

AROUND THE SQUARE

Following the latest news and views from Serenoa

SUMMER, 2024

VOLUME 3.2

Serenoans embrace Summer in many ways!

THERE'S NO BETTER PLACE... OR TIME... TO GRAB YOUR ROD AND REEL

With so many interesting fishing play-grounds, exciting fish to catch, and excellent spots to test your angling skills, Vero Beach is a true Florida East Coast gem.

Whether you're looking to explore the Indian River Lagoon system or take your adventure to the offshore waters and beyond, heading out with an experienced fishing buddy, or a seasoned guide, is a must. Why? There are a lot of local pros close by that know the area better than anyone in the world.

Vero offers something for everyone, especially for those seeking a world-class angling experience. There's a maze of flats paired with creeks, coves, and inlets with Redfish, Snook, and Trout, along with a whole world of deep sea fishing offshore.

Wherever your water excursion takes you, meandering the intercoastal, or navigating the open ocean, the natural beauty of the Treasure Coast provides a memorable day trip. If the fish are biting... it's a "win win".

HITTING THE HIGH NOTES!



Hey Serenoa—if you've got you've got a favorite song, a voice that can carry a tune, and a natural stage presence, then start rehearsing for your Karaoke debut on August 2, 2024 at the latest Clubhouse Mixer event. The curtain goes up at 5:00 pm and runs through 7:00 pm (not accounting for encores).



HOOKING THE BIG ONE!



Waving Old Glory!

Sunday, July 7 felt like most mid-summer days in the neighborhood. The humidity was high, and the breeze was gentle, but the air was noticeably filled with a real patriotic pride—as the Serenoa family gathered at the Clubhouse to celebrate Independence Day, 2024. Decked out in holiday colors, happy revelers came prepped for beer, barbecue, cold salads, and platters of freshly baked goods garnished with seasonal stars and stripes.

Kudos to "BBQ Master" Mike Bushong, who broke out his shiny, new smoker grill, and

manned the flipper, and tongs, with skill and dexterity. And... a major salute to the Social Committee crew, who performed heroically—organizing promotion, decoration and menu prep.

Congrats to Mary Ruth Johnsen, who garnered the \$100 winner's prize in the 50/50 drawing. And many thanks to the Serenoa faithful, who arrived with lovingly prepared dishes and desserts, and departed with fond memories of another warm Serenoa gathering.



Indulging a sweet tooth!

What better way to spend a hot, muggy Summer afternoon, than by sharing a few heaping scoops of cold, creamy, ice cream with your Serenoa friends and family. On June 26th, a hungry horde descended on the Clubhouse with their eyes, and mouths wide open—eager to sample the cornucopia of sweet flavors and textures served up by our very own team of soda shoppe scoopers... i.e. our Social Committee volunteers. Quite a treat for the entire community... frozen, and otherwise.



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Summer is a fisherman's paradise in Vero Beach.

The lagoon and its many inlets are home to bevy of fish— from Snook, Redfish, and Trout to Permit, Cobia, Tarpon, and Trevally.

As you move past the Indian Lagoon and its inlets, the fish-filled waters of the Atlantic Ocean offer even bigger catches. There are reefs and wrecks just a few miles from shore, with healthy populations of Snappers, Groupers, Kingfish. If you're a bottom fishing enthusiast, chances are you're after Snappers and Groupers.

Visitors and locals alike can hook into these species on Vero's reefs and wrecks. And, there's plenty of them! On the Snapper front, anglers can catch Mutton, Lane, and Red Snapper.

The offshore waters of Vero Beach are home to gorgeous Mahi Mahi. These acrobatic fish are most abundant during the spring and summer months, hunting among weed lines and floating debris. In the heat of the summer, large schools of Mahi can be found around birds, so look out for those. Anglers can also hook into three Tuna species –

Blackfin, Skipjack, and Yellowfin. Tuna hang out around underwater structure, such as ledges and reefs. In fact, you can target both Tuna and Mahi Mahi on the same trip.

Whether you're looking to explore the Indian River Lagoon system or take your adventure to the offshore waters and beyond, heading out with a guide is a must. Why? There are a lot of local crews that know the area better than anyone in the world. If you move past the 9-mile mark with a list of big game species to catch, fishing alongside a knowledgeable captain increases your chances. First of all, they know the area and can navigate you to the best spots. Secondly, you'll be fishing from a sportfishing vessel, equipped with everything you need to catch big fish.

There are various options for anglers of all ages and skill levels. From short trips lasting a couple of hours to overnight extravaganzas, there really is something for everyone.

