

APRIL



2024

# THE FLASH

*newsletter*



Under the watchful eye the owlet has been returned to the nest thanks to the concerned residents of the Fountain Lakes community and C.R.O.W

### *Notes from Fountain Lakes Community Association (FLCA) President*

The 2023-2024 season is winding down. Our seasonal residents, renters, and guests are returning to the other place they call home. There have been many exciting events and activities to keep all of us entertained. I hope everyone had the opportunity to take part and enjoy themselves.

We need to take a moment to reflect and acknowledge the many Volunteers who are committed to providing the ambience, entertainment, and services we enjoy within Fountain Lakes. They invest a significant amount of time to these activities for our enjoyment.

Among those volunteers are: The Social Committee for the events; the Sports Leaders who manage the various sporting activities; the Bingo Group; Sewing Club Coordinators; Librarians; Aerobics Instructors; and Card Playing Organizers.

Fountain Lakes Community Association Committees: ARC, Hog, Cane Toad, and The Flash Committee members are committed to maintaining the quality of life for our community.

I also want to recognize the various people and companies who have made donations to help support our Activities: Realty World-J. Pavich Real Estate; JRC Landscape; Goede, DeBoest & Cross law Firm; Pegasus Property Management Company; Sean Lorch; and Big Al's Welding.

Last but not least.... Fountain Lakes would not enjoy an amicable and secure life style if not for our Monitors: Steve C, Bill, Rick, Cheryl, Steve M (also maintenance person), and Aidan. Ashley and Sherri with the Pegasus Management team keeps the association on top of day-to-day operations as well as help execute Fountain Lakes Community Association Covenants, Rules & Regulations, and State of Florida Statues.

All in all, we have a great support team! Our Hats go off to them!  
Have a great summer and see you next season,  
Janet Hildebrand

**Sunset Saturday**  
**APRIL 6TH 6-9 PM**

**FREE MUSIC POOLSIDE!**  
**JOE SASSARINI**  
**FOOD TRUCKS!**

**RSVPS NOT REQUIRED.**  
**NO GLASS POOLSIDE.**  
**BRING YOUR OWN CHAIR.**





*Coach's Corner With TJ Parisi*

Fountain Lakes has a dedicated and enthusiastic group of Pickleballers that meet every day to play America's fastest growing sport. Pickleball has seen a meteoric rise in popularity and for many of us it's the perfect combination of fun, exercise, socializing and just an amazing way to enjoy the sun and warm weather. Pickleball is the sport with the weird name that was created in 1965 in Washington state and is easy to pick up and super addictive to play. For many it rekindles the sense of sport and competition from youth but doesn't require a youthful body to play. Pickleball also doesn't require a lot of money to get started with beginner paddles readily available to buy (or borrow) balls are a couple bucks each and court shoes are suggested but not required. I have been playing Pickleball for 5 years after "retiring" from about 40 years of Tennis and I really enjoy introducing the game to new players and coaching seasoned players to help them achieve their goals and enhance enjoyment of the game!

Pickleball is played at Fountain Lakes and many places as a "drop-in" sport where most often people come as singles or pairs and join the group playing with different people as much as possible. Some players will arrive early and stay late while others may just pop in for a game or two. This flexibility also adds to the popularity of the sport as you can play as much or as little as you'd like without the need to wrangle your foursome in advance.

If you would like to learn to play or want some coaching for your existing game contact me or swing by the courts and introduce yourself. If you need advice about equipment, places to play or just want to talk about the game shoot me a message.  
 TJ Parisi - 781-603-2222 Instagram: @chromus\_domus Facebook: TJ Parisi Facebook Group: Pickleball Nerd

*2024 sports team schedule and coordinators*

**LADIES GOLF@MONDAY 9:00 AM**  
 KATE LEWIS 416.886.6942  
 katemlewis44@gmail.com  
**MELISSA LAFAYETTE 802.318.0211**  
 PAM DIONISE 925.584.1387

