

HAPPY 250TH ANNIVERSARY, AMERICA!



Tropic Isles celebrates our nation's 250th anniversary!

Flags were also placed at both street entrances, the Marina, and in the Memorial Garden.

Photo of the Month



John Slayter and his stepson, Jacob Grathen, went fishing around Bird Island in a couple of peddle-powered Hobie kayaks and took this picture of 2 mature pelicans roosting on the island in May.

Thought for the day

A smart person knows what to say.
A wise person knows whether or not to say it!

Happy Starfish Hunt

*Can you find me hiding
somewhere inside?*



Home of the Month



July's "Home of the Month" is awarded to Chris and Sharon Wagner at 260 Jamaica Dr. Their beautiful home and well-cared-for landscaping are a reflection of the pride they put into creating great "curb appeal". Congratulations on being named July's "Home of the Month".

(Meet Your New Neighbors will return again in the September issue.)

Tropic Isles' Happenings

Residents joined in the annual "planting of the flags" for Memorial Day at the Memorial Garden in front of the Yacht Club to remember and honor those that have given their lives in service to our country.



Bobbie McEvoy, our manager, gave the "Resident-owned 55+ park" signs at the front entrances a fresh coat of paint.



3 members of the LAC, Nancy Cobb, Brenda Bartels, and Diane Swartz created a beautiful arrangement of flowers in a pot at the Auditorium.



Tropic Isles celebrates our nation's 250th anniversary!



Out and About.....

Beverly Thompson and Nancy Cobb were picking vegetables and sunflowers at Hunsader Farm on a beautiful day in May.



Terry and Dennis Foley visited Athens, Greece where they climbed the Acropolis on May 18.



Denny and Brigid Vitton spent time enjoying a Mediterranean Cruise with family.



Irene Casey got to meet her new great grandson, Everett, in Mattapoisett, MA while visiting family this summer.



Cindy and Bob Shaw took their motorhome out west and explored the Snake River Canyon in Twin Falls, Idaho.

Tropic Isles

1503 28th Ave. West, Palmetto, Florida 34221

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

Barbara McEvoy, General Manager

Lynn Szabo, Administrative Assistant

Robin Emanuel, Resident Services

Thomas Tonich, Maintenance Manager

Shaun Schweitzer, Maintenance Tech

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Tropic Isles Co-op

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Tropic Isles Breezes

Published monthly and delivered to all residents

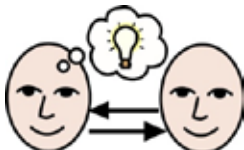
Editor: Cindy Shaw

Send photos and articles to Tlbreezes1@aol.com

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

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

Idea to Ponder....



Difficult roads lead to beautiful destinations!.

Letter From The Editor



As the United States celebrates its 250th anniversary we, as Americans, have an opportunity to reflect on the nation's remarkable journey since 1776. This milestone honors the courage, vision, and resilience of the people who shaped the country's history while also recognizing the ongoing work of building a more perfect union. Communities across the nation will commemorate the occasion through parades, educational programs, cultural events, and acts of service that highlight the diversity and shared values of the American people. The 250th anniversary is not only a celebration of the past, but also a chance to inspire future generations to uphold the principles of freedom, democracy, and unity that continue to define the United States. Take pride in your country and celebrate! Teach your children and grandchildren to do the same.

SUMMER IS HERE!



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

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



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From the Manager's Desk



2026 HURRICANE SEASON

The Tampa Bay Regional Planning Council has updated their Disaster Planning Guide. This contains some additional helpful information, and we encourage you to view the information at the link below: <https://tampabayprepares.org/>

We also have a small supply of updated Disaster Planning Guides available in the Office and in the Yacht Club.

GREAT NEWS!

The City of Palmetto approved our application for the electronic marquee sign. I'll keep you all updated on the progress as we get this sign ordered and installed.

OFFICE HOURS

The Office will be open from 9 AM – 3 PM and will be closed for lunch from 12 PM - 1 PM.

SUMMER CLOSURE

The Auditorium is closed for the summer.

POOL REMINDERS

As we always do each year, we would like to remind all residents and guests of the pool and spa rules to help ensure a safe, clean, and enjoyable environment for everyone.

- No glass or breakable items are permitted in the pool or hot tub/spa deck area.
- No food or beverages are allowed in the pool or hot tub/spa, or within four (4) feet of the water.
- Please place all trash and recyclables in the designated containers provided.
- Smoking is permitted in designated areas only.
- Smoking is prohibited within the fenced pool and hot tub/spa deck areas. This includes vaping, electronic smoking devices, chewing tobacco, and marijuana use.

- Please also dispose of cigarette butts properly.
- Personal music must be kept at a respectful volume so as not to disturb others.
- Pets are not permitted in the pool or hot tub/spa deck area.
- Children under the age of 14 may only use the pool and deck area between the hours of 11:00 AM -- 1:00 PM and 4:00 PM -- 6:00 PM and must be accompanied by an adult at all times.
- **All users must shower before entering the pool or spa. This is a requirement under State of Florida regulations.**

We kindly ask all residents to help us maintain the cleanliness and quality of our pool by taking a few simple precautions:

- **Please wash swimsuits, towels, toys, and other water-related items after visiting other bodies of water before using our pool facilities.**
- **Please shower before entering the pool or hot tub each time you use the facilities.**

Recently, the Co-op Office has received an increase in complaints regarding noncompliance with the rules, particularly involving beverages in the pool and failure to shower prior to entering.

Our pool and spa facilities are shared amenities intended to be enjoyed by all residents and guests.

To preserve a safe, clean, and welcoming environment for everyone, it is important that these rules be followed consistently and enforced when necessary.

Please be advised that failure to comply with these rules may result in suspension of access to the amenities and common areas in accordance with our governing documents and community policies.

If you have any questions regarding these rules, please contact the Co-op Office.

Thank you for your cooperation.

Tropic Isles Co-op Board of Directors and Management



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HAPPY 250th Anniversary, AMERICA



This July 4, 2026, the United States will mark a major historic milestone: 250 years since the signing of the Declaration of Independence on July 4, 1776. This is officially known as the United States' Semi quincentennial (or "America 250"), and it's being observed with celebrations, educational programs, community events, and national initiatives throughout the year!

Protect yourself from the sun....



Don't forget your sunscreen and sunglasses!

For Your Summer Enjoyment...



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

- Cards meets every Tuesday at 2 PM in the Yacht Club.
- Canasta/Knee, Hand, Foot meets on Thursdays at 1 PM in the Yacht Club.
- Movie Night takes place every second Sunday in the Yacht Club at 7 PM.
- The shuffle courts are available for your use at any time.
- The Fitness Room, game room, and library are available for fun and games.
- The kayak launch is always available for use. Follow the directions on the kiosk.
- Come and join us at the pool for the beautiful sunsets this summer.
- Boating and fishing are good. Beaches and restaurants are less crowded.
- You can access the Breezes newsletter online at www.tropicisles.net to see what's going on.
- Outside of Tropic Isles, you can enjoy a Marauders Baseball game at Lecom Field or take the Gulf Island Ferry to Anna Maria Island.

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

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Hurricane Prep



Hurricane prep is different for everyone. Find out what works best for you. Generally speaking, you want to make sure you have enough supplies to last 3 days for everyone in your household. Don't forget about your pets!

The basic hurricane prep list includes:

- Water
- Non-perishable food
- Medicine
- First-Aid Kit
- Flashlight/Candles

This is the absolute bare bones for a disaster kit. Batteries, a battery-powered radio, and charging banks are also super helpful. Having a full tank of gas is important, too.

A generator can be a huge asset during a hurricane. Not just for conveniences like television and having functional appliances, but for medical equipment, too. Generators certainly make for a more comfortable experience, and often end up paying for themselves after a few storms. Carbon monoxide poisoning is a leading cause of death after storms, so please review generator safety before you use one. Keep the generator 20 feet away from your windows and doors.

Don't forget about your important documents. Birth certificates, social security cards, passports, and any other important documents that are a pain to replace should be in a designated spot that you can grab quickly if you need to.

Take a moment to walk around the outside of your house. Secure any plants, furniture, or anything else that would become a projectile in high winds. Make sure your car is not parked in an area that could flood, but make sure to park it so that you can get out if you need to. Try not to park under any trees either. The goal is to prepare for wind and flooding. Do your laundry. Do your dishes. Fill your bathtubs. **CLEAN YOUR STREET'S STORM DRAINS!**

DURING THE STORM

Even if you're not a certified storm chaser, seeing firsthand what power Mother Nature holds can be addicting. While it's tempting to stay glued to the windows...DON'T! Stay away from windows and doors. It's dangerous and now would not be a good time to need to call 911. Emergency services are going to have a difficult time reaching you under these conditions, so your main goal is to stay safe.

