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GOLDEN CREST



Issue 10 49th Year

Ernie's Dream Team from East Bay Oaks MHP.

Photo: Jeryl Danieli, Dominic Danieli, Elaine Mihara, Ernie Ranger, Anne Emond, Florence Brown, Sara Spanos and Mich Emond. Photo Credit: David MacAskill



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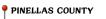


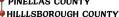


Philippians 4:13

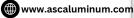
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SCAM



ALERT

www.usa.gov/scams-and-fraud

Identity Theft

Warning signs of identity theft

- Bills for items you did not buy
- · Debt collection calls for accounts you did not open
- · Information on your credit report for accounts you did not open
- Denials of loan applications
- · Mail stops coming to, or is missing from, your mailbox

How to report identity theft

To report identity theft, contact:

- The Federal Trade Commission (FTC) online at IdentityTheft.gov or call
- The three major credit reporting agencies. Ask them to place fraud alerts and a credit freeze on your accounts.
- The fraud department at your credit card issuers, bank, and other places where you have accounts

How to protect yourself from identity theft

- · Do not answer phone calls, texts, social media messages, or email from numbers or people you do not know.
- · Do not share personal information like your bank account number, Social Security number, or date of birth.
- · Collect your mail every day and place a hold on your mail when you will be
- on vacation or away from your home. Review credit card and bank account statements. Watch for and report unauthorized or suspicious transactions.
- · Understand how ATM skimming works and how to protect yourself
- Learn when it is safe to use a public Wi-Fi network
- Store personal information, including your Social Security card, in a safe place. Do not carry it in your wallet.

Imposter Scam

The top types of imposter scams:

An imposter scammer may call, text, or email to convince you they are someone in authority. They may even use caller ID to make it look like they are calling from an official government or business' number. To commit identity theft, they try to get you to send money or a gift card or share personal information.

- · Government imposter scams Unless you contact them first, government agencies typically initiate communication with you by letter. Unexpected contact or demands through any other method may be a scam.
- · IRS imposter scams scammers pretend you owe the IRS money for taxes and may threaten legal action
- · Social Security imposter scams scammers claim there is a problem with your Social Security account or promise to increase your benefits
- Charity scams scammers pretend to be from a real or fake charity and try to get you to contribute
- · Grandparent scams scammers pretend to be a grandchild or other relative who needs emergency financial help
- Tech support scams scammers tell you your computer's security is at risk and try to remotely access your device and steal personal information or ask for payment
- Scammers may also pretend to be from your bank or a company you do business with. You might be told you owe money or there is a problem with vour account.



ReportFraud.ftc.gov

Report Imposter Scams Online to the Federal Trade Commission



December



ecember is known for special holidays, including Christmas, Hanukkah, Kwanzaa, and for marking the winter solstice in the Northern Hemisphere. It's a month of celebration and charity.

Dunedin Cares

In this difficult time, I received a flyer from Dunedin Cares. Here are some of the items that are needed: "just Add Water" mixes, shelf-stable milk, household cleaning products, jelly, toothbrushes/toothpaste, oatmeal, canned chicken (with a self opening lid), sugar/flour, and hygiene products. We had a tote for this organization and until it can be located, please put the items on the table in the clubhouse. We have a volunteer that is willing to ensure the items are taken to Dunedin Cares.

Park December Monthly Action Plan

- 1. No update on women's restroom repairs.
- 2. Bulbs for street lights are on order
- 3. White stripes on the roads have been painted
- 4. Yellow stripes on speed bumps have been repainted
- 5. Front entrance enhancements including painting and landscaping
- 6. Hole on third street file.

New Owners/Residents



Te have at least 21 new owners/residents in our park since January 2025. WELCOME. We look forward to your input and interest. We plan to have a welcome party for new owners.

Activities

ome resident-led activities have begun. Please watch for notices on the white board outside the clubhouse, facebook updates and yard signs.

MARK YOUR CALENDAR!!!

In addition to the items on the December calendar, Monday January 26 evening will be a party with music by Baby Boomer Band.

The annual Rummage Sale and a bake sale schedule starts on Wednesday, January 14 and Thursday, January 15, 10 to noon for set up and pricing. Friday, January 16 will be open to residents only from 10 am to Noon. Saturday, January 17 will be open to the public, 10 to noon. Patricia Vincent has been diligently working on this fundraiser. A whole hearted thanks in advance for all those that help with this event. It is good camaraderie.

