

# Park Place Press

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The Park Place Homeowners Association



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Thanks For The Memories Of 2023

SELECT JANUARY  
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4TH - SPAGETTI DAY  
19TH - POPCORN DAY  
21ST - HUG DAY  
24TH - PEANUT BUTTER DAY  
31ST - HOT CHOCOLATE DAY



**PARK PLACE HOMEOWNERS ASSOCIATION** **Happy New Year!**  
**BOARD OF DIRECTORS**



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**FROM YOUR PPHA PRESIDENT**  
**Kurt Nault**  
*Happy New Year!*

This is a time for new beginnings and resolutions. Going forward, I wish you the best of luck with both.

I am sure that there are many questions about the status of the 2024 Rent Increases. As I mentioned at the November resident meeting, Sun has taken the position of not negotiating long-term agreements. At our last meeting, true to form, it held firm on the increases that you received in your notices. Our facts, research, and other details that we presented, with conviction, would not sway them. It has become very clear that, in the future, there will no longer be annual negotiations, but mere discussions.

It was not all in vain as we were able to gain some significant commitments from Sun on improvements to the community. Specifically, it has agreed to make much needed repairs to the pool, install a sound and video system in the clubhouse, make needed road repairs, and add shade coverings for the bocce ball courts.

Throughout the coming year the PPHA board will keep a close eye on management's actions, or inactions, and its fulfillment of commitments made. We will do our best to be prepared for rent increase discussions next fall.

On another note, we are preparing for the Annual Business Meeting to be held in February 2024. At this meeting, all residents who have paid their dues (Members in Good Standing) will have voting privileges in selecting the new PPHA Board members. At the January 2024 resident meeting, residents who have expressed interest in being candidates, as well as those nominations coming from the floor, will be introduced to the community. Currently, we only have two candidates for three open positions. I encourage everyone to consider becoming a candidate for the PPHA Board of Directors. The effectiveness of the Board is vastly improved by having a diversity of backgrounds, knowledge, and skills at the table.

Sincerely,

*Kurt*



If you wish to read the Board of Directors or Resident Meeting Minutes, you can find them, once completed, in the white PPHA Minutes binder in the library or on-line at [parkplacehoa-fla.info](http://parkplacehoa-fla.info).



**TAX RATES GOING UP, OR DOWN?**

First, most people do not totally understand how their tax is calculated. They hear the phrase "we are in the 12% tax bracket" and may think all their income is taxed at that rate. But that is not the case. Each dollar is divided into different rate brackets and the top rate at which the money is taxed is often called your tax rate.

The current tax rates for individuals are 10%, 12%, 22%, 24%, 32%, 35%, and 37%. Those rates apply to different amounts depending on the filing status of the taxpayer. Is the taxpayer's status Single, Married Filing Jointly, Head of Household, or Married Filing Separately? Depending on the filing status, different amounts of income are taxed at different rates. For example, if status is Single, the 10% rate applies to the taxable income between \$1 and \$11,000. If status is Married Filing Jointly, then the 10% rate applies to \$1 to \$22,000; if Head of Household, then it's \$1 to \$15,700.

Married Filing Separately (MFS) status must use the same tax brackets as Single up to the 35% rate then it differs greatly. Single at 35% is for taxable income between \$231,250 and \$578,125 income but MFS is taxed at 35% for all income between \$231,250 and \$346,875. That range of income is obviously over \$200,000 less than the Single bracket. They are penalized by not only having to use the Single brackets but also by being unable to use the Married Filing Jointly larger income brackets. MFJ gets to use the 35% rate for all income between \$462,500 and \$693,758 – a more than \$300,000 difference to the bracket MFS must use of \$231,250 to \$346,875.

Secondly, who really pays all the federal taxes to run the government? The IRS analyzes all income taxes submitted and publishes that data. You can find the latest facts at [www.irs.gov/statistics](http://www.irs.gov/statistics). There were 164,358,792 tax filings filed in 2020, the latest year available. We all usually complain about the amount of taxes we pay, but according to IRS statistics from 2020, the top 50% of all taxpayers paid 97.7% of all individual income taxes while the bottom 50% paid in the remaining 2.3%. The bottom half of all taxpayers had Adjusted Gross Income of \$42,184 in 2020 and paid 2.3% of all taxes.

Now when we consider the infamous "top 1%" that we often hear about not paying their "fair share", they do pay 42.3% of all individual federal income taxes with their total tax paid in 2020 of \$723 billion versus the bottom of all taxpayers paying in \$450 billion. That top 1% earned 22.2% of all AGI and paid 42.3% of all federal taxes. AGI means Adjusted Gross Income, which is all your income before deductions. The AGI of the top 1% was anything over \$548,336 in 2020.

Third, will taxes go up or down in the future? Well, we know for certain the Trump tax rate cuts will end January 1, 2026. The current rates from 2018 to

2025 are 10%, 12%, 22%, 24%, 32%, 35% and 37%. In 2026 they will return to the old tax rates of 10%, 15%, 25%, 28%, 33%, 35%, and 39.6%. Financial experts don't know whether Congress will return to the old Standard Deduction rates and Personal Exemptions or keep the new larger Standard Deduction and no Personal Exemptions.

In addition to the automatic ending of the current tax rates is the looming \$33 Trillion debt that just caused the U.S. credit rating to drop in 2023. Forty-one years ago, in 1982, the U.S. national debt was \$1 Trillion. In 2011 that was \$15 Trillion and in 2023 it is now \$33 Trillion. The optimal ratio of national debt to Gross Domestic Product is 77%. The USA debt is now at 125% of GDP.

There are only two ways to get out of debt whether it is in your own personal budget or the country's: increase income or cut expenses. Since our Congressmen and Presidents are usually reluctant to cut programs due to political backlash from voters or lobbyists, most hesitate to cut expenses. The easiest way is to get more income by increasing tax rates, or decreasing bracket amounts, or eliminating deductions and credits on personal income taxes. They have also proposed tinkering with the estate tax exemption and capital gain rules. Congress has already changed the IRA inheritance rules for non-spouses to force emptying the accounts in 10 years instead of the beneficiary's lifetime. A shorter time means more tax money sooner.

Financial experts are expecting the government to increase tax rates to help pay off the national debt. Unfortunately, this will come at the same time as Medicare Part A for hospital payouts is projected to run short in 2028 and Social Security will face problems in 2033. There are many proposals to strengthen these programs before catastrophe. But that's another topic.

