

## Home of the Month



November's "Home of the Month" is awarded to Myshell Benberg at 3009 12th St. W. Myshell's new deck provides a comfortable, shady place to enjoy her lovely garden décor. Congratulations!

## Photo of the Month



The Sunshine Skyway Bridge, as seen on a glassy-calm summer day in Tampa Bay.

## Starfish Hunt

*Can you find me  
hiding somewhere  
inside?*



## Thought for the Day

Travel as much as you can, as far as you can,  
For as long as you can.  
Life is not meant to be lived in one place.

## Meet Your New Neighbors

*By Cindy Shaw*

Please welcome **Ken and Karen Orr** as official residents of Tropic Isles. They will be our new, part-time neighbors at 1 Basin Dr. after purchasing it from their friends, Jeff and Dona Keast, who also live in the park. The Orrs hail from Holland, Michigan and live on their 46' Trojan International in Grand Isles Marina located in Grand Haven, Michigan in the summertime. Ken and Karen have two children—Jennifer (43) and Bryan (46) and have 6 grandchildren—Brenden (25), Sophia (3), Jasmine (18), Isa (15), Gabe (12), and Lily (9). Ken continues to work in mechanical engineering in computer-aided design (CAD) and has been self-employed since 2003. Karen retired in 2023 from manufacturing after many years. They enjoy spending time with the family and the grandkids. They love to boat, travel, and venture out, exploring new restaurants and other sights in the area. They share their 5th wheel with Cooper, a 5-year-old German/Australian Shepherd/Lab mix. Give a hearty, Tropic Isles welcome to Ken, Karen, and Cooper. We know you'll love our little slice of paradise here in Tropic Isles.



New to 3104 10th St. W. are **Brad Spooner and Kris Fruechte** who will be our new, part-time neighbors from Owatonna, Minnesota. Brad and Kris have previously rented in Pescara Lake in Bradenton, so they were familiar with the area. A friend who stays in the area was also looking for places to purchase and recommended Tropic Isles to Brad and Kris. Brad worked for the postal service for 32½ years starting out as a mail carrier, then as a supervisor doing training. Kris also retired from the postal service as a mail carrier for 28 years. Brad says he is "failing at retirement" because he can't sit still. He considers himself a handyman and does projects around the house to keep himself busy. Kris enjoys flower gardening and together they enjoy riding their Harley Davidson and Indian motorcycles. They share their home with 9-year-old Louis, a French Bulldog. They adopted him after their neighbor in Minnesota had health issues and couldn't care for him anymore. Brad and Kris share 5 children—Dustin, David, Julia, Jessica, and Kallie and 12 grandchildren, 9-months-11 years, with grandchild #13 arriving last August. Please give a warm Tropic Isles welcome to Brad, Kris, and Louis. We know you'll like it here!



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## Here's What's New!

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The work on Sherry Novak's new home is currently underway to make it "move-in" ready.



Earl and Debbie Phillips' new home arrived in early October.



New landscaping in front of the Yacht Club was completed with flowering pink hyacinths.

The Auditorium restoration was completed in early October. Come check it out!



The newly refurbished Book Nook re-opened in October with lots of great books, puzzles, and DVDs to choose from.



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## Here's What's Happening!

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The Monday night Poker Group met for the first time in October and are looking for others to join them who enjoy good fun and conversation.



The Book Club met to discuss their latest book, The Librarian of Burned Books, a great read. Come and join in the discussion of future books.



(See Halloween Spirit photos on page 39)

# Tropic Isles

1503 28th Ave. West, Palmetto, Florida 34221

The Office is open from 9 AM to 3 PM. The Office will be **OPEN** 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**

**Lori Rizzo, Administrative Assistant**

**Robin Emanuel, Resident Services**

**Thomas Tonich, Maintenance Manager**

**Shaun Schweitzer, Maintenance Tech**

**Rick Kropp, Marina**

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

**Marina 941-729-8128**

**www.TropicIsles.net**

## Tropic Isles Co-op

### BOARD OF DIRECTORS 2025/2026

|                     |              |
|---------------------|--------------|
| President .....     | Al MacKenzie |
| Vice President..... | Drew Doll    |
| Secretary .....     | Dennis Butts |
| Treasurer .....     | Jose Torres  |
| Director 1.....     | Dennis Weber |
| Director 2.....     | Vacant       |
| Director 3.....     | Randy Rice   |

## TIHOA

### Tropic Isles Homeowners Association 2025/2026

|                     |                |
|---------------------|----------------|
| President .....     | Terry Foley    |
| Vice President..... | Richard Belle  |
| Treasurer .....     | John Slater    |
| Secretary .....     | Anna Antonacci |

## TIPOA (Property Owners) 2025/2026 Board

|                    |                     |
|--------------------|---------------------|
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| Vice Pres. ....    | Al Coleman          |
| Treasurer .....    | Kay Lynn Duncan     |
| Secretary .....    | Jackie Adinolfi     |
| Director .....     | Bill Clark          |
| Director .....     | Dan Baker           |
| Director .....     | Mike Jenkins        |
| Director .....     | Shirley Pendergrass |
| Director .....     | Trish Spangler      |
| City Liaison ..... | Dan Demers          |

### Tropic Isles Breezes

**Published monthly and delivered to all residents**

**Editor: Cindy Shaw**

**Send photos and articles to [Tlbreezes1@aol.com](mailto: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

Welcome back to the next wave of snowbirds! More and more residents will be returning in the coming months and once you arrive you will notice many changes and improvements inside the buildings and around the grounds since you've been gone. Watch for the new homes going in!

November is the month that brings our Tropic Isles' activities to life. There are many activities that start up in the month of November, so keep your Breezes calendar handy to keep abreast of everything that goes on. The marquee in front of the Auditorium has coming events listed there on a week-by-week basis. Mail Chimps go out to remind you of what's coming up. There is no reason to miss anything that you are interested in doing! I encourage you to support the wonderful activities Tropic Isles has to offer. Find something you enjoy doing and invite a new resident to join you.

The season got off to a great start with the Halloween Party and Golf Cart Parade and there's more fun to come this season. In the months to come, there will be many activities taking place. Check your calendar in the Breezes to see what's going on.

New residents! Come out and get involved in the activities—as a volunteer or participant—there's something for everyone! Try something new! Take a leadership role. You'll meet lots of people and make new friends. Get ready for a great season! Let the fun begin!

This month, we celebrate Veterans' Day to honor all members of the Armed Forces who served this country. They served and fought to protect us, to keep our country safe, and to preserve our way of life. Veterans gave their time and risked their lives for you and me. In some cases, they made the ultimate sacrifice. This holiday originally was called Armistice Day and was first celebrated in 1921. In 1954, President Eisenhower changed it to Veteran's Day, in honor of those who served and died from all wars. Remember to thank our veterans for their service. November also reminds us that we have a lot to be thankful for—new friends, family connections, each new day, good health and healing, and the little things in life.



May the good things in life be yours in abundance,  
and stay with you all year long.



**ON NOVEMBER 2, 2025,  
don't forget to turn your clocks back one hour!**



## New Trash/Recycling/ Yard Waste Pickup CO-OP



Beginning October 6, 2025, the trash schedule will be as follows:

**Yard Waste - Wednesdays**  
**Solid Waste AND Recycling – Fridays**

**Recycling, Solid Waste, and Yard Waste should be placed on one designated side of the street. Check with your neighbors as to what side of the street to use.**

**Bulk Items: Call 941-723-4580**

Bulk item policy: Every residence receives one free bulk item pickup per year. Additional pickups are available for a fee. Call the city's Solid Waste Department to schedule a pickup at 941-723-4580.

**\*\*NOTE:** As of 10/1/25, yard waste will NOT be accepted in plastic bags.

Yard waste must be set out in:

- Reusable containers (bins or cans)
- Tied bundles (no longer than 4 feet in length)
- Compostable kraft paper bags

Yard waste that is not properly prepared cannot be collected.

To dispose of electronics, paint, or chemicals call 941-748-5543 for disposal options.

## Important For All Residents



**If you have any changes to make to your name, address, contact numbers, northern information, or email address, please send them to Cindy Shaw at [tibreezes1@aol.com](mailto:tibreezes1@aol.com), call/text 608-212-8967 or complete an Information Form which can be picked up in the Office.**

*Cindy Shaw, Editor*

### 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:

**PHILLIPS, Earl & Debbie** Remove 941-479-4465.  
Add 941-666-3622(D) for Debbie  
and 941-447-3230(E) for Earl

**RESENDEZ, Ed & Maria** **NEW!** Add 120 Capri Dr.,  
734-231-1979 (E)/210-913-5669(M),  
[gtu2look@yahoo.com](mailto:gtu2look@yahoo.com) (M)  
[eresendez1234@gmail.com](mailto:eresendez1234@gmail.com) (E)

**WYZLIK, Shane & ALLEN, Benita** Add phone number for Benita  
715-645-0981.

## From the Manager's Desk



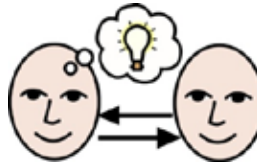
We will start the full schedule for ARC Meetings as of November 1, 2025. They will be held at 9:30 AM in the Auditorium and the schedule will be as follows:

ARC Meetings: 1st & 3rd Tuesdays of each month  
3-Cor Meetings: 2nd & 4th Wednesdays of each month



## Seasonal Office Hours

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



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## 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](mailto:wendyjean609@gmail.com). Bingo will NOT go forward without volunteers.**
- **Bunco Coordinator**, set your own day and time, contact Darlene Mallory for info.
- **Coordinators needed to assist with 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.
- **Volunteers to sub for block captains on their street** to help distribute the Breezes newsletters when needed. Subs are needed for these streets: **Basin/Bahia, Edessa, Flores, Maui/10th, and Montego**. Please contact Cindy Shaw at [tibreezes1@aol.com](mailto:tibreezes1@aol.com) or by calling/texting 608-212-8967 if you can help.



