

# SPOTLIGHT



**BPOE St. Petersburg Lodge No. 1224**  
2675 66th Street North | St. Petersburg, FL 33710  
Office: 344-6551 | Fax: 344-6552 | Lounge: 344-6553  
Lodge Website: <http://www.bpoe1224.com>

1911-2020 *109 Years of Service to the Community*  
Elks National Foundation  
Elks Children's Therapy Services  
Elks Youth Camp

**ALL AMERICAN LODGE • DIVISION V • 2018-2019**

Volume 167, Issue 1

Monthly Publication of St. Petersburg B.P.O.E. #1224

APRIL 2020

## **WE ARE SORRY, THE POOL AND LODGE ARE CLOSED UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE**

**We are complying with  
Social Distancing  
Guidelines due to the  
COVID19 Virus.**

**Please Visit our website  
for updates...  
[www.bpoe1224.com](http://www.bpoe1224.com)**

St. Petersburg Elks Lodge 1224 members and fellow Elks,

These have been an extraordinary few weeks as we face historic challenges with the growing COVID-19 (coronavirus) pandemic. The health and well-being of our Elks family is our top concern. We are monitoring the COVID-19 situation daily and are following the guidance from the CDC, local, state and federal regulations and will continue to reassess as needed.

To adhere to the new guidelines of social distancing, we will be offering our April monthly bulletin the "Spotlight", via email and it is also posted on our website [www.bpoe1224.com](http://www.bpoe1224.com), just press the Spotlight's Drop Down Menu Button.

In our 109 years of service we have gone through hard times before and will get through this, by staying true to our values. Thank you for your continued support as we navigate this challenge, and we hope everyone remains healthy and safe.

