

Home of the Month



This beautiful home at 2 Flores Dr. belongs to George and Liz Pennachio. They take great care in making sure their home has wonderful “curb appeal” with flowers and decorations to add interest and beauty. The Stars and Stripes add a patriotic flare. Congratulations on being named May’s “Home of the Month”!

Photo of the Month



View of the sunset from the peninsula in Tropic Isles by Bob Davis.

Meet Your New Neighbors

By Cindy Shaw

New to Tropic Isles are **Rick and Shelley Gardner** who will be our part-time neighbors at 223 Bimini Dr. Rick has a sister who lives in Bradenton, so they began their search on the Internet by looking up and down the West Coast of Florida at 55+ communities. They were interested in a house on a canal and the house on Bimini popped up.



Rick and Shelley are originally from Leominster, MA, but currently have a home in Wake, Virginia. They have two children—Zachary (West Virginia) and Teagan (Virginia), They also have 3 grandchildren—Landon (7), Liam (4), and Shalom (1), with another expected in April.

Shelley worked at the local Counseling Center as a Certified Peer Recovery Specialist for 3 years and worked in banking for 24 years prior to that. For 32 years, Rick worked for General Dynamics, a defense contractor, as a Government Property Administrator and then as a Department of Defense Property Administrator.

The Gardners enjoy playing pickleball, biking, boating, entertaining, and spending time with the family. Rick also enjoys fishing and deer hunting (gun and bow). Shelley also likes to spend her time reading and playing the flute and violin for their church. They both have a strong faith and throughout the years, in service to their community, Rick has volunteered at their church thrift store and food bank, while Shelley’s passion was working with those dealing with substance use disorders.

Please give Rick and Shelley a warm, Tropic Isles welcome!

Thought for the day

No matter how many mistakes you make or how slow your progress, you are still way ahead of everyone who isn’t trying.

Happy Starfish Hunt
Can you find me hiding somewhere inside?



Annual Boat Club Fishing Derby

Five boats filled with hopeful fisherman left on a beautiful morning in March for the Annual Boat Club Fishing Derby. Awards were presented to the winners of the Offshore and Inshore Divisions and for the Largest Fish in each division. 166 pounds of fish were caught and enjoyed by the Boat Club members at the fish fry.



Paradise Pool Party

On a beautiful sunny day, residents enjoyed the music of Steely Pan while partaking of "walking tacos" and root beer floats around the pool at the annual Pool Party. What a great end to a fun season.



Spring Additions

On a windy, sunny day three native trees were planted at the Tropic Isles Memorial Garden in front of the Yacht Club. The Landscape Advisory Committee volunteers researched and planned for the trees in honor of Earth Day, April 22. The LAC is grateful to the Boosters for their financial support and to Tom and Shaun who installed the trees. Seen here are Bob Shaw, Boosters President, and Brenda Bartels of the Landscape Advisory Committee. Thanks to everyone involved.



Tropic Isles

1503 28th Ave. West, Palmetto, Florida 34221

The Office is open from 9 AM to 3 PM on Monday and Tuesday and will be closed during the lunch hour from 12 to 1 PM. On Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday the Office will be open from 9 AM to 12 noon. 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
Lynn Szabo, 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

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TIHOA

Tropic Isles Homeowners Association

2025/2026

PresidentTerry Foley
 Vice President..... Nancy Larsen
 TreasurerJohn Slater
 Secretary Sharon Wilson

Tropic Isles Breezes

Published monthly and delivered to all residents

Editor: Cindy Shaw

Send photos and articles to Tlbreezes1@aol.com

Deadline the 10th of each month for the following month.

The inclusion of advertising contained in this newsletter supports the publication costs, but does not constitute an endorsement by the Tropic Isles Co-Op, nor does the content of articles submitted by individual residents and those representing clubs and activities.

Letter from the Editor

Dear Residents,

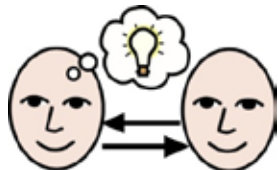
As we welcome the beautiful month of May, I'd like to take a moment to wish everyone who is leaving for their northern homes "safe travels". Many activities will be coming to a close this month, but I'd like to highlight a few important dates and events to keep on your calendar. This time of the year not only brings warmer weather and blooming flowers, but also meaningful opportunities to gather, celebrate, and stay engaged in our wonderful community.

First, please remember Mother's Day on Sunday, May 10. It's a great time to connect with family, whether that means hosting loved ones, making a phone call, or sharing a special memory.

On Monday, May 25, we observe Memorial Day. This is an important time to honor and remember those who have served our country. I encourage everyone to take a moment of reflection. Our community will hold a brief remembrance gathering as we place flags at the Memorial Garden at the Yacht Club on Sunday, May 24 at 11:30 AM. Join us for the placing of the flags to prepare for Memorial Day.

Additionally, don't forget about Movie Night on May 10 at 7 PM in the Auditorium. Come on out and enjoy a great movie with your friends and neighbors. Cards on Tuesdays at 2 is a time to gather during the heat of the day to socialize and play cards in the coolness of the AC. Canasta/Hand, Knee, Foot continues on Thursdays at 1:00 PM. Kayakers can continue to use the kayak launch to paddle around the area. Aerobics will continue daily at 8 AM until the middle of the month. Check out the Breezes calendar to see everything that's going on. These activities are a wonderful way to stay active and connected with neighbors. Here's wishing you all a beautiful month of May.

Cindy Shaw, Editor



Idea to Ponder....

When you see something beautiful in someone, tell them.
 It may take you a second to say it, but for them,
 it could last a lifetime.

From the Manager's Desk



NEW FOB READER ON THE SHUFFLEBOARD FENCE

- The fob reader has now been installed on the shuffleboard fence. To enter, just scan your fob as you would at any other entrance. To exit through that gate, there is a green exit button on the northeast corner of the Yacht Club wall. All you have to do is press that button and it will disengage the magnetic lock on the gate for 10 seconds to give you time to exit.

OFFICE HOURS

- The Office is open on **Monday and Tuesday** from 9 AM to 12 noon and 1 PM to 3 PM. On **Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday** the Office is open from 9 AM - 12 noon. TIPOA residents can access the Office for business **Tuesday-Friday from 10:00-11:30 AM.**

TROPIC ISLES CO-OP, INC. FACEBOOK PAGE

- Did you know our official Tropic Isles Co-Op Facebook page is the best place to get accurate, up-to-date information about our community? We will use this Facebook page, **Tropic Isles Co-op, Inc.** to share:

- ✔ Community updates and announcements
- ✔ Events and activities
- ✔ Important reminders
- ✔ Helpful resources for residents


SUMMER CLOSURE

- The Auditorium will be closed to all activities from May 15 - September 1.

Important -- File Of Life

The File of Life pouch was distributed, door-to-door, to residents in March. **Please take the time to fill out the information card (in pencil) inside the pouch and attach the magnetic pouch to your refrigerator. Attach the red File of Life sticker to your window or door where the First Responders will see it.** It could be the difference between life and death. If you have not received your File of Life pouch, please contact Wendy Verstringhe at 585-481-4099 OR John Giroux at 970-962-4061 to receive yours.

FILE OF LIFE

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~~~ Warning ~~~  
**Black Grasshoppers**



Black grasshoppers, specifically immature Eastern Lubber grasshoppers, are poisonous if eaten by pets or wildlife. While they do not bite humans, they secrete a foul-smelling, irritating foam and contain toxins that can make animals sick, causing severe vomiting or even death in small predators. Early-stage nymphs are entirely black, sometimes with a faint red or yellow stripe. As they mature, they turn into large, flightless yellow, orange, or black adults. When threatened, they hiss and emit a foamy, foul-smelling spray. Wear gloves when handling or use a bucket of soapy water to remove them. They are known to feed on a wide variety of plants. They are best managed by hand picking or destroying them in soapy water or crushing. If your pet eats one, contact a veterinarian. (Thanks to Kathryn Wells and Bobbi Turnage for bringing this to everyone's attention.)

**To All Tropic Isles' Snowbirds**



If you are flying the coop (Co-op) and returning to your northern nests, please take the time to properly prepare your homes and yards for hurricane season. It is unfair to ask or expect those who remain in Tropic Isles to tend to your homes when they could be using that time to prepare themselves for whatever Mother Nature has in store for us. Use the checklist below in preparation for your departure. Have a safe trip and a wonderful summer!

