

# The Chronicle



A monthly newsletter published by The Men's Club of Sun City Center for its members

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## The GAVEL

A report from your President



By David Floyd

What a difference a month makes in our life. The Coronavirus has caused both our society and community to make many changes and adjustments in our daily lives. Going forward I expect that we will experience on-going changes to our daily lives. The Men's Club Board wishes all of members to be well during this pandemic and follow the recommendations of our Federal, State, and County authorities to protect all of us.



At this time both the Community Association and Kings Point communities have closed all of their facilities to all events and club meetings.

The Men's Club Board is also not meeting, but we are in contact with each by telephone and email. We are addressing items and paying our invoices to keep our club functioning during this shutdown.

Please remember that all of our April events were cancelled. There will not be a luncheon in April. We hope to be back in operation and holding our scheduled functions in May, but this is doubtful at this time. We will keep the club advised of any changes in the schedule. We look forward to seeing all of you at our next event.

Just a reminder, dues of \$20 for 2020 are still being collected. If you have not paid your dues, please do so. Our dues help to fund our community service programs and our club's operation. As always, we welcome all men in our community to join and participate in our club's functions. We have a great 2020 schedule of programs and events scheduled from May onwards, something for everyone.

Due to the uncertainty of the May luncheon the Ladies Luncheon will be postponed until June. The Board will be discussing how we can perhaps expand the concept to more of a family recognition event.



Why is  
Tom Brady  
showing up  
here????

See Page 4 for  
some good news.

## IMPORTANT NOTICE

**ALL MEN'S CLUB  
ACTIVITIES REMAIN  
SUSPENDED DURING THE  
CURRENT HEALTH CRISIS.  
THERE WILL BE NO APRIL  
MEETING AND ALL APRIL  
HEALTH EVENTS AND  
SUPPORT GROUPS ARE  
CANCELLED.**

The purpose of The Men's Club of Sun City Center is to provide and promote charitable community service, cultural, social and civic interest, and to cooperate with other clubs and organizations in the best interest of Sun City Center.

## Living La Vida Encierro

By Art Smith

*Years ago*, Latin singer Ricky Martin enticed to Live La Vida Loco – live the crazy life. Some might say we are living the crazy life today. Cries of boredom fill the air. Who has not heard a friend or family member claim to be seriously afflicted by cabin fever? Children and pets clamor for the freedom of the great outdoors. There is no remedy, however, for we are living La Vida Encierro – life in confinement!

But wait! There are steps that can be taken to reduce the agony of cabin fever and to quell the cries and wails of the bored. Some are perhaps mundane and long overdue. Some are tedious but consume those long hours otherwise spent complaining. Some might even entertain. Consider this your checklist. Pick and choose what fits your lifestyle.

1. Write a letter. No, not an email, but sit down to write an actual letter to a distant family member, a friend residing out of town, an old girlfriend or perhaps an old school chum. Refresh your penmanship skills and retell some fond old memories.
2. Phone a friend. Put down that cell phone, pick up your landline and have a good old fashioned chat with someone you haven't spoken with for a while. When you are done with that call, phone another old friend.
3. Rebuild the U.S. Capitol Building. Well, not the real one, but LEGO has a model with 1,032 separate pieces and it will keep you occupied for days on end until the project is done. If the Capitol is not your style, try the Sydney Opera House with 2,987 pieces!
4. Genealogy is in vogue these days. Sign on to one of the online services that helps you assemble your family tree. You can lose yourself for weeks in putting together the pieces of your past.
5. Shop your favorite online vendor and purchase a jigsaw puzzle – it must be at least 500 pieces, preferably more. Your family will have hours of fun putting it together. When you are done order another puzzle, this time twice as large.



6. Read a book, then share a book. Work with your neighbors to set up a lending library on your block. Find a safe, weather-resistant container and invite your neighbors to add some books they've read and to pick a new read from books others have shared.
7. Be counted. Complete your Census2020 questionnaire. Stop procrastinating.
8. Now's a good time to take down those Christmas lights you've been meaning to get to for months now. It is a little too early to start celebrating next Christmas, so they need to come down.
9. Have you done your income tax return yet? Sure, the government gave us extra time to file, but you've got time on your hands so why not do it now.
10. Feeling hungry after all these tasks? Find an old favorite family recipe that you have been meaning to fix and head to the kitchen.
11. Walk. The gyms may be closed but the streets are open. Start that physical fitness program you've been postponing by walking (keeping six feet away from your nearest walker).
12. Then there are the old standbys: clean out a closet; rearrange your sock drawer; toss out expired canned goods from the pantry. You know the drill.
13. Surely you have a honey-do list or job jar sitting around with household repairs that you have been putting off. If you take on one a day, think how quickly this period of *encierro* will pass.
14. Order take-out (or delivery) from one of your favorite local restaurants. Studying the menu will help you pass the time. Making the purchase will help the restaurant survive.
15. Because we are all in this together, check in with your neighbors to make sure they are doing okay and to find out if they are in need of help that you can provide.

***There is little joy in Living La Vida Encierro, but with a little creativity, some personal initiative and a positive attitude perhaps this period of confinement can be turned into a positive experience for us all.***

## Hillsborough County's **Safer-at Home** Order Applies to Us



Hillsborough County issued a Safer-at-Home Order to help prevent the further spread of COVID-19. This applies to all residents within Hillsborough County effective as of 10:00 p.m. on March 27, 2020. Residents do not require a pass or a letter to show to authorities.

