

## The Boys are Back!



The bears are back resolutely standing guard after a much needed power nap, mani pedi, and buff and puff – they are freshly painted and shellacked, and, Darlin’, you look MAHVELOUS! Thank you guys in the Maintenance Dept. YOU ROCK!!

## Around the Village

### A Heartfelt Goodbye to Mark & Kristi Tilchen

By Village Voice Staff Writers

We are beyond sad to announce that Mark and Kristi Tilchen have decided to move to California to be closer to their children. When they moved here approximately 4 years ago, Mark & Kristi jumped in with both feet becoming Chair and Co-Chair of the Activities Committee. Mark is a huge advocate of volunteerism and he truly practices what he preaches. He has been a member of the Finance Committee, Editor of the Village Voice Newsletter, Chairman of both the Activities Committee and the Rules Committee, and, recently he was elected to our HOA Board of Directors. And, that is just the visible ways that he has contributed to the community. As we try to fill this enormous loss, we have found the million little things that Mark has done to maintain and

Turn to Village Page 2

**No Fireworks Please** ...Just a reminder for the Fourth of July: fireworks are not allowed in Greentrees Village. Please be courteous to your neighbors by following the rules, and help keep Greentrees safe from fires by not setting off fireworks on Independence Day. *Your pets will thank you too!!*

#### IN THIS ISSUE

PRESIDENT’S MESSAGE	2
COMMUNITY	3
THIS AND THAT	4
FREE 4TH OF JULY LUNCH	6
GREAT DECISIONS	12

**NEXT BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING TUESDAY JULY 12TH 1PM**



## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

by **Tom Benson**, HOA President

It is hard to figure out how much food to cook for our events, not knowing how many people will show up. My fear is not having enough to go around once everyone is there. So, I try to make enough to cover more than expected. During COVID these days, our turnouts have been smaller, but they are picking up. All activities have been picking up across the board which is easy to do since we had none for two years. Because I try to be prepared with enough food, we always have leftovers. The morning after our meals I deliver the extra food to helping hands where the food feeds the homeless. They are very grateful, and you should feel good about helping. This Father's day we supplied a complete meal with dessert for all who came. Supplying these meals is a good reason to make too much, I wish you could see their faces.

By the way, we have a new Manager - Jim Meyers. Drop by the office and meet him.

Tom Benson,  
Only the President - YAY!

*The Unofficial Facebook page of Greentrees. Admin by Mike Cox*



### The Village Voice

A Publication of Greentrees Village, Inc.

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Articles presented by residents or others may not reflect the opinion or recommendations of Greentrees Village

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From **Village Page 1**

improve the community through COVID and beyond, like running a recycling program to benefit the Activities Committee and being the organization behind the community dinners. Mark has been a vocal advocate for increasing our association Reserve Fund and has spent hours researching and putting forth ideas. He is also currently working to publish a book detailing the history of Greentrees. I know that there are a million things that he does behind the scenes that we have forgotten, but what we do know is that Mark and Kristi will leave a huge hole in our hearts and in our community when they depart – we have some huge shoes to fill!!! Kristi is already in California and Mark will be traveling back and forth as he manages the move and the sale of their home here in Greentrees. If you see him around, please take a moment to express your thanks for all he has done to better this community and wish him well with his future endeavors. Thank you and good luck Mark and Kristi!

## Changes in the GTV Office

By Village Voice Staff Writers

You may have noticed our new manager, Jim Myers, in the office; he is not the only change happening. In other changes, office assistant, Julie Brown, has resigned effective June 30th and Laurie White, bookkeeper, tendered her resignation effective July 15th. We say "thank you" Laurie and Julie for your years of service to Greentrees; you are certainly going to be missed.

A search has begun for a bookkeeper/office assistant by Jim. One item residents are discussing already is a condition of that employment, so we asked Pat Miller, GTV Board of Directors member that question. Miller said, "that the employee must not own nor reside in Greentrees Village." She also stated, "this policy was approved by the Board of Directors at its April 12, 2022 meeting and implemented immediately to apply to filling the manager position and to future hiring for all positions." Miller then continued, "that if you have any questions about this or the open position, please ask your district rep."