**CHECKLIST FOR ALL RESIDENTS LEAVING FOR THE SEASON**

**(CLIP AND SAVE)**

**Hurricane and Summer Preparation Suggestions**

- **IMPORTANT! Lower and secure all awnings. Make sure the latches are functional.**
- **IMPORTANT! Secure the pole in your carport to hold the roof. Make sure it is functional.**
- Make sure your home has been recently power washed. The mold grows quickly in the summer heat and humidity.
- Check the skirting or blocking around your home. Be sure it doesn't need painting or repair.
- Trim all shrubs and trees back before you leave.
- Mow your lawn. (If the Co-op has to take care of mowing your lawn, you will be charged.)
- If you have a sprinkler system, make sure it is functioning properly and set the timer for the proper day.
- Remove all annuals from your garden. Once you stop watering them, they turn to weeds.
- Remove all flowerpots and decorations from around your home and store inside. These can become projectiles in high winds.
- Clear carports and yards of any items that could become projectiles and cause damage in high hurricane winds. Store them under your home, in your shed, or inside your house.
- Put your garbage cans, lawn furniture, barbecue grill, and anything else that can become a projectile inside your shed or house.
- Make arrangements with someone to take care of your home should the mold start to grow on the house, or the weeds start to grow in the yard or planters.
- If you have a boat on a lift, tie the boat to the cradle and tie the cradle to the pilings. **RAISE your lift as high as you can.**
- Take your boat out of the water, if possible, and store it on its trailer in your carport if it can fit completely under the carport. It is much safer to have your boat on a trailer.
- Secure your kayak at home. The Co-op is not responsible for any theft or damage to kayaks left on the storage racks.
- Stop your paper and mail delivery. Put in a change of address with the post office, if necessary.
- Make sure water is turned off to the house (inside and outside).
- **Complete an Information Form with the Office** regarding emergency contacts.
- **Make sure the Office has your current email address to receive Mail Chimp notices.**
- **Sign out in the Office when you are leaving, so your mail will be sent to your northern address.**

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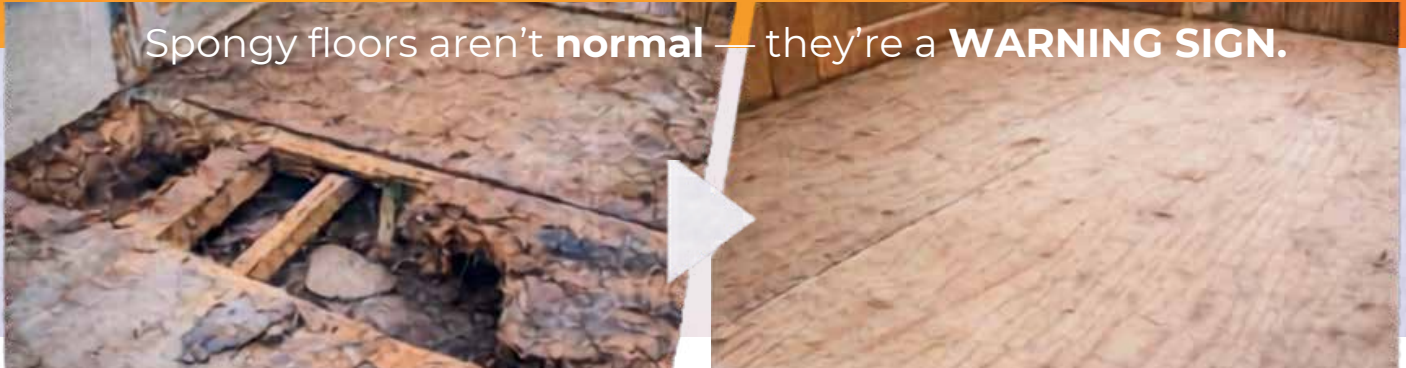
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**YOUR FLOOR SHOULD NOT FEEL LIKE THIS:**

- Soft or "spongy" when walking
- Sagging or dipping areas
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- Weak spots near bathrooms or kitchens
- Flooring separating or bubbling
- Musty smells coming from floor
- Floors can eventually collapse

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## Safety for Seniors



### MANAGING MULTIPLE MEDICATIONS

- Keep an up-to-date list of ALL your medications – including vitamins and supplements.
- Use a pill organizer sorted by day and time.
- Take medications at the same time each day to build a routine.
- Never skip doses or stop taking a prescription without asking your doctor.
- Do not share medications with others.
- Check expiration dates and safely dispose of old medications at the police department or other designated collection place.
- Bring your medication list to every doctor visit and emergency calls.



### MEDICATION SAFETY: WHAT TO TELL EMS

- Tell EMS the name and dosage of every medication you take.
- Tell them about any allergies to medications.
- Keep your current medication list in your File of Life pouch and put on the refrigerator.
- If you use a pill box, bring it with you to the hospital.
- Tell EMS about any recent changes in your medications.
- Include over-the-counter medications like aspirin, antacids, and sleep aids.

## Your Daily Dose of Vitamin Sea



## Stay in Touch with Tropic Isles!



As many of you get ready to head north for the summer, we wish you safe travels. Throughout the upcoming months, all residents can stay connected to the activities and events going on in your second home here in Tropic Isles. Go to [www.tropicisles.net](http://www.tropicisles.net) and click on "Residents" at the top of the page. From the dropdown menu, you can choose "Community Resources", "Breezes Newsletter", and "Calendar" to keep abreast of what's happening.

Co-op Shareholders can read the minutes of the Board meetings held throughout the coming months by logging on to [www.tropicisles.net](http://www.tropicisles.net). Click on "Residents" at the top of the page. From there you can choose to "Log in" or "Get Started" to set up an account. To "Log In", enter your sign-in name (email) and your own password. New shareholders can create their sign-in name and password by clicking on "Get Started" and completing the registration form. Once you are inside the portal, click on "Shared Documents" in the menu bar at the left side of the page. There you will find "Board Meeting Minutes" and more.

You can also visit the Tropic Isles' Facebook page by going to Tropic Isles Co-op, Inc. There you will find all sorts of information and pictures to see what's going on in the park. It's just a click away!

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# New 2027 Resident Phone Directories

**ALL RESIDENTS:** If you need to make a change to the information in the current Resident Phone Directory, please send an email to [tibreezes1@aol.com](mailto:tibreezes1@aol.com) or text it to 608-212-8967 with your correction/addition.

**NEW RESIDENTS:** This is your chance to have your information included in the 2027 Resident Phone Directory. Please send me your name, TI address, phone numbers for each person in the household, email addresses, and northern information if you wish to have it included.

**THE DEADLINE TO GET THOSE CHANGES TO ME IS AUGUST 1.**

## ~~ TO THE HEADS OF ALL ACTIVITIES ~~

The Tropic Isles' Resident Phone Directory includes all clubs and activities. If you have any changes to your officers, chairpersons, coordinators, date, time, or meeting place, please send it to me at [tibreezes1@aol.com](mailto:tibreezes1@aol.com) or text me at 608-212-8967. Check pages 4-7 in the 2025-26 directory to see what is currently listed for your activity.

I'd like to give a special "thank you" to all those people who take the time to update their information for the directory.

---Cindy Shaw, Editor

## CORRECTIONS FOR THE DIRECTORY

Any corrections or additions will be posted here in the monthly newsletters until the 2027 Resident Directory is printed. Please make these changes/additions to your current Directory.

### Resident Listings:

|                                             |                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |
|---------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>CARROLL</b> , Jim                        | Add email <a href="mailto:jimcarroll861@hotmail.com">jimcarroll861@hotmail.com</a>                                                                                                                                 |
| <b>CLOUTIER</b> , Mike & Joan               | Remove 207-786-3392 from the listing.                                                                                                                                                                              |
| <b>DOLL</b> , Drew & Linda                  | Remove email <a href="mailto:adoll@rochester.rr.com">adoll@rochester.rr.com</a>                                                                                                                                    |
| <b>JOBIN</b> , Chad & Tricia                | <b>NEW!</b> Add 1207 31st Ave.<br>989-329-0826(C)/989-302-1414(T)<br>4698 Birchcrest Dr.,<br>Houghton Lake, MI 48629<br><a href="mailto:northernflooringdesign@hotmail.com">northernflooringdesign@hotmail.com</a> |
| <b>NIELSON</b> , Dianne                     | Correct the spelling of the last name to be NIELSEN.                                                                                                                                                               |
| <b>NOBLE</b> , June                         | <b>NEW!</b> Add this fulltime renter to<br>1314 29th Ave. W.,<br>941-212-4336/727-510-9651(cell)                                                                                                                   |
| <b>ROOP</b> , Ron & <b>CAMPBELL</b> , Cathy | Change Cathy's last name to <b>ROOP</b> . Add her phone number and email: 419-345-2514 and <a href="mailto:cambymom@yahoo.com">cambymom@yahoo.com</a> .                                                            |
| <b>STEWART</b> , Ron & Gail                 | Remove 941-721-3101 and 734-856-4176.                                                                                                                                                                              |
| <b>WEST</b> , Chris & Nancy                 | <b>NEW!</b> Add 57 Edessa Dr.<br>269-568-0648(C)/269-501-3097(N)<br>14340 Bridgeview Pt.,<br>Vicksburg, MI 49097<br><a href="mailto:cwestchris@aol.com">cwestchris@aol.com</a>                                     |

## ~~Special Thanks~~

- **CORRECTION:** Thanks to **Bill Pealer (not Jack Bulmer)** for volunteering to organize the Pancake Breakfast for next year.
- Special "thanks" to **Leslie Cheney, Drema Whaley, Cathy Roop, Kim Trammel, Bev Prins, Connie Giroux, Dawn Perna, Rhonda Stagg, Carole Peck, Nancy Larsen, and Chris Gorton** who have volunteered to act as "subs" to help deliver the Breezes on their block when needed.
- Thanks also to **Laurie Bragg** for volunteering to take over as Block Captain in season for Doug Woulf on Terra Ceia Dr.
- A hearty "thanks" to **Doug Woulf** for his years of service as Block Captain on Terra Ceia Dr.
- "Thank you" to **Carole Peck** for volunteering to be Recording Secretary on the Activity Board.
- Thanks to all the **winter Block Captains** for delivering the Breezes throughout the season. It is greatly appreciated!
- "Thank you" to **Dennis Foley, John Giroux, Bill Pealer, and Jeff and Nancy Cobb** for bagging and recycling the aluminum cans for the Boosters.
- A huge "thanks" to **John Castellana** for orchestrating the sailing races this season.
- "Thank you" to **Commodore, Tom Hennessy, the Boat Club Bridge, and all the volunteers** for organizing the great Boat Club events this season.
- A heartfelt "thanks" to **Cheryl Brink** for the time, effort, and leadership that she put into organizing such fun and engaging activities for our community and to the **Entertainment Committee** for making it happen.
- A "special thanks" to **Bev Butts and Terry Foley** who act as contributing writers and photographers for the Breezes. You help to make the Breezes a "community newsletter" for all our residents.
- A big "thank you" to all the **Activity heads** for sending in those great articles each month about your activity for the Breezes.
- Thanks to **Bobbie McEvoy**, our wonderful manager, who repainted the plaques for the Memorial Garden and to **Tom and Shaun** for planting the trees there.
- Special "thanks" to **Lisa and Mike Murphy and Brenda Bartels** for making those delicious "walking tacos" and root beer floats for the Pool Party.
- An huge "thank you" to the **anonymous donor** who purchased an AED to be kept in the Office and can be signed out for Tropic Isles' off-site events.
- I would like to thank everyone for the good wishes, condolences, and cards sent by my Tropic Isles' friends on the passing of my sister, Maria Beck, and for her sons, Matthew, Jon and her daughter-in-law, Meaghan, on the passing of their mother.

