

Volume 19 | Issue 8 | 2019



#### **PRESIDENT'S REPORT** by Susan Whitehead

Over the last couple of years, I have often mentioned how large, complex and "quirky" our community is. I've explained our inherited community structure, challenges and ongoing issues here in the Heron. I'm sure that many past Presidents and board members have done the same. And yet, given some scathing recent emails, there still remain assumptions and "myths" that just like to hang on!

#### MYTH 1

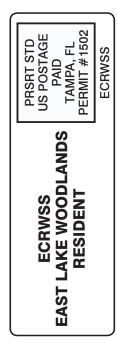
The ELWCA owns and/or operates the East Lake Woodlands Country Club

FALSE! It sounds reasonable given the name however, it's not true today. Beginning in the early 1970's, the original developer and The Mutual Benefit Life Insurance Company were in a joint venture to build and sell residential units. The East Lake Country Club was built and operated by the Developer to enhance the value of the community and promote real estate sales. Unfortunately, Mutual Benefit went into receivership in the early 1990's and the Developer decided to stop any further active development. The Developer began to sell off larger tracts of land to 3rd party Developers but retained ownership of the Country Club. The Club was sold in 1997 and today is owned by ClubCorp, the largest owner and operator of private clubs nationwide.

#### MYTH 2

#### The ELWCA owns and/or operates East Lake Water.

Again FALSE! East Lake Water was created by the original Developer to provide irrigation to the golf courses and surrounding neighborhoods. Remember, when East Lake Woodlands was first started it was literally in the middle of nowhere! The Developer sold all remaining tracts and needed an exit strategy however, the Community Association was in its' infancy in 1997. With no other



real option, the East Lake Water Company was sold together with the Country Club and has remained a part of the Country Club ever since.

#### <u>MYTH 3</u>

The original "drainage project" fixed all the drainage issues.

FALSE! The "drainage project" did a lot to get an aging system back to work as designed but, it's a lot like your car. You can invest money keeping it running but, at some point you'll need some major work. This is an old system that has a lot of metal pipes and degrading concrete structures. We now keep a vigilant eye on all possible aspects and try to address them within a robust maintenance budget. The good news is we have added drainage to our Reserve Study (our "savings" account) in order to put money aside for larger projects and we have established a line of credit in case we have a major failure that needs immediate attention. Thankfully we have a committee dedicated to ensuring the ongoing viability of the system.

#### **ELWCA BOARD MEETING TO AMEND RULES/REGULATIONS** AND POLICIES/PROCEDURES

TUESDAY. SEPTEMBER 17. 2019 6:30 PM – COUNTRY CLUB

Please refer to article from Community Manager for more details.



#### BICYCLISTS

by Keith Crank, Vice President

We have recently received some complaints from residents concerning bicyclists riding on our streets and in the interest of public safety would like to take this opportunity to remind everyone of their responsibilities.

As I have stated on several occasions

bicycles are considered a vehicle and must adhere to the rules of the road the same as any other vehicle. This means you must STOP at the stop signs in the community and you cannot impede traffic by riding in packs or riding two or more abreast. That is state law and if you are caught doing so by the sheriff's deputies that patrol the neighborhood you are subject to a warning/citation. As a bicyclists please adhere to the rules of the road.

On a personal note I have witnessed several occasions when bicyclists run stop signs and ride two or three abreast. This does nothing more than upset drivers and seems to anger them more and more.

Automobile, motorcycle and golf cart drivers are also reminded to adhere to the rules of the road with respect to bicyclists. A friend of mine was recently struck by a car and fortunately wasn't seriously injured but did have some significant scrapes and bruises. The driver of the car clipped his bicycle when passing and knocked him into the grass along the road. The driver stopped, looked back and sadly without a conscience left the scene without asking how he was.

Drivers are required to give the bicyclists a minimum of three (3) feet when passing them. Bicyclists are allowed to ride three (3) feet from the edge of the roadway, therefore anyone who passes a bicyclist will have their left wheels of their vehicle over the centerline.

Recently while out walking my dog I was very impressed by a driver following a bicyclist as they approached a blind curve. The driver slowed down and followed the bicyclist until they had cleared the curve and the driver passed the vehicle. Treating each other with respect is how as we drive.

In closing always call 911 in case of all emergencies. Should you need the assistance of the controlled access patrol officer the number to call is (813)462-8971. The sheriff's nonemergency number is (727)592-6200. Be careful and enjoy your summer, hot as it may be.

#### **EAST LAKE WOODLANDS COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION - AUGUST 2019**

#### HOA Publishers, Inc.

813.875.6068 5420 Pioneer Park Blvd. Suite C Tampa, FL, 33634

#### Submit articles to: www.HOApub.com

The East Lake Woodlands *Heron* is distributed free by HOA Publishers to all East Lake Woodlands residents, paid for through ad revenue. The Eastlake Woodlands Board of Directors welcomes all residents to submit positive and informative

#### articles about our community.

#### **Total Circulation: 4,500**

Mailed to all homes in East Lake Woodlands and available online. www.EastLakeWoodlands.com

#### **GATE STATUS REPORT**

#### ELWCA BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Susan Whitehead, President Chairman: Administrative Committee

Keith Crank, Vice President Chairman: Controlled Access Committee

**Connie Hillman, Treasurer** Chairman: Finance Committee

Chuck Fairman, Secretary Chairman: Roads Committee

Jack Picker, Director Chairman: Grounds/Irrigation Committee **Richard Corrigan, Director** Chairman: Government Relations/Legal

Paul Burmeister, Director Chairman: Communications Committee

Jeff Fosbrook, Director Chairman: Lakes/Drainage Committee

**Doug Edwards, Director** Chairman: Insurance Committee

**Debi Hudrlik, Manager** Management and Associates 720 Brooker Creek Blvd. #206 Oldsmar, FL 34677 813-433-2000

Communications: Board@eastlakewoodlands.com

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Dec 3, 2018	SUNTRUST: Outbound gate struck by commercial vehicle. Company disputing responsibility; awaiting response.	
Dec 28, 2018	SUNFLOWER: Outbound gate struck by resident; awaiting payment.	
Jan 3, 2019	SUNFLOWER: Inbound gate struck by resident; awaiting payment.	

