PARCELS FROM Paradise

Now in its 16th year of publication.

November 2026

This edition has been financially supported by VGRC Residents

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Coldwell Banker Realtor
Venice
(941) 586-5191
Your Venetian River Club Neighborhood Realtor

NEARBY

Artsy

Have you ever visited the Venice Art Center located on the island in the same location as the public library and the Community Center? Throughout the year they have numerous exhibitions. For example, in November, they have a "Funky Fresh" and a "Bling Thing Jewelry Show and Sale" (November 21, from 10–4 pm). They also serve a very reasonable delicious lunch for visitors. The Venice Art Center shows allow you to participate in an exhibition. For more information click on VeniceArtCenter.com

New Honorable Mayor

With the departure of Venice Mayor Nick Pachota, look to James Boldt to assume the vacant seat of the Mayor. Mr. Boldt is moving over a seat as he has served as Vice Mayor of the City. He is well prepared for the added responsibilities he will assume. We wish him great success. Look for the Parcels article later in this edition listing the results for the two open City Council seat races.

Salute

The flags on the front driveway have been provided by the Community Association in respect to our veterans who have dedicated themselves to serving our country.

From the Old to the New

Another site that was severely hit by one of the major hurricanes was Snook Haven. The damage was so extensive that it closed for over a year. Snook Haven was considered old Florida sitting directly on the Manatee River and offered boat rides, kayak rentals, fishing and outdoor concerts …. those banjo players were the best. Now you have Snook Haven 2026 with a new look, a new restaurant and plenty of parking. Get there and take a look….and our advice is weekdays are best. Best directions… Snook Haven is off of River Rd. near Venice East.



Strike Up the Bands….and Floats

Get your lawn chairs out in preparation for the Venice Holiday Parade on **Saturday November 28th**. This is an annual tradition with plenty of holiday floats. The parade begins at 6:30 pm. If you love the festivities and can deal with the crowd, get to this wonderful annual event.

Fill the Barrels

Just the basics….take your food donation to the Golf Club, open every day from 7 am-5 pm and place them in the large, yellow barrels. Barrels will be picked up on **November 19th**. This is an annual project in cooperation with Ajax Paving Company. Our community goal is to beat last year's record of 1 ton of food for the needy. Can we do it…it's your call….and donation.



An Interesting Holiday City Hall Store

The City of Venice is excited to offer 4 special commemorative items for sale to the public, just in time for the holiday season!

- Venice Centennial coffee table book
- 50th Holiday Parade T-shirt
- Centennial logo campfire mug
- Centennial medallion

The book, holiday shirt, mug and medallion are available at the Cashier's Office at Venice City Hall, 401 W. Venice Ave. The shirt is available in adult and children's unisex sizes, black only. The book and shirt are $20 each plus tax; the mug and medallion are $10 each plus tax - payable by credit/debit card or Apple/Google Pay/Samsung Wallet (no cash or checks accepted). City Hall is open 8 am to 4 pm Monday through Friday, except for holidays.

IN THE HOOD

Successful Resident Orientation



The Community Association hosted its 4th Resident Orientation on October 20 for "new" residents and "not new" residents who wanted a refresher on "who does what" at the Venetian Golf and River Club. The orientation was well attended by approximately 45 residents. Attendees received a solid overview of all the organizations at the Venetian. It was a full representation of all the segments of our community including the POA, CDD, CA, HRT, Golf Club, plus other specific activities. A major message was encouraging residents to volunteer and get involved in our community. You can watch this 75-minute event on YouTube by going to the VGRCCA website, **vgrcca.org** and clicking on the tab for YouTube Channel. The Community Association plans on hosting at least two orientations per year.

Book Bin

Ok, so you don't go up to the River Club to exercise in the gym or participate in the various classes. Therefore, you may not know that in the hallway outside the gym there is a collection of books that residents donate, and of course, borrow. Therefore, if you have books that you would like to add to the collection or want to see possibly the next book to read, take a stroll up to the River Club. And while you are there, step into gym and see how many 10 lb dumbbell reps you can do.

Concert Band

In addition to a symphony orchestra, Venice also has a concert band. The band plays 6 concerts a season at the Venice Performing Arts Center. Concerts are held on Monday evenings from November through April. Individual tickets are $17, available online two weeks before each concert or on the night of the concert at the box office. The website, www.veniceconcertband.com has much more information, including the concert schedule, description of each concert, and background information on the Music Director. If you need more information, please contact bgermann@comcast.net



VPD Foundation Dinner

On October 29th the River Club hosted the Inaugural Venice Police Foundation Dinner. The room was packed with city residents and key city officials. Also attending in the audience were three resident alumni of the very successful Citizen Police Academy. The Academy is open to any city resident, and a number of Venetian residents have given their experience high marks. As stated in their mission statement: *The mission of the Venice Police Charitable Foundation, Inc. is to support Venice Police Department employees in times of extreme personal need, foster wellness and professional development, and to support and enhance community outreach programs and partnerships."*

Translators on T.V.

A few editions ago, Parcels applauded Walmart for training many of their non- English-speaking employees on how to use their phones for translating requests made by customers. Now there is a further enhancement to the translation business. In a recent visit to a very busy medical practice, Parcels noticed a rolling device like a rolling IV as you see in hospitals. In this case it was a video screen with a LIVE person appearing on the screen. The device was used for non-English speaking patients who would translate for the patient when communicating with the doctor during an office visit. The service offers about every imaginable language. What will they think of next?



