

Office Hours

Tuesday -Thursday and Saturday - Sunday: 9:00AM - 5:00PM
Closed Mondays, Fridays & Holidays

Jockey Club Editor

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JOCKEY CLUB OF NORTH PORT

Property Owner's Association, Inc.
A Covenant Protected Community

THE DERBY DISPATCH
July 2026 / Vol 65

Community Update: Building Towards a Better Future

Hello neighbors! The June Community Meeting brought clarity and a path towards a bright future with The Jockey Club. We understand the community's concerns and are grateful for everyone's patience as we navigate through these projects. Let's go over a few quick housekeeping items from the June Board Meeting before we go into plans for the future.

A Bylaw Committee was formed with a mix of Board members and residents to open up the bylaws to be reviewed and revised so they better fit the vision for this community. The Committee will propose any changes to the Board and, if approved, the Board will propose those changes to the rest of the community members. This will allow us to adjust bylaws as needed with the help of resident volunteers to build a better community going forward for all of our residents.

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AI Generated Proposed Renderings

Connect with Us

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Phone: 941-426-3800 | Fax: 941-423-6239
Email: jockeyclubnorthport@gmail.com

Website: www.jockeyclubnorthport.com
Facebook: facebook.com/JCNPFL
Facebook Group: The Friendly Jockey Club Neighbors

The current rental policy in our bylaws states no home can be rented out until at least 12 months of ownership. This has been in our bylaws, but has been loosely enforced before the Clean Slate Letter in April. Going forward, any property rented before the 12 month of ownership mark will incur a fine of \$150 plus \$25 per diem with a maximum fine of \$5,000. This policy will be enforced with no exceptions. Enforcement of this policy, while difficult in certain situations, helps us ensure we remain unbiased across the board and adhere to our bylaws.

ECC is being reestablished with our ECC Director Jim Perrine. The community had its first inspection June 1st and each inspection will happen on or around the 1st of every month. Jim received the report back from our Real Manage inspector and drove around the community himself. He praised the community for taking pride in their homes! There were only a handful of violations and they were all very minor. Great job keeping our neighborhood looking great! Going into storm season, ECC will be focusing on things like yard debris, rubbish, or anything that could become a projectile during high winds. Take a moment to go around your yard looking for any debris that needs to be cleared or if any trees may need to be trimmed.

We recently passed another inspection and have a few more ahead on the sewer project. The plumbing work is nearly done and once it is inspected we can work on getting the cement poured which will then require another inspection. However, once we get through this process the

construction of the interior bathrooms will start and progress should pick up speed. Right now we are projecting an estimated finish time of approximately 2-3 months, though we hope it will be complete sooner than that.

Our Vice President Bain proposed future renovations that will help drive revenue and future proof The Jockey Club and community. The renovations would be funded by a special assessment that will go through the approval process. These funds will be used to fully modernize the clubhouse and bring it up to ADA compliance, renovate the entire interior of the building, upgrade the security system, and build a fully functioning office space that can be rented out.

With these renovations, a conservative projected annual revenue would total approximately \$37,700 - \$47,700 a year. This revenue will come from Hall and Office rentals, TV advertising, and exterior events. This income will allow us to offset major pool repairs and facility maintenance in the future, limiting the need for more special assessments and dues increases going forward.

Bain believes we as a community deserve these long overdue upgrades. Repairs need to be made either way, so we should invest in our future to stabilize the community going forward. You as residents deserve to have a clubhouse you are proud of, not embarrassed by, and the Board wants to do everything in their power to achieve that goal.

We thank you for your patience and understanding during this time and look forward to restoring the Heart of North Port.

JULY WORD SEARCH



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| armada | plump |
| around | point |
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FROM THE BOARD: COMMUNITY NEWS

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Toni Kane '28
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Nicole Everett
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Paul Gillotti
Maintenance '29

James Perrine '28
ECC Director

Shannon Kelley '27
Media Director

William Schimpf '27
At-Large Director.

Are You Prepared to Weather the Storm?

Even if you're late to the game, it's never too late in the hurricane season for storm preparation! The City of North Port held their Stormwater 101 & Storm Preparedness Town Hall Meeting on May 20th, but here's a recap for those who couldn't attend. Whether you're a seasoned Category 5 veteran or a new addition down here, everyone can benefit from a little refresher.



Stormwater Management 101

The City of North Port has a unique stormwater management system and hydrology. North Port is within a large watershed called the Big Slough Watershed that receives water from the North/Northeast and is not the same watershed as most of Sarasota County.

