

Briar

Patch

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

6525 Thicket Trail, New Port Richey, FL 34653



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September plays host to a number of daily, weekly and monthly celebrations and observances. They include a Federal holiday, religious holidays, the unofficial start of the fall season, and start of the football season.

The only U.S. official Federal holiday in September is **Labor Day**, celebrated on the first Monday in September, this year on September 4th. It is celebrated to honor and recognize the American Labor Union Movement and the works and contributions of laborers to the development and achievements of the United States. The three-day weekend it falls on is called **Labor Day Weekend**.

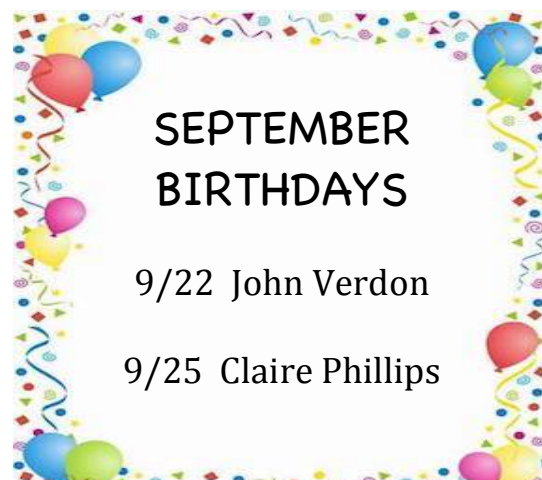
Patriot Day, September 11th, is not a Federal holiday. Although, by direction of the US president, the flag of the United States should be displayed at half-staff on the homes of Americans, the White House, and all United States government buildings as a show of respect to those who died on September 11th, 2001. It can be observed by a moment of silence at 8:36am (Eastern Daylight Time). This marks the time that the first plane flew into the World Trade Center.

The **International Day of Peace** is observed around the world on September 21st. Established in 1981 by unanimous United Nations resolution, Peace Day provides a globally shared date for *all* humanity to commit to peace above all differences and to contribute to building a Culture of Peace. This year is particularly significant – it is the 20th anniversary of the UN Resolution on the Program of Action on a culture of peace.

Some schools and businesses may be closed for **Rosh Hashanah** - the two-day Jewish New Year celebration which begins on Friday, September 15th - and also for **Yom Kippur**, on Sunday, September 24th.

Another noteworthy date is September 23rd, the **Autumn Equinox**. This is the emergence of the Harvest Moon - when the moon is exactly above the equator and day and night are equal length.

(Watch for the Harvest Moon on September 29th.)





MEET YOUR NEIGHBOR

John Verdon



John Verdon

John was born in the Astoria neighborhood in Queens's New York. He went to grade school there and high school in New Jersey when his parents relocated. Plans to go to college to pursue a career as a lawyer got cut short when he was drafted into the Army. He married Elfriede while he was in basic training at Ft. Dix New Jersey. Their son Patrick was born before John's deployment to Viet Nam and he got to see him just once before shipping out. Elfriede and Patrick lived with John's parents in New Jersey while John was deployed.

After his discharge from the Army, John worked for a Wall Street brokerage in New York City; their daughter Anne was born in New

York City. When visiting John's parents, who had moved to Holly Hill, Florida, he and Elfriede liked the area and decided to move to South Daytona to be closer to them and to ensure a better education for the children.

They bought a house; it was a one-year old repo home with four bedrooms and two bathrooms on a big lot. John worked hard on refurbishing the home and grounds while working at a hotel in Daytona Beach as a front-desk clerk and soon became a manager there. He retired at age 61 and purchased a custom built home in Trinity, FL in 2002. After Elfriede died in 2013, John sold the big house and moved to Briar Patch in 2015.

John loved jogging and running on a seven-mile stretch of the sandy beach along the ocean. It was a rigorous but he enjoyed it. Those familiar with the area would often see John after his run and offer him a car ride back. He also enjoyed bowling, participation in a sport-fishing club, and boating.

Patrick lives in Tampa and is employed as principle electrical engineer at Jabil Inc. Anne, who lives in Port Orange, FL, has a master's degree in Library and also Accounting from the University of Florida. She now manages the bookkeeping for three restaurants in Tampa. One granddaughter is an anesthesiology nurse and the other granddaughter is manger of a bookstore.

John enjoys walking around our community on the days when the temperatures are not soaring. He loves finding answers to any questions he might have while searching on his computer. He keeps his meal preps simple (soups and stews, pork chops, and burgers) and thoroughly enjoys chocolate pudding with whipped cream and pumpkin pie. He always has a smile and a pleasant greeting. What a great neighbor!

