

VENETIAN PARK ESTATES GONDOLIER

December 2025



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VENETIAN PARK ESTATES

8885 S Tamiami Trail
Sarasota FL 34238

Office: (941) 966-4622
website: www.VPEonline.com
email address: vpe8885@gmail.com



BOARD OFFICERS:

Louise Novak.....President
Irv Rubin.....Vice President
John Wuerzburger.....Secretary
John Stern.....Treasurer

Dennis CallanDirector
Paul CenskiDirector
Jim Wood.....Director
Jim TomesDirector
Glenn Orebaugh.....Director

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Paula Neumeier.....Vice Chair
Katie Strand.....Secretary
JoEllen Wuerzburger.....Treasurer
Anne Heller.....Trustee
Amy DeBruin.....Trustee
Barb Orebaugh.....Trustee

GONDOLIER STAFF:

Submissions Gina Miller
Email:gmgondolier@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, Katie 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 newsletter@4communitymedia.com

MEETINGS
Next Activities meeting Dec. 10th, 6pm
December Board meeting Dec. 17 9:30am
BIANNUAL MEMBER’S MEETING
DEC. 17 7pm

NEWSLETTER SUBMISSIONS
The deadline for submissions for our **January** Gondolier is **Dec. 13**. It is earlier than normal because of the holiday. Please submit to Gina Miller at gmgondolier@gmail.com. Send good quality pictures as an attachment to an email.

SUNSHINE CORNER

By Cassie Dionne



Welcome back to all the winter residents...it's good to see you after this hot summer we had.

Sending get well wishes to Jerry Ralston who has been in the hospital. Ruby says he is improving and will be going to SMH Rehab 5640 Rand Blvd. Sarasota 34238.

Fran Patterson from Gondola Dr. now lives in an apartment at Sunnyside Village 5201 Bahia Vista St. Sarasota 34232. Office phone (941)-371-2729 (9-5) daily. Fran's cell is (941) 966-0009. Carol and Jim Tomes visited her and she is loving it there. She would love visits from any of her neighbors, especially you card players. Fran and her husband retired here to VPE after many years of service as Christian missionaries. She was active in events here in the Park and at her church. Her only son died many years ago. Godspeed Fran.

James Weber of Piazza Dr. is currently living at The Springs at 3280 Lake Pointe Woods Blvd. Sarasota 34231. Office phone is (941) 893-2700. His cell is (941) 893-9702.

Paul Censki is recovering from the lung transplant he and Cathy have been waiting for. I see so many comments on our facebook page; your friends and neighbors are praying for success, pain relief and no complications for you both. Come home soon. Know that you are in all of our thoughts.

Paul & Cathy Censki

2139 Piazza Dr. Sarasota 34238.

Email- tfd7@snet.net

Alice Chafer is recovering at home following ankle surgery in Nov. Well wishes can be sent to her at 2183 Ca D Oro Dr.

Sarasota 34238. Email-alicechafer@yahoo.com

Karin Click passed away on 11/25. We will miss her greatly. Our deepest sympathy to her husband, Dennis Callan, and their families. Karin's sister-in-law, Anne Click, is also a winter resident at VPE. Cards to Dennis at 2307 Benjamin Oaks, Royal Oaks, MI 48073. Email denniscallan@gmail.com.

Anne Click-226 N.Macomb, Monroe, MI 48162.



UPDATE

Jerry Ralston is home from the hospital and feeling much better! He wants to thank everyone for their good wishes and prayers. He said to say he loves you all.



GONDOLIER NEWS

Don't forget you have a new editor to send your submissions to. Send anything you might want printed that relates to VPE, to Gina Miller, gmgondolier@gmail.com. You can still contact me with your birthdays and anniversaries too.



Give a shoutout to your couriers, they work hard out in that hot sun! Deb Steele and Sally Ruebesam, Pat Morales and Dorene Moser, Elizabeth St. Clair, and Pat McGee, are your willing and able volunteers. If you should accidentally get missed, there are always extra copies at the clubhouse.

SHUFFLEBOARD

Submitted by Pat Morales

Shuffleboard will start on Jan. 5th.

Anyone not wanting to shuffle and are on a team from last year, please let your captain know so he can fill the spot. There will be a schedule on the bulletin board. Anyone wanting to join can contact the captain to see if there is an opening. Also we will need volunteers to fill spots when someone cannot shuffle for some reason. Shuffle days are Monday, Wednesday and Thursday. \$10.00 per person for the season.



