



130 Years of Elkdom

PORT HURON ELKS LODGE 343

EXPOSITOR

PHONE: (810) 982-8531 • FAX: (810) 982-8743 • PRO SHOP: (810) 984-1204

ISSUE NO. 366

SEPTEMBER 2026

MONTHLY PUBLICATION

SEPTEMBER HAPPENINGS

- Golfing -

1 - Person Scramble

Sunday, September 13

Mingle With Pringle

sponsor info inside page 6

Saturday, September 19

Men's Interclub

Sunday, September 27

3RD ANNUAL MINGLE WITH PRINGLE

Saturday, September 19th, 2026
\$400 per Team

Join us at the Port Huron Elks Lodge as we honor and thank Head Golf Course Superintendent Mark Pringle & his team for their outstanding service and dedication to maintaining our beautiful course. Proceeds will go towards the cost of new equipment essential to course care!

4-Man Scramble

50/50 Raffle

No Handicaps

Scorecard Drawing

Games on Course

Lunch at Oasis

Ultimate Pringle Package - \$100 per Team

Visit our website or call the Pro Shop to sign up today!
phelkslodge343.com (810) 982-8531 ext.

Diamond Art



every Wednesday
3:00 pm - 5:00 pm
and
6:00 pm - 8:00 pm

Elks Members...

Book Your Party With Us!

*Lots of great dates available
Weekdays also available*

Contact Sophia Maxon - Event Coordinator
phone: 810-982-8531 ext 4

(810) 982-8531

- Buffets or Full sit-down services
- Full service bar • Competitive prices
- Beautiful accommodations

90th Port Huron Elks 343 + Blood Drive

Monday, September 14th
12:00 pm to 5:45 pm



Exalted Ruler Message

Hello members all. Oh, look it's September already. You know what that means. Football games galore but still a lot of golf left. Be sure to get in the Mingle with Pringle event. Mark and his team need new equipment and will need the support of everyone at the Lodge to help by playing in this awesome event. You don't need to be a golfer to play in this event. There are different games on the course, so come out and join the fun.

Joe Miller and his committee can use as much help as you can give. We need more hole sponsors and players.

September is the Pink Piggy Bank Challenge month. Get rid of all your coins and support the Michigan Major Projects campaign and helping send kids to Baycliff Summer camp. All money collected will be taken to the Fall Convention at Shanty Creek.

OUR Lodge is strong because of YOU! At Port Huron Elks Lodge 343, every great event, every laugh shared, and every memory is made possible because of our amazing members, volunteers AND STAFF. Our staff is working hard to make this a great place to enjoy. Let's help them by making it a GREAT PLACE TO WORK.

Have an idea? We want to hear it. Have a question or a concern? We want to hear it as well. Please reach out to an officer or committee chair – we are here to listen. Want to make a difference? Jump in and volunteer! We NEVER have enough people. Just ask the committees. Whether it is an hour or a whole day, every helping hand makes our lodge stronger, and many hands make light work.

Kindness matters. We have initiated or reinstated over 50 new members this year and have 25 new golf members. A smile, a warm welcome or hello and a positive, friendly attitude will help make our lodge a place everyone enjoys. Remember, we are considered a large Elks Lodge and it takes a lot of work to keep it running smoothly. We have over 1,000 members and we can always use more helping hands. Don't fall into the fallacy someone else will take care of it. Step up and give a little time and support. Fall and Winter around the Lodge have many charitable activities which will need your support. Together we can continue to make Port Huron Lodge 343 a fun, welcoming, family friendly and thriving place for all our members and guests.

In closing, reconsider your obligation and support our cardinal principles of Charity, Justice, Brotherly Love, and Fidelity. I thank you all for being the heart of our lodge and I appreciate each and every one of you. READY ELKS? LET'S GO.

Fraternally Yours,
John C. Cuthbertson, PER
Exalted Ruler



"Be PROUD to be a member and show your Elks Membership Card"

Go to Facebook.com for all the latest updates...

- PHElksLodge343
- PortHuronElksBanquets
- phelkslodge343GolfClub



In Remembrance of our Departed Members

• **Scott D. Perkins, P.E.R.**

Initiated March 12, 1992

December 12, 1955 - August 5, 2026

• **Sharen Brenton** - August 2, 2026

Former First Lady and wife of PER Robert Brenton, who passed a few years ago



Our prayers to the families who have lost a loved one...

