

VENETIAN PARK ESTATES GONDOLIER

April 2022



HAPPY 91ST BIRTHDAY LEN PAGANO

from left- son in law Greg ,daughter Bonnie, grandson Tyler, Len, Rita, granddaughter Kelsey, Dave



VENETIAN PARK ESTATES

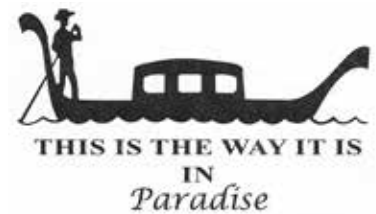
8885 S Tamiami Trail

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Office: (941) 966-4622

website: www.vpeonline.com

email address: venetianparkestates@comcast.net



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 Bobbi Clay Trustee

GONDOLIER STAFF:

Submissions Cassie Dionne 603-361-4313 cassiedionne@yahoo.com

Anniversaries/Birthdays Sue Loolen

Sunshine Reporter Cassie Dionne

Activities Gina Miller

Getting To Know You Amy Newman

Safety committee vacant

Recipes Cheryl Smith

Household Hints Nancy Garrett

Couriers Jay and Bonni Andrews, Diane McElhaney, Pat Morales, Pat McGee, Gina and Paul Miller

Please note – call Community Media –
 941-375-3699 for **ALL ADS**, or e-mail
darin@communitymedia.com

May/June GONDOLIER CUT OFF DATE WILL BE

April 13th, 2022

cassiedionne@yahoo.com

Summer issues combined: May/June and July/August



Weekly Activities

MONDAYS: Hold'em 1pm • Aggravation 6:30pm • Euchre 7pm

TUESDAYS: Euchre 1:00pm • Bingo 6:45pm

WEDNESDAYS: Mexican Dominos 6:30pm

THURSDAYS: Low Impact Aerobics 9:30 • Hold'em 5:00pm

FRIDAYS: Hold'em 1pm • Hand and Foot 6:30pm • Cribbage 6:30pm

Watch the bulletin board and our FaceBook page for any changes

GETTING TO KNOW YOU

by Amy Newman



Tracy and Bobbi Clay met at the 45th class reunion of their Bloomington, Indiana High School. Bobbi made the first move and walked across the room to talk to Tracy and from that conversation they “danced the night away.” After a year

of communicating long distance as Bobbi lived in Kentucky, they were married in 2010 and bought and renovated an old home together in Spencer, Indiana, near Bloomington. They enjoyed their new married life together and their church family where Tracy was involved on the Board.

As above, they individually grew up in southern Indiana with Tracy an older brother by ten years to a brother and two sisters, and Bobbi was raised as an only child by her grandparents after the tragic death of her father who died in a military plane crash at 24 years of age.

Tracy’s employment career began with a degree from Indiana University School of Business which he aptly used as a banker for 34 years, working in the customer service arm of the local bank for 29 of those years. Following his retirement from the bank he was employed seven years at Gleaners, a local food bank, as a resource developer where he secured over 38 million pounds of donations. Tracy has three daughters, eleven grandchildren and one great-grandchild on the way. Bobbi’s career included serving as a church secretary for seven years followed by several decades working in public relations for a school district in Kentucky. She was a widow prior to meeting Tracy and has two daughters and a son, seven grandchildren and eight great-grandchildren.

Wanting to spend their golden years staying active and enjoying God’s beauty, the Clays secured a realtor and began their search for a new home on the southwest coast of Florida. They landed at VPE and found the home previously owned by Norma Gill at 2233 Gondola to be a perfect fit. They chose a minimalist approach and gave their large family their possessions and moved to VPE in August of last year.

With their desire to keep active, the Clays have jumped right into activities at VPE and Tracy also is a new Board member. They feel as though they are on vacation every day as they enjoy the location and affordability of VPE, the warmth and beauty of the area including the quartz sand beach of Siesta Key, being outdoors and active year round in a wonderful location. Stop by and say hello to Tracy and Bobbi or join in with them on a walk!





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NEWS FROM YOUR ACTIVITIES BOARD

by Gina Miller



It's April already! For many of us, the "season" is over! For many, it will last a while longer and for some of us, it never ends. If you are leaving us to go elsewhere, travel safely, be well and have a wonderful summer.

