

Meet Your New Neighbors

By Cindy Shaw

Residents of Florida, but new to the area, are **MICHAEL and TRACIE ESGRO** who live at 1316 28th Ave. Dr. W. They currently reside in St. Cloud, FL and will be part-time residents in Tropic Isles. The Esgrös have one son, Joseph. Michael currently works at Walt Disney World as a technician in Epcot. Tracie works for the Orange County Sheriff's Office.



Tracie and Michael enjoy the water—boating and fishing. They also like to work out and spend time outside. They share their home with Rocky—a 12-year old piebald Dachshund and Cici, an 8-year old teacup Chihuahua.

In looking for property on the Internet, they came upon a place for sale in Tropic Isles and decided to buy the lot and put in a new home there. Please give a warm welcome to Tracie, Michael, Joseph, Rocky, and Cici.

These faces may look familiar because **JIM and CHRIS GORTON** have been wintering in Tropic Isles for the past 3 years with their RV and have now become full-time residents at 2902 13th St. W. They met Chuck and Linda Sugg on a cruise, came down to visit them in Tropic Isles after the Suggs purchased a home here, and then began looking for a place for themselves. They purchased the empty lot on 13th St. W. and installed a new home. Jim and Chris are originally from Uncasville, CT where Jim retired from General Dynamics in the Electric Boat (Submarine) Division where he was the Nuclear Test Supervisor for 35 years. (General Dynamics is the only private contractor to build nuclear submarines for the Navy). Chris worked for a travel agency in CT for 20 years. They have one daughter Christy (44) and one grand-dog, Sam, a Carolina Dingo.



Both Chris and Jim are avid RVers, boaters, and love to fish. They enjoy time at the beach, hiking, traveling, outdoor sports, and are learning the game of shuffleboard. Please welcome Jim and Chris to Tropic Isles!

You may recognize these familiar faces. They are **STAN and DONNA ROCKAFELLOW** at 111 Bahia Dr. They will be our new, part-time neighbors from Eliot, Maine. Over the past few years, Stan and Donna visited their friends in the park. They also stayed in the RV section for 3 years and rented on Bimini 2 years ago. While they were here, they began looking at houses for sale and purchased their current home last March.



The Rockafellos have 5 children—Kay, Kurt, Beth, Rebecca and Nathan. Stan and Donna also have 10 grandchildren in Michigan, Maine, and New Hampshire and 5 great grandkids.

Stan enjoys fishing, deer hunting, and loves the outdoors. Donna spends her time gardening, arranging flowers, doing crafts, quilting, and making things look beautiful. They both enjoy motorcycling. Stan is a semi-retired conservative Baptist pastor and Donna was a homemaker. Stan and Donna are looking to have Bible Studies in their home. All are welcome. (Contact Stan or Donna if you are interested.) Please welcome Stan and Donna to Tropic Isles.

Home of the Month



January's "Home of the Month" belongs to **Linda Rogers** at 182 Bimini Dr. A touch of bright color adds "pop" to this well-cared for home. Congratulations!

~~ Thought For The Day ~~

If you weren't happy with yesterday, try something different today.

Here's What's Happening!



On November 8, NHN organized a plant sale for residents to help brighten up their gardens and improve "curb appeal".

Bob Shaw discovered this recent hatch of gecko eggs inside this nail box in his shed. Where did all the geckos go?



Two new model homes were installed at



68 Edessa Dr.

and



139 Capri Dr.



The unofficial TI "Camping Group" consisting of neighbors Fred and Dori Bloye, Bob and Cindy Shaw, and Mark and Jan Krueger took another camping adventure to Ft. Myers for 3 days along the Caloosahatchee River.



Coffee 'n Conversation was attended by many residents who came to hear Police Chief, Scott Tyler, speak on the topics of Common Safety Precautions, Skimmers, and Scams. His talk was very informative and ended with a question and answer period.



The Marina Open House was well-attended. Residents came to check out the Marina improvements and wish Jerry Quesenberry a happy retirement. Hot dogs were enjoyed by all!



The TI Shuffle Club has recently joined the North Shore Shuffle League. Here are the Shufflers from TI at Tideview Park.

Tropic Isles

1503 28th Ave. West, Palmetto, Florida 34221

Employees are on duty from 8:00AM to 4:30PM Monday thru Friday. Regular office business is conducted between 9:00 AM and 4:00 PM only. Other than office hours, your call will be forwarded to an (live) answering service. You may call the regular office phone number at any hour of the day or night for urgent matters. For emergencies, dial 911.

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Tropic Isles Co-op

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TROPIC ISLES BREEZES

Published monthly and delivered to all residents

Editor: Cindy Shaw

Contributing Writer: Sharon Schumann

Send photos and articles to Tlbreezes1@aol.com

Deadline the 10th of each month.

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is our winter water wonderland!

Letter from the Editor

As we come to the end of another year, it's time to reflect on the year that lies ahead. My year, as always, was filled with excitement, challenges, struggles, and love.

I expect most of you, upon reflection, would say the same thing about your year. Life is a struggle. It's difficult at times, but it is also exciting. Good things happen, and bad things happen. Hopefully, more good than bad has happened to you in the past year. What I also experienced this year is a lot of uncertainty. Uncertainty, is probably the hardest thing to bear. It requires patience, which I'm not very good at. Not knowing how things will turn out, good or bad, is stressful. We can't know what the future will bring. We can only hope and do our best. That is why so many people think of this time of year as being about hope and renewal. None of us had a perfect year. But maybe, next year will be better.

We ring in the New Year with celebration and it's worth celebrating because we survived another year. We sing "Auld Lang Syne" because it's important to us to remember those who were dear to us who didn't make it to the new year. Life is fragile. Those of us who are still here are lucky, so we express hope, we make resolutions, we make promises to ourselves, and we make plans for the future. But hope isn't enough. If we want things to be better next year we must take practical steps to make it so. There are things that we didn't do last year. We could have tried harder. Whatever it is that we didn't do that we should have done—now is the time to try again. This is especially true if we had a good year. It is very easy to get lazy and take things for granted when things are going well.

May the next year find your waistline slimmer, your wallet fatter, your cholesterol lower, and your tolerance level higher. Instead of "giving up something" for your New Year's resolution, try changing your behavior in a positive way and say, "This is what I'll do differently to make my life better." HAPPY NEW YEAR 2018!



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From The Tropic Isles' Office

SIGNING IN AND OUT-- Please follow our policy of checking IN and OUT at the Office when returning to the park or leaving for an extended absence. To check in/out, all you need to do is sign the sheet on the Office counter to let us know. We will try to make the appropriate change of address in our computer system when necessary. Be sure to sign in when you return.

OFFICE HOURS—The Office switched to Seasonal Office Hours as of October 1, 2017. The Seasonal Office hours occur **October-April and are 9:00 AM to 4:00 PM**. The Office will not close for lunch.

DOOR CODES—Door codes were changed for the season on October 1. Contact the Office for the new codes. Doors at the Yacht Club and Auditorium will be unlocked during office hours, but you will need to use your code after hours and on weekends.

AFTER HOURS EMERGENCIES—If you see something that requires immediate attention, (i.e. broken water pipe, red light on the lift station flashing, sewer or electrical issues, etc.) and can be considered an emergency, but it is after hours that the Tropic Isles' Office is open, please call **941-721-8888**. This is the **Tropic Isles Answering Service** for after-hours emergencies. You will be connected to an actual person who will place a call to the Manager or Maintenance person on-call to handle the situation.

INFORMATION FORMS—Please make sure that you have completed an Information Form with all your important information. The Office needs your most current mailing address so that official notices can be mailed to the location you designate when you sign in/out. Please update your Information Form annually if you have changes in your information since last year, so that we can find you if there is an emergency at your home here. It is every resident's responsibility to do so.

OFFICE EMAILS—To contact the office via email go to www.info@tropicisles.net. Make sure the office has your email to be put on the "Email Blast" list to receive important email notices and reminders.

NOTARY SERVICE—If you need a Notary, Barbara Welch and Jodie Lawman in the Office are licensed notaries. The charge for Notary service is \$5.00.

TROPIC ISLES FACEBOOK PAGE—Tropic Isles has their own Facebook page. Sign onto Facebook and search for "Tropic Isles Community and Yacht Club". Then hit "Like" and you will get all the updates. Sharon Schumann is the webmaster and you can contact her to post your pictures, fun activities, and interesting events you want to promote.



JANUARY

- 2.....Sailboat racing begins
- 2.....Tropicaires' rehearsals begin
- 3.....Golf Group begins
- 5.....Rosary Group begins
- 9.....Book Club begins
- 11.....Manager's Coffee
- 11.....Movie Night
- 13.....Boosters Dance-Robert & Wolfe
- 15.....Coffee 'n Conversation/Fire Dept.
- 18.....Newcomer's Shuffleboard Event
- 18.....Soup Supper
- 20.....**Jimmy Travis, comedy/music**
- 24.....Craft Class
- 27-February 3Cruise
- 29.....Convertible Ride

Tropic Isles Emergency Email System ("Email Blast")

For many years, the Co-op has struggled with a quick way to communicate to all Tropic Isles residents. We are pleased to announce that a system has been put into place that will allow the Office and Secretary of the Co-op Board, the ability to instantly communicate with ALL Tropic Isles' residents—Co-op, TIPOA, and TIHOA, separately or all together.

This is how it works:

A database of all known email addresses taken out of the Tropic Isles' directory has been assembled. We have the ability to send messages to all or any segment of Tropic Isles separately. We are using a software program called "Chimp Mail". This program DOES NOT share email addresses with everyone. It DOES NOT allow the recipient to "Reply to all", and it also gives the residents the option to unsubscribe, if desired. Your privacy will thus be protected.

What should you do?

Check the directory to be certain your email address is correct. If a correction is needed or your email address is not in the directory, please see Barb or Jody in the Office if you want to be included on the emergency email list.

We understand that not everyone has an email address, so all messages will also be posted on the park bulletin boards inside the Yacht Club and Auditorium. If you know of a neighbor or friend who does not use email, please try to help keep them informed. This system will NOT replace notices that are legally required to be sent to all residents, but rather used as a quick method to keep as many residents as possible, updated on situations as they occur in the park that may affect them. This system came in very handy during Hurricane Irma, so make sure you get on the list for important information as it happens.