Safe travels my friends.

December Birthdays

| 12/4 | Francis Wildemann | 441 |
|-------|------------------------|-----|
| 12/6 | Tom Sopko | 371 |
| 12/7 | Bradley Dronen | 464 |
| 12/11 | Gene Wolfert | 465 |
| 12/12 | Rita Baratta | 450 |
| 12/12 | Wayne Marchand | 328 |
| 12/12 | Lee Smay | 445 |
| 12/13 | Nancy Morgan | 417 |
| 12/16 | Becky Reinhardt | 449 |
| 12/17 | Diane Sheeley | 397 |
| 12/17 | Jacquie DiPego | 311 |
| 12/19 | Troy Walseth | 314 |
| 12/20 | Gary Goessel | 384 |
| 12/20 | Chris O'Dell | 376 |
| 12/21 | Vincent (Chic) Consolo | 476 |
| 12/22 | Randy White | 468 |
| 12/24 | Bernie Stoneham | 411 |
| 12/26 | Virginia Lavoie | 378 |
| 12/28 | Lynne O'Dell | 376 |



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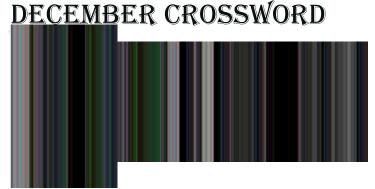
ACROSS

- On-line journal
- Rhinoceros
- Gangs
- 14. Former Italian currency
- 15. A red fluorescent dye
- Send forth
- 17. A Freudian stage
- 18. Totally
- 20. Vixen
- 22. Hypodermic
- 23. L
- Donkeys
- 25. Class chums
- 32. Held on tightly
- 33. Japanese cartoon art
- 34. Beer
- Not yours
- 38. Inscribed pillar
- 39. Make unclear
- 40. Damp
- 41. Villain
- 42. Communion table
- 43. Self-restraining
- 45. A long-legged S. American bird
- 49. Dawn goddess
- 50. Windfall
- Detective (slang)
- 57. Noble
- 59. Greek cheese
- 60. Actors in a show
- 61. Give a speech
- 62. Relating to urine
- 63. Beers
- 64. Waste conduit
- 65. Lake (Scottish)

DOWN

- 19. Delete
- 21. Blockage
- 25. Flat-bottomed boat
- 26. Hint
- Offended
- 28. Married partners
- 29. Concerning (archaic)
- 30. Diacritical mark
- 31. An uncle
- 34. Countertenor
- 35. Hawaiian feast
- 36 Makes a mistake
- 38. Bro or sis
- 13. Infections of the eye 39. Happy

- 41. Lose consciousness
- 42. "Smallest" particle
- 44. Spay
- 45. Hemp
- 46. Small goat antelope
- 47. Licoricelike flavor
- 48. Sail supports
- Animal menageries
- Unit of land
- 53. Way in
- 54. Protagonist
- 55. Ear-related
- 56. Every single one
 - o. Every single one
- 58. Uncooked



1. Ho-hum

3. By mouth

sailing ships

6 Owl sound

7 Belief

Bites

9. Unique

11 Portents

12. Cause to leak

4. Square-rigged

5. Summon to return

10. Anagram of "Smite"

2. Connects two points

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MONTHLY

Bingo's Birthday Month. With origins that date back to a 1530s Italian lottery game, different versions of Bingo were played in Germany and France for hundreds of years before it reached North America in 1929. The game has been popular in the United States since then, used by churches to raise funds and by casinos that promise huge jackpots to a lucky few.

Root Vegetables Month. Looking for something healthy to offset the sugary treats of the holiday season? Consider a carrot soup seasoned with turmeric and ginger; add shaved beets and radishes to a salad; or try a side of mashed parsnips or baked sweet potatoes with your next meal.

National Eggnog Month. Spike it with bourbon, whiskey, or rum; add a splash to your coffee; or enjoy a glass with a sprinkle of cinnamon on top. For those who love the rich, creamy beverage known as eggnog, this is the month to indulge.

Seasonal Affective Disorder Month. About 20 percent of the population suffers from a mild form of depression during the cold-weather months. Most experience fatigue, irritability, a lack of concentration and other symptoms in the winter months. Check in with your health care provider if you or someone you know experiences changes in moods and behaviors this winter.

