

## EAST LAKE FIRE RESCUE ASSISTANT CHIEF GEORGE BESSLER RECEIVES COUNTY COMMENDATION

by Claudia Fabiola, Fire and Life Safety Educator,  
EAST LAKE FIRE RESCUE



On the evening of Thursday, September, 12 while Chief Bessler was on his way home after working a late night, he passed a medical emergency where he could see CPR being performed on an individual on a sidewalk adjacent to the road. Chief Bessler pulled his department vehicle onto the shoulder, put his lights on, grabbed his medical bag and Automatic External Defibrillator (AED), and rushed to the scene. He was the first EMS unit on scene and confirmed 911 had been contacted and instructed a civilian who had been performing chest compressions to continue. Chief Bessler then attached the AED pads, analyzed the rhythm of the patient, determined it was shockable, cleared the patient, shocked one time and got back a heart rhythm with a faint pulse. Next to arrive on scene was a Sunstar supervisor. The patient still had a pulse but was not breathing so chief Bessler continued to provide rescue breaths. A Sunstar ambulance arrived next followed by a Seminole FD unit and care was transferred to them. Chief Bessler stayed on scene assisting with the incident until the patient was transported to the hospital. Chief Bessler received a Pinellas County Commendation from Dr. Jameson.

Chief Bessler highly recommends that everyone obtains CPR/AED training. You never know when you will be in the right place at the right time with the opportunity to save a life. East Lake Fire Rescue offers CPR classes monthly. To register for a class, click: <https://www.elfr.org/cpr-classes>

## PRESIDENT'S REPORT

by Susan Whitehead



Happy Holidays to you and yours! I hope everyone is blessed by having family close by or friends who have become family. They are indeed our greatest gift.

I would like to thank our ELW Holiday Decorating Committee who have worked hard to make the season bright! Led by Head Elf Extraordinaire Judy Fosbrook, this team met throughout the year to ensure that during the holidays we enter our community with a smile. Many thanks also go to assistant elves Ron Lemmo, Susan Davis and Jan Lucas for their help, proving once again that it takes a village.

As the New Year approaches, we often go through the same ritual of coming up with a list of resolutions that last oh, maybe a day or two. In fact, I don't want to brag but, last year I finished my two week diet in 2 hours. (Curse that cheesecake....). However, there are a couple of resolutions that I would love to see all our residents commit to:

- **INTRODUCE YOURSELF TO ONE NEIGHBOR WHO YOU HAVEN'T MET YET.**
- **ATTEND ONE MEETING THIS YEAR OF YOUR OWN HOA OR THE ELWCA.**

These two resolutions are probably the easiest homework you'll have this year and the benefits are tremendous. A neighborhood comprised of strong relationships is one of the top indicators of health and happiness. I promise that the neighbor you haven't met yet has been curious about you too.

Becoming involved in your community often starts with attending a meeting and learning about the strengths and issues we face. East Lake Woodlands is comprised of almost 10,000 residents and we are certain that each and every one of you has a talent or expertise in something. You may be the expert that we need or at the very least, you'll walk away with a bit more understanding than before.

May we all enjoy a happy and healthy New Year!

## 2019 EASTLAKE WOODLANDS COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION BOARD MEETING SCHEDULE

DECEMBER 17TH	8:00am	Management & Associates
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The Eastlake Woodlands Board of Directors welcomes all residents to submit positive and informative articles about our community.

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**EAST LAKE WOODLANDS  
FREQUENTLY CALLED NUMBERS**

Location	Phone Number
Rover (Resident Request Number)	813-462-8971
North Gate	813-749-0710
South Gate	727-785-7384
Country Club	727-784-8576
ELW Water	727-784-6262
Pinellas County Sheriff, Non-emergency	727-582-6200
<b>Management and Associates</b> Barcode Information, Mary Hunt	813-433-2014
<b>Management and Associates</b> Manager, Debi Hudrlik	813-433-2004
<b>Management and Associates</b> Accounting, Debbie Reith	813-433-2005

**VEHICLE BARCODES**

If you need a barcode you must provide the following:

