

October 2026

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Forest Park Newsletter

Forest Park, N. Ft. Myers, FL

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Second Acts- Exploring Our Neighbors By Laura Freeze

They came for the sunshine, but they bring a lifetime of stories.

Don and Moe Hesketh

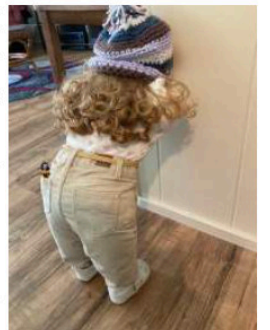
This column digs into the fascinating lives of our neighbors long before they made Forest Park as their home.

It's a special year for our neighbors Moe and Don Hesketh. They were married in 1963 and 2026 marks their 63rd wedding anniversary! Twig Court South has been their home since 2019. While living on Florida's east coast, their son encouraged them to move closer to him in Cape Coral. After researching the area, they drove into Forest Park and noticed how proud the community was of their property. They chose here and immediately immersed themselves in the park's activities. Don has always volunteered to help with anything mechanical and to this day helps keep our equipment in tip top shape. He even ensures that the park's generators are ready for any emergency that may arise. Something I think we all take for granted— just another behind the scenes volunteer keeping us up and running. Moe was voted in as treasurer and served on our board, having an extensive finance background. Word soon got out that she was also an excellent seamstress. Sewing made it possible for her to meet many nice people in the park. For years, Moe has made it possible for our community to have its own library and keeps that up to date for our residents.

Growing up in Attleboro, Massachusetts, she has been sewing since the age of five. When her sister went to first



grade, her mother knew she had to come up with something to keep Moe out of trouble. She would visit the neighbor lady, who began to teach her how to knit with two sharp pencils and string. She learned how to make doll clothes with newspaper patterns. Once Moe learned how to sew, she never stopped sewing. She recalled making leisure suits for Don and their boys at Easter. Now that's talent! Once her daughter was born it was all about the dresses. Kelly never had a store bought dress. She sewed everyday on an old pedal sewing machine. Remember Cabbage Patch dolls? Well, Moe would sell outfits to local stores. Cammo for GI Joes was the most popular along with rain gear which she made out of yellow shower curtains. She continued to do alterations in town and was given the name of "tent lady"- having to let



continued on page 3

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the seams out of ladies'dresses in Attleboro. Many years later, she bought her first sewing machine for a thousand dollars and began sewing wedding gowns. Most made from very expensive white silk from the garment district. She recalled it took her two weeks to be brave enough to actually cut the material. "Time Out Dolls", like the one pictured, was a project that both her and Don worked on once their granddaughter was born in 2004. Don builds the frame and Moe makes the outfits. Believe me they look real and just so cute. They come with a name and birth date. Coming from someone who can hardly thread a needle, I'm impressed with her patience and skill as a seamstress. For 75 years, Moe has followed her passion for sewing, all while working and raising a family.

Married for 63 years! So how did their journey begin I wondered. It was the Summer of 1960, in Attleboro, Mass. when Moe was out on a double date with her boyfriend and his best friend (who just so happened to be Don). She decided to start fixing Don up with girls just so she could continue to double date. Soon she realized Don was a lot of fun! One day, she saw Don in his 1947 convertible hanging around town. She "missed the bus" and decided to ask Don if he could give her a ride home. She said, "How come you haven't ever asked me out?" Her Dad would love Don right away as they both were motorheads. At that time, Don had more interest in cars than women. When I asked what he remembers most about Moe, he never hesitated and quickly said "Her nice legs". And so their love story began.

After graduation, they married, had three children and settled in their home town of Attleboro. Moe worked at the bank and Don worked as a printer in a prominent print shop. Once the kids were in school, she drove a school bus until 1984. After they graduated, her and Don built a log cabin home in Massachusetts and stayed for 22 years. She worked at the bank for 15 years working her way up to branch supervisor. It was unusual for women to advance in their careers during that time. She also worked at Kendall Healthcare as a credit analyst. Don called her a "leg breaker". She was tough, making sure all delinquent accounts paid up or else. Don started his apprenticeship right out of high school, obtaining skills that made him a valuable asset to the printing companies. They soon recognized that he also had the ability to fix the massive printing equipment necessary to keep the business running. He advanced his career at the Art Craft Printing Co. and retired in 2007. He recalled making engraved letterhead exclusively for the White House.

Moe was right when referring to Don as a motorhead. They have had more motorcycles, sports cars and boats to be able to count. Don rode motorcycles for over

60 years. His pride and joy was his 1974 Norton John Player Special. Check out this picture he shared! At 5:30 in the morning and 7 degrees out in the Massachusetts winter, he would be spotted out on I-95 going to work. They reminisced about a radio



station announcer, Salty Brian, who would see him go past the station and call him the White Knight. Moe, always listening to the radio each morning, knew that Don had at least gotten that far on his way to work. From teaching her how to drive in his 1950 Oldsmobile, to being a member of the He Man Woman Haters Motorcycle Club, to restoring numerous vehicles from the chassis up, Don hasn't stopped. You should ask him to see his very impressive photo album.