September 12 ~ "NATIONAL" HUG & HIGH-5 DAY

Hugs and High-5s ~ High-5s act as encouragement on our journeys. They celebrate a job well done, an accomplishment, an overcoming of adversity. And the **Hug** – well, the hug is that little bit extra, the solid human contact that says more than words ever could. Studies have shown that Hugs cause the brain to release endorphins. This leads to better healing throughout the entire body. In addition to that, an embrace is a form of therapy that generates feelings of well-being and can reduce blood pressure.

We sometimes struggle to reach our objectives and understand our purpose. Life throws obstacles in our way, and we cannot always see what is on the other side of the mountain. When tragedy strikes, Hugs are what hold us up when we think it's impossible and High-5s renew our faith in each other, returning smiles to our faces. But along the way, friends, and even strangers, sustain us with their support. It comes in many forms, but often it comes in a wealth of Hugs and High-5s.

Look around your world and give a Hug and High-5 on September 12th. You never know who needs some encouragement and caring. You don't really know how it impacts the person you give them to; but you can rest assured it will lift their spirits, encourage them, or help heal their heart. Your Hug might change someone's perspective and ease their troubles. Hugs and High-5s can even change **your** life! You **can** make a difference in someone's life. Hugs and High-5s are simple gestures with big impacts! So whose life will you impact on September 12th? And on the days to follow?

MESSAGES FROM OUR BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Fun events! Come join us!
Please mark your calendars!!

- **Game nights** - In the Clubhouse on the following Tuesday nights at 6:30 PM:
 - Mahjong** - Tuesday, September 5th at 6:30 PM Clubhouse
 - Trivia** – Tuesday, September 12st at 6:30 PM Clubhouse
 - Wine tasting game** - Tuesday, September 19th at 6:30 PM Clubhouse -Please bring your favorite wine in a brown paper bag. The person with the winning wine wins a prize.
 - Dominos** – Tuesday, September 26th at 6:30 PM Clubhouse

We have a great time! It is wonderful learning new games!

Thank you all for participating and helping make Tuesday game night a success!

- **Retirement Planning Presentation** - In the clubhouse on November 8st, 2023 at 6 PM. Dinner will be served. Healthcare, portfolio and estate planning will be presented by Mr. Paul Hayes from Hayes Independent LLC and Anna Stout.
- Sign-up sheet will be on the clubhouse bulletin board. **Sign-up deadline is October 27th, 2023** as a total head count is needed for this event. We will need a minimum of 10 individuals attending this event.
- **Zumba registration and payment collection** -

Zumba class will begin on Thursday, November 2nd until January 11, 2024 (except for holiday's (see schedule on the right) at 1 PM in the pool and patio area. The cost of each class is \$5.00. Pre-payment is required in order to pay the instructor. Registration will be held in the clubhouse on October 26th at 1 PM.

Zumba Thursday Class Dates
Thursday, November 2, 2023
Thursday, November 9, 2023
Thursday, November 16, 2023
Thursday, November 30, 2023
Thursday, December 7, 2023
Thursday, December 14, 2023
Thursday, January 4, 2024
Thursday, January 11, 2024

Farewell Summer Pot Luck Party

On Sunday, September 3rd, 2023, at 11 AM in the pool and patio area.
Please bring your beverage and a dish to share.

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

Thank you!
Diolinda (Linda) Gonzalez
Clubhouse Director



Buildings & Architecture

**Hello neighbors! I Hope everyone is having a Great Summer!
See you on Labor Day!**

Here is a quick update:

ROOFING PROJECT: *The re-roofing project is slated to begin on October 25th.* We plan to start with 6 buildings, those with the oldest roofs and those which required the most repairs. Buildings 1,2,3,4,5 and 8 as seen on the painting map. Cabbage lane 6501-6511, 6515-6525, 6529-6539, Slippery Rock 4500-4510, 4520-4514 Thicket Trail 6501-6510.

Since the initial process of finding a qualified and certified roofer was started, the cost has increased by 8.8%. This means the cost to complete the roof project increased to an approximate \$375,000.00 in total. We have chosen and voted on ARRY'S roofing company out of Tarpon Springs. They are licensed, bonded and **GAF Master Elite Certified**. The plan is to install a GAF Roofing system.

There a few things homeowners in the affected buildings MUST DO to prepare for this project, they are:

If you have a tree that needs branches removed, please do so now! We cannot start a building re-roof if there are branches impeding that process or that will cause damage to the new roof.

If you have a Skylight please plan to replace it during the re-roof. We inspected the current skylights and they were **ALL** visibly rusted or corroded. The roofing company will provide one with no markup and the installation comes with the new roof. **The cost will be \$800 for a VELUX High Impact Double Glass with an EV 3 rating.** There is a manual blind kit available for \$240.00 and Arry's can install for \$120.00 or the homeowner may install themselves. Included in this newsletter is information from Arry's regarding the skylight. **Jesse Falcone Arry's Project Manager** would like to set up a day or 2 to meet with homeowners individually to complete paperwork.

