

Meadowword



The Meadows Community News and Lifestyle



PRESORTED
STANDARD
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
PERMIT #1
MANASOTA, FL

COMMUNITY
NEWS
2-5

MEADOWS
FINANCES
5

OUR
LIFESTYLE
6-19

ACTIVITIES &
EVENTS
12-13

SERVICE & SALES
CLASSIFIEDS
22-23

THE MEADOWS IS MOVING FORWARD



Chris Perone —
MCA Board President

THE MEADOWS IS MOVING AHEAD WITH PURPOSE, RENEWED ENERGY, AND A SHARED COMMITMENT TO WHAT LIES AHEAD.

Thank you to everyone who participated in this year's Meadows Community Board of Directors election. The community has spoken, and this Board has heard you. You are helping safeguard the community you care about so deeply and everything that makes it special.

When this journey began last year, it brought uncertainty for many of us. There were real questions about our greenspace, our amenities, and the future of our community. I shared those same concerns.

At my very first Board meeting as President, I made a simple commitment: we would reimagine The Meadows for the future. Today, that commitment is clearly taking shape, with meaningful progress visible across our community.

With our new Board now in place — which welcomes Laura Spears, we are entering the next phase with focus and purpose. As a new season begins in The Meadows, I want to be very clear about a particularly daunting subject: I will not engage in the negative rhetoric that has, at times, weighed on this community and diminished its reputation. That tone, that type of messaging does not reflect who we are, nor does it contribute to where we are going. My focus is on progress, solutions, and delivering results for this community, and

that is where my time and our Board's energy will remain. I hope you will join me in this.

The momentum is real. The agreement with Benderson Development is signed, finalized, and actively underway. This partnership represents a significant step forward and a strong foundation for what comes next.

On the ground, we are already seeing results. Century Golf, led by Michael Blair, is doing an outstanding job restoring and elevating our courses. There is a renewed sense of energy and optimism around golf that is both visible and encouraging, with more improvements ahead.

At the same time, we have a significant opportunity ahead with Centre Court Lounge. Long a centerpiece of connection in The Meadows, we are now in a position to restore it in the near term while also reimaging a lasting plan for its future.

There is a great deal to look forward to.

The Meadows is moving ahead with purpose, renewed energy, and a shared commitment to what lies ahead. I am excited about where we are going and confident in what we will accomplish together. **This community is positioned to thrive today and for generations to come.**



OUR MISSION

Our mission is to preserve the property values, green space, ambiance and vitality of our community.

OUR VISION

To be known as a well-maintained, welcoming, safe community with up-to-date housing, activities and services designed to meet the needs of all residents.

PREPARE TO BE SAFE



WILDLIFE SAFETY AND COEXISTENCE IN THE MEADOWS



Frances Rippondi —
MCA General Manager

Across Florida, ongoing construction of homes and buildings continues to reduce natural habitats, forcing wildlife to relocate and adapt to urban environments. As a result, encounters between humans and wildlife are becoming more frequent.

Residents must follow guidelines, maintain a safe distance, and respect these animals in their natural environment.

DON'T FEED THE GATORS

Two years ago, the Meadows Community Association (MCA) was forced to request the removal of an alligator from a community pond. This situation arose because construction workers had been feeding a mother alligator and her young. The Meadows intervened and the feeding stopped, however the damage had already been

While bird feeders are allowed, they should be maintained carefully to avoid attracting pests like rodents.

Wildlife experts consistently report that alligators involved in attacks are often those that have been fed by humans. Feeding wildlife alters natural behavior, turning animals into potential threats and often leading to their removal.

When alligators are removed, they are not relocated to another pond or released back into the wild. In most cases, they are euthanized and used for meat and hide. Occasionally,

is mating season. During this time, you may notice:

- Greater movement as males search for mates
- Increased aggression and territorial behavior
- More sightings in unexpected places such as roads, golf courses, and residential areas
- Higher activity during dusk and dawn

SAFETY TIPS

- Keep pets on a leash and away from the water's edge
~ *Almost every day I witness residents walking their dogs along the pond edges. This is dangerous as a gator may be tucked up under the lake bank edge. Please keep a safe distance for both Fido's and your sake.*
- Only swim in designated areas during daylight hours
~ *No entry into ponds is allowed at the Meadows.*
- Never feed alligators or any wildlife
- Maintain a safe distance— alligators are faster than they appear
- Stay alert near all water bodies



AWARENESS AND RESPONSIBLE BEHAVIOR ARE ESSENTIAL TO KEEPING BOTH RESIDENTS AND WILDLIFE SAFE.

With over 50% open space, abundant trees, and 85 ponds, The Meadows supports a diverse range of wildlife, including birds, alligators, raccoons, fish, and even occasional bobcats and coyotes. While this biodiversity is a valued part of our community, it also requires awareness and responsibility from residents.

It is increasingly common to see people approaching or photographing alligators near pond edges or walking pets too close to the water. These actions can be dangerous. Unexpected interactions between humans and wildlife, especially alligators, can have serious or even tragic consequences.

To ensure safety and coexist peacefully with wildlife,

done. The alligator became conditioned to associate humans with food and began approaching people, displaying increasingly aggressive behavior.

Because the animal had lost its natural fear of humans, it had to be removed for the community's safety. This unfortunate outcome highlights why feeding alligators is both dangerous and illegal.

KNOW THE LAW

Feeding or harassing alligators is a violation of Florida law and can result in a \$500 fine and/or up to 60 days in jail. Additionally, feeding most wildlife species is prohibited, including throwing food into bodies of water where it may attract fish or other animals.

as in the recent case, a large breeding female may be sold to a licensed alligator farm instead—but this is rare.

LIVING SAFELY WITH WILDLIFE

Florida is home to approximately 1.3 million alligators across all 67 counties. Any body of water, natural or man-made may contain an alligator. Residents should always remain cautious near lakes, ponds, canals, and wetlands.

SEASONAL AWARENESS: MAY IS PEAK ACTIVITY

Alligator activity increases significantly during May, which

CONGRATULATIONS TO THE NEW MCA BOARD OF DIRECTORS



Chris Perone
President



Tom Bondur
Vice President



Michelle Johnston
Secretary



Jan Lazar
Treasurer



Marilyn Maleckas
Director



Alex Peake
Director



Donald Breece
Director



Laura Spears
Director

A highlight of the 2026 MCA Annual Meeting held Tuesday night was the announcement of the election results. At their February 13, 2025, meeting, the Board of Directors established policy that the results including the vote count, and an overview of the tally process shall be published to the community.

The results are:

Chris Perone	35,416
Michelle Johnston	34,198
Laura Spears	33,515
Susan Whitcomb	19,656
Keith Peaton	18,536
Dora Laumer	19,059

Congratulations to **Laura Spears** who is the new Board member.

After the Annual Meeting, the new Board of Directors held its Organizational Meeting for the purpose of electing officers.

Congratulations to the 2026-27 Officers & Directors who are:

President	Chris Perone
Vice President	Tom Bondur
Secretary	Michelle Johnston
Treasurer	Jan Lazar

DIRECTORS AT LARGE

- Marilyn Maleckas
- Alex Peake
- Donald Breece
- Laura Spears

BALLOT TALLY PROCESS

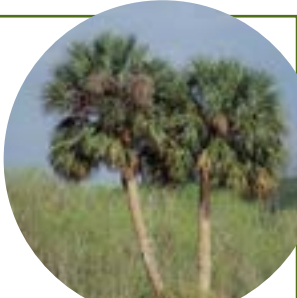
Ballots were either mailed to the MCA or dropped off at the MCA Community Center and placed into the locked ballot box.

Ballots were date stamped on the day received and placed in a dedicated safe. They were arranged in batches and tallied on a master spreadsheet. At all times, ballots were secured in a safe when not being tallied or audited and only one designated staff member had access to the ballots and performed the tabulation.

The firm of Cavanaugh & Company, Certified Public Accounts, was engaged to review and verify the election results. A team of three independent Cavanaugh staff members led by Partner David Hochsprung, CPA conducted a 100% verification tracing all ballots to tabulation records. Mr. Hochsprung was present during the Annual Meeting to finalize the election results and presented his firm's report at the meeting to then Secretary Alex Peake.

Ballots and tally sheets are retained for one year after the election per Florida Statute and are available for review via the Records Inspection Policy.

Palm Trees Fun Fact: The cabbage palm (*Sabal palmetto*) is Florida's state tree and needs little encouragement to grow to 40 feet tall.



