



# Eagle Ridge

## A Golf Club Community

“THROUGH THE EYE OF THE EAGLE”

Another Seabreeze Publication

## From Your President

By John J. Spiegel

My dad was a man of many sayings, or expressions, which, while growing up, I must have heard scores of times. “Any job worth doing is worth doing right,” “Keep your mind on what you’re doing,” “They’re just trying to separate you from your money,” “If two people know something, you don’t have a secret,” “Think before you speak,” “Keep your eyes and ears open and your mouth shut,” “There’s nothing like having the right tool for the job,” “Keep your work right in front of you,” “Hard work

pays off, really hard work pays dividends for life,” “You can always tell when someone knows what they’re doing,” and on and on. All of my dad’s sayings were around long before the digital age, way before we got used to “Googling” something or someone.

Some years ago, I was startled to learn that school kids were allowed to use calculators in class and when taking exams. Wow. My class standing would have been a lot higher if I had a calculator to perform equations, determine square roots, do geometry, etc. I guess that

means that today’s kids don’t actually have to learn how to do the calculations for themselves, don’t have to memorize the steps involved or understand how the various elements fit together. I think that is too bad. There is a great deal of satisfaction to be had from learning to master the difficult. However, as we venture deeper into the digital age, we cannot deny the ease and convenience of immediate access to seemingly unlimited information. Directions to a destination? Mapquest.com. Popular restaurants? Tripadvisor.com. How to fix your sprinkler’s zone valve? Youtube.com.

Over time, I’ve learned that all my dad’s expressions are true. The one that stands out as simply unassailable is “There’s nothing like having the right tool for the job.” I can’t begin to count the number of times I did or did not have that right tool but, man, it sure made a big difference when I did. But that expression isn’t applicable only to toolbox tools. You can insert “person” instead of tool and the saying is just as true.

While these sayings may be true, are they as valuable today as they were before we got well into the digital age? What I mean is this: Does the fact that we don’t have to actually know something from having learned it make the notions of self-discipline, deferred gratification, following rules and norms, etc., less valuable, less important? Has our deep dive into the digital information age made many of us more superficial? Has that deep dive made it more difficult to know whether you have selected the “right” person for the job? I have an opinion, but I do not have answers. Do you?

## Who’s New In The Neighborhood?

Jennifer Thompson

By Arlene Cabai Schuetz

No one could accuse Jennifer Thompson of a lack of enthusiasm or ambition. She just recently moved to her two-story home on Aeries Way, which she is totally remodeling, from the ground floor up! Jennifer moved here from Estero and found Eagle Ridge “by accident, just driving around.” She didn’t even



Sparkles

know Eagle Ridge existed. She was and is attracted to our community since it is quiet and well-kept with space between homes, unlike other communities.

Originally from Michigan where she attended Michigan State University, Jennifer has degrees in chemistry, human biology, physiology, and an MBA. When she is not biking, paddleboarding, rollerblading or reading, she is the busy owner/operator of an Internet advertising company.

Sharing her home are Sparkles, a 12-year-old Chihuahua and 3-year-old Mona Lisa, a Lab/Spaniel mix, both rescued from animal shelters. When I mentioned I thought she would like living here in Eagle Ridge, Jennifer smiled and said, “I already do.” Please extend a warm welcome to one of our newest residents!

## Caught On Camera

Do you have any pictures you would like to share? Post them in the Caught On Camera spot. Submit your photos, with a brief description, to rontlougan@gmail.com.

Cuban Tree Frogs

By Doug Albers

Frogs seem to be everywhere lately. It’s where you find them that can tell you something. I found these **Cuban tree frogs** inside my lanai perched high up on a piece of board. These are **bad** frogs for Florida. First confirmed records put them here back in the 1920s. Now they are everywhere. These guys were 2 to 3 inches, and all three had different color patterns. They have rough warty skin, which is from creamy white to various shades of brown. Note, to help you identify, they have exceptionally **large** toe pads. A large female can lay as many as 15,000 eggs! Point is Cuban tree frogs are a **very invasive** frog. According to the Florida Wildlife Extension, “due to the destructive effects this frog has on many of our favorite native amphibians and reptiles, many biologists recommend Cuban tree frogs should be euthanized.”

Shown is a native squirrel tree frog. Let’s do what we can to keep this cute little native here. Don’t ask me how I

got him to sit on the penny. “Trust” me, it will never happen again.

For your information, on a side note, in October, I followed a Florida **panther** into Eagle Ridge at the Aeries Way entrance. **Unbelievable**, once in a lifetime sight! It has also been spotted further in on Aeries Way, in the preserve area, where the ponds end, on the right side of the road. This panther seemed very much at home.

For more information, go to [www.wec.ufl.edu](http://www.wec.ufl.edu), or just Google “Cuban tree frog.”



## Third Annual Chuck Seigreid Memorial Battle Of The Sexes

By Gary Melillo

The date of this year’s Battle of the Sexes was changed because *Hurricane Irma* attacked Eagle Ridge this September. Even though the course opened Nov. 1, we decided to change the date to give the course some time to heal. The course was in great shape, some of the new tee boxes were opened the day of the battle, and the weather was a perfect 83 degrees.

The event started out with coffee and donuts served by our very own Donut Dollie (also known as Marylee Bertram). It was an 8:30 a.m. shotgun start. Everything went off without a hitch and everyone showed up on time ... well, at 8:15 a.m. we were missing one man due to a traffic issue, but luckily he made it to the course before 8:30 a.m.! This should have been an omen for the men.

After the battle everyone brought their scorecards into the clubhouse and some of us hung around to see the early results. It wasn’t looking good for the men. But, onward to the Olive Garden for the official scoring. We had a great attendance for the dinner. While we were passing out the gifts, the official scorekeepers (Mike Monserez and Ron Bertram) were working their magic.

**Here were their results:**

Men’s closest to the pin: Hole No. 5 was won by Dave DeVogelaar.

Men’s closest to the pin: Hole No. 16 was won by Dan Wright.

