

WESTWAYS

THE OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF THE ROTONDA WEST ASSOCIATION, INC.

Emailed to 5,750 Residents

JULY 2025



E-NEWSLETTER PUBLISHED MONTHLY BY THE ROTONDA WEST ASSOCIATION

CHANGES COMING TO ROTONDA COMMUNITY PARK

CHARLOTTE COUNTY NEWS

By: Sam Besase

The Charlotte County Community Services hosted a public meeting at Rotonda Community Park on June 5th, 2025 to listen to residents and get feedback on the masterplan for amenities at the 100 Rotonda Blvd E. park. Members of the community learned about the master plan process and provided input.



The Rotonda Community Park is located on the east side of the RWA at Parade Circle and Rotonda Boulevard East. This park is 2.3 miles from the RWA offices. This is a Charlotte County owned park. PLEASE NOTE THAT THIS IS NOT BROADMOOR PARK!

The meeting was well attended with over 60 people from Rotonda, Englewood, Englewood East, and South Gulf Cove. There were TENNIS advocates, there were PICKLE BALL advocates, and there were child PLAYGROUND advocates. The tennis advocates and the pickle ball advocates were happy with the plans.

Continued...

VOLUME 29 ISSUE 7

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KICK-OFF AND DATES

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

PARK CHANGES CONTINUED...

The main changes to ROTONDA COMMUNITY PARK are the ADDITION OF 4 PICKLE BALL COURTS next to the existing TENNIS COURTS. The children's playground shall also be enhanced, including a section for 2-5 year-olds. Note that the CANOPY over the playground is a HURRICANE-FEMA issue and the canopy is scheduled to be replaced in the next few months. This canopy replacement issue is also true for multiple Charlotte County parks. Also, a short walkway extension is planned as well as 2 smaller shelters for the use of smaller groups. The writer put in a request for 2 covered Bocce Ball Courts for inclusion into the Rotonda Park plans.

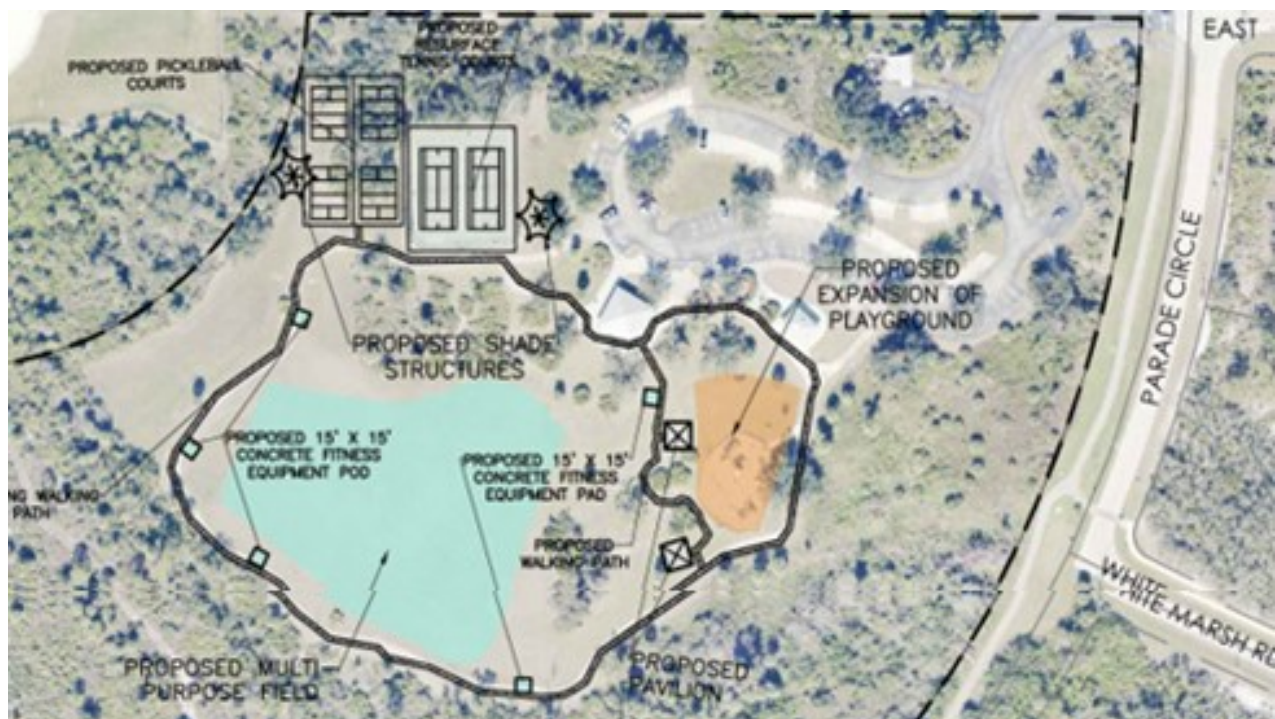
These proposed changes are subject to Charlotte County Commissioners approval (probably park by park and probably Fall 2025) and funding. The proposed timeline for completion, once approved by the Commissioners is 2 years. Funding is several million dollars.

The nearby G.C. Herring Charlotte County Park (near the American Legion) on the west side of the RWA is also undergoing extensive renovations. This park is 4.3 miles from the RWA offices. We are fortunate that there are multiple county parks nearby, notably: Tringali Park & Gymnasium on 776 North Access Rd. (3.1 miles from the RWA offices), Ann & Chuck Dever Sports Park including swimming pool and gymnasium (3.8 miles from RWA offices). That's 4 Charlotte County parks within 4.3 miles of the RWA offices.

