



THE PRESERVE AT WILDERNESS LAKE  
DECEMBER 2024

WILDERNESS LAKE  
P R E S E R V E

# NATURE'S NEWS



Photo Credit: Dianna Strauss

**All About Our  
Lodge Business  
Center!**

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**Recipe of the  
Month**

**Resident Elf Hunt  
Contest**

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**Toys for Tots**

Printed Copies Available at the Lodge.

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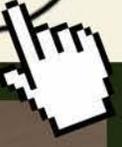
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# All About Our Lodge Business Center!



## WHAT IS IT?

The Lodge Business Center is designed to offer you a quiet, productive space with the essentials for your personal and professional needs—all in a peaceful Lodge setting.



## WHAT DO WE OFFER?

Each resident has the option to set up a private account to personalize their experience. A Lodge employee will assist in creating your account, allowing you access effortlessly during your visit.

Our Business Center is equipped to meet a variety of professional demands:

- **Printing, Faxing, Scanning, and Copying:** From sending critical documents to producing crisp copies, we offer the equipment you need!
- **Laminating:** For those who need added durability for documents or special keepsakes, laminating services are available.
- **Notary Services:** We provide notary services right at the Lodge for \$1.

# Grass Carp Update



Due to the recent hurricanes, the release of the Grass Carp into Bay Lake is now scheduled for mid-December. During the next 2-3 weeks, our aquatics contractor, GHS Environmental, will install temporary structures to ensure the Grass Carp remain in the lake. Once the structures are in place, Florida Fish and Wildlife will inspect the structures, and then issue the permit for the release.

**Purpose for the Release:** The Grass Carp will assist in managing the overgrowth of vegetation. To encourage the Carp to eat the vegetation, we will pause feeding the fish and turtles.

**Grass Carp Facts:** As the name implies, Grass Carp consume floating aquatic plants and submerged grasses (rooted macrophytes, as opposed to algae); they will also eat detritus, insects and other invertebrates when necessary. Because of their feeding behavior, they are used under special restricted circumstances to help manage invasive vegetation. Many aquatic plants that pose problems in Florida are exotic and have few natural insect or disease controls, consequently they frequently create problems with access, navigation, flood control, irrigation, and aesthetics.

Credit: Florida Fish and Wildlife

*From the desk of Santa Claus:*

# HELLO FROM YOUR NEW ELF!



Ho Ho Ho! It's that magical time of year again, and I'm excited to announce that an official Santa's Scout Elf will be arriving in Wilderness Lake Preserve on December 1st! Keep your eyes open for this little Elf, as he'll be popping up around the Lodge to observe and spread holiday cheer. This Elf is magical and mischievous – he loves to hide in clever places, play little pranks, and keep an eye on everyone to report back to me at the North Pole. But remember, Elves must not be touched! If he's disturbed, he might lose his magic and won't be able to tell me how everyone's doing.

## RESIDENT ELF HUNT CONTEST!

Think you can spot him? We're hosting a "Find the Elf Contest" from December 1st through December 20th.

Here's how to participate:

1. Find the Elf – Spot him hiding around the Lodge as often as you can.
2. Snap a Picture – Capture a photo of the Elf each time you find him.
3. Send It In – Email your photos to the Lodge, [events@wplodge.com](mailto:events@wplodge.com) with each sighting giving you a point in the contest.

The resident with the most Elf sightings will win an exciting prize, to be awarded at Breakfast with Santa on December 21st!

Get ready, Wilderness Lake – the magic is about to begin. And remember, whether you've been naughty or nice, this elf will be watching!

 Santa Claus

# Wilderness Wildlife!



# CROCK POT SALTY SWEET CANDY



## Ingredients:

- 2 pounds white chocolate candy coating
- 6- ounce white chocolate baking bar
- 12 ounces white chocolate chips
- 3 cups dry roasted peanuts
- 2 ½ cups pretzel twists broken in small pieces
- Festive sprinkles if desired

## Instructions

- Place white chocolate candy coating, white chocolate baking bar, white chocolate chips in a slow cooker. Put lid in place.
- Heat candy for 1 to 1.5 hours on LOW until melted. Uncover and stir the chocolate mixture.
- Stir in peanuts and broken pretzels until completely coated in the candy.
- Drop by spoonfuls (I like to use a small cookie scoop) onto a baking sheet lined with parchment paper or a silicone mat. If desired, top candy with sprinkles while chocolate is still soft. Allow candy to set for at least one hour to set up.

