OCTOBER 2025



- Important Numbers
- Manager's Corner
- Lifestyles Corner
- Special Events
- Special Articles
- Getting Fit/Games



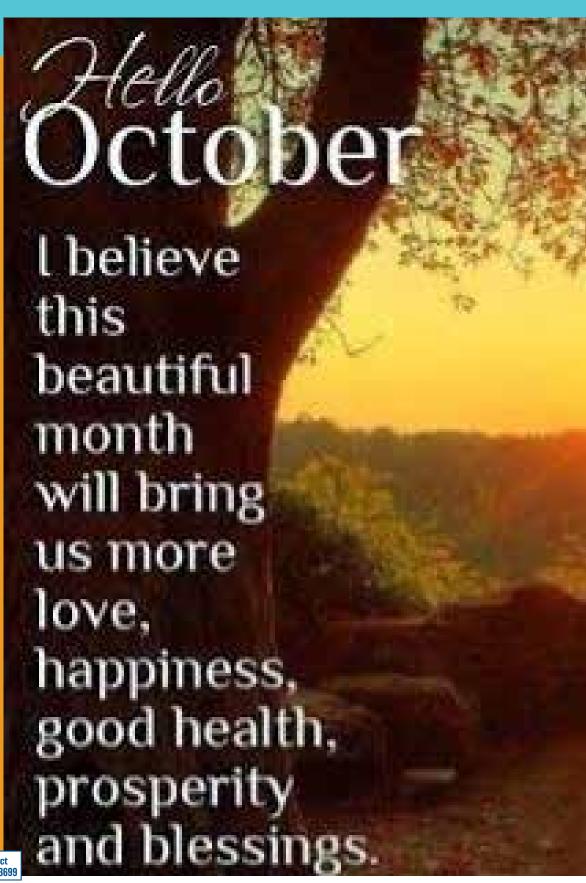
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IN LOYING MEMORY OF RICHARD "RICK" SWARTZ

A kind and gentle soul passed away on September 9, 2025, and we will miss him. Richard "Rick" Swartz, 60, was born August 11, 1965. He retired earlier this year as chief maintenance technician, overseeing new home building in three Cove Properties in Pinellas County. Previously, he was the head maintenance man for The Meadows. Rick never met a problem he couldn't solve. He always had a smile for all the residents and would try to help anyone who



needed it with a, "I'll stop by after work and take a look." Sure enough, late afternoon would roll around, and there would be Rick, carrying his toolbox.

He retired from The Meadows earlier this year with plans to move further north and take life easy. Those plans did not come to fruition. Unfortunately, he was diagnosed with Stage IV cancer soon after his retirement.

Rick is survived by his beloved wife, Karen, his daughter, Christine, and his grandchildren, Keith and Kailey. There is no service scheduled at this time. Doby Funeral Home is handling the arrangements.

Cards and memorial gifts can be sent directly to Karen at 1415 Garden Way, Tarpon Springs, FL 34689.



"Surely goodness and
mercy shall follow me all the
days of my life: and I will dwell
in the house of the Lord
forever". Pealms 23:6

Gods[eed our beloved friend!

THINGS TO REMEMBER:

- Please pick up your dogs' waste and dispose of it in a garage bag
 not the road, sidewalk, drains or woods.
- Electronic recycling pick-up is the first Friday of each month.
- Our lawn care service comes every other Thursday throughout the season.
- Make sure you smoke only in the designated areas and use the cigarette disposal containers provided; not on the street yards or driveways.
- Please remember if you're away for a long period of time, have someone maintain your outside beds, plants and flowers, and pick up your mail.
- If you need help pulling weeds in your beds, contact the office.
- If the compactor is not there, use the smaller one for your garbage.
- You must be 18 and over to use our workout area in the clubhouse.
- Don't leave your "floaties" at the pool take them home each day.
- If you need help navigating our trash area, call the office to arrange for help.

Thank you for your cooperation!

Maintenance

Q: What items do <u>NOT</u> belong in the Recycle Bin?

