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• A D V O C A T E •

N

December • 2025

Issue 10  
49<sup>th</sup> 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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Director .....	Nancy Kern.....	#335 Ruby.....	321-217-3598
Director .....	Hazel Holliday .....	#354 Ruby.....	440-225-1765

The next HOA Board Meeting will be held December 2, 2025 – 6 pm

All HOA members are invited to attend the HOA meetings. There is a question-and-answer session after the regular meeting of the board. The meeting is held in the Clubhouse. If you are interested in filling the HOA Board vacancy, please contact a board member.

HOA dues are only \$15/year. Any new members that pay now will cover the rest of 2025 and all of 2026. To pay your dues, please put a check made out to Amber Glades HOA either in the dues box by the sliding doors at the clubhouse or give to Pat Peterman, Treasurer at Lot 205. It is only through support that we can work on making this a better place to live by being a liaison with Management.



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Philippians 4:13

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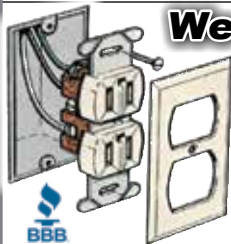


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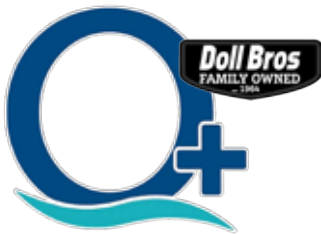
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ALERT

[www.usa.gov/scams-and-fraud](http://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](http://IdentityTheft.gov) or call 1-877-438-4338
  - 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.**

[ReportFraud.ftc.gov](http://ReportFraud.ftc.gov)

### 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 your account.



**Report Imposter Scams Online to the Federal Trade Commission**





## SOCIAL COMMITTEE

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The Social Committee held a Halloween parade on Nov 1. There was excellent participation and our residents really enjoyed the interaction, especially those who can't get out. Following the parade, a DJ dance was held at the clubhouse which was well attended by all kinds of ghosts and goblins.

The Social Committee would like to thank everyone who attended the meetings in October and November. Special thanks to those who have volunteered to step in to assist with chairing events and assist in set up and break down of our events.

The Secretary's position is still open anyone that is interested please contact Terri Moore for more information.

We have many fun and exciting events coming up and can't wait to see everyone attend any or all of them! Please make sure you check the bulletin board, the Marquee, Social media, and this media guide for all the information!

## HOLIDAY CRAFT FAIR

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Free Admission – Crafts, Jewelry, Home Décor, Silent Auction, and so much more. Free Coffee.

December 13, 2025, 9 am – 2 pm. Vendors – Tables are \$10 Donation

Contact Mary O'Keefe for more information – 727-265-8515

## FOOD DRIVE

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If you have food that you would like to donate to a local food bank please leave it in the clubhouse weekly by Saturdays at noon. Donations may also be dropped off at Lot #44.

## SUNSHINE COMMITTEE

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Big thanks to Patty Goldberg for volunteering her time to this sensitive cause. A card, kind words, and knowing those around you care about you in a time of need is priceless.

If you or someone you know has experienced an illness, accident, or death please reach out to Patty or any one on the Social Committee.

## Upcoming Events

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Food Giveaway on Thursday, December 4th , Noon  
Craft Fair on Saturday, December 13th, 9 am – 2 pm



## NEW RESIDENTS

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No new residents during past month.

## HOA Meeting with Management

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Amber Glades HOA met with park management on Thursday, November 6, 2025. Board asked about status of pot hole repair. Some have been done but still in process. Board asked for list of those scheduled to be filled. Discussed where to put stop sign on Diamond – Norm and Karen to look at area after meeting and agree where to place it. Discussed resident that still continues to walk dog on other resident’s property even though he has received violation notice. Will send another notice. Discussed temperature in club house – Karen stated that Board could adjust when too hot or cold but all thermostats have to be set same or room such as library and pool room shut off. Brought up issues of problem with cordless mikes. Management to purchase two more. Discussed light out by front gate – Karen stated that had replaced it twice so there must be a short. Will get electrician to check. Asked about Yard of Month Program. Will start up again in January. Discussed issue with truck being parked on grass – Karen to take care of. Brought up light on pole flickering all day and night. Karen to contact Duke Energy. Discussed issue of skate board riding. 2nd violation to be sent.

