

# Sandalwood Park News March 2026



Sandalwood Park Homeowners, Inc.  
Venice, Florida

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## IT'S SHOWTIME!

Comedian Al Ernst will be performing on Sunday, March 8th at 7:00. Al took the stage a few years ago bringing lots of laughter to Sandalwood. He has been named Carnival Cruise Lines "Entertainer of the Year" numerous times which is saying something since Carnival fills more than 5,000 entertainment gigs a year. Aside from TV appearances and comedy clubs around the country, he recently appeared with Vince Gill in front of an audience of 6,000. Hey, if he's good enough for Vince, he's good enough for Sandalwood.

Box office hours are Tuesday, March 3rd from 11:00-12:00 and Thursday, the 05th from 3:00-4:00 in the Activities Room. Tickets prices have been lowered to \$10.00 and are also available at the door.

So, c'mon out for an evening of laughs with the man named Entertainer of the Year on Carnival Cruise Lines without having to leave land.

## St Patrick's Day Dinner Dance

The annual "Wearing O' the Green" party will be held on Tuesday, March 17th starting at 5:30/6:00. The traditional corned beef dinner will be catered by Broadway this year. If you don't like corned beef, you have the Luck of the Irish; baked ham will also be available. BYO food coloring if you want green beer.

A party's not a party without music; DJ Lisa of Gulf Grooves will be spinning your favorites to get you out on the dance floor. Tickets are \$10.00 and may be purchased at the box office during the times listed below. So, come and celebrate St. Patrick with good food, music and friends - you just might want to do an Irish jig! Don't forget our 50/50.



Get your **ST PATRICK'S DAY DINNER/DANCE** tickets on Thursday the 5th from 3:00-4:00 Tuesday, the 10th from 11:00-12:00. Chairing this event is Colleen Campbell.

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# Hosting Happy Hour

Our Thursday “Happy Hour on the Patio” has become a fun event with terrific attendance. But why limit being happy to just Thursday? Starting this season, happy hour may be hosted by any resident on any day of the week. All residents are invited and asked to bring a food item to share – no signup is required. Those interested in hosting will need to do the following:

Signs for happy hour need to be placed at both entrances 3-4 days ahead of the planned date.

These signs are in our storage room, contact a SAC board member to access.

Keith, our maintenance man, will see the signs and clean up the patio as well as rearrange the tables. If for some reason he’s not available, this will be the host’s responsibility. Ice buckets need to be filled as well as making sure trash cans have a trash bag inside. Afterwards, cleanup is required (people attending usually help with this), and trash bag(s) should be taken to the dumpster.

Contact any SAC member for the plates, napkins, tablecloths and utensils the day of the event.

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# Sandalwood Park Homeowners, Inc.



300 Sandpiper Drive  
Venice, Florida 34285

*Resident Owned Community for persons 55 years of age and older*

Office Number 941-485-3646  
Monday-Friday



## SANDALWOOD BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Patricia German President (763) 333-0553 2029  
pgsandalwood@gmail.com

Carl Griffith Vice President (941) 223-3495 2027  
carlgr41@gmail.com

Rosemarie Re Treasurer (941) 223-1233 2029  
rare1954@gmail.com

Patty Mitchell Secretary (423) 914-3664 2028  
peppermintpattytn@gmail.com

Larry Reed Director (603) 770-0960 2027  
lare405@gmail.com

Phil Hellriegel Director (765) 432-6886 2028  
phellriegel@yahoo.com

Regis Holland Director (440) 529-0669 2028  
dnallohpr@gmail.com

The Sandalwood Board of Directors has the responsibility of administrating the wishes of the Shareholders.

Contact any board member with your concerns or suggestions. They will act in the best interest of the park.

Written comments may be sent to the office.  
[sandalwoodoffice@gmail.com](mailto:sandalwoodoffice@gmail.com)



## SANDALWOOD PARK ACTIVITIES CLUB, INC.

### SAC Board Members

Jan Kroen, President 314-750-1914 2028  
[jameke@aol.com](mailto:jameke@aol.com)

Sue Hart, Vice President 410-207-7039 2027  
[Skhart66@comcast.com](mailto:Skhart66@comcast.com)

Rose Buffington, Treasurer 913-593-7205 2028

Joan LeBlanc, Secretary 508-883-9861 2026

### Members At Large

Linda Fleming 941-445-2668  
[lf9353@yahoo.com](mailto:lf9353@yahoo.com)

Barb Moore 810-537-2450  
[blmoore2020@yahoo.com](mailto:blmoore2020@yahoo.com),

Gail Pellitteri 941-882-4605  
[gbpell@yahoo.com](mailto:gbpell@yahoo.com)

The SAC Board of Directors has the responsibility to plan, coordinate and implement our many activities and events.

Contact any board member with your suggestions, we will gladly look into it.



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# F Y I

**Office** The office is open for business 9 am – noon, Monday-Friday

**Board Meetings** are held each month from November through April. SAC meets every second Tuesday, SPH meets every second Wednesday.