**Prep Time:**

**1 hour 10 minutes**

**Cook Time:**

**1 hour 30 minutes**

**Total Time:**

**2 hours 40 minutes**

# WHAT'S HAPPENING

## Santa's Arrival

PARADE AND TREE LIGHTING

Saturday  
**DECEMBER 7TH**

Prizes given to the best decorated vehicles.



**Parade:**  
Parade Starts at 4 pm  
Sign up to have your holiday decorated vehicle in the parade!  
We will follow Santa on the right side of the Blvd., following the ribbon adorned light poles.

**Lodge Festivities:**  
Lodge Festivities start at 5 pm  
Live music by Florida Jazz Express, face painting, balloon twisting, crafts and Christmas caroling.

**Tree Lighting:**  
Tree Lighting starts at 6 pm  
Meet Santa at the Lodge for a photo op, cookies, hot cocoa, smore's, and a story by the tree!  
(Please bring your own camera.)

*Holiday wines by Time for Wine!*  
For more information, please contact the Lodge @ (813) 995-2437



## SCOOPS and HOOPS



COME PLAY PICKUP BASKETBALL AND ENJOY COMPLIMENTARY ICE CREAM!

**DECEMBER 14TH, 2024**

Games start at 4:00 pm.  
Please RSVP at the Lodge for planning purposes or call (813) 995-2437

Wilderness Lake Preserve invites you to a



## Gingerbread House

Decorating Workshop

**Sunday, December 15th / 3-5 PM**

**Cost: \$10**  
Includes Gingerbread House and refreshments

Please register at the Lodge by Friday, December 13th @ (813) 995-2437





BALLOON TWISTER AND FACE PAINTING!

CRAFTS AND REINDEER FOOD!



### WILDERNESS LAKE PRESERVE BREAKFAST WITH SANTA

A Holiday Meet and Greet and Photo Opportunity with Santa Claus Himself!

DECEMBER 21ST  
AT 10:00 A.M.



WLP Residents: \$5 per person  
\$20 per family.  
Children under 4 are free.

Non-Residents: \$6 per person  
\$25 per family.  
\$2 per person for children under 4.

Breakfast includes: Pancakes, sausage, fruit, orange juice, hot cocoa, and coffee.

Please register at the lodge or by calling (813) 995-2437 for planning purposes.



**HURRY! SEATING IS LIMITED TO 300 GUESTS AND PAYMENT IS REQUIRED TO RESERVE YOUR SPOT.**



## Best Decorated Christmas House Contest

**ENTRY DEADLINE:**

SATURDAY,  
DECEMBER  
21ST

**JUDGING:**

SUNDAY,  
DECEMBER  
22ND



LET'S MAKE THIS HOLIDAY SEASON THE BRIGHTEST ONE YET. GATHER YOUR LIGHTS, TINSEL, AND HOLIDAY SPIRIT, AND JOIN THE FUN OF DECORATING YOUR HOME!

JUDGING WILL BE CONDUCTED BY A NON-RESIDENT.

THREE NON-MONETARY PRIZES WILL BE AWARDED.

## Holiday Craft Workshop

### COOKIE EXCHANGE

JOIN US!

DATE: DECEMBER 22, 2024

TIME: 3:00 PM

LOCATION: ACTIVITIES CENTER



PLEASE JOIN US TO  
**LIGHT THE MENORAH!**

**12.26.2024**  
 AT 6:00 PM IN THE ACTIVITIES CENTER.

LIGHT REFRESHMENTS • CRAFTS • GAMES

WE HOPE TO SEE YOU THERE!

*Holiday*  
**PICKLEBALL TOURNAMENT**

BEGINNER & ADVANCED DIVISIONS  
 DATE: SUNDAY, DECEMBER 29TH  
 TIME: 11:00 A.M.

Please RSVP with team names at the lodge.

**BOUNCE IN THE NEW YEAR!**

Saturday, December 28th  
 1:00 - 4:00PM

HOT DOG PLATE \$2    PRETZEL BAR \$1.50  
 SAUSAGE PLATE \$3    HAMBURGER PLATE \$3

RSVP @  
 (813) 995-2437

Activities: PETTING ZOO, BOUNCE HOUSE, DJ, FACE PAINTING, ALLOON WISTER, REPTILE SHOW



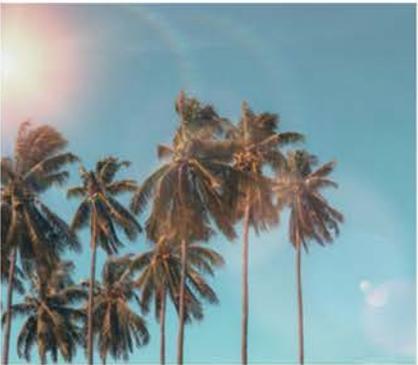
# SPA SERVICES



## BASIC MANICURE

Nails will be shaped, cleansed and pampered. You will receive a hand and arm massage and finished with your choice of polish.

