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On the Ranch Newsletter May 2026

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





If you aren't currently receiving the Palmer Ranch Master Association Newsletter and Notices directly to your in box and would like to, click [Here](#) for our Sign-up Form.

News You Can Use

Communication from the Master Association to our Members



Civics 101 is back in session starting fall 2026

In celebration of National County Government Month, now is the perfect time to learn more about how Sarasota County Government works behind the scenes.

This program offers a closer look at how county services operate and how decisions are made that shape our community through interactive experiences, facility tours and engaging presentations.

Sessions begin September 3rd and run through November 19th and will be held every Thursday from 6 to 8 pm.

Visit this link to learn more: [Civics 101 | Sarasota County, FL](#)

Click [Here](#) to be notified when registration opens.

Laptop Recycling with Sarasota Technology Users Group

Before you discard that old laptop sitting on your shelf that just won't turn on, you may want to think twice. According to the Sarasota Technology Users Group (S.T.U.G.), it may be able to change someone's life, helping bridge the digital divide.



In the early 2000s, STUG organization established the Refurb Project, in which volunteers refurbish used laptops for community members in need. Fixing about 2,000 laptops each year, the group had refurbished over 25,415 as of March 1st, says Mike Hutchinson, the project's leader.

The process is as simple as turning in a laptop computer to the organization's storefront at 3949 Sawyer Road, or emailing for a pickup at your front door, msharff@gmail.com. Each unit is diligently wiped of all the data, then failed parts are replaced if needed, and the software is updated.

The team works closely with local nonprofits including Goodwill Manasota, the Patterson Foundation and the Children's Guardian Fund, Faulhaber Fab Lab, Girls Inc. and the Sarasota Housing Authority. Another of its major partnerships is with the Sarasota County School District.

Call or email for a pickup – Mark [941-374-1107](tel:941-374-1107) or msharff@gmail.com.

Sue's Grounds Corner

Hurricane Preparedness Workshop Notes



Having attended the Hurricane Preparedness Expo at Riverview High School on Saturday April 11th, I learned some particularly important things that need to be communicated to all Palmer Ranch residents:

1) First: **THE FIRST 72 ARE ON YOU!** This means you should **always be prepared** to be on your own for a minimum of 72 hours. This pertains to natural disasters whether they are hurricanes, wildfires, summer storms, or power outages.

As we have experienced over this past year, our community roadways are designed to hold up to 12" of standing water. This means you may not be able to get out of your driveways, garages or even your community until the water recedes, which can take up to 72 hours. Storm surges can impact how quickly water recedes. We have experienced major storm surges over the past few years during our summer storms which means as the surge comes in, the water levels will rise in our creeks, bayous and, yes, even your stormwater ponds. Why do we see this? All the stormwater ponds on Palmer Ranch drain into one of several creeks (Catfish Creek, Elligraw Bayou, Matheny Creek and South Creek). The County has helped the Master Association immensely over this past year with getting Oscar Scherer cleared of fallen debris which helps with flow of water, but it will not help if storm surge is occurring. According to Google, storm surge is "an abnormal, rapid rise in seawater level generated by a storm—typically hurricanes...." Plainly put, this means as the Bay level rises, so will our creeks and bayous as well as your community's stormwater ponds...If the water has nowhere to go.... guess what? It goes into the streets! This isn't a flaw – it's how our stormwater system was designed to function.

2) Second: **Half tank of gas is the new empty.** The state of Florida is serious about while we are in wildfire season, they want us to keep our tanks full! If we get notified that we must evacuate due to wildfires in the area, you might have 5 minutes to load your personal items and get out. You certainly do not want to be left stranded on an evacuation route and run out of gas because you didn't have time to stop!

If you would like more information regarding natural weather situations and how to prepare, contact PRMA CERT at prmacert@gmail.com or call **941-922-3866**.



Go Bag List of Items

In addition to my article about **THE FIRST 72 ARE ON YOU** and **HALF TANK IS NOW EMPTY**, PRMA CERT would like to make sure you have a complete list of items you need to pack in your GO BAG for when the 'Get Out of Dodge' announcement comes!

Following is a list of only FIRST AID items that was prepared by our own PRMA CERT member Ron Moscati from Village Walk. Ron is a retired ER physician. These items are necessary in any emergency but especially useful when EMT's cannot get to you and far exceed anything that comes in a store-bought kit.

- Nitrite Gloves - Biohazard Bags - Commercial Tourniquet - Trauma Shears
- Large Gauze Pads - Triangular Bandages
- Adhesive Bandages (assorted) - Antiseptic wipes
- Antiseptic ointment
- Saline solutions for flushing - Medical tape
- CPR Face shield
- Liquid Bandage
- Butterfly Closures

OPTIONAL ITEMS:

- Hemostatic Gauze (Quick Clot) - Pressure Bandages (Israeli Dressing)
- Malleable Splints (SAM Splint)
- Liquid Bandage

OTHER ITEMS NEEDED:

Click [Here](#) for a copy of the Florida Division of Emergency Management Supply Kit Checklist (print it out and check it off as you put the items in your GO BAG).

