Southport Springs Monthly Newsletter Editor: Joe Grigelevich grigjr43@gmail.com

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July 2023

JULY

JULY 4TH COOKOUT FEATURING "Kris Pierce"

Tuesday, July 4th 4:00pm-8:00pm Followed By Fireworks at 9:00pm

Listen & Dance To "B.D. Williams" Saturday, July 8th 7:00pm-10:00pm

> Ice Cream Social Followed By Nickel Bingo Tuesday, July 18th 5:30pm

Non HOA Member Only Ice Cream Social (By Invitation)
Sunday, July 23rd 2:00pm-4:00pm

Come Enjoy Their Sound "The Little Big Band" Friday, July 28th 7:00pm-10:00pm

Note: Event Tickets Available For Purchase (as posted) See Page 8 **************

Other Events

Summer Blood Drive Wednesday, July 12th 8:30am - 2:00pm

Listen & Dance To "Dance Party Duo"

Thursday, July 20th 5:00pm - 8:00pm Compliments of The Parkway Tavern

see details on page 3, 6 & 10

Coming In August Red-Carpet Event See Page 6



SOMETHING NEW AND EXCITING!

See page 8 For The New **Monthly Event Ticket Sales Schedule**

THANK YOU FOR A ME OF SERVICE







Billy Mueller from over on Rockrose Lane recently retired after volunteering 30 years with the United States Coast Guard Auxiliary. Born and raised in Detroit, Michigan, he's the son of Clarence (who worked for Western Electric) and Freda Mueller and older brother to his sister Faye. Billy attended Redford High School and was a member of their US Army ROTC program during his sophomore, junior and senior years. Following graduation in 1959, he enlisted in the Ărmy and was assigned to Fort Benning, Georgia for his eight weeks of basic

training. He then received orders to Fort Gordon, Georgia where he attended the Military Police Academy. Following graduation from the MP Academy, he received orders for Fort Hayes in Columbus, Ohio where he was assigned to the AWOL (Absent Without Leave) Apprehension Detachment where he would remain for the next six months until being reassigned to a security unit at Camp





Ederle in Vicenza, Italy where he was assigned to the 69th Ordinance Company. Billy has great memories of his time spent in Italy. When not on duty, he enjoyed the train ride to St. Mark's Square in Venice. When asked if there was anything he recalled about St. Mark's Square, his immediate response was about how truly magnificent St. Mark's Basilica was. Billy would remain in Vicenza, Italy until his discharge in the summer of 1962.

Upon returning home, he went to work for Western Electric and in December of 1966, he applied and was accepted into

the Detroit Police Academy. Following graduation from the Academy, he was assigned to De-

troit's 16th Precinct which coincidentally just happened to be directly across the street from his Alma Mater, Redford High School. The summer of 1967 was a difficult period in Detroit's history, most notably the 1967 Detroit Riots which were among the most violent and destructive riots in U.S. history. By

the time the bloodshed, burning and looting ended, 43 people were dead. 342 injured, nearly 1,400 buildings had been burned and some 7,000 National (cont. on pg. 5 MUELLER)



See Summer Menu Specials
On Page 2 Rose Menegalli 35640 Clubber Court 1944 - 2023

Sincere sympathies are extended to Rose's family and friends. Know that our thoughts and prayers are with you during this time of sadness.

"No tears in heaven, no sorrow given. All will be glory in that land. There will be no sadness, all will be gladness when we shall join that happy band."

Robert Arnold

Rích Fenlock 3521 Ranger Parkway 1938 - 2023

Our sincere condolences are extended to Sandy and to her and Rich's family and friends during this difficult time. Peace and God bless.

"I can only imagine what it will be like when I walk by your side. I can only imagine what my eyes will see when your face is before me. I can only imagine."

Bart Millard



Be a
Raimbow
In Someone
Else's Cloud



LACE UP THOSE SNEAKERS AND HIT THE ROAD

(See Page 24)

"Peace
Is when time
doesn't matter
as it
passes away."

Maria Schell

Summer Is Here! Stay Hydrated!!



There will be limited Wednesday morning coffee and donuts for the next couple of months, so we'll be sending information via the Sunshine Committee group Email and our Sunshine Facebook Page.

If you would like to be able to

If you would like to be able to access that Facebook page, please contact Marti Vest. She

will send you an invitation and after you've accepted the invitation, you'll be in. We're finding that this page is a good way to reach the community and being separate keeps information from becoming lost in the general FB entries. Members of this community have been extremely generous in doialant are used fequipment which can be borrowed.

Members of this community have been extremely generous in donating medical equipment which can be borrowed by any resident or guest free of charge. Please keep donating. In the meantime, we are donating some of our overstock to the hospice gift shop on Allen Road.

Have a happy 4th of July! And a safe and healthy summer!!

Karol McGinn 813-388-0148



Cindy Judy 717-514-3997

SPRING & SUMMER MENU



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\$2.00 OFF
Margaritas ALL DAY
\$3.00 OFF
Taco Trio Signature Dish

FROSTY FRIDAYS

\$2.00 OFF
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WING WEDNESDAYS

(8) Bone-in Wings & Non-alcoholic Drink \$8.00

(Mild, Hot, Sweet Thai Chili or BBQ Sauce)

MEATLOAF MONDAYS

Mouthwatering Meatloaf served with potatoes, green beans and roll \$12.00

DAILY SALAD BAR & SOUP SPECIAL

Unlimited Salad \$12.00	
Add-on Salad \$6.00	
Cup of Soup \$3.00	
Soup & Salad	
Combo	

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www.southportspringsgolf.com

Located inside Main Clubhouse 3737 Southport Springs Pkwy. Zephyrhills, 33541 (Off Chancey Rd.)



Christmas In July

Look for the Women's Club annual "Christmas In July Giving Tree"
In the Main Clubhouse Lobby

Collecting School Supplies for students at neighboring Chester Elementary School





SOUTHPORT'S SUMMER BLOOD DRIVE



Wednesday, July 12th 8:30am - 2:00pm (Main Clubhouse Parking Lot) Your Chance To Save 3 Lives

Donors will receive a \$20 gift card and a OneBlood Tote Bag

And To Make It More Exciting...

Sean & Lorene Rankin will raffle off a \$50 gift card if we have a minimum of 25 donors and increase it to \$100 if we have a minimum of 50 donors!

and...
Our HOA will raffle off a \$25 gift card if we have
a minimum of 25 donors

and...

The Parkway Tavern

is donating a coupon good for

one beer, one glass of wine or a dessert to all donors!



Give Lauren Waterman a call today at <mark>813-782-0675</mark> to set up your appointment

Walk-Ins Welcome!

See you on the Big Red Bus and Thank You So Much For Giving The Gift Of Life God Bless....

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ABOUT ONEBLOOD

OneBlood is a not-for-profit 501(c)(3) community asset responsible for providing safe, available and affordable blood to more than 200 hospital partners and their patients throughout most of Florida, parts of Georgia, Alabama, South Carolina and North Carolina.

