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Forest Park Newsletter

Forest Park, N. Ft. Myers, FL

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www.forestparkonline.com



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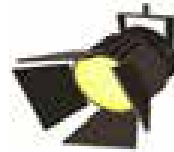
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“FOREST PARK’S ALUMINUM CAN ALLIANCE IS AT WORK FOR OUR PARK”

VOLUNTEER SPOTLIGHT

By Heather Flavin



It starts here every Monday evening; **CLEAN Aluminum cans** are collected from under our mailboxes. Many volunteers donate their time for this, primarily **Joyce and Ken Parsels**, picking up the cans on Monday night. When they are not available many others pitch in, such as **Robyn and Duke Johnson, Tim and Dottie Frender, Hoyt and Carolyn England, Robin and Kevin Mann, and Fran Craven**. Their trips around the park collecting all these cans, sometimes done in the rain, end at the Can Crushing Center, also known as the Maintenance Shed.



(Tim and Dottie Frender)

Next: Like clockwork, very early, every Tuesday morning, oftentimes in the dark and cool temps, the “Mighty Crushers” go to work. **Mike Hartz, Jim Wash, Milton Herrick and Steve Huck** are on the Winter snow bird team.

Summer Relief has been falling on the shoulders of **Jack Glover, Denise Brewer and Monte Johnson**. Many of you travel north, but the crushing beat goes on. The park is hoping for more summer relief helpers for can crushing. Jack is older and has done this for several years. Denise was



(Fran Craven & Joyce Parsells)

asked to pitch in when Jack was not well so she stayed on to help. She now works a full time job outside of the park. And Monte stays busy as Secretary of the Forest Park Tool Club, Co-Treasurer of the Social Club, and with editing this Newsletter. The Social Club needs some volunteers for the summer months, to replace these people.

Duke Johnson has been volunteering for over 8 years, cutting up aluminum doors, windows, and other items

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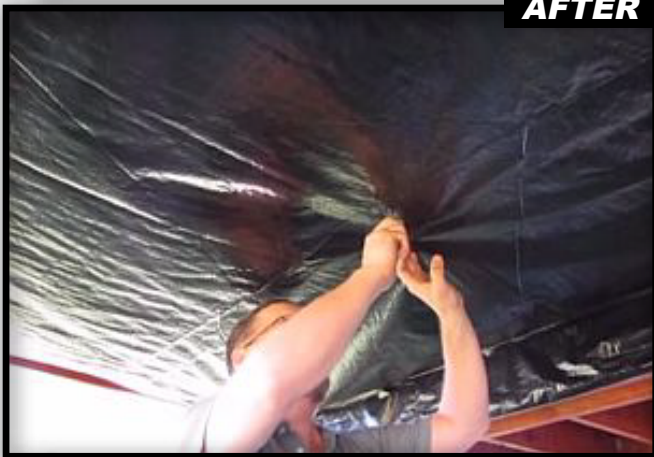
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to be loaded onto the trailer. Hundreds of cans are bagged and prepared for the next step. Duke's Dodge truck and loaded trailer head to the recycling center in Fort Myers. He makes this trip about 10 times per year. Duke continues to recycle the other pieces of aluminum, and drive the cans into Ft Myers during the hot summer months.

The proceeds are given to the Social Club co- treasurer,

(Monte, Denise, & Jack)

Mary Kurucz. These

monies are put to good use for our park. On average, over **\$1,500.00** is generated from our aluminum cans yearly. **SO, IF YOU DON'T ALREADY, PLEASE CONSIDER PUTTING THOSE ALUMINUM CANS OUT ON MONDAYS FOR COLLECTION. THAT**



(Mike, Jim, Milton & Steve)

LITTLE BIT GOES A LONG WAY.

The Forest Park Social Club, **OUR Social Club** does many things for the park with this money. One tremendous job is planning entertaining events at the Clubhouse and Pavilion for all of us to enjoy. This is a ton of work and so many people volunteer, but there is always room for more helpers.

Seeking out quality entertainment, making flyers, making tickets, selling tickets, setting up the sign boards, setting up tables, planning food, buying food, making food, breaking down, and cleaning up, are only some of the things they do to pull off these great evenings. Our Social Club also donates all the stamps for the Cheer person to send out those important cards.

In addition to the monthly entertainment, our Social Club has also sponsored ice cream socials, monthly movie nights, golf cart parades, poker runs, the chili cook off, Santa Claus, and the Veterans Day Honors dinner and program. In the past they put out the flags on Memorial Day, July fourth,

and Veterans day along Forest Park Drive. Can't forget **Joyce Hines** and her elves, who put up the outside Christmas decorations in front of the



(Duke is all loaded up)

Park entrance and Clubhouse.

Everyone described in this article is a volunteer. Helping to make **OUR** Forest Park a better place. If I have left out someone, please know, it was not intentional, there are so many good people here in this park. **Everyone that lives in Forest Park is a member of the Social Club.** There are no dues to join, everyone is welcome to participate and the more **volunteers** that help out, the more fun we have. The Social Club meets the last Friday of every month at 1:00 pm in the Activities Building. Please come and have some fun with us. **Everyone is welcome!!!**

HEROES AMONG US!

We have many heroes among us in Forest Park. We honor them on Veteran's day with a ceremony and dinner in October. These brave men and women put their lives on the line protecting the freedom we enjoy as Americans today.



JACK GLOVER is one of those heroes. Jack was born on his eighty acre family farm in Greencastle, Indiana in 1933. Having an older brother and sister, Jack was number three in a family of three boys and one girl. Jack grew up helping on the family farm milking fifteen cows by hand, feeding the chickens and pigs.

At the age of 18, in 1952, Jack enlisted in the United States Air Force. Jack served in the Air Force for 23 years, from 1952 to 1975 achieving the rank of Chief Master Sergeant. This is the highest rank an enlisted person may achieve in the Air Force, with only 5% of enlisted people achieving this rank.

Jack married and had four children. Three sons, one died in infancy, and one daughter. Jack's wife passed away from cancer.

During his career as a gunner, Jack flew in B-26's, B-29's, B-52's, and B-66 bombers. The B-26 bomber was a small, light weight, fast, twin engine, prop. plane that was flown by twenty something year old pilots that were daring and unafraid. Jack, being the same age, said the B-26 was the perfect airplane for their missions. Jack flew fifteen missions over Korea in 1953 before the end of that war. While the enemy shot at their B-26, it never managed to inflict any anti-aircraft damage.

