



# Up The Creek



A Publication of Rice Creek Resort  
10719 Rice Creek Dr, Riverview, FL 33578

**DECEMBER 2022**

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## From the Editors

### Rice Creek RV Resort Newsletter

Also available in color on-line at [www.ontracnewsletters.net](http://www.ontracnewsletters.net)

**Thank you to all the people who have contributed to this edition, as well as our managers, activities directors, and coordinators.**

Please submit your ideas or articles in writing or by email with your name, address, and phone number.

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or [robinavaughan@gmail.com](mailto:robinavaughan@gmail.com)

## Activities Directors

**Prudy and Dave Hodsdon**

*By: Prudy Hodsdon (603) 312-1461*

This is a busy, busy month so I hope you're rested up and ready for all the events being offered! Make sure to check the calendar for dates, times, and places. As much as I hate that it happens, there may be last minute changes. You can view the most current calendar information at my office.

Our amazing park once again demonstrated its' compassion and generosity by donating non-perishable goods, cleaning supplies and other thoughtful items for those at our "sister" park in Ft. Myers, which was devastated by hurricane Ian. The collection far exceeded what was anticipated. Bill and Lois delivered two truckloads of donated goods!

The Christmas party and New Year's Eve party are scheduled! The kids from Riverview High School will be visiting. Come join our beautiful Christmas Eve service.



Happy Hanukkah!

**December 18-26**

## Manager's corner

**Bill & Lois Brimmer**

*By: Bill Brimmer*

The staff and I want to welcome all of you snowbirds back to your winter home!

We have made a few improvements to the park. Some are obvious, i.e., repaved the streets in Phase 2 and speed bumps on the main drags. Every time a road is repaved drivers increase their speed. Thus, the speed bumps to slow people down. Other improvements may have gone unnoticed such as new ceiling tile in the clubhouse, new grout in the showers, and some areas in Phase 1 have new electrical wiring in place.

Although we were very lucky with the storms, there was considerable cleanup and repairs required, some of which have not yet been completed.

Enjoy your stay!



*We wish you a Merry Christmas!*



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To our valued customers;

During the current times we wanted to let you know that we are taking as many precautions as we can to ensure not only our workers safety but yours as well. We check workers' temperatures each morning and have limited the amount of contact our crews have with each other. Our crews work in Tyvek suits with respirators which helps to ensure your safety as well as theirs.

As a company, we want your business and there is no need for any contact if you so choose. Our business is deemed an "Essential Business" and we are here for you when you need us. You can schedule your inspection by calling 1-800-681-3772.

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# EDITORIAL

By: Robin Vaughan

At this point in my life, I do not want to deal with stress. In any way, shape, or form. Maybe it's my perception of what is stressful. Younger me had a specific timeline for the day. It was necessary so that I could be my best at work and take care of the needs of my family and home. It was stressful to cram so much into a day, and stressful if I didn't accomplish what I planned. Fast forward many years. I wake up on Monday morning and contemplate my week, not just my day. Ok, got it. I need to do laundry, clean the house, grocery shop, meal plan and put gas in the car. All before Saturday. I have my coffee and check my phone. I have a text from a friend who wants to have lunch on Tuesday. I get a phone

call asking if I can pick up my grandkids up from school on Thursday. I get an email from my doctor's office advising me to update my profile online prior to my appointment next week. I read that the price of gas is going up again. Now my planned week is gone. I won't be back in the park from the school pick up until after dark. The laundry and the house cleaning are going to have to wait because of my lunch date. The stupid profile update takes me 3 hours because I can't remember my login or password and have somehow managed to delete the information I inputted, twice. Should I get gas today, or take a chance the price won't go up before I can fill up? See – stress! That's why I drink wine.



## BINGO

By: Paul Albert

Every Thursday nickel bingo begins at 6:00 pm. 25 nickels, 5 dimes and 6 quarters is all you need for this entertaining night. If you want, add a dollar for each 'jug' ticket. The 'jug' prize is becoming quite significant!

