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Between THE Palms



AUGUST 2026

Heritage Palms Golf & Country Club

A Look Inside

STRATEGIC PLANNING PROCESS - STEPS TO IMPLEMENTATION

FOURTH OF JULY SCRAMBLIN' FUN

HP TENNIS PRO CAROLYN LAWVER RETIRES

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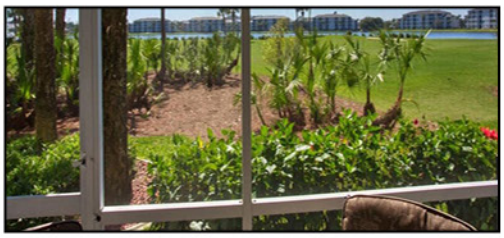
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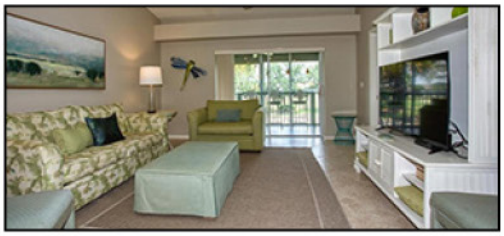
Brookside - Call Kerri



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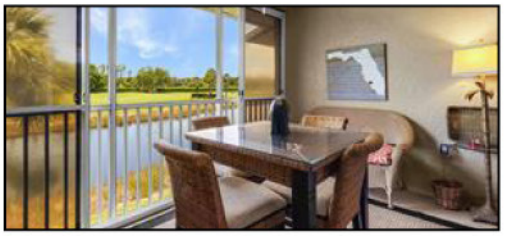
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Staying Connected

JANE BREISCH, EDITOR
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Thanks again to the 80+ volunteers who agreed to participate in our Strategic Planning Focus Groups in June. You'll find photos of some of the participants on page 10-11, along with an article written by Brian Walker highlighting year to date accomplishments and detailing the Strategic Planning Process itself.



****

BTP welcomes HP's Director of Golf Instruction, Kristine Bonham, PGA to its pages! Her inaugural column, titled *Coach Kristine's Corner*, is on page 24. She'll be sharing ideas to help you improve your game. Check it out!

****

Members came together to celebrate our country's 250th Anniversary by either hitting the links in our annual July 4th Scramble, or being entertained at the Oasis Pool Party. See photos starting on page 12.

****

Florida is known as the Sunshine State, and for good reason - the state regularly experiences long stretches of hot, humid weather, but, believe it or not, the all-time warmest air temperatures are lower than nearly every other state! See my article *What Are the Highest Temperatures Ever Recorded in Florida?* On page 42.

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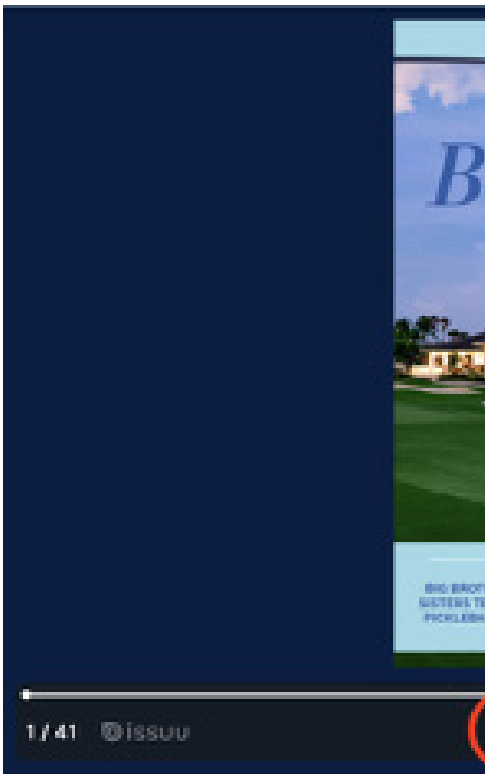
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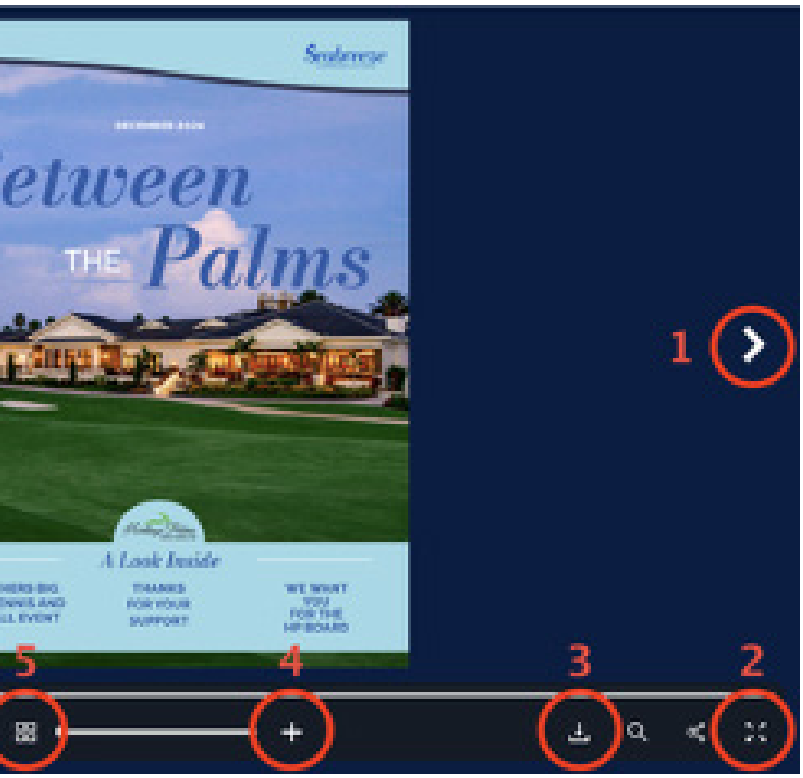
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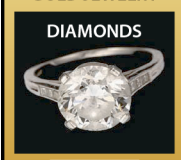


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Should you have an article to submit for the September issue, my deadline is August 2. Postcards are always welcome! Please email to *cvgolfers@gmail.com*.




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BRIAN WALKER, STRATEGIC PLAN
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"An organization's ability to learn, and translate that learning into action rapidly, is the ultimate competitive advantage." - Jack Welch

Over the last three months, there has been a lot of activity related to the Strategic Planning Process as we continue to gather input from our members, Board, and staff on topics related to Strategic Planning. I want to thank all of you who have participated so far, and remind everyone that the upcoming member survey planned for mid-August will allow *every* member of our Club to provide their feedback on what is important to them and should be considered as part of the Strategic Planning Process. In the July *Between the Palms* article, I challenged the membership to have an 80% participation rate on the survey, however, I believe we can do even better! Your voice is critical to our process, and your opinions are important.

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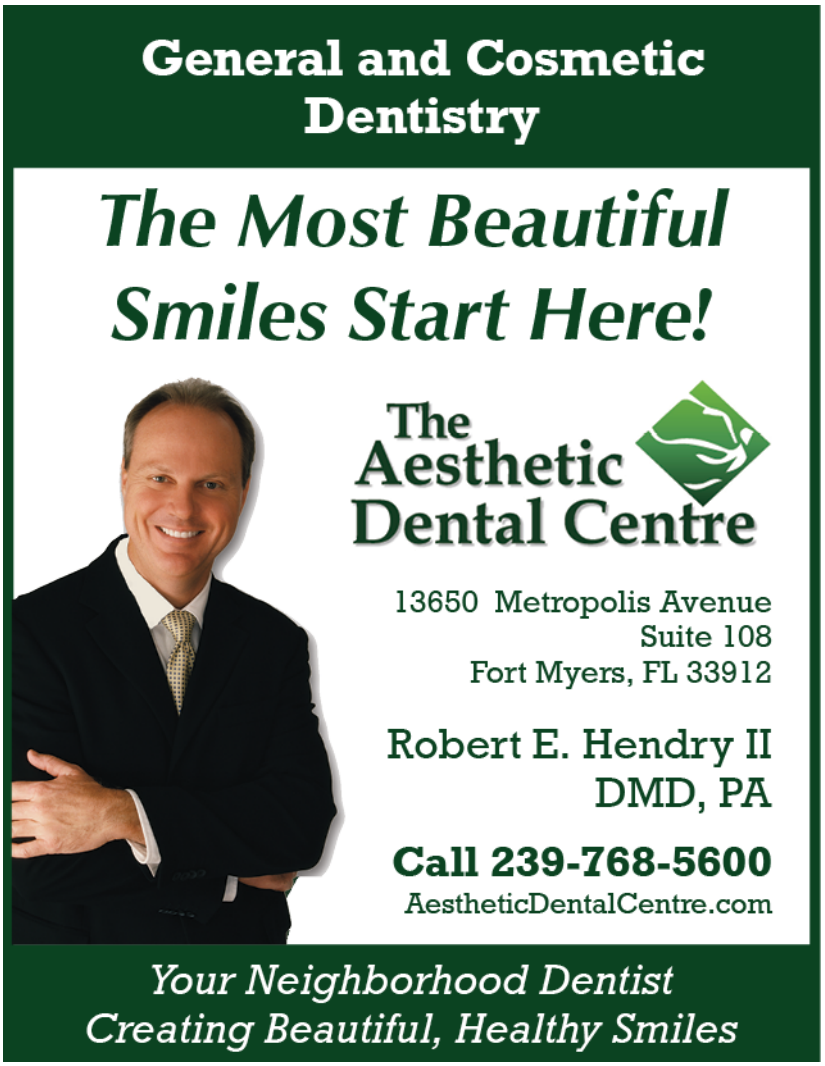
I wanted to take the opportunity to educate the Heritage Palms community on how our Strategic Planning Process is being undertaken.

