

AROUND THE SQUARE

Following the latest news and views from Serenoa

SUMMER, 2025

VOLUME 4.2

SERENOA PREPS FOR A SIZZLING SUMMER!

SERENOA'S PLANNING A SMOKIN' HOT BBQ BASH!

Circle July 13th on your social calendar!

Join your Serenoa friends and neighbors for a good old-fashioned Summer get-together from 2:00 pm to 5:30 pm. We can all agree that there's nothing like the mouth-watering, smoky scent of burgers and dogs sizzling over an open fire on a warm Summer evening.

A simple "five spot" affords party goers full access to unlimited hamburgers, cheeseburgers and hot dogs complete with all the fixins'. Make sure to reserve your seat at the table before July 6th with an RSVP to Phil Cervasio at (631) 495-3022. Doors open at 2:00 pm. and festivities will wrap up around 5:30 pm... with grill closing at 4:30 pm.

The Social Committee organizers ask residents to arrive promptly, with a prepared side dish, salad or home-made dessert to help round out the barbecue fare. And don't forget to bring some small bills for the the popular 50/50 Raffle, cold beverages of your choice, and, most important, a hearty appetite.



TRENDING TROPICAL!



The five hottest summers in Vero Beach, Florida, based on average temperatures, are 2015, 2019, 2020, 2023, and 2024. 2015 was the hottest, with an average temperature of 75.2°F. 2023 also had a record-high average August temperature of 84.3°F, the highest recorded since 1942.

In recent years, Florida summers have been trending hotter overall, with longer stretches of extreme heat and humidity. Climate patterns and warming trends are pushing those thermometers higher, and the forecast suggests we're not in for much relief this year either.



WARM SUMMER NIGHTS, COOL OCEAN BREEZES, AND THE SULTRY SOUND OF LEAD GUITAR CREATE THE RHYTHM OF VERO'S OUTDOOR MUSIC SCENE.

Vero Beach will be hosting a variety of outdoor concerts and events during the summer of 2025. The 10th Annual Burgers & Brews Festival is scheduled for June 28th at Riverside Park. A Rock N Rose Beach Party will be held at the Kimpton Vero Beach Hotel & Spa on July 12th. Summer Crush Winery will host a variety of live music and events throughout the summer, including tributes to the music of Chicago, Blood, Sweat, and Tears, Steve Miller Band,

The Doobie Brothers, Tom Petty, The Eagles and more. Riverside Theatre will also feature live music on the loop stage, with various acts scheduled throughout the summer. Additionally, The Country Legends Festival at Capt. Hiram's on July 27, 2025, will feature live music from various artists, including Landsharks, Lights Out Project, 23 Trees, and Vibes Farm. There will be a Country Legends Fest on July 27th.

Smile... you live in Serenoa!

AROUND THE SQUARE

Following the latest news and views from Serenoa

SMITTEN BY THE SUMMER SOLSTICE

When Is The First Day Of Summer 2025?

The first day of summer arrives with the solstice this year on Friday, June 20, 2025, 10:42 p.m. EDT. For those of us in the Northern Hemisphere, the Earth tilts mostly toward the Sun during this time. As seen from Earth, the Sun will be directly overhead at noon 23.5 degrees north of the equator,



at an imaginary line encircling the globe known as the Tropic of Cancer, named for the constellation Cancer the Crab, its northernmost point.

For those who live in the Southern Hemisphere, this will be the shortest day of the year and the arrival of winter. Solstice happens at the same moment for everyone, everywhere on Earth. Why Isn't Summer on the Same Date Every Year? The timing of the summer solstice is not based on a specific calendar date or time. It actually depends on when the Sun reaches that northernmost point from the equator. The summer solstice can occur anywhere between June 20-22. The term "solstice" comes from the Latin words sol (Sun) and sistere (to stand still). At the solstice, the angle between the Sun's rays and the plane of the Earth's equator appears to stand still. This phenomenon is most noticeable at the Arctic Circle where the Sun hugs the horizon for a continuous 24 hours, thus the term "Land of the Midnight Sun."

Some people believe that our seasons are caused by the Earth's changing distance from the Sun. In reality, it is due to the 23-degree tilt of the Earth's axis that the Sun appears above the horizon for different lengths of time at different seasons. The tilt determines whether the Sun's rays strike at a low angle or more directly.

