



Contact Us:

5589 Marquesas Circle, #201
Sarasota, FL 34233

Telephone: 941-922-3866

Fax: 941-922-1581

Email: info@palmer ranch.net

Website: www.PalmerRanch.net

On the Ranch Newsletter January 2026

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

- Palmer Ranch Community Map
- News You Can Use
- Sue's Grounds Corner
- Natural Assets
- Local Happenings



Click [Here](#) for a Palmer Ranch
Community Map.



Everything You Need to Know About Palmer Ranch ~ History of Palmer Ranch ~

The 7,000± acre development, known as Palmer Ranch, was created as a model of contemporary planning and environmental sensitivity. The property is part of a legacy of a remarkable turn-of-the-century woman: Mrs. Bertha Potter Palmer. In addition to her significant contributions to Sarasota, Mrs. Palmer's achievements were many.



After her husband's death in 1902, Mrs. Palmer's influence was felt in the little-known town called Sarasota. She first visited the area in 1910, declaring that it was "the most beautiful place in Florida." Her impressions were published throughout the country, causing a local real estate boom. At a time when most women of her age and social standing were content to play parlor games, she purchased 80,000 acres of land in Sarasota, and was involved in agriculture, livestock, real estate, banking and tourism. Mrs. Palmer had a profound love for the natural beauty of Florida. She would have been proud to know that, after her death in 1918, much of her land has been preserved as state parks, nature preserves and quality development.

Hugh Culverhouse, Sr. purchased the remaining 12,000 acres from the Palmer estate in 1972. He shared Mrs. Palmer's love of the land and created the Palmer Ranch community. Mr. Culverhouse's dream continues to evolve through his son, Hugh F. Culverhouse, Jr. Palmer Ranch has received state and national recognition as an exemplary community and a model of state-of-the-art planning.

Sue's Grounds Corner



Paving work on Central Sarasota Parkway

We have been advised that the paving work on Central Sarasota Parkway between McIntosh and Honore Avenue will most likely be complete the week of January 20th. The County's contractor has requested that no irrigation is run during the evening hours, where the paving is being done. Because we are in a

dangerous drought situation, we are losing turf and plants in this area. The contractor has stated that if we do need to run irrigation - do so after 5:30 a.m. - or anytime during the day, if water pressure allows.

Walkers, please be cognizant of the above when out walking. We know that in some areas the sidewalks will be wet, and you might encounter ongoing irrigation. For this reason, we'd like to recommend that you walk only within your own communities and avoid walking on County rights-of-way for the next few weeks.

Question: Are the lakes and ponds in Palmer Ranch natural?

Answer: No—none of them are natural.

They're man-made stormwater detention ponds, part of a connected system designed to help prevent flooding and remove pollutants from our stormwater water before it drains into creeks, Little Sarasota Bay, and the Gulf.



Stormwater runoff is created when rain lands on roofs, driveways, streets, parking lots, and other surfaces that don't absorb water. This runoff flows directly into our ponds, which are like giant bowls that keep our streets and houses from flooding.

We're in one of the rainiest regions in North America, averaging about 53 inches of rainfall every year, versus 45 inches of precipitation in New York City and 36 inches in Chicago. About 60% of our rain falls in just four months, June through September.

That's a massive load of water in a short period of time. In fact, in an average year, 861 billion gallons of water falls on Sarasota County. Before development, that load was handled by wetlands, which once covered over half the county and allowed rainwater to slowly seep into the ground and travel underground, by gravity, to the Bay.

Development destroyed or altered much of those wetlands. Instead of getting absorbed into the ground, stormwater runoff rushed water into our creeks and Bays, carrying fertilizers, pesticides, motor oil and gas, animal waste, and other pollutants. Runoff is still the number one source of water pollution in Florida.

Our stormwater ponds are a solution. They're designed to remove pollution through biological, chemical, and physical processes. The water in our system slowly drains from pond to pond, eventually making its way to Little Sarasota Bay. This mimics the natural landscape, which slowly released rainwater to Bay, maintaining healthy saltwater levels that important support wildlife, including oysters.

Our stormwater pond system was state-of-the-art when it was begun, in the 1990s, and is still considered a model in the state of Florida. When properly maintained with a 10-20 year clean out period, low-maintenance buffers at their shorelines, and native wetland plants in their shallows, our retention ponds make Palmer Ranch more livable, while minimizing our environmental impact on the Bay.