**Shareholders Annual Meeting** is always the third Thursday of January.

**Maintenance Fees** are due the 1st of January, April, July and October. It is encouraged to use ACH/auto-pay.

**Newsletters** will no longer be delivered, remember to get your copy at the clubhouse.

**Directories** One directory per household is available in the office.

## **IMPORTANT PHONE NUMBERS ARE LISTED IN THE DIRECTORY AND NEWSLETTER**

**Trash and Recycling** are on Tuesdays.....Wednesdays if there is a holiday during that week

**CABLE TV** BASIC CABLE is free to all shareholders. Please call or go to Comcast/Xfinity office for your digital box. All other services will be billed to you directly. (DVR, internet, etc)

1617 US 41 Bypass S, Venice, Fl. 888-266-2278

**Clubhouse** is open to all shareholders. Should the office be closed, use your key. Unless open for an event, please do not access the clubhouse between the hours of 10pm and 6am. Your key to access the clubhouse also gives you access to the back gate on Pinebrook Road.

**Laundry** There are two washers and two dryers available at a cost of \$1.75 per machine and may be used by renters/visitors. We also have clotheslines should you prefer air drying.

**Medical Equipment** walkers, commodes, shower chairs, handweights, etc, are located in the laundry room and are available to borrow as needed. Please advise Peggy when you borrow/return something.

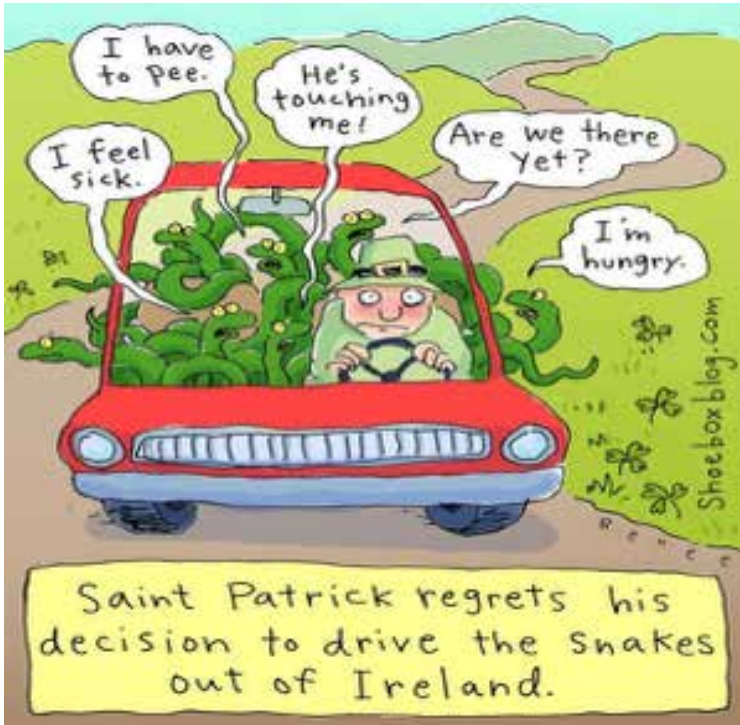
**Mowing** Lawns are mowed every other week during the winter months. Every week as the weather warms and the grass grows faster.

**Plantings** All new plantings must be submitted for approval.

**Air pump** is located by the shed near the putting green.

**Speed Limit 15 MPH**, Stop Signs Mean Stop. Protect our residents and their dogs.

|   |   |   |  |
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## Let's Play Bocce

If you have never played bocce, it's an easy-to-learn and a fun-to-play game. If you have played before, then you will agree with the previous statement. That being said, we are trying to organize leagues to play during the winter months.

Games will be played Monday through Friday at 10:00 AM and 2:00 PM; sign up sheets are posted on the bulletin board. Four, six or 8 players are needed to play. Decide when you want to play and put your name and house # on the selected date and time, feel free to play more than once a week. We also need some alternates in case a team member can't play for whatever reason. Any questions, please call Gail Pellitteri at 941/882-4065.

Don't know how to play? No problemo, lessons will be given.



## Neighbor Helping Neighbor

If you know of someone who can't walk or drive but would like to attend our events, please reach out and give them a lift to the clubhouse.



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# Sandalwood Upcoming Activities

## MARCH

- 03rd Box Office – Showtime -11:00-12:00  
 05th Box Office – Showtime – 3:00-4:00  
 05th Box Office – St Pat’s Party – 3:00-4:00  
 07th Pancake Breakfast – 8:00-9:30  
 08th Showtime – Al Ernst, Comedian – 7:00  
 09th Trivia – 6:30  
 10th SAC Board Meeting – 10:00  
 10th Box Office – St Pat’s Party – 11:00-12:00  
 11th SPH Board Meeting – 10:00  
 17th St Patrick’s Day Dinner/Dance – 5:30/6:00  
 18th Casino Bus Trip – 9:15  
 23rd Trivia – 6:30  
 28th Park Picnic - TBD

## Pancake Breakfast

Tony Ellis and his “Breakfast Crew” will once again man the griddle to make a wonderful breakfast on Saturday, March 7th from 8:00-9:30. Pancakes, scrambled eggs, sausage, orange juice, and coffee are on the menu. Tickets are \$5.00 and can be purchased at the door. A full breakfast for \$5.00? Try getting that at Perkins!



