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April 2025



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Office: (941) 966-4622

website: www.VPEonline.com

email address: vpe8885@gmail.com



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Barb Orebaugh.....Secretary  
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Anne Heller.....Trustee  
Amy DeBruin.....Trustee  
Katy Strand.....Trustee

**GONDOLIER STAFF:**

**Submissions**..... Tony Turlenko  
email: vpe8885@gmail.com  
**Anniversaries/Birthdays** .... Gina Miller  
**Sunshine Reporter** ..... Cassie Dionne  
**Activities**..... Brenda Park  
**Getting To Know You**..... Amy Newman  
**Recipes**..... Cheryl Smith



From left seated: Amy DeBruin, Katy Strand, Anne Heller. From left standing: Barb Orebaugh, JoEllen Wuerzburger, Paula Neumeier, Brenda Park

Being part of this Activity Committee means that they are one of seven members that are considered the Engagement Team within VPE. These are not the only residents that are part of this committee. Every resident within VPE is part of this Activity committee and are able to Host Events, with support from this Engagement team. If you are interested in supporting this Engagement team, please reach out to any of them.

**Please note** – call Community Media – 941-375-3699 for **ALL ADS**, or e-mail [darin@4communitymedia.com](mailto:darin@4communitymedia.com)

**MEETINGS**  
Next Board Meeting April 16 @ 9:30AM  
Next Activity Meeting: April 9 @ 5PM

**NEWSLETTER SUBMISSIONS**  
Deadline for May newsletter submission is April 17. Please submit as a word document to Tony at the office. Email: vpe8885@gmail.com. For those not able to create a word document, put the article in the body of the email to allow for copy and paste to the draft. Send good quality photos as an attachment to the email.





## **SUNSHINE NEWS**

by Cassie Dionne

Welcome home from the hospital Reggie Eastman! Your neighbors missed seeing you riding around in the mornings. We hope you are feeling much better. Cards may be sent to 2188 Gondola Dr. Sarasota, FL 34238

## **GETTING TO KNOW YOU**

by Amy Newman

Snowbirds Russ & Susan Jensen purchased 2173 Gondola from Ruth Smith in November of last year having wintered in neighboring Royal Palms for several seasons. Their brick-and-mortar home is in Roseville, Illinois. The couple is familiar with VPE as Susan's former classmate and long-time friend is Pat McGee. They are happy to acquire a home here with greater affordability and management. Coincidentally, this January they ran into John Weurzberger here at the park who they knew from a mutual acquaintance back home in West Central Illinois. They also share a similar farming background to David Novak.



The Jensens are to be thanked for contributing to the bread basket of America as Russ is a fifth generation farmer growing corn, soybeans and beef cattle. He is an only child and counted it a privilege to have worked with both grandfathers and his father and now partnering with their son. When asked about his favorite piece of farm machinery, Russ pointed out that the harvest is the happiest time, riding the combine with all of its technological advances, including GPS, which enables him to work long 18-hour days well past sunset every fall. Russ has served on several boards including their county and was president of the local school board. He also coached their children in various sports when they were growing up.

Susan was born in Oquawka, Illinois. She met Russ at a dance when home on break from college she attended in Northern Michigan. The couple has a son who lives next door with his family and a daughter who lives in Indianapolis. They also have three grandchildren. Susan is a licensed clinical social worker and has spent the bulk of her career as an administrator with Child Protection Services

for half of the state of Illinois. Additionally, she wrote the program for behavioral health and still works remotely part time. In addition to helping out at the farm, Susan finds time to refinish furniture with chalk paint, enjoys swimming, and taking country walks. The Jensens enjoy their long-time summer home on the Lake-of-the-Ozarks in Missouri with boating and summertime activities where they can get away for several weeks.

Welcome Susan and Russ, we look forward to getting to know you!

## **BAD DAD JOKES**

by Gina Miller



A duck, a skunk and a deer go out to eat one night at a restaurant. When it comes time to pay the bill, the skunk doesn't have a scent, and the deer doesn't have a buck so they put the meal on the duck's bill.

There are two cows in a field. The first cow says, "moo" and the second cow says "baa". The first cow asks the second cow, "Why did you say "baa"? The second cow says, "I'm learning a second language."