Over 63 years ago, Moe first had the hunch that Don was fun and the fun hasn't stopped. On a sunny Florida afternoon, I still see them off on an adventure- boating and fishing on the river. Friday night is still "date night" and that hasn't changed. They lived a life of adventure and met many nice people along the way. Riding their motorcycle through Canada and along the eastern US, Moe has always been his co-pilot, long before GPS was a thing. So what's their secret? Learning how to bend for mutual agreement, always having it "our money" and having lots of love and respect for each other. So when you see Moe and Don out and about, don't be surprised if they aren't heading for another adventure. As they say, "There's not enough time to do nothing".



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



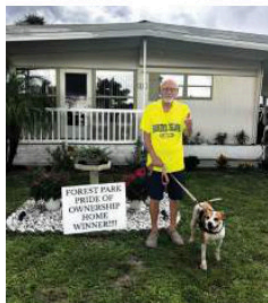
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PRIDE OF OWNERSHIP AWARD WINNERS*By Forest Park Compliance Committee***October Winners**

Frank Trombetta
556 Peacelake Ct



Shawn Glover
Forest Park Drive



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.

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

OCT. 15, 2026 Board Meeting 9 AM
OCT. 22, 2026 Membership Meeting 7 PM

FROM THE PRESIDENT*By Barbara Batson Passos***Strengthening Forest Park**

Forest Park is proud to be a resident-owned and resident-governed community. But managing 438 homes has become increasingly complex, and our volunteer Board carries a tremendous responsibility.

In the volatile and ever-changing times we live in, the need for professional management is becoming more apparent. More and more communities are recognizing the value of having experienced professionals available to assist with budgets, reserves, contracts, vendors, violations, insurance, record keeping, and changing Florida laws.

Professional management is something we should be considering for the future of Forest Park. One of its greatest values would be providing continuity as our volunteer Board changes from year to year, helping ensure that knowledge, procedures, projects, and important decisions are not lost during transitions.

Another benefit could be a modernized database and website, including individual resident portals, making it easier for homeowners to access information, submit requests, receive communications, and conduct HOA business.

Professional management would not take control away from our residents or Board. Instead, it could provide the expertise, technology, and support our volunteers need, reduce burnout, improve consistency, and help protect the interests of our homeowners.

Considering professional management is not giving up control—it is considering a stronger, more stable and modern future for Forest Park.

Barbara Batson Passos

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EDITORS THOUGHTS

By Monte Johnson



The Future of Forest Park Depends on All of Us

Over the past several months, our community has been confronted with a reality that has been building quietly for years: Forest Park has reached the limits of what a volunteer Board can reasonably sustain. The President's comments this month speak to that directly, and I want to expand on the message from an editorial perspective. Forest Park has always taken pride in being a self-managed, volunteer-driven community. It's part of our identity. But the conditions that made that model possible have changed. The workload has grown, the regulatory environment has tightened, and the financial responsibilities have become more complex. At the same time, the number of residents willing — or able — to serve on the Board has sharply declined. The current Board members are struggling under the weight of day-to-day operations that were never meant to fall on volunteers. We are also navigating a challenging financial position. Rising costs, deferred maintenance, and the need for long-term planning have created pressures that

require consistent, professional oversight. Volunteers have done everything they can — and more — but the strain is showing. The past couple of years have seen resignations, deaths, and the difficulty of filling essential roles as symptoms of a system that has reached its breaking point. None of this is a criticism of the Board or the volunteers who have kept Forest Park running for decades. It is simply an acknowledgment that the model that served us well in the past may not be the model that carries us into the future. Professional management is not a loss of identity — it is a recognition that our community has challenges that have grown, our responsibilities have grown, and our volunteers lack the expertise needed to manage the operations of a million dollar business. The conversation ahead will not be easy, but it is necessary. Forest Park deserves stability, continuity, and a structure that does not depend on a handful of exhausted volunteers. As we move forward, I encourage every resident to stay informed, participate in discussions, and consider what kind of governance will best protect the long-term health of our park. This is a pivotal moment. Let's meet it with clarity, honesty, and a shared commitment to the future of Forest Park.

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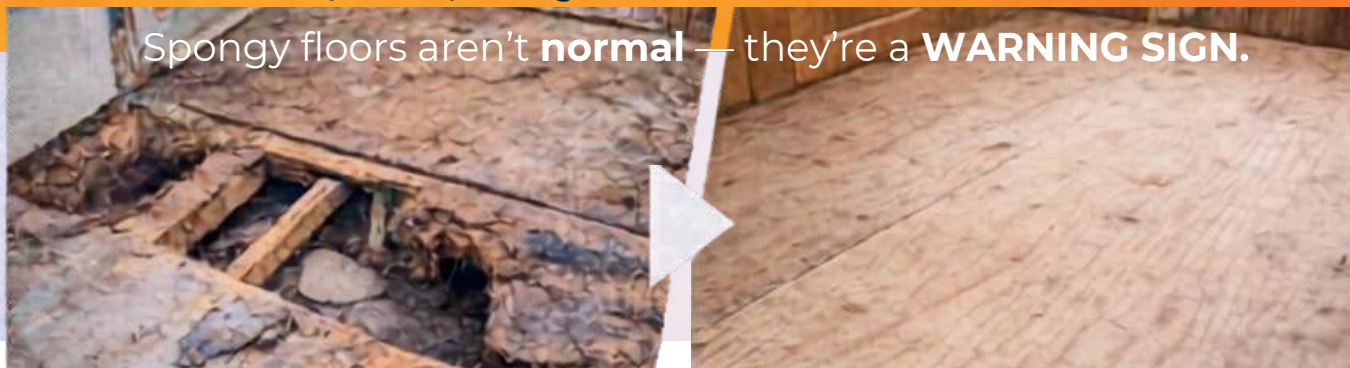
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- Weak spots near bathrooms or kitchens
- Flooring separating or bubbling
- Musty smells coming from floor
- Floors can eventually collapse