## Trivia Tidbits

- John Fogerty was sued by his former record label for sounding too much like John Fogerty.
- President Jimmy Carter was once attacked by a rabbit in a lake.
- The largest air force in the world is the United States Air Force. The second largest air force is the United States Navy.
- The chainsaw was originally invented to deliver babies.
- You can fit all the other planets in the solar system between the Earth and the Moon.
- As a species, humans can outrun every other animal on Earth over long distances. EVERY ANIMAL. It's not that we're faster, it's that we have the longest endurance. They might get away from us, but we always catch up when the animal gets tired.
- The majority of the Canadian population lives south of Seattle.
- You can see your nose. Your brain just ignores it.
- Woolly mammoths were still alive when the Egyptian pyramids were being built. It is estimated they died 1000 years after the great pyramid of Giza was built.
- A beaver can hold its breath for up to 45 minutes. While they average roughly 15 minutes underwater, beavers have been recorded to stay underwater for upwards of three-quarters of an hour.



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## Submissions to the Breezes Newsletter

Submissions to the Breezes should be sent to Cindy Shaw at [tibreezes1@aol.com](mailto: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.



## 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 [tibreezes1@aol.com](mailto:tibreezes1@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!



## Cook's Corner CHEESY BREAD

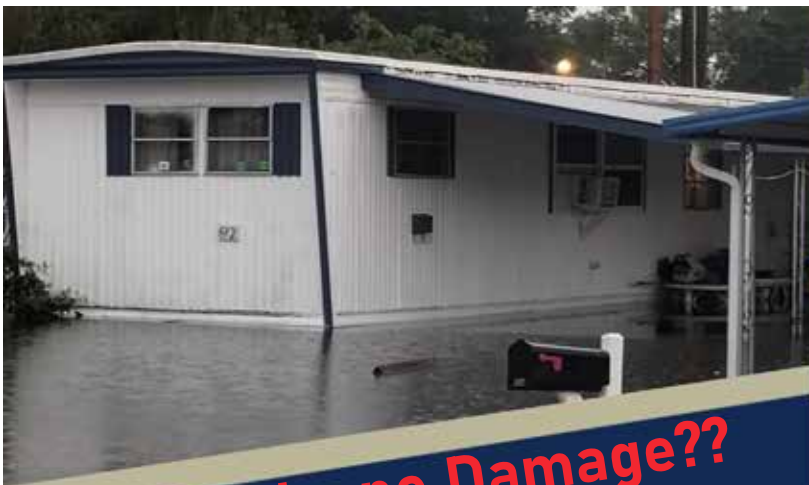


### Ingredients:

- 1 loaf Italian bread
- ½ tsp garlic powder
- ½ cup butter, melted
- 1 ½ cup shredded mozzarella cheese

### Directions:

1. Preheat oven to 400 degrees.
2. Line a large baking sheet with parchment paper or foil and spray with Pam.
3. Cut the bread lengthwise and place both parts face up on the baking sheet.
4. Brush both pieces with melted butter.
5. Sprinkle with garlic powder. (If you don't like garlic, try a dry Ranch seasoning mix.)
6. Cover both pieces with aluminum foil and place in the oven.
7. Bake for 10-12 minutes.
8. Uncover the bread and top with cheese.
9. Place bread back in the oven for 2-4 more minutes to melt the cheese. Watch the bread while melting the cheese and remove from the oven as soon as it reaches the desired look.
10. Remove from the oven and place on a cutting board. Let cool for a few minutes.
11. Slice and serve.



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# Honor Flight – September 21, 2025

By Don Stroud, Lt Col USAF Retired

My name is Don Stroud. I want to tell you about the Honor Flight that I was indeed fortunate to be an invitee. First, I must tell you that the "Honor Flight", which air transports veterans to Washington, DC to visit the military memorials, was originated in Dayton, Ohio 50 years ago by a group of young men who flew 12 veterans in 6 single engine aircraft from the Wright Patterson AFB Aero Club. Today there are about 140 Honor Flight associations throughout the US offering commercial airline flights to vets.



I was so very fortunate to have been invited on the 50th anniversary flight, because the Air Force provided two of their newest transport aircraft (C-17s). They carried over 160 veterans with support volunteers for each vet, plus medical teams. We departed in the dark at 0630 and after a one-hour flight, we landed at Andrews AFB. My Support Guardian was Scott Martin.

We were loaded on six large buses and started our tour of our military monuments and memorials. I will not mention all the monuments, but suffice it to say, we saw lots of them. All of the memorials had special significance for everyone. In my particular case, the Vietnam Wall meant the most to me.

I had never seen the WWII Memorial before and I must say it is magnificent and a must see for all.



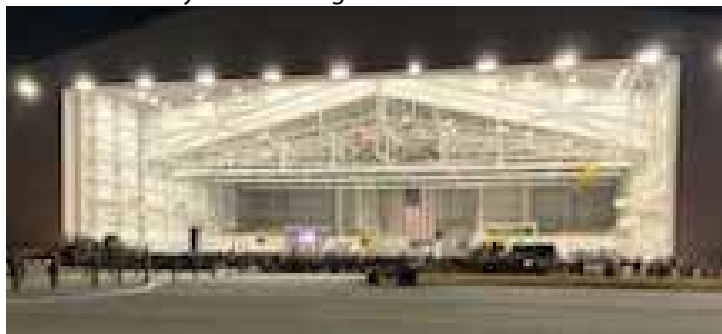
Most of the vets served during the Vietnam War, however, there were a few who served in Korea. One in particular was my friend, 93-year-old Sylvester (Syl) Kerstanski, who was a fellow volunteer at the Wright "B" Flyer organization near Dayton, Ohio.



We were also honored to have on our flight, Major General Mechenbier, a six-year POW at the Hanoi Hilton.

Our return flight turned out to be much later than expected, but you would not believe what we encountered upon entering the aircraft hangar late that evening.

There was a column of military personnel all saluting us as we walked by and there were hundreds of people from the Dayton area greeting us upon our return. All were shouting "Welcome home, welcome home". It was something I never heard when I returned from Vietnam. It was a day I'll never forget!



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## ~COMING EVENTS~



### NOVEMBER

#### Texas Hold 'Em

Come join us for a rousing game of Texas Hold 'Em on Monday nights, starting **November 3**, from 6-9:30 PM in the Dockside Room of the Yacht Club. Meet new people and enjoy a night of poker. Contact Dwayne Scruton at 978-360-5267 if you have any questions.



#### Tropic Isles Golf League (TIGL)



Hi, everyone! The time is here! We are BACK! Our Tropic Isles' Co-ed Golf League will begin with a scramble for fun on **Wednesday, November 5th**.

We have 5 tee times this month, 6 in December, 8 in January thru March, and 6 times in April. We will play our own ball the 2nd Wednesday of the month through the last Wednesday of the month. We will do a scramble using a blind draw the first Wednesday of every month, so that we all will get to know each other. This is a FUN league and if you don't have fun, you can't come back 😊.

All groups will be assembled via a blind draw with the exception if family or friends are in town, so you can play together if you wish. We do have some golfers who live off-site who also play with us. Please remember it's on a "first come, first in" basis and TI members will always have first shot at play. Again, this is a fun league and fun is the name of the game. WELCOME BACK ALL!

*Ron Stewart 207-641-5335  
Gail Stewart 207-459-9548*

#### Boat Club Meeting



The first Boat Club meeting will be held on **November 5 at 6:30 PM** in the Auditorium.

The Club meets every 1st and 3rd Wednesday of the month, November-April. Our treasurer, Karen Linke, wants to encourage those that attend our first meeting to pay their 2025/2026 dues, now \$25/family per year. It would be a great help to Karen if those paying their dues, could PLEASE bring the correct amount. (\$20 +\$5 would be of great help.)

Don't forget to wear your name tags! Hope to see you there! Contact Tom Hennessy at 941-224-1716 if you have any questions.

*Tom Hennessy, Commodore*

#### Entertainment Committee Meeting



The Entertainment Committee will be meeting for the first time this season on **Thursday, November 6th at 10:00 AM** in the Yacht Club. We are ready to come together to plan some great events and activities this season. We will welcome anyone who would like to be a part of this committee. You are under no obligation to attend every meeting or chair any events. Your ideas and helping hands will always be appreciated. We have lots of fun just planning, setting up, and gathering. Feel free to stop in and see if this would be something you'd be interested in!

The first golf cart parade was held on Sunday, October 26 and we had a Halloween party in the Auditorium on Halloween. Thank you to all who helped make these events happen.

