WEST WAYS

November 2026

Volume 30, Issue 11



Newsletter Sections:

- Historical Milestones in November
- Update of Commerical Development on Parade Cir
- November Community Garage Sale Addresses
- Community Connections Fair & Expo
- Music in the Park is BACK!
- Board of Directors
- Election 2026 *Updated Dates*
- Health & Wellness
- Holly Jolly Happenings
- MSBU Info
- Nature News
- Neighborhood Watch
- November Calendar
- US Coast Guard Auxillary
- Women's Club

NOVEMBER

The 11th Month of History & Wonder

November is the 11th month of the year in the Gregorian calendar, and its name comes from the Latin word novem, meaning "nine" (as it was the ninth month in the early Roman calendar).

Major Historical Milestones in November



Nov 1, 1800: John Adams becomes the first U.S. President to live in the White House.



Nov 10, 1775: The U.S. Marine Corps is established at Tun Tavern in Philadelphia.



Nov 19, 1863: Abraham Lincoln delivers the Gettysburg Address during the American Civil War.



Nov 26, 1922: Howard Carter and Lord Carnarvon unseal the tomb of King Tutankhamun in Egypt.



Nov 5, 1605: The Gunpowder Plot fails when Guy Fawkes is arrested trying to blow up the English Parliament.



Nov 11, 1918: World War I ends on the 11th hour of the 11th day of the 11th month — Veterans Day / Remembrance Day.



Nov 22, 1963: U.S. President John F. Kennedy is assassinated in Dallas, Texas.

Key Details & Symbols



Birthflower
Chrysanthemum



Birthstones
Citrine & Topaz

Length: 30 days • Zodiac: Scorpio & Sagittarius

UPDATE ON THE COMMERCIAL LOTS ON PARADE CIRCLE

Construction has recently begun on a large site on Parade Circle in Rotonda West. This article outlines that project and two other new projects, all located within Lots 1–9, zoned OMI (Office, Medical, Institutional). No public notice or public hearings were required for the first two projects, as they are permissible uses by right under OMI zoning. We will also provide a brief update on the project called The Quarters.

The three new projects discussed herein are:

1. **The Sovereign at Harbor West and Parkside East** – 145 and 165 Parade Circle, between Broadmoor Road and Long Meadow Road

2. **205 Parade Circle**, outside the Community Park on Rotonda Blvd East

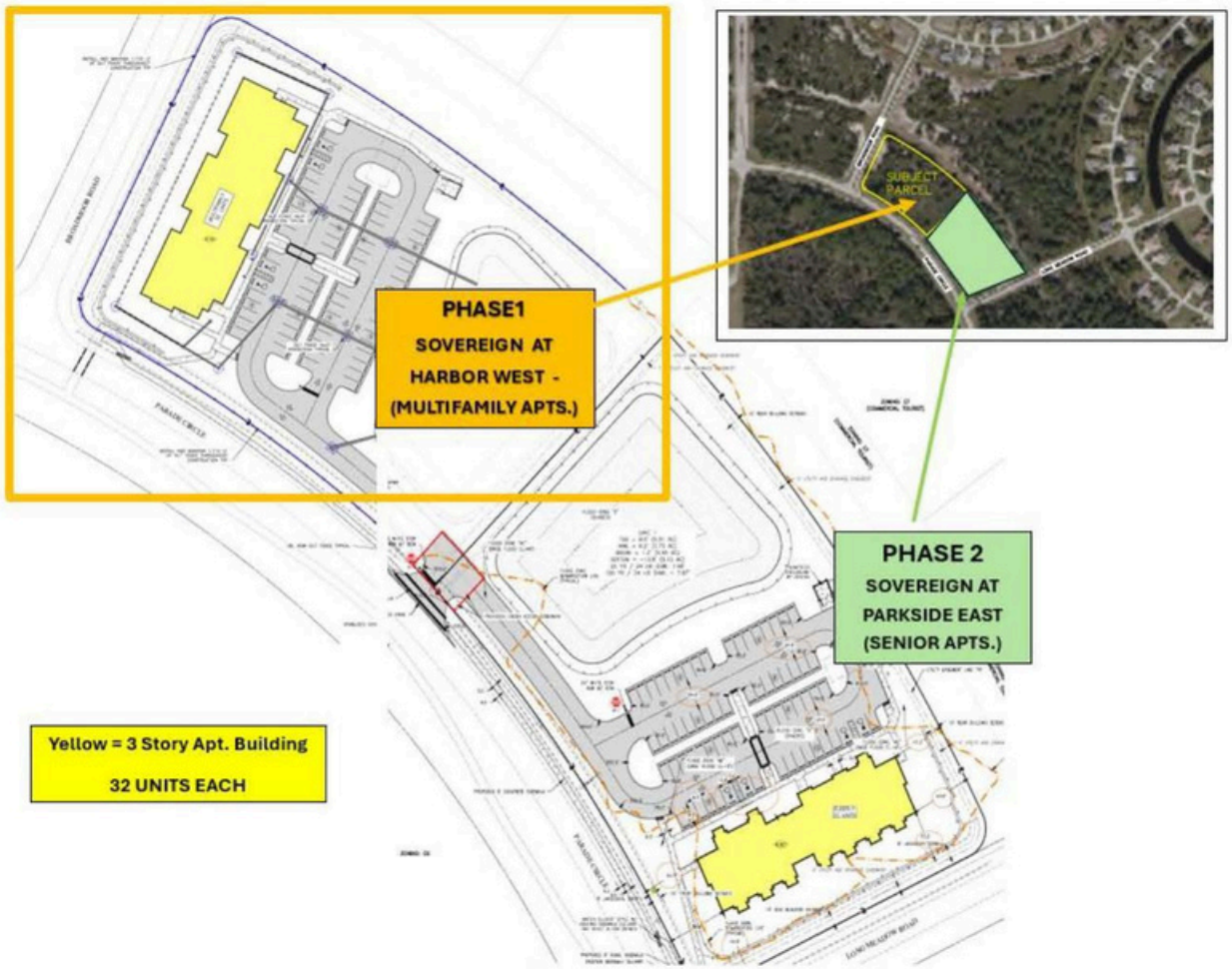
3. **Proposed Dollar General store** – Rotonda Blvd North and Parade Circle

THE SOVEREIGN AT HARBOR WEST AND PARKSIDE EAST







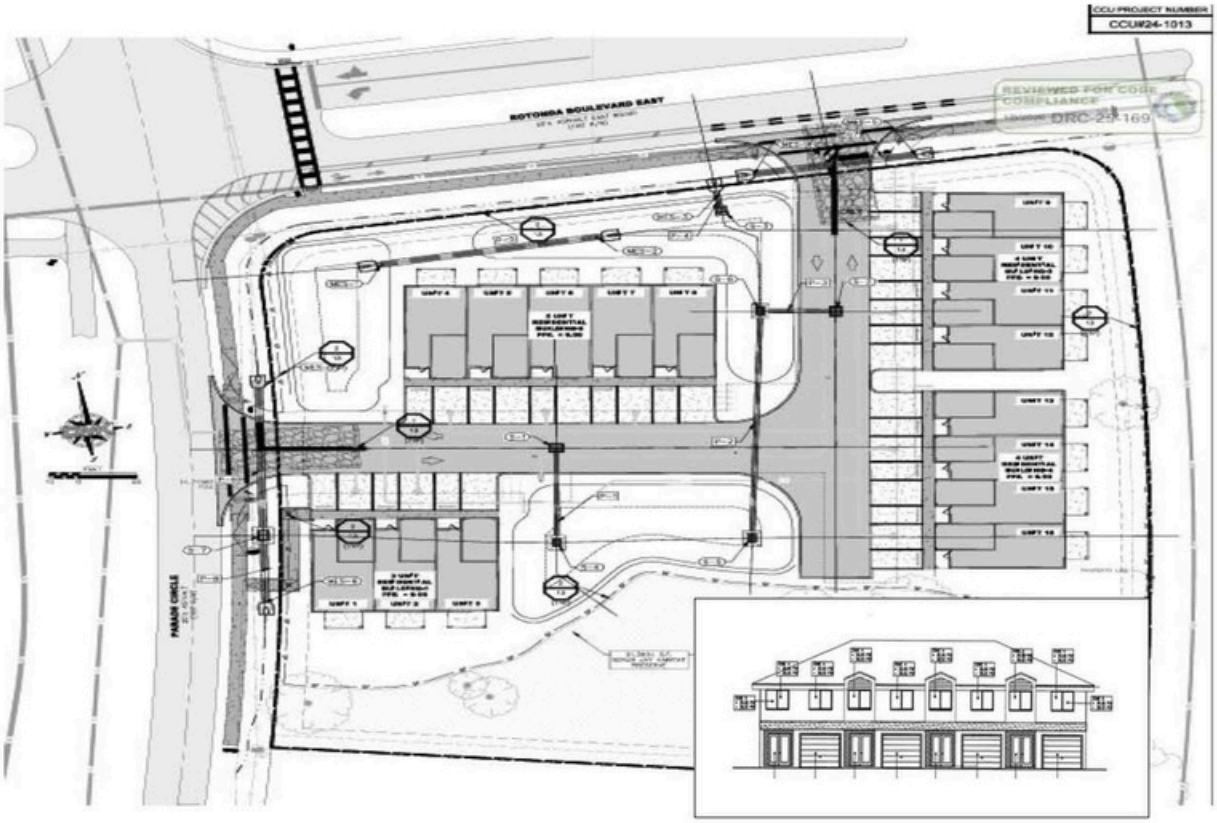




The site for this project is on Parade Circle, between Broodmoor Rd. and Long Meadow Road and is currently being cleared in preparation for construction. It has been approved by Charlotte County. It is an affordable housing project consisting of two apartment buildings. Each building is three stories tall. It is located on **6.5** acres, with a total of 64 units (32 per building). One building is designated for seniors and the other is for families. The development received substantial state and federal funding, primarily from Hurricane Ian relief monies. Stormwater drains to an on-site pond, and the ingress/egress is via Parade Circle. Gopher tortoises on the property were relocated before clearing. The building rendering and site plan are depicted above.

