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NEWSPAPER POLICY & GUIDELINES:

*To submit your articles the preferred method would be as an email attachment in **Word format only, Arial 12 font with the name of the article in the subject line.** send to:newsinlacasa@gmail.com
This eliminates the need to retype and have errors.*

1. The purpose of the "LaCasa News" is to provide information to residents regarding social, recreational and community affairs.
 2. No complaints or opinions deemed personal or controversial will be accepted for publication.
 3. All copies are subject to editing. The appropriateness of any submitted material shall be determined by the Editor under the control of the elected Board of Directors of the LaCasa Activity Association, Inc. The printer is empowered to solicit advertising to cover the cost of printing the newspaper. The Board of Directors of the Activity Association, as the Publisher, has control over the contents of the newspaper, but not of the advertising contained therein. Neither the Homeowners Association nor Activity Association Boards endorse any advertisers.
 4. Copy must be submitted in typed format. Articles should be CLEAR AND CONCISE and indicate the name and phone number of the person submitting.
 5. All articles should be **no more than 300 words**. Articles should be of interest to club members and others and should not contain "inside references" which are not understood by other readers. Articles should not contain personal gripes.
 6. The deadline for submission is the 8th of the month unless notified otherwise.
 7. It is the responsibility of each organization to have information submitted in a timely fashion. It is NOT the Editor's responsibility to seek information from your club.
- Board of Directors - LaCasa Activity Association, Inc.

Send articles to: newsinlacasa@gmail.com
Articles for March 2026 NL to be submitted by February 8, 2025



Homeowners Association of LaCasa, Inc.

**HOA Board of Directors Meeting
December 15, 2025
1:00 pm Rec Hall & Via Zoom**

Call to order: At 1:00 p.m. in the Rec Hall by President Davis

Pledge of Allegiance: Recited

Exit Message: Reviewed by President Davis, this also included a reminder there is an AED Defibrillator located on the back wall.

Silence Electronic Devices: Reviewed by President Davis

Roll call: Present: Ed Bourdeau, Tim Davis, David Fogt, Rob McMillion, Martha Morgan, Denny Smith, , Randy Browning (Park Manager), Linda Krout (Park Acct/Office Mgr.)

Via Zoom: Ruth Beier, Jack Hagopian, Gary Mithoefer

Absent: Jack Pasquale (Parliamentarian)

A quorum of the Board is present:
There were 38 residents in attendance, 4 via Zoom.

Adoption of Proposed agenda:

Motion: To adapt the agenda as written.
Fogt/Morgan MMC 9/0

- **Review of opportunities for shareholders to speak at board meetings:**

- **Shareholder Requests to Speak:**

- Helen Dunlevey, 730 El Rio, eviction of son as caregiver.

- **Open Forum on Agenda Items:**

- Randy Beckley, 729 El Rio, Supporting the motion for the storage trailer exception

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Secretary’s Report: Rob McMillion

Motion: I move to approve the HOA Board of Directors minutes of the November 14, 2025 meeting as posted. **McMillion/Bourdeau MMC 9/0**

Motion: I move to approve the HOA Board of Directors minutes of the November 24, 2025 meeting as posted. **McMillion/Fogt MMC 9/0**

Treasurer’s Report: David Fogt

Month	November 2025		
	Actual	Budget	P/L
Income	\$213,298.72	\$205,187.20	\$8,111.52
Expense	\$150,018.56	\$158,870.99	(\$8,852.43)
P/L	\$ 63,280.16	\$ 46,316.21	\$16,963.95

YTD	Jan-November 2025		
	Actual	Budget	P/L
Income	\$2,327,836.23	\$2,268,810.29	\$59,025.94
Expense	\$1,927,722.86	\$1,932,036.80	\$(4,313.94)
P/L	\$ 400,113.371	\$ 336,773.49	\$ 63,339.88

Bank Balances

	Ckg/Money Mrkt	CD’s
Reserve Funds*	\$396,303.74	\$1,215,000.00
Operating Funds*	\$218,719.08	\$ 180,000.00
Capital Acq Fund*	\$573,903.76	\$1,940,000.00
Petty Cash	\$250.00	
Hurricane Deduct		\$ 375,000.00
Uninsured Asset *		

Total \$4,899,176.58

CD’s	Amount	Int rate renewed
Reserve		
Operating		
*CAA - Fidelity -		3.60% Matures
BMW		11/14/28

Notes:

- *Reserve Funds are restricted
- *Operating funds include four months’ everyday expenses and emergencies
- *Capital Asset Acquisition Fund is for purchase of large items
- *Hurricane deductible is for insurance deductible and uninsured assets



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STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS

FINANCE: Jack Pasquale

STANDING COMMITTEE ON FINANCE REPORT TO HOA

No report

LCRE: David Bisson

LCRE OCTOBER REPORT TO SHAREHOLDERS

Shareholders, members of the administration of La Casa, residents....

My name is David Bisson. I am President and Chair of the Board of Directors of LaCasa Real Estate Inc. I serve along with Benny Morgan, Vice-chair, Deb Hughes, Secretary, Marianne Moshano and Wally Shleehauf, director emeritus. At our December 9th meeting, the LaCasa Real Estate Inc. Directors appointed Jill Soltis to the unexpired term of Arnold Morrison. Jill has an extensive background in business and finance and will be a great asset to the company. We wish to acknowledge and give thanks to Arnold for the years of service and time to the Board.

November was the best month we have had since May 2025. Nine homes were sold and last year for the month of November, we sold one. No lots sold this month nor were any sold last November. The average price of the homes sold during last month was \$132,000 up from our average of October of \$96,500.