Thank you,  
Doc Cook, ER  
and Board of Directors

**SUNDAY | MAY 10 | 10AM-NOON**

*Mother's Day*

**BRUNCH • BUFFET**

**\$10**

**\$5 for moms!**

*Advance seating tickets on sale at the bar.*

**"Mom" Contest!**

*"Who's the oldest? youngest?  
most babies?"...to name a few.*

**Great Prizes!**

**\$5**

**\*\*RAFFLE\*\***

Win A

**"Pamper Me Basket"**  
Loaded with  
Goodies!

**Honoring Moms...**  
Please attend our  
Mother's Day Service  
At NOON

**SUNDAY MAY 3<sup>rd</sup>**

**POOL  
OPEN  
Party**

**TIKI OPEN @ Noon  
POOL MENU 11-7PM  
Available Sat/Sun**

**Live Music  
Poolside 1-5PM**

**LOEA ICE CREAM PARLOR  
OPEN 1-4PM**

**DATE SUBJECT TO CHANGE**

## 2019-2020 Officers, Directors, Committees & Chairs

OFFICERS					
Michael "Doc" Cook	Exalted Ruler	Carol Russell		Bingo	Ann Marie Bongiorno
Dan Masi	Leading Knight	Kim Ganoë		Boy Scouts	Traci Steen
Sharon Leterski	Loyal Knight	Brian Metzgar		Building	May Graci
Al Leterski	Lecturing Knight	Rudy Masi, Sr., PDD		By-Laws	Mark Mettetal, PER
Toni Goodrich, PDD	Secretary	Dan Masi	Children's Christmas Party		Rick Marks
Dolly Masi, PER	Treasurer	Mimi Reich	Christmas Baskets		Grace Hirigoyen
Carol Barkalow	Esquire	Open	Christmas Baskets Co-Chair		Dan Masi
Bobbie Wycoff	Chaplain	Dan Masi	Community Activities		Randy Bryant
Kirk Martin	Inner Guard	Al Leterski	Drug Awareness		Johnny Miller
Anne Marie Bongiorno	Tile	H. Tom Shriver, PDD	Elks Training		
		Sharon Leterski	ENF Chair		
		Theresa Simms	Entertainment		
		Sharon Leterski	Flag Day		
		H. Tom Shriver, PDD	Funeral Services		
		Open	Golf Tournament		
		Dolly Masi, PER	Government Relations		
		Open	Grill		
		Al Leterski	Harry Anna		
		Open	Historian		
		Dave Furst	Hoop Shoot		
			Investigation Committee		
		Anne Marie Bongiorno			
		Jan Giallourakis, Kim Ganoë			
		Toni Goodrich, PDD	Lapsation & Strays		
		Rudy Masi, Sr., PDD	Law & Order		
		Toni Goodrich, PDD	Law & Order Co-Chair		
		Doc Cook, ER	Liaison to the Ladies		
		Toni Goodrich, PDD	Lodge Advisor		
		K.C. Gross	Maintenance Inside/Outside		
		Bob Pitney, PDD	Mediator		
		Toni Goodrich, PDD	Membership		
		Doc Cook, ER	Memorial Service		
		Al Leterski	Mother's Day		
		Dan Masi	New Year's Eve		
		PER's Association	Old Timer's Night		
		Dan Masi	Orientation		
		Dawn Lieber, PER	PER Association		
		May Graci	Photographer		
		Mark Mettetal, PER	Pool		
BOARD OF DIRECTORS					
Mimi Reich, Secretary	5 Year Trustee				
Cathy Shriver, PER	4 Year Trustee				
Rick Marks	3 Year Trustee				
Joanne Matos, PER	2 Year Trustee				
Brian Metzgar, Chairperson	1 Year Trustee				
Doc Cook, Dan Masi					
Sharon Leterski, Al Leterski					
HOUSE COMMITTEE					
Bonnie Barnes, PER, House Chair					
Joanne Matos, PER, Secretary					
Dani Masi	Sharon Leterski				
Al Leterski	Jerry Mieldazis				
Jan Gens	Kim Ganoë				
Toni Goodrich	Theresa Simms				
Todd Dourm					
KITCHEN					
John Bauer, The Lodge Restaurant					
COMMITTEE CHAIRPERSONS					
Katherine (Kat) Chaplin	Americanism				
Betty Barnes, Jan Giallourakis	Auditing				
Sherrie McNeil	Bar Chair				
SPOTLIGHT					
Carol Bressler	Editor				
Open	Mailing Chairperson				
Toni Goodrich, PDD	Distribution				
LADIES OF ELKS AUXILIARY					
Jan Giallourakis	President				
Norma Jean McGregor	Vice President				
Betty Barnes	Secretary				
Marlene Evans	Treasurer				
Bobbie Wycoff	Chaplain				
Vivian Gustafson	Membership				
Katherine (Kat) Chaplin	Friendship				
Bonnie Mettetal	Parliamentarian				
Barbara Middleton	2 Year Trustee				
Al Leterski	2 Year Trustee				
Bonnie Barnes	3 Year Trustee				
Sharon Leterski	4 Year Trustee				

Like you, the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks is monitoring the rapidly evolving Cornoavirus, COVID-19, outbreak. As the situation continues to unfold, here at the national headquarters, we are complying with the local, county and state public health announcements. Also, we have implemented the following CDC guidelines on practical ways to prevent the spread of infection and we hope our Local Lodges and State Associations will do the same:

**No shaking hands, hugging, knuckle ups or high-fives.**

**Keep a safe distance from others, 6 feet when possible.**

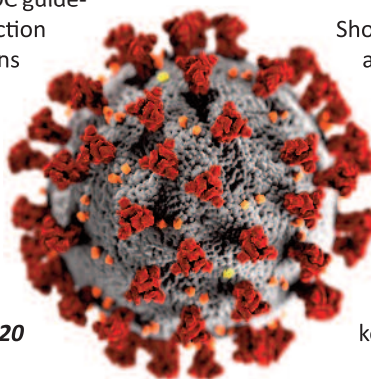
**Wash hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds.**

**No soap? Use hand sanitizer (60-95% alcohol based).**

**Avoid touching your face, eyes, nose, and mouth.**

**Cover your cough or sneeze into the bend of your elbow or a tissue, then dispose of the tissue immediately into the trash.**

**Stay home when you are sick and avoid close contact with people who are sick. Encourage others to do the same.**



With regards to the national convention which is scheduled for July in Baltimore, Maryland, the Convention Commission is closely monitoring the corona virus situation in Baltimore and the surrounding areas.

Should the situation worsen, the Commission will review all facets of the convention and, if needed, will not hesitate to recommend the even be cancelled out of caution. The Grand Lodge is homing for the best and that action will no be needed. The goal is to make any decision as soon as possible.