## A Note Of Thanks From Tom Ellis

For over a decade, a group of volunteers have put on a monthly pancake breakfast here at Sandalwood. I want to thank the following for all their help:

Trish and Norm Vandenbusche, Rick Oberdick, Barb and Larry Moore, Harry Jenkins, Mike Fleming, and of course, Joan Ellis.

## Neither Snow Nor Rain Nor Heat...

The post office’s motto is well known by most people. However, the mailperson cannot complete their appointed rounds if your car is blocking the mailbox. When coming to the clubhouse during the day, please park someplace that doesn’t stop the mail truck from getting to the office mailbox.

## TICKET SALES

The SAC “box office” will be open one week prior to a ticketed event; tickets will be available on Tuesdays from 11:00-12:00 and Thursdays from 3:00-4:00 in the activities room. Please try to buy your tickets during these times, if unable to, the names of the chairpersons will be listed. Box office schedules will always be posted in the newsletter. Please remember that checks, payable to SAC, are the preferred payment.



## Ladies, Let’s Do Lunch

The “let’s do lunch” outing has been a popular event at Sandalwood for many years. But things change and we need for someone new to coordinate these get-togethers. Once a weekly thing, it morphed into a monthly lunch-for-ladies-only over the last few years; I see no reason to change that. Let’s get a few of the womenfolk to volunteer to coordinate lunch on a monthly rotating basis. If interested, a signup sheet is on the bulletin board or talk to any SAC member to chair these fun lunches.

## THE SCOOP ON POOP

As you probably know, it is a state law to pick up after your dog. What you should know is that it’s common courtesy and common sense to take what you pick up home with you. Please do not leave your dog’s goodie bag on someone else’s property, whether on the ground or in their garbage can. Your cooperation is appreciated as well as expected.



## CASINO BUS TRIP

### Feelin’ Lucky?

A bus trip to the Immokolee Casino with All Around Tours will be on March 18th at 9:15 in the Target parking lot. You will be returning at 4:45. Cost is \$30 but you will get \$20 back in free play and a \$10 food voucher. You must call All Around Tours at **941/488-9393** to reserve a seat. Checks are the only form of payment accepted and will be collected by the driver upon boarding. If you want to enjoy this fun day, don’t put off calling, seats fill up fast.

## A MESSAGE FROM YOUR LAST PRESIDENT

To set the record straight, I, Pete Mazzara, and Darrell Reigsecker did not quit the Board, we resigned. Pete's term and mine were up in January and Darrell had another 2 years. Pete and I had intentions of running for re-election but the constant issues and hatred from the same group of residents changed our minds. My resignation and Darrell's happened during the Special Meeting called by our Vice President. This meeting was demanded by this group of residents because they did not want to allow a buyer to purchase a home on Boxwood.

The home is a 1974 single-wide that needs repair and renovation. The owner is elderly, has health issues and is in a nursing facility. The price was low and the buyer was going to replace the windows, doors, siding and renovate the inside of the home. They were going to live in the home while they renovated it. Their intentions, once complete, was to either rent the home or sell it. This buyer had renovated two other homes in Venice Isles which made the homes look like new and improved the curb appeal of the street.

The argument by this group of residents was that they didn't want the home to be turned into a seasonal or annual rental. Right now, our resident/shareholders can rent from 1 month up to 12 months as stated in our "Rules and Regulations" paragraph 5.3 under Guests, Renters or Tenants. Paragraph 5.3 says "Members and Tenants may not rent their premises to more than (2) persons at any time, nor for less than 30 days minimum; one person must be at least 55 years of age, and any other sub-lessee must be at least 45 years of age." Nowhere in our Rules & Regulations is there a limit on a maximum rental period. Also, whether you're buying or renting, everyone goes through the vetting process with an extensive background check. When was it determined that renters are less desirable than owners? We have had many renters enjoy the Park and end up buying in Sandalwood.

This buyer also wanted to put the purchase in their corporation's name for tax reasons, but this group of residents claimed corporations cannot buy property in Sandalwood Park. This claim is untrue as is pointed out in our By-Laws in paragraph 2.1 under Article II "Membership and Voting Rights". In paragraph 2.1 it says, "If a membership certificate is owned by a corporation, the corporation may designate an individual officer or employee as its voting member and the natural person(s) entitled to occupy the unit on its behalf."

When our attorney was confronted with this situation, we found out prospective purchasers do not have the same rights under the Master Form Proprietary Lease, except for federal and state fair housing laws prohibiting discrimination of protected classes of persons. Sandalwood could cite "its desire to be a community of homeowner residents". So, while the board did have the ability to deny this purchase, it was not without risk. The board also had a fiduciary duty to the seller/shareholder of the Boxwood property to do what was in the best interest of the shareholder. After the rejection by the Board, the seller/shareholder under our cooperative documents could have forced Sandalwood's "Right of First Refusal" making Sandalwood buy the property for the rejected buyer's offer. Fortunately for Sandalwood, the seller/shareholder did not know or exercise these rights. The seller/shareholder, after the rejection of the sale, had to accept a secondary offer of approximately 10% less than the rejected offer. Hopefully this buyer will renovate the

home with the same improvements as the original buyers intended. I'm sure the residents by the Boxwood property are hoping that this type of renovation happens.

