



A Publication of Golf Lakes 5050 5th Street East Bradenton, FL 34203 941-755-3322

Published monthly by On Trac Publishing • P.O. Box 161, Ellenton, FL 34222 • (941) 723-5003



Golf Lakes Staff

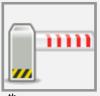
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Maintenance	
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Sandy Augsburger	Director
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Park Information



Gate Info

9th Street - Main Gate is Open 7AM - 6PM, remote after hours

9th Street - North Gate is Exit Only and Closed for Entry 53rd Ave. - South Gate is Exit Only and Closed for Entry Golf Course - West Gate is Open 7AM - 6PM, remote only





Open for All Scheduled Activities 24 / 7 by key-fob afterhours



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7AM - 10PM



Pickleball

7:30AM - 10PM www.GL-PC.org Calendar & Info



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The Many Forms of Communication within Golf Lakes

1. **The Banner** is the official print media for communicating events and clarifying policies/rules. Groups can submit items and are responsible for the veracity of their items. The Banner can not be as timely as it would like because of the publication scheduling and printing. A useful portion of The Banner is the centerfold. Many residents detach this and post it on their bulletin board (or the world's most common art gallery, the refrigerator). Each month, The Banner is available in the Clubhouse. It is also available via the web site golflakes.com (look under the "Residents" tab. Past issues can be accessed there as well).



2. **Email blasts** are sent through the Park Manager/Office when events such as Pool Closures or Gate issues need to be announced. Residents should verify that the Office has their correct email address. This method of "getting the word out" is careful to not be overused. If you are not receiving these notices, check your spam. Because this method tries to be as timely as possible, residents should tag the sender as trusted.



3. The <u>Golf Lakes Official Resident Facebook for Events and</u>
<u>Recommendation Facebook Page</u> is another method of communication for our Residents. To join the page you need to submit a request to become a member of the private group. All members are required to answer questions and will be verified with the Park Office. The moderators approve all posts submitted to make sure they meet the guidelines as dictated by the Board of Directors. It is a wonderful source of information as well as recommendations.



4. <u>Bulletin Boards</u> are located within the Clubhouse. There are dedicated Boards which both inform, capture sign-ups for various events such as Activities, Board of Directors Notifications, Potlucks/Pitch-ins and opportunities to be involved within the community. Residents are encouraged to "check out" the multitude of groups, activities, and opportunities for service and enrichment.



5. <u>Saturday Morning Social Hour</u> is often the most interesting method of receiving notices. The announcements segment features individuals expressing events in their own personal style. A chair on Saturday morning costs one dollar. Donuts can be purchased, or you can bring your own refreshments. The advantages of attending Saturday Morning are: you are hearing from the proverbial horse's mouth and you can ask for clarification.



Please be very cautious about information transmitted by "word-of-mouth". The recent events of Hurricane MILTON have demonstrated how inaccurate "somebody said" information can be. Do you remember the "Telephone Game" from elementary school?













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Jim Hofman

A Message from the PRESIDENT

"It was the best of times, it was the worst of times"

This is the opening sentence to Charles Dicken's great novel. "A Tale of Two Cities" aptly describes the two weeks immediately after Hurricane Milton struck our park and the surrounding region. It was the best of times because those of us who were here, worked together to help with the cleanup and restoration. It was the worst of times because so many in our community lost their forever homes or had significant damage done to them. It is hard to describe what our park looked like on the day following Milton. Roads were impassable, electric lines were down and trees were uprooted. As people have returned, especially those who came two or more weeks later, perhaps it seemed we had escaped the damage. I assure you we were directly hit and some experts have said tornadoes were also to blame. Those who were here immediately after the storm put in extremely long days to restore the park to its present status. Sure, we went weeks without internet or cable TV, many roofs have tarps and some homes still have significant damage, but still nothing like the days following the hurricane.

I want to again thank all who worked so hard to help Service Master in the clean up job they did. They had initially estimated they would be working for three weeks but were able to leave in one day less than two weeks!

I know that for some of our residents, this is like a summer cottage or a place in the mountains that you have for an escape and a retreat. For others of us, this is our forever earthly home. For some, this is our little village we live in year-round. Those who have lived here year-round and lost their homes, it has been the worst of times. We are grateful that no one was killed or injured, but grieve for those who will not be coming back to our community.

I hope and pray that as we all move forward from this once in a 100-year storm, we will do so with a greater commitment to our community and a renewed commitment to being a place that welcomes all and respects our diversity. The Golf Lakes song in part reads "Folks sharing their joys...the place where friendship reigns...where a smile is your passport to fellowship land" - Let's all try to exemplify those words in our dealings with each other!



golflakesbanner@gmail.com
Deadline is **10**th **of Month**

The Banner Committee

Editor: Fran Spraetz Co-Editor: Kathy Drooger

The Team

Tom Drooger Don Raymond Kim Gendron Vacancy

Mentor: Rita Marderosian BOD Liason: Patricia Mandjack

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Manager's Report



Happy December and Happy Holiday Season. I hope this season provides us all an opportunity to reflect on a year filled with blessings and challenges.

Golf Lakes is alive and buzzing once again and we are so happy to welcome our snowbirds back to the nest.

