



ON THE RANCH NEWSLETTER – FEBRUARY 2022

WWW.PALMERRANCH.NET

News You Can Use



CRAPE MYRTLE TRIM SCHEDULED

The Master Association contractor will be conducting the annual trim and shaping of the Crape Myrtle Trees on Palmer Ranch over the next two weeks, weather permitting. Workers will be trimming in the areas of: Northridge Road, Palmer Ranch Parkway East, Sarasota Square Boulevard, Honore Avenue, McIntosh Road and Central Sarasota Parkway. *Please use caution when driving in active work zones.*

ARTISTS OF PALMER RANCH MEETING – MONDAY, FEBRUARY 7TH

If you draw, paint, sculpt or simply have an interest in the visual arts, please join the *Artists of Palmer Ranch* at their next meeting on **Monday, February 7th, 1:00 pm**, at Gulf Gate Library, 7112 Curtiss Ave. Any Palmer Ranch resident is very welcome. If you like, bring your latest masterpiece! They'd love to see it!



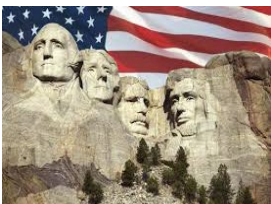
Featured Artist: *Linda Walsh, "Morning Light", oil on canvas.*

STONEYBROOK 19TH ANNUAL TWO' MILE WALK & TALK EVENT – FLYER ATTACHED

Stoneybrook Golf & Country Club is hosting a two mile walk and talk event benefiting the Veterans program at Southeastern Guide Dogs on **Saturday, February 19th**. There will be a special guest speaker and her very special companion at this year's event. See attached flyer for more information and how to register for this event.

PRESIDENTS' DAY IS MONDAY, FEBRUARY 21ST

The Master Association Office will be closed on **Monday, February 21st** in observance of Presidents' Day, reopening at 8am on **Tuesday, February 22nd**.



President's Day commemorates past presidents of the United States of America. Washington's Birthday was first celebrated as a holiday in the District of Columbia in 1880. It was made a federal holiday in 1885. Originally held on the anniversary of George Washington's birth, on February 22, in 1971 this holiday was moved to the third Monday in February.



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MANASOTA NEIGHBORHOOD SUMMIT VIRTUAL EVENT

The Manasota Neighborhoods Summit is an annual event hosted by the Sarasota County and Manatee County Neighborhood Services Departments. This regional summit is designed to strengthen and improve neighborhoods by providing both novice and experienced neighborhood leaders with relevant knowledge and resources. The 2022 Summit theme is Neighborhood Beautification & Pride and will be held virtually on **Friday, February 25 from 8:30 AM to 12:00 PM**. For more information and to register for this event visit https://scgov.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_nUWzWdccSPC1c_j_lB0qAA

SARASOTA BAY ESTUARY PROGRAM

The application window for the Sarasota Bay Estuary Program's 2022 Sarasota Bay Partners Grants is now open. Sarasota Bay Partners Grants are competitive awards for projects in the Sarasota Bay watershed that promote habitat and water quality restoration, environmental education, and community involvement to benefit Sarasota Bay. This year, the Sarasota Bay Estuary Program is making a total of **\$100,000** available for grants with a \$10,000 cap on individual awards. Most organizations, including non-profits, civic associations, schools, businesses, and local governments are eligible to receive funding. Applications are due on March 1, 2022. Follow this link to learn more about the grant program and access the application materials: <https://sarasotabay.org/get-involved/apply-for-a-grant>

ADULT LEARNING CLASSES AT MOTE MARINE LABORATORY & AQUARIUM

"Endless Oceans: Conservation in the Community" is an adult education course designed to give lifelong learners the opportunity to discover and explore the Gulf Coast's vibrant community of environmental conservation organizations. This course is now available online any time, for more information and to register for classes visit <https://mote.org/education/college-adults/lifelonglearning>

SURREY RIDES ON THE LEGACY TRAIL HAVE RETURNED FOR 2022



Ready to travel the Legacy Trail? The Surrey Ride Program offers a way for residents and visitors the chance to enjoy Sarasota County's award winning and highly popular Legacy Trail. The program, which is a partnership between Sarasota County Parks, Recreation and Natural Resources and the Friends of the Legacy Trail (FLT) runs every **Wednesdays now through April 13th**. Riders can sit back and enjoy the ride on a four-passenger, four-wheeled canopy covered surrey type bicycle while FLT volunteers provide the 45-minute pedal-powered trips. The ride includes information and history of the

Legacy Trail and its surroundings. To pre-register for your free surrey ride, call (941) 486-2757. For more information visit <https://www.friendsofthelegacytrail.org/the-surrey-program/>



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www.PalmerRanch.net

Sue's Grounds Corner

And just like that we've got an awesome photographer who has been living on Palmer Ranch for over 30 years and I just found him. Michael Bradley lives in VillageWalk and some of you might have seen his beautiful pictures of Sandhill Crane Colts recently on the Next-Door App. Michael says "I have lived in Palmer Ranch, in various subdivisions, for thirty years and never cease to feel like I live in a Safari Park!" For those of you who know me, you know my love of Sandhill Cranes knows no bounds. I've been known to stop traffic just so they can cross the busy roads safely. Have a gander, pun intended, and let Michael know at his email how much you love his work! Michael's email is: michaeljbradley@me.com



Sign Up For Our Newsletter

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!

Palmer Ranch Master Association – Mission Statement

'Our mission is to enhance and maintain the aesthetic quality of Palmer Ranch and to preserve the overall unique identity and sense of community.'



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Q: What happens to the water in our ponds?

A: Most of it flows into Little Sarasota Bay and, eventually, the Gulf of Mexico.