FINANCES ARE FINE!



Jan Lazar —
MCA Treasurer

The fiscal year which ended on February 28, 2026 will not have financial statements complete until the external audit is completed.

We do, however, have preliminary numbers which were shared at the Annual Meeting on March 31. For the year ended February 28, MCA has cash balances of approximately **\$2.2 million**, which includes reserves and insurance proceeds earmarked for the demolition of the old club house. This number is after the additional \$738,000

was paid down on the existing debt as approved by the Board in February. Since the audit takes several months, the final statements and audit will be available on the member after it is completed.

Speaking of the debt, with the refinancing completed as part of the agreement with Benderson, and the additional payment which was included when MCA was forced to use the higher levy due to the numerous delays obstructing that agreement, our outstanding debt is now **\$3,937,000** with no additional payments required until next year (although added prepayments are always possible if finances allow).

There are no longer any mortgages on any MCA property as this loan is totally backed by assessments.

Speaking of assessments, nearly 90% of assessments are paid. For those who have not yet paid, please remember that assessments are a legal obligation of the owner and its not fair for the vast majority, who do pay as required, to be footing the bill for those who don't pay. It is the legal obligation of MCA to collect those assessments. Late payment results in late fees, penalties and legal fees being charged, which become a lien against the property title if not paid, and cause owners to lose common area privileges after

90 days delinquency until all assessments, fees and penalties are paid in full. As fiduciaries, we must take the actions necessary to collect assessments and not place added financial burdens on the overwhelming majority who do pay.

You can place your assessment on auto debt, as a great many owners do, to avoid late payments if you are out of town or forget. Contact the MCA office for information on doing auto payments if you would like to take one more thing off of your to do list.

Despite the uncertainty and added burdens caused by the events last spring, MCA rose to the challenge.



MCA LATE ASSESSMENTS

Annual assessments are due in full by March 1 each year. If your payment has not yet been received, late fees will now apply. Accounts that remain unpaid will be turned over for collection, and you will be responsible for all associated late fees, interest, and legal costs, which will become a lien on your property.

If you have already submitted your payment after the due date, please note that applicable late fees are still owed.

We strongly encourage anyone who has not yet paid, or who paid late, to contact the MCA promptly and remit the full amount due to avoid additional legal costs and potential loss of community privileges.

Thank you for your prompt attention to this matter and for helping keep our community in good standing.

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AARON VIRGIN, OWNER

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MARCH APPROVED ARCHITECTURAL REVIEWS

4535 Glebe Farm Rd
4786 Greencroft Rd
3107 Sandleheath
4511 Windsor Park
4563 Windsor Park
Hadfield Greene Condo Assn
Chambery Condo Assn
Heronmere 1 Condo Assn

4626 Hadfield Dr
4086 Penshurst Park
5627 Sheffield Greene
4927 Waterbridge Down
4986 Waterbridge Down
4700 Windsor Park
4580 Windsor Park
3029 Taywood Meadow

Stratfield Park HOA
Villa Majorca Condo Assn
3521 Ferndell
2547 Glebe Farm Close
3514 Richwood Link
3023 Rosemead
Wedgewood Condo Assn
4775 Chandlers Forde

4859 Greywood Ln
4571 Highland Oaks Cir
3388 Highlands Bridge Rd
2936 Longleat Woods
5424 Myrtlewood
3010 Rosemead
4511 Windsor Park

SAFETY REPORT



As of April 1, 2026, in the month of March 2026 there were **(12) incident free days** - (3) more than February 2026. There were **(27) reported incidents** - (7) more than February 2026. There were **(107) citations issued** - (44) more than February 2026.

Safety responded to the following during the month of March:

DISTURBANCE

- **Noise – (3)**
March 1st (Weybridge pool area) & 19th (3500 block of Longmeadow & 5600 block of Pipers Waite) complaints were filed regarding loud music, screaming and yelling, kids being noisy. All were spoken to and advised of complaints and agreed to quiet down.
- **Argument**
March 22nd (4800 block of Greencroft & 4900 block of Taywater Dell). Both parties were made contact with, SCSO also responded.

SUSPICIOUS VEHICLE

- March 17th a car was observed by safety going in and out of driveways in the Long Common Community around 0100 Hrs. Safety made contact with the driver and the driver stated he was looking to repossess a car and would call a tow truck if he finds it. The driver was advised

he was on private property and was trespassing and needed to leave. He sat there for a moment and was advised that the SCSO would be contacted if he did not leave. At that time the driver left.

SUSPICIOUS INCIDENT

- March 9th an unknown woman walked into a home in the 4600 block of Longwater Chase and she left when the resident told her too. She had claimed to be looking for houses as well as looking for someone. SCSO were on site and a picture of the unidentified female who left the premises was provided to safety and SCSO.

VANDALISM

- March 10th it was discovered by maintenance that the wires for the 3 Tear drop lights on the West side of Longmeadow @ 17th St. had been cut. SCSO were notified.
- March 23rd the sign for the community pool listing hours of operation were found to have been defaced by changing the closing time of the pool.
- March 26th a security camera at Heronmere II was vandalized by a woman by smearing a substance on the camera and the woman could be heard using profanity at “the Camera”.

ANIMAL COMPLAINTS

- March 10th a loose dog running on Glebe Farm Rd. So. was followed into Woodman’s Chart community where ultimately the owner of the dog was located and took the dog.
- March 11th & 23rd reported dogs off leash, upon arrival persons and animals were not located.
- March 19th in the 4900 block of Taywater Dell a dog was seen running loose by safety. The owner of the dog appeared and was reminded of the leash laws and to have their dog placed on a leash. Owner became belligerent telling safety to “come put the dog on a leash”. Video of the dog running loose was taken, animal control was contacted and a video was sent. Owner returned to his home with the dog.

- March 27th a grey Terrier with no tags or collar was found in the 2800 block of Wrenwood Ct. The person was going to keep the dog until the owner was found and they were contacted. The person’s information was retained as well as they were provided with SCSO animal control number.

EMERGENCY NUMBERS

For Emergency, call 911. After calling 911 please report the incident to the MCA Safety Patrol.

The non-emergency Sarasota County Sheriff’s Office: 941-316-1201

MCA Safety Patrol: 941-809-0084



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FEATURED PROPERTIES

NEW!

4582 Longwater Chase – 2/2 condo with carport and storage. Unbelievable view from 2-sided lanai. Priced right at..... **\$249,000**

PENDING

5019 Marsh Field Rd – Fully updated Heronmere II condo with water/golf view..... **\$249,000**

REDUCED!

5218 Marsh Field Rd – Fantastic oversized 2/2 with fabulous water/golf view. Ceramic tile and Granite countertops throughout. Priced right at..... **\$249,000**



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STOP SIGNS AND CROSSWALKS

MCA Board Secretary, Michelle Johnston, Safety Chair

What do stop signs and designated crosswalks in The Meadows have in common? Many drivers ignore them! Stop signs are not posted as suggestions to think about stopping; neither are crosswalks. Both are posted and marked for protecting the safety of the drivers, cyclists, and walkers in our community.

First, Florida has laws about stopping at stop signs.



MEADOWS STOP SIGNS AND DESIGNATED CROSSWALKS ARE IN PLACE FOR OUR SAFETY, NOT FOR AESTHETICS. ALL OF US MUST STOP AT THE SIGNS AND DESIGNATED CROSSWALKS WHEN PEDESTRIANS ARE PRESENT.

Specifically, cars must come to complete stops at stop signs, not rolling stops. Rolling stops are illegal in Florida. A complete stop is a cessation of all forward movement, as defined by Florida statutes. Fines for not stopping range from \$70-\$200. Although our community has private streets, The Meadows follows the Florida laws recognizing that cars must completely stop at stop signs.

The Meadows has many three-way stops. When there are three cars at an intersection, the first to arrive drives through after completely stopping while the others wait. If it is undeterminable which car arrived first, the car on the left goes through the intersection first, and then it is the next car's turn, going from left to right. Like the rest of Florida, no car can pass another car stopped at an intersection in The Meadows.

Recently, while walking in The Meadows, I saw a driver on Glebe Farm passed a motorcycle stopped at the Longmeadow intersection and turned left onto Longmeadow where another car was moving forward into the intersection. That driver caused near miss by failing to follow the rules and stop behind a vehicle already stopped at the intersection.

