

The Southport Sun

February 2026

Editor: Bob Schutt rjsone@yahoo.com

Assistant Editor: Lori Pettit lpettit547@gmail.com



FEBRUARY

Events

Puzzle Mania

Sunday, February 1 2pm
Main Clubhouse.

Woodchuck Charlie Chili Night!

Monday, February 2 4:30-6:30pm
\$10.00 Entry Fee - \$5.00 Residents.

Bar Stool Poker

Thursday, February 5 6:30pm
Main Clubhouse - \$1.00 per person.

Valentine's Day Dance with Jesse Derringer

Saturday, February 14 7-10pm
\$5.00 for HOA members - \$7.00 for Non-members.
Tickets on sale February 4 & 11.

Potluck & Quarter Bingo

Monday, February 16 5:30pm
Sign-up in the Main Clubhouse.

Yard Sale

Saturday, February 21 8am-1pm

Art Gallery - Murder Mystery

Sunday February 22 5:30-9pm
\$25.00 per person.

Tickets on sale February 4, 11 & 18.

3 DOM Band

Saturday, February 28 7-10pm
\$5.00 for HOA members - \$7.00 for Non-members.
Tickets on sale February 11, 18 & 25.

See Ticket Purchase Details on Page 4.
See What's Coming in March on Page 16.

Our 2026 HOA Board of Directors



President—Sharon Parent
Vice President—Desdie Eberman
Secretary—Dee Dee Pinckney-Cooper
Treasurer—Mike Kimling
Welcome Committee—Lori Pettit
Social Events—Lee Edwards
Activities & Entertainment—Laurie Smedberg

In Loving Memory

Kenneth Hagerty
3829 Arrowwood Drive
1940 - 2025

Our condolences to the Hagerty family. May God grant you peace during this time of grief.

Thank you!

I would like to thank the Sunshine Committee for the gift card and all the wonderful neighbors and friends of Southport for your thoughts and gifts during my time of healing. I am blessed to live in a great community with so many caring people.

Thank you!
Michele Randall

Thank you for the prayers during my recent hip replacement surgery and the calls, cards, meals and words of encouragement during my recovery. I am blessed to live in Southport Springs.

THANK YOU!

Connie Schutt

Thank you

Deborah and I would like to thank everyone for your cards and thoughts. Thank you to Fran, Laura and Joan for making a donation to St. Joe's food bank in Jerry's memory. Your kind words brought us comfort.

Lydia.

THANK YOU!
SO MUCH

I would like to thank the Sunshine Committee for the generous gift card to Publix following my hospital stay. I appreciate your thoughtfulness.

Dorothy Lundeen



The Sunshine Team congratulates the incoming Board of the SPS Homes Owners Association (HOA). This is sure to be a spectacular year!!

Reminder: Sunshine has medical equipment to provide on loan and at no charge to residents and their guests. Contact Harriet Carman. She generously stores these items at her home. She is in the directory. Thank you, Harriet, for providing this service.



If you know of someone who needs some sunshine, please contact Karol McGinn or Cindy Judy so that we can make that happen.

Cindy and I are ever so grateful for the Sunshine Team members and all that they do.

Prayers are Powerful!



Karol McGinn
813-388-0148
KarolMcGinn@GMail.com



Cindy Judy
717-514-3997
CinJudy622@Gmail.com

Caring: displaying kindness and concern for others.



This Means You!

The Women's Club

The Women's Club, along with community support, has supported the following organizations in 2025:

- Thomas Promise
- Sunrise Domestic Abuse Shelter of Pasco County
- St. Joseph's Catholic Church Food and Baby Pantry
- Chancey Christian Church
- First United Methodist Church
- Presbyterian Church
- Neighborhood Care Center
- Local Dialysis Center
- Joshua House
- Special Olympics
- Two Good Soles - New Shoes and Socks for Pasco County school students
- Puzzles for Community Residents
- SPS Veteran Community for Memorial Wall Repair

COMING SOON...

- Spring Food Drive on Wednesday, March 25. Start checking your local grocery stores for BOGOs.
- Spring Bake Sale/Basket Raffle on Saturday, March 28.

Cindy Judy, Women's Club



HOA YEAR END FINANCIAL REPORT

Southport Springs Homeowners Association Treasurer Nancy Hendricks reported that the Association had \$68,316.60 on hand as of the twelve month period ending December 31, 2025. Shown below is a summary financial report:

Revenue	
HOA Membership Dues	\$ 9,015.00
Sun Communities Stipend (\$1,300 quarterly)	\$ 5,970.21
Newsletter Ads, Subscriptions & Xmas Cards	\$12,490.00
Entertainment/Event Ticket Sales	\$18,572.00
Social Activities/BINGO	\$ 1,181.00
Share the Wealth	\$ 4,661.00
Coffee & Donuts Social	\$ 1,571.61
Miscellaneous Other	\$ 134.50
	Sub-Total
Bus Trips	\$25,004.00
	TOTAL REVENUE
	\$78,599.32