• The first step in the process, is to review and reaffirm the club's s**trategic identity,** with relevant and timely mission and vision statements. These statements, along with the core value branding and position statements tied to our master goals, serve to create a common vision and alignment for years to come.

• The next step will be to establish what the future looks like at a high level, by crafting **vision statements by pillar.** Translating these vision statements into SMART objectives by pillar will then allow a broad application of strategic visioning for all aspects of our club. What is a SMART objective? These are objectives that are specific, measurable, achievable, relevant, and time bound.

For Heritage Palms, our pillars encompass the following:

1. Finance
2. Programming / Member Experience
3. Membership
4. Management and Staff
5. Future Relevance
6. Governance



OVER 80 MEMBERS PARTICIPATED IN THE EIGHT FOCUS GROUPS O
BOTH "IN PERSON" AND "VIRTUALLY." SOME OF THE





Once the SMART objectives have been created, the Board will work to empower both volunteer committees and Club leadership to create the ground level tactics that will bring the objectives to life, and deliver the strategic vision for our club.

This is a living and breathing process that the Board will monitor to ensure continuous movement toward completion.

I hope your summer continues to be enjoyable.







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Fourth of July Scramblin' Fun

PHOTOS BY DAVID DEVEREAUX, JANE BREISCH, AND MARY LOU REID.

160 players hit the links on a hot, sultry Fourth of July... 80 on the Royal course, and 80 on Sabal. Festive outfits of red, white and blue - as well as many stars and stripes - were seen everywhere, and the flag pins sported patriotic flags.

Players competed in four flights on each course. 1st, 2nd, 3rd, 4th, and 5th places earned $130, $120, $110, $100, and $90 respectively per team in Pro Shop credit. Teams also competed for skins in each flight, with $100 available per flight. A total of 16 skins were won.



L-R: MIKE FARRIS, HEATHER & JOHN BROWN, FRED CURTIS.

The first-place winners per flight were:

- Flight 1: BJ Hurst, Bobby Roberts, Porter Roberts, and Dave Ginter.
- Flight 2: Sue & Stu Draper, and Donna & Roger Lussier.
- Flight 3: Robin & Dan Becker, and Cheryl & Terry McPolin.
- Flight 4: Char Wingert, Bob Stauffer, Sharon Braunwart, and Dan McDaniel.

Following golf, players gathered in the Palms Dining Room to enjoy a delicious buffet.



L-R: ELENA & DOUG MULLER, AND BERNARD & LISA PATTERSON.

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Peter, Knee and Hip Surgery patient – May 2026

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L-R: ANTHONY PLEVNIAK, LINDA CAPPELLA, ANDREW SAVADOS, AND ANN MIECZKOWSKI.



L-R: BILL & TERRI MOOMAW, AND PAM & GARY HUTCHINSON.





L-R: GINNY TUCKER, JOHN DOLEGA, SUE DOLEGA, AND BILL DOLEGA.



L-R: ROD & BETTY RUPPEL,
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L-R: GARY FRANDY, JEFF ROBERTS, AND ARTHUR & ANN MANN.



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L-R: BOB & SHAWNA FAY, AND LISA & TONY GORDON.



L-R: ROBBIN & DAN BECKER, AND CHERYL & TERRY MCPOLIN.

FOR MORE PHOTOS SEE PAGE 52 OR CLICK HERE

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Why you need dental insurance in retirement.

Many Americans are fortunate to have dental coverage for their entire working life, through employer-provided benefits. When those benefits end with retirement, paying dental bills out-of-pocket can come as a shock, leading people to put off or even go without care.

Simply put – without dental insurance, there may be an important gap in your healthcare coverage.

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- Look for coverage that helps pay for major services. Some plans may limit the number of procedures – or pay for preventive care only.
- Look for coverage with no deductibles. Some plans may require you to pay hundreds out of pocket before benefits are paid.
- Shop for coverage with no annual maximum on cash benefits. Some plans have annual maximums of $1,000.

Medicare doesn't pay for dental care.[1]

That's right. As good as Medicare is, it was never meant to cover everything. That means if you want protection, you need to purchase individual insurance.

Early detection can prevent small problems from becoming expensive ones.

The best way to prevent large dental bills is preventive care. The American Dental Association recommends checkups twice a year.

Previous dental work can wear out.

Even if you've had quality dental work in the past, you shouldn't take your dental health for granted. In fact, your odds of having a dental problem only go up as you age.[2]

Treatment is expensive — especially the services people over 50 often need.

Consider these national average costs of treatment ... $274 for a checkup ... $299 for a filling ... $1,471 for a crown.[3] Unexpected bills like this can be a real burden, especially if you're on a fixed income.

[1] "Medicare & You," Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services, 2025. [2] "Aging changes in teeth and gums", medlineplus.gov, 4/17/2022. [3] FairHealth, Inc. National average dental fees. Data current as of July 2025; subject to change.

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HP Tennis Pro Carolyn Lawver Ret

ARTICLE BY CLARK BRODEN
CLARKBRODEN@GMAIL.COM
PHOTOS BY CLARK BRODEN AND JAMIE UNGER.

After more than two decades of teaching, encouraging, organizing, and inspiring players at Heritage Palms, longtime Tennis Professional Carolyn Lawver is retiring, leaving behind a legacy that reaches far beyond the tennis courts.

For many members, Carolyn has been a familiar and reassuring presence at the courts: a patient instructor, a thoughtful mentor, and a steady supporter of the tennis community. Her work helped shape the welcoming atmosphere that has made HP tennis such an important part of Club life.



L-R: INTERIM GM BOB KELLY, TENNIS PRO LARRY ALBRITTON, F&B DIRECTOR LARRY GERMAN, AND TENNIS PRO DANNY CAMACHO.



MIKE AND CAROLYN LAWVER.

A Career Built on Teaching and Connecting

During her July 1 retirement celebration attended by 60 residents in the Palms Dining Room, Interim General Manager Bob Kelly paid tribute to Carolyn's contributions to the Club.

"Everyone knew that Carolyn was the brains of the operation. She poured her heart and soul into building the HP tennis program from the ground up.

ires

Her dedication, passion, and tireless work were instrumental in creating the vibrant, active, and successful tennis community we enjoy today.
"Carolyn leaves behind a tremendous legacy at Heritage Palms. She touched the lives of countless members and friends and she will be deeply missed by all who had the privilege of knowing her."
Director of Racquet Sports, Chad Dyer added, "Carolyn is a good-hearted person and is the hardest working person I have ever met in my 30 years of teaching tennis. She has made a lifetime of friends here at Heritage Palms." Carolyn and Chad have estimated in her 26 years at HP, she has worked an astounding total of 57,000 hours! That is not a typo!
Resident Marilyn Dorcak explained that she met Carolyn soon after settling here. "She got me into a beginner's tennis program and later put me on a team. I also play pickleball and golf, but tennis is now my favorite sport."
I credit Carolyn with giving me a new lease on life on the tennis courts. Since I now use a rollator walker, I thought my playing days were finished. Over two years ago, Carolyn gave me the idea of sitting in a chair hitting tennis balls that she would hit to me. It worked! I later graduated to holding on to my walker handle while standing and rallying with her. I cannot thank her enough.



L-R: KIRSTEN SHOVLIN, CAROLYN LAWVER, AND LISA PAVICHEVICH.

Carolyn's long tenure at HP has coincided with years of growth for the tennis program. We began with six clay courts and a small Pro Shop, and over time, the program expanded with added courts, improved amenities, league participation, clinics, tournaments, and community events. Throughout those changes, Carolyn remained one of the people members could count on for guidance, encouragement, and a positive experience on court.

As a tennis professional, she worked with players of many levels, from beginners learning fundamentals to experienced league players refining strategy, technique, and confidence. Her teaching style was known for meeting players where they were, helping them improve while keeping the game enjoyable.



