

River Country

NEWS COURIER

ESTATES

JANUARY 2024
ISSUE 1 • VOL 23



*W*ishing you a happy New Year!
May it be filled with new adventures
and good fortunes; May your home be filled
with the love of family and the joy of friends.

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MESSAGE *from the* BOARD

Hey Neighbors,

As we gear up for the new year, we wanted to take a moment to reflect on our journey together. We've tackled challenges, celebrated victories, and woven a tapestry of shared experiences that make our community special. Setting goals is on the agenda! They don't have to be colossal—maybe sprucing up our spaces, organizing more hangouts, or just fostering stronger bonds among us. Let's dream up things that'll make our neighborhood even more awesome.

Let's keep that friendly vibe alive! More chats, more kindness, and embracing what makes each of us unique. When we're inclusive and tight-knit, that's when the real magic happens.

Know that the HOA board is here for you, always. Whether it's fixing things up, throwing events, or just shooting the breeze, we've got your back.

So, let's dive into the new year together, hearts full of hope and minds buzzing with possibilities. Here's to a year of growth, kindness, and an even closer-knit neighborhood!

Warmest Regards,
RCEOA Board

January Board Meeting

Due to board members on holiday vacation, there will not be a January Board meeting. However, the office will remain open during scheduled hours.

RIVER COUNTRY CONTACT INFORMATION

River Country HOA 352-596-0740
 e-mail rivercountry79@gmail.com
 River Country Estates has a new website
 www.RiverCountryEstatesFL.com
 New Office Hours: Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday 1:00 to 5:00 PM
 and Saturday 9:00 to 12:00 PM

RIVER COUNTRY ESTATES BOARD of DIRECTORS

President - Steve Reinhardt
 Vice-President - Collin Nole
 Treasurer - Marissa White
 Secretary - Virginia (Ginny) VanDerKelen
 Director - Mike Kunz
 Director - Cindy Dean
 Director - Paul Grochowski

Board meetings are held the 2nd Monday of the month at 4 PM -
 5331 Commercial Way, Suite 106, Spring Hill FL 34606

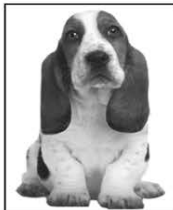
IMPORTANT PHONE NUMBERS

Hernando County Sheriff Police 352-754-6830
 (Emergency Only) 911
 Emergency Info/General Info 352-754-4083
 Withlacoochee River Electric 352-596-4000
 Florida - Highway Patrol 352-754-6767
 Hernando County Fire Rescue 352-540-4353
 Hernando County Animal Services 352-796-5062
 Hernando County Health Department 352-540-6800
 Hernando County Utilities Department 352-754-4037
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UPCOMING COMMUNITY EVENTS:

- **Let's Light Up River Country**
 The winning home is posted on our website. www.river-countryfl.com Thanks to all those who participated.
- **Movie Night in the Park**
 Planning has begun to create a "Movie Night in the Park"; this event will run once a month during our cooler months (October through March) Look for this upcoming event posting on our website and Community Boards.
- **3 Kings Festival**
 Free Family holiday and cultural celebration
 6 Jan 2024, 12 noon – 6pm
 1300 Mariner Blvd, Spring Hill - YMCA
 First 400 Children will receive a gift from the 3 Kings.

FLAG POLE REPAIR

As you are all aware our flag at the front entrance has not been flying recently. This is due to structural damage to the flagpole which has recently been repaired. We would like to give many thanks to Ruth Clayton for the donation of a new flag as our old one was damaged.



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OPEN INFRA INTERNET:

Work continues in the neighborhood, some homeowners have gotten the terminal boxes installed in and outside of their homes, and some have actually had the service turned on. The news is good, better-quality connection to the internet and faster downloads.

SHED/LEASING AMENDMENT

The Shed/Leasing Vote passed. Many thanks to our fellow Homeowners and Board Members who volunteered countless hours meeting homeowners in regard to these amendments.