Expenses	
Outside Printing	\$ 3,821.39
Donations	\$ 1,850.00
Entertainment/Events	\$20,904.53
Complimentary Events	\$12,768.59
Members Only Events	\$ 4,720.00
Social Activities/BINGO	\$ 1,639.10
Club (Residents) Expense	\$ 63.93
Coffee & Donuts	\$ 3,145.98
Event Supplies	\$ 3,209.45
Office Supplies/Postage	\$ 3,830.86
Legal Fees & Taxes	\$ 952.34
Tech Support	\$ 1,376.77
Misc. Other	\$ 833.71
	Sub Total
Bus Trips	\$59,116.65
	TOTAL EXPENSES
	\$83,188.23

NET DEFICIT BEFORE EARNED INTEREST	\$(4,588.91)
INTEREST EARNED ON SAVINGS	\$ 1,662.79
	NET DEFICIT
	\$(2,926.12)

ACCOUNT BALANCES AS OF 12/31/2025

CHECKING	\$ 7,091.64
SAVINGS	\$64,224.96
TOTAL	\$68,316.60

HOA News



Greetings and a wholehearted thank you HOA members for coming out and showing up on Saturday 1/17/2026. We all started a new chapter in the SPS HOA book!

At your pleasure, SPS HOA Board now has 3 new members eager to serve our community with new energy and new ideas. They are joining 4 seasoned folks who remain committed to

enhancing lives at SPS. And we say thank you to those leaving us, but never too far away.

Grateful, humbled, excited and blessed are just a few words to describe how I feel about being elected your President. I love God, my family, my wonderful friends, my neighbors and my SPS community. My commitment to our HOA and this community is solid.

I am of the beliefs that openness and clarity quell chaos, truth always beats deception and integrity is key to respect of self and others. These beliefs are embedded in my character, and my leadership, as your President, will reflect such.

This Board will welcome your input, suggestions and questions. Board meetings are always open, unless otherwise warranted, to HOA members. The more participation from our members, a stronger more cohesive community.

We have a wonderful 2026 before us! Let's make it the best ever!

By grace

Sharon Parent, HOA President

Valentine's Day -

February 14, a holiday when lovers express their affection with greetings and gifts. Given their similarities, it has been suggested that the holiday has origins in the Roman festival of Lupercalia, held in mid-February. The festival, which celebrated the coming of spring, included fertility rites and the pairing off of women with men by lottery. At the end of the 5th century, Pope Gelasius I forbid the celebration of Lupercalia and is sometimes attributed with replacing it with St. Valentine's Day, but the true origin of the holiday is vague at best. Valentine's Day did not come to be celebrated as a day of romance until about the 14th century.



SOUTHPORT SPRINGS HOA BOARD OF DIRECTORS



Sharon Parent, President
sparent528@yahoo.com
352-661-8394



Desdie Eberman, Vice President
desdie20@gmail.com
912-401-9646



Dee Dee Pinckney-Cooper, Secretary
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240-435-9491



Mike Kimling, Treasurer
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727-642-4366



Lori Pettit, Welcome
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813-531-2350



Lee Edwards, Social Events
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863-207-2523



Laurie Smedberg, Activities & Entertainment
daledandls@aol.com
612-991-3804



FMO REPRESENTATIVE
Patrick Winchester
pwinchester69@gmail.com
813-713-5777

**Whenever you are participating in a HOA sponsored event, think about all the preparation and work that went into making this happen!
Maybe take a second or two to thank them for all they do for our community.**

Ticket Sales Schedule and Sign-up Sheets For HOA Events

Unless Otherwise Noted, Tickets for the following events go on sale

Wednesday mornings

In the Main Clubhouse Ballroom from 8-10am

**Table reservations available (First Come/First Served)
unless noted as open seating (limit 8 tickets per person)**

Disclaimer: All event and social activity information included herein is consistent with information that was provided to our editorial staff as of this printing. Thank You.

Events

Ticket Purchase Dates or Sign-up Sheets

Valentine's Dance

Saturday, February 14 7-10pm

\$5.00 for HOA members \$7.00 for Non-member

Wednesday February 4 & 11.

Call Laurie Smedberg at 612-991-3804 to inquire.

Potluck & Quarter Bingo

Monday, February 16 5:30pm

Sign-up Sheet

On the Main Clubhouse Bulletin Board

Call Lee Edwards at 863-207-2523 to inquire.

3 Dom Band

Saturday, February 28 7-10pm

\$5.00 for HOA members \$7.00 for Non-member

Wednesday, February 11, 18 & 25.

Call Laurie Smedberg at 612-991-3804 to inquire.

Tickets or Sign-up for the Following Events

Bar Stool Poker

Thursday, February 6:30pm

Text Shawn Bernier at 813-541-3127 to inquire.
\$1.00 per person.

Art Gallery - Murder Mystery

Sunday, February 22 5:30-9pm

\$25.00 per person.

Wednesday, February 4, 11 & 18.

Main Clubhouse from 3:30-5:00pm

Text Shawn Bernier at 813-541-3127 to inquire.



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**Note To All Southport Residents: We offer Homestead Exemptions .
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Managers MINUTE

February 2026

Hello Southport Springs Residents!

Happy New Year! It's wonderful to kick off this fresh chapter together in our beautiful 55+ community here in Zephyrhills. As we embrace the cooler, comfortable days of January and look ahead to February, it's the perfect time to refresh on a few important community guidelines that help keep our neighborhood looking great and running smoothly.