While President, we started the move to self-management and developed a Board office that the directors could work from. We established an "Operations Committee" that was chaired by Lonnie Grooms who assisted the directors with the monitoring of their zones. We established 6 zones and every director oversees a zone of roughly 39 homes. Residents of the Park, Debbie Gustafson, Marrietta Jones, and Sylvia Olsen volunteered all summer helping to create violation forms, caretaker information, golf cart insurance information, and dog owner's vaccination paperwork for every zone. We created and approved through the Board a secretary position not to exceed 10 hours a week. Debbie Gustafson was to fill that position with her role to assist with violation letters, inform the directors of paperwork needed by residents in their zones, and monitor the due dates of violation letters that were sent out. Her position was critical in making sure information was being updated correctly and fines would be applied to a resident for failing to correct a violation in the time given. We attempted to change the mindset of the Board from a status club to become directors of a business and to learn how to manage the business for future Boards to follow. Being a Board member is more than showing up once a month and sitting on a stage discussing nonsense that has nothing to do with park operations. The following are items that may have been addressed at the February shareholder meeting but are worth mentioning again.

1. 533 Walnut Circle: Park should now have ownership of this lot/share and can accept bids on the property. From the sale, HOA dues and attorney fees will be deducted and then the balance goes to the estate (which the attorney will handle).

2. 412 Longwood Drive: Butterworth property. The attorney should have sent a final notice before he started the court process to take back the lot/share. This home has been abandoned due to death, and nobody has stepped up to claim ownership. The property is right by the clubhouse and is an eye-sore, so we wanted to get the legal process started. I'm not sure where the attorney is on this one.

3. Blue Stream Fiber: Last year we signed a contract with Blue Stream that will provide Television and Internet once our contract with Comcast is over August of 2027. This Spring Blue Stream will be running fiber optics throughout the park and should be completed by early fall of 2026. It is important to note a couple of very important "financial wins" for the Park and our residents. The contract with Blue Stream includes internet which is not included with Comcast. The Park's monthly savings once we start the new Blue Stream contract will be \$10,000.00 per month, \$120,000.00 per year. Also, our residents will save whatever they are currently paying for internet on their own which is probably around \$50.00 to \$70.00 per month, a minimum savings of about \$600.00 per year. With the saving going into effect in 18 months there is absolutely no reason to raise HOA quarterly dues. In fact, once we reach August of 2027, the present Board at that time should consider rolling back HOA quarterly dues by approximately \$50.00 per quarter which will still

*(Continued on Pg.9)*

(A Message continued)

give the Park an annual savings of \$70,000.00 per year. That savings should all be transferred from operating to the reserves.

In closing, it was a pleasure working on the business of the Park while trying to bring common sense and logic back to the board and the leadership team. While we also tried to eliminate the division, it was never more evident as was on display during the Boxwood sale special meeting. As these residents cheered the resignation of myself and Darrell, it was at that time that I knew it was the right decision. The immature behavior was not a surprise to me or others that were in attendance or to those that heard of their actions. Thank you, Pete, for standing up in support and resigning after the meeting with us. Life is too short for nonsense; everyone should enjoy the Park and life with friends for the uncertain time we all have left. Best of luck to the new Board.

Regards,  
Lee Zabel

572 Longwood Drive



Spring Forward 1 Hour on  
Sunday, March 8

## Sandalwood Activities Club – Where Does the Money Come From?

### Where Does It Go?!

Some residents wonder how activities here in the park are funded. SAC is a volunteer organization that has the responsibility to plan, coordinate, and implement our many activities and events. It receives no funding from our park dues; instead, funds come from our annual park rummage sale, and 50/50 raffles at events. SAC's ability to offer activities is dependent on 1) how much money we are able to fundraise, and 2) how many folks step up to coordinate and help at events.

Funds raised are used to subsidize costs for catered meals, DJs at dances, and entertainment at our Showtime events. SAC buys supplies for bingo and card games, pays for kitchen equipment and supplies for our many food-related events (potlucks, Happy Hours, ...), and other activity-related needs. All residents are encouraged to attend the meetings to share their ideas, give feedback and volunteer to help with/coordinate activities. Elections will be held at the March 10th meeting. Please consider attending the meeting and sharing your thoughts. This is your club! Your participation is needed and appreciated.



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# Sandalwood Activities Club (SAC) Minutes

February 10, 2026

Meeting called to order at 10am. Board members in attendance – Jan Kroen, Sue Hart, Rose Buffington, Joan LeBlanc, Gail Pellitteri, Barb Moore and Linda Fleming.

**Old Business:**

Pancake Breakfast – Saturday, January 17th 65 attendees.

Decades Dance – Saturday, January 24th No charge. Approximately 30 attendees. Entertainment was Gulf Grooves. \$210 net expense.

Newcomers Welcome Gathering - Wednesday, January 28th 55 attendees. Desserts donated by residents. Elise - results of 10 surveys returned as of 2/8/26. Introduce new residents and make this an annual event.

