

WESTWAYS

THE OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF THE ROTONDA WEST ASSOCIATION, INC.

Emailed to 6,073 Rotonda Residents

JUNE 2025



E-NEWSLETTER PUBLISHED MONTHLY BY THE ROTONDA WEST ASSOCIATION

SINGING BOWLS PRESENTATION

Story & Photos by: Rita Lopienski

On May 21, in honor of World Meditation Day, RWA member Rita Lopienski, led a unique music and vibration program on "The Seven Metal Singing Bowls of Tibet and Nepal".

Rita has a Masters degree in Music Education and Music Therapy. She is also a world traveler. She came with a large variety of singing bowls, chimes, bells & tingshaws (small cymbals attached to a leather cord). Many were from her travels to India, Nepal & Indonesia, and some were purchased from Fair Trade stores.



Everyone had plenty of experiential time to play and enjoy the instruments.



Ann Hamby (with husband Jeff) brought her own crystal bowl to share during the presentation.

The concepts of these instruments began by 1100 BC, when sound was recognized as the source of all visible and invisible things, and used in rituals and meditations.

Continued...

VOLUME 29 ISSUE 6

NEWSLETTER SECTIONS

SINGING BOWLS OF NEPAL & TIBET PRESENTATION

BOD MEETING MINUTES

ELECTION COMMITTEE NEWS

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HEALTH & WELLNESS

CHARLOTTE CO. NEWS

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ENTERTAINMENT

NEIGHBORHOOD WATCH

WOMAN'S CLUB

STAFF

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

Website address:
www.rotondawest.org

Singing Bowls continued...



Experimenting with the many soothing sounds of the seven singing bowls.

According to tradition, the bowls are made of seven metals: one metal for each of the planets: gold for the Sun; silver for the Moon; mercury for Mercury, copper for Venus; iron for Mars; tin for Jupiter and lead for Saturn. These metals produce an individual sound, including harmonics, and together these sounds produce the exceptional singing sound of the bowl. Sound is vibration, and vibration is music in a three-dimensional form.

In every religion sound is used to take the spirit into another realm, often the source of inspiration for meditations. A sense of well-being, inner space, and relaxation results.

Most singing bowls are played with a gong beater, or stick. They can be played together and with other vibrating instruments. There is a recognized therapeutic use for them, and the vibration instruments are used in rituals by Buddhist monks and in prayer services.

FLAG DAY IS SATURDAY, JUNE 14TH



Flag Etiquette

1. The flag should never be dipped to any person or thing. It is flown upside down only as a distress signal.
2. The flag should not be used as a drapery, or for covering a speakers desk, draping a platform, or for any decoration in general.
3. The flag should never be used for any advertising purpose.
4. The flag should not be used as part of a costume or athletic uniform, except that a flag patch may be used on the uniform of military personnel, fireman, policeman and members of patriotic organizations.
5. The flag should never have placed on it, or attached to it, any mark, insignia, letter, word, number, figure, or drawing of any kind.
6. The flag should never be used as a receptacle for receiving, holding, carrying, or delivering anything.



ROTONDA WEST ASSOCIATION

BOARD OF DIRECTORS



Andy VanScyoc
President



David Kelly
Vice President



Sam Besase
Treasurer



Karen Harvey
Secretary



Peter Traverso
Director



Deb Orchard
Director



Jerry Eldred
Director

Board of Directors Meeting

Thursday, April 10, 2025— 2:00 PM

MINUTES

PRESENT: Sam Besase, Jerry Eldred, Karen Harvey, David Kelly (Zoom), Deb Orchard, Peter Traverso, and Andy Van Scyoc (Chair)

ABSENT:

Management: Derrick Hedges, RWA Manager

Members: Joe Harris, Annette Casteel, Randy Keller, Maureen McDowell Barb Peszko, Paul Slovinski, Suzanne Robbins, Bruce Robbins, Lisa Glenn, Tylor Glenn, Robert Bonderson, Karen Hoover, Cheryl Lateer, Dale Jensen (via Zoom) Kelsey Stewart, Jenny Bulle, Matt Pocock, Bob Thibeault, Matthew Brady.

The meeting was called to order by President Van Scyoc at 2:06 PM. The meeting was properly noticed, and a quorum was present.

The Pledge of Allegiance to the United States of America was said.

COMPLETE Meeting Minutes can be found on the Rotonda West Association Website.

1. LOG IN TO WEBSITE

2. GO TO: "Governance"

3. CLICK ON: Meeting Minutes

4. SCROLL DOWN TO: Board of Directors

5. CHOOSE THE DATE OF MEETING: Example BOD Minutes 4-10-25

CONTINUED...

Director Harvey moved the Board to approve the BOD Meeting Minutes for March 13, 2025. Motion 2nd by Director Orchard. Motion Unanimously Approved.

MEMBERS INPUT (Agenda Items)

None.

OFFICERS, EMPLOYEES & CONTRACTORS REPORT



President's Update: Andy Van Scyoc

Treasurer's Report: Director Besase

Director Besase provided a written report that is attached to these minutes.

To attend an RWA BOD and/or Committee meeting, a resident must sign in with their name and address so that the RWA staff can verify that the person is a resident - including a resident in good standing – owing no debts to the HOA.

The RWA HOA meeting was paused for a couple of minutes, ultimately, the name of the resident that did NOT sign in was obtained and their name was written into the attendee list. Once this was done, then the RWA HOA meeting continued with the RWA Treasurer's report and the remainder of the meeting agenda.

