Around The Ponds

October
2026
gpatpnews@gmail.com

Est. 1986

Edited and Published by
Jeanne Jean
Mike Richardson

Message from the Board

Welcome to another great season in Golden Ponds. The snowbirds are starting to return, the weather is a little cooler, and we dodged another year with no major storms.

Thanks to Yvette and Mr. Barding, the Pickleball courts have been greatly improved, many of our roads have been patched, and the outdoor kitchen has or will be cleaned and updated. The area in front of the clubhouse that was destroyed in last year's freeze is being rebuilt and should be beautiful when finished. Also, there are new tables and chairs in the game room.

If you have never been to coffee plus, please join us. It's a great way to meet your neighbors and even free coffee and donuts! It's always on the first Saturday of each month at 9am. We hope to see you on Saturday October 3rd.

Another date you should put on your calendar is our monthly HOA meeting the third Wednesday of every month, in the south clubhouse beginning at 7:00pm. It's a great place to get updates on everything happening in Golden Ponds. We hope to see you on Wednesday October 21st.

Yes, the Christmas Drive thru is SUNDAY DECEMBER 13th. We are surely blessed to be able to spend the winter in paradise.

Gary Lange
HOA president

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It is the intent of the ATP staff to deliver the newsletter by the last day of the month. Please be patient as some residents may receive their copy earlier than others. Extra calendars will be available on the table in the north clubhouse. If you have not received your copy by the 1st of the month, please contact Frank Forney at 804-491-3104.

Copy is due by the 20th of the preceding month. gpatpnews@gmail.com

HOA OFFICERS

President - Gary Lange
Vice President of Homeowners – Steve Salatino
Vice President of Activities- Alice Peck
Treasurer – Ruth Chuqui-Conder
Asst. Treasurer – Tom Dillon
Secretary – Jeanne Jean
Asst. Secretary – Nancy Mitchel-Leiterman
Directors – Brenda Cavanagh, Mike Harter, Marie Morely, Barbara Boate, Anthony DeJuliis

Manager's Message

It is so hard to believe it's already October and time for our Northern friends to return for another great season!

Let's welcome Levy and Frances Gantt they purchased 1735 Golden Ponds Dr. and they are from North Carolina.

We are still working on a lot of the landscaping around the park. Trust the vision. There's lots more to be done.

Concrete work has started and will be done soon. Sorry for any inconvenience and please be kind to the workers.

Just a few reminders:

- Don't park in the grass.
- Keep up with the trimming of your house and storage.
- ALL overnight guests must be registered.
- NO GUEST DOGS.
- Walk all the way around your house and look at skirting, vents and see if your house needs to be power washed.
- You need to put in writing to office to request a new dog.

It's a great time to spruce up around your house. Love where you live!!!

If you ever have any questions or need help, I'm always available.

"Let your happiness shine brighter than your worries."

Yvette Peppard
Park manager

Letter From The Maintenance Team

Well, since my last letter I am seeing a few people trimming their yard and edging the road better. That is great to see. What I don't understand is why so many people let their yards become so unsightly in the first place, when it takes so little effort to have it trimmed correctly. Two times a month is all it takes. If you have hired a person to trim for you, please make sure they edge the road with an edger or even the edge of a string trimmer will work.

You can also spray weed killer in both your landscaping beds and mulch beds if they are overgrown. It will not kill your landscaping!

Everyone's post light is supposed to (**according to park policy we all signed when buying**) have a 60-watt daytime LED lightbulb in them. Wouldn't this park look awesome if everyone did this and had the park look consistent and cohesive? There is always some leeway during the holidays, but after the holidays, post lights should be returned to the white light bulb. If you enjoy colored lights, or color changing lights, perhaps put them in your porch lights instead!

A little extra care around our homes goes a long way for our whole park, because at the end of the day, It's what we all agreed to do when we purchased our homes.

Gregg Ley
Head of Maintenance

Golden Ponds
A 55+ MANUFACTURED HOME COMMUNITY

Letter from the VP of Homeowners

Bylaw Changes/Updates

Happy Fall to all! October marks when we resume our monthly HOA General meetings. With that said, we have some business still yet to finalize a vote on, and that would be the bylaw changes reviewed at two of our spring meetings by Tom Dillon.

A question was raised inquiring about the fiscal year date changes, and about the timing of newly elected board officials, namely, the Treasurer position. The concern is specifically about whether a newly appointed treasurer would be at a disadvantage of learning the position, and the immediate timing of key processes that need to be performed based on the fiscal year changes. Would they be at a disadvantage?

Since the question/concern was raised, the HOA board reviewed and verified the following:
- The GP HOA Policies Guidelines document *(stored as public record on our website)* outlines the responsibility of any outgoing board member to train and transition responsibilities to the newly appointment member taking their seat. This includes working side by side till the new board member is adequately up to speed to independently handle the functions of said position. This is key in addressing the concern, especially for the Treasurer and Assistant Treasurer positions, when they are filled by newly elected individuals.
- This was the only Bylaw change-related item that was raised for discussion. If there are any further questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to reach out to me. We look forward to getting these changes voted on so we can move on with other time-sensitive items that are important to you, our members.

