

WESTWAYS

THE OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF THE ROTONDA WEST ASSOCIATION, INC.

JANUARY 2024



E-NEWSLETTER PUBLISHED MONTHLY BY THE ROTONDA WEST ASSOCIATION

ROTONDA VOTERS SELECT RWA DIRECTORS



Submitted by: Nadine Clough

The election results were announced at the Annual Meeting of the Rotonda West Association on December 7th. Karen Harvey and David Kelly were named to fill two open board seats.

Karen Harvey 1,125 votes **Jerry Eldred 1,036 votes**
David Kelly 1,044 votes **Dale Jensen 660 votes**
Rollover of Funds– 1937-42 passed (funds will be carried over)
2,025 Ballots Cast

Currently, that leaves the Board of Directors at six members. Accorded to the Bylaws (Article II Section I) The Association shall be governed by a Board of Directors consisting of seven directors. Six of these directors will be elected to staggered three year terms by the members. Board shall be entitled but not required, to appoint one member who need not be a Lot/ Tract Owner. In the event that Cape Cave fails to appoint a member to the board, the Board of Directors shall by majority vote, appoint member for a term of one year. (*Cape Cave is often referred to as "the developer"*).

The filling of this empty seventh seat will be addressed at the first Board of Directors meeting on January 14th from 2-4 p.m.

VOLUME 28 ISSUE 1

NEWSLETTER HIGHLIGHTS

RWA Elects Directors

Message from Newly
Elected Directors

Holiday Events in Review

Happy New Year from
Staff and BOD

Ask the Pharmacist, Sarah
Swiatek Speaks on OTC Drugs

Upcoming Events

A Look Back at Rotonda
Community Center

Contact West Ways at:
westways@rotondawest.org

**Rotonda West Administrative
Office-Community Center
Broadmoor Park
646 Rotonda Circle
Rotonda West, FL 33947
Office Hours: 8 am-4pm M-F
Tel: (941) 697-6788**

HERE ARE YOUR NEWLY ELECTED RWA BOARD MEMBERS



KAREN HARVEY

Thank you for the opportunity to serve you! It was quite the ride...from the minute that I filed my intent to run until election night! I met and talked to so many amazing residents of Rotonda West. I had so much encouragement from so many people. In the beginning of my campaign, I aligned myself with people who had served the Board before. People who I respected and were in turn respected by the Community. People who could give me insight into running my campaign. But the best part, I had so much fun from attending the classic car show at The Cool Pickle to attending lots of Rotonda West events and then having my own campaign election rally with classic cars and ice cream at The Marina. I am so proud of the election results. I worked hard and it paid off. But not only did I work hard, I feel that I have the right mix of personality, campaign focus, experience, and attitude for the position. I will work hard every-day for the residents of Rotonda West. Please email me with any concerns that you might have at: Karen.harvey@rotondawest.org.

Thank you for your support!



DAVID KELLY

I would like to thank everyone that voted in this year's election! We keep getting higher and higher turn-outs at each election cycle, which is a great sign for our community. Thank you to the Election Committee and RWA Staff in running an efficient and fair election! This will be 12-15 years of service to the board and the residents of Rotonda and I look forward to many more! Lets make 2024 a great year and continue to move Rotonda in the right direction.

THANK YOU VOTERS!





ROTONDA WEST ASSOCIATION BOARD OF DIRECTORS UPDATES



BOARD OF DIRECTORS LEFT TO RIGHT: Director Jack Metz, Vice President David Kelly, Treasurer Sam Besase, Director Les Goodman, President Andy VanScyoc, Secretary Karen Harvey

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

On December 14th, 2023 the reorganization meeting of the Board of Directors was held. The officers nominated and chosen were:

President:	Andy VanScyoc
Vice President:	David Kelly
Treasurer:	Sam Besase
Secretary:	Karen Harvey

The seventh member of the board will be named at the January board meeting.

According to the Rotonda West Association webpage:

The Rotonda West Association is governed by a Board of Directors. The Directors are elected to the Board by the lot owners in Rotonda West. More specific information, such as number and term, vacancy and replacement, removal, and powers can be found in the **By-laws**, Article II Directors.