L-R: JAMIE UNGER, CAROLYN LAWVER, JOAN TOOLEY, AND ANDREA HOULE.

A Steady Presence During Years of Growth

Carolyn's retirement follows a period of transition for HP tennis. Mike Lawver, who directed the program for nearly 25 years, retired in 2024, and the racket-sports staff continued moving forward under new leadership with Chad Dyer. Through those changes, Carolyn's experience and institutional knowledge remained valuable to players, colleagues, and the broader Club community.



DIRECTOR OF RACQUET SPORTS CHAD DYER, AND DIRECTOR OF HUMAN RESOURCES HEATHER BECHT.



KATHY AND PHIL COOPER.



JIM FORRESTER AND MARY LOU MCCANN.

We have continued to maintain an active court-sports program, including league play, clinics, charity events, and ongoing facility improvements. Carolyn's years of service are part of that larger story: a tennis program built not only through courts and schedules, but through relationships, trust, and a shared love of the game.



KIM & DOM DIGANGI.

A Lifetime of Different Experiences

A native of Indianapolis, IN Carolyn graduated from Butler University where she was a gymnast. She has a degree in Journalism but never worked in that profession. She has one brother and one sister.

"I was mostly in the restaurant business until I moved to FL. I worked for Micros [a major provider of point of sale and property management systems for the hospitality and retail industries]. This is what brought me to Fort Myers. I have lived in about 30 different cities and overseas.

I met my husband, Mike, at Park Meadows. He brought me to HP after he got the Director's job. I started out in tennis maintenance and later got certified in teaching tennis. I didn't pick up a racquet until I was about 30. Then, I didn't play in the 1990's because of work and expenses. In 1999, I started playing again."

She and Mike will be celebrating 23 years of marriage this month. They have a cat named Fajita.

Carolyn is interested in medicine, and has applied to volunteer at Gulf Coast Hospital. She'll still be playing tennis here.



L-R: JIM REID, MARY BARTER, AND LARRY ALBRITTON.

With Gratitude and Best Wishes

As Carolyn Lawver retires, our tennis community offers heartfelt thanks for her many years of dedication. Her influence will continue in the players she taught, the confidence she built, and the welcoming spirit she helped sustain at HP.

Congratulations, Carolyn, on a well-earned retirement. May the years ahead bring relaxation, joy, and the same sense of fulfillment you brought to so many others on the tennis courts.

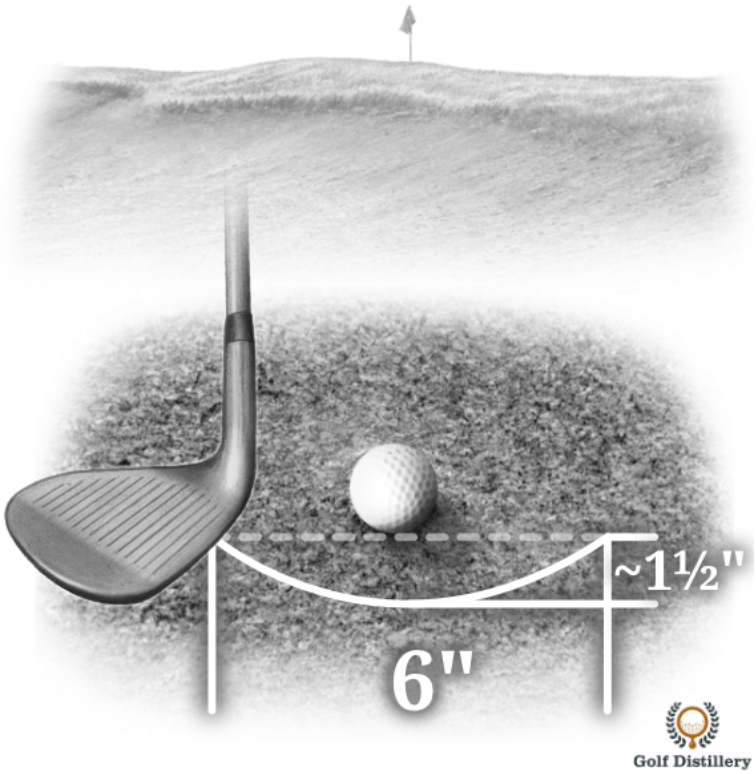


Coach Kristine's Corner

KRISTINE BONHAM, PGA
DIRECTOR OF GOLF INSTRUCTION

CONQUER THE BUNKER

Many golfers fear greenside bunkers, but you just need a system. Try the 2, 2 rule: 2 inches behind, 2 inches down.
Dig your feet into the sand for stability, lean your weight towards the target, and focus on splashing the sand —not the ball. The sand carries the ball onto the green. If you visualize and practice striking the sand 2 inches behind the ball, and hitting 2 inches down into the sand, you will have much better luck next time you are faced with this shot.



Pro Tip: Let's use this diagram to visualize and evaluate our practice next time we are out there - a nice divot size will be 6 inches in total length - 2 inches behind the ball, and 4 inches after - with an overall depth of 1 to 2 inches deep. If we take more sand than this, it can become difficult to get the ball out.

Drill: One of my favorite drills is taking my club or the rake and drawing a straight line in the sand about 4 feet in length. I then practice my 2x2 method using the line as the indication of where the ball would be. After each swing I can take a look at where my divot starts and ends and how deep it is, and make an adjustment before my next swing. Easier to practice with the line than the ball until we feel comfortable.



FORT MYERS Living

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Celebrate National Thrift Shop Day
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Alliance for the Arts: New August Exhibitions
Page 22

PICTURED: POPPY SHOWS OFF A SNEAK PEEK OF THE NEW GULF COAST HUMANE SOCIETY FIREMAN'S CALENDAR, AVAILABLE THIS MONTH!

AUGUST 2026

IN PARTNERSHIP WITH:

ALLIANCE FOR THE ARTS · BOYS & GIRLS CLUBS OF LEE COUNTY · Goodwill Southwest Florida · Gulf Coast Humane Society · Harry Chapin Food Bank OF SOUTHWEST FLORIDA · IMAG HISTORY & SCIENCE CENTER · LEE COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE, FL SHERIFF CARMINE MARCENO

SCAN ME!

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SHIRLEE AND RICH FIREBAUGH.



GEORGE AND MELODY SMOTHERS.



NIKI PATEL AND HER MOM, ANISHA.



DENNY AND ROBERTA FOX.



L-R: ROBERTA FOX, GAYLE REINSMA, AND ANISHA PATEL.



SCOTT AND HOLLY OSLER.

JACK AND CAROL JABLONSKI ON THE DANCE FLOOR.







COLUMNS OF FAMOUS HP MANAGERS.

How Excessive Heat Can Kill

COMPILED FROM NPR NEWS BY JANE BREISCH, EDITOR

Of all extreme weather conditions, heat is the deadliest. Human bodies have a natural cooling system — sweat — but that system can do only so much in high temperatures and humidity.

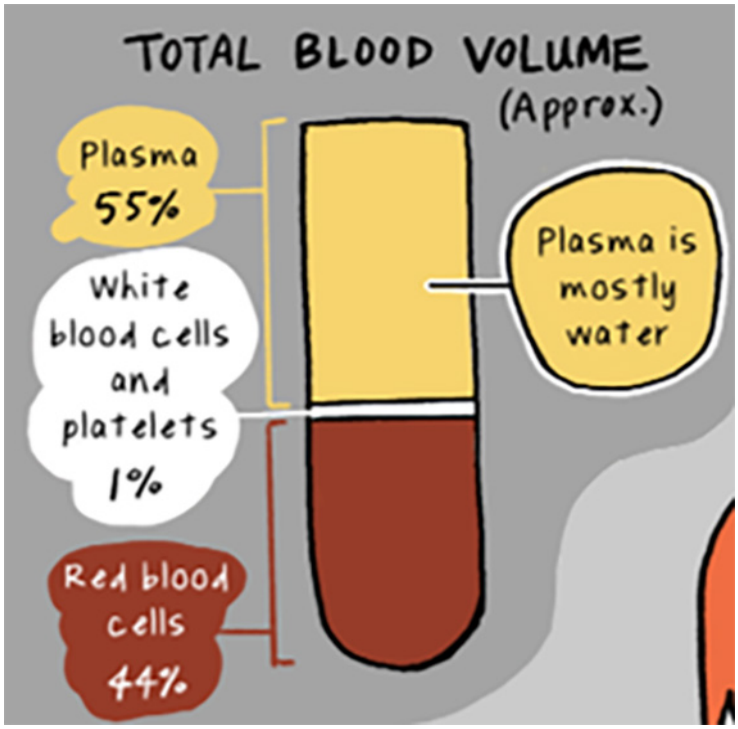
But how exactly does heat kill? Here's the science behind what happens to the body in extreme temperatures, including the three main ways heat can shut down vital systems, as well as tips to stay safe, cool down and fend off heatstroke.

