



# The Polo Park Press

ALL THE NEWS  
FOR THE  
POLO PARK  
COMMUNITY

*February 2025*

VOLUME 27

## Polo Park HOA Office

426 Polo Park Boulevard  
Davenport, Florida 33897

**863-420-1591**

863-420-4071 (Fax)

E-mail:

**poloparkhoa@verizon.net**

Website: **poloparkhoa.com**

### Office Hours

Mon. / Weds. / Fri. 9:00 am - 3:30 pm  
Tues. & Thurs. 9:00 am - 2:30 pm  
Closed Saturday, Sunday & Major Holidays

**ProShop 863-424-3341**

## 2025 Board of Directors

### Robert Scott Rapp

*President & Buildings & Grounds*

President@poloparkhoa.com

buildings@poloparkhoa.com

407-361-7774

### Shirley Hosner

*Vice President &*

*Veterans/Disaster Preparedness*

vicepresident@poloparkhoa.com

541-840-5156

### Marianne Helmprecht

*Treasurer & Pools*

Treasurer@poloparkhoa

Pools@poloparkhoa

631-672-1418

### Linda Bailey

*Secretary & CAP/CERT, Activities/*

*Documents/Audit*

secretary@poloparkhoa.com

activities@poloparkhoa.com

cert@poloparkhoa.com

863-420-0825

### Pat Hess

*Director, ARC*

arc@poloparkhoa.com

863-307-8516

### Mike Wright

*Director, Golf*

golf@poloparkhoa.com

419-303-6383

### Sally Franklin

*Director, Rules & Regulations*

816-289-0234

## President's Message

*Hello to all my fellow residents of Polo Park.*

Looking forward to a Great 2025! As we start the year, we should pause to reflect on the blessings we have, and the Volunteers that help us maintain such a diverse and expansive level of amenities, and activities in OUR park, and because of this, the low dues it takes to support it. We truly have something here for everyone, and instead of bickering over what we fund, and what costs more, let us find ways to expand our offerings, and utilize what we have to the max. We are not going to use every offering, but they are there and enrich us as a Family, and we do not want to lose anything. I could include here a list, but I believe we know what we have, and should fight together to preserve every last bit of it.

This is what defines us as Polo Park, the Best of the Best places to live. I am proud to have the opportunity to serve as your President, and promise to work together with one of the best boards ever and our Polo Park Family to have a great, productive year!

**Scott Rapp**

*Board of Directors*

*President*



• February 2

• February 16

*8:30 a.m. at*

*Challenger Club House.*

*All are Welcome!*

## ★ Polo Park Press

### Editor:

Denise Lundin

deelandin@gmail.com

716-785-1270

### Associate Editor:

Sam Harris

sharris.poloparkpress@gmail.com

727-643-3969

### Advertisements:

Sam Harris

727-643-3969

### Photos:

Linda Bailey

### Distribution:

Cindy Ratliff

414-524-9012



## Polo Park Business

### ★ BOD Meeting Minutes

*Monday, January 13, 2025*

The Minutes of the *January* Board of Directors Meeting are posted on the bulletin boards of both Clubhouses. If you would like a copy to take home, copies are available in the HOA office. You can also read the Minutes at the Polo Park website, [poloparkhoa.com](http://poloparkhoa.com). Please take the time to read the Minutes and be sure to attend the Board of Directors meeting on *February 10*, at 7:00 p.m. at Challenger Clubhouse. The *February* minutes will be posted in the clubhouses a week after the meeting.

### ★ Golf Committee Meeting

*Monday, February 3 • 9:30 a.m., CCH*

All homeowners are welcome and encouraged to attend.

### ★ Buildings and Grounds Meeting

*Monday, February 3 • 11:00 a.m., CCH*

All homeowners are welcome and encouraged to attend.

### ★ Rules and Regulations Committee Meeting

*Monday, February 3 • 1:00 p.m., CCH*

All homeowners are welcome and encouraged to attend.

### ★ Pool Committee Meeting

*Tuesday, February 4 • 10:00 a.m. BCH*

All homeowners are welcome and encouraged to attend.

### ★ Election Committee Annual Report

*Robin Harris, Election Chair / Arrol McGarvey, Co-Chair*

The 2025 Polo Park Annual Homeowners meeting was held on January 13th, 2025, at 7 p.m. at the Challenger Clubhouse. Owners of 213 lots registered to vote and attended, therefore the requirement of a quorum attending was satisfied. Our bylaws set our quorum at 150 lots.

