

Happy  
New  
Year

# HERON CAY HOA NEWSLETTER

Volume 15 No. 1  
January 2025

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**President:** Bonnie McNair  
**Treasurer:** Elsie Quintero  
**Secretary:** Donnia Trent

**Director:** Jack Manno  
**Director:** William Digirolamo

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**FROM THE HOA BOARD:** HAPPY NEW YEAR! Welcome to the month of January and all the promises that lie ahead as we enter into 2025. We hope you enjoyed your holidays, celebrating with family and friends.

Some things that happened during the month of December were:

The new pool heater was finally installed mid-December and our residents are once again enjoying swimming in our pool.

With the materials supplied by ELS Management, Don Lugrin, Scott Merrill, Kerry Mitras and Doug Stearly put in several days to repair & paint the Bocce court in time for us to play this season. Thank you all for your hard work.

Our landscaping company, Top Notch, has been doing a much better job on our lawns and common areas. Since we are in our “dry season”, the grass shouldn’t need mowing as often as every week. However, when they are here, if you see something that they missed at your house, or if something has been done incorrectly, please call the office **immediately** so that management can send them back to correct the problem.

The Fun n Games Committee, along with many volunteers, spent several hours on December 1<sup>st</sup> decorating the clubhouse for the holidays. Thank you for bringing the joy of the season to our residents.

In addition, Ingrid Cresta, Jean Cunningham, Donna Eggleston and Chris Mandia did an absolutely amazing job decorating the entrance to Heron Cay, with the lights and decorations donated by Chris Mandia. Thank you so much for your hard work. You all set the holiday spirit for people as they drive into our community.

Ticket sales continue for our two upcoming “That’s Entertainment” events scheduled for January and February – the first show will be a magician/comedian, followed in February by a Murder Mystery. Remember, the Murder Mystery event is limited to 200 people so if you’re interested in attending this fun-filled night, you need to buy your tickets as soon as possible. Contact Vivian Manno at 516-749-5829 for more information.

On Friday, December 13<sup>th</sup>, ELS hosted a Toys for Tots luncheon which was sponsored by the U.S. Marine Corps Reserves. We are proud to say that the luncheon was a huge success and an incredible number of toys were donated by our residents. We were also introduced to our new Heron Cay manager, Sumiko Chilcott, that afternoon. We look forward to working with Sumiko.

Our holiday golf car parade was awesome, with 20 residents showing their decorating skills to the community. You can check out the photos on our [heroncayhoa.org](http://heroncayhoa.org) website. Thank you all for a great evening.

The HOA, together with the Fun ‘n’ Games Committee, hosted our Second Annual Free Holiday Party with the amazing Cheryl Garrett as our DJ for the evening. Cheryl had us on our feet dancing or tapping our toes from 7 pm until after 10 pm. We had 130 residents attending and we gave out 103 raffle prizes. Thank you to all who donated the prizes that we handed out at the party. Thanks to all the volunteers who spent an evening wrapping those gifts and special thanks to Valerie Cottongim who opened her house for the gift wrapping party.

## **ELECTION TIME IS HERE FOR THE HERON CAY HOA**

The Heron Cay HOA elections will be held on **Friday, February 7, 2025**. We have 4 openings on the HOA Board to serve a two-year term and five candidates running for those seats. Also on the ballot is a proposed amendment to our Bylaws, as well as the proposed 2025 Budget. We encourage all HOA members to vote.

The five candidates will introduce themselves at our January 7 HOA Board meeting and let us know why they want to serve as a director on the Board. We encourage all HOA members to attend that meeting and listen to each of the candidates so you can make an informed decision on February 7<sup>th</sup>.

Remember, you must be a 2025 member of the HOA, (signing up no later than 2:30 pm on Thursday, February 6<sup>th</sup>), in order to vote. As a reminder, there is only **one vote per household**

Your HOA Board

## **SO, THIS IS JANUARY- DID YOU KNOW THAT...**

January 1 is, of course, New Year’s Day. And it’s National Hangover day (are you surprised?) – It’s also National Bloody Mary Day – which some people think it’s totally needed to “get the hair of the dog that bit you.”