## DID YOU KNOW????????????

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**W**alkers & Wheelchairs -- The HOA has several walkers and wheelchairs that are available to Amber Glades residents to borrow when needed. These should be returned when need is over. For information contact Craig Rodgers, 502-435-8134

## AMBER GLADES FACEBOOK PAGE

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**G**et connected to Amber Glades Facebook page. Pictures of events are posted here by residents and interesting discussions are often seen. Join in and “friend” the Amber Glades Facebook page. We also have a Facebook page titled, Amber Glades HOA Approved that has official HOA Announcements and Amber Glades, Inc. Official Documents which has documents such as By-Laws, Prospectus etc. If you have something for sale, go to AG Marketplace.

**A Complete Listing of Resident Services  
can be found on the page before your calendar**

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## Monthly Food Give-Away

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We are so lucky to have Good Neighbors bring in food to be given away to our residents the First Thursday of each month. All residents are welcome to come up to the Clubhouse on that day to fill a bag with various free foods. Give-Away is at noon.

## BINGO \$\$ BINGO \$\$ BINGO \$\$

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Come join your neighbors every Monday at 6:00 pm for a chance to win some \$\$\$\$\$\$. (If you want to play the first game coverall, you should get there early). A card packet for all games starts at \$10. Feel lucky – Come join us!! The more players, the higher the pots. Snacks are provided at break.

## Shuffleboard League

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New season begins January 8, 2026 at 10:00 am. Will last three months. The cost is \$15 for the season. All levels can play and they will teach anyone who doesn't know how to play. As usual, this will be a fun season ending with an awards banquet at the end.

## Koffee Klatch

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Koffee Klatch is every Tuesday at 9:00 am. Free coffee is provided and you can bring a breakfast snack if you want. This is an excellent place to get caught up on resident news, meet new friends and solve all life's problems.

## Library News

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Our library has a great collection for slightly used books to borrow. We also have puzzles to lend. Please do not bring old, yellowed or torn books to the library. We take no Medical books, Maps, Magazines, Pamphlets or Sports books. We take clean newer paperbacks and Hardbacks. We also take puzzles with all the pieces. Please do not leave anything else in library.

## Sheriffs Office

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Call 911 for EMERGENCIES only. All other calls: 582-5177. If you see suspicious activity in the park or have been confronted by a Trespasser, solicitor or Door-to-door Salesperson, call the Sheriff's Office immediately.

**Issues of aggressive dogs – Call Animal Control at 727-582-2699.**

**Oversize Trash Pickup – Call Waste Pro 727-452-5278 to arrange pickup.**



# DEADLINE FOR JANUARY 2026 NEWSLETTER

Updates is Dec 8, 2025. . Please email or drop off your articles to Pat Peterman at Lot 205. Thank you. Email is patt74429@yahoo com.

## Block Captains

*Block Captains Chair, Lee Anne McHugh*

Linda Bearley.....	#6.....	128-154.....	618-709-3388
Joe D’Amico.....	#111.....	77-93.....	727-463-3952
Sharon DesJardins.....	#438.....	94-107, 425-440.....	727-488-7422
Patty Goldberg.....	#366.....	301-307,325-339,366-382.....	727-265-9744
Cindy Heath.....	#304.....	239-252.....	267-994-1565
Bonnie Hensey.....	#141.....	383-403, 36-56.....	910-824-5125
Deb Levtchenko.....	#283.....	253-265.....	631-275-3211
Irena Holman-Skwara.....	#370.....	23-34, 288, 404-411.....	727-666-0843
Janet Ludden.....	#12.....	57-76.....	260-704-0218
Pat Marks.....	#38.....	308-324.....	419-304-5568
LeeAnne McHughes.....	#334.....	287, 289-300.....	287-458-8134
Dorothy Mulaly.....	#115.....	108-127.....	727-417-0396
Pat Peterman.....	#205.....	183-210.....	618-960-9284
Lori Richards.....	#157.....	340-356.....	802-558-1379
Linda Silvie.....	#240.....	266-286.....	828-773-2166
Lou Smith.....	#238.....	357-365, 155-182, 2-3.....	217-836-4721
Alice Zarr.....	#219.....	211-238.....	727-614-9128

