

September



President's Message

By: Grace Boehm, Board President



Thank you to everyone who attended the August Board meeting – it was a full agenda and we are pleased so many residents were there to observe as the board works through the decision-making process.

We reviewed six funding requests for a total price tag of nearly \$39,000. Three were approved: Emergency removal of three dead trees caused by the lightning strike (\$6,400), Planned and budgeted annual trimming of palm trees on Turtle Rock Blvd (\$12,480) and Emergency repairs to the Community Center air conditioning system which also appears related to the lightning strike (\$4,125.37). One proposal was tabled until next month's meeting to allow the Gate Access Task Force to make further progress on their proposal: Replace gate arms at all entrance and exit lanes (\$5,074.40). Two were not voted on: Modify one tennis court to allow pickleball and purchase rollaway nets (\$2,150) and Repair motorized pergola louvers at the Community Center (\$8,382.38).

Two proposals were approved to make minor transactional changes to the financials. The first approved re-allocating funds from reserves interest to the reserve budget line items. This was planned for in the approved 2024 budget; the action the Board took this month was to execute the transaction in the financials. The second proposal was to reduce two lines in the operating budget to compensate for a calculation error in the 2024 budget spreadsheet that inadvertently left us with an unbalanced budget. The two lines are underrunning YTD and, because we don't have plans to spend the money, there is no operational impact. The total amount of the error was \$10,000. The error has been corrected in the 2025 budget spreadsheet.

Continued on Page 2

INSIDE this ISSUE...

President's Message	1 -2
Treasurer's Report	3
CAM report	4
Oktoberfest	5
Fresh Cart Start	6
Save the dates	7
Women's Club	8
Men's Club	9
Natural Assets	10-11
T.R.O.M. Trivia	12
From the West Corner	13-14
TR Families save the date	15
T.R.O.M. Trivia Answers	16

TURTLE TALK proof readers check articles for errors in spelling, punctuation, grammar, and sentence structure.

The author of each article is responsible for the factual accuracy.

2024 Board of Governors



Grace Boehm 908-415-2051
President
president@myturtlerock.com



Kathrin Harris 941-228-4588
Vice President
vp@myturtlerock.com



Susan Birkenmaier 708-203-2746
Treasurer
treasurer@myturtlerock.com



Curt Gilroy 703-577-4841
Secretary
secretary@myturtlerock.com



Rick Myerburg 412 889-2572
Governor
Governor2@myturtlerock.com



Phil Grayton 978-828-2781
Governor
Governor3@myturtlerock.com



Ehren McGeehan 651-216-1116
Governor
Governor1@myturtlerock.com

***Board meetings will be held the LAST
Thursday of each month starting at
6:30pm during 2024.***

President's Message continued. ..

The Board is focusing on documenting policies and storing those documents so they are easily retrieved and reviewed. Two new policies were introduced and approved. One is under the Financial Policy category and defines our banking policies, including a prohibition of using debit cards that directly access Association funds for Association purchases. The other is under the Legal Policy category and provides guidelines for Board and Management to follow when we become aware of threatened litigation. Policies are being put in place and documented to ease the transition as Board members come and go, to meet legal requirements, and to protect the Association. They will be posted in AppFolio. Posting on the website is also under consideration. We will continue to bring forward documented policies for Board consideration and approval.

Two new members were appointed to the Hearing Panel. Two members of the Communications Committee have resigned. The Committee and the Board thank Diane Germanis and Pat Rotundo for their hard work and wish them both well. Jennifer Gaines was appointed to the Communications Committee.

The Board meeting dates for October, November and December were changed to accommodate holidays.

The new dates are October 17, November 21 and December 19.

We hope to see you at the September Board meeting on September 26th at 6:30PM.

Treasurer's Report

Susan Birkenmaier, Ed D.



Year-to-Date Ending

July, 2024

	Actual	Budget	Percent collected/spent
Income: Assessments and other	\$ 1,106,196	\$1,886,504	58.64%
Expenses:			
General and Administrative	\$ 321,756	516,250	62.33%
Common Grounds	150,619	277,948	54.19%
Access Control/Gatehouse	229,503	391,037	58.69%
Facilities Maintenance	75,557	157,270	48.04%
Utilities	56,407	88,100	64.03%
<u>Reserves Contributions</u>	<u>271,774</u>	<u>465,899</u>	<u>58.33%</u>
Total Expenses	\$ 1,105,616	\$1,896,504	58.30%
Income over expenses y-t-d	\$ 580		

This report reflects financial transactions as recorded under the accrual method of accounting.