We all need to keep in mind that the health of our Members, spouses, friends, volunteers and employees is paramount. Let's be vigilant in our efforts to keep one another healthy!

*Bryan R. Klatt, Grand Secretary  
Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks  
Of the United States of America*

*2750 North Lakeview Avenue  
Chicago, IL 60614-1889  
(773) 755-4708*

Elks Car ~ Elks Share by Honoring The Past ~ Embracing The Future



Welcome to a new year of Elksdom! First, I am humbled and honored to be elected as your Exalted Ruler for the upcoming year 2020-2021. Little did I know several years ago that performing in an event with the Forever Young Dancers would turn into becoming a member and an officer of this lodge. I have volunteered for various events and positions as an officer have provided learning opportunities and experiences along the way. With

guidance from our PER's, House Committee and Board of Directors, I will always strive to do my best to have our lodges' best interest at the forefront of any decision while keeping in mind moving our lodge forward.

Second, I want to commend Dawn Lieber, PER and her officers for a great and successful year. They overcame many challenges and obstacles that made our lodge even better. Thank you for all you've done to make our lodge great! The bar has been set high. I know that we as a Lodge, will encounter some difficult moments. When those times arise; instead of contributing to the problem – be a part of the solution. How we respond to those issues will tell a lot about our character. There's no better way to convey this by simply stating the obvious, "We're Better Together", which is my motto this year. It will take all of us to ensure that our lodge remains financially sound, providing enjoyment for our members, family and guests, supporting our veterans, children and community demonstrating that Elks Care Elks Share.

Third, it's truly an exciting time to be an Elk but more importantly an Elk at St Petersburg Lodge 1224. One may ask "why"? Our own Rudy Masi will be installed as the State President, Joanne Matos will lead West Central District as Vice President, Bonnie Barnes' appointment as FSEA Vice Chair of Ladies Organization and Dawn Lieber will be State Chair of Veterans Services. We should all be very proud of their accomplishments and leadership roles. It is my desire and hope that we, at St Pete Lodge, get onboard and attend the FSEA Convention this year with a strong delegation. Let's be proud, loud and visible and show the rest of the FSEA that we're truly the warmest and friendliest lodge in the state.

Fourth, I want to congratulate Marlene Evans and her officers for a job well done this year. Their role in our lodge will never go unappreciated. They are a contributing facet to what we try to accomplish here at our lodge and without their involvement we couldn't do what we do. Thank you from the bottom of my heart! To Jan Giallourakis and her fellow officers I'm excited what the new year will bring and look forward to working collaborately with you for another successful year.

Last, I want to give a big shout to YOU, our members. Without your everlasting support we wouldn't be able to accomplish all that we do. You are the backbone of our lodge. Thank you for all that you do to make our lodge great.

Fraternally yours,  
Doc Cook, ER

## LOEA President Message



It is truly an honor and a privilege to serve as the President of the St. Petersburg Ladies Auxiliary for the 2020-2021 Elk Year. My goal will not only be to increase our membership but to make sure we have lots of fun this year as members.

I would like to introduce your new LOEA Officers for 2020-2021 as follows:

<i>President</i>	Jan Giallourakis
<i>Vice President</i>	Norma Jean McGregor
<i>Secretary</i>	Betty Barnes
<i>Treasurer</i>	Marlene Evans
<i>Chaplain</i>	Bobbie Wycoff
<i>Membership</i>	Vivian Gustafson
<i>Friendship</i>	Katherine (Kat) Chaplin
<i>Parliamentarian</i>	Bonnie Mettetal
<i>2 Year Trustee</i>	Barbara Middleton
<i>3 Year Trustee</i>	Bonnie Barnes
<i>4 Year Trustee</i>	Sharon Literski

I must congratulate Marlene Evans and her Officers for a successful year. They all worked very hard when volunteering for the

events, helping with the ice cream parlor and to show we are the happiest most friendliest lodge.

Our first LOEA Event will be Prom Night on Saturday May 16, 2020. More information to follow regarding this very exciting event.

The Ice Cream Parlor will soon be open. The sign up sheet will be posted on the bulletin board, please sign up to chair one of the months.

Always remember to Support our Auxiliary and help us to continue our charitable endeavors.