NEW YEAR
Greetings



Cook's Corner

BREAKFAST LASAGNA

(Serves 8 to 12)

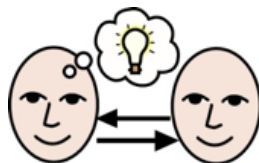


Ingredients:

- 1 bag (30-oz.) frozen Southern Style hash browns or a 32-oz. bag shredded hash browns, thawed
- 3 cups shredded sharp cheddar cheese, divided
- 3 T butter
- 12 oz. thinly sliced Canadian bacon
- 1 ½ cups chopped onion
- 1 large green bell pepper, chopped
- 1 large yellow or red bell pepper, chopped
- 8 oz. sliced mushrooms
- 2 medium tomatoes, sliced (optional)
- 12 large eggs
- 2 ½ cups milk
- ½ tsp. salt
- ¼ tsp. pepper

Directions:

1. Spread the thawed hash browns in a deep 11x14 inch lasagna or roasting pan. Season generously with salt and pepper.
2. Sprinkle half of the shredded cheese over the potato layer.
3. In a large skillet over medium heat, lightly brown the Canadian bacon slices in 2 T of butter. Set aside.
4. In the same skillet, sauté the onion, peppers, and mushrooms until tender. Add another tablespoon of butter.
5. Spoon the sautéed vegetable mixture over the cheese layer.
6. Top with sliced tomatoes, if using.
7. Arrange the slices of Canadian bacon over the vegetables, overlapping if necessary.
8. Top with remaining cheese.
9. In a medium bowl, whisk the eggs with ½ tsp. salt, ¼ tsp. pepper, and the milk. Pour over the casserole. Using a spatula, gently press all over to soak the layers with the egg mixture. Let stand for 15 minutes.
10. Heat oven to 350 degrees and bake for 35-45 minutes until set. Cool slightly before slicing.



Idea To Ponder....

The early bird gets the worm, but the second mouse gets the cheese.

---Willie Nelson



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Laughter Is The Best Medicine!

Two Blondes with Hammers...

Carol and Donna were doing some carpentry work on a Habitat for Humanity house. Carol, who was nailing down house siding, would reach into her nail pouch, pull out a nail, and either toss it over her shoulder or nail it in. 

Donna, figuring this was worth looking into, asked, 'Why are you throwing those nails away?' Carol explained, "When I pull a nail out of my pouch, about half of them have the head on the wrong end and I throw them away."

Donna got completely upset and yelled, "Those nails aren't defective! They're for the other side of the house!"

Did you hear about the two blondes who froze to death in a drive-in movie? They had gone to see 'Closed for the Winter.'

A blonde was shopping at Target and came across a shiny silver thermos. She was quite fascinated by it, so she picked it up and took it to the clerk to ask what it was.

The clerk said, "Why, that's a thermos. It keeps hot things hot and cold things cold."

"Wow," said the blonde, "That's amazing. I'm going to buy it!" So, she bought the thermos and took it to work the next day.

Her boss saw it on her desk. "What's that," he asked? "Why, that's a thermos. It keeps hot things hot and cold things cold," she replied.

Her boss inquired, "What do you have in it?" The blond replied, "Two popsicles and some coffee."

Two very active seniors Jacob (age 92) and Mary (age 89), living in The Villages, are all excited about their decision to get married. They go for a stroll to discuss the wedding, and on the way, they pass a drugstore. Jacob suggests they go in. Jacob addresses the man behind the counter: "Are you the owner?"

The pharmacist answers, "Yes."
Jacob: "We're about to get married. Do you sell heart medication?"

Pharmacist: "Of course we do."
Jacob: "How about medicine for circulation?"

Pharmacist: "All kinds."
Jacob: "Medicine for rheumatism?"

Pharmacist: "Definitely."
Jacob: "How about suppositories and medicine for impotence?"

Pharmacist: "You bet!"
Jacob: "Medicine for memory problems, arthritis, and Alzheimer's?"

Pharmacist: "Yes, a large variety. The works."
Jacob: "What about vitamins, sleeping pills, Geritol, antidotes for Parkinson's disease?"

Pharmacist: "Absolutely."
Jacob: "Everything for heartburn and indigestion?"

Pharmacist: "We sure do."
Jacob: "You sell wheelchairs and walkers and canes?"

Pharmacist: "All speeds and sizes."
Jacob: "Adult diapers?"

Pharmacist: "Sure, how can I help you?"
Jacob: "We'd like to use this store as our Bridal Registry."



- An outdated law in Paraguay states that dueling is legal, if both parties are registered blood donors.
- Elephants are the only animals that can't jump.
- February is the only month capable of not having a full moon, but it usually does. What February is NOT capable of is having two full moons in the month.
- If Barbie were life-size, her measurements would be 39-23-33. She would stand 7' 2" tall, and have a neck twice the length of a normal human's neck.
- If the population of China walked past you in single file, the line would never end because of the rate of reproduction.
- No accepted standard word in the English language rhymes with "month".
- On average, people fear spiders more than they do death.
- Large doses of nutmeg are poisonous if injected intravenously and particularly lethal if you don't grind it up properly first. It can be deadly to dogs.

Photo Directories Are Available!

If you had your picture taken last spring and have not yet received your Tropic Isles' Photo Directory, please call Sharon Schumann at 941-722-9305 to make arrangements to pick it up.



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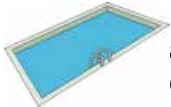


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Please Wear Your Pool/Hot Tub Bracelets ("Passes")



It is **IMPORTANT** for **Residents and Guests** to **wear** their bracelets **at the pool/hot tub** to avoid any problems. The white glow-in-the-dark bracelets and the newer blue/green/yellow multicolored bracelets are both acceptable, but they must have the words "POOL PASS" engraved on them. **You will be asked to get your pool bracelets if you come to the pool without them.** If you have not yet received your pool bracelets, please check with the Office.

Section VII of our 2014 Rules and Regulations regarding the Pool and Hot Tub/Spa states:

7.2 Pool and Hot Tub/Spa Passes

All Residents and their Guests must display Tropic Isles "pool passes" when using the pool and hot tub/spa facilities. Each Resident will be issued 1 "pool pass". Temporary "pool passes" are available at the office for Guests. Residents must sign for the pool passes for their Guests. A proper ID is required to obtain pool passes. A fee may be charged for the replacement of lost "pool passes".

Please Remember To Shower Before Entering The Pool



Our 2014 Rules and Regulations state:

7.5 Shower

The State of Florida requires all persons using a public pool or hot tub/spa to shower immediately before entering the pool and hot tub/spa. (FS 64E- 9.008) No shampoo or soaps are permitted in the pool or hot tub/spa deck area.

Our shower at the pool is tucked behind the palm tree on the west side of the pool near the boat docks. (It is disguised as a palm tree and after a minute or so gives you a nice warm shower to remove any soaps or oils on your skin which keeps the water in the pool and spa cleaner.)

Pool Etiquette

If you enjoy spending time at the pool, please remember these few simple things:



- **ALWAYS remember to wear your pool bracelet at the pool.**
- **ALWAYS shower before entering the pool.**
- If you enjoy a beverage on the pool deck, please dispose of your cans or plastic bottles in the receptacles provided for you. Do not put them in the ashtrays. Remember **NO GLASS CONTAINERS** at the pool.
- If you are a smoker, please smoke in the designated "SMOKE BREAK AREA". Please put out your cigarettes in the ashtrays provided for you and do not use the deck area around the pool as your ashtray.
- Please remember to put down the pool umbrellas when you are through using them and return your noodles to their proper location.
- Use a towel to protect the chairs from sun-screen.
- **Children's hours at the pool are 11 AM to 1 PM and 4 PM to 6 PM.**

We all want to have an enjoyable experience down at the pool, so let's try and work together to make it that way!

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Tropical Red Hatters



Thank you to all who donated to the veterans. We know it warms their hearts and yours too. The Tropical Red Hatters will have their monthly meeting Wednesday, January 3 at 10 AM in the YC. Our annual dues of \$3 will be due at that time. We will be planning our welcome for the Newcomers Party. Game Day will be Monday, January 11 at 11:00 AM. You are welcome to bring a brown bag lunch.

SAVETHE DATE: MARCH 11, SUNDAY afternoon, for the ANNUAL ICE CREAM SOCIAL. Our January Red Hat Birthday is Gail Sherman on January 25th. Happy birthday, Gail!

Bingo News



We are inviting all residents - new, returning, and full time, to come to Bingo every Tuesday evening in the Auditorium. We start playing at 7 PM sharp so be sure and come a few minutes early. The cost for a fun evening can be as low as \$3-5. Our attendance and payouts are increasing as more people return and come to play. Come join your friends and neighbors.

Elaine & Joy



Calling All Fishermen and Women!

Would you like to share a picture of your "catch of the day" from the nearby waters around Tropic Isles? Send it to tibreezes1@aol.com and it can be published in the next issue of the Breezes. Please include a sentence or two about where it was caught, what species it is, and its size. Any fish pictures will do—large or small—fish, that is!

Activity Meeting

The January Activity Meeting will be at 10 AM in the Yacht Club on January 10. All Activities should send a representative.

Sharon Schumann Activity President

New Resident Shareholders and Homeowners

- If you are a NEW resident to Tropic Isles and have not yet received a copy of the **2014 Rules and Regulations**, please contact the Office to receive a copy. As a resident of Tropic Isles, you are responsible for reading and following the Rules and Regulations of the park. Copies can also be printed from the website at www.tropicisles.net.
- Please make sure to complete an **Information Form** from the Office that includes your important information, emergency contacts, and contact person who maintains your yard while you are away. A copy of that form can be picked up in the Office. This information is also used to update the new Resident Phone Directory each year. New residents of TIPOA can contact Elaine Faulkner with their information at 723-9591.
- **TO ALL RESIDENTS: YOU DO NOT NEED TO FILL OUT AN INFORMATION FORM EVERY YEAR UNLESS YOUR INFORMATION (ADDRESS, EMAIL, PHONE) HAS CHANGED.**

Breezes Delivery

As you may know, our Tropic Isles' Newsletter, The Breezes, is delivered by our wonderful volunteer Block Captains. It is very hard for these volunteers to know where to place your newsletter if you do not have a designated spot by your door that can hold your paper. The Block Captains cannot put the newsletters into your USPS mailbox and we hate to leave them on the stairs or near your door on windy days as the papers end up all over the park. Please have a spot that is easy to figure out for your volunteer to leave your newsletter. **They can place them on your doorstep if you have a weighed object there to hold the newsletter in place.** If you don't have a secure spot, they will return your copy to the Office and you can pick it up there at your convenience. Please don't forget to thank your Block Captain for the service they do. If you don't know who your Block Captain is, the name of your Block Captain can be found in the Resident Directory. Thanks!

Cindy Shaw, Editor



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Senior or Military Discounts

Corrections For The Directory

Please make these corrections or additions to your directory. If you have a change to submit, please send it to tibreezes1@aol.com or call Cindy Shaw at 941-722-4037. Interim changes will be posted in the newsletters until the next directory is published in the Fall of 2018.