First, a quick update on our annual four-sided home inspections: These have already begun and will continue throughout February, with all inspections wrapping up by the first week of March. Every home will be checked to ensure everything meets our standards for safety, appearance, and maintenance. If your home receives a notice for any issues, please address them within the requested 30-day timeframe—your cooperation makes a big difference in keeping Southport Springs pristine and welcoming for everyone.

While traveling around the community, I've noticed a few golf carts and vehicles parked on the grass. Just a friendly reminder: our rules clearly state that no parking is allowed on the grass—vehicles and carts must be parked in designated driveways only. This helps protect our lawns, prevent ruts, and maintain that resort-style curb appeal we all enjoy, especially with our scenic golf course views and well-kept surroundings.

For those hosting overnight guests: Please stop by the office to let us know about your visitors. If they need extra parking, we can provide a pass for the Little Clubhouse parking lot—this keeps streets clear and ensures plenty of spots for everyone.

Thank you all for being such great neighbors and helping preserve the friendly, active vibe that makes Southport Springs special. With our 18-hole golf course, heated pool, tennis and pickleball courts, clubhouse events, and that classic Florida sunshine, February is shaping up to be another fantastic month for enjoying everything our community has to offer—whether it's a round of golf, a dip in the pool, or just relaxing on your lanai.

If you have any questions about inspections, parking, guest passes, or anything else, feel free to reach out to the office.

Let's make 2026 our best year yet!

Warm Regards,

Sean Rankin



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HAPPY BIRTHDAY

Ladies

Pritchard, Barbara	February	1
Fox, Cindy	February	2
Sinclair, Penny	February	3
Becker, Betty	February	3
McNamara, Carole	February	5
Morgan, Lynda	February	5
Freeman, Rhonda	February	8
August, Ruth	February	8
Keffalas, Lillian	February	8
Greco, Karen	February	12
Moyer, Lisa	February	12
Bowers, Lyneth	February	13
Burgess, Nancy	February	13
Lanzilotti, Nancy	February	13
Blair, Eileen	February	14
Stone, Linda	February	14
Steber, Louise	February	14
LaMothe, Line	February	15
Marino, Lilla	February	15
Snow, Donna	February	18
Martel, Jocelyne	February	19

Clark, Esther	February	19
Marshall, Michele	February	20
Brant, Sharon	February	21
Ostvolden, Melody	February	21
MacIntosh, Pauline	February	22
Snyder, Rita	February	22
Texter, Betty	February	24
Cox, Mary	February	25
McKee, Sue	February	25
Wolfanger, Jean	February	26
McNatt, Rose	February	27
Vilage, Kathy	February	27
Bellamy, Vera	February	28

March

Brennan, Chevonne	March	1
Sanjurjo, Lydia	March	2
Vest, Deanna	March	3
Petersen, Gloria	March	3
Oosterhoff, Wayne	February	1
Knierim, Gerald	February	2

Men

Gilmore, David	February	3
Snowden, Gregory	February	5
Judy, Sam	February	6
Donnelly, Robert	February	6
Howell, Grover	February	8
Crum, Robert	February	8
Sinclair, Francis	February	9
Thomas, Robert	February	10
Clark, Thomas	February	12
Hache, Claude	February	12
Gelles, Rick	February	18
Cozzman, Joseph	February	20
Douma, Don	February	21
O'Neil, Richard	February	22
Skupin, Michael	February	22
Brim, Lennie	February	23
Dolan, James	February	25
Everett, Terry	February	27
Rosas, Bruce	February	28

March

Jones, Harry	March	4
Daugherty, Floyd	March	4

HAPPY ANNIVERSARY

FEBRUARY

Douma, Donald & Ruth	February	5	Wong, Thomas & Carol	February	14
Keffalas, George & Lillian	February	6	Miller, Garry & Becky	February	17
Rankin, Donald & Donna	February	7	Greco, Sam & Karen	February	17
Ferree, Earl & Sandra	February	8	Dziki, Richard & Carol	February	19
Baldwin, Robert & Pat	February	8	Rose, Dennis & Betty	February	22
Vogrin, Jim & Kim	February	10	Hache, Claude & Mary	February	24
Passmore, Diana & Matamoros, James	February	14	Snyder, Richard & Rita	February	27
Hargrove, Ron & Bev	February	14			

MARCH

Heisler, Tommy and Elsie	March	1
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Note: Please contact Bob Schutt at 815-566-1505 or E-mail him at rjsone@yahoo.com with any corrections or omissions.