Cindy Perkins ~ Loss of Spouse

Jeff Perkins ~ Loss of Brother

Welcome NEW MEMBERS...

Ryan Anderson
James Lottner
Susan Layman
John Layman

Reinstated...

Armando Fonseca and Rick Clink

SPEEDY RECOVERY

We wish a speedy recovery for our members who have been either home ill or hospitalized.

PER Marv Ohrling
John Stewart
Theresa Conroy
PER Joe Barbe

Tom Erd
Larry Allison
John Chambliss
Jeff Blashill

Pat Hudgens
Tom Coleman

We're Coming Back

Sisters Act Out

is a musical comedy act performed by women of senior status who will make you laugh right out loud by their music, funny lyrics, and crazy antics!



TICKETS:
\$35 person

Thursday, October 8th - doors open 5 pm
Dinner - 6pm (spaghetti, salad, garlic bread, dessert)
Performance 7 - 8 pm



Purchase tickets at the Elks Lodge: 810-982-8531
or by texting Jamie Fagen at 810-434-4727

Proceeds to benefit The Ladies Invitational

Reappointment of District Deputy Grand Exalted Ruler



On behalf of the membership of Port Huron Lodge 343 and the Great Metro District 4200, we extend our warmest congratulations to longtime member Scott R. Harris on his reappointment to a second consecutive term as District Deputy Grand Exalted Ruler for the 2026-2027 fraternal year.

In this distinguished role, Scott will continue to oversee and support the nine Lodges within the Great Metro District. He will provide vital administrative leadership, strategic guidance, financial oversight, and membership development support to ensure the ongoing success of each Lodge throughout the upcoming year.

We express our sincere gratitude to Scott for his unwavering dedication, exemplary leadership, and continued service to Port Huron Lodge 343, the Great Metro District, and the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks.

Congratulations, Scott, on this well-deserved recognition.
Jan Wyllie, Expositor Editor

New members initiated in July



The Port Huron Elks Lodge 343 is pleased to announce the initiation of 4 new members during our most recent ceremony held on Monday, July 13th pictured with Exalted Ruler John C. Cuthbertson, PER.

86th blood drive nearing next goal

The Port Huron Elks Lodge 343 held our 86th blood drive on Monday, July 20th, continuing our efforts to help close the gap on blood shortages! 35 donors arrived to provide the "Gift of Life." We collected 24 whole blood pints and 4 Power Reds (8 pints), for a total of 32 units, including one first-time donor.

Together, the Port Huron Elks Lodge 343 and the American Red Cross have collected over 2,940 units (pints), or more than 367 gallons of blood, since our first drive on January 7, 2013. We're well on our way to reaching our next goal of 3,000 pints (375 gallons)!

Our 87th blood drive is scheduled for Monday, August 17th. Please consider registering today at www.redcross.org.

Michigan Elks Major Project

The Michigan Elks Major Project provides financial assistance and resources to Michigan children under 18 with disabilities, helping improve their health, independence, and quality of life. Established in 1957, the program assists approximately 400-500 children each year, regardless of race, creed, or color.

Support may include:

- Wheelchairs, orthopedic shoes, hearing aids, and communication devices
- iPads and other technology for communication and learning
- Physical, speech, equine, and other therapies
- Specialized therapeutic camps
- Emergency assistance for urgent needs

Families can apply through their local Elks Lodge Major Project Chairman or Exalted Ruler. Funds are paid directly to approved doctors, therapists, camps, or vendors.

Michigan Elks Lodges support the program through year-round fundraising events, helping provide individual assistance, camp scholarships, and emergency grants to children across the state.

For More Information or Assistance:

Contact your local Michigan Elks Lodge Major Project Chairman or Exalted Ruler, or contact:

Diane Dusendang, Executive Director

majorproject@mielks.org

(616) 723-2763

michiganelksmajorproject.org

The Michigan Elks Major Project is dedicated to helping children with disabilities and improving their quality of life throughout Michigan.