January 1-3 is the Jewish celebration of **Shavuot**, which celebrates the harvest of first fruits and commemorates the giving of the Torah and Commandments at Mount Sinai. According to Talmudic tradition, **Shavuot** is the day when the Ten Commandments were given on Mount Sinai.

The “ten words” (Hebrew: Asseret ha-Dibrot) represent the very first moral law in human history on which our understanding of ethical laws is based to this day.

January 2 is International Stop Spam Day (I hope they don't mean the food!). It's also Run Up the Flagpole and See If Anyone Salutes Day and World Introvert Day. Hmm. I Don't think any self-respecting introvert will be climbing any flagpoles.

January 3 brings us Festival of Sleep Day (I REALLY like that one). It's also Fruitcake Toss Day and Humiliation Day. Won't you be embarrassed if your loved ones saw you tossing that fruitcake they gave you for Christmas?

January 4 is National Spaghetti Day. I thought that was every Wednesday!

January 6 (12 days after Christmas) brings us the Christian Holy Day of the **Feast of the Epiphany – Three Kings**. The 12 days starts when the Christmas Star was visible and guided the 3 wise men to Bethlehem - they did not magically appear at the stable the day Jesus was born. So, the 12 days symbolize the time it took them to travel to baby Jesus and bring Him gifts.

January 6 is also Bean Day and Cuddle Up Day. Not sure these two should go together.

January 7 is Old Rock Day. HUH? Aren't they ALL old??? When I looked this one up, I found that it's a day to recognize the beauty, significance, and historical and geological importance of rocks. It's also a day to encourage people to explore the diverse characteristics of rocks and their contributions to the planet.

January 7 brings us the Eastern Orthodox Christians celebration of **Christmas**. Orthodox Christmas follows the Julian calendar. While many countries celebrate Christmas on December 25th, people who follow the Eastern Orthodox tradition commemorate the birth of Jesus Christ on or around January 7<sup>th</sup>.

January 9 is Play God Day. While I couldn't find any information on the meaning of this day, what everyone does know is God is good. So, maybe Play God Day is a day to do something good and extra special. Anything that will make a difference. It doesn't have to be miraculous. It could be something simple – like visiting someone who is ill or helping someone in need.

January 10 is Bittersweet Chocolate Day. It took **10 days** to get to food??? It's also Houseplant Appreciation Day. Do we give them extra plant food? And Peculiar People Day. That's ME!!!

January 11 and it's Learn Your Name in Morse Code Day. Well, dot's interesting. I think I'll dash along and do just that. And it's Step in a Puddle and Splash Your Friends Day. Yeah, you might not want to do that.

January 12 is the Feast of Fabulous Wild Men Day. Really??? I have absolutely no where to go with this one.

January 13 brings us International Skeptics Day, Make Your Dream Come True Day and National Rubber Duckie Day. I seriously doubt that I'll be dreaming of rubber duckies.

January 14 and it's time for Dress Up Your Pet Day. Oh dear. Those poor puppies and kittens.

January 15 is National Bagel Day and National Hat Day. Can I make a hat out of my bagel?

January 16 and it's Appreciate a Dragon Day as well as National Nothing Day. Nothing would make me happier than having my own personal dragon.

January 17 is Ditch New Year's Resolution Day – Did your resolution last *that* long? Mine sure didn't.

January 18 is Thesaurus Day. Can you say that another way?

January 19 brings us National Popcorn Day and National Tin Can Day. So get out the container that you got that Christmas fruitcake in and fill it with your favorite snack – popcorn!

January 20 is Penguin Awareness Day (What, no Batman?). It's also Buttercrunch Day and National Cheese Lover Day. Not sure how those two would taste together.

January 21 is both National Hugging Day and Squirrel Appreciation Day. But I wouldn't advise combining those two.

