

# AROUND THE SQUARE

*Following the latest news and views from Serenoa*

AUTUMN, 2025

VOLUME 4.3

## AUTUMN FINALLY BREEZES INTO SERENOA!



### Serenoans live it up, and laugh it up, at recent "Meet & Greet" Happy Hour.

There was a hint of Fall in the air when a contingent of Serenoa partygoers arrived at the Clubhouse for a late afternoon, early evening, social get-together as Summer transitioned into Fall. The mood was upbeat as neighbors welcomed newcomers, and caught up on neighborhood news after a long, hot Summer.

Serenoans never show up for a party empty handed—and this 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. John Decker chuckled all the way to the bank, as he scooped up the 50/50 winnings. A good time was had by all.

Regardless of seasonal theme, Serenoans know how to party. Kudos to Serenoa's Social Committee for keeping the good times rolling!



### ONE MAN'S TRASH IS OFTEN ANOTHER MAN'S TREASURE!

Serenoa's Annual Community Garage Sale is scheduled for Saturday, October 11th from 8:00 am — 2:00 pm. The event is open to any resident that wants to purge their unused stuff... and make a few bucks in the process. Participants will set up in their own driveway/garage. Please text Colleen at 214-763-2552 for additional information.



### COMFORT FOOD GETS PUT TO THE TASTE TEST ON OCTOBER 26TH.

As Autumn settles in, and the temps trend cooler, our food preferences also tend to change—with tastes shifting toward sweeter and spicier comfort foods. Mark your October calendar for Friday, the 26th, 2 pm - 5 pm—for another good, old-fashioned cook-off at the Clubhouse. Neighborhood chefs will compete for bragging rights as they prepare their favorite chili dishes, chicken wings and fall desserts for the entire community to enjoy. Chefs should RSVP Phil Cervasio at 631-495-3022 with the specialties they'll be bringing. Residents are encouraged to bring appropriate side dishes to share, beverages of choice, and a hearty appetite.

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## Signs of the Season

### BEWARE THE WITCHING HOUR!

The "witching hour" is a folkloric concept referring to the time of night, when supernatural events are believed to be most powerful. Halloween is a perfect time to embrace the magic of the witching hour, with its blend of fear, fun, and fantasy. This year, the holiday falls on a Friday night, giving kids permission to stay out later—prowling local neighborhoods for tricks... and treats.

Serenans have made Halloween a great night of celebration—joining neighbors for driveway get-togethers, and welcoming wide-eyed young witches and goblins with lots of love... and bowls of goodies.

### Love is in the air.

No matter where you live in Florida, every Fall, you can expect swarms of lovebugs taking to the sky for weeks. These cuddling critters aren't harmful or dangerous, but they are a major nuisance.

Many rumors exist about the origins of these bugs, and why Florida has become their home of choice. The most popular storyline claims lovebugs are the result of a genetic experiment at the University of Florida that went horribly wrong. Although fun to believe, lovebugs actually migrated from Central America and were first reported here in the early 1900s— but nobody is thinking about a lovebug's ancestry while they're divebombing our car windshields and hoods.

### THIRSTY FOR FOOTBALL?

Vero features plenty of watering holes that feature multi-screen venues to view your favorite teams. Here are some of the most popular sports bars—

Riverside Café	Chive	Twisted Lime
Bobby's	Filthy's	Sean Ryan's Pub
What A Tavern	Big Shots	American Icon Brewery

### FRESH AIR AND FABULOUS ARTISANS.

The Fall craft fair season has arrived! Plan now to attend the 44th Annual Art in the Park on November 2, November 23, December 7, and December 21, 2025 from 10 am - 4 pm. Located at Humiston Park on Ocean Drive in Vero Beach, Art in the Park provides the perfect opportunity for visitors and residents to interact with artists and craft artisans, and to purchase beautiful, original artwork and hand-made, decorative crafts.

