



PARCELS FROM *Paradise*

KEEPING VENETIAN RESIDENTS CONNECTED..

Published by the VGRCCA as a service to our members and residents of the Venetian Golf and River Club.

SEPTEMBER 2020

Parcels is a publication of the Venetian Golf and River Club Community Association (www.vgrcca.us) a voluntary, membership-based organization founded in 2008. Its mission, primarily focusing on issues “outside the gates” is separate and distinct from the Property Owners Association (POA) and the Venetian Community Development District (VCDD)

Face Covering Continues

At their September 8, 2020 meeting, City Council passed a Face Covering Ordinance which basically extends the expiration date of the existing Ordinance until **October 31, 2020**. All original requirements and exceptions remain the same.

Election Update

The VGRCCA is hosting a Candidate Forum in early October via a Zoom Webinar. Featured will be candidates for two races. These races are the Venice Council Seat, Number 2 and the CDD race at the Venetian. As mentioned in previous editions of *Parcels*, only Florida registered voters can vote on both of these races. Details are still being worked out for the Candidate Forum and residents will be notified through a special email regarding the necessary information to log on to the Forum. As an organization, the VGRCCA neither supports nor endorses any candidate or ballot issue.

Remember, for Florida voters, there are basically three ways to vote. First is going to the polls on Election Day. Bringing an identification is necessary. Secondly, Vote by Mail. Assuming you have already registered for a Vote by Mail ballot, you should be receiving it in late September. If you want to Vote by Mail and have not yet requested your ballot to be sent to you, the deadline for such a request is October 24th, or you can pick up your ballot at the County elections office in advance of Election Day. Follow the direction, especially applying your signature on the back of the envelope. Finally, there is “Early voting”. The Supervisor of Elections will provide early voting at designated early voting sites beginning at least 10 days prior to an election that contains state or federal races and ending on the third day before the election. Check the media or click on the the Sarasota Supervisor of Election’s web site at; <https://www.sarasotavotes.com> for specific locations.



School Supply Success

The two week Supply the Supplies, benefitting Laurel Nokomis School and organized by the VGRC Community Association, was a tremendous success. The school received over 15 large boxes of supplies and \$4,850.00 in donations. Pictured are Principal Ray Wilson and Assistant Principal Heather Wasserman receiving a check from the Community Association representative and all the boxes lined up at the school. The Venetian received recognition of its efforts through an article in the Venice Gondolier, a news story on SNN and finally a large thank you on the school’s Laurel Rd. electronic sign. Great job, Venetians!



Thank you for reading *Parcels*. If you have a story idea click on “reply” and let us know.

Pushing for Parks

The Community Association is working with City of Venice officials to bring more parks to this area. There are over 30 parks in Venice, but only one in our Northeast Venice sector. Ideas being discussed are pickleball courts, playgrounds, dog parks, a Kayak/Canoe launch, and passive parks (preserve green space/open space). If you have an opinion on what you would like to see in parks for this area, please respond by clicking "reply" to the Parcels email in order that the Community Association can bring residents' thoughts on to Council.

HRT Update



September is the month with the most frequent number of hurricanes in Florida.

Again, we encourage our residents to have their own household plan if we are faced with a hurricane. Remember, at 35 mph of sustained winds with a hurricane possible, our privacy guards at the front gate leave and take down all the gate arms. After the hurricane passes, Hurricane Readiness Team (HRT) members staff the front gate and close the lane which normally allow the gate arm to rise. Thus, all traffic will go through one lane, the one closest to the guard house. There may be some backup but the HRT team will get you through.

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Serving the Venetian Golf and River Club
Sponsored by the VGRC Community Association

New Venice ALS Ambulances

Beginning October 1st, the Venice Fire Department will be taking over ambulance service from the County. This is good news for our residents. To show off their new vehicle, the VFD will be at the River Club on **Saturday, September 26th from 11:30 am – 1 pm** at the invitation of the VGRC Community Association. You will be able to see first-hand this new Advance Life Saving (ALS) mobile equipment. And while you are at the ALS ambulance open house, you might take advantage of the River Club's every Saturday grill out featuring scrumptious burgers, hot dogs, chicken and more.



The Three's

You've heard of the 3 Musketeers, the 3 Tenors and the 3 Amigos. And now we want to introduce you to the 3 greatest River Club omelet cooks, ready to take your made-to-order request at the Sunday Brunch starting at 9:00 am. The price continues at \$9.95. Contact the River Club for reservations and while ordering that omelet with ham, peppers, cheese and tomatoes, give a shout out to the "three."



