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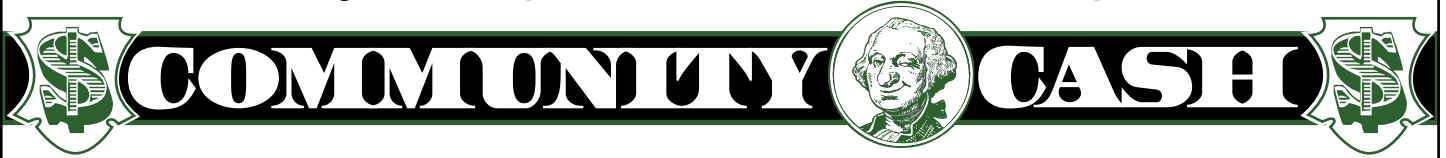
**Raymond M. Neeb Jr.**

*May this Lighthouse Shine in Your Memory*

Rebuilt and dedicated to Ray by Jim Nichols – see article on Page 3

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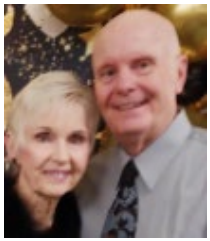
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## A TRIBUTE TO RAY NEEB

By Jan Nichols



For more than 19 years, our weekly card games with friends on Habersham led us to Plantation Oaks. We ended up moving to Plantation Oaks in 2020. Each visit included passing by Ray Neeb's lighthouse on the Plantation Oaks Boulevard. Until a couple of years ago, its warm, welcoming light was a comforting sight. After Ray moved to rehab and, tragically, passed away, we felt compelled to honor his memory by refurbishing the lighthouse, especially after Jeff mentioned that Ray had built it himself.

I approached Jeff with the idea of restoring the lighthouse to its former glory. With the assistance of Gary Watkins and his truck, we transported the lighthouse to our home. Jim then embarked on what turned out to be a more extensive project than anticipated. He meticulously disassembled the entire structure and, aside from preserving the cone, replaced the tiers, windows, door, and all wiring and electrical components, including the lantern room.

After several months of dedicated work, the lighthouse is now rebuilt and shining brightly once again at its new address, 20 Claremount. I hope that Ray can see it from Heaven and take pride in both his original creation and Jim's efforts to revive it.



## A HEARTFELT THANK YOU AND A WARM WELCOME!

By Dana Matlock



As we welcome a new month, I want to take a moment to reflect on our journey and share some heartfelt acknowledgements.

First and foremost, a huge thank you to our past co-editor, Joanne Kegel. For over

two years, Jo poured her time, energy, and creativity into the production of the monthly POP as co-editor, writer, and contributor. Her passion for connecting our residents through stories, updates, and humor has helped to make this newsletter a cherished part of our community. We will miss her, but we wish her all the best in her future endeavors!

With change comes new opportunities, and we are excited to introduce our new co-editor, Kevin Gallagher! We are thrilled to have Chef Kevin on board as co-editor in addition to his monthly recipe column. (And don't we all love those easy and delicious recipes with a fun and informative introduction to each article.) With his knack for storytelling and fresh ideas, we can't wait to see how he will help shape our newsletter moving forward. So, let's all extend a warm welcome and our support to Kevin as he takes on this exciting role!

Lastly, I want to express my gratitude to all our talented writers and contributors. Your stories and insights are what make this newsletter vibrant and relevant. Whether you're sharing a recipe, an event update, or a personal anecdote, your contributions are invaluable.

A big shoutout also goes to our dedicated delivery team — you ensure that every issue reaches our community's doorsteps with care.

Most of you have been with us since the beginning and are continuing your support into our fifth year of publishing. Thank you all for your hard work, dedication, and commitment!

As we move forward, let's continue to build and expand our publication together celebrating the vibrant community we call home. Here's to new adventures ahead!

### A Valentine Wish!

“This is my wish for you: Comfort on difficult days, smiles when sadness intrudes, rainbows to follow the clouds, laughter to kiss your lips, sunsets to warm your heart, hugs when spirits sag, beauty for your eyes to see, friendships to brighten your being, faith so that you can believe, confidence for when you doubt, courage to know yourself, patience to accept the truth, Love to complete your life.”

*Ralph Waldo Emerson*



## **"BUBBLES UP!" A Song by Jimmy Buffett**

Submitted by Jo Kegel



The song "Bubbles Up" is about regaining your orientation when you feel lost. For context, when Jimmy finished co-writing this with Will Kimbrough in 2023 and recorded it, he



was dying from a rare form of skin cancer. Jimmy learned the term "Bubbles Up" during a survival training course and used it when he was about to take off in an F-14 fighter jet from an aircraft carrier. When he was about to take off, his instructor said, "Remember, Rock Star, Bubbles Up!"

