



Briar

Patch

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

6525 Thicket Trail, New Port Richey, FL 34653

**HAPPY
4th of JULY**

Of the American patriotic songs, "Yankee Doodle" is one of the most popular. (*It is also the state song of Connecticut.*) However, despite its popularity and remarkably pervasive staying power, it started out as a song that made fun of American troops during the American Revolution.

"Yankee Doodle Dandy" became popular among the British - as well as the rebels. A "doodle" was a simpleton and the phrase "stuck a feather in his hat and called it macaroni" implied the backwoods bumpkins could put a feather in their coonskin hat and think they were as elegant as Europeans in the latest Italian style. There are a number of choruses to the song, but only the first one is the one well known. The rebels sang the song as a way of showing the British they didn't care.

***From Drinking Song
to American Anthem***

Attorney Francis Scott Key had been helping to negotiate the release of an American civilian, Dr. William Beanes, who had been captured in an earlier battle. As a condition of the release, the British ordered the Americans not to return to shore during the attack on Baltimore in September, 1814. While watching the bombardment of Fort McHenry from a ship anchored in Baltimore's harbor, Francis Scott

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Key wrote the initial verse of "The Star Spangled Banner" on the backside of a letter while watching the large American flag waving over the fort that morning. Back in Baltimore, he continued working until he had completed four verses (*only one of which is commonly known today*).

Ironically, the melody Key assigned to accompany the lyrics of "The Star-Spangled Banner" was a popular English drinking song called "To Anacreon in Heaven." Written around 1775 by John Stafford Smith, the song honored the ancient Greek poet Anacreon, a lover of wine. The Anacreontic Song, as it was known, had a track record of popularity in the United States by 1814.

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MEET YOUR NEIGHBOR

Susan Long



Susan Long

Susan Long was born in Woodbury, New Jersey and lived close to Cape May. Her early education was in catholic school and she loved theater and acting. After graduation Susan attended vocational school and became an LPN. Currently she works in a supervisory position in a large Urology Practice.

Susan's husband was in the Military and transferred often. They lived in Chicago, Virginia, St. Augustine, and Hawaii each for a period of time and Susan gave birth to a child in each state (three girls and one boy). The last transfer was to Clearwater, FL. Hawaii was her favorite state as well as that of all four children.

When Susan arrived in Florida in 1995 the children's ages were 5-13; now they range from 33-40. Moving to Briar Patch in 2020 was a perfect location to be close to her children who all live nearby. Susan enjoys creative projects, bowling, rearranging furniture, the beach, spending time with friends and family, and painting. She didn't care for the lime green and turquoise colors on the walls when she moved in, so painted the entire house.

Blessed with 10 amazing grandchildren and spending time with them (7 boys and 3 girls) is her passion. Their ages range from 1 to 14. They enjoy board games and all sorts of activities outdoors. Holiday family get-togethers are the best! Her family's favorite dish that Susan prepares for the holidays is chicken tetrazzini and sweet potato pie. In addition to spending time with family, Susan looks forward to traveling cross-county and doing some horse back riding. Her aspiration is to see Paris and travel again to Hawaii.

Dixie, her 15 year old black cat with beautiful green eyes, enjoys resting on Susan's lap when things are quiet and peaceful, both enjoying the relaxation.

July 16 ~ "NATIONAL ICE CREAM DAY"



Thousands of years ago, people in the Persian Empire put snow in a bowl, poured concentrated grape juice over it, and ate it as a treat. Even when the weather was hot, they would savor this sweet treat. Their trick? They placed snow in underground chambers known as yakchal where the temperatures kept the snow from melting. The Persians hiked to the mountain tops by their summer capital to gather snowfall.

The Chinese, under the Tang Dynasty around 697 AD, took to freezing dairy with salt and ice. However, the results aren't exactly the ice cream we enjoy today. Frozen treats and beverages later, culinary folks point to Naples, Italy as the birthplace of the first ice cream. They give credit to Antonio Latini. He was born in 1642 and created a milk-based sorbet.