**MENS GOLF @ TUESDAYS 9 AM**  
 JOE REED 717.575.3868  
 jmreed1809@comcast.net

**MENS & WOMENS SCRAMBLE@THURSDAY 8:45**  
 PAM DIONISE 925.584.1387  
 pdionise@comcast.net

**SCRAMBLE W/LUNCH THURSDAY APRIL 4TH**  
 DIANE MOULTON 508.916.1943  
 dmoulton82@yahoo.com

**BILLARDS@TUESDAY 4 PM**  
 REGIS SEXTON 248.974.5849  
 regis200lrg@yahoo.com

**SHUFFLEBOARD WEDNESDAY @9:00 AM**  
 MARY CAREY 508.776.4132  
 maryacareyl@gmail.com

**BOCCE FRIDAY @ 10:00 AM**  
 THELMA LARVIS  
 thelma@johnandthelma.com

**PICKLEBALL M-W-F 8:00 AM**  
**SAT-SUN 8:00 AM OPEN**  
**PLAY ROTATION**  
 TJ PARASI 781.603.2222  
 parasiland@gmail.com  
 MICHAEL MONTI  
 monti.michael@gmail.com

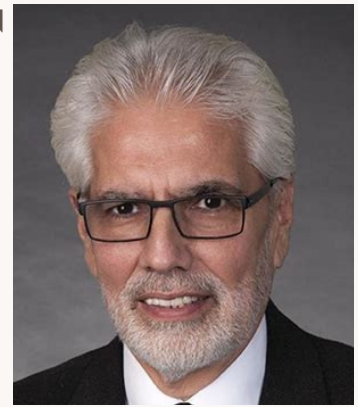
**CORNHOLE WEDNESDAY@ 2 PM**  
 MIKE DERNFIELD 219.545.3278

# REAL ESTATE INSIGHTS

BONITA SPRINGS- ESTERO REAL ESTATE MARKET WAS BOTH STRONG AND CHALLENGING IN 2023 REFLECTING THE MARKET RETURNING TO "NORMAL"

LOOKING AT THE MEDIAN PRICES ENTERING 2023, MANY REALTORS QUESTIONED IF IT WOULD HOLD UP, IT NOT ONLY HELD UP BUT SLIGHTLY INCREASED BY \$35,000. EVEN THOUGH THERE WERE A LOT OF PRICE DECREASES, THIS CAN MOSTLY BE ATTRIBUTED TO THE SELLERS' MARKET EXPECTATIONS STILL THINKING THE MARKET IS THE SAME AS IT WAS A FEW YEARS AGO.

OVERALL, WE HAVE A VERY HEALTHY MARKET, IT IS A LITTLE MORE BALANCED, IT IS STILL SLIGHTLY A SELLERS MARKET BUT THE SELLER HAS TO BE REALISTIC. I SEE A LOT MORE THINGS THAT COULD POSITIVELY IMPACT THE MARKET IN 2024 THAN THINGS THAT COULD NEGATIVELY IMPACT THE MARKET IN 2024.



*Joe Pavich Sr  
Realtor-Resident*

**\*\*\*THESE ARE HIGHLIGHTS OF THE BONITA SPRING-ESTERO REALTORS NEWSLETTER.  
ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS TO: ERIN MCDONALD, JOE PAVICH SR, MIKE HUGHES, STEVE KOLENDA, AND BRUCE MITCHELL\*\*\*\***



## RESIDENT SPOTLIGHT WES DICKERSON



In 1980, I attended a Hot Air Balloon meet held in Battle Creek, MI. This was where my balloon career started. In 1981, we had the pleasure of hosting and working with the Spanish Champion. After the 1981 World's, I decided to start working on my balloon pilot license. I received a private pilot license in 1981 and a commercial rating in 1983. Since 1981, I have accumulated over 1200 flight hours in a hot air balloon. The last balloon we owned was named FORE II, since it was the fourth hot air balloon that we owned. Each balloon had three primary colours of red, black, and yellow; each balloon had a slightly different design or pattern. The retrieval of the balloon on the very first training flight had to be completed using a farm tractor with a lift. It was never repeated in 43 years of flying.

I started attending hot air balloon meets as a new pilot and over the years worked my way up to becoming the senior pilot. During the time I spent going to different events, I became interested in Remote Control balloons. There was not a dealer for these little balloons, so I wound up building my own. Not only did they operate just like a full-scale balloon, but the basket was hand-woven, burners were handmade, and assembled in our basement. In total, I built five remote control balloons. They ranged in size from 2000 cubic ft to just over 4400 cubic ft.