The Welcome Back Dance will be held on Saturday, November 15th at 7 PM- 10 PM in the Auditorium parking lot with the music being piped indoors. DJ Peter Gruskin (and his adorable wife) will be keeping us dancing to the tunes. We will be selling \$5 tickets for a chance to win \$100 in lottery tickets. Bring your drinks, snacks and chair for the outdoors. (Feel free to bring a small table for circular outdoor gatherings.)

I would like to take the time to talk about the dances that the Entertainment Committee will be hosting this year. In the past, before the pandemic, our park would hold dances in the Auditorium. There were many times when some residents were unable to attend due to the size and capacity of the Auditorium. After the pandemic, we were unable to gather indoors, so we started having the dances outside in the parking lot. As our park grows and the Auditorium does not, we realized that this could be the answer to our problem. We could give the residents a choice of being outdoors or indoors. We started looking at the sound system and listening to the desires of the residents. We found the interest was 50% outdoors and 50% indoors. So, it was decided that when the weather permits, the Entertainment-sponsored dances will be held both outdoors and indoors with the music being piped indoors. The board has agreed to upgrade the sound system and will be installing equipment to make the sound much better indoors than in the past.

Our Entertainment-sponsored dances are The Welcome Back, Christmas, and Farewell Dance. The other dances are sponsored by The Tropicaires, Boat Club, and Boosters and they will make their own decisions on the locations.

*The Entertainment Committee*

*(continued on page 10)*

## ~COMING EVENTS~



### Bowling News

Hi folks! I hope everyone is doing well. The Bowling League will be starting on **Thursday, November 6** at Bowlero Lanes in Bradenton. The starting time will be 12:30 PM for 16 weeks. We will be taking off for Thanksgiving, Christmas, and New Year's Day. I'm not sure, but the cost will be around \$18.00 per week and if you miss a week, the cost will be \$3.00 for the prize fund. We are always looking for subs and I think we need some full-time bowlers also. If you are interested, please let me know by phone or e-mail. My e-mail is [vickyle8@aol.com](mailto:vickyle8@aol.com) and my phone number is 528-283-2763. I hope to see you there. Thanks!

*Vicky Willams, Bowling Secretary/Treasurer*

### Welcome to Game Night!



Please join us on Thursday evenings starting **Thursday, November 6** at the Yacht Club for GAME NIGHT at 6 PM. You may come alone or with friends. Different card games and board games are played. If you come alone there will always be a place for you. You can bring a game that you would like to play. If you want to learn a new game, you will find many members who would be more than happy to teach you. It is a fun way to spend a social evening!

*Judy Gutwein and Kathi Gossman, Coordinators*

### Booster Meeting

**"Everyone is a Booster!"**

The first meeting of the Tropic Isles Boosters is scheduled for **Friday, November 7**, at 9:00



AM in the Auditorium. Please plan to attend and become part of the Boosters. The purpose of the Boosters is to work together to help make Tropic Isles a great place to live. The Boosters welcome everyone to attend as we begin planning for this season. We especially welcome new residents to attend and find out what the Boosters will be doing this year and hopefully become involved.

### Water Aerobics



Water Aerobics will have our first gathering on **November 10th at 10 AM at the pool**. Bring your aching bodies and your summer stories. We love to see your smiling faces that show your love for TI. Remember your water shoes, hat, drinking water, and sunscreen. All are welcome in this class. Come down and meet your neighbors, new and old. Your instructors will be Cindi Myers, Wendy Verstringhe, and Karen Timmermans. Contact Cindi Myers at 765-438-3642 if you have any questions. See you there!

### 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 is available to assist you with your 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](mailto: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*

### Activity Committee Meeting



The Activity Committee supports the 40+ activities in our community and always welcomes new ideas and activities! We look forward to connecting with you and most importantly, hearing how we can support your activity and group this coming season.

Regular meetings of the Committee are held on the second Wednesday of each month, November through April. Please join us on **Wednesday, November 12th at 9:00 AM** in the Auditorium. Old and new activities alike, please send a representative or two to the meeting, and share with the Activity Board your goals for the upcoming season. You can talk about news and happenings with your activity and club and where we can partner together to ensure our social community in Tropic Isles remains fun and vibrant.

*Wendy Verstringhe, Activity Committee President*



## ~COMING EVENTS~

### Shuffle Club News

Shuffleboard is an exciting game of skill and strategy (and a bit of luck). You may see us on the courts in the morning, or you may hear our shouts and laughter while you are in the pool. The courts are open to any residents, and we invite you to join us. It's fun to learn, so don't be shy. Our friendly members will be glad to assist you with instruction and equipment use. We play daily at 10:00 AM.



Our club members work hard to maintain the courts and keep the equipment in good working order. In January, some of our more experienced members will offer beginner lessons to anyone interested in learning the game, and intermediate lessons to those who have shuffleboard experience. We also have tournaments throughout the season providing fun for participants and spectators alike. There are many ways to get involved in the Shuffleboard Club, so join us for our first general meeting of the season on **Wednesday, November 12th**. We gather in the Auditorium for a potluck dinner at 5:00 PM, and the meeting starts at 6:00 PM.

See you on the courts!

*Julie Bonenfant, Club President*  
*Darlene Scruton, Club VP*



**2025 Tropic Isles Shufflers**



The Tropic Isles' Bible Study will resume **Friday, November 14th** at 9:00 AM in the Seabreeze Room with an informal discussion to decide what we want to study this season. I am hoping to see some familiar faces along with some new ones! I am looking forward to some great discussions! If you have any questions, please contact me, Karen Downing, at 231-218-4261 (phone or text) or email: [art.design.karen@gmail.com](mailto:art.design.karen@gmail.com).

### Welcome Back Dance



The Welcome Back Dance is scheduled for **Saturday, November 15th** with the popular DJ, Peter Gruskin. He will be playing from 7 PM until 10 PM. We will plan on having the dance outside of the Auditorium in the parking lot (weather permitting) with his music being piped inside. Bring your drinks, snacks, and chair for the outdoors. (Feel free to bring a small table for circular outdoor gatherings.) We will be selling 200 presale tickets for those who would like to make sure they have a reserved seat inside if the weather does not cooperate. If outside, unlimited tickets will be available at the door. The price of the ticket is \$8. Jackie Freeman will be selling the tickets. She can be reached at 859-750-2617. We will also be selling \$5 tickets for a chance to win \$100 in lottery tickets at the dance. Come enjoy the evening, see everyone, and dance the night away!

*The Entertainment Committee*

### Line Dancing



Another season will be starting soon for line dancing. I want to thank everyone for your participation last season and I am looking forward to this year. We will be having new songs and new dances. Classes will start **Monday, November 24**, from 6:30 PM to 7:30 PM in the Auditorium. Beginners are encouraged to come for fun and exercise. For more information call Nancy Larsen at 941-725-2216.

### Thanksgiving Dinner

The Boosters will be hosting Thanksgiving Dinner on **November 27**. Dinner will be served at 5:00 in the Auditorium. The cost is \$7 at the door. Please bring your own table setting and drinks.

There will be coffee and water available. Limited takeout will be available for those that are house bound. Please call Judy Milliken at 740-542-2155 or Marilyn Denby at 519-429-0250 to set up delivery or if you have any questions.



*Judy Milliken and Marilyn Denby, Coordinators*

*(continued on page 12)*

## ~COMING EVENTS~

### Tropical Red Hat Ladies



The Red Hat Ladies have been providing fun, social activities for the ladies of Tropic Isles for many years. Over the years, we've had as many as 50-75 ladies as part of our group. Sadly, many have gone to Red Hat Heaven and our numbers have decreased, so for now we will not be meeting this season. Here are some of the Red Hat Ladies we fondly remember.



However, the Tropical Red Hat Ladies will continue to hold our **Veterans Donations Drive** to collect items for the Veterans **starting November 28**. We will put up our red, white, and blue Christmas tree in the Auditorium as a collection point for our annual donations for Veterans. Appropriate donations include underwear, hats, gloves, shirts, t-shirts, socks, and toiletries. Donations from the community will be taken to Bay Pines VA Medical Center for

distribution. **The deadline to donate items for our veterans is December 15.** This has been a very successful program over the years to benefit the Veterans in our area. Please donate what you can and we thank you in advance for your contributions. If you have any questions about the Red Hat Ladies, please call Shirley Clarkson at 941-465-8430.



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## ~COMING EVENTS~

### DECEMBER

#### Yoga Classes



Hatha (Basic) Yoga classes will be held on **Wednesdays at 9:00-9:50 AM** in the Dockside (main) Room of the Yacht Club with Dottie Gross **starting December 3, 2025** and will run through January 28, 2026. Please bring your own yoga mat and water bottle. The cost is \$5 per session to be paid at the time of the class. All money will be donated to the Activities Committee. Contact Dottie Gross at 770-855-9618 if you have any questions.

#### Our First Blood Drive!

#### Share Your Power to Save Lives!



The Big Red Bus (Bloodmobile) will be in Tropic Isles on **December 5 from 7:30 AM-1:30**. Mark your calendars! This will be our first blood drive of the season, so let's have a good turnout. Do something wonderful for someone else by donating blood. You might ask, "Why donate blood?" You don't need a special reason to give blood. You just need to have your own reason.

- Some of us give blood because we were asked by a friend or relative.
- Some know that a family member or a friend might need blood someday.
- Some believe it is the right thing to do.

