

Photo by  
Ginny Cheatham

# Turtle Talk

April 2026

## President's Message Grace Boehm, Board President



The Board of Governors had a busy agenda at the March 26, 2026 meeting, held at the Turtle Rock Community Center and via Zoom.

I'd like to begin by acknowledging the time and effort that go into serving on the Board and our committees. These volunteer roles matter to the community, and I appreciate the commitment they require. The Board also welcomed Michelle Robles as our newest Board member. I am pleased with where we have landed as a Board and look forward to another year of serving the community.

As we begin this term, I encourage everyone—Board members, committee members, and residents—to approach this work collaboratively and professionally. We will not always agree, and that is part of the process. Thoughtful discussion and differing perspectives often lead to better outcomes. At the same time, our conversations must remain grounded in facts, conducted respectfully, and aligned with our shared responsibility to the Association.

Each Board and committee role comes with defined responsibilities, and our effectiveness depends on being prepared, engaged, and committed to understanding and carrying out those responsibilities. When everyone contributes their time, attention, and expertise, the Board is better positioned to make sound decisions and move the community forward.

### INSIDE this ISSUE...

President's Message	1- 2-3
CAM corner	3
Treasurer's Report	4
Spring Fling	5
Border Task Force	6-7
TROM Quiz	7
Natural Assets	8-9
Watch Dog	10
Committee Request	11
From the West	12
Chalk Art	12
Women's Club	13
Men's Club	14
Spring Refresh	15
Stop	16
Serenity Pond	17
T.R.O.M. Answers	18

TURTLE TALK proof readers check articles for errors in spelling, punctuation, grammar, and sentence structure.

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

## 2026 Board of Governors



**Grace Boehm** 908-415-2051

President

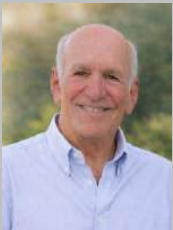
president@myturtlerock.com



**Curt Gilroy** 703-577-4841

Vice President

vp@myturtlerock.com



**Rick Myerburg** 412- 889-2572

Treasurer

Treasurer@myturtlerock.com



**Karen Howe** 315-632-2247

Secretary

secretary@myturtlerock.com



**Ehren McGeehan** 651-216-1116

Governor 1

Governor1@myturtlerock.com



**Michele Robles, Esq.**  
321-377631

Governor 2

Governor2@myturtlerock.com



**Susan Birkenmaier**  
708 -203-2746

Governor 3

Governor3@myturtlerock.com

**Next Meeting March 26**

Continued from page 1

In turn, each volunteer should be able to rely on others to bring that same level of preparation and commitment, creating a culture of mutual accountability.

Our focus remains on keeping the community's best interests at the center of our work and directing our efforts toward productive solutions and continued progress for Turtle Rock.

The Board considered five funding requests. Two related to electrical repairs (\$3,500 and \$2,500) to address safety and code issues at the North Gate and correct wiring issues created during last year's landscape lighting installation at both entrances. These were approved.

The Board ratified the engagement of Crosscreek to develop a baseline monitoring report for mitigation areas 28, 29, and 30, and the littoral shelf area in Pond 21 (\$3,825). This report is required by the County and is due April 1.

A proposal to remove Thalia at the north end of Pond 1 was approved (\$5,700).

The Board approved the painting of common areas, including interior and exterior walls, the Community Center, gatehouses, pergolas, and related structures.

Continued on page 3

Continued from page 2

Four proposals were reviewed (\$80,665 to \$142,078). The second-lowest bidder (\$84,400) was selected based on the completeness of the proposal.

All proposed committees—including charters, liaisons, chairs, and memberships—were approved, with the exception of the Landscape Committee, which was tabled for further review.

The Board ratified the Association’s insurance policies at approximately \$70,000—\$10,000 less than 2025 and \$24,000 below the 2026 budget. The 2026 flood policy (\$1,700) was also approved.

