HOLIDAY PARTY
The Social Committee of Raintree Village announces it will hold a holiday/Christmas party on Saturday, December 9th, beginning at 5 PM. A flyer, with more details, will be distributed. For reservations, or if you would like to help, please call Nora at 723-4623 or Allie at 442-2471.

At this party, the Sheriff’s Department will be coming by to accept toys that have been contributed from RTV residents. (A table will be set up to accept these donations). The toys will be distributed to needy children in our neighborhood. Please do not wrap the gifts so the police will be able to decide what gifts are appropriate for the age and sex of each child. Please be as generous as you can. RTV has been very supportive of this worthwhile program in the past, and we hope everyone will continue this tradition.

COOKIE EXCHANGE
December 6th, 1:00 - 3:00 @ Barbara Archibald’s unit #603.
Bake 4 dozen cookies, bring them to Barbara’s and add them to the inventory. Take home 4 doz. of your choice.

Bring 2 doz...take 2 doz.
Please RSVP 446-4658 so I know how many tables to set up.

THE JANUARY NEWSLETTER AND NEW PHONE LIST WILL BE DELIVERED AFTER 1/10/18 Your Editor

Gabe and his Girls: Russo’s
Please let me know if someone in our Village is ill, has had surgery or has had a death in the family. With your help, I will pass along the news of what’s happening with your friends and neighbors. You may contact me at alliemart111@gmail.com or call me at 727-442-2471.

—Allie Martin, Editor
WHAT CAUSES ARTHRITIS???
A drunk man who smelled like beer sat down on a subway next to a priest. The man’s tie was stained, his face was plastered with red lipstick, and a half-empty bottle of gin was sticking out of his torn coat pocket.

He opened his newspaper and began reading.

After a few minutes the man turned to the priest and asked, “Say Father, what causes arthritis?” Father replies, “My Son, it’s caused by loose living, being with cheap, wicked women, too much alcohol, contempt for your fellow man, sleeping around with prostitutes, and lack of a bath.”

The drunk muttered in response, “Well, I’ll be damned,” then returned to his paper.

The priest, thinking about what he had said, nudged the man and apologized. “I’m very sorry. I didn’t mean to come on so strong. How long have you had arthritis?”

The drunk answered, “I don’t have it, Father. I was just reading here that the Pope does.”

MORAL: Make sure you understand the question before offering the answer.
Thank you, Barb Masson, for sharing.

Here’s the listing of upcoming Met performances:
Dec 9           Hansel & Gretel
Jan 27          Tosca
Feb 10          L’Elisir d’Amore
Feb 24          La Boheme
Mar 10          Semiramide
Mar 31          Cosi Fantutto
Apr 14          Luisa Miller
Apr 28          Cendrillon
Each one is at 12:55 pm.
Hope one of these will appeal to some of you! ~ Erica Moore ~

THE BATHTUB TEST

During a visit to my doctor, I asked him, "How do you determine whether or not an older person should be put in an old age home?"

"Well," he said, "we fill up a bathtub, then we offer a teaspoon, a teacup and a bucket to the person and ask them to empty the bathtub."

"Oh, I understand," I said. "A normal person would use the bucket because it is bigger than the spoon or the teacup."

"No" he said. "A normal person would pull the plug. Do you want a bed near the window?"

Thank you Barb Masson

THUGS IN THE NEIGHBORHOOD.
Young men have been in our neighborhood harassing our residents. The police have been called, but when the young men (thugs) are confronted, they shout obscenities and run before the Police arrive. If you see them on skateboards in the early evening ask them to leave or call the police.

NEW ~ Shirley Barone’s
Recipe Corner       See Page 8
### News and Views and Announcements

**IF YOU WOULD LIKE YOUR BIRTHDAY LISTED, PLEASE E-MAIL ALLIE AT ALLIEMART111@GMAIL.COM. IF YOUR LISTING IS WRONG...CALL ALLIE.**

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<tr>
<th>JANUARY BIRTHDAYS</th>
<th>APRIL BIRTHDAYS</th>
<th>JULY BIRTHDAYS</th>
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<td>Brenda Sitter 20</td>
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Over the past several months, there have been several new window installation requests for the Board. As I received the requests, the Maintenance team reviewed the requests. There were some major misunderstandings of what was required by the homeowners. As a result of these issues, we prepared maintenance guidelines to help the owners and to clarify some of the rules and regulations concerning new window installations. I have used these on the current two requests as test pilots. The homeowners were mostly appreciative of the help.