The RWA Board of Directors is generally responsible for maintaining and improving the community in the best interests of its members. The Board interprets, applies, administers and enforces the governing documents affecting the community. The Board may be assisted in these efforts by the establishment of standing/statutory and advisory committees.

Board of Directors meetings are held at 2:00 p.m. on the second and fourth Thursday of each month at the Rotonda West Community Center and are open to the public.

A notice for every meeting must be posted a minimum of two days in advance.

**WATCH FOR THE NEW WEST WAYS SERIES,
RWA COMMITTEES AT WORK**

**BUDGET & FINANCE COMMITTEE WILL BE FEATURED
IN THE FEBRUARY ISSUE OF WEST WAYS**

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ROTONDA WEST PARADE DELIVERS HOLIDAY CHEER!

Photos by:
David Pulaski



Parade Chair Pam
Pierce with
husband, Rich



Judge Coordinator: Tam-
my Birdsong with Judges
Meghan Hedges, Jeannie
Joyce, and Kim Parks



2023 ROTONDA WEST ASSOCIATION CHRISTMAS PARADE

JUDGES:

Meghan Hedges
Kim Parks
Jeanne Joyce

JUDGING STAND SPONSOR/JUDGE CHAUFFEUR

Kendal Canonico
The Island Team/Paradise Exclusive Michelle
Finley

WENG RADIO BROADCAST HOSTS

Joe Edwards
Ken "KB" Birdsong
Scott Perron

PARADE CHAIR Pam Pierce

JUDGE WRANGLER Tammy Birdsong

PUBLICITY Nadine Clough

PHOTOGRAPHERS David Pulaski Wayne Mengel

SANTA



Lemon Bay High School
Marching Band



Ken Birdsong from
WENG Radio



CONGRATULATIONS TO THE TROPHY WINNERS

SPIRIT OF CHRISTMAS
Rotonda West Community Church

BEST COMMERCIAL
Galloway Roofing

BEST ORGANIZATION
Englewood Girl Scouts

BEST USE OF THEME
Terra Verde

BEST PARADE PERFORMANCE
Rotonda Ukulele Band

THANK YOU TO OUR PARADE & BROADCAST SPONSORS

Brookdale Senior Living

The Beach Guy

Galloway Roofing

Fellowship Church

West Coast Trailer

Placida Grille

The Island Team/ Paradise Exclusive Real
Estate

Timber Time Tree Care

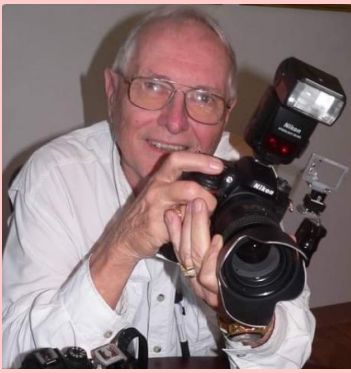
Faith Lutheran Church of Rotonda

Thoroughbred Golf Carts

Mike Douglas Plumbing

Englewood Chamber of Commerce





YUP, ANOTHER PHOTO GIG!!

ARTICLE & PHOTOS BY DAVID PULASKI



Sunday, December 3rd, 3:30 pm, Rotonda West Broadmoor Park

The “Holiday Stroll Around the Lake” event. Pulling into the parking lots I knew something big was happening: I had to drive around to find a parking spot!!! The grounds were alive with folks. Approaching the community center you could hear an ORGAN playing beautiful Christmas music. What? The RWA does not own an organ!

Besides the organ in the hall there sat Santa and Mrs. Claus, folks choosing homemade cookies and treats, guests taking lots of photographs, and others filling out entry forms for a chance to win one of the many Christmas displays around the lake.

Outside on the patio and backyard by the lake were hundreds of people listening to a great group of talented elementary students singing Christmas carols. This was truly a fantastic shindig that put everybody in the holiday spirit!

Big CONGRATS to the RWA Outreach Committee and organizer Karen Harvey and all her hard working elves!!!



Cary Price from
Fletcher Music



Rotonda West Residents Enjoy Holiday Stroll Event



L to R: Cari Hale; Event Organizer Karen Harvey; Community Outreach Chair Deb Orchard; and BOD director Patti Cowin.



Elementary School Choir Entertains with
Holiday Carols



Free Cookies!