The Charlotte County Parks personnel noted that Rotonda Park is NOT a dog friendly park. The irony is that there were several people with their dogs in spite of the signage. Also noted, is that this park is NOT for E bikes or motor scooters or golf carts. The irony again is that there were several people there with E bikes and golf carts. SIGNS SIGNS-EVERYWHERE A SIGN!



BELOW IS A ZOOMED-IN PICTURE OF THE PROPOSED CHANGES



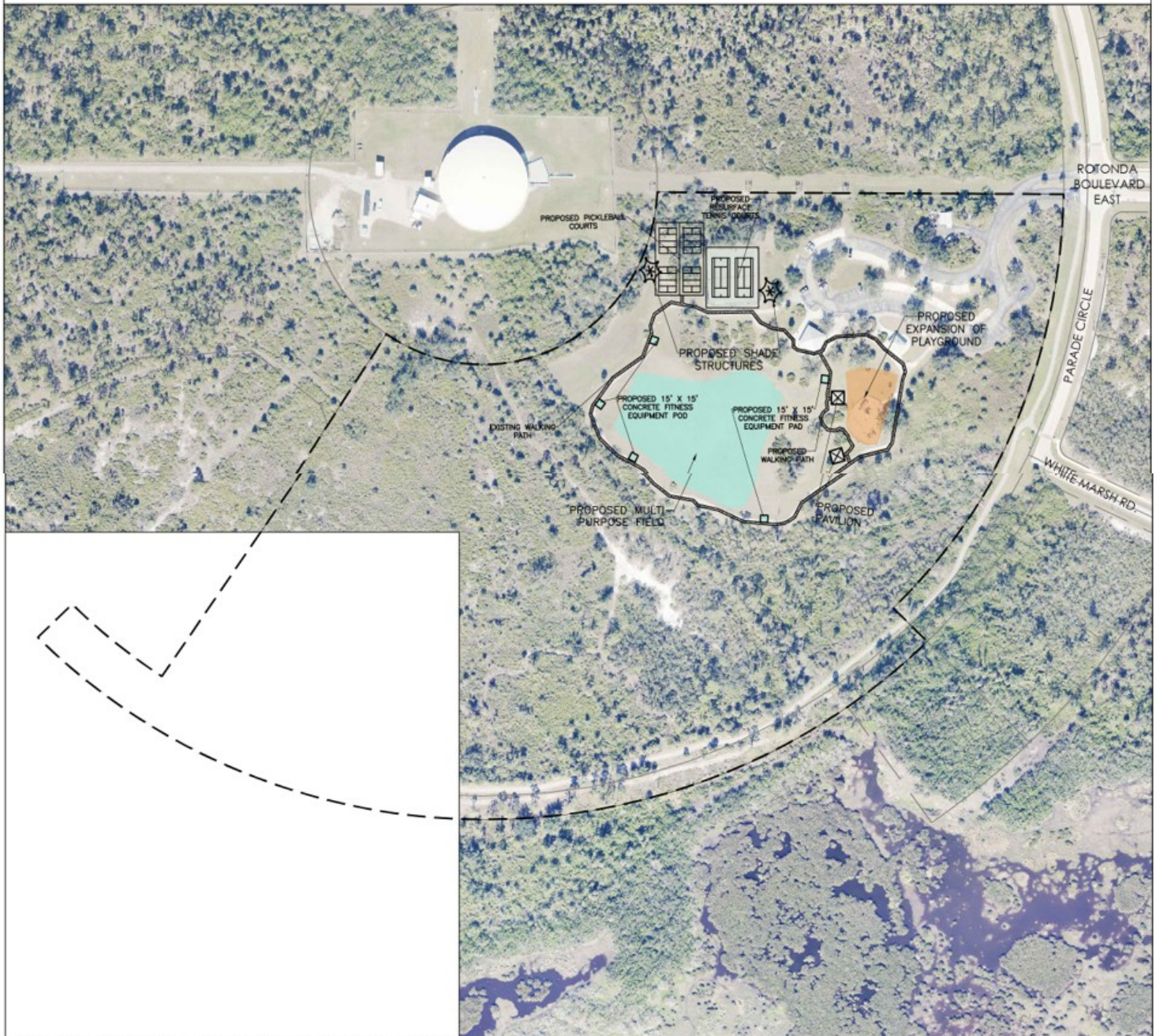


CHARLOTTE COUNTY PARKS - COMMUNITY SERVICES PARK RE-MASTER PLAN

LEGEND:

- PROPOSED MULTI-PURPOSE FIELD
- PROPOSED GREEN SPACE
- PROPOSED PLAYGROUND AREA
- PROPOSED FITNESS STATION
- PROPOSED SIDEWALK, NATURE TRAIL
- PROPOSED 0.25 MILES WALKING TRACK
- PROPOSED PAVILION
- PROPOSED SHADE STRUCTURE
- PROPOSED FISHING PIER, AND BOARDWALK

ROTONDA COMMUNITY PARK



Drawing name: F:\Projects\2024\24-0305 Community Services Park Re-Master Plan\dwg\Exhibits\24-0305_Report Exhibits_P2_recover.dwg

Jun 05, 2025 - 11:27am

Design By: ABW
Drawn By: RMS
Checked By: KEM
Date: 6-05-2025
Proj. No.: 24-0305
SCALE: NOTED



DMK ASSOCIATES
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Certificate of Authorization No. 3943

EXHIBIT - 26
ROTONDA COMMUNITY
PARK



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, May 8, 2025— 2:00 PM

MINUTES

PRESENT: Sam Besase (Zoom), 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, Barb Peszko, Maureen McDowell, Dale Jensen, Paul Slovinski, Karen Hoover, Lance Petti, (via Zoom) Eugene Learner, Kelsey Stewart, Betsy Cummings, Jenny Bulle, Karen Gatlin, L. Mar, Leo Van Orden, Nadine Clough, Steve Gray, Tom Rocque

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.

