or activities, please don't hesitate to reach out to us at TurtleRockWomensClub@gmail.com to find out more.

Submitted by Jean Contillo

Turtle Rock Men's Club



We do not expect Men's Club luncheons to be scheduled anytime soon. Perhaps after everyone who wants the vaccination receives it, everyone will feel more comfortable in a group setting.

While **February** is the shortest month of the year, it is full of national holidays. There are hundreds of daily, weekly, and monthly holidays named by organizations or companies, days marking significant anniversaries and milestones, or even days created by social media. Here are a few of the most notable.

February is Black History Month. It is a time to commemorate and celebrate the contributions to our nation made by people of African descent.

Feb. 2nd, Groundhog Day is, when we ask: are we in for six more weeks of winter? Maybe we should all celebrate the day by watching the classic Bill Murray film.

Feb. 4th, World Cancer Day, this is a disease that has had an impact on all of us. It is an important day to raise awareness about prevention, detection, and treatment.

Feb. 5th, National Wear Red Day. Since February is considered American Heart Month, everyone should wear the color red in order to raise and spread awareness in hopes of eradicating heart disease and stroke in millions of women all over the nation.

Feb. 14th, Valentine's Day, a day to show a little love to everyone.

Feb. 15th, Presidents' Day, when all Presidents are remembered for their work in making America the great country it is today.

Enjoy the month of February!

We wish the following a Happy February Birthday! If I have missed anyone, email me and I will update the TRMC website.



Chuck Barackman, Len Friedlander, Chuck Hendrickson, Bob Lingard, Larry Nelson, Alan Perry, Michael Pitoniak, Ken Rosemann

If you know of someone who may be interested in joining the Men's Club, please have them contact me and I will be glad to assist them in the process of joining.

During these trying times, that process can be accomplished virtually.

Stay safe and help one another!

Mailbox Task Force Report



The Mailbox Task Force is delighted to announce that the installation of new mailboxes is anticipated to begin in early March. The contractor should be able to install 20 to 24 mailboxes per day using 2 crews. At this rate, the installation is expected take approximately 7 - 8 weeks to complete. The project will be tackled first at the south end of Turtle Rock, on the streets of Park Shore, Great Meadow and Far Oak Circle. Progress will then proceed north. Each street will receive ample notice of the projected date for their installation.

In preparation for the installation, it will be the responsibility of homeowners to remove all landscaping and hardscaping within a 3.5 ft. radius surrounding their post. You will be given ample lead time to do this. Task Force members will be working with individual residents to determine what preparation is required and when it needs to be completed. Task Force members will later be checking with homeowners to see if the site is ready and if not, let them know that the landscaper (Bloomings) will perform the preparation and charge the homeowner for the work.



Continued on next page...

Mailbox Task Force Report contd

An Information Session was held at the Community Center on Saturday, January 16 from 9:00am to 11:00am where task force members were available to answer questions and provide current information. There were several residents that expressed their desire to have a flagpole holder on the mailbox post, and we are currently working with the manufacturer to provide one. This option will be at the cost of the homeowner. The cost will depend on the number of people requesting one and will probably be in the range of \$30 to \$60. Once a firm cost is determined, homeowners will have the opportunity to order a flagpole holder. To insure uniformity of appearance and conditions of the warranty, installation must be done by the contractor. Homeowners will not be permitted to attach a flagpole holder or the warranty on that mail post will be void.

We hope you are all looking forward to this beautification of our neighborhood. The Board and the task force will be making sure the community is informed about the roll-out and progress of the project. Please check out the information listed in the following:

The Turtle Rock website homepage will contain updates on a regular basis. To access, go to <http://www.myturtlerock.com>. Under the “Community Association” tab, click on “Mailbox Task Force” to see the latest information about the project.

The Turtle Rock Newsletter will have a monthly article to report the status and any issues.

Community Notice Boards located around Turtle Rock will be used.

Email Blasts from our Association Manager and BOG.

Please send any comments or questions to communications@myturtlerock.com.

Submitted by Roberta Maloney

Drawing on previous page by Turtle Rock artist Barry Domenick

Turtle Rock Young Families Group



Happy February to All!

Thank you to all the wonderful children and their families that helped with cheering up our neighborhood by tying bows around our Turtle Rock Blvd. light posts! It really looked wonderful! It was so nice seeing them and remembering the kids doing that.

With February upon us we thought it would be nice for the kids to be able to have a way of giving their neighborhood friends valentines for Valentines day. We are going to be inviting the children to decorate/create their own Valentine "mail" boxes and place them along the windows on tables provided to give their friends valentines.

If your child would like to participate please write your child's name/names and ages on a notecard and place it in my mailbox at 5119 Ridgelake Pl. or email me at cortny1996@aol.com by



Tuesday, February 2.

Then get started on decorating a shoebox or create a mailbox for each child participating. Use your creativity and come up with any great way to decorate your box(s) to match your child's personality! I will email a list of all of the children participating to you on **Thursday February 3**. Have your box in the community center by **February 11** to give time for everyone to place their valentine inside. Pick up boxes between 3-4 pm on **Sunday February 14th**. I will be there to ensure it is open. If there is a conflict with the community center we will have the boxes out front.

I can't wait to see all of your wonderful valentine boxes on display! Watch for pictures in our March newsletter!

Have a great week and month! Stay well.

