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PARADISE ISLAND

• P L A N E T •

E

January • 2026

Issue 11
49th Year

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Paradise Island

CO-OP OFFICERS

President.....	Al Noeller.....	803-577-9339
Vice Pres	Ken Jonas	727-221-9613
Secretary	Rita Atwood.....	315-725-9237
Treasurer	Candice Bailey-Gray.....	815-307-1779
Director	Bill Vaughan.....	813-493-4660
Director	Skip Simpson	727-480-9447
Director	Jim Gibson.....	440-840-3739

CO-OP Emails:

pimanager@paradiseislandlargo.com

piadmin@paradiseislandlargo.com

RESIDENT'S SOCIAL COMMITTEE

President.....	Paulette Rich	304-582-2285
Secretary	Betty Simpson	727-409-8669
Co-Op Directors:		
.....	Barb Mullins	678-570-2558
.....	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

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

HOA OFFICERS

President.....	Kenneth Hopkins	727.303.3417
Vice-President	Tom Billings	570-793-5238
Treasurer	Randy Reitz	727.452.5753
Secretary	Vicky Ellis	727.831.2665
Director	Michelle Griffith.....	603.438.5382
Director	Walter Peifer.....	727-432-2190
Director	OPEN	

CO-OP Office: 727-535-2172

Emergency After Hours: 727-581-2662

V President...	Diane Billman	727-434-0048
Treasurer	Jim White	727-204-8800
HOA Directors:		
.....	Claudia Gisvold	612-386-3515
.....	Cindy Maciejewski	716-228-6745
.....	Barbara Steinmetz.....	570-780-6848
.....	Ruth Billings.....	570-606-6362
.....	Jana Wolf	317-432-8519
Liaison:	Ken Hopkins	727-303-3417

ACTIVITY CHAIRPERSONS

Annual Craft Fair	Claudia Gisvold 612-386-3515	Ladies Holiday Luncheon	Betty Simpson 727-409-8669
Bible Study/Prayer Fellowship	Serena Johnson 727-530-5905	Nancy Jonas: 386-589-7730
Bingo	Jane Reitz 727.278.7405 Linda Carver 330.990.5880	Ladies Luncheon - Monthly.....	Beth Pieckiel 214-538-7094
Blood Drive.....	Jana Wolf 317-432-8519	Library.....	Ruth Billings 570-606-6362
Boocce Ball.....	Paul Snellenberger 815-592-2829 Mike Casey 317-409-3372	Mah Jongg.....	Pam Chance 305-587-9992
Book Club:	Ruth Billings 570-606-6362	Memoriam/Flags.....	Jenny Caldarello 678-633-0947
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.....	Bob O'Farrell 720-384-4038
Bunko.....	Patti Hess 727-412-1900	Neighborhood Watch Leader:.....	Beth Winquist .. 574-876-6668
Card Bingo	Bonnie Mason 520-240-1931Block 1 Nancy LaBelle - 404-932-3248 Block 2 Jim Rich III 304-582-8593	
Clubhouse Decorating.....	Claudia Gisvold 612-386-3515Block 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	Paulette Rich 304-582-2285	PI Caring Hearts.....	Rose 727-424-4668/Jane 727-278-7405
Craft Club - Weekly	Toni Tichon 330-590-3143	Pinochle/Poker.....	Joe Burley 727-585-5332
Cribbage.....	Inactive Status	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	Quilt/Sew/Chat.....	Wanda Dunn 231-250-3597
Euchre	Beverly Mortimer 727-543-4571	Shuffle Board	Gary MacDonald 727-474-6420
Exercise 8:45 am.....	OPEN	Special Events.....	Paulette Rich 304-582-2285
Chair Yoga.....	Linda Carver 330-990-5880	Summer Pool Parties.....	Allen & Sandy Sumey 615-275-5460
Flagman.....	Ray Olley 484-467-9853	Sunshine Outreach.....	Wilma Largent 260-319-1296
Flea Market	Tiffani Neu 713-922-9025 Liz Neumann 727-242-4597	Gloria Garofola 727-463-7307
FMO	Ray LaBelle 678-462-5339	Talent Show.....	Ken Hopkins 727-303-3417
Food Collection.....	Bonnie Melke 727-240-4162	Thanksgiving Dinner	Michelle Griffith 603-438-5382
Golden Anniversary	Brenda Struble 727-533-5672	OPEN
Golf Cart Parades	Liz Neumann 727-242-4597	Water Aerobics.....	Wendy Millard 803-928-5335
Golf, (Men)	Bob Pultorak 315-796-2153	Welcome Team.....	Betty Simpson 727-409-8669
Horseshoes	Inactive Status	Nancy Jonas 727-221-9613
		Wood Carving.....	Jim McCann 727-667-0015

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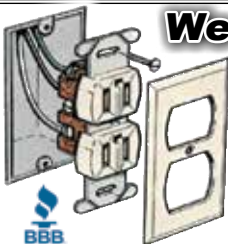
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Secretary - Pat Murphy
Deaconess - Jenny Calderello
Deacon - Shawn Johnson

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) Jeanne Czikowsky (860) 575-5348
New People Contact - Beverly Spikes (727) 430-2824
Prayer Bears - Wilma Largent (260) 316-1296




Co-op Updates

By Al Noeller, President PI Co-Op

Happy New Year!

As we start 2026, we find ourselves finally recovered from all the events of 2024/2025. Repairs and upgrades have been made to things damaged during the storms and getting repairs done on what should have been just normal repair issues, were all delayed. The county has completed our long-awaited traffic light, which now adds to our safety and home sale value decisions. Over all, Paradise Island is in very good shape and the management team has worked diligently to make or get any needed repairs done as quickly as possible. The common grounds are looking great and in very good overall condition, both above and below the surface. The pool and hot tub were reconditioned and the pool is now both heated and cooled for your comfort and enjoyment. The clubhouse has seen enhancements to its amenities and its looks; the pavilion area has also been enhanced for everyone's enjoyment.