For those who may be unfamiliar, a watershed is an area of land that funnels rainfall into waterways like creeks, streams, and rivers, eventually leading to outflow points like estuaries or bays.

The Big Slough Watershed is approximately 196 square miles and moves water through North Port to Charlotte Harbor and the Myakkahatchee Creek is a large contributor for stormwater-related impacts in North Port.

North Port's stormwater system is designed to handle up to a 5-day long, 10-year storm, but how much rain *and* how quickly it falls makes all the difference in stormwater management. The term 10-year storm may sound confusing. A 10-year storm is a storm that on average occurs every 10 years, but that does not mean there cannot be more than one within a decade. Another way to look at it is that there is a 10% chance of a storm this severe or greater happening any given year.

To put that in perspective, Hurricane Ian, which made landfall in Lee County on September 28th, 2022 and caused catastrophic damage from Lee to Sarasota County, delivered over 15 inches of rain in a 24 hour period. This means Hurricane Ian was a **500-year storm**. In other words, it had a **0.2%** chance of occurring.

What does this mean with all of the new commercial development in the area? Any new commercial, industrial, and residential subdivisions are required to put in their own stormwater pond system and cannot impact the City's permitted stormwater drainage system. The outfall of these systems must be equal to or less than the outfall from the same area before it was developed. This ensures that development is not putting a strain on the existing stormwater system or putting homes at increased risk.

Did you know, our roads are designed to assist the stormwater system in keeping flooding away from houses and buildings while allowing proper filtration? Stormwater needs to be

...continued on p.4

Get in Touch with Your POA Board

We're here for you! Whether you have questions, suggestions, concerns, or neighbor recognition, your POA Board is always happy to hear from residents. Don't hesitate to connect with us.

Your voice Matters!

Sebastian Gardner: jockeyclub.president@gmail.com
Bain Edmondson: jockeyclub.vp@outlook.com
Stacey Sappenfield: jockeyclub.secretary2@gmail.com
Paul Pignotti: jockeyclub.treasure@gmail.com
Nicole Everett: jockeyclub.neverett@gmail.com
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Shannon Kelley: jockeyclub.skelly@outlook.com
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properly filtered of harmful pollutants before it enters the canals and waterways and the City of North Port achieved this by designing a system that slowly takes water from the streets into the ditches and canals. The slow speed allows the water to filter and the street design keeps the water on the road away from buildings while it drains. This is why it takes time for the water to recede after heavy rainfall. The City also uses vegetation to help slow, filter, and cleanse stormwater runoff, but the retention ditches and swales are still mowed regularly to maintain proper function. Water held in swales for up to 72 hours allows the vegetation to clean the stormwater to help protect the environment and reduce erosion, so if you see water pooling after heavy rain, give it some time to drain. If it is still pooling after 72 hours, there may be an issue that Public Works needs to remedy.

How does the City prepare? Outside of regular maintenance to the stormwater system, the City adjusts the water levels based on data gathered throughout the year and comparing it to historical data. When increased storm activity is anticipated, Public Works drains the waterways and stormwater systems in preparation of heavy rainfall.

You can help keep our stormwater system functional, too! The City of North Port advises its residents to follow these simple guidelines:

- Clear or clean inflow/outflow structures on your property, including driveway pipes
- Remove nuisance and excess vegetation
- Repair eroded swales on your property
- Clean up trash and yard waste in your yard, gutters, and around storm drains
- Limit or avoid fertilizer use to protect the habitat

Please report any blocked or damaged swales or pipes to the North Report Portal at NorthPortFL.gov/NorthReport or call Public Works at 941-240-8050. Additional resources can be found on the City of North Port's website at Stormwater Management - North Port, FL in the Public Works section.

Storm Preparedness: What to Look Out for

There are two main threats from large storms, wind and water. High winds are one of the most notable threats people think of when preparing for hurricanes. High speed wind can tear off roof shingles, whole roofs, pull trees from the ground, damage power lines, and send any loose items like outdoor furniture flying into homes, vehicles, and people if they happen to be outside. Broken wood, pipes, or branches can become deadly projectiles. Even items that normally would only be small enough to cause light bruising can cause severe damage when hurled in high wind speeds.

Outside of that, water is a secondary factor in storm damage. We typically experience water related threats in two capacities,

flooding from rainfall and storm surges. We discussed earlier some of the major impacts of rainfall and how the City of North Port prepares for it, but it's important to note that just because the streets are designed to retain water for slow drainage, that **does not** mean it is safe to drive on flooded roads.