Community Listings:

- Baker, Pat & Ed** new cell phone 607-425-8693
Belford, Mel & Pat new northern phone 902-404-1422
Brady, Morris & Carolyn new cell phone 423-415-5945
 and new northern address 312 Sub Rd. Cosby, TN 37722,
 new northern phone 423-487-5800
Gallagher, Larry & Shelia remove 740-246-4234,
 add 740-258-4960(L), 740-258-4956(S)
 new northern address 11595 Twp. Rd. 390-B,
 Thornville, OH 43076 740-246-4234
Kuruzovich, George & Louise . . new home phone 989-640-3717
 new northern address 302 White Deer Tr., Prudenville, MI
 northern phones 941-773-6309, 989-640-3717
Olmstead, Carl & Sharon new land line 212-6745
Ortiz, Luis & Teresa new home phone 301-4811,
 cell phone 509-302-3776
Potter-Miccoly, Connie add 1306 28th Ave. Dr. W.
 413-687-8419
Schipper, Jim & Elaine new northern address
 710 N.E. Cambridge Ct., Ankeny, IA 50021
Smith, Nelson & Carla cell phones 941-447-1045(N),
 941-524-2011(C)
Spangler, Dave & Trish remove 941-981-3620.
 Add cell numbers 310-251-0059 (T) and 310-941-3371(D).
Van Wicklen, Rich new number 941-212-6778
Warren, Jean new northern phone 269-806-4194
White, Gary & Pam remove 981-3795
Wilson, Darrell & Sharon . . . 126 Bahia Dr., 264-3277, 266-5151

Email changes:

- Barnett, Dori** dori.barnett39@gmail.com
Brady, Morris & Carolyn brady312@comcast.net
Davies, Terence & Jacqueline wales1944@yahoo.ca
Gallagher, Larry & Shelia [largp68@aim.com\(L\)](mailto:largp68@aim.com(L)),
[sheliagallagher28@gmail.com\(S\)](mailto:sheliagallagher28@gmail.com(S))
Kuruzovich, George & Louise 1buehrly@hotmail.com
Phillips, Debbie & Earl debmilphil@yahoo.com
Smith, Nelson & Carla ncsmith@tampabay.rr.com
Swartz, Roy & Diane [dianedelrio77@gmail.com\(D\)](mailto:dianedelrio77@gmail.com(D))
Wilson, Darrell & Sharon sharwilson33@gmail.com
Wyss, Wayne & Jane wysswj@hotmail.com



NEW! Mahjong—

Additional Time and Day

Mahjong will continue to meet every Sunday from 4-6 PM and every Thursday from 6-8 PM in the Pretty Room of the Yacht Club. Come to learn the game and join us for the fun! Contact Irene Casey with questions at 941-417-7198.

Tropic Isles' 2017-2018

Resident Directories

The new 2017-2018 phone directories were distributed in November to residents, one per household, by the Block Captains if you are listed in the directory this year. If your residence looked unoccupied, it was returned to the Office if you belong to the Co-op. You may pick up your copy from the Office at your convenience when you return to TI and sign in. If you are a Property Owner, contact your Block Captain.

Once you receive your new directory, please check to see if your information is listed correctly. If you find an error in the directory, please contact me by calling 941-722-4037 or send an email to tibreezes1@aol.com with your correction. I will be happy to print the correction in next month's issue of the Breezes in the interim and make the change in the directory for next year. If you are a Property Owner (TIPOA), please check the new directory for any changes (address, phone, emails). If there is an error or change, please contact Elaine Faulkner at 723-9591 or cfaulkner2@tampabay.rr.com.

Cindy Shaw, Editor

Yoga Classes

Join us on Tuesday and Thursday mornings at 10:00 AM in the Yacht Club for Yoga. The cost is \$4 per class. Extra mats are available.



New Chapter Real Estate



Barbara Curtis
Licensed Real Estate Broker

1507 28th Ave. W., Suite A
Palmetto, Fl. 34221

941-720-2513 (cell)



newchapterrealestate@woh.rr.com

~~Special Thanks~~

Thank you to NHN member, Joanne Miller, for weeding my front planter. It was greatly appreciated.

Bev Crabtree

Having served on the Co-op Board of Directors for ten years, I have come to certain conclusions. Here is one: I realize an individual can be "interesting" and/or "creative" and/or "friendly", but it takes a group of people to portray a sense of "family." We portray a "family" through our Association, through our enjoyment of each other's company, through our delight in sharing food and drink, and through our genuine concern for each other's welfare. Our commitment to Tropic Isles, to the Community, to life-long learning, and to each other clearly brands us as a "family" of Seniors.

Like other families, Tropic Isles occasionally has conflicts. We can deal with those issues. Let us not lose sight of the many, many positives in our family. Consider the multitude of contributions by members which sometimes go unrecognized. We have discussant colleagues, table decorators, art curators, interest group leaders, committee members, greeters, mentors, community volunteers, piano players, interest group presenters, gardeners, handymen, handymen, singers, and on and on and on.

I think it is time to "pat ourselves on the back" and recognize the invaluable contributions we all make. We are more like a family than just an organization. The nuclear family may be declining in the United States, but in Tropic Isles it is strong. We make it stronger every time we volunteer. The "family" aspect of Tropic Isles is evident even to casual out-of-town guests. Thank you for making it happen! Thank you to all the volunteers, past, present, and future. Happy New Year!

Hank A. Vitan, Co-op Board Member

Safety Tip Of The Month

"If you see something, say something" started as a Federal PSA (Public Safety Announcement), regarding possible terrorist activities and movements. This message can be translated to much more than just that. Many property crimes such as burglaries, theft, and criminal mischief can be thwarted by calling in suspicious activity or persons. You know what is normal and what is not in our community and on our streets. Be the eyes and ears of law enforcement. If something is out of the norm, and you are unsure of the situation, contact your police department to check out what is going on. You could be preventing or helping to solve a crime! You can always remain anonymous. Palmetto Police Chief, Scott Tyler, told us at the December Coffee and Conversation, that Tropic Isles has a reputation that the residents who live here "do not call." Let's be more proactive and make those needed calls. Call the Palmetto Police Department at 941-721-2000 if you **see or hear** anything suspicious.



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NEW~~Saturday Morning Coffee Hour~~NEW TIME CHANGE TO 8:30 AM



We are changing the Saturday Coffee Hour start time to 8:30 AM. Many folks have requested this change. Coffee Hour will meet Saturday mornings at 8:30 AM for January, February, and March 2018. It takes many volunteers to run Coffee Hour and many thanks to our neighbors and clubs whose work faithfully to keep this important event running. A note of appreciation and thank you to all who stepped up to work coffee in November 2017 and to the Shufflers for hosting December.

During season, Nancy Grant graciously volunteers as our sunshine reporter sending "we care" cards out to our residents to show our concern. Please report all residents in need of a card to Nancy at 729-4832. Many thanks to Nancy for dedicated sunshine service to Coffee Hour. Most recently, Leonard and Florretta Krueger retired from serving on the Coffee Committee for many years. We thank them for their dedicated service.

The Boat Club will host Coffee Hour in January; Water Aerobics is hosting in February (No Coffee on 2/24/18); Library Club/HOA is hosting in March (No Coffee 3/17/18); April is OPEN and needs volunteers.

Kay Lynn Duncan, 722-0240 Coffee Chair

"Coffee Talk"

This feature will be run throughout the year, sharing the names of those people who have received "We Care" cards from their friends and neighbors here in Tropic Isles.

Get Well cards were sent to

- Gail Belanger** of 28th Ave. Dr. W./Canada, (procedure)
- A.J. Gilley** of Basin Street (surgery)
- Dan Willoughby** of 13th Street (recovering from surgery in Michigan)
- Bob Dorton** of 13th Street (continued health issues)
- Merwin Crampton** of 29th Ave. (pacemaker)
- Steve Grant** of 14th Street (heart ablation)
- Bev O'Brien** of 13th Street W. (hospitalized)
- Fran Bouwma** of Bahia Dr. (heart ablation)

Sympathy cards were sent to

- Thelma Briggs** of 14th St. W. on the passing of her husband, Percy.
- Tom Montgomery**, a former resident of the park, passed away.

A "Thinking of you" card was sent to

- Elaine Bulmer** of Bimini Dr./Canada (health concerns)

If you know of someone who needs a "Get Well" card or a family who has lost a loved one in need of a "Sympathy Card", please contact Nancy Grant at 941-729-4832.

Manager's Coffee Hour

The next Manager's Coffee Hour will be held on January 11 at 9:30-11 AM in the Auditorium. Cups, coffee, lightener, and sweetener will be provided. As always, the atmosphere at the meetings will be cordial and respectful. The purpose of these meetings is to give me the opportunity to hear what you have to say about Tropic Isles. We want to make sure that I, you, and the staff are all focused towards the same objectives and so that you, the residents, are having your needs met. I strongly encourage you to attend and participate in letting me know how to help you make this a better community. I need to know what you want, if I am to have any chance of providing it to you. The upcoming dates are Feb. 8, March 14*, and April 12, so mark your calendar.

Paul Smith, Manager



On Monday, January 15, the Coffee 'n Conversation series continues. The conversation begins at 10 AM in the Auditorium with Andrell Miller, Fire Marshall, who will be the speaker. Mark your calendar and plan to arrive a few minutes early for coffee and doughnuts.

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Neighbors Helping Neighbors (NHN)

NHN Volunteers are looking for projects to assist our neighbors here in Tropic Isles. Listed below are projects we can help with:

- CLEANING MOLD
- WEEDING
- CLEARING AWAY CLUTTER UNDER CARPORTS
- PAINTING OUTSIDE SHEDS
- HELP TO TAME OVERGROWN TREES AND SHRUBS
- PLANT ANNUAL FLOWERS

If you need assistance with any items listed above, or if you have questions, please call one of the Coordinators listed below. Remember, this is a free service for park residents of Tropic Isles.

| | |
|-----------------|--------------|
| Jan Krueger | 262-617-0710 |
| Jan Vern | 941-723-3780 |
| Sharon Williams | 941-212-4648 |
| Pam Hennessy | 941-447-6228 |

What's New in the Neighborhood?



New model homes went in at 68 Edessa Dr. and 139 Capri Dr. (See picture pages)

Check out the new Christmas decorations on both entrances of Tropic Isles and on our buildings. The wreaths were renewed with glass balls and new snowflake lights were hung. Thanks to the volunteers, Pam and Gary White and Dave and Jane Myers, for helping to decorate and spread the Christmas cheer. (See picture pages)

New, keyed-door locks were installed at the top of the sliding glass doors in the Yacht Club for added security earlier this year. Please do not try to open those doors. They remain locked at all times and you could damage the doors if you try to open them.

Ten Reasons to Volunteer

1. Express your viewpoint. Do you think you have constructive ideas or suggestions?
2. Be sociable. Meet your neighbors, make friends, and exchange opinions.
3. Give back. Repay a little of what's been done for you.
4. Have some fun! The work isn't drudgery. It's fun accomplishing good things with your neighbors.
5. Get educated. Learn how it's done. We'll train you.
6. Do something good for the community. Make a difference.
7. Research has shown, people who volunteer live longer and are healthier.
8. Volunteering gives you a sense of purpose or belonging.
9. Uncover hidden skills and talents.
10. Increase your self-confidence.