Thank you and hope to see all of you at October's meeting!!!!!
Steve Salatino – VP Homeowners

Music Bingo Is Coming!

There's' a new kind of bingo coming to Golden Ponds!

Music Bingo by Dr. Rocks Organized Chaos

Oct 3rd 11am – 2pm

What is music bingo you ask? Dr. Rock's wife plays a 30 sec piece from a known song or commercial. If you have the name of that pierce on your bingo sheet, you cross it off. Just like regular bingo. The name will also be displayed on the screens.

This first Music Bingo is being paid for through HOA Funds! Thank you, HOA! But should we all want to do it again, there will be a charge to cover having Dr. Rocks come back.

Lunch will be served, so it is IMPERATIVE that you sign up on the board in the north clubhouse, so we know how many sandwiches to order. There will be a choice of turkey, ham or roast beef and a cookie. Please bring your own beverage to go with your lunch.



The lunch and prizes will be provided by donations from: Donna A, Paul R, Tammy & Tony D, and Lenny & Marylou M.

Any questions, contact Marylou Meenan 815-546-8235

Cruise Meeting

We will be holding our first cruise meeting of the 26/27 season on October 18th in the South Clubhouse.

When we get together we will only have a little more than three months before we sail out of Port Canaveral for 9 days aboard Royal Caribbean's Explorer of the Seas. During the cruise we will visit ports in Aruba, Curaçao, Dominican Republic and Royal Caribbean's private island in the Bahamas.

If you haven't already booked to go with us, you should still have time when you read this article.



I'm hoping at the meeting we can share stories you might have of previous trips or things you've learned by exploring RC 's website. I have joined a Facebook page called Royal Caribbean Cruise Tips, Tricks and Deals and check it a couple of times a week. Some of the information is handy if you're a first-time cruiser. I've been checking it more for restaurant and entertainment info as well.

Alice Peck.

Columbus Day/Indigenous Peoples' Day

October 12, 2026

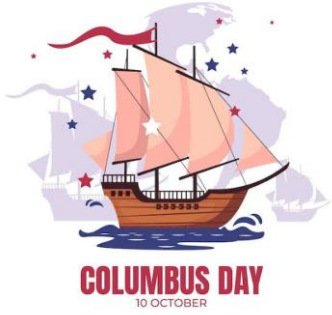
Columbus Day is a U.S. holiday that commemorates the landing of Christopher Columbus in the Americas in 1492. Normally, Columbus Day falls on the second Monday of the month, but this year it lands on October 12, the exact date of his original arrival.

In 1892, President Benjamin Harrison issued a proclamation encouraging Americans to mark the 400th anniversary of Columbus' voyage with patriotic festivities, writing, "On that day let the people, so far as possible, cease from toil and devote themselves to such exercises as may best express honor to the discoverer and their appreciation of the great achievements of the four completed centuries of American life."

Then in 1937, President Franklin D. Roosevelt proclaimed Columbus Day a national holiday, largely as a result of intense lobbying by the Knights of Columbus, an influential Catholic fraternal organization in America.

While Columbus Day is a federal government holiday, all federal offices are closed, but not all states grant it as a day off from work.

Since 1991, nearly 200 U.S. cities, several universities and a growing number of states have adopted Indigenous Peoples' Day, a holiday that celebrates the history and contributions of Native Americans, alongside Columbus Day.



Halloween

October 31, 2026

Each year, October 31st is a day to celebrate all things that go bump in the night! But where do our Halloween traditions come from? Let's explore a little bit of the history of Halloween and its traditions, from turnip carving to prayers exchanged for cake. As autumn approaches, many of us prepare for the spookiest night of the year. Pumpkins are carved, decorations appear and children and adults too, ready their costumes for parties and trick or treating.

Halloween's origins can be traced back to the seventh century, when Pope Boniface IV established All Saints' Day on May 13th, to honor saints who had reached heaven. However, in the eighth century, this feast day was moved to November 1st. Because of this change, the day before, or October 31st, became known as All Hallows' Eve, or Halloween.

The shift in this Christian date from May to November was likely intended to replace the pagan festival of Samhain (pronounced sow-in), an ancient Celtic celebration marking the end of the harvest and the start of winter. It was also believed that during this time the curtain between the living and the dead was at its thinnest. In fact, throughout the medieval period families would set an extra place at the dinner table or light candles in their windows to welcome back deceased loved ones who were believed to revisit their former homes during this time.

Carving pumpkins is one of Halloween's most classic traditions, but the custom originated with a different vegetable entirely – turnips! When I was doing my research, I found this story that I had **never** heard before. I found it quite interesting, so I added it – here's the story of Stingy Jack!

