



THE HERON

Another Seabreeze Publication

VOL. 22 NO. 2

Community web site: <http://hgcc.com> Community Channels: 901 and 902 on TV

FEBRUARY 2024

A Sense Of Gratitude

By Sarah Schoon, Herons Glen

As another bright, shiny new year unfolds, rather than making resolutions, I am thinking of the many things I am grateful for. I believe you can have goals for the coming year while reflecting with gratitude for all the blessings you have had in the previous year. Even if it is only simple things.

For instance, I am grateful that Herons Glen has a spotlight for entering and exiting onto busy Highway 41. I don't know what it was like before it existed or if it was always there, but it makes my life easier. I am not a fan of heavy traffic, so anything that helps make it easier for me is good.

I am also thankful for the many friendly and helpful neighbors we have here in Herons Glen. We all watch out for each other. This is very important as you age but also at any age. In a recent book I read, *The Good Life* by Robert Waldinger and Marc Schulz, they stressed the importance of social relationships. Social connections are a key ingredient to living a long and happy life.

I am grateful for the many days that the sun shines here in Florida. It makes a world of difference in my attitude and demeanor. Lack of sun was one of the main reasons that I wanted to winter in Florida. You can try artificial lights and visualizations, but there is nothing like the light that Mother Nature provides.

I love the birds in Florida. There are many different ones in Florida: the sandhill cranes, ibis, egrets, herons, mockingbirds, and numerous others.

I greatly enjoy being able to drive a golf cart in Herons Glen rather than having two automobiles here because we have discovered that we do not do well with one motor vehicle. We tried it back in Iowa, and it didn't go well.

And as silly as it sounds, I am grateful for animals. I love dogs and cats. I get to see more of the former, so I have learned to dote on them. Is there anything more amazing than the loyalty that these furry critters have for us?

I wish you a joyous and amazing new year!

A Teenager Amongst You

By Saige Coleman, Herons Glen



Saige Coleman

For those who don't know me, I'm Saige Coleman, but most of you know me as Patti Amico's granddaughter. I'm a teenager in the Glen and it's been a learning experience for me. Living with my grandparents has been interesting and difficult, but we learn ways to live together.

I always thought that I have one set of grandparents but living here, well let's just say that's not the case and that's okay. These people have taught me a lot; some have helped

me with my homework, learning tennis and bocce, and some also encouraged me to join the Herons Glen summer chorus. Living in the Glen is definitely different from my life back in New York, but a good kind of different.

One of the things my grandparents have taught me from living here is change can be good. I've experienced a lot of changes but they have all helped me to become the person I am today and I thank them for that.

My grandparents support me in my choices. I play two instruments at my school, North Fort Myers Academy for the Arts, and they have never missed my concerts. I also sing at school and they were there for that too. Some people from the Glen also came to my concerts as well; they didn't have to, but they wanted to.

My experience living with my grandparents is not perfect, but I wouldn't want to live anywhere else.



Saige with her grandmother, Patti Amico

Who's The Saint In Saint Valentine's Day?

By Candace Huetteman, Herons Glen

Valentine's Day today is a day of boxes of chocolate and bouquets of flowers, romantic dinners and sentimental gifts, and cards and candies. But most of us don't know the history of this holiday, some of which is dark and bloody.

Most of us know that Valentine's Day is named in honor of "St. Valentine," but who actually is St. Valentine? It is believed that he could be based on two different men, both of whom were holy figures by the name of Valentine, and both of whom were executed in different years on Feb. 14 by Roman Emperor Claudius II in the third century. The Catholic Church may have established St. Valentine's Day to honor these two martyrs.

Legend says that one of these men, Saint Valentine of Terni, going against the emperor's wishes, had secretly officiated weddings for Roman soldiers. This made him, in the eyes of most, an advocate and supporter of love. The other tale involves the gift-giving and love-letter writing aspect of the holiday. It is said that, while he was in prison, the other St. Valentine wrote the first "valentine" to a young girl. Some believe it was a girl he had tutored and fell in love with, and some think that she was the jailer's daughter. Before he died, he wrote her a letter signed, "From your Valentine," which has since been written on many a Hallmark card.

Along with the Catholics, pagans also took part in the creation of Valentine's Day. From Feb. 13 to 15, the Romans celebrated the pagan festival of Lupercalia, which was dedicated to the Roman god of agriculture, Faunus, and to the Roman founders, Romulus and Remus. This celebration

involved a ritual in which Roman priests ran naked through the streets "gently slapping" women with the blood-soaked hides of sacrificed animals. These women, who lined the streets, believed that this ritual would enhance fertility. The women were then paired off with men by lottery. In the late fifth century, Pope Gelasius I outlawed Lupercalia. Some sources contend that he designated the celebration of St. Valentine's Day on Feb. 14 to replace the pagan holiday.

So, when did Valentine's Day become romantic? The mid-19th century seems to mark the beginning of many well-known Valentine traditions. In the early 1800s, on Feb. 14, Victorian men charmed women with flowers to show their affection. Then in 1850, the "Mother of the American Valentine," Esther Howland, became the first person to commercialize English-style Valentine cards. In 1868, Richard Cadbury created the first heart-shaped box of chocolates, and the New England Confectionery Company, or Necco, made an early version of Conversation Hearts.

February is not only the month to celebrate Valentine's Day, but for me, it is the month to celebrate one year since I've started writing holiday articles for *The Heron*. I hope you see this as a reason for celebration and you'll keep reading.