There are 4 houses pending for closing as of November 1 and 1 lot.

The Directors are in process of reviewing and editing the LaCasa SWFL website to make it more current and to correct inaccurate information currently on the website. Hopefully, you will see a change soon. What was thought of as changing a couple of things turned out to be far more encompassing. We are constantly concerned about our visibility which affects our marketing. We recently purchased new feather flags for the front which notes the presence of a Real Estate

Office. Prior, there was no way anyone passing the park would realize that we have a real estate office.

We will be announcing an in-park Open House sometime in January. The date has not been established at this time.

Again, I wish to remind everyone that on January 3, 2026, at 9 a.m. here in the rec hall, we will conduct our annual training for volunteers. This training is required for anyone wishing to become a volunteer and all veteran volunteers who wish to do tours, the primary and an important job of volunteers. Volunteers sell the park with their enthusiasm and commitment to the LaCasa Life Style.

Report: Randy Browning, Park Manager

December Managers Report

- **Mowing**
 - Next mow for LaCasa is January 5, 2026
- **Bocce Court Awning**
 - The north side awning for Bocce courts has been completed. Waiting for the Inspector from Sarasota County permitting.
- **Pickleball Awning**
 - New contractor is working with the County for permits.
- **Memorial Gazebo**
 - New contractor is working with County for permitting.
 - The notice of commencements have been signed. They have been submitted to the county. We are waiting on permits. As soon as those permits are done, the new company will clear a pattern and get these things installed for us. We've waited a long time and it's time to get it done.
 - In the meantime, we have got homes that were damaged by the storms down to 23.
 - Three of those are legal for eviction of their share.



- We have been working with a few of them who have not provided us with contracts. We're down to three of those. We are working with them, trying to get the contracts and get that taken care of.

At this time, I'd like to say that this is my official last board meeting. I will not be manager after this, starting January 5th. I will be here for another month or two. I will be working with the new manager, Frank. We'll let you know what's going on in LaCasa in his manager's report.

But it's been a pleasure, 26 years.



President's Report: Tim Davis

HOA Board Meeting
Monday, December 15, 2025

Before I begin, I wanted to remind everyone that tonight and tomorrow night is our annual Christmas Drive-thru when our neighbors in North Port come see the lights in our Park. Traffic will be heavy so please plan accordingly. The hours are from 6 pm to 8 pm both nights. Thank you to all our residents who have made our homes and lakes winter wonderlands, and thanks to Marianne Moshano for taking over the Frosty Committee this year and making all this happen.

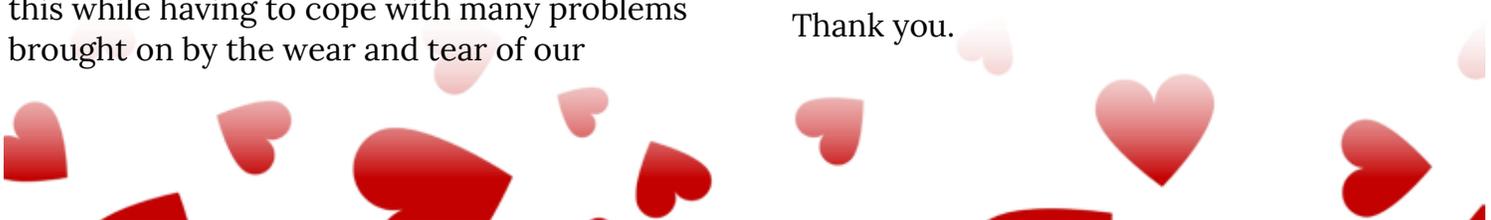
Today I want to make an official announcement that our Park Manager, Randy Browning, will be retiring and leaving us after 26 years of service at this Park. Randy has been here longer than a lot of our residents, and has been through all kinds of growth, expansion, more and better amenities and facilities, and a general beautification, improvement and maintenance of our Park for nearly three decades. And he has been doing this while having to cope with many problems brought on by the wear and tear of our

infrastructure and helping us regrow after several devastating hurricanes came through our Park. Randy has been responsible for keeping this place together, keeping our property values up and hiring and supervising reputable contractors to maintain our Park. We thank him for all his dedicated efforts, and he will be missed by all.

When Randy first announced his intention of retiring last Summer, to be honest I was at a loss as to what to do next, as was most of the Board. We met and worked out plans for moving forward and I appointed several groups of Board Members to perform specific tasks to make the transition work smoothly. Everyone on this Board pitched in and helped, and I am happy to report that we have found a new Park Manager, and he will start Monday, January 5, 2026. Randy will still be here for a while to acclimate our new manager to the way La Casa operates, and we thank Randy for his dedication to making sure things run smoothly.

Our new manager is Frank Anastasi, and he has years of experience in property and portfolio management. He is currently living in this area, and he and his wife are looking for a home nearby in North Port. Previously Frank managed several developments on the West Coast of Florida but decided his talents would be better served by managing one large development such as La Casa. He is a hands-on manager, just like Randy, so I am sure we will have a very smooth transition. We are looking forward to welcoming Frank and our well-trained maintenance staff will continue in their jobs to make La Casa one of the most beautiful and well-maintained Parks around. Stay tuned for more announcements to welcome Frank and say goodbye to Randy.

Thank you.



