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# BOCA CIEGA

• B E A C O N •

**September • 2025**

**Issue 7  
49<sup>th</sup> Year**

*A Rainbow after a storm at Golden Gate*



*Try to be a rainbow in someone's cloud  
-Maya Angelou*

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Resident Website.....Bocaciegaresidents.com  
Boca Ciega e-Mail Address ..bocaciega11200@gmail.com

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Philippians 4:13

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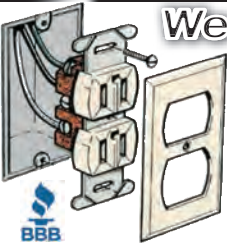


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# **Attention Boca Ciega Residents: Editor Needed!!!**

**Would you like to see Silk Oak related articles in your newsletter?**

**Do you have a computer with email capabilities?**

**Then you could be the next editor of Boca Ciega!**

**If you would be interested please contact  
Monthly Media at 727-484-7488**

## **SPECIAL SOCIAL ACTIVITES CALENDAR 2025**

<b>DATE</b>	<b>EVENT</b>	<b>CHAIRPERSON</b>	<b>BUDGET</b>
Sept. 1, 2025	Labor Day	Virginia Fuchtman	\$200.00

Some dates may be subject to change.

**A Complete Listing of Resident Services  
can be found on the page before your calendar**



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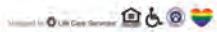
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**NEW WINDOWS**

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Philippians 4:13

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# Activities Sub-committee Chairpersons 2025



Activity	Day	Chairperson(s)
AquaFit	Mon Wed Fri – 9:00am	Sandi Mousseau
Bingo	Wednesday 7-9:30 pm	Lucy & Don Bocchinfuso
Blood Pressure	As needed	Mary Ross & Larry Wills
Coffee Social	First Saturday of the month @ 9:00 am	Volunteers
Cribbage	Friday 1 - 3 pm	Kathy Spitzley
Clubhouse Decorating	Monthly	Ingrid Eby, Lore Bocchinfuso
Early Bird Dinner	3rd Thursday - monthly	Don Bocchinfuso
Euchre	Monday 7 - 9 pm	Sandi Mousseau & Kevin McInnis
Hand & Pony	Monday 6:30 - 9 pm	Ann Martin
Ice Cream Social	Ongoing	Judy & Santo Amenta
Ladies Golf	Monday 8:55 am	Judy Amenta
Librarian	Ongoing	Cindy Huettig
Mahjong	Wed. 1:00 p.m.	Dart Hartgerink
Pancake Breakfast	Last Sat. of month	Rob Bocchinfuso, Jim Norton
Pinochle	Tuesday 7 - 9 pm	Dart Hartgerink
Poolside BBQ	Ongoing	Judy & Santo Amenta
Potluck	2nd Tuesday of Month	Volunteers
Poker	Mon, 1 - 3 pm	Kathy Spitzley
Recycling	Ongoing	Jim Norton, Rob Bocchinfuso, John Bender
Rummage Sale	TBD	Lore & Rob Bocchinfuso
Rummikub	Thurs 7:00 pm	Virginia Fuchtman
Shuffleboard	Tuesday 10 & 11:15 am.	Santo & Judy Amenta
Skat	Sunday 7 - 9 pm	Matt Schwamberger
Sixty-Five	Thursday 6:45 - 9 pm	June Andrews
Swedish Embroidery/Quilting	Thursday 10 am - 12 pm	Kathy Spitzley/Ann Martin
Walk Walk	Mon, Tues and Thurs 8:30am	Debbie Norton
Welcoming Committee	Ongoing	



## Statewide Events & Parties

**A**llEvents.in lists a wide variety of Labor Day events across Florida, including:

**Parades and community festivals**

**Jazz and music festivals**

**Adventure trips and beach parties**

**Family-friendly picnics and cookouts**

Explore more here: <https://allevents.in/florida/labor-day>

**CELEBRATE!**



### **Orlando – GLO Summer Nights at Grande Lakes**

**Where:** JW Marriott Orlando, Grande Lakes

**What:** A resort-exclusive celebration with glow-themed nights, fireworks, and poolside entertainment.

**Note:** Events are for resort guests only, but it's a great option for a staycation.

More info: <https://www.orlandodatenightguide.com/labor-day-weekend-in-orlando-19852/>



### **TradeWinds Island Resorts – St. Pete Beach**

**What:** A beachside celebration with:

**Live music**

**Deck parties**

**Fireworks on the beach**

**Poolside games and cornhole**

Perfect for a fun and relaxing Gulf Coast getaway.