Join us on **Monday, December 2 at 7PM** in the Clubhouse when the budget will be reviewed in detail followed by a vote to adopt by the Board.

On **Tuesday, December 10 at 10AM** we will have our next Coffee and Conversation with the manager. We had such a great turnout last month and what a impressive forum to get to know each other and get answers to your many questions. We meet in the Conference Room.

I am looking forward to spending Christmas in Colorado with my daughter and her family. I will be away the week of Christmas, but the office will be open on Monday the 23rd and Friday the 27th. On Christmas Eve, the office closes at noon.

Anyone wishing to run for the Board has until December 18 to turn in their application and resume for inclusion on the ballot. Nominees will be introduced to the community at the Communications Meeting on Monday, January 6th with the election being held on Monday, February 10. Both meetings are in the Clubhouse beginning at 7PM.

Thank you for a great 2024. Golf Lakes is such a beautiful community, and the staff and I appreciate the opportunity to serve each of you.

Merry Christmas, Happy Holidays and Happy New Year!

Let's all be neighborly!



This is especially true for those with single neighbors, if you have not seen them in a day or two, either call them or go over to the house to check on them. Perhaps they have fallen or have had a medical emergency. If you do not get an answer, call the Sheriff's department and ask them to do a

wellness check. You just might save a life!!





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Our Community

Resident Updates

NEW RESIDENTS

NAME	ADDRESS	НОМЕ
Greene, Jeff	5110 5th B St E	PA

CORRECTIONS

NAME	PHONE
Boockfor, Lou	843-822-0610
Gall, Danny	941-285-0869

DEATHS

NAME	ADDRESS	DOD
Wakefield, Anne	408 49th C Ave E	10/24/2024
Dean, James	5110 7th D St E	10/08/2024
Lawrence, Susan	602 49th E Ave E	10/29/2024
Malloy, Kent	5205 4th B St E	11/03/2024

GOLF LAKES OFFICIAL RESIDENT FACEBOOK PAGE

Any resident applying for membership to <u>Golf</u> <u>Lakes Official Resident Facebook For Events</u> <u>and Recommendations</u> page must answer the 3 questions.

Otherwise the committee cannot verify their standing with the community.

Those not answering all 3 of the questions WILL NOT BE considered.

Submitted by Janet Eisses

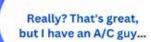
Be advised that The Banner is using a new Resident database for Birthdays. If your information is missing, incorrect or you do not want it listed—PLEASE contact The Banner golflakesbanner@gmail.com



1	James Allison, Janet Miller
2	Gary Beasley, Irene Hyde
3	Jeffrey Hendrickson, Richard Lowman, Carol Montgomery, Elaine Nelemans, Diane Severino
4	Barbara Ford, August Gallo, Margaret Metych, Jean Syswerda
5	John Hegdal, Shirley Ingles
6	Nancy O'Leary, Teresa Parrish, Robert Schlindwein, Kevin Semer, Ray Steffen
7	Renee Reinhardt, Charles Vasey, Alice Elder
8	Linda Bell, Diane Fielbrandt, Terri Goodwin, Robert Pollock
9	Ronald Cunningham, Nicholas DiBlasio, Peggy Layman
10	Susan Dreibelbis, Glen McFarland
11	Kathy Clute, William Hayes, Treva Himsel, Eileen Kelly, Sharon McClure, Mitchell Strang
12	Bill Blake, Joyce Bussler, Gerald Hoekstra, Crystal Jacobs, Dorothy Koski, Mike Park
13	Rose Cicero, Wilbur Lingle
14	Marcia Winkler
15	Marilyn Clinger, Sam Furnari
16	Teresa McKone, Donna Saunders
17	Doris Knight, William Siewert
18	James Belousek, Duane Frost, Janis Hogan, Frank Maheu
19	Marilyn Brink, Donald Hinkle, Mary Lou Willard
20	Gena Caskey, Carol Hany, Holly Huff
21	Lorraine Bloxsom, Kristina Naegele
22	Michael Desrosiers, Nancy Jo Fox, John Hoeksema
23	Dorothy Booher, Jooan Simmons
24	Herman Buitenhuis, Mary Lakins, Jude Lamie, Lonnie Taylor
25	
26	Randal Egtvedt, Elaine Jarvis, Cindy Secaur
27	Bert Buitenhuis, Marge Capuci, Catherine Harrington, Marilyn Preston, Jerry Sivers
28	Carl Burnett, Ruth Fennema, Patricia Jackson, Pamela Jackson, Carol Willems
29	Raylene Angle, Steve Augsburger, Wilma Bramel
30	
31	Nancy Lingle, Don Raymond, Carroll Smith, Lorna Ulmer, Anne Wakefield









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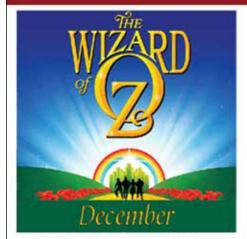
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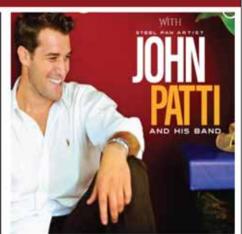
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NEW Banner Guidelines for articles/events