Turn to **Village Page 7**



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# Please Save Our Community

By Village Voice Staff Writers Editorial

When residents choose to attack other residents on a public stage, the entire community pays the price, and no one wins. When board members or employees violate the code of conduct that applies to positions of trust, not only does it damage the integrity and trust in those we have chosen to lead or support this community, but the resulting fallout can cause irreversible harm to the community and all involved. If you have noticed an uncharacteristic unrest in our little community lately, you aren't wrong. In the last couple of weeks, we have lost valued employees, valued volunteers, and the community has become divided.

We are at a critical point where we can choose to be a "village" where neighbors look out after neighbors, smile and laugh together, share food and coffee, help each other, talk and work out any issues. Or we can allow gossip, hate, mistrust, and pettiness to turn our community into one of a million different communities where residents are isolated and constantly warring with their neighbors? If you want to preserve the friendly village we have all come to love, it is time to take action! It is time to start standing up for what is right and to start taking an active role to strengthen our community rather than tear it down.

Are you aware that the same key twenty-some volunteers have been doing 90% the work to keep this community running for years on end? Many of them are exhausted and want to

step back, but they can't because there is no one to take their place. These same volunteers fill positions on multiple committees to maintain and improve your community, help produce your newsletter and website, and run the many community activities – not because they have infinite time and energy, but because if they quit, all these activities and amenities many have come to take for granted very well may cease to exist.

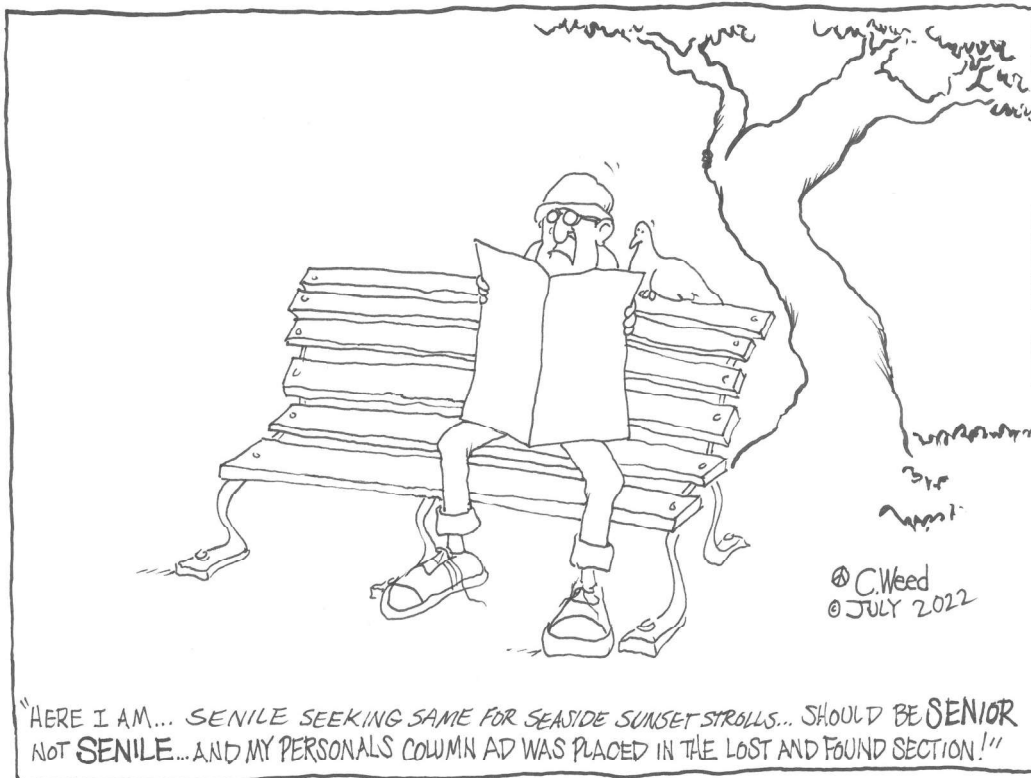
What can you do? Attending board meetings or committee meetings to understand how our community works, what the issues are, and what is being done to solve them – and speak up. Instead of listening to gossip (or spreading it) and creating more divide in the community, contact your District Representative to find out the facts for yourself. Instead of complaining, ask yourself what you can do to help solve the problem. Take an active role in organizing and running one of the many activities (come to the Activities meeting to find out where help is needed).