In 19th and early 20th-century Ireland, people carved turnips to honor the Irish folk tale of a man named Stingy Jack. Originating in the early 1600s, the story goes that he trapped the devil and would only release him on one condition: that he would not be sent to the underworld upon his death. However, when the time came Jack discovered that heaven would not allow his soul to enter, he was doomed to wander the earth for eternity. Legend says that the devil gave Jack a burning coal to light his way, and Jack carved out a turnip to hold it. As Irish and Scottish immigrants brought their turnip-carving customs to America, they found native pumpkins were larger and easier to carve so they quickly adapted the practice calling them "jack-o-lanterns" after Stingy Jack. By the late 1800s, pumpkin carving became a widespread Halloween custom. In the United States, over 800 million pumpkins are grown and sold specifically for Halloween and the fall season.

The modern practice of trick-or-treating has its roots in various historical celebrations as well. A key influence was the British tradition of "souling," in which people, usually the poorer in society, would go door-to-door offering prayers for the deceased in exchange for food. During the Victorian period, people were given "soul cakes." In parts of Yorkshire, October 31st was called 'Cake Night' due to the custom of making cake on this final night of the month. The tradition of "guising," in which people would dress up and perform door-to-door in exchange for

food or money, was also prevalent in parts of Scotland and Ireland from at least the 16th century. When Irish and Scottish immigrants later arrived in America, this practice evolved into what we now recognize today as trick-or-treating.

But what about the '**trick**' in trick-or-treat?

Mischief Night, which occurred on April 30th and later moved to November 4th was first recorded in 1790 when a headmaster instructed his students to stage a play with the title: *An Ode to Fun* which praised and approved children's tricks on Mischief Night.

Also at this time, young men would settle grudges with pranks such as uprooting fences, trampling gardens, and setting livestock loose. By the mid-20th century this mischief, combined with more innocent practices like toilet paper in trees, ringing doorbells and running, and soaping windows became more prevalent as well. These "harmless annoyances" created the modern tradition in which children go door-to-door collecting sweets shouting, "trick or treat." As this custom became more established, candy companies realized that they might be able to use the celebration to their advantage by making small, individually wrapped sweets specifically for the occasion. Today, Americans spend more than $11 billion annually on Halloween, making it the country's second largest commercial holiday after Christmas.

The tradition of wearing costumes on Halloween traces back to the ancient Celts. During Samhain (pronounced sow-in), they believed that spirits roamed the earth and to avoid being recognized by these malevolent beings, they would wear disguises. By dressing in costumes, they hoped to confuse the spirits and avoid harm. This practice has evolved over the centuries into the playful costume wearing we see today. Whether dressing up as witches, goblins and ghosts, or pop culture idols and superheroes, the tradition of wearing costumes on Halloween remains a key part of the celebration.

We celebrate Halloween as a festival full of excitement and fun for children, but Halloween is not only for kids anymore. Today, more and more adults are celebrating this fun festival as well. After all, who doesn't want to dress up in a costume and head out to a fancy-dress party? So, whatever your age, go enjoy this seasonal celebration and have a Happy Halloween! And remember…. be careful of those things that go bump in the night!!!



💍 October Anniversaries 💍

10/02/82 Ed & Dee McCurry
10/06/73 Dick & Judy Huffington
10/05/74 Greg & Judy Culver
10/07/06 Gene & Cheryl Rudd
10/08/88 Robert & Rosemary Durocher
10/08/83 Lynn & Cliff Grayley
10/10/20 Chad & Theresa Keegan
10/11/86 Tom & Ann Foley
10/14/95 Bob & Katherine Nasser
10/16/10 Jody & Alyessa Modine
10/17/86 James & Linda Groves
10/17/24 Robert & Tonya Partin Sanchez
10/25/86 Scott & Kelly Peck
10/28/78 Steve & Sue Dahlstrom
10/28/67 Peter & Rosemary May
10/29/05 George & Sharon Carpenter
10/30/65 Buford & Wanda Turley

USED/EMPTY CARTRIDGES RECYCLE

There is a basket in the Card Room in the North Club House for empty ink cartridges. The HOA receives Rewards Credits from Staples for our paper supply orders. Your recycling is appreciated.