WIND & WATER

NATURAL RESOURCES THAT HELP BEAT THE HEAT OF OUR LONG FLORIDA SUMMER



Stay high and dry on a wetland adventure!

Experience natural marshlands, and feel the thrill of flying over the water and drifting through turns as you glide over miles of Florida wetlands.

Rollin' on the River.

Vero Beach boasts a wide range of activities, but visitors and locals agree that spending time outdoors is the best. This region is a nature lover's paradise.

If you're looking for an exciting and unique way to explore the Indian River Lagoon—glide across it on a safe, beginner-friendly paddleboard, or grab a paddle and settle in on comfortable, top-seat kayak.

Paddles By The Sea offers paddleboards, kayaks, and all the appropriate gear to help you make the most of your riverside adventure. If you've never tried paddleboarding before, it can seem intimidating, but there's nothing like feeling the gentle sway of the water beneath your feet. **Paddles by the Sea** actually offers a complimentary lesson with each rental so you can safely and confidently paddle your way through paradise.



Kayak rentals depart from the specialized kayak launch at a marina behind Riverside Cafe, where rental personnel will be on hand to answer questions, offer guidance, and provide assistance on your return.

The kayaks launch directly into the Indian River Lagoon – so there's no waiting in a parking lot or competing with boat traffic.

Learn more about these river excursions by logging on to paddlesbythesea.com.



On Capt. Bob's popular airboat adventure you'll observe exotic birds, plants, turtles and gators in their own natural environment, and in areas that ordinary boats simply cannot reach. Capt. Bob is a long time Indian River County resident and guide who has transformed an average airboat ride into the best, fully-narrated airboat tour through Indian River County's marshland. He shares information about the area's habitat through aviation, talk-around headsets provided to all guests. On the tour, Capt. Bob will share rare details about the flora and fauna, as he covers the history of the marshlands and its transformation. **Capt. Bob's Airboat Adventure Tour** has been Vero's premier airboat adventure tour since 2004.

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VERO BEACH THEATER GUILD

Step back in time to 1595 London, England with the Vero Beach Theatre Guild's production of "Something Rotten!" Follow the Bottom brothers, Nick and Nigel, as they strive for success in the world of playwriting, only to be overshadowed by the legendary William Shakespeare himself. In a desperate bid to find fame, Nick seeks guidance from a soothsayer for the ultimate show-stopping hit. Get ready for a hilarious journey through the Renaissance like never before! 7/19- 8/4 — for more information, visit their website!



COASTAL CONNECTIONS TURTLE WALKS



Join Coastal Connections for Nighttime Turtle Walks, select dates from **June 7th - July 15th**. This is an immersive experience in sea turtle conservation — starting at 9 pm and going through midnight. Witness the nesting process and explore the importance of a healthy dune ecosystem. Capture memories with your photo of the nesting Loggerhead. Don't miss this unforgettable adventure! For more information, visit their website!



VBMA PRESENTS ROCK & ROLL BILLBOARDS OF THE SUNSET STRIP

Step into the vibrant world of Los Angeles' Sunset Strip of the late 1960s and 70s with the Vero Beach Museum of Art's summer exhibition, featuring photographs by Robert Landau. Experience the intersection of art and advertising with 50 captivating photographs, including monumental-scale

SUMMER CRUSH VINEYARD AND WINERY

Located in Fort Pierce, Summer Crush is the Treasure Coast's first, and only, central coast winery. Sweet by nature, these flavorful wines are made from Muscadines—one of North America's true native wine grapes. Bar favorites also include drier varietals, area micro-brew beers, ciders, slushies, Sangrias, and mocktails. Summer Crush and casual fun go hand in hand, with fabulous food and music every weekend, as well as themed, seasonal festivals and car shows throughout the year. Chill out in the shade, sip some wine, and enjoy the natural beauty, and country charm, of a this scenic vineyard with friends and family.



Musical entertainment is part of the fabric of Vero Beach.



COOL VENUES THAT ENGAGE & ENTERTAIN!

Celebrate the essence of this historic Garden during the **19th Annual Waterlily Celebration** and enjoy one of the state's largest collections of waterlilies at McKee Botanical Garden. Waterlilies have been McKee's most striking plant collection since the 1930s. During the warm summer months, the lilies bring vibrant color in flowers and leaves and fragrance and texture to the ponds and streams. Enjoy repotting demonstrations, plein air artists creating beautiful works of art, plant vendors, and the annual waterlily photo contest. For more information, visit their website!



