

life



for the widowed
and their future

Volume 25, Issue 1

Make new friends but keep the old, one is silver and the other gold.



This time honored advice has become our adopted "LIFE SLOGAN"
Make good use of this advice each and every day.

1116 West Main Street
Leesburg, FL 34748 (352) 787-0403

January, February, March 2020



The New Year brings a lot of changes. And it's no different for LIFE. We have several changes ahead of us. First, who will be leading LIFE? After an extensive search the brain trust found the person best suited to lead LIFE—me.

We had a candidate but she changed her mind, as I was changing mine. I told myself if she didn't accept the position then I would stay on. She didn't and I did.

After Nancy passed I was pretty much out of gas. But my tank is getting full now and I'm looking forward to a new journey. I've decided it was time to start hiking again so look for the U-Hikes listed in this newsletter. My plan is to hold one every month until the weather gets warmer. When that happens we'll walk in Lake Square Mall. Until that time, we've got plenty of trails outside. I'm feeling reinvigorated already.

I'm also planning on at least one U-Drive event each quarter. Our first event will be at the Melon Patch Theatre in March as we'll see "A Chorus Line." Tickets are limited so get yours soon.

There are more changes in store for LIFE. In January, we will begin meeting at the new Leesburg Community Building. It's a beautiful facility and we will meet in the Griffin Room. I want to thank the folks at Salvation Army for being such gracious hosts while we were there.

But wait, there are even more changes, though I'm not happy with this one. Amid tears, Barbara Mills, from Life's-a-Trip-Tours told our group in Eustis that the Bok Tower trip in December was her last tour.

Personally, I think she wants to spend more time with her granddaughter. We will miss Barbara and Javier but she steered me to calling Senior Adventures from Lady Lake. We've got a full set of tours lined up. So look for them on page 2.

Lunches are now \$12 dollars. This is the first increase for Debra Davis Catering since 2008.

Blessings,

A CHORUS LINE Melon Patch Theatre, Leesburg

Sunday – March 29 – 2 p.m. -- U-DRIVE - \$16.00

Instantly recognized as a classic, once the longest-running musical in Broadway history, winner of multiple Tony Awards in addition to the 1976 Pulitzer Prize for Drama . . . A Chorus Line is a celebration of the American musical theatre and its most unsung heroes: the chorus dancers — those valiant, overdedicated, underpaid, highly trained performers who back up the stars, often making them look even more talented than they truly are. Exploring the inner lives and poignant ambitions of professional Broadway gypsies, the show features such powerhouse numbers as "What I Did for Love", "One", "The Music and the Mirror", and "I Hope I Get It".

Lunch will be 11:45 a.m. @ Taki's at 1205 North 14th Street Leesburg.

Please make payment ASAP. Make checks out to LIFE and mail them to 1116 W. Main Street, Leesburg, FL 34748. Tickets are limited. For more information call Rick at 787-0403.

BUS TRIPS

The Wild Women of Winedale

Thursday, January 23, 2020 **Senior Adventures** \$82.00

Early Bird Dinner Theater, Clearwater. This joyful and exuberant, yet ultimately touching, comedy focuses on three women at a crossroads in their lives—the Wild sisters of Winedale, Virginia—Fanny and Willa and their frustratingly quirky sister-in-law, Johnnie Faye. This feisty and fun-loving trio has supported and cheered one another through life's highs and lows through the years, including the early demise of two of their husbands. With equal doses of hilarity and heart, these extraordinary women come up with delightful and surprisingly unorthodox ways to clear the clutter from their lives, their homes and their relationships so they can move their lives forward. Together they prove it's never too late to take another one of life's paths for a grand new adventure.

The cost of this trip is \$82.00. The price includes deluxe motor coach, 11:00 a.m. buffet style dinner and featured show along with driver gratuity. Early Bird Dinner Theater, Clearwater

Activity Level=Low

1st Pick Up: Lowes Mount Dora at 8:15 a.m. Please park close to 441 away from the building.

2nd Pick Up: Leesburg at 8:45 a.m. (corner of Main and Lee, behind law office)

Return Times: Mount Dora 6:00 p.m. and Leesburg 5:30 p.m.

Million Dollar Quartet

Thursday, February 27 **Senior Adventures** \$91.00

Show Palace, Hudson. The Tony® Award Winning musical, **Million Dollar Quartet** is set on December 4, 1956, when an extraordinary twist of fate brought Johnny Cash, Jerry Lee Lewis, Carl Perkins and Elvis Presley together at Sun Records in Memphis for what would be one of the greatest jam sessions ever. Million Dollar Quartet brings that legendary December night to life with an irresistible tale of broken promises, secrets, betrayal and celebrations that is both poignant and funny. Relive the era with the smash-hit sensation featuring an incredible score of rock 'n' roll, gospel, R&B and country hits, performed live onstage by world-class actors and musicians. Showcased hit songs include: *Blue Suede Shoes, Fever, Walk the Line, Sixteen Tons, Who Do You Love? Great Balls of Fire, Folsom Prison Blues, Whole Lotta Shakin' Goin' On, Hound Dog*, and more!