Thank You.
Ruthie Chuqui-Conder

🎂 October Birthdays 🎂

1 Ellana Cook, Janet Lemieux, Frank Forney Jr.
4 Sandy Amadon, Sean Grealy, Bob Hornic, Chris Volz
5 Daria McIntosh, Peggy Walsh
6 Elaine Hartman
7 Mike Richardson, Jennifer Yowonske
9 Donna Moore
10 Vinnie Crowley, Karen Kuhn
11 Kim Michael Greer, Barbara McNutt
12 Sam Eleuteri
13 Julitta Manobianco
14 Ed Hamilton, Carlos Nanni, Russ Watson
15 David Ilomaki
16 Beverly George, Robert Durocher, June Poole
19 Mary Davidson, Cheryl Rudd
20 Sharon Carpenter, Dolores McMahon
21 Anona Peltry
22 Moe Chenette, Bonnie Hutchinson
23 Theresa Amanna, Joan Markis
24 Linda Dusanek
25 Warren Greth, Linda Bonhamer, Karen Plante
27 Gorden Cavanagh, Bob Dusanek, Katherine Nasser
29 Robert Scarcella, Cindi Webster
30 Maureen Wood
31 Glenn Tureski, Wayne McAlister

There are three things I've learned not to discuss in public: politics, religion, and **The Great Pumpkin!**

Linus



2026 Golden Ponds November Annual Bazaar

The Golden Ponds Annual Bazaar will run from Thursday, November 12, through Saturday, November 14. *On Thursday*, *Resident's Night* doors will open at 4:00p for residents who need assistance and at 5:00p for all other residents:

Dinner

Food will be served in the Outdoor Kitchen Area from 4:00p-6:00p. Menu and reasonable price will be announced in the November ATP. Contact Gary Lange if you have any questions or would like to offer your assistance.

Raffles

Raffle drawings begin at 6:00p in the North Clubhouse and will feature a variety of raffle opportunities, monetary, as well as beautiful baskets. Tickets will be available for purchase at the entrance and will also be included in the ATP.

To purchase tickets or additional tickets before November 12—or to donate a raffle basket or item—contact Fawn Persuitti or Ruth Chuqui-Conder.

Bake Sale and Prepared Meals

Baked goods and individually prepared meals will be available for purchase throughout the bazaar in the North Clubhouse. All donations are greatly appreciated:

Donation Drop-Off

Wednesday, November 11, from 5:00–7:00 p.m. or Thursday, November 12, beginning at 10:00 a.m. in the South Clubhouse kitchen. For questions, contact Jan Malanga.

Public Bazaar Hours

The bazaar will be open to residents and the public on:

- **Friday, November 13:** 8:30 a.m.–1:00 p.m.
- **Saturday, November 14:** 8:30 a.m.–12:00 p.m.

Pre-Bazaar Schedule

Before the doors open, volunteers are needed for setup, organization and pricing. This work is a true community effort—and an impressive experience for first-time volunteers.

November 7 — Setup

Beginning at approximately 10:00a, immediately after Coffee Plus: set up tables, move items from the shed to the clubhouse, and begin placing items in their appropriate section.

November 8–11: Organizing and Pricing

Volunteers will organize and price donated items.

Donation deadline: All bazaar donations must be dropped off no later than the morning of Tuesday, November 10. No items will be accepted after that time.

Volunteer Opportunities

- Help with setup, organizing and pricing of donated items
- Assist with moving and setup of furniture and outdoor tent
- Donate baked goods, prepared meals, raffle baskets or items for baskets
- Volunteer for a short bazaar shift overseeing an area or helping with cashier or food service duties.
- If donating linens such as sheets and tablecloths, indicate size and description before donating. Also, if you're familiar with pricing, please price any donated items before dropping them off at the clubhouse or shed.

Volunteer Meeting

If you are interested in volunteering or would like more information, there will be a meeting for all new and experienced parties on Monday, November 2 at 3:00 p.m. in the South Clubhouse.

Bazaar Contacts

Feel free to contact any of these individuals with any questions or interests you may have or ask anyone in the community. There are a lot of experienced volunteers who are happy to help and make you feel comfortable.

Furniture Pickup/Shed Donations	Jerry & Lynn Griffin and Sonny DeLaurentis
South Clubhouse	Laurie Dillon, Kathy Olson
North Clubhouse	Ruth Chuqui-conder, Marilyn Bowden
Outside Tent	Tom Dillon, Frank Genevick
Food	Gary Lange
Bake Sale	Jan Malanga

This annual bazaar is our community's largest HOA fundraiser. Whether you can contribute five minutes or five hours, for one day or several, your help is valued. Experienced leaders and volunteers will be available to guide you. Every contribution makes a difference.

Thank you in advance for supporting your community!

Breast Cancer Awareness Month: The Facts on Screenings

October is Breast Cancer Awareness Month, making it an ideal time to review some of the most current health guidelines. According to the American Cancer Society. Women aged 55 and older should continue getting mammograms every 1 to 2 years, depending on personal risk factors and past mammogram results. These routine exams are the most reliable way to detect changes early, when treatment is most effective.

If you are due for a screening, you can schedule an appointment through your primary care physician or contact a local imaging center directly. Most health insurance plans, including Medicare, cover annual mammograms with no out-of-pocket costs. Medicare Part B covers 100% of the cost meaning you pay **$0 out-of-pocket** as long as your provider accepts Medicare. You do not even need a doctor's referral to schedule a routine screening. If you are due for your annual checkup, consider calling your healthcare provider or a local imaging center today to secure an appointment.