Three (3) director positions were open, and 3 owners applied. As the applicants were unopposed, no ballot voting was required. New directors, Shirley Hosner, Pat Hess, were installed. Scott Rapp was renewed for his open position. The 2025 budget was approved by a majority of the members' quorum. A 2/3 yes vote was required to amend our governing documents, however, the proposed amended governing documents (Rules & Regulations, Bylaws and Restated Covenants & Restrictions) were NOT approved. We are still being governed by our 2013 documents. The official minutes of the meeting can be found on the Polo Park website, or a copy may be obtained from the Polo Park Office. Detailed information is available in those minutes.

### ★ ARC News

This month we'd like to share from the Florida State statutes what they say about ramps. You can find it in section 720.304 (5). You are allowed to have a ramp for medical necessity or disability that requires a ramp under the following conditions:

1. The ramp has to blend in with the home and be a reasonable size for intended use.
2. An ARC request must be submitted before construction with detailed description.
3. An affidavit from a physician stating the medical necessity of resident/occupant that requires a ramp. So, if you need a ramp for these reasons, please fill out an ARC form with a doctors note as to why you need one before you contract the work out. In the long run it will save you unnecessary delays.

Another area that's been coming up at our meetings is what to do about your driveway. If it's gotten old, needs to be resurfaced or you just want to make a change, here are a few suggestions. You could just paint over it, but keep in mind that will chip, get tire marks on it and need to be done over every few years. If you're looking for a more permanent solution, you could rip it out and put down brick, probably the most expensive option. You could put an epoxy like in the Challenger Clubhouse kitchen and bathrooms, coat and resurface, stain it or do a thin brick overlay. As you can see there are several different options available, so choose the best one for you. As always, thank you for helping to keep Polo Park beautiful.

### ★ DRIVING TIPS FOR SENIORS

**PLEASE STAY SAFE.** Driving around US 27 is becoming very dangerous as more housing is being built. We value our residents and want everyone to come home.

- **BE PHYSICALLY ACTIVE.** This will improve strength and flexibility allowing you to turn your head better and have a firm grip on the steering wheel.
- **CONSIDER A NEWER MODEL CAR.** A newer car comes equipped with back up cameras and sensors that can alert you to objects nearby.
- **TAKE CARE OF YOUR EARS & EYES.** Wear glasses if needed. Wear your hearing aids to be able to hear what is going on around you.
- **AVOID DRIVING CERTAIN TIMES OF DAY.** Driving at sunrise, sunset or after dark can make seeing very difficult. Avoid rush hour. Only drive on roads you are familiar with.
- **DON'T CROWD.** Leave ample room between you and the car in front of you. Your reaction time becomes slower as you age.
- **LIMIT DISTRACTIONS.** Don't talk on your cell phone. NEVER text while you are driving. Don't eat or drink. Turn down the radio and never wear headphones.
- **OBEY ALL TRAFFIC LAWS.** Wear your seatbelt at all times. Come to a full and complete stop at stop signs. Never run a red light. The few seconds you gain are not worth your life.
- **NEVER DRIVE UNDER THE INFLUENCE OF DRUGS OR ALCOHOL.**

## Polo Park Business

### ★ Rules & Regulations

The purpose of the Rules and Regulations Committee is to educate homeowners of their responsibilities for maintaining and improving the community's quality of life and property values. The committee is responsible for following all of the governing documents of Polo Park. The current guidelines have been in place since 2013. These were created for the protection and benefit of all members of the Association. We are a group of concerned and thoughtful homeowners who care about the neighborhood and the people in it. We must also work in conjunction with Florida Statutes Chapter 720 for homeowners associations. The committee members patrol the park and record anything that needs attention. Examples are excess weeds, dirty driveways, or faded paint on homes. If need be, a letter goes to the homeowner informing them of what needs to be done and how long they have to correct the problem. Almost all homeowners correct these issues. As for fining, a committee has been set up to follow Florida Statutes regarding this issue. After the Board of Directors has agreed to send a homeowner to the fining committee, this process does not start until after the fining committee meets and makes a decision. Out of all the letters sent out in 2024, only three homeowners were fined. One was rescinded, one lasted three days, and the last went the distance. These Statutes supersede any and all HOA requirements state wide, and change from time to time. Let's take the example of flagpoles: Florida Statute 720.304 2b says: Regardless of any covenants and restrictions of an association, a homeowner may erect a freestanding flagpole no more than 20 feet high on any portion of the homeowners real property as long as the flagpole does not obstruct sight lines at the intersections and is not erected within or upon an easement. So despite what our documents say, we must also follow Florida Statute 720.3035 regarding certain matters. If you want to read more about flagpoles and flags, disability ramps, hurricane shutters, etc., check these out online to see what the Florida law says. Our committee is one of the reasons why our monthly fees are so low. Many people in our park volunteer several hours per week doing things a management company would do. And we all know what that would cost! We always need volunteers to replace others who have had to step aside for various reasons. So if you feel in your heart that you would like to help out, let anyone on the committee know and we will appreciate your help! **ATTENTION SNOWBIRDS:** please submit your summer address to the office ASAP • **FYI:** Copies of Polo Parks current documents are available at the office.