- In Ancient Egypt, the summer solstice coincided with the rising of the Nile River. As it was crucial to predict this annual flooding, the Egyptian New Year began at this important solstice.
- In centuries past, the Irish would cut hazel branches on solstice eve to be used in searching for gold, water, and precious jewels.
- Many European cultures hold what are known as Midsummer celebrations at the solstice, which include gatherings at Stonehenge and the lighting of bonfires on hilltops.

"Taxation without representation!" was the battle cry in America's 13 Colonies, which were forced to pay taxes to England's George III despite having no representation in the British Parliament. As dissatisfaction grew, British troops were sent to quell the early movement toward rebellion. Repeated attempts by the Colonists to resolve the crisis without military conflict proved fruitless.

On June 11, 1776, the Colonies' Second Congressional Congress met in Philadelphia and formed a committee whose express purpose was drafting a document that would formally sever their ties with Great Britain. The committee included Thomas Jefferson, Benjamin Franklin, John Adams, Roger Sherman and Robert R. Livingston. Jefferson, who was considered the strongest, and most eloquent, writer, crafted the original draft document. A total of 86 changes were made to his draft, and the Continental Congress officially adopted the final version on July 4, 1776.

The following day, copies of The Declaration of Independence were distributed, and on July 6, The Pennsylvania Evening Post became the first newspaper to print the extraordinary docu-

ment. The Declaration of Independence has since become our nation's most cherished symbol of liberty.

Bonfires and Illuminations

On July 8, 1776, the first public readings of the Declaration were held in Philadelphia's Independence Square to the ringing of bells and band music.

One year later, on July 4, 1777, Philadelphia marked Independence Day by adjourning Congress, and celebrating with bonfires, bells and fireworks.

The custom eventually spread over towns, both large and small, where the day was marked with processions, oratory, picnics, contests, military displays and fireworks. Observations throughout the nation became even more common at the end of the War of 1812 with Great Britain.

In June of 1826, Thomas Jefferson sent a letter to Roger C. Weightman, declining an invitation to come to Washington D.C. to help celebrate the 50th anniversary of the Declaration of Independence. It was the last letter that Jefferson, who was gravely ill, ever wrote. An excerpt is featured here.

May it be to the world, what I believe it will be... the signal of arousing men to burst the chains... and to assume the blessings of security of self-government. That form, which we have submitted, restores the free right to the unbounded exercise of reason and freedom of opinion. All eyes are opened, or opening, to the rights of man. For ourselves, let the annual return of this day forever refresh our recollections of these rights, and an undiminished devotion to them."

—Thomas Jefferson
June 24, 1826 Monticello

INDEPENDENCE DAY... THE FIRST ALL-AMERICAN HOLIDAY!



Thomas Jefferson (right), Benjamin Franklin (left), and John Adams (center) meet at Jefferson's lodgings, on the corner of Seventh and High (Market) streets in Philadelphia, to review a draft of the Declaration of Independence.

HAVE A BLAST!

Vero's 4th of July Blowout will be Hosted at Riverside Park. The festivities will begin with a patriotic parade at 8:30 AM, followed by a full day of live music, food vendors, craft booths, and family-friendly fun. The celebration wraps up with a spectacular fireworks display over the Indian River at 9 pm. ✨



Smile... you live in Serenoa!

AROUND THE SQUARE

Following the latest news and views from Serenoa

GREAT CAUSE. HUGE REWARDS. EVERYBODY WINS!

Riverside Theatre Vegas Nights is a feature fundraiser for Riverside Theatre's Youth Tuition Assistance Program. Through generous support, Riverside Theatre gives every child the chance to participate regardless of financial need.

Get ready for a night of high stakes and unforgettable fun! The lobby will be transformed into a dazzling Vegas-style Casino Night— where the action is non-stop and the chances to win are endless. Play your way to exciting raffle tickets! Each ticket adds up to incredible prize winnings— courtesy of local merchants.

Open to the public. No entry fee. Full bar with themed drink specials, casual grill menu and a fabulous dessert selection.
July 17, 18, & 19 Thursday, Friday, Saturday 5:30 - 8:30 pm. www.riversidetheatre.org



Let the Summertime, Goodtimes Roll!



A BURGER AND A BEER. AN AMERICAN FAVORITE. A VERO BEACH TRADITION!

