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WINTER 2014-15

Grandparents

MAGAZINE

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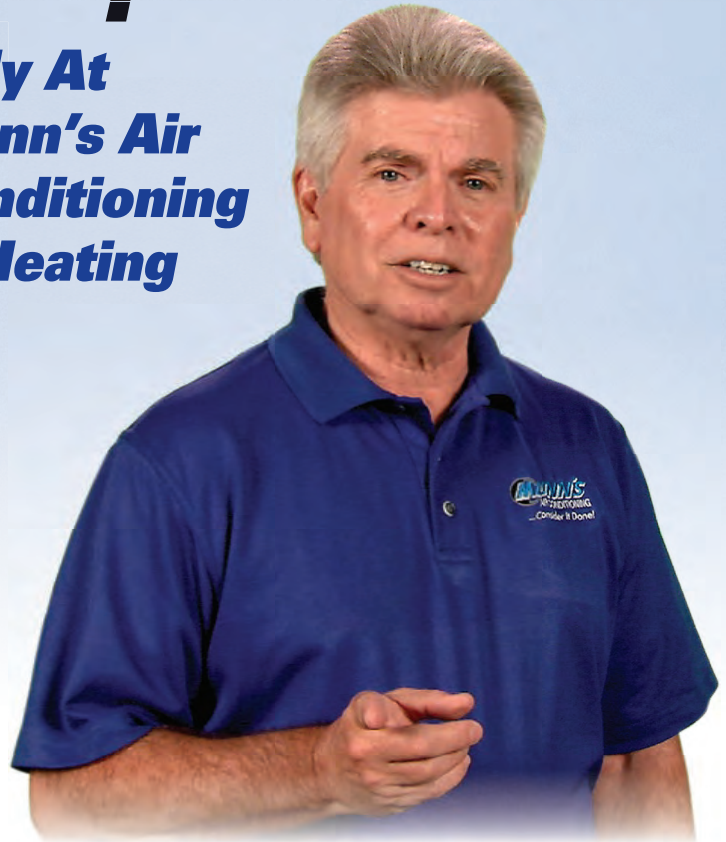


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The Villages Grandparents Magazine, WINTER 2015. Published by The Villages Media Group, 1100 Main St., The Villages, FL 32159. All editorial contents copyright 2014 by Villages Media Management, Inc. All rights reserved. The Villages Grandparents Magazine is a registered trademark of Villages Media Management, Inc. Nothing may be reprinted in whole or in part without written permission from the publisher. For advertising information, please call Rick Junglas at 753-1119 for more information.



ON THE COVER

Sue Marshall, a Village of Polo Ridge resident, with her grandchildren Sara and Adam Crawford. PAGE 42
 Photo taken by George Horsford.



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The Grandparents'

HOW-TO GUIDE

8 WAYS TO MAXIMIZE YOUR TIME IN THE VILLAGES

There is nothing better than welcoming your grandchildren into town. But what do you do if you need to rent baby equipment, treat a sunburn or respond to an emergency? Find out the answers to these questions and more right here.



HOW TO TREAT SUNBURNS

First of all, make sure to use a heavy-duty sunscreen on your grandchild. But sometimes sunburns happen even when we do the best we can to protect them. In that event, here are some tips for you.

- **KEEP THEM HYDRATED** — frequently offer your grandchild water.
- **SOAK A TOWEL IN COLD WATER** and use that as a compress on their burn for 10-15 minute time intervals.
- **MAKE SURE THEY WEAR LOOSE CLOTHING** so nothing touches their burn.
- **DO NOT EXPOSE THEM TO THE SUN** until the burn is completely healed.

DO NOT pop blisters. It could be even more harmful to their sensitive skin.

DO NOT use Vaseline or any other petroleum-based products.

— Call the doctor if any swelling takes place, a fever begins or the child begins vomiting.





HOW DO I GET THE LATEST INFORMATION ON EVENTS HAPPENING IN THE VILLAGES?

Using The Villages Daily Sun and The Villages Magazine as a resource is a great way to pre-plan for your family's visit. Every month you can count on great shows, car cruise ins, craft fairs and more. You also can check out the special events page at thevillages.com.

MY GRANDCHILDREN ARE HERE! HOW CAN I GET THEM GUEST PASSES?

Grandchildren will have a ball playing shuffleboard or pickleball in The Villages. You can pick up a guest pass for your grandchildren at these recreation centers:

- **SEABREEZE** 750-2488
- **LA HACIENDA** 753-1716
- **PARADISE** 753-0637
- **LAUREL MANOR** 751-7110
- **MULBERRY GROVE** 259-6040
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HOW DO I RENT A ROOM AT THE RECREATION CENTERS FOR FAMILY REUNIONS?

The Villages offers a variety of recreation centers that can be rented for special occasions or events. Their dedicated staff is available to answer any questions regarding the use, scheduling and room rates of recreation facilities. For information, call 674-1800 or email Facility Rental at rentals@districtgov.org.

HOW DO I RENT GOLF CLUBS?

Show your grandkids the most popular pastime in The Villages — golf! All of the country club pro shops in The Villages have clubs to rent. They even have junior clubs and clubs for lefties.

Just contact the pro shop at the course you plan to play at and they will be sure to help you.

HINT: Make sure to call in advance, especially during busy seasons, to make sure they are not booked up.

Speaking of that, how do I get a tee time? Call the tee time office at 750-4558. They will be happy to hook you up!



WHERE CAN I TAKE THE LITTLE ONES TO PLAY IN THE VILLAGES?

Over in Lake Sumter Landing there is a great area for young grandchildren to play. It has a slide and play equipment for you both to enjoy and the bonus is its location in Wilkerson Park. Take a stroll there afterward and take a moment to enjoy a babbling brook and picturesque bridge.

The boardwalk at Lake Sumter Landing is another great spot to enjoy. There are plenty of birds, turtles, fish and the occasional alligator to enjoy. But please, do not feed them!





► *Baby Bundles on the Go is another Villages business that offers a similar service. Their number is 406-4754.*

HOW TO GET BABY EQUIPMENT

Call Baby Gear and More Rental at 352-410-2037 and speak with Meri Lynn who is the owner. They have everything you need to get ready for newborns and small children. They even deliver and set up the equipment. Their primary concern is the grandchild's safety and happiness and they make sure that happens with the latest equipment and supplies to make sure their visit to The Villages is a memorable one!

HINT: Call early if you are having visitors between October and May. It is a busy time in The Villages and you want to make sure you get what you need.

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* Photos used for illustrative purposes.