----- Anna Antonacci

## Residents! Volunteers Needed! Please Help!

We have a need for volunteers in the following positions:

- **LIBRARY VOLUNTEERS:** The Tropic Isles Library is looking for volunteers to keep the library organized over the summer months starting in August-September and also next season. If interested, contact Nancy Larsen at 941-725-2216. Nancy will train you.
- **BOOK CLUB COORDINATOR:** We are looking for a volunteer to be the Coordinator for the Book Club. Contact Irene at 774-201-9444 if you are interested.
- **ST. PATRICK'S DANCE CHAIRPERSON:** We are all Boosters and we are in need of a chairperson to chair the Booster-sponsored dance in March. Contact Bob Shaw at 941-705-4485 to volunteer.
- **ALUMINUM CAN COLLECTION:** The Boosters are looking for additional volunteers to bag the aluminum cans from the collection box during the summer. Someone else will deliver the cans to the Recycling Center. Contact Bob Shaw at 941-705-4485 to volunteer.
- **COFFEE HOUR COMMITTEE:** Additional volunteers are needed to be a part of the Coffee Committee that oversees the Saturday Morning Coffee Hour and purchases the supplies. Contact Drew Doll if you are interested.
- **ZOOM MODERATORS** for Co-op Board Meetings are needed. Contact the Office. You must be a Shareholder. We will train.




## 2027 Tropic Isles' Cookbook

Love to cook? Or just love to eat great food? We are hoping to create another Tropic Isles' Cookbook with the recipes from our wonderful Tropic Isles' cooks. We did one in 2019 and again in 2022, so we thought it was time to create another one. If you are interested in submitting a favorite recipe and/or participating on the committee to create this cookbook, please call/text John Giroux at 970-962-4061 to show your interest.



## Laughter is the Best Medicine!

- If "womb" is pronounced "woom" and "tomb" is pronounced "toom", then what should "bomb" be pronounced? "BOOM"! 
- A man goes to a bar with his dog. He goes up to the bar and asks for a drink. The bartender says, "You can't bring that dog in here!" The guy, without missing a beat says, "This is my seeing-eye dog." "Oh, man", the bartender says. "I'm sorry. Here! The first one is on me." The man takes his drink and goes to a table near the door. Another guy walks in the bar with a Chihuahua. The first guy sees him, stops him, and says "You can't bring that dog in here unless you tell the bartender it's a seeing-eye dog." The second man graciously thanks the first man and continues to the bar. He asks for a drink. The bartender says, "Hey, you can't bring that dog in here!" The second man replies, "This is my seeing-eye dog." The bartender says, "No, I don't think so. They do not have Chihuahuas as seeing-eye dogs." The man pauses for half a second and replies, "What??? They gave me a Chihuahua?"
- Smaller babies are always delivered by stork, but the heavier ones need to be delivered by crane.
- One day, a police officer pulls a car over and sees the backseat is full of penguins. The officer tells the driver, "You can't be doing this. You need to take these penguins to the zoo!" The next day, the police officer pulls the same car over again, and says, "Hey! I told you to take these penguins to the zoo!" The driver says, "I did, and today I'm taking them to the movies!"
- This grasshopper walks into a bar and the bartender says, "Hey, I have a drink named after you!" The grasshopper looks confused and says, "You have a drink called Irving?"
- A guy goes to the eye doctor. He says, "I have trouble seeing things at a distance." The doc takes him over to the window, points up to the sky, and says, "What do you see up there?" The guy says, "The sun." The Doc says, "That's right. So, exactly HOW far do you need to see, dude?"
- You know, there's a fine line between fishing and standing on the shore like an idiot.
- I am trying to remember something I told myself to remember, but all I can remember is I wasn't supposed to forget it.
- Question: So, are you seeing anyone? Answer: You mean . . . like a therapist or hallucinations?
- I wish retail therapy was covered by my health insurance.

## Happy Mother's Day

MAY 10, 2026



## 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.



## Dining Out

By Kathryn Wells with Randy Blanton



We ate dinner at Linger Lodge in Bradenton. Randy had their crab meat sandwich with their homemade chips. I had a Linger Burger with fries. You get a lot to eat with their sandwiches. I ate only half of my sandwich and a few fries. Randy ate all his dinner, except for a few chips. Our root beer was in tall glasses. We usually ask for seconds, but not this time!

Linger Lodge is a rustic restaurant (with good food) located along the Braden River, in east Manatee County. Adjacent, is a well-maintained RV camping area. While eating at Linger Lodge, you feel like you are so far from civilization, but a 15-minute drive has you right back in the center of Bradenton's hub!

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## Co-Op Board of Directors' Meetings

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

**The next Co-op Board Meeting is May 21 at 9:30 AM in the Auditorium and via Zoom.**



### 2026-2027 Co-op Board of Directors E-mails

**Drew Doll, President** ..... [president@tropicisles.net](mailto:president@tropicisles.net)  
**Katrina Eagle, Vice President** ..... [vp@tropicisles.net](mailto:vp@tropicisles.net)  
**Dennis Butts, Secretary** ..... [secretary@tropicisles.net](mailto:secretary@tropicisles.net)  
**Jose Torres, Treasurer** ..... [treasurer@tropicisles.net](mailto:treasurer@tropicisles.net)  
**Dennis Weber, Director 1** ..... [director1@tropicisles.net](mailto:director1@tropicisles.net)  
**David Bishop, Director 2** ..... [director2@tropicisles.net](mailto:director2@tropicisles.net)  
**Randy Rice, Director 3** ..... [director3@tropicisles.net](mailto:director3@tropicisles.net)

## Tropic Isles Book Club

### 2026 Reading List



**May:** *When the Cranes Fly South* by Lisa Ridzen  
**June:** *Buckeye* by Patrick Ryan  
**July:** *The Director* by Daniel Kehlmann  
**August:** *Hamnet* by Maggie O'Farrell  
**September:** *The Unraveling of Julia* by Lisa Scottoline  
**October:** *The Berry Pickers* by Amanda Peters  
**November:** *When We Flew Away* by Alice Hoffman  
**December:** *The Final Wish of Mr. Murray McBride* by Joe Siple

## Homeowners' Association Meeting Schedule

(TIHOA) 2026-2027

Meetings are open to residents who own their home and rent their lot from the Co-op.

We maintain our own Mail Chimp account to communicate with our members. If you would like to sign up to receive emails, please send an email to [fstop1122@yahoo.com](mailto:fstop1122@yahoo.com). If you have any questions, please contact the Board members.



|                      |                       |
|----------------------|-----------------------|
| <b>Terry Foley</b>   | <b>President</b>      |
| <b>Nancy Larsen</b>  | <b>Vice President</b> |
| <b>Sharon Wilson</b> | <b>Secretary</b>      |
| <b>John Slater</b>   | <b>Treasurer</b>      |

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# March Happenings

## Crafty Ladies

The last Arts and Crafts Class for this season was decoupage! Thank you, Cheryl Smith, for teaching us how to create the cute decoupage cans!



## CPR Awareness Class

The North River Fire District presented a CPR Awareness Class in March to 27 residents. Thank you to Captain Price and his fire-fighters.



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# March Happenings

## Wearing O' The Green

Residents got in the spirit of St. Patrick's Day by wearing o' the green and participating in the golf cart parade through the streets of Tropic Isles.



## A Visit By The Mayor

Our Mayor, Dan West, and other City officials made their annual visit to Tropic Isles in March to bring us up to date on what new things are happening in Palmetto and to answer the residents' questions. Thanks to the Palmetto Police and Public Works Departments for responding quickly to our request for additional "No Parking" signs along 28th Ave.





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## 2026 Star Awards



The Tropic Isles Star Award was started in 2009 by the Co-op Board of Directors as a way to recognize Shareholders that are of invaluable help to the park. This award was designed as a thank-you to “volunteers” that may be under the radar and may not be with any one group, and as such, go largely unappreciated and not properly thanked in any other venue. It is given to Shareholders who may have contributed behind the scenes, who step up without being asked, and who serve uncomplainingly, often doing a project without direction or assistance.

There are many Shareholders in the park whose service to the park is also invaluable and without whose help this would not be the great place that it is. Most of these wonderful volunteers are thanked at their events, and recognized publicly for all they do. These people are irreplaceable and this park would not be the great place that it is without them. This award is perfect for the modest person whose service may not be known to the populace of the park.

Nominations for the award can come from anyone in the park, but is decided by the Co-op BOD and announced at the annual meeting.

This year’s Star Awards were presented to three worthy residents at the Annual Shareholder Meeting. They have worked selflessly over the years helping to make Tropic Isles a better place. They are:

**Steve Tourtillotte** for his service as Chairman of the ARC Committee, Boat Club Vice Commodore, Summer Block Captain delivering the Breezes to multiple streets, and offering to lend a hand wherever he can.

**Al MacKenzie** for acting as sound technician at Coffee Hour, his 6 years as Shuffle Club President, and for his 6 years of service on the Board of Directors/three years as President.

**Bev MacKenzie** for her years of service as Activity Board Recording Secretary, Shuffle Club Secretary, Co-Coordinator of Aerobics, Block Captain sub delivering the Breezes, and Zoom Moderator for the Co-op Board Meetings.