**\$15**



## ISLAND GETAWAY

Enjoy tropical fragrances as you are pampered! After nails are shaped and cleansed, you will receive an invigorating anti-aging hand exfoliation that is completed with a hot towel wrap. A soothing arm and hand massage will relax you and will be finished with polish of your choice.

**\$20**



## BASIC PEDICURE

Shaping of nails and exfoliation begin this pedicure followed with thorough cleansing of feet, a relaxing massage and polish. Aromatherapy will heighten the senses leaving you feeling refreshed and beautiful!

**\$28**



## MILK AND HONEY PEDICURE

After your feet are soaked and cleansed, you will lose yourself in the experience of a mud mask for the feet and long massage for total relaxation.

**\$35**

HOURS MONDAY - FRIDAY APPOINTMENT ONLY  
PLEASE CALL THE LODGE FOR MORE INFORMATION

# SPA SERVICES AT WILDERNESS LAKE

## SPA SERVICES

### NO POLISH PEDICURE

Using a blend of Peppermint and Pine Oils, feet will be soaked, toenails filed and feet exfoliated. A long massage will complete the experience.

**\$28**

### MINI MANI PEDI COMBO

This package is an abbreviated combination of the traditional manicure and pedicure. Fingernails will be shaped, buffed and polished. Feet will be soaked, toenails shaped and buffed and a light massage will be given. Polish will be applied.

**\$30**

### PRINCESS PAMPERING

This is a combination mani-pedi specifically designed for the young ladies! Nails will be shaped and cleansed and polish will be applied to hands and feet. (Ages 14 and under)

**\$22**

### CND SHELLAC MANICURE

14-day wear polish with ZERO dry time which is finished with a hand and arm massage.

**\$28**



### ADD ON SERVICES

- Buff and Polish Change \$8
- Add a French manicure \$3
- Nail Repair \$2
- Rhinestones and decals (per nail) \$2

HOURS MONDAY - FRIDAY APPOINTMENT ONLY  
PLEASE CALL THE LODGE FOR MORE INFORMATION

# December 2024

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
1	2	3	4 Food Trucks 5PM CDD Mtg 9:30AM	5	6	7 Santa's Arrival & Parade 4PM
8	9 Storytime 10AM ARC Mtg 6:30PM	10	11 Food Trucks 5PM	12	13	14 Scoops and Hoops 4 PM
15 Gingerbread Workshop 3-5PM	16 Storytime 10AM	17	18 Food Trucks 5PM	19	20	21 Breakfast with Santa 10AM
22 Cookie Exchange and Kid's Holiday Workshop 3PM	23 Storytime 10AM ARC Mtg 6:30PM	24 Lodge Hours 9AM-3PM	25 	26 Lodge Hours 12PM-9PM Lighting of the Menorah 6PM	27	28 Bounce in the New Year 1-4PM
29 Holiday Pickleball Tournament 11AM	30 Storytime 10AM	31 Lodge Hours 9AM-12PM	1	2	3	4





MARINE CORPS RESERVE

**TOYS FOR TOTS** SM

## TOY DRIVE

Help spread holiday joy by donating to our Toys for Tots collection! We're accepting new, unwrapped toys for children of all ages now through December 14th. Drop off your gifts at the Lodge, and be part of making the season bright for kids in need. Your generosity can bring a smile and a bit of magic to a child this holiday season. Thank you for your support!



**Classes begin 2nd week of September**

**Tuesdays 9:30-11:30am**

**Monday and Wednesday 5:00-8:00pm**



# TENNIS/PICKLEBALL PROGRAMS



**LORI MILES**  
 30 years teaching experience  
 USPTA Certified Professional  
 USTA/ITA Official Certified  
 YouthFitness Instructor



**AHMED "MADO" AREF**  
 USPTA Professional  
 10+ years teaching experience  
 PTA Certified Canada  
 GPTCA Level C Professional



**JOVANA ANTONIJEVIC**  
 Former WTA Tour Player  
 NCAA All-American  
 USPTR Certified Professional



## PETER CHOW

*Director of Racquet Sports*

Offering Adult and Junior Programs for all ages. Including group classes and private lessons.