- NO food or liquid
- NO foam cups or containers
- NO A/C filters
- NO loose plastic bags or film
- NO bagged recyclables
- NO clothing, furniture or carpet
- NO glass bottles or containers
- NO tree branches or yard waste



Mary Ann Bonello, Henry Weller, Frank Wedgeworth

The Meadows. A 55+ Community

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Resident Fun





























The Meadows. A 55+ Community

The Meadows Page 3

Residents' Fun

CRAFT FUN



WINE DOWN WEDNESDAY





CARNAST

LRC

NIFTY FIFTY





MUSIC MANIA BINGO







FAMILY FEUD























The Meadows. A 55+ Community

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SENIOR FITNESS











BUNCO FUN

We play every 2nd and 4th Wednesday of each month @ 6p.m. in the clubhouse. Danice Leal and Nancy Titus are your hosts. We can play with up to 16.

Bring \$5 to play.

THE MEADOWS' BOOK CLUB

(CURRENTLY NOT MEETING, TILL CAROL COMES HOME)
FEEL FREE TO PICK UP A BOOK AT THE LIBRARY.

The Meadows' Book Club is scheduled to meet every 2nd and 4th Tuesday of the month, at Carol Krishbaum's home at 446 Cary Lane. Everyone is invited to attend and bring a snack. We will be discussing our latest book.

The first meeting of each month is just a get together with some sweet treats and tea or coffee. At the second meeting of the month, we discuss our current book. Please feel free to bring books in and take them out of the library

New members are always welcome!

The Meadows. A 55+ Community

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YARD-OF-THE-MONTH Congratulations



This month's Yard of the Month goes to Danice Leal, at 514 Cary. Congrats and great job.







Our Surprise and Delight goes to Gary and Elda Hinch. Elda is involved with The Meadows Ambassadors, volunteering for many functions. Gary, besides being in the Veterans Club, has helped many residents with repairs on their homes. Thank you both. We Appreciate You!!!

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Ortrud Gertsen

I did not grow up in suburbia. I grew up awaiting a better life in the future, because I knew life could be better than a rented room for a family of four. One had to walk through a kitchen with potholes in the floor to get to the room. That was where I lived when I entered my teenage years in the 1950's. The location—Soviet Latvia in Europe. The USSR had forcibly taken over the small independent country Latvia along with 15 other countries around Russia and called it the Soviet Union.

When I was three, my father was drafted into World War II and my mother had to see to the survival of her two children. We lived in Germany at the time and food was scarce. She got in touch with her sister in Latvia, who owned a farm in Latvia and invited us to come live there. We arrived there with my grandmother, when I was six. It was sort of like arriving in paradise for me, as food was plentiful.

My first language is German, as my parents were Baltic German, born and raised in Latvia, which is located on the east side of the Baltic Sea. I started school at age seven, after learning the Latvian language quickly. In second grade study of Russian was required and study of English was added in fifth grade. English became my favorite subject.

Unfortunately, the soviets made it a crime to own property and my aunt and uncle decided to leave their farm in the middle of one night, to avoid being sent to Siberia, which was the punishment for property ownership. The four of us moved into the small storage room of my aunt's house, when we were told to vacate our apartment in the farm house. Eventually, we moved close to where

my aunt lived and I continued to go to school. My mother got a job and my grandmother, a professional seamstress, helped earn a living by taking in sewing and made our school clothes from leftover fabric. I wore the same dress to school every day. When I was sixteen, I had outgrown my winter coat and my mother scrounged up one for me that was kind of patched up, as winters are cold in Latvia. One day, walking down the street, some kid made fun of me and my coat.

My father was missing in action, but my mother eventually inquired at the Red Cross and found that he was living in Germany. At that time, in the 1950's, the border of the Soviet Union was nicknamed "the Iron Curtain", which meant no one was allowed to cross the border. That did not deter my mother—she applied for permission to go to Germany to reunite her family. After two years of red tape, permission was granted, only because my father was a close relative. My aunt was not allowed to accompany us, as she was not a close enough relative. My aunt, who had become like a second mother to me and my sister, came to see us off, and that was the last time we ever saw her. I will be forever grateful to my mom for getting us out of the Soviet life.

In May of 1958, we got on the train and arrived in Germany three days later. We had to live in temporary refugee quarters for two years, until we were able to get an apartment in a suburb of Frankfurt Germany. That was my first taste of suburban living.

