



# 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.

AUGUST 2021

*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)*

## OPPORTUNITIES TO GET INVOLVED IN YOUR CITY

Below are three City advisory Boards who are seeking members:

### **Parks and Recreation Advisory Board**

This board advises and gives recommendations to City Council on matters pertaining to the parks and recreation system of the City.

### **Environmental Advisory Board (EAB)**

This eight-member board facilitates the development of an integrated environmental strategy by evaluating the City's current policies and practices and providing specific recommendations for improving the City's environmental impact.

### **Police Pension Board of Trustees**

The board determines all questions relating to eligibility and membership; determines and certifies the amount of all retirement allowances or other benefits under this division; and establishes uniform rules and procedures to be followed for administrative purposes, benefit applications and all matters required to administer the system.

*For more information about any of the above, contact Deputy City Clerk Mercedes Barcia in the City Clerk's Office at [mbarcia@venicefl.gov](mailto:mbarcia@venicefl.gov) or 941-882-7392. All applications meeting the requirements will be considered when vacancies occur. The window for application submittals is 10 days and may be extended if needed. If you are selected to serve on a City board, you will be required to comply with the state public records and sunshine laws.*

## Update: Venice Council Election

The 2021 City of Venice Election will take place on Tuesday, Nov. 2, 2021, for City Council Seats 3 and 4, which are currently held by Council Member Helen Moore and Council Member Richard Cautero, respectively. Voting for these seats is open only to registered voters residing within Venice city limits. **The last date that residents will be able to register to vote in the 2021 City of Venice Election is Monday, Oct. 4, 2021.**

A term on City Council is for three years. Each Council member may serve three consecutive terms. City Council candidates must be residents who have been registered to vote in the City of Venice for 12 consecutive months prior to the first day of qualifying, Monday, Aug. 16, 2021. **The deadline to file is Friday, Aug. 20, 2021, at noon. Perhaps there might be a resident in the Venetian interested in throwing his/her hat into the ring.**

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

## A HIGHLY RESPECTED COUNCIL MEMBER DECIDES NOT TO RUN

Rich Cautero, two term Venice City Councilperson and Venetian resident, recently announced that he will not be running for a council seat in the upcoming election. Rich gets an A+ for his six years of service to the community. Rich always did his homework, probably was one of the most knowledgeable on council regarding finances and made himself accessible to this community and others as needed. He will be missed by both this city and community for the time and effort he gave to making Venice an even better place to live. Thank you, Rich, for your service. Job well done!

## FLORIDA'S ELECTION CHANGES

Senate Bill 90 signed by the governor addressed various election procedures particularly voting registration, vote by mail and no-solicitation zones. For those interested in reading about this new legislation go to; <https://www.flsenate.gov/Committees/BillSummaries/2021/html/2457>

## THE RED TIDE IS DEVASTATING OUR WILDLIFE

*( This is a communication directly from the Wildlife Center on Border Rd. We are very familiar with the organization as they serve this community when they receive a call for an injured animal. Plus, they hosted a group of residents from the Venetian for a private tour. For more information on the Wildlife Center go to <https://wildlifewfl.org/> )*



As red tide intensifies along the western Florida coast, we are experiencing a drastic increase in wildlife intake caused by the toxic algae bloom. Red tide has a devastating effect on Florida's marine life and coastal birds, who have been turning up at wildlife hospitals all around us in alarming numbers. Nearly one hundred coastal birds have already arrived at our Wildlife Center including Brown Pelicans, Laughing Gulls, Black Skimmers, Northern Gannets, Double-crested Cormorants, Sandpipers, and Wood Storks. A neurotoxin produced by the lethal algae bloom is affecting the birds' ability to move, hold themselves up, and eat. In these critical times, the most important thing is to get the sick birds to a rehabilitation center as quickly as possible. The sooner the birds can begin to receive treatment, the better their chances are of surviving. The number of patients here at the Wildlife Center of Southwest Florida is expected to continue to grow rapidly, as is the need for resources in order to treat the wildlife in near-death condition.

## PLANNING FOR OUR WONDERFUL EVENTS AND SEMINARS.

The VGRCC Community Association has been preparing over the summer, an exciting series of events and seminars. Of course, the Association is keeping their fingers crossed that this season will be "face to face" sessions. The ever popular and annual Shredfest/Junkfest and Bike-O-Rama will be included plus after a year's absence, CPR training. A few years ago, the VGRCCA got great reviews from residents who attended the **Volunteer Fair/Show Off**, where one could discover several local volunteer opportunities along with viewing residents showing off a variety of items such as memorabilia, books they have written or crafts they have made. This wonderful event will take place in January. You will also see a number of learning sessions of high interest including a session entitled, "Friend or Foe?" The full slate of seminars should be out no later than September.

## GOLF CLUB UPDATE

Although there have been a number of rumors regarding the sale of the Golf Club (and possibly the Welcome Center) as of this printing, there has been no official news on any sort of a sale. Certainly, Parcels will keep the community up to date about any significant changes.

## THIS AND THAT

### DON'T PITCH THAT COMPUTER YET!

Wondering what to do with that old computer? There is an organization in town which takes your old computer and refurbishes it. They are called the Sarasota Technology users group. Information about their services can be found at:

<https://thestug.org/articles/Demand%20for%20Recycled%20Computers.pdf> The number for Sarasota Technology Users Group is 941-539-7401



### MIRASOL TAKING SHAPE

The area at the corner of Knight Trail and Laurel called Mirasol is beginning to take shape. The 7-11 with entrances on both Laurel and Knight's Trail is under construction. The large building seen from Laurel Rd. is scheduled to be an Assisted Living Facility even though some thought it was a hotel. As one can see driving down both Laurel and Pinebrook, there is plenty of property for sale in this area.



