May the forces of evil become confused on the way to your house.

-George Carlin

from https://www.brainyquote.com

SWFL Clean Water Movement – “a group of concerned citizens rallying to end the toxic Lake Okeechobee discharges that destroy our river, estuary, and local Gulf waters”.

(web site submitted to the editor by Marty Britton)

https://petitions.moveon.org/sign/swfl-clean-water-movement

Welcome New Neighbors!

Donald and Linda Graham – 4669 Catfish Ct., previously owned by Robert Tytula. They are from Maryland and will use the property occasionally for now. Donald’s occupation is business manager; Linda’s is office manager. They are interested in fishing.

Robert and Susan Solomon – 4985 Gulfgate. Robert is originally from Staten Island, N.Y. and Susan from Indiana. They will use the property as a rental.

Joseph and Sally Ann Komar – 4917 Mouie Lane. They are from Milwaukee, WI and will live in the Cove full time. Joseph was a mechanic / woodworker, and Sally Ann was a payroll clerk. They enjoy woodworking, reading, and crocheting.

Reminder: Resident Photo Directory
During the summer, the resident photo directories will be available from MaryLea Lewellyn at 4930 Pinfish Lane. Anyone that had their photo taken for the book is eligible to receive a copy. All others may purchase one at a cost of $10.00, if interested.

(Note: Photo directories will not be available in the PICA Office.)

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Pine Island Cove—our little place in paradise

8/27/2018
Activities, Committees, Clubs and Group News

**Ladies’ Luncheon**
August found 12 Ladies enjoying tasty lunches at the “Twisted Lobster”. Quite a few took chowder and bisque home for the husbands. Everyone seemed to enjoy the outing.

For September we will be going to Moretti’s Italian Grill at 3100 Del Prado Blvd. S. Cape Coral FL (239) 542-3030 on Wednesday September 19 at 11:00 AM. The sign-up sheet will be posted in the clubhouse. Add your phone number if you need a ride.

Driving Directions: Take Pine Island Road to the Del Prado Exit. Right turn on to Del Prado. Stay in the right lane. You will see two white signs that say “BIZ” in blue letters. Turn in to the plaza after the second sign. Moretti’s will be on the left.

See you there!

-Marylea 412-445-1108
-Ginny 239-283-3206
-Shellie 419-726-0104

**Nimble Thimble**

**Quilters and Needlework**
We will resume on Sept. 10—and will meet every Monday 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

Please join us if you do any type of needlework. Our group has been meeting for almost 30 years.

Please come and visit anytime. Most of the snowbirds are back by January.

Any questions please call Ethel at 283-4650

**FOURTH SUNDAY SUMMER SOCIAL...**

**ICE CREAM SOCIAL**
Sunday Sept. 23 2:00 p.m. Clubhouse
Bring a topping to share; ice cream will be provided!
Travel Committee
As mentioned in April, the travel committee is pleased to welcome two new members: Donna Ziegelman and Rhonda Kroll. We have a very exciting new program for the 2018-19 season. Donna is covering the Costa Rica All-Inclusive...read all about it and book soon!

Costa Rica: January 12 – 19, 2019

The Costa Rica trip is scheduled for January 12-19, 2019. We have fourteen people already confirmed. There are still spots available. We will be staying at the beautiful Dreams all-inclusive resort. Prices start at $2200.00 per person, this includes air fare. The only additional cost will be transportation to Miami to catch our flight. I will know more about that cost when we finalize the arrangements. If you are interested, you can call me, Donna Ziegelman, @ 763-370-7664 or Michele Ireland @ 419-797-5001. Michele will be holding a few more spots on the airline for a short time. Please contact either one of us as soon as possible so you won’t miss out on this great trip. Thanks

Broadway Palms Dinner Theatre: February 6, 2019

Saturday Night Fever: Based on the 1977 film, the score is packed with Bee Gees’ hits. The dinner and actors are excellent. The show will be on February 6, 2019. The cost would be $77.00 per person, including the dinner, show, bus and tip for bus driver. Sign-up sheet will be posted in Nov. - Dec. 2018.

Sunset Cruise in Fisherman’s Village: February 22, 2019

Enjoy a glorious Florida sunset over Charlotte Harbor after touring the waterfront pier and relax and enjoy a nice dinner at one of the local restaurants. Cost and time of departure and return will be posted with sign-up sheet in Nov. - Dec. 2018.

Next Adventure Trip: St-Augustine (FL): March 11-14, 2019

This is one of the most interesting and the oldest settlement in Florida with lots of things to do and see. The Hop On Hop Off (trolley) takes you to the doorstep of 23 sights to visit. Sign-up sheet and cost will be posted in late December.

NOTE: The travel committee has planned a new program and hope that each adventure will be filled with happy participants!

-submitted by Monique Frize

-Cost Rica portion submitted by Donna Ziegelman

Reminders

The Cove’s website is
https://mypineislandcove.com/

The PICHCA office is closed on Wednesdays during the summer months.