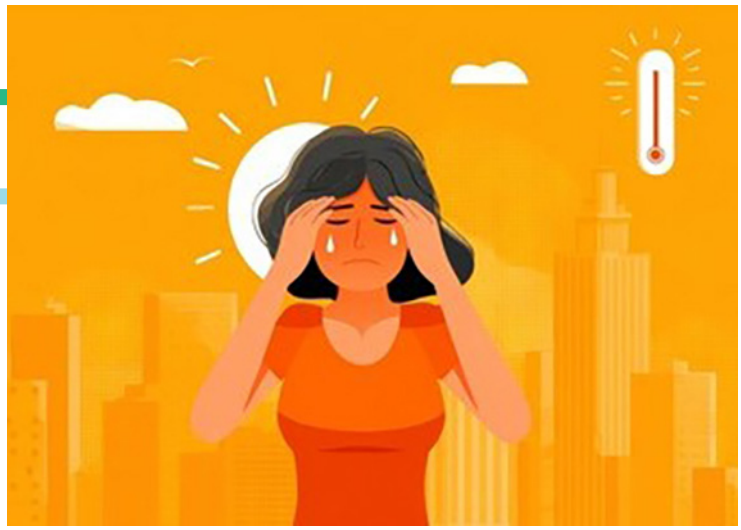
Sweating it out this summer? Sweltering heat can not only be irritating – it can be deadly. Extreme heat kills more people in the U.S.A. in a given year than hurricanes, tornadoes, and floods combined. Let's breakdown the main ways that heat can kill, and the signs of danger:

• **Organ Failure.** When your body is exposed to high heat, it tries to cool down by sweating and directing more blood to the skin. But that means less blood and less oxygen go to your gut. This can happen in dry heat too, but high humidity can make it harder for your body to cool off. That's because sweat doesn't evaporate as quickly when its high humid. If the redirection of blood happens for too long, your gut can become more permeable. Toxins that usually stay inside the gut start leaking out. These toxins can trigger inflammation and other effects, like blood clots, that eventually can lead to multiple organ failure.

• **Heart Attack.** When your body pumps more blood to the skin to cool itself, arteries widen, lowering blood pressure. This means the heart needs to work harder to keep blood pressure up. This added stress on the heart can trigger a heart attack or stroke. Older adults and people with underlying heart conditions may be at higher risk.

• **Kidney Failure.** When you sweat, you lose water. In one hour, you can lose up to 1.5 liters of water. If you don't replenish those fluids, you get dehydrated and your blood volume shrinks.





Then your heart and kidneys need to work harder to maintain blood pressure, which can lead to kidney failure, and be fatal. Another danger to your kidneys comes from physical activity in high heat. Sometimes muscle tissue can break down and release proteins into the blood, which can clog kidneys. People who work outdoors in high heat, and people with kidney disorders, have a higher risk.

How hot is too hot? There's no absolute temperature at which extreme heat can be dangerous. Here's what to watch out for:

- It's riskier if you're not acclimated to high heat.
- The longer you're exposed, the higher the risk.
- People can become overwhelmed sooner in high humidity than in dry heat.
- Stay in the shade – direct sun heats us up faster.

Who's most at risk?

- Young children, whose bodies are still learning to regulate temperature.
- People who do strenuous physical activities outdoors.
- Older folks, who may have a reduced ability to sweat, and people with chronic conditions like heart disease.
- Pregnant women, whose bodies have to work harder to regulate temperature.
- But know that even young, healthy people can succumb to extreme heat.

What should you watch out for?

- Keep and eye out for the first signs of heat exhaustion: headaches, dizziness, lethargy, feeling unwell in general.

How to stay safe?

- Drink plenty of water before you head into the heat, and every 15 to 20 minutes when you're physically active in the heat.
- Consider adding electrolytes to your water, to replace those you've lost.
- If you start to feel overheated, wet your clothes or skin, and immerse your feet in cold water. Seek shade, or better yet, head to a cool spot indoors.
- The goal is to cool down so heat exhaustion doesn't progress. Signs of that include: vomiting, rapid breathing, confusion, loss of coordination.
- If your body temperature rises above 104 degrees Fahrenheit, you risk heat stroke, which can be deadly.
- So, keep an eye out for heat advisories in your area. Staying alert can help you stay safe.

Postcards

From Lila Schauwecker: My Girls Travel group, the *Travel Divas*, found our way to Denver, Colorado, and Taos and Santa Fe, New Mexico this past May. Our group has travelled together for some 15 years; sometimes it's a larger group, and sometimes we find ourselves in international locations as well as the USA. But fun is always on the agenda.



FAMOUS RED ROCK OUTDOOR THEATER





BUFFALO BILL'S GRAVE



COWGIRL WANNABES.



TRAVEL DIVAS IN TAOS L-R:
JACKIE GILLETTI, CATHYE WOODY,
LILA SCHAUWECKER, AND BRENDA HEIN.



TOUCH OF TAOS
ART WORK
IN OUR B & B.

From Judy Kent: My husband, Doug, and I, along with Judy and Scott Gephart, enjoyed a fun-filled trip to Las Vegas from June 29 through July 2, making memories together in one of the country's most exciting destinations. We spent time taking in the sights, trying our luck with a little gambling, and enjoying the bright lights and lively atmosphere that make Las Vegas such a popular place to visit.



While the trip offered plenty of entertainment, the highlight was an unforgettable evening seeing Kenny Chesney perform at the Sphere. Kenny Chesney's 2026 Las Vegas residency at the Sphere brought his signature beach-country energy to one of the most unique concert venues in the world. The immersive setting, music, and visuals made the show more than just a concert—it was an experience to remember. For the four of us, the concert was the big event of the trip, and proved to be an awesome experience. Most of all, the getaway was a chance to relax, laugh, and enjoy time with good friends.



From Ginny Tullis: My husband, Blair, and I took a lovely trip to Northern Europe in June. This photo was taken outside of Amsterdam. We were stunned by the beauty of the windmills, and how they were used to create power for sawmills, grains, and the pigments for paints for the Dutch Masters. Who knew? We then enjoyed a beautiful Rhine cruise.



From Dave Cargill: My wife, Beth, and I met up with Bill and Teri Moomaw at Mt. Desert Island and Bar Harbor, Maine in June.



L-R: DAVE, BILL, BETH, AND TERI.

HP Postcards

From Stasia Arcarese: Photo taken on Sabal #2 on June 26. The poor turtle!



From Penni Berrie: I just looked out my lanai the morning of July 5 and was greeted with this beautiful rainbow! The view is down Sabal #7.



From Jane Breisch: A beautiful sunset on Sabal #17 on July 3 at 8:32 p.m.



LOOKING WEST DOWN THE FAIRWAY.



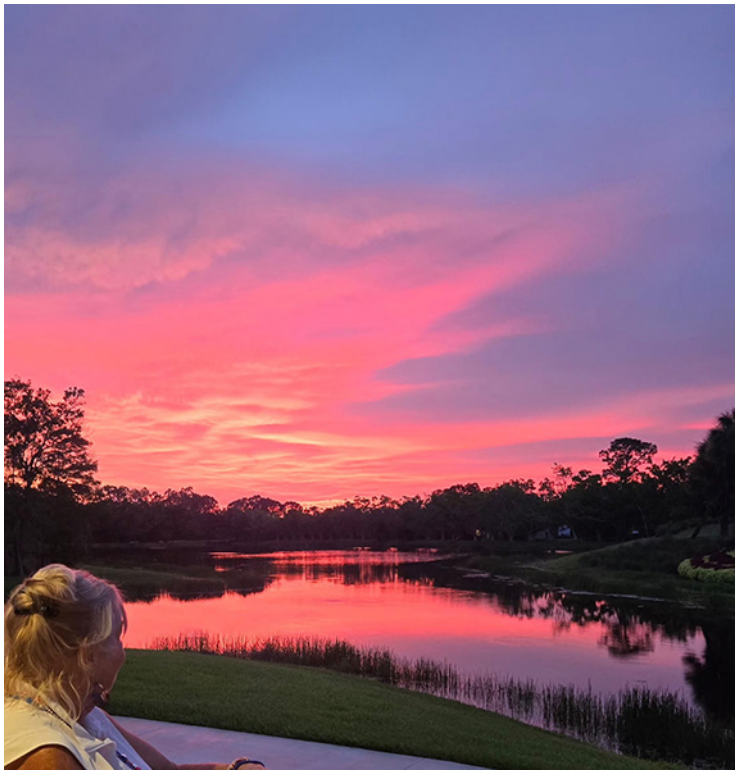
LOOKING EAST TOWARD BUTTERFLY PALM DRIVE.