In the United States, the Quaker colonists earn the nod for bringing their ice cream recipes over with them. They opened the first ice cream shops, including shops in New York and other cities during the colonial era.

President Thomas Jefferson loved ice cream. His recipe for Old Fashioned Vanilla Ice Cream is believed to be the oldest recipe for ice cream in the USA.

I scream, you scream! We all scream for ice cream! July is National Ice Cream *Month*. National Ice Cream *Day* is celebrated every year on the 3rd Sunday in July; it will be on the 16th this year. However, **any** day is a perfect time to enjoy a scoop or two of your favorite flavor -- your choice bowl or cone. Enjoy!

MESSAGES FROM OUR BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Please

STAY OFF THE GRASS

Briar Patch Home Owners Association

Thank You!




**KEEP
TOILETS
CLEAN
FLUSH
AFTER USE**

Buildings & Architecture

Hello neighbors! I Hope everyone had a Great MEMORIAL Day! The Memorial day celebration at the clubhouse was big fun with good food and good music. Thanks to DJ VIC !!! See you on the FOURTH!

Once again Thank you for your patience! We are catching up with siding repairs; another round should be starting or finished by the time of publication of this newsletter.

MAINTENANCE: *Please Try Not to plant shrubs or perennial flowers within 4 foot of your residence.* When plants grow up against the residence wall it attracts insects to your home, the plants may damage the stucco or siding and they cause problems with proper re-painting. The painter does not want to damage your plants, but they do wish to paint your residence for proper protection of the exterior. If you have existing plantings like this, please trim them back and maintain the flower bed. If you need HELP and/or you are physically unable, let the HOA know. I will try to find a way to assist you.

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Clubhouse Bathrooms - Reminder

Please maintain the bathrooms clean. Please flush the toilet after use. The un-flushed toilets create a health issue. We do not want to be shut down by the health

Thank you!
Diolinda (Linda) Gonzalez
Clubhouse Director

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Fun events! Come join us!

Mark your calendars!!

Game nights - In the Clubhouse on the following Tuesday nights at 6:30 PM:

Karaoke - Tuesday, July 11th at 6:30 PM Clubhouse. This is not your traditional karaoke. You can sing or we can all sing together. Come have a great night out!

Dominoes/Cards - Tuesday, July 18th at 6:30 PM Clubhouse

Wine tasting game - Tuesday, July 25th at 6:30 PM Clubhouse -Please bring your favorite wine brown in a paper bag. The person with the winning wine wins a prize.

Trivia - Tuesday, August 1st at 6:30 PM Clubhouse

Dominos - Tuesday, August 8th at 6:30 PM Clubhouse

*****No Tuesday game night on August 15th, August 22nd and August 29th*****

Thank you, Victor and Ray for helping us with karaoke nights! We are having a blast!
Thank you, Cate for helping with all the game night events. We are having an awesome time!

Farewell Summer Pool Party - On Sunday, September 3rd, 2023, at 11 AM in the pool and patio area. Please bring your beverage and food.

Dates and times are subject to change.



MemorialDay/HelloSummer event was a blast!! Thank you everyone who participated and helped! We really had a great time! Here are some moments from that day!



June 1st was our last Zumba class until the fall! Zumba classes were awesome! We all had a great time! Thank you everyone who participated!



Participation and cooperation from our Briar Patch community is vital for a successful and enjoyable time together.

Reminder: if you see something say something as Briar Patch is our community to maintain and be proud of!

If you have trees on your property and they are touching the roof surface or the walls of your home, please have it trimmed. It is cheaper than repairing the roof and walls. THANK YOU!

If you have a skylight that is 20+ years of age, think about having it replaced with a hurricane resistant product, before or with roof replacement. Please consider this, we do not want to interrupt a new roof membrane soon after replacement. If done during a roof replacement the contractor will give you very good installation rate.

