

Polo Park HOA Office

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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

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419-303-6383

Sally Franklin

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816-289-0234

President's Message

My fellow Polo Parkians, Friends, Neighbors and Family, As Spring is right around the corner, and the weather is great, take the time to get out in our community, see where we stand, Tall and Proud of all the accomplishments in our Park. The CCH Clubhouse is looking great, The Pools are being used, Golf is attracting a crowd. The sound of Pickleball rings thru the BCH and Veterans Memorial. A pause here to reflect on those who served. A Great Memorial Park. Benches at the Kensington Park call out to sit and relax, take in the atmosphere, Pet a Puppy, Make a Friend. The sound and excitement of Horseshoes beckons. Care for some Shuffleboard or Bocce? How about some friends and sunshine with that!

In the Clubhouses, Abuzz with Crafts, Cards, Pool, Mahjong, Bingo, Arts, Painting, Karaoke, Themed Dinner Dances and Bands, friends are gathering, sharing the best of best times. Come to the monthly Town Hall, share your thoughts and ideas. Are we blessed? It is obvious. Thankful is an understatement. All this thanks to the Great Volunteers that keep it all happening. Polo Park, best of the best place to live!

Scott Rapp

Board of Directors

President



- March 2
- March 16
- March 30

*8:30 a.m. at
Challenger Club House.*

All are Welcome!

★ Polo Park Press

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Polo Park Business

★ BOD Meeting Minutes

Monday, February 10, 2025

The Minutes of the **February** 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. Please take the time to read the Minutes and be sure to attend the Board of Directors meeting on **March 10**, at 7:00 p.m. at Challenger Clubhouse. The **March** minutes will be posted in the clubhouses a week after the meeting.

★ Golf Committee Meeting

Monday, March 3 • 9:30 a.m., CCH

All homeowners are welcome and encouraged to attend.

★ Buildings and Grounds Meeting

Monday, March 3 • 11:00 a.m., CCH

All homeowners are welcome and encouraged to attend.

★ Rules and Regulations Committee Meeting

Monday, March 3 • 1:00 p.m., CCH

All homeowners are welcome and encouraged to attend.

★ Pool Committee Meeting

Tuesday, March 4 • 10:00 a.m. BCH

All homeowners are welcome and encouraged to attend.

★ SPECIAL HOA MEETING

Monday March 10 • 6:00 p.m., CCH

All homeowners are welcome and encouraged to attend.

★ Monthly Board of Directors Meeting

Monday March 10 • 7:00 p.m., CCH

All homeowners are welcome and encouraged to attend.

★ PROPOSED UPDATED GOVERNING DOCUMENTS

We are pleased to announce that the updated Governing Documents, which have been in development for the past five years by extensive input from the community, should now be in the possession of all Polo Park residents. These have not been updated since 2013 and as members of an HOA in Florida, we are obligated to have these documents in place. We encourage you to take time to review these important changes.

Most of the changes reflect updated legal language provided

★ From: Robin Harris, Your Election Committee Chair Date: 2/18/25

One item will be voted on with Yes/No cards at the Special Homeowners Meeting on March 10th at the Challenger clubhouse. You must be present to vote. There is one vote per home/property. The specifics of this process are required within our governing documents. No mail-in or proxy voting is permitted. One yes and one no card will be issued per property. You must be a "member in good standing" to vote. You are not a member in good standing for purposes of voting if you are in excess of 90 days past the invoice date on any Polo Park assessment.

Our election volunteers will staff the Challenger clubhouse on March 10th beginning at 3 PM. 3 pm - 5 pm, you can leave after you register by showing your ID & signing the register. You will be given an exchange ticket to return later. After 5pm, you will bring back the exchange ticket with your ID. You will be given your yes & no cards at that time. -Or- 5 pm - 5:45 pm, you can register and receive your yes & no cards at the same time.

At 5 pm & after, once you are in the Challenger Clubhouse, you cannot leave. If you do leave, you cannot come back in or vote.

At 6 pm, the Homeowners' meeting will begin. Yes/no voting with the proper Yes/no voting cards will take place. The Board Meeting will follow at 7 p.m.

A quorum must be present, which is specified within our governing documents as 150 properties or more. A member is one property. Once a quorum is present, a "2/3 yes" vote of members present and voting is required to pass the Proposed February 2025 Amended Bylaws & Covenants and Restrictions.