Steve Tourtillotte



Bev and Al MacKenzie

## Safety Tip of the Month --- Theft at Home



Here are some ways seniors can reduce the risk of theft at home.

### KEEP YOUR HOME SECURE

- ALWAYS lock your doors and windows—even when you are home.
- Install deadbolt locks.
- Use a peephole or video doorbell so you never open the door blindly.
- Keep your shed/garage door closed and locked.

### BE CAREFUL WITH STRANGERS

- Never let unknown people inside, even if they claim to be from a utility company.
- Ask for official ID and call the company to verify before allowing entry.
- Be cautious of anyone offering “free inspections” or urgent repairs.

### PACKAGE AND MAIL SAFETY

- Arrange for package tracking or delivery alerts.
- Ask a trusted neighbor to pick up packages if you’re away.
- Don’t let mail pile up. It signals no one is home.

### MAKE YOUR HOME LOOK OCCUPIED

- Use timers for lights, TVs, or radios.
- Keep curtains/blinds in a “normal” position.
- Have someone check on your home if you’re gone for a while.

### PHONE AND SCAM AWARENESS

- Be wary of unsolicited calls asking for money or personal info.
- Never share banking details, Social Security numbers, or passwords over the phone.
- Hang up and call the official number of the organization to verify.

### PROTECT VALUABLES

- Keep cash, jewelry, and important documents in a safe or hidden location.
- Consider a home safe that’s a bolted down.
- Avoid discussing valuables with strangers or casual acquaintances.

### USE SECURITY TECHNOLOGY

- Install a basic alarm system.
- Add motion-sensor lights outside entrances.
- Security cameras can deter theft and provide evidence, if needed.

### STAY CONNECTED

- Get to know your neighbors and look out for each other.
- Share travel plans only with trusted individuals.

### TRUST YOUR INSTINCTS

- If something feels off, don’t engage. Call for help from family, friends, and/or police.
- Report suspicious activity to local law enforcement right away.



## What's Happening in the Neighborhood?

### MAY

#### Memorial Day Flag Planting



Memorial Day is a day set aside to celebrate, honor, and remember those men and women who died serving their country. We will be planting the annual Tropic Isles' Memorial Flag Garden in front of the Yacht Club on **Sunday, May 24, 2026 around 11:30 AM** so ALL can

enjoy the flag garden on Monday, May 25, Memorial Day. A heartfelt thanks and prayers to all who have served our wonderful country. Please join us in the flag planting at the Yacht Club and remember those that have served our country on Memorial Day.

*The Entertainment Committee*

## 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!

#### Fun Day on the Gulf



Dwayne Scruton and Keith Dey caught keeper groupers and lots of groupers were poked and sent back to get bigger. We caught some good snapper and a couple big grunts. Paul Kary got a strawberry grouper. What fun! Thanks, Captain Dwayne!



#### Sunday Night At The Movies



Our next Movie Night will be **May 10 at 7 PM in the Auditorium**. We will be showing **Play Date**. Play Date is about a suburban dad, whose afternoon playdate with a new neighbor, turns into a high-stakes action thriller. (Alert: There is some foul language, but for the most part it is a good, clean comedy.) You can bring your own comfortable chairs, snacks, and beverages if you choose. Come and join us AT THE MOVIES!! **MOVIE NIGHT will continue this summer in the Yacht Club**. Contact Sharon Wagner at 502-220-8557 if you have any questions.

#### Fish On!



After 50ish years of living my best life, I FINALLY caught a fish! Yes, you read that right — FIRST. TIME. EVER. Not sure what was stronger—the fish or my determination, but WE DID IT! Proof that it's NEVER too late to try something new. Next goal— not screaming when it wiggles!

--- Carmen Garcia

## Canasta/Hand, Knee, and Foot, Anyone?



If you have an interest in playing Canasta/ Hand, Knee, and Foot, come join us on **Thursdays at 1 PM** in the Seabreeze Room of the Yacht Club. Hand, Knee, and Foot will continue throughout the summer. Contact Joyce Deverell at 585-230-8429 with questions.

# Cormorant Rescue

By Bev Butts



Rescue of an injured cormorant on the peninsula took place in March. Thank you to Betty Bean for calling Friends of the Pelicans! This was one feisty bird! I managed to get a laundry basket over it as we feared he would use his two good wings to evade us, but he got one good strike on my hand! Thank you to Brian Davis for his efforts to provide fresh water and fish to "our" bird.



# Pelican Rescue

By Cindy Shaw



In March, Cindy and Bob Shaw assisted Scott from Friends of the Pelicans as he tried to rescue a pelican that had a double treble hook fishing lure embedded with both hooks in his wing. Scott herded the pelican towards the Shaw's dock and Bob scooped it up in his large fishing net. Cindy grabbed the pelican from the net and gently placed it into Scott's transport case. Scott took the pelican to Friends of the Pelicans for hook extraction and rehab. Scott said that the Friends of the Pelicans group is now regularly sending out trained volunteers once a week to check for injured birds at the "rookery" or "Bird Island" as the Tropic Isles' residents refer to it. Please call Friends of the Pelicans at 941-447-0773 if you see an injured or sick bird.

## 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:**

**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 |
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# Booster News

YOU ARE A BOOSTER!

## MISSION STATEMENT

Tropic Isles Boosters are a group of TI residents that volunteer their time and talents aimed at supporting and enriching our community on several levels.

- We organize and conduct fundraising events to financially assist the Tropic Isles Community.
- We organize and support making Tropic Isles a more beautiful place to live.
- We provide discretionary funding for community projects and purchases within the park.
- We provide a collaborative support group for the Tropic Isles Co-op Board of Directors.

### What are some of their projects?

- Palm Trees – Purchase, fertilize, and maintain palm trees.
- Recycling - Collect and redeem aluminum cans.
- Financial Support – Contribute financially to further the efforts of other park groups.
- Selling Tropic Isles’ apparel
- Social Activities – All activities are listed in the Breezes newsletter.

### When do they meet?

- We meet the **first Friday of each month** in the Yacht Club, November – April at 9 AM.
- Meetings are informative and open to Co-op residents only.
- Meetings are well run, enjoyable, and always open to suggestions!

## TROPIC ISLES BOOSTERS MEETING MINUTES

**April 3, 2026**

Officers present: Dennis Weber, Wendy Verstringhe, Linda Doll, and Carmen Garcia.

Absent: Mike Cuff

Meeting was opened with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Secretary’s Report: Linda noted a correction to last month’s minutes; the Landscape Committee is not planting a palm tree at the Memorial Garden. It will be several different types of trees. The minutes, with the correction, were accepted and approved.

Treasurer’s Report: In Mike’s absence, Dennis presented the report. We have a balance of \$13,714,60. Today at the meeting, a check was received from Carmen for \$800.00, representing her commitment to donate \$100.00 per house that she sells in Tropic Isles. Thank you so much, Carmen. Report was approved.

### **OLD BUSINESS:**

Pancake Breakfast: Bill Pealer will be the chairman, not Jack Bulmer, as listed in the Breezes.

Recycling Cans: Dennis Weber reported that \$51.00 was received.

*(continued on page 19)*

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# Booster News *(continued from page 18)*

Landscape Committee: In Pamela Cuff's absence, Wendy reported that the committee may move the Bird of Paradise plant at the 28th Ave. entrance, that is in the center of the garden area to the left side because it covers the Tropic Isles' name on the upright brick area. There is another Bird of Paradise planted on the right side of the garden area. Tom & Shaun, our maintenance team, will plant the trees purchased by us at the Memorial Garden.

Palm Tree Fertilization: Drew Doll headed up this activity and the entire park's trees were fertilized on March 23, 2026 by many volunteers. Thirteen and a half bags of fertilizer were used this year.

## **NEW BUSINESS:**

Dennis Weber read his resignation letter to the Boosters group because he is on the Tropic Isles Co-Op Board of Directors. We held nominations for Board President; Mike Cuff and Bob Shaw were nominated. We had a written, silent vote by the members that were present and the tally was Mike Cuff 11 and Bob Shaw 13. Bob Shaw is now President of Boosters.

Aluminum Cans: Dennis Foley is asking for volunteers to continue with this project during the summer months. We will ask John Giroux if he could bag the cans and Jeff and Nancy Cobb volunteered to take the cans to the recycling center two times during the summer. A motion was made to purchase an aluminum scoop shovel to use for the cans. The motion was seconded and carried. Dennis suggested we place a recycle bin in the pool area also.

AEDs: Dennis Foley reported that he and Drew Doll installed our 4th AED at the Marina. All AED's have spare batteries. The North River Fire Department held an AED/CPR training here on March 23, 2026 for 27 residents. The firemen also checked over all of our kits and Ambu Bags (bag-valve-mask devices or manual resuscitators). Nancy and Jeff Cobb will check the AED unit batteries over the summer.

## **COMMITTEE CHAIRPERSONS:**

November Palm Tree Fertilizing: Dennis Weber

Thanksgiving Dinner: Wendy Verstringhe, Carmen Garcia, Judy Milliken

Soup Supper: Sue Weaver to be held on Friday, January 29, 2027

Pancake Breakfast: Bill Pealer to be held Tuesday, February 9, 2027

TI Apparel Sales: Mike and Joan Cloutier

St. Patrick's Dance Chairperson: VACANT

Next meeting will be November 6, 2026 at 9 AM. Respectfully submitted, Linda Doll—Secretary

## **Aluminum Can Recycling**



The Boosters continue to collect aluminum cans throughout the year. The drop-off box is in the Office parking lot or you can call for pickup if you have a large quantity. PLEASE DO NOT PLACE ANY TRASH or CARDBOARD CARTONS into the bin. It is strictly for ALUMINUM CANS.

## **PALM TREE FERTILIZING**



Booster volunteers fertilized the palm trees in Tropic Isles in February.

