

WESTWAYS

THE OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF THE ROTONDA WEST ASSOCIATION, INC.

Emailed to 5,295 Rotonda Residents

OCTOBER 2024



E-NEWSLETTER PUBLISHED MONTHLY BY THE ROTONDA WEST ASSOCIATION



TOWN HALL MEETING PERHAPS THE MOST IMPORTANT MEETING OF THE YEAR



By: Nadine Clough

On Wednesday, October 9th at 6 p.m. in the Community Center, the Board of Directors will hold a *Town Hall Meeting*. If you want to know more about the proposed addition to the RWA Administration Building, which will appear on the ballot this year, and how that proposition affects you, this meeting is a must. Plus, the plans will be available to look over.

The proposal to add on to the Administration building has been studied, and worked on for the past few years. The RWA Board of Directors will present vital information on this project, and will be there to answer any questions that residents may have.

Be an informed voter! Get the facts before you cast your vote on the upcoming ballot.

VOLUME 28 ISSUE 10

NEWSLETTER HIGHLIGHTS

RWA Town Hall Meeting

RWA Election News

The Benches of Broadmoor Park

Gators & People

Keep Moving!

Disco Bingo

Upcoming Events

Rotonda West Administrative
Office-Community Center
Broadmoor Park
646 Rotonda Circle
Rotonda West, FL 33947
Office Hours: 8 am-4pm M-F
Tel: (941) 697-6788

Website address:
www.rotondawest.org



ROTONDA WEST BOARD of DIRECTORS TOWN HALL MEETING

**RWA COMMUNITY
CENTER
646 ROTONDA CIRCLE**

**OCTOBER 9th
WEDNESDAY
6:00 pm**

PLEASE ATTEND TO HEAR ABOUT THE EXPANSION OF THE ADMINISTRATION BUILDING

- Your HOA Assessment Will Not Increase For The Expansion
- See Plans Of The New Building
 - Who Will Benefit
 - Why We Need It

**WE NEED TO HEAR FROM YOU
ALL QUESTIONS MATTER
EVERY VOTE COUNTS**

**Contact Directors
All emails found on the
RWA website.
[https://rotondawest.org/
about-hoa/#BOD](https://rotondawest.org/about-hoa/#BOD)**

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BOARD OF DIRECTORS UPCOMING ELECTION NEWS

Submitted by: Dale Jensen, Election Committee Chair

Each year residents submit their letters of intention to the Election Committee if they are seeking one of next year's open seats on the board. This year, four candidates submitted their names. Deb Orchard was selected by the Board to fill the remainder of the late Jack Metz's seat. Gwen Grace has since removed her name from the slate of candidates.

Therefore, this year, 2024 there are only two (2) candidates for a seat on the RWA Board: Sam Besase and Andy VanScyoc. Article 2, Section 2 C of the *Rotonda West Association, Inc. By-Laws* states that:

In the event that there are only as many (or fewer) candidates pre-qualified for election as there are open seats on the Board, no election shall be held and the pre-qualified candidates shall automatically become members of the Board after the annual meeting.

Accordingly, Sam Besase and Andy VanScyoc will automatically become members of the Board after the 2024 annual meeting.

Please note that while there are no candidates on the ballot, two (2) issues remain on the ballot:

- 1.) Addition to RWA Administration Building**
- 2.) Rollover of Funds**



THE BENCHES OF BROADMOOR PARK A TRIBUTE TO STAN PLIZGA

By: Nadine Clough and Bob Winter

Pictures by: Wayne Mengel & Bill Dunson



Stan Plizga

In Broadmoor Park sits a bench overlooking the pond to the right of the Community Center know as L04. This memorial bench is a tribute to Stan Plizga, who served on the RWA Board of Directors and as chairperson of the Aquatics Committee.

The Aquatics Committee is responsible for the waters in our canals, and the lakes within Broadmoor Park. Working with regulatory agencies, RWA manager, and expert advisors, the committee strives to maintain an ecosystem that provides a sustainable habitat and food source for wildlife.

Stan's legacy continues today with the use of the park as a showcase of nature for all of us who walk the trails of Broadmoor Park, and for the various groups such as the Native Plant Society, various bird watching groups, and the Butterfly Garden Group.



Memorial bench near L04 pond.



L to R: Bob Winter, Stan Plizga

Bob Winter who worked closely with Stan on the Aquatics Committee for several years starting in 2004, reflects, " While sitting on this bench enjoying nature, I think of Stan and all his hard, dedicated work on the Aquatics Committee to make Rotonda canals and Broadmoor Park ponds have good water quality and to be able to provide homes for wildlife."

Stan Plizga passed away in 2022, but his vision and love of nature is felt and appreciated by all of us who take in the beauty of the water in Broadmoor Park.

To watch the video on Stan Plizga's work on the Aquatics Committee go to YouTube and type in: A Tribute to Stan Plizga



Waterfowl enjoying the ponds



Presenter David Smith holds an alligator skull

GATORS, PEOPLE CAN CO-EXIST- BUT **DON'T** FEED THEM!