Courtney Knowles Turtle Rock Young Families Group

5119 Ridgelake Place. Cortny1996@aol.com

Bird Notes

Roseate Spoonbill: Not a Flamingo



Occasionally Roseate Spoonbills are seen around the lakes in Turtle Rock. They can also be seen at the Celery Fields and at Myakka State Park near the weir. They are a medium-sized wader with a football-shaped body, long legs, the distinctive flat bill and pink feathers. Spoonbills are often mistaken for Flamingos which are in the far southern areas of Florida or at Jungle Gardens in Sarasota.

Even though their pink feathers make them stand out, if you look closer you'll see that their small heads are only partially feathered and have a yellowish-green color. Often at the back of the neck, there is a featherless, nobby black "collar". Their eyes are red. Juvenile Spoonbills are paler pink and white. As they mature, they become pinker. This is due in part to the crustaceans and other invertebrates they eat that have pigments called carotenoids. The maturing process from pale to striking pink takes three years.

Spoonbills wade in shallow water, swinging their flat bills from side to side when foraging. They are a colonial bird and will nest or rest in trees near water with ibises, herons and egrets. Spoonbills usually lay 2 to 3 eggs which have brown markings. Both parents sit on the eggs and feed the chicks once hatched. Chicks fledge at 7 to 8 weeks.

Submitted by Janet Smith



Donna Wolfson...

**Still working hard to put a smile
on our face. Thanks Donna!**



I don't do resolutions



Don't text and walk



It's my party



A simpler time

SPECIAL OCCASION CELEBRATIONS...

Les and Karen Hewitt celebrated their
50th Wedding Anniversary
on December 19.

A family celebration occurred in August
before they returned to Sarasota.



Doug Cordier must have
had a milestone birthday!
You will have to ask him
how old he is now.

**If you have a celebration you would like to share
with your Turtle Rock friends and neighbors,
please send the text in WORD, and Photos
separately as a JPEG, to :**

Communications@myturtlerock.com

Audrey's Gift...

While Audrey was working in her yard, an unusual sight surprised her. There on a butterfly weed stem, she noticed a newly hatched monarch butterfly still attached to its chrysalis. The monarch was not moving at first but as Audrey looked more closely, she saw one antenna move! Relieved that it was alive, she continued to observe this beautiful creature. Soon, one of its wings slowly pumped. Audrey was excited to have this , new life in her garden and called for her husband, Ron, to bring a camera. All day long, Audrey checked on the baby monarch as it pumped itself up. She enjoyed seeing the beauty of nature unfold before her.



In the garden is where Audrey feels the most at peace. She finds the energy and tranquility of nature to be a special, up-lifting gift. This day provided more opportunity to appreciate creation in nature. Soon it would be dark;



Audrey checked the monarch one more time before going in for the night. The monarch was still there looking even stronger. First thing the next morning, Audrey went to check the baby monarch. It was still there! The monarch was slowly waving its wings in the warmth of the morning sun. Audrey knew it was only a matter of time before the monarch would lift off and be free to venture wherever it wanted. One last silent exchange of appreciation and the monarch floated away.

Audrey felt it was so interesting to watch how something seemingly so fragile could prove to be a resilient force, strong and deliberate. She knew that the monarch is one of our most prolific pollinators. With joy and hope in her heart, Audrey looked more closely at the milkweed with bright yellow blooms. There on the leaves she could see several miniature monarch caterpillars all striped in green, yellow, white and black!

Continued on next page

Audrey's Gift...contd

They were no bigger than a grain of rice and on a mission to eat as much of the leaves as possible. Of course Audrey wanted to capture this stage of the monarch's life cycle in a photo. Again, Ron came with the camera.

Audrey often says that life has so much to offer and that it doesn't cost a thing to enjoy or find excitement from the gifts nature provides. She has passed on this theory to family and friends. At almost 84 years of experience, Audrey remains an active, dedicated gardener who willingly shares her gifts with all who inquire.



Article by Lisa Dineen

Lisa interviewed her mother, Audrey. and offered this article to the TR Newsletter. Many Thanks!

Photos by Ron Paddock

As Audrey and her daughter Lisa know, there are only about 29,000 Western monarch butterflies existing. This is 1% of their original population, due to climate change, habitat loss, wildfires, and road kill. The only plant they will eat is milkweed, which is being decimated by pesticides and illegal farming. You can help by planting native Florida milkweed (asclepias) in your garden. It is available at

Florida Native Plants Nursery, 730 Myakka Rd., Sarasota, FL, 34240 open to the public Thursday to Sunday, 10-4, 941-322-1915

Asclepias Incarnata, FL native, "swamp milkweed", pink flowers; Asclepias perenias, FL native, "butterfly milkweed", white flowers; Asclepias curassavica, "tropical milkweed", red/orange flowers

Congratulations to **Steve West**

He found the word **“pyrography”** which is a type of art that is made with controlled burn marks applied with various tools, to wood.

Find this month’s outlandishly inappropriate word in one of our many articles in this Newsletter and send your guess to:

Communications@myturtlerock.com.

Your name will be entered into a drawing to receive the \$25.00 gift card,
Sponsored this month by Mira Mar Pool Care.

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

Patricia Tarlton, Grace Sammon, Judy Bentz and
Ed Olson of Sunstate Management.

Staff Writers Paula Griffin, 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.)