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# CONTACT INFORMATION

## Contact Information

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Veronica Asafaylo, Vice President  
Kay Ballard, Secretary  
Gary Galia, Treasurer  
Dan Bollin, Director

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Antonia Diavila

### Maintenance Supervisor

Derrick Olan



## This month's cover photo

*Burmese python in WC! Thanks to resident Gordon Lavers for this great shot. Check out the article on pythons in the [Sept 2023 Cy-Press](#)*

## Winding Cypress website

[www.windingcypress.org](http://www.windingcypress.org)

## Guardhouse/Ramco Gate Access

239.732.7745

<https://Gateaccess.net>

[CLICK HERE](#) for Ramco FAQ;

[CLICK HERE](#) for the Ramco User Manual

[CLICK HERE](#) for a Ramco “How to” video

## myHOast

<https://winding-cypress.myhoast.com/logon>

## Newsletter Staff Contact

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**“May is the month of expectation,  
the month of wishes, the month of  
hope.” – Emily Bronte**

# BOARD BRIEFS

The Winding Cypress Board would like to thank all the volunteers that applied to serve on a committee. The applications are under review, and we hope to have our committees fully staffed very soon. The Board also hopes you took time to fill out the Shady Palm Survey. We will publish those results in about 3 weeks.

You may be wondering what the Board has been working on for you - our homeowners! *Here is a brief look:*

Reviewing resumes to fill a vacant position in our front office.

Updating Rules and Regulations, which along with ARC Guidelines, will be reviewed and voted at the next Board Meeting.

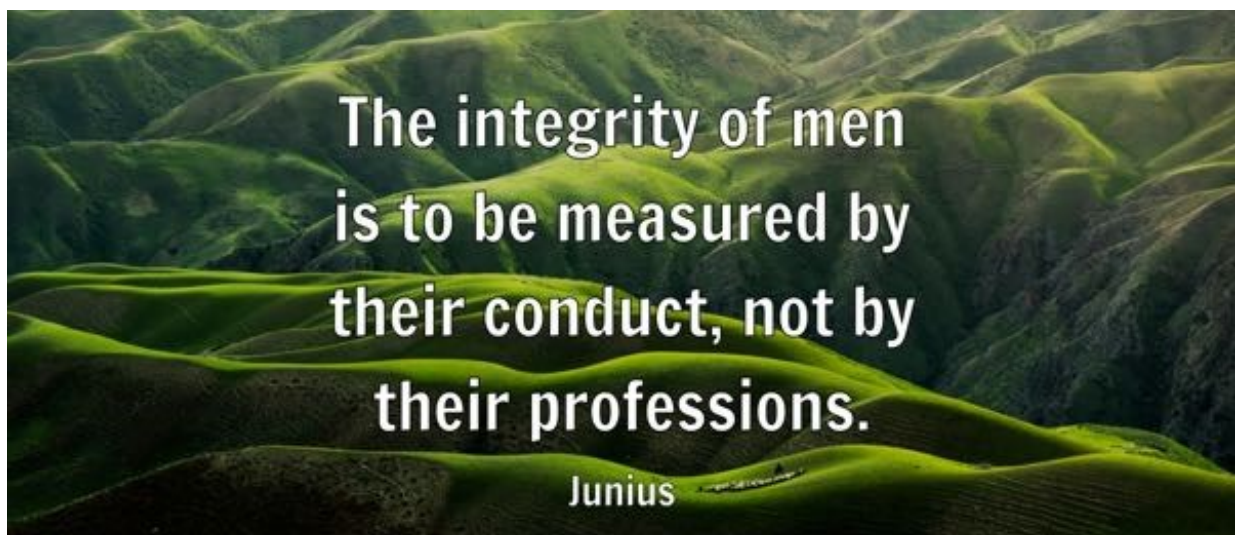
Exploring upgrades to the Wi-Fi capability, phone, and general IT infrastructure at the Gatehouse, Amenity Center, and Shady Palm.

We are in the design phase with a few IT providers to obtain dedicated fiber optic service for these facilities.

Drafting a formal bid process for soliciting work from various vendors, in an effort to establish a streamlined and efficient policy with the ultimate goal to provide “best value” to the community.