Director's Reports:**Director:** Ruth Beier:

Motion: Move to grant a variance of La Casa Rules and Regulations, Article XV, paragraph 24(a) to assign a space in the RV/Boat Compound to a resident, specifically Randel Beckley, Trustee, Lot 507, 720 El Rio, who did not have an existing utility trailer in a space in the Compound on the rule effective date May 1, 2019, to store an enclosed utility trailer having a dimension not to exceed 20' by 7' inclusive of the trailer tongue.

Beier/Hagopian MMC 7/2 (role call vote)

Rationale: The house fits the lot and meets all requirements for height and setbacks. The house will also add to overall property values in La Casa.

Director: Ed Bourdeau

Motion: I move to approve a new house going into 736 Blanca, Lot #467.

Rationale: The house fits the lot and meets all requirements for height and setbacks. The house will also add to overall property values in LaCasa.

Motion: I move to approve a new house, going into 754 Sanchez, Lot #437.

Bourdeau/Fogt MMC 9/0**Report, Security:** No report**Director:** David Fogt – Treasurer

Motion: I move the salaries for park manager and park accountant for 2026 to be approved as discussed in the executive session of the Board of Directors on Thursday, December 11, 2025. This includes a monetary retirement gift for the park manager after 26 years of service. **Fogt/Morgan MMC 9/0**

Rationale: The salaries for all employees meet the budgetary guidelines for 2026.

Motion: I move the salaries for office personnel and maintenance staff for 2026 to be approved as recommended by the Park Manager and Park

Accountant in the executive session on Thursday, December 11, 2025. **Fogt/Morgan MMC 9/0**

Motion: I move that the HOA Board of Directors spend \$2,950 for Christmas Gifts to its employees. **Fogt/Smith MMC 9/0**

Rationale: These funds meet the budgetary guidelines for 2025.

Report A.R.C.: None**Director:** Jack Hagopian**Report: RV/Boat Compound****Liaison/Compliance – No Report****Director:** Gary Mithoefer**Report: C.R.C. – No Report****Director:** Rob McMillion

Motion: I move the following shareholders to be designated and appointed to the Election Oversight Committee for the February 10, 2026, Annual Election of Directors: Jack Pasquale as Chairman; Lorri Glidden as Election Director; Nancy Thurnherr; **McMillion/Bourdeau MMC 9/0**

Rationale: The purpose and function of the Oversight Committee is to ensure adherence and compliance with the voting requirements and procedures set forth in F.S. 719.106 and FAC Chapter 61B-75.

Motion: I move the following shareholders Mary Aloy, Concetta Ayles, Ann Marie Booth, Bill Boyce, Twyla Chant, Peggy Christoforo, JoAnn Donahue, Catherine Earl, Kathy Giacomi, Lorrie Glidden, Richard Glidden, Ann Green, Steven Jones, Judie Lees, Shirlene McClellan, Nancy McKinnon, Grace Morris, Larry Morris, Sylvia Nascimbeni, Margaret Palmer, Jack Pasquale, Susan Pasquale, Stacy Perrin, Deb Poe, Ilene Riley, Wally Schleeauf, Joyce Schoonmaker, Jill Soltis, Michelle Stewart, Niki Stolarczyk, Evelyn Ternullo, Nancy Thurnherr, Tom Wasson, Mary Kay Werner and Vicky Zurek be appointed to an impartial committee to verify



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outer envelope information on the date of the election and approved as volunteers to count ballots and proxies for the February 10, 2026, Shareholders Annual Meeting and Election of Directors. **McMillion/Morgan MMC 9/0**

Rationale: Florida Administrative Act (FAC) Chapter 61B-75.002 (10)(b) requires that an impartial committee be designated by the board to verify outer envelope information at a meeting that has been noticed for that purpose prior to the election on the date of the election.

Report: Future of La Casa/Long Range Planning Committee Liaison. Four volunteers have reached out and we're still looking for more. Expect to start in January.

Director: Martha Morgan

MOTION: I move to accept the updated 2026 La Casa Disaster Plan as recommended by the Standing Committee on Security. **Morgan/Fogt MMC 9/0**

RATIONALE: The La Casa Disaster Plan was written and approved in February 2018 as a response to Hurricane Irma's hitting La Casa and inflicting severe damage. This plan was written to keep residents informed of the many resources available to help in disaster conditions. The Standing Security Committee has spent the last few months updating the Plan with all current information, contacts, and phone numbers. It will be distributed to our residents in late Spring as hurricane season approaches.

Report Activity Committee - None.

Director: Denny Smith

Motion:

Rationale:

Report: LCRE: None

Taskforce Reports:

New Home Taskforce: Colette Welch, Chair.

Report: No report



Front Security Gate Taskforce: Denny Smith, Chair. None

Pickleball Courts Taskforce: Rob McMillion, Chair

Report: The first meeting of the LaCasa Pickleball Task Force was called to order by Chairman Rob McMillion on December 8, 2025, at 11:03am.

Members Present were Rob McMillion, Ed Bourdeau, Dianne Richardson substitute for Mike Parker, Jay Harris, Dottie DeVries, Pat Popieniek, and Bruce McCallum via Zoom. Ruth Beier had a tennis match. Pat Popieniek volunteered to act as Secretary.

Rob McMillion asked members to go around and share their priorities to accomplish our task.

Members have given consensus on these topics:

- There is a need for more Pickleball courts
- All options are on the table to solve the need for more Pickleball courts including “out of the box” options.
- We need to look at the feasibility of each option considering location, financial impact on clubs and residents, future court expansion, and the results of the engineering study.