Manager's Report: Derrick Hedges, Manager

Manager Hedges provided the board with an update on the projects that staff have been working on.

Deed Restrictions Violations: Nancy Schwechel, Administrator

Nancy Schwechel, Administrator, stated that there are violations listed in the Board Packet for approval. A motion to levy fines on members for violations listed numbers 1 through 131. If confirmed by the Compliance Committee, these fines shall be automatically imposed.

- Director Harvey motioned to approve the Deed Restriction Violations and Director Besase 2nd the Motion. Motion Unanimously Approved

MEMBERS INPUT (Non-Agenda Items)

Lisa Glenn spoke about a violation she wanted to contest, not understanding what restriction they had violated. She claimed it was not clearly specified. It was recommended by President Van Scyoc and Manager Derrick Hedges that an appointment be scheduled to resolve the matter.

RESPONSE TO MEMBER'S INPUT

None.

DIRECTOR INPUT

Director Kelly wished everyone Happy Master's week.

Director Harvey reminded the Board of Directors that all directors must take the four-to-eight-hour mandatory class to be given by the RWA attorney to be re-certified and maintain the position on the board. Homes over 2000 in the association would require eight hours of educational training.

Director Orchard thanked Sam and Karen and Annette; we soon will have two different application for use of the rental of RWA properties, one for committee and one for club meeting that are more straight forward.

President Van Scyoc thanked everybody for coming out and will see them at the next meeting.

ADJOURNMENT Meeting adjourned at 2:52 PM

Candidates Needed For Next Election Cycle

Rotonda West Association BOD



RWA CANDIDATES NEEDED
TO RUN FOR
HOA BOARD OF DIRECTORS

If you have ever considered running for HOA board position, now is the time for you to step up and become a candidate for the Rotonda West Board of Directors. This year, 2 seats will be up for election. The election term is from December 2025 through November 2027.

Detailed information regarding the process for filing as a candidate is available in the *2025 Board of Directors Candidate Packet*. This document is available on the RWA website on the RWA Elections page under the Governance heading.

If you are unable to access the website, or if the packet doesn't address your question(s), just send an email to the Election Committee at:

electioncommittee@rotondawest.org

and we'll be glad to send you a copy of the document or answer your question(s).

You should note that if you decide to run for office, all candidate documents need to be submitted by **12:01 p.m. on Friday, August 8, 2025.**

HAVE YOU SIGNED UP FOR ELECTRONIC VOTING YET?

THANK YOU,

RWA ELECTION COMMITTEE



RWA COMMITTEES AT WORK- MEETING SCHEDULE



ALL MEETINGS ARE ALSO AVAILABLE ON ZOOM

<u>COMMITTEE</u>	<u>DAY</u>	<u>TIME</u>
BOARD OF DIRECTORS	2ND THURSDAY OF EACH MONTH	2 P.M.
ADMINISTRATIVE/PERSONNEL COMMITTEE	“AS NEEDED” BASIS	TBA (not on zoom)
BUDGET & FINANCE COMMITTEE	4TH MONDAY OF EACH MONTH	9:30 A.M.
BUILDINGS & GROUNDS COMMITTEE	2ND TUESDAY OF EACH MONTH	10:30 A.M.
COMMUNITY OUTREACH COMMITTEE	1ST WEDNESDAY OF EACH MONTH	9:30 A.M.
COMPLIANCE COMMITTEE	DATES VARY (CHECK CALENDAR)	2 P.M.
DEED RESTRICTION COMMITTEE	4TH WEDNESDAY OF EACH MONTH	9 A.M.
ELECTION COMMITTEE	SPECIFIC TO ELECTION SCHEDULE	CHECK CALENDAR
RESIDENTIAL MODIFICATION COMMITTEE	2ND & 4TH TUESDAY OF EACH MONTH	9 A.M.
RW NEIGHBORHOOD WATCH	3RD TUESDAY OF EACH MONTH	10 A.M.

CALENDAR OF UPCOMING EVENTS

* EVENTS ARE HELD AT THE COMMUNITY CENTER, UNLESS OTHERWISE NOTED

JUNE

6/2, 6/9, 6/16, 6/30 Monday, 10am: Pilates Mat
6/3 Tuesday, 9am: World Bicycle Day Rotonda Bike Ride at Rotonda Community Park
6/4 Wednesday, 5pm: Mix & Mingle Happy Hour at Rotonda Community Park
6/6, 6/13, 6/20, 6/27 Friday, 10am: Tai Chi (6/13 & 6/27 outside on patio)
6/16 Monday, 6:30-8:30pm: Music in the Park with *Speakeasy Alley Band*
6/18 Wednesday, 6:30pm: Trivia Night with Tim
6/19 RWA Office & Community Center closed for *Juneteenth*
6/25 Wednesday, 2:30pm: Fit for Life Using Functional Exercise to Maintain Muscle Mass and Confidence by April Sutphen

JULY

7/2 Wednesday, 5pm: Mix & Mingle Happy Hour at Rotonda Community Park
7/4 Friday, INDEPENDENCE DAY: Office, Community Center Closed
7/4, 7/11, 7/18, 7/25 Friday, 10am: Tai Chi (7/4 & 7/25 on patio)
7/7, 7/14, 7/21, Monday, 10am: Pilates Mat
7/9 Wednesday, 2pm: Hurricane Preparedness Presentation
7/16 Wednesday, 6:30pm: Trivia with Tim



2025 Hurricane Preparedness Plan

Starting NOW!