## **BOOSTERS' OFFICERS 2026-2027**

Boosters President / Bob Shaw

(941) 705-4485 / [bshaw16872@aol.com](mailto:bshaw16872@aol.com)

Vice-President / Wendy Verstringhe

(585) 481-4099 / [wendyjean609@gmail.com](mailto:wendyjean609@gmail.com)

Secretary / Linda Doll (585) 599-3341 / [canoedoll@gmail.com](mailto:canoedoll@gmail.com)

Treasurer / Mike Cuff (952) 261-7707 / [mcuff@comcast.net](mailto:mcuff@comcast.net)

Director / Carmen Garcia (941) 933-0453 / [cusie\\_garcia@yahoo.com](mailto:cusie_garcia@yahoo.com)

## **BOOSTER EVENTS/PROJECT MANAGERS 2026-2027**

- Thanksgiving Supper (Carmen Garcia, Wendy Verstringhe, Judy Milliken)
- Soup Supper (Sue Weaver)
- Pancake Breakfast (Bill Pealer)
- Booster-Sponsored Dance (**VACANT**)
- AED Maintenance (Dennis Foley)
- Palm Tree Fertilizing (Dennis Weber)
- Aluminum/Metal Collection and Redemption (Dennis Foley, John Giroux, Bill Pealer, Jeff and Nancy Cobb)
- TI Apparel Sales (Mike and Joan Cloutier)

**If you are interested in volunteering for the VACANT position, please contact Bob Shaw at 941-705-4485.**

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# Tropic Isles' Blood Drive Update

THANK YOU! We are beyond grateful for the incredible turnout at our Tropic Isles' last blood drive of the season!

**36** incredible participants  
**30** life-saving procedures were performed  
**4** donors gave 2 pints (double count)  
Total: **34 pints**



**THANK YOU** to each and every one of you who showed up, donated, supported, and spread the word. That means up to **102 PATIENTS** could benefit from YOUR lifesaving generosity! Together we are making a REAL difference in our community. I am so proud of this amazing group of neighbors and friends. Until the next one... let's keep saving lives!

*Carmen Garcia, Coordinator*

## Mark your calendars for next season's blood drives:

**December 4, 2026**  
**February 5, 2027**  
**April 6, 2027**  
**December 10, 2027**

# Our Tropic Isles' Superheroes

Thank you to all our wonderful superheroes who have donated blood at Tropic Isles last month. Just one pint of blood can help save up to three lives — a powerful reminder that a small act of kindness can make an enormous impact.



- |                    |                    |
|--------------------|--------------------|
| Arnold Ambrose     | Beverly Butts      |
| Carmen Garcia      | Connie Giroux      |
| Debbie Christenson | Dennis Christenson |
| John Brink         | Gordon Gutwein     |
| Denise Blosser     | Joseph Christofaro |
| Dwayne Scruton     | Katrina Eagle      |
| Hans-Gerd Ulrich   | Christine Vickers  |
| Jennifer Helget    | Joanne Miller      |
| Kathi Gossman      | Rhonda Hough       |
| Kathleen Metzler   | Keith Dey          |
| Lisa Cummerow      | Richard VanDam     |
| Craig Pavkovich    | Daniel Demers      |
| Rick Kropp         | Denise Christofaro |
| Tracy Gilbert      | Joan Cloutier      |
| John Blackford     | Jose Torres        |
| Karen VanDam       | Mary Wichman       |
| Shelley Saunders   | Wilson Eagle, Jr.  |
| Cynthia Myers      | Deane Sumler       |



# Library News



The TI Library is in need of volunteers to help shelve books and keep the library neat and tidy, etc. over the summer and throughout the next season. Volunteer to help serve on the Library Committee. Please contact Nancy Larsen at 941-725-2216 to volunteer.

# 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:

- George Schuss** of Edessa Dr. (dental surgeries)
- Michelle Drew** of 10th St. W. (wrist surgery)
- Sandra Fenstemaker** of Terra Ceia Dr. (broken hip)
- Irene Casey** of Tampico Dr. (back surgery)
- Mary Van Voorhis** of Tampico Dr. (surgery)
- Marilyn Fahrenholz** of Tampico Dr. (hip replacement)

Condolences were sent to:

- Denise and Glen Blosser** of Bahia Dr. on the passing of a brother and a cousin.
- Anna Antonacci** of Flores Dr. on the passing of her sister, **Maria Beck**, formerly of Tropic Isles.
- Vi Fornal** of Trinidad Way on the passing of her husband, **Bob**.

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**.



**May 5, 2026**

## The Caring Team



The “Caring Team” was formed in 2023, consisting of a group of individuals that would be willing to help those in our community who may be alone and/or do not have a support system in place for emergencies or times of need. Here’s how it works:

- If you or someone you know has just returned from a hospital visit or rehab and could use a “wellness visit” from one of our Caring Team members OR
- If you know of someone who lives alone and could use a wellness visit or assistance with a task, give us a call.

**Over the summer, if you or someone you know is in need of assistance, please call the Office at 941-721-8888. The Office will direct your call to an available Caring Team member.**

Here are some tasks that the Caring Team could provide:

- Daily/weekly check-in calls after surgery/rehab/hospital visit
- Home visit – daily/weekly after surgery/rehab/hospital visit
- Run an errand (i.e. groceries, pick-up meds, etc.)
- Drive to an appointment
- Help prepare food, initiate a Meal Team, or Meals on Wheels for help
- Initiate help with a family member, agency, or other resource.
- Provide caregiver with some free time.
- Other

Since it was formed, the Caring Team has been successful in providing assistance of various kinds to residents who had health needs. All information is kept strictly confidential. The Caring Team had their final meeting of the season on April 13 to recap the events they organized and sponsored this season. The Caring Team will meet again on November 9, 2026 to continue their mission of helping and supporting the residents of Tropic Isles. Have a safe and healthy summer.

*Cindy Shaw, Caring Team Secretary*

## Tropic Isles’ Health Fair Update

On April 10th, the Caring Team of Tropic Isles Co-op hosted its first annual Health Fair. The effort was led by Caring Team members, John Giroux and his wife, Connie. The goal was to bring agencies to our park to inform residents about aged-related health issues.

Many of the 17 agencies who attended were positive about the wonderful atmosphere in the Auditorium. Several vendors expressed amazement that the Auditorium has had such an amazing transformation after Hurricane Helene flooded the building in the fall of 2024.

Residents who attended were thrilled with having access to health resources right in our own park. Anyone who attended received a vibrant blue tote bag with the Tropic Isles logo. Many vendors brought door prizes which were won by attendees. The 50/50 winner was Ted Chatterly who donated his winnings to Dogs, Inc.

Thanks to everyone that attended the fair and helped support the efforts of the Caring Team members who organized the event. Those members are: **John and Connie Giroux, Wendy Verstinghe, Bev Butts, Cindy Shaw, Sharon Wagner, Irene Casey, and Katrina Eagle.** Special thanks to the volunteers who helped us make it happen: Dennis Butts, Bill Giroux, Bill Eagle, and Betty Bean! We make one GREAT team!

Next season, the Caring Team will host our second annual Health Fair on **February 5, 2027** during our February blood drive. We hope to have OnSpot Dermatology back to provide their service for the residents as well. This will be at the height of our winter occupancy. The Caring Team has already begun working on the plans for 2027 to make the event even bigger and better! Watch for updates and notices on what will be happening next season in the Breezes newsletter.



| SUNDAY                                                     | MONDAY                                   | TUESDAY                                                       | WEDNESDAY                                   | THURSDAY                                                                   | FRIDAY                                   | SATURDAY                                 |
|------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------|
|                                                            |                                          | <b>May 2026</b>                                               |                                             |                                                                            |                                          |                                          |
| <b>3</b>                                                   | <b>4</b>                                 | <b>5</b><br>9:30 am ARC Meeting - A<br><b>Cinco de Mayo</b>   | <b>6</b><br>8:30 am Last day of Golf League | <b>7</b>                                                                   | <b>8</b>                                 | <b>9</b>                                 |
| <b>10</b><br>Happy Mother's Day<br>7:00 pm Movie Night - A | <b>11</b>                                | <b>12</b>                                                     | <b>13</b>                                   | <b>14</b>                                                                  | <b>15</b><br>8 AM Aerobics ends - Y      | <b>16</b>                                |
| <b>17</b>                                                  | <b>18</b>                                | <b>19</b><br>9:30 am ARC Meeting - A                          | <b>20</b>                                   | <b>21</b><br>9:30 am Co-Op Board Meeting - A and Zo om                     | <b>22</b>                                | <b>23</b>                                |
| <b>24</b><br>11:30 am Memorial Garden Flag Planting - Y    | <b>25</b><br>Memorial Day                | <b>26</b>                                                     | <b>27</b>                                   | <b>28</b>                                                                  | <b>29</b>                                | <b>30</b><br>10:00 am Last Daily Shuffle |
| <b>31</b>                                                  |                                          |                                                               |                                             |                                                                            |                                          |                                          |
| <b>WEEKLY EVENTS</b>                                       |                                          |                                                               |                                             |                                                                            |                                          |                                          |
| 10:00 am Shuffle                                           | 8:00 am Aerobics - Y<br>10:00 am Shuffle | 8:00 am Aerobics - Y<br>10:00 am Shuffle<br>2:00 pm Cards - Y | 8:00 am Aerobics - Y<br>10:00 am Shuffle    | 8:00 am Aerobics - Y<br>10:00 am Shuffle<br>1:00 pm Knee, Hand, & Foot - Y | 8:00 am Aerobics - Y<br>10:00 am Shuffle | 10:00 am Shuffle                         |

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# Entertainment Committee Update



The Entertainment Committee held its final meeting on April 2nd, followed by a well-attended and enjoyable luncheon at Mila's. It truly has been a fun and memorable season, and I'd like to take this opportunity to thank the Co-Op for the incredible support given to us throughout the year.