Respectfully submitted,  
Jan Giallourakis

LOEA President

*"If I Can Not Do Great Things, I Will Do Small Things In A Great Way"*



## St Petersburg BPOE # 1224 DECEASED 2020-2021

Kenneth L Lewis, LM	.05/06/19
Frederick A Schlager	.05/14/19
Charlie Arvidson PER, LM	.05/19/19
Bobby Hall	.06/08/19
Lee Pemberton	.06/15/19
Rocco Faccinto	.06/17/19
Frank Pavkov	.06/27/19
Kelly Parker, PER HLM	.06/30/19
David C Flad, PER	.08/01/19
Alvin (Al) Cube, PDD, LM	.08/07/19
Harry Eisnagle	.08/10/19
Joe Slatton, PER	.08/18/19
James M. Amenta	.10/28/19
Raymond Harbart PER	.10/28/19
Larry F. Cloud	.11/01/19
Amy Lounsbury	.11/19/19
John B. Wood	.01/13/20

*....so drink from the fountain of fellowship to the brother who clasped your hand and wrote your worth in the rock of earth and your faults upon the sand....*  
**"To our Absent Members"**

### Platinum Spotlight Boosters

In Memory of Phyllis Povelitis	.7/20
In Memory of Stephen Prins	.4/20
Blaine M Russell	.4/21
Doug Breyette	.3/21
Wayne L Everett	.4/20
In Memory of Al Goodrich	.7/20
In Memory of William A Schulz	.11/20

### Gold Spotlight Boosters

Cathy & Carmine Casale	.4/21
Robert Casero	.5/20
Bob Davis	.3/20
Kenneth Cichowski	.4/20

### Special Spotlight Boosters

In Memory of Del Beckerat	.5/20
---------------------------	-------

### Spotlight Boosters

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Spotlight Silver \$10 \_\_\_\_\_ Gold \$25 \_\_\_\_\_ Platinum \$50 \_\_\_\_\_ Other \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Mail to: St. Petersburg Elks Lodge #1224 2675 66th Street North St. Petersburg, FL 33710

Make checks payable to: St Petersburg Elks Lodge 1224



## Prayer Chain Requests

### LOOKING FOR MORE VOLUNTEERS!!! YOU DO NOT HAVE TO BE AN ELK.

If you or someone you know is in need of prayers at a difficult time in their lives please call me and I will notify all the people on this prayer chain. Can you imagine how many prayers will be lifted up with just one call? Many of us are on or have prayer chains in our churches so the power of prayer will be magnified many times over.

If you have a calling to be a part this rewarding experience call me and sign up for the prayer chain. We are few but we are powerful. Please call me soon and sign up.

Cell 727-735-7073  
Bobbie Wycoff

#### THOUGHTFUL WORDS

*God Bless our Military and first responders.*

*Keep them in your prayers*

*Perhaps they are not stars in the sky but  
Rather openings where our loved ones shine  
down to let us know they are happy.*

*There are moments in life when  
you miss someone so much that  
you just want to pick them from  
our dreams and hug them for real.*

*The smile on my face doesn't mean  
My life is perfect.*

*It means I appreciate what I have  
And what I have been blessed with.*

**I CHOOSE TO BE HAPPY!!**

*Happy Easter.*

*The Lord has risen!!*



## Can you spare some change?

We're asking you to help "fill the piggies" at the bar. Your spare change will help our **Florida Elks Children's Therapy Services** provide physical and occupational therapies to Florida children who do not have easy access to these services.

These services are provided in the patient's home without regard to the ability to pay. **Florida Elks Children's Therapy Services** strives to provide the highest quality services possible to this special population.

**THANK YOU** for your help in making it possible for the Ladies of Elks auxiliary to help these children.

*Wishing you hope, peace and love this Easter Season*



## **St. Petersburg Elks Lodge Member is a Top Finalist for the Congressional Medal of Honor Society**

**Citizen Honors Award for Community Service**

On February 26th, 2020, The CONGRESSIONAL MEDAL OF HONOR SOCIETY in WASHINGTON DC announced the finalists for this year's Citizen Honors Awards. Theodore J. Wagner President and Founder of Music Sweet Music, Inc., (MSM, Inc.) located in So. Pasadena, Florida was named as a Top 2020 Citizen Honors Award Finalist for Community Service.