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COMPLIANCE COMMITTEE REPORT

By Bob Charles

As my wife and I returned from our summer in Delaware, I pulled in our driveway and noticed that there were an excessive amount of weeds in my flower beds. Being the chairman of the compliance committee, my wife insisted that I send myself a letter to remind me of my responsibility as a resident to keep my yard in proper condition, she was correct in her observation. I will report that the issue has since been taken care of with speed and panic.

As I drove around the park on my return, I thought the park looked extremely clean and cared for. Most of the lawns looked well kept with the grass cutting and trimming, you should give yourself a big round of applause. The one area we could do a little better is the trimming of the trees and palms. It's very important this time of year simply because of the storms that may occur, so please keep that in mind.

At the point when Ian devastated our park, we had many carports that needed replaced or repaired. Two years ago we had 22 homes that still needed carports, that number today is down to 3. This is very important for the beauty of the park and having families wanting to move into our park knowing that the park has residents who care about the upkeep and maintenance of Forest Park.

I just want to remind all residents that the speed limit in our park is 15 mph. This is to make sure that the walkers, golf cart riders, and those who rides bicycles on Forest Park Drive feel safe to do so. There's only one street in and out of Forest Park, so it's a very busy place at times. It is important to obey the Stop Signs as well, this is also an important safety issue.

Again, I want to thank all the residents who keeps their homes bright and beautiful, and who obey our speed limits, and don't have any problem stopping at the stop signs. You are the true Forest Park resident!

COMPLIANCE COMMITTEE: *Bob Charles, Warren Starks, Lucinda King, Kevin Mann, and Bill Russell.*

Date Night Out

By Moe Hesketh

Found ourselves out and about on our Friday night "Date Night".... We visited the Rum Bucket Bar & Grill. It's a



casual restaurant with old Florida charm serving classic American comfort food and local favorites.

The property dates back over 100 years to the Thomas Edison time, originally built by a German mariner who grew lush tropical gardens. It features indoor dining and outdoor seating surrounded by lush greenery. The menu highlights classic American fare including juicy burgers, hearty sandwiches, handmade southwest egg rolls and seasonal pork chop plates. The ribs just fall off the bone.

They have a full bar and specialty favorites like crispy gator bites. Their menu has something

for everyone and it's full of Comfort Food. Check it out and experience old Florida charm.

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Costumes are greatly encouraged!
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PRIZE FOR **BEST** COSTUMES
LET'S HAVE A SPOOKTACULAR NIGHT!



Just a Friendly reminder regarding HOA payment methods. Cash is no longer accepted. Payment methods that are accepted include: A C H

(automatic deduction) - Check - Money Order.

WOOF, WAG, & WIGGLE

By Paula Batson

This month we spotlight one of our very special dogs that make other peoples lives better. Meet Molly, a 7 year old Lab Retriever German Shepard mix owned by Linda and Robert Chapman. Another rescue dog, Molly found her forever home through the Pointer Rescue that Linda had seen online. She was adopted at approximately 2 years old and with a very unhealthy past. At a very young age she was being bred with two confirmed litters even though she was a pup herself. Through lots of love and patience Molly has thrived in her environment and home with her parents.



Not much for playing, or tricks Linda decided to focus on doing something for Molly that would help her and help others. So they embarked on becoming a certified therapy canine.

To become a Certified Therapy Dog takes tremendous dedication and constant effort. Not every dog will make the cut . You yourself must go through a background check , then a written test and handling assessment with 3 outside observations. You then will be cleared to start your journey.

Molly has been just wonderful with her tasks. Visiting local libraries and reading to kids, nursing homes or rehabilitation centers. She earned her Canine Good Citizenship and has shown others the value of saving shelter dogs and the reward of paying it forward.

Another great award Miss Molly has achieved is through AKC Farm Dog Certification at Lucky Dog Sanctuary. This is an evaluation of a dog's ability to be a reliable companion in many different settings. So this testing requires the utmost bond between handler and the dog . The ability to not become distracted when challenged with sudden changes in environment . Some of these include Aggressive /Friendly stranger approaching, passing livestock, supervised separation where the dog is left for 3 min with a stranger in a sit or down position owner out of sight.

Molly passed with flying colors and was awarded a ribbon for her and Linda's teamwork.

Dogs are such a gift to people and their companionship and love are unconditional. To be able to visit people that maybe have no one or are struggling with health challenges is just commendable . We thank this team for the community support that is needed for so many reasons. And if you would like a pick-me-up , or just pet a dog because you miss yours Molly will be your girl. Calm and

soft , she provides us with love. Let Linda know she will be glad to bring her by for a visit. Again if you're looking for a new best friend please consider our local shelters!