If you are due for your annual mammogram, several reputable facilities are available right here in the Fort Pierce area:

- Radiology Imaging Associates: 2306 Nebraska Ave. — Call **(772) 398-2233**
- Diagnostic Radiology Center: 2011 S. 25th St., Suite 106 — Call **(772) 468-7020**
- Windsor Imaging: 1000 Virginia Ave. — Call **(772) 466-5050**
- HCA Florida Lawnwood Hospital Breast Health: 1700 S. 23rd St. — Call **(877) 331-7025**

As Breast Cancer Awareness month winds down, the spirit of the pink ribbon shouldn't. It needs to stay with us for the rest of the year remaining a wonderful symbol of the lives we've honored, the research we've helped fund, and the early detection practices that save our loved ones' lives. Together, let's keep turning awareness into active care by making sure our community stays strong and healthy.



Veteran's Day

Veterans, on November 11 we will be putting a flag by your light pole to honor all veterans past and present and spouses of past veterans. If you got a flag last year, you **DO NOT** need to do anything. You are on my list. If you are new in the park and are a veteran, please fill out the form that will be on the table in the North Clubhouse.
If you have a picture of yourself in uniform, there is separate form to fill out with your name, branch, years served and rank at discharge. We will need to copy that picture with the information, so we can display it at coffee plus on November 7.

November 11 is on a Wednesday this year and the clubhouse will be set up for our bazaar so we can't do it on actual Veterans Day.

Pat Lake



What do ghosts eat for dinner?

Answer in the ads!

Just a reminder…….

Yard waste pickup for the month of Oct will be: Oct 7th & Oct 21st
Garbage: Every Monday & Thursday
Recyclables: Every Thursday

Barring any issues with Waste Pro!

October Birthday Cake

If you have an October birthday, come and join us for a piece of cake on



Sunday, October 4th at 4:00
Feel free to bring a friend!

Riddle me this……

A vampire walks in the rain without a coat, hat or umbrella, yet his hair doesn't get wet. Why?



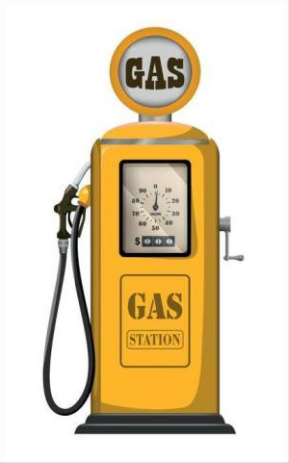
Answer in the ads!

October Greetings!

As I sat down to put together this month's issue, I found myself thinking back to memories of Halloweens past. It was such a fun time of year! The best part about Halloween was choosing your costume. I remember looking at all the packaged ones on display in stores, but we rarely bought them. Most of the ones I wore my mom and dad created. As all of you know, I have a limb difference in my left arm. Any costume I wore had to disguise that fact, so no one else in the class would know who I was. In those days, we had elaborate classroom parties and a school wide celebration including a parade through the entire school with all the classes in their costumes following the leader, then that night, a bonfire with cider and donuts! Anyway, costumes for me were a bit more challenging. One year, my aunt suggested making me a gas pump! (She was so creative she could put a paper bag in the corner and make it look elegant!)

My father owned the local hardware store, so we had many boxes at our disposal. My dad and Aunt Gina went to work. Attaching a small box for the head (creating the dials and my eye holes) to a bigger box (making the body of the pump). Then, the gas hose made from rope and an outdoor water spigot was added to the side. They painstakingly painted it a bright yellow with the words high octane and Shell in bright, red letters on the front. Viola! I was a gas pump! It looked spectacular, and nobody could possibly guess my identity. But there was one problem. There was no way for me to hold my trick or treat bag. My dad and Aunt Gina thought for a minute, then my dad grabbed a knife and cut a small 3-sided slit-like door in the front just big enough to get my hand through. It worked but was awkward for me. Heads together again. Thinking. My Aunt grabbed my trick or treat bag, hung it on the spigot of the gas hose and there we were! I'd ring the doorbell, say trick or treat, and turn sideways to receive my goodies. I kept that darn thing in the corner of my room for a few years! I think the next year my parents talked me into being a witch in a cape! Imagine my dad and Aunt Gina with that concept!

Happy Halloween everyone!



The goldenrod is yellow,
The corn is turning brown,
The trees in apple orchards with fruit are bending down.
The air is sharp and chilly,
The days are short and clear, and by these lovely tokens October days are here.



Dinah Marie Craik

2027 Golden Ponds Phone Directory

Look for the 2027 phone directory in the January 2027 newsletter. The 2026 Phone Directory underwent a major database reformat upgrade. Unfortunately, it was not a seamless transition as we hoped it would be. Phone Directory volunteers are asking folks to take a second look at your name, address, and phone number in the **current** 2026 directory. If we need to make a correction, please take a Phone Directory Update Form located on the bulletin board at the North Clubhouse. Fill out the form and return it to my mailbox located in the Card room. Our goal is to have a single working database that will serve our community more efficiently in the future.

