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January 2026



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## **VENETIAN PARK ESTATES**

**8885 S Tamiami Trail**

**Sarasota FL 34238**

Office: (941) 966-4622

website: [www.VPEonline.com](http://www.VPEonline.com)

email address: [vpe8885@gmail.com](mailto:vpe8885@gmail.com)



### **BOARD OFFICERS:**

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

Dennis Callan.....Director  
Paul Censki.....Director  
Jim Wood.....Director  
Jim Tomes.....Director  
Glenn Orebaugh.....Director

### **ACTIVITIES COMMITTEE:**

Brenda Park.....Chair  
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](mailto: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](mailto:newsletter@4communitymedia.com)

### **MEETINGS**

Next Activities meeting Jan. 14. 11am\*  
Board meeting Jan. 21. 9:30am

### **NEWSLETTER SUBMISSIONS**

The deadline for submissions for our **February** Gondolier is **Jan.13th**.

Please submit to Gina Miller at [gmgondolier@gmail.com](mailto:gmgondolier@gmail.com). Send good quality pictures as an attachment to an email.



## JANUARY BIRTHDAYS

- 1 Dawn Stern
- 2 Jan Coble
- 5 Jennifer Walker
- 12 Barbara Stanley
- 13 Pat McGee
- 15 Anne Heller
- 23 Bonnie Ryan
- 24 Barbara Irvine
- 25 Jake Jacobson
- 27 Pedro Morales
- John Stern
- Pat Waites
- 30 Jane Jack



If you would like your birthday and or anniversary included in the Gondolier contact Gina Miller at [gmgondolier@gmail.com](mailto:gmgondolier@gmail.com) or call (260) 246-3551.

## JANUARY ANNIVERSARIES

Reggie and Yvonne Eastman January 2, 1956



## RECIPE OF THE MONTH

By Cheryl Smith

Here is another easy and fast meal idea. Adults as well as children like it.

### **Chicken Tenders Parmesan**

- 1 C. seasoned bread crumbs
- 1 T. Parmesan cheese, grated
- 1 egg, lightly beaten
- 12 chicken tenders, about 1 ½ lbs.
- 4 T. vegetable oil
- 1 C. bottled marinara sauce
- 12 fresh basil leaves
- 1 C. shredded four-cheese blend

Add the Parmesan cheese to the bread crumbs and put into a shallow dish. Put the egg into a shallow bowl. Dip the chicken in egg, shaking off the excess. Now coat the chicken with bread crumbs and place on a plate. Heat 2 T. oil in a nonstick skillet over medium-high heat. Add half the chicken and cook for 3 minutes per side. Remove to a 13x9 inch baking dish. Repeat with the remaining 2 T. oil and remaining chicken. Spoon the marinara sauce over the chicken in the dish. Top each chicken tender with a basil leaf and sprinkle cheese over each one. Bake in a preheated 375 degree oven for 10 minutes or until the cheese melts. I serve it with ziti in marinara sauce and Parmesan cheese.



## EAGLE IN THE PARK

Brenda Park caught this photo of this majestic visitor to our pond.





## **SUNSHINE CORNER**

*By Cassie Dionne*



As we welcome 2026, I'm wishing you all health and contentment in the days to come. Some thoughts I want to share...make sure your neighbors, old and new, know they're appreciated. Look out for each other. This park has a history of bonding together in times of joy and sorrow. That makes living here more than just an address. VPE is unique in the caring for each other that I see every day. Let's continue on, don't let it slip away.

Sally Ruebesam is recovering at home following an injury. She was hospitalized for a brief time at the end of Nov. Sunshine can be sent to her at 2060 Ca D Oro, Sarasota 34238. Ph 860-620-3289. Get well soon Sally!