Assessments: Outstanding HOA Fees— (3rd Qtr dues became payable in July)

(0-30 days)	\$ 0
(31-60 days)	\$ 26,476
(61-90 days)	\$ 0
(91+ days)	<u>\$ 8,094</u>
Total	\$ 34,570

For more detailed monthly and annual financial information, dating back to 2015, please visit our website-Myturtlerock.com Resident Only tab. This is a password protected section; please email trcommunications@myturtlerock.com, and request the PW by providing your name and TR address.

Cam Corner

by Nanette Thomas, Community Association Manager

The process of submitting our Insurance Claim for the lightning strike at the south gate house has begun. We have received some denials already but will continue the process. We have completed the Allied trial drive thru and the information has been provided to the Board of Governors for review.



Nanette Thomas, LCAM
Turtle Rock Community Association
Civix Property Manager
8500 Turtle Rock Blvd
Sarasota, FL 34238
Turtle Rock Office.
941-921-3865

We have received some complaints regarding mischievous behavior in the pool house and tennis courts. For example, an entire bottle of conditioner was spread on the walls, floors etc. in the pool area. This is a hazard and thankfully no one fell. As a reminder, bikes and skates are not allowed on the tennis courts.

Compliance July 29 – August 26, 2024

- 11 New violation letters sent out**
- 14 Violations have been closed**
- 31 Violations currently on Hold**
- 40 Violations currently in progress**

Compliance Open Issues :

- Roof Cleaning : 8**
- Driveway Cleaning : 8**
- Pick-up Truck Parking : 16**
- Outside Nuisance : 1**
- Landscape edging not ARC approved: 1**
- Yard & lawn maintenance: 2**
- Garage door maintenance: 1**
- Tree requirement: 1**
- Dead Palm needs to be removed: 2**

Oktoberfest

**Saturday October 5th
4-7pm
TR Community Center**
****Rain or Shine****

Come celebrate the arrival of fall in grand Bavarian style!

***Bratwurst and hot dogs, complete with sauerkraut
and condiments are provided.***

Beer and water will be supplied.
BYOB if you prefer something other than beer or water.

If you wish, bring a dish to share.

A donation of \$5 or more per adult is requested. Children eat free.



Children's games and activities offered.

**Co-sponsored by the TR Women's and Men's Club and the
TR Young Families Group**

FRESH START with a **CART**

CHANGES ARE COMING TO GARBAGE COLLECTION SERVICES

Automated garbage collection service is coming to unincorporated Sarasota County in March 2025. This process is used by waste haulers to more efficiently and safely collect materials for disposal by using mechanical arms to empty the contents from the containers.



Each residence will receive one garbage cart, with the option to select a 95-gallon, 65-gallon or 35-gallon cart. This is included as part of the annual non-ad valorem tax assessment collected through the property owner’s tax bill. Property owners and residents will be able to request additional garbage carts. The additional carts will be considered a supplemental service so residents will be billed directly by their hauler for collection and disposal services. More information about additional carts will be provided closer to the service transition.

Key Dates

Nov. 11-Dec. 31, 2024: Select preferred size for new garbage cart*.

January-March 2025: Delivery of new garbage carts.

March 31, 2025: Automated garbage collection service begins with new franchise haulers.

New franchise haulers

Waste Pro of Florida, Inc. was selected as the new franchise hauler for the Solid Waste North Service Area and FCC Environmental Services of Florida, LLC was selected as the new franchise hauler for the Solid Waste South Service Area.

Continue to follow current disposal guidelines for collection services through March 28, 2025. For additional details about the upcoming changes including FAQs and maps of service areas, please visit scgov.net/FreshStartWithACart.

*Sample garbage carts will be on display throughout Sarasota County during the cart selection window. More information about dates and locations coming soon.

Save the dates...

Our annual **Chemical Collections** pick up will be held a few days before the Trash to Treasure on February 18, 2025. This is a good opportunity to dispose of items that cannot go in the weekly trash pick up. More info coming this fall so watch your emails

Trash to Treasure, our version of our neighborhood community garage sale, will be held on February 22, 2025. More info and sign ups coming this fall, but in the meantime, clean out those garages and closets and get ready!

Back by popular demand!!

Turtle Rock Women's Club

Co Presidents of the TRWC Joan Miller & Suzanne Placzek

The Turtle Rock Women's Club organizes a luncheon every month where women gather to share new friendships, delicious food and interesting speakers. The luncheons are open to all women in the community. We would love for you to come to our October luncheon.



Wednesday, October 2, 2024

11:30am Social Gathering/Lunch @ noon

If you are interested in attending the luncheon, or joining the women's club, please send an email to turtlerockwomensclub@gmail.com.

