Seabreeze COMMUNICATIONS

JANUARY 2026

Meadows Connection



Burnt Store Meadows

A Look Inside

WHAT'S HAPPENING IN PUNTA GORDA THIS MONTH

MEET YOUR NEW NEIGHBORS

SEASONAL LANAI REFRESH TIPS FOR BEAUTIFUL OUTDOOR LIVING

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Being a Good Pet Owner and Neighbor!

Welcome to the *Meadows Connection*

MESSAGE FROM JOYCE TILDEN, BSM BOARD MEMBER AND COMMUNICATION LIAISON

Wishing everyone a very Happy and Healthy New Year.

We are pleased to present another issue and a New Year of the *Meadows Connection* newsletter. Burnt Store Meadows Property Owners Association, in collaboration with our publisher, Seabreeze Communications, has a dedicated website for The *Meadows Connection* monthly newsletter.

FEATURES OF THE MEADOWS CONNECTION WEBSITE

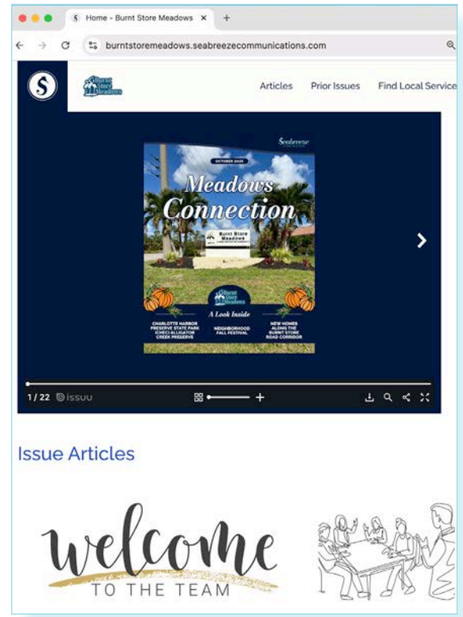
The new website offers a redesigned version of the newsletter, access to individual articles, an event board, and additional resources. Readers can enjoy a digital flip book experience with a refreshed magazine layout that allows you to turn pages, click on embedded links, and use features such as zooming in or switching to full screen mode. For those who prefer an article-based format, the website provides all current content organized on individual pages for easy reading.

NAVIGATION AND RESOURCES

The top menu bar includes convenient access to previous issues, a collection of articles, an Event Board highlighting activities and happenings in and around Burnt Store Meadows, and a Vendor Page featuring local service providers. You may visit the new website to view or download the digital edition, or you can find a PDF version available on our BSM website under Meadows Connection Newsletter | Burnt Store Meadows.

YOUR PARTICIPATION

We hope you enjoy exploring this newly developed website. We encourage you to share your suggestions for articles or topics you would like to see featured in future editions of The *Meadows Connection*.



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Burnt Store Meadows Property Owners Association Website – www.bsmpoa.com

JOYCE TILDEN, BSMPOA DIRECTOR
COMMUNICATIONS AND WEBSITE ADMINISTRATOR

Keeping you informed and up to date on what's happening in the Meadows.

The www.bsmpoa.com website makes it quick and easy to access and electronically complete forms required for new construction, additions, and modifications to your existing residence. Also, requests for overnight parking permits can be completed online.



As a resident and/or property owner in the Burnt Store Meadows Community, you will have access to "Owner Only" documents and information. In order to access those documents and sections on the website you must register and be authorized as a property owner.

Registration is simple!

The first time you log in to www.bsmpoa.com simply select the Register option in the upper right corner of the screen.

On the Register page you will be asked to enter the following information:
- Are you a Homeowner, Condo Owner, Lot Owner, etc.
- Name, email, cell phone*, address, and create a password for your account.

* If you don't have a cell phone, or prefer to use another number, you can change this on your Member Profile once your account is approved.

Once you have entered the appropriate information and select Register at the bottom of the page it takes you to the next page. There you are asked to complete your personal Member Settings. This is where you may select your personal preferences on communications, e.g., receiving emails or text messages from the association for items such as the Newsletter. Member Settings is where you can update and change your password and specify your privacy.

We hope you enjoy the website. Please feel free to forward comments or suggestions to the Star Management or the webmaster via the Contact Page on the website.

