

December 2025

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Forest Park Newsletter

Forest Park, N. Ft. Myers, FL

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VOLUNTEER SPOTLIGHT

By Heather Flavin

Kudos for Pam Salk

Another resident that deserves recognition.

Since I've been in Forest Park, I have always seen Pam helping. For example, she has been the Christmas Elf that collects toys to be given to Suncoast children for many years. Coordinator of the Red Hats along with Suzanne Malone for many years. Hosting the Color Me Beautiful Event for Red Hats recently. Co-sponsoring the recent Chili Cook Off with Sally Miller. You can find her selling tickets at the clubhouse, always greeting you with her pleasant smile or working behind the scenes to make things run smoothly.

Pam enjoys her winters here in Forest Park and then heads north to Ft. Wayne, IN. During the summer months she visits family in her home state of West Virginia.

She shared some thoughts with me recently about living here in Forest Park.

"When I came to Forest Park in 2015 as a winter rental, I knew no one. I fell in love with this park immediately because the residents were so friendly. Within weeks, I decided to buy a property. I was blessed to get my little home on Forest Park Drive. I still love it !! I decided to get to know everyone by joining all social groups. I made it my mission to get involved. I have hosted many parties and work closely with Ellen Heigham to plan Social Club events. Forest Park is my little slice of heaven. I enjoy making our park a friendly and fun place to live. I will continue to be involved and bring joy wherever I can. I hope I am known as a goodwill ambassador. That is my goal."

I think she has exceeded her goal. Thank you for all you do, Pam.

PS ** Pam will return as our Red Hats Ladies leader and will continue to be the Elf collecting Christmas Toys for Suncoast Children. **



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TOY DRIVE FOR CHILDREN OF SUNCOAST

By Pam Salk

Forest Park has collected toys for the children of Suncoast for many years. They are so appreciated!! We would like to continue that tradition! Please bring unwrapped toys and items teens would like under their tree to **5350 Forest Park Dr, home of Pam Salk by December 7th**. They will be given to parents so they can be wrapped and put under their trees for Christmas Morning. Thank you for loving these children that have so little.



CHRISTMAS CAROLING

By Ellen Heigham

Please join me on **Sunday December 21, at 5:30 pm** at the Clubhouse for our annual golf cart caroling throughout the park. Now don't be one of those," But I can't carry a tune", people. Have you ever heard me sing?

This is all about spending a little time, bringing cheer to our neighbors who may be spending the holidays alone. Candles and song books are furnished. We don't stay out long. Please join us for a fun night.

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

Go Caroling Day



FOREST PARK HOLIDAY PARTY

By Monte Johnson



Come one and all on **Friday, December 19th, at 7:00 PM**. The Social Club is sponsoring a Holiday party and everyone is invited. There will be plenty of presents and gift cards from local merchants under the tree and we will have refreshments and pastries for all to enjoy.

CHRISTMAS DECORATED GOLF CART & BIKE PARADE

By: The Social Club, Ivan & Jill Taylor

The parade will be held on **Monday, December 22nd**. We will leave promptly at 6:00 pm in front of the clubhouse. Everyone is welcome to join in decorating your bike or cart as we parade through the park. You may also throw candies to the spectators if you wish. After the parade we have refreshments, cookies and a gift exchange. If you bring a gift you will receive a raffle ticket and when your number is called you will be able to choose a gift or steal someone else's. Please keep the cost of the gift to \$10.00.

FOREST PARK'S FIRST ANNUAL HOLIDAY HOME DECORATING CONTEST



**JUDGING STARTS DECEMBER 20th
WINNERS ANNOUNCED DECEMBER 24th
CHRISTMAS EVE DAY**

GIFT CARDS FOR TOP 3 HOMES

1st Place _____

2nd Place _____

3rd Place _____

Sponsored by residents of Forest Park

CHRISTMAS GIFTS OF CHEER

By Nancy Cooper

Nearly 20 years ago, Joan King, the President of the Northeast Club, wanted to do something to bring a bit of Holiday cheer to a few folks in Forest Park. That year 6 boxes of homemade goodies were passed out thus starting one of our Park's nicest Christmas traditions.

Over these two decades thousands of gifts of cookies, fruit and candy have been delivered by Santa's elves as well as bags of groceries and sympathy boxes given to folks who lost a child or spouse. During the Pandemic, knowing everyone needed some cheer, boxes of cookies were delivered to everyone at home in the Park. Following the devastation of Ian, it was important to bring folks together for a fun evening so the committee hosted a free pizza party.

All of this has been accomplished thanks to the countless volunteers and the generosity of many clubs and individuals. What was once just a sweet idea by a

continued on page 5

nice lady has been a wonderful gift for the folks in our community.

If you know of someone who might need a bit of cheer this holiday season please let me know. Distribution day will be December 19. Call or text me, Nancy Cooper at (207) 632-7544.

PRIDE OF OWNERSHIP AWARD WINNERS

By Forest Park Compliance Committee

December Winners

Dick and Betty Ann Weatherby
Peace Lake Court



In the spirit of recognizing how far we have come and encouraging each other, we will highlight Forest Park homes displaying "Pride of Ownership." Don't forget to compliment the homeowners on their beautiful home or home improvements. The rest of us benefit not only by having our neighborhood improved, but we can also get ideas for our own homes from what others have done to enhance their property.

Ralph Fiore & Becky White
Timberlane North



NEW YEARS EVE MASQUERADE BALL

December 31, 2025, 7pm-12am

Music by DJ JUDY 8pm-12pm



DINNER

Chicken Marsala
Sausage, Peppers & Onions

RAFFLES - 50/50

TICKETS \$20 PER PERSON

Tickets on Sale from 2pm-4pm every Sunday in the
Activities Building

Event Limited to 150 Tickets Don't wait!