- Create a Family Emergency Plan
- Gather Emergency Supplies
- Secure Your Home
- Stay Informed *** Sign up for Alert Charlotte! ***
- Prepare Your Vehicle
- Notify Family, Neighbors and Friends your intentions
- Research your phone to see if it supports Satellite communications in case of cellular failure.

Communicate with your Rotonda CERT Volunteer Team

- If you have Special Needs (Medical, Mobility, etc), please send an email to Rotondacert@aol.com if you would like us to do a Safety and Wellness check after the storm has passed.
- If you have Family here and live out of the area and would like us to do a Safety and Wellness check, please register.
- If you are staying and not feeling safe, register and we will check on you and if you need to move to a shelter, we will contact Charlotte County if transport is needed.

Continued...

After the Storm

If we have power loss the Community Center, thanks to the RWA providing a generator, will be opened once we determine it is safe.

- Ability to charge phones, tablets, tools, etc.
- A/C for cooling off
- Each day without power the Center will be open 8am until 4pm
- We need Volunteers in 4 hour shifts to assist where needed

We need Volunteers to drive around the Neighborhood and check for:

- Street Blockage
- Downed Lines
- Major damaged homes
- Report back to Community Center
- Receive request from CC Emergency Operations Call Center to check on RW residents from family outside the area
- Ensure residents safety in the areas hit the worst
- Visit people who have registered for Safety and Wellness Checks

Rotonda CERT, your local FEMA trained Emergency Response Team in cooperation with the RWA is again preparing for Hurricane season and here to assist as needed. But to expect about 40 people to support 8,000 lots, 6,000 homes and about 12,000 residents is probably not feasible.

We need Volunteers. Training not required. Neighbors helping Neighbors when they are needed the most.

Contact: John Blanchette, Sr Team Lead Rotondacert@aol.com

Or join him at the:

Charlotte County Emergency Operations Hurricane Preparedness Briefing

Community Center. Wednesday. July 9th. 2pm.

RESCHEDULED FROM APRIL

FIT FOR LIFE

Functional exercise improves coordination, stability, strength, and the ability to perform daily tasks more safely and efficiently. It also helps maintain muscle mass and confidence as you age. In this seminar, you'll learn basic functional movements, how to perform them with proper form, and how to implement them in daily life to stay strong, healthy, and confident.

WEDNESDAY

JUNE 25TH

AT 2:30 PM

AT THE RWA COMMUNITY CENTER

646 ROTONDA CIRCLE

**RWA COMMUNITY OUTREACH
COMMITTEE
HEALTH & WELLNESS INITIATIVE
PRESENTATION**

USING FUNCTIONAL EXERCISE TO MAINTAIN MASS AND CONFIDENCE



April Sutphen, a Rotonda West resident, is a certified personal trainer, nutrition coach, corrective exercise, strength and conditioning specialist. She is one of the lead trainers at Englewood Fitness.

**THOSE JOINING IN THE
EXPERIENTIAL PART OF THE PRESENTATION
MUST BE RWA MEMBERS OR RENTERS
AND FILL OUT A ONE-TIME RWA FITNESS
PARTICIPATION WAIVER**

BRAIN NUTRITION THE FUNCTIONAL WAY

With Lori LeBlanc, RN



Lori LeBlanc, RN
Presenter

HERE IS A RECAP OF THE MAY 22ND PRESENTATION:

Foods to support brain health:

Protein - a basic building block of neurotransmitters, including serotonin and dopamine, that are important for mental health.

Healthy fats - omega 3's and moderate amounts of healthy saturated fats

B-vitamins and **Iron**, as well as other vitamins and minerals that help our brain function well. Anxiety and low mood can be caused by deficiencies in many micronutrients.

Micronutrients for antioxidant protection: a variety of brightly colored fruits and vegetables (dark leafy greens, beets, peppers, etc.), nuts, and seeds.

BRAIN ROBBERS

- High sugar/processed food
- Trans fats, refined processed oils and food
- Chronic stress
- Dehydration
- Unbalanced hormones – thyroid, male/female hormones, adrenals
- Alcohol, smoking
- Poor sleep/ sleep apnea
- Sedentary lifestyle
- Negative thinking, chaotic relationships, unresolved childhood trauma

DEMENTIA RISK FACTORS:

Sedentary lifestyle.

Brain trauma

Diabetes Type 2

Toxicity

Poor oxygenation

Gingivalis Bacteria

Nutrient deficiency

Chronic Stress

High LDL and low HDL

Hearing loss, poor eyesight

LIFESTYLE CHANGES FOR BRAIN HEALTH

- **EXERCISE** - Move more! – increases oxygenation/blood flow. Try different forms of movement, use opposing limbs in stretching and exercise
- **HYDRATE** - Hydration improves energy, mood, memory
- **VITAMIN D** – Sunshine daily -needed to produce serotonin, reduce inflammation
- Use the power of humor– increases 'feel good' neurotransmitters • Learn a foreign language or a few words.
- Get out in nature – releases calming neurotransmitters
- Practice mindfulness using the 5 senses to keep those areas of the brain stimulated
- Keep detox pathways clear to keep toxins out of system -bowels, urine, sweat



THE MEANING OF THE JUNETEENTH HOLIDAY

Juneteenth commemorates the official emancipation of enslaved African Americans in Texas on June 19, 1865, marking the effective end of slavery in the United States, although the Emancipation Proclamation had been issued earlier.