Jake Jacobsen, 89, of Ca D Oro Dr, died peacefully in his sleep on 12/7/25. He was surrounded by his family in northern MN. A "gentle giant" of a man, Jake and his wife Frankie, (deceased 9 years) retired here in 1997 (nearly 30 years ago), making him part of the old guard. Despite his failing health over the past several years, his family made sure he got to his beloved Sarasota even for a short time in the winter. At 'Jakes Place' you could be sure of a big smile, a cold one and a story. Being a retired truck driver, Jake kept us enthralled with adventures of his time on the road. Jake and Frankie were very involved with activities here at VPE, Jake used to clean up the shuffle courts. His longtime VPE neighbor, Linda Boughton, told me that her husband Ken and Jake are the ones who started the Tuesday Happy Hour at the pool. Rest in peace Jake, you'll be missed. Condolences to his daughter Jaime and the entire



family. Northern address: 10933 Nord Ave S Bloomington, MN 55437. I

Paul Censki came home from the hospital on Dec. 9 after receiving a successful lung transplant. After a very long wait, much worry and a multitude of prayers we are thankful for this

wonderful miracle. Welcome home Paul!

Manny Lejeune was in SMH annex in Venice for a few days and is now back at home. Feel better Manny!



## **BOOK CLUB**

*By Nancy Garrett*

The Book Club will be meeting at 1pm on Thur. January 15th. Future meetings will be on the third Thur. of each month.



## **BINGO!!**

*By Deb Cinco*

Bingo is in full swing, only we need more players. We have been averaging about 12 people. We cannot grow the pots with low attendance. We currently have a Progressive pot for \$115. and a cookie jar at \$230. Our game payout has been between \$6.-\$10. With the specials \$15-\$20. So bring your beverages and come play Bingo on Tuesdays at 6:30. Since we no longer take a snack break we have been getting out around 8:30.

Come join us at Bingo!



## **PUBLIC SERVICE ANNOUNCEMENT**

The board has suggested that if a resident has had a bad experience with a contractor, that you post about it on VPE: Neighbors Helping Neighbors so that it will help your friends avoid the problems that you encountered and we can look elsewhere for help.

## **BIBLE STUDY**

*By Keith Elcock*

All are welcome to meet at the clubhouse every Thursday morning at 8am. to start your day studying the Bible with friends and neighbors.





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## GETTING TO KNOW YOU

by Amy Newman



Nelson and Ronda Sumpter, of Louisa, Kentucky, have been owners at 2153 Palazza since April. Their home was formerly owned by Cal Fladzinski. Since their purchase they have been working hard on the interior of the coach and are beginning to spruce up the exterior in their first official VPE snowbird season. Not new to snowbirding, the Sumpters are familiar with VPE having owned a home at neighboring Royal Palms for three seasons, now the third couple, along with the Jensens and Sittons, who have moved here from Royal Palms this past year.

As mentioned, the couple hails from eastern Kentucky near Ashland in the Appalachians. They knew each other growing up as is common in a small town through friendship, school and church. Additionally, Ronda and Nelson's sister were best friends. The couple started dating in high school and Nelson proposed on the night of Ronda's high school graduation in 1976 and they married that December. Ronda was a stay-at-home mom to their three sons and also took courses in interior decorating.

Nelson graduated from the University of Kentucky majoring in mining engineering and spent almost 40 years in the field of long wall mining where he saw most of the country underground. He worked in senior leadership out of Kentucky and West Virginia with a one-year stint in Houston.



The Sumpters have been married 49 years and live in a lake home in the mountains and enjoy boating on their pontoon. In the winter season they walk and bike and appreciate the proximity to

Siesta Key and other beaches. They enjoy eating out at the broad selection of restaurants, particularly seafood, with Walt's among their favorites. They are looking forward to visits from their sons and families including their three young adult grandchildren. They thank God for being in the center of their marriage and lives by his mercy and grace.

We hope your first season "staking a claim" at VPE is a "blast" with many memories to come on the "surface." Welcome Ronda and Nelson.

## TEXAS HOLD'EM

Everyone is welcome to come play Texas Hold'em on Monday and Friday at 12:45pm. The Monday/Friday version is "no limit". For newbies the Thursday afternoon version (4:45) is a little easier, a good place to start learning Hold'em. Each game is \$5. Come on down and play. There is a sign up sheet in the clubhouse for the Thursday games. Just come on down on Monday and Friday.



A pair of happy guys who together created a "Happy Meal". Reggie Eastman and Jerry Bacon  
Insert pic



# VPE GOLF



## GOLF STARTS

Tuesday, January 6, 2026

VPE GOLF every Tuesday at Village Green Golf Course around 10 am until March 31, 2025

Village Green Golf Course is mainly a par 3 course with a couple of short par 4 holes.

