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PARADISE ISLAND

• P L A N E T •

E

May • 2025 **Issue 3** ☐ **49th Year**

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Paradise Island

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Director	Bill Vaughan.....	813-493-4660
Director	Jim Rich	304-582-8593
Director	Jim Gibson.....	440-840-3739

CO-OP Emails:

pimanager@paradiseislandlargo.com

piadmin@paradiseislandlargo.com

Media Editor.... Harold Noeller .. 727-744-3181

HOA OFFICERS

President.....	Kenneth Hopkins.....	727.303.3417
Vice-President.....	Tom Billings	570-793-5238
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Secretary	Vicky Ellis	727.831.2665
Director	Michelle Griffith.....	603.438.5382
Director	Walter Peifer.....	727-432-2190
Director	Ray LaBelle.....	678-462-5339

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Secretary	Betty Simpson	727-409-8669
Co-Op Directors:		
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.....	Brenda Struble	727-533-5672
.....	Nancy Jonas	727-221-9613
.....	Christine Sheetz	301-466-7027
.....	Kim Gibson.....	440-840-4093
Liaison:	Ken Jonas.....	727-221-9613

V President...	Paulette Rich.....	304-582-2285
Treasurer	Jim White	727-204-8800
HOA Directors:		
.....	Claudia Gisvold	612-386-3515
.....	Cindy Maciejewski	716-228-6745
.....	Carlene Hackett.....	734-250-0373
.....	Ruth Billings.....	570-606-6362
.....	Jana Wolf	317-432-8519
Liaison:	Ken Hopkins	727-303-3417

ACTIVITY CHAIRPERSONS

Annual Craft Fair	Nadine Peters 402-750-3083	Horseshoes	Stacy Pupecki 860-919-7325
Bible Study/Prayer Fellowship	Serena Johnson 727-530-5905	Ladies Holiday Luncheon	Betty Simpson 727-409-8669
Bingo	Jane Reitz 727.278.7405 Linda Carver 330.990.5880	Ladies Luncheon - Monthly	Beth Pieckiel 214-538-7094
Blood Drive.....	Chris Sheetz 301-466-7027	Library.....	Ruth Billings 570-606-6362
Bocce Ball.....	Paul Snellenberger 815-592-2829	Mah Jongg.....	Pam Chance 305-587-9992
Book Club:	Ruth Billings 570-606-6362	Memoriam/Flags	Denise Donohue 817-793-4077
Bowling -	Claudia Gisvold 612-386-3515	Men's Club.....	Ken Jonas 727-221-9613
.....	Nancy Jonas 727-221-9613	Mid-West Lunch Bunch	Sharon Oglesbee 937-869-4848
Bulletin Board.....	Ruth Billings 570-606-6362	Monthly Media Delivery.....	Dave & Elaine DeYong 727-531-8426
Bunko.....	Patti Hess 727-412-1900	Neighborhood Watch Leader:	Beth Winquist .. 574-876-6668
Card Bingo	Bonnie Mason 520-240-1931	Block 1 Nancy LaBelle - 404-932-3248 Block 2 Jim Rich III 304-582-8593	
Clubhouse Decorating.....	Claudia Gisvold 612-386-3515	Block 3 Skip Simpson .. 727-480-9447 Block 4 Barbara Goetschius 727-455-6512	
Clubhouse Phone	727-216-6655	LPD Crime Prevention.....	Officer Keith Bowling 727-587-6730
Clubhouse Reservations Calendar	Co-Op Office 727-535-2172	New England Plus Group.....	Gail White 412-561-5943
Community Holiday Party.....	Men's Club	Pavilion Reservations.....	Kerry Atwood 315-725-9565
..... Social Committee	Nadine Peters 402-750-3083	PI Caring Hearts.....	Rose 727-424-4668/Jane 727-278-7405
Craft Club - Weekly	Wendy Milledge 443-553-0426	Pinochle/Poker	Joe Burley 727-585-5332
Cribbage.....	'Leave Message' Mabel Slovonsky 727-600-8240	Pool	Robert Ammann 727-524-4919
Dances	Judi Mitchell 716-258-9247	Puzzles and DVD	Nelly Arguetta 630-818-6221
Darts	Larry Kraus 727-560-2996	Quitting Club	Wanda Dunn 231-250-3597
Euchre	Beverly Mortimer 727-543-4571	Shuffle Board	Gary MacDonald 727-474-6420
Exercise 8:45 am.....	Bev MacMillan 727-412-8958	Special Events.....	Nadine Peters 402-750-3083
.... Chair Yoga	Linda Carver 330-990-5880	Summer Pool Parties.....	Allen & Sandy Sumey 615-275-5460
.... Line Dancing	Barbara Steinmetz 570-780-6848	Sunshine Outreach	Wilma Largent 260-319-1296
Flagman.....	Ray Olley 484-467-9853		Gloria Garofola 727-463-7307
Flea Market	Tiffani Neu 713-922-9025 Liz Neumann 727-242-4597	Talent Show.....	Ken Hopkins 727-303-3417
FMO	Ray LaBelle 678-462-5339	Thanksgiving Dinner	Michelle Griffith 603-438-5382
Food Collection.....	Bonnie Melke 727-240-4162		Nadine Peters 402-750-3083
Golden Anniversary	Brenda Struble 727-533-5672	Water Aerobics.....	OPEN
Golf Cart Parades	Walt Peifer 727-432-2190	Welcome Team.....	Nancy Jonas 727-221-9613 Paulette Rich 304-582-2285
Golf, (Men)	Bob Pultorak 315-796-2153	Wood Carving	Jim McCann 727-667-0015
HOA Membership.....	Tim Dailey 717-443-3500		

