

AROUND THE SQUARE

Following the latest news and views from Serenoa

AUTUMN, 2023

VOLUME 2.3

Autumn in Serenoa — the season to mix and mingle!

THE TOP 10 SIGNS OF FALL IN FLORIDA

It won't look like Vermont, or Iowa, but Florida does have a fall season. Here are the top 10 signs to look for and enjoy.

- 1. Cold fronts.** Cold fronts rarely make it to Florida during the summer season. This keeps us hot and humid for a long period of time. But as fall arrives, cold fronts start to make it farther south. When they make it across Tampa Bay, we see the humidity and temperatures fall.
- 2. Open windows.** As the cold fronts start to trickle in from time-to-time, it's time to turn off that over-worked air conditioner.
- 3. Early sunsets.** You've already likely noticed the pre-8 pm sunsets in September. By Halloween, the sun will be setting at 6:45 pm. The next night, due to the time change, the sun will set at 5:45 pm.
- 4. Pesky hurricanes.** Fall is the peak time of the hurricane season.
- 5. Rainy season starts to wind down.**
- 6. Breaking out a jacket.** Before you know it, a cold front comes barreling toward the state and temperatures fall into the 50s. To a native Floridian, this is usually as exciting as anyone's favorite holiday.
- 7. Chilly swimming pools.** If you have a pool heater, it's likely time to start using it.
- 8. Snowbirds.** Fall is usually when we start spotting snowbirds, our northern friends who take residence in Florida to stay warm for the fall and winter months.
- 9. Pumpkin patches and corn mazes—** even when it's 85 degrees.
- 10. Fall colors.** Yes, but you'll have to drive north to to catch real color change.



Serenoa Mixer kicks off the Fall Calendar.

There was a hint of Fall in the air on September 22, when a contingent of Serenoa party-goers arrived at the Clubhouse for a late afternoon/early evening social get-together—in celebration of the Autumn equinox. The inaugural Serenoa Mixer, had an unexpected cancellation, and rescheduling delay, due to a water heater emergency the previous week. None the less the event came off without a hitch thanks to the determination, and improvisational skills, of our dedicated Social Committee. Due to the sudden postponement, attendance was slightly

diminished... but not the level of enjoyment. A great time was had by all who attended. Of course, even on short notice, Serenoans never show up for a party empty handed—and mixer night was no exception. There was a virtual cornucopia of scrumptious appetizers, tasty finger foods, beverages of choice and autumn inspired dessert treats served up buffet style. The conversations were animated, and the laughter was non-stop. Regardless of seasonal theme, Serenoans know how to party. Kudos to Dianna Layton and crew for kicking off Autumn in style.

WELCOME TRICK-OR-TREATERS

Serenoa always looks forward to Halloween revelers with open arms, and lots of goodies! It's best to set-up in your driveway so you don't miss the fun... and a chance to swap ghost stories with neighbors!



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A medieval match that's endured the test of time...

The evil, green-skinned witch flying on her magic broomstick may be a Halloween icon—and a well-worn stereotype. But the actual history behind how witches came to be associated with such an everyday household object is anything but dull. From the beginning, brooms were associated primarily with women, and this ubiquitous household object became a powerful symbol of female domesticity.

Despite this, the first witch to confess to riding a broom was a man: Guillaume Edelin. Edelin was a priest from Saint-Germain-en-Laye, near Paris. He was arrested in 1453 and tried for witchcraft after publicly criticizing the church's warnings about witches. His confession came under torture, and he eventually repented but was still imprisoned for life. By the time of Edelin's "confession," the idea of witches riding around on broomsticks was already well established.

The earliest known image of witches on brooms dates to 1451, when two illustrations appeared in the French poet Martin Le Franc's manuscript *Le Champion des Dames* (The Defender of Ladies). In the two drawings, one woman soars through the air on a broom; the other flies aboard a plain white stick. Both wear headscarves that identify them as Waldensians, members of a Christian sect founded in the 12th century who were branded as heretics by the Catholic Church, partly because they allowed women to become priests.

Anthropologist Robin Skelton suggests the association between witches and brooms may have roots in a pagan fertility ritual, in which rural farmers would leap and dance astride poles, pitchforks or brooms in the light of the full moon to encourage the growth of their crops. This "broomstick dance," she writes, became confused with common accounts of witches flying through the night on their way to orgies and other illicit meetings.

Beginning in the 17th century, accounts of witches using broomsticks to fly up and out of chimneys became more commonplace, even as women became more closely associated with the household and domestic sphere. According to one custom, women would prop a broom up outside a door, or place it up a chimney, to let others know they were away from the home. Perhaps because of this, popular legend embraced the idea that witches left their houses through their chimneys, even though very few accused witches ever confessed to doing so.