The meeting schedule was established for April 30, May 28, June 25, July 30, August 27, September 24, October 29, November 19, and December 17, 2026, and January 28, 2027. The 2027 Annual Members Meeting is scheduled for February 25, 2027.

Thank you to everyone who contributes their time, energy, and expertise to making Turtle Rock a great place to live.

## CAM Corer

Nanette Thomas, Community Association Manager

### Happy Spring to everyone.

This is a great time to check your flowerbeds for dead shrubs and bushes, remove weeds and be sure that you have adequate mulch.

Next week, community wide side walk trip hazard repairs will be taking place, please avoid the moving work areas.

The work is scheduled April 5 thru April 10.



**Nanette Thomas, CAM**  
**Turtle Rock Community Association**  
**8500 Turtle Rock Blvd**  
**Sarasota, FL 34238**  
**Turtle Rock Office.**  
**941-921-3865**



# Treasurer's Report

By Rick Myerburg, Treasurer

## Treasurer's Report – February 2026

Financial Snapshot (February 2026)

- Operating Cash: \$846,307
- Reserve Funds: \$3,169,403
- Net Income YTD: \$30,977 (favorable to budget)
- Accounts Receivable: \$40,663

As of February 28, 2026, the Association remains in a strong financial position.

Operating cash totals approximately \$846,307, with reserve funds of approximately \$3,169,403, for total assets of approximately \$4,122,973.

Year-to-date operating results through February reflect a positive net income of approximately \$30,977, with expenses running favorable to budget.

Accounts receivable total approximately \$40,663. Outstanding balances are primarily concentrated in older, long-standing delinquencies and are being addressed through standard collection procedures.

Reserve expenditures year-to-date total approximately \$171,510, supporting ongoing community projects including street lighting, pond maintenance, and walkway improvements.

Overall, the Association's finances remain stable, with strong operating cash and well-funded reserves.

### Accessing Detailed Financial Reports

Detailed monthly financial reports are available to all residents on the [Turtle Rock website](#).

To access these reports:

1. Go to: <https://www.myturtlerock.com>
2. Select 'Community Association' from the main menu
3. Click on 'Residents Only'
4. Enter the resident password
5. Select 'Budget & Financials'
6. Choose the desired year and month (e.g., February 2026)

These reports include the full unaudited financial statements for each month.



*Join us for an evening of dining, dancing, and socializing at the  
Turtle Rock...*

## **SPRING Fling!**

**Friday, April 24, 2026**

**Turtle Rock Community Center (TRCC)**

**6-10pm/BYOB**

**Seating is limited. No Walk-ins.**

**\$15 per person to reserve your spot(s)**

**Make checks out to TRMC and drop in TRMC mailbox**

**ASAP at the TR Community Center by April 20th**

### **6-7pm Dinner**

Dinner includes wraps, sandwiches (with a vegetarian option), salads,  
dessert and water.

### **7-10pm Dancing**

Music provided by DJ Hinnsone!

Questions should be sent to: **[turtlerockmensclub@gmail.com](mailto:turtlerockmensclub@gmail.com)**

\*Hosted by the Turtle Rock Women's and Men's Clubs\*

# Honore Border Task Force Project

The Honore Border Task Force was created in 2023 to tackle the worsening conditions along Honore Avenue's border. Local residents were worried about increased visibility of their homes and passing traffic, higher noise levels, and incidents of trespassing near their property lines. Other issues included overgrown vines, invasive plants, and plant debris that damaged the landscape.



In early 2024, Palmer Ranch Master Association (PRMA) notified Turtle Rock that timely, coordinated border improvements were expected. PRMA requested a collaborative plan, warning they would manage repairs at Turtle Rock's expense if requirements were not met.

Turtle Rock - Honore Border Zones



The County Stormwater Division was also involved due to the retention ponds connecting with South Creek and the intercoastal waterway.

After comparing solutions like walls, fences, and various landscaping strategies—and considering lessons learned from earlier experiences—the task force determined that using sustainable, native plants would be the most practical and effective approach to address concerns. Building walls would not only be extremely costly, but would also pose significant design and implementation issues, as well as ongoing expenses and upkeep for both the wall itself and the surrounding landscape.