Betty Mattiford is a resident of Park Place, has a Bachelor of Science degree, 38 years' experience in tax preparation, and completes 18 continuing education credits per year per IRS requirements.

The views, opinions, advice and/or recommendations that may be expressed in the above article is strictly those of the author and are not an official endorsement or guarantee by the Park Place PRESS, its' Editor, the Park Place Homeowners Association or its Board of Directors.

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NAME	DATE	PH#
Sue Doss	4	260
Barbara Groh	4	316
Pat Woods	9	119
Rose Lang	10	318
Kathy Anderson	10	171
Kim Helms	10	21
Edward Bennett	11	289
Judy Mastro	11	60
Paul Dodson	11	105
Maureen Dattoli	13	10
Robert (Rob) Farris	13	218
Ralph Howe	13	448
Beth Splan	13	100
Scott Morris	14	230
David Varenkamp	15	268
Gerry Early	15	18
Karen Whaley	15	335
Dawn Durling	16	142
Len Zitz	17	229
Christine Rosenberg	17	402
Trish Kopec	18	126
Selene Sweck	19	79
James Hart	20	339
Mary Lou Hovey	20	254
Lorraine Lodge	20	40
Terry Felicio	21	247
Lily Murray	21	256
David Gaylord	24	303
Linda Osborn	24	257
Doreen Whittaker	25	469
Kathleen Grossi	27	419
Sara Cullinan	28	327
Bill Haas	29	342
Tess Burke	29	199
Barbara Butts	29	460
Patrick Murray	30	256
Tony Sporer	30	324
Bob Mastro	30	60
Kathi Pschar	30	439
Michael Hollingshead	31	387



NAME	DATE	PH#
Tim & Linda Bencher	8	8
Bob & Brenda Guevremont	10	44
Edward & Betty White	14	238
Dave & Sue Bowles	22	305
Tom & Tess Burke	23	199
Jerry & Kathleen Truman	23	377



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Hello all, we're back! During the busy holiday season, we all need to take a "time out" and go out for dinner that's not going to break the bank. So, this time our culinary adventure took us to a local restaurant in Vero Beach, The Green Marlin. It is located at 1475 US1-N in the plaza close to the Majestic Theater. It's a great place to go after or before the movies for a light bite, lunch, or dinner. It has a beautiful outside bar with tables if you wish to sit outside as well as ample seating inside the restaurant. We chose to sit inside and were seated immediately and greeted by our waiter, Patrick, who very honestly told us he was brand new. We appreciated his honesty and "bless his heart" he tried hard.

Now on to the food, Appetizers; we had a cup of Seafood Gumbo - shrimp, scallops & sausage cooked in traditional gumbo, served over rice (\$9.95), which was delicious. Then Coconut Shrimp, butterflied & breaded with coconut & panko (6) served with apricot glaze, more breading than coconut, but the glaze was very tasty (\$11.95). Szechuan Shrimp, 6 breaded shrimp flash fried and served over crunchy wonton chips topped with Sriracha Aioli which were delicious (\$9.49). Ahi Tuna Poke Nachos (raw) - large 6 oz. Sushi grade cut Ahi Tuna diced & marinated in a spicy sesame soy sauce, served atop fried WonTon chips with carrot, cucumber & scallion topped with Sweet Soy Sauce, Sriracha Aioli & Wasabi Aioli which was excellent (\$15.95).

In addition to their regular menu there is a large list of daily specials for entrees. Our choices were Blackened Shrimp Mac 'n Cheese, fresh blackened shrimp and Cavatappi tossed in rich cheddar cheese topped with Parmesan cheese and served with grilled focaccia bread, shrimp were delicious, however, Mac and Cheese was bland for our taste (\$14.95). Next, Fresh Tropical Mahi Sandwich, fresh fillet of Mahi flash fried, sweet chili cream, served with choice of one side, ours was French fries, (\$15.95) which was delicious and cooked perfectly. Next, "Fresh Fish in the Weeds", fresh fish that was pan seared (choice of fish were Grouper, Scallops, Salmon, or Mahi). Our choice was Grouper. It was served over garlic spinach and tomato and mashed potatoes & topped with Lemon Beurre Blanc (\$29.95). This dish was very good. All the above entrees were from the daily special menu. The last entrée, Salmon Caesar Salad, Romain lettuce, Parmesan cheese and croutons, tossed in Caesar dressing, and topped with fresh grilled Salmon (\$18.95). This dish was good, but the Salmon was a little under cooked for

The only downside to the evening was the unkept condition of the Ladies room; to be fair April and I did NOT check out the Men's Room!

Our overall rating on a scale of 1-5 is a 4.

Hoping everyone enjoyed their Holiday season and wishing you all a Healthy, and Happy New Year. See you next month with another culinary adventure.

*The views and opinions expressed in this review are strictly those of the authors and are not an official endorsement or guarantee that the readers experience, positive or negative, will be the same.*

**From Your Editor**

**HAPPY NEW YEAR**

Wishing You A Happy, Healthy, Prosperous  
And A Truly Blessed New Year.

*Dick*

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Please call for pickup if you no longer have a need for the equipment lent to you. Others may need it.  
Call Dick @480.6809.

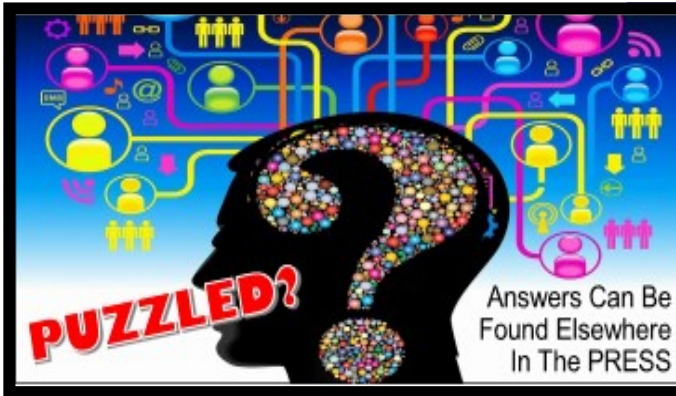
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## RIDDLES

1. What time is it when an elephant sits on a fence? 2. What kind of band plays music? 3. Before Mt. Everest was discovered, what was the highest mountain on the earth? 4. Two in a corner, one in a room, zero in a house, but one in a shelter. What am I? 5. Sara has four daughters, and each of her daughters has a brother. How many children does Sara have? 6. A man goes out in heavy rain with nothing to protect him from it. His hair doesn't get wet. How does he do