**Owners:**

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

**Renters:**

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

**Payment:**

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

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

**ELWCA MANAGEMENT COMPANIES**

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### POSITIVE REAL ESTATE CHANGES OF 2019

by Ernie Del Barba, Berkshire Hathaway Home Services

The McCaffery Team is happy to end 2019 with some very good news for condo buyers. Changes to Federal Housing Administration Condominium Loan Rules that the FHA proposed in September 2016 were finalized in October of 2019. HUD has the authority to be less restrictive in mortgage insurance provisions, and

with the return of the single-loan approvals the market for condo buyers is positively affected. There will be less restrained rules, so homeownership becomes affordable. The result is that more buyers can enter the market and become homeowners. Our National Association of Realtors has been effective in promoting these changes and to make our real estate market stronger.

More positive 2019 news includes the five-year extension of the National Flood Insurance Program that includes flood mapping reforms. Since the danger of Flooding is an important consideration for Floridians, it is a credit again to our NAR for working hard to use new qualified opportunity zones to benefit these communities.

The Metropolitan Ministries also had a good year with the procurement and installation of a Power Generator for their facility. Last year during storm season the power was interrupted which made servicing the many who have come to rely on them extremely difficult. They did devise makeshift solutions and were still able to help many, but after this year they will be able to face the storm season without worry.

The annual Berkshire Hathaway Florida Properties Group drive will use their "Cabernet Sleigh" to pick up donations and agent collections from their offices to deliver to the Metropolitan Ministries. They will be stopping by our office located in East Lake Woodlands to pick up the generous gifts of your giving that will help provide Christmas to many children who would otherwise go without one. The McCaffery Team (Bob McCaffery, Joan Daly, Sharon Greenfield, Fonda Dillard and I) Thank You for giving and want you to enjoy the holiday season. Stop by our office for your real estate needs and questions you may have, or visit our website at [www.themccafferyteam.com](http://www.themccafferyteam.com)



### BE ON THE LOOKOUT

by Keith Crank

Please be on the lookout for the individual riding the white dirt bike in the attached picture. Not only is the person riding what appears to be an unlicensed motorcycle, but he has have been driving extremely recklessly throughout the community putting residents at risk

Our patrol officers have tried but have not been able to catch him. Should you happen to see him or know where he lives, please call our patrol officers at 813-462-8971 and notify Management and Associates at 813-433-2000. Thank you for your help. As the saying goes, if you see something, say something.

Recently our patrol officers have witnessed drivers passing stopped school buses either picking up or dropping off children. One officer witnessed three drivers pass a stopped school bus and was able to stop one of the drivers. When asked why he hadn't stopped for the school bus his reply was that the flashing stop signs were not displayed yet. It is only common sense that instead of speeding up to pass the bus if the flashing stop signs are not yet displayed you come to a complete stop and wait until the bus is moving again. Please don't put our children in danger just to save a couple of minutes.

As always should you have an emergency please call 911 first as time is of the essence. The number for the patrol officer is (813) 462-8971. The non-emergency number for the sheriff deputies is (727) 582-6200. Take care and be safe.



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## HOW ACCENT LIGHTING RINGS IN THE HOLIDAY SPIRIT

by *Decorating Den Interiors, Sally Giar*

As you pass through your town, it's beginning to look a lot like Christmas. Between the festive decorations and glistening lights, it's obvious that Santa Claus will be here before you know it. Does your home exude this same endearing atmosphere of the Christmas spirit? If you need help ringing in the holiday cheer, now's a great time to consider filling your living and dining areas with accent lighting. Not only does it create seasonal splendor, but it can be used to set the tone in your rooms all year long.

Here's how accent lighting can help you ring in the holiday spirit this Christmas:

### SET THE ATMOSPHERE ON A COLD, WINTRY NIGHT

Nothing says relaxation quite like a chilly evening snuggled up on the couch near the fireplace with a cup of hot cocoa or tea. You can make this night even more memorable by installing accent lighting throughout the living and family room, including table and floor lamps. These additions are a great way to soften the light, brighten or darken specific areas of the room, or even stand as a design piece on their own. Additionally, dimming the lights adds a romantic vibe to your cozy night in – adding dimmers to pre-installed lighting is a great and simple option.