A wife asks her software engineer husband, "Could you please go shopping for me and buy one carton of milk, and if they have eggs, get a dozen!" A short time later, the husband comes home with a dozen cartons of milk. The wife asks him, "Why the heck did you buy a dozen cartons of milk"? He replied, "They had eggs!"

## **OUR FAVORITE PAPER**

Our waste water plant is our most expensive asset. Last month, a sewage blockage caused by rubber gloves, towels and sanitary items, cost us over \$1000.00 to repair. The only thing that should be flushed down a toilet are what comes out of your body and toilet tissue.



Unlike city sewer systems, which rely on powerful mechanical processes, our septic system depends on natural bacterial decomposition. Some types of toilet paper dissolve more easily in water than others. If the paper doesn't break down quickly, it can lead to clogs in pipes, plumbing systems, and our sewer lines. Thick or multi-ply toilet papers, especially those labeled as "luxury" or "ultra-soft" can accumulate and block narrow pipes and tend

to be more resistant to breaking down quickly. The undigested paper contributes to faster sludge accumulation, potentially clogging the system and leading to expensive repairs and messy backups.

Toilet papers with added fragrances often contain chemicals that can wreak havoc on the bacterial balance within our sewer system, upsetting the natural breakdown process and leading to issues down the line. Similar to scented varieties, brightly colored and patterned toilet paper often contains dyes and inks.

“Flushable” wipes are often anything but flushable. Even wipes labeled as septic-safe often don't break down easily enough to prevent potential problems. Plus, the chemicals used in many wet wipes to enhance their cleaning and moisturizing properties can harm those crucial bacteria that keep our septic system healthy.

The best toilet paper for our sewer system is single-ply toilet paper because it's thinner. Some people argue it's not soft enough. Even if you use multiple sheets, the thinner paper is safer for our system. If you decide to use 1-ply, a popular and affordable brand is Scott 1000.

## APRIL BIRTHDAYS

- 1 Glenn Newman
- 4 Phyllis Buechner  
Cheryl Burton
- 6 Judy Wakeman
- 11 Judy Jennett
- 12 Bill Hayes
- 14 Cassie Dionne
- 16 Bonnie Kannapinn
- 21 Cheryl Ludwig
- 25 Pat Morales
- 29 Mike Anderson  
John Wuerzburger



## APRIL ANNIVERSARIES



- 1 Mike and Christine Mallos
- 13 Greg and Bonnie Ryan April 13, 1996
- 25 Jay and Bonni Andrews April 25, 1965

Would like your birthday or anniversary published in the Gondolier, contact Gina Miller at 260-246-3551.

## RECIPE OF THE MONTH

by Brenda Park

This item was a favorite at the Ladies Tea Party!

### **Chocolate Cream Cheese Truffles**

#### **Ingredients**

- 8 oz Brick style cream cheese softened
- 2 Cups Powdered sugar
- 2 Cups Chocolate chips dark, semi-sweet, milk or a mix
- 1 Cup Chocolate candy melts Dark, milk or white
- Sprinkles optional

#### **Instructions**

1. Begin by beating the cream cheese in a large bowl, then slowly add the powdered sugar and beat until light and fluffy.
2. Melt the chocolate chips in a double boiler over the stove, or the microwave, then add to the cream cheese mixture and mix until smooth.
3. If you want different flavors, you can add a teaspoon or two of extract. Or divide the batter and make several flavors.
4. Place the bowl in the fridge for 20-30 minutes to allow the filling to firm up so you can roll it.
5. Remove the truffle filling from the fridge and roll into balls between 1/2 and 1 inch in size and place on a baking sheet lined with a silicone mat. I like to use a melon baller as it is the perfect size.
6. Melt the chocolate candy melts in the microwave or double boiler and then dip the truffle balls in the melted chocolate. You can lower the truffle into the chocolate with a fork or use a chocolate dipping tool.
7. Move back to the silicone baking sheet to allow the chocolate shell to harden. If you want to decorate with sprinkles, do so before the chocolate sets.
8. Once the shell has hardened, move the truffles to an air tight container and store in the refrigerator.
9. Makes approximately 45 pieces



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## VPE PROJECTS

The building that houses the air compressors for our sewage plant was coming apart. After many hours of hard work, and some cuts and scrapes, David Novak practically rebuilt the shed.