The price above includes deluxe motor coach, Noon buffet and 1:30 p.m. featured show along with driver gratuity. Show Palace Hudson, FL.

Activity Level=Low

1st Pick Up: Lowes Mount Dora at 9:30 a.m. Please park close to 441 away from the building.

2nd Pick Up: Leesburg at 10:00 a.m. (corner of Main and Lee, behind law office)

Return Times: Mount Dora 6:30 p.m. and Leesburg 6:00 p.m.

Calypso Breeze

Wednesday, March 18 **Senior Adventures** \$75.00

This nice 1 1/2 – 2-hour tropical scenic lunch buffet cruises departs John's Pass Village, Madeira Beach, at 12:30 p.m. on the smooth Intracoastal waterways with the captain's live sightseeing narration. Dolphins are a common sight on this tour. Includes complimentary Beer, Wine, Rum Punch and Soda, along with a Tropical Island Buffet and minimum waiter gratuity. Then shopping at John's Pass from 2:30 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.

The price above includes deluxe motor coach, 12:30 p.m. buffet lunch and 1 1/2 - 2 hour cruise and driver gratuity. John's Pass Village, Madeira Beach.

Activity Level=Moderate

1st pick up: Lowes Mount Dora at 9:00 a.m. Please park close to 441 away from the building.

2nd Pick up: Leesburg at 9:30 a.m. (corner of Main and Lee, behind law office)

Return Times: Mount Dora 7:00 p.m. and Leesburg 6:30 p.m.

The Wheel & Outta Control Dinner Show

Wednesday, April 22 **Senior Adventures** \$80.00

The Wheel at Icon Park Orlando, stands 400 feet tall and is the largest observation wheel on the East Coast. Take in 360-degree views from an air-conditioned capsule. At 4:45 p.m. we depart for the Hilarious Outta Control Comedy Magic Dinner show which includes unlimited pizza, salad, soda, beer and wine, and dessert along with waiter gratuity.

The price above includes deluxe motor coach, one-time round trip on the Wheel, 5:00 p.m. Magic Comedy show with pizza, salad, soda, beer and wine along with desert pizza and waiter and bus driver gratuity.

Activity Level=Moderate

1st pick up: Lowes Mount Dora at 1:30 p.m. Please park close to 441 away from the building.

2nd Pick up: Leesburg (corner of Main and Lee, behind law office at 2:00 p.m.)

Return Times: Mount Dora 9:30 p.m. and Leesburg 9:00 p.m.

To make day trips reservations, please contact Rick Reed at 352-787-0403. Make checks payable to Senior Adventures, and put LIFE in the memo portion of your check. To reach Senior Adventures call 352-753-5404.

Once you call in your reservation, it must be paid (by check only) within 7 days or making the reservation. If payment is not received within 7 days, your reservation will be cancelled. A minimum of 40 is required for the trip to go.

Visit Senior Adventures website for a list of all their trips and extended trips at www.senioradventures.net

LUNCHEONS

*** Luncheons are \$12 ***

Entertainment subject to change

Please RSVP by calling 787-0403 or for more information.

JANUARY

January 9 – Thursday – 11:30 a.m.

Leesburg Community Center 109 East Dixie Ave., Leesburg - \$12

After a delicious buffet-style meal prepared by Miss Debbie's Catering we will receive an inspiring message from Rev. Dr. Isaac Deas, who is our point person for collecting the toys and gift cards in December that are given to the children.

January 15 – Wednesday – 11:30 a.m.

LAKE TECH - 2001 Kurt Street, Eustis- \$12

(About a mile north of US Highway 441 on Kurt Street)

Our lunch is prepared by Lake Tech's excellent Culinary Arts Program and is always a highlight of the afternoon. But stick around for our program as Carol Clendinen will inspire us as we enter the New Year. The is an encore presentation.

FEBRUARY

February 13 – Thursday – 11:30 a.m.

Leesburg Community Center 109 East Dixie Ave., Leesburg - \$12

After a delicious buffet-style lunch, we'll play Bingo with prizes galore, including Rick Reed's Speed Bingo, which is a much quicker version of the popular game. We will also play a variety of Bingo patterns. To supplement the cache of prizes, members are encouraged to bring a white elephant-type gift, new or used, funny or serious, but something you wouldn't mind taking home.

February 19 – Wednesday – 11:30 a.m.

LAKE TECH - 2001 Kurt Street, Eustis- \$12

(About a mile north of US Highway 441 on Kurt Street)

Our excellent lunch is prepared by Lake Tech's excellent Culinary Arts Program. Afterward we'll play Bingo with prizes galore, including Rick Reed's Speed Bingo, which is a much quicker version of the popular game. We will also play a variety of Bingo patterns. To supplement the cache of prizes, members are encouraged to bring a white elephant-type gift, new or used, funny or serious, but something you wouldn't mind taking home.