## Activity Chairpersons

Bingo Chair.....	Donna Miller.....	#434.....	727-724-0306
Bingo Co-Chair.....	Dave Karns.....	#337.....	727-723-0348
Block Capt. Chairperson.....	LeeAnne McHughes.....	#334.....	727-458-8134
Color Your Heart Out.....	Sharon Kachinski.....	#165.....	727-725-3745
FMO Representative.....	Pat Peterman.....	#205.....	618-960-9284
Kitchen Manager.....	Jodi Spellman.....	#75.....	930-265-5343
Library.....	Pat Budney.....	#399.....	727-385-5724
Media Guide.....	Pat Peterman.....	#205.....	618-960-9284
Social Committee Chair.....	Terri Moore.....	#33.....	240-552-4123
Sunshine Committee.....	Patty Goldberg.....	#366.....	727-265-9744

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## Social Security

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**Social Security beneficiaries will get a 2.8 percent increase in their monthly payments next year, the Social Security Administration (SSA) announced on Oct. 24.**

The 2026 cost-of-living adjustment (COLA) is slightly higher than last year's 2.5 percent increase, reflecting a recent uptick in inflation.

The 2.8 percent COLA will boost the average monthly benefit for a retired worker by about \$56, from \$2,015 to \$2,071, according to SSA estimates. The average monthly survivor benefit would inch up by about \$52, and the average payment for a worker collecting Social Security Disability Insurance would go up by \$44.

The COLA announcement, initially scheduled for Oct. 15, was delayed by nine days due to the federal government shutdown. However, the bump in benefits will take effect on time, starting with December Social Security payments, which are issued in January.

The annual COLA "plays a crucial role in supporting older Americans, helping ensure retirement income keeps pace with inflation," Dr. Meechai Minter-Jordan, AARP's chief executive officer, said in a statement.

## COLA follows inflation — with a lag

---

Rob Williams, managing director of financial planning at Charles Schwab, says Social Security recipients will welcome the boost, even though many may feel it should be higher.

"Inflation has been a top concern, both emotionally and financially, for a lot of Americans, retirees included," Williams says. "It feels like everything is getting more expensive."

Lucy Haverfield, a 72-year-old retiree living in Florida, says she lives on a "razor-thin" margin with her \$2,500 monthly Social Security payment, her only income. "Milk, eggs, bread, gas, name something — everything is up," she says.

"I appreciate that they are doing something," Haverfield says of the COLA increase. "Is it what we really need? [For] those of us on a fixed income, I'd say no."

Annual COLAs are based on year-over-year changes in the Consumer Price Index for Urban Wage Earners and Clerical Workers (CPI-W) during the third quarter of the year.

The CPI-W measures price trends for a market basket of goods and services, such as food, clothing, housing and transportation. It's a subset of the overall Consumer Price Index, the federal government's main gauge of inflation.



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## On the Lighter side

**H**ere are some lighthearted jokes that seniors will enjoy, perfect for bringing a smile and a good laugh!

### Funny Jokes for Seniors

- **What's the secret to having a smoking hot body in old age?** Cremation.
- **Why do old people love English muffins so much?** Because of the nooks and grannies.
- **What goes up but never comes down?** Your age!
- **Why did the old man fall into a well?** He couldn't see that well.
- **What do you call someone who's happy on a Monday?** Retired!
- **As I got older, life finally started to click for me... well, at least my knees, back, and neck did.**
- **You know you're old when someone calls at 9 p.m. and asks if they woke you.**
- **What do you call a group of old people?** A funeral.
- **When you get older, your memory is the second thing to go.** Occasionally, some will bite and ask what the first thing is, the answer is I don't remember.