Director Harvey moved the Board to approve the BOD Meeting Minutes for April 10, 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.



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 60. If confirmed by the Compliance Committee, these fines shall be automatically imposed.

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

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Administration/Personnel – President Van Scyoc (Chair)

No Report.

Budget & Finance Committee – Tom D'Abrosca (Chair)

No Report.

Buildings & Grounds – Director Besase (Chair)

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

Community Outreach – Deb Orchard (Chair)

No Report.

Director Orchard advised of parade theme: Rock Around the Christmas Tree. A 50s/60s decorating. She also Announced with the help of Joe Harris introduced an update to the RWA website "RWA Happenings" button for Calendar of Events where flyers will be attached to events and At A Glance which gives a brief overview of the events for the upcoming 2 weeks.

Compliance – Barb Peszko (Chair)

Ms. Peszko provided a written report that is attached to these minutes.

Residential Modifications Committee – Barb Peszko (Chair)

Ms. Peszko provided a written report that is attached to these minutes.

Ms. Peszko made a motion to the Board of Director to approve Tom Demao to be a member of the Residential Modifications Committee. Motion Unanimously Approved.

Deed Restrictions – Dale Jensen (Chair)

No Report.

Election Committee Dale Jensen (Chair)

No Report.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

None.



NEW BUSINESS & COMMUNICATIONS – President Van Scyoc

None.

MEMBERS INPUT (Non-Agenda Items)

Lance Petty spoke to the Board of Directors asking about the six-month rule for a property on Mark Twain Lane that is an eye sore for the neighbors. He wanted to know when the property will be taken care of. He asked how long code violation could last, because of the mess in the yard. He was advised to call the office and have them take pictures of the deed restriction violation which will be sent to the owner. Director Traverso explained once it hits the max of \$5000.00 it will be foreclosed on. The Board will then decide if they institute a foreclose order.

RESPONSE TO MEMBER'S INPUT

None.

DIRECTOR INPUT

Mr. Traverso explained how the Charlotte County permitting system works. Once a building permit is issued, that means the builder has picked up the application packet. The clock starts running and within six months the builder must call for the required inspection. Once the inspection passes the permit automatically is extended six months for construction. Charlotte County controls the speed of the construction with a six-month rule. Sometime construction is running up to three years. If a permit expires it can be brought back to life.

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

ADJOURNMENT Meeting adjourned at 2:27 PM

Next Board Meeting: 12 June 2025, 2:00 PM

Respectfully submitted,
Denise Huffman Minutes Clerk

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

- 1. LOG IN TO WEBSITE**
- 2. 2. GO TO: "Governance"**
- 3. 3. CLICK ON: Meeting Minutes**
- 4. 4. SCROLL DOWN TO: Board of Directors**
- 5. 5. CHOOSE THE DATE OF MEETING: Example BOD Minutes 5-8-25**

2025 RWA BOARD OF DIRECTORS ELECTION 2025

Dear RWA Members,

Have you ever thought to yourself, “I wish I could change the way the Board does this”, or “I wish the Board would do that”? Well, here is your chance to convert those wishes into reality. This year there are two RWA Board seats open for election. It’s an easy process to qualify as a candidate and, who knows, in December you could join the Board of Directors and work to convert your ideas into reality.

Want to learn more? The *2025 Board of Directors Candidate Packet* is available at:

Rotonda West Candidates Packet 2025 pdf. This packet fully explains the election process, and shares important dates for the candidates.

The Election Committee will be holding an in-person Candidate’s Workshop at the Community Center on July 18, 2025, at 1:30 pm to discuss the election process and to answer any questions you may have. Have a question and don’t want to wait until the 18th? The Election Committee is always available via email at electioncommittee@rotondawest.org to answer your questions and provide any other support you might need.

The RWA’s continued success is dependent on those committed members of the community who are willing to volunteer their time and skill for the betterment of the community.

If you have the time and are interested in contributing to the community, please consider running for a Board seat.

Thank you for your consideration,

The RWA Election Committee

ATTENTION

POTENTIAL CANDIDATES

FOR BOARD OF DIRECTOR SEATS 2025

ELECTRONIC VOTING OFFERS NEW CAMPAIGN OPTIONS FOR BOARD CANDIDATES

In the past, the only options available to candidates for an RWA Board seat was a one-page black and white resume-like document with a small passport-sized photo. That document was included in the annual meeting notice and was available on the RWA website. Now that e-voting is available, the RWA is able to offer some improved campaign communications options for Board candidates.

With e-voting, candidates can now create multi-page colorful campaign resumes and include full length higher resolution photos of up to 5 Mb each. Candidates can also create a campaign video which voters can view by selecting a link from the candidate information section of the e-ballot.