They are:

- *Paul Grochowski
- *Virginia "Ginny" Vanderkelen
- *Cindy Dean
- *Mike Kunz
- *Rhonda & Dave Love
- *Lori & Brian Rowe
- *Ruth Clayton & her Niece
- *Deanna Adamson
- *Casey McCabe

360 VOTES were acquired:

Question #1	Yes 350	No 10	
Question #2	Yes 343	No 16	Undecided 01

The next step in this process is to amend the River Country Deed Restrictions. Notification shall be made once this is complete. Shed applications may be submitted at once the amendment is final. (Not Before) A request for Architectural Application and meeting with the DRAC Committee will be required for Clarity of installation and permitting prior to any installation.

Volunteer GROUPS



PARK MAINTENANCE/REPAIR:

Help with basic repairs and upkeep of our park! All skill levels from light construction, painting, lending a hand or even passing out refreshments etc. All Volunteers are a plus with this group.

ACTIVITIES:

Brainstorm, establish and help coordinate activities during the cooler months.

WELCOMING COMMITTEE:

Would greet the new residents and welcome them to our Community

NEWSLETTER:

We are always looking for content for this newsletter! (Pictures, recipes, events, neighbor recognitions, student achievements, etc.) If you have anything you would like to see in here email it to rivercountrynewsletter@gmail.com, text it (352) 600-1064, or drop it by the RCEOA office!

DEED RESTRICTION (DRAC)

This group would drive around looking for violations of the Deed restrictions - making a photo and help do a follow-up with our neighbors to correct any infractions. Looking for personable, patient, and kind people that want to build relationships with our residents.

CRIME WATCH:

This group is part of the Hernando County Sheriff's Dept. and patrols our community, but is not affiliated with the River Country Estates Home Owners Association. If interested in please contact Mike Lutman 352-200-5262

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Proverbs 22:1 - "A good name is to be chosen rather than great riches, loving favor rather than silver and gold."

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

Find all the words from the word list (ignore spaces and dashes):

BARE TREES	MITTENS
DECEMBER	NEW YEAR
FEBRUARY	SCARF
FROST	SKIING
ICE SKATING	SLEIGH
ICICLE	SNOWFLAKE
JANUARY	SNOWMAN





This is zigzag word search puzzle. Words go left, right, up, down, not diagonally, and can bend at a right angle. There are no unused letters in the grid, every letter is used only once.

Grid size:
10 x 10 squares,
10 x 10 letters,
90 x 90 mm.

Square size:
9 x 9 mm.

ANSWER:



Tasty Temptations

The Best DOUBLE CHOCOLATE Cookies

INGREDIENTS:

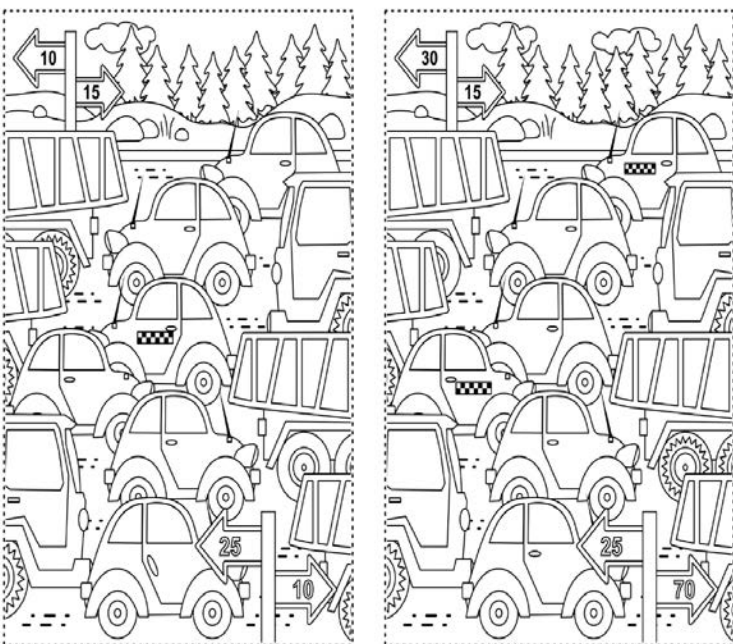
- 1 cup salted butter softened
- 1 cup granulated sugar
- 1 cup light brown sugar packed
- 2 teaspoons pure vanilla extract
- 2 eggs
- 2 1/2 cups flour
- 1/2 cup unsweetened cocoa powder sifted
- 1 teaspoon baking soda
- 1 teaspoon fine sea salt
- 1/2 teaspoon baking powder
- 2 cups semisweet chocolate chips
- 6 oz chopped chocolate
- Optional: Flaked sea salt for the tops