HOW DO I MAKE ONE OF THOSE POOL NOODLE INNER TUBES THAT ARE VILLAGES- POOL APPROVED?

Head to one of the hardware stores and purchase nylon cable ties. You will need three long ones and two pool noodles. Put one noodle into a U position and fold the other noodle in half, front and back around the ends of the U-shaped noodle. It should look like a capital D. Secure with cables. You may want to use a pair of pliers to pull them tight.



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BY LARRY D. CROOM

GIRL

First-Time Granddad Thankful For Special Gift

Baby Name

Marley

Date of Birth

July 23, 2009

Time

1:49 a.m.

Weight

5 pounds, 7 ounces.

Those numbers mean everything to me, as they define a very special moment in my life.

In fact, it's a moment that changed my life forever – the birth of my first grandchild.

I've heard that you never can understand what it's like to be a grandparent until it happens to you. Five years ago, I had the pleasure of finding out just how true that statement really is.

Young Marley Elizabeth Wilson came into the world in the wee hours of the morning, shortly after my wife, Gigi, and I had been sent home from UF Health Shands Hospital to get some much-needed sleep.

"Nothing's going to happen tonight," the doctor promised, as our daughter Whitney's labor pains remained somewhat erratic.

Forty minutes later, when the phone rang and I saw it was Whitney calling, I wished I'd listened to that inner voice.

"Now!" I heard Whitney scream as I started to make a U-turn in Ocala.

"What do you mean, now?" I asked, as a barrage of unintelligible words came back at me.

I handed the phone to my wife and mashed the gas pedal to the floor. As I was setting the cruise control on 95 mph, I heard Gigi attempting to calm Whitney down. The race was on as my wife assured Whitney we'd be there very soon.

A ton of fractured speed laws and blown red lights later, our car screeched to a stop in front of Shands and my wife made a run for the delivery room. Six minutes later, Marley was born.



It wasn't long until tears streamed down my face as I held my granddaughter for the first time. As those huge brown eyes looked up at me, I could see us flying kites or riding in my Jeep together. I could just imagine us playing with Hot Wheels cars together and I easily could envision Gigi and I taking her school shopping every year.

Since that day, Marley and I have shared many special moments. She once challenged me to a drag race – her little electric car against my 1973 Mustang Mach 1 muscle car. She was on the sidewalk and I was on the street. As I revved my engine, she flashed me a thumbs-up sign. So much for intimidating the kid who defines cool.

A few minutes later, I'd lost my first drag race. And just for good measure, I lost a second one going back down the street. But as she climbed into my arms to give the No. 1 sign for a photo, Granddad couldn't have been happier.



Another time, Marley and I also shared a special moment at a local restaurant that has a rather large toy selection in the lobby. As we waited for our meal, she grabbed my hand and asked if we could go “look” at toys. Knowing that’s a code word for “purchase” toys, I grabbed my wallet and off we went.

Marley selected a small tea set and politely asked if she could have it. The answer was yes, of course, so I headed for the cash register to settle up.

That’s when I heard that precious voice say, “Oh, and granddad, all of this.” I turned around just in time to see her hand going in a circle around several dolls, doll clothes and a table-and-chair set for them to sit in.

A few minutes later we returned to the table with two large bags full of “all of this.” As my wife asked me what happened, all I could do was smile. Breakfast cost \$175 that morning, but it was worth every penny.

There are so many more Marley moments. As a 2-year-old, she once climbed the stairs of our house, moaning in pain with every step. When asked what she was doing, she smiled and said, “Granddad!”

When she wanted to go out to eat at the restaurant where her mother works and my wife didn’t answer her quick enough, she told her she’d just ask granddad because, “he always says yes.”

Yes, it’s true that you never understand what being a grandparent means until it happens to you. It’s a feeling that I cherish every single day and one that I hope to experience again down the road.



“So, to you, Marley Elizabeth Wilson, I offer these simple words: Thank you for making me a granddad. You have taught me so much about life in five short years.”

I know there will be many more special moments between us – baking cakes, flying kites, beach trips and building things, to name a few. Gigi and I always will be there for you and we appreciate having you in our lives more than you ever can imagine.

Oh, and one other thing. When the time comes for you to start dating, I might act a little crazy. No boy ever will be good enough for you and I won’t be above making threats to let them know that.

Don’t worry about it because it’s really no big deal. Just ask your mom. She’ll explain everything.



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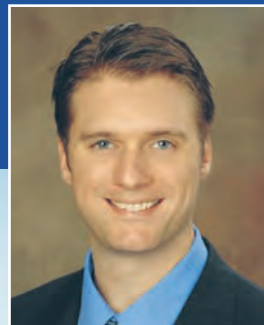
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Geri and James Waelti, of the Village of Liberty Park, love sharing memories with their daughter and son-in-law Joy and Jason Adams and their grandchildren Will and Siena.

“I think family history is very important. It is part of who we are, where we came from and where we are going. We all have colorful relatives and talking about family history is a great way to keep those memories alive.”

—James Waelti



OUR FAMILY TREE

PHOTOGRAPHS AND STORIES BRING FAMILY HISTORY TO LIFE

BY JENNIFER GORCZANY

Story time in The Villages happens in so many places. You can find Villagers swapping stories around their kitchen tables, in restaurants, on the golf course and when their grandchildren come to town.

FAMILY HISTORY

Bev Chartier, a Village of Mira Mesa resident and secretary of The Villages Genealogy Club, recalls telling stories to family members, then receiving questions she couldn't answer.

"My nephew, Stevie, is the one who got me interested in genealogy," Bev said. "He told me one day that his Gram told him there was aboriginal lineage in the family. We are French, so I told him we didn't, but when I asked my aunt, who was 90 years old at the time with a mind like a steel trap, she said of course we have aboriginals in the family."

Bev found even more information one afternoon as she was cleaning her aunt's home. She came across some old photos and asked her aunt if she wanted them. Her aunt told her she was holding proof of her aboriginal history.

The woman in the photo was a full-blooded aborigine and, as Bev researched her lineage further, she found descendents from Mohawk, Iroquois and Algonquin tribes.

*“My nephew, Stevie,
is the one who got me
interested in genealogy.”*

— Bev Chartier



Rose Merriam, Ancestor of Bev Chartier



Bev Chartier's Father, William Russell Boos

"Now my grandson wants to know about the Chartier side of the family. I am working on that right now," Bev said. "I have it back to 1595. It's very interesting. Up in Massachusetts where I am from, there is a Mohawk trail — the actual trail the aborigines used to come down from Canada. This year, they activated the outpost they have up there. I would love to travel up there next summer to see it."