Dr. Sarah Swiatek presenting at December "Ask the Pharmacist"

"ASK THE PHARMACIST" PRESENTER SARAH SWIATEK ANSWERS QUESTIONS AT DECEMBER DISCUSSION

Article and Photo by Nadine Clough

Sarah Swiatek spoke to a group of Rotonda residents at the recent Ask the Pharmacist event which was held on December 7th. The focus of this discussion was on OTC or *Over the Counter* drugs and medicines. Although the crowd was small, everyone had relevant and interesting questions for Sarah.

The use of OTC medicines is of course a very common practice for many people. It is convenient to be able to walk into a store and pick up the drug you need. However, problems often arise because of the multitude of choices available. Labeling on the drug and product information may be confusing. One example that Sarah used was the various choices for a cold and flu medicine. You know your symptoms, but many of the drug choices overlap. Read the labels carefully and don't hesitate to ask the pharmacist for assistance.

Sarah will be back at the Rotonda Community Center in March for another discussion on health care and other related topics. Watch for further information on these presentations in West Ways.

Ask the Pharmacist is part of the ongoing Wellness Program brought to you by the Community Outreach Committee.

Jonny Puma Performs Holiday Music

Article and Pictures by Nadine Clough

On December 10th, Jonny Puma sang and played his guitar for a group of over 75 people inside the Community Center. This Music in the Park event, sponsored by the Community Outreach Committee, was held inside and was the first ever Jonny Puma presentation of Christmas Carols.

The festive event was cheery and fun, a stark contrast to the rainy and windy weather outside. The joyful music included many traditional carols such as: *Frosty the Snowman*, *Let It Snow*, *Jingle bells*, *Little Drummer Boy*, *We Three Kings*, *I'm Dreaming of a White Christmas*, and Puma's favorite, *Please Come Home for Christmas*. The audience sang along and bobbed their heads to the tunes, as the old nostalgic favorites connected everyone back across the years. The 90 minute performance wrapped up with *We Wish You a Merry Christmas*, and a crowd favorite, *Hallelujah*.

Don't miss upcoming Music in the Park events, *Dance Party with Jay Smith* on 1/8/24 at 7 p.m. and *The Rotonda Ukulele Band* on 2/5 at 4:30



Jonny Puma sings many favorite carols for the audience.



**WISHING YOU A JOYFUL
AND HEALTHY 2024
HAPPY NEW YEAR!
FROM THE RWA STAFF
AND RWA BOARD**



STANDING L TO R:

**KELLIE, ART, WAYNE, PABLO, BILL, JAY, JACK, ANDY, SAM,
LAURIE, SHERYL, TAMMY, & DERRICK**

SITTING L TO R:

SANTA, ANNIE, JENNY, NANCY, JOE, & DOUG



January 2024

Protecting Rotonda West since 1981
www.rotondawestneighborhoodwatch.com
Facebook @ Rotonda West Neighborhood Watch

Words cannot express how proud and grateful I am of our volunteers who through their kindness and generosity donated four bicycles and over 100 toys for Toys for Tots; hosted by the US Marine Corps. Not only were toys donated by our volunteers but over 200 canned goods and non-perishables were also donated, and these were given to the Englewood Helping Hands food pantry: also, part of the parade.

Our volunteers are a pillar of support in this community and we're extremely grateful for the work you do.



If you are looking to volunteer as a Patrol or be a Base Station, it just takes two hours a month; a small commitment to protecting our neighborhoods. If you are interested in joining our organization, please contact David Perry at 941-828-1584 or by email president@rotondawestneighborhoodwatch.com

If you see something—say something...Call the CCSO Non-emergency number at 941-639-0013