For more information on our watershed, stormwater ponds, and how to maintain stormwater ponds near your property, click on these articles:

[Stormwater Systems in Your Neighborhood](#) and [Stormwater Fact Sheet](#).

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



Local Happenings

PALMER RANCH SINGERS

Palmer Ranch Singers
~ Calling All Singers ~

Do you love to sing? Do you sing in a chorus or choir?

You're invited to join the Palmer Ranch Singers as they begin preparation for their March 2026 concert. They have prepared another delightful program for all to enjoy, in celebration of our Nation's 250th birthday.

This welcoming, friendly group comes together to sing, to grow musically and to share the joy of beautiful music with the community. Plus – they have a lot of fun!

Rehearsals begin on **Monday, January 5th** at St. Andrew United Church of Christ, 6908 Beneva Road (Gulf Gate area). Practices are weekly **1:15 – 3:30 pm**, culminating in a concert on **Sunday, March 8th**.

Music will be provided at check-in at the first meeting, and dues of \$50 are payable by cash or check at the first meeting.

They're looking forward to another great year of musical fellowship and hope to see many Palmer Ranch neighbors join with them to share the love of singing.

Patronage is always welcomed and appreciated. Resources from dues, concert sales, and donations support the professional director and musicians, music purchases, and use of venue.

If you are interested in joining the Palmer Ranch Singers, please contact Jane Hunder, Artistic Director, at hunderjane@gmail.com. They want to make sure they have enough music for everyone.

The Palmer Ranch Singers are now a 501c3 organization; donations are tax deductible and may be sent to Palmer Ranch Singers, PO Box 52013, Sarasota, FL 34232.

Check out the Singers' website at palmerranchsingers.com for information about the group.



Artists of Palmer Ranch Monthly Meeting

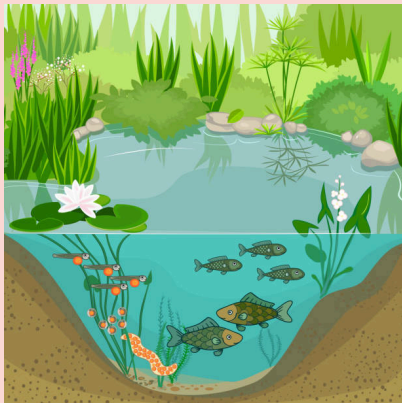
Ring in the New Year with Art!

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, January 5th at 10:30 am at Gulf Gate Library, 7112 Curtiss Ave., Sarasota.

Any Palmer Ranch resident is very welcome. If you like, bring your latest masterpiece! They'd love to see it!

Featured Artist: Zofia Cegielnik -- **Title:** Siesta Key Sunset



Glenridge of Palmer Ranch Presentation - Protecting Florida's Ecosystems from Invasive Species

The members of the Green Team at The Glenridge on Palmer Ranch invite you to join them on

Tuesday, January 13th, at 10:30am in the Glenridge Theatre, located at 7333 Scotland Way, for a presentation by Danielle Montesdeoca from the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission (FWC). She will discuss efforts being made to protect Florida's ecosystems from invasive species.

Attendance is free and open to the public, but attendees are asked to call **941-552-5325** for reservations.

Glenridge gate security will provide visitors with directions to parking and to the theatre.

For additional information, please visit the Green Team website at www.glenridgegreenteam.org.



From the Friends of Legacy Trail ~ Save the Date ~

This popular Tour de Parks fundraiser will take place on **Sunday, March 22, 2026**. Starting and ending at the Historic Venice Train Depot, enjoy 21-, 35-, and 69-mile ride options through many of Sarasota County's beautiful parks.

Click [Here](#) for more information and to register.

Join Us for Tour de Parks Sunday, March 22, 2026



An Annual Fundraising Event for Friends of The Legacy Trail Registration Now Open

Palmer Ranch Master Association Hours of Operation

Monday - Thursday: 8:00 am - 5:00 pm

Friday: 8:00 am - 4:30 pm



Would you like to submit an article for consideration in a future newsletter?

Click **Here** for our article submission guidelines and form.

Email completed form to: **Info@palmerranch.net**

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.