Four generations of Bev Chartier's Ancestors



Bev & Charles Chartier,
Village of Mira Mesa residents.

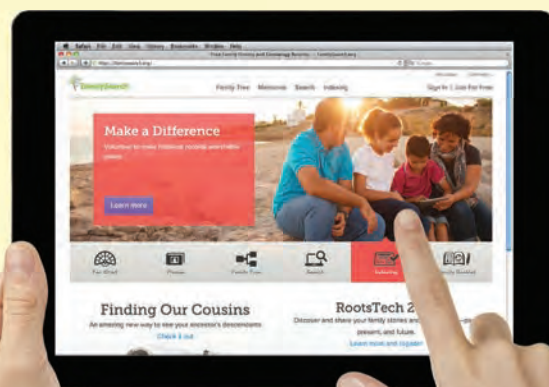


Bev Chartier's Baby Photo

WHERE TO START

If you are interested in researching your family history, here are some tips from Bev:

- ♥ Talk to everyone you can think of right now before they are gone.
- ♥ Use familysearch.org — a free website with loads of family information.
- ♥ Attend a Villages Genealogy Club meeting. The club has different special interest groups based on nationality. For information, go to villagesgenealogy.org.





Ruth Wible, of the
Village of Liberty Park

GRANDCHILDREN AND FAMILY HISTORY

Tips from Ruth on ways to get your grandchildren interested in family history

- ♥ Show them old photos, identify relatives and tell them stories about those people.
- ♥ Organize a photo album of yourself and use mementos such as graduation or theater programs. Things like 4-H ribbons are another great way to help your grandchildren visualize family history.
- ♥ Write stories in your photo album. Ruth wrote stories about a family farm in one of hers.
- ♥ Photos of old machinery or relatives working at their careers also grab interest. For example, if a relative was a teacher and a grandchild also is interested in teaching, it creates a connection.
- ♥ Use newspaper clippings. Ruth has a newspaper clipping from when her father met her mother during a wedding and rolled his vehicle.

KEEPING CHILDREN CONNECTED TO THEIR FAMILY

Ruth Wible, of the Village of Liberty Park, also enjoys talking to her grandchildren about their family history. She feels it can be a great anchor for children that keeps them connected to their family.

"I've been trying to get them interested. I just feel like it gives you a place to be," Ruth said. "By the time I was 9, all my grandparents were deceased so I was curious and my dad's older sister was very interested (in genealogy). She was looking for someone young like I was to hook, and I was it. You have to find someone in the next generation to keep it going."

Ruth's great-grandmother enjoyed journaling family history. She would write to whomever she could think of and only wrote down facts if she could find two sources who said the same thing. Ruth's aunt would talk to her about family history while they cooked meals and Ruth enjoyed peppering her with questions.

**“Using stories is a great way
to keep children interested.
And pictures.”**

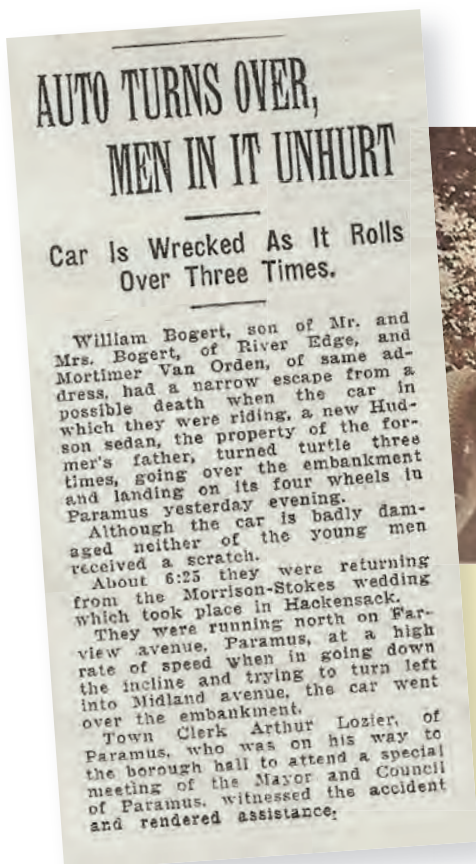
— Ruth Wible



Elizabeth Williams Thorntoin

"This is my three greats grandmother who lived from 1784 to 1886. Kids are curious about people who lived to be that old. She was in her 90's when this picture was taken and did not like her hands looking wrinkled so she colored them over with india ink. Clothing is always a good way to interest new folks."

Ruth Wible



"The car my Dad was driving when he met my Mother. He was chasing the wedding party and rolled the car. The story was that he and his friends were searching for their lit cigarettes when help arrived. They were afraid the leaking gasoline would ignite."

Ruth Wible

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GRANDKIDS ON THE MOVE



The holidays are almost here. With one of the highest rates of travel happening right now, use this convenient checklist to help you and your grandkids travel comfortably whether you are taking them on a road trip or on a plane!

Glo and Mark St. Germain, of the Village of Fernandina, love traveling with their grandchildren Colin, Aaron and Jacob.



CHECKLIST FOR BABIES & TODDLERS

- ❑ Wipes, antibacterial hand gel and napkins
- ❑ One diaper for each hour you will be in transit
- ❑ Two clothing changes per day
- ❑ Favorite toys or stuffed animals
- ❑ Resealable plastic bags for dirty tissues and diapers
- ❑ Small blankets to use during diaper changes and to keep the children warm when traveling
- ❑ Formula and bottles
- ❑ Portable crib and stroller
- ❑ Toothbrush and baby lotion
- ❑ A first-aid kit with baby Tylenol
- ❑ Healthy snacks and water for your toddler

CHECKLIST FOR YOUNG CHILDREN

- ❑ It is very important to pack toys, books and snacks.
- ❑ Wipes, hand sanitizer, napkins, zip-lock bags and straws
- ❑ Entertainment, iPod, tablet or MP3 player.
- ❑ Two changes of clothes and PJs for each day you are in transit plus two extra shirts and extra underwear
- ❑ Comfortable tennis shoes and dress shoes so you can be ready for anything
- ❑ Pajamas: If you are traveling with your grandchild and will not arrive at your destination until evening, put them in their jammies. That way if they fall asleep in the car, you can just take them up to bed.
- ❑ A pillow, a blanket and a favorite stuffed animal
- ❑ Pack healthy snacks and plenty of water for the trip.