We started of course with the Rules and Regulations, and by-laws concerning window replacement. The Rules and Regulations are included in the guidelines. Attached is a copy of this guideline. We asked the homeowner to contact the maintenance team early in the process so we could help them get through the process to ensure Board approval of their request, and after installation so we can insure the project meets the requirements as approved.

As you read the guidelines and rules as stated in our documents, there is no mention of mullions. We have been told there are rules on mullions but we could find no mention of them in the documents. Also, as we looked around the village, there is a complete lack of uniformity of mullions. Many do not have any, some houses have some, others have a mix. We left them out because we could not find any references and several of the latest approvals did not require mullions.

Please review and comment. If you know of any references to mullions let me know where I can find them and guidance on how we should proceed. This also lets the Board members know the guidance given to the homeowners by maintenance.

Thanks
Jim Cain

Minutes
Raintree Village Board of Directors
Budget Adoption meeting – November 21, 2017

Call to Order and Roll Call:
The Budget Adoption meeting was called to order at 7:00 pm on November 21, 2017. President Kathy Megivern, Treasurer Barbara Masson, Secretary Betty McClure and Director Mike Dugan were present, thus establishing a quorum. Manager Bob Kelly was present. Vice president Jim Cain, Directors Ralph Memoli and Allie Martin were absent.

Notice of this meeting, along with a copy of the Proposed Budget and Assessments for 2018 had been mailed to all owners at least 14 days in advance as required by Florida statute.

Barbara Masson moved acceptance of the Proposed Budget, seconded by Mike Dugan. Kathy Megivern noted that there was an error on the reserves schedule. The amount for the pool heat pump should have been every five years but the second payment was listed after only two years. Correcting this error did not change any of the “bottom lines” so it was accepted as a “technical amendment” and the corrected budget was approved unanimously.

There will be no increase in the monthly assessments in 2018.
Motion to adjourn at 7:10 pm. by Barbara Masson, seconded and approved by all.
Call to Order and Roll Call:
The regular meeting of the Board of Directors was held on Tuesday November 21, 2017 at the clubhouse. President Kathy Megivern opened the meeting immediately after adjourning the Budget Adoption meeting. President Kathy Megivern, Treasurer Barbara Masson, Secretary Betty McClure, Director Mike Dugan were present. Manager Bob Kelly was present. Vice President Jim Cain, Directors Ralph Memoli and Allie Martin were absent. The meeting had been posted in accordance with Florida statutes, a quorum was noted.

Review/Approval of Minutes
The minutes of the October, 2017 regular board meeting were distributed to the Board members at least 48 hours in advance of the meeting. There were no additions or changes and the Minutes stand approved.

Correspondence: None

Committee Reports

Treasurer’s Report — Barbara Masson
October, 2017
Income $50,916.02
Expenses: $136,164.51 (includes $95,343.02 insurance)
Fifth Third CD: 50,000.00
Fifth Third CD: 50,000.00
Money Market: 48,764.93
Operating: 41,631.73
Wells Fargo Reserve: 10,000.00
 Fifth Third Savings 24,177.51
Fifth Third Checking: 47.71
Reserves: -182,990.15
Insurance Accrual: 9,167.00
$32,464.73

Delinquencies
$2,867.39
$8,753.15
$11,620.54

Occupancy Committee — Patricia Mills, Chair:
Read by Betty McClure
Occupied and for sale: None
Unoccupied and for sale: None
Unoccupied and not for sale: Three Units
Units Sold: One

Tenant/Owner Report:
Patricia Mills, Chair
One interview was held
#2303; Buyers are: Mike and Linda Hurn

Manager’s Report — Bob Kelly
Bob reported that he and Jim Cain were looking for a new General Contractor for Raintree. The Insurance Adjuster was working on reimbursement for our expenses for Hurricane Irma

Maintenance/Grounds Committee: Jim Cain, Chair; Reported by Don Putnam in Jim Cain’s absence.
See Pages 9 and 11 for Reports

Unfinished Business: None
New Business:
Request for Unit 1806 to replace windows (documentation attached). Moved by Barbara Masson, seconded by Mike Dugan and approved by all.
Request for Unit 2201 to replace windows (documentation attached). Moved by Barbara Masson, seconded by Mike Dugan and approved by all.

Other Business: None

Announcements: Annual Members Meeting on December 12th. No election will be necessary because the number of candidates did not exceed the number of openings.