Masquerade Dress Encouraged but not Mandatory

COMPLIANCE COMMITTEE REPORT

The Compliance Committee had its first meeting in November to go over all of the summer happenings.

We had worked hard to get a system going that works and we think that was achieved. There were quite a few homes that were paying for weeding and lawn care that were NOT getting what they paid for. Please keep your landscapers accountable when you're away. We have a lot of palm trees with dead leaves that need to be trimmed..if you have trees please take a look. The last of the carports are being worked on in some capacity. Yay!

Snowbirds are returning, so the streets will be much busier! Protect your neighbors and SLOW DOWN! STOP at stop signs. Give walkers/bikers a wide berth if possible.

All overnight guests MUST register in the office and wear green wrist bands when using the amenities. Extra parking spots for guests are available south of the pool area but you must tell the office ahead of time. No parking on lawns overnight. Keep dogs on 6' leashes and don't let them wander into other people's properties unless you have permission.

Congratulations to all of our Pride of Ownership winners! We are so happy to see our community coming back to its former glory! This helps our Park maintain value and be desirable to live/buy in.

As always if you have any complaints or suggestions there are forms available in the office. Anonymous complaints are allowed. Thank you all!!!

Compliance Committee

Barbara Batson Passos, Lucinda King, Warren Starks, Heather Flavin, Kevin Mann



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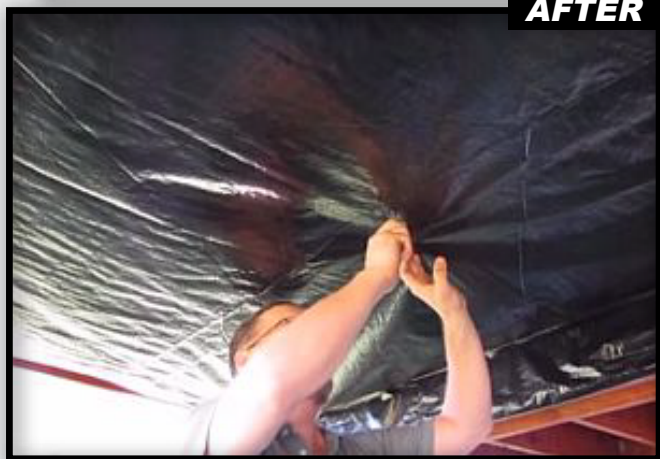
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BOARD OF DIRECTOR & GENERAL MEETING DATES

From the Office

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. Our By-Laws require 75 association members to attend to have a quorum. our next regular meetings are scheduled for



DECEMBER 11, 2025 Board Meeting 9 AM

DECEMBER 18, 2025 Membership Meeting 7 PM

Characteristics of a Qualified Board Member

1. Ability to represent the total membership on an impartial and equitable basis.
2. Ability to attend required meetings in person or via zoom.
3. Desire to keep Forest Park expenses low, services reliable, and budgets reasonable.
4. Capability of overseeing policies governing FPPOA Funds.
5. Knowledge to protect all FPPOA assets and ensure compliance with lending institutions and governmental requirements.
6. Effective analytical, problem-solving, and logic skills.
7. Independent thinking and a strong business or training experience.
8. Capacity to work as a strong, cohesive team member.
9. Integrity and earned respect from community members.
10. Awareness of key issues in the Park.
11. Prior involvement or leadership in previous governmental, community, or social organizations.

FROM THE NOMINATING COMMITTEE

By Ken Parsels

The nominating committee for this year is Kenny Parsels, Jane Cullin and Kathy Revels.

Forest Park is a great Park run by volunteers. It takes everyone, giving a little of themselves, to make the park what it has been over the years.

We have many new residents that may not know how the nominating committee functions. If you would like to be part of the Forest Park Board, just call one of the committee members. We have a form listing duties for each position that we will share with you. We will then give you the paperwork required to get your name on the ballot for your chosen position. You may also obtain this paperwork from the office.

Nominations must be turned in by December 3rd to be on the ballot for Meet the Candidates Night, which is December 4th. Meet the Candidates Night is an opportunity for all residents to get to know the Candidates and ask questions. After December 3, you may still run for a Board position, but it will be as a write-in candidate. Write-in candidates are not eligible to participate in Meet the Candidates Night as a potential Board member.

Residents will be notified when ballots are available for those in the Park. Ballots are mailed to those outside the Park. Ballots must be returned by Election day, January 8th.

Vacant positions this year are President, 2nd Vice President, Treasurer, Director #4, and Director #5. Please contact the Nominating Committee with any questions.

Kenny Parsels	607-661-6569
Jane Cullin	330-242-2772
Kathy Revels	517-243-2755

**THURSDAY, DECEMBER 4, 7:00 PM IN THE
CLUBHOUSE MEET THE CANDIDATES
NIGHT
COFFEE AND PASTRIES WILL BE SERVED**

FESTIVAL OF TREES

By Kathy Revels

If you have never been to the Fort Myers Festival of Trees, you should put it on your holiday to-do list. Held annually at the Sidney & Berne Davis Art



Center located at 2301 First Street in downtown Fort Myers, the four day Festival is a fundraiser for the Center and benefits several charities.

The Festival of Trees features trees decorated and donated by local groups, businesses and patrons. Each elaborate tree has a theme, and many "gifts" on and around the tree. Visitors pay an entrance fee of \$2 to enter and vote for the tree they like best. In addition, raffle tickets are sold for a chance to win one of the trees. Raffle tickets are placed in a bucket located near each tree. Winners are drawn for each tree on the last day of the Festival. The trees and all that go with them are then delivered to winners and set up free of charge.