Herons Glen Official Sources For Information

Herons Glen Golf and Country Club website:
<http://hgcc.com>

Herons Glen Homeowners Association website:
<http://heronsglenhoa.org>

Herons Glen Recreation District website:
<https://heronsglenc.com>

Herons Glen Facebook page:
<https://www.facebook.com/HeronsGlen>

HOA weekly bulletin emails and online:
http://www.hgccc.com/hghoa/files/office_news.html

HGRD weekly newsletter emails and online:
<https://heronsglenc.com/group/pages/communications>

The Heron newspaper online:
<http://hgccc.com/hghoa/files/newspaper.htm>

Community TV Channels 901 and 902



Article Deadlines For The Heron

Issue Month/Year	Date Due To <i>The Heron</i>
March 2024	Thursday, February 18
April 2024	Thursday, March 16

Articles should be sent to
HGNewspaper@gmail.com

Editorial Staff Volunteers

Photos by Dick Muller



Karen Jessop - Editor



Linda Lynch - Editor



Jack Nelson - Editor



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The HOA Communications Committee serves as the supervisory body for The Heron per Article IX of our by-laws.

Christine Kozak is the committee liaison from the HOA Board of Directors.

The Heron Editorial Policy is on file in the HOA office.
Articles for The Heron may be dropped off or mailed to
The HOA Office,
2250 Herons Glen Blvd., N. Fort Myers, FL 33917
or emailed to hgnwspaper@gmail.com.

Community News

Coming Soon

Feb. 12	Firewise	Parking Lot
Feb. 12	Shredding	Parking Lot
Feb. 12	Bloodmobile	Parking Lot
Feb. 14	Singles	Activities Room "A"
Feb. 14	VOG	Activities Room "A"
Feb. 14	Valentine's Dinner	Restaurant
Feb. 15	Farmers' Market	Parking Lot
Feb. 15	TAT 2	Restaurant
Feb. 16	Tennis Pickleball Banquet	Ballroom
Feb. 17	Trivia	Ballroom
Feb. 18	Scoops Ice Cream	Parking Lot
Feb. 20	Socialites	Ballroom
Feb. 20	Men's Night Out	Restaurant
Feb. 20	Cyber Security	Card Room "C"
Feb. 21	Country Dance	Ballroom
Feb. 22	Farmers' Market	Parking Lot
Feb. 22	Smalltown Duo	Restaurant
Feb. 24	Concert West End Broadway	Ballroom
Feb. 29	Farmers' Market	Parking Lot
Feb. 29	Ron Lorenzo	Restaurant
March 3	Art Show	Ballroom
March 3	3-D Art Show	Activities Rooms "A" and "B"
March 7	Farmers' Market	Parking Lot
March 7	Kat Orlando Duo	Restaurant
March 7	HGRD Meet The Candidates	Ballroom
March 10	Marbles	Ballroom
March 13	Singles	Activities Room "A"
March 13	VOG	Activities Room "A"
March 14	Farmers' Market	Parking Lot
March 14	Wendy Renee	Restaurant
March 15	Players Of The Glen	Ballroom
March 16	Players Of The Glen	Ballroom
March 17	Players Of The Glen	Ballroom
March 17	St. Patrick's Day	Restaurant
March 19	Socialites	Ballroom
March 20	Pretty In Pink Lunch	Ballroom
March 21	Farmers' Market	Parking Lot
March 21	Double Dare Duo	Restaurant
March 23	Bocce Banquet	Ballroom
March 24	Chorus Show	Ballroom
March 25	Dermatology Mobile	Parking Lot
March 26	HGRD Election	Card Room "C"
March 27	Oldies Dance	Ballroom
March 28	Farmers' Market	Parking Lot
March 28	Sunsets Duo	Restaurant
March 30	Trivia	Ballroom
March 31	Easter Dinner	Restaurant

HOA And HGRD Schedule Of Meetings

The following is a listing of HOA and HGRD meetings known at the time of publication. As **these dates are subject to change**, please check the Herons Glen website calendar and the community channel for updates.

Calendar Of HOA Meetings Feb. 12 To March

All committee meetings are via Zoom/HOA Conference Room unless noted otherwise.

Feb. 13	Architectural Review Committee, 9 a.m.
Feb. 14	Board Meeting, 5 p.m.
Feb. 15	Activities Committee, 10 a.m.
Feb. 21	Communications Committee, 1 p.m.
Feb. 22	Finance Committee, 1:30 p.m.
Feb. 23	SSEP Committee, 8 a.m.
Feb. 27	Architectural Review Committee, 9 a.m.
March 5	Board Workshop, 1 a.m.
March 12	Architectural Review Committee, 9 a.m.
March 13	Board Meeting, 5 p.m.
March 14	Grounds Committee, 1 p.m.
March 20	Communications Committee, 1 p.m.
March 21	Activities Committee, 10 a.m.
March 22	SSEP Committee, 8 a.m.
March 26	Architectural Review Committee, 9 a.m.
March 28	Finance Committee, 1:30 p.m.

Calendar Of HGRD Meetings Feb. 11 To March

All committee meetings are via Zoom/Card Room C unless noted otherwise.

Feb. 11	Finance Committee, 9 a.m.
Feb. 19	Board Meeting, 9 a.m.
Feb. 26	Long-Range Planning Committee, 9 a.m.
March 4	Board Meeting, 9 a.m.
March 4	Resident Events Committee, 1 p.m., Activities Room "A"
March 4	Golf Committee, 1 p.m.
March 7	Facilities And Amenities Committee, 1 p.m.
March 11	Finance Committee, 9 a.m.
March 25	Long-Range Planning Committee, 9 a.m.
March 27	Board Meeting, 9 a.m.