Lubricating Your Brain

Take out your calendars, Mr. or Mrs. Parcels reader. You might want to add three wonderful Knock Your Socks Off seminars scheduled for November and December. Seminars are open to all residents; however, we would hope that non- members would stop off at the membership table at the seminars to contribute their fair share. Seminars are:

November 17th, 5 pm, "Ten Things to know about Venice for Cocktail Parties" - a presentation by the Venice History Museum.

December 7th, 5 pm "Memory Loss/Reversing Alzheimer's Disease"

December 15th, 5 pm "Current Scams" with our Venice Police Department

There are few communities who offer an array of educational seminars as does the Venetian. Often, new learning protects the aging brain

Laurel Road Widening Update

As reported in the September 2026 issue of Parcels, the Venice City Council was given an update on the Laurel Road Widening project. The key point at that time was the initial construction bids were higher than budgeted, and Sarasota County would be rebidding the project. We have since reached out to Sarasota County for an update, and unfortunately, the second round of rebidding had some additional anomalies requiring clarification and rebidding a third time. The new rebid is due in late November/early December 2026.

Based on this timing, ground-breaking for the Laurel Road widening project is not expected until 2027. We continue to stay in touch with Sarasota County, regularly monitoring this project, as well as other issues effecting NE Venice, to keep our community informed of the latest developments.

Election Results

Precinct 435 is located in the River Club with the majority, but not all, voters are Venetian residents. Below are the results of the November 3rd election for certain races. Information has been secured from the Sarasota Board of Election.



(Continued On Next Page)

PRECINCT 435 RESULTS IN MIDTERM ELECTION

(as of Nov. 6 at 8:46 pm)

CANDIDATES	VOTES	PERCENTAGE
GOVERNOR:		
BYRON DONALDS(R)*	2033	63.69%
DAVID JOLLY(D)	1133	35.49%
U.S. SENATOR:		
ANGELA MOODY(R)*	2070	65.14%
ANGIE NIXON(D)	1084	34.11%
CONGRESS REPRESENTATIVE DISTRICT 16:		
SYDNEY GRUTERS(R)*	2000	63.19%
KELLY KIRSCHNER(D)	1143	36.11%
STATE REPRESENTATIVE DISTRICT 74:		
NICK PACHOTA(R)*	2085	66%
RYAN NEILL(D)	1074	34%
VENICE CITY COUNTY SEAT 2:		
CHRISTOPHER DERBAK(NON)*	1073	39.6%
JENNY HEUSSNER(NON)	735	27.1%
SUE PERRY(NON)	902	33.3%
VENICE CITY COUNCIL SEAT 5:		
DAVID GRESS(NON)*	966	36.52%
RICK HOWARD(NON)	1681	63.48%
CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT 3 (HOMESTEAD INCREASE)		
YES	2154	69.48%
NO	946	30.52%
SCHOOL BOARD SEAT 1:		
HEIDI BRANDT (NON)*	1734	62.71%
JIMMY GLOVER (NON)	1031	37.29%

Helping with Taxes

Looking for a way to volunteer? Check out the picture at the end of the Parcels announcing volunteer opportunities to help others with their taxes. April 15th is closer than you think.

Twin Laurel Project—Where is it?

If you turn on Honore from Laurel Rd, you will see some additional land clearing. It is not associated with the Venice Crossings shopping center being built on Laurel Rd, across from Laurel Nokomis School. The development, **Twin Laurel Project**, will feature a mix of uses, including commercial spaces, a hotel with 150 rooms, office facilities, residential homes, an assisted living facility, storage facility and structured parking. We have no official timeline as to the completion date.

FINAL THOUGHTS



…Want to play Parcel's Jeopardy?

Pickleball, tennis, golf, educational seminars, Shredfest/Junkfest, walking trail, gym, workout classes, book loan, card games, Parcels from Paradise, CPR training classes, water aerobics, two pools, River Club activities.

THE QUESTION: Name at least 10 amenities at the Venetian that are selling points for those looking for a home in the area.



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.

VENETIAN™
GOLF CLUB

Introducing the New CLUBPASS MEMBERSHIP

SOCIAL EVENTS, DINING, AND JUST ENOUGH GOLF.

Pricing

- $2,000 Initiation Fee
- $3,600 Annual Dues
- $450 Annual Food Minimum

Benefits

- Invitations to Select Club-Hosted Golf & Social Events
- Five-Day Advance Tee-Time Booking Privileges
- Unlimited Dining Access



In-Season Access

- November - April
- 6 Rounds of Golf Per Membership (includes cart, per person)
  - 18 holes – $75
  - 9 holes – $40
- Guest of Member Rate: $125
- Daily Use of the Practice Facilities After 12pm

Off-Season Access

- May - October
- Unlimited Play (includes cart, per person)
  - 18 holes – $45
  - 9 holes – $25
- Guest of Member Rate: $85
- Unlimited Use of the Practice Facilities Any Time

Daniel Nyselius, Membership Director | 941-441-2294 | dnyselius@heritagegolfgroup.com
www.venetiangolfclub.com

Membership and Golf Fees subject to change; please consult with the membership director and review the club's bylaws and rules and regulations before joining.

Updated August 2026



Join Our Team

Volunteer in Your Community

We are looking for friendly and service-oriented people to join our volunteer team for this upcoming tax season.

The program has several types of volunteer opportunities. You'll receive training and support, learn new skills, and feel great while helping others.

AARP Foundation Tax-Aide provides free tax-filing help to those who need it most.

Apply at
aarpfoundation.org/TaxaideVolunteer
or call 1-888-AARP-NOW (1-888-227-7669).

JOIN US AT AN INFORMATION SESSION
Venice Library - October 19, 2026
Jacaranda Library - October 26, 2026
10:15am
Email: venicetaxaide@gmail.com

AARP Foundation®
Tax-Aide

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