March was pretty busy. We had another Trivia Night, the annual Horse Races, two coffees with entertainment, and Jimmy Mazz. April will be a bit quieter. We haven't made the new schedule yet as of this writing so we will be keeping you informed on VPE Neighbors Helping Neighbors.

The Park picnic will be April 2. We will be having catered food so that no one has to spend the day cooking. It will be boxed individual meals so that it is a little more Covid friendly. The side doors of the clubhouse will be open which will also help with social distancing. We will have a variety of games available, music, dancing, and swimming.

We also had the election of the Activities board. We were sorry to lose Pat Ojala who always has a lot of great ideas and loves helping with the different activities, but are excited to gain Bobbie Clay. Thank you Pat and welcome Bobbie!

If anyone has ideas or suggestions for next years' activities, let one of us know. And as a reminder, you don't have to be on the activities board to head an activity. If you are interested in, for example, planning the Christmas party, let us know. Different people have different ideas that keep things varied and from getting stagnant.

Stay well, be safe.

2022-23 ACTIVITIES COMMITTEE

from top left; Gina Miller, Bonni Andrews, Diane McElhaney,
Selma Ridenour, Bobbi Clay, Sue Loolen, Jan Coble (not pictured)



APRIL BIRTHDAYS

- 1 Glenn Newman
- 4 Phyllis Buechner
Cheryl Burton
- 6 Judy Wakeman
- 11 Judy Jennett
- 12 Bill Hayes
- 14 Joan Lemke
Cal Fladzinski
Cassie Dionne
- 16 Bonnie Kannapinn
- 21 Cheryl Ludwig
- 25 Pat Morales
- 29 Mike Anderson
- 30 Tim Seitz



APRIL ANNIVERSARIES

- | | |
|---------------------------|----------------|
| Nick and Christine Mallos | April 1 |
| Dick and Carol Shooshan | April 7 |
| Greg and Bonnie Ryan | April 13, 1996 |
| Michael and Bonnie Empel | April 23, 2005 |
| Jay and Bonni Andrews | April 25, 1965 |



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Happy Birthday Phyllis Buechner



*March 1989 Spring Luncheon & Craft Show-
showcasing our talent here at VPE.
Courtesy of Phyllis Buechner*



*HAPPY 80TH BIRTHDAY
DELLA MERRITT - pictured with her daughters,
from left Debbie, Denise, Dawna*

SUNSHINE NEWS

by Cassie Dionne



Garnet Bond passed away on 3/5/22. Our deepest sympathy to her family. Condolences may be sent to her daughters Rhonda Bond Mullins, Jennifer Bond Pope and family; 11578 Blackfin St. Venice, FL 34292.

Low impact aerobics, Wednesdays 9:30am,
hosted by Sis Gavin in her driveway,
2077 Ca'D'oro Dr.

You can also attend her class in the clubhouse
on Thursdays at 9:30am.

TRIVIA SATURDAY APRIL 9TH 6:30 PM

Sign up sheets on bulletin board in clubhouse
Write Name of team when you sign up;

+ 1 point for name

- 2 points for no team name

Teams of 2 to 8 people

NO CELL PHONES; automatic dismissal for cell
phone usage

Judges decisions final

Have fun!

Need practice? Try Pub 32 on Tuesdays or
Linkedin on Wednesdays

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED FOR THE HEALTH AND WELLNESS COMMITTEE.

This group looks to keep our residents informed
of necessary steps to take in preparedness for a
personal medical emergency or illness, hurricanes,
evacuations.

It ensures pool area rescue tools and defibrillator
are in place. Creates guidelines to make our streets
passable for emergency vehicles. Educates us about
fire alarms, smoke detectors, fire extinguishers,
carbon monoxide detectors.

Please consider becoming a member. See a Board
member or inform the office if you wish to participate.

THE VENETIAN VINTAGE PEOPLE

- The Venetian Vintage People appeared live onstage at the March 11 coffee.



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Did you know the Activities Committee works all year to plan park fun and information events? Direct your ideas for 2022-23 to the group. See page 2 for whom to contact. Meetings are open to all.

HELPFUL INFORMATION

There is helpful information on the back of the new 2022 VPE Directory regarding an emergency, see Tony at the office for your free copy. Please add *Norma Young 2146 Piazza Dr 941-966-7527* Also, see recommendations in the Seasonal Absence Information 2022/2023 handout to "summer proof" your home prior to leaving for an extended time. Sent in your email or pick up at the office. Office hours: Weekdays 9a to 12n

BONUS TIP

When leaving your home for 3-4 months or longer- flush 3-5 times before you shut the water off. This ensures there is no paper obstructing the pipe which can harden into a plug and cause a backup. Use Drano very sparingly. It erodes pipes that are not plastic.