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## BULLETIN BOARD

At the back of the hall. Post notes on 3"x5" cards. Write date posted on card. This board will be checked and kept neat. The cards will be removed every two months. For more information see Prudy.

## Friday Morning Meeting

Coffee and donuts at 7:45 a.m. Information meeting at 8:30 a.m. This is the place to find out what is happening in the park and any changes to scheduled events. All are encouraged to attend.



*Merry Christmas*

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## BREAKFAST

By: Scott Denson



Scott will be serving up hot breakfasts at 8:30 a.m. on two Saturdays, December 3rd and 17th. Check the board for menu and cost.

## HOT DAWGS

By: Floyd Anderson

Come and get 'em! Floyd will be serving them hot at noon on Saturday, December 10th.



## Ladies Tea

By: Linda Seese (480) 516-7333

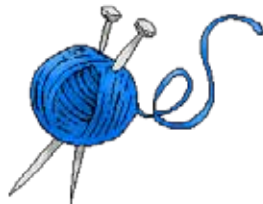


The Annual Rice Creek Ladies Tea will be held on Thursday, December 8th at 2:00 pm in the hall. This year, Cypress Creek Elementary School has requested the donation of pants and books. You ladies are always so generous, and we are hoping to collect a wide variety. Check the bulletin board signup sheet for details. Reservations are required. Please bring your teacup and saucer. If you have a teapot we can borrow, please let me know.

## RICE CREEK STITCHERS

By: Linda Seese (480) 516-7333

Fellow Rice Creekians... Interested in meeting wonderful neighbors? Like to Knit? Crochet? Quilt? Embroider?? Want to learn how to do these things? Have talent you would like to share? Like to be with friendly, creative people?? Join us in the craft room, on Tuesday afternoons, from 2:00pm - 4:00pm. Looking forward to seeing you there!!



## CHAPEL

Services are held in the hall Sundays at 9:00 am, followed by coffee hour.



## Driveway Sales

Will now be permitted on the first Saturday every month. This month's will be on Saturday, December 3rd.



## CARDS

If you like to play cards (or would like to learn), the following are options you might consider:

**Euchre** on Monday nights at 6:00pm in the craft room.

**Pinochle** on Tuesday and Wednesday nights at 6:00pm in the craft room.



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We have taken steps to limit exposure to the virus by making our customers aware that there is no need to have any contact with our employees if you choose to do so. Our business falls under the state's guidelines as "Essential Business".

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## Horseshoes



ATTENTION ALL HORSESHOE PLAYERS! We will be pitching at 9:00 am every day Monday thru Friday, with a tournament on Saturday. You do not have to have your own shoes to participate. Come have some fun!



## Bowling

*By: Nancy & Ron Ferdinandsen (586) 871-5333*

Bowling is on Tuesdays at The Alley off of Big Bend Road. Be there at 12:30pm to check in for a 1:00pm start. There is a sheet in the hall for SIGN UP, please remember to put your phone# and enter each name on a single line. Come along and HAVE FUN!

## Pool Tournament

There is a pool tournament every Wednesday at 6:30 pm....and is open to all.



## Shuffleboard

Come join us on Tuesday, Thursday, and Saturday at 9:00 a.m. for a morning of shuffling!

## Yard Games

Bocce ball, ladder ball and corn hole games are available for your use and are located in the library.

# HALLOWEEN PARTY

A great time was had by all - we had 80 attendees! The winners for best costumes were Theresa Jahn and Gladys Belise.



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## APP OF THE MONTH:



How would you like to travel the world with a local guide, in real time, from your favorite comfy chair? HEYGO is a live, interactive stream with over 620 guides covering over 2300 locations around the world, at various times of the day. To register is free, all they ask is if you enjoyed the tour, leave the tour guide a small tip (typically \$3-\$5). You can join or leave the tour at any time, and you can see on their site all upcoming tours and guides. There's even a function to snap postcards! Give it a try – I also found the tours useful in helping me plan future trips.