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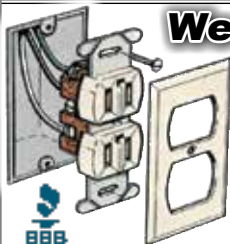


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Deacon - Shawn Johnson

Vice President - Jim Sayre
Treasurer - Skip Simpson
Associate Treasurer - Peg Sayre
Deaconess -
Deaconess - Betty Simpson

Church In The Park Outreach

Bible Study - Thursdays 9:30 AM - Pastor Serena Johnson 727 530-5905
Bible Study - Saturdays 9:30 AM led by Skip Simpson 727 480-9447
Choir Practice - Thursdays 10:30 AM. Music Director Jenny Caldarelo 678 633-0947
Communion - Skip & Betty Simpson - 727 409-8669 (2nd Sunday of the month)
Bible Study - Friday at 10:30 am - Shawn Johnson
All Outreach held in Clubhouse

Sunshine Committees

Greeting Cards (sending) Barbara Neirinck (727) 530-4758
New People Contact - Beverly Spikes (727) 430-2824
Prayer Bears - Wilma Largent (260) 316-1296



Paradise Island Media

May 2025

Co-op Updates

By Al Noeller, President PI Co-Op

As we head into, what we hope will be, a Beautiful Florida Summer, we wish everyone a safe and very enjoyable summer, where ever you decide to spend it.

We hope everyone has been able to get their home repairs completed and their home safety ready as we move into the rainy season and the potential for more severe storms. Please prepare before leaving for the summer.

The pool and hot tub repairs are now complete and we want to thank you for your patience and understanding of the disruption to the pool availability, so we could get the repairs safely completed. I understand that the Social Committee has scheduled pool parties this summer and the PISC new shelter, by the Pavilion, is expected to be installed soon. Remember the Pavilion area can be reserved by residents, thru the office, for your personal functions like birthdays, anniversaries, or other outside family events, in the same way you reserve the clubhouse rooms for special events.

We continue to monitor the traffic light installation to support our residents during the construction phases. Duke Energy relocated and raised power lines last month in preparation of getting the signal light poles installed. The project is still scheduled to be completed by

November, hopefully. We will continue to use the One Call system to notify residents if the back gate is needed.

The Co-Op board of directors always takes into account, what is in the best interest of our leaseholders and shareholders and the future of the Paradise Island Experience. Paradise Island is different and we like it that way. Our goal for all residents includes a long future of Safety, Security, and Enjoyment at our Beautiful well maintained Community and all that at an Affordable Rate. We have suggestion boxes, located at the clubhouse and office, so if you have any ideas on how we can make life at Paradise Island better, let us know.

Duke Energy has been doing some repairs and upgrades to our infrastructure system, and we appreciate the service and support. I want you to know that our maintenance team is doing preventative maintenance and always looking for signs of any needed repairs or upgrades. We don't normally go into individual back yards, so if you see something that concerns you and may need service, please contact the office with a maintenance workorder and someone will review the situation.

The Co-Op board is working closely with and we all should thank the PISC, the HOA and the Church in the Park for their continued support and giving back to our community. They give us an abundant amount of quality entertainment and gaming options. Thank You to all the volunteers that makes Paradise Island special.

Have a Safe and Enjoyable Summer!

HOA UPDATE

By Ken Hopkins

Easter is now behind us, as we now celebrate our moms! Happy Mother's Day! Many of our friends and neighbors have headed north and we wish them safe travels. There will still be activities to keep us "perms" busy for the summer, so join in if you can.

We held our quarterly residents meeting on April 2, and over 70 people heard about Hurricane Preparation and staying safe. Also a few words about securing your home even if only going away for a vacation. There was also some good information provided by Bonnie from FMO about the need for and benefits of supporting the organization. Our next residents meeting will be on July 2, at the clubhouse at 7:00PM and we are planning a very informational meeting that you will definitely enjoy. Put it on your calendar now!!

As you most likely know, Sandy Sumey has left the Board, and we wish her the best. Walt Pfeifer has joined us, and we look forward to his contribution,

The fresh water shutoff identification program is now underway and you will soon be contacted about it., Also, if you have an interest in assisting, please let me know.

That's all the news at this juncture, so here's wishing you a pleasant May. Be well.



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right click with mouse to download to your computer**

HOA Home of the Month

By Vicky Ellis

The HOA is pleased to announce the Home of the Month winners for the Month of April: Carol & Jim Schultz at 244 Winward Isle. They received a \$50 VISA gift card and a sign for display in their front yard. Their efforts to make our community beautiful are appreciated.

Did You Know?

By Co-Op BOD

All trees, shrubs and plantings, located at a residence unit or planted by the resident at their unit are the responsibility of the unit owner/resident. No trees of any type shall be removed or sold to anyone without prior management approval, and the resident must obtain the necessary city permits as required by law. It is also the residence's sole responsibility to maintain all trees, shrubs and plantings. It is necessary to obtain prior authorization to plant any trees in the yard, to assure that there are no underground pipes, wires, etc. that may be damaged during digging. The only area within your lot that you may plant without requiring authorization is the front block-built planter area. Be safe and take proper channels!