Soup and Salad Dinner – Thursday, February 5th Approx 70 attendees. Barb Moore and Linda Fleming co-chairs. \$5 Charge. Positive remarks from those that attended. \$180 net expense.

Pancake Breakfast – Saturday, February 7th 64 attendees.

**Upcoming Activities in February:**

Valentines Day Dinner/Dance - Saturday, February 14th \$10 charge. Joan and Fred LeBlanc will chair. Broadway is caterer. Entertainment is Mixx Mobile. Box office dates Tuesday, February 3rd 11am-12 and Tuesday, February 10th 3-4 pm.

Park Sale – Saturday, February 21st 8am-1pm. Resident sale 4:30-6pm Friday evening, February 20th. Co-chairs Rose Buffington, Sue Hart. Volunteers needed for all areas. There are signup sheets in clubhouse.

Only volunteers allowed in the clubhouse sale areas Feb. 18th until the resident pre-sale on Friday at 4:30. Put sign on clubhouse doors.

Wednesday, February 18th – 8am set up tables, 10am unload shed, arrange items in designated areas, start pricing.

Thursday, February 19th – 9am continue pricing items (min price 50 cents!)

Friday, February 20th – 9am last minute accepting items and pricing.

Saturday, February 21st – 8am – 1pm, clean up after sale. Gail to arrange Salvation Army pickup. Must remove all price stickers/blue tape before items are picked up.

Following is a list of phone numbers of people heading the sale events:

|                 |              |  |
|-----------------|--------------|--|
| Rose Buffington | 913-593-7205 | Chair of Sale  |
| Sue Hart        | 410-207-7039 | Co chair   |
| Jan Kroen       | 314-750-1914 | Co chair   |
| Pam Shive       | 502-767-3976 | Carport Sales/Advertising – No charge for sales, no maps |
| Cindy Bright    | 812-457-7645 | “ “ “  |

|                   |              |  |
|-------------------|--------------|--|
| Linda Fleming     | 941-445-2668 | Baked Goods – drop off at clubhouse Friday |
| Kathy Monroe      | 518-361-5835 | Furniture sales                            |
| Mary Beth Painter | 508-240-8526 | Boutique/Jewelry                           |
| Jan Hanlon        | 248-431-1890 | “ “  |
| Regis Holland     | 301-501-7188 | Traffic/Parking                            |
| Carmen Wallin     | 941-483-4527 | Cashiers, need backups                     |

Resident Art Exhibit/Sale – Thursday, February 26th 2-4:30pm in clubhouse, Martha Bouchard chairperson.

**Activities in March 2026:**

Pancake Breakfast – Saturday, March 7th 8-9:30am \$5. Tony Ellis chair.

Showtime – Sunday, March 8th at 7pm. Comedian Al Ernst. \$10 charge, Box office March 3rd & 5th and at the door.

St Patrick’s Dinner/Dance – Tuesday, March 17th \$10 charge Colleen Campbell chair, traditional Irish meal (plus ham) catered by Broadway. Entertainment is Mixx Mobile. Box office March 5th 11-12 & 10th 3-4pm

Park Picnic-Saturday, March 28th Chairpersons to be determined. Possibly have live music.

**New Business:**

SAC board elections will be at the March 10th meeting. Board consists of minimum of 5 members and no more than 9. Elected term for three years begins Nov. 1 until next election in spring. Anyone is interested in being on the SAC board, please come to this meeting. If you have questions about what’s involved, ask any current board member. Elise will write article about SAC for newsletter.

**Other Business:**

Bingo is back under SAC vs. SPH with some changes to the amount collected to cover bingo expenses.

Next agenda meeting March 3rd and regular meeting March 10th.

Other possible activities.

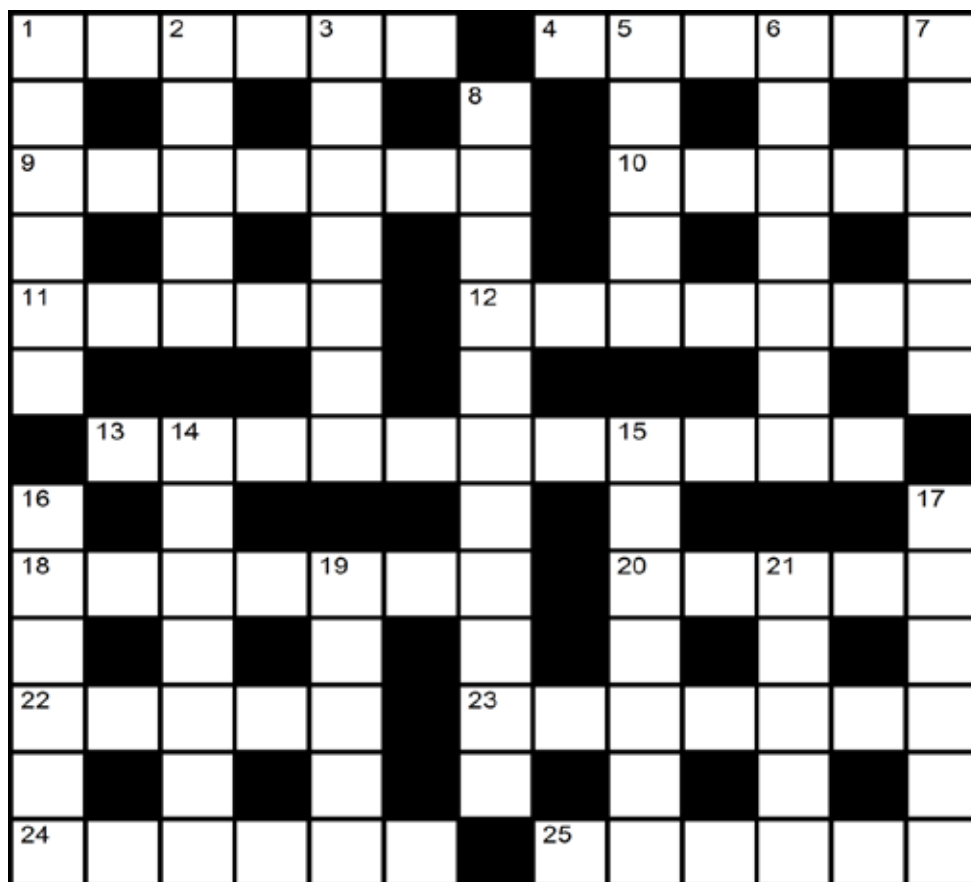
Potluck/Newlywed game – table this for later

