

# Seashore News



December 2021

Published Monthly by Niguel Shores Community Association

Issue 576

IN THE SPIRIT OF THE SEASON... CELEBRATE!

## Niguel Shores Events To Enjoy With Family And Friends

### Holiday Lights and Golf Cart Contest

**November 26 through January 2**  
Get together, have some fun, light up your homes and streets with your most fantastic holiday illuminations. Cover your golf cart with fabulous decorations! Register in the Office to take part in the contest for prizes. Residents are invited to take part in the judging. Maps and Judging Ballots are available in the office or by phoning (949) 444-1674.

- \* **Judging for Homes with Lights**, December 15 to 17 (Vote for 5.)
- \* **Judging for Streets with Lights**, December 15 to 17 (Vote for 5.)
- \* **Judging for Golf Carts**, December 17 at 4:45, at the Bluff.

### Dippy Dolphins Holiday Luncheon

**Friday, December 3 at Noon**  
Niguel Shores Clubhouse

### Tree Lighting Party with Santa

**Sunday, December 5 from 4 to 6 p.m.**  
Niguel Shores Clubhouse  
The Recreation Committee provides merry fun for all with shimmering tree lights, hot cocoa, coffee, lots of sweet treats, and a visit from Santa! Kids can bring new unwrapped toys for our toy collection going to children of Marines at Pendleton.

### Women's and Men's Clubs Holiday Party

**Thursday, December 9 from 5 to 8 p.m.**  
Niguel Shores Clubhouse  
Women's and Men's Club members and their guests are invited to enjoy a festive evening in a woody winter setting with glowing birch and pine trees, forest animals, holiday tunes, and delightful food and drinks. Please bring a hearty appetizer for sharing and, if you wish, an unwrapped toy for a Marine family.

### Garden Club Holiday Luncheon

**Monday, December 13 at 11 a.m.**  
Niguel Shores Clubhouse  
Come for a fun gift exchange along with 'bring and share' appetizers, salads, and deserts.

### Women's Club Walk to the Ritz

**Tuesday, December 14 at 5 p.m.**  
Take an evening stroll to view the lights and decorations. Then have refreshments at the hotel.

### Pickleballers Holiday Party

**Wednesday, December 15 at 5 p.m.**  
Niguel Shores Clubhouse Lobby and Fireside Patio  
Santa, music and some elves too! Good times ahead!

### Page Turners Book Exchange

**Monday, December 20 at 1 p.m.**  
Niguel Shores Clubhouse  
Discussion, refreshments, and a lively book exchange (with amusing results).

### New Year's Eve Celebration

**Friday, December 31, 8:00 p.m. to 12:00 a.m.**  
Niguel Shores Clubhouse  
Bring your own beverages and dancing shoes as we count down to usher in 2022. Make a resolution to attend and enjoy friendship and good cheer!

### Toy Collection

**Make a child happy during the holidays.**

Donate a new unwrapped toy at our Tree Lighting, or Women's and Men's Club Holiday Party. A collection box is available in the lobby of the Clubhouse.

Camp Pendleton Marines will pick up the toys at the Holiday Party December 9.



# THANK YOU NIGUEL SHORES! OUR 2021 FOOD DRIVE RESULTS

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*NSCA is not responsible for any work done nor are we recommending any of the advertised companies*

# FROM THE HELM

**MAY THE HOLIDAY SEASON AND THE NEW YEAR BRING PEACE,  
FULFILLMENT AND JOY TO YOU AND YOUR LOVED ONES.  
WARM WISHES FROM THE NIGUEL SHORES COMMUNITY  
ASSOCIATION BOARD OF DIRECTORS.**

*—Bob Russell for NSCA Board*



## GENERAL MANAGER REPORT

### Living in the Shores

During this holiday season, and before 2021 comes to an end, I want to take a moment to reflect on this wonderful community we all enjoy, and the benefits of living in Niguel Shores. First, I want to acknowledge all of you, the Niguel Shores residents, who bring vitality, warmth, and enjoyment to the lifestyle here. Then, there are all the benefits we enjoy, such as the beautiful property itself with its greenbelts, pool, spa, sports courts, clubhouse, and unique ocean front park. In addition, the office staff, patrol service, and maintenance staff are present onsite daily to serve the needs of individual residents and the whole community.

As homeowners in the Niguel Shores Community Association (NSCA), you elect your own Board of Directors composed of your neighbor homeowners who know Niguel Shores well and volunteer their time and talents at no pay to provide oversight for everyone's best interests.

And, as many residents have remarked, there is a true spirit of friendship, care, and concern evident among all those who live here and participate in our committees, clubs, and activities.

Besides this being a wonderful place to live, Niguel Shores has the benefits of being a self-managed community where you, as residents, are in charge of Niguel Shores' overall governance, finance, maintenance, recreation, and wellbeing.

As a self-managed community, Niguel Shores is not paying additional fees to an outside management company to do the job that your staff is currently handling for you daily. This self-management keeps homeowner dues at a reasonably low level compared to communities with fewer amenities yet paying higher dues for outside management services. One more

benefit for residents and staff here at Niguel Shores is the appreciation we all feel in being part of one of California's premier coastal communities.

### Holiday Gratitude

Thank you all for your lovely contributions to the staff holiday gratuity fund. Each member of the office and maintenance staff appreciates that you support them, and they are very grateful for your kindness.

*Happy Holidays from  
the Niguel Shores Staff!*

*—Marla Miller*

**Office Closures**

- December 10, half day** – Staff and Board Holiday Lunch
- December 23, half day** – Christmas
- December 24** – Christmas
- December 31, half day** – New Year's Eve
- January 3** – New Year
- No Construction** – December 24, 25, 31 January 1





# COMMITTEE REPORTS

## COMMUNICATION

At this time of the year when we light candles, adorn our homes, share gifts with special people, and enjoy the traditions of our religions and cultures, the Communication Committee sends wishes for holiday cheer and Christmas joy to you and your loved ones.



We enjoy bringing you the news of Niguel Shores each month, and it is truly a group project. On the first week of the month, the Communication Committee meets to brainstorm ideas for the coming month's issue. Then our reporters do the big job of gathering information and writing their articles, due mid-month. Our editors review all the material and photos, making sure everything reads well and fits into the allotted pages before sending the files to a graphics designer to prepare the issue for print. Once the 1100 print newsletters are delivered to us, a team of residents collate and count out copies for each neighborhood. Finally, another team of volunteers deliver the newsletter to your home. As the saying goes, it really does "take a village." Many thanks to every single person in the chain of about 75 helping

hands responsible for bringing the *Seashore News* to our community!



