Hear ye, hear ye! It’s been confirmed! The dragons will once again be showing their own mysterious and unique selves on our own Palatlakaha River! To commemorate their return, the Dragon Boat Club of Hawthorne will be presenting its 4th annual DRAGONS ON THE RIVER FESTIVAL on Saturday, March 3, 2018 from 10:00 a.m. until approximately 2:00 p.m. Rain date is Sunday, March 4 from 1:00 to approximately 4:00 p.m.

For those Hawthorne residents who have not experienced the excitement of viewing the illusionary dragons, we welcome you to come to the riverbank on that date. You will not be disappointed by this colorful, exciting and visually interesting spectacle. In past years, the riverbank has been lined with golf carts and all other modes of transportation needed to transport the many eager Hawthorne residents to this eagerly awaited festival. It is anticipated that such will be the situation again this year.

Although it cannot be guaranteed, it is hoped that Hawthorne’s resident manatee – who made a surprise appearance last year – might once again grace us with her presence. Our manatee is a female, you know, and thereby her personal plans are never known in advance. We can only hope.

To review the procedure of the races, there will be three divisions: Men, Women & Mixed. Two clubs will race at a time, the distance from the area of the golf course up to the Dragon Boat Club dock. Starters, timers, race coordinators and a safety boat will be on hand to ensure good organization and safety.
As in the past three festivals, the Dragon Boat Club is encouraging all of the clubs of Hawthorne to form their own race team – or TEAMS - to participate. Clubs should select their festival captain who should then choose 10 of their most dynamic, competitive, and fun-loving people to paddle their club’s boat to glorious victory. Should the captain only be able to recruit 8 or 9 people, members of the Dragon Boat Club will be available to fill up the boat. You can provide your own drummer or one will be provided for you. Helmsmen will be supplied.

Clubs don’t pass up this fantastic opportunity to bring fame and glory to your club and to your team members. Along with the “bragging rights” which automatically come with victory, this year each member of the winning team in each of the three divisions will receive a most enviable 1st Place Award Medal – complete with neck ribbon. A photographer will also be present to make sure that the joy of victory will be forever captured and archived. Club captains should make their members aware of this festival and encourage participation. It’s an event that will not be forgotten due to the team comraderie and good will that will once again be happily experienced …… among your team members as well as among all of the cheering Hawthorne spectators.

Club captains should contact Diane Campbell at 585-455-9686 to advise her of your club’s participation and to receive scheduling information as to the mandatory practice and safety briefing. Diane will be more than happy to answer all of your questions.

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**Pete Hurlburt, HRCA President Urges all Residents to Vote**

Pete Hurlburt has been an HRCA Board Member for four years. He has served the past year as President of the HRCA Board. Hurlburt’s leadership talents were developed during his 30 years in the field of education and school management. The Community has benefited from his sense of organization, his manner of conducting Board meetings, and his interest in finance issues.

As an HRCA leader, he reminds all Hawthorne members that it is their responsibility to become informed on the upcoming ballot issues. Clear explanations of each issue will be presented at each of the Town Hall Meetings in February. The meetings will be held on February 6th at 1:00 PM and February 14th at 10:00 AM. Mark your calendar.

President Hurlburt points to the significant accomplishments of the current Board that allows the Community to move forward. Those accomplishments include the development of a realistic budget, the ongoing development of TV and computer service, the installation of many new homes, the improved language of our rules, regulations and proprietary lease, and the approval of a new guardhouse building.

Pete and his wife Pat have enjoyed retirement here for 15 years. As a family, they understand the importance of having a vote and being able to have a say on Community issues. Pete points out that a cooperative is stronger when every family understands the ballot issues and then conscientiously casts their ballot at election time.

An eye opener fact, Pete reminds us is that if residents fail to vote, it is considered a no vote. He urges all Hawthorne residents to make their views count. **VOTE**
A Bit of History
The Gardens were established in 1976 through the efforts of the late Gerard Frison and a few other active gardeners with Amos Henley as the manager and he was an avid gardener. The Gardens are located where Mr. Henley had a garden plot prior to 1976. The original layout had 74 plots, and there were 41 charter members of the original 41. Some still live in the park and either moved away or departed. The records are not complete but the chairman over the years were: Gerard Frison 1976-77, 1978-83; Charles Carlson 1979; 1980-82 No record; Harold Waterson 1981; Walter Liphardt 1987--88; George Strohsahl 1989-90; Bill Karstetter 1991; Bud Frank 1994-95, 97-98, 2003-04, 2007-08, 2011-12, 2015-16; Jes Murray 1996; Jim Burks 1999-00; Ken Belair 2001-02; Gay Farrington 2004-06, 2009-10; Gary Allen 2013-14, David March 2017.

