



PRESIDENTS MESSAGE

HAPPY EASTER ! I Hope everyone had a great Easter!

The re-roofing project is starting, with buildings on Remus Dr., buildings 13 through 19. During the day when the roofers are working on **your building** homeowners may park in guest parking and should keep their driveway clear. Homeowners should also move any plants or garden items that could get broken. Don't forget to take dated pictures of your interior ceilings.

Trixie the rabbit recently asked a question about our post boxes and a week later a box was hit and damaged. We don't know who or what hit it. The USPS was notified immediately and they did take pictures. We do know that all of our Cluster Box Units are **at end of life**.

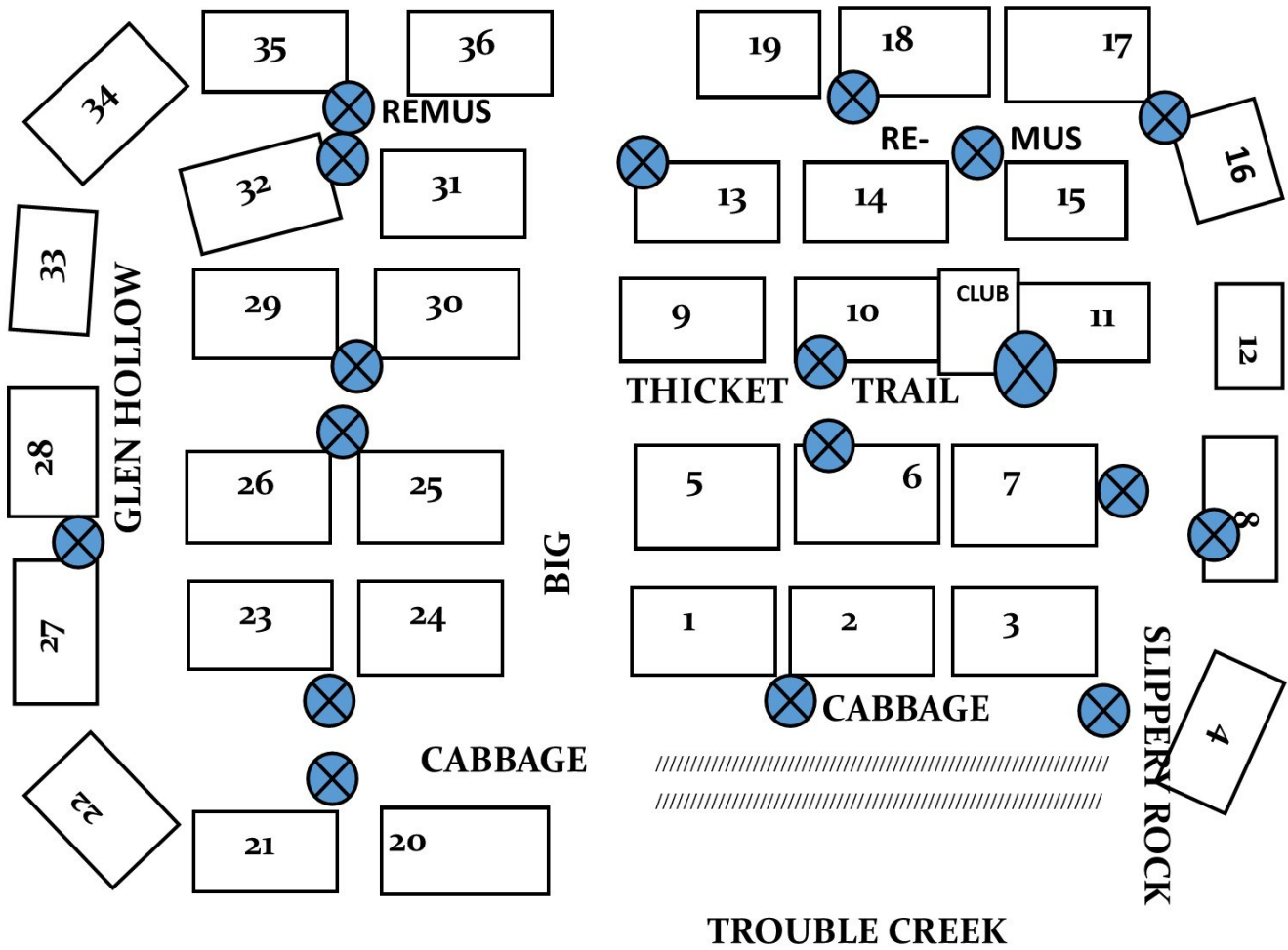
Brief history for those that do not know. The assistant post master attended a meeting at Briarpatch he had been misled regarding Briarpatch's **needs and desires** regarding cluster box replacement. He was subsequently badgered out of the meeting by the audience and our attorney of the time. It wasn't pretty! He had presented to our representative at the time that 55+ communities were **obligated** to install a single Cluster Box Unit (CBU) holding 194 letter boxes and parcel boxes. They wanted to install it by **taking** parking spots near the pool and of course it was rejected by the community. In our communications with them since, they have continued to stick to their proposal or not communicate at all. The rule they speak of applies directly to **Newly built** 55+ communities. We are, allowed to repair and replace the current CBUs under their rules.

