

Home of the Month



July's "Home of the Month" is awarded to Anna Antonacci at 40 Flores Dr. Her special touches and green thumb have given her well-cared-for home great "curb appeal". Congratulations on being named July's "Home of the Month."

Photo of the Month



This beautiful sunset over the North Basin was taken by Paul Krupinski in May.

Meet Your New Neighbors

By Cindy Shaw

You may recognize these faces as two that you've seen before. They are **Bill, Jr. and Lorraine McCarthy** of 2808 Trinidad Way. They will be part-time residents from Hertford, NC. Bill's father and mother bought the house in 2007 after renting in the park since 1990, so Bill Jr. was very familiar with Tropic Isles and had been coming down to the park himself since 2016. When his father passed away at 104 years old, Bill and Lorraine continued to share the home with his five siblings and eventually purchased it from them after retiring. Bill is an Army veteran serving in Viet Nam. He worked at the local VA as Director of Materials Management for 35 years. His father also worked at another VA so their time overlapped, but at different locations. Lorraine worked as a nurse in general medical surgery, pediatrics, and lastly, in long-term care for 25+ years.



Bill and Lorraine have 2 children—Christine (50) and Todd (55). They have 5 grandchildren—Ashley (23), Janson (13), Nicholas (12), and twins Michael and Madison (8).

In her free time, Lorraine enjoys gardening, reading, and home remodeling. Bill enjoys boating, golfing, and doing community service to help others back home. He also considers himself a handyman and enjoys working on various projects. Please give Bill and Lorraine your very best Tropic Isles' welcome as new residents of Tropic Isles.

All the way from Bethel, Pennsylvania are **Hank (Henry), Sherri, and their son, Andrew Correll**, who will be our new, part-time neighbors at 106 Del Rio Dr. Hank and Sherri also have another son, Hank III (37),



and are blessed with one granddaughter, Celine, who arrived on *(continued on page 3)*

Thought for the Day

HATE has 4 letters but so does LOVE.
ENEMIES has 7 letters but so does FRIENDS.
LYING has 5 letters but so does TRUTH.
CRY has 3 letters but so does JOY.
NEGATIVITY has 10 letters but so does POSITIVITY.
LIFE is 2-sided. Choose the better side of it.

Starfish Hunt

Can you find me hiding somewhere inside?



What's Happening in Tropic Isles

Residents joined Pat Brazil to "plant" flags in the Flag Garden at the Yacht Club on May 25 for Memorial Day. They were Steve Tourtilotte, Rick, Dan, and John Brazil.



More houses were demolished and some new houses will be arriving.



2854 Trinidad Way



2856 Trinidad Way

New Employee at the Marina

By Rick Kropp

We've added a fifth employee at the Marina. His name is Joe "Bokey" Bokar. He goes by "Bokey" which he's carried as a nickname since his days with ODOT in Ohio. I'll be taking time off for shoulder replacement surgery and he'll be working a couple days a week and vacation fill-in, when needed. I had worked with Joe at Freedom Boat Club a number of years ago and he's a perfect fit for Tropic Isles. He knows how to handle boats and has great customer service skills. Please welcome Joe "Bokey" to Tropic Isles Marina.



Fish On!

Doug Woulf went fishing in late May and caught 3 trout (the limit) by 8:30 AM. This beauty at 24" was caught off Rattlesnake Key. Great job!



(More photos on back page)

Tropic Isles

1503 28th Ave. West, Palmetto, Florida 34221

The Office is open from 9 AM to 3 PM. The Office will be CLOSED during the lunch hour from 12-1 PM. Other than office hours, your call will be forwarded to a live answering service. You may call the regular office phone number at any hour of the day or night for urgent matters. For emergencies, dial 911.

Barbara McEvoy, General Manager

Robin Emanuel, Resident Services

Thomas Tonich, Maintenance Manager

Brayden Boatwright, Maintenance Tech

Rick Kropp, Marina

Office (941) 721-8888 • Fax 941-729-0687

Marina 941-729-8128

www.TropicIsles.net

Tropic Isles Co-op

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Tropic Isles Breezes

Published monthly and delivered to all residents

Editor: Cindy Shaw

**Send photos and articles to Tlbreezes1@aol.com
Deadline the 10th of each month for the following month.
The inclusion of advertising contained in this newsletter
supports the publication costs, but does not constitute
an endorsement by the Tropic Isles Co-Op, nor does the
content of articles submitted by individual residents and
those representing clubs and activities.**

Letter From The Editor



I wish you enough sun to light up your days and enough rain that you appreciate the sun. Enough joy to strengthen your soul. Enough pain that you can appreciate life's small moments of happiness.

We are in the midst of summer here in Tropic Isles where the sun is hot, the showers are plenty, and the warm afternoon sea breezes provide us with some respite from the daytime heat.

Many of us spend the better part of the year looking forward to the summer months. The sunny weather inspires vacation plans, outdoor activities, summer festivals, and trips to the pool or beach. With so many activities packed in, it's easy to overlook things. One of the most important things to remember when planning to be outside in the summer is how to protect yourself from ultraviolet (UV) rays.

July is UV Safety Month. As we enjoy the beautiful summertime weather, we need to keep in mind several issues about the effects of the sun's ultraviolet radiation. We need sunshine. It helps with our body's production of Vitamin D and has been tied to issues of depression in some people who don't get enough. However, overexposure to the sun can lead to a variety of health risks. You may be surprised about some of the specific dangers of sun exposure and how you can protect yourself.

There are two main types of UV light, UVA and UVB. UVB is what gives you your sunburn and is responsible for some types of skin cancers. UVA rays are the ones that can make the skin leathery and wrinkly in appearance and these also can contribute to certain skin cancers. (An easy way to remember: "A" is for aging and "B" is for burning). Both types are harmful to you in different ways. UV light can be harmful to the skin as many of us know who have been badly sunburned. However, it can also be very bad for our eyes. Eye structures such as the cornea, retina, and lens are damaged from UV radiation, so protecting your eyes is vital. Wear your sunscreen and use good eye protection. Have a wonderful summer!



Meet Your New Neighbors

(continued from page 1)

January 19, 2025. Hank is retired from Poultry Live-Production Management which he did for 37 years. Sherri was a stay-at-home mom and ran a house cleaning business for 20 years.

Sherri enjoys the beach and cross-stitching. Hank loves saltwater fishing. He has a restored 1970 Silverline boat which he uses for inshore and offshore fishing and crabbing in Delaware Bay. They enjoy eating crabs, Maryland-style. Andrew loves music, dancing, watching movies, and Wii Bowling. The Corrells have friends who visited here because they had family close by and suggested that Hank and Sherri might check out Tropic Isles as a place for their winter retreat. Hank and Sherri found a home they liked and purchased the home on Del Rio Dr. They share their home with Teardrop, a 13-year-old calico cat. Please give a warm, Tropic Isles welcome to Hank, Sherri, Andrew, and Teardrop. We know you'll like it here!

Updates from the Manager's Desk

Dear Residents of Tropic Isles,

Please remember the following regarding our pool and hot tub:

Scum Line:

The scum line around the perimeter of the pool is caused by body oils and sunscreen. It is not caused by chemical imbalance or any other reasons. The only way to remove the scum line is with a tile soap which contains muriatic acid. The tiles are scrubbed by the pool company, but I'm told that we should not be surprised if the line returns because of failure to shower before entering the pool. This is the most common problem in all commercial pools.

That is why there is a rule in place that everyone is **REQUIRED** to rinse in the shower before entering the pool or hot tub. This is not just a Tropic Isles' rule, it is a **Health Department Rule**. All you need to do is rinse off and quickly rub your skin to remove any oily residue.

Beverages:

The **State Health Department** rules also regulate food, beverages, and glass containers as follows:

Food and beverages are prohibited in the pool and on the wet deck area, except:

- Commercially-bottled water in plastic bottles is allowed on the pool wet deck for pool patron hydration. (NOTE: the pool wet deck is defined as the four-foot-wide unobstructed pool deck area around the outside of the pool water perimeter, curb, ladders, handrails, diving boards, diving towers, pool slides, waterfalls, water features, starting blocks, planters, or lifeguard chairs.)

- All glass containers and products are **PROHIBITED** in the fenced pool area or within 50 feet of an unfenced pool, except glass bottles of liquor used only by bartenders in a permitted swim-up bar. We do not have a swim-up bar.

Pool Chemistry:

Our pool and spa chemicals are monitored by a chemical automation system. This system continuously monitors and adds chemicals as needed to maintain optimal water quality. Again, the scum line issue is NOT a result of pool chemistry.

Debris in pool:

The pool company discovered several coins and a screw from the bottom of the pool on one of their visits. PLEASE make sure your pockets are empty before entering the pool. These items, if left on the new surface, will cause staining.

Enforcement of Rules:

The rules are in place for the safety and enjoyment of all users of the pool, and to comply with State Law. This is an adult community and everyone needs to comply with the rules. I'm sure none of you want to live in a community with extreme rules enforcement and I do not want to manage such a community. However, if the rules cannot be followed by everyone, changes will need to be made to how we manage things.

Let's all remember that we are very lucky to live and work in the most wonderful community in Manatee County. We've come through a catastrophic loss, we worked together, and we are still standing. We need to appreciate what we have and keep working together as neighbors.

Bobbie

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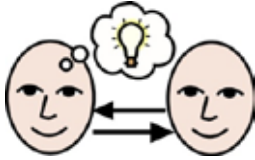
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Summer Office Hours

The Office hours are **9:00 AM to 3:00 PM**. The Office will be **CLOSED** during the lunch hour from 12-1.