### ★ Polo Park HOA Raffle

*Dave & Pat Hess*

Congratulations to this year's winners in the HOA Raffle. Gary Mrowka and Mira Haack will have their HOA fees paid for the year. Dave and I would like to thank everyone that purchased tickets this year. We will see you again next year, same place, same time with two more winners. *Perhaps, one of you.*

### ★ Vial of Life

#### *Polk County Sheriff's Office*

The Vial of Life is a nationally recognized medical program designed to aid emergency medical personnel by providing an individual's pertinent medical information. This information is readily available to emergency personnel, in the event you are unable to speak for yourself, or a member of your household is unable to speak for themselves. The program consists of a plastic vial, one sticker, and a medical form for each person in the household and is available free to the public. The medical form includes the following information: Name, address, date of birth Contact person for emergency situations. Allergies, prescriptions, current medical status, Physician's name and location. The completed medical forms are inserted into the capped vial, and placed on the upper right-hand corner of the top shelf inside your refrigerator or placed in the refrigerator door, top shelf. The Vial of Life Sticker is attached to the outside of the refrigerator door. The sticker alerts emergency personnel of the completed vial's existence.

### ★ EMPLOYEE APPRECIATION

Polo Park employs a number of individuals that work in and around the neighborhood to make sure the community runs as smoothly as possible and continues to look good. There are people in the office, maintenance people and golf course personnel. If you see an employee on the property, stop and thank them for the work they do here in the community to help keep our community a great place to live and work.

- Geri Anderson • Kathy Andrews • Richard Diehl
- Brian Wares • Nelida Gramajo • Andre Moore (Butch)
- Rick Hayden • Christine Johnson • Jim Rose
- Marcia Rockinson • Lillian Husband

### ★ Clubhouse Availability

**Call HOA Office 863-420-1591, M – W – F 9am to 3:30pm & Tues and Thurs 9am to 2:30pm**

If you need to use one of the clubhouses for any future activity or function, call the HOA Office for scheduling. Our bylaws provide for the use of the clubhouses for private parties. At the April 2023 meeting, the Board approved the fee of \$200.00 for private parties to help with the costs of maintaining the clubhouses. The \$200.00 fee will cover the use of the clubhouse for (6) six hours. Use of the clubhouse beyond the (6) six hours will be charged an additional \$100.00 per hour. An additional \$200.00 refundable deposit will be due 48 hours prior to the event. Notice of a private party will be posted on the door of the clubhouse during a private function. Please...let's have respect for our neighbors and their families who are having a private function. We're sure you would want the same respect and consideration given to you.



## Polo Park Business

### ★ Use of Challenger Clubhouse Kitchen

Barb Dundore, Kitchen Coordinator 517-896-4126

Whenever individuals or groups use the kitchen of the clubhouse for parties or private functions, there is a fee which includes the use of some products and appliances. The current fee for use of the kitchen is 10% of profit up to \$40.00. If you are planning an event that will require the use of the kitchen, please contact Barb regarding this fee. Board meetings and funerals are exempt from the fee.

### ★ Polo Park Golf News - 02/2025

The Wednesday Work Crew will be working to edge all around both sides of the Cart Path. Again, a big thanks to all the Golf Course volunteers. Pro Shop hours are 7:30 am to 3:00 pm. The new pricing and available memberships for 2025 have been posted on Facebook and Nextdoor. The Honor Box fee is \$15 - put the money in the envelope provided, put your name on the envelope, take the ticket (Starter Ticket) from the envelope and deposit the envelope into the box. Please keep the Starter Ticket visible. **Ranger Volunteer Program** - we are still looking for volunteers for January thru April. Please see Jim Rose. All Rangers should have a Ranger Hat and wear the Yellow Vest.

Saturday, March 15th **Tim Hargis** will be here for a night of fun filled entertainment. Tickets will be \$10.00 PP and will go on sale at the Pro Shop Patio on the last Hot Dog Tuesday in February. It is a BYOB, so bring your own snacks and favorite beverage. Hope to see you there! **Sunday Funday** is ongoing, as well as **Friday Night Golf**. We look forward to seeing you at these fun activities. **Golf Clinic** - Marletta is planning to start the Golf Clinic up again in March. Please call Marletta 219-973-6227 to sign up. **The Winter Games schedule for Golf is as follows** - Lag Putting & Closest to the Pin February 5th, Golf Putting February 9th - Golf Scramble February 11th. Good Luck to all!