Make no mistake...these are not your average Christmas trees! They are often more elaborate than those seen in department stores or other businesses. Some examples of the themes for the trees are wine or other adult beverages, tools (complete with power tools and tool boxes under the tree), Barbie, patriotic, Florida, backyard barbeque (grill and cooler included), music, baking, sports, and fitness. Donors not only try to make their trees more attractive and desirable than prior years, but also try to outdo each other. The result is an awe-inspiring treat for visitors and a very Merry Christmas for the winners. The value of each tree is posted on a sign

near the tree. Values of the entire package are hundreds or thousands of dollars. Raffle tickets range from \$10 for a single ticket to 25 for \$100.

Dates and times are as follows: Thursday, December 4th 11a-9p; Friday, December 5th 11a-10p; Saturday, December 6th 10a-10p; Sunday, December 7th 11a-6p. Raffle winners will be drawn beginning at 5pm on Sunday and winners notified shortly thereafter.

A toy drive, with collection boxes in area businesses, starts in November and ends the final night of the Festival. Children's charities receive the toys and distribute them to those in need.

A Wine and Paint event is planned for Thursday. A lighting ceremony for the giant Wreath on the front of the building and live music by the Ben Allen Band will take place Friday evening. The December Art Walk also begins at 6pm on Friday. Saturday features live performances throughout the day, train rides, a fire truck, and an opportunity to let Santa know what is at the top of your wish list.

The City of Palms will be twinkling with lights. Businesses are open and offering something for everyone on your list. Decorations, food, art, music and activities for all ages and interests are waiting to lift your Christmas spirit in Fort Myers.



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EDITOR THOUGHTS

By Monte Johnson



December and Christmas brings back memories of my childhood growing up on our family farm in Northeast Iowa. Christmas eve was always exciting because we had to get all the chores finished up early to go to Christmas eve church services. My brother and I were in the program every year. Being part of the baby boomer generation, in a small, predominately Lutheran town, meant that each Sunday school class had 20 or more children. Each class had a separate part in the program, which would take a couple of hours. We would go back to our rooms and receive a bag with candy, nuts, and an apple or orange. The anticipation of what might be under the tree when we arrived home was exciting. For you see, the only presents when we left were for our relatives on Christmas day. Somehow while we were gone, Santa had arrived with our presents and placed them under the tree. The miracles of Christmas, to this day I don't know how they appeared, while all four of our family went to church and back home in the family car, at the same time! Dad and Mom watched our whole program!

On Christmas day we would all go down to my Grandma Johnson's. She lived on a farm about nine miles away in the hills. The house sat at the end of a lane, on a hill with a creek running along the meadow to the East. Picture the scenes from a Christmas card. We would take our "flying saucers" and slide down the hill before dinner. My dad's two sisters, and my mom in the kitchen preparing dinner. My dad, two uncles, and grandma are playing cards in the living room and drinking highballs. I grew up with seven cousins, all girls, four older, three younger. So naturally for Christmas one year, when I was about five or six, my brother and I each wanted a doll. Which we received, along with a spoked wheel, wicker doll buggy. A couple years later, toy John Deere tractors were much more important. It was an interesting early childhood.

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RECIPE OF THE MONTH

By Monte Johnson

GRANDMA PEARL'S FATTIGMANN BAKKELS

6 EGGS
1 Cup. SUGAR
6 Tbsp. CREAM or ¼ Cup. EVAPORATED MILK
4 Tbsp. or ¼ Cup. WHISKEY, COGNAC, or BRANDY
2 tsp. GROUND or POWDERED CARDAMOM SEED
4 Cups. FLOUR



Mix: Eggs, Sugar, Cream, Alcohol, and Cardamom in a mixing bowl. Start with 2 cups of flour, adding flour as needed to form a soft dough, but not sticky. Transfer onto lightly floured parchment paper and roll out to ⅛ " thickness. Use a pizza cutter to cut into 2" width, diamond shapes and cut a slit in the center to fold in one end if desired. Fry in HOT FAT or LARD at 380* until lightly brown, turning once. Allow to cool and drain on brown paper. Dust with confectioners sugar if desired.

These are a Norwegian Christmas cookie that may be dusted with confectionery sugar or left plain. Fattigmann Bakkel in Norwegian means "Poor Man Cookie". Grandma Pearl made these the first week in December. She did not dust with powdered sugar but left them plain. She would store them in a brown paper grocery sack.(remember them?) As they aged, they became more flavorful as the fat drained out. The amount of alcohol required for the recipe was in direct proportion to how much Grandma consumed in the making of the bakkels.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

I would like to say how wonderful the park looks. Coach and I returned on October 24th and immediately thought about how good things look. We like the new stories in the newsletter recognizing volunteers and how much so many people have contributed to make our park such a wonderful place to live.

I want to add a special thank you to Heather Flavin for all she does behind the scenes to get volunteerism going. Jane and Kerry (Coach) Cullin

VETERANS DAY PROGRAM

By Monte Johnson

Sixty Five guests including thirty two veterans attended the Veterans Day program on November 11 at the



Clubhouse, braving a cool 41 degree day. A brief flag ceremony was held outside while the program was held in the Clubhouse. The Social Club furnished, and the Craft Club prepared a meal of Caesar Salad, Dinner Roll, Chicken Casserole, and Red, White, & Blue Thank You Dessert. Ellen Heigham entertained the attendees on the piano by playing patriotic songs from the military branches for a sing along. Speakers for the program included



Kevin Mann, Tom Heirspiel, Dave Gasner, Bob Charles, Mike Fanning, Gloria Restko, and Jim Wright. The Craft Club honored each veteran by presenting them with a new 3' x 5' United States Flag. Made in the USA to be displayed outside. The Craft Club has a few extra flags for sale. If interested come to the Clubhouse on Wednesdays at 9:00 am.