Florida also has crosswalk laws, which The Meadows uses to guide its policies and rules. Those laws require drivers to stop when pedestrians are in

marked or unmarked pedestrian crossings, especially if the pedestrians are in the drivers' half of the road. Specifically, as the Florida Law states it is a "driver duty to yield" to pedestrians whether in marked or unmarked crosswalks.

The unmarked crosswalks are at intersections where pedestrians have the right-of-way. However, pedestrians have responsibilities to stay in the crosswalks and not spontaneously jump off a curb mid-block. Lastly, if a car is stopped at a crosswalk to allow a pedestrian to cross the street, another car approaching from behind cannot pass it. I saw a car on Marshfield Road stopped at an intersection with its turn signal indicating a right turn, but it could not turn because a person was in the Richwood Link designated crosswalk. That driver was complying with the law. However, another driver tried to pass the



car stopped on Marshfield to turn barely missing the pedestrian.

Meadows stop signs and designated crosswalks are in place for our safety, not for aesthetics. All of us must stop at the signs and designated crosswalks when pedestrians are present. We should not pass at stop signs or crosswalks, and we also must avoid rolling stops. Safe driving helps all of us whether we are driving, cycling, or walking. Actually, if we all stopped at stop signs and designated crosswalks, we could make the first sentences of this article false.

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HOW PREVENTATIVE HOME MAINTENANCE CAN PROTECT YOUR HOME WHEN THE NEXT STORM HITS

In Florida, storm season is a fact of life. While you can't control the weather, you can control how well your home is prepared to withstand it. Preventative maintenance is one of the most effective—and often overlooked—ways to reduce storm damage, protect your investment, and keep your family safe.

Here's how simple, proactive steps can make a major difference before the next storm arrives.

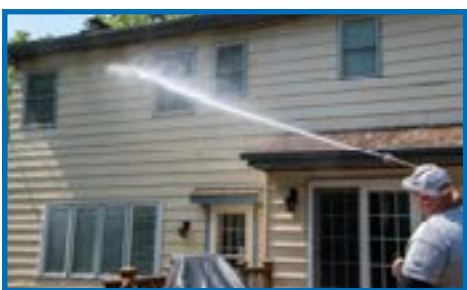


SEAL EXTERIOR CRACKS BEFORE THEY BECOME MAJOR PROBLEMS

Small cracks in your home's exterior may not seem like a big deal, but during heavy rain and wind, they can allow water intrusion that leads to mold, rot, and interior damage.

- Inspect stucco, siding, and around windows/doors regularly
- Use weather-resistant caulking or sealant to close gaps
- Pay special attention to rooflines and foundation edges

Sealing these entry points helps keep water out—even during wind-driven rain.



UPGRADE PROTECTION BEFORE PAINTING EXTERIOR WALLS

If you're planning to paint your home, think of it as more than

cosmetic—it's an opportunity to add a protective barrier.

- Pressure wash to remove dirt and mildew
- Repair cracks and damaged surfaces first
- Apply a high-quality primer and waterproof sealant
- Choose exterior paint designed for moisture and UV resistance

A properly sealed and painted exterior acts as your home's first line of defense against Florida's harsh elements.



SCHEDULE REGULAR HOME INSPECTIONS

Routine inspections can catch issues early—before they become expensive problems during a storm.

- Hire a professional annually or bi-annually
- Check roof, attic, plumbing, and exterior surfaces
- Identify weak spots that could fail under stress

An inspection provides peace of mind and a clear action plan for maintenance.



KEEP YOUR ROOF IN TOP CONDITION

Your roof takes the brunt of any storm. If it fails, everything inside is at risk.

- Replace missing or damaged shingles or tiles
- Inspect flashing and seals around vents and chimneys
- Keep gutters and downspouts clear
- Consider a professional roof inspection before hurricane season

A well-maintained roof significantly reduces the risk of leaks and structural damage.



PRACTICE SMART TREE CARE

Trees add beauty and shade—but during storms, they can become dangerous.

- Trim branches away from your home and roof
- Remove dead or weakened limbs
- Ensure trees are structurally sound and not leaning
- Consult an arborist for large or mature trees

Proper tree maintenance reduces the risk of branches—or entire trees—falling onto your home.



CHECK AND PROTECT WINDOWS AND DOORS

Windows and doors are vulnerable points during high winds.

- Inspect seals and weather stripping

- Install or maintain hurricane shutters
- Consider upgrading to impact-resistant glass
- Reinforce garage doors if needed

Protecting these openings helps prevent wind and water from entering your home.



DON'T FORGET THE SIMPLE STEPS

Sometimes, the simplest actions have the biggest impact.

- Bring in or secure patio furniture
- Store potted plants and garden décor
- Anchor or disassemble trampolines
- Secure grills, umbrellas, and loose yard items

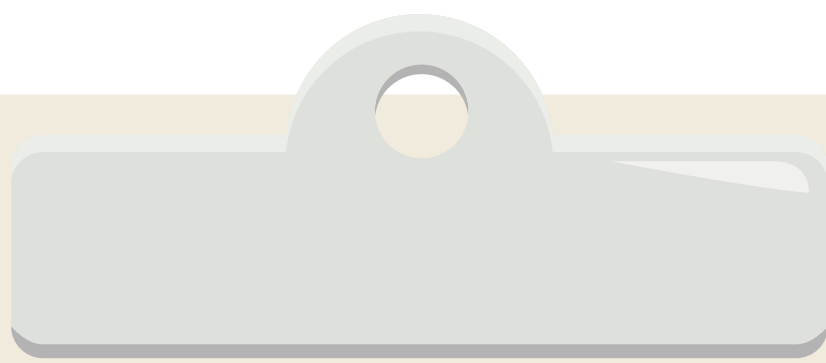
These objects can quickly become dangerous projectiles in high winds.

PREPARATION TODAY PREVENTS DAMAGE TOMORROW

Storm preparedness isn't just about reacting when a hurricane is approaching - it's about maintaining your home year-round. From sealing small cracks to inspecting your roof and securing your yard, each step strengthens your home's ability to withstand severe weather.

In Florida, where storms are inevitable, preventative maintenance isn't optional - it's essential.

Take action now, and you'll be better prepared, better protected, and far more at ease when the next storm hits.



Write It Down. Be Ready. Stay Safe.

YOUR FLORIDA HURRICANE PREPAREDNESS CHECKLIST

When a storm is approaching, time becomes your most valuable resource. The difference between chaos and confidence often comes down to one simple step: **having a written plan.** Don't rely on memory or last-minute decisions - write your hurricane plan down and store it in a safe, accessible place along with copies of important documents like insurance policies, identification, medical records, and emergency contacts.

Preparedness isn't just peace of mind - it's protection for you, your family, and your home.

EMERGENCY HURRICANE PREPAREDNESS CHECKLIST:

□ STAY INFORMED

- **Sign up for alerts through Sarasota County Emergency Services** to receive real-time updates on storms, evacuations, and local safety instructions. <https://www.scgov.net/government/emergency-services/hurricane-preparedness-6291> or you can call **311** for more information.
- Keep a weather radio or reliable mobile app handy for updates before, during, and after the storm.

□ KNOW YOUR EVACUATION LEVEL

- Determine your evacuation level through Sarasota County resources.
- Evacuation levels (A, B, C, etc.) are based on storm surge risk - not just wind.
- If an evacuation is ordered for your level, **leave immediately** - don't wait.

□ LOCATE EVACUATION CENTERS

- Identify where your nearest evacuation centers are located ahead of time.
- Keep in mind: not all shelters accept pets, and space may be limited.

□ ARRANGE TRANSPORTATION EARLY

- If you may need assistance getting to a shelter, **pre-register for transportation services** through Sarasota County well before storm season peaks.
- Waiting until a storm is imminent may limit your options.

□ MEDICAL NEEDS REGISTRATION

- If you or a family member relies on electricity for medical equipment or requires special assistance, register as a medically dependent individual with Sarasota County.
- This ensures priority support and access to specialized shelters if needed.
- List of current medications and a two week supply.
- Phone numbers of emergency contacts and doctors.

□ HAVE A GO TOTE & BAG READY

- Drinking water.
- First aid kit.
- Driver's license, insurance policies (home/auto/health), social security card, birth certificate, bank records, and medical records.
- Cell phones with chargers, power banks, battery-powered radio, and flashlights.
- Small denominations of cash.
- Change of clothes, toilet paper, wipes, sanitizer, toothbrush.
- Non-perishable food, snacks, special dietary requirements.