Another wonderful holiday shopping opportunity is the Vero Beach Holiday Art & Craft Expo 2025, which will take place at the Indian River County Fair Grounds. Great gifts... great food... great music! This is a "must attend" festival during the holiday season. November 22-23, 2025.

### MANATEES ON THE MOVE!

During Autumn, manatees leave their summer feeding grounds throughout the southeastern U.S. and head for warmer Florida waters, passing through Indian River County as water temperatures in northern habitats drop— typically starting in October and continuing through November.

Manatees cannot survive prolonged exposure to water below 68°F and will instinctively migrate in search of warmth via the Indian River Lagoon—a crucial travel corridor to reach warm-water winter refuges, such as natural springs and power plant discharge sites. These are typically located further south in Florida or on the state's west coast.

Round Island Park & Conservation Area is a perfect location to view these gentle creatures. In the fall and winter months, Manatees may be present in the creek and can be spotted swimming under the bridge or in front of the boat ramps.

### FIRE AND WATER!

Mark your calendars, and join us for an great evening of flames, fun, and festivities at the Beachside Bonfire Fest, at participating beachside dining spots—from the Kimpton to Costa d'Este. Bonfires will light up the beach as soon as the tide allows, setting the perfect vibe for a night out by the sea. Enjoy food and drink specials at each stop! Saturday, November 8, 5-10 pm

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## REEL TASTY!

Calling all seafood lovers, boat enthusiasts, and car aficionados! The 17th Annual **Indian River Marine Flea Market and Seafood Festival** is back this November. Choose between the covered open-air pavilion with concrete floor, or outside in the midway on grass. The highly anticipated Treasure Coast Seafood Festival, features a Marine Flea Market, Boat Sale, and Car Swap Meet & Show, scrumptious seafood, and scores of arts & crafts vendors. At the Indian River Fairgrounds on **Saturday and Sunday, November 1-2, 2025, from 9 am to 5 pm.**

## Let's frolic this Fall!



## PAINT THE TOWN!

From **November 7-9**, 14th Avenue comes will come alive with color at the **Downtown Vero Beach Mural Festival**. Watch artists transform walls, enjoy live music, food, and drink specials, and take part in scavenger hunts and raffles. Celebrate art, community, and creativity all weekend long. For more information, visit their website! The Main Street Mural Festival will have stationed artists the length of 14th Ave. with pop-up walls which can be purchased after the festival. Several building walls will also be worked on during the festival. Throughout the street, there will be live music, gallery features, engagement opportunities, and plenty of places to pop in and cool off with a drink special.

## SEEING DOUBLE

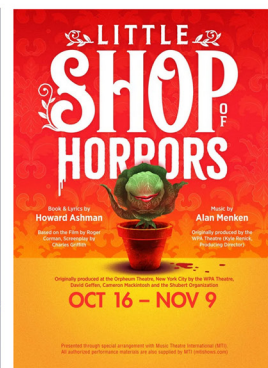
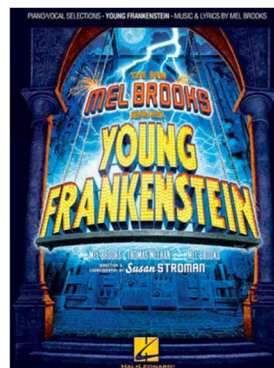


VBMA is bringing a unique perspective to the art form of photographic portraiture. This exhibition presents 47 photographs by 34 artists, exploring the evolving American South through the concept of the **"double portrait."** Divided into four sections, it examines traditional portraiture, vernacular photography, themes of connection and care, and unconventional representations, ultimately highlighting the diverse ways photography captures human relationships, memory, and identity. **October 25, 2025-January 11, 2026**

## Catch these monster shows!

Get ready to laugh out loud with **Young Frankenstein: The Musical** at the Vero Beach Theatre Guild! From the creators of The Producers comes Mel Brooks' hilarious musical comedy, based on the classic film. Follow the grandson of the infamous Dr. Frankenstein as he inherits his family's Transylvanian estate and hilariously attempts to reanimate the dead. Packed with witty dialogue, catchy songs, and over-the-top fun, this ghoulishly entertaining show is perfect for a night of comedy and live theatre. For more information, visit their website!