**CONGRATULATIONS** to Mira Haack and Gary Mrowka the winners of the HOA Raffle Tickets. **THANK YOU DAVE AND PAT HESS** for all your hard work selling the Raffle Tickets.

### ★ Income Tax Preparation

Tax Preparation will begin February 5th through April 9, 2025 at the Blvd. clubhouse - On Wednesdays only. Appointments can be made Starting January 6, 2025 by calling: 863-578-7575. If no answer, please state your name and phone number SLOWLY and your call will be returned within 24 hours. For those who have access to a computer, you may visit: [poloparktaxaide.com](http://poloparktaxaide.com) and select the date and time you desire. You must include your name, phone number and email address. You are encouraged to print and complete the Intake and Interview Sheet which allows you less time waiting in line to see an Interviewer.



### ★ Veterans Memorial Committee

Sam Harris, President, 727-643-3969

Part of the mission statement of the Veterans Memorial Committee of Polo Park is to assist US military Polo Park veteran residents and their spouses. During these difficult times, if you find yourself in need of assistance, we invite you to contact the Veterans Memorial Committee. The Committee's criteria for consideration is that you live in Polo Park & are able to prove service in the US military (or are a widow/widower of a US service member). Please contact me, Sam Harris, President, for consideration by the Committee @ 727-643-3969. Requests for assistance will be handled in confidence.

## In Memoriam

*"They whom we love and lost are no longer where they were before. They are now wherever we are." —St. John Chrysostom*

During the year of 2024, the following residents of Polo Park passed into eternal rest. They will be missed.

- Ruth Teague Jan 22
- Jackie Myers Jan 23
- Marie Cyr Jan 28
- MaryAnn Pearce Feb 11
- Warren Demond Feb 17
- Bill Shafer Feb 20
- Antoinette Kiely Mar 2
- Sharon Schad Mar 13
- Loretta Murphy Mar 20
- Pat Hentz Apr 9
- Vinnie McCrave Apr 11
- Mary Casey May 2
- Marion Geake June 8
- Marlene English June 12

- Al Blanchette June 29
- Sylvia Allsop July
- Don Brown July 12
- Joan Robert July 12
- Ron Bernoi July 22
- Connie Hopkins July 22
- Carl Kreschollek Aug
- Norm Young Aug 1
- Dodie Desseyn Aug 2
- Carlton Greentainer Aug 7
- Pat Parker Aug 21
- Paul Bricker Aug 21
- Debbie Stallone Aug 30
- Robert Niswander Sept

- Roy Creech Sept
- M. (Bubba) Lowry Sept 25
- Brian Smith Sept 29
- Helen Anthony Oct 18
- Charlie Sheerin Oct. 26
- Joe Corneilus Oct 28
- Darlene Morris Nov 4
- Barbara Rohmer Nov 15
- Don Villeneuve Nov 22
- Shirley Elrod Nov
- Fred Massaro Nov 27
- Ken Raczynski Dec
- David Thraen Dec 18
- Phillip Ciccarella Dec 19
- Marge Martin Dec 29



## Thank You Polo Park

### ★ Quentin Flagg's Rock N Roll Evening

Thank you to the Residents of Polo Park for coming out on December 28th for the 4th Annual evening of Rock N Roll entertainment provided by Quentin Flagg from northern Indiana. A HUGE "THANK YOU" to our neighbors from Polo Park East, especially Helen Lewis, Vic Meyer and Mike Cucuzzo for graciously opening their Clubhouse to us while the renovation to our Clubhouse was still in process. We welcomed the 50 or so residents from the East side that joined us for the evening. A shout out to the volunteers who assisted the Co-Chairs in setting up, parking, selling 50/50 tickets and clean-up: Ron and Carol Jones, Kathy Temple, Dick Breese, Sally Franklin, Doug Wedel, Heather and Dave Schenk, Jr. Sam Harris was the lucky winner of the door prize donated by CeCe Cappelen. Thanks to all those who donated door prizes. The 50/30/20 raffle was won by Kathy Blair, Iris King and Mike Williamson. Proceeds in the amount of \$116 from the raffle is being donated for supplies needed to restock the CCH kitchen.