□ HAVE A PLAN FOR YOUR PETS

- **Never leave pets behind.**
- Identify pet-friendly evacuation centers, hotels, or arrange to stay with family or friends outside the evacuation zone.
- Prepare a pet emergency kit with

food, water, medications, and vaccination records.

□ CHECKLIST FOR SHELTERING IN PLACE

- Clean bathtub or other large containers and fill with water.
- Drinking water, one gallon per person, per day, for at least three days.
- Canned food and a can opener.
- Paper items.
- Baby needs.
- Battery-operated television or radio, flashlight and extra batteries.
- Pet supplies.
- Full tank of gasoline in your car.

□ UNDERSTAND POST-STORM CONDITIONS

After a hurricane passes, safety conditions are often categorized to guide residents:

- **Green Conditions:** Safe to return. Essential services are functioning, and hazards are minimal.
- **Yellow Conditions:** Proceed with caution. Limited services, debris, and hazards may still be present.
- **Red Conditions:** Unsafe. Significant damage, restricted access, and emergency crews are still working. Residents should **not return**.

□ FINAL THOUGHTS: PLAN NOW, ACT FAST LATER

Hurricanes don't wait - and neither should you. Taking time now to prepare, document your plan, and understand your resources can make all the difference when every minute counts.

Store your written plan somewhere easy to grab, review it with your household, and update it each season. Because when the next storm threatens, you won't have to think - you'll already know what to do.

IMPORTANT INFORMATION ABOUT FLOOD INSURANCE

Is Your Home Protected When the Next Storm Hits?

Living in Florida means enjoying sunshine, beautiful coastlines, and a vibrant outdoor lifestyle—but it also means preparing for hurricane season and the very real risk of flooding. Each year, storms remind homeowners that flood damage can happen quickly, and often where it's least expected. The question is: *are you truly protected?*

FLOODING CAN HAPPEN ANYWHERE—NOT JUST HIGH-RISK ZONES

Many homeowners assume that if they're not in a designated flood zone, they're safe. Unfortunately, that's not always the case. In fact, a significant number of flood insurance claims come from properties located outside of high-risk areas.

Heavy rainfall, overwhelmed drainage systems, storm surge, and even nearby construction can all contribute to flooding. Just a few inches of water can cause thousands of dollars in damage to flooring, drywall, electrical systems, and personal belongings.

HOMEOWNERS INSURANCE DOES NOT COVER FLOODING

One of the most common misconceptions is that a standard homeowners insurance

policy covers flood damage. It does not.

Flood insurance is a **separate policy**, typically provided through the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP), which is managed by Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA), or through private insurers.

Without a flood insurance policy, you may be responsible for all repair and replacement costs out of pocket.

WHAT DOES FLOOD INSURANCE COVER?

Flood insurance policies generally include two types of coverage:

- **Building Property Coverage**
Covers the structure of your home, including the foundation, electrical and plumbing systems, HVAC, and built-in appliances.
- **Personal Property Coverage**
Covers belongings such as furniture, clothing, electronics, and valuables (up to policy limits).

It's important to review your policy carefully, as some items (like valuables or items stored in lower levels) may have limitations.

THERE'S A WAITING PERIOD—DON'T WAIT UNTIL A STORM IS COMING

Flood insurance policies typically

have a **30-day waiting period** before coverage takes effect. That means you cannot wait until a storm is forecasted to purchase protection.

Planning ahead—well before hurricane season—ensures that your home is covered when you need it most.

FLOOD RISK IS INCREASING IN FLORIDA

With rising sea levels, more intense rainfall, and stronger storms, flood risks across Florida continue to grow. Even inland communities are seeing more frequent flooding events.

Local factors such as drainage infrastructure, elevation, and development patterns can all influence your property's risk—making it essential to stay informed and proactive.

STEPS FLORIDA HOMEOWNERS SHOULD TAKE NOW

- **Check Your Flood Zone**
Visit FEMA's Flood Map Service Center to determine your property's risk level.
- **Review Your Current Insurance Policies**
Confirm what is—and isn't—covered.
- **Consider Purchasing Flood Insurance**

Even moderate- or low-risk areas can benefit from affordable coverage.

- **Document Your Belongings**
Take photos or videos of your home's interior and contents for future claims.
- **Create a Storm Preparedness Plan**
Include evacuation routes, emergency contacts, and important documents.

PEACE OF MIND STARTS WITH PREPARATION

Flooding is one of the most common and costly natural disasters in the United States—and Florida is on the front lines. Being prepared isn't just about sandbags and shutters; it's about ensuring your financial protection as well.

Taking the time now to understand your flood risk and secure proper insurance coverage can make all the difference when the next storm hits.

DON'T WAIT UNTIL IT'S TOO LATE - PROTECT YOUR HOME, YOUR BELONGINGS, AND YOUR PEACE OF MIND.



REMINDERS



TECH SUPPORT

ELECTRONIC TUTOR
THURSDAY, MAY 7
1 PM @ MCA

Call David Stoltie
941-404-5585
the Patient Trainer,
to schedule an appointment.

GET YOUR SPOTS CHECKED



Thursday, May 14
7:30 AM – 3:30 PM
MCA Parking Lot
Call **941-444-0011**
to schedule your appointment today!



HEARING CLINIC
Tuesday, May 12 from 9-11 AM
Call for an appointment
941-677-2660
Held at MCA 2004 Longmeadow


ALLIGATOR MATING SEASON OCCURS BETWEEN MAY AND JUNE.

Evidence supports it began early. Please be aware and conduct yourself with care.



Disaster Preparedness
Tax Free Dates: June 1-14

The MCA will be closed on Monday, May 25, in Observance of Memorial Day in honor of our Fallen Veterans. The public side and library will be open.




SARASOTA COUNTY EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT HURRICANE SPECIAL NEEDS REGISTRY
941-861-5000

- If you have special needs with mobility
- If you are on oxygen or use electrical medical
- If you will need medical evacuation and special sheltering


WATER AEROBICS SCHEDULE CHANGE

Please take note starting May 4th classes will be held at 9 AM and 10 AM on Mondays, Wednesdays & Fridays



HELP PROTECT OUR DRAINAGE SYSTEM

No grass clippings, leaves and other yard debris may be blown, dumped, or raked into streets or any portion of the drainage system. If you use a lawn service, please talk to them and protect our drainage systems, and your property.



The MCA will be closed on Friday, July 3rd in observance of Independence Day

ACTIVITIES



Cinco De Mayo ICE CREAM SOCIAL

Come enjoy a fun and festive themed Ice Cream Social filled with fruity, zesty new flavors, music, and interactive fun!

Tuesday, May 5 • 6:30-7:30 PM
Meadows Community Lifestyle & Wellness Facility



SAVE THE DATE

MEMORIAL DAY

★ **BBQ** ★

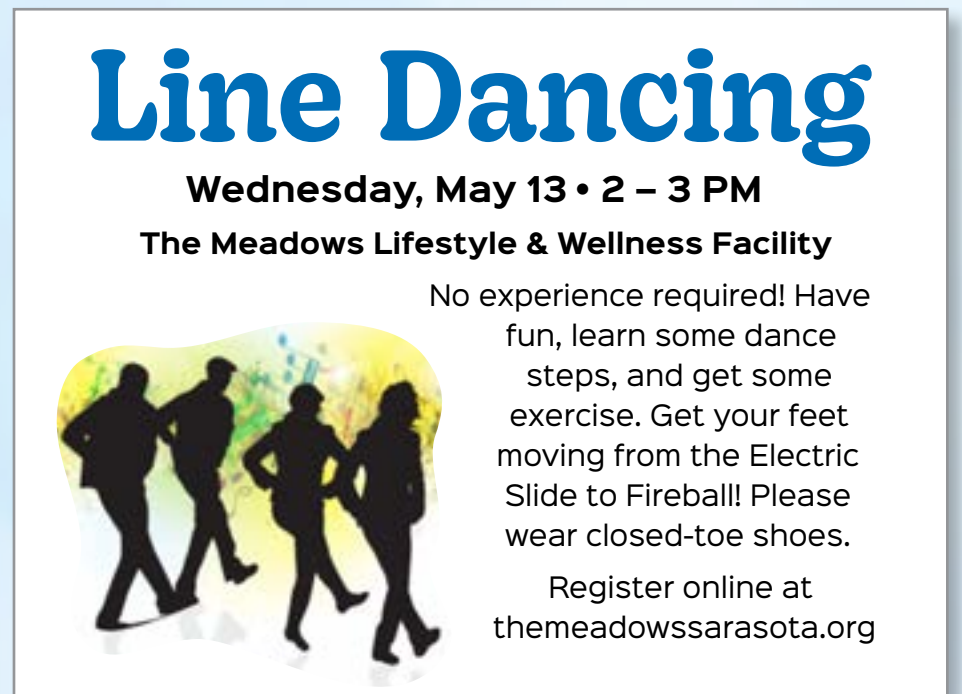
FRIDAY, MAY 22 • 12:30 PM
Meadows Community Lifestyle & Wellness Facility



BINGO!