*Memorial Battle Of The Sexes on page 4*



# Fraud Alert

## Cell Phone Users Complain Of Spam Text Messages

From The Office Of Lee County Sheriff Mike Scott

If you’ve recently received a text message that claims to be from Regions Bank alerting you to an invalid charge on your debit or credit card, the Lee County Sheriff’s Office warns you these messages are fraudulent and are being sent to lure you into disclosing important financial information. The sheriff’s office was made aware of this recent “smishing” scam targeting cell



phone users after concerned residents contacted the fraud line to report receiving spam text messages requesting they either call a number within the text or reply to a Verizon.net email address. In either case, the fraudster is trying to collect active credit or debit card numbers.

Cardholders should always remember that legitimate debit and credit card issuers will **never ask for your personal or financial information via text message or email.** If you have received one of these texts and have not provided your information as instructed, no action is required on your part. If you have provided information, please take the following steps:

- If the information you provided was for a credit card, call the issuer of the card that was compromised using the phone number listed on the back of your card.
- If the information you provided was for a debit card,

contact your financial institution **immediately** to avoid losing cash.

Although it is difficult to avoid receiving these fraudulent text messages, these tips may help you from becoming a victim of “smishing”:

- Contact your cell phone carrier to find out what you can do to control spam.
- Ignore instructions to text “stop” or “no” to prevent future texts. This is a common ploy by scammers to confirm they have a real, active phone number. Some mobile service providers allow you to forward unwanted spam text by texting it to 7726 (or “SPAM”). This enables the providers to prevent future unwanted texts from the specific sender.

For more information about “smishing” or to report a smishing scam, please call the sheriff’s office fraud line at 258-3292.

# South Trail Fire And Rescue

## In Good Hands

On Dec. 7, 1987 I was hired as a firefighter with the South Trail Fire District, I worked my way through the ranks and on Dec. 1, 2007 I was privileged to be appointed to serve as your fire chief. After 30 years of service to this great community I will be retiring from the fire service, but be assured you continue to be in good hands. The Board of Fire Commissioners (the elected officials who oversee the fire district), adopted a succession plan and identified my replacement in May 2017. I am proud to announce that Benjamin Bengston will be your new fire chief when



I leave office at the end of February 2018. By identifying my replacement in advance of my departure, the Board of Commissioners has given us the opportunity to work together to assure a smooth transition. Ben Bengston has worked for the District since 1997. He currently serves as the assistant chief and he brings years of experience, education, and a passion for excellence. His greatest quality is his genuine concern and compassion for the people of this district.

During my tenure as your fire chief I have constantly promoted kindness and customer service in all aspects of our agency. I have always lived by the concept that a citizen can choose where they will shop for groceries, but when you dial 911 you don’t get to choose who responds to your emergency. We have strived to be the fire department you would choose, even if you had a choice. We hope you think of us as your fire department, and we hope you know that we have your back. We truly care about your safety and well-being and we are there for you in your hour of need. It is this attitude, and this leadership concept that I have passed along to my successor and his team of leaders.

Over the last 30 years of service, I have been given the opportunity to have a positive impact on many lives. I have

been blessed with this opportunity and I sincerely thank the community for your ongoing support of South Trail Fire District. My heart will always remain at South Trail, but as I move on to different pursuits I leave you in good hands. South Trail Fire District has the best personnel in the emergency services. These men and women are professional, well trained, knowledgeable, kind, and dedicated to your emergency needs. The leadership team is already in place and I am confident this team will lead the agency with compassion, commitment, and courage.

I am very proud of our accomplishments as a fire district and am wholeheartedly confident that this district will remain the excellent community resource you have come to expect. We have been entrusted with your tax money and with your lives. This district will continue to do everything we can to provide the best level of fire, emergency medical, and rescue services possible.

Thank you for allowing me to serve. You remain in good hands.

*William B. Lombardo,  
Fire Chief*

## Join Us For A Bike Ride

SWFL Critical Mass is a group of local bike riders who enjoy biking around Lee County. Come be a part of our “Mass.” For more information visit us at [www.swflcriticalmass.com](http://www.swflcriticalmass.com) or on Facebook at <https://www.facebook.com/groups/SWFLcriticalmass>.

**Fort Myers First Friday**  
7 p.m. meetup – 7:30 p.m. roll out  
2160 McGregor Blvd., Fort Myers

**NE Lee Second Friday**  
7 p.m. meetup – 7:30 p.m. roll out  
Winn Dixie – 14600 Palm Beach Blvd., Fort Myers

**Second Saturday On Sanibel**  
7 p.m. meetup – 7:30 p.m. roll out  
Jerry’s Plaza – 1700 Periwinkle Way, Sanibel

**Estero Third Friday**  
7 p.m. meetup – 7:30 p.m. roll out  
(New Location) Dollar Tree – 10021 Estero Town Commons Place, Estero

**LaBelle Slow Roll\* – Third Saturday**  
9 a.m. meetup – 9:15 a.m. roll out  
71 S. Lee St., LaBelle

**Cape Coral Last Friday**  
7 p.m. meetup – 7:30 p.m. roll out  
4700 SE 11th Place, Cape Coral

**Saturday Slow Roll\* – Last Saturday**  
9 a.m. meetup – 9:15 a.m. roll out  
2160 McGregor Blvd., Fort Myers

\*Slow Roll rides are recommended for adults new to cycling or younger inexperienced riders. By Florida Law: Front and rear lights **required** for all riders. Helmets are **strongly** encouraged for all riders and **required** for all riders ages 16 and under.

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Fort Myers, FL 33908  
(Same center with Five Guys  
Next to Healthpark Hospital)  
**239-489-1544**

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[seabreezecommunications.com](http://seabreezecommunications.com)  
Or Call **239.278.4222**



# Sidney & Berne Davis Art Center

**Tiding Weaving With Susan Hedge**  
**Wednesday, Jan. 3 – 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.**  
**Tickets: \$60**

We collect the things left behind in our South Florida “tidal world”: bits of driftwood, seaweed, branches, shells, grasses and more. We weave them into life on simple Journey Looms and hang them in the gallery exhibit “Weaving Water.” This workshop is for anyone who wants to learn to weave or experienced weavers who want to freely weave with unconventional objects and techniques. As we weave, we will explore our water-based environment, laugh and share our experiences and hopes for a more understood, valued and loved Florida. All materials and use of loom supplied.