Looking for more news? Check our website to find "all you ever wanted to know" about Niguel Shores. We post updates from our committees, clubs, management, and the NSCA Board plus

links to civic organizations and interesting local announcements. For example, last month did you see the list of family-friendly events like the Parade of Elephants, the Turkey Trot, and the tree lighting at our neighbor the Ritz Carlton? The website also provides links to register guests at the gate, download NSCA forms, find Niguel Shores rules and regulations, and even post a comment about something that's on your mind. Visit [niguelshores.org](http://niguelshores.org).

—Sandy Homicz

## MAINTENANCE

Hopefully your holidays are in full swing, you are hanging decorations with care, and planning some holiday cheer with friends this year!

If you live in the Garden Homes off of Niguel Shores Drive and Atlantic to the north, the annual street repair is starting early and there are some dates you'll want to remember as you plan your holiday get-togethers.

- Monday, November 29 through Tuesday, November 30—All the concrete work should have been completed.

- Monday, December 6 thru Friday, December 10—This will be set aside for asphalt repair and overlay.
- Monday, December 13 thru Wednesday, December 15—The utility boxes will be raised.

These dates are subject to change, so please be sure to look for letters, email and updates on our Niguel Shores website for a more detailed timing. We would not want to play Scrooge with your holiday plans.

The Maintenance Committee would like to give a holiday toast to our wonderful **Maintenance Staff** who work so hard all year long to keep Niguel Shores the "Extremely Well Maintained Community" it is for all of us. **Thank You to George Cooley, Dave Smith, Tom Shimkus, and Ray Russomanno**—and **Happy Holidays** to all of you!

—Geoff Dunlevie

## RECREATION

Happy Holidays to all from your Recreation Committee! Thank you for sharing in our fun events throughout the year—but wait—we are not done!

### UPCOMING EVENTS:

**Holiday Tree Lighting—Sunday, December 5, 4:30 to 6:30 p.m.** Enjoy hot cocoa and cookies with your friends while Santa Claus reads to the children under the tree in the Clubhouse.



**Holiday Lights Contest for Homes and Streets—December 15-17 (Judging)** Start decorating November 26 and show your holiday spirit. To participate in the contest, you must complete a Lights Contest Registration Form. See the Niguel Shores website [niguelshores.org](http://niguelshores.org) for a form or pick one up in the NSCA office.



**Golf Cart Decorating Contest—Friday, December 17, 4:45 p.m.** (Judging) Decorate your golf cart with holiday cheer and meet at the Beach Bluff for judging. To participate in the contest, you must complete a Golf Cart Decorating Registration Form. See the Niguel Shores website [niguelshores.org](http://niguelshores.org) for a form or pick one up in the NSCA office.



**New Year's Eve Party—Friday, December 31, 8:00 p.m. to 12:30 a.m.** Come and join us at our annual New Year's Eve Party! Bring your own beverages and dancing shoes to enjoy great music.

—Recreation Committee

# COMMITTEE REPORTS

## TRAFFIC AND SAFETY

**Update Your List**—It's that time of the year when we are filled with positive feelings and may have more guests than usual to entertain. Unfortunately, a frustrating delay at the entrance to our gate-guarded community could spoil the joyous and festive mood. To minimize such conflict and expedite guests to our homes, we urge everyone to ensure that their guest lists on the Dwelling Live System are current. In the case of a gathering larger than ten cars, a Party List should be delivered to the office several business days before the event. If a last minute "add-on" situation develops, contact the gate officer by phone or in person and he/she will work with you whenever possible.

**Do Them a Favor**—When you expect a new service provider or guest, provide them with the correct gate (Mariner, Garibaldi, or Manta) to gain access to our community. Far too often, GPS will direct them to the wrong gate. Once there, many persons fail to read the warning signs, become flustered, and attempt to tailgate a resident vehicle into the community. Our finely tuned system recognizes the intrusion, lowers its arm, and raises its spikes. The result is normally a couple of flattened tires and sometimes a little body damage.

**So Far So Good**—Simply put, we have not received reports of felony thefts from vehicles, or residential burglaries this year. However, December is traditionally the month that the rate of these crimes increases. Thieves and opportunists are usually out in force in December. Don't make it too inviting and easy for them. Unattended valuable items in your car are a sure method of attracting a would-be thief. Please continue locking your vehicles and ensuring that your home both looks and is secure.

**Serious Consequences**—Sometimes some people get carried away to the chagrin of others. It was recently reported that individuals marked up one of our tennis courts. By using chalk, they modified its design to resemble a pickleball court. It took maintenance personnel a fair amount of time to restore the court to its original condition.

**Unsafe Driving**—We received reports alleging that unlicensed drivers are operating golf carts throughout the community. Please do not allow unlicensed drivers to drive golf carts.

**Season's Greetings!**—It is the time of year that I and people from Gaelic speaking regions of the world wish friends and neighbors a robust **"Nollaig Shona Duit."**

—God Bless . . . Tim Murphy



## DANA POINT THIS MONTH

### DP HARBOR HOLIDAY LIGHTS

Ongoing, through January 2.

Walk through the Harbor's evening light displays and themed exhibits including

Candy Cane Lane and Merry Kiss Me Arch.

### LETTERS TO SANTA

Ongoing, through December 13.

Tell Santa your wishes and he will reply to you.

Be sure to print your name and address clearly on your letter.

Send to:

Santa c/o City of Dana Point Recreation  
34052 Del Obispo  
Dana Point, CA 92629



### SANTA'S JOLLY TROLLEY

Saturday, December 4, 1:30 to 5:30 p.m.

Santa rides the trolley with you, stopping to hand out treats.

Sunset Park 1:30, Dana Woods Park 2:30,

Sea Canyon Park 3:30,

La Plaza Park 4:30.

(949) 248-3536

### LA PLAZA PARK TREE LIGHTING

Saturday, December 4, 4:30

34111 La Plaza

Santa and Elves, carolers, hot chocolate, cookies, tree lighting.

Bring a new unwrapped toy for Spark of Love Toy Drive.  
(949) 248-3536

### SANTA PAWS IN THE HARBOR

December 4 and 5, 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

Bring your favorite furry friend to the Harbor for a picture with Santa.