Submitting Articles for The Banner **ALWAYS USE TAHOMA 12 FONT**

Events/Fundraisers

- ⇒ You can begin posting for your event two (2) months prior to the event. Please include the date, time, location, cost and if the event is a fundraiser who is it benefiting.
 - It will be posted under "Save The Date".
- ⇒ To assure the event is posted one (1) month before, please consider sending a reminder or resend the event.
 - It will be posted under "Next Month".
- ⇒ The month of the event: Please consider sending an email to golflakesbanner@gmail.com with a reminder to put the event on the calendar.
 - It will ONLY be on the CALENDAR.
- ⇒ PLEASE keep in mind, if you miss any of the deadline dates feel free to utilize the Golf Lakes Friendly Resident Facebook page. Even if you don't miss a deadline, you are welcome to remind residents up to three (3) weeks prior to the event.

Miscellaneous Changes

Since the Banner is published a minimum of four (4) weeks in advance, it has been decided by the committee to utilize the Golf Lakes Friendly Facebook Resident Page for items like scores for games, cards, winners of golf leagues, pickleball leagues, lawn bowling events, etc.

We feel residents would rather see and hear about an event when it happens rather than 4+ weeks later.

The same thing is true when you have summer gatherings – take photos and share photos on our Facebook page. Let everyone enjoy them soon after they happen.

Thank you for your cooperation in this matter. As a committee, we sometimes forget and miss things. We are human. Reminders will help! If you have any questions or concerns, please contact The Banner Editor.

Submitted by The Banner Committee









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Our Winter Wonderland

Cover story by Kim Gendron

Florida "Our Winter Wonderland." The place where we escape the harsh weather of the northern states and Canada and other cold winter countries.

Florida has 1.5 million Snowbirds that come to enjoy the warmth from the sun, the activities that keep us moving, the relaxing that suits us best, and the comfort we get from of being around people.

The escape to Florida began in the 16th century when Spanish explorer Juan Ponce-DeLeon set out to find the fountain of youth. The Spanish were in awe of the Subtropical beauty and in 1565 started to colonize in Florida.

Beginning in 1870 residents from northern states started visiting Florida as tourists with many people becoming permanent residents. People started creating tourist attractions (many of a bizarre nature) while supplying tourists places to stay for extended time.

By the 19th century tourism increased significantly with the building of railroads. This truly enticed many people from the northern states to escape the cold weather as the train made it more assessable and faster to visit Florida.

By the 20th century Florida's population increased rapidly and the term Snowbirds was used to describe the many northern laborers coming to look for work in the warmer climate.

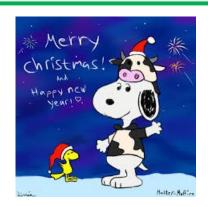
Being 2024 we enjoy the current meaning of Snowbirds—One who travels to a warm climate for the winter. Florida has the warmest winters in the US. In the southern region December and January are usually the coldest months and February being the driest.

The weather does not keep us from enjoying our winter wonderland. Snowbirds contribute almost \$95 million to Florida's economy. We enjoy local events and attractions. We like our golf. Florida has 1250 courses to play.

What we really like to do is eat. Florida has 63,499 restaurants and cafes to enjoy. You can go for upscale dining, enjoy small cafes, or just visit a taco truck. (Willies on 44th, my favorite). We like Early Bird specials and happy hour cocktails. We even have our own Supper Club in Golf Lakes organized by Don Raymond.

Florida keeps us warm and keeps us entertained. We Snowbirds know how to make it our own Winter Wonderland. Have Fun!!!





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Christmas Celebrated throughout the World

Story by Tom Drooger

Christmas is celebrated across the globe in many unique and diverse ways, blending traditional customs with local flavors and cultures. While the holiday is widely recognized as a Christian celebration marking the birth of Jesus Christ, its customs have expanded and adapted worldwide, taking on regional touches that reflect each community's history and values.

In **North America**, Christmas often includes decorating a Christmas tree, exchanging gifts, and enjoying a festive meal with family. In the United States and Canada, Santa Claus, a figure based on the historical Saint Nicholas, is central to the celebration, especially for children. People set up stockings by the fireplace and leave milk and cookies out for Santa, who is believed to bring gifts for children on Christmas Eve. Streets, homes, and city squares are illuminated with vibrant lights, and caroling is a cherished tradition.

Latin America embraces a more religious focus on Christmas, and festivities often begin as early as December 16 with a nine-day prayer service known as "Las Posadas," especially popular in Mexico. This tradition reenacts Mary and Joseph's search for shelter in Bethlehem. On Christmas Eve, called "Nochebuena," families come together for a late-night meal, often including tamales or roasted pork, followed by a midnight Mass. In Venezuela, it is common for people to roller-skate to church on Christmas morning, a unique local twist.

In **Europe**, Christmas traditions vary significantly from country to country. In **Germany**, Christmas markets are a beloved tradition, where visitors can enjoy handmade crafts, delicious treats like gingerbread, and mulled wine. German families also celebrate Advent with calendars or wreaths, counting down the days until Christmas. In **Italy**, Christmas is marked by the Nativity scene, or "presepe," which is displayed in homes and churches. Italian families typically enjoy a grand feast on Christmas Eve and, like many Catholic countries, attend midnight Mass. Meanwhile, in **France**, families celebrate "le Réveillon," a lavish meal on Christmas Eve featuring delicacies like foie gras, oysters, and the "bûche de Noël," a yule log-shaped cake.