They distribute nearly one million blood products annually, employ more than 2,000 people, operate more than 80 donor centers and deploy nearly 200 of their signature Big Red Buses throughout their service area for blood drives; On average, approximately a half million people step forward to donate two times each year. Of the half million people who step forward, between 44,000 and 50,000 fail to donate for a number of reasons with low iron levels being the most common reason for failure. Being a non-profit explains why they are unable to provide gifts and gift cards to individuals who fail to donate. To do so would cost between a million and a million and a half dollars annually; and while they deeply and gratefully appreciate every individual who steps forward to donate and would love to gift everyone who does so, as a non-profit entity, they have a financial and fiduciary obligation to those entities and individuals that fund their efforts to operate responsibly and cost effectively.

OneBlood has multiple laboratories, manufacturing and distribution sites strategically located throughout their service area enabling quick response to hospital needs and availability of blood products. Safety of the blood supply is **One-Blood's** top priority. Every unit of blood undergoes more than a dozen tests to ensure it is safe for transfusion. Regardless of where the blood is donated in their service area, all blood samples are delivered via a **OneBlood** courier to Creative Testing Solutions (CTS), their state-of-the-art testing facility in St. Petersburg, Florida. Their Blood Centers are (continued on page 33 - OneBlood)



RESIDENT SERVICES

Brain Teaser

A man takes his car to a hotel. Upon reaching the hotel he is immediately declared bankrupt. Why?

Answer Found On Another Page



36



When heart problems like AFib, arrhythmia, or heart failure begin to affect your life, you need expert care from a trusted team. Named as Top Performing Hospitals for Heart Failure by U.S. News and World Report, AdventHealth Dade City and AdventHealth Zephyrhills provide nationally recognized care for a range of cardiovascular conditions. So you can keep your heart beating with the pace of life.







MUELLER (cont. from pg. 1)

Guard and U.S. Army troops had been called into service. Shortly after the riots, Billy left Detroit and moved to Waterford, Michigan and applied for a job with the Bloomfield Township Police and was accepted. He worked there until his retirement in 1994. Bloomfield Township was home to a number of notables including Charlie Maxwell, Left Fielder for the Detroit Tigers, Dennis Rodman, Forward for the Detroit Pistons and iconic music legend Aretha Franklin. Billy recalled being dispatched to Aretha Franklin's home during the winter after a brief snowfall to investigate suspicious footprints leading up to the side of her home just under the upper-level patio doors. He received another call back from Ms. Franklin a week or so later as she observed more footprints leading up to the back door on the first level of her home. Officer Mueller checked and did in fact observe the tracks. He indicated to Ms. Franklin that there was nothing to be concerned about since the footprints were those of a rabbit.



Prior to his retirement from the police force in 1994, Billy had been giving some serious thought about what it was that he wanted to do once he left the force. He ultimately decided to move to Michigan's Upper Peninsula and volunteer at the U.S. Coast Guard Station in St. Ig-

nace which is approximately 300 miles north of Detroit and is located along Lake Huron in the Upper Peninsula on the northern side of the Straits of Mackinac. The city serves as a gateway to the state's Upper Peninsula for travelers coming from the Lower Peninsula and is home to one of the two ports which provide ferry service to nearby Mackinac Island. Following his retirement from the Bloomfield Township police department, Billy relocated to Goetzville, Michigan which is about an hour's drive northeast of St. Ignace. Billy would remain in Goetzville until coming to Southport Springs in 2007.

During his fourteen year tenure with the U.S. Coast Auxiliary while living in Guarď Goetzville, Billy was recognized a number of times for his outstanding service and commitment. In 2004 he was named "Sailor of The Quarter" for the fourth quarter of that year. In part, the citation read as follows: "Auxiliarist Billy Mueller has played an instrumental role during the increased operational period for the summer of 2004. He eagerly



volunteered over 624 hours of his time and diligently stood more than 160 hours of communications watch. As a key player in team Coast Guard, Auxiliarist Mueller helped duty Search And Rescue, Maritime Law Enforcement and Homeland Security crews avoid fatigue limits. Auxiliarist Mueller helped maintain STANTS 's safety standards at the highest level and set an outstanding example for junior crew members." "Your volunteerism, mentorship, friendship and performance is in keeping with the highest traditions of the Unites States Coast Guard. Then again in 2010, Billy received a letter of appreciation from STANT's Senior Chief, R.D. Berg. It read in part, "You are hereby recognized for your outstanding service and selfless commitment to the United States Coast Guard from May through September 2010. Your contributions have greatly enhanced the mission effectiveness of several Auxiliary Flotillas (fleet of boats) and you have promoted morale and camaraderie throughout this unit. We are grateful for your humor, competence, professionalism, wisdom and enthusiasm. You are an invaluable member

of the 9th District 26th Division of the Coast Guard Auxilia-

Billy misses the work he did and misses the crew members as well, but continues to communicate with them and they with him.

Billy has a couple of interesting hobbies including photography and flying which he has happily shared with others throughout his life. While on the Detroit police force, he taught an adult evening course in photography at his old high school (Redford High) and it was during that time that he also earned his pilot's license and eventually found himself teaching an evening course in Aviation Flight and Ground Rules at the high school in Waterford Township. Since moving to Florida, Billy has taken a number of classes at USF, and along with another instructor, has taught "Introduction To Windows 10" evening classes at USF. Now he's just taking it easy.

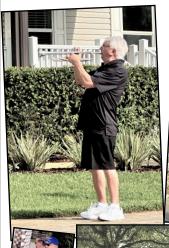
Billy has two children and three grandchildren. His son Mike and Mike's daughter Izzy live in Waterford, Michigan and his daughter Dawn and her two sons Matthew and Luke live in Fort Mill, South Carolina.

In total, Billy has spent more than sixty-five years of his adult life in service to his country and his community. From the bottom of our hearts we thank him, we honor him and we salute him. Thank you my friend.

'THANKS AND PRAISE'

'For Our Days, Neath The Sun, Neath The Stars, Neath The Sky...As We Go, This We Know, God Is Nigh.

Monday morning, May 29th - Southport residents including members of Southport's Veterans Association gathered at our memorial wall to remember and honor those who served our nation and who are no longer with us; most especially those who gave it all in battle. A special 'thank you' to members of the Veterans Committee who planned the ceremony, to our sound director Mike Quartucci and to Sal Marino for playing taps as we bowed our heads, placed our hands over our hearts and remembered.







HOA EVENTS COMING THIS MONTH





Listen & Dance To The Music Of **B.D. Williams**

> Saturday, July 8th 7-10pm

HOA Members \$7.00pp Non Members \$9.00pp

SEE PAGE 8 FOR TICKET SALES INFORMATION

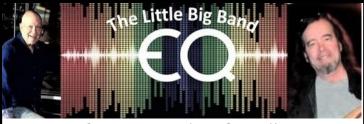


Tuesday
July 18th 5:30pm
(Main Clubhouse)
Followed By
NICKEL BINGO

Ice Cream Social



\$4.00pp See Page 8 For Ticket Sales Information



Come Enjoy Their Sound!