LEAKING FLAPPER VALVES IN YOUR TOILET TANKS- this wastes much water which we all are paying for. To check for this, it was suggested using a little drop of food coloring in the tank, then flush. If there is color in the bowl, you have a leak, valve needs replacement. For assistance, see Jay Andrews.

BEAUTIFICATION COMMITTEE

Look around. Many of the enhancements to our park are completed by the Beautification Committee. The members are a hard working bunch and are given a budget every year for new projects and repairs. Anyone with ideas and suggestions see Terry Deer. They accept donations too!

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Our top priority is the health and safety of our employees and our customers. Our employees are closely following the Centers for Disease Control (CDC) guidelines and recommendations, like frequent hand washing, social distancing, and staying home if they are feeling ill.

We have taken steps to limit exposure to the virus by making our customers aware that there is no need to have any contact with our employees if you choose to do so. Our business falls under the state's guidelines as "Essential Business".

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DEADLINE

DEADLINE FOR SUBMISSION
OF ARTICLES FOR MAY/JUNE
GONDOLIER IS APRIL 13, 2022

email documents and photos to cassiedionne@yahoo.com

Our summer issues will be combined: May/June
and July/August

**THE GONDOLIER IS ONLINE**

Did you know you can see the monthly
issue online at our park website? It is
available 1 day after the printed copy
is delivered. Simply Google Venetian
Park Estates or

www.vpeonline.com

Go to the website & open it

Click on the button labelled Gondolier



Another word about the VPE online website; there
are password protected portions for members only.
Get your password from the office.

THANK YOU CORNER

Thank you everyone who called, sent cards
and prayers when our dear Don passed away in
February. VPE was always a favorite place for us.
Ruth Detzler and family.

I can't thank my VPE friends
enough for all the prayers,
cards, food, soups, meals,
and especially all the people
who stepped up to help me

when I had volunteered for events, not knowing that
this shoulder injury was going to linger on. It's been
a long time since November 9th, and I know the
battle is not over, but I am thankful to have such an
awesome team in Dr. Moor and my P.T. Dr. Penner
at Advanced Sports Medicine. This fall ended up a
lot more complicated than it was first diagnosed in
Indiana, but God willing, I will recover, just much
slower than we anticipated. THANKS again - VPE
has some pretty fantastic people who care for
others!!

Carol Anderson



*Thanks to Selma Ridenour and David Novak who
came up with the concept and built a noodle rack
to help them dry in the sun.*

BAD DAD JOKES

A bear walks into a bar and says "Give me a rum
and.....Coke". The bartender says " Why the big
pause?" The bear says " I don't know. I was born
like that."

Q.What sits at the bottom of the ocean and twitches?
A. A nervous wreck.

Q.What do you call a parade of rabbits hopping
backwards?
A. A receding hare-line.

Q. What did the shark say when he ate the clownfish?
A. This tastes a little funny.



HISTORY OF VENETIAN PARK ESTATES (CONTINUED):

This history was taken from the 2004 park publication which was compiled through the efforts of many park resident volunteers and the Activities Committee on the occasion of the park's final mortgage payment 9/24/03. In it were listed all those members who served through the years from 1984 -2004. Not wishing to leave any uncounted, they are listed below, noting that so many agreed to serve over and over again, displaying their dedication to VPE and it's residents: Jim Andrews, Phyllis Buechner, Robert Watt, Doris Cutler, Jean Jenks, Carolyn McCarthy, Ginny Fisher, Marie Morgan, Ellen Matthews, Jan Kostrzewski, Joe Levasseur, Marie Levasseur, Joey Glazier, Seth Rutzen, Ralph Vitale, Delton Powell, Earl Sharp, Frank Broge, Paul Brown, Howard Marra, George Nelson, Joe Barsel, Angela Tiedge, Rudi Baumgarten, Ed Buechner, Joe Kostrzewski, Ira Matthews, Joe Bartus, Glen Oneal, Nudie Sposato, Deward Arney, Svea Clayton, Marie Nelson, Clarence Swistak, June Bruhl, Betty Shear, Larry Attermeier, George Bacher, Walter Eck, Art Fisher, Phil Matheson, Charlotte Maxson, Cal Fladzinski, Anna Barsel, Bob Frazier, Ivan Lemke, Harold Wakeman, Dick Young, Gar Van Tassel, Emmerick Coppola, James Coyle, George Whittall, Judy Barry, Jay Andrews. Serving in office duties since 1988; Angela Tiedge, Pat Carter, Joan Lemke, Ruth Beck. The history also lists the maintenance workers 1988-2004; Herb Poole, Don Miller, Henry Becht, Andy Scott, Bill Ostermeier, Carl Judkins, Hector Cardona, Joe Wilkes, Ben Wood.