Candidates can use their own equipment to create their video or they can work with the RWA staff to create their video using RWA equipment. Candidates can host their video on a website of their choice (YouTube or Vimeo) or they can have the RWA host the video on the RWA website.

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

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
- 7/10 Thursday, 9am-12:30pm: Christmas Indoor Decorating Kick-off
- 7/16 Wednesday, 6:30pm: Trivia Night with Tim
- 7/17, 7/24 Thursday, 12 noon-3:30 pm: Christmas Indoor Decorating Session

AUGUST

- 8/1, 8/8, 8/15, 8/22, 8/29, Friday, 10am: Tai Chi
- 8/4, 8/11, 8/18, Monday, 10am: Pilates Mat
- 8/6 Wednesday, 5pm: Mix & Mingle Happy Hour
at Rotonda Community Park
- 8/7, 8/14, 8/28 Thursday, Christmas Indoor Decorating Session: **Please note
different times (8/7 at 11:30am-3:30pm) (8/14 at 10am-1:30pm)
(8/28 at 12-3:30pm)**
- 8/20 Wednesday, 6:30pm: Trivia Night with Tim

Hurricane Preparedness



July 9, 2025 2:00pm

Charlotte County Emergency Team
Community Emergency Response Team

Learn how to get ready for hurricane season at this important meeting with the experts.

For more information see:

<https://www.charlottecountyfl.gov/departments/public-safety/emergency-management/hurricanes.shtml>

<https://www.charlottecountyfl.gov/core/fileparse.php/476/urlt/charlotte-county-disaster-planning-guide.pdf>

Rotonda West Community Center 646 Rotonda Circle
Rotonda residents, renters and their guests are welcome





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.

CHARLOTTE COUNTY NEWS ITEMS

JULY 2025

By: Sam Besase



- PAVING – Pine Valley Section paving begins July 14, 2025, weather permitting.
- EDGING – Mostly completed in the Pine Valley Section except for Boundary & RC.
- PAVING plan is to work counter-clockwise (White Marsh next, then Broadmoor, etc.); each section takes about 4- 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 placed hangers on doors of the affected streets in Pine Valley approximately 48 hours in advance.
- There will also be public email announcements and WEST WAYS articles.

Meanwhile - The Rotonda BRIDGES work continues from now thru December, 2025 and includes 8 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: COMPLETED spring of 2025.
Near 727 ROTONDA CIRCLE Between Long Meadow Lane and Marker Road
3. Rotonda Bridge #014101: COMPLETED – Open to traffic on June 26, 2025.
NEAR 517 ROTONDA CIRCLE–Between Fairway Road & Mariner Lane
4. Rotonda Bridge #014100: Starting in early July, 2025
NEAR 407 ROTONDA CIRCLE–Between Fairway Road & Mariner Lane
Note: Rotonda Circle shall have 1 lane open with traffic lights!
5. Rotonda Bridge #014063: Scheduled for late August of 2025
NEAR 211 ROTONDA CIRCLE–Between Bunker Road & Mark Twain Lane
6. Rotonda Bridge #014060: Scheduled for October of 2025
NEAR 45 ROTONDA CIRCLE–Between Caddy Road & Annapolis Lane
7. Bridge #014105 starts on or about July 14, for 30 days – Long Meadow section
8. Bridge #014106 should start on or about August 18 -- Long Meadow Section.
9. 6 completed + 8 above = 14 of 18* there remains 4 more MSBU bridges to be completed in 2026. The specification and bidding process has started for the final 4 bridges, perhaps 4Q-2025-1Q-2Q 2026. Perhaps start work 2Q-3Q 2026.

HUGE VICTORY FOR ROTONDA & CHARLOTTE COUNTY: The latest news on the hurricane Ian damaged ROTONDA BLVD SOUTH BRIDGE is that the National Board of Contract Appeals (BCA) in DC agreed with Charlotte County (2-1) that the damages were caused by Hurricane Ian. Charlotte County should receive more than the FEMA \$312K, but perhaps less than Charlotte County \$1.1M). Negotiations with FEMA!

Background: In early April, 2025, Charlotte County national law firm sent FEMA the 46-page appeal. Asking FEMA to allow replacement costs for Hurricane Ian (32 months ago) bridge.

Charlotte County is also pursuing starting this project START the work on this bridge in the next 60-90 days. Charlotte County Public Works believes that this project shall take 10-12 months to complete bridge #13.

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

Englewood Beach update: Partial re-opening of about ½ of the parking lot in late June. 2025

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 some 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 for MSBU to do all of Rotonda.

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 continuing to take 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 the room with "heat map" information on Fatal and Serious injury CRASHES in Charlotte County. Vehicle/vehicle; vehicle/motorcycle; vehicle/bicycle; vehicle/pedestrian. Also charts on population growth by area within Charlotte County (no population growth shown for RWA, since 75% built out. East of Gasparilla showed large growth area in South Gulf Cove and all the way up to SR 776. There was only ONE resident at this meeting – ME!

The regular quarterly Rotonda West Streets & Drainage meeting was held on Thursday June 26, 2024 at 9:30am at the San Casa Road (DMV) Charlotte County facility.

I hope that answers many of your questions between now and the next MSBU meeting.

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

SAM BESASE – BEST GUESS MSBU PAVING SCHEDULE (REVISED) JUNE 28, 2025 BASED ON LIMITED INFORMATION FROM AJAX INCLUDING ADMIN & EDGING & PAVING.

