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September • 2019

**Issue 7
43rd Year**

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Golden Gate Residents Association

8201 40th Street North, Pinellas Park, FL 33781

Paul CarterPresident, Lot #87..... 577-7752
Dennis Dufault Vice President, Lot #245 615-974-9424
Pat Stephenson..... Treasurer, Lot #235..... 727-273-4877
Jerry Thompson.....Secretary, Lot #271..... 740-591-3648
Jim Alaimo.....Director, Lot #17..... 735-2634
Jane HotchkissOffice Manager 577-9205

Office Hours: 9:00 a.m. – 2:30 p.m. Monday through Friday
Office Phone: (727) 577-9205
Office Fax: (727) 576-3287
E-mail Address: goldgateresassoc@tampabay.rr.com
Emergency Number: (727) 578-2891



Director on Call for the Month of September – Dennis Dufault

In case of a “Park Emergency “– Dial (727) 578-2891.
For emergency crime or health issues dial 911.
For non-emergency crime issues you should call the Police dispatch number 541-0758.



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From your Board of Directors

There was no Board of Directors meeting scheduled in August, 2019. Our financial report for the month of July 2019 shows that income for the month was \$38,562 with expenditures of \$27,746. The financial statement for each month is posted on the bulletin board at the rear of the hall for everyone to review.

Just a Reminder from the Board of Directors:

Residents should not park vehicles or golf carts that are for sale at the front gate as this does not present the best atmosphere of our community.

Additionally, there have been a few incidents where residents have had guest staying at their home over the 15 day limit without directors approval. Per Rule 5 of the Golden Gate Regulations: Guest(s) must be registered upon arrival and they must agree to abide by all rules of the Association. Occupancy by guests of the shareholder shall be for a period of time not exceeding 15 (fifteen) consecutive days and 30 (thirty) days total per year, unless a longer period is approved, in writing, by the Board of Directors. A Shareholder who has a guest approved to stay longer than 30 days will be assessed \$40.00 per month for each guest. Any visit of a guest will be terminated immediately if they fail to abide by the Association Rules and Regulations. Any permission for an approved extended guest who fails to follow the Rules and Regulation will be revoked. Use of the unit by a shareholder's family members is permitted, provided the shareholder notifies the office prior to arrival of the family members, assumes responsibility for water, sewer, and garbage charges, and designates the length of stay. Guest(s) must be registered upon arrival and they must agree to abide by all the rules of the Association.

Shut off water valves

If you are using the water outdoors, please remember to shut off the valve at the house instead of just turn the nozzle on the hose.



Maintenance Staff Assistance

If you identify a maintenance item around the Community, please ask someone in the office (Jane or a member of the board) to complete a work order for Lam. This allows them to track, prioritize and complete their daily work load. Thank you!

**View this newsletter in full color at www.Monthly-media.Com
Right click with mouse to download to your computer**



Parking Request

Whenver you, your guests, or contractors need to park out on the street, please follow Community Rules!

- No parking on the sidewalks. Your maintenance fees pay for all repairs.
- Please use common sense and do not park near or on corners or close to intersections.

We would encourage parking on the same side of the street to avoid traffic having to “zig-zag” to get by. This causes obstructions and creates a dangerous situation for cars, golf carts and bicycles trying to proceed by the vehicles.

Soliciting

Soliciting of any kind is not allowed in Golden Gate. If anyone comes to your door trying to sell anything, please be safe and just say no thank you; close your door and call the police non-emergency number (on page 2 of the Golden Gate Telephone Directory (727) 369-7864. Do not confront the solicitors. You are not being “mean” when you call the Police. You are protecting yourself and your Community.

Golf Cart Parking

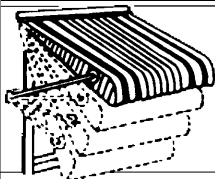
It has been brought to the Board’s attention that many unit owners are leaving their golf carts parked between units. This causes a problem for the Association’s Lawn Contractor, for it impacts his ability to perform his responsibilities in a proper manner. Please refrain from parking the carts on the lawn areas, especially on Thursdays, the designated day for lawn cuttings. Your cooperation is truly appreciated.