Peter brings more than 30 years of teaching experience to the community.

He is currently the Director of Racquet Sports at: Long Lake Ranch, Cordoba Estates, K-BAR Ranch, Arbor Greene and Wilderness Lake.



USPTA Elite Tennis Professional  
 Adidas National Team  
 HEAD Advisory Staff Member



**CALL TODAY:**  
**813-451-3150**



CHOWCHINO7@AOL.COM



CHECK OUT THESE RESIDENT & VENDOR  
CLASSES AND CLUBS AT WILDERNESS

# CLASSES & CLUBS



## Ladies' Bible Study

Wednesdays 10AM

Contact Shuyan at: 970-978-7568

Contact Janice at: 727-776-5723



## Yoga

Tuesdays & Thursdays 8:40AM & 9:55AM

Contact LuAnn at: 813-846-0874

Email: [imgagain@yahoo.com](mailto:imgagain@yahoo.com) (COST: \$5)



## Water Aerobics

Monday - Friday 9AM - 10AM



## Walking

Walking, Strength & Toning  
Monday, Wednesday, Friday  
9:30AM - 10:45AM



## Pickleball Rocks

Tuesday & Thursday 6:30PM

Contact Susan at: 602-315-0757



## Chat'hers Club

Ladies' Social Club - This year the  
Chat'hers are sponsoring Hospice.

CHECK OUT THESE RESIDENT & VENDOR  
CLASSES AND CLUBS AT WILDERNESS

# CLASSES & CLUBS



## Rummikub

Thursday 1PM

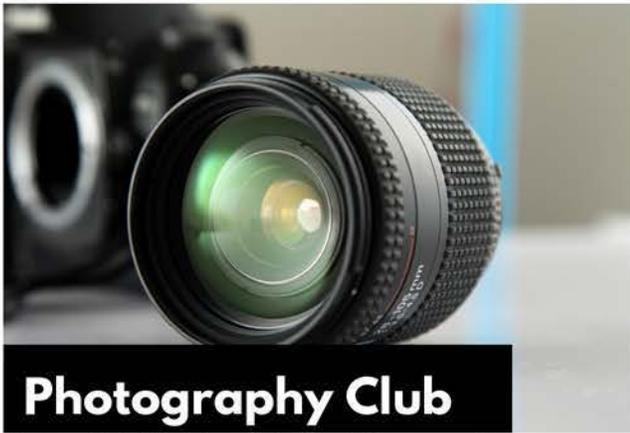
Location: Activities Center



## Mahjong

Monday 1PM

Location: Activities Center



## Photography Club

Every 1st Wednesday of the month

Location: Theater @ 6PM



## Core Health

Saturday 10AM - 11/9 & 11/23

Tuesday 6PM - 11/5, 11/12, 11/26

Location: Activities Center



Interested in starting a club?  
Contact the Lodge today at  
(813) 995-2437  
or email us at [events@wplodge.com](mailto:events@wplodge.com).

# Storytime

Meet us in the Nature Center every Monday at 10:00 AM for a morning filled with reading, singing, crafts, and a delicious snack.



# Friendship Bracelet making



# 3 V 3 BASKETBALL TOURNAMENT



# PICKLEBALL TOURNAMENT!



# Chat' Hers Sharing & Caring



# ***CORE HEALTH DANCE PARTY!***



# Save the Dates!



**CHILDREN'S GASPARILLA CELEBRATION**

Are you up for the challenge? Wear your best pirates' outfit and join us in the Activities Center for games, pirate's booty, and an ultimate pirate takeover!

DATE: JANUARY 25, 2025  
TIME: 12:00 P.M.  
LOCATION: ACTIVITIES CENTER

**SEE YOU THERE!**

Please RSVP at the lodge for planning purposes.



Join us for  
**NATIONAL Hot Chocolate DAY!**



Join us for a cozy celebration of National Hot Chocolate Day! We're serving up FREE hot chocolate with all the fixings - from creamy marshmallows to decadent whipped cream and a hot fire to keep you warm!

Date: Friday, January 31st, 2025  
Time: 5:00 p.m. - 7:00 p.m.  
Location: Wilderness Lake Preserve Lodge

## National Law Enforcement Appreciation Day!

Please join us for coffee and pastries. Compliments of Wilderness Lake Preserve as a token of gratitude for our local law enforcement officers.