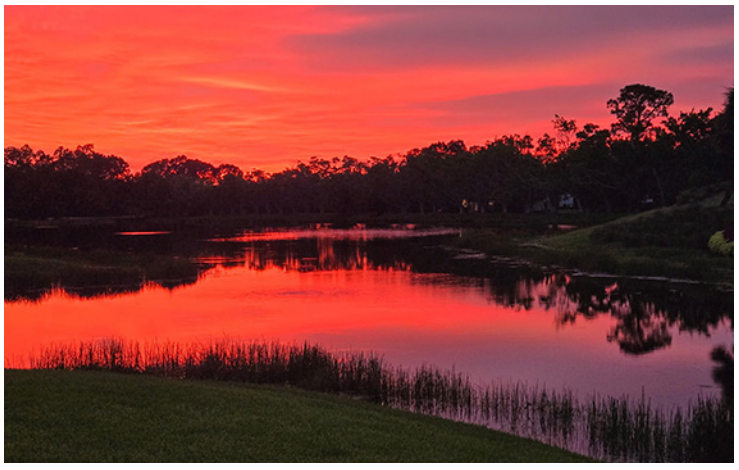
From Mary Lou Reid: Even though the USA lost to Belgium on July 6, the atmosphere at the Oasis was festive. We also enjoyed an absolutely beautiful sunset!











Summer Postcard from Cabot Citrus Farm

KRISTINE BONHAM, PGA
DIRECTOR OF GOLF INSTRUCTION

This past June, I took a group of HP members on a memorable play-away to the magical destination of Cabot Citrus Farms in Brooksville, FL—a true summer highlight filled with incredible golf, unforgettable scenery, and great camaraderie.



AFTER OUR FIRST ROUND ON THE 10-HOLE SQUEEZE COURSE - JUNE 7TH

What was once the historic World Woods property has been completely reimagined by the Cabot Collection into one of the most talked-about modern golf destinations in the country. Today, Cabot Citrus Farms features two full-length championship layouts—Karoo and Roost—along with The Squeeze and The Wedge, creating a true golf playground set across 1,200 acres of natural Florida sandhills and citrus country.

Over the course of our stay, we experienced three very different and equally memorable rounds:

- The Squeeze challenged players with its creative mix of short and mid-length holes, inspired by some of the best par-4 concepts in the game. It rewarded strategy, imagination, and smart decision-making on every shot.
- The Roost delivered an entirely different feel—an "Old Florida" journey framed by moss-draped oaks, rolling meadows, sandy corridors, and even a few dramatic elevation changes and blind shots. With the help of outstanding caddies, players navigated undulating greens, hidden landing areas, and natural movement throughout the routing.
- The Karoo provided the boldest test of the trip—wide sandy corridors, dramatic green complexes, and endless strategic options off the tee. With firm conditions and creative design, it asked players to think differently on nearly every hole.

ms

Across all three courses, the caddies played a huge role in the experience—helping us navigate elevation changes, blind shots, and the unique ground features that make Cabot so special. More than anything, the trip was defined by connection—between players and the love of the game.

I hosted and curated this Cabot stay-and-play experience, and will continue to foster a culture of destination golf travel experiences. I can't wait to tee up the next adventure—stay tuned for what's coming next!



POST ROUND GROUP PHOTO ON THE 18TH GREEN OF THE ROOST- JUNE 8TH - FL PUBLIC COURSE RANK #8



FINAL ROUND ON THE KAROO- FL PUBLIC COURSE RANK #5- JUNE 9TH- SCOBIES, PATTERSONS, SEIBERTS, WELBORNS, MCPOLINS, BONHAMS, AND THE BEST CADDIES!





From The Pro Shop

BOB KELLY, DIRECTOR OF GOLF
BKELLY@HPGC.COM

Hello from the golf shop. I hope everyone is having a great summer! It's hard to believe we're already into August. As always, the summer seems to fly by, and before we know it our seasonal members will be making their way back to Heritage Palms.

We were excited to get the Sabal bunker renovation project underway a little ahead of schedule. Getting an early start should help us stay in front of the late-summer weather and keep the project on schedule—or maybe even ahead of schedule. Greg Kriesch and his maintenance team have done another outstanding job this summer. Both golf courses have been in terrific condition.

While reciprocal play has slowed a little compared to last summer, mainly because fewer neighboring courses have been closed for renovations, Heritage Palms continues to offer some of the best playing conditions in SW FL. That doesn't happen by accident. It reflects the continued commitment our membership has made to investing in our golf courses, along with the knowledge, dedication, and hard work of Greg and his entire maintenance staff.

There is still time to sign up for our second Year-Rounders Summer Scramble & Pool Party on August 16. Our first event was a huge success, and it was great to see so many of our summer members enjoying a fun day of golf followed by time together at the pool. We hope you'll join us for another great day.

Once we wrap up that event, our attention will turn to the Labor Day Scramble on September 7, which is always a great way to close out the summer golf season.

I also want to make one correction from last month's list of major club events. The annual HPVA Scramble will be held on Sunday, October 25. This event has become one of my favorite traditions as we kick off another season while raising money to support local veterans in need. Watch for registration information coming soon.



Looking a little farther ahead, registration for our Ladies Member-Guest on November 9 will also be opening soon. This continues to be one of the premier lady's golf events of the season, attracting nearly 200 participants each year. Be sure to watch for the Golf Genius email with all the details.

One thing we've noticed this summer is a change in our year-round population. It has been wonderful to see so many members taking advantage of the Club throughout the summer months. Participation has been strong at our regular events, and we've had a great response to several new activities as well. It's encouraging to see more members enjoying everything Heritage Palms has to offer during the offseason.

Thank you for your continued support of the Golf Operation throughout the year. We truly appreciate it. Enjoy the rest of your summer, stay cool, and we'll look forward to seeing many more familiar faces returning home to HP very soon.

Ace Faces

ROB SNELL



June 19, 2026
#6 Sabal
160 yards
7 iron
This is Rob's 7th hole-in-one, however his 1st at HP! His last HIO was 14 years ago.

CARYL PAGE



July 7, 2026
3 hole on Red/White course at Ives Grove Golf Links, Racine, WI
115 yards
Driver
This is Caryl's 1st hole-in-one! She was with HP friends Pam Garvey, Ellen Foy, and Peggy Moriarty.





WGA News

SARA CRIGER, WGA PRESIDENT
SARACRIGER@GMAIL.COM

Thank you to the 194 ladies who took the time to respond to the **WGA survey** we sent out in May! That is a 60% member response rate, which certainly reflects the high level of engagement our league is known for. The WGA Board is in the process of reviewing the results, including more than 400 comments, and we are already considering how the feedback will help inform our decisions and work in the upcoming season.

Respondents represented a range of short, mid, and long-term WGA members, as well as a wide range of handicap levels. There were common themes and shared perspectives on several topics, and varying opinions and feedback on other topics. All will be useful to the board as we work to identify the things we can and should change, as well as those things we shouldn't change.

We will be communicating decisions we are making because of the survey results as the 2026/27 season gets underway. There are also some requests that we will not be able to accommodate, and we will communicate those decisions as well. In the meantime, we want to make sure you know your voice is heard and share the following key findings from the survey respondents:

- 91% indicate they are familiar with HP tips to improve pace of play
- 80.5% indicate they are knowledgeable of USGA/HP rules of play, with 46% indicating they would like to have access to educational events
- 85% viewed the variety of league games favorably (great job tournament directors and Pro Shop!)
- 45% prefer team games while 20% prefer individual games, 35% were neutral
- 76% agree that we should continue to hold a charity event (20% neutral and 4% disagree)
- 58% agree the Dubin Center should be the recipient again for the upcoming season (32% were neutral and 10% disagreed)
- There was a remarkably equal split of opinions on having themed events (1/3 favorable - 1/3 unfavorable - 1/3 neutral)
- Respondents indicating they enjoy attending the social events ranged from 49-75% (opening cocktail party @ 75%, closing cocktail party @ 71%, January fun night @ 49%)



A few other themes that stood out in the comments section were as follows:

- Requests for more shotgun starts AND requests for more tee-time starts
- Concerns regarding early tee-time starts during cold days
- Compliments and encouragement to KEEP the league fun and welcoming
- Compliments regarding how much people enjoy the league and appreciate the efforts of all who volunteer
- Skins was the most repeated single game complaint and Pick-A-Partner was the most repeated single game compliment (both consistent with feedback previously received)
- Comments regarding the after-golf lunch events and menus

All of the survey information is helpful to the board and, as I stated, we will communicate the decisions and efforts resulting from this feedback in the future. Thank you to Bob Kelly who helped get the survey out (even as he was stepping into the interim General Manager role) and to the WGA Board and committee members who are sorting through the results to bring forward recommendations that will improve our league experience. Your efforts are appreciated!

The WGA Board knows that a vibrant Women's league contributes to a vibrant Heritage Palms, and this valuable feedback will help us ensure we continue to be that for our members and community!