The Citizen Honors Awards recognize Americans whose exceptional courage and selfless service embody the values of the Medal of Honor: courage and sacrifice; commitment and integrity; citizenship and patriotism.

St. Petersburg Elks Lodge 1224 is a proud sponsor and supporter of Music Sweet Music Inc. since 2014.

*Pictured above L - R: Shanella with Theodore "Ted" Wagner.*



## **LOEA and Lodge donate a total of \$1,250 to MacDill Puppy Walkathon for Southeastern Guide Dogs**

The Ladies of Elks Auxiliary made a \$1000 donation to the Southeastern Guide Dogs Walkathon and the lodge added an additional \$250 to the donation. The Walkathon is Southeastern Guide Dogs' largest fundraiser of the year and is relied upon to bring in more than one million dollars annually to fund the organization's mission. The organization accepts no government funding and depends 100% on private donations and grants to provide its life-changing guide and service dogs to the people who need them—at no charge.

*Pictured above L – R: LOEA VP Jan Gaillourakis and Tracy Horrell with Sandy.*



## **Lodge Donates \$700 to Dixie Hollins Baseball Team**

On February 29th, the lodge donated \$700 to Dixie Hollins Baseball team to thank the team members for assisting during a lodge event. According to Coaches Ralph Rogers and Dave Neverline the money will go towards baseball equipment and help with travel expenses.

*Picture L – R: Head Coach Ralph Rogers and Assistant, Coach Dave Neverline and baseball team members.*





## WELCOME New Members!!!

7 new members initiated in March

### PROPOSED CANDIDATES

Brant Dowd	Jessican Carroll #1719	Retired
Pamela Marsh	Anne Marie Bongiorno	Bauer Food Server
James Wolfe	Toni Goodrich	Retired
Zebedee Apostolakis	Stanley Arthur	Daily Special TV.com Sls
Debra Brattvet	Joanne Matos	St Jude's Pre-School
Holly Minch	Peter Burke	Non-Profit Marketing
Megan Perryman	Richard Shirley	State Farm Ins

#### TRANSFER

Kenneth Steen, LM  
John Murphy  
Bill Erskine

#### FROM

Hol Is #1912  
Warrenton, MO #2662  
Deptford, NJ #2708

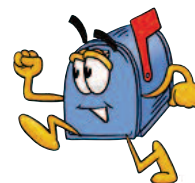
## MARCH ELK OF THE MONTH

CONGRATULATIONS Jim Vago!

## THANK YOU MAGNIFICENT MAILERS!

Volunteers who helped mailing the March Spotlight

George Povelitis PER	Kirk Martin
Jan Giallourakis	Barb Peach
Toni Goodrich PDD	Patti Razor
Tommy Hunt	Pattie Remy
Chris Little	H Tom Shriver PDD
Bill Lloyd	Jeanne Sninchak



## MEMBERSHIP RE-INSTATEMENT

If you are or know a former member who has dropped his/her membership (NO TIME LIMIT) tell the former member that you would like to sponsor them to rejoin (reinstate) at St. Petersburg Lodge #1224. The process is simple and it involves submitting a reinstatement application to be read at our Lodge meeting and voted on.

There is a \$25 fee with the application and the payment only of the current dues for the year. Depending on the date the reinstatement is made, the dues are pro-rated according to the number of months left in the current Lodge year.

Although a reinstatement is gaining back a former member, our Lodge is also gaining a new member!

Reinstatement fee of \$25 plus \$147 for Dues and Assessments.

We look forward to re-introducing you into ELKDOM

Fraternally,  
Doc Cook, ER



## 2020-2021 ANNUAL DUES NOTICE REMINDER *Dues must be paid by April 1, 2020*



### Your 2020-2021 Lodge Dues will be increased by the Grand Lodge and State Assessments

Our Annual Dues will remain at \$125.00. The Grand Lodge Assessment of \$19 and the State Assessment of \$3 will be added to the total that will be due on April 1. The Lodge had been absorbing those Assessments for you for the last ten years, but we can no longer afford to do that. Per our By-Laws, Article X; Section 2(b) it states that each member pays the Regular Lodge dues of \$125 plus the Annual G/L and State assessments. That total amount due on April 1, 2020 will be \$147.00 from our Regular

Members. Our Life Members and Honorary Life Members will also be assessed the \$22 which will be added to their dues.