Idea To Ponder....



Sure, there is something worse than going around in circles.
It's going in a straight line that's pointed straight down.

Attention All Residents

LAST CALL

Work on next year's Tropic Isles 2026 Resident Phone Directories is coming to a close. **The deadline to get your changes, additions, or corrections to us for the 2026 directory is JULY 15, 2025.**

Any Co-op directory changes, corrections, or additions must be sent to tibreezes1@aol.com or by calling/texting Cindy Shaw at 608-212-8967 in order to be included in next year's Resident Phone Directory. Any TIPOA changes should be sent to cfaulkner2@tampabay.rr.com or by calling/texting Elaine at 941-723-9591.

RESIDENTS . . . It is important to have your current northern address and contact number on record with the Office in case they need to reach you. Make sure to include your email address so you can be placed on the "Mail Chimp" notification list for important information related to Tropic Isles while you are away. You will be asked to designate a **Local Emergency Contact Person**—someone you trust to have your key in case of emergencies such as fire, flood, hurricane, water leaks, boat issues, etc. and a **Contact Person** for maintaining your yard while you are away. **NEW! MOST IMPORTANTLY**, please designate a **Family Contact**—a member of your family that can make decisions regarding health needs, living concerns, etc.

You can obtain an Information Form from the Office, print a copy from the website, or one is provided for you in this issue of the Breezes. We'd like to give a special thank you to all those people who take the time to update their information. We can only be as accurate as you help us to be.

Cindy Shaw and Elaine Faulkner

CORRECTIONS FOR THE DIRECTORY

Any corrections or additions will be posted here in the monthly newsletters until the 2026 Resident Directory is printed. Please make these changes to your directory.

Resident Listings:

ALLINA, Fred & Ilene

Add northern address
4700 N. 17th St., Ozark, MO 65721

BURBIE, Dale & Jan

Remove 941-721-1847

LESHER, Robert
& **TATE**, Stephanie

NEW Add 1309 28th Ave. Dr.,
717-304-1984, relesh001@gmail.com

Volunteers Needed! Please Help!



WE WANT YOU

We have a need for volunteers in the following positions:

- **Zoom Moderators** for Co-op Board Meetings. Contact the Office. Must be a Shareholder. We will train.
- **Bingo volunteers** needed to work on a team. **A Coordinator and Treasurer are needed. If you are interested in either position, please contact Wendy Verstringhe at wendyjean609@gmail.com. Bingo will NOT go forward without volunteers.**
- **Coordinator of Bunco**, set your own day and time, contact Darlene Mallory for info.
- **Coordinators needed for Neighbors Helping Neighbors**, contact Bev MacKenzie.
- **Coordinator** to form a **Holiday Lighting Committee** to decorate the buildings for the holidays. Contact Wendy Verstringhe, if interested.

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Patriotism—What Is It?

Patriotism is defined by Webster's Dictionary as: *Love of country; devotion to the welfare of one's country; the virtues and actions of a patriot; the passion which inspires one to serve one's country.*



Many think of patriotism as a natural and appropriate expression of attachment to the country in which we were born and raised, and of gratitude for the benefits of life on its soil, among its people, and under its laws. They also consider patriotism an important component of our American identity.

Patriotism is **not** love of country, if by "country" you mean scenery. Almost every country has pretty collections of rocks, water, and stuff that people grow and eat. Surely, patriotism cannot mean giving one's life for a river or a mountain range.

Patriotism is not blind trust in anything our leaders tell us or do. Patriotism is not simply showing up to vote.

Waving the flag or standing for the pledge of allegiance can be an outward sign of patriotism. While it's always fitting to mourn those who lost their lives simply because they resided on American soil, that too does not define patriotism.

Anyone can show patriotism by donating to our troops, celebrating homecomings of our soldiers, celebrating the Fourth of July, and even wearing T-shirts! When people show patriotism, this is them showing love, devotion, and dedication to their country.

People in every country and in all times have expressed feelings of something we call "patriotism," but that just begs the question. What is it, anyway?

Call it freedom. Call it liberty. Call it whatever you want, but it's the basis on which this nation was founded. It's what has defined us as Americans. It makes life worth living, which means it's worth fighting and dying for.

Patriotism is the love of country and willingness to sacrifice for it. Patriotism is in all our hearts. We may not always know it until the call comes upon us. Patriotism brings out compassion, courage, work ethics, and bravery in us all.

The definition of patriotism cannot be defined by a dictionary, but by people. From America's Founding Fathers to today's courageous men and women of our military serving around the world, this thing known as patriotism fills our hearts with the will to protect freedom.

Patriotism has the word "patriot" inside it. "Patriot" means a person who vigorously supports their country and is prepared to defend it against its enemies. A patriot is any man, woman, or child who is prepared to defend their country. I personally think that patriotism is the best thing a country can have--citizens who love their country to such ends they would lay down their life to save it. It is a genuine love for, caring, and understanding of their country, and a willingness to sacrifice for, be appreciative of, and thankful for our great nation.

We celebrate our nation's birthday on July 4th! Let us take time to remember why we do!



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Co-Op Board of Directors' Meetings

The Tropic Isles' Board of Directors usually meet every third Thursday of the month at 9:30 AM in the Auditorium and via Zoom. You will be notified of the meeting via Mail Chimp prior to the meeting and given the Zoom link. The agenda is posted in the box to the left of the front doors at the Auditorium at least 48 hours prior to the meeting. All Shareholders are welcome to attend. Meetings and the agenda will be announced via Mail Chimp prior to the meeting.

The next Co-op Board Meeting is July 17 at 9:30 AM, if needed.

2025-2026 Co-op Board of Directors Emails

Al MacKenzie, President	president@tropicisles.net
Drew Doll, Vice President	vp@tropicisles.net
Dennis Butts, Secretary	secretary@tropicisles.net
Jose Torres, Treasurer	treasurer@tropicisles.net
Dennis Weber, Director 1	director1@tropicisles.net
John Partridge, Director 2	director2@tropicisles.net
Randy Rice, Director 3	director3@tropicisles.net

Zoom Etiquette



Zoom meetings are now a staple in our day-to-day lives. Reliable, easy-to-use video platforms like Zoom have helped to restore the ability to hold meetings during difficult times. The challenges and benefits of Zoom meetings can be much different than in-person meetings. The advantage of virtual meetings is the ability to hold

them almost anywhere and have more people participate from anywhere, but there are dos and don'ts associated with participating in a Zoom meeting.

ZOOM "BEST PRACTICES"

1. You should try to attend the meeting from a quiet area that has a neutral background.
2. Eliminate distractions-- noises (dog barking, dishwasher, voices in the background, TV, etc.) and movement going on around you.
3. Wear proper attire—not your pajamas or go shirtless.
4. Avoid distracting behaviors—ironing, eating, moving around.
5. Don't do private things—brush or floss your teeth, shave, etc.

REMEMBER: THE CAMERA SEES EVERYTHING AND EVERYONE ON ZOOM CAN SEE YOU. While we like to see everyone, you do not have to participate using video to attend a Zoom meeting. You do not have to have your camera on to see what is going on at the meeting either. Another option is to just cover up your camera lens at the top of the screen with a post-it note. If you choose to have your camera on, aim the camera 'straight' at your face (not from a position that looks up your nose) and try to follow the Zoom "best practices".

Just a reminder: In the chat portion of the Zoom meeting, remember to give your name and address when you ask your question. Questions can't be read without that information.

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Cook's Corner



WISCONSIN PARTY BITES

Ingredients You'll Need:

For the Spread:

- 8 oz cream cheese, softened
- 1 cup shredded sharp cheddar cheese (or a blend of cheddar and Monterey Jack)
- 6 slices cooked bacon, crumbled (reserve some for garnish)
- 1/4 cup green onions, finely chopped (plus extra for garnish)
- 1/4 teaspoon garlic powder (optional, for added flavor)
- 1/4 teaspoon smoked paprika (optional, for a smoky kick)

For Serving:

- Crackers (Ritz, butter crackers, or wheat crackers work well)
- Baguette slices
- Carrot sticks, celery sticks, or bell pepper strips (optional, for a lighter option)

Step-by-Step Instructions:

Step 1: Preheat and Prep

1. Preheat your oven to 350°F. Lightly grease a small baking dish (about 8x8 inches or similar size).

Step 2: Mix the Ingredients

1. In a mixing bowl, combine the softened cream cheese, shredded cheddar cheese, crumbled bacon (reserve some for garnish), green onions, garlic powder, and smoked paprika. Stir until evenly mixed.

Step 3: Assemble and Bake

1. Transfer the mixture to the prepared baking dish, spreading it out evenly.
2. Bake for 15–20 minutes, or until the spread is bubbly and the top is lightly golden.

Step 4: Garnish and Serve

1. Remove from the oven and let cool slightly.
2. Sprinkle the reserved crumbled bacon and additional green onions on top for garnish.
3. Serve warm with crackers, baguette slices, or fresh veggies for dipping.