**Famous Author Lecture Series: Nathan Hill**  
**Monday, Jan. 8 – 12 to 2 p.m.**  
**Tickets: \$35 general admission, tables of eight, \$280**

The Famous Author Lecture Series invites audiences to take part in a lunch and lecture with an acclaimed writer. Savor a lunch and lecture with this best-selling, critically acclaimed author! From 12 to 2 p.m. enjoy a gourmet lunch, a lecture from the author, and a question and answer portion that offers insights on the author and the stories they write. A book signing opportunity will also be available. Featuring Nathan Hill, author of *The Nix*.



**Rhumba Dance Class**  
**Wednesday, Jan. 10 – 6:30 p.m. through Jan. 31 at 8 p.m.**  
**Tickets: \$119 per person**

Join USA Dance for a four-week course in rhumba taught by Marvilla Marzan, former competitive ballroom dancer! Class runs from Jan. 10 through 31. Minimum sign-up is 10 people.



**SWFL Symphony Small Stage Concert Series: For The Love Of Beethoven**  
**Friday, Jan. 12 – 7:30 to 9:30 p.m.**  
**Tickets: \$30**

“For the Love of Beethoven” from SWFL Symphony reimagines



three signature works from Beethoven: *Overture to Coriolan*, *Symphony No. 1*, and *Piano Concerto No. 5 The Emperor* featuring conductor Nir Kabaretti and Jillian Prescott. Music awards winner Priscila Navarro will be on piano. Visit <https://www.swflso.org> for more information.

**Taps & Tunes Craft Beer And Music Festival**  
**Saturday, Jan. 13 – 2 to 8 p.m.**  
**Tickets: \$45, unlimited beer tasting. \$75 VIP pass, \$5 general admission.**

Savor the art of brewing as you sample over 80-plus craft beers from award-winning breweries. Purchase delicious foods from popular local food trucks as you are entertained by a variety of bands.



**An Evening With The King**  
**Friday, Jan. 19 – 7 to 10 p.m.**  
**Tickets: \$59 VIP, \$45 general admission**  
**Cocktails, 7 p.m.; show, 8 p.m.**

Join SBDAC for a brand new retro records music series, Vinyl Vibes, featuring some of the best tribute and cover acts in the nation. A night with the King pays tribute to the one and only Elvis Presley. Put on your blue suede shoes and dance the night away with one of the best Elvis impersonators in Las Vegas, Ted Torres!



**Art & Poetry Networking Event**  
**Thursday, Jan. 25 – 8 to 11 p.m.**  
**Ticket: \$10 general admission**  
Gulf Coast Leisure’s Art & Poetry Networking Events showcase the best art and poetry Southwest Florida has to offer! Artwork of every media type is represented, as well as music, spoken word, poetry, and crafts. Network with like-minded people and expand the Southwest Florida artistic community. Join Gulf Coast Leisure’s Art & Poetry Networking Events every third Friday of the month. Call (239) 896-0654, email [gulfcoastleisure@gmail.com](mailto:gulfcoastleisure@gmail.com) or visit [www.sbdac.com](http://www.sbdac.com) for more information.

**The Dan Miller-Lew Del Gatto Quintet Featuring Vocalist Kenny Washington**  
**Saturday, Jan. 27 – 7 to 10 p.m.**  
**Cocktails, 7 p.m.; performance, 8 p.m.**  
**Tickets: General admission, \$35 in advance; \$40 at the door. Table of four \$220; table of eight \$440**

Join us for the Jazzy Nights Concert Series, featuring some of the best performers and musicians in the genre today. The Dan Miller-Lew Del Gatto Quintet is back for another great performance! See the sensational jazz vocalist Kenny Washington, Dan Miller on trumpet, Lew Del Gatto on tenor saxophone, Joe Delaney on piano, Don Mopsick on bass and Tony Vigilante on drums.

**Sidney & Berne Davis Art Center, 2301 First St., Fort Myers, (239) 333-1933.**



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Memorial Battle Of The Sexes from page 1



Pat Adcock, Crombie Award winner for lowest number of putts – 25



Rendall Hefler, longest putt, Hole No. 15

Women’s closest to the pin: Hole No. 8 was won by Peg Lear.  
Women’s closest to the pin: Hole No. 14 was won by Jane Hefler.



Winners of closest to the pin: Dan Wright, Hole No. 16; Jane Hefler, Hole No. 14; Peg Lear, Hole No. 8; Dave Devogear, Hole No. 5

Women’s closest to the line: Hole No. 9 was won by Cindy Massey.  
Men’s closest to the line: Hole No. 11 was won by Jim O’Connor.  
Longest putt: Hole No. 15 was won by Rendell Hefler.  
The Crombie Award for the lowest number of putts was won by Pat Adcock with an amazing 25 putts.  
Women won 77 matches. Men won 57 matches.



Closest to the line: Men: Jim O’Connor, Hole No. 11; Women: Cindy Massey, Hole No. 9

2017 Chuck Seigfreid Memorial Battle of the Sexes was won by the women!  
The score now is Men 10, Women 10!  
We would like to thank all the sponsors this year: Bob and Louise Freehill, Arnie and Liz Harris, Jim and Karen Kudrle, Tom and Susan Shearer, Mike Monserez and Kathy Furlong, Dale Livingston and the Eagle Ridge Golf Club. We would also like to thank Jim Robinson at the Eagle Ridge clubhouse for his support and assistance. We wouldn’t have been able to pull this event off without Ron and Marylee Bertram together with Mike Monserez and Kathy Furlong. Thank you for all your help.  
Congratulations to the women for their win in 2017.

Eagle Ridge Board Of Directors  
From March 2017 To March 2018

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Christine Leslie, Director

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Committee Chairs For 2017

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(239) 466-0591

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Bill Simmons, Chairperson  
(239) 565-4343, erArchiture@aol.com

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(239) 561-1511

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(239) 777-0137  
Fran Danek and Phyllis Wayco  
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RonTlougan@gmail.com (651) 764-4438

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Eagle Ridge Additional Contact Information

Replacement of Lamppost Bulbs and Light Sensors:  
Contact Joe Foster...(239) 218-7714 and leave your name, address and phone number.