### SCHOOL BELLS RING

Schools have opened in the county. For those school aged kids who live at the Venetian, we wish them a wonderful school year. School bells ringing means slow down as you travel down Laurel Rd. as well as a football length area marked school zone on Albee Farm Rd. As mentioned previously in Parcels, you might want to avoid the school at starting time ( 8:30 am ) and dismissal time ( 3:15 pm ). If you do, you will face long lines of cars waiting to pick up Johnny and Joanie. Now the big question. Will we see a year of masks or not? Perhaps, yes, today, perhaps, no tomorrow. As of this writing, masks are optional for students. Certainly, making the mask, no mask decision is a tough one for those we entrust our children especially as it has become a topic of national debate.

### HURRICANE SEASON SPEEDS UP

August, September, and early October are the times of the year that the chance of a hurricane increases significantly. Weather forecasters indicate that we are in for an active season. If you plan to be on property during these months, we suggest developing your own emergency kit

including non-perishable food. If your plan includes just vacating the Venetian, the experts say you better do it at least four days before the hurricane hits. Finally, the Venetian's own Hurricane Readiness Team or HRT, sponsored by the VGRC Community Association, has a **Special Care** program that provides a personal check in to those residents who may be disabled, infirmed, or just need someone to check on them. The Special Care form is at the end of the Parcels and when completed, please turn it in to the River Club receptionist, Dale Miller who will forward your document to the HRT. One final note. The POA, through an email, gives the green light as to when you are permitted to put up your shutters. As we go into these crucial months, we hope every resident takes the necessary preparation measures to ensure their safety.



## QUICKIES DEVOTED TO KEEPING OUR SNOWBIRDS IN THE LOOP

Sarasota Memorial Hospital is now beginning to look like a hospital with signage and landscaping... it's on track to open in the November; home construction on a large property area just a stone throws from the Venetian and across the street from Willow Chase is still in its infancy; Red Tide... horrible... tons of dead fish; rain, plenty of it; no movement in the "promised" stores in the infamous Subway Plaza (double ough); Publix employees back to wearing masks; seems to be as of now no restriction on restaurant capacity; new Wendy's and Starbuck being built on Jacaranda and the latte may be ready for you upon your return.

## YOUR COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION IS KEEPING AN EYE ON

**PARKS** - The Northeast Venice Parks Stakeholders Group continues to make progress. Amenities had been agreed to (Pickleball Courts, Dog Park, Children's Playground, Walking Trails), and at its most recent meeting three properties, within close proximity to VGRC, were identified and agreed to for moving to land acquisition negotiations. Your Community Association has two representatives on the committee, including the Chairperson. While it's a lengthy process, and will still take quite some time, there is definitive progress.

**LDRS** - These are the land development regulations that implement the vision in the City of Venice's comprehensive plan. The Community Association has attended all meetings in the past year, and has now reviewed the hundreds of pages in detail. We have recently input suggested revisions to the City, geared to maintaining compatible establishments near our community, as well as helping to prevent red tide.

**LOCAL POLITICS** - The race for government in Venice has begun! There are two City Council seats up for grabs this Fall, and the Community Association is meeting with the candidates. The purpose of these meetings is both for us to get to know them (given we are often in front of City Council to protect our community), and for them to understand what the issues and concerns of the residents of the VGRC are.

**DONA BAY WATER STORAGE FACILITY PROJECT** - This is a project just north of us and will control the flow runoff collected in Cow Pen Slough as well as improving of the quality of that runoff before it is slowly released into the Myakka River and on to the Gulf. Since it is so close to us, the Community Association has been monitoring it, making construction impact related suggestions as necessary, and will continue to do so. There is a virtual public meeting coming up on August 31 if you would like to learn more. The meeting starts at 5:30. Please contact Sarasota County for registration information

## AND FINALLY...

### VENETIAN'S 119-YEAR-OLD RESIDENT...

Recently Parcels had an article about a resident who officially became a centurion. Now we report that there is a "resident" who just turned 119 years old (17 x 7) Pictured is Jaunti and his dedicated owner at her early morning birthday celebration on Tiziano. Interestingly, Jaunti's name comes from "jaunt" which she participates in with her daily sniff-a-thons. A number of canine friends attended her celebration, sending their barking congratulations to Jaunti plus enjoying the wonderful birthday treats, prime dog biscuits with cream cheese. So when driving down Padova or Tiziano, if you see Jaunti on her daily jaunt, give her a Happy Birthday shout out.





Your community  
association  
**ENLIGHTENING  
AND  
EVENTFUL**



- ✓ Seminars
- ✓ Key Speakers at Annual Meetings
- ✓ Parcels From Paradise
- ✓ Shredfest
- ✓ Bike-O-Rama
- ✓ Candidate Forum

**JOIN/REJOIN NOW**  
so our work can continue!

[www.vgcca.us/membership/](http://www.vgcca.us/membership/)





## **SPECIAL CARE TEAM: A SERVICE OF THE VENETIAN'S HURRICANE READINESS TEAM, 2021**

The Special Care team is a division of the Venetian's Hurricane Readiness Team whose role is to provide to any resident a personal check in after a hurricane has passed. The HRT considers those who live alone, those who may be incapacitated, those who are infirmed, and simply those that just need someone to check on them.

Your Name \_\_\_\_\_

Your Address \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_

Best Phone Number to Reach You \_\_\_\_\_

Secondary Contact with Phone Number if We Need to Reach  
Someone \_\_\_\_\_

What is the relationship of this person to you? \_\_\_\_\_

Please help us by explaining below the circumstances you face in order that our HRT team member will have a better understanding of your needs.

**Please submit your completed form to the receptionist at the River Club**