Welcome

Michael DeSantis
Suzette and Dale Heeres
Angelia Kelley and Jacqueline Vaught
Alma and Gary McMullen
Joli and Kevin O'Donnell
Charles Rimlinger and Pamela Johnson
Jeffrey Weigeli and Maureen McCarren
Michele Serinise

In Memoriam

Bob Colletti
Harry Dyke
Gene Farley
Thomas Fluharty
Dwight Holton
Ray Ohmes
Lala Slusser

Community Activities

Bark Avenue Extravaganza

By Joyce Lipkin, Herons Glen

Show off your primped and pampered pooches on April 14 at Herons Glen Bark Avenue Extravaganza where fashion and fun meets fur. Get ready to have tons of fun. "Strut" and release your dog's inner fashionista at Bark Avenue sponsored by the Herons Glen HOA Activities Committee.

• "Paws-itive" Vibes:

Dress your pup in their most outrageous, glamorous, or simply silly attire for a chance to win the hearts (and votes!) of the crowd.

• Glamour Shots: A resident photographer will capture your furry friend's runway debut, so you can cherish the memories forever (and maybe snag some hilarious blackmail material!)

• "Arf-tastic" Raffle:

Enter to win a stunning \$100 pet portrait hand painted by Sue McCoy, one of our very own Herons Glen artists! Just imagine being the envy of all your neighbors with the one-of-a-kind, totally



unique paw-trait of your pet hanging proudly above your mantelpiece.

Stay tuned for updates on more "bone-fide" fun, delicious treats, special surprises, and community camaraderie at the world-famous Bark Avenue Extravaganza.

"Pawticipation" forms will be located outside the HOA office beginning on Sunday, March 10. Please submit your completed form by Sunday, April 7.

Don't worry humans, there'll be plenty of fun for you too!



Butterfly Garden Buffet

By Duane Parkinson, Herons Glen

Most of us have a favorite restaurant or a favorite food, and butterflies are very similar to us in that area. Personally, I could consume a meat lover, thin crust pizza every day, but that wouldn't entice a butterfly. You can find many different varieties of butterflies visiting Herons Glen Butterfly Garden looking for their favorite food treats. The hardworking members of the Butterfly Society have planted specific species of plants to draw butterflies for the enjoyment of all of Herons Glen. The butterfly garden is a butterfly food buffet!

This month, we're going to look at a common butterfly species that visits our garden and see what they are looking

Butterfly Garden Buffet on page 3

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for in their food sources. Even the name “butterfly” deals with food, the name originated from European folklore that these insects were seen flying around dairies and were thought to drink the milk or butter. Hence, the “butterfly” name.

So, what do butterflies eat or drink? It depends on the species and which part of their life cycle the insect is in. Last month, we learned that adult butterflies suck up liquid food such as flower nectar using their straw-like proboscis. Butterflies change (metamorphosis) physical appearance drastically during their life cycle from egg to adult, and their food requirements must also change.

Female butterflies lay eggs on a very specific host plant. The eggs develop into a larva, or a “caterpillar” that we’re all familiar with. These young “cats” have ravenous appetites and very specific food requirements. For example, the photo with this article is of an adult Eastern Tiger Swallowtail butterfly. Their larvae have what we think of as normal mouth parts with jaws, so they feed on wild lime and citrus leaves. But they also love Queen Anne’s lace, celery, dill, carrot leaves and parsnip leaves. Plant some of the above for the adult female swallowtail to lay her eggs on so the larvae will have something to eat. The next stage in the butterfly life cycle is the pupa or chrysalis stage. The insect in this stage doesn’t eat, this is just a growing development stage. Then the chrysalis changes into a beautiful adult butterfly. And adults need to eat. Adult swallowtails love to suck up with their proboscis the liquid nectar of clover, milkweed, thistles, phlox and pipevine plant flowers. However, the main purpose of an adult butterfly is to mate, and the female then lays her eggs on an appropriate host plant for the larvae to eat. Adult butterflies generally live only two to three weeks and during this time they mate, and the female lays her eggs. Then they die. So, if you want to attract swallowtails to your yard, have the plant food species for the adult swallowtail to suck up the nectar, and the female will lay her eggs on the citrus type of plants for the larvae caterpillars to eat the leaves.



Eastern Tiger Swallowtail

Next month: Would you like to learn how to raise monarch butterflies from the egg all the way to the adult life stages, and then set free the adults? You’ll love it! Stay tuned next month!

Come to the butterfly garden to visit, relax, and view the fantastic butterflies.

They’re Back!

By Janet Slater, Herons Glen

Breaking news: A flock of birds of genus *Flamingus plasticus* has just been spotted in Herons Glen! For each of the past several years at this time, flamingo enthusiasts have been watching for these mysterious birds to return. They always arrive at night, flying in from some unknown location, to spend a day at a time in the yards of many Herons Glen residents. Because their seasonal arrival coincides with the excitement of our annual Pretty in Pink events, a group of residents has found a way to give the flamingos a supporting role in the fundraising.



For a \$20 donation to Partners for Breast Cancer Care, Inc., flamingo-whisperers Trudy and Kim and their committee will direct the flock to the Herons Glen home of your choice. These beautiful birds will fly in during the night to bring smiles and joy to a surprised resident. Our flamingo whisperers tell us that the birds look forward to their time in Herons Glen during their yearly migration, and are highly honored to have a role in helping people in our local community. Last year they raised over \$2,000!

To schedule a flocking fly-in to a friend or neighbor during February or early March, you may pick up a form at the Pro Shop or contact the Flocking Committee Chairs: Trudy Flanery, (860) 625-5448, Taflanery100@comcast.net or Kim Morea, (203) 994-4789, Moreakim@gmail.com.