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Boat Club News



Welcome back to all the snowbirds. We had a wonderful Christmas season with Jack Miller and Pat Brazil reaching their goal for bikes and toys in the Toys for Tots campaign. Thanks to donations from Boat Club members and parkwide residents. At our business meeting in December, the Tropic Isles manager, Paul Smith, presented donation checks totaling \$2,290 that was collected from vendors that do business here in the park. All proceeds went to Toys for Tots.

Sailboat races begin on January 2 at 1 PM on Terra Ceia Bay. For more information check the article in the Breezes or call John Castellana at 941-729-0367.

*Happy New Year and safe boating,
Lance Linke, Commodore*

Tropic Isles' Sailboat Races



The Tropic Isles' Boat Club is again sponsoring a series of sailboat races on beautiful Terra Ceia Bay. This will be our eighth year of handicapped racing. You are invited to participate in the 2018 series by 1) racing your boat if you have a sailboat, 2) by being the "race committee boat" if you have any boat, or 3) by crewing on someone else's boat. Races will be weekly events (weather permitting) and begin on the first Tuesday in January, and continue until the last Tuesday of March. Races will start at 1300 (1:00 PM). The courses have not changed and are designed for races of about one hour. These are fun races (aggressive sailing is discouraged).

- You need not be a member of the T I Boat Club to participate.
- Entry is free.
- Boats are handicapped so everyone has a chance to win.
- Main and Genoa sails only (no spinnakers)

A new list of those that wish to crew is being compiled and will be distributed to the skippers. Skippers that wish to compete in these events or those wanting more info should contact John Castellana at 585-737-6712 or jcastell382@gmail.com. I'm looking forward to a great race series!

John C

Kayak-Itty-Yak



We have started kayaking on Wednesday mornings at 10:00 AM again. Hopefully by January, we should be going full steam. If anyone is interested in joining us you are welcome. We try to send out an email with information ahead of time. Let Sue Weaver know at smweaver2@stny.rr.com if you want to be included in the email. Also, remember you need to pay for your kayak slot in January. Kayak on!!

Kayak Launch Use Reminders

If you are using the Tropic Isles' kayak launch, please make sure to do the following:

1. Read the directions if you are not sure how to use the launch.
2. Make sure you sign out and erase your name when you return.
3. When you lower the ramp, do not undo both ends of the rope. Undo one side, lower the ramp, and then cleat it off.
4. If no one else is signed out when you return, please lift the ramp out of the water.
5. If the ramp has debris on it, please hose it off.

Your help in taking good care of our launch is appreciated.

Tropic Isles' Marina



The Marina is bustling. Ten cents off a gallon of gas on Mondays is bringing in boaters to fill up. Need a newspaper? The Sarasota Herald Tribune has placed a newspaper machine next to the Marina for your convenience. The Open House/Jerry Quesenberry Retirement Lunch was a success. Over 184 hot dogs, chips, and sodas were provided. Attendees saw a newly renovated Marina and all it has to offer. I heard one person say the Marina is the "Tropic Isles' convenience store."

As for fishing, everything is biting. Snook, reds, trout, and Spanish mackerel are ending up on the supper table. The approaching cold front will start to fire the sheepshead up and should keep the gags in shallow water. They are a fun fish to target and even better to eat. Get them while you can! The season closes at the end of the month! Before you head out fishing, stop by your Marina and purchase the tackle and bait you need to hook the big one. Not going fishing or boating today? Stop by and get a sandwich or ice cream. Happy hour is all day at the Marina with \$2.00 beer and wine. It's cheaper than any bar or restaurant that I have been to. What more could you want from our Tropic Isles' "Convenience Store" where the prices are low, and the conversation is free?

Jim Kelly II, Marina Attendant



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Out and About...Around Town



Dog racing at the Sarasota Kennel Club started November 3, 2017 and continues through April 21, 2018.

- **Matinees** / Monday - Saturday / 12:30 pm
- **Evening Race** / Friday & Saturday / 7:30 pm
- **50 cent Friday Matinees** (50 cent Bud beer, 50 cent hot dogs, 50 cent sodas)

A new restaurant, **D's Breakfast and Burgers**, has opened in the same location where Norma Rae's used to be on 10th Ave. in downtown Palmetto. Check it out!

Reading Material for Vets



We will continue to collect reading materials for Vets. Magazines are great (for men or women), as are books. The Library at Tropic Isles will be donating any books that are duplicates and those books that are too old to shelve. There will be a collection box in our library under the magazine rack and someone will take all donated reading items to Bay Pines. It may seem like a small thing to do, but it will be greatly appreciated.



Library News

Many thanks to Fred Bloye for sharing his artwork with us. If you were not able to view his work in December, please come to the library to enjoy his selections for January. Fred's work includes a variety of media and subject matter. You will enjoy the quotes! Thank you, Fred.

Art is a beautiful addition to our library. I know our park has many skilled artists. If you are one of them and would like to share your creations with our residents, please contact Phyllis Ann Smith (941-932-5654).

Our library needs more space for the variety of items most frequently used by our residents. Probably due to the ease of finding reference information on the Internet, this is the section that receives the least use. Therefore, the Library Committee has decided to eliminate reference material. We will do some rearranging in the effort to use the space we have more efficiently.

Many cookbooks have been donated to the reference section. Beginning Wednesday, January 3, we invite our residents to come into the library, look over the selections of cookbooks and take what you like.

We continue to take book and magazine donations for the Bay Pines Veterans Hospital. They greatly appreciate what we send to them!

For your information, our residents donated a total of 166 items. Our Large Print section increased by 11 books and several magazines. The DVD section has 24 new titles; and we have 7 new audio books. Other additions are: 36 mysteries and 28 hard cover books.

Our next meeting will be held in the Library at 9 AM, Saturday, January 6. If you are interested in becoming a library volunteer, please join us at the meeting or call Phyllis Ann Smith (941-932-5654).

Phyllis Ann Smith

President, Library Committee

Covering The Pool In The Winter



Starting on January 1, 2018 the pool and hot tub will get covered in the evening when the predicted temperatures are expected to go below 60 degrees. Pairs of volunteers will cover the pool at 10:00 PM. If you are using the pool/hot tub at that time and are asked to leave, please comply. The gates to the pool will then be locked and signs will be placed there to inform residents and their guests that the pool/hot tub are closed. By law, when the pool/hot tub are covered, there will be no access to the pool area. **Do not enter the pool deck from the Yacht Club.** Residents and guests will not be allowed on the pool deck until the gates are unlocked and the pool and hot tub are uncovered in the morning at 8 AM, weather permitting. Monday-Friday the pool and hot tub will be uncovered by the Maintenance Team. On weekends, the pool and hot tub will be uncovered by resident volunteers. Check with the Office if you have any questions. The covers will be used throughout the winter, January-March. The pool cover has been used for the past 6 years and has proven to be a real energy saver.

HELP! We are still in need of a few volunteers to cover the pool in the evening in March and uncover the pool on weekend mornings. If you enjoy the pool and would like to help, contact Carol Hallman at 612-940-9326. A special thanks to everyone who has volunteered and signed up to help.

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|--|--|---|--|---|---|---|--|----------|--|--------|--|----------|--|
| | 1 New Year's Day | 2 9:00 am Tropicaires rehearsals begin 1:00 pm Sailboat Racing | 3 10:00 am Red Hat Meeting - PR 11:00 am Golf Group 7:00 pm Boat Club Mtg. -Y | 4 9:30 am Entertainment Meeting - PR 3:00 pm LTSP Mtg. - PR | 5 9:00 am Booster's Meet- ing 11:30 am Rosary Group -Y 1:00 pm HOA Meeting - Y | 6 8:30 am NEW Coffee Hour - A 9:00 am Library Meet- ing - Y | | | | | | | |
| 7 | 8 11:00 am Red Hat Games -Y | 9 8:30 am Writer's Group - PR 10:00 am Shuffle - Turkey Shoot 1:00 pm Book Club -Y | 10 9:30 am ARC Mtg. - PR 10:00 am Activity Meeting - Y 5:00 pm Shuffle Pot Luck - Y | 11 9:00 am LTSP Meeting - PR 9:30 am Manager's Coffee - A 7:00 pm Movie Night - A | 12 9:00 am TIPOA BOD Meeting - PR 11:30 am Rosary Group - PR | 13 8:30 am NEW Coffee Hour - A 7:00 pm Booster's Dance -A | | | | | | | |
| 14 | 15 10:00 am TIPOA Members Meeting - Y 10:00 am Coffee 'n Conversation - A MLK Day | 16 | 17 6:00 pm LTSP Meeting Boat Club 7:00 pm Social - Y | 18 9:00 am LTSP - PR 2:00 pm Shuffle Social Event 4:30 pm Soup Supper - PR | 19 11:30 am Rosary Group - PR 1:00 pm Special Shareholder Meeting - A | 20 8:30 am NEW Coffee Hour - A 7:00 pm Jimmy Travis Show - A | | | | | | | |
| 21 | 22 | 23 8:30 am Writer's Group - PR | 24 9:30 am ARC Meeting - PR 10:00 am Craft Class - Y | 25 9:00 am LTSP Meeting - PR 9:30 am Co-op Board Meeting - A 7:00 pm Movie Night - A | 26 11:30 am Rosary Group - PR | 27 8:30 am NEW Coffee Hour - A Tropic Isles Cruise | | | | | | | |
| 28 | 29 10:00 am Convertible Ride gather 10:30 am Ride leaves | 30 | 31 | January 2018 | | | | | | | | | |
| WEEKLY EVENTS | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 2:00 pm Shuffleboard 4:00 pm Mahjong - PR | 8:00 am Aerobics/ Exercise - Y 9:00 am Fun and Fitness -Y 10:00 am Water Aerobics 10:00 am Shuffleboard 1:00 pm Shuffle Beg. Lessons 6:30 pm Line Dancing Lessons 7:00 pm Line Dancing | 8:00 am Aerobics/ Exercise - Y 9:00 am Fun and Fitness -Y 9:00 am Tropicaires Rehearsals - A 10:00 am Shuffleboard Yoga - Y 10:00 am Water Aerobics 1:00 pm Sailboat Races Collar Bingo - A | 8:00 am Aerobics/ Exercise - Y 9:00 am Fun and Fitness -Y 10:00 am Water Aerobics 10:00 am Shuffleboard 11:00 am Golf Group 12:30 pm Bridge - Y 1:00 pm North Shore Shuffle League 7:00 pm Pinochle - Y | 8:00 am Aerobics/Exercise - Y Fun and Fitness - Y 9:00 am Yoga - Y 10:00 am Water Aerobics 10:00 am Shuffleboard Y&B Cards - Y 1:00 pm Bowling Shuffle Int. Lessons 6-8 pm Mahjong - PR 7:00 pm Darts - Y 7:00 pm Game Night - Y | 8:00 am Aerobics/ Exercise - Y 9:00 am Fun and Fitness - Y 10:00 am Water Aerobics 10:00 am Shuffleboard 1:00 pm Coach House 10:00 am Water Aerobics 11:30 am Rosary Group - PR 7:00 pm Euchre - Y | 8:30 am NEW! Coffee Hour - A 10:00 am Shuffleboard | | | | | | | |

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Shuffleboard News



Many want to join the T.I. Shuffleboard Club, but walk on by. You should try it! What could the Shuffleboard Club offer to you? You not only get to learn a new and challenging game and meet new people, you would also join with a group that contributes to park activities.