BURNT STORE MEADOWS PROPERTY OWNERS ASSOCIATION BOARD OF DIRECTORS

President – Melissa Lockhart
Vice President – Anthony Nutt
Secretary – Adele Higgins
Treasurer – Joyce Tilden
Director at Large – Jay Gile

The Board of Directors meets on the 3rd Monday of each month at 6:30 p.m. in the conference room at Star Hospitality Office located at 26530 Mallard Way, Punta Gorda.

(941) 575-6764

The January meeting will be held on January 19, 2026.

Residents are welcome to join the meeting in person or via Zoom. The zoom link is listed on the website for registered members – Zoom Link to Monthly Board Mtg | Burnt Store Meadows

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January Personality: Uncovering Their Unique Traits



People born in January are often characterized by their ambitious, determined, and hardworking nature. The influence of their zodiac signs, Capricorn and Aquarius, as well as the unique attributes of being born in the first month of the year, contributes to their fascinating personalities. In this article, we will explore various aspects of their personalities, including positive and negative traits, and highlight some famous individuals born in January.

PERSONALITY TRAITS

Individuals born in January display a variety of personality traits that set them apart. Some of the most common characteristics include:

• Ambitious: January-born individuals are goal-oriented and motivated, striving to achieve success in all areas of their lives.
• Responsible: People born in this month are known for their strong sense of responsibility and reliability.
• Independent: January-born individuals value their independence and are not easily influenced by the opinions of others.
• Resourceful: People born in January are skilled at finding solutions to problems and making the most of available resources.
• Intellectual: January-born individuals are often intelligent and enjoy engaging in thought-provoking conversations and activities.
• Persistent: People born in this month are determined and committed, willing to work hard to achieve their goals.

POSITIVE TRAITS

People born in January possess a range of admirable qualities that make them unique and appealing. Some of these positive traits include:

• Discipline: January-born individuals are known for their self-control and ability to maintain focus on their goals.
• Loyalty: Those born in January value trust and loyalty, making them steadfast friends and partners.
• Generosity: People born in this month are often generous and willing to lend a helping hand to those in need.
• Strong work ethic: January-born individuals are committed to their work and are willing to put in the effort to achieve their objectives.
• Patience: People born in this month are often patient and can remain calm in difficult situations.

NEGATIVE TRAITS

Despite their numerous positive qualities, January-born individuals may also possess some negative traits that they need to address:

• Pessimism: People born in January can be prone to negative thinking and may struggle to see the bright side of situations.
• Stubbornness: January-born individuals can be stubborn, making it difficult for them to change their minds or adapt to new circumstances.
• Shyness: Those born in this month may struggle with shyness and social anxiety, making it challenging for them to engage with others.
• Overly critical: People born in January can be overly critical of themselves and others, which may strain relationships and hinder personal growth.

ZODIAC SIGNS

There are two zodiac signs associated with people born in January: Capricorn (December 22 – January 19) and Aquarius (January 20 – February 18).

continued >

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• Capricorn: Those born under the Capricorn sign are known for their ambition, discipline, and practicality. Capricorns are often career-driven and excel in leadership roles due to their strong work ethic and organizational skills.
• Aquarius: Aquarius individuals are characterized by their intellectual curiosity, creativity, and humanitarian spirit. They are drawn to innovative ideas and enjoy exploring new concepts and perspectives.

FAMOUS PEOPLE BORN IN JANUARY

Numerous successful and influential individuals were born in January, with their achievements spanning various fields such as entertainment, politics, sports, and more. Here are some notable figures who share a January birth month:

• Isaac Newton (January 4, 1643) – A groundbreaking physicist and mathematician, Newton's discoveries laid the groundwork for classical mechanics, and he is considered one of the most influential scientists in history.
• Alexander Hamilton (January 11, 1755) – A founding father of the United States, Hamilton played a vital role in the creation of the country's financial system and was the first Secretary of the Treasury.
• Martin Luther King Jr. (January 15, 1929) – A prominent civil rights leader, King was instrumental in advancing civil rights for African Americans in the United States through nonviolent protest and civil disobedience.

CONCLUSION

Individuals born in January possess a unique combination of characteristics that make them intriguing and multifaceted. Their zodiac signs, Capricorn and Aquarius, contribute to their ambition, discipline, and intellectual curiosity. January-born individuals are known for their strong work ethic, loyalty, and patience, as well as their pessimism, stubbornness, and shyness. Despite their challenges, many successful and influential people share a January birth month, demonstrating the potential for greatness in those born during this time.