During the project when your building is being re-roofed homeowners will need to move their vehicles away from the driveway and garage during work hours. We will make determinations for alternate parking based on where the roofers need to place trucks and trailers to deliver material and remove the tear off materials. We will notify homeowners in a timely manner so they can accommodate the process. It will take approximately one week per building to complete the new roof.

I want to mention a few BP HOA BYLAWS so we are all aware of and reminded of our responsibilities.

MAINTENANCE: G. #2 All branches of trees and shrubs over 10 feet tall must be kept **clear of roofs and buildings.** Maintaining grass, trees, and shrubs over (10) feet tall is the **sole responsibility of the homeowners.** **All branches of trees and shrubs must be kept clear of roofs and siding of the building.** **Backyards are mowed only; all other maintenance requirements are the responsibility of the home owner.** (BP HOA BYLAWS)

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

The roof cannot not be replaced until the hazard is removed. It must be done NOW!

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G #44. Feeding of stray and wild animals is prohibited. Please do not put out bird seed. It falls on the ground and then we end up with **Rats and/or squirrels** in the buildings. It's a problem no homeowner wants to have. If you are feeding wild animals please cease and desist.

Garage Doors. If you have replaced your garage door, please put in a work order or notify me and we will have it painted. **Speaking of painting!** Buildings 15,16,23,24,25 and 26 are due to be painted this year. Duna Painting will return after rainy season to complete this year's painting, along with the completed repair work and clubhouse fence.

Did you know: Pasco County is planning to increase waste management costs. The cost for trash removal by \$7.00 per home and the "tipping fee" by \$6.39.

Greg Davis

Director of Buildings & Architecture

SKYLIGHT SHADE



I will get in touch with those of you who would like a shade for your skylight so we can set up a time to meet, answer any questions, and sign a contract.

Thank you.

Jesse Falcone, Project Manager

Arry's Roofing
401 East Spruce St.
Tarpon Springs FL 34689

M: 727-452-6895 ~ O: 727-938-9565

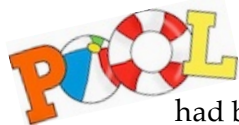


QUICK QUIZ

- 1) Delete one letter from the word EPICURE and rearrange the remaining letters to get a word every cook relies on.
- 2) In 1999, what highly appropriate area code was assigned to the coastal region of Florida that includes Cape Canaveral?

ANSWER on page 6

Pool by Committee



When I proposed the Pool by Committee—it wasn't a new idea. Marie Lawrence and I arrived at that concept at the same time. However, if you really think about it, we had been doing pool by committee for a number of years. A few people would pitch in for 6 months out of the year while Gary was out of the country.

We still need a few more to volunteer. What is needed? Straighten the pool furniture, read and record the test strips measuring the PH, Chlorine, etc, (a 5 min task), empty the filter baskets, and use a lightweight blower to clear up the leaves off the patio. When I do it all the tasks are completed in 15-20 minutes! Then I just enjoy the pool! We need someone to volunteer to help out 1-2 days a week.

This is an easy ask for people who use the pool anyway.... Please contact us if you can be a part of the committee.

We are also scheduling another clean up day in October to do a deep cleaning of the pool furniture. Still playing with the dates, but strongly thinking about starting early in the morning so we can be finished before the heat of the day.

Jillian Lavelle
President



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 department. Thank you!

Diolinda (Linda) Gonzalez
Clubhouse Director



The Gulf of Mexico is experiencing record-hot temperatures this summer. A steamy Gulf is not only taking a toll on marine life, it also means there's more fuel available for hurricanes as the storm season enters high gear.

Each degree increase equates to about 50% more storm damage from heightened storm surge, higher wind and rain destruction. Hurricanes get their energy when winds blow over the top of the ocean's surface and pull moisture and heat from the oceans. The warmer the sea surface, the more moisture and energy a storm can pull out of the ocean initially. Florida will again be at risk for land-falling tropical systems during the 2023 season.

Changes in atmospheric and oceanic conditions will likely influence the remainder of the Atlantic hurricane season, which is August through October and officially ends November 30. NOAA is now predicting 14 to 21 named storms this season, an increase from its May prediction of 12 to 17 storms.

In the world of hurricanes, every degree counts. So when water is super-heated, forecasters pay attention. "Based on climatology and an evolving El Niño pattern during August through October, the highest chance for direct and significant impacts will be from the Florida Panhandle around the entire state of Florida to the Carolina coast," Senior Meteorologist Dan Kottlowski said.

Of the 14 to 21 storms, six to 11 could become hurricanes and two to five could become major hurricanes with maximum sustained winds of 111 mph or greater, ranging from category 3 to 5. This increases the outlook for the season from near-normal to "an above-normal level of activity."

If you haven't already, Prepare Now!