TRAVEL HINTS

- Allow plenty of time
- Pack individual outfits marked with the day of the week to make getting dressed a breeze.
- Have your daily agenda figured out as much as possible in advance.
- Buy a disposable camera and let the kids take pictures.
- Invest in a child locator. You can purchase these at Walmart in The Villages. Just put it in your grandchild's coat or pants pocket.
- Create your own travel journal and map your trip.
- Be ready for the climate you are headed to.



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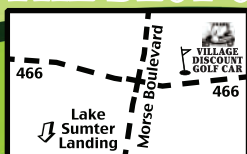
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While many may claim to stand apart from their peers, the Retina Specialty Institute (RSI) brings superb expertise, experience, and compassionate care.

"We started in The Villages in the spring of 2013 and since that time, we have grown quite nicely," says Dr. Shalesh Kaushal, a vitreoretinal specialist with RSI. "We have been working diligently to create awareness in the area about retinal diseases, as well as maintain the highest level of care that our patients have come to expect and appreciate. That's my passion."

A visit to RSI means being in the hands of knowledgeable professionals who care about your eye health and overall wellbeing. The level of medical information shared empowers patients to take charge of their health care decisions. In addition to educating patients, the team at RSI works to maintain a comfortable, welcoming, and thoughtful experience from beginning to end during every office visit.

"For example, in most retina practices, people have grown accustomed to waiting two to three hours before they can see the doctor," says Dr. Kaushal. "At our office, we have substantially shortened that wait time, and that is something our patients value."

Meeting patient's needs and top-notch customer service are the highest priority at RSI; however, this thriving practice places even greater emphasis on having only the finest and most highly experienced medical professionals in their field. For example, Dr. Kaushal obtained his undergraduate education at Yale University and subsequently earned his medical degree from Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine and Ph.D. from Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT) in biochemistry with the Nobel Laureate Dr. Har Gobind Khorana. He completed his ophthalmology training at USC/ Doheny Eye Institute. He then completed two retina fellowships, one at Barnes Retina Institute in St. Louis and the other at Moorefields Eye Hospital in London.

Motivated by a desire to help patients and their families through every step and stage of their vision journey, RSI continues to play a key role in furthering medical advances to give patients access to the most advanced retinal care. As an avid researcher, Dr. Kaushal has participated in numerous clinical trials involving revolutionary breakthroughs in retina care such as gene therapy, stem cell treatment, and new drugs. He was one of three surgeons in the world to perform retinal gene therapy and was the first person in the world to use two other drugs for retinal diseases. He's already working on bringing novel, cutting-edge clinical trials to The Villages and Florida.

RSI is making strides to treat many conditions that can lead to blindness by collaborating with Intelligent Retinal Imaging Systems (IRIS) and the Lions Clubs International to help screen for retinal diseases like age-related macular degeneration and diabetic retinopathy. In less than 10 minutes, IRIS' low-cost, non-invasive technology can detect early signs of retinal diseases. For the first time in the country, two screenings were

recently performed — one in The Villages and one in Citrus County — and yielded great results.

"It's quite remarkable. Using this automated camera system, we were able to pick up on very early diabetes-related retinal changes, as well as other pathologies such as scar tissue on the retina and glaucoma," says Dr. Kaushal. "In bringing this kind of innovative technology to The Villages, we can help educate patients and also manage their conditions. We're dedicated to doing what we believe is in our patients' best interest."

The best is what RSI strives for every day by offering state-of-the-art clinical and surgical procedures for patients suffering from eye diseases such as macular degeneration, as well as conditions brought about by illnesses in the body. "Nearly every disease manifests itself in the eye," explains Dr. Kaushal. "For example, cardiovascular diseases can cause changes in the vascular system. This can be directly visualized in the blood vessels of the retina. Nutrition and genetics can also play a key role in the health of our eyes. In a real sense, the retina reflects the overall condition of the body."

As a result, Dr. Kaushal makes it a point to hold talks throughout The Villages and surrounding areas as a way to help educate and raise awareness in the public about the importance of overall health and eye health.

Personally and professionally, Dr. Kaushal finds the retina to be a fascinating part of the body, and he understands how important sight is to living a healthy lifestyle. "It's always been a passion of mine, along with helping people," he says. "As much as I intensely enjoy taking care of people, I've come to appreciate how important it is to provide meaningful, up-to-date medical information to patients. This motivates me immensely and is central to the service my team and I give to our patients."

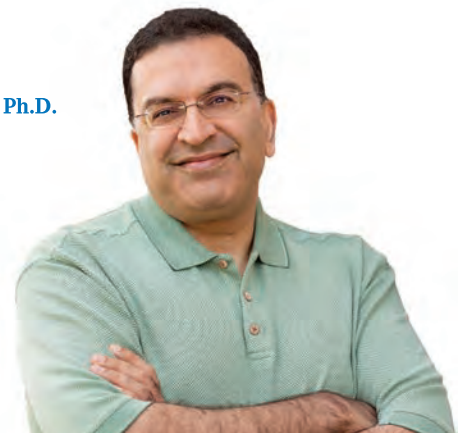


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SUNDAE SUNDAYS!

Recipes courtesy
of justapinch.com

Everyone screams for ice cream, and your grandchildren are no different. Set up a special tradition with sundaes on Sunday and it will be a day of the week everyone looks forward to! Here are some traditional and unique ideas.

Banana Split

INGREDIENTS

- * 1 large banana
- * 1/2 scoop vanilla ice cream
- * 1/2 scoop chocolate ice cream
- * 1/2 scoop strawberry ice cream
- * 2 tablespoons crushed pineapple
- * 2 tablespoons chocolate syrup
- * 2 tablespoons strawberry preserves
- * 3 tablespoons wet walnuts
- * Whipped cream
- * 3 cherries



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ENJOYING YOUR FAVORITE TOPPINGS IN NO TIME!**

Hot Fudge Topping

INGREDIENTS

- * 3 unsweetened chocolate squares
- * 1/4 teaspoon salt
- * 1 can sweetened milk
- * 1/4 cup sugar
- * 1 teaspoon vanilla
- * 1/2 cup hot water

- 1) Put all items in microwave container and cook until creamy, stirring frequently.
- 2) Serve hot over ice cream.

Strawberry Topping

INGREDIENTS

- * 4 cups fresh strawberries
- * 1/4 cup sugar
- * 1 teaspoon vanilla
- * 1/2 teaspoon cinnamon
- * 1 1/2 teaspoons cornstarch
- * 1/4 cup water

- 1) Combine all of the above in a saucepan.
- 2) Simmer on low until thickened.