THANK YOU CHEF ANDY

By Barbara Batson Passos

Andy Fuschino, "Chef Andy" has been offering delicious homemade dinners on Friday mornings during the season right here in Forest Park. He offers a variety of dinners and soups needing only a warmup as well as shrimp and scallops to prepare as you wish.



Andy sets up at the corner of Forest Park drive and Timberlane South on Fridays between 8:30am and 11:30am. A signboard lists all the delectable fresh food he is offering at reasonable prices. Stop by and visit Andy!

Proceeds help provide meals for shut ins here in Forest Park. So picking up a meal from Andy will not only free you from having to cook dinner, but also helps your neighbors in need. Thank you, Chef Andy, for making life in Forest Park better for us all.

WOOF, WAG, & WIGGLE

By Paula Batson



Meet Jackson!! If you have been anywhere in this park, he probably doesn't need an introduction lol. This 4 year old Sheepadoodle is just a lovable gentle giant who can be found riding around on the back of his owner's (Benny and Donna Sisto) golf cart or getting his steps in exercising in the dog park.

After owning numerous Boxers, the Sisto family bought a purebred standard poodle named Charlie. He was so intelligent and kind; Donna recalls they fell in love immediately. Sadly after 5 short years Charlie was diagnosed with a terminal illness. He was so special. They were left with an empty place in their family home. Donna's cousin had a dog that was a mix (mutt) so Benny and Donna thought maybe they would have better luck health wise with a similar pet. So after a period of time, Donna started looking and found a very reputable breeder in Virginia. They made the trip from NJ and little (or big lol) Jackson became a part of the family.

From day one Jackson never had an accident in the house or chewed anything. He was the epitome of an angel. He loves people and other animals and is so kind and smart. Donna says Jackson is just an amazing dog. His trick bag includes sit, lay down, rollover and high-fives. He loves to play catch and puts up with whatever Donna asks him to wear, even the sunglasses! He is a special boy that makes you smile when you see his beautiful face. We all love Jackson, how could you not?



KITTY CORNER

By Paula Batson



This is Peanut Von Conrad, loved by Becky Conrad, Hollyberry Ct. Peanut and her twin, Punkin, were born Sept 5, 2011. They were rare twins that shared the same sac at birth, which is very unusual. They were adopted at 3 weeks old by our longtime resident, Becky. Sadly

Punkin only lived for 3 years due to some severe issues from being monozygotic twins. After numerous vet trips

and thousands of dollars there was nothing more the vet could do, so Becky did the most selfless thing she could and let her cross over the Rainbow Bridge. Her friends knew how much these cats meant to Becky, so they found a jigsaw puzzle that looked just like Punkin and framed it after putting it together. It is truly special to Becky.

Peanut has reigned as Queen for well over 14 years now in the home she shares with Becky, also known as the "Cat House." Peanut is free to wander around, play, explore and bask in the sun (which is a favorite thing for her.) There are lots of little cat doors in the house so Peanut can go from room to room. Peanut also has a perch in the lanai to lay on while watching the wildlife outdoors. She likes to keep an eye on her Mom when she is outside.

Becky and Peanut enjoy watching TV together at night. Peanut purrs and gives little head butts while getting her daily brushing.

Peanut is a devoted companion to Becky. She is very smart and knows what the word "no" means, and also "yes". I'm sure that Peanut hears "yes" a lot more often than "no" as she is truly a special girl! (Contributing writer note! This was a very special story, I am glad to be able to share it with you all.)

SOCIAL CLUB NEWS!!

Thanksgiving. I would like to **Thank everyone** for another successful holiday dinner. This is the 4th year I got the ball rolling for this event however, this is my last one. Hopefully someone will step up through the Social Club and continue with this dinner!

Paula Chapin

2nd ELF ALERT

Christmas bells are ringing to announce the time for mistletoe, holly, wreaths, and lights. On Saturday, November 29th, at 9:00 a.m., 2 days after Thanksgiving, the Christmas Elves will be gathering at the Clubhouse grounds to decorate for the holidays! Please mark this date on your calendar!

Many hands make light and fast work!

REMEMBER: Saturday, November 29th, 9:00 a.m.

3rd and Last ELF ALERT! Last Call for Elves! Due to unforeseen circumstances, Scott and I are unable to return to Forest Park until after the new year. The Social Club and Joyce Parsells will be working to set up our Christmas decorations on the Clubhouse grounds and at the entry along Hart Road. Please show up to give her the

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needed support! If you have participated in past years, you can most certainly be a great help! As of this date, (Nov. 12th) the information above should be accurate. Please watch for any date and/or time changes on our Facebook sites and on our message board on the clubhouse grounds in case Joyce needs to make a change. Again, let's do what our park always does, and come out and help Joyce to **MAKE OUR PARK MERRY!**

Joyce Hines

NORTHEAST CLUB

By Lucinda King

The first Northeast Club dinner will be held on **December 8th at 5pm in the clubhouse. Our menu will be fried catfish, green beans, macaroni and cheese, coleslaw, rolls and a dessert-all for \$12.00!**

You must be a member to attend. Our membership drive is already off to a great start; it's only \$5 to become a member. You may join and purchase tickets at the Box Office on Sundays from 2pm till 4pm. The Northeast Club is open to residents from any state, not just those from the Northeastern states. We meet for dinner and fun times once each month.

We look forward to meeting you! We will see you on December 8th!