BENEVOLENT AND PROTECTIVE ORDER OF ELKS



MEMBERS!

PLEASE BE AWARE!

Please don't buy anything from companies and/or people advertising in the comments section of our Facebook posts.

It seems some unapproved vendors have hacked their way into our social media system. We continue to take steps to block and delete the comments when they are noticed.



We just want to make sure our membership is aware of this concern. Thank you.

Port Huron Elks Lodge 343

VETERAN'S CORNER 63

Port Huron Elks Lodge 343 Veterans & Spouse, please know you have many options available to meet and greet with fellow Veteran Groups in our area. There is a drop-in Group Meeting, open to all Veterans in St. Clair County every Friday from 1:00 pm to 2:00 pm at the St. Clair County Community Mental Health, in Room 101 located at 311 Electric Avenue. The "DAV", Disabled American Veterans Adjutant Chapter 12, "To the Men & Women Who Served", meet on the 2nd Monday of every month at 7:00 pm, doors open at 6:00 pm with light refreshments and snacks available. This facility is located at 2115 Military Street. The St. Clair County Veterans Affairs will be hosting a 4-person Scramble golf outing on Monday, September 14th, at our beautiful Port Huron Elks Lodge Golf course. All these mentioned events are located right here in Port Huron. If interested, the next time you see a Veteran, ask them "What is your MOS?" This stands for Military - Occupational - Specialty, what "Job" they did while serving.

• **Upcoming Events:** A happy 79th Birthday to the United States AIR FORCE, on September 18th. The U.S. Air Force was founded on Thursday, September 18, 1947, and was established by transfer of personnel from the Army Air Forces with the enactment of the National Security Act of 1947. It is the second youngest branch of the United States Armed Forces. A special thank you to our Port Huron Elks Lodge 343 US Air Force Veterans. Our next few bi-monthly free "Coffee & Donut Days" from 8:30 am to 12-noon on Wednesday, October 14th in the Veterans Wellness room at the Yale, and then again on Thursday, December 10th. An early reminder, we will hold our annual Hot Dog Roast on Tuesday, November 10th from 9:00 am to 2:30 pm for Veterans, Active Military, First Responders & Spouses at the Yale VA, Veterans Clinic. Please feel free to stop in, even without a scheduled appointment, we would enjoy your company. Mark your calendars for the next Veterans Appreciation Day & FREE Luncheon on Wednesday, May 19, 2027, from 9:30 am to 2:30 pm. This event is held annually on the 3rd Wednesday in May. These events are sponsored by Port Huron Elks Lodge 343, the MiElks Association, ENVSC, and McLaren-Port Huron Yale VA.

• **On another note:** The MiElks and Lodge 343 continued with our monthly (2) \$25.00 free gas gift card "give-a-way" program as we are now in our 4th year. For the month of July, Ted Hendrick, US Navy Seabees along with Dennis Pearson, US Army were both drawn for our monthly Marathon Gas Gift card drawing, congratulations! The Yale Veterans Clinic of McLaren/Port Huron Yale Community Health Center is located at 7470 Brockway Road, Yale, MI. 48097. To our Port Huron Elks Lodge 343 Veterans and newly initiated Veterans, your time served is very interesting to us, please consider sharing your Military Service story to Scott R. Harris DDGER, ENVSC VAVS Rep at scottharris55@comcast.net for a future Veterans Corner publication. The Yale Veterans Clinic of McLaren/Port Huron Yale Community Health Center is located at 7470 Brockway Road, Yale, MI. 48097

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Supporting Our Veterans

The Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks (BPOE) operates under its enduring commitment: "So long as there are veterans, the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks will never forget them." Through nationwide programs, the Elks support former military members with housing assistance, healthcare, rehabilitation, and emergency aid.

Key initiatives include helping formerly unhoused veterans transition to permanent housing, providing volunteers and support at VA medical centers and veterans homes, funding adaptive sports and therapy programs, and offering emergency financial assistance to veterans facing urgent hardships.



A Big Thank You to Greg & Sue Hudy!

A huge Kudos to Greg & Sue Hudy for their many years of dedicated service to Port Huron Elks Lodge #343!