Story & Pictures by: Connie Smith



File Photo

Six inches of water in Florida? There may be an alligator nearby. So said Charlotte County Land Management Specialist David Smith to a packed Community Center of Rotonda West residents, September 10. Nearly 80 folks heard Smith and his boss Jason Thompson say that people and alligators can co-exist. Smith said it is not dangerous to live in a house close to the water and it is not dangerous to see an alligator - even one that is sunning itself on the bank. Typically, alligators want to be left alone and will shy away if they encounter humans.

Alligators have existed on earth for 83.5 million years and so are living dinosaurs. Their habitat is fresh water lakes or slow-moving rivers and wetlands. Male alligators can grow to 15 feet while females are smaller and less beefy, at 9 feet. While between 1967 and 1987, they were endangered in Florida, they are no longer and the state allows limited harvesting of alligators annually. Their typical lifespan is about 30 years.

Co-existing with alligators depends upon adherence to a few simple rules:

- **Be Aware** – always check where you're walking (a good idea that applies to other creatures such as snakes!)
- **Keep Your Distance** – folks are amazed when they learn how quickly alligators can move in short bursts of speed that can exceed 30 miles per hour. This speed is typically seen when an alligator is lunging after prey on the bank of the water, not running across a large area of land.
- **Assume** - always assume the possibility that there may be an alligator – even when near water as shallow as six inches. Keep your pets on a leash at all times to keep them safe.
- **Be Smart** – Don't feed alligators! Alligators that are fed lose their fear of humans and begin approaching people, looking for handouts. Tragically, this can lead to the animal being destroyed.



Presenter:
Jason Thompson

Because it has the potential to affect the safety of the local community, residents who observe people feeding alligators may want to avoid confrontation and turn the matter over to the professionals of the county and the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission (FWC) by contacting Jason Thompson 941-613-3221.

Charlotte County has been issued a permit to capture nuisance alligators on county-owned lands. Thompson and his team have successfully addressed 19 nuisance alligator reports in county-owned parks and preserves. Nuisance alligators captured through FWC's SNAP program are often euthanized, so Thompson suggested that residents who encounter nuisance alligators, contact him. The Charlotte County Land Management staff would like the opportunity to evaluate the behavior of the alligator. Many alligators are reported as "nuisance alligators" just because they are alarmingly large. Said Thompson, "in my experience most of these alligators do not represent a danger to the public just because they are present and removing an alligator only makes room for another alligator to move into that location." County staff are hopeful they can help educate and advise the Rotonda community on issues of wildlife and co-existence in our corner of paradise.

Changes Coming to the Community Outreach Committee

By: Deb Orchard



There are changes coming to the Community Outreach Committee. Some of the changes are “behind the scenes” and some are ones you will notice over the course of the next few months.

One change you may have already noticed is the portable sign at the entrance to Broadmoor Park has been removed. We still have other sources of ways for you to find out what the Community Outreach Committee is doing. We have our own page on Facebook, “[Rotonda West Official Events Page](#)”, where we post information of upcoming events. For all the news of what’s happening in the neighborhood and a list of upcoming events by this committee and others, go to the RWA website at: [rotondawest.org](#). And, of course, check in the [West Ways Newsletter](#)

- Calendar is at the top right corner, search by date to see what’s happening.
- West Ways newsletter under the Rotonda News heading
- Make an account and sign up for e-mail blasts (Constant Contact) and have important RWA news come directly to your e-mail.

Be assured, events which are already on the calendar and any which are added to the calendar will go forth, as planned. So, you may rely on what’s on the website calendar, what you read in West Ways, receive in the e-mail blasts and what’s posted on our Facebook page. For now, it’s just how and when you may receive notices of upcoming events which is changing.

As many of you already know, I am now one of the members of the Board of Directors. Hence, some of the duties I have been doing for this committee, I am giving up. So, you will gradually see changes in what this committee does and how we do it.

If you want to join us as a member of this committee, please contact us by e-mail at: communityoutreach@rotondawest.org. Also, if you’d like to volunteer to help with the Christmas Parade, Christmas decorating, or be considered for the new host for Music in the Park, please contact us.