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Events & Activities

February 2026

MC - Main Clubhouse
LC - Little Clubhouse
PR - Poker Room
TC - Tennis Court

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
2pm Puzzle Mania - MC	8:15am Yoga - MC 9:30am Power Walking - MC 10am Water Aerobics 4:30-6:30pm Woodchuck Charlie Chili Night - MC 5pm Shuffleboard 6pm Dominoes - MC	9am Intermediate Line Dancing - MC 10am Advanced Line Dancing - MC 11am Baby Steppers Line Dancing - MC 1pm Hand & Foot - LC 1pm Horseshoes 3pm Corn Hole - behind LC 4pm Pickleball - TC 7pm Euchre - LC	9am Coffee Social - MC 9:30am Power Walking - MC 10am Water Aerobics 1:30pm Mahjong - LC 6:30pm BINGO	9am Intermediate Line Dancing - MC 10am Advanced Line Dancing - MC 11am Baby Steppers Line Dancing - MC Noon Bridge - LC 1pm Hand, Foot & Elbow - MC 4pm Pickleball - TC 6:30 Bar Stool Poker - MC	9am Bible Study - LC 9:15am Power Walking - MC 10am Water Aerobics 1pm Hand & Foot - LC 7pm Farkle - LC	
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
4pm Pickleball - TC	8:15am Yoga - MC 9:30am Power Walking - MC 10am Water Aerobics 5pm Shuffleboard 7pm HOA Meeting - MC	9am Intermediate Line Dancing - MC 10am Advanced Line Dancing - MC 11am Baby Steppers Line Dancing - MC 1pm Hand & Foot - LC 1pm Horseshoes 3pm Corn Hole - behind LC 3-4:30pm Veterans Happy Hour - MC 4pm Pickleball - TC 6pm Dominoes - PR 7pm Euchre - LC	9am Coffee Social - MC 9:30am Power Walking - MC 10am Water Aerobics 1:30pm Mahjong - LC 6:30pm BINGO	9am Intermediate Line Dancing - MC 10am Advanced Line Dancing - MC 11am Baby Steppers Line Dancing - MC Noon Bridge - LC 1pm Hand, Foot & Elbow - MC 4pm Pickleball - TC	9am Bible Study - LC 9:15am Power Walking - MC 10am Water Aerobics 1pm Hand & Foot - LC 7pm Farkle - LC	7-10pm Valentine's Day Dance with Jesse Derringer - MC 
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
10am Silver Needles Meeting & "Sew Day" 4pm Pickleball - TC	8:15am Yoga - MC 9:30am Power Walking - MC 10am Water Aerobics 5pm Shuffleboard 5:30pm Potluck & Quarter Bingo - MC	9am Intermediate Line Dancing - MC 10am Advanced Line Dancing - MC 11am Baby Steppers Line Dancing - MC 1pm Hand & Foot - LC 1pm Horseshoes 3pm Corn Hole - behind LC 4pm Pickleball - TC 6pm Dominoes - PR 7pm Euchre - LC	9am Coffee Social - MC 9:30am Power Walking - MC 10am Water Aerobics 1:30pm Mahjong - LC 6:30pm BINGO	9am Intermediate Line Dancing - MC 10am Advanced Line Dancing - MC 11am Baby Steppers Line Dancing - MC Noon Bridge - LC 1pm Hand, Foot & Elbow - MC 4pm Pickleball - TC	9am Bible Study - LC 9:15am Power Walking - MC 10am Water Aerobics 1pm Hand & Foot - LC 6-9pm Karaoke - MC 7pm Farkle - LC	8am-1pm Yard Sale 
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
4pm Pickleball - TC 5:30-9pm Art Gallery - Murder Mystery - MC	8:15am Yoga - MC 9:30am Power Walking - MC 10am Water Aerobics 5pm Shuffleboard 6pm Dominoes - MC	9am Intermediate Line Dancing - MC 10am Advanced Line Dancing - MC 11am Baby Steppers Line Dancing - MC 1pm Hand & Foot - LC 1pm Horseshoes 3pm Corn Hole - behind LC 4pm Pickleball - TC 7pm Euchre - LC	9am Coffee Social - MC 9:30am Power Walking - MC 10am Water Aerobics 1:30pm Mahjong - LC 6:30pm BINGO	9am Intermediate Line Dancing - MC 10am Advanced Line Dancing - MC 11am Baby Steppers Line Dancing - MC Noon Bridge - LC 1pm Hand, Foot & Elbow - MC 4pm Pickleball - TC	9am Bible Study - LC 9:15am Power Walking - MC 10am Water Aerobics 1pm Hand & Foot - LC 7pm Farkle - LC	7-10pm 3 Dom Band - MC



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Marilyn Hines
Sales Coordinator



*You are not obligated to sell us your home. Our rent discount program for new buyers is available at select locations, and can expire at any time and without notice.

COMMUNITY CONTACTS

General Manager – Sean Rankin
srankin@suncommunities.com

Ass't General Manager - Theresa LeBlanc
Tleblanc@suncommunities.com

Sales Coordinator - Marilyn Hines
mhines@suncommunities.com

Office Coordinator - Susan Andre
sandre@suncommunities.com

Office Hours - Mon thru Friday 8am-5pm
 Closed For Lunch from 12:00 Noon - 1:00p

Main Number: 813-782 -3800
 Option 1 for Sales
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 Option 3 for Parkway Tavern
 Option 4 for Front Desk

AFTER HOURS EMERGENCY NUMBER
877-786-6048

Golf Course/Pro Shop Manager
Earl Hines ehines@suncommunities.com

HOURS OF OPERATION

- **FRONT GATE:** Open 6am — Closed 8pm
- **GOLF COURSE:** Daily 7am to 5pm
- **PRO SHOP:** Mon-Sat 7am - 5pm
(Sun 7am-2pm)
- **POOL:** 8am - Dusk Daily (residents & guests only)
- **MAIN CLUBHOUSE:** Daily 7am to 10pm
- **POKER ROOM:** Daily 7am to 10pm
- **LITTLE CLUBHOUSE:** Daily 7am to 10pm

KARAOKE

Friday, February 6 & 20
 6:00 — 9:00 p.m.
 (Main Clubhouse)

Everyone Is Welcome
 To Join In The Fun
FREE ADMISSION

DONATIONS GLADLY ACCEPTED TO HELP DEFRAY COSTS

EVENING INCLUDES A \$SHARE THE WEALTH RAFFLE

THIS PUBLICATION IS AVAILABLE ON-LINE

If you'd like, you can view and even print this issue and prior issues (or individual pages) of The Southport Sun in color or in B&W by going on line to: southportsspringshoa.com

DEADLINE: Deadline for submitting articles, event information or photos, "Thank You" notes, etc. is the 20th of the month. Anything received after the 20th will appear in the following month's issue.