### MAKE YOUR CHRISTMAS TREE THE FOCAL POINT

One of the most exciting parts about preparing for the holidays is decorating the Christmas tree. To ensure this traditional greenery doesn't go unnoticed, consider adding a spotlight right above it. This will emphasize the tree and make it the focal point of your holiday decor.

*"Accent lighting can emphasize your holiday theme."*

### ENHANCE YOUR HOLIDAY COLOR SCHEME

If you decided to completely change up your color scheme to flow with the holiday season, adding accent lighting to your home can emphasize the theme you're going for. Based on the areas you want to emphasize most, you can add wall sconces, flood lights, recessed light, track lights or other accent options.



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## ADD VISUAL INTEREST TO YOUR HOLIDAY DECORATIONS

Much like sprucing up your Christmas tree and holiday color scheme with focal point lights, accent lighting can be used to add visual interest to any of your holiday decorations. Perhaps you want to light up the traditional nativity scene you have on display, or a collection of small painted houses you crafted last year. Or feature a special holiday floor lamp or table lamp in gold or red to illuminate your space in a new way. No matter what you want to emphasize, accent lighting can make a subtle, yet bold statement.

Happy holidays!

## EAST LAKE WOODLANDS COMMUNITY PATROL REPORT

Tampa Road Gate 727-785-7384  
or North Gate 813-749-0710

OCTOBER 2019

EMERGENCY CALLS	1
COMPLAINT CALLS (Noise, speeders, solicitors, domestic disputes, trespass, fireworks, suspicious persons)	25
ALARM CALLS	0
IRRIGATION CALLS	0
MOTOR VEHICLE/ PEDESTRIAN ACCIDENTS	1
CRIMES REPORTED (Vandalism to mailboxes, grass damage, stolen bikes, dumping, theft, assault, all other criminal activity)	1
MISCELLANEOUS/OTHER (Gates, gate collisions, pets, deer, welfare checks on residents, and all others)	35
VACATION HOMES AND VACATION VIOLATIONS	8
PARKING VIOLATIONS	17
MONITORING UNMANNED GATES (CAR/HOURS)	33/18

The Sheriff monitored 36 hours during the month of October

Vehicles stopped – 43, Citations issued – 4, Warnings issued – 36  
Three (3) citations were for speeding, 1 for stop sign violation.  
Warnings included 33 for stop sign violations, 1 for speeding violations, 1 for golf cart violations. Top speed 50/30.

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## A MESSAGE FROM YOUR ELWCA MANAGER

by Debi Hudrlik, AMS, CMCA

Recently the East Lake Woodlands shopping center repaved their parking lot between the Walmart and the Metro/McDonalds gates. In conjunction with the project, East Lake Woodlands Community Association (ELWCA) installed new pedestrian exit signs on ELWCA property identifying where pedestrians may access the shopping center along with the Sun Trust Bank property. We respectfully ask that pedestrians utilize these three designated exits and not walk through the center islands and in between any entrance or exit gate. This is very unsafe and someone may get hurt. Additionally, the Metro/McDonalds pedestrian exit can now accommodate wheelchair access to the plaza. Recognizing the shopping center stopped their repaving project at the property lines in front of the gates, ELWCA will be repaving the remaining section of the Walmart and Metro/McDonalds gate area in 2020 along with other planned paving projects.

The next gate to receive an upgrade will be the SunTrust gate with work anticipated first/second quarter 2020. At that time, the community association plans to convert the roll gates to barrier arm gates similar but faster than those recently installed at the Metro/McDonalds gate. The intent of this project is provide residents with quicker egress while alleviating the potential for non-resident "piggybacking" into the community.

Our pond maintenance vendor, Aquatic Systems, Inc., merged with another company called SOLitude earlier this year. Very shortly they will be converting their trucks and employee uniforms. Please be advised that we have not changed vendors, and the same individuals servicing our account will remain. The SOLitude Team has been very responsive to any maintenance requests. Future inquiries regarding the ponds should be sent to board@eastlakewoodlands.com or to my attention directly at dhudrlik@mgmt-assoc.com.

We are contracting with Pinellas County to replace a lot of signage in various locations within the community, such as golf

cart crossing signs, speed limit signs, adding pedestrian walkway lines and signs, etc. Work will begin after the holidays.