Delicious And Rainy

By Jean Perillo-Roamn, Herons Glen

My first time at the food truck event was a wet one with all the rain we have been having. I was glad the event was not cancelled. Our meal was delicious. Paul and I are of Polish descent, so we headed for the truck that served our favorites. We had kielbasa over sweet sautéed onions, sauerkraut, a crispy potato pancake, pierogies and bread. We loved it all, especially the mushroom pierogies. My grandmother always made them with prunes.

Eating indoors was perfect with cold beer to top off the meal. The Vanovers had music playing in the background as we dined. Several people made their purchases and brought their food home. We checked out what others were dining on. Julie and Tom raved about their Philly cheese sandwiches and Nancy was enjoying the gyro she said was very tasty. If there was room for dessert, it was going to be Marla’s choice of black cherry ice cream. Next time!

Marbles Tournament

By Patti Cummings, Herons Glens

While the 10 tables at the December games had the men’s group winning 14 games to women’s wins at 13, bringing the men to a lead of 36 to 29, the lead was destined to be short-lived.



Glenna Ingersol, Karen Mars and Sean McDonald

January saw the women rally to win an astounding 23 games and the men with a mere 15 victories! There were 14 tables playing despite inclement weather and everyone had a lot of fun. The total wins now are women – 52 and men – 51.



Ann Robinson and Marsha McCoy

In December the men swept one game (not pictured are the winners Gary Swisher and Tony McGarry) but in January the women turned out two glorious sweeps; pictured above.

The friendly competition continues on with game nights on Feb. 4 and March 10. The following month on April 7 will be the losing teams “cooking” for the winning teams. More details will follow at the March game night.

Let’s go women and keep the marbles rolling to victory in March.

Pretty In Pink: Please Help Us Help Others

By Janet Slater, Herons Glen

Last year’s Pretty in Pink (PIP) activities raised \$34,611 that was donated to Partners for Breast Cancer Care, Inc., and \$1,000 given to Hearts and Homes for Veterans. All monies raised stay in the community of Charlotte, Collier, Lee, and Hendry counties. Save the following dates to join us this year.



Bake Sale

- Sunday, March 3, 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. during Art Show
- Monday, March 4 at Golf Course range, 12 to 3 p.m.
- Wednesday, March 6 at Golf Course range, 12 to 3 p.m.
- Friday, March 9 at Golf Course range, 12 to 3 p.m.

Registration For PIP Golf Tournament And/Or Luncheon

- Wednesday, March 20
- Both golfers and non-golfers welcome at luncheon!

Other Opportunities To Help Us Help Others:

Sponsor A Hole

- Forms available in Pro Shop. Sign up early if you need a new sign.
- Contact Fran Schroeder at (770) 823-2124 or fashroeder@comcast.net.

Donate A Basket Or Gift Card For The Raffle

- Contact Nancy Thompson at (315) 466-9091 or dthompson@twcny.rr.com.

Bake A Goodie For The Bake Sale

- Drop off wrapped, labeled items mornings of March 1 or 2 at 20871 Villareal Way or 20643 Dennisport Lane, or March 3, 8:30 to 9:30 a.m. at Bake Sale booth near Billiards Room.
- Contact Maryann Peckham, (860) 559-2528 or Katie Schwemlein, (239) 217-6181.

Flock A Friend

- Flamingos will be set up on a friend’s lawn for a day.
- Forms available at the Pro Shop until March 7.

It’s A Block Party!

By Linda Lynch, Herons Glen

Photo by Dianne Kline, Herons Glen

No, this isn’t a reference to a neighborhood gathering. It’s the 2024 Southwest Florida Quilters Guild (SWFQG) Biennial Quilt Show.

It’s taking place on Friday, March 8, from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. and Saturday, March 9, from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. at the Charlotte Harbor Event Center in Punta Gorda.

The event center is located at 75 Taylor Road. There’s no entry fee, although a donation of \$10 is suggested, and parking is free.

The SWFQG has about 200 members and exists to promote the art and heritage of quilts. The guild meets monthly at the North Fort Myers Recreation Center and sponsors classes led by local and national professional instructors each year. The guild is also highly involved in community service.

There are quite a few quilters in Herons Glen, and a “formal” group, Quilters of the Glen, meets weekly on Wednesday and Thursday morning in Activities Room A.



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It's A Block Party from page 3

Most of these quilters also belong to the SWFQG and will exhibit their quilts and other quilted items at the upcoming show. Quilters from Herons Glen have won numerous ribbons at past shows.

So, all you quilt, fabric, textile, texture and art lovers – come on out to the upcoming quilt show and take in the beauty which will surround you. And cheer on the Quilters of the Glen while you're there.

Socialites Host All Souls Church Representatives

By Pam Scheid, Herons Glen

Two days of record rainfall did not deter the Socialites from gathering for their January luncheon. Seated at tables decorated with winter-themed centerpieces designed by Rosie Swisher's committee, members and guests were welcomed by President Janet Kerns. Cheryl Dawes introduced a new member, and Bev Groft reported that this month's member contribution to the All Souls Church's food bank totaled \$425.

Following the meal, Rhonda Parkinson presented Father Brian Cleary from the All Souls Episcopal Church. He was accompanied by representatives of the church's outreach team, some of whom are Herons Glen residents. Father



Marsha Ohlgart, Roxanne Lawrence, Patrice Swift, Father Brian Cleary, Ruth Rathman and Sherry Eastwood

Cleary expressed his gratitude for the donations Socialite members make to the church's food bank. He also described the many services the outreach program provides to area people in need. In addition, All Souls offers a hot meal every Wednesday, and each participant is given a bag containing detergent and personal hygiene items. Their thrift shop is open that day for the needy to pick out clothes. Father Cleary explained the church's mission is simply based on the Christian ideal to model our lives after Christ, that we are to love others as we love ourselves.