Jack's first ten years in the Air Force were spent in the Tactical Air Command completing a total of 72 bombing missions over Korea and Vietnam combined. He also flew in the B-29, a heavy WWII era bomber, and the B-52. Jack first saw the B-52 in 1953, a WWII era bomber that

continued on page 4

is still flying today in a refurbished iteration.

Jack's last thirteen years in the Air Force were spent in the Strategic Air Command. This was during the Cold War with the Soviet Union. He flew over one thousand hours in the B-52. A jet, eight engine bomber fully loaded with bombs and ammunition circling the North Pole on 24 consecutive hour missions. This was spent uncomfortably in full gear, including a parachute and strapped in his seat observing the Soviet Union.

After his retirement from the Air Force, Jack worked the next 13 years for the Social Services Administration helping disadvantaged people secure training and/or employment. Jack then retired from government employment and became a real estate agent, selling real estate in Indiana, until retiring for good at the age of 73. Jack remarried and they purchased their home at 5130 Forest Park Drive here in Forest Park in 2013.

On **April 8**, Jack will be arriving at 4:15 am at the Punta Gorda Airport to leave on the **S.W. Florida Mission XXII Honor Flight**. After spending the day being honored in Washington, D.C., Jack and eighty other veterans will return around **9:00 pm** to Punta Gorda to a **Hero's Welcome**. Please come out to the Punta Gorda Airport to welcome Jack home.

OUT AND ABOUT

By Nancy Cooper

So many times we tend to pass over what is right on our doorstep and go for something further away. That is usually the case when taking guests on a tour of the Fort Myers / Naples / Punta Gorda areas. When friends stopped by for the day we decided not to travel, but to see what was happening locally.

After much discussion and Googling we decided to visit the Edison Ford Estates, Fort Myers's favorite tourist destination. It was close by, not too crowded and it appealed to both the men and the women. It turned out to be a fabulous find.

A walk through the gates surrounds you with beautiful flowers in the garden shop and a visit to the museum where you discover Edison was much more than lightbulbs. You are free to wander these areas at no cost to you.

If you decide to cross the street and view the Estates you can buy a ticket and go on a guided tour. In doing so you hear about Edison's decision to come to Fort Myers, purchase the property and build his home and laboratory.



You will also learn why Ford built his winter home on the adjacent property and the rich history these two great men shared. The tour takes about 90 minutes. The guides are pleasant, informative and willing to answer any questions.

While there is no admission in the homes care has been taken to assure visitors can see in most rooms. The grounds of the estate offer places to sit and enjoy the cool breezes off of the Caloosahatchee.

No trip to Fort Myers is complete without a good meal and a stroll throughout the downtown area. We chose Ford's Garage in keeping with the theme of the day. We all settled on the Buffalo Burger (sauce on the side) and were happy we did. It was delicious! A perfect ending to a perfect day right in our backyard!

MY FAVORITE THINGS

By Kathy Revels



One of the great pleasures of life in Forest Park is the availability of activities, food, and fun in the Park and nearby. Our monthly newsletter covers everything within our little piece of Paradise, but many delights await you just a short drive away.

OK UK British Fish & Chips, authentically British, is located near the intersection of Pondella and US41 at 13971 N Cleveland Ave, North Fort Myers, less than four miles from Forest Park. Open Mon-Sat 11a-8p and Sun 11-4, the small restaurant offers dine-in or carry-out for your convenience. While dining or picking up an order, you'll most likely hear the music of the Beatles, BeeGees, or the Rolling Stones.

Menu items include battered fish, chicken, and shrimp in various sizes and combinations, served with hand cut fries and coleslaw. Meals are all less than \$20 and veterans receive a 10% discount. If you enjoy your fries with malt vinegar, you'll find a bottle at each table. For take-out, bottles are available for purchase. To round out the dining experience, you may choose a bottle of ale or a Cadbury bar.

I recommend ordering in person for takeout as the wait has never been a long one. You'll get your food right out of the fryer and it will still be hot when you get home. If you prefer to order ahead, the phone number is 239-599-2328 or order at orderokukfishnchips.com.

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FROM THE FOREST PARK COMPLIANCE COMMITTEE

Hi Everyone.

The new Compliance Committee reports that 13 complaints have been received since January. Five of these were on the same address. All of these have been addressed.



Please know we are diligently working on resolving these issues, along with damages that have not been fixed since the hurricane, i.e. carports, lanais, sheds, mold etc and other non-compliant issues.

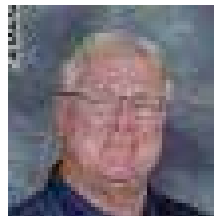
Please reach out to one of us if you have permits or contracts in place to fix any of these issues.

The time is NOW to get your home in order. Refer to your By-Laws, Rules and Regulations, and/or homeowner standards to see if you are in compliance, OR feel free to reach out to any of us.

Please note that following all road signs, speed limits and stop signs, are part of our Park rules.

Thank you to everyone that we have talked to about non compliance or compliant issues. We appreciate everyone's cooperation in these matters.

Barbara Batson / Bob Charles / Warren Starks



FROM THE PRESIDENT

By Chris Tybor

Hello Forest Park, I'm hoping everyone is doing great and enjoying our Park and the activities we have here.

This is a great place to live and be if you are here year round or a snowbird.

I've been torn about this issue with the Tool Club. I very much want the Tool Club members to have a place for the tools their members can use to construct what they may need. But this issue has been going on with no remedy, for far too long. First, the pictures of the trailer the Tool Club is proposing, is a lot bigger than the existing tool shed in the RV Park, so it, and they need more room. Second, we have been getting a lot of feedback about where it was possibly going to be placed, next to the work shed by the Pavilion, and the residents are telling us they don't want it there. The way it's standing now, there's a lot of work that needs to be done to their proposed trailer. Third, I'm happy, and most members here feel the same about not relocating Duke, with the job he does on salvaging aluminum. I don't want to lose his expertise, but make the Social Club money from the scrap he takes in. Plus he keeps that area well kept. A new home for the Tool Club

needs to be addressed to the benefit of both Forest Park and the Tool Club, and until there's a better solution, this issue will be put on hold.

I want to take this time to wish all members heading back up North to have a safe trip and we will see you when you come back. Enjoy your families and your summer.