January 22 is National Blonde Brownie Day. Huh?? Isn't that an oxymoron?

January 23 is National Pie Day. Ooooh, Yummy. It's also National Handwriting Day (remember those thank you notes for those gifts you received) and Measure Your Feet day – on this one, I can only ask...."Why?"

January 24 is a trifecta – Beer Can Appreciation Day, Compliment Day and Global Belly Laugh Day. By the time the beer can is empty, I'm ready to compliment anyone. And that usually gets a big laugh.

January 25 is National Swap Day. This year it's also Opposite Day. Well that's confusing. Do we swap whatever it is we traded back again?

January 26 is Australia Day and Spouse's Day. So do we send our spouse on a trip to Australia?

January 27 is Bubble Wrap Appreciation Day. I, personally, love to sit and pop those little bubbles. It's also Punch the Clock Day. Better than punching something else.

January 28 is Fun at Work Day and National Kazoo Day. I guess we can march around the office playing the kazoo – that oughta' be fun.

January 29 is **Chinese New Year**. This year it will slither its way into the spotlight as the Year of the Snake, which occurs once every 12 years. Representing wisdom, elegance and mystery, the snake is often seen as a symbol of transformation and adaptability. Those celebrating the Year of the Snake were born in 2025, 2013, 2001, 1989, 1977, 1965, 1953, 1941, 1929, 1917.

January 30 brings us National Inane Answering Message Day. What message will you put on your phone on this day??

January 31 is National Hot Chocolate Day – the perfect way to end the month.

I hope you enjoyed January. Next month, we will feature February in history.

## **DEADLINE FOR ADS FOR THE 2025 HERON CAY HOA MONTHLY NEWSLETTER**

January 15<sup>th</sup> is the deadline for accepting ads for Heron Cay's 2025 HOA newsletter which will run from February 1, 2025 through January 31, 2026.

Call Elsie Quintero for information and to reserve your space (917) 655-9395.

Bonnie McNair



# **ATTENTION!!**

## **HERON CAY BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

Business Meeting and Members Meeting

January 7, 2025 at 7 pm in the clubhouse

HERON CAY  
**MUSIC BINGO**  
WITH DR. ROCK  
January 3rd at 7 pm  
\$5.00 Admission



Bring your own drinks and  
snack



**BUNCO**  
January 4th at  
6:30 pm sharp!

Rules and instructions on how to play will be explained at 6:30.

YOU MUST CALL to let us know if you are coming (so we know how many tables to set up, etc.) If you call and say you are coming and at the last minute you find you can not make it, PLEASE call by 6:00 on the night of Bunco so we don't have to rearrange at the last second.

Call Elsie at 917-655-9395 to let us know that you are coming. **Cost will be \$5.00. Please, no large bills.** Bring your own drink and snack.

# Line Dancing 2025



It's time for Line Dancing Again.

Join the fun!

Wednesday afternoons in the Clubhouse

1-2 pm

Starts: Jan 8th, 2025

Contact person: Glenda Levesque

[Glenda.levesque@rogers.com](mailto:Glenda.levesque@rogers.com)

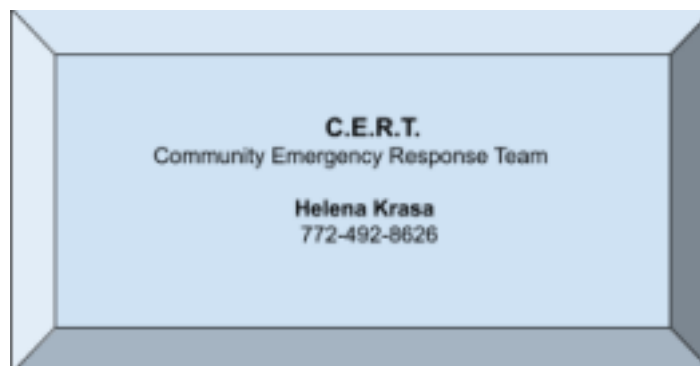
## **NEIGHBORHOOD WATCH**

Neighborhood Watch wishes everyone a HAPPY, HEALTHY AND SAFE NEW YEAR!