DISCLAIMER: When submitting an article or articles for publication, please indicate if you do not wish your article to be edited by our editorial staff and/or if you would prefer not to have photos or artwork included. In those instances, the editorial staff will not be held responsible for content, structure, spelling, grammar etc. Type written submissions greatly assist in minimizing errors. Thanks for your understanding, help and cooperation.

NEED TO RESERVE THE FACILITIES?

To reserve the Ballroom, Little Clubhouse or Poker Room please stop by the community office to pick up a reservation form. If you want a form emailed to you, contact us at southportssprings@suncommunities.com

Note: Reservations can be made by groups of 4 or more for the Poker Room, 10 or more for the Little Club, and 18 or more for the Ballroom.

Filling out a form does not guarantee a reservation and all requests must be approved by management.

Sean Rankin
 General Manager
 Southport Springs Golf Community

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Independent Health Agents

Christian Alfonso
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 (813)-323-5927

Albert Alfonso
 W867186
 (813)-469-8797

Monday-Saturday 8am-5pm



christian.ahps@gmail.com

albert.ahps@gmail.com

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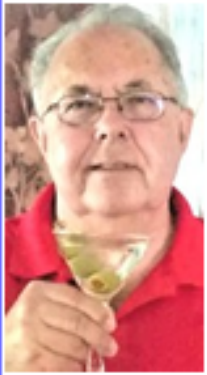
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Valentine Cocktail (Red Velvet Martini)



Dick Knoles
Resident Mixologist

Ingredients:

Makes 1 cocktail

- 2 oz Cake Vodka
- ½ oz Crème De Cocoa
- ¼ oz Grenadine Syrup
- Pinch of Powdered Sugar
- Cream Cheese Frosting (store bought or homemade)(recipe follows).

- Red sprinkles

Instructions:

- Rim the glass with the frosting and then dip it in the red sprinkles.
- Mix the first four ingredients in a cocktail shaker with ice. Shake well until well chilled.
- Strain into a chilled martini glass. You can garnish with additional sprinkles and/or a large pinch of Red Velvet Cake.

For the Frosting:

- ¼ tsp soft butter
- 2 oz softened cream cheese
- Powdered sugar
- Milk
- Combine butter and cream cheese in a bowl and mix well with an electric mixer.
- Add small amounts of milk and powdered sugar to get the desired consistency.

Enjoy



HOA Events require time, effort and muscle to set-up before and take-down after each event.

We need your help. Please let a HOA

Board Member know when you are able to help. Thank You!



I'M NOT BOSSY,

I JUST KNOW WHAT YOU SHOULD BE DOING

COMING IN MARCH

Show Me The Money

Thursday, March 5 6:30pm
Main Clubhouse—\$1.00 per person.

Potluck

Monday, March 16 5:30pm
Sign-up in the Main Clubhouse.

Dance to Rock the House Band

Tuesday, March 17 7-10pm
\$5.00 for HOA members - \$7.00 for Non-members.
Tickets on sale February 25, March 4 & 11.

Springtime Blood Drive

Wednesday, March 18 8:30am-2pm
Main Clubhouse Parking Lot

FOTO & FETCH FRENZIE

Sunday, March 22 2:00pm
Teams of 4 - \$10.00 per team.
Registration starts March 4 at coffee.

Dance to The Dukes

Saturday, March 28 7-10pm
\$5.00 for HOA members - \$7.00 for Non-members.
Tickets on sale March 11, 18 & 25.



Coming Next Month



SOUTHPORT'S SPRINGTIME BLOOD DRIVE

Wednesday, March 18th
8:30am - 2:00pm

(Main Clubhouse Parking Lot)

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OneBlood

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a call at 813-602-3782
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Between 12:30pm and 2:00pm
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Advent Health

Picking The Correct Container For Your Potted Plant



We have previously discussed plants, soil blends, fertilizer usage, and proper irrigation practices as these topics pertain to container gardening.

A good container must be large enough to provide space for soil and plant roots. You don't want your plant standing in wet soil. Make sure the container you choose has enough drainage holes at the bottom and sides, when

possible. Plan ahead and when using large containers (pots) add carts with wheels so that it can be easily moved and be off the ground

Any object that holds potting mix and provides good drainage is a possible container. Be creative but adequate internal container space and proper drainage must exist.

Remember, the smaller the container the more often it will need water. (do not over water) It is the most common mistake we make. Pots should be placed on blocks at least one inch high to facilitate drainage. Containers on a flat surface often have slow drainage.