Chris

BOARD OF DIRECTOR & GENERAL MEETING DATES

General Membership Meetings - We are a membership community. Monthly General Membership meetings are an important part of keeping our park a great place to live. Please make an effort to attend in person to help us meet our quorums for voting on issues large and small. If you can't make it in person, please join us by Zoom so your voice can be heard and so you have a full understanding of any issues. Zoom can be done on your smartphone, computer, or tablet, it's very user friendly and it allows you to hear firsthand the strides made and challenges ahead to keep Forest Park a great place to live.

APRIL 17, 2025 Board Meeting 9 AM

APRIL 24, 2025 Membership Meeting 7 PM

VOLUNTEER SPOTLIGHT APRIL 2025

Election Voting - Clerks and Inspectors

Chairperson, **Kathy Martin**

Laurene Armstrong, Ann Charles, Dottie Frender and Maureen (Moe) Hesketh

The ladies in the photo make up 3/5ths of the ELECTION, VOTING CLERKS AND INSPECTORS of FPPOA.

Missing from this quintet are Laurene Armstrong and Dottie Frender. Solid

members of Forest Park. Laurene also volunteers her time

in the office on a regular basis and Dottie, with Tim, are common figures at functions, selling 50/50 tickets. Dottie is an active member of the Social Club board. She and Tim are also part of the Aluminum Can Alliance.



(Kathy, Moe, and Ann)

Kathy Martin took over the chairperson position from Cindy Trepanier, when Cindy was elected to be Treasurer for FPPOA.

Kathy and her husband Michael moved into Forest Park in 2020, after spending 10 winters in Punta Gorda. They will return to Voorheesville, a village of New Scotland, NY this spring.

Kathy's prior position as a deputy clerk for the Town of New Scotland has been a real plus for Forest Park, bringing her knowledge and familiarity with elections. Kathy is the Red Hats treasurer and often helps with 50/50 raffles at park events. Her volunteerism extends to our local American Legion, helping with kitchen work, raffles, drawings and anything else they might ask her to do.

Moe (Maureen) Hesketh moved into Forest Park with her husband of over 61 years, Donald in 2019. Originally from Massachusetts, Deland, Florida was their home for 9 years prior to moving here. Moe wears many hats, she volunteers her time with the clerks and inspectors at election time, volunteers in the office weekly, and as our park librarian, and alongside Cindy Trepanier, (park treasurer) and others on the Budget Committee. Currently she is collaborating with Monte Johnson to revise the Social Club Handbook. She also puts her excellent seamstress skills to work making Comfort Teddy Bears to be given to children in need in our area. (more on these Comfort Teddy Bears in October 2025 newsletter) She has also repaired our flags.

Her husband Don also volunteers his time to help OUR PARK. Don is the "On Call" Maintenance Man for Forest Park's machinery and equipment. He has a knack for small engine repair.

Ann and Bob Charles settled in Forest Park in 2023. Delaware is now their second home during the summer months. The importance of a strong resident owned and managed community prompted them both to volunteer their time to Forest Park.

Ann volunteers her time in the office weekly and works with the voting clerks and inspectors each election and assists at FPPOA meetings. Ann and Bob patrol the park at night on a regular basis.

Bob is our first Vice President for FPPOA, working closely with board members to make Forest Park a better place. Among various projects, he also volunteers his time on compliance, budget and audit committees.



A BIG THANK YOU, TO ALL OF YOU!!

As you read along, many of you here in the park know you have stepped up over the years and have volunteered your time and energy to assist Forest Park. Thank you. I am sincerely hoping that our new residents will recognize the need to participate to keep this resident owned and managed park **STRONG**. Many new, younger people have made a home here in Forest Park and I am certain that their skills, prior employment and life experience would be of good service to our park.

Please contact this author for more information on how you may be able to help.

Heather Flavin 508-612-6386

SHUFFLEBOARD

By Bill Madill

We are wrapping up a fun year of shuffling. Many thanks to our sponsor ***Ellsworth Plumbing and Heating***. They help keep the interest in shuffling alive and well in Forest park by sponsoring our tournaments (and many functions) throughout our much too short season! I cannot foresee the future, so I can not predict the standings of play for the year but will post in next month's bulletin.

Many thanks to all participants, new and old, for showing up on an (almost) regular basis! We hope to see you again next season. I have been coming to Forest Park for 45 years and enjoyed it immensely!

Thanks and keep shuffling along!

Bill Madill 519-634-5619



LINE DANCE CLASSES

By Ellen Heigham

I'm happy to report all my "pre k" class has graduated! We will go back to the 1:00-2:00 time until the last class which will be on April 15. I will start again in the fall.

Line dancing is a fun way to get a little low impact exercise, challenge our brains and meet new friends. No experience necessary.

For more info call **Ellen 617 448 1748**



HELPING HANDS

By Ellen Heigham



I am overjoyed to announce that Lenann Crisci has volunteered to take over the responsibilities of helping hands in Forest Park. I will share with her my resources and lists of helpers, but I am sure she will be delighted to add a few new names to the list.

From Lenann: I am honored to assume the duties that Ellen so skillfully managed. I have much admiration for the skill and compassion that Ellen has shown to our residents that need a helping hand. I will strive to continue and improve upon the goals that Ellen established.

You may reach **Lenann at 207-705-2256**



Forest Park Craft Club

By Carole Beconder



The Craft Club has wrapped up our 2025 season's special events. It was a special season! The amazing dinners were especially wonderful, thanks to the talented **volunteers** that prepared the food and decorated the Clubhouse. Thanks goes out to the appreciative attendees who filled the Clubhouse with laughter. Also a special thanks to the two residents who attended their first dinner at Forest Park. One gentleman has lived here for ten years, and had never attended one of our great dinners. We are delighted to say they both came back for the Luau dinner in March.

We will begin our summer season in May with our weekly craft meetings/lessons for our residents who are here for the whole year. For our members heading North for the summer, have a safe trip and we will see you next season.

Carole Beconder 330-726-9776



PINE TREE KNOTS QUILT CLUB

By Cindy Trepanier

The Pine Tree Knots Quilt Club held our annual quilt raffle on Sunday, March 9th. Julie Buffum was the lucky winner. Congratulations Julie!!!