Holiday Party will be on December 9th at the Clubhouse.

Adjournment:
There being no further business, Barbara Masson moved the meeting be adjourned at 7:40 PM. Seconded and approved by all.
### Holiday Salad

**From the Kitchen of Shirley Barone**

*"My dear friend first brought this Blueberry & Mandarin Orange Salad to a work function back In 1994. That Christmas Eve, I added it to my dinner menu. Since then, no matter what else is served, the Holiday Salad is always on the table, and every last morsel disappears!"*

**Dressing:**
- 1/2 cup olive or vegetable oil
- 3 Tbsp sugar or sweetener equivalent (I use Stevia)
- 1/2 tsp salt
- 1/2 tsp coarsely ground black pepper
- 1/4 tsp beef bouillon granules
- 1/4 tsp dried basil
- 3 Tbsp white wine vinegar
- 2 Tbsp reserved mandarin orange juice

**Salad:**
- 1 cup fresh blueberries
- 1/2 cup craisins (dried cranberries)
- 1/3 cup salted sunflower nuts
- 1/3 cup toasted slivered almonds or pine nuts (optional)
- 2 10oz pkgs fancy greens (butter or Boston Bibb lettuce, spring mix, etc)
- 1 11oz can mandarin orange segments in juice (not syrup), drained (reserve juice for dressing)

### Creamy, Rich Chocolate Fudge

**From the Kitchen of Allie Martin**

*"This is an old, old recipe and certainly brings back memories for me. Hope it will for you also."*

- 1 cup semisweet chocolate chips
- 1 cup peanut butter chips
- 1 cup chow mein noodles
- 1 cup dry-roasted peanuts

Melt chocolate and peanut butter chips in microwave-safe bowl for 30 seconds at a time, stirring until melted and smooth.

Mix noodles and peanuts together in a large bowl.

Pour chocolate mixture over them, turn to coat.

Line a baking sheet with waxed paper. Drop mixture by rounded table spoonfuls onto pre pared sheet.

Refrigerate until set, at least 3 hours.

### Chinese Christmas Cookies

**From the Kitchen of Lee Evans**

*"This is an old, old recipe and certainly brings back memories for me. Hope it will for you also."*

- 1 cup semisweet chocolate chips
- 1 cup peanut butter chips
- 1 cup dry-roasted peanuts

In a 3 quart pan heat chocolate and milk on low, stirring until melted.

Add sugar, syrup and salt and increase heat to high.

Cook to 236 degrees F. Soft Ball Stage.

Add butter and pour into a mixing bowl with a paddle, but don’t stir.

Let cool to 140 degrees.

Add vanilla extract and beat with paddle attachment until it starts to lighten and lose its gloss and thicken.

Add nuts (optional)

Pour into a greased 8x8 pan lined with foil and let cool. Cut into cubes.
Raintree Village Maintenance Committee Board Report
For
October 17, 2017 to November 19, 2017
By Jim Cain, Maintenance and Grounds Chairman

Number of Requests

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<tr>
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<td>Open at End of Period</td>
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1. Well head pipes cracked, shutting down the well that waters the grass around the clubhouse areas. Investigating options.
2. Met with Innovative Roofing Company concerning new roofs for 2018. The buildings scheduled to have new roofs during 2018 are 200, 300, and 2300. (The 200 building is starting now due to damages but will be paid for in the 2018 budget.)
3. Met with Duncan Plumbing to create standard price list.
4. Interviewed new general contractor. Waiting on estimates.

Announcements:
Please remember to complete a Request form to request Mark’s time if he is needed for your committee. Give us time to schedule your request.

New sod was delivered. The sod savings were about $4,000 to $4,600. The cost would have been over $6,000 or more for a landscaper to lay it. The sod layers were: Paul Doroni, Don Putman, Dan Cottle and Mark Aiello.

The pool heater has been repaired. The parts Jim Vowles found, were a sensor and a transformer. The cost for both was about $80.00. Great job, Jim! Thank You
We extend our sincere condolences to the family of Jerry Gundersen who passed away recently.

An obituary will be printed at a later date.
Raintree Village News and Views

Raintree Village Maintenance News and Information

November 2017

Window Installation Guidelines
By the Maintenance Team

During the past six months several homeowners have requested to replace their windows. Window replacement is a large expense for the homeowner to make. As a service to our neighbors, the Maintenance Committee created the Windows, Porch Enclosure, and Front Storm Door Replacement Guidelines. We recommend the homeowner contact the maintenance committee prior to contacting a window or door company so we can explain the regulations and requirements, and help prepare the Work Request so the project runs smoothly through the process. We want to help ensure your project goes smoothly and meets all Raintree Village requirements.