## VOLUNTEERS

At the Mar. 19, Board of Directors Meeting, one agenda item was "Locks for Clubhouse/Pool". Board member Glenn Orebaugh reported that securing the Clubhouse and Pool with various locks could cost up to \$20K. A better and less expensive solution is for volunteers to open and close our Clubhouse and Pool. If you are interested in volunteering one or more days a week, if only for a month, please contact Tony at the office.

## LET'S PLAY CROQUET!

A new croquet set is available to all residents and their guests to use anytime they wish. The set is stored in an all-weather container located behind the clubhouse on the back patio area. The set was purchased with Activities funds. We just ask that the croquet set be used in common areas and returned to the proper storage area after use.

There are also two sunshades available for use in our common areas. If you'd like to set one up, please contact a member of the activities committee, please allow for adequate notice.



## CALVERY HILL SINGERS

The Calvery Hill Singers would like to express their gratitude to Venetian Park Estates for the opportunity to entertain us. They look forward to coming back next year, Thursday, February 12, 2026.

## KENTUCKY DERBY DAY RACES

*Saturday, May 3rd Post Time 5pm*

Come watch the horses run at Venetian Downs and watch the Kentucky Derby on the big screen. Pick your favorite horses, place your bets, win prizes! Get in the mood by wearing the fanciest Kentucky Derby hat for a prize. There will be a 50/50 and a 50/50 wishing well where you'll guess the number of poker chips and/or marbles and win half the pot. This could be



your lucky day! There will be more than 20 random prizes drawn from the 50/50 ticket pool! Come join your friends at the clubhouse for a fun time, food, prizes and laughter. Pizza and ice cream will be provided as well as lemonade and tea. BYO drinks if you want something else. Anyone for a mint julep?

Don't forget your hats!

## ATTENTION

We are seeking a resident to gather VPE information to pass on to the publisher of the Gondolier. Tony will train his replacement. It is not difficult.

## NEW DAYS

In April, our new trash pick up days will be Tuesday. Our new landscaping/mowing days will be Wednesday.

**Look what has been completed since this past Fall... THANK YOU to our DEDICATED VOLUTEERS that save all VPE Shareholders money!!!! You are greatly appreciated.**