Neighborhood Watch

By Nancy LaBelle

Everyone is always welcome to attend our meetings on the 3rd Tuesday of every month at 10AM. Officer Keith Bowling, our Largo PD liaison is usually there to discuss concerns and plan upcoming events. Meet your Block captains.



Lock boxes are still available but there is a wait list. A Security Assessment of your home has to be done in order for a lock box to be installed. It is not long but you need to be home and the Officer checks locks, doors, outside lights etc. They make suggestions for your safety. It's not a pass or fail test. The box is installed in a location of your choice and holds a key to your home, accessible by your personal code. Your code goes in a database for emergencies. This issued if EMS needs access and your door is locked or use it if you lock yourself out.

Securityassessments@largo.com

We are still working on the SMOKE ALARMS with the Red Cross. More info when available.

Continue to light carports.

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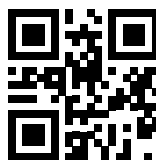
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Paradise Island Social Committee Calendar 2025/2026

Questions contact Nadine Peters 402-750-3083

Tickets for all events are sold on Monday nights from 6-7 pm

Date	Event	Cost	Addtl. Info	Time
May 3	Game Night	\$5	Minute to Win It	7-10 pm
May 17	Dance	TBA	Boomer Band	7-10 pm
May 25	Golf Cart Parade	NC	Lineup @ Clubhouse	5:30 pm Leave at 6:15 p
Jun 14	Pool Party	\$5	A Side Dish to Share @ Pavilion.	4:30 - 6 pm
Jun 21	Dance	\$10	Carl Motyka - Singer	7 - 10 pm
July 6	Golf Cart Parade	NC	Lineup @ Clubhouse	5:30 p Leave at 6:15 p
July 19	Pool Party	\$5 &	A Side Dish to Share @ Pavilion.	4:30 - 6 pm
Aug 9	Pool Party	\$5 &	A Side Dish to Share @ Pavilion.	4:30 - 6 pm
Oct 4	Resident Flea Market	TBD	Clubhouse	8 am - 3 pm
Oct 25	Halloween Dance	\$12	Mikki Neal & The Real Deal	7 - 10 pm
Oct 26	Golf Cart Parade	NC	Lineup @ Clubhouse	5:30 p Leave at 6:15 p
Nov 1	Annual Craft Fair & Bake Sale		NC Clubhouse	9 am - 2 pm
Nov 15	Men's Club Event	\$10	Leesah Styles Show - Singer Entertainer	6 - 10 pm
Nov 27	Community Thanksgiving Dinner		NC Clubhouse	4 - 7 pm
Dec 6	Ladies Holiday Luncheon	TBD	Clubhouse	11 am - 2 pm
Dec 13	Community Christmas Dinner/Dance Entertainment - Jacob Hunt			
		TBD Clubhouse		5 - 10 pm
Dec 14	Golf Cart Parade NC		Lineup @ Clubhouse	5:30 p Leave at 6:15 p
Dec 31	New Year's Eve Dance	\$20	Soul Fish	8 pm - 12:15 am

SAVE THE DATE 2026 EVENTS

Jan 17	Men's Club Event	TBD	Mark Minor - Ventriloquist	6 - 10 pm
Feb 14	Dance	\$12	Suncoast Band	6 - 10 pm
Feb 21	Men's Club Event	TBD	Jeff Gordon - Elvis Impersonator	6 - 10 pm
Mar 1	Golden Anniversary	NC	Clubhouse	1 - 3 pm
Mar 15	Men's Club Event	TBD	Dave & Daphne - Singer & Musician	6 - 10 pm
Mar 21	Dance	TBD	Shakes Society Band	7 - 10 pm
Mar 28	Spring Flea Market	TBD	Clubhouse	8 am - 3 pm
Apr 4	Men's Club Event	TBD	Ron Mitchell - Singer	6 - 10 pm
Apr 11	Dance	\$12	Tangent Band	7 - 10 pm
Oct 31	Halloween Dance	\$12	Suncoast Band	7 - 10 pm

may

Walk Away the Pounds

By Bev MacMillan

Well, this season has come to a close. I want to thank all who have spent the last 10 years exercising with me. We have now sold our house and are heading back to Canada. Time for another adventure. The Social Club will be looking for someone to take over this class for next season Monday, Wednesday and Friday mornings. If you are interested, please contact Nadine. Thanks again for a wonderful 10 years of walking away the pounds.

SHUFFLEBOARD

By Gary MacDonald

I'd like to thank all our players who came out Tuesday and Thursday mornings contributing to a very successful season. Our courts were filled every week with an amazing, enthusiastic group. Although the winter organized Shuffleboard has ended and doesn't resume until late November, just reminder that our Shuffleboard courts are available all year for residents. The storage shed at the courts is locked outside of organized play. Call Gary at 727 474 6420 for key access should you wish to play. Further details will follow in October's newsletter with November's start date. Have a great summer and see you in November!



Summer Pool Parties

By Allen Sumey

Greetings Paradise Island! It's almost summer pool party time here in the park. We have three events planned and we want to see you there. Our first event will be Saturday, June 14. July 19 and August 9 will be the other dates. – Mark your calendars now and watch for more details in the June monthly media.