From heading up Club 343, to Greg's years as Lodge Secretary and Sue's service as Lodge Secretary's Assistant, they have given so much of their time, energy, and talent to our Lodge.

Sue also deserves special recognition for heading up our annual Craft Show, a tremendous event that has become a special part of Lodge 343.

Greg's service extended beyond our Lodge as well, serving with distinction as DDGER and representing the Elks with pride and dedication.

While Greg and Sue are stepping away from their official Lodge duties, we know they aren't going anywhere! They continue to support our Lodge, participate in events, and remain an important part of the Lodge 343 family.

Thank you, Greg and Sue, for all the years, countless hours, and dedication you have given to Lodge 343. Your contributions have made a lasting difference, and we truly appreciate everything you continue to do.

Kudos to two outstanding Elks — and thank you!

Jan Wyllie, Expositor Editor



SAVE THE DATE

FALL FAMILY HARVEST Party

Sunday, October 4th
11am - 2pm

**CANDY SCRAMBLE
RELAY GAMES
PAINT YOUR OWN
PUMPKIN
FURRY FRIENDS & MORE!**

**Tickets - \$20/child
\$10/adult**

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Sean Culler
ER John & Tami Cuthbertson
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William & Brandi DeBell
Dave & Colleen DeLong
Brian DePuey
Sharron DePuey
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Dianne Weaver
Ryan & Stacy Welser
Robert & Helen Weston
Kenneth Wilhelm
Brian & Barbara Winters
Jan Wyllie
James Young
Chester Zaremba
Roger Zeller
Chuck & Judy Zimmer
Stephen Zimmer
Jason & Amy Zimis
Bob & Sharon Zmolk

From Brandon Archibald, Golf Professional



As summer begins to wind down, there is still plenty of golf left on the calendar at the Port Huron Elks! September brings a great mix of competition, camaraderie, and some of our favorite events of the season.

We kick things off on Sunday, September 6 with our Labor Day Mixer. Based on participation, this event will be played using tee times. It's a great opportunity to enjoy some holiday-weekend golf and meet up with fellow members for a fun day on the course.

On Sunday, September 13, we turn things over to the individual golfer for the One-Man Scramble. Players get multiple chances at each shot but have to live with their decisions once they choose a ball. It's always a fun format and a chance to see just how low you can go when you get another crack at the shots you wish you could have back!

Then, on Saturday, September 19, we welcome back Mingle with Pringle. This has become a great September tradition and another opportunity to get together for a fun day of golf as we head into the final stretch of the season.

September also brings the 2026 Men's Interclub Tournament, where our Elks team will represent the Lodge against the other participating clubs. Our team will be determined through the Club Championship and Interclub Qualifier held in August, and we look forward to cheering on the players who earn the opportunity to represent Port Huron Elks.

While September may signal that fall is approaching, it certainly doesn't mean golf season is over. There is still plenty happening at the Elks, and we hope to see everyone taking advantage of some of the best golfing weather of the year.

As always, watch for emails, Golf Genius notifications, and updates from the Golf Shop for registration information and complete event details.

See you on the course!

Expositor Sponsors, submit by mail or drop off at Lodge with \$20.00

Name(s)

If asterisk behind
your name,
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Mail to: **PH Elks Lodge**
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☐ New ☐ Renewal

3RD ANNUAL

MINGLE WITH PRINGLE

SPONSORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

PLATINUM	Includes (4) 18-Hole rounds for 2 players with carts PLUS \$100 food credit	
GOLD	Includes (4) 18-Hole rounds for 2 players with carts	
SILVER	Includes (2) 18-Hole rounds for 2 players with carts	
BRONZE	Includes (1) 18-Hole rounds for 2 players with carts	

Contact Joe Miller (586) 822-9476 or Sophia Maxon (porthuronelksevents@outlook.com) for more information!

Message from the GER

New rally cry reminds us to give back to community



Sandy and I are honored and humbled to represent the Order as First Lady and Grand Exalted Ruler for the 2026-2027 fraternal year. My first thank you is to my wife Sandy, for her ongoing support and for always keeping me grounded as we embark on this journey together.

We owe a great deal of gratitude to our friends, family, and fellow Elks—thank you for everything. The tremendous support we received from so many individuals throughout the years has given us the confidence

and drive to perform our roles.