I would like to say Happy 20th Anniversary to the whole Paradise Island community. We will celebrate the efforts of those original residents from 20 years ago and what they went thru to purchase and setup Paradise Island to succeed. It is now one of the largest, nicest 55+ communities in Pinellas County, while keeping very low lot rents for all of the residents over the years with a great community spirit. Thank You to all the residents that have volunteered a portion of their retirement, present and past, toward supporting all parts of our great community



and thus making Paradise Island a big success.

Please enjoy the many social activities planned for this upcoming season. We all appreciate all the volunteers and the effort it takes to make each and every event happen. If you can help out, please be a volunteer for some activity that you enjoy and you will meet others with similar interests and I think it will be personally rewarding for you. If you have any suggestions for activities or improvements you can always leave them in a suggestion box.

Have a Great 2026!

HOA UPDATE

By Ken Hopkins

Holy crap!! 2026!?!?! A quarter century gone....

A whirlwind year to be sure. This Board has been very diligent in its mission to be a better partner with respect to community activities and to provide a voice to the Co-Op. Your officers have worked hard. Your Treasurer, Randy Reitz, in conjunction with Carlene Hackett (RIP), has brought us to a solid financial position with proper reporting. Your Vice President, Tom Billings, has worked diligently to develop a budget for the next fiscal year which will allow for a streamlined process for expense allocation. And enough cannot be said about your Secretary, Vicky Ellis, who kept us all in line and on point. Your Directors, Walt Peifer and Michelle Griffith, did an awesome job with the member play presentation, the Bylaw review and running the kitchen, and Helping Hands. And of course, we could not forget the efforts of Jane Reitz and Linda Carver with respect to the operation of weekly Bingo. We are continually blessed with many volunteers and new ones who have stepped up, who manage the behind-the-scenes activities which make our jobs so much easier. So, a heartfelt THANK YOU to each and every one of you, and best wishes for a dynamic and blessed New Year. Be well

Did You Know?

By Co-Op BOD

Did you know that living in Paradise Island is not just about sunshine and ocean breezes? Sure, we have got postcard-perfect beaches and sunsets that never get old—but residents know the real magic is in the active, social lifestyle that makes every day feel a little healthier and a lot more connected. As we head into 2026, the community offers plenty of ways to stay moving and feeling great.

Mornings often start slow here—coffee in hand, flip-flops on, maybe a quick walk by the water or at the park—but once the day gets going, the community buzzes with activity. Men's golf groups head out early for friendly rounds, water aerobics classes keep the pool lively (and surprisingly calorie-burning), and the horseshoe pits are almost always good for some laughs and light competition. If you prefer a gentler pace, chair yoga sessions offer relaxation and mobility,

continued on page 6

while shuffleboard brings out players of all ages who enjoy strategy, sunshine, and community.

And for anyone who loves traditional workouts or wants more equipment than home can offer, residents have a great option just minutes away. The Highland Rec Center, located at 400 Highland Ave, Largo (727-518-3016), offers weight machines, an indoor track, workout classes, and more. Silver Sneakers memberships are accepted, making it an easy and affordable way to add strength training or cardio into your routine.

What really sets Paradise Island apart is how easy it is to connect with others while staying active. Whether you are tossing horseshoes, stretching in Chair Yoga, or meeting up for a workout at Highland Rec, it does not take long to feel like you are part of something bigger — a community that genuinely looks out for each other's well-being.

Of course, beach life still has its quirks. Things may move at a slower pace, and the weather sometimes changes its mind. But honestly? That is part of the charm. Slowing down gives us more time to enjoy the beauty around us, make meaningful connections, and focus on health in a way that feels natural, not forced.

As 2026 approaches, one thing is clear: Paradise Island is not just a place to live — it is a place to live well. With so many opportunities to stay active, social, and healthy, every day offers a new "Did You Know?" moment waiting to be discovered. So, check your monthly media guide for days and times for all activities. Have a healthy, Happy New Year!

Upcoming Schedules

MATTHEW'S LAWN SERVICE

MOWING SCHEDULE FOR PARADISE ISLAND MOWING 2026

JANUARY, 16, 30 FEBRUARY 13, 27 March 13, 27 APRIL 10, 24 May 8, 15, 22, 29
JUNE 5, 12, 19, 26 JULY 3, 10, 17, 24, 31 August 7, 14, 21, 28 SEPTEMBER 4, 11, 18, 25
OCTOBER 2, 9, 23 NOVEMBER 6, 20 DECEMBER 4, 18

THE ABOVE SCHEDULE IS SUBJECT TO CHANGE WITH MANAGEMENT'S
APPROVAL DEPENDING UPON THE WEATHER.

Paradise Island Co-Op Office Holiday Schedule

NEW YEAR'S DAY - Thursday, January 1st MEMORIAL DAY - Monday, May 25th
INDEPENDENCE DAY - Friday, July 3rd LABOR DAY - Monday, September 7th
THANKSGIVING - Thursday, November 26th
Day after Thanksgiving - Friday, November 27th CHRISTMAS DAY – Friday, December
25th

Paradise Island Co-Op Trash Schedule

The trash schedule will be on Mondays and Thursday for 2026. This will change based on
a Monday or Thursday being a Holiday.



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Neighborhood Watch

By Nancy LaBelle

Everyone is always welcome to attend our meetings on the 3rd Tuesday of every month at 10AM. Meet the Block captains and Officer Keith Bowling our LARGO PD liaison. We are Not HOA or COOP.