On November 4 the Drainage Committee met with their Consultant and Contractor to perform a maintenance inspection. We are awaiting the proposal from the contractor for these repairs, and we anticipate that work will begin in February/March, prior to the rainy season. We would like to thank those of you who advise us when you note a problem, such as a storm drain that may not be draining as quickly as it should. We encourage all homeowners to be proactive, as we do not mind at all when you reach out to us with a concern.

Last month the SunTrust entrance and the entire north entrance off of East Lake Road was pressure washed and river rock was installed along the entrance wall. All lighting at the North and South entrance was thoroughly checked, bulbs replaced and holiday lighting installed, as well as additional Christmas decorations such as wreaths, bows, menorahs, ribbons, etc. We hope that everyone enjoyed the display, and we have included funds in the 2020 budget for decorating as well.

We continue to receive calls regarding street light outages through the community. Please rest assured that we are diligently reporting these to both TECO and Duke Energy, and they have been out to make repairs. One of the reasons it is taking so long is that many of the poles do not contain identification numbers, which is the best way to report an accurate location. We have asked both TECO and Duke to appropriately number each pole so that future repairs can be made in a timely manner. The security officers make note of lighting outages every night on their shift rotation, and a report is generated twice each month requesting repairs.

Please be advised that the offices of Management & Associates will be closed for the holidays beginning Friday, December 20 at 4:00 PM through Wednesday, January 1. In the event of an emergency, please call the main line at 813-433-2000 and the answering service will assist you.

We wish everyone a Happy, Healthy and Prosperous New Year, and we look forward to another successful year for ELWCA in 2020.



## WELCOME NEW RESIDENT:

### KATHY GALHARDO

by Debi Hudrlik, Community Association Manager

As many of you know, on October 1 the ELWCA began to issue "Welcome Packets" to all new residents of the community. We thought it would be nice to write an article for the Heron featuring the first new resident who received a Welcome Packet. That idea was more of a challenge than we thought. The first five new residents we spoke with all declined to have their photo and story published in the Heron. That is until we met Kathy Galhardo!

Kathy recently relocated to the Heatherwood neighborhood from Massachusetts where she lived her entire life, and most recently in her home for 21 years. She had been vacationing in Florida through the Time Share program, and decided it was time to downsize, get away from the snow, and move to Florida. She began to search for homes on the internet, and found a unit listed for sale

in Oldsmar. She called her cousin, who also lived in Florida, and asked her if she knew where Oldsmar was located. As it turned out, Kathy's cousin actually lived within East Lake Woodlands! Kathy hopped on a plane, inspected the unit in Heatherwood and immediately knew that ELW was where she wanted to be. Kathy was overwhelmed by the welcome she received from her new neighbors in Heatherwood. Said Kathy, "Everyone has been so friendly and has offered to assist me with anything I need. People are not like that in Massachusetts!"

Kathy is looking forward to spending retirement in her Heatherwood Condominium with her 2 Shih Tzus, Princess, age 12, and Molly, age 5. Please join me in welcoming Kathy to the ELW Family.

## ANIMAL OF THE MONTH

### RED-BREASTED MERGANSER

by Jake Jacoby, ELW Resident



Red-breasted Mergansers are among the fastest flying ducks, clocking speeds of up to 81 miles per hour. To get airborne though, they need a running start. Their legs are positioned near their rear making it difficult

to walk on land, but are an asset when diving. They do not defend territories and are social birds year-round. Breeding habitat is in the tundra and boreal-forest zones. Breeding occurs on fresh, brackish, and saltwater wetlands and in sheltered bays. During migration, and in winter, Red-breasted Mergansers occur mostly on salt water, in coastal bays, estuaries, and other protected coastal areas.

Red-breasted Mergansers primarily eat small fish, but also crustaceans, insects, and tadpoles on occasion. In the summer, they forage in shallow waters with submerged vegetation and plentiful fish. In the winter they forage in shallow marine waters. They dive underwater or swim with their eyes just below the surface as if they were snorkeling to look for prey. They also will herd minnows into restricted areas, allowing easy capture. The serrations on the bill help them keep hold of slippery fish.