Flagpole Holders and Damaged Mailbox Repairs,  
Painting of Mailboxes and Light Poles  
Contact Dennis Shelley, (239) 887-1042.

ERPOA Web Maintenance  
Contact Ed Schuler, (267) 513-0800.

# Eagle Ridge Ladies On The Links

By Fran Danek  
The Eagle Ridge Wednesday Morning Ladies’ Golf League is in full operation with nearly 40 members and counting. The competition in November was enhanced by pleasant warm weather which contributed to the enthusiasm of the group. The league is continuing to welcome new members including Nancy Simpson, Laverne Hagdohl, Nancy Slovak, Nancy Campbell, Pat Arnet, Kathy Bradley, Cathy Becker, Mary Zimmerman, Maureen Pistorio and Mary Gleysteen. Apparently, word is spreading that we have a fun and competitive group and our membership is continuing to expand.  
Fresh off a big victory in the “Battle of the Sexes,” league play continued throughout 2017 and we are looking forward to more exciting golf as we enter a new year.  
We continue to welcome new members to the league. It is not too late to join in on the fun and competition. Contact Fran Danek at (989) 684-0156 or Phyllis Wayco at (239) 561-4619 if you need more information.  
Happy Holidays to all and safe travels to those heading away to visit family and friends.  
Eagle Ridge Ladies’ Wednesday a.m. Golf  
Winners for Nov. 15 include:  
Field Score  
First Flight  
First place: 40 Peg Lear  
Second place (tie): 48 Renie Green, Fran Danek  
Second Flight  
First place: 47 Kathy Furlong  
Second place: 52 Phyllis Wayco

Third Flight  
First place: 53 Carol Dee Hamilton  
Second place: 54 Carol Sarocka  
Low Putts  
First: 31 Kito Miller  
Birdies: Tee Pazitney, No. 15; Peg Lear, No. 9  
Chip-ins: None!  
Winners for Nov. 22 include:  
Low Net  
First place: 71 Nancy Campbell  
Second place (tie): 74 Marla Cunningham, Kathy Gentry  
Low Putts  
First place: 29 Barb Baker  
Second place: 30 Karen Kudrle  
Birdies: Pat Romano, No. 14  
Chip-ins: Carol Sarocka, Marla Cunningham, Barb Baker  
Winners for Nov. 29 include:  
Field Score  
First Flight  
First place: 39 Marla Cunningham  
Second place: 40 Pat Koniecki  
Second Flight  
First place: 39 Barb Baker  
Second place: 41 Phyllis Wayco  
Third Flight  
First place (tie): 46 Carol Dee Hamilton, Dorothy Carlson, Pat Romano  
Low Putts  
First place: 31 Pat Adcock

NOTICE

Please  
clean up  
after your  
dog

Deed of Restrictions Section A-15: Pets must be on a leash at all times when being walked outside of the owner’s property boundaries. The pet owner is responsible for picking up all animal waste from their pet at all times. This includes the common areas! Violators are subject to fining.

- The Board of Directors

Eagle Ridge Job Spot

Nonbusinesses please! All business owners should contact Seabreeze Communications to place an ad.  
Are you looking for an odd job? Want to be included in the Eagle Ridge Job Spot? Email your information to rontlougan@gmail.com. Baby-sitters, pet sitters, yard work and more.

Jenni Caves, (239) 336-4282. Marketing Professional. Offering services in branding, website development, management, social media, public relations, etc. I have over 15 years’ experience in marketing and public relations in the public and private sectors. I have lived in Eagle Ridge over seven years.

J.J. Claypool, (239) 810-4724. Dependable, trustworthy, hard worker. I can do yard work, pressure washing: lanais, driveways, windows, outdoor furniture, etc. You will be pleased with my work ethic. I am headed off to college soon and would love the opportunity to work for money. Thank you.

Connie Hope, (239) 225-6609. Absentee Homeowner Services: “While you’re away” I can check your home or condo. (Weekly/biweekly/monthly). I can validate yard maintenance and irrigation, pick up parcels and mail, check water, check appliances, arrange for repairs and services and much more. I am in the community. Call or email conniehope@comcast.net.

Connie Hope, (239) 225-6609. Secretarial work, outreach office work, write your letters, answer your email, also light accounting, prepare things for taxes. I have been a Florida notary for the last 10 years.

Crystal Jozsa, (419) 460-3866. Photography. I am a professional photographer who specializes in family, children, weddings and high school senior portraiture. I can come to your home or go on location. My work can be seen at www.crystaljozsaphotography.com.

Patty Fajardo, (239) 208-9956. Are you looking for some help? I am a permanent resident at Eagle Ridge and am available for a variety of jobs – house cleaning, running errands, yard work, planting, pulling weeds, grocery shopping, etc. Please call – home (239) 208-9956 or cell (757) 449-9823.

Andrew Kirksey, (239) 768-0335. Pressure washing: roofs, driveways, rain gutter cleaning, lanais and cages. No job too small.

Kathie McDonough, (239) 478-0060. A resident on Triple Eagle Court, Kathie does pet sitting and home watch.

Diane Nichols, (239) 825-5861. Notary Public state of Florida since 1986. I will pet sit, house sit, and baby sit.

Marlin D. Rott, (239) 986-1589. Computer Training – Retired career computer professional can help you learn computer technology and software programs like Excel, Word, or other programs of your choice. If your interest is in how to subscribe, learn and manipulate social networks like Facebook, call now. Improve your understanding about computer literacy. One-hour lessons are available at reasonable rates. Marlin is a resident of the Eagle Ridge community.

Ginny Schuler, (215) 542-9474. College Applications. I provide assistance in all aspects of the process. I have 30-plus years’ experience in helping students gain entrance into the most competitive colleges and universities in the nation. By the time your child completes his or her sophomore year, the process of college selection should be underway. This requires timely scheduling of PSATs, SATs and ACTS tests, organizing average sheets and selecting reasonable college choices (reach, average and safety). My additional specialty is assisting students in writing excellent personal essays and short supplements.

Dennis Shelley, (239) 887-1042. Handyman and home services. Lanai screens, painting, junk hauling, home watch, lighting, garage cleanups, local moves, and he is a specialist in home security consultations and upgrades, offers free home security evaluations and tips.



