

PARCELS

FROM
Paradise
Now in its 16th year of publication.

September 2026



*In memory of my husband our Directory
Photographer, Al Churilla*



KEEPING IT CLOSE TO HOME

Notice something new?

Did you see anything new when you received this edition of *Parcels*? Look up...there's a new logo. While the new logo includes the same picture of the birds, taken from the past logo, we have a new slogan which clearly states what we bring to the community. As you will read, the CA has been serving our community for quite some time.

Council Briefed on Laurel Rd. Widening

Given its importance to the VGRC, the Community Association paid great attention to the Tuesday August 25, 2026, Venice City Council meeting when City Engineer (Jon Kramer) provided the City Council members with an update on the Laurel Road Widening Project. Similar to what was reported in prior Venetian Golf and River Club Community Association Board meetings Mr. Kramer told the City Council the initial construction bids submitted on May 15, 2026, were higher than the budget which necessitated the Sarasota County Dept of Public Works to re-bid the project with a focus on finding ways to reduce costs and meet the projected budget.

The new bids were due back to Sarasota County by August 9, 2026, and expected to be opened on September 3, 2026. Hopefully the actions to reduce costs will be successful. Once the new bids are tabulated and reviewed, we'll know more on Sarasota County's next steps and impact on the Laurel Rd Widening Projects scope and design. ***Work on Laurel Rd is likely to start in early 2027.***



Thank you for reading *PARCELS*. If you have a story idea, click on "REPLY" and let us know!

VISIT: www.vgrcca.org

In memory of Al Churilla

NEW – “YOUR FEATURED PHOTO”

Do you have some great photos like this?



The Community Association is starting a new feature where we will display a resident photo at the top of the Home page of our popular website, <https://vgrcca.org/>. Complete information and instructions for submitting your photos are provided on our site. It's very simple: All you have to do is pick one of your photos that show a scene at the VGRCC or elsewhere in Venice that is attractive and engaging (like the photo above) and email it to us along with some basic information about who, where and when. The featured photo is not restricted to nature and wildlife, although those are always favorite subjects. Anything that attracts attention and is representative of the experience of living here will be considered. We will credit photos to their creators unless they wish to remain anonymous; however, we will not name persons shown in the photos. This will be a great way to share the many beautiful photos that now sit unseen in our phones and computers. Please join this effort to add interest and variety to our website and let others see your creative side!

Venice City Council Candidate Forum

The VGRCCA will host a Candidate Forum on **Tuesday, October 6 at 10:00 am** in the River Club dining room for the two contested open seats to serve on the Venice City Council. There are three candidates competing for Seat #2 and two candidates competing for Seat #5. All five candidates have accepted our invitation and look forward to discussing their qualifications, platform and priorities with the Venetian residents. The duration of this Forum is expected to be 60 minutes. It will also be recorded and placed on our website (vgrcca.org) soon after the completion of the event for those unable to attend. If you have a suggested question, please send it to vgrcca@gmail.com. The Forum is a great way to know the candidates that you will be voting on.



UPCOMING SEMINARS & EVENTS

The VGRC Community Association is once again proud to host its 2026-27 series of events and seminars referred to as the **Knock Your Socks Off IV** season. We have 16 scheduled activities starting with the October 6 "Candidate Forum" mentioned above and ending with an entertaining seminar on the "History of Golf in Sarasota County". The brochure is with the printer currently and will be available for distribution later this month. You will see some new and exciting events; such as educational seminars on **"Memory Loss/Reversing Alzheimer's Disease"**, **"Sea Turtle Biology/Nesting Behavior"** and **"Sports Injuries"**. We will also host repeats of previous resident favorites; such as "CPR / AED Training", "Bike-O-Rama" and "Junkfest/Shredfest/Goodwill". Sounds like a great season for those who have a quest for learning with the convenience of having it in their community.

Bob Harrigan Solid Prediction

On Monday, August 31st, Bob Harrigan, ABC7's Chief (and Certified Broadcast) Meteorologist, gave another entertaining and enlightening speech about hurricanes. Bob graduated from the University of Kansas with a degree in Atmospheric Science and has been forecasting Suncoast weather for more than 40 years. More than one hundred (100) people attended, and enjoyed, Bob's presentation at the River Club.

Bob made the following points: the El Niño (a climate pattern) brings less of a chance of hurricanes during the hurricane season in the Atlantic and Gulf oceans, and therefore we **may not** experience a hurricane over the next three months. However, the 2026 Super El Niño is shaping up to be one of the most powerful climate events in recent history, with major impacts on U.S. winter storms, including rain, flooding and tornadoes.

If you were not at Bob's presentation and want to view it, a video of his presentation is posted in the HRT's Hurricane Corner and an email with a link will be sent out to the VGRC community.