Thank you for your understanding and if you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact your Lodge Secretary, Toni Goodrich. We are looking forward to another stellar year at the St Pete Elks. I know our Community Works will continue to make you Proud To Be a St Pete Elk. Thank you for ALL YOUR SUPPORT! And Congratulations again to our members of St Pete 1224 for being First Place All American Lodge, in the Nation, in Division V, which is Lodges with 1,101 to 1,500 members for this past year. We are trying hard to win that award for you again this year!!!

Your Secretary, Toni Goodrich

\*\*\*\*\*

## 2nd Annual Unmasking Autism Gala Postponed

The scheduled April 18th Gala has been postponed to October 17, 2020. Look for details in upcoming Spotlight Issues.

\*\*\*\*\*

### DONATIONS OF \*LIQUOR, BEER AND WINE ARE NEEDED

Please help our Hospitality  
Room be a success at the  
upcoming Convention.

**RECEIVE a Convention Fundraiser  
Ticket for each item donated.**  
**PLEASE SEE THE ITEM LIST OF WHAT  
IS NEEDED IN THE LOBBY**

Donated items may be left at our  
front office or see **Bonnie Barnes,**  
PER, Chairperson.

**\* All items donated must be sealed  
and unopened - Thank you.**



\*\*\*\*\*

### The support of caring people like you helps us to provide some of these following services....

**ENF** - Elk's National Foundation - When you give to the Elks National Foundation, you're doing more than funding the Elks National Drug Awareness and "Hoop Shoot" programs. You're doing more than supporting the Community Investments Program and providing Emergency Educational Grants to the children of deceased or totally disabled Elks. You're doing more than maintaining the Elks Veterans Memorial. You're doing all that, and you're supporting Elkdom in your state.

**Restoration of Pool/Tiki Patio Areas, Mural, & Furniture**

Yes, I wish to help my Lodge achieve their goals to help our Community,

Elks Charities and Lodge. Please find enclosed my donation for the:

Please find a check in the amount of \_\_\_\_\_ as my donation.

☐ **ENF - Elk's National Foundation \$10 \_\_\_\_\_ \$15 \_\_\_\_\_ \$20 \_\_\_\_\_ Other \_\_\_\_\_**

☐ **Restoration of Pool/Tiki and other areas \$10 \_\_\_\_\_ \$15 \_\_\_\_\_ \$20 \_\_\_\_\_ Other \_\_\_\_\_**



Please remit your check to or bring to:  
**BPOE St. Petersburg Lodge #1224**  
2675 66th Street North  
St. Petersburg, FL 33710



## Ladies of Elks Auxiliary Donates \$500 to Music Sweet Music, Inc.

On Sunday, March 15 LOEA President Marlene Evans presented a \$500 check to Music Sweet Music, Inc. (MSM, Inc). May Graci, who serves as Lodge Liaison to MSM, Inc. and also serves as MSM's Administrative Assistant/Public Relations Volunteer accepted the check on behalf of MSM, Inc. May stated that, "MSM, Inc. is very grateful that St. Pete's Ladies of Elks Auxiliary members chose to donate the money to help fund their music therapy programs. The money will be used to pay for 5 hours of music therapy in individual and group settings in their current programs." MSM, Inc. offers music therapy services with board-certified, for children and teens with a wide variety of diagnoses and needs in Pinellas and Hillsborough counties. Our music therapists use their education and clinical training to create a targeted treatment plan to address a variety of needs and diagnoses, including but not limited to ADD/ADHD, language/auditory processing disorders, autism spectrum disorders and many other disorders.

*Pictured above L to R: MSM, Inc. Administrative Assistant/Public Relations Volunteer May Graci and LOEA President Marlene Evans.*



## Lodge Donates \$1000 to Bike MS The Citrus Tour 2020

The Lodge sponsored rider Chris Boland from St Pete 1224 to "Bike MS The Citrus Tour 2020" with a donation of \$1000. Bike MS is the fundraising cycling series of the National MS Society and raises more money than any other cycling event for any other cause. "Bike MS" is an extraordinary experience marked by passion, inspiration, determination and fun. Their mission is to end Multiple Sclerosis (MS). The event was held March 7-8, 2020. Routes range from 23, 50, 75, 100 miles Champion Gate, Florida.