LINE DANCE CLASSES

By Ellen Heigham

We will start back up in January with Line Dance Classes. The day and time will be announced in the January Newsletter.

In the interim, if anyone would like an impromptu lesson. Brush up on the Cowboy Charleston, Stroll Along Cha, or look up the "AhSi"

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



CARING HEARTS & HELPING HANDS CLUB

By Lenann Crisci



CARING HEARTS & HELPING HANDS is a **new volunteer** organization being formed this fall. It is the off spring of the Helping Hands group that was formed by Ellen Heigham. Park residents help or assist our residents who are shut-in by just stopping by to visit, run an errand, take them to get groceries, or pick up a prescription. We are an arm of the Forest Park Social Club and we are in **dire need** of **volunteers** to join the Caring Hearts & Helping Hands. We have residents who are no longer able to drive, who are lonely and just want to visit or play cards, or just need a caring heart to give them a helping hand with their garbage or recycling. If you are willing to help out a neighbor, please contact me. If you need a helping hand with what I described, or just need someone to talk to, **please contact me, Lenann at 207-705-2256** I'm excited about being involved with our Caring Hearts Club--Hoping to make Forest Park the park with a BIG Heart. Let's do it. Together.

PINE TREE KNOTS QUILT CLUB

By Cindy Trepanier

The quilt club is asking for help. If you know of someone in the park that has cancer, an illness or surgery, please let the office know. We give quilts to let them know we are thinking of them and a quilt is like a warm hug during this trying time.



We will start back this month on **Thursdays at 9:00**. No matter the level, beginner to skilled, everyone is welcome. I always learn something new each week from the group. We discuss issues and techniques. We have fabric and machines to make Park quilts, so please join us.

Social Club Officers

Co-Presidents –	Ellen Heigham	eheigham@gmail.com	617-448-1748
	Barbara Batson-Passos	carouselfarms@yahoo.com	973-219-1044
1st Vice President-	Paula Batson	shaht12@aol.com	201 874-4980
Co-Secretaries –	OPEN POSITION		
	Nancy Cooper	floobme@gmail.com	207-632-7544
Co-Treasurers —	Mary Kurucz	kuruczmary@gmail.com	740-310-3002
	Monte Johnson	fpsocialclubtreas@gmail.com	319-415-2816



FOREST PARK CRAFT CLUB

By Arline Norman Bennett, Vice President Sambear2@yahoo.com, 860-227-0563



The Craft club meets on Wednesday mornings at 9 am. In December we will not have a meeting the week of Christmas or New Years.

MARK YOUR CALENDAR: Saturday December 13th, 8:30 am to 11:00 am.

We will be having our Christmas breakfast with a cookie walk sale as well as some of our craft items at the Clubhouse to purchase. We look forward to seeing everyone from 8:30 am to 11:00 am. The breakfast is \$10.00 per ticket with ***all you can eat pancakes***, endless coffee, tea, or water. There will be 3 different kinds of casseroles: bacon n egg, ham n egg, plus sausage n egg. Mini muffins as well as a fruit cup. ***See you then.***



FOREST PARK TOOL CLUB

By Monte Johnson

The Forest Park Tool Club wants to **thank everyone** who came out for a hotdog dinner at the Halloween Golf Cart parade, or a breakfast sandwich and a map for the Carport Sales, and 50/50 raffles. Our residents' support is essential in the continued success of the Tool Club. We are accepting new members and will be purchasing new tools for our members to borrow at no cost. Dues for the year are only \$10.00. We have every type of saw from hand, circular, chain, oscillating, jig, hole, miter, radial arm, table, etc.; drills, nailers, air compressors, generator, mig welder, cement mixer; hand, yard, & garden tools; hand & electric hedge trimmers, weed wacker, leaf blower, and string trimmer, etc. This season we hope to resolve the dilemma with our current, termite infested tool storage shed with a newer, more spacious, improved tool storage facility.

If you have any questions, wish to join, donate cash, or no longer used tools, 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.

The Forest Park Tool Club



“THE PETAL PUSHERS” GARDEN CLUB

By Teri Snyder

Hello gardeners, the Petal Pushers Garden Club in Forest Park is organizing for the 2025/2026 year. We have many planned activities including a local Garden tour, learning about propagation of plants and container gardening as well as Landscaping with Native plants. Our hope is that the knowledge and skills you learn will assist you in enhancing your own garden. Guys, don't be shy, we know many of you are quite the gardeners and we welcome your contribution. Please join us.



Meetings on the second Monday of each month beginning in December. 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon. This year we will meet on the following dates:

December 10th, January 12th, February 9, March 9th and April 13th.

See you soon.

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

Library News

By Maureen Hesketh

Thanks to all northerners for donating so many great books to our library.

Come and browse to your hearts content !! The variety is endless

Your librarian,
Maureen Hesketh
508-962-5979



NEIGHBORHOOD WATCH/NIGHT PATROL

By Gloria Restko 🚗

Hello! Please consider **VOLUNTEERING** for Neighborhood Watch/Night Patrol. It's only one night a month. We are in **dire need of volunteers!!** Keeping a watchful eye on our park residents and residences keeps everyone safer. Crime continues to rise. Ideally, we would have someone patrolling every night of the month. Please contact the office if you could **volunteer** just one night a month. Your neighbors are doing it, so how about you?