I eventually apprenticed in a pharmacy in the middle of Frankfurt as a pharmacy assistant. I never really felt at home in Germany in the five-and-a -half years I lived there, so when I met an American GI in 1962 and he told me he wanted me to be the mistress of his home, I didn't hesitate to say yes. Sixty-two years later I consider this country my home. I appreciate everything I've experienced since I have lived here and wanted to suggest people appreciate what they have here and remember that there are many places where life is not as good as it is here.







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Meadows Veterans Club



Veterans Club and Neighbors Remember and Honor those we lost -September 11, 2001



Today (9/11/2025) we remember the lives lost on September 11th—civilians, first responders, and fellow warriors who ran toward danger with courage in their hearts.

As a veterans, we carry their memory with reverence and pride. We honor their sacrifice, and we pray for the families who still feel the ache of absence.

Grant us strength to uphold the values they died defending—freedom, unity, and resilience.

May our nation never forget the cost of liberty, nor the bravery of those who stood in its defense. Let our hearts be humbled, our spirits renewed, and our resolve strengthened.

Bless our brothers and sisters still serving and guide us to be worthy stewards of their legacy. May peace prevail, and may we live each day with purpose, gratitude, and love for our fellow Americans.

The ceremony closed with "Taps" and the lowering of the flag.

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Veterans Club News

Please join your friends and neighbors to support our Veterans Club!



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Long May She Wave

MEMORIAL BRICKS

The forms are available in the office. Please fill it out and include a check for \$30 for each brick. Then return it back to the office.

The club meets every Tuesday at 9:30 a.m.. They are currently meeting at the clubhouse game room, and at the American Legion on the second Tuesday.



All gave some; some gave all.



The Veterans Club has asked that dogs be kept out the Veterans Park. This is a special place for them and they don't want it to be used as a pets' bathroom.



The memorial bricks are not intended to be driven on. Please do not park there or use it to turn around or throw cigarette butts on the bricks.

If you see someone abusing the park, let management know.

Thank you!

Thank You Meadows Residents!

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Fun at The Meadows

FIFTY IS NIFTY CLUB

Have you been married for 50+ years to the same person? If so, you're welcome to join us. The club meets once a month for a nice meal.

Meet Our Nifty Fifty Members

If you've been married for over fifty years, you probably have a pretty good story. In the next issues of our newsletter, we will ask each couple to tell us how they met and were married.

Birthday Luncheon

Hosted by Mary Kessler







October Birthday Lunch @ 1 PM
Thursday October 2nd
Ozona Blue Grilling Co.
125 Orange Street
Palm Harbor 34683
Hosted by Diane Measor

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The Meadows

Getting Fit and Having Fun at The Meadows

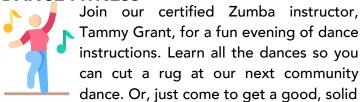
WATER AEROBICS/SENIOR FITNESS

Water Aerobic classes are offered five times a week subject to weather conditions and pool availability at The Meadows.



Classes are held every Tuesday and Friday at 11am with Kathy Llyod. Kathy also teaches Senior Fitness Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, Friday and Saturday at 10:00am.

DANCE FITNESS



cardio workout. The class is every Tuesday at 6pm . Wear comfortable clothes and put on your dancin' shoes!

LEFT-RIGHT-CENTER

Left-Right-Center is scheduled for the first and third Mondays of the month at 7pm. Come early and pick your lucky seat.

YOGA

Yoga has returned on Thursdays at 11:00 am with our certified Yoga instructor, Olivia, in the clubhouse

EUCHRE

Join us every Monday in the game room at 1:00 to learn and play the game of euchre and join in on our tournaments

PICKLEBALL

Every Wednesday at 6:30pm, and every Saturday starting at 9am. We have open pickleball here at The Meadows, paddles are stored outside the pickleball court.



If you have an idea for an event, let Ray Bonello, and Deb Huettner Lifestyle Coordinators, know!

CORNHOLE



Are you looking for a fun, and easy-tolearn sport? Cornhole may just fit the bill. Each Sunday and Wednesday (new day) at 6:30pm, a group of men

get together and play. Teams are picked and if needed, they will rotate new people in.