In **the United Kingdom**, Christmas Day is celebrated with roast dinners, Christmas crackers, and pudding. Families exchange gifts, and children may receive stockings filled with sweets. Boxing Day, celebrated on December 26, is also significant, where families relax, go shopping, or participate in charity events. Meanwhile, in **Scandinavia**, Christmas, known as "Jul," involves lighting candles, enjoying hot drinks like glögg, and feasting on foods like ham and herring. Swedish families often participate in St. Lucia Day on December 13, where young girls wear wreaths of candles to honor St. Lucia, the patron saint of light.

In Asia, Christmas has gained popularity in several countries, though it's often celebrated in a secular or commercial way. In **Japan**, Christmas Eve is a popular day for couples to exchange gifts and enjoy a romantic dinner, while fried chicken has become a customary meal, thanks to a successful KFC marketing campaign.

In the **Philippines**, Christmas is a deeply religious and festive season that begins in September and includes "Simbang Gabi," a nine-day series of dawn Masses leading up to Christmas Eve.

In **Africa**, Christmas is celebrated with great enthusiasm in countries with Christian populations.

In **Nigeria**, for example, people gather in churches and homes, singing and dancing as part of the festivities. Christmas Day often includes a large meal and the giving of gifts.

Across all these countries, Christmas is a season for family, generosity, and joy. While customs may vary, the spirit of love and togetherness remains a shared theme worldwide.

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History of Women in Golf Lakes Thursday, January 9, 2025 2PM

By: Nancy Hooker

The Piecemakers Quilting group will present a 60th Anniversary Banner to the Women of Golf Lakes

Inspirational: Mary Robertson Hostesses: Judy Portinga

Sandy Augsburger Sandy Burkley



"If you want to understand today, you have to search yesterday."

Pearl Buck

3rd Annual Golf Lakes Quilts of Valor Ceremony

January 18 (following Coffee Hour)

CONGRATULATIONS to this year's class of Veterans!

Edwin Angle quilt pieced by Sharon St John Stanley Buyze quilt pieced by Laurie Bloxsom John Dansereau quilt pieced by Terri Benedict Donald Eilers quilt pieced by Debbie Atkinson Larry Fies Ferrell Frazier quilt pieced by Ginny DeSantis quilt pieced by Joan Schrock Hart H. Duane Frost quilt pieced by Joan Schrock Hart Connie Geth quilt pieced by Cele Jackson Robert McDowell quilt pieced by Sandra Augsburger Dirk Spyker quilt pieced by Dianne Bradt

Leland VerHeist quilt pieced by Dianne Bradt

Quilts of Valor recipients should come to the stage immediately following Coffee Hour. We will help you climb the steps to your seats.

Any questions, contact Gayle Lesch 330-332-5863. Thank you all for your hard work and service.

WEEKLY ACTIVITY SCHEDULE FOR DECEMBER

BOLD denotes new activity to Golf Lakes

Lawn Bowling Courts

LBC



DECEMBER 2024



SATURDAY	7 <u>Pearl Harbor Day</u>	Holly Berry Movie Night 7PM CH	14	Dancing for Dollars 7pm Salvation Army	21 Winter Solstice		28		
FRIDAY	6 Line Dancing begins 11:45AM CH	Bingo begins 6:15PM CH	13		20		27		
THURSDAY	2		12 BOD Mtg 9AM CH Women of GL	Key Lime Quartet 2pm CH Christmas Caroling 6:15PM CH	19 Gad-A-Bouts Carrabba's 1PM	Christmas Golf Cart Parade 5PM CH	26 <u>Hanukkah</u> Office Closed	BOD Mtg 9AM CH	hello. 2025
WEDNESDAY	4		11	Supper Club Captain Brian's 6AM	18		25 <i>Christmas Day</i> Office Closed	Christmas Potluck 1PM CH	Mew Year
TUESDAY	m		10 Coffee & Conversation w/Tracy 10AM		17		24 <i>Christmas Eve</i> Office Closes-Noon	Last day to sign up for Lawn Bowling	31 New Years Eve Office Closes-Noon
MONDAY	2 Harmony Notes Noon CH	Communications Mtg – 7PM Budget/Assessment	6		16		23		30
SUNDAY	1 Lawn Bowling sign up begins	Vespers: 6PM Pastor Jonathan Jankovich	_∞	Vespers: 6PM Pastor Gene Maddox	15	Vespers: 6PM Pastor Paul Helton	22		29



"DANCING FOR DOLLARS"



Fundraiser dances benefit the Golf Lakes Community and local nonprofit organizations.



SATURDAY, JANUARY 18 – Golf Lakes' Activities Committee

Submitted by Karen Furnari and Rose Patterson



PANCAKE BREAKFAST ACTIVITIES COMMITTEE January 23 - 8AM

Join your friends for a wonderful Pancake Breakfast in the Golf Lakes Clubhouse Thursday January 23. Wake-up early, grab a friend or neighbor and stop in for complete breakfast.