Our mission is to improve neighborhood SAFETY, SECURITY, AND WELL- BEING through awareness of all residents and by reporting suspicious or concerning activity to 911 or the non-emergency number 727-587-6730.

SCAMS, SCAMS, SCAMS. Texts, phone calls, emails, snail mail, ATM Machines, Bitcoin, Parking meters, QR CODES. There is even a very legitimate looking letter that looks like it's being sent by Social Security. But it's a fake. Take this to the office to verify on Drew Street in Clearwater if you are told your amount is being decreased. It's a crazy world! You don't know who to believe or trust sometimes. If they want your money NOW and don't want you to tell anyone...BAD SIGN! There are even Fake charities over the Holidays.

We are still having our bike and golfcart registration on Saturday January 24 - 9AM -1030AM

Please continue to call Block Captain Jim Rich to sign up for the ongoing FREE SMOKE ALARM PROGRAM with the Red Cross. You must be home for the installation. Home safety assessments with lock boxes are still available but currently back logged a few months.

We all wish you Safe Holidays!

Social Committee Update

By Paulette Rich

Welcome 2026! To start the year off with a bang, our first scheduled event is a Ventriloquist, Mark Minor, on 1/17, sponsored by the Men's Club.

Give the Gift of Hope: The Community Blood Drive is on 1/27. Happy 20th Anniversary Paradise Island! Come and celebrate with all the residents in our beautiful community on 1/31/26.

Volunteer Spotlight: Liz Nueman is the new Chairperson for the Golfcart Parade activity starting, 1/01/26. Toni Tichon is the new Chairperson of the weekly Craft Club starting, 1/07/26. Jenny Caldarello is the new Chairperson of the Memoriam/Purple Flag starting, 01/01/26. Thank you all for volunteering your time and talent to these activities. We appreciate you so much!

Happy New Year! Let's thrive together in 2026!

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Let's All Celebrate

By The PI Anniversary Committee

January is upon us and our 20th Anniversary Celebration will be taking place on January 31, 2026

We have received a great response to the Celebration and I hope you have all secured your tickets. Anyone who is arriving in January and have arranged for your tickets to be reserved, will have their tickets delivered to your home during the week of Jan. 19th, 2026. If you prefer you may pick them up at the clubhouse on Monday Jan. 19th, 2026, in the evening between 6-7 pm. For anyone who didn't reserve a ticket this night is the only time we will have tickets available. Be sure to mark your calendars to get your tickets on this date.

Celebration starts at 3:00 pm with games geared for all ages in our community including anyone handicapped needing a walker or wheelchair for assistance. We have designed sit down games for you so that you can join in the fun. At 5:00 pm we will start the drawing for the prizes you can all win, and at 5:30 we will have the food set up and ready for you to enjoy.

The evening music and will start at 7:00 pm and end at 10:00pm. We will have additional prize drawings at 8:30 pm for those of you who are attending at night as well. You may join us for dancing or just sit and listen to the music of the past 20 years. This celebration is for all of you so just enjoy it anyway that you wish to.

Every attendee will receive a ticket upon entering for at least one chance at the prizes. Play as many games as you can and you win tickets at each game for additional chances. We have over 100 prizes to give away. Additional games will be played during the evening session revolving around the dance floor.

SAVE THE DATE AND PLAN TO JOIN IN ON THE FUN... THIS EVENT IS FREE TO ALL RESIDENTS BUT YOU DO NEED A TICKET TO ENTER.

Questions: Call Marcia White 727-452-3839

Blood Drive

By Jana Wolf

The Big Red Bus will be here in Paradise Island on Tuesday January 27th from 9am to 2pm for our first blood drive of the year. Please be sure and save the date on your calendar. A few minutes of your day may save a life. More details on how to sign up will be coming soon. Please call Jana Wolf at 317-432-8519 with any questions.

Horseshoes

By Stacy Pupecki

There are no organized horseshoes at this time but the courts may be used at any time. The horseshoes are locked up so if they are needed or for more information, please contact Stacy at 860-919-7325.

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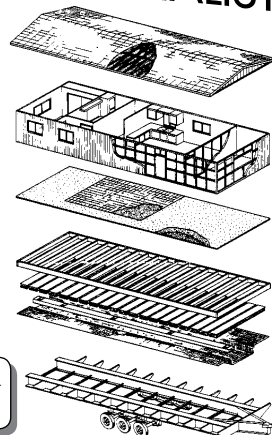
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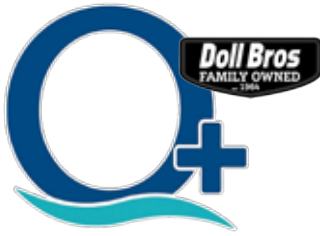
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Paradise Island Social Committee Calendar 2025/2026

Questions contact Paulette Rich (304)582-2285

Tickets for all Events are sold on Monday nights from 6-7pm at the Clubhouse

<u>Date Event</u>	<u>Cost</u>	<u>Additional Information</u>
1/17 Men's Club Event		TBD Mark Minor-Ventriloquist
1/27 Blood Drive		NC Donate Blood-Big Red Bus N Parking Lot
1/31 20th PI Anniversary Celebration		NC Clubhouse
2/7 Bandingo	\$5	Clubhouse
2/14 Valentine's Day Dance	\$12	Suncoast Band
2/21 Men's Club Event		TBD Jeff Gordan-Elvis Impersonator
3/1 Golden Anniversary		NC Clubhouse
3/15 Men's Club Event		TBD Dave & Daphne-Singer/Musician
3/21 St Patrick's Day Dance		TBD Shakes Society Band
3/27 Set up for Flea Market		NC Set Up For Flea Market
3/28 Spring Flea Market		TBD Clubhouse
4/4 Men's Club Event		TBD Ron Mitchell
4/11 Dance	\$12	Tangent Band
4/28 Blood Drive		NC Donate Blood-Big Red Bus N Parking Lot
5/30 Dance		TBD Flashback
9/26 Dance		TBD Red hawk Band
10/31 Halloween Dance		TBD Suncoast Band
11/6 Set up for Craft Show		NC Set Up For Craft Show
11/7 Craft Fair		TBD Clubhouse
11/14 Men's Club Event		TBD Clubhouse Louis Fortunato/Singer
11/26 Thanksgiving Dinner		TBD Clubhouse
12/4 Set Up Christmas Ladies Luncheon		NC n NC Clubhouse
12/5 Christmas Ladies Luncheon		TBD Clubhouse
12/19 Christmas Dinner Show		Dinner/Show
Christmas Dinner Dance		TBD Clubhouse Dinner/Jason Ensor
12/31 New Year's Eve Dance		TBD Red Hawk Band