We meet every Thursday at 9:00. We make quilts for residents in the park who are sick or undergoing treatment, and Linus quilts for children. If you have wanted to see what quilting is all about, so now is a great time. We have the machines and fabric for you to try out.



(JULIE BUFFUM)

“THE PETAL PUSHERS” GARDEN CLUB

By Teri Snyder

The Petal Pushers are looking for creative gardeners, with or without previous experience. We welcome both men and women to not only improve their own gardens, but to share ideas and garden knowledge with other Park residents.

Our Park beautification project is underway and will be ongoing. April's meeting will be held on the second Monday of April the 14th, at 2:00 p.m.. The meeting is expected to be held at 459 Jacaramba Ct at Terri Snyder's garden as long as weather cooperates.

Terri Snyder at 716-939-0627 or stop by 459 Jacaramba Ct.

Hope to hear from you soon!



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NORTHEASTERN STATES CLUB

By Nancy Cooper

MONDAY, APRIL 14th - 5 P.M.

Let's wrap up the season with a night of fun and laughter and song.

"APRIL SHOWERS BRING MAY FLOWERS" is the theme for the evening. Don your colorful Spring colors and join us for a great time. In the meantime, dig out those old songbooks and clear your pipes as there will be a round of musical trivia. Ellen Heigham is hosting this event so you know there will be plenty of songs and dancing.

Dinner will be a Mexican meal and all the fixings. Tickets may be purchased at the Box Office on March 30th and April 6th. Please note that this meeting is earlier than in past months so it's important to buy your tickets as soon as possible.



TOOL CLUB

BY Monte Johnson

The Tool Club will have a meeting for all current and any new men or women interested in becoming members. The meeting will be held on **Wednesday, April 9th at 9:00 am** in the meeting room of the Activities Building. Dues are \$10.00 per year. Once dues are paid you will be provided a code to the lockbox for the tool shed in the RV yard. All details will be explained at the meeting. Any questions, please reach out to Bob Carson 607-857-0320, Jerry Waters 217-361-7736, Mark Snyder 716-939-0237, or Monte Johnson 319-415-2816.



Library News

By Maureen Hesketh

Glad to see so much traffic coming into our busy library. Lots of books have been donated and with much appreciation. I'm delighted to see them and hope everyone enjoys spending time browsing through our library.



Your librarian, Maureen Hesketh
Maureen 508-962-5979

LETTER TO THE EDITOR:

Next time you are outside look up. You may be lucky enough to see a flock of birds beginning their migration North. Just like our Florida Snowbirds they are heading home for the summer. While we human Snowbirds pay exorbitant prices for plane tickets or pack our cars to the roof with luggage, birds just flap their wings and head up North. In no time they find their place in a "V" formation, a learned behavior, **TEAMWORK**, offering energy efficiency and protection for their long trip home.



It is interesting to note how these, like so many others in the animal world, have learned to work together for the betterment of themselves and the herd or flock. Why is it, I often wonder, so difficult for humans to see the advantages of cooperation and **teamwork**? As young school children, we were taught that life is much easier, and yes, much more pleasant, when working together. Any one who ever played basketball, soccer, football, or any team sport, certainly knows this to be true. It seems as though wherever we look, we see someone trying to bring another down with words or actions. Not just in Washington, D.C. or Tallahassee, but in any organization where more than two people gather to supposedly work together. Sadly, no good comes from this division. Everyone must learn to work together as a **team**. The migratory birds have learned, for energy efficiency and protection, **teamwork** provides the overall benefit for all. The word **TEAM** could be described as an acronym, **T. E. A. M. Together, Everyone, Achieves, More! After all "TEAMWORK MAKES THE DREAM WORK"**

From: Anonymous

NEIGHBORHOOD WATCH/NIGHT PATROL

By Gloria Restko



VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!!!

ATTENTION: EVERYONE!!

We would like to see more volunteers for the summer night patrol come on board. Our faithful winter residents will soon be going back North so we are in desperate need of more night patrol volunteers to keep Forest Park safe from intruders.



I would like to welcome Warren and Linda Starks to our night patrol. They will be with us up to April 2025.

Thanks to both of you, Warren and Linda for volunteering.

**THANK YOU TO ALL OUR WINTER
RESIDENTS FOR VOLUNTEERING**

Gloria Restko 813-841-9920



RV STORAGE PARK

BY John Hill



Remember to keep your info up to date and your item tagged, insured, and in working order. **If you have not moved your RV, trailer, boat, etc. in the last 9 months, you are depriving someone else of a spot in our park.** Our rules state that if you have not used your spot for 9 months, your spot may be reassigned to someone else. If you have not moved it in 9 months, it may be considered not using your spot. You are abusing the privilege of a **FREE** spot (for now). Other residents may be waiting for a spot. If you no longer need your spot, please let the office know. If you need a spot to store your RV, trailer, boat, etc let the office know so you can be put on the list. **IF YOU HAVE A BOAT, CAMPER, OR TRAILER IN YOUR DRIVEWAY OR YARD FOR OVER 24 HOURS; THIS IS A VIOLATION OF THE RULES & REGULATIONS THAT YOU AGREED TO WHEN PURCHASING IN FOREST PARK! PLEASE INQUIRE OF A SPACE IN OUR R/V PARK OR FIND A COMMERCIAL STORAGE AREA TO RENT.**

**Thanks,
John Hill
330-268-0066**

SOCIAL CLUB THANKS!!

By Nancy Cooper

SPRING FLING

APRIL 5th—1-4 PM

Time to get outside and enjoy all that Forest Park has to offer. Bring your chair or chaise lounge and join friends and neighbors for an afternoon of fun and games.

Corn Hole , Croquet, and Jenga games will be available to challenge your friends. Bocce, Mini Golf, and Shuffleboard might be your game of choice. All outside games and events are free of charge. Whatever, it will be a chance to show your skill. Some of you might prefer the pool as a way to cool off after a hearty game of sport.

Bill Pence will be providing music in the Pavilion so you might want to bring your dancing shoes.

Meals will be for sale:

Hamburger or 2 hotdogs and chips.....\$5

Ice cream sundaes.....\$3 Water.....\$1

Meal tickets must be purchased in advance so the committee can plan accordingly. The tickets for \$5 each may be purchased at the Box Office March 30th. You do not have to prepay for the water or ice cream sundaes.

If you prefer, you may bring your own lunch and/or drink.

