



The Beachcomber

Hernando Beach Property Owners Association

Our next meeting
will be held
**Thursday,
January 8, 2026
at 7:00pm**

**Hernando Beach
Yacht Club**
4163 Shoal Line Blvd.
Doors open at 6:00pm
to socialize.

~~~~~

**The purpose of  
this organization is  
to unite the  
property owners of  
Hernando Beach.**



## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Greetings to all of my fellow HBPOA members! As you may have read in the December Beachcomber, the New Year is bringing with it some changes in our organization's leadership. President Mike Fulford is passing the gavel to me, Rich Grega, and VP Tom Crowley is handing off his responsibilities to Dennis Wakely. James Fournier is retiring from the Board and Virginia Shaffer is taking that Director seat. I invite you all to join with me in extending our appreciation to Mike, Tom, and Jim for their years of service to HBPOA. As one of the new kids on the block, it's certainly a comfort to me knowing they will still be around and I can call on their experience when needed.

I'm looking forward to getting to know more of you as the year goes on and vice versa. In the meantime I thought I'd share a little bit about me and my background. I was born and lived for most of my life in New York state in the Hudson Valley region. I graduated from Fordham University and spent a couple of years helping out Uncle Sam in Vietnam (Army, artillery). I enjoyed a long and varied technical and management career with IBM, retiring after 38 years. I was married to Alexis, a wonderful woman and partner, for 49 years until she passed away in 2017. In 2012 we had bought our first Florida property in an RV resort community in Zephyrhills and became snowbirds. A couple years later we said goodbye to NY for good, bought a larger place in the same community and be-

(Continued on page 3)

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(Continued from page 1)

came permanent Florida residents. I became very involved in that community and served the HOA as vice-president for a year and then president for 5 years. In late 2020 I was getting ready to retire from the HOA Board and started looking for a getaway spot on the Gulf coast where I could spend some relaxing weekends and vacations. That's when I discovered Hernando Beach and bought my house here. But the unique Hernando Beach vibe cast its spell on me and it quickly became where I feel most at home and spend most of my time.

I was an avid RV'er for many years and served in several positions in both regional and national RV groups. But a couple years ago I gave up RV'ing and now instead of a 45' diesel pusher in the driveway I have a much smaller pontoon boat tied up at my dock. After joining HBPOA I quickly came to realize how valuable an asset this organization is to our community. I decided it was time to get more involved and I'm eagerly looking forward to doing my part to keep HBPOA vital and growing. I like to think that I'm a pretty good listener so don't be shy to share your ideas, suggestions, and when necessary your concerns. I'm looking forward to it!

Mark your new 2026 calendars for our first members' meeting of the year on January 8 at the Hernando Beach Yacht Club. Doors will open at 6:30 to socialize and the business meeting starts at 7 pm. Hernando County Commissioner Jerry Campbell has accepted the invitation to join us, offer a few remarks, and officiate the installation of the 2026 officers and directors. Mr. Wayne Zahn who is the Area Vice-President of Business Development for Coastal Waste and Recycling will be our other guest speaker. You probably recognize Coastal as the company taking over our trash collection service from Republic. I know there are a lot of questions about this change and how it will effect us regarding available services, schedules, costs, etc. This is your opportunity to ask all the questions and get answers directly from the source. This change is on a lot of peoples' minds so I encourage you to extend the invitation to all your neighbors and friends to join us. Guests are always welcomed!

I'm not sure how soon this will reach your mailboxes or in baskets, but if you are reading this

# The Beachcomber

Published by Hernando Beach Property Owners Association

Deadline for ads, articles, and news:  
**January 10th** for publication in our  
**February Issue.**

**Yearly advertising prices:**  
**Black & White:**  
1/4 page - \$200  
1/2 page - \$350 - **best buy**  
full size - \$675

**Yearly advertising prices:**  
**Color:**  
1/4 page - \$375  
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Jennifer Brown, Editor (352)678-1795  
[HBPOABeachcomber@gmail.com](mailto:HBPOABeachcomber@gmail.com)

before the New Year, and haven't yet paid your dues for 2026 it's your last chance to save \$5. As was announced last month, an annual dues increase from \$35 to \$40 effective January 1, 2026 was approved by the membership in November. But you can be paid-up for 2026 for just \$35 right until ringing in the New Year.