Golden Ponds Book Club

Mad Mabel by Sally Hepworth was our September selection to read and discuss at our meeting on the 10th. It has been on the top ten bestseller list since it came out in April of this year. It is about an elderly woman who once was the youngest killer in Australia's history.

Mabel Fitzpatrick was a lonely child with very few friends and distant parents. By the time she was a young teenager she had suffered more betrayal and loss than anyone could bear. She finally reaches a breaking point, and someone loses their life. The book goes back and forth between her early life and the octogenarian that she is today and over time, we start to understand why she hides away in the home that she has lived in for 60 years.

We are introduced to some wonderful people like her best friend, Daphne, her beloved Aunt Cess, and a precious little neighbor Persephone. Unfortunately, there are also hateful people that affect her life as a child and as an old woman.

I know I'm being vague, but I really want to encourage you to read the book. You can find a copy in our library. We had a good discussion and gave it an average rating of 4.13 out of 5.



The October selection is *The Correspondent* by Virginia Evans.
We will meet on October 8th and would love to have you join us.
Happy Reading
Alice Peck

Library News

Our snowbirds are already returning, and the library is getting busier with returned and donated books.

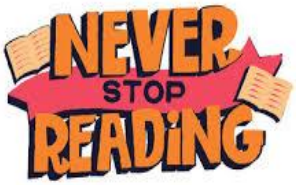
We had a series of Paranormal books donated to us by Sherry A. Burton. We have ten of the twelve books in the series titled *The Jerry McNeal* series on our shelf.

Call it a premonition, call it intuition, but Pennsylvania State Trooper Jerry McNeil simply thinks of it as that feeling that may come on with no warning, so intense he can't breathe.

During one of the largest snowstorms of the year, Trooper McNeil feels that premonition stir. Jerry has no choice but to venture out onto the snow-covered roads following the invisible pull that grips at his soul. Only tonight Trooper McNeil will not be going alone. Thus, starts book one of the series titled *Always Faithful*.

This series is found on left side after entering the library on bottom shelf where fantasy, etc. books are shelved. These books will be numbered with gold stickers on the spine of the book.

Thanks again for your donations and book returns in the basket. It makes our job easier, and you will have no problems finding a title you want to read.



Happy Reading
Linda Merrill

CARING FOR CAREGIVERS

If You Feel Like You're Not Doing Enough, Read on

💜 You 're showing up.
That matters more than you know.

💜 You're doing hard things.
That takes strength most people don't see.

💜 You care deeply.
And it's a beautiful thing.

💜 Some days will feel impossible.
And you're still here.

💜 You are enough.
Even the days it doesn't feel like it.

💜 You don't have to be perfect to be an amazing caregiver.
You just have to keep going.

Alzheimer's Caregivers 24hrs
Helpline 800-272-3900

See you on October 8th @ 10:00 am.
❤️
We are here for you

Marylou Meenan 815-546-8235
Ruthie Chuqui-Conder 772-475-4638



BAZAAR

It's time to be thinking about the Bazaar for 2026.
I'd like to thank those who have already given donations for the bazaar baskets raffle. It is greatly appreciated!
However, If anyone would like to donate a few items for our Wine, Dog, Cat, and Kitchen baskets, please contact me with any questions.



Thank you in advance.

Ruthie Chuqui-Conder
772-475-4638.

COMPUTER HELP

If you have challenges with your laptop, iPad or iPhone etc. don't throw up your hands in frustration. Come to the South Clubhouse on Friday, October 16 at 2:30 and the team from Lakewood Park Library will help you to solve your problems. I will post a list in the North Clubhouse for you to put your name and the Item(s) you will be bringing in for help. The group has been here several times over the years and I'm also going to try and book them again in January or February. They are always very patient and helpful.
Alice Peck

Wills, Trusts & Ladybird Deeds

The law offices of Jacobs and Jacobs will be coming to our park on October 6th at 2:00 to tell us about the difference between wills, trusts and Ladybird deeds and give us the information on which we should choose based on our individual circumstances. They probably will not be able to give us exact information, but they will be able to answer general questions and make an appointment for us to get more personalized advice.
Most of us have plans in place but perhaps circumstances have changed and we might want confirmation that the choice we have made is still the right one.

Calling All Artisans & Crafters!

We're looking for talented makers to join our **2027 Golden Ponds Artisan/Craft Fair**!

If you create handmade items, we'd love to have you be part of our growing group of vendors.

Share your creativity, meet new customers, and showcase your work!



Interested? Contact Rosemary May
518-369-3037

apaneinmyglassfl@gmail.com

Hospice Corner – 2027 Event

As Golden Ponds begins planning the 2027 Hospice fundraiser, we want to take a moment (AGAIN!) to extend our heartfelt thanks to all the volunteers who have made this event such a success over the years. Your time, energy, and dedication have helped us raise critical funds for Treasure Coast Hospice, and we truly could not do it without you.