Buffett was a pilot for over 30 years and was a big supporter of the Navy and Marines. He is noted as saying that the survival training he received for the F-14 Tomcat flight helped save his life when he lost control of a seaplane on takeoff. Paul McCartney praised the song, saying Buffett "turned a diving phrase that is used to train people underwater, into a metaphor for life. When you're confused and don't know where you are, just follow the bubbles — they'll take you up to the surface and straighten you out right away."

"If you've ever fallen out of a boat or been spun upside down and around by a rough ocean wave, you know that survival tip sailors and divers use: Bubbles Up. Air bubbles always go up, leading you to the surface where you can breathe freely again. Bubbles Up is also a great life philosophy. When life tosses you around like a wild wave, pause, exhale, and follow the bubbles up." – Regina Brett

**SONG LYRICS:** "When this world starts a-reelin' from that pressure drop feelin', we're just treading water each day. There's a way to feel better, be well set to weather the storms 'til the sun shines again.

When your compass is spinnin' and you're lost on the way, like a leaf in the wind, friend, hear me when I say...

**(CHORUS)** *Bubbles up...they will point you towards home, no matter how deep or how far you roam. They will show you the surface, the plot, and the purpose. So, when the journey gets long just know that you are loved, there is light up above, and the joy is always enough... Bubbles up.*

To my friends who are jolly, when melancholy knocks, sometimes they let her in, to sit and share stories of flops and of glories, it ain't half as bad as the bends.

Sometimes living's a struggle, multiplied double, but they love it too much for the party to end...

**(CHORUS)** *Bubbles up...they will point you towards home, no matter how deep or how far you roam.*

*They will show you the surface, the plot, and the purpose. So, when the journey gets long just know that you are loved, there is light up above, and the joy is always enough... Bubbles up.*

Let's pop a cork to the rough and the right, to the bright blazing days, and the sweet starry nights...**Bubbles up.**"

The melody is sweet and touching, far from his party songs. I hope you hear it sometime. -Jo



## **BRINGING IN THE NEW YEAR**



Many thanks to John & Kim Clabaugh, Frank Amaturro, Chris Davis, and their band of helpers for organizing such a fantastic New Year's Eve party! The atmosphere was vibrant, the decorations were stunning, and the DJ and the games were fun. Every detail was perfectly executed. Your hard work truly made the night unforgettable for everyone.





# WHY ADDING LEMONS TO YOUR WATER MAY BE A SERIOUS MISSTEP

*Submitted by John Mercurio*



You've seen it in countless restaurants and cafes that ubiquitous slice of lemon floating in a glass of water. It seems harmless, even refreshing. But what if that innocent-looking citrus garnish is actually a silent saboteur of your health?



From dental disasters to digestive dilemmas, the reasons to reconsider your lemon water habit are more numerous than you might think. So, before you pucker up for your next sip, let's squeeze out the truth about why ordering lemons in your water might just be a zesty mistake.

## 1. Tooth Enamel Erosion: The Acid Attack

That refreshing zing you feel when sipping lemon water? It's actually your tooth enamel crying out in distress. The citric acid in lemons is a formidable enemy to your pearly whites, capable of eroding the protective layer of your teeth over time. This erosion can also lead to increased sensitivity and a higher risk of cavities. And as the enamel wears away, the softer, more vulnerable dentin underneath becomes exposed. This can result in teeth that are more susceptible to staining, chipping, and even painful sensitivity to hot and cold temperatures.

## 2. Digestive Distress: A Sour Sensation

While some swear by lemon water as a digestive aid, for many, it's a recipe for gastrointestinal chaos. The high acidity of lemon juice can be a nightmare for those sensitive stomachs, particularly if consumed on an empty stomach. It's like throwing a lit match into a pool of gasoline. For individuals with conditions like gastroesophageal reflux disease or acid reflux, lemon water can exacerbate symptoms. If you are experiencing frequent stomach upset after your lemon water ritual, it might be time to consider a less acidic alternative.

## 3. Bacterial Bonanza: Lemon Wedge Woes

That innocent-looking lemon wedge on the rim of your glass might be harboring more than just a burst of flavor. In fact, it could be a veritable petri dish of bacteria. Restaurant lemons often pass through multiple hands before reaching your drink, and let's face it, not everyone's hygiene practices are up to snuff. It's like playing Russian roulette with your immune system you never know when you might hit the bacterial jackpot.