Barb Lowry and Carol Aldrich, Co-chairs

### ★ Third Annual "Festival of Lights"

Thank you to everyone who participated in the 2024 Festival of lights sponsored by Polo Park Strong. Polo Park never disappoints when it comes to showing their creativity and joy of the Holiday Season. Once again, we had 5 teams of judges cruising our streets, trying to choose the 1st, 2nd, & "Charlie Brown" (the sweet yet simplest) winners. Congratulations to the following winners: **First Place Winner: 533 Challenger, Second Place Winner: 141 Jackson Park and our "Charlie Brown" award goes to 207 Challenger.** We hope you had a chance to see them all. We also would like to share with you those that made our

**Honorable Mention list:**

- 1618 Challenger • 1607 Challenger
- 1809 Challenger • 264 Jackson Park • 354 Jackson Park
- 100 Hyde Park Ct • 203 Covent Garden • 269 Menlo
- 512 Ranger Park • 536 Nesbit • 506 Nesbitt
- 342 Nesbitt • 108 Hyde Park

## Polo Park's Weekly Events

### ★ Coffee, Donuts & Chat

**Tuesdays, 7:15 – 8:30 a.m. CCH**

*Ria Treur, 863-399-8371 • Sandra Bradford, 513-519-1865*

Come to the Challenger Clubhouse for breakfast on Tuesday mornings. We have donuts and bagels, coffee, tea, and hot chocolate. It's a nice time to meet your friends and neighbors. We meet from 7:15 - 8:30 a.m.

### ★ Cheeseburger Tuesdays

**Tuesdays, 11:00-12:30, CCH Patio**

*Judy Husted, 231-239-4510*

The PPIPs committee serves cheeseburgers on the first Tuesday of each month. For the low price of \$6 you will get a hamburger or cheeseburger (your choice) with the fixins' of your choice, chips, drink, and a cookie. And you can visit with your friends and neighbors!

### ★ Hot Dog/Bratwurst Tuesdays

**Tuesdays, 11:00 – 12:30, CCH Patio**

*Judy Husted, 231-239-4510*

The PPIPs Committee serves Hot Dogs or Brats, chips, a drink, and a cookie every Tuesday for lunch, on the Patio behind the Challenger Clubhouse. Come for a quick, inexpensive lunch (\$5) and social time!

### ★ Bingo

**Tuesdays, 6:00 p.m., CCH • Last tickets sold at 5:30.**

**Pull tabs start at 5:30 with Bingo to follow**

**Bingo Kitchen 4:00-5:30**

*Terry Crosby, 863-256-5424*

Tickets will be sold between 4:30 and 5:30. Come join the fun at BINGO. We look forward to seeing you. If you are interested in becoming a Bingo Caller, please contact Terry at 863-256-5424. We are in need of more volunteers for this position. We will train you and you will only need to call once per month and most likely for only a half session.

**Bingo Kitchen** will be open 4:00-5:30, offering a lite fare menu. Bingo Kitchen is in need of a few more volunteers for prep work and serving. Please call Laurie Wares, 703-801-5961 if you'd like to help.

### ★ Thursday Morning Coffee Chat

**Thursdays, 8:30 to 9:30 a.m. BCH**

*Vikki Lafontaine, 860-597-2072 • Laurie Wares, 703-801-5961*

Come join your fellow neighbors for coffee, chat, fellowship, and a little breakfast treat. Coffee Chat is free for Polo Park residents. Please bring your own coffee mug.

## Polo Park's Special Events

### ★ Community Carport Sales

**Saturday, February 1, 8:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.**

It's time to clean the house! If you are having a sale at your

house, please drop off your address to the office by January 29, so that your house can be listed on the handout. No charge. The flyers will be handed out at the Boulevard Clubhouse on the day of the sale and will direct people to your house.

## Polo Park's Special Events

### ★ Hot Dogs During Carport Sales

**Saturday, February 1, 10:00 a.m. – 1:30 p.m. BCH**  
**Hosted by Polo Park Pickleball Players**

Polo Park's Pickleball Players will be selling hot dogs, chips, soda and water at the Boulevard Clubhouse as part of the Carport Sales on February 1st.

### ★ Community Bake Sale during Carport Sales

**Saturday, February 1, 8:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. (or sold out) BCH • Hosted by Polo Park Pickleball Players**

Polo Park's Pickleball Players will be hosting the Community Bake Sale. If you are a baker and would like to contribute to our offering of baked goods, it would be greatly appreciated! Please bring your baked goods to BCH after 7 a.m., and have them ready to be displayed for sale (i.e. cookies in sandwich bags, etc). Don't worry about pricing, we'll take care of that for you. For more information, call Barb Woodrich at 248-252-0925.

### ★ Polo-Ettes Garage Sale Benefiting Palm Krest Assisted Living

**Saturday, February 1, 8:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m.**  
**1809 Challenger Avenue**

*Linda Bailey, 863-420-0825*

I will begin taking any donations for the garage sale beginning January 29 at my home at 1809 Challenger. The Polo Ettes have raised over \$5,000 in the last 4 years for Christmas gifts for the 36 residents of Palm Krest in Haines City. Any items are greatly appreciated.