\$15 photo fee. Proceeds benefit animals at San Clemente-Dana Point Animal Shelter. All dogs on leash, please.



### DP HARBOR 46TH ANNUAL BOAT PARADE OF LIGHTS

December 10, 11, at 7:30 p.m.

December 12 at 6:00 p.m.

### HOLIDAY STORYTELLING

December 10, 11,

17, 18 at 5 p.m.

Ritz Carlton Eco-Adventure Center

Children and families are invited to enjoy storytelling with Santa. Donations of new children's books collected for Miracles for Kids.



### HOLIDAY SAND SCULPTURE EXHIBIT

Ritz Carlton Lobby, Ongoing, through January 2

Large-scale holiday sculpture highlights community partners Surfers Healing, Canine Companions for Independence, Miracles for Kids, and the Orange County Rescue Mission.  
(949) 240-2000

### YULE-TIDE MARKET

December 11, from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Ocean Institute

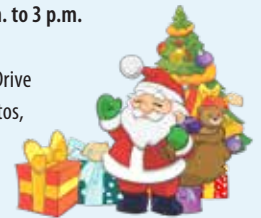
24200 Dana Point Harbor Drive

Arts and crafts, Santa photos,

mermaids, marine

science programs.

[oceaninstitute.org](http://oceaninstitute.org)



### CAPISTRANO LIGHTS AT THE MISSION

Ongoing, through December 30

San Juan Capistrano Mission

\$14-\$19 includes daytime admission plus

evening tree lighting, carolers, lifesize

Nativity, Serra chapel after hours, sweet treat

vendors, and a visit from Santa Claus.

[capistranolights.com](http://capistranolights.com)

## WOMEN'S CLUB

**Joyeux Noel!**—We greet the 2021 holiday season with an enthusiastic *Joyeux Noel*. As we celebrate Christmas, Hanukkah, and other holidays of many faiths and cultures, we welcome the sense of peace and joy that fills the air. Enjoying friends and family, festive decorations, sharing gifts, and celebrating special traditions add to the delightful flavor of the season.



**Holiday Party**—We are thrilled to invite members and guests to our **Niguel Shores' Women's Club/Men's Club Holiday Party** to be held **5 to 8 p.m.** on **December 9** in the **Clubhouse**. Come and enjoy our beautiful Christmas tree, delicious appetizers and desserts, a sensational wine bar, cocktail tables for gathering, and merry music. Please bring your favorite hearty appetizer to share. We look forward to seeing our jolly members and invited guests at this joyous evening!

**Toy Collection**—In the spirit and season of giving, we are asking you to donate a new unwrapped toy for Marine children. Let's collect a plentiful lot of toys for the boys and girls and put them under the Christmas tree inside the Clubhouse on the night of the Holiday Party! There will also be a large container to collect toys in the Clubhouse lobby if you cannot make it to the party. All toys will be picked up at the party on December 9 by Marine representatives and driven down to the Base for distribution.

**November Luncheon Meeting**—Thanks to Commandant Pete Hammer and Outreach Chair Sonia Torres for speaking about ways the **Marine Corps League** assists men and women Marines of "**The 2/1**" and their families at Camp Pendleton. At our November meeting, as a Veterans

Day tribute, we set up a "Missing Man Table" and placed patriotic centerpieces on luncheon tables to honor past and present members of the military.

**December Outside Activity**—We will walk over to the Ritz Carlton to view the specular 40-foot Christmas tree on the front drive. There is nothing quite like the joy of the holiday season at the Ritz Carlton. We will continue our festivities inside with no-host options for tea, wine, appetizers, or even dinner if you prefer. Hope you can join us on Friday, December 17. Cheers!

**Interested in Niguel Shores Women's Club?**—We would love to have any ladies in Niguel Shores join us for one of our monthly luncheons in 2022. Please contact Jennifer Paige [jenopaige@gmail.com](mailto:jenopaige@gmail.com) or Judi Palladino [twopalls@yahoo.com](mailto:twopalls@yahoo.com) for more information about membership with NSWC.

*HAPPY HOLIDAYS!—Terry Link*

## MEN'S CLUB

Niguel Shores Men's Club recently hosted several great meetings where members heard excellent speakers and enjoyed delicious breakfasts prepared by our cooking teams.

Our **October 19** meeting featured **Dr. Dwight Stirling**, the Center for Law and Military Policy CEO. Dwight enlightened the members about the Feres Doctrine, which prohibits negligence claims by active-duty military personnel against the United States Government.

On **November 2**, our own **Eric Eckes** and **Tim Williams** spoke about their worldwide scuba diving adventures, and they both shared their own amazing underwater photography.

Our **November 16** meeting featured another Men's Club member, **Dennis Erdman**. Dennis has served on the South Coast Water District Board of Directors and now serves on the Metropolitan Water District of Southern California board. Dennis gave updates on the current drought and a glimpse into the future of water distribution in Southern California.

**December 7** will be our last meeting of the year. (No meeting on December 21 because of its proximity to Christmas.) **City of Dana Point Mayor Pro Tem, Joe Muller**, will make another visit to our Clubhouse and discuss new state laws allowing Accessory Dwelling Units (ADUs) and SB 9 and SB 10 recently signed by Governor Newsom. He will speak about the effect of these laws on Dana Point and Niguel Shores.

On Thursday, **December 9**, the Men's Club will be co-hosting the **Niguel Shores Women's Club/Men's Club Holiday Party** at our Clubhouse from 5 to 8 p.m. Members, please bring a hearty appetizer and a new unwrapped toy for the Camp Pendleton Marines. Beer and wine will be served with the appetizers as well as delicious



### *Women's Club Outside Activity*

#### **EVENT: CHRISTMAS LIGHTS AT THE RITZ CARLTON**

We will walk from Niguel Shores Cabrillo Gate up the illuminated tree-lined drive of the Ritz Carlton to see the beautifully decorated 40-foot Christmas tree and all the displays inside the hotel. Then stay as long as you like—have tea or enjoy your favorite beverage or make reservations for dinner if you prefer.