Articles for the Newsletter

Any article submitted to the Golden Gate Newsletter should have the author identified. If you have a computer with an email connection, articles may be emailed to ggmedia@tampabay.rr.com, preferably by the Monday before the third Tuesday of the month. The Board of Directors’ Meeting is the third Tuesday of the month and the agreement with the publisher gives us up to the day after the meeting to deliver copy to be published. If you don’t have a computer you may continue to deliver a double-spaced paper copy, again, preferably by the Monday before the third Tuesday of the month.

**A Complete Listing of Resident Services
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We Need Cover Pictures! Send in Your Interesting Photos!

Get Your Picture on the Cover - We select a new and interesting picture every month to be printed on the cover of your newsletter. If you or your neighbors have fun events or activities please send in a picture and we'll enter it to be selected. Please include a description of the image and a brief release allowing us to reprint the picture. Our mailing and email address are here:



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WEED PROGRAM

As most of you are aware, we have a problem with the growth of weeds during the summer months, typically May through September. The weed problem we are concerned about is in the planter boxes and the front of the homes. Even those homes that have mulch or stones in the planter boxes will have weed growth.

The board does send "friendly reminders" to alert residents as stated in rule #16. HOME SITES: All homes must have their house number visible on the front of the home. Each shareholder is responsible for the neat and orderly appearance of his or her premises at all times. No outside storage is permitted around or under your home. If the home is not maintained in accordance with general established standards set by the Association (i.e., in a run-down condition or is in general disrepair), the shareholder shall be subject to the provisions of Article 3 of these rules. Each shareholder is responsible for the condition of his planter boxes, fruit trees and plantings at all times. Lower branches of fruit trees must be trimmed to a minimum of 48 inches from the ground. Our Board of Directors or their appointee(s) have the authority to designate those residences which are not properly maintained. Flowers, plants, trees, and shrubs enhance the appearance of your lot but a permit is required from the Association before planting other than in planters. The Association is responsible for lawn mowing and maintaining the Association planted trees. Trash and recycle pickup will be established according to city guidelines. Residents are requested to refrain from putting garbage out at the curb the night before, unless in a secure covered receptacle, and are also requested to promptly remove any trash receptacles after pickup. The trash receptacles should not block driveways or sidewalks. Any additions or revisions to your exterior property, including outside painting of any type, must be approved by the Board of Directors and a permit obtained from the office before starting work. The permit must be displayed in a clearly visible area. No fences permitted without approval of Board of Directors. Federal and State laws allow for the installation of satellite antennas 1 meter or less in diameter, but permission from the Board of Directors must be obtained first. Only umbrella type drying lines may be used and should be set in the back of home. No clothes hanging on the carport, including swimwear. Water, sewer, and garbage pickup charges are billed to the individual shareholder by the City of Pinellas Park on a monthly basis. Shareholders are to adhere to county and city water conservation rules. Irrigation and/or other watering must be done by a handheld hose; no automated sprinklers permitted. The Association shall have the right at any time to cause the water to be individually metered at each mobile home. No new wells are permitted. No resident or guest may engage in any type of commercial business in the community. Patio or rummage sales are permitted with approval of the Board of Directors. The Association reserves the right to enforce the rules and regulations at the shareholders' expense should they not be adhered to. Residents leaving for the summer or extended periods of time should obtain a form from the office, completing each item, and returning the completed form to the office. If a shareholder does not provide for the care of these items in his/her absence, the Association will have the work done, and the Unit will be assessed at the rate of \$25.00 per hour with a two hour (\$50.00) minimum per occurrence. There will be NO exemptions from billing for City utilities unless the home is unoccupied entire month and the sign out procedure with the office has been completed.



FRIENDLY REMINDER

There have been reports that individuals have not been obeying STOP signs and speed limits. The speed limit and STOP signs are posted for everyone's safety. Golden Gate Rule #9 reflects "All residents and guest must obey all local and state rules related to the operation of vehicles. The (fifteen) MPH speed limit must be observed by all residents and guest." Please remember safety first! It may take you a few seconds longer to get where you're going. However, should an accident occur it could take you a lifetime to forgive yourself.

Light up at Night

If you are riding a bike or driving a golf car at night you should have lights on so others can see you.

SUMMER OFFICE HOURS

The Office will be closed on Fridays through August 31, 2019. Please plan to conduct any office business you may have from Monday through Thursday during this time period. Don't forget, there is a self-serve copy machine in the hall near the entrance to the Patio for your use. If you have an emergency and need something from the Office on a Friday during this time-frame, you can call the out-of-hours number ((727)-578-2891) and the Director on call will assist you. Thank you and have a GREAT Summer.