#### EAST LAKE WOODLANDS COMMUNITY PATROL REPORT

Tampa Road Gate 727-785-7384 or North Gate 727-785-1465

#### **JUNE 2019**

EMERGENCY CALLS	3			
ALARM CALLS/911 HANG UP	3			
<b>COMPLAINT CALLS</b> (Noise, speeders, solicitors, domestic disputes, trespass, fireworks, suspicious persons)	21			
PARKING VIOLATIONS	10			
IRRIGATION CALLS	1			
MOTOR VEHICLE/ PEDESTRIAN	0			
<b>CRIMES REPORTED</b> (Vandalism to mailboxes, gates, grass damage, stolen bikes, dumping, all other criminal activity)	1			
MISCELLANEOUS/OTHER (Welfare checks, pets, wildlife, all others)	43			
The Sheriff monitored 36 hours during May 2019				
Performed 36 Hours of Presence/Visibility.				

#### **CITATIONS 10, WARNINGS 22, VEHICLES STOPPED 56**

**Top Speed:54/30 MPH.** There were 39 warnings/citations for speed, 2 warnings for stop signs, 8 warnings/citations for other offenses, i.e. seat belts, driving while license is suspended/ revoked, equipment and tailgating, no insurance.

#### **"CONGRATULATIONS & THANK YOU"**

The East Lake Woodland Community Association would like to congratulate Cross Creek resident Jill Young on becoming a United States Citizen. Inspired by her husband John and after nearly 6 years of paperwork, Jill now has dual British and USA citizenships and justifiably cannot be prouder of her accomplishment

According to Jill, the process of becoming a US citizen is a long and frustrating process with a lot of paperwork including a 100 question test on which she scored 100% correct. Not only does Jill feel privileged to be an American citizen, but we she feels extremely lucky to call East Lake Woodlands "home" and in her words "cherishes each day".

Additionally, not only did this past July 4th mark Jill and John's 5th wedding anniversary we would also be remiss if we didn't take a moment to thank John for his military service to our country. According to Jill, "John is very reluctant to talk about his heroics" but modesty aside he is a true hero in his own right with 3 Purple Hearts, a Bronze Medal and a Silver Star awarded to him while serving in the Marines primarily in Vietnam. With genuine respect and admiration, John's service as well as that of all the members of our military including their families is deeply appreciated.

We as a community are fortunate to have Jill & John Young living in East Lake Woodlands as our neighbors. Thank you to Chuck Fairman and Bruce Berger for bringing their story to our attention.



Front Row (L-R): Helen Fairman, John Young, Jill Young Back Row (L-R): Monica Christianson, Lynne Garvie, Betty Brown & Rosetta Bowsky

#### **EAST LAKE WOODLANDS COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION - AUGUST 2019**



LET THE MCCAFFERY TEAM HELP YOU DURING THE HOUSING SHORTAGE

By Ernie Del Barba, Berkshire Hathaway Home Services

According to Realtor Magazine, our continuing housing shortage and shrinking inventory is due to (and not in order of importance): 1) New Construction not keeping up with demand due to shortages

in land, labor and materials, 2) the Aging Housing Stock , with the median age of homes in the US being 37 years old, 3) the Demographic Shift to Millennials as now the largest adult population who are now homebuyers, and they have different real estate needs than their predecessors the Baby Boomers, 4) Homeowners staying in their homes longer, and 5) the Growth in the Number of single family homes being turned in to rentals. As realtors the McCaffery Team has witnessed these influences affect our market numbers, and we recognize the changing demands of the Buyers and how these changes can impact Home Sellers. We are always excited to help make the American Dream of homeownership a reality, and East Lake Woodlands remains in popular demand with the variety of homes in the community and the beautiful amenities.

With this consistency from the past several years of low inventories and rising median home values, the hardest hit group of buyers seems to be the first-time home buyer and investors, since they need homes that are priced below median values, and these can be challenging to find. Instead of only single-family homes they will consider condominiums, townhomes, and villas to establish themselves as property owners with the desire to begin to build equity. The homes for sale that have the highest inventory numbers are the luxury homes, and with the weaker demand for these Sellers can be looking at longer time on the market, and they should be ready to make concessions for interested buyers.

The McCaffery Team at Berkshire Hathaway Home Services Florida Properties Group will promote the East Lake Community. Let us, Bob McCaffery, Joan Daly, Grace Rudowski (bilingual), Sharon Greenfield, Fonda Dillard, Claudia Preisig (bilingual), help you prepare to be the ready Buyer and prepared Seller. Our team can provide you with our combined experience in the real estate market and finance, and referrals for mortgage advice that is necessary in this market. For the Sellers that are considering leasing out their homes, let our leasing department give you information on what it takes to be a landlord. The McCaffery Team knows East Lake Woodlands Best, and we are in the plaza professional building that shares space with the Member Community Pool and Tennis facilities. Please stop in to meet us or visit us at www.mccafferyteam.com. And for all of you that donated to the Backpacks of Hope drive for Metropolitan Ministries in July, thank you for your generosity.



## **Thanks Mr. McCaffery-**

Mr. McCaffery and his real estate team helped my Mom and Dad find us a new home in Tampa Bay. Your new friend, Sara....