Wednesday, May 6 • 6:30 PM
Meadows Community Lifestyle & Wellness Facility

Register online at themeadowssarasota.org



Line Dancing

Wednesday, May 13 • 2 – 3 PM
The Meadows Lifestyle & Wellness Facility

No experience required! Have fun, learn some dance steps, and get some exercise. Get your feet moving from the Electric Slide to Fireball! Please wear closed-toe shoes.

Register online at themeadowssarasota.org



Mother's Day Celebration

Friday, May 8 • 11:30 AM
Meadows Community Lifestyle & Wellness Facility



COFFEE & Conversation

AVAILABLE FOR ALL MEADOW'S RESIDENTS TO ENJOY

Monday through Friday • 9 – 11 AM
The Perch and outdoor Veranda at The Meadows Community Lifestyle & Wellness Facility

Meet your neighbors. Relax and enjoy a cup of coffee. Bring your computer or magazine. This is the perfect way to start your morning!

Palm trees Fun Fact:

The saw palmetto (*Serenoa repens*) is one of the most abundant of the native palms, forming dense colonies along in woodlands throughout the state.



AND EVENTS

STRETCH & TONE

Every Tuesday & Thursday • 8 AM

Meadows Community Lifestyle & Wellness Facility

Contact the MCA for more information - 941-377-2300



DROP-IN ART STUDIO

THERE WILL BE NO MEETINGS IN MAY
Meetings will resume in June, every Thursday at 10 AM - 12:30 PM • MCA building

Everyone brings their own materials to work on whatever they would like to do (oil-based materials are the only things not allowed) and we work together in a very nonjudgemental, friendly and creative atmosphere. Please bring something to cover your workspace, too.

All levels of proficiency are welcome.

This is not an instruction-focused activity, although there are professional artists working in the group.

For more information, contact the MCA at 941-377-2300.



ANOTHER WEDNESDAY BRIDGE

Wednesdays

5 PM • MCA

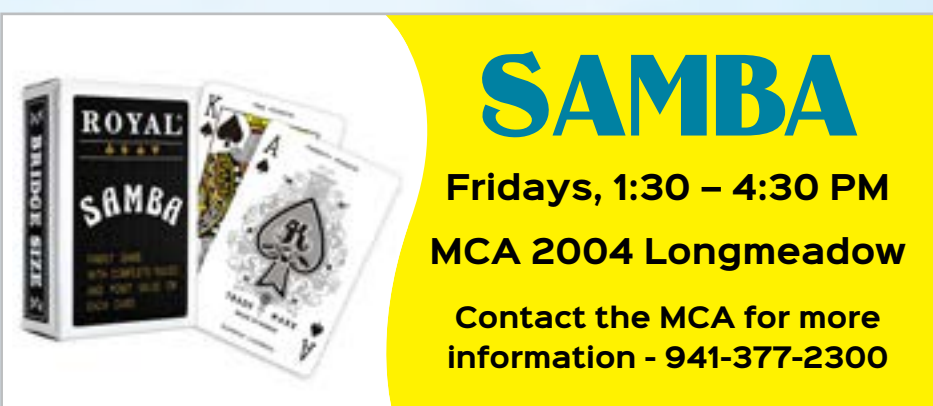
Contact the MCA for more information - 941-377-2300

SAVE THE DATE

Wine & Cheese Social Event

JUNE 5 • 4-6 PM

Meadows Lifestyle & Wellness Facility



SAMBA

Fridays, 1:30 – 4:30 PM

MCA 2004 Longmeadow

Contact the MCA for more information - 941-377-2300

Mah Jongg

Every Monday • 9 AM
MCA

For more information, contact the MCA at 941-377-2300



Cornhole

Thursdays • 3 – 5 PM
MCA - Outdoor Patio

Contact the MCA for more information 941-377-2300



If you reserve space for an association meeting, activity or event and are unable to come, please call and let us know, so someone else may enjoy using the space.

MCA plans for events based on how many signed up. This is why it is important to let us know if you will not be attending the event you signed up for. Please give us adequate notice prior to the event, so we may order the proper amount of supplies and food. Thank you – MCA Management



Welcoming
Dr. Alison Heusner
 to the
**Meadows
 Family!**



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- ✓ Selective Oral Surgery
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 Insight



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4348 HIGHLAND OAKS CIR

Complete privacy and comfort in this updated pool homeSOLD!

3864 CHATSWORTH GREENE CT

Sweeping golf course views with ideal southeastern exposure ... \$399K

4412 HIGHLAND PARK

Free-standing villa, spacious rooms and tranquil garden views ...SOLD!

FOR SALE ELSEWHERE IN THE MEADOWS

4725 GREENCROFT RD

Sustainable, tranquil pool home with sweeping golf views \$609K

5683 DOWNHAM MEADOWS

Stunning sunsets, carefree living, golf & pond views \$475K

PAPILLION - 3038 RINGWOOD MEADOW

Luxuriously renovated end-unit villa, a must see \$425K

4396 WOODMANS CHART

Move right in! Updated, light-filled end-unit with no shared walls.... \$375K

4589 KINGSMERE

Fabulous golf course views, high ceilings and furnished \$299K

VIVIENDA - 5107 GREENCROFT RD

Maintenance-free living yet, a single-family homeSOLD!

4610 WEYBRIDGE

Move-in ready with panoramic pond and golf course views\$274K

4983 GREENCROFT RD

Charming 2-story townhouse with atrium and serene, lush views..... \$275K

BRIARFIELD - 4750 MARSH FIELD RD

Must see! Beautifully updated, furnished end-unit villa,
 1-car garage PENDING

FOR SALE IN THE SARASOTA METRO AREA

SARSOTA BATH & RACQUET

Brand new, luxurious townhouse - live, work, play PENDING

MOTE RANCH

Lakefront lot, privacy, 3-bedroom plus office pool home PENDING

ANOTHER HAPPY CLIENT:

“ We have been involved in a significant number of real estate transactions in our lifetimes, and Fernando has this down to a science. He thinks of everything, from the sales materials to the closing figures. There are no surprises along the way. Absolutely will recommend him to others! ”

TALK TO FERNANDO

941.400.7676

PREMIER SOTHEBY'S INTERNATIONAL REALTY



PLEASE DO NOT FEED THE WILDLIFE



PRESENTATION OF PLAQUE FOR EXEMPLARY COMMUNITY SERVICE TO CHRIS PERONE

MCA ANNUAL MEETING, MARCH 31, 2026

Chris:

This plaque expresses appreciation for your steadfast efforts over the last year on our behalf. I know how hard you worked day after day, week after week, to stabilize the community's finances, re-establish services, and get this community back on its feet.

When we took office last March, there was no honeymoon period. Within a matter of weeks, the country club announced it was shutting down on May 1st. By summer, they had filed for bankruptcy, freezing their assets, and vastly complicating all efforts to maintain services and keep the tennis courts and golf courses open.

You persevered and within a few months, the tennis courts were open and operating-- thanks to the efforts of many people on the board and in the community. Within six months, as pledged, the golf courses were open again to our residents.

By the beginning of this year, we concluded a long-term lease contract with Benderson Development to begin full-scale operation of the golf courses under Century Golf management. This partnership includes a long-term plan to make a huge capital investment in the renovation and re-design of the courses to make them one of the premier golf venues in the region.

These initiatives include a restructuring and rapid paydown of community debt and a plan to preserve open space that will ensure the prosperity and quality of life for which The Meadows is known. These achievements will boost and protect real estate values and make our community highly competitive in the HOA marketplace for years to come.

In 2026, we will turn our attention to a complete renovation of our community social spaces, particularly the re-development of the area west of Longmeadow. The community can look forward to a future of ongoing renewal, prosperity, and re-invigoration of the community spirit we all cherish.

Thanks again for all you have done on our behalf.