If nothing else, vote. Be a responsible member by finding out who represents you on the Board, then ensure they are representing your district and your community in a fair, responsible, and professional manner. Better yet, you don't need a business degree or management experience to serve on the Board of Directors or run as an Alternate – you just need a level head, curious mind, ability to learn, and a passion to make a difference in your community. I know there are plenty of smart talented people that live in our community – it doesn't take a lot

of time to make a difference. Please choose to focus a little of your time and energy to help save our community.

Rest Stop

by C.Weed



Buddy Bear celebrating the 4th of July..Lot 89!!!

# THIS & THAT

### Welcome New Resident Owners:

- Lot 32 Jane Salamone from Florence, OR
- Lot 82 Scott & Ann-Marie Steward from Eugene, OR
- Lot 236 Peter and Nancy Hussmann from So. Lake Tahoe, CA
- Lot 529 Rick & Tracy Demings from St. Helens, OR
- Lot 547 Julie Rodriguez from Florence, OR

### Welcome New Renters:

- Lot 589 Kathleen Montange from Florence, OR

**No Butts Allowed:** Cigarette butt litter; after you put out your cigarette, please make sure you aren't leaving your butts on the ground in GTV, **Thank You!**

**Recycling:** The Activities Committee collects your cans and bottles (the ones with a 10 cent deposit) with all proceeds going to future activities. If you have at least a trash bag full Mark Tilchen, Activities Chair, will pick them up. **Contact Mark at 559-786-6576.**

**Monthly Gate Code:** Call or stop by the office for the monthly "contractors code". The code changes on the first day of each month. You can also find it on the GTV website in the Owner's Area.

**Family Pool is Open:** The family pool area is now open for the summer. The pool will be open from 8:00am to 7:30pm daily thru Labor Day.

**Dumpster Use:** Please don't put any branches longer than 3 feet long and 3" thick in diameter in the yard-waste dumpsters here in Greentrees. No plastic bags. No household trash. Only yard waste. Dumpsters are emptied on Tuesdays and either Thursdays or Fridays weekly for the summer, starting July 1st.

**Burning Reminder:** That outdoor fire pits are for recreational purposes only and should not be used for burning of trash, clippings, or trimmings. Also, please do not use torches to burn grass along drive and walkways.

**One More Reminder:** The even-numbered districts are up for election this year: 2, 4, 6, 8, plus 4 Alternate seats too. Why are we writing about this now? To give people time to consider running for a seat or to be an alternate. If you have any questions, feel free to contact any Board member.



"Good Karma Table -- everyone won a prize during the raffle this past Saturday at Bingo!" photo by Jim Negri



*Our Deepest Condolences to the family and friends of*  
*Lot 30 Larry Hansen passed on 6/14/22*  
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## Club & Group's Corner

By Diana Lindsley

**New Bunco Group** – Interested in playing Bunco? Carole Cardwell is looking for people (men and women) to play Bunco once a month. This is a fun, easy to learn game – brain power not needed! Date and time for the games will be determined soon. Cost will be \$5 for the night – and you DO win. It will also be a pot luck. Twelve people are needed to play, plus substitutes needed. Contact Carole for more information – her number is on the flyer in the bulletin board.

**GERT** – For July, GERT will have a class on Building an Emergency Kit. This will include basic supplies for a to-go kit, emergency kits for your car, resident Emergency Cache Storage container, and hygiene kit suggestions for adults, children and pets. This is important information for all. Meeting will be Thursday, July 14 at 1 PM in the multipurpose room. Contact Kristel Buechner for more information.