DIRECTIONS:

- In a medium bowl combine flour, baking soda, sea salt, baking powder, and sifted cocoa powder. Set aside.
- In the bowl of a standing mixer fitted with the paddle attachment, or in a large bowl with a hand mixer, cream together butter, brown sugar and granulated sugar for 1 minute.
- Beat in eggs and vanilla for an additional 1 minute.
- Add the dry ingredient mixture and beat until incorporated.
- Stir in the chocolate chips on low speed.
- Tightly cover dough with plastic wrap or transfer dough to an airtight container and chill for 30 minutes (optional).
- Preheat oven to 375 degrees F. Line 3 baking sheets with parchment paper, and set aside.
- Use a 1 - 1 1/2 TBS cookie scoop to measure out dough and then roll it into balls. Place on prepared cookie sheets evenly spaced, with at least 1 1/2" between the cookies.
- Gently press 2-4 pieces of chopped chocolate onto the tops of each cookie.
- Bake in preheated oven for approximately 8-9 minutes. Take them out when they are just barely set, and starting to crackle around the edges.
- If desired, sprinkle with flaked sea salt.
- Let the cookies sit on the baking pan for 2-5 minutes before removing to cooling rack.

Find the ten differences between the two pictures.



MONTHLY BOARD MEETING

River Country HOA - Board Meeting Zoom Requirements.

The board has voted to modify the means by which Homeowners (HO) can attend the monthly board meeting.

The objective of transitioning to ZOOM is to allow the homeowner a better opportunity to learn about and or contribute to the topics that effect the community in which we live.

Starting 12 Feb, 2024 – Homeowners can join the meeting via ZOOM. This will allow more homeowners to attend the meeting from the comfort of their home. No in person attendees will be allowed.

- The monthly meeting agenda will be posted on the Chaucer (lockable) community board and on the RC web site. (rivercoun-tyestatesfl.com)

- Homeowners whom wish to add an item to the agenda must contact the office no later than 10 days prior to meeting.

- The board will only discuss topics that are on the agenda.

- Any motions made during the meeting are for board members only, homeowners are not required to cast a vote.

- All participants will be muted until They “raise hand” and gets acknowledged by the meeting chairperson. Questions will be entertained; however, time will be limited to 2 mins per person to allow for multiple questions. We will only entertain questions/comments on agenda items only. No new topics allowed.



JOINING ZOOM

- A link to join the meeting will be posted on the web site prior to the meeting. If you would like the link emailed to you each month, contact the office.

- For first time ZOOM users, you will be prompted to load the zoom application to your PC.

- Homeowners may join between 3:15pm and 3:45pm. Please use your full name as your log in, so we can see who is connecting. Once connected, we will ask for your address. No one will be allowed into the meeting after 3:45pm. We must be able to verify the identity of each person joining.

- The meetings will be recorded for historical purposes.

A one-hour trial log-on session will be set up the 1st week of Feb for those whom would like to test their connections/configurations. Please visit our website (in mid Jan) for more info on the trial log on session.

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