MARK YOUR CALENDARS FOR THESE UPCOMING EVENTS

JANUARY 2024

- Jan. 3rd, Wednesday @ 2 pm
“Shape Up America! Create Healthy Habits” Lecture by Terri Livesay Huttes
- Jan. 4th, Thursday @ 6:30 pm
T.R.I.V.I.A. With Tim
- Jan. 8th, Monday @ 7 pm Music in the Park: Dance Party with Jay Smith
- Jan. 9th, Tuesday @ 5:30 pm
Rotonda Nature: Python and Other Snakes Presentation
- Jan. 17th, Wednesday @ 2 pm
Rotonda Wellness: Fall Prevention by David Brackett
- Jan. 18th, Thursday @ 4:30 pm
Music in the Park: Speakeasy Alley
- Jan. 20th, Saturday @ 9 am
Rotonda Nature: Guided Nature Walk in Broadmoor Park
- Jan. 21st, Sunday @ 1 pm
BINGO (Doors Open at 12:15 pm)
- Jan. 23rd, Tuesday @ 5 pm
Meet & Greet Potluck
- Jan. 27th, Saturday @ 9 am-Noon
“Shred-It” Day & Fill the Pantry for St. David’s Jubilee Center
- Jan. 27th & 28th, Saturday & Sunday @ 1-5 pm, “Rotonda West Has Talent Show” Auditions!

FEBRUARY 2024

- Feb. 1st, Thursday @ 6:30 pm
T.R.I.V.I.A. With Tim (doors open at 6 pm)
- Feb. 5th, Monday @ 4:30 pm
Music in the Park: Rotonda Ukulele Band
- Feb. 15th, Thursday @ 4:30 pm
Music in the Park: Michael White
- Feb. 18th, Sunday @ 1 pm
BINGO (doors open at 12:15 pm)
- Feb. 22nd, Thursday
Walk Your Dog Day & Photo (Send Photos to West Ways Newsletter)
- Feb. 24th, Saturday @ 1 pm
“Rotonda West Has Talent Show” Finale
- Feb. 25th, Sunday
Rotonda West Association 2023 Volunteer Banquet (by invitation only)
- Feb 27th, Tuesday @ 5 pm
Meet & Greet Potluck
- Feb. 28th, Wednesday @ 1 pm
Frank Levin Lecture, “The Impossible Behavior of Light”



**SAVE THE DATE: March 22nd-23rd
RWA Spring Community Garage Sale**

NEW YEAR
• *New You* •

ROTONDA STRONG HEALTH & WELLNESS INITIATIVE 2024 KICK-OFF

Please care for yourself.

This year attend many of our free lectures, workshops & activities.

Mindset matters.

keep resolutions simple & realistic
stick to your goals when you have setbacks
keep notes of progress and reminders

have a timeframe
have support from family and friends
stake personal responsibility for your goals.

Welcome property owners, residents, renters and their guests. No cost.
Questions? communityoutreach@rotondawest.org Please do not contact the RWA Admin Office.

**January 3rd, 2:00 pm
Wednesday**

Create Heathy Lifelong Habits

**RWA Community Center
646 Rotonda Circle**

Presented by Terri Livesay Huttes, LPN,
Health & Wellness Coach/Nurse

"I help people learn
how to CREATE better health in their lives.
I help them reach their
health, wellness and weight-loss goals.
I am passionate about helping others
live a life they didn't even think was
possible for them."

**January 17th, 2:00 pm
Wednesday**

Fall Prevention

Why Should We Be Concerned About Falls?

**RWA Community Center
646 Rotonda Circle**

Presented by David Brackett of
Amedisys Home Health

A discussion of 6 common risk factors for
senior falls and a Fall Prevention Checklist.

DID YOU KNOW...?

- Falls are not a normal consequence of aging.
- More than 1/3 of the population 65 and older will fall each year.
- 50% of people over the age of 40 have dizziness/balance problems.



**Rotonda West
Association**
Community Outreach Committee

Terri Livesay Huttes has been a Health & Wellness Coach & Nurse for the last 8 years. Shape Up US/Ameica is a monthlong initiative to create healthy livelong habits and combat obesity.

Link to Shape Up US: <https://shapeupus.org/>

Did you know:

- Falls are not a normal consequence of aging.
- Balance disorder is the most common diagnosis for short stay hospital admissions > 65 years old and the most common reason patients who present to the ER.

Trivia Night

LITERATURE & SCIENCE

TOYS & GAMES

HISTORY & ANIMALS

MUSIC TV & MOVIES

SPORTS AND MORE!

FREE!

Presented by Tim's Trivia
TimsTrivia@yahoo.com
Timothy Dowd, originally from Michigan. I have been a college professor for almost 30 years with degrees in English, philosophy, sociology, psychology, history and humanities. I have been doing TRIVIA for almost 20 years; also music bingo, scavenger hunts, hosting various events as well as DJ-ing dances of all kinds. Recently have been named the number one TRIVIA in Southwest Florida!