In 2010, I retired from the auto industry as the Worldwide Material Sourcing Manager for TMD Friction. That same year, I started working with the special shape balloons. The first group was the Purple People Eater and Mr Skunk balloon. This tour lasted approximately 3 years. During the winter months, I toured with Post Cereal Balloons, Sugar Bear, The Post Racer Balloon, and the Cereal Bowl Balloon. I also started working with the Balloon Glow tour, featuring tethered balloon rides and the tune balloons. These balloons resembled Tweety Yellow Bird, Sylvester the Cat, Tom, and Jerry. The Reindeer and the Snowman balloons were added to complete the group.

In 2013, we purchased our condo in Fountain Lakes and became official snowbirds that year. We became full-time Florida residents in 2022. Since 2013, we have become more active in the community. I served on the Villas Board in the past as president and board member for four years. I am currently serving on the Main board for Fountain Lakes, as well as the ARC committee and FLIC co-op. I have organized the FLOP for the last five years for Fountain Lakes.

# FLASH UPDATE

EXCITING NEWS! WE'RE REVAMPING OUR NEWSLETTER TO MAKE IT MORE ENGAGING, INFORMATIVE, AND TAILORED TO YOUR INTERESTS. BUT HERE'S THE BEST PART – WE WANT YOU TO BE A PART OF SHAPING ITS CONTENT!

INTRODUCING "YOUR VOICE, YOUR IDEAS" – A FRESH APPROACH WHERE YOUR IDEAS TAKE CENTER STAGE. WHETHER IT'S HIGHLIGHTING LOCAL EVENTS, SHARING COMMUNITY STORIES, OR DISCUSSING TOPICS THAT MATTER TO YOU, WE'RE PUTTING THE POWER OF CONTENT CREATION IN YOUR HANDS.

HERE'S HOW IT WORKS:

1. **SHARE YOUR SUGGESTIONS:** HAVE A TOPIC YOU'RE PASSIONATE ABOUT? WANT TO SEE MORE COVERAGE OF CERTAIN COMMUNITY INITIATIVES? HAVE AN IDEA FOR A REGULAR FEATURE? WE WANT TO HEAR IT ALL! DROP US AN EMAIL AT THE ADDRESS BELOW.
2. **GET FEATURED:** YOUR IDEAS COULD BECOME THE HIGHLIGHT OF OUR NEWSLETTER! IF YOUR SUGGESTION IS SELECTED, WE'LL FEATURE IT IN AN UPCOMING EDITION, GIVING YOU CREDIT FOR YOUR CONTRIBUTION.
3. **LET'S MAKE THIS NEWSLETTER TRULY REFLECT THE VIBRANT SPIRIT OF OUR COMMUNITY BY SHARING YOUR IDEAS, STORIES, AND PASSIONS. TOGETHER, WE CAN CREATE SOMETHING SPECIAL THAT RESONATES WITH EACH AND EVERY ONE OF US. WE CAN'T WAIT TO HEAR FROM YOU!**

WARM REGARDS,  
YOUR FLASH TEAM

Please email submittals and feedback to [jaballe166@gmail.com](mailto:jaballe166@gmail.com)

REMEMBER TO VISIT THE FOUNTAIN LAKES WEBSITE FOR MORE DETAILED INFORMATION ON EVENTS AND ISSUES IMPORTANT TO OUR COMMUNITY.

FOUNTAIN LAKES OFFICE IS OPEN 8:30-4:30 M-F 239.495.3555

**\*\* MASTER BOARD MEETING 3RD WEDNESDAY OF THE MONTH 6PM  
COMMUNITY CENTER \*\***

THE MAY ISSUE WILL FEATURE  
A SEASON IN REVIEW AND A  
SPECIAL SPOTLIGHT  
FEATURING SOME FOUNTAIN  
LAKES VETERANS.



IF YOU ARE A SEASONAL  
RENTER WHO WOULD LIKE TO  
BE ADDED TO THE  
NEWSLETTER MAILING LIST  
PLEASE SEND REQUEST  
TO: [JABALLE166@GMAIL.COM](mailto:JABALLE166@GMAIL.COM)

[www.fountainlakesestero.com](http://www.fountainlakesestero.com)