To close the meeting, Rhonda reminded the members the February meeting features the annual fashion show. This year our models will wear clothes from Trader Joe's.

Get Your Tickets For *Drinking Habits*

By Janice Radcliff, Herons Glen

Laughter is a universal language that brings people together and a comedy play is a fantastic way to share some joy. Get ready to giggle, chuckle, and snort with glee. The Players of the Glen annual production is the theatre event of the year, and tickets will sell fast. Don't miss your chance to be a part of this laughter-filled evening.

Guests who purchase tickets for the Friday opening night are invited to attend the gala cocktail party prior to the performance in the Herons Glen grand lobby. Guests are encouraged to dress in cocktail attire.

Performance Dates:
 March 15, 5:30 p.m. – Gala, 7 p.m. performance
 March 16, 7 p.m. performance
 March 17, 4 p.m. matinee performance

Tickets go on sale in the main lobby beginning Feb. 20. Tickets will also be sold prior to bingo Tuesday night in the ballroom lobby. Reserved seating is \$15.

Tuesday, 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. on Feb. 20, 27, March 5 and 12

Wednesday, 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. on Feb. 21, 28, March 6 and 13

Thursday, 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. on Feb. 22, 29, March 7 and 14.

Tuesday night prior to bingo in ballroom lobby, 4:40 to 6:30 p.m. on Feb. 20, 27 and March 5 and 12

Tickets also available at the door the night of performance. For more ticket information: Shirley Evans, (289) 380-2310.



The Ohio Club has three more events scheduled for this season: A euchre and game night on Feb. 23; a bocce and shuffleboard event on March 23; and, a goodbye potluck for our end of the season activity on April 12.

If you'd like any information about the Ohio Club, contact Rosie Swisher, raswisher7@gmail.com or (614) 402-2690.

News From TOPS FI 0750 – Chapter For Herons Glen Residents

By Patti Cummings, Herons Glen

Have you been enjoying the celebrations with high calorie drinks and food a little too much? Do you have a few extra pounds you'd be happy to shed? Right here in Herons Glen there is a group that might help! With support from fellow members and resources provided through the national group, you could experience success with your 2024 resolution to "get in better shape and have a healthier style of living."

From exercise suggestions to guidance with better food choices, we are here to help and support your efforts. Don't wait another day, week, or month to get started. TOPS meets in Activities Room "A" every Monday morning at 7:45 a.m. Too early you say? But really, there's no better time to get your week jump-started than to get inspired right at the week's beginning!

"I can do this on my own," you say? Many studies have shown that people often benefit more from interaction with others on a similar weight-loss journey than those who try to stay on track on their own.

Take a chance; come to Activities Room "A" to see what we're all about with no obligation to continue or judgements on past choices. Whether you want to lose 10 or 50 or more pounds, we'd love to meet you next Monday morning.



VOG Program Features Korean Conflict

By Pam Scheid, Herons Glen

Veterans of the Glen (VOG) heard from two of their own at the January meeting. Gene Noll and Howard Gross spoke of their military experiences during the Korean Conflict.

Gene Noll, an Army veteran, explained he did not actually serve in Korea but that he trained in electronics and was sent to the Philippines to operate a seismograph. His unit's responsibility was to monitor atomic weapon activity. He did face enemy fire when he was sent to repair some equipment some distance from his base. Noll's narrative was a modest description of his service, but he did share some unique stories like the siting of an old Japanese soldier who had been left on the island after WWII.

Howard Gross, who served in the Navy, is a longtime resident of Herons Glen. He stated that he started the first VOG 21 years ago. He said the group had a slow start, and he praised the current membership for the effective organization it has become. Gross's active duty began when he was assigned to the *Missouri* at the age of 17. He told the group it was a frightening experience. His service became more dangerous when he was transferred to the *New Jersey* from which they attacked targets in Korea. Gross related that of his 16 fellow recruits, only four of them survived. In fact, somehow, unknown to him, his mother was informed he



Gene Noll and Howard Gross

Ohio Club

By Rose Swisher, Herons Glen

On Jan. 19, 52 members of the Ohio Club attended the annual welcome dinner in the ballroom. Delicious meals of chicken parmesan, pork loin, or salmon were enjoyed by all. A cake decorated with the State of Ohio flag was provided for dessert.

Bob Nudo was our emcee for the evening and Gary Swisher said the blessing before dinner was served. Dave Jackman shared interesting questions and facts about the state of Ohio, with most attendees commenting that they learned something new about our great state. Bob Nudo ended the evening with a game of guessing a "person, place or thing" by providing everyone with a number of clues while points were reduced with each clue necessary to get the correct answer. So, it was an informative and fun evening for all. See Ohio Club members below.



was MIA. Needless to say, it was a joyful reunion when he returned home.

During the brief business meeting, it was announced that in 2023 the VOG had donated \$12,000 to several organizations serving veterans. Their fundraising events will continue to help support agencies like Hearts and Homes and the Collier-Lee Honor Flights. The next meeting is Feb 21.



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Community Interests

Save The Date For The Art Show

By Kathleen Lynch, Herons Glen

An art extravaganza is coming to Herons Glen! The Herons Glen Artist Group and the 3-D Art Group are holding their annual art event on the same day. That day is **Sunday, March 3, from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. in the ballroom and along the promenade around the pool.** The Herons Glen Artist Group is holding their 26th annual fine arts show in the ballroom. The ballroom will be transformed into an art gallery of acrylics, oils, watercolor or other media. The works are judged prior to the opening of the show in each category for a first, second, or third place ribbon plus honorable mention. It is amazing to walk about the ballroom, enjoying an ice cream, listening to piano music, while admiring the talents of our artists. The bonus is that the artwork is priced to sell, either cash or credit!