Since the inception there have been changes. Originally every plot had a chicken wire fence around it to keep the rabbits out. Grass or leaves were used on pathways to keep the weeds down. Water use was restricted due to the small supply line. If more than two hoses were on, there would be no pressure. Rules or instructions were gradually established as guide lines for good gardening as they were years ago. In 1986, a rabbit proof fence was being put in and completed in 1987. The garden took on a new look. No more chicken wire, new corner posts of PVC were put in to mark the plots. Chips were furnished to mulch walkway, a new water line was provided. Shortly after the fence there was a movement to build tennis courts. A gazebo was built between the tennis courts and the garden. A few plots were lost from the garden for the gazebo. Two electrical outlets were installed in the garden in 1993. A pine tree was removed in 1994. Posts and hangers were added. In 1995 the garden group had a successful dinner with the profit used to purchase a light tiller. Shelves were installed in the gazebo. In 1996 we had a spaghetti lunch to pay for some hoses and tools. In 2004 we replaced our wood fence with a chain link fence because the wood fence was starting to rot. In 2015 a rabbit proof fence was put up attached to the existing fence because the rabbits were coming through the fence. Over the years, newcomers have put in gardens, some quit, and others became ardent gardeners. For those who are dedicated, there is nothing like getting good fresh veggies. Submitted by George Wolf
VFW INAUGURAL POKER RUN
FUNDRAISER
SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 24, 2018
9:00 AM TILL NOON

The profits from this event will go to the VFW veteran’s relief fund. Tally Cards will be sold at the clubhouse starting on February 5th through February 24th which is the day of the event. Tally Cards will be sold for $5.00 for a single card or 3 cards for $10.00. You may purchase as many Tally Cards as you wish. Maps to locate the 7 stations and playing rules will be given out the day of the event. Winners will be determined based on the best 5 card hand of 7 cards. Prizes for the event will be $100 for best hand, $75 for second best hand and $50 for third best hand. Participants can start at 9:00 AM once they pick up a map of the seven stations. You have 3 hours to complete the route. You can also start at a later time, so long as you finish by noon. Tally Cards will be checked at the clubhouse at noon and prizes will be awarded after all the Tally Cards have been checked for best hand. If there is a tie, the winner will be decided by the drawing of a single card from a deck of cards that is shuffled just prior to the drawing. The highest card drawn wins. We will have 5 stations throughout the Community and the last two stations will be in the clubhouse. Hot dogs, chips and drinks can be purchased at the clubhouse starting at 11:00 AM

EARTH & WATER EXPO
FEBRUARY 27TH, 10AM TO 1PM
HALL, LEMON/LIME ROOMS

Mark your calendars for our second annual Earth & Water Expo brought to you by the Florida Friendly Landscaping Group in cooperation with the Community Pride and Water Committees. This year’s Expo will be bigger and better, with great environmental speakers, displays, door prizes, handouts, plants and other items available.

A delicious hot lunch will be available for purchase provided by the Dragon Boat Club, which includes homemade chili and soup catered by our own Pauline Dulac.

Our keynote speaker, Steve Turnispeed, is a retired Chemical Engineer, UF/IFAS Master Gardener in Sumter County and a Florida Water Star Accredited Professional. He currently serves as president of The Villages Chapter of the Florida Native Plant Society. He will cover why it is vital that we change our traditional residential landscaping practices to protect our dwindling water resources and the health of our environment using Florida Friendly Landscaping and incorporating some native plants. He will show how to make the conversion that fits in with HOA rules and high aesthetic expectations.

His own yard, in The Villages, was featured in an episode of “Flip My Florida Yard” which aired statewide in 2017. Hopefully Steve will be an inspiration for us as a Community, to start making some small steps in the right direction in our own yards and common areas. Our second speaker will address water issues. Watch your bulletin in February for more details. Free tickets will be handed out in the Hall throughout the month. Hope to see you there. Submitted by Peg Urban
Hawthorne 37th Annual Art and Photography Show

Sponsored by Fine Arts Club

It’s time to get out those brushes, dust off the tools, shine up the lens and get ready for the Annual Art and Photography Show sponsored by the Fine Arts Club. This is a non-juried show and open to everyone in Hawthorne. There are three categories: Framed Painting and Drawings using various mediums-oil, watercolor, charcoal, pastels, pencils, pen and ink or mixed medium; Table Art is defined as carving, pottery, porcelain or sculpture, made of clay, metal, wood, glass and/or fibers; photography may be any combination of color and black and white prints. Unlike the Craft Fair in November which is geared to selling, this is an opportunity for Artisans to showcase their work, however, art work may be listed for sale. Your original works of art and Photography are waiting to be shown to the public.