Make sure your devices are as charged as possible. Power outages are inevitable. Sign up for your city's emergency alert system.

Stay safe, stay ready. Keep an eye on the streets. Check your house for leaks periodically. If you have pets, give them some extra love and a few treats.

AFTER THE STORM

Everyone assumes that the storm itself is the worst part, but the aftermath is equally as miserable. If you don't have a generator, you'll be without power for a while. It's impossible to say how long power will be out.

The most important thing to do after a storm is stay put. So often we see news stories of people driving around to check out the damage, and that's a great way to pop a tire.

Please, please, please – stay home. Leave the streets to the emergency response teams. Let them clear the streets and restore power before you jump in the car. Stay home!

If you need to drive to check on someone, **NEVER DRIVETHROUGH FLOODWATERS!** Check on your neighbors when it is safe to do so, especially the elderly and anyone who lives alone. We are all in this together.

There are other ways to help. There are many ways to donate money, time, or supplies. If you want to donate supplies, here are the most requested donations:

- Shelf-stable food (pop-top cans only, nothing requiring a can opener)
- Bottled water
- Baby formula
- Diapers
- Cat food
- Dog food

National organizations including FEMA, the Salvation Army, and the Red Cross, are always taking donations. These organizations help the larger region, and the Red Cross sets up shelters all across the region.



Florida's Rainy Season

The wet season in Central Florida lasts an average of five months. It generally begins in late May and runs through mid-October. 61% of our total annual rainfall is received during these five months. There really isn't a definitive start date or time, but there are a few signals that alert us to the fact that the rainy season may be beginning:

1. Cold fronts stop moving through Central Florida.
2. Frequent (almost daily) showers or thunderstorms form, mainly along sea breezes collisions.
3. The low temperature and dew point temperature is consistently 67-70 degrees.

Forecasters at the National Weather Service office in Melbourne, FL, make the official call or when the wet season has begun for Central Florida. They usually wait a few days, or sometimes weeks, after we think the season has started before determining the official start date for the year.

Beware! How to Get Rid of Old Batteries

After a recent fire in the back of a Waste Management garbage truck that came to a head in the Auditorium parking lot due to a golf cart battery thrown in the trash, the garbage truck had to empty the entire load of trash and the fire was put out by the fire department. Waste Management returned to clean up the area and wash down the parking lot. Thank you to everyone involved! **It is important to know how to dispose of old batteries SAFELY.**



You can safely and profitably dispose of old car and golf cart batteries by taking them to local auto parts stores (like AutoZone or Advance Auto Parts) for core credits or gift cards, bringing them to a scrap yard/metal recycler for cash by weight, or dropping them at local hazardous waste facilities.

Because batteries contain hazardous lead and sulfuric acid, throwing them in the trash or municipal recycling bins is illegal and dangerous. The easiest and most beneficial ways to dispose of them include:

1. Auto Parts Stores (Best for Store Credit)

Most major auto retailers take both standard car batteries and deep-cycle golf cart batteries.

- **AutoZone & Advance Auto Parts:** Often provide store credit or gift cards (typically around \$10 per battery) when you drop them off, or they will waive core charges if you are buying a replacement.
- **Note:** It helps to call your specific local branch ahead of time, as some locations limit the number of batteries you can drop off in a single day.

2. Scrap Yards and Metal Recyclers (Best for Cash)

If you have a large batch of heavy golf cart batteries, scrap yards and metal recyclers are your best option.

- Because these batteries are loaded with lead, scrap yards buy them by weight.
- Payouts fluctuate based on scrap metal rates, but this method often yields the highest cash return.

3. Local Household Hazardous Waste (HHW) Centers

If you just want them gone responsibly without worrying about making a profit, your city or county waste authority likely has a dedicated HHW drop-off site.

- Check your local municipal waste management website for designated drop-off days or permanent recycling facilities.

4. Reselling Online

If your batteries still hold a charge and are in working condition, you can sell them on marketplaces like Facebook Marketplace or Offer Up. Many people look for cheaper, used lead-acid sets to get their carts running again.

How to Safely Handle & Transport Batteries:

- **Wear Protection:** Always wear safety gloves and eye protection.
- **Disconnect Carefully:** When unhooking terminals, remove the negative (black) cable first, followed by the positive (red) cable.
- **Check for Leaks:** Inspect the battery casing for any cracks or leaks. Place leaking batteries into a sealed, heavy-duty plastic bag.
- **Keep Upright:** Always transport batteries completely upright to prevent acid from spilling or leaking from the vent caps.





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HAPPY 250TH ANNIVERSARY, AMERICA

Household Hazardous Waste (HHW) and Electronic Scrap (E-Scrap) Collection Schedule

- Manatee County residents may drop off (HHW) and (E-Scrap) for FREE at the Lena Rd. Landfill.
- For diesel fuel and gasoline, if it is brought during the week Mon. to Fri. there is no vendor on site and your container will not be returned to you. For the 3rd Saturday a vendor will be on site and your container can be returned to you.
- The Lena Rd. Landfill will be closed on the following holidays: New Year's Day, Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., President's Day, Memorial Day, 4th of July, Labor Day, Thanksgiving Day, and Christmas Day.



LENA ROAD LANDFILL

- The Lena Rd. Landfill is accepting (HHW) Monday through Friday from 8:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m. and every 3rd Saturday of the month from 9:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m., from residents only.
- E-Scrap can be dropped off Monday through Saturday from 8:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m. HHW & E-Scrap every 3rd Saturday of the month: 3333 Lena Road 9:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.

HOUSEHOLD HAZARD WASTE ACCEPTED

- Aerosols, paint, stain, and varnish
- All automotive fluids
- Automotive lead-acid batteries
- Small rechargeable and tool batteries
- Fluorescent bulbs
- Residential grade pool chemicals
- Residential grade fungicides, lawn chemicals
- Gasoline, diesel fuel
- Propane tanks

WHAT NOT TO BRING

- Appliances (large or small)
- Sharps, Needles
- Air conditioners
- Lithium electric vehicle batteries
- Metal Scrap
- Vape/electronic cigarettes
- Biohazardous Waste
- Tires
- Commercial Waste
- Gasoline powered tools equipment
- Medicine
- Radioactive Materials & Explosives

Picture-Perfect Pets of Tropic Isles



Tropic Isles is a pet-friendly park. Our pets are a part of our family and bring so much comfort and joy to our lives. We have so many pets in the park so we'd like to get to know them.

Please send me a picture of your pet for a future issue of the Breezes. Send your pictures to tibreezes1@aol.com or text it to 608-212-8967 with your pet's name, breed, age, and any other interesting tidbits that you'd like to share (quirky habit, etc.). I will collect your pictures and then create an issue dedicated to the pets of Tropic Isles this summer. Thanks, in advance, for your pictures!

Cindy Shaw, Editor

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 or text it to 608-212-8967. Please send in your favorite nature photo.

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Cook's Corner



RUM AND COKE POPSICLES—

"The Dirty Pirate"

INGREDIENTS:

- 1/4 cup Captain Morgan Spiced Rum or coconut rum
- 2 cups Coca-Cola flat-open a bottle and let it sit overnight to remove any carbonation
- 1/4 cup Kahlua (opt.)
- Popsicle or other molds
- Wooden popsicle sticks

DIRECTIONS:

1. Add all of the ingredients into a pitcher and stir.
2. Poor into the molds.
3. Insert wooden sticks.
4. Freeze for several hours or overnight. Run hot water for a few seconds on the outside of the mold to release pops!



Safety For Seniors

WARNING SIGNS: HEART ATTACK vs STROKE

HEART ATTACK SIGNS:

- Chest pain, pressure, or tightness
- Pain in arm, jaw, neck, or back
- Shortness of breath
- Nausea or lightheadedness
- Cold sweat
- Women may feel extreme fatigue or nausea without chest pain

STROKE SIGNS – Use F-A-S-T!

- F – Face dropping on one side
- A – Arm weakness (raise both arms)
- S – Speech is slurred or confused
- T – Time to call 911 – IMMEDIATELY! EVERY MINUTE MATTERS DURING A STROKE!

HEART ATTACK AND STROKE: ACT FAST!

- CALL 911 IMMEDIATELY – Do not wait to see if it gets better.
- DO NOT drive yourself to the hospital.
- EMA can begin treatment the moment they arrive.
- Unlock your door so EMS can get in quickly.
- Stay on the phone with the 911 dispatcher.

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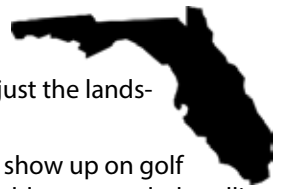
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Getting To Know Florida



The state of Florida is one of the most unique, most unpredictable, and most unapologetically chaotic regions in the entire United States, and the people who live there — Floridians — will tell you that without hesitation and usually while standing next to a palm tree during a thunderstorm that wasn't in the forecast ten minutes ago.

