



Advocating For Our Community

PARCELS FROM *Paradise*

KEEPING VENETIAN RESIDENTS CONNECTED...

Published by the VGRCCA as a service to our members and residents of the Venetian Golf and River Club.

JANUARY 2024

Parcels from Paradise is the monthly publication of the VGRC Community Association. We thank those members who provide the financial resources for the costs associated with its publication. If you are reading this edition and are not a member of the Community Association, we would hope you would consider being one of the many members who financially supports its production.

CLOSE TO HOME

Crystal Ball

Being January 2024, it's time to throw out predictions of what may take place in the next twelve months.

- Court makes ruling in June 2024 on Commercial Shopping Center.
- Groundbreaking takes place for the Northeast Park on Laurel Rd.
- Presidential race stirs up high interest in Southwest Florida resulting in a large voter turnout for Venice Council seats 3 and 4.
- New residential development, Vistera, opens on Laurel Rd. noticeably increasing traffic.
- Sarasota Hospital-Venice opens new wing increasing space for its emergency center operation.
- Welcome Center renovations begin at the Venetian.
- New firehouse on Venice Ave. gets underway.
- Some homes in the Venetian reach their 20th-year anniversary and find the need for new water heaters, air conditioners and roofs.
- Laurel Road widening begins to take shape.
- Sarasota Schools continue to be highly rated throughout the state.



Again, remember these are only **predictions!** If you have any predictions you wish to make, send them to vgrcca.us@gmail.com

Is it Worth the Risk?

Some residents might not be reading previous editions of Parcels but should in order to save themselves a lot of future headaches and possibly some money. It was reported in an earlier Parcels that anyone driving a golf cart must have a valid driver's license. Florida's new golf cart law now prohibits people under the age of 18 from operating golf carts on public roads or streets unless they possess a valid learner's driver permit or a valid driver license. Unfortunately, seen throughout the holidays were drivers, accompanied by an adult, who barely looked over 12 and in some cases could barely see over the steering wheel. All is well and good until..... you call your insurance carrier because your 13-year-old grandson Stephen is involved in a non-injurious accident that damages a 2023 Mercedes driven by a fellow resident.

Thank you for reading Parcels. If you have a story idea click on "reply" and let us know.

VISIT: www.vgrcca.org

A Helpful Addition to our Wall of Something

To help you navigate through the Wall of Something, an instructional video has been produced giving you step by step instructions for your posting including creating, posting and deleting an item. It can be found at:

<https://vgrcca.org/wall-of-something-instruction-video/>

May we remind those who are using the Wall for their posting, once your item is sold, please delete it

THE WALL OF SOMETHING

An Electronic Bulletin Board for all Venetian Residents!



Visit us at www.vgrcca.us and Click the wall of something

A Special Quiz for You

Who You Gonna Call was a theme for the very popular movie "Ghostbusters". Now it's time to test your knowledge of who you going to call with the following on-property situations that you may face. There is some confusion, with various options available, who can handle your question or concern. Thus, this article Answers are at the bottom of the last page of this edition.

1. When the new Sarasota Memorial Hospital emergency room will be available to accommodate patients.
2. Furniture in the driveway of your next-door neighbor for the third day with a sign of "free".
3. Aggressive alligator on the weekday.
4. Alligator greeting you at the front door - but it's a Sunday morning.
5. Person peering into multiple homes' windows on your street.
6. Golf ball in flight hits your car.
7. Painting Your House all white.
8. Want to make a post on the Wall of Something to find an Otolaryngologist physician.
9. Sewer back-up on your street
10. Down tree on the Boardwalk
11. Snake on your lanai
12. Injured Sandhill Crane
13. Car accident at the corner of Padova and Montelluna

Bike-O-Rama X Rescheduled for Jan 27!

We are very pleased to report that Bicycles International has agreed to sponsor our Bike-O-Rama event on **Saturday, Jan 27 starting at 9:00am to 11:00am!** This annual event involves a local bike shop, Bicycles International, which provides a quick but valuable FREE bike check. The event is held in the River Club parking lot, is sponsored by the Community Association and will be available to all Venetian residents. Donations for the workers are most welcome.

New Board Members

We welcome the following new Community Association Board members. They are Crandall "Chip" Melvin and Terrance "Terry" Leary. Mr. Melvin will transition into the role of Treasurer of the organization. Their bio's will soon be posted on the Community Association's website, www.vgrcca.org.