Since the history was published, there have been 17 more years worth of board and committee members, park employees, service vendors and residents who have served this community.

This park held a Venetian Park Estates Mortgage Burning Ceremony on March 22, 2004 at St Thomas More Church Hall in Gulfgate. The program below, printed by Joe and Jan Kostrzewski :

VPE Singers	"Hi Neighbor"
Welcome & Intro of Celebration Committee	Frank Matthews
Intro of Head Table	Phil Matheson
Mortgage Burning-Past & Present Presidents	
Champagne Toast	Ivan Lemke

Prayer (tune of Edelweiss)
 God of all bless our friends,
 Come O'Lord and sit with us
 May our hearts grow in peace
 With your love to surround us
 Friendship and love may it bloom and grow
 Bloom and grow forever
 Bless our friends, Bless our food
 Bless our evening together.

Marcie Schwartz, Eleanore Layton

Buffet Dinner

I Had A Dream Frank Matthews

VPE Singers Carol Anderson (Pianist)
 Marcie Schwartz (Director)
 Kay Unrue (Coordinator)

Mike Anderson, Frank & Rose Arney, Judy Barry, Ruth Beck, Neta Conrad, Jim & Barbara Degryse, Ginny Fisher, Eleanore Layton, Frank Matthews, Jack McCarthy, Bette Sherman.

Mortgage Burning Committee

Phyllis Buechner, Diane & Dennis Duly, Louise Hodson, Jean Jenks, Eleanore Layton, Ivan Lemke, Jean&Phil Matheson, Ellen & Frank Matthews, Jim Petitpren, Pat Ridley, Marcie & Joe Schwartz.

I hope this feature has brought you joy and amazement. Now you know what has been accomplished here by former and present residents, working with professionals and the original landholders at 8885 S Tamiami Trail to create this little piece of paradise in Sarasota Florida.

Anyone who has memories of the Mortgage Burning or pictures to share with the Gondolier is invited to submit them for future publication in the newsletter.



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To our valued customers:

During the current times we wanted to let you know that we are taking as many precautions as we can to ensure not only our workers safety but yours as well. We check workers' temperatures each morning and have limited the amount of contact our crews have with each other. Our crews work in Tyvek suits with respirators which helps to ensure your safety as well as theirs.

As a company, we want your business and there is no need for any contact if you so choose. Our business is deemed an "Essential Business" and we are here for you when you need us. You can schedule your inspection by calling 1-800-681-3772.

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SUNDAY FUNDAY PLAYING CORNHOLE (3/13)

There were multiple games going today on the new VPE Corn-hole board sets.

It was a good day of Corn-hole today! All are welcome.

Courtesy of VPE Board, James Tilton and VPE volunteers



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RECIPE OF THE MONTH

by Cheryl Smith



This recipe is different because it uses a boxed Spanish rice. It is fast and easy. Just add a salad and it is special enough for company.



Stuffed Green Peppers

- (6) medium green peppers (or mix-up with red and yellow)
- (1) pound ground beef
- (1) chopped onion
- (1) 6 7/8 oz. box Rice-a-roni Spanish rice mix
- (1) 16 oz. can tomato sauce (and more if you serve with extra sauce)
- (1) t. sugar
- (1) 14 1/2 oz. can diced tomatoes
- (1) C. shredded cheddar cheese

Remove tops and seeds from the peppers. Parboil in lightly-salted water for five minutes. Drain well. Put into baking dish. Brown meat and onion. Drain off grease. Prepare rice as directed. Stir in beef and onion mixture. Fill peppers with rice mixture. Mix sugar with the tomato sauce and pour around the peppers — not over. Cover and bake in preheated 350 degree oven for 35 minutes. Remove and top with cheese. Bake uncovered for five minutes more. Serve with tomato sauce if desired.