<https://www.orlandodatenightguide.com/labor-day-weekend-in-orlando-19852/>



### **Miami – Orange Blossom Classic Weekend**

**Where:** Miami Gardens

**What:** A major HBCU football showdown between Florida A&M and Jackson State, plus:

**Day parties**

**Tailgates**

**Live DJs and cultural celebrations**

A high-energy, pride-filled weekend in South Florida.

Details: Orange Blossom Classic Events

<https://www.orangeblossomclassic.com/events/>

### ***On relaxation***

*No matter how much pressure you feel at work, if you could find ways to relax for at least five minutes every hour, you'd be more productive.*

**— Dr. Joyce Brothers**





13 ★ 9

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- SEPT. 18, THURS. — **LUNCH BUNCH** with **TODD at JACK WILLIE'S**...\$74
- SEPT. 20, SAT. — **WEEKI WACHEE** Mermaid Show...\$69

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# What Is Labor Day?

Labor Day honors the **American labor movement** and the **contributions of workers** to the strength, prosperity, and well-being of the country. It's a day to recognize the social and economic achievements of American workers.



## History

- **Origin:** The holiday originated during the **late 19th century**, a time of growing industrialization and labor unrest.
- **First Celebration:** The first Labor Day was celebrated on **September 5, 1882**, in New York City, organized by the Central Labor Union.
- **Federal Recognition:** It became a **federal holiday in 1894**, following the Pullman Strike—a nationwide railroad strike that led to significant unrest and prompted President Grover Cleveland to make peace with the labor movement.

## How It's Celebrated

- **Parades:** Many cities host parades showcasing labor unions, workers, and community organizations.
- **Barbecues & Picnics:** It's also seen as the unofficial end of summer, so families often gather for cookouts and outdoor fun.
- **Retail Sales:** Major sales events happen over Labor Day weekend, especially for back-to-school shopping.
- **Sports:** College football season often kicks off around Labor Day weekend.

## Fun Fact

Labor Day is sometimes confused with **May Day** (International Workers' Day), which is celebrated on **May 1** in many countries. The U.S. chose September to distance itself from the more politically charged May Day.

*"Without labor, nothing prospers."*  
— **Sophocles**

*"The reward of a thing well done is having done it."*  
— **Ralph Waldo Emerson**

*"Choose a job you love, and you will never have to work a day in your life."*  
— **Confucius**

*"Work is no disgrace; the disgrace is idleness."*  
— **Greek Proverb**



# September



**S**eptember is the 9th month of the year in the Gregorian calendar.

Its name comes from the Latin word “*septem*”, meaning **seven**, because it was the seventh month in the ancient Roman calendar.

## Seasonal Significance

In the **Northern Hemisphere**, September marks the start of autumn (around September 22–23).

In the **Southern Hemisphere**, it signals the beginning of spring.

## Back to School

September is traditionally associated with the **start of the academic year** in many countries, especially in the U.S., Canada, and Europe.

## Celestial Events

September often features the **Harvest Moon**, the full moon closest to the autumn equinox.

It's also a month known for **clear night skies**, making it great for stargazing.

## Historical Highlights

**World War II** began in September 1939.

The **Constitution of the United States** was signed on **September 17, 1787**.

## Birth Flowers

Aster and Morning Glory are September's birth flowers, symbolizing love, wisdom, and affection.

## Birthstone

The sapphire is September's birthstone, representing wisdom, loyalty, and nobility.



### *On goals*

*A goal without a plan is just a wish.*

*— Antoine de Saint-Exupery*

*Let me tell you the secret that has led me to my goal. My strength lies solely in my tenacity.*