Whatever your reason, the need is constant, and your contribution is important for a healthy and reliable blood supply. You'll feel good knowing you've helped change a life. WHEN YOU GIVE BLOOD, you will receive a mini physical to check your:

Pulse  
Blood Pressure  
Hemoglobin

#### Come prepared.

- Have a light meal and plenty to drink.
- Bring your driver's license, or two other forms of identification.
- Bring the names of medications you are taking.

Giving blood is a simple thing to do, but it can make a big difference in the lives of others. Help save a life today by donating blood to those in need. To make an appointment to donate blood, please visit this website at [https://donor.oneblood.org/donor/schedules/drive\\_schedule/1387091](https://donor.oneblood.org/donor/schedules/drive_schedule/1387091). You can also just stop in to donate your blood on December 5 between 7:30 – 1:30. In **December, donors will receive a \$20 eGift card and a OneBlood sweatshirt.**

**Call Carmen Garcia at 787-501-2613 to get more information.**

Thanks, in advance, for your participation! Mark these blood drive dates on your calendar for this season.

**December 5, 2025**

**February 6, 2026**

**April 10, 2026**

**December 4, 2026**



### JANUARY

#### Come One, Come All – Free Shuffle Lessons!



The TI Shuffleboard Club welcomes new and experienced players to join its free lesson series and tournaments. Lessons are led by expert players and are offered weekly starting in January, running for six weeks.

Roy Swartz and his team, Lorne Antaya and Diane Swartz teach skills and strategy to new players. Beginners' lessons are held on Mondays from 1 PM usually wrapping up about 2:30 PM. All equipment that is needed is supplied by the TI Shuffle Club. The first beginner lesson is **January 5th.**

Dave Myers and his team, Dwayne Scruton and John Stuart teach more advanced skills and strategy to experienced players. Intermediate lessons are held on Thursdays from 1:00 to 2:30 PM. The first intermediate lesson is **January 8th.**

Both groups permit players to join later in the series if you're unable to make the first sessions. Players who have participated in the majority of lessons are welcome to play in the Beginner or Intermediate Tournaments in the week following lesson wrap-up.

So, mark your calendars! Not only will you learn and practice new skills and strategies, you will have loads of fun and laughs. We look forward to seeing you on the courts. Contact Julie Bonenfant at 508-395-2019 with questions.

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2

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3

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bet you're overpaying,  
and waiting forever for  
service. Me? I'm gonna  
stay "Cool like a  
Sewell" all summer  
long!



4

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Sewell! I'm in!



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## What's Happening in the Neighborhood?



### Library News



The Tropic Isles' Library, or more recently known as **The Book Nook**, is open! We have a new bookcase that contains all the audiobooks and DVD's, including those for children. We tried to keep the original organization for our library, but you will notice some changes. We are presently working on checking-in newly donated books. We have a very nice reading area consisting of two new, comfortable chairs with a small round table between them. There are still some things that need to be done, but please come to our library. We are open for business!

If you are new to Tropic Isles, you will find large print, hard cover, and paperback books, DVDs, magazines, jigsaw puzzles, and more. We have some games for adults and children. Our library operates on the honor system. You do not need to check out items you wish to borrow. We simply ask that you return the items to the basket by the desk when you are done. A library volunteer will put them back where they belong. If you'd like to volunteer to help in the library, please contact Phyllis Ann Smith at 941-932-5654.

*Phyllis Ann Smith, Library Committee President*

### Tuesdays at 2:00



The **Tuesdays at 2:00** group gets together for cards and something to do. We meet in the Dockside Room of the Yacht Club. There has been had a small

group playing a variety of card games throughout the summer, so come and join us! Everyone is welcome! We can teach you or you can teach us. We usually play for small change, so bring some dimes and quarters. If you are not a card player, the park also has some board games, or you can bring what you like to play. Contact Sherry Novak at 330-428-6005 or Sharon Wagner at 502-220-8557 if you have any questions.

## 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](mailto:jwfreeman@fuse.net) or call/text 859-750-2617 to Jackie Freeman.

## Tropic Isles' Book Club



On **Tuesday, November 11** 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

**November:** When The World Fell Silent by Donna Jones Alward

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

The Tropic Isles Book Club has selected their books for discussion in 2026. Join us on the second Tuesday of the month at 1 PM in the Dockside Room in the Yacht Club or just follow us virtually! Send your comments about the book we are reading each month to [irene5381@gmail.com](mailto:irene5381@gmail.com).

### 2026 Reading List



**January:** *The Stolen Life of Colette Marceau* by Kristin Harmel

**February:** *Crow Mary* by Kathleen Grissom

**March:** *When the Cranes Fly South* by Lisa Ridzen

**April:** *How to Read a Book* by Monica Wood

**May:** *Sandwich* by Catherine Newman

**June:** *Buckeye* by Patrick Ryan

**August:** *Hamnet* by Maggie O'Farrell

**September:** *The Unraveling of Julia* by Lisa Scottoline

**October:** *When We Flew Away* by Alice Hoffman

**November:** *The Lion Women of Tehran* by Marjan Kamali

**December:** *The View from Lake Como* by Adriana Trigiana

## Let's Play Poker!



Like to play poker? We play every **Monday night from 6 to 9 PM** in the Yacht Club. We play Dealer's Choice with nickel and dime antes. We are always eager to learn new games. We hope to see you there. Call Darlene at 810-488-0354 with any questions.



## Euchre Anyone?

We play Euchre every **Friday starting promptly at 6 PM to 9 PM** in the Yacht Club. You don't need to bring a partner. We play with 4, 5, or 6 people at a table. It just depends on how many people show up. It's always a fun time. Come and check it out. Call Darlene at 810-488-0354 with any questions.

*(continued on page 16)*

# What's Happening in the Neighborhood?

## 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 volunteers 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.

## Tropic Isles' Music Jam—TI Band

Enjoy an afternoon of music at the Musician's Jam held on **Wednesdays from 1-3 PM in the Yacht Club**. Due to lower attendance at this time of the year, please call Tom Tripp at 603-391-9645 prior to going, just to be sure it is happening.

## Entertainment Committee Events 2025-26



### 2025-2026 ENTERTAINMENT EVENTS

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

- Welcome Back Dance** ..... November 15th  
DJ Peter Ruskin and his wife
- Welcome Back Pool Party/YC Grand Opening**..... TBD
- Christmas Dance**.....December 13th  
Bob and Tom--The Band
- Christmas Golf Cart Parade** .....December 21  
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 15  
Meet at the Auditorium
- St. Pat's Golf Cart Parade**.....March 15  
Meet at the Auditorium
- Farewell Dance**.....March 28th  
SoulRCoaster (Theme: "The Big Glow")
- Pool Party** ..... April 11  
TI Band

### 2026 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.

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# What's Happening in the Neighborhood?

## Saturday Coffee Hour



"Coffee Hour" has returned to the newly remodeled Auditorium! This is the longest running park activity and continues to be a favorite. It's held on **Saturdays at 8:30 - 9:30 AM** and costs \$2 per person, serving coffee/tea, pastries, deli breads, hard rolls, meat, cheese, and condiments. **BRING A COFFEE CUP!**

Join us for a "meet and greet". New residents are given a warm welcome. The "Hour" includes table conversation, announcements, activity updates, items of interest, history trivia, and thoughts for the week. Park activity tickets are sold for other events, as are 50/50 tickets, of which 50% helps fund the club activities hosting Coffee Hour.

At the November 8, 2025, Coffee Hour, a special tribute will be paid to all park military veterans. **We are calling on all veterans to attend and partake in this honorary event.** Veterans will announce their service branch and speak. Flag bearers from each military branch are needed for the presentation of colors. Call me if you can be a flag bearer. I will take the lead to run November Coffee and will need volunteers to work as greeters, money collector, an MC, an audio person, donut and coffee servers, and 2 kitchen helpers. If you can volunteer this month, please let me know.

Kay Lynn Duncan, 941-722-0240,  
Coffee Hour Chair



## Coffee Talk



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:

**Rick Kropp** of Bimini Dr. (shoulder surgery #2)

**Karen Moritz** of 13th St. W. (rehab) - 6410 21st Ave W. #344, Bradenton, FL 34209

**Tyrone Shinn** of Bahama Dr. (back surgery)

A "Thinking of You" card was sent to:

**Pat Brazil** of Bimini Dr.

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.

## Exercise and Wellness

### WALKING AEROBICS



Aerobics is a fun activity that meets **Monday-Friday at 8:00 AM** in the Yacht Club. We use exercise DVDs to do 2 miles of walking aerobics for heart health with some strength training mixed in. Please bring your own weights if you use them. We vary the DVDs that we use to keep interest and enthusiasm high. Come on down and get fit with some friendly people!

Cindy Shaw and Bev MacKenzie, Coordinators

### 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.



### FULL SPEED AHEAD FITNESS CENTER

The Fitness Center is located in the Yacht Club and is open 24/7. Inside you will find treadmills, weights, and other fitness equipment for your needs.



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# Out and About.... Around Town!



