PELICAN MARSH BRIEF

The Foundation of Pelican Marsh, Inc., Official Publication November/December 2026 <Volume 17, No. 6>

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A great start to the season

By Joseph Mulcahy, President, Pelican Marsh Foundation

Pelican Marsh is coming alive as more of our friends and neighbors return for the season. From pickleball and tennis to bocce, plus a Community Center bustling with events, games and activities, there is energy and enthusiasm throughout the community.

Our Welcome Back Party captured that spirit perfectly. More than 200 people joined us for an evening of music, food, camaraderie and friendship. It was a wonderful opportunity to reconnect with familiar faces, meet new neighbors and welcome everyone back to Pelican Marsh. Thank you to everyone who helped make the evening such a success.

We also had an excellent turnout for our recent Community Center expansion open house. More than 100 residents attended the afternoon session with



Joe Mulcahy

our architect and interior designer on hand to discuss the plans and answer questions. The response was overwhelmingly positive, with enthusiastic comments about the layout, design and color scheme. It was gratifying to share the work that has gone into this project and see residents' excitement about what lies ahead.

Community improvements

We continue to anticipate construction beginning in May 2027, subject to the necessary approvals and will keep you informed as the project moves forward.

By the time you read this issue of the Brief, the new patio, shade canopy and water fountain at the north end of the pickleball courts will be completed, providing a comfortable gathering place before and after play. Our tennis improvements, including the new windscreens, will also be fully in place. It is especially rewarding to see these investments coming together as residents return and our Court

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Tennis, Community, Charity

Pelican Marsh hosts Naples Pro League, honors cancer charity donors. Page 11



A Sound Path to Serenity

Discover a monthly opportunity to relax, recharge and reconnect. Page 20


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a great start...continued from page 1

Sports programs get into full swing.

At Courtside, the new striped awnings and see-through drop-down screens that help control the temperature are now complete. The lighting beneath the awnings is beautiful in the evening and adds to the welcoming atmosphere. As cooler nights arrive, I hope to see more friends and neighbors gathering around the fire pit to relax and enjoy time together.

The new U.S. 41 gatehouse opened in early November. With the front entrance now completed, we will begin seeing cosmetic improvements at our Vanderbilt Beach Road and Airport-Pulling Road gates.

Giving back

October also brought out the generosity of our community. Through several fundraising activities, including our walk and a happy hour at Courtside, we raised more than $5,000 for Cancer Alliance Network (CAN), a local organization supporting individuals and families affected by cancer. Thank you to everyone who participated, volunteered or donated. These efforts reflect the caring spirit of Pelican Marsh and the difference we can make together.

Looking ahead

I'm pleased to announce that we will celebrate New Year's Eve at Courtside, and we have secured the Big Cypress Band for the occasion. We look forward to a festive evening of music and celebration with friends and neighbors. Details and reservation information will follow.

I want to thank Paul Maddry and his entire team, my fellow Board members and our Committee volunteers for their continued work on behalf of Pelican Marsh. Their efforts help make both these improvements and our everyday community experiences possible.

To everyone returning for the season, welcome back. I look forward to seeing you around the community and enjoying a wonderful season together.

Let's make it a great season!

By Paul Maddry, General Manager, Pelican Marsh Foundation



Greeting's residents of Pelican Marsh. I see many have already starting returning from their northern habitats. Welcome back for another fun and active season in Pelican Marsh!

Facility upgrades and improvements

We were busy over the summer with maintenance projects along with some new upgrades to keep our facilities looking their best. The first thing you see when arriving to the Community Center is our new/enhanced landscaping. We wanted to give our campus a more resort-style feel, which I think we

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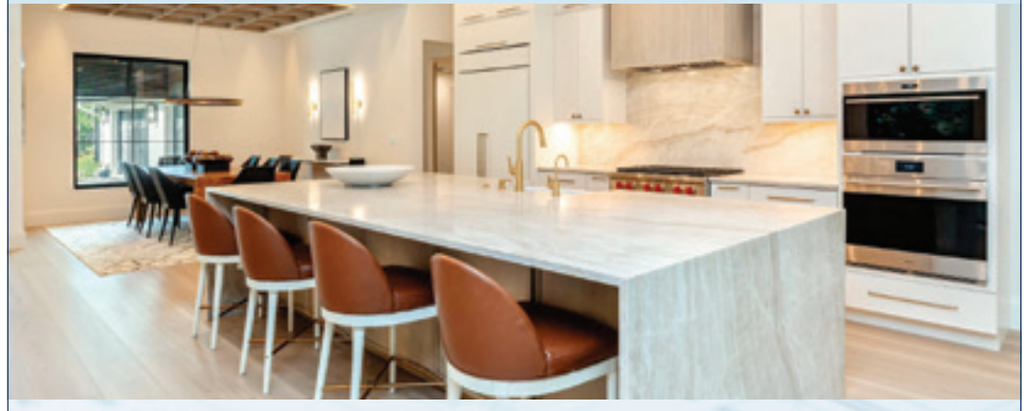
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web: PelicanMarsh.com

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New at the Court Sports Complex

By Johann Saurbier, Court Sports Director

We have experienced tremendous growth in our Court Sports program over the past several years! To better serve our growing community, our team spent the summer completely revamping our programming, refining schedules and enhancing the overall Court Sports experience.

We are also thrilled to welcome Ruben Basurto as our new Head Pickleball Professional. Ruben joins Head Court Sports Professional Ransom Braaten as part of our dedicated professional team. Together, we look forward to providing outstanding instruction, competitive opportunities and social experiences for our tennis and pickleball communities.

What's new this season?

• **More clinics and team practices** – Expanded schedules to help you develop your skills and elevate your game.

• **Restructured round robins** – Level-based play to reduce waitlists and create more balanced, competitive matches.

• **Adjusted open play hours** – Updated time slots to better accommodate peak demand.

• **Tournaments and special events** – In November, we will host our annual Fall Classic Tennis and Pickleball Tournaments, providing residents with exciting opportunities to compete and connect with fellow players.

• **Professional competition** – We are honored to host the Naples Tennis Pro League, bringing high-level tennis competition to Pelican Marsh.

As we roll out these changes, we appreciate your patience and welcome your feedback. Our goal is to continue improving our offerings and creating a Court Sports program that meets the needs of players at every level.

Reminders and policy highlights

With enhanced facilities, an expanded program and an exceptional professional staff, we are looking forward to a fantastic season! As we anticipate a high volume of play, please review the complete rules and policies at pelicanmarsh.com. In particular, please keep the following guidelines in mind.