Members had additional topics:

- Paddleball is becoming the upcoming sport, should we plan for that?
- Immediate need for more courts.
- Financial - Are there creative ways to fundraise or ask for members to contribute?

We took several “field trips” throughout the park to look at possible sites for at least 6 new courts.

- RV Park
 - Water and electricity within 25 yards
 - A bathroom could be brought in
 - Room for 6 courts with parking
 - Room for expansion
 - No impact on neighbors
 - There would be a separation between Pickleball and the secure RV section





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- 40 Acres
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 - No electricity or water
 - Negative noise impact for neighbors
 - Our promise not to make any changes for five years is over so there is room
 - If ever needed, maybe move RV Park here
- Existing Courts
 - Pavillion could be moved toward the pool
 - 4 new courts parallel to 2 existing courts
 - Parking available
 - 5 feet from the road was a concern for the committee
 - Negative noise impact on neighbors and the users of the pool
 - Little room for expansion

Before the next meeting we should ponder what, we have seen and heard, talk to our respective clubs, and consider our 1st and 2nd options.

Respectively Submitted,
Patricia Popieniek

Old Business: None.

Calendar:

March newsletter, Tim Davis please submit by February 8, 2026

New Business: None

Open Forum:

- Randy Beckley, 720 El Rio, Thanking the board for approving his storage trailer.
- Robert McMillion, 405 Tequila, speaking on behalf of Carrie & Mark Mullins, 314 Robalo, requesting new hedges.

Next Agenda meeting: Monday, January 19, 2026.
1:00 p.m. in the Rec Hall.

Next Board meeting: Monday, January 26, 2026
1:00 p.m. in the Rec Hall.

Respectively submitted,
Rob McMillion, Board Secretary

News from the HOA Board

Denny Smith



Hello LaCasa, and best wishes for a healthy and strong 2026!

First of all, I want to extend my personal thanks and appreciation to Randy Browning, as he is retiring from the role of Park Manager after 26 years of faithful service. LaCasa's reputation and good standing in our area of being a beautiful, well-run community is a great reflection of the work of good management. The establishment of the Rules and Regulations that we operate by is the responsibility of the Board of Directors. The Park Manager's responsibility is to uphold those rules, and to oversee the maintenance and general operations of our facilities and grounds. It is a big job, and we residents sometimes make it difficult, wanting to do what we want without restriction. In the end, the Rules and Regulations make the final decision. Randy has managed LaCasa well. Please be sure to extend your thanks and best wishes to him and his wife, Cathy, as they begin the retirement phase of their lives. And welcome to Frank Anastasi, our new Park Manager. Frank is well experienced in park management and working in the framework of Board oversight. I hope you have had a chance to meet and welcome him. We look forward to a long and successful venture together.

This month, our Annual Shareholders Meeting and Election of Officers to the Board of Directors will be Tuesday, the 10th, at 7:00 PM in the Rec Hall. As always, this is an important opportunity to review the activities and finances of LaCasa for 2025, and to fill the 3 expiring terms of office of Jack Hagopian, Martha Morgan, and Ed Bordeau, and

we thank them for the time and effort they have given to lead LaCasa. It is an honor to serve the Community as a Board member, which none of us take lightly. We have 4 individuals who are candidates in this election; 3 will be elected. Listed alphabetically, they are Ed Bordeau*, Debra Butler, Paul Moshano, and Colette Welch (*Ed Bordeau was appointed to the HOA Board to fulfill an unexpired term of office. He is eligible to run for Office as a new candidate.)

Finally, to paraphrase a view expressed by a long-time insurance broker, who said in his experience Co-op Communities (like LaCasa) are friendlier and usually enjoy more activities and amenities than most HOA Communities, and the variety of those activity choices are attractive reasons for purchasing homes in a Co-op. He compared that to the typical corporation owned and managed HOA model whose focus is profit-making and providing only the anticipated amenities. The corporation assigns the Park Managers, their offices are often off-site, and the community's HOA Board does not make the financial or operational decisions; the corporation does. The monthly maintenance fees are higher, and assessments for improvements and/or damage repair would be in addition to the monthly fees. Very different.

Speaking for Patty and myself, the friendly, active environment is what attracted us to LaCasa. What about you?

Wishing you all God's blessings, and praying for no hurricanes again this year!

To start off, our 2nd All Star Show of the 2026 Season is Wednesday, February 11, at 7:00 p.m. in the Rec Hall. The fabulous "Chrome '57 Band will bring their rock and roll talents to La Casa with favorites from the 50's and 60's! If you bring a Season Pass, just show it at the door. Otherwise, tickets are available before all Coffee Hours and Bingos, and at the door that night – still only \$15.00.

Then on Saturday February 14, is the Activity Association's annual Valetine's Dance which just so happens to fall on the actual Valentine's Day this year. The dance starts at 7:00 p.m. and features the talents of "Stephen Viel." Ticket sales will begin before January 28 Coffee Hour and before all Coffee Hours and Bingos. Get a good seat early! If not, sold out, tickets will be available at the door.

Don't forget that every Wednesday there is the Coffee Hour at 9:15 am in the Rec Hall; please sign up by Sunday night so we can order enough donuts. Bingo is played every Thursday night starting at 7:00 pm in the Rec Hall. Please try to get there early so you can purchase your sheets and play 50/50. And don't forget the Produce Truck is here every Saturday from 10 am to 2 pm. Please stop and grab a donut or two!

Have a great month and prepare for the rest of the Season here in LaCasa. Continue taking part in the many activities and hobbies you enjoy, the daily walks, bicycle rides and golf cart tours around the park, and the general good feeling of living in a community that cares. See you next month.