Overwatering most often occurs because gardeners fail to check the existing moisture content 2 inches deep in the container. Help yourself and get an inexpensive moisture meter.

Surprisingly the next major problem is using a container that does not drain at all. Many ceramic containers often have no holes. Many have tried and failed.

When under size pots are used, they often create another situation that will cause root rot to occur as the small pot size limits root growth. Unfortunately, even low-profile herbs will have a root length of 1.5 inches. Many vegetables can have a root growth of 18 inches i.e., turnips etc.

I also find many pots that are 3 feet high with plants that have a root growth off 18 or less inches. The opposite problem is the water is absorbed or gravity forces it towards the bottom of a 36-inch-deep container. This eliminates root rot, but leaves are yellow or no blooms are produced.

The plant(s) has died or is dying due to drought. I use #1 pots that hold about a gallon of potting mix for some herbs. A number #2 container holds about 1.7 to 2 gallons of potting mix and is 8 to 9 inches wide. A #3 pot is desired if mid-size plants are being featured. I often use containers that are 12-18 inches. Larger pots are used for clusters, larger plants, small shrubs, or trees.

Masonry and ceramic pots are heavier than plastic and less likely to be knocked over by wind or critters but dry more quickly and are harder to move. Plastic

(Continued in the column on the right)

(continued from the column on the left)
is less expensive, lighter, and holds water longer but often crack after a few years due to exposure to UV light. Ceramic pots often do not have drainage. Use the container inside a container method if ceramic is your choice due to its appearance.

The container type is your choice. Plants that are prone to root rot should not be put in plastic, in my opinion. As cacti and all succulents need dry conditions, I only use clay pots.

More information about containers can be found on Google "Clay Versus Plastic Pots, Advantages and Disadvantages of Both."

Double Potting is a term that can apply to a different method of planting. It is the practice of fitting one potted plant inside a slightly larger container. No matter what you use, i.e., plastic inside ceramic or clay, the benefits are many. Like everything there are some disadvantages. Mainly cost and increased container weight.

You get the advantages of planting in ground such as better water retention, stable temperature, and protection from the wind.

If your plant is outdoors and unprotected in a wet environment like our summers, heavy rain and intense sunlight often kill many plantings. Those plants in pots can be moved those in the ground can't. Plants inground can be damaged by nematodes, animals, disease, ponding, etc. In pots these risks are minimized.

Hope this helps.

An article on root rot will be coming soon.

Bob Gallion, Retired Master Garden

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Southport Springs Veterans Association

The foundational goal of the **Southport Springs Veterans Association** is an unwavering commitment to our veterans and their families, ensuring they receive the recognition, respect, and assistance they earned and rightfully deserve.

Our goal and principles will remain the same for 2026. Our objective is to continue to raise the profile of the Southport Springs Veteran Family.

- The next **"Fall In" Happy Hour formation is February 11 at 3:00 PM** in the **Main Clubhouse**. Veterans are encouraged to show up & bring a fellow Veteran & member of the Southport Springs Veteran Family. Show your service pride!
- The major Memorial Wall Restoration Project is complete. We will continue to maintain & improve its condition. Next project is to replace the lanyards (Ropes) on the flag poles. If you have any ideas to improve it, we would like to hear them. The Memorial Wall belongs to every resident of Southport Springs.
- Special thank you to Charlene Maxwell & Shawn Bernier for the \$886.00 check from their amazing production of 'American Bandstand'.
- Anyone who desires to have an engraved brick placed on the Memorial Wall can request one. Basic qualifications are an Honorably Discharged Veteran residing/resided in Southport Springs or an immediate family member of a Southport Springs resident who is an Honorably Discharged Veteran. Contact us for the application form. Cost is \$40.
- We are continuing to establish a complete directory of Veterans in Southport Springs. Please contact **Hal Lockwood-Hlockwood@oc2d.com** or **303.374.4661** to ensure he has your information.
- The 2026 Board Members for the **Southport Springs Veterans Association**:
 - ⇒ M. Jim Teixeira, Chair
 - ⇒ Earl Ferree, Secretary
 - ⇒ Hal Lockwood, Treasurer
 - ⇒ Tom McPherson, Director at Large
 - ⇒ Patrick Winchester, Director at Large
 - ⇒ This Board serves the Veteran Family of Southport Springs. You will be called upon to serve from time to time to assist us in serving our community.
- **American Flags** that are ripped, torn, faded, stained, or in any manner of disrepair should be placed in the 'Damaged Flags' receptacle inside the Little Clubhouse for proper care & will be respectfully laid to rest at a later date.

Honor Your Veteran Honor Your Service



Brick of Honor on the Memorial Wall

Qualifications-

- Honorably discharged Veterans of the US & Canadian Armed Forces who are/were residents of Southport Springs Golf & Country Club.
- Honorably discharged Veterans of the US & Canadian Armed Forces who are a family member of a Southport Springs Golf & Country Club resident.
- Honorably discharged Veterans of the US & Canadian Armed Forces who are a friend of a Southport Springs Golf & Country Club resident.