What Are the Highest Temperatures Ever

COMPILED FROM HISTORY FACTS BY JANE BREISCH, EDITOR

Florida is known as the Sunshine State, and for good reason - the state regularly experiences long stretches of hot, humid weather, but the all-time warmest air temperatures are lower than nearly every other state.

The hottest air temperature ever officially recorded in Florida was 109 degrees Fahrenheit, which occurred in the town of Monticello, east of Tallahassee, on June 29, 1931.

California holds the national record for the hottest temperature ever recorded in the United States, with a reading of 134 degrees Fahrenheit in Death Valley. Many other states have recorded temperatures between 111 and 128 degrees, with Florida's record similar to readings you would find across New England.

So why does a region known for its intense summer heat have lower extreme readings than much of the country? A large part of the answer comes down to the terrain and the influence of bodies of water, as well as the weather. Because of Florida's unique shape, almost no community is more than about 85 miles from an ocean. The Atlantic Ocean and



Do You Know the Rules?

DAVE KRAFT
DKRAFT_SR@YAHOO.COM

What does the Rules of Golf say about the pictured situation?



AN ANNUAL FLOWER BED.

Your ball is in an annual flower bed.

The Rules of golf has nothing in the Rule book about this situation. Here at Heritage Palms, we *do* have a Local Rule found on the back of the score card that states:

Flower Beds *– Play is prohibited from annual flower beds. Free relief may be taken. The definition between an annual and perennial flower bed is: The annuals live less than a year and then die. Where as perennials grow back year after year. Some perennials do flower.*

Recorded in Florida?



Gulf act as natural air conditioners during the summer, helping limit how high temperatures can climb.

The areas of Florida that are the furthest from the ocean often see some of the state's most extreme temperatures. Examples of inland communities include Malone in Jackson County, located in the Florida Panhandle, and Sebring, located near the center of the peninsula between Sarasota and Vero Beach. These communities receive the least cooling effects from the ocean, allowing temperatures to climb higher during heat waves.

A similar pattern can be seen at a more local level. It is why cities that are nearly surrounded by water, such as Miami and Tampa, have only reached 100 degrees once, while communities with inland observation sites, such as Tallahassee and Jacksonville, have reached 105 degrees.

In fact, Key West, which is surrounded by water, has never reached 100 degrees. The city's warmest all-time temperature is 97 degrees, which has occurred several times throughout its history, including on August 29, 1956.

The ocean also helps to enhance humidity levels in coastal communities, which is why these areas hold records for having some of the greatest heat index values, even though air temperatures remain relatively mild. The greatest heat index values ever reported have both occurred along the Gulf Coast, with 119-degree readings reported in both Tampa and Fort Myers.

It's important to note that heat index values of at least 123 degrees have been previously reported, but because readings are based on unofficial calculations, the data is not considered to be reliable.

This is how you take FREE relief if you find your ball in an annual flower bed:

- The nearest point of complete relief should be identified and a ball must be dropped in and come to rest in the relief area.
- The relief area is one club-length from the reference point, and is not nearer to the hole.

Here is this month's golf etiquette tip.
When you have completed your round of golf, please drive away from the green before putting your equipment away so the players behind you can play their shots to the green.

Fort Myers Theatres Announce 2026 – 27

JANE BREISCH, EDITOR

Two Fort Myers regional theatres have announced their robust 2026-27 offerings! Contact these venues now for the best seats and pricing.

FLORIDA REPERTORY THEATRE, 2268 Bay Street, Fort Myers. The FL Rep is celebrating their 29th season as "one of America's top repertory theatres" according to the *Wall Street Journal*. Check their website at *https://www.floridarep.org* for tickets for the following shows:

• **FOREVER EVERLY: The Everly Brothers Rockumentary**
September 18 – October 25, 2026; previews September 15 – 17 ArtStage Studio Theatre
A glorious blend of live music and film, Forever Everly is like no other show you've seen before. Get to know the ins and outs of the famous duo in a beautifully crafted documentary, while Jared Mancuso and Nick Gallardo perform the unforgettable music of The Everly Brothers, Paul Simon, The Beatles and more…right along with the movie!

• **Neil Simon's THE STAR-SPANGLED GIRL**
October 23 – November 8, 2026; previews October 20 – 22| Historic Arcade Theatre
This fast-moving, hilarious comedy follows two earnest young men struggling to put out a "protest" magazine in 1960s San Francisco but the all-American girl – and former Olympic swimmer – who moves in next door sends the boys into a romantic tailspin. Love and politics clash delightfully in this masterful romantic comedy from the mind of America's most beloved comedy writer!

• **WAIT UNTIL DARK** By Frederick Knott | Adapted by Jeffrey Hatcher
November 27 – December 13, 2026; previews November 24 – 26
Historic Arcade Theatre
The classic thriller comes to vivid new life in this chilling new adaptation. Set in 1944 Greenwich Village, Susan and Sam Hendrix's unassuming apartment conceals a prize for which thieves and con men would kill. Using deception and disguise, a trio of desperate crooks hatch a devious plot to make a heist – but they must wait until dark.

• **PLAID TIDINGS: A Special Holiday Edition of Forever Plaid** By Stuart Ross
December 4, 2026 – January 3, 2027; previews December 1 – 3
ArtStage Studio Theatre
The Plaids are back! This time the legendary 1950s singing group comes back to Earth to

Season Plays

spread yuletide joy with the greatest holiday hits of all time! At first, Frankie, Jinx, Smudge, and Sparky aren't sure why they're back on earth – but a phone call from Rosemary Clooney explains the Plaids are needed to put a little harmony into a discordant world.

• **DAMES AT SEA** Lyrics by George Haimsohn and Robin Miller;
Music by Jim Wise
January 8 – 24, 2027;
previews January 5 – 7
Historic Arcade Theatre
This charming and hilarious musical will tap its way into your heart! It's the 1930s and Ruby, a hopeful chorus girl from Utah, arrives in New York with big Broadway dreams! With help from an innocent young sailor (and aspiring songwriter), she lands a role in a low-budget show. When the big-budget star quits in a fit of ego-driven rage, Ruby gets her big break – until the theatre gets demolished!

• **SEXY LAUNDRY** By Michele Riml
January 29 – March 7, 2027;
previews January 26 – 28
ArtStage Studio Theatre
After 25 years of marriage, the appearance of love handles, and the disappearance of hairlines, Alice and Henry have hit a plateau. With a Sex for Dummies guidebook in hand, Alice convinces Henry to join her on spicy a weekend retreat – in hopes of awakening her inner vixen. Together they explore every fantasy from leather to lace.

• **OVER THE RIVER AND THROUGH THE WOODS** By Joe DiPietro
February 12 – 28, 2027;
previews February 9 – 11
Historic Arcade Theatre
A hilarious and warm-hearted family fiasco from the author of *I Love You, You're Perfect, Now Change* and the Tony-Winning Broadway sensation, *Memphis*! See what happens when 29-year-old Nick tells both pairs of his doting Italian American grandparents he's leaving New Jersey to take a dream job across the country. His grandparents are stunned! Chaos ensues as they plot and scheme to keep him in Hoboken.

• **NEVER CAN SAY GOODBYE: The 70s Beehive Musical**
Book by Fred Stuart | Arrangements and additional music by George Luton
March 19 – April 4, 2027;
previews March 16 – 18
Historic Arcade Theatre
Don't miss the regional premiere of *Never Can Say Goodbye*, a brand-new celebration of the iconic female voices and unforgettable music of the 1970s! A follow-up to the recent Florida Rep hit, *Beehive: the 60s Musical*, this sequel bursts onto the

stage with the empowering spirit, cultural revolution, and bold fashion of the 70s – all underscored by a soundtrack of classics made famous by Gloria Gaynor, Roberta Flack, The Jackson 5, Linda Ronstadt, B.J. Thomas, Three Dog Night, Diana Ross, and more!

• **Noël Coward's PRIVATE LIVES**
April 9 – May 9, 2027;
previews April 6 – 8
ArtStage Studio Theatre
Private Lives is one of the most sophisticated, entertaining plays ever written. Elyot and Amanda, once married and now honeymooning with new spouses at the same hotel, meet by chance, reignite the old spark and impulsively elope. After days of being reunited, they again find their fiery romance alternating between passions of love and anger. When their aggrieved spouses appear to win them back, chaos erupts as allegiances shift and unlikely alliances form.



Players Circle THEATER

PLAYERS CIRCLE THEATER, 13211 McGregor Blvd, Fort Myers (only about 20 minutes from Heritage Palms!). Started by FL Repertory Theatre founders Bob Cacioppo and Carrie Lund, Players Circle is in its nineth season. Check their website at *https://www.playerscircle.org.* for tickets for the following shows:

• **INTO THE WOODS -** A Student Production Music & Lyrics by Stephen Sondheim
Continuing to August 9, 2026
Your favorite fairy tales collide in this thrilling musical about what happens after wishes come true, weaving beloved characters into an enchanting journey that explores consequence, responsibility, and the cost of getting everything you dreamed of.