Working with our attorney, prior Board members, the CDD and others regarding our claims against DiVosta (Pulte Homes.) Mediation is scheduled in June. In the event a settlement cannot be reached, we have begun planning for a Special Member Meeting in May to begin the process of potentially filing a lawsuit regarding our claims via a vote of the members. While this is not the outcome we desire – we must be prepared. Please review all information on the settlement upon its receipt. Your Board is recommending a **YES** vote on this matter.

- Veronica Asafaylo, Board VP



# GOVERNANCE

## Winding Cypress Rules and Regulations

Many people are turned off by rules and regulations, but since we live in an HOA community, we really don't have the luxury of ignoring them. In fact, it is incumbent upon all of us to read and understand the documents governing our HOA. We know that can be difficult! So since a majority of respondents indicated on last month's Cy-Press survey that Governance was a desired article, we'll go over a section of Rules & Regs here.

For starters, by purchasing a home here in Winding Cypress, we all created a legally binding contract with the Association. The terms of that "contract" are spelled out in the governing documents, one of which is **entitled "Rules and Regulations."**

### Page 2 of the Declaration

*1.8 "Governing Documents" means and refers to this Declaration, the Articles of Incorporation, Bylaws, **Rules and Regulations**, Architectural Review Guidelines, and the Resolutions of the Association. In the event of a conflict in the interpretation of the Governing Documents, they shall be applied in the order of priority stated above.*

A very important aspect of the Rules and Regulations is that unlike "the big 3" - The Declaration, the Articles of Incorporation, and the Bylaws, **amendments to this document do NOT require a member vote.** Instead, the Board of Directors may make changes to the Rules and Regulations.

### Page 3 of the Declaration

*1.19 "Rules and Regulations" means and refers to the rules and regulations governing use of the*

*Common Area, the Parcels, the Units and procedures for administering the Association and Winding Cypress, **as adopted, amended and rescinded from time to time by resolution of the Board of Directors.***

In order to make amendments (changes) to our Rules and Regulations, the Board of Directors must however, meet certain requirements that are spelled out in the Bylaws.

### Exhibit "C" Bylaws page 9

**7. RULES AND REGULATIONS: USE RESTRICTIONS:** *The Board of Directors may, from time to time, adopt and amend Rules and Regulations subject to any limits contained in the Declaration. Written notice of any meeting at which the Rules and Regulations that regulate the use of Parcels may be adopted, amended, or revoked must be mailed, delivered, or electronically transmitted (to the extent permitted by law) to the Members and posted conspicuously in Winding Cypress or broadcast on closed-circuit television not less than fourteen (14) days before the meeting. A written notice concerning changes to Rules and Regulations that regulate the use of Parcels must include a statement that changes to the Rules and Regulations regarding the use of Parcels will be considered at the meeting. Copies of such Rules and Regulations shall be furnished to each Owner. Any Rules and Regulations must be reasonably related to the promotion of health, happiness, and peace of mind of the Owners and uniformly applied and enforced.*

Hopefully, this has helped you gain a better understanding of another aspect of our HOA governance!

# NEWS & ANNOUNCEMENTS

## UPCOMING MEETINGS

**ARC:** (Monday) May 6<sup>th</sup> @ 9am  
(Monday) May 20<sup>th</sup> @ 9am

**CDD:** (Thursday) May 16<sup>th</sup> @ 1pm

### Upcoming 2024 Board Meetings

**May 17<sup>th</sup> - 10am (Informal Town Hall)**

May 21st - 2pm

**June 12<sup>th</sup> - 10am (Special Members Meeting)**

June 18th - 2pm

July 16th - 6pm

August 20th - 2pm

September 17th - 2pm

October 15th - 6pm



## Striping Done

Thank you to Michelle Apgar and her awesome Safety & Access committee who worked hard over the past year obtaining bids and getting budget approval for our new, freshly painted street lines!



## A New Shed

Some of you may have noticed the shed located adjacent to the Shady Palm storage area, behind the pool bathrooms. It will be moved to the fenced-in area there, which houses the HOA pool and maintenance equipment.

According to Derrick, our HOA Maintenance Supervisor, the former shed was a mesh-like material and has deteriorated over time. The new shed, included in this year's budget, is built of sturdier material for longevity.