In February I sent a letter to the District PM in Tampa and did not hear back. However, David was able to reach the local Postmaster, who now was very amenable to meet. David, myself and the PM and Asst.PM met on 4/17/25. After our meeting the PM was going to verify what can and cannot be done. We are currently researching CBU sales and installation companies. We will keep you posted on this subject now that the USPS is finally working with us. The following are maps of Briarpatch indicating locations of old cbu's and planned cbu's. If you have feedback send via email to Briarpatch NPR.

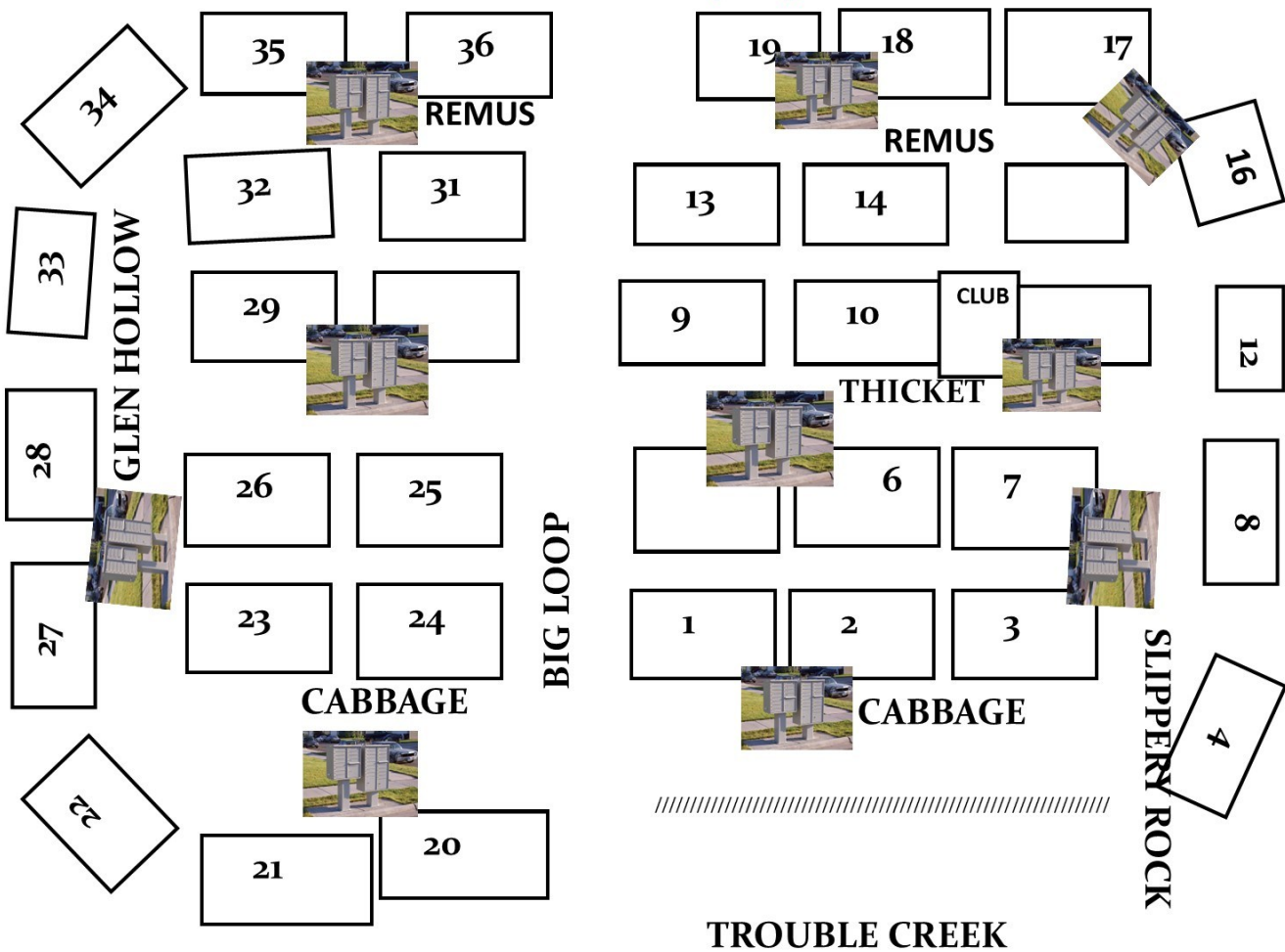
Thanks for paying attention!!