## CROSSWORD PUZZLE

### ACROSS

1. Debate
6. Tattles
11. Plank
12. Stronghold
15. Route or path
16. Adorable
17. Paintings
18. Immune response trigger
20. Saxophone
21. Anagram of "Ties"
23. Debauchee
24. Encircle or bind
25. Canvas dwelling
26. Physics unit
27. Commanded
28. Border
29. Fire residue
30. Stuns
31. Restate
34. Sea eagles
36. Aspiration
37. Room at the top
41. Average
42. Harvest
43. Den
44. Iridescent gem
45. Unit of power
46. European volcano
47. Purge
48. Think likely
51. Angry
52. Burned to ashes
54. Calm
56. Oxygenates
57. Of a pelvic bone
58. Suns
59. A computer company



### DOWN

- |                          |                                  |                       |
|--------------------------|----------------------------------|-----------------------|
| 1. Cut short             | 15. Hindu social division        | 35. Book lovers       |
| 2. Trouncing             | 16. Brave                        | 38. Rolled oats       |
| 3. Needlefish            | 19. Secret meeting               | 39. Fund              |
| 4. Celestial bear        | 22. For all time                 | 40. Exchange          |
| 5. Biblical garden       | 24. Small antelope               | 42. Gentle touch      |
| 6. Irish accent          | 26. Speaker's place              | 44. Whale             |
| 7. Embankment            | 27. Used in baseball             | 45. Ice or steam      |
| 8. Gulf port             | 30. Moist                        | 48. Information       |
| 9. Type of snake         | 32. Evening (poetic)             | 49. Largest continent |
| 10. Ebb                  | 33. Violent disruptions          | 50. Cry of pain       |
| 13. Plays at high volume | 34. Nations ruled by a sovereign | 53. Thick flat pad    |
| 14. Passage              |                                  | 55. Tear              |



## Thanks For Your Support

On behalf of the Block Captain Program, a special thanks to all the bakers and ladies that worked on our "Bake Sale" during the Craft Fair on December 2nd. The SCOPP team had decorated the Clubhouse in a festive holiday mode and a lot of planning and marketing went into the event. Lunch was available at a small cost for everyone.

While we can't speak of the Crafters' success, we can say that the Block Captain Program benefited from the great attendance. Also, we would not have been successful if it wasn't for the many residents that contributed to our almost overflowing tables of goodies.

In addition to the bakers, the ladies that worked at the event, Barb Zitz, Audrey Soucy, Judy Steel, and Janice Marx, were critical to keeping things moving smoothly and getting the most from the baked goods.

The winners of the prize drawings were Sue Spalding, Linda Osborne, and Joan Hlavin. Once again, Thank you for all for your support of the Block Captain Program. Tom Butts, Block Captain Team Leader



## FREE COMMUNITY DINNER

**JANUARY 9TH 5:00 PM**

CHOICE OF TURKEY SOUP, POTATO LEEK SOUP, SPLIT PEA AND HAM SOUP OR TURKEY POT PIE WITH SALAD, ROLLS AND DESSERTS.

Stop by the clubhouse tomorrow, January 2<sup>nd</sup> from 5 to 6 PM to pick up a ticket.



Whew, the holiday season has now passed with all the glad tidings that go with them. A very Happy New Year to all our residents from your Food 4 Kids Committee ...and so another season begins with all the plans that go with it. SAVE THE DATE, MARCH 2, 2024, for our annual FUNDRAISER DINNER and CHINESE AUCTION in support of our Food 4 Kids program.

As most of you know, for many years Park Place residents have supported the Sebastian Elementary School needy children by providing two meals each weekend day during the school year. So far this school year we have been providing meals for 25 children for an average of 400 meals per month - depending on the number of days covered.

Our fundraising auction's success depends on your generous donations! We will begin collecting items soon, so it's time to start looking at all those unwanted items - White Elephants you've received, new things you never got around to returning - you get the idea.

BTW - some of you have wondered why the name change from "Backpack" to **Food 4 Kids**. Our mission is the same - to provide the kids with meals over the weekend. We originally sewed cloth backpacks for the kids but soon learned about the problems it created. Some backpacks were not returned, others in poor condition so we now use those plastic shopping bags we all have at home.

Look for further information in Park Place Friends and in the February Park Place Press!!!



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## FMO 2023 State Assembly Recap

The FMO (Federation of Manufactured Home Owners of Florida) holds its bi-annual State Assembly in odd numbered years. This year it was held as a virtual meeting, using the ZOOM software, on Dec. 6 and Dec. 7.

Attendance was up 300% over the 2021 meeting while costs were just 4% of the 2021 meeting. The ZOOM process worked smoothly with just a few members forgetting to un-mute their microphones when they wanted to speak.

After an introduction from President Rick Hollenbach, KWMG CEO Dave Wenhold reviewed the work done on a strategic plan to move FMO forward and maintain its importance and value to residents of manufactured homes. More details of the plan and the steps adopted by the FMO Board will appear in the next FMO newsletter and magazine.

The next item was a detailed discussion of the value and process of homesteading and making domicile declaration on your home. We have written about this in the past and provided forms for your use. This is an important step to protect your home if you must apply for Medicaid coverage or bankruptcy. Even though you rent the land under your home you can file for a Homestead exemption to protect your home for being included in a computation of assets when filing for Medicaid or Bankruptcy. This would not apply to "seasonal residents". You must be a full-time resident in Florida to file the forms.

The next item was a live session of Legalese with FMO Attorney Jeremy Anderson. The questions were wide ranging, but the key take away was "read your Prospectus". This document covers the relationship between you and the community owner, and it includes the Rules and Regulations that apply to our living here. KNOW your Prospectus; KNOW your rights and obligations. Both the Park Place Prospectus and information on filing a Homestead Declaration are available in the Park Place HOA website [parkplacehoa-fla.info](http://parkplacehoa-fla.info) under HOMEOWNERS AND HOA INFORMATION.