Prime time and guest policies

• **Prime time limits** – To accommodate all players, residents may play only once during prime time hours, 8 a.m.-12:30 p.m.

• **Local guests** – Local guests are welcome to play after 12:30 p.m. and are limited to four visits per month.

Clinic policies and rates

• **Pricing and capacity** – Clinics are $25 per participant, with a maximum of six players per session.

• **Small class sizes** – Clinics with one or two registered players will still run at the $25 rate for a focused, 30-minute private or semi-private session.

• **Cancellations** – Cancellations must be made at least 24 hours in advance. Late cancellations will be charged the standard clinic rate.

Inclement weather and safety

Player safety is our top priority, and we will always err on the side of caution.

• **Wet courts** – Courts will be closed immediately if conditions are slick or deemed unsafe.

• **Lightning alarm (one long tone)** – Please clear the courts and seek shelter immediately when the golf course alarm sounds.

• **All clear (three short tones)** – Play may resume only after the all-clear alarm sounds and staff has inspected and reopened the courts.

Facility etiquette

• **No glass containers** – Glass is strictly prohibited on or around the courts.

• **Secure drink containers** – Please avoid bringing Styrofoam coffee cups onto the courts. Use spill-proof containers with lids instead.

• **Keep it clean** – Please dispose of all trash and empty cups in the provided bins after your match.

Thank you for your continued support and cooperation in keeping Pelican Marsh's court facilities safe, welcoming and enjoyable for everyone. We are excited about the season ahead and look forward to seeing you on the courts for clinics, organized play, tournaments and special events! See you on the courts!

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a great season...continued from page 3

achieved. Additionally, we have added awnings and roll-down clear screens at Courtside for better climate control to enhance your dining experience year-round.

The tennis courts now have new fencing and most of the light posts have been replaced to give the courts a fresh new look. By the time you are reading this article, our last summer project, a new patio with canopy along the north side of the pickleball courts, will be close to being complete. This new shaded patio with fans along with a water/ice station will be plus for the players and spectators for Courts 4, 5 and 6. We are aways looking to improve our facilities where we can.

Maintaining our beautiful community

It's the time of year to start scheduling needed cleaning and/or maintenance for your home. The summer rains and humidity cause dirt and mildew build up on your home's walkways, walls and roofs. Remember, the Pelican Marsh rules require that all homes to be kept clean and maintained. Be a good neighbor and help keep the community looking its best!

Keep everyone safe

Remember, this time of year brings out many more residents who love to walk, jog or bike throughout the community. When driving through Pelican Marsh, please make sure you and your guests follow the speed limit and make full stops at all stop signs. Bikers needed to stay in the bike lines and also make full stops at stop signs. Those walking or jogging need to stay on the sidewalks and out of the bike lanes so bikers do not have to swerve into the roadway, competing with oncoming traffic. These rules, which are also County ordinances, are put in place to keep everyone safe.

The staff appreciate everyone's help and support. We are looking forward to a busy and fun-filled season and welcome residents' comments and/or suggestions!

Remember, the Pelican Marsh Brief is supported through advertising revenue. Please show your support by using the services of those businesses who advertise in this publication.

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Welcome back!

Get ready for an exciting 2026-27 Court Sports season.

By Allie Parker, Pro Shop Manager



The Pelican Marsh Court Sports Team is thrilled to welcome our tennis and pickleball members back for another incredible season! Whether you're returning to the courts after a summer away or have been enjoying our programs year-round, we are excited to kick off the 2026–27 season with a full calendar of activities, friendly competition, exciting events and plenty of opportunities to connect with fellow members.

Our Court Sports program continues to grow, and we couldn't be more excited about what lies ahead! From competitive league play and weekly round robins to instructional clinics, social mixers, tournaments and special events, there is truly something for everyone. Whether you're a seasoned competitor or just beginning your tennis or pickleball journey, our goal is to provide an exceptional experience both on and off the courts.

Our professional staff is ready to help you elevate your game with private lessons, group clinics and organized play opportunities for all skill levels. We encourage everyone to get involved, meet new players, sharpen their skills and take advantage of everything our vibrant Court Sports community has to offer.

Have questions?

We're here to help! Stop by the Pelican Marsh Pro Shop for assistance with tennis or pickleball ratings, program information, league schedules, court reservations, maintenance concerns, lesson scheduling or any of your Court Sport's needs. Our team is always happy to assist and help you make the most of your membership.

As we begin another exciting season, we want to extend our heartfelt appreciation to our members for their continued enthusiasm, participation and support. It is your energy, sportsmanship and sense of community that make Pelican Marsh such a special place to play.

We look forward to another season filled with great matches, memorable moments, new friendships and plenty of fun!

Welcome back, Pelican Marsh! Let's make the 2026–27 season our best one yet! See you on the courts!

Pelican Marsh turned pink

We raised more than $6,000 for local families!

By Allie Parker, Pro Shop Manager



The Pelican Marsh community came together in a beautiful display of generosity and support for the third annual Breast Cancer Awareness Pink Out Fun Run, raising more than $6,000 for Cancer Alliance Network (CAN).

On Oct. 15, residents and friends gathered at the Foundation entrance for the two-mile fun run. Dressed in pink and white, participants ran, walked and jogged at their own pace, united by a shared desire to make a difference for local individuals and families affected by cancer. The spirit of giving continued that evening at the Pink Power Happy Hour at Courtside. The gathering welcomed back our Court Sports community for an evening of friendship, cocktails and conversation, with Courtside making a generous donation for Cancer Alliance Network.

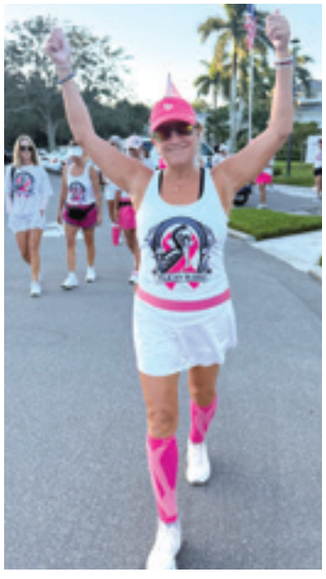
About CAN

Cancer Alliance Network supports cancer patients and their families throughout Collier and Lee Counties by providing financial assistance, resources and compassionate support. Its mission is to help ease the financial and emotional challenges that can accompany a cancer diagnosis while honoring the dignity of those it serves.

Showing up for others

We are truly moved by

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Battle of the Clubs

Congratulations to our Pickleball Teams!