Tallahassee Looks at HOA Operations

It was reported recently in the media that Florida lawmakers will have an opportunity to pass legislation in 2024 that will "increase transparency and accountability of homeowners across the state". One of the proposed bills would require homeowner associations to provide copies of the association rules and covenants to every member by October 1, 2024, and every new member thereafter. It will also require the homeowner associations to post their rules and covenants on the home page of their web page. You might be interested in knowing that on the web page of the Community Association, you will find a list of not only the webpage for the POA, but other important organizations that you may need to contact. Go to (and you might bookmark), <https://vgrcca.org/resources/>

Another Charity Event Open to All Women Residents

Attached is a flyer announcing a great charity event sponsored by our Golf Club Women Golfers. The good news is this event is open to all residents. It would be a good time to see how the course and its dining facility adds so much to one's quality of life. Open to all only women, so fellas, maybe it will give you time to get rid of those old clothes in your closet including your beloved leisure suit and those "cool" bell bottom pants that now are 6 sizes smaller than what you wear now.

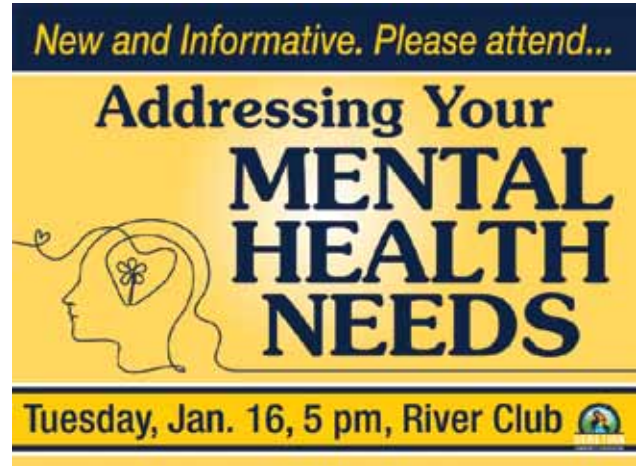
Upcoming Seminars of Interest

A Seminar We're Pleased to Present

This is a first-time seminar that should be an outstanding one. On **Tuesday, January 16th at 5 pm** at the River Club the Community Association will host a presentation on "**Addressing Your Mental Health Needs**". The speaker will be Dr. Christopher Cortman, a well-known local psychologist. His background is provided on the Community Association website at www.vgrcca.org The discussion of one's mental health needs in today's world has become a popular topic, especially as it relates to the aging process. Over the years, there has been much more emphasis on your mental health linking to your physical condition. We are sure that this presentation will be of value to all of our residents. Hope to see you on the 16th.

Smile

You probably don't even know where your old Kodak camera is located in your house. Now you, like so many others, rely on your phone as a camera. With your phone at your side all the time, the Community Association wanted to provide a practical presentation on "Taking Better Pictures on Your Mobile Phone". The seminar will be held on Wednesday, January 24th, 9 am at the River Club. Both Android and Apple systems will be taught. This should be a very informative session and we don't really have to say it but ...don't forget to bring your phone!



THIS AND THAT

Wonderful Website for Newbies

The County has come up with a great resource especially for those new to the area. Click on <https://www.eventbrite.com/cc/sarasota-county-starter-kit-2828409> for some very valuable information.

More Roundabouts?

Although there seems to be some displeasure with roundabouts in the Sarasota area, the County has plans for even more as mentioned in a recent news article. The advantage of roundabouts is that they keep traffic flowing plus cause fewer fatal accidents. If you are driving on RT. 41 going towards Van Wezel or St. Armands, you might have noticed several newly built roundabouts. If you travel that route, our advice is to make sure you are in the proper lane. Assuming you will see more roundabouts in both Sarasota and Manatee County, if you really need help with navigating them, go to <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=3hpmdAkqaGA>

A Special Resources for Senior Residents

If you are interested in a great resource for seniors living in Sarasota County, click on the following link for some helpful resources available to a sizeable population in our county <https://aaaswfl.org/>

UPDATES

The Laurel Rd. widening progress is moving along but certainly slowly. As reported in Parcels regularly, the County basically makes the final call on the road. The Neal/Stantec design team is working in cooperation with the County which will probably result sometime soon in a public presentation. Stay tuned.

The Appeal Court has still not rendered a decision regarding the appeal of the City's decision approving the Commercial Application. Some experts are estimating it may be in the summer. If the court approves the appeal, the issue returns to City Council for another hearing on the matter. Although the applicant has the right to begin work on the area, there appears to be no visible evidence of that taking place.

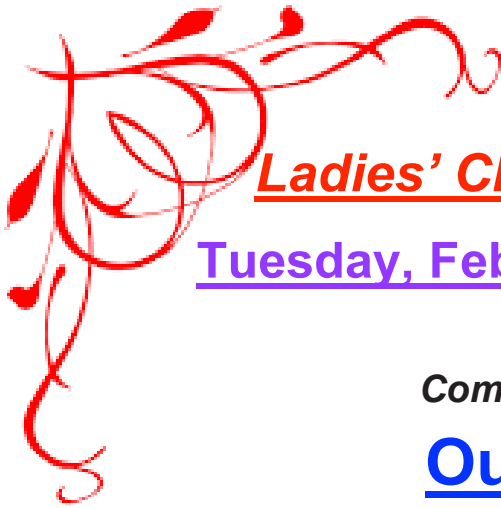
ANSWERS TO THE GHOSTBUSTER'S "WHO DO YOU CONTACT" QUESTIONS.