## COMEDY CORNER



The adult version of “head, shoulders, knees and toes” is “wallet, glasses, keys and phone.”

A dog accepts you as the boss... a cat wants to see your resume.

Life is too short to waste time matching socks.

Wi-fi went down for five minutes, so I had to talk to my family. They seem like nice people.

My doctor asked if anyone in my family suffers from mental illness. I said, “No, we all seem to enjoy it.”

I really don't mind getting old, but my body is having a major fit.

I told my wife I wanted to be cremated. She made me an appointment for Tuesday.

Measure once, cuss twice.



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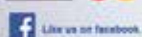
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## ? DID YOU KNOW ?

By: Robin Vaughan

Did you know that fashion trends repeat themselves every 20 to 30 years? Remember bell bottoms and flair legged jeans? They made a brief comeback in the 1990s then fizzled out. Guess what? They're baaack! Big time! Skinny jeans are out. And that goes for men too!

When I was in high-school hip-hugger bell bottoms were all the rage! The wider the bell bottom the better. Today's style is a little different. Jeans are high-rise and over the ankle, instead of low-rise and dragging on the ground. At this point of my life, I am not chasing the latest fashions. I like comfort and durability. And pockets! Whatever happened to pockets in ladies' jeans?

A few other fashion trends are making a comeback: choker necklaces, sweatpants, and long, straight hair. Let's look at these trends from our perspective today: choker necklaces? If I put one on now, I wouldn't be able to see it as it would be immediately swallowed up! Sweatpants? Yes please! Long, straight hair? Can you iron gray hair to make it straight?

Whatever the style, you be you. I can't wait for maxi dresses to come back! I loved those!!!

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## ***FUN FACTS ABOUT CHRISTMAS***

**Artificial Christmas trees were once made with goose feathers.**

The artificial trees were first displayed in Germany around 1865 and were made of goose feathers that were dyed green.

### **Why December 25th?**

The Bible doesn't mention the date of the birth of Jesus. Back in the 4th century, Pope Julius I decided that the birth of Christ should be celebrated on December 25th, likely because there were many other festivities celebrated around that time and he felt it was more likely to be embraced.

**If you gave all the gifts listed in the "Twelve Days of Christmas," it would equal 364 presents.**

**In Ukraine, spiders are considered symbols of good luck at Christmas.**

In Ukraine, families hang spider web ornaments on their trees because of a lovely seasonal story about spiders using their silky string to decorate the tree of a poor widow and her children.

**Santa has a postal code in Canada.**

The address? Santa Claus, North Pole, HOH OHO, Canada. Santa receives over 1 million letters every Christmas and responds to all of them.

**Turkey Wasn't Always Popular.**

Before turkey, the traditional Christmas meal in England was a pig's head and mustard.

**People in Japan eat KFC on Christmas.**

In Japan, modern holiday festivities often involve eating KFC at Christmas. Takeshi Okawara, the manager of the first KFC in Japan, overheard a couple of foreigners talking about missing turkey on Christmas. He came up with the idea of a "party barrel" to be sold on Christmas. He hoped a Christmas dinner of fried chicken could be a substitute for turkey and began marketing his "party barrel" as a way to celebrate the holiday.



## **Holiday Festivities**

### **HALL DECORATIONS FRIDAY, DECEMBER 2ND**

The hall decorations will be put up right after the Friday morning meeting. Your help is always appreciated!

### **TREE LIGHTING AND COOKIES SUNDAY, DECEMBER 4TH @ 6:00 PM**

Bring a batch of your favorite cookies to share as we light our Christmas tree and enjoy the concert presented by the Riverview High School Choir! The concert will begin at 6:30 pm. Please bring a non-perishable food item.