"The Little Big Band"

Friday, July 28th 7-10pm HOA Members \$7.00 Non Members \$9.00

See Page 8 For Ticket Sales Information

OTHER EVENTS COMUNG THIS MONTH



COMING NEXT MONTH

Southport's Women's Club Presents

A Red-Carpet Event



(limited to 4 tickets per person)

MORE EVENTS COMING NEXT MONTH



Tuesday August 15th 5:30pm (Main Clubhouse) **Followed By**

NICKEL **BINGO**

See Page 8 For Ticket Sales **Information**





Come Listen & Dance To The Music Of

Saturday, August 19th 7-10pm

HOA Members \$7.00pp Non Members \$9.00pp

SEE PAGE 8 FOR TICKET SALES INFORMATION

COME Join THE FUN!



Cash Prizes FOR THE BEST POKER Hands! Sunday, August 20th 6-8PM \$5.00PP

Main Clubhouse Parking Lot 5:45PM



RULES OF PLAY DISTRIBUTED At THE TIME OF TICKET PURCHASE

SEE Page 8 FOR TICKET Sales Information





WEAR **RED** ON FRIDAYS

It all began in 2005 with a specific email that recipients

were supposed to forward to others. That email had a very polite snippet in it for a

good cause:

"If every one of our members shares this with other acquaintances, fellow workers, friends, and neighbors, I guarantee that it will not be long before the USA will be covered in RED - and make our troops know there are many people thinking of their well-being. You will feel better all day Friday when you wear something **RED**!"

A reminder to all to

Remember Our Troops Deployed Around The World

TOOT

THINKING

OF OUR TROOPS



TICKET SALES SCHEDULE FOR UPCOMING EVENTS





July 4th Cookout w/Kris Pierce Tuesday, July 4th



B.D. Williams Saturday, July 8th



Ice Cream Social Tuesday, July 18th



The Little Big Band Friday, July 28th



A Red-Carpet Event Sunday, August 6th



Pizza Party Tuesday, August 15th



Good Stuff Saturday, August 19th



Sip n' Salute Poker Run Sunday, August 20th



Friday, July 7th 5pm-6pm Coffee Café (and at the door the evening of)

> Wednesday July 5th & Wednesday, July 12th 9am - 11am Coffee Café

Friday, July 14th & Friday, July 21st 5pm - 6pm Coffee Café (and at the door the evening of)

> Wednesday, July 5th & Saturday, July 8th 9am - 11am Sunday, July 9th 2pm - 4pm Coffee Café

Wednesday, August 2nd & Wednesday, August 9th 9am - 11am Coffee Café

Friday, August 4th & Friday, August 11th 5pm - 6pm Coffee Café (and at the door the evening of)

> Friday, August 11th & Friday, August 18th 5PM - 6PM Coffee Cafe





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Dental

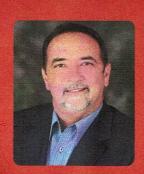
FREE dental that covers dentures, root canals, and more



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HOA NEWS Barbara Holdridge, President



Happy 4th of July! Just a reminder to be careful outside with this Hot weather □. Drink lots of water and do not overdo.

Your board has been very busy scheduling events for you all to enjoy. On the 4th of July we have a barbecue starting at 4:00 p.m. and a dance scheduled from 5:00 to 8:00 p.m. Our annual fireworks display will begin at dusk. We thank our Veterans Committee, Karaoke Krew, the SPS Golf Association and the individuals who

donated for their financial support to help make the fireworks display an enjoyable experience.

In last month's newsletter we asked all of you to give us your thoughts on table bumps and what you would like to see done with the savings account. There has been very little response. With that being said, the table bumps will not be addressed. Also, this board will continue to maintain a savings account to be used for any unexpected emergency or Act of God that causes HOA members, HOA social events or Southport Springs residents' financial difficulties.

If you have any recommendations or concerns regarding our community or your HOA, please put your letter in the HOA box in the Little Clubhouse. We will be happy to address them with you in a timely manner.

The next coffee/donut hour will be the first Wednesday in July at 9:00 a.m.

Be safe!

Barbara



...PLEASE...

For your safety and the safety of everyone here in Southport including those of you driving golf carts...PLEASE do not exceed the posted speed limit! And PLEASE take the time to STOP at all the stop signs! Trying to get to where you're going a minute or two sooner could be the cause of a serious, life altering injury. Thanks.



The Southport Sum

As Of January 1st 2023 "The Southport Sun" (our community newsletter) became an "On-Line" publication only meaning we are no longer distributing hard copy throughout the community. As has always been the case, you're able to view the newsletter on line at our HOA website southportspringshoa.com

HOWEVER

Anyone wishing to have a hard copy can purchase a subscription through the end of this year at a cost of \$2.00/ month. Also - Snowbirds are able to purchase partial year subscriptions as well.

Subscription forms are available on the HOA website (HOA Documents) or in the lobby of the Little Clubhouse in the 'Forms Rack' located above the HOA mailbox which is to your immediate right when you walk in the front door.

Note: Subscribers can pick up their copy on the first business day of the month in the Coffee Café between 9:30am and 11:00am



Complimentary Ice Cream Social

For Non HOA Members Only
(by invitation)
Sunday, July 23rd 2pm-4pm
(Main Clubhouse)



PRIZES! PRIZES! PRIZES!





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Stewart Stafford

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Don has been a Southport Springs resident for over six years. He's held a Broker's license in three states since 1978 and has managed the renovation of 90+ homes for resale prior to moving to Southport.



Don knows how to market, sell and close your home. You can expect, and will absolutely receive

The **BEST** service at the **LOWEST** cost!