We always welcome new members.

Pictures from past Turtle Rock Women's club lunches





Turtle Rock Men's Club

By Ken Rosemann

Turtle Rock Men's Club

Save the dates!

Mark your calendars to attend the following events.
Additional information will be shared as the events are finalized.

September 18th – Luncheon at Millie's, (tentative)

October 5th – Oktoberfest at the Community Center

October 16th – luncheon – location to be determined

November 20th – luncheon at Miguel's – 6631 Midnight Pass Rd.

December 13th – Holiday Party at Stoneybrook

December 18th – luncheon – location to be determined

Weekly Golf Outing

If you are a golfer, consider joining your neighbors for a round at Serenoa Golf Club each Thursday morning. Send an email to, TRMCGolf@gmail.com to sign up or for more information.

September Birthdays

We wish the following a **Happy Birthday!** If I have missed anyone, email me and I will update the TRMC website.

Bob Arnet, Ron Contillo, Ron Knox, Marc Pohl, Doug Smith, James Vaughn



If you know of someone who may be interested in joining the Men's Club, please have them call or text Bill Kozlowski at 630-373-7829 or turtlerockmensclub@gmail.com.



Natural Assets Committee

By: Michelle van Schouwen, Secretary NAC



Revisiting Tropical Storm Debby

Tropical Storm Debby was a major event for our community. Turtle Rock fared relatively well, especially compared with many other areas of Sarasota and surrounding communities. Nevertheless, some aspects of cleanup will take time. The Natural Assets Committee is working to prepare for similar storms in the future, so that our stormwater retention ponds and water flow systems will continue to function well.

Palmer Ranch Master Association sent out an email after the storm that many residents may have seen.

A few takeaways from the email, authored by Palmer Ranch's Community Manager Tracy Smith

-You'll hear it said over and over – this storm was historic! While many of us seasoned Floridians are used to weathering 'just a tropical storm'; however, I don't think we'll carry that carefree attitude with us in future events. This one was massive! For the Ranch, rain totals range from 9.5" to 12", depending on where you're at. Two of the radar-detected tornados went right through the Ranch, yet we've no reports of people hurt and/or homes/property being damaged.

-News reports are indicating Sarasota County received the most rainfall in the state, with some locations totaling 22-inches.

-Speaking of standing water – residents are upset over the water covering the roads in their Palmer Ranch neighborhood. It's important to note that the stormwater engineers designed the roadways as part of the stormwater system. If the drain basins and ponds are full, water is directed to the roads. Based on my experience, once we're no longer dealing with storm surge, the waters can make their way to the bay, which should relieve the streets from standing water. This won't happen overnight and we're likely to see water rise in the main drain basins as the rest of the area tries to drain as well.