Please be aware that our Lawn Service will not repair/replace any object you have on your lawn (that is not in your Flower box) that is not protected from their lawn mowers or weed whip. Non-protected items risk the possibility of damage.



Michael and Patricia Cope will be part-time residents at 250 3rd Ave. They are from Dayton Ohio.



George & Kaly Glover will be part-time residents at 425 New Circle Drive. They are from Princeton IL.



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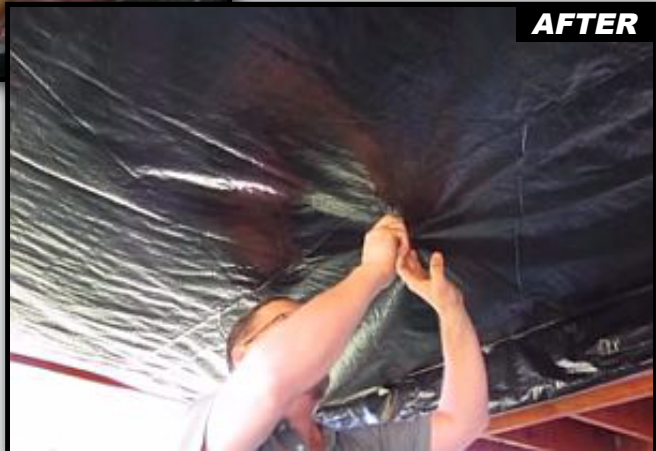


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- Ask to see their license and call the appropriate licensing agency - Pinellas County Construction Licensing Board for a county license or for state license to verify the status and insurance.
- Ask for and verify references from past customers.
- Check with the Pinellas County Consumer Protection, local Chamber of Commerce and the Better Business Bureau.
- Get a written estimate from several licensed contractors

Be sure that the estimate includes all work to be done by the contractor, the materials involved, date of completion and the total cost.

- If the project is for repairing damage, check with your insurance company first to verify that your insurance will cover the repairs before you sign a contractor.
- An occupational license or business tax receipt (BTR) is not sufficient in the construction trades.
- Beware of contractors or alleged contractors who ask to be paid in cash, ask for large payments up front, or ask for you as the homeowner to pull the permit.

After you choose a contractor:

- Make sure your contractor obtains a permit and posts it on the front of the property.
- If the contractor requests a final payment before all final inspections are completed and the permit placard has been signed by the appropriate inspectors, request that he/she obtains all final inspections prior to your final payment. However, you must abide by your contract.
- Make sure your contractor provides you with releases of liens from his subcontractors and suppliers.

Before signing a contract, be certain your contract includes:

- The contractors name, street address, telephone number and state or local license number.
- A precise description of the work to be completed, including a draw schedule and list of materials.
- Completion date, including cleanup after work is finished.
- Warranty agreements, including length, terms and recourse.
- A notice of consumers' rights under the Florida Homeowners' Construction Recovery Fund for contracts involving general, residential and building contractors.
- Read your contract carefully and personally fill in any blank spaces. Consider having an attorney review the contract. If you do not have an attorney the Florida Bar offers a lawyer referral services.

Beware of unlicensed contractors:

- If you are planning to build a new home, a room addition, add on a second story, begin remodeling on your home, or have work done that requires a building permit, take care to select a qualified person to perform the work. Under state and local ordinances, any person you hire under contract (verbal or written) to perform construction on your property must be a licensed contractor. The contractor must be state certified or registered. All printed advertising material such as business cards, newspaper ads and telephone book ads must show his or her state license number.

continued on page 14

- Beware of anyone that asks you to obtain the building permit as an "owner/builder", this may indicate that they themselves are not properly licensed to obtain the permit.
- Also, beware of people that claim that you will save quite a bit of money by not obtaining a permit. A permit will only lead to compliance with the appropriate building codes, these are only minimum requirements.
- Unlicensed contractors do not have insurance coverage. Any injury that occurs on your property will be a claim against your insurance.
- If you wish to check on the license of an individual you can call the Pinellas County Construction Licensing Board at (727) 582-3100. Additionally, you can contact the Pinellas County Building Department at 464-3888.