## 4. Canker Sore Catalyst: A Painful Proposition

For those prone to canker sores, ordering lemon in your water is like inviting a tiny torture session in your mouth. The high acidity of lemon juice can irritate the delicate tissues in your mouth, potentially triggering the formation of these painful ulcers. If you're craving a flavored water option, consider infusing your H<sub>2</sub>O with less acidic fruits like berries or cucumber. Your taste buds get a treat, and your mouth lining gets to live another day in peace.

## 5. Migraine Trigger: A Headache in Waiting

For some unfortunate souls, that refreshing glass of lemon water could be the prelude to a throbbing headache. Citrus fruits, including lemons, have been identified as potential migraine triggers for certain individuals. It's like playing a game of neurological Russian roulette – you never know when that zesty sip might set off a cranial fireworks display. For those seeking a migraine-friendly flavor boost, consider herbs like mint or basil, which can add a refreshing twist without the neurological Russian roulette.

## 6. Medication Interactions: A Risky Mix

What many people don't realize is that their innocent glass of lemon water could be interfering with their medication regimen. Citrus fruits, including lemons, can interact with certain drugs, potentially altering their effectiveness or causing unexpected side effects. It's like trying to tune a radio while someone else is changing the station – you're not going to get the result you're looking for.

## 7. The Myth of Alkalizing: Lemon Water's False Promise

One of the most pervasive myths about lemon water is its supposed ability to "alkalize" the body. This claim is not only scientifically unfounded but also demonstrates a fundamental misunderstanding of how the human body works. It's like believing that wearing red underwear will turn your skin blue – it simply doesn't add up.

In conclusion, while lemon water might seem like a harmless or even beneficial addition to your diet, it's clear that this citrusy concoction comes with its fair share of pitfalls. So, the next time a waiter asks if you'd like lemon with your water, maybe you'll pause and think, "When life gives you lemons... maybe just stick with water instead." Your body might just thank you for leaving the lemons in the fruit bowl where they belong.

*Excerpts from an internet article by Emma Bates*



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## HOME OWNERS (FMO)

By James Pursley, Plantation Oaks FMO Rep



Happy February everyone, I'm back, a lot has happened since Christmas and New Years. I hope you all had a wonderful and safe holiday season. First, I want to thank Don Stanton for the informative and to-the-point article, in last month's POP. Now it's back to me!

In last month's article you can see the major accomplishments the FMO (Federation of Manufactured Homeowners) has made. It demonstrates the importance of the FMO. For our new residents of Plantation Oaks, the FMO (Federation of Manufactured Homeowners) is crucial in advocating for homeowners on leased land, keeping a close eye on actions and legislation from park owners to help keep them on the "Straight and Narrow."

Trust me, this is a well-organized organization. I was a home builder for over 40 years in my "previous life" and have seen a lot of scams and organizations come and go. This is not one of them. The FMO is here to stay. However, it depends on its membership - that is us.

You may be wondering how I got involved in this. When I moved here from the mountains of North Georgia, I met the love of my life. When we married, my wife owned a home in Plantation Oaks, while I owned a home in Palm Coast that had a pool on the canal and an outdoor kitchen. After our wedding, we decided to move into my home. She listed her Plantation Oaks home for sale, setting a price higher than the market value at that time, possibly as a security measure in case things didn't work out between us.

We lived in Palm Coast for about two years when the problems started – and no, she didn't leave me. First, the pool pump malfunctioned, and then other issues with the pool began to emerge. Our "pool boy" retired – yes, we had the only pool boy old enough to retire. Carol often complained about his age, but he came with the house. As the yard began to have problems, I realized from my experience owning several erosion control companies that fixing it would be costly. We had a serious conversation about moving to Plantation Oaks, and when someone expressed interest in buying our Palm Coast home, it was a no-brainer – we moved. We had lived here for about a year when Carol mentioned that the FMO was having a meeting and suggested I attend to see for myself what it was about. Bob and Dana Matlock were conducting the meeting. As they say, the rest is history. And for you non-

believers who said it wouldn't work out; Carol and I just celebrated our 10th wedding anniversary.

To become a member of the FMO all you need to do is get in touch with me, James Pursley [jpinvest129@gmail.com](mailto:jpinvest129@gmail.com), or 386-986-9632 or better yet go to [fmo.org](http://fmo.org) where you can pay with a credit card. You receive all of this service for just \$30.00/year or \$75.00/ for 3 years. You will not be disappointed.

In closing, please stay safe and consider joining or renewing your FMO membership. It's a small investment for significant benefits. Until next month, James.