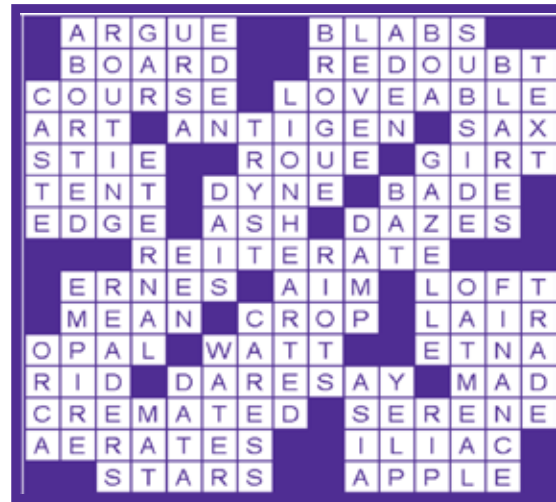
The Assembly then received a report from our lobbyist, Nancy Stewart. Again, we have had to make changes to our proposed legislation to give the Florida Statute 723 (regulates mobile homes) more clout with the community owners. Unfortunately, the appropriate sub-committee felt the proposed change would add additional costs to the Attorney General's office. Again, more details in the newsletter and magazine.

The second day was taken up with nominations for the FMO Board, the Financial Report, three minor proposed amendments and the election of officers.

This was my third State Assembly and even though we could not "gather around the water cooler", the ZOOM software allowed us to have private conversations using the chat feature.

The key issue considered, and discussed, was regarding the importance of building membership. FMO needs 525 new members to balance the proposed 2024 budget without dipping into its reserves. If FMO goes away, the owners association will try to gut Statue 723, taking away any protections we presently have. Join today at [www.fmo.org](http://www.fmo.org) or contact me for a membership application. Your \$30 will go farther than you think. Dave Daniels, FMO Representative, 813-504-6143.

## CROSSWORD SOLUTION



1. Time to fix the fence.
2. A rubber band.
3. Mt. Everest (just not discovered yet).
4. The letter "R".
5. Five – each daughter has the same brother.
6. He's bald.

## RIDDLE ANSWERS

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## How To Tell If Someone Has Read Your Text Message

Have you ever sent a text message to someone and wondered if they have read it or not? Maybe you are waiting for a reply, or maybe you just want to make sure they got your message. Whatever the reason, it can be frustrating to not know if your message has been seen or ignored.

Fortunately, there is a way to find out if someone has read your text message, and it is called, "read receipts". They are notifications that tell you when the recipient of your message has opened and read it.

### Pros and Cons

Before we discuss how to enable *read receipts*, it's important to consider the feature's pros and cons.

**Pros:** Turning on *read receipts* lets you know when the other person has seen your message, which can be useful for confirming important information, level of interest, or avoiding misunderstandings. You can also customize read receipts for individual contacts, so you can choose who can see when you read their messages and who can't.

**Cons:** Turning on *read receipts* can also have some drawbacks, such as invading your privacy or putting pressure on you to reply quickly. Some people might get annoyed or offended if they see that you have read their message but haven't responded yet. You might also lose the option to pretend that you didn't see a message that you don't want to deal with.

### How To Turn On Read Receipts For iPhone & Android

Turning on *read receipts* is simple for both iPhone and Android users, but there are some differences and limitations depending on the device and the app you are using. Here is how to turn on *read receipts* for the most common scenarios:

#### iPhone to iPhone

If you and the recipient both have iPhones, you can use iMessage to send and receive text messages. iMessage is Apple's own messaging service that works over Wi-Fi or cellular data. It also allows you to read receipts for your messages. To turn on *read receipts* for iMessage, follow these steps:

- On your iPhone, open **Settings**
- Tap **Messages**

Then toggle on **Send Read Receipts**

Now, when you send a message to another iPhone user who has iMessage enabled, you will see a **blue bubble** around your message. This means that your message was sent using iMessage. You will also see a status below your message, such as **Delivered** or **Read**. If the recipient has also enabled *read receipts*, you will see **Read** along with the **time** they read your message.

### iPhone to Android

If you are sending a message from your iPhone to an Android user, or vice versa, you cannot use iMessage. Instead, you will have to use SMS messaging, which is the standard text messaging service that works over cellular networks. (*What does SMS mean? Well, it stands for Short Message Service, and it's the most common form of text messaging used today.*) SMS messages are shown in green bubbles on your iPhone.

The problem with SMS messaging is that it does not support *read receipts*. This means that you will not be able to see if the recipient has read your message or not. You will only see a status of **Delivered**, which means that your message has reached their phone, but not necessarily that they have opened it.

The only way to get *read receipts* for SMS messages is to use a third-party app that supports them, such as WhatsApp, Facebook Messenger, or Signal. These apps work over Wi-Fi or cellular data, and allow you to see when the recipient has read your message, as well as other features like voice and video calls, stickers, and encryption. However, both you and the recipient must use the same app and have an account on it.

### Android to Android

If you and the recipient both have Android phones, you can use **RCS messaging** to send and receive text messages. RCS stands for **Rich Communication Services**, and it is a new standard that aims to improve the features and functionality of SMS messaging. RCS messaging allows you to send and receive high-quality media, group chats, and read receipts, among other things. To turn on read receipts for RCS messaging using the Google Messages app, follow these steps:

*NOTE: Settings may vary depending on your Android phone's manufacturer*

On your Android phone, open the **Google Messages** app on your phone. Tap your **profile picture** or the **initial in the round circle** at the top right of your conversations)

- Select **Message settings**
- Then click **RCS chats**

Toggle on Turn on **RCS chats** and **Send read receipts**  
Note: For you to find out when others have read your message, they must also turn on read receipts in their settings. Now, when you send a message to another Android user who has RCS messaging enabled, you will see a status below your message, such as **"Delivered"** or **"Read."** If the recipient has also turned on their *read receipts*, you will see "Read" along with the time they read your message.

*Read receipts* can be a useful feature to know if someone has read your text message or not. They can also help you communicate better and avoid misunderstandings. However, *read receipts* also have some drawbacks, such as privacy issues, social pressure, and battery drain. Therefore, you should use them wisely and respectfully and be aware of the settings and limitations of your device and app.





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**There's STRENGTH  
in Numbers  
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Homeowners  
Association  
TODAY**




# BLUE HERON

## COMMUNITY SERVICE AWARD

### NOMINATION FORM

The *Blue Heron Community Service Award*, presented annually, honors an individual who has made exceptional contributions to the betterment of the Park Place community, and to its residents, through community volunteerism and acts of service for which no compensation is received. Any resident can nominate another current resident. All residents, (except prior award recipients) including PPHA Board members, are eligible. The deadline for nominations is January 14<sup>th</sup>.

COMPLETE THE FOLLOWING OR USE A SIMILAR FORMAT. PLEASE PRINT OR TYPE. KEEP IT CONCISE. USING BULLET POINTS HELPS.

Nominee: \_\_\_\_\_ House Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Write a concise description of Nominees' community contributions which may include Service, Volunteerism, Activities, Committees, Work Programs, Chairmanships, Resident Assistance, Entertainment, Etc.