What: Trivia - by team or individual.

When: 1st Thursday of the month Jan 4th - Feb 1st - Mar 7th

Where: RWA Community Center, 646 Rotonda Circle

Doors open at 6pm with play beginning at 6:30 pm.

Bring your own drinks and snacks and be prepared to have fun and be challenged!

Open to RWA property owners, residents, renters, and their guests.

Questions? communityoutreach@rotondawest.org Please do not contact the RWA Admin Office.

Hosted by the  Community Outreach Committee

**MANY
GREAT
EVENTS
FOR
ROTONDA
RESIDENTS
AND
GUESTS !**

**SEE YOU
THERE!**

**DON'T MISS OUT
ON THE FUN.**



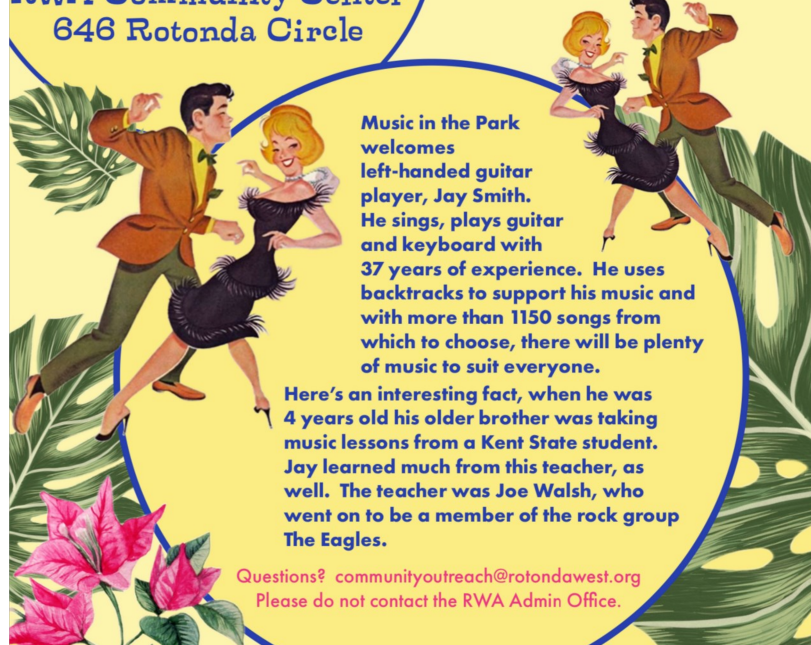
DANCE PARTY LIVE MUSIC!

**Monday
January 8th
7:00 - 9:00 pm**

Doors open at 6:30
RWA Community Center
646 Rotonda Circle

FEATURING JAY SMITH

Welcome RWA property owners, residents, renters, and their guests. Bring your drinks, snacks, and dancing shoes for a fun evening! No cost.



Music in the Park welcomes left-handed guitar player, Jay Smith. He sings, plays guitar and keyboard with 37 years of experience. He uses backtracks to support his music and with more than 1150 songs from which to choose, there will be plenty of music to suit everyone.

Here's an interesting fact, when he was 4 years old his older brother was taking music lessons from a Kent State student. Jay learned much from this teacher, as well. The teacher was Joe Walsh, who went on to be a member of the rock group The Eagles.

Questions? communityoutreach@rotondawest.org
Please do not contact the RWA Admin Office.

Broadmoor Park has tremendous value as a habitat for wildlife. The lakes (three of which have good water quality), along with the Long Leaf and Slash Pines, Live Oaks, and Prairie offer good opportunities to see wildlife. Broadmoor Park is listed as an iNaturalist Project area to document flora and fauna found by iNaturalist participants. This project was established by the University of Florida Wildlife Ecologist Mark Hoeslecker, who surveyed Broadmoor Park in 2018. He set up the iNaturalist Broadmoor Park project in 2021.

Connect with Nature
Identify flora and fauna
Download the app
iNaturalist



PRESENTED BY ROTONDA NATURE

GATHER TOGETHER

846 Rotonda Circle
Community Center
Please no pets.

Considerations for outdoor activities:

- *Apply sunblock & bug spray.
- *Wear a hat & comfy shoes.
- *Hydration beverage.
- *Binoculars. Camera, Magnifier

Tip: Depending upon your device, a cell phone can be used as a camera and magnifier.