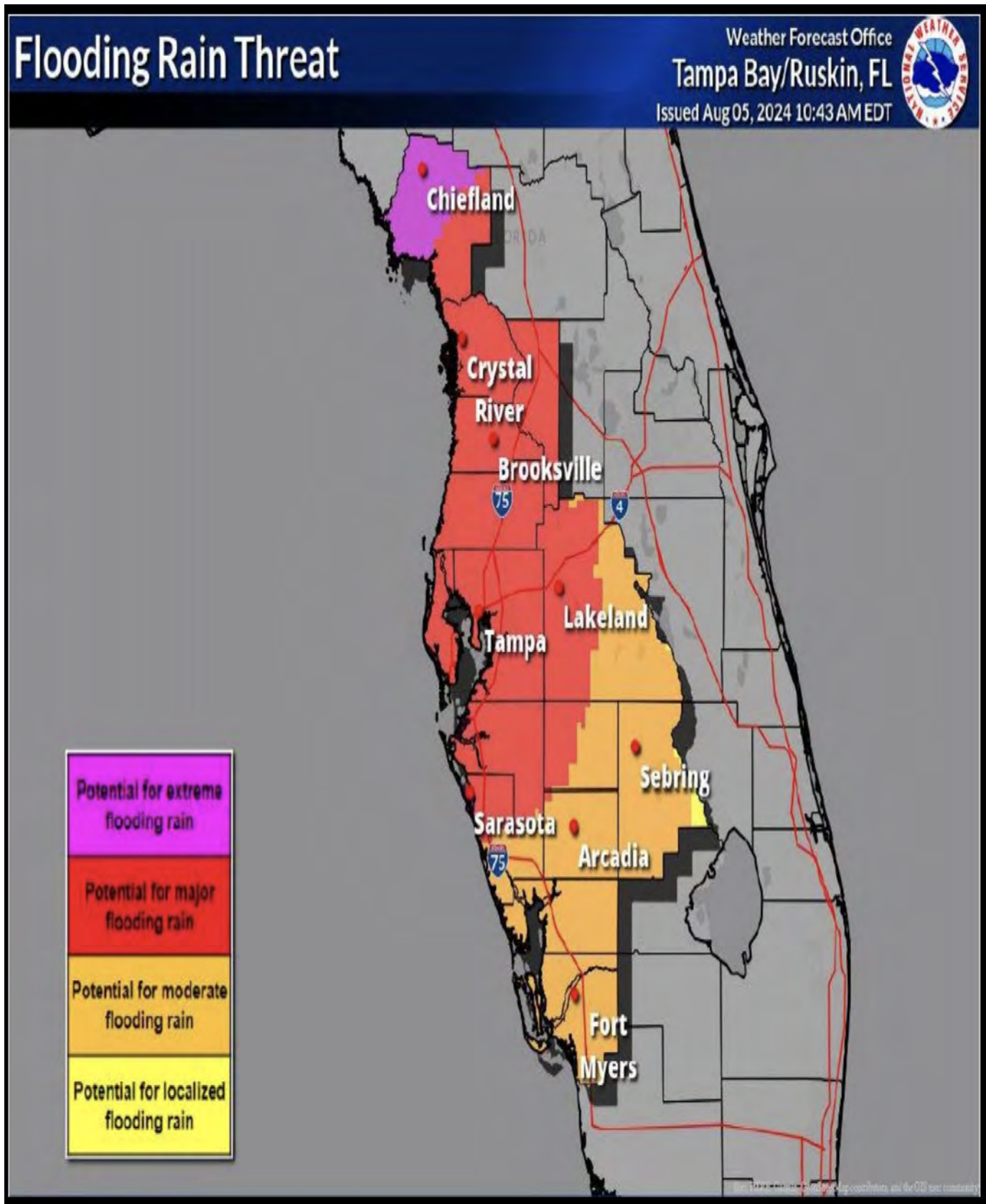
An extra measure of safety: Flood insurance

Even though most Turtle Rock residents are not required to carry flood insurance, many opt to do so. It's important to note that ordinary homeowners insurance does not cover damage from flooding. Flood insurance is reasonably priced. Please talk with your insurance agent about adding it if you would like the extra security and peace of mind.

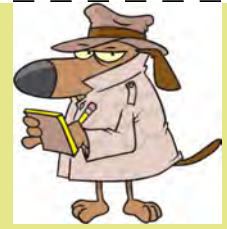
Logo created by Barry Domenick, Turtle Rock Resident

Image courtesy National Weather Service (following page)

Natural Assets Cont'd



From the “Watchdog”!



Here's the latest scam:

I received this in my email. Yes, I use PayPal with pretty much anything that accepts this form of payment. I figure it gives me one more line of defense in dealing with payments on-line. This was an easy one to spot. PayPal will NEVER use any salutation other than your real name. Using my email address made this one a no-brainer.

Remember, scammers will use salutations like, “Dear Customer”. “Dear Sir or Madam”, etc. An organization or business that is legitimate to you will always address you by name.

Here's the problem: If your email address has your name in it, e.g. john-smith77@gmail.com, the scammer already can assume your name is John Smith. Best to create a fictitious or obscure email address. E.g. mydog-spot55@gmail.com. This gives you an additional layer of protection. Seeing “Dear My Dog Spot” should raise some flags!

As always, please, please, be careful out there.
Steve West

Trom Trivia

1. Solicitors, Salespersons, leaflets, etc. on behalf of a business, a charitable, educational, political, religious, scientific, or veterans' institution or organization are specifically prohibited within Turtle Rock which pretty much covers everybody.

No exceptions. True or False?

2. Awnings may be placed around a home if they meet the following criteria:

approved by ARC

retractable when not in use

secured with rust free fasteners

in accordance with all applicable FL building codes

Architecturally and color compatible with the residence

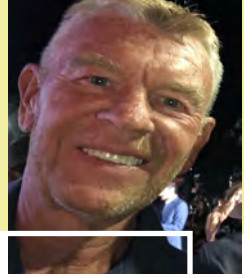
True or False?

3. Hedges must be kept neatly trimmed and must not exceed (?) feet in height?

Answers on last page

From The West Corner Of...

By: Steve West, Resident Columnist



When Lightning Strikes

Meet Bill. Bill hails from Kentucky and came here to Florida about twelve years ago. On week-ends, when crossing the South Gate in Turtle Rock, you may notice that snazzy blue Mustang parked next to the guardhouse: that tells us Bill is on duty.