The shed arrived pre-built, so Derrick removed a portion of the fence and an installation company will move and anchor the shed within the fencing. This new shed will house and protect our golf carts, as well as give Derrick more room to store tools and other maintenance-related implements.



# CLUB NEWS

## GARDEN CLUB

*Ann Cuhaj and Monica Hibbs*

During April, club members shared the ups and downs of gardening in Florida at a luncheon hosted by the co-chairs. The members harvested pounds of string beans, grape tomatoes, brussels sprouts, cabbage, broccoli, carrots, celery, peppers, strawberries, and eggplant, and their herbs were outstanding! Although there were some struggles with beefsteak tomatoes, there were no unwanted critters trapped who tend to eat the veggies. All in all, it was a great garden season.

Many of the members will be closing their beds for the season, but some will attempt to garden during the summer months, planting anything that grows underground like beets, carrots, radishes, and sweet potatoes. If you are interested in joining the garden club, please contact the office.



## BOCCE CLUB

*Ron Chalker and Sal Tuminello*

The Bocce Club celebrated their recent tournament with lots of fun and laughter! Thanks to Vince, Sal, and Ed for making all of this possible and (especially!) for providing coffee and donuts!



**1<sup>st</sup> PLACE:** Pam, Sal, Lynn, Jane, Bill



**2<sup>nd</sup> PLACE:** Ron, Anthony, Joanne, Karen, Dave

**3<sup>rd</sup> PLACE (not pictured):** Debbie, John, Mike, & Diane

# CLUB NEWS

## PICKLEBALL CLUB

*Claudia Pisa*

The WCPC held its Spring Tournament on April 12. Dozens of community members were there to cheer on our participants AND enjoy pizza and beverages. We thank you all for your support and enthusiasm.

Many of you may be aware, the Naples area recently hosted the 2024 Minto US Open. People from all over the world travel here to be a part of this unique opportunity. Three of our members, Glenn Greene, and Heather and David Kaufman participated in this amazing tournament.



**3.0 WINNERS:** Loretta, Lori, Tammy, Jim, Linda, Janet



**3.5 WINNERS:** Dale, Wayne, Amy, Tom, Kathy, John

## BOOK CLUB

*Joanne Walker*

Join the book club in the library every second Monday of the month, starting at 2 PM.

### **Lady Clementine**

**By: Marie Benedict**

**May 2024**



# CLUB NEWS

## TENNIS CLUB

Howie Fox

Our April Round Robin was a great success! Thanks to all who participated (we even see some pickleball players in there! Woo hoo!)



THANKS TO COACH MOORE FOR A GREAT TIME!

FMI on our clubs: <https://www.windingcypress.org/clubs-amenities>



**Salvation Army Thrift Store:** 239-775-0721 (will pick up)

**Goodwill Donation Center:** 12450 Tamiami Trail E/Price Street Plaza (Behind Wawa)

**Habitat for Humanity:** 11127 Tamiami Trail E (239) 732-1672 (will pick up)

**St. Matthew's House:** 2601 Airport Rd S. (239) 774-3315/dispatch@stmatthewshouse.org (will pick up)

**St. Vincent De Paul Thrift Store:** 4451 Mercantile Ave (239) 775-2907

**Clothes Mentor:** 9051 Tamiami Trail N (239) 431-7083.cmofnaples@gmail.com

**Humane Society:** 370 Airport Rd (239) 643-1555

**Purradise Gardens cat rescue:** Call or text (424) [835-1523/purradisegardens@gmail.com](https://835-1523/purradisegardens@gmail.com)

**Be the Match Bone Marrow Donor:** <https://bethematch.org/transplant-basics/donation-process/>



# OUT & ABOUT



## Marco Island Boat Tours (operated by Everglades Area Tours)

750 Palm Point Drive (Goodland Boating Park), Goodland, FL 34140

<https://www.marcoisland-boattours.com>

Rates for a 2-hour 10,000 Island Shelling Boat Tour ( daily 8:00, 11:00, 2:00, 5:00)

Adults (Ages 12+) - \$91.20 + 1.25 fuel charge + taxes and other fees

Children (Ages 11 and under) \$71.20 + \$1.25 fuel charge + taxes and other fees

*Our total for 4 adults and 1 child was \$462.16.*

Max 17 passengers

*Other tours are available, including private tours.*

During a recent visit, our daughter decided it was time to take a little break from the pool. Like most people her age, it took about 10 minutes to do her research and buy the tickets. So, we packed up the 3-year-old and headed to Goodland Boating Park (an 18-mile, 30-minute drive).