The McCaffery Team can help you and your family find a new home in Tampa Bay. Call Bob McCaffery today at 727-331-8257 for additional information. Please tell Bob, Sara sent them.







#### **ELWCA MANAGEMENT COMPANIES**

Management & Assocs. 813-433-2000 Aberdeen Cluster 1 Cluster 3 Cluster 4 Cross Creek ELW Community Assn. Enclave Greenhaven 1 Greenhaven 2 Greenhaven 3 & 4 Pinewinds Pinnacle Silverthorne St. Andrews Woodlands Estates Woodridge Green Worthington

*First Choice Mgmt.* 727-785-8887 Preserve

*Citadel Management* 727-938-7730 Cypress 3 Woodlake Run 1, 2 & 3

*Ameri-Tech Prop. Mgmt.* 727-726-8000 Creekside Turtle Creek 1 & 2 Woods Landing

*Jim Nobles* 727-447-8949 Stonebriar

*Quality Property Mgmt.* 727-869-9700 Heatherwood/Laurel Oaks *B and C Community Management* 727-239-5991 Hunter's Crossing

*Elite Property Mgmt.* 727-224-1871 The Meadows Hunter's Crossing

#### Progressive Mgmt.

727-773-9542 Cypress 1 Cluster 5 Patio Homes

Property Group of Cent. FL 727-771-7753 Diamond Crest Isleworth *Resource Mgmt.* 727-796-5900 Deerpath Hunter's Trail

#### Sentry Mgmt.

727-799-8982 Kingsmill Turtle Creek 3 & 4

Holiday Isles Prop. Mgmt. 727-548-9402 Cross Pointe Muirfield

#### Self-Managed

Avenel Lake Shore Vista Warwick Hills The Cove at East Lake Woodlands

As of 08/01/2019

#### **MAKING FIRST IMPRESSIONS – HOW TO DRESS UP YOUR ENTRYWAY** by Sally Giar

Whether you just moved in or your space simply needs a revamp, decorating your home can be a fun and exhilarating experience. The kitchen, living area and bedroom are normally prioritized, but you can't forget about the entryway!

Your foyer is essentially the first impression of your home. When your guests arrive, this place will set the tone for the rest of their experience while visiting your residence. That means you need to pay attention to detail and take time executing a design that flows with the rest of your house.

Decorating the entryway shouldn't be a second thought - it's a necessary move for making your home feel more complete. Don't let it fall by the wayside! Here are a few ideas for dressing up the foyer:

#### **1. FOLLOW A BOLD COLOR THEME**

If you want to wow your guests from the moment they step inside, consider a bold color scheme. Red encourages a warm welcome, according to Real Simple magazine. A bright hue like yellow is great, too, as it emphasizes feelings of happiness, clarity and positivity. Choose a daring color scheme and follow it from the walls to the accents in the space.

#### 2. TAKE ADVANTAGE OF THE WALL SPACE

You might think there's minimal places to decorate in the entryway since it's likely an enclosed area, but you can take advantage of the vertical space to express your style and personality. Hang artwork, photographs or shelving with accessories to give the walls of your entryway some character.

Keep your wall space in mind while decorating the entryway.

#### **3. CREATE AN ORGANIZATION STATION**

It's easy to let the entryway get cluttered if it's the first place you and your family members stop when they get inside. Instead of using a seat or side table in the foyer to collect your jackets and accessories as you enter your home, use organizational structures that are both stylish and functional. Shelving, hooks and cubby holes can be utilized in your entryway to keep everything in order.

#### 4. USE A RUNNER OR DECORATIVE AREA RUG

Don't neglect your entryway flooring – this space is often neglected and can lead to serious wear and tear if it's the main passageway for you and your guests. A stylish area rug that's designed to disguise the wear that comes with heavy foot traffic is a chic yet totally functional accessory for the foyer. A runner is another option, which is perfect for a narrow entryway.

#### 5. MAKE THINGS COZY

If space allows it, having a seating arrangement in your entryway is a simple way to make the area feel more like a room rather than a place that's just filled with decor. Place a bench or a lounge chair in your foyer and accessorize with throw pillows and blankets to make your guests feel more comfortable, setting the tone for a cozy and inviting experience throughout your home.

Even if you've lived in your house for a decade, it's never too late to think about decorating your entryway.





#### **"TURNING LEFT ONTO TAMPA ROAD FROM THE SUNFLOWER GATE"**

by Richard Corrigan

Most times when I enter East Lake

Woodlands through one of our many gates I take a deep breath and think "I'm home". Similarly when I leave ELW I take a deep breath and think "Well, I'll be back soon". Not only is East Lake Woodlands a great place to call home in many respects it's a refuge, a calming place. However, if you need a little excitement in your life, if you want your heart rate to spike, a little more adrenalin coursing through your veins while your stomach does flip-flops, come with me as we take a virtual journey and exit the Sunflower gate and make a left turn onto State Road 584 (Tampa Road).

As you approach the gate on Sunflower Dr. you realize you can still turn around and go out through the South Gate with a traffic light and controlled flow. But – you're feeling brave and fearless, plus you trust your driving skills and the acceleration ability of your 2,500 lb. SUV. As you pass through the gate and while it's still not too late to make a right turn and go west on Tampa Road, you remind yourself that your objective is to go east.

So now you're committed to turning left and you pull as close to the dividing line so the cars behind you can make that right hand turn you can practically hear the thoughts in the minds of the drivers behind you saying; "Are you crazy", "What is wrong with you?" or just "Good Luck". But the next thing you know there's break in the traffic, you tap your accelerator and pull forward to the middle of the Sunflower Gap on Tampa Road, making sure that the rear end of your SUV is safely tucked into the gap you're ready to accelerate when a break in the traffic appears in the east bound lane.