**Quilt Group** – The Quilt Group will do a class on fusible applique in July. Bring your sewing machine, fabric for the applique as well as fabric to put the applique on, thread, paper backed fusible web (Heat 'n Bond Lite or Steam a Seam 2 – make sure it is sewable!), scissors, and an iron if you have it. We'll talk about the 'window technique' for applique and the advantages of using it. Diana is going to the Sisters Outdoor Quilt Show and can share her experience, photos, etc if we have time. Also, we will be rotating quilts at the Office. Please bring small quilts to be placed in the office for a few months. Meeting will be Thursday, July 21 at 1 PM in the Rec Hall. Contact Diana Lindsley at 541-590-3623 for more information.

**Knit & Crochet Group** – This is a new group and will be meeting the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Friday of the month, from 2-4 PM in the Multi Purpose Room. This group is to share projects, learn, and meet people with like interests. If you are interested in participating, please come join them. Contact Diane Freburg at 541-997-8334 for more information. If you would like to get on their mailing list, contact Eleanor Ross at 541-999-9870.

**String Instrument Class** – This group meets the 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of each month from 1:30 – 3 PM. Come learn about playing a

string instrument. Contact Larry Galleger at 541-590-3676 for more information and location.

**Book Club** – This group meets the 4<sup>th</sup> Thursday of each month at 2 PM in the Multi Purpose Room. Rather than everyone reading the same book, each month members are encouraged to bring a book that they have read or are reading, and talk about the book; a short presentation. This not only gives a variety of books to be discussed, but sharpens people's presentation skills. For more information, please contact Charles Lugg at 541-590-3871 or Don McGehe at 541-590-3421

**Other Groups?** – If you belong to a group and would like your group info shared here in the newsletter, please contact Diana Lindsley at 541-590-3623 to get your group activities added to the Group Corner section

## Aging Gracefully

By Shanti Chagnon

Ever wonder why some people live to 90 or 100 with grace and joy? Good genes certainly help, but an optimistic spirit and a sense of purpose may matter even more. Scientific studies confirm a compelling connection between a positive state of mind and overall health and longevity. Setting goals and taking action to achieve them lead to healthier lifestyle choices and ultimately a longer life. Some of the healthiest people, a good number of them in their 90s and 100s, enjoy people or a hobby, actively learn new things and have a positive engagement with life.

The following seven tips, play a big role in ensuring health, happiness and longevity. Practice these vitality-boosting habits regularly to help you age gracefully.

### 1. Live in the Moment

Like everyone else, you cannot predict life's every turn, so make the most of each moment. Learn how to live in the moment and cultivate daily awareness.

### 2. Forgive Yourself and Others

Forgiveness doesn't mean you condone what occurred; it means you relinquish the event's toxic hold on your mind and

Turn to **Aging Page 10**

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### The Activities Committee

by Mark Tilchen

Next meeting Monday, July 11th, 10am, Rec Hall.

The wonderful Fathers Day lunch cost about \$200 more than attendees paid for the meal. Where did the extra \$200 come from? The HOA covers \$3000 of the more than \$11,000 spent on activities in a normal year. The \$3000 covers Thanksgiving, Christmas, and July 4th. Greentrees has several events that are free or low cost thanks to efforts by volunteers. The July 9 flea market at the Rec Hall is an essential fundraiser, please stop by and shop. Check at the office if you want to sell your own stuff (you keep the money) and an 8' table is only \$10. The Activity Committee also recycles to raise money.

Coming up in July is the annual July 4th hot dog lunch, and the annual Flea Market on July 9th where residents pay for tables and sell their personal items at the Rec Hall. Reserve your table at the Greentrees office, before we run out (\$10 for residents and \$15 for nonresidents). Please note that, even though the gates will be up, yard sales at individual homes are NOT permitted during the Flea Market.

The Coffee Social for July will be Saturday July 16th at 10am in the Coffee Room. There will be fresh made donuts and cinnamon buns. The Pot Luck for July will be held on Friday July 22nd at 6pm in the Rec Hall. Wine and door prizes will be part of the evening's food and friendship.