205 PARADE CIRCLE – by FLORIDA ISRAEL PROPERTIES





This project was approved by Charlotte County on January 12, 2026. It consists of four buildings containing a total of 16 two-story town homes and is located across from the Community Park entrance. Stormwater drains to retention ponds and ingress/egress is via Parade Circle and Rotonda Blvd East. The County's approval of this project is valid for 3 years. The building rendering and site plan are depicted above.

101 ROTONDA BLVD NORTH – PROPOSED DOLLAR GENERAL STORE



Charlotte County recently received a petition to rezone the lot located at 101 Rotonda Blvd North and Parade Circle from OMI (Office, Medical, Institutional) to PD (Planned Development) for retail use. Retail use is not permitted by right under OMI zoning. The site is 1.93 acres, with ingress/egress on Parade Circle and stormwater draining into a retention pond. The building rendering and site plan are depicted above.

Because rezoning is involved, the County Planning and Zoning staff will review the petition, set a public hearing before the Planning and Zoning Board, and then set a public hearing before the Board of County Commissioners. The decision on whether to rezone will hinge on whether the rezoning is consistent with the County's Comprehensive Plan.

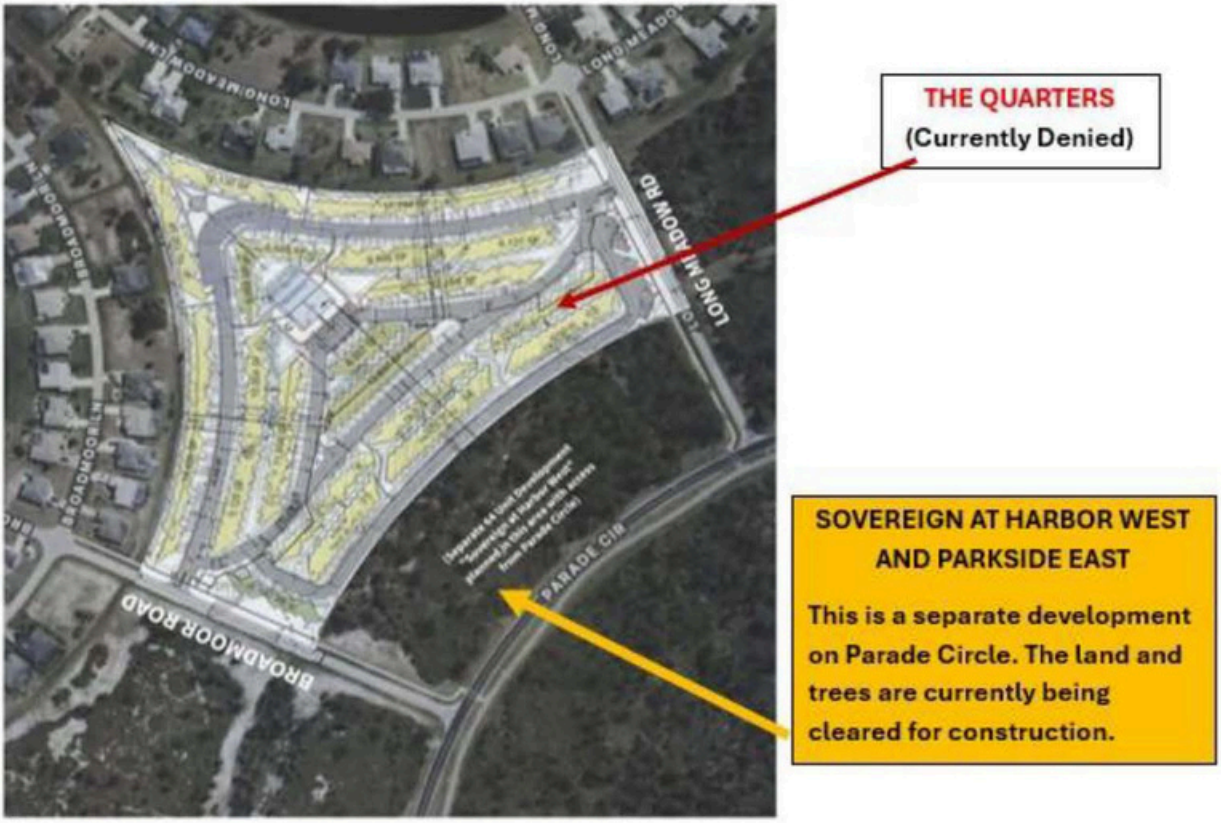
Some concerns include:

- **Traffic:** A steady stream of delivery semi-trucks would use Rotonda Blvd North and Parade Circle. Rotonda Blvd North is comprised exclusively of single-family homes incompatible with semi-truck traffic. Of greater concern are semi-trucks on Parade Circle which already has 11 ingress/egress points, 9 pedestrian crosswalks, and multiple bus stops. The bike trail along Parade Circle is like a linear park with heavy usage by walkers, bicycles, and senior citizens. There is an increased risk of harm when traffic increases, especially if semi-trucks are present.

- **Precedent:** Once rezoned to PD, the lot could evolve into future uses incompatible with our single-family subdivision. For example, industrial and manufacturing are permitted uses under a PD zoning. And rezoning one lot may encourage similar requests on other lots.

- **Conditions:** The County can recommend conditions on a lot rezoned as PD such as limiting the use to only retail and placing restrictions on signage, parking, ingress/egress, stormwater, and waste management. Even if you are not opposed to a Dollar General store, advocating for restrictions on a PD rezone can ensure some compatibility with our subdivision.

THE QUARTERS – 155 ROTONDA PLAZA



"The Quarters at Rotonda" - PROPOSED 212 UNIT DEVELOPMENT

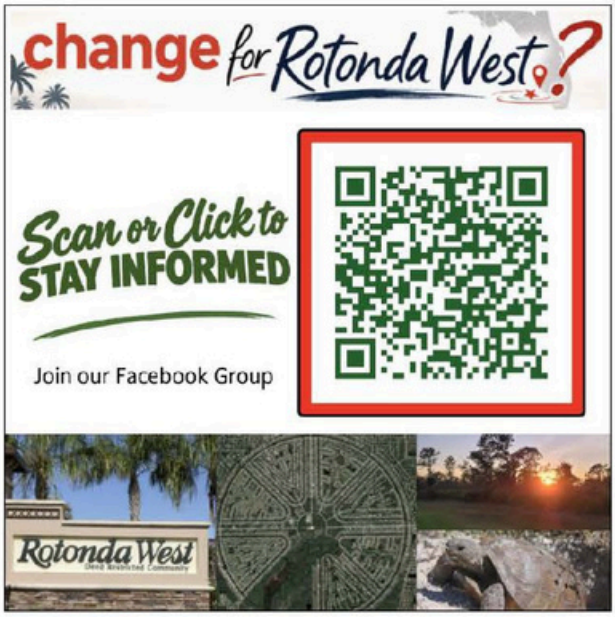
The Quarters is located *behind* the site on Parade Circle which is currently being cleared for construction. The site being cleared is for the Sovereign project previously described herein. It is not being cleared for The Quarters development. Charlotte County denied the approval of The Quarters site plan due to non-compliance with several County requirements. We have reason to believe that the developer is re-designing The Quarters and will eventually submit a new site plan for this project.

CALL TO ACTION

Please stay informed. We welcome your feedback regarding the Dollar General project and input as to whether a community meeting would be beneficial. We also encourage you to consider candidates who are not strongly pro-development in the upcoming elections. Our voice and our vote can be used to advocate for appropriate density and land-use controls in Rotonda West and in Charlotte County.