*— Louis Pasteur*



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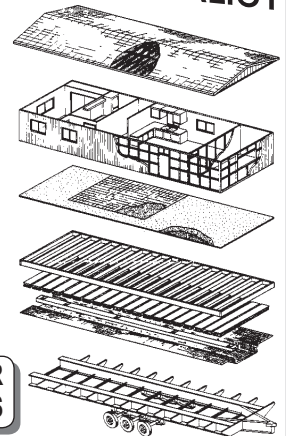
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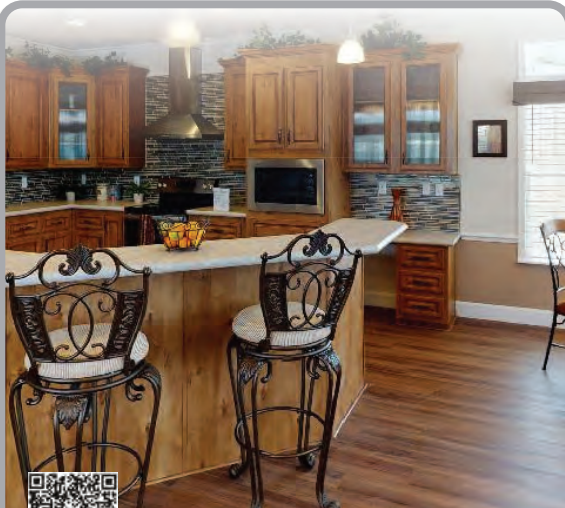
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## September Holidays

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**L**abor Day – Monday, September 1, 2025  
Celebrated on the first Monday of September, this holiday honors the contributions of American workers.

## Monthly Observances

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- National Suicide Prevention Month
- National Childhood Cancer Awareness Month
- National Preparedness Month
- National Self-Care Awareness Month

## Notable Observances by Date

---

### September 1

- American Chess Day
- Ginger Cat Appreciation Day
- National Cheese Pizza Day
- National Tofu Day
- World Letter Writing Day



### September 2–7

- Sept. 2: National Blueberry Popsicle Day, World Coconut Day
- Sept. 3: National Skyscraper Day, U.S. Bowling League Day
- Sept. 4: National Wildlife Day, Eat an Extra Dessert Day
- Sept. 5: International Day of Charity, World Samosa Day
- Sept. 6: National Read a Book Day, Fight Procrastination Day
- Sept. 7: International Bacon Day, National Beer Lovers Day

### September 15 – October 15

**Hispanic Heritage Month** begins – celebrating the histories, cultures, and contributions of American citizens whose ancestors came from Spain, Mexico, the Caribbean, and Central and South America.

### September 22

**Autumn Equinox** – Marks the first day of fall in the Northern Hemisphere.

### September 7

**Total Lunar Eclipse** – A celestial event where the moon passes completely into Earth's shadow.

# Did You Know?

More babies are born on September 9th than any other day out of the year, and babies born in September supposedly excel more in school and sports when compared to others. The later birthday leads to them being considerably older, giving them a slight competitive, and scholarly edge against their peers



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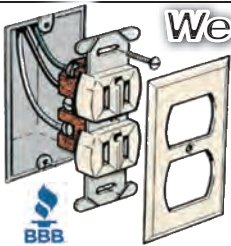
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# Pinellas County Events

*www.visitstpeteclearwater.com*

## **Saturday Shoppes**

largest Southside marketplace St. Pete, Clearwater, Tampa and even Atlanta. Shop for local handmade crafts, home goods and food truck bites while enjoying a variety of family-friendly fun.

Monthly on the First Saturday

10am - 3pm

Free

Location: 1 Tropicana Dr. St Pete, FL 33701

## **Gulfport Night Market**

Art's Historical Waterfront Arts District spans 10 blocks that includes more than 35 unique locally owned shops, businesses, boutiques, cafes, bars, and restaurants.

Monthly, First Friday and Third Saturday

5pm - 9pm

Free

Location: 3007 Beach Blvd. Gulfport, FL 33707

## **Dunedin Downtown Market**

Dunedin Downtown Market is a local open-air market that supports 60+ local vendors selling all a mixture of produce, plants, eggs, meats, breads, fresh baked goods, take home foods, ready-to-eat lunch bites and locally made handcrafts.

Weekly on Fridays

9am - 1pm

Free

Location: 349 Main St, Dunedin, 34698

## **Pinellas Farmers & Flea Market**

Come out and shop locally grown vegetables, tropical exotic fruits, arts & crafts, antique collections and more at the weekly Pinellas Farmers & Flea Market!

**Date:** Every Saturday and Sunday

**Time:** 7am - 2pm

**Cost:** Free

**Location:** 13600 Icot Blvd. Clearwater, FL 33760

## **St. Pete Saturday Morning Market**

This vibrant market is a celebration of all things local, featuring farm-fresh produce, artisanal food products and a wide range of arts & crafts. Visitors can wander through rows of vendors, sampling delicious treats from food trucks or picking up unique pieces of jewelry or art.