Popular anxiety about witchcraft had subsided by the 18th century. Although there are still plenty of self-identified "witches" in the United States today, thanks to the growth of neo-pagan religious traditions like Wicca, few of them claim to be taking to the skies aboard their trusty brooms. But the image of witches flying on broomsticks endures—especially on Halloween.



HAUNTING MELODIES AT THE EMERSON CENTER

Revel in the season of Halloween with a concert of fiendish Broadway favorites, sure to make you cackle with delight! Featuring the incredible vocal duo of Michelle Knight and Cesar De LaRosa, this program will showcase hits from shows such as *Sweeney Todd*, *The Phantom of the Opera*, *Rocky Horror Picture Show*, *Jekyll & Hyde*, *Young Frankenstein*, *Beauty and the Beast*, *Cats*, *Wicked*, *The Addams Family*... and more! Costumes are welcome for this week-end of ghoulish enchantment. **Sunday, October 22-3pm-5pm.** / theemersoncenter.com

SERENOANS... MARK YOUR CALENDARS... AND GET YOUR GHOUL ON!

It's been 2 years since Serenoa's "Creatures of the Night" descended on the community clubhouse... in full Halloween trappings, and looking for a bit of mischievous fun. On **October 28th**, the witches and zombies of Serenoa will gather, once again, to celebrate the "Holiday of Horror". The doors will creak open at 6 pm.... so bring your elixir of choice, partake of the spooktacular fare (likely monster mash and finger food), and costume up (cash prizes are on the table). More details to come. Stay tuned.

BEER, BRATS & OOMPAH BANDS

WUNDERBAR! The Vero Beach Oktoberfest, presented by Neese Roofing, is returning to the at the Indian River County Fairgrounds on **October 21-22, 2023, Saturday 11 am to 10 pm. & Sunday 11 am to 6 pm.** Join your neighbors under the huge Biergarten tent for authentic Oktoberfest food, beer, full liquor bars, and the best Polka Bands west of Bavaria! Shop all day at aisles of arts & crafts vendor booths, and local business services. Then... join the party inside the festival tent for hours of eating, dancing and great entertainment!



THE MILLION DOLLAR QUARTET—A PRICELESS NIGHT OF THEATER!

MILLION DOLLAR QUARTET AT RIVERSIDE THEATER from Oct. 25- Nov. 12 This Tony Award®-winning musical takes audiences back to December 4, 1956, when an extraordinary twist of fate brought Elvis Presley, Jerry Lee Lewis, Johnny Cash, and Carl Perkins together in what became one of the most memorable nights in music. Based around that historical event, the musical recounts how these legends ended up in the same room at Sun Records in Memphis for one of the greatest impromptu rock 'n' roll jam sessions in history.

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A time to be thankful. It's holiday season... and we live in Serenoa!

Norman Rockwell's classic illustration "Freedom from Want" from "The Four Freedoms" series.



CARVING

First Things First. Let the turkey rest for a good 30 minutes. This allows the juices to redistribute within the meat, which means more juice in your turkey than on your cutting board.

First, slice off the legs and thighs. To do this, slice through the skin between the leg and the breast. Then pull back on the leg, laying it flat outward, and push up on the joint from underneath. You may hear a slight pop. At that point, use your knife to cut around the joint and remove the leg and thigh completely. Repeat this process on the other side and set these pieces aside.



POINTERS...that cut to the chase

Remove the breast meat.

Slice down on either side of the breast bone, using long strokes.

As your knife hits the bottom, use your thumb to gently pull the breasts outward, continuing to slice down and out until the breast meat is removed. If needed, you can slice horizontally at the bottom of the breast from the outside to help remove it. Repeat this process on the other side.

Remove the wings. Gently pull the wings away from the body and slice through the joint to remove it. You can remove the wing tips (there's really no meat here), and they're great for stocks. Then set the wings aside.

HOLIDAY SHOPPING RIVERSIDE!

Catch up on your holiday shopping at the **4th Annual Kris Kringle Market**. Enjoy live music and tasty food truck selections while you browse wonderful gift options from over 100 vendors. **Nov. 24 9am-7 pm, 25 9am-5pm, & 26 10am-4pm / Riverview Park in Sebastian.**



THE MAGICAL WORLD OF M.C. ESCHER AT VBMA!

Vero Beach Museum of Art presents M.C. Escher: Infinite Variations, from 9/30 — 12/30, 2023. A consummate boundary-pusher, and arguably the most famous printmaker of the modern era, Escher used his work to challenge perspectives, deftly exploring the relationships between art and science, reality and illusion, chaos and order, and logic and absurdity.