Respectfully submitted by:

Volunteers for Change for Rotonda West?



https://www.facebook.com/groups/1627471978295590

Email: mailto:ChangeForRotondaWest@gmail.com

Change.org

https://www.change.org/Stop-RotondaWest-AptUnitDevelopment

Credit: Michelle Wojtowicz & Cheryl Rippe

This is a draft. An updated final flyer to be posted on 11/4

4th ANNUAL
FALL 2026
COMMUNITY GARAGE SALE

F Friday, November 6th & S Saturday, November 7th

9am to 5pm

(Sunday Rain date, November 8th)

OAKLAND HILLS
67 Annapolis Ln, F/S
69 Annapolis Ln, F/S
12 Caddy Rd, F/S
33 Caddy Rd, F/S
82 Caddy Rd, F/S
187 Caddy Rd, F/S
209 Caddy Rd, F/S
28 Golfview Ct, F
57 Golfview Rd, S
14 Oakland Hills Ct, F/S
25 Oakland Hills Ct, F/S
47 Oakland Hills Pl, F/S

PEBBLE BEACH
29 Bunker Circle, F
38 Bunker Circle, F/S
5 Bunker Court, S
40 Bunker Ln, F/S
51 Bunker Ln, F/S
6 Bunker Rd, F/S
169 Bunker Rd, S
201 Bunker Rd, F/S
93 Mark Twain Ln, F/S
135 Mark Twain Ln, F/S
157 Mark Twain Ln, F/S
180 Mark Twain Ln, F
207 Mark Twain Ln, F/S
233 Mark Twain Ln, F/S
256 Mark Twain Ln, S
265 Mark Twain Ln, F/S

PINEHURST
54 Clubhouse Terrace F/S
8 Fairway Rd, S
157 Fairway Rd, F
159 Fairview Rd, F
153 Mariner Ln, F/S
159 Mariner Ln, F/S
164 Mariner Ln, F/S
176 Mariner Ln, F/S
194 Mariner Ln, F/S
201 Mariner Ln, F
216 Mariner Ln, F
218 Mariner Ln, S
257 Mariner Ln, F/S
264 Mariner Ln, S
291 Mariner Ln, F/S
17 Pinehurst Ct, F/S
24 Pinehurst Ct, F/S
6 Pinehurst Rd, F/S

ROTONDA BLVD NORTH
207 Rotonda Blvd N, F/S
226 Rotonda Blvd N, F/S

BROADMOOR
136 Broadmoor Ln, F/S
177 Broadmoor Ln, F/S
217 Broadmoor Ln, F/S
289 Broadmoor Ln, F
49 Sportsman Ln, F
24 Sportsman Cir, F/S
27 Sportsman Place F/S
17 Sportsman Rd, S
145 Sportsman Rd, F/S
225 Sportsman Rd, F/S

ROTONDA BLVD EAST
185 Rotonda Blvd E, F/S
235 Rotonda Blvd E, F/S
251 Rotonda Blvd E, F/S
254 Rotonda Blvd E, F/S
268 Rotonda Blvd E, F/S
286 Rotonda Blvd E, F

WHITE MARSH
24 Medalist Ct, F
44 Medalist Rd, F/S
127 Medalist Rd, S
185 Medalist Rd, F/S
211 Medalist Rd, F
229 Medalist Rd, F/S
19 White Marsh Ln, F/S
96 White Marsh Ln, F
202 White Marsh Ln, F/S
218 White Marsh Ln, F/S
228 White Marsh Ln, F/S

PINE VALLEY
82 Pine Valley Ct, F/S
73 Pine Valley Ln, S
101 Pine Valley Ln, F/S
226 W Pine Valley Ln, F/S
264 W Pine Valley Ln, F/S
15 Tournament Rd, S
119 Tournament Rd, F/S

LONG MEADOW
87 Long Meadow Ct, F/S
37 Long Meadow Ln, F/S
267 Long Meadow Ln, F/S
84 Long Meadow Pl, F/S
87 Marker Rd, F
186 Marker Rd, F
262 Marker Rd, F/S
33 Par View Place, F/S
22 Par View Rd, F/S

ROTONDA CIRCLE
71 Rotonda Circle, S
211 Rotonda Circle, F/S
223 Rotonda Circle, F/S
224 Rotonda Circle, F
229 Rotonda Circle, F/S
429 Rotonda Circle, S
479 Rotonda Circle, F
563 Rotonda Circle, F/S
577 Rotonda Circle, F/S
583 Rotonda Circle, F/S
719 Rotonda Circle, F/S
750 Rotonda Circle, F/S
755 Rotonda Circle, F/S
771 Rotonda Circle, F/S
927 Rotonda Circle, F/S
1128 Rotonda Circle, F/S

BOUNDARY
224 Boundary Blvd #L, F/S
577 Boundary Blvd, F/S
601 Boundary Blvd, F/S
719 Boundary Blvd, S
761 Boundary Blvd, F/S
773 Boundary Blvd, F/S
830 Boundary Blvd, F/S
932 Boundary Blvd, S
1019 Boundary Blvd, F/S
1034 Boundary Blvd, F/S
1132 Boundary Blvd, F/S
1145 Boundary Blvd, F/S





RW Community Connection Fair & Expo presented by: Senior Friendship Center

Thank you so much for giving Senior Friendship Center the opportunity to host the Rotonda West Community Connection Fair and Resource Expo! We are incredibly grateful for your support and for helping us bring so many wonderful community resources together in one place.

The turnout was fantastic, and it was wonderful to see so many residents come out, connect with local organizations, learn about available resources, and build new relationships. The response from both the community and our partner agencies was extremely positive.

Several of our partner agencies had never been to the Rotonda West area before, and they were so impressed with the community engagement and the number of people who attended. Many of them have already expressed how much they would love to return next year!



We truly believe this event filled an important need in the community, and we would be thrilled to make the Rotonda West Community Connection Fair and Resource Expo an annual event. We look forward to growing it even more and making an even greater impact together next year.



We also had some exciting publicity from the event! We were featured on ABC7 News (youtube link: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=c3g8KlHF5oA) or search "Senior Friendship Centers" and even made the front page of the Sun!

Thank you again for helping make this such a tremendous success. We are so excited about what we can build together for the Rotonda West community and look forward to doing it all again next year!

HEALTHCARE

'An easy one-stop shop'



SUN PHOTO BY NICOLE DROEGER

Among the activities at a Senior Friendship Center sponsored Rotonda West Community Connections Fair & Resource Expo was an hourly raffle where residents could win prizes.

Senior Friendship Centers provides community with local healthcare information

NICOLE DROEGER
Staff Writer

ROTONDA — Seniors were able to receive information about healthcare, food and hygienic resources, entertainment and future gatherings at the Rotonda West Community Connections Fair & Resource Expo on Wednesday.

Senior Friendship Centers hosted the event with 38 local organizations to provide seniors with access to local information without placing the burden on them.

"We were trying to bring everything out here because of either transportation issues or mobility issues for seniors," said Jenny Macias, SFC director of program initiatives. "It's just an easy one-stop shop."

Dr. Maksim Shmargun, a physical medicine and rehabilitation doctor with PAM Health Rehabilitation Hospital of Venice, conducted a presentation about the neurologic disorders Parkinson's and multiple sclerosis as well as strokes.

"We talked about treatments, how inpatient rehab can really make a

More SHOP | A4



SUN PHOTOS BY NICOLE DROEGER

Senior Friendship Center's Jenny Marcias, left, and Erica White interact with guests Wednesday in Rotonda.

Shop/ from A1

difference in patients' functional recovery and what can really be done about these really three common, but clinically relevant disorders," Shmargun said. "I'm sure a lot of our Senior Friendship members either deal with it personally themselves or have a family member that deals with it on a day-to-day."

Vendor Laura Hulback with Englewood Helping Hand, Inc. said the event was going well for the food panty.

"A lot of people are here for healthcare services," Hulback said. "People were able to spread information about our services to others."

Laurie Grathen with Rotonda Puzzlers, a social group with members that participate in monthly puzzle builds and swaps, said the event had a great turnout.

"There's a lot of good information for residents," Grathen said. "I've been in the area for five years and some of this stuff is new to me."

Linda Felix with American Legion Post 113 attended the event to inform residents about The Rotonda Memory Cafe, a social event every last Friday of a month that provides residents with dementia a place to gather.

"It's a stigma-free environment," Felix said. "It gets them out of their house, because day-to-day living can get tough for them."

Felix said the event was remarkable.

"I met a lot of people; I'd say about five people that probably will be coming to (the cafe)," Felix said. "A huge success."

Resident Kathy Gizzi said the event provided great resources that should be utilized.

"I received things that weren't just for me, but for my neighbors," Gizzi said.

One of Gizzi's neighbor's has Parkinson's, and two others have dementia.

"I hope they take and utilize these resources," Gizzi said.

SFC is a nonprofit organization with multiple locations in Southwest Florida. Its mission is to connect with older adults and help them live a vibrant life throughout every stage through networking and assisting them with healthcare resources.

The next SFC event is the Senior Resilience Resource Fair, another expo for residents 50 and older to learn about local services, resources and support. The event is from 9:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. Oct. 6 at the Family Services Center, 21500 Gibralter Drive, Port Charlotte.