Significant Dates in the Month of January

Quote for the New Year ~ Happy 2026

> *"Hope smiles from the threshold of the year to come, whispering "it will be happier." – Alfred Lord Tennyson*

SOME INTERESTING TIDBITS THAT HAPPENED ON NEW YEAR'S DAY:

The Julian calendar is first used. (45 B.C.)
The first Rose Bowl Parade was held. The first Rose Bowl football game was played in 1902, to help pay for the cost of the parade. (1890)
Revolutionary War hero Paul Revere was born on this day in 1735.
The Old Farmer's Almanac hits the newsstands and bookstores for the first time. (1818)
Emma M. Nutt becomes the first woman telephone operator. (1878)
New York City's New Year celebration introduces the "Ball Drop." It begins to fall in the last 10 seconds of 1907 and lands in 1908. (1907/1908)

ABOUT MARTIN LUTHER KING JR. DAY

This holiday is observed on the third Monday in January
Martin Luther King Jr. Day is a federal holiday. Also called MLK Day, it honors the greatest civil rights activist in American history. His birthday became a National Holiday by an act of Congress in 1983. Many consider it a day to serve your community.

Born on January 15, 1929, Martin Luther King Jr. grew to become one of the greatest social activists the world has ever known. He promoted a non-violent civil rights movement. At 35, he became the youngest person to win the Nobel Peace prize. He was assassinated on April 4, 1968, while making a speech from the balcony of his hotel room in Memphis, Tennessee.

The U.S. Congress made **Martin Luther King Jr. Day** a federal holiday. It was first observed on Monday, January 20, 1986.

HOW TO CELEBRATE MLK DAY

• Learn more about this great man.
• Become active in promoting civil rights.
• Find a positive way to serve your community.
• Hold a parade.
• Have a community celebration.

MARTIN LUTHER KING JR. TRIVIA

• His legal birth name at birth was Michael King.

continued >

• After a trip to Germany, his father changed his and his son's name to Martin Luther King in honor of the German reformer Martin Luther.
• His father was an activist against segregation.
• His "I Have a Dream" speech was one of the most powerful and famous speeches in American history.
• He sang with his church choir at the 1939 Atlanta premiere of the movie *Gone with the Wind*.

> *"The ultimate measure of a man is not where he stands in moments of comfort and convenience, but where he stands in times of challenge and controversy. – Martin Luther King Jr.*

ALL ABOUT NATIONAL HUGGING DAY

THIS HOLIDAY IS ALWAYS CELEBRATED ON JANUARY 21

National Hugging Day is January 21. What a great day it's going to be! It's an opportunity to give and to receive. Give a big bear hug, and you automatically receive one in return. Sure, someone might not hug back. But how often does that happen!?!

Hugs are loving. They are therapeutic. Hugs are caring. They are celebratory, too. And they make you feel good inside. It is a way to say everything is or will be okay. Have you ever received one from someone who didn't care? I didn't think so. That's proof positive that you're loved and cared about.

Celebrate *National Hugging Day* by giving the "big squeeze" to family, friends, and loved ones. You'll love the warm feeling you get.

HOW TO PARTICIPATE IN NATIONAL HUGGING DAY

National Hugging Day is a day that we can all embrace. So, show a little affection to everyone you meet today. Here are some ways you can celebrate and enjoy this huggable holiday:
• Greet everyone you meet with a big smile. Immediately follow that up with a big, friendly squeeze.
• Kids don't forget to put a big hug on your teddy bear and all your other stuffed animals.
• Put the big squeeze on your pets, too.

Please Use Caution: It might not be wise to go up to strangers and give them a big, affectionate squeeze.

> *"There's a long life ahead of you and it's going to be beautiful, as long as you keep loving and hugging each other. – Yoko Ono*

ABOUT CHINESE NEW YEAR

Billions of people around the world celebrate the *Chinese New Year* holiday. The date of the New Year changes every year. It is a 15-day celebration, beginning on the first day of the new moon, and ending on the full moon. The last day of the Asian New Year celebration is on the 15th day. It is called the Chinese Lantern Festival.

Chinese culture is amongst the oldest in the world. While the rest of the world is in the early years of but the third millennium, This culture is in its fifth millennium.

In Chinese astrology, every year is represented by an animal. The cycle is twelve years, with a different animal each year.

