

VILLA VOICE

Reporting the News and Happenings Around the Bobcat Villas

Calendar

Due to health concerns related to the spread of the corona virus, the Social Committee has cancelled all planned social events through May.

Other events may be scheduled throughout the month. Be sure to check the message boards at each post office station and in the breezeway of the Clubhouse for event notices and sign-up sheets. Items above marked with a () require sign-up.*



Villa Board Votes to Close Clubhouse, Keep Pool Open

During a conference call meeting in March, held to observe social distancing during the Corona Virus crisis, the Villa Board voted to close the Clubhouse for all uses until further notice. They also voted to keep the Villa pool open with the following restrictions:

- 1) There should be no more than 10 people at **the pool at one time**. If you arrive and are the 11+ person, leave and return at a later time or day. Those who are amongst the 10, try to keep the recommended 6 feet "social distance" from others.
- 2) You can swim in the pool at no risk of contracting the virus. It cannot survive in the chlorinated water. However, the pool furniture (tables, chairs and lounges) will not be sanitized on an on-going basis by Villa personnel. With the abundance of caution, you are advised to bring your own sanitizing products



Alligator Alley?

It's been said that if there is a body of fresh water anywhere in Florida, there's an alligator in it.

There are 2 lakes that are adjacent to the Villas - one on the 14 hole of the golf course and the other in the middle of the inner ring of Lynx Run. Alligators have been seen in both.

In March Villa residents caught this impressive creature making his (we think!) way from one of the ponds to the other. Why? March is mating season for alligators and there must have been a likely partner at the end of his trek.

Don't be alarmed if you see an alligator roaming the Villas. Keep your distance and you'll be fine. We're not at the top of an alligator's dining menu. They'll eventually find their way to a body of water. But if provoked, they will attack.

Only contact authorities if you sense an alligator is particularly aggressive. If possible the gator will be relocated to a remote area.

Call the Nuisance Alligator Hotline at 866-FWC-GATOR (866-392-4286).

(wipes, sprays, etc.) to thoroughly wipe down the furniture before **and after** use. As always make sure you use a towel on the lounges and chairs to protect the chair webbing from sun screen products.

3) By law the restrooms must remain open as long as the pool is open. However, again, the restrooms are not cleaned and sanitized on an on-going basis. Villa personnel clean the restrooms once a week. Use the restrooms at your own risk and use your own sanitizing products (wipes, sprays, etc.) to wipe down the faucets, hand soap containers, toilet seats, flush handles, door knobs, etc. before and after using the facility. The same is true when you enter and leave the pool area. Take a moment to wipe down the keypad on the outside of the fence and the exit button on the inside. Dispose of the sanitizing wipes in the trash cans. Do not flush any wipes down the toilets. If a toilet does clog up from items flushed down it, contact Chris McCluskey (c.mccluskey@starhospitalitymanagement.com) to make sure it is attended to immediately.

As long as everyone abides by these recommendations, **the pool can remain open**. However, if it is determined that any of the above are repeatedly being ignored then the Board may have to take action to **close the pool for use by** everyone.

Pine Trees Continue to Cause Concern

Once upon a time, delightful pine trees were planted throughout the Villa community when the original landscaping was added to the new development. Fast forward about 20 years and those "delightful" pine trees have turned into quite a nuisance. They've grown tall and their branches hang over the roofs and downspouts of the Villas. Ongoing complaints about the needles clogging up the downspouts have not stopped. Residents continually request the trees be removed.

During their discussions on the recent meeting, the Board clarified the situation. Before any live trees, pine or otherwise, can be removed, the Villa Board or an owner must consult with North Port's official Arborist as there are regulations on what can and cannot be done to the existing tree canopy. Jean Liesmann, Board liaison to the Landscape Committee,

indicated that a community-wide plan needs to be created to deal with all of the pine trees throughout. Currently a plan does not exist, but to help with the process, Villa owners are encouraged to let the Landscape Committee know if your pine tree(s) present a problem around your Villa so a list can be compiled. The Landscape Committee will then deal with the situation, with the assistance of the city's Arborist. At this time, however, no forward movement can be made as the city is working with reduced staff and no arborist would be available to meet with the Committee.

Rest assured that your complaints have been heard loud and clear and the Board and Landscape Committee is committed to resolving the situation once the time and budget allows.

Clubhouse Kitchen Brought up to 21st Century Standards

The Villa Clubhouse got a much needed updating last month with the addition of a dishwasher, garbage disposal, new faucet and large storage cabinet. The appliance and furniture were paid for by the Social Committee from funds raised during the past several years and through a generous donation from a Villa resident.

Much time is spend during and after the social events to hand wash the glasses, silverware and serving pieces used during the potlucks, coffees and other special events. The dishwasher will free the committee members up to better serve residents who attend and to enjoy the event themselves. And it will mean cleaner, more sanitized kitchen items throughout the year.

North Port Alters Trash Rules

The city of North Port recently released changes to its trash and recycling policy. Starting April 6, automated garbage and recycle collection will continue as usual, but non-automated collection will be suspended. What that means is that anything sitting outside the trash cans will not be collected. Everything must fit inside the can. The staff will not leave the trucks to hand load the trash.

If you have extra material one week, you can call the Public Works department to arrange for an additional pick up within 24 hours. That extra material must be in the trash can.

Bulk garbage collection is still available; however, you must call to schedule it. The Public Works department number is 941-240-8050. Call them for any trash collection questions you have.

Welcome to These New Residents of the Bobcat Villas

Welcome to the following new owners who joined us recently:

John & Christina Sobecki, 2064

Each month, any new residents to the community will be listed in the Villa Voice newsletter.