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HAPPY 4TH OF JULY!

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MEMORIAL DAY 2021

Service - Parade - Picnic



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Save the Date

UPCOMING COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES

Social Committee

July 4th Picnic – 1PM-3PM. Cost \$5 per plate. Purchase ticket at door. Flyer & sign-up on BB.

Pool Party August 21 at 5pm-8pm. The Coconuts will be our poolside entertainer. Ticket price to be announced.

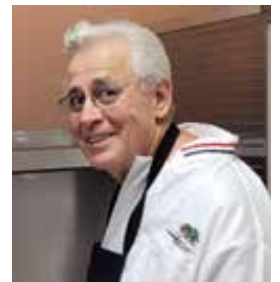
Halloween/Costume Party on October 30 at 6pm-9pm. Sir Dennis will be the entertainer. Ticket price and food to be announced.

Fall Festival, November 20 at 6pm-9pm. Tony and Debbie will be our entertainers that night. Ticket price and food to be announced.

Labor Day, Veterans Day, Christmas, and New Years are undecided currently.

Activity Days: July 20, and August 24 from 6pm-7:30pm. Please bring your own snacks and drinks and come have fun playing games and socializing outside.

neighbors echoed throughout the day. I am grateful and thankful for that very special day and want to give a big shout out to all those involved in putting it together! The following pictures capture some of the hard-working individuals that made this very special event happen. (Note: food was provided by Murex and prepared by our own Plantation Oaks Cooks.)



MEMORIAL DAY 2021

By Dana Matlock



Memorial Day brought us the largest event held in Plantation Oaks since we were forced to shut down by the pandemic. Tom Bailey led a heartfelt memorial service remembering and honoring the ultimate sacrifice of our fallen soldiers. Ray Neeb presented the Flag. The service was followed by 23 decorated golf carts, with patriotic music playing and horns honking, parading through the community to the delight of many that gathered on the streets to watch. Then it was back to the clubhouse for hot dogs and hamburgers. It was a beautiful day. Excitement was in the air and smiling faces were everywhere. Expressions of relief that we could get out of our homes to enjoy the company of our friends and



MEMORIAL DAY



MY HOMETOWN

By Joe Cortese



Well, I guess most people are pretty partial to their roots. Bruce Springsteen kinda sums it up pretty good in a song, "Son take a good look around, this is your hometown". Springsteen's song is all about change and that really hit a cord with me because I was born and raised in Miami and man have I seen changes. When I grew up in Miami just about everybody was from up North but then again, just about every other place in the United States is North of Miami although I never considered myself a Southerner. Miamians don't have any particular accent and I never had a real biscuit or ate collard greens until I met and married my Southern Belle from Greensboro NC. I was 30 before I ever saw snow. I've heard stories about the North my whole life and how much better they dressed, about heavy coats and gloves and scarfs and something called galoshes and shoveling their driveways and always knew why northerners moved to Miami. Now, I'm not saying the North doesn't have some great places, but I spent most of my life in tee-shirts, shorts and flip-flops, if I bothered to wear shoes at all. The only reason I took any notice of the season was waiting for the mangos to ripen. My hometown was a paradise with a cornucopia of great things to eat. There was mango, avocado, papaya, banana, guava, orange, lemon, lime, grapefruit, wild grape, wild cherries, Chinese plums, and other tropical fruits that I do not know the names of. My number one favorite fruit was always "the coconut", it was my staple. Now you may have just said to yourself, why did he call the coconut a fruit so I encourage (and even dare) you to Google "the coconut song" and it will more than explain. I apologize in advance.

Like Bruce Springsteen's hometown, the Miami I grew up in does not exist anymore but isn't life all about change? My Miami has been lost to a concrete sprawl that reaches from the edge of the Atlantic to the ever-shrinking Everglades. Now, I'm not saying Miami is not still a great place, but not for me. I retired to Flagler Beach because it's the closest thing to my Miami, my hometown that I've found in Florida and I glad to share it with all my Northern friends, and I know why you all moved here, "no snow". Not all change is bad.

JUST FOR FUN

I'm on two diets. I wasn't getting enough food on one.

Don't irritate old people. The older we get, the less "Life in prison" is as a deterrent.

"You will hit every cone on the highway before I let you merge in front of me because you saw that sign 2 miles ago like I did."

I asked my wife if I was the only one she had ever been with. She said yes, all the others were nines and tens. Give it a minute...

I really don't mind getting older, but my body is taking it badly.

I went line dancing last night. OK, it was a roadside sobriety test ... same thing.

Confuse your doctor by putting on rubber gloves at the same time he does.

WELCOME COMMITTEE

By Bob Matlock



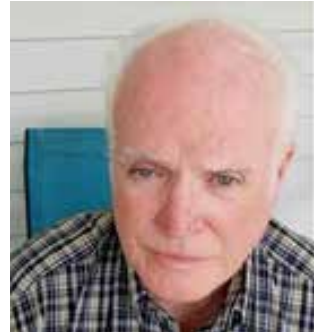
Here we are already mid-year 2021 hopefully with shots in arms and in most cases no mask. Whoopie! With the relaxing of contacts, etc., I have changed my approach to catch up on offerings of our PORA Welcome Package to new residents in 2020. Stay tuned. Our community population remains stable, but we continue to see new faces. For June, as of this writing, I am pleased to introduce ten new faces at seven different addresses. Please welcome our new friends and neighbors shown on the following page.





Welcome!
We are glad you are here!

NEW NEIGHBORS



McCollum, Jack, 90 Habersham Dr.
Moved from Rockwall, TX



Duris, Andrea, 8 Winthrop Ln.
Moved from Palm Coast, FL



McDonald, Bob & Rebecca, 6 Tobias Ln.
RVers & have another residence in NC



Hedrick, David Wayne & Vicky, 7 Tobias Ln.
Moved from Leesburg, FL



Oeckler, Teddy & Trude, 10 Ashbury Ln.
Moved from Palm coast, FL, originally from NY



Lafranier, Deborah 54 Winthrop Ln.
Moved from Palm coast, FL



Soliel, Mary, 32 Tobias Ln.
A writer from New Mexico looking forward to sharing her talents in the community.

WHAT ESSENTIAL OILS ARE SAFE TO DIFFUSE AROUND CATS & DOGS