My theme for this year is **READY ELKS—LET'S GO!** You will be hearing more about this theme throughout the year as you attend District Deputy clinics. We also shared some of the reasons behind the theme during our discussions at the Grand Lodge Convention and in the Program Manual.

The Elks have always been among the first to respond when we see others in need. This ready-to-share attitude is the basis of my theme. When Elks hear about an issue, the rally cry Ready Elks? rings out, and we respond Let's Go!

This Let's Go! attitude carries through to our desire to give back to our local communities. A primary source of funding for many of these programs is the Elks National Foundation, which is known as the Great Heart of Elksdom. The ENF helps build stronger communities through programs that support youth, serve veterans, and meet needs in the areas where we live and work.

The funding for scholarships has been set at almost \$6 million for 2026-2027. Youth programs have been set at almost \$3 million, and veterans programs have been set at over \$7 million.

The Community Investments Program, a series of grants that have been meeting specific local needs, turns 21 years old in 2026-2027. The CIP grant allocation total has been boosted to \$18.8 million.

The funding for state grants, which help our State Major Projects, is set at almost \$12 million. This level of funding allows the Elks to be a major difference in our communities. The support we provide makes the Foundation's work possible.

The goal we have established for the 2026-2027 fraternal year is \$5.25 per Member. When you consider the outstanding achievements of this program, I think you will agree this is a small price. I know I feel good doing my part for these programs.

Thank you for your continued efforts as we grow and improve our Lodges and the great works you are doing for your communities. I know you will all be quick to respond when you hear the call: **READY ELKS—LET'S GO!**

Grand Exalted Ruler Timothy F. Jaege

Golfing Joke of the Day

A husband and wife are playing in the annual Elks Lodge mixed-couple tournament, and after she accidentally tees off directly into a deep, muddy swamp, he sighs and says, "Honey, I love our lodge's focus on charity, but I didn't think your game plan today would involve donating our brand-new Titleists directly to the local turtle community!" She just smiles, hand him his driver, and replies, "Well sweetheart, true Elks always practice generous community outreach, so get ready to network with the frogs when you try to hit your next slice!"

From the Board of Directors

OUR Lodge is strong because of YOU! At Port Huron Elks Lodge 343, every great event, every laugh shared, and every memory is made possible because of our amazing members, volunteers, AND STAFF. Our staff is working hard to make this a great place to enjoy. Let's help them by making it a GREAT PLACE TO WORK.

Have an idea? We want to hear it. Have a question or a concern? We want to hear it as well. Please reach out to an officer or committee chair – we are here to listen.

Want to make a difference? Jump in and volunteer! We NEVER have enough people. Just ask the committees. Whether it is an hour or a whole day, every helping hand makes our lodge stronger, and many hands make light work.

Kindness matters. We have initiated or reinstated over 50 new members this year and have 25 new golf members. A smile, a warm welcome or hello and a positive, friendly attitude will help make our Lodge a place everyone enjoys.

Remember, we are considered a large Elks Lodge by Grand Lodge standards and it takes a lot of work to keep it running smoothly. We have over 1,000 members and we can always use more helping hands. Don't fall into the fallacy someone else will take care of it. Step up and give a little time and support your Lodge. Fall and Winter months around the Lodge have many charitable activities which will need your support. Together we can continue to make Port Huron Lodge 343 a fun, welcoming, and thriving place for all our members and guests.

CLUB 343

YOUR TICKET TO FUN!

Now is the time to secure your ticket for the upcoming **Club 343** season (October 2026 - May 2027).

We are planning so much fun for the monthly event with **new themes**, so many **prizes**, lots of **raffles** and **so much more!**

Our kickoff event is going to be filled with **SPOOKY FUN** on **OCTOBER 10TH!**

Stay tuned for more info coming soon!

Contact
Lynn Bowman (810) 531-0650
 or **Laura Nesbitt (810) 531-1531**
 to secure your ticket today!