But wait, you didn't see the Ford F-250 with the giant trailer coming from the west and attempting to make a U-turn. How could you tell – no signal! Whatever his intention, you can't see around him. Your wife starts straining her neck to see and begins the Greek chorus chant "Oh, my God, Oh my God, Oh my God....." Then out of the corner of your eye, and coming from the east you spot a 1986 Toyota Corolla with a mismatched hood and dented fenders. The driver is in the left hand lane, surely he will miss the rear end of your vehicle since it's safely tucked in but there are no guarantees since this is no ordinary motor vehicle and the operator has just left Tijuana Flats where he burned his tongue on the "volcano sauce" and is in no mood to miss making a U-turn. He slips into the space to the left of you and begins competing for any clear spot in the lanes of traffic to complete his turn heading east.

At that point, the "perfect storm" otherwise known as gridlock has been created. The driver to your left can't move because he can't see around you and you can't move because you can't see around the F-250 with the trailer trying to make a U-turn to go the opposite way and the whole thing is a mess. Making matters worse, even if you could see, there is no break in the east bound traffic, the cars are going by at what seems like 125MPH, and the west bound traffic is accelerating towards you from the Forest Lakes light. "Oh my God, Oh my God, Oh my God" – now you are chanting it yourself.

Eventually everything clears, you make your left turn and as you munch on your Dunkin Donut while filling your car with gas at Thornton's (you saved 6 cents a gallon and that was the reason you came out the Sunflower gate after all), you think "Well, even if my wife was traumatized that wasn't so bad"!!!

Obviously I was just trying to be humorous (or macabre) in the above scenario, but the Board of the East Lake Woodlands Community Association is seriously trying to ensure the residents of East Lake Woodlands leave the complex safely and without stress. Our relationship with the Pinellas County Roads Department is excellent and the department has been very helpful to us over the past few months in upgrading turning lanes and addressing lane blockage issues both on Tampa Road and on East Lake Road. The problem with this section of Tampa Road is that the portion by the Sunflower gate is a state road under the jurisdiction of the Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT) until it branches off at the Curlew Road intersection. We have explained to the FDOT that the Sunflower intersection has become more dangerous over the past few years due to a couple of reasons:

- 1. General increase in traffic with more residents in the area combined and with more commuters traveling to and from Tampa.
- 2. The increased commercial and retail space at Woodlands Square and the strip of restaurants and small retail further east on Tampa Road. (Salt Rock Tavern, Rumba Grill, Wooden Ladle, First Watch, etc.).

When increases in through traffic are combined with limited U-turn opportunities while also coupled with a lack of traffic lights controlling egress from East Lake Oaks or Bay Arbor and other complexes, you end up with a Tampa Road / Sunflower Gap U-turn problem.

While we have also pointed out to FDOT that a better U-turn choice would be further down Tampa Road at the Lockheed Martin traffic light; their response to our suggestions has been that the traffic level and the lack of any serious accidents at the Sunflower intersection do not warrant changing the traffic flow at this time.

Moving forward, our intent is to upgrade the discussion as follows:

- 1. Engage the support of Oldsmar as the traffic flows through their city limits and impacts their citizens as well as ours.
- 2. Raise the issue to the State Level through our legislators (initial conversations were held in a meeting on July 15th.).
- 3. Solicitation of observations and anecdotal comments from ELW residents.

If you have a story or incident you would like to share please send it by Email to; Mary Hunt at mhunt@mgmt-assoc.com using the Subject Line; SUNFLOWER U-TURN. As insight, the FDOT Plans to repave that section of Tampa Rd. (SR584) by April of next year so we have some time but we need to hear from you. We share the concerns of many residents in our community who would like to see the intersection improved and are confident that if more voices articulate their thoughts in writing the better our chances of getting it resolved. Thanks for your cooperation and Happy Driving!!

#### **VEHICLE BARCODES**

If you need a barcode you must provide the following:

#### **Owners:**

- Proof of residency: Driver's license reflecting ELW address OR warranty deed OR closing statement
- Vehicle registration for each vehicle requiring a barcode

#### **Renters:**

- Proof of residency: Copy of lease
- Driver's license
- Vehicle registration for each vehicle requiring a barcode

#### Payment

• Payment for barcodes must be made with cash or check only.

For additional questions please contact: Mary Hunt at (813) 433-2014.

#### **EAST LAKE WOODLANDS COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION - AUGUST 2019**



#### LONG-BILLED CURLEW by Jake Jacoby

**BIRD OF THE MONTH** 

The Long-billed Curlew is a large North American shorebird, also called the "Sicklebird" and the "Candlestick Bird". This curlew is the largest sandpiper in North America and has a very long bill that curves downward and measures

between 5 and 9 inches in length in adult birds; and, the bill is the longest of any shorebird in the world. The bill is a third of the total body length of the bird, and this curlew has a profile to rival Pinocchio's. Also, it has a large neck and a small head and exhibits reversed sexual dimorphism, and like many sandpipers, the female is larger than the male and also has a much longer bill. They are monogamous and breed with the same mate year after year.

The Long-billed Curlew's breeding habitat is grasslands in westcentral North America (the Great Plains). They display an elaborate courtship dance, with fast looping display flights also being common. Males will flutter up to 50-feet above the ground and start descending with their head stretched out, wings curved downward and legs tucked up into the body while calling.

Courting males will make several nesting scrapes in the ground in dry areas with low vegetation; and, then the female will choose the site. This small hollow, or scrape, is then lined with various weeds, grasses, pebbles and bark to serve as the nest. Four eggs are normally laid.