The application with complete instructions was on your February 2nd clip. Fill them out and place them in the birdhouse located at the Information Center by February 26, 2018. Don’t miss this entertaining afternoon of awesome art and photos, entertainment, refreshments, demonstrations, 50/50 drawing and a raffle for beautiful works of art by our own Hawthorne artists and photographers. It is all free and open to the public so invite your friends. We will see you all on Sunday, March 11th from 1-4 PM.

If you have questions, you may call Diane Bantz at 772-332-1694 or Donna Corcoran at 352-336-5392. Photography questions call Russ Lewis 352-323-3459.

Tickets are $8.00 and sold until February 2nd. Gather your friends – bring your games or cards – pick your game table in advance when you purchase your tickets. Menu: Quiche, salad and fruit with dessert, coffee and tea. 50/50. Come join the fun!

YOU COULD WIN $100.00

How? By using your creative talents. All Hawthorne residents are invited to create and submit a logo design that would represent Club Hawthorne. The winning logo would be a symbol used on Club Hawthorne’s newsletters, letterheads and clothing.

The following factors should be considered in the design:
1. The Florida Climate.
2. The name of the organization.
3. A reference to the 9 council positions
4. The unity of activities that make up Club Hawthorne.
5. The importance of volunteers to Hawthorne.
6. A design that would translate well to black and white.

Designs must be submitted to the Program Office by 4:00 PM on Friday, February 23rd. The designs will be reviewed by a Club Hawthorne Committee. The winning design will be announced at Club Hawthorne’s Appreciation Dinner, April 12, 2018, at which time the $100.00 prize will be awarded to the designer.

HOSPITALITY VALENTINE LUNCHEON & CARD PARTY

Saturday, February 10th from 12 Noon to 3:00 PM
ARCHERY NEWS

The archery range had frequent use since opening. Here are the statistics for the last two years. If you are interested in trying archery, just stop at the range any weekday 9:30-11:30 AM except Thursdays.

Monthly Number of Shooters at range 2016:
APRIL – 53               AUGUST – 13
MAY – 27               SEPTEMBER – 12
JUNE – 22               OCTOBER – 64
JULY – 32               NOVEMBER – 61
DECEMBER – 83
2016 TOTAL 367

Monthly Number of Shooters at range 2017:
JANUARY – 129          JULY – 76
FEBRUARY – 128         AUGUST – 43
MARCH – 162             SEPTEMBER – 6
APRIL – 134            OCTOBER – 38
MAY – 88               NOVEMBER – 72
JUNE – 74               DECEMBER – 67
2017 TOTAL 1027

HEALTH FAIR
TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 20, 2018
10AM-12 NOON IN AUDITORIUM

Hawthorne is having their annual “HEALTH FAIR” in the Auditorium, and we are excited to offer you the opportunity to come and meet the area health facilitators. We will have a variety of different services: assisted living representatives, home health companion services, physicians, orthopedics, vision, nutrition and diabetic products. There will be a variety of screening and testing for hearing, vision and blood pressure. These are just a few of the many services offered to you free of charge. We are expecting over 20 Health-Care Organizations to participate. We will have door prizes and refreshments so please come out.

TAX AIDE
Need help with your income taxes? AARP Certified Tax Counselors will prepare and electronically file your tax return on Mondays, Tuesdays, and Wednesdays at the Hawthorne Marina, starting January 29th and continuing through April 11th, 2018. Appointment hours are 8:00 AM to 12 Noon and tax preparation is by appointment only. Our reservation line, (352) 360-6219 is now open to take your reservation. Please leave a local phone number so that we can call you back. Starting January 29th, you may also make a future reservation by visiting the Marina in person during tax preparation hours. You do not have to be a member of AARP to take advantage of this free service.

We encourage you to make your reservations as early as you can, particularly those with simple returns. Reservation slots fill up quickly as tax filers with more complicated returns make their reservations. We also encourage you to file (even if you don’t have to) just to be sure your identity has not been stolen.

A complete list of required filing documents for 2017 is listed below and is also available on our website, along with the Intake and Interview sheet (Form 13614-C). You can download, fill out on your computer, print and bring the Intake and Interview forms to your appointment. Both the list of required documents and Intake and Interview Sheets are available on the Information Center. You must fill out a new Intake/Interview sheet each year prior to our preparing your taxes. To reach our website, go to aarphawthorne.org, then click on “Our Services” and then AARP Tax-Aide.

