

# VOICE OF THE VILLAS

April 19, 2022

## VOICE OF THE VILLAS ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Master's Board Meeting is April 20, Wednesday, at the Isles Clubhouse, 7:00. Come and join us.

The Villa's Board Meeting is April 21, Thursday, 10:00 at the pool pavilion.

Directory correction: David and Susan Hallee's only phone number is 941-412-4692. Please correct this in your lavender 2022 Directory.

For all of our walkers, with or without your dog, would you stick a plastic grocery bag in your pocket and maybe a glove, and when you see trash while out walking, pick it up and dispose of it when you get home. There is not a lot, but some, and we can all help keep our community clean. Also, fallen branches can be left between the sidewalk and street, or on the grass near the curb, for lawn crew clean-up. Thank you.



### **YOU ARE CORDIALLY INVITED**

**Potluck Dinner**

**Saturday, April 30 at 5:30.**

**Bring your white elephant items and a dish to pass.**

**We will have a sign up sheet at the pool.**



The Villas Lending Library, thanks to Pool Chair **LINDA FOGARTY**, with signage provided by **FRANK UTTARO**, has made its maiden appearance and books are filling in as we speak. Take a book, and leave a book. Also, check out the bulletin board for information about programs and activities of interest at the Jacaranda Library.



**AMERICAN FLAGS** which need to be respectfully retired, can be placed in the box behind the Lending Library.

Thank you **HOWARD GRUBB**.



## FREE SARASOTA EARTH DAY CELEBRATION

- **Saturday, April 23**
- **Oscar Scherer State Park**
- **1843 South Tamiami Trail, Osprey**
- **10:00am to 4:00pm**
- **Enjoy a day filled with family fun and activities, including music, food vendors, and a host of events. Free lunch and park pass to all who volunteer to plant.**

“Look deep into nature, and then you will understand everything better.” —*Albert Einstein*



With Appreciation to our resident ornithologist **NEIL MILLIGAN**, 436 Pendleton Drive

### ○ **WHAT ARE THOSE !! ??**

This is an oft presented query when at the pool. If there, anyone looking out over lake # 17 towards the SSW is baffled by the white structures they see. These are Purple Martin nesting cavities. The Purple Martin is a Native American species that is declining in number. A few other interesting facts about this amazing bird are: 1. They fly 5,000 + or - miles to have their young here, in N. Am., from Brazil to Florida and others fly all the way up into Canada, 2. They get their name from the male bird but he is not actually purple, the sunshine on him gives him a purplish sheen, but he is glossy black, 3. They are the largest swallow in N. Am., 4. The females are lighter and more drab in color, these girls have a lighter brownish breast and more of a brown back, 5. They rely almost exclusively on man made and man provided cavities in which they will propagate, i.e. the plastic gourds you see, 6. Once a clutch is established which is usually 1 to 7 eggs, avg. 5 the female will begin to incubate, 16 days later the babies are hatched and will be fed for 26 to 28 days by the parents in the nest, then it is time to fledge, most will be long gone by the middle of June. They will roost up for a few weeks then fly back to Brazil. 7. They feed almost exclusively on flying insects, it is like having a really cool pet that you do not have to feed! 8. For more info on the Martins, google, Purple Martin, or go to the PMCA, Purple Martin Conservation Association website, a non profit association dedicated solely to the scientific study of the Martin and to educating people about this bird and its benefits and what they can do to help. Oh !! did I mention they eat fire ants!!!!? When fire ants wish to relocate they like the bees create another queen and winged ants to accompany her on her new location flight, the purple martins feast on these ants while in the air.

Any one interested in seeing the Martins up close can go to 436 Pendleton Drive, walk around back and sit on Neil and Pat's back Patio, they are snow birds and will be gone by the time this article airs in the Voice, but bring a chair, binoculars and a camera, now thru middle May is a busy time as the parents are very busy feeding the very hungry babies, 9-10 AM is the best time, but anytime of the day is quite good, all are welcome!!

























It's nearly impossible to study ...  
goes on during mating flights, or how ... have used depu...

Parents feed their young gobs of up to 50  
Fire Ants at a time.  
(Photo by Jackson Helms)