**Ladies** and **gentlemen** sign up below if you are interested in golfing. This helps me know how many tee times I will need. Or if you forget to sign up just show up at the clubhouse at 8:45 am on Tuesday and we'll get everyone on the course. We play 9 holes as a group of mixed abilities.

Cost **\$27 for 9 holes (pay at our clubhouse)** or if you want to play 18 the cost is \$34 (pay the additional \$7 at the golf course). Motorized cart costs \$10 for 9 holes and \$15 for 18 holes.

You don't have to commit to playing every Tuesday, just play when you want. Meet new people from the park, have fun, work on your short game, .... Golfers of all skill levels



## **TIME TO SIGN UP**

Both golf and shuffleboard are starting this week. Shuffleboard starts on Jan. 6. The sign up sheet is in the clubhouse. Pat Morales is in charge so see her if you have questions. Golf starts on Jan. 5. There is info on the clubhouse bulletin board. There is a signup sheet to give Jim Tones, (who is in charge of golf) an idea of how many tee times to make. You don't have to commit to golfing every week and it's open to both men and women of any ability.

**Submission Date for February Gondolier January 13**

**January Activities meeting 1/14 11am\***

**January Board of Directors meeting 9:30 am**

## **RANDOM ACTS OF KINDNESS**

*By Paula Neumeier*

The world can be an unkind place but we see random acts of kindness all around us. If you see an act of kindness, submit it to the Gondolier. Let's promote being kind. Everyone is welcome to submit a random act of kindness.



One random act of kindness was earlier this season when a group of us were working on the ABC Sale. Roy Walker and Sis Gavin went across the street to get some lunch and they called to see if we wanted them to bring us anything. I think that was really so kind. Another one was when I needed to borrow a wheelchair for my dad earlier this summer. Phyllis Corriea had one and even though she was out of the country, she had someone from the park go to her house and get it for us.

## **BEAUTIFICATION COMMITTEE**

The beautification committee will be meeting on Friday, January 16 at 10 am. You are invited to attend to give your opinions on ways to make VPE more attractive. You are also invited to join the committee. Talk to Jim Tones if interested.



## **LADIES LUNCHEON**

The monthly ladies luncheon will be on January 22. We will be going to the Oriental Buffet. Meet at the clubhouse at 11:30. For questions contact Joan Gregory.



## **COMMITTEE POSITIONS**

The Activities committee has announced that they will have openings for new members 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. We are happy to share more information.



## **UPCOMING COFFEE HOURS**

January 10/hosts  
Doug and Anne Heller  
January 24/sponsored by  
Sunshield Agency. They will be providing us with guest speakers.



## **RESURRECTION HOUSE AND ALL FAITH'S FOOD BANK**

Don't forget to be generous with our VPE sponsored charities. Jeff and Betsy Fisher will take your donations to them so that those who are less fortunate won't have to go without needed items. There is a donation box just inside the door of the clubhouse.





## **Town Hall Meeting**

### **New TV & Internet Offerings by Fibernow**



**Wednesday, January 28**

**11:00 A.M. - 1:00 P.M.**

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**Venetian Park Estates ABC Sale  
February 6 & 7, 2026**

**ABC SALE**

**(All Resident Donations / Back Patio Sale / Clubhouse Sale)**

We will be kicking off our VPE Year End Sale on **Thursday January 22** by holding a Leader Mtg. If you have been a Leader in past and are willing to do so again, please reach out to either Paula Neumeier or Brenda Park to get your name on the Volunteer List. During this meeting your Role as a Section Leader will be explained as well as assigning helpers to your area, if you have not formed your own Team.