# Portillo's®

**HOT DOGS • BEEF • BURGERS • SALADS**

### ★ Veterans Committee Fundraising Event at Portillo's Restaurant in Kissimmee

**Monday, February 3, 5:00-8:00 p.m. • Must present flyer available at BCH**

The Veterans Committee is hosting a new and unique fundraising opportunity to dine with your Polo Park friends and neighbors (or carry it out) on Monday, February 3rd from 5-8:00 pm, at Portillo's in Kissimmee! Portillo's has great sandwiches, chicken strips, and delicious desserts with a more casual atmosphere.

We would love for you to join us as we enjoy great food and 20% of all orders go to benefit the Veterans Memorial at Polo Park and our outreach to Veterans. Simply pick up a flyer at the Boulevard Clubhouse, and when you order in the restaurant show the coupon code on the flyer (PORTILLOS72). If you order online use the coupon code in the coupon code field before you pay. Simple and fun, hope to see you all there!



### ★ Polo-Ettes Soup and Salad Luncheon

**Wednesday, February 5, 12:15 p.m. CCH**

*Linda Bailey, 863-420-0825*

The Polo Ettes will be having a soup and salad luncheon at CCH on Feb. 5th at 12:15 PM. Please bring a soup or salad to share or \$10.00 for the luncheon. Drinks and tableware will be furnished. Sign up sheets in both clubhouses call Linda Bailey for any information.

### ★ Polo Park Monthly Luncheon- February Wednesday, February 12, 11:30- 12:30 p.m. CCH

**Tickets will be sold on the Patio Feb. 3-7 and Feb. 10 from 9 a.m. till Noon**

*Barb Dundore: 517-896-4126 / Lori Valentine: 856-905-3736*

February's luncheon will feature Turkey and Gravy over Potatoes, Vegetable, Cranberry sauce, Dessert and a Beverage for \$8.00.

All are invited to attend!



### ★ End of the Yellow Brick Road Show & Dance

**Saturday, February 15, 6:30 -10 p.m. doors open at 5:45 at CCH • Tickets are \$13, available Tuesdays and Thursdays, 11:00-12:30 on CCH Patio • Tickets at the door are \$15**

*Carol Aldrich, 734-476-9079 • Pat Bailey, 813-294-5459*

Fantastic live music of Elton John, Beach Boys, Elvis, Patsy Kline, the Blues Brothers, Jerry Lee Lewis, etc. by the talented HAPPY DAYS BAND coming direct from New York. Gabrielle and Mary are creative, energetic performers and instrumentalists. They invite your musical requests and also provide line dancing. So slip on your red dancing shoes or dress casual for a great evening of entertainment and skits. Fantastic door prizes have been collected. Split raffle and free photos for fun too. BYOB and snacks. Let us whisk you away to the Wizard of Oz and his Emerald City.



## Polo Park's Special Events

### ★ VEGETABLE GIVE AWAY

**Tuesday, February 18, 12:30 p.m. at BCH**

Care Plus will be here on Tuesday, February 18 at 12:30 p.m. for a Vegetable giveaway. Any senior citizen is eligible to receive the giveaway. First come, first served.

### ★ Pancake Breakfast Fundraiser

**Sponsored by the Veterans Committee • Saturday, February 22, 7:30-10:00 a.m. CCH • Tickets are \$5 in advance/ \$6 at the door • Tickets available Friday mornings, 10:00-Noon at BCH**

Sponsored by the Veterans Committee, Breakfast will consist of all you can eat pancakes along with a serving of bacon, juice and coffee as well.

### ★ Pajama Party

**Saturday, February 22, 7-10 p.m. CCH • Doors open at 6:30 • Tickets are \$10 • Sponsored by the Pool Committee**

*Marianne Helmprecht, 631-672-1418*

The Pool Committee will be sponsoring A Pajama Party on Saturday, February 22, from 7 to 11 p.m. Come and join in the fun! Enjoy great music and great dancing! BYOB and snacks. There will be door prizes and a 50/50 drawing. Face cream and rollers welcome, and don't forget your slippers! Proceeds will go towards the Pool Furniture Fund.



## Polo Park Future Events

### ★ Barnyard (Roadkill) Bingo

**Wednesday, March 5, 6:00 p.m. CCH**

**Donation: \$12.00, tickets available at Bingo on Tuesdays or call Terry**

*Terry Crosby, 863-256-5424*

Come play our special game of Barnyard Roadkill and have a lot of fun! We'll play 75 games of Roadkill and you may win enough meat for a delicious dinner! Also, we'll have a 50/30/20 raffle and door prizes. Call Terry if you have any questions.