For \$5.00, you get all the pancakes you can eat, plus sausage and great coffee. Breakfast will be served from 8AM to 10AM.



ACTIVITIES COMMITTEE WINTER PROGRAM & FUNDRAISER Saturday, January 25—7PM at Clubhouse

Featuring Cahal Dunne in Concert

International Singer, Songwriter

Back by popular demand, the funny and talented Cahal Dunne. Cahal is an Irish singer, a superior entertainer, composer, pianist, comedian story teller and television personality. He has appeared on Letterman, PBS, and Entertainment Tonight. In addition, Cahal has performed for several Presidents over the years. His style is rich and deep, reflecting the many strands of his distinguished career.

<u>Tickets are \$12.00</u> and will be sold at Social Hour <u>starting January 4</u>. Tickets will also be sold the night of the program. If you do not attend the Social Hour and want tickets, just call or text Terry Keller at 269-953-2431.

Don't miss this one! Plan to attend and enjoy a wonderful evening of entertainment.

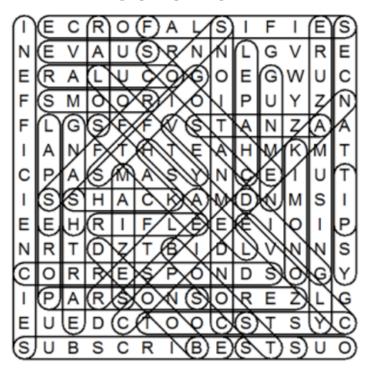
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Puzzle from https://www.printable-puzzles.com/

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Happening in December

(missed in November due to Milton)

Winter Lawn Bowling Season Sign up - Dec 1 through Dec 24 Season -Jan 6 through Feb 28

Sign up is now going on at the Lawn Bowing courts for our Winter season. The sign up will end Dec 24. You may sign up as pairs, singles or as a sub. Please sign up early!

Launch Meeting will be Saturday, Jan 4 at 10:15AM in the Clubhouse. Teams and schedules will be handed out and the \$15 dollar fee will be collected at that time.

The season will begin **Jan 6 and run till Feb 28**. Two (2) games per week will be played. Please keep this time commitment in mind when signing up. There will be Lawn Bowling Mixers held Thursdays Dec 5, 12 and 19 as a warm up to the winter season. Sign up at the courts. Any questions please *contact Nola Frye 269.830.7657*. Thank you!

Harmony Notes

Harmony Notes invites all Golf Lakes women who love to sing to join us for our first rehearsal on **Monday, December 2**. We will meet at 12:00 noon on the stage in the Clubhouse. During our December rehearsals we plan to celebrate the season as we focus our singing on Christmas selections. We will also be rehearsing on December 9 and 17 but will not meet on December 23 or 30.

Since several of our choir members will not be returning to Golf Lakes this year, we are eager to welcome new members. Joining a choir and singing with other people can be rewarding and fun. In fact, studies have shown that singing is good for your body and your mind. Even more reasons to join us!

Even if you are not able to attend our rehearsals in December, join us for our annual Meet-n-Greet on Sunday, January 5, between 2PM – 4PM. Stop in at the Friendship Room in the clubhouse for some food and fellowship as we officially kick off our 2025 season.

Submitted by Mary Hoeksema

Line Dance Classes Fridays 11:45AM - 2:30PM Dec 6 through Mar 28

It's that time of year again for line dancers to dust off those dancing shoes and put some dance moves to a wide variety of music.

If you are not sure this exercise is for you come to the Absolute Beginner time (11:45AM) and learn about line dance steps and some basic dances. Give it a few weeks and you will be out on the dance floor with the rest of us.

If you know what a vine is and can shuffle your right and left feet to music, then you have some experience and may want to wait until 12:30PM to show up. As always, I will go over each dance before it is danced. We will do vintage dances as well as popular older ones and of course some of the newest ones being done to popular songs. All levels from absolute beginner to lower intermediate will be done.

So Come Dance With Me! If you have questions, feel free to contact Bonnie Frye 269-290-0220.

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Happening in December

(missed in November due to Milton)

Supper Club

Our next event will be **December 11** at Captain Brian's Seafood Market and Restaurant located at 8421 N Tamiami Trail, Sarasota, FL 34243 You can preview the menu at http://captainbriansseafoodmarketandrestaurant0699.s4shops.com/#menu

You must email raymond803@earthlink.net by December 9 to be included in our reservation. Send an email to the same address to receive advanced notifications of future dinners.

We encourage car pooling to minimize parking problems.

Submitted by Don Raymond

Women of Golf Lakes

Thursday, December 12 2:00PM

Salvation Army Report

By: Carolyn Nielson from the Salvation Army of Manatee County

Entertainment by

"The Key Lime Quartet"

Inspirational
Jo Rupp

Hostesses

Mary Robertson, Mary Hofman, Ria Buitenhuis

1911

"Charity isn't about pity, it is about love." Mother Teresa

GOLF LAKES CHRISTMAS CAROLING Thursday, December 12

Come join in the fun! Christmas Caroling for our Golf Lakes residents will meet at the Clubhouse at **6:15PM**. The signup sheet will be on Bulletin Board 2 after Thanksgiving. Each caroler will receive their own caroling book. Parade route maps will be available. It

is recommended to bring a small flashlight. Cider, coffee, and cookies will be served in the Clubhouse after the caroling. A "Visit Sheet' will also be posted on Bulletin Board 2.