# Security Central

*By Connie Hope*

We have had several police cars just making an appearance in the community over the last few weeks. It has been a quiet few weeks. There was one disturbance in the condos reported in the middle of November. Other than that, the sheriff's office hasn't reported any other

problems. I'd really like to keep it that way.

As always, if you see something that you feel is out of place and could be a problem, call the nonemergency number, (239) 477-1000. If you feel there is danger to someone or to a home, call 911.

# Cooking — By Connie

*By Connie Hope*

**Happy New Year, 2018.** What is January known for, besides being the first month of the new year? It is National Stalking Awareness Month, and Clean Out Your “Inbox” Week. It is Get Organized Month and National Hot Tea Month and National Pecan Month. It is also National Soup Month. Now that is really “up my alley.” I have written a cookbook on soups and stews ... *Comfort by the Spoonful*. So, I have many soups to choose from. Let’s try 15-Bean Soup With Ham.

### 15-Bean Soup With Ham (Bag Of Beans)

- 1 20-ounce bag of beans
- 1 cup of onions, chopped
- 1 14.5-ounce can of tomatoes, diced
- 1 teaspoon chili powder
- 1 lemon, cut and juiced
- 2 to 3 cloves of garlic, minced
- 1 cup of ham, cubed (If you have a ham bone, add that also.)
- 8 cups of water
- 2 tablespoons “Better than Bouillon, Ham”
- ½ teaspoon lemongrass – use the squeeze container
- ½ teaspoon basil (dried or in the squeeze container)
- Salt and pepper to taste



heat for 3 to 4 minutes in the microwave. Place beans in the large soup pot with the 8 cups of water that you have added the bouillon mix to. Add onions, ham cubes, and garlic. Bring to a boil, reduce heat and simmer covered for one hour. Stir. Add tomatoes, chili powder, lemon, lemongrass and basil. Simmer for another hour. Serves 6 to 8.

Here are the beans  
that are in the bag of

**15 bean soup:** Northern, Pinto, Large lima, Black eye peas, Garbanzo, Baby lima, Green split peas, Kidney, Cranberry beans, Small white, Pink beans, Small red, Yellow split pea, Lentil, Navy, White k



**Just remember – Soup is always better the next day.**

# Eagle Ridge — Christmas Tree



*Thank you to the volunteers that set up the Eagle Ridge Christmas tree.*

# Eagle Ridge Bulletin Board

*If you have an announcement, we will include it in this column. Email [rontlougan@gmail.com](mailto:rontlougan@gmail.com) with your request.*

## The Greeters Club

New year ... fresh start! How you might ask yourself? It's really simple. Make good on one New Year's resolution by attending our Friday, Jan. 19 luncheon. The event is our annual Chinese auction. First, you can participate by bringing all the items you have determined are ready to find new homes. You'll feel lighter and happier by donating these items. Second, we hope that you will find a new, gently used or regifted "special treasure" at our charity fundraiser to fill a little of the new space you just created.

Make your luncheon reservation (cost: \$20) today and find out more about joining this dynamic group of Lee County women. Email: [greetersclub@gmail.com](mailto:greetersclub@gmail.com). Provide your contact information (your name, email address and phone number). You will receive a return email confirming your reservation. **Due to scheduling conflicts**, the Jan. 19 luncheon will be held on the third Friday of the month, registration is from 10:45 to 11:30 a.m. at the Crown Plaza Hotel right off Route 41, in the Bell Tower Shops, 13051 Bell Tower Drive, Fort Myers, FL 33907. (239) 482-2900.

## Continental Women's Club Of Fort Myers

Join us on Thursday, Jan. 4, when our guest speaker will be Richard LeBer, president and CEO of Harry Chapin Food Bank. Luncheon attendees are encouraged to bring nonperishable food items to help fill the Food Bank shelves after the holiday season.

Continental Women's Club monthly meetings are held on the first Thursday of each month at 11:30 a.m. at The Hideaway Country Club, 5670 Trailwinds Drive, Fort Myers 33907. The cost to attend the luncheon is \$22. Please call (239) 691-7561 for additional information.

## Fort Myers Republican Women's Club

Meeting information not available.

## Dining In Club

If you live in Eagle Ridge, maybe you have heard of the Dining In Club where people in our community get together to meet, talk and have fun. Everyone who attends these parties really loves them.

We meet monthly from November to April. If you would like more information about Dining In, please call Connie Hope at (239) 225-6609.

\*\*\*\*\*

## The Florida Yards & Neighborhood (FYN)

Join us at a Florida Yards & Neighborhoods class and learn the nine principles that guide Florida-friendly landscaping in Lee County. The class is given under the auspices of University of Florida IFAS Extension Lee County.

Each principle is explored in class so you can apply what you learn to your own yard. Plant selection and placement, efficient irrigation, proper mulching, and techniques to obtain a beautiful and healthy yard will be discussed. To learn more, visit <http://fy.ifas.ufl.edu/>.

\*\*\*\*\*

## Volunteer In Your Eagle Ridge Community

If you are interested in serving on the Eagle Ridge Board of Directors, or would like to serve on one of the committees, please contact one of the following: Hewitt B. McCloskey Jr., John Spiegel, Peter Van Leeuwen, Ed Schuler, or Rick Herman through the Eagle Ridge website: [www.eagleridge33912.com](http://www.eagleridge33912.com).

\* \* \* \* \*

## Your *Eye Of The Eagle*

If you are not receiving your *Eye of The Eagle* newspaper, please contact Peggy Watts, (239) 910-1039 or Connie Hope, (239) 225-6609.

Extra copies of *Eye of the Eagle* newsletters are usually available at the golf course clubhouse. They also may be downloaded from the Resources tab on the Eagle Ridge website: [www.EagleRidge33912.com](http://www.EagleRidge33912.com).