We expect that by the time you are reading this Beachcomber the transfer of maintenance and liability responsibilities for both the Dolphin Gateway (at 19 and Osowaw) and the Triangle Park (at Osowaw and Shoal Line) will be official since acceptance is on the "consent agenda" for the BOCC mid-December meeting. Hats off to all those involved in the negotiations that led to this transfer which will save us money for utilities as well as remove any potential liability exposures arising from these sites. Great news!

If you weren't at the Holiday Dinner on December 4 you missed a really fun evening of excellent food, music and camaraderie. The provided turkey and ham were delicious and perfectly complemented by the many pot luck dishes and desserts. Santa made an appearance and supplied

(Continued on page 7)

# Hernando Beach Property Owners Association

P. O. Box 3198, Spring Hill, FL 34611-3198

## 2026 Board of Directors

**President:** Richard Grega  
**Vice President:** Dennis Wakely  
**Secretary:** Denis Polyn  
**Treasurer:** Jen Brown  
**Director:** Bobbi Caccamisi  
**Director:** Virginia Scheffer  
**Director:** Jerald Markuson  
**Director:** Dave Skinner  
**Director:** Sheryl Coggins  
**Parliamentarian:**

## 2026 Commit

**Governmental Affairs Committee -**  
**Landscaping Committee -** Bill Roberts  
**Membership Committee -** Judith Hughes  
**Hospitality Committee -** Gay Colleypriest  
**Beachcomber -** Jen Brown  
**Bylaw Committee -** Barry Holland

## **HERNANDO BEACH PROPERTY OWNERS ASSOCIATION 2026 MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION & RENEWAL FORM**

HBPOA meetings are held the 1st Thursday of every month.

Meetings are held at the HBYC - 4163 Shoal Line Blvd, the doors open at 6:30pm and meetings start at 7pm.

**Dues are \$35.00 annually and include the Beachcomber Newsletter mailed to you.**

**Annual dues are due by January 1st every year and are NOT prorated.**

Members who join in November or December are considered paid up as members for the following year.

**New Member**

**Renewal from 2025**

**Prefer to receive the Beachcomber by email**

1) **Name** \_\_\_\_\_

Phone number \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_

2) **Name** \_\_\_\_\_

Phone number \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_

**I would like to help with** \_\_\_\_\_

**Mailing Address:** \_\_\_\_\_

### **Hernando Beach Property Address:**

Eligible members are the property owner(s) listed on the property deed, as owner(s) of record on file with the Hernando County Property Appraiser's office, as owners named on the purchase agreement if the deed has not yet been recorded, individuals named in trust agreements that have present legal ownership of that property and the spouses of such property owners whether or not listed on property deeds and records. (Section 3.3 of the HBPOA Bylaws)

I grant permission and consent to the Hernando Beach Property Owners Association for the non-profit use of any photograph(s) taken by the HBPOA, or submitted by me for presentation to the HBPOA, under any legal condition, including but not limited to publicity, copyright purposes, illustration, advertising, and web content.

If paying online please complete the online application with method of payment through our website at [www.hernandobeachpoa.com](http://www.hernandobeachpoa.com).