Date: January 9, 2025  
Time: 9:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.  
Location: Wilderness Lake Preserve Lodge

Thank you for your service to our community!

## Ladies' Night

### B.Y.O.B.

Bring Your Own Board to Share!



### Charcuterie Party

Get creative and craft your own charcuterie board to share and savor with friends. Come indulge in an evening of delicious flavors and great company—we can't wait to see what you'll bring.



Date: January 24th, 2025  
Time: 6:00 P.M.  
Location: Activities Center

- Sunday Crafternoon: January 12th ~ 2:00 p.m.
- Tampa Bay Lightning Tailgate: January 12th ~ 5:00 p.m.
- Wine Tasting: January 17th, ~ 7:00 p.m.
- Country Night: January 18th ~ 6:00 p.m.
- Pickleball Tournament: January 19th ~ 2:00 p.m.
- National Popcorn Day: January 19th ~ 1:00 p.m.-3:00 p.m.

# YOGA & MEDITATION



**NEW**

**Location: Nature Center**



**Classes every  
Monday at  
7:00 p.m.!**



**For additional information or to sign up, please contact  
Lu-Ann Guariniello @ (813) 846-0874 or [imgagain@yahoo.com](mailto:imgagain@yahoo.com).**

**No experience necessary! All ages and abilities  
are welcome. Bring a mat/blanket and water.  
You may sit in a chair, if you prefer.**

GET IN TOUCH WITH US

# CONTACTS

## **WILDERNESS LODGE**

21320 WILDERNESS LAKE BLVD.

LAND O' LAKES, FL 34637

**813-995-2437**

## **BOARD OF SUPERVISORS**

**HOLLY RUHLIG, CHAIR**

**HEATHER HEPNER, VICE CHAIR**

**BETH EDWARDS, SECRETARY**

**JOHN STAPLES, SECRETARY**

**AGNIESZKA FISHER, SECRETARY**

[SUPERVISORWLP4@GMAIL.COM](mailto:SUPERVISORWLP4@GMAIL.COM)

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[SUPERIVISORWLP1@GMAIL.COM](mailto:SUPERIVISORWLP1@GMAIL.COM)

## **DISTRICT STAFF**

**TISH DOBSON**

LODGE & DISTRICT MANAGER

**TERRI OAKLEY**

ASSISTANT MANAGER

**STEVEN APPROBATO**

LIFESTYLE COORDINATOR

[MANAGER@WLPLODGE.COM](mailto:MANAGER@WLPLODGE.COM)

[TOAKLEY@WLPLODGE.COM](mailto:TOAKLEY@WLPLODGE.COM)

[EVENTS@WLPLODGE.COM](mailto:EVENTS@WLPLODGE.COM)

## **LODGE HOURS OF OPERATION:**

SUNDAY: NOON - 9:00 PM

MONDAY - FRIDAY: 9:00 AM - 9:00 PM

SATURDAY: 10:00 AM - 10:00 PM

## **GARBAGE PICKUP - WASTE CONNECTIONS**

**727-847-9100**

## **RECYCLING:**

WEDNESDAYS

## **FITNESS CENTER HOURS OF OPERATION**

OPEN 365 DAYS WITH ACCESS CARD

5:00 AM - 11:00 PM

## **EVENT BOOKING & SPACE RENTALS**

CALL THE LODGE

## **NAIL TECHNICIAN:**

SERVICES AVAILABLE MONDAY - FRIDAY BY APPOINTMENT ONLY

# MEETING HIGHLIGHTS

The regular meeting of the Board of Supervisors of the Preserve at Wilderness Lake Community Development District was held at 6:30 PM on Wednesday, November 6, 2024. The official minutes will be posted on the District's website once they are approved by the CDD Board of Supervisors during the next scheduled meeting.

## Aquatics Report

- Discussion ensued on the release of the Grass Carp.

## Landscaping Report

Updated the board on the following:

- Tree debris removal.
- Irrigation repair at the front entrance.
- The replacement of the front entrance vegetation and turf will coincide with the annual rotation.

## District Counsel

- Discussion ensued regarding CDD owned conservation area trees.

## District Engineer

Discussion ensued on the following:

- The repairs on the sewer lines.
- The functionality of the lift stations during extended periods of power outages.

## Community & District Manager

- Discussion ensued regarding the Staffing Matrix.

# **reminder**

**NEXT CDD MEETING:  
Wednesday, December 4, 2024  
at 9:30 a.m.**