Greg Davis President BPHOA

MAIL BOX MAP #1 **current**



MAIL BOX MAP #2 **proposed**



1



2





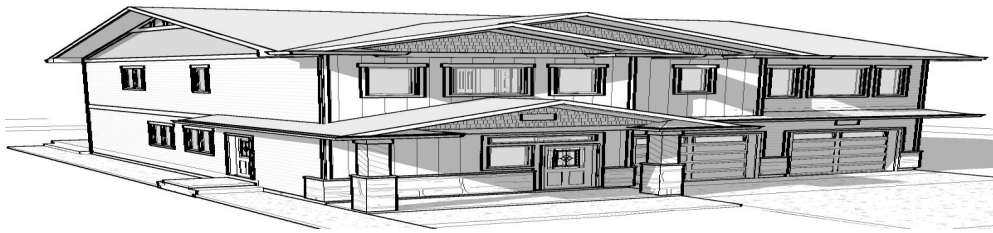
Hello Briar Patch Community;

I Hope everyone had a great Easter with friends and family. There are several members that have not submitted their insurance renewal Declarations pages. **I should not have to chase these down.** That is a full time job. It is very time consuming, not to mention expensive, when you factor in the cost of letterhead, envelopes and stamps. Please be responsible and proactive and submit your renewals as soon as you can.

On another note, I am not privy as to **why** J.D. Parker and Sons—Waste Pro did not pick up your garbage. I don't even think their office knows what their drivers have done, or not done in the course of the day. Not only that, they have all of New Port Richey and probably more houses than that, (I don't know their schedule), that they take care of . Why they didn't pick up your garbage is not something I would even know about. So please call them not me. Their number is in your directory on the very back page. They will contact their drivers and let them know you called.

Thank you,

Marie Lawrence
Secretary



BUILDINGS & ARCHITECTURE

Dear Homeowners, please be sure to notify any contractor working on your home's Cable—Spectrum & Frontier, HVAC—a/c system or electrical system that NO wires or cable are allowed on top of the roof or outside of the building.

Please follow the Speed limit when driving through the neighborhood. **15 MPH**

Those who have **screens in disrepair MUST** have them Repaired or Removed.

Please walk out back and look at your screens!

We have started the re-roofing program on April 28, 2025. I ask that homeowners take pictures of the inside of their home, with dates before the work begins. We will be re-roofing buildings 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18 and 19 on Remus.

Buildings 31—36 are due to be painted this year, date TBD.

Our siding replacement and repair program, will begin in a few weeks. We will complete the most needed repairs that we can within budget. Remove, Wrap, Replace Siding.