Paradise Island Annual Craft Fair

By Nadine Peters – Annual Craft Fair Committee

The Paradise Island Annual Craft Fair will be held Saturday November 1, 2025 from 9 am to 3 pm at the PI Clubhouse. The Fair is sponsored by the Paradise Island Social Committee. If you are new to Paradise Island Community and would like to participate as a vendor this year, email me to receive a contract and vendor guidelines, nadine5106@gmail.com with your contact information and lot number. This Craft Fair is for Homemade Craft Items Only. If you are a past vendor, information will be emailed to you June 1st. Past vendors have first opportunity to reserve space(s) until July 1st, after that it is opened up to the public. Questions contact Nadine @ 402-750-3083, call or text, email: nadine5106@gmail.com.





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- MAY 17, SAT. - FISHERMAN'S VILLAGE - Day of Celtic Music...\$69
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Horseshoes

By Stacy Pupecki

Organized horseshoe season is over for the summer. The horseshoe courts are available to all residents throughout the year for play or practice. The horseshoes are locked up outside of organized play. Please contact Stacy at 860-919-7325 for access to the horseshoes or for more information.

Ladies Monthly Luncheon

By Beth Pieckiel



Time is flying by this year; it's already May and our northern neighbors and friends have are gone to their summer homes. We will be kicking off the unofficial start of our summer Monthly Ladies Luncheon on Tuesday, May 27th, 2025 at 11:30 am. I, Beth Pieckiel will be hosting this month's luncheon and we will be going to:

PJ's Oyster Bar
415 2nd Street
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(727) 596 - 5898

As always, the sign up sheet will be on the bulletin board in our clubhouse. We hope that as we go through summer more of are full time ladies residing here in Paradise Island will come out and join for a fun afternoon. If you do sign up for this luncheon and then find you are unable to attend, PLEASE scratch your name off of the list. This is so your hostess can give the restaurant of her choice an accurate headcount to set us up for service.

Any questions regarding this luncheon please contact either myself, Beth Pieckiel at (214) 538 - 7094 or Kim Gibson at (440) 840 - 4093. We look forward to seeing any all of the ladies of PI who want to join us.

New England Plus

By Gail White

The New England + Dinner group will hold its May 7 meeting at 4 p.m. at the Outback Steakhouse, 3690 East Bay Drive. Please note that the time is once again 4 p.m.

All Paradise Island residents are welcome.

If you need a special reason to come, keep in mind that May 7 is National Cosmopolitan Day. (Cinco de Mayo will be over, so have a Cosmo!)

There is a Facebook group page called New England + Dinner that can be used to sign up. Or you can use the signup sheet in the clubhouse. Questions? Please contact dinner coordinators Gail White (412-561-5943) or Maureen Ronney (248-835-8127).

Thanks to everyone for a magnificent April dinner!

Men's Club

By Ken Jonas

Another season of very successful shows has wrapped up and we want to thank everyone who attended our shows, as well as all those who helped with making these fun events possible. Now, here is the schedule of great shows we have lined up for your enjoyment during the 2025-26 season-

November 15, 2025 Leesah Styles, high energy entertainer / vocalist

December 13, 2025 Jacob Hunt, dance music / Christmas dinner dance.

January 17, 2026 Mark Minor, ventriloquist / entertainer

February 21, 2026 Jeff Gordon, Elvis Impersonator

March 15, 2026 Dave and Daphne, musical duo from Nashville

April 4, 2026 The Soft Sounds of Ron Mitchell

Save the dates and we hope everyone has a great summer! Our next Men's Club Meeting will not be until October 7, 2025.

Bowling

By Claudia Gisvold

Another fun season of bowling has come to an end! Sign-up sheet for the fall season in the clubhouse. Need regular and subs. A great way to meet new people in the community.

The standings for the 2024/2025 season are

1st place.	Alley gators
Tie 2nd place.	Geckos
Tie 2nd place.	Alley. Oops
4th place.	Golden ponds
5th place.	Alley cats
6th place.	Nine pins
7th place.	Fearless

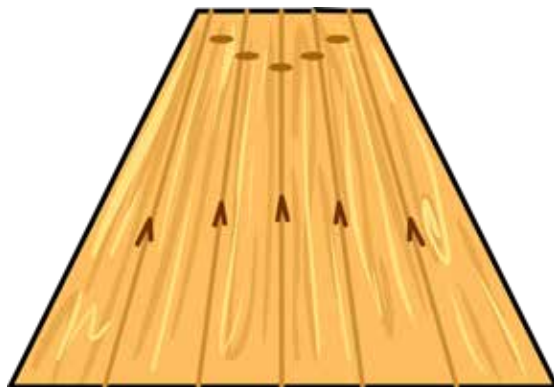
High handicap game

Men.	Women
1st. Bob Pultorak.	Brenda beaudat
2nd. Jay Mulholland.	Joanne johns

High handicap series

Men.	Women
1st. Ken Jonas.	Chris Wilson
2nd. John Wilhelm.	Joy Mulholland

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The Sunshine Committee

By Gloria & Wilma



Paradise Island Sunshine Committee is reaching out to all residents to please contact us if you are aware of a resident who is in need of some cheer regarding an illness or uplifting support for a resident's passing. We love and appreciate our community and our neighbors. Please text or call Wilma Largent for Bereavement Cards 260 316-1296 or Gloria Garafola for Get Well Cards 727 463-7307... A little sunshine can go a long way!!!

Celebration of Life

By Serena Johnson

You are cordially Invited to attend a Celebration of Life for Pastor Bill Ogburn on Sunday May 4th, 2025 at 9:30 AM in the Clubhouse hosted by Paradise Island Church in the Park. Pastor Bill was our former Pastor and was quite active in this Community for many years.