Contractors are required to be licensed by the Pinellas County Construction Licensing Board (PCCLB). You can verify a contractors' license complaints by calling:

PCCLB at (727) 582-3100

Pinellas Park Building Development Division at (727) 369-5647

The Better Business Bureau at (727) 535-5522

WOMEN'S CLUB

We unfortunately could not hold our Back to School Luncheon but we did collect a lot of school supplies for Pinellas Park Elementary school. A huge thank you to Debbie and Jim Alaimo for helping get those supplies to the school. I cant say enough about the generosity in our community. Thank you to all of you who donated supplies for the kids. check out the picture! The school was soo happy

Happy Hour was a lot of fun and we had so much food- pizza, subs, snacks, cakes and Jean Chudzik made an amazing apple pie- so are you asking yourself, why wasn't I there??? why am I not having fun with my neighbors??? Why didn't I get pie??? well we have 1 last meeting for the season Friday September 20th 4 pm. (Thanks again to Debbie and Jim for their help setting up)

Labor Day- ahhhh what can I say.... delish spaghetti dinner, ice cream sundaes for dessert, outside games to to play. What a great day! Thanks to everyone who helped make it so much fun. As I always say, a lot of hands make for a little work for everyone.

Can you believe its almost October? Neighbors will start coming back, fall activities pick up and the Women's Club will have its first meeting for the fall season on Wednesday October 17th- if your not a member, please join us as we have a lot of fun while serving our community.

Doree Haseltine



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SEPTEMBER • 2019

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday
8:45 AM - Church Service ¹	8:00 AM - Pool Exercises ² 8:00 AM - Power Walk 9:00 AM - Senior Tai Chi 10:00 AM - Line Dancing 1:00 PM - Euchre	8:00 AM 8:00 AM
	Labor Day	
8:45 AM - Church Service ⁸	8:00 AM - Pool Exercises ⁹ 8:00 AM - Power Walk 9:00 AM - Senior Tai Chi 10:00 AM - Line Dancing 1:00 PM - Euchre	8:00 AM 8:00 AM
8:45 AM - Church Service ¹⁵	8:00 AM - Pool Exercises ¹⁶ 8:00 AM - Power Walk 9:00 AM - Senior Tai Chi 10:00 AM - Line Dancing 1:00 PM - Euchre	8:00 AM 8:00 AM
8:45 AM - Church Service ²²	8:00 AM - Pool Exercises ²³ 8:00 AM - Power Walk 9:00 AM - Senior Tai Chi 10:00 AM - Line Dancing 1:00 PM - Euchre	8:00 AM 8:00 AM
	First Day of Autumn	
8:45 AM - Church Service ²⁹	8:00 AM - Pool Exercises ³⁰ 8:00 AM - Power Walk 9:00 AM - Senior Tai Chi 10:00 AM - Line Dancing 1:00 PM - Euchre	