A comprehensive plan has now been developed. The improvement project will be conducted in stages, beginning this spring at the northern TR border behind Nice Way and extending to the preserve area past Treesdale Ct. (yellow zone) The next phase will address the borders of Hanging Moss, Canary Palm, and Far Oak Circle, (red zone) with completion anticipated by late 2026.

Each stage begins with clearing and site preparation, followed by planned planting and temporary irrigation until the plants become self-sustaining. Once finished, maintenance responsibility will be transferred to the landscape committee for ongoing care.

Continued on next page...

## Honore Border Article contd...

Phase 1 land clearing has been completed, and planting is anticipated for March or April 2026, depending upon weather conditions and site preparation. Planning, clearing, and bid preparation for Phase 2 will take place later this year, with planting anticipated in Fall 2026.

The task force recognizes that planting along the border might help reduce some noise from traffic on Honore, but this effect will be minimal. At present, there are no practical solutions to completely block out street noise. The main advantages of these border plantings are visual road screening and discouraging trespassing—results the task force views as positive achievements.

The task force has worked to improve the Honore border, showcasing Turtle Rock as a community dedicated to maintaining an attractive environment. We believe this project will provide a long-lasting benefit for every homeowner.

## TROM Trivia May 2026

1. What are the established times for the use of the basketball, pickleball and tennis courts?
2. The community of Turtle Rock and the city of Sarasota agree, fireworks are prohibited at all times with the exception of those considered “sparklers”.  
True or False?
3. Residents hosting visitors for an extended period can do what for convenient gate Access?

Answers on last page





## Natural Assets Committee

Michelle van Schouwen , Secretary



**Let's go out walking.**



*Note the sandhill crane colt's happy dance!*

### **Saturday April 11 Turtle Trail Walk**

Join your neighbors and Natural Assets Committee (NAC) members for another guided Turtle Trail walk on Saturday, April 11 at 8:30 a.m. We will begin at the community center trailhead and walk to the north end of the trail at Palmer Ranch Parkway. You'll hear about Turtle Trail's history, plants, and wildlife, and will enjoy casual conversation as well. Sign up at the community center.

*Continued next page*



### **“What’s that I see in the tree?”**

It’s fun to spot a pine warbler. These birds forage along branches, and prefer habitats with pine trees, which are plentiful in Turtle Rock’s wooded areas.

(You may enjoy trying the free Merlin Bird ID app, created by the Cornell Lab of Ornithology, as a tool to identify bird calls and sightings. You’ll feel like an expert in no time.)

When on the Turtle Trail, you may also observe a small fruit fly trap in the second tree to the right of the first bridge. This is part of a project of the Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services (FDACS) Division of Plant Industry (DPI) and the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA). Together, they engage teams of fruit fly trappers who manage approximately 56,000 traps across 8,000 square miles of our state. Fruit flies can destroy many commercial Florida crops, including citrus fruit such as oranges, grapefruits, and tangerines.