Females first breed at the age of two years. Courting males salute a female with head held high and then curtsy to the female by tipping up and putting their rear in the air with their bill held high. The female will then jab him with her bill. Courting males also shake their head side to side to get the attention of a female. Once the female accepts the male, she stretches her neck out while holding her bill down and then lowers her neck again in a bobbing motion. They will then form a monogamous bond for the breeding season, but the male will take off at the beginning of incubation (approximately one month later), leaving the female to take care of the young alone. Males head to secluded waters to molt their



Male swimming

feathers before migrating south while females tend to molt near the breeding site.

The nest is located in a sheltered spot on the ground, usually near water. The female creates a simple depression that she covers with dead grasses, forming a shallow bowl. She also plucks down feathers from her breast to help insulate the nest. The female lays 7 to 10 eggs, and will sometimes lay eggs in the nests of other females. Within a day or so of hatching, the young will then follow the female to water where they can feed themselves. Within a few weeks, the females typically abandon the young, who cannot fly until they are about two months old. The young ducklings eat mostly insects.

I took all of the above photographs in the sheltered lagoons of Fort De Soto Park at the southern end of Pinellas County, Florida.



Male



Female swimming



Female

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## EAST LAKE FIRE RESCUE NEWS

by Claudia Fabiola, Fire and Life Safety Educator,  
EAST LAKE FIRE RESCUE

East Lake Fire Rescue is pleased to announce the addition of three new Firefighters/Paramedics: Barry Owens, Conner Wright and Chris Rollins.

Barry Owens received his Fire Certification from St. Petersburg College and his Paramedic Certification from Florida Medical Training Institute. He previously worked for Hillsborough County Fire Rescue for about 6 years. East Lake Fire Rescue is excited to welcome Barry and wife Lindsey as we anxiously wait for the birth of their daughter in January 2020.

Connor Wright graduated from Lake Tech Fire Academy earlier this year. He received his Paramedic Certification from Orlando Medical Institute. He previously worked at American Ambulance and Lake County EMS. East Lake Fire Rescue is excited to welcome Chris and his fiancé Haylea to their fire family.

Chris Rollins graduated from Tallahassee Community College with an AA degree, and then attended Florida State University for Exercise Science. He received his State Fire Certification from Chipola Jr. College in Mariana Florida and his Paramedic Certification from Manatee Technical Institute. His work experience includes 3 years at St. Pete Beach Fire Department and 10 years of service at Dunedin Fire Rescue. He also worked at Morton Plant Hospital for 3 years. East Lake Fire Rescue is excited to welcome Chris, his wife Melissa and their daughter Elle join their fire family!



Conner Wright



Chris Rollins



Barry Owens

## PERFECTLY PUMPKIN

(Culinary.net)

Fill your house with the aroma of fall with warm slices of this Pumpkin Loaf dolloped with butter.

Find more seasonal dessert recipes at Culinary.net.

### PUMPKIN LOAF

- Nonstick cooking spray
- 4 eggs
- 3 1/2 cups flour
- 2 teaspoons baking soda
- 2 teaspoons cinnamon
- 1 teaspoon nutmeg
- 1 teaspoon salt
- 2 sticks butter
- 2 cups sugar
- 1 can (15 ounces) pumpkin puree
- 1 cup chocolate chips
- 1 cup walnuts, chopped

- Heat oven to 350 F.
- Prepare loaf and muffin pans with nonstick cooking spray.
- In bowl, whisk eggs. Set aside.
- In separate bowl, sift flour, baking soda, cinnamon, nutmeg and salt together. Set aside.
- In another bowl, cream butter and sugar. Add whisked eggs and mix until blended.
- Alternately add flour mixture and pumpkin puree to egg mixture, beating until blended. Fold in chocolate chips and walnuts.
- Pour batter into loaf and muffin pans. Bake 40-45 minutes, or until toothpick inserted into center comes out clean.
- Cool 10 minutes before removing from pans.







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## HOME DECORATING FOR THE HOLIDAYS

(Family Features) Chances are good that at some point during the holiday season, you'll welcome guests into your home. Whether you lease or own your home, creating a cozy, festive setting for holiday gatherings can actually be quite simple, especially if you take on the project one room at a time.

