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ministry please contact Diane @ 772-664-2231.

Our Men as always meet the first Saturday of the month @ 8:00 AM at the church for "Work Day". Thank you Men for all that you do. Don't be shy come join us. If not, we'll see you Sunday morning. Our regular Church service starts @ 10:00 A.M. For more information on any of these activities, or to join us in Baptist fellowship, call 772-664-2231 and leave your name and phone number. Come on out and meet some great caring people.

Mike Gavigan

Senior Assistance for Micco

It is with great pleasure that I write this first article for the Barefoot Bay Tattler as President of Helping Seniors, a non profit whose mission is to inform, educate, and help connect seniors and those who care for them to available resources. Many years ago I contributed to the Tattler as Executive Director of the Brevard Alzheimer's Foundation when we built the Weinberg dementia care center in Barefoot Bay. So, I am well aware of the need for Micco residents to be informed of senior issues and programs.

Unfortunately, south Brevard has not always gotten its fair share of the elder care services provided by publicly-funded agencies in central and north Brevard. It is much easier to say there is not enough to go around, another to be willing to fight for equality throughout the county. What is needed is a better advocacy machine to promote senior needs throughout Brevard. To fill this gap, we founded Helping Seniors in 2011.

Helping Seniors is primarily an information program. Go to www.Helpingseniorsofbrevard.org to see what we are doing to raise awareness of the resources available in Brevard for seniors. We also have an information specialist who helps connect callers to programs of assistance. Where we differ from others is that we listen carefully to callers and follow up to ensure that help has been received. Although not every problem can be resolved, we do return each call and can usually point the person in the right direction.

Many know that I started a radio show in 2000. That same show continues today as "Helping Seniors", broadcast every Thursday at 1 PM on WMEL 1060 AM. We produce six new television shows monthly, airing on Channel 499 at 8:30 AM, 4:30 PM, and 5 PM Monday through Friday, and on channel 199 at 7 PM on Monday, 6:30 PM on Tuesday, and 7:30 PM on Thursday. Our monthly columns appear in Hometown News, Al Dia Today, Ebony News Today, Spotlight Magazine, Senor Scene Magazine (with 8-page newsletter insert), and now the Barefoot Bay Tattler. All programs are archived on our web site.

The assistance is there, but people must be made aware of it. Consider for a moment the number of widows of WWII veterans who live in the Micco area and have not remarried. Most do not know that they could be receiving financial assistance from Veterans Aid and Attendance. This is just one example of the helpful things we post on our web site and discuss in our monthly columns. If you need help or want to be on our advocacy council, call our information specialist, Kay Keyser, at 321-473-7770. If she is busy, please leave a message for the call will be returned shortly. All calls are logged on three computers so we will not lose your call.

I recently appeared before the Brevard Community Development Block Grant Program requesting funds to expand our awareness program southward. At the meeting a Board member, also a Micco resident, commented on the need for more information in the Micco area. He asked why we did not publish in the Barefoot Bay Tattler, and I told him we would be doing just that. It is my pleasure to again connect with the Micco community and hope you will visit us at www.Helpingseniorsofbrevard.org or call Kay at 321-473-7770.

Joe Steckler, President
Helping Seniors of Brevard

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Obituaries

Ronald G. Nicol

Ronald G. Nicol, 83, of Barefoot Bay, died June 8, 2016. Arrangements by Ammen Family Cremation & Funeral Care, Palm Bay, 321-724-2224.



Lorraine Kelly Vanikiotis

Lorraine Kelly Vanikiotis entered into eternal peace with the Lord on June 24th, 2016 at the age of 83.

She was born in NYC, graduated Julia Richman HS, and was a legal secretary on Wall Street and Long Island for many years. Lorraine was a resident of Massapequa, NY, from 1955 to 2014, when she became a full time resident of Barefoot Bay, Florida.

She also was a member of the Barefoot Bay Irish club and tennis club for many years, and was formerly a member of the Ancient Order of Hibernians in Massapequa. Lorraine attended St. Luke's Catholic Church in Florida and St. Martin of Tours in Amityville while she resided in NY.

She is survived by her loving life partner, Joseph O'Keefe, daughters, Karen Dove (Rick), Diane Carpentieri, Kim Vanikiotis and Lisa Herbert (Tim) and grandchildren, Jason Carpentieri; Michael and Lauren Zinsmeister, and several great-grandchildren.

She was preceded in death by her husband, Peter, and daughter, Laura, as well as her brother, William Kelly and parents, Dorothy and William Kelly.

The family requests in lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made in her honor to: Nana's House (helping neglected, abused, needy or abandoned children) P.O. Box 500885, Malabar, FL 32950

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