By Allie Parker, Pro Shop Manager

Pelican Marsh has plenty to celebrate following an outstanding performance at the Battle of the Clubs, held at the National Pickleball Center on Oct. 24.

Competing against 16 clubs from across Southwest Florida, our men's team captured first place, while our women's team earned an impressive second-place finish. Both teams demonstrated exceptional skill, determination, teamwork and sportsmanship throughout the competition. Their dedication and competitive spirit showcased the strength of our Court Sports program and made the entire Pelican Marsh community proud.

A special shoutout goes to Ruben Badurto, Pelican Marsh's Head Pickleball Pro, for leading the Pelican Marsh team at the Battle of the Clubs. Thank you, Ruben, for your leadership and commitment to our players and pickleball program.

Please join us in congratulating all of our talented players on this remarkable achievement and the players who helped make this success possible. Congratulations, Team Pelican Marsh! You've given us so much to celebrate.







Congratulations to our Pelican Marsh Pickleball Team!

Out of 16 clubs in Southwest Florida, Pelican Marsh finished first and second! We are so proud of our players for representing our Court Sports program at the highest level.

MEN'S TEAM - 1ST PLACE

PRO	Joey Jacobson • Ruben Basurto
4.0	Eric Jacobson • Jack Carucci
3.5	Mark Levine • John Lunny
3.5	Jim Reilly • Eric Wagner
3.0	Paul Beatty • Brad Toner

WOMEN'S TEAM - 2ND PLACE

4.5	Tina Garrett • Courtney Basurto
4.0	Lisa Siddall • Melissa Moriarty
3.5	Tina Mantel • Ashley Mantel
3.5	Julie Fields • Erica Reilly
3.0	Ally Schillinger • Marell Kowalski

turned pink...continued from page 7

the extraordinary generosity of the Pelican Marsh community. Every person who participated, donated, volunteered or showed their support helped make this event meaningful. Your kindness will reach local families when they need it most and remind them that they are not facing their journey alone.

We look forward to presenting Cancer Alliance Network with the donation check Nov. 20 when Pelican Marsh hosts The Naples Pro Tennis League. We hope you will join us as we celebrate what our community has accomplished together.

Thank you, Pelican Marsh, for showing once again the power of coming together for a cause close to home. Your compassion, generosity and community spirit made this year's Pink Out Fun Run one to remember.


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Serving up fun for Grace Place

Community hosts upcoming exhibition and kids play

By Allie Parker, Pro Shop Manager

Pelican Marsh Court Sports is proud to welcome the Grace Place Pickleball Kids for a special afternoon of pickleball, community connection and fundraising, Thursday, Nov. 19.

From 4 to 5 p.m., the kids from Grace Place will join the Pro's on Pelican Marsh's pickleball courts to work on their skills and drills. This portion of the event will give the children an opportunity to strengthen their pickleball skills, spend time on the courts and share their enthusiasm for the game.

From 5 to 6:30 p.m., the excitement will continue with an Exhibition Pro Match. Members are encouraged to come out, enjoy an entertaining evening of competitive pickleball and show their support for this meaningful local cause.



Giving back

The event will also serve as a fundraiser for Grace Place for Children and Families. Grace Place puts faith into action by providing pathways out of poverty through the education of children and families. Its programs help create opportunities for local families to learn, grow and build brighter futures. This special event brings together the spirit of pickleball and the generosity of the Pelican Marsh community. Whether you join us for the children's activities, watch the Exhibition Match or make a donation, your participation will help support the important mission of Grace Place.

Please mark your calendar for Nov. 19, and join us for an afternoon of skills, drills, fun and outstanding pickleball. Donations are greatly appreciated! Members may use the donation QR code featured here to contribute.

Grace Place Exhibition & Kids Open Play Skills & Drills

Pickleball, Exhibition, Fundraiser

Thursday, Nov. 19
4-5 p.m. – Drills, skills and fun with the Grace Place pickleball team
5-6:30 p.m. – Exhibition Pro Match

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Community hosts Naples Pro Tennis League

Save the date, Nov. 20

By Allie Parker, Pro Shop Manager

Get ready for an exciting afternoon of tennis and community spirit as Pelican Marsh hosts Match No. 2 of the Evertern Wealth of Naples Pro Tennis League, presented by Ritzman Courts, Friday, Nov. 20. Head to The Foundation of Pelican Marsh (1504 Pelican Marsh Blvd.) for matches starting at 4 p.m.

Residents and friends are invited to come out and enjoy high-level doubles tennis while cheering on our home court Pros: Director of Court Sports Johann Saurbier and Head Tennis Pro Ransom Bratton. It promises to be a wonderful opportunity to watch talented players in action and spend time with fellow members of our Court Sports community.





Johann Sauriber, Director of Court Sports



Ransom Bratton, Head Tennis Pro

Making a difference

The event will also give us a meaningful opportunity to celebrate the generosity of Pelican Marsh. During the match, we will present

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Pelican Marsh Hosts Evertern Wealth of Naples Pro Tennis League

Presented by Ritzman Courts

Match No. 2
Friday, Nov. 20 – Matches start at 4 p.m.
The Foundation at Pelican Marsh
(1504 Pelican Marsh Blvd.)

Cheer on our home court Pros: Johann Sauriber, Director of Court Sports & Ransom Bratton, Head Tennis Pro

Interested in helping? Volunteers are needed! Email aparker@pelicanmarsh.com.

For more information about the league, visit naplesproleague.com.

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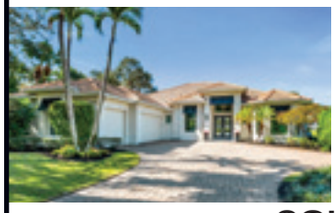
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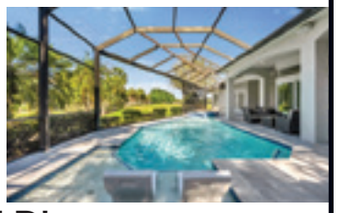
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OUR FITNESS FACILITY

Exercise for longevity

It's about living better, not simply living longer

By Patrick D. Webb, BS MBA CPT, Director of Fitness and Wellness



When we think about exercise, we often focus on familiar goals like losing weight, improving strength or increasing endurance. But perhaps the greatest benefit of regular physical activity is something much more important: maintaining our independence and quality of life as we age.

The goal isn't simply to add years to our lives, but to add life to those years.

Research consistently demonstrates that regular exercise plays an important role in healthy aging. It helps preserve muscle mass, maintain cardiovascular health, support cognitive function and reduce the risk of many chronic diseases. Just as importantly, it allows us to continue enjoying the activities that make life fulfilling.