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**HERNANDO BEACH  
PROPERTY OWNERS  
ASSOCIATION  
MEMBERSHIP MEETING**

**JANUARY 8, 2026  
6:00PM**

**HB YACHT CLUB  
4163 SHOAL LINE BLVD.**

*(Continued from page 3)*

some levity while handing out some carefully chosen and individually personalized gifts. It was a great kick-off to the December holiday season. Speaking of which, the holiday lights along Shoal Line are another bright sign that the holiday season is officially here. Thanks to our volunteers who got the decorations out of storage and ready for hanging and to the linemen from WREC who actually put them up on the poles.

A big thank you on behalf of the many children who will have a brighter Christmas due to your generous donations to Toys for Tots in association with the HB Boat Parade campaign. Thanks too for recognizing that times are tough for many families struggling to make ends meet. Your contributions to our food drive are certainly much appreciated and are definitely making an impact locally.

A reminder when you are patronizing our local businesses don't forget to use the new "Hernando Beach Passport" for possible discounts and to be eligible for special drawings. Passport details and cards are available at most of the businesses on Shoal Line.

I hope you have been able to relax a bit during the holiday season and found time to pause and reflect on the peace, joy, warmth, and special blessings associated with this special time of the year. In that spirit I, together with all of the 2025 and 2026 officers and directors, extend our

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warmest wishes to all. Let's pray that 2026 will be a terrific year for our Hernando Beach community.

Happy New Year!

*Rich Grega*

**HAPPY NEW YEAR HERNANDO BEACH**

By: Judith Hughes

If you were able to join the HBPOA Christmas Party, you were in for a treat. Your Hospitality Committee worked very hard to make this event special for our Hernando Beach residents.

Hernando Beach Front Porch Art Walk in December brought some cloudy skies and drops of rain but that did not discourage our artists, volunteers, and attendees. It has been three years and we are so happy to continue bringing art to Hernando Beach. Each month, there are new applications for a space at art walk. We are growing!

Here we are at the beginning of 2026. Some of us make the traditional "New Year Resolution." In case you are wondering, here is a little history according to the Farmer's Almanac which will, unfortunately, be shutting down after a 208 year run.

*(Continued on page 8)*



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| Code Enforcement                               | (352)754-4056                                                        |
| County Commissioner<br>Brian Hawkins           | (352)754-4146                                                        |
| HB Crime Watch                                 | (352)754-6830                                                        |
| Fire Dept. (Non-Emergency)                     | (352)515-0924                                                        |
| Hernando Beach Club                            | (352)596-5878                                                        |
| Hernando Beach Boatlift Keys<br>John Hutchison | <a href="mailto:jwhutch1962@outlook.com">jwhutch1962@outlook.com</a> |
| Parks & Recreation                             | (352)754-4027                                                        |
| Aquatic Services & Waterways                   | (352)754-4742                                                        |
| Public Works                                   | (352)754-4060                                                        |
| Sheriff's Dept. (Non-Emergency)                | (352)754-6830                                                        |
| Utilities Dept.                                | (352)754-4037                                                        |
| VFW Post 9236                                  | (352)596-9236                                                        |
| Republic/Seaside Sanitation                    | (727)868-8566                                                        |

*(Continued from page 7)*

In 2000 B.C., the Babylonians celebrated the New Year during a 12-day festival which began with the vernal equinox( this started the farming season to plant crops, crown their king, and make promises to pay their debts. One common resolution was the return of borrowed farm equipment). Some of us don't make resolutions. Some of us try for a short time to adhere to resolutions. Some of us just walk through the New Year with hope for a great year. How about you?

Remember the Millennial year, 2000? Remember the threats from the Y2K Bug? Many essential service employees were called to work by midnight to make sure all services continued for the public. Some thought the world would come to an end. We survived 2000 and here we are approaching 2026...

I have been thinking that many of our new residents are not aware that we can see the space shuttle launch from Canaveral. There are websites that can notify us when a shuttle is going into space. Here are two of them.