Caramel Topping

INGREDIENTS

- * 1/2 cup brown sugar
- * 1/2 cup sugar
- * 1 tablespoon flour
- * 1/2 cup cream or half and half
- * 1/2 cup butter
- * 1 teaspoon vanilla

- 1) Mix sugars and flour together in a saucepan. Add cream, butter and vanilla.
- 2) Bring to a low boil, and boil 2 minutes.

Homemade Whipped Cream

INGREDIENTS

- * 8 ounces heavy cream
- * 1 teaspoon vanilla
- * Powdered sugar

- 1) Before starting, chill your mixing bowl and whisk attachment in the freezer for a few hours or overnight.
- 2) Pour the heavy cream into the mixing bowl, and begin whisking on high. Add the vanilla (you can add a little more to ensure you really taste vanilla), then gradually add the powdered sugar. Stop your mixer every once in a while to see if the mixture is sweet enough. Start with small amounts — you always can add more, but you can't take it away if there is too much.
- 3) After you have figured out how sweet you want it, whisk on high until your cream starts to thicken, at least a couple of minutes. Keep an eye on it, because you can over mix. Over mixing will cause a strange, almost sticky consistency.
- 4) After whipping it up nice and fluffy, store it in the fridge. It will keep for a few days, and it makes a good amount, so you have some time to finish it or bake more things to put it on.

Candy Bar Ice Cream Sundaes

INGREDIENTS

- * 8 fun-size candy bars (Milky Way, Snickers, 3 Musketeers) or 2 regular bars, cut into thirds
- * 2 tablespoons milk or cream
- * 1 container chocolate sauce in a squeezable tube
- * 6 scoops ice cream (vanilla or coffee flavors work well)
- * 2 bananas, peeled and cut in half
- * Whipped topping
- * 8 whole walnuts, if desired
- * 2 maraschino cherries

Waffle Sundae

INGREDIENTS

- * 1 1/2 cups cake flour
- * 1/2 teaspoon baking soda
- * 1/2 teaspoon salt
- * 1 egg, room temperature
- * 1/4 cup sugar (or more if you want them to be sweeter)
- * 2 tablespoons butter, softened
- * 2 tablespoons shortening, butter flavor
- * 1/2 cup half and half, room temperature
- * 1/4 cup buttermilk, room temperature
- * 1/2 cup milk, room temperature
- * 1 teaspoon vanilla extract
- * 1 teaspoon butter flavoring
- * 1/2 teaspoon almond extract
- * 1/2 cup finely crushed pecan pieces

- 1) Mix all ingredients together and pour into a waffle maker. Cook until golden brown.
- 2) Then, while still warm, top with vanilla ice cream, chocolate and caramel sauces, bananas and pecans.





Cookie Ice Cream Sundaes

INGREDIENTS

- * 1 cup sugar
- * 1/2 cup brown sugar
- * 2 eggs
- * 1 teaspoon vanilla
- * 3/4 cup canola oil
- * 3 tablespoons margarine
- * Pinch of salt
- * 2 cups self-rising flour
- * 1 cup chocolate chips

- 1) Preheat oven to 350 degrees.
- 2) Line two cookie sheets with baking parchment paper.
- 3) In the bowl of your mixer, blend sugars and eggs. Add vanilla, oil, margarine and salt. Beat until a thick batter forms.
- 4) Add flour one 1/2 cup at a time. Add chocolate chips.
- 5) Scoop about a teaspoon of cookie dough and flatten slightly onto prepared cookie sheets. Bake for approximately 10 minutes or until just the edges are slightly golden.
- 6) Transfer immediately to a wire cooling rack. Then while still warm, sandwich your favorite ice cream in between 2 cookies and enjoy.





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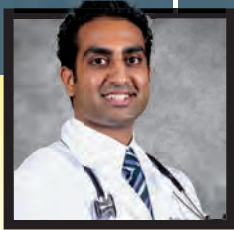
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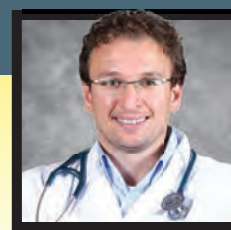
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Grandparents' Legacy Saved Forever!

On October 4, 2014, Skip and Linda Handy celebrated their 52nd wedding anniversary like never before.

In previous years they were blessed with gifts from their 4 children and 14 grandchildren. This year Skip and Linda did the gift-giving by surprising their family with **DOC YOU MEMORIES™** produced by Tony Politis and Jay Robbins, local filmmakers dedicated to filming **Life Story Legacy Films**.

The aroma of movie theater popcorn filled the TV room as the Handy family gathered to watch and listen to Skip and Linda's story told in

Their Words from Their Mouths.

"We always struggled with what we could leave our grandchildren. Now we have DOC YOU MEMORIES™; they will know who we were and where they came from."

Just a couple of weeks earlier, Filmmakers Tony Politis and Jay Robbins from Apopka, Florida were hired by Skip and Linda to chronicle their story as a living gift to their family for generations to come.

Tony, a cameraman who hails from Brisbane, Australia, is best known for capturing those hair-raising moments on the famous TV show "The Crocodile Hunter."

Jay is a New York transplant and worked with a company providing post production on last year's academy award winning film, "12 Years A Slave," in addition to the long running TV series "Burn Notice" to name a few.

The Handy family feels totally blessed to have this piece of family history.

Skip and Linda's message to everyone;

**"We know we won't live forever,
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THE RULES OF GOLF CART SAFETY

When your grandchildren hit the ripe old age of 14, they are ready to drive on the golf cart paths. But there are rules you need to follow to get the most out of your experience. Teaching your grandchildren about golf-cart safety and riding around with them can serve as a bonding experience.