Welcome RWA property owners, residents, renters and their guests.
Questions? communityoutreach@rotondawest.org
Please do not contact the RWA Admin Office.



Indoor Activity
January 9th
Tuesday
5:30 pm

Lecture:
Pythons
and Other
Snakes



Outdoor Activity
January 20th
Saturday
9:00 am

Guided
Nature Walk
in
Broadmoor
Park

MUSIC in the PARK

Speakeasy Alley

Southwest Florida's unique acoustic rock group, ranging from Alternative to Country, Classic Rock to Rhythm and Blues. Ralph Franco on guitars and vocals, Karin Martin on percussion and lead vocals, and Roger Sigman is their featured, left-handed guitar player.

Thursday January 18 **Broadmoor Park** **4:30 pm - 6:30 pm**
646 Rotonda Circle

Welcome for an enjoyable evening, property owners, residents, renters and their guests. Please bring your outdoor seating, beverage, and snack.

Questions? communityoutreach@rotondawest.org
 Please do not contact the RWA Admin Office.

Rotonda West Association
Community Outreach Committee

3rd Sunday of each month!



1:00 pm – 4:00 pm

Doors open at 12:15 pm

January 21st **April 21st**
February 18th **May 19th**
March 17th

Invited to join in on the fun are property owners, residents, renters, and their guests.

Questions? communityoutreach@rotondawest.org
 Please do not contact the RWA Admin Office.

646
Rotonda Circle
RWA
Community Center

Must be
18
to play.

Play
begins
promptly
at
1:00 pm

Snacks & water
available, or
bring your own.
Covered
beverage
container please.



Community Outreach Committee

MEET & GREET



Tuesday, January 23rd from 5-7pm

RWA Community Center - 646 Rotonda Circle

Open to all RWA members and their guests

Bring a dish to share, and your drink of choice and cup. We will provide the rest of the tableware.

To try and even out the dishes, we are suggesting the following (we will rotate this every month):

If your last name begins with:
A-H -Main Dish
(ie: casseroles, baked pasta dish, etc.)
I-P - Dessert
Q-Z- Salad or Side

This is a great way to meet your neighbors and make new friends!



Presented by the
Community Outreach
Committee

**There will be
a 50/50 pot**

MEET & GREET

Happy Hour



**Wednesday, January 3,
at 5pm**

FOR ALL ROTONDA RESIDENTS (THAT INCLUDES SANDS, LAKES, HEIGHTS, ETC) AND GUESTS. ROTONDA COMMUNITY PARK ON PARADE CIRCLE. BYOB, BRING A SNACK IF YOU WOULD LIKE!

**COME MEET YOUR NEIGHBORS AND
MAKE SOME NEW FRIENDS AND
HAVE SOME FUN!!!!**

PLEASE JOIN US!

BACK BY POPULAR DEMAND!

SHRED-IT FREE EVENT

Documents shredded on site.

What CAN be shredded with

paper:

Paper clips	Staples
Binder clips	Rubber bands
Newspapers	Magazines
Manila folders	Office papers
Envelopes w/plastic windows	
Folders w/fasteners	

Spiral notebooks

No need to remove staples

www.shredit.com

*& Fill the Pantry
St. David's Jubilee
Center*

DRIVE THRU

Saturday

January 27

9:00 am - 12 Noon

646 Rotonda Circle

Open to RWA property owners, residents,
and renters.
Questions?

communityoutreach@rotondawest.org
Please do not contact the RWA Admin Office.



St. David's Jubilee Center, Englewood provides food and other supplies to underserved families and the homeless in the community.

Dry and canned food donations. Any food that is "shelf-stable" or nonperishable.

Please, only donate food that hasn't reached its "sell-by" date.

The Rotonda West Community Outreach Committee is sponsoring a drive thru shredding event on Saturday, January 27th from 9 am to noon at the Rotonda West Community Center at 646 Rotonda Circle. A mobile shred truck will take documents and shred them on site.

At the same time we will be collecting dry and canned food donations for the St. Davids Jubilee Center in Englewood.