PARADISE ISLAND NEW YEAR



Dart League

By Larry Krause

Hope everyone had a nice Holiday. If you're looking for a fun activity on a Monday evening, we have room for a few more players. Either regular or as a sub. We start at 6:30 every Monday at the Clubhouse till the end of March. Hope to see you there!

Bowling

By Claudia Gisvold

Subs needed

Top weekly bowlers

11/13/2025	Steve Wilson 225.	Cheryl Dunne. 181
11/20/2025	Tom Dunne. 211.	Claudia Gisvold. 179
12/04/2025	Gerry Johns. 185.	Shirley Pultorak. 166

CONGRATULATIONS!!!

SHUFFLEBOARD

By Gary MacDonald

Welcome to 2026! Join us for drop-in shuffleboard every Tuesday and Thursday mornings at 9:30 AM. Please arrive by 925 AM for random team selection. No experience necessary. Cues are provided. We look forward to returning players and to welcome new players. Hope to see you there!

Please Note: 2026 Shuffleboard begins on Tuesday, January 6.

Just a reminder that our Shuffleboard courts are available all year for residents. The storage shed at the courts is locked outside of our organized play. Call Gary at 727 474 6420 for key access should you wish to play.

LADIES HOLIDAY LUNCHEON

By Betty Simpson

The Ladies Holiday Luncheon was a great success. This is always a fun time for all. A huge thank you to the men who cooked and served the meal and cleaned up afterward. All of the tables were beautifully decorated. Prizes were awarded to the top three, but the judges had a difficult time and felt that everyone should win! Mark your calendars and gather your friends for the next Ladies Holiday Luncheon on December 5, 2026.



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Paradise Island Flea Market

By Tiffani Neu

Call For Volunteers, Donations, and Raffle Items

Liz and Tiffani are gearing up for the March 28th Community Flea Market, benefiting the Paradise Island Social Committee. One of our sheds is stuffed to the gills, but we have room in the second shed. If you have donations, please contact Liz Neumann or Tiffani Neu (both are in the yellow book). If you happen to have furniture to donate, please contact us, but we may need you to hold it until March 27th (depends on size and our storage capability). We are also now putting a call out for volunteers - this March event is the BIG ONE and we need plenty of hands to help set up on Friday, March 27th and help sell items on the 28th. If you can volunteer, please contact Liz or Tiffani. We'll need folks Friday, March 27 from 10 am - 1:00 pm (approx. - depends how long it takes to set up), and on Saturday, March 28 from 7:45 am - 3:00 pm. You do not need to do both days. And we can stagger volunteers on Saturday if you can't stay the whole time. One last ask - we will have a raffle table, so if you have anything like artwork, hand crafted items, refinished items (furniture), or anything new (still in box/unopened), contact Liz Neumann. She'll be checking things out and collecting the raffle items. At the very least, mark your calendars to attend the Saturday, March 28th community flea market!

Ladies Monthly Luncheon

By Beth Pieckiel

Here's to 2026, let's all enjoy this new season and join in the festivities. The Monthly Ladies Luncheon for January will be held on Tuesday, January 27th, 2026 at 11:30 am. To kick off our 2026 luncheons I have chosen a fun and friendly restaurant and we will be going to:

O'Keefe's Tavern
1219 S. Fort Harrison Avenue
Clearwater, FL 33756
(727) 442 - 9034

This luncheon is open to ALL the ladies residing here in Paradise Island. It's a great way to meet new neighbors or to get reacquainted with friends or neighbors you haven't seen in a while. It is always a fun afternoon of fellowship with the ladies of PI. The sign-up sheet will be in our clubhouse on the bulletin board. If you do sign up for this luncheon and then find you are unable to attend, PLEASE!! scratch your name off the of the sign-up sheet. This is so your hostess can give her restaurant of choice an accurate headcount to set us up for service.

If you should have any questions regarding this luncheon, or you would like to host a luncheon, please contact me, Beth Pieckiel at (214) 538 - 7094. Thank you to all the ladies who continue to support this luncheon and I look forward to more of the ladies here in PI to join us!

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Sunday	Monday	Tu
9:30am - *Church-B 1pm - *Card Bingo-F	8am - Men's Golf 9am - *Water Aerobics 10am - *Quilt Club-F 12pm - Men's Golf Luncheon 1pm - *8 Ball Pool 1pm - Chair Yoga - M 3pm - *Pinochle-F 6pm - Event Ticket Sales-M 6:30pm - Dart League - F	8:30am - M 9am - *Water 9:30am - Sh 12:30pm - * 12:30pm - * 6pm - *Pool 6:30pm - *E 6:30pm - Bu
9:30am - *Church-B 1pm - *Card Bingo-F	8am - Men's Golf 9am - *Water Aerobics 10am - *Book Club-F 12pm - Men's Golf Luncheon 1pm - *8 Ball Pool 1pm - Chair Yoga - M 3pm - *Pinochle-F 6pm - Event Ticket Sales-M 6:30pm - Dart League - F	9am - *Water 9:30am - Sh 10am - Soci Meeting-F 12:30pm - * 12:30pm - * 6pm - *Pool 6:30pm - *E 6:30pm - Bu
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9:30am - *Church-B 1pm - *Card Bingo-F	8am - Men's Golf 9am - *Water Aerobics 12pm - Men's Golf Luncheon 1pm - *8 Ball Pool 1pm - Chair Yoga - M 3pm - *Pinochle-F 6pm - Event Ticket Sales-M 6:30pm - Dart League - F	8:30am - Blo 9am - *Water 9:30am - Sh 11:30am - L 12:30pm - * 12:30pm - * 6pm - *Pool 6:30pm - *E 6:30pm - Bu