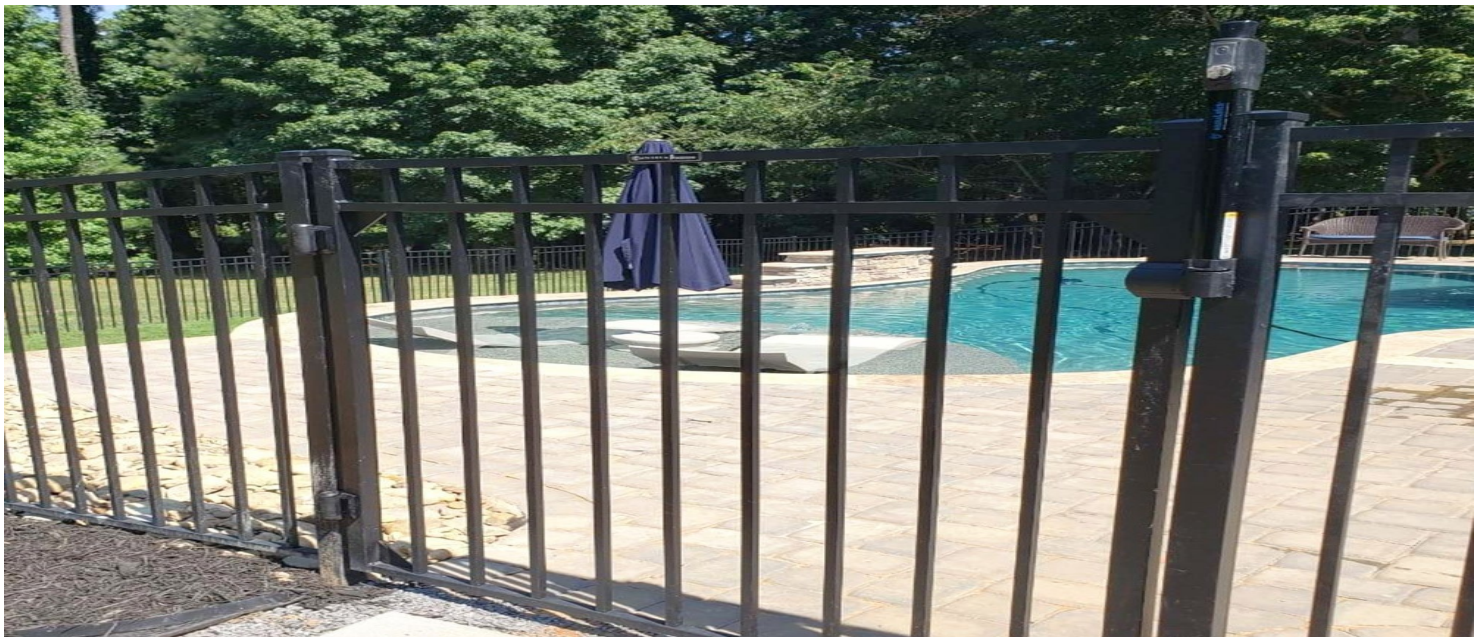
ROADS & GROUNDS

IMPORTANT:

The pool gate must be latched at all times, even if they are only in there for a few minutes. Our insurance company is threatening to cancel our policy if you don't keep it locked.

David Vangsness

Director of Roads and Grounds





Hello Briar Patch Community,

Thank you to Karen & Paul Adams, Donna Williams and Cate Hernandez for their donations to the clubhouse, holiday door prize and bathrooms.

The results from our annual survey questions are as follows:



What you enjoy about Briar Patch?

- Friendly neighbors - 26, Community curb appeal - 25, Pool/Clubhouse - 22
- Peaceful environment, Quiet & Safe, We like it the way it is, Enforce Bylaws, Wonderful Board members - 1 each

What activities would you like to see at Briar Patch?

- Walking group & Arts & Crafts - 8 each, BINGO, Cooking Group, Book Club - 5 each, Gardening - 4
- Travel, Biking, Bus trips, Monthly dinners, computer lessons - 1 each

Please understand that we need facilitators/volunteers to conduct these activities. If you are able to facilitate an activity please send an email to briarpatchnpr@yahoo.com with your name, phone number and the activity you are interested in handling.

In order to reserve the clubhouse for any function/event please fill out the online form “Application for use of Clubhouse”. If you do not own a computer please email briarpatchnpr@yahoo.com with your name, phone number, email, date and time you are requesting, etc.

Tuesday’s Game Night 6:30PM at the Clubhouse as follows:

- **BINGO** - Tuesday, May 6th at 6:30 PM Clubhouse (traditional BINGO). Please bring your quarters.
- **Wine tasting** - Tuesday, May 27th at 6:30 PM Clubhouse - Please bring your favorite wine in a paper bag. If you do not have a bag, we will provide one. The person with the winning wine wins a prize.

Please come join us at the clubhouse for the following events:

- **Fiber Artists** – The Tangled Threads class is cancelled until further notice. Thank you, Barbara Larsen, for all your time and knowledge you have provided us with!!!