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Friendly Reminders



- If you have corrections or additions to make in the **Resident Phone Directory**, please complete an Information Form with your information. A copy of the form is found in this issue of the Breezes for your convenience. **The deadline to submit changes is July 15, 2025.**
- **ARC (Architectural Review Committee)** approval is needed for any work that is done on the outside of your home, on your dock, or on your lot. ARC application forms are available in the Office and need to be completed to get placed on the ARC agenda. No work should begin on your project until your final approval letter from the Office is received.
- **Remember to sign out at the Office when you leave for any extended period of time.**
- Make sure the Office has your email address to be included in the important **Mail Chimp** notices that go out to residents. You can email the Office at info@tropicisles.net to make that request. Mail Chimp requests must be made **48 hours** in advance and sent to info@tropicisles.net.
- All residents of Tropic Isles Co-op (including private renters) are required to have a background check and be approved by the Co-Op. The Board unanimously approved instituting a \$250.00 penalty for any residents/tenants/renters who do not go through the approval process per the Rules and Regulations. The penalty will be posted to the owner's account.

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People, ages 5 to 95, share what they've discovered about life, love, and other good stuff.

- I've learned that you should make the money before you spend it. –age 48
- I've learned that heroes are the people who do what has to be done when it needs it, regardless of the consequences. –age 77
- I've learned that it's better to be decisive, even if it means I'll sometimes be wrong. –age 51
- I've learned that learning to forgive takes practice. –age 15
- I've learned that you never ask a tire salesman if you need new tires. –age 44
- I've learned that you shouldn't push your luck. Play it safe and move the ladder. –age 79
- I've learned that being a good mother is the best occupation you can ever have. –age 35
- I've learned that my children expect as much from me as I expect from them. –age 51
- I've learned that all women love to get flowers, especially when there's no particular reason. –age 33
- I've learned that it's better not to wait for a crisis to discover what's important in your life. –age 45

Official Co-Op Facebook Group

Have you joined the new "official" **TROPIC ISLES CO-OP, INC.** Facebook group? This is a group created to send communication from Co-Op Management to all residents. The group is limited to current residents of Tropic Isles only. You will be required to input your address when you join. Any requests without an address or requests from non-residents will not be approved.

Submissions to the Breezes Newsletter

Submissions to the Breezes should be sent to Cindy Shaw at tibreezes1@aol.com. The **deadline is the 10th of each month for the following month**. If you are unable to make a submission using email, call/text 608-212-8967 with your request. You can text or email your pictures, but they must be in jpeg format.



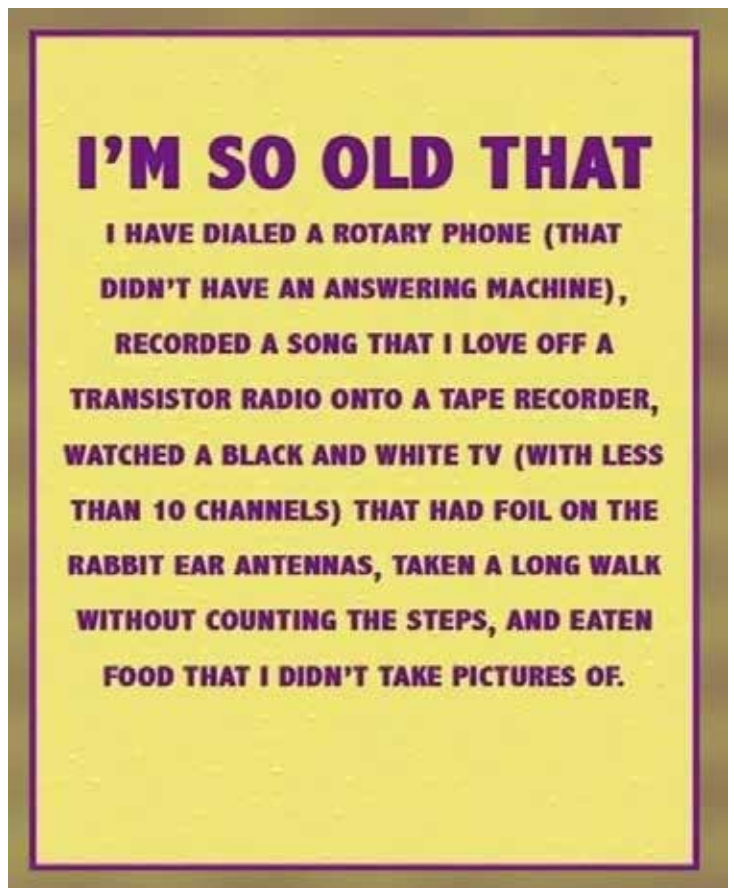
Rules to Teach Your Son or Grandson

1. Never shake a man's hand sitting down.
2. Don't enter a pool by the stairs.
3. The man at the BBQ grill is the closest thing to a king.
4. In a negotiation, never make the first offer.
5. Request the late check-out.
6. When entrusted with a secret, keep it.
7. Hold your heroes to a higher standard.
8. Return a borrowed car with a full tank of gas.
9. Play with passion or don't play at all.
10. When shaking hands, grip firmly and look them in the eye.
11. Don't let a wishbone grow where a backbone should be.
12. If you need music on the beach, you're missing the point.
13. You marry the girl. You marry her family.
14. Be like a duck. Remain calm on the surface and paddle like crazy underneath.
15. Experience the serenity of traveling alone.
16. Never be afraid to ask out the best-looking girl in the room.
17. Never turn down a breath mint.
18. A sport coat is worth 1000 words.
19. Try writing your own eulogy. Never stop revising.
20. Thank a veteran. Then make it up to him.
21. Eat lunch with the new kid.
22. After writing an angry email, read it carefully. Then delete it.
23. Ask your mom to play. She won't let you win.
24. Manners maketh the man.
25. Give credit. Take the blame.
28. Stand up to bullies. Protect those bullied.
27. Write down your dreams.
28. Take time to snuggle your pets. They love you so much and are always happy to see you.
29. Be confident and humble at the same time.
30. If ever in doubt, remember whose son you are and REFUSE to just be ordinary!
31. In all things lead by example, not explanation.



Laughter is the Best Medicine!

- The funeral of the Tupperware inventor has been postponed. They are trying to find the right lid to fit his coffin.
- Once a nurse, always a nurse. No matter what you do, you can never really get out of nursing. It's like the Mafia. You know too much!
- Getting old: I see people my age out there climbing mountains and zip lining and here I am feeling good about myself because I got my leg through my underwear without losing my balance.
- Why are there no losers in a dachshund race? Because they are all wieners!
- What did the buffalo say to his son when he dropped him off at school? Bison.
- I got kicked out of Coffee Hour today because I was wearing a tea-shirt.
- The biggest joke on mankind is that computers have begun asking humans to prove that they aren't robots.
- When a kid says, "Daddy, I want mommy", that's the kid's version of "I'd like to speak to your supervisor."
- When you dream in color, it's a pigment of your imagination.
- To make a long story short, I became an editor.
- I wear memory foam insoles to remember why I walked into the next room.
- Swarms of flying insects threaten town! Police deploy the Swat Team.
- The banana went to the doctor because it wasn't peeling well.
- I'm writing a book about beer. I'm on my 4th draft.



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3

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4

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TRIVIA

Trivia Tidbits

TOTALLY WILD ANIMAL FACTS

- Dogs like squeaky toys because it reminds them of the high-pitched cries of an injured animal and comes from their wolfen origins.
- Dogs don't see the world in black and white. They can see shades of gray, blue, and yellow.
- Dogs don't have sweat glands under their skin. They sweat through their paws. Their tongues also dissipate heat, which is why they pant.
- Dogs have wet noses because it helps them catch more scent molecules and smell better. Dog and cat noses have unique prints, just like our human fingerprints.
- Dogs' noses are 100,000 times more sensitive than ours. They can be trained to predict epileptic episodes, detect changes in blood sugar levels of diabetes, and sniff out breast, bladder, prostate, and skin cancers through human urine. They were also taught to detect COVID in individuals.
- Border collies, the most intelligent dog breed, can understand and recognize up to 200 words.
- Stray dogs in Moscow, Russia ride the subway to get around the city. They recognize specific stops and remember which locations have food.
- The longest a dog ever lived was 29 years and 5 months old. Bluey, an Australian cattle dog, barked from 1910 to 1939.
- The first pit bulls were bred for the express purpose of biting and restraining bulls and then for canine mortal combat. Pit bulls have come a long way. They score 82.3% passing rate on the American Temperament Test Society's dog behavior evaluation.
- What we commonly call a pit bull is specifically an American pit bull terrier. "Pit bull" is also used for American Staffordshire terriers, Staffordshire bull terriers, or any dog that is a mix of the breeds mentioned.

New Feature! Photo Of The Month



Please send me your favorite photo of wildlife or scenery and I will feature at least one photo a month. Include where it was taken and the name of the person taking it. Email it to tibreezes1@aol.com or text it to 608-212-8967. Please send in your favorite nature photo.



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Safety Tip of the Month ---

WET WEATHER DRIVING



Wet season is here in Florida and lasts from May through October, which can make driving conditions more hazardous. Although it might seem like a good idea to turn on your emergency lights while driving in heavy rain, don't do it. **It's illegal to use your emergency lights if your car is moving— and it's dangerous.** "Other drivers now think that your vehicle is stopped and may or may not take evasive actions to avoid your car," said Steven Montiero, with the Florida Highway Patrol. "Meanwhile, you are still moving, but you are telling another driver that your car is stopped in the roadway. You may be causing a crash while you think you are avoiding a crash." What other tips do you need to know about for the wet season?