Long-billed Curlew young are "precocial" and the chicks hatch with their eyes open and able to leave the nest within hours after hatching. While both parents look after the young, females usually abandon the brood to the male in 1-to-3 weeks after hatching and depart for their winter grounds.

Long-billed Curlew's are highly territorial around their nest site and will perform threat displays toward intruders. They commonly crouch down and lift their wings slightly while running straight toward any intruder.

Long-billed Curlew's often feed in flocks. They are mainly carnivorous and use their long bill to probe the mud, sand, or grasses for suitable food. The bill's end is controlled by separate muscles, so it acts like a finger. The usual food consists of crabs, shrimp and various other small invertebrates. They also feed on grasshoppers, beetles, and other insects.

Candlestick Point in San Francisco was named after this indigenous bird, and subsequently Candlestick Park stadium inherited the name as well because they were so abundant in the bay area mud flats. However, they were practically extinct in the San Francisco bay area by 1916 due to over hunting and the loss of habitat. At this time they are making a slow but steady comeback.

All of the above photographs were taken by me with the beach scenes in Fort DeSoto Park in Pinellas County and the flying scenes along the Bear River in Brigham City, Utah.

Long-billed Curlew predators include hawks, badgers, coyotes, weasels and snakes.



Long-billed Curlew in flight



Long-billed Curlew with Fiddler Crab



Long-billed Curlew beachcombing



Long-billed Curlew

## EAST LAKE FIRE RESCUE'S BACK TO SCHOOL SUPPLY DRIVE

by Claudia Faiola, Fire & Life Safety Educator / East Lake Fire Rescue



East Lake Fire Rescue is teaming up with the East Lake Community Library to gather back to school supplies for the Haven of RCS, a local shelter for victims of domestic violence. Community members can drop off donations at station 57 located at 3375 Tarpon Lake Blvd., Palm Harbor, FL 34683 Monday through Friday between 8am and 4pm. Donation will help students have a bright start to the new school year. Suggested Items include backpacks, lunch bags, writing instruments, notebooks, binders, paper, rulers, glue sticks, crayons, etc. Firefighters from East Lake Fire Rescue will also be purchasing school supplies to add to our collection using funds from our 2018 5K Run/Walk for Charity.

#### EAST LAKE FIRE RESCUE DONATES \$1,500 TO LOCAL FAMILY

by Claudia Faiola, Fire & Life Safety Educator / East Lake Fire Rescue

Thanks to all of the support East Lake Fire Rescue received during their Annual 5k Run/Walk in 2018, East Lake Fire Rescue was able to donate \$1,500 to the Trumbull family during the 3rd of July Fundraiser event at the Varsity Club. Here's the family's story: While suffering from ongoing kidney issues that had been maintained successfully for years, Chelsea Trumbull suddenly felt half her body go numb. She was rushed to the hospital, where she remains on dialysis permanently until she can receive a kidney transplant. Chelsea and her husband Kody now face ongoing medical bills while raising a 6-year-old son and a 2-year-old daughter. If you would like to donate to the family, please visit: https://www.gofundme.com/helpkody039s-family?sfns=mo



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ADVANCES IN HEALTHCARE

by Paul Burmeister, Editor

Editor's Note: Before you delve too deeply into this month's column, I've decided that it's important to provide a sense of "context" to ensure everyone has an understanding of the perspective I'm writing from which is basically this; Think of the dribble I spew as a "literary limbo contest" where every month my goal is to intentionally set the bar lower. Now that we understand

each other, what follows is a letter from East Lake Woodlands resident and local florist "Rhoda Dendrum" that caught my attention on a topic I consider myself to be very well versed on and that I thought I could use to enlighten everyone concerned with advances in healthcare.

## "Rhoda Dendrum" wrote to me with the following question:

**DEAR MR. EDITOR:** I want you to know how much I really enjoy reading your column in The Heron. Your insights are always thought provoking and your humor is outrageously funny. I personally believe the entire publication should be devoted to your musing and all of my neighborhood friends think you're extremely magnanimous for not only providing space for the other less entertaining columnists to contribute but for also allowing some of them to be on the front page.

Since you appear to be "all knowing", my question to you is this; How is it that fewer people need wheel chairs when they get off an airplane than when they got on?

**DEAR RHODA DENDRUM:** I personally appreciate your compliments but also would like to caution you about disparaging the other Heron columnists. The insights the other contributors provide although recognizably less entertaining than my fodder with practice and mentoring will hopefully someday become equally as insightful. Please also keep in mind that continued encouragement of them is important to their personal development and professional growth and if my columns were consistently on the front page our readers would most likely get into the habit of not turning the pages and reading the rest of the publication. Now back to your question.

Recognizing that our country has some of the best hospitals and doctors in the world, an emerging medical break thru sweeping across the wild blue yonder is the "miracle flight". While the news media has not reported it, I have personally studied the phenomena you're asking about where fewer people need wheel chairs when they de-plane than when they boarded. My view is the answer most likely lies within 2 possible realms. The first theory is regardless of their physical conditions, previously wheel chair bound passengers are extremely anxious to rush to real bathrooms inside the airport they can actually turn around in without stepping partially undressed half way back out into the aisle way. In this instance, the power and/or fear of potential bladder leakage in conjunction with their bowels sends electrical impulses and forces their brains to block out any physical affliction they have, neurological stimulators kick in and when combined with stomach cramping they are provided with super human strength facilitating they're ability to sprint like Olympian racers to the closest restroom.