Top 10 Farm Philosophies for Fall Harvest Season

By Monte Johnson

Harvest on the Farm, Told Through Wisdom and Hard Work

I was raised on a family farm that was homesteaded in 1853. The land taught us more than any book ever could — lessons about soil, seasons, patience, and the quiet truth of hard work. As harvest arrives again, I wanted to share a few pieces of farm wisdom that still guide me today.

1. The soil remembers how you treated it.

Respect builds return — in land and also in people.

2. A good harvest starts with planning and a good spring.

Foundations matter more than finishes.

3. You plant in faith, you harvest in reality.

Hope follows planting the seed. Work gets the crop in the bin.

4. You don't argue with the seasons.

You plant when it's time, you harvest when it's time.

5. Rain doesn't care what you planned.

Weather teaches humility. Adjust your plans, don't complain.

6. You don't judge a crop by the first ear you pick.

Early results don't tell the whole story. Patience means waiting until the end.

7. You can't rush a harvest.

Start too early, you lose yield; wait too long, you lose quality.

8. The grain bin fills one load at a time.

Big goals aren't achieved all at once. Harvest is completed load by load.

9. You don't fix a broken combine by yelling at it.

Problems — and people — respond to effort and encouragement, not frustration.

10. A quiet sunset is the farm's way of saying you did enough today.

Rest is part of the work. After harvest, the land settles... and so should you.

Closing Message

Harvest settles and the fields rest, just like many of you returning to Florida for the winter. May the warmth here give you the same easy comfort the land feels when the last load is in the bin.

Hazardous Waste in the RV Park

HAZARDOUS WASTE DISPOSAL

Is Back For Forest Park Residents!

The decision has been made to **continue this program for the months of October and November**. There will be no hazardous waste pickup for the month of December due to the holidays.

The future of this program remains in doubt as residents continue to take their hazardous waste to the RV storage/trash dumpster area (WHICH IS NOT ALLOWED). This service has been provided by volunteers to residents free of charge. We picked up hazardous waste on Thursday, August 27th and on the 30th we went to the dumpster and there were **18 cans of paint left by someone**. All 3 months of the pilot program we had to go to the dumpster area and pick up paint and chemicals. Unfortunately if residents continue to do this, the volunteer program will cease immediately and they will have to personally take their hazardous waste to Lee County.

Please remember that this is a volunteer program and if you'd like to help or participate **contact Jay Finch (607)742-3259**.

How It Works - **DO NOT take any hazardous waste to the RV storage/trash dumpsters. The Board voted to no longer allow these materials (paint, pesticides, chemicals, fluorescent bulbs and gas bottles) to be disposed of in the RV storage/trash dumpsters.**

- Call anytime in the month prior to the pickup date to put your name on the schedule.
 - **Our next pickup date would be on October 28th** - Call between October 1st and October 27th.
- November 24th - Call between November 1st and 23rd.
- You'll receive a reminder phone call the day prior to pickup.
- Have your hazardous waste at the end of your driveway no later than 9 AM on the date of pickup.
- Your hazardous waste will be picked up at your residence between 9AM - 11AM.
- To schedule your hazardous waste pickup, you would **call Jay Finch at**

(607) 742-3259

ALLOWED ITEMS

Paint

Pesticides

Oil

Gas

Cleaners

Batteries - Automotive & Rechargeable

Fire Extinguishers



PROHIBITED ITEMS

Batteries - Single Use

Tires of any type

- **DO NOT take any hazardous waste to the RV storage/trash dumpsters.**

If you have questions about what is or isn't allowed **call Jay Finch (607)742-3259**

*****ALL PAINT OR LIQUIDS MUST BE IN LEAK FREE CONTAINERS*****

We need **volunteers** for the program for hazardous waste disposal. Please keep in mind that this will be run by **volunteers**.

If you would like to volunteer, call Jay Finch at **(607) 742-3259!**

October Craft Club News

We will be back in December for our Holiday Breakfast. See you in a couple months, enjoy the fall season.



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Joynt Koffee Klatch

The **Joynt** Koffee Klatch will resume next month with guest speaker R.J. Scherer. See you next month at 9:00 am in the Clubhouse. Coffee and Donuts will be provided. As always, bring your own coffee cup or mug. (1st Friday each month)

The **Men's** Koffee Klatch will resume next month. See you in November at 8:00 am in the Clubhouse. Coffee and Donuts are provided. As always, bring your own coffee cup or mug. (2nd Friday each month)

MARK YOUR CALENDAR!

The first **Women's** Koffee Klatch will be **Friday, November 20th, at 9:00 am in the clubhouse.** Coffee, donuts and tea. I hope to see lots of ladies there. If you have any questions, reach out to Jane Cullin 330 242-2772 As always, bring your own coffee cup or mug. (3rd Friday each month)

NORTHEAST CLUB

By Deb Johnson

As October brings some of the snow birds back to Forest Park we look forward to everyone being back with us soon. The new season of the Northeast Club will start in December, with a delicious dinner being planned to kick off the season. Everyone is eligible to join the Northeast

Club, where it's only \$5 per person to join. We have a lot of new residents in the park and we hope you will come and check us out. It's a great way to have some fun, meet others and get acquainted. See you soon.