Linda Fleming looking into information for bus trip to casino. Not a SAC activity but she will organize for residents.

New Happy Hour sign with space for any day of week, not just Thursday. Ask any SAC board member if interested in hosting a Happy Hour.

**Meeting adjourned at 11:25am**

# CROSSWORD



Puzzle from <https://www.printable-puzzles.com/>

Puzzle compiled by Bianca Morèl

## Clues:

### Across

- 1 Vacation destination
- 4 Charts
- 9 Mixed breed
- 10 Form
- 11 Come in!
- 12 Oriental
- 13 Daring
- 18 Outcomes
- 20 Nab
- 22 Dead-on
- 23 Much louder
- 24 Hide
- 25 Were not (contraction)

### Down

- 1 Noisy disturbance
- 2 Yell
- 3 Set aside
- 5 Valentines Day flowers
- 6 Level area of elevated land
- 7 Observing
- 8 Marketing
- 14 Give up hope
- 15 Get
- 16 Commands
- 17 Craving
- 19 Unit of liquid measure
- 21 Ethnic family

(solution on page 21)

# Best of Venice 2025



**Thank  
You for  
Best of  
Venice**



**Blair Post, HAS, BC-HIS, ACA**

Board Certified Hearing Instrument Sciences  
American Conference of Audioprosthology

I want to say thank you to everyone who voted for us in the Best of Venice awards from Venice Gondolier. This year we were honored with two Best of Venice awards for Hearing Aids.

I appreciate all the support and everyone who took their time to vote for us. Your support and continued encouragement resulted in us being awarded Best of Venice, multiple titles, multiple years, Reader's Choice multiple years, and Small Business of the Year.

I am proud to have consistently offered service that is recognized by you and honored to receive so many awards over the years that our wall of awards has expanded onto another wall. This year Karen will be re-designing the wall again, this is a wonderful problem to have, thank you.

Every day I hear stories about how hearing problems have interfered with enjoying life. I've always had one mission, to help everyone who comes to me to hear their best and engage in life.

Nineteen years ago, I opened my own office and chose to treat all my clients as if they are family. Twenty-five years ago, when I chose this profession, I was inspired by my mother MaryEllen. She was already wearing hearing aids due to ear surgery. As my ability grew, I noticed that the aids my mother wore were not the best for her needs. She was very social and would benefit from better technology. I was able to help her hear her best for her level of activities so she could have her best life.

If she was still with us today, I know she would be celebrating with us and all the people who have been able to engage in their own life with more ease and better understanding.

Thank you for entrusting me with your hearing, I am glad I earned your respect.

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## The Taxman Cometh

The AARP Tax Aide service offers free federal income tax preparation and filing. You do not have to be an AARP member to take advantage of this service. Tax preparation is by appointment only and your appointment must be made in person.

A flyer has been posted on the bulletin board in the clubhouse, listing the locations and times for you to come by and set up your appointment.

If you have any questions, feel free to stop by one of the sites during the listed times, and a volunteer will help you.



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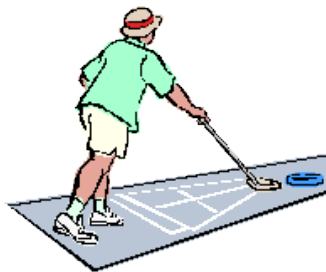


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# SHUFFLEBOARD IS COMING BACK TO SANDALWOOD AND YOU ARE INVITED TO JOIN US! EVERYONE WELCOME!

Meet us at the shuffleboard court on TUESDAYS & THURSDAYS at 10:00, except the 2nd Tuesday when SAC (Sandalwood Activity Committee) meets - then we will play at 11:00

3 games and start off by drawing for partners for each one. You will be meeting and playing with new people each game. Please show up on time.

Please text Nila -816/810-0044 or call Craig -816/942-1820 with your name, phone number and e-mail so we can communicate any necessary info. Please pass on this news and invite others!!