If you know someone who would enjoy the caroling, please fill out the Visit Sheet with their name and address. If you can't get to the Clubhouse, text or call Terry Keller at (269-953-2431 or Barb Wenzler (616-893-3803).

Last minute additions will be difficult on Dec 12 as the route will have been established and communicated to the residents prior to parade start. If you would like to be a song leader, contact Terry or Barb.

Happening in December

(missed in November due to Milton)



Christmas Golf Cart Parade Thursday December 19

Put a bow on it and join the Golf Cart Christmas Parade. Decorate your cart as little or as much as you would like. All are welcome!

We will begin lining up in the main parking lot at **5PM.** to travel through

the park spreading the holiday spirit.

Drinks and snacks will be provided in the Clubhouse following the Parade.

The signup sheet will be posted around December 1 on Bulletin Board 2 if you plan to join.

This will help the Activities Committee plan the event and the route. Each cart will receive a number and judging will be done by selected judges and observers.

The route will be posted in the Clubhouse and on Facebook.



CHRISTMAS DINNER / POTLUCK 2024 Wednesday, December 25

Join your friends for a wonderful Christmas meal in the Clubhouse at **1PM.**

Please bring your table service, your favorite dish to pass a serving utensil as needed and a glass or cup for your drink.

The **Activities Committee will provide the ham and the drinks.** The signup sheets will be available on Bulletin Board 2 in the Clubhouse the first week of December.

NOTE: <u>Please be sure to sign up as this helps in purchasing the correct amount of ham.</u> Unable to sign up, call or text Terry Keller at 269-953-2431. As in the past, donations will be accepted.





Activities Beginning in January 2025

SMALL GROUP BIBLE STUDY: We invite you to join our small group in-house Bible study on the 2nd and 4th Thursdays of January, February and March. These six sessions are open to owners and renters alike. A signup sheet will be posted around the end of November on Bulletin Board 4 for those wishing to participate.

POTLUCK DINNERS 2025: The Monthly Potlucks are back on the schedule! The potlucks are scheduled for 3rd Wednesday of the month, January to April. The **January 15 potluck** starts at **5PM** in the Clubhouse and is hosted by the Activities Committee. The February potluck will be the Golden Butterflies celebration. As with all potlucks, please bring your <u>table service</u>, your <u>favorite dish to pass</u> a <u>serving utensil</u> as needed and a <u>glass or cup</u> for your drink. The signup sheet will be on Bulletin Board 2 after the holidays. As in the past, Activities provides the drinks and donations are accepted.

NIGHT OF MUSIC ORGANIZATIONAL MEETING: It is almost time for our "show" folks to attend the first organizational meeting of the year for starting the planning process of another exciting show for Golf Lakes. Yep, "Comedy Plus", that is our theme this year and we believe it will be entertaining and so much fun! All persons interested in participating in the show in any capacity, please plan to attend this organizational meeting which will be held on **Monday**, **January 6 at 2:15PM** at the Clubhouse up near the stage.

If you have questions, before the organizational meeting, please feel free to call Jo Rupp or Sherie Wood. Many of you have had the whole summer to think about what contribution you might want to provide; we want to hear about what you have come up with!

We know there are a lot of new residents in the park; we especially want to extend an invitation to you to attend this planning meeting so you can join in the fun also!

WOMENS BIBLE STUDY: We welcome all women to come study God's Word with us. This year we are watching a video series on The Gospel of John. We will meet in the Clubhouse <u>every Thursday at 9AM</u>, starting **Thursday, January 2**. Please join us. Any questions contact Nancy DeBoer or Ruby VanEgten.

GOLF LAKES (GL) WOMEN'S MONDAY AND TUESDAY GOLF LEAGUES

Golf Lakes (GL) Women's Monday and Tuesday Golf Leagues are canceled due to ongoing work in the park. We will start up again in January. Until then feel free to come out at 9AM on Monday orTuesday to get in some practice and meet new people.

Until the north parking lot is cleared, meet at the Lawn Bowling Benches and start playing on the 9th hole. The winter season will start January 13 and 14. It will end March 17 and 18 with a meeting, awards and scrambles.

We invite all women residents of Golf Lakes to join us women golfers. We meet by the Golf Course Bulletin Board in the north parking lot at 9AM on Mondays and/or Tuesdays.

Come enjoy the outdoors, get in some exercise, and meet new people.

Submitted by Peggy Cole



2025 ANNUAL WHITE ELEPHANT SALE

The Women of Golf Lakes are getting ready for the **"White Elephant Sale"** which is just two months away. It will be on **Saturday, February 1**. We are kicking off February with a bang!

Donations have been coming in for the last nine months thanks to Golf Laker's generosity. We have some stuff already, thank goodness; fact is Lenny Goodie has gathered merchandise throughout the summer; it is our pre-sale donations that make up the bulk of our inventory. The shed has room so give Lenny or me a call. We have plenty of tubs available and will bring those to you, to make packing up your donations easier. We are selective about accepting furniture because we lack space to store it. However, for those VERY saleable big items, Lenny or I will come to your home to assess. Together we will determine if it is something we can find a storage place for until the sale. If you have some extra storage space and are willing to share it for a couple of months—please let us know.