Also called the Spring Festival, New Year is the biggest holiday in Asian culture. It is celebrated with festivities, fireworks, brightly colored lights, special meals with family, and gift giving. Like Christmas in the western world, most Chinese travel home to be with family for the new year celebration.

When is Chinese New Year?
• Year 4724 – February 17, 2026, Sign: Horse, a Yang year.
• Year 4725 – February 6, 2027, Sign: Sheep a Yin year.
• Year 4726 – January 26, 2028, Sign: Monkey, a Yang year.
• Year 4727 – February 13, 2029, Sign: Rooster, a Yin year.
• Year 4728 – February 3, 2030. Sign: Dog, a Yang year.
• Year 4729 – January 23, 2031. Sign: Pig, a Yin year.
• Year 4730 – February 11, 2032. Sign: Rat, a Yang year.
• Year 4731 – January 31, 2033, Sign : Ox, a Yin year.
• Year 4732 – February 19, 2034, Sign: Tiger, a Yang year.
• Year 4733 – February 8, 2035, Sign: Rabbit, a Yin year.
• Year 4734 – January 28, 2036, Sign: Dragon, a Yang year.

> *"He who learns but does not think is lost! He who thinks but does not learn is in great danger! – Confucius*



What's Happening in Punta Gorda this Month



ONGOING – PUNTA GORDA FARMER'S MARKETS

WEEKLY WEDNESDAY MARKET
PUNTA GORDA ISLES CIVIC ASSOCIATION

2001 Shreve St., Punta Gorda, FL 33950
Indoor / Outdoor Market – Open to the Public
8 a.m. – 1 p.m.

Plants ~ Fresh food Items ~ Arts and Crafts~ Businesses and Services ~ Used and/or Thrift Items ~ Nonprofit Organizations ~ Food Trucks ~ And More



SATURDAY DOWNTOWN PUNTA GORDA FARMER'S MARKET

Your local *Farmer's Market* with produce, seafood, meat, ethnic cuisine, arts, crafts, live music, working artists and much more.

Featuring over 70 vendors. Located in beautiful downtown Punta Gorda. Every Saturday, rain or shine (unless it falls on Christmas Day, an active Hurricane Warning day or other unforeseen event).

Farmer's Market Downtown Punta Gorda Est. 2008

May to September – 8 a.m. – 12 noon
October to April – 8 a.m. – 1 p.m.

227 Taylor St., Punta Gorda, FL 33950

HISTORY PARK SUNDAY MARKET

Visit Punta Gorda's only weekly Artisans Market, held every Sunday in the History Park. You will discover local artists selling their creations, as well as our resident artists in the History Park Artisan Village, where the Peace River Woodturners, SWFL Fiber Arts Guild, SWFL Potters Guild, and SWFL Glass Fusers Foundation each work out of one of our historic buildings. Their buildings are open to the public during market hours on Sunday.

In addition to the artisans, the Sunday market vendors include local providers of farm-fresh produce and eggs, local honey, home-baked artisan breads, goat cheese, and other goodies. Check out the wonderful vendors! History Park Sunday Market Sundays, 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.



Meet Your New Neighbors – Patrick and Cathy Hurd



The Hurds recently moved into their new home on Paspalum in Burnt Store Meadows. We wish them much happiness and joy in their new home and neighborhood.

Where did you move from and what brought you to Burnt Store Meadows? *We moved from Burnt Store Village. We moved to Burnt Store Meadows to be closer to town, to shopping, and to our golf club (Twin Isles).*

How long have you been in Florida (or are you brand new to the state)? *We first moved to Florida in April 2022 (to Burnt Store Village)*

What do you like to do for fun or to stay busy? *Our primary hobby is golfing, which we both do usually 3 days per week at Twin Isles. Other favorite pastimes are going to the various live music venues in the area for evening entertainment. We also like going to the beach, with Boca Grande being our favorite spot. And we like overseas travel, with our most recent trip being a Mediterranean cruise in July 2025.*



What's something about this area that you love already or are looking to explore? *We enjoy the variety of restaurants that Southwest Florida has to offer. We like the beaches of Sarasota County a lot too (Siesta Key, Venice, Manasota Key).*

What's one thing you're excited to explore locally? *We like taking day trips to see places we haven't seen previously, or just for a change of scenery. We like going to Venice, Naples, within an hour's drive.*

Tell us a little about your work/background (past or present). *We lived in greater Atlanta before retiring to Florida. Patrick worked for Georgia-Pacific and Cathy worked in the telecommunications industry.*

What's one fun fact about you that neighbors wouldn't guess? *One reason for purchasing in BSM is to have more space to accommodate our "small army" of grandchildren (20) and great-grandchildren (2, soon to be 3) who visit on occasion.*



Holiday Décor Appreciation - Acknowledging William Gardner's Contributions

We would like to extend a great big thank you to William Gardner for once again enhancing our **Burnt Store Meadows Entrances** with fun holiday décor. Bill's efforts truly bring joy and festive cheer to our community every season. Thank you so much, Bill.