Presented by Tom Bondur, VP, MCA Board of Directors



March Temperatures in The Meadows Reach Historic High

The average high temperature for March 2026 was 85.8 F. The normal average March temperature is 77.0 F. Bottom line: March was 9 degrees F above normal.

Our Lifestyle

Hello Meadows Community!

My name is Dalya Aponte-Sotomayor, and I'm so excited to be joining the team as your new Lifestyle Coordinator. I truly look forward to meeting each and every one of you and becoming part of this beautiful community.

I come from a background in Hospitality and Tourism Management, with over a decade of experience centered around creating meaningful, engaging, and memorable experiences. I have

a deep passion for innovation, creativity, and bringing fresh, exciting energy into the spaces I'm a part of. More than anything, I love connecting with people. Hearing your stories, learning what makes you feel alive, and finding ways to create experiences that add joy and meaning to your everyday life.

My intention is to help cultivate a vibrant, welcoming environment where moments turn into lasting memories.

A little bit about me: I love to travel and have had the opportunity to live in Peru and Germany, and I was raised in Hollywood, Florida. I enjoy teaching yoga, dancing, longboarding, nature and living a holistic lifestyle.

I'm a proud mom to my beautiful daughter, who inspires me every day to stay present, playful, and curious about life.



I can't wait to share this journey with all of you!

Warmly,

Dalya

A MESSAGE FOR SARASOTA

From Your Neighbor... to Your *New Dentist*



Hi, I'm Dr. Violet Laurey.

As a Sarasota native, I'm proud to give back by helping my neighbors smile with confidence.

I believe dentistry should feel personal, comfortable, and tailored to you.

Come see the difference a hometown dentist with 9 years of experience can make.

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Schedule your free, no-obligation consultation today.
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Baldwin Brothers
Funeral & Cremation Society



Anne Swartz

- Licensed Planning Counselor
- 30 years in senior care
- Meadows resident for 25+ years

Palm Trees Fun Fact:



Palms have more in common with grasses than with trees. From a botanical perspective, they are the tallest grasses to grow on Earth.

Will YOU or someone you know have special needs this HURRICANE SEASON?

- If you have special needs with mobility
- If you are on oxygen or use electrical medical equipment
- If you will need medical evacuation and special sheltering

DON'T WAIT UNTIL IT'S TOO LATE

**CALL TODAY
941-861-5000**

Register your information with the **Sarasota County Emergency Management Special Needs Registry**

Pick up a **People with Special Needs (PSN) Application** at the MCA Community Center or download it at www.themeadowssarasota.org

LOOKING FOR SOMETHING TO DO?

Become a Meadows T.E.A.M. VOLUNTEER!

(Teamwork and Energy Accomplish our Mission)

SHARE YOUR SKILLS!

- Socialize with Neighbors • Make New Friends
- Enrich Your Life • Inspire Others!

SUPPORT YOUR COMMUNITY!

- Join a Committee • Share Your Ideas!



Sign up today with **Dalya Sotomayor, Lifestyle Coordinator at the MCA**

Be the difference you want to make!



SUFFERING WITH CHRONIC KNEE PAIN?

Tired of All the Drugs and Want to Avoid Surgery?

CHRONIC KNEE PAIN BREAKTHROUGH!

FREE SEMINAR On How To Correct Knee Pain

YOU NO LONGER NEED TO SUFFER FROM:

- Trouble with stairs!
- Painful walking!
- Poor sleep due to knee pain!
- Stiffness!
- Afraid of knee giving out!
- Not enjoying activities!

In this FREE Seminar, you will learn:

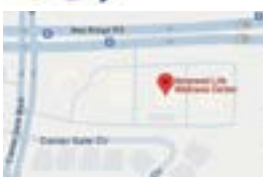
- WHY you have knee pain
- The reason why most current treatment has not helped you
- Known risks with current treatment for knee pain
- Cutting edge, non drug, non surgery treatment to CORRECT chronic knee pain
- Simple steps to regain your life!

FREE LUNCH PROVIDED!!!

(You must RSVP. Seating is limited to the first 16 callers)



RENEWED LIFE WELLNESS CENTER



Presented by:
Dr. Kenneth Carle
Chiropractic Physician

When	Cost
MONDAY, MARCH 9TH & 30TH 12:00-1:00 pm	FREE!! Lunch will be served
Where	RSVP ONLY :
Renewed Life Wellness Center 5664 Bee Ridge Rd, Suite 100 Sarasota, FL 34233	BY Friday, MARCH 6th & 27th 941-376-1488



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| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Roof Maintenance | |



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Our Lifestyle

It's the Little Things THAT CAN SOMETIMES MAKE THE BIGGEST DIFFERENCE



The Meadows Community is made brighter - not just by our beautiful surroundings—but by the thoughtful contributions

of volunteers, like **Marilyn Maleckas** and **Michelle Johnston**, who go above and beyond to make shared space welcoming to all during Coffee & Conversation in Perch at the Meadows Community Lifestyle and Wellness Facility. From baked goods to sweet treat shared by neighbors, a variety of coffee and plenty of smiling faces, it's the perfect way to start your day.

We would also like to extend our sincere appreciation to one of our wonderful resident volunteers, **Cheryl Stock** who so graciously decorates the Perch corner in the community room throughout the year. With each new season and holiday, this space is transformed into a charming and inviting display that brings smiles to all who pass by.

From festive holiday touches to cheerful seasonal themes, the care and creativity poured into every detail do not go unnoticed. These decorations create a warm, welcoming atmosphere and foster a sense of community that



makes The Meadows so special.

Volunteers like you remind us that it's the little things—done with kindness and dedication—that make a big difference.

Thank you for sharing your time, talent, and spirit with all of us. Your efforts truly brighten our days!

With gratitude,

The Meadows Community Association



KEN COWLES
KEN@KENCOWLES.COM
(941) 302-4152



BOB COWLES
BOB@ROBERTCOWLES.COM
(941) 302-4150



SERVING THE MEADOWS SINCE 1982, OUR 2/4/6% BROKERAGE COMMISSION COULD SAVE YOU MONEY!



3150 RINGWOOD MW
2/2 VILLA WITH 2 CAR GARAGE. ENCLOSED LANAI. YOU CAN WALK OVER FOR AN EVENING OUT. UNIT HAS GOOD BONES & LOOKING FOR A REMODEL.
MLS#A4672491
\$254,000



2937 TAYWOOD MDW
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MLS#A4679912
\$229,000

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Whether you own a single family home, condo or villa, whether you seek seasonal or annual tenants, we tailor our service to meet your needs. Let us manage your property so you can enjoy the profits!

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Join Us for an Open House!

5526 Chanteclaire at The Meadows
SATURDAY, MAY 9, 2026 | 11 AM – 3 PM



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SARASOTA & MANATEE'S PRE-LISTING REFRESH PARTNER

Memorial Day

Memorial Day Memories



Liz Barnett, Memoir Group

One thing we learned in the Memoir Group is how a present-day event can trigger memories of the past. That happened to me in 2024 when Melinda Gordan and I were writing a trivia quiz for the Lyndhurst Court Memorial Day Picnic. Two questions triggered my memories and led me on an unexpected quest.

When we added the question “**What was Memorial Day originally called?**” I figured everyone would know to answer. I never heard of Memorial Day until I was grown. We always called it Decoration Day.

With just those words, Decoration Day, I could see my family at Mill Creek Cemetery, trimming the grass growing too close to the gravestones to be cut by a lawnmower; then planting the red geraniums Grandma Scott had bought weeks ago (before they were picked over); then watering the irises she had planted the year before. My cousin Monty and I, too young to be trusted

to carry out decorating tasks, would be wandering around, careful to walk only on the narrow spaces between the gravestones so that we did not step on the dead people lying below. Thus, we honored our loved ones who were gone as we ensured that all could see our love manifested by the beauty of their graves on Decoration Day.

When Melinda added the question “**What time of day is the National Moment of Remembrance and what is supposed to happen during the National Moment of Remembrance?**” I was stumped. I hadn’t known that all Americans were asked to

observe a minute of silence at 3 o’clock every Memorial Day and to reflect on the sacrifice made by soldiers who gave their lives defending our country.