### ★ Canada Day Party

**Saturday, March 8, 4:00 CCH • Sign-up sheet at CCH**

*Mel Geurts, 905 242-2948*

Come one and all to our Canada Day party on March 8th. We will have a happy hour from 4-5:00 where we will set up a few games. Then there will be a potluck dinner. Please bring either a main dish or dessert, and of course BYOB. There will even be some Canadian dishes included. Come listen to some great Canadian artists. You may be surprised who is Canadian! Music by Earl Allen. We will have a 50/50 draw and a few baskets to raffle off. This is a FREE event but please sign up on the signup sheet at the Challenger Clubhouse. We will post it a week before the event. We would like to know how many people are joining us. Following dinner we will have some Karaoke to show off your musical talents. Hope to see you there. For any more information call Mel at 905 242-2948.

### ★ Welcome Committee's Strawberry Social

**Sunday, March 9, 1:00 p.m.-3:00 p.m. CCH**

**Tickets are \$7 in advance. \$9 at the door. • Tickets will be sold 10 a.m.- Noon on February 7th, 11th, 14th, 18th, 21st, 25th, and 28th. • March 4th and 7th at the Challenger Patio.**

The Welcome Committee will be hosting their annual Strawberry Social on Sunday, March 9, 2025 from 1-3pm at the Challenger Clubhouse. Entertainment will be provided by The Sunations Steel Drum Band. Come out and have a wonderful afternoon of entertainment and great food!!!

### ★ An Evening of Music by Tim Hargis

**Saturday, March 15, 6:00 p.m. CCH**

**Tickets are \$10 Tuesdays and Thursdays, 10 a.m. to Noon, on the CCH Patio starting Feb. 25 • Sponsored by Golf Committee.**

Bring your own snacks and beverages, then sit back and relax to the sound of Tim Hargis playing every song on your playlist. Whether it be guitar or saxophone, Tim will be sure to blow you away!



### ★ CERT Pasta Dinner Fundraiser

**Thursday, March 27, 3-4 p.m. CCH, Take Out Only**

**Tickets are \$12- use envelope system at the office**

Sponsored by CERT, this take-out only dinner will include Pasta and Meatballs, Roll, Salad, and homemade dessert for \$12.

### ★ Piedmont Block Party

**Saturday, March 29, Noon- evening • 6th annual Block Party • Hosted by Piedmont Park Ave**

*Ken Dobosz, 860-604-9976*

Join us for the Annual Piedmont Block Party. Everyone is welcome! PPIPs will be grilling lunch for purchase. There will be corn hole games and a 50/50 raffle. Rockin Randy will again be our karaoke DJ.



## Clubs And Groups

Polo Park has many different Clubs and Game Groups which meet on a regular basis. A couple of clubs will be highlighted each month. A listing of all clubs, with contact numbers, can be found on page 5 of the Resident Directory. Please refer to the Daily Activity Schedule in this newsletter for meeting times.

### ★ Court Whist

**Wednesdays at 6:30 p.m. BCH**

*Rita Mrowka, 716-467-5306*

Court Whist is a trump card game in which you play four hands and then change tables and play four more. Each group of play is with a different twist of instructions. It is a lot of fun. Please come and join us! If you have any questions, please call Gary and Rita at 716-467-5306.



### ★ Pinochle

**Thursdays at 1:00 p.m. CCH**

Single deck Pinochle is played every Thursday afternoon at 1:00 p.m. in the Challenger Clubhouse. New players are welcome to join in.

## Physical Fitness And Sports

Polo Park has many different ways to keep fit and have fun. A couple of sports and/or fitness groups will be highlighted each month. A listing of all organized sports, with contact numbers, can be found on page 5 of the Resident Directory. Please refer to the Daily Activity Schedule in this newsletter for meeting times.



### ★ New Attitude Aerobics

**Tuesdays and Thursdays, 9:00 a.m., CCH**

*Brenda Reynolds, 330-831-3317*

Our "New Attitude" Aerobics exercise class welcomes men and women to join us at the Challenger Club House on Tuesday and Thursday mornings at 9:00. We do about 25 minutes of cardio dance, 30 minutes of weight-bearing exercise and then work on our tummy and legs.

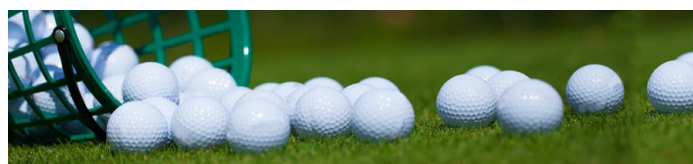
Time to get up and start moving for flexibility and mobility. We have a lot of fun with lots of friends. Please join us! All are welcome!