• **MY WAY – A MUSICAL TRIBUTE TO FRANK SINATRA** By David Grapes & Todd Olson
August 14 – 30, 2026
Take a stroll down memory lane as the theatre transforms into an intimate nightclub with a jazz trio and table seating, where four performers celebrate the legendary songs of Frank Sinatra in a stylish, swinging evening of music.

• **THE NERD** By Larry Shue
October 23 – November 15, 2026;
previews October 20 – 22
An unassuming young architect's life is thrown into comic chaos when an outrageously awkward houseguest – who once saved his life in Vietnam – arrives unexpectedly. Polite society quickly unravels in a whirlwind of sharp wit, big laughs, and a twist ending that will leave you smiling.

• **IT'S A WONDERFUL LIFE – A LIVE RADIO PLAY** By Joe Landry
December 4 – 23, 2026;
previews December 1 – 3
This inventive stage adaptation brings the beloved holiday movie to life as a 1940s radio broadcast. Nostalgic, clever, and full of live sound effects, it radiates holiday spirit and reminds us that every life matters. A magical treat for the whole family.

• **SOCIAL SECURITY** By Andrew Bergman
January 8 – January 31, 2027;
previews January 5 – 7
Sophisticated Manhattan art dealers Barbara and David see their chic world turned upside down when her outspoken, tell-it-like-it-is mother comes to live with them. A smart, stylish comedy filled with laughs, witty dialogue, and the hilarious clash of generations.

• **MARJORIE PRIME** By Jordan Harrison
February 13 – March 8, 2027;
previews February 10 – 12
In the near future, technology preserves memories. An elderly woman reconnects with her past through a lifelike companion programmed by Artificial Intelligence to look like her long-deceased husband. Poignant and thought-provoking, this play explores love, loss, and what it means to be human.

• **BRIGHT STAR** By Steve Martin and Edie Brickell
March 19 – April 11, 2027;
previews March 16 – 18
Sweeping romance meets foot-stomping music in this uplifting story inspired by real events. Set in the Blue Ridge Mountains, it follows a journey of love, resilience, and redemption, featuring soaring harmonies and irresistible charm that will leave you humming long after the curtain falls.

• **EISENHAUER: THIS PIECE OF GROUND** By Richard Hellesen
April 23 – May 9, 2027;
previews April 20 – 22
At Gettysburg, former President Dwight D. Eisenhower reflects on leadership, war, and the weight of history. This gripping and intimate portrait reveals the man behind the office in a stirring exploration of duty, legacy, and personal reflection.

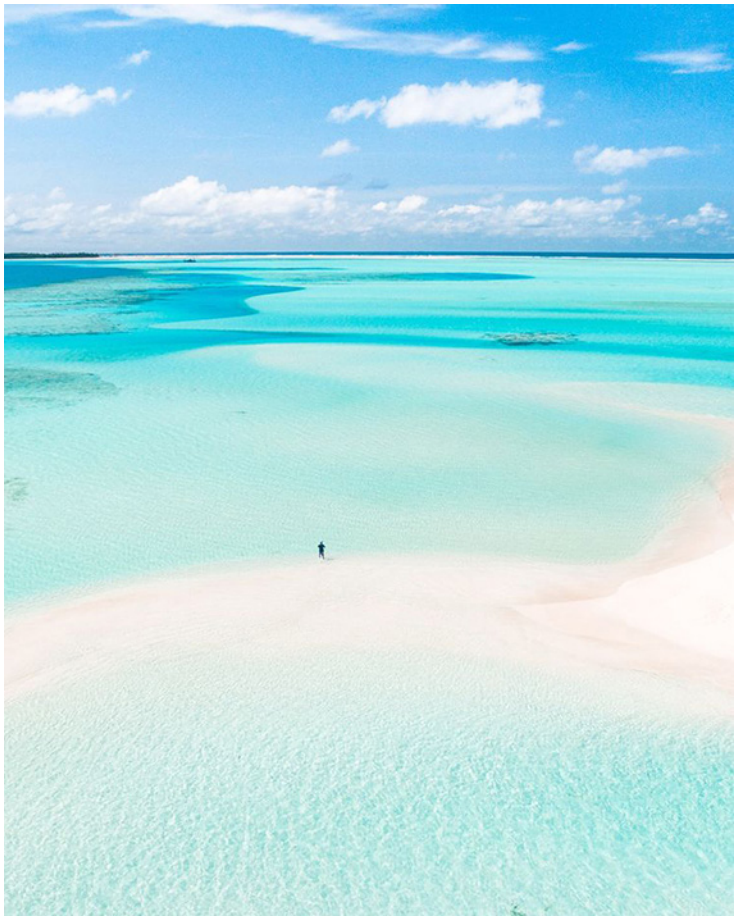
• **SYLVIA** By A.R. Gurney
May 21 – June 6, 2027;
previews May 18 – 20
Get ready for surprises in this charming laugh-out-loud comedy about a middle-aged man whose life is upended when a spirited, clever, dog enters his world, sparks unexpected love, friendship, and hilarious chaotic adventures.



Seven Things About

COMPILED FROM HISTORY FACTS BY JANE B

August is the month to hit the beaches, isn't it? For many of us, the ocean is a place to visit on vacation or on a hot summer day, and we don't give it much thought beyond that. But beneath the surface lies a vast and largely unexplored world — one that's deeper, stranger, and more surprising than we realize.



A SANDBAR IN THE MALDIVES.

Though we divide it into regions including the Atlantic and Pacific, the ocean is one continuous, global body of water that connects all the continents and shapes nearly every aspect of life on Earth. This vast body of water is jam-packed with strange life, ancient history, and untapped potential. It regulates our weather, sustains our food systems, and produces *more than half* the oxygen we breathe!

And yet, despite its vital role in our lives, there's still so much we don't know about the ocean. For all our technological progress, the vast sea reminds us that the planet is still full of mysteries to be uncovered. Here are seven fascinating facts that just might change the way you think about the sea.

We've Only Explored a Tiny Fraction of the Ocean

Although the ocean covers about 71% of the Earth's surface, an incredible 80% of it still remains unexplored, unmapped, and unseen by humans. In an age where GPS can pinpoint your exact location in seconds and satellites track hurricanes from space, much of what lies beneath the surface of the ocean still remains as mysterious as it was to early explorers. That's partly because exploring the deep sea is no easy feat — the pressure down there is intense, thousands of times greater than at the surface. On top

of that, it's incredibly expensive to reach those remote depths. Even with today's advanced sonar and underwater robots, most of the ocean is still unexplored by humans.

The Ocean Is Home to as Many as Two Million Species

The ocean represents Earth's largest habitat by volume; estimates suggest it's home to around two million marine species. Of those, only around 240,000 have been officially documented — meaning more than 90% of oceanic life remains unknown to science. Many newly discovered species are surprising and unlike anything above the surface. In recent years, scientists have identified fish with transparent heads, squids that flash bright lights, and crabs that farm bacteria on their claws for food.



THIS SHARPEAR ENOPE SQUID WAS PHOTOGRAPHED AT NIGHT IN THE DEEP BLACK WATER OFF THE COAST OF PALM BEACH, FL.

The Deepest Part of the Ocean Is Nearly Seven Miles Down

The Mariana Trench, located in the western Pacific Ocean, is home to the Challenger Deep — the deepest known point in Earth's oceans. It plunges nearly 11 kilometers (almost seven miles) below the surface. To put that in perspective, if Mount Everest were placed in the trench, its peak would still be more than a mile underwater. To date, only a handful of human-made submersibles have reached this extreme depth because the conditions are formidable: complete darkness,



THE CHALLENGER DEEP, IS A SMALL SLOT-SHAPED VALLEY IN THE MARIANA TRENCH. THE TRENCH ITSELF IS CRESCENT SHAPE AND IS 1,580 MILES IN LENGTH.

temperatures near freezing, and crushing pressure that would flatten most vehicles. Yet life still manages to exist in that alien world: Thousands of amphipods and microbe species thrive where life was once thought impossible.

The Ocean Contains More Than Three Million Shipwrecks

Throughout history, humanity has lost countless vessels to the sea — from ancient trading ships and pirate galleons to military submarines and modern cargo vessels. The United Nations estimates there may be as many as three million shipwrecks scattered across the ocean floor — and fewer than 1% have been explored. Some of the oldest wrecks date back thousands of years, and others, such as the Titanic, still loom large in our collective imagination long after they were lost to sea. The ocean preserves many of these wrecks surprisingly well, especially in deep, cold waters where corrosion and decay are slowed.