- **Check your tires.**
- **Avoid cruise control. It's great for dry conditions, but when it's raining, your chances of losing control increase.**
- **Use your headlights when it's raining, but not your high beams. You don't want to blind other drivers, and the extra light could reflect off the rain and reduce your visibility. Remember this: When the windshield wipers are on, your lights should be on.**
- **Slow down and make sure you leave plenty of room for other drivers. Slowing down can be critical to reduce your chances of hydroplaning.** "The second you start to feel that your vehicle is no longer in contact with the road, and you think you need to stop that car, we are telling you to pump the brakes," Montiero said. "There is no reason to slam on your brakes. Pump the brakes until you come to a complete stop."



AFTER-HOURS EMERGENCIES— If you see something that requires immediate attention, (i.e. broken water pipe, red light on the lift station flashing, sewer or electrical issues, etc.) and it can be considered an emergency, but it is after the hours that the Tropic Isles' Office is open, please call **941-721-8888**. This is the **Tropic Isles Answering Service** for after-hours emergencies. You will be connected to an actual person who will place a call to the Manager or Maintenance person on-call to handle the situation. Place this number in your cell phone to keep it handy.

Residents

We wanted to take a moment to remind everyone that the pool, hot tub, the buildings, and all the common areas are for the use and enjoyment of all residents. For your safety, there are surveillance cameras in all of these locations. If you see someone breaking the rules in these areas or trespassing, please note the day and approximate time of the rule infraction and report it to the Office. Taking a picture is always helpful too. Our Manager, Bobbie, will review the tapes and be able to determine who has broken the rules and take the appropriate action.

RESIDENTS ARE STRONGLY ENCOURAGED TO REPORT ANY INFRACTION OF THE COMMUNITY'S RULES AND REGULATIONS TO THE MANAGER. NOTE THE DAY AND TIME OF THE OCCURANCE AND TAKE A PICTURE, IF POSSIBLE. THE INFORMATION IS KEPT STRICTLY CONFIDENTIAL!

Rule of the Month

This is a reminder that the Rules and Regulations are in effect and being enforced. All residents and their guests are expected to know and abide by these rules. If you need a copy of the current Rules and Regulations, you may go to www.tropicisles.net to view or print a copy online.

IX. GUESTS

9.1 Registration

- Residents who have Guests that stay in the Community for more than seventy-two (72) hours/3 days, must notify the Office of all of their Guests on the next business day.
- **Guests under the age of fifty-five (55) may stay in the Dwelling provided the permitted Residents are then in occupancy and further provided such stay is less than thirty (30) days in any twelve (12) month period.**
- The Association's facilities are primarily for the use and enjoyment of the Residents.

9.2 Subletting/Sub-occupancy

- The minimum period of a sublet shall be for thirty (30) days.
- Anyone staying in the Community for thirty (30) days or more will be considered a Resident and must meet the Association's requirements for residency including a background and credit check. **(SEE APPENDIX 5: SALE OR SUBLETTING OF A DWELLING OR RV LOT)**
- Anyone staying in the Community for less than thirty (30) days is considered a Guest.

9.3 Restrictions to Operate Golf Carts

- Golf carts are NOT to be operated by children under the age of sixteen (16) throughout the Community.
- The operation of golf carts must comply with state laws and local ordinances.

9.4 Resident's Responsibility

- Guests are entirely (financially and legally) the responsibility of their host Resident and must comply with all of the Association's Rules and Regulations.
- Residents will be responsible for violations or damage caused by their Guests, regardless of whether or not they are present at the time of the violation or damage.
- All Guests under the age of eighteen (18) must be accompanied by an adult to use any of the recreational facilities in the Yacht Club or Auditorium.
- Consideration for the rights of others is encouraged and common courtesy is expected.

Calling All Fishermen and Women!



Would you like to share a picture of your "catch of the day" from the nearby waters around Tropic Isles? Send it to tibreazes1@aol.com and it can be published in the next issue of the Breezes. Please include a sentence or two about where it was caught, size, and what type of fish it is!

Here are Some Friendly Reminders to Help to Make Tropic Isles a Happy and Stress-Free Place to Be!

Pool Etiquette

If you enjoy spending time at the pool, please remember these few simple things:

The State Health Department requires all persons using a public pool or hot tub/spa to shower immediately before entering the pool and hot tub/spa.

The State Health Department rules also regulate food, beverages, and glass containers as follows: Food and beverages are prohibited in the pool and on the wet deck area, except:

- Commercially-bottled water in plastic bottles is allowed on the pool wet deck for pool patron hydration. (NOTE: The pool wet deck is defined as the four-foot-wide unobstructed pool deck area around the outside of the pool water perimeter, curb, ladders, handrails, diving boards, diving towers, pool slides, waterfalls, water features, starting blocks, planters, or lifeguard chairs.) **NO food or beverages are allowed IN the pool or hot tub/spa, OR within 4 feet of the water.**

- All glass containers and products are prohibited in the fenced pool area or within 50 feet of an unfenced pool. **NO GLASS CONTAINERS!**

Other reminders to help make your time at the pool enjoyable for everyone:

- **Children's hours at the pool are 11 AM to 1 PM and 4 PM to 6 PM.**
- Please dispose of the cans, plastic bottles, and trash in the receptacles provided for you.
- If you are a smoker, please smoke in the designated "SMOKE BREAK AREA" outside of the fence.
- Please remember to put down the pool umbrellas when you are through using them and return your noodles and water weights to their proper location. Leave no trace.
- Use a towel to protect the chairs from sunscreen.
- Dogs, golf carts, bikes, smoking, and glass are NOT allowed in the pool deck area.
- Remember to be considerate and respectful of others.
- Please keep your music and conversation levels LOW so as not to disturb others.
- **Disorderly conduct, public intoxication, and profane language will NOT be tolerated.**

Remember to Shower Before Entering the Pool



The **State Health Department** and our Rules and Regulations 7.5 Shower state:

The State Health Department requires all persons using a public pool or hot tub/spa to shower immediately before entering the pool and hot tub/spa.

This is not just Tropic Isles' rule 7.5 Shower, it is a Health Department Rule. All you need to do is rinse off and quickly rub your skin to remove any oily residue. It keeps the pool and hot tub/spa cleaner. No shampoo or soaps are permitted in the pool or hot tub/spa deck area.

The shower at the pool is located near the fence on the west side of the pool near the boat docks.

Pet Owners

Dog owners—please pick up after your pets **no matter where you are**. This includes 28th Ave. W. along the fence. Be respectful of your neighbor's property and don't allow your dog to urinate on your neighbor's garbage/recycle cans, vehicle tires, flower pots, lawn decorations, etc.



Cat owners—Please do not allow your cats to roam free. Do not put out food for any feral cats because cats become food for coyotes and food attracts other unwanted critters (raccoons, foxes, rodents, opossums, etc.).

We all love our pets, but please be respectful of your neighbors, so that your pet does not become a nuisance to others. When your dog's gotta go, your dog's gotta go, but please take it with you and leave no trace.





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Did You Know?



- That there may be two 3' alligators living in the Sewage Filtration Pond across from Tropic Isles? Beware when you walk your dogs along the fence on 28th Ave.
- That medical appliances are available for use by the residents. We have wheel chairs, rollators, crutches, toilet and shower seats. Please contact Nancy Cobb for assistance.
- That we encourage you to follow the "See something, say something, do something" slogan if you see someone not following the rules or trespassing in the park. Take a picture and report it to the Office AND call the Palmetto Police 941-721-2000 Ext. 4.
- **IF YOU ARE LEAVING FOR THE SEASON, PLEASE PREPARE YOUR HOME FOR HURRICANE SEASON (June 1-November 30) BY REMOVING EVERYTHING IN YOUR YARD THAT COULD BECOME A MISSILE IN STRONG WINDS AND SECURING ANYTHING THAT YOU KEEP STORED IN YOUR CARPORT OR OUTSIDE YOUR HOME.**
- Please remember to update your current information with the Office before leaving for the season. There is a form in this issue of the Breezes to do so.
- **REMEMBER TO SIGN OUT AT THE OFFICE BEFORE YOU LEAVE.**
- Golf carts must use their headlights when traveling throughout the park for safety at night!
- Follow the SLOW-Manatee Zone signs in the area. Manatees are on the move now that the water has warmed up. It is against the law to harass, feed, water, or touch a manatee.
- You can access the Breezes newsletter over the summer by visiting the Tropic Isles portal at www.tropicisles.net under the "Residents"—"Breezes Newsletters" heading.
- You can send pictures to be included in the Breezes newsletter of your summer events by texting them to 608-212-8967 or emailing them to tibreezes1@aol.com. Don't forget to send your pictures to f134221@aol.com to be posted on the Tropic Isles Facebook page.
- Boat slips are available for rent. Check with Rick at the Marina for availability.
- You can call Irene Casey from the Caring Team if you have any health-related needs.

~~Special Thanks~~

- Special thanks to all those **residents that follow the rules** at the pool to make it an enjoyable place for everyone to be.
- Thanks to the **ARC Committee and 3-COR** who work hard to approve all applications for work to be done on residents' homes and yards in TI on a timely basis.
- Thanks to **Rick Kropp and the Marina Crew** for taking care of the visiting and resident boaters with a smile.
- A "BIG" thank you to **Irene Casey and the Summer Coffee Crew** for providing a pleasant social experience for the residents.
- Thanks to all the **residents who take the time to update their personal information** with the Office, Elaine, and myself for the 2026 Resident Phone Directory.
- Thank you to all the **Summer Block Captains** who deliver the Breezes newsletters to the residents in the heat of the summer months.



Looking For A Rental?