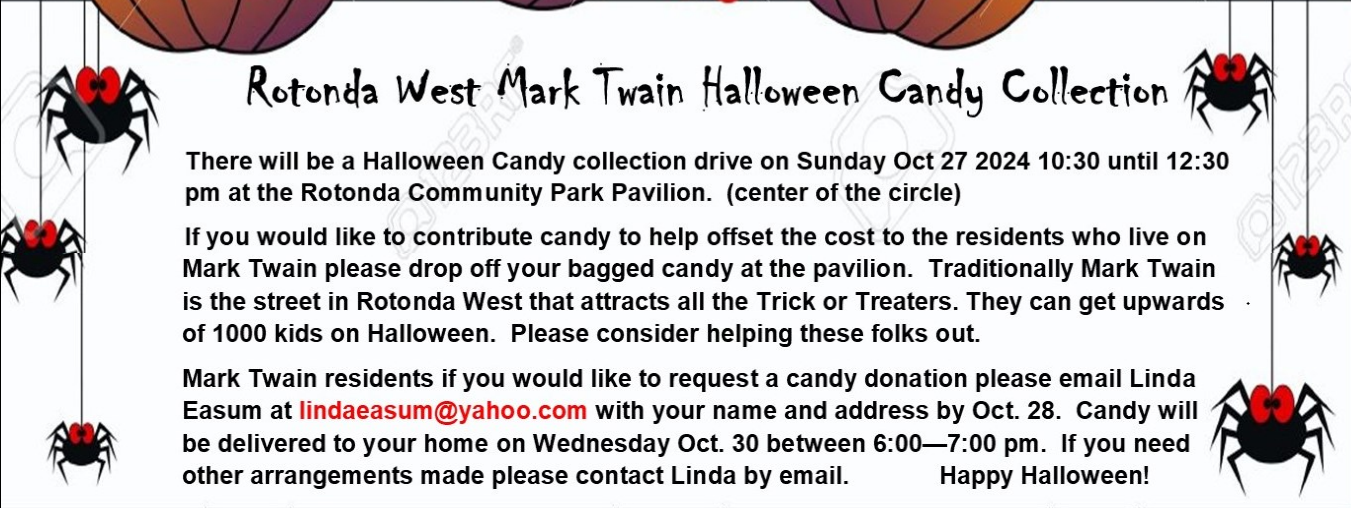
The top section of the flyer features a dark background with several orange jack-o'-lanterns having carved faces. Interspersed among the pumpkins are small, stylized red spiders with black bodies and legs.

Mark Twain Candy Drive

Sunday Oct. 27, 2024

Rotonda Community Park Pavilion

10:30 am —12:30 pm

The middle section of the flyer has a white background. It is decorated with several black spiders hanging from thin vertical lines. Each spider has red eyes and a red bow on its back.

Rotonda West Mark Twain Halloween Candy Collection

There will be a Halloween Candy collection drive on Sunday Oct 27 2024 10:30 until 12:30 pm at the Rotonda Community Park Pavilion. (center of the circle)

If you would like to contribute candy to help offset the cost to the residents who live on Mark Twain please drop off your bagged candy at the pavilion. Traditionally Mark Twain is the street in Rotonda West that attracts all the Trick or Treaters. They can get upwards of 1000 kids on Halloween. Please consider helping these folks out.

Mark Twain residents if you would like to request a candy donation please email Linda Easum at lindaeasum@yahoo.com with your name and address by Oct. 28. Candy will be delivered to your home on Wednesday Oct. 30 between 6:00—7:00 pm. If you need other arrangements made please contact Linda by email. Happy Halloween!

SHARE THE SPIRIT OF THE HALLOWEEN SEASON AND
DONATE CANDY TO THE
MARK TWAIN CANDY DRIVE
HAPPY HALLOWEEN !

NO EXCUSES- MOVE!

By: Pattie Mihalik



Exercise instructor Richard Conklin shares valuable advice on ways to keep moving.

Photo by: Pattie Mihalik

Richard Conklin kept his audience guessing when he taught an exercise class at Rotonda West Community Center. The class was advertised as chair yoga and Richard made it more intriguing by promising his class would incorporate elements of skiing, swimming and many tapes of exercise, but there would be no mat work. Most of the exercises could be done in a chair.

While that was true, the class might be better named as “No excuse-exercise”. The instructor made it clear that regardless of physical problems we could all benefit from exercise. “I have people in wheelchairs taking the class. Everyone can benefit from exercise, regardless of your starting point”, he said. The secret to a better life, he stressed, can be found in one word, “MOVE!” And then he added, “KEEP MOVING!” As an instructor at Englewood YWCA, Richard is certified to teach many types of exercise, including yoga, Zumba Gold, water class, and spin classes, and all levels of group classes.

But what makes him more credible to any audience is his own personal experience. With a long history of diabetes, the senior citizen was also diagnosed with Parkinson’s Disease that he knew was progressive. “I knew the only way to fight Parkinson’s is through exercise. I went from being an old guy sitting on the sofa to a group fitness instructor”, he said. When he decided to exercise to improve his own physical ability, he went at it with a passion, taking four exercise classes a day.



Residents “Keep Moving”

Photo by: Rita Lopienski

“I have a calling to help people by teaching them how to improve their own health through exercise,” he states. Listening to the comments of those who took his RWA class, it became clear he had won more converts to an active way of life. “He made me want more”, said one woman.

Luckily Rotonda residents will find it easy to be more active with the beautiful walking paths in Broadmoor Park and the newly offered exercise classes at the RWA Community Center.

Check the monthly calendar on the Rotonda West website, the West Ways newsletter list of events, and the new Rotonda West Facebook page for what interests you.