Escher's images pervade popular culture and fascinate audiences with their imaginative design, consummate draftsman-ship, and dreamy visions.



An "Artist Demonstrator" tent, supplied by Vero Beach Art Club, provides ample demo space, where work can be displayed, and where each artist can demonstrate their style, technique, and procedure for small audience presentation and inter-

action. In addition to artist demonstrations... music, food vendors, and a classic car show, sponsored by Motor City Classic Cars, will add to the festivities. **Sunday, October 8, 2023 / 10 am- 4 pm. / 7500 14th Lane.**



SET SAIL SEAFOOD LOVERS!

The 15th Annual **Treasure Coast Seafood Festival** is back! **Saturday Oct. 7-8 IRC Faigrounds** Nothing says Florida like a celebration of the sea, and, as a fan of all things nautical, you've gotta set a course for this traditional family-friendly adventure. More than just tasty, fresh seafood platters prepared on-site— this event features local artisans selling one-of-a-kind crafts, live music, a kid's zone, and plenty of attractions for the whole family. Welcome aboard— **9 am - 5pm... both days.**

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HOME FOR THE HOLIDAYS!

On **December 9th**, holiday revelers will gather once again—eager to celebrate the season with their Serenoa family. The Clubhouse will be “jingle-bell rockin’” with holiday cheer, festive celebration, holiday music, and trays of scrumptious hors d’oeuvres and seasonal treats. More details will be forthcoming, so mark your social calendar.



SELL SOMETHING OLD. BUY SOMETHING NEW.

Twice per year, Serenoa residents have a golden opportunity to purge their closets, empty their storage bins, and trade their unwanted stuff for some unexpected coin. Kick off your holiday shopping on Saturday, **October 7th** as Serenoa welcomes Vero Beach neighbors, and community residents, to the **Fall Season Garage & Crafts Sale**. The Arts and Crafts Show will feature the work of Serenoa’s most talented artists, who will present practical

fashion, homegoods, jewelry and fine art designs for sale at the community clubhouse. In addition, community residents with host garage sales at their homes throughout the neighborhood. **Community gates will be open to the public from 9 am - 2 pm.**

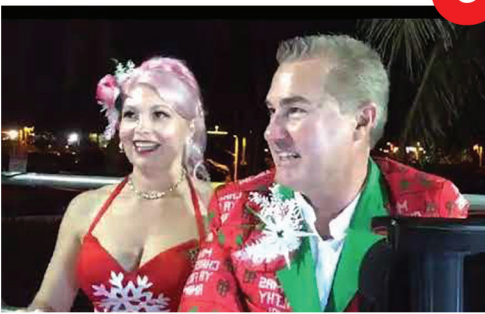


Ready, set, go... VERO lights up during the holidays!

...to the Vero Beach Christmas Parade—the highlight of the Holiday Season!

Now in its 38th year, the **Vero Beach Christmas Parade** is a “must-see” event for all kids from three to ninety-three as floats glide down Ocean Drive to the delight of children and their parents and grandparents.

On **December 2**, the 2023 parade steps off at 6 pm on Ocean Drive at Flamevine, and proceeds north to Live Oak along Ocean Drive. Follow the festivities and streaming live on Facebook—courtesy of Sunrise Rotary VB—parade sponsor. Hosts Tamara Daress, and Stacy Cook will be covering the entire parade route with candid crowd reaction and event highlights.



Arrive early, and catch the Surf-N-Santa 2 mile race—kicking off before the Parade! Embrace the holiday spirit by donning your favorite Santa or elf costume, and join in for a fun and festive run along the parade route. As you race to the finish line, you’ll be greeted with the sounds of Christmas carols and cheers from the crowds lining the parade route. So...grab your surfboard and join us for a jolly good time.



rated trees, centerpieces, wreaths, and vendor booths. Showcasing our partnership with various community organizations, Winterfest will also include live performances on various stages, arts and crafts activities, a Santa’s Village, and even

STROLL THROUGH A FOREST OF HOLIDAY FUN AND FESTIVE DECOR AT WINTERFEST 2023!

Winterfest is the rebranded, signature fundraising event for Riverside Theatre’s educational programs. Formally known as Festival of Trees, and considered Vero Beach’s premier indoor holiday event, this festival transforms Riverside’s campus into a holiday wonderland filled with beautifully deco-

an “ice” skating rink! Come join the festivities and revel in the excitement with the almost 4,600+ patrons expected to visit during the event.

Friday, December 1 @ 5:30 pm - 9: pm
Saturday, December 2 @ 10 am - 9:00 pm
Sunday, December 3 @ 10 am - 4 pm

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