- **Paint & Sip** – Come and explore your creativity and try your hand at painting on an acrylic canvas **on Thursday, May 22nd from 6 to 8 PM** at the Clubhouse. Enjoy a glass of wine! Bring your wine glass. There will be white and red wine. Limited to 10 people. There is a \$5.00 charge for members and \$10 for non-members. If you will be attending, please send email to: briarpatchnpr@yahoo.com
- **Christian Study & Fellowship Group** - It's not too late to join the Christian Study & Fellowship Group which meets the 2nd and 4th Wednesdays May 14th and May 28th at the Clubhouse from 2 to 3:30PM. The goal of this group is to strengthen our faith, our relationships, and our community by reading and discussing Bible scriptures and Christian books on various topics. We are currently reading “Aging Faithfully: The Holy Invitation of Growing Older” by Alice Fryling. This book provides thought-provoking insights into growing older with hope and purpose. You can order a copy on Amazon. If you have any questions please email to: briarpatchnpr@yahoo.com. Light refreshments will be served.
- **Memorial Day**– Come celebrate on Monday, May 26th at 11:30AM at the clubhouse. HOA will have hot dogs, hamburgers and water. Please feel free to bring your favorite food, side dishes, beverage(s), and dessert to share with neighbors. The sign-up sheet is on the bulletin board. Please sign-up by May 12th. If you have any questions please email briarpatchnpr@yahoo.com





****Reminder**** Please, if you make a mess in the bathroom either clean it up or tell someone about it so that it can be taken care of.

Dates and times are subject to change.

Please consider a position on the Briar Patch HOA Board.

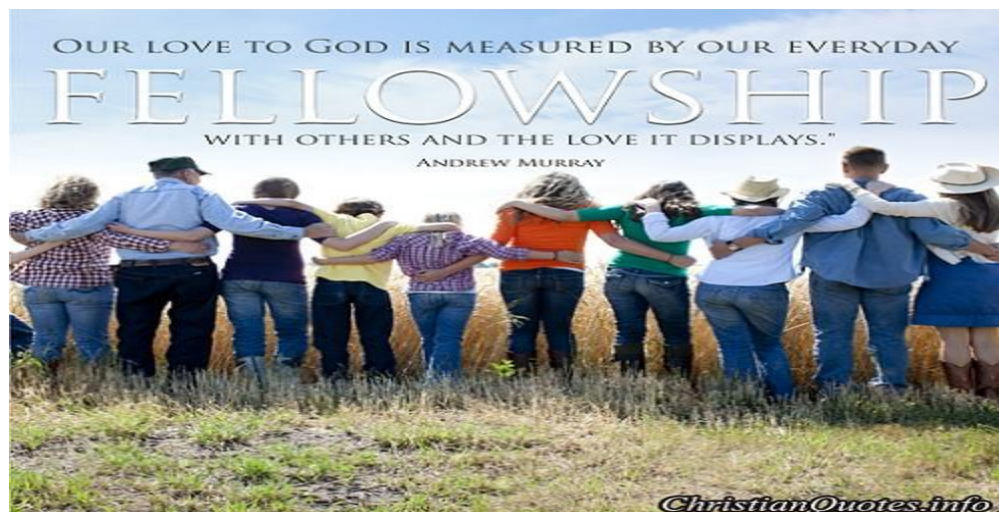
Participation and cooperation from our Briar Patch community is vital for a successful and enjoyable time together.

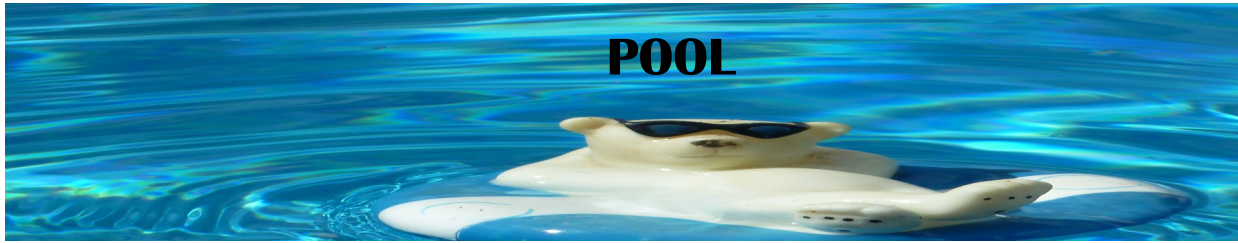
Reminder if you see something say something as Briar Patch is our community to maintain and be proud of!

Thank you all for your help and support!

Regards,

Diolinda (Linda) Gonzalez, Clubhouse Director





WHY MUST THE POOL GATES REMAIN SECURELY LOCKED?