Let's start the New Year off with a splash of paint on our clubhouse
By Maintenance Team

Due to IRMA the clubhouse painting in September was postponed until January. We were hoping to have the clubhouse freshly painted for all of our great fall and winter events, but IRMA blew through, disrupting our plans. Let’s get it ready for our great late winter and spring events.

We need helpers to paint the walls, paint the trim work, paint the doors, remove and reinstall cabinet doors, minor plumbing, etc. This is a great way to work off some of that Holiday cheer.

This is a two-day event. If you can help either day or both days, or any time is okay. Anything you can do to help is appreciated. Don’t look at this as working, look at this as having fun and meeting your neighbors.

If you would like to volunteer to help, please email the RTV Maintenance Team at maintenance.rtv@gmail.com or just show up. Anything you can do is appreciated. Look for the brochure in your door during early January.

Leaves in Street
By Maintenance Team

It’s that time of year again when the leaves start dropping. Leaf pickup by the lawn crew only occurs several times while the leaves are falling. Thank you for trying to clean them up between pickup but, please do not rake or blow leaves onto the street. When they get wet, they are dangerous, and can cause an accident. Piles of leaves in the street make our streets look messy. They also blow into your neighbors’ yards. Please bag them up and put them in the trash. Better, put them in your garden areas and turn them into mulch and compost.

Thanks for helping to keep our village beautiful and safe.

Rain Swale Completion
By Maintenance Team

In early spring the maintenance committee began a major project to create swales on the Sunset Point Road side of our village, behind and between buildings 100, 300, and 700, to keep these building from flooding. The swales were dug but could not be finished until now.

The ground was all sand with little or no grass to maintain the swales and absorb the rain. There is very little sun behind the north side units, making grass hard to grow. There is a special St Augustine grass that tolerates shade, but it is only available this time of the year. We purchased 2400 square feet of sod and the volunteers laid it. This grass will take until June to grow the root system necessary so it can survive the hot summer.

We are planning on getting more and do other shady areas around our village.

Ceiling Stains
By Maintenance Team

Over the past 2 months the maintenance team has attempted to cover the ceiling stains caused by either roof repair or Irma. We have tried to contact everyone on our list but in some cases, no one was home. If you still have ceiling stains from leaks, please create a Work Request so we can finish this project. If you are normally not home during the day, let us know when we can call you so we can get in to make the proper repairs.

Thank you for your patience.

Happy Thanksgiving
From your Maintenance Team
The light turned yellow, just in front of him. He did the right thing and stopped at the crosswalk, even though he could have beaten the red light by accelerating through the intersection. The tailgating woman behind him was furious and honked her horn, screaming in frustration, as she missed her chance to get through the intersection. As she was still in mid-rant, she heard a tap on her window and looked up into the face of a very serious police officer. The officer ordered her to exit her car with her hands up. He took her to the police station where she was searched, fingerprinted, photographed and placed in a holding cell. After a couple of hours, a policeman approached the cell and opened the door. She was escorted back to the booking desk where the arresting officer was waiting with her personal effects. He said, I'm very sorry for this mistake. You see, I pulled up behind your car while you were blowing your horn, giving the guy in front of you the finger and cursing at him. I noticed the 'What Would Jesus Do' bumper sticker, the 'Choose Life' license plate holder, the 'Follow Me to Sunday-School' bumper sticker, and the chrome-plated Christian fish emblem on the trunk, so naturally I assumed you had stolen the car." Thank you, Lee Evans, for sharing.

When things in your life seem almost too much to handle, when 24 hours in a day are not enough, remember the mayonnaise jar and the 2 glasses of wine...

A professor stood before his philosophy class and had some items in front of him. When the class began, wordlessly, he picked up a very large and empty mayonnaise jar and proceeded to fill it with golf balls.

He then asked the students if the jar was full. They agreed that it was.

The professor then picked up a box of pebbles and poured them into the jar. He shook the jar lightly. The pebbles rolled into the open areas between the golf balls. He then asked the students again if the jar was full. They agreed it was.

The professor next picked up a box of sand and poured it into the jar. Of course, the sand filled up everything else. He asked once more if the jar was full. The students responded with a unanimous 'yes.'

The professor then produced two glasses of wine from under the table and poured the entire contents into the jar, effectively filling the empty space between the sand. The students laughed.