<https://spaceflightnow.com/launch-schedule>  
<https://www.visitspacecoast.com/launches>

HAPPY 2026 EVERYONE,  
UNTIL NEXT MONTH

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## January

| Sun                       | Mon              | Tue                       | Wed | Thu                                     | Fri | Sat                                        |
|---------------------------|------------------|---------------------------|-----|-----------------------------------------|-----|--------------------------------------------|
|                           |                  |                           |     | 1                                       | 2   | 3<br>Front Porch<br>Art Walk<br>10am - 2pm |
| 4                         | 5                | 6<br>Land Use<br>9am      | 7   | 8<br>HBPOA<br>Membership<br>Meeting 7pm | 9   | 10                                         |
| 11                        | 12               | 13<br>BOCC Meeting<br>9am | 14  | 15<br>HB Crime Watch<br>Meeting         | 16  | 17                                         |
| 18                        | 19<br>MLK Jr Day | 20                        | 21  | 22                                      | 23  | 24<br>Gun & Knife<br>Show                  |
| 25<br>Gun & Knife<br>Show | 26               | 27<br>BOCC Meeting<br>9am | 28  | 29                                      | 30  | 31                                         |

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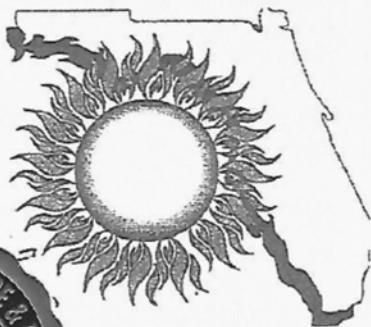
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## HOLIDAY NOTICE

### Trash, Recycling and Yard Waste Collection

### New Service Provider – Effective January 2, 2026

Republic Services will continue providing residential curbside collection through December 31, 2025. There will be no service on January 1, 2026, due to the New Year's Day holiday.

Beginning January 2, 2026, residential curbside collection will be provided by Coastal Waste & Recycling. We ask residents to please be patient during this transition, as it occurs during the busy holiday season.

Residents can find information about the new service online at <https://www.coastalwasteinc.com/hernando-county>

or by contacting Coastal Waste at (352) 741-5494 or [hernandocounty@coastalwasteinc.com](mailto:hernandocounty@coastalwasteinc.com).

**Holiday Closures** - All Solid Waste Facilities will be closed and there will be NO trash, recycling or yard waste collection on the following holidays:

- Christmas Day, Thursday, December 25, 2025

New Year's Day, Thursday, January 1, 2026

**Holiday Collection Schedule** - Collection will occur on your next *regularly scheduled* service date as follows:

- Christmas **trash** will be picked up on Monday, December 29, 2025 by Republic Services
- New Year's **trash** will be picked up on Monday, January 5, 2026 by Coastal Waste

Christmas and New Year's **recycling and yard waste** will be picked up on Thursday, January 8, 2026 by Coastal Waste

### What to expect on collection days after the holidays:

Due to the increased volume of trash and recycling following a holiday, your service provider will be working extra hard to ensure that all

*(Continued on page 21)*



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### Wildlife

Fish & Wildlife Conservation (FWC) (813)558-5050  
Law Enforcement x 7

FWC Florida Wildlife - General (863)648-3200

Manatee hotline (FWC) (888)404-3922

Sawfish Sightings (FWC) (941)255-7403

Sea turtle rescue (FWC) (863)648-3200

Reptiles and Exotics Rescue (352)403-4255

Wildlife Rescue – Owl's Nest Sanctuary (813)598-5926

Wildlife Rescue HB Area (813)598-5926

Horseshoe Crab Sightings (866)252-9326

### Pets

Hernando County Animal Services (352)796-5062

Humane Society of Nature Coast (352)796-2711

SPCA Hernando County (352)596-7000

Dogs – Report Illegal Dog Fighting (800)780-8477



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(Continued from page 15)

customers are picked up. Please follow the guidelines below and expect the following conditions to occur:

- **Trash limits still apply.** Only material inside the blue cart with lid closed will be collected. Overfull carts and extra bags placed outside the cart will not be picked up. (See drop-off options below for excess material or consider enrolling in curbside recycling to free up cart space.)