To encourage and assist in the development of game understanding and playing skills, the club offers free lessons for newcomers, as well as for those who have had a chance to start playing for a season or longer.

Beginner lessons will be held on Monday afternoons at 1:00 PM starting in January (see message board at the courts for date of start). The instructors will be Gary and Pamela White. Intermediate lessons will begin on Thursday, January 11th, with Anne Lounsbury as the instructor. A minimum number of lessons are required to participate in the Beginner and Intermediate tournaments which are held toward the end of February, after the lessons are completed.

Did we mention the Turkey Shoot-- a fun time and open to all members? Come and watch this, sometimes skill-- sometimes luck, event.

In addition, as a member of the park shufflers, you also have a say in club activities when you attend the monthly potluck dinner/ business meeting held in the Yacht Club on the second Wednesday of each month at 5 PM.

For further information, follow the calendar in the Breezes for a day-to-day schedule with times and events. If you cannot attend the Beginner's lessons for any reason, please come out anyway and club members will provide you with equipment and assistance to get going with the game. All you need are non-slip, rubber-soled shoes.

Please note that the courts are a Tropic Isles Park amenity and as such, are open to all park residents and their guests. Anyone under 18 must be accompanied by an adult resident of the park. Here's an extra note to all Tropic Isles residents: Please consider supporting our annual Spaghetti (fund-raising) Dinner on Friday, February 16th, as well as spreading the word to friends and relatives outside the park.

John Lounsbury, past President

You're Invited To Our Social Shuffleboard Event

**DATE: Thursday, January 18, 2018
from 2 to 4 PM at TI Shuffle Courts**

The game of "Shuffleboard" is a national sport played throughout North America for over a century. It is a lifetime lifestyle social sport. Tropic Isles Shuffle Club is hosting its very first "**Welcome to Shuffleboard Hospitality Event.**" An invitation is extended to **all Tropic Isles Residents to come and partake in learning the game of Shuffleboard.** The game allows you to challenge your thought process, enjoy comradery of team playing, and develop skills using a cue stick to push waxed disks down the court, AND then watch those capricious disks go!

You can stop wondering what all the shufflers are doing as you stroll by the courts. Players meet new park residents, neighbors, and make new friends. All play equipment is available for your use and basic training will be given by park shufflers. Hey, what else do you have to do in retirement? Plan to join in on the fun. Refreshments will be offered in the Yacht Club after the event. See you on the courts! **TIP: Do not wear open toe shoes.**

The Shuffleboard Schedule for January

| | | |
|------------|--------------------|--|
| Sundays | 2:00 PM | Shuffleboard |
| Mondays | 10:00 AM | Shuffleboard |
| | 1 PM | Beginner Lessons |
| Tuesdays | 10:00 AM | Shuffleboard |
| | 1 PM | Hoss Collar |
| Wednesdays | 10:00 AM | Shuffleboard |
| | 1 PM | North Shore League |
| Thursdays | 10:00 AM | Shuffleboard Yellow & Black |
| | 1 PM | Intermediate Lessons |
| Fridays | 10:00 AM | Coach House |
| Saturdays | 10:00 AM | Shuffleboard |

Special Events:

| | | |
|------------------------------|--------------------|----------------------------------|
| Tuesday, Jan. 9 | 10:00 AM | Turkey Shoot |
| Wednesday, Jan. 10 | 5 PM | Pot Luck/Business Mtg. |
| Thursday, Jan. 18 | 2-4 PM | Social Shuffleboard Event |

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Newcomers' Party - Important Information

All groups and organizations - please read:

The semi-annual "Newcomers' Party" will be held on Saturday, February 3rd from 7- 9 PM. This party is for all residents new to the park in the last two years, but "old-timers" are welcome also. The purpose of this event is to formally welcome our new residents and to let them know more about what the park has to offer in the way of activities and groups. All groups and organizations in the park are encouraged to set up a table at the event with information about yourselves so you can recruit new members. The table should be manned with some of your members, so they can answer questions and give out information. You would also need to have a "goodie" basket at your table for a give-away prize

to a Newcomer. It will be run like a Chinese auction. Newcomers will be given special tickets to put in the basket they would like to win. Tables can be set up on Saturday, any time after noon once the room is ready. By mid-January, groups and organizations will need to let Sue Weaver know at smweaver2@stny.rr.com or 941-981-5844 if you are participating in the event and if you will need a full or half table. TABLES WILL BE ASSIGNED. This is necessary, so we have room for everyone. Beverages will be provided by the Activity Committee. All "old timers" are asked to bring a dessert. Any one in attendance will be eligible to win a door prize. Newcomers will receive a personal invitation by phone for the event.

If you are a Newcomer and do not get a call by the end of January, please contact Sue for more information. Helpers are needed to call Newcomers, help set up, clean up, serve drinks, prepare desserts, greet guests, hand out name tags, and issue tickets for the prizes. This is a fun event and you get to meet all the new people in the park. Please consider letting Sue Weaver know if you are willing to volunteer. Hope to see you all on February 3rd!!



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2018 Boatyard Parking Stickers

If you currently store a trailer/boat in the boatyard or would like to store one there, you will need to purchase a 2018 Boatyard Parking Sticker for \$150. Boatyard Parking Stickers are available for purchase in the Office. The OLIVE-GREEN sticker is valid for the entire year, January 1-December 31, 2018. "Reserved" parking is available for an additional \$50. Every trailer in the Boatyard must have a current 2018 sticker placed on the upright arm or tongue of the trailer and be clearly visible. **The deadline for purchasing your 2018 Boatyard Sticker is January 10.** To avoid paying a late fee of \$25 or having your trailer towed, purchase your 2018 Boatyard Parking Sticker for the coming year before January 10th. The Boatyard has limited storage capacity and is available on a first-come, first-served basis, so get your stickers early.



~ Boat Launch Permits ~



Residents, please pick up a boat launch permit at the Office. Any resident who launches their boat from the boat ramp at the Marina needs to have a launch permit. Permits are provided free to Residents. This permit should be affixed to your boat and displayed where it is clearly visible.

Tropic Isles Golf League (TIGL)

At the time of this writing, our Tropic Isles Golf League will be best described as the Tropic Isle Golf "Group". The decision to go with a less structured format will mean no membership fees this year. TI residents and guests will have the usual Wednesday 11:00 AM tee time available to them at preferred league rates at the closest course to our community, the ever-challenging Terra Ceia Golf and Country Club. Golfers should be at the club and ready to play by 10:45. Groupings will be determined based on the number of players there on any given Wednesday. Any plans for a fun tournament will be communicated to all known golfers at least 2 weeks prior to the tournament.



We encourage anyone looking to meet your neighbors while enjoying a friendly round of golf to come out on Wednesday mornings. Hope to see you there!

Property Owners Meeting

Schedule (TIPOA)

2017-2018

Board Meetings

Jan. 5, 2018
Feb. 9, 2018
Mar. 9, 2018
Apr. 6, 2018

Membership Meetings

Jan. 8, 2018
Feb. 12, 2018
Mar. 12, 2018
Apr. 9, 2018

Please note: All Board meetings will commence at 9:00 AM in the Yacht Club "Pretty" Room.

All Membership meetings, including the annual meeting, will commence at 10:00 AM in the Yacht Club "Main" Room.

It is expected that most meetings will last 1-2 hours with the exception of the Annual Meeting which will include a luncheon while the election results are being verified.

Homeowners Association

Meeting Schedule (TIHOA)

2017-2018

- January 5 TIHOA Board meeting, Yacht Club 1 PM
- January 15 Open Meeting, Auditorium 10 AM (Coffee 'n Conversation-Fire Dept.)
- February 2 TIHOA Board Meeting, Yacht Club 1 PM
- February 5 Open Meeting, Auditorium 10 AM (Coffee 'n Conversation-Palmetto Mayor)
- February 12, 13 AARP Safe Driving Course, Auditorium 12:30-4:30 PM (sponsored by TIHOA)
- March 2 TIHOA Board Meeting, Yacht Club 1 PM
- March 5 Open meeting, Auditorium 10 AM (Coffee 'n Conversation-Hurricane Preparedness)

All TIHOA meetings take place on Mondays. Following the pattern of last season, Open Meetings in the Auditorium will feature speakers addressing topics of interest to all Tropic Isles' residents. Everyone is welcome to attend.

Live and Learn and Pass It On

(People ages 5-95 share what they've discovered about life, love, and other good stuff.)

- I've learned that even when I have pains, I don't have to be a pain. -age 82
- I've learned that car salesmen size up prospects by looking at their shoes and watches. —age 52
- I've learned that if I'm in trouble at school, I'm in more trouble at home. -age 11
- I've learned that no matter how thin you slice it, there are always two sides. age 58
- I've learned that a person's degree of self-confidence greatly determines his success. age 42
- I've learned that people allow themselves to be only as successful as they think they deserve to be. --age 50
- I've learned that nothing really bad happens when you tear those little "do not remove" tags from pillows. -age 31
- I've learned that silent company is often more healing than words of advice. -age 24
- I've learned that the quickest way to meet people is to pick up the wrong golf ball on the golf course. -age 43

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Rule Of The Month

This is a reminder that the 2014 Rules and Regulations are in effect and being enforced. All residents and their guests are expected to know and abide by these rules. Each month, I will highlight a section of the current Rules and Regulations in the hopes of increasing awareness. If you need of a copy of the 2014 Rules and Regulations, you may pick up a copy at the Office or go to www.tropicsles.net to view or print a copy online.

4.2 Landscaping

Any substantial plantings and/or exterior changes must be approved in writing by Management, via the ARC. Lawns and grass areas may not be replaced with shells, rocks, or any other material without the prior written approval of Management.

4.3 Trees

The Association is responsible for the trimming of one palm tree in the front yard of a Unit/Lot. Responsibility for the care of all other trees and plants is the Resident's Management, via the ARC, must give prior written approval for the planting or removal of any live trees in the Community. All permits are the responsibility of the requestor. Units/Lots must be kept free of fallen fruit, dead trees, leaves, needles, and shrubs.

4.4 Plantings

No shrubs, trees, or flowers shall be planted so that they extend onto adjoining Units/Lots.