My second theory and the one I believe is the more plausible of the two is connected to the assorted bottles of "medicinal serum" the "medical staff" offer passengers during flight. From my perspective it appears as though the "Jack Daniels serum" not only makes men believe they're virile, handsome and witty but in some instances they become delusional and think they could fly the plane in an emergency. The "Grey Goose & Smirnoff's medicines" are for insomniacs and allows nervous passengers to fall asleep and snore real loud with their mouths open. "Jim Beam" is used for oral hygiene and gets both the taste and smell of the gas station sushi and beef jerky they had for lunch on the way to the airport off their breath. Either red or white wine can be used to treat people with laryngitis and throat problems since it appears to facilitate the ability to speak really loud and giggle incessantly. A little known fact is wine and martinis are also good for ensuring our bodies are kept properly hydrated while airborne. Keep that in mind.

Sadly, two serums that don't seem to be working as intended and may need to be removed from the study due to the adverse effect they are having on passengers are gin and scotch. Reports are neither item alone is problematic itself but when given to individuals with opposing political views sitting next to each other extremely aggressive behavior and zero tolerance for the others perspective consistently follows.

You may not have realized this since your intellectual curiosity is not as keen as my own but I've also noticed the beer is dispensed in larger quantities than the other serums and have reasoned that since the dosage strength is lower than the other medicines at least 3-4 bottles are needed for optimum potency. In most instances the beer is probably being prescribed for passengers on clear liquid diets that can't eat solid foods and are on their way to colonoscopies. Why anyone on an airplane would be prepping for a colonoscopy doesn't personally seem like a good idea to me, it's important not to be judgmental and question other people's wisdom. As an aside, an additional medicinal use for this serum is it also appears to be used with patients that have constipation to effectively create flatulence.

While I admittedly don't know which combination of serums is specifically being dispensed to improve passenger's ability to walk off planes, the fact that the airline industry is working diligently every day to improve our health care system while effectively diversifying their business and not messing around with tighter leg room any more is very encouraging. The icing on the cake is flight attendants are now able to treat our afflictions and based on their preference can state "pharmacist" or "medical professional" on their resumes without actually taking college courses and without the worry of student loans to pay off. And best of all, without government interference and involvement from big drug or insurance companies; special interests groups can't complicate the system, there are no insurance deductibles to meet and there are no insanely high hospital bills to decipher when you're done. All this and knowing that you can just walk off the plane when the flight lands should provide you with comfort without even mentioning that if you fill out an application for one of their credit cards you'll get a slew of frequent flier miles redeemable for followup treatments.

Thanks for allowing me to share my insight associated with this exciting medical break-through with you.



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#### **BE PREPARED FOR HURRICANES!**

by Claudia Faiola, Fire & Life Safety Educator / East Lake Fire Rescue



East Lake Fire Rescue would like to share some tips to ensure that you are prepared in case of a Hurricane. Don't wait till there is a potential hurricane heading our way and store shelves are empty. Be prepared in advance! Here are some tips we encourage you to follow:

- Create a disaster plan before hurricane season begins
- Organize important papers so you can grab them quickly if necessary

#### PREPARE AN EMERGENCY SURVIVAL KIT

- Stay kit: one-week supply of food that requires no cooking, drinking fluids, non-electric can opener, one gallon of water per person per day, cups, plates and plastic utensils, cooler and ice, pet food. Considering hurricane season ends right around thanksgiving time, consider purchasing items that you can use for your thanksgiving meal (think thanksgiving dinner: canned corn, string beans, yams, pumpkin, sweet peas, carrots, cherry/ apple pie filling, graham ready crust, cooked ham in a can, applesauce etc.). If you end up not using them for thanksgiving, November is also the perfect time to donate canned foods and nonperishables to food pantries.
- First Aid Supplies: bandages, gauze pads and tape, soap and anti-bacterial gel, scissors and tweezers, sunscreen, pain reliever and anti-itch cream
- Tools and Emergency Supplies: flashlights, battery-operated radio, extra batteries, matches or lighter in waterproof container, maps with shelter locations, shut-off wrench and other tools, paper and pencil and plastic sheeting and tarps
- Sanitation: Portable toilet (5-gallon bucket, heavy trash bags, chlorine bleach) toilet paper and moist tissues, feminine supplies and personal hygiene items
- Clothing and bedding: One complete change of clothing and shoes per person, sturdy shoes or boots, rain gear, blankets and sleeping bags, sunglasses
- Kids and entertainment: Favorite nonperishable snack, powdered milk, favorite toy/stuffed animal, diapers and wipes, blanket and pacifier, board games, coloring books and colors, playing cards, etc.

#### KNOW YOUR EVACUATION ZONE

- Check out the following website: http://egis.pinellascounty. org/apps/knowyourzone/
- Call Pinellas County Interactive Hurricane Evacuation Inquiry Line at 727-453-3150
- Check your county utility bills and the Truth in Millage (TRIM) sent by property appraiser, they will contain your evacuation zone.

#### THEATRE EXCEPTIONAL PRESENTS MARY POPPINS

LARGO, FL (July 11, 2019) – Theatre eXceptional introduces an exciting fifth season of theatre arts and education performances for adults with disabilities with the production of Disney's Mary Poppins at the Central Park Performing Arts Center in Largo. Following a successful conclusion to their fourth season of performances, the Theater eXceptional cast will again consist of a blend of bay area professional actors and actors with disabilities in this full-length musical production.

This high-energy, classic family musical follows the 'practically perfect' Mary Poppins, played by Hailey Buxton (seen most recently as Kim McAfee in Bye Bye Birdie) as she brings order to the Banks household in a twist of amazing and magical events with the Banks children, played by Kylee Simon (recently Rosie DeLeon in Bye Bye Birdie) and Theatre eXceptional newcomer Christian Carrillo. Steven Brodnick (recently Beast in Beauty and the Beast) will also be joining his first musical with TheatreX as the ever-lovable chimney sweep, Bert.