Remember to walk against traffic and bike with traffic. Remember to use a flashlight at night. Remember to LOCK your car, shed and house. Remember, when walking and a car is approaching, walk in a single file. These are all ideas to help keep YOU safe!

FYI....NHW members are the eyes and ears of the sheriff's office. We are out in the community more often than people realize.

Nancy Dawe, NHW Coordinator





## Happy New Year

**Coffee Social** Thursday, January 9, 9 am in the cardroom. (rescheduled this month) We look forward to seeing everyone back from holiday events. Those who are new to Heron Cay, don't be shy, come by and share your story.

**Piano Man Robert's Social Hour.** January 10 and 24<sup>th</sup> at 5 pm in the clubhouse. Robert has been practicing new tunes for our enjoyment. Bring your refreshments and come enjoy an hour of beautiful music.

**Ice Cream Social and Game night,** January 24 6 pm–8 pm. After the piano social, stay and enjoy an ice cream treat. Bring your favorite board game to share with friends. We will have the ping pong table set up and our cornhole for those who want to play more active games.

**Mark your calendars! - Valentines Dance** will be Friday, February 14<sup>th</sup> from 7-10 pm.

**Special thanks** to our many volunteers who helped with all of our events during the holidays.

**Thank you to Four Star Homes, Inc.** for providing donuts for our monthly coffee social.

**Decorating the clubhouse** on December 1 were Sue and David Sowder, Lynda Merrill, Valerie Cottongim, Bonnie McNair, Elsie Quintero, Robert Desrochers, Karin Bryan, Mary Michon, Diane Chase, Louise Klier, Debbie Drab, Clara Feder McCarthy, Ruth Stevens, Debbie Softchin Ceper, Jacque Stasonis, Glenda Levesque.

**BIG THANK YOU** for those at the Christmas party gift wrapping evening which was held at Valerie Cottongim and Mary Michon's home. Special thanks to all who came and wrapped and those who donated all the wonderful gifts that were door prizes for our HOA and FNG holiday party. Many more came to help with the set up: Donna Eggleston, Elaine Carr, Billie D., Liz D. Fenn, Molly Boyd, Lynda Merrill, Maria Johnson, Karin Bryan, Debbie Softchin Ceper, Sue Sowder, Bonnie McNair, Elsie Quintero, Valerie Cottongim, Sandy Dawes, Pat O'Hara, Ruth Stevens, Carol Saullo, and Kathleen Keys.

**Golf Cart Christmas Parade Thank You** to Jerry Nelson and Deb Isbell for leading beautifully decorated golf carts around our community to bring cheer and fun for an evening. Michelle Lotz won best creative golf cart with her Santa and Ms. Claus and the Polar Bear.

*Happy New Year to all of our Heron Cay neighbors and friends. Our committee is most grateful for support of our events and for all of our volunteers who help to set up, decorate, and clean up from our events.*

*Fun N' Games committee: Penny Cahill, Karin Bryan, Rich Saldham, Sue Sowder, Jacque Stasonis, Lynda Merrill and Valerie Cottongim.*





# Coffee Social Hour

Thursday, January 9

9 am

Clubhouse Cardroom

Join your neighbors for coffee, doughnuts and conversation. Coffee Social Hour is sponsored by Four Star Homes.