The trip was priceless! The look on the young one's face as the boat gained speed, her squeals of delight as the dolphins jumped out of the water (not 4 feet away from her), and the sight of her running along a remote beach looking for shells will never be forgotten.

Despite the tour's description, "... a dolphin tour to search for dolphins and wading birds on a naturalist-led boating tour. Then a shelling tour to explore an uninhabited barrier island..." we found little emphasis on birds. The "naturalist" did, however, give a brief but interesting introduction to the barrier islands.



None of that really mattered to us though, as the dolphins alone were worth the price of admission! If you haven't seen them jumping in the wake of your boat, you must put it on your bucket list.

Until this tour, I've only ever seen the barrier islands from the shore. It was nice to get a closer look, and now I understand why people buy boats. Even when the captain went "full throttle" it was a beautiful sight and gave me a feeling of peace. Speaking of the captain, Captain Kevin and Co-Captain Joe went out of their way to make sure we saw as many dolphins as possible; they even provided sand dollars for those unlucky ones who didn't find one for themselves.

Once we arrived at the uninhabited island, we were given shelling bags and an hour to explore the beach. During our visit, the water temperature was almost 80 degrees, and perfect for wading in far enough to grab that perfect shell.

If you don't choose this tour company, there are lots of others to pick from. A couple of things to consider: many of these boats are not covered (be sure to wear sunscreen, sunglasses, and weather appropriate clothes), and there likely will not be a bathroom available once you start your tour. Also, this tour was not wheelchair accessible, and infants must sit on laps.

*\* From the editor: Are you a WC owner who offers boat tours? We would be happy to print your ad in our newsletter!*

# COMMITTEE REPORTS

## Architectural Review Committee

*Jayne Shedd, Chair*

The Architectural Review Committee is an all-volunteer group of residents in Winding Cypress. Our mission is to maintain the ARC Guidelines so that our community continues to be attractive, well maintained, and property values remain high. We meet on the first and third Mondays of each month to review applications for exterior modification requests. All residents are welcome to attend.

You will begin to see the logo to the right on a regular basis. It's a reminder to send in your ARC application before starting any exterior project. It's a simple process to get your improvement started off the right way. Our goal is to help you navigate the system quickly, while staying within the ARC guidelines. ARC FIRST!



The summer heat is on the way! The ARC committee is receiving many requests for garage air conditioners (mini-split systems). Did you know that Collier County requires a permit to install one of these units? Collier County also requires that the insulation above your garage must have a minimum of an R-30 rating. Recently, some residents purchased mini split-units from unlicensed contractors. These people were selling the AC units off “the back of the truck” that were off-branded products and without warranties. What are the consequences if they were installed improperly or present safety hazards? Imagine the complicated process to get the ARC and Collier County approval after the fact. Make it easy on yourself ... ARC FIRST!

## Building & Grounds Committee

*Mike Merola & Vince D'Andrea, Co-Chairs*

1. Committee is working on proposals for fountain lights, boardwalk repairs, and the pool heater.
2. We are also putting together a preferred vendor list.
3. A much-needed storage shed was installed near the pool bath house. See note and picture under [“News & information.”](#)



# COMMITTEE REPORTS

## Safety & Access Committee

*Michelle Apgar, Chair*

1. A mirror has been installed near the pedestrian path at the bridge by the main entrance in an effort to help cyclists/pedestrians see vehicular traffic.
2. Street and parking lot painting will soon be completed. See note and picture under [“News & information.”](#)
3. Signs have been installed near the white barrier gates advising *"Automatic Gates. Gate timed for ONE vehicle only. No playing or climbing on or around gate. Owner and Management not liable for any injury, damage, or loss caused by problems or malfunction of gates."* Please do not tailgate when entering or exiting the property; allow the white gate arms at each gate to close after each vehicle in order to avoid knocking a gate arm off or causing any other damage. The last few times the gate arms have been knocked off have been due to a bicyclist attempting to tailgate through the gate.
4. Reminder: never prop open either pool gate. We want to keep children IN & gators OUT!