Office hours are 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

An application for a new hurricane sticker can be picked up at the fire station or on-line at http://www.pineislandfire.org/20.html
We have, living among us, men and women with many skills and occupations, including farmers and ranchers. In that particular group is a couple who raise Christmas trees. Norm and Deb Leblanc have been growing Christmas trees for over 40 years up in wintery New Hampshire. They started with 6500 trees planted on property near their home. They have since moved to a larger piece of land that allows for a ten-acre Christmas tree farm behind the home that Norm and Deb built themselves.

The evergreen fir tree has traditionally been used to celebrate winter festivals, both pagan and Christian, for thousands of years. Pagans used branches of it to decorate their homes during the winter solstice, as it made them think of the spring to come. The Romans used Fir Trees to decorate their temples at the festival of Saturnalia. Christians used it as a sign of everlasting life with God.

Modern Christmas trees originated during the Renaissance of early modern Germany. Its 16th-century origins are sometimes associated with Protestant Christian reformer Martin Luther, who is said to have first added lighted candles to an evergreen tree.

It takes about eight years for a Christmas tree to mature. The Leblanc’s have second, third and fourth generation trees on their property, which means they have some very large trees.

They started out with Scotch pine. They added balsam fir, white spruce, and blue spruce as the years went by.

Christmas trees are harder to raise than you might think. Root rot is the bane of tree farmers. It is a type or family of funguses that infect and kill the root ball of the tree, and is very difficult to cure. It is generally more effective to change the type of tree species than to actually cure the fungus growing underground. They have not used insecticides in the past 15 years.

Currently they are growing various hybrid species, including Cook fir, Fraser fir, Korean firs, and Concolor firs, which have gorgeous, dark green needles, and smells like tangerine.

The trees are about 12-18 inches when they are planted. At that height they are already four to five years old. The tree farm has been a family operation. When their two boys were old enough to help they were out in the field also. The trees are usually harvested on the weekend before Thanksgiving, when they cut 1000-1200 trees in a two day period.

About one third of their production goes to tree wholesalers. Another third goes to small accounts such as schools, and stores. The final third is for their cut-your-own tree business.

Norm and Deb have been married 50 years this year. They first met at Keene State College in southwest New Hampshire. Norm was a sophomore and Deb was a freshman. Norm had actually seen Deb the previous winter while skiing at the Mount Sunapee Ski Resort. He remembered the pretty brunette but hadn’t had a chance to introduce himself. As it turns out, she remembered him as well. I believe most would call that love at first sight, or at the very least, attraction at first sight.

They have always lived in New Hampshire except for a brief period when they lived in Pocatello, Idaho while Norm was going to graduate school at Idaho State University. Skiing has always played a big part in their lives, and their enjoyment of skiing remains to this day.

After graduation, Norm taught industrial arts and math at Plymouth Regional High School in Plymouth, New Hampshire. His undergraduate majors were construction trades, and chemistry. During three summers he worked construction, so he was well equipped to teach high school industrial arts. He had...
his plumbing and electrical licenses and actually built his two homes. He also taught his sons how to build homes.

After teaching for several years Norm decided to become a guidance counselor. He found he enjoyed both equally, for in both he was able to help young people with the preparation for their adult lives in this world. He was passionate about his work, and he knows he made a difference.

He spent 37 years teaching and in guidance counseling with young students in New Hampshire.

Norm was also a ski coach for 40 years at Plymouth, taking 16 state championships in the process. He continued in that capacity at the request of the school, even after retiring. His youngest son, Dan, also became a ski coach and teaches at the very same school, Plymouth Regional High School.

The Leblanc’s eldest son, Mike, just left a coaching position at Brown University in Providence to take a position as head ski coach at Mt. Washington Valley Ski Club. He manages and trains their skiers full time.

Norm worked on the local ski patrol on weekends for many years. Skiing is a very big deal for their entire family. The Leblancs have bloomed where they are planted, even in the middle of winter.

Plymouth, New Hampshire is a small town of only about 7,000 people, many of whom are students at Plymouth State University. It is located in the shadow of New Hampshire’s iconic White Mountains.

Meanwhile, Deb started working at the housing department at Plymouth State University. It is a pretty college located on the banks of the Pemigewasset River, with an enrollment of about 4000 graduate and undergraduate students, at the time. She would help those young students find housing in their first extended sojourn away from home.

Her job was not without drama. As these young adults began coping with troublesome issues such as room mates, conflicts sometimes arose. She would attempt to guide the students to their own solutions, but occasionally changes had to be made. Sometimes, equally troublesome were the helicopter parents, those parents who hover suffocatingly close, even when that is usually the last thing their young adult needs or wants at that stage in their lives. Eventually Deb became the housing coordinator there.

Deb enjoys kayaking here in Florida. She loves playing pickle ball with her friends. She is a serious bike rider, riding 12-15 miles on a good day. Deb enjoys activity of any kind, walking, participation in Pine Island Cove exercise classes and exercise classes at the SJC Civic Center. Deb is also quite content to curl up with a good book, work on one of her quilting projects, or sew. She enjoys fishing with Norm.