WEEKLY

lerc-Gallaudet Week, Dec. 3-9. Laurent Clerc (1785–1869) and Thomas Hopkins Gallaudet (1787–1851) worked to establish the foundation for American Sign Language, as well as the first school for the deaf in this country. Clerc-Gallaudet Week was established by the D.C. Public Library in 1974 to honor the December birthdays of these men and to raise awareness of issues in the deaf and library communities.

Christmas Bird Count, Dec. 14—Jan. 5. For more than 100 years, the Audubon Society has relied on volunteers birders throughout the Western Hemisphere to conduct an avian census. Go to http://www.audubon.org/join-christmas-bird-count to find out the details about CBC activities in your area.

National Gluten-Free Baking Week, Dec. 17-23. The treats and feasts of the season can be especially challenging for those with digestive issues or an intolerance for the complex protein found in barley, wheat, and rye. Consider adding a few gluten-free alternatives to your holiday spread this year.

Hanukkah, evening of Dec.12—evening of Dec. 20. This eight day "Festival of Lights" is commemorated by the nightly lighting of a menorah, the recitation of special prayers, and feasting in the Jewish community.



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The Mysterious Gift Under the Tree

ne Christmas Eve, a family gathered around the tree, finishing up the last of the cocoa and carols. As the children were sent off to bed, the parents noticed a small, unmarked gift tucked deep behind the tree. Neither of them had placed it there. Curious, they opened it to find a handmade ornament with the words: "Believe in the magic." Inside was a note from their late grandmother, written years before she passed, thanking them for keeping the family traditions alive. She had hidden the gift during her last Christmas with them, hoping it would be found when they needed it most. That year, the family had been struggling with grief, and the unexpected message brought comfort and tears—reminding them that love endures, even after loss.

The Christmas Truce of 1914

uring World War I, on Christmas Eve 1914, something extraordinary happened. British and German soldiers, entrenched in bitter combat, spontaneously ceased fire. Soldiers from both sides emerged from their trenches, met in no man's land, and exchanged greetings, food, and even played a game of football. They sang carols together and buried their dead with dignity. Though brief, the truce was a powerful reminder of shared humanity—even in the darkest of times. It remains one of the most poignant examples of peace breaking through conflict, if only for a day.

The Turkey That Got Away

ne Christmas, a family decided to go all out and buy a fresh turkey from a local farm instead of the usual frozen one. The dad was in charge of picking it up, and he proudly brought home a massive bird. But when it came time to cook it, the oven door wouldn't close—it was too big.

So, they tried trimming it. Still too big. Then they tried rotating it. Still no luck. Eventually, they gave up and decided to cook it on the grill outside. But halfway through, it started raining—hard. The dad, determined not to let Christmas dinner be ruined, stood outside with an umbrella, flipping the turkey like a warrior defending his feast.

Hours later, they finally brought it in, only to discover... it was still raw in the middle. They ended up eating side dishes and pie for dinner, and the turkey became the next day's project. The family now jokes that the turkey was so big it needed its own zip code—and they've gone back to frozen ever since.



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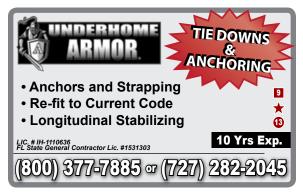


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| Sunday | Monday | Ti |
|----------------------------------|-------------------------------|---------------------|
| | 8:30a Indoor Aerobics | 6:30p Re Meeting |
| 7 Pearl Harbor Remembrance Day | 8 8:30a Indoor Aerobics | |
| 14 | 8:30a Indoor Aerobics | |
| 21 First Day of Winter | 8:30a Indoor Aerobics | |
| 28 | 8:30a Indoor Aerobics | |