July 2023

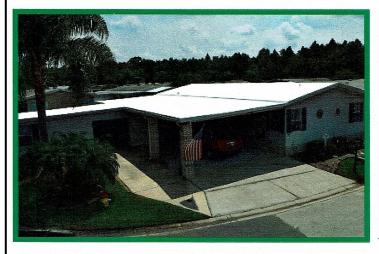


MC - Main Clubhouse LC - Little Clubhouse CC - Coffee Cafe

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1 8am Tennis - TC
2 1pm Cricut Classes - MC	8am Tennis - TC 8:15am Yoga - MC 9:30am Power Walk- ing - MC 1pm Sequence - LC 6pm Dominoes 6pm Horseshoes 6:30pm Shuffleboard	4-8pm JULY 4TH COOKOUT W/Krls Pierce Fireworks At 9:00pm	8:30am Coffee & Donuts (meeting at 9am) MC 9:30am Power Walking - MC 2pm Mahjong - LC 4pm Pickleball 6:30pm BINGO - MC	6 8am Tennis - TC Noon Bridge - LC 6pm Horseshoes	9am Bible Study - LC 9:30am Power Walking - MC Noon Hand & Foot lunch followed by cards - LC 5-7pm Happy Hour - MC (HOA Event Ticket Sales 5-6pm) 7pm Farkle - LC	8 8am Tennis - TC 7-10pm "B.D. Williams" MC
9	8am Tennis - TC 8:15am Yoga - MC 9:30am Power Walking - MC 1pm Sequence - LC 4pm HOA Events Committee Meeting - CC 6pm Dominoes 6pm Horseshoes 6:30pm Shuffleboard	11 6:30pm Com Hole (behind the LC) 7pm Euchre - LC	9:30am Power Walking - MC 2pm Mahjong - LC 4pm Pickleball 6:30pm BINGO - MC	8am Tennis - TC Noon Bridge - LC 6pm Horseshoes	9am Bible Study - LC 9:30am Power Walking - MC 1pm Hand & Foot - LC 5-7pm Happy Hour - MC (HOA Event Ticket Sales 5-6pm) 7pm Farkle - LC	15 8am Tennis - TC
16 10am Silver Needles Meeting & "Sew Day" - LC	17 8am Tennis - TC 8:15am Yoga - MC 9:30am Power Walking - MC 1pm Sequence - LC 6pm Dominoes 6pm Horseshoes 6:30pm Shuffleboard	18 5:30pm Ice Cream Social - MC 6:30pm Com Hole (behind the LC) 7pm Euchre - LC	9:30am Power Walking - MC 2pm Mahjong - LC 4pm Pickleball 6:30pm BINGO - MC	20 8am Tennis - TC Noon Bridge - LC 5-8pm 3rd Thursday "Dance Party Duo" MC 6pm Horseshoes	21 9am Bible Study - LC 9:30am Power Walking - MC 1pm Hand & Foot - LC 5-7pm Happy Hour - MC (HOA Event Ticket Sales 5-6pm) 7pm Farkle - LC	22 8am Tennis - TC
23	24 8am Tennis - TC 8:15am Yoga - MC 9:30am Power Walking - MC 1pm Sequence - LC 6pm Dominoes 6pm Horseshoes 6:30pm Shuffleboard	25 6:30pm Corn Hole (behind the LC) 7pm Euchre - LC	9:30am Power Walking - MC 2pm Mahjong - LC 4pm Pickleball 6:30pm BINGO - MC	27 8am Tennis - TC Noon Bridge - LC 6pm Horseshoes	9am Bible Study - LC 9:30am Power Walking - MC 1pm Hand & Foot - LC 7pm Farkle - LC 7-10pm 'Little Big Band'	29 8am Tennis - TC
30	8am Tennis - TC 8:15am Yoga - MC 9:30am Power Walk- ing - MC 1pm Sequence - LC 6pm Dominoes 6pm Horseshoes 6:30pm Shuffleboard					

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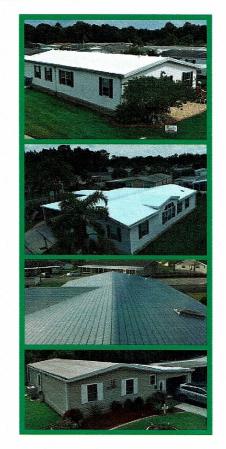




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HURRICANE FORECASTS 2023



Hurricane forecasts for 2023 suggest that the United States' eastern seaboard and Florida could face elevated threats this year; the main reason being the warmer than average sea surface temperatures seen in the Atlantic and also in the Gulf. Accuweather meteorol-

ogists say that Florida will once again be at risk for land-falling tropical systems during this year's hurricane season. They forecast a less active season than most since 1995, calling for the 2023 season to be near the historical average with 11-15 named tropical storms, Four to eight of which are expected to reach hurricane strength, and one to three achieving major hurricane status. Based on climatology and an evolving El Niño pattern during August through October, the highest chance for direct and significant impacts will be from the Florida Panhandle around the entire state of Florida to the Carolina coast.

For those of you who are new to Southport, and especially those of you who are new to Florida, please know that this article is not intended to alarm; it's simply meant to inform and to remind everyone that it's always a good idea to stay informed and to be prepared.

Southport Springs Hurricane Information Packets, a one page list of reminders of things to do around your home and a list of items needed for a shelter stay. Hurricane Preparedness packets are available in The Coffee Café and in the Community Office.

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VETERAN'S MOBILE HOME SERVICES







Morning Bible Study

Southport's Morning Bible Study group meets every

Clubhouse. "Studying the Bible helps us grow in faith, grow in joy and grow in wisdom". Everyone is welcome. For more information, you can

call me at: 813-778-4027

Rita Walters

"He is not here: He has Risen!

Luke 24:6-7



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SPS VET'S COMMITTEE UPDATE



The United States Space Force is the space service branch of our Armed Forces. One of eight U.S. uniformed services and the world's only independent space force. Founded on December 20, 2019 and is located in the Pentagon. It's size was 8,600 military personnel at the time this article was written. Growth continues. It is a part of the United States Armed Forces,

Department of the Air Force.

The U.S.S.F. is responsible for organizing, training, and

equipping guardians to conduct global space operations that will enhance the way our joint and coalition forces fight, while also offering decision makers military options to achieve national objectives. The U.S.S.F. requested a \$30 billion dollar budget for this fiscal year. About \$19 billion of that is aimed



at research, development, testing, and evaluation. NASA is not a part of the U.S.S.F.

The U.S.S.F. operated Defense Warning Program (DSP) satellites are a key part of North America's early warning system. In their 22,300-mile geo synchronous orbits. DSP satellites help to protect by detecting missile launches, space launches, and nuclear detonations.

There are several ways to serve in the U.S.S.F; enlisted members participate, and support operations. Officers, plan and manage personnel while civilians perform a mix of both support and management of space force operations.

There have been significant changes in programs and

benefits available to veterans regardless of the conflict or the time you were in the service. Our challenge this year is to get that information to you and your family. If you are a veteran, please let us know who you are by

signing up to be a member of the SPS Veterans Committee. For more information you can call or text me.

Bob Gallio 813-838-3668 SPS Veterans Committee Chairman















General B. Chance Saltzman



A graduate of Boston University and commissioned in 1991, General B. Chance Saltzman is the Chief of Space Operations, Unit-ed States Space Force. As Chief, he serves as the senior uniformed Space Force officer responsible for the organization, training and equipping of all organic and assigned space forces serving in the United States and overseas. As members of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, the Chief of Space Operations and other service chiefs

function as military advisers to the Secretary of Defense, National Security Council, and the President.