# HERON CAY BINGO

SUNDAY, JANUARY 12th

Doors open at 12:30 pm Bingo starts at 1:30 pm

**AND**

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 22nd

Doors open at 5 pm Bingo starts at 6:30 pm

\$1 entry fee

Bingo packages cost \$10, \$15 & \$20

Bring a friend and you and your friend receive  
a free card to play on any game

Refreshments will be available

**COME JOIN US AT**



**FOR AN EVENING OF FUN**

**WITH DR. ROCK**

**FRIDAY, JANUARY 17, 2025 AT 7 pm**

**ENTRANCE FEE \$5.00**

**BRING YOUR OWN DRINKS AND SNACKS**



**Piano Social by Robert**

**Fridays, January**

**10 and 24**

**5-6 pm**

**In the Clubhouse**

**Bring a snack and a beverage and enjoy Robert's music  
and have a Friday happy hour with your friends.**



*Ice Cream Social &  
Game Night*

**Friday, January 24**

**6 to 8:30 pm**

**in the clubhouse**

Immediately following Robert's piano social, join us for an ice cream social and game night in the clubhouse. Bring your favorite game and teach your neighbors how to play.

**More details will follow.**

## BOARD CERTIFIED TRAINING

The Heron Cay Homeowners Association is chartered (since 1989) by the State of Florida and is therefore subject to the provisions of the Florida Mobile Home Act –that is Chapter 723 of Florida Statutes. It is critical that the Board of Directors, on carrying out its functions, has an in-depth understanding of its provisions. In addition, it is wise that other HOA members become familiar with its provisions. FMO has been approved to provide training classes for new Board members via *Zoom*, to help obtain certification as required by Chapter 723. Pre-registration is required. The cost, which includes printed course materials, is \$45 for FMO members, \$60 for non-FMO members. Access [fmo.org](http://fmo.org) for information and registration.

### Available course dates

Thursday, January 16 – 10:00 AM to 1:00 PM

Wednesday, February 12 – 6:00 PM to 9:00 PM

Saturday, March 15 – 1:00 PM to 4:00 PM

Monday, April 14 – 10:00 AM to 1:00 PM

Tuesday, May 20 – 1:00 PM to 4:00 PM

Submitted by Gwen Ripp

## LOT RENT INFORMATION

Lot Rent 90-day Notices issued to homeowners whose lease agreements are renewable April 2025 reflect Consumer Price Index (CPI) figures as determined by the US Department of Labor Bureau of Labor Statistics.

The November 2024 figure is **497.798** up from **484.906** for November 2023 an increase of **2.7%**.

Note that a new lot rent may not exceed market rent.

*The 2025 market rents established by ELS*

Lake -- \$ 1171    Perimeter -- \$ 1081    Interior -- \$ 984

## WATER AEROBICS

Water aerobics for the months of January, February and March will be on Monday, Wednesday and Friday at 11:00 am to 12:00 pm instead of 10:00 am to 11:00 am. Weather permitting.

Submitted by Jean Cunningham

### A Couple More Reminders:

I have been asked by some residents to put a couple of reminders for everyone in this month's newsletter.

The first one is to remember to keep your dogs on their leash. There have been incidents where bikers are riding their bikes on the street and dogs are coming out to greet them. That should not happen. Having a dog run out to greet a biker, even if they are being friendly and coming out to say hello, can really throw the biker off track and an accident could happen. So, please keep your pets on a leash even if they are friendly.

The second is something that Nancy Dawe states in the Neighborhood Watch article nearly every month but it still seems to be a problem here in our community. That is regarding being on the proper side of the street. If you are out walking, you should be walking on the side of the road where the cars are coming toward you. If you are riding your bike you should be on the same side of the road that you drive on so you are riding with the flow of traffic. Just like Nancy keeps reminding everyone - walk against traffic and ride with it. This is for your own safety so please, follow the rules of the road even on our community streets.

Thank you everyone. We are only looking out for the safety of all of us living here in Heron Cay.