**All Resident Donations**

Last Monday, **January 26th**

- Hours 9am-Noon
- VPE-Residents brings donations to back patio of clubhouse
- Activity member to sort items for acceptance for park donations
- Golf Cart volunteers needed for larger donated items

**February 3 – Clubhouse preparation**

- **Volunteers needed** – (Noon ~ )
- Remove round tables /set up long tables in clubhouse

**February 4 – Clubhouse staging & Volunteer Sales**

- **Leaders & Volunteers needed** – (8am ~ )
- Remove containers/furniture from Donation Shed and move to clubhouse
- Leaders remove donations from containers and stage on tables in clubhouse
- Volunteers set items of interest aside and make purchases at end of day

**February 5 – Resident Sales  
(10:00am ~ 2p.m.)**

- **Leaders & Volunteers needed** – (9:30am ~ 2p.m.)
- Leaders / Volunteers take sale offers from VPE residents for all donated items

**February 6/7 – Public Sales (8:00am ~ 4p.m.)**

- **Leaders & Volunteers** needed for 2 shift Sales operation
  - (7:45am ~ Noon)
  - (Noon ~ 4:00pm)
- **Leaders & Volunteers**
  - (4:00pm ~ ) Repacking donations into containers and move into Storage Shed

**Communication Methods in the future:**

- Gondolier, VPE Website, Email, VPE Neighbors Helping Neighbors, Chalkboards, FB Marketplace, Craigslist and local advertising

**Questions or want to Volunteer?**

- Contact Brenda Park (937-726-4658) or Paula Neumeier (941-599-3691)





## **BAD DAD JOKES**

Q. What is the most drinkable fruit?

A. The "straw" berry.

Q. Why do bees have sticky hair?

A. Because they use a honeycomb.

Q. What do you call a belt that is made out of watches?

A. A "waist" of time.

Q. Why did the belt go to jail?

A. Because it held up a pair of pants.

I took the shell off my racing snail thinking it would make him faster.

Now he's just a little sluggish.



## **JANUARY**

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Year*

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5	3	1	2	6	8	9	4	7
6	9	2	4	7	5	8	1	3

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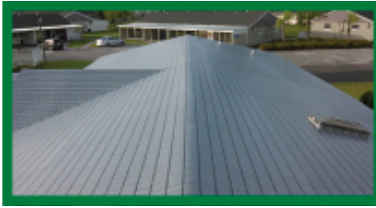
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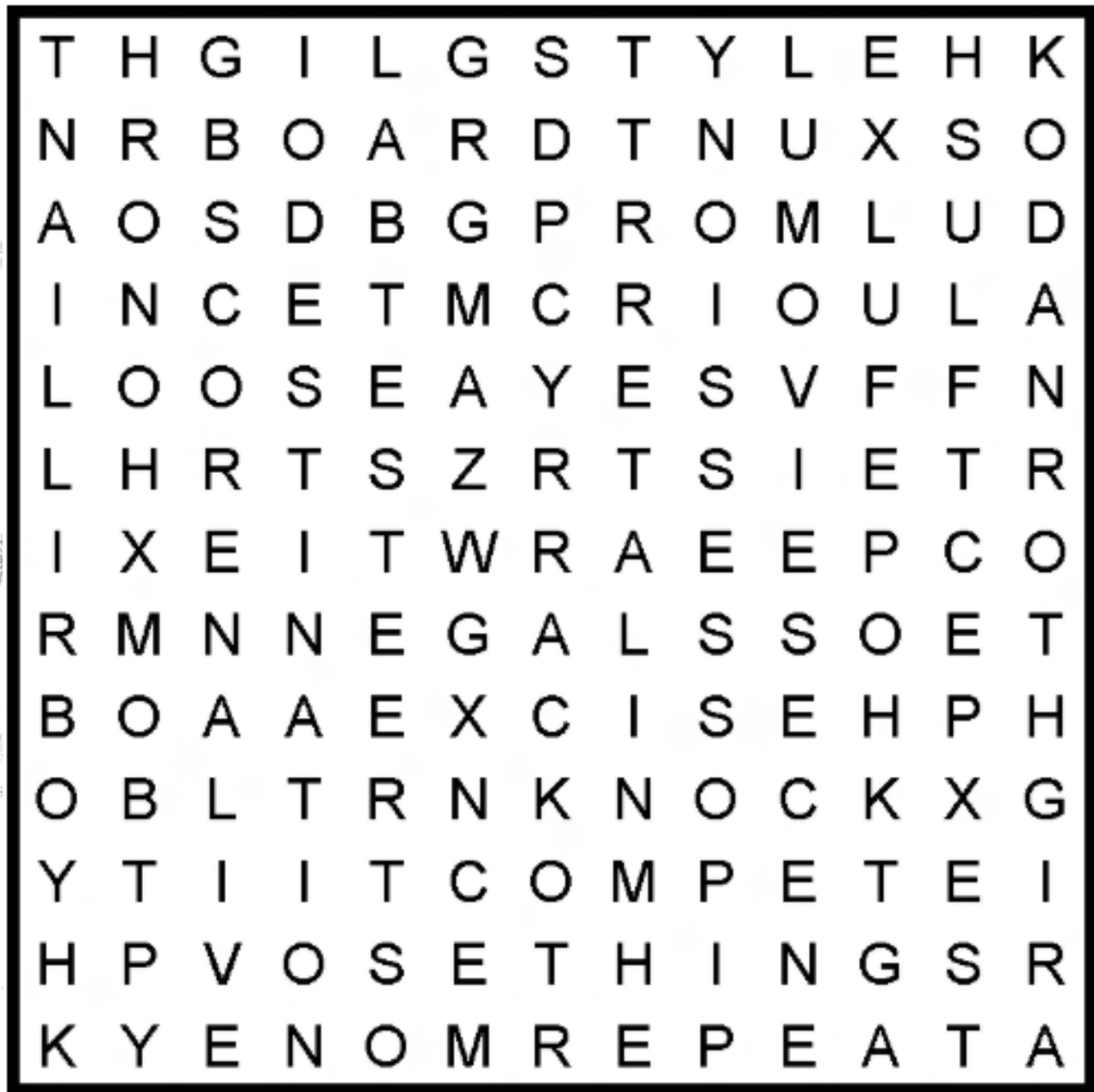
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**VENETIAN PARK ESTATES, Inc. - "STANDING" ADVISORY COMMITTEES**