**Date:** Weekly on Saturdays

**Time:** 9am - 2pm

**Cost:** Free

**Location:** 350 2nd Ave N, St. Pete FL 33701

## **Safety Harbor's Market on Main**

Safety Harbor Market on Main is every Sunday and offers local hand-crafted items, local food vendors, produce, fresh orange juice, pickled products, and much more! Selection varies each week. Enjoy a walk through quaint downtown Safety Harbor after your visit to the market.

**Date:** Weekly on Sundays

**Time:** 10am - 3pm

**Cost:** Free

**Location:** 400 Main St. Safety Harbor, FL 34695



# VINYL SIDING

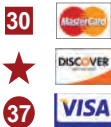
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# Snow birds



## The Early Bird Shuffle

In Port Charlotte, a local diner owner shared how snowbirds would start lining up at 4:30 p.m. for the early bird special. “It’s like clock-work,” he said. “They come in, order the fish fry, and are out before sunset. One couple even brought their own salt shaker because they said ours wasn’t ‘zesty enough.’”

## Gator Misunderstanding

A snowbird from New Jersey staying near the Everglades mistook a sunbathing alligator for a “weird-looking log” and tried to take a selfie with it. A neighbor quickly intervened. “I thought Florida wildlife was just flamingos and pelicans,” she said later. “Now I know better—and I zoom in from a safe distance!”

## Laundry Room Diplomacy

In a Sarasota condo complex, the shared laundry room became a hub of snowbird diplomacy. One Canadian retiree recalled, “We had a sign-up sheet, but it turned into a social calendar. You’d go to do laundry and end up chatting for an hour about hockey, grandkids, and the best place for grouper sandwiches.”

## Golf Course GPS

A Michigan couple new to The Villages got lost on their golf cart trying to find the right course. “We ended up at a pickleball court, then a dog park,” the husband said. “Eventually, someone gave us a paper map. It felt like a treasure hunt—but with sunscreen.”

## Community Theater Surprise

In Naples, a snowbird from Ohio auditioned for a local play “just for fun” and ended up landing the lead role. “I hadn’t acted since high school,” she said. “But the director said I had the perfect ‘retired librarian energy.’ Now I’m a star every winter!”



***On vices***  
*Here’s a rule I recommend:  
Never practice two vices at once.*  
— **Tallulah Bankhead**

***On respect***  
*Respect yourself and others will respect you.*  
— **Confucius**



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42



# Fall Anecdotes



## 1. The Leaf Pile Surprise

"One autumn afternoon, my kids raked a huge pile of leaves in the yard. Just as they were about to jump in, our golden retriever beat them to it—leaves flying everywhere, tail wagging like crazy. The laughter that followed was pure joy."



## 2. Pumpkin Patch Proposal

"A couple I know got engaged in a pumpkin patch. He carved 'Will you marry me?' into a pumpkin and handed it to her while they were picking out gourds. She said yes, surrounded by hay bales and falling leaves."



## 3. First Sweater Weather

"Every year, my grandma would knit us new sweaters for fall. The first chilly morning we wore them felt like a warm hug from her—even after she passed, we still pull them out and remember her love."



## 4. Apple Orchard Mishap

"We went apple picking and got a little too ambitious. Our bags were overflowing, and one apple rolled out, causing a mini avalanche. We ended up with more apples than we could carry—and made pies for the whole neighborhood."



## 5. Back-to-School Butterflies

"I still remember my daughter's first day of kindergarten in September. She clutched her tiny backpack and looked up at me with nervous eyes. By the end of the day, she was beaming and couldn't stop talking about her new friends."



## 6. Bonfire Bonding

"One crisp evening, we gathered around a bonfire with blankets and mugs of cider. Someone brought a guitar, and we sang old songs under the stars. It was one of those nights that felt timeless."



## 7. The Pie Contest Twist

"At our town's fall fair, I entered a pie contest for fun. My crust crumbled, and I was sure I'd lose. Turns out, the judges loved the flavor—and I won third place! Now it's a yearly tradition."



## 8. Lost & Found

"I dropped a mitten during a fall hike. A week later, someone had hung it on a trail sign with a note: 'Found this cozy friend—hope it finds its way home.' It did."



## 9. The Leaf Journal

"My son started collecting colorful leaves and gluing them into a notebook. He named each one and wrote stories about where it came from. It became his 'leaf journal'—a beautiful mix of nature and imagination."