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SAVE THE DATE

Saturday, February 7, 2026
Burnt Store Meadows
Annual Community Yard Sale
8 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Volunteers are needed at the Burnt Store Road and 41 entrances from 7:45 to 10 to hand out community maps showing participants locations.

Food Trucks will be on hand for that morning coffee and snack

Seasonal Lanai Refresh Tips for Beautiful Outdoor Living

MICHAEL MCCABE

EXPERT MAINTENANCE GUIDE

As cooler weather arrives in Southwest Florida, our lanais and pool enclosures become the heart of outdoor living once again. This is the perfect time to give your screen enclosure a seasonal checkup to ensure it's ready for months of enjoyment ahead.

Here are simple maintenance tips that can keep your lanai looking beautiful and performing well throughout the season.

INSPECT SCREWS



Florida's heat, moisture, and salt air can take a toll on enclosure hardware. Rusted or deteriorated screws may not look alarming, but they weaken connections over time. Take a moment to check visible screws for corrosion, staining, or missing heads. Replacing failing screws extends your enclosure's life and improves overall stability.

INSPECT YOUR SCREENS

Walk around your enclosure and look for small tears, punctures, or areas where screens have pulled away from the frame. Even minor damage can quickly worsen with wind or wildlife activity.

CHECK DOOR HARDWARE

Test your screen doors. Do they close smoothly and latch securely? Loose hinges, worn rollers, or misaligned latches are common issues that can usually be adjusted or replaced quickly. Properly functioning doors keep pests out and make your space more enjoyable.

CONSIDER A PROFESSIONAL INSPECTION

If your enclosure is more than 10 years old, or if you've noticed rippled screens, rusted screws, or visible damage from recent storms, a professional inspection can identify concerns before they become costly repairs. Many issues that seem minor can compromise the entire structure over time.



THE BOTTOM LINE

Your lanai is an investment in your Florida lifestyle. A little seasonal attention protects that investment, enhances safety, and ensures your outdoor space stays enjoyable for years to come. Most homeowners can manage basic cleaning and inspection, but don't hesitate to call a professional if you spot damage or have concerns about your enclosure's condition.

JOIN US FOR A FREE FAMILY EVENT



Saint Michael Lutheran School's

8TH ANNUAL

TOUCH-A-TRUCK

Saturday, January 24th from 10AM – 2PM

Kids will enjoy an interactive hands-on experience with vehicles of all kinds!

Bounce Houses – Face Painting – Vendors – Games – Giveaways and More!

TOUCH-A-TRUCK is a free family event that welcomes 1,500+ people to the Saint Michael campus. Families from all over SWFL and beyond come to enjoy a hands-on experience that turns imagination into reality for truck-loving kids of all ages.

SAINT MICHAEL LUTHERAN SCHOOL 3595 BROADWAY CIR, FORT MYERS, FL 33901

For more information, please contact Brittany Firing, (727) 643-7312, Brittany.Firing@gmail.com

Our Very Own Neighborhood Little Free Library



What's that miniature building next to the BSM Bulletin Board on Royal Poinciana? Nope, not a birdhouse or a suggestion box – it's our new "**Little Free Library**!"

A Little Free Library is a free book exchange sponsored by the BSMPOA. You can borrow or leave books anytime, making it easy to share and enjoy reading with others.

The new Little Free Library is located on the Royal Poinciana greenbelt between S. Plum Tree and S. Blue Sage next to our community bulletin board.

Many thanks to Niles Higgins for installing our Little Free Library!

BSMPOA board member Adele Higgins is the library steward. Please contact her with any questions. You can also contact her to arrange a pickup of books for the library. Her email is Adele.Higgins.BSMPOA@gmail.com

For more information about Little Free Libraries, see the website at www.littlefreelibrary.org



Recipe of the Month



ROTISSERIE CHICKEN NOODLE SOUP

This quick and easy chicken noodle soup made with rotisserie chicken is packed with flavor! The broth is rich and delicious, and the chicken, vegetables, and egg noodles are perfectly tender.