- A golf cart is defined as a motor vehicle that is designed for operation on a golf course or for sporting or recreation, and is not capable of exceeding 20 mph. While the operator of a golf cart does not have to be a licensed driver, **the driver must be 14 or older.**
- Golf carts may not cross or drive on U.S. Highway 27/441, County Road 466, County Road 466A, Griffin Avenue or any other road with a posted speed limit of 35 mph or higher. **Low-speed vehicles can be operated on a road where the speed limit is 35 mph or less.** A golf cart can be operated on a state road that has been designated and marked for golf cart use.
- **Golf carts must use the multimodal trails adjacent to El Camino Real, Buena Vista Boulevard, Morse Boulevard, County Road 466 and County Road 466A.** These roadways can be crossed in a golf cart only by using the marked tunnels. The only exception is that golf carts can cross El Camino Real at the traffic light between Enrique Drive and Botello Avenue. In addition, while golf carts are not permitted to travel on Rainey Trail (County Road 472), they are permitted to cross between Lynnhaven and Miona Shores Drive. LSVs are permitted to travel on Rainey Trail since the speed limit is only 35 mph.
- On streets within The Villages with a posted speed limit of 30 mph or less, **golf carts should be driven in the marked diamond lanes or along the right-hand edge of the street** if there is no marked lane.
- Do not allow anyone to ride standing in the vehicle or on the back platform of the vehicle. **Arms and legs should be kept inside the vehicle at all times.**
- When making a left turn, after signaling your intentions, carefully merge with vehicular traffic just prior to the intersection and turn using the proper signal and turn lane, where available. Anywhere that signage or road markings provide such direction, golf-cart traffic always should merge with vehicular traffic. **Golf carts should yield to other vehicular traffic in all cases.**
- Golf carts and LSVs are not permitted to travel on sidewalks.
- For more information, contact your local law enforcement agency.





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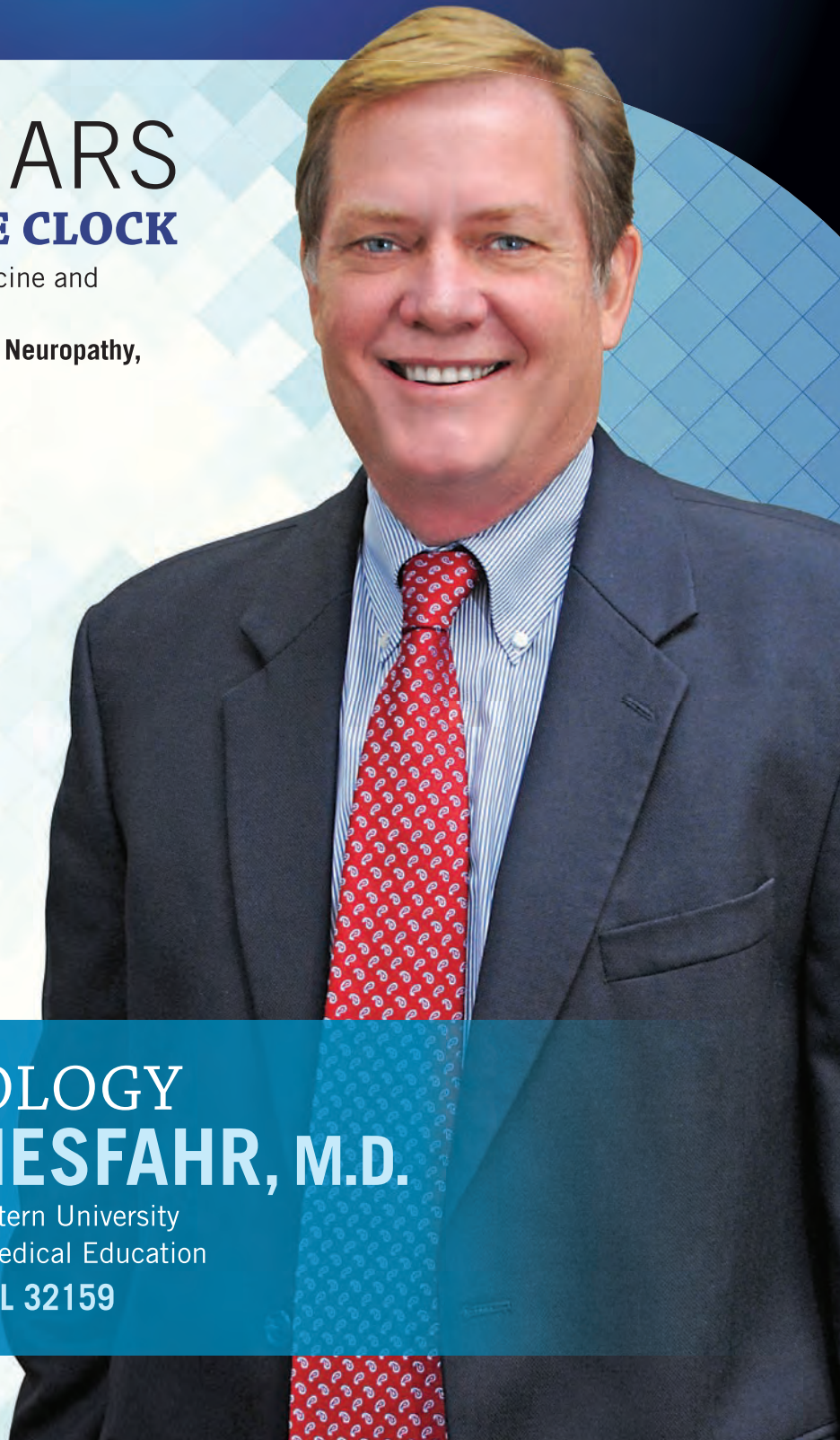
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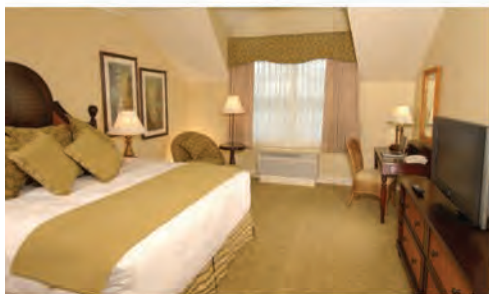
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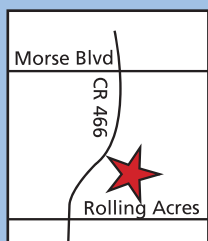


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Q&A

with George and Linda and their granddaughter Madison Karoly

Village of Alhambra residents George and Linda Fernicola love spending time with their granddaughter Madison in The Villages. The grandkid-friendly atmosphere is what draws Madison to Florida's Friendliest Hometown and she loves it here as much as her grandparents. Here, they share their tips for navigating The Villages with grandchildren.

Q: What do you like about spending time with Madison in The Villages?

Linda: First of all, she's hysterical. She makes us laugh. She is the typical 8-year-old going on 35. We love watching her in the pool and she has comments that just flip us out. We don't know where it comes from, but she's funny.

George: She comes up with these words that I didn't learn until I was 50!

Q: So what brought you to The Villages?

George: We saw the video and came down with friends to visit just to look it over. Before you know it, I saw a house I loved and bought it. (Linda) did not even know.

Q: What is your favorite thing to do in The Villages with Madison?