ADD OTHER THINGS THAT YOU WOULD LIKE TO WRITE ABOUT HIS/HER PERSONALITY, ATTITUDE, HELPFULNESS, SHARING, CARING....

NOMINATOR NAME (NOT REQUIRED): \_\_\_\_\_ Hs. #: \_\_\_\_\_

FOLD AND DEPOSIT IN THE MAILROOM PPHA WALL MAILBOX BY JANUARY 14TH.







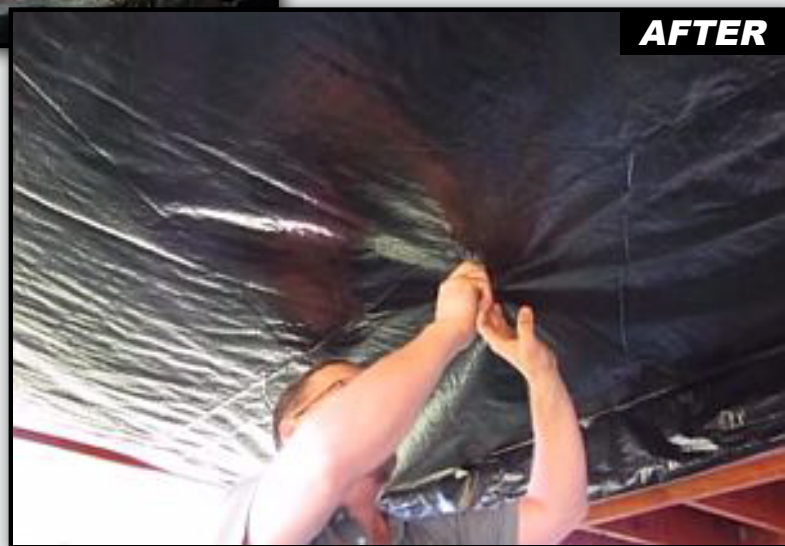
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Honest Pricing**

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**10 Yrs  
Exp.**



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mold, mildew, and  
damaging moisture out  
of your home!**



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**A LAND REMEMBERED**

Those of us who call Florida home now can't begin to appreciate how good we have it here with the advent of things we consider essential, like A/C, the corner grocery store or even window screens! Try to imagine life here without all our amenities!

When we moved to Florida, my mother insisted I read "A Land Remembered" authored by Patrick D. Smith in 1984. It's historical fiction but it is a very well-researched and an accurate portrayal of life here in the mid-19<sup>th</sup> century. Smith spent two years interviewing countless native Floridians who repeated stories from their ancestors about life here in that period. Even his wife had stories from her people who came here in the 1830s. He wrote nine major books, was nominated three times for a Pulitzer Prize as well as numerous times for the Nobel prize in literature.

I heard Mr. Smith speak at the library years ago about "A Land Remembered", long before he passed away in 2014. This book was required reading in Florida high schools (despite some recent controversy about references to slaves using the "N" word which is in historical context.) There is now a student edition aimed at the elementary level with some language and situational revisions. But since you didn't go to school here, I wanted you make you aware of this treasure. I know now it's too late for a Christmas gift but think about next year!

With statehood granted in 1845 Florida tried to fill the state with homesteaders. But the Second and Third Seminole Wars discouraged settlers until the latter one ended in 1858. That's when the Smith begins. It's the story of a hardscrabble Georgia farmer who, along with his wife and son, homesteaded in central Florida. As described on Smith's website, "Tobias MacIvey was thirty years old and had been in the Florida scrub for five years. He had come south out of Georgia in 1858. In his horse-drawn wagon, there was a sack of corn and a sack of sweet potatoes, a few packets of seeds, a shotgun and a few shells, a frying pan, several pewter dishes, forks, and a cast-iron pot. There were also the tools he would need to clear the land and build a house: two chopping axes, a broadaxe foot, crosscut saw, auger bit, a fro and drawing knife." I'll bet you brought much more with you when you moved here!!

Farming proves incapable of supporting the farmer's family and he realizes his answer is raising cattle, specifically the wild swamp cows, not much bigger than deer, and Andalusians, cattle turned out by the departing Spanish a century ago. Their early times here, the hardships the family encountered, including Indian encounters, poachers, and robbers, are vividly portrayed. Remember although Florida was a state, there was no local law enforcement to summon. You were on your own! The US Army handled what law enforcement there was until after the Third Seminole War ended in 1858. Many forts were then barely staffed. But in 1861 when

Florida joined the Confederacy, the last vestiges of law and order departed. Living conditions were like what the homesteaders encountered when they ventured out west. Florida was indeed a state but "the wild, wild west" atmosphere prevailed.

The book continues through 3 generations, the last encounter in Miami in 1968. (Although this chapter is the first in the book, the student edition keeps to chronological order, so this ends the novel.) Each MacIvey succeeding generation sees the growth, the boom and bust, and populations growth that defines that 110-year period of Florida history. But somehow reading this in a novel form makes it so much more interesting than a history book! Former northern residents might enjoy comparing the history of their former home state during this 110-year period to Florida and maybe get a better appreciation of how difficult it must have been for previous generations here!!  
Eileen Derrick

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4.23



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# FLORIDA ANCHOR AND BARRIER COMPANY

**KATHY'S COMMENTS**

Kathy Fulton, Manager



SUN COMMUNITIES, INC.

Winners of the January "HOMESITE OF THE MONTH" are 4302 Shamrock Court and 3545 South Derry Drive, each received \$25 gift cards. Thank you for maintaining your home site and helping to keep our curb appeal top notch at Park Place.

Hopefully, everyone had a chance to drive around our community and enjoy the many attractive holiday displays. They were spectacular this year from the front entrance, office, and clubhouse to individual homesites. Park Place is such a fabulous place to live, which in large part is due to our residents who take such great pride in their homes. Thank you EVERYONE!!!!

Front Gate: Reminder, if you do not know your 3-digit code, or if you are having issues with your code not working, please stop by or give us a call at the office. Also, a reminder if you change phone #'s, it is very important to let us know so we can update your new number in the system.

Soon winter will be in full swing. The new Bocce Court has been completed, along with new railings added on the existing court. Thank you to everyone for your patience while we worked with the contractor in getting courts completed. Let's play Bocce!!!

Bulk trash pick-up is the 1<sup>st</sup> Saturday of the month, our pickup in January is scheduled for Saturday, January 6<sup>th</sup>. Please do not place bulk pick-up curbside until the evening before the scheduled pick-up day. Last month they did come very early on Saturday, so I would recommend not waiting until the morning.