The 18th annual 3-D craft show is set up all along the breezeway around the gazebo and activities rooms. There are many talented crafters offering ceramics, woodworking, jewelry, needlework, textiles, and much more. This year there will also be a delicious bakery set up for the Pretty in Pink fundraiser. Tom Foster and Paul Lowe will be in the gazebo playing their music for the event. This promises to be a fun-filled community event. So, mark your calendar for Sunday, March 3, from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.!

M15 And His New Chapter

By Linda Lynch, Herons Glen

If you're new to Herons Glen, you may not be aware of the famous North Fort Myers bald eagle couple whose nest is located off of Bayshore Road. If you aren't new, you've probably enjoyed multiple seasons of observing the lives and habits of these wondrous creatures and are still enchanted by them.

From 2006 to 2014, the original celebrity bald eagle pair known as Ozzie and Harriet utilized a nest located about 60 feet up in a slash pine at the Dick Pritchett Real Estate property on Bayshore Road. Ozzie died in the fall of 2015 and Harriet took a new mate, M15. From 2015 to 2022, Harriet and M15 successfully raised at least one eaglet every season from this nest.

After eight seasons as a mated pair, Harriet left and never returned to the nest in February 2023. M15 stepped up and on his own successfully raised their young E21 and E22 (eaglets 21 and 22) to fledge. Lucky for us, with this new season, M15 has taken up with another female, F23, and they are continuing to use this same nesting site and have initiated a new chapter in the North Fort Myers eagle nest lore.

Bald eagles are known for their nest affinity and often reuse the same nest year after year. Even if one of a pair dies, as was the case with Ozzie, the existing partner (Harriet) often uses the "old" nest with a new partner (M15). Even when *Hurricane Ian* totally destroyed the nest, M15 and Harriet rebuilt it in the same location.

The Caloosahatchee River is only about a half mile from the nesting site, providing a key source of food for the adults and eventually their eaglets.

It was extremely exciting when F23 laid a clutch of two eggs, one on Nov. 24 and the second on Nov. 27. The first egg hatched more or less on schedule, producing E23. However, the second egg was severely damaged and did not hatch.

One of the things that makes this eagle nest special is that D.F. Pritchett Real Estate has for 12 years provided a live webcam view of the nest. There are four live feed



cameras that provide different views of the nest and its residents, none of which disturb the eagles or make any sounds.

Fortunately, since M15 and F23 are using the same nest, the cameras continue to provide coverage of their nesting activities. Thousands of viewers are often online watching the pair. People can also stand outside a fence around the property, using their own cameras and phones to take pictures and videos of the nest and eagles.

With the website, we have been able to watch E23 hatch and to observe M15 and F23 feed and care for E23. It really is a remarkable look at the wonders of nature that surround us.

The website is available at <https://www.dickpritchettrealestate.com/eagle-feed.html>, or you can simply google North Fort Myers eagle cam. Using the website, you can actually watch M15 and F23 mind the nest and observe the interactions between the eaglet and parents.

We are delighted that M15 and his new mate have chosen to stay at the Bayshore nest so we can all follow their parenting activities and observe E23 as he/she grows and learns.

Three Generations

By Becky Gignac, Herons Glen

Photo By Becky Gignac, Herons Glen

We know that so many of our residents live here because they had previously visited their friends and/or families who live here. So, it's no surprise we now have a third generation Glenner! Some of you knew the first generation, George and Bea Kelley; many of you know the second generation, Nancy and Dick Brown, as well as Mary and Carl Nimz (who have since passed), and now some of you are getting to know the third generation, Tammy and Lonnie Reynolds (Tammy is Nancy and Dick's daughter).

It started with George and Bea Kelley from Wisconsin. George owned a dairy supply business that sold to cheese factories (not kidding you). In the early '70s and at just 57 years of age, George retired and moved his family to Cape Coral. In 1992, after the kids created a life of their own, he and Bea moved to Herons Glen; they lived on the corner of Corona Del Sire and Via Verde. (George passed away in 2008, and in 2010, Bea sold the home and moved to Golf Coast Village where she later passed away in 2015.)

Naturally, the kids and grandkids would visit so the next thing you know their daughters Mary and Nancy moved here. First, Mary and her husband Carl (Nimz) moved here in 1996 and built their house on Valparaiso.

After Dick worked for 25 years as a short distance semi driver, first in Wisconsin (no, he did not deliver dairy supplies or cheese) and then in Iowa, he and Nancy decided to retire and move to Herons Glen. It was 1998 when Nancy asked her twin sister, Mary if it would be alright to buy the empty lot next to their house. Well, they didn't have a problem if they built so that their lanais were private/blocking each other from view (no really; they were close sisters). Apparently, this arrangement worked out quite well.

As a side note, Nancy and Dick Brown are not new to the Herons Glen newspaper. In the June 1999 issue of *The Heron*, there was a story about the four generations. This was with Nancy, her mother and visiting daughter and granddaughter. Yet again, Nancy and Dick were interviewed for a story titled "How I Met My Spouse." This was in the May 2010 issue of



Nancy and Tammy holding a photo of George and Bea

1AED/CPR Class

By Karen Wills, Herons Glen

Herons Glen Safety (SSEP) Committee sponsored a CPR/AED class on Jan. 10. The training was given by Christi Fulton, NFMFD Fire Inspector and Public Education Officer and Beth Helmick, NRMFD CERT Coordinator.

Thirty-four residents took advantage of this training

opportunity where they were first lectured on procedural and safety issues and then given the opportunity to put their training to use. Residents used CPR dummies and AED practice units to get a feel for what it is like to perform these procedures in emergency situations.