If you can volunteer to help with voter registration on March 10th, please call me at 727-804-2063. I need registration persons, a Sergeant-at-arms and guards.

Thank you.

*Your Election Committee Chair,
Robin Harris • 727-804-2063*

by the Polo Park attorneys, with a few adjustments to stay current with Florida statutes. Additionally, several improvements have been incorporated based on thoughtful suggestions from community members.

We will be voting on these new covenants/restrictions, and the new bylaws at a special meeting on March 10 at 6 PM. PLEASE plan on being in attendance to vote for these very needed documents! Thank you!

Polo Park Business

★ Notices from the Buildings and Grounds Committee

Sam Harris, Committee Chairperson

REMINDER: Please remember to clean up after your pets when walking them on all public and private areas within Polo Park. It's the courteous thing to do and it is the law.

REMINDER: Please remember if you are the last person to leave BCH or CCH that all lights are off, doors are all locked and the thermostats are properly set. It will save the HOA money in the long run that can be placed towards other needed projects. Thank you for your cooperation.

★ ARC March Newsletter

What is the process used to approve or deny an ARC form? So you want to make changes to the outside of your home/property but aren't sure what the process is or what all you can do. You look around the neighborhood and see all kinds of different ideas, but some of these ideas are from 1984, 1990, or 2012. Since they were allowed in the past, one assumes they should be alright to do now. The only problem is both Polo Park HOA rules and the Florida State statutes have made lots of changes over the years. So, what can you do? First off, you could pull out all that paperwork you got when you moved in and read through it. That can be confusing. So, the next best thing is to submit an ARC form detailing what you want to do. What the ARC committee does is read over your proposal and see if it's in line with the current Polo Park HOA rules and the current Florida State statutes. If it complies with both, you are approved and can move forward with your plans. If we need clarification, we go back to you and ask questions to make it clear to us what you want to do. If it goes against any of the rules we have to follow, you are notified with a copy of the HOA rules/Florida statutes it doesn't comply with. That's not to say with some modifications you can't do what you want, you just need to make sure it fits within the guidelines we have to follow. Thank you for working with us to help keep Polo Park beautiful.

★ Income Tax Preparation

*Joan Johnson, coordinator for AARP
Polo Park 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: 352-298-3912. 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 and select the date and time you desire. You must include your name, phone number and email

★ Keeping Your House Safe When You Are Away.

The time is fast approaching when we say goodbye to our snowbirds or many of us go on vacation. Here are a few tips to help keep your house safe from burglars.

- Trim bushes so they don't provide a hiding place.
- Make your house looks lived in. Put a pair of men's shoes near the front door. Have a neighbor park their car in your driveway for a few days. Have someone put your trash can out occasionally.
- Put your indoor lights on timers. The best kind are the ones that will come on at random times.
- Install motion detection lights on the outside of your home.
- Leave a radio playing.
- Install a security system with cameras and alarms.
- Have a neighbor check to ensure all your doors and windows are secured.

★ POLO PARK GOLF NEWS

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 5:00 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 still need volunteers, please see Jim Rose. All Rangers should have a Ranger Hat and wear the Yellow Vest.

Do not forget Tim Hargis on Saturday, March 15 th. Tickets are \$10.00 PP. It is a BYOB, so bring your own snacks and favorite beverage for a fun filled night of entertainment. Hope to see you there!

The East-West Golf Tournament will be held here on Friday, March 14th as well as Friday Night Golf. We look forward to seeing you at these fun activities. The Golf Clinic will be starting up in March. Please call Marletta 219-973-6227 to sign up.

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.



Polo Park Business

★ 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.

★ 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.

★ New Community Website

We are excited to invite all owners to join our new secure community website. This site has been designed to make important information more accessible to all owners.

To get started and access all the resources available on the website, please follow the steps below:

1. Create Your Login Account

Go to the following website:

<https://poloparkhoa.hoospace.com/cgi-bin/register.pl>

- User Id is (case sensitive)
- Please use the name listed on the deed
- Password can only contain letters and numbers (case sensitive)
- Please be sure your Polo Park address in primary or alternate address field.
- Be sure to check the box if you would like to receive emails.
- Once you click on the register button read the message on the next page to be sure no errors have occurred
- If registration is correct you will receive an email to confirm your email address.

2. Once approved Explore the Features: Our new website offers a wide range of features and resources that can benefit you as a HOA Community member:

- Searchable documents, such as HOA governing documents, meeting minutes, and more.
- Stay updated on community events, meetings, and activities
- Directory of registered members.