News From Your Activity Association

Tim Davis, President



We are already in February, so time has sure flown by since the first of the year. Thanks to everyone in LaCasa who attended our 2026 EXPO on Saturday, January 10. We had a large crowd, and I hope our newer residents learned a lot about what goes on and what's offered in LaCasa.



Veterans of LaCasa

Tom Redig, Commander

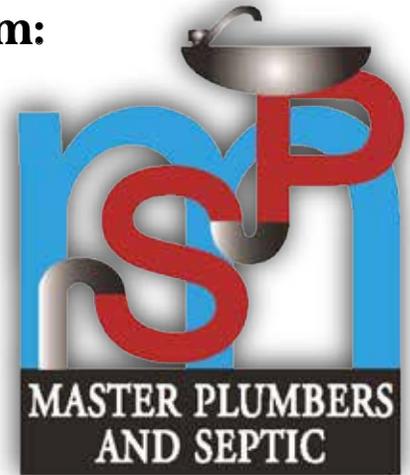
We made it through our popular La Casa Veterans Pancake Breakfast. Our Veteran gourmet chefs prepared another outstanding breakfast. Thank you to all who attended. As usual our volunteers really stepped up to make this event so successful. We can't do it without you!





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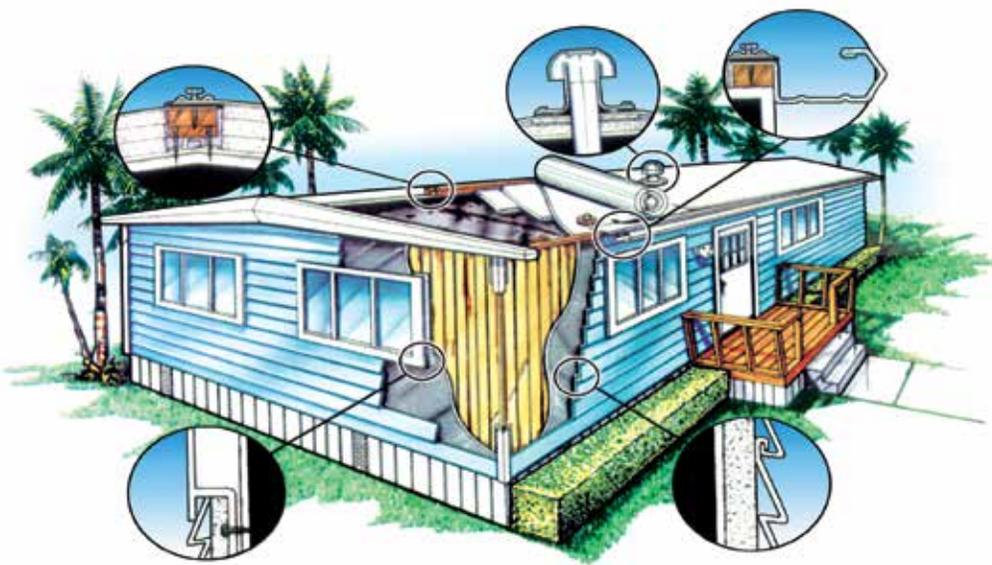
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We will be having our Veterans Spring Dance on Saturday, February 7th from 6:30-9:30pm in the Rec Hall. Music will be provided by Black Velvet.

The LaCasa Veterans will be hosting our 4^t annual Veterans Club Family Picnic on Saturday, February 21st from 11:30-1:30 at the outside Gazebo by the Rec Hall. This picnic is free to all current Veteran Club members and Associate Members and their families. We will provide burgers and hot dogs, and we ask attendees to bring their favorite side dish or dessert to share. There will be a sign-up sheet for the picnic posted on the Veterans bulletin board in the Rec Hall. Mark your calendars for a great get-together!

Our February General Membership meeting will be on Tuesday, February 17th at 11:45am in the Rec Hall.

Artisans Club News

Pat Popieniek

Classes are in full swing throughout the Artisan network. Students will display all their work at our show on Sunday, March 22nd. Our Meet and Greet social gathering on January 11th. It was a fun afternoon with our instructors and students getting better acquainted. As always, the food was delicious!



The Artisan Potluck and Annual Meeting will be Sunday, March 8th. It will be in the Rec Hall from 3-5pm. Bring a dish to share, your own beverage, and table service. Election of Officers will take place after our amazing dinner.



The Voices of LaCasa Rehearsals

Thursdays in the Rec Hall at 2:15pm. These are for the spring program for March 27, 2026

NEW MEMBERS ARE WELCOME !!!!

Welcome



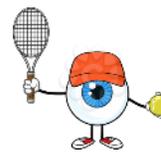
Quilters of LaCasa

Ilene Riley 941-426-1714

Becky Abrahan from Tidewell Hospice came and gave a talk about where the Quilts are distributed. We donated 30+ quilts and began our next batch of quilts to donate.

Projects in February – we will start on a Reversible Place Mats/Table Topper, taught by Regina MacCready (if she has recovered from her knee surgery)!

LaCasa Tennis Club



Can you believe it is already February? We hope everyone had a great time at the January Tennis Dance. Thank you all for your support. We do not have any special events this month so you can just concentrate on playing tennis. March will be packed with the Spring picnic and Wimbledon.

Mark your calendar for March 1, 2026, for our Spring Picnic. We will have a sign-up sheet in mid-February for lunch. Play will start at 9:00am where you can sign up for 20 min intervals. This is a wonderful opportunity to play with lots of different players. Wimbledon will be a 2-day event this year. Mark your calendar for March 28 & 29. Details will be in the March newsletter.