4.5 Prohibited Plants

Any plants from the Florida Exotic Pest Plan Council Invasive Plant List (FLEPPC) shall not be allowed in the Community. This list includes, but is not limited to, Punk, Paper Bark, Melaleuca, Leucadendron, Cajuput, all members of the Rubber Tree family, including Banyan, Cuban Laurel, Weeping Laurel, Australian Pines, Norfolk Pines, all members of the Willow family, Bottlebrush, Brazilian Pepper, Fiscus, all members of the Sword Fern family, Agave (Century plant), and Laurel Oak. This restriction includes any other plants that may be added to the list of plants specifically prohibited by the Management of the Association. The Management reserves the right to remove any restricted plants from the Community. Check the following website for further information: www.fleppc.org/list.

4.6 Fencing

Fencing of yards is prohibited. Other materials which are used as a fence, border, or barrier are not permitted without written permission from the ARC.

STAY SAFE!



Don't Drink and Drive

Florida Friendly Pollinators

Here are some facts and information I learned at a seminar I attended at the University of Florida Manatee County Extension on 17th Street in Palmetto.

We currently have 20 million people in Florida with 1000 more coming in every day. These people are using lots of water with Florida having the highest irrigation rate in the USA. Facts support that less than 1% of all water on earth is drinkable. This same water is being used for watering lawns to the tune of 33 gallons/minute from a standard hose. The water running down our streets is our drinking water, except for a few areas in the park. There are things we can do to save water and make the water we do have--safe. The water table is low in our area and any pesticides we use seep into our drinking water. Here are some things we can do:

- Use native plants.
- Plant drought tolerant plants.
- Use ¾" FLORA mulch (Florida friendly).
- Decrease use of pesticides and fertilizer.
- Check your landscaping companies for use of systemic fertilizers. (They are not good.)
- Use a 10 feet barrier of native plants up to the water, not grass.
- Use slow release fertilizers. A good organic fertilizer is Thurcide.
- Do not rake your leaves.
- The IPM system is best for pests because it is natural.
- Check position of down spouts and direct them to plants.

Native plants are the best for Florida since once they are established, they do not need watering. Some of the common ones are:

- Native honeysuckle vines
- Wild coffee
- Gaillardia
- Beach sunflower
- Purple coneflower
- Black eyed Susan
- Salvia
- Bee balm
- Coral nymph
- Blood berry bush
- Fire bush
- Red fire spike
- Powder puff shrub
- Kings mantle (large shrub)
- Yellow elder (small tree)
- Coontie
- Jatropha
- Sable palm
- Walters Viburnum



We also want to encourage our pollinators who love native plants and blooms. They pollinate 75% of the world's food and include bees, moths, bats, and hummingbirds many of which come out at twilight and at night.

What kills pollinators? These products do:

- Bonide
- Safari
- Hi Yield
- Criterion
- Bayer advanced hb

Native nurseries will also recommend the best products for us to use in maintaining our landscapes. **REMEMBER to always get permission from the Tropic Isles ARC Committee for any major landscaping projects.**

Jan Krueger, NHH



Hear Ye! Hear Ye! Calling All Residents!

We are looking for willing residents to chair the 2018 Golden Circle Dinner and Michigan Dinner!

This article is to promote and encourage park neighbors to step forward and volunteer to help plan and host two long-standing park dinners—the **Golden Circle Dinner** held to honor and celebrate marriage of couples together for 50 years and the **Michigan Dinner**. It will be the Golden 50th Anniversary in 2018 for the Michigan Dinner—a real milestone for an event sponsored by Michiganders and welcomes other states to attend, space permitting.

It can be a rewarding experience to host, chair, or work on the committee, or serve at a party function, even if it is only a small task performed. The more people willing to assist lessens the burden on others. Attendees of these dinners come with warm hearts and appreciation for the planning and effort that goes into making the gatherings successful.

The dinner for either function can be catered, cooked in-house, main entree casserole baked, main entree bought pre-made, or serve a meat entree provided, and ask attendees to bring a covered dish. Entertainment is not required, but always enjoyed. A list of possible entertainers can be provided to committees. Residents who wish to help can co-chair the event with a friend or organize a committee to lighten the work load. You don't have to do it alone.

It is beneficial for residents to keep park activities running that are well attended and enjoyed. We hope the torch is carried forward. **Please contact Kay Lynn Duncan at DUNCANKL@att.net or 517-420-1590 or 941-722-0240; or any Tropic Isles Activity Committee Member if you'd like to help. We're counting on you!**



Got Curb Appeal?

Does your home have good "curb appeal" on both the street side AND water or back side of your home? Heat and humidity, foggy nights, and misty mornings make a perfect combination for mildew and mold. Step outside and take a walk around your entire house. Is it time for a good pressure washing? If your house is suddenly taking on a speckled green-gray appearance, the answer is YES! Time to get out the pressure washer or hire someone capable of doing it for you. Avoid those dreaded compliance notices. It doesn't take much to spruce up your southern home and yard—a little paint here, a little trimming there. Donate some of those unwanted items that get stashed in your backyard to Trash and Treasure. If you need some help, give Neighbors Helping Neighbors (NHN) a call. They are there at your service and if they can't do it for you, they can recommend someone who can. We all want the same thing— a safe and attractive retirement home and community.

~~Coming Events~~

(clip and save)

FEBRUARY

- 3.....Newcomer's Party
- 5.....Coffee 'n Conversation
- 8.....Manager's Coffee
- 8.....Movie Night
- 10.....**Red Hot Blue Collar, music/comedian**
- 12, 13.....AARP Driver's Course
- 13.....Pancake Breakfast
- 16.....Bloodmobile
- 16.....Spaghetti Dinner (open to everyone)
- 17.....Valentine's Dance
- 23, 24.....Trash & Treasure Sale

MARCH

- 1.....Golden Circle Dinner
- 5.....Coffee 'n Conversation/**Hurricane Preparedness**
- 7.....Western NY Reunion
- 8.....Craft Class
- 8,9.....Tropicaires' Show
- 10.....Southeast Guide Dog Walkathon
- 11.....Ice Cream Social
- 14.....Manager's Coffee
- 17.....**Annual Shareholder's Meeting**
- 17.....Tropicaire's Dance
- 23.....**Farewell Party**
- 24, 25.....**Co-op Anniversary Celebration**

APRIL

- 8.....**Pool Party**
- 12.....Manager's Coffee
- 14.....**CD Hop**
- 20.....Bloodmobile



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ARC Committee Meetings

As of January 1, 2018, the ARC Committee Meetings will be held on **Wednesdays** at 9:30 in the Yacht Club Pretty Room twice a month on the second and fourth Wednesday of the month. The new ARC Committee Chairman is Tom Hennessy. The ARC request process for any changes to your home or lot remains the same. Contact the Office for an ARC request form.

When Is ARC Approval Needed?

(Clip and Save)

ARC approval is needed for any work that is done on the outside of your home or lot. This list is NOT intended to be all inclusive, but can be clipped and saved for future reference. The 2014 Rule is listed in parenthesis () after the item. Refer to your copy of the 2014 Rules and Regulations for more detail.

- Installation of a dwelling (3.1)
- Installation of utility buildings, steps, porches, canopies, and other exterior accessories (3.5, 3.6)
- Exterior painting (3.11)
- Landscaping and exterior changes (4.2)
- Planting or removal of trees (4.3)
- Barriers or borders (4.6)
- Storage on exposed areas (4.7)
- Applying driveway sealers or stains (4.11)
- Installing antennas, satellite dishes, and other external receivers (4.13)
- Installation, expansion, modification of docks, davits, lifts (9.1)
- Number of docks and placement (9.2)
- Use of docks and slips (9.3)
- Entitlement to a dock/slip (9.4)
- Dock size (9.6)
- Maintenance of docks (9.8)

Rule 3.5 (second paragraph) states "If it is determined that the Resident did not receive permission PRIOR to the installation or renovation, the Management has the right to demand the removal of said renovation or addition until approval is given." When in doubt as to whether something needs ARC approval, check with the Manager and read your 2014 Rules and Regulations. It is better to be safe than sorry.

The ARC procedure is as follows:

1. Fill out an ARC application and submit it to the office. Make sure to include diagrams, drawings, or photos as needed. You must provide a copy of all required permits to the office.
 2. You will be notified when your request is placed on the agenda for an ARC meeting. You may attend that meeting.
 3. After the meeting, you will be notified, by phone or in writing, as to whether your request is approved or denied.
 4. You can appeal the decision to the Board of Directors if you so choose.
 5. BOTH THE ARC APPLICATION AND THE CITY PERMIT NEED TO BE POSTED ON THE FRONT OF THE HOME BEFORE THE WORK CAN BEGIN.
-

Architectural Guidelines For Installation Of New Homes In Tropic Isles

The purpose of these Guidelines is to help expedite the approval and installation of your new home in Tropic Isles. Most of these guidelines are in place because they are already required by our own governing documents and/or other pertinent documents and ordinances put in place by various governmental authorities. We want to help you work as seamlessly as possible through that maze of requirements. Knowledge of the requirements and pre-planning are key to a pleasant and successful experience. The ARC (Architectural Review Committee) is in place to help you navigate through this and to assure the overall quality of the aesthetics in Tropic Isles. The ARC is your advocate in this process. Consult your Tropic Isles governing documents for more details. All of the requirements may not necessarily be listed with the basic guidelines covered here.

- ▶ An ARC request for a new home must include the factory specs and drawings for the home, the elevation certificate, elevation drawing, surveyed site plan with overhead drawing and floor-plan, the ground/drainage plan, the carport/garage and shed detail, the driveway detail, the deck/porch/lanai plan including the colors and materials of all siding, bricks, gutters, soffits, etc.
- ▶ Original plan must include the landscaping plan.
- ▶ If not already in place, the front yard must include one palm tree (to be approved by Management.)
- ▶ Drainage from the unit gutters shall be landscaped to not allow water to enter the adjacent lot. All units shall have roof gutter and downspouts. Direct drainage to the bay via tile lines will be allowed if approved and properly permitted by the appropriate municipal agencies. Otherwise, all lots must have positive drainage to the street. The engineered/surveyed drainage plan will accompany all New Home ARC Requests.
- ▶ Water access connections to the unit shall be placed underground and include an approved backflow valve.
- ▶ The electric meter box and disconnect switch shall be located no further from the unit than two feet and its location will be clearly indicated on the engineered/surveyed construction plans.
- ▶ The electrical connection/meter box must be installed as near to the new home as possible and still meet all building codes. The buyer is responsible for this expense as part of the set-up of a new home.
- ▶ The plan must show the exact location of the AC unit and the gas (container) and electrical connections, including the elevation from the ground level.
- ▶ Maximum consideration shall be given to the location of the AC unit as it may affect the adjacent neighbor's peace and tranquility. Location of existing homes' bedrooms and outdoor leisure areas should be considered. ARC/Management will make every reasonable attempt to notify the owners of the two adjacent lots of the installation of the new home and the location of the AC unit and exterior elements of the new site plan. Notification will, at a minimum, include a telephone call, an email, USPS, and a sign in the yard of the new home
(continued on page 25)

Architectural Guidelines *(continued from page 24)*

indicating that a new home is being installed on this lot. ALL shareholders are always invited to attend the ARC meetings.