Back by popular demand, and enjoyed by many, our Coffee Hour is brewing!! Save the date: Friday, January 19<sup>th</sup> at the clubhouse, 9:00 – 10:00 AM. SEE YOU THERE!!!

I do have an open-door policy and am available if you want to discuss anything. If you need an extended period, please call the office to set up an appointment.

PLEASE OBEY OUR SPEED LIMIT 15 MPH AND DON'T FEED ANY WILDLIFE IN PARK PLACE!

THE TEAM AT PARK PLACE WOULD LIKE TO WISH EVERYONE A VERY "HAPPY NEW YEAR"

Kathy Fulton, District Manager

**HOMESITES OF THE MONTH**



3445 S. Derry Dr.

4302 Shamrock Ct.



PARK PLACE

**HAPPY NEW YEAR Coffee Hour**  
Hosted by Sun Communities

Free Coffee and Donuts in the Club House

Friday, January 19, 2024  
From 9:00 AM to 10:00 AM

Please join us!

Bring on the NEW YEAR!

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- 3 Mail it back to us at: Community Media | 220 Bahama St. Venice, FL 34285
- 4 Every month we draw new tickets for CASH PRIZES and mail winners a check!

Every Month is a New Chance to Win!

**ONE drawing for \$100 | TEN drawings for \$10**

Winner	Vendor	Drawing Date - 12/7/2023
Bob Hammack	\$100	Battleline Termite & Pest Control
Carman Flores	\$10	Guardian Vapor Barrier
Patricia Bruck	\$10	Air Masters of Pinellas
Anthony Marsella	\$10	Barron's Air
John Neiswander	\$10	Royal Enterprise
Michael McKenna	\$10	Jones & Sons Plumbing
Donald Shockley	\$10	Imperial Electrical
Eunie McElwaine	\$10	Ron Wyngarden Mobile Home Wash
Donald Landel	\$10	Gulf Coast Pressure Washing
Pat Grimes	\$10	Bill the Carpet Guy
Victor Spataro	\$10	Battleline Termite & Pest Control

- Limit one ticket per advertiser's service per quarter (3 month period)
- Customer must have paid for advertiser's service to play
- Contest void where prohibited by law
- Checks will be mailed within 120 days of drawing date

Questions?: [info@4communitymedia.com](mailto:info@4communitymedia.com) or 941-375-3699





**3 - 13:** We will continue on Wednesday nights at 6:30. We always seem to have a lot of laughs for 2 hours!!! Bring \$3.00 in quarters and try your luck! Contact Brian Carpenter at 772-268-0145 with any questions.

**BINGO:** We meet 1st, 3rd & 5th (if there is one) Friday of each month. Doors open at 6 PM and Bingo starts at 6:30. Playing 10 regular games, 2 jackpot games, losers' game and 2 lucky numbers. (\$100) Enjoy an evening with your neighbors. Feel Lucky? Clara Beyer (772) 205-9566.

**BOCCE:** The new bocce court (Court 3) appears to be the best that we can expect!!!! It is different than the other two courts in that there is no sand and it is a different type of carpet. Let me advise you that you should practice on the court before the start of the new season. You should practice on all three courts because they all behave very differently! Please be advised that the Court 2 carpet was mistakenly cut and cannot be repaired without replacing the entire carpet. Please be careful. The Winter Bocce League roster is full with 36 teams. Games will start on January 8, 2024, and continue on until March 18, 2024, ALL COURTS, ALL DAY. The games are scheduled to be played on Mondays, but rescheduling a match is acceptable. You are required to find your own sub if you cannot reschedule a match. Any questions, please contact Sara Cullinan at (716)807-1503 or by email at saraccullinan@gmail.com.

**CLASSIC BOOK CLUB** At our January meeting on Wednesday the 10th in the library we will discuss The Man Who Would Be King by Rudyard Kipling. call Betty Mattiford for more information 772-589-8478.

**DARTBALL:** Can you believe it's January? The teams are created to be as equal as possible based on the prior year's batting average. The newcomers have a "point 0" average and that will have varying effects on the teams. I think we'll see a lot of interesting games. You don't have to be on a team or be a player to keep score. We really need more help in this area. I wish everyone a wonderful holiday season and look forward to January 3rd when we throw the first official dart. Charley Hlavin "The Commish"

**DOMINOS:** Mexican train dominos is being played every Sunday afternoon 1:00 in the card room. All are welcome to join the fun. Leader: Nancy Wolaver (388-1198)

**GOLF:** Every Tuesday at Vista Plantation. Sign up on bulletin board. Tee off @ 9:30 AM Contact: Jack Kubsch (772-589-3753) [jackkubsch@bellsouth.net](mailto:jackkubsch@bellsouth.net)

**LADIES MONTHLY CHRISTIAN BIBLE STUDY & POTLUCK LUNCHEON.** Come join us on Monday, January 8th in our Clubhouse from 12pm-2pm. Bible study, fellowship, prayer, lunch. Meet new friends. We meet on the 1st Monday of each month. All denominations are welcome. All ladies are welcome, just come! January's subject will be on HOPE by Karen Coons. No fee, just bring a small dish to share if able. Need a ride? Have a question? Contact: Claire DiFazio

401-413-5787, Corrina Thompson 724-493-7081, Karen Coons 603-477-0434. May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace as you trust in Him so that you may overflow with hope by the power of the Holy Spirit. Romans 15:13

**LADIES CARDS:** Tuesday night ladies' cards is back. Join us in the card room at 6:30 PM to play hand and foot. Activity leader: Nancy Wolaver 388-1198

**LINE DANCING:** Line Dancing - Welcome to 2024! Did you resolve to be more active, meet new people, or try something new? Then MARK YOUR CALENDARS for MONDAY, JANUARY 8th @ 1 PM! Get your feet moving and join LINE DANCE 101 - a very BASIC BEGINNER class for those who haven't danced before but ALL are welcome! We meet in Auditorium 1 on Mondays from 1 to 2 PM, and dance to a wide VARIETY of MUSIC and a variety of dance genres. Even if you have 2 LEFT Feet but WANT to learn - we can make it happen! For questions, call Eileen Derrick 772-589-6867.

**MAHJONGG:** At 12 noon Fridays in the card room. Open to all. Nancy Wolaver @ [nancywolaver@att.net](mailto:nancywolaver@att.net).