Whether it's playing golf, enjoying a game of pickleball, traveling, cycling or simply keeping up with the grandchildren, our ability to remain active depends on maintaining several essential components of physical fitness.

A well-rounded exercise program should include four key elements:

• **Cardiovascular fitness** – Walking, cycling, swimming and other aerobic activities help maintain heart health and endurance.

• **Strength training** – Maintaining muscle mass becomes increasingly important as we age. Strong muscles support our joints, protect our bones and make everyday activities easier.

• **Flexibility and mobility – Keeping our joints moving** through a comfortable range of motion helps us perform daily activities efficiently and comfortably.

• **Balance** – Often overlooked, balance training helps preserve stability, confidence and independence.

The good news is that it's never too late to benefit from exercise, and you don't need to spend hours in the gym to make a meaningful difference. Consistency is far more important than intensity. At Pelican Marsh, we have a variety of fitness equipment, group exercise classes and personal training services to help residents address each of these important areas.

Remember, the best exercise program isn't necessarily the hardest one. It's the one that keeps you healthy, active and enjoying life for years to come.

pro tennis league...continued from page 11

Cancer Alliance Network with a donation check representing the funds raised through our October breast cancer fundraising efforts. We are deeply grateful to everyone who participated, donated and helped make these efforts a success. Your generosity will help Cancer Alliance Network support local individuals and families affected by cancer.

Want to help?

Volunteers are needed to help make the event a success. If you are interested in volunteering, please email me at aparker@pelicanmarsh.com. For more information about the League, visit naplesproleague.com.

We hope you will join us for an afternoon of outstanding tennis, community connection and a heartfelt celebration of giving. Let's fill the sidelines and cheer on our Pelican Marsh Pros!

Staying active during the holidays

Consistency over perfection

By Patrick D. Webb, BS MBA CPT, Director of Fitness and Wellness

The holiday season is upon us, bringing family gatherings, celebrations, travel and perhaps a few more indulgences than usual. With busy schedules and changing routines, it's easy for exercise to take a back seat, but maintaining your fitness during the holidays doesn't have to mean sacrificing time with family or turning down that extra piece of pumpkin pie.

The key is to focus on consistency rather than perfection. A few simple strategies can help you stay on track.



Shorter workouts still count. If your normal routine includes an hour at the Fitness Center, don't abandon exercise just because you only have 20 or 30 minutes available. A short strength-training session or brisk walk can provide meaningful benefits.

Make movement part of your day. Take a walk after a holiday meal, enjoy a bike ride, play a round of golf or invite visiting family members to join you for an outdoor activity. Exercise doesn't always have to happen in the gym.

Maintain your strength training. Even when your schedule gets crowded, try to preserve a couple of strength-training sessions each week. Maintaining muscle strength is particularly important as we age.

Be realistic about your expectations. The holidays are meant to be enjoyed. Missing an occasional workout or enjoying a special meal isn't going to undo months of progress. What matters is returning to your normal routine rather than allowing a few missed workouts to become several weeks of inactivity.

Don't underestimate the value of rest. Adequate sleep and recovery are important parts of staying healthy, particularly during a busy holiday season.

Here at Pelican Marsh, our Fitness Center and group exercise programs provide plenty of opportunities to stay active throughout the season. As we approach the end of another year, remember that fitness is a lifelong pursuit, not a short-term challenge.

Enjoy the holidays, stay active when you can, and remember that doing something is almost always better than doing nothing.





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The fire pit is lit, the holidays are here

News from Courtside, your neighborhood restaurant

By Susan Cousins, Courtside at Pelican Marsh Operator



If you've strolled past Courtside lately, you may have noticed a warm glow on the patio; the fire pit is officially fired up for the season! There's something about pulling up a chair, drink in hand, and catching up with neighbors by the fire that just feels like Pelican Marsh this time of year.

That's not the only thing that's changed. Our new awnings and clear roll-down screens are finished, and we couldn't be happier with how the patio turned out. Warm afternoon, chilly evening, or a passing Florida shower, the patio is now a comfortable place to settle in no matter what the weather is doing. If you haven't seen it yet, come take a look. We think you'll love it as much as we do.

Ringing in 2027

This New Year's Eve, Courtside is throwing a party, and we're thrilled to welcome back a Pelican Marsh favorite, Big Cypress, to help us countdown to midnight. Many of you have danced on our patio to their music before, and there's no band we'd rather have to kick off the New Year with you. Spots will go fast, so please reserve early.

A little time with family

Our team works hard all year to take care of you, so we'll be closing on Thanksgiving Day, Christmas Eve and Christmas Day to let them spend the holidays with their own loved ones. We'll be back and ready to welcome you right after.

We're also cooking up something special: a Courtside Christmas dinner. We're still putting the finishing touches on the menu, so keep an eye out for the details soon.

Santa, family and full tables

Bringing the little ones to see Santa? Make a day of it and stop by Courtside for lunch or dinner. There's nothing quite like hearing the kids tell you everything they asked for over a plate of chicken tenders.

If family and friends are coming to town, we'd love to host them. We recommend making reservations early by calling 239-260-7400 or booking online at pelicanmarsh.com. That way, we can make sure there's a table waiting for you.

Planning a holiday party of your own? Whether it's a gathering of friends, a club celebration or a family get-together, Courtside is a wonderful spot for private events. Just give me a call, and I'll be happy to help you plan every detail.

From all of us at Courtside, thank you for being such a big part of our story. We're grateful for every one of you, and we wish you and your families a warm, joyful holiday season. See you by the fire!



The beauty of a busy Community Center

By Lynn Atzingen, Director of Activities

There's a lot happening at Pelican Marsh, and that's something to celebrate! From exciting events and educational programs to fitness classes, social gatherings and delicious meals at our restaurant, the Community Center is a busy place because our residents have so much to enjoy. We love seeing our Pelican Marsh family out and about, making connections, staying active and taking advantage of everything our community has to offer.

As we head into season, however, all that activity can create a little extra challenge — parking!

With more residents returning and our programs in full swing, parking spaces can fill up quickly. We appreciate your patience and cooperation as we work together to make everyone's visit an enjoyable one with a few ways to help make parking easier for everyone.

Look for the overflow parking signs. These signs will direct you to additional parking areas when the Community Center lot is full.

Consider carpooling. Traveling with a friend or neighbor is a great way to reduce the number of cars and enjoy a little extra social time along the way.



Walk or ride your bike! Our Southwest Florida weather is often beautiful, so if you live nearby, consider leaving the car at home. You'll enjoy the fresh air and get in a few extra steps too!