I am offering to act as a Rental Liaison for Tropic Isles. I will simply match homeowners to perspective renters and renters to homeowners wishing to rent. Communication only, no charge. Please send me your request via email to jwfreeman@fuse.net or call/text 859-750-2617 to Jackie Freeman.



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MARINA STAFF

Rick Kropp
Dean Brown
Mike Biggins
Jerry Quesenberry
Joe Bokar



Kayak Launch Use Reminders

If you are using the Tropic Isles' kayak launch, please make sure to do the following:

1. Read the directions if you are not sure how to use the launch.
 2. Make sure you sign out and erase your name when you return.
 3. When you lower the ramp, do not undo both ends of the rope. Undo one side, lower the ramp, and then cleat it off.
 4. If no one else is signed out when you return, please lift the ramp out of the water.
 5. If the ramp has debris on it, please hose it off.
- Your help in taking good care of our launch is appreciated.



Kayak Rack Storage



FOR RESIDENTS WHO STORE THEIR KAYAKS ON THE RACKS AT THE LAUNCH:

Be advised, kayaks may only stay on the racks, if YOU are here in the park. If you are leaving for an extended period of time, please store your kayak in your shed or home where it can be safely secured.

REMEMBER TO LOCK YOUR KAYAKS TO THE RACK!

Check with the Office about availability on the racks and rental prices.



Kayak-Itty-Yak

You are welcome to use the kayak launch at any time. Just follow the directions at the launch and kindly rinse it off when you are done using it. Thank you!

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- Inspect Line Sets / Armor Flex
- Inspect Supply and Return Plenums
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Cigarette butts	10-12 years
Orange peels	up to 6 months
Paper containers	2-5 months



Oh, the Places You'll Go!!!!



With the summer already here, I would like to encourage everyone to send in a picture from their travels or important events this summer (special birthday, anniversary, vacation trip, etc.). Please include the names of the people in the picture, location, and date of the event. Let's see how many different locations we can get. Send it to tibrezees1@aol.com.

Aluminum Can Recycling

We continue to collect aluminum cans over the summer. The drop-off box is in the Office parking lot or you can call for pickup if you have a large quantity. This is for aluminum cans only. Please do not put plastic bags, trash, or any other food items in the box. We collect a considerable amount of money from recycling and the money is used on items for the park.



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Contact the Manatee County Veterans Services Office to verify Veteran Status:

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Manatee County Veterans Services will be offering a new service for our Veterans: Free Uber-type rides to medical appointments, starting January 1, 2025. Contact the Veterans Services Office at 941-745-3795 or vets@mymanatee.org now to verify Veteran Status. If you're not already a client, ask how our Veterans Services Counselors can connect you to all your eligible VA benefits!

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What's Happening In The Neighborhood?

Fourth of July Picnic



A Fourth of July picnic has been planned for July 4th at 1 PM in the newly renovated Yacht Club. There will be a potluck lunch, with the Entertainment Committee providing fried chicken for all to enjoy. Please bring a dish to share with others, and come enjoy the afternoon celebrating the birth of our nation!

IF BY CHANCE, THE YACHT CLUB IS NOT OPEN DUE TO THE DELAY OF THE RENOVATIONS, THE PICNIC WILL TAKE PLACE IN THE AUDITORIUM. Please watch for a Mail Chimp and the Friends of Tropic Isles website for updates. Thank you!

The Entertainment Committee

The Caring Team



Some concerned citizens in Tropic Isles began the formation of the "Caring Team" in 2023—a group of individuals that would be willing to help those in our community who may be alone or need assistance. The "Caring Team" might do things like calling and/or checking in on their neighbors, helping them with some tasks, shopping, running an errand, etc.

The idea behind this concept centers on providing a type of "wellness visit" for residents who live alone or those that do not have a support system in place for health emergencies or in times of need. Since it was formed, the Caring Team was successful in providing assistance of various kinds to residents who had various health needs. All information is kept strictly confidential.

The Caring Team will not have any meetings over the summer, but is still available for your summer health needs by calling Irene Casey at 774-201-9444.

Our next Caring Team meeting will be November 10, 2025 at 9 AM in the Auditorium. If you are interested in becoming a part of this Caring Team, please email me at tibreezes1@aol.com, call/text me at 608-212-8967, or attend the meeting on November 10.. We'd love to have you on our team!

Cindy Shaw, Caring Team Secretary

Landscaping Advisory Committee

The Landscape Committee tries to keep the gardens in our community healthy and beautiful. We could use your help weeding and deadheading at the entrance gardens this year. If you are interested in helping out during the summer, contact Pamela Cuff at 952-374-8712 (text). We put out zinnia seeds to add some color to the gardens as the temperatures rise. I am always impressed by the many volunteers in our community.

Pamela Cuff, Coordinator



New Entertainment Committee Events 2025-26



Next year, the Entertainment Committee is looking at bringing more events to the community. We are a great team and are always looking for new members who would like to join us. We have a lot of fun coming up with new ideas and planning the events. Our meetings are on the first Thursday of the month at 10:00 AM in the Yacht Club. Feel free to stop in and just see what we do!

Farewell Dance

Next year's Farewell Dance theme will be The Big Glow! Get those neon clothes from the 80's out. We will feature SoulRCoaster, a park favorite, on Saturday, March 28th.

2025-2026 Entertainment Events

These are some of next season's schedule of events. (There will be more events added.)

- Halloween Golf Cart Parade**October 26th
Meet at the Auditorium
- Halloween Party**October 31st
Party in the Auditorium
- Welcome Back Dance**November 15th
DJ Peter Ruskin and his wife
- Christmas Dance**December 13th
Bob and Tom--The Band
- Christmas Golf Cart Parade**December 21st
Meet at the Auditorium
- Christmas Eve Social**December 24th
Christmas Program in the Auditorium
- New Year's Eve Party**December 31st
Party at the Auditorium
- Super Bowl Party**February 8th
Gathering in the Auditorium (wear your favorite team attire)
- Valentine Golf Cart Parade**February 15th
Meet at the Auditorium
- St. Pat's Golf Cart Parade**March 15th
Meet at the Auditorium
- Farewell Dance**March 28th
SoulRCoaster (Theme: "The Big Glow")
- Pool Party** April 11th
TI Band

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
		1	2 9:30 am 3-COR Meeting - A	3	4 Happy 4th of July 1:00 pm 4th of July Picnic - YC	5
6	7	8 1:00 pm Book Club - YC	9	10	11	12
13	14	15 Last day to submit 2026 Directory changes	16 9:30 am 3-COR Meeting - A	17 9:30 am Co-Op Board Meeting - A and Zoom, if needed.	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27 Parents' Day	28	29	30	31		
WEEKLY EVENTS						
10:00 am Shuffle 2:15 pm Mahjong - PR	9:00 am Fun & Fitness- YC 10:00 am Shuffle 10:00 am Shuffle	9:00 am Fun & Fitness- YC 10:00 am Shuffle 2:00 pm Cards - YC 2:15 pm Mahjong - PR	10:00 am Shuffle 1:00 pm Music Jam - YC	9:00 am Fun & Fitness- YC 10:00 am Shuffle 12:30 pm Canasta- YC 2:15 pm Mahjong - PR	10:00 am Shuffle	NO COFFEE HOUR IN JULY 10:00 am Shuffle

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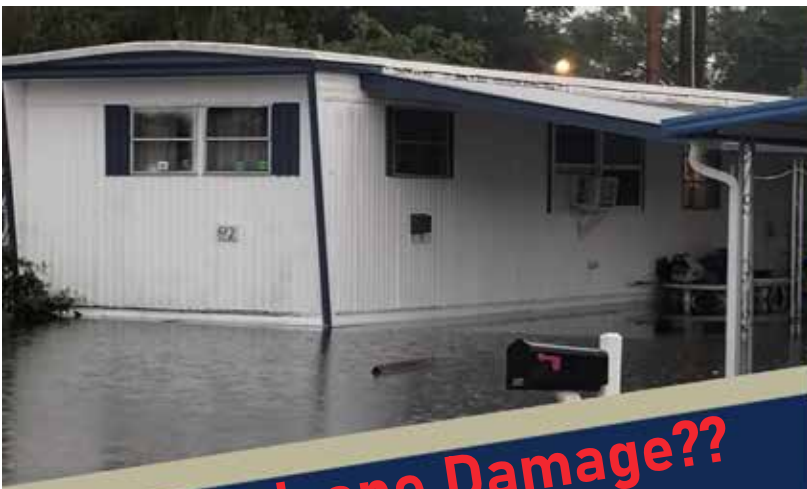


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Summer Activities



Canasta, Anyone?

If you have an interest in playing Canasta, come join us on **Thursdays at 12:30 PM** in the Yacht Club. Contact Diane Ringler at 941-713-1534 with questions.

Tuesdays at 2:00



The Tuesdays at 2:00 get-together for cards and something to do meets in the Yacht Club and continues all throughout the summer. Do not hibernate! Come on down, get to know the other full-time residents in the park, and make new friends. Contact Sherry Novak at 330-428-6005 if you have any questions.

Mahjong



Mahjong will meet in the Pretty Room of the Yacht Club every **Tuesday, Thursday, and Sunday at 2:15 PM this summer**. If you are interested in learning to play Mahjong, please contact Irene Casey at 774-201-9444 or email Irene at irene5381@gmail.com.