Paradise Island

Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	December 31 8pm - New Years Eve Dance-B	OFFICE CLOSED New Year's Day	9am - *Water Aerobics 10:30am - *Prayer Meeting-R3 1pm - Chair Yoga - M	9:30am - Bible Study -F 1pm - Bocce Ball
6 ens Club -M er Aerobics uffle Board Mah Jongg-M Poker- FR - Pill Pool uchre-F unko-M Epiphany	7 8am - Wood Carving -M 9am - *Water Aerobics 1pm - Bocce Ball 1pm - Chair Yoga - M 1pm - Craft Club-F 4pm - New England Plus Dinner 7pm - HOA Annual Election Meeting - B	8 9am - *Water Aerobics 9:30am - *Bible Study-F 9:30am - Shuffle Board 10:30am - *Choir Practice-F 12:30pm - Bowling 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 - Bocce Ball
13 er Aerobics uffle Board al Committee Mah Jongg-M Poker- FR - Pill Pool uchre-F unko-M	14 8am - Wood Carving -M 9am - *Water Aerobics 1pm - Bocce Ball 1pm - Chair Yoga - M 1pm - Craft Club-F	15 9am - *Water Aerobics 9:30am - *Bible Study-F 9:30am - Shuffle Board 10:30am - *Choir Practice-F 12:30pm - Bowling 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 Men's Club Event-B 9:30am - Bible Study -F 10am - Reserve Tables - M 1pm - Bocce Ball 6pm - Social Hour for Men's Club Show 7pm - Men's Club-Mark Minor Show - B
20 er Aerobics uffle Board ghbor Watch Mah Jongg-M Poker- FR BOD Meeting-F - Pill Pool uchre-F unko-M	21 8am - Wood Carving -M 9am - *Water Aerobics 1pm - Bocce Ball 1pm - Chair Yoga - M 1pm - Craft Club-F	22 9am - *Water Aerobics 9:30am - *Bible Study-F 9:30am - Shuffle Board 10:30am - *Choir Practice-F 12:30pm - Bowling 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 - Bocce Ball
27 ood Drive er Aerobics uffle Board adies Luncheon Mah Jongg-M Poker- FR - Pill Pool uchre-F unko-M	28 8am - Wood Carving -M 9am - *Water Aerobics 1pm - Bocce Ball 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 - Shuffle Board 10:30am - *Choir Practice-F 12:30pm - Bowling 4pm - *Kitchen Open 4-6 pm -K 6pm - *BINGO-B	30 9am - *Water Aerobics 10:30am - *Prayer Meeting-R3 1pm - Chair Yoga - M	31 PI 20th Anniversary-B 9:30am - 9 am SETUP An-niv. -B 9:30am - Bible Study -F 11am - Reserve Tables - M 1pm - Bocce Ball

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New England Plus

By Gail White

The New England + Dinner group will meet at 4 p.m., Jan. 7 at Sonny's BBQ, 2250 Seminole Blvd., Largo.

We'll also be celebrating National Bobblehead Day!

All Paradise Island residents are welcome!

Questions? Contact dinner coordinators Gail White (412-561-5943) or Maureen Ronney (248-835-8127).

Thursday Bingo

By Jane Reitz

Test your luck and enjoy fun, food and fellowship. Bingo every Thursday night at the clubhouse.

Doors open 4pm

Bingo starts 6:30 pm

Kitchen service available 4pm - 6pm

Questions call: Jane Reitz 727-278-7405

Linda Carver 330-990-5880

Men's Club

By Ken Jonas

Happy New Year!! Our first meeting for 2026 will be Tuesday, 1/6 with coffee and donuts at 8:30 and the meeting at 9:00 AM. Hope to see you all then.

We have a couple fantastic shows coming up! Tickets are on sale on Monday 1/5 & 1/12 (6 to 7 PM) for the January 17th presentation of Ventriloquist Mark Minor. This promises to be a terrific evening of laughter and entertainment! Then on Monday 1/19 and 1/26 tickets will be available for the February 21st presentation of Elvis Impersonator Jeff Gordon. Both of these entertainers are new to Paradise Island and come to us highly recommended and sure to be shows you don't want to miss! Be sure to get your tickets early as both of these shows are expected to sell out!



BOCCE BALL

By Paul Snellenberger and Mike Casey

Join us for **Bocce Ball** every Saturday afternoon (weather permitting) - 1:00 pm at the Clubhouse Bocce Ball Courts next to the Shuffleboard courts. **Beginners are welcome.** No experience is necessary. Bocce Ball is easy to learn. Have a lot of fun, get some fresh air, and enjoy some easy exercise while meeting new friends!

Questions contact : Paul @ 815-592-2829 or Mike @ 317-409-3372



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*
2. Click - Join
3. Answer all of the questions – **DO NOT CLICK SUBMIT UNTIL YOU HAVE ANSWERED ALL THE QUESTIONS AND YOU AGREE TO THE RULES.**
4. Click - Submit
5. You will receive a notice when your membership has been approved.
6. If you are having trouble joining contact: Cindy at 727-248-7146 or dclord80@hotmail.com Vicki at 727-831-2665 or wldthng55@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: December 4, 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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The Sunshine Committee

By Gloria & Wilma

When a neighbor is facing illness or loss, a simple gesture—a heartfelt card, a kind word—can make all the difference.