Should you encounter any issues during the registration process you may contact LuAnn luannd@jklnov.com or 860-803-4210

Thank You Polo Park

★ End of Yellow Brick Road

Thank you Polo Park guests, Happy Days Band, and committee members for the unique dance party on February 15. About 200 people found the end of the Yellow Brick Road! Some wildly costumed actors, a few stuffed with straw, and others wearing tin armor frolicked across our new dance floor to Mary Giuffre singing "Somewhere Over The Rainbow!" The line dancers outdid themselves. Plus, over 50 couples danced cheek to cheek to '50s, '60s, and '70's greatest hits. Superstar Sir Elton John dominated the building by singing and playing his smash hits. Everyone sang along, clapping, and tapping their toes to Gabriele Giuffre's irresistible renditions. The show committee thanks and gratefully acknowledges the generous Door Prize donations contributed by surrounding businesses and residents of Polo Park.

*A special shout out to the new **FIRST WATCH** just north of us. Their generosity of paying back to the community is as amazing as their food!

***DIROMIOS PIZZA** continues to be another strong, generous supporter. Their Italian dishes are wonderful. How lucky we are!

***Our Polo Park PRO SHOP** gifted some lucky people with free golf. Thanks so much.

***CF GOLF CART** always gives us the best service! We are so grateful for your donation.

***MARY ANNE WAY** donated some beautiful handmade afghans. Thank you for your talent and gifts.

***CECE CAPPELEN** generously donated 2 private painting classes, including art supplies, OR \$80 applied to any commissioned painting or mailbox design of hers. Heartfelt appreciation.

***MONICA BURKEL** scoured several of the Great Lakes for gem stones. Thank you for polishing and wire wrapping the 2 stunning rock pendants you donated.

A special appreciation to our talented and dedicated committee members, who visualized and volunteered the past 5 months to bring this extravaganza to fruition! Lastly, applause and loving appreciation to all guests who donated their time, muscle, photographic, and lighting help prior, during the show, and at clean up.

Wonderful time!

Wonderful clubhouse!

Wonderful memories!

**Co-chairs Carol Aldrich
Patricia Bailey**

Thank You Polo Park

★ Veterans Committee Fundraiser at Portillo's

The following is an email Daryl Ratliff received from Portillo's Marketing Coordinator after our Fundraising Event:

The restaurant GM called me the next morning expressing how happy he was and said that you all were amazing guests! You made his team's night.

You all came out in full force. I love it. You will be receiving a check for \$296, which is the most we've given out in Florida for 2025 so far. Congrats and I hope that's a number we can beat for your next fundraiser with us!

Thank you so much and I look forward to next time!

Mike Peterson

FL Field Marketing Coordinator

Portillo's Hot Dogs, LLC

★ Community Bake Sale during Carport Sales

Sponsored by Polo Park Pickleball

Polo Park bakers came through again. There were people waiting in line when the doors opened. We sold out of everything! Thank you for all your support. We raised \$612 towards park improvements. Polo Park people are the best!



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 Tuesday

Tuesday, March 4, 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!

★ 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.

★ 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.

Polo Park's Special Events

★ Barnyard Roadkill

Wednesday, March 5, 6:00 p.m. C

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

Terry Crosby, 863-256-5424

We'll be having a Barnyard Roadkill on Wednesday, March 6. Come play our special game of Barnyard Roadkill and have a lot of fun! We will begin the evening with a special dessert, coffee and tea. If you wish to have anything else to drink, please bring your own. We'll play 60 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.

Polo Park's Special Events

★ 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 sign-up 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 Sunsations Steel Drum Band. Come out and have a wonderful afternoon of entertainment and great food!!!

Medicare

★ Medicare Information

Tuesday, March 11, 11:30am – 1:30pm CCH

Unhappy with the Medicare plan you selected during open enrollment? You may have the option to change plans. This may be done up to March 31, 2025. Concerns or questions about other Medicare plan options? Some plans offer give back programs, not based on income, that will reduce your premium. There are plans that offer OverThe Counter benefits or benefits to be used toward food or utilities. Many choices to explore. Please stop by to ask Nestor Lopez about choices that might be available to you. No appointment needed, just walk into the Challenger Clubhouse.