NEW Neighbors Helping Neighbors (NHN)

Neighbors Helping Neighbors (NHN) continues to answer calls for various needs relating to park compliance issues with your home or yard, special concerns, or hardships. We welcome all calls. If we cannot help you directly, we have a list of referrals which may help. Bev is still looking for a volunteer(s) to assist her in coordinating the work parties for Neighbors Helping Neighbors' requests. **Please call Bev MacKenzie at 716-583-4894** for assistance or to volunteer.



Summer Coffee Hour

Summer Coffee is held on Saturday at 8:30 AM. **THERE WILL BE NO COFFEE HOUR IN JULY.** The Auditorium will be closed for floor repairs. Please read the Breezes for an update on Coffee Hour in August and watch your Mail Chimp emails for updates.

For the fee of \$1.00, you can enjoy coffee/tea and a donut. Most importantly, this is a great time to share information and converse with other residents who remain in the park during the summer months. There will be a 50/50 drawing every week that costs \$1.00 for three tickets. The holder of the winning ticket receives half of the money, and the rest of the cash helps to finance the expenses for this summer activity.

Please let me know if you can assist me at Coffee Hour on any Saturday during the months of August, September and/or October by calling or texting 774-201-9444.

Irene Casey, Summer Coffee Chair

Coffee Talk

Get Well/Thinking of You/Sympathy Cards



This feature will be run throughout the year, sharing the names of those people who have received "We Care" cards from their friends and neighbors here in Tropic Isles.

Get-Well cards were sent to:

Frank Carolan formerly of Maui Dr. (hospitalized)

Sharon Wagner of Jamaica Dr./Kentucky (knee surgery)

If you know of someone who needs a "Get Well" or "Sympathy" card, please send your requests to **Irene Casey** by **calling or texting her at 774-201-9444**.



Tropic Isles' Music Jam—TI Band



Regarding the Musician's Jam on **Wednesdays from 1-3 PM in the Yacht Club**, due to low summer attendance, please call Tom Tripp at 603-391-9645 prior to going just to be sure it is happening.

Memory Brick Garden

This is a great way to honor a friend or loved one who is no longer with us. Memory Bricks are on sale for \$35.00.

You may have three lines with thirteen letters per line. The bricks will be ordered and placed in the garden in front of the Yacht Club in the spring of 2026! Please contact Shirley Clarkson at 941-465-8430 with any questions on obtaining Memory Bricks for you or a loved one.



Exercise and Wellness

WALKING AEROBICS

Aerobics is on hiatus until September. Have a wonderful summer and keep walking!

Cindy Shaw, Coordinator

FUN AND FITNESS

Are you looking for a less intense form of exercise, but would enjoy some mild strength training, stretching, and exercises to improve balance? Then join everyone for Fun and Fitness on **Monday, Tuesday, and Thursday at 9 AM** in the Yacht Club. Many of the exercises are good for people suffering from arthritis, back problems, or fibromyalgia. Get fit and have fun, too. Contact Paula Reid at 941-773-6711 with questions.



Tropic Isles' Book Club

On **Tuesday, July 8** the Book Club will meet in the Yacht Club at 1 PM. The Tropic Isles' Book Club is looking for more members! Contact Irene Casey at 774-291-9444 with questions.

TI Book Club 2025 Book Selections

July: Swan Song by Elin Hilderbrand

August: Go As a River by Shelley Readby

September: Death In the Air by Ram Murali

October: The Librarian of Burned Books by Brianna Labuskes

November: When the World Fell Silent by Donna Jones Alward (NEW)

December: The Five Wishes of Mr. Murray McBride by Joe Siple





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Injured Wildlife? You can help!

If you see an injured bird or manatee, you can call Wildlife for Manatee County at 941-822-3272 or Wildlife, Inc. on Anna Maria Island at 941-778-6324. Keep these numbers



near your phone at home or put them into your cell phone in case you need them. **If you see injured birds in or around Tropic Isles,**



call Ilene Allina 941-307-4979 or Fred Allina 260-437-0118.

FRIENDS OF THE PELICANS 941-447-0773

Keep these numbers handy to report an injured seabird.

Contact Jeanette Edwards 941-447-0773 and take a class on pelican rescue so you can join in.

Friends of the Pelicans	Bradenton
https://www.friendsofthepelicans.org	

Save Our Seabirds	Sarasota
https://www.saveourseabirds.org	

Seaside Seabird Sanctuary	Indian Shores (near St. Pete)
https://seasideseabirdsanctuary.org	

Wildlife, Inc.	Anna Maria Island
https://wildlifeinc.org	

Another Pelican Rescue

By Fred Allina

The pelican walked up to where I was working behind the house and didn't fly away. I got Ilene and she saw he had a hook and fishing line in his right wing. She waded out and got the fishing line out of the water and I netted him, so we could get him up on the back walkway. Together, we held him with a beach towel over his head and a finger between the beaks so he could breathe. Then while I held him, Ilene found the hook in the feathers. With side cutters, she cut the shank of the hook off with the attached fishing line and pulled the remaining hook out with the barb through, point first. He was fighting trying to get away as was expected, but we were successful and released the pelican. He flew about 30 ft. into the bay, then paddled out, and took off when he got further away.



It's Spring and the Manatees are on the move!



In balmy spring weather, both manatees and boaters are cruising through Florida's waterways. For manatees, it is a seasonal ritual when they abandon winter retreats and head north along the

Atlantic and Gulf coasts and through inland waters. For boaters, it is a critical time to be on the lookout for manatees to avoid colliding with these large, slow-moving creatures.

From April 1-November 15, seasonal Manatee Zones, marked by signs, require boaters to slow down in certain areas to prevent manatees from being struck by motorboats or personal watercraft.

Because manatees are difficult to detect when underwater, operators of boats, including personal watercraft, need to take basic steps to avoid causing injury to manatees.

- Wear polarized sunglasses to help spot manatees.
- Look for large circles on the water, also known as "manatee footprints", indicating the presence of a manatee below.
- Look for a snout or what looks like a "rock" which is their back sticking out of the water.
- Follow posted manatee zones while boating.

The FWC also asks anyone who sees an injured, distressed, sick, or dead manatee to call the agency Wildlife Alert Hotline at 888-404-FWCC (3922) or dial #FWC or *FWC on a cellphone.





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A Perfect Day at the Beach

Less is more...fun: Some beachgoers seem to bring everything they own to the beach and others seem to bring nothing and have just as much fun. If you must put things in a cart or make more than one trip back and forth to the car, you have brought too much.

The following may help you manage packing for a fun day at the beach:

Beach necessities: small beach bag, hat, sunglasses, sunscreen, beverages, beach towel, snacks.

Things you may need: beach chair, beach umbrella, small cooler, flip flops, reading material, cash.

Things you do not need: shoes and socks, music device, cell phone, tablet, and work-related materials. Glass is not allowed on the beach.



Sun-Soaked Facts About Florida

- The full title of the official Florida state song is "Swanee River (Old Folks at Home)". The choice makes sense when you consider that the retirement industry is the state's second biggest economic drive and that by 2030 one out of every four Florida residents will be older than 65.
- Florida is 15,409 square miles larger than England—although a lot of that is swampland.
- South Florida is the only place where alligators and crocodiles co-exist in the wild.
- Pinecraft, a village near Sarasota, Florida is home to what may be the only Amish beach resort in the world.
- Florida was Spanish territory for 280 years.
- Participants in the annual Interstate Mullet Toss throw dead fish over the state line from Florida into Alabama.
- The state got its name from explorer Ponce de Leon, who called it La Florida, or "the flowery place".
- Wherever you are within the state, you are never more than 60 miles from the nearest body of salt water.
- Florida once boasted the dubious distinction of "lightning capital of the world," until NASA discovered that Rwanda deserves the title. Still, approximately nine people are killed by lightning strikes in Florida each year.
- Florida's lush climate makes it a haven for escaped or introduced non-native plants and animals. The Everglades teem with invasive species, including eight-inch-long giant snails, boa constrictors, two types of pythons, and crocodile-like reptiles called Caimans.



Weeds, Weeds, Weeds!!!

With the rainy season in full swing, the weeds and the grass have grown like crazy. Snowbirds.... please make sure your yards, planters, and flower beds are being maintained while you are away. Check with a friend or neighbor in Tropic Isles to make sure maintenance is being performed on your yard as needed.

Get Connected To

"Friends of Tropic Isles"



If you haven't become a member of the "Friends of Tropic Isles" page, what are you waiting for? You can go to Facebook and type in "Friends of Tropic Isles" to join. If you send a request to join the group, include your address. This is a closed group and only community residents can join. Friends of Tropic Isles is a Member Only page where you can post information to benefit the community. It's a great place where our community can share positive ideas, items for sale, homes for rent, restaurant recommendations, ask questions, and post other items of interest that our friends and neighbors might find helpful. You can announce a "get-together" or post a favorite picture. All posts and member requests will be reviewed prior to posting and to having your member request accepted. No outside solicitation will be posted. Mary Fazio is the administrator of the "Friends of Tropic Isles" page.

Thoughts On Life

recently learned about a term called a "glimmer". Which is essentially the opposite of a trigger.

Glimmers are those micro moments in your day that make you feel joy, happiness, peace, or gratitude. Once you train your brain to be on the lookout for glimmers, the more these tiny moments will begin to appear.

(Submitted by Irene Casey)

Life is Like a Roller Coaster



I learned years ago that life is like a roller coaster: All you can do is hope the safety bar holds you in. Scream as you go down and laugh as you go up. Pray that you survive it because in life you will ride these roller coasters many times! I've discovered and remembered these many times throughout my life.