CRAFTING

Our popular craft classes are in full swing. Classes fill quickly, so sign up early. The crafters are handling sign-up and payment individually.

All crafters have easy step by step instructions. They won't leave you behind. You'll never how good you are unless you try it.

Thanks to our craft committee, Carolyn Oliver, Debbie Wallace, Sam Kitto, Theresa Weiss, and our newest member, Donna Wilkins.

If you have any ideas for crafts, please let us know. We are always looking for new ideas!

51 INDOOR SHUFFLEBOARD

"51" Indoor Shuffleboard tournaments have resumed on the second and fourth Tuesday of the month. A big thanks goes out to Anna Ehlinger for heading this activity.

BINGO

Bingo now being held every other Sunday until September. See calendar for scheduled weeks.

MUSIC MANIA BINGO

Free to play every 2nd Thursday of the month when you win the fun begins with competitive fun games Your hosts Dan and Deb Huettner

The Meadows. A 55+ Community

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From The Main Office

Matt Simanteris	Manager
Alexis Molnar	Sales
Ray Bonello	Co-Lifestyle Coordinator
Deb Huettner	Co-Lifestyle Coordinator
Frank Wedgeworth	Maintenance
Henry Weller	Maintenance
Mary Ann Bonello	Maintenance



IMPORTANT PHONE NUMBERS

Office	727-940-2927
Tarpon Springs Fire & Police Emergency.	911
Tarpon Springs Police (non-emergency)	727-938-2849
Tarpon Springs Chamber of Commerce	727-937-6109
Pinellas County Information Center	727-464-4333
Florida Department of Health	727-824-6900

Duke Energy...1-800-700-8744 Spectrum...833-697-7328 OFFICE HOURS - Monday - Friday 8:30am - 4:30pm CLUBHOUSE HOURS - Everyday - 7:00 - 10:00pm

TRASH COMPACTOR

We have had to lock the trash and recycling area because of non-resident dumping. The code is available from the office. Remember, only residents are allowed to use it and only for household trash, please!

When the trash compactor is not within the fence, please put your trash in the other trash bin - not the recycling bin. We will have a new camera system installed. Residents who violate our trash policy, will get their items returned/ or charged a bulk fee for extra tonnage or pickups. ABSOLUTELY NO LARGE HOUSEHOLD ITEMS!

The Meadows newsletter is published monthly. Please have all submissions in by the 10th of each month.

Managing Editor - Matt Simanteris
Editors - Ray Bonello/Deb Huettner

ELECTRONICS PICKUP

Each month, on the first Friday, The Meadows has an Electronics Pickup for recycling your electronics or metal. Any appliance with a cord is picked up. If you have a question on whether your item qualifies, contact Matt Simentaris.

Please have your items at the end of your driveway by 9am.



YARD WASTE RULES

Yard waste pickup is every Tuesday and Friday unless they fall on a holiday. ONLY organic material such as branches and plant material will be picked up but must be in plastic garbage bags or tied together in bundles and left at the curb or end of your driveway.

POOL RULES - HOURS 9AM - DUSK DOOL

- 1. No cups of any kind on the wet deck.
- 2. No glass in the pool area.
- 3. No smoking.
- 4. Pool ropes must be returned in place after lap swimming.
- 5.Please do not apply lotions or oils immediately before entering the pool. Let it get absorbed into your skin before you get in.
- 6. No running on the pool deck.
- 7. No jumping or diving into the pool at any time.
- 8. You are not allowed to save or reserve chairs and tables around the pool. It is strictly first come; first served.

DOG PARK RULES - HOURS 8AM - DUSK

- 1.Do not leave any toys at the dog parks. For safety's sake, they will be thrown away.
- 2.PLEASE pick up after your dog!
- 3.Do not let your dog dig holes.

It can be dangerous for pets and pet owners

The Meadows. A 55 + Community

The Meadows











If you're looking for a new or pre-owned home in The Meadows, contact Alexis. She and her driver, Apollo the Wonder Dog, would be happy to drive you around and show you what she has to offer.