**Volunteers for all events are always welcomed!!**

# 4TH OF JULY HOT DOG LUNCH

## Come Celebrate Independence Day & Join Us For A FREE Hot Dog Lunch!

Time: 11AM to 1PM in the Recreation Hall

We will be serving:  
1/4LB COSTCO HOT DOG  
With all the fixings  
Plus Baked Beans & Coleslaw

*Ice Cream Bars Served by the Good Humor Man*

### Enjoy it in the Recreation Hall or take it home

**The second Community Yard Sale, which are garage sales at individual homes, is Friday/Saturday August 26/27.**

The gates are open from 9 am to 3 pm and always draws a good attendance from the Florence community, so start getting your sales items ready. No sign-up required.



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From Village Page 2

# PCH Scam Alert in GTV

By Village Voice Staff Writers

A Greentrees resident has reached out to the Village Voice and warns us about a Publishers Clearing House scam that she went through recently.

An old Publishers Clearing House sweepstakes phone scam usually asks for taxes and various fees to be paid up front in order to claim a supposed prize.

Our GTV resident was smart enough to know better and was not taken but she had to endure night and day harassment by phone for almost 3 weeks. At one point was threatened so badly she had to leave her phone off the hook. They would never leave a message and only harassed her when she did answer the phone. The area code they were calling from was New Jersey. Please be aware she warns.

Publishers Clearing House only notifies winners of their prizes by visiting them in person with their PCH Prize Patrol. They never award prizes over the phone, on social media, in email, or through the mail.

## Potluck 4th Friday

MONTHLY JANUARY—SEPTEMBER

Bring your own table setting and drink  
Bring a dish to share



**Door prizes**

**6 pm**  
**REC HALL**  
**on**  
**July 22th**

Please follow food safety guidelines (see Activity bulletin board for tips.) Label your dish, especially if it contains potential allergens such as milk or nuts.

# July Street Paving Time

By Village Voice Staff Writers

Weather permitting, Johnson Rock will be paving roads in Greentrees Village. Paving will start mid to end July and during paving, access to affected lots may be limited, so please plan accordingly. Each affected lot will also receive notification 1-2 days prior to start.

### West Side:

Skyline Blvd: Lots 684-700

### East Side:

1<sup>st</sup> Street North: Lots 401, 304-319

2<sup>nd</sup> Street North: Lots 282-290, 270-276

5<sup>th</sup> Street North: Lots 208-220, 178-192



Some residents may need to move their vehicles overnight in order to have access in the morning. Turn to Village Page 9

# Bicycle Raffle

The winner will be announced at the Greentrees Flea Market on July 9, 2022 at 2 pm in the Rec Hall. You need not be present to win. Proceeds go to the Activity Committee for future events.

Tickets are \$1 each or 6 tickets for \$5  
Tickets may be purchased at the Greentrees Office during regular hours or until 2 pm on the day of the Flea market.

Traditional Sun 20 Trike with 7 speeds  
Retail for \$800



Thank you Bicycles 101 in Florence and Greentrees resident Jeff Myers

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Linda and Rick

## GERT NEWS

### HOW TO BUILD YOUR EMERGENCY KIT

By Kristel Buechner, GERT Coordinator

Basic supplies for a to-go kit, including your pets needs.

Emergency kit for an auto.

Residents Emergency Cache Storage container.

Hygiene kit suggestions for adult, disabled & children.

Learn how to prepare yourself and your loved ones for an emergency with building your preparedness bag.

**Kristel Buechner**

**GERT coordinator/trainer**

**541.997.0909**

**PREPARE YOURSELF:** Learn how to prepare yourself and loved ones in the event of an emergency. **Greentrees Emergency Response Team (GERT) meets 2nd Thursday of each month at 1pm**, Multipurpose Room at the rear of the Recreation Center.

## The Eclectic Greentrees Geek

By Village Voice Staff Writer (anonymous)

### E-bikes Part 3 (Previous months April and May.)

So by now, everyone wants to build their own ebike, right? Plop down a bunch of change for some tools, clear out some space in the garage, read a couple of books and definitely check out videos. ROFL (rolling on floor laughing). Of course not.