## Compliance Committee

*Chair - VACANT*

Arguably, compliance can be a thankless and less-than-popular committee in any HOA. Marcia Palmer joined the committee last year and subsequently became the chair. Although Marcia led the committee for a short time, she worked with committee members and property management to formalize much-needed processes in an effort to consistently enforce our HOA documents, but her main goal was on changing the committee's focus to one of working with owners. Marcia resigned from the committee in April, 2024. Thanks Marcia and all committee members for your service to the community!

**GOLF CART CONSIDERATIONS:** Be sure that your golf cart has a Winding Cypress numbered decal on the window. See the office if you need to get/update it. This is required for all golf carts on premises. You must have a state driver's license or permit to drive the cart, all FL golf cart rules must be followed, and all carts must be insured.

Golf carts may only be driven (or parked) on the road or driveway. Golf carts can not be driven on the wide paths near the amenity center, the sidewalks, or on the grass. Please park registered golf carts in the designated golf cart spots at the amenity center.

Automobiles should not pass a golf cart on the road (or a biker, runner, etc.) with another opposite-direction car crossing simultaneously or in areas with medians. Golf carts must stop at the stop signs and have lights on at night. Give bikers, runners, and pedestrians the right of way.

For more information read Florida HB949 and see: <https://www.flhsmv.gov/safety-center/consumer-education/low-speed-vehicles/>

# COMMITTEE REPORTS

## Communications Committee

*Kellie Harris, Chair*

This month marks the second anniversary of this newsletter. With an eye towards making improvements to meet your needs, we recently sent out a 6-question survey. The survey was sent via email to all residents in Winding Cypress who have asked to receive email communications. Nineteen percent of recipients (214) submitted a response (note there could have been more than one response per household). Thank you to those who took the time to give us your feedback! Click [HERE](#) for the detailed summary, or read the highlights below.

1. Do you currently read the Cy-Press? 81% of 214 chose “always.”
2. If you said anything other than “always”, please provide a reason so we can try to better meet your needs. 15 recipients chose “other” and 13 chose “I don’t have time to read it.”
3. The current Cy-Press offers community-wide information that meets the needs of many different interests within our large community. 65% chose “yes.”
4. Rank the current Cy-Press sections in order of preference. Ranked 1 – Board Briefs. Ranked 2 – Upcoming WC activities.
5. Select items you would like to see in upcoming issues. 80% chose “restaurant reviews” and 72% chose “local activities for guests young and old”.
6. Let us know how you feel about the length of current articles. 56% said “just right.”

Interestingly, profiles and wildlife did not rate in the top tier – so we’ll be making some changes to meet your needs!

## Finance Committee

*Chair - VACANT*

A BIG thank you goes out to Jim Sullivan. In 2021 Jim was selected for the Finance Transition Committee. After the transition from Pulte in early 2022, Jim served as Co-Chair of the newly formed Finance Advisory Committee with Steve Shedd. In 2023 Jim took over as sole Finance Committee Chair when Steve was elected Treasurer of the Board of Directors. During his tenure, Jim gave multiple informative presentations (including visuals), helping members gain an understanding of the HOA finances. It is difficult to thank Jim enough for the untold hours he’s given our community.

# PROFILE: NEW HOA BOARD MEMBERS

## MEET THE NEW HOA BOARD MEMBERS

### John Marinucci – President

John has served as a board member for a local Make-A-Wish Foundation in NY, and has served in several executive positions in the private sector for technology solution corporations. He was also employed by American Flip House in acquisitions and project management prior to retirement. He holds a M.Ed. from Notre Dame College and a B.A. from St. John's University.

### Veronica (Ronnie) Asafaylo – Vice President

Ronnie has served for the past two years on the Architectural Review Committee, and served on the Architectural Control Transition Committee. Her prior HOA board experience includes five years serving on the board of her HOA in Virginia, acting as both secretary and VP. Additional experience includes supporting roles in the airline industry. Ronnie holds a M.A. in Public Administration and a B.A. in Government & Politics from St. John's University, NY. Ronnie also holds a PMP certificate in project management.