Florida stretches across more than 65,000 square miles of beaches, swamps, springs, cities, and wetlands, and it's surrounded by water on three sides — the Atlantic Ocean to the east, the Gulf of Mexico to the west, and the Florida Straits to the south. It's basically a giant peninsula sticking into warm ocean water like the state looked at the map and said, "Let's see how close we can get to the tropics without technically leaving the United States."

Unlike most states, Florida doesn't really have geography so much as ecosystems that constantly argue with each other. The northern part of the state looks like the Deep South with pine forests, small towns, and rolling farmland. Central Florida is theme parks, highways, and neighborhoods that appeared almost overnight. And South Florida? That's palm trees, canals, alligators, retirees, international cities, and humidity so thick it feels like the air itself is sweating.

The Everglades alone cover more than 1.5 million acres of wetlands and are home to one of the most bizarre ecosystems in North America. It's the only place in the world where alligators and crocodiles live in the same habitat, where panthers roam through cypress forests, and where a river moves so slowly across the land that scientists literally describe it as a "river of grass."

Florida's natural beauty is wild in a way that surprises people who only think about beaches and theme parks. The state has over 1,300 miles of coastline, more than any other state except Alaska, and hundreds of natural springs so clear and blue they look like someone dropped a piece of the Caribbean into the middle of the woods. Places like Silver Springs, Wakulla Springs, and Ichetucknee Springs look like they belong in a tropical postcard, except you might see a manatee floating past while someone in a kayak is drinking a sports drink and trying not to tip over.

And then there's the weather. Florida weather isn't just weather. It's a daily event schedule. The morning is calm and sunny. By noon the humidity climbs high enough to qualify as a liquid. Around 3:00 PM the sky suddenly turns dark and unleashes a thunderstorm powerful enough to shake the windows, flood the streets, and scare every tourist in a rental car. By 4:30 PM the storm disappears like it never happened, the sun comes back out, and everyone goes back to the beach.

Hurricane season adds a little extra drama, because every year from June through November the entire state collectively watches a swirling storm on the weather map while someone at the grocery store is already buying twelve cases of bottled water and a suspicious amount of canned chili.

But the real defining trait of Florida isn't just the landscape or the weather. It's the people.

Floridians live in a place where alligators show up on golf courses, iguanas fall out of trees during cold snaps, and a headline that begins with "Florida Man" could end literally anywhere. You can drive ten minutes and go from a luxury waterfront neighborhood to a roadside fruit stand selling boiled peanuts, live bait, and key lime pie.

The state is a mix of beach towns, retirement communities, Latin American culture, theme park tourism, fishing villages, college football, swamp country, and cities that feel more Caribbean than American. Somehow, all of it works. Florida isn't calm. It isn't quiet. It definitely isn't predictable. But between the beaches, the wildlife, the storms, and the sheer weirdness of everyday life, it's one of the only places in America where normal doesn't really exist — and nobody there seems to want it to.

Attention Residents and All Lawn Service Providers!



Keeping grass clippings out of canals and waterways is an important part of protecting water quality and local wildlife. Did you know that dumping grass clippings into canals, storm drains, or water bodies is illegal in Florida under the Florida Litter Law (**Statute 403.413**) and local ordinances? It is considered illegal dumping or "illicit discharge" punishable by fines or potential jail time, as it causes nutrient pollution, algae blooms, and flooding. It is the resident's responsibility to educate and inform their lawn service provider to NOT blow grass clippings into the canals or streets.

ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT:

- Grass clippings contain nutrients like nitrogen and phosphorus that cause harmful algae blooms, reduce oxygen levels, and harm fish, turtles, and other aquatic life.
- They also clog storm drains, leading to localized flooding.
- They destroy habitat for aquatic life.
- One person's yard waste may not make a big difference, but when these actions are multiplied by EVERYONE, then it is a big deal and can be harmful to our water quality and waterways that support fish and other aquatic life.
- If you witness illegal dumping, contact local law enforcement.

BEST PRACTICES:

- Never blow, sweep, or dump grass clippings into the streets, storm drains, canals, or water bodies.
- Blow or mulch clippings back into your lawn or compost them. Leave them on the grass to naturally decompose.
- Sweep any stray clippings back into your lawn, not into the street or drain.
- Simple practices like these help keep waterways clean, healthy, and safe for the entire community.

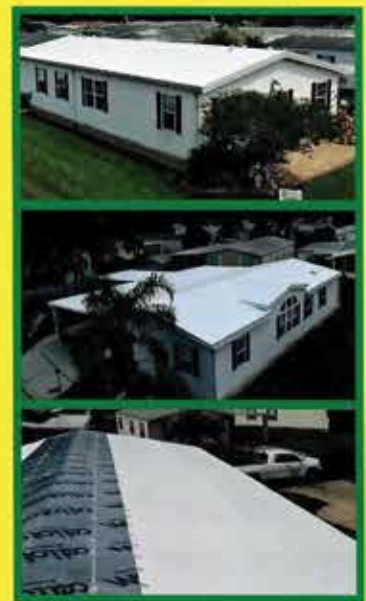
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New 2027 Resident Phone Directories



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 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 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:

BRUURSEMA, Bob & Julie **NEW!** 84 Del Rio Dr.,
616-399-0382(J), 15235 Pineridge Ct.,
Holland, MI 49424,
jbuswoman@yahoo.com.

DUNNEGAN, James & Louise **NEW!** 220 Bimini Dr.,
321-292-1107(J)/941-504-8690(L),
jldj194@hotmail.com(J)
louisedunnagan@hotmail.com(L).

ELLIS, Dana Remove northern address
2425 Lindbergh Dr.,
Indianapolis, IN 46227.

FAGAN, George & Michael Remove George and 941-552-6295.
Add phone for Michael
941-284-3064(M).
Add **BISHOP, Kim**
phone 941-228-1703,
email kim1304@msn.com.

MYERS, John & Cindi Change Cindi's email to
myerscindi72@gmail.com.

PILLARS, Ron & Linda Remove Ron, his phone number,
and email. Add Linda's email
Impil@att.net.

RICE, Randy & Julia

Designate Randy's cell phone
218-391-9767(R) and Julia's
cell phone 218-393-4518(J).
Add northern address 36380 Raptor
Dr., Sturgeon Lake, MN 55783.
Add Julia's email address
rice4967@gmail.com.

SARGENT, Dan & Debbie

Change Debbie's email to
dsargent123@gmail.com.

STELLER, Diana

Remove 941-721-0414. Add
941-399-2554 and
dianasteller100@gmail.com.

TAYLOR, Richard & Patricia

Remove 941-981-3838. Add new
226-739-4165.

THURLOW, Bill & Lisa

Change the phone number for
Canada to 705-220-3289.

~~Special Thanks~~

- A big "thank you" to **Pat Brazil** for organizing the Memorial Garden flag planting and for those residents who helped to plant the flags to remember and honor those who have lost their lives in service to our country.
- A special "thank you" to the **Entertainment Committee** for providing the fried chicken for the July 3rd Picnic and to **Chris and Sharon Wagner** for organizing the picnic at the Yacht Club. A great time was had by all!
- Thanks to **Kathryn Wells** for handling the distribution of the Breezes while I am away from Tropic Isles. Your help is greatly appreciated!
- A BIG "thanks" to all those **residents** that have taken the time to update their information for the new 2027 Resident Phone Directory.

2026 Tropic Isles Book Club Reading List



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



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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 Yacht Club. You will be notified of the meeting via Mail Chimp prior to the meeting and given the Zoom link. The agenda is posted in the box to the left of the front doors at the Auditorium at least 48 hours prior to the meeting. All Shareholders are welcome to attend. Meetings and the agenda will be announced via Mail Chimp prior to the meeting.

The next Co-op Board Meeting is July 16 at 9:30 AM in the Yacht Club and via Zoom, if needed. Summer Board Meetings will be held, as needed.



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

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

Homeowners' Association

(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. If you have any questions, please contact any of the Board members.



Terry Foley	President
Nancy Larsen	Vice President
Sharon Wilson	Secretary
John Slater	Treasurer

Laughter is the Best Medicine!



- (This is my favorite.) My mechanic told me, "I couldn't repair your brakes, so I made your horn louder."
- Borrow money from pessimists. They don't expect it back.
- 82.7% of all statistics are made up on the spot.
- A conscience is what hurts when all your other parts feel good.
- A clear conscience is usually the sign of a bad memory.
- The early bird may get the worm, but the second mouse always gets the cheese.
- I almost had a psychic girlfriend, but she left me before we met.
- Ok, so what's the speed of dark?
- How do you tell when you are out of invisible ink?
- If everything seems to be going well, you have obviously over-looked something.
- When everything is coming your way, you're in the wrong lane.
- Ambition is a poor excuse for not having enough sense to be lazy.
- I intend to live forever. So far, so good.
- If Barbie is so popular, why do you have to buy her friends?
- What happens if you get scared half to death twice?
- Why do psychics have to ask you your name?
- If at first you don't succeed, destroy all evidence that you tried.
- A conclusion is the place where you got tired of thinking.
- Experience is something you don't get until just after you need it.
- The hardness of butter is proportional to the softness of the bread.
- Dogs prepare you for babies. Cats prepare you for teenagers.