THANK YOU TO ALL OUR RESIDENTS FOR VOLUNTEERING 🚗

Gloria Restko 813-841-9920



RED HAT SOCIETY

Contact Pam Salk 260-385-6407



Please join us on December 16th, at 1pm, for a welcome back Open House at the Forest Park Clubhouse. Please bring dues of \$7 in an envelope with your name, address, phone number, and email address and hand it to the host at the front door. We will be serving snacks and beverages. In the spirit of the Holidays, bring a wrapped \$5 holiday themed gift. We will be having a Mad Hatter Contest for prizes! 3 categories: Most Elegant, Most Original and Best Beach Bum Hat. We will be discussing where we want to go this year. Please bring your ideas. Looking forward to seeing everyone. Happy Holidays!! Pam Salk.

BOCCE BALL

Contact Carlo or Lee Luberti – 239-851-9543

Bocce ball is played on Monday and Thursday at the Bocce courts at 2:30 PM. Arrive at 2:15. New Members Welcome.



Open Bocce Ball on Saturday Mornings at 10:00am. There are no dues

NEWSLETTER ARTICLES

by Monte Johnson

All articles, news or photographs should be submitted to this email fpsocialnews@gmail.com and are 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 at forestparkonline.com. Your Forest Park Newsletter is totally run by volunteers who gather the information and photos, write the articles, request articles from others, proofread, arrange the articles, proofread, work with the publisher, proofread, distribute the newsletter and put it online. The newsletter is free because the advertising pays the expenses. Printed Newsletters usually arrive by the end of the previous 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!**

Shuffle Board

Contact Bill Madill 519-634-5619

We will have our **first meeting on January 1, 2026 at 10:00 am**. We will be playing twice a week on Mondays and Thursdays at 10 AM for fun points. Fridays are kept open for tournaments



Shuffleboard Fun Night – Everyone is invited to play shuffleboard every Wednesday night at 6:30 PM through December.

Ladies' Shuffleboard – Ladies play shuffleboard every Tuesday morning at 10 AM. Come enjoy, ladies.

Mixed Shuffleboard – Men and women play shuffleboard on Thursday evening at 6:30 pm.

There will be a sign up sheet on the bulletin board for anyone that wants to play. This is a fun league where no one gets too serious and everyone is welcome to play. Nov and Dec are random months. Whoever shows up can play it is good practice and I guess we get some exercise by stretching our arms out! The organized part of shuffleboard runs from January through March! Anyway enjoy yourselves while you can, use the amenities the park has supplied! and for heaven's sake never act your age! Until next time, **Bill Madill**.

QUIET HOURS IN THE PARK HAVE CHANGED. QUIET TIME BEGINS AT 10:00 PM AND ENDS AT 7:00 AM.



KARAOKE

Karaoke with Chris Tybor is held on the 1st and 3rd Mondays of the month, from **7- 9 pm 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.



DECEMBER

TUESDAY NIGHT BINGO



Don't forget to come on out for our weekly Bingo on **Tuesday nights** 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.



DECEMBER BIRTHDAYS

Sally Miller	1	Betty Schlectic	21
Michael Marunowski	4	Dawn Lawton	23
Bill Madill	4	Donald Matheny	23
Christina Stricklen	6	Carole Beconder	24
Georgiy Kolomichenko	7	Tony Nash	25
Mike Fanning	11	Janet Lammers	27
Jennifer Johnson	11	Linda Neises	27
Ron Geik	14	Edward Eads	28
Ann Mocko	15	Pam Salk	28
Carol Candido	17	Kimberly Dau	31
Helen Cox	18	Steve Barhorst	31
Ray Hosey	18	Mark Olson	31
Ellen Heigham	18		
Minnie Castor	19		
Patricia Sadowski	19		
Benny Sisto	21		
Grace Walker	21		
David Hillstrom	21		



HAPPY ANNIVERSARY

Pam and Jim Crain,	December 3
Don Bargholz and Peggy Cleary,	December 7, 1993
John and Ramona Etoll,	December 12, 1970
Dean and Diane Goldsboro,	December 18, 2004
Monte and Deb Johnson,	December 15, 1973
Alfred and Carol Pandola,	December 26, 1972

WELCOME TO FOREST PARK

Paul & Pamela Malone	John Hill
5121 Forest Park Dr	752 Knotty Pine Circle
812-240-3587	330-268-0066
Home State IN	Home State OH

welcome!

TAI CHI CLASS

by *Lenann Crisci*

Great to be returning to my 2nd home. It already has snowed here in Maine and once is enough for me. Delighted to be heading back in a week and to see all my Florida friends. Looking forward to my Tai Chi class on the 1st Wed. in Dec. All levels are welcome so come check us out at 2:00 PM.

CONTACT: LENANN CRISCI

207-705-2256



EXERCISE CLASS

By *Jane Cullin*

Jane's Cardio, Weight and Core Exercise class is every Monday, 8 am to 9 am (Note the half hour later start time.) In the clubhouse. Bring a mat or towel.



KOFFEE KLATCH

The **Joint** Koffee Klatch is on Friday, December 5th at 9:00 am In the Clubhouse. Coffee and Donuts are provided. JR Scherer from STYLECREST Mobile Home Parts & Supplies of Fort Myers will be our speaker. He will be explaining what they have to offer for your home. Don't miss out on the swag and a chance for a \$50 gift card. As always, bring your own coffee cup or mug. (1st Friday each month)



The **Men's** Koffee Klatch is on Friday, December 12th at 8:00 am to 9:00 am. in the Clubhouse. Coffee and Donuts are provided. As always, bring your own coffee cup or mug. (2nd Friday each month)

The **Women's** Koffee Klatch will be December 19th at 9:00 am-10am in the Clubhouse. Please bring a \$10 gift for a Christmas exchange. Coffee and Donuts are provided. As always, bring your own coffee cup or mug. (3rd Friday each month)

HAPPY
2026
NEW YEAR

FOREST PARKS HOME CHURCH “THE LIGHT”

By Roberta Rizas

Merry Christmas to all our friends and family members in Forest Park. This is a beautiful time of year.