As the Season wraps up, the Officers of the Social Club want to thank each of you who so willingly stepped up and helped with events, bought tickets, and supported the dances, pa-rades, concerts, and parties . It's because of you, we were able to have a very successful season.

A special thank you to Ellen Heigham who has worked extremely hard to make sure all of us have a great time. As you may recall, Ellen "inherited " the position of President. In her own words, she admitted that she didn't know what she was doing and begged for help.

Well, help she got, and as she showed, she knew more than she thought she did. Under her leadership the Social Club has grown and flourished. Thank you Ellen!

Looking towards next season:

In the past, the Social Club held a Halloween Dance. This year it was cancelled because no one stepped up to host it. The question is, do you want a dance or other event? If so, are you willing to run it? Perhaps another organization might like to run this as a fundraiser. It doesn't have to be a dance. It could be a Harvest Festival with food and entertainment. The possibilities are endless.

Another event needing volunteers is the Veteran's Day luncheon. The Social Program for the day's events are covered but someone is needed to order the food and serve the meal. The Social Club covers the ex-pense of the food. Our veterans have served us, now we need some people in Forest Park to step up and serve our veterans

SOCIAL CLUB OFFICERS

Co-President – Ellen Higham

Co-President - Barb Batson Passcs

Vice President – Dotti Frander

Co Secretary – Debbie Rooney

Co-Secretary - Nancy Cooper

Co-Treasurer – Mary Kurucz

Co-Treasurer – Monte Johnson



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NEWSLETTER SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENT & ARTICLES

by Monte Johnson

Newsletter

KATHY REVELS has volunteered to be the **ASSISTANT EDITOR** for the **FOREST PARK NEWSLETTER!!!**

All articles, news or photographs should be submitted to this email fpsocialnews@gmail.com and are normally due by the 12th of each month for the following month's newsletter.

Remember, newsletters are printed year-round for all residents and always available for snowbirds online. Printed Newsletters usually arrive by the end of the month and are available in the Clubhouse or in the Activities building. They are always available online a few days later. **Some months the Newsletter has more articles submitted, which may cause a favorite puzzle or Sudoku to be omitted for that month. These are fillers that the publisher supplies. The editor has no control over the filler puzzles or games!**

EDITOR THOUGHTS

By Kathy Revels

Thank you, Monte, for allowing me to introduce myself to our Forest Park neighbors. My husband, Brian, and I purchased a home on Knotty Pine in 2021 which Hurricane Ian then took a swat at. We planned to put another home on the same property, but ended up purchasing a home two lots down. We chose to stay in Forest Park because of the friendly people, the well maintained homes, and the great location.

You may have seen us around FP in our #53 "Herbie" golf cart with our standard poodle, Pippy, in the back. We enjoy riding around in the evenings just to say hello to friends. This is a favorite activity when our son or daughter visit with their families. All five granddaughters look forward to a ride in Herbie when they are here. We also love to spend time at the pool, especially since it has been so beautifully refurbished! As life-long Michi-gan residents, we have a long history of vacations in Florida. We never planned to be snow birds, but that's how it turned out! I love living my vacation every day!

I want to thank all of our long-time residents for the lovely community you have created here. Other communities may look nice and have good amenities, but you can't count on friendly neighbors, volunteers who work for the good of all, or an atmosphere of caring.



Now it's up to newcomers like me to pick up the mantle and do our part to help keep our little corner of Paradise attractive and welcoming.

I look forward to getting to know all of you!

Kathy

FOREST PARK WEBSITE

www.forestparkonline.com

By: Jan Provence, Webmaster



All residents that have a Member Share in our park may access the **Member's Only Pages** on our website. On these pages, you will find the latest information with the FPPOA board and member minutes, and many other documents that you will need to keep updated on our community. To receive a username and password, contact the FPPOA office. (fpoainc@gmail.com) If you need further information, contact me at webmaster@forestparkonline.com.

KARAOKE

Karaoke with Chris Tybor is held on the 1st and 3rd Mondays of the month, October-May from 7-9pm **Note the time!!** BYOB and snacks!! We need more talented people to come out and enjoy an evening of free entertainment with your friends in the park. Bring your singing voices and a list of songs that you would like to sing, or just sit back and listen. Forest Park has many good singers. Hope to see you there.

Mark your calendar for April 7th at 5:30 pm for the \$5.00 hotdog dinner and 50/50 raffle. Just before Karaoke!! Sponsored by the Forest Park Tool Club. Then stick around to sing, or hear some talented singers from right here in Forest Park.



TUESDAY NIGHT BINGO

Don't forget to come on out for our weekly Bingo in the Clubhouse.

Be there at 6:45 pm, games start at 7:00 pm. Lots of Fun!!! No ink daubers needed, we provide all supplies. Bring your own snacks and non-alcoholic drinks.



APRIL BIRTHDAYS

Jack Watson 1
Murry Barhorst 2
Deb Forsyth 3
William Persons 3
Carol Pandola 3
Bob Bagge 5
Steven Huck 7
Carol Cottrell 10
Don Edwards 10
Terry Reed 10
Thomas Castor 12
Jeannie Olson 12
Warren Starks 12
Charles Blanchard 12
Peg Hull 17
Greg Sadowski 17
Jim Schleter 19
Kevin Flavin 19
Nancy Ayers 21
ET Thomas 22
Christine Micus 22
Patsy Provence 24
Dixie Tedrow 24
Wade Plein 25
Carolene Applegate 27
Donna Sisto 30
Michael Gray 30



HAPPY ANNIVERSARY

Ronald & Cindy Trepanier April 12, 1980
Paul & Cheryl Buening April 11, 2017
James & Concetta Mooney April 13, 1975
Warren & Linda Starks April 19
Mary & Michael Linscott April 24
Wayne & Theresa Hall April 24, 2004
David & Nancy Schepers April 26, 1982
Chris & Ronnie Corey April 27, 2019
Paul Ehlert & Gianna Wachholz April 27, 2008
Michael & Joan Fotta April 28, 1995



Welcome

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N MEMORIAM



Diane L Govekar

Went home to be with the Lord Sunday February 23 rd, 2025 at Tampa Hospital, with her husband Joe by her side, she was 62 years old. Diane had fought all her life, a heart issue she was born with.

Diane was proud of her fight, stating Doctors didn't expect her to live past 10 years old. She was proud that she showed them.