'Now,' said the professor, as the laughter subsided, 'I want you to recognize that this jar represents your life. The golf balls are the important things; your family, your children, your health, your friends, and your favorite passions; things that if everything else was lost and only they remained, your life would still be full.'

The pebbles are the other things that matter like your job, your house, and your car. The sand is everything else; the small stuff.

'If you put the sand into the jar first,' he continued, 'There is no room for the pebbles or the golf balls. The same goes for life. If you spend all your time and energy on the small stuff, you will never have room for the things that are important to you.'

'Pay attention to the things that are critical to your happiness. Play with your children. Take time to get medical checkups. Take your significant other out to dinner. Play another 18 holes of golf. Do one more run down the ski slope. There will always be time to clean the house and fix the disposal. Take care of the golf balls first; the things that really matter. Set your priorities. The rest is just sand.'

One of the students raised her hand and inquired what the wine represented.

The professor smiled. 'I'm glad you asked. It just goes to show you that no matter how full your life may seem, there's always room for a couple of glasses of wine with a friend.' Thank you, Barb Masson for sharing.
How Is Noreen?

A sweet grandmother telephoned St. Joseph's Hospital. She timidly asked, "Is it possible to speak to someone who can tell me how a patient is doing?"

The operator said, "I'll be glad to help, dear. What's the name and room number?"

The grandmother in her weak, tremulous voice said "Noreen, Room 302."

The operator replied, "Let me place you on hold while I check with her nurse." After a few minutes, the operator returned to the phone and said, "Oh, I have good news. Her nurse just told me that Noreen is doing very well. Her blood pressure is fine; her blood work just came back as normal, and her physician, Dr. Cohen, has scheduled her to be discharged on Tuesday."

The grandmother said, "Thank you. That's wonderful! I was so worried. God bless you for the good news."

The operator replied, "you’re more than welcome. Is Noreen your daughter?"

The grandmother said, "No, I'm Noreen in 302. No one tells me shit."

Thank you, Lee Evans, for sharing

Suspect a scammer? Here’s what to do:

If you get threatening phone calls, Hang up the phone. Then, call your utility provider by using the phone number provided on your bill, followed by a call to the police. DO NOT pay ANYONE over the phone if immediate payment is demanded to avoid a disconnection.

This is a scam! Thank you, Jim Cain, for sharing

RAINTREE VILLAGE DECEMBER DINNER

~ Christmas/Holiday Party—December 9th  5:00 pm  ~
Russo’s Restaurant provided the Raintree Village residents and friends with delicious food and a great group to celebrate with.
OUR NOVEMBER BIRTHDAY BBQ WAS A GREAT SUCCESS
# DECEMBER 2017 Calendar

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<th>WEDNESDAY</th>
<th>THURSDAY</th>
<th>FRIDAY</th>
<th>SATURDAY</th>
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<td>1 Water Lilies 10 AM</td>
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<td>4 Water Lilies 10 AM</td>
<td>5 Water Lilies 10 AM</td>
<td>6 Water Lilies 10 AM</td>
<td>7 Water Lilies 10 AM</td>
<td>8 Water Lilies 10 AM</td>
<td>9 Holiday Party 5 pm</td>
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<td></td>
<td>10 Water Lilies 10 AM Shuffleboard at 1 PM</td>
<td>11 Water Lilies 10 AM Shuffleboard at 1 PM</td>
<td>12 Hanukkah Begins Birthday BBQ 5 pm Annual Mtg. 7 PM</td>
<td>13 Water Lilies 10 AM</td>
<td>14 Water Lilies 10 AM Games Night</td>
<td>15 Water Lilies 10 AM</td>
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<tr>
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<td>18 Water Lilies 10 AM Shuffleboard at 1 PM</td>
<td>19 Water Lilies 10 AM Shuffleboard Games at 4 PM</td>
<td>20 Water Lilies 10 AM</td>
<td>21 Water Lilies 10 AM Games Night</td>
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<td>28 Water Lilies 10 AM Games Night Maintenance Meeting 7 PM</td>
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<td>31 New Year’s Eve</td>
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IF YOU HAVE ITEMS FOR SALE, WANT TO PLACE AN AD, OR MAKE AN ANNOUNCEMENT, PLEASE CONTACT YOUR EDITOR AT: alliemart111@gmail.com This is your newsletter! There is no charge for RTV sale items or announcements. There is a fee for Business Ads.