MARCH

March 12 – Thursday – 11:30 a.m.

Leesburg Community Center 109 East Dixie Ave., Leesburg - \$12

We're celebrating our 23rd anniversary for LIFE one month early. After a buffet-style lunch we will be entertained by the talented and quick-of-hand, "Magic" Ron Shumate. Ron kept us spellbound a few years ago. It will be great to have him back.

U-HIKES

January 16 – Thursday – 10 a.m. -- U-DRIVE - Free

Hiking Flat Island Preserve - Leesburg

Flat Island Preserve, a 2300-acre conservation area in the Okahumpka Marsh, is a wonderful place restart our foray into nature. It is located southwest of Leesburg, west of Lake Harris and north of Lake Denham. Members of the Florida Trail Association built and maintain on the Flat Island portion a 4.5-mile loop trail with 2 cross trails allowing for a shorter or longer walking experience. After a 90-minute or so hike we will carpool to Beef O'Brady's, south on U.S. Highway 27, for lunch.

Directions From Leesburg: Take US 27 south from Main St. or Dixie Ave. Just south of the Southside Shopping Center off to the right (west) will be CR 25A. Head south on 25A for approximately 1-¼ miles until you come to Owens Rd. Turn right (west) and follow the clay/sand road to the end. Turn right into the pasture for parking. Trail starts near the sign-in kiosk.

Directions From the South: From the Leesburg exit of the Turnpike take US 27 north about 8 miles and look on your left for CR 25A which veers off just south of a defunct building which housed a recreational vehicle sales operation. Head north on 25A until you come to a cemetery. The road on the north side of the cemetery is Owens Rd. Turn left (west) and take Owens to the end. Turn right into the pasture for parking. Trail starts near the sign-in kiosk.

February 20 – Thursday – 10 a.m. -- U-DRIVE - Free

Trout Lake Nature Center - Eustis

We'll visit Trout Lake Nature Center, a 230-acre wildlife preserve located near the southern entrance to Ocala National Forest in Eustis. The Center has a 1,000-foot long boardwalk extending into Trout Lake, with a pavilion on the lake. There are numerous interpretive trails including an Adventure walk with a swinging bridge and a picnic pavilion. The Charles Newell Hall & Museum serves as a museum/classroom and the Environmental Education Center housing an audio visual meeting room seating 125 people. Drive to the parking lot where we will meet. We will begin hiking at 10:10 a.m. so please be on time. We will walk at a comfortable pace, set by the slowest hiker. Bring water and bug spray. After our hike we will head to a restaurant to be announced.

Directions: The entrance can be reached about 4/10ths of a mile east of the intersection of CR 44 and SR 19. Watch for the sign and entrance on the right.

March 19 – Thursday 10 a.m. -- U-HIKE - Free

Bourlay Historic Nature Preserve - Leesburg

For the more active LIFER, this continues our LIFE hikes, which began earlier in the year. This adventure takes us to Bourlay Historic Nature Park, an 88-acre park donated by Arthur "Buddy" Bourlay III to the Lake County Water Authority in 1999. It piece of land is a cornerstone of Leesburg's History. This property is the site of the first steamboat landing, the first Methodist service and was previously owned by the Lee family. Visitors not only can visit a "shot-gun" style Cracker House, but also go birding and view Lake Griffin from the lakeside trails. After our hike we will decide where to eat.

Directions: From US Highway 441: Whether heading east or west turn north at the traffic light at Canal Street and drive to the parking lot where we will meet. We will begin hiking at 10:10 a.m. so please be on time. We will walk at a comfortable pace, set by the slowest hiker. Bring water and bug spray.



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and their future

(352) 787-0403

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Leesburg, FL 34748

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The secret of getting ahead is getting started.
Mark Twain

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LIFE Mission Statement

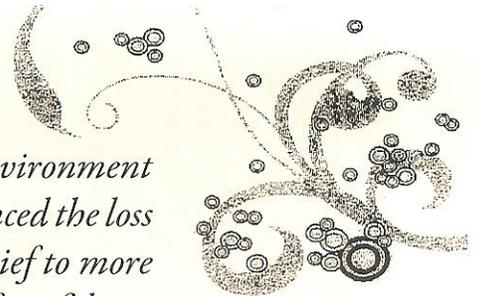
“The goal of the LIFE Program is to create an environment of comfort and support for those who have experienced the loss of a spouse. By helping members redirect their grief to more positive avenues, the program instills a sense of self-confidence and purpose to those who may otherwise be feeling lost and alone. LIFE provides opportunities for enhancing the quality of life by encouraging members to learn, share, and reach out to one another.”

Let us remember the businesses that support LIFE:

Claudia’s Pearl Florist in Mount Dora, 735-0012

Miss Daisy Flower & Gifts in Leesburg 787-6806

Beyers Funeral Homes in Lake and Sumter Counties



GRACIOUSLY FUNDED BY BEYERS FUNERAL HOME AND CREMATORY

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