For more information, visit: friendshipcenters.org



Dr. Maksim Shmargun discusses neurological diseases with a crowd of senior residents Wednesday at the Rotonda West Community Connections Fair & Resource Expo.



Chriss Foss, left, and Laura Hulback with food pantry Englewood Helping Hand, Inc. work a booth Wednesday at the Rotonda West Community Connections Fair & Resource Expo.



MUSIC IN THE PARK

2026 - 2027 SEASON

The 2nd Tuesday Every Month • Nov thru April

Rotonda Community Center • Rain or Shine!

Bring your cooler & lawn chair • FREE LIVE MUSIC!







NOV 10th 4-6 PM **JONNY PUMA**

40+ years of pure acoustic magic! Covers spanning 7 decades of Rock, Pop, Jazz & Country. Get ready to sing along!

DEC 8th 4-6 PM **PAUL DUFFY**

Christmas & more! Multi-talented star from legendary Irish band The Commitments. Feel the holiday spirit live!

JAN 12th 4-6 PM **JOHN PATTI**

Caribbean vibes with steel pan! World traveler bringing tropical rhythms and amazing stories to the park.

FEB 9th 4-6 PM **WILL JOHNS TRIO**

Fat Tuesday / Mardi Gras theme! Blues Hall of Famer & English rock legend on world tour. Don't miss the groove!

MAR 9th 4-6 PM **PAUL DUFFY**

Musical powerhouse! Sax, trumpet, flute, guitar, drums, bagpipes & more. One man, endless talent!

APR 13th 5-7 PM **LA AINGER SCHOOL JAZZ BAND PLUS**

Award-winning student jazz ensemble! Superior ratings every time. Youth energy meets classic jazz!



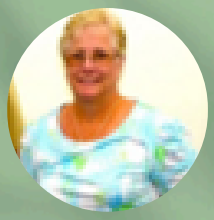


Brought to you by the Community Outreach Committee

Come early • Stay late • Make new friends • LIVE the music!

ROTONDA WEST ASSOCIATION
Board of Directors

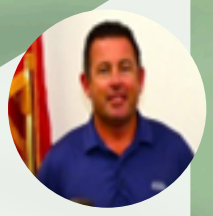

ANDY VAN SCYOC
President


KAREN HARVEY
Vice President


SAM BESASE
Treasurer


DEB ORCHARD
Secretary


GWEN GRACE
Director


DAVID KELLY
Director


PETER TRAVERSO
Director

SUMMARY OF SEPTEMBER 10, 2026 BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING

(To view full minutes, please visit rotondawest.org/meeting-minutes/)

Meeting Overview

- Held September 10, 2026, with a quorum present; approved previous minutes.
- Announcements included a 9/11 commemorative event.
- Approved fines for violations and established a memorial scholarship for Dale Anderson.
- Rejected driveway application for a vacant lot; upheld committee denial.
- No reports from some committees; others presented written updates.

NEXT BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING IS NOVEMBER 12, 2026 @ 12:00PM

RWA 2026 ELECTION

MEET THE CANDIDATES

On August 20, 2026, the RWA Board of Directors officially certified six candidates for the two available seats on the Board. The candidates are:



Jeff Bridges



Karen Harvey



Dale Jensen



David Kelly



Maureen Laderer



Kelly Williams

UPCOMING EVENTS:

Electronic Voting Deadline: November 29, 2026 @ 5:00 PM
Mail-In Ballots Deadline: December 2, 2026 @ 5:00 PM
In-Person Voting: December 3, 2026 from 12:15 PM to 1:30 PM

ELECTRONIC VOTING

As a reminder, for those of you who wish to vote electronically and haven't consented to do so yet, please visit the RWA website to sign up

ROTONDA WEST

Rotonda West Association COMMUNITY Open House

Meet Learn Get Involved!



Thursday, Nov. 5, 2026
6 to 8 pm

Rotonda West Community Center
646 Rotonda Cir.,
Rotonda West

The Rotonda West Association Annual Open House is an opportunity to meet the service organizations, community clubs, nonprofits and government offices that are of interest to our residents.

You will also be able to tour the expanded and renovated Association Office. Learn the many ways you can get involved, have questions answered and meet people.

- SERVICE ORGANIZATIONS
- COMMUNITY CLUBS
- NONPROFITS
- GOVERNMENT OFFICES
- TOUR THE EXPANDED & RENOVATED ASSOCIATION OFFICE

ENTER A FREE RAFFLE



Enjoy a glass of wine and snacks
while seeing what our area has to offer!

For more information, please contact
communityoutreach@rotondawest.org

FRIENDLY REMINDER

Leashes on, tails up!

For the safety of your dog and everyone on the path, please keep all dogs on a leash on the **Broadmoor Path** and surrounding streets.

Thank you for helping keep the path safe for walkers, kids, and pups.

Questions? See **Section 14** of the Deed Restrictions handbook.



Rotonda West Association

NEW WEBSITE COMING SOON!



Your new home for community news, payments, documents, and events — launching late 2026 or early 2027.

WHAT'S HAPPENING AROUND TOWN?



Don't sit this week out. Your neighbors are already at

Food Truck Tuesdays, BINGO, clubs, and live music.

One scan gets you the full calendar.

Show up once—you'll want to come back.

Scan the code. Join the fun today.

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

October Bingo had 81 attendees

Next RWA Bingo is November 15 2026

Rotonda West Association presents...



MUST BE 18+ TO PLAY

BINGO

RWA Community Center
646 Rotonda Circle

1pm - 4pm

Doors open @ 12:15pm
Play begins promptly @ 1pm

2026 Dates:

September 20th	
October 18th	
November 15th	
December 20th	

B I N G O

2027 Dates:

January 17th	
February 21st	
March 14th	
April 18th	
May 16th	

B I N G O

Rotonda West Association

PRESENTS...

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 24, 2026

4:30 PM – 7:30 PM

FOOD TRUCK TUESDAY

★ BACK BY POPULAR DEMAND! ★

- LIVE MUSIC INSIDE
- TABLES & CHAIRS INSIDE THE COMMUNITY CENTER
- AIR CONDITIONING FOR YOUR COMFORT
- JOIN US MONTHLY ON THE 4TH TUESDAY OF THE MONTH.

TRUCKS WILL BE ROTATED!

ROTONDA WEST COMMUNITY CENTER
646 ROTONDA CIRCLE
ROTONDA WEST, FL 33947



FEATURED TRUCKS

TRUCKS TO BE ANNOUNCED AT A LATER DATE.

Follow the Rotonda West Community Outreach Events page on Facebook for more up to date information.

★ NO ALCOHOL WILL BE SOLD AT THIS TIME. ★

Good Food
Great Company
Strong Community

THANK YOU FOR SUPPORTING LOCAL!

For questions email:
communityoutreach@rotondawest.org

RWA Health & Wellness Initiative

By: Rita Lopienski

Fitness Programs Remain Strong!

Every Monday & Friday from 10-11am you can find a group of beginner and advanved RWA members, men and women, gathered in camaraderie and a sense of purpose to stay balanced and fit. Licensed Instructor Francine Finucan keeps a perfect pace with breathwork and mindfulness as members follow along and do their best to stretch a further and hold the pose a little deeper and longer. Everyone adapts to their own abilities.

There will be no Pilates class Monday, November 2nd due to Polling setup and Friday, November 6th & 27th Tai Chi will be outdoors due to weekend setups and Holidays.

All RWA members, owners & renters are welcome to these classes, and need to fill out a one-time Fitness Waiver, and bring their own Yoga mat.



Monday Pilates



87 year old twins & RWA yoga lovers Albert & Herb Jasper. How's that for inspiration to stay fit!



Friday Tai Chi



Friday Yin Yoga deep stretches

Rotonda West Association

Instructor
Dr. Francine Finuco

Community Outreach Committee
Health & Wellness Initiative
Presents

Held at RWA Community Center –
646 Rotonda Circle

These classes are for RWA members, owners & renters.
A one-time Fitness Waiver needs to be signed.



PILATES

All Mondays
10-11 am

Pilates helps with posture as it helps to engage the deep core muscles in the abdominals, back and pelvic floor – which enables you to relax your shoulders and neck and alleviate pressure on your hips, legs and feet, in turn, improving your posture.

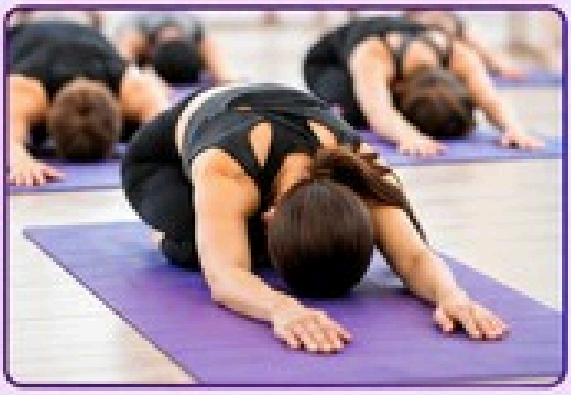
PLEASE BRING A PILATES MAT.