It is a day for celebration, remembrance, and reflection on the ongoing struggle for racial justice and equality in the United States.

CHARLOTTE COUNTY NEWS ITEMS

JUNE 2025

By: Sam Besase



- PAVING - Rotonda West roads PAVING shall begin on **MONDAY June 2, 2025.**
- PAVING shall start in the PINE VALLEY section and the plan is to work counter-clockwise (White Marsh & Broadmoor, etc.); each section takes about 5-6 weeks.
- The contract specifies that COMPLETION shall be within 286 days. (about 10 months).
- **MAY 19, 2025 THRU FEBRUARY 28, 2026 GREAT NEWS!**
- The paving contractor shall place hangers on doors of the affected streets 48 hours in advance. There will also be public email and Constant Contact announcements.

MSBU PAVING – BY RWA SECTIONS: AJAX PAVING – VENICE OFFICE – SAM – 941-486-3600

PROJECTED PAVING SCHEDULE–SUBJECT TO WEATHER & EQUIPMENT & MANPOWER DELAYS/ISSUES

PINE VALLEY	MAY 19 THRU JUNE 21	MEMORIAL DAY & JUNETEENTH
WHITE MARSH	JUNE 23 THRU JULY 26	4 TH OF JULY
LONG MEADOW	JULY 28 THRU AUGUST 30	
BROADMOOR	SEPTEMBER 2 THRU OCTOBER 4	LABOR DAY
PINEHURST	OCTOBER 6 THRU NOVEMBER 8	COLUMBUS DAY
PEBBLE BEACH	NOVEMBER 10 THRU DECEMBER 13	THANKSGIVING
OAKLAND HILLS	DECEMBER 15 THRU JANUARY 24,	CHRISTMAS & NEW YEAR'S
OUTSIDE RWA	JANUARY 26 THRU FEBRUARY 28, 2026	MLK & PRESIDENTS' DAY

PERHAPS 30-45 DAY SLIPS DUE TO WEATHER & EQUIPMENT & MANPOWER ISSUES – APRIL 15, 2026

Meanwhile - The Rotonda BRIDGES work shall continue from now thru December, 2025 and includes 6 more bridges.

It takes approximately 4 to 6 weeks to complete repairs and maintenance per bridge.

Traffic shall be either detoured or maintained. Please observe posted construction/detour signs.

1. Rotonda Bridge #014104: COMPLETED in May 2025
NEAR 563 ROTONDA CIRCLE–Between Broadmoor Lane & Sportsman Road
 2. Rotonda Bridge #014107: Next bridge – starts June 2, 2025
Near 727 ROTONDA CIRCLE Between Long Meadow Lane and Marker Road
 3. Rotonda Bridge #014101: then next bridge – predict sometime in July, 2025?
NEAR 517 ROTONDA CIRCLE–Between Fairway Road & Mariner Lane
 4. Rotonda Bridge #014100: predict September 2025???
NEAR 407 ROTONDA CIRCLE–Between Fairway Road & Mariner Lane
 5. Rotonda Bridge #014063: predict October 2025???
NEAR 211 ROTONDA CIRCLE–Between Bunker Road & Mark Twain Lane
 6. Rotonda Bridge #014060: predict December 2025???
NEAR 45 ROTONDA CIRCLE–Between Caddy Rod & Annapolis Lane
- 6 completed + 6 starting = 12 of 18* there remains 6 more MSBU bridges to be completed in 2026. The specification and bidding process has not yet started for the final 6 bridges, perhaps 4Q-2025-1Q-2Q 2026. Perhaps start work 2Q-3Q-4Q 2026.

The latest news on the hurricane Ian damaged **ROTONDA BLVD SOUTH BRIDGE** is that in early April, 2025 Charlotte County national law firm sent FEMA the 46 page appeal. County and State and Federal officials are being lobbied to lean on FEMA to allow the replacement costs for this Hurricane Ian (32 months ago) bridge.

Charlotte County is also pursuing other funding sources to START the work on this bridge. We should know more about this in the next 60 days.

I am continuously following up in person and by phone and email on this topic with the Charlotte County Commissioners and Public Works personnel.

Englewood Beach update:

Charlotte County Transit provides a park & ride service to the beach from Tringali Park located at 3460 N. Access Road in Englewood. This program operates 8am.-4 pm., Monday-Saturday. The shuttle will depart Tringali Park at the top of each hour and the bottom of the hour from Chadwick Park. For a list of Charlotte County Transit passenger rules and regulations visit <https://tinyurl.com/CCTransitRules>.

Portable toilets are available for temporary restroom facilities. Patrons are advised to only use designated "dune walk through" access points and to be diligent and alert for hazards.

The remainder of Englewood Beach parking is closed for several more months for safety concerns due to the eventual reconstruction of bathrooms; reconstruction of the dunes; reconstruction of the boardwalks; reconstruction of the parking lot.

Swale Drainage Issues: FAIRWAY ROAD = SWALE/GREENBELT RESTORATION PROJECT started in May.

Charlotte County advised that the plan is to put a segment of Greenbelt out for bid for swale ditch maintenance. From there, the County can estimate what the remaining sections would cost to remediate and then create a multi-year budget to do so. The excellent financial reserves position might mean no increase in MSBU rates.