So bring your documents to shred and your donation to share.

THANK YOU!



**ATTENTION
ROTONDA WEST
RESIDENTS**



**ROTONDA WEST TALENT SHOW
IS BACK!!!**

AUDITIONS will be held on
Saturday and Sunday, January 27th & 28th
from 10 a.m.-1 p.m.

Talent should call 941-697-3935 to register.

TALENT SHOW will be held on **Saturday,**
February 24th from 1-5 p.m.

(rain date will be Sunday, February 25th)

Held behind the Community Center.

**Audience must bring their
own chair and refreshment.**

Thank you,

Lorene Thompson

Event Coordinator

PLEASE DO NOT CALL RWA OFFICE ABOUT THIS EVENT



ROTONDA COMMUNITY CENTER- A LOOK BACK

DECEMBER 12, 2016

RAFTERS GO UP

ON NEW COMMUNITY CENTER

The community of Rotonda West was started in 1972, the homeowners association (HOA) was started 19 years later in 1991.

During the early years, the association was operated out of a former two-lane bowling alley in Cape Haze. Special events were held at various locations in the area, such as golf courses or the American Legion. Eventually, it became clear that Rotonda West needed a community center.

(Photo submitted by Sam Besase)



JULY 21, 2017

**NEW COMMUNITY CENTER
OPENS ITS DOORS!**

The Rotonda West association formally opened its doors to the new 8,000 square foot Community Center building at 646 Rotonda Circle, in Broadmoor Park. The center provides residents with meeting rooms, a kitchen, rest rooms, outdoor sitting areas, storage closets, and parking.



Photo by: Wayne Mengel

July 21, 2017 Grand Opening Remarks

"The grand opening is an opportunity to showcase our new Community Center for residents on what promises to be a banner day for our community. We are confident that the new center will become a catalyst for our community by offering a meeting center for our committees and clubs and for residents to relax, socialize and participate in a wide range of activities."

Russ Kulp, Rotonda West Association Board President



GFWC Rotonda West Woman's Club, Inc.
Gwen Grace, President
January 2024



Would you believe that 2024 is a very special year for our club? On May 1, 1974, we received our Charter from The General Federation of Women's Clubs (which was founded in 1890) so we will be celebrating our 50th anniversary this year! We look forward to sharing some of the memories of our club in future newsletters.



Pictured on left:
Erin Halstead,
President of EACF
On right: The VIP table



The GFWC Rotonda West Woman's Club ended 2023 with a sold-out Holiday Tea which provided a donation of \$2900 to the Englewood Area Cancer Foundation. Thank you to all who attended and the Holiday Tea club members who worked so hard to make it a special event.

Coming up is Trivia Night on Thursday, January 25th where the proceeds will help with local Lemon Bay High School Scholarships. In February we will be having a Designer Bag Bingo where the winners take home beautiful new designer handbags. Tickets are available for both events.



At our December General Meeting we celebrated the year and enjoyed a catered luncheon. We also inducted nine new members. Pictured with

their sponsors and board members are new members Annette Carruthers, Lynn Means, Pauline Harmatz, Jeannie Joyce, Meg Meyer, Rebecca Powell, Coleen Coppenheim, Linda Bloom and Charlene Marcus. If you are interested in joining GFWC RWWC you are very welcome to attend. Our next General Meeting is Thursday, January 18th at the RWA community center. The social hour begins at 9 am and the business meeting starts promptly at 10 am.

Please go to our website at www.gfwcrotondawest.org for information about upcoming events and who we are and what we do. You can also find us on Facebook at GFWC Rotonda West Woman's Group. We are proud to continue to "Live the Volunteer Spirit" as we begin to celebrate the 50th anniversary of our club.

7 Dec 2023

Contact: Charles Truthan

Public Affairs Officer

352-266-0460

U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary Public Affairs

U.S. Department of
Homeland Security
**United States
Coast Guard
Auxiliary**



News Release

“Suddenly In Command”, In-Person Boating Safety Course

DATELINE – The Coast Guard Auxiliary, Flotilla 99, Cape Haze is offering a ***Suddenly In Command***, in-person boating safety course, on Saturday January 13, 2024.