### Gary Galia – Treasurer

Gary is the former Executive VP of Finance/CFO, Treasurer, and Assistant Secretary of Two Mitts, Inc./Fabri-Kal Corp. of Kalamazoo, MI. Prior, Gary held positions as Corporate Controller, Sr. Accountant, and Audit Senior. He is a Certified Public Accountant, and holds a BA in Accounting from Michigan State University. He also served on his local Planning Commission.

### Dan Bollin – Director

Dan has served as company president of Transtar Electric, and served as partner and president of building and development companies since 1978. His prior board experience is varied, including Board of Zoning Appeals, National Electrical Contractors Association, and HOA president of his community in Ohio, for fifteen years. He served in the U.S. Army for two years, and holds his general electrical contractors license.

*Call your neighbor*  
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-MICHAEL D., WINDING CYPRESS OWNER



**Kendra Hoefs has sold 25+ homes in WC!**

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-Jocelyn

# RESTAURANT REVIEW: LE COLONIAL

## LE COLONIAL NAPLES

457 5TH AVE S, NAPLES, FL 34102

(about halfway down 5<sup>th</sup>, on the right-hand side)  
239-372-9700 | Open daily, 11:30am – 10pm  
\$50-\$100 av./person depending on beverages

One of the most talked about new restaurants in Naples is Le Colonial. Having opened in late 2023, the restaurant's popularity is purportedly due to its French-Indochinese décor and fare. A group of eight Winding Cypress residents descended on the establishment to see if it lived up to the hype.

**AMBIENCE:** The ambience is, arguably, Le Colonial's strongest suit. Potted palms, old photos, and lovely tableware and linens transport you to a fine Saigon dining room of the 1920-30s (without a shred of stuffiness). With good acoustics and softly-playing background music, the atmosphere is relaxing. The table location for the WC party was in a busy location that, when combined with the rather close proximity of other tables, detracted from the overall experience. To the side of the dining room is an elegantly tropical lounge where the atmosphere seemed laidback and intimate. There is also a nice outside dining area that's well insulated from 5<sup>th</sup> Avenue by a thick hedge. Although not an issue for this party, the restaurant does not provide highchairs, booster seats, or a children's menu. To maintain the upscale feel, athletic or beachwear, hoodies, and hats are not permitted.

**FOOD:** A blend of French sophistication and Vietnamese spices, the inventive dishes are prepared with a myriad of flavors and textures. Sharing of dishes is encouraged, and many of the portions are plentiful. The party's



food came out at the right temperature, and each dish was well presented without being ostentatious. Although spiciness is somewhat subjective, the use of peppers and ginger can give some dishes a spicy, yet pleasant heat. Gluten-free and vegetarian options are marked on the menu.

**BEVERAGES:** As with the food menu, the restaurant offers inventive cocktails. A member of the party proclaimed their lychee martini one of the best they've ever had! There is a nice wine list including wines of France and California to compliment the menu.

**SERVICE:** Because two of the group had experienced outstanding service on two prior occasions, we had very high expectations of Le Colonial's service. Our server provided average service for the large party on a busy night.

**PARKING:** Street parking along 5<sup>th</sup> (when available), valet parking across the street, or there is a free parking garage within walking distance at 400 8<sup>th</sup> St S.

**RESERVATIONS:** Online at <https://www.sevenrooms.com/reservations/lecolonialnaples>

# LETTER FROM THE EDITOR: MOMS

There is something profoundly poetic about having a mother, a grandmother, a daughter, an aunt. May is the month we celebrate Mother's Day, so we wanted to write a tribute of sorts to the Mom figures in all of our lives.