60 DAY PROJECTED PAVING SCHEDULE–SUBJECT TO WEATHER & EQUIPMENT & MANPOWER DELAYS/ISSUES USING 1 CREW **PRELIMINARY-SUBJECT TO CHANGE**

PINE VALLEY JULY 14 THRU AUGUST 16

WHITE MARSH AUGUST 18 THRU SEPTEMBER 20 LABOR DAY

**PERHAPS 15-30 DAY SLIP DUE TO WEATHER & EQUIPMENT & MANPOWER ISSUES
ESTIMATED FINAL COMPLETION DATE FOR ALL PAVING: 04/30/26**

**SAM BESASE–BEST GUESS ADMIN & EDGING & PAVING SCHEDULE JUNE 28, 2025,
BASED ON LIMITED INFORMATION**



CHARLOTTE COUNTY PAVING CREW AT WORK



GARDEN TIP FOR JULY

Article by: Ann Weaver
Master Gardener

ADD A POLLINATOR PLANT TO YOUR LANDSCAPE

The Golden Dewdrop (*Duranta erecta*) is an easy choice for a long blooming butterfly magnet. The cascading flowers are violet-blue, and blooms are constant spring to fall. This evergreen shrub can become a small tree, 18 feet tall by 15 feet wide. Not a fast grower, pruning will keep it shrub-sized and bushy. Dewdrop makes a fine container plant, or it can function as a barrier. The flowers become small gold fruits, appealing to birds, but poisonous to humans and dogs. The plant is sometimes called Pidgeonberry.

As well as a variety of butterflies, Dewdrop attracts bumblebees and hummingbirds. Wear gloves while pruning as there are some thorns. The stems can be used to create a new plant. Cut the stems to about 12". Remove all the leaves except a very few at the top. Dip the end of the stem in water , then in rooting hormone. Place in a pot of moist soil. Keep it in the shade and water daily. Be patient and you will get a new plant after a month or two. The Golden Dewdrop is a Florida Friendly plant; not a native, but a worthy addition to a butterfly garden.

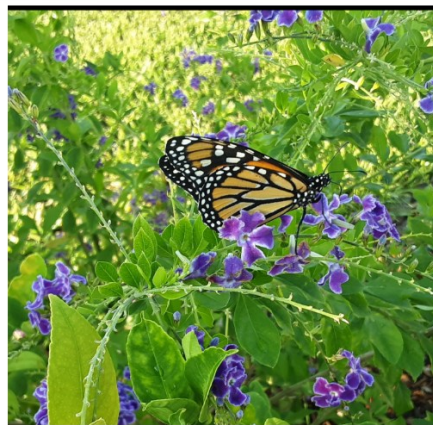


Photo by Ann Weaver

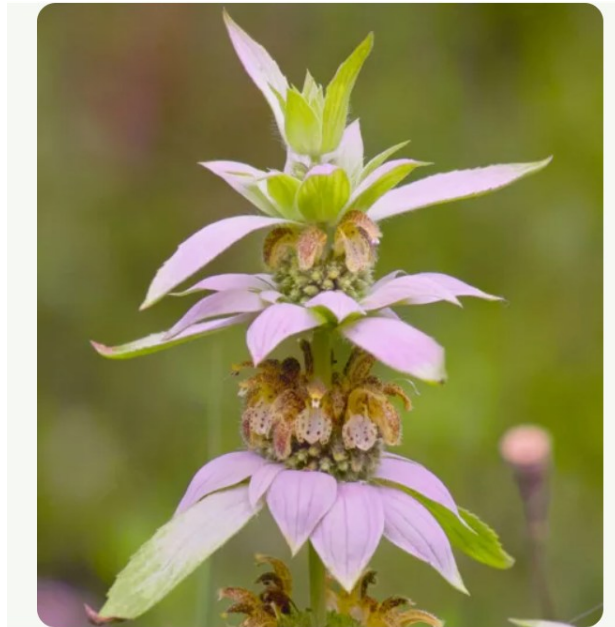
Golden Dewdrop is visited by butterflies, bees and even hummingbirds.



Nature News Continued...

Dotted Horsemint or Spotted Bee Balm (*Monarda punctata*) is a Florida native, a member of the mint family, and is considered an annual. It will reseed, so give it some space to fill in. Plants can reach 4 feet, but pruning will encourage a mounding shape. Butterflies and our native bumble bees are attracted to the white or yellow flowers with purple spots. The pink, purple or cream colored petals are actually bracts, and form an attractive pagoda-like spike. Plant in full sun. Bee Balm is drought tolerant after it's established, and not prone to pests or diseases. Hard prune in early spring, removing woody or dead stems. Bee Balm has fragrant leaves with a thyme scent, and is moderately salt tolerant. Good background plant!

Learn Butterfly Gardening as a part of the Broadmoor Park Garden Team. We tend the gardens about once a month, early morning (8 am or so) for just one hour. Email Ann at ann.weaver815@gmail.com to join the team.



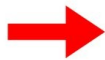
Internet photo

Spotted Bee Balm (also known as Dotted Horsemint) is a welcome addition to a pollinator garden.

HAPPY GARDENING!

UNIVERSITY OF FLORIDA REQUESTS ROTONDA RESIDENTS PARTICIPATION IN SURVEY

SCAN CODE
(EASIEST)



WE HOPE THAT
YOU
PARTICIPATE
IN THE
SURVEY.