**OPEN POOL:** Not swimming, the one with the Balls, Cues, & Pockets! Wednesday night 6:30 - 8PM. Better than TV! Activity Chair: Brad Sary

**PARK PAINTERS CLUB:** Open to all levels of medium painters. Meet Wednesdays from 1-3pm at the Clubhouse in the Bingo room (ongoing). Beginner class available for \$5/class (as scheduled) plus supplies. Classes are limited to 10 students/class, and registration is required. JOIN our group Park Painters Club on Facebook, or call Teresa Fajardo Lambert at (772) 539-6256.

**PARK PLACE BOOK CLUB:** The January meeting is on the 24th in the library at 1 PM. We will discuss The Last Train to Key West by Chanel Cleeton.

**PARK PLACE SINGLES:** Trivia night and dinner on Thursday evening, January 18th, 6 - 8:00 PM. Meet at Clubhouse lot at 6:30 PM. Tony Macaluso 630-347-8893

**PARTY BRIDGE:** In the card room on Thursdays @12:30. Interested? Betty Burgess 772-589-0979.

**PICKLEBALL** Welcome back to all our snowbirds!! Don't hesitate to come to the courts and join in on all the fun. We look forward to seeing you all. Also, I haven't seen some of the folks from last season's clinic.... where are you??? Our current schedule is every Monday, Wednesday, and Friday starting at 7:30AM. Play generally lasts until 10:30 or 11:00. Come on down and join us for some Fun, Fitness, and Friends. If you have any questions please contact Barbara Whitaker or Kurt Nault.

**PINOCHLE:** If you enjoy playing pinochle, you are invited to join us Monday afternoon at 1:00 in the card room. Activity leaders: Nancy Wolaver (388-1198)

**POOL AEROBICS:** As follows: 9:30 & 10:30 Mon., Wed., & Fri. Women's class at 9:30 AM, led by Clare Bolt & Debbie Clark. The 10:30 AM class is women or mixed, depending on the interest. Leader: Joan Kohl.

**POOL VOLLEYBALL:** Come on down and join the fun! Tue., Thurs., & Sat. Two one hour sessions: 11:45 AM & 1 PM. You don't have to be GOOD, but you do have to get wet. The other half of the pool is open swimming. Activity Chair: Sonia Boone 443-566-0167.

**POTLUCK SUPPERS:** Look for a sign-up sheet in early this month. Joan Hlavin Chairperson 772-581-1484

**TEXAS HOLD'EM:** Monday Texas Hold'em cards is growing, a number of new players. We will have 2 tables and combine down to one table and one winner. New

players welcomed. Great fun and competition for \$5. Always room for more players. Starts promptly at 6 PM. Contact: Tony Macaluso 630-347-8893

**WEDNESDAY NIGHT POKER:** Wednesday night poker also is growing with the snowbirds back. Tony Macaluso 630-347-8893

**Wii BOWLING:** Bowling season starts January 5th, 1 PM. Teams will bowl on Friday afternoons 1 - 4 PM. We will require at least 8, 10 or 12 teams to have a season. You will have a good time and meet many neighbors. Sue Wells (772)584-9312.

**YOGA:** Yoga Classes meet on Tuesday and Thursday at 9 AM for Mat and 10:15 AM for Chair Yoga. Call Betty for more information @ 772-589-8478.



**Eileen Nault, Chairman**

First, let me thank Kathy Fulton and Sun Communities for the very generous donation of \$1,000 towards Thanksgiving dinner and an additional \$1,500 towards our Christmas dinner. This has allowed SCOPPP, along with Betsie Kubsch, Les Valko and Sara Cullinan, to bring the community together for holiday dinners at a much lower cost to our residents.

Upcoming events:

**Free Community Dinner:** It's not too late to pick up a ticket for the free community dinner that will be on January 9th at 5:00 PM. Please stop by the club house tomorrow, **January 2nd from 5 to 6 PM** to pick up a ticket. You have a choice of turkey soup, potato leek soup, split pea and ham soup or turkey pot pie. We will also be serving salad, rolls and desserts.

**Night at the Races:** Get ready for a fun-filled night! On January 27th, starting at 5:00 PM, Al and Joan Ambrosini will be hosting Night at the Races. Tickets are \$2.00/person. Hamburgers will be sold for an additional \$8.00 and hotdogs for an additional \$6.00. We will also be serving chips, soda, water and assorted desserts. Races will begin at 6:00 PM. Please stop by the clubhouse on the following dates to pick up your tickets: Thursday, January 4th from 11 AM - Noon, Wednesday, January 17th, 3 - 4 PM, and Saturday, January 20th from 9 to 10AM.

**Ladies Luncheon Extravaganza:** Melanie Thompson, and Tom and Corrina Thompson will be hosting a luncheon for the ladies of Park Place. This event will take place on February 14th from 11:00 am to 3:00 pm. On the menu for your enjoyment will be fruit punch, three wraps (roast beef, chicken, and egg salad), paired with a fresh salad and ambrosia. They will be serving a chocolate drizzled strawberry cream cheese puff pastry for dessert, with your choice of coffee or tea. Come prepared for a fun time to listen to great entertainment, play games and win prizes! Don't forget to bring your purse so you can play! Tickets are \$15.00 and will be sold on Friday, January 5th from 5:00 to 6:00 PM, Wednesday, January 17th from 3:00 - 4:00 PM and Thursday, February 1st from 11 AM - noon.

**Pancake Breakfast:** Jack Kubsch and his crew will again be hosting pancake breakfasts. Where can you get pancakes, scrambled eggs, sausage, juice and coffee for \$4.00? Watch the postal center for the sign-up sheets! These are the dates for the 2023-2024 season: January 13th, February 17th, March 23rd, April 20th.

Please support SCOPP! Come to our next Community Meeting on Wednesday, January 17th from 2:00 - 3:00 PM.