### Venetian Park Estates: Project Management Tracking

Name	Scope / Work	Volunteers	When
Pool Pump - Install Current Relay	Ensure Chlorinator & Acid Pump shuts off appropriately	Yes	August 2024
Fences	Repaired fence (main bldg), Gates (sewer plant & CH)	Yes	October 2024
Island Lights	Repaired and rewired	Yes	October 2024
Mulch	Mulched common areas	Yes	October 2024
Stump Removal	Removed stumps	No	October 2024
Trees	Removed 30 damaged shrubs and trees	Yes	October 2024
Trees	Removed trees by tree company	No	October 2024
Awning Repair at Clubhouse	Replaced damaged areas due to hurricane	No	November 2024
Shuffleboard Courts	Resurfaced per engineering study	No	November 2024
Spa Rail	Replaced due to hurricane damage	No	November 2024
Berm build - up	Loads of dirt delivered to built up	Yes	January 2025
Gazebo Shingles	Tear off & replaced shingles as needed	Yes	January 2025
Golf Cart (Red) - Brakes	Brakes - Replaced drum assembly	Yes	January 2025
Golf Cart (Red) - Tires	Dry rotted tires replaced	Yes	January 2025
Maintenance Bldg - Light	Repaired and added dusk to dawn sensor	Yes	January 2025
Maintenance Bldg - Air hose/fittings	Replaced hose & straight fitting w/ 90 degree fitting	Yes	January 2025
Maintenance Bldg - Conduit	Exposed wires / replaced & repaired	Yes	January 2025
Maintenance Bldg - Switch/Outlet	Replaced and pulled new wires	Yes	January 2025
Pool Fence Posts Stiffener	Around pool / spa equipment	Yes	January 2025
Sewage Plant Fence	Back side of sewage plant; 5ft chain link	Yes	January 2025
Spa Jets - Replaced Breaker	Breaker replaced	Yes	January 2025
Spa Pump & Motor Replacement	Replaced	No	January 2025
Garage Door Replacement	Replaced	No	February 2025
Gazebo & Benches	Power washed inside	Yes	February 2025
Gazebo Posts	Painted areas needed	Maint. Staff	February 2025
Hydraulic Shed in Sewage Plant	Roof, siding, repair	Yes	February 2025
Maintenance Bldg - Facia/Trim Boards	Replaced rotted work on back side	Yes	February 2025
Pool Heater	New Relay Installed	Yes	February 2025
Pool Heater Contact Relay	Replaced on pool heater	Yes	February 2025
Water Break between Ca'D Oro & Palazza	Dug ~ 4 ft and replaced 3/4" water line	Yes	February 2025
Water Value Shut Off	Replaced water shut off	Yes	February 2025
WiFi Thermostat in Clubhouse	Replace / installed for climate control	Yes	February 2025
Awning Frame at Clubhouse	Reinforced	Yes	March 2025
Compreser House	Reinforce with metal	Yes	March 2025
Electrical Outlets	3 on stage; 1 at pool deck (GFI) replaced	Yes	March 2025
Eradicator Tank	Removed name and re-steniled	Yes	March 2025
Golf Cart Repairs	Replaced Batteries & Cables	Yes	March 2025
Shuffleboard Courts - North Side	Cut Angle Iron off concrete	Yes	March 2025
Spa Repairs	Replaced broken grate and jets	Yes	March 2025
Street Signs & Posts	Replaced broken post and missing signs	No	March 2025
Lock Options for clubhouse & pool fence	TBD	No	In process
Pool Deck	Replacement	No	In process
Shuffleboard Court Awning	Replacement on south side	No	In process
Bathroom Remodel Project	Upgrades / handicapped	No	Not Started
Maintenance Building Painting and Sealants	Paint / Seal	No	Not Started
Pool House	Install two lights	Yes	Not Started
Repair Lights: Outside bathrooms/shuffleboard	Repair	Yes	Not Started
Safety Rails around sewage tanks	Install	No	Not Started



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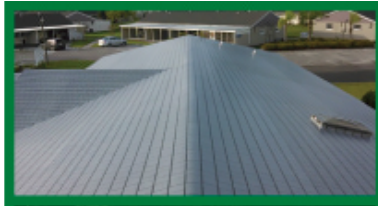
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— — — — —

# EXTRA EXTRA... READ ALL ABOUT IT!

VPE PARK

3/12/25

## ABC'S COMING TO VPE 📣 HERE'S THE SCOOP 📣

### ABC SALE- (ALL RESIDENT DONATIONS / BACK PATIO SALE / CLUBHOUSE SALE)

#### **A**LL RESIDENT DONATIONS

- Beginning April 28, 2025
- Last Monday of selected months to follow
- Hours 9am~Noon
- Bring your donations to back patio of Clubhouse
- Activity member will be present to sort through and accept donations

#### **B**ACK PATIO SALE

- Last Tuesday of selected months
- Hours 9am~Noon
- Previous day donations to be moved from storage and sold
- Items will not be priced (come make an offer)
- There may be 'Freebies'

#### **C**LUBHOUSE SALE

- Year End Sale
- First Friday/Saturday in February
- Hours TBD
- Details to be announced in the future



#### Headed up North, Vacating or Selling your home?

- Start Date: Immediately
- Contact Brenda Park (937-726-4658) or Paula Neumeier (941-599-3691) to evaluate potential donations within your home.
- Seeking residents interested in earning extra cash for cleaning the homes, reach out to Brenda or Paula to provide your contact information to homeowners.

#### Communication Time Line

##### March

- Activity Committee Meeting: March 12 @ 5pm
- Coffee Hour March 22, April 12 @ 9:30am
- Door to Door: Week of March 24
- VPE Website: Week of March 31

##### April

- VPE Website: Week of April 17
- Facebook: Week of April 14
- Reminders: Week of April 21



### TEA PARTY



### ST. PATTY'S HORSE RACE





# APRIL



	4	5						
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4	9	5	8	2	6	3	1	4
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2	5	8	4	9	3	1	7	6
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## ACTIVITIES LISTING OF EVENTS