**SEE YOU AT THE SHUFFLEBOARD COURT ON TUE & THUR at 10:00 WHEN THE TEMPERATURE IS AT LEAST 60 DEGREES.**

Don't know how to play? We'll teach you!

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## The Shed is Opened for Business

Don't forget the shed is available for your donations for our yearly Park sale. Please call Jan Kroen at 314/750-1914 to gain access. Unfortunately, we cannot take large furniture until a few days before the sale. Please do not leave donations outside the shed to get rained on, chewed on by critters, or grow legs and walk off.

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# Will You Be My Valentine?

Our Valentine's Day party was a huge success with 81 people attending. The food was excellent, the music had everyone dancing and our photo corner was very busy.





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## PROCEDURE FOR SUBMITTING ARTICLES FOR THE NEWSLETTER

All articles and information for the newsletter are to be submitted only through The Sandalwood editor. Anything sent directly to On Trac Publishing will not be printed. All articles must be in Microsoft Word and submitted on or before the 13th of the month. Please send your information to:

Gail Pellitteri  
gbpell@yahoo.com  
941/882-4065



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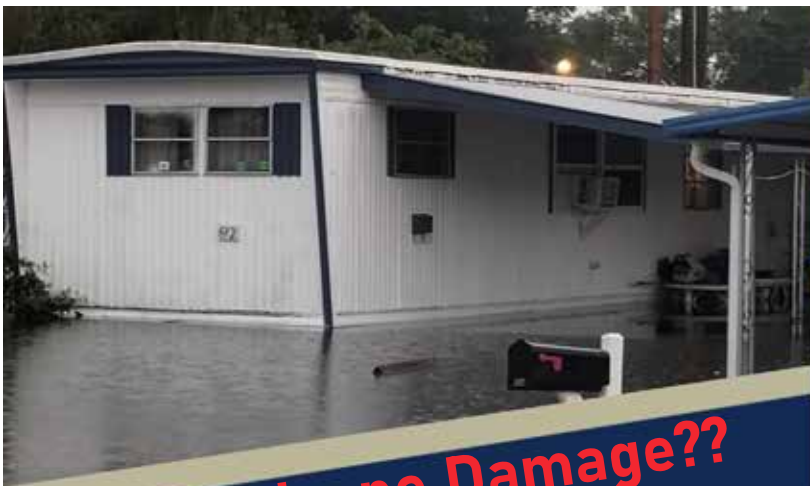
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# Soup And Salad Supper

This new event was well received with 71 residents attending. Everyone had a good time as well as a good meal. Maybe this should be a yearly thing?



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# Board of Directors Unapproved Meeting Minutes

Wednesday 2/11/26 10 AM  
Sandalwood Clubhouse

Meeting called to order 10 a.m.

Quorum established, all 7 members present

Pledge of Allegiance

Carl made a motion to approve January 2026 meeting minutes, 2nd by Larry. All members voted yay.

## President's Comments: Patricia German

Introduction of new board member and new officers

Introduction of new Zone Managers

## Treasurer's Report: Rosemarie Re

2026 budget still a work in progress. Goal is to wrap it up quickly so we can mail with Annual Meeting mailing.

Proxy at the annual meeting will include a vote to do an audit at \$8000, or a review at \$6000 or a compilation report at \$2000. The compilation report is the minimum State of Florida requirement.

We are owed a large amount of revenue from members who are not paying their assessments and by the Cortina Ave. businesses. Rosemarie Re to address.

Mitch asked if ACH automatically adjusts to a new amount. Yes, it does.

Mary Kay Riegsecker asked if the former proxy would still be valid? Initially answered yes but later rescinded to no because there is an additional question regarding audit to be asked.

Patricia said she has just learned a budget increase exceeding 15% increase goes to a park-wide vote. If it is under 15%, the board votes only to approve the budget.

## Old Business:

Carl is resurrecting the standing committee concept. So far, we have formed the Finance Committee. Thinking of other committees: operations, long-range planning, fining, IT. Open to suggestions for other committees. He will post descriptions and volunteer sign-ups.

Update on 533 Walnut -Carl is receiving court paperwork, for presentation back to the courts. When completed, the lot will be sold. We have received an appraisal from Cherie DeHay as to the value of the home/lot and it came out in a range of \$40K-\$45K. After taxes, assessments/late fees/legal fees, etc. are paid, the remainder will go to the mortgage lender (Susan Beckner estate).

Update on 412 Longwood-Carl has been asked by the attorneys to take some pics of the home. Butterworths owe assessment for the past 2 quarters.

Update on 390 Longwood-Carl made a motion to give the listing of this park-owned vacant lot to Cherie DeHay of Settles Real Estate. 2nd by Regis. 6 voted yay, Patricia, Patty, Regis, Phil, Carl &

Rosemarie. 1 voted nay, Larry Reed.

Blue Stream-Launch team is coming to begin site plan tomorrow 2/12. Frank Cacciatore will be the IT contact for this project. Carl has blueprints of infrastructure. June 2026 is the goal for internet service.

Back door latch @ Sandpiper Room-Phil reports it is "functional" but long-term the frame needs to be replaced.