If you see your neighbor getting rid of stuff, keep a watchful eye out for items that we might be able to have for the sale. If you can hold on to an item until the sale that would be even more helpful. Just please continue to keep us in mind. If you have any questions, call Sherie Wood. I am in the directory and ready to serve you.

There will not be a Raffle Table this year or the Penny Sale so we are looking for new ideas on how to replace those two money makers with something different. Any ideas? Please give me a call.

Our Jewelry Department at the sale does outstanding every year thanks to your donations. Keep cleaning out your jewelry boxes; donations of items you never wear will really be appreciated. Bring it to social hour to drop in the jewelry box or take it to Janet Eisses or Sherie Wood.

We hope to have another great sale; with your help, I am sure we will!

Submitted by Sherie Wood

Attention all ladies! It's that time of year again!

The Jewelry Committee for the White Elephant Sale is accepting unwanted jewelry for the sale in February. Please drop off in the box on the stage at the Clubhouse on Saturdays during coffee hour or deliver to Sherie Wood or Vicki Williams.



Music to soothe your soul



NEW FOR 2025...

Once a month on Saturday evening in our Clubhouse, we'll be featuring some of the very best Tribute Bands & Dance Bands!

Our inaugural season begins with: January 11 - Joe Downing Band (Jimmy Buffett) February 8 - Monkey Finger (70's/80's Dance Band) March 22 - Glass Onion (Beatles)

ALL CONCERT TICKETS ARE \$20 per person (alcohol approved). Shows begin at 7PM (unless otherwise stated).

Returning for our 5th Year, the Original Thursday Afternoon UNDER THE PALMS gets underway with some fresh new acts and some favorites and as always... FREE!

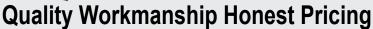
Featuring Kapt. Kurt, Bluegrass Pirates, Lisa Noe and many more!

The 1^{st} & 3^{rd} Thursdays at 2pm, beginning January 2 through April 17

Submitted by Ron Emser









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- Underhome Encapsulated Insulation
- Hurricane Tie-Down Anchors 10 Yrs Exp.

To our valued customers:

Our top priority is the health and safety of our employees and our customers. Our employees are closely following the Centers for Disease Control (CDC) guidelines and recommendations, like frequent hand washing, social distancing, and staying home if they are feeling ill.

We have taken steps to limit exposure to the virus by making our customers aware that there is no need to have any contact with our employees if you choose to do so. Our business falls under the state's guidelines as "Essential Business".

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Groups, Clubs and Classes — What you need to know

iPad Class

Do you have an iPad (Apple product) and don't know what to do with it? Or maybe you only play games and want to know more? You're in luck! iPad class starts on January 7. There are two (2) beginner classes (Beginner 1, 12:30PM and Beginner 2, 1:30PM) and an intermediate class at 2:30PM. Class meets in the Clubhouse every Tuesday, January - March.

Following is a brief description to decide where you would be most comfortable, if either one of us feels that you do not fit in that particular class then we can discuss a change.

<u>Beginner 1</u> - know almost nothing about your iPad; not sure what to do with it; not confident using it; have used it a little; although you have attended class before you still feel you need reinforcement in the very basics.

<u>Beginner 2</u> - have taken the class before; are familiar with basics such as email, messages, downloading, can play some games etc. (not all these are necessary, we will review them); are getting some confidence but still unsure a lot of the time.

<u>Intermediate</u> - feeling quite confident; not afraid to try some new things on your own; have taken the class and are ready to move more rapidly with less reteaching.

Pickleball News for the Banner

December News

Our season officially kicks off in January. Stay tuned for events happening in the new year.

Membership Fees

As a reminder, Glenn Spraetz is the Treasurer/Membership Officer. If you are looking to pay your membership fees for the year (\$20.00), Glenn can be found at the courts most days, or he will be coming around to remind members to pay their fees. Our fees help cover costs such as pickleball balls, racquets, windscreen, and more.

Pickleball Play

For those new to Golf Lakes, Open Play begins at 7:30AM, and Women's Play begins at 4:00PM.

Website

Please be sure to check out our website at www.GL-PC.org for all the latest pickleball information.

Submitted by: Kevin Hogan (705) 542-6780









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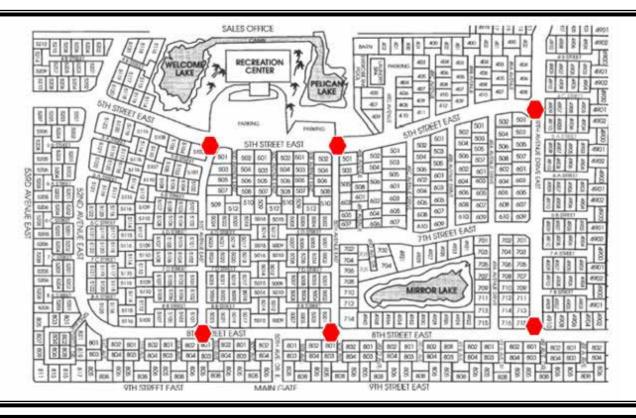
RELATIONSHIP:______TELEPHONE: _____

News You Need to Know~ Safety First!!

