## THE NEED FOR OUR COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION



North Venice has been going through a growth spurt, which means more people, more traffic, and more land use discussions. The Community Association is your watchdog for this area. We push to ensure new development is compatible with us, and that it is not too dense. We are also pushing for more parks/open space in this area.

#### The HRT

The Hurricane Readiness Team (HRT) was established by the Community Association to take care of residents during and following hurricanes, when employees/service providers leave the premises. It consists of resident volunteers who implement a comprehensive action and resident communication plan, using equipment funded by the Community Association, when a hurricane is imminent.



# INSIDE THE GATES: PROUD TO MAKE OUR COMMUNITY YOUR PARADISE THROUGH...

• Educational Seminars & Community Service Events an array of topics including wellness, CPR and self-defense training, dealing with alligators, Florida plant and landscape info and much more. See the calendar on the website for latest offerings.

 Parcels from Paradise monthly newsletter informing residents of the latest happenings.

 Bike-0-Rama, Shredfest & Junkfest safety and maintenance checks on your bicycles,

a means to shred those documents no longer needed, and a place to get rid of your junk.

- Candidate Forum & Annual Town Hall Meeting conversations with existing and prospective City Council members, and an annual town hall meeting.
- Honoring Those Who Served
   placing flags around the community on key
   national holidays.
- Wall of Something a community wide electronic bulletin board.

(www.vgrcca.org/wallofsomething)





### **COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION**

Advocating For Our Community

www.vgrcca.org

WHO WE ARE

WHAT WE DO

WHY
THE NEED FOR YOUR
COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION

**WWW.VGRCCA.ORG** 

"Alone we can do so little; together we can do so much."

- Helen Keller

#### **WHO WE ARE**

The VGRC Community Association was formed by residents in 2008 to address a land use issue on Laurel Road. It has morphed itself into a highly respected organization. It is separate from the POA and CDD and receives its funding solely through a nominal membership fee. All of the work is done by volunteers, and is geared toward preserving your paradise.



#### **WHAT WE DO**

Our functions include:

- Monitoring issues outside the gates of the Venetian. We actively interact with City and County government officials to make sure the Venetian point of view is understood and listened to.
- Staying informed of both City and community activities and advocating as needed.
- Providing educational seminars.
- Sponsoring community service events.
- Communicating with residents on important issues.



 Running a website with a full calendar of events, as well as the "Wall of Something."

#### **OUR NEED FOR YOU**

The Community Association keeps abreast of City and County issues that could impact our property values, public safety, our waterways and beaches, and quality of life. We have weighed in on many issues ranging from land use and density issues to long term community planning. And we are heard! Your membership helps amplify the strength in our voices.

## GETTING RESULTS "OUTSIDE THE GATES"

• Sarasota Memorial Hospital in Venice - Actively advocated for approvals to build this hospital at Laurel and Pinebrook, and serve on the advisory board.



- Jacaranda Extension A secondary outlet was needed for VGRC residents. The Community Association successfully lobbied City government, and the connection from Laurel to Jacaranda was built.
- Comprehensive Plan/LDRs Provided input, and encouraged all residents to do so, on the development of the City's important comprehensive plans and land development regulations.
- Water Quality Working in the community and with City government to employ new initiatives to help prevent the scourge of Red Tide.
- Landscape Buffer Secured restrictive stipulations from the companies north of the VGRC, and negotiated for landscape buffers to be put in on our border.

• Adopt A Road Project - Volunteers from the Community Association periodically clean up Laurel Road, all the way from Knights Trail to the Venice Myakka Park.

Gateway to North
 Venice - Spearheaded
 the Bold Landscaping
 project that has
 enhanced the entrance



to North Venice. Worked with government and private entities to direct over \$1 million to this undertaking at the intersection of Laurel Road and I-75 interchange.

- **Noise Ordinance** Worked with the Venice City Manager and Police Chief to re-interpret the City's noise ordinance resulting in more stringent control of industrial noise sources.
- Legacy Trail Overpass The Community Association provided input to County commissioners to enhance the aesthetics of the overpass on Laurel Road.
- Advisory Boards Members of the Community Association have sat on key City Advisory Boards, including the Environmental Advisory Board, Parks & Recreation Board and SMH-Venice Hospital Advisory Board.

## JOINING THE COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION

The Community Association is supported entirely by Venetian residents. One, two, and three year memberships are available. Dues are used for a variety of expenses, including supplying the Hurricane Readiness Team with needed equipment and supplies, running events, and hiring, if necessary, legal counsel or consultants to further the community objectives.

Go to www.vgrcca.org/membership to join this important organization.