South Venice Jetty...hopefully a chance for repair

Perhaps there is hope in getting the South Jetty repaired in 2027. Recently an elected politician has pushed the Army Corp of Engineers for immediate funding of this project. Venice Council is so pleased that the reconstruction is moving in the right direction. In fact, the Co-Presidents of the Community Association recently wrote the following to support the effort

To Mayor Pachota and the Venice City Council:

The Venetian Golf & River Club Community Association strongly supports the City's effort to have funding approved on the federal level to rebuild the South Jetty and reopen Humphris Park. This jetty and the park are an important recreational amenity for Venice and nearby residents, and we deserve to have it repaired and reopened. We hope your efforts are successful soon and we look forward to hearing positive news about it.

- Tom Jones, Mark Faford, Co-Presidents

**Precinct 435, August Election Results**

The mid-August election saw some changes impacting residents in our community. The first race involved current Mayor Nick Pachota who won his race. With that, current Vice Mayor, Jim Boldt, will be unopposed in November and thus will serve as the next Venice Mayor. The second race was current Sarasota Commissioner James Neunder who was running for reelection. Nuender lost his reelection to Jim DeNiro. Finally, of interest was the Sarasota Board of Education where there were no incumbents on the ballot. Newcomers Jimmy Glover, Megan Tennimon and Beth Mayberry were all victorious. If you are interested in knowing more about how our Precinct 435 voted, go to Sarasota County Supervisor of Election, find the August election and look for our Precinct.

Speaking of elections. There was talk that the upcoming November election may include a change in the Vote by Mail process. Recently, it was confirmed that there will NOT be any change in the Vote by Mail format of voting.

PARK NEWS

On August 19, several CA board members as well as two Venetian residents volunteered to inspect and clean up the new public park located on Laurel Road. The Community Association was appointed as the park's sponsor in its "Adopt-A-Park" program to assist the city with maintenance of its parks by volunteering to inspect and report any safety hazards and cleanup any trash and recycling, if needed. Several of our volunteers even weeded the gardens! If you have not yet been to this park, you will be impressed. The park offers many features: separate dog parks for large and small dogs, eight pickleball courts, a small walking trail, adult fitness equipment, and plenty of play equipment for visiting grandchildren.

In the "selfie" picture below, the city posted a sign recognizing the Venetian's Community Association. While Parcels does not normally publish residents' names, can you name the 5 volunteer residents pictured?



Why Astroturf?

Speaking of the park or barking about the park, the canine segment of this new park seems to be getting plenty of use. One question is why the dog park uses astroturf rather than grass? Parcels sought that answer from the engineering firm that built the park. The reason is that with the rain and watering, the "doo doo" is easier to clean off. Secondly, grass is usually trampled down by great use and eventually turns into dirt, Astroturf has a much longer life.

OTHER KEY BITS OF INFORMATION

Welcome Ohioans, Iowans, Kentuckians, etc. etc.

There was an article in the Herald recently regarding the increase in tourism in Sarasota County. Parcels wondered how they calculate the tourism rate and reached out to the writer. Her reply was as follows:

The trends and data cited in the story are cited directly from Visit Sarasota County, the region's official tourism association, which tracks every month the occupancy rates of hotels in the county and the number of visitors from the airport through a partnership with Sarasota Bradenton International Airport. The association also partners with local research firm Downs & St. Germain Research, Inc. to collect these statistics and provide data analysis.

It's a Bird, It's a Plane, It's a

..... Drone bringing your package from Amazon.

You read it correctly. Some major cities across the nation are already using drones to deliver Amazon

packages. When it will be an Amazon standard feature is unknown. We will keep an eye on it....we actually mean we will keep an eye on the sky.



Lecture Series of Interest

Ringling College of Art and Design offers a notable lecture series featuring speakers from a wide range of fields. Upcoming names include Anderson Cooper, author Andrew Ross Sorkin, and global AI advisor Radhika Dirks. Subscription information and event details are available through Ringling College's Town Hall Speaker Series page. It's a great way to spend a pleasant afternoon

A Helpful Resource for Gardeners and Landscapers

The University of Florida IFAS Extension offers a wide range of programs for residents interested in gardening, landscaping, and Florida-friendly outdoor care. Many one-day programs are held at local sites such as Shamrock Park and Nature Center and the North Port Library. Gardeners can find a full list of programs at the Sarasota County IFAS Extension website. The Extension has been very helpful to the Venetian, conducting numerous workshops over the years.

Honey Baked Ham Enters Venice

Honey Baked Ham ("HBH") is a national chain that is often packed with customers especially during the winter holiday months. Now there is a Honey Baked Ham in Venice, located at the Bird Bay Plaza on the Bypass. This is only the second one in Sarasota County. Different from the past, this locally owned store is also a great luncheon place for you.....with plenty of tables. HBH also does a strong catering business for that party you have scheduled. Give it a try....open six days a week except Sunday. Their phone number is 941-308-9878.





Friday, September 11th is a day we will never forget. Where were you on that day?

Two notable local events may be of interest to Venetian residents.

The first is a walk/run sponsored by our own River Club. They have put out several flyers about the details for their event, with registrations beginning at 7am on September 11th, starting at the River Club.