INGREDIENTS

1 Rotisserie Chicken (shredded, discard skin and bones)
Add Olive Oil (for sauteing)
4 stalks Celery (chopped)
4 medium Carrots (peeled and chopped)
1 Yellow Onion (diced)
6 cloves Fresh Garlic (minced)
2 teaspoons Fresh Thyme Leaves
(or 3/4 teaspoon dried Italian seasoning)
1½ teaspoons Better Than Bouillon
(Chicken Base flavor, to taste)
8 cups Chicken Broth (plus more as needed)
2 cups Water
2 Fresh Bay Leaves
4 sprigs Fresh Italian Parsley
(used to infuse the broth)
add Salt And Pepper Taste
½ pound Extra Wide Egg Noodles
add Chopped Italian Parsley (for garnish)
1 Lemon (to squeeze when serving)

DIRECTIONS

In a large 6-quart pot, heat a few drizzles of olive oil. Sauté celery, carrots, and onions for about 8 minutes, until softened. Then, add minced garlic and fresh thyme, and cook for another 2 minutes until fragrant.

Next, add the Better Than Bouillon, broth, water. Next, add the rest of the aromatics. Toss in the bay leaves and sprigs of fresh Italian parsley and season with salt and pepper. Add the shredded rotisserie chicken. Bring to a boil, then reduce the heat to a simmer. Cover and let it simmer for about 15 minutes.

Next, add the egg noodles. Continue cooking, uncovered, for another 8 to 10 minutes until the noodles are al dente.

Serve this delicious rotisserie chicken noodle soup with chopped parsley and, the best part: **a squeeze of fresh lemon** for brightness! It's so good.

BOLO
"Be on the look out"

Community Family Fun Event Happening in Burnt Store Meadows

Saturday March 21st

Details to Follow

BROADWAY PALM
PRESENTS

Fiddler on the Roof

January 3 - February 14

This Tony Award-winning classic follows Tevye as he navigates the challenges of tradition, family, and change in his close-knit Jewish village. As his five daughters seek love on their own terms and outside forces threaten their way of life, Tevye must balance faith, love, and resilience. With a rousing and heartwarming score featuring *Tradition, Matchmaker, Matchmaker, If I Were a Rich Man*, and *Sunrise, Sunset,* Fiddler on the Roof is a powerful celebration of family, hope, and the enduring human spirit.

CATS

February 20 - April 4

This Andrew Lloyd Webber, record-breaking musical is a dazzling spectacle of music, dance, and fantasy. On one magical night, the Jellicle Cats gather for their annual ball, where their wise leader, Old Deuteronomy, will choose one cat to be reborn. As each cat shares their story—from the mischievous Rum Tum Tugger to the hauntingly beautiful Grizabella—you'll be swept into a mesmerizing world of mystery and wonder. Featuring the iconic *Memory*, CATS is a breathtaking celebration of life, second chances, and the power of community.

Dates may be subject to change.

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January in Your Southwest Florida Yard and Garden

WHAT TO PLANT

Annuals/Perennials/Wildflowers: Plants that perform well in garden beds and containers during the coolest months include impatiens, geranium, begonia, dianthus, and dusty miller. See

Annuals: https://edis.ifas.ufl.edu/topics/annuals

Perennials: https://edis.ifas.ufl.edu/topics/perennials

Florida Wildflower Foundation: https://www.flawildflowers.org/.

Herbs: Certain herbs will thrive now that temperatures are cooler, including parsley, tarragon, thyme, dill, and fennel. Herbs: https://edis.ifas.ufl.edu/topics/herbs

Vegetables: Many vegetables can be planted at this time of year. This is the last month to plant Irish potatoes, beets, broccoli, brussels sprouts, cabbage, cauliflower, collards, kale, mustard, and turnips. Vegetable Gardening in Florida: https://edis.ifas.ufl.edu/topics/vegetable_gardening



WHAT TO DO

Landscape: It is a good time to plant woody shrubs. Remember ***"Right Plant/Right Place"*** and match the mature size with the location. Water frequently gets new plantings off to a good start.