The 4-hour class will be held at the South Gulf Cove HOA pavilion, 14859 Ingraham Blvd., Port Charlotte, starting at 8:30 am and finishing at approximately 12:30 pm. The in-person class is limited in size.

The course is taught by members who patrol and are very familiar with south Charlotte Harbor, Gasparilla Sound, Pine Island Sound, South Gulf Cove and Boca Grande areas.

The course is designed for those not generally at the helm. It will help participants to be prepared with the basics of boating and boating safety in case of an emergency or a situation that places you in command of your boat. Regular Captain encouraged to attend so they can learn what the “Admiral” needs to learn and practice!

Participants learn about: Boating vocabulary and operating principles; starting and stopping an engine; basic boat handling and how to get help; familiarization with your on-board equipment; descriptions of what causes boating mishaps and how to minimize them.

Cost for the class is:

\$45 per person

\$60 per couple sharing workbook

\$15 per middle or high school student

TO MAKE A RESERVATION (Required) OR REQUEST INFORMATION: Please contact Lori Quirk, Assistant Flotilla Staff Officer for Public Education. Email: Ffredqs2016@gmail.com or Cell phone: 609-602-5906 message or text. You will be requested to provide name, full address, email address, phone number and date of birth (and the same info of anyone who will accompany you). Your reservation will be confirmed. We look forward to seeing you and appreciate your interest in boating safety. Thank you.

The Coast Guard Auxiliary is the uniformed civilian component of the U.S. Coast Guard and supports the Coast Guard in nearly all mission areas. The Auxiliary was created by Congress in 1939. For more information, please visit www.cgaux.org

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OFFICE STAFF

Derrick Hedges
Manager

Tammy Birdsong
Administrator

**Nancy Schwechel and
Pablo Guardiola**
Administrator and
Deed Restrictions

Jenny Bulle
Bookkeeper

Annette Casteel
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Doug Smith

**THANK YOU TO OUR
WONDERFUL STAFF**

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Wayne Mengel, Photographer

Nadine Clough, Layout & Design

A Special Evening!



Dear Committee Chairpersons,

Our RWA volunteers are very important to our community. They give of their time, talents, and energy to help make Rotonda West a very special place to live.

On February 25th, we will be honoring those volunteers with a evening of recognition and gratitude at the Rotonda West Association 2023 Volunteer Banquet. In addition, we will be announcing the *Volunteer of the Year*.

We need your assistance! Please compile a list of everyone who served on your committee in the year 2023. The list of volunteers may also include the Ad Hoc Committee, Aquatics Committee, Holiday Decorating volunteers, and any persons who helped out with events or projects during the year 2023. Please include their email addresses along with their name so that we are able to send them an invitation and any other important details.

The dinner event is being planned and organized this year by Denise Slovinski and Nadine Clough, and is sponsored by the Community Outreach Committee and the Rotonda West Association.

Send the list of volunteers and their emails to: Nadine Clough at: nfc1138@yahoo.com

We would appreciate receiving your list by January 1, 2024, if possible.

Sincerely yours,

Volunteer Banquet Organizers

Denise Slovinski

Nadine Clough



SONG LIST FOR FEBRUARY MUSIC IN THE PARK EVENT

(not in the order that they will be performed)

Act Naturally	Looking Out My Back Door
Another Saturday Night	One Toke Over the Line
Banana Boat Song	Peaceful Easy Feeling
Blue Hawaiian Moonlight	Pirate Looks at 40
Bring Me Sunshine	Sheila
Da Do Ron Ron	Somewhere Over The Rainbow
Diana	Teenager In Love
Don't Worry, Be Happy	Under The Boardwalk
Down On The Corner	What A Day for a Daydream
Eight Days A Week	Wonderful World
Feeling Groovy	You're Sixteen
Five Foot Two	Cover of The Rolling Stone
Handle With Care	3 Little Birds
In The Middle of An Ocean	Sweet Caroline
Jamaican Farewell	Why Don't You Love Me

MUSIC IN THE PARK PERFORMANCE

Monday, February 2/5 at 4:30-6 p.m. (arrive by 4:00 p.m.)

Outside behind Community Center

Please note: This performance will count as our group meeting on that Monday.

Let me know if you will be able to join us. I will need an accurate count for chairs and microphones.

There will be 5 group get-togethers before 2/5. Please practice these songs at home.