★ Polo Park Monthly Luncheon - March

Wednesday, March 12, 11:30- 12:30 p.m. CCH
Tickets will be sold on the Patio March 3-7 from 9- 11:30 a.m.
Barb Dundore: 517-896-4126 / Lori Valentine: 856-905-3736
March's luncheon will feature Pork Tenderloin, Broccoli and Rice, Dessert and a Beverage for \$8.00.
All are invited to attend!



★ Remembering When: Fire and Falls Prevention for Older Adults

Thursday, March 13th Time: 2:45 PM - 4:00 PM
CCH • Sponsored by CERT

Did you know that at age 65, older adults are twice as likely to be killed or injured by fires or falls compared to the rest of the population? Protect yourself and your loved ones by attending a valuable safety session brought to you by Polk County Fire Rescue. Join us for **"Remembering When"**, a specialized fire and fall prevention program designed to keep older adults safe. This informative session is based on 16 key safety messages developed by national and local safety experts. Learn about common causes of injuries and practical steps to prevent them. Whether for yourself, a friend, or a family member, this session can make a difference! ***Our Motto;*** Doing the greatest good for the greatest number of people. Don't miss this opportunity to gain life-saving knowledge! Mark your calendar and spread the word!



★ 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!!

Polo Park's Special Events

★ VEGETABLE GIVE AWAY

Tuesday, March 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.



★ 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

★ Poker Run

Sunday, March 23, 3:00 p.m. CCH (Note new time!)

Potluck Dinner, 5:00 p.m. CCH • \$5 per person

Marletta Frantal 863-420-3317 / Emma Vallaire 810-397-8183

Come to the clubhouse at 3:00 on Sunday afternoon March 23rd. The forms are \$5 each. Travel to five different houses, either by golf cart or auto, and draw a card at each house. You may also purchase a sixth card at the clubhouse for \$1 extra. Fifty percent of the proceeds is divided among the three top poker hands. There's a booby prize for the lowest hand. At 5:00 p.m., there will be a potluck to which you can bring your favorite dish to share with all. The prizes will be distributed at the dinner.

Please call Marletta ASAP if you would like to volunteer as one of the five stations. Your generosity will be greatly appreciated! These poker runs have been a lot of fun and maybe you'll be a lucky winner!



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.

Polo Park Future Events



★ Spring Craft Fair

Saturday, April 5, 10 a.m. - 2 p.m. CCH

Terry Impostato, 78-227-7434

Upwards of 30 area crafters will be offering their handmade treasures. Enjoy the coffee bar and pastries too! More information will be available in the April issue of Polo Park Press..

★ 80's Dance Party

Saturday, April 12, 7-10 p.m. CCH

Dennis Laperle, 860-465-7881 / Ann Peters, 586-295-4834

Come dance to your favorite 80's dance tunes at the last dance for this Winter Season. This is a free event but there will be a Tip Jar for the DJ. Seats are limited and there will be a sign up sheet at CCH starting Monday, March 17 until we reach our limit. Bring your own snacks and drinks and let's party one last time before the snowbirds fly the coop!



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.

★ Citizen's Assisted Patrol (C.A.P.)

Marcia Rockinson, 863-420-0345

The mission of the Polk County Sheriff's Office Citizen's Assisted Patrol is to enhance the individual and collective safety and general welfare of all people of Polk County by assisting the Sheriff's Office in deterring crime in Polk County. The primary method used to deter crime is to provide high visibility patrols within neighborhoods. In Polo Park, these citizen patrols are provided by our own residents who volunteer to walk or drive

through our park on a regular patrol to report incidents and problems to law enforcement and provide a visible presence that deters criminal activity

Each volunteer must attend 6 hours of training and provide 8 hours of service each month. C.A.P. meets on the fourth Monday of each month at 7:00 p.m. in Challenger Clubhouse. A representative from the Sheriff's Office also attends this meeting and gives an update on what types of criminal activities have been happening in our nearby neighborhoods. All residents are welcome to attend these very informative meetings.

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.

★ Sit And Be Fit

Every Tuesday and Thursday at CCH 10:30-11:00

Margo Burch 803-772-4247

It is co-ed. No need to bring anything except yourself. Sit and be Fit works on stretching, flexibility and balance. Most of the 30 minutes is sitting, the rest is standing, we keep our hand near or on a chair for stability. Please join us. You might find your neighbor already has.

★ Pool 101 and 8 Ball (Billiards)

Pool 101 on Mondays and Tuesdays at 1:00 p.m. BCH

8 Ball on Thursdays at 6:00 p.m. BCH

Phil Bojda 586-839-0701

Join us at 1:00 on Mondays and Tuesdays for Pool 101. Thursday evenings we play 8-Ball. Newcomers are always welcome!



