



# January



We all love water — in our ponds, lakes, and streams — but not when it collects where it doesn't belong. Without Fountain Lakes' stormwater drainage system, many of us would be walking through puddles after every rain.

Our system includes swales and catch basins. Swales are shallow channels that direct rainwater to catch basins — the large grated drains that carry water through underground pipes to our lakes.

Since 2020, the board has inspected and repaired about 25% of this system, with plans to complete the rest in the coming years.

Homeowners also play a role. Keep catch basin grates clear of leaves or debris so water can flow freely. And remember — swales are easements owned by Fountain Lakes. Don't fill, regrade, or plant in them; doing so blocks drainage.

Our system works best when left unobstructed. Let's keep those grates clear and swales open — so rainwater flows where it should, not where we walk.

*Tim Shaffer*

## YOUR VOICE, YOUR COMMUNITY

### How Resident Participation Shapes Fountain Lakes

Resident involvement has a direct impact on the decisions that shape Fountain Lakes—whether it's road reconstruction, landscaping plans, library improvements, clubhouse use, drainage solutions, or community events. Many initiatives now in progress began as suggestions from residents through committee work, surveys, and community feedback.

When residents participate—by sharing ideas, offering professional expertise, responding to surveys, or attending meetings—they help ensure that projects reflect the needs, priorities, and values of those who live here. Participation also strengthens communication, improves long-term planning, and brings more transparency to how decisions are made.

Over the coming months, the Master Board and committees will be requesting resident input on several future projects. Your experience, opinions, and recommendations matter. Whether you have time to serve, knowledge to share, or simply feedback to offer—you can make a meaningful difference.

*Fountain Lakes is not just where we live—it's what we help create.*



## UPCOMING ELECTION IMPORTANT DATES

First Notice – January 19, 2026

Election notices will be mailed to the address on record (may be a summer address for part-time residents).

Intent to Run Deadline – February 8, 2026

Last day for potential candidates to submit their Notice of Intent to Run forms.

***\*\*February FLASH will feature a bio of each candidate that submits their intent to run form.\*\****

## Last Month in Pictures



## WE WANT TO EXPRESS OUR GRATITUDE TO OUR MANY SPONSORS OF OUR 2025 EVENT

We wanted to take a moment to express our deepest gratitude for your generous contributions to the Fountain Lakes Social Committee events. Your support has been instrumental in allowing us to bring outstanding entertainment and create truly memorable experiences for our residents, team members, and guests.

A special thank-you to each of our wonderful sponsors:

- Joe & Joni Pavich Realty World J Pavich Real Estate
- Pegasus Property Management Company
- JRC Lawn Care
- Keith Chew and Lisa Campbell
- Summit Broadband

We are incredibly grateful for your partnership and continued commitment to enhancing the morale and well-being of our community. It is because of sponsors like you that our events are so special, and we look forward to working together again to make future gatherings even more extraordinary.

Thank you once again for your generosity and support!

Warmest regards,

*Diana Bailly*

On behalf of the Fountain Lakes Social Committee

## Library Furniture Update- A Big Win for the Community

After months of researching options for new library furniture, the committee discovered an unexpected opportunity. One of our members found a restaurant in Fort Myers that was closing, and we were able to purchase a portion of their furniture inventory.

The library is now furnished with a variety of tables suitable for studying, cards, and games, along with attractive, comfortable, American-made chairs that fit very well in the space. The deal was so favorable that we also purchased new chairs for the office.

Total cost: \$250.00

Original budget: \$15,000.00

This represents a substantial savings for the community while greatly enhancing both the function and appearance of the room.



## CRAFT FAIR

Fountain Lakes Community Craft Fair

Date: February 21, 2026

Time: 9:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.

Location: Fountain Lakes Clubhouse

Residents interested in participating must email [Csonka117@gmail.com](mailto:Csonka117@gmail.com) with their name, email address, and type of craft.

MASTER BOARD MEETINGS 3<sup>RD</sup> WEDNESDAY OF THE MONTH

## *A New, Brighter Look at The Villas of Fountain Lakes*

The Villas of Fountain Lakes recently completed a full exterior repainting project, giving the neighborhood a fresh appearance and improved protection from the elements.

Early in 2025, a color committee reviewed the updated palettes approved by the Master Association. After discussion, owner input, and a formal vote, the Villas Board unanimously selected the following scheme: Worldly Grey for the walls, Pure White for soffits and trim, Moody Blue for front doors, and Urbane Bronze for accents.

A separate committee solicited bids and evaluated four painting companies. Gomez Painting of Naples was chosen for their strong references, competitive pricing, and commitment to using brushes and rollers rather than spraying. The contract was finalized in late spring, with work scheduled to begin November 3. Gomez Painting started on time and completed the project as promised.

A big thank you to the several Villas volunteers that helped throughout the project and to each of the Villas owners for ensuring that their unit was prepared and ready (front lanais and back areas cleared, storm shutters opened, front doors accessible). Also thanks to JRC Landscaping for trimming back bushes and plants.

Come on by to have a look!

*Rob Secor*

President Villas of Fountain Lakes



## *Best Decorated Christmas House Contest winners*



## *1st annual Golf Cart Parade*



## *Breakfast with Santa*



FOUNTAINLAKESESTERO.COM







Fountain Lakes  
**FOODIE**



Coming from Boston I'm always looking for a good local Italian Market and the best is Mario's Meat Market in Ft Myers. The market has a great selection of prepared foods as well as an extensive meat counter that has all the cuts you would expect from a great meat market along with Italian speciality items such as Porchetta, Braciole and a variety of sausages.

Bread is made fresh daily and comes in a variety of shapes and sizes and is the perfect foundation for one of their great house made sandwiches.

Holiday specialties include Pandoro, Pannetone, Torrone and Italian cookies and pastries.

Here are a few favorites:

**Stuffed Pork Chops** A local favorite. Thick-cut, generously stuffed with provolone cheese, spinach and prosciutto.

**Pro tip:** Cook on a flat-top grill or heavy fry pan—do not use a grill rack or open grate, or you'll lose all that delicious cheese and flavor.

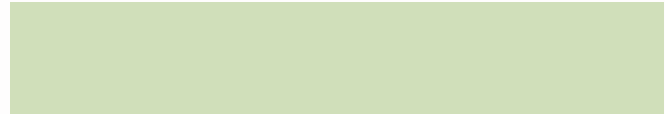
**Sweet and Hot Italian Sausage** Homemade in-house, excellent quality, ideal for grilling, pasta, or Sunday sauce. Flavorful without being overly spicy.

**Fresh-Made Mozzarella** Made daily, soft and creamy, perfect for salads, subs, or melting. The flavor and texture are noticeably better than store brands.

**Arancini and Prosciutto Balls, Eggplant Parm** and many traditional favorites to take home for dinner.

Whether you're cooking for guests, planning a special meal, or just want high-quality ingredients, Mario's offers excellent value and authentic flavors. Worth the trip.

*T.J. Parisi*



**Winter WONDERLAND**

**Saturday, January 17th, 2026**  
6PM - 9PM    TICKETS \$25.00

**Entertainment by Chasing Ava Band**  
**Sponsored by**  
JRC LANDSCAPING, CASY & RIC NIEBRUGGE

**Dinner by Mel's Diner**  
**BYOB**

**50/50 & Bonus give aways!**  
TICKETS ON SALE IN OFFICE



FOUNTAINLAKESESTERO.COM