**KEEP MANATEE BEAUTIFUL** was busy in 2025 collecting trash and storm debris in the hardest hit areas of Manatee County, but they couldn't have done it without the help of volunteers. This is what has been accomplished in the year since hurricanes Helene and Milton walloped coastal and inland areas throughout Manatee County. Keep Manatee Beautiful tallied 697 cleanups since October 1, 2024 along with:

- 7,320 Volunteer Hours
- 2,324 Volunteers
- 12,600+ sea oats were planted in July throughout Anna Maria Island.
- 2000 trees were distributed at the downtown Bradenton Market to be planted.
- 251,186 pounds of trash collected.

## **KEEP MANATEE BEAUTIFUL – First Tuesday & Saturday Cleanups**

### **First Saturday Cleanup**

**Saturday, November 1 at 9:00 AM – 12 noon**  
1605 Fort Hamer Rd., Boat Ramp  
Parrish, FL

**Saturday, December 6 at 9:00 AM – 12 noon**  
Bradenton Beach - Coquina South Boat Ramp  
2651 Gulf Dr. S.  
Bradenton Beach, FL

### **First Tuesday Cleanup**

**Tuesday, November 4 at 4:30 – 6:00 PM**  
Lewis Park  
3120 1st Ave. W.  
Bradenton, FL

**Tuesday, December 2 at 4:30 – 6:00 PM**  
Connor Park  
505 5th St. W.  
Palmetto, FL

To volunteer and sign up for any location go to [www.manateebeautiful.com](http://www.manateebeautiful.com) or call 941-795-8272.

## **Community Roadside Cleanup—November 15**



## **COMMUNITY ROADSIDE CLEANUP**

Join us for a cleanup along our adopted road, 53<sup>rd</sup> Ave West! All equipment will be provided along with cold drinks & a **FREE** hotdog lunch thanks to Detwiler's Farm Market!

### **What To Bring:**

- Protective Clothing
- Closed Toed Shoes or Boots
- Come Hydrated & Ready to Help

### **What We Provide:**

- Equipment; Gloves, Bags, Pickers
- Cold Drinks & Free Lunch
- Sign-Off's on Community Service Hours

### **PLEASE REGISTER**

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or email  
[seamoney.tribe@gmail.com](mailto:seamoney.tribe@gmail.com)

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NOVEMBER 15 2025  
8AM-11AM**

**MEETING LOCATION  
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# Out and About.... Around Town!

## Manatee Performing Arts Center

**MISERY – Now through November 2\***  
**HELLO DOLLY – October 23-November 9 \***  
**EAGLES AND ALABAMA TRIBUTE–**  
**November 11, Show times 2:00 and 7:00**



(\*Wednesday, Thursday, Friday, Saturday, and Sunday evening shows are at 7:30 PM. There are also Saturday and Sunday Matinees at 2:00 PM.) Call 941-748-5875 for tickets.

## The New North River Community Market in Palmetto

The North River Community Market is held on the **first Sunday of every month from 10 AM to 2 PM**. This month's North River Community Market is being held on **Sunday, November 2** at "The Yard" of the Palmetto Marriott Resort and Spa. This open-air event is all about community, local flavor, and getting people together in a laid-back setting. Parking is free, admission is free, and the location is easy to find right off of US-41. They are located next to the Bradenton Area Convention Center in Palmetto.

Expect a solid mix of handmade goods, fresh produce, pantry staples, and local art. You'll find quality items that reflect the area's creativity and culture. You'll also see food trucks and pop-up food vendors with plenty of options for breakfast, lunch, and snacking in between.

There'll also be **live music** and a **Kids Fun Zone**, so it's easy to make a day of it, whether you're coming solo or bringing the family.



Palmetto Downtown Main Street is proud to join the Manatee County Veterans Council and the City of Palmetto in hosting the annual Veterans Day Parade and Ceremony on **Tuesday, November 11th, 2025**. The community is invited to come together to honor the service and sacrifice of our nation's veterans.

The day's events will begin with a Veterans Day Ceremony at Sutton Park Stage at 11:00 AM. Following the ceremony, the Veterans Day Parade will start movement from the Manatee County Fairgrounds at 11:30 AM, concluding at Sutton Park.

The parade will include local Veteran Organizations, JROTC units, high school and community bands, and civic groups marching in honor of America's heroes. Veterans Day is a time for us to reflect on the courage and sacrifice of those who have worn the uniform in defense of our freedoms. The entire community is invited to join everyone in showing gratitude and respect for our veterans.

## Coming Soon! 14th Ave. Park



The City of Palmetto is building a new community park off 14th Avenue West between 10th Street West and 8th Street West. It will have eight pickleball courts, a basketball court, covered pavilion, multi-use field, playground, 55 parking spaces, and a 0.7-mile walking trail. It's expected to open mid to late 2026.

## Happy Thanksgiving to all!



**FALL BACK!!**  
**Daylight Saving Time**  
**ends November 2nd**  
**Change clocks back**  
**one hour.**

**And...Don't forget to**  
**change the battery in**  
**your smoke detector.**



| SUNDAY                                                             |                                                                                                                                                     | MONDAY                                                                                    |                                                                                                                                   | TUESDAY                                                                                                               |                                                                                            | WEDNESDAY                                                                          |  | THURSDAY |  | FRIDAY |  | SATURDAY |  |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--|----------|--|--------|--|----------|--|
|                                                                    |                                                                                                                                                     |                                                                                           |                                                                                                                                   |                                                                                                                       |                                                                                            |                                                                                    |  |          |  |        |  | 1        |  |
| <div>November 2025</div>                                           |                                                                                                                                                     |                                                                                           |                                                                                                                                   |                                                                                                                       |                                                                                            |                                                                                    |  |          |  |        |  |          |  |
| 2<br>6:00 pm<br>Progressive Euchre - Y<br><br>Daylight Saving Ends | 3<br>6:00 pm<br>Texas Hold 'Em begins - Y                                                                                                           | 4<br>9:30 am<br>ARC Meeting - A<br>10:00 am<br>TIPOA BOD Meeting - SB                     | 5<br>8:30 am<br>Golf League begins<br>6:30 pm<br>Boat Club Meeting - A                                                            | 6<br>10:00 am - Entertainment Meeting - Y<br>12:30 pm<br>Bowling<br>6:00 pm<br>Game Night - Y                         | 7<br>9:00 am<br>Boosters Meeting - A                                                       | 8<br>8:30 am<br>Coffee Hour - Tribute to Veterans - A                              |  |          |  |        |  |          |  |
| 9                                                                  | 10<br>9:00 am<br>Caring Team - A<br>10:00 am<br>Water Aerobics - Pool<br>10:15 am<br>TIPOA Members Mtg. - Y                                         | 11<br>1:00 pm<br>Book Club - Y<br><br>Veterans Day                                        | 12<br>9:00 am<br>Activity Mtg - A<br>9:30 am<br>3-COR Mtg. Shuffle Meeting/<br>Potluck - A                                        | 13                                                                                                                    | 14<br>9:00 am<br>Bible Study - SB                                                          | 15<br>7:00 pm<br>Welcome Back Dance - A                                            |  |          |  |        |  |          |  |
| 16<br>6:00 pm<br>Progressive Euchre - Y                            | 17                                                                                                                                                  | 18<br>9:30 am<br>ARC Meeting - A                                                          | 19<br>6:30 pm<br>Boat Club Meeting - A                                                                                            | 20<br>9:30 am<br>Co-Op BOD Meeting - A and Zoom                                                                       | 21                                                                                         | 22                                                                                 |  |          |  |        |  |          |  |
| 23                                                                 | 24<br>6:30 pm<br>Line Dancing begins - A                                                                                                            | 25                                                                                        | 26<br>9:30 am<br>3-COR Meeting                                                                                                    | 27<br>5:00 pm<br>Thanksgiving Dinner - A                                                                              | 28<br>Red Hat Tree<br>Veteran Donations begin - A                                          | 29                                                                                 |  |          |  |        |  |          |  |
| 30                                                                 |                                                                                                                                                     |                                                                                           |                                                                                                                                   |                                                                                                                       |                                                                                            |                                                                                    |  |          |  |        |  |          |  |
| WEEKLY EVENTS                                                      |                                                                                                                                                     |                                                                                           |                                                                                                                                   |                                                                                                                       |                                                                                            |                                                                                    |  |          |  |        |  |          |  |
| 10:00 am Shuffle<br>2:15 pm Mahjong - SB                           | 8:00 am Aerobics - Y<br>9:00 am Fun & Fitness- Y<br>10:00 am Shuffle<br>6:00 pm Poker - Y<br>6:00 pm Texas Hold 'Em - Y<br>6:30 pm Line Dancing - A | 8:00 am Aerobics - Y<br>9:00 am Fun & Fitness- Y<br>10:00 am Shuffle<br>2:00 pm Cards - Y | 8:00 am Aerobics - Y<br>10:00 am Shuffle<br>1:00 pm Music Jam - Y<br>2:15 pm Mahjong - SB<br>Kayak Group Launch<br>9:00 am Depart | 8:00 am Aerobics - Y<br>9:00 am Fun & Fitness- Y<br>10:00 am Shuffle<br>12:30 pm Canasta- Y<br>6:00 pm Game Night - Y | 8:00 am Aerobics - Y<br>9:00 am Bible Study - SB<br>10:00 am Shuffle<br>6:00 pm Euchre - Y | 8:30 am Coffee Hour - A<br>10:00 am Shuffle<br>6:00 pm Mexican Train Dominoes - SB |  |          |  |        |  |          |  |



## Laughter is the Best Medicine!

- If the No. 2 pencil is the most popular, why is it still No. 2?
- Why do we press harder on the remote control when we know the batteries are getting weak?
- Why are you "in" a movie, but "on" TV?
- What was the best thing BEFORE sliced bread?
- Why do we drive on parkways and park on driveways?
- Why do "fat chance" and "slim chance" mean the same thing?
- Why do British people never sound British when they sing?
- At a movie theater, which arm rest is yours?
- Why are there no "B" batteries?
- Why do people say "heads up" when you should duck?
- If you are cremated after you die, why not get yourself put into an hourglass, so you can still participate in family game night.
- All my life I thought air was free until I bought a bag of chips.
- I never make the same mistake twice. I make it 5 or 6 times just to be sure.
- First rule of cleaning while listening to music. Don't use the toilet brush as a microphone.
- Never look at your beer as half empty. Look at it as you are halfway to your next beer.
- Wi-Fi went down for 5 minutes, so I had to talk to my family. They seem like nice people.
- Sometimes life bites you in the butt. Luckily, I have enough padding there to take the hit.
- They're called "MAN HOURS" because a woman would have that stuff done in 20 minutes.