(Submitted by Sherry Novak)

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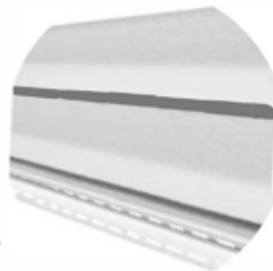
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Understanding the Hay Bales on Anna Maria Island

You might have spotted some new additions along Bradenton Beach – barriers made of hay bales. These aren't just for show. They're playing a vital role in protecting our beloved sea turtles!



This year, like every year from May through October, we're right in the heart of sea turtle nesting season. These incredible creatures come ashore to lay their eggs, and it's our job to help ensure their journey is a safe one back to the sea.

Unfortunately, last year's storms had a significant impact on our beautiful coastline, eroding sand dunes and washing away important barrier foliage like sea oats. This natural protection is crucial for nesting sea turtles, guiding them, and shielding their nests from hazards. So, how do the hay bales help?

Preventing Misdirection: Without the natural dune structure, mother turtles and tiny hatchlings can become disoriented and wander into dangerous areas like roadways or get trapped in rock revetments. The hay bales act as a temporary, gentle barrier, helping to keep them on the beach and headed in the right direction – towards the sea!

Reducing Light Exposure: Bright, artificial lights can confuse nesting turtles and, especially, emerging hatchlings, drawing them away from the ocean. While the hay bales offer some minor shielding, the loss of dune vegetation makes it even more critical for all of us to be mindful of our lighting near the beach.

Manatee County's Natural Resource Department has strategically placed these hay bales in areas like the Bridge Street Beach Access to address the loss of natural barriers. It's a proactive step to safeguard these protected marine animals.

What can YOU do to help?

- Respect the Barriers: Please don't disturb the hay bales or any marked sea turtle nests.
- Lights Out for Turtles: If you live near the beach or are visiting, please turn off or shield any lights visible from the shore after dark. Use turtle-friendly lighting, if possible.
- Keep Your Distance: If you're lucky enough to see a nesting turtle or hatchlings, admire them from a distance. Never use flash photography.
- Leave No Trace: Remove all beach furniture, trash, and fill in any holes before you leave the beach. These can be obstacles for turtles. Level the sandcastles before leaving the beach. They can block hatchlings from the water. Don't use balloons, wish lanterns, or fireworks. They litter the beach and turtles can ingest the debris.

By working together, we can help ensure a successful nesting season for our Bradenton Beach Sea Turtles. Let's give them the best chance to thrive!



Advice from a Sea Turtle

Swim with the current.
Stay calm under pressure.
Be well-traveled.
Age gracefully.
Spend time at the beach.



Turtle Nesting Season

The Anna Maria Island Turtle Watch and Shorebird Monitoring ask residents and visitors to please keep these tips in mind to help ensure a successful sea turtle nesting season which runs from **May 1-October 31**.

NEVER TOUCH A SEA TURTLE. IT'S THE LAW! If you see someone disturbing a sea turtle/nest, call **Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission's Wildlife Alert Hotline at 888-404-FWCC (3922)**. Please visit www.islandturtletwatch.com for more information or for ways to help protect sea turtles.

For Your Summer Enjoyment...

Don't forget that during the summer months, we continue to enjoy many things in Tropic Isles...



- The TI Book Club meets on the 2nd Tuesday over the summer with lots of good books to enjoy.
- You can use the shuffle courts at any time.
- Mahjong meets three times a week in the Yacht Club.
- Fun and Fitness meets on Monday, Tuesday, and Thursday at 9 AM for some mild strength training, stretching, and exercises to improve balance in the Yacht Club.
- Cards and games are played on Tuesdays at 2:00 PM in the Yacht Club. Everyone is welcome.
- Canasta is played on Thursdays at 12:30 and welcomes anyone who wants to play.
- Check out the Music Jam on Wednesdays at 1 PM in the Yacht Club.
- The Tropic Isles library has many books, puzzles, and games to enjoy.
- The Fitness Room is available in an air-conditioned space in the Yacht Club.
- The ping-pong and pool tables are available for your use.
- Boating and fishing are good.
- Beaches are less crowded.
- Enjoy the warm days and beautiful sunsets at the pool.

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Home-delivered Meals

This program provides nutritious Home-delivered Meals for those in need in our community. All Home-delivered Meals are approved by a registered dietitian and pureed meals are also available for individuals who have special needs. Eligibility requirements vary.

Please call 941-747-4655 for more information.

Eligibility requirements vary based on the needs of each individual. The best way to determine your possible eligibility is to call 941-747-4655, complete the registration form, or visit the link below. Nutritious Home-delivered Meals may be available for those who meet one or more of the following criteria:

- Live in Manatee County, Florida
- 60+ years of age
- Homebound, socially isolated
- Have difficulty preparing meals or shopping for yourself
- Unable to attend a congregate nutrition site
- Lack funds to purchase nutritious food

Convenient Cuisine

Convenient Cuisine is a meal-delivery service available for just \$7.00 a meal and is available to any person living in Manatee County. They have heart-healthy meals, approximately 600 calories and are prepared with no added salt or sugar. Every meal comes with 1% low fat milk. Delivery time is between 10 AM-2 PM (4-hour window) once a week on your designated delivery day. The meals come frozen and microwavable.

Perfect for busy families or seniors looking for convenient meal options, this service makes meal planning a breeze! Our delicious and nutritious meals are just \$7.00 each and are delivered to your home by one of our trained volunteers.

Clients on the Convenient Cuisine program also have the option to receive free, fresh produce through our Produce on Wheels Program as well as pet food for their furry companions.

This is a flexible program. We will work with you to identify a delivery schedule that meets your needs. There is no contract. Cancel at any time by calling our customer services department at 941-747-4655. Our meals are prepared by Metz Culinary School in Sarasota. Meals on Wheels PLUS of Manatee has the highest standards for program safety, program quality, and program efficiency. Call **941-747-4655** for more information or visit <https://mealsonwheelsplus.org/home-delivered-meals/registration>.

Think of Meals on Wheels PLUS in terms of a gigantic umbrella. Underneath the umbrella are all the PLUS programs including:

- Home-delivered Meals
- The Food Bank of Manatee
- Daybreak Adult Day Center
- Friendship Dining Centers

Funding for meals may be available. Call 941-747-4655 for more information, to determine possible eligibility, and to register for assistance. Other options are available:

1. **Senior Connections 1-800-963-5337.** They may be able to help with home delivered meals at no cost.
2. Reach out to your Health Insurance and ask if under your benefits they happen to cover **"Nutrition Services"**.

Elder Helpline

When you are looking for information about programs and services for seniors, your first call should be to the Elder Helpline. The specialists at Elder Helpline are highly trained, caring professionals who can help seniors, their families, and caregivers find services they need and make informed decisions about such services. It is the starting point for getting connected with programs or services that can meet the needs of the older adult or caregiver. For more information contact **800-96-Elder** or **800-963-5337** or visit www.AgingFlorida.com. Their services include:

- In-Home Services for Seniors
- Nutrition and Meal Programs
- Screening and Medicaid Eligibility Assistance
- Long Term Care Services and Support
- Adult Day Care
- Health and Wellness Classes
- Rental/Housing Assistance
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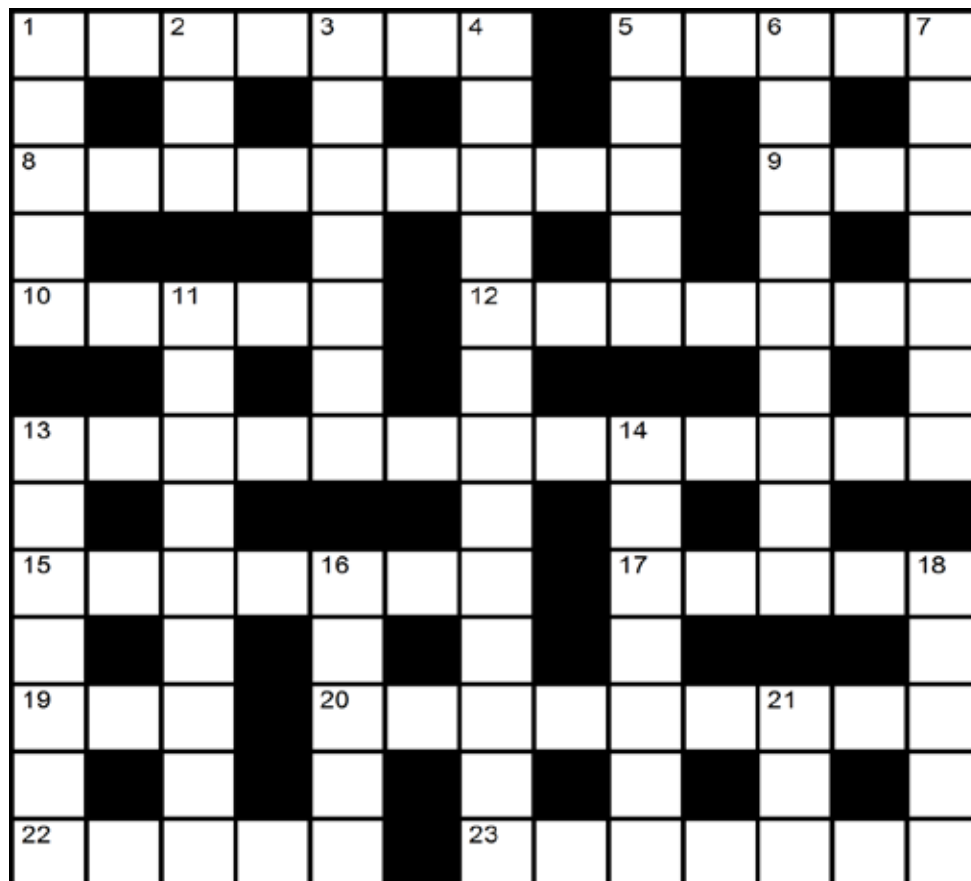
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Puzzle compiled by Bianca Morèl