Kim Wheeler

*The New Year is upon us – Yes, 2025 is here !!!  
We celebrate the season with happiness and cheer.  
It's time for resolutions that everybody makes –  
Those serious intentions that everybody breaks !  
We look for joy and jubilation, prosperity and wealth,  
For peace and quiet harmony, but most of all for health !  
So here's to friends and family, good times, and troubles - none.  
May all your days be sunny!  
Happy New Year everyone !*

By Gwen Ripp

# Heron Cay Homeowners Association That's Entertainment Program 2025

The Heron Cay HOA presents the 2025 *That's Entertainment Program*. Tickets will be available at all Heron Cay events and during HOA office hours Tuesdays 6 to 7 pm and Thursdays 1:30 to 2:30 pm. Both shows are in the Heron Cay Clubhouse located at 1400 90<sup>th</sup> Street, Vero Beach FL 32966. Ticket prices are per person as follows: HOA members: \$40 for both shows, \$25 for 1 show; Non-HOA members: \$45 for both shows, \$27 for 1 show. Contact Vivian Manno for details at 516/749-5829.



**MAGIC SHOW**  
AT HERON CAY PARK

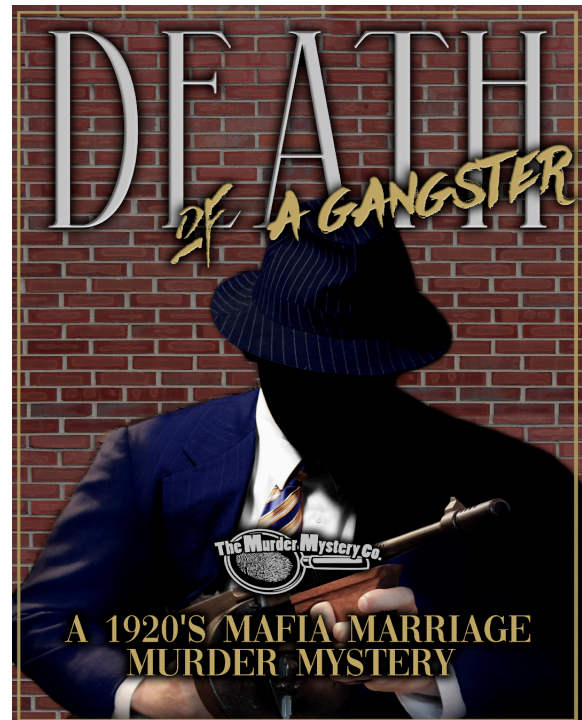
SAT. JANUARY 18, 2025  
6:45 P.M.

WITNESS THE COMEDY MAGIC,  
AMUSEMENT, & AMAZEMENT OF  
**BRANDON SMITH**

IMAGINE THE IMPOSSIBLE

The poster features a purple background with a glowing wand and a photo of Brandon Smith performing magic. A small logo for 'IMAGINE THE IMPOSSIBLE' is also present.

**The first show presents the comedy and magic of Brandon Smith on Saturday, January 18, 2025. Doors open at 6:30 pm, Show starts at 7 pm. Bring your own refreshments.**



**DEATH**  
*OF A GANGSTER*

The Murder Mystery Co.

**A 1920'S MAFIA MARRIAGE MURDER MYSTERY**

The poster shows a man in a 1920s style suit and hat holding a gun, set against a brick wall background.

Join us for a night of mystery, murder and mayhem on Saturday, February 22, 2025. Doors will open on the Death of a Gangster Murder Mystery at 6:30 pm. Show starts at 7 pm. Seating is limited to 200, so get your tickets early. Bring your own refreshments. Guests are invited to wear 1920s period clothing, including Flapper dresses, Zoot suits, feather boas, headbands and fedoras or dress in a black, white and gold theme. A photo screen will be available.



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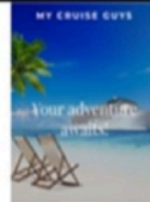


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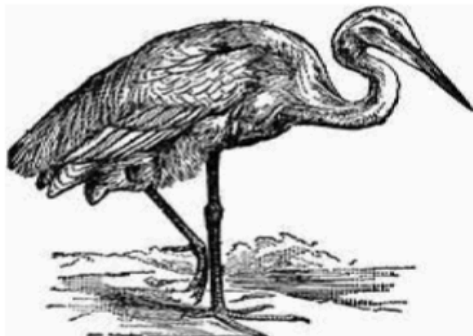
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