Please remember we all are responsible for the maintenance of our Garage doors. If you have replaced your garage door, please make us aware and we will have it painted. Speaking of painting! Buildings 15,16,23,24,25 and 26 are due to be painted this year. Painting will have started by the time of publication of this newsletter.

INSURANCE: PLEASE FORWARD ASAP TO THE BP HOA A COPY OF YOUR INSURANCE CERTIFICATION TO BE KEPT ON FILE IN YOUR BUILDING'S HISTORY FILE AS PER STATE REGULATIONS. *Thank you to all who have mailed in or left their forms at the clubhouse!!!*

Did you know: *The cost to paint 6 buildings is \$32,000.00 approximate?*

Greg Davis
Director of Building & Architecture



The City of New Port Richey Fire Department is launching a **Residential Knox Home Box** Campaign. You may have seen a version of the Knox Box on many commercial buildings in the city; the Residential Knox Home Box is an extension of that service. The Knox Home Box is a key safe that stores a key to a residential property. The box is mounted outside the residence and can be unlocked only by the Fire Department when Firefighters and/or Paramedics need rapid entry into the home. During an emergency, this voluntary alternative allows first responders to enter without forcing entry, delaying entry, or not entering.

If you are over 65, live in the city limits, are mobility challenged, and have a medical alert system or history of medical issues, you may be eligible for a free Residential Knox Home Box. If you believe you may qualify, submit an application. The City has a limited number of the Knox Home Boxes for residents to install themselves. The boxes are available on loan and free of charge until the homeowner moves.

In addition, residents can purchase a Knox Home Box with the City of New Port Richey Keyway online at www.knoxbox.com.

For more information, please call the Fire Administration office at 727-853-1032.

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At first, "The Star-Spangled Banner" trailed "Yankee Doodle." But during and immediately after the Civil War, Key's song gained a deeper meaning, as the American flag became an increasingly powerful symbol of national unity. In 1889, the U.S. Navy officially adopted "The Star-Spangled Banner." In 1916, President Woodrow Wilson ordered that "The Star-Spangled Banner" be played at military and other appropriate occasions.

"The Star Spangled Banner" made its sporting-event debut in September 1918, during that year's first World Series game between the Chicago Cubs and Boston Red Sox. In addition to the ongoing toll of World War I, a cloud of violence hung over Chicago's Comiskey Park, as a bomb had torn apart the Chicago Federal Building just the day before. During the seventh-inning stretch, the military band on hand struck up "The Star-Spangled Banner," and in a moving spectacle, players and fans alike fell silent and saluted the flag. The practice soon spread across major league baseball, and into other sports, and eventually became a widely accepted pregame tradition. In 1931, President Herbert Hoover signs a congressional act making "The Star-Spangled Banner" the official national anthem of the United States.



Independence Day Celebrations



The **City of Port Richey** will host an Independence Day Celebration on Monday, July 3 at Waterfront Park, 8119 Old Post Road in Port Richey. Fireworks will begin at 9 pm. The park will open at 6 pm. Public parking is limited. Open grass, field seating. Blankets and lawn chairs acceptable. Coolers, backpacks and alcoholic beverages are prohibited.

Starkey Market's Annual 4th Of July Extravaganza

Starkey Market, 3460 Starkey Blvd., New Port Richey, will host its Annual Fourth of July Extravaganza Tuesday, July 4 from 4 to 10 p.m. The event will feature live music by the seven-piece band, The Shakes Society, featuring saxophones, trumpets and trombones. Also there will be kids' entertainment - a bounce house, lawn games, and face painting, and an obstacle course.

Food trucks on hand will include *The Trough*, *Sweeties BBQ*, *Potzees Italian-American Deli*, and *Glazed and Confused Mini Donuts*. There will be beer and wine specials, an ice cream and coffee bar, and fireworks grand finale. No outside food or beverages are allowed (no coolers). This is a ticketed event, so be sure to purchase your tickets in advance. *Tickets are \$10 to \$27.50.*

Star-Spangled Bayou Blast

Twisted Tea, Hits 106, Gill Dawg, and Hidden Creek Golf Carts will host a Star-Spangled Bayou Blast Treadway Drive Barhopping event Monday, July 3 at 5 p.m.