One advantage of seasonal decorating is that it is, by definition, temporary. This gives you plenty of freedom to experiment with new ideas and completely transform your living space on a short-term basis. It's also an opportunity to get creative with your home's decor to create warm, inviting places for family and friends to gather.

Get started decking the halls this holiday season with these room-by-room decorating tips from the design experts at Invitation Homes, one of the nation's premier home leasing companies with more than 80,000 single-family homes for lease in the United States.

### EXTERIOR

Curb appeal isn't a concept reserved for buying and selling; set the festive mood from the moment guests arrive by enhancing your home's outdoor space. Bold or twinkling, strings of lights add instant holiday appeal, and the possibilities for creating a custom look are nearly endless when you use weather-resistant removable hooks. You can embellish the design with fun, whimsical inflatables or go more traditional with stylish wreaths and garland to accent the door. Make the look your own with unexpected touches like an old sled propped against the porch railing. The beauty of outdoor decorating is that virtually all of it can be easily removed to make way for a new season or event.

### ENTRYWAY

Delight guests from the moment they enter your home by paying special attention to the entryway. It's a great place to introduce a theme you'll carry throughout the house such as seasonal patterns or textures like a colorful plaid print. Create ambient light with strings hung from the ceiling or wrap banisters and stairs with garland (pre-lit garland adds a classic touch).

### KITCHEN

In most homes, the kitchen is an entertaining hub. While platters of food may occupy many of the available surfaces, you can still incorporate a holiday theme. Set the table with a festive yuletide log with faux berries, pinecones and candles artfully placed nearby. Seasonal candles, festive seat cushions and a cheerful table runner all add subtle touches of holiday flair. Other ideas include dangling lights from the chandelier or stacking pinecones with string lights in a bowl or vase to accent the buffet line or to use as a table centerpiece. Holiday desserts can be artwork in their own right, so get creative to make the dessert table a stand-out element of the decor.

### LIVING ROOM

A comfy, cozy environment that invites guests to make themselves at home as they catch up with loved ones is a holiday entertaining must. Extend the holiday happiness into this space with little touches like a lantern filled with pinecones, faux gifts by the mantle, stockings hung from stocking holders that reflect your decorative theme, seasonal throw pillows and evergreen arrangements on the end tables and coffee table.

### BATHROOMS

It may be a smaller space, but the bathroom is a room every guest is likely to visit. Incorporate flameless candles and seasonal metallic accents that complement the fixtures. Hang holiday items from shower curtain rings and replace your standard curtain with a festive or candy-cane striped alternative. Be sure to finish the look with seasonal decorative towels.

### GUEST ROOMS

Traveling during the holidays can be stressful, but you can do your part to make guests feel comfortable by adding some cheerful touches to the area they'll call home. A miniature evergreen tree in a planter or pot makes a fun addition to a nightstand. You can adorn headboards with garland or delicate lights and add festive throw pillows and blankets or even swap out linens entirely for a full-blown holiday welcome.

*Find more lease-friendly holiday tips at [invitationhomes.com](http://invitationhomes.com).*



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## EAST LAKE COMMUNITY LIBRARY

### DECEMBER 2019 SPECIAL EVENTS

by Patty Ann Wiczorek, Reference & Marketing Librarian

#### GOOD READS, GOOD DEEDS FAMILY BOOK CLUB: PROVIDING WARMTH & COMFORT

Sun, Jan 5, 2-4pm



We'll read a story together, discuss the message & participate in community service. This month features the theme of providing warmth & comfort to those in need. We will collect blanket donations for Blanket

Tampa Bay & handcraft children's blankets for The Linus Project. Please register.

#### OH, FLORIDA!

Sun, Jan 5, 2-4pm

Join us as author, Craig Pittman highlights his bestselling book, "Oh, Florida! How America's Weirdest State Influences the Rest of the Country"!

#### PARENT ACADEMY: NUTRITION & HEALTH

Sat, Jan 11, 3-4pm

From picky eaters to food allergies & sensitivities, diet & nutrition can be challenging for parents of kids of all ages. Learn how to offer healthy choices everyone can enjoy and keep to a planned budget.