Kick off Independence Day week with a gastro celebration at **Burgers & Brews**— where great food, cold drinks, and non-stop entertainment come together! Enjoy live music all day, explore local vendors, let the kids have fun in the Kid's Zone, and check out the car show, food trucks, and craft breweries.

Upgrade your Burgers & Brews experience with a VIP ticket! Enjoy exclusive access to the air-conditioned VIP Lounge with reserved seating near the main stage, a private cocktail bar including two free drinks, and a luxury air-conditioned restroom. Your VIP pass also includes a Slider Tasting and Craft Beer Punch Cards—don't miss out on the ultimate festival experience! And remember... 100% of the money raised at Burgers & Brews 2025 and all beverage proceeds go to support the programs at United Against Poverty.



Oaks Area at Riverside Park— Saturday, June 28, 2025 - 11 am – 4 pm. www.burgersandbrews.org
To purchase VIP tickets, contact Allison Zukowski at 772-770-0740 ext. 204.



Breathe easy. Buy fresh!

The Vero Beach Farmers Market provides exposure, and educational opportunities for small businesses, local farms and artisans by providing a low cost booth space to promote their products and support their economic growth. They also reserve free weekly space at the market for non-profit organizations to interact with residents, promote their services, fundraise, and grow their supporter base.

The Vero Beach Farmers Market offers a large range of healthy, fresh foods and horticultural products to the residents and visitors of Vero Beach... encouraging recycling, using earth-friendly products, increasing local commerce, entertainment and trade for Vero Beach. Stroll... shop... socialize... **Saturdays 8 - Noon.**
3000 Ocean Drive, Vero Beach 32963
www.verobeachfarmersmarket.com

RALLY 'ROUND THE FLAG!

On Independence Day morning around 8:00 a.m. Vero will be celebrating our Nation's 249th birthday with a traditional group **swim to the S.S. Breconshire** (a/k/a the Boiler Wreck) before raising a champagne toast to Old Glory.

The swim is about 1/4 mile from the shore to the site of the 130 year-old shipwreck. For those who don't want to swim that distance, you can bring floats, kayaks or paddle boards (we need a few of those to carry the champagne and for us to hang onto out there). Sunrise is around 6:30 am. No RSVP is required; just show up on the beach to swim, paddle, float or spectate!

Fourth of July. Meet on the beach right behind Coste d'Este or the Ocean Grill. There's lots of parking at Sexton Plaza.



TAKIN' IT TO THE STREET... TO DANCE, MINGLE AND MEET!

A Vero tradition, **Downtown Friday** kicks off on the fourth Friday of every month. Join us on Main Street for live music, food, vendors, and fun! Party with a live band, food trucks, wine and beer stations, and vendors up and down Main Street. So... come ready to shop, eat, drink, and dance! And bring a chair if you'd like to sit and listen to the music.

Mark your calendar for every fourth Friday, and tell your friends about the best street-party in Vero Beach!

Fourth Friday of the month, 6pm - 9pm, 14th Avenue in Downtown Vero Beach (street closes for set-up at 4pm) No tickets are needed and the event is FREE.

Smile... you live in Serenoa!

AROUND THE SQUARE

Following the latest news and views from Serenoa

WHAT'S NEW SERENOA?



Clockwise from top left...

Preserve Preservation

In May, the Board acted on a growing issue that envelopes the entire community. The health, and maintenance, of Serenoa's large preserve area is the obligation of the HOA, and every resident has a stake in keeping the green space healthy and naturally beautiful. A new Preserve Committee has been formed tasked with the job of keeping the Preserves free of invasive growth and maintaining its natural beauty.

Let There be Light

Currently residents, and visitors, entering Serenoa after dark are welcomed with a bright, and beautiful, entranceway—illuminated, and installed, by Diaz Electric. The curbing on the islands is far more visible, while aesthetically, the lush landscaping is now visually enhanced. The improvement clearly spotlights both a tasteful visual, and an improved safety advantage.

A Partnership Rooted in Trust

In July, Yellowstone Landscaping will be taking the reins of Serenoa's landscaping services. Serenoans can fully embrace the choice that we've made. Given Yellowstone's exceptional resume we can all feel confident, and fortunate, to partner with an industry leader... and at a reduced cost to the community. This is a win-win for a partnership that will undoubtedly continue to grow.