Dining Out

By Kathryn Wells with Randy Blanton

On May 17, Randy called and made lunch reservations at Edelweiss German Restaurant, on Manatee Avenue East. I was never a fan of German food, but was very impressed! Randy had pork wiener schnitzel. I had a breaded chicken meal.



My meal included bread dumplings and I was very impressed with it! The star of the meal was the dessert--a slice of Black Forest Cake, with whipped cream on the side, that we shared! Reservations are required for indoor dining as the restaurant is very small inside. They also have a biergarten for patio dining and I'm not sure if reservations are required. (There is also live music at certain times and Octoberfest is always a great time at Edelweiss.)





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Please secure all loose items around your home!



Be kind to your furry friends and walk them in the cooler parts of the day.



Submissions to the Breezes Newsletter



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

Safety Tip of the Month – Beware of Scams!



The Palmetto Police Department is warning residents about a rise in money scams in our area. Scammers pose as government officials, utility companies, bank or credit card security, or even loved ones. They will call, text, or email you online and pressure you into sending money quickly, often through gift cards, wire transfers, or cryptocurrency. **REMEMBER:** No legitimate agency will ever demand urgent payment this way, and no bank or credit card security person will ever ask you to withdraw or send money as part of a security investigation. If something feels off, trust your instinct and call the Police Department at 941-721-2000 before sending anything.

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 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!

Mosquito Prevention

The Florida Department of Health in Manatee County is reminding everyone on how to prevent contact with mosquitoes, especially during the heavy rains that we may be experiencing in the summer.



Mosquitoes are a nuisance and can spread diseases. Please remain diligent in personal mosquito protection. Here are some simple suggestions:

Drain and Cover

1. Drain standing water to stop mosquitoes from multiplying in anything where sprinkler or rainwater has collected.
2. Empty and clean birdbaths.
3. Protect boats and vehicles from rain with tarps that don't accumulate water.
4. Empty plastic swimming pools when not in use.

Cover Skin with Clothing or Repellant

1. If you work in areas where mosquitoes are present, wear long pants, long sleeves, shoes, and socks.
2. Apply mosquito repellant to bare skin and clothing. Read and follow label directions.

Cover Doors and Windows with Screens

Repair broken screening on windows, doors, porches, and patios.

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
https://www.friendsofthepelicans.org	
Save Our Seabirds	Sarasota
https://www.saveourseabirds.org	
Seaside Seabird Sanctuary	Indian Shores (near St. Pete)
https://seasideseabirdsanctuary.org	
Wildlife, Inc.	Anna Maria Island
https://wildlifeinc.org	

**FOR SICK, INJURED, ENDANGERED, OR ORPHANED MANATEES
CALL THE FWC AT: 1-888-404-3922**

Florida Sea Turtles



Five species of sea turtles inhabit Florida's waters, though only 3 species nest on Florida's beaches. Florida is one of the largest nesting areas of the world for sea turtles. Nesting season is from March 1 through October 31. When visiting Florida beaches during this time, it is not unlikely that you will see areas marked or roped off where a sea turtle nest is. Sea turtles are protected by the Florida State Statutes, Chapter 370.12. Most beaches where they nest have a "lights out" policy after a specified time to prevent the sea turtles from going toward the lights.

Sea turtles can lay several nests in one season, in each nest laying approximately 100 eggs. The female covers the eggs with sand and then leaves the eggs to incubate for 2 months. The temperature of the nest actually determines the sex of the turtles. When the eggs hatch, the hatchlings race toward the water. A very small percentage of the hatchlings ever survive and live to adulthood. The female sea turtles who do survive, always return to nest on the same beach where they hatched.


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What's Happening in the Neighborhood?

JULY 3rd PICNIC



Come and join us for our **JULY 3rd PICNIC** at 2-6 PM in the Dockside Room in the Yacht Club. This is a Co-op sponsored, private event for Co-op members only. The Activity Committee will provide the fried chicken from Publix. Please bring a side dish to share along with your favorite beverage. (Paper plates, silverware, and other tableware will be provided.) Enjoy trivia, guitar music, plenty of prizes, and a 50/50 drawing. There is no charge for this event. This celebration gives everyone the opportunity to celebrate our nation's 250th birthday with friends, while keeping the actual Fourth of July free to enjoy all of the holiday festivities and events around the area. Contact Sharon Wagner at 502-220-8557 with questions.



Potluck Etiquette

(Everything everyone is thinking, but afraid to say)



1. If you want to participate, you must bring a dish.
2. If you forgot about the potluck, thus didn't bring a dish, please don't ask if you can still eat.
3. Unless there is a sign up sheet listing paper products, bring a dish.
4. Cheez Whiz is not a dish
5. Don't take double portions. Remember, potluck = sharing.
6. Prepare your dish at home. Don't wait for the potluck to start to throw together your dish.
7. A 2 liter bottle of soda is not a dish.
8. Don't get in line and make plates for "friends" who are running late. First come, first served.
9. Be cautious of food safety. No one wants to spend their afternoon in the restroom.
10. A bag of chips (in any flavor) is not a dish.
11. Be courteous. If you don't like something, don't eat it, don't mention it.
12. Leftovers belong to whoever purchased the food. The preparer may want to feed it to their family.
13. Help clean up. Unless someone "signed up" to clean up, it's everyone's responsibility.

(continued on page 20)

What's Happening in the Neighborhood?



Sunday Night at the Movies



Our next Movie Night will be **July 12 at 7 PM in the Yacht Club**. **(Note: location change)** We will be showing Remarkably Bright Creatures. It is a heartwarming story starring Sally Field about a grieving widow who works at an aquarium and forms an unlikely bond with an octopus and a young drifter. They uncover a life-changing mystery of love and grief. You can bring your own comfortable chairs, snacks, and beverages if you choose. Come and join us AT THE MOVIES!! **MOVIE NIGHT will continue throughout the summer on the second Sunday of the month in the Yacht Club**. Contact Sharon Wagner at 502-220-8557 if you have any questions.

Tuesdays at 2:00



The **Tuesdays at 2:00** group gets together for cards and something to do. We meet in the Dockside Room of the Yacht Club. Everyone is welcome! We can teach you or you can teach us. We usually play for small change, so bring some dimes and quarters. If you are not a card player, the park also has some board games, or you can bring what you like to play. Contact Sherry Novak at 330-428-6005 or Sharon Wagner at 502-220-8557 if you have any questions.

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.

Aluminum Can Recycling

The Boosters continue to collect aluminum cans throughout the summer. 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.



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 set up 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. Have a safe and healthy summer.

Cindy Shaw, Caring Team Secretary



Library News



The heat is keeping us inside more than usual and most activities have come to an end. If you haven't already, it is time to visit the TI library. We have a lot of great books, movies, audio books, magazines, and puzzles. We also have free books/movies to keep. If your grandchildren come to visit, check out our children's corner in the library.

Games for adults and children are now located in the cupboards in the Game Room. There is a copy machine located in the Book Nook. It is 5-cents a copy. Place your money in the lockbox located on the copy machine.

Our library operates on the honor system. You do not need to check out items you wish to borrow. We simply ask that you return the items to the basket by the desk when you are done. A library volunteer will put them back where they belong. Please contact Nancy Larsen at 941-725-2216 with questions.

(continued on page 22)

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
JULY 2026			1	2 1:00 pm Knee, Hand, & Foot - Y	3 2-6 pm Private Co-op Picnic - Y	4 HAPPY 250TH ANNIVERSARY USA
5	6 2:00 pm Cards - Y 9:30 am ARC Meeting - SB	7	8	9 1:00 pm Knee, Hand, & Foot - Y	10	11
12 7:00 pm Movie Night - Y	13	14 2:00 pm Cards - Y	15	16 9:30 am Co-Op Board Meeting - Y and Zoom, if needed 1:00 pm Knee, Hand, & Foot - Y	17	18
19	20 2:00 pm Cards - Y 9:30 am 3-COR Meeting	21	22	23 1:00 pm Knee, Hand, & Foot - Y	24	25
26	27	28 2:00 pm Cards - Y	29	30 1:00 pm Knee, Hand, & Foot - Y	31	

What's Happening in the Neighborhood?