ACTIVITIES COMMITTEE POSITIONS

By Brenda Park

The Activities committee has announced that they will have openings for new members of their board for the 2026/2027 term. They are seeking a Treasurer and two General Members (trustees). If you would like to learn more about what these roles involve or have any questions, please don't hesitate to reach out to any current committee member. They are happy to share more information.

COFFEE HOUR SPONSOR

Michelle Mashaw from the Senior Friendship Center will be sponsoring our coffee on Dec. 13th. She will be sharing information with anyone who may need help with Mortgage/Rent/Utilities.



WEEKLY ACTIVITIES

For any updates or changes in activities or events, please check the bulletin board in the clubhouse, our Facebook group page (Neighbors Helping Neighbors), and the VPEonline website. It is very important for anyone coming to an event to sign up at the clubhouse. We need an accurate count for setups, food, etc. Please don't neglect to sign up. If you have trouble getting to the clubhouse to sign up for activities, ask a friend or neighbor to sign up for you.



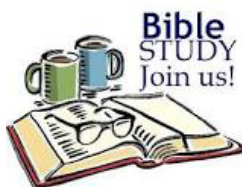
SEEKING VOLUNTEERS

The Activities Committee is seeking volunteers to host the upcoming Christmas Dinner on December 25th and the New Year's Eve event on the 31st. If you are willing but don't know what is involved in being a Host, please reach out to a committee member. This does not require tradition. You can put your own twist on it and create your own version. Residents will appreciate any effort you are willing to make. Other resident volunteers will help once they see there is a leader.



BIBLE STUDY

VPE residents interested in studying God's Word can meet every Thursday at the clubhouse at 8am for Bible Study. We know it is early, but there truly is no better way to start your Thursday, than with your best foot forward. Hope to see you there. Keith and Angel 2146 Piazza



HALLOWEEN PARTY

A big thank you to Brenda Park and Paula Neumeier for a fun Halloween party. We had a good meal and fun games. Jan Coble took first prize in the costume contest dressed as "One Night Stand".



GAZEBO PLAQUES

A few years ago, Kenny and Terry Deer came up with the idea of having memorial plaques, donated by residents, put up at the Gazebo as a fund raising project. They will be continuing the project but with a few minor changes. The plaques will be \$100. They no longer have to be a "memorial", meaning they don't have to be dedicated to someone. In the past, the proceeds were classified in the category "unrestricted" meaning the proceeds would go to wherever the committee decided. Now, the person who donates the plaques can choose where they want the proceeds directed. The categories will be activities, beautification and unrestricted. Take a look at the gazebo and get some ideas for a plaque that you might want to donate. It's a nice idea and it helps make our Park a little more special.

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ABC SALE

Next month will be DONATIONS ONLY on 1/26/26 from 9-noon. This will be followed by the actual year end Sale preparation/Leader meetings starting towards the end of January. If you are willing to volunteer to work this Event, reach out to Brenda Park or Paula Neumeier, More details to follow, once the schedule has been refined, then it will be shared via Facebook and emails.

This Year End Sale, formally known as the Flea Market, will open sales up to volunteers first, followed by residents and will continue tradition by opening to the public on Friday/Saturday (Feb. 6/7). We will be going forward with the "Let's Make a Deal" concept with receiving offers and bartering to eliminate the labor intensive pricing of all of our treasures. Ultimately, the idea is to not have to move any items back into storage and make money for the Community for future Activities.

The committee will continue to provide an opportunity for residents to be able to donate items up until the year end sale. If you have items to donate and are not available during the published dates, please reach out to make other arrangements to evaluate your items. Please do not drop off on the back patio. Paula and I are willing to work with residents to establish a schedule that works for all involved.

Brenda Park- Activities Committee Chair- ABC Sale Volunteer

ABC SALE DONATIONS

Headed up North? Vacating or selling your house? Contact Brenda Park (937-726-4658) or Paula Neumeier (941-599-3691) to evaluate potential donations within your home.

THANK YOU

A great big thank you to Jan Coble and her crew of volunteers for their hard work in deep cleaning the kitchen.