Diane was born February 27 th, 1962 in Johnstown, PA. She was preceded in death by her father Thilbert G. North, mother Janet (Good) North, twin sister Tina M (North) Yoder and her sweet little dog El-lie May.

Diane is survived by her Husband Joe Govekar of Johnstown, PA and For-est Park, North Fort Myers, they were married in April 1993, 31 years. She is also survived by her sister Tammy L (North) Keller and husband Raymond, and many nieces and nephews.

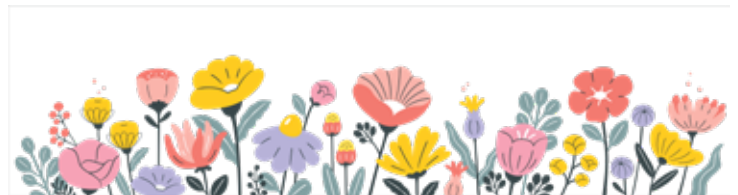
Diane was a dear friend to Carol Tolbert, Carolene Applegate, Lisa Bieber, Dana Lee and Irene Bartholomew (Forest Park), Florida Church friends Liz and Gary Brookes, friends in PA Diane Bassar, Dianna Kurth and many others.

Diane was a Mary Kay beauty consultant, nail tech, and worked in a bridal shop. Everyone that knew Diane, knew how she loved fashion and beau-ty. Diane applied it to herself, she was always dressed beautifully and was fashionable from head to toe.

Here at the park she loved the pool and never met a stranger. She was a member of the Craft Club, NE Club, Red Hats and loved to go to Bingo. She always said it wasn't bingo she came for, it was the camaraderie and snacks. She was a crafter, she loved her shells, every year she would love to go to Sanibel and go shelling. She loved making beautiful crafts with her shells. She loved to cook and tried many wonderful dishes.

We just want to thank Diane for the friendship and memories that we all made with her. We will miss her smiling face! RIP Diane and fly High with your new Angel wings.

Love your friends from Forest Park.



DID YOU KNOW ??

GOLF CLUB COLLECTION

We have a golf club connoisseur here in the park. If you want to check out John Berg's golf club collection, just give the Golf Club Man a call 618-319-0642.



TAI CHI CLASS

by Lenann Crisci



My Tai Chi class continues on **Saturday's, at 2:00 pm for beginners** and on **Tuesday's, at 2:00 pm for everyone**. I am

happy to answer any questions you may have. My cell phone is #207-705-7475. Tai Chi is an ancient Chinese martial art. The gentle, graceful movements of tai chi are low impact and don't put too much strain on aging bones and joints. It is known to help with physical and mental health issues from bone strength, joint stability, cardiovascular health, immunity, and emotional well-being. Whether you're seeking stress relief, better sleep, or improved mood, Tai Chi offers a harmonious path to health. ✨

CONTACT: LENANN CRISCI

207-705-2256

EXERCISE CLASS

By Jane Cullin

Exercise class is every Monday, 8:00 am to 9:00 am is cardio weights and core. Bring a matt or towel. There will be no **exercise class on Monday, April 14th**.



COFFEE KLATCH

The **Men's** Coffee Klatch is on Friday, April 11th at 8:00 am to 9:00 am. In the clubhouse. (the 2nd Friday each month)

The **Women's** Coffee Klatch will be on Friday, April 18th at 9:00 am to 10:00 am in the clubhouse. (3rd Friday each month)



RED HAT LADIES

By Heather Flavin



RED HATS END OF THE SEASON LUNCHEON WILL BE **TUESDAY, APRIL 8TH AT THE OLIVE GARDEN PLEASE MEET AT THE CLUBHOUSE BY 11:00 AM**



LET'S TRY TO MEET NEW PEOPLE AT THIS LUNCHEON. SIT WITH SOMEONE YOU DON'T KNOW. YOU COULD BE MAKING A NEW FRIEND.

PLEASE CONTACT ME IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS. HAVE AN ENJOYABLE SUMMER

KUDOS KORNER

Kudos corner is honoring Sally Miller and Jane Cullin! When you read this the Seventh Annual Forest Park Poker Run will have come and gone. We hope you had a great time. Many hours go into this event, to make it perfect for your enjoyment. Sally has been doing this event for many years and takes great pride in making it perfect.



The chili cookoff was another labor of love to make a festive and definitely memorable event. Many hours of planning and even cooking cornbread went into this event. We hope you came and enjoyed yourself. We have Jane Cullin to thank for her time and dedication in getting the chili cookoff started and running it for the first three years !! We must thank these girls for volunteering to help make Forest Park a fun place to live 🍵

Thank you from the Social Club!



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FOREST PARKS HOME CHURCH “THE LIGHT”

By Roberta Rizas

Hello again, from Forest Park's home church called, “The Light”, at 457 Jacaramba Ct. Our church meets every Sunday at 6:00 pm, Rain or Shine. We love the rain that April brings to us because, “April Showers brings May Flowers.” Don't we all love the beauty of Spring flowers and green grasses? The rain helps them all to grow and show off their beauty.



Actually, we thank God first, as He is the one that prepares everything to work in his Good Timing. He knew it was important for it to rain in April to help the flowers and grass to grow and mature. No rain, no flowers or grass. All veggies and fruits would not grow either.

Thank you Lord for all you have given us, and done for us. We love the beautiful rainbows and sunsets you have created also. So, dear friends in our Forest Park homes, enjoy the beauty of it all. Talk with you again in May. We encourage everyone to visit with us on Sunday nights at 6:00 pm.

Rita

WATER AEROBICS

Water Aerobics is held daily Monday through Friday at 10:30am !!

**New People Always Welcome!!!
COME AND JOIN THE FUN!**



Notes of Cheer

By Robyn Johnson

The Social Club provides the stamps, and they rely on residents to donate sympathy and get-well cards so if you have any to donate please let Heather know.

Also, if you know of any resident needing Cheer, please reach out to Heather or myself so she can send a card. Including the person's address is appreciated.



You may email Heather at tokenrespasser@gmail.com or myself at drjohns85@gmail.com



If you're new here, Heather Flavin is the cheer person for Forest Park. Heather will send out cards to residents that have been ill, had surgery or have lost a loved one.