Clues:

Across

- 1 Outdo
- 5 Besmirch
- 8 Pizza topping
- 9 Music genre
- 10 Dodge
- 12 Submarine mine
- 13 Latest odds offered by bookies (8,5)
- 15 Eternal
- 17 Used a broom
- 19 Chopper
- 20 Draw
- 22 Petrol unit
- 23 Genuine

Down

- 1 Slick
- 2 Groove
- 3 Extremely old
- 4 Meteors (8,5)
- 5 Direct
- 6 Swearword
- 7 Scold
- 11 Alleviation
- 13 Ocean embankment (3,4)
- 14 Back door
- 16 Come after
- 18 Motif
- 21 Amazement

(solution on page 38)

Puzzle from <https://www.printable-puzzles.com/>

Architectural Review Committee (ARC) Procedure

ARC approval is needed for **ANY** improvements that happen outside of your door—on your home, dock, or lot. The ARC procedure is as follows:

1. ARC application forms are available in the Office and on the website www.tropicisles.net. Fill out an ARC application and submit it to the office. Make sure to include diagrams, drawings, or photos as needed. If possible, please show the neighbor's homes and the distance from each. Include the labels N, S, E, and W on your diagrams.
2. All applications must be logged in at the Office and assigned a date for review by the ARC Committee or 3-COR.
3. The ARC approval process begins with a preliminary review by a 3-person team, referred to as 3-COR. Simple improvements and replacement issues may be approved by this group and not require a review by the full ARC committee.
4. The ARC Committee needs a week to review the application and go to the lot before the next meeting date.
5. If there is not enough time to do this, you will have to wait for a future date.
6. You will be notified when your request is placed on the agenda for an ARC meeting. Meetings are usually held the first and third Tuesday of the month at 9:30 AM in the Auditorium. You are encouraged to attend that meeting.

7. After the meeting, you will be notified, by phone or in writing, as to whether your request is approved or denied.
8. If denied, you can appeal the decision to the Board of Directors, if you so choose.
9. **To obtain a permit from the City, you must first receive the Architectural Review Application approval, signed by the ARC committee and the Manager.**
10. **You must also provide a copy of all required permits to the Office.**
11. **BOTH THE ARC APPLICATION AND THE CITY PERMIT NEED TO BE POSTED ON THE FRONT OF THE HOME BEFORE THE WORK CAN BEGIN.**
12. **NO WORK should begin on your project until your final approval letter from the Office is received.** If you fail to get ARC approval for your project before you begin, you may be asked to deconstruct it and/or a fine of \$100 can be imposed. Contact Steve Tourtilotte at 860-682-7656 with any questions you may have.

ARC Committee Members

Steve Tourtilotte-Chairman
Randy Blanton
Mike McBride
Cathy Sweeney
Drew Doll-Board Liaison

Meeting Dates

3-COR Meetings are on the 1st and 3rd Wednesdays of the month.

ARC Meetings are held on an "as-needed" basis.

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(solution on page 38)

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FL State General
Contractor Lic. # 1531303**

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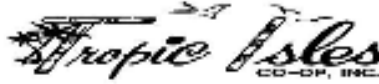
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wants you to have all the facts.**



At Manufactured Home Services LLC, we provide specialized inspections tailored exclusively for manufactured homes. Our expert team understands the unique challenges these homes face, ensuring every inspection is thorough and addresses the critical aspects of your home's safety and condition. With years of experience in the industry, we are committed to giving you the real story about your home, so you can make informed decisions with confidence.

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Architectural Review Committee [ARC] Application

This form must be submitted for any changes to the exterior of your lot or home.

Resident Name: _____ Lot# and/or Street Address: _____

Resident Contact Phone: (_____) _____ Project being done by: ___ Resident ___ Contractor

Contractor's name and phone: _____

Estimated start date of project: _____ Anticipated completion date: _____

Brief description of the project: _____

Signature: _____ Date: _____

INSTRUCTIONS: Attach a detailed, legible drawing and written description. You must show the location of your project in relation to compass North, to your home, the street, seawall and all adjacent or pertinent structures, including the description of the material and colors to be used and all actual dimensions.

BY SIGNING ABOVE, I HEREBY UNDERSTAND AND AGREE TO THE FOLLOWING CONDITIONS:

- No work will begin until written approval is received from the Co-Op. All work must be completed within 60 days from the approval date. If not completed in the required timeframe, you must request an extension in writing. All work will be done expeditiously once commenced and will be completed in a professional manner, minimizing interference with and inconvenience to other residents.
- Approval is not a guarantee of structural safety or engineering soundness.
- You must obtain all local building permits and abide by all codes and Rules and Regulations that apply. The City of Palmetto will not grant you a permit until you obtain approval from Tropic Isles Co-op, Inc. Copies of permits must be submitted to Tropic Isles Co-Op prior to commencement of any work.
- You are responsible for any damages to utilities and other property.
- Workman's Comp. Exemption or Waiver is not acceptable for contractors. Contractors must be licensed and carry Worker's Compensation AND Liability Insurance.
- If all of the necessary information is not submitted with your ARC application, you will be asked to re-submit a completed/amended application. When the amended application is received, your application date begins anew.
- Deviation from the approved plan will void any approvals and you may be required to deconstruct the project. Any unapproved work will result in a monetary penalty.
- Upon approval or denial of your ARC request, you will be contacted. Please pick up your letter at the Co-op Office after you have been contacted.
- If approved, it is your responsibility to coordinate with the ARC, Contractor, City Officials, and the Co-op Office. Don't start work until you receive all of your permits. Take all permits to the office.
- The ARC Committee does not determine boundary lines.
- Please allow 14-21 days after submittal to receive decision of ARC Committee.

Space below for use by Tropic Isles Staff and ARC only

3-COR approval process applicable: YES / NO Manager approval process applicable: YES / NO
Committee Members Present Initials:

	Randy Blanton		Steve Tourtillotte		Catherine Sweeney
	Mike McBride				

Decision of the ARC Committee:

_____ APPROVED

_____ APPROVED with stipulations: _____

_____ DENIED for the following reason(s): _____

Date: _____ AUTHORIZED SIGNATURE(S): _____ / _____

BUILDING PERMIT REQUIRED: YES / NO

Resident signature acknowledging receipt
Of completed application:

_____ Date: _____

Completed application and all supporting information must be received at least 7 days prior to ARC meeting. Any modifications performed without ARC approval are subject to \$250.00 penalty.



Greetings Fellow Shareholders and Homeowners,

If you have **any changes or updates**, please complete this (**PLEASE PRINT CLEARLY**) and return this form to the office as soon as possible. This information will be used to update the Tropic Isles resident directory and database.

Resident Owner Names: _____

Residing In Tropic Isles: (circle one) Full-Time or Part-Time Own Multiple Properties: Yes or No

Tropic Isles' 1st Address: _____

Tropic Isles' 2nd Address: _____

Do you rent your home to a tenant? Yes or No (If Yes, Address) _____

Residents Updated Contact Information:

Name: _____ Home/Cell/Northern # Email: _____

Name: _____ Home/Cell/Northern # Email: _____

Additional: _____

Preferred Email for Park e-blasts: _____

Off Season Address: _____

It is the owner's responsibility to provide an updated mailing address to the office. Please remember to sign in and out when you leave the community for season.

Family Emergency Contact: A person who can make decisions regarding health needs, living concerns, etc.

Name: _____

Phone #: _____ **Relationship:** _____

Local Emergency Contact: Someone you trust to have your key in case of emergencies such as fire, flood, hurricane; water leaks, boat issues, etc.

Name: _____ **Phone#:** _____

Thank you for your cooperation.

Tropic Isles Co-Op
Frontdesk@tropicisles.net

CROSSWORD

SOLUTION

S	U	R	P	A	S	S		S	M	E	A	R
U		U		N		H		T		X		E
A	R	T	I	C	H	O	K	E		P	O	P
V				I		O		E		L		R
E	V	A	D	E		T	O	R	P	E	D	O
		B		N		I				T		V
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SUDOKU

SOLUTION

1	3	7	6	9	2	4	5	8
6	4	5	3	8	7	9	1	2
2	9	8	5	4	1	3	7	6
5	7	2	8	3	9	1	6	4
8	6	9	1	7	4	5	2	3
4	1	3	2	6	5	7	8	9
9	8	1	4	5	6	2	3	7
3	5	4	7	2	8	6	9	1
7	2	6	9	1	3	8	4	5

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Oh, the Places You'll Go!

Bob and Cindy Shaw took a road trip in their motorhome to the Southwest, Utah, and Colorado. After spending 5 days on a houseboat on Lake Powell in Arizona, they took an Antelope Canyon Tour and visited Horseshoe Bend in Page, AZ.



Antelope Canyon, Page, AZ



Horseshoe Bend, Page, AZ



Lake Powell houseboat trip, AZ

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