COFFFF & DONUT SOCIAL

(summer schedule) **1st Wednesday Of Each Month**

8:30am



Meeting At 9:00am Main Clubhouse Donation \$2.00pp



Power Walking

Monday, Wednesday & Friday Mornings 9:30am

MAIN CLUBHOUSE

Need More Info? Call Val at 610-334-2690





Monday Mornings Starting at 8:15am MAIN CLUBHOUSE





Tuesdays & Thursdays MAIN CLUBHOUSE

Intermediate and Advanced Line Dancing Suspended for June & July (see you in August)

Baby Steppers Suspended For The Summer



Every Thursday At Noon

In The Little Clubhouse All Level Of Players Are Welcome

Need More Info? Call Connie Schutt At 815-474-3284





C'mon Dow

In The Main Clubhouse Every Wednesdy

starts promptly at 6:30pm

(come early to get your play grids)









ND & FOOT

Come join the fun every Friday starting at 1:00pm in the Little Clubhouse. On the first Friday of the month players are invited to get together for lunch at Noontime followed by cards.

Have Questions? Call Lauren Waterman At 813-602-3782



DOMINOES

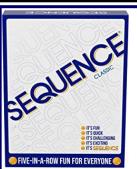
Every Monday evening at 6:00pm In The Main Clubhouse

Need more info? Call Lee Edwards at 863-207-2523

MAHJONG

Attention all residents who are interested in learning or playing a fun and exciting game. Come join ûs in the Little Clubhouse on Wednesdays at 2:00pm.

Have Questions? Contact JoAnn Fearick at 813-335-7519



SEQUENCE

IT'S FUN, EXCITING & EASY TO LEARN

COME JOIN THE FUN! **EVERY MONDAY AT 1PM** IN THE LITTLE CLUBHOUSE

> FOR MORE INFO **CALL LORI PETTIT AT** 813-531-2350

DAY LILLIES

Bob Gallion regallion@gmail.com





Daylilies are one of the most popular perennial plants we see in Florida gardens. They can survive in a wide range of climates as well as various soil types. As hardy as they are, daylilies can frustrate all gardeners with their finicky bloom frequency. The good news is if there are bloom issues the situation is usually repairable!

The fact is that when daylilies underperform, the issue can usually be traced back to 1 of 4 problems. Whatever issue

or issues it might be your plants will probably bloom again. When they do the plant will be stronger than ever. Let's look at the 4 most common problems that keep daylilies from flowering and more importantly how to correct those problems quickly.

- It's important to make sure your daylilies are planted in the right locations. Daylilies prefer sun. If they are not getting at least 6 hours per day, it will have a negative effect on the plant's ability to bloom. The light creates energy through photosynthesis needed for heavy blooming activity.
- 2. Make sure your daylilies are not located in wet locations or low-lying areas. Water-logged roots may not kill the plant, but it will keep its roots from being able to function properly. Again, without enough energy from nutrients and water, blooming as well as the number and size of the flowers may suffer. Daylilies are easy to re-locate. They can be dug up and moved at almost any point of the growing season without killing the plant. So, if your daylilies are not in a prime location, move them.
- If there is one issue more than any other that will cause your daylilies to bloom less or perhaps not at

all, it is allowing them to grow too large. When the foliage and root structure of a day-lily becomes massive the plant cannot absorb nutrients needed to produce blooms. Underneath the soil line, overgrown roots be-



come tangled and "root bound." They run out of room to expand and locate new nutrient sources. There is usually no soil surrounding these roots that would hold both water and nutrients in place. New sources are needed. Even if you water and fertilize the root is basically bare and nonfunctional. To avoid this situation the lilies must be kept at a manageable size. The only way I know how to do that is to regularly dig up a large clump and divide them into smaller sections then transplant. Check "You Tube" for instructions on how to divide and transplant your lilies correctly. The process of dividing should be done every 3 to 4 years. Divided clumps should be 7" to 8" in size.

4. Daylilies are not huge feeders, but regular applications of fertilizer will create more blooms. The key is giving them just enough fertilizer. If daylilies get too much nutrition, they use the excess to grow more roots and leaves and not flowers. Fertilize in the early spring using a slow-release granular product that contains more nitrogen and phosphorus than potassium. Something like Miracle Gro Performance Organics All Purpose Plant Nutritional Granules (can be found on Amazaon.com) or something similar. To promote more blooms, you should dead head old blooms and seed heads including the supporting stems. The seed will waste energy when it builds seed pods that could be used to produce more blooms. Always be sure to remove old foliage and cover the remaining clump with 2 to 3 inches of mulch. Thanks for reading.

Bob Gallion

Retired Master Gardener, Pasco County Text me at **813-838-3668** if you have any questions.



THE EASTERN LUBBER GRASSHOPPER

WE APPRECIATE YOUR BUSINESS!



I learned something new this Spring. It's about the Eastern Lubber Grasshoppers and how destructive they are. I never knew about them before they started showing up in our gardens. Upon looking up information about them, I discovered how destructive they are and how they

can quickly decimate plants and how they contain

toxins that can make you sick if you touch them. So far over the last few weeks I've managed to destroy a



bunch of them. I water our gardens every day. After finding the first one and thankfully presuming it wouldn't be a good idea to touch it, I looked into it and realized I needed to keep a daily watch for them.

Ruth McGovern



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Teresa Hall, Treasurer teresa@southportspringshoa.com 317-789-7614



Desdie Eberman, Secretary desdie@southportspringshoa.com 912-401-9646



Lee Edwards, Social Events leee@southportspringshoa.com 863-207-2523



Charlene Maxwell, Entertainment/Special Events charlene@southportspringshoa.com 813-928-5476



JoAnn Fearick, Welcoming/Membership pjf2324@msn.com 813-335-7519



FMO Representative

Tim Carman timc522@aol.com 618-978-8564

HOURS OF OPERATION

•FRONT GATE: Daily 6am - 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

.COFFEE CAFE: Daily 7am to 10pm

LITTLE CLUBHOUSE: Daily 7am to 10pm

.PARKWAY TAVERN: See AD on Page 7 For Days and Hours of Operation

COMMUNITY CONTACTS

General Manager - Braxton "Sean" Rankin brankin@suncommunities.com

Ass't General Manager - Patricia Hall phall@suncommunities.com

Sales Coordinator - Marilyn Hein mhein@suncommunities.com

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DIVISIONAL AND REGIONAL CONTACTS

Regional Vice President - Phil Bernhauser pbernhauser@suncommunities.com

Divisional Vice President - Brandon George bgeorge@suncommiunities.com

CORPORATE CONTACTS

Sun Communities, Inc. 27777 Franklin Road Suite 200 Southfield, Michigan 48034

Gary Shiffman, Chief Executive Officer (CEO) gshiffman@suncommunities.com John B. McLaren, Chief Operating Officer (COO) imclaren@suncommunities.com



NEED TO RESERVE SPACE?

Main Clubhouse Ballroom & The Little Clubhouse: Please contact Barbara Holdridge, HOA President at 813-701-6789 or E-Mail her at barbara@southportspringshoa.com

Coffee Café: Please e-mail your request to the Community Office at **southportsprings@suncommunities.com**Note: Reservations can be made by groups of 4 or more one month prior to the planned event. Standing reservations are not available.