- Collection may occur **earlier or later than usual.** Please place items at the curb **before 6 a.m.** Trucks may run later than normal.
- **Extra trucks** may be in service and may differ from your usual truck type. Ensure your cart is placed with arrows facing the street, five feet from other objects, and with no overhead obstructions.

**Holiday delays may affect the entire week.** If pickup is delayed, it may shift service days for the remainder of the week. Missed pickups will

be completed the next business day. Please wait until 10 a.m. the following morning before reporting a missed pickup.

**Drop Off Available:** Although Solid Waste Facilities are closed on holidays, they will be open during normal business hours for the rest of the week for disposal of excess trash, recycling, or yard waste.

**Holiday Schedule (No Service/Landfill Closed):** Thanksgiving, Christmas Day, New Year's Day, Independence Day

**Christmas tree disposal:**

- **Live trees:** May be placed out on your yard waste collection day if cut into pieces under 4 feet and free of decorations, including tinsel

**Artificial trees:** Segments under 4 feet may be disposed of as a free bulk item by calling to schedule pickup

(Continued on page 22)



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(Continued from page 21)

**Safe Fireworks Disposal:** Fireworks that are not fully extinguished can create a serious fire hazard when placed in garbage containers. Garbage truck and landfill fires can become life-threatening, cause severe injuries to employees, damage vehicles or nearby buildings, and harm the environment and wildlife. To safely dispose of fireworks:

1. **Submerge** fireworks in a bucket of water overnight to ensure they are fully extinguished.

2. **Wrap** the soaked fireworks in two plastic bags to keep them from drying out.

**Place** the double-bagged fireworks in your household garbage.

**Fireworks are not recyclable and should never be placed in your recycling container.**

**Please call your service provider at 352-540-6457 for questions or concerns.**

**Happy Holidays!**

## Hernando Beach, Rocky Creek, Little Pine I. Bay, Florida, January 2026

28.4867° N, 82.6617° W - [www.USHarbors.com](http://www.USHarbors.com)

| Date | High |       |     |       | Low |       |      |       |      |      | Moon |
|------|------|-------|-----|-------|-----|-------|------|-------|------|------|------|
|      | AM   | ft    | PM  | ft    | AM  | ft    | PM   | ft    | Rise | Set  |      |
| 1    | Thu  |       |     | 12:58 | 2.3 | 7:19  | -1.0 | 6:54  | 1.3  | 7:23 | 5:45 |