Linda: The pool, the movies, the restaurants, the squares, of course. There is so much to do with your grandchildren here.

Q: What tips would you give to other grandparents who live in The Villages and have grandkids coming to visit?

George: There is so much to do, even for grandkids. Naturally, they love the golf carts; they really love those golf carts.

Linda: They do love riding in the golf carts because it is different from where they come from. Just enjoy them, it goes so fast. And take them all over, take them dancing and listen to the music. The music from our generation, our grandkids love it.

The Villages according to **MADISON**

Q: What is your favorite thing to do in The Villages with your grandparents?

I like to go in the pool and I like to walk the dogs with my grandma, and I like riding in the golf cart.

Q: Do you think The Villages is a fun place for grandkids?

Yes! They get to spend time with their grandparents and go fun places like the pool.

Q: What is your favorite restaurant in The Villages?

Ruby Tuesday.

Q: What would you say to a grandkid who might be visiting The Villages for the first time?

Tell your grandparents to invite you to the pool! I love it there!

Q: How about ice cream? That is important to grandkids, too!

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KIDS'

CALENDAR

— WINTER 2014-15 —



There is so much to do in The Villages with visiting grandchildren. The holidays will be upon us in December, then in January and February the weather will offer the perfect excuse to get outside.

Here is a planning guide to help you maximize your time with your family here in The Villages and in the surrounding areas.

DECEMBER

HOLIDAY FUN FOR EVERYONE!

Get in the spirit of the holidays by visiting all three town squares. They are great places to get some dinner, dance the night away and watch the lights with your grandchildren.

DECEMBER 13

Christmas Parade and Celebration

The Villages Polo Club 10 a.m.-1 p.m.

DECEMBER 20

Classic Christmas Cruise In and Toy Drive

Spanish Springs Town Square 4-9 p.m.

DECEMBER 21

Menorah Lighting Ceremony

Spanish Springs Town Square 8 p.m.



Near The Villages

Cotton Christmas at Cotton Farm

The entire manor is dressed up for the holidays with hayrides, a Christmas village and spectacular lights. Special story times with cookies and cocoa also are available. The show goes on through New Year's Eve. Call 751-4544 for details.

Wooten Park Holiday Train

A one-hour train ride complete with elves and Santa. As you roar down the tracks, each child will delight in Christmas carols, hot cocoa and cookies. Train rides are on Fridays, Saturdays and Sundays. During the week of Christmas, the train will offer rides daily through Dec. 23.

Mount Dora

This is a quaint town located on the other side of Tavares, about 30 minutes away, and strolling the streets during the holidays is sure to get you in the spirit. The town also is home to many ice cream and candy shops which will be sure to enchant your grandchild.



JANUARY

The new year is upon us and if your grandchild wants to get healthy, there are plenty of ways to do so this month.

HERE'S AN IDEA: Start training for a 5K with your grandchild. Then sign up for one!

JANUARY 10

5K Road Race

Lake Sumter Landing 8 a.m.

JANUARY 17

Classic Cruise In

Spanish Springs Town Square 4-9 p.m.

JANUARY 18

Lake Sumter Landing Retailers Sidewalk Sale

Noon-5 p.m.

JANUARY 19

Lake Sumter Landing Retailers Sidewalk Sale

10 a.m.-5 p.m.

JANUARY 20

Brownwood Colonial Days Festival

Brownwood Paddock Square Noon-4 p.m.



Near The Villages

Uncle Donald's Farm

Uncle Donald's Farm is a petting zoo located within minutes of The Villages. Where else can you milk a goat, pet chickens or feed a cow? A trip here will result in many photo-ops!

Florida Zip Line and Canopy Tours

Florida Zip Line and Canopy Tours in Ocala is a great activity for the adventurous grandchild! Zip through nine lines and two bridges as you take in the breathtaking scenery below you. Make sure to call for a reservation: 351-9477

Grand Oaks Resort and Carriage Museum

This area is known for horses and Grand Oaks does not disappoint, with walking paths galore that take you past beautiful horses grazing contentedly. Inside the facility is the carriage museum with more than 160 American and European carriages.



FEBRUARY

The weather is amazing and if you have grandchildren visiting from up north, they are going to love The Villages. Here are some don't-miss events for your calendar.

FEBRUARY 5

Mardi Gras Festival

Spanish Springs Town Square
4-9 p.m.

FEBRUARY 7

Chili Cookoff

Lake Sumter Landing 10 a.m.-4 p.m.

FEBRUARY 10

Mardi Gras Festival

Lake Sumter Landing 10 a.m.-4 p.m.

FEBRUARY 19

Spring Fashion Show

Lake Sumter Landing 11 a.m.-1 p.m.

FEBRUARY 25

Brownwood Strawberry Festival

Brownwood Paddock Square
Noon-4 p.m.



Near The Villages

Rusty Anchor Boat Tours

Rusty Anchor boat tours in Mount Dora is a great way to see numerous species of birds, alligators, turtles, otters and 100-year-old cypress trees. To book your cruise, call 383-3933.

BJ's Airboat Adventures


BJ's Airboat Adventures in Bushnell is a safe thrill ride for all. Get ready to see a Florida time seems to have forgotten — cypress trees more than 100 years old covered in Spanish moss and wildlife like nowhere else such as alligators, wild hogs, deer, turkeys and more. For reservations, call 321-442-3464.

Easy Street Family Fun Center

Easy Street Family Fun Center has golf carts, mini golf and an arcade. Kids love it and because it is right in Ocala it is a hop, skip away. For information, call 861-9700.

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 - ☐ Have you noticed a decline in your memory?

