



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.

JUNE 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.



PLAN: DON'T PANIC!

This upcoming hurricane season (which begins June 1st and ends November 30th) is predicted to be one with an above normal number of hurricanes (17-25 named storms of which 8-13 storms are forecasted to become hurricanes, including 4-7 major hurricanes (category 3, 4 or 5).

Nervous meteorologists have been urging Floridians to prepare and pay attention to weather forecasts. The Community Association of the Venetian Golf and River Club is committed to providing current and relevant information to our community on hurricane preparation, response and recovery. In addition, the Community Association funds and sponsors the Hurricane Response Team. The following are two such type of information outlets:

HURRICANE PREPARATION COMMUNITY MEETING

The annual hurricane preparation meeting, which has been scheduled for Monday, June 17th from 4:00-5:00 p.m. at the River Club, will feature Fire Chief Frank Giddens and Assistant City Manager James Clinch. Come and get hurricane information and also get answers to your questions.

THE HURRICANE CORNER

The Hurricane Corner is a website located at <https://vgrcca.org/hurricane-corner> which provides information about hurricanes, hurricane preparation and response. Among other information, you will find a link to an electronic copy of hurricane preparation guides. The guides from the City of Venice and from Sarasota County are invaluable in the planning and execution of a hurricane plan.

DISASTER PREPAREDNESS SALES TAX HOLIDAYS (June 1-17th and August 24th- September 6th)

The Florida Revenue Department has designated items that are tax exempt for the noted period of time. This would be the time to stock up on or replace items that are useful in the event of a disaster. On the Hurricane Corner website under Hurricane Preparation, you will find a list of items that are tax exempt (including food items for pets). Even our pets need a hurricane preparation kit.

So, for this hurricane season, don't panic; prepare!

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

VISIT: www.vgrcca.org

Two Noted City of Venice Events

The VGRC Community Association website is getting filled with valuable and relevant information for all residents. Our webmaster is placing the latest news on the site. One item recently posted is a **City Photo Contest** for placement in the 2025 City Calendar. Specific rules and instructions are listed in the link with a description of the contest. Great opportunity for those proficient with a camera.

The second posted item is the **City Centennial Celebration** which begins November 2025 and concludes in May of 2027. After you read the information, you will thoroughly be impressed with the history of our city as well as the detailed planning the city has made with the celebration.

For information, go to <https://vgrcca.org/news-events/>

Keeping You in the Loop

- The action regarding the Shopping Center is still on the judge's desk. Those close to the issue indicate it will probably be later this month or July before we know the outcome.
- The Laurel Rd. widening project is moving forward but slowly concentrating on sketches and descriptions, drainage and easements.
- You will possibly see on the November ballot a referendum recommending adjusting Council members' terms of office. More details to follow as we get closer to the election.
- The deadline for filing for a seat on the Venetian CDD is **June 14th at noon**. Information for filing is found at the Sarasota County Supervisor of Election. The election for our CDD positions will be on the November ballot. Even though you may be a Venetian resident, please note that only Florida registered voters can vote on these positions.

Recent Fire at the VGRC

On early Saturday morning, June 1st, there was an extensive house fire at 104 Valenza Loop which appears to have caused major damage to the home. The VFD has not released the cause of the fire. In the spirit of caring and generosity, the VGRC Community Association urges the community to rally around the owners during these difficult times for their current and future needs.



Just for the Record.

Reminders: WALL OF SOMETHING – If you have posted on the Wall of Something and you have sold, rented or found your desired items, please go back to the Wall to delete the post. If you are having difficulty deleting, please contact us at vgrcca@gmail.com. Use this same email address to request access to the Wall of Something.

Membership

To check on the status of your membership, go to vgrcca.org/membership/ and enter your last name and address into the form. Tip: Do not include the street type (Court, Way, etc.), only the house number and street name. Our membership extends from January through December. If your membership is expiring at the end of 2024, you can renew now, and the renewal will be effective beginning in 2025.

The Call for Volunteers: July 4th Flag Placement.

On Tuesday, July 4th 1776, the Second Continental Congress ratified the text of the Declaration of Independence. Once ratified, the official printer to Congress, John Dunlop, worked throughout the night to print 200 copies of the declaration to “get the word out” to other government committees, state assemblies, and military commanders of the Continental Army (one copy made its way to King George III). These copies, known as the Dunlop Broad sides, only had two names printed on them: John Hancock, President of the Second Continental Congress, and the Congress Secretary, Charles Thomson. The document we are familiar with was “engrossed” (a process of reproducing an official document in a large hand) over the course of July 1776. On August 2nd, 1776, the Delegates to the Continental Congress gathered to sign the engrossed copy of the Declaration. Fifty-six delegates signed the Declaration knowing they risked their fortunes, liberty, and life to create this nation.