<u>Day</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Event</u>
Sunday	4/6/2025	Music by the Pool - Chris Otto 2~4pm
Wednesday	4/9/2025	Activity Meeting @5pm
Saturday	4/12/2025	Coffee
Wednesday	4/16/2025	BOD Meeting @ 9:30 AM
Sunday	4/20/2025	Easter Dinner Event (Recurring)
Saturday	4/26/2025	Coffee
Monday	4/28/2025	ABC Sale-All resident donations 9am-Noon
Tuesday	4/29/2025	Back Patio Sale 9am-Noon
Saturday	5/3/2025	Derby Event (Recurring)
Saturday	5/24/2025	Coffee
Sunday	6/1/2025	Ice Cream Social
Saturday	6/14/2025	Coffee
Monday	6/23/2025	ABC Sale-All resident donations 9am-Noon
Tuesday	6/24/2025	Back Patio Sale 9am-Noon
Friday	7/4/2025	July 4th event (Recurring)
Saturday	7/12/2025	Coffee
Saturday	8/9/2025	Coffee
Monday	8/25/2025	ABC Sale-All resident donations 9am-Noon
Tuesday	8/26/2025	Back Patio Sale 9am-Noon
Saturday	9/6/2025	Coffee
Wednesday	9/10/2025	Activity Meeting @5pm
Wednesday	9/17/2025	Board of Directors mtg at 9:30am
Saturday	9/20/2025	Coffee - Sponsored
Wednesday	10/8/2025	Activity Meeting @5pm
Saturday	10/11/2025	Coffee
Wednesday	10/15/2025	Board of Directors mtg at 9:30am
Saturday	10/25/2025	Coffee - Sponsored
Monday	10/27/2025	ABC Sale-All resident donations 9am-Noon
Tuesday	10/28/2025	Back Patio Sale 9am-Noon
Friday	10/31/2025	Halloween Event (Recurring)
Saturday	11/8/2025	Coffee
Tuesday	11/11/2025	Veterans Day Event - (Recurring)
Wednesday	11/12/2025	Activity Meeting @5pm
Wednesday	11/19/2025	Board of Directors mtg at 9:30am
Saturday	11/22/2025	Coffee - Sponsored
Tuesday	11/25/2025	Thanksgiving Day Event - (Recurring)
Wednesday	12/10/2025	Activity Meeting @5pm
Saturday	12/13/2025	Coffee - Décor for Christmas
Wednesday	12/17/2025	BOD Meeting @ 9:30 AM / Bi-Annual Meeting at 7:00 PM
Saturday	12/20/2025	Christmas Party - (Recurring)
Thursday	12/25/2025	Christmas Dinner - (Recurring)
Monday	12/29/2025	ABC Sale-All resident donations 9am-Noon
Tuesday	12/30/2025	Back Patio Sale 9am-Noon
Wednesday	12/31/2025	New Year's Eve Event - (Recurring)
Saturday	1/10/2026	Coffee
Wednesday	1/14/2026	Activity Meeting @5pm
Saturday	1/17/2026	Welcome Back Party w/ Music
Wednesday	1/21/2026	Board of Directors mtg at 9:30am
Saturday	1/24/2026	Coffee
Monday	1/26/2026	All resident donations only 9am-Noon
Wednesday	2/4/2026	Storage removal & set up
Thursday	2/5/2026	Volunteer sales & resident sales
Friday	2/6/2026	Community Sale
Saturday	2/7/2026	Community Sale
Sunday	2/8/2026	Superbowl Party - (Recurring)
Wednesday	2/11/2026	Activity Meeting @5pm
Thursday	2/12/2026	Calvary Music Event
Friday	2/13/2026	Tea Party Set
Saturday	2/14/2026	"Galentines" (Tea Event) 1pm - 3pm - (Recurring)
Wednesday	2/18/2026	Board of Directors mtg at 9:30am
Saturday	2/21/2026	Coffee
Saturday	3/7/2026	Coffee
Wednesday	3/11/2026	Activity Meeting @5pm
Tuesday	3/17/2026	St Patrick Day Horse Races - (Recurring)
Wednesday	3/18/2026	Board of Directors mtg at 9:30am
Saturday	3/21/2026	Coffee
Saturday	3/28/2026	Year End Park Event - Food and Music