Social Club Officer

<u>President</u> –	Arline Bennett	Sambeare2@yahoo.com ,	860-227-0563
<u>1st Vice President</u> –	Ellen Heigham	ehigham@gmail.com	617-448-1748
<u>2nd Vice President</u> –	Bob Carson	rcc1617@verizon.com	607-857-0320
<u>Co-Secretaries</u> –	Kathy Revels	kathy.revels@gmail.com	517-243-2755
Kathy Carson		rcc1617@verizon.com	607-857-7673
<u>Co-Treasurers</u> —	Mary Kurucz	kuruczmary@gmail.com	740-310-3002
	Monte Johnson	fpsocialclubtreas@gmail.com	319-415-2816

Forest Park



FOREST PARKS HOME CHURCH

“THE LIGHT”

By Roberta Rizas



Just to inform everyone, FP Ladies Bible Study this year will not start until January of 2027. We used to start in November but we will be having a new Teacher who cannot start until Jan. Looking forward to our ladies that love to join us in discussion and prayer. We will still meet at 457 Jacaramba Ct. Any questions call me at 239-413-1569.

“The Light”, our home church, continues every Sunday night at 6 pm. All are welcome & we look forward to greeting you. Happy birthday to all of you for the month of October & congrats on the Anniversaries also. Welcome to this cool air in October after having such a hot summer. Thank God for no hurricanes. See you next month.

SOCIAL CLUB NEWS!!

By Arline Bennett



October 16th Friday 11 to 2pm Archwell Medicare update luncheon for 2026/2027 in the Clubhouse. There will be Publix sandwiches and chips. Sign up sheets are in the office and Clubhouse. The deadline to sign up is the 14th. October 31st 4:30 to 5:30 pm hot dog and hamburgers with the Tool Club. Halloween golf cart parade 6pm if you're not in the parade, step out to your driveways and cheer all the golf carts on. Halloween party immediately following at the Clubhouse. Wear a costume. There will be a prize for best golf cart and the best costume. Do You Think you'll win? Don't forget your empty bottle for the bottle roll!!! Bring your BYOB and snacks.

We **still** need someone to handle the Keep & Share Calendar schedule for our Main, Clubhouse, and Billiards Room calendar schedules. Those calendars have already been loaded into the Keep & Share Calendar for the next twelve months. The only responsibility for next year will be to make any changes to the calendar when notified.

Arline Bennett, President

Keep & Share

How many of you know about our Forest Park Calendar. It is called the Keep & Share Calendar (K&S). If you are reading the print version of this newsletter, go online to the Forest Park website and click on News. From there you can read this newsletter. Scroll down to this article and click on the Forest Park Calendar. You will see **Keep & Share** and under that is FOREST PARK MAIN CALENDAR.

The board determined during its February 19th meeting that the Social Club would be in charge of scheduling the Keep&Share Calendar. **The Social Club needs someone to volunteer** to manage the Main, Clubhouse, and Billiards room K&S calendars. The schedule for the next twelve months is already on the calendar. To schedule or change a previously scheduled event, contact the office. You also may choose the calendar for the **Clubhouse** or the **Billiards room**. If you are reading this online, just click the underlined link at the top of this article.

For more info call the office at **239-543-1155 between 9:00 am and 12:00 pm**

LIBRARY NEWS

By Maureen Hesketh

There are so many reasons to love your library. It's free, welcoming, full of great stories, ideas, and friendly faces. Come explore!!!

Your librarian,
Maureen Hesketh
508-962-5979



LINE DANCE CLASSES

By Ellen Heigham



The season has flown by and all my special line dancing friends have done an amazing job! This season we have worked on Ah Si, Fireball, Cowboy Charleston, Wagon Wheel, Uptown Funk, King of the Road and most of the line dance steps. I look forward to starting up again in the fall.

See you on the dance floor!

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

SHUFFLE BOARD

Contact Bill Madill 519-634-5619

We have completed another year of league play in our park. Many thanks to Ellsworth Heating and Cooling, for their sponsorship of our different functions through the year. We had 24 active players with Robin Mann being the most improved player by winning the most games through the year. She along with Carol Tolbert won the draw doubles.

I will not be looking after the shuffleboard next year due to health reasons. It is time to let someone else take the helm as I am getting old and crotchety. I have only been old for a week and I don't like it already! Next year, 2027, we should have our first meeting on Monday, Jan 4th to decide who will run the league. Posters should be up in December for players to sign up for next season. I will help with the initial organizing, if needed. It has been fun, and that's what it is all about. Ex Captain Bill

CARING HEARTS & HELPING HANDS CLUB

By Lenann Crisci & Rebecca Tybor



CARING HEARTS & HELPING HANDS is a volunteer organization that

formed this year. We met in the Clubhouse at 7:00 pm on the second and fourth Monday of every month between



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December and May.

We are an arm of the Forest Park Social Club that believes there are Angels among us. Becki Tybor is working with Lennan Crisci to make Forest Park a park where no one feels left out. Park residents help or assist our residents who are shut-in by just stopping by to visit, run an errand, or pick up a prescription. We are in **dire need of volunteers** to join the Caring Hearts & Helping Hands.

If you would like to assist a neighbor, or if you need support or help, reach out to Lenann at 207-705-2256 or Becki at 630-441-6279. We are excited about being involved with our Caring Hearts Club--Hoping to make Forest Park the park with a BIG Heart.