Alexis Karvelas-Molnar

Sales Associate
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The Meadows' HOA October 2025 Newsletter

The next HOA's Board Meeting is tentatively scheduled for Thursday, October 30th at 10 am, location to be determined. Due to the audio and visual equipment now installed in the clubhouse, board meetings will be held at the homes of board members whenever possible. All HOA members are still welcome to attend and speak. If you would like an item to be placed on the agenda, please let a board member know at least a week before the meeting.



The new landscaping and fountain are beautiful. Our maintenance crew has done a great job maintaining the new flowers, shrubs, and trees. Lately, while dealing with contractors, they have all remarked that this is one of the nicest communities they've worked in, and you can clearly see the pride of ownership that residents have here.

HOA WHAT'S HAPPENING COFFEE: Mark your calendar for Wednesday, October 22nd at 10 a.m. when the HOA-sponsored speakers return. Jeri Keeler will be our speaker that morning, letting us know "What New in Medicare for 2026." Refreshments will be provided by the HOA. If anyone has ideas for speakers, please let one of the board members know.

RECOMMENDATION BOOKLET: The newest booklet is available in the clubhouse. If they are out, please let Lynette Mujica know, and she'll print some more. If our residents have any recommendations, please send them to Lynette Mujica or Connie Ausflug to include them in our next edition. Lynette will also make copies for HOA members if needed.

HOMESTEAD AND DOMICILE: The Declaration of Homestead and Domicile program is ongoing. There is no time limit for completing this, but the quicker, the better. Forms remain in the clubhouse at the HOA table in the back. If unavailable, contact Lynette for a set. You must be a Florida resident to participate in this program.

BOARD NOTES: The board previously voted to allocate \$3000 for upgrading resident activities for the upcoming season. Our first \$400 has been given to The Meadows to support an **Elvis Impersonator Show** scheduled for February 14, 2026.

The HOA is also sponsoring a **Veterans Day Dinner** on Tuesday, November 11th at 6 p.m. in the clubhouse. This meal will be catered by Marcia Milligan and is FREE to ALL Veterans and their significant others, in addition to all HOA members in good standing. Tickets will have a nominal charge that will be returned when Veterans and HOA members attend. We're doing this so we can get an accurate count for Marcia. A full chicken dinner with all the fixings' will be served along with short program to honor our Veterans.

The HOA has also granted a stipend to The Meadows Church of \$500 annually to fund their coffee hour after each Sunday Service.

Mark your calendar now for **Christmas dinner** at 1 p.m. on Christmas Day at The Meadows' clubhouse sponsored by your HOA. Again, Marcia Milligan will be catering a full dinner consisting of beef, chicken, mashed potatoes and gravy, stuffing, candied carrots, homemade rolls and butter, and an assortment of desserts. Delivery and carryout will be available.

Your HOA looks forward to working with The Meadows and its Ambassadors to ensure quality events, such as bringing in outside entertainment, upgrading meals, and utilizing the space to cover activities that lower costs for residents and enhance their enjoyment. If you have any suggestions, let Ray Bonello or Deb Huettner know.

A letter was sent to The Meadows asking that the gate on the trash fence be upgraded to close more slowly and remain open until the trash has been disposed of in the compactor. Matt Simanteris, our manager, and Mike Rosenhagen, regional VP, agreed to look at the situation and make the changes necessary. Thank you, Matt and Mike.

A plaque was placed on the bench that the HOA donated on Chris Drive. Another bench is located at the far end of the pond, donated by our Veterans Club. A third bench has yet to be installed.

SHREDDING: We will be offering another shredding event next spring.

MEMBERSHIP: The 2025 and 2026 applications are available on the HOA table in the back of the clubhouse. You must complete an application annually (January 1st through December 31st) and pay your \$12 dues. If you pay your dues in the last quarter of 2025, we will prorate them if you pay your full dues of \$12 for 2026. The blue HOA box is on the wall by the workout area on the west side of the clubhouse, where you can drop off your application and dues.

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Doug Oliver, Treasurer Lynette Mujica, Secretary Eldri Zahn, President 920-606-6652 eldrigz@netscape.net Deborah Wallace, Director Barbara Grano, Director

b



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