Please respect our neighboring communities. Parking in a community where you do not reside is not permitted and may result in your vehicle being towed. Clermont has experienced parking challenges when its residents' spaces have been occupied by vehicles belonging to people attending activities elsewhere. Let's be considerate of our neighbors and avoid creating the same problem for them.

We are fortunate to have a large, active community with so many opportunities to gather, learn, dine, exercise and enjoy one another's company. A busy Community Center means residents are participating, friendships are growing and Pelican Marsh is thriving!

Thank you for helping us keep things running smoothly, showing consideration for our neighbors and making the most of everything Pelican Marsh has to offer. We look forward to seeing you at the Community Center — and remember, a little planning and courtesy go a long way toward making everyone's experience a great one!

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2,000 miles of adventure

Rick Fernandes takes on the Appalachian Trail

By Lynn Atzingen, Director of Activities

What inspires a 68-year-old retired corporate executive to trade the boardroom for the wilderness and spend five and a half months hiking more than 2,000 miles? Come meet Rick Fernandes and hear the incredible story of his Appalachian Trail adventure!



On **Wednesday, Nov. 18**, Rick will visit Pelican Marsh to share his experience hiking the entire Appalachian Trail, from Georgia to Maine. This remarkable journey took five and a half months, with Rick carrying just 17 pounds of gear as he made his way through rugged terrain, mountains, forests and ever-changing weather.

The Appalachian Trail is no casual afternoon stroll! Stretching nearly 2,200 miles through 14 states, it challenges hikers with steep climbs, rocky paths and unpredictable conditions. Completing the entire trail requires determination, endurance, careful planning and a willingness to keep putting one foot in front of the other.

So, what was life like on the trail for five and a half months? What challenges did Rick face, what surprised him along the way, and what did he learn from this extraordinary adventure? You'll have to come hear his story!

Whether you're an avid hiker, a nature lover, an armchair adventurer or simply someone who appreciates an inspiring story about stepping outside your comfort zone, Rick's presentation promises to be a fascinating journey without ever leaving Pelican Marsh.

Join us Wednesday, Nov. 18, and experience the Appalachian Trail through Rick's eyes. Register at PelicanMarsh.com. We hope to see you there!

Gobble, gobble!

Thanksgiving Day's Turkey Trot 5K

By Lynn Atzingen, Director of Activities

Before the turkey goes in the oven and the pies hit the table, let's get moving! Start your Thanksgiving morning with a little fresh air, exercise and plenty of community fun at our Pelican Marsh Turkey Trot 5K!

Whether you're ready to run the whole 5K, prefer a leisurely walk or want to do just half the course, this event is for you! Run, walk, waddle or go just a little way — there's no pressure to cross the finish line at any particular speed. The goal is simply to get out, enjoy the morning and have some fun together.

Bring the whole family!

It's a wonderful way to spend time together, enjoy the beautiful Pelican Marsh community and work up a little appetite before the Thanksgiving feast. After all, those extra steps might just make that second slice of pumpkin pie taste even better! So grab your sneakers, bring your holiday spirit and join your Pelican Marsh family for a Thanksgiving morning tradition in the making.

Run it, walk it, waddle it — the whole 5K or just a slice! Register on PelicanMarsh.com and join us for a fun-filled start to Thanksgiving Day!

Give the gift of life

By Lynn Atzingen, Director of Activities

The holidays are a time for giving, gratitude and looking out for one another. This year, consider giving a gift that can make a life-changing difference: the gift of blood!

Join us **Tuesday, Dec. 1**, at the Pelican Marsh Community Center for a blood drive benefiting the Community Blood Center, an organization that helps provide lifesaving blood products to patients in our community. Blood donations are essential for patients undergoing surgery, receiving cancer treatments, recovering from serious injuries and facing medical emergencies.

The need for blood doesn't take a holiday! With busy schedules, travel and seasonal activities, maintaining an adequate blood supply can be challenging during the holiday season. A single donation can help save lives and bring hope to patients and their families when they need it most.

As members of the Pelican Marsh family, we have a wonderful opportunity to make a difference right here in our community. Whether you're a longtime donor or considering donating for the first time, your generosity can have a lasting impact.

This holiday season, give a gift that truly matters. Roll up your sleeve, share the spirit of giving and help save a life! Watch for an email with registration details or call the Pelican Marsh front desk at 239-594-7800 to learn more and sign up.

Festival of Lights

By Lynn Atzingen, Director of Activities

Join us **Sunday, Dec. 6** for a joyful evening as we celebrate the spirit of Hanukkah with a festive Hanukkah Dinner and Sing-Along at Pelican Marsh.

Enjoy a delicious buffet dinner provided by Courtside, featuring all your favorite traditional dishes: roasted brisket, crispy potato latkes and more. Gather with friends and neighbors for an evening filled with warmth, laughter and the glow of the season.

After dinner, lift your voices for a lively Hanukkah sing-along, featuring timeless favorites such as "Dreidel, Dreidel, Dreidel," "Oh Hanukkah, Oh Hanukkah," and "Light One Candle." Whether you know every word or just want to hum along, it's sure to be a heart-warming night for all.

This event is fun for everyone; all are welcome to join the celebration! To register, visit PelicanMarsh.com or call the Pelican Marsh front desk at 239-594-7800. Come celebrate the Festival of Lights with great food, music and community!

The Divas are back

By Lynn Atzingen, Director of Activities

Get ready to kick off the holiday season with music, memories and a whole lot of sparkle! The ever-popular Divas are returning to Pelican Marsh **Monday, Dec. 7**, with their festive holiday tribute, "A Very Diva Christmas."

This talented trio will fill the room with the sounds of Christmas past, performing timeless holiday favorites ranging from Bing Crosby to the Andrews Sisters, and many more beloved classics. If you love the nostalgic songs that make this time of year so special, this is a show you won't want to miss. Expect gorgeous gowns, festive stage décor, witty banter and plenty of audience interaction. Before you know it, you'll be tapping your toes, singing along and feeling that wonderful holiday spirit.

The Divas know how to entertain, and their popularity with our Pelican Marsh family says it all! Make plans to join your friends and neighbors Monday, Dec. 7, for an evening of holiday music, laughter and memories. This is one popular trio, and you won't want to miss out!