You'll need items such as water, prescriptions, cash, etc. for your first 72 hours following natural disasters as shown on the checklist.

If you would like more information regarding natural weather situations and how to prepare and you live anywhere on Palmer Ranch, contact PRMA CERT at prmacert@gmail.com or call **941-922-3866**.

If you would like more information regarding natural weather situations, how to prepare, and you live within Sarasota County, contact SRQ CERT Association at srqcerthq@yahoo.com.

Natural Assets

Estuary Management for Flood Protection in Palmer Ranch

Palmer Ranch relies on several waterways (estuaries) including South Creek, Catfish Creek, North Creek, and Elligraw Bayou for stormwater outflow to Little Sarasota Bay.

Unimpeded function of these rivers and creeks is especially important during and after major rain events.



Sarasota County has recently completed debris removal of one-and-a-half miles of South Creek, south of Bay Street within Oscar Scherer State Park. For five weeks, crews of six to eight people entered the creek and manually removed vegetative blockages including live cabbage palms that can obstruct water flow. In total, they extracted 12 to 15 truckloads of debris from the waterway.

This improvement will be of particular value to communities abutting and upstream from the Park.

Crews also removed vegetation and sediment from a culvert under Honore Avenue in between The Isles and Hammock Preserve.



Currently, Sarasota County Stormwater Department is seeking permits to replace two 18-inch drainage pipes in North Creek with three 36-inch pipes. This upgrade will be useful for communities including Esplanade and Silver Oak.

Maintenance Efforts Ongoing

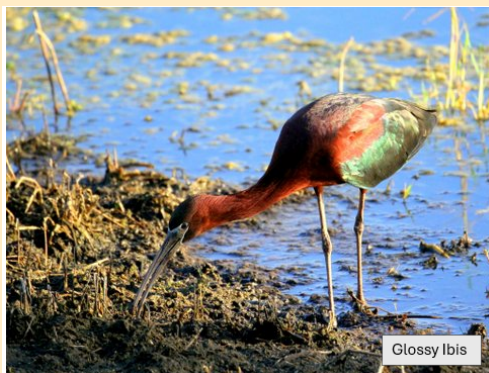
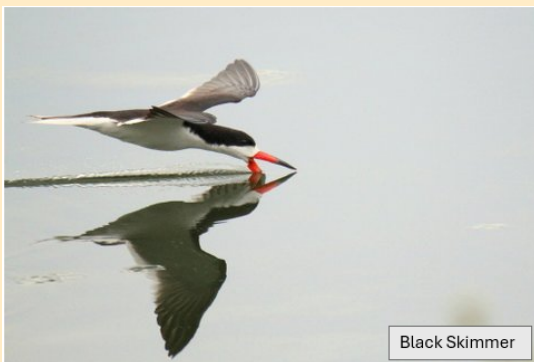
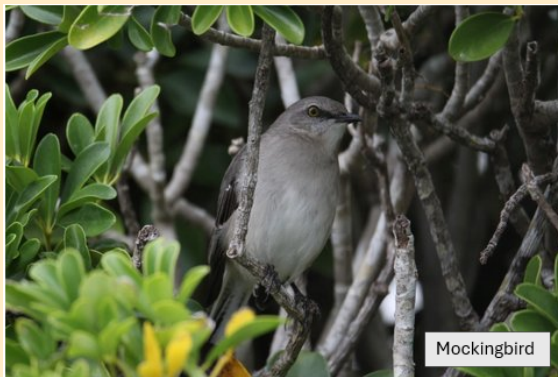
Since its establishment in July 2025, the Sarasota County Stormwater Department has prioritized maintenance to ensure the effectiveness of local stormwater systems. These efforts include identifying and addressing “hot spots” that require special attention. Click [Here](#) for a link to the Stormwater Maintenance Map which is available to all residents in an effort to provide real time tracking of these efforts.

Palmer Ranch Master Association and its individual communities welcome your involvement. If you believe you see a stormwater concern in your area, please take a photo and email either your community’s natural assets committee or Palmer Ranch Master Association at sue@palmerranch.net.

Article by Bill Sullivan, Palmer Ranch Watershed & Natural Assets Committee and Michelle van Schouwen, Co-Chair, Palmer Ranch Watershed & Natural Assets Committee. Photos of South Creek cleanup courtesy Sarasota County.

Images from Palmer Ranch

Pat Donnelly has shared some lovely bird photos she took around Palmer Ranch



Faith Lutheran Church Presents a Cello and Piano Recital

You are invited to attend a Cello and Piano recital featuring Victor Mikke Huls on cello and Andi Zdrava on piano.


This recital will be held on **Saturday, May 9th** at the Faith Lutheran Church located at 7750 Beneva Rd., Sarasota. Doors open at **6:30 pm** with concert beginning at **7:00 pm**.