Even storms that do not reach hurricane strength can cause significant flooding if it occurs over a short period of time. If a road is flooded or otherwise looks impassable, **do not** travel through it. Even on foot, traveling through flood water can be extremely dangerous. Currents can be much faster than they appear and if it is a severe storm that has picked up debris, you run the risk of unknown debris flowing into you from the current which can lead to injury. An extra concern for us Floridians is the increased chance of coming across an alligator (or even sometimes sharks!), though these incidents are usually few and far between.

An anecdote from the editor: walking through flooding is no joke! Unfortunately, during Hurricane Ian our house was entirely destroyed while we were in it. I had to take multiple trips through mid-thigh high flood water to get my two kids, my Saint Bernard, and my bird to safety. It was difficult, but we all made it. One thing I didn't notice until a day later after I had relaxed, thank you adrenaline, was that during the process of going through the flood water, my legs were so injured that now I could hardly put weight on them. I had felt the debris hitting me, but didn't realize how bad the damage was until afterwards. While sometimes risks are necessary for a better chance of survival, **always** take flood water seriously.

Another water-based impact is storm surges. A storm surge is an abnormal rise in seawater level caused by intense winds and low pressure pushing water towards the shore. While North Port is not coastal and isn't as vulnerable to storm surging as our neighbors, it is still possible if a surge pushes water up the Myakka River and Myakkahatchee Creek. Storm surges are often the most deadly and destructive threat from hurricanes, so always heed any warnings for your area.

It's Hurricane Season, How do I Prepare?

There are a few things to do at the beginning of hurricane season to make preparations for any incoming storms easier.

- Secure loose outdoor items
- Trim weak tree branches
- Confirm your shutters or window protection is ready to go
- Reinforce or secure garage doors
- Keep gutters and storm drains clear
- If your area regularly floods, elevate any valuables within your home and be aware of where water typically pools in your property

Having flood insurance is a great preparedness measure even if you are not in a flood zone. Flood zone maps **do not**

take storm surge or catastrophic rainfall into consideration. This means that even if you are considered safe from regular flooding, you may still be at risk during major storms.

Time to Pack!

So your house is prepared now, but we aren't finished yet. One of the **most important** things to do to prepare for a storm is assembling your emergency kit. It's good to have an emergency kit available year round, but should be a non-negotiable addition to your hurricane preparedness. Here's an example of what an emergency kit should contain, but adjust your kit to best work for your home.

General:

- Minimum 2 week supply of medication and regularly used medical supplies
- Allergy list
- Any required medical devices
- Batteries
- Flashlights
- NOAA Weather Radio - Battery operated or hand cranked
- Cash
- Cell phone chargers and external power banks (make sure they're charged!)
- Books, games, or puzzles for entertainment

First Aid:

- First aid kit with bandages, gauze pads, and adhesive tape
- Scissors and tweezers
- Sewing needle
- Hand sanitizer
- Thermometer
- Safety pins
- Sunscreen
- Aspirin or other over-the-counter pain relievers

Important Documents:

- Insurance cards
- Medical records
- Banking information
- Credit card information
- Social Security Cards
- Birth and marriage certificates
- Set of car, house and office keys
- Veterinary records and proof of ownership
- Copy of will



List of Important Phone Numbers:

- North Port Emergency Call Center (941-429-7000)

- Doctors offices
- Banks
- Schools
- Veterinarian
- Any out-of-town contacts for friends and family

Food and Water:

- Non-perishable packaged or canned food and beverages, baby food, or special dietary items to last at least one week (food items should not require electricity to eat)
- Water - at least 1 gallon per person per day for at least one week
- Non-electric can opener
- Paper plates and plastic utensils, napkins

Clothing:

- Any weather appropriate clothing
- Rain gear such as jackets, hats, umbrellas, and rain boots
- Sturdy shoes, boots, and work gloves

Vehicle:

- Fill up gas tanks and any spare gas cans before a hurricane
- Never let your tank go below half during hurricane season

Evacuation:

- Understand your evacuation level
- Identify possible routes out of your neighborhood ahead of time
- Identify your closest Hurricane Evacuation Centers or, as a last resort, stay in a hotel or with friends or loved ones who live in a safe area

Recovery is a Journey Best Taken Slowly

When the storm passes, it's tempting to go outside to see the damage, but please take it one step at a time. Standing water can hide hazards, downed power lines could still be live, and trees and structures may be unstable. Please stay home unless **absolutely necessary**. Roads may have blockages or inoperable traffic lights and must be kept free for first responders to use.