SUMMER TAI CHI CLASSES ARE A HIT



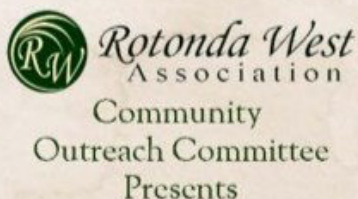
By: Rita Lopienski



ROTONDA RESIDENTS ENJOYING TAI CHI CLASS

In June, Tai Chi classes began every Monday at 9 am (except the 2nd Monday of each month). 20-30 men & women alike enjoy the stretch & balance routines that Francine Finucan leads.

All RWA member & renters are welcome!



TAI CHI

For Beginners and the Experienced
Instruction by Dr. Francine Finucan

1st, 3rd, 4th & 5th Monday
of Each Month
9:00am

RWA
Community Center
646 Rotonda Circle



- Wear comfortable clothes and shoes, bring water in a covered container.
- At this time, the Tai Chi fitness class will be for RWA members & renters only.
- An RWA Fitness Liability Waiver must be filled out (only once).
- Questions:
communityoutreach@rotondawest.org
- Please do not contact the RWA Admin Office, you will be referred to the above email.
- No pets.

- Tai Chi is an internal Chinese martial art practiced for self-defense and health known for its slow, intentional movements.
- Tai Chi is particularly popular as a form of gentle exercise and moving meditation, with benefits to mental and physical health.
- Tai Chi is all standing, but may also be practiced in a sturdy chair.
- Benefits of practicing Tai Chi: preventing falls in older adults, osteoarthritis, Parkinson disease, chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (COPD), and cognitive functioning.
- This gentle form of exercise can help maintain strength, flexibility, and balance, and could be the perfect activity for the rest of your life.



Rotonda West
Association

Community Outreach Committee
Presents

Mix & Mingle

Wednesday, October 2 at 5pm

(Always on the 1st Wednesday of the month)

Rotonda Community Park
on Parade Circle

Happy
Hour

PLEASE JOIN US
— For —

DRINKS



COME MEET YOUR NEIGHBORS AND MAKE
SOME NEW FRIENDS AND HAVE SOME FUN!!!!

FOR ALL ROTONDA WEST RESIDENTS AND THEIR GUESTS. .
BYOB, BRING A SNACK IF YOU WOULD LIKE!

Please do not contact the RWA office, they do not have information.

**TWO
GREAT
SOCIAL
EVENTS FOR
ROTONDA
RESIDENTS,
RENTERS,
AND THEIR
GUESTS!
COME
JOIN US
AND HAVE
SOME
FUN!**



Rotonda West
Association

Community Outreach Committee
Presents

Mix & Mingle

POT LUCK DINNER

Tuesday, October 22 at 5pm

(Always on the 4th Tuesday of the month)

RWA Community Center - 646 Rotonda Circle

Open to all RWA members and their guests

Now with
musical
entertainment

If your last name begins with:

A-H - Dessert

I-P - Salad or Side

Q-Z- Main Dish

(ie: casseroles, baked pasta dish,
etc.)

Bring a dish to share, and your drink of choice and
cup. We will provide the rest of the tableware.



This is a great way to meet your
neighbors and make new friends!

Please do not contact the RWA
office, they do not have information



Disco Bingo Draws a Music-Loving Crowd

Article & Pictures by: Connie Smith

The Rotonda Community Center wasn't quite a disco inferno, but musically, it was transferred back to the days of glittering discotheques, big hair, couple dancing and big sound music with steady beats, plenty of brass and lights. Every third song was by the Bee Gees it seemed, as the master of trivia, Tim Dowd, put on Disco Bingo for a smaller, yet enthusiastic, crowd, September 18.

Players sought one of four \$25 gift cards as they filled in the spaces of their bingo sheets that matched the names of disco songs played by Tim. Introducing the evening's play, he told the room he would be playing "the 100 most famous disco songs" and "dancing is always allowed." As familiar music played, many could be seen nodding their heads or waving their arms to the beat, while they perused their cards for the corresponding song titles.



Tim Dowd explains the rules of Disco Bingo

"Funkytown" by Lipps, Inc., "YMCA" and "In the Navy" by The Village People, "Copacabana" by Barry Manilow, "I Will Survive" by Gloria Gaynor, "Last Dance" by Donna Summer (who died in 2012 but was a former resident of Manasota Key!), "September" by Earth Wind & Fire, and "Boogie Shoes" by KC and the Sunshine Band were just some of the songs that prompted Tim to ruminate, "I feel sorry for kids today. They really don't know how to dance...They don't know what happy music is. I saw that on Spotify, the number one most searched term by Gen Z is the word *sad*."

At least Baby Boomers will always have the Four Seasons' "Oh, What a Night!" ...and Bingo!

Right: No two people enjoyed the fever of disco bingo like Ruth Ann Kort (left) and Mary Cowett.



Irene & Bob Thibeault jointly study their song titles



Lisa Campbell came well prepared to play.



Bud Stewart searches his bingo Card for a disco song title.