We are still offering free tennis lessons every Tuesday at 1:00 at the Rec Hall courts. The lessons are open to everyone and the instructors tailor the lessons to your ability. If you need more information about LaCasa tennis contact Dianne Richardson, secretary. 219-964-8253.

Our next tennis membership meeting will be February 17, 2026, at 9:00 at the Rec Hall. Donuts and coffee will be provided.

Watch our Facebook posts to find out what matches are being played during the week and then come down and join the crowd. It is fun to watch even if you don't play.

See you in the stands or on the courts.

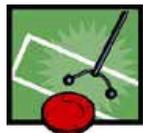
Singles Fellowship



Singles Club

Meetings are being held on second Thursday of the month, at 11:00 in the Clubhouse. We gather for a meeting to share suggestions and ideas for places to eat, shows to see and fun trips to take. Afterwards we carpool to the restaurant of choice. It's a new year so it's time to Join the club.

- January 8th meeting 11:00 at the Clubhouse, Lunch Ken and Barb's
- February 12th meeting 11:00 at the Clubhouse, Lunch at Dubs
- February 2nd, Silver Springs Glass Bottom Boat Tour
- February 17th, Columbia Restaurant and Flamingo Show
- March 16th, Sunken Garden
- March 18th, Lakeridge Winery Mission Inn German Bakery & Chocolate



Shuffleboard

Jim Cassidy 941-273-5234

Now that the Christmas festivities are over, come and play a game of shuffleboard over by the small pool! Everything is supplied!

We play every Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday. We usually start around 9:25 but please come earlier to get your number for your designated court of play.

Get your membership for the whole year for 2026. Call Jim Cassidy at 941-273-5234 or see us at EXPO January 10 at the Big Recreation Center! It only costs \$5.00 for membership for the year and there is a Get-Together Party in April!

Inter-park Shuffleboard with neighboring parks starts on January 7th. We meet at the shuffleboard parking lot for 12:15! Come and cheer us or join for a game and meet new people and have fun!



Bocce

Bocce plays on Mondays and Thursdays at 9 o'clock at the bocce courts behind the Rec Hall. Be there by 8:45 to sign up. If you haven't already gotten your Bocce Club Card for \$5, you can buy one at the February 2nd meeting, as long as you have your 2026 Activity Card.

Our next Fun Days with the other parks will be on Friday, February 13th and Friday, February 27th at 9 o'clock. Make sure you know if you signed up to play. Everyone can come out and cheer us on AND enjoy our famous grilled hot dogs and a beverage for \$1 each.

LaCasa Pickleball Club: Serving up Fun in 2026!

Rich Jump, 402-926-6120

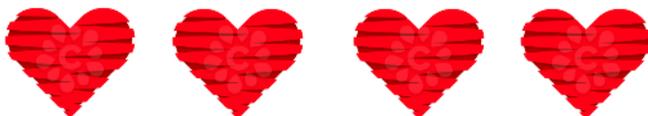


With one month of peak season pickleball behind us, let's get you informed on what you can expect for February.

By now you should already have your Pickleball Membership Card. Make sure you have access to our TeamReach App for correspondence and our court usage schedule. FYI, the 8 AM Member Play timeslot is very popular and tends to experience longer than desired wait times. Please consider playing at 3 PM in our alternate Member Play timeslot.

February: Happy Hour Luau Party – February 21st Happy Hour starts at 6:00, Dance at 7:00. Purchase your tickets before coffee hour or bingo. Aloha

Court Expansion: New Pickleball Courts Task Force. We will start publishing a second pickleball article to keep everyone updated on our efforts to build more courts. Please look for our first edition in this month's newsletter.



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Boating and Fishing Club

Karen Jones- Commodore



I want to thank the Boating and Fishing Club members who attended our General Meeting last month and voted on the following Board members: Richard Glidden, Kevin Dudley and myself for a three-year term.

I hope everyone has recovered from the holidays and looking forward to all our events coming up this year! We started the new year off with our Pizza Dinner/Dance which was a lot of fun.

February 6th, we have the Commodore's Ball with the Charlotte County Culinary School catering and Jay Smith playing (hope you have your tickets!) We will be looking for help decorating Friday morning, so please sign up at the Rec Hall.

March 21st is our Fish Fry Dinner/Dance with One Eyed Jacks playing. The annual Fishing Derby is scheduled for April 11 and our Chili Dinner/Dance is on April 18th with Voices Carry.

Membership cards are only \$5.00 and are required for most of our dances, as well as having your Activity Cards. Hope to see a lot of you at our events!



LaCasa Photography Club 2026 Photo Contest

LaCasa Photography Club will be holding its annual Photo Contest starting February 7, 2026. All LaCasa residents are welcome to enter. You do not have to be a member of the La Casa Photography Club to participate.

This year's contest will be judged digitally by Pat Tracey of Idaho Springs, Colorado. All entries must be submitted by February 7, 2026. JPEGs must be submitted on a thumb drive, accompanied by printed copies of each photo for the display. Printed copies should be 8x10 or 8.5x11 OR 8x12.

For photo contest rules, contact Cat Urciuoli to receive a copy by email chuicat2783@gmail.com

or to pick up a paper copy of the rules. 257 Vistoria Dr, 941-483-6172



G.A.L.S. Grandmothers and Ladies of LaCasa

A Charitable Organization
Ann Marie Booth, Secretary

The busy season started off with our Boot Scootin BBQ Dinner Dance, and a night of Show Me The Money.