Storm preparedness is not just an individual issue. It's a joint effort between residents, businesses, and the City to keep our stormwater systems functional and our neighborhoods as debris-free as possible so everyone can stay safe. To sign up for emergency alerts, visit NorthPortFL.gov/Alerts. For more information, visit NorthPortFL.gov and search for "**Blog: Storm Preparedness in North Port.**"

THE JOCKEY CLUB
OF NORTH PORT

Join Our Farmers Market Fridays!
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Contact: Jockeyclubnorthport@gmail.com
Phone: 941-426-3800

Farmer’s Market Fridays!

Come out to the Heart of North Port for a day of fun and support for our local businesses! Enjoy locally grown produce and vendors of all kinds. The Farmer’s Market will be every Friday from 8 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Interested in being a vendor? Contact the Jockey Club through email or by phone to secure your spot!

Email: JockeyClubNorthPort@gmail.com | Phone: 941-426-3800

Celebrate with a Bang! Freedom Festival 2026

The City of North Port is hosting their annual Freedom Festival on July 4th from 6 p.m. - 9:30 p.m. at the Cool Today Park 18800 W. Villages Pkwy North Port, FL 34293. Admission is free and includes fun for the whole family! The party opens at 6 p.m. with a Patriotic Kids Zone filled with bounce houses and lawn games, Touch-A-Truck, and a host of vendors and non-profits inside the stadium to check out. Opening Ceremonies and a Flyover by Gulf Coast Raptors Formation Flight Team begins at 7 p.m. followed by the featured band the Dukes of Brinkley!

The festivities will go out with a bang when the firework show starts at 9 p.m. Come out to enjoy the show and take part in one of America’s Ultimate Block Parties!



Attention All Creative’s!

Did you know, the Jockey Club newsletter used to have a column for resident submissions of poems and short stories? We want to showcase our neighbors and their wonderful art in our monthly Derby Dispatch! From poems to short stories, paintings to sculptures, send us your submissions for a chance to be featured in an upcoming issue. Pictures of artwork will be in black and white for our printed newsletters, but will be available online in full color! We look forward to seeing your amazing work!

Please send submissions to jockeyclubnorthport@gmail.com

From the Archives

Coastal Storm

Blustery winds sweep the desolate beaches,
And the cry of the herring gulls
Swooping and gliding over the sea-spray
Is filling the boundless void.

The waves roll in, towering and strong
To deposit their treasures loosed by the storm –
Turkey wings, slipper shells, spiny jewel boxes,
Hoard their beauty now tangled in sea-weed
With splintered pen shells coated with sand.

Jean Culp
December 26, 1984

Thank You to Our Amazing Boosters!

We want to extend our deepest gratitude to each and every Booster who has supported our POA and helped make our community events, improvements, and initiatives a success. Your generous contributions make a real difference—bringing neighbors together and enhancing the quality of life we all enjoy here in the Jockey Club.

From sponsoring seasonal events to helping us keep the community vibrant and welcoming, your support has truly been the heartbeat behind our success. We couldn't do it without you!

In Memory of Joe Layden | 01/15/2027

In Honor of Mary Layden | 01/15/2027

In Memory of Bill & Catherine Bingham | 01/15/2027

Glenn & Ellen Jeffers | 01/15/2027

In Memory of Carol Hammond | 03/15/2027

In Remembrance & Appreciation of Guenter Recknagel | 07/15/2026

In Memory of Robert o& Edna Schelenberger | 10/15/2026

In Memory of Ken & Bev Sharkey | 10/15/2026

In Appreciation of Bill & Jen Liams | 10/15/2027

Marcia and Galen | 11/15/2026

In Memory of Edward & Alice Stysick | 05/12/2027

In Memory of Kathy Stysick | 05/12/2027

In memory of Jane D. Schimpf, from her family. | 06/14/2027

Want to Become a Booster?

It's easy—and it means so much!

A minimum contribution of \$10 makes you a Booster for the year.

How to Join:

- Bring your contribution to the Clubhouse office.
- Make checks payable to: The Jockey Club
- Be sure to include your name exactly as you'd like it to appear in the Clarion newsletter.

Whether you're a returning supporter or joining for the first time, becoming a Booster is a meaningful way to show your community spirit and be part of something special.

Thank you again for your kindness, your generosity, and your unwavering support. Let's continue building an even better place to call home—together.

Happy 4th of July! From:

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