The Golf Lakes Board of Directors and our Safety Committee have implemented a new 3-way stop signs in an on going effort to cut down on speeding.

Please take note of the new stop sign placement on the park map below. These stop signs are for all vehicles—cars, golf carts, bikes and scooters.

Submitted by Bob Mueller, Safety Committee





SUSPICIOUS ACTIVITY!

Is an on-going problem in our park

If at any time (day or night) you see something that looks terribly out of place in the park

CALL 911 right away!

Do not call the Office or Board Members.

It is very important that the Sheriff Dept. get these calls so they can be investigated.

Submitted by Bob Mueller Safety Committee

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Gad-A-Bouts Luncheon

When: Thursday, December 19, 1PM

Where: Carrabba's Italian Grille

2106 Cortez Rd W

Bring: Wear your Name Tag

RSVP: Sign-up Sheet Bulletin Board 4.

Be sure to print your name and phone number. Also indicate whether you need a ride or you

can drive.

Single Ladies

Call Gloria Slowiak at 941-727-0672



The Office will be closed:

Noon Dec 24 through Dec 26

and

Noon Dec 31 through Jan 2

~UPDATE: WATER AEROBICS~

~New Schedule in January~

Schedule will be: Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, Friday, @ 9:40AM.

With the snowbirds returning to our park, we have decided to increase the water aerobics schedule for January, February, March. <u>This is a trial basis</u>. We hope this will accommodate all residents that would like to attend. The pool limit is 40 person in pool at one time.



TRAVEL CLUB NEWS

In just a short time we will be leaving for our Punta Gorda trip to see the Christmas lights along fisherman's village. This should be a fun trip.

January 14, I have a bus trip planned for the Tampa Aquarium. The cost of the trip is \$80.00 which includes the bus and admission into the aquarium.

I will have the date and sign up sheet posted on the travel board. Thank you!

February 14, our cruise will be heading to the Eastern Caribbean for a 9-day cruise.

March and April - TBD

As always, look on the Travel board so you do not miss anything!

Submitted by Beth Mueller



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For More Details Contact Paula Raymond Or Travel With Shawn Hayes 313-910-2019

A Travel Advisor will be in the Club House on November 20th to answer questions and help plan optional excursions

Greens of Manatee Golf Information



Greens of Manatee Golf Course

(The family friendly golf course)

Early Winter 2024

The weather is wonderful now, but it has been an extremely difficult start of what we consider "the normal golf season". Last year, there was an extreme drought situation in Manatee County. Apparently, this summer Mother Nature decided to make up for last year. To add insult to injury, Milton paid us with a direct hit. The course lost many palm trees and live oaks. In addition, the maintenance building and cart building were significantly damaged. As the golf season ramps up and we move through the season, be aware cleanup and rebuilding will continue through fall and winter. With that being said, the course, driving range and restaurant are open and welcome you with open arms. A reminder, to keep track of what is going on at the course, check out the <u>Greens of Manatee Golf Club Facebook page</u>.

League Play—Golf Lakes Men's Monday Morning Golf League started November 11 and continues through mid-January. The second half play will begin the last week of January. Watch for the second half sign up in the GL Clubhouse Bulletin Board 1 in early January. We would hate to have you miss the fun time, the scrambles and the year end banquet. Any questions call Paul Maille.

Be sure to check Bulletin Board 1 in the GL Clubhouse for information about the Women's Golf League.

Scrambles—Just a reminder, the GOM Saturday scrambles are for ALL skill level players. The scrambles run from November 9 through April 26 and are always on the 2nd and 4th Saturdays of the month. Stop at the GOM Clubhouse, check out the dates and sign up. Scrambles are always a great time regardless of your handicap and a fun event for couples.

Annual Memberships—There is still time to purchase your 2025 Annual Golf Membership. It's a great deal for the avid golfer. It's a great feeling to just walk into the GOM Clubhouse, check in and be on your way. Easy for you and good for the course. If interested, contact Tom Ladd at the course.

For All Residents—The Greens of Manatee is open to everyone, not just golfers. The Snack Bar opens early for breakfast and they have a great lunch selection. Don't miss the great food at a reasonable price.

For Tee times call 941-755-8888

See you at the Greens, Terry Keller- President, Greens of Manatee Golf Course







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GOLF LAKES BEAUTIFICATION COMMITTEE

Veterans Garden Donations Requested

The Veterans Garden is almost complete and the final touch will be the installation of the granite military monuments around the flag pole. We are hoping these monuments will be delivered by year end or early next year. We will be celebrating an official ribbon cutting ceremony sometime in January, once the majority of our veteran residents have returned to the park for the winter.

As with many construction projects, there were unexpected expenses that cropped up during the process. If you would like to make a donation to help with these extra costs, please write a check to **Golf Lakes Residents Assoc.** and write on the memo line "**Veterans Garden."** If your donation is in honor of a veteran, include that person's name and military division as well. Bring or send your check to the Golf Lakes office.