2026-27 LODGE OFFICERS

Exalted Ruler.....John C. Cuthbertson, PER
 Esteemed Leading Knight.....Andrew Kroetsch
 Esteemed Loyal Knight.....Timothy J. Meikle
 Esteemed Lecturing Knight.....Donald W. Allen II
 Esquire.....Sean Culler
 Chaplain.....Tracey L. Cameron
 Tiler.....Robert J. Fitch, PER
 Inner Guard.....Michael Halifax
 Secretary.....Gary L. Nesbitt II, PER
 Treasurer.....Joe D. Miller
 Presiding Justice.....Frank Mitchell Jr.
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Jerry J. Thibodeau

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Hans Medina

Randy Johnston • Butch Hills

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Vice President.....Gary L. Nesbitt II, PER

Secretary/Treasurer...Steven M. Peters, PER

EXPOSITOR Editor Jan Wyllie

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Monica G. Franks - ENVSC Deputy Rep.

Patricia Latimer - ENVSC Deputy Rep.

Jean Chapdelaine - MEA State Newsletter Editor

Elk of the Year

Cody Verbeke

Officer of the Year

Andrew Kroetsch

Citizen of the Year

TBA

Sweetheart of Elksdom

Kim Collins

Outstanding Service-Commission

Fred Massad

Youth of the Year

Rylee Thompson

Outstanding Citizen of the Year

Daniel McVety

Jim Goodrich Lifetime Achievement Award

Larry Allison

Veteran Volunteers of the Year

Penny Mertz & Donna Hazelwood

Couple of the Year

John & Carrie Woolman IV

Port Huron Elks Lodge 343
 3292 Beach Road
 Port Huron, MI 48060

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Especially for:

SEPTEMBER 2026

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
Salute To LABOR DAY 		1 Bar 11am-10pm Kitchen 12pm-10pm	2 Bar 11am-10pm Kitchen 12pm-10pm DIAMOND ART 3-5 & 6-8	3 Bar 11am-12am Kitchen 11am-10pm	4 Bar 11am-11pm Kitchen 12pm-9pm	5 Bar 11am-11pm Kitchen 12pm-9pm
6 Bar 11am-8pm Kitchen 12pm-6pm	7 <i>Labor Day</i> Bar 11am-10pm Kitchen Closed	8 Bar 11am-10pm Kitchen 12pm-10pm	9 Bar 11am-10pm Kitchen 12pm-10pm DIAMOND ART 3-5 & 6-8	10 Bar 11am-12am Kitchen 11am-10pm	11 Bar 11am-11pm Kitchen 12pm-9pm	12 Bar 11am-11pm Kitchen 12pm-9pm
13 <i>Grandparents' Day</i> Bar 11am-8pm Kitchen 12pm-6pm 1=PERSON SCRAMBLE	14 Blood Drive-noon to 5:45 Bar 11am-10pm Kitchen Closed LODGE MEETING Initiation- 6:30pm	15 Bar 11am-10pm Kitchen 12pm-10pm	16 Bar 11am-10pm Kitchen 12pm-10pm DIAMOND ART 3-5 & 6-8	17 Bar 11am-12am Kitchen 11am-10pm	18 Bar 11am-11pm Kitchen 12pm-9pm	19 Bar 11am-11pm Kitchen 12pm-9pm MINGE WITH PRINGLE GOLF
20 Bar 11am-8pm Kitchen 12pm-6pm	21 Bar 11am-10pm Kitchen Closed BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING 6:30pm Monday League Banquet 6pm	22 <i>First Day of Autumn</i> Bar 11am-10pm Kitchen 12pm-10pm	23 Bar 11am-10pm Kitchen 12pm-10pm DIAMOND ART 3-5 & 6-8	24 Bar 11am-12am Kitchen 11am-10pm	25 Bar 11am-11pm Kitchen 12pm-9pm	26 Bar 11am-11pm Kitchen 12pm-9pm
27 Bar 11am-8pm Kitchen 12pm-6pm MEN'S INTERCLUB GOLF	28 Bar 11am-10pm Kitchen Closed	29 Bar 11am-10pm Kitchen 12pm-10pm	30 Bar 11am-10pm Kitchen 12pm-10pm DIAMOND ART 3-5 & 6-8	Christmas Arts & Crafts Show, Nov. 21, 2026 Looking for volunteers day of show 9 am - 4pm please contact Aliena Drummond at 810-499-3605 if interested		