Games, Games, Games



Do you enjoy playing **Cornhole, Bocce Ball, or Connect Four**? Tropic Isles has these outdoor games available for use by the residents. The first closet in the main room of the Yacht Club houses these outdoor games so residents have easy access to them. Just remember to place them back in the closet when you are done, so they are available for someone else to use. Board games and card games are kept in the brown cabinet in the Game Room.

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.

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:

Jack Miller of Flores Dr. (hospitalization and rehab)

Ann Stroud of Flores Dr. (surgery)

Randy Blanton of Aloha Dr. (procedure)

A "Thinking of You" card was sent to:

Mary Pike of Montego Dr. (spine procedure)

Bev O'Brien of 13th St. W. (hospitalization)

Condolences were sent to:

Janet Baas and family of 28th Ave. W. on the passing of her husband, **Don**.

Phyllis Carlton of Terra Ceia Dr. on the passing of her husband, **Tim**.

Dona and Jeff Keast of Bahama Dr. on the passing of her mother.

Gene Pierson of Bimini Dr. on the passing of his wife, **Dori Barnett**.

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.

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.



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Out and About.... Around Town!

Palmetto's July 4th Celebration



15th Annual Palmetto Fourth Fest!
Saturday, July 4, 2026
5pm-10pm | Palmetto Riverside Park

Featuring American Southern Rock Band **SOUL CIRCUS COWBOYS**

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Keep Manatee Beautiful –
First Tuesday & Saturday Cleanups

FIRST TUESDAY CLEANUP

July 7, 2026

Taylor Park
309 8th Ave. W.
Palmetto

August 4, 2026

Palma Sola Causeway
9917 Manatee Ave. W.
Bradenton

FIRST SATURDAY CLEANUP

SUNDAY - July 5, 2026

Beach Cleanup
52nd Street Beach Access
Holmes Beach

August 1, 2026

Rowlett Middle Academy
400 30th Ave. W.
Bradenton

Want to give back to your community? Volunteer and sign up for any location. Go to www.manateebeautiful.com or call 941-795-8272.

(continued on page 25)

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Out and About.... Around Town!

Palmetto Library Events In July



Drop-In Art – Looking for a creative way to unwind? Stop in on Mondays between 5:30 and 7:00 PM for Drop-In Art. Each month features a different craft. No registration is required and all supplies are provided. July 6 will be 3D landscapes. August 3 will be custom tote bags.

Mindful Meet-ups with NAMI – Has your life been affected by mental illness? This program is designed to foster relationships and encourage self-expression. Tuesdays at 11 AM.

Chair Zumba – Wednesdays at 1 PM (R)

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

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

Mah Jongg Club – Fridays at 10 AM

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

and select "View Calendar" under "Events and Classes". The library also provides a FREE fax service.

Live and Learn and Pass It On

- I've learned that after your granddaughter borrows your car, the radio dials are never where you set them. –age 57
- I've learned that it takes years to build up trust and only seconds to destroy it. –age 15
- I've learned that when I cook using my grandma's recipes, my kitchen smells as good as hers. –age 27
- I've learned that when I am feeling terribly unloved by someone, I need to ask myself what I've done recently to show I love them. –age 39
- I've learned that you should never be sarcastic with police officers. –age 43
- I've learned that being a teenager is as hard on your parents as it is on you. –age 13
- I've learned that working in a garden at sunrise has a tremendous effect on the soul. –age 32
- I've learned that when you're at a family picnic, you shouldn't say you don't like what you're eating because the person sitting next to you might have prepared it. –age 20
- I've learned that my wife contributes to everything I do simply by being there. –age 53
- I've learned that we don't have to change friends if we understand that friends change. –age 18
- I've learned that I shouldn't call my identical twin sister ugly. –age 12
- I've learned that when a father takes his grandson fishing, the least important thing to either one of them is whether they catch any fish. –age 64
- I've learned that every woman is beautiful when she smiles. –age 66
- I've learned that I know I am growing old when my ballpoint pens are inscribed with the names of companies now defunct. –age 71
- I've learned that I shouldn't inhale through my nose when I'm eating a powdered doughnut. –age 51



HEAT ADVISORY



Stay hydrated.



Stay cool.



Check on vulnerable individuals.



Never leave children, vulnerable individuals, or pets unattended in vehicles.



Trivia Tidbits

- Daniel Craig said he absolutely hated playing James Bond and that he would rather off himself than be Bond again.
- Roger Moore, the third James Bond, was so embarrassed of the way he ran that he had a double step in for him in every scene in his career involving anything more intense than a power walk.
- Sean Connery wore a toupee in every scene he did as James Bond. He had the bad luck of going bald at a young age.
- Ian Fleming, writer of the James Bond novels, chose to call his iconic spy character "James Bond" because it was the most boring name he could think of.
- 60% of the British people once believed that Sherlock Holmes, the character, was real. Fans would unironically send letters to Sir Doyle, requesting his fictional character's detective services to solve their real-world problems.
- Sir Doyle grew so tired of Sherlock Holmes that he killed him off in 1893. The backlash from fans forced him to resurrect the Holmes character 10 years later.
- Sherlock Holmes revolutionized the way crime scene investigations are carried out in the real world. He popularized the forensic analysis of fingerprints, shoeprints, tire tracks, handwriting, and ballistics.
- Next to Dracula, with 272 appearances and counting, Sherlock Holmes is the most portrayed literary character. The ace detective has made 254+ appearances and has been played by more than 75 actors.
- Agatha Christie, the queen of murder mysteries, got her most sick and twisted ideas while soaking in a warm, cozy bath and eating sweet, fresh apples.
- Only 15 minutes of the classic 1993 Jurassic Park's 2-hour run time features dinosaurs.
- The terrifying roars of the T. Rex in Jurassic Park were made by combining the noises of a tiger, an alligator, and a baby elephant, and then slowing them down.
- The barks of the Velociraptors in Jurassic Park made when talking to each other were created by recording the lusty bellows of a tortoise in the throes of passion.
- The raptors' rasps and hisses were the sounds of angry geese.



Summer Fun!

With summer already here, I would like to encourage everyone to send in a picture from your travels or fun activities this summer with family and friends. Please include the names of the people in the picture, location, and date. Email your pictures to tibreezes1@aol.com. Thanks, in advance, for your pictures.

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 to view or print a copy online.

XI. SOLICITING AND SIGNAGE

11.1 Soliciting

No selling, soliciting, peddling, or commercial activities of any kind are permitted within the Community without the express prior written consent of Management. Notwithstanding, nothing herein contained prevents or infringes upon the right of a Resident to canvas other Residents for the purposes described in Florida Statute 719, or the rights of mobile Homeowners who rent as provided in Florida Statute 723 inclusive.

11.2 Signage

- No signs of any kind, except mobile home "For Sale" or "For Rent" signs, shall be displayed within the Community, or on any Resident's Dwelling or Unit/Lot.
- A maximum of two (2) permitted signs may be displayed in a window or on a Unit/Lot. The size of the sign may not exceed eighteen-by-twenty-four (18"x 24") inches.
- General notices and articles for sale may be posted on the bulletin boards inside the Yacht Club and Auditorium provided for that purpose.
- Residents are permitted to place up to two (2) "No Trespassing" signs on their dock or slip, one landside and one waterside. These signs may not exceed ten-by-fourteen (10"x 14") inches.
- Any signs in violation of this section can be removed immediately by Management.

11.3 Exterior Displays and Decorations

- Political signs/flags are not permitted.
- Seasonal or holiday decorations may be displayed for a total of sixty (60) days per holiday.
- Yard art, such as statues and other temporary or permanent yard decorations, or decorations attached to the Dwelling or shed visible from the street or the water, must be approved via the ARC process.
- No outdoor murals are permitted.