Golden Crest

| ıesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday | Saturday |
|-----------------------------|--|---|--------------------------------|----------|
| 2 c Committee Library | 8:30a Indoor Aerobics 6:30 Men's Poker and Women's Games | 9:00 am coffee and donuts meet and greet followed by park announcements starting at 9:30 am | 5 8:30a Indoor Aerobics | 6 |
| 9 | 8:30a Indoor Aerobics 6:30 Men's Poker and Women's Games | 5:30 pm Holiday Party with Music by Tangent hosted by the GC Recreation Committee | 8:30a Indoor Aerobics | 13 |
| 16 | 8:30a Indoor Aerobics 6:30 Men's Poker and Women's Games | 9:00 am coffee and donuts meet and greet followed by park announcements starting at 9:30 am | 8:30a Indoor Aerobics | 20 |
| 23 | 24 8:30a Indoor Aerobics Distribute Luminaries Dark - Park Parade Christmas Eve | 25 Christmas | 26 8:30a Indoor Aerobics | 27 |
| 30 | Happy New Year Welcome 2026 New Year's Eve | | | |



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Raising Strong Grandkids

elp your grandchildren to become more resilient by focusing on these three areas:

- 1. Negative thoughts. If you were ever the last one picked for a team in P.E. or someone whose accomplishments were compared against those of an older sibling or a prodigy neighbor kid, then you'll know firsthand the doubt, dread and lack of confidence that can overtake a young mind. Don't allow your children to fall victim to a spirit of defeat.
- 2. Encourage them to share their thoughts. Then help them improve their outlook by exploring strategies and solutions that will empower their thinking and inspire a willingness to strive for more.
- 3. Feelings. Sometimes as parents we're too quick to step in and say, "Don't worry. Everything will work out." Yet this approach doesn't allow your children to recognize and process how they are feeling, nor understand how their feelings can influence behavior.
- 5. Give youngsters a judgment-free forum for exploring their emotions, and offer insight and constructive feedback for dealing with those emotions.
- 6. Fears. Confronting adversity helps to develop problem-solving skills and gives us the confidence to make better choices.
- 7. Don't allow children to give up when times are tough. Encourage kids to face their fears with positive actions and perseverance. They may not always come out on top, but they will be able to hold their heads up knowing they did their best.

Quotes

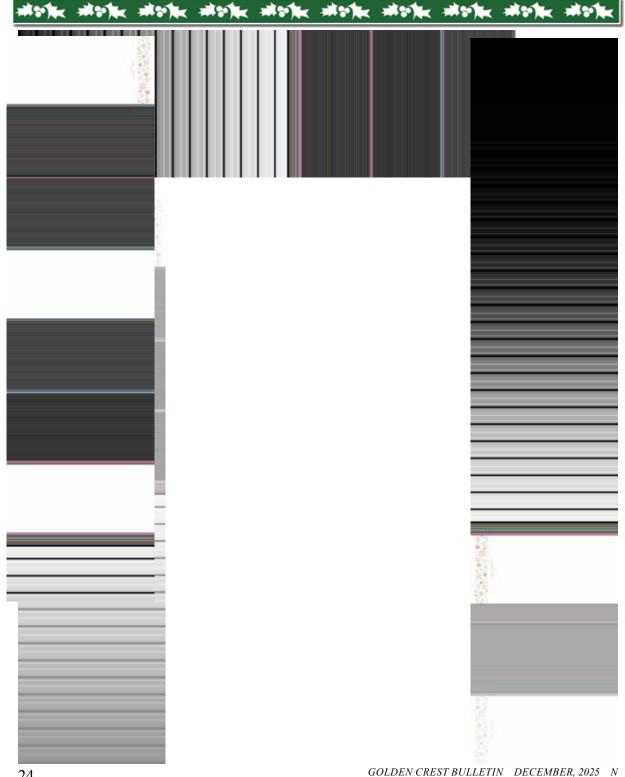
hen trouble comes, it's your family that supports you.

—Guy Lafleur

Family means no one gets left behind or forgotten.

—David Ogden Stiers





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The Great Eggnog Explosion

t an office Christmas party, one enthusiastic employee decided to make homemade eggnog to impress everyone. He brought in a giant glass punch bowl filled to the brim, complete with nutmeg sprinkles and cinnamon sticks. It looked amazing.



But what he didn't realize was that the bowl was sitting directly under the heat vent.

As the party went on, the eggnog slowly warmed up... and fermented. By the time people started ladling it into cups, it had developed a surprisingly fizzy texture. One brave soul took a sip and immediately spat it out, yelling, "It's ALIVE!"

Moments later, the bowl cracked from the heat, sending a tidal wave of eggnog across the table, soaking cookies, gifts, and one unfortunate intern's laptop. The smell lingered for days, and the punch bowl was never seen again.

The moral? Never mix dairy, heat, and ambition.