**DATE & TIME:** Tuesday, December 14 at 5 p.m.

**DIRECTIONS:** Park on Magellan Isle near our Cabrillo Gate and walk with other club members to the Ritz.

**QUESTIONS?** Call Carla Perin at (949) 689-8531.






  
 Women's Club and Men's Club  
**HOLIDAY PARTY**  
 Thursday, December 9 — 5 to 8 p.m.  
 Niguel Shores Clubhouse  
 No charge.  
 Bring your favorite appetizer to share.  
 The clubs will provide desserts, wine, beer,  
 music, and beautiful decorations  
 for this annual fabulous party!  
 Your donation of a new unwrapped toy  
 or Target/Walmart/Amazon gift card  
 for children of the Marines at Pendleton  
 would be deeply appreciated.

desserts. You and your guest are welcome to enjoy delicious food and festive music as we celebrate the holidays with community members of all faiths and traditions.

I want to thank fellow club member **Tim Moore** for volunteering to serve as our Secretary this upcoming year. The general membership unanimously elected Tim at our November 2 meeting. Since this is the last article of 2021, I would also like to thank our five cooking teams led by **Chefs Mike Roberts, Len Beebe, Geoff Dunlevie, Al Glatt, Bob Baker, Steve Morris, Rob Wollin, Art Staudenbaur and Gary Wilson. Steve Morris**, thank you for all of your time coordinating our cooking teams and breakfasts. Finally, thank you, **Eric Eckes**, our Treasurer!

Not yet a member of our club? Please come to one meeting in the Clubhouse **as our guest** on the first and third Tuesday of the month at 8 a.m. (but arrive by 7:45 to sign in). You will be treated to breakfast, excellent conversation with members of our community, and an entertaining and informative speaker. We do hope you decide to join the Men's Club. Annual dues are just \$25, and breakfasts are only \$5.

If you have any questions, feel free to contact me at [john@johnyocca.com](mailto:john@johnyocca.com).

*Have a safe and blessed Holiday Season! —John Yocca*

## GARDEN CLUB

December has finally arrived: a time of celebration, colorful lights, vibrant wreaths, and family gatherings. Garden Club will celebrate this joyful season at our **Holiday**

**Party on December 13 at 11:00 a.m.** in the Clubhouse. If members wish to participate in the fun gift exchange, please bring a wrapped garden-related gift, valued at \$15. Lunch promises to be a delicious affair, with a return to our members 'bring and share' appetizers, salads, and deserts.

In the spirit of the holidays, members were encouraged to visit **Weidners Gardens** in Encinitas for their **Poinsettia Greenhouse Tours** offering a 'behind the scenes' look at the many beautiful varieties of poinsettias.



Thanks to the local Ecker family, poinsettias started their journey to become the traditional Christmas flower in Encinitas. Poinsettias didn't arrive in the United States until the nineteenth century.



The plant is named for the first US Ambassador to Mexico—Doctor Joel Robert Poinsett — who discovered it in the wilderness of southern Mexico. He introduced the poinsettia to America in 1828.

Members gathered in November to create "air plant" gifts for local seniors.



What does a poinsettia have to do with Christmas? It is said to be a symbol of the Star of Bethlehem that led the three Wise Men to the stable in Bethlehem. In Mexico, the beautiful red poinsettias are known as 'Flores de Noche Buena'—flowers of the holy night.



As we all reflect on this past year, we are grateful beyond measure that the COVID-19 vaccines became available, and that our lives began to change for the better as some normality has returned. Beyond gratitude, Alexander Pope's dictum that "hope springs eternal" is a reminder to us that hope is a powerful life force that enables us to face and overcome challenges.

We have faced extraordinary challenges during the pandemic. To quote Christopher Reeve: "Once you choose hope anything is possible." We encourage our member gardeners to embrace and nurture their plants and flowers—indoors and outdoors—and to stay hopeful.

**"Where flowers bloom,  
so does hope."**

—Lady Bird Johnson

—Elspeth Ann Strauss

# ACTIVITIES

## LIBRARY

Dana Point Library is open Monday through Saturday and offers these events in December. Book Club selections available at the Service Desk (949) 496-5517.

### Coloring for Adults

Mondays 10:30-Noon.  
Different theme each week.  
Materials provided.

### Gentle Reads Book Group

12/9 at 10:30 a.m.  
*Miss Benson's Beetle*, Joyce

### Gingerbread Open House

12/14 from 1 to 5 p.m.  
Create a colorful gingerbread (graham cracker) house!  
Materials provided.

### Young Readers Ages 5 to 7

12/15 at 3 p.m.  
*Miss Fiona the Hippo*, Cowdrey

### Seaside Book Group

12/27 at 10:30 a.m.  
*Where the Crawdads Sing*, Owens

### Teen Volunteers Wanted

For more information, email  
[ocpl.danapoint@occr.ocgov.com](mailto:ocpl.danapoint@occr.ocgov.com)

### Friends of the Library

Open M-F, 11-4, Saturday, 11-3.

—Dan DeNeve

## BRIDGE

### A Game for All Ages

Bridge is a game for all ages across generations. I have had several discussions with our members and most said their parents played and they filled in from time to time. One of my friends, Rick, introduced me to the game when his mother, sister and he lost their fourth player. I learned (baptism by fire) and continued to play until I entered the Army. For a short period, while stationed at Fort Hood in Texas, my Company Commander asked me to fill in for his wife's Bridge group. I played for seven weeks with that group and found the conversation with the women to be remarkable since they discussed books, fashion and food. I could hold my own on books and food, but when the discussion centered on fashion, I just kept my mouth shut. That group was the last time I played Bridge for 47 years.

Then, at a family party while most of the men were situated around the TV watching football, my mother-in-law Margaret Brugger asked her children, grandchildren and in-laws who could play Bridge. I raised my hand and the next thing I knew I was in a game. After the first rubber, I was again hooked and promised her I would be better prepared the next time.

That time came quicker than I imagined! She volunteered me to fill in at the Niguel Shores Bridge Club. The average age of members was over 70 so I fit in. I was only the second man spread out among fourteen women—and the game was afoot!



Mainstays of the Bridge Club: Mike Oliva and Bob French

It really doesn't matter what age you are. Our member Lee turned 100 last month! She wins more than she loses. You should see her little cash purse, a Wells Fargo envelope.

Three new players have joined from Niguel Shores and we hope more of you make yourselves known to us. We play each **Wednesday** at 11 a.m. in the **Clubhouse**. Please contact **Bob** or **Betty French** to sign up at (949) 312-2556.