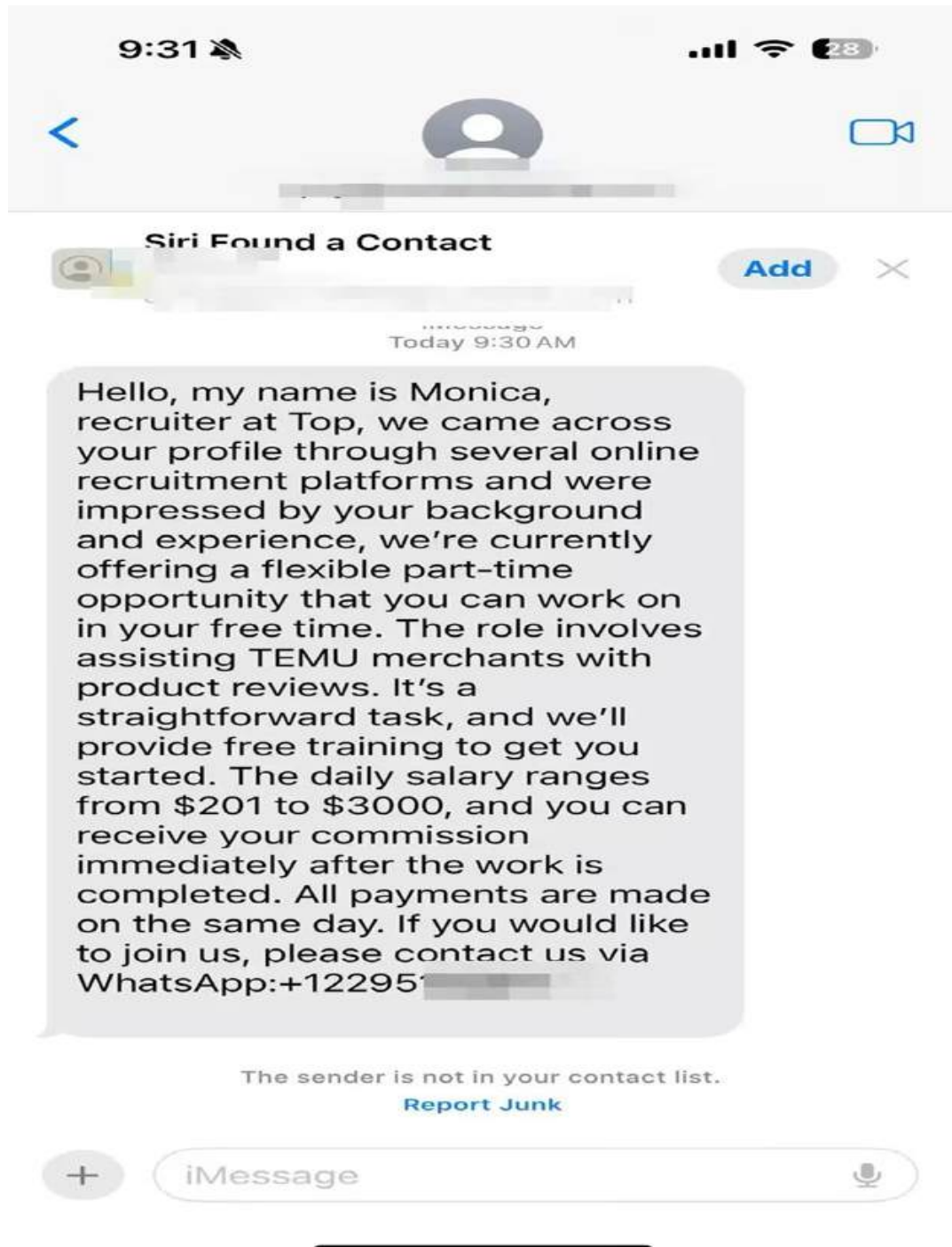
*Article by Michelle van Schouwen, Secretary, Natural Assets Committee. Sandhill crane family and pine warbler photos by Ginny Cheatham. Fruit fly project photos by Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services. Logo by Barry Domenick.*

# Watchdog Report



## The TEMU Scam

**Here is a simple scam designed to gather information from you that can be used to further swindle you and your money. This is in no way associated with the legitimate TEMU web site.**



# Committee

**Volunteer Positions**

**AVAILABLE!**



**JOIN THE TEAM**

**INTERESTED?**

**CONTACT**

**NANETTE**

**FOR DETAILS!**

[communitymanager@myturtlerock.com](mailto:communitymanager@myturtlerock.com)