TAI CHI

1st, 3rd & 5th Fridays
10-11 AM

Experience meditation in motion. Tai Chi promotes flexibility, strength, and relaxation, while reducing stress. All skill levels are welcome.



YIN YOGA

2nd & 4th Fridays
10-11 AM

Yin Yoga is a slow-paced, passive style of yoga focusing on long-held floor poses (3-10 minutes) to target deep connective tissues like ligaments, joints, and fascia, rather than muscles.

PLEASE BRING A PILATES MAT.

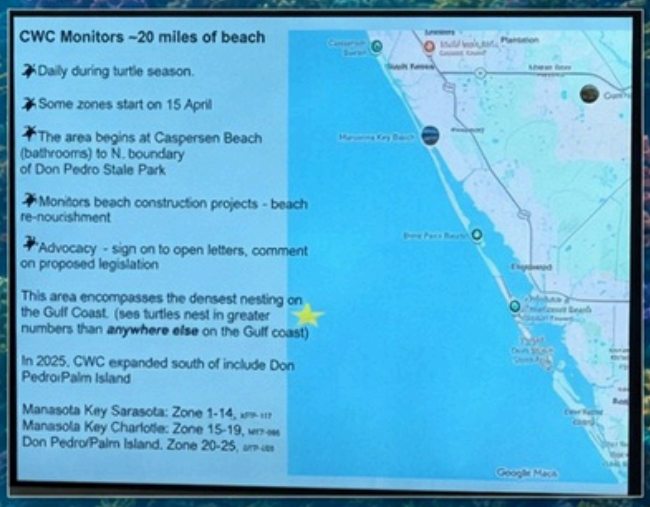
For information:
communityoutreach@rotondawest.org

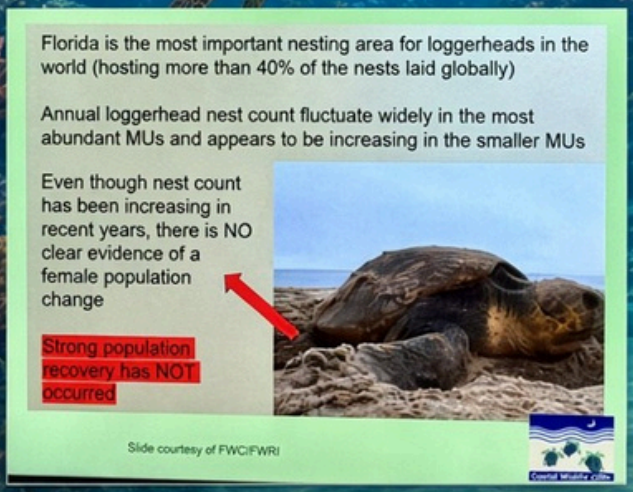
On October 1st, we had a well attended and fascinating program on Southwest Florida Sea Turtles by Carol McCoy of the Coastal Wildlife Club.

Credit: Rita Lopienski













On October 9 we had a program on **Fire Safety** by Max Lopez of Charlotte County Public Safety.



Anyone who was interested had a **chance to extinguish a virtual fire.** This program will be repeated in **the spring as a result of snowbird** requests.











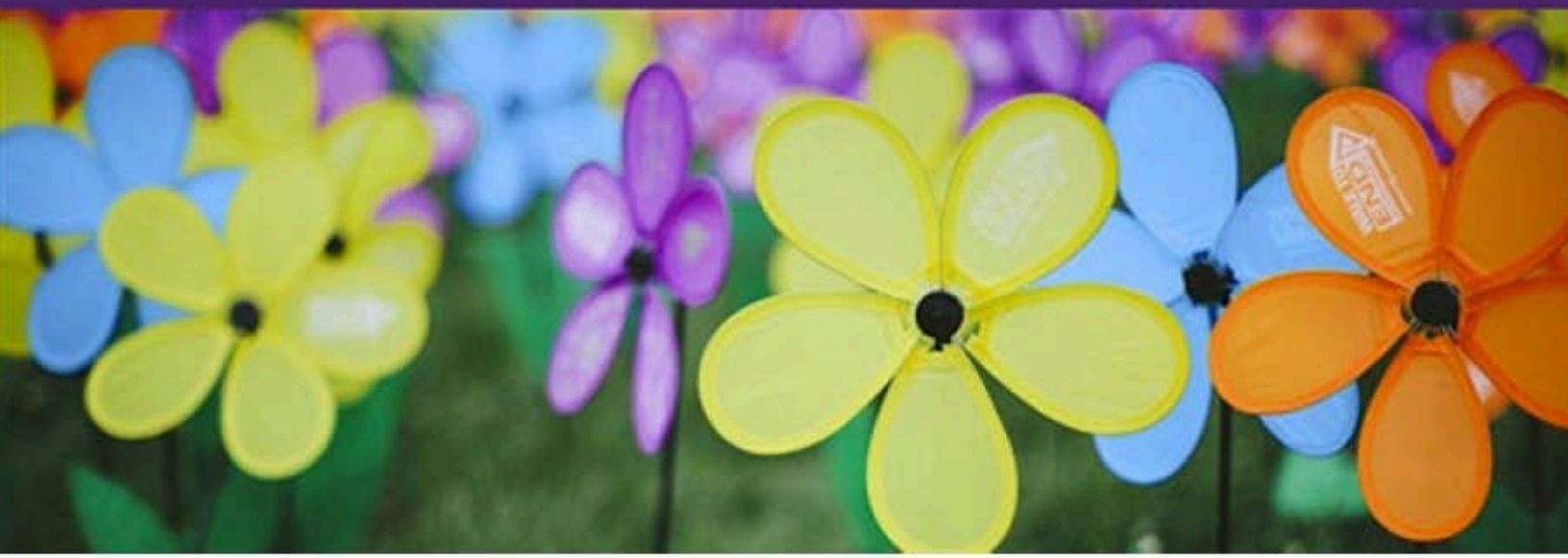


Credit: Rita Lopienski

WALK TO END ALZHEIMER'S

alzheimer's association

TOGETHER, WE CAN END ALZHEIMER'S DISEASE.



TEAM CHARLOTTE COUNTY ROTONDA WEST



Big hearts. Bold steps!

Donations are encouraged, but not required to walk with us for the cause.

Bring your friends and family. Everyone is welcome!

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 14, 2026

8:30 AM Rally & registration | 9:00 AM Walk starts

Broadmoor Park

646 Rotonda Circle, Rotonda West, FL 33947

LET'S MAKE EVERY STEP COUNT!

Scan to join the Charlotte County Rotonda West team.

COME WALK WITH US!

Together, we turn hope into action!

Rotonda West Association

Volunteers NEEDED

for Christmas Decorating in and around Rotonda West

Join us in making Rotonda West bright and festive for the holiday season! We need volunteers to help decorate outdoor and indoor locations.

DECORATING DATES

Monday, November 9
Tuesday, November 10
Thursday, November 12
Friday, November 13
Dates the next week if needed.

WORK DETAILS

Outdoor Decorating
on the Island, Memorial Parks and Broadmoor Park.

Indoor Decorating
Tuesday - Thursday, November 17 - 19
Morning and afternoon times available.

OUTDOOR TIMES

We will be working from approximately 9:00 a.m. and finish up by lunchtime.

SCHEDULE

Island
Bridges
Memorial Parks
Broadmoor Park



For more information or to volunteer:
Contact Karen Harvey at 301 910 7038
or send an email to Karen at kj2team@yahoo.com

Rotonda West Association

Holly Jolly HAPPENINGS CHRISTMAS PARADE

Float builders, golf cart decorators, walkers, dancers, and holiday spirited groups — we want YOU! Bring your creativity, your tropical flair, and your brightest holiday imagination as we turn our streets into a sunny, sparkling island Christmas. Whether you're a business, club, neighborhood group, or just a bunch of friends ready for fun, this is your chance to shine and spread some paradise-style cheer.

Saturday, December 5th
start time 10:00 am
2026 Theme: "Christmas in Paradise"

PARADE ROUTE

Route will be staging at Fellowship Church,
down Parade Circle turning left on Rotonda Blvd, North
then turning right on Rotonda Circle and ending
at the Community Center, 646 Rotonda Circle.



