



Your NEW Garden Gnome News! "with a little help from my friends!"

Volume 1, Issue 5

HOME OF THE GNOME!

May 2016

Let's don't be scared, let's be proactive.. we need to get water, flashlights, batteries, canned goods..
2016 Atlantic Hurricane Season Expected to be Most Active Since 2012
<https://weather.com/storms/hurricane/news/2016-hurricane-season-forecast-atlantic-the-weather-channel>

This issue deals with closing your condo, if you are about to leave & all of us getting ready for hurricane season: June 1st through November 30th

Closing Your Florida Home Checklist

The following list is designed to assist you in preparing to close your home for the season. Some procedures may apply to your situation, others may not. Use this list as a guide to check off those tasks of greatest concern to you. The rationale for the procedures listed below are explained in the following pages.

Three (3) Weeks Prior to Leaving:

- * Make an appointment to have air conditioning system serviced (this should be done once a year).
- * Have air conditioning service professional calibrate humidistat.
- * Call telephone company to temporarily suspend service during your absence.
- * Review homeowners insurance policy and update, if necessary. Determine what method(s) you will use to control relative humidity * inside your home and/or control fungal growth.
- * Seek a trusted friend or relative to check on your home or act in your behalf.
- * Arrange for landscaping maintenance.
- * Arrange to close shutters and/or prepare home in the event of a hurricane threat.

Two (2) Weeks Prior to Leaving:

- * Purchase timers for lamps, radio or other appliances.
- * Arrange to forward mail.
- * Arrange for cancellation of newspapers, magazines.
- * Run air conditioning on humidistat settings to test reliability. It should run at least two hours out of every 24 hours.
- * Purchase desiccants, if needed. (I.E. DampRid, etc)
- * Begin cleaning with fungicidal products to remove existing fungal spores.

One (1) Week Prior to Leaving:

- * Clean refrigerator and freezer. Eat food on hand.
- * Check operation of dehumidifier, if you choose to use one.
- * Place in central location.
- * Secure continuous drain.
- * Vacuum upholstered furnishings to get rid of mold spores.
- * Remove interior plants and exterior plants in pots and

containers.

- * Eat food in the food cabinets or plan to give away or discard. Do not keep herbs such as parsley, oregano, basil, etc. You may, however, keep spices such as cinnamon, curry, nutmeg, etc. and all canned products.

On the Day of Departure:

- * Empty refrigerator and freezer; disconnect and leave door slightly ajar.
- * Run 1 dozen ice cubes and 2 or 3 tablespoons baking soda in the garbage disposal to clean blades.
- * Empty dishwasher.
- * Set timers on lights.
- * Drain and disconnect water heater.
- * Strip bedding. (People love to make their beds.. bedbugs THRIVE in made beds.. strip them)
- * Cover drains with stopper and duct tape.
- * Cover and seal toilets.
- * If using chemical mildew inhibitors, cover air passages with 2 ml thick plastic.
- * Set burglar alarm.
- * Check air conditioning for accurate settings.
- * Set off insect "bombs" or "foggers", if desired.
- * Lock doors and secure exterior.

****Remove anything from your gardens/door that could possibly become Shrapnel in a high wind.. protect your home and your neighbors!!!***

Closing Your Florida Home Booklet Available ~ Avoid the costly ravages & expense of mold, mildew and corrosion this summer. Learn to properly set humidistat and timers, control humidity and prevent mildew in your absence this summer. This booklet is available for \$5.00. To receive the booklet, send a check made payable to:

Board of County Commissioners

Closing Your Florida Home/ Palm Beach County Extension

Family and Consumer Sciences

559 North Military Trail / West Palm Beach, FL 33415-1311



This May 2016 issue of the Garden Gnome Newsletter is sponsored by Broadway Palm Dinner Theatre

Bek - The - Tech computer Info:

Many of you are downloading window 10 successfully.. Many more of you hate it! Don't know how to use it! And want it GONE!

Sooo, before you skip and go crazy and down load it and then can't get rid of it, create a restore point, like I taught you in the January issue:

Remember.. if you decide to download win 10, be sure to create a RESTORE POINT before-hand.. only about 50% of the downloads work, which is why to create the restore point in case you are one of the unlucky 50%.. it's a crap shoot at this present time.. They are working on the improvements, but I'm going to wait til the last min or put it on another computer and keep this one safe til we find out.. here's how.. on win 7 and 8..

To create a restore point

Open System by clicking the Start button , right-clicking Computer, and then clicking Properties.

In the left pane, click System protection. ...

Click the System Protection tab, and then click Create.

In the System Protection dialog box, type a description like August24, 2016, that YOU will recognize as you having created it, and then click Create.

As techs, we find that 50% of the downloads work, which is why you need to create the restore point incase you are NOT in the lucky 50% with no issues.