### **CHRISTMAS PARTY, SUNDAY, DECEMBER 18TH @ 7:00 PM**

Music will be provided by Spirit Entertainers. Tickets are \$5 and can be purchased in advance. Prudy will have tickets at the Friday morning meetings or see her in her office.

### **DECORATED GOLF CART PARADE, WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 21ST @ 6:00 PM**

Dress your wheels in it's most festive attire! Everyone should meet near the pavilion. As usual, a valuable prize will be awarded to the winner! The high school carolers will be back to sing our favorite Christmas songs at 6:30 pm.

### **HOME/RV HOLIDAY DECORATIONS**

Vote for the best decorated home or RV! There will be a box in the hall in which to place your votes. Another valuable prize will be awarded at the Friday meeting on December 23rd. You do not need to be present to win.

### **CHRISTMAS CHAPEL**

There will be a Christmas Eve service at 7:00 pm. On Christmas Day there will be a gift swap (\$5) and service at 9:00 am.

### **CHRISTMAS DINNER**

Will be held at 3:00 pm on Christmas Day. Please be sure to sign up!

### **NEW YEARS EVE PARTY**

Will be combined with Hacienda Heights and held in our clubhouse from 8:00 pm until midnight. Music will be provided by John Hill. Tickets are \$10.00 per person and can be purchased in advance. Prudy will have tickets at Friday morning meetings or see her in her office.





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To our valued customers;

Our top priority is the health and safety of our employees and of our customers. Our employees are closely following the Centers for Disease Control's (CDC) guidelines and recommendation, like frequent hand washing, social distancing, and staying home if they are feeling ill.

We have taken steps to limit exposure to the virus by making our customers aware that there is no need to have any contact with our employees if you choose to do so. Our business falls under the state's guidelines as "Essential Business".

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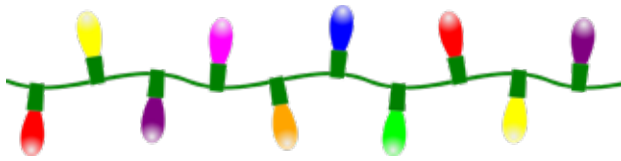


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# Local Holiday Light Shows

## 6038 Palomaglade Drive, FishHawk Ranch, Lithia

As you enter the neighborhood, you'll be prompted to tune your car radio to a channel that plays the music that the lights are synchronized to. In addition to hosting a major light show, Palomaglade Drive in the Paloma Glade subdivision in FishHawk Ranch has a bin to collect food donations for Seeds of Hope. The subdivision is located off FishHawk Boulevard.

## 12229 Adventure Drive, Riverview

Using a computer-programmed system, holiday lights, props and decorations, this light show is synchronized to music that can be heard on 90.1 FM.

## Other holiday lights suggestions include:

- 10615 Boyette Creek Blvd., Riverview
- 9711 Riverview Drive, Riverview
- Summerfield Crossings subdivision, Riverview
- 11720 Stonewood Gate Drive, Riverview
- 1407 Horizon Court, Brandon
- 959 Sandywood Drive, Brandon
- 506 Hickory Lake Drive, Brandon
- 5711 Tanagerside Road, Lithia

## TRIVIA CORNER

1. The movie Miracle on 34th Street is based on a real department store. What is it?
2. In Home Alone, where are the McAllisters going on vacation when they leave Kevin behind?
3. In the How the Grinch Stole Christmas, the Grinch was described with three words. What are they?
4. In It's A Wonderful Life, what happened every time a bell rang?
5. Which Hollywood actor played six different roles in The Polar Express?

(ANSWERS ON PAGE 14)

# Some Local And Not So Local Happenings

**FRIDAY, DECEMBER 2ND, 2:00 PM - 9:30 PM**

## SANTA FEST & TAMPA'S TREE LIGHTING CEREMONY

Curtis Hixon Waterfront Park, 600 N. Ashley Drive, Tampa, FL 33602  
Tampa kicks off the holiday season on Saturday, December 3 with heritage events that many families have grown up with. Join us for the Christmas Parade, Santa Fest and Tampa's Tree Lighting Ceremony.