Questions: parade@rotondawest.org
or call Pam Pierce, Parade Coordinator
616 540 7557
Register online at Rotondawest.org

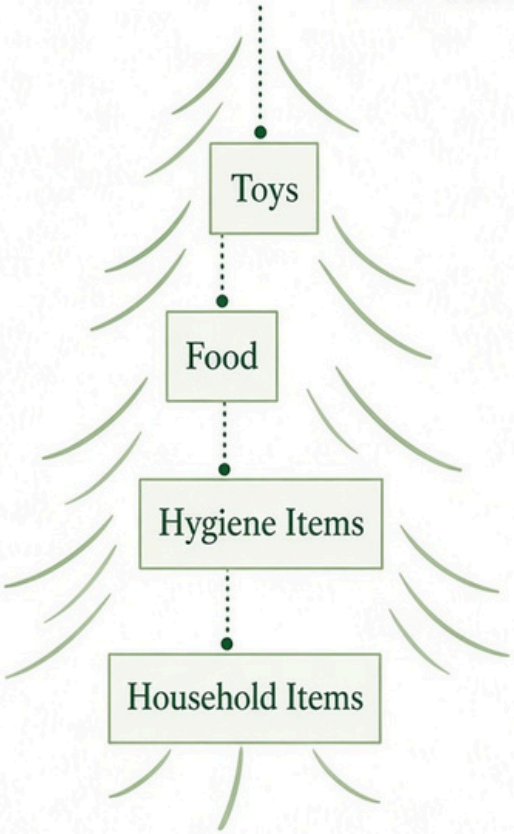
RW

ROTONDA WEST ASSOCIATION

Holly Jolly Happenings

GIVING TREE

November 5 – December 5



CHARITIES

Englewood
Helping Hand, Inc.

Jubilee Center Ministry
- Items go to their Christmas Shoppe
(St. David's Episcopal Church)

Please consider donating new or gently used items to support our local neighbors in need. All donations benefit local families and individuals through our partner charities.

CELEBRATE THE SEASON | CREATE MEMORIES | STRENGTHEN OUR COMMUNITY

EMAIL: hollyjolly@rotondawest.org

Holly Jolly Happenings

at Rotonda West Association



★ Gazebo Lighting and Flotilla Parade ★

Saturday, November 28 from 4:30 p.m.
100 Rotonda Circle

Food | Fire Truck | DJ | Santa | Cookies & Coffee | Classic Cars

Lots of Fun!

Kick off the holiday season with lights, boats and holiday cheer!

Celebrate the Season, Create Memories,
Strengthen Our Community

hollyjolly@rotondawest.org



Display Dates: Thursday, 12/10/26 – Sunday, 12/20/26.

by Deb Orchard

We are bringing back the Best Decorated Holiday House event.

Start making your plans for decorating your home and getting in on the fun. Winners will be announced in the January issue of West Ways. Simply fill out the registration form and return to us. We will acknowledge receipt of your entry via e-mail.

A list of Participants will be published in a Constant Contact and on various Rotonda West Facebook pages, starting Thursday, 12/10/26. Or, pick up a paper copy from the display near the mailbox at the entrance to Broadmoor Park, 646 Rotonda Circle (12/10/26 – 12/21/26 only).

Registration Dates: Sunday, 11/1/26 – Saturday, 12/6/26
Online: rotondawest.org under Holly Jolly Happenings tab
Paper: Pick up from the office or Community Center. Return the completed form to the RWA office.

Rules:
Must be an RWA property owner, resident or renter to participate
Decorations must be on your developed residential parcel, only. No vacant lots.
Decorations must be displayed during event dates to participate.

Winner Selection:
Voting will be conducted by our own Holly Jolly members and by Neighborhood Watch as they patrol our neighborhoods. There will be one winner from each of the 7 Rotonda West sections.
Winners will receive a yard sign (for bragging rights) and announced in the January issue of West Ways.

Questions? e-mail: hollyjolly@rotondawest.org



CHARLOTTE COUNTY & MSBU NEWS ITEMS – NOVEMBER 2026

By Sam Besase

Rotonda West Streets & Drainage MSBU Advisory Board Member

Here is the latest information from Charlotte County on the *Rotonda Boulevard South Bridge Replacement*:

Charlotte County Commissioners APPROVED a construction engineering inspection services (CEI) contract with AECOM for $250,000 at the October 13, 2026, meeting. This is for an inspector to ensure that the bridge is built per design and that all local, state and federal requirements are met. Once FEMA gives the green light, the bridge project can start as quickly as possible per Joanne Vernon, Charlotte County Engineer.

The bridge construction bids await FEMA funding. Perhaps NOV-DEC-JAN. Perhaps a bid award in 1Q of 2027 with a 9-month permitting and construction phase – INCLUDING – FEMA-SWFTMUD-ACOE-FDEP. Perhaps late fall of 2027 for BRIDGE OPENING!

"Staff is working with our consultant that helps us through FEMA processes on when we are able to start the bridge while making sure we get the FEMA funds that they have said we could obtain. "

- Joanne Vernon, P.E. County Engineer Charlotte County Public Works Phone: 941-575-3661
- Joanne.Vernon@charlottecountyfl.gov
- SAM ESTIMATED TIMELINE: November 2026 to 1Q 2027 FEMA OK; Construction 2Q-3Q-4Q 2027. My best estimate for Rotonda Blvd South Bridge opening: LATE FALL OF 2027.
- Additional background information: Charlotte County Commissioners unanimously voted on Wednesday February 25, 2026 to begin the work to REPLACE the Rotonda Boulevard South Bridge due to damage from Hurricane Ian (4+ years ago!). The latest offer from FEMA is $769K, well short of the latest estimate of $2.7 million. The additional $2 million funds shall come from the MSBU. Also, the Army Corps of Engineers PERMIT finally arrived on April 13, 2026.
- I have met privately and publicly with Congressman Greg Steube and his staff, and they are working with FEMA and Charlotte County staff to resolve issues. I have also continuously met with Charlotte County Commissioners and staff for resolutions.
- Remaining 4 bridges, (#110-#111-#112-#123) are scheduled to be bid and start 4Q 2026 & 1Q of 2027. Completion probably 3Q-4Q 2027.
- Boundary Boulevard closure near 169 Boundary Blvd: Charlotte County Utilities (CCU) is replacing underground piping, no estimate from CCU regarding how long Boundary Blvd shall be closed.
- Also, here is the latest information from Charlotte County on 2 Gasparilla Road Traffic Lights:

The traffic signals final plans and bid specs were completed in August of 2026. The project was put out for bid this fall. Included the link to the project status updates page for this project. It is updated every two weeks. The bids were opened on Wednesday October 28, 2026. The construction project is estimated to start by December 2026 and finish by July 2027. The decision about which intersection is first shall be made by the chosen contractor during the pre-construction conference in Nov/Dec 2026.

- Gasparilla Road Intersections Signalization | Charlotte County, FL
- Joanne Vernon, P.E. County Engineer Charlotte County Public Works Phone: 941-575-3661
- Joanne.Vernon@charlottecountyfl.gov
- PAVING - Rotonda West PAVING began on MONDAY July 21, 2025. Estimated MSBU costs: $18.5 million
- PAVING (except for punch list items) is completed for all sections in the RWA. AJAX PAVING – VENICE OFFICE
- PUNCH LIST FOR ALL SECTIONS–SUCH AS MANHOLE COVERS, DRIVEWAY ISSUES, REPLACE & WATER SOD, REPAIR STAGING LOT AREAS, ETC are ongoing. The paving project is not completed until all punch list issues are resolved to the satisfaction of the Charlotte County Project Manager. 3-year WARRANTY doesn't start until completion is signed off by Charlotte County. Approximately 50% (~$9.5 million) has been paid to Ajax.
- Residents are not satisfied with some of the uneven manhole covers. James Layport, Paving Manager, shall come out here and re-inspect the manhole covers. County Paving Project Manager is James Layport and his phone number is: 941-628-8084
- Charlotte County WATERING restrictions are also in effect thru MARCH 31, 2027, due to the severe drought conditions, check with the CHARLOTTE COUNTY UTILITIES website for specific information.

Respectfully, Sam Besase–Advisory Board Member–Rotonda West Streets & Drainage MSBU. Questions, please call me at 281-923-4041, I'll try to get you an answer. Next MSBU meeting is December 17, 2026 at 9:30am – San Casa

The MSBU members are: Sam Besase-Leo VanOrden-Derrick Hedges-Laura Ingrassia-Nicholas Kotzalas

Community Outreach Committee Nature Programs 2026-2027

Programs take place at the Rotonda West Community Center *or* Broadmoor Park, 646 Rotonda Circle

November 18, 2026 Wednesday 2pm	*Pollinator/Butterfly Garden Made Easy*	Alice White People for Trees
November 28, 2026 Saturday 9am	*Broadmoor Garden Tour and Wildflower Walk*	Ann Weaver Bob and Merrill Horswill
January 13, 2027 Wednesday 4pm	*Fun with Bugs*	Ralph Mitchell IFAS Extension Agent CC County
January 20, 2027 Wednesday 2pm	*Burmese Pythons*	David Lingenfelser Nonnative Fish and Wildlife Biologist Florida Wildlife Commission
January 27, 2027 Wednesday 2pm	*All About Alligators*	Kaitlin Causey CC Land Manager
February 10, 2027 Wednesday 2pm	*Introduction to Birding Preparation for Backyard Bird Count*	Ken Blackshaw
February 12-14	*Community Backyard Bird Count*	
February 13, 2027 Saturday 8am	*Broadmoor Park Bird Count*	
February 24, 2027 Wednesday 2pm	*Palms ID and Care*	Donna Worthley Florida Master Gardener, Kristin Hoffschmidt Florida Native Plant Society
March 10, 2027 Wednesday 2pm	*Healthy Ponds and Waterways*	Mollie Holland CC Resilience Coordinator
March 24, 2027 Wednesday 2pm	*Sea Grass*	Kate Rose CC Sea Grant Agent
April 3, 2027 Saturday 9am	*Broadmoor Park Nature Walk*	Natalie Bergeron CC Land Manager

Rotonda West Community Outreach Nature Committee Presents:

EASY POLLINATOR GARDENING

by Merrill Horswill

Alice White, People for Trees

Wednesday November 18, 2026 2pm

Rotonda West Community Center 646 Rotonda Circle

Creating pollinator-friendly gardens means thinking beyond just pretty flowers. Gardens provide food, water, shelter, and safe breeding habitat through the year while using Florida Friendly landscape practices and plants. By reducing pesticide use, designing for continuous bloom and nesting opportunities, gardeners can build resilient landscapes that sustain pollinators and enrich the local environment.