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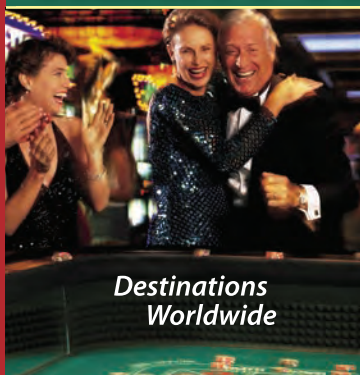
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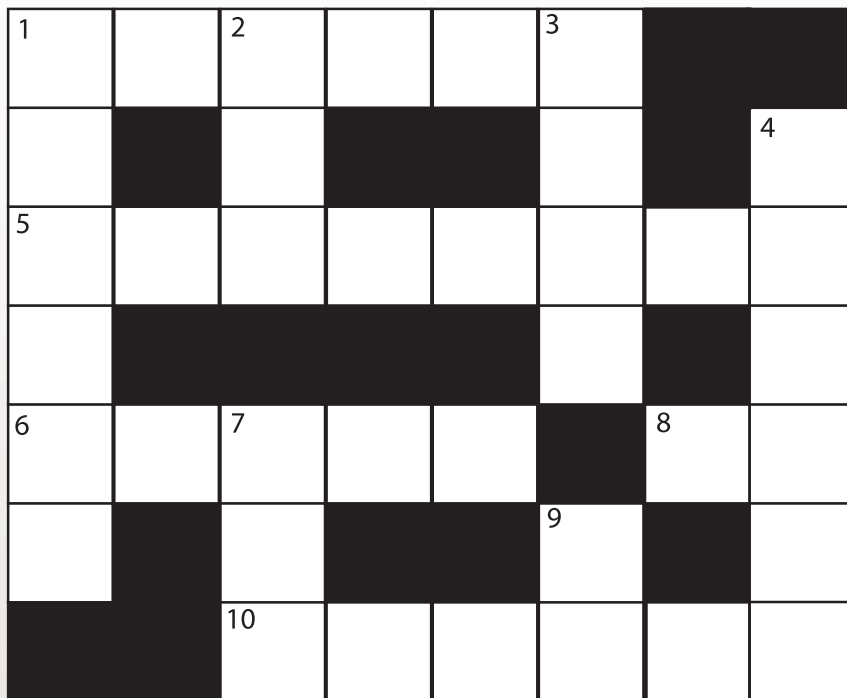
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CROSSWORD PUZZLE

ACROSS

1. Athletics
5. Essential
6. Evening
8. Not down
10. Flat pieces of material

DOWN

1. Snow sport
2. Opposite of "in"
3. Ride on crest
4. Sides of hills
7. Big amount
9. Otherwise

Puzzle courtesy of metrocreativeconnection.com

WINTER WORD FIND

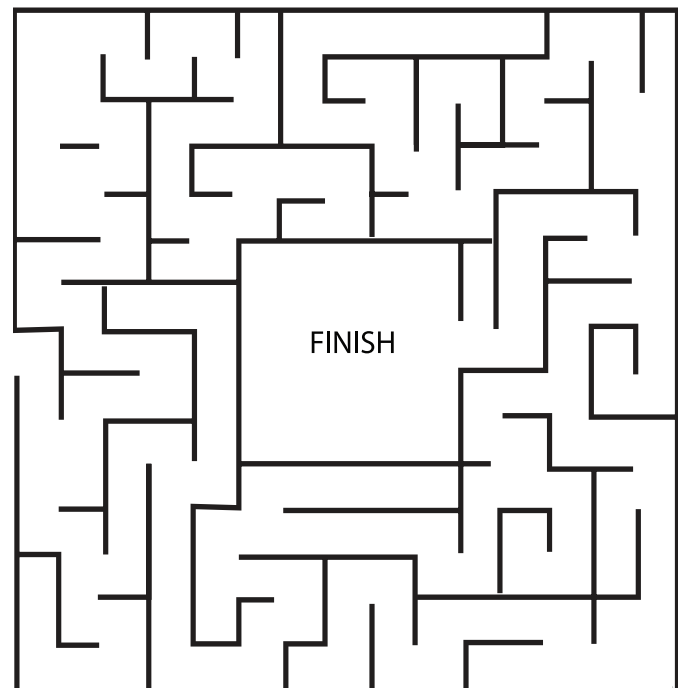
Find the words hidden in the puzzle.

BLANKET	COLD	HAT	SOUP
BLUSTERY	FIREPLACE	SLEDDING	WARMTH
COCOA	GLOVES	SNOW	WINTER
N C T C P S S Z Y F V E			
J N O Y I E L B X I E T			
J L F C V T L K Q R D U			
D A T O O U A Z Q E W R			
Y H L E S A L H L P H P			
S G G T K H O H N L R S			
U J E A Z N P P X A E N			
Y R X G J O A I L C T O			
Y G N I D D E L S E N W			
W A R M T H P O B U I E			
P U O S H Z Z F R Q W W			
L R C O J G R I W G B B			

Word Find courtesy of metrocreativeconnection.com

MAZE CRAZE

Can you find your way through the maze?



Maze Craze courtesy of metrocreativeconnection.com

Crossword Puzzle Answers: Across 1. Sports 5. Integral 6. Night 8. Up 10. Boards Down 1. Skiing 2. Out 3. Surf 4. Slopes 7. Gob 9. Or

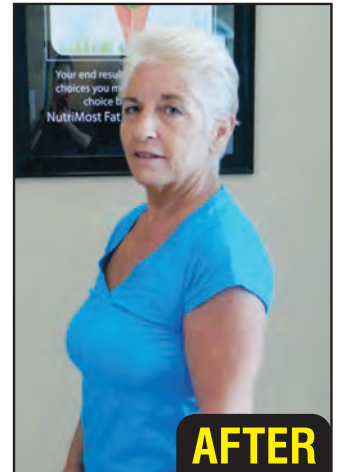
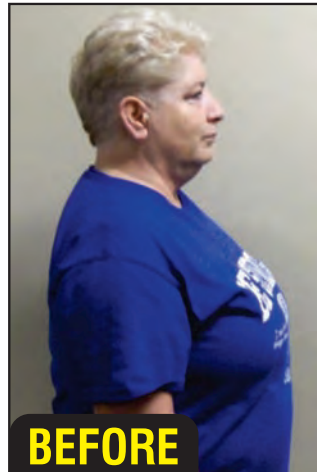
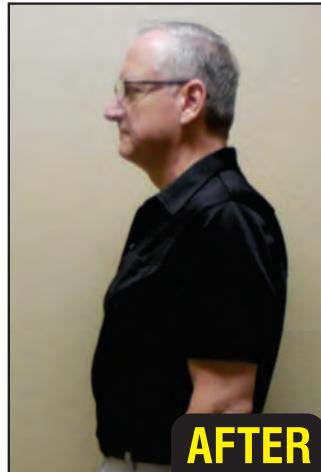
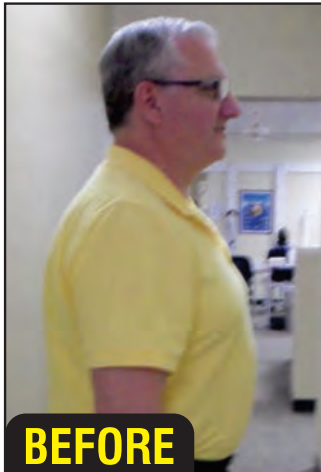
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