UPCOMING EVENTS

OCTOBER

- **"Mix & Mingle Happy Hour"**
Wednesday October 2nd @ 5 pm
Rotonda Community Park
- **Music in the Park-Rotonda Ukulele Band** Thurs 10/3 @ 6:30 pm
- **Tai Chi**
Monday, 10/7, 10/21, 10/28 at 9 am
- **Nature Presentation-Scrub Jays**
Tuesday October 8th @ 5:30 pm
Com. Center
- **Board of Directors Town Hall**
Wednesday October 9th @ 6 p.m.
Community Center
- **Nature Presentation-Bobcats**
Tuesday October 15th @ 5:50 pm
Com. Center
- **Trivia**
Wednesday October 16th @ 6:30 pm
Community Center
- **BINGO**
Sunday October 20th @ 1 pm
- **"Mix & Mingle Potluck"**
Tuesday October 22nd @ 5:00 pm
Community Center

NOVEMBER

- **Community Garage Sale**
Friday November 1st @ 9 am-5 pm
- **Community Garage Sale**
Saturday November 2nd @ 9 am – 5 pm
- **GFWC RWWC Alzheimer Walk**
Saturday November 2nd @ 8:30 am - 10:30 am
- **Community Garage Sale (Rain Date)**
Sunday November 3rd @ 9 am-5 pm
- **Tai Chi**
Monday, 11/4, 11/18, 11/25 at 9 am
- **Charlotte County Coyote Presentation**
Wednesday November 6th @ 2 pm
- **"Happy Hour"** Wed. Nov. 6th @ 5 pm
- **RWA Open House**
Thursday November 7th @ 6-8 pm
Community Center
- **GFWC RWWC Annual Bazaar Fund-raiser** Saturday November 9th @ 8 am-3 pm
- **Music in the Park / Lemon Bay Jazz Band (indoor event)** Wednesday November 13th @ 4-5:30 pm
- **Trivia Night w/ Tim**
Wednesday Nov. 20th @ 6:30-8:30 pm
- **"Mix & Mingle Potluck"** Tues. Nov. 26th @ 5 pm
- **Nature Walk in Broadmoor Park**
Saturday November 30th @ 9-11 am
(pending approval by BOD)

MUSIC IN THE PARK

Community Outreach
Committee Presents:



The Rotonda Ukulele Band

THURSDAY,
OCTOBER 3RD
6:30 P.M.

COME ENJOY
SOME FAVORITE
SONGS INSIDE
THE AIR-
CONDITIONED
COMMUNITY
CENTER

BRING A SNACK,
AND A BEVERAGE



RWA COMMUNITY CENTER
WELCOME RESIDENTS, RENTERS,
AND GUESTS

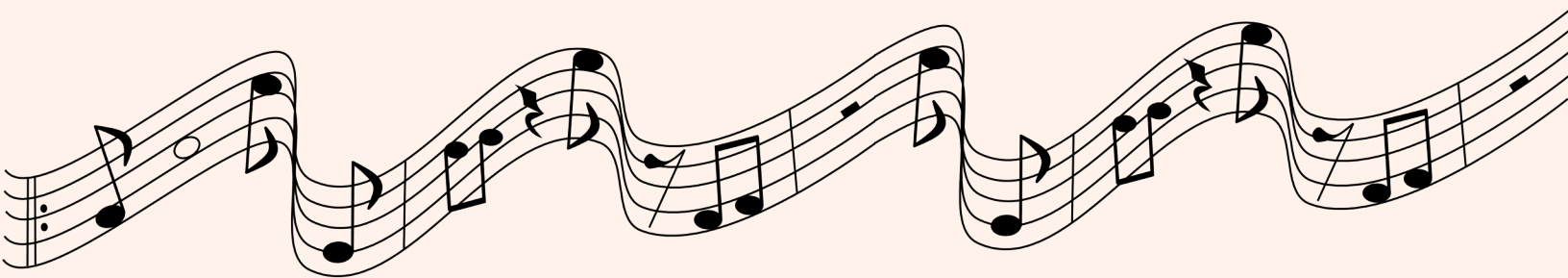
QUESTIONS? PLEASE DO NOT CALL OFFICE
GO TO: communityoutreachcommittee.org

COMMUNITY OUTREACH COMMITTEE



MUSIC IN THE PARK

UPCOMING EVENTS



THURSDAY, OCTOBER 3RD
ROTONDA UKULELE BAND
6:30 p.m. An inside event



WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 13TH
LEMON BAY HIGH SCHOOL JAZZ BAND
4:00 p.m. (inside)



WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 4TH
CHRISTMAS MUSIC WITH JONNY PUMA
5:00 p.m. (outside, weather permitting)



WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 18TH
CARY PRICE ON THE ORGAN
6:30 p.m. (inside)



Music in the Park events are held at the Community Center at 646 Rotonda Circle.

These events are for residents, renters, and guests.

Bring a snack and drink to enjoy during the performances. If the event is outside, bring a chair.