We enjoyed meeting everyone at the Expo, where we welcomed new members, and renewed existing memberships. As a special treat, we ended our first meeting of the year with a session of Chair Yoga.

NOTE DATE CHANGE FOR FEBRUARY MEETING:

Our February meeting will be on Monday February 9 @ Noon in the Rec Hall. (The regular meeting, normally held on the second Tuesday of the month, has been **rescheduled** because of the HOA Elections.) At our February meeting we welcome our new members and celebrate our Lifetime Members. The Theme for our **Potluck Luncheon is CARING IS IN THE AIR/FRIENDSHIP.**

Everyone is encouraged to contribute a dish for sharing, and participants are welcome to decorate their tables in honor of the Spirit of Friendship. **It's not too late to JOIN US! Come Sign Up - Sign-up Sheets are on the GALS Bulletin Board in the Rec Hall.**

SHOW ME THE MONEY: will take place on Friday, February 20 @ 6:30 in the Rec Hall. Hope to see you there.

The Board is always looking for members that want to get more involved. We are still looking for a 2nd Vice President, if you are interested in learning more about joining us, or with any questions, please reach out to any of the Board Members.

Michele Stewart, President
Sue Verrill, Vice President
Deb Keller, Treasurer
Ann Marie Booth, Secretary

Be sure to check the G.A.L.S. Facebook page and your emails(s) for any updates. We will also post upcoming information on our Bulletin Board in the Rec Hall.

Looking Forward to seeing you soon!

LACASA REAL ESTATE INC.

David Bisson

December 2025 total sales were lower than this past November. For assorted reasons, several homes' closing will be postponed until January 2026.

However, in December, we closed on 3 homes and a year ago, we closed on 5. One lot was sold this December and 0 last December. We have 6 houses and 1 lot closing scheduled in the next couple of months.

The average price of home sold in December was \$127,333. The average price of lots in December was \$3,500.

Some interesting year-end statistics of La Casa Real Estate Inc.:

There were 60 homes sold during 2025. The total sale price of these homes was \$8,546,900. The average price per home was \$142,448.

There were ten lots sold during 2025; these ten lots' sales totaled \$64,000. The average price of each lot was \$6,400.

At our December 2025 Board of Directors' Meeting, the directors reviewed the content of the website, LaCasa SWFL.com. Many changes were made and updated information added. The current testimonials need to be updated. We hope to do this in the coming months.

We also have been concerned about the lack of a presence in the front of the park and recently purchased two feather banners noting 'Real Estate' and 'Office.' We are hopeful that this will increase street-traffic to the office.

Volunteer training on January 3 was a remarkable success. We are thankful to all those who are willing to give of their time to do tours. Tours are instrumental in selling our park.



Madero and Tarde Logo Block Party

Sunday, March 12, 2026 from 1:00-4:00 at 559 Madero.

Bring appetizers or desserts to share, chairs and BYOB. Coffee, water and paper goods will be provided. \$5.00 per household donation.

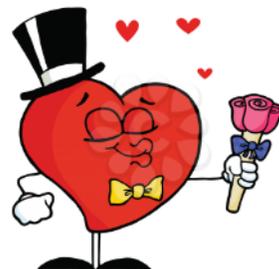
Questions: Jeannette Tremblay 941-200-2228



Nurses of LaCasa

Twylla Chant 651-983-7305

I would like to extend the invitation to other medical colleagues who might be interested in joining the group. I have had a number of LaCasa residents express to me that they are happy and excited about this group and potential for service to our community. I have not had any responses yet but would like to re-invite any nurses or other folks who have medical experience and would be interested in getting together to brainstorm potential ways to serve LaCasa. I have contacted the Sarasota County EMS team re: the possibility of giving LaCasa a class on basic CPR, AED and first aid. This class would not provide a certificate per se but would review the basics. It would also be free of charge. At this time, I don't have a specific date but hoping to do it sometime in March and possibly during/after the Wednesday morning coffee hour for those interested. I will keep you posted when they are available to teach class. I am also hoping to have a small table at the Health Fair in February so would love to talk to others prior to that time. I invite anyone to call me with any questions and/or if you would be interested in joining the group. Thank you



HELP Dispatchers

The Help Dispatchers of LaCasa is a volunteer program designed to aid residents who have transportation needs to doctor's appointments. If you are in need, there is no charge for this service.

The **HELP** Dispatcher for **February:**
Collette Welch - 941-423-1006



LOS ALTOS BLOCK PARTY

SAVE THE DATE--February 22, 2026, at 1:30

Place: Clubhouse

Bring: A dish to share and beverage of your Choice

Questions: Grace Morris 941-445-1272
 Ann Bouwkamp 616-481-7584
 Ludell Cairney 774-286-9176
 Phyllis DePaolo 203-232-4712

HOA Security Standing Committee

The HOA Security Standing Committee is seeking three residents for open positions, with terms ending March 31, 2029. Interested individuals should send their resume to Security Committee Chairman Gary Temple at gltjkt@gmail.com, 442 Tarde Logo Circle, by February 28, 2026.

The security committee will review resumes on March 4, 2026. The chosen resident will be presented to the HOA board in October for final approval.

LaCasa Disaster Plan 2025

The LaCasa Security Committee has updated our Park Security Plan, and it has been approved by our Board of Directors. Copies are available for all Residents to pick up in



the Office. Please read it and keep it handy as it has a great deal of information necessary for you to manage in any emergency such as a hurricane.