## CELEBRATING FEBRUARY

By Dana Matlock



February may be the shortest month of the year, but it is brimming with holidays that provide opportunities for connection, celebration, and reflection. Here are some of the most popular holidays in February:

1. **Valentine's Day** (February 14): A day dedicated to love and affection, Valentine's Day is perfect to celebrate relationships with family and friends. Whether it's sending heartfelt cards, sharing a special meal, or participating in community events, there are many ways to express love and appreciation.



2. **Groundhog Day** (February 2): This quirky holiday brings a bit of fun and tradition. Groundhog Day is a great excuse to engage in some light-hearted conversation about weather predictions, folklore, and even plan a viewing party for the famous groundhog's shadow.



3. **Presidents' Day** (Third Monday of February): This federal holiday honors the leaders of the United States, especially George Washington and Abraham Lincoln.

4. **National Heart Month**: While not a holiday in the traditional sense, February is recognized as National Heart Month, emphasizing the importance of heart health. An excellent opportunity to participate in health fairs, workshops, or exercise classes focusing on heart health. Engaging in group walks or healthy cooking classes can encourage better health and socialization.

5. **Mardi Gras** (Date varies): This festive occasion is celebrated with vibrant parades, music, and delicious food. It's a wonderful opportunity to share the spirit of inclusivity and joy.



Let's celebrate February together!



## WHY CAN'T A WOMAN BE MORE LIKE A MAN?

By Joe Cortese



As I sat on December 31, 2024, contemplating my usual New Year's resolutions—lose weight, exercise more, eat better—I realized that I've never kept a single resolution in my life. That's not to say that it's impossible for me to change. However, it usually takes something drastic, like the mild heart

attack which led me to give up cigars.

So, the case in point is I've just spent three miserable days in bed with a severe sinus infection that I've probably had for at least six months. I was too stubborn to listen to my wife and go to the doctor while it was still mild. Two days after Christmas, I ended up at urgent care and now have to take three very nasty-tasting medicines with instructions to go to the emergency room if it doesn't clear up in a week. Maybe it is time for something drastic!

So being of reasonably sound mind and body (kinda) I do hereby resolve to start trying to listen to my wife especially in matters of health. To boost my odds of success, I'm 'not' calling this a 'New Year's Resolution'—let's just say it's a moment of clarity or Zen. After all, we all know how jinxed those resolutions can be! And while I'm sure that some of our male readers will call it a moment of weakness and insanity, the deed is done! I've already promised my wife. The genie is out of the bottle, and you can't unring the bell. And speaking strictly for myself, it's about time I admit I **am** too damn hardheaded! I'm not sure if that's an Italian thing or just a male trait but my wife's usually smarter about health issues than me.

Once she saved my life by having her doctor call me and tell me that he directed Glenda to bring me to his office "right now"! I ended up in surgery that day. Then there's the times I've spent months needlessly suffering with a broken foot, fractured elbow, or torn rotator cuff because I was in denial. I even gashed my foot to the bone on a trailer hitch and drove from Miami to the Carolina's and back before getting it stitched up. So okay, maybe that's a little more than hardheadedness but at least I'm not alone!

Over the years I've known a lot of stubborn men who have ignored their wives and doctors and paid the price in pain. I'm not naming names, but you guys know who you are. They say wisdom comes with age and, Brothers, we're there.

So, fellas, this year let's try listening to our wives and doctors. Who knows? It might just keep us around for another year!

In the classic film "My Fair Lady" Rex Harrison sings an extremely sexist song, "*Why Can't a Woman Be More Like a Man.*" Thinking back on that, I'm thankful women aren't more like men—imagine the chaos!



By Rich Bencal



Happy February to all in Plantation Oaks. Our day light is getting longer, and temperatures are getting nicer each day. This month's trivia is all about the food industry whether it is a type of food or a business. Happy Valentines and Presidents Day to all. As always, the answers will be on another page of the POP. Good luck!

### QUESTIONS:

1. What was the name of the first Subway Shop?
2. What fast food company has the most locations?
3. Where was the first popsicle invented?
4. Where was the first Dunkin Donuts location?
5. Where was the first Domino's Pizza shop?
6. What is the oldest major soft drink in the US?
7. Where were the first candy kisses made?
8. Where was the first McDonald location?
9. Where were potato chips first made?
10. In what US city was the Reuben Sandwich invented?

### BEAUTY TIPS

By Terry Johnson



#### Under-Eye Bags Fix

Try a gentle eye massage. "Using your fingers, gently massage the area around your eyes to help flush the excess fluids that cause puffiness and bags to form. To do: Use your ring finger, which has the gentlest touch, to make small taps in a complete circle around each eye for 1 minute. Start the tapping motion at the inner corner of the lower lash line, then move up and around the orbital bone. Tip: applying a cream first can make it easier to massage.