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
<b>Activities</b>	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
<b>Architectural</b>	Board Liaison	Jim Wood	Chair - Director		586-484-1408
		John Wuerzbarger	Chair - Secretary		309-373-2040
		Pedro Morales	Resident		864-616-9266
<b>Beautification</b>	Board Liaison	Jim Tomes	Director		204-292-7631
		VACANT	Resident		
<b>Buildings &amp; Grounds</b> <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
<b>Enforcement (Rules &amp; Regs)</b>	Board Liaison	Paul Censki	Chair - Director		860-508-9282
		VACANT			
		Tony Turlenko	Office Manager		941-966-4622
<b>Financial</b>	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
<b>Fine Review</b> <b>(No Board Members)</b>	Alternate	Phyllis Buechner	Chair - Resident		941-966-1149
		Pat Moralaes	Resident		941-451-8680
<b>Health &amp; Safety</b>	Board Liaison	Jerry Ralston	Resident		941-780-7419
		Bonnie Ryan	Chair - Resident		860-798-8887
<b>New Residents</b>	Board Liaison	Paul Censki	Director		860-508-9282
		Irv Rubin	Vice President		941-350-5493
<b>Sewer / Waste Water Tx Plant</b>	Board Liaison	Jerry & Ruby Ralston	Residents		941-780-7419
		Dennis Callan	Chair - Director		325-207-6196
		John Wuerzbarger	Secretary		309-373-2040
<b>Welcome (New Residents)**</b>	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
<b>Web Site</b>	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