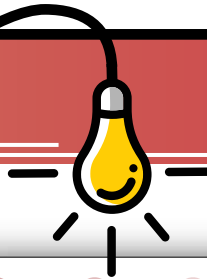
## Home Groan Puns

- **Intoxication:** Euphoria at getting a tax refund, which lasts until you realize it was your money to start with.
- **Reincarnation:** Coming back to life as a hillbilly.
- **Bozone:** The substance surrounding stupid people that stops bright ideas from penetrating the ozone layer – unfortunately, shows little sign of breaking down in the near future.
- **Giraffiti:** Vandalism spray-painted very, very high.
- **Sarcasm:** The gulf between the author of sarcastic wit and the person who doesn't get it.
- **Inoculate:** To take coffee intravenously when you are running late.
- **Decafhalon:** The grueling event of getting through the day consuming only things that are good for you.
- **Doppler Effect:** The tendency of stupid ideas to seem smarter when they come at you rapidly.
- **Beelzebub:** Satan in the form of a mosquito, that gets into your bedroom at three in the morning and cannot be cast out.
- **Caterpallor:** The color you turn when you discover half a worm in the fruit you're eating.



# Did You Know?

Christmas was originally celebrated by the Greeks on January 7th, until December 25th was made the official date for Christmas.



Monthly Media ads come with three icons that let you know the people behind it:  
Get to know our advertisers with our rating system!

- 49** **Circle with a Number:** This shows how many years the advertiser has been a certified business.
- ★** **Star:** A Gold Star means this advertiser has a clean slate with us - No unresolved complaints.
- 49** **Square with a Number:** This counts the years the advertiser has been sharing their story in Monthly Media. A sign of their commitment to your community!

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Sunday	Monday	Tuesday
	1 Koffee K HOA Bo 6 pm	
7	8 Deadline for Media Guide Updates. Bingo 6 pm	Koffee 9 am
14 Pearl Harbor Remembrance Day	15 Bingo 6 pm	Koffee 9 am
21 First Day of Winter	22 Bingo 6 pm	Koffee 9 am
28	29 Koffee 9 am	



# Amber Glades

uesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
2 Klatch 8 am Board Meeting	3	4 Free Food Giveaway 12 Noon	5	6 Food Donation - Clubhouse or Lot 44
9 Klatch	10 Social Committee Meeting 6 pm	11	12	13 Craft Fair 9 -2 Food Donation - Clubhouse or Lot 44
16 Klatch	17	18	19	20 Food Donation - Clubhouse or Lot 44
23 Klatch	24 Christmas Eve	25 Happy Holidays Christmas	26	27 Food Donation - Clubhouse or Lot 44
30 Klatch	31 New Year's Eve Event New Year's Eve			



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# Clearwater Police Department

The Clearwater Police Department has issued alerts regarding recent scams, particularly an **ATM scam** where suspects jam ATMs and pose as helpful bystanders to steal victims' cards and PINs.

- **Suspects** have been arrested for jamming ATMs with metal or paper to prevent customers from inserting their cards, then swapping the victim's card with a stolen one while memorizing the PIN.
- Residents are advised to remain vigilant at ATMs and never hand over their bank cards to anyone they do not know.
- The police have reported multiple victims affected by this scam, and similar incidents may occur elsewhere in the area.

For more information, you can visit the Clearwater Police Department's official website or check local news sources for updates.

**SCAM ALERT!!** There is a scam going through e-mail that your pay pal account has been hacked. It looks very official but it is fake. Report SPAM and delete it right away.