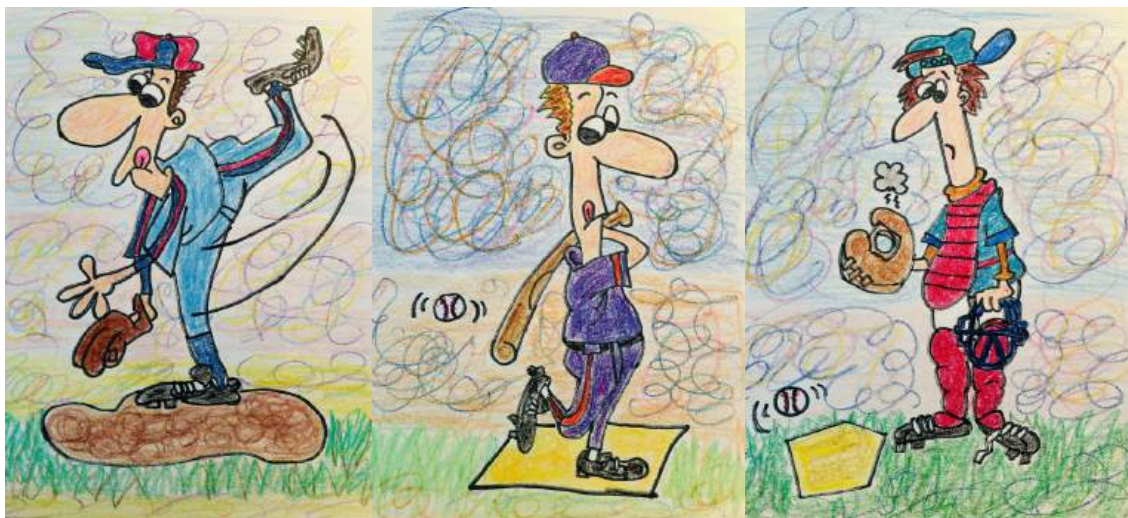
# From The West Corner Of...

Steve West, Resident Columnist



Here's a job title you won't see on LinkedIn: "ornamental hermit." The position was part of a strange trend that lasted roughly 100 years and saw English landowners hiring people to live in seclusion on their estates, often in the gardens, with byzantine rules governing their behavior. The practice is believed to have emerged around 1727 and ended just over a century later in 1830. Horticultural norms were in flux at the time, and some homeowners rejected the geometric designs of the past in favor of a more wild and natural approach. It would seem that nothing was considered more wild than an actual person, especially one forbidden from speaking, cutting their hair, trimming their nails, or wearing shoes.

Garden hermits were expected to do all this for a period of several months or years, and were generally paid handsomely before returning to the outside world. During their residency, they lived in hermitages, small structures that were as important in form as they were in function: In addition to providing a humble place to live, hermitages were meant to draw one's eye to the landscape. Decorative hermits eventually fell out of fashion, but even today we have something similar adorning our yards: the humble garden gnome.



**Chak Art**  
**By**  
**Donna**  
**Wolfson**

“Take me out to the Ball Game”

# Turtle Rock Women's Club

By Lisa Taverna

**Another Successful Luncheon**



The Turtle Rock Women's Club had another successful luncheon this month. The luncheon brought women together for a time of fellowship, connection, and encouragement. Guests enjoyed a delicious meal and meaningful conversation in a warm and welcoming setting.

Representatives of the Ringling Museum of Art & Design spoke. They shared the latest exciting initiatives taking place at Ringling College—on campus and across our community. Each year, they welcome over a thousand creatives from around the world who come to Sarasota to teach, learn, and push the boundaries of art and design. They shared programs at the Sarasota Art Museum, TOWN HALL Speaker Series, Osher Lifelong Learning Institute, and Ringling College Galleries and Exhibitions.

We would love for you to join us at the next luncheon. Contact us for more information @ [turtlerockwomensclub@gmail.com](mailto:turtlerockwomensclub@gmail.com).