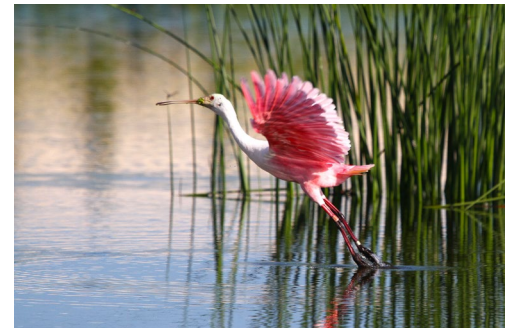
All of Palmer Ranch's lakes and ponds are a part of a connected, man-made stormwater management system that is designed to help prevent flooding and maintain the Bay's water quality.

- Most of it evaporates—about 74%.
- The remainder flows into the Bay. Almost 35% of the water in the Bay is from direct runoff.

Our stormwater runoff flows into two creeks: Catfish Creek, which enters Little Sarasota Bay near Vamo, and South Creek, which flows through Oscar Scherer State Park and empties into the Bay south of Blackburn Bridge. We're part of the Little Sarasota Bay watershed—one of seven watersheds in Sarasota County.

A few facts about our watershed:

- It's 44 square miles, with 36 named lakes and ponds and eight named creeks and canals feeding into Little Sarasota Bay.
- It's home to oysters, manatees, sea turtles, dolphins, many species of fish, waterfowl, hawks, bald eagles, osprey, and much more.
- It has a healthy population of sea grass—nurseries of the ocean that support fish and shellfish and serve as food for manatees and sea turtles.
- Its creeks contain too little dissolved oxygen and too much nitrogen and phosphorous.
- Catfish Creek carries the largest amount of water in our watershed, and almost half the pollution load.
- The two creeks our stormwater ponds drain into—Catfish Creek and South Creek—do not currently meet Florida water quality standards.



Roseate Spoonbill – Credit: Mark Vance

From fertilizing to applying pesticides to picking up pet waste (or not), many things we do every day affect our watershed. To learn more, visit: the Sarasota County Water Atlas at <https://www.sarasota.wateratlas.usf.edu> and enter "Little Sarasota Bay watershed" in the site's search bar.

Written by the Palmer Ranch Watershed / Natural Assets Committee, a group dedicated to maintaining and improving our water, preserves, and common areas.

19TH ANNUAL STONEYBROOK G & CC

WALK -N- TALK



Benefiting the Veterans Program at Southeastern Guide Dogs

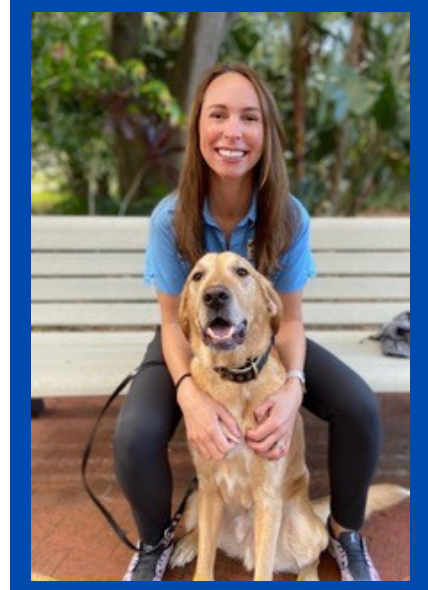
SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 19, 2022



Sign-In Starts 8:00am-8:30am at Clubhouse Front Entrance. Walk Starts at 8:45am

THERE WILL BE A SPECIAL GUEST AND HER VERY SPECIAL COMPANION AT THIS YEARS' EVENT.

A Florida native, Marisa Blanco learned about Southeastern Guide Dogs at a high school career day in 2003 and immediately volunteered. She was 18 years old when the kennel manager invited her to work as a canine care technician. She now serves as a fully certified guide dog training manager. Marisa and her dually trained side kick Astro will conduct demonstrations for both the guide and service dog programs. Come meet Marisa and Astro to learn through live demonstrations how Southeastern Guide Dogs become Heroes and transform lives.



Minimum Donation is \$20.00 per person. Donation includes Coffee, Juice & Breakfast.

For those unable to attend and wishing to donate, your donation is very much appreciated.

For this year's event ALL Walk N Talk donations will be MATCHED dollar for dollar by a group of generous Southeastern Guide Dog donors through their Heroes Challenge.

THERE ARE SEVERAL WAYS TO DONATE:

- If you are a Stoneybrook GCC member your donation can be charged to your member account. Email, text or call Dave Scruggs at LTC365@yahoo.com (Tel. No. 716-983-9098). Provide your name, club number and amount you wish to donate.
- A check made out to Southeastern Guide Dogs and mailed to Tami Praznik, 8866 Macgregor Ln, Sarasota, FL 34238.
- Give your donation to a committee volunteer listed below.
- Donate online via credit card or direct debit at <https://www.guidedogs.org/stoneybrook/>
- Donations will be accepted, and Raffle tickets for Gift Baskets will be sold on Pub & Rib Nights February 2nd & 3rd and February 9th & 10th as well as the day of event.



THANK YOU FOR YOUR DONATION:



Your Stoneybrook Walk N Talk Committee,
Barbara Bernstein, Velma Bernstein, Ellie Brennan, Patty Cardinale, Shelby Colston,
Barbara/Ken Colwell, Judy Cowgill, Pat/Kevin Gmerek, Mel Green, Betty Gruber, Sharon
Herrick, Carol/Joe Kreit, Louise Melehan, Jeff Meser, Alice/Dick Neaves, Mike
Netkovick, Tami Praznik, Bob Richards, Joe Rich, David Scruggs, June Walker