Documents needed for your 2017 tax preparation:
1. Government issued picture ID (a driver’s license will suffice).
2. Your Tax Records envelope with your 2016 electronically filed federal and
state returns and other tax documents.

3. Social Security Cards for taxpayers and all dependents, or a copy of the cards. An Individual Taxpayer Identification Number (ITN) assignment letter may be substituted for you, your spouse and/or your dependents if you do not have a Social Security Number.

4. Birth dates for you, your spouse and dependents on the tax return.

5. Proof of Health Care Insurance documents with the Affordable Health Care Act
   a. Medicare or Medical Insurance Card
   b. Form 1095-A, B, or C, Affordable Health Care Statements
   c. Government Issued Exemption
   d. Health Insurance Coverage Information

6. Unemployment Compensation Statements

7. 1099INT Interest Statements

8. 1099DIV Dividend Statements

9. 1099R Pension and Annuity Income Statements

10. W-2 Employer-Reported Income Statement

11. W-2G Gambling Winnings Withholding Statement

12. 1099Misc All Miscellaneous Income Statements

13. 1099B All Stock, Bond or Mutual Fund sales including
    a. Date of Purchase
    b. Date of Sale
    c. Cost or Basis of Stock/Mutual Fund/Bond Purchase
    d. Sale Price of Stock/Mutual Fund/Bond Sales

14. Form 8606 Nondeductible IR's

15. Totals paid for daycare provider and the daycare provider's tax identifying number.

16. New Vehicle Sales Tax information

17. Residential Energy Credit information

18. Federal Estimated Income tax forms

19. For taxpayers filing itemized deductions, receipts for Real Estate Taxes, Medical Health Insurance and Long-Term Care premiums. Charitable Contributions, and Mortgage interest are required. To minimize the tax preparation time, itemized deductions must be summarized and totaled by the taxpayer prior to starting the return. Mileage for both Medical and Charitable Activities must also be summarized and totaled by the taxpayer.

20. If you want your refund to be directly deposited, or any tax due directly withdrawn, you must provide a blank check for routing and account number verification.

Please note that we do not do state returns.

Please note: We electronically file tax returns and both spouses must sign the required forms on the married-filing joint return.

MORE TRASH TALK
Did you know that since 2013, we have spent $9,000 for our in-ground trash containers, and our 2018 budget will have an additional $26,000 as a line item of their annual repair and replacement? That is a total of $120,000 that we will have spent unnecessarily. We had an opportunity at the 2014 annual meeting to change the proprietary lease to delete the requirement of providing the in-ground trash containers, but it was voted down. The vote in 2016 was barely defeated. The timing seems right to consider the change again this year! Since that time, 670 members have requested and had delivered a free, covered, wheeled trash container provided by Lake County. If you have
not requested a free, covered, wheeled trash container, you still have time to place your name on the list at the Information Center in the Dan Gorden Hall.

At the annual Members Meeting on March 15, 2018, you will be given the opportunity to vote to change our Proprietary Lease, by eliminating the costly requirement of providing in-ground trash containers. It is time to conserve our financial resources when we have a free alternative available to us. It is time for those of you who still have not ordered your free wheeled container to join our 670 members who have already made the switch. You can do this. It is easy. Just vote to delete the in-ground trash containers in the Proprietary Lease.

Hawthorne’s “Artists of the Month” are Eileen Siegel & Jane Sackman. Be sure to visit the Library where our artist of the month is featured. The artist is also on HTV98 on the first Friday of the month.

A New Year’s Resolution that’s easy to keep
Giving 3 hours of your time in 2018 for a rewarding experience staying with a shut-in resident while their 24/7 caregiver spouse has some relaxing time away. Commit to only once in 2018!!!! Community Service Connection (CSC) already has volunteers who do this on a regular basis and they sometimes need a break also. There is a great need for this service in Hawthorne.

Please consider joining our CSC Brigade of Hawthorne Helpers. To volunteer, call Gail Fuller (706) 528-7461 or email ken-gail@live.com.

February Dates to Remember
1 – Club Hawthorne Council Meeting
3 – Community Breakfast Sponsored by Ceramics & Lapidary
3 – Orchestra Concert
6 – Town Hall Meeting
12 – Maintenance Day
14 – Town Hall Meeting
15 – HRCA Board Meeting
15 – Club Hawthorne Council Group Meeting
17 – Safety Seminar
18 – Concert Series
19 – HRCA Holiday
20 – Health Fair
23 – Sox & Boots
25 - Camping Club Ice Cream Social
27 – FL Friendly Landscaping Water Expo

HAWTHORNE HIGHLIGHTS
Hawthorne at Leesburg
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Note to readers: Log into the Hawthorne website to view and read the Highlights. All the photos are in color!