If you know someone who could use a little extra thoughtfulness right now, whether they're healing or grieving, The Sunshine Committee would love to reach out with warmth and care.



To send a Get Well card, contact Gloria Garafola at (727) 463-7307



For Bereavement cards, reach out to Wilma Largent at (260) 316-1296

Call or text—we're here, always.

Paradise Island Church in the Park

By Pastor Serena Johnson

Happy New Year!

Another year has come and gone so quickly! Most of our snow birds should be back by this month. Glad to have you back! We can start this year of 2026 with a clean slate. Jesus came that we have life and have it more abundantly. Let's put our life in His hands and be thankful for all He does for us each and every day of this new year. May His peace, love and joy flow to you and through you as you reach out to others in love.


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 Associate Pastor and ministers at least two Sunday's each month. We look forward to his messages. Pastor Shawn Johnson will be assisting him during the service. 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. Prayer meeting on Fridays at 10:30 AM led by Pastor Shawn, Room 3 Clubhouse. Saturdays at 9:30 AM in the Clubhouse is a Bible Study led by Pastor 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.

BE AWARE WE CARE! If you know of someone in the Park who is ill and/or needs some encouragement and a Prayer Bear please contact Wilma Largent at (260)316-1296 or largentw6048@gmail.com.

continued on page 30



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

If you need a ride to church, please call Pastor Shawn @ (727) 253-1045, Thank you.

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

Editor's Corner

By Harold Noeller

- For the February 2026 edition, articles are due by January 15, 2026 as are the dates you might want on the calendar for February 2026 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'

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Letter(s) to the Editor



VETERAN'S CORNER

By Bob Behm

Native American World War II Veteran, Final Member of Unit, Dies at 101

As the number of remaining World War II veterans continues to dwindle, Gilbert “Choc” Charleston, one of the last Native American WWII soldiers and the final surviving member of his unit, died on Thanksgiving night at age 101. The news of Charleston’s passing was confirmed by the Choctaw Nation, of which the veteran was a member. Charleston was one of only about 45,000 U.S. veterans remaining from World War II, based on numbers from the National WWII Museum. In perhaps his final interview, Charleston told his captivating story to CBS News Texas in early November. He would have turned 102 on Dec. 24. Despite passing the century mark in 2023, Charleston’s impeccable recall of events from decades ago remained intact. The moniker “Choc” was bestowed upon Charleston as an infant, and it stuck for the next 101-plus years. After he was born in 1923, a visitor came to his house and laughed when he spotted baby Charleston snoozing in a dresser drawer. “He said, ‘Well, looks like we got another ‘Choc,’” Charleston told CBS News Texas.

But Charleston grew up proud of his Choctaw heritage, and the nickname served him well when he entered the Army. He became a tank operator serving with the 739th Tank Battalion. Living conditions were not pretty. At the time, Charleston probably couldn’t fathom that the tank would be his home for the next three years. His unit’s missions sent him across Central Europe, eventually placing him in one of the war’s most harrowing battles. “I spent three years as a tank driver and fought from France, Luxembourg, Belgium, all of Germany back to the Battle of the Bulge,” he said. Not only did Charleston survive the bloody Battle of the Bulge when so many others perished, the bitterly cold winter of 1944-45 fighting Nazis in the Ardennes Forest proved unforgiving. “Many men lost their feet that were in the infantry because of the snow and the cold,” Charleston said. “We were fortunate enough in the tank not to lose our feet, but it was still 20 degrees below. Charlston said, they served before they were considered a U.S. citizen,” “They were proud to be fighting for something, and we’ve always stood by our country.”

During World War II, about 25,000 Native Americans joined the military. From that number, more than 21,000 went into the Army. Charleston believes every Indigenous soldier proved valuable to the war effort. “It’s a way of saying, ‘Yakoke.’ Thank you to all veterans for their service because at some point in time in their life, they sign that check that was payable with their life. For Charleston, it was vital to honor those who served, especially soldiers who fought alongside him more than 80 years ago.

The veteran was willing to share his story to be preserved for future generations who could realize the sacrifice of World War II veterans. What was Charleston’s secret to a long, vibrant life? He focused on caring for his body by staying active, hitting the golf course often. He also believed his longevity was due to “never smoking or drinking.” While the Choctaw Nation will grieve the loss of one of its most endearing members, they think Charleston’s legacy will live on, inspiring future Choctaws.

Bob Behm LTC (RET)

In Memoriam

By Denise Donohue

It has truly been an honor to serve as the Memorial Director for our community. I am deeply grateful for the opportunity and for the trust you have all placed in me.

A heartfelt thank-you to Jenny Caldarello for stepping up to fill this meaningful and rewarding role for Paradise Island. I know she will serve our community with compassion and dedication.

If anyone has had a resident family member die and you would like to share information with our community, please feel free to contact Jenny Caldarello at (678)633-0947.

Obituaries can be emailed to~ rello.jennyandmike@gmail.com.

New Residents Joining our Community

By the Welcome Team, Betty Simpson & Nancy Jonas

We hope everyone had a wonderful Holiday Season! Betty and I are planning to visit all of our new residents soon. We will be contacting you by phone to set up a date, convenient for you, when we can tell you all about the fun activities available for you to enjoy here in Paradise Island. We, also have a few free gifts to make joining these activities a little easier! If you miss our call, we are listed in the front of this publication. Feel free to give us a call.



Walkers and Wheelchairs Available for Residents

PI Caring Hearts has Walkers and Wheelchairs available to help residents who need them TEMPORARILY. We need to get them back to be available for other residents.