Happy Thanksgiving

## The Crows Are Back . . . Or Did They Ever Leave?

### 9 REALLY WEIRD CROW FACTS:



1. Crows living in suburban areas require only 10% of the nesting territory that crows living in the wilderness do.
2. Crows are much more tolerant of range overlap.
3. They also will build fake nests to fool predators.
4. Crows will crush an ant and rub it all over themselves like perfume! The Formic Acid in the ants helps ward off parasites.
5. Pet crows give their owners "names". This is identified by a unique sound they make around specific people that they would not otherwise make.
6. Healthy crows help crippled crows, but they have a dark side. Crows occasionally murder each other for reasons that mystify scientists.
7. Crows have been observed chasing sparrows into buildings in order to stun them. The result is sparrow for lunch. Don't worry, they pick on birds their own size – mobbing crows can seriously injure hawks. Scientists suspect an eagle was even killed by mobbing crows.
8. Crows have been reported to eat over 1000 food items, including insects, worms, berries, bird's eggs and nestlings, small mammals, bats, fish, snakes, frogs, salamanders, animal dung, grain, nuts, carrion, fried chicken, hamburgers, Chinese food, French fries, and human vomit. They can be weirdly picky though – an experiment showed crows prefer French fries in a McDonald's bag over those in a brown paper bag. To top it off, a nestling can eat 100 grasshoppers in 3 hours.
9. Crows sunbathe for Vitamin D.

## 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, please call: Mitch and Lisa Barribeau at 920-373-6787. Leave message, if no answer.**

**OR**

**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                     |
| <a href="https://www.friendsofthepelicans.org">https://www.friendsofthepelicans.org</a> |                               |
| Save Our Seabirds                                                                       | Sarasota                      |
| <a href="https://www.saveourseabirds.org">https://www.saveourseabirds.org</a>           |                               |
| Seaside Seabird Sanctuary                                                               | Indian Shores (near St. Pete) |
| <a href="https://seasideseabirdsanctuary.org">https://seasideseabirdsanctuary.org</a>   |                               |
| Wildlife, Inc.                                                                          | Anna Maria Island             |
| <a href="https://wildlifeinc.org">https://wildlifeinc.org</a>                           |                               |



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# November Is Manatee Awareness Month

How much do you really know about manatees? Sure, they're cute, and Manatee County is named after them, but did you know manatees are smart?

Did you know?

- that manatees are related to elephants?
- that fishermen back in the day used to think they were mermaids?
- that they're vegetarians?
- that they have their own state proclamation signed by the governor declaring that November is Manatee Awareness Month?
- that manatees—not dolphins—are the state's official marine mammal?
- that they're defenseless against the cold, red tide, watercraft, and disruptions to their habitat?
- that they're endangered?
- that November is a critical time for manatees because that's when they start returning to warm-water winter refuges in Florida and many seasonal manatee protection zones go into effect.

Here are some tips to make sure that manatees stay safe, so the next generation of humans can be charmed and fascinated by them.

- Wear polarized sunglasses on the water to better see manatees in your path.
- Follow posted signs for slow-speed manatee protection zones.
- Keep your distance from manatees—never feed, chase, touch, or harass them.
- Stow trash and fishing line when underway. Marine debris that accidentally blows overboard can become ingested by or entangled around manatees.
- If you observe a manatee mating herd—several manatees gathered as males vie to mate with a female—watch from at least 100 feet away. Coming any closer might disrupt the animals' natural mating behavior or put people into harm's way.

Call 1-888-404-3922, \*FWC, or #FWC on a cell phone, or use VHF Channel 16 on marine radios to report:

- A manatee with a pink or red (fresh) wound.
- A dead manatee.
- A manatee tilting to one side, unable to submerge, having trouble breathing or acting strangely.
- A manatee calf by itself with no adults around for an extended time.
- Anyone harassing a manatee in any way.
- Boaters speeding in a manatee zone.
- A manatee entangled in monofilament, crab-trap lines, or other debris. Do not attempt to remove debris by yourself. It may be embedded underneath the skin, and only a trained veterinarian can adequately assess and treat wounds.



# Manatee and Humanity

There's something about a manatee that makes people smile. November through March, the gentle giants move inland to warmer water and fascinated fans can see them up close. Here are some places to do that:

- **Manatee Viewing Center**—Apollo Beach Tampa Electric draws water from Tampa Bay to cool its Big Bend power plant, returning the warm, clean discharge into the canal that becomes a manatee spa from November to April. With viewing walkways over 50 acres, it is also a federally designed sanctuary.
- **Three Sisters Springs**—Crystal River-- This oasis frequently hosts 100 manatees at a time drawn by the constant 72-degree water. Accessible by canoe or kayak (rentals are available in town), the springs also feature a viewing boardwalk on a 57-acre preserve.
- **Blue Springs State Park**—Orange City-- The St. Johns River refuge has a population of manatees exceeding 300 during the coldest months. With public diving, canoeing, and swimming prohibited between November and March, the manatees have room to frolic and visitors have unobstructed views.



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# Thoughts on Growing Old

## TEN COMMANDMENTS FOR SENIORS

1. Talk to yourself. There are times when you need expert advice.
2. "In style" are the clothes that still fit.
3. You don't need anger management. You need people to stop irritating you.
4. Your people skills are just fine. It's your tolerance for idiots that needs work.
5. The biggest lie you tell yourself is: "I don't need to write that down. I'll remember it."
6. "On time" is when you get there.
7. You've noticed people your age are much older than you are.
8. Ageing has slowed you down, but it hasn't shut you up.
9. You still haven't learned to act your age and I hope you never will.
10. "One for the road" means peeing before you leave the house.



## Live and Learn and Pass It On

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

- I've learned that meeting interesting people depends less on where you go than who you are. -age 51
- I've learned that regrets over yesterday and the fear of tomorrow are twin thieves that rob us of the moment. -age 29
- I've learned that you can never have too many smart people in your life. -age 48
- I've learned that you never get rewarded for the things you intended to do. -age 76
- I've learned that you shouldn't expect life's very best if you're not giving it your very best. -age 51
- I've learned that if you ask someone, "I wonder if you could please help me?" you will almost always get a positive response. -age 57
- I've learned that the only time I want to sleep late is when I can't. -age 28
- I've learned that the trick is to live a long time without growing old. -age 73
- I've learned that when someone gives you free tickets, don't complain about the seats or the show. -age 45
- I've learned that whatever I love to do, I do well. -age 46

## 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](mailto:tibreezes1@aol.com) or text it to 608-212-8967. Please send in your favorite nature photo.

## ~~SPECIAL THANKS~~

- Thank you to **Connie Giroux** and **Dawn Perna** for volunteering to be a substitute Block Captain for the residents on Jamaica and Nassau Drives.
- A "special thanks" to **Bev Butts, Rick Kropp, Don Stroud, and Bob and Sharon Williams** for submitting special articles for the Breezes in September and October.
- I would like to thank my awesome **Summer Coffee Team** who showed up early every Saturday morning to be sure the coffee was on and the donuts ready to serve. It was my pleasure to work with Debbie and Al Coleman, Floretta Krueger, Shirley Clarkson, Dawn Jackson, and Nancy Larsen. It was a pleasure to work with you!

*Irene Casey, Summer Coffee Chair*

## Safety Tip of the Month ---



With a growing number of older adults living independently, it's increasingly important to make sure that they're safe at home. Falls, burns, and poisonings are among the most common accidents involving older people. Older adults who live alone may also become the victims of criminals who target older people. If you're an older adult living on your own, or care for an older person living alone, here's what you need to do to stay safe.

### Keep emergency numbers handy

Always keep a list of emergency numbers by each phone. Write this information in large enough print that you can read it easily if you are in a hurry or frightened. Be sure to list numbers for:

- 911
- Poison Control: 1-800-222-1222
- Family member or friend to call in case of emergency
- Healthcare provider's office

### Prevent falls

- If you have difficulty with walking or balance, or have fallen in the past year, talk to your healthcare provider about having a special falls risk assessment.
- Ask your provider if you would benefit from an exercise program to prevent falls.
- If you have fallen before, or are scared of falling, think about buying a special alarm that you wear as a bracelet or necklace. Then, if you fall and can't get to the phone, you can push a button on the alarm that will call emergency services for you.
- Don't rush to answer the phone. Many people fall trying to answer the phone. Either carry a cordless or cell phone, or let an answering machine pick up.
- When walking on smooth floors, wear non-slip footwear, such as slippers with rubber/no-slip bottoms or flat, thin-soled shoes that fit well.
- If you have a cane or a walker, use it at all times instead of holding onto walls and furniture.