THANK YOU!



https://ufl.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_00AHFQVFltvKEiG

TO: ROTONDA WEST, FL

Hello: Your neighborhood is part of the Neighborhood Natural Area Network, which is a collaboration between the University of Florida and neighborhoods across Florida (<https://livinggreen.ifas.ufl.edu/nnan/>). A student and professor at the University of Florida has created a survey to find out what types of environmental activities are occurring in your neighborhood. This is a very important survey!

To take the survey, please click on this link https://ufl.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_00AHFQVFltvKEiG

Cheers, Professor Mark Hostetler, University of Florida

WHAT'S GOING ON?

Check out “At A Glance” to Find Out

By: Nadine Clough

Hopefully, you appreciate that there are less event flyers filling up your email. However, it is important that residents are kept informed on the wonderful events and presentations that are happening. We are currently working hard to both keep residents informed and to lessen the flyer overload.

“At A Glance” is a compact look at RWA happenings and is currently being emailed to residents twice a month through Constant Contact. Along with West Ways, Facebook, and TV Screen alerts in the Community Center, we hope that residents are being informed on events that are taking place.

Take the time to check out the RWA website page and get familiar with it. The website provides increasingly important access to the Rotonda West Association government, news, events, and packets.

STEPS ARE NOW EVEN EASIER TO ACCESS EVENT SCHEDULES AND INFORMATION ON THE RWA WEBSITE.



1. Go to the Rotonda West website:

rotondawest.org

Click on menu lines in upper right corner



2. NEW!!

NOW YOU DON'T HAVE TO LOG IN.



3. Scroll down to RWA Happenings

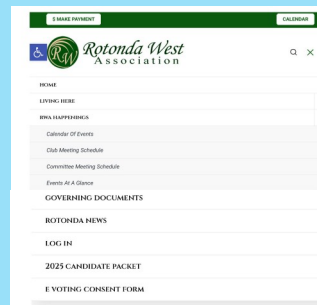
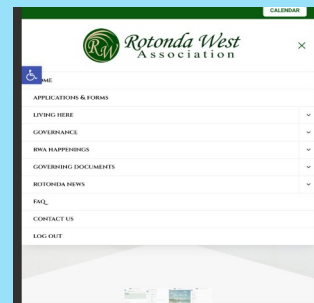
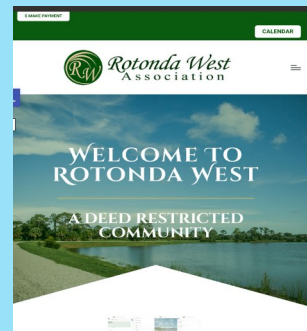
Click On the down arrow (on the right)



4. Choose from options

including:

- Calendar of Events
- Club Meeting Schedule
- Committee Meeting Schedule
- Events At A Glance (flyers)



RWA EVENTS AT A GLANCE (7/1-7/15)

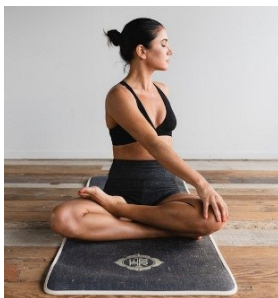
* EVENTS ARE HELD AT THE COMMUNITY CENTER, UNLESS OTHERWISE NOTED

MONDAY

7/7, 7/14

10 AM

PILATES MAT



WEDNESDAY

7/9

2 PM

**HURRICANE
PREPAREDNESS
PRESENTATION**

Charlotte County
Emergency Team
AND
Community
Emergency
Response Team (CERT)



THURSDAY

7/10

9 AM-3PM

BIG RED BUS



BLOOD DRIVE
AT Rotonda Marina

THURSDAY & FRIDAY

7/3 at noon, & 7/4

INDEPENDENCE DAY

RWA OFFICE &
COMMUNITY
CENTER CLOSED



WEDNESDAY

7/2

5 PM

**MIX & MINGLE
HAPPY HOUR
AT ROTONDA
COMMUNITY PARK**

Always on the 1st Wednesday of the month at 5 pm



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

THURSDAY

7/10

9AM-12:30 PM

**RW CHRISTMAS 2025
INDOOR DECORATING
KICK-OFF**

ALL VOLUNTEERS
WITH ALL LEVELS OF
DECORATING EXPERIENCE
ARE WELCOME!



FRIDAY

***7/4, 7/11**

10 AM

TAI CHI

***7/4 Outside on
Community Center
Patio**



- THESE EVENTS ARE OPEN TO RWA PROPERTY OWNERS, RENTERS, AND THEIR GUESTS
- PLEASE DO NOT CONTACT THE RWA OFFICE WITH QUESTIONS OR COMMENTS REGARDING THESE EVENTS. THE OFFICE DOES NOT HAVE INFORMATION ON EVENTS.
- FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT: communityoutreach@rotondawest.org

THANK YOU

**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




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



**FOLLOW US ON
FACEBOOK**

*Please do not contact the
RWA office.*

Questions? CommunityOutreach@RotondaWest.org



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

Tim's Trivia@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!

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:

We Drink and We Know Things



Although the June 21st Trivia Night with Tim had only 4 teams competing, the evening was a lot of fun! The theme was “Cars”. A tie-breaker was needed between teams *Smartie Pants* and the ultimate winning team, *We Drink and We Know Things*.

COMING in July, a trophy for the reigning 2025 winners will be placed in the Community Center entrance display case.

Speakeasy Alley Band performed at the Music in the Park event on June 16th.



The Speakeasy Alley Band

The heat was a deterrent, and the show ended early due to a sudden heavy thunderstorm nearing. Although the show was shortened, the music was great! Everyone got home just in the nick of time!