Norm has been a fly fisherman for a long time. He and Deb would travel west in the summers to camp and to fish the great, legendary rivers of the west. A partial list of those rivers would include the Madison, the Gallatin, the Beaverhead, the Bighole, and the Yellowstone, all in Montana. They have also fished the Firehole in Yellowstone, the Green River in Utah, and the mighty Missouri River. Whether the target was brown trout, native cutthroat, rainbow, or brook trout, those fighting fish were all taken with a fly rod, and often, a hand tied fly designed to imitate the existing insects found on the river at the time.

Twelve years ago, Norm and Deb were introduced to Pine Island Cove by friends. Norm happened to see an article in a fishing magazine about Boca Grande tarpon fishing. He’s not saying that the article convinced them to buy here but buy here they did. Twelve years ago, the waters of Pine Island Sound were clear and full of fish.

Tarpon are one of the most exciting game fish, and also one of the most challenging to catch on a fly. Megalops atlanticus has continued on next page...
been around for millions of years, and their massive, boney jaw looks positively prehistoric.

That first year, after buying a boat, Norm set off for the clear, blue waters of the Gulf, off the beaches of Cayo Costa. His first tarpon charged his expertly thrown fly, and the fight was on. Some 45 minutes later, having fought that fish for over a mile, he and the tarpon were exhausted as he gently eased the massive 150 pound fish up to the edge of the boat to release it. He expected to repeat that success every day, but that just doesn’t happen with tarpon. Over the past 12 years he estimates he has hooked 60-80 tarpon, of which he has managed to get about 10 of the monsters all the way to the boat. But anyone who has fished for tarpon with a fly rod knows it is never about how many fish you land. Tarpon are not even eaten. It is the ultimate sport fish for this part of the Gulf of Mexico.

Tarpon fishing with a fly rod is a lot different than most types of fishing done around here. Norm loves the search, the anticipation, applying his years of experience knowing where to look, and how to look. Norm loves watching the tarpon spot the fly, seeing them turn, chase the fly, and attack it, inhaling it. That’s the payoff for Norm.

Norm fishes from Pine Island Cove all the way up to Charlotte Harbor. He likes exploring and he knows that stretch of water very well. When he was younger he used to fish from day break to dark, seven days per week. He doesn’t fish that hard anymore. He prefers to fish smarter, not longer. Deb will sometimes accompany him and will read while Norm fishes. She is always prepared to take control of the boat if Norm hooks into one.

Norm and Deb are close friends with two other dedicated fly fishing couples here in Pine Island Cove. They met Scott and Billie Reynolds while fishing in Montana. Through Scott and Billie they met Hank and Jan Pennington, who spend their summers on Kodiak Island, in Alaska. Over the years they have all fished together in Montana, in Alaska, and now here on Pine Island.

Norm and Deb will give you a discount on a Christmas tree if you stop by to visit them in New Hampshire, they love fishing, and, fortunately for us, they live among us.

The link to the above article, which includes photos, is:

http://mypineislandcove.com/attachments/Norm_and_Deb_Leblanc.pdf
PIC Real Estate Listings

The listings of properties that are for sale or for rent in the Cove are available in the PICHA Office and are also posted on the Cove’s website at


Services in the Cove

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Service</th>
<th>Contact</th>
<th>Phone</th>
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<tr>
<td>Bicycle: Sales, Service, Repairs</td>
<td>Kent McMahan</td>
<td>558-5159</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Computer Help</td>
<td>Bob Jannette</td>
<td>239-283-1792</td>
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<tr>
<td>Fishing Rod Repairs</td>
<td>Mack Luten</td>
<td>283-7583</td>
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<tr>
<td>Lawn Art: Woodpeckers, Egrets, and Herons - Made to Order</td>
<td>Mack Luten</td>
<td>283-7583</td>
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<tr>
<td>Real Estate</td>
<td>Joann Buck</td>
<td>239-224-0037 <a href="mailto:Joeyb1978@Gmail.com">Joeyb1978@Gmail.com</a></td>
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</tbody>
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From the Editor…

When submitting a news item or article please consider:

• The 25th of each month is the deadline for submission of articles.
• The article should be computer-generated. (Can be either text within the email message, or an attachment - preferably in a word processor format.) (Please do not submit a .PDF file, if at all possible.)

Send your news item to picove.newsletter@gmail.com

• Please do not submit hand-written or scanned items, if at all possible.
• Kindly limit the number of words to 250 - max.
• The PICHA Board of Directors and “The Grapevine” editor reserve the right to edit items for the sake of brevity and clarity.
• Photos are not published because, when printed, the print quality is generally poor.
• Please include your full name with your article. I will acknowledge receipt of your item by return email.

-Claudia Sitzman

Important Phone Numbers

Lee County Sheriff 239-477-1000
PICHA Office 239-283-3100