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MANAGER'S MINUTE



20 40 60 80 100 50 F 120



Independence Day

The Fourth of July-also known as Independence Day or July 4th-has been a federal holiday in the United States since 1941, but the tradition of Independence Day celebrations goes back to the 18th century and the American Revolution. On July 2nd, 1776, the Continental Congress voted in favor of independence, and two days later delegates from the 13 colonies adopted the Declaration of Independence, a historic document drafted by Thomas Jefferson. From 1776 to the present day, July 4th has been celebrated as the birth of American independence, with festivities ranging from fireworks, parades and concerts to more casual family gatherings and barbecues. The Fourth of July 2023 is on Tuesday, July 4, 2023. Happy Independence Day everyone!



The Heat Is On...

Overheating is common for those who seek more time in the sun. However, heat exhaustion is a serious concern. If left untreated, it could result in a life-threatening situation known as a Heat Stroke. Heat Strokes occur when your body temperature rises to 103 degrees F or higher. The condition is most commonly experienced during the summer months. This is due to humidity and the sun being high when we spend more time outdoors. Please make sure to keep yourselves hydrated while outside and taken frequent breaks while enjoying the outdoors this summer.

Quote of the Month:

"No one can make you feel inferior without your consent."

~Eleanor Roosevelt

Quick Reminders...

Welcome to July Everyone! Just want to take this moment to remind everyone of the following;

Trash pickup is on Monday's and Thursday's. Please make sure that you are not putting your trash out prior to the night before at 6pm. Items cannot be placed curbside for prolonged periods of time.

The dumpsters in maintenance are not for community use. These containers are for golf course maintenance and restaurant use only. No one should be using these for dumping household items. Anyone caught dumping in this area could be charged for the disposal fees to have items removed.

Drinks are not allowed to be in the pool. Please make sure that if you have drinks that they remain 6 feet away from water's edge of the pool and spas. This is in accordance with Florida health code for pools and spas.

There is no parking of any vehicles (golf carts included) on the grass. Please park in your driveway only.

<u>UPCOMING SOUTHPORT PROJECTS</u>

- REPAIR TO PAVERS AROUND MAIN CLUBHOUSE AND POOL AREA.
- PROTECTIVE NETTING INSTALLED ALONG TEE #10
- NEW VINYL FENCING AROUND LIFT STATIONS

Community Speed Limit is 15 MPH

Please observe posted limits for your safety and the safety of others.





Monthly rent is due on the 1st of each month.



SOUTHPORT'S POT LUCK **RECIPE OF THE MONTH** Barbara Perez's One-Dish Chicken & Rice Bake

Ingredients:

1 (10 3/4 oz) can of Campbell's Cream of Mushroom soup

1 cup water

3/4 cup uncooked white rice

1/4 tsp. paprika 1/4 tsp. black pepper

4 skinless, boneless

chicken breast halves



Instructions:

In a 2-quart, shallow baking dish mix soup, water, rice, paprika and pepper. Place chicken on rice mixture. Sprinkle with additional paprika and pepper. Cover and bake at 375 degrees for 45 minutes or until chicken is not longer pink and the rice is





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COCKTAIL HOUR

Dick Knoles, Resident Mixologist

French Kiss Cocktail



Ingredients:

2 oz. Vodka (Vanilla Vodka for a richer flavor)

1 1.2 oz. raspberry liqueur

1 oz. white chocolate liqueur

1/4 oz. heavy cream

Instructions:

Shake all ingredients with ice and strain into a martini glass. Garnish with a Hershey's Kiss or a Raspberry



Il est cing heures quelque part...





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LACE UP THOSE SNEAKERS AND HIT THE ROAD

To help improve your brain's health, lace up your sneakers and hit the road!



It appears there's a mountain of scientific evidence that shows walking outdoors is powerful medicine for your brain. Here's what the Science has to say about it.

Walking May Help Grow **New Brain Cells**

Moderately paced walks stimulate the release of a

protein called brain-derived neurotrophic factor (BDNF) that is key to the survival of existing brain neurons and the generation of new ones. There is clear evidence that aerobic forms of exercise (including walking) help facilitate the growth of new neurons.

Walking May Boost Your Creativity

Walking increases the flow of oxygen and nutrients to the brain which can open the gates to enhanced creativity. The brain uses about three times as much oxygen for healthy neuron function as muscles do and is extremely sensitive to decreases in oxygen levels. Creativity is a cognitive skill that is part of problem-solving. Studies show that the simple act of taking a short walk can help trigger ideas. A study conducted by Stanford University found that creative output increased by 60% when participants were walking (even on a treadmill).

Walking May Enhance Your Mood

When we walk, increased blood flow to the brain initiates a "cascade of changes" releasing a cocktail of "feel good"

neurotransmitters including serotonin, dopamine and endorphins. Studies show that more than 40% of American adults suffer a Vitamin D deficiency. Our bodies manufacture Vitamin D when exposed to sunlight furthering the production of serotonin, a hor-



mone benefiting memory and mood. Even on a cloudy day, exposure to natural light elevates the mood.

Walking May Reduce The Risk Of Cognitive Decline Studies show that participants who walked more than 4,000 steps a day had healthier brain tissue in the area

responsible for memory, learning and cognitive function than those who did not walk. The brain region called the "hippocampus" typically begins to shrink in late adulthood leading to not only impaired memory, by also an increased risk of dementia. Research has shown that aerobic exercises (including walking) increases the size of the hippocampus.

Walking May Decrease Brain-Damaging Stress

Repeated exposure to stressful situations impairs memory, attention and cognitive flexibility. Walking in nature has been shown to be particularly effective at reducing stress levels. The impact of being outdoors may have to do with "optic flow" - the perception that objects are moving past us as we walk which quiets the circuits responsible for stress. Studies show that self-generated optic flow by walking, running or cycling shifts the brain into a state of relaxation and reduces the levels of cortisol (elevated cortisol levels can damage cognition and contribute to Alzheimer's disease.

Taken from a May 2023 AARP Bulletin article written by Martha W. Murphy

IT'S THAT TIME OF YEAR AGAIN

When friends and relatives stop by for a few days on their way to the Magic Kingdom or Universal Studio or some other destination... and need to be reminded 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...

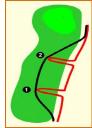
- No diving
- No running around or near the pool
- No iumping into the pool
- **PLEASE SHOWER** before

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.
- When leaving the pool area, **PLEASE** return tables and chairs to the proper place and return chaises 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.
- 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)





PLEASE! SCOOP THE POOP when you take Fido out for a stroll. That includes ALL open areas and

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

the RV Storage area as well

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

RULES ARE NOT MEANT TO BE BROKEN

Contrary to what a few folks think, rules are not meant to infringe on our rights or irritate us or make our lives difficult.