When no longer needed, please call Jane Reitz 727- 278- 7405 or Rose Petito 727-424-4668 and we will pick them up.

FOOD BANK AND DONATIONS

By Bonnie Melke

Our food bank reserve is open in the clubhouse and is accepting NON-PERISHABLE foods only.

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Bonnie Melke at 727-240-4162 landline or cell 727-417-7526





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January Birthdays

63	Carol	Gorey	January	1
289	Patricia	Malyszek	January	1
449	Shirley	Casey	January	1
686	Brian	Mullins	January	1
825	Art	Johnson	January	1
305	Don	Coburn	January	2
611	Barbara	Kirner	January	2
29	Lavinia	Donahue	January	3
101	Judy	Goyette	January	3
299	John	Cannon	January	3
405	Jim	Lambert	January	3
558	Stella	Cloyd	January	3
23	Linda	Spence	January	4
25	Gary	Budzien	January	4
598	Myra	Price	January	4
45	John	Kazakis	January	5
114	Louise	Daoust	January	7
188	Martin	McDonald	January	7
25	Patty	Budzien	January	8
148	Doreen	Boothe	January	8
596	Ginny	Hogan	January	8
235	Irene	Horne	January	10
41	Randy	Tappon	January	11
345	Michael	Carter	January	11
520	Bob	Sammarco	January	11
411	Mike	Lemay	January	12
412	Julia	Shaff	January	12
450	Isabel	Simonetti	January	12
508	Lothar	Lubeck	January	12
722	Roberta	Assandro	January	12
308	Dana	Carey	January	13
433	Candy	Gray	January	13
548	Jane	Reitz	January	13
119	Suzie	Dickey	January	14
239	Gerry	Bellfontaine	January	14
506	Richard	Dunn	January	14
808	John	Simon	January	14
261	Sherry	Wells	January	15
492	Norman (Gene)	Barrett	January	15



324	Richard	Glyon	January	16
784	Joe	Zyklus	January	16
82	James	Healy	January	17
376	Stacey	Pupecki	January	17
397	Brenda	Gruszcynski	January	18
778	Teri	Nova	January	18
42	Melanie	Walter	January	19
784	Charlotte	Whitinger	January	19
392	Robert	Ammann	January	20
420	William	Grames	January	20
709	Bonnie	Steinmeier	January	20
334	Joe	Herman	January	22
535	Walter	Pinkerton	January	22
621	Janice	Mulligan	January	22
37	Denise	Cracchiolo	January	23
53	Dan	Grachek	January	23
198	Neil	Macarther	January	23
616	Jeff	Eldridge	January	23
743	Thomas	Reynolds	January	23
333	Jessie	Spears	January	24
704	Frank	Pittman	January	24
40	Dora	Milaszewski	January	25
455	Patricia	Murphy	January	25
572	Lorraine	O'keefe	January	25
272	Nancy	Frederick	January	26
792	Tom	Sousa	January	27
709	Art	Steinmeier	January	28
85	Brenda	Walker	January	29
700	Roland	Eades	January	30
267	Helen	Delmolino	January	31
444	David	Hull	January	31




Cherish all your happy moments; they make a fine cushion for old age. Booth Tarkington