## 10. Squirrel Shenanigans

"We decorated our porch with mini pumpkins. One morning, we caught a squirrel trying to roll one away like a bowling ball. It didn't get far, but it sure made our day."



## Fall Jokes to Leaf You Laughing

**W**hy did the tree worry about going back to school?  
*It was afraid of getting stumped!*

**What's the best thing to put in a pumpkin pie?**  
*Your teeth!*

**Why do birds fly south in the fall?**  
*Because it's too far to walk!*

**What did one autumn leaf say to the other?**  
*I'm falling for you!*

**Why did the scarecrow win an award?**  
*Because he was outstanding in his field!*

**What's the cutest season?**  
*Aww-tumn!*

**Why don't trees play poker in the fall?**  
*Too many cheaters!*

**What do you get when you drop a pumpkin?**  
*Squash!*

**Why did the apple stop in the middle of the road?**  
*Because it ran out of juice!*

**What's a tree's favorite drink in the fall?**  
*Root beer!*



### ***On plans***

*We must be willing to get rid of the life we've planned, so as to have the life that is waiting for us.*

*—Joseph Campbell*

*Just because something doesn't do what you planned it to do doesn't mean it's useless.*

*— Thomas A. Edison*

# Hurricane Season is June 1st to November 30th

## Recommended Items to Include in a Basic Emergency Supply Kit

- ☐ Water and non-perishable food for several days
- ☐ Extra cell phone battery or charger
- ☐ Battery-powered or hand crank radio that can receive NOAA Weather Radio tone alerts and extra batteries
- ☐ Flashlight and extra batteries
- ☐ First aid kit
- ☐ Dust mask, to help filter contaminated air and plastic sheeting and duct tape to shelter-in-place
- ☐ Whistle to signal for help
- ☐ Moist towelettes, garbage bags and plastic ties for personal sanitation Non-sparking wrench or pliers to turn off utilities
- ☐ Can opener (if kit contains canned food)
- ☐ Local maps



**FEMA**  
www.ready.gov/kit

## Additional Items to Consider Adding to an Emergency Supply Kit:

- ☐ Prescription medications and glasses
- ☐ Infant formula and diapers
- ☐ Pet food, water and supplies for your pet
- ☐ Important family documents such as copies of insurance policies, identification and bank account records in a portable waterproof container
- ☐ Cash and change
- ☐ Emergency reference material such as a first aid book or information from [www.ready.gov](http://www.ready.gov)
- ☐ Sleeping bag or warm blanket for each person.
- ☐ Complete change of clothing including a long sleeved shirt, long pants and sturdy shoes.
- ☐ Fire Extinguisher Matches in a waterproof container
- ☐ Feminine supplies, personal hygiene items and hand sanitizer
- ☐ Mess kits, Paper cups, plates and disposable utensils, paper towels
- ☐ Paper and pencil Books, games, puzzles or other activities for children



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## Snow birds

### The License Plate Parade

In Florida, locals often joke that you can tell winter has arrived not by the weather, but by the sudden influx of out-of-state license plates. One resident recalled how their quiet street turned into a mini United Nations of vehicles—New York, Ontario, Michigan, and even a few from Alaska. “It’s like a car show for snowbirds,” they said, “except everyone’s driving a beige Buick.”



### The Bingo Showdown

At a community center in Arizona, a long-time snowbird from Minnesota shared how competitive bingo nights became the highlight of her winter. “You’d think we were playing for gold bars,” she laughed. “One lady brought her own lucky dauber and wore a visor like she was at a poker table in Vegas.”

### The Great Thermostat Debate

A couple from Quebec who wintered in Naples, Florida, had a running disagreement: the husband wanted the AC blasting, while the wife insisted on keeping windows open to “feel the tropical air.” Their compromise? Alternating days of climate control. “We called it the thermostat truce,” they joked.

### Golf Cart Culture

In many snowbird communities, golf carts are the preferred mode of transport. One retiree from Michigan recounted how he customized his cart with fuzzy dice, a mini fridge, and even a horn that played “La Cucaracha.” “It’s not just a ride,” he said, “it’s a lifestyle.”