Traffic lights at Gasparilla & Rotonda Boulevard East NOW RE-scheduled for 1Q 2026.

Traffic lights at Gasparilla & Ingram/Ingraham are also, RE-scheduled for 1Q 2026.

FDOT is taking public input on the approximate 4 mile stretch of SR 776 (McCall Road) between Gulfstream/Willmington West (Big W Law Firm) and Gulfstream/Willmington East (near Home Depot) with about 7 intersections that **do not have traffic lights** because of recent multiple serious and deadly crashes (Mayport & Regina/Rosewood & Flintlock & Oceanspray & Shalimar & Princess & David), perhaps by limiting vehicles from CROSSING all 4 lanes by only allowing right turns. The Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) met on Tuesday May 27, 2025 at the Ann & Chuck Dever meeting room and they provided large charts around

There are approximately 9,000 ERU's = Equivalent Residential Units, that pay (\$445) into this MSBU. The Rotonda West Streets & Drainage MSBU budget is a little over \$4 million annually.

Respectfully, Sam Besase – Advisory Board Member–Rotonda West Streets & Drainage MSBU.

(questions, please call 281-923-4041, I'll try to get you an answer)

The other MSBU members are: Laura Ingrassia-Nicholas Kotzalas-Carol DeLuca-Leo VanOrden

GARDEN TIP FOR JUNE

Article & Photos by: Ann Weaver

Master Gardener

If your yard needs a hedge or a privacy screen, consider using a Florida native, which will provide food for wildlife and nectar for pollinators. I like to use long-lived perennials, which are known for hurricane wind resistance. One such plant is the Red-tip Cocoplum (*Chrysobalanus icaco*), an evergreen shrub that ranges in height from 10-30 feet, width 10–20 feet, and takes well to pruning. This shrub can be left to grow naturally, meaning less maintenance. Cocoplum has a small white flower which attracts butterflies and bees. Its pink to purple-black fruit is edible, but can be left for birds and squirrels. New leaves have a reddish tint, a beautiful contrast to lots of green.

Plant in full sun or part shade and space 36”-50” apart for an effective hedge. Cocoplum is salt tolerant, but hurricane Milton did cause some damaged leaves that took plants a few months to replace. Pruning makes denser plants, providing cover for ground feeding birds like the Northern Cardinal.

Where a tall hedge is needed, try the sea grape tree (*Coccoloba uvifera*). Placed in a line or a staggered row, this tree can be pruned and shaped into a thick hedge, providing privacy for a backyard or separating two yards. Sea grape can grow to 50 feet tall and from 3 to 35’ wide. This tree is deciduous, and leaves turn interesting colors in fall and winter. Its flowers provide nectar for butterflies, and its fruit is edible. Jam and even wine can be made from the grapes, and birds, rabbits and squirrels will also enjoy the fruit. This native is a long lived perennial, resistant to storm winds, and is very salt tolerant.

Plant in full sun or part shade. Our sandy soil is perfect for sea grape, and it does best in well-drained soil. Both sea grape and cocoplum will need to be watered frequently when newly planted. My water schedule is: water daily for 2 weeks, every other day for 2 weeks and twice weekly for several months. Rainy season helps with watering chores. These plants are not prone to pests, need no fertilizer, and will be very drought tolerant once established. During extended dry periods, like our Florida winters, even established native plants will benefit from some regular watering.



**Cocoplum makes a fine hedge
for lanai privacy**



**Sea Grape works well to divide lots and
provide food for wildlife**

COMMON GALLINULE

Submitted by: Bob Winter
Aquatics Sub Committee



Nature News

Common Gallinules are found throughout Florida. They prefer fresh water bodies with emergent plants. Their diet includes plants, seeds, snails, and bugs. Young birds can swim shortly after hatching and start finding their own food after 3 weeks.

At an April presentation, the Charlotte County Environmental & Community Resiliency Coordinator, Mollie Holland, spoke on how to have healthy ponds and waterways. It was advised that homeowners along our canals allow a natural shoreline with an un-mowed buffer zone at the water's edge. This buffer zone not only filters pollutants entering our canals but provides food and shelter for birds like the Common Gallinule.

For information on managing the landscape to improve water quality
See: [One Charlotte, One Water | Charlotte County, FL](#)



THIS FAMILY OF COMMON GALLINULE WAS SEEN ALONG THE ROTONDA RIVER. THEY ARE FROM A NEST NEAR THE WATER'S EDGE.



Marshland birds like the Common Gallinule, have found Rotonda canals to be a favorable habitat.

**BY ALLOWING THE GROWTH OF NATURAL HABITAT ALONG OUR WATERWAYS
THE ACTIVITY OF THESE INTERESTING BIRDS CAN BE ENJOYED BY ALL
ROTONDA RESIDENTS AND GUESTS.**

HAPPY FATHER'S DAY

THANK YOU!

LOVE TO ALL THE DADS
NEAR AND FAR



SUNDAY

JUNE 15

ALL DAY



WHERE HAVE ALL THE FLYERS GONE?

By: Nadine Clough

In last month's West Ways, an article titled, "Streamlining Communications" discussed the plan for cutting down on the many emailed flyers. Residents have already begun to receive the one page organized list of events, "At A Glance", which is emailed every two weeks and presents a thumbnail picture of the upcoming RWA events (the June 1st-June 16th "At A Glance" is on the following page).