# THE VALENTINE'S DAY DANCE THAT WAS SO WRONG

By Jeanie Scionti



During my first year at our all-girls school, we yearned for school dances with boys. By the end of the first term, the only dance I attended with the opposite sex was the 'Father/Daughter' extravaganza!



However, in February of the second term a Valentine's Day dance was scheduled with 'LaSalle Military Academy' which schooled boys who were destined to move on to West Point.

For social events, these future soldiers were always dressed in their military best complete with sashes and swords! We girls donned our finest: modest full-length ball gowns, white gloves that reached over our elbows, and undergarments like corsets and six-tiered crinoline hooped petticoats, reminiscent of the Civil War era.



On the night of this gala, we gathered in the foyer of our school gym ready for our grand entrance. The girls and the cadets had no idea as to who their partner would be for the evening. Each girl would be assigned a cadet: no one was allowed to change his or her partner.

As the hour of introduction approached, the excitement was palpable; we stood in line according to our height, anxious about who our partners might be. The boys waited outside, in 'a long gray line.'

Soon the head nun, standing in the center of the gym, signaled with a metal whistle that we were to enter, cadets coming in from the left side of the gym with girls coming from the opposite side. After a brief introduction (name exchange from each of us) this austere nun said, "Move along and remember, I will be watching." As my escort extended his arm and together, we strolled over to the side of the gym, I



looked up and saw that a sea of nuns had stationed themselves in the balcony of the gym watching us the entire

evening as though we were there for their entertainment!

Once everyone was paired, a second whistle sounded, and we all proceeded onto the dance floor.

Now positioned in paired rows, I stared at my cadet and waited for his invitation to dance. This is the best part, as he took my gloved hand with his gloved hand; he stepped back and bowed to me. I was surprised but not as surprised as the girl behind him was. Remember, these young men carried full-length sabers dangling from their waistbands. My cadet's long blade struck a chord! His sword unintentionally lifted the gown up of the young lady behind him thus exposing her petticoats. She screamed and he immediately turned to apologize. He then soberly turned back to me and said that he hated these dances. I immediately let go of his hand and walked over to the bleachers. I sat down on the first line of benches while he followed and climbed to the next set just above and behind me.

I was soon to discover that not only did he not want to be there, but that he also lacked conversational skills.

After forty minutes of silence as I sat leaning over with my arms resting on my knees, I failed to notice that I created a view of my corset! My gown was lovely, but the scooped neckline was too wide for my small frame. I then happened to look up at my boring partner and saw him staring wide-eyed at this sight. Quickly, I leaned back on the bench only to have my tiered hooped petticoat spring up in front of my face.



The evening wore on to what seemed like an eternity until the final piercing whistle signaled the dance was over! I thought, "Thank goodness!"

A year later, at yet another Valentine's Day soiree, I met a cadet that any fifteen-year-old girl could love. This evening ended with my escort saying, "I will request you for the 'spring formal.'" He then kissed me and added, "Happy Valentine's Day."

*Looking back, those awkward moments and unexpected surprises made for unforgettable memories, especially when I finally met a cadet who made the evening magical.*

**Why did the Skelton not go to the Valentine's Day dance?**

**Because he had no body to go with!**



## NATIONAL CHOCOLATE MONTH

By Chef Kevin Gallagher MS, CEC



As February rolls in, it brings with it the crisp chill of winter, romantic festivities of Valentine's Day, and a universal craving for the rich, comforting allure of chocolate. From hot cocoa by the firepit to decadent desserts shared with loved ones, chocolate has a unique way of warming both the heart and soul.

Chocolate's allure lies in its rich history and versatile nature. Originating from the ancient civilizations of the Maya and Aztec, chocolate has evolved into a global phenomenon of cultural fusion and culinary innovation for both sweet and savory recipes. Its deep, complex flavors and myriad forms have a way of satisfying cravings and creating unforgettable experiences.

To make the most of Chocolate Lovers Month, here are two **simple** and **delicious** recipes that highlight the magic of chocolate. Enjoy!