Presented by: The Community Outreach Committee

COMMUNITY OUTREACH COMMITTEE

NATURE GROUP

PRESENTS TWO EVENTS

FOR RESIDENTS, RENTERS, & GUESTS IN OCTOBER

PRESENTER: CHARLOTTE COUNTY
ENVIRONMENTAL LANDS SPECIALIST



SCRUB-JAYS



TUESDAY

OCTOBER 8TH

5:30 P.M.

COMMUNITY CENTER

646 ROTONDA CIRCLE

BOBCATS



TUESDAY

OCTOBER 15TH

5:30 P.M.

COMMUNITY CENTER

646 ROTONDA CIRCLE

Community Outreach Nature Group Previews Presentations

By: Merrill Horswill



SCRUB-JAYS: 10/8/24 @ 5:30 P.M. The Florida Scrub-Jay is a Federally Threatened species, the only bird that is endemic to Florida. The Florida scrub-jay is a blue and gray bird about the size of a blue jay with blue wings, head, and tail, and gray back and underparts, and a whitish forehead and neck. Unlike blue jays, this species does not have black markings or a crest. Florida scrub-jays live in family groups that consist of a breeding pair and young helpers, usually the offspring of the pair. Scrub-jays inhabit sand pine and oak scrub, and scrubby flatwoods, which occur in some of the highest and driest areas of Florida.

The primary threats to the Florida scrub-jay are habitat destruction, fragmentation and degradation from development and agriculture. The lack of connectivity, causes populations to become smaller and more isolated. Fire suppression degrades the scrub habitat, as the habitat becomes too dense and tall to support the species. The scrub-jay population has declined 90% in the past century (Florida Natural Areas Inventory 2001). Three-quarters of remaining scrubby habitats are protected through land under public or private ownership that is dedicated for conservation and requires the efforts of multiple local, State, and Federal agencies and non-governmental organizations and private landowners.

Two of the best places to see Florida Scrub Jays in Charlotte County are Tippecanoe Environmental Park and Prairie Creek Preserve. In 2014 Charlotte County developed a Habitat Conservation Plan (HCP) to help insure long term survival of the species.



BOBCATS: 10/15/24 @ 5:30 P.M. Bobcats are about twice the size of a domestic cat, tan to yellowish brown with dark brown or black streaks. The bobcat's ears are pointed with short, black tufts while the tail is short and gives the appearance of being "bobbed." The young have mottled or spotted fur with more distinct facial marking than the adults.



They are widely distributed throughout Florida in deep forest, swamps, and hammock land. In rural areas, bobcats can range five or six square miles and in urban to suburban areas, the range of territory usually decreases to 1 or 2 miles.

The female bobcat can breed after one year. In Florida, bobcats breed from August to March with the peak in February and March. One to four young are born after a gestation period of 50 to 60 days.

An efficient hunter, the bobcat hunts by sight and usually at night. Seeing a bobcat during the day is not uncommon because they sleep for only 2 to 3 hours at a time. In Florida, squirrels, rabbits, and rats are the primary prey species. Learn more about this beautiful native cat.



September 15th Games



Rotonda West
Association

Community Outreach Committee Presents

60 People played
last month! Size
will grow as
Snowbirds return.

Join us!



October 20th

RWA Community Center
646 Rotonda Circle

1:00 pm – 4:00 pm
Doors open at 12:15 pm

Welcome property owners, residents, renters, and their guests.
Please invite your vacationing neighbors.

Snacks & water
available,
or bring your
own.
Covered
beverage
container please.

Questions?
communityoutreach@rotondawest.org
Please do not contact the
RWA Admin Office.
You will be referred to the above e-mail
No pets.

Play begins
promptly
at 1:00 pm

Must be 18 to
play.



Presented by the R.W. Outreach Committee

Saturday, December 7th at 10:00 AM

Christmas Parade

Now presenting the 2024 Theme...

Christmas at the



LIGHTS...CAMERA...ACTION!



COME HAVE FUN AT THE ROTONDA WEST CHRISTMAS PARADE

Register online at

Rotondawest.org (under Events Tab)

If you have questions, please email: parade@rotondawest.org or

Call 616.540.7557 Pam Pierce -Parade Coordinator

Parade entry application opens 9/1/2024 and ends 11/16/2024

*The Marines and RWA will be collecting new unwrapped toys
along the parade route to benefit Toys for Tots.
We will also be collecting food items to support Englewood Helping Hands
Event sponsorships are available. Call for details.*



Submitted by David Perry

OCTOBER 2024

Scammed Yet Again? You can prevent it..

Happy Fall. As you know scammers are getting more creative in their scams, using scary tactics. This past month, four of our residents were scammed over the phone. Please don't be fooled by these scammers. Please protect yourself and when in doubt, hang up, and then call the place they claim to represent to verify their intent. For instance, Medicare Does Not Give Out DNA Kits.

Here's one that goes to show just how creative scammers can be. The FTC is getting reports that callers claiming to be from Medicare are asking people for their Medicare numbers, Social Security numbers, and other personal information...in exchange for DNA testing kits. The callers might say the test is a free way to get early diagnoses for diseases like cancer, or just that it's a free test, so why not take it? But the truth is, Medicare does not market DNA testing kits to the general public.