11.4 Garage Sales

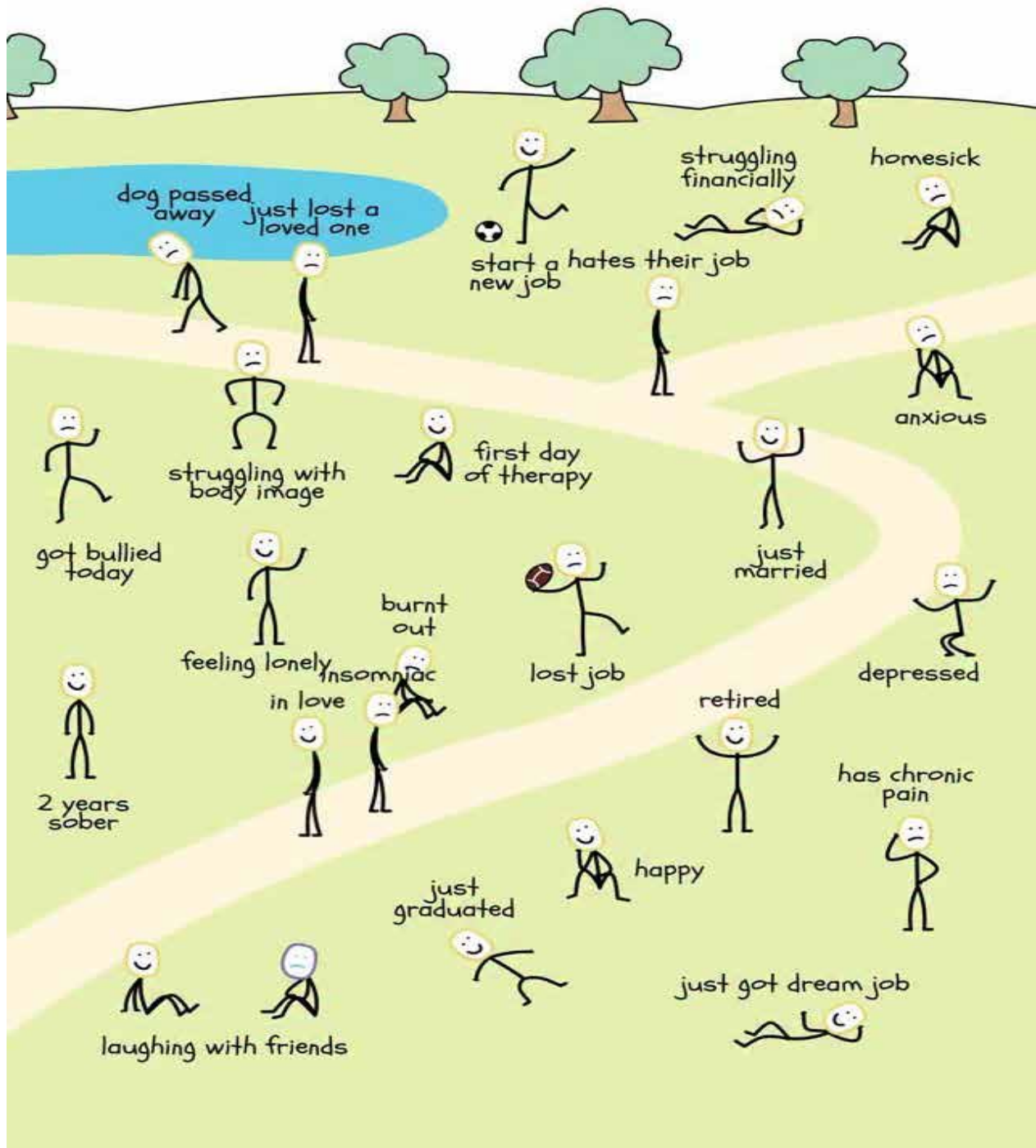
- Residents must follow the City of Palmetto requirements regarding garage sales and permits must be obtained from the City of Palmetto.
- Signs may NOT be placed in the landscaped entrances to the Community.
- Signs can only be on display within twenty-four (24) hours before and after the actual sale.

Be Kind, Always!

Everyone you meet is carrying something you can't see. Some people are healing, some are hurting, some are starting over, and others are just trying to make it through the day. We only ever see a small glimpse of someone's life. Everyone is going through something, whether it's good, bad, or somewhere in between.

That's why kindness is so important. The way you speak, the way you treat people, and even the smallest actions can have a bigger impact than you realize. So be gentle. Be patient. Be understanding. Be kind. Because you never truly know what someone is going through, and your kindness might be exactly what they needed that day.

be kind, always.





Friendly Reminders

- **The Auditorium is closed to any activities for the summer.**
- 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 without permission.
- **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). There is also an AED unit at the Office that can be checked out for Tropic Isles events off-site. 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.
- If you rent out your house, RV, or empty RV lot it must be for a minimum of 30 days, renters must be 55 or older, and the renters must go through a background check. This is according to the Rules and Regulations of the park.
- **REMINDER: All ARC applications are due seven (7) days prior to the meeting. Any applications received after the deadline will be included on the next meeting's agenda. The only exception is for emergency applications, such as a roof or AC.**

Weeds, Weeds, Weeds



Summer is here with hot days and afternoon rains soon to be in our daily forecast. Residents are responsible for taking care of their weeds. We all know what that means--WEEDS! Here's a great recipe that is cheaper and safer, yet still gets the job done.

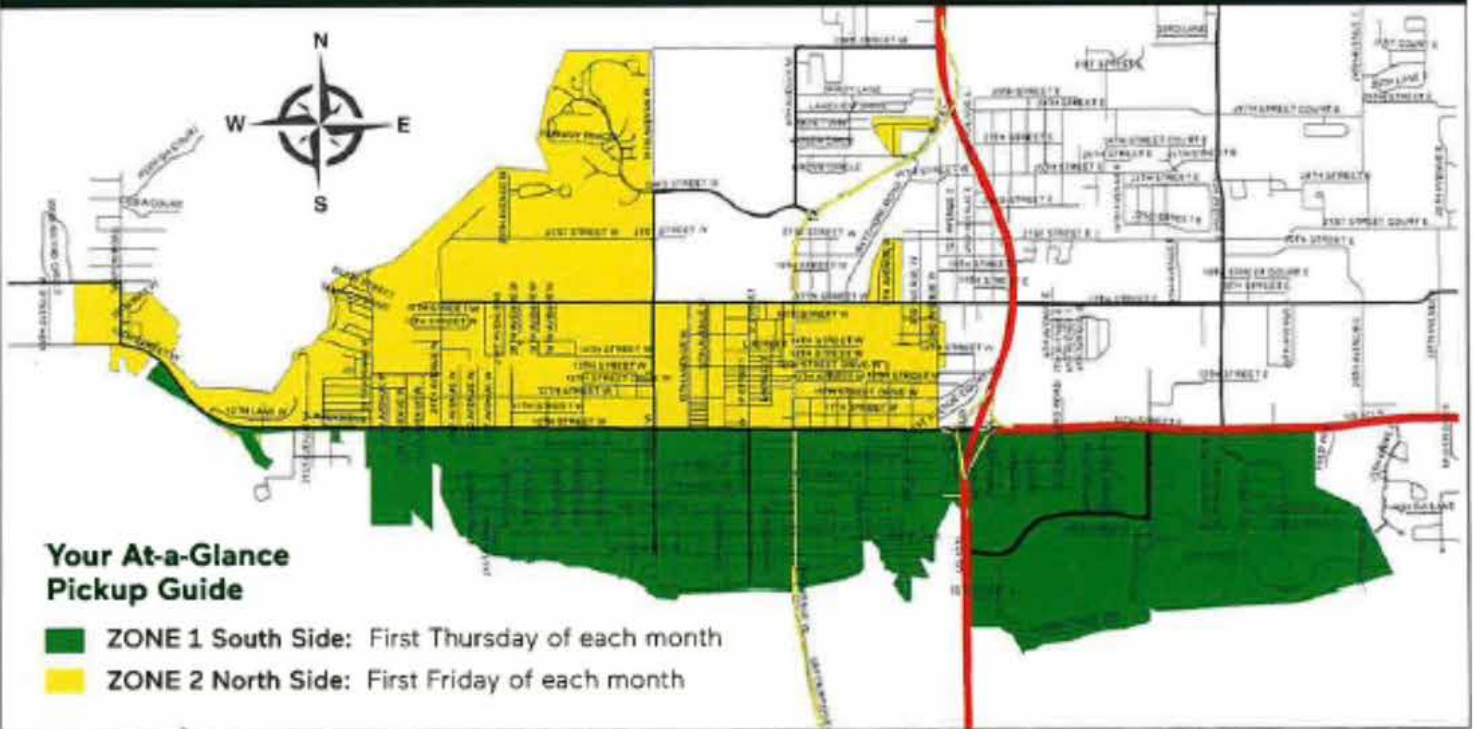
Natural Weed Killer: 1 gallon of white vinegar, 1 cup of Epsom salt, and a tablespoon of dish soap. Combine in a spray bottle and treat weeds at the sunniest time of day for best results.



Be a good neighbor.....Before you leave your home for an extended period, please put away or secure all loose items that could become a projectile in the event of a storm.

City of Palmetto New Monthly Curbside Bulk Collection Program Effective June 1, 2026

Predictable • Easy • Convenient



The City of Palmetto is excited to introduce a new monthly curbside bulk collection program.

When is my monthly bulk collection day?

Zone 1 – South Side: First Thursday of each month

Zone 2 – North Side: First Friday of each month

What can I put out for collection on my monthly bulk collection day?

- Up to 4 bulk items per household per month will be collected on your designated collection day.



- Items must be placed at the curb by 6 a.m. on your collection day.

What is considered a bulk item?



- Furniture (couches, chairs, tables)
- Mattresses
- Large household items

What won't be accepted in my monthly bulk item collection?