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# September Word Search

E	E	G	D	U	L	S	R	U	I	N	S	R
O	V	O	N	B	R	A	I	D	A	N	C	E
I	A	R	P	I	T	S	I	L	Y	A	L	P
N	I	C	A	I	T	E	Q	W	E	U	A	A
V	I	N	U	C	V	S	A	C	F	S	U	S
E	J	G	S	R	D	L	A	I	I	P	D	T
N	U	H	E	E	L	R	T	L	B	I	A	I
T	M	N	O	B	T	U	L	L	J	E	B	C
O	P	U	O	U	A	Y	A	B	P	R	L	K
R	S	A	R	E	S	M	U	S	I	C	E	W
Y	R	I	B	T	E	E	L	G	A	E	J	H
D	N	C	O	N	S	E	Q	U	E	N	C	E
C	A	N	Y	O	N	I	G	H	T	R	O	W

beautiful

begin

blame

braid

canyon

carve

consequence

curl

dance

eagle

guitar

heel

house

inset

inventory

jumps

lasting

laudable

music

nerve

night

pause

peat

pierce

playlist

repast

ruins

silly

sludge

stick

strum

trace

wallboard

whew

worth

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 yahoo.com

Community flea market. Paradise  
 Island, 1001 Starkey Rd. Largo.  
 Saturday, October 4th, 9-2. Early bird  
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 many other things. Remember to  
 think about this the next time you're  
 planning something.

-Monthly Media Staff

## OCTOBER AD DEADLINE - SEPTEMBER 10, 2025

Advertise BUY, SELL, TRADE ITEMS by sending copy & check to Monthly Media at 220 Bahama St, Venice, FL 34285. Ads  
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**THOUSANDS** of manufactured home residents have won **over \$215,800** since our contest began!

### HOW IT WORKS:

1. Patronize the advertisers in this month's newsletter
2. Ask the business for your Monthly Mania ticket, **OR a copy of your receipt and clip this ad**
3. Mail it back to us at: **Monthly Media | 220 Bahama St. Venice, FL 34285**
4. Every month we draw new tickets for **CASH PRIZES** and mail winners a check! **Every month is a new chance to win!**

Kathleen Ford.....\$100.00 ..... Veteran's Mobile Home Service  
 Fran Stutzka ..... \$10 ..... Air Masters of Pinellas  
 Marge Taylor..... \$10 ..... Air Masters of Pinellas  
 Kathleen Rogers..... \$10 ..... Air Masters of Pinellas  
 Greg Goodman..... \$10 ..... Air Masters of Pinellas  
 Theresa Leonowicz ..... \$10 ..... Battleline Termite & Pest Control  
 Constance Rockwell..... \$10 ..... Boss Electric  
 Karen Rose..... \$10 ..... Buggin Out Termite & Pest Control  
 Andrea Wislowsky ..... \$10 ..... Buggin Out Termite & Pest Control  
 Richard Lessond..... \$10 ..... FI Termite Pest Experts  
 Wayne Scott ..... \$10 ..... Gulf Coast Powerwashing  
 Carol Lynn Harbour ..... \$10 ..... Haseney Electrical Services  
 Helen Coar ..... \$10 ..... Jones & Sons Plumbing  
 Karen Guion..... \$10 ..... Jones & Sons Plumbing

Lona Britt ..... \$10 ..... Jones & Sons Plumbing  
 Terry Helopoulos..... \$10 ..... Largo Plumbing  
 Kelly David..... \$10 ..... Perfect Repair and Construction  
 Lloyd Holbrook..... \$10 ..... Red Royal Electric  
 Carol Mai ..... \$10 ..... Ron Wyngarden Mobile Wash  
 Dot Bourdon..... \$10 ..... Royal  
 Joseph Roache..... \$10 ..... Royal  
 Deborah Creighton..... \$10 ..... Royal  
 Elaine Lantz Winegar..... \$5 ..... Battleline Termite & Pest Control  
 MaryAnn Malgieri ..... \$5 ..... Battleline Termite & Pest Control  
 Bert Reyes ..... \$5 ..... Battleline Termite & Pest Control  
 David Crosman ..... \$5 ..... Air Masters of Pinellas  
 Robert Schick..... \$5 ..... Jones & Sons Plumbing

**Not enough qualifying winners for the August drawing!**  
**Mail in your tickets or paid receipt for your chance to win!**

• Limit of one ticket per visit • Advertiser may have up to 5 winners per month • Advertiser must have bill paid current to qualify • Allow 8-12 weeks for mailing of check • No purchase necessary • Contest void where prohibited by law • Tickets available at participating Monthly Media advertisers •

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