This is yet another government imposter scam. In this example, as in others, scammers may give what seems like a believable explanation for needing your information. But before you give anyone your personal information or a swab from your cheek, consider these tips to help you spot and avoid these kinds of scams.

*Government agencies will rarely, if ever, call you. If they do, it will be after they send you a letter – or to return a call you made to them. But anytime the “government” caller demands information (or payment by wire transfer or gift card), that's a scam.

*Don't trust caller ID. Scammers use technology to hide their real number but show one that seems legit. So, if the caller ID shows a 202 area code, or says “government” or “Washington, DC,” don't take that at face value. It could be anyone calling from anywhere.

*Never give anyone who calls or approaches you out of the blue information like your Medicare, bank account, credit card or Social Security number. Scammers can use your information, steal your identity, get credit in your name and take your money.



If you are looking to volunteer as a Patrol or be a Base Station, it just takes two hours a month; a small commitment to protecting our neighborhoods. If you are interested in joining our organization, please contact David Perry at 941-828-1584 OR go to our Facebook page @ Rotonda West Neighborhood Watch

See you at our next meeting on October 15th, at 10:00 am in the Community Center. Meetings are recorded and shared via Facebook (Rotonda West Neighborhood Watch) and our website (www.rotondawestneighborhoodwatch.com) Best Regards, David Perry.

Protecting Rotonda West since 1981

David W Perry -President- 941-828-1584

www.rotondawestneighborhoodwatch.com

Facebook @ Rotonda West Neighborhood Watch



GFWC Rotonda West Woman's Club, Inc.
Gwen Grace, President



October is looking to be a very busy month for our club. We have the Fall Fashion Show on October 10th at Heron Creek Country Club, and our members are working hard to make it a lovely event. The proceeds will go towards Lemon Bay High School Scholarships and to Kids Needs of Great Englewood. Fashions will be provided by Anthony's Ladies Apparel from Nokomis. Our models will be the members and Becca DeRosa from Kids Needs. Great raffle items too!

The members are gearing up to make the November 9th Holiday Bazaar one of the best we've ever had. This year there will be a special attraction for children! See the flyer that is attached. And our members are getting their cookie pans ready to make some wonderful treats for Cookies By the Pound.

At our last general meeting we had the Lemon Bay High School students who our club sent to the Hugh O'Brien Youth (HOBY) Leadership weekend workshop. At HOBY, they believe all students have the potential to lead. Lemon Bay HS students apply to attend and are chosen by a panel of teachers and counselors – their names and gender are not revealed until the choice is made. Three young ladies were chosen and came to our meeting to say thanks and tell us about their experience. Next year we hope to be able to increase the number of scholarships for this worthwhile program.



L-R: Lemon Bay HS counselor Jennifer Ragazzone, Club President Gwen Grace, the three Lemon Bay High School HOBY students and Club 1st Vice President Gloria Rogoski.

During the social hour at our meeting, members and guests wrote thank you notes to the military veterans who will participate in the Honor Flights to Washington DC. The "Mail Bag" cards are given to the veterans on the return flight to Florida. We enjoyed doing our small part in making the veterans' experiences memorable.



Our next General Meeting is Thursday, October 17th at the RWA community center. **Please note the change of time.** The social hour begins at 9:30 am and the business meeting starts promptly at 10:30 am. Please go to our website at www.gfwcrotondawest.org for information about upcoming events and who we are and what we do. You can also find us on Facebook at GFWC Rotonda West Woman's Group.

BIG RED BUS IS COMING TO ROTONDA WEST IN OCTOBER



THE GFWC ROTONDA WEST WOMAN'S CLUB IS SPONSORING A ONE-BLOOD DRIVE ON OCTOBER 22, 2024 FROM 9 A.M.-3 P.M. THE DRIVE WILL BE HELD AT THE MARINA ACROSS FROM THE HILLS RESTAURANT, 100 ROTONDA CIRCLE, ROTONDA WEST. TO MAKE AN APPOINTMENT, PLEASE GO TO: OneBlood.org or call Ellen Lang at 917-579-7770

PLEASE DONATE

Proud member of General Federation of Women's Clubs

Rotonda West Woman's Club Holiday Bazaar



Free
Event

Saturday Nov 9th 9am - 1:30pm

Rotonda West Community Center
646 Rotonda Circle

Cookies by
the Pound

- Bake Sale
- Gift Basket Raffle
- Nearly New Jewelry Boutique
- Hot Dog Lunch -
Available after 11am (Cash Only)

Creative
Crafters

Sew n'
Sews

Knit n'
Chat

Fundraiser
Proceeds benefit
local charities

Handcrafted gifts for
everyone on your list.



New This Year!

Gingerbread Village
"Family Fun"

- Photos with Florida Santa
- Make and Take craft & more

9am - 12:30pm



Follow our event on Facebook for Holiday Bazaar updates!