- Yard waste **cannot** be accepted as bulk waste due to Manatee County disposal rules.
- Bagged household garbage is **not** considered bulk waste.

Anything else I should know?

- Remember, set bulk items out only on your designated collection day.
- Also, do not exceed the 4-item limit as the additional items will not be collected.

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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.



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")

Marina Update



By Rick Kropp

Hello Everyone,

We hope you are enjoying your summer, wherever you may be, as much as we are here in Florida. I would like to clarify a couple things regarding Marina operations.

Your Marina Team is responsible for overseeing operations at the Marina, boat ramp, and leased slips. It is our job to address concerns and correct issues when we observe activities that are not being conducted properly or safely.

Recently, there was an incident where a resident believed another resident was loading their boat incorrectly and chose to intervene. While the concern may have been well-intentioned, situations like this can create unnecessary conflict and potential safety issues. Fortunately, the individuals involved handled the situation calmly.

In this particular instance, the boat being loaded had its engine tilted up. This is actually recommended, as it provides additional lift to the bow of the boat during loading, and helps prevent damage to the ramp bottom and disturbance of our bubbler system.

If you observe something that concerns you, please notify the Marina Team member on duty rather than addressing other residents directly. We are here to handle these situations appropriately.

We appreciate everyone's cooperation, understanding, and commitment to keeping our Marina safe and enjoyable for all. Enjoy your summer months, and as we celebrate our nation's birthday, we wish everyone a safe and happy Fourth of July. **God Bless America!**

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CLIP AND SAVE



DISASTER SUPPLY KIT CHECKLIST



General

- ☐ Two week minimum supply of medication, regularly used medical supplies, and a list of allergies
- ☐ A list of the style, serial number, and manufacturer information of required medical devices
- ☐ Batteries
- ☐ Flashlights
Do not use candles
- ☐ NOAA Weather Radio
Battery operated or hand cranked
- ☐ Cash
Banks and ATMs may not be available after a storm
- ☐ Cell phone chargers
- ☐ Books, games, puzzles or other activities for children

Phone Numbers

- ☐ Maintain a list of important phone numbers including:
County emergency management office, evacuation sites, doctors, banks, schools, veterinarian, a number for out of town contacts, friends and family

Clothing

- ☐ Rain gear such as jackets, hats, umbrellas and rain boots
- ☐ Sturdy shoes or boots and work gloves

Special Needs Items

- ☐ Specialty items for infants, small children, the elderly, and family members with disabilities

First Aid

- ☐ First Aid Manual
- ☐ Sterile adhesive bandages of different sizes
- ☐ Sterile gauze pads
- ☐ Hypoallergenic adhesive tape
- ☐ Triangular bandages
- ☐ Scissors
- ☐ Tweezers
- ☐ Sewing needle
- ☐ Moistened towelettes
- ☐ Antiseptic
- ☐ Disinfectant wipes
- ☐ Hand sanitizer
- ☐ Thermometer
- ☐ Tube of petroleum jelly
- ☐ Safety pins
- ☐ Soap
- ☐ Latex gloves
- ☐ Sunscreen
- ☐ Aspirin or other pain reliever
- ☐ Anti-diarrheal medicine
- ☐ Antacid
- ☐ Laxative
- ☐ Cotton balls
- ☐ Q-tips

Food and Water

- ☐ Food
Nonperishable packaged or canned food and beverages, snack foods, juices, baby food, and any special dietary items to last at least 7 days
- ☐ Water
1 gallon per person per day
- ☐ Non-electric can opener
- ☐ Paper plates
- ☐ Napkins
- ☐ Plastic cups
- ☐ Utensils

Important Documents

- ☐ Insurance cards
- ☐ Medical records
- ☐ Banking information
- ☐ Credit card numbers
- ☐ Copies of social security cards
- ☐ Copies of birth and/or marriage certificates
- ☐ Other personal documents
- ☐ Set of car, house, and office keys
- ☐ Service animal I.D., veterinary records, and proof of ownership
- ☐ Information about where you receive medication, the name of the drug, and dosage
- ☐ Copy of Will

**Items should be kept in a water proof container*

Vehicle

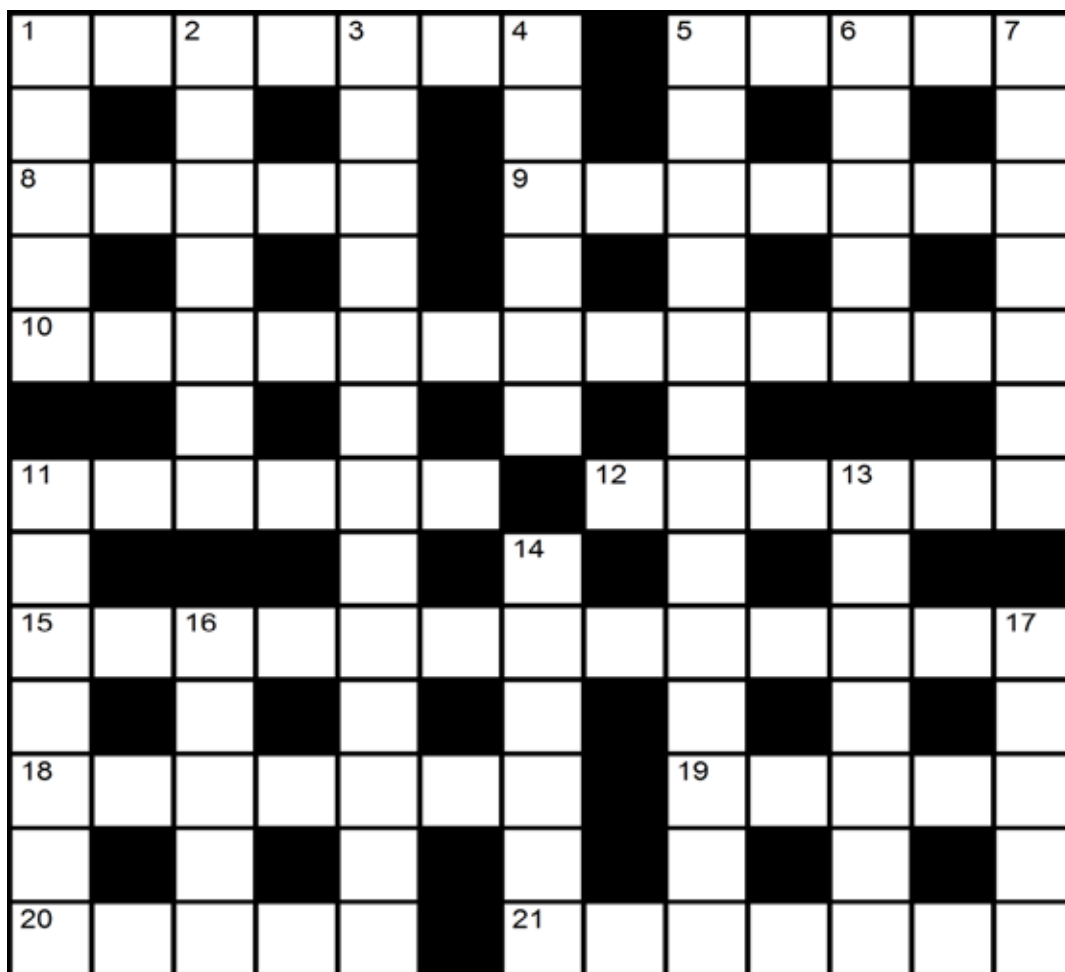
- ☐ Keep your motor vehicle tanks filled with gasoline

Pet Care Items

- ☐ Pet food and water to last at least 7 days
- ☐ Proper identification
- ☐ Medical records/microchip information
- ☐ A carrier or cage
- ☐ Muzzle and leash
- ☐ Water and food bowls
- ☐ Medications
- ☐ Supplies for your service animal

Find more disaster preparedness tips at
FloridaDisaster.org

CROSSWORD



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

Puzzle compiled by Bianca Morèl

Clues:

Across

- 1 Overwhelmed by
- 5 Hunger for
- 8 DVD remote button
- 9 Healthy cooking vessel
- 10 Fanatical society members (7,6)
- 11 Cold dessert
- 12 Join the army
- 15 Sausages in a batter
- 18 Generally speaking (2,1,4)
- 19 Quartz variety
- 20 Loyal
- 21 View

Down

- 1 Hunky-dory
- 2 Janitor
- 3 Latest (2,2,3,6)
- 4 Cut in half
- 5 Like 50% off? (9,4)
- 6 Paperwork
- 7 Heartfelt
- 11 Begin a voyage (3,4)
- 13 Cut off
- 14 Anxiety
- 16 Proverb
- 17 Hostile force

(Solution on page 37)

Architectural Review Committee (ARC) Procedure

ARC MEETINGS WILL BE HELD IN THE SEABREEZE ROOM THIS SUMMER.