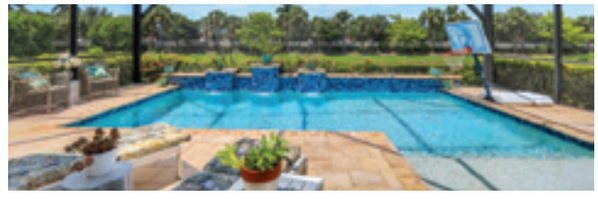
Register today at Pelican Marsh.com and get ready to celebrate the season with "A Very Diva Christmas."

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Inside Shangri-La Springs

Discovering a century of history and natural beauty

By Lynn Atzingen, Director of Activities

Step back in time and discover one of Southwest Florida's hidden gems. Join us **Thursday, Dec. 10**, from 10 to 11 a.m., for a guided tour of Shangri-La Springs in Bonita Springs.



Rich in history, natural beauty and old Florida charm, Shangri-La Springs is a historic retreat nestled among 8.5 acres of lush tropical gardens. The property is known for its natural mineral springs, which attracted visitors seeking wellness and renewal, and its fascinating history dating back more than a century. During our tour, we'll explore the beautiful grounds, learn about the property's colorful past and discover what makes this special place such a treasured part of our local history.

Make a day of it!

After the tour, plan ahead and reserve a table at Harvest & Wisdom, Shangri-La's on-site café and organic farm-to-table restaurant. Enjoy a delicious lunch featuring seasonal ingredients, including fresh produce from the property's own organic garden. Reservations are recommended, so be sure to call ahead at 239-949-0749.

Come enjoy a delightful morning of history, nature and good company! Register on PelicanMarsh.com.

Get ready to laugh

Off the Hook Comedy Club welcomes Jeff Allen

By Lynn Atzingen, Director of Activities

Need a little laughter to brighten your holiday season? Join your Pelican Marsh friends for a fun night out at Off the Hook Comedy Club **Sunday, Dec. 13**, featuring comedian Jeff Allen.

With more than four decades in comedy, Jeff Allen is known for his clean, relatable humor about marriage, family life, raising children, the empty nest and the surprises of becoming a grandparent. His comedy has been featured on "America's Got Talent," "Comedy Central" and "Dry Bar Comedy," where his hilarious videos have entertained audiences around the world.

Jeff has a special talent for finding the humor in everyday life — from the ups and downs of marriage to the joys (and occasional headaches!) of family. His stories will have you laughing, nodding in recognition and probably thinking, "That sounds just like my family!" It's the perfect opportunity to enjoy an evening of comedy, friendship and plenty of laughs with your Pelican Marsh family.

Ready for a night of laughter? Register at PelicanMarsh.com and join us for this entertaining outing. Come for the comedy, stay for the laughs and leave with a smile!



Update Your Address(es)!

Keep your address(es) up to date (both physical and email) for news from the Pelican Marsh Foundation. Please contact Monique Rowell in the administrative office at mrowell@pelicanmarsh.com or call 239-594-7800 between the hours of 9 a.m. and 4 p.m., Monday through Friday.





“Christmas with Chris Ruggiero”

A nostalgic and cheerful concert at Arts Bonita

By Lynn Atzingen, Director of Activities

Looking for a little musical magic to brighten your holiday season? Join us **Saturday, Dec. 19**, for a special matinee performance of “Christmas with Chris Ruggiero” at Arts Bonita in Bonita Springs!

Arts Bonita is a wonderful cultural destination in our own backyard, bringing the community together through live music, theater, comedy, film and other performing arts experiences. With welcoming performance spaces and an exciting lineup of artists throughout the season, it's a great place to enjoy an afternoon or evening of entertainment.

Now, let's add a little Christmas music to the mix! Chris Ruggiero is a rising vocal star who has gained national attention through his PBS television specials and performances across the country. Known for his smooth vocals and classic style, Chris brings the sounds of the 1950s, ’60s and ’70s to life with a fresh, youthful energy.

His Christmas concert features beloved holiday favorites, including “Sleigh Ride,” “Christmas (Baby Please Come Home)” and “Have Yourself a Merry Little Christmas.” With timeless melodies, rich musical arrangements and plenty of nostalgic charm, this performance promises to put you in the holiday spirit.

Gather your friends and neighbors for a delightful matinee performance, Saturday, Dec. 19; it’ll be an afternoon of music and memories at one of Southwest Florida's cultural treasures. It's a wonderful way to celebrate the season and enjoy some of the music that makes Christmas so special.

Don't miss this festive musical outing! Register on PelicanMarsh.com and join us for “Christmas with Chris Ruggiero” at Arts Bonita.

Naples Holiday Lights Tour

By Lynn Atzingen, Director of Activities



The holidays are brighter when we celebrate together! Join your Pelican Marsh family for a magical Naples Holiday Lights Tour Sunday, Dec. 20 at 6:30 p.m. Climb aboard a specially decorated Naples trolley and enjoy an evening filled with twinkling lights, festive decorations and the wonderful spirit of the season.

Sit back, relax and take in the sights as the trolley winds through beautifully illuminated neighborhoods and past spectacular holiday displays. From dazzling lights and creatively decorated homes to charming seasonal scenes, Naples puts on quite a show during the holidays, and this tour is a delightful way to experience it all.

Gather your friends, bring your holiday cheer and enjoy the sights, sounds and sparkle of the season without worrying about navigating the streets yourself. Whether you're admiring the elaborate displays or simply enjoying the company of fellow residents, it's sure to be a memorable evening. And here's a little extra holiday fun: Food and drinks are welcome aboard the trolley! Bring along your favorite refreshments, settle in and let the holiday magic unfold.

Make this festive outing part of your holiday traditions.

Space may be limited, so don't wait to reserve your seat: Sunday, Dec. 20, 6:30 p.m.

Register today at Pelican Marsh.com and join us for an enchanting evening of holiday lights, laughter and community spirit!

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Sue Donatelli, proud resident of Pelican Marsh

Santa, the Grinch and holiday fun

Register for the Children's Holiday Party

By Lynn Atzingen, Director of Activities



Get ready for an afternoon filled with holiday magic, giggles and a little Grinchy mischief! Bring the kids and grandkids to the Pelican Marsh Community Center for our festive Children's Holiday Party: **Monday, Dec. 21, 4 p.m. Advanced registration is required!**

Little ones will enjoy holiday crafts, sweet treats and plenty of seasonal fun. And, of course, no holiday party would be complete without a visit from Santa Claus and the Grinch! Will the Grinch be on his best behavior? You'll have to come and find out!

Be sure to bring your camera because there will be wonderful opportunities to capture those priceless holiday moments with the kids, Santa and everyone's favorite green holiday character. These are the kinds of memories you'll treasure long after the decorations are packed away. It's the perfect way to share the magic of the season with the youngest members of our Pelican Marsh family.