CHRISTMAS.... A time to remember with fondness those who touch our lives in so many special ways..... a time for telling the special people in their lives that they are remembered, cherished, and loved today and all year through. Have a wonderful Christmas season and a happy new year too. This is a wonderful time of year to remember our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.



“One pair of hands formed the mountains, one pair of hands formed the sea. One pair of hands made the sun and moon, every bird, every flower, every tree.

One pair of hands formed the valleys, the oceans, the rivers, and the sand. Those hands are so strong, when life goes wrong put your faith into one pair of hands.

One pair of hands healed the sick, one pair of hands raised the dead. One pair of hands calmed a raging storm, and thousands of people were fed.

One pair of hands said “I love you” and those hands were nailed to a tree. Those hands are so strong when life goes wrong, put your faith into one pair of hands.”

All are invited to come to 457 Jacaramba Ct. any Sunday night at 6pm. That is our Home Church called , “The Light”. We would love to share the evening with you. Once again, MERRY CHRISTMAS TO ALL. And TO ALL A GOOD NIGHT.

Forest Park does not have a **Dog Walk, Run, or Park**. **Florida law** states that your dog must be on a leash no longer than six feet 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. No one wants to step in dog or cat feces!

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 tokentrespasser@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.
- **Unsightly 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 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 this identifier 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 Quiet Time are 10 PM to 7 AM. **YEAR ROUND Please be respectful of your neighbors!**



- **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.

- **Aluminum Cans** are still being collected on **Monday evenings only**. 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 sheriffs 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!

GAMES ANYONE ?

Have you checked out the Forest Park Online Calendar for the latest activities available for all Forest Park residents. There is something for everyone. Come on out and try something new.

- Pickle Ball
- Bocce Ball
- Shuffleboard
- Hand & Foot
- Dominoes



<div> <div>NOVEMBER</div> <div>S M T W T F S</div> <div> <div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div> </div> <div> <div>1</div><div>2</div><div>3</div><div>4</div><div>5</div><div>6</div><div>7</div> </div> <div> <div>8</div><div>9</div><div>10</div><div>11</div><div>12</div><div>13</div><div>14</div> </div> <div> <div>15</div><div>16</div><div>17</div><div>18</div><div>19</div><div>20</div><div>21</div> </div> <div> <div>22</div><div>23</div><div>24</div><div>25</div><div>26</div><div>27</div><div>28</div> </div> <div> <div>29</div><div>30</div><div>31</div> </div> </div>