CONSIDER FUNCTIONAL EXERCISE TO BETTER PERFORM DAILY TASKS!

Article and Photo by: Connie Smith

Do you ever marvel at the flexibility of a small child and your own lack of flexibility as an adult?

Perhaps you should consider functional exercise, that you can do two to three times a week to help you perform your everyday tasks and actions more easily, efficiently and safely.

Fitness and Nutrition Coach April Sutphen discussed functional exercise, June 25, as a part of the Rotonda West Community Outreach Committee's Health and Wellness Initiative. She was introduced by Rita Lopienski.

Walking has excellent cardiovascular benefits, but it lacks when it comes to upper body strength. Sports, such as pickleball or tennis, have many great benefits but could lead to injury.

Functional exercise, however, improves your body's ability to perform everyday tasks by mimicking real-life movements. For instance, doing laundry may require squatting, lifting, pushing, twisting or pulling. Functional exercises, performed 2-to-3 times per week, result in increased muscle mass, improved health and wellbeing. Unfortunately, loss of muscle mass is unavoidable as we age. So is loss of strength, due to hormonal changes due to dips in testosterone, estrogen and growth hormones. Inflammation also increases, our bodies are unable to create protein as efficiently and muscle activation is reduced.

The benefits of such well-known exercises as squats, lunges, push-ups, planks, bent over rows, and step ups result in increased strength, reduced risk of injury, stronger bones, increased mobility, more endurance, improved coordination, better balance and stability, boosted confidence, improved posture, increased muscle mass and decreased inflammation and pain. These compound exercises work multiple joints and muscle groups simultaneously.

In addition to laundry, the results are improvement in the ability to perform these daily tasks: lifting and carrying groceries, house cleaning, going up and down stairs, getting in and out of the car, gardening and mowing, picking up and reaching for items, showering and bathing, playing with pets and grandchildren, participating in outdoor activities and sports.

A protein-rich diet also aids in muscle growth, supplemented with high-quality carbs and fats for energy and hormone balance.

For coaching by April Sutphen, e-mail her at asutphen11809@gmail.com or call 201-874-7982.



Fitness and Nutrition Coach April Sutphen instructs Rotonda residents on the finer points of a squat during a Functional Exercise session, June 25, presented by the Rotonda West Community Outreach Committee.



Date: June 24, 2025
Contact: Lillian GaNun
Phone: 941-626-9632
E-Mail: lildsossr7embarqmail.com

Media Release

‘Operation Dry Water’ - Awareness of Boating Under the Influence

Operation Dry Water weekend, taking place July 4 – 6, 2025 is a national awareness and enforcement campaign focusing on reducing the number of alcohol-and drug- related incidents and fatalities and fostering a stronger, more visible deterrent to alcohol and drug use on the water. Law enforcement Officers, during Operation Dry Water (ODW) will be on heightened alert for violations of boating under the influence (BUI) laws, promoting safety of all boaters.

The Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission (FWC) in collaboration with the National Association of State Boating Law Administration, (NASBLA) and the United States Coast Guard will promote the 2025 Operation Dry Water with a national launch event to educate boaters about boating under the influence and safe boating practices. The three-day event will be taking place nationwide July 4 – 6, 2025 coinciding with the Fourth of July weekend. This is a year-round outreach and awareness campaign to raise awareness about the dangers of impaired boating, educating and promoting safe boating practices, ensuring legal compliance and encouraging boaters to make informed decisions and wearing their life jacket.

Operating a boat while impaired is dangerous and can have fatal consequences for both the operator and the passengers. It is essential for both to remain sober to ensure a safe and enjoyable experience on the water. In 2024, Florida reported 685 boating accidents resulting in 81 fatalities. Many fatalities may have been prevented if the victims had worn life jackets according to the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission.

This marks a 26-accident and 22-fatality increase over 2023 incidents.

Lack of boater education remains a major concern: 65% of operators involved in fatal accidents had no formal training.

The United States Coast Guard Auxiliary promotes safe recreational boating in many ways. We teach safe boating classes. We promote free Vessel Safety Examinations to ensure the recreational boats have all the required safety equipment and that it is in good working order.

For further information about other U.S. Coast Guard Programs, please visit the Cape Haze Flotilla at: <https://wow.uscg.info/content.php?unit=070-09-09>.



GFWC Rotonda West Woman's Club, Inc.

GWEN GRACE, PAST PRESIDENT



GFWC Rotonda West Woman's Club is sponsoring a OneBlood Drive, set for 9 am to 3 pm on Thursday, July 10th. The Big Red Bus will be at the Rotonda Marina Parking Lot across from the Rotonda Golf & Country Club, 100 Rotonda Circle, Rotonda West. Summertime OneBlood Drives are critical due to travel and sport related accidents. First time donors are very appreciated.

Same Day, Time and Place – Rotonda Marina - for the Kids' Needs Back to School Bash, the woman's club will also be collecting donations of New Sneakers and Socks, Boy's Sneakers elementary sizes 8-13 (2-7); middle/high school sizes 7.5-12; and Girl's Sneakers elementary sizes 8-10; middle/high school sizes 9-11.

All OneBlood donors will receive a \$20 eGift Card, a Top Handle Thermal Beverage Bottle, Chick-fil-A coupon and a wellness check-up. Appointments for OneBlood donation are encouraged. ID's are required. Visit oneblood.org/donate-now and use sponsor code 39275, or contact Kathryn at 610-952-1333.