The Florida-Friendly Landscaping™ Guide to Plant Selection and Landscape Design: https://ffl.ifas.ufl.edu/media/fflifasufledu/docs/FFL-Plant-Guide_v030624_web.pdf

Shrubs: https://edis.ifas.ufl.edu/topics/shrubs

Trees: Prepare for hurricane season now by checking trees for damaged or weak branches and pruning if needed. Hire an ISA-certified arborist. International Society of Arboriculture: https://www.isa-arbor.com/For-the-Public

Lawn and Garden Care: Pruning: https://edis.ifas.ufl.edu/topics/lawn-and-garden-care-pruning
Irrigation: Water plants if temperatures remain higher than normal and rainfall is scarce. Lawn and Garden Care: Irrigation: https://edis.ifas.ufl.edu/topics/lawn_and_garden_care_irrigation

Shrubs and trees: Prune non-spring flowering shrubs and trees this month to improve form.

Arbor Day: Celebrate Florida Arbor Day (the third Friday of January) by planting a tree in your yard or community. Arbor Day in Florida: https://edis.ifas.ufl.edu/topics/arbor_day

Crape myrtle: Remove seed pods, crossing branches, and small twiggy growth to improve the appearance and form of the plant, if desired. Hard pruning is not required. Crape myrtle: https://edis.ifas.ufl.edu/topics/crapemyrtle

Cold protection: Bring sensitive plants like orchids inside if frost or freeze is predicted. Thoroughly water and cover sensitive plants in the landscape 12–24 hours before a freeze. Lawn and Garden Care: Cold Protection and Chilling Damage: https://edis.ifas.ufl.edu/topics/lawn-and-garden-cold

Pests: If scale insects are a problem, apply horticultural oil to citrus, shrubs, and deciduous fruit trees while plants are dormant. Apply copper spray to mangoes after bloom for management of Anthracnose disease. Lawn and Garden Care: Pest Management: https://edis.ifas.ufl.edu/topics/lawn-garden-pest-management

Cattleya Orchid



FIGURE 1. CATTLEYA ORCHID
CREDIT: UF/IFAS

Landscape Maintenance Update for Burnt Store Meadows

INTRODUCTION

The Burnt Store Property Owner's Association is dedicated to preserving the appearance and quality of our community. One of our primary responsibilities is the maintenance of key common areas, which play a significant role in sustaining the beauty and functionality of Burnt Store Meadows.

AREAS MAINTAINED BY THE ASSOCIATION

The Association oversees the upkeep of several important areas within the community, including:

- Entrance Areas
- Greenbelts
- Right of Way along Burnt Store Road
- Interior Drainage Ditches
- Perimeter of the lake

The costs for maintaining these areas are included in the annual association fee paid by property owners.

VACANT LOT MAINTENANCE

It is important to note that vacant lots are not maintained by the Association. Instead, these areas fall under the responsibility of the City of Punta Gorda, with expenses incurred by the individual lot owners.