## SUNDAY CONCERT

Sun, Jan 12, 2-3:30pm

Local musician Bonnie Whitehurst is a composer, music teacher, & an experienced & popular Tampa Bay harpist. She will perform a concert of folk music on a variety of instruments. Tickets are available at ELCL for a donation of \$15.



#### CATTLE RANCHING IN FLORIDA

Thurs, Jan 23, 1-2:30pm

Folklorist Robert Stone will be here to discuss the history & culture of the nation's oldest cattle ranching state! See & hear all aspects of FL cattle ranching traditions!

#### INTRODUCTION TO FLORIDA-FRIENDLY LANDSCAPING

Sat, Jan 25, 11am-1pm

Join us as Pinellas County UF/IFAS Florida-Friendly Landscaping Extension experts present the first of a FREE, 3-part series on landscaping in FL!



#### ONE FOR THE BOOKS: LIBRARY BENEFIT ART AUCTION

Sun, Jan 26, 6-9pm

Tampa Bay Magazine & ELCL are hosting an art auction & reception featuring the works of local artist Julie Bauer. There will be a silent auction featuring special items. Part of proceeds will help fund library programs & services. This event is open to the public but is for adults only.

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## BACK TO COLLECTING WORTH A THOUSAND WORDS

by Paul J.H Leaser, ELW Resident

A Picture; A Drawing ~ A Cartoon!!!

Thomas Nast was the nations most influential political cartoonist in the 1800's. He portrayed Democratic policies hot-headed and stubborn; they became symbols and Democrats

adopted the jackass or donkey.

In 1874, he drew a cartoon for Harper's Magazine portraying a rogue elephant representing republican voters being panicked by changes from the democrats burro. It resulted in the pachyderm representing the G.O.P.

Not all political: Nast gave us an everlasting rendition of the "Jolly Old Elf": Santa Claude; the Spirit of Christmas.



## 5 TIPS TO WARD OFF COLD WEATHER



(Family Features) Colder weather brings plenty of changes, especially in the ways you take care of your home and self. Especially when the temperature drops, extreme winter conditions can play havoc not only with your skin and health, but also your family's comfort.

Take steps to protect your family and household as the weather starts to cool this season with these practical tips:

**TAKE STEPS TO HELP PREVENT THE FLU.** As temperatures drop, the chances of getting sick rise. That's partly because certain germs and viruses thrive in colder temperatures, and because the cold puts extra strain on your immune system. When it is cold outside, people are also more likely to spend time indoors (and in closer quarters) where germs are more easily spread. Do your part to help prevent the flu by washing your hands often and covering your mouth or nose when you cough or sneeze. Also be sure to stay home if you're sick and avoid exposing others to your illness.

**PREPARE YOUR WARDROBE.** Colder weather outside means more skin sensitivities and dryness. Long pants and sleeves don't just add warmth; they also protect your skin from harsh outdoor elements. When you haul your winter wardrobe out of storage, start the season on a comfy note by washing everything with an option like 'all Free Clear Liquid Detergent or Mighty Pacs. It's the No. 1 laundry detergent brand recommended by dermatologists, allergists and pediatricians for sensitive skin due to its hypoallergenic formula.

**DRESS IN LAYERS FROM HEAD TO TOE.** Bundle up with winter accessories to match the daily weather forecast. For chillier mornings and nights, cover exposed areas such as your head with a hat, neck with a scarf and hands with gloves. To accommodate warmer weather during the day, layer flexible clothing options to accommodate temperature shifts.

**STAY ACTIVE.** Physical activity naturally warms your body in the short term. In fact, shivering is your body's natural physical response to generate body heat when you're cold. Aside from the immediate benefits, keeping active during the colder months can help in other ways, too. A healthy cardiovascular system keeps your blood flow steady and strong, and a good circulatory system plays an important role in keeping your body, and especially your extremities, warm when temperatures take a dip.

**NOURISH YOUR BODY AND SKIN.** Preventing painful dry cracks and itchy, scaly skin is a job that requires attention inside and out. Externally, moisturize shortly after showering to trap in the water lingering on your skin, use extra lotion throughout the day on areas prone to drying and reapply lotion after washing hands. Remember to protect sensitive spots like your lips that can easily chap and crack. You can also prevent dry skin by ensuring you're drinking plenty of water and eating a healthy diet with plenty of essential vitamins and healthy fats.