Community Spit & Polish

The HOA commissioned Big Little Guy Pressure Washing services to do a bit of Spring cleaning on the neighborhood's soiled and dingy sidewalks and curbing. BLG also offered homeowners an opportunity to have their driveways scrubbed at a tantalizing price. Not surprising, 70 residents jumped in on this tidy deal.



BOARD BIZ

DELINQUENCY OF HOA DUES

As per Serenoa's Master Declaration of Covenants, Conditions, Reservations and Restrictions (CCR's) Article IV, Section 8 states in part:

"If the quarterly portion of the Annual General Assessment is not paid within thirty (30) days after the date when due, the full Annual General Assessment or remaining portion thereof shall become at once due and payable without notice, and the assessment shall bear interest from its due date."

Please take notice of this section of our CCR's as it will be closely monitored and action will be taken effective July 1, 2025.

Simply stated, if your account is current and the July assessment is not paid in full by July 31st, the remaining balance of \$1,376.00 becomes immediately due, along with applicable interest.

• LANDSCAPING COMPANY

• Effective July 1, 2025 Serenoa's new landscaping company will be Yellowstone Landscaping.

• This is \$8,172.00 below our 2025 budget.

A "Meet and Greet" was held on May 14, with Yellowstone Landscaping to answer questions and meet the community.

• Yellowstone will meet with Board members several times in June to become aware of specific issues.

• HURRICANE PLAN

• Hurricane season is from June 1 – November 30.

EM portal for a hurricane plan (Documents / Hurricane Procedures) AAA- <https://www.acg.aaa.com/connect/blogs/4c/travel/sailing-through-hurricane-season>

• American Red Cross – <https://www.redcross.org/about-us/news-and-events/news/2025/get-ready-for-hurricane-season.html>

• CLUBHOUSE AND ENTRANCE

• Ed Lenski painted a reflective yellow stripe on the front step of the clubhouse as a safety precaution.

• Charles and Sheila Hatherill donated a cement border to surround the garden at the front entrance flagpole.

• Karen Becker cleaned off the old tape, dirt and debris from the entrance call box.

• Thanks to Jim and Marilyn Kordiak, who decorated the front gate in honor of Memorial Day.

• Gerry Smilen moved the exterior bulletin board on the front of the clubhouse to a location which is now more accessible for residents to see — next to the entrance door. Future agendas, social event flyers and other information will be now placed on this bulletin board.

• PONDS INFORMATION

• Serenoa has received a verbal conditional approval for one (1) year to use the existing well to provide water to the north pond.

• A company is scheduled to visit the site this week to assess and address the repairs and re-piping of the well meter and installing the float valves.

• The black fencing on the banks of the ponds will remain in tact until they are replaced with landscaped berms to continue to defer rain runoff to the ponds' banks. This will be addressed with our new landscape company.

• Mowing of the banks will also be addressed with our new landscape company.

• PRESERVE COMMITTEE

• On May 21, 2025 the Board approved the establishment of a Preserve Committee.

• The goal of this committee is to explore options as to how Serenoa may be able to maintain our preserves.

• NOTE: Indian River County has jurisdiction over the preserves.

• The committee members are: Karen Becker, Kerry Sees, Carol Mester, Marina Liburdi and Karen Vincuillo (Dale Norris was appointed but has since resigned due to personal reasons).

• TRAFFIC MONITORING

• Indian River Sheriff's Dept. will be monitoring the traffic within Serenoa.

• A sign has been posted at the stop sign inside the entrance gate.

• PEST CONTROL

Rodents have been seen in the vicinity of 2nd Manor and 11th Square. Our current pest control company (Massey) will control and monitor the situation.

• COMMITTEES

Upcoming Events:

• Summer BBQ – July 13 / 2:00 PM – 5:00 PM / Check the Serenoa website for details.

• Fall Yard Sale – October 11, 2025 / 8:00 am to 2:00 pm

• ELLIOTT MERRILL INFORMATION

• Contact Information

• Alexandra Agudelo, Community Association Manager (CAM)

• Daisy Lindo, Assistant - daisyl@elliottmerrill.com

• Serenoa's General Ledger is now posted on the EM portal under Documents / Financial / Property and Financial Report / 2025.

• NEXT BOARD MEETING

Thursday, September 11, 2025 at 7:00 PM

Smile... you live in Serenoa!