Golden Gate

Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<div>3</div> <div>- Pool Exercises - Power Walk</div>	<div>4</div> <div>8:00 AM - Pool Exercises 8:00 AM - Power Walk 8:30 AM - Labor of Love Sew Day 9:00 AM - Senior Tai Chi 1:00 PM - Euchre 6:00 PM - BOCCE</div>	<div>5</div> <div>8:00 AM - 1 Pool Exercises 8:00 AM - Power Walk 9:30 AM - Director's Workshop if posted 5:00 PM - Hand & Foot 6:00 PM - Pinochle</div>	<div>6</div> <div>8:00 AM - Pool Exercises 8:00 AM - Power Walk 9:00 AM - Senior Tai Chi 1:00 PM - Euchre</div>	<div>7</div> <div>8:00 AM - 1 Pool Exercises</div>
<div>10</div> <div>- Pool Exercises - Power Walk</div>	<div>11</div> <div>8:00 AM - Pool Exercises 8:00 AM - Power Walk 9:00 AM - Senior Tai Chi 10:00 AM - Labor of Love 1:00 PM - Euchre 6:00 PM - BOCCE</div> <div>Patriot Day</div>	<div>12</div> <div>8:00 AM - Pool Exercises 8:00 AM - Power Walk 9:30 AM - Director's Workshop if posted 5:00 PM - Hand & Foot 6:00 PM - Pinochle</div>	<div>13</div> <div>8:00 AM - Pool Exercises 8:00 AM - Power Walk 9:00 AM - Senior Tai Chi 1:00 PM - Euchre</div>	<div>14</div> <div>8:00 AM - 1 Pool Exercises</div>
<div>17</div> <div>- Pool Exercises - Power Walk</div>	<div>18</div> <div>8:00 AM - Pool Exercises 8:00 AM - Power Walk 9:00 AM - Senior Tai Chi 10:00 AM - Labor of Love 1:00 PM - Euchre 6:00 PM - BOCCE</div>	<div>19</div> <div>8:00 AM - Pool Exercises 8:00 AM - Power Walk 9:30 AM - Director's Workshop if posted 5:00 PM - Hand & Foot 6:00 PM - Pinochle</div>	<div>20</div> <div>8:00 AM - Pool Exercises 8:00 AM - Power Walk 9:00 AM - Senior Tai Chi 1:00 PM - Euchre 4:00 PM - Happy Hour</div>	<div>21</div> <div>8:00 AM - 1 Pool Exercises</div>
<div>24</div> <div>- Pool Exercises - Power Walk</div>	<div>25</div> <div>8:00 AM - Pool Exercises 8:00 AM - Power Walk 9:00 AM - Senior Tai Chi 10:00 AM - Labor of Love 1:00 PM - Euchre 6:00 PM - BOCCE 7:00 PM - Movie Night</div>	<div>26</div> <div>8:00 AM - Pool Exercises 8:00 AM - Power Walk 9:30 AM - Director's Workshop if posted 5:00 PM - Hand & Foot 6:00 PM - Pinochle</div>	<div>27</div> <div>8:00 AM - Pool Exercises 8:00 AM - Power Walk 9:00 AM - Senior Tai Chi 1:00 PM - Euchre</div>	<div>28</div> <div>8:00 AM - 1 Pool Exercises</div>
				<div>OCTOBER</div> <div>S M T W T F S</div> <div>1 2 3 4 5</div> <div>6 7 8 9 10 11 12</div> <div>13 14 15 16 17 18 19</div> <div>20 21 22 23 24 25 26</div> <div>27 28 29 30 31</div>

Bocce Ball

New Bocce court has been a big hit this summer. Impromptu league has been playing on Wednesday evenings and having loads of fun!

Mariann Cardello-Kuzmickas has been a great leader of this activity.



Golden Gate Church

The Church in The Park

Non-denominational Services at 8:45 AM on Sunday at Golden Gate Club House.

We continue to enjoy Pastor Bower's teachings. Come and enjoy overhead Projection. New larger print Bibles are available. Don't forget your swords (your Bible).

BIRTHDAYS IN SEPTEMBER

1	Debra Krsak	98	17	Sandra Brady	227
	Judy Sornson	251	18	Kimberly Calvert	426
2	Troy Grandy	65		Barbara Picco	268
3	Shirley Clarke	225		Richard Wuertz	88
5	Alfred Abell	301	21	Mary Braley	408
	Robert Doucet	252		Francis Orzel	276
	Brad Graves	430	22	Sylvie Turgeon	194
	Kathy Naples	32	23	Raymond Krsak	98
	Elena Savino	256		Barbara Warnke	57
6	Sharon Rodgers	56	25	Thomas Banzer	170
	Ruth Wells	287	26	Verna Doucette	55
8	Mary Purcell	24		Lynette McCreary	134
9	Donna Sheets	119		Francis Picco	268
10	Paige Togger	30	27	Sean Silke	263
	Richard Widell	81	29	Roberta Fournier	422
11	Barbara Duerr	86		Arthur Payne	186
	Joanne Snyder	182			
12	Robert McDermott	213			
13	Janet Beard	83			
14	Rose Bragdon	93			
	Geoffrey Murphy	205			
	Colyne Robinson	58			
15	Janna Hassen	204			
	Paul Kuhn	128			
16	Arthur Costello	291			
	Sharon Wilhelm	313			



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1	Edna & Arthur Payne	186
	Donna & Richard Sheets	119
2	Judith & Brad Graves	430
3	Maria & Nunziato Giancrisofaro	104
4	Sandra & Alfred Abell	301
6	Susan & Joseph O'Byrne	279
8	Kimberly & Steven Sorenson	424
	Shirley & Ross Steele	283
9	Margaret & Michael Hay	230
10	Janice & Marvin Dearing	299
13	Geraldine & Winston Howell	274
16	Sherry & Ronald Surber	285
17	Dianne & James Clements	275
23	Kimberly & Rick Collins	2
	Joanne & Walter Hornung	3
24	Lilly & Shirley Clarke	225
25	Patricia & John Oscien	44
	Rosemary & Bruce McIlvoy	76
28	Kimberly & John Calvert	426
30	Suzy & Danny Fleming	33



