

ON THE RANCH NEWSLETTER – AUGUST 4, 2017

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News You Can Use

INSTALLATION OF FALL ANNUALS

Beginning **Monday, August 7th**, weather permitting, fall Coleus in an autumnal color blend of reds, golds, and greens will be planted at the Palmer Ranch entrances and directional signs.



PALMER RANCH MAHJONG CLUB

Do you play mahjong? The Palmer Ranch Mahjong Club is inviting all interested players to join them for the new Monday afternoon open games. Location is at the Covenant Life Church, 8490 McIntosh Road, **every Monday from 1:00pm – 3:00pm**. If you have a set, please bring it along. Please email David & Varsha Stein at steintravel@verizon.net if you would like to join this group.

ARTISTS OF PALMER RANCH - NEXT MEETING MONDAY, AUGUST 7TH



Do you draw, paint, sculpt or have an interest in any of the visual arts? If so, come join the Artists of Palmer Ranch at their next meeting on **August 7th at 1:30 pm** at Gulf Gate Library, 7112 Curtiss Ave, room A. Any Palmer Ranch resident is welcome. If you like, bring your latest masterpiece!

Please email Donna Karambelas at djanec@hotmail.com if you would like to join.

Featured photos:

Blue African Iris - acrylic ~ Donna Karambelas
Apple bowl - water color ~ Margaret Bugatto



SPLASH BASH EVENT AT EVALYN SADLIER JONES YMCA

The Evalyn Sadlier Jones YMCA at 8301 Potter Park Drive is hosting a Splash Bash from **12:00pm to 3:00pm Saturday, August 12th**. What a great way to wrap up the summer!! Come and join in the fun!

FREE AND OPEN TO THE PUBLIC!!

- Water Park!
- Face painting!
- Entertainment!
- Food available to purchase!





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HERON CLUB AT PRESTANCIA IS HOSTING AN ALZHEIMER'S SUPPORT GROUP

Heron Club, located at 3749 Sarasota Square Blvd., is hosting an Alzheimer's Support Group. Their next meeting will be on **Tuesday, August 15th at 10:30am**. For more information or to RSVP, contact Laurie Blackwell at Heron Club (941) 922-1669.

GREEN TEAM EVENT AT THE GLENRIDGE ON PALMER RANCH – OPEN TO THE PUBLIC

The Green Team at the Glenridge on Palmer Ranch invites you to a showing of the Emmy Award winning documentary "Chasing Ice". This film features stunning time-lapse photography which vividly illustrates the changing world of ice. Terry Root, who is Assistant Secretary of the National Audubon Society and Senior Fellow Emeritus at Stanford Woods Institute for the Environment, and who serves on numerous science advisory boards will introduce the film. The showing will take place at The Glenridge Performing Arts Center located at 7333 Scotland Way, Sarasota, on **Saturday, August 19, 2017 at 2 PM**. All are welcome to attend.

The Green Team is a group of senior citizens concerned with environmental issues including climate change and the actions we can all take to protect the planet. Please contact Susan Button at 941-360-1162 or susanvinalbutton@gmail.com with any questions about the showing of "Chasing Ice".

OSCAR SCHERER PARK HOSTS TOTAL ECLIPSE OF THE PARK

Monday, August 21 from 1:15pm – 4:15pm at the Legacy Trail Pavilion. Join the leaders of Oscar Scherer Park to learn about the solar eclipse. Oscar Scherer Park is located at 1843 S. Tamiami Trail, Osprey. For more information please call (941) 483-5956.

PALMER RANCH APPRECIATION DAY

Stoneybrook Golf & Country Club, located at 8801 Stoneybrook Blvd., is hosting an Appreciation Day **August 25th from 3pm to 5pm**. Reservations are required. Call (941) 918-9595 for more information or to RSVP.



Do you want to hear about the news on Palmer Ranch first hand? If so, simply visit our website: www.PalmerRanch.net. At the bottom of the home page, simply click on 'Sign Up For Our Newsletter.' You'll then be asked to provide your email address and first name. It's that easy!

Wildlife Neighbors of Palmer Ranch – Florida Sandhill Crane



Sandhill Cranes are cherished members of the Florida ecosystem. They stand almost 4 feet tall and their bugling or rattling calls are haunting and beautiful. Sandhill Cranes occur in pastures, open prairies and freshwater wetlands in peninsular Florida from the Everglades to the Okefenokee Swamp.

Florida Sandhill Cranes are present in many urban areas and some unlikely places such as golf courses, airports and suburban subdivisions. Cranes are probably attracted by the open setting (mowed grass) and availability of some foods (acorns, earthworms, mole crickets, turf grubs). Cranes sometimes damage lawns and gardens as they dig for food such as mole crickets and beetle grubs. The birds, in this case, provide natural "biological control" of these common pests of turf.

Two subspecies of Sandhill Crane occur in Florida. The Florida Sandhill Crane (*G. c. pratensis*), numbering 4,000 to 5,000, is a non-migratory year-round breeding resident. They are joined every winter by 25,000 migratory greater Sandhill Cranes (*G. c. tabida*), the larger of the two subspecies. The greater

Sandhill Crane winters in Florida but nests in the Great Lakes region. Sandhill Cranes nest during late winter and spring on mats of vegetation about two feet in diameter and in shallow water.

People inadvertently put them in harm's way when they attract these birds to their yards with feed. Some "feeding" is accidental such as when bird seed is spilled from feeders by other animals onto the ground below making a nice feeding station for cranes. But, some people deliberately feed Sandhill Cranes. In 2002, the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission made it illegal to feed Sandhill Cranes (Florida Fish and Wildlife Code 68A-4.00(3)).

Why is feeding cranes prohibited?

Cranes fed by humans can become aggressive toward people, and have been known to damage window screens and do other property damage.

It's never a good idea to feed wildlife. Florida Sandhill Cranes have an abundance of natural foods (insects and small animals) and they do not need handouts from humans. For the good of the cranes, please do not feed them.



Sandhill Crane Chick - Peek a Boo - Jim Sherry

Sandhill Cranes – visiting pro shop at Stoneybrook Golf & Country Club

(**Source: Florida Fish & Wildlife Conservation Commission**)