Paradise Island Church in the Park

By Pastor Serena Johnson



Greetings!

The Month of May is very special as we celebrate Mother's Day on the 18th. What a wonderful time to reflect on the good things that have happened in our lives. If it wasn't for your mom, you would not be here. We also come to Memorial Day on the 26th when we celebrate the lives of those who have gone before us and of the significance they have had in our lives. We need to be truly thankful to all,

I Thank God for all He has brought us through and what He continues to do in our lives.

Everyone is cordially invited to join us on Sunday mornings at 9:30 AM in the Clubhouse. We are a non-denominational church, we believe the Bible is the inspired Word of God and we welcome all, and look forward to meeting you. Come feel the love of God as we worship the Lord together. Pastor Skip Simpson is our new Associate Pastor and will minister at least one Sunday each month. We look forward to his message.

If you are unable to come to a service you can view it on YouTube under "P I Church in the Park."

You are welcome to attend our Bible Study on Thursday mornings in the Clubhouse at 9:30AM led by Pastor Serena, After Bible Study on Thursdays we have Choir Practice from 10:30 to 11:30 AM led by Jenny Caldarello. Bible Study on Fridays at 10:30 AM led by Shawn Johnson, Room 3 Clubhouse. Saturdays at 9:30 AM in the Clubhouse is a Bible Study led by Skip Simpson. Come, join in, there is always room for YOU.

If you know of someone who needs prayer and you would like to add to or take off our prayer list, please contact Pat Murphy by email: pamurphy51@gmail.com, with pertinent information.

continued on page 26

Did You Know?

Cinco de Mayo commemorates Mexico's victory over France at the Battle of Puebla on May 5, 1862?

The last week of May is library and information week? It celebrates libraries and information professionals.

May is named after Maia, the Greek goddess of spring and growth?



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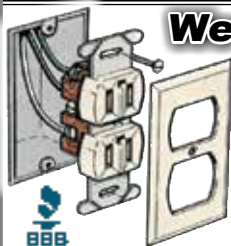
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Sunday	Monday	Tuesday
KEY F – Fireplace Room M – Main Room B – Fireplace & Main Room K – Kitchen R3 – Meeting Room FR – Front Room @ Entrance PAV – Pavilion Events subject to change		
9:30am - *Church-B 4 1pm - *Card Bingo-F 4pm - Blue Grass Jam - F	9am - *Water Aerobics 5 10am - *Quilt Club-F 1pm - *8 Ball Pool 1pm - Chair Yoga - M 3pm - *Pinochle-F 6pm - Event Ticket Sales-M 6:30pm - Dart League - F Cinco De Mayo	9am - *Wa 12:30pm - 12:30pm - 6pm - *Bu 6pm - *Po 6:30pm - *
9:30am - *Church-B 11 1pm - *Card Bingo-F 4pm - Blue Grass Jam - F Mother's Day	9am - *Water Aerobics 12 10am - *Book Club-F 1pm - *8 Ball Pool 1pm - Chair Yoga - M 3pm - *Pinochle-F 6pm - Event Ticket Sales-M 6:30pm - Dart League - F	9am - *Wa 12:30pm - 12:30pm - 6pm - *Bu 6pm - *Po 6:30pm - *
9:30am - *Church-B 18 1pm - *Card Bingo-F 1pm - Private Party - F	9am - *Water Aerobics 19 10am - *Quilt Club-F 1pm - *8 Ball Pool 1pm - Chair Yoga - M 3pm - *Pinochle-F 6pm - Event Ticket Sales-M 6:30pm - Dart League - F	9am - *Wa 10am - Ne Meeting - 12:30pm - 12:30pm - 4pm - HO 6pm - *Bu 6pm - *Po 6:30pm - *
9:30am - *Church-B 25 1pm - *Card Bingo-F 4pm - Blue Grass Jam - F 5pm - Golf Cart Parade	NO TRASH PICKUP OFFICE CLOSED 9am - *Water Aerobics 1pm - *8 Ball Pool 1pm - Chair Yoga - M 3pm - *Pinochle-F 6pm - Event Ticket Sales-M 6:30pm - Dart League - F Memorial Day	TRASH P 9am - *Wa 11:30am - 12:30pm - 12:30pm - 6pm - *Bu 6pm - *Po 6:30pm - *