VETERANS DAY CELEBRATION

On Veterans Day, Barb and Glenn Orebaugh and their committee, Sis Gavin and Amy Debruin held a touching tribute to our Veterans. Barb read some interesting facts and presented each vet with a gift. They served refreshments and sang some patriotic songs. There was a table set for the missing soldier. Each vet introduced themselves and told what they did in the military. It was a touching tribute. To all of our veterans, thank you for your service to our country. Pics of Veterans Day

L to R Glenn Orebaugh, Ken Allen, Jay Mooseman, Fred Neuman, Irv Rubin, Gary Longto, Jeff Edelman, Jack Ormiston, not pictured Jay Andrews



BOOK CLUB

The VPE book club, led by Nancy Garrett, is off to a good start. The members are enjoying the books. The Dec. meeting date will be published at a later time.



GETTING TO KNOW YOU

by Amy Newman

Chick Smaldino is one of our newest full-time residents. In August he purchased his home at 2129 Palazza from Ed Hoffman. He has settled in and was costumed at our Halloween party where most got to meet him, wondering who that masked man was!



Chick has a daughter who lives in Sarasota just a few minutes away and while visiting her from out West they went shopping for a home for him. Settling on VPE, and with pencil and paper in hand, they went up and down the streets taking notes and numbers to call. With the help of his son and daughter who packed him up, all he had to do was drive the many miles from Las Vegas to our little slice of paradise.

Chick lived in Buffalo, NY, where he humorously stated that "he started out as a child." He was a delivery driver for the local newspaper and a musician by night. He has played the guitar, 12-string, bass, and banjo for most of his life. Taking his musical career to the next level and saying goodbye to snow and winter, Chick moved to Las Vegas in 1984 and worked as a sound mixer for 40 years. Some of the musical acts he ran sound for were The Guess Who, Asleep at the Wheel, Dionne Warwick and Frank Sinatra, among others. In addition, he became part of a classic rock band called the Updog Band while living there. Due to arthritis in his hands he now plays the cajon, a boxed instrument, using brushes. He enjoys open mic at the Shriners on Beneva. As an aside, his son also is a musician and for a season was the drummer for Ozzy Osbourne.

Several years ago Chick was widowed when their home in Las Vegas caught on fire and took the life of his wife and pets. He alone was able to escape. Like so many in our park, difficulties and tragedy have built strong character and resiliency; as witnessed, Chick is a testament to that.

Welcome home Chick. May we at VPE be the quintessence of caring neighbors and great friends.



CHRISTMAS PARTY



Ho Ho Ho It's time again for another joyful Christmas party!

7PM December 20th at the clubhouse

Fun and games, friends and laughter, good times for all. Bring an appetizer, snack or dessert to share. BYODrinks

In years past, we collected at Halloween for our VPE sponsored charities. This year, we are asking you to contribute a donation to the All Faiths Food Bank and or Resurrection House as your entry to the party, or, if you can't attend the party, just as a donation from your heart to some of those less fortunate.

If you'd like to play in the gift exchange game, bring a wrapped \$10 gift that can be enjoyed by either a man or woman. We will have a 50/50 drawing so bring lots of dollars to make the prize bigger!

PART-TIME HELP

VPE is looking for reliable part-time help. Duties may include general maintenance and community support tasks. Hours and wages to be discussed. If interested, please contact the office for more details.



If you use the Clubhouse during the weekend, do not put your garbage in the cans behind the Clubhouse. Please put your garbage in the cans already out on the street for Monday's pick up. Cans not out on the street? Take the initiative to please do so!



DECEMBER BIRTHDAYS

2 Lee Kohlmeier
Kathryn Tregler
5 Gary McGee
9 Chris Friedrich
16 Anita Wood
17 Manny Lejeune
19 Nick Mallos
24 Barbara Orebaugh
28 Roy Walker
31 Donna Lejeune



DECEMBER ANNIVERSARIES

Nelson and Ronda Sumpter	Dec. 4, 1976
Gary and Pat McGee	Dec. 16, 2000
Allen and Ellen Alexander	Dec. 18, 1965
Bill and Joyce Hayes	Dec. 24, 1966
Tim and Brenda Park	Dec. 27, 2001



RECIPE OF THE MONTH

I have made these pumpkin bars every holiday season for probably 50 years. My family fights over them! They are so easy even my 10 year old granddaughter can make them.

Pumpkin Cake Bars



2 C. flour 2 C. sugar
2 t. baking powder
1 t. baking soda
1 t. cinnamon
1 t. nutmeg
1 t. cloves
½ t. salt
1 C. vegetable oil
4 eggs
1 can 15 oz. pure pumpkin
(For frosting)
3 oz. cream cheese, softened
1/3 C. butter, softened
2 C. powdered sugar, sifted
1 T. milk
1 t. vanilla

Mix all bar ingredients at low speed until moistened. Then beat two minutes at medium speed. Pour into a greased 15 x 10 inch pan. Bake at 350 degrees for 25 – 30 minutes or until a toothpick inserted comes out clean.