### Winners from previous weeks:

9/15: Jim Pinola, Mike Oliva, Elizabeth Miller  
9/22: Jim Pinola, Sandy Youdbulis, Sally Anne King  
9/29: Frieda Baskin, Betty French, Bob French  
10/6: Frieda Baskin, Lee Farrell, AnneMarie Gerardo  
10/13: Sally Anne King, Jane Olson, Frieda Baskin  
10/20: Jane Olson, Cherry Ramee, Frieda Baskin  
10/27: Frieda Baskin, Shida Rad, Kitty Chambers  
11/3: Jim Pinola, Bill Imbriale, Freyd Radd  
11/10: Winners: Jack, Betty, and Jim



Lee celebrated her 100th birthday playing Bridge with the group.

—Mike Oliva



Recent winners Jack, Betty, and Jim

## PAGE TURNERS

This month **Page Turners** will gather for our **Bi-Annual Joint Meeting at 1:00 p.m. on December 20**. Page Turners consists of three groups of approximately 10 members each. We all read the same books, which are selected by all the members voting their favorites. Our "book year" runs from September to June and we select nine books for discussion. We do not assign a book for December because this meeting is a social get-together where we discuss other books that we may be suggesting for next year. We also have a very fun **Blind Book Exchange** and enjoy seasonal goodies supplied by the members.

Many people say that they are in a book club because they get to read books that they normally would not read. With over 30 members making book suggestions that we vote on, you can imagine we get quite a varied selection. So far this year we have read novels by English, Irish and American authors, and in January we will be reading *No Name*, the Wilkie Collins classic first published in 1862. Collins was a contemporary of Charles Dickens, and they collaborated on a number of fiction works.

Each of the Page Turners groups have room for additional members, so if you are thinking of joining a book club you would be most welcome to visit any of our meetings. The Monday afternoon group meets in member homes and the host usually serves a light refreshment. The two Thursday afternoon groups usually meet at the Niguel Shores



# ACTIVITIES

Clubhouse. For information on the Thursday groups please contact **Steve** and **Ann Morris** at [samwrsi@cox.net](mailto:samwrsi@cox.net) and for the Monday group contact me, Frances at [fozimec@cox.net](mailto:fozimec@cox.net).

—Frances Ozimec

## THE SEMI-SERIOUS BOOK CLUB

Our group met on November 23 to discuss *America Compromised* by Larry Lessing, an attorney who likes to repeatedly remind his readers of that fact, hoping, I suppose, that someone might be in the market for his services. He writes of the corruption in public and private enterprise

throughout government, financial institutions, universities and medical establishments. I suppose it is of value to have these reminders, though it is a little like getting spanked and made to eat soap—being punished and reminded that you are being punished. Read the book to know who Lessing says the real no-goods are!

We will not meet in December, but we welcome men and women to join us in the new year for semi-serious discussions of books with social, economic, and/or political importance. For information email [nortlynnne@cox.net](mailto:nortlynnne@cox.net).

—Norton Schwartz

# SPORTS

## TENNIS



Happy Hitting during the Holidays! Folks who met at our warm weather **Happy Hours** have now found players and opponents for play during our off season. Happy Hours will resume in the spring, but we are taking a break during the busy holiday and colder months.

Many thanks to all who are now making more court time available by cancelling any unwanted court reservations. All our courts are being heavily used, particularly in the morning, so with considerate use of the reservation system we won't see any go to waste!

Our updated shared **Contact List** went out at the end of October for all players who chose to be listed. We also maintain a list of players that just want to be contacted for changes in court use or events. If you aren't already on one of the two lists, please contact **Jennifer Rose** at [4OceanBreeze@gmail.com](mailto:4OceanBreeze@gmail.com) to be added, and please advise us of any changes we need to make so the list is always updated and current with correct information.

—Jennifer Rose

## PICKLEBALL

Our Pickleball community has had a busy month with players taking advantage of our beautiful fall weather and using the courts during both Drop-In and Organized Play. We continue adding new names to our list of resident players, and we are happy to welcome back **Fenneke** and **Brian Carrier**, who have returned to Niguel Shores after a summer in their Michigan home.

### PICKLEBALL HOURS

#### DROP IN PLAY

MON/WED/FRI/SAT ..... 9 to 11 a.m.  
 WED ..... 4 p.m. to dusk  
 SUN ..... 11 a.m. to 1 p.m.

#### ORGANIZED PLAY

MON through SAT ..... 8 to 9 a.m.  
 MON/FRI/SAT ..... 11 a.m. to dusk  
 TUES/THURS ..... 8 a.m. to dusk  
 WED ..... 11 a.m. to 4 p.m.  
 SUN ..... 1 to 3 p.m.

Several residents participated in the **Hyundai Masters Professional Pickleball Association Tournament** in La Quinta. **Kathy Zoch** and **Brenda Gino** played in the Women's Doubles Competition, while their spouses, **Chris** and **Todd**, played in the Men's Doubles Competition. A group of Niguel Shores residents were in La Quinta to cheer them on. Unfortunately, no Niguel Shores winners this time; however, they are already planning their strategies for next year's competition.

The Niguel Shores Community Association provides squeegee brooms for all courts. Please hang them after using. The squeegees help players eager to get back on the courts after it rains, but there is a problem dealing with puddles on some courts, especially Pickleball Court 3 (entering the gate, the court in the back on left). Our Steering Committee agreed: "If one court is wet from rain, and three courts are in use, rotate if others are waiting during Organized Play."

December 15 is our **Second Annual Pickleball Holiday Party**, which promises to be lots of fun! Be sure to save the date and watch for more information in the **Voice of the Pickle**.

—Patti Staudenbaur



Kathy Zoch and Brenda Gino



Todd Gino and Chris Zoch





# Christmas Market



Our artists and crafters display their holiday wares at the **Annual Christmas Market** in our Community Park.





# 'Tis The Season . . . To Celebrate!

## Niguel Shores Lights Up The Holidays

In the spirit of the season, Niguel Shores residents greet

the holidays with decorative wreaths, fabulous lights, and imaginative displays full of cheer and inspiration. Our **Holiday Lights Contest** will award five homes, five streets, and lots of golf carts with honors for their creative designs—judged by **YOU**, our residents. Judging takes place December 15 through 17. Pick up your maps and ballots in the Office or receive them in your email by phoning (949) 444-1674.