Your garden can become a lifeline for the all important pollinators we need. Join Alice to learn how to prepare your garden and what to plant to attract them.



Welcome are Rotonda West residents, renters and their guests. Please do not contact the RWA Admin Office. Questions: communityoutreach@rotondawest.org

Rotonda West Community Outreach Nature Committee Presents:

Broadmoor Park Butterfly Garden Tour and Native Plant ID Walk

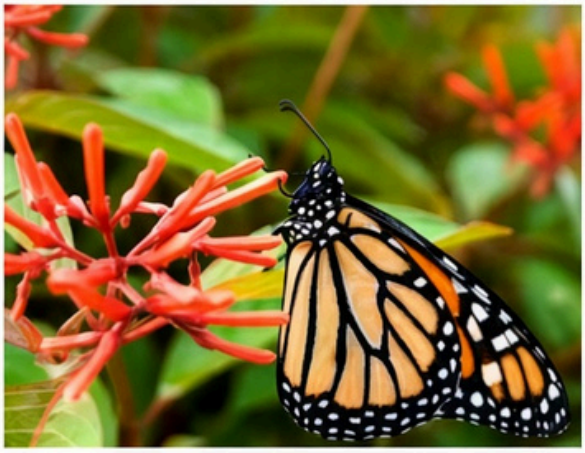
Saturday November 28, 2026 9-11am

Broadmoor Park, 646 Rotonda Circle, meet in parking lot

Take a walk after Thanksgiving!

Join Ann Weaver on a tour of the Butterfly Garden followed by a leisurely walk led by Bob and Merrill Horswill to explore native plants blooming in Broadmoor Park.





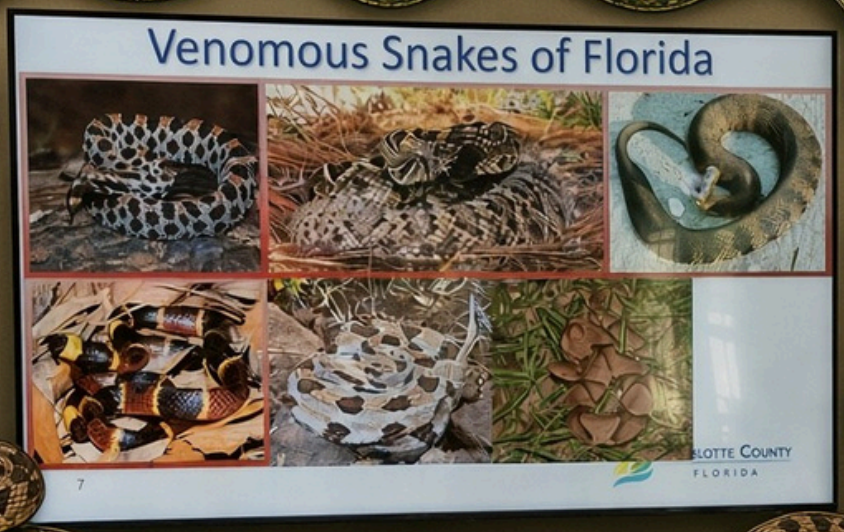


What to bring? water, binoculars, smart phones, walking shoes, sun gear. There are several free apps available to help ID plants: plant.net and Seek

Welcome are Rotonda West residents, renters and their guests. No pets please. Please do not contact the RWA Admin Office. Questions: communityoutreach@rotondawest.org



Charlotte County Environmental Lands Management Specialist Michelle McGill gave an informative SNAKES program on 10-28-26. Contributing facts and anecdotes was Jason Thompson, Senior Land Management Specialist. On January 20, 2027, the Nature Committee will present BURMESE PYTHONS and their Presence in Rotonda West, given by Florida Fish and Wildlife Commission. Watch for details!



There are 4 venomous snakes in Charlotte County, pictured here (outlined in red) Dusky Pygmy Rattlesnake, Eastern Diamondback Rattlesnake, Eastern Coral Snake and Florida Cottonmouth

NEIGHBORHOOD WATCH

Back to School Safety

And just like that, the kids are back in school—and people are still speeding through school zones and crosswalks! 📚🚌 While CCSO is out and about cracking down on speeders, whether intentional or not, please keep the following in mind:

Did you know there are **five schools located just on the outskirts of Rotonda?** That means approximately **1,600 kids** are part of our local area and ZIP code, 33946. And it's not just Rotonda kids attending these schools. Parents are driving into Rotonda and throughout the surrounding areas to drop off and pick up their children. As a result, our roads are becoming much more crowded, especially in the mornings before school and shortly after the last class lets out. Please slow down, stay alert, and watch for children in school zones and crosswalks. A few extra minutes on the road is worth it to help keep our kids safe. 🚸❤️ **Please drive carefully and watch out for our kids!**

A Few Crosswalk Facts

Rotonda has its fair share of crosswalks, and one of the most prominent sections is on Parade Circle. We also have numerous bus stops throughout our community. 🚸🚌 With school back in session, there are a couple of important Florida traffic laws we all need to remember.

Under **Florida Statute 316.130(7)(b)**, when a crosswalk is properly signed, drivers must stop and remain stopped to allow a pedestrian to cross when the pedestrian is in the crosswalk or steps into it.

There's another important rule that's easy to overlook. Under **Florida Statute 316.130(9)**, if a vehicle is stopped at a marked crosswalk—or an unmarked crosswalk at an intersection—to allow a pedestrian to cross, drivers approaching from behind **may not overtake or pass that stopped vehicle.**

In other words: 🚗 **SEE A CAR STOPPED AT A CROSSWALK? DON'T PASS IT! SAME WITH A STOPPED SCHOOL BUS.**

There may be a pedestrian or student crossing that you simply cannot see.

With school back in session, let's all slow down, stay alert, and give our kids—and everyone using our roads—a little extra attention. **Be careful out there, Rotonda!** 🚸🚌🚗 **Our kids are counting on us!**

NEIGHBORHOOD WATCH



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

We are the eyes and ears of the Sheriff's Department

"Rotonda is one of the safest community's in Charlotte County"-Sherriff Prummell

See you at our next meeting on November 17th, at 10:00 am in the Community Center. Meetings are recorded and shared via Facebook (Rotonda West Neighborhood Watch) and our website (www.rotondawestneighborhoodwatch.com)

Interested in joining our organization, please contact David Perry at 941-828-1584, scan QR code below OR go to our Facebook page @ Rotonda West Neighborhood Watch

Scan Here For More Information

Protecting Rotonda West since 1981

Update your Charlotte County Sheriff's Office NON-Emergency number to 941-639-2101 for the fastest service!

Protecting Rotonda West since 1981

www.rotondawestneighborhoodwatch.com

Facebook @ Rotonda West Neighborhood Watch

NOVEMBER

Community Calendar Events

11/3: 2026 General Elections - Polls open @ 6am
11/5 @ 6pm: RWA Open House
11/6, 11/7, & 11/8 (rain date) @ 9am: Fall Community Garage Sale
11/6, 11/13, 11/20 @ 10am: Tai Chi/Yin Yoga
11/7 @ 9am: RWWC Holiday Bazaar (open to public)
11/7 @ 9:15am: Puzzle Swap (located at Rotonda Park)
11/9, 11/16, 11/23, & 11/30 @ 9am: Mahjong (experienced)
11/9, 11/16, 11/23, & 11/30 @ 10am: Pilates Class
11/9, 11/16, 11/23, & 11/30 @ 12:30pm: Mahjong (beginners)
11/10, 11/17, 11/24 @ 12pm: Hand & Foot Card Group (all players welcome)
11/10 @ 4pm: Music In The Park - Jonny Puma
11/11: Office & Community Center closed for Veterans Day
11/12 - 11/20 @ 8am: Christmas Decorating (except weekends)
11/13 & 11/20 @ 12pm: Mahjongg (beginners)
11/14 @ 8am: RWWC Alzheimer's Walk (Broadmoor Park)
11/15 @ 1pm: BINGO (doors open @ 12:15pm)
11/18 @ 2pm: COC Nature Presentation – Pollinator/Butterfly Gardening Made Easy
11/19 @ 6:30pm: Trivia Night with Tim (doors open @ 6pm)
11/24 @ 4:30pm: Food Truck Tuesdays
11/26 - 11/29: Office & Community Center closed for Thanksgiving
11/28 @ 9am: COC Nature Broadmoor Park Garden Tour "Wildflower Walk"