For the frosting, beat together all ingredients until smooth.

Spread over cooled bars and cut into 36 bars.





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As we begin the construction phase, here's what to expect:

Start Date - Construction will begin on Monday, November 17, with equipment arriving that morning. The construction period is expected to last approximately four weeks, depending on progress.

Work Hours - Crews will typically begin work at 8:00 AM. If an earlier start becomes necessary, we will notify you in advance.

On-Site Equipment - Some equipment will be stored on the property in a designated area to ensure it does not inconvenience residents.

Construction Activity - You may notice crews and construction activity throughout the community as the infrastructure work takes place.

Internet & TV Services - Flag markers will be placed around the property to identify utility lines and other underground services. For everyone's safety, we kindly ask that you do not move or remove these markers.

Additional Surveys - You may see teams conducting power or utility-related surveys as needed. This is a normal and important part of the construction process.

We'll keep you updated throughout the process and are here to assist with any questions you may have.

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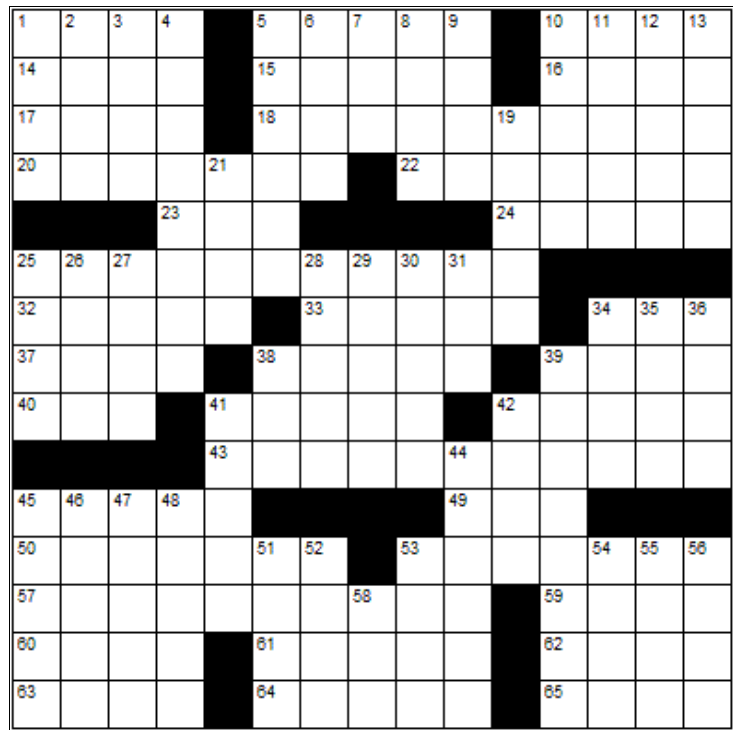
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15. A red fluorescent dye
16. Send forth
17. A Freudian stage
18. Totally
20. Vixen
22. Hypodermic
23. L
24. Donkeys
25. Class chums
32. Held on tightly
33. Japanese cartoon art
34. Beer
37. Not yours
38. Inscribed pillar
39. Make unclear
40. Damp
41. Villain
42. Communion table
43. Self-restraining
45. A long-legged S. American bird
49. Dawn goddess
50. Windfall
53. Detective (slang)
57. Noble
59. Greek cheese
60. Actors in a show
61. Give a speech
62. Relating to urine
63. Beers
64. Waste conduit
65. Lake (Scottish)

**DOWN**

1. Ho-hum
2. Connects two points
3. By mouth
4. Square-rigged sailing ships
5. Summon to return
6. Owl sound
7. Belief
8. Bites
9. Unique
10. Anagram of "Smite"
11. Portents
12. Cause to leak
13. Infections of the eye
19. Delete
21. Blockage
25. Flat-bottomed boat
26. Hint
27. Offended
28. Married partners
29. Concerning (archaic)
30. Diacritical mark
31. An uncle
34. Countertenor
35. Hawaiian feast
36. Makes a mistake
38. Bro or sis
39. Happy
41. Lose consciousness
42. "Smallest" particle
44. Spay
45. Hemp
46. Small goat antelope
47. Licoricelike flavor
48. Sail supports
51. Animal menageries
52. Unit of land
53. Way in
54. Protagonist
55. Ear-related
56. Every single one
58. Uncooked