Our fun-loving **Dippy Dolphins** will bring their high spirits to dry land on **December 3** at a jolly **Christmas Luncheon**.



guests are invited to enjoy good company, appetizers, desserts, wine, beer, and seasonal music. Club Presidents **Sharon Stewart** and **John Yocca** encourage those attending to donate new unwrapped toys or a gift card at the party for children of Camp Pendleton Marines.

**Garden Club** members got an early start on the holidays last month by visiting local gardens and creating Tillandsia plant gifts for seniors. On **December 13** they will gather for their annual **Holiday Gift Exchange and Luncheon**.



Take a walk with the **Women's Club** on **December 14** to see the huge outdoor tree and lights at the **Ritz Carlton**. Then go inside for refreshments at the hotel.

**Pickleballers** are planning a **Holiday Party** on **December 15** with Santa Claus, lively music, and some elves too! Good times ahead!

**Page Turners** will celebrate the season with refreshments and a fun **Book Exchange** on **December 20**.

On the last night of the year, stay up late and welcome **2022** at **Niguel Shores New Year's Eve Party** on **December 31**. Music, decorations, some fun surprises, and a "count down" to midnight. Bring your favorite beverages, nibbles, and dancing shoes.

Our **Toy Collection** continues from now through December 9 for children of Camp Pendleton Marines. Everyone is encouraged to drop off a new unwrapped toy in the collection box in the lobby of the Clubhouse. You can also bring the toy to the Tree Lighting or the Women's and Men's Club Holiday Party.



**Santa** arrives **December 5** for our **Annual Tree Lighting**—a magical evening for all the family with cookies, cocoa, and stories of the season. In the spirit of giving, everyone is encouraged to bring a new unwrapped toy for the **Toy Collection**.

In preparation for their joint **Holiday Party** on **December 9**, the **Women's Club** and **Men's Club** are transforming the Clubhouse into a festive scene complete with a beautiful tree, sparkling lights, and cheery woodland decor. Members and



# 'Twas The Season . . . About 100 Years Ago

The beloved American painter **Norman Rockwell** (1894-1978) created over 300 magazine covers for the *Saturday Evening Post* in addition to hundreds of paintings for other organizations. Shown here are some of his Santa Claus designs dating back a century ago. "A Drum for Tommy" appeared in 1921, and the other Santa magazine covers appeared during the 1920s. His famous "Santa at the Globe" is from 1935. Also in that era came favorites such as "Santa Feeding the Reindeer" and "Santa and His Elves with Sleeping Children."

See a chronological history of Rockwell's works at <https://totallyhistory.com/norman-rockwell-paintings/>





# MEET YOUR NEIGHBORS

“As the crow flies,” the straight-line distance from Mumbai, India to Baldwin City, Kansas is about 8,400 miles, about seventeen hours flight time. So how does a young woman from Mumbai meet a young man from Kansas? It’s quite an interesting story. Meet **Anu** and **John Douglas** and their sons, **Deven** (21), **Nikiel** (16), and **Tarun** (13).

**Anu** grew up in Mumbai with her brother, sister and parents. They lived in a self-contained community owned by Shell Oil Company where her father worked as an engineer. When she was ten, the family moved to Holland (The Netherlands) and she continued her education in Dutch. Not only is Anu fluent in Dutch, but also English, her native language Hindi, and a bit of French, too. She attended an English high school and then went directly into a Dutch medical school, as is customary in The Netherlands, instead of college.

Following medical school, Anu applied to participate in a research project for the Parkinson’s Foundation in northern California near San Jose. After this four-month project, Anu realized she did not want to pursue Neurology, but rather preferred the challenge of being an Emergency Room physician. She returned to Holland, but would soon return to northern California.

How and when does **John** enter the picture? He was born in San Diego, the youngest of five. His father was in the Navy, necessitating several moves. Eventually they found roots in Baldwin City, a small Kansas town with a population of 2,800 and just one policeman, who took the day off on Sunday! John attended Baker University, enrollment 800 students, as a biology major in the pre-med track. Following graduation, he worked with mentally disabled adults. He then moved to Sacramento, living with his sister for a while. In 1989, he became a pharmaceutical rep for DuPont, which manufactured the only Parkinson’s medicine at the time. Anu and John met in 1990 at a dinner for the Parkinson’s Foundation. And the rest is history!

Anu attended Stanford Medical School, and John continued working for DuPont while he pursued his MBA from

Santa Clara University. They fondly remember 1995 as a very busy, yet very memorable year. On June 10, John received his MBA; on June 17, they were married; on June 18, Anu graduated from medical school; and on June 19, Anu started her three-year residency at UCI.

John and Anu purchased a home in Laguna Niguel where they lived and raised their family for twenty plus years. The couple has three sons, **Deven**, age 21, who is at UCLA studying Computer Science; **Nikiel**, 16, a junior at Santa Margarita Catholic High School; and **Tarun**, 13, an eighth grader at St. Edward School in Dana Point.

Shortly after Anu completed her residency at UCI in Emergency Medicine, she accepted a position with Kaiser working between their Anaheim and Irvine Hospitals in the Emergency Medicine Department. When Anu accepted the position, she was the only female physician on the ER staff. After much perseverance, Anu worked her way up the ranks in Kaiser’s Emergency Medical Department, eventually becoming Chief of Emergency Medicine for Kaiser Orange County.

John was also rising in the ranks at what was originally DuPont Pharmaceutical, then Bristol Meyers Squibb, and later Lantheus Medical Imaging. Over 25 years, he built his career and was named Director of Sales for the Western United States. This position required quite a bit of travel, and John found himself, away from home about seventy-five percent of the time.

In 2015, with three sons aged 8, 10 and 15, the couple came to the realization that “something had to give” and

that the family could not sustain the demands of both careers. It was John who decided to step back and fully support Anu in her role. That was, in hind sight, a very wise decision, because in 2020, as we all know, the country entered into a pandemic—having an especially big impact on Anu. As Chief of Emergency Medicine, she was responsible for navigating all the new protocols in managing COVID. This was significant because all Kaiser’s medical resources had essentially shut down, with the exception of Emergency Medical Services. In



# MEET YOUR NEIGHBORS

In addition to treating COVID patients, the ER was where people came when they could not get in to see their primary care physicians. Anu describes her position at that point as incredibly busy and stressful, since the pandemic presented a whole new dynamic for the entire medical community. Fortunately, John had always considered their marriage as “non-traditional” so he was already fairly comfortable picking up all the responsibilities at home while Anu attended to the demanding medical responsibilities.