## DECEMBER

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## MONTHLY

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**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

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**Clerc-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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17

SCAM



ALERT



## 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.

**Slow down. Verify.**

### Example of a Family Emergency Scam Call



**Report Imposter Scams Online to the Federal Trade Commission | [ReportFraud.ftc.gov](https://ReportFraud.ftc.gov)**



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8

## The Mysterious Gift Under the Tree

One 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

During 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

One 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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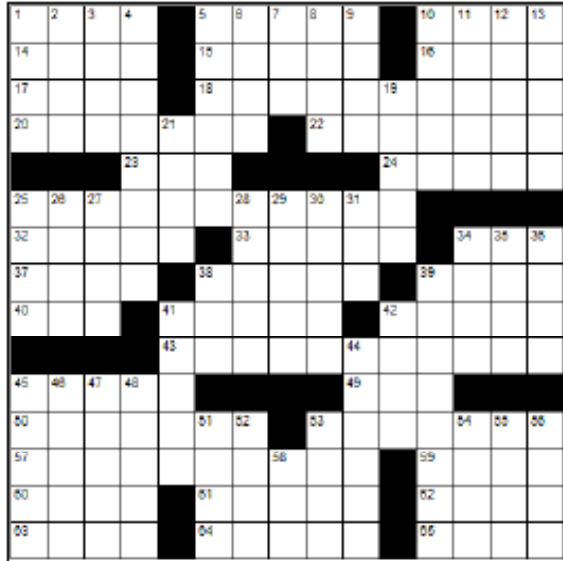


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## ACROSS

1. On-line journal
5. Rhinoceros
10. Gangs
14. Former Italian currency
15. A red fluorescent dye
16. Send forth
17. A Freudian stage
18. Totally
20. Vixen
22. Hypodermic
23. L
24. Donkeys
25. Class chums
32. Held on tightly
33. Japanese cartoon art
34. Beer
37. 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
53. 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

- |                                |                          |                         |
|--------------------------------|--------------------------|-------------------------|
| 1. Ho-hum                      | 19. Delete               | 41. Lose consciousness  |
| 2. Connects two points         | 21. Blockage             | 42. "Smallest" particle |
| 3. By mouth                    | 25. Flat-bottomed boat   | 44. Spay                |
| 4. Square-rigged sailing ships | 26. Hint                 | 45. Hemp                |
| 5. Summon to return            | 27. Offended             | 46. Small goat antelope |
| 6. Owl sound                   | 28. Married partners     | 47. Licoricelike flavor |
| 7. Belief                      | 29. Concerning (archaic) | 48. Sail supports       |
| 8. Bites                       | 30. Diacritical mark     | 51. Animal menageries   |
| 9. Unique                      | 31. An uncle             | 52. Unit of land        |
| 10. Anagram of "Smite"         | 34. Countertenor         | 53. Way in              |
| 11. Portents                   | 35. Hawaiian feast       | 54. Protagonist         |
| 12. Cause to leak              | 36. Makes a mistake      | 55. Ear-related         |
| 13. Infections of the eye      | 38. Bro or sis           | 56. Every single one    |
|                                | 39. Happy                | 58. Uncooked            |

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FURNITURE, good clean, pre-owned. Top dollar paid. Charles, 727-657-7021	CRAFT SHOW, BAKE SALE, and RAFFLE. Saturday December 6, 9-1. Southwind MHC, 795 County Road 1, Palm Harbor. 440.227.5906	<i>Jan &amp; Feb Events</i>
OTHER	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	
Sell Rickey's Jerky! Join our team—locally or see the country. Full time or part time. Have fun while you cover your expenses or make some money! We're hiring now through the end of the year! Contact Ryan: Info@RickeysJerky.com or 503-475-5613 <a href="https://rickeysjerky.com/pages/opportunities">https://rickeysjerky.com/pages/opportunities</a> has more info.	<b>Ranch Mobile Park, Park-Wide Yard Sale</b> , Saturday, December 6, 2025, 8:00am -2:00pm at: 6800 - 150th Ave. N., Clearwater, (Largo).	
	CRAFT FAIR 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.	
ARTICLES FOR SALE	HOLIDAY CRAFT FAIR 12/13/25 10 A.M. TO 1 P.M. AMERICANA COVE 7201 1st Street NE Saint Petersburg	
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Group photo of your selection:

**Monthly Media | 220 Bahama St. Venice, FL 34285**




## JANUARY AD DEADLINE - DECEMBER 5, 2025

Advertise BUY, SELL, TRADE ITEMS by sending copy & check to Monthly Media at 220 Bahama St, Venice, FL 34285. Ads over 10 words must be accompanied by \$.80 per extra word or publisher will edit. Each new word indicated by a space, numbers included. No mobile home sales, no professional products or services. Envelope must be postmarked by 10th of the month to meet deadline. **SORRY: No ads accepted by phone or email.**

# The Great Eggnog Explosion

At 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

One 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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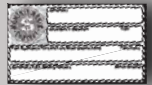
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#### **HOW IT WORKS:**

1. Patronize the advertisers in this month's newsletter
2. Ask the business for your Monthly Mania ticket, **OR a copy of your receipt and clip this ad**
3. Mail it back to us at: **Monthly Media | 220 Bahama St. Venice, FL 34285**
4. Every month we draw new tickets for **CASH PRIZES** and mail winners a check! **Every month is a new chance to win!**



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Deborah Beaulieu.....\$10.00..... Imperial Electric Services  
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Julia Cadieux.....\$10.00..... Imperial Electric Services  
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Bonny DeMoranville ..\$5.00..... Jones & Sons Plumbing  
Claudia Vater.....\$10.00..... Jones & Sons Plumbing

**Not enough qualifying winners for the November drawing!**  
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• Limit of one ticket per visit • Advertiser may have up to 5 winners per month • Advertiser must have bill paid current to qualify • Allow 8-12 weeks for mailing of check • No purchase necessary • Contest void where prohibited by law • Tickets available at participating Monthly Media advertisers •



## Writer's block? Vanquish it with these tips

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**W**riters 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

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**T**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.