### Event Schedule

- 1-2:30 p.m. Christmas Parade
- 1-4 p.m. Santa Fest
- 4:45-6:30 p.m. Tree Lighting Ceremony
- 6:30-8:30 p.m. Movie: Fred Claus

**SATURDAY, DECEMBER 3rd, 5:00 PM – 9:00 PM**

## 38TH ANNUAL ALAFIA LIGHTED BOAT PARADE & CHILI-TO-GO FEST

Riverview Civic Center and Boat Ramp, 11020 Park Dr, Riverview, FL

Come out and watch the beautifully decorated boats float from here down to River's Edge Grill, where the prizes will be awarded to the winners.

**SATURDAY, DECEMBER 10th, 10:30 AM – 3:00 PM**

## ANNUAL CAR SHOW AND MARKET

Sumner High School, 10650 Co Rd 672, Riverview, FL  
Food trucks, live music, and car enthusiasts.

**SATURDAY, DECEMBER 10th, 10:00 AM - 5:00 PM**

## SUNDAY, DECEMBER 11th, 10:00 AM – 4:00 PM

### TAMPA HOLIDAY ART & CRAFT EXPO

Florida State Fairgrounds, 4800 U.S. Hwy 301 N, Tampa, FL 33610  
\$10 parking, free admission.

**SUNDAY, DECEMBER 11th, 12:00 PM - 6:00 PM**

## JINGLE BELL BAZAAR AT YBOR

Centennial Park, 1800 E 8th Ave, Ybor City, FL 33605  
A festive day with live music bands, entertainment performances, holiday shopping, food trucks and of course, Santa.

**SATURDAY, DECEMBER 17th, 9AM-2PM**

## WINTHROP POP-UP MARKET

Winthrop Town Centre Ave, Riverview, FL  
Over 60 vendors and businesses, with food trucks and live music.

**SATURDAY, DECEMBER 17th, 6:00 PM - 9:45 PM**

## TAMPA RIVERWALK HOLIDAY LIGHTED BOAT PARADE

### Downtown Tampa

The parade begins at the southern tip of Davis Islands, travels through the Convention Center basin and up to the Heights where the boats will turn around and head to Sparkman Wharf where judging will occur, and the parade will end. . Many viewing spots along the Riverwalk between Armature Works all the way through the Sail Pavilion and over by Sparkman Wharf provide fantastic views of the parade.



# RECIPES



This is a recipe I've made many times for company. The cost of meat nowadays is outrageously high, along with everything else. Pork loin may be a more economical alternative for your family Christmas dinner.

## Stuffed Pork Loin with Raspberry Sauce

Preheat your oven to 400 degrees.

Pork loin (you can choose whatever size is best for your family).

To prepare your pork loin for stuffing, place on your preferred work surface for raw meat. Slice the loin lengthwise, being careful not to cut all the way through. Open the loin and pound with a meat mallet to about 1/2" thick. Pat dry with paper towel and season with salt and pepper.

### Stuffing:

This is a simple bread stuffing\*:

- 1 Tbs olive oil
- 1/4 c finely chopped onion
- 2 cloves garlic minced
- 1 tsp fresh rosemary minced
- 1/2 c panko breadcrumbs

Add 1 tablespoon of olive oil to an oven-safe skillet and add the diced onion. Cook for 2-3 minutes. Add the minced garlic, rosemary, and breadcrumbs to the pan and combine well.

Spread this mixture over the prepared pork loin, roll into a log and tie with kitchen twine. Salt and pepper the rolled loin.