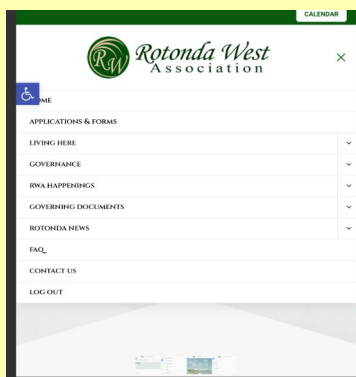
If you would like more information on a certain event, you will be able to find the more complete, comprehensive flyer on the RWA website. The process of getting the flyers created and then posted to the website is beginning. Over the next several months, more and more flyer information will be available with just a click on the calendar.

Below is a flow chart showing the steps to finding the Rotonda Ukulele Band flyer. This is only an example. Soon many more clubs and events will be available for you to click on.

1. Go to the Rotonda West website. Click on menu lines in upper right corner and log



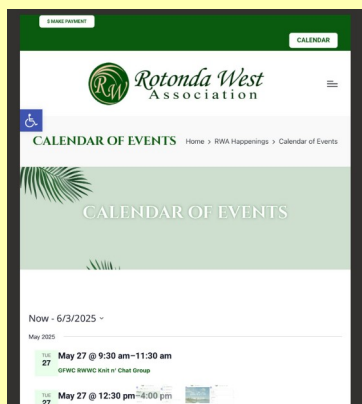
2. Click on menu lines again and go to RWA HAPPENINGS. Click on the down arrow to the right



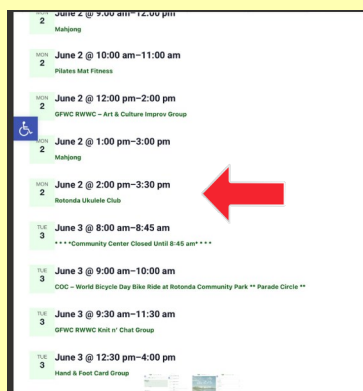
3. Click on Calendar of Events



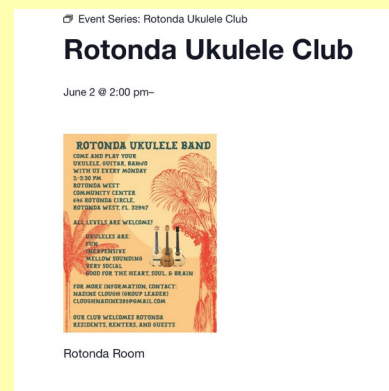
4. Find the event you want



5. For this example, we are going to click on June 2, Rotonda Ukulele Club



6. Information page appears. You may click on the flyer to enlarge it.



RWA EVENTS AT A GLANCE (6/1-6/16)

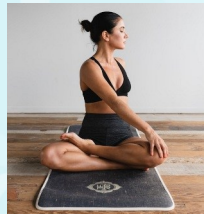
* EVENTS ARE HELD AT THE COMMUNITY CENTER, UNLESS OTHERWISE NOTED

MONDAY

6/2, 6/9, 6/16

AT 10 AM

PILATES MAT



COC EVENT

TUESDAY

6/3

AT 9 AM

WORLD BICYCLE DAY

ROTONDA

BIKE RIDE

AT ROTONDA

COMMUNITY PARK



COC EVENT

FRIDAY

6/6, 6/13

(6/13 IS OUTSIDE)

AT 10 AM

TAI CHI



COC EVENT

MONDAY

6/16

6:30 – 8:30 PM

MUSIC IN THE

PARK

SPEAKEASY ALLEY

BAND



COC EVENT

WEDNESDAY

6/4

AT 5 PM

MIX & MINGLE

HAPPY HOUR

AT ROTONDA

COMMUNITY PARK



COC EVENT

SATURDAY

6/14

FLAG DAY

Marks the anniversary
of the Continental
Congress's adoption
of the official flag
design on

June 14, 1777



**RESIDENTS CAN ALSO FIND EVENT FLYERS
ON THE OFFICIAL
RWA FACEBOOK EVENT PAGE**



Rotonda West
Association

Community Outreach Committee

**Official
RWA
Facebook
Event Page**

SCAN ME



FOLLOW US ON
FACEBOOK



**Scan QR Code
Like & Follow page
for updated events**

*Please do not contact the
RWA office.*

Questions? CommunityOutreach@RotondaWest.org

ENTERTAINMENT

 **Rotonda West Association** COMMUNITY OUTREACH COMMITTEE PRESENTS:

Trivia Night

LITERATURE & SCIENCE **TOYS & GAMES**
HISTORY & ANIMALS **MUSIC TV & MOVIES**
SPORTS AND MORE!

Play as a team or individually

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 DJing dances of all kinds. Recently have been named the number one TRIVIA in Southwest Florida!

3rd WEDNESDAY OF EACH MONTH
Doors open @ 6:00 pm
Starts @ 6:30 pm
RWA Community Center
646 Rotonda Circle

Welcome RWA property owners, residents, renters and their guests.
Questions: Contact the Community Outreach Committee: communityoutreach@rotondawest.org
Please do not contact the RWA Admin Office, you will be referred to the above email.
Bring your own drinks with lids & snacks. No pets.

TRIVIA



Winners: Team Diamond Circle



45 People enjoyed Trivia Night with Tim on May 21st.

The theme was
HISTORY & PARTIES.