# Turtle Rock Men's Club

By Ken Rosemann

**April 15<sup>th</sup> – Men's Club Luncheon – Triple Tail**  
**Guest Speaker – Joe Neunder, County Commissioner,**  
**Palmer Ranch Government Services & Taxes**  
**“How Our Taxes Are Spent in Sarasota County”**

\*\*\*\*\*

**Fishing Charter – Saturday, April 18<sup>th</sup> – SOLD OUT**

\*\*\*\*\*

**April 24<sup>th</sup> – Spring Fling – See attached flier**  
Kick off the start of Spring by attending a Spring Fling event

\*\*\*\*\*

**May 8<sup>th</sup> – Beach Sunset Happy Hour – co-sponsored by TRWC**  
At Turtle Beach, approx. 6:30pm, bring your own snacks, beach chairs, and drinks. Stay tuned for more details.

\*\*\*\*\*

**May 20<sup>th</sup> – Men's Club Luncheon – Stoneybrook**  
**Guest Speaker – Amy Gorman, Director of Development, The Sarasota Players**  
**“Overview of the Sarasota Players and Renovation Project at Payne Park”**

\*\*\*\*\*

## **Annual Membership**

Members who have not paid their 2026 dues will be removed from the mailing list April 1<sup>st</sup>.

## **Turtle Rock Golf Group**

The Turtle Rock Golf Group (TRGG), has standing tee times every Tuesday morning at Misty Creek Country Club. If you are a golfer, consider joining your neighbors for a round of golf. Send an email to, [TRMCGolf@gmail.com](mailto:TRMCGolf@gmail.com) to sign up or for more information

## **Birthdays**

We wish the following a **Happy April Birthday!** If I have missed anyone, email me and I will update the TRMC Membership List.

**Lutz Hoffmann, Jean-Claude Laurent, Tim Obrien, Kevin Whealton**

## **Welcome to the Men's Club**

We are pleased to welcome **Ray Witkoski** to the Men's Club.

\*\*\*\*\*

## **Membership**

If you know of someone interested in joining the Men's Club, please have them call or text: Fred Howe at 315-402-5936, or send an email to, [turtlerockmensclub@gmail.com](mailto:turtlerockmensclub@gmail.com), and he will be glad to assist them in the process of joining.

# SPRING HOME REFRESH



## LANDSCAPING MAINTENANCE:

RE-MULCH

TRIM TREES & SHURBS

REMOVE DEAD BRANCHES &

PLANTS

REPLACE SOD AS NEEDED

REMOVE WEEDS (GRASS,

BEDS & DRIVEWAYS)



## EXTERIOR HOME CARE:

KEEP HOMES FREE OF

MOLD, MILDEW & STAINING:

SIDEWALKS

DRIVEWAYS

POOL CAGE

ROOFS

GUTTERS

HOME EXTERIORS

*Let's keep our community looking its best!*



**PLEASE STOP.**



**ROLLING THROUGH STOP SIGNS  
PUTS LIVES AT RISK.**

**BE A GREAT DRIVER & COME TO A FULL STOP!**



*Home is where the  
dog hair sticks to  
everything  
but the dog.*

Photo by Kim Weiser



WOW!!! Check out  
some of these books!!!  
Right from the best  
seller list.

## **What's Happening At The Serenity Pond?**

Say "Hello" to one of our  
original residents.  
Please keep your distance.



## TROM Answers

1. 8 am to 10pm. (TROM II, D, 13)
2. False. Although fireworks are prohibited in TR, Sarasota County allows fireworks on New Year's Eve and day, and on the 4<sup>th</sup> of July.
3. Obtain guest passes from management to be displayed in the visitor's car window. (TROM III, A, 4)



## The Newsletter Team

The Communications Committee is always interested in input from the community.

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.

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

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

(Text must be in Word, Photos as JPEG.) THANKS for getting involved!

### Committee Members

Kim Weiser, Chair

Donna McCarthy & Charlotte Swann, Welcome Team

Penny Lind & Judy Bentz, Special Projects

Cean Cerny, Tech Support

Jennifer Gaines, Graphic Arts

Board Liaison, Susan Birkenmaier

### Newsletter Staff

Judy Bentz, Turtle Talk Editor

Steve West Contributing Writer

Proofreaders: Charlotte Jones, Grace Boehm & Ginny Cheatham