The Safety Committee would like to thank North Fort Myers Fire Department, and our residents, for giving up their valuable time to become better trained in lifesaving methods.



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Fitness Center Address
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2. Hole #13 - Corner of Via Montana Way and Skyler Drive.	5. Tennis, Bocce, Shuffleboard Restroom Area.
3. Fitness Center Lobby - Inside Left Wall.	6. Golf Shop - Starter Shack.



Three Generations on page 6

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Three Generations from page 5

The Heron. I think Nancy likes being in the newspaper. She and her daughter were more than happy to talk to me for this article. Dick also participated in the conversation (or maybe it was just to keep Nancy moving along).

Welcome Nancy and Dick's daughter Tammy and her husband Lonnie (Reynolds). They met in Iowa, then moved to Kansas City where first Tammy retired from the health insurance industry and Lonnie retired from Compass Minerals (managing salt trucks; again, no dairy involved). They live on the "new" Mystic Way with their dog Ollie. They have a son who lives in Fort Myers (who knows, we could have a fourth generation live here in the future) and a daughter, son-in-law and grandson who live in San Francisco.

Tammy and Lonnie are getting involved in the community; Tammy is working on her golf game and recently joined the Nine-Hole League. She also volunteers in the kindergarten class at Littleton Elementary (a favorite charity of the Glen). Lonnie is busy with golf and pickleball.

It goes without saying that this community welcomes everyone, making Herons Glen a great place to live!

In Case You Missed It Highlights From The HOA Weekly Bulletins From Your HOA Communications Committee

This listing highlights important articles covered in recent HOA Herons Glen Weekly Bulletins distributed by email to residents listed with the HOA Office. These issues affect every property owner, their renters, vendors, and guests.

The articles are intended to help residents better understand the actual requirements for our restricted community and may also include safety information. Reading about and understanding these issues could eliminate an escalation of problems that may result in potential fines.

If you have questions about a subject, you can locate the full article from the bottom left link on the HOA website at http://hggcc.com/hghoa/files/office_news.html, then click the link titled **HOA News Bulletins, EXTRA! EXTRA!** Or you can see the issues listed by date in the middle of the web page under **HG HOA News from Management.**

• **Jan. 19** – Proposed Amendments To The Community Wide Landscape Standards And Grounds Approval;

Request Form; 2024 Activities Fair; 2024 Firewise Event; 2024 Shredding Event; Homes With Missing Lanai Or Pool Enclosures And Screening, Dirty Roof Notices

• **Jan. 12** – Herons Glen HOA Second Quarter Assessment Fees; Cyber Security Session

• **Jan. 5** – Portable Heater Safety Tips From SSEP

• **Dec. 29, 2023** – Pet Rules And Regulations

• **Dec. 22, 2023** – Design And Development Guidelines For Pools, Lanais And Screening; Sheriff Carmine Marceno's December 2023 Fraud Alert

• **Dec. 15, 2023** – Herons Glen HOA Board Election Results

• **Dec. 8, 2023** – Annual Membership Meeting And Proxy Form; Air Quality Control – What Is This About?

• **Dec. 1, 2023** – Golf Cart Parade Information; SSEP Christmas Tree And Fire Safety

Please keep this reference guide in a location that's easy for you to find when needed.

Mother Nature At 2 a.m.

By Jack Nelson, Herons Glen

The month of May through mid-June usually offers delightful weather in the suburbs of Philadelphia. The overnight temperatures range from the upper 60s to the low 70s. When I lived in that area, I always left my bedroom windows wide open overnight to capture the fresh air. But there were drawbacks to this delightful night weather. I'll list a few.

First and foremost were the songs of the mockingbird. It's always a delight to listen to those birds chirping their lovely melodies, but not at 2 a.m. It was late May, and singing away in the middle of the night was a mockingbird, whose "voice" was loud enough to awaken me. I think this particular bird was trying to set a world record for not only the length of time for its arias, but for the variety of calls. I counted 14 different calls, which took the feathery critter well over an hour to perform. When the diva finally took its curtain call, it was well after 3 a.m., and I couldn't get back to sleep. C'est la vie!

Now let's transition from feathery friends to furry felines, aka house cats. Two of my neighbors owned cats, and they were handsome and friendly, but not at 2 a.m. It was early June in the mid-1980s when I was rudely awakened shortly after 2 a.m. by what I thought was the beginning of World War 3! My neighbors' cats were in my back yard growling at each other. Their voices sounded menacing and they kept it up for several minutes. Something had to give, and it wasn't long before the growling gave way to blood-curling screaming. The worst part of it all was they kept at it, growling and screaming with outstretched claws for nearly two hours! I don't know how they survived. Needless to say, I had another sleepless night, thanks to those darn cats.

Have you ever been awakened by an aroma in the middle of the night? I have, and to this day, I can't believe my sense of smell was that acute. It was the middle of the night in early June when I arose with a scent creeping up my nose that had me nearly sick to my stomach. What creature from Mother Nature would emit a smell that strong? If you said it was a skunk, you were right. This polecat was probably confronted by one of my neighbor's cats, and it used its weapon of spray to defend itself. Once again, I was sleepless in Southampton.

The next day I caught sight of the skunk entering a hole under my tool shed. I was surprised to see it roaming about during daylight hours since skunks are known to be nocturnal. It was a beautiful animal, with an extra wide white stripe down its back, but it had to go. I contacted animal control and within hours, they had a trap set. The next morning, I checked the trap to see if my striped "neighbor" was caught. Indeed, it was, and it looked at me as if to say it wanted out, but I turned around and walked away. I slept well, uninterrupted, the next night.

