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On the Ranch Newsletter October 2026

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October



Click on the Map above or [Here](#) to
View a List of Palmer Ranch
Communities



Click on the Map above or [Here](#) to
view a Palmer Ranch
Waterways Ownership Map



Palmer Ranch Master Association Notices Sign-up Form

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



Holiday Hours for the Master Association

The Master Association office will be closed on **Monday, October 12th** in observance of Columbus Day / Indigenous Peoples Day,

We will reopen at 8:00 am on Tuesday, October 13th.

Master Association 2027 Calendar Year Budget is Approved



At their meeting on September 24th, the Master Association Board of Trustees approved the 2027 calendar year budget. The Master Association 2027 Assessment for the period January 1, 2027, through December 31, 2027, remains the unchanged, at \$175.00, annually, per assessable unit.

The 2027 calendar year budget is available by clicking [Here](#) or by going to www.PalmerRanch.net and clicking on the Resources Tab and Documents section.



Palmer Ranch Area Announcements

Sarasota County Resurfacing McIntosh Road from Clark Road to US41

Sarasota County has announced they plan to resurface McIntosh Road from Clark to US41 during their 2027 fiscal year, which begins October 1st. This project involves resurfacing the roadway through milling and paving of existing surfaces. Additional improvements include roadway striping, signage updates, ADA compliance modifications, signal loop replacements, and necessary base repairs. The contract is anticipated to be awarded by the County Commission in November and may begin as early as January 2027.

FDOT update on the I-75/SR681 Interchange PD&E Study as of September 22, 2026

The project remains in the PD&E (Project, Development & Environment) phase, and the noise study is currently underway. This evaluation reviews potential noise impacts in accordance with all applicable federal and state guidelines, using both existing and projected traffic conditions to determine whether noise barriers may be feasible and cost reasonable in affected areas. The PD&E phase is expected to be completed in summer 2027. Public hearings, both virtual and in-person, have tentatively been scheduled for February 2027. The public hearings will give residents the opportunity to review the findings of the project's alternatives, ask questions, and provide feedback.

Tuesday, February 2, 2027: Virtual Public Hearing (via Teams)

Thursday, February 4, 2027: In-Person Public Hearing (6600 Clark Rd)

For more information on this project,

visit: <https://www.swflinterstates.com/i75-north-corridor/454095-1/>

Important Announcement from the Southwest Florida Water Management District (SWFWMD)

SWFWMD has announced the extension of the Modified Phase III "Extreme" Water Shortage. This is the second extension to the Order as the region still hasn't replenished its water supply from the lack of rain this summer.

Water restrictions in the Tampa Bay area will remain after the Southwest Florida Water Management District extended the "extreme" water shortage through **March 31, 2027**. SWFWMD restrictions apply to Citrus, DeSoto, Hardee, Hernando, Hillsborough, Manatee, Pasco, Pinellas, Polk, Sarasota, and Sumter counties. Residents are encouraged to conserve water wherever possible.

Residents should check with Sarasota County for specific days and times at:

www.scgov.net/waterrestrictions

Sue's Corner

A Visit to Palmer Ranch's Newest Mosquito Management Services Center

Residents of Esplanade on Palmer Ranch recently organized a tour of the brand-new Mosquito Management Services Center on Honore Avenue. Oliver Janney (Palmer Ranch Master Association Board Member and Natural Assets Committee Member) accompanied me on this tour and has provided this overview of his experience.



The new facility is on Honore Avenue, just north of Laurel Road.

The facility maintains collection stations throughout the county, mostly on county-owned land. Priority areas for stations are those with facilities for children and the elderly nearby, as well as areas that have hosted disease-carrying mosquitoes in the past.

The traps range from simple cone-shaped nets for routine collections to what looks like an oversized cooler with fans for the more dangerous vector mosquitoes. Of the 90 mosquito species resident in Florida, 10 are capable of transmitting diseases such as West Nile Disease, malaria and dengue. Only the females bite and transmit disease. Male mosquitos feed exclusively on plant nectar and fruit juices.

Specimens from the traps are collected each morning. In the event carriers of disease are found, the center alerts the sprayers by noon, so that action can be taken that day.

The facility contains laboratories for testing the collected mosquitoes, which must be frozen for the trip from the station to the management services center. Mosquito larvae are also grown for testing. The facility also contains a series of tubs in which mosquitofish are grown. These fish feed on mosquito larvae. The fish are available to communities that think they have issues with mosquitoes and are also distributed to ponds in the county where mosquitoes have been found.

The facility also hosts more than 70 sentinel chickens, which are deployed to 12 active coops. The chickens are acquired from Texas when they are juveniles and are kept for a year. After the year, the county puts them up for adoption and acquires a new brood. Blood samples from the chickens are taken once a week. Chickens are used because the diseases carried by the mosquitoes don't affect them, but they develop antibodies, which alert the center's personnel to diseases being carried by the mosquitoes.