DECEMBER CROSSWORD



December Word Search



beset
brain
bring
candy
domesticated
dreams
early

escape
feeling
feline
glide
headache
imagination
inspiration

interrupt
learn
magic
melt
nard
narrow
never

notify
office
period
pride
rash
reed
resist

sunny
sweet
think
toad
toward
world



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4	3	7	1	8	5	9	2	6
1	9	8	3	2	6	5	4	7
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VENETIAN PARK ESTATES, Inc. - "STANDING" ADVISORY COMMITTEES

Presently, the Board of Directors at Venetian Park Estates, Inc. (VPE) is supported in their decision-making process by twelve (12) "Standing" Advisory Committees. An advisory committee is a collection of Cooperative Members who voluntarily contribute their knowledge/skills in areas which augment the knowledge and skills of the VPE BOD. Committee members offer insights and recommendations for action to the board when called upon. The advisory committee does not have formal authority to govern the organization, that is, the advisory committee cannot issue directives which must be followed. Rather, the advisory committee serves to make recommendations and/or provide key information and materials to the BODs. The advisory committee plays an important public relations role as well as fresh perspective on programmatic issues. A properly composed and structured advisory committee can be a tremendous complement to the effectiveness of the BODs as it works to carry out a specific initiative. The Chairperson of each is asked to provide a committee report at each of the regular Board meetings. Advisory committees need a sufficient range of expertise to accomplish the Board's mission.

Note: Of the 12 committees advising the Board, only three (3) have been given authority by the Board since 2014 to make decisions prior to a Board Meeting because of the nature of the work being considered. The Board then renders an "official" vote "retroactively" at the next regularly scheduled meeting to modify or confirm and approve the decisions made by these committees "for the record".

1. Architectural Review Committee (ARC): While the Board reserves the right to officially 'approve' an Owner's request to 'remove an existing home and install a new one', it gives authority to this committee to 'oversee' the "Application Process" for the removal and installation of new manufactured homes and structures on a Unit. This process often involves making decisions about the 'process' guiding both Builder and Unit Owner to comply with HUD, State, County and VPE Association's building codes. All actions taken by this committee are then presented to the Board at their next regular meeting.

2. Building & Grounds Committee: While the Board reserves the right to make all decisions regarding maintenance of VPE's buildings and grounds, it has given authority to this committee to make decisions between Board meetings in cases where emergencies arise involving broken water pipes, air conditioning, damage to our Treatment Plant, the Pool area or a Member's Home, which may put the well being of the Members or the Park at risk. All actions taken by this committee are then presented to the Board at their next regular meeting.

3. New Resident Committee: While the Board reserves the right to officially 'approve' any person or persons requesting an "Assignment of Lease" or a "Membership Certificate" prior to purchasing or residing in a home on VPE property, it extends this same authority to this committee between Board meetings. The Committee may approve a request for a Lease and Membership within the Cooperative between Board meetings ONLY when all criteria have been strictly met, including a successful interview and background check. This is done to allow for the legal Closings to take place. If Membership criteria is NOT MET in a satisfactory manner, the committee will immediately advise the Board to take action according to Article 10.6 of our Rules and Regulations.