@GFWC Rotonda West Woman's Club Holiday Bazaar

GFWC Rotonda West Woman's Club is an all volunteer 501(c)(3) nonprofit service organization working to improve the community by volunteering time and financial resources to support numerous local and national charities and groups. We are "Living the Volunteer Spirit" with Love, Respect and Kindness for all.

TEAM NAME:

ROTONDA WEST

The Rotonda West team consists of members of GFWC Rotonda West Woman's Club, Rotonda West community, friends and family!

REGISTRATION & DONATION

We're registered under the Sarasota walk. Type in the website address or use the scan code.

act.alz.org/goto/rotondawest



THANK YOU!

This is the world's largest event to raise awareness and funds for Alzheimer's care, support and research. Thanks for supporting us.

QUESTIONS

Clare Imrie

clareimrieuk@hotmail.com

Cell: 713-825-2154



PLEASE JOIN US!

The GFWC Rotonda West Woman's Club invites you!

NOVEMBER 2ND

SATURDAY

9:00 AM

BROADMOOR PARK

646 ROTONDA CIRCLE

ROTONDA WEST, FL



GFWC Florida
GENERAL FEDERATION of WOMEN'S CLUBS
living the volunteer spirit



**ROTONDA WEST ASSOCIATION
NEIGHBORHOOD
GARAGE SALE!**

**FRIDAY & SATURDAY- NOVEMBER 1ST & 2ND
9 A.M. – 5 P.M.
(RAINDATE: NOVEMBER 3RD)**

Here's a great way to go through your extra "stuff" and make some money! RWA will have a Community Wide Garage Sale for RWA members and renters to participate in. You can do one or both days. A third day, **Sunday, 11/3**, is only added as a rain date.

A Garage Sale Participation Form is posted on the RWA website, and a hard copy is on the information rack at the RWA office. Flyers with instructions and contacts will be sent via Constant Contact and Facebook. The event will be promoted to the public with RA signs and news releases.

DO NOT CALL THE RWA OFFICE WITH QUESTIONS. Please contact the Community Outreach Committee at: communityoutreach@rotondawest.org, garagesale@rotondawest.org or call [630-956-8814](tel:630-956-8814) for questions.

We look forward to our second Annual Fall Community Garage Sale! Last November 2023, had 125 participants and was very well received.

Rita Lopienski

RWA Community Outreach Committee Garage Sale Chair

ROTONDA WEST ASSOCIATION NEIGHBORHOOD GARAGE SALE!

FRIDAY & SATURDAY- NOVEMBER 1ST & 2ND
9 A.M. – 5 P.M.
(RAINDATE: NOVEMBER 3RD)

Location: Homes throughout Rotonda West Association Neighborhoods
Please do NOT ask RWA Administrative Office staff for information.

TO PARTICIPATE & SELL

1. Community-Wide Garage Sale Participation Form must be submitted and approved.
DEADLINE: October 20th Midnight
2. Hard copy available at: Lobby rack in RWA office, and in RWA Community Center.
3. Electronic Copy available on RWA Website.
Go to: rotondawest.org
4. Submit your form to:
Hard Copy-RWA Office
Electronic Form-Online
5. Questions? Call 630-956-8814 or send email to: communityoutreach@rotondawest.org
6. Must be an RWA property owner, resident, or renter.
7. The event authorization code will be sent to you upon approval.
8. The sale of items must be on a developed residential parcel.

TO SHOP & BUY

An electronic address list of sellers will be posted on Constant Contact approximately 1 week before the event.

Hard copies will be made available for pick-up at the entrance of Rotonda West property near the mailbox, 646 Rotonda Circle on the mornings of the event.

Please be respectful to the sellers by honoring the timeframe of the event.





RWA VOLUNTEER JOB LOG (Jan.-Dec. 2024)

NAME: _____

ADDRESS: _____

EMAIL: _____

PHONE: _____

RWA EVENT/JOB	DATE	COMMITTEE NAME
1. _____	_____	_____
2. _____	_____	_____
3. _____	_____	_____
4. _____	_____	_____
5. _____	_____	_____
6. _____	_____	_____
7. _____	_____	_____
8. _____	_____	_____

At the end of the calendar year, hand in this sheet
in to the Community Outreach Committee, or to
the Volunteer Appreciation Dinner Coordinator.

THANK YOU!

**IT IS THE VOLUNTEER'S RESPONSIBILITY TO
FILL OUT THIS FORM!**

RED GROUP

BLUE GROUP

☐
☐

Coordinator will check box

OFFICE STAFF

Derrick Hedges
Manager

Tammy Birdsong
Administrator

Nancy Schwechel
Administrator and
Deed Restrictions

Jenny Bulle
Bookkeeper

Annette Casteel
Administrator and
Minutes Clerk

Sheryl Ann Nowicki
Administrator

Kelsey Stewart
Administrator

Denise Huffman
Minutes Clerk

Joe Harris
Communications Specialist

Jack Lanar
Compliance Officer

MAINTENANCE STAFF

Wayne Taylor

Dale Anderson

Craig Brown

Doug Smith

**THANK YOU TO OUR
WONDERFUL STAFF**

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