



# THE PINE RUN NEWS

An independent community publication

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## SOCIAL CALENDAR:

December 16	Ladies' Lunch	12:00 noon (call Geri 908-377-9760)
December 18	Holiday Cocktail Party*	5:30 pm
December 28	BOOK CLUB**	2:00 pm
January 1	New Year's Day Brunch	11:30 am
January 13	Ladies' Lunch	12:00 noon (call Geri 908-377-9760)
January 18	Bread and Soup Potluck	6:00 pm

Movie Night starts again in January on Tuesdays at 7:30. Watch the boards for notices  
All events take place in our clubhouse.

\*For the cocktail party, please bring a new unwrapped toy to donate to Toys for Tots.

\*\* The book we're reading is "Grapes of Wrath" by John Steinbeck.

## **FROM OUR LANDSCAPING CHAIR, KEENIE BUGENHAGEN: UPDATES**

The Neighborhood Initiative Grant Advisory Committee met on December 1<sup>st</sup> to score grant applications. Pat Foley, Kate Koski and I attended. Our grant application to remove invasive plant species from the entrance area received a solid score of 82.43. All members voted to approve the application. Grants will be awarded by the county in February. I would like to express my thanks to all who took the time to express support for the grant.

Plans have been made to landscape the areas where the mailboxes were removed. We are awaiting the delivery of sod to begin installation.

Our lawns will be fertilized this month. This will be the second application of fertilizer to the turf this fall; the first time was in October. Plants were fertilized in November. You may notice a slight odor when organic fertilizers are applied. These are safer for humans, animals and the environment. All fertilizers are 50% slow release, preventing burns to the plant material. Plants and lawn areas are inspected each month, and treated as needed. Weed control is being selectively done to avoid creating bare spots. As our grass gets healthier, we will be able to get more aggressive with the weeds.

As always, please remember to complete the architectural modification form prior to planting anything on the common element. Consulting the list of plants designated as invasive in the state of Florida and the Florida-friendly landscaping guide, both found on the Pine Run website, will assist you in finding appropriate plants for your environment.

**COMMUNITY YARD SALE**– Saturday February 6. The storage pod is in at the Clubhouse parking lot. The purpose of the pod is to store items that folks simply have no place to keep

until February. Furniture and other large items give folks the most difficulty, so we're accepting those items through December. If you have furniture or other large items please bring them to the Pod according to the schedule that's posted on the bulletin boards. Starting in January, we'll accept any items until the pod is full. If you need assistance, please call Kate (400-9192) or Geri (908-377-9760) and we'll arrange to have your items picked up.

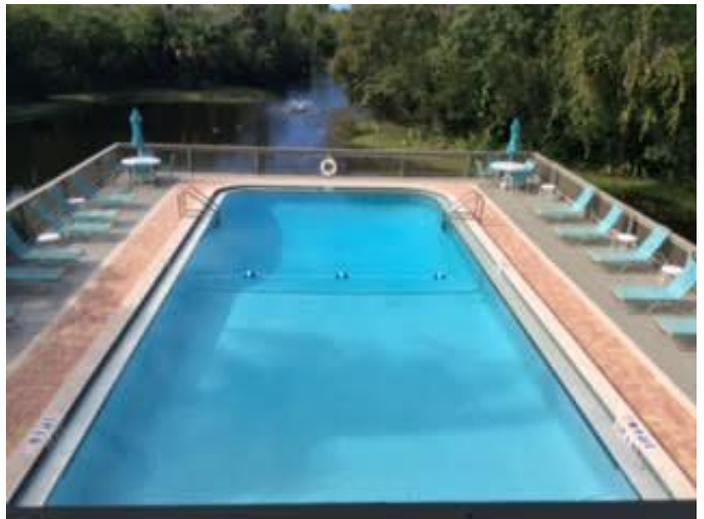


**Volunteers are needed with van, pickup and/or muscle to help folks bring their items to the storage pod. Thank you Smitty for helping us on December 5. We still need others for December Sunday December 13, Saturday, December 19 and Sunday, December 27. It doesn't take much of your time, just a couple of hours at most. Your help will be greatly appreciated by all.**



Here's a shot of our new mailboxes, they work very well and it feels good to have our mail secure. I have to admit, though, that it took me a while to discover the outgoing mail slots underneath those covers!

And check out our newly resurfaced pool, it's lovely!



**The Board of Directors and members of Pine Run Association** welcome the twenty-one new property owners who joined our community in 2015. We hope you enjoy this quiet little place we call Pine Run - home to many year-round residents as well as snowbird owners and renters.

#### UNIT NUMBER

108 Teena Markowitz, Basking Ridge, NJ.  
109 Billie L. Born, Venice, FL.

- 127 Owen James, Masspequa, NY.
- 129 Karen and Steve Callaway, Solon, IA.
- 141 Michael Petroules, Tampa, FL
- 202 Ralph and Theresa LaVoie, Plymouth, MA
- 211 William Loftus and Sarah Nurre, Bedminster, NJ.
- 223 Paul and Kathleen Gibson, Middletown, NY.
- 231 Dennis and Carolyn Wilbee, Rapid River, MI.
- 233 Patricia M. Hamilton, Venice, FL
- 237 Neil and Patricia Hansen, Osprey, FL
- 238 Doris J. Cox, New Port Richey, FL
- 301 Fred and Joni Weinerth, Gold Canyon, AZ.
- 352 Eloise S. Green, Spencer, NY
- 354 Terry Marks and Anastasia Wirick, Osprey, FL.
- 362 Ann Gardner Whiteley, Port Charlotte, FL.
- 364 Valerie Walters, Iain Collier, Brittany Singer, Sarasota, FL.
- 715 Margaret and James Abdou, Clifton Park, NY.
- 717 Brian and Jenny Walker, Norwood, NY.
- 756 Michele Gervino, Scarsdale, NY
- 765 Maude James, Brooklyn, NY.