| 2    | Fri  |       |     | 1:44  | 2.3 | 8:11  | -1.2 | 7:49  | 1.2  | 7:23 | 5:46 |
| 3    | Sat  | 12:07 | 3.3 | 2:25  | 2.4 | 8:58  | -1.2 | 8:38  | 1.0  | 7:23 | 5:46 |
| 4    | Sun  | 12:58 | 3.3 | 3:01  | 2.3 | 9:41  | -1.1 | 9:24  | 0.8  | 7:23 | 5:47 |
| 5    | Mon  | 1:48  | 3.2 | 3:35  | 2.3 | 10:22 | -0.9 | 10:10 | 0.7  | 7:23 | 5:48 |
| 6    | Tue  | 2:36  | 3.1 | 4:05  | 2.3 | 11:00 | -0.6 | 10:57 | 0.5  | 7:24 | 5:49 |
| 7    | Wed  | 3:25  | 2.8 | 4:34  | 2.4 | 11:35 | -0.3 | 11:45 | 0.4  | 7:24 | 5:49 |
| 8    | Thu  | 4:16  | 2.5 | 5:04  | 2.4 |       |      | 12:07 | 0.0  | 7:24 | 5:50 |
| 9    | Fri  | 5:09  | 2.2 | 5:36  | 2.5 | 12:35 | 0.4  | 12:39 | 0.4  | 7:24 | 5:51 |
| 10   | Sat  | 6:10  | 1.8 | 6:12  | 2.5 | 1:32  | 0.4  | 1:12  | 0.7  | 7:24 | 5:52 |
| 11   | Sun  | 7:32  | 1.6 | 6:58  | 2.5 | 2:40  | 0.3  | 1:52  | 0.9  | 7:24 | 5:53 |
| 12   | Mon  | 9:20  | 1.5 | 7:54  | 2.5 | 4:00  | 0.2  | 2:53  | 1.2  | 7:24 | 5:53 |
| 13   | Tue  | 10:56 | 1.6 | 8:57  | 2.5 | 5:15  | 0.0  | 4:11  | 1.3  | 7:24 | 5:54 |
| 14   | Wed  |       |     | 12:02 | 1.8 | 6:18  | -0.2 | 5:23  | 1.4  | 7:24 | 5:55 |
| 15   | Thu  |       |     | 12:45 | 2.0 | 7:08  | -0.4 | 6:25  | 1.3  | 7:23 | 5:56 |
| 16   | Fri  |       |     | 1:19  | 2.1 | 7:49  | -0.6 | 7:17  | 1.2  | 7:23 | 5:57 |
| 17   | Sat  |       |     | 1:49  | 2.2 | 8:25  | -0.7 | 8:01  | 1.1  | 7:23 | 5:57 |
| 18   | Sun  | 12:19 | 2.9 | 2:17  | 2.2 | 8:57  | -0.7 | 8:40  | 0.9  | 7:23 | 5:58 |
| 19   | Mon  | 12:59 | 2.9 | 2:43  | 2.3 | 9:29  | -0.7 | 9:18  | 0.8  | 7:23 | 5:59 |
| 20   | Tue  | 1:38  | 2.9 | 3:07  | 2.3 | 10:00 | -0.7 | 9:56  | 0.6  | 7:23 | 6:00 |
| 21   | Wed  | 2:17  | 2.9 | 3:32  | 2.4 | 10:31 | -0.6 | 10:35 | 0.4  | 7:22 | 6:01 |
| 22   | Thu  | 3:00  | 2.8 | 3:58  | 2.5 | 11:03 | -0.4 | 11:18 | 0.3  | 7:22 | 6:02 |
| 23   | Fri  | 3:47  | 2.6 | 4:27  | 2.6 | 11:36 | -0.2 |       |      | 7:22 | 6:02 |
| 24   | Sat  | 4:40  | 2.4 | 5:00  | 2.7 | 12:06 | 0.2  | 12:10 | 0.1  | 7:21 | 6:03 |
| 25   | Sun  | 5:43  | 2.0 | 5:39  | 2.7 | 1:01  | 0.1  | 12:48 | 0.5  | 7:21 | 6:04 |
| 26   | Mon  | 7:07  | 1.7 | 6:27  | 2.7 | 2:09  | 0.0  | 1:33  | 0.9  | 7:21 | 6:05 |
| 27   | Tue  | 9:06  | 1.6 | 7:31  | 2.8 | 3:33  | -0.2 | 2:40  | 1.2  | 7:20 | 6:06 |
| 28   | Wed  | 10:57 | 1.7 | 8:48  | 2.8 | 4:58  | -0.4 | 4:12  | 1.4  | 7:20 | 6:07 |
| 29   | Thu  |       |     | 12:09 | 1.9 | 6:12  | -0.7 | 5:33  | 1.4  | 7:19 | 6:07 |
| 30   | Fri  |       |     | 12:54 | 2.1 | 7:14  | -0.9 | 6:43  | 1.2  | 7:19 | 6:08 |
| 31   | Sat  |       |     | 1:29  | 2.2 | 8:04  | -1.0 | 7:40  | 0.9  | 7:18 | 6:09 |

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