The Cat vs. The Christmas Tree



ne family had a beautiful, towering Christmas tree decorated with delicate glass ornaments, shimmering tinsel, and twinkling lights. It was their pride and joy—until their cat, Mittens, decided it was her personal jungle gym.

On the first night, they heard a crash and found Mittens halfway up the tree, dangling from a branch like a furry ornament. She had knocked off several baubles and was batting at the star like it owed her money.

They tried everything: citrus spray, aluminum foil around the base, even a motion-activated air puffer. Nothing worked. Every night, Mittens launched a stealth attack. One morning, they woke up to find the entire tree tipped over, ornaments scattered like confetti, and Mittens sitting triumphantly on top of the fallen pine like she'd conquered Everest.

From then on, they decorated only the top half of the tree and left the bottom bare—except for a sign that read: "Mittens' Zone – Enter at Your Own Risk."

"Santa Claus has the right idea. Visit people once a year."
— Victor Borge

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Writer's block? Vanquish it with these tips

Triters of all kinds sometimes fall prey to blocks. Whether you're writing a novel, a poem, or a business article, these tips can help you get past those blocks and get back on track:

- Start early. You have more willpower and energy in the morning, so use it to your advantage. You'll also have fewer interruptions and distractions while other people are just pouring their first cup of coffee, and you'll be able to put off less-important tasks for when you have the time to devote to them.
- Select a goal. Challenge yourself to write 5,000 words, work for two hours straight, finish a chapter, or write half your article before you move on. This gives you something concrete to strive for.
- Warm up. Spend a few minutes describing something around you, recreating a conversation from yesterday, writing down a dream, or just recording random thought as they come into your head. The practice of writing something—anything—will help get your mind in gear.
- Leave it unfinished. Some writers make a habit of stopping in the middle of a sentence so they have a natural starting point the next morning. If that doesn't work for you, try leaving what you're working on incomplete once you've reached your daily goal. You'll find it easier to continue when you have a natural jumping-off point.
- **Don't push yourself.** Sometimes the only thing to do is step away from the keyboard for a while. Let your mind wander without getting lost in another subject. After a few minutes (or hours) you'll be able to return with a fresh perspective.

Quotes

o invent, you need a good imagination and a pile of junk.

—Thomas Edison

Our imagination is stretched to the utmost, not, as in fiction, to imagine things which are not really there, but just to comprehend those things which are there.

—Richard Feynman

Do not be embarrassed by your failures. Learn from them, and start again.

-Richard Branson

You've got to get up every morning with determination if you're going to go to bed with satisfaction.

—George Lorimer



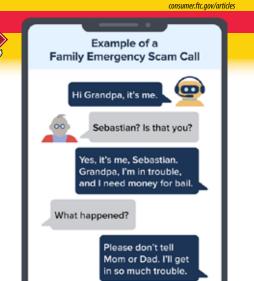
Family Scams

Scammers are good at **pretending to be someone that they're not**. They try to trick you into thinking **a loved one is in trouble.**

Once the scammer makes you think they're your grandson and in trouble, they pressure you to quickly send them money. **But it's all a scam.**Your family member was never in trouble.

- The scammer will say it's **urgent** and that you're the only one who can help.
- The scammer might tell you it's important to keep it secret. They don't want you talking to other family members and friends and realizing it's a scam.
- The scammers will **play with your emotions.** They're counting on you to act quickly to help your family or friend. And they're counting on you to pay without stopping to check out whether there's really an emergency. If you get a call like this, you can be sure this is a scam.

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EVENTS & PROGRAMS

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Lake Seminole Resort Christmas Craft Show and Flea Market. On Saturday, December 6th, 9:00am - 1:00pm. Located at 10245 110th Ave. N. Largo, Florida

Ranch Mobile Park, Park-Wide Yard Sale, Saturday, December 6, 2025, 8:00am -2:00pm at: 6800 - 150th Ave. N., Clearwater, (Largo).

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Saturday December 6th
8:00 am - 2:00 pm.
East Bay Oaks Clubhouse
601 Starkey Road, Largo

Annual Carport & Craft sale, Lincolnshire Estates: 1071 Donegan Rd., Largo FL 33771. Saturday December 6th 8AM to 1PM. Over 50 homes: housewares, arts & crafts, clothes, furniture, tools, and lots more. Maps available at entrances.

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