



Briar

Patch

Briar Patch Homeowners' Association, Inc. Website: briarpatchnpr.com

6525 Thicket Trail, New Port Richey, FL 34653

In and Around Briar Patch

Hello to all the members of our Briar Patch Community!



***Happy
Mother's
Day***

The beautiful and unparalleled bond of love shared between children and mothers is honored and celebrated on Mother's Day; this year on May 8th.

Celebrations go back to ancient times when Greeks and Romans held festivals in honor of the mother goddesses Rhea and Cybele. Beginning in the 16th century, "Mothering Sunday" was celebrated on the fourth Sunday in Lent. It was less about mothers and more about church. People would make a journey to their "mother" church. This might have been their home church, their nearest cathedral or a major parish church in a bigger town. The service which took place at the "mother" church symbolized the coming together of families.

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The tradition shifted over time into a holiday without any religious or spiritual meaning. Children would give their mothers flowers, gifts and pampering. Today, a number of countries around the world still celebrate Mothering Sunday.

Anna Maria Jarvis (1864 - 1948) was the founder of ***Mother's Day*** in the United States. Her mother, Ann Reeves Jarvis, had frequently expressed a desire for the establishment of such a holiday to show love, appreciation and

continued on pg2

continued from pg 1

and gratitude for our mother's immeasurable value in our lives.

On May 10, 1908, three years after her mother's death, Anna Jarvis held a memorial ceremony to honor her mother and all women in our lives who shape and define us in ways both large and small. The celebration was held at Andrews Methodist Episcopal Church in Grafton, West Virginia (today the International Mother's Day Shrine), marking the first *official observance* of Mother's Day.

A presidential proclamation that officially established the first *National Mother's Day* holiday was issued by President Woodrow Wilson on May 9, 1914.



"A mother is she who can take the place of all others but whose place no one else can"

Florida Department of Health recommends:

It's important to know the signs and symptoms of a stroke so that patients can receive treatment as soon as possible and reduce damage to the brain. A stroke occurs when blood flow to the brain is blocked. Blood brings oxygen and nutrients to the cells. Without blood, brain cells die. This means that a section of the brain starts breaking down and brain function is altered. The quicker a stroke is addressed, the less brain damage there will be and the better the recovery. Strokes are usually painless, but there *are* signs. Here's what to look for:

Use the acronym, **FAST**

- F** means **Face** ☛ Face drooping, numb, or can't smile
- A** means **Arms** ☛ Arms are weak, can't raise both arms out
- S** means **Speech** ☛ Slurring words and unable to say a simple sentence
- T** means **Time to call 9-1-1** ☛ If the person shows **any** of these symptoms, even if the symptoms go away, call 9-1-1 and get them to a hospital immediately

Learn the F.A.S.T. signs and share them with your friends and family. You can save a life!



5/12/65 Nancy Haaser Jones
5/19 Kiki Taylor

REMINDER: If you haven't already, please email your birth date to me to be included in the newsletter.

A special celebration was held at our Clubhouse recently for a wonderful lady born on March 25th. Happy 90th Birthday *Maria Targoza!*



MESSAGES FROM OUR BOARD DIRECTORS



We have begun to put stickers on all vehicles that are parked on the grass within our Briar Patch Community. It's an important reminder to all drivers that parking on the grass can not only damage the grass but also the sprinkler heads. The sprinkler heads are close to the edge of the grass and can easily be crushed and broken. These are costly to replace; **please be careful.**

To date the irrigation is running smoothly and timed from midnight to 6am depending on the zone where you live.

Your HOA has put together a committee to look at replacing our mailboxes. The boxes are over 35 years old and many need extensive repair and are out of USPS regulation. More information will be reported at a later date as we work with the USPS for the appropriate solution.

If anyone needs landscaping repair or modifications, trees trimmed or removed, irrigation issues, or any lawn concerns *please do not call the general number*, you will get a faster response when you fill out a **Work Request**. You can find the "Online Forms" on our website.