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		1 9am - *Water Aerobics 9:30am - *Bible Study-F 9:30am - *Bookmobile 10:30am - *Choir Practice-F 4pm - *Kitchen Open 4-6 pm -K 6pm - *BINGO-B National Day of Prayer	2 9am - *Water Aerobics 10:30am - *Prayer Meeting-R3 1pm - Chair Yoga - M	3 9 am SETUP FOR EVENING EVENT-M 9:30am - *Bible Study - F 10am - Reserve Tables - M 1pm - Blue Grass Jam - F 7pm - Game Night - M
6 ter Aerobics *Mah Jongg-M *Poker- FR nko-M ol - Pill Pool Euchre-F	7 8am - Wood Carving - M North End 9am - *Water Aerobics 1pm - Chair Yoga - M 1pm - Craft Club-F 4pm - New England Plus Dinner	8 9am - *Water Aerobics 9:30am - *Bible Study-F 10:30am - *Choir Practice-F 4pm - *Kitchen Open 4-6 pm -K 6pm - *BINGO-B	9 9am - *Water Aerobics 10:30am - *Prayer Meeting-R3 1pm - Chair Yoga - M	10 9:30am - *Bible Study - F 11:30am - Midwest Lunch 1pm - Blue Grass Jam - F 1pm - Bocce Ball
13 ter Aerobics *Mah Jongg-M *Poker- FR nko-M ol - Pill Pool Euchre-F	14 8am - Wood Carving - M North End 9am - *Water Aerobics 1pm - Chair Yoga - M 1pm - Craft Club-F	15 9am - *Water Aerobics 9:30am - *Bible Study-F 9:30am - *Bookmobile 10:30am - *Choir Practice-F 4pm - *Kitchen Open 4-6 pm -K 6pm - *BINGO-B	16 9am - *Water Aerobics 10:30am - *Prayer Meeting-R3 1pm - Chair Yoga - M	17 9 am SETUP Dance-B 9:30am - *Bible Study - F 10am - Reserve Tables - M 11am - Private Party - F 7pm - DANCE - B
20 ter Aerobics ighbor Watch F *Mah Jongg-M *Poker- FR A BOD Meeting-F nko-M ol - Pill Pool Euchre-F	21 8am - Wood Carving - M North End 9am - *Water Aerobics 1pm - Chair Yoga - M 1pm - Craft Club-F	22 9am - *Water Aerobics 9:30am - *Bible Study-F 10:30am - *Choir Practice-F 4pm - *Kitchen Open 4-6 pm -K 6pm - *BINGO-B	23 9am - *Water Aerobics 10:30am - *Prayer Meeting-R3 1pm - Chair Yoga - M	24 9:30am - *Bible Study - F 1pm - Blue Grass Jam - F
27 CKUP ter Aerobics Ladies Luncheon *Mah Jongg-M *Poker- FR nko-M ol - Pill Pool Euchre-F	28 8am - Wood Carving - M North End 9am - *Water Aerobics 1pm - Chair Yoga - M 1pm - Craft Club-F 5pm - Clubhouse Closed 6pm - Co-op BOD Meeting-B	29 9am - *Water Aerobics 9:30am - *Bible Study-F 9:30am - *Bookmobile 10:30am - *Choir Practice-F 4pm - *Kitchen Open 4-6 pm -K 6pm - *BINGO-B Ascension Day	30 9am - *Water Aerobics 10:30am - *Prayer Meeting-R3 1pm - Chair Yoga - M	31 9:30am - *Bible Study - F 1pm - Blue Grass Jam - F

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If you know of someone in the Park who has an urgent need, please let us know. All requests are confidential. We would like to help if we can. Please call one of the numbers below and we will look into what we can do to help,

Do you have need of prayer or would like a visit, please do not hesitate to contact: Pastor Serena Johnson (727)530-5905 or Pastor Skip Simpson (727) 480-9447 If no answer please leave a message and you will be called back asap.

Prayer does not change God, but it changes him who prays. Soren Kierkegaard

Paradise Island Facebook Group

By HOA Media Committee



The Facebook group, Paradise Island Largo, is an exclusive group for ALL Paradise Island residents for the sole purpose of keeping all residents informed of community events, committee happenings, meeting schedules, and contact information for your community leaders - anything that is deemed to be newsworthy and informative to assist you as you live the Paradise life!

All postings will be screened and approved by the PI Largo group administrator(s). The commenting option will be turned off for each posting. Posting will inform you as to who to contact if you have questions or concerns.

This group is purely for informational purposes

You may sign up by following these steps:

1. *On your Facebook page search for: Paradise Island Largo*
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3. *Answer all of the questions – DO NOT CLICK SUBMIT UNTIL YOU HAVE ANSWERED ALL THE QUESTIONS AND YOU AGREE TO THE RULES.*
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6. *If you are having trouble joining contact: Cindy at 727-248-7146 or dclord80@hotmail.com*

Nadine at 402-750-3083 or nadine5106@gmail.com

that are archived for you to be able to reference previous posts on the page. They are organized by categories for easy access.

Updated: April 8, 2025 Be sure to take a look at the GUIDE TAB at the top of the page!! This is where you can see various postings

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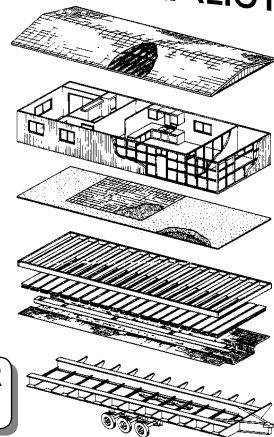
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Editor's Corner

By Harold Noeller

- For the June 2025 edition, articles are due by May 15, 2025 as are the dates you might want on the calendar for June 2025 events, meetings or dinners.
- *If your name, Lot number, birthday or anniversary is incorrect, e-mail me at the media email address and it will be corrected.*
- Please send all articles to: (monthly.media@paradiseislandlargo.com)
- If your phone number or address is incorrect in the Park's Yellow Phone Directory, notify the Co-Op office at 535-2172 or send an e-mail to: piadmin@paradiseislandlargo.com
Please note the persons in charge of delivery of the Monthly Media are Dave and Elaine De Yong. If you don't receive your copy of the Media please call them at (727) 531-8426.

- **Disclaimer:** Remember, this publication is for News & Events for the benefit of Paradise Island residents. The Board of Directors of Paradise Island Co-Op and the Editor of the Monthly Media are not responsible for the content of any articles submitted. If the article is determined not to comply with the 'News & Events' concept, it will not be printed. If you have a 'Letter to the Editor', a section is provided for opinion related articles not of a negative nature! Also, articles might appear in the media before the actual event date.