You'll scream with delight at **Little Shop of Horrors**, the outlandishly funny science fiction musical by Alan Menken and Howard Ashman. Featuring a pop/rock score, Little Shop tells the story of Seymour, a meek flower shop worker who adopts a strange plant he names Audrey II after his love interest at the shop. The plot thickens after the growing plant develops a thirst for human blood.



## ALL KINDS OF HOLIDAY FINDS!

The **Holiday Art & Craft Bazaar** is coming to Vero Beach Outlets in December—bringing this unique holiday shopping experience to local shoppers. Enjoy live music, delicious food, adult beverages and a kids zone during one of the busiest shopping weekends of the year. Free admission and parking. **December 13 / 10 am-5 pm / December 14 / 10 am-4 pm.**

## HOT TO TROT!

Get ready to shake your tail feathers at the 18th Annual **Thanksgiving Day Trot Against Poverty 5K**—the largest 5K on the Treasure Coast! Whether you're a seasoned runner, a casual jogger, or just looking for a fun family stroll, this event is for you. Join 2,000+ trotters for a morning full of community spirit and holiday cheer. All proceeds benefit United Against Poverty (UAP). Start your holiday on the right foot—run, jog, or walk with us and make this Thanksgiving unforgettable!

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## GIVE THE GIFT OF BLOOD DURING THE SEASON OF GIVING.

There's no substitute for blood. This critical bodily fluid cannot be artificially manufactured in a lab. Shelf life is limited—requiring inventory to be constantly replenished by generous blood donors. The only source for life-saving patient transfusion is volunteer blood donations.

On Sunday, December 7, charitable Serenoans are encouraged to visit the mobile OneBlood Lab near the Clubhouse to give sorely needed blood—especially during the Holiday Season. Generous donors will receive a \$20 gift card, and a complimentary wellness checkup, which will include blood pressure, pulse, temperature, iron count, and cholesterol screenings. Donating blood is a selfless act, and all Serenoans who choose to volunteer have the gratitude of the Board, and the entire community.

## IT'S NOT TOO EARLY TO MAKE BIG PLANS FOR THE HOLIDAYS!



**Serenoa Holiday Party**  
December 13 — Check the website calendar for details

## JOIN THE FUN AND GAMES!



Make your plans now for a **Pre-Thanks-giving BINGO NIGHT** get-together. Mark your calendars for Monday evening, **November 3rd at the Clubhouse...** for another highly competitive "clash for cash" bingo! Festivities begin at 6:30 pm, and wrap up around 8:00 pm. It's only \$1.00 per card, per game, to join the fun for serious money prizes... and some neighborly bragging rights. Don't forget to bring along snacks, beverages—and plenty of singles!

## BOARD BIZ

### BOARD OF DIRECTORS

- Ed Lenski (At Large board member) resigned effective 7/28
- At the 9/11/25 Board meeting, the Board appointed Mark Steinberg to replace Mr. Lenski as "At Large" board member. Mr. Steinberg's term is from 9/11/25 to the 2027 Annual Members Meeting.

### LANDSCAPING COMPANY REMINDERS—

- Yellowstone will be picking up palm fronds only. Any other tree branches, shrubclippings, weeds or other yard waste should be placed in your brown/orange bin or taken to the Convenience Center.
- The timeframe to put palm fronds at curb is between Sunday at 8:30 AM—Tuesday at 8:30 AM
- Red reflectors (don't trim) or blue reflectors (no weed control) refers to your ENTIRE yard—not individual gardens, shrubs, bushes, trees, etc.
- It was announced at the 9/11/25 Board meeting, that Yellowstone under-budgeted by thousands of dollars and over-promised delivery in their contract.
- Yellowstone's contract is automatically renewed on an annual basis and may be canceled by either party giving 30 days notice.
- Changes will be made, but at this time decisions have not been made. The Board will keep the community updated as details become available.