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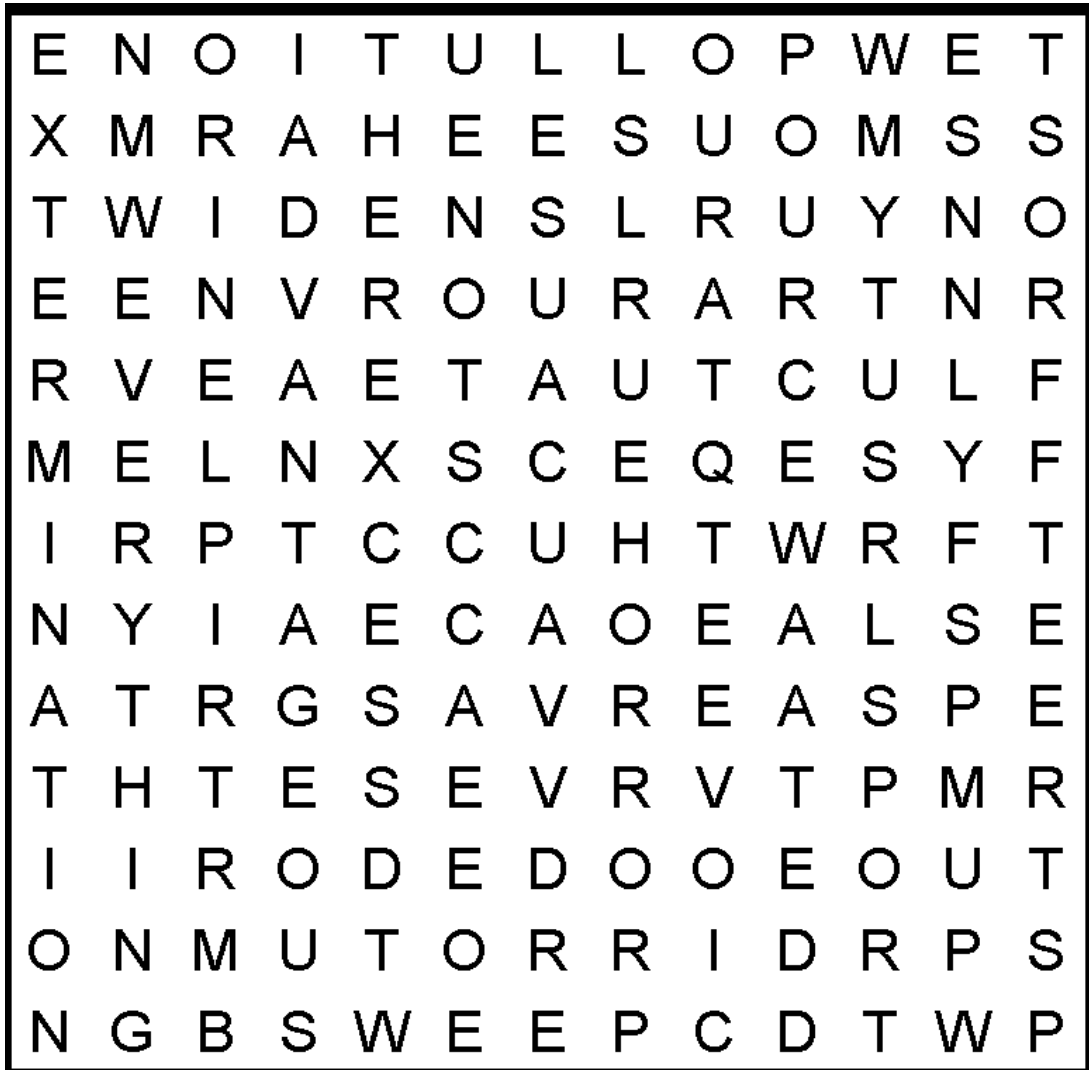
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# April Word Search



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arrow

avoid

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everything

excess

extermination

flavor

fluctuate

frost

harm

horror

mouse

pollution

pour

pumps

rescue

rode

scale

scar

sport

stone

store

street

sweep

swerve

teen

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torrid

triple

tryst

widen





# APRIL 2025

MARCH  
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16 17 18 19 20 21 22  
23 24 25 26 27 28 29  
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May  
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18 19 20 21 22 23 24  
25 26 27 28 29 30 31