OFFICE TRIAGE - MANAGER		Tony Turlenko 941-966-4622		CONTACT INFORMATION	
As of: 9/1/2025		MEMBERS		POSITION	PHONE
Activities	Board Liaison	Glenn Orebaugh	Director		937-214-8005
		Brenda Park	Chair		937-726-4658
		Paula Neumeier	Vice Chair - Resident		810-599-8655
		Katie Strand	Secretary - Resident		941-928-1023
		JoEllen Wuerzbarger	Treasurer - Resident		309-235-5398
Architectural	Board Liaison	Jim Wood	Chair - Director		586-484-1408
		John Wuerzbarger	Chair - Secretary		309-373-2040
		Pedro Morales	Resident		864-616-9266
Beautification	Board Liaison	Jim Tomes	Director		204-292-7631
		VACANT	Resident		
Buildings & Grounds <i>(includes Pool / Clubhouse)</i>	Board Liaison	John Wuerzbarger	Chair - Secretary		309-373-2040
		Jim Wood	Director		586-484-1408
		Jeff Edelman	Resident		805-464-9023
		Pedro Morales	Resident		864-616-9266
Enforcement (Rules & Regs)	Board Liaison	Paul Censki	Chair - Director		860-508-9282
		VACANT			
		Tony Turlenko	Office Manager		941-966-4622
Financial	Board Liaison	John Stern	Chair - Treasurer		812-617-0335
		Chuck Baxa	Resident		815-954-2380
		Dennis Callan	Director		325-207-6196
		JoEllen Wuerzbarger	Resident		309-235-5398
		Irv Rubin	Vice President		941-350-5493
Fine Review (No Board Members)	Alternate	Phyllis Buechner	Chair - Resident		941-966-1149
		Pat Moralaes	Resident		941-451-8680
Health & Safety	Board Liaison	Jerry Ralston	Resident		941-780-7419
		Bonnie Ryan	Chair - Resident		860-798-8887
New Residents	Board Liaison	Paul Censki	Director		860-508-9282
		Irv Rubin	Vice President		941-350-5493
Sewer / Waste Water Tx Plant	Board Liaison	Jerry & Ruby Ralston	Residents		941-780-7419
		Dennis Callan	Chair - Director		325-207-6196
		John Wuerzbarger	Secretary		309-373-2040
Welcome (New Residents)**	Board Liaison	Brenda Park	Chair		937-726-4658
		Irv Rubin	Vice President		941-350-5493
		Amy Newman	Resident		419-346-8710
		Paula Neumeier	Vice Chair - Resident		810-599-8655
Web Site	Board Liaison	John Wuerzbarger	Secretary		309-373-2040
		Jeff Swarr	Chair - Resident		717-808-0020
		Jim Tilton	Resident		317-777-1234

**** Office Manager will contact the Chair when new resident(s) registers at the Clubhouse**

Each Advisory Committee has a descriptive CHARTER registered at the Clubhouse and on the VPE Website

<div><div><div>JANUARY 2026</div><div>S M T W T F S</div><div>1 2 3</div><div>4 5 6 7 8 9 10</div><div>11 12 13 14 15 16 17</div><div>18 19 20 21 22 23 24</div><div>25 26 27 28 29 30 31</div></div><div>NOVEMBER</div><div>S M T W T F S</div><div>1</div><div>2 3 4 5 6 7 8</div><div>9 10 11 12 13 14 15</div><div>16 17 18 19 20 21 22</div><div>23 24 25 26 27 28 29</div><div>30</div></div>						
DECEMBER 2025						
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1 Water aerobics 10am Texas Hold'em 1pm Aggravation and Euchre 6:30pm Rummikube 6pm	2 Bingo 7pm (buy cards by 6:30pm)	3 Water aerobics 10am Mexican Dominoes 6:30pm	4 Bible Study 8am Texas Hold'em 4:45pm	5 Water aerobics 10am Texas Hold'em 1pm Hand and Foot 6pm	6 Coffee 9:30am
7 Pearl Harbor Remembrance Day	8 Water aerobics 10am Texas Hold'em 1pm Aggravation and Euchre 6:30pm Rummikube 6pm	9 Bingo 7pm (buy cards by 6:30pm)	10 Water aerobics 10am Activities meeting 6pm Mexican Dominoes 6:30pm	11 Bible Study 8am Texas Hold'em 4:45pm	12 Water aerobics 10am Texas Hold'em 1pm Hand and Foot 6pm	13 Coffee (sponsor) 9:30am Decorate clubhouse after coffee
14	15 Water aerobics 10am Texas Hold'em 1pm Aggravation and Euchre 6:30pm Rummikube 6pm	16 Bingo 7pm (buy cards by 6:30pm)	17 Water aerobics 10am Mexican Dominoes 6:30pm BOD meeting 9:30am Biannual Members meeting 7pm	18 Bible Study 8am Texas Hold'em 4:45pm	19 Water aerobics 10am Texas Hold'em 1pm Hand and Foot 6pm	20 Christmas party 7pm
21 First Day of Winter	22 Water aerobics 10am Texas Hold'em 1pm Aggravation and Euchre 6:30pm Rummikube 6pm	23 Bingo 7pm (buy cards by 6:30pm)	24 Christmas Eve	25 Christmas Dinner TBD Christmas	26 Water aerobics 10am Texas Hold'em 1pm Hand and Foot 6pm	27
28	29 ABC sale donations 9 - noon Water aerobics 10am Texas Hold'em 1pm Aggravation and Euchre 6:30pm Rummikube 6pm	30 Bingo 7pm (buy cards by 6:30pm)	31 Water aerobics 10am Mexican Dominoes 6:30pm New Years Eve Event New Year's Eve			

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