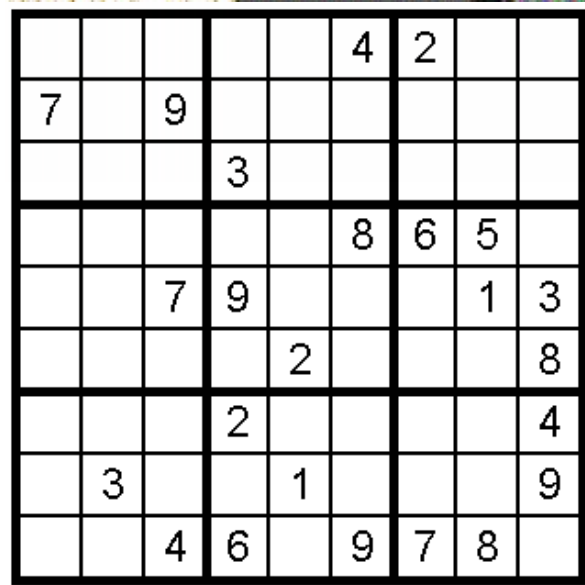
Happy Birthday

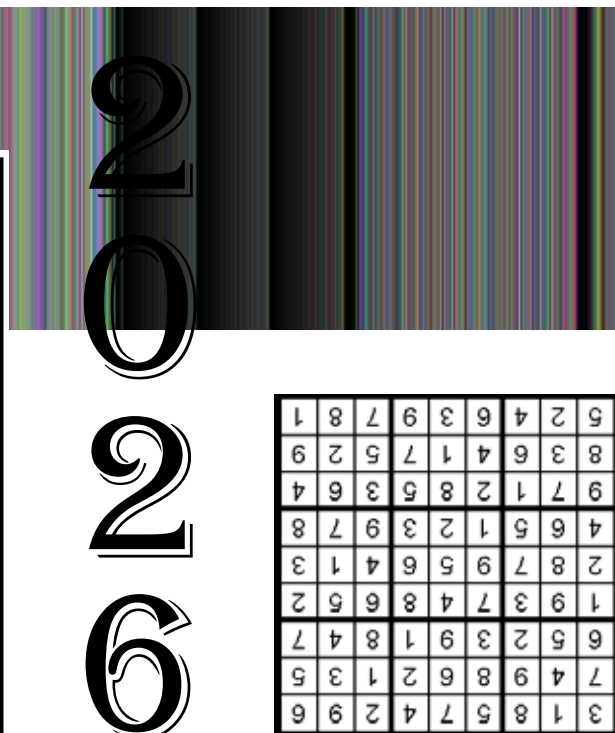
January Anniversaries

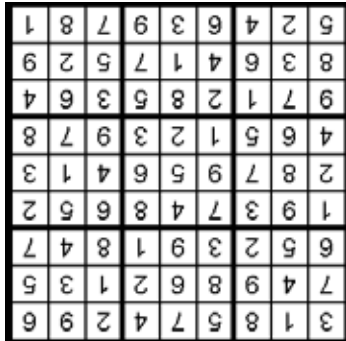
541	Paul & Val Snellenberger	January	1	1975
197	Larry Thompson/Rita French	January	4	2003
566	Dave & Sharon Havens	January	5	1963
806	Dennis & Diane Hammer	January	6	1995
206	Thad & Joyce Crisco	January	10	1958
588	Gerald & Kathy Christy	January	10	1997
447	Steve & Donna Racioppi	January	10	2022
721	Robert & Lorita Melton	January	12	1979
741	Harry & Bunny Carter	January	12	1979
103	Paul & Pat Humphries	January	13	1984
226	Bob & Astrid Scott	January	26	1970
830	Richard & Sheryl Roush	January	27	1992

Happy Anniversary!











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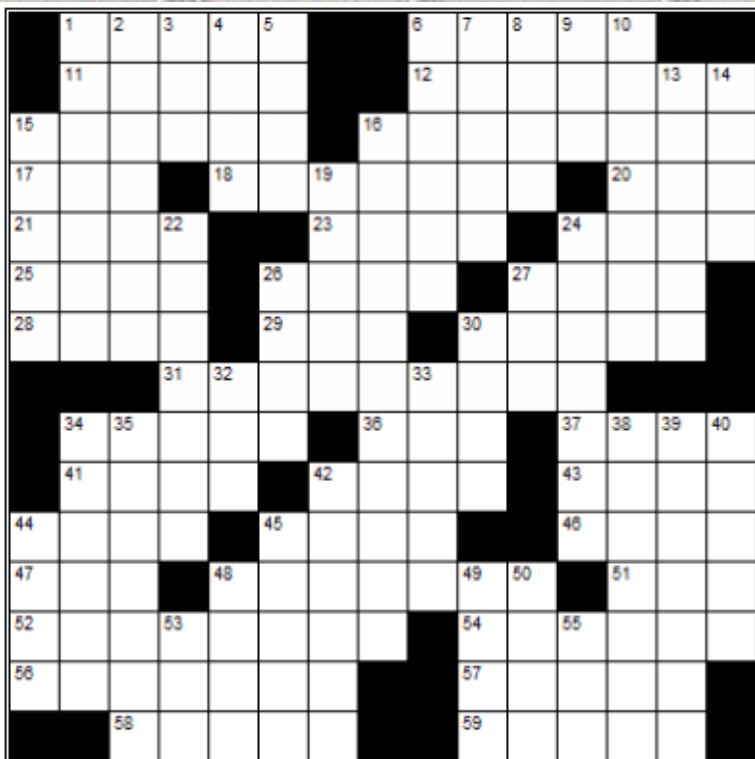
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ACROSS

1. Spring month
6. Failures
11. Pursue
12. Take up the cause
15. Barroom fights
16. Harvesting
17. Snake-like fish
18. Wide part of a river
20. Sprocket
21. Chutzpah
23. Picnic insects
24. Broadcasts
25. Chills and fever
26. Workshop gripper
27. Fair attraction
28. Bird home
29. Type of tree
30. Harps
31. Amounts per unit size
34. Underway
36. One plus one
37. Make well
41. Scattered seed
42. Not fat
43. Inactive
44. Blackball
45. Tibia
46. Tube
47. Term of endearment
48. Deny
51. Distant
52. Making menu requests
54. A plan of action
56. Abounding
57. Genus of heath
58. Leases
59. Where clouds are

DOWN

1. Land
2. Male genitalia
3. Uncooked
4. Small island
5. Not more
6. Arrive past due
7. Utilizers
8. Neuter
9. 2000 pounds
10. Kill oneself intentionally
13. Breathes noisily while sleeping
14. They come from hens
15. Started
16. Gun repairing
19. Dogs wag these
22. Anticlimax
24. Blimp
26. Opening
27. Deli loaf
30. King of the jungle
32. Anagram of "One"
33. They can be fraternal or identical
34. On land
35. One who establishes
38. Building
39. Mammals like camels
40. Apprehensive
42. Objects
44. Fired a projectile
45. Holy person
48. Smile
49. Gorillas
50. English royal house
53. An uncle
55. Fifty-two in Roman numerals



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Frances Gillette \$10	Buggin Out Pest Control	Patricia Visconti \$10	Ron Wyngarden Mobile Wash
David Miller..... \$10	FL Termite & Pest Experts	Roxy Marsh..... \$10	Ron Wyngarden Mobile Wash
Mike McManus \$10	FL Termite & Pest Experts	Jean Woolf..... \$5	Royal Enterprises
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Vic Able \$10	Gulf Coast Powerwashing	Donna Renna \$5	Battleline Termite Pest Control
Sheila Leach..... \$10	Gulf Coast Powerwashing	Alma Donati..... \$5	Battleline Termite Pest Control
Karen Rollins \$10	Jones & Sons Plumbing	Jeannie Johnston \$5	Battleline Termite Pest Control
Bridget Schanz..... \$10	Jones & Sons Plumbing	Mike McCarthy..... \$5	Battleline Termite Pest Control
Sharon Bailey..... \$10	Jones & Sons Plumbing	Don Sewell..... \$5	Gulf Coast Powerwashing
Edward Smith..... \$10	Jones & Sons Plumbing	Terry Tillman \$5	Gulf Coast Powerwashing

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