After resigning Lantheus to be present with his family, John began to explore different opportunities. He purchased a nutrition and weight loss franchise in 2019. However, the pandemic forced that business to close in 2021. Presently he consults for a rehabilitation center in Orange County, helping them obtain joint commission accreditation. Anu has also changed roles, recently stepping down from her position as Chief and transitioning to Kaiser’s Virtual Medical Center.

In April of 2020—yes in the middle of that very turbulent year—Anu came to John and said, “I want to move and find my forever home!” Although John and the boys were pretty happy with their home in Laguna Niguel, Anu had another idea. They had friends and associates who lived here in Niguel Shores, and Anu’s sister had rented in the community several years back. Anu had a hunch that the

Shores would be a good move for her family. When their present home on Windjammer appeared on the market, John happened to spot the listing and, in about 72 hours, they had an accepted offer.


The Douglas family has made the transition here to Niguel Shores very successfully. Their youngest son, Tarun, was resistant, but he is now happily embracing the change and enjoys riding his bike, surfboard on the back, to the beach. The family purchased a golf cart and loves cruising to the bluff for sunsets and walks on the beach. Both Anu and John are struck with the friendliness of people stopping to chat and welcome them. John volunteers on the Traffic and Safety Committee and looks forward to staying involved in the community. Anu appreciates the fact that the area feels safe for Tarun and his friends to ride around and explore.

The family loves to travel, and, with the exception of the COVID travel restrictions, they usually take extended family vacations each year. They have journeyed all over the world, to some favorite spots in India, South of France, Holland, and have plans for a trip to Fiji in 2022. John and his sons are all Certified Master Scuba Divers, a hobby they enjoy locally and

when they travel. For now, they are happy with their new home and lifestyle in Niguel Shores. We welcome Anu and John and their sons, and wish them all the best here in the Shores.

—Michelle Ralph and Patti Staudenbaur






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## CANINE INFLUENZA (DOG FLU)

Last month I wrote about protecting your dogs from the bacterial infection leptospirosis. This month I want to alert you to an outbreak of *dog flu* in Southern California. We have good vaccinations for this flu, and I encourage you to check with your veterinarian and get your dog protected now.

- **What causes dog flu?** Two viruses cause dog flu, the H3N2 and the H3N8. These viruses differ from human flu viruses of the same name. These viruses have been around for the past 15 years. H3N8 was originally found in horses. H3N2 came from birds.
- **How does my dog get the flu?** Influenza in dogs is spread through direct contact of respiratory secretions from infected dogs or by contact with contaminated objects. Dogs in close contact to other dogs, such as kennel and doggy day care environments, are especially at risk.
- **Is dog flu a zoonotic disease?** No people have contracted this virus from their dogs up to this time so the risk of transferring dog flu from pets to people is low, according to the CDC. That said, it is possible for a canine flu virus to mutate so that it can infect people.
- **What are the signs of dog flu?** Typical symptoms are cough, runny nose, fever, lethargy, eye discharge and reduced appetite. Not all dogs get sick when exposed to the flu virus. The severity of illness can range from no

signs to severe illness, pneumonia and, in a very small percentage of cases, even death.

- **Is there a test for dog flu?** Yes. A test to confirm this virus is available at your local vet clinic.
- **Is the dog flu treatable?** Treatment is “symptomatic,” meaning the pet gets supportive care, such as administration of fluids to maintain hydration, and antibiotics if needed to treat symptoms or secondary bacterial infections. No antiviral medications for dog flu are available at present.
- **How prevalent is dog flu in our area?** The number of cases has substantially increased in 2021, with 20 recently confirmed cases in Orange County, including a case contracted in a boarding facility in South Orange County. Most of the infected pets were in kennels or day care settings.
- **How do I protect my pet from dog flu?** There is a vaccination to protect against both strains of dog flu. Any dog entering a dog kennel, going to doggy daycare, engaging in dog group activities, or even going to dog parks should get vaccinated. Your veterinarian should have this vaccination. It is given in a series of two vaccines three weeks apart and then yearly.
- **How do I stay informed?** You can check the CDC website and the County Department of Public Health website for updates on the dog flu outbreak.

—Susan Davis, DVM

## CHRISTMAS MARKET PUPS

Everyone had fun at our recent Christmas Market, including lots of neighborhood dogs.



Santa Paws made a list, checked it twice, and confirmed that all our dogs deserved treats. No one naughty—all very, very nice. **HAPPY HOWL-I-DAYS!**







In the past two months, we've been in the air and on the road. A lot. Traveling to visit my husband's family in a different state, up north to see our new grandson, and on the east coast to attend a wedding of a relative which led to a wonderful time experiencing Boston, Cape Cod and a few days in New York City. We enthusiastically walked so many miles discovering our new surroundings and loved every minute! So much fun and not near enough time to do all that we wanted to do.

When we finally arrived home, unpacked, and un-jetlagged, I got back to some of my normal routine. You know, consistency. Predictability. We do travel some, but not as often as we have lately, and my lack of consistency was showing here and there. My sleep patterns were quite disrupted, and my eating was also a bit different from our normal fare. I felt those inconsistencies especially when we were home again, where we perhaps pay more attention to self-care against the backdrop of our daily lives than we do when we're on an adventure.

While traveling, it can be a challenge to stay within the boundaries of our usual behaviors—and this is very similar to when our daily home life is a little upended during the holiday season. While traveling, you're confronted with different eating schedules and, very often, different food choices. You may or may not find time for your usual exercise, and you might imbibe a bit more than usual because, well, you're on vacation, right?

When you stop and think about it, doesn't this sound like a description of navigating the holiday season! During



the holidays, our focus isn't usually about eating healthy food, or exercising, or getting enough sleep, or being cautious regarding how much egg nog we indulge in. It's about the unique indulgence that the holiday

season affords us. Yet, when examined more closely, this is a false premise of what the season is about, which is a time of gratitude, love, and service.

The holidays can be such a wonderful time, but if the consistency of healthy routines is missing, the celebrating ends up being an exercise in overindulgence. We live most of our lives trying to do our best to care for ourselves and those around us, but when November and December arrive, we suddenly and irrationally lose all understanding of the power that consistency holds for us. We are confronted with all varieties of holiday sweets and delicacies that we only see during this time of the year. Holiday parties create an excuse to go a little overboard when it comes to food and drink. And through it all, we tell ourselves that it's okay because that's what people do during the holidays. They over-indulge and they disconnect from the usual consistent patterns that keep them productive and, most important, healthy.