DONATE BLOOD

GFWC Rotonda West Woman's Club
Thursday, July 10
9:00 AM - 3:00 PM

All donors receive*:
- **\$20 eGift Card**
- **Top Handle Drinkware**
- **Chick-fil-A Coupon**
- **Wellness Checkup** including blood pressure, pulse, temperature, iron count, and cholesterol screening.

Location: 100 Rotonda Circle, Rotonda West, FL 33947

Appointments are encouraged, please visit oneblood.org/donate-now and use sponsor code 39275

ID REQUIRED
*One offer per donor per donation. No cash value. Not transferable. Gifts may vary. For more information please visit oneblood.org/details.

Donors Receive
\$20 eGift CARD
Walmart
amazon
...and more!

- PLUS -
Top Handle Thermal Beverage Bottle
Chick-fil-A COUPON

oneblood
Share your power



GWC Rotonda West Woman's Club attended the Rotonda American Legion Post 113 Memorial Day ceremony. We were honored to give a star pin to each veteran. The pins were made from decommissioned flags. Star Pins for Veterans is an ongoing project by the Civic Engagement Community Service Program Committee.

Led by Environment Community Service Program committee member Glenda Sammet the woman's club members signed up to plant 1000 slash pine seedlings over three days at Lemon Creek Wildflower Preserve. On the first day out, members planted 475 trees with enthusiasm! Only 525 left to go.



A group of members visited Fandango Animal Sanctuary for homeless and special needs farm animals.

Our next General Meeting is on Thursday, September 18th at 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.





Protecting Rotonda West since 1981

Come join us at our monthly meetings. You will find all kinds of interesting information about Neighborhood Watch, what transpired over the month(s), and pertinent information presented by Deputy Inferno from CCSO. Each month he gives us an update on things going on around our Rotonda West community and around Charlotte County.

Currently there are approximately 187 homes under construction within our circle and approximately a combination of 621 homes and vacant lots for sale. This means heavy traffic on our roads, unwanted eyes on unoccupied homes, and construction equipment/materials up for grab. There should not be anyone working overnight on a “new build”. If you see something—say something...Call the CCSO Non-emergency number at 941-639-2101. When CCSO responded to these calls, workers did not have permission to be on the property (at that time) OR CCSO walked into a crime being committed. This is why we need more volunteers to protect our assets and our community.

Why do we patrol?

*Basic Crime Prevention~ Work for a better and safer neighborhood through protecting and honoring the rights of others.

*Build a Stronger Community~ Get to know your neighbors. In our fast-paced world, we don’t spend enough time learning about our neighbors. Watch groups give community members a reason to get together and talk about making their community a better place.

Benefits of Neighborhood Watch

There are obvious benefits Neighborhood Watch volunteers and their communities have experienced throughout the years such as: • a reduction in crime • a better quality of life • a greater sense of security, responsibility, and personal control • building community pride and unity • preparing for helping others and ourselves in our community • becoming the extra “eyes and ears” of law enforcement personnel and therefore reduce law enforcement’s burden.

We Need You!!! 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 go to our Facebook page @ Rotonda West Neighborhood Watch

See you at our next meeting; July 15th @ 10am at the RWA Community Center

David W Perry -President- 941-828-1584

www.rotondawestneighborhoodwatch.com

Facebook @ Rotonda West Neighborhood Watch



Scan here for more information

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

RW CHRISTMAS 2025

INDOOR DECORATING GROUP

Kick-Off

All volunteers with all levels of experience, Welcome!

July 10th, Thursday
9:00 am - 12:30 pm
646 Rotonda Circle, Community Center

Do you like Christmas decorations?
 Do you wish Christmas decor could stay up all year round?
 Do you love decorating a Christmas tree?
 Are you a crafty person or desire to become one while decorating?

If you answered yes to any or all of these questions, then we need YOU!
 Yes, it's time to start the tradition, so let's get working.

Rotonda West Christmas 2025 Indoor Decorating Group is seeking Christmas decorating elves to assist with the holiday decorations.

We promise, you will become part of a fun team, make some friends, and get out of the house.

A day welcoming you to the group, learn about our "we're a team, no judgement" ethic and a seminar to learn the tips and tricks of the trade of Christmas Decorating Like A Pro.

Once in the holiday mood, volunteer as often as you like. then be instructed on what to do and how to do it.

See you there! Ruthann Kort & Grace Chetcuti

*Craft & Decor
Dates:*

Jul 17: 12:00 - 3:30	Oct 23: 12:00 - 3:30
Jul 24: 12:00 - 3:30	Nov 4: 1:30 - 3:30
Aug 7: 11:30 - 3:30	Nov 12: 1:00 - 3:30
Aug 14: 10:00 - 1:30	Nov 13: 9:30 - 3:30
Aug 28: 12:00 - 3:30	Nov 17: 9:30 - 11:30
Sep 4: 10:00 - 1:30	Nov 19: 9:30 - 3:30
Sep 11: 10:00 - 1:30	Nov 20: 1:30 - 3:30
Oct 2: 10:00 - 1:30	Nov 21: 9:00 - 3:30
Oct 9: 10:00 - 1:30	

Attending the Kick-Off is not required to volunteer

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

Amanda Stuever
Administrative Assistant

MAINTENANCE STAFF

Wayne Taylor

Dale Anderson

Craig Brown

Doug Smith

THANK YOU TO OUR

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



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