The second is the City of Venice's Remembrance Ceremony at Patriots Park at the Bypass (where Pinchers is located). This will be the 25th Year Anniversary of this tragic event. The local ceremony will be held on **Friday, September 11th** beginning at 9:00 am. There will be guest speakers and tributes honoring those affected. A bell ringing by the Venice Fire Rescue will honor those who lost their lives. Hope you can find time on the 11th to attend either of these two events, one on property, the other at Patriots Park.

Update... Laurel Crossings

The University of Florida IFAS Extension offers a wide range of programs for residents interested in gardening, landscaping, and Florida-friendly outdoor care. Many one-day programs are held at local sites such as Shamrock Park and Nature Center and the North Port Library. Gardeners can find a full list of programs at the Sarasota County IFAS Extension website. The Extension has been very helpful to the Venetian, conducting numerous workshops over the years.

FINAL THOUGHTS.....SUPPORTING YOUR HRT

If you attended the Bob Harrigan presentation on August 31st your time was well spent. Bob is such a dynamic presenter and explains weather in a way that most everyone understands what low and high pressure means. The invitation to the VGRC was extended by the head of the Hurricane Response Team. Thanks to her effort, Bob has spoken to our community in previous years. For those who may be new residents, the HRT was originated by the Community Association (CA) and today, remains a service provided by the Community Association. The HRT is activated when a confirmed hurricane is headed in this direction and the security booth is vacated (note...later staffed by the HRT). Few communities in this area have an HRT. In fact, city officials keep applauding our program. The HRT serves everyone, even though Community Association members fund it. If you are not a CA member and believe you benefit from the HRT perhaps today you can do your part as a community member by joining the CA. The membership form is at the end of this edition....note your membership will begin on 1/1/2027. Your membership will certainly provide appropriate funding for your Hurricane Response Team, an established group so valuable to our community....and you!



Membership Enrollment Form

The Venetian Golf and River Club Community Association, formed in 2008, has a long and successful record of community engagement with a strong emphasis on communication to residents.

Your membership demonstrates the value you place on living in this community. For more information, visit our website, **vgrcca.org** or send a message to **vgrcca@gmail.com**.

Your membership provides the necessary financial support for:

- Publication of the monthly *Parcels from Paradise* newsletter
- Hurricane Response Team
- Wall of Something – a community bulletin board
- Exciting seminars presented by local experts and events including Shredfest, Bike-O-Rama and CPR training

There are 2 ways to join and/or make a donation:

1. On-line at **vgrcca.org/membership** We accept credit cards and use Pay Pal as our secure server.
2. Write a check, payable to VG&RC Community Association and mail with this form to:

Membership
230 Padova Way
North Venice, FL 34275

Membership Dues Per Household

(Please Check Appropriate Line):

SIGN UP

TERM DUES

- ☐ Three Years (best deal) \$70 (\$20 discount)
- ☐ Two Years \$50 (\$10 discount)
- ☐ One Year \$30

ADDITIONAL VOLUNTARY DONATION:

\$

If you appreciate the value of Parcels, Seminars, Hurricane Response and other contributions of the Community Association, please consider making a donation in excess of required dues.

MEMBER INFORMATION (PLEASE PRINT AND PROVIDE ALL INFORMATION):

NAME and ADDITIONAL NAME: _____

PREFERRED TELEPHONE #'s: _____

ALL E-MAIL ADDRESSES: _____

VENETIAN ADDRESS: _____

OTHER MAILING ADDRESS: _____

A copy of our official registration, number 81775, and financial information may be obtained from the division of consumer services by calling 800-HELP-FLA (435-7352) or website **www.fdacs.gov** within the state. Registration does not imply endorsement, approval, or recommendation by the state.

Meridian
#08E

Point
1 (2011)

Note "AC" (10):
per Flood Insurance
of 27, 2024
Bonds
188 (Return).

VENICE CROSSING A SUBDIVISION

A REPLAT OF LOT 2 AND A PART OF LOT 1, TWIN LAUREL ESTATES, RECORDED IN PLAT BOOK
24 PAGE 43 OF THE PUBLIC RECORDS OF SARASOTA COUNTY, FLORIDA, SECTION 29
TOWNSHIP 38 SOUTH RANGE 19 EAST, CITY OF VENICE, SARASOTA COUNTY, FLORIDA

As of August 11, 2026

CURVE TABLE

CHORD BEARING	CHORD LENGTH	ARC BEARING	ARC DISTANCE
N 102° 20' 18.96" E	135.77	102° 20' 18.96"	135.77
S 89° 41' 40.00" W	135.77	89° 41' 40.00"	135.77

LINE TABLE

LINE NO.	BEARING	DISTANCE
1	N 102° 20' 18.96" E	135.77
2	S 89° 41' 40.00" W	135.77
3	S 89° 41' 40.00" W	135.77
4	S 89° 41' 40.00" W	135.77
5	S 89° 41' 40.00" W	135.77

POINT OF
COMMENCEMENT
The Southeast Corner of
the Southwest Quarter
of Section 29, T-38S, R-19E

SEE SHEET 3
MATCHLINE
SEE SHEET 4

GASBATTIA LAKES PHASE
Plat Book 30, Page 308

POINT OF
BEGINNING
Lot 3
N 102° 20' 18.96" E
135.77