We are fortunate to have this state-of-the-art facility!

If anyone is interested in attending a future Mosquito Management Seminar, feel free to contact Carly Dufficy at 941-861-9741 or email Cdufficy@scgov.net.

Article by Oliver Janney - Deer Creek Resident, Palmer Ranch Master Association Board Member, and Natural Assets Committee Member with additional notes by Sue Ambrecht



Natural Assets



Making the Case for Wildlife Corridors

Many of us enjoy the diversity of wildlife in and around Palmer Ranch. We observe dozens of bird species, turtles and tortoises, rabbits, bobcats, coyotes, possums, deer, alligators, and much more. To thrive, animals need ways to travel between two or more areas of habitat. These passageways, large or small, are called wildlife corridors. They can be natural or human-made. Ideally, a wildlife corridor will be at least 50 to 200 feet wide to offer space for travel, food, nesting, or escape from predators. Wildlife corridors can range from small local projects to large corridors that span multiple landscapes, waterways, counties, or even states.

Wildlife corridors allow animals to utilize resources outside their own habitats, preserve genetic flow between subpopulations, reduce animal deaths. In fact, all of us benefit from wildlife corridors that include conserved wild spaces. In the face of a changing climate, natural spaces are critical to reducing greenhouse gases, flood risks, and the localized impacts of increased temperatures. It's always cooler in a shady park or woods than on hot pavement.

Places that can serve as wildlife corridors include park land, forests, riverbanks, stormwater ponds, shorelines, bike and hiking trails, utility corridors, microforests, living walls, preserves, and planned highway overpasses and underpasses designed to accommodate animals.

The state of Florida has an extensive, formal wildlife corridor (Florida Wildlife Corridor) that encompasses approximately 18 million acres. But every wildlife corridor, small or large, matters to wildlife. So creating and connecting community wildlife corridors is of significant value.

Here in Palmer Ranch, our community preserves, wetlands, stormwater ponds, and buffers, as well as the Legacy Trail, serve as corridors for local wildlife. Looking outward, parks and conservation areas such as Culverhouse Nature Park, Potter Park, The Legacy Trail, Oscar Scherer State Park, Scherer-Thaxton Preserve, and other local parks, preserves, microforests, and living walls create homes and roaming areas for birds and animals. However, continued building and road development in our region is putting wildlife at risk.

Palmer Ranch Watershed & Natural Assets Committee works to sustain and enhance wildlife corridors and habitat. If you are interested in learning more about wildlife corridors, or how to support wildlife preservation in Palmer Ranch, please watch Palmer Ranch Master Association Watershed & Natural Assets Committee's new online presentation *Making the Case for Wildlife Corridors*: <https://tinyurl.com/29ruyu62>. If your community would like to book an in-person wildlife corridors presentation, please email mmvanschouwen@gmail.com.

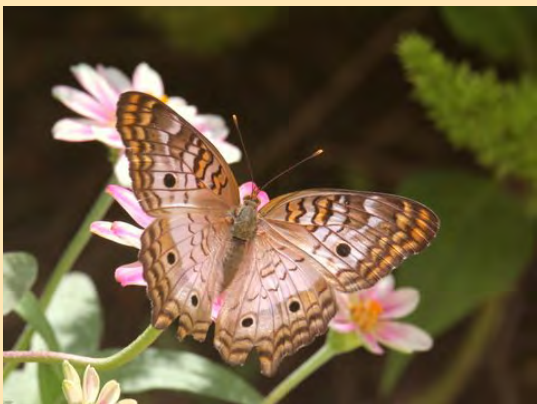


Article by Michelle van Schouwen, Co-Chair, Palmer Ranch Watershed & Natural Asset Committee. Photos: Riparian zone (woods by waterway) along Turtle Rock preserve, Michelle van Schouwen; Culverhouse Nature Park, Sarasota Herald-Tribune; box turtle beside Legacy Trail, Golden Age Trips blog, Sheila Berrios.

Images from Palmer Ranch

Our resident photographer, Pat Donnelly, wishes to share some more lovely photos taken within various areas of Palmer Ranch.





Local Happenings

Artists of Palmer Ranch Monthly Meeting

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, October 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!



Palmer Ranch YMCA Fall Events

Palmer Ranch YMCA located at **8301 Potter Park Dr, Sarasota**, invites you to join in for their upcoming fall events:

- **Boogie & Boos Halloween Dance Party** (Adults Only)
Saturday, October 3rd from 6 - 9 pm
Tickets: \$20 for YMCA members or \$25 for non-members

Put on your favorite costume and join in on Boogie & Boos, an adults-only Halloween Dance Party at the Palmer Ranch YMCA! Enjoy an evening of live DJ entertainment, dancing, costume contests, raffles, tarot card reader, dance lessons, and dinner and snacks-all included with your ticket. Whether you're competing for best costume or just looking for a fun night out with friends, this is the perfect way to celebrate Halloween.