In fact, just the opposite if you think about it. Imagine living in a "free for all" community where people weren't asked to be kind and considerate to one another or to respect one another's property and rights. Truth of the matter is that you wouldn't. We need to keep in mind that when we exercise what we feel is our right, it



really isn't a right if it infringes on the rights and safety of others. Thank you for being mindful, kind and considerate.

DIAZ INSURANCE GROUP

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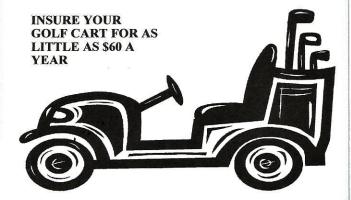
Why insure your manufactured home? Because it's an uncertain world, and a top quality insurance policy can give you peace of mind. It's a way to protect your home, belongings, your family and your lifestyle.

Most manufactured home insurance policies provide two basic kinds of coverage. But the amount and degree of coverage can vary dramatically from one policy to another. That's why it's so important to choose an agency that is familiar with insuring manufactured homes properly. Do your research. A professional agent can help you figure out the coverage and limits you need.

Home Value	Premium
\$70,000	\$635
\$80,000	\$688
\$90,000	\$738
\$100,000	\$790
\$125,000	\$919
\$150,000	\$1046

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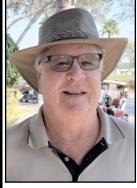


TRAVEL ONTO
FAIRWAYS
ONLY AT
90° FROM
CART PATHS
OR ROUGH

Golf Club

Dave Dundas, President





As we now are into the summer heat and humidity, I remind all to stay hydrated out on the course. Also, do not forget to check your battery water levels in your carts. We're coming into the time of year for major storms and please, if you hear thunder, get off of the course. A good idea to help stay cool on or off the course is a neck fan. Amazon has several around twenty to thirty bucks. One recommended by the experts and for sale on Amazon at 27.95 is..... Arctic Air Free-

dom Personal Air Cooler - Portable 3- Speed Neck Fan. It's a hands-free wearable design, lightweight, cordless

and rechargeable.

We had 43 golfers go on our travel league to The Groves in Land O Lakes last month. It was hot, but we were lucky to have a constant wind blowing during our rounds. We had eight closest to the pin winners and four Skins winners. Thanks to all that attended the event.

Thanks to Gerald Knierim and Tom Waterman for helping me run the event. I even saw many of the golfers who attended the golf outing dancing the night away at 3rd Thursday later that evening. Our next golf meeting will be in September.

Regards, **Dave**









 Dave Dundas
 813-599-9513

 Pat Quick
 607-760-7915

 Dar Lambert
 413-519-4903

 Ron Greene
 813-713-0784

 Patrick Fearick
 813-508-1739

 Ray Whitney
 920-212-5613

davedingo@aol.com pqrat51@aol.com Dlamb48963@aol.com mg4843@yahoo.com pjf2324@msn.com nrwhit@gmail.com

Did You Know That...

Modern-day golf was invented in 1457 in Scotland.

The first round of women's golf was played in 1811 in Musselburgh, Scotland.

The first golf balls were made of feathers wrapped in leather and were used until the mid 1800's. After that they were made of wood.

A score of 3 under par is called an "albatross" and a "condor" is a term given to a hole-in-one on a par 5 which is almost as rare as two hole-in-ones in a single game.





Southport Springs Residents Spring Tournaments 2022 - 2023

Monday:	7:00 am	Men Fun 18 holes Contact: Larry Britton 321-544-7718
	7:30 am	"Rat Pack" Men 18 Holes Contact Norm Vogel 716-713-7966
1	9:00 am	Ladies Monday Fun Day Contact: Barbara Pritchard
		W. S
Tuesday:	7:15 am	Men Blue Tees 18 holes Contact: Joe Finley 813-310-7256
	9:15 am	Men Fun 18 holes Contact Jim Jaggers 727-415-6524
Wednesday	7:00 am	Men Fun 18 holes Contact: Larry Britton 321-544-7718
	7:15 am	Men Quarters 18 holes Contact: Joe Finley 813-310-7256
	8:28 am	Lambert Ladies Fun 18 holes Contact: Darlene Lambert 413-519-4903
	9:45 am	Mixed Seniors Fun 9 holes Contact: Helen Greene 813-362-9928
*	5:30 pm	'Sundowners' Mixed Fun 9 holes Contact: Shawn Bernier 813-541-3127
		Lisa Schlabowske 847-651-6829
Thursday	7:15 am	Men Quarters 18 holes Contact: Joe Finley 813-310-7256
	8:30 am	'Ladies Swingers' 18 holes Contact: Barbara Holdridge 813-701-6789
		**
*	9:24 am	Men Fun 18 holes
Eviden	7.00	Contact Jim Jaggers 727-415-6524
Friday	7:00 am	Men Fun 18 holes Contact: Larry Britton 321-544-7718
	7:30 am	Men 18 holes Çontact: Dave Dundas 813-599-5913
	8:30 am	'Betty's Babes' Ladies 18 Contact: Betty Texter 716-574-6633
Saturday	8:30 am	Mixed Resident Scramble 18 holes Contact: Darlene Lambert 413-519-4903



Let's all welcome the following new residents who recently joined Our Southport Springs Family. "Welcome To Your New Home Folks"

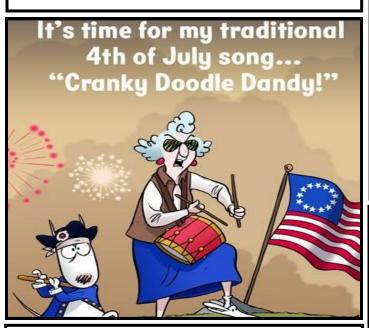
Bob Bass & Jeffrey Richman 3929 Russian Olive Lane

Shannon Kellv 4106 Russian Olive Lane

Karen Seeram 3937 Southport Springs Pkwy

Paul & Debi Westlorton 3932 Southport Springs Pkwy





WHAT'S IN A WORD? **WORD SCRAMBLE** (The Forest For The Trees)

KOA SCRAMOYE NIPE MEL **WOWILL** MGINOLAA **BIRHC** TUPLI **BUTTUTREN** CERDA HAS

ASNPE CRYHER **CODTOOTOWN CRBALEPAP CEEPR YLMERT CYESPSR OGODDWO**







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DID YOU WKNOW?



That the two youngest signers of The Declaration of Independence were Edward Rutledge (left) and Thomas Lynch, Jr. (right). Both were from South Carólina and both were 26 years old.





That the oldest individual to sign the Declaration of Independence was Benjamin Franklin. He was 70 years

That George Washington, who was 44 years old at the time, did not sign the Declaration of Independence. While the Continental Congress was assembled in Philadelphia, Washington and his forces were in New York.



That nine of the signers died before Independence was actually won in 1783. One of the nine was Button Gwinnett of Georgia who died in a duel and another one was Thomas Lynch, Jr. (one of the two youngest signers), drowned in a storm on his way to France.



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Time to...