LEFT: Team "Diamond Circle" were the winners, finally breaking the streak of Team "We Drink and We Know Things!"

**JOIN US ON THE
3RD WEDNESDAY
OF EACH MONTH!**

**RWA COMMUNITY OUTREACH COMMITTEE PRESENTS
MUSIC IN THE PARK WITH THE**

**SPEAKEASY ALLEY
BAND**

MONDAY, JUNE 15TH

6:30-8:30 PM

**OUTDOOR EVENT ON THE PATIO OF THE
COMMUNITY CENTER, 646 ROTONDA CIRCLE**

BRING YOUR OWN LAWN CHAIRS, BEVERAGES, SNACKS

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION ON THIS BAND

GO TO PAGE 19 IN THIS ISSUE

THIS PROGRAM IS FOR RWA MEMBERS, OWNERS, AND THEIR GUESTS

SPEAKEASY ALLEY

SW FLORIDA'S UNIQUE ACOUSTIC ROCK BAND

Submitted by: Rita Lopienski

Covering a variety of musical genres, Speakeasy Alley forms an exciting, energetic rock n' roll show. While staying true thematically to the original song, the trio covers a song, making it their own. The arrangement of their music allows them to draw from various musical styles ranging from alternative to country, classic rock to rhythm and blues. With each appearance, Speakeasy Alley has left both the audience and venue owners asking for more.



The members of Speakeasy Alley, with their laid back style, mold together a tight professional performance. Don't let their easy-going manner lull you into thinking you are in for some light easy listening. To the contrary, Speakeasy Alley packs a punch. A quick glance of the set list will show that they cover a very eclectic mix of songs that are guaranteed to keep you rocking.

Karin Martin is the lead vocal and percussionist. She now permanently lives in Florida, and was one of Pittsburgh's best kept secrets. She is the seductress of song, bringing powerful vocals and the ability to sing a wide variety of song styles, from hard rock to gentle ballads. Karin is a strong presence behind the microphone. She allows Speakeasy Alley to truly put on a show. Karin's genuine sultry style pulls the audience in and keeps them asking for more.

Roger Sigman, feature guitar player, was born and raised in Springfield, Ohio, moving to Florida in 2015. His introduction to music was in the form of classical music, having played in his school's orchestra beginning in 4th grade through high school.

Roger became interested in guitar after hearing Led Zeppelin, The Allman Brothers, and Cream. With some friends he started a garage band that never got out of the garage. He suffered a work related injury, leaving him unable to play the guitar. For several years, playing the guitar was the furthest thing from his mind. His interest in playing again was rekindled after hearing Stevie Ray Vaughan. Because of his earlier injury, Roger had to relearn to play left-handed, which was not an easy task. His versatility covers all types of music, with the blues, classic rock and reggae heading the list.



Scan here for more information

It is with deep sadness that we announce the passing of John Langenfelder, a dedicated longtime volunteer. Please keep his wife Sandy and their entire family in your thoughts and prayers during this difficult time.

As Father's Day approaches, the entire Board of Directors would like to acknowledge all the wonderful fathers in our community and remember those cherished fathers who are no longer with us.

We encourage all residents to stay informed by watching the recordings of our monthly meetings, which are available on our website and Facebook Page. These recordings contain valuable information about Neighborhood Watch activities, monthly updates, and important insights shared by Deputy Inferino from CCSO. Each month, Deputy Inferino provides updates on happenings within Rotonda West and Charlotte County.

Our community is currently experiencing significant construction, with 126 new homes being built and approximately 605 existing homes and vacant lots listed for sale (excluding private sales). This increased activity can lead to heavier traffic, potential risks to unoccupied properties, and the vulnerability of construction equipment and materials. Please be vigilant and remember: **there should be no overnight work on new construction sites**. If you observe any suspicious activity, please don't hesitate to **call the CCSO Non-emergency number at 941-639-2101**. A recent incident where CCSO responded to a call and discovered unauthorized workers involved in lumber theft highlights the importance of our vigilance. This is why we urgently need more volunteers to help protect our community and its assets.

Why do we patrol?

- **Basic Crime Prevention:** We work towards a better and safer neighborhood by protecting and honoring the rights of others.
- **Build a Stronger Community:** We foster connections among neighbors. In today's fast-paced world, Neighborhood Watch provides an opportunity to connect, discuss community improvements, and build stronger relationships.

Benefits of Neighborhood Watch: Over the years, Neighborhood Watch volunteers and their communities have experienced significant benefits, including: A reduction in crime. Better quality of life. Greater sense of security, responsibility, and personal control. Building community pride and unity. Preparing for and assisting others in our community. Serving as the extra "eyes and ears" for law enforcement, thereby reducing their burden.

We Need You! Volunteering with Neighborhood Watch requires just two hours a month, whether as a Patrol member or a Base Station volunteer. It's a small commitment with a significant impact on protecting our neighborhoods. If you are interested in joining our organization, please contact David Perry at 941-828-1584, visit our Facebook [page @ Rotonda West Neighborhood Watch](#), or scan the QR code above.

See you at our next meeting; June 17th @ 10am at the RWA Community Center

Protecting Rotonda West since 1981

David W Perry -President- 941-828-1584

www.rotondawestneighborhoodwatch.com

[Facebook @ Rotonda West Neighborhood Watch](#)



GFWC Rotonda West Woman's Club, Inc.