## Rule of the Month

### HAVE YOU READ YOUR RULES LATELY?

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](http://www.tropicisles.net) to view or print a copy online.

#### 3.2 Unit/Lot Numbers

All residents shall post three-inch (3") Unit/Lot numbers on their Dwelling facing the street, at the corner of the Dwelling closest to the carport or driveway, and according to local ordinances.

#### 3.10 Grills, Fire Pits, Other Flammable Appliances

- Grills, fire pits, or other open flame appliances using firewood are permitted.
- Open flames are **NOT** permitted within or under carports or covered patios.
- Outdoor gas or electric grills and appliances used for cooking are permitted and must be used according to manufacturer's specifications.

#### 6.3 Use of Equipment

- All chairs, tables, or any other equipment in the Yacht Club and the Auditorium are to remain in their respective buildings, unless approved by Management.
- After use of any such equipment, the person making the use thereof, shall promptly restore and replace the same items to their original position.
- The Association will **NOT** loan out chairs, tables, or any other equipment without prior approval from Management.

- Children under the age of eighteen (18) are **NOT** permitted in the Yacht Club fitness center, library, or billiards room unless accompanied by a Resident/Guest adult.

#### 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.

#### 12.2 Unacceptable Conduct

- Disorderly conduct, public intoxication, and profane language by Residents or Guests constituting a disturbance or public nuisance to other Residents will not be tolerated.
- A Resident will not interfere with another Resident's quiet and peaceful enjoyment of their Dwelling and Unit/Lot.
- An act which endangers life, health, safety, property, or peaceful enjoyment of the Community or its Residents is a violation of these Rules and Regulations and the Governing Documents of the Association. The Association can take prompt action and use all the remedies available under the Association's Governing Documents and FL statutes.
- Residents should call the Palmetto Police Department (941-721-2000) at the time of the offense to report any violations of the law or City ordinances.



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# Marina Store Upgrades — Exciting News!

By Rick Kropp



Great news for everyone who enjoys spending time at the Marina. Some exciting upgrades are underway at our marina store!

First off, a big “thank you” goes out to the Board and to Bobbie for recognizing the importance of our fuel, bait, and tackle store. Their support and dedication help to keep this part of our community thriving.

Starting in late October or early November, we’ll be seeing a brand-new commercial fuel dock installed. No more replacing the EZ dock floats every couple of years. This new system is built to last, likely for the lifetime of most of our residents!

Our fuel dispenser, which was badly damaged during last year’s hurricane, will also be replaced with a commercial-grade unit. It’ll sit about three feet above the concrete base for extra protection against high water, and a protective cage will be built around it to shield it from flying debris during storms.



You might have noticed the new bubbler system on the water side of the ramp. This handy addition helps prevent floating sea-grass from piling up when

the west winds blow in, making the ramp safer and easier to use when launching or retrieving boats.

For a special touch, check out the beautiful antique anchor now on display! A big thanks to Dean Brown for providing it! The anchor dates back to the mid-to-late



1800s and was carefully restored by Dean’s neighbor, John Olsen, to bring back some of its original charm.

Thanks to everyone involved in making these improvements happen. Our marina just keeps getting better, and it’s all thanks to the teamwork, pride, and care that make Tropic Isles such a wonderful place to live.



## Tropic Isles’ Marina



### **MARINA HOURS**

Open 7:00 AM to 5:00 PM

7 days a week,  
weather permitting

### **MARINA STAFF**

**Rick Kropp -**

**Marina Manager**

**Dean Brown**

**Mike Biggins**

**Jerry Quesenberry**

**Joe Bokar (“Bokey”)**

## Boat Launch Permits ~



Any resident who launches their boat from the boat ramp at the Marina must have a launch permit. **Permits are provided free to Residents.** Please pick up a boat launch permit at the Marina. The staff at the Marina will have each resident sign for a new permit because the new permits are numbered and are assigned to a specific resident. This permit should be affixed to your boat and displayed where it is clearly visible to the Marina staff. If you are a resident launching your boat at the Marina, temporary parking is available for your vehicle/trailer with a parking permit from the Office. Contact the Office for details.



## Kayak-Ity-Yak News



The Tropic Isles' Kayaking Group resumed its weekly schedule on Wednesdays. We start launching our kayaks at 9:00 AM and then meet on the lee side of Bird Island just west of the Trinidad/Jamaica canal at 9:30 AM. (See map below.) Notices will be sent out to all previous members of the Kayaking Group, but new residents need to get on the list. Please email Beverly Butts at [beverlybutts@gmail.com](mailto:beverlybutts@gmail.com) (that's me in the kayak!) with your email address(es) and you will be added to the list. Being on the list means you will get notified when tide or weather conditions prevent the Kayaking Group from going out.



## Kayak Rack Storage



**Check with the Office about availability on the racks.**

**Yearly rental prices are \$75 for a top rack and \$100 for a bottom rack.**

**REMEMBER TO LOCK YOUR KAYAKS TO THE RACK!**

**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, especially during hurricane season.**

## Calling All Kayakers!

*By Beverly Butts*

Last year at this time, we were surrounded by water, but we could not launch our boats. Our launch was sitting in the Auditorium parking lot as a result of the flood waters of Helene on September 28th! But TI persevered and on December 3rd, the launch was slowly moved by Tom, using the TI tractor, and John Partridge's dolly to the Marina along with a group of volunteers. The launch was slowly lowered down the ramp and was once again afloat!



Thankfully our launch is still in its place behind the Auditorium and we can again enjoy all that kayaking that our water paradise provides:

- Our water is mostly shallow for our novices. (If you tip over, you can usually stand up!)
- We have the mangroves nearby to shelter us on windy days.
- Terra Ceia Bay is full of marine wildlife.
- The canals in our park beg to be explored.
- Our beloved Bird Island is our gateway to bird watching.
- Emerson Point is just down the road by car or by boat!

Kayak storage is available behind the Auditorium and can be arranged with the Office. The charge is \$75 for a top rack and \$100 for a bottom rack for a year agreement. We have not had a lot of theft, but it can happen. Be sure to secure your kayak to the rack with cable locks.

There is a sign at the launch giving directions how to use the launch and about signing out. If someone is signed out (meaning they are on the water), the ramp is left down to provide easy egress from the water. Once everyone is back and out of the water, the rope under the ramp should be tightened so as to keep the ramp out of the water. At the north side of the launch area there is a place to put your kayak and hose it off before placing it back on the rack.

Of course, being a TI resident means you can kayak whenever you want, but consider going out with other TI residents every Wednesday morning. It takes a while to get everyone in the water, so plan to be ready to launch at 9 AM and we all gather in the lee of Bird Island at 9:30. I maintain a list of interested "yakkers" and usually put out a comment on Tuesday about weather conditions. We have had groups of twenty plus and some days where I am the only one on the water due to tide issues. If you are new to TI and want to join the Kayaking Group, please email me to be added to our group at [beverlybutts@gmail.com](mailto:beverlybutts@gmail.com).

# Cleanup of Hurricane Debris by Kayaks



By Beverly Butts

If you know anything about kayaks, they are not BIG boats. They are designed to get you smoothly through the water. They are not barges. However, when you are a dedicated kayaker and your home waters are filled with debris, you can get creative. Such was the case in November after the Hurricanes of Helene and Milton were done with us.

Some of our "regular" kayakers: Denny Foley, Louise and John Partridge, Betty and Hans Ulrich and me, decided to take to cleaning the mangroves near the Bimini canal. We got very creative in carrying the refuse. We even brought along a towable kayak to haul more stuff.

We soon learned that kayaks are soon overwhelmed AND we didn't have a place to unload the trash. Thankfully, Terry Foley provided the muscle to pull and lift the trash off our boats. We then manhandled the trash to the huge pile by the Auditorium.

Weeks later a full group of volunteers from Tropic Isles and Suncoast Waterkeepers launched a massive cleanup. Two dumpsters were filled with siding, roofs, and insulation. It was amazing to see how much debris was sitting in our waterways and I do believe there are still two planters and a bench in the shallows off Terra Ceia Drive!