1. Vgrcca.org@gmail.com keeps tabs on issues outside the gates
2. POA Property Manager
3. The CDD Field manager, not Florida Wildlife Commission
4. Security Team
5. 911, not our Security team
6. Golf Course may possibly share with you the name of the player if they have any idea who it is. However, the course is not responsible for the damage.
7. POA Property Manager
8. Email www.vgrcca.org@gmail.com
9. CDD Field Manager
10. POA Property Manager..... it's their property.
11. Sarasota Animal Control
12. Wildlife Center
13. 911- the police and/or fire department will respond if called to any accident on property

If you have answered all 13 correctly, you are the neighbor that everyone should come to if they have a question; if you correctly answered less than 9, keep reading Parcels every month or get to know the neighbor who answered correctly more than 9 of "Who Do You Call?"

Finally...

Have you been a financial contributor to the VGRC Community Association which provides to our residents a season of seminars and events including Shredfest/Junkfest in late February, the Hurricane Response Team, the monthly Parcels from Paradise and email notifications of issues outside the gates? We appreciate those who financially support the organization and hope non-members who benefit from much of the work of the Community Association become a contributor click on www.vgrcca.org/membership.



Ladies' Charity Scramble Fundraiser Event!

Tuesday, February 6, 2024 - 8:45 am Shotgun

Registration begins 7:45AM

Come join us this year to support...

Our Mother's House

"a two year transitional living program dedicated to empowering homeless mothers and their preschool age children"

Effective January 8 the event is open to all women golfers, golf club membership NOT required. GHIN number is required

Venetian golf members may sign up via the Email registration link. Nonmembers should register at the Venetian pro shop. 941-483-4811



Buffet lunch included!

***\$22 ++ per person plus cart fees if applicable, + donation
\$70 non-member includes lunch, golf & cart fee, + donation***

Opportunity tickets available before the event - 10 for \$10

The suggested donation to Our Mother's House is \$50

If you are unable to attend, please consider a donation

Everyone is welcome to sponsor a hole for a \$125 donation

Please make checks payable to: Our Mother's House

Visit omh@catholiccharitiesdov.org for more information

Join in the fun while supporting a great charity!

Featuring:

Team prizes and Hole contest prizes!

Hole-in-One prize—Ed Howard Lincoln-Mazda 2 year car lease!

Tri-County HVAC system hole sponsored prize!

Chairperson

Jessie Verna



“Alone we can do so little;
together we can do so much”
~ H. Keller



Membership Enrollment Form

Your Venetian Golf and River Club Community Association membership demonstrates the value you place on living in this community. For more information, visit our informative website, www.vgrcca.org

Your membership will provide the necessary financial support providing for the:

- Publication of the monthly Parcels from Paradise distributed to all Venetian households
- Continuation of the Hurricane Response Team, activated during an approaching hurricane
- Support for the Wall of Something, an electronic messaging board for members
- Scheduling of exciting seminars and events including Shredfest, Bike-O-Rama, CPR training and a host of presentations made by local experts

Quick Facts about the VGRCCA:

- Formed in 2008, the Community Association has a long and successful record of community engagement
- Managed by a volunteer Board of up to 11 members
- A history of approximately 60-70% of the Venetian residents who join
- Board meetings once a month, open to residents and accessible on Zoom
- Strong emphasis on communications to residents

There are two ways to join:

1. On-line at <http://www.vgrcca.org/membership>
We accept credit cards and use Pay Pal as our secure server.
2. Write a check, payable to **VGRC Community Association** and mail with this form to:
Treasurer
305 Martellago Dr.
North Venice, FL 34275

Membership Dues Per Household

(Please Check Appropriate Line):

SIGN UP

TERM DUES

- | | |
|--|----------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Three Years (best deal) | \$70 (\$20 discount) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Two Years | \$50 (\$10 discount) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> One Year | \$30 |

MEMBER INFORMATION (PLEASE PRINT AND PROVIDE ALL INFORMATION):

NAME: _____

PREFERRED TELEPHONE #: _____

E-MAIL ADDRESS: _____

ADDITIONAL NAME: _____

PREFERRED TELEPHONE #: _____

E-MAIL ADDRESS: _____

VENETIAN ADDRESS: _____

OTHER MAILING ADDRESS: _____