### PONDS INFORMATION

- The well has been repaired; the meter and float valves have been replaced.
- Future water output into Serenoa's pond as per St. John's Water Management:

- First year—the same - 40,000 gpd (gallons per day)
  - Second year—21,400 gpd
  - Third year and subsequent years—2,900 gpd
- ### 5th STREET SW (NORTHSIDE)
- Resident Bob Morelli submitted a proposal to beautify the unsightly section of 5th Street SW (northside) which is part of Serenoa's entrance.
  - The Board appreciates his detailed work and is currently reviewing how to implement his recommendations.
- ### CLUBHOUSE/POOL
- Please be reminded the pool is open for swimming from dawn to dusk only.
  - The pool fence surrounding has been power washed, and the branches protruding through the fence will be pruned.
  - The gravel surrounding the exterior of the pool will be supplemented.
  - The deck box at the pool (holds pool noodles, pool weights, etc.) was deteriorating, and has been replaced.
  - Clubhouse cleaning was changed to once per week effective July 1st, a savings of almost \$5,000.
  - There will be "touch ups" done in the clubhouse (ceiling to be repainted at leak location, spackle/paint at the AC control's location, paint touch up overall).
  - Thank you to Warren Miller for removing the flags over the pool to deter ducks from landing in the pool.

### COMMITTEES

#### Preserve Committee

- Quotes have been obtained to manage the preserves. Two were recommended by the Preserve Committee, and should be approved at the November board meeting.

## Wish list

- 1 Vero Beach Tree Lighting Festival  
November 22, Pocahontas Park  
[indianriverchamber.com/tree-lighting-festival/](http://indianriverchamber.com/tree-lighting-festival/)
- 2 Vero Beach Christmas Parade  
December 7, on Ocean Drive  
[vero-beach-christmas-parade.org](http://vero-beach-christmas-parade.org)
- 3 Holiday Nights Lights at McKee  
Dec. 10—Dec. 22 and Dec. 27—Dec. 29  
[mckee.org](http://mckee.org)
- 4 The Nutcracker on the Indian River  
December 11-14, Riverside Theater  
[riversidetheater.com](http://riversidetheater.com)
- 5 Vero Outlets Holiday Bazaar  
December 13-14  
[my.boothcentral.com/vj/events/vero-beach-outlets-holiday-bazaar-2025](http://my.boothcentral.com/vj/events/vero-beach-outlets-holiday-bazaar-2025)

### Architectural Review Committee (ARC)

- At the 9/11/25 Board meeting, the Board approved three additional colors for Front Entrance Doors/Shutters
- SW #6220 Interesting Aqua
- SW #6783 Amalfi
- SW #6496 Oceanside

### Social Committee

- The Social Committee is looking for additional volunteers—contact [secretary@serenoa.org](mailto:secretary@serenoa.org) if you are interested

### Upcoming Events:

- Fall Yard Sale—October 11, 2025 / 8:00 AM to 2:00 PM
- Fall Festival and Chili/Wings Cook Off—October 26 / 2-5 pm
- Residents may participate by preparing and submitting their chili, chicken wings or dessert to be judged! RSVP to Phil 631-495-3022 with what you'll be bringing
- Bingo—November 3 at 6:30 PM in the clubhouse
- Blood Drive—December 7, 2025
- Holiday Party—December 13 at 5:30 in the clubhouse (details to follow)

### ELLIOTT MERRILL INFORMATION

#### New Contact Information

- New Community Association Manager (CAM) is Ani Pesquera—phone: 772-569-9853x115 / email: [anip@elliottmerrill.com](mailto:anip@elliottmerrill.com)
- Hannah Morrison will remain our Administrative Assistant—[hannahm@elliottmerrill.com](mailto:hannahm@elliottmerrill.com)

### MISCELLANEOUS INFORMATION

- Thank you to Mark Steinberg for obtaining a new American flag located in front of the clubhouse
- NEXT BOARD MEETING - 11/13 (Budget Adoption)

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