We hosted two comedy shows that were nearly standing room only, along with several fun parties—including our new Super Bowl Party, which was very well received. We also enjoyed terrific dances and a pop-up scavenger hunt that had us thinking! None of these events would have been possible without all of you showing up and joining in. Your support meant everything—not only through attendance, but also through generous monetary donations and heartfelt encouragement. I thank you all from the bottom of my heart. I truly love this Co-Op and the wonderful residents who make it so special.

Our Farewell Dance was a great success—we glowed, we rocked, and had an amazing time! The Committee once again did a fantastic job with decorations and snacks. Looking ahead to next year, the theme will be **"Diamonds and Denim"** with a western flair. It's sure to be a lot of fun!

We wrapped up the season with our Pool Party, featuring steel drummer, Steely Pan. Guests enjoyed walking tacos, root beer floats, cookies, and door prizes, all while relaxing and soaking in a perfect afternoon. It was a wonderful way to close out the season.

Thank you again for all your support. Have a great summer and we look forward to bringing even more fun your way next fall!

If you are interested in joining the Entertainment Committee, our first meeting will be held on **Thursday, November 5th at 10:00 AM in the Yacht Club**. Come and join us!

*Cheryl Brink, Entertainment Chairman*

## Many Thanks



The Entertainment Committee thanked Cheryl Brink, the Entertainment Chairman, for all the time, effort, and care she put into organizing such fun events for the residents this season. Her dedication truly made a difference and it was greatly appreciated by all the residents who had the chance to participate and enjoy these wonderful events.

# Paradise Pool Party



The Co-Op Pool Party was a wonderful success and a perfect way to wrap up the season! The weather couldn't have been better, the food was delicious, and Tim of Steely Pan provided a relaxed, enjoyable vibe throughout the afternoon with his steel drums.

Guests enjoyed a dozen fun door prizes, and many gathered around the 85" TV to watch the Masters Golf Tournament, which ended at just the right time to cap off the day. With over 100 residents in attendance, it was a great opportunity for friends and neighbors to come together and share their goodbyes for the season. (See the pictures on page 2)

A heartfelt thank you goes out to our incredible Entertainment Committee for all their hard work and dedication. Special recognition to Lisa Murphy for preparing and serving the best walking tacos, and to Mike Murphy and Brenda Bartels for dishing out delicious root beer floats. The Committee also treated everyone to a fantastic assortment of cookies that were enjoyed by all.

And of course, a big "thank you" to our community for your continued support and participation. Your enthusiasm is what makes these events so special. We truly appreciate each and every one of you!

*---Cheryl Brink, Chairman*



## Cook's Corner



### How To Make Strawberry Banana Smoothies

#### Ingredients:

- 1 banana ripe
- 1 cup Greek yogurt vanilla or plain, berry, coconut, etc.
- 1 ½ cups frozen strawberries  
(add 1 cup of ice if using fresh strawberries)
- 1 cup apple juice, orange juice, or milk of your choice

#### Instructions:

1. Cut the banana into large chunks and place in the blender.
2. Top with Greek yogurt.
3. Add the frozen strawberries and juice or milk of your choice.
4. Blend everything together for 2 minutes or until smooth.
5. Pour the mixture into glasses and serve immediately.

# Shuffle Club News

On Thursday, March 19 the Shuffle Club had their Annual Turkey Shoot. What fun! In this tournament, shuffle skills are used to negotiate 6 "interesting" challenges. The event has a long history in the club with lots of prior winners. Club members can win once, but can compete every year. This year's winners were Gary Bidlespacher and Darlene Scruton. Gary was also the tournament manager for this event (Thanks, Gary!). We had lots of support from club members with set up and clean up.



Seasonal shuffling began winding down with the curtains and shades getting put away and the courts being deep cleaned and waxed to weather the summer months. As our shufflers are peaking, the games can be cutthroat as you can see in this picture of a game with Glenn and John Ulery barely beating out Dan Sargent and Paul Kary.



The TI Shuffleboard Club had their final social meeting of the season on April 8th. We had a great potluck dinner and lots of laughter. There was no business meeting, but we did get to review and hand out all our tournament plaques and awards.



Our new secretary, Debbie Sargent, picked up the finished plaques and trophies and was thrilled with her own trophy as runner up in the Beginner's Class Tournament. Our beginner's class instructor, Roy

Schwartz, presented the trophies to Paul Kary (tournament winner) and Debbie Sargent (runner up).

John Stuart got his name on the Guy Manchester Tournament plaque (again).



The 2026 Can/Am Tournament fell victim to the wind in March. We rescheduled, but were foiled again.



Congratulations to all the participants of the Shuffleboard Club's Guy Manchester Shuffleboard Tournament held on March 23. The final 4 included Doug Moore, John Stewart, Martin Dey, and Dwayne Scruton. John Stewart is this year's Guy Manchester champion after beating out Doug Moore in the final round. The 2026 Guy Manchester Tournament was great shuffling to watch.

Congratulations to our own Tropic Isles' Julie Bonenfant--1st Place Winner of the Southwest Coast District Amateurs Masters Tournament! This is a very honorable accomplishment and all your Tropic Isles fellow shufflers are so happy for you!



*(continued on page 27)*

## Shuffle Club News



Dave Myers will see his name on the Dean Cone Tournament plaque when he returns in the fall. Darlene Scruton received her Turkey Shoot Trophy and Gary Bidlespacher will get his trophy when he returns. Shuffle and have fun. It's what we do!

The Shuffle Club officers for 2026-27 were confirmed at the March meeting. The slate of officers is:

Mel Theel - President

John Ulery - Vice President

Debbie Sargent - Secretary

Robbin Moore - Treasurer

Advisory Board members are: Doug Moore - Court Maintenance

Mark Kolb - Disc Maintenance

## 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. We have some 2 lb. weights and stretch bands if you wish to 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! Aerobics will continue until May 15 and then resume September 14.



*Cindy Shaw, Coordinator*

The Aerobics Group enjoyed breakfast together at D's Breakfast and Burgers to say farewell to Bev MacKenzie.



## Tropic Isles Golf League (TIGL)

Here it is the closing week for Tropic Isles' Golf. The lion's share of us have returned to our summer homes to try and find the skills and happiness we share on the links in Florida. Many of us will enjoy summer golf elsewhere. Some of us are getting older and returning to Tropic Isles may be difficult. I hope that all of us remember what we've enjoyed here. The fun, the comradery, and the good golf that we have shared is something to behold. Hopefully, all of us will return and enjoy another wonderful golf season at Terra Ceia/ Tropic Isles. For those who can't return, know that we will always remember the fun times we have had in playing golf together.

Over the years we have had several holes-in-one, the most prestigious accomplishment in golf, but Cathy Cardinal's was really one to remember. She is the first lady at TI to accomplish this, and especially after the year she had battling medical issues which would have eliminated most of us from accomplishing this. We will always remember her tremendous accomplishment.

I want to thank all the participants who came out this year and enjoyed our golf program. Many times, it was windy and cold and you all persevered. Gail and I are hoping we all will return for another fun-filled golf season, starting the first week of November continuing through the winter season.

Safe travels to all and we hope to see you in the fall. Enjoy your summer and remember our rule in golf, **"If you don't have fun, you can't come back."** 🏌️

*Ron and Gail Stewart, Coordinators*

### 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. **PLEASE REMEMBER TO TURN OFF THE LIGHTS, FANS, AND MUSIC WHEN YOU LEAVE THE ROOM. The door to the hallway should always remain closed.**

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# Landscaping Advisory Committee (LAC)

If you don't mind getting your hands dirty, the Landscape Advisory Committee (LAC) seeks volunteers to help weed and deadhead the entrances and pool area year-round. If you are interested in being a volunteer to help weed and deadhead this summer, please contact Nancy Cobb at 941-730-0018.



## Landscape Update

By Terry Foley

The Landscape Advisory Committee, with the expert help of our maintenance tech, Shaun, trimmed back the Paurotis Palm bed at the pool. There were 12 trunks and one was removed, along with 4 barrels of fronds to create a more open look. This is an uncommon palm which should have a 3-level look.

## Memorial Garden Renewal

by Terry Foley

A very special place in Tropic Isles is the Memorial Garden in front of the Yacht Club. The memorial bricks placed there, honor residents of Tropic Isles and the plaques honor the military veterans. Memorial Day has been a national holiday since 1971 and around every Memorial Day a flag planting is held at our Memorial Garden to honor the fallen. The military plaques, representing each branch of service, that were laying on the mulch had deteriorated due to intense sun and hurricanes. Bobbie McEvoy, our manager, repainted the plaques and while there had been trees in the planting bed, they had succumbed over time, too. This year the Landscape Advisory Committee decided an Earth Day project would be to bring in new trees. Some research was involved and many ideas were put forward. Luckily, we have a local nursery in Parrish that sells only native plants, trees, and shrubs. With their advice, the LAC settled on these: a Weeping Yaupon Holly, a Simpson Stopper, and a Fiddlewood tree which should be able to handle the sunny, windy, exposed area. With no irrigation at the bed, it will be up to volunteers to get the young trees watered and established! Thanks to Tom and Shaun for planting the trees and to the Boosters for providing the funding.

Landscape Advisory Committee



Before



After

## Dogs, Inc. "Thank You" Party



Many, many thanks to everyone who attended the free Hot Dog Party to celebrate the continued commitment of the Tropic Isles' residents to Dogs, Inc. Who would have thought that a free event would generate \$450 for the cause, but it did. The 50-50 winner, Debbie Phillips, donated part of her winnings back. Over \$125 was collected from raffle ticket sales and the general donation jar netted \$300. You are an amazing group of people.

Since the early 1990's, we have named 30 puppies and donated a whopping \$124,500. This year, we donated enough money to name our 31st puppy. The honor went to Elaine Faulkner. She chose the name "Chip". Chip was her husband, Chet's dog when they were married and she told me, "He was a good dog." We just hope the puppy to bear that name will be just that ...a good dog.