# JANUARY 2026

DECEMBER 2025  
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

FEBRUARY  
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

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1 Bible Study 8 am Shuffleboard 9:30 am Texas Hold'em 4:45 pm	2 Water aerobics 10 am Texas Hold'em 1 pm Hand and Foot 6 pm	3
4	5 Shuffleboard 9:30 am Water aerobics 10 am Texas Hold'em 1 pm Aggravation and Rummikube 6pm Euchre 6:30 pm	6 Golf (sign in 8:45 am) (buy cards by 6:30 pm) Bingo 7pm  <b>Epiphany</b>	7 Shuffleboard 9:30 am Water aerobics 10 am Mexican Train Dominoes 6:30 pm	8 Bible Study 8 am Shuffleboard 9:30 am Texas Hold'em 4:45 pm  <b>New Year's Day</b>	9 Water aerobics 10 am Texas Hold'em 1 pm Hand and Foot 6 pm	10 Coffee 9:30am
11	12 Shuffleboard 9:30 am Water aerobics 10 am Texas Hold'em 1 pm Aggravation and Rummikube 6pm Euchre 6:30 pm	13 Golf (sign in 8:45 am) (buy cards by 6:30 pm) Bingo 7pm	14 Shuffleboard 9:30 am Water aerobics 10 am Activities meeting 11am* (note changed time) Mexican Train Dominoes 6:30 pm	15 Bible Study 8 am Shuffleboard 9:30 am Book Club 1 pm Texas Hold'em 4:45 pm	16 Beautification meeting 10 am Water aerobics 10 am Texas Hold'em 1 pm Hand and Foot 6 pm	17 Welcome Back Party w/music
18	19 Shuffleboard 9:30 am Water aerobics 10 am Texas Hold'em 1 pm Rummikube 6pm Aggravation and Euchre 6:30 pm  <b>Martin Luther King Jr.'s Birthday</b>	20 Golf (sign in 8:45 am) (buy cards by 6:30 pm) Bingo 7pm	21 BOD meeting 9:30 am Shuffleboard 9:30 am Water aerobics 10 am Mexican Train Dominoes 6:30 pm	22 Bible Study 8 am Shuffleboard 9:30 am Ladies luncheon (meet at 11:30) Texas Hold'em 4:45 pm	23 Water aerobics 10 am Texas Hold'em 1 pm Hand and Foot 6 pm	24 Coffee/sponsor Sunshield Agency 9:30 am
25	26 ABC Sale (Resident donations only) 9 am-noon Shuffleboard 9:30 am Water aerobics 10 am Texas Hold'em 1 pm Aggravation and Rummikube 6pm Euchre 6:30 pm	27 Golf (sign in 8:45 am) (buy cards by 6:30 pm) Bingo 7pm	28 Shuffleboard 9:30 am Water aerobics 10 am Mexican Train Dominoes 6:30 pm	29 Bible Study 8 am Shuffleboard 9:30 am Texas Hold'em 4:45 pm	30 Water aerobics 10 am Texas Hold'em 1 pm Hand and Foot 6 pm	31 Ron Dropik (Music at pool event)



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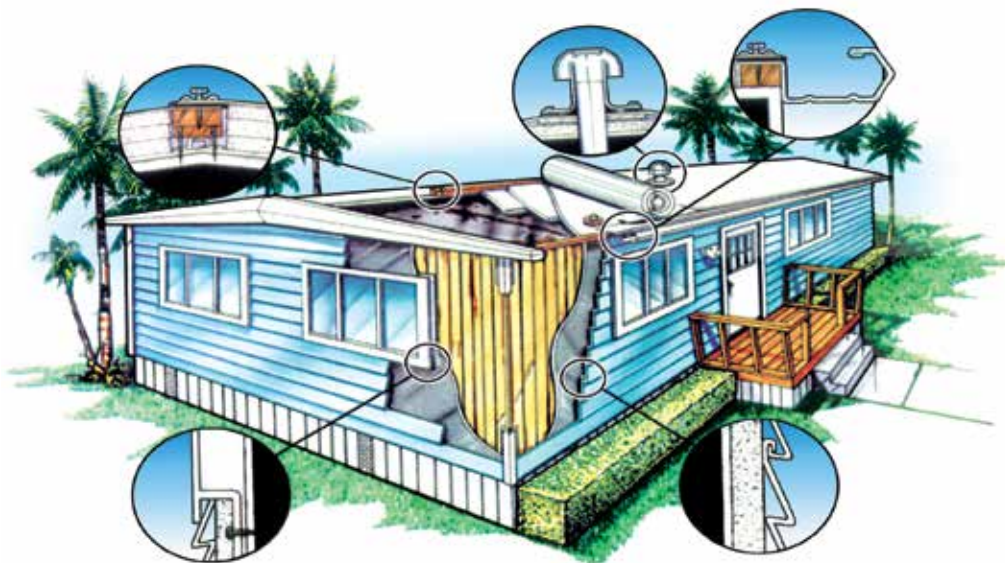


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