McKEE BOTANICAL GARDENS

displays, celebrating the enduring legacy of classic rock icons like The Beatles; Bruce Springsteen; Crosby, Stills, and Nash; David Bowie; David Lee Roth; Donna Summer; The Eagles; Electric Light Orchestra; Elvis Costello and more. In those years, the Sunset Strip was the heart and soul of a vibrant music scene—home to record companies, record stores, and legendary nightclubs. For more information, visit the VBMA website! **May 18th - September 1st / 2024.**

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CALIBRATING LEISURE TIME

MEASURING LEISURE ACTIVITIES IN A NORMAL DAY

- On an average day, nearly everyone age 15 and over (96 percent) is engaged in some sort of leisure activity, such as watching TV, socializing, or exercising. Men spent 5.7 hours per day on such activities, compared with 4.9 hours for women.

- On average, adults age 75 and over spent 7.8 hours engaged in leisure activities per day—more than any other age group; 25- to 44-year-olds spent a little over 4.0 hours engaged in leisure and sports activities per day—less than other age groups.

- Watching TV was the leisure activity that occupied the most time (2.8 hours per day), accounting for just over half of all leisure time, on average.

- Socializing and communicating, such as visiting with friends or attending or hosting social events, accounted for an average of 38 minutes per day, and was the next most common leisure activity after watching TV. Individuals spent about twice as much time socializing on weekend days (59 minutes) as on weekdays (29 minutes).

- Time spent reading for personal interest varied greatly by age. Individuals age 75 and over averaged 48

minutes of reading per day whereas individuals ages 15 to 54 read on average for 10 minutes or less per day.

- On average, persons ages 15 to 24 spent the most time playing games or using a computer for leisure—about one hour per day.



Data includes all persons 15 years and older, and includes all days of the week.

SOURCE: Bureau of Labor Statistics, American Time Use Survey



Watching TV
(2 hours / 47 minutes)

BOARD BIZ

• PONDS REVITALIZATION

The Board continues to monitor pond erosion work currently being performed by GHO at the North pond. MBV Engineering and Elliott Merrill all are overseeing the entire project. The Ponds Committee is addressing additional repairs and improvements to pond infrastructure, including work that may be needed on the storm water pipes.

• PRESERVES MAINTENANCE

The Board, under the advice and guidance of Steven Hitt representing Indian River County, will allow homeowners to remove dead brush from the preserves pending a work form submittal and Board approval. The community's Preserve Maintenance Contractor, Earth Balance, will likely continue oversight of preserve maintenance—protecting healthy

vegetation through the removal of invasive vines and foliage. Removal of questionable foliage along property lines is subject to the rules of the HOA and Indian River County. Residents are required to obtain Board approval prior to removing dead, unsightly or invasive growth.

• ARCHITECTURAL REVIEW COMMITTEE OVERSIGHT

ARC Committee is reviewing the Revised ARC Guidelines, and newly enacted Florida legislation regarding HOA's (HB1203) will be incorporated into the document.

• COMMUNICATION COMMITTEE ACTIVITY

The Communication Committee is looking for additional members, especially a volunteer that could share the responsibility of setting up and monitoring the Go-To Meeting broadcast. Board meeting video access could be jeopardized without a viable backup. The procedure is very easy to learn. Contact secretary@serenoa.org if interested.

• CLUBHOUSE AND SWIMMING POOL IMPROVEMENTS

The two (2) Board approved wall art panel pictures have been delivered and hung, the storeroom has been cleaned out and organized, and repair work in the kitchen, due to the water heater failure, is imminent. The \$550 cost of repairs was fully covered by insurance, and a contractor has been hired to expedite work on the countertop, cabinetry, and wall tiles. The Board will also be finalizing a decision on an upgrade of the fitness space. Quotes have been obtained regarding the purchase and/or repair of several pieces of equipment. Impending pool upgrades and maintenance include pool paver replacement, which are in need of attention. The Board is considering three contractor quotes. Residents should also note that Serenoa's pool service tech is no longer responsible for the pool heater. Residents should direct their questions, or comments, regarding the swimming pool to the Board

(www.Serenoa.org) or Elliott Merrill (naomil@elliottmerrill.com).

The Board wants to remind residents to respect the rules when using the pool and patio. The rules are posted at the rear of the clubhouse, and note that a revised set of pool area rules will be reviewed, and voted on, at the next HOA meeting. Current regulations state: no smoking, or glass containers, on the pool deck. No running, or diving, in the pool area. And, children under 18 must always be supervised.

• ELLIOTT MERRILL CALIBER PORTAL

The Board encourages all Serenoa residents to create an account on the Elliott Merrill Caliber Portal where residents can access account information, public documents, community policies, HOA Board of Directors information, Board Meeting recaps, and FAQ's. A link to the portal can be found on the Serenoa, and Elliott Merrill websites.

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