**A GOOD TIME:** Trish Hodge and Karen Wilder hosted a delightful potluck dinner on December 7. It was an intimate gathering of about 22 folks with really delicious food and good wine from Trader Joe's. Cyndy Colbath won the 50-50 raffle. Almost everyone pitched in and helped with the clean up so we were done with the work in record time. The Christmas decorations and beautiful lighted tree added holiday spirit to the event. It was a very pleasant evening.



**From Kip Kellog on improvements to our gym:** We removed the old carpet, and put down a recycled tire gym floor. We have tossed some of the old equipment, added new mats, stretch bands, weight racks, and back roller. We are in the process of installing a new ceiling, and will continue to add kettle bells and medicine balls in January. Stop by and have a look.

**Maintenance Director Report and Reminder from Tom Foley:**

The mailboxes are finally in (see picture above). It was a slow process because, as one board member said, "You cannot hurry the federal government."

We are continually being asked to have our maintenance crew repair rot and stain, both indoor and out, that is the result of work done absent the submittal of a **Request for Architectural/Grounds Modification Form.** Lots of that work has not been done correctly, the cost impacts our maintenance budget significantly, and routine maintenance is impacted by the urgency of the repairs needed. For instance, our crew has been tied up for several days due to a serious leak repair precipitated by a lanai installation done without oversight. That has pushed a building painting project and an irrigation pump repair to the back burner. These projects are weather dependent and we were not able to take full advantage of good weather as a result.

If our maintenance office does not have a key to your unit, as required by our documents, please see that they get one. A recent emergency would have required doing damage to a unit if they were not able to get in with the key on hand. The problem, by the way, was dealt with by Rick on the weekend. Emergencies don't always happen on Monday through Friday from 8:00 to 4:00. Discovered in the process was the installation of an outdoor county water faucet which is against our documents as well.

Once again with respect to recyclables: "If in doubt, throw it out." Please do not recycle it. Remember: no Styrofoam (that would be egg cartons), only corrugated cardboard (broken down of course), please read the label on the two receptacles.

**A short editorial:** A few days ago my wife, Carol, was almost hit by a white Toyota Solara that rounded the blind corner at high speed where Pine Run Drive turns into the 700s. Please, fellow residents, observe the 10 mph speed limit in our development. There used to be a speed bump right there but it was removed when our roads were resurfaced; should it be put back?

**From our President, Pat Foley:** The Introduction to our Community Rules and Information states "In Condominium living, everyone has certain rights and also mutual obligations to other owners as our neighbors. The restrictions we impose upon ourselves are for the mutual benefit of the whole community." For many Pine Run owners this is the first experience in condominium living. The freedom from having to cut your own grass, paint your own house and shovel snow is a welcome change. Along with those welcome freedoms there are also new realities. You cannot just store anything in your carport, loud music or late night TV can disturb a neighbor, you cannot just let the dog out unleashed, you need to seek permission to place items on a common element, you must supply a working key and sometimes you are asked to pay a Special Assessment for major building repair. All of those limitations/obligations are in place to maintain a high quality of living, enjoyment and investment in the Pine Run Community.



We are privileged to live in a place of natural beauty surrounded by lush vegetation, nature at its best including osprey, eagles, turtles, bobcats, just to name a few. We can bike, walk, swim, play tennis, pickle ball, join book clubs or just hang out with good friends. Our beautiful Gulf beaches are a short hop away and we have a new park. All of these gifts are to be enjoyed but also require caring maintenance. Our Gulf Coast climate creates high costs for maintenance

and insurance, our natural vegetation requires continual upkeep and Florida's precious water supply is costly for all of us.

I urge you all during these most complicated times to look around you, enjoy the good things and try to realize it takes a community effort to keep all those good things. Yes, we will require a Special Assessment to upgrade buildings in each section that need TLC, yes we will upgrade the Club House but Reserves will pay for that, yes we spend almost \$82,000 a year on our water bill but you can turn the faucet off a little more quickly and yes we can all write letters to the Legislature to clamp down on high insurance rates. Take pride in our community, do what you can in your own way to make it better and meet a new neighbor with a warm Florida smile this month.

**Classified Ads (\$3 for 4 lines):**

**SENIOR ASSISTANCE:** Retired licensed clinical social worker (LCSW) offers non-medical care and companionship. Meals, shopping, doctor apps, etc. 3 hour segments at \$15 per hour. Pine Run Resident. Experienced. References. [941-586-1121](tel:941-586-1121).

SINCE 1979, RATTAN, WICKER AND CANE located at 751 US 41 Bypass South in Venice has offered top quality home and patio furniture and accessories with outstanding customer service. The family of Pine Runner, Diane Schaub started the business and it continues today. Come and visit our store and let us help you define your own unique Florida sense of style. We offer free in home design consultation. We have a showroom filled with great accessories and beautifully composed vignettes to help you envision your personal design. We would love to see you!