### Chocolate Dipped Coconut Macaroons

Makes about 2½ dozen

#### Ingredients:

- 1 14-oz bag sweetened flaked coconut
- ⅞ cup sweetened condensed milk (¾ cup plus 2 Tbsp)
- 1 teaspoon vanilla extract
- 2 large eggs whites
- ¼ teaspoon salt
- 4 ounces semi-sweet chocolate



#### Instructions:

1. Preheat the oven to 325°F. Set two oven racks near the center of the oven. Line two baking sheets with parchment paper.
2. In a medium bowl, mix together the coconut, sweetened condensed milk and vanilla extract. Set aside.
3. In the medium bowl, beat the egg whites and salt with hand mixer until stiff peaks form. Use a large rubber spatula to fold the egg whites into the coconut mixture.
4. Using a mini ice cream scoop or two spoons, form heaping tablespoons of the mixture into mounds on the prepared baking sheets, spacing about 1 inch apart. Bake for 23 to 25 minutes, rotating the pans from top to bottom and front to back, until the tops and edges are golden. Let cool on the pans for a few minutes, then transfer to a wire rack to cool completely.
5. Melt the chocolate in a microwave-safe bowl at medium power, stopping and stirring at 30 second

intervals, until smooth and creamy. Dip the bottoms of the macaroons in the chocolate, letting any excess drip back into the bowl, and return to the lined baking sheets. The cookies will keep well in an airtight container at room temperature for about a week.

### Dark Chocolate Pudding w/ Candied Orange Peel

Servings: 4

#### For the Pudding:

- ⅔ cup sugar
- ¼ cup unsweetened cocoa powder
- 3 tablespoons cornstarch
- ¼ teaspoon salt
- 2 ¾ cups milk
- 3 tablespoons butter, melted
- 1 teaspoon vanilla extract

#### For the Candied Orange Peel:

- 1 large navel orange
- ½ cup sugar
- ¼ cup water
- ½ cup sugar in small bowl

#### For the candied orange peel:

1. Cut peel from the oranges in strips, being careful avoid the white pith (it is bitter).
2. In a small saucepan, combine the sugar and water; bring to a boil. Add the orange peel strips and simmer for about 15 minutes.
3. Remove the strips from the syrup and drop into the granulated sugar and toss to coat. Remove them to a wire rack to dry.

#### For the Pudding:

1. In a medium saucepan, whisk together sugar, cocoa powder, cornstarch, and salt. Gradually whisk in the milk until the mixture is smooth. Cook over medium heat, stirring constantly, until the mixture thickens and comes to a boil. Add the melted butter and vanilla and stir in until incorporated.
2. Pour the pudding into serving dishes and chill in the refrigerator until set.
3. Garnish with candied orange peel before serving. A dollop of whipped cream wouldn't hurt either!!



### Keep Your Cutting Board from Slipping

If your cutting board has a habit of sliding out from underneath your hands as you prep fruits and veggies, there's a way to make the cutting process more stable! A damp paper towel placed under your cutting board will prevent it from slipping as you prep.

Chris Phelan



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## FEBRUARY BIRTHDAYS

- |                      |                       |
|----------------------|-----------------------|
| 1 Vicki Hedrick      | 12 Brenda Souza       |
| 2 David Nestor       | 15 Patricia Dooley    |
| 2 Paul Goeller       | 16 Doris Ledrich      |
| 2 Frank Carl         | 18 Judy Dungan        |
| 3 Rose Addotta       | 21 Linda Capuano      |
| 3 Jon Campbell       | 21 Barbara Granieri   |
| 3 Joan Haught        | 21 Pat Ladoux         |
| 6 Art Bookwalter     | 22 Cynthia Bowen      |
| 7 Lynn Tull          | 23 Malcolm Fraser     |
| 7 Jeanie Thorne      | 23 Jan Bancroft       |
| 8 Eileen Lemelin     | 23 Linda Theriault    |
| 9 Linda Morrison     | 24 Magdalena Gonzalez |
| 9 Maureen O'Hara     | 25 Stan Niedzwiecki   |
| 10 Lydia Paterno     | 25 Jeff Williams      |
| 11 Susan Boyer Kline | 27 Gary Paterno       |



*We try hard to get it right. However, if we have missed your birthday or anniversary, have the dates wrong or name misspelled, please contact [dbmatlock@live.com](mailto:dbmatlock@live.com)*



## FEBRUARY ANNIVERSARIES

- |                                 |
|---------------------------------|
| 1 Jim & Janet Grazioso          |
| 2 Steve & Pat Hamer             |
| 7 Paul & Theresa Halstead       |
| 10 Joe & Noreen Bartolotta      |
| 11 Rolando & Magdalena Gonzalez |
| 14 Mike & Laurie Struhar        |
| 14 Kevin & Kathy Gallagher      |
| 14 Frank & Rita Schafer Jr      |
| 14 Herb & Connie Schneider      |
| 18 Mike & Martha Duncan         |
| 24 Bill & Maude Streett         |



# Welcome

By Carm Gross



## Katherine Laskowski

8 Julip Lane

Let us welcome Katherine who recently moved from Treasure Island, Florida! She originates from Kirkland, Illinois, and is looking forward to making new friends and experiencing new

activities here at Plantation Oaks.