September Sudoku

				7	4			
								6
1		5						8
8				5				
9	4	1						
		2				8	9	
				8		9		
	2		6				7	
		6	1		3	2		



5	8	2	3	4	1	6	9	7
1	7	4	5	9	6	8	2	3
3	6	9	2	8	7	4	1	5
4	9	8	7	1	3	2	5	6
7	3	5	8	6	2	4	1	9
2	1	6	9	5	4	7	3	8
8	4	3	6	2	9	5	7	1
6	2	7	1	3	5	9	8	4
9	5	1	4	7	8	3	6	2

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Surprising discoveries around the solar system

The solar system is full of surprises. Here are three startling new discoveries about other worlds orbiting the sun:

- **The moon.** A mass of metal beneath the surface of the moon's south pole has been discovered by scientists, The New York Times reports. It's under a huge, 4-billion-year-old impact crater, and it's five times bigger than Hawaii. Scientists at Baylor University speculate that it's composed of the remains of an ancient meteor that created what's known as the South Pole-Aitken—near where the Chinese Chang'e 4 lunar rover landed in January.

- **Mars.** Scientists have discovered a huge reservoir of water underneath the Martian north pole, the Gizmodo website reports. The water was detected inside a deposit of multiple layers of water ice mixed with sand, and it formed over hundreds of millions of years. It's about 1.2 miles beneath the north pole, and contains enough water to submerge the entire planet.

- **Europa.** This moon of Jupiter has long been known to have an ocean beneath its surface layer of ice—an ocean with more water than all of Earth's oceans combined. Now the Hubble Space Telescope has detected what appears to be sodium chloride—NaCl—in the seas, the Fox News website reports. Sodium chloride, which makes up ordinary table salt, is also a major ingredient in Earth's salt-water oceans—meaning that Europa may be more Earthlike than previously thought.



The boulder in the road

A king had a boulder placed on a roadway, then hid and watched to see if anyone would move the boulder out of the way.

Some of the kingdom's wealthiest merchants and courtiers came by and simply walked around it. Many of them loudly blamed the king for not keeping the roads clear.

Then a peasant then came along pushing a cart of vegetables. Upon approaching the boulder, the peasant set his cart aside and tried to push the stone out of the road. After much pushing and straining, he finally succeeded.

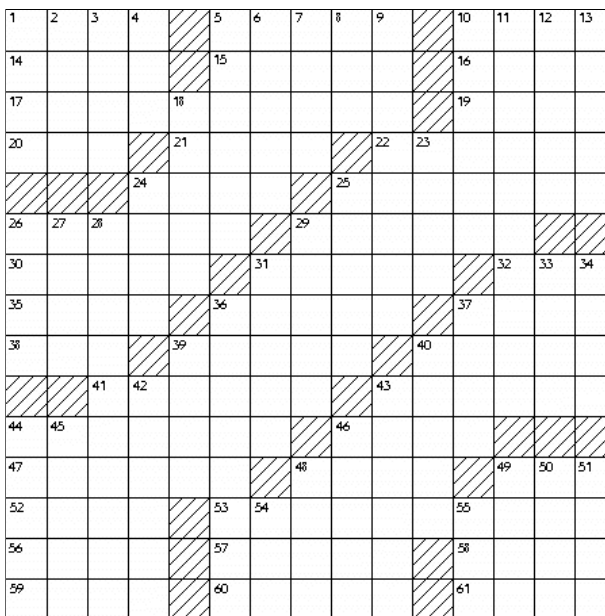
Then he noticed a purse lying in the road where the boulder had been.

The purse contained many gold coins and a note from the king, explaining that the gold was for the person who removed the boulder from the roadway.

Moral: Every obstacle we come across in life gives us an opportunity to improve our circumstances.