Some things we are working on include: The **Mobile Physician Services**, will assess your needs and will appoint you a family care physician. This physician will come to your house so there is no need to make Senior Bus appointments or find rides! They also have Specialists like Audiologists, Podiatrists, X-Rays, Bloodwork, etc. **Please call 855-232-0641 and dial 1 for intake.** They will check your insurance, as most health advantage plans are accepted for this service. Please call Lenann if you need help with this.

We are also checking with churches – Youth Groups, Service hours for Confirmation Students, etc. for volunteers helping with yard work and around the house; Fur Factor Mobile Pet care 239-233-6803 for pet grooming that comes to your home; and Mobile Hair Care Services. Becki is contacting Walmart to see if they will make a delivery to Forest Park for free to the Clubhouse at least once a month for all that would like to make online orders. We encourage you to share any further suggestions, which could be included in a Senior Brochure featuring useful details and essential phone numbers, and distributed to all households. If you offer a discounted service and wish to be included in this brochure, please contact Becki. Let us do it. Together.

FOREST PARK TOOL CLUB

By Monte Johnson

The Tool Club has replaced the two broken windows that were in the trailer, acquired an aluminum 5.5 sq. ft platform with steel steps to facilitate ease of entrance. *We will be remodeling the trailer to accommodate all our tools this fall. Please, if you have tools to donate, please contact one of the officers listed below. The tool shed is overflowing. And we can't get in the door.*

We want to hold more and bigger breakfasts and dinners next season. The over 60 Tool Club members would like

to **thank the Board of Directors and everyone** who came out last season to our dinners, breakfasts, and 50/50 raffles. Our residents' support is essential in the continued success of the Tool Club. We meet the second Tuesday of every month at 10:00 am in the Billiards room of the Activities Building from October through May. We will again be hosting a dinner prior to Karaoke **every first and third Monday of the month beginning this month with the Halloween Dinner at 4:30 in the Clubhouse.** We are accepting new members and will be purchasing new tools for our members to borrow at no cost. **Dues for the year are pending.** We currently have the normal yard, gardening, hand and power tools used for home or construction projects. But we also have a wet tile cutter, concrete mixer, mig welder, two generators, a chain saw, buffer/polisher, and an assortment of nails, screws, bolts, washers, and nuts.

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



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Needed: Night Patrol Volunteers

By Laura Freeze

Are you a night owl? There's a great opportunity to volunteer right here in our park! When most of us are sleeping, our neighbors volunteer to patrol our streets. Here's a spotlight on just some of our dedicated volunteers and what they encountered while on "patrol"

Paula Evans:

Paula has been volunteering since moving here in June of 2024. Some funny things she didn't know until driving around at night on the golf cart, was that rabbits freeze in position and then spring off the ground pretty darn high! Many times she still screams even though she knows they are going to do it. Kind of like a Jack in the Box! Gets her every time - so dodging rabbits is definitely a heads up when patrolling. She has also seen a lot of wildlife including some fairly large coyotes. Volunteering has given her the opportunity to meet more neighbors around

Forest Park. She said that It's important to know who belongs here and who doesn't, especially at night. Helping our older neighbors feel safe by offering this service shows that we care about our community. Times have changed and we need to continue to keep our Forest Park safe.



Monte Johnson:

Monte had knee surgery in May and hasn't been on night patrol as much. He hasn't encountered anything out of the ordinary while patrolling. He did note that a bicycle was stolen after he finished the night patrol. Monte stated that due to resident turnover, the night patrol is desperate for more volunteers.

Michael Neises

Michael has volunteered for security for the last 4 years! Funny things he has encountered were lots of frogs in the pool, laughing at the number of rabbits in Forest Park, the music at the pool being on at midnight and not knowing how to shut it off! He said that he enjoyed seeing the park at later hours. It's usually quiet but a few lights are on. They have never encountered anything bad and hope that continues.

Barbara Batson:

Barbara has volunteered for night patrol for the last 2 years. She said that the best part of patrolling at night is being able to see all the wildlife. She has seen a great horned owl! She likes to be out when the weather is cooler and the park is quiet. She has called LCSO twice since volunteering and they came right away, which is good to know. If you're a night person, it's great to go out and be part of protecting the community.

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Forest Park

Rocky Rackers:

Rocky has volunteered for about 14 years, patrolling during the summer months while the Snowbirds are away. He volunteers because he feels everyone should give back to their community what they can. He thinks it's actually boring, which is the way we want it!!

If you are a new resident, **please consider volunteering a couple hours for one night a month.** The Park supplies a flashing light, spot light, signs for your vehicle, notebook, and a park directory. It does help to keep our Park safe.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!!!

ATTENTION: ALL RESIDENTS.

Many of our snowbirds will be returning from up north soon. Please consider **VOLUNTEERING for Neighborhood Watch/Night Patrol.** It's only **one night per month for a couple of hours.** If you are **full time or new to the park**, feel free to pick up information and a **volunteer** form at the office. Keeping a watchful eye on our park residents and residences is vitally important to the **safety and security of everyone in our Park.** In the past we have had bicycles, golf carts, and tools stolen, as well as squatters moving into vacant homes. We have also had drug activity. No one wants that in our Park. **Info you see something suspicious or you will need to call: Sheriff # 239-477-1000 if an emergency call 911.**

Patrol Hours: Suggested patrol hours 11:00 pm-1:00 am. But....to deter anyone, you may vary your hours. If you are a night owl 🦉, feel free to take a ride at any time during your assigned evening. You drive up and down each street, check the clubhouse and activity/office doors, and surrounding outdoor areas.