## Janet & Jim Grazioso

2 Beaumont Lane

Janet & Jim originally hail from Detroit, Michigan but are no strangers to Florida or Plantation Oaks. The couple have dear



friends here in the community and have attended many events. They look forward to getting involved with our events and having fun in our community activities.

*We're glad you're here*

## TRIVIA ANSWERS

1. Pete's Subs
2. Subway with 42,998 locations
3. San Francisco, CA in 1905
4. Originally called Open Kettle in Quincy Massachusetts 1948
5. Ypsilanti, MI 1960
6. Dr. Pepper. First made in Waco, TX in 1885
7. Hershey, PA in 1907
8. San Bernardino, CA in 1937
9. Leominster Potato Chip Co., Leominster, MA in 1908
10. New York City in 1914



Whenever I left the door open, my mum would ask if I was born in a barn ...

Which is odd, because you would think she'd remember something like that.





## SOCIAL COMMITTEE NEWS

By Terry Johnson & Cyndi Easter



Our first meeting of the year was held on January 6, at 1:30 PM. Thank you to all who were in attendance. Our next meeting will be held on Monday, February 3, at 6:30 PM to accommodate those

working residents. Otherwise, regular meetings will be held on the first Monday of each month at 1:30 PM in the clubhouse. We will be discussing other events at our next meeting in February.

**Terry Johnson:**

[avonlady422@comcast.net](mailto:avonlady422@comcast.net), 609-876-0837

**Cyndi Easter**

[cyn913542gmail.com](mailto:cyn913542gmail.com), 618-558-9976

### **FEBRUARY EVENTS:**

**February 8** – Chili Cook Off. Start time 5:30 PM  
Robert Bataille is the chairperson.

**February 15** – Lovin' February Dinner/Dance

### **FUTURE EVENTS:**

**March 8** – Country Night

**April 13** – Elvis Will Be in the House

**May 17** – Casino Night

More information will be posted as the event times get closer. We encourage all residents to attend our Social Committee meetings. Check out the calendar of events and updates on ourpora.org website and bulletin boards in the clubhouse for additional activities.

## LUMBERJACKS CHILI COOK OFF

*(Wear your flannels!)*

**DATE: Saturday, March 1,**

**TIME: 5:30-8 PM**

**COST: \$8.00**

(No cost to chili contributors.)



1. Prizes offered for the top three chilis!!!
2. Contestants must have their chili dishes in place at the clubhouse no later than 4:30 PM for judging.
3. Tasting by residents begins at 5:30 PM.

### **Event Planners:**

Robert Bataille.

[Bumper189@aol.com](mailto:Bumper189@aol.com)

732-614-6784

Susan Bataille

[Goingtofb@gmail.com](mailto:Goingtofb@gmail.com)

732-320-5211

## PEARLS OF WISDOM

Submitted by Keith Mowling



☺ My wife wants me to wear a bracelet that belonged to her grandfather. It says, "Do Not Resuscitate."

☺ It's been months since I bought the book, *How To Scam People Online*. It still hasn't arrived yet.

☺ If you have a red wine stain on your carpet, get some white wine and drink it until you don't care anymore.

☺ One good thing about being wrong is the joy it brings to others.

☺ Even rarer than a doctor who can't stand the sight of blood is a lawyer who can't stand the sight of money.

☺ If your palm itches, you are going to get something. If your crotch itches, you've already got it.

☺ My wife and I decided to never go to bed angry. We've been awake since Tuesday.

☺ My wife said: "That's the 4th time you've gone back for dessert! Doesn't it embarrass you?" I said: "No, I keep telling them it's for you."

☺ My wife and I started role-playing in the bedroom. Her favorite is *The Sexy Librarian*, where I must sit quietly while she reads a book.

☺ Being old is when you don't care where your spouse goes, if you don't have to go too.

☺ I now know how it will all end for me, one of my kids will unplug my life support to charge their phone.

☺ At a wedding reception, someone yelled: "All married people, please stand next to the one person that has made your life worth living." The bartender was almost crushed to death.

☺ I met my wife at a single's night. I was surprised because I thought she was home with the kids.

☺ I want someone I can share my entire life with who will leave me alone most of the time.

☺ Yesterday I bought a world map, gave my wife a dart, and said, "Throw this and wherever it lands, I will take you on vacation." We're spending three weeks behind the fridge.



