

WATERCREST Newsletter

Brought to you by your Watercrest Communication Committee

PICKLEBALL ANYONE?

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This author recently had the opportunity to tour the new Pickleball Club facility that opened this past spring in Lakewood Ranch. The owners, Brian McCarthy, and his wife Valerie, incorporated The Pickleball Club on Oct 24, 2019. This first location in Lakewood Ranch is impressive. Operating hours are from 7:00am to 10:00pm 7 days a week. It is a member only club devoted primarily to pickle-

ball. A second club is scheduled to open in Port St Lucie in early 2024 and their third, their **Venice Club**, is projected to open right outside our Watercrest main gate in the fourth quarter of 2024.

September Meetings:

BOD:

Mon 09/18/2023 6:00-8:00
Venice City Hall in the
"Community Hall" & Zoom

ARC:

Wed 09/06/2023 10:00 Guard
House & Zoom

Wed 09/20/2023 10:00 Guard



The Pickleball Club™
Play for Life

The Venice facility will feature 14 indoor courts and two outdoor courts. Although their primary focus is pickleball, they also offer two Bocci courts, Corn Hole, and Ping Pong. The amenities offered are locker rooms with showers, a Pro Shop, a Café serving Breakfast Lunch & Dinner, Beer & Wine, and a function room on the upper level where you can enjoy a bird's eye view of the action and indulge in the Café's offerings.

It is obvious that this club is designed with the devoted Pickleball player in mind. The facility is upscale. The initial one-time fee is \$1,500 per household (2 people). Annual fees are \$1,380 per person for a full players membership. A "Social Membership" can be obtained for a second person in the household for \$680 per annum. This allows the second member to enjoy all the amenities except court time. Inside court time is rented at the rate of \$40 per hour. There is a "Hero Membership" available as well. This is offered to Veterans and First Responders. All Fees, Pro Shop Mdse., Food & Beverage are discounted 10% for Hero Members.

To take the virtual tour of the Lakewood Ranch club open The following Hyperlink:

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=PYq_Dg1uRvg

As I approached the building from the parking lot I was surprised by the absence of sound from the pickleball play inside. I was not aware of the court sounds until I opened the door and entered the building. My Host and Tour Guide, Anne Thomas, explained that this was because of the noise abatement measures taken in the build out. There are twelve indoor courts in this LWR facility and all but one or two were in play at the time. This was an important feature to me. Because the Venice facility is going to be right outside the walls of Watercrest, I, like many Watercrest residents, feared the noise from the club would interfere with our resident's right to a tranquil existence. I expressed my concern about any use of the outside

courts and how that sound might travel. I was told that there is a buffer zone between our wall and their property line. There would also be a wall erected between the buffer zone and their outside courts to help in noise abatement. There will be no night play on the outside courts as they are not lit. It appears all parking will be in front of the club. At one point I was introduced to one of the owners and asked if they were committed to being a good neighbor if any issues arose. I was assured that was a very high priority for them.

Below is an architectural rendering of the **Venice Club** showing its footprint on the property. The right side of the rendering is Crestview Drive. The Watercrest perimeter wall would be along the upper portion of the rendering. There is an area between our wall and the club's rear property boundary that was referred to as a buffer zone. This area includes a grassy area on the right and a retention pond on the left which I was told is not owned by the club. Their Executive Director of Membership, Anne Thomas, has offered to answer any questions. Her contact info is: anne.thomas@thepickleballclub.us, Tel: 941-271-4300 ext. 1100.



Do you have a specific topic you would like to see covered in our Newsletter? Let us know. Are you or a neighbor you know celebrating a Marriage, a milestone Birthday or Anniversary? Are you a new Grandparent or Parent? Has someone in our Watercrest Community received a special award or special recognition for something? Lets celebrate by posting this in the monthly newsletter. To submit please email specifics to the Communication Committee at: watercrest.communicates_irene@aol.com

WATERCREST RECOGNIZES:

Please Welcome Our New Neighbors:

Robert Van Riper & Lisa Close, 19341 Nearpoint Dr.

Are new full-time residents from Punta Gorda, FL