~*~*~

What you ALSO need to start doing is PAYING ATTENTION TO WHAT YOU ARE CLICKING ON, WHERE YOU ARE SAVING TO, AND WRITE IT DOWN.

The days of computing willy nilly are about over, IF you want to keep having access to your computer, your files, your photos, etc.

The old innocent, "I don't remember" days when you bat your cute lashes will cost you a computer if WE can't even find your stuff..

BACKING UP YOUR INFO!!

This is my blog on how and where to back up your computer files/ photos, etc:

<http://bek-the-tech.blogspot.com/2015/11/be-sure-to-back-up-your-computer-and-why.html>

Free Anti-virus prgrams to keep handy and run every week or so: HERE IS OUR COMPUTER TUNE-UP-GO-TO LIST:

1. Hitman Pro from Surfright.nl
2. Malware bytes from ninite.com
3. Adwcleaner from Google, Use 1st or 2nd from bleepingcomputer.com
4. Ccleaner from piriform or file hippo, DO NOT DELETE SAVED PASSOWRDS AND RECENTURLs.
5. Defrag ONLY is over 15%

For those of you without computers

I will be adding recipes, etc where you will need a computer to click on it to get the information. (the technology will never go away, sort of like the toothpaste can't be put back into the tube, sorta..LOL) I have two suggestive thoughts on that:

1. Ask your neighbor or friend to see if they will bring it up and print it out for you.

2. If you need to use a computer to write an article on a computer rather than go to the library or write it out by hand so I can include it in my newsletters, I have a little one you can use to do that. At that point, I can copy it onto one of my computers so upload into my newsletters.

~*~*~

Basil's Pizza & Subs

4023 Palm Beach Blvd/ Fort Myers, FL 33916



(239) 690-3037

Philly Cheese Steak Pizza

They deliver right to our doors! Ali & Amar own the shop & they are fabulous & so is their food!!

IN MEMORIAM

Very sad news today.. We lost a long time owner today, April 29th. Lucretia Paulina Conlin, D8, passed last night in her home. What was the worst thing of all, no one had her emergency keys to enter her place which might have helped get to her in time to keep her from passing. This is how the authorities had to enter her condo.. by ladder into her kitchen window. ----->

Legally and for everyone's safety, the Association, or CAM services or a trusted friend, needs to be able to have access to your domicile, so 10 people don't have to break in to see if you are alright.

If your trusted friend has your set of keys, please let the Board know. And this is also why we EVERY YEAR, fill out the paper work for next of kin, etc.

Lucretia thought it was an invasion of privacy.. Luckily her work place called to see if she was alright, since she'd missed 3 days of work. Had they not called, she could have been up there alone for days.



TO SPONSOR THE GARDEN GNOME NEWS
Every month's news is sponsored by **Tech in a Flash.**
(www.techinaflash.net) This May edition sponsored by



If you would like to help defray the cost of monthly fee of the newly revamped website (see below), we will need your business card, perhaps a discount if the newsletter is mentioned or brought in with your advertisement in it. We would like a 'blurb' about your business, & a photo of the owner or the 'crew'.

The donation? \$50 cash/check/paypal to help fund the revamped

website: www.seminolegardensswfl.com

Paypal: bekkijhere@gmail.com

Currently we have **THREE** condos for sale: C2, C3, E6 and E7. Let's help get these puppies sold so we can get to meet wonderful new people!!

Bring up on your search bar, 431 Van Buren St, C2 or C3 or E7 and the page will come up immediately with all the pertinent information

Or go directly to our new revamped website:
www.seminolegardensswfl.com



Playing April 7 - May 14, 2016

FUNNY GIRL BRINGS ZIEGFELD'S BRIGHTEST STAR TO THE BROADWAY PALM STAGE!

Broadway Palm Dinner Theatre
(239) 278-4422 ext. 111
1380 Colonial Boulevard
Fort Myers, FL 33907

www.BroadwayPalm.com

Also check out the : OFF BROADWAY PALM THEATRE
The Off Broadway Palm Theatre is located just off the main lobby inside Broadway Palm. The Off Broadway is a 100-seat theatre with a great view from every seat! The doors open a half hour prior to showtime for seating. If you chose to have dinner with us, the dining is in a separate dining room.

ON-SITE GENERAL INFO!

Trash pickup: M, T, Th, F, recycle: M

Pool cleaning, Gary: M & F

Board Building Reps: A: Marg, B: Alexis, C: Johnie Mason, D: Richard Slater, E: Kate, F: John Wiley

Committees: (the board member is the liaison, the chairman will be a non-board owner):

Grounds: Richard Slater, this committee still needs a chairman;

Maintenance: Johnie Mason, chairman: John O'Neill

Pool: Marg Prozaki, chairman: Janey Hesche

Clubhouse: Alexis Linder, chairman: Steve Hesche

Social: Janice Noble, chairman: Janet Rasmussen

The newly revamped and repaired sprinkler system cycles on Wednesday & Saturday very early morning like 3am to that great info spot.