# Veteran's Corner



On Tuesday March 3rd the veterans from the VA hospital at Bay Pines enjoyed there evening outing at Seminole Lanes. There were fifteen veterans present. Present to help with the vets were myself Wayne Fortier and Liz Ramsburg.

Not long after that the virus came to town it put a damper on the vets visiting on the 2nd Thursday and also the 3rd Thursdays. Also the April 4th Standown

for the homeless was canceled and the PRRC graduation on the 24th. As of right now all VA activities are cancelled. They also cut back on the number of volunteers that could be active on the VA campus. This included our ELKS office in Bldg 2. But we are back open after I recieved a phone call at home from a vet in the domiciliary needing assistance with personal hygeine things and other items that we elks provide to them.

I told the veteran that I would be out on the 26th to help all of the vets at that time that needed things. At 9am they were at the office door (17 of them) and very happy to receive the items that we elks donate thru our lodges to help our needy veterans.

Being a veteran myself that went thru programs back in 1994 understand and will do what I can for our veterans. I also delivered 500 backpacks that our lodge was able to get with one of our grants thru Grand Lodge.

Anything on your mind that I can help you with? Please call me (727) 642-8004.

Be proud that your an elk!

In Comradeship  
Johnny Miller  
Veterans Chairman



The **NATIONAL SUICIDE PREVENTION LIFELINE** is a national network of local crisis centers that provides free and confidential emotional support to people in suicidal crisis or emotional distress 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.

**1-800-273-8255**



As a Caregiver, the very best thing you can do for those who depend on you is to take care of yourself. CW BILL YOUNG VAMC offers a number of services to support Family Caregivers. These services are available in and out of the home to help you care for the Veteran you love and for yourself.



## You Should Be Proud!

Your Lodge Board of Directors were ahead of the curve making the right call in closing down our Lodge to protect our members from catching and also from spreading the scourge coronavirus. It was not an easy call due because they know our members love our warm and friendly social atmosphere and because the lodge needs the revenue. Thank You BOD for making the right choice! We are proud of you and YOU SHOULD BE PROUD!

During this coronavirus crisis, our maintenance and bartender staff are coming to work to sanitize our lodge, to make repairs and to spruce up some areas. They are maintaining social distancing and complying with all health recommendations. Thank you, we are proud of you and YOU SHOULD BE PROUD!

Chef John Bauer is working out of his food trailer and offering daily meals for take out to help us during the Lodge closure. Thank you John, for being there for us! We are proud of you and YOU SHOULD BE PROUD!

Easter is just around the corner. Hat's off to Leading Knight and Exalted Ruler Elect Doc Cook and incoming Inner Guard Kirk Martin for bringing St. Pete Elks #1224 Easter goodies to both Sallie House and Children's Village providing them with toys, candy, ear buds, and cell phone holders to help them celebrate Easter! We are proud of our Lodge and proud of you for representing us and YOU SHOULD BE PROUD!



## Lodge Donates \$ 1,500 to North West Youth Baseball (NWB), St. Petersburg

On February 28, the Lodge donated \$ 1,500 to North West Youth Baseball (NWB), St. Petersburg, to sponsor youth baseball teams. NWB does not receive any funding from the City of St. Petersburg and relies strictly on the donations they receive from their sponsors. The donations allow NWB to operate their park, make necessary purchases such as new equipment and uniforms, and finance other park expenses including field maintenance and field lights. In addition, because of the sponsor's generosity it allows NWB to maintain affordable registration costs.

The Veterans Crisis Line connects Veterans in crisis and their families and friends with qualified, caring Department of Veterans Affairs responders through a confidential toll-free hotline, online chat, or text. Veterans and their loved ones can call **1-800-273-8255** and Press 1, chat online, or send a text message to **838255** to receive confidential support 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, 365 days a year. Support for deaf and hard of hearing individuals is available.



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TILE**

**VINYL  
FLOORING**

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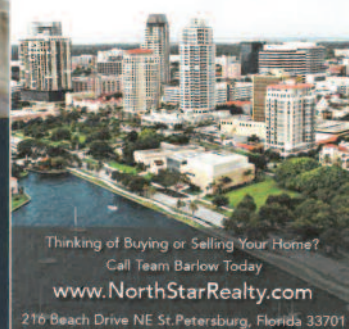
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