**Heather Flavin 508-612-6386 or
Robyn Johnson 651-341-8346**

RESIDENTS NEED TO REMEMBER:

- **Speeding** – The park has many walkers and bike riders, please obey the speed limits. The speeding near the Pool, Pickle Ball and Clubhouse area has truly become a danger! Members pull in and out of the area regularly on golf carts and bicycles, they will have no protection against a speeding vehicle. **Throughout the Park our Posted Speed Limit is 15 MPH.**



- **Rolling through Stop Signs** – Each intersection is clearly marked; our park is **no different than a regular road.** The only difference is you could be hurting your neighbor or their family. Take it easy and obey the Stop Signs.



- **Unattended Guests in the Pool** – Guests should have a **GREEN WRISTBAND** when using the pool. When asked, they should know the address of the member they're visiting. Please be vigilant.



- **Unightly Property** – Be proud of your home. Keep your siding free of mold and mildew by power washing. Keep your lawn mowed and hedges trimmed. Be courteous to your neighbors. Be safe with unexpected storms.



- **Forest Park Green Car Stickers** - We are back in season, we have night patrol in place to keep you and your property under a watchful eye. Cars on property without a green Forest Park Sticker on the back of the vehicle will be noted by the team and sent to the office. **Stickers are available for FREE in the office. Using the identifiers helps us know if we have strangers in the park. This is to protect all of us.** Visitors are required to have a sticker. If you don't want it stuck on your back window, tape it up on the inside. I see many vehicles without these stickers.



- **Late Trash Set Outs** – All trash needs to be set out **before 7am on Tuesday.** Second rounds of trash pickup for late set outs are costly and really overworks our Maintenance Team if it gets too hot. Your trash can be put out the evening before if in a **secured** trash can.



- **Late HOA Fees** – Please do your best to send your HOA fee in by the 1st of the month. It's also important to make your check payable for the ***exact amount*** of your HOA Fee rounding up or down adds additional work for our accounting team.

- **Quiet Time/Lawn Mowing** – Our rules for In Season Quiet Time are 10PM to 8AM. *Please be respectful of your neighbors!*

****LAWN MOWING HOURS****



8:00 AM to 10 PM

September 1st. - May 31st.

June 1st. - August 31st.

7:00 AM to 11:00 PM

• **HAZARDOUS WASTE**

Lee County has very strict regulations regarding hazardous material disposal. The Board voted to approve the initiative to have all residents place paint, pesticides, chemicals, fluorescent bulbs and gas bottles at the curb. Park employees will pick up these materials on regular trash pickup days and log them in. These articles will be stored and disposed of in the appropriate manner by staff members.



REMINDER Aluminum Cans are still being collected on **Monday evenings only.**



Please **DO NOT** use the can as an ashtray. Beer Drinkers, please rinse out the can and turn it over to dry out. Please remember to put your aluminum cans in a bag and place **UNDER YOUR MAILBOX by 5:00 P.M. MONDAY EVENING** for pick up. Please make sure your cans are **RINSED, CLEAN, and DRY.**

Please place it away from trash bags. **DO NOT** place plastic, glass or metal cans in the bag, **aluminum cans only!** All the others go in the blue recycle bins. If you are putting your aluminum cans out on Friday for the recycle truck, **PLEASE** consider putting your cans in a bag on Monday evening for pickup. Money collected from can recycling helps pay some of the costs of Social Club activities. It benefits all residents of Forest Park.

- **Improper Use of Dumpsters** – Dumpsters are **CLEARLY** marked. It's dangerous for the Maintenance Team to climb into the dumpster to retrieve improperly dumped items. *Contractors working on your home are also required to take the debris with them off site.*



ATTENTION

The following rules still apply, **only household trash is allowed in the compactor, all cardboard should be set out on Friday for recycle, no horticulture, construction materials, or bulk items. Bulk items include any furniture, cushions, bulky pillows or life jackets. Any Aluminum may be placed near the workbench in front of the horticulture dumpster for recycling, (this includes aluminum framed lawn chairs, pop-up tent frames, carport roofs, or gutters that are aluminum. Appliances go in the metal trailer parked southwest of the compactor. If it is not regular household trash, horticulture, appliances, aluminum, or construction materials, it is a BULK ITEM. The dumpsters are clearly marked. If the gate is locked, PLEASE lock the gate when you leave, to keep unauthorized people out of the R/V Park!! If you notice a vehicle in the R/V area, without a green tree sticker, PLEASE notify the office or if after hours call a board member or the sheriff's office. These people are trespassing, leaving unauthorized refuse, and costing everyone in the park more money!!! Notice the RED BUTTON on the controller. This is for emergencies only. DO NOT TOUCH THE RED BUTTON!!**



Forest Park does not have a **Dog Walk, Run, or Park.** Florida law states that your dog must be on no longer than a six foot leash at all times. This is for the protection of our residents and other pets in the Park. Many of you have **“adopted” feral cats.** Have you had them neutered? While on night patrol I see many cats just running free in the Park. People who do not clean up after their dog, or are letting their cats roam free in the Park, are affecting the health of us and other pets. Who wants to step in dog or cat fe-ces?



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April Crossword

ACROSS

1. A picture-in-picture
6. Scottish lake
10. Birdbrain
14. Capture
15. African sheep
16. Holly
17. Elicit
18. Waist strap
19. Vitality
20. Ancient tiger
22. Smooth or level
23. Blemish
24. Go inside
26. Lug-nut protector
30. Fortuneteller's card
32. Enlist
33. Lowest female voice
37. In place of
38. Formerly it was a planet
39. Neophyte, in modern slang
40. Heavy rains
42. Useful