The ready-to-ride electric bikes on the market today pack quality parts into deals at price points comparable to a do-it-yourself project. If you factor in the hassles of the above noted expenses, the ready-made ebikes are a bargain. Before you spend a grand or two for an electric bike you do need to decide on features, so here is the "I wish I had...(done, known, thought about, bought, got, added, skipped) checklist.

**Trike or bike:** Trikes have a learning curve and unnerve many because of feeling like the trike will tip if you turn. So you try out one of the stable "recumbents" and they are so low you can't get in or out of the dang seat! The Goldilock style? Semi-recumbents. If you can ride a bike, great, but some of us do better with three wheels. Give yourself time to get used to a trike and soon the benefits become apparent.

**Step-over:** Trikes usually have a low step over but many bikes, even "girls bikes" have a pretty high step-over and the "boys bikes" definitely require the leg swing. If you need a really low step-over, look at European style bikes

**Gears:** Seven speeds is enough with the assist of the electric motor. Even a single speed ride works well. Remember, a hub motor doesn't care what gears you have because it drives the wheel directly and not through the chain.

**Seat:** Big and cushy. Period. Tushy does not like anything less.

**Size and portability:** Ebikes are heavy compared to regular bikes. Motors, electronics, batteries and stronger frames add weight. Trikes are even heavier and very awkward to store or transport. Many companies offer folding styles to address the

latter but that adds even more weight. Clever designs use the folded bike's/trike's wheels as rollers. Look for removable batteries, easy off seats and baskets, Many new designs use smaller 20 or 24 inch wheels to save weight and decrease size.

**Brakes:** Good old cable brakes still dominate but hydraulic brakes are often available on higher end rides. If it is in the budget, hydraulic brakes are easy on the hands.

**Shocks:** Shocks add weight but do improve the ride. To get around that, companies are using "fat tires," my favorite innovation in recent years. All that air in the tire works like a shock absorber and makes for a ridiculously comfy ride AND seriously expands the terrain one can explore, including snow and our own local fine sand beaches.

**Power:** 36-48+ volts and 750 watts or more. Battery at least 10Ah but more is better.

Finally, make sure your toes clear the front wheel when pedaling and turning. Seriously

As always, if you have questions, or are wanting to convert your traditional bike to an ebike, contact [eclecticgreentreesgeek@gmail.com](mailto:eclecticgreentreesgeek@gmail.com)



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# Trespassing in Greentrees

By Village Voice Staff Writers

The Greentrees office staff has been hearing from owners that have seen homeless people wandering through Greentrees. If you see people who don't belong here, call the police.

Waiting until the next day to report it to the office is not helpful. The police want to know what these people look like and where they are heading. The office doesn't have that information. Greentrees is private property and those who do not live here or visiting residents are trespassing. If you see suspicious people on property, please call the police. Lastly, never approach them yourself.

# Architectural Committee Report

Nick Woodworth, Chair of the ACC, reported at the June Board of Directors meeting that the following permits were issued:

**Lot 265:** add-on to a single wide

# A Farewell Get Together

By Village Voice Staff Writers

Patty Harrison and several residents invite Greentrees residents to a farewell celebration to wish Julie Brown and Laurie White a heartfelt *Thank You* for all their years of great service to our community.

It will be held in the Recreation Hall on Sunday, July 17th, from 1-3pm. There will be a guest book for each of them for you to share your thoughts and best wishes. A sandwich bar, cake, and drinks will be provided.

Please come join us.

**COFFEE & DONUTS**  
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# Bear Aware and Kritters Too

By Mark Studer

Summer is fast approaching, I can't wait! Blossoms are on the blackberry vines (yum). The GTV bears are still relatively quiet although we have neighbors on the East / North side with cameras that show bear activity there. And I must say they look a little scrawny, which means they could be out in GTV scavenging for food in your garbage cans if you're not careful.