Contact

Hal Lockwood

Email: hlockwood@oc2d.com

or

Text Message: 330-347-4661



**Southport Springs
Veterans Association**

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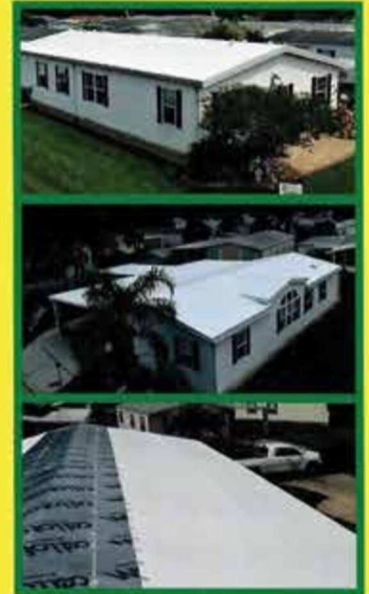
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A Little Bit of This and a Little Bit of That



What Causes Freckles To Appear?

Having freckles is primarily a genetic trait. People with fair skin, light hair, and blue or green eyes are most likely to develop freckles. A gene called MC1R is responsible for managing Melanin production. [Melanin is a natural pigment produced by specialized cells called melanocytes that give color to your skin, hair, and eyes. It also plays a crucial role in protecting the body from UV radiation.] Individuals with certain variations of this gene are more prone to show freckles.

While genetics play a major role, sun exposure also contributes to the development of freckles. When the skin is exposed to UV radiation cells that produce melanin (melanocytes) are stimulated producing more melanin. This increased production can lead to the formation of more freckles, especially in areas that receive a lot of sun such as your face and arms. Freckles become more prominent with age.

Hormonal changes such as pregnancy can also increase melanin production and freckles.

It is important to note that freckles are harmless and don't indicate any underlying health conditions. However excessive sun exposure can increase the risk of skin damage making it of critical importance to use a quality sun screen. Protective clothing is also recommended.

Freckles are extra patches of coloring under your skin called ephelides. They can appear in people of all ethnicities though they are most common in those of Celtic, Northern European, and Northwest Asian descent. Particularly those who have fair skin and red or brown hair.

While normal freckles are not a sign of skin cancer, if there is any change in a freckle, such as a rapid change in size, shape, or uneven borders could be a cancer warning sign. They require a professional evaluation.

Freckles can suddenly appear without sun exposure due to other factors such as puberty or menopause. Permanent freckle removal is possible through various medical practices which includes using targeted laser pulsed cryo surgery, and topical fading cream. Applying lemon juice might help to lighten freckles because of its natural acids but it's also abrasive and makes the skin more susceptible to damage.

There are numerous dietary contributors that may increase or decrease freckle appearances.

Do not try to remove a freckle, consult a dermatologist or your primary doctor before moving forward with this process.

Bob Gallion

WHEN FRIENDS AND RELATIVES STOP BY

When friends and relatives stop by for a few days on their way to the Magic Kingdom or Universal Studio or some other destination, please take the time to remind them of how important it is to honor and respect our courtesy and safety precautions here at Southport.



Our Beautiful Pool & Spas

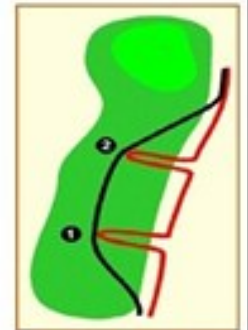
When down at the pool, please remember...

- No diving
- No running around or near the pool
- No jumping into the pool

- **PLEASE SHOWER** before stepping into the pool or spas
- When you feel the need, **PLEASE USE THE RESTROOMS** (not the pool or spa)
- Children under 16 **MUST BE ATTENDED** by an adult when down at the pool
- **NO GLASS** down by the pool. Only plastic. Drinks must be kept 6 feet or more away from the edge of the pool and spas.
- No outside alcohol is allowed in the pool area.
- When leaving the pool area, **PLEASE** return tables and chairs to the proper place and return chairs to their upright position.
- All guests using our pool **MUST BE** accompanied by a resident.

Our Golf Course

- **PLEASE!** All golfers **MUST ALWAYS** use the 90 degree rule.
- Golf cart paths are for the use of **golfers only**. Walking, riding or walking pets on golf cart paths is **not permitted**. Golfers are asked to **please refrain** from taking children for rides out on the golf course.
- **NO ONE** (absolutely no one) without a driver's license is allowed to drive a golf cart here in Southport Springs (**most especially children under the age of 16**).
- **PLEASE RESPECT** our 15MPH speed limit (**at all times**) and please stop at all STOP signs.



And...

- **PLEASE! SCOOP THE POOP** when you take Fido out for a stroll. That includes ALL open areas and the RV Storage area as well

- And **PLEASE!** Don't feed the Sand Cranes or any stray or wild animals

Please consider posting this on your refrigerator or place it on the nightstand in your guestroom.

New Year's Eve Dance



**HAPPY
NEW
YEAR**



New Year's Eve Dance - Continued



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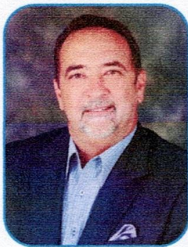
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And the world will live as one*



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Puzzle Mania

Sunday, February 1 at 2:00p.m.

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Four people on a team.
The same puzzle will be given to each team.

This will be a timed event.
Get your team together and be sure and have
a name for your group!