JANUARY 2026

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DECEMBER 2025 All events are if enough residents are here to participate						
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
7 8:00 am Competitive Co-ed Pickleball 2:00 - 4:00 pm Forest Park Box Office 6:00 pm Home Church 6:00 pm Hand and Foot - Clubhouse	**1** 8:00 am Competitive Co-ed Pickleball 8:00 am Cardio, Weights, & Core with Jane - Clubhouse 9:00 am Dominos - Clubhouse 9:15 am Relaxed Co-Ed Pickleball 10:00 am Co-Ed Shuffleboard 10:30 am Pool Exercise 2:30 pm Bocce Ball 7:00 PM KARAOKE WITH CHRIS AT CLUBHOUSE	**2** 8:00 am Competitive Co-ed Pickleball 9:00 am Walking and Weights with Carol B. - Clubhouse 9:15 am Relaxed Co-Ed Pickleball 10:00 am Ladies Shuffle Board 10:30 am Pool Exercise 1:00 pm Line Dance Class, beginners at 12:30 pm 2:00 pm Tai Chi Class beginners and everyone 6:00 pm Texas Holdem Tournament- Activities Building 6:45 pm Bingo - Clubhouse	**3** 8:00 am Competitive Co-ed Pickleball 9:00 am Craft Club - Clubhouse 9:15 am Relaxed Co-Ed Pickleball 10:30 am Pool Exercise 6:30 pm Euchre - Activities Building 2025 FINAL DATE FOR NAME ON BALLOT	**4** 8:00 am Competitive Co-ed Pickleball 9:15 am Relaxed Co-Ed Pickleball 9:00 am Pine Tree Knots Quilt Club - Clubhouse 10:00 am League Shuffle Board 10:00 am Ladies Bible Study 10:30 am Pool Exercise 2:30 pm Bocce Ball 6:00 pm Hand and Foot, Domino's - Clubhouse 7:00 PM MEET THE CANDIDATES AT CLUBHOUSE	**5** 8:00 am Competitive Co-ed Pickleball 9:00 AM JOINT KOFFEE KLATCH AT CLUBHOUSE. SPEAKER, DOOR PRIZES 9:15 am Relaxed Co-Ed Pickleball 10:30 am Pool Exercise	**6** 8:00 am Competitive Co-ed Pickleball 9:00 am Walking and Weights with Carol/B. - Clubhouse 10:00 am Open Bocce Ball 2:00 pm Tai Chi beginners class
Pearl Harbor Remembrance Day **14** 8:00 am Competitive Co-ed Pickleball 2:00 - 4:00 pm Forest Park Box Office 6:00 pm Home Church 6:00 pm Hand and Foot - Clubhouse	**8** 8:00 am Competitive Co-ed Pickleball 8:00 am Cardio, Weights, & Core with Jane - Clubhouse 9:00 am Dominos - Clubhouse 9:15 am Relaxed Co-Ed Pickleball 10:00 am Co-Ed Shuffleboard 10:30 am Pool Exercise 2:30 pm Bocce Ball 5:40 PM N.E. CLUB MEETING, AND DINNER AT CLUBHOUSE	**9** 8:00 am Competitive Co-ed Pickleball 9:00 am Walking and Weights with Carol B. - Clubhouse 9:15 am Relaxed Co-Ed Pickleball 10:00 am Ladies Shuffle Board 10:30 am Pool Exercise 1:00 pm Line Dance Class, beginners at 12:30 pm 2:00 PM RED HAT LADIES CLUBHOUSE 2:00 pm Tai Chi Class beginners and everyone 6:00 pm Texas Holdem Tournament- Activities Building 6:45 pm Bingo - Clubhouse	**10** 8:00 am Competitive Co-ed Pickleball 9:00 am Craft Club - Clubhouse 9:15 am Relaxed Co-Ed Pickleball 10:30 am Pool Exercise 6:30 pm Euchre - Activities Building	**11** 8:00 am Competitive Co-ed Pickleball 9:00 AM BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING. ACTIVITIES BUILDING 9:15 am Relaxed Co-Ed Pickleball 9:00 am Pine Tree Knots Quilt Club - Clubhouse 10:00 am League Shuffle Board 10:00 am Ladies Bible Study 10:30 am Pool Exercise 2:30 pm Bocce Ball 6:00 pm Hand and Foot, Domino's - Clubhouse	**12** 8:00 AM MEMS KOFFEE KLATCH AT CLUBHOUSE 8:00 am Competitive Co-ed Pickleball 9:15 am Relaxed Co-Ed Pickleball 10:30 am Pool Exercise	**13** 8:00 am Competitive Co-ed Pickleball 8:00 AM MEMS KOFFEE KLATCH AT CLUBHOUSE 9:00 am Walking and Weights with Carol/B. - Clubhouse 10:00 am Open Bocce Ball 2:00 pm Tai Chi beginners class
First Day of Winter **21** 8:00 am Competitive Co-ed Pickleball 2:00 - 4:00 pm Forest Park Box Office 5:00 PM CHRISTMAS CAROLING WITH ELLEN AT CLUBHOUSE 6:00 pm Home Church 6:00 pm Hand and Foot - Clubhouse	**22** 8:00 am Competitive Co-ed Pickleball 8:00 am Cardio, Weights, & Core with Jane - Clubhouse 9:00 am Dominos - Clubhouse 9:15 am Relaxed Co-Ed Pickleball 10:00 am Co-Ed Shuffleboard 10:30 am Pool Exercise 2:30 pm Bocce Ball	**23** 8:00 am Competitive Co-ed Pickleball 9:00 am Walking and Weights with Carol B. - Clubhouse 9:15 am Relaxed Co-Ed Pickleball 10:00 am Ladies Shuffle Board 10:30 am Pool Exercise 1:00 pm Line Dance Class, beginners at 12:30 pm 2:00 pm Tai Chi Class beginners and everyone 6:00 pm Texas Holdem Tournament- Activities Building 6:45 pm Bingo - Clubhouse	**24** 8:00 am Competitive Co-ed Pickleball 9:00 am Craft Club - Clubhouse 9:15 am Relaxed Co-Ed Pickleball 10:30 am Pool Exercise 6:30 pm Euchre - Activities Building	**25** 8:00 am Competitive Co-ed Pickleball 9:15 am Relaxed Co-Ed Pickleball 9:00 am Pine Tree Knots Quilt Club - Clubhouse 10:00 am League Shuffle Board 10:00 am Ladies Bible Study 10:30 am Pool Exercise 2:30 pm Bocce Ball 6:00 pm Hand and Foot, Domino's - Clubhouse	**26** 8:00 am Competitive Co-ed Pickleball 9:15 am Relaxed Co-Ed Pickleball 10:30 am Pool Exercise 1:00 PM SOCIAL CLUB MEETING AT ACTIVITIES BUILDING	**27** 8:00 am Competitive Co-ed Pickleball 9:00 am Walking and Weights with Carol/B. - Clubhouse 10:00 am Open Bocce Ball 2:00 pm Tai Chi beginners class
28 8:00 am Competitive Co-ed Pickleball 2:00 - 4:00 pm Forest Park Box Office 6:00 pm Home Church 6:00 pm Hand and Foot - Clubhouse	**29** 8:00 am Competitive Co-ed Pickleball 8:00 am Cardio, Weights, & Core with Jane - Clubhouse 9:00 am Dominos - Clubhouse 9:15 am Relaxed Co-Ed Pickleball 10:00 am Co-Ed Shuffleboard 10:30 am Pool Exercise 2:30 pm Bocce Ball	**30** 8:00 am Competitive Co-ed Pickleball 9:00 am Walking and Weights with Carol B. - Clubhouse 9:15 am Relaxed Co-Ed Pickleball 10:00 am Ladies Shuffle Board 10:30 am Pool Exercise 1:00 pm Line Dance Class, beginners at 12:30 pm 2:00 pm Tai Chi Class beginners and everyone 6:00 pm Texas Holdem Tournament- Activities Building 6:45 pm Bingo - Clubhouse	**Christmas Eve** **31** 8:00 am Competitive Co-ed Pickleball 9:15 am Craft Club - Clubhouse 9:10 am Relaxed Co-Ed Pickleball 10:30 am Pool Exercise 6:30 pm Euchre - Activities Building 7:30 PM NEW YEARS EYE MASKerade PARTY AT CLUBHOUSE	**Christmas** Christmas Eve		
New Year's Eve **1** 8:00 am Competitive Co-ed Pickleball 2:00 - 4:00 pm Forest Park Box Office 6:00 pm Home Church 6:00 pm Hand and Foot - Clubhouse						

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