Pat Young, Secretary
 LaCasa Security Committee



Wally Schleeauf
 Stu Karlins
 Ralph Mierke
 Sharon Palermo

New Pickleball Courts Task Force

Ruth Beier

Pickleball is the fastest growing sport in the United States and La Casa is no exception! We have an avid group of players and the LaCasa Pickleball Club is bigger than ever. Unfortunately, we have only two permanent and two temporary courts, so there are often long waiting times to play. In response to this demand and to keep La Casa attractive to future homebuyers, HOA President Tim Davis created the New Pickleball Courts Task Force.

After discussing all possible locations, the Task Force chose the north end of the RV/boat storage lot for the new pickleball courts. This space is ideal because:

- There is enough room within the RV/boat lot to create an area for new courts, and to allow for future expansion if needed.
- There is access to water, electricity, and utilities.
- The new courts will be further away from homes than our current courts, lessening the noise issue.
- New courts will allow La Casa pickleball players to participate in competitive and recreational games as well as inter-park and league play.

Allie Alligator Rules of the Road for a Happy, Safe LaCasa!

For Walkers...

- Early Birds and Night Owls who are walking need to wear reflective clothing, carry lights or reflectors and smile so we can see those pearly whites!
- Face traffic so we can wave hello!

For Bikers...

- Always ride with traffic
- If riding at night, use your lights and reflectors....it's the LAW!
- Stop at all stop signs and while there, watch out for fire ants, gators and other forms of wildlife in LaCasa
- For your safety, we recommend a rear view mirror on your handlebars

For Golf Carters...

- For your own safety, don't back into traffic and become a statistic! Watch for cars backing out of driveways too!
- No underage (16 or under) drivers at all, ever!
- Stop at all stop signs

For Joy riders...

- You know the speed limit and you know what stop signs are for!!!
- How well can you hear, see, react and pay attention???
- Beware of pedestrians and bikers

Special Hazards related to using our narrow roads...

- Remember that you are sharing the road with all of the above
- To keep safe, walk one or two abreast and ride your bike single file
- Can you hear me now? If not, get off your cell phone!



2026 ALL STAR SHOWS
\$15 PER PERSON

Wednesday - February 11, 2026
 7:00PM - Rec Hall

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Ticket Sales start January 28th - before Wednesday Coffee and Thursday Bingo

Activity Associations'
VALENTINE DANCE

Saturday - February 14, 2026
 7:10:00 PM
 Tickets - \$8.00
 Reserved Seating - BYOB

Bring your honey and enjoy DJ...

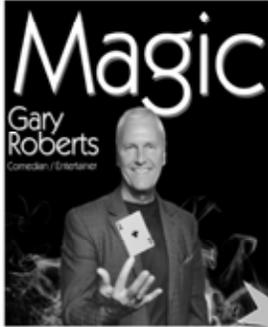
Steve Viel

Ticket sales begin Jan. 28th
 before Weds. Coffee Hours and Thurs. Bingo

2026 ALL STAR SHOWS \$15 PER PERSON

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7:00 PM

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WEDS., FEB. 11
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BAND



Oldies Band

Favorites from the
50's & 60's

WEDS., MAR. 11
7:00 PM

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- New courts will free-up the existing recreation center courts for beginner instruction, ball machine practice, drills, and family play for residents and their visitors.

Welcome to The Community



John and Ann O'Coin live at 529 San Clemente. They come to us from Windsor, CT. In the summer they camp in Stafford, Ct. Several of our LaCasa residents also camp there and introduced John and Ann to our community. John enjoys tinkering around the house and Ann enjoys doing puzzles. They are looking forward to joining in with our activities.

David Gordon lives at 501 La Playa. He is from Racine, WI where he worked as a hospital safety/security manager. David came to La Casa to be near his mom, Barbara Gordon. Not only is he trying to adjust to a new home and environment, but also "learning" how to be retired.



Renda Beck and Jaime Simmons come to us from Albion, MI. Renda likes to think of Cape Cod as her "roots". They live at 447 Loma Linda. They have wintered in the past near St. Pete as camp hosts. Jaime works as an excavator and Renda



does wellness and bodywork. Jaime is very good at woodworking and loves hunting and fishing. Renda does a lot of writing. She is learning how to play tennis.



Save the Date for the MICHIGAN POTLUCK

Wednesday, March 4, 2026, 4:30-6 p.m. Rec Hall

All LaCasa Residents with Michigan ties are invited to the Michigan Potluck. This is a gathering to meet other Michiganders and socialize.

Bring a dish to share, your own table service, and your own drinks. Also, bring a chair, sunscreen and sunglasses.

We have scheduled sunny skies, but in case of inclement weather, the potluck will be cancelled.

Questions: Call or text Jill VanAntwerp, 231-301-3556, or email vanantwj@gvsu.edu

Snowball Pile Up 50/50 Raffle

Buy your tickets at Coffee Hour on Wednesday morning.

Winner will be drawn on the last Wednesday of the month. The more tickets purchased, the bigger the pot!!

We will be running this raffle during February, March and April and start back up in November.

Raffle is sponsored by the Frosty Committee



La Casa Veterans Club

Spring



Dance

February 7, 2026

6pm



BYOB

6:30 - 9:30

Music by Black Velvet

\$8.00 per Ticket



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2.5 TON	8 KW HEAT	\$6,000.00
3 TON	10 KW HEAT	\$6,100.00
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4 TON	10 KW HEAT	\$6,500.00
5 TON	10 KW HEAT	\$7,000.00

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