Sit at the entrance for about 15 or so minutes. Your presence makes a lot of difference to those driving, walking, and riding bikes on Hart Road. Our presence with that flashing light makes all of us feel safer.

CHECK Doors at clubhouse, activity building, and pool restrooms. They automatically lock around 8:00 pm.

BE SURE YOU PICK UP THE BACKPACK IN THE ACTIVITY BUILDING AND RETURN IT BY

NOON THE NEXT DAY. INSIDE YOU WILL FIND A FLASHING LIGHT, 🔦 NOTEBOOK, FLASHLIGHT, AND MAGNETIC SIGNS FOR YOUR VEHICLE, PLUS SOME INFO AND PARK DIRECTORY

If you find doors unlocked, lights on, try to turn them off and lock doors. Sometimes the restroom doors are not locked. Go inside and lock the interior door. **NOTIFY THE OFFICE THE NEXT MORNING OF ANY ISSUES.!!**

If any of the street lights are out, get the number on the

pole, street, and closest house number and report this to the office.

NEVER CONFRONT ANY INTRUDER OR TRESPASSER... CALL THE SHERIFF IMMEDIATELY 🚔 The Night Patrol Coordinator for the Park is **Gloria Restko.** Gloria has been a full time resident of the Park for many years. You may see Gloria and Mr. Bill in her white golf cart out and about.

THANK YOU TO ALL OUR RESIDENTS WHO ARE VOLUNTEERING 🚗

Gloria Restko 813-841-9920

RED HAT LADIES

Contact Pam Salk 260-385-6407



Another season is fast approaching. Starting with the second Tuesday in December. In the plans for next year is a wonderful idea by Joy to attend a Tea Party, hosted by "Le Petit " (A Tea Room Experience) she says that it is a total delight!! It is located in the Cape; 2301 Del Prado Blvd, South. They can host a group of up to 30 at one time. You can also make a reservation for any size. I am always open for help in choosing locations! See you in December 🍷 or the season; so come out and Enjoy The Island Vibe.

Pam Salk

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. (fpfoainc@gmail.com) If you need further information, contact me at japrovence@gmail.com



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RV STORAGE PARK

By Robyn Johnson

Hi, just a reminder that you **MUST** keep your info up to date with the office. Each time you renew your tags, we require it to be on file, and the new tag displayed on your license plate. Also, if you've added something new to your assigned spot, you need to update that info as well.

The rules require that all RV's, campers and utility trailers be road worthy and not sitting with flat tires etc. Have you checked on yours lately?

Charging for the RV spots has been delayed, but be on the lookout for more information coming soon. If you no longer need your spot, please notify the office or myself so we can take you off the list.

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). **IF YOU HAVE A BOAT, CAMPER, OR TRAILER IN YOUR DRIVEWAY FOR OVER 48 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.**

There are a few spots available if anyone is in need of one.

Any questions please contact the office or myself.

Thanks,

Robyn Johnson

651-341-8346

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!**

KARAOKE

Karaoke with Chris Tybor is held on the 1st and 3rd Mondays of the month, **from 6 - 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.



Birthdays for October

Cheryl Buening	1	Kathy Carson	17
Max Moor	2	Robert Phelan	17
Suzanne DelRossi	4	Roberta Wittig	17
Leonard Neckers	5	Frank Campanaro	21
Daniel Tesar	5	Patti Kothe	21
James Garvey	5	Donna Stiner	21
Lee Luberti	6	Carol Record	21
Pamela Malone	7	Becky Lodi	21
Jessop Marchbanks	8	Ann Charles	21
Patricia Randolph	9	Mike Neises	22
Becky Conrad	12	Mark Snyder	22
Madaline Preston	13	Mary Gorgan	22
Luisa Hamilton	13	Don Bargholz	23
Susan Hough	13	Mark Boyd	24
Christen Henning	14	Ivan Taylor	24
Christy Robison	15	Kathy Revels	24
Janice Tomas	16	Hoyt England	24
Lisa Cogburn	16	Gladys Smith	25
		Joan Fotta	30

HAPPY BIRTHDAY EVERYONE

HAPPY ANNIVERSARY

October Anniversaries

Thomas & Minnie Castor	October 4, 1980
Jerry & Lisa Day	October 11, 2012
Bob & Sandy Bagge	October 14, 1972
Gerald & Melodye Gilbert	October 15, 1983
John & Faye Shockey	October 20, 1962
Danny & Karen Angell	October 22, 1971
Tony & Karen Nash	October 22, 1977
Barbara & Marcos Passos	October 29, 1988

Happy Anniversary

WELCOME TO FOREST PARK

New Residents	Guillermo & Mariela Angel
Diane Izral	815 Hollyberry Ct
730 Knotty Pine Cir	845-701-1334
815-671-2428	Home State: Florida
Home State: Georgia	
Eric & Penny Witsaman	Randy Schreiber
5201 Forest Park DR	5431 Forest Park Dr
239-707-5042	Home State: Florida
Home State: Florida	



TAI CHI CLASS

by Lenann Crisci

Lenann's Tai Chi class has ended for this season. Please join Lenann this fall when she returns.