Hanging out in Kristel's backyard lot 162

The areas where I walk (almost every day - South trail) still have no evidence of bear activity, not sure why. Make no mistake (especially to the north, towards the dump) the bears are out there. Let's all do our parts and don't leave any tasty treats outside for them to get at. The coyotes are definitely active too. Happy Trails!

From Aging Page 5

body. If you're having trouble letting go, consult a counselor, therapist or spiritual advisor for support.

### 3. Find Humor and Laugh Often

Watch funny movies, read humorous essays, enjoy jokes. Even when life throws you curveballs, take joy seriously, and take yourself lightly.

### 4. Stay Curious

You're never too old to learn something new. Learn to play an instrument, knit, sew, garden, travel, socialize, try new foods and activities.

### 5. Be Flexible in Body and Mind

Yoga and Thai Chi can help both. Not only will both increase your muscle flexibility, but the mindful approach to movement and breath may also improve your mental outlook.

### 6. Meditate

Meditation comes in many forms, including prayer, gardening, walking, sitting in nature, any activity that allows you to stay present with the body and thoughts without judgement.

### 7. Be Grateful

Learn to appreciate the good things around you, take 5 min. each morning and night to write down things you're grateful for.

Be open to all that surrounds you, we won't like everything we come across. Can you accept life with tolerance and grace and see what you see?




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# GREEN TREES ACTIVITIES JULY 2022

	Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	Water Aerobics M - F @ 8:00 am						
3	<b>4 Independence Day</b> <b>GTV Office Closed</b> Pickle Ball 8:00 am <b>Hot Dog Lunch</b> <b>11:00 am - 1:00 pm</b> <b>(free to all residents)</b>	<b>5</b> <b>Property Cmte.</b> <b>10:00 am</b> Card Exchange 1:00 pm	<b>6</b> Pickle Ball 8:00 am Tai Chi 9:00 am Exercise Class 10:00 am <b>News-Web Cmte</b> <b>11:00 am</b> Bridge 1:00 pm	<b>7</b> <b>Finance Cmte.</b> <b>10:00 am</b> <b>AACC Cmte.</b> <b>1:00 pm</b> Gentle Flow Yoga 4:00 pm (Rec. Hall)	<b>8</b> Pickle Ball 8:00 am Exercise Class 10:00 am Knit & Crochet Group 2:00 pm - 4:00 pm	<b>9</b> <b>Flea Market</b> <b>9:00 am - 3:00 pm</b> Bocce Ball 11:15 am Bingo 6:00 pm	<b>1</b> Pickle Ball 8:00 am Exercise Class 10:00 am  <b>2</b> Bocce Ball 11:15 am Bingo 6:00 pm
10	<b>11</b> Pickle Ball 8:00 am Tai Chi 9:00 am Exercise Class 10:00 am <b>Activities Cmte. 10:00 am</b>	<b>12</b> <b>BOD Meeting</b> <b>1:00 pm</b> Card Exchange 1:00 pm	<b>13 POOL &amp; SPA</b> <b>CLOSED ALL DAY</b> Pickle Ball 8:00 am Tai Chi 9:00 am Exercise Class 10:00 am Bridge 1:00 pm	<b>14</b> <b>GERT Meeting</b> <b>1:00 pm</b> Gentle Flow Yoga 4:00 pm (Rec. Hall)	<b>15</b> Pickle Ball 8:00 am Exercise Class 10:00 am	<b>16</b> <b>Coffee Social</b> <b>10:00 am</b> Bocce Ball 11:15 am Bingo 6:00 pm	
17	<b>18</b> Pickle Ball 8:00 am Tai Chi 9:00 am Exercise Class 10:00 am	<b>19</b>	<b>20</b> Pickle Ball 8:00 am Tai Chi 9:00 am Exercise Class 10:00 am Luncheon Out 11:30 am Bridge 1:00 pm	<b>21</b> Quilting Group 1:00 pm Gentle Flow Yoga 4:00 pm (Rec. Hall)	<b>22</b> Pickle Ball 8:00 am Exercise Class 10:00 am Knit & Crochet Group 2:00 pm - 4:00 pm <b>Pot Luck 6:00 pm</b>	<b>23</b> Bocce Ball 11:15 am Bingo 6:00 pm	
24	<b>25</b> Pickle Ball 8:00 am Tai Chi 9:00 am Exercise Class 10:00 am	<b>26</b>	<b>27</b> Pickle Ball 8:00 am Tai Chi 9:00 am Exercise Class 10:00 am Bridge 1:00 pm	<b>28</b> Book Club 2:00 pm Gentle Flow Yoga 4:00 pm (Rec. Hall)	<b>29</b> Pickle Ball 8:00 am Exercise Class 10:00 am	<b>30</b> Bocce Ball 11:15 am Bingo 6:00 pm	
31							