I would also like to thank my army of volunteers who helped with this event. You are wonderful friends. Thanks also need to go to Karen Linke, John and Sheryl Castellana, Deane Sumler, the Boat Club, and the Activity Board for their donations. We live in a great park!

## Become a Scent Sample Participant



If you live with Type 1 diabetes, Dogs, Inc. needs you! Their highly trained scent service dogs learn to detect blood glucose changes, offering critical support to those who need it most. By volunteering as a scent sample participant, you'll help the dogs learn to reliably alert to shifts in blood sugar. By donating samples, you directly help train service dogs to provide safety, confidence, and companionship for someone living with Type 1 diabetes.

### **What to expect:**

- Free collection kit
- Simple instructions
- Ongoing support

(Participants must live close enough to the Dogs, Inc. campus to pick up and return the scent samples kit.) Go to [www.dogsinc.org/type1](http://www.dogsinc.org/type1) to register or for more information.

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- Inspect Supply and Return Plenums
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| Destination | <b>Caribbean</b>                                                                   |
| Sail Date   | <b>January 17, 2027</b>                                                            |

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## Manatee Performing Arts Center

**BIG FISH**- a musical drama April 23-May 3\*

(\*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 Monday-Friday 9 AM-6 PM for tickets and information.**

## Bradenton Public Market

Saturdays, October-May

9:00 AM – 2:00 PM

Old Main Street, Bradenton



## Pittsburg Pirates at Lecom Park



Lecom Park is the spring training home of the Pittsburg Pirates and is located at 1611 9th St. West in Bradenton. Call 941-747-3031 for tickets and information. Day-of-the-game parking is available at several locations. The Outfield Parking Lot north of the ballpark is accessible from

9th St. W. A grass parking lot is located on 6th St. W. and accessible from 17th Ave. W. All parking lots have limited capacity and are available on a first-come-first-served basis. Play ball!

## Palmetto Library Events in May



**Chair Zumba** – Wednesdays at 1 PM (R)

**One-on-One Tech Help Appointments** – Thursdays at 2 PM and 2:30 PM (R)

(Book a 30-minute appointment with library professionals and get your tech questions answered.)

**Tech Talk** – Saturday, May 23 at 11 AM (R) Introduction to computers. An hour-long class focused on Microsoft systems. Learn to set up your computer and open and transfer files.

**Palmetto Trivia Night** – Monday, May 11 at 6 PM Bring a team or join a team.

**Mah Jongg Club** – Fridays at 10 AM

**Ukulele Jam Sessions** – Mondays and Thursdays at 3 PM. Multiple dates for every level 1, 2, 3, and 4. Join Kathleen Reynolds, Leader of the Bradenton Ukulele Movements (BUMS) for a fun jam session. Check the calendar of events for the specific level offered.

**Gardening Class** – Friday, May 29 at 3 PM (R) Learn how to design a butterfly-friendly garden. Join experts from Manatee County Extension to learn about butterfly gardening in a class perfect for beginners and intermediate gardeners.

The Palmetto Library is located at 923 6th Street West in Palmetto. The hours are 9 AM – 8 PM Monday -Thursday and 9 AM – 6 PM Friday and Saturday.

(R) To register for events, visit [www.mymanatee.org/library-system](http://www.mymanatee.org/library-system) and select "View Calendar" under "Events and Classes".

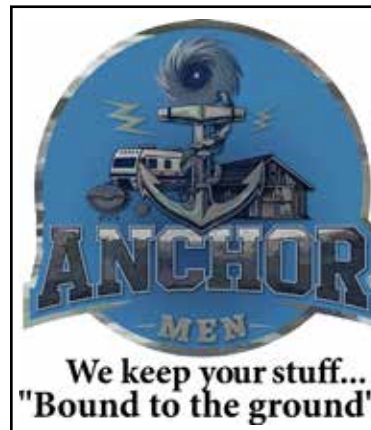
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## Live and Learn and Pass It On

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- I've learned that you should never let your wildest, craziest friend put her hand on the back of your head in front of a whipped cream cake. ---age 8
- I've learned that the small garden tools I can't find will be in plain sight as soon as I purchase new ones. -age 63
- I've learned that the best gift to give or receive is a book that touches your heart. -age 25
- I've learned I should never pinch my husband's nostrils together while he's snoring. -age 40
- I've learned that you shouldn't choose a roommate who comes to look at the place with her boyfriend. -age 23
- I've learned that you should never park your new car beside a beat-up car in the parking lot. -age 72
- I've learned that my dad likes to get those sweet, mushy greeting cards as much as my mom does. -age 26
- I've learned that even with the light's out, I can still find the cashews in the mixed nuts. -age 50
- I've learned that while you hated nap time in pre-school, you would love for your manager to hand you a blanket, pillow, and a glass of Kool-Aid at work. -age 24
- I've learned that I should always laugh at my granddad's jokes no matter how lame they are. -age 13
- I've learned that a good way to save money is to be too busy to go shopping. -age 88
- I've learned that when my husband misplaces one of his belongings, he expects me to know exactly where he left it. -age 24
- I've learned that you should never use safety pins while changing a baby's diaper on a waterbed. -age 29
- I've learned the great value of the three F's: forgive, forget, and forge ahead. -age 47

## Photo of the Month



Please send me your favorite photo of wildlife or scenery in or around the area 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.



### FASCINATING FACTS FROM AROUND THE WORLD

- You can technically go to jail for eating fried chicken with a fork in Gainesville, Georgia.
- The fine for detonating a nuclear bomb in Chico, California is just \$500. It's good to know they don't let crimes go unpunished.
- If you plan to commit a crime in Texas, you are mandated by law to give the police 24-hours' advance notice, either verbally or on paper. Failure to notify authorities will land you in jail.
- It is illegal to sell toothpaste and a toothbrush at the same time on a Sunday in Providence, Rhode Island.
- It's a criminal offense to polish your wood while naked in Devon, Texas. You simply can't buff a table in the buff. A lot of Texans must have been doing it if an actual law had to be made to stop it.
- It's unlawful to tie a dollar bill on a string, leave it on the ground, and pull on it to make people chase it in Pennsylvania. How much of a problem is this?
- English isn't the official language of the United States and neither is Spanish. The US never decided on one.
- Billboards are illegal in Hawaii, Alaska, Maine, and Vermont because they take away from the gorgeous scenery.
- Connecting to a neighbor's WiFi is considered a cyber hacking offense in Singapore. If your neighbor reports you, you could be looking at a \$10,000 fine plus 3 years in jail, with no WiFi access.
- You are legally obligated to smile at all times in Milan, Italy. The few exceptions are during hospital visits and funerals.
- Not walking your dog at least 3 times a day is considered animal abuse in Turin, Italy. So is dying their fur.
- It is illegal to wear flip-flops in Capri, Italy. This law extends to other noisy footwear like wooden clogs and squeaky shoes.
- It's customary in Spain to eat 12 grapes to welcome the New Year. If you eat each grape in time with the 12 chimes of the clock bell, you'll have good luck that year.
- There are more bikes than people in the Netherlands. It has 22 million bicycles to 17 million citizens.

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# Manatee County

## MODIFIED PHASE II "SEVERE" WATER SHORTAGE REGULATIONS

**Lawn Watering Limited to One Day Per Week**

- District's Modified Phase II Water Shortage Order (once per week)
- Continue following restrictions from St. Johns River WMD
- Continue following restrictions from Suwannee River WMD
- Continue following restrictions from South Florida WMD

**Water 101**  
Southwest Florida Water Management District



The District's Governing Board voted to declare a Modified Phase II "Severe" Water Shortage due to dry conditions throughout the region, which requires all residents, including those on private wells, in the cities and counties listed below to follow one-day-per-week watering restrictions.

The restrictions apply to all of Citrus, DeSoto, Hardee, Hernando, Hillsborough, **Manatee**, Pasco, Pinellas, Polk, Sarasota and Sumter counties; portions of Charlotte, Highlands, and Lake counties; the City of Dunnellon and The Villages in Marion County; and the portion of Gasparilla Island in Charlotte County from **February 8, 2026 through July 1, 2026**.

The district received below average rainfall during its summer rainy season and currently has a 13-inch regional rainfall deficit compared to the average 12-month total. In addition, water levels in the district's water resources, such as aquifers, rivers, and lakes, are continuing to decline and many are below normal. Public water supplies in the Tampa Bay area are lower than expected at this time of year.

Outdoor water use accounts for more than 50 percent of water consumed by households and residents should know and follow their local watering restrictions. Residents should check with their city or county for their allowable day and times as many have different schedules or stricter hours in effect. To get complete details on the requirements of the new order, visit [WaterMatters.org/Restrictions](http://WaterMatters.org/Restrictions).

In Manatee County, the standard one-day-per-week schedule is based on street address:

- **Addresses ending in 0 or 1: Monday**
- **Addresses ending in 2 or 3: Tuesday**
- **Addresses ending in 4 or 5: Wednesday**
- **Addresses ending in 6 or 7: Thursday**
- **Addresses ending in 8 or 9, and locations without a discernible address: Friday**

Additional provisions of the Modified Phase II Order include:

- Homeowners' associations and similar entities may not require increased water use for landscape appearance, plant replacement, or pressure washing.
- Residential car washing is allowed only on the assigned watering day.
- Aesthetic fountains are limited to eight hours of operation per day.
- Pressure washing is allowed once per year or when preparing surfaces for painting or sealing.