- ▶ The front of the home generally lines up along the street side with existing homes. Some variation may be allowed for aesthetic and code requirements.
- ▶ Under no circumstances can the home be closer than 5 feet from the lot line as determined by ARC/Management.
- ▶ Plans must show the distance to the lot line on all four sides and the distance to the adjacent structures, street, and seawall.
- ▶ Homes must be a minimum of 10' from adjacent homes.
- ▶ If there is a canal, seawall, rip-rap, etc., the back of the home can be no closer to the seawall than 10 feet.
- ▶ Nothing may touch, cross over, or affix to the seawall.
- ▶ Utilities such as water, sewer connections, (sewer clean-outs may not be underneath the home), electrical, AC, or propane gas must be located near the back third of the unit as far away from the street and living spaces of the neighbors as possible. ARC/Management will have final authority.
- ▶ The horizontal siding shall not extend to the ground. Brick, decorative block or other materials as approved by the ARC shall be used on the bottom skirting of the unit. The height of the decorative skirting shall be equal to at least three rows of brick. Other reasonable alternative designs will be considered by the ARC/Management on a case-by-case basis. The walls must have hydrostatic relief vents (flow through). The vents must be at least 1"/square foot of floor space on two opposite walls. Vents must be within 12" of grade.
- ▶ Silt fence must be in place during every phase of construction and especially at the end of each day until the CO is issued and the landscaping is in place. This is the responsibility of the owner.
- ▶ Damage to any adjacent structures, streets, seawall, landscaping etc. is the responsibility of the new owner. The Co-op will seek damages from the owner. The owner may have recourse against the contractor(s).
- ▶ North/South/East/West must be shown on all pages of all site plans.
- ▶ Pre-planning with ARC/Management will help to prevent misunderstandings and delays in the construction of your new home. Ask questions, take notes!
- ▶ There MUST be a pre-construction meeting with the builder, the site manager, the lot owner, Tropic Isles manager, and at least two ARC Committee members to go over the plans/site BEFORE ARC approvals and governmental permits are issued. The date and time of this meeting will be recorded in the ARC record.

We hope that the installation of your new home at Tropic Isles is one of the most pleasant and memorable events in your life as you near, or enter retirement. The motto of our staff is "Try to find a way to say YES!" Please let us know if there is anything we can do throughout this process to make it better for you and those who come after you.



The Architectural Review Committee, Directors, Staff, and Management of Tropic Isles Co-op, Inc.

Welcome Back, Snowbirds!

WHILE YOU WERE AWAY.....

The Board of Directors, Manager, Office and Maintenance Staff, contractors, and resident volunteers have worked hard while you were away. These are some of the projects that were completed this summer and fall.



- New pool umbrellas
- RE estate office moved to 257 Jamaica Dr.
- New models 257 Jamaica, 139 Capri, 98 Del Rio (sold), 68 Edessa
- New Homes—2902 13th St. W., 2904 12th St. W., 2903 13th St. W., 239 Bimini, 315 Bahama, 271 Jamaica
- 35' flagpole installed at the pool
- New stop signs on Bimini and other street corners
- Security cameras at YC and pool area
- New fridge in YC (donated from the Marina)
- Replace seawall on Aloha, Terra Ceia, Bahama
- Repaved the Montego problem area and the damaged road on Bahama
- Office renovations—organized co-op records, purged resident files, archived historical files
- New copy machine in office
- Rebuilt gang mailbox on point of Terra Ceia and Montego Dr.
- New key locks added to sliding glass doors in YC
- Painted floors at the marina
- Coded entry at YC for outside bathrooms
- New beverage cooler at the Marina
- Painted Auditorium
- A third maintenance man was hired.
- New flooring in YC hallway, Pretty Room, and game room
- New gas tank and shrimp flag at the marina
- New locks added to gates at the pool
- Stage curtains fireproofed
- Sealed the pavers at the pool
- New street signs installed
- Concrete curb stoppers repainted
- Repainted lines in parking lot of YC and Auditorium
- Replaced service doors at apartments
- Replaced two air conditioners in apartments
- New wiring and plugs for cookers in Auditorium kitchen
- Cleaned and waxed YC floor
- Installed new benches in the common areas and in front of the Auditorium and Yacht Club
- Renovated the house at 169 Bimini Dr. and 3114 10th Ave. to prepare them for long-term rentals.
- Hurricane Irma clean-up and tree removal

Do You Have A Burned-Out Street Light?

If you see a street light that is burned out or malfunctioning on 28th Ave. or any street in Tropic Isles, you can contact FP&L online and fill out a simple form to have it repaired. Simply go to www.fpl.com and complete the online form at the bottom of the page. You do not need to login. It will ask you a few simple multiple-choice questions including the location of the pole (address), the type of problem with the light, and your contact information. **You will also need the 9-digit number from the pole.** Then submit the form and FP&L will come out within a few days to repair it.



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Upcoming EVENTS

Mark Your Calendars

Come enjoy an entertaining night at the BOOSTER'S WINTER DANCE

January 13, 2018

7:00 PM

Featuring Robert and Wolfie

\$6.00

BYOB & Snacks

"Remember you can be a Booster too!"

Meetings are the first Friday of every month.



WELCOME TO SHUFFLEBOARD!

Tropic Isles Shuffle Club is hosting its very first "Welcome to Shuffleboard Hospitality Event." An invitation is extended to all Tropic Isles Residents to come and partake in learning the game of Shuffleboard. Thursday, January 18, 2018 from 2 to 4 PM at the TI Shuffle Courts. Refreshments will be offered in the Yacht Club after the event. See you on the courts!

ANNUAL SOUP SUPPER

Make plans to attend our annual Soup Supper which will be held on Thursday, January 18, in the Auditorium from 4:30 - 6:30 PM. There will be twelve different soups along with desserts, coffee, and tea available. Cost is just \$6.00. This event is sponsored by the TI Boosters. Please support the Boosters as they do so much in the park. Tickets will be sold at the door.



JIMMY TRAVIS IS BACK!!!

You asked for him, we got him. On January 20th at 7 PM in the Auditorium, Jimmy Travis will entertain us with his family-friendly comedic style and music. He writes his own songs and material, and has worked on cruise ships and in Las Vegas. His 90-minute show is packed with laughs. We will have Cabaret-style seating and 50/50 (of course). BYOB and have a great night out with friends (or meet some new ones). Tickets are \$10 each and worth every penny for this world class entertainment. Call Diane at 941-981-5858 for tickets.

CRAFT CLASS

Our first Craft Class will be held on January 24, at 10:00 AM in the Yacht Club. Joan Richey will have three greeting cards for us to make and the cost will be \$5.00 for the session. A sign-up sheet will be on the bulletin board in the Auditorium on January 1st. Class size is limited, so please sign-up as early as you can. Contact Jean Volkens at 563-564-9056 with any questions you have. Bring colored pencils and scissors if you have any. **HEADS UP** for next craft class in February. Rosemary Mix will be teaching us how to make cork wreaths. If you have any corks from wine bottles, please save and bring. Also purchase your straw wreath (any size you want) before coming.

TOPLESS IN TROPIC ISLES? CALLING ALL CONVERTIBLES!



If you own a convertible or can find a friend to ride along with, come and join us for the first Convertible Ride of the 2018 season. It will be held on Monday, January 29. We will gather in the north parking lot of the Auditorium starting at 10:00 AM. **Please arrive with a full tank of gas.** We will start our engines promptly at 10:30 and leave the parking lot for a ride through the Florida "countryside" before arriving at the Bunker Hill Winery for a tour and wine tasting event. After the event, we will head back to town for lunch where you can visit a restaurant of your own choosing. Suggestions will be provided. You must RSVP to Cindy or Bob Shaw at 941-722-4037 **before January 27** as we need to know how many people will be attending the winery tour. Hope to see you there!

NEWCOMER'S PARTY

The semi-annual "Newcomers' Party" will be held on Saturday, February 3rd from 7- 9 PM. This party is to welcome all residents new to the park in the last two years. It is a fun event with lots of prizes, so plan to attend.

RED HOT AND BLUE COLLAR SHOW

You won't want to miss this unique entertainment experience. On February 10th we are proud to showcase "Red Hot and Blue Collar" with Dale, the lovable hillbilly. It will be a night of song, style, and Southern-fried comedy with his witty improv and her dynamic vocals. Tickets will be \$10.00 for a 90-minute show starting at 7:00 PM. Hope to see you there!

AARP SMART DRIVER COURSE!



The AARP Smart Driver Course will be presented by an AARP certified instructor on Feb. 12th -13th from 1:00 PM to 4:00 PM (a 2 day, 6-hour long course). It will be held in the Yacht Club, main room. The cost is \$15 for AARP members or \$20 for non-members. We need at least 20 people to sign up to present the course here, so please call Bill Cadiz (721-4656) ASAP to ask questions and to sign up.

TROPICAIRE'S "COUNTRY ROADS"

The Tropicaires will be presenting "Country Roads" in the Auditorium on March 8 and 9, 2018. The Tropicaires started over 40 years ago with members of our park putting on a variety show. We have had casts of 26-52 people in past years. We are always looking for new faces to join our group for a lot of fun. Rehearsals start in January and continue each Tuesday morning until show time.

In addition to our on-stage performers, we need additional people to help behind the scenes. If you would like to get involved or are new to the park, come join us, make new friends, and have a good time.



We look forward to seeing you on Tuesday, January 2nd at 9:00 AM in the Auditorium for our first gathering. Call if you have any questions:

Director: Bev O'Brian – 941-779-4068

President: Milly Sumler – 941-799-4783



15th CO-OP ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION



We are looking for a chairperson and volunteers to work on the upcoming 15th Co-op Anniversary Celebration scheduled for late March. Please contact Milly at 941-799-4783 if you are interested in helping with the planning of this event.

Free and Almost Free Things to Do!

- Free...enjoy our beautiful pool!
- Free...fall in love with the beach, again
- Free...read a book
- Free **Manatee County Agricultural Museum** 1015 Sixth St. W., Palmetto. 941-721-2034
- 1st Friday. **Village of The Arts** Art walk 6-9:30 pm
- 1st Saturday **Village of The Arts** Art walk 11 am - 4 pm
- Saturdays **Farmers Market** 9 AM - 2 PM October -June. Downtown Bradenton. Dogs welcome.
- Daily free... **Ride the trolley** that runs the entire length of Anna Maria Island 6 AM - 1:30 PM
- Daily free...Take your pooch to the **Bray Paws Park** on 51st St. W. between Manatee Ave. and Cortez Rd. This is an "off leash" park. 9 AM - 4 PM
- Free...**Emerson Point Preserve**. Nature trails, observation tower, beach, kayak beach launch. 5801 17th St. W., Palmetto 941-721-6885 Open sunrise to sunset.