Add the remaining tablespoon of olive oil to the skillet, heat, then sear the loin 2 minutes per side. Add **2 tablespoons butter, a couple of springs of fresh rosemary and 3 whole garlic cloves**. Place the skillet in the oven and bake for 15-20 minutes, until the internal temperature reaches 140 degrees. Remove the loin and baste with the pan drippings. Cover with foil and rest for 5 minutes until internal temperature reaches 145 degrees.

### Raspberry Sauce\*:

- 1/4 c seedless raspberry jam
- 2 Tbs orange juice
- 2 Tbs white wine vinegar

Combine all ingredients in a saucepan, bring to a boil and cook for 2 to 3 minutes. The sauce will thicken as it cools. Slice your pork loin drizzle the raspberry sauce over the sliced loin.

\*I have stuffed my pork loin with sauteed spinach; caramelized onions; stove-top stuffing. You choose!

\*\*I usually double or triple the recipe for the raspberry sauce. It is delicious and I encourage my guests to pour it on!

I don't know about you, but I love the combination of raspberries and chocolate. So, the following cocktail is especially delicious with the pork loin recipe above:

### Double Chocolate Martini:

- 2 1/2 oz half and half
- 1 1/2 oz vodka
- 1 1/2 oz chocolate liqueur
- 1 1/2 oz crème de cacao



Combine all ingredients over ice and stir until the outside of the container gets nice and cold. Strain into a martini glass. You can garnish the glass with chocolate syrup, you can rim the glass with grated chocolate, and/or add a maraschino cherry as a garnish. You can shake the drink, but the texture is going to be different because of the little bubbles and little pieces of ice you get.

Enjoy!!!



## TRIVIA ANSWERS

1. Macy's
2. Paris
3. Stink, stank, stunk
4. An angel got its wings
5. Tom Hanks

# December 2022

## Monthly Planner

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday																																																																																				
<table border="1" style="display: inline-table; margin-right: 20px;"> <caption>Nov 2022</caption> <tr><td>S</td><td>M</td><td>T</td><td>W</td><td>T</td><td>F</td><td>S</td></tr> <tr><td></td><td>1</td><td>2</td><td>3</td><td>4</td><td>5</td><td></td></tr> <tr><td>6</td><td>7</td><td>8</td><td>9</td><td>10</td><td>11</td><td>12</td></tr> <tr><td>13</td><td>14</td><td>15</td><td>16</td><td>17</td><td>18</td><td>19</td></tr> <tr><td>20</td><td>21</td><td>22</td><td>23</td><td>24</td><td>25</td><td>26</td></tr> <tr><td>27</td><td>28</td><td>29</td><td>30</td><td></td><td></td><td></td></tr> </table> <table border="1" style="display: inline-table;"> <caption>Jan 2023</caption> <tr><td>S</td><td>M</td><td>T</td><td>W</td><td>T</td><td>F</td><td>S</td></tr> <tr><td>1</td><td>2</td><td>3</td><td>4</td><td>5</td><td>6</td><td>7</td></tr> <tr><td>8</td><td>9</td><td>10</td><td>11</td><td>12</td><td>13</td><td>14</td></tr> <tr><td>15</td><td>16</td><td>17</td><td>18</td><td>19</td><td>20</td><td>21</td></tr> <tr><td>22</td><td>23</td><td>24</td><td>25</td><td>26</td><td>27</td><td>28</td></tr> <tr><td>29</td><td>30</td><td>31</td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td></tr> </table>				S	M	T	W	T	F	S		1	2	3	4	5		6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30				S	M	T	W	T	F	S	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31					1 BINGO 6PM	2 COFFEE & DONUTS 7:45 MEETING 8:45	3 BREAKFAST 8:30
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25 CHRISTMAS DINNER IN THE HALL 3PM	26 EUCHRE 6PM	27 PINOCHLE 6PM	28 PINOCLE 6PM POOL TOURNRY 6PM	29 BINGO 6PM	30 COFFEE & DONUTS 7:45 MEETING 8:45	31																																																																																				

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