The pool has the inherent danger of someone drowning. The gates must be kept locked to prevent children from entering the pool area.

Our liability insurance dictates that the gates be locked at all times. If we do not follow their mandate they will pull the insurance coverage. **We cannot operate the pool without liability coverage.** The insurer performs routine random inspections. On the last inspection the gate was left ajar. We were threatened with cancellation of insurance and pool shutdown. The gate hinges have been replaced ensuring the gate will self close.

PLEASE MAKE SURE TO CLOSE THE GATE BEHIND YOUR SELF AND MAKE SURE OTHER DO SO AS WELL!

A MILLION THANKS TO THE POOL COMMITTEE FOR YOUR DILIGENT WORK CHECKING THE POOL AREA, THE CHEMICAL READINGS, ETC. ETC. THANK YOU!!

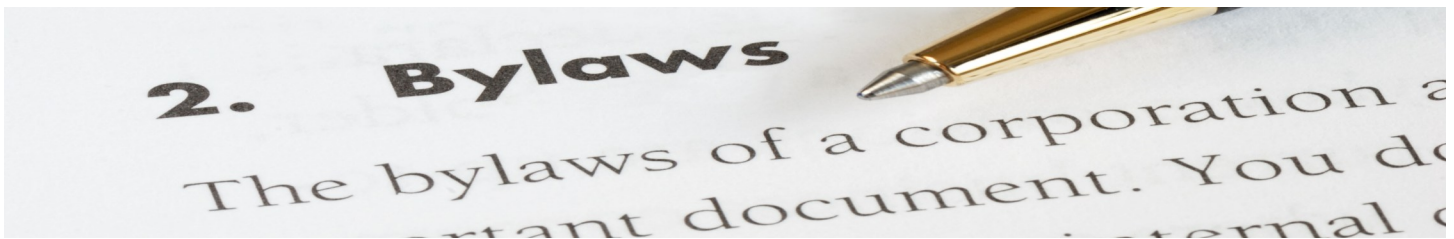
Please make every effort to keep the pool area and bathrooms clean.

Thank You!!



Bathrooms

Please maintain the bathrooms clean. Please flush the toilet after use. The un-flushed toilets create a health issue. We do not want to be shut down by the Health Department. Thank you!



Bylaw Review

13. The owner of each lot shall keep the grounds **free of all refuse and equipment.**

Signs shall not be permitted on Lots, with the following exceptions:

- a. Owners who are selling their property may install a **“For Sale” sign not to exceed 24” by 24”**. This sign must be **professionally printed** “For Sale by Owner” or represent a Real Estate Firm. This sign shall be placed directly in front of the garage wall under the outdoor light, or in the garden near the front porch of the home. **No sign posts or other signage is allowed.**
- b. Lot owners who have a paved parking pad on their property may post a private parking sign in front of the paved parking pad; the only private parking signs allowed are the standard signs supplied by the Association.
- c. Security service signs shall be permitted where owners have security systems. Signs not to exceed one square foot.
- d. Signs shall be maintained by the homeowner in a clean, undamaged condition.



BRIARPATCH NEWSLETTER May 2025
NEW PORT RICHEY HOLLYWOOD OF THE EAST



This month as planned, we will stay close to home in our beautiful quaint little town of New Port Richey. The town was given the nickname “Hollywood of the East because in the past (especially in the 20’s) it was a place visited by film stars who stayed at the now newly renovated and historic Hacienda Hotel. Famous people such as Johnny Cash and Irvin Berlin lived in New Port Richey. JohnnyCash’s home is still on the Cotee River

There is a lovely and serene community nestled inside the borders of New Port Richey. The community was constructed between 1986 to 1993. As for the name of this community, Professor Bryan Wagner says that name came from a story of a fox who traps a rabbit making it get stuck to a figure with tar poured on it. The rabbit outsmarts the fox by asking not to be thrown into a certain place but that is where he really wanted to go. That was his hope. So, the rabbit won and got out of a challenging situation. You guessed!! It is the Briar Patch, our home.



Wagner says, “The Briar Patch is a symbol of the commons, the...land that provides refuge and resources that sustain the life of the community.”