So gather the children and grandchildren and join us at the Pelican Marsh Community Center Monday, Dec. 21, 4 p.m., for an afternoon of laughter, creativity and holiday cheer. Add holiday fun into the calendar and register today at Pelican Marsh.com. We look forward to celebrating with you and your little elves!



THRIFT THE SEASON

Discover Avow Treasures' Holiday Boutique, **starting November 16!** Find festive décor and one-of-a-kind gifts while supporting Avow's compassionate care in our community.

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Sound Bath & Guided Meditation

Hosted monthly at Pelican Marsh

By Lynn Atzingen, Director of Activities



Ready to relax, recharge and give yourself a little well-deserved you time? Join us at Pelican Marsh for our monthly Sound Bath & Guided Meditation, hosted by massage therapist Amanda Thomassen.

A sound bath is a calming, immersive experience that uses soothing sounds and gentle vibrations from instruments such as singing bowls to encourage relaxation. Paired with guided meditation, this peaceful session offers an opportunity to slow down, quiet the mind and take a break from the busyness of everyday life.

The potential benefits include reduced stress, improved mood, better relaxation and a greater sense of mental and emotional well-being. You don't need any meditation experience, and there's no special technique to learn. Simply get comfortable, settle in and let the soothing sounds guide you toward a more peaceful state of mind.

Whether you're looking to ease tension, find a little inner calm or simply try something new, this is a wonderful way to nurture your well-being and reconnect with yourself. Give yourself permission to pause! Join Amanda for this monthly opportunity to relax, restore and recharge right here in our Pelican Marsh community. Check the event calendar and register on Pelican Marsh.com for upcoming dates and details.

The Shred Truck is coming!

By Lynn Atzingen, Director of Activities

Time to clean out those file cabinets and gather up those old documents! The Shred Truck will return to the Pelican Marsh Community Center **Thursday, Jan. 14, 2027, at 2 p.m.**

Enjoy peace of mind knowing that all shredding is done right here on the premises, so your sensitive documents can be securely destroyed onsite. There's no need to even get out of your car! So, start gathering those papers, clearing out those drawers and getting organized!

More details will be shared as the date approaches but mark your calendar for Jan. 14 at 2 p.m., and let's get shredding!

Pelican Marsh Women's League

Who are we?

By Lesley Corydon, PMWL

The Pelican Marsh Women's League is an organization of just over 200 Pelican Marsh women. We provide activities year round including lunches, speakers, book clubs, golf and philanthropic events. Our mission is "To bring together the women of Pelican Marsh through friendship and shared experiences, and to provide opportunities for cultural enrichment, lifelong learning, social connection and community service."

October Luncheon

Our PMWL Opening Luncheon on Oct. 22 received rave reviews. We had 48 members attend, and the Pelican Marsh Golf Club served up five-star hospitality with an outstanding plated meal and excellent service. Three lucky ladies won door prizes to top off the luncheon gala.

Our speaker was Tim Aten, author of the Naples Daily News column, "In the Know." Tim provided insider insights into what's coming in Naples: from restaurants, to retailers, to commercial expansion. He shared that we currently have 400,000 residents, and the plan is to double that in the coming years. He also shared that 50% of the Naples population will live east of Interstate 75. Naples has had development booms after each major hurricane. Each time, Naples bounces back stronger than ever.

Upcoming calendar

Our team has been busy pulling together a fun calendar of events and activities for our 2026–27 season. Here are just a few of our upcoming events:

• November Wine Tasting – Monday, Nov. 9 at Old Vines Mercato





Our Mission:

To provide the opportunity for all women residents of Pelican Marsh to enjoy cultural, social, educational and charitable activities in the spirit of friendship and community.

• November Coffee & Conversations – Wednesday, Nov. 11, 10 a.m., at the Pelican Marsh Community Center. It's a great place to meet members and learn more about the League!

• Holiday Luncheon – Thursday, Dec. 3 at Pelican Marsh Golf Club

• Inaugural Welcome Back Happy Hour – Monday, Jan. 18, 2027, at Pelican Marsh Golf Club

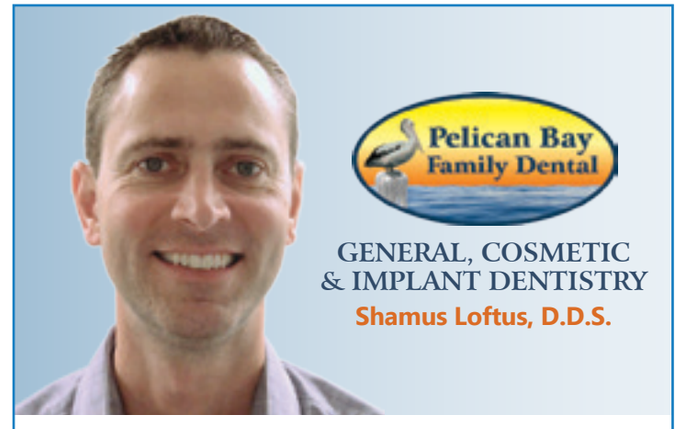
We are looking to grow our membership too!

Renewals

Renewals are open on the

continued on page 22

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PHOTO GALLERY

Bocce Meet & Greet









women's league...continued from page 21

Pelican Marsh Foundation website. Go to the date Jan. 31, 2027, on the calendar, and you can renew anytime from now until the end of January.

Why Jan. 31, 2027, you may ask? The system has a constraint that if you are signing up for an "event" that isn't on just one date, you have to select the absolute last day registration is open. Thanks for bearing with us!

New joiners

Go to the Pelican Marsh Foundation website and you will find registrations for PMWL on April 1, 2027. Yes, it seems like an odd date, but don't worry; it's due to the same constraint as previously mentioned.

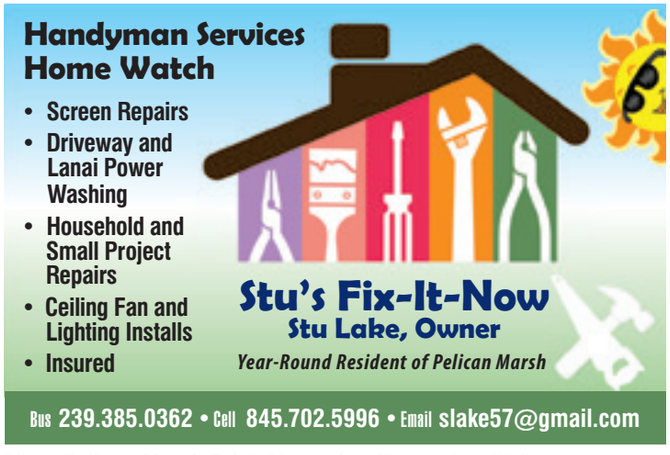
Also, your membership is effective the day you join! If you join before Jan. 1, 2027, you won't have to renew again until Jan. 1, 2028.