- **Fall Fest, Alien Invasion** (Free for All Ages) **Saturday, October 24th from 5 -7 pm**

The annual Fall Fest is one of the Palmer Ranch YMCA's biggest community events of the year! Enjoy an evening of trunk-or-treating, an Alien DJ dance party, a haunted attraction, face painting, food trucks, family activities, and more. This free, family-friendly event is open to the entire community and is fun for all ages!

Click on the flyers below for information and tickets.



PALMER RANCH SINGERS

Palmer Ranch Singers Announcement Your voice called...It wants you to Sing

Do you sing in the shower?
Sing in the car?

Maybe even sing when you think nobody is listening?

CONGRATULATIONS! You already have the most important qualification for joining the Palmer Ranch Singers: You like to sing!

This fall, the Palmer Ranch Singers are tuning up their voices and getting ready for their December 6th holiday concert – and they'd love to add a few more voices to the mix.

SINGING: IT'S GOOD FOR YOU!

It turns out that all that singing we do for fun may actually be doing us some good! Singing can be a mood booster, stress reliever, brain workout, breathing exercise and social connection – all rolled into one. So, basically, it's exercise for your brain, your lungs and your happiness – without having to put on sneakers!

NO AUDITION. NO PRESSURE. JUST SING!

You don't need a perfect voice. You don't need to read music like a pro. You don't even need to know exactly which part you sing. They will figure that out! You just need to show up with a willingness to sing and have some fun. You will come for the singing, share the joy of making music together, and leave with a song in your heart – and on your lips!

WHAT'S ON THE MUSICAL MENU ?

Artistic Director, Jane Hunder, Music Director, Wayne Fisher, and the Leadership Team have been busy preparing a wonderful holiday program with a concert on **Sunday, December 6th.**

Practices begin: **Monday, October 12th** from **1:15-3:30 pm**
St. Andrew United Church of Christ
6908 Beneva Road, Sarasota

Fall dues: \$50, payable at first practice

Registration asap – registration is open until October 5th
Space is limited

Contact: Hunderjane@gmail.com or janetzat@yahoo.com

Visit their website for more information: Palmerranchsingers.org

PALMER RANCH SINGERS ~ *Making music. Making friends. Making Mondays more fun.*

Glenridge on Palmer Ranch Presentation - Living with Alligators

The members of the Green Team at The Glenridge on Palmer Ranch invite you to join them for a **FREE** presentation on **Tuesday, October 13th at 10:30 am** in the Theatre located at 7333 Scotland Way.



Sarah Denison Williams, Community Education Manager at the Big Waters Land Trust, will discuss how we can safely live with alligators

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

Please call Glenridge gate security at **941-552-5353** for directions to parking and to the theatre.

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

Covenant Life Church Announcement Kick off Lunch to Sing or Play in Christmas on Palmer Ranch Concert



If you enjoy singing or playing an instrument, you're invited to take part in **Christmas on Palmer Ranch!** Join in for a free kick off lunch on **Sunday, October 18th, at 12:00 pm** at Covenant Life Church, 8490 McIntosh Road.

During this lunch, this year's program will be introduced, and you'll begin learning the music for the performances taking place on **Sunday, December 13th.**

For more information or to sign-up, email Michael Moore through the church office at info@covenantlifepca.com, or call **941-926-4777**.

VillageWalk of Sarasota Holiday Arts and Crafts Fair

VillageWalk is hosting their Arts and Crafts Fair on
Saturday, November 7th from 10 am - 2 pm

For gate entrance during the fair, use verbal code: **ARTS & CRAFTS 2026**

Click on the flyer below for additional information



50th Anniversary CycleFest

Palmer Ranch resident, Eric Puetz, who is a member of the Sarasota Manatee Bicycle Club (SMBC) is sharing the following event information:

Event: SMBC 50th Anniversary CycleFest

Date & Time: Sunday, November 15th from 8:00 am until 2:30 pm

Location: 8100 Main Street in Lakewood Ranch



Get ready to gear up and ride! The Sarasota Manatee Bicycle Club (SMBC) invites cycling enthusiasts and casual riders of all skill levels to join the annual CycleFest.

Whether you are looking for a casual neighborhood spin or a longer scenic distance ride across Sarasota and Manatee counties, CycleFest is a non-profit community cycling event that offers route options, rest stops, and post-ride festivities for everyone.

For more information and to sign up, visit smbc.us/CycleFest

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.