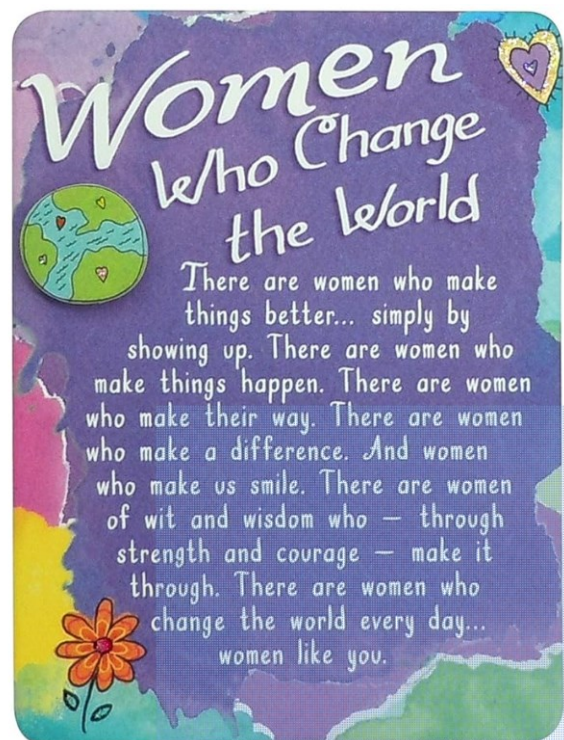
**MOM** – what exactly does that mean? According to Merriam-Webster, the definition of Mom is “a female parent: Mother.” Yet we believe a Mom can be so much more. Consider the emotion the word “Mom” can evoke for most of us; the feelings and sensations can be almost visceral, instinctive, immersive. For some, “Mom” might conjure up memories of “Must Obey Me.” For others, “Mind over Matter,” “My Outstanding Mama,” “Mother of Many,” “Magnificence of Memories.” Regardless of your first impressions, there is a sense of belonging and grounding we can't escape when it boils right down to our earliest feelings of Mom. Whether your childhood experience was similar to a Shel Silverstein poem, maybe something from Emerson, Thoreau, or a lofty Shakespearean sonnet, or even laced with some Edgar Allen Poe... Mom was a central figure for most of us.

My mom grew up a child of Italian immigrants who struggled to find their place, fought hard for an economic stake in the American Dream, and spoke very little English (in fact, as I recall, “No touch!” was a favorite.) Her childhood as a youth of the depression era was vastly different from mine, which was carefree and redolent of neighborhood friends, marbles and baseball cards, trees and skinned knees, camping and biking, and just generally playing hard. And this, in fact, is worlds apart from the way my own children grew up—immersed in the Information Age, emotionally mature beyond their years, socially conscientious, and with an adeptness and awareness of technology that I can never fully appreciate.

So how does this relate to Moms? In a way, even perhaps tangentially, everything we do, and all that we are, is somehow derived from the mothering we received, and the mothering our mom's received. A touch that creates a connection, a hug when we're feeling alone, a lap that lets us know we have a safe place to land. Advice when we're adrift, a shoulder that lets us know a burden is shared. And most of all, it's an inescapable connection, a bond, that we share with the ones who shaped who we are today. For many, Mom provided our support, our comfort, our haven, and our guiding light. For others, the impact, while perhaps less lofty, is nonetheless imprinted on our hearts as we walk through life.

This month especially, take a moment to acknowledge your Mom, whether she was your birth mother, your “chosen” or adoptive mother, step or bonus mom, a grandmother, an aunt or cousin, or a life-teacher you found later in life who provided the safety net and gentle guidance that helped you become who you are.

**HAPPY MOTHER'S DAY** to all the daughters, mothers, bonus moms, grandmothers, aunts, and “mom” figures alike!



# ACTIVITIES

Sign up



<https://www.windingcypress.org/current-events-activities>

Don't miss these upcoming events!

Don't forget to sign up for the *Mother's Day Brunch*

Sunday, May 12th



**THE BOCKA GROUP**  
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**Theresa Bocka** | 239.351.4955  
**Paul Bocka** | 585.576.4250  
TheBockaGroup@raveis.com  
TheBockaGroup.raveis.com



720 5th Avenue South | Suite 201 | Naples | FL 34102

**YOUR WINDING CYPRESS RESIDENT DYNAMIC DUO**

We bring 28 years of professional expertise to our community and are passionate advocates invested in the success of Winding Cypress.

**WHO YOU WORK WITH MATTERS**

**WILLIAM RAVEIS**