Fire Department Alert: Golf Cart Charging Safety

Recently, a Venetian resident's carbon monoxide detector activated and the Venice Fire Department was called. The source of the problem was found to be the golf cart in the garage. It was determined that while lead acid batteries in golf carts do not emit carbon monoxide, they do emit hydrogen. It was also noted that a carbon monoxide detector will activate when exposed to high amounts of hydrogen. Hydrogen gas, like carbon monoxide, is a colorless and odorless gas. If your carbon monoxide detector sounds, evacuate the home immediately and then call 9-1-1. Like carbon monoxide, hydrogen can cause asphyxiation. Excess hydrogen could also lead to fire and explosion. If you own an electric golf cart or an after-market charging system for the cart, it is recommended that you check with the manufacturer to find out if your system allows for automatic shutoff when the charging cycle is completed. Newer golf carts and chargers allow for automatic shutoff. Some older golf cart models and after-market charging systems don't shut off, and the result is continuous production of hydrogen gas. The fire department's advice was to only charge a golf cart in a well-ventilated area or with the garage door open. Also, be sure you have a carbon monoxide detector in a part of the house close to the garage.



BEYOND THE GATES

It's (a) Bazaar

Parcels found an interesting site to visit. It's called The Bazaar on Apricot and Lime, open **Thursday – Saturday, 10 am - 3 pm**. It has a variety of vendors selling art, collectables, clothing, jewelry and more. Food is available. Put in your GPS, 821 Apricot Ave., and have a fun time at this very unique place.

U.S. Postal Service

Parcels has received a couple of question about our Postal Service. First, is it true that mail from Venice is taken all the way up to Tampa to be sorted? The answer is no... sorted in Sarasota. Is there any way to find out how long it takes for Uncle John in Wisconsin to receive my letter? Yes, go to <https://postcalc.usps.com/ServiceCommitments>, put in your zip code and Uncle John's zip code and you will see the time needed for first class mail.

More than Fruits and Vegetables

It will take you about ten minutes of travel to get to Saturday's Farmers Market in downtown Venice near City Hall. It opens at 8 am until noon, but beginning October 1st, it will be open until 1 pm. You will see a variety of vendors with reasonable prices. Let's support our local vendors.



Xmas Parade Cancelled

The City of Venice has thought through the decision about holding the annual Xmas parade and has decided it is in everyone's best interest to cancel this year's parade. I guess the challenge now for Venice City Manager Ed Lavallee is who's going to tell Santa about the status of this year's parade.

Musical Instruments Needed

Parcels recently spoke with the new Band Director at Venice H.S. who indicated that he needs instruments, any type, for some of his music students. He's facing the same problem that was associated with the school supply initiative...no sharing plus many parents struggling economically. Therefore, if you have that trumpet (or any other instrument) stored in your house and you finally realized that you are not going to be the next Wynton Marsalis (pictured here), you can donate it to the Venice High School music program. Just take the instrument to the high school front office (1 Indian Ave. on the island) and tell the secretary to give it to the Band Director. If you have any questions for Band Director, David Wing, his email is David.Wing@sarasotacountyschools.net.



Welcome to the "Hood"

We welcome Tom Desjarlais, the new manager of the Publix at Plaza Venezia. Tom has a very engaging personality and actually worked at this Laurel Road store when it first opened. If you see him walking the aisles, take a moment to introduce yourself as a proud VGRCC resident.

A FINAL NOTE

Great Memories

Surely these are tough times for many. Traveling to those unique sites around the world along with trying to find that local restaurant that follows all the health protocols are some of the challenges we all face. However, if you want to perk up your day and have an uplifting experience, try to find your high school yearbook and read what your classmates wrote about you. You are almost guaranteed to walk away with a good feeling and a smile. We welcome to hear about your experience.





WELCOME
SEPTEMBER

Busy Peoples' Reminder Calendar

- September 26, 11:30 am -1 pm, River Club - Venice Fire Department Ambulance Open House
- October 20, 3 pm – VGRCCA Zoom Monthly Board Meeting#
- Every Saturday, 9 am -12 pm – Venice Farmer's Mart on the island (changes to a 1 pm closing on 10/1)
- Every Sunday – Best (and most inexpensive) Breakfast Anywhere, River Club, 9-12:30 pm
see previous article about the “three” at the River Club

Click on www.vgrcca.us for details.