Your SCOPP team wishes you all a happy and healthy 2024! Thank you to all who help to bring these events to the Park Place community. We couldn't do it without your help!  
Eileen Nault, Chair





# JANUARY 2024

DECEMBER  
S M T W T F S  
3 4 5 6 7 8 9  
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17 18 19 20 21 22 23  
24 25 26 27 28 29 30  
31

FEBRUARY  
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11 12 13 14 15 16 17  
18 19 20 21 22 23 24  
25 26 27 28 29

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1 Pickleball, 7:30 AM Pool Aerobics (Women) 9:30 AM Pool Aerobics (Women/ Mixed), 10:30 AM Bocce League All Courts, All Day Pinochle, 1:00 PM Line Dancing, Novice 1:00 PM Returning Class 2 PM Texas Holdem, 6:00 PM <i>New Year's Day</i>	2 Golf (Vista Plantation), 9:30 AM Mat Yoga 9:00 AM Chair Yoga 10:15 AM Pool Volleyball, 11:45 AM, 1:00 PM <b>SCOPP FREE COMMUNITY DINNER 5:00 PM</b> Ladies Cards, 6:30 PM	3 Pickleball, 7:30 AM Pool Aerobics, (Women) 9:30 AM Pool Aerobics (Women/ Mixed), 10:30 AM 3-13, 6:30 PM Men's Cards 6:00 PM Open Pool, 6:30 - 8:00 PM	4 Mat Yoga 9:00 AM Chair Yoga 10:15 AM Pool Volleyball, 11:45 AM, 1:00 PM Party Bridge, 12:30 PM	5 Pickleball, 7:30 AM Pool Aerobics, (Women) 9:30 AM Pool Aerobics (Women/ Mixed), 10:30 AM Mahjongg, 12 noon BINGO, DOORS OPEN FRIDAY 6 PM	6 Pool Volleyball, 11:45 AM, 1:00 PM  <i>Epiphany</i>
7 Dominoes, 1:00 PM	8 Pickleball, 7:30 AM Pool Aerobics (Women) 9:30 AM Pool Aerobics (Women/ Mixed), 10:30 AM Bocce League All Courts, All Day Ladies Bible Study/Luncheon noon Pinochle, 1:00 PM Line Dancing, Novice 1:00 PM Returning Class 2 PM Texas Holdem, 6:00 PM	9 Golf (Vista Plantation), 9:30 AM Mat Yoga 9:00 AM <b>PPHA BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING 10 AM</b> Chair Yoga 10:15 AM Pool Volleyball, 11:45 AM, 1:00 PM Ladies Cards, 6:30 PM	10 Pickleball, 7:30 AM Pool Aerobics, (Women) 9:30 AM Pool Aerobics (Women/ Mixed), 10:30 AM Classic Book Club 1:00 PM 3-13, 6:30 PM Men's Cards 6:00 PM Open Pool, 6:30 - 8:00 PM	11 Mat Yoga 9:00 AM Chair Yoga 10:15 AM Pool Volleyball, 11:45 AM, 1:00 PM Party Bridge, 12:30 PM	12 Pickleball, 7:30 AM Pool Aerobics, (Women) 9:30 AM Pool Aerobics (Women/ Mixed), 10:30 AM Mahjongg, 12 noon	13 <b>PANCAKE BREAKFAST</b> Pool Volleyball, 11:45 AM, 1:00 PM
14 Dominoes, 1:00 PM	15 Pickleball, 7:30 AM Pool Aerobics (Women) 9:30 AM Pool Aerobics (Women/ Mixed), 10:30 AM Bocce League All Courts, All Day Pinochle, 1:00 PM Line Dancing, Novice 1:00 PM Returning Class 2 PM Texas Holdem, 6:00 PM <i>Martin Luther King Jr.'s Birthday</i>	16 Golf (Vista Plantation), 9:30 AM Mat Yoga 9:00 AM Chair Yoga 10:15 AM Pool Volleyball, 11:45 AM, 1:00 PM Ladies Cards, 6:30 PM	17 Pickleball, 7:30 AM Pool Aerobics, (Women) 9:30 AM Pool Aerobics (Women/ Mixed), 10:30 AM <b>SCOPP COMMUNITY MEETING 2:00 PM</b> 3-13, 6:30 PM Men's Cards 6:00 PM Open Pool, 6:30 - 8:00 PM	18 Mat Yoga 9:00 AM Chair Yoga 10:15 AM Pool Volleyball, 11:45 AM, 1:00 PM Park Place Singles 6:30 PM Party Bridge, 12:30 PM	19 Pickleball, 7:30 AM <b>SUN COFFEE HOUR 9 - 10 AM</b> Pool Aerobics, (Women) 9:30 AM Pool Aerobics (Women/ Mixed), 10:30 AM Mahjongg, 12 noon BINGO, DOORS OPEN FRIDAY 6 PM	20 Pool Volleyball, 11:45 AM, 1:00 PM
21 Dominoes, 1:00 PM	22 Pickleball, 7:30 AM Pool Aerobics (Women) 9:30 AM Pool Aerobics (Women/ Mixed), 10:30 AM Bocce League All Courts, All Day Pinochle, 1:00 PM Line Dancing, Novice 1:00 PM Returning Class 2 PM Texas Holdem, 6:00 PM	23 <b>PPHA BOD NOMINATION COMMUNITY</b> Golf (Vista Plantation), 9:30 AM Mat Yoga 9:00 AM Chair Yoga 10:15 AM Pool Volleyball, 11:45 AM, 1:00 PM Ladies Cards, 6:30 PM	24 Pickleball, 7:30 AM Pool Aerobics, (Women) 9:30 AM Pool Aerobics (Women/ Mixed), 10:30 AM Park Place Book Club 1:00 PM 3-13, 6:30 PM Men's Cards 6:00 PM Open Pool, 6:30 - 8:00 PM	25 Mat Yoga 9:00 AM Chair Yoga 10:15 AM Pool Volleyball, 11:45 AM, 1:00 PM Party Bridge, 12:30 PM	26 Pickleball, 7:30 AM Pool Aerobics, (Women) 9:30 AM Pool Aerobics (Women/ Mixed), 10:30 AM Mahjongg, 12 noon	27 Pool Volleyball, 11:45 AM, 1:00 PM <b>5:30 PM NIGHT AT THE RACES</b>
28 Dominoes, 1:00 PM	29 Pickleball, 7:30 AM Pool Aerobics (Women) 9:30 AM Pool Aerobics (Women/ Mixed), 10:30 AM Bocce League All Courts, All Day Pinochle, 1:00 PM Line Dancing, Novice 1:00 PM Returning Class 2 PM Texas Holdem, 6:00 PM	30 Golf (Vista Plantation), 9:30 AM Mat Yoga 9:00 AM Chair Yoga 10:15 AM Pool Volleyball, 11:45 AM, 1:00 PM Ladies Cards, 6:30 PM	31 Pickleball, 7:30 AM Pool Aerobics, (Women) 9:30 AM Pool Aerobics (Women/ Mixed), 10:30 AM 3-13, 6:30 PM Men's Cards 6:00 PM Open Pool, 6:30 - 8:00 PM			

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