Tech In A Flash

Matthew Rebstock & Bekki Shanklin at your service!



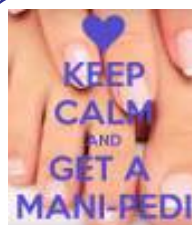
Most in our complex have eaten there..

AND they DELIVER!!!

Be sure to check them out.. right around the corner!!

Don't forget!!

5P.M. Social hour in the patio in front of building E, bring your own bottle, snacks and great personality!! Come and have FUN!!!!



Phanny's Nails & Spa
3398 Forum Boulevard
Fort Myers 239.362.3538
www.phannynails.com
Facebook: Phannynailspa

Wonderful nail spa; spotlessly clean, friendly and inviting technicians, sterile tools, tubs with sanitary liners - everything you've wanted but couldn't find. Fresh citrus rub, salt scrub, hot rocks, hot towels, and the best pedicure I've had in a long long time. They also offer manicures, facial & body waxing, facials, eyelash extensions and massage. Very reasonable prices and not a long drive from Seminole Gardens. Take a friend and enjoy !!! (**From Kate Buckley, E2**)

<http://cooperator.com/article/what-happens-when-a-board-goes-too-far>

Fun Events in the Clubhouse!!!

8-Ball on Tuesdays, around the 6-7pm area (we need more players, ya'll! Maybe pick another night?)

Quilting and Crafts every Friday, most of the day

Poker on Saturdays, around the 6-7pm area

How about someone to teach us shuffleboard?

Maybe in the fall we could get together Scrabble, cribbage, backgammon, other games? Gotta keep the old brain cells working don'tchya know?

Please forgive that we have no new neighbors who want to be featured, we'll move on to hurricane preparedness for your pets! So, next month, let me know if and that you want the back page and we'll get you on here!!

Hurricane Preparedness for your pets!!!

MOST IMPORTANT: FIND OUT AHEAD OF TIME WHERE THE SHELTERS ARE THAT ALLOW PETS IF YOU MUST EVACUATE!!!!

Keep current color photos of your pets with your emergency supplies.



If you know that a disaster (such as a hurricane) is immediate, bring your pets inside. Lee County Ordinance prohibits pets from being tethered outside.

Because of a greater threat of disease, it is important that your animals be up-to-date on their vaccinations.

If you must evacuate, take your pets with you. Your pet's best protection is to be with you.

Call ahead to make sure that hotels will accept your animals. Evacuation shelters will not accept pets of any kind unless designated an "Evacuation Pet Shelter." Find pet-friendly lodging in Florida and throughout the United States at www.petswelcome.com (Under "Instant Pet Friendly Search," select a state and city) or www.bringfido.com. You should pick a location outside of the area where the hurricane is projected to hit.



Call boarding kennels or veterinarians with boarding facilities to see the possibility of housing them. Ask if someone will be there with the pets during the hurricane and if their boarding facility is structurally prepared to withstand hurricane-force winds.

Ask friends or family to provide temporary foster care for your pets.

Lee County's Evacuation Pet Shelter will be open for residents who live in areas that are under mandatory evacuation orders in

the area where they live. This option should be your last resort if you are unable to execute your own personal evacuation plan for your family and pets. It should not be your "evacuation plan." Get more information about the Evacuation Pet Shelter.

Acquire an impact resistant pet carrier or cage for each animal to use as protection if you are riding out the storm with your pets at home. Exceptions can be made to house more than one animal per carrier but do not mix different animal species together!



Frightened animals may exhibit behavior changes. If you evacuate and must leave your pets behind, do not leave pets in carriers as they will not be able to get more food and water when needed. Remember, you may not be able to get back to your house for days or weeks. A carrier should permit a dog or cat to stand up and turn around in it. Help your pet to adjust to a carrier as part of routine training to reduce the stress of being confined. Place additional ID on the carrier. Birds should have a perch to grasp. (Birds, however, should be left in their cages for safety.)

Survey your home to determine the safest location away from windows. Cover large openings of carrier or cage to protect from flying debris. Provide high areas when there is a risk of flooding.

(the photos with the girl is my daughter, Anjelica, and Grand Pup, Honey Bear.. The pup with the Glasses is our own Sammy Buckley)

NEW FUN THINGS TO DO ON THE PROPERTY!!

Horse Shoes! ~ Bocci Ball! ~ Flingin Chicken! (got me.. ask Janice Noble, she found it on Amazon), ~ Swimming!

IN THE CLUBHOUSE: Scrabble, Pool, 8-ball, Bunco! !

Soon we will have a large, flat screen TV so we can gather to watch movies, etc~!~!

And full use of a computer and printer!

Also Soon, Croquet, Badminton.