ACROSS

1. Unit of area
5. Come to pass
10. Prefix indicating "Outer"
14. A female domestic
15. Two-door car
16. Police informant
17. Without difficulty
19. Ski tow
20. Born
21. Pay particular notice
22. Genus of the tassel flower
24. Puts
25. Accolades
26. Thistledown
29. Ground aromatic seed used as a spice
30. At right angles to a ship or plane
31. Hair on horses
32. Hurried away on foot
35. A persistently annoying person
36. Water nymph (Greek mythology)
37. Pneumogastric nerves
38. Laotian monetary units
39. City in Senegal
40. A complete extent
41. Genus of woad (herbs)
43. Steeds
44. Orange-yellow squash-like fruit
46. Greasy
47. A short recitative (musical term)
48. Liver paste
49. Third person singular female
52. Danger
53. Celebratory horn
56. Initial wager
57. Prank
58. Term of address for men
59. Soap-frame bar
60. A chain used to restrain an animal
61. Leg joint



DOWN

1. Ends a prayer
2. Coffee shop
3. Overabundant
4. Another name for Tokyo
5. Groups of 8
6. Coarse curly-leaved cabbages
7. Signalled
8. Increases
9. Sat down again
10. The whole thing
11. Telegrams
12. Path
13. Gumbos
18. Catarrh
23. Mothers
24. Petty quarrel
25. Pertaining to the moon
26. Father
27. Assist
28. Skeptics
29. Anagram of "Asian"
31. A Marine assault in the Gilbert Islands in WW2
33. Shivering fit
34. Insect eggs
36. Pertaining to a country
37. Differ
39. East Indian trees that produces a yellow dye
40. Artificially created human (Jewish folklore)
42. They run from the hub to the rim
43. Advanced (2 words)
44. Minor currency units of Yugoslavia
45. Mammalian liquid waste
46. Fertile area of a desert
48. Pocket bread
49. Natural outer covering
50. Not there
51. Celtic
54. A single thing
55. Request



September Crossword

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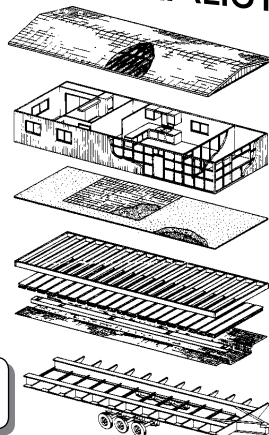
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Responding to adversity

Once upon a time, a daughter complained to her father that her life was miserable. She was tired of fighting and struggling all the time. It seemed that just as one problem was solved, another soon followed.

Her father, a chef, took her to the kitchen. He filled three pots with water and placed each on a high fire. Once the three pots began to boil, he placed a potato in one pot, an egg in the second pot, and some ground coffee beans in the third pot.

After 20 minutes he turned off the burners. He took the potato out of the pot and placed it in a bowl. He pulled the boiled egg out and placed it in a second bowl. Then he ladled the coffee out and placed it in a cup.

“What do you see?” he asked.

“A potato, an egg, and some coffee,” she replied.

“Look closer,” he said, “and touch the potato.” She did and noted that it was very soft. He then asked her to take the egg and break it. After pulling off the shell, she observed the hard-boiled egg. Finally, he asked her to sip the coffee. Its rich aroma brought a smile to her face.

“But what does this mean?” she asked.

“The potato, the egg, and the coffee beans all faced the same adversity—boiling water,” her father explained. “But each one reacted differently. The potato went in strong and hard, but in the boiling water, it became soft and weak. The egg was fragile, with its thin outer shell protecting its interior. In the boiling water, the inside of the egg became hard.

“However, the ground coffee beans were unique. After they were exposed to the boiling water, they changed the water and created something new.

“Which are you?” he asked his daughter. “When adversity knocks on your door, how do you respond? Are you a potato, an egg, or a coffee bean?”

In life, things happen to us, but the only thing that truly matters is what happens within us.

Search for Earthlike worlds takes a step forward

Scientists searching for Earthlike worlds beyond the solar system have a new tool: NEAR (Near Earths in the Alpha Cen Region), which began operating in May, will scan the Alpha Centauri system for habitable planets.

NEAR is a thermal coronagraph installed in a telescope in Chile that can block the light of stars and look for heat radiating from worlds in orbit. Alpha Centauri is a three-star system located 4.3 light-years away, the closest system to our world. Astronomers have already discovered planets in the system—an Earth-size planet dubbed Proxima b, orbiting the red dwarf star Proxima Centauri, and a planet candidate circling the same star.

NEAR will look at Alpha Centauri AB, a binary star system, using an upgrade to an existing instrument to block out the glare of the two stars and also compensate for the blur of Earth’s own atmosphere. It’s capable of spotting planets twice the size of Earth or larger.

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(Allow 4-6 weeks for mailing of check). This month's cash winners are:

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