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1 Low Impact Driveway Aerobics (2077 Cad'Oro) 9:30 AM Bingo 6:45 PM	2 Water Aerobics 10:00 AM Mexican Dominoes 6:30 PM	3 Low Impact Driveway Aerobics (2077 Cad'Oro) 9:30 AM Holdem 4:45 PM	4 Water Aerobics 10:00 AM Texas Holdem 1:00 PM Hand & Foot 6:30 PM	5
6 Chris Otto @ the Pool, 2-4PM	7 Water Aerobics 10:00 AM Texas Holdem 1:00 PM Aggravation, Pegs & Jokers 6:30 PM Euchre 6:30 PM	8 Low Impact Driveway Aerobics (2077 Cad'Oro) 9:30 AM Bingo 6:45 PM  <b>April Fool's Day</b>	9 Water Aerobics 10:00 AM Mexican Dominoes 6:30 PM Activity Meeting @ 5pm	10 Low Impact Driveway Aerobics (2077 Cad'Oro) 9:30 AM Holdem 4:45 PM	11 Water Aerobics 10:00 AM Texas Holdem 1:00 PM Hand & Foot 6:30 PM	12 Coffee
13	14 Water Aerobics 10:00 AM Texas Holdem 1:00 PM Aggravation, Pegs & Jokers 6:30 PM Euchre 6:30 PM	15 Low Impact Driveway Aerobics (2077 Cad'Oro) 9:30 AM Bingo 6:45 PM	16 BOD Mtg, 9:30AM Water Aerobics 10:00 AM Mexican Dominoes 6:30 PM	17 Low Impact Driveway Aerobics (2077 Cad'Oro) 9:30 AM Holdem 4:45 PM	18 Water Aerobics 10:00 AM Texas Holdem 1:00 PM Hand & Foot 6:30 PM	19
20 Easter Meal (pending host)  <b>Palm Sunday</b>	21 Water Aerobics 10:00 AM Texas Holdem 1:00 PM Aggravation, Pegs & Jokers 6:30 PM Euchre 6:30 PM	22 Low Impact Driveway Aerobics (2077 Cad'Oro) 9:30 AM Bingo 6:45 PM	23 Water Aerobics 10:00 AM Mexican Dominoes 6:30 PM	24 Low Impact Driveway Aerobics (2077 Cad'Oro) 9:30 AM Holdem 4:45 PM  <b>Maundy Thursday</b>	25 Water Aerobics 10:00 AM Texas Holdem 1:00 PM Hand & Foot 6:30 PM  <b>Good Friday</b>	26 Coffee  <b>Holy Saturday</b>
27  <b>Easter</b>	28 ABC Sale, all resident donations 9-Noon Water Aerobics 10:00 AM Texas Holdem 1:00 PM Aggravation, Pegs & Jokers 6:30 PM Euchre 6:30 PM	29 Back Patio Sale, 9-Noon Low Impact Driveway Aerobics (2077 Cad'Oro) 9:30 AM Bingo 6:45 PM	30 Water Aerobics 10:00 AM Mexican Dominoes 6:30 PM			



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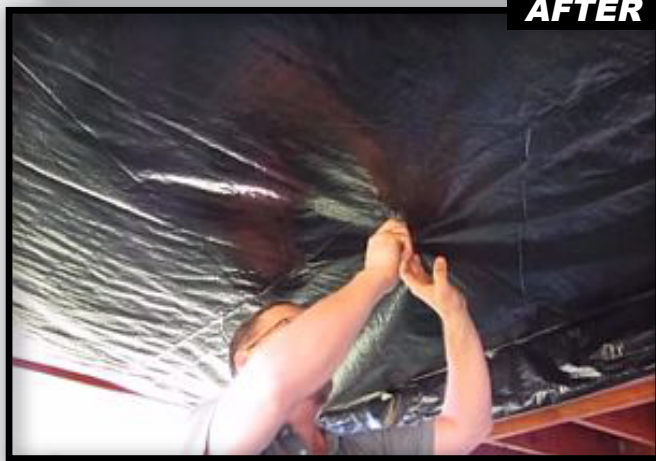
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