## 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.



# Carports



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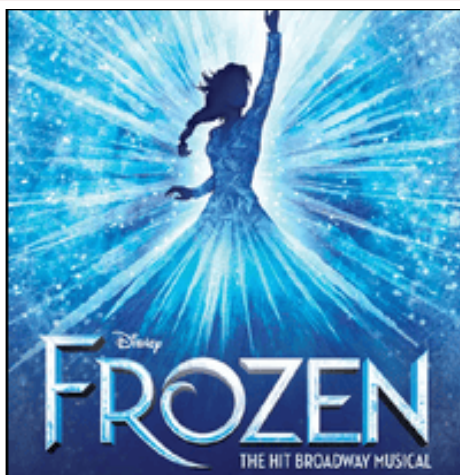
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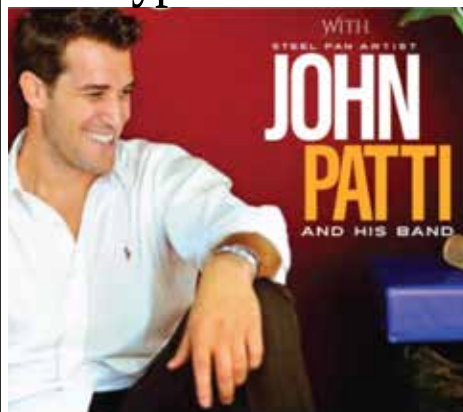
**Hotel Alabama: Tributes to the Eagles and Alabama**

**November 11th  
2pm & 7pm**



**Disney's Frozen  
December 4th – 14th**

## A Calyp-Soul Christmas



**A Calyp-Soul Christmas  
December 17th - 7:30 pm**



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## Friendly Reminders

- 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 have corrections or additions to make for the Resident Directory, please complete an Information Form with your information. A copy of the form can be picked up in the Office.
- **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. An ARC application can be picked up in the Office.
- 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](mailto:info@tropicisles.net) to make that request. Mail Chimp requests to make an announcement must be made 48 hours in advance and sent to [info@tropicisles.net](mailto: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.
- DO NOT feed stray cats or dogs. This attracts unwanted critters to the area. Our Rules and Regulations clearly state:  
10.5 General  
*Residents are not permitted to leave food or water dishes outdoors. This includes bird feed.*
- Remember that NO yard waste (grass clipping, branches, etc.) should end up in the canals or streets. Please notify your lawn care service of this as well.
- Avoid driving down the streets where demolition of homes is being done or new homes are being installed. Many nails, screws, and sharp metal pieces get left behind which could do damage to your tires. Residents on those streets can help by walking the street you live on and picking up the sharp metal items that get left behind. We all can do our part to help!



- That dog owners are EXPECTED to be responsible and pick up after your dog EVERYWHERE and dispose of their waste in the proper container. Dogs must be on a leash throughout the park and in the control of the Resident or an authorized caregiver at all times.
- Smokers, please do not use the streets, parking lots, or common grounds as your ashtray. Please dispose of your cigarette butts in the trash can.
- THE POOL IS OPEN 24/7, BUT PLEASE BE CONSIDERATE OF YOUR NEIGHBORS. QUIET HOURS ARE 10 PM TO 8:30 AM.

- If your activity changes the formation of the tables in the Yacht Club or Auditorium, you must return the tables to their original formation.
- That these are important emails to record and save:  
Tropic Isles Co-op Manager, Barbara McEvoy [manager@tropicisles.net](mailto:manager@tropicisles.net)  
Administrative Assistant, Lori Rizzo [office@tropicisles.net](mailto:office@tropicisles.net)  
Resident Services, Robin Emanuel [frontdesk@tropicisles.net](mailto:frontdesk@tropicisles.net)  
Maintenance Manager, Tom Tonich [maintenance@tropicisles.net](mailto:maintenance@tropicisles.net)  
Marina Manager, Rick Kropp [marina@tropicisles.net](mailto:marina@tropicisles.net)

## Booster News



### YOU ARE A BOOSTER!

#### Who is a Booster?

Anyone that lives in Tropic Isles (shareholders, homeowners, renters, property owners)

#### What is the Boosters' purpose?

To support efforts in making Tropic Isles a great place to live.

#### What are some of their projects?

- Palm Trees – Purchase, plant, and maintain palm trees.
- Recycling - Collect and redeem aluminum cans.
- Financial Support – Contribute financially to further the efforts of other park groups.
- Tropic Isles' t-shirts sales
- Social Activities – Please read the Breezes Newsletter for all activity notices.

#### When do they meet?

- **We meet the first Friday of each month in the Auditorium, November–April at 9 AM.**
- Meetings are informative and open to all.



## Aluminum Cans



The Boosters continue to collect aluminum cans. 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, cardboard, or any food items in the box. We collect a considerable amount of money from recycling and the money is used on items for the park.

## ? Did You Know? ?

- That **all activities in Tropic Isles** are listed in the front of the Resident Phone Directory on pages 4-7?
- That **garbage, yard waste, and recycling information** is found on page 5 of the resident phone directory?
- That the **Block Captain for your street** is listed on page 7 in the resident phone directory?
- That the **properties on the numbered streets** (12th, south side of 13th only, 14th, 28th Ave. Dr., 29th, 31st) and Trinidad Way are deeded property and are governed by the laws and ordinances of the City of Palmetto?
- That the **Full Speed Ahead Fitness Center, Gamers Quarters, Book Nook, and Seabreeze Room** are newly renovated and are available for your use?
- That Maui Dr. is a **ONE-WAY** Street going from 28th Ave. to Aloha Dr.? ALL vehicles, including golf carts and bikes, should proceed in the correct direction to avoid mishaps on this narrow road.



- That the 2 restrooms in the Yacht Club are now unisex. Both restrooms can be used by either men or women?



- Follow the SLOW-Manatee Zone signs in the area. Manatees are on the move now that the water is warm. It is against the law to harass, feed, water, or touch a manatee.
- You can access the Breezes newsletter by visiting the Tropic Isles portal at [www.tropicisles.net](http://www.tropicisles.net) under the "Residents"—"Breezes Newsletters" heading.
- You can send pictures to be included in the Breezes newsletter of your events by texting them to 608-212-8967 or emailing them to [tibreezes1@aol.com](mailto:tibreezes1@aol.com). Don't forget to send your pictures to [fl34221@aol.com](mailto:fl34221@aol.com) to be posted on the Tropic Isles' Facebook page.
- That there is **NO PARKING** on the empty lots, on the grass, or in other resident's driveways without permission from the owner.

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## Grass Recycling Is Important



We want to take a moment to remind you to practice “grass recycling” when your lawn gets mowed. Grass recycling (or mulching) means leaving clippings on your lawn. This helps to make sure grass clippings do not blow into bodies of water or onto surfaces such as driveways, sidewalks, or street curbs, where they will eventually end up in the canals during rain events. Nutrients trapped in organic matter, such as grass clippings, leaves, and branches, can be re-released as pollutants when organic debris enters drainage areas, basin canals, and waterways. We all need to do our part to protect our waterways, and making sure to blow your grass clippings back onto your lawn is an important step. Please remind your lawn service to do the same. Thanks!

## Looking for Someplace to Donate Your Unwanted Items?

If you have items that you would like to donate, there are many thrift stores in Palmetto and Bradenton that accept donations, besides your church or homeless shelters.

- Palmetto Village Thrift
- Goodwill Donation Center
- Hope Chest Thrift Store
- Salvation Army
- Habitat For Humanity



You can also use the **Vietnam Veterans Program -- Pick Up Please**. It is a very convenient donation pick-up program. They will come right to your house and pick up the items. You just need to box up the items and set them outside for a scheduled pick-up. The website is <https://pickupplease.org> or you can call them at 800-775-8387 to schedule a pick-up. The website has more information on what they will and will not pick up. They do not pick up furniture.

**NOTE:** The Treasure House at 21 Flores is no longer accepting any type of donations. The Community Sale Program has been discontinued. The house belongs to the Co-op and is being used as a storage facility.

## Thinking of Installing a New Home?



Anyone wishing to install a new home must complete an ARC application and should stop in the Office to pick up a copy of the Requirements for New Home Installation.

## Architectural Review Committee (ARC) Procedure

ARC approval is needed for **ANY** improvements that happen outside—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](http://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 directions 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. If there is not enough time to do this, you will have to wait for a future date.
5. You will be notified when your request is placed on the agenda for an ARC meeting. 3-COR Meetings are usually held the first and third Wednesday of the month at 9:30 AM in the Auditorium. ARC Meetings are held on an “as-needed” basis and are announced via Mailchimp in October. You are encouraged to attend the meeting.
6. After the meeting, you will be notified, by phone or in writing, as to whether your request is approved or denied.
7. If denied, you can appeal the decision to the Board of Directors, if you so choose.
8. **To obtain a permit from the City, you must first receive the Architectural Review Application approval, signed by the ARC committee and the Manager.**
9. **You must also provide a copy of all required permits to the Office.**
10. **BOTH THE ARC APPLICATION AND THE CITY PERMIT NEED TO BE POSTED ON THE FRONT OF THE HOME BEFORE THE WORK CAN BEGIN.**
11. **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 **\$250** 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

**ARC Meetings: 1st & 3rd Tuesdays of each month**  
**3-Cor Meetings: 2nd & 4th Wednesdays of each month**

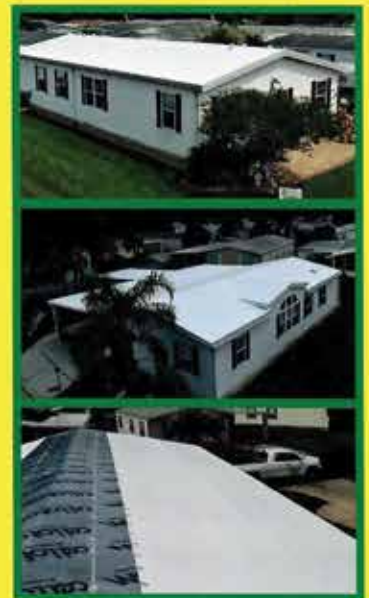
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