Victor Minke Huls is a cellist, conductor, and pianist. He joined the Florida Orchestra as an associate principal cellist in 2023. Dr. Huls is the new conductor for the Serenade Strings Orchestra of the Pinellas Youth Symphony.

Andi Zdrava is an international conductor and pianist recognized for his dynamic musicianship, strong podium presence, and commitment to musical storytelling. Mr. Zdrava is currently appointed as Principal Guest Conductor of the Chamber Orchestra of Catalunya in Spain and Music Director of Faith Lutheran Church in Sarasota, Florida.

Admission is free and donations are appreciated.

For any questions, please contact the church administrator at [941-924-4664](tel:941-924-4664) or officeadmin@faithlutheransrq.com.



Faith Lutheran Church Concert Series
Presents:
Cello and Piano recital
Featuring
Victor Minke Huls, cello
Andi Zdrava, piano

—◆—◆—◆—
Works by:
Gershwin
Boulanger
Rachmaninoff
Scriabin

—◆—◆—◆—
May 9, 2026 | 7:00 PM
Free admission, donations appreciated

—◆—◆—◆—
Faith Lutheran Church
7750 Beneva Rd Sarasota FL 34238

Stoneybrook Golf and Country Club Trivia Night and Mothers' Day Brunch

~ Location: 8801 Stoneybrook Blvd., Sarasota ~

** Both Events are Open to the Public - Phone for Reservations [941-918-9595](tel:941-918-9595) **

Stoneybrook Trivia Night Buffet and Event on **Friday, May 8th** with dinner beginning at **5:00 pm** and trivia commencing after dinner.



MAY 8TH

Your host **Mr. and Mrs. Gonzalez**



Buffet Starter and Salad 5:15
Crostini and dips

**Warm Spinach Salad with bacon, egg, mushroom, onion, tomato
and cider vinaigrette**

Garden Salad
**Romaine, red cabbage and iceberg blend topped with, tomato,
cucumber, carrots, olive, blanched broccoli, edamame
Croutons and Ranch and Pub Dressings on the side**

Buffet at 5:30
Chicken Parmesan
Scampi Shrimp with Artichoke
Beef Tips with mushroom and red wine gravy
Buttered egg noodles
Rice
Roast Broccoli
Steamed Vegetable Medley

Cookies, Ice cream Sundae bar, Homemade Dessert
29.95++

Open to the public!
Phone for Reservations: (941) 918-9595

Stoneybrook Mothers' Day Brunch on **Sunday, May 10th** from **10:30 am - 1:30 pm**

Happy Mother's Day

Sunday, May 10th

10:30am-1:30pm

Chef Carved Beef Striploin and Smoked Ham

**Egg Cookery with Chef prepared to order Omelets,
Scrambled Eggs and Eggs Benedict**

**Composed Salad Station with Antipasto, Smoked
Salmon, Shrimp Cocktail**

**Fruit Display with cut Melons, Pineapple, Grapes,
Berries and more**

**Oven Roasted Salmon with Champagne Dill Beurre
Blanc**

**Herbed Multigrain Rice Pilaf and Butter Chive
Mashed Potatoes with Gravy
Market Vegetables**

**Bacon, Sausage, Sawmill Gravy and Buttermilk
Biscuits**

Waffle Bar with Toppings

Dessert display including:

**Pastries, Cakes, Pies, Cookies, Sticky Buns, and
Eclairs**

64.95 Adult

29.95 Child

Open to the public!

Phone for Reservations: (941) 918-9595

Sarasota Sharks Summer Camps

**The Sarasota Sharks swim club is located at Potter Park
(8501 Potter Park Dr., Sarasota)**

This summer, from **June 1st** through **July 24th**, the Sarasota Sharks are offering eight themed weekly camps for ages 4–12, each designed to build confidence, spark curiosity, and keep kids active in and around the water.

Campers kick off the season with Swim Camp to develop technique and endurance, followed by Lifeguard Camp, where they learn junior lifeguard skills such as scanning, rescue simulations, first aid, and teamwork. Adventure grows during Ocean Explorer Camp and Snorkeling Camp, where hands on marine discovery and underwater skills bring the ocean world to life.

The excitement continues with Paddleboard & Kayak Camp, building balance, coordination, and confidence through fun on the water challenges. A second Swim Camp reinforces skills and celebrates progress, while Sports Camp ramps up the energy with water basketball, volleyball, relays, and spirited team games.



The summer wraps with Water Olympics Camp, transforming the pool into a playful arena of friendly competition, technique stations, and Olympic style events.

Operated by Sarasota Sharks, Inc., a 501(c)(3) non-profit, these camps offer eight unforgettable weeks where kids build friendships, grow new skills, and discover the joy of being active, creative, and confident in the water.

Register online at www.SarasotaSharks.org under the Youth Programs tab.

**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.