For full details on watering restrictions, visit [mymanatee.org/waterrestrictions](http://mymanatee.org/waterrestrictions)

For water-saving tips and conservation resources, visit [WaterMatters.org/Water101](http://WaterMatters.org/Water101)

## Friendly Reminders



- **The Auditorium will be closed to any activities for the summer starting May 15.**
- Remember to save the calendar from the Breezes newsletter and keep it handy to find out what's going on in the park!
- Speed limits on the park streets are **15 MPH**.
- The speed limit along 28th Ave. is **25 MPH**. Please slow down.
- There is no parking of vehicles, boats, or trailers on the empty lots.
- **THERE IS NO PARKING ALONG 28TH AVE. SEE POSTED SIGNS ALONG THE FENCE.**
- **THERE IS NO PARKING ON THE STREETS OVERNIGHT.**
- **THERE IS NO PARKING/DRIVING ON THE GRASS ANYWHERE IN THE COMMUNITY.**
- Know where the **AED units** are located at the Auditorium (outside), Yacht Club (inside), pool (outside) and Marina (outside). It could save someone's life.
- If you need to borrow a medical appliance (wheelchair, walker, potty seats) contact Nancy Cobb at 941-730-0018 for assistance.



## 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 Club Training Seminars



The Boat Club held training seminars for interested residents. **Bob Shaw** shared information on Boating Navigation—Rules of the Road, Chart Reading/GPS, Channel Markers, and Weather/Wind/Tide. **Steve Tourtillotte** spoke about Boater Safety—Pre Trip Check, Personal Floating Devices, Required Equipment, and Fire Extinguishers. Lastly, **Tom Hennessy** discussed Fishing Gear and Tactics—Equipment, Tackle, Bait, Nets, Traps, and Target Species.

## Marina News!



*By Rick Kropp, Marina Manager*

Our Marina offers a 10-cent per gallon fuel discount to residents. Since we don't know everyone in the park yet, please remember to let us know that you are a resident when purchasing fuel. Non-residents who are BoatUS and Sea Tow members also receive the discount. The Marina is running an ad in the Coastal Angler in hopes of drawing in non-resident customers. You can pick up your free copy at the Marina along with the Breezes newsletter. Thank you for your patronage.



### **Boat Club Bridge 2026-2027**

Steve Tourtillotte, Commodore  
Dwayne Scruton, 1st Vice Commodore  
**VACANT**, 2nd Vice Commodore  
John Slayter, Secretary  
Mike Cuff, Treasurer (not pictured)

## 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. TI residents must show their new key fob to get a ramp permit and will then receive the new code to the lock for the ramp. Please be sure to lock the cable on the ramp after use.

If you need a parking permit for your vehicle and boat trailer, they are available at the Marina. You'll need a stickered boat launch permit affixed to the right side of your boat windshield and your new key fob. See a Marina attendant for your parking permit.

## Boat Club Fish Derby Results 2026

OFFSHORE DIVISION – 5 BOATS, TOTAL FISH WEIGHED IN 166 LBS.

### WINNERS – TIED

- **Jim Gorton**—38 lbs.
- **Hank Correll**—38 lbs.



### LARGEST FISH—30" GROUPER

**Jim Gorton**

INSHORE DIVISION – 1 BOAT, TOTAL FISH WEIGHED IN 5 LBS.

### WINNER

**Dick Labrecque** – 5 lbs.

### LARGEST FISH – 14" TROUT

**Dick Labrecque**

# Boat Club Fish Fry

The Boat Club Fish Fry is always a deliciously fun event for the club. 166 pounds of fish were caught and Joan and Mike Cloutier suited up for the fry event. Bob Shaw and Mike Cloutier fried the fish to perfection for the club members to enjoy. After dinner, awards were presented to the fishing derby participants. (See the pictures from the Fishing Derby on page 2.)



The **Bent Prop Award** was presented to **Jeff Keast** (not pictured) who was experiencing engine trouble that was ultimately caused by repeatedly hitting the kill switch.

The **Bent Paddle Award** was presented to **Laurie Bragg** for her "wet adventure" while exiting her kayak at the kayak launch one afternoon.



Fishing Derby winners and members of the Sailing Group are shown here with Commodore, Tom Hennessy.

## Sailing Away!

Sailors & Friends,

Tuesday's race on March 31 was the last race of the 2026 series, and a difficult race it was. Throughout the race we encountered surprisingly strong wind shifts with enough force to upset our largest boats.

Our Race committee was Bob and Cindy Shaw. Bob and Cindy did the lion's share of the committee work this year for which we are grateful.

Fred has gone north and taken his drone with him. We will miss the videos.

We have run 8 of our 13 scheduled races. Only the 5 best races are counted. That is one more than half of the races run.

I would like to thank those that helped with our races this season.

The race committees:

Bob and Cindy Shaw  
Patti and Steve Tourtillotte

Those that took pictures & video:

Cindy Shaw  
Fred Lawrence

Those that crew on the boats.

The Boat Club that sponsors us.

I am looking forward to our 16th year of racing on our beautiful bay.

---John C.



# Kayak-It-Yak News

Join the Kayak Group!



The Kayak Group paddles on Wednesday mornings starting at the kayak launch behind the Auditorium at 9 AM. We all gather at Bird Island at 9:30 and decide where to go depending upon the weather and tide conditions. If you have any questions or want to get on the kayaking email list for next season, contact Beverly Butts at [beverlybutts@gmail.com](mailto:beverlybutts@gmail.com).



On April 1, a group of 11 kayakers were surprised by some mating manatees in the Middle Basin and in the Nassau Canal.



## Kayak Launch Cleaning



The kayak launch was cleaned in April. Special thanks to Janet and Dennis Weber with the power washer and to all the volunteers who helped out.

## Kayak Launch Use Reminders



For safety reasons, kayakers are encouraged to use the Float Plan Log on the sign-in kiosk in front of the Kayak Launch showing directions on how to use the Kayak Launch correctly.

- Kayakers should also use life jackets, whistle (or other sound-producing device), and a light for night kayaking.
- Please be respectful of neighboring homes when using the Kayak Launch Center. Keep noise to a minimum and clean up the area of your belongings (including trash) before leaving.
- Use the water hose provided to wash off your kayak and the Kayak Launch after use and make sure both water valves are turned off before leaving.

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

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

*Your help in taking good care of our launch is appreciated.*

## Kayak Rack Storage



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 and during hurricane season, please store your kayak in your shed or home where it can be safely secured, especially during hurricane season.

Tropic Isles is not responsible for any loss or damage to your kayaks if left on the racks.

# 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 of 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.

### VI. YACHT CLUB AND AUDITORIUM

#### 6.4 Smoking

- Smoking is NOT allowed in any of the buildings, fenced-in pool or hot tub/spa deck area, or within twenty (20) feet of the exit and entrance doors of the buildings. This includes vaping or any similar device used for smoking, the chewing of tobacco, and the use of marijuana.
- Smoking IS allowed in designated areas only.

### VII. SWIMMING POOL AND HOT TUB/SPA

#### 7.6 Oils and Lotions

- Do not apply sunscreen, oils, or lotions before entering the pool or hot tub/spa. This rule is necessary to protect the equipment and the appearance of the pool and hot tub/spa. Oils and lotions stain the tiles and pool/hot tub surface and clog up the filters.
- Use a towel to protect the lounges and chairs from oils and lotions.

### X. PETS

#### 10.3 Service and Support Animals

- The Association will comply with all governmental regulations regarding service animals that provide assistance to disabled or handicapped persons. Service animals must be registered with the Office.

- Service animals shall not be subject to weight or breed limitations as specified in Section **10.1 Restrictions** of the Rules and Regulations.
- Assistance animals such as comfort, therapy, or emotional support animals are allowed in accordance with applicable federal and state laws and must be registered with the Office.

#### Penalty for Non-Compliance

Any animal not properly registered with both Management and the appropriate governmental agencies may be required to be removed from the Community.

#### 10.5 General

- Residents are responsible for their pets and any damage caused by their pets at all times.
- Pets are NOT permitted in the Community buildings or in the pool or hot tub/spa deck area.
- Outdoor kennels, dog houses, pet fencing, and pet breeding are not permitted.
- Pets are not permitted to disturb the peace and enjoyment of Residents. Contact the Palmetto Police Department (941-721-2000) for code violations.
- Any pet creating a reoccurring nuisance, at any time of day or night, may be cause for its permanent removal from the Community.
- For health and sanitation reasons, and to comply with the local ordinances, Residents are not permitted to leave food or water dishes outdoors. This includes bird feed. These may attract disease-carrying animals and stray cats and dogs.

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# 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. You will be notified when your request is placed on the agenda for an ARC meeting. You are encouraged to attend the meeting.
5. **NEW SCHEDULE:**  
**ARC Meetings are held on the 1st and 3rd Tuesdays of the month at 9:30 AM in the Auditorium. 3-COR Meetings will be held if needed.**  
After the meeting, you will be notified, by phone or in writing, as to whether your request is approved or denied.
6. If denied, you can appeal the decision to the Board of Directors, if you so choose.
7. **To obtain a permit from the City, you must first receive the Architectural Review Application approval, signed by the ARC Committee and the Manager.**

8. **You must also provide a copy of all required permits to the Office.**
9. **BOTH THE ARC APPLICATION AND THE CITY PERMIT NEED TO BE POSTED ON THE FRONT OF THE HOME BEFORE THE WORK CAN BEGIN.**
10. **NO WORK should begin on your project until your final approval letter from the Office is received.** If you fail to get ARC approval for your project before you begin, you may be asked to deconstruct it and/or a fine of \$100 can be imposed. Contact Steve Tourtilotte at 860-682-7656 with any questions you may have.

## ARC Committee Members

Steve Tourtilotte-Chairman  
Randy Blanton  
Mike McBride  
Cathy Sweeney  
Bill Eagle  
Dennis Weber-Board Liaison

**ARC Meetings are held on the 1st and 3rd Tuesdays of the month at 9:30 AM in the Auditorium. 3-COR Meetings will be held if needed.**

## 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.



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