Fred Ausflug
Briar Patch Director of Grounds & Landscape



There is Power in Friendship

Last month I helped a long established friend close up her Florida property. She is 87 years young and the flights/travel are now too much for her. So much to clean up, give away, pass along, and throw out. She owned her property for over 30 years. One of the fun parts was rediscovering treasures. In several drawers there were photographs. These were true time capsules! These documented the time we shared with family and friends.

Looking at those snippets of moments caused fond memories for all of us. Naturally it led to story telling about the people in the photos, what was going on then, and where they were now. "I remember that..." "What happened to them?" "Look at what we were wearing!" Or for my photos, "Look at that hair!" It was nice to fill that home with laughter while walking through a farewell.

The core of friends that she had gathered over the years, also showed up at her door. Like a Queen, she held court. Reminiscing over the years, saying, "Goodbye." Curious neighbors also came to her door. Life has a funny way of making us move along. I may have said goodbye to the house, but not to her. Plans are in the works to meet up in NJ, the Garden State. She is "chosen family," after all....

Jillian LaVelle
Director At Large

Pool Party ~ April 9, 2022



Thank you, *Gary Lavellie*, for all your hard work keeping the pool and pool area in excellent condition!

Safe travels to you and Muriel as you head home. See you again in November!



At the end of the month of May we celebrate Memorial Day. Some of us remember May 30th as Decoration Day. So how did we go from Decoration Day to Memorial Day? Well that takes us back to the period just after the end of the Civil War in April of 1865. A few months later, in July of 1865, a druggist in Waterloo, New York began a campaign to decorate the graves of the civil war veterans. Shortly thereafter a committee was formed to make various decorations such as wreaths, crosses, and flower bouquets with the intention of doing something for each veteran's grave in the local cemeteries.

Down south, as the civil war was finally winding down, various Women's groups who were providing support to the families of wounded or killed soldiers began to decorate the graves of fallen soldiers from both sides. So in reality, Decoration Day did not begin with an act of government, but the simple human need to honor our dead.

By 1868, Decoration Day was celebrated in virtually all parts of the country in what might today be called a "movement." In that same year the movement came to the attention of General John A. Logan, Commander-in-Chief of the Grand Army of the Republic (GAR), a group of Union veterans. In a few short years after the war there were over 400,000 veteran members of the GAR. On May 5, 1868 General Logan issued general Order No. 11 calling for the membership to set aside May 30th as a day for remembering the sacrifices made by their fallen brothers and designated the 30th of May as Decoration Day.

The alternative name of "Memorial Day" was first used in 1882 to honor *all* US soldiers who died in service of our country. It was about this time the red poppy came to be a symbol honoring our veterans on Memorial Day. As time went on and we lost men and women in other conflicts, Memorial Day began to replace Decoration Day as the more commonly used term. This was certainly the case following World War II. In 1971, Congress standardized the holiday as "Memorial Day," a National Holiday, and changed its observance date to the last Monday in May. It is unofficially the first day of summer. Many believe that changing the date to create three-day weekends has undermined the very meaning of the day. No doubt, this has contributed a lot of the general public's nonchalant observance of Memorial Day.

The National Moment of Remembrance was created by President Bill Clinton to observe a moment of silence to occur at 3:00 pm (local time) on each Memorial Day. This is to encourage Americans everywhere, to pause for one minute at 3:00 pm on Memorial Day, to remember and reflect on the sacrifices made by so many to provide freedom for all.

On Memorial Day, the flag of the United States is raised briskly to the top of the staff and then solemnly lowered to the half-staff position, where it remains only until noon. It is then raised to full-staff for the remainder of the day. The premier observance takes place in Arlington National Cemetery, where the president lays a wreath at the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier.

The poem, "In Flanders Field" by John McCrae describes a battle field of crosses dotted with red poppies. The poem touched the nation and the world; poppies then became known as a memorial flower. Wear a poppy to honor those who have worn our nation's uniform. All donations received will be used by The American Legion Family for their programs that support veterans, the military community and their families.

It is thought that the red of the poppy petals **represents** the blood of those who gave their lives, the black button in the middle is for the mourning of those who never welcomed their loved ones home, and the green leaf shows the hope that the grass and crops are growing after the wrath that war brings.

However you experience the three-day weekend this Memorial Day, please remember to take some time to honor those who died sacrificing their lives for our freedom.