**TIPS & TRICKS** - "If you never know whether the dishes in the dishwasher are clean or dirty, here is a trick: Whenever you empty the dishwasher of the clean dishes, put a new detergent in the drawer and close the little door. Then, whenever the door is closed, it indicates the dishes are dirty. And when it's open and empty, the dishes are clean." —Anonymous



### THE PLANTATION OAKS PRESS (POP)

The POP was started by, and continues to be produced by, a group of Plantation Oaks residents. Community Media prints and ships the completed newsletters to us. PORA supports our efforts by purchasing the door hanging bags for ease in delivery. We publish monthly and our wonderful Block Captains deliver to your door before the beginning of each applicable month.

Editors, Dana Matlock and Kevin Gallagher, reserves the right to edit submitted material for proper grammar, punctuation, content, and length. To submit an article for consideration, email it to [dbmatlock@live.com](mailto:dbmatlock@live.com) and . Or you can drop off a written copy to 4 Tobias Lane or call me at 386-439-3443 and I will pick it up. Include your name and contact number. All efforts are made to ensure accuracy of information contained but cannot be guaranteed. If you notice inaccuracies or omissions, please notify the editors.

To view or print our current or previous *POP* newsletters, go to the PORA website: [ourpora.org](http://ourpora.org). Click on: Contacts/Links/*The POP*. If you are unable to reach this site, you can also access the publications on [www.4communitymedia.com](http://www.4communitymedia.com); click on the *Newsletters* tab on the right hand side of the page and scroll through the list until you find Plantation Oaks – Flagler Beach, FL. Click on it and then you will have access to all of our newsletters published.

**Don't forget to support our advertisers if you can.**

### CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP AT PLANTATION OAKS



February - the LOVE month! We'd LOVE to have you join us on Sunday February 9, at the Clubhouse, 4:00 - 5:30, for our Christian Fellowship where we'll explore "Love is a VERB" using the Bible as our reference. As always, we'll have music, Biblical teaching, discussion, and of course Fellowship with our neighbors & friends.

The Plantation Oaks Christian Fellowship is a non-denominational group, and everyone is welcome. Contact: Carol Cerney 507-213-0121

**When I ask for directions, please  
don't use words like "East"**



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Dana Matlock - 386-439-3443



**Statement:** To provide emergency assistance to our community when State/Local emergency services are delayed or otherwise unavailable. All residents are invited to register with us any special needs or emergency assistance you (or someone you know) may require in the aftermath of a catastrophic event. This information can be helpful in executing search and rescue, planning, and purchasing necessary supplies and equipment. **To register contact Donna Copeland, [dmcopeland50@gmail.com](mailto:dmcopeland50@gmail.com), 704-886-7706.** Currently, we have 52 members and are always looking for new people. Please join us at our next meeting. For more information give me a call at 845-728-4679. For information on how to sign up for red alert warnings log on to [www.FlaglerEmergency.com](http://www.FlaglerEmergency.com). Register for special needs evacuation assistance on this site or call 386-313-4200.





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**SCAM**



**ALERT**

## **Charity and Disaster Fraud**

**Charity fraud schemes seek donations for organizations that do little or no work—instead, the money goes to the fake charity's creator.**

While these scams can happen at any time, they are **especially prevalent after high-profile disasters**. Criminals often use tragedies to exploit you and others who want to help.

After a natural disaster or other emergency, unethical contractors and other scammers may commit insurance fraud, re-victimizing people whose homes or businesses have been damaged. Sometimes these fraudsters even pretend to be affiliated with the government, when they are not. If you need any post-disaster repairs, do your research before hiring any contractor.

### **Protect Yourself. The following tips can help you avoid these schemes:**

- **Give to established charities** or groups whose work you know and trust.
- Be aware of organizations with **copycat names** or names similar to reputable organizations.
- Be wary of new organizations that **claim to aid victims of recent high-profile disasters**.
- Do your research. Use the Federal Trade Commission's resources to examine the track record of a charity.
- **Give using a check or credit card.** If a charity or organization asks you to donate through cash, gift card, virtual currency, or wire transfer, it's probably a scam. Learn more about this trick from the FTC.
- **Practice good cyber hygiene:**
  - Don't click links or open email attachments from someone you don't know.
  - Manually type out links instead of clicking on them.
  - Don't provide any personal information in response to an email, robocall, or robotext.
  - Check the website's address—**most legitimate charity organization websites use .org, not .com.**
- After a natural disaster or other emergency, carefully **vet any contractors before hiring them to work on your home or business.**



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Federal Trade Commission | [ReportFraud.ftc.gov](http://ReportFraud.ftc.gov)**