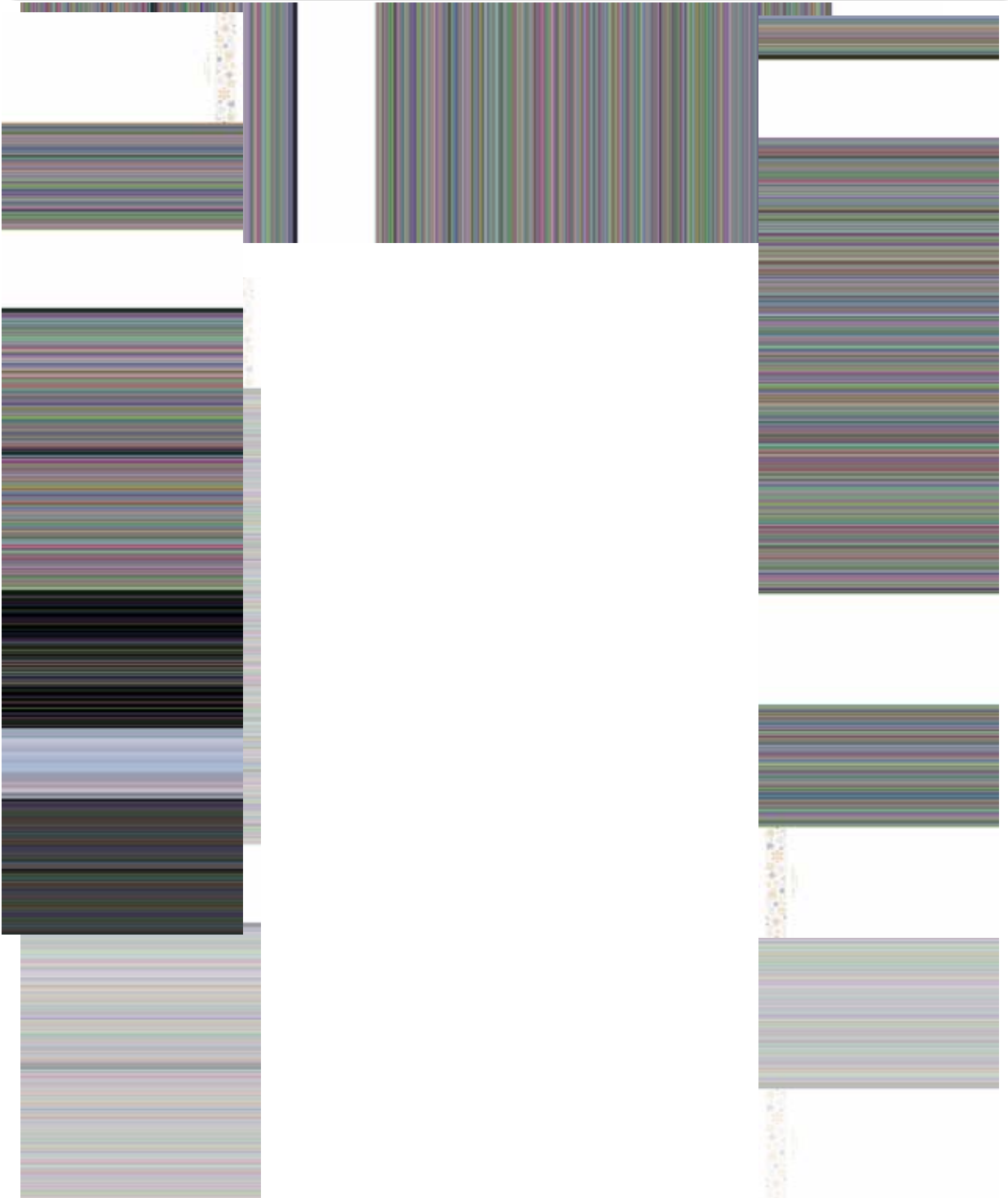
—Richard Feynman

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





## Block Captains

### Chair, LeeAnne McHughes, Lot 334, 727-458-8134

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Linda Bearley	#6	128-154	618-709-3388
Joe D'Amico	#111	77-93	727-463-3952
Sharon DesJardins	#438	94-107, 425-440	727-488-7422
Patty Goldberg	#366	301-307, 325-339, 366-382	727-265-9744
Cindy Heath	#304	239-252	267-994-1565
Bonnie Hensey	#141	383-403, 36-56	910-824-5125
Deb Levtehenko	283	253-265	631-275-3211
Irena Eolman-Skwara	370	23-34, 288, 404-411	727-666-0843
Janet Ludden	#12	57-76	260-704-0218
Pat Marks	#38	308-324	419-304-5568
LeeAnne McHughes	#334	4-21, 287, 289-300, 412-418	727-458-8134
Dorothy Mulaly	#115	108-127	727-417-0396
Pat Peterman	#205	183-210	618-960-9284
Lori Richards	#157	340-356	802-558-1379
Linda Silvie	#240	266-286	828-773-2166
Lou Smith	#238	357-365, 155-182, 2-3	217-836-4721
Alice Zarr	#219	211-238	727-614-9128

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## Activity Chairpersons

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Bingo Chair	Donna Miller	#434	727-724-0306
Bingo Co-Chair	Dave Karns	#337	727-723-0346
Block Captain Chair	LeeAnn McHugh	#334	727-458-8134
Color Your Heart Out	Sharon Kachinski	#165	727-725-3745
FMO Representative	Pat Peterman	#205	618-960-9284
Kitchen Manager	Rose Hendershot	#26	727-641-7309
Library	Pat Budney	#399	727-385-5724
Media Guide	Pat Peterman	#205	618-960-9284
Social Committee Chair	Terri Moore	#33	
Sunshine Committee	Patty Goldberg	#366	215-913-2463 or 727-265-9744

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