Also, there are 5 places to look for an activities date and time either in the current month or in future months. They are:

- Within the media, there might be an article with all of the details.
- The calendar section of the media.
- The Bulletin Board in the Clubhouse.
- Our web site at www.paradiseislandlargo.com under the Amenities link.
- Facebook group, 'Paradise Island Largo'

Letter(s) to the Editor

VETERAN'S CORNER

By Bob Behm

How many of you knew this about Mel Brooks! When Melvin Kaminsky arrived in Europe with a field artillery unit, he thought he would be a radio operator. In need of combat engineers, though, the Army noticed the young private's military operational specialty -- the military service had trained him as an electrical engineer -- saw the word "engineer" and immediately reassigned him. Instead of receiving and sending coded messages, Kaminsky's new assignment was far more dangerous. His main responsibility would be to defuse land mines, but true to his nature, he joked about what possibly could go



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wrong. "I said, 'Oh, you don't really want me to do that, do you?'" he recalled in a 2022 interview with History Net. "I mean, you know I'm liable to get blown up." Despite any misgivings about working in close proximity to explosive devices, Kaminsky survived, changed his name to Mel Brooks and went on to become the comedic genius.

Brooks' military journey began when the Army drafted him in 1944. He was sent to the Virginia Military Institute, where he studied electrical engineering and learned skills related to his role as a cavalry officer. During those drills, instructors taught Brooks how to ride a horse and wield a saber, skills for which he didn't have much use while growing up impoverished in Brooklyn after his father died when he was 2 years old. Brooks' military education continued during basic training at Fort Sill in Oklahoma, where he learned the ins and outs of field artillery and "how to put Camel cigarettes in my ears. My ears are still yellow to this day."

In November 1944, Brooks and his yellowed ears arrived in Europe as a forward artillery observer with the 78th Infantry Division before transferring to the 1104th Engineer Combat Group. Brooks participated in the Battle of the Bulge -- Germany's final major offensive on the Western Front -- but to his everlasting good fortune, he was not involved in the most intense fighting. Still, harm's way was never far away for the 1104th, which routinely dodged enemy fire as they worked ahead of the front lines; sometimes, they even engaged in close combat with German troops. The 1104th's role was crucial. When Brooks' unit was not building bridges over rivers or streams, allowing Allied troops to cross in their military trucks and tanks, or destroying pillboxes or clearing roads, they usually searched for land mines. To do that, they literally poked and prodded. "You would have to probe the earth lightly with your bayonet, and if you heard, 'Tink! Tink! Tink!' you knew there was something dangerous underneath," Brooks explained. "You had to be careful."

When they discovered a land mine, one of the service members gingerly approached the explosive, deployed a whisk broom to remove any dirt from the area carefully and then disabled the lethal device. During these tense moments, Brooks said, others in the platoon hunkered down a (relatively) safe distance away, their helmets offering only so much protection and praying the next sound they heard would not be: Boom! Not all mines were the same, either. Some were small and, unlike the larger ones, somewhat limited in the amount of damage they caused, relatively speaking. Others were more intricate, more deadly and involved tripwires; one that Brooks remembered in particular was the "Bouncing Betty," an S-mine that, when tripped, would bounce chest high and spew shrapnel in all directions.

Then there were the booby traps, which unleashed their carnage when their targets least suspected it. Brooks said the 1104th's combat engineers always were wary anywhere they went, even to the bathroom -- when pulling on the chain of a toilet could spring a booby trap.

"To this day, even though I'm not a soldier and I'm not in Germany and I'm not in a war, if I enter a toilet with a pull chain behind the commode, I have a tendency to stand on the bathroom seat and peer into the tank above to see if there is a booby trap ... which hardly makes sense in a restaurant in New York," Brooks recalled to History Net. Somehow Brooks, who saw only three months of combat, survived. Along the way, the born entertainer noticed some absurdities of military life, including his military job ("I was a combat engineer. Isn't that ridiculous? The

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two things I hate most in the world are combat and engineering."); how a soldier's food was usually served in one pile when they bivouacked, no matter what it was ("To this day, I'm vaguely nostalgic for some sliced peaches on top of my beef bourguignon."); and simply missing some things he took for granted as a civilian ("I'd never gone to the toilet before with 16 other guys sitting next to me. I would go crazy waiting for the latrine to be free of people so I could rush in, do my stuff and rush out. It took a lot of getting used to.").

Brooks, who was honorably discharged as a corporal, remained in Europe after World War II, helping with the Allied occupation and, much more in line with his natural gift for comedy, telling jokes and emceeing talent shows for the remaining troops stationed there. That lasted until Brooks returned home in April 1946. When Brooks spotted the Statue of Liberty, he became emotional, appreciative for making it through the war safely as well as for what the military had done for him. "The Army didn't rob me of my youth," Brooks, who will turn 99 on June 28, 2025, told History Net. "It really gave me quite an education. If you don't get killed in the Army, you can learn a lot."

Bob Behm LTC, (US Army Ret.)