Cortina Fence-Regis commented that clean-up/re-install was done last year and the remainder of the fence was organized for future use. We would need new posts. 12-14 panels were restored. If it is decided to restore the remaining panels & new posts, Rick Oberdick will oversee the endeavor. Discussion of vinyl fence replacement vs. chain link vs. shrubs ensued. Will defer to Landscape Committee once formed. We need volunteers for the committee. Other projects in the scope of the yet to be formed Landscape Committee to consider: Cortina Entrance beautification, clothesline, mulch, move stop sign at Cortina and/or remove the overgrown pitch apples.

Website update-Jenny Burger. Cost to host is \$70/year. The site will be brought up live any moment now, as Rosemarie confirms it is paid. FAQ, forms, contact details will be included.

## NEW BUSINESS:

The One Call phone service is for official park business and SAC. Peggy to do call on returning your SPH Resident Update Form this week.

New Type-K fire extinguisher was installed in the kitchen, at the direction of our insurance company.

Golf cart drivers need to seek permission of the homeowners when driving on the grass, but it is strongly recommended to just stay on the road.

Pool heater is set at 86 degrees and can operate in a 2-degree variance above/below the target 86 degrees. Despite a random request to set it higher/lower, we will stick to the 86-degree setting, as it satisfies most members. There was a suggestion in the box to consider a jacuzzi-type tub, but it was quickly nixed due to health concerns amongst our members.

Reminder to wear a cover up over bathing suits when coming to/going from the pool.

Let the office know when you have guests. It's a safety/security issue.

Cut up your shipping boxes and put in your own recycle bin. Do not fill the clubhouse dumpster.

Check signatures on bank accounts: Motion made to place Patricia, Rosemarie and Regis as signatories. It was 2nd by Larry. All 7 members voted yay.

(Continued on Pg.21)

(Board of Directors continued)

**Flex Time:**

New microphones are accessible to the audience, please come to or sit upfront. It was discussed to use the old mics to pass through the audience for questions/comments in lieu of walking to the front.

Mike Belanich gave an update on our audio and video needs in Sandpiper Room. Some equipment needs to be purchased from Amazon.

Jan Kroen reminds members the park sale is Feb 21. Volunteers are needed.

Regis Holland remarked parking attendants are needed for the sale day.

Elise Anton said thank you to Nancy Schwartz for flowers planting & maintenance.

Regis said thank you to Jerry German for help setting up new microphones.

Jerry German remarked we should investigate converting our filtration system to salt, from chlorine due to lower costs, toxicity, etc. Larry Reed will give Jerry a contact to get information/cost for changing to salt water.

**Motion made to Adjourn** by Patty Mitchell, 2nd by Carl, all 7 members voted yay



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|---|--|--|--|--|--|---------------------------------------|
| 1                                       | 2  | 3  | 4  | 5  | 6  | 7                                     |
|   |  | Box Office – Showtime<br>-11:00-12:00  |  | Box Office – Showtime<br>- 3:00-4:00<br>Box Office – St Pat’s Par-<br>ty – 3:00-4:00                       |  | 07th Pancake Breakfast<br>- 8:00-9:30 |
| 8                                       | 9  | 10   | 11   | 12   | 13   | 14                                    |
| Showtime – Al Ernst,<br>Comedian - 7:00 | Trivia – 6:30  | SAC Board Meeting –<br>10:00<br>Box Office – St Pat’s<br>Party – 11:00-12:00   | SPH Board Meeting –<br>10:00   |  |  |                                       |
| 15                                      | 16   | 17   | 18   | 19   | 20   | 21                                    |
|   |  | St. Pat’s<br>Dinner Dance<br>5:30/6:00   | Casino Bus Trip – 9:15   |  |  |                                       |
| 22                                      | 23   | 24   | 25   | 26   | 27   | 28                                    |
|   | Trivia – 6:30  |  |  |  |  | Park Picnic - TBD                     |
| 29                                      | 30   | 31   |  |  | <b>MARCH<br/>2026</b>  |                                       |
|   |  |  |  |  |  |                                       |
| <b>WEEKLY EVENTS</b>                    |  |  |  |  |  |                                       |
| Pinochle<br>2:00                        | Cardio Exercise 8:00<br>Aerobics 8:00<br>Chair Yoga 9:00<br>Water Aerobics 10:00<br>Mah Jongg 1:00<br>Hand and Foot 5:50 | Cardio Exercise 8:00<br>Aerobics 8:00<br>Chair Yoga with weights 8:45<br>Landscaping Committe 9:00<br>Shuffleboard 10:00<br>Bingo 6:00 | Cardio Exercise 8:00<br>Aerobics 8:00<br>Chair Yoga 9:00<br>Water Aerobics 10:00<br>Poker 6:00 | Cardio Exercise 8:00<br>Aerobics 8:00<br>Chair Yoga with weights 8:45<br>Shuffleboard 10:00<br>Euchre 7:00 | Cardio Exercise 8:00<br>Aerobics 8:00<br>Chair Yoga 9:00<br>Water Aerobics 10:00<br>Mexican Train 1:00<br>Bingo 6:00 |                                       |

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