I decided to observe the Moment of Remembrance on Memorial Day. When I did, I spent more than a moment remembering. I suggest that you too join our nation in this moment of remembrance. You may find, as I did, that the memories unleashed and the gratitude you feel will last more than a moment



The Last Letter



Liz Barnett

The National Moment of Remembrance
- May 30, 2024, 3PM:

I think of my father, Lt. George Allen Arner, killed in Italy on January 12, 1944, less than a month after my birth. I never saw him, but he was a presence in my life for as long as I can remember.

As a preschooler, I learned that he lived in heaven and looked down to watch me every day. He wanted me to drink my milk and to take naps. He was unhappy when I made a fuss because I had to wear a dress instead of jeans to Sunday School. When I went to school, he was disappointed when I didn’t get A’s. When I was sent to my room to think about what I had done or failed to do, I thought about my father instead. I wondered if it would be different if he were here, if he would understand me and wouldn’t be so mean.

Then one day my Grandmother Arner, took me into the front parlor, opened the glass doors of a bookcase and said “These were your father’s books, Lysbeth. You may read them whenever you are here.” Then she took down *The Yearling* and turned it over and over in her hands and said, “Your father said this book would become a classic.” After that I spent afternoons, hidden away, lying atop the mattresses and extra bedding in a walk-in storage closet, bonding with my father as I read his books.

I was in junior high when I found the white box from Oglvies, our premier department store, in the back of the closet. Inside was a treasure trove of sketches, papers he had written in college and letters. He got a B- on a short autobiography (maybe he wouldn’t have been disappointed in my grades). There were short stories with characters I recognized as residents of Chester; stories that captured his sense of fun and fondness for all types of people.

His letters showed that he thought of the young men in his command as younger brothers. He described day-to-day military life and places he visited on short leaves. Even as an adolescent, I recognized that the omission of any description of fear and of battles, was an act of love for those worrying at home. He became more than a face in the pictures I’d seen and a name on the “George Arner American Legion” building that I passed each time I walked down Caroline Avenue.

Later when my mother told me about their wedding trip from Chester, WV to El Paso, Texas and their life at his army post there, and began to let me read more of his wartime letters, I began to love him. But after she told me the story of my name, I began to wonder. Before my birth, no one had ever considered that I might not be a boy. They hadn’t even thought about a girl’s name. Grandpa

Continued on next page

Continued from previous page

Arner was disappointed that I was a girl and I guessed he wasn't the only one. It took some time for my mother to find a name for me and I wondered if my father had known he had a daughter and what my name was. Most of all I wondered if he had been disappointed. I'd never asked, maybe I hadn't wanted to know the answer. Now it was too late, everyone who would have known was gone.

But on that Memorial Day in 2024, I began a quest. Going through boxes and albums until there it was among paper-thin faded G-Mail letters.

Hi Mama,

The good news is out. I came into the C.P. there was a letter from the Red Cross with the cablegram. I'll enclose it with a regular letter for the scrapbook.

Darling, I'm so darn thrilled and proud, It's a funny feeling. I can't quite understand it – that I am really a father. Hope it hasn't been too tough for you at home. It was sort of a painless birth here, but I'll really sweat over her little brother when I get back. You will be very blasé about the whole thing.

I'm really wondering now about all the details, weight, eyes, hair, name, etc. and will be watching the mail like a hawk.

Mother A and little GI your old War Pappy just discovered a whole new fountain of love so that neither of you will be slighted. I'll just work that much harder to end this war as I have a double reason for coming home soon.

*Filled with Parental Love,
George*

There would be no regular letter for a scrapbook. My father would never know my name. But on Memorial Day flags decorate his grave and the Eternal Flame of love burns on.

SNOW IN AUGUST

BY PETE HAMILL

Joanne Simons —
The Meadows Book Club
May 2026 Preview

Snow in August (Little, Brown and Co., 1998) is the story of the friendship between Michael Devlin and Rabbi Judah Hirsch. “For Michael, the rabbi opens a window to ancient learning and lore that rival anything in Captain Marvel. For the rabbi, Michael illuminates the everyday mysteries of America, including the strange language of baseball. But like their hero Jackie Robinson, neither can entirely escape from the swirling prejudices of the time. Terrorized by a local gang of anti-Semitic Irish toughs, Michael and the rabbi are caught in an escalating spiral of hate for which there's only one way out — a miracle....”¹

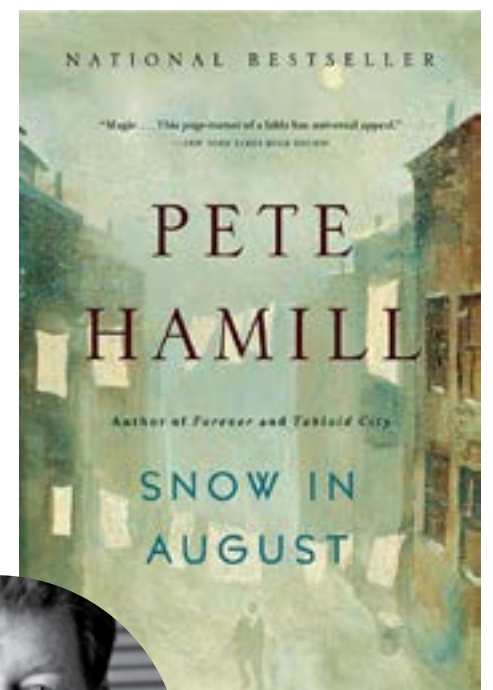
In postwar working-class Brooklyn, Irish Catholic Michael Devlin, 11, is obsessed with comics, worships Captain Marvel, and wonders why shouting SHAZAM! doesn't turn him into a superhero. (...) Michael and two friends are in Mr. Greenberg's candy store when psychopathic

bully Frankie McCarthy, 17, comes in, beats up friendly “Mister G,” and drops the cash register onto the owner's head, putting him into a coma. Although Michael is a witness, the code of the Irish goes against being a squealer. Meantime, Michael has become the goy who works on the Jewish sabbath for a very poor rabbi. While the rabbi teaches him Yiddish in return for Michael's correcting his own English, the two become richly involved in the career of Jackie Robinson, the first black player to crack the majors. The rabbi also tells Michael about Rabbi Loew's golem, the Captain Marvel of the Jews.²

The Falcons assault Michael's mother, and beat Michael and the rabbi so brutally they need to be hospitalized. Michael decides that a miracle is the only solution to the treachery of the Falcons. Coached by the rabbi, Michael fashions a golem, “an animated anthropomorphic being in Jewish folklore that is created entirely from inanimate matter, usually clay or mud.”³ Summoned by Michael, the golem takes vengeance on the Falcons.

Interlaced with Hamill's realistic descriptions of violence and fear are scenes of remarkable poignancy: the rabbi's first baseball game, where he sees Jackie Robinson play for the Dodgers; Michael's introduction into the mystical world of the Cabbala and the book's miraculous ending. Hamill is not a lyrical writer, but he is a heartfelt one, and this story of courage in the face of great odds is one of his best.⁴

“William Peter Hamill (June 24, 1935 – August 5, 2020) was an American journalist, novelist, essayist and editor. He left school when he was 15 to work as an apprentice sheet metal worker in the Brooklyn Navy Yard. During his career as a New York City journalist, he was described as ‘the author of columns that sought to capture the particular flavors of New York City's politics and sports and the particular pathos of its crime.’ Hamill was a columnist and editor for the New York Post and the *New York Daily*



News.⁵ In addition to extensively reporting on New York City, he wrote 13 novels and 10 non-fiction works.⁶

The Meadows Book Club will be discussing *Snow in August* at its Wednesday, May 13th meeting. Please join us at 2:00 p.m. in the MCA Building (2004 Longmeadow). All are welcome.

¹ Amazon.com: *Snow in August: A Novel*: 9780316242820: Hamill, Pete: Books

² SNOW IN AUGUST | Kirkus Reviews

³ Golem - Wikipedia

⁴ *Snow in August* by Pete Hamill Reading Guide-Book Club Discussion Questions-Reviews and Ratings from Book Clubs-BookMovement

⁵ Pete Hamill - Wikipedia

⁶ Pete Hamill - Wikipedia

“Do you still believe in God, Rabbi?”, she said at last. His face looked drained and pale. He shook his head from side to side. “I believe in sin,” he said and finished his wine. “I believe in evil.”

Services & Classifieds

MEADOWORD SUBSCRIPTION OPTIONS

If you spend several months of the year away from The Meadows, and would like to receive a print copy of *The Meadoword*, consider subscribing to *The Meadoword* or access it on themeadowssarasota.org. Forms for subscriptions may be found on the MCA website under News & Resources/ Meadoword Forms.