From setting up tables and making phone calls, to baking treats, spreading the word or simply showing up with a smile every effort has made a difference. And who can forget the return of our amazing Hospice Luncheon. What a tremendous success that was! Last year alone, thanks to your incredible support, we raised **$19,257**, which went directly toward supporting individuals and families in need of hospice care. This year's goal is to break the $20K mark! We can do it!

As we gear up for this year's event, we're excited to welcome new faces into our volunteer team. Whether you have an hour a week or can dive into a leadership role, there's a place for you. No experience is necessary, a willingness to pitch in and be part of something that truly matters.

Join Us at the First Meeting

Date: November 19, 2026
Time: 6:00 pm
Location: South Club House
Zoom: Lynn/Nancy
Anyone else? – please provide us with your email address ASAP if you need to Zoom

We'll be discussing event plans, assigning roles, and brainstorming ideas, and we'd love to have your voice at the table. It's also a great opportunity to meet other community members and find out how you can get involved in a way that suits your time and interests.

If you're interested in volunteering or have questions, feel free to reach out to any of the following:

Paul Rodrigue & Donna Ashton
(207) 213-9241 (607) 371-2039
coachpaulrodrigue@gmail.com
Drashton04@icloud.com

Lynn Leiterman & Nancy Mitchell Leiterman
(315) 521-9912 (315) 651-5799
Lynn.Leiterman@gmail.com
Nancymitchell303@gmail.com

Let's make this year's fundraiser the best one yet – together!

With gratitude,

Golden Ponds Hospice 2027
Fundraiser Planning Committee





Sunshine Report

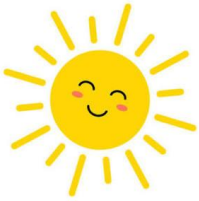
Hi Ponders,

I'm finally back and would like to thank Gay Newman for filling in for me in my absence. Here is a list of the cards which have been sent out on behalf of the HOA in the last few months.

Get Well
Bev Dixon and Gerry Fortune, 1747 Walden Pond Dr
Patty Rist, 10107 Gaslight CT (sent to Port St. Lucie Rehabilitation and Healthcare, 7300 Oleander Ave, Port st. Lucie, FL 34952)

Thinking of You
Regis & Darla McIntosh, 1844 Stonybrook Dr
Gloria Cricione, 1840 Bar Harbor Dr.
Robert (Bobby) and Theresa (Terry) Amana, 1748 Walden Pond
Dr

Sympathy
Fawn Persuitti, on the passing of her long-time partner Vincent (Vinnie) Crowley, 1868 Walden Pond Dr



Debbie Kuder and Family, P.O. Box 23953, Rochester, NY, 14692, on the passing of their mother, Della (Bunny) Dearcop, 1697 Golden Ponds Dr

RuthAnn & Calvin Campbell, 1744 Stonybrook Dr, on the passing of her daughter.

Sharon VanDell



Mexican Night
October 17th

Tacos, nachos or taco salad! Your choice. We'll provide everything you need to make these items. Soft and hard shells, nacho chips, taco meat, refried beans, salsa, two types of cheese, sour cream, green onions, black olives, tomatoes, chopped onions and maybe others but those for sure. A variety of desserts will also be served. It will be held in the South Clubhouse and please bring your own beverage. As usual, the HOA will provide all tableware, cups and ice.



Tickets will be sold Monday the 5th through Wednesday the 7th from 9:00-10:30 in the North Clubhouse at a cost of $10 per person.

Spooktacular Potluck

Come and join in the fun on Halloween night for a Spooktacular Potluck beginning at 5:00. Start wracking your brain for a hauntingly tasty dish to share. Maybe a bubbling caldron of chili, deviled eyeball eggs or some skeleton cookies. The possibilities are endless. Bring your beverage of choice like Bloody Mary's and we will supply the goblets and ice.

We were thinking about playing some traditional Halloween games but vetoed most of them - like bobbing for apples (denture issues) or pin the nose on the pumpkin (balance issues with the spinning). But a fun game of cornhole might be safe! If you have any other good ideas, feel free to share them with us. Let's all wear a costume and pretend we're 7 again instead of 70!



Future Events

I have been looking ahead at the HOA calendar through the spring of 2027 and many of our annual events have not been scheduled and currently have no one to host them. On the other hand, many events do have hosts, some of them doing it for the first time as people have “retired.”

Our Bazaar and Christmas Drive Thru committees are in good shape and the Bazaar already has meeting plans in the works. December has some events that need hosts and they are included on the list at the end of this article. I’m still waiting to hear from various groups that have led up games, sports and various groups in the past. If you look at the HOA website calendar you can see things that have already been scheduled and the information regarding times and hosts. You will also easily be able to see what is currently available.