### ★ Rock & Roll Beginner Line Dancing

**Wednesdays, 4:00 p.m. CCH**

*Cheryl Kotch, 863-424-8706 / Chris Saraney, 440-667-2804*

Time to get your groove on! Join us for a great work-out while listening to great music. Dances are very easy to learn. This class is a blast!



### ★ Intro to Golf Clinic • Starting in March

*Marletta Frantal, 863-420-3317*

Marletta will be starting up her Introduction to Golf Clinic in March. If interested in participating, call Marletta at 863-420-3317 and leave your name and number.

## Volunteer Opportunities



### ★ Wednesday Golf Course Maintenance

**Wednesdays at 10:00 a.m.**

*Mike Wright, 419-303-6383*

Every Wednesday at 10:00 a.m., volunteers meet at the Pro Shop to do light work on the golf course for a couple of hours. Some of the things we do are laying sod, trimming tree branches, putting stakes in the ground with rope to keep carts on the cart path. If you enjoy doing this type of work, please join us!

### ★ Well of Hope Food Bank

*Mira Haack • 863-604-0896*

The Chapel continues to support the Well of Hope Food Bank with financial donations – NOT FOOD. The need has become great for families and with the addition of seniors also needing help. Anyone interested in helping us support this with financial donations, call Mira Haack at 863-604-0896. Thank you!

### ★ Care Bears

*Gloria Gabrielse • 616-723-3976*

The Care Bears program sends cards to residents during an illness or after a death. If you know of an illness or want to report a death, please contact Gloria. Thank you.



## Volunteer Spotlight

### Challenger Clubhouse Renovation Volunteers



**"Potty Break is Over - Get to Work!"**

The heart of any vibrant community is its people, and the recent transformation of our Challenger Clubhouse is a shining example of this. In the first morning hours of October 10th, after seeing the devastation caused by Hurricane Milton, volunteers quickly joined together to dry out the building and salvage what they could and tore out all of the carpeting, drywall, and cabinets that needed to be disposed of. The furniture was all washed and disinfected and placed inside pods, as was a multitude of items stored in closets and cabinets. Building and Grounds Committee Chairman Sam Harris and Dan Baumer acting as project manager, with the advice of the Adjuster, worked long hours supervising all of this preliminary work.

Town Hall meetings were held to inform the community on the progress and to discuss our options for renovations. We quickly saw spray foam added to the exterior walls and new drywall installed. Gary Mrowka found several different companies to install new flooring. He presented his findings at a Town Hall meeting where the homeowners decided on which types of floors they preferred, namely LVP in the main ballroom and epoxy in all other areas while comparing prices and installation schedules. Soon after, we had beautiful brand new flooring throughout the building and several volunteers began painting the Gym, Pro Shop, Kitchen, and many closets. Some electrical upgrades were completed and plumbers reinstalled all the toilets and sinks in all of the bathrooms. Volunteers removed the tables and chairs from the pods and sanitized them before moving them all back into the clubhouse.

"The Kitchen Ladies", Barb Dundore, Sheryl Batey, and Karen Grant worked with Lowes in designing the new kitchen. They picked out more user friendly cabinets with large drawers that will be easier to access. Many volunteers helped by washing all of the kitchen's items- lots of cookware, bakeware, utensils, etc. After the cabinets were installed at the beginning of January, then the wait began for the beautiful new quartz counters. But they were worth waiting for!

Professional painters painted the large "ballroom". HOA employees Richard Diehl and Brian Wares kept very busy doing many miscellaneous jobs throughout the building.

For 3 ½ months a great number of volunteers came together to breathe new life into a place that serves as a gathering point, fostering connection and camaraderie. Their dedication, hard work, and spirit of giving have made a lasting impact on everyone who calls this community home.

To all those who volunteered their time, energy, and resources, we extend our heartfelt gratitude. You have not only made a tangible difference in the clubhouse but have also demonstrated the incredible strength of our community.

As we enjoy our newly renovated clubhouse, let us remember that it is more than just a building—it is a symbol of our collective effort, our spirit of volunteerism, and the unwavering sense of community that we are so fortunate to share. Thank you for all you have done!



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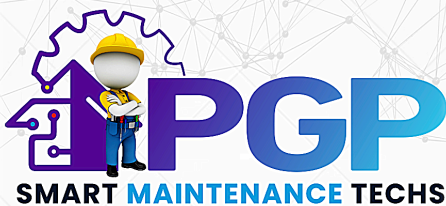
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