★ Intro to Golf Clinic • Starting in March Thursdays at 10:00 a.m.

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!

★ Care Bears

Gloria Gabrielse • 616-723-3976

★ 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!

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.

Travel

★ Cruising with Polo Park and Friends

On the Royal Caribbean Explorer of the Seas

5 Night Western Caribbean NOVEMBER 15-20, 2025

The Explorer of the Seas is a mid-size ship that accommodates 3114 passengers. This floating resort has many amenities including an ice skating rink/concert venue, miniature golf, full-court basketball and a spa/solarium complex. The breathtaking

Travel

Royal Promenade is the venue for Mardi Gras-style parades while the La Scala Theater is a state of the art show lounge featuring nightly entertainment. Come join us!

- Roundtrip motorcoach (handicap accessible) (based on 36 or more participants)
- Roundtrip driver tips and portage gratuities for embarkation
- 5 Night Western Caribbean Cruise departing from Port Canaveral. Ports of call include Cozumel, Mexico and Puerto Costa Maya, Mexico
- *Taxes and fees of \$106 per person

are included (subject to change) • Inside Cabin, \$619 • Balcony, \$889 • Rates are per person based on double occupancy. A \$100 per person deposit (singles pay \$200) due with reservation. A second deposit of \$400 per person is due May 1, 2025. Final payment is due August 7, 2025. ***There are singles looking for other singles to share double occupancy cabins.*** Forms for passports are available in Boulevard Clubhouse. For more information, please contact: • Linda Ajoutian (863-206-0214)

Volunteer Spotlight



The Veterans Committee at Polo Park

This month we turn the volunteer spotlight on the Veterans Committee of Polo Park. The main purpose of the committee is to maintain the memorial and to give real and practical aid to the veterans and widows/widowers of our military members here in the park. We are happy and proud to boast one of the finest military memorials of the whole area right here in Polo Park. Even though it may have become commonplace to us as we pass it every day, many of the communities in the area are in awe of the wonderful place we have set aside to honor those brave men and women who have served or are currently serving the United States Military! What many of our readers may not realize is that the memorial site at the Boulevard Clubhouse was the vision of Ken and Barb Clark (pictured at the far right). Back in 2011, they dreamt that the site in front of the clubhouse could be a place where service men and women both active and retired could come to reflect and remember a great career and to be proud of what their service meant to America. They wanted a place where people could come to pay tribute to their family members who have proudly served by immortalizing their names within the bricks. And lastly, they wanted a place where all people would be able to come to give thanks for and to take pride in the greatest country on earth. In 2023, Ken stepped down as the president of the group and proudly passed the baton over to Sam Harris (pictured at the far left) who is now the current president of the organization. Through his leadership, they have strived to become a viable presence in our community and unite all Polo Park members through common activities. The Veteran Committee of Polo Park meets on the first Friday of each month at 10:00 a.m. at the Boulevard Clubhouse. If you have a heart for our military

members and veterans, you are invited to participate and have a voice in the organization. Having served in the military is NOT a prerequisite! Currently there are four flag raisings each year. The first is on Memorial Day, to celebrate those that made the ultimate sacrifice; September 11th, to commemorate the tragedy at the Twin Towers and those that gave their lives to save others; Veteran's Day to honor our current military members and living veterans; and Pearl Harbor Day to commemorate the tragedy at Pearl Harbor in Hawaii and those that lost their lives unexpectedly on December 7th, 1941. In addition, they hold several annual fundraisers to support their ongoing efforts to maintain the memorial. The first is that any member of our community can purchase a memorial brick and have it placed at the memorial to honor their loved one. Also, their annual fundraisers include the Dine-to-Donate days at the Texas Roadhouse and Portillo's restaurants, the annual raffle basket giveaways in December and their latest Dance night endeavor featuring Traces of Gold. The veteran group is also involved in the surrounding communities as they support the local Boy Scout and ROTC groups in Clermont, as well as collecting toys and bikes for the Auburndale Toys-for-Tots annual campaign at Christmastime. This year, the committee collected money and donations to purchase/donate 40 bicycles and countless toys. What an honor it is to serve these men and women who gave themselves in service to God and our country during their lifetime. As we all march into the sunset of our lives, it is truly a privilege to support and recognize these members of our community. Thank you for all you have done!

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