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<b>SOLD</b>	14820 Bald Eagle 4BR/3.5BA \$359,900
<b>SOLD</b>	7855 Eagles Flight Lane 4BR/3BA \$325,000
<b>SOLD</b>	14601 Eagles Lookout 4BR/3BA \$325,000
<b>SOLD</b>	7642 Eaglet Court 4BR/3BA \$379,000
<b>SOLD</b>	14461 Aeries Way 3BR/2BA \$360,000



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# What’s Blooming At Edison & Ford Winter Estates? ———

By Debbie Hughes, Senior Horticulturist at Edison & Ford Winter Estates

Here in Southwest Florida, our gardens can be full of blooms all year long – even during the winter months. Flowers are nature’s way of propagating more plants; enticing insects to pollinate, which produces seeds that will one day become a new plant and start the cycle all over again.



Sometimes new seedlings look a little different from the mother plant. The blanket flowers in my wildflower garden reseed year after year. The new plants look different than the original. Variation breeds diversity and may even improve disease resistance. Plant hybridizers do this procedure in controlled circumstances without insects, aiming to improve a species. The goal is to increase disease resistance, improve flower colors, and develop smaller plants with flowers that last longer.



Everyone’s dream plant is one that only gets 1 to 2 feet tall, blooms all the time and never needs maintenance. That plant doesn’t exist, but hybridizers are working toward that scenario to give gardeners what they want. One plant that comes close to meeting all of those requirements is the beach sunflower (*Helianthus delibis*). It can be a solution for a large area that requires minimal care; however, will eventually need to be cut back, as it can grow very wide. Beach sunflowers will reseed to the point that the original plant can be removed. Just remember, there is no such thing as a “no maintenance” plant.

A plant that keeps on giving is the best way to describe many of our natives. Not only do they reseed, but they will also attract butterflies and bees. Blanket flowers are native to many areas of the country and do especially well in Florida. They can be used to cover a large area and will “blanket” the space, so they look right at home in a wildflower garden.

A garden’s success is a reflection of the care and fun put into it. January is a time to start new resolutions, so why not resolve to start a garden – or add some new flowers to an existing one? Below are some timely tips to get you started.

I recommend living in your house for a year before planting anything big or making any major changes to the landscape. During that first year, check to see which areas of the yard receive full sun, part sun or shade in both summer and winter seasons. It’s also important to learn where water stands during heavy summer rains. Then, take inventory of the existing plants in your yard and determine which ones look good and which ones need to go!

Every gardener should get a soil test – and test from several different areas in the yard. If the pH is above seven, the soil is alkaline. This is important to know, especially if you want to grow acid-loving plants. It is very difficult to change the pH of soil. If it is alkaline, there are certain minor elements that will not be available to your plants – even if the fertilizer contains these elements. Native plants are very valuable in these conditions.

A raised flower bed or pots can be used as a focal point. These types of gardens are easier to work with since there isn’t as much bending involved, which can be difficult as we get older. It’s also a good idea to add compost and mulch to improve your soil since much of Southwest Florida is sand.



I recommend visiting botanical gardens and watch how neighbors landscape their yards to get ideas. You should also get a good gardening reference book and learn about plants’ soil, sun and water requirements, as well as how much space is needed before purchasing and planting any trees, shrubs or flowers. How much maintenance each plant requires is another important consideration. A few books that I recommend are: *Snowbird Gardening* by Chase Landry, *Gardening for Florida Butterflies* by Pamela Traas, *Native Florida Plants* by Robert Haehle and *Easy Gardens for South Florida* by Pamela Crawford. The Lee County Extension Service is also an excellent resource. Additionally, guests are always welcome to stop in and talk to a horticulturist at Edison & Ford Winter Estates for gardening advice.

No garden discussion is complete without talking about insects. Many insects we find in our gardens are beneficial,




The Garden Shoppe at Edison & Ford Winter Estates has many plants and trees available for sale and demonstration gardens for planning purposes.

so try to avoid spraying toxic insecticides as they will kill the butterflies and bees. Sometimes a good strong hose is all you need to remove harmful bugs.

Spend some time each day walking around your garden. Some people even keep a garden journal to record plant growth or any new flowers. Lastly, and most importantly, remember to have fun!

We offer a garden talk on the second Saturday of each month at Edison Ford. Topics include pruning, butterfly gardening, orchids, edible plants, vining plants, fragrant flowers and many others. I hope to see you at the next one!

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# Minutes For The Eagle Ridge Property Owners Association

December 4, 2017

Welcome to all Eagle Ridge Property Owners to the Board of Directors Meeting. This will confirm that the notice for this meeting was posted more than 48 hours prior to the meeting and will confirm that the notice indicated that the 2018 budget would be voted upon by the Board.

Meeting was called to order at 7 p.m. by John Spiegel, President. Board members present were: John Spiegel, president; Richard Herman, vice president; Peter Van Leeuwen, secretary/treasurer; Hewitt McCloskey, director. Absent was Christine Leslie, director. A quorum was reached. There were 11 residents present. There were no condo residents present.

**Request was made to approve the minutes of November 6, 2017 Board Meeting:**

- 1. First Motion to Approve: Richard Herman
- 2. Second Motion to Approve Peter Van Leeuwen
- 3. All voted in favor. The motion was passed.

**Treasurer’s Report: Peter Van Leeuwen**

Overview of May through November 2017 receivables, expenses and balances.

**Balances in the accounts as of November 30:**

Checking	\$157,627.04
Reserves	\$59,320.92
Savings	\$2,655.78

**President’s Report: John Spiegel**

- 1. Update on condo litigation: A hearing is scheduled for Dec. 20 at the request of ERPOA regarding our entitlement to an award of attorney fees. The condos filed a notice of appeal but, to date have not filed their initial brief.
- 2. Update on FPL new underground service work: Two more meetings with management about relocating the box on Twin Eagle and relocating the bases. We are looking at 3 to 4 months to complete.
- 3. The 2018 Final Budget has been prepared, copies are available to review.
- 4. Golf course maintenance yard fencing. We have had a conversation with the golf course ownership about putting a decorative fence instead of chain link. We are in the process of gathering prices. Ownership advises that they have been experiencing long delays in getting their property insurance carrier to pay hurricane damage claims.
- 5. Board elections are in March, anyone interested in serving on the board or on a committee, please contact me or any other Board member.
- 6. Our secretary/treasurer Peter Van Leeuwen’s term expires in March. He has decided not to remain on the Board. We will need to find a replacement bookkeeper and secretary/treasurer. The Board has voted to pay Peter Van Leeuwen a stipend of \$500 a month. His replacement would also get this amount. This person would need to know bookkeeping and QuickBooks and be able to pass a background check. Please contact John Spiegel if you are interested.
- 7. Vote on the 2018 Budget, any questions?