Mary Poppins is a benefit performance to support Theatre eXceptional, a Blue Butterfly Production. Theatre eXceptional is a nonprofit organization that uses the performing arts to raise awareness, break stigmas, and provide professional education and performance opportunities for adults with disabilities. Through theatre classes held in the fall and spring, Theatre eXceptional provides comprehensive theatre education to students with varying disabilities who have proven year after year that they are capable of attaining performance opportunities in a professional theatre setting.

Directed by Theatre eXceptional's Artistic Director Brianna Larson, the musical will run September 5 - 7 at 7:30 p.m. with a Sunday matinee September 8 at 2 p.m. in the Tonne Playhouse at the Central Park Performing Arts Center. This performance is made possible in partnership with The Rotary Club of Largo, The Jillted Florist, and the City of Largo.

#### **ABOUT BLUE BUTTERFLY PRODUCTIONS:**

Founded in the summer of 2015, Blue Butterfly Productions is a non-profit arts organization based in Largo, Florida. Blue Butterfly Productions builds inclusive communities using the power of the arts to connect people and change lives through high-quality educational experiences and performances. Blue Butterfly consists of organizations Porch Stories, Theatre eXceptional, and the 4x6 Fest who together endeavor to be inclusive and diverse; maintain quality and sustainability; embrace risk and provide support; encourage boundary expansion; model dignity, respect, and integrity; be provocative and empowering; provide education and enlightenment; and promote acceptance and accessibility. Blue Butterfly Productions serves the community and supports local artists in the pursuit of powerful, meaningful work for cultural enrichment and the betterment of society. www.BlueButterflyProductions.org





#### **BACK TO COLLECTING** GET THE POINT?

by Paul J.H Leaser

"Folders" or pocket knives, as they are familiarly known have been around before the middle century.

I remember, as a twelve year old in 1937, finally getting leggings in which was a "holster" or a pocket for a scout knife and proudly wearing it to school.

(You wouldn't dare that today!)

The pocket knife is a popular collectible today, as they are generally inexpensive, and there are many varieties to collect. There are the advertising knives, movie stars of old, political, and many popular brands, such as Remington and Winchester styles.

Predicting the American manufacturers were the Sheffield, Rogers and sons, and many makers of more than 1000 "springblade" finishers in London in the 1830's.

Knife shows, flea markets, and garage sales provide good hunting areas. When I collected, I found many of my knives in "second-hand" shops of that era: "lost" through the years in the crevices of couches and chairs were many old and forgotten knives along with nickels, dimes, and pennies.





EAST LAKE COMMUNITY LIBRARY AUGUST 2019 SPECIAL EVENTS

By Patty Ann Wieczorek, Reference & Marketing Librarian

#### STARLIGHT PUPPET THEATER PRESCHOOL SHOW

Mon., Aug. 12, 10:30-11:30am

Join Miss Connie & her puppet friends for enchanting storytelling. This program is best suited for those 5 & under. Registration required.

#### COFFEE & KLEENEX - FIRST DAY OF SCHOOL

Wed., Aug. 14, 8-10am

Children's staff will hit the street to wish our young patrons a great first day. Parents are welcome to park here & walk to Cypress Woods to avoid the car line. Stop in after drop off for some coffee & to commiserate/celebrate with other parents.

#### **ELCL AUTHOR SHOWCASE**

Tues., Aug. 20, 6:30-7:45pm

Cheryl Hollon writes the Webb's Glass Shop Mystery Series set in St. Petersburg. She's written five books so far & she has a contract for more. Mysteries swirl around the owner of this innocuous little business. Come hear about her writing & her glass making hobby.



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## about falling?



MANAGING CONCERNS ABOUT FALLS

Many older adults experience concerns about falling & restrict their activities. Falls are preventable! <u>A MATTER OF BALANCE</u> program is a <u>FREE Evidence Based</u> <u>Program for 60+</u> designed to reduce falls & increase activity levels. The program consists of <u>2 hour classes, twice a week (Mondays & Wednesdays) for 4 weeks</u>.

All participants must attend the first session on August 7th and be willing to attend the next 6 - 7 classes. Workbooks will be provided. This program explores the concerns & causes of falls and provides practical strategies on how to prevent falls. In the third class, we will have 45 minutes of light chair assisted exercises to increase balance & reduce falls.

#### YOU WILL LEARN TO:

- view falls as controllable
- set goals for increasing activity
  make changes to reduce fall
- risks at home • exercise to increase strength
- and balance

#### WHO SHOULD ATTEND?

- anyone concerned about falls
   anyone interested in improving balance, flexibility and
- strengthanyone who has fallen in the
- anyone who has restricted activities because of falling

concerns



3375 Tarpon Lake Blvd. Palm Harbor, FL 34685

#### Mondays & Wednesdays

2:00 pm - 4:00 pm

August 7, 12, 14, 19, 21, 26, 28, (no class on Sept 2<sup>nd</sup>) & Sept 4, 2019

Program is FREE. Pre-Registration Required

Register @ (727) 784 - 8668, ext. 204

Class limited to 14 people

A Matter of Balance: Managing Concerns About Falls This program is based on Fear of Falling: A Matter of Balance. Copyright ©1995 Trustees of Boston University. All rights reserved. Used and adapted by



#### A MESSAGE FROM YOUR ELWCA MANAGER by Debi Hudrlik, AMS, CMCA

Good day ELW residents, I hope everyone is having a fabulous summer! In the event you were not aware, the offices of Management & Associates will close at 1:00 PM each Friday between July 12 and August 30 for the summer. We will not close at 12:00 noon for lunch on those

Friday's and will remain open until 1:00 PM. In the event you need to purchase new bar codes or visit our office for other reasons, please make note of the Friday summer hours.