On June 30th, around 2:30, it was about time for him to light up a smoke. Bill's on a mission to cut out smoking altogether, but it's a slow, arduous task, and he'd be the first one to admit, "It ain't easy."

No smoking in the guardhouse, Bill's M.O. is to stand out front under the closest palm tree, light up, and grab a few puffs before returning to greet the next visitors.

But it's pouring rain, torrential rain that no one in his right mind would venture into, for pretty much any reason. "Nah", He thought, "Not in this."

Then it hit! A simultaneous lustrous flash of light and a clap of thunder that almost knocked him out of his chair! Fire and sparks and smoke poured from above the guardhouse, and as Bill later put it, "I thought I was gonna die!"

At the same time, a resident was entering the gate shouting to Bill, "Stay inside, stay inside!" Well Bill needed no advice on that one.

That palm tree was fried (and was recently removed for the safety of the attendant and drivers)

Electrical panels, internet, telephone lines, cameras, gate equipment, fountain timer, and incoming gates, all lost due to its impact.

Shaken, but quite alive, Bill recounted his story to me. "Closest I've ever come to lightning, and the closest I'd ever want to be!"

I ask Bill, "Were you scared?" His response was immediate, loud, and emphatic,

"(EXPLETIVE) YEA!!!"

As many know, light travels at the speed of 186,000 mile a second, while sound travels at a mere 1100 feet per second. Lightning and thunder occur at exactly the same time, but, depending on your distance from the occurrence, thunder will always follow lightning as it travels so much slower. Imagine, Bill's experience was concurrent as it struck only a few feet away.

Can you go faster than light speed?

Nope. Nothing can. Any particle with zero mass must travel at light speed. But anything with mass (which is most of the universe) cannot. The problem is relativity. The faster you go, the more energy you have. But we know from Einstein's relativity that energy and mass are the same thing. So the more energy you have, the more mass you have, which makes it harder for you to go even faster. You can get as close as you want to the speed of light, but to actually crack that barrier takes an infinite

When Lightning Strikes Cont'd

degree of energy. So don't even try. On average, sunlight takes 8 minutes and 17 seconds to travel from the Sun to Earth.

Lightning is a giant spark of electricity in the atmosphere between clouds, the air, or the ground. It is caused by imbalances between storm clouds and the ground, or within the clouds themselves.

Florida ranked second in lightning count, seeing over 19 million events last year. With 42,388,860 lightning events in total, Texas had more lightning than any other state in 2023.

When measuring lightning density, however, Florida takes the number one spot with 112.6 lightning events per square kilometer.

Florida State University shared that lightning kills 27 people on average each year in the United States while also injuring more than 240. Florida alone averages 7 fatalities per year due to lightning and often leads the nation in lightning deaths.

With 120,998 counts, the Miami-Fort Lauderdale area was deemed as the most lightning-prone area in the U.S. When counting lightning strikes per square kilometer, five metropolitan areas in Florida ranked highest for lightning risk in 2023:

- Miami-Fort Lauderdale
- Palm Bay-Melbourne
- Cape Coral
- Orlando
- * Jacksonville

Please Note

Due to the upcoming **holidays** the BOG Meetings will be held on the following dates:

OCTOBER 17

NOVEMBER 21

DECEMBER 19



TR FAMILIES

Save The Dates

•OCTOBER 5TH
COMMUNITY OKTOBERFEST

•OCTOBER 26TH
TRUNK OR TREAT

•DECEMBER 20TH
TR TROLLEY

Answers to TROM TRIVIA

Answers:

False. The only exception is for approved youth groups such as Girl Scouts and Boy Scouts. Any other youth groups must have written approval from the Board. (TROM I, 5, I)

False. Awnings may be placed only within a screened lanai (TROM III, 5, a)

Eight feet. (TROM III, 8, e)

"Be happy - not because everything is good, but because you see the good in everything."

The Newsletter Team

The Communications Committee is always interested in input from the community.

If you have a knack for writing, have ideas for a monthly column, or are willing to take photos of interest to the community, please contact us.

Send comments, suggestions and articles for consideration to:

trcommunications@myturtlerock.com

(Text must be in Word, Photos as JPEG.) THANKS for getting involved!

Committee Members

Kim Weiser, Chair

Donna McCarthy, Welcome Team

Penny Lind, Jennifer Gaines, Special Projects

Cean Cerny, Tech Support

Board Liaison: Grace Boehm

Newsletter Staff

Judy Bentz, Turtle Talk Editor

Steve West Contributing Writer

Proofreaders: Charlotte Jones, Grace Boehm & Ginny Cheatham