July

July	1
July	3 3 3
July	3
July	3
July	4
July	4
July	5
July	5
July	7
July	7
July	7
July	8
July	8
July	8
July	9
July	9
July	10
July	11
July	12
July	13
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July	16
July	17
July	19
July	19
July	20
July	20
July	21
July	21
July	22
July	22
	July July July July July July July July

August

Vest, Marti	Aug	1
Gale, Chris	Aug	2
Grever, Marsha	Aug	3





Celebrate!

July	1
July	1
July	2
July	2
July	5
July	6
July	6
July	7
July	8
July	8
July	9
July	10
July	10
July	12
	July July July July July July July July

Allen, Johndro	July	13
Combs, Jim	July	13
Hrovosky, Bill	July	13
Chavez, Del	July	15
Reschke, Jared	July	16
Ossander, Ivan	July	18
Van Orman, Bob	July	18
Wheeler, Bob	July	18
Padilla, Paul	July	19
Vogel, Jerome	July	19
Markwardt, Ed	July	19
Gallenstein, Bill	July	20
Sterling, Mike	July	21
Stamiello, Mike	July	21
Simpson, Marshall	July	21
Bracken, Gary	July	24
Douglas, Joe	July	25
Silverstein, Ron	July	25
Rogan, Bob	July	26
Tate, Dave	July	26
Barrone, Leonard	July	28
Elliott, Ron	July	28
Benner, Elwood	July	28
Nous, Joe_	July	30
Morrison, Patrick	July	30
August		



Dumont, Roger	Aug	3
Johnson, Martin	Aug	3
Deaton, Chris	Aug	3



Note: Please contact
Desdie Eberman at 912-401-9646
or E-mail her at
desdie@southportspringshoa.com
with any corrections
or omissions.





July		
Milby, Dale & Dawn	July	1
Wampler, Wendell, & Sue	July	1
King, Charles & Carolyn	July	4
Wnukiewicz, Stan & Karin	July	11
Troxel, Keith & Holly	July	12
Morris, Bill & Ginny	July	14
Tate, Dave & Bonnie	July	14
Conover, Harold & Salli	July	14
Combs, Jim & Bobbie	July	17
Reitenbach, Erwin & Lorraine	July	18
Schutt, Bob & Connie	July	20
Snow, Cliff & Jan	July	20
O'Donnell, Ray & Trudy	July	23
Collins, Mel & Irm	July	26
Serwatke, Bob & Carol	July	27
Holdridge, Everett & Barbara	July	28







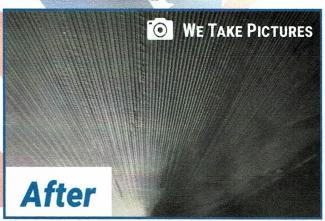




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ONEBLOOD (cont. from pg 3)

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DEADLINE: Deadline for submitting articles, pictures, "thank you" notes etc.is the 19th of the month. Anything received after the 19th will appear in the following month's issue. **DISCLAIMER:** When submitting an article or articles for publica-

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.

EDITORIAL Lori Pettit, Ass't Editor





in·de·pend·ence noun: independence

The fact or state of being independent.: "Argentina gained independence from Spain in 1816" "I've always valued my independence". synonyms: self-government, self-rule, home rule, self-legislation, self-determination, sovereignty, autonomy, nonalignment, freedom, liberty, autarky, self-sufficiency, self-reliance, self-support, self-sustenance, self-standing antonyms:

dependence, subservience

I have many happy memories of Fourth of July celebrations. When I was a kid, my father worked at a manufacturing facility in the industrial area downtown. The City of

Wheeling held the fireworks show at a venue near the factory. Our family would go to the factory and set up lawn chairs on the roof. It was an ideal location to watch the show. We had the entire rooftop to ourselves. The view was unobstructed and the



fireworks were spectacular. It was a favorite viewing spot

for many years.

I've tried to recall the most memorable celebrations. I once visited friends who lived near Milwaukee, Wisconsin. My friends were new to Milwaukee but were experts at moving across the country and finding community anywhere they landed. We were invited to a lake house party to celebrate the 4th. We had a cookout, played board games, told stories and prepared the boat for the evening fireworks display on the lake. It was magnificent to be out on the water at night. Watching the fireworks as they were reflected in the lake surface was an unexpected treat.

What I also recall about that visit was the paranoia of the homeowners. You see, life on the lake has its perks and perils. The lake facing side of the home had very large floor to ceiling picture windows. A passing boat could look right into the living room. My wife and I were standing at the windows looking out at the gorgeous view. She moved close to me and we embraced, rejoicing in the beauty of the moment and the time spent with friends. The panicked homeowners rushed to us and pulled us away from the window. We were perplexed, wondering what in the world was wrong.

The homeowner explained that although their neighbors knew that this home was owned by a lesbian couple, they did not "flaunt" their relationship by publicly displaying affection. I was stunned. We were indoors, in the living room, but in front of a window. They lived with the fear that someone would see this display of affection and mistreat them in some way. Or worse, they would be physically harmed or the home vandalized. The year was 2006. I assumed a freedom that did not exist in this home.

Celebrating the independence of our great country remains important to me. I wish that freedom was really and truly available to all. Living in fear within one's own home or community isn't freedom. Being subjected to laws that restrict and withhold rights from some also isn't freedom. Freedom and independence are inseparable, bound together by words written hundreds of years ago. Our understanding of ourselves and our nation has to evolve in order for all citizens to truly experience freedom and independence.

I hope that as we gather to celebrate this year, we will reconsider the value of true independence. And also consider the cost to others when we decide to withhold it.

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Bunco/Farkle Agnes Gallagher 813-484-2393 gallagirl2005@yahoo.com



SEQUENCE Lori Pettit 813-531-2350 Ipettit547@gmail.com

Tennis Nancy Koontz 330-289-4246 enkoontz@aol.com

Shuffleboard Sandy Fenlock **813-713-0287** sandynrich1@yahoo.com

Horseshoes Joe Seubert 727-543-4621 joeseubert@gmail.com Mary May 770-630-7065 autumn629@aol.com

Pickleball (suspended for the summer)

Joe Bauman 765-307-8610 joeb624@outlook.com Lynn Angel 813-382-0906 clangel1@verizon.net

Cornhole Mary May 770-630-7065 autumn629@aol.com

Ladies Power Walk Val Lebo 610-334-2690 periwinkle41@aol.com

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

Line Dancing

Baby Steppers (suspended for the summer)

Mike Quartucci 267-679-9750 mikeqinflorida@yahoo.com

Intermediate (suspended June & July)

rdmcnatt57@gmail.com

Advanced (suspended June & July)

Golf Dave Dundas 813-599-9513 davedingo@aol.com

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Veteran's Committee **Bob Gallion** 813-838-3668 rcgallion@gmail.com

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Genealogy (suspended for the summer)

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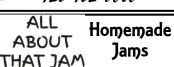


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