For more ideas to prepare for changing weather, visit all-laundry.com.

Content courtesy of 'all • Photos courtesy of Getty Images #15009



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## REMINISCING WITH “IRA CALL” & “MEMORY LAYNE”

by Paul Burmeister, Editor

**Editor’s Note:** *Editor’s Note: This month I thought it might be fun to take a break from writing a column myself and decided to ask two local historians “Ira Call” & “Memory Layne” to co-write an article about the history of East*

*Lake Woodlands. Sadly, neither showed up when we were scheduled to meet and we had to re-schedule.*

*At our next meeting, I quickly realized neither “Ira Call” or “Memory Layne” could help in anyway. Neither was focused on why we were there, neither was prepared or brought a pen or paper, nothing was written down and I ultimately “got soaked” for their martini lunches. In the end I decided to forget the idea of asking for their input but was fortunate to find the article below on the internet originally published in “The Patch” on October 29, 2011*



### EAST LAKE WOODLANDS & AL BOYD

Ever drive by **Boot Ranch Shoppes** and wonder where that name came from? Well, it wasn’t just because of a big boot that adorns the center! The big boot which looked differently decades ago was actually built by a man name Al Boyd as a monument representing the name of his ranch and its entryway. The entryway to Boot Ranch was about at the Tampa and East Lake Roads intersection. The boot was repainted.

**Al Boyd** was born in Florida in 1913. Safety Harbor to be exact. He was raised in his family’s homestead on Curlew Road and was the oldest son. Al’s father (Jesse Boyd) was a butcher who delivered meats to surrounding areas and acquired about 100 acres that he used for farmland. Keep in mind that there were different types of farming in the area at the time – vegetables, cattle, citrus.

Al’s father Jesse began to purchase land around north Pinellas and in Pasco County, eventually amassing at the peak of ownership, 10,000 acres while Al owned 6,000 acres. It was around the late 1920s when the county government mandated a fencing ordinance that the ranchers in south Pinellas could no longer allow their cattle herds to roam unless they moved their herds to north Pinellas. This created a bit of a bind for southern ranchers but not for Al’s father. Mr. Boyd was able to continue to purchase land while leasing his lands to southern ranchers.



In the 1930’s and 1940’s, the Boyds purchased large blocks of acreage. The Boyds owned an area of where State Road 584’s boundary is (more people know it as Tampa Road) through to Pasco County where the Anclote River bordered on the North and West, down into Lake Tarpon and a northwest piece of Hillsborough County. Al had many heads of cattle grazing on the acreage.

Al started to sell off some of the land after his father died in 1950. He kept about 1,200 acres that he used for cattle breeding. Boot Ranch became known for prize winning cattle. Al had what the locals called a **Party House** on the ranch where people would visit – famous people such as **Lana Turner** and the **president of Nicaragua**. As the story goes, the Party House was also used by County **Commissioners** for meetings with Al. Mr. Boyd was very generous to the county through acts such as granting right of ways on his property to deeding property for **East Lake Road**. A County Administrator once dubbed Al “The Father of the East Lake Tarpon”.

**Al sold off the last of his 1,200 acres in 1972 where about 800 acres of that became East Lake Woodlands. He kept just nine acres. He sold those 1,200 acres for about \$2,000,000 to Metro Communities Corp. on just a handshake. Now, just one home could sell for that and more in East Lake! How times have changed!**

Al led an interesting life. He gave name to Boot Ranch, had great interest in ecology, bred **Brahman cattle** with local cattle, won prizes for his stock, and entertained many famous **movie stars**, foreign **merchants** and **heads of state** at his ranch. Next time you pass that boot, remember that it is a man’s legacy.

**Did you know** that rumor has it that there was a room with a window built into the big boot because Al wanted to shoot back at the people who thought taking shots at the boot was fun? It’s rumored that the toe of the big boot at Boot Ranch has remnants of that window!

*Originally published by “The Patch” on October 29, 2011.*

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