**Safer-At-Home means all residents are directed to stay at home as much as possible twenty-four hours a day, seven days a week, except in those circumstances outlined below.**

### What you *can* do

- Go to the grocery, convenience or warehouse store
- Commute to and from work if your employer is an essential business or has ensured you can maintain at least 6 feet from your co-workers or customers
- Go to the pharmacy or other medical establishments to pick up medications and other healthcare necessities
- Go to medical appointments (but first, check with your doctor or medical provider)
- Go to a restaurant for take-out or drive-thru
- Care for or support a friend or family member in need
- Take a walk, run, or exercise outside - just remember to practice social distancing -- that means at least 6 feet between you and others in the community
- Walk your pets or take them to the vet



For more information logon to

<https://www.hillsboroughcounty.org/en/residents/public-safety/emergency-management/safer-at-home>

# More Than You Wanted to Know About TP

With the run on toilet paper that we've had it's nice to learn about its origin.

This is a bit of history that will truly make us thankful. We definitely need to thank the Chinese. Sometimes it's good to read something that makes you smile! I know that you have always been curious, so now you'll know.

Thanks to Lowell Watson for these tidbits!



1. The first recorded use of toilet paper was in 6th Century China.
2. By the 14th Century, the Chinese government was mass-producing it.
3. Packaged toilet paper wasn't sold in the United States until 1857.
4. Joseph Gayety, the man who introduced packaged TP to the U.S., had his name printed on every sheet.
5. Global toilet paper demand uses nearly 30,000 trees every day.
6. That's 10 million trees a year.
7. It wasn't until 1935 that a manufacturer was able to promise Splinter-Free Toilet Paper.
8. Seven percent of Americans admit to stealing rolls of toilet paper from hotels.
9. Americans use an average of 8.6 sheets of toilet paper per trip to the bathroom.
10. The average roll has 333 sheets.
11. Historically, what you use to wipe depended on your income level.
12. In the Middle Ages, they used something called a gompf stick, which was just an actual stick used to scrape.
13. Wealthy Romans used wool soaked in rose water, and French royalty used lace.
14. Other things that were used before toilet paper include hay, corn cobs, sticks, stones, sand, moss, hemp, wool, husks, fruit peels, ferns, sponges, seashells, knotted ropes, and broken pottery (ouch!).
15. 70-75% of the world still doesn't use toilet paper because it is too expensive or there is not sufficient plumbing.
16. In many Western European countries, bidets are seen as more effective and preferable to toilet paper.
17. Colored toilet paper was popular in the U.S. until the 1940s.
18. The reason toilet paper disintegrates so quickly when wet is that the fibers used to make it are very short.
19. On the International Space Station, they still use regular toilet paper, but it has to be sealed in special containers and compressed.
20. During Desert Storm, the U.S. Army used toilet paper to camouflage their tanks.
21. In 1973, Johnny Carson caused a toilet paper shortage. He said as a joke that there was a shortage, which there wasn't, until everyone believed him and ran out to buy up the supply. It took three weeks for some stores to get more stock.
22. There was a contest sponsored by Charmin to design and make wedding dresses out of toilet paper. The winner gets \$2,000.
23. There was a toilet paper museum in Wisconsin, The Madison Museum of Bathroom Tissue, but it closed in 2000.
24. The museum once had over 3,000 rolls of TP from places all over the world, including The Guggenheim, Ellis Island, and Graceland.
25. In 1996, President Clinton passed a Toilet Paper Tax of 6 cents per roll which is still in effect today.





**Steve Veeck**  
**Bob Day**  
**Ken Kwasniak**



In these dismal times, it is nice to have some **GOOD NEWS** to look forward to. We've got it.

**Jim Rottman is putting together a package to see Tom Brady and the Super Bowl Bound Buccaneers in Raymond James Stadium sometime this fall. The date and details are still to be worked out, but we know this will be a popular event!**



# Lifeline



In order to keep our volunteers and clients safe, Lifeline installation and repair services have been suspended during this health emergency. However, you can still call our Lifeline staff at 813-633-7091 if you have questions or need assistance.

## How to Contact Your Men's Club Officers and Directors

<u>Position</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>Phone</u>	<u>E-Mail Address</u>
President	David Floyd	334-7797	DavidFloyd2012@yahoo.com
President Elect	Bruce Fraser	419-4013	dbruce.fraser@gmail.com
Past President	Joe DeFelice	922-6232	rdr303@aol.com
Treasurer	Denman Gray	633-4294	dudex2@bellsouth.net
Secretary	Bill Cox	634-3936	bidocj@gmail.com
Steward	Don Murphy	633-0527	dmurphy5@tampabay.rr.com
Reservations Manager	John Bowker	633-1427	Jbowker103@gmail.com
VP-Communications	Art Smith	634-2576	Arthur_Smith@verizon.net
VP-District Operations	Larry Smith	245-4128	handy48x@gmail.com
VP-Health Care	Vicente Lopez, Jr	727-623-1724	SSCMensClub.vphealth@gmail.com
VP-Lifeline	Bob Sullivan	215-7050	rsscc1113@gmail.com
VP-Membership	Jonathan Lehr	260-3058	jonlehrscc@aol.com
VP-Programs	George Bodmer	244-0414	George@BaysideRealtyFlorida.com
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