If you would like to get on the calendar you can email me right on the HOA page or contact me on Facebook Messenger. The sooner you do it, the better the availability is.

Alice Peck
Vice-President of Activities.

12/5/26 Trim-A-Tree Kim Krause

12/6/26 Lessons and Carols Laurie Dillon

TBD Cookie Exchange Mary Torres

12/10/26 Welcome Back Dance Bev and Tom Atkinson Linda Huber &Bob Scarcella

12/13/26 Christmas Drive- Thru

TBD Gift Exchange TBD (Linda Huber)

12/19/26 Caroling for Shut ins Marylou Meenan

12/25/26 Christmas Potluck Dinner TBD

12/31/26 New Year Eve Dance TDB

1/16/27 Artisans Craft Fair Rosemary May

1/23/27 Dance-My Brothers Band Karen & Galen Johnson

TBD Super Bowl Sunday TBD

2/14/27 Valentine Dance TBD

2/23/27 Chris Onink BD celebration Tammi and Tony DeJuliis

3/14/27. Golden Geezers Olympics Kristen & Greg Boudle

3/20/27 Golf Banquet Gary Lange & Tom Dillon

TBD Til We Meet Again TBD



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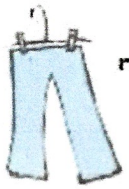
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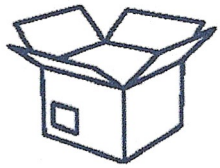
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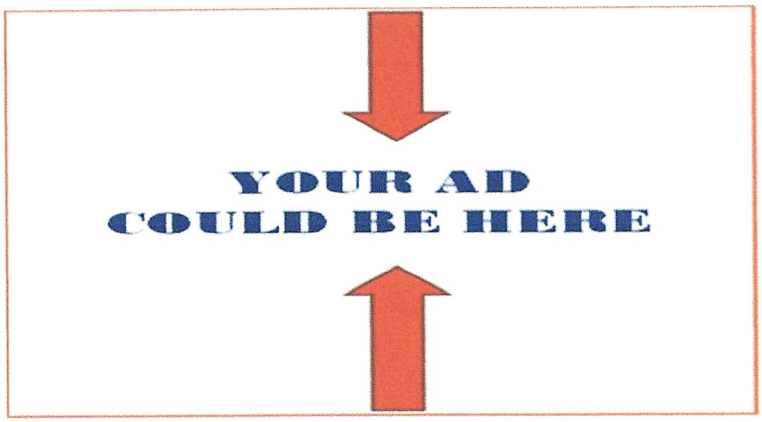
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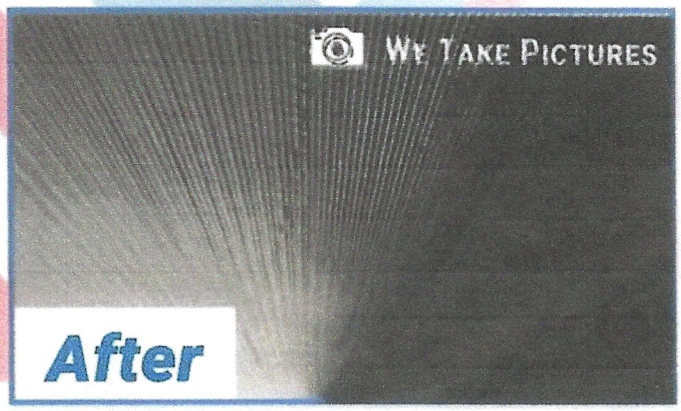
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Saturday 10/3
Coffee Plus 9:00-10:00
Music Bingo and Lunch 11:00-2:00

Saturday 10/4
Monthly Birthday Cake 4:00
Monday 10/5 thru Wednesday 10/7
Ticket Sales for Mexican Night 9:00-10:30

Tuesday 10/6
Wills - Trusts - Ladybird Deeds 2:00-3:00

Wednesday 10/7
HOA Board Meeting 4:30-5:30
Society Swirl Ice Cream Truck 5:00-7:00

Tuesday 10/13
IDK Food Truck 5:00-7:00

Wednesday 10/14
Bazaar Store Open 9:00-11:00

Friday 10/16
Computer Help 2:30-4:00

Saturday 10/17
Mexican Night 5:00-6:00

Sunday 10/18
Cruise Meeting 2:00-3:00

Tuesday 10/20
Summer Bingo 5:00-7:30

Wednesday 10/21
Annual Health Fair 10:00-12:00
HOA General Meeting 7:00-8:00

Thursday 10/22
Island Style BBQ Truck 5:00-7:00

Tuesday 10/27
Society Swirl Ice Cream Truck 5:00-7:00

Wednesday 10/28
Bazaar Store Open 9:00-11:00

Friday 10/30
End of Life Planning 1:30-2:30

Saturday 10/31
Spooktacular Potluck 5:00-7:00