CONTACT: LENANN CRISCI

207-705-2256



EXERCISE CLASSES

By Jane Cullin and Carole Beconder

MARK YOUR CALENDAR!

My first Monday morning exercise class will be Monday, October 19, 8:30 start in the clubhouse. Cardio weights and core. Bring a mat for the floor work. Questions reach out to Jane Cullin 330 242-2772

Carole's Walking, a little Yoga and light weights. Exercise class has ended for this season. Please join Carole this fall when she returns.



Notes of Cheer

By Robyn Johnson

Did you know that Social Club has a cheer person that sends out cards to residents that have been ill, had surgery, or have lost a loved one. Social Club provides the stamps and relies on residents to donate blank, get well and sympathy cards.

Karen Nash happily fills the position. If you know of anyone in need of some cheer, please reach out to Karen at 859-462-2280 or you may email her at knash@blueone.net.

Also, if you have any of the cards listed above and would like to donate them, please bring them to Karen Nash, or you may drop them off at the office.

Thank you

Karen Nash 859-462-2280

or

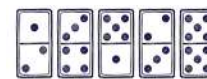
Robyn Johnson 651-341-8346



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



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. If your dog is aggressive towards other dogs or people, you should have your dog muzzled while outside on a leash. 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!



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 no longer allow these materials (paint, pesticides, chemicals, fluorescent bulbs and gas bottles) to be picked up at the curb. These articles should be 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!!! Absolutely no tires are to be left in the R/V Park!**



Notice the RED BUTTON on the controller. This is for emergencies only. DO NOT TOUCH THE RED BUTTON!

Forest Park - October 2026 Calendar

All events are if enough residents are here to participate.

- Every Monday

8:00 am Competitive Co-ed Pickleball
8:30 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

- Every Tuesday

8:00 am Competitive Co-ed Pickleball
9:15 am Relaxed Co-Ed Pickleball
10:00 am Ladies Shuffle Board
10:15 am Mahjong - Clubhouse
10:30 am Pool Exercise
6:00 pm Texas Holdem Tournament- Activities Building
6:45 pm Bingo - Clubhouse Bingo has returned

- Every Wednesday

8:00 am Competitive Co-ed Pickleball
9:15 am Relaxed Co-Ed Pickleball
10:30 am Pool Exercise
6:30 pm Euchre - Activities Building

- Every Thursday

8:00 am Competitive Co-ed Pickleball
9:15 am Relaxed Co-Ed Pickleball
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
6:30 pm Mixed Shuffleboard

- Every Friday

8:00 am Competitive Co-ed Pickleball
9:15 am Relaxed Co-Ed Pickleball
10:30 am Pool Exercise

- Every Saturday

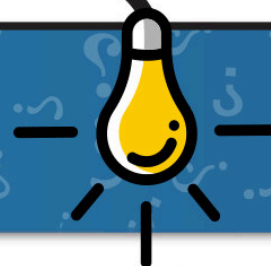
8:00 am Competitive Co-ed Pickleball
10:00 am Open Bocce Ball

- Every Sunday

8:00 am Competitive Co-ed Pickleball
6:00 pm Home Church
6:00 pm Texas Holdem Tournament- Activities Building
6:00 pm Hand and Foot - Clubhouse



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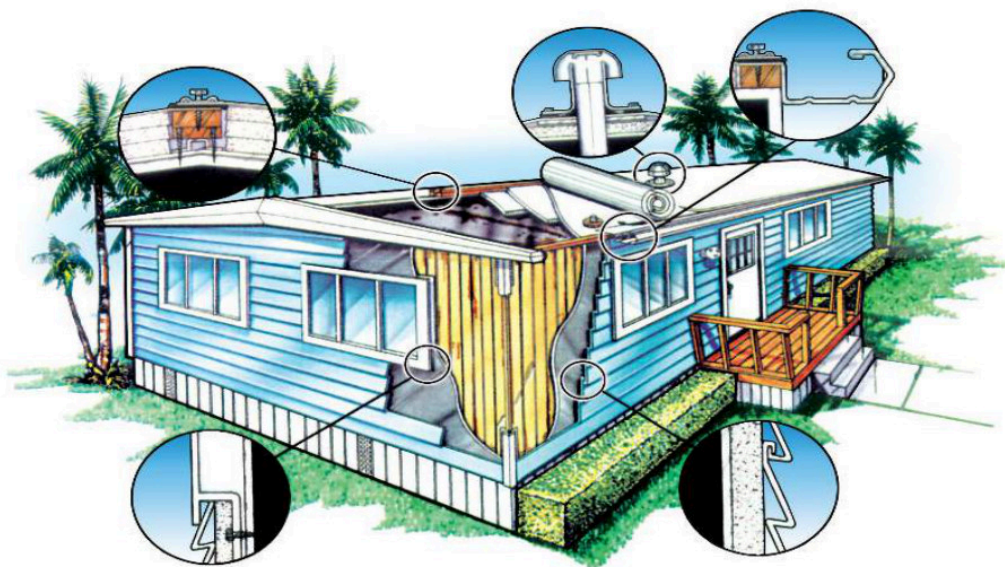


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