Did You Know?

- that the Board of Directors are all elected volunteers?
- that all Shareholders are invited and encouraged to attend the Board of Director's meetings?
- that the Co-op developed new 2014 Rules and Regulations that all Co-op residents should have a copy of?
- that all members of the Co-op should read and follow the Rules and Regulations, Master Form Occupancy Agreement, Articles of Incorporation, and Bylaws of Tropic Isles Co-op, Inc.?
- that Tropic Isles has its own website: www.tropicisles.net?
- that Tropic Isles has a Facebook page where you will find the latest in what's happening and some great pictures of your friends and neighbors?
- that the Co-op has an audio-video surveillance system in the office, pool, and Yacht Club for your safety and protection?
- that Saturday Morning Coffee is a social event?
- that anyone can offer constructive suggestions and ideas or ask questions of the Manager at the monthly Manager's Coffee...or anytime?
- that anyone can submit pictures for the newsletter by sending them to tibreezes1@aol.com?
- that the Boosters collect aluminum cans for recycling?
- that you can donate unwanted items to the Boosters which are sold at the annual Trash and Treasure sale in February to raise money for the park?
- that the Marina has non-ethanol gas for boats and lawn equipment? It is also your Tropic Isles "convenience store".
- that the waters in and around Tropic Isles are Manatee Zones which require all boats to travel at "slow, no wake" speed and watch out for manatees?
- that you need to wear your pool pass bracelet to the pool?
- that there are many opportunities for you to volunteer to help around the community?



Southeastern Guide Dog News

Tropic Isles has been a huge supporter of Southeastern Guide Dogs, an exceptional organization which provides service dogs to the visually impaired, to Veterans who suffer from service related injuries and to others in need of support because of health issues. These dogs are the ticket for many individuals so that they can be independent and safe in the community. If you visit <https://guidedogswalkathon.org> and click on Bradenton Walkathon, you will see a great picture of our Tropic Isles group from last year. That Walkathon alone raised \$19,172 for SEG. We have been successful in raising enough funds the last few years to name a puppy. We are hoping for that honor again in 2018. The Bradenton Walkathon will be held on March 10th. Please consider walking with us and helping this cause. Contact Sue Weaver at 941-981-5844 or smweaver2@stny.rr.com for more information.

Tropic Isles Docks In Disrepair?

RULES AND REGULATIONS 2014, SECTION IX, PAGES 18-20, COVER THE DOCKS. SEE THE SECTIONS BELOW THAT APPLY.

9.1 Installation or Modification of Docks, Davits, and Lifts

Installation of new docks, davits, and lifts; and the expansion, or modifications to those existing, is not permitted without the prior written approval of Management, via the ARC, and permits from all required entities. This includes, but is not limited to, the City of Palmetto, Manatee County, and the Florida Department of Environmental Protection (DEP). The installation of docks, davits, or lifts will not be approved without detailed drawings. Canopies and other overhead protection are not permitted.

9.6 Dock and Boat Size Limitations

- Docks may be a maximum of 100 square feet and must have prior approval of Management, via the ARC.
- Docks must observe the ten (10) foot setback requirements on each side of the Unit/Lot lines.
- Boats must be docked completely within the Unit/Lot lines.
- Boats and docks cannot occupy more than 25% of the width of the canal as measured from the waterside of the seawall.
- In addition to these Rules and Regulations, all governmental laws and regulations must be adhered to regarding boats and docks.

9.8 Maintenance of Docks

Docks must be kept structurally sound and maintained to the satisfaction of the Association. Painting of docks with preservative types of paint, stain, or other products must be approved by Management, via the ARC.

DOCKS ARE A LIABILITY TO THE CO OP, NOT JUST THE SHARE OWNER, WHEN THEY NEED TO BE REBUILT/REPAIRED. SOME MAY HAVE BEEN BUILT WITHOUT ARC PERMISSION OR A PERMIT FROM THE CITY. WHEN THE CO-OP FINDS THOSE AND IF THE SHARE OWNER DOES NOT FIX THE ISSUE, THE PARK WILL MAKE THE REPAIR AND BILL THE SHARE OWNER FOR THE COST. PLEASE CONTACT THE ARC COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN WITH QUESTIONS.

Thinking of renting out your dock?

Please remember this rule that applies to personal dock rental.

9.5 Sub-leasing of Docks

Docks may be sub-let to Co-op and TIPOA Residents only. A copy of the lease agreement and/or registration must be submitted to the Co-op Office.

~~Safety First~~

GOLF CARTS VS BICYCLES AND PEDESTRIANS



Please remember that golf carts must follow the same "rules of the road" as cars and other motor vehicles. Golf carts need to stay on their side of the street, stop at all stop signs, and proceed into an intersection after carefully looking both ways. There have been way too many "near misses" on our streets involving bicycles and pedestrians with drivers not following the "rules of the road". Pedestrians and bicycles have the right-of-way. Remember also that according to our 2014 Rules and Regulations and state law, **golf carts are not to be operated by children under the age of 16.** (See Rule 10.8 below.) Please follow the "rules of the road" and the posted speed limits on our Tropic Isles' streets for the safety of all of our residents.



10.3 Age Restriction to Operate Golf Carts

According to state law, golf carts are not to be operated by children under the age of 16. The operation of golf carts must comply with state laws and local ordinances.

SPEED LIMITS

The speed limit in the park is 15 mph, although it is not posted on most streets. On Bimini Dr. the speed limit is 20 mph. Please check your speed as you travel throughout the park. There are people riding bicycles and walking, so please slow down, especially at corners and at stop signs, where people may not be visible until you turn the corner. Then it is too late. Golf carts must also abide by the rules in the park. The speed limit on 28th Ave. W. is posted as 25 mph. Many people speed down 28th Ave. and create an unsafe situation for walkers, bikers, and people walking their dogs along that street. **Please drive safely, observe the speed limits, and SLOW DOWN!**



STOP SIGNS



For the safety of our residents and guests, obey all the **STOP SIGNS!** Please **STOP at every sign** and proceed with care. There have been some near misses of pedestrians, bikers, and vehicles and we are asking for your co-operation to avoid any serious problems there. It such a little thing to ask, for something so important! After all, IT IS THE LAW!

PEDESTRIANS VS VEHICLES



When walking on 28th Ave., please remember to walk facing traffic. According to Florida state law, **pedestrians must walk facing oncoming traffic on the same side of the road as the oncoming traffic.** Also, you should get as far to the side of the road as possible to provide additional space between you and oncoming cars. It is important to see the vehicles that are approaching you for your own safety. This gives you the best chance to see traffic approaching closest to you and take evasive action when needed. When bicycling, you must ride on the right side of the road (going in the same direction as automobile traffic).



In the early morning hours and in the evening when it's dark, please remember to be safe while walking on our streets. **If you are walking your dog wear light-colored or reflective clothing AND CARRY A FLASHLIGHT!** If driving a golf cart or riding a bike, lights are needed. When driving, be attentive to pedestrians and bikers. Obey our park speed limits! **SLOW DOWN!**

AARP SMART DRIVER COURSE!

The AARP Smart Driver Course will be presented by an AARP certified instructor on Feb. 12th -13th from 1:00 PM to 4:00 PM (a 2 day, 6-hour long course). It will be held in the Yacht Club, main room. The cost is \$15 for AARP members or \$20 for non-members. Completion of the course could save you money on your auto insurance premiums for the next 3 years. Ask your insurance agent how much you can save. The course was given in Tropic Isles 3 years ago with several residents attending. Topics that will be covered include: proven driving methods to help keep you and your loved ones safe on the road; a review of your knowledge of rules of the road; new traffic laws; and much, much more. We need at least 20 people to sign up to present the course here, so please call Bill Cadiz (721-4656) ASAP to ask questions and to sign up.This course is sponsored by the TIHOA.



NEW! NEW!



NEW~~ PRAYING THE ROSARY~~ NEW

Join us to pray the rosary on Fridays at 11:30 AM in the Yacht Club, Pretty Room beginning January 5. All are welcome to attend. Contact Kathleen Metzler at 215-497-9068 if you have any questions.

CALLING ALL BOOKWORMS!

Many here at Tropic Isles love to read, so let's get together to discuss interesting books and share tips on other great reads. Starting January 9 and every second Tuesday of the month through May. We will meet in the Yacht Club from 1-2:30 PM. Our first discussion will be on the first book in Alex McCall Smith's series: **The #1 Ladies Detective Agency.** Subsequent discussions will be as follows:



Feb 13: **Fishbowl** by Bradley Somer

Mar 13: **The Identicals** by Elin Hilderbrand

Apr 10: **Into the Water** by Paula Hawkins

Bring along a beverage and share the joy of reading with TI residents. Call Irene Casey with questions at 941-417-7198.

NEW! MOVIE NIGHT RETURNS TO TROPIC ISLES



Movie night will return to Tropic Isles on Thursday January 11, same place and same time, the Auditorium at 7 PM. To open our season, we will be showing the 2016 movie "Hidden Figures". Here is what the critics have said about it: *"An incredible and inspiring untold true story about three women at NASA who were instrumental in one of history's greatest operations—the launch of astronaut, John Glenn, into orbit."* It is truly a story we all can relate to. The movie is rated 5-stars.

The Thursday schedule for the rest of the season is below:

January 25, 2018: "Pirates of Somalia"

February 8, 2018: TBD

March 2 (Friday), 15, 29, 2018: TBD

There is no admission-- just a casual explanation of the film in a relaxed atmosphere. Bring a comfortable chair, beverage, and snacks. Enjoy an evening out with your Tropic Isles "family"! Any questions? Give me a call--Mark Krueger at 262-617-9636.

Holiday Happenings

Pam and Gary White and Dave and Jane Myers volunteered their time to hang Christmas decorations on the buildings and entrances! Great job!



The Red Hatters collected needed items for Veterans with their Red, White, and Blue Christmas Tree this year. Thanks to everyone who donated for this worthy cause.



Anna Antonnaci led the Singspiration group in Christmas carols with Fred Bloye accompanying on his autoharp.



A delicious Thanksgiving dinner was enjoyed by many residents with the help from many volunteers!

Holiday Happenings

The annual Golf Cart parade had 18 participants. Prizes were awarded. Al and Gin Eaton won the Seasonal Award, Jack and Joanne Miller won the Christmas Award, and Diane Schoettle and Jim Muckley won the award for the Best Transformation of a Cart.



Al and Gin Eaton



Jack and Joanne Miller



Diane Schoettle and Jim Muckley



Residents got into the Christmas spirit and decorated their homes for the holidays.



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