Annual Subscription - Begin in January and end in December of that same year. If you choose an annual subscription after January it will only include a Meadoword the next time it is published depending on when you make the payment. It may make more sense to consider a semiannual subscription depending on when you decide to subscribe. Your subscription will include Meadowords based on when you subscribed along with any special editions in June and August IF published. We do not do rolling subscriptions.

USA	\$24.00
Canada	\$42.00
Foreign	\$75.00

Semiannual Subscription - Begin in May and end in December of that same year. You will receive issues of the full *Meadoword* if you make payment by April 1, otherwise you will receive your first publication the next time it is published along with any special editions in June and August IF published.

USA	\$14.40
Canada	\$25.20
Foreign	\$45.00

MEADOWORD DEADLINES

The deadline for advertising and article insertions into *The Meadoword* is the first Friday, one month prior to the month of insertion.

There is no full publication of *The Meadoword* in June. The next issue is July. The deadline for the July issue is Monday, June 5.

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Palm Trees Fun Fact:

The excessive removal of green fronds increases the risk of wind damage.




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familypropertypro@yahoo.com

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MEADOWWORD

Publisher, MCA: Frances Rippondi,
MCA General Manager

Editor: Luisa Vavra

Graphic Design: Sandy Wachowski

MEADOWS COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION

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marketing@meadowsca.com

Submissions are published at the discretion of the editor and the MCA.

Classified ads cost \$25 for up to 40 words. Classified copy must be submitted with payment on or before the first Monday of the month prior to publication. If the first Monday falls on a holiday, ads are due the previous business day. Please practice due diligence when hiring service providers.

HOMES FOR RENT

Wedgewood Lake: Beautifully decorated 2 bed/2 bath condo. Bright 2nd floor end unit. Well equipped kitchen. Primary w/king, walk-in closet, walk-in shower. Newly remodeled bathrooms and kitchen. Smart TV's, WIFI, screened lanai, close to pool. Available December 2026 & January 2027. 920-980-8396 or joyhuenink@wi.rr.com.

The Meadows, Sun-filled upper-level 2 bedroom, 2 bath condo. Seasonal stays. Perfect for professionals or visitors. Minutes to UTC Mall, Mote Aquarium, Pop Stroke, Nathan Benderson Park, Beaches and Dinning. Call Rita - 416-557-2990

Annual or seasonal rental. Briarfield 2B/2B. Furnished villa with garage. Board approval required. 732-966-4115

Meadows furnished 3 bed, 2.5 bath, pool home. Private yard borders the Highlands Golf Course. Large master with walk in shower and closet. Spacious 2 car garage. Kerry 310-938-0548. Prefer annual or multi year lease.

THE MEADOWWORD IS THE BEST VALUE FOR YOUR ADVERTISING DOLLARS!

When you purchase an ad in the Meadowword newspaper...

- You get – Reach & Frequency. The Meadowword goes to every residence in The Meadows and is widely read.
- It is emailed to a list of over 4000 email addresses so it reaches both our annual and seasonal residents wherever they are located.
- It is posted on our website under News & Resources.
- It is archived on our website so our residents have all of our advertisers as a future reference.
- Advertising in the Meadowword is great exposure.

For more information on advertising your company or services, contact the MCA at 941-377-2300 or by email at marketing@meadowsca.com



Meadoword



The Meadows Community News and Lifestyle

MAY 2026 CALENDAR

May 1	9:30 AM 1:30 PM	Memoirs Samba	MCA MCA
May 4	2:00 PM	Safety Committee	MCLWF
May 5	8:00 AM 11:00 AM 1:30 PM 3:00 PM 6:30 PM	Stretch & Tone Yoga Hand & Foot Canasta Standards Committee Ice Cream Social	MCLWF MCLWF MCA MCLWF MCLWF
May 6	5:00 PM 6:30 PM	Another Wednesday Bridge Bingo	MCA MCLWF
May 7	8:00 AM 10:00 AM 1:00 PM	Stretch & Tone Activities Committee Meeting Electronic Tutor	MCLWF MCA MCA
May 8	11:30 AM 1:30 PM	Mother's Day Celebration Samba	MCLWF MCA
May 12	8:00 AM 9:00 AM 11:00 AM 1:30 PM 4:00 PM	Stretch & Tone Optimum Hearing Clinic Yoga Hand & Foot Canasta Emergency Prep	MCLWF MCA MCLWF MCA MCLWF
May 13	2:00 PM 2:30 PM 5:00 PM	Line Dancing Class Maintenance Committee Another Wednesday Bridge	MCLWF MCA MCA
May 14	7:30 AM 8:00 AM 2:00 PM	OnSpot Dermatology Stretch & Tone MCA Board Meeting	MCA Parking Lot MCLWF MCLWF
May 15	9:30 AM 1:30 PM	Memoirs Samba	MCA MCA
May 19	8:00 AM 11:00 AM 1:30 PM	Stretch & Tone Yoga Hand & Foot Canasta	MCLWF MCLWF MCA
May 20	4:00 PM 5:00 PM	Assembly of Property Owners Another Wednesday Bridge	MCLWF MCA
May 21	8:00 AM 3:30 PM	Stretch & Tone MCLWFmere	MCLWF MCLWF
May 22	12:30 PM 1:30 PM	Memorial Day BBQ Samba	MCLWF MCA
May 25	8:00 AM	Closed for Holiday	MCLWF
May 26	8:00 AM 11:00 AM 1:30 PM	Stretch & Tone Yoga Hand & Foot Canasta	MCLWF MCLWF MCA
May 27	5:00 PM	Another Wednesday Bridge	MCA
May 28	8:00 AM	Stretch & Tone	MCLWF
May 29	1:30 PM	Samba	MCA

MCA Club & Group dates & times are subject to change as needed by MCA Management.

CLUBS & SOCIAL GROUPS

Ace in the Hole Card Club

Bob Monaghan
Tuesday 7 - 10 PM

Drop in Art Studio

Melinda Gordan
Every Thursday 10 AM - 12 PM

Bike Club

Janet Schmidt
Every Wednesday, 9 AM at
Meadows Pub

Bingo

Agnes Rutushni
1st Wednesday of the month at 6:30
pm

Book Club

Lois Robinson
Monthly, 2nd Wednesday, 2 PM

Bridge-Wednesday

Kerriane McMurdo
Every Wednesday 1:30 - 4 PM

Bridge-Friday

John Harwood
Every Friday 12:30 - 3 PM

Bridge Saturday Duplicate

Dot Boulia
Every Saturday 12:30 PM

Canasta: Hand & Foot

Sandy Maves
Every Tuesday 1:30 - 5 PM

Cornhole

Susan Weisse
Every Thursday 3 - 5 PM

Craft Group

Gayle Kroll
Every Wednesday 9 - 11 AM

Euchre Card Game

Paul Felten
2nd Tuesday of each month

Game Night

Pat Webster
Wednesdays except Bingo nights
6:30 - 8:30 PM

Hot Stove League

Mark Pienkos
Monthly, 2nd Tuesday 8 - 11 AM

Knit Happens

Barb Wessel
Monthly, 1st Monday 1 - 3 PM

Mah Jongg

Elizabeth Williams
Every Monday 9 AM - 12 PM

Meadowlarks Poetry Writers

Michael Bruno
2nd & 4th Fridays of each month
10 AM - 12 PM

Meadows Chorus

Cindy Rubin
Every Thursday 7 - 9 PM

Meadows Sailing Assoc.

Adam Lawall
Every Tuesday 1 - 3 PM
Meets at MCA Pond

Memoirs

Liz Barnett
Meets 1st & 3rd Friday
10 AM - 12 PM

Pieceful Meadows Quilting & Needlework

Barb Thornquist & Betsy Lombard
Every Monday 9 AM - 12 PM

Samba (Card Game)

Jeannie Alexander
Every Friday 1:30 - 5 PM

Shalom Club

Joni Cohen
Every 4th Sunday at 3 PM

The Rainbow Connexion

Victor Aluise & Michael Barreiro
Meets quarterly

FITNESS CLASS SCHEDULE

STRETCH & TONE CLASS

Tuesdays & Thursdays at 8 AM

QI GONG CLASS

Wednesdays, now starting at 11:30 AM

WATER AEROBICS CLASS

Mondays, Wednesdays & Fridays
9 and 10 AM

YOGA CLASSES

Tuesdays at 11 AM and Mondays at 4:15 PM