#### NOTICE OF BOARD MEETING ON SEPTEMBER 17 AT 6:30 PM AT THE COUNTRY CLUB REGARDING PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO RULES AND REGULATIONS AND POLICIES/ PROCEDURES.

As many of you know, various ELWCA documents can be found on the community website at www.eastlakewoodlands. com. If you go to the site, click on Community Association, then Documents, you will find our Collection Policy, Golf Cart Rules and Regulations, Policies and Procedures for Records Inspection, and various other documents entitled policies/procedures and rules/regulations that were adopted in the past. The Board will be combining these documents all into two documents, one entitled **Policies and Procedures**, and the other **Rules and Regulations**.

In 2018 the Florida Statues were changed which mandate that all rules and regulations of the Association be recorded in the public records. As the rules and regulations for ELWCA were not previously recorded, and also contained items that are deemed to be policies and procedures, we will be revising all of our various documents, separating the rules and regulations from the policies and procedures, and will then record the new rules and regulations document in the public records of Pinellas County.

The proposed new documents will be posted for your review to the community website the week of August 26 (follow instructions above and look for PROPOSED NEW RULES/REGULATIONS). As stated above, the board meeting will be held on **Tuesday**, **September 17, at 6:30 PM at the Country Club.** If you are unable to attend the meeting and have any questions on the documents, feel free to reach out to the board at board@eastladwoodlands. com.

**BICYCLE RULES OF THE ROAD.** With the summer weather and later sunlight hours we are seeing an increased amount of bicycle traffic within our community. In Florida the bicycle is legally defined as a vehicle and the bicyclist is a driver. Bicyclists have the same rights to the roadways, and must obey the same traffic laws as the drivers of other vehicles. These laws include stopping for stop signs and red lights, riding with the flow of traffic, using lights at night, yielding the right-of-way when entering a roadway and yielding to pedestrians in crosswalks. For your safety, we ask that everyone review the rules of the road which can be found at https://floridabicycle.org/bicycle-traffic-law/.

**EAST LAKE WATER EMERGENCIES.** The offices of Management & Associates continue to receive after hours calls from homeowners regarding irrigation emergencies. Please understand that East Lake Water is not affiliated with the East Lake Woodlands Community Association, and we have no control or jurisdiction over the water company. Should you have an irrigation emergency, please call **East Lake Water at 727-784-6262.** Likewise, many homeowners reach out to us regarding issues at the Country Club. The Country Club is not owned by East Lake Woodlands Community Association and is privately owned. Again, we have no control or jurisdiction over Country Club activities. All concerns regarding the Country Club should be directed to 727-784-8576.

**METRO/MCDONALD'S/SHOPPING CENTER EXIT GATE.** We have been working with the shopping plaza on how to proceed with the repairs required at this location. As the shopping center's position is the gate should remain accessible to motor vehicles, we are investigating the various options related to repairing or replacing the existing gates or going to a barrier arm style gate similar to those used at Tampa Road and East Lake Road. As additional insight, repairing the gate will take some time, as the main source of the problem appears to be large tree roots in that location which may need to be removed. If needed a survey may also be needed to ascertain exact property boundaries as will obtaining permits from the county to facilitate tree removal.

Additionally, the Pinellas County Traffic Division has also inspected this area and will be re-locating and replacing some signage to better alert motorists. Additional information associated with this project will be forthcoming once our options are considered and a final decision is made. We thank you for your patience and understanding in this matter as we work toward a solution that will best benefit the community and the shopping plaza.

**BACK TO SCHOOL/BUS STOPS.** The first day of school for Pinellas County students is August 14, and the buses will soon again be driving through the community. We ask that everyone please be patient and follow the rules of the road for school bus safety. Please visit the site at https://www.flhsmv.gov/safetycenter/child-safety/school-bus-safety/. Safety works both ways, and we have also received complaints about school buses that are not coming to a complete stop at a stop sign or are speeding. The Pinellas County School Board has asked that you report the bus number and/or license plate number of the bus to them. All buses are equipped with GPS and the school board can ascertain the location as well as the speed of a particular bus at a given time. Please report any bus concerns to the District Transportation Call Center at 727-587-2020, and be sure to ask for a case number.

May you all enjoy what is left of the summer. Take care and be safe! If I can be of assistance, please contact me at dhudrlik@mgmt-assoc.com or 813-433-2004.

#### 2019 EASTLAKE WOODLANDS COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION BOARD MEETING SCHEDULE

August 20th	8:00am	Management & Associates
September 17th	6:30pm	East Lake Woodlands Country Club
October 15th	8:00am	Management & Associates
November 19th	6:30pm	East Lake Woodlands Country Club
December 17th	8:00am	Management & Associates

Management & Associates office is located at: 720 Brooker Creek Blvd Suite 206 Oldsmar, FL 34677

### Butler Plumbing Services Let The Butler Do It!

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Ch Tom Butler 727-236-2452 Jeff Butler 727-236-2257

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# **ONE SIZE DOESN'T FIT SMALL.**



## **Emergency Care for Kids**

Kids aren't the same size as grown ups, so we don't use adult-sized instruments in our pediatric ER. Everything comes in a range of sizes to treat the smallest patient to the biggest one. Based on your child's weight and size, we use the blood pressure cuff that's the right fit for the most accurate reading, or ventilation masks and bags to provide the correct amount of air for their lungs. And we always make sure that medications are measured appropriately. It's important for your child to be treated someplace that's equipped to meet their unique needs. Learn how the right size care can make a difference in your child's ER experience: **PediERChildSize.org** 



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