At $60 for a year of membership, including access to dozens of activities and events with friends and neighbor, it is a great value! Keep in mind that a significant portion of those dues goes directly to charitable giving for community partners, many of whom support women and girls.

Questions?

If you would like to learn more about the League there are flyers and copies of our most recent newsletter in a stand just to the right of the entrance to the Community Center. The ladies at the Foundation desk can also help you, or you can email us at PMWLnaples@gmail.com.

We hope to see you at a League event in the near future!



PELICAN MARSH BRIEF

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David Keegan
Realtor

DAVIDKEEGAN

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GABLES



$2,395,000
903 Spanish Moss Trl.

Tucked away at the end of a quiet, cul-de-sac, this stunning single-family estate pairs privacy with tranquil lake views. Boasting 3 bedrooms, 3 bathrooms, and 2,898 square feet, this home is the epitome of Naples lifestyle inside the prestigious Pelican Marsh gated community. The open-concept main living areas feature luxurious travertine flooring, while the bedrooms offer rich hardwood flooring. Massive windows lead seamlessly to an incredible outdoor setup complete with a private heated pool and spa. Minutes from pristine beaches, luxury shopping, and world-class dining.Your dream lifestyle starts at the end of the trail! Schedule your private tour today.

TROON LAKES



$1,525,000
9227 Troon Lakes Dr.

Beautifully updated residence in one of Naples' most sought-after gated communities. With tranquil lake views, this home blends timeless elegance with modern upgrades. Thoughtfully renovated kitchen showcases updated cabinetry, sleek countertops, and a contemporary design. Bathrooms have been updated with stylish finishes. Light-filled interiors, functional layout, and seamless indoor-outdoor flow make this home live larger than expected. Enjoy peaceful mornings and stunning sunsets overlooking the water. Located within Pelican Marsh, residents enjoy world-class amenities including golf, tennis, fitness, and a vibrant social lifestyle.

ESCADA



$6,395,000
2562 Escada Ct.

Experience luxury living in this updated estate home in Escada at The Ritz-Carlton Tiburón. This spacious, light-filled home features 16' ceilings, European white oak flooring, custom millwork, and designer lighting. The gourmet kitchen boasts neutral finishes, a large island, custom cabinetry, and top-tier Wolf and Sub-Zero appliances. The expansive primary suite includes dual baths, dual closets, and French doors to a covered lanai. With three guest suites, a den, and study, there's room for both comfort and functionality. Enjoy a resort-style saltwater pool and spa, summer kitchen, fireplace, and covered outdoor living.

ARBORS



$5,249,000
1331 Little Blue Herson Ct.

Beautifully renovated 4BR/4.5BA estate in the Arbors at Pelican Marsh, set on nearly half an acre with 4,284 SF of sophisticated single-level living. Features include soaring ceilings, custom finishes, a stunning kitchen with Wolf & Sub-Zero appliances, luxurious updated baths, and an exceptional outdoor retreat with glass-bottom pool, outdoor kitchen and bar. Impact windows/doors, new tile roof, 3-car garage and circular drive complete this exceptional Naples residence.

ESPERANZA



$1,795,000
2745 Tiburon Blvd. E #102

Leave your worries behind and step into the unmatched luxury of resort style living in Esperanza at Tiburon, Naples. Enjoy almost 3000 sq. ft. of meticulously designed living space, featuring 3 bedrooms plus a den and 3.5 baths. Private elevator, gourmet kitchen, expansive lanai, luxury finishes and secure parking. Additional amenities include 36 holes of championship golf, clubhouse and concierge, fitness and wellness, beach access and so much more. This property needs to be seen to be fully appreciated! Schedule your private tour today.

OSPREY POINTE



$1,695,000
9037 Whimbrel Watch Ln. #202

This stunning 2,748 sq. ft. 3 bedroom plus den residence showcases breathtaking panoramic views of the lake and the 12th hole of Pelican Marsh Golf Course. One of only two second-floor units in Osprey Pointe with coveted western exposure, the home is filled with natural light and delivers spectacular sunset views. Completely renovated, this residence features a private elevator, designer kitchen and spa-inspired bathrooms. Osprey Pointe has recently completed extensive community upgrades. This is a rare opportunity to own in one of Pelican Marsh's most desirable enclaves. Schedule your private showing today.

MONT CLAIRE



$1,475,000
2395 Mont Claire Dr. #202

Another successful sale in Pelican Marsh! This totally renovated condo at 2395 Mont Claire Dr #202, Naples, FL generated immediate interest and was listed and sold in just one day. Beautifully renovated and presented in move-in-ready condition, this residence showcased the appeal of a thoughtfully updated home in one of Naples' sought-after communities. The combination of a stunning renovation, desirable Pelican Marsh location, and effective marketing created an exceptional response from buyers.

LES CHATEAUX



$1,325,000
1865 Les Chateaux Blvd. #303

Located in Les Chateaux within the prestigious Pelican Marsh community. This 3rd-floor residence was completely reimagined and renovated in March 2025 with exceptional attention to detail and quality craftsmanship throughout. The stunning new kitchen features custom cabinetry, quartz countertops, a counter-depth refrigerator, stainless steel appliances, and a sleek induction range. New sinks and designer faucets complete the space, creating a modern yet timeless aesthetic. All bathrooms have been fully redesigned This residence is offered turnkey furnished, making it truly move-in ready.

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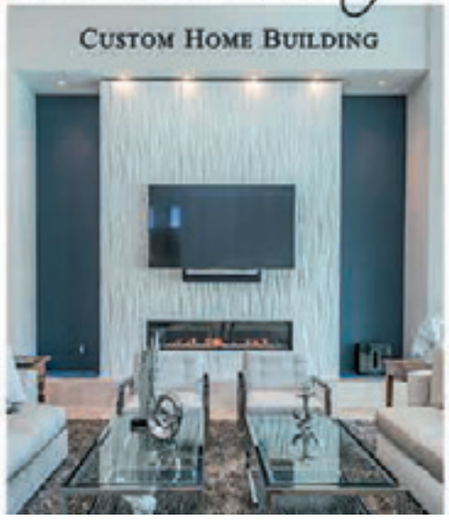
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