To honor their actions and the birth of our Great Republic, the Community Association will be placing the Stars and Stripes along our community entrance and River Club traffic circle on Wednesday, July 3rd. If you wish to participate, meet in the old Welcome Center parking lot on Wednesday morning, July 3rd at 8:30 a.m. Happy Birthday USA!

We were very pleased with the volunteer turnout for Memorial Day flag placement. We hope this will hold true for the 4th of July celebration.

OUTSIDE THE GATES

Highly Regarded Principal Departs.

We recently became aware that Laurel Nokomis School Principal Ray Wilson will be leaving the school to take on principal responsibilities at another elementary school. Mr. Wilson has been a good friend of the Venetian and the Community Association. He has always been helpful in the planning process for the Annual Town Hall Meeting. In addition, several years ago, he provided assistance during the Community Association’s “Supply the Supplies” efforts. Being a principal in today’s world is to say the least challenging. We will miss Mr. Wilson and wish him the best of success in his new venture.

A Dry Season for Sure.

We are seeing a number of brush fires in the area and felt it was important to reach out to our own Venice Fire Department’s Fire Chief Frank Giddens regarding this issue. His comments are below.

We are in dry season and brush fires are due in part to natural causes; such as lightning strikes, as well as manmade due in part to control burns. In addition, there are times that we find fires deemed undetermined or accidental in nature.

Our strategic planning for fighting these types of fires revolves around life safety, incident stabilization and property conservation. The mind set with brush fires is to be knowledgeable about wind direction and topography, to collaborate with forestry for air drops (helicopter dropping water), and to utilize fire breaks/lines (the cutting and removal of vegetation by heavy equipment to reduce fuel load).

On a positive note, brush fires do serve a certain ecological benefit. They reduce the amount of overgrown brush and debris or dead vegetation and replenish the ground with needed nutrients to help stimulate new growth. For homeowners, the key is to remove dead vegetation from plants and trees and keep your gutters clean.



In the Heat of the.....Day

On one of the more hot and humid days, Parcels was driving down Padova Way and saw a group of workers replacing a roof. The first thought was how in the heck do they withstand the oppressive heat? Curious on how they perform in such hot weather, Parcels reached out to the company who was doing the work and spoke with Jessie Curry, one of the owners of Roofing by Curry. <https://www.roofingbycurry.com/>.



He started the interview by saying that staying cool is partly a mental game. If you think it is hot, it will be hot. Therefore, one of the first strategies he employs is discouraging employees from focusing on how hot it is. His second answer to the question about how they withstand the heat was a shocker. Mr. Curry indicated that because the roof is higher than the ground, actually it is cooler than being on the ground as there is usually more of a breeze. He said workers wear clothing (straw hats, long sleeve shirts) to keep the sun off of the skin. In fact, if there is a breeze, the worker's shirt may get wet which adds to keeping the worker cool. Ice and more ice is the drink of choice. They bring big bags of ice to all work sites. In fact, they have a massive ice cooler at their headquarters for workers. They encourage workers to wear a cold towel around the neck which Mr. Curry indicated cools one of the main arteries in the body. Curry Roofing provide numerous breaks, conducts employee safety meetings and keeps a watchful eye on all workers.

Interesting conversation with Mr. Curry but for the time being, not interested in applying for a position with his firm.

Diverging Diamond- What is it?

After years of getting somewhat comfortable with roundabouts, now we are faced with one more “diverging diamond”. A diverging diamond is what you see at the Interstate exit/entrance on University Parkway. If you have been there, you have learned to keep your eyes looking forward keeping your eyes on the car ahead of you, hoping he or she knows what the heck they are doing. Now, even though it is not in Venice, we must alert you that another “diverging diamond” interchange is in store for Exit 205, Clark Rd. For those who need all the details and are eager to better understand a DDI, it is officially called a double crossover diamond interchange (DCD), and, get this, is a subset of diamond interchange in which the opposing directions of travel on the non-freeway road cross each other on either side of the interchange so that traffic crossing the freeway on the overpass or underpass is operating on the opposite driving side from that which is customary for the jurisdiction. The crossovers may employ one-side overpasses or be at-grade and controlled by traffic lights.

Got it? Again, just follow the car ahead of you.

FINAL THOUGHTS

Love bungee cords. Great for tying down outdoor chairs, tables, and plants. They're inexpensive but so useful throughout the year. Get a few before you know what may hit this area.



Just in case you forgot the following term and definition...
Rain - moisture condensed from the atmosphere that falls visibly in separate drops.





ATTEND...

HURRICANE PREPARATION

PLAN. ...DON'T PANIC.

**MONDAY, JUNE 17th
4 PM, RIVER CLUB**

Sponsored by the VGRC Community Association



“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
230 Padova Way
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: _____