REMINDER: All ARC applications are due seven (7) days prior to the meeting. Any applications received after the deadline will be included on the next meeting's agenda. The only exception is for emergency applications, such as a roof or AC.

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. 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 SUMMER SCHEDULE (July -October):**
ARC Meetings will be held once a month on the 1st Tuesday of the month at 9:30 AM in the Seabreeze Room in the Yacht Club.
There will be one 3-COR Meeting held on the 3rd Tuesday of the month for "like-for-like" projects and emergency requests only (roof, AC).
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
Mike McBride
Cathy Sweeney
Bill Eagle
Dennis Weber-Board Liaison

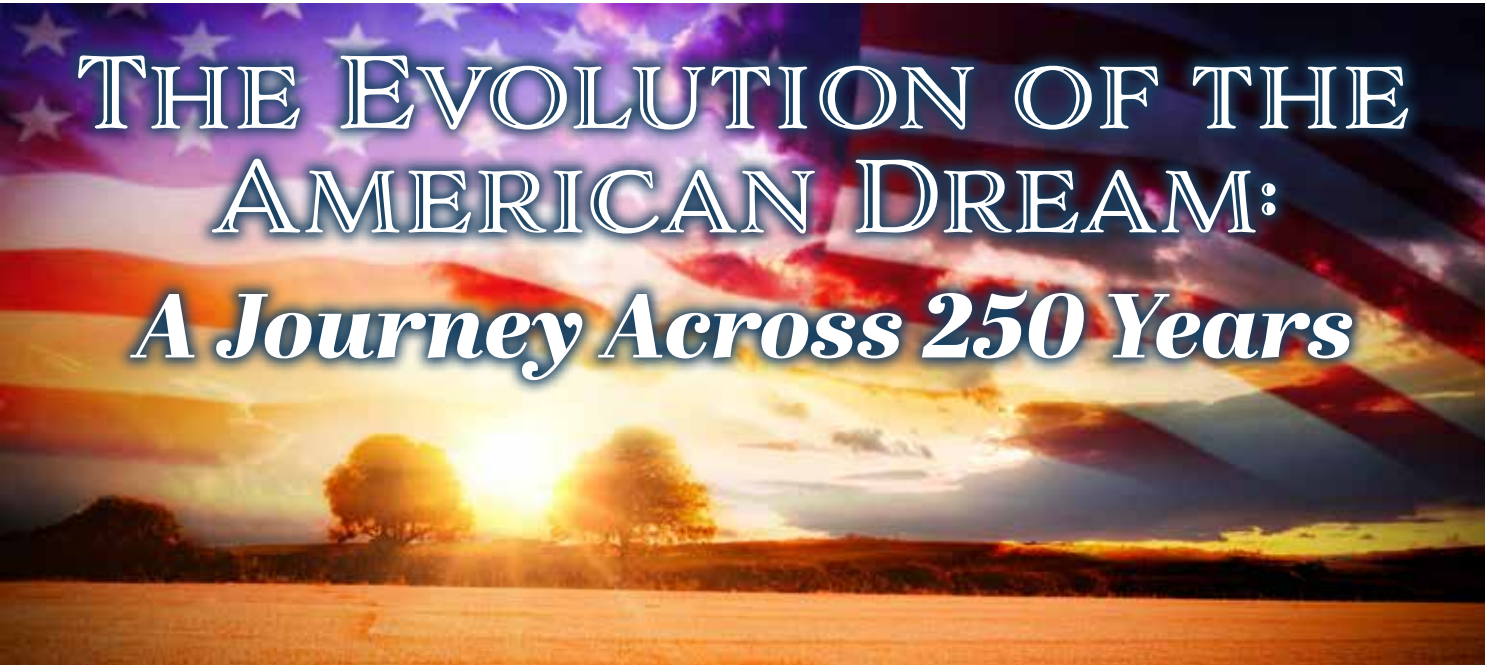
Summer ARC Meetings will be held once a month on the 1st Tuesday of the month at 9:30 AM in the Seabreeze Room in the Yacht Club.

There will be one 3-COR Meeting held on the 3rd Tuesday of the month for "like-for-like" projects and emergency requests only (roof, AC).

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.





THE EVOLUTION OF THE AMERICAN DREAM: *A Journey Across 250 Years*

For more than 250 years, the American Dream has represented hope, opportunity, and the belief that anyone can build a better life through hard work and determination. Although the meaning of this dream has changed over time, it has remained one of the defining ideas of the United States. From the nation's founding to the modern era, the American Dream has evolved to reflect the changing values, challenges, and aspirations of its people.

In the late eighteenth century, when the United States was founded, the American Dream centered on freedom and self-government. Many colonists had come to America seeking religious liberty, economic opportunity, and the chance to escape rigid social systems found in Europe. The Declaration of Independence, written in 1776, declared that all people possess the rights to "life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness." These principles laid the foundation for the American Dream. For many early Americans, owning land and becoming economically independent symbolized success and personal freedom.

During the nineteenth century, westward expansion reshaped the dream. The idea of "Manifest Destiny" encouraged settlers to move across the continent in search of land, prosperity, and new beginnings. The Homestead Act of 1862 provided opportunities for many families to claim land and build farms. However, this period also exposed contradictions within the American Dream. Enslaved people, Native Americans, women, and many immigrants were denied the rights and opportunities that others enjoyed. The dream existed, but it was not equally accessible to all.

The early twentieth century brought industrialization and a new version of the American Dream. Millions of immigrants arrived in the United States seeking jobs and a better future. Success increasingly became associated with upward mobility through education, employment, and entrepreneurship. People moved from rural communities to growing cities, hoping that hard work would allow them and their children to improve their circumstances. The term "American Dream" itself gained

popularity during the Great Depression, emphasizing the belief that every individual deserved the opportunity to achieve personal fulfillment regardless of social class.

Following World War II, the American Dream became closely linked to homeownership and middle-class prosperity. Economic growth, expanding suburbs, and increased access to higher education helped many families achieve financial stability. Owning a home, raising children in a safe neighborhood, and enjoying steady employment became widely recognized symbols of success. Yet barriers remained. The Civil Rights Movement of the 1950s and 1960s sought to extend the promise of the American Dream to those who had long been excluded because of race and discrimination.

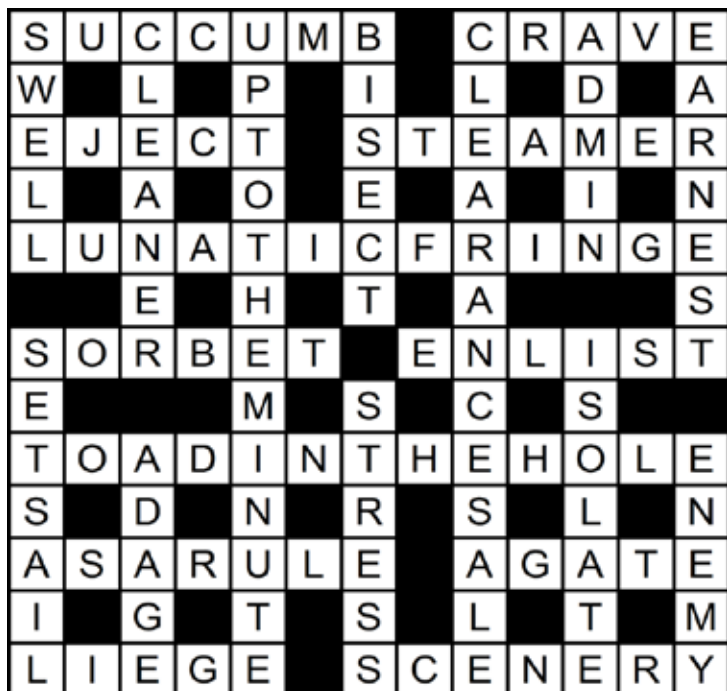
In recent decades, the American Dream has continued to evolve. Rising housing costs, student debt, economic inequality, and changing job markets have led many people to question whether traditional goals remain attainable. Younger generations often define success differently than their parents and grandparents. For some, the dream now includes achieving work-life balance, pursuing meaningful careers, traveling, starting businesses, or making a positive impact on society. Financial wealth remains important, but personal happiness, flexibility, and purpose have become equally valued.

Despite its many transformations, the core idea of the American Dream endures. It remains rooted in optimism and the belief that individuals should have the opportunity to shape their own futures. Although each generation redefines what success looks like, the desire for freedom, security, and a better life continues to unite Americans across time.

The evolution of the American Dream tells the story of the nation itself—its achievements, struggles, and ongoing pursuit of equality and opportunity. While the dream may look different today than it did 250 years ago, its enduring promise continues to inspire people to strive for a brighter future.

CROSSWORD

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