GWEN GRACE, PAST PRESIDENT



JUNE 2025

Summer is here and GFWC Rotonda West Woman's Club takes a break from our General Membership Meeting until September. However, that doesn't mean our members are not meeting in book clubs, special groups, or having lunch or a field trip. Many members head north or travel for the summer. Of course, many of our members are spending time volunteering in the community.



LEFT: We were honored in May to have the Charlotte County Sheriff's Office attend our meeting to explain the *RED DOT PROGRAM* and the *IRIS (Integrated Response for Intervention & Support) PROGRAM* which sends out teams for mental health calls. We presented them with a \$500 donation toward the IRIS PROGRAM along with a basket of snacks for the law enforcement officers.

RIGHT: Many members volunteered on "Stamp Out Hunger Day" for the food drive. A group helped at the American Legion sorting the donations. At the Jubilee Center Food Pantry four members served lunch to the hungry volunteers.



LEFT: On Thursday, Jul 10th from 9 am to 3 pm at the Rotonda Marina, we will be having the Big Red Bus ready to accept blood donations. We will also be collecting new sneakers and socks for Greater Englewood Kids Needs.

Our next General Meeting is on Thursday, September 18th at the RWA Community Center. The social time begins at 9:30 am and the business meeting starts promptly at 10:30 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.

All are invited to our general meeting.

RWA VOLUNTEER APPRECIATION DINNER



RWA VOLUNTEERS WILL FALL INTO ONE OF TWO GROUPS, DEPENDENT ON THE HOURS THEY VOLUNTEERED.

RED GROUP

- Any Rotonda resident who volunteered in the year 2025 for an official RWA event will be invited to the RWA Volunteer Appreciation Event.
- Any Rotonda resident who volunteered for 1-4 RWA events will have their dinner paid for, BUT will be required to pay for their spouses/guests dinner.
- All RWA volunteers will be required to track their own volunteer jobs on a provided VOLUNTEER JOB LOG form.
- All RWA volunteers must turn in VOLUNTEER JOB LOG to the Community Outreach Committee or the Volunteer Appreciation Dinner event coordinator at the end of the calendar year.

BLUE GROUP

- Any Rotonda resident who volunteered in the year 2025 for an official RWA event will be invited to the RWA Volunteer Appreciation Event.
- Any Rotonda resident who volunteered for 5 or more RWA events will have their dinner AND their spouse/guest dinner paid for.
- All RWA volunteers will be required to track their volunteer jobs on a provided VOLUNTEER JOB LOG form.
- All RWA volunteers must turn in VOLUNTEER JOB LOG to the Community Outreach Committee or the Volunteer Appreciation Dinner event coordinator at the end of the calendar year.
- Any person serving on the one of the RWA standing committees will not be required to fill out the VOLUNTEER JOB LOG form.

Possible RWA volunteer opportunities: Committees, Christmas parade, holiday decorating, Aquatic sub-committee water sampling, butterfly garden weeding, event welcome tables, volunteer appreciation event, photography at RWA events, event write-ups for WEST WAYS, Shred Day assistance, Celebrate the Circle, RWA Open House, serving ice cream at special events, Meet & Greet help, BINGO help, and many more.

- Proposal accepted by BOD at May 9, 2024 meeting
- Proposal accepted by Community Outreach Committee at May 2024 meeting



RWA VOLUNTEER JOB LOG (Jan.-Dec. 2025)

NAME: _____

ADDRESS: _____

EMAIL: _____

PHONE: _____

RWA EVENT/JOB	DATE	COMMITTEE NAME
1. _____	_____	_____
2. _____	_____	_____
3. _____	_____	_____
4. _____	_____	_____
5. _____	_____	_____
6. _____	_____	_____
7. _____	_____	_____
8. _____	_____	_____

At the end of the calendar year, hand in this sheet
in to the Community Outreach Committee, or to
the Volunteer Appreciation Dinner Coordinator.

THANK YOU!

**IT IS THE VOLUNTEER'S RESPONSIBILITY TO
FILL OUT THIS FORM!**

RED GROUP

BLUE GROUP

☐
☐

Coordinator will check box

OFFICE STAFF

Derrick Hedges
Manager

Annette Casteel
Assistant Manager

Tammy Birdsong
Administrator

Nancy Schwechel
Administrator and
Deed Restrictions

Jenny Bulle
Bookkeeper

Sheryl Ann Nowicki
Administrator

Kelsey Stewart
Administrator

Denise Huffman
Minutes Clerk

Joe Harris
Communications Specialist

Travis Green
Aquatics

MAINTENANCE STAFF

Wayne Taylor

Dale Anderson

Craig Brown

Doug Smith

**THANK YOU TO OUR
WONDERFUL STAFF**

BOARD OF DIRECTORS 2025

Andy VanScyoc, President

David Kelly, Vice President

Sam Besase, Treasurer

Karen Harvey, Secretary

Peter Traverso, Director

Deb Orchard, Director

Jerry Eldred, Director



WEST WAYS STAFF

Nadine Clough, Editor
westways@rotondawest.org

Connie Smith, Writer

Pattie Mihalik, Writer

David Pulaski, Photographer

Nadine Clough, Layout & Design

CONTRIBUTORS THIS MONTH:

Gwen Grace

David Perry

Rita Lopienski

Ann Weaver

Sam Besase

Bob Winter

Dale Jensen

John Blanchette