	2017 Budget	2018 Draft	Variance from 2017 Budget
<b>Income</b>			
Annual Dues (net)	\$165,948	\$167,543	\$1,595
Estoppel Fees	\$4,500	\$5,000	\$500
Interest Income	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Directory Advertising	\$1,000	\$0.00	-\$1,000
Late Fees	\$950	\$1,200	\$250
Mailbox Reimbursement	\$3,000	\$3,000	\$0.00
Settlements	\$2,500	\$3,000	\$500
Transfer Fees	\$1,350	\$1,400	\$50
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>\$179,248</b>	<b>\$181,143</b>	<b>\$1,895</b>
<b>Expenses</b>			
<b>Insurance</b>	<b>\$15,000</b>	<b>\$10,545</b>	<b>-\$4,455</b>
General Liability	\$5,250	\$3,170	-\$2,080
Crime	\$750	\$425	-\$325
Directors/Officers	\$5,250	\$5,250	\$0.00
Umbrella	\$3,750	\$1,700	-\$2,050
<b>Legal</b>	<b>\$35,000</b>	<b>\$40,000</b>	<b>\$5,000</b>
<b>Capital Expenditures</b>	<b>\$5,000</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>	<b>-\$5,000</b>
New Entry Sign	\$5,000	\$0.00	-\$5,000.
<b>Operating</b>	<b>\$26,050</b>	<b>\$33,900</b>	<b>\$7,850</b>
Accounting Services	\$2,500	\$3,500	\$1,000
Administrative	\$2,500	\$8,000	\$5,500
Annual Report-State of FL	\$100	\$100	\$0.00
Civil Engineering Services	\$1,000	\$2,500	\$1,500
Contingency	\$10,000	\$10,000	\$0.00
Meeting Room Rental	\$250	\$500	\$250
Mileage Reimbursement	\$1,200	\$800	-\$400
Office Supplies	\$1,500	\$1,500	\$0.00
Printing	\$2,500	\$2,500	\$0.00
Postage & Delivery	\$2,000	\$2,000	\$0.00
Social Events	\$1,000	\$1,000	\$0.00
Web Site Expense	\$1,500	\$1,500	\$0.00
<b>Property Maintenance</b>	<b>\$73,400</b>	<b>\$71,900</b>	<b>-\$1,500</b>
Aquatic Services	\$2,400	\$2,400	\$0.00
Conservation Maintenance	\$3,600	\$3,600	\$0.00
Electrical Work	\$3,000	\$1,000	-\$2,000
Fertilizer Application	\$3,500	\$4,000	\$500
Irrigation Maintenance	\$1,500	\$1,500	\$0.00
Landscape Beautification (shrubs)	\$7,500	\$7,500	\$0.00
Landscape Maintenance	\$26,400	\$26,400	\$0.00
Mailbox / Lamppost	\$1,500	\$1,500	\$0.00

Mulching	\$8,100	\$8,500	\$400
Pest Control - Lawn	\$3,500	\$3,500	\$0.00
Pest Control - Trees & Shrubs	\$3,400	\$4,000	\$600
Residential Maintenance	\$1,500	\$500	-\$1,000
Tree & Shrub Trimming	\$7,500	\$7,500	\$0.00
<b>Utilities</b>	<b>\$800</b>	<b>\$800</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>
Electrical Service	\$800	\$800	\$0.00
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>\$155,250</b>	<b>\$157,145</b>	<b>\$1,895</b>
<b>Total Reserves</b>	<b>\$23,998</b>	<b>\$23,998</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>
<b>Total Expenses And Reserves</b>	<b>\$179,248</b>	<b>\$181,143</b>	<b>\$1,895</b>
<b>2018 Annual Assessment</b>			
Single Family			
Residences/Lots		\$278.50	
Condominiums		\$253.00	

Reserves for Capital Expenditures/Deferred Maintenance 2018							
Asset	Estimated Life (Yrs.)	Year Install	Estimated Remaining Life (Yrs.)	Replacement Cost	Balance as of 10/31/17	Remaining Funding Requirement	2018 Annual Funding Requirement
Tree Replacement (175)	40	1995	17	\$70,000	\$13,027.64	\$56,972.36	\$3,351.32
Mailbox & Lamp Post Replacement	35	1995	12	\$6,000	\$1,200	\$4,800	\$400.00
Storm Drainage Replacement	30	1990	7	\$150,000	\$33,333.32	\$116,666.68	\$16,666.67
Entry Monument Signs (2)	35	1995	12	\$25,000	\$6,196.92	\$18,803.08	\$1,566.92
Custom Street Signs	30	2010	22	\$25,000	\$2,713.04	\$22,286.96	\$1,013.04
Deferred Maintenance	10	N/A	N/A	\$10,000	\$2,850	\$7,150	\$1,000
<b>Total</b>				<b>\$286,000</b>	<b>\$59,320.92</b>	<b>\$226,679.08</b>	<b>\$23,997.95</b>

**Questions:**

- Peggy Jenyn: Why is there a reduction to the insurance?
- Peter Van Leeuwen: We have changed insurance companies and gotten a better rate.
- Peggy Jenyn: There is an increase in administration cost.
- Why?
- Peter Van Leeuwen: We started paying the secretary/treasurer each month.
- Luther Ward: Why is checking account the same amount?
- Peter Van Leeuwen: It is the primary account that the dues are put in.
- John Spiegel: Can I have a motion to accept the 2018 Budget
- 1. First Motion to approve the budget: Hewitt McCloskey
- 2. Second Motion to approve the budget: Richard Herman
- 3. All voted in favor. The motion was passed.
- The 2018 dues will be single family are \$278.50 and condos are \$253. It is noted that no condominium unit owners attended this meeting and there was no objection to the 2018 budget voiced at this board meeting.

**Vice President’s Report: Richard Herman**

Bike path update: Nov. 15 was a meeting. We are number four on the list. It will be quite a few years maybe 10 to 13 years before the funding for this project is available.. The cost will be around \$800,000.