THE SUNKEN SHIPWRECK MARIANNA AT THE ISLAND OF NAXOS, CYCLADES, GREECE.

The Largest Living Structure on Earth Is in the Ocean

The Great Barrier Reef, stretching more than 1,400 miles along the northeast coast of Australia, is the largest living structure on the planet. It's so large, in fact, that it's visible from space. Made up of around 3,000 individual coral reefs, 600 continental islands, 300 coral cays, and 150 inshore mangrove islands, the Great Barrier Reef supports an ecosystem so large and complex that it's often compared to a rainforest in terms of biodiversity. The reef is home to more than 1,600 species of fish, 450 types of hard coral, and hundreds of species of sharks, turtles, and marine mammals.



AERIAL VIEW OVER THE GREAT BARRIER REEF WHERE A TIDAL CHANNEL SEPARATES HARDY AND HOOK REEF.

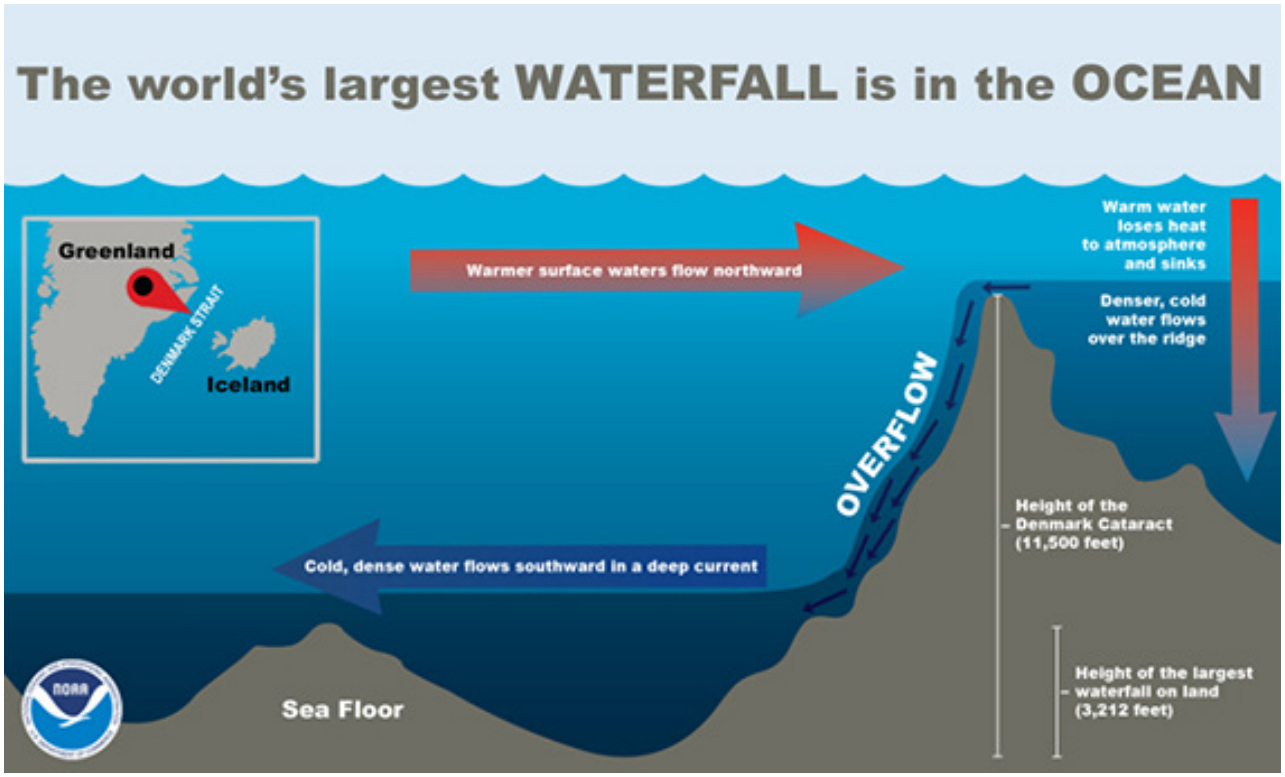
The Ocean Produces More Than Half the World's Oxygen

When it comes to oxygen production, most of us think of forests and trees, but marine plants — especially oceanic phytoplankton — actually produce more

than 50% of the Earth's oxygen supply. Those tiny, photosynthetic organisms drift near the surface of the ocean and convert carbon dioxide into oxygen, much like plants on land. Marine plants aren't just important for air quality; they also form the base of the marine food chain, supporting everything from shrimp to whales. Without phytoplankton, life in the oceans — and on land — would be drastically different.

There Are Underwater Rivers, Lakes, and Waterfalls

It may sound like something out of science fiction, but the ocean contains its own rivers, lakes, and even waterfalls — entire hydrological systems beneath the sea. These strange features are formed when water with a different salinity and temperature — often brine, which is denser than water on the surface — settles into seafloor depressions, forming distinct, visible pools. Underwater waterfalls occur when this heavier water spills over ledges or seafloor escarpments. One of the most famous examples is the Denmark Strait cataract between Greenland and Iceland, which plunges 11,500 feet — making it the largest waterfall anywhere on Earth, either on land or in the sea.



IN THE DENMARK STRAIT, SOUTHWARD-FLOWING FRIGID WATER FROM THE NORDIC SEAS MEETS WARMER WATER FROM THE IRMINGER SEA. THE COLD, DENSE WATER QUICKLY SINKS BELOW THE WARMER WATER AND FLOWS OVER THE HUGE DROP IN THE OCEAN FLOOR, CREATING A DOWNWARD FLOW ESTIMATED OVER 123 MILLION CUBIC FEET PER SECOND.



L-R: DAVE BRENNAN, JEANIE ANDREW-BRENNAN, PEG & JAMES HANNIGAN.



L-R: TIM JOHNSON, TED & ALICE CORCORAN, AND KAREN GACK.



L-R: GLEN HYRE, PAULA HYRE, PAT & BOB LAMBRIX.



L-R: SCOTT & HOLLY OSLER, AND SHIRLEE & RICH FIREBAUGH.



L-R: BOB & LAURA O'FLYNN, AND CAROL & RIC ANELLO.

N FOCUS GROUP PARTICIPANTS ARE PICTURED HERE.



L-R: ROGER & DONNA LUSSIER, AND STU & SUE DRAPER.



L-R: BOBBY ROBERTS, BJ HURST, PORTER ROBERTS, AND DAVE GINTER.



L-R: TRICIA SEIBERT, LISA PAVICHEVICH, BEV BAILEY, AND CATHY WHITE.



L-R: TOM & KATHY JECKLIN, AND LISA & TIM CORNETT.



KATHY & DAN DAMIANO.



BARB BARLOW.



SCOTT OSLER, JR.

CLICK HERE TO RETURN TO *FOURTH OF JULY SCRAMBLIN' FUN*



With Gratitude

LISA SCHNECK, FORMER HP WELLNESS & ACTIVITIES DIRECTOR

As many of you now know, I recently transitioned from my role at Heritage Palms to begin a new professional chapter. While I was excited for the opportunity ahead, leaving HP was not easy. The most difficult part, by far, was stepping away from a community that had come to mean so much to me.

When I first arrived at Heritage Palms, I knew I was joining a special place. What I couldn't have known then was just how much the people here would shape my experience — and how deeply I would value the relationships, trust, humor, resilience, and warmth that so many of you shared with me over the years.

My time here was about much more than fitness classes, wellness talks, or program development. It was about people. It was about conversations after class, small victories that mattered, setbacks worked through together, and the privilege of watching so many members continue to show up for themselves and one another in meaningful ways.

One of the greatest reminders of my time here was that wellness is never just about exercise. It's about connection. It's about resilience. It's about learning to care for ourselves not only when life feels orderly and easy, but also when it feels complicated, messy, or uncertain. It's about continuing to move forward — imperfectly, but intentionally.

That is what I carried with me from Heritage Palms.

I left with tremendous respect for the many members who were willing to try something new, stay consistent when progress felt slow, ask thoughtful questions, support one another, and keep showing up. I also left with deep gratitude for the kindness so many of you extended to me personally. Your encouragement, trust, and openness made my work more meaningful than I can adequately express.

If I hoped to contribute anything during my time at HP, it is the reminder that vitality does not belong only to the already-fit, the already-disciplined, or the already-confident. It belongs to all of us. It begins wherever we are, and it grows through consistency, curiosity, and the self-efficacy we achieve by finding every opportunity to test our mettle. Thank you for allowing me to be part of your lives for the past two years. Thank you for your trust, your support, your humor, and your willingness to engage in the work of becoming stronger, healthier, and more connected. Heritage Palms was more than a workplace to me. It was a community I care about deeply, and one I will remember with real affection and gratitude.

I left feeling incredibly fortunate to have spent those years with you.
With gratitude... Lisa Schneck



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