One famous singer with a family tie to new Port Richey is Whitney Houston. She sang a song that is in harmony with Wagner’s description of Briar Patch. Let’s listen to one of her popular songs that solidified the role of music in the Olympic games. The song evoked a sense of hope, refuge and overcoming challenges. - “One Moment in Time” by Whitney Houston - <https://youtu.be/pQ74inVcYzc>

History of New Port Richey: As for the inception of the city, Aaron Mclaughlin Richey moved to what is now known as Port Richey in 1883, set up a post office and gave the area it’s name, Port Richey. On the other side of the Cotee River was a town called Hickory Hammock, settled by farmers. They dropped that name and called the town “New Port Richey” harmonizing with what Mr. Richey named the town across the river.

New Port Richey was incorporated in 1924. It is considered a suburb of Tampa, Florida.

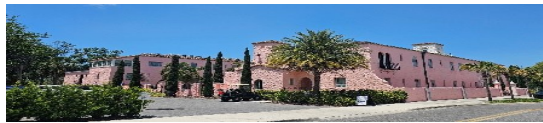


The Patch Corner –Cont’d History of New Port Richey:

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There are many recreational things to do in New Port Richey. Sims Park is a beautiful park with a walking trail, a bike trail and a museum that is run by the West Pasco Historical Society.



The city is the home of the Suncoast Theater which is located in downtown New Port Richey at 6237 Grand Blvd. Some of the plays coming up are Indiana Jones, Beauty and the Beast, Shrek and more. The Sound of Music was played a few months ago. It was awesome! They even had a section in front of the stage for deaf and hard of hearing people to sit close and enjoy interpretation of the play in sign language. Please go online and pick a show. I may see you there. Enjoy!

Hacienda Hotel - “The Pink Palace,” - “The Place of the Stars.” Looking to get away for a few days, but don’t want to travel far? This hotel mentioned at the beginning of this hometown journey is the place to go. It has a restaurant with scrumptious food. It is located at 5621 Main St. right at Sims Park. So, you can go right outside the door of the hotel and enjoy the beautiful park.

Fun Facts About New Port Richey: The modern sand wedge for golfers was invented in New Port Richey. / New Port Richey was the first city in the area to make a provision for community services. / New Port Richey is the home of Chasco Fiesta which is a celebration honoring Native American Tribes. / The sponge industry near New Port Richey in Tarpon Springs made that area the sponge capital of the world. / The Cotee River is an abbreviation for Pithlachascotee. / New Port Richey is the burial ground for two different Indian tribes.

Credits: What’sWhatNewPortRichey.com , Downtown NewPortRichey.com, Professor Bryan Wagner

I hope you enjoyed learning more about our town. Next month we will travel to an intriguing place. See you there!

RACHEL JAMES

CABLE vs. FIBER

This information is here to make sure everyone knows and understands a bit about how you receive internet and tv service. F.Y.I. our community like every other HOA community is being asked by Fiber optic and cable companies to change services. *You need to know because YOU will be advising the BOD on what changes if any we will take in the future.*

What is cable and what is fiber? Most of us have cable tv and internet services. The electronic or digital signals are sent from the cable/internet service provider (ISP) to our homes. The signal travels through **Ethernet cables** or it may travel through a **Fiber optic cable**. What is the difference?

We normally see “cat” 6 – 9 coaxial cable, these cables consists of an **inner copper wire** cover with insulation and another shielding. It has a plastic layer that offers insulation between the braided metal shield and center conductor. Coaxial cabling has a single copper conductor in its center. **This is what we all have in our homes at present.**

Fiber optic cables mostly consist of a **center glass**, and different layers of protective materials surround it. **Fiber-optic cabling transmits light** in place of electronic signals, which removes the issue of electrical interference. This makes it an ideal selection for environments that contain a large amount of electrical interference. This type of network cable offers an ability to transmit signals over longer distances. It also provides the ability to carry more information at faster speeds.

Pros: Fiber is faster and carries much more information at higher speeds. Fiber can handle the increasing amount and size of digital material. Cable is already in the ground.

Cons: Cable is limited and cannot carry increased size of digital information transmitted. It slows down and has drop offs of information etc. The speed of transmission is slower. A fiber optic network would need to be installed, they do it for free.

The cable companies are willing to pay communities like ours to stay with them and not switch. They offer deals like stay with spectrum for 10 years we will pay you \$70,000.00. The Fiber companies offer deals by installing the fiber network for Free and capping costs for service to the consumer for 10 years. We will evaluate offers from different companies to discern what would work best for ALL OF US in Briarpatch. The information will be presented to everyone for review.

Please take a google search of fiber internet companies or services, in your free time.

That's all the news that's fit to print!