Participating restaurants are *Rum River*, *Catches*, *Whiskey Joe's*, *Hooters of Port Richey*, *Thee Pirate Bar*, and *Gill Dawg Bar & Grill in Port Richey*.

Rolling party host **Marvelous Marvin** will lead the event with a **Hits 106** live broadcast from 5 to 7 p.m. Transportation will be provided by **Hidden Creek Golf Carts**.

Additionally, **The Truth** will provide live music at **Gill Dawg** all night.

Attendees can win a **Twisted Tea** grand prize of a cooler, bar glasses, T-shirts, a double-seated river float, cases of Twisted Tea and koozies. To enter, just take a photo at any participating restaurant and post it online with **#BayouTeaParty2023**. Twisted Tea will also give away five more double-seated river tubes.



How To Spot A Rip Current

Are you planning a trip to the beach? First, know the beach conditions before you go. Knowledge — including how to spot a rip current and how to escape one — can make all the difference between life and death. A recent string of deaths tied to dangerous surf conditions at Florida's Gulf Coast beaches have experts warning even the best swimmers to stay out of the water and not risk their lives.

According to the National Weather Service, rip currents are strong, narrow, seaward flows of water that extend from close to the shoreline to outside the surf zone. They are found on almost any beach with breaking waves and act as "rivers of the sea," moving sand, marine organisms, and other material offshore.

While officials say the best way to avoid getting caught in a rip current is always to swim near a lifeguard; however, a lifeguard may not always be available. The key to safety is understanding what a rip current is and how to spot one.

The following list provides tips on how to best spot rip currents:

- ❖ Spotting rip currents from an elevated position overlooking the beach is much easier. This might be from a parking lot, beach access, sand dune or headland.
- ❖ Always watch the water for several minutes as rip current conditions can change.
- ❖ Channelized rip currents are the easiest to identify as they typically appear as darker, narrow gaps of water heading offshore between areas of breaking waves and whitewater. They can appear as darker paths heading out through the surf, so look for gaps in the lines of breaking waves.
- ❖ Look for narrow regions of choppy, rippled water heading offshore. Waves moving toward shore may steepen due to opposing offshore rip current flows, leading to a different surface water texture.
- ❖ Look for plumes of sand or foam offshore of the breakers, often moved away from shore by rip currents.
- ❖ Some types of rips, such as flash rips, can appear as narrow sections of turbulent whitewater heading offshore.
- ❖ Wear polarized sunglasses to help identify contrasting colors in the water — deep rip current channels stand out as darker water.
- ❖ Ask a lifeguard if there are any rip currents and to point them out for you.

BE AWARE – BE SAFE



Need a Lift?

HealthRide Can Deliver

Call HealthRide if you need transportation to:

- Morton Plant North Bay Hospital
- Morton Plant Mease Outpatient Center (Trinity)
- Morton Plant Mease Immediate Care Centers

You'll enjoy a FREE ride provided by Morton Plant North Bay volunteers.

To ride, you must:

- Be able to get in and out of the HealthRide van without assistance
- Live within the dotted line area shown on the map
- Have no other means of transportation



To schedule your FREE ride, call (727) 859-4730 between 8am and 3pm.

Call early for reservations. Service is provided on a first-come, first-served basis.

Morton Plant North Bay Hospital
6600 Madison St.
New Port Richey

**Morton Plant Mease
Outpatient Center (Trinity)**
2102 Trinity Oaks Blvd.
Trinity

**Morton Plant Mease
Immediate Care Center**
1306 Seven Springs Blvd.
(in the Chelsea Place Shopping Center)
Trinity

**Morton Plant Mease
Immediate Care Center**
4821 U.S. Highway 19
(just south of Floramar Terrace)
New Port Richey



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