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BINGO NEWS

By Bonni Andrews



BINGO!!!! Well, I believe we have all the kinks worked out and everything is running smoothly. On Feb. 8th Debbie Phillips won the Progressive pot on #58. Congratulations!

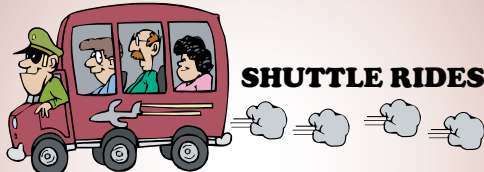
On Feb. 22nd Anita Wood won the consolation prize for the Progressive pot. But the best news was that she made it to Bingo. Welcome back Anita. We're glad to have you back.

Deanna Thibeault's granddaughter Alicia Engel won on a regular bingo BUT it was on a cookie jar number. Alicia also won a Culver's gift card on our made up game of "Twosday 2" for 2/22/2022!! Hope she enjoyed her ice cream sundae!

The progressive pots are still growing and so are the cookie jars. Come on down and have some fun with us. Our weekly games have been a nice amount to WIN. I just wish I could win one! Our callers are all doing a fantastic job.

There was no Bingo on March 8th because of voting. I want to thank everyone for coming down before 6:45.

Bonni and the Bingo committee

HAPPY EASTER EVERYONE**SHUTTLE RIDES**

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ST. PATRICK'S DAY HORSE RACES AT VENETIAN DOWNS

Creative fun for charity

We had lots of fun and laughs at the horse races. Thanks to all of the jockeys; Kim Carpenter, Jack Ormiston, Sis Gavin, Tim Seitz, Paula Neumeier, and Robyn Hogan. Thanks also to John Sanson, Chuck Stumpf, and Bill Merritt for being ticket sellers and Mike Anderson for figuring the odds. Thanks to Sue Loolen for decorating and presenting the prizes, and to my young friend Ian for helping with the dice. We have lots of good sports here at VPE!



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Bobcat on Gondola

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6 7 8 9 10 11 12
13 14 15 16 17 18 19
20 21 22 23 24 25 26
27 28 29 30 31

May
S M T W T F S
1 2 3 4 5 6 7
8 9 10 11 12 13 14
15 16 17 18 19 20 21
22 23 24 25 26 27 28
29 30 31

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1 All-in Hold'em 1pm Cribbage 6:30pm Hand and Foot 6:30pm	2 Park Picnic 4pm
3	4 All in Hold'em 1pm Euchre 7pm Aggravation 6:30pm	5 Euchre 1pm Bingo 6:45pm	6 Low impact aerobics 9:30am Sis' driveway 2077Ca'Doro Dr Mexican Train Dominoes 6:30pm	7 Low impact aerobics 9:30am Clubhouse Hold'em 5:00pm	8 All-in Hold'em 1pm Cribbage 6:30pm Hand and Foot 6:30pm	9 Coffee 9:30am
10 Palm Sunday	11 All in Hold'em 1pm Euchre 7pm Aggravation 6:30pm	12 Euchre 1pm Bingo 6:45pm	13 Low impact aerobics 9:30am Sis' driveway 2077Ca'Doro Dr Mexican Train Dominoes 6:30pm Activities meeting 7pm	14 Low impact aerobics 9:30am Clubhouse Hold'em 5:00pm	15 All-in Hold'em 1pm Cribbage 6:30pm Hand and Foot 6:30pm	16 Holy Saturday
17 Easter	18 All in Hold'em 1pm Euchre 7pm Aggravation 6:30pm	19 Euchre 1pm Bingo 6:45pm	20 Low impact aerobics 9:30am Sis' driveway 2077Ca'Doro Dr Mexican Train Dominoes 6:30pm	21 Low impact aerobics 9:30am Clubhouse Hold'em 5:00pm	22 All-in Hold'em 1pm Cribbage 6:30pm Hand and Foot 6:30pm	23
24	25 All in Hold'em 1pm Euchre 7pm Aggravation 6:30pm	26 Euchre 1pm Bingo 6:45pm	27 Low impact aerobics 9:30am Sis' driveway 2077Ca'Doro Dr Mexican Train Dominoes 6:30pm	28 Low impact aerobics 9:30am Clubhouse Hold'em 5:00pm	29 All-in Hold'em 1pm Cribbage 6:30pm Hand and Foot 6:30pm	30

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