# Great Decisions

By Tony Furst

By way of introduction, I'm Tony Furst. I moved to Greentrees in the fall of 2021. When I lived in Hillsboro, I had the good fortune of being introduced to a Great Decisions discussion group and found it fascinating and incredibly informative. I'd like to pay that forward by starting a Great Decisions discussion group in Greentrees, but before doing so I'd like to gauge the community's interest in forming this group.

What is Great Decisions? It's a discussion program on world affairs. The program, run by the Foreign Policy Association has the objective of developing awareness, understanding, and informed opinion on U.S. foreign policy and global issues. More information on the program can be found at: [https://www.fpa.org/great\\_decisions/](https://www.fpa.org/great_decisions/)

Each year the Foreign Policy Association identifies eight (8) foreign policy issues facing Americans and publishes a briefing book that provides background information, current data and policy options on each issue. The cover of the 2022 briefing book is to the right showing the issues identified for this year. I found the articles on the issues to be fascinating reads, they

are extremely well researched and documented. Discussion groups receive a DVD that contains a 25-minute video on each of the issues that augments the written article.

The briefing book ships in January so starting in February we could get together every two weeks or so in the rec hall to discuss one of the issues – we'd end about the time summer begins. Each meeting would be about 1.5 to 2 hours. Group members volunteer to introduce and moderate the discussion of the issue. The group member moderating the upcoming discussion previews the DVD along with the material from the briefing book and develops brief introductory remarks. All group members read the article on the upcoming issue from the briefing book. During the discussion, the group member moderating the discussion briefly introduces the issue, we all watch the video, and then we have a roundtable discussion on the issue with each of us bringing our perspectives to the conversation. At the end of the meeting, the group member moderating the next issue gets the DVD.

The briefing books are \$35 each, but any number of group members could share a book as long as they all have a chance to read the material before the meeting. As the briefing books ship in January, I'd need to have an order pulled together by November and would have to work with the front office to arrange days and times to use the rec hall for the meetings. I'll do the coordination work, but I need to know if there are enough people interested to form a group. If you're interested or you have any questions, please let me know. You can reach me at [tfurst00@gmail.com](mailto:tfurst00@gmail.com) or 703.606.7007.



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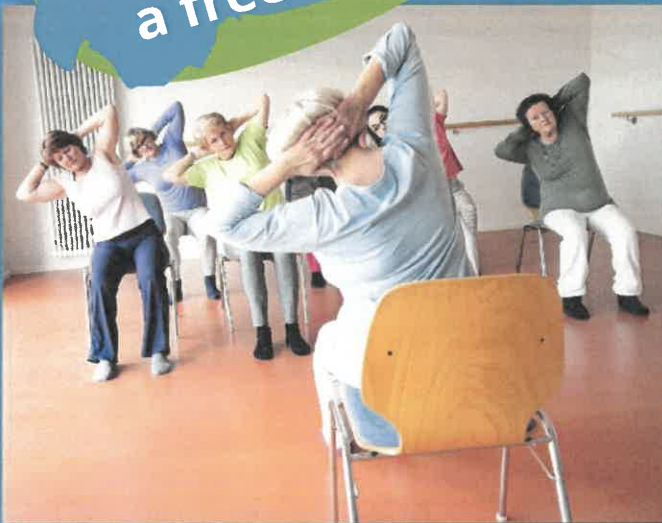
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