3rd Annual ROTONDA Puzzlers

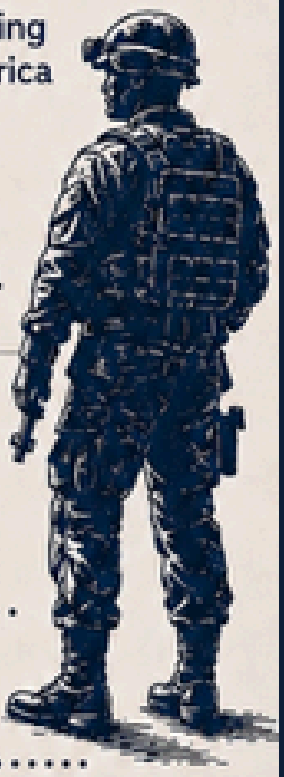
★ SUPPORTS ★



TUNNELS TO TOWERS FOUNDATION

Tunnels to Towers is a foundation committed to helping eradicate veteran homelessness and ensuring that America never forgets September 11th, 2001.

We are privileged to help build mortgage free, specially adapted smart homes to Gold Star veterans and fallen first responders families with young children.



HOW YOU CAN HELP??

Donate a brand new puzzle to the Rotonda Puzzlers Group to raffle.

Purchase Raffle tickets to win puzzles.

Annual drawing will be

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 7TH AT 9AM

at the Rotonda Community Park,
100 ROTONDA BLVD EAST

Contact Ellyn
for more information.
ellynnadeau@gmail.com

TRIVIA with Tim

Open to all RWA owners, residents and their guests

Play as an individual or form a team

3rd Thursday of each month

Doors open at 6 pm
Play begins at 6:30 pm

RWA Community Center
646 Rotonda Circle

You may bring your drinks (lidded cups) and snacks

No Pets

Questions? email: communityoutreach@rotondawest.org

Presented by the RWA Community Outreach Committee

Topic: Halloween

Credit: Deb Orchard

Final Question: What is the definition for practicing sorcery, the dark arts, black magic, voodoo, witchcraft and the like to communicate with the dead.

Their correct answer: Necromancy



For the second month is a row the Winning Team: Smartie Pants

Team Members: Tom & Annemarie D-Abrosca, Michael & Margaret Packer, John and Joann Simmons, Julie Maccarato and Sue & Ron Michael.

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

Date: October 26, 2026
Contact: Lillian GaNun
Phone: 941-828-3626
E-Mail: lildsosr7@embarqmail.com

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

GPS/Navigation for Mariners – US Coast Guard Approved Boating Safety Course

The U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary is offering a GPS/Navigation for Mariners course designed to enhance the navigational skills of local boaters. This comprehensive, one-day course will be held on Saturday, November 14, 2026, from 8:30 AM to 3:30 PM at the South Gulf Cove HOA Building, located at 14859 Ingraham Blvd, Port Charlotte, FL 33981.

Taught by experienced U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary Instructors, this course will provide attendees with essential knowledge of traditional and modern navigational techniques. Instructors familiar with Gasparilla Sound, Pine Island Sound, Boca Grande, South Charlotte Harbor, South Gulf Cove, and surrounding waterways will guide participants through both fundamental and advanced navigation principles.

The first part of the course will focus on basic navigational skills, including:

• Reading and interpreting nautical charts • Determining location and depth • Identifying aids to navigation (ATONS) • Recognizing hazards and features helpful to navigation • Calculating compass bearings, distances, speed, and time for navigation.

The second portion will introduce modern Global Positioning Systems (GPS) as a navigational aid, covering:

*Using GPS to determine location • Storing and using waypoints, routes, and tracks • Applying GPS for trip planning and execution.

While the course will provide a general understanding of GPS navigation, it will not be specific to any particular brand or model of equipment.

Course Logistics:

• Check-in begins at 8:00 AM
• Complimentary coffee, bottled water, and light refreshments will be available
• A one-hour lunch break will be provided (participants may bring their own meal or travel a short distance for take-out options)

FOR MORE INFORMATION:

To reserve your space, or if you have any questions, contact Anne Brengle, Flotilla Commander.

Email: abbrengle.uscgaux@gmail.com or Cell phone: 508-717-2613 (voice or text).

Space is limited, so early registration is encouraged. If plans change and you are unable to attend, please notify the organizers.

We are currently accepting cash or personal checks for payment at the door.

The cost for the course is $60 per couple, $45 per person, or $25 for students.

Don't miss this opportunity to improve your navigation skills and enhance your boating safety.

We look forward to seeing you on Saturday, November 14, 2026.

Our club is fully engaged this fall, with fundraising, volunteer service, and community giving at the center of our activities. Serving the local community remains our mission, and our members are committed to making a meaningful difference. Pictured are members participating in the October Coastal Cleanup.





The Civic Engagement Community Service Project included making boo bags (Halloween treats) for several communities and donating some to CARE House including clothing and halloween costumes for needy children.

During our October General Meeting, Walgreens administered 28 free flu shots to members and other interested individuals.The OneBlood drive on October 22 collected 37 pints of blood, exceeding our goal of 30 pints. A total of 43 donors registered at the bus, with six deferrals. We sincerely thank the residents and friends whose participation continues to make our blood drives successful. In 2027, blood drives will be held in January, April, July, and October.

The Rotonda West Woman's Club **Annual Holiday Bazaar** will be held on **Saturday, November 7.** This long-standing event is one of our primary fundraisers. Guests are invited to browse items created by our talented members, purchase cookies by the pound and other baked goods, and enjoy a hot dog lunch. There will also be a basket raffle with some lovely items and gift cards. Come and shop and try your luck!



Looking ahead, we are planning an afternoon fashion show and luncheon to benefit both our club and Fandango Animal Sanctuary in January 2027.

Our next **General Meeting** will be held on **Thursday, November 19**, at the RWA Community Center. Everyone is invited to join us for a social hour at 9:00 a.m., followed by the business meeting at 10:00 a.m.

For more information about our club's events and activities, please visit our website at www.gfwcrotondawest.org. You may also find us on Facebook under GFWC Rotonda West Woman's Group. We welcome all interested community members to attend our general meetings.

Proud member of General Federation of Women's Clubs

Rotonda West Woman's Club

Holiday Bazaar

Free Event

Cookies by the Pound

Creative Crafters

Sew n' Sews

Knit & Chat

Saturday Nov 7th 9am - 1:30pm

Rotonda West Community Center
646 Rotonda Circle



Chance drawings for festive gift baskets.



Fundraiser

Proceeds benefit local charities

Handcrafted gifts for everyone on your list.

Follow our event on Facebook for Holiday Bazaar updates!
@GFWC Rotonda West Woman's Club Holiday Bazaar

GFWC Rotonda West Woman's Club is an all volunteer 501(c)(3) nonprofit service organization working to improve the community by volunteering time and financial resources to support numerous local and national charities and groups. We are "Living the Volunteer Spirit" with Love, Respect and Kindness for all.

A copy of our official registration & financial information my be obtained from the Div of Consumer Services by calling toll free 1-800-HELP-FLA or online. Registration does not imply endorsement, approval or recommendation by the state. Registration No.: CH11833

OFFICE STAFF

Derrick Hedges
Manager

Annette Casteel
Assistant Manager

Jenny Bulle
Operations & Finance Administrator

Joe Harris
Communications Specialist

Denise Huffman
Administrator/Minutes Clerk

Sheryl Ann Nowicki
Administrator/Deed Restrictions

Kelsey Stewart
Administrator/Deed Restrictions

Amanda Stuever
Administrator/Event Coordinator

Faela Waldrop
Administrator/ResMod

MAINTENANCE STAFF

Craig Brown

Travis Green - *Aquatics*

Marc Santos

Doug Smith

Wayne Taylor

Carl Williams

BOARD OF DIRECTORS 2026

Andy Van Scyoc
President

Karen Harvey
Vice President

Gwen Grace
Director

Sam Besase
Treasurer

David Kelly
Director

Deb Orchard
Secretary

Peter Traverso
Director

WEST WAYS STAFF

David Pulaski
Photographer

Connie Smith
Writer

Amanda Stuever
Design/Editor

CONTRIBUTORS THIS MONTH

Sam Besase
Gwen Grace
Karen Harvey
Merrill Horswill
Maureen Laderer
Rita Lopienski
Ellyn Nadeau
Deb Orchard
David Perry
Pam Pierce

ROTONDA WEST ASSOCIATION
646 Rotonda Circle
Rotonda West, FL 33947
Phone #: (941) 697-6788 | rotondawest.org