In Memoriam

By Denise Donohue



Robert Donald Downs
March 25, 2025
Lot 432

Robert Donald Downs, age 91, longtime resident of Largo, Florida, passed away from cardiac and respiratory complications on March 25, 2025. Born, raised and educated in Charleston, West Virginia, he is remembered there for his achievements as an outstanding high school athlete. For two years (1951-1952) he was high point man in state track & field championship competition winning the 100, 220 and 440 yard dashes as well as the long jump. Regarded as "the fastest man in the state", he was also a star running back on Stonewall Jackson High School's football team. Upon graduation, he served in the U.S. Air Force for four years and married Patty Hendrickson, his high school sweetheart. Upon completing his military commitment, Mr. Downs accepted a position in the sales department of the McJunkin Corporation. With more than forty years of service, Mr. Downs retired from McJunkin and the couple moved to Largo, where she passed away in 2005. Mr. Downs is survived by cherished friend and companion Patti Morgan of Largo, and a daughter, Robin, who resides in Louisville, Kentucky.

If anyone has had a resident family member die and you would like to share information with our community, please feel free to contact me at (817) 793-4077. Obituaries can be emailed to~ pilady660@gmail.com. Thank you.

New Residents Joining our Community

By the Welcome Team, Paulette Rich & Nancy Jonas



Hello to all of our new residents! Paulette and I are planning to visit with you very soon to tell you about all the fun activities that are planned for your enjoyment here in Paradise Island. We will be calling soon to set up a time that is convenient, as we will never just show up at your door unannounced. We hope you join in the fun and enjoy life in Paradise as much as we do! See you soon!

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By Bonnie Melke



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May Birthdays



185	Harry Sweeney	May	1
296	Michael Troutner	May	1
644	Timothy Kinney	May	1
810	Marcia White	May	1
122	Nelly Thorn	May	2
186	Brian Raymond	May	2
277	Evelyn McClure	May	2
619	Judy Nielsen	May	3
660	Denise Donohue	May	3
699	James Burton	May	3
220	Dwight Widmer	May	4
547	Francis Fata	May	4
816	Monique Vanasse	May	4
208	Brenda Van Houten	May	5
314	Rick Cowley	May	5
470	Doris Clark	May	5
516	Leann Walsh	May	5
35	Jeff Byers	May	6
327	Jackie Mcgee	May	6
59	Bob Canning	May	7
541	Val Snellenberger	May	7
61	Daniel Homkowicz	May	8
133	Paul Gray	May	8
707	Beverly Hennig	May	9
814	Cathy Hickman	May	9
453	Madeleine Beaucheesne	May	11
786	Linda Zykus	May	11
817	Skip Simpson	May	11
257	Kenneth Skonecki	May	12
281	Patricia Anderson	May	12
490	Diane Busto	May	12
560	Pat James	May	12
24	Beatrice Vandal	May	13
271	Dianna Campbell	May	13
274	Cynthia Holland	May	14
539	Les Ostrander	May	15
665	Ronald Czikowsky	May	15
698	Ron Poirier	May	15
210	Jacklyn Botti	May	16
296	Jean Troutner	May	16
566	Sharon Havens	May	16



360	Jill Boogaard	May	18
704	Brenda Pittman	May	18
745	Nikki Heim	May	18
91	Nancy Bauer	May	19
666	Arlene Rosenheim	May	19
719	Andy Williams	May	19
815	Barbara Vranish	May	20
227	P. Alisa Sickler	May	21
93	Linda Cable	May	22
243	Delores Wagner	May	22
281	Richard Anderson	May	22
503	Evelyn Piscopo	May	22
771	Judy Schneider	May	22
594	Don Crone	May	23
713	Mike Gervasi	May	23
810	James White	May	23
311	Tica Bagar	May	24
421	Linda Burtch	May	24
400	Lorraine Riendeau	May	25
195	Cecilia Castro	May	26
530	Deb Mcallister	May	26
512	Phyllis (Kay) Jones	May	27
788	Gerald Lamothe Jr.	May	27
159	Beth Pieckiel	May	28
466	Catherine Booth	May	28
568	Bruce Carter	May	28
698	Mary Poirier	May	29
349	Cathy Corbin	May	31
368	Cathy Del Brocco	May	31
720	Fay Burkhart	May	31
735	Tamara Skoecki	May	31

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300 Robert & Jennifer	Puro	May	6	2005
514 Dave & Audrey	Ruvola	May	7	2011
410 Chuck & Sadie	Wetmore	May	8	1982
472 Jeff & Brenda	Kollwitz	May	8	1982
185 Harry & Joan	Sweeney	May	9	1969
461 Micheal & Wanda	Dunn	May	10	1975
655 Sam & Mimie	Bardo	May	13	1959
66 Ronald & Carol	Dellechiaie	May	16	1961
818 Jim & Peg	Sayer	May	16	1992
784 Joe & Linda	Zykus	May	18	1974
709 Art & Bonnie	Steinmeier	May	18	2007
506 Richard & Mary	Dunn	May	19	1966
259 Marvin & Cynthia	Tanner	May	19	1970
759 Howard & Janet	Florczak	May	19	1973
508 Lothar & Regina	Lubeck	May	19	1979
25 Gary & Patty	Budzien	May	19	1987
431 Jim & Sharon	Moore	May	20	1967
399 Noel & Nelly	Argueta	May	26	1984
646 Ken & Rena	Fowler	May	28	1976
649 George & Nikki	Phinney	May	30	1981
435 Charles & Julie	Barlet	May	30	1986
245 Ron & Fran	Grant	May	30	1988
575 Pat & Colleen	Cowden	May	30	2005
370 Rob Noble & Lisa	Ficorelli	May	30	2009



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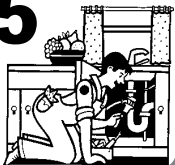
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