The sign-up sheet will be posted in January.
The deadline to sign up is January 17
so we can order the puzzles.



Sponsored by Your HOA

Woodchuck Charlie Chili Night!



Monday, February 2nd
(Groundhog Day)

4:30pm - 6:30pm
Main Clubhouse Ballroom

~Chili Contest~

Enter your "special" homemade Chili
(make enough for 10 servings)

And Be A Winner!

1st, 2nd & 3rd Place Prizes

\$10.00 Entry Fee

To Enter, Call Charlene Maxwell At 813-928-5476

Everyone Is Invited
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Wednesday, January 14th, 21st & 28th
In The Main Clubhouse Ballroom
From 3:30pm to 5:00pm



You'll Want To Come And Meet Some Surprise Guests!



Southport Springs Veterans Association

HAPPY HOUR

Wednesday

February 11

3 - 4:30 PM

Main Clubhouse



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Bring a SPS Veteran with YOU!

Dance to the music of Jesse Derringer

Saturday,
February 14

7 - 10 p.m.



HOA Members \$5.00 per person.

Non-members \$7.00 per person.

Tickets go on sale Wednesday, February 4 & 11.



Sponsored by Your HOA

Potluck



Monday,
February 16,
5:30 p.m.

**Quarter Bingo
to follow**
(bring 6 quarters and
2 one-dollar bills).



Please bring a dish to pass
that will serve 10-12 people.

Iced Tea & Lemonade will be provided.

Bring your own tableware.

Sign up in the clubhouse.



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Main Clubhouse

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Tickets On Sale Wednesday, February 4th, 11th and 18th
From 3:30pm to 5:00pm In The Main Clubhouse Ballroom

Dance to the music of 3 DOM Band



**Saturday, February 28
7 - 10 p.m.**

HOA Members \$5.00 per person.
Non-members \$7.00 per person.

Tickets on sale Wednesday, February 11, 18 & 25.



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**NEIGHBORS vs
NEIGHBORS**

**Sun.,
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22 @
2pm**

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Karol McGinn
813-388-0148
karolmcginn@gmail.com
Cindy Judy
717-514-3997
cinjudy622@gmail.com

Veteran's Committee

Patrick Winchester
813-713-5777
pwinchester69@gmail.com

Water Aerobics

Desdie Eberman
912-401-9646
desdie20@gmail.com

Women's Club

Carol Dziki
813-783-9761
grannydziki@yahoo.com
Cindy Judy
717-514-3997
cinjudy622@gmail.com

Yoga

Terri Prim
813-713-0261
terribarry@msn.com



Southport Resident Services

HOUSE SITTING & PET CARE

House Sitting & Dog Sitting
Linda Phelps 813-778-1359

Dog Sitting (in my home only)
Bev Mauer 423-987-6442

Pet Sitting (dogs & cats)
Colleen or Marc 423-432-9568

Loving Pets— Sitting Service
Sharon Parent 352-661-8394

HOUSE CLEANING/PERSONAL ASSISTANT

House Cleaning
Becky Tillich 928-848-0245

Shopping & Personal Assistant
Light Alterations
Linda Phelps 813-778-1359

TRANSPORTATION

Personal Chauffeur
Airport, Cruise Lines
Medical Appointments, Nite On The Town
Dan 207-747-8878

LAWN CARE

Lawn Mowing
(& Trimming Services)
Walt Hand 813-751-7105

Weeding & Mulching
Cissy Rossano 813-312-5717

Lawn Care/Mowing
Dave Goodyke 269-873-8181

HANDYMAN

Chuck Indyk 724-858-9061
Southport Resident

Painting, Flooring, Tile & Trim
Don Ross 656-232-9225 LIC#CBC1263504

HEALTHCARE

Home Help & Medical Care
Holley Troxel RN 813-695-5620
(references available upon request)

DOCTA FEELGOOD
(Massage Therapist)
Blaze 727-835-6381

ARTISAN CRAFTS & HOMEMADE GOODS

Greeting Card Classes w/Ruth
(Tuesdays at 1:00pm - 3731 Rockrose)
Ruth Douma 973-222-2815

Katie's Creations (Diamond Painting
& Silk Floral Arrangements)
Katie Mull 813-580-4020

Homemade Jams
(All products made in accordance with Fl Cottage Law)
Pam McGregor 813-716-5684

Wreaths By Sue
Sue Jones 813-838-3908

POTTERY (Functional & Decorative)
(Pottery Lessons - Sales Display)
Dave Brown 610-698-1584

Susie's Sensations
(custom designed gifts, golfcart decals, clothing, cups, sublimation)
Sue Wampler 813-469-2974

MISCELLANEOUS

Photography
(Special Occasions, Family Photos etc.)
Kara Krohn 515-710-4780

Stick With Marti
(Birthday & Anniversary Yard Signs)
Marti Vest 813-468-1953

Wedding Officiant
(Wedding Ceremonies and Vow Renewals)
Reduced Pricing For SPS Residents
Mary Adele 813-361-3614

Notary Public
No Charge For SPS Residents
Patrick Winchester 813-713-5777

If you have services that you provide and would like to be listed in the directory, just e-mail me, Bob Schutt your information at rjsone@yahoo.com and I'll be happy to add it to the Residents Service Directory.

All services MUST be provided privately by residents.

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