This holiday season, stop when confronted with temptation, whether it's at the office, a party here in our community, or with friends and family. Challenge that temptation by questioning whether it's consistent with your health goals. If the answer is no, then proceed with caution. Make the choice to just have one glass of wine at the party and only two bites from the dessert tray. Instead, focus on the crudité, any available lean protein, and the sparkling water! How do you want to feel in the morning, or on New Year's Day? And if you're generally inconsistent regarding your health, now is a great time to start practicing the habits of healthy consistency that will carry you forward into the New Year, opening the doors to a life that affords you all that you've ever hoped to experience. So, whether visiting an exotic destination, or simply celebrating the holidays with your loved ones, be smart and let healthy consistency be your guide.

*To Your Health! Sharon Stewart RN, Health Coach, [Sharon@SharonStewartRN.com](mailto:Sharon@SharonStewartRN.com)*

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IN MEMORIAM

*Patricia (Patty) Therolf*

Sunrise - March 13, 1928 — Sunset - July 28, 2021

Homeowner on Moonsail Drive since 1979

Member of Women's Club, Page Turners,

Traffic and Safety Committee

Patty and her husband Harold (Hal) Therolf loved being active in the Niguel Shores community. Hal participated in Men's Club and played Uncle Sam on the Fourth of July. Patty and Hal were awarded as Volunteers of the Year in 1994. One of Patty's favorite spots was the Bluff, gathering there with her family and friends for concerts, barbecues, special occasions, and the beautiful sunsets.

Patty is survived by her four children and nine grandchildren.

# BOARD ACTION SUMMARY

## NOVEMBER 17, 2021 BOARD MEETING: (GENERAL SESSION)

### ACCEPTED AND FILED:

- Unaudited September 2021 Financial Reports
- General Session Committee Minutes

### APPROVED:

- General Session Meeting Minutes for October 13, 2021
  - General Session Meeting Minutes from October 27, 2021 – Budget Meeting
- November 2021 Expense and Transfer (Actual)
- Resignation of Wendy Cubbon from Architectural Committee
- Ratify Approval of Transfer of \$200,000 from Pacific Western Operating to Comerica Money Market Operating Account
  - Finance Committee Recommendation to Purchase \$248,000 CD through Comerica Reserve Account with Funds from Comenity Capital Bank
- Annual Disclosure Mailing and 2022 Budget – NSCA – STII – BI
  - Updated Rules
    - Pickleball Permanent Nets
- Harvest Landscape Proposal #92111 Tree Removal Gourami Bay
  - Breaker’s Isle Gate Operator
- Replacement Surveillance Monitors for Gatehouse
- Gatehouse Monitor HDMI – Fiber Optic Extender Replacement
  - Painting Wall and Trimming Plant Material Back Along Ritz Carlton Wall

### APPEAL:

- Granted: Architectural Committee Decision – Disapproval of Driveway Expansion – Halyard Drive

### REVIEWED/DISCUSSED:

- Check Register, General Ledger and Delinquency Report (September)
  - Audit Timeline Schedule
  - Manager’s Report
- Monument Signs on Corners Along PCH
- Tree Walk Results

## BOARD MEETING: (EXECUTIVE SESSION)

### ACCEPTED AND FILED:

- Executive Session Committee Minutes

### APPROVED:

- Executive Session Meeting Minutes for October 13, 2021

### HEARINGS:

- One (1) Hearing for Violation of Rules– Overnight Parking
  - One (1) Hearing for Violation of Rules – Prohibited Parking (Obstructing Sidewalk), Beach Parking (Parked in Lower Tier), Visible Pass (Expired Pass)
- Three (3) Hearings for Violation of CC&Rs – Article IX, Section 22 – Damage to Common Area

### REVIEWED/DISCUSSED:

- Legal Update
- Reasonable Accommodation Request
- Board of Directors Mission Statement
  - Legal Analysis (September)
  - Delinquency Report (September)

**NOTE:** The last approved General Session Minutes are posted on the Bulletin Board across from the NSCA Office entrance and on the website. In addition, the General Session and Executive Session agendas for the next Board Meeting will also be posted on the Friday prior to the next meeting.

**REMINDERS:** THE NEXT BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING WILL BE HELD IN THE CONFERENCE ROOM ON THE **2nd WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 8, 2021, BEGINNING AT 6:00 P.M.**



*Issues of the Seashore News from 1973 to now are available online at [www.niguelshores.org](http://www.niguelshores.org). We would like to hear from you! Send your comments and suggestions to [seashorenews@hotmail.com](mailto:seashorenews@hotmail.com)*

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Sandy Homicz

#### Assistant Editors:

Mike Harrod (*Committees/News/Distribution*)

Patti Staudenbaur (*Clubs/Activities/News*)

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# NIGUEL SHORES

## Market Update

- AS OF NOVEMBER 2021 -

### CHANGE IN ANNUAL STATISTICS

All Price Points	2020	2021	% Change
Average Sales Price	\$2,131,930	\$2,713,233	27.3%
Average Price per SF	\$1,008	\$1,178	16.9%
Average Days on Market	61	35	-42.6%
Highest Price	\$7,600,000	\$13,750,000	80.9%
Sold Properties	32	43	34.4%
% Sold to List Price	98.4%	102.8%	4.5%

### NEW HOMES



Last 30 Days

### ACTIVE



Total

### PENDING



### SOLD



6 Months



## Merry Christmas!

Wishing you and your family health, happiness, peace and prosperity this holiday season and in the coming New Year. May the magic of the season fill your hearts all year long.





## Chris & Kathy Zoch

# ZOCH

REAL ESTATE GROUP

Niguel Shores Residents  
— and —  
Local Experts

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**NIGUEL SHORES**

# **HAPPY HOLIDAYS!**

*May your holiday season be filled with joy and happiness.  
Sending you thanks and my warmest greetings this holiday.*

**CONNIE MCKIBBAN , 949.280.3078**

**NIGUEL SHORES SPECIALIST**

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***Thinking of selling? I have buyers waiting for specific locations and types of properties in NIGUEL SHORES.***

***Please call me if you might consider selling now or in the near future, need information regarding termite companies, loan information to refinance, your model floorplan, or a free market evaluation.***

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