**Directors Report: Hewitt McCloskey, Landscape & Beautification Committee**


- 1. Rick Payne will re-mulch all ERPOA landscape beds throughout Eagle Ridge. It is to be completed by mid-December. The dark brown mulch color is to remain the same. Re-mulching is in our budget.
  - 2. We had to replace an irrigation pump that burned out after *Hurricane Irma*. The pump is located on the Musa property and irrigates the first two center islands in Eagle Ridge Drive adjacent to Daniels Parkway. It also irrigates the entrance monument to Musa. The cost of the pump with installation is \$1,300. According to my records, the last time we replaced this pump was six years ago. At that time we shared the cost with Musa. I need to identify who is now the property manager at Musa about sharing the cost.
  - 3. Irrigation repairs were made in the first center island past Aeries Way Drive. *Hurricane Irma* blew over two small Jatropa trees at the end of the first island and the main irrigation into the second island was broken. After the small Jatropa trees were removed the irrigation lines were repaired.
- Directors Report: Christine Leslie**
- 1. Drainage Committee**
- At the last board meeting a homeowner mentioned the waterway to the east of Bald Eagle that needed maintenance. I reached out to Lee County DOT and submitted a RFA. This waterway is owned by Legends and the 11 pipes going under Bald Eagle are owned by Lee County. Lee County came out and inspected the pipes and the water flow was not being blocked by any debris or dirt in the pipes. I have also contacted Legends general manager about the maintenance of the waterway running along Bald Eagle, waiting to hear back.

**Committee Reports:**

- Arbitration and Fining Board: Steve Norris Not present
- Architectural Control Committee: Bill Simmons Not present

**Deed of Restrictions Committee: Don Peters**

DOR Committee Report for Dec. 4 – (revised Nov. 29). During our November tour, 29 new violation notices were issued. Eight others remain unresolved and will be addressed.



**Please do not** leave trash containers, ladders, etc., where they are visible from the street.

Also do not place containers or yard waste out to the curb more than 24 hours before the scheduled weekly pickups.

**- The Board of Directors**

A lot of problems have been caused by the hurricane. However, the DOR committee believes that sufficient time has passed to allow most of the clean-up and repair to be accomplished. A letter addressing these issues will be forthcoming with the annual POA assessment mailing, reminding owners of the requirement to comply with the Deed of Restrictions.

**Fines are recommended as follows:**

- 14902 American Eagle Court: \$1500 for non-conforming mailbox and dirty driveway; \$1500 for failure to have two 12-foot tall trees in front yard;
- 14601 Bald Eagle Drive: \$3500 for longstanding refusal to maintain front lawn, first cited for this in June of this year. The front yard consists of weeds and bare spots and has been in this condition for months, the many warnings have been ignored.
- John Spiegel: I make a motion to impose a fine on 14902 American Eagle Court in the amount of \$1500 for the mailbox

- and dirty driveway, and \$1500.00 for the failure to have two 12-foot trees in the front of the house.
- Hewitt McCloskey: I second the motion.
- All voted in favor. The motion carries.
- John Spiegel: I make a motion to impose a fine on 14601 Bald Eagle Drive of \$3500 for the longstanding refusal to maintain the front yard.
- Hewitt McCloskey: I second the motion.
- All voted in favor. The motion carries.

**Legal Committee: John Spiegel (see President’s report).**

**Security and Safety Committee: Connie Hope**

Another quiet month as far as thieves and disturbances in our community. One incident at the condos and the sheriff’s office settled it. We had sheriff’s cars present in the community the month of November. If you see something that you feel should be addressed call the nonemergency number (239) 477-1000. If you feel it is very troublesome and dangerous please call 911 immediately.

**Social Committee: Sherri Holly**

The holiday party will be held Friday, Dec. 8 at the golf course pro shop from 6 to 9 p.m. All spots have been filled, four on waiting list.

**Welcoming Committee: Arlene Cabai Schuetz Not present.**

**Residents’ comments:**

- 1. Luther Ward: When fining a resident, do we sent a letter?
- John Spiegel: A certified letter is sent to the violator. Then it will go to the Arbitration/Fining Board for a hearing.
- 2. Ken Baribeau; Property that is owned by someone and rented out, do they have to follow the community rules?
- John Spiegel: If a property is rented we require that the owner notify the ERPOA. They are instructed to follow the community rules. If a problem, we notify the owner by letter and have them discuss it with their tenants. The lease must be for at least six months.
- Hewitt McCloskey: Ed, did we develop a form on the website to fill out and identify the renters.
- Ed Schuler: Yes, it is on the website. If there is a problem, we leave a notice on the house. In the end, it is the owners responsible for the problem.
- 3. Ed Neumester: The roundabout at the end of Majestic Eagle has only two irrigation heads. Could you put in several more heads to help irrigate the area?
- Hewitt McCloskey: We may need 4 to 5 heads. I will look into it. We will put seed in there and it should fill the area in. I will call and discuss the possibilities.
- 4. John Spiegel: The speed limit sign on Aeries Way Drive was knocked down by *Irma*. Someone took the sign. Hewitt, what is happening with this?
- Hewitt McCloskey: I went back to the original company, Sign Tech. They came out and looked at the other signs and were to manufacture a new one. It never happened. I have to get hold of them again and see what is happening.

Request a Motion to adjourn the meeting:

- 1. First Motion for adjournment: Richard Herman
- 2. Second Motion for Adjournment: Peter Van Leeuwen
- 3. All voted in favor. The motion was passed.
- 4. Meeting Adjourned at: 8:03 p.m.

### Mailbox Maintenance And Repair

Mailbox doors have a closure spring that eventually breaks after thousands of openings. It is important to replace them as soon as they are discovered as they usually result in a broken door, which is a much more expensive repair. Call **Dennis Shelley**, (239) 887-1042. The cost of installing a new spring is \$34. If the door casting breaks, it costs an additional \$112 to repair the door. Dennis also has specially manufactured flagpole holders to match the lampposts. They are available for \$89 installed. Your mailbox and lamppost can also be repainted for \$49, which will bring them back to their “like-new” appearance. Dennis also offers handyman services.