COMMITMENT TO COMMUNITY APPEARANCE

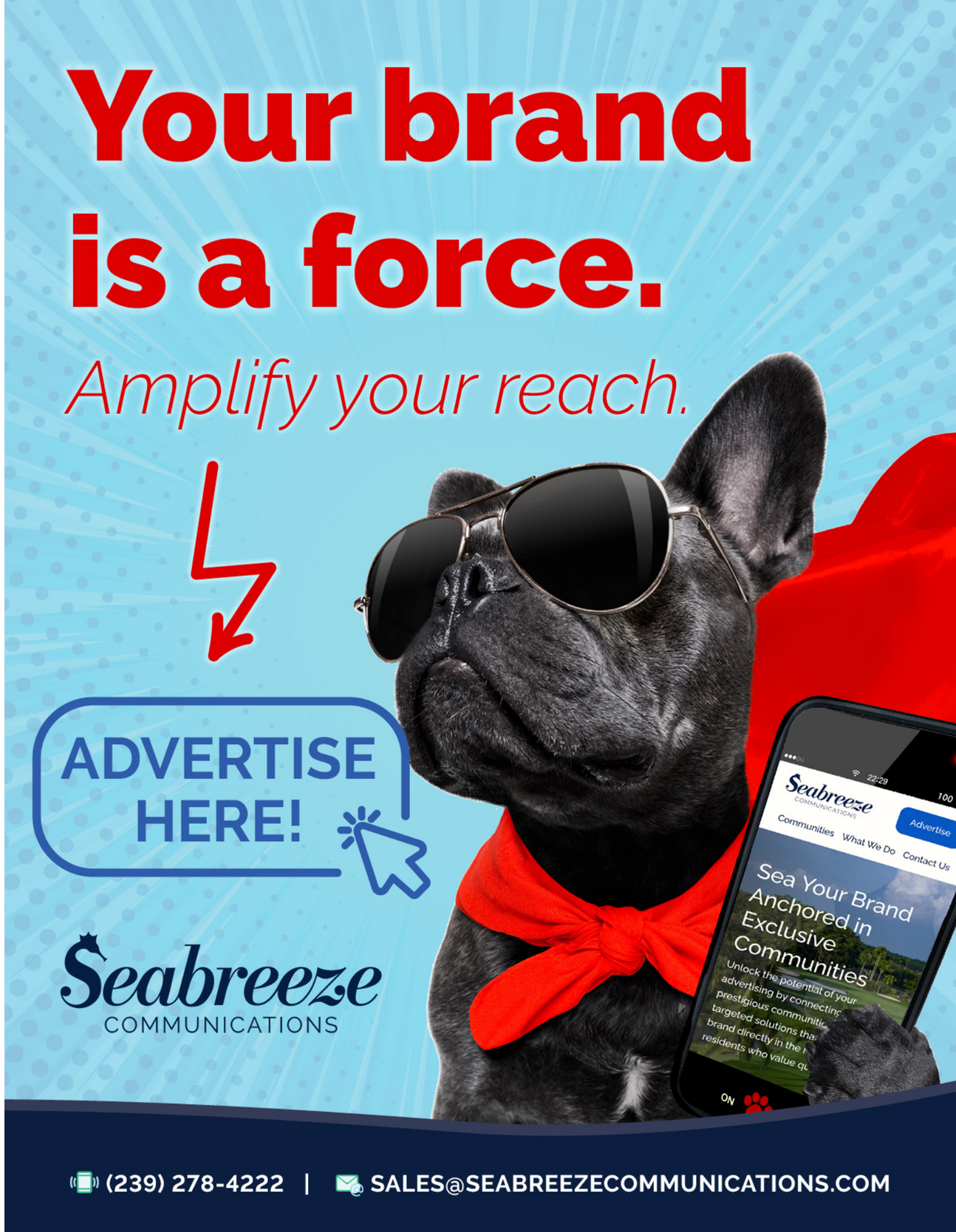
We strive to ensure that Burnt Store Meadows always looks its best. In line with this commitment, we have engaged a new landscaping contractor to enhance the maintenance of our community spaces.

NEW LANDSCAPE CONTRACTOR ANNOUNCEMENT

Starting in January 2026, Handley Mowing LLC will take over the maintenance of the areas managed by the Association. The company has already begun to focus on areas that have required attention and improvement.

CONTACT INFORMATION

If you have any questions regarding landscape maintenance or the new contractor, please contact Star Management or reach out to any of your board members for additional information.





Writers Wanted!!!

To make the *Meadows Connection* interesting and readable to our residents, we invite you to share your stories, experiences, and perspectives. We welcome articles about books, travel, pets, sports, TV and movies, Tech, and/or content that will get our community talking and sharing. Just avoid topics such as politics and religion in keeping with our policy to avoid controversy.

Please limit your words to between 200 to 600 words and feel free to include a couple of jpeg photos with high resolution. We'll be happy to give you a byline!

Have fun writing and send to joyce.tilden.bsmpoa@gmail.com for submission in the *Meadows Connection*.

Being a Good Pet Owner and Neighbor!

REMINDER

Being a good neighbor and animal owner means picking up after your dog. Also, while our deed restrictions do not specifically state your animal must be leashed, it does state the animal must always be under the owner's control. Not having the animal leashed could constitute a nuisance and that is a violation of our deed restrictions.

Tell us about your pet(s)! We would like to feature one family's pet(s) in an article in the ***Connection.*** All you need to do is write between 200 – 600 words about your much-loved dog, cat, or other animal and include a couple of high resolution pictures. Some ideas to show off your beloved pet include – how you named him/her; a description of his/her looks; favorite activities and toys; what makes him/her special to you, or whatever else you'd like to share with readers. This is limited to Burnt Store Meadows owners and residents.

Your submission doesn't have to be a literary masterpiece; we will edit and format it for the monthly newsletter. Have fun writing about your pet and send to joyce.tilden.bsmpoa@gmail.com for submission in the *Meadows Connection*.