Please Don't Feed The Wildlife; It's Bad For Them And Illegal

By Linda Lynch, Herons Glen

People sometimes enjoy feeding wildlife because of the close contact they can have with the creatures they are feeding. Seeing wild birds or animals up close can be very engaging, but providing wildlife with human-supplied food generally leads to problems for both the wildlife and humans.

If young animals or birds depend on food from humans, they may not fully develop the essential foraging skills which allow them to survive independently. Wild animals or birds who get used to human feedings often lose their fear of people and may begin to approach humans to obtain food. This behavior may be mistaken as aggressive or rabid, which could lead to the animal's demise.

Human food is also not nutritionally complete for wildlife, potentially depriving the creatures of needed nutrients. When a creature gets used to obtaining food at a certain source, it will return again and again, often bringing more of its same species on return trips. This can foster the spread of disease among the wildlife of that species, and even nearby humans and pets.

And in Florida, the Florida Fish and wildlife Conservation Committee (FWC) has rules and penalties that make it illegal to feed certain wild animals, including bears, coyotes, foxes, raccoons, pelicans, sandhill cranes, bald eagles, alligators, crocodiles, freshwater fish, wild monkeys, and manatees. Fine for violations start at \$100.

In Florida it is illegal to:

- Feed wildlife or freshwater fish with food or garbage
- Attract or entice wildlife or freshwater fish with food or garbage
- Allow the placement of food or garbage in a manner that attracts or entices wildlife or freshwater fish

The first violation is a nominal civil infraction with a fine of \$100; a second infraction is a criminal misdemeanor and involves a fine of up to \$500 and imprisonment of up to 60 days. Four incidents yield a felony offense. Feeding alligators, crocodiles, and bears can lead to more severe criminal charges, higher fines and more extensive imprisonment.

It is a delight to share our environment here at Herons Glen with amazing wildlife and birds like "our" sandhill cranes. The best thing we can do to care for them is to give them habitat, not handouts.



Transportation

By Jack Cotter, Herons Glen

The Veterans of the Glen Outreach Committee and Friends Helping Friends Transportation Committee have joined in a partnership to help Herons Glen residents who are in need of transportation for medical appointments, prescription pickup, grocery shopping or some other essential transportation need. **Please do not call for rides to/from airport.**

During the period of Jan. 1 through May 30, residents may call a volunteer from the following list (Note: A 24-hour advanced notice would be very helpful):

- Jack Cotter (860) 490-2183 (Committee Chair)
- Kathleen Colletti (239) 822-1573
- Trish Chesnov (631) 334-1315
- Nick Dinoto (301) 807-4580
- Bruce Johnson (716) 472-3860
- Ed Schmidt (616) 745-9057
- Dave Wingert (573) 552-2030
- Mike Zarella (541) 292-2714

We are always seeking volunteers, please contact Jack Cotter if you have an interest in volunteering.

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Sports News

Softball Is Off And Running

By Karen Jessop, Herons Glen

The first Herons Glen Softball game was Wednesday, Jan. 3. Once again, this year there are two Herons Glen Softball teams – the Eagles and the Rookies. Unfortunately, the weather hasn't cooperated very well this year with all the rain. As of this date (Jan. 21) the Herons Glen Eagles have only played two games and won them both.

This year the Eagles welcomed three new players, Craig Ebersole, Gary Rabb and Robb Schleede. The Eagles also have a new manager. Tom Spenceley has been a coach for many years and has taken over as manager this year replacing the "retired" Jim Stone. Thank you, Jim, for your many years of managing/coaching the Eagles. The two coaches this year are Bob Foster and Terry Boots.

The schedule is planned so each of the eight teams plays all the other teams once and then the eight teams are broken into two groups. These smaller groups will play each other three more times to complete the season.

So, get those pom poms ready, bundle up if it's cold and cheer on your team, the bleachers are waiting for you at Carmalita Fields in Punta Gorda.

Herons Glen Mixed Bowling League 2023-2024		
High Scratch Games and Series		
Games		
Dec. 19	Owen Tarrence - 183	Pat Spagnolo - 163
Jan. 09	Bruce Kelley - 201	Linda Protani - 167
Jan. 16	Dave Badger - 209	Pat Spagnolo - 158
Series		
Dec. 19	Joe Gornick - 533	Linda Protani - 474
Jan. 09	Dave Jager - 590	Pat Spagnolo - 470
Jan. 16	Dave Jager - 589	Linda Protani - 491



HOLE IN ONE
 Congratulations to ...
Shirley Evans
 On Her Hole-in-One
 Hole #11 87 Yards
 Using a Driver
 January 3, 2024

HOLE IN ONE
 Congratulations to ...
David McDonald
 On His Hole-in-One
 Hole #14 136 Yards
 Using a 6 Hybrid
 January 6, 2024

Celebrating The New Year

By Jean Perillo-Roman, Herons Glen
 Photos by Dan Lim, Herons Glen

Our band Ron And The Funk Factory entertained us through the entire evening with dancing music. Laughter filled the air. Guests shared snacks they brought in for this special event. Tables featured shrimp, cheeses, breads, crackers, veggies and dips, and stuffed mini peppers. Specialty drinks were also available at the bar.

As midnight neared, the dance floor once again filled with revelers ready to toast in the New Year of 2024. The



band played as we all sang to *Auld Lang Syne*. At midnight we watched 600-plus gold, silver, and black balloons float down on us. It was a splendid evening for all who came to ring in the New Year at the Herons Glen ballroom.

See y'all at our next event where we kick up our boots at the Country Western Dance with the Ben Allen band.



January 6th Trivia Winners "The Mental Midgets"

Paul and Mary Koenig, Jeff and Barb Ziska, Bob Regnier and Sandy Koenig, Chris and Bruce Taylor

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