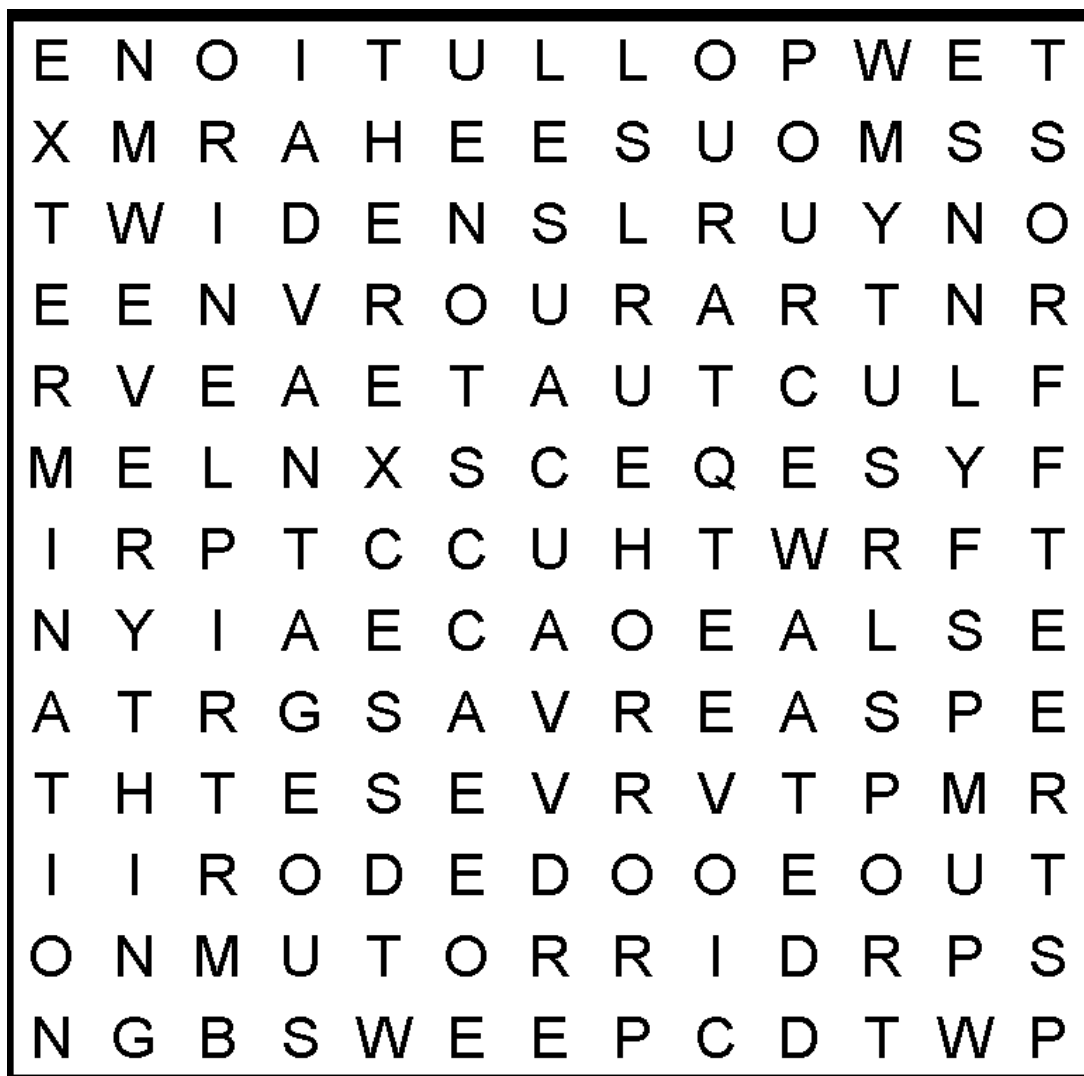


DOWN

- | | | | |
|-----------------------------|----------------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| 43. Instances | 1. Frosts, as a cake | 21. Faucet | 41. Greek god of flocks |
| 44. Candidly | 2. Nil | 25. Neither ____ | 42. Upward air current |
| 45. Holy person | 3. Ticket part you keep | 26. Grasp | 44. Flowery verse |
| 47. Unusual | 4. Behold, in old Rome | 27. Freshwater mussel | 45. Goat antelope |
| 48. Whimper | 5. Relating to heat | 28. Beer | 46. Cognizant |
| 49. A type of seasoning | 6. Work hard | 29. A member of a council | 47. Express a thought |
| 56. By mouth | 7. Black-and-white cookie | 30. Guided visits | 48. Speck |
| 57. Dugout shelter | 8. Religious spinter group | 31. Picnic insects | 50. River in Spain |
| 58. Debate | 9. Until now | 33. Hint | 51. Brace |
| 59. Bull | 10. Amateurish | 34. A certain cut of meat | 52. Sticking point |
| 60. Weightlifters pump this | 11. Martini garnish | 35. Fee | 53. Look at flirtatiously |
| 61. Untrue | 12. Postpone | 36. Follow orders | 54. Diversion |
| 62. Pitcher | 13. Beasts of burden | 38. Not requiring stamps | 55. Require |



April Word Search



advantageous
arrow
avoid

carve
cause
cheap

devote
dreary

everything
excess
extermination

flavor
fluctuate
frost

harm
horror

mouse
pollution
pour
pumps

rescue
rode

scale
scar
sport
stone
store
street
sweep
swerve

teen
terse
there
torrid
triple
tryst
widen



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APRIL

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		9						
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	7	1					6	
				8				
9					6		1	3

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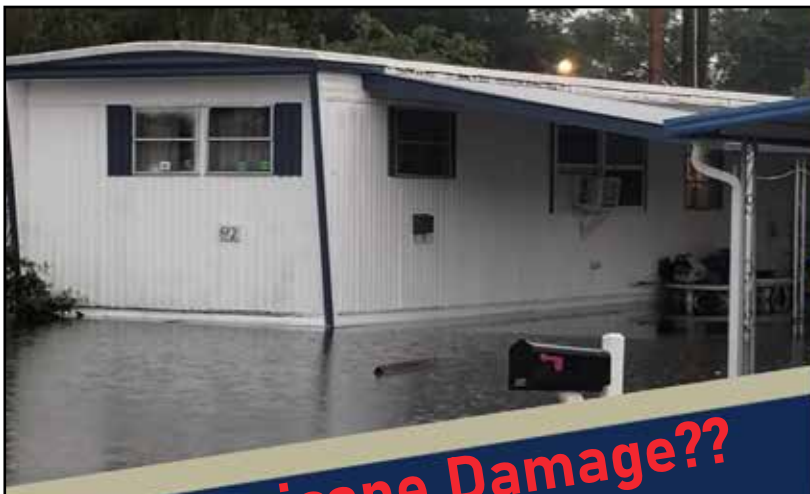


3	1	2	6	7	5	4	8	9
9	4	7	1	8	3	2	5	6
8	6	5	2	4	9	1	7	3
4	3	1	8	9	7	6	2	5
6	2	8	5	1	4	9	3	7
7	5	9	3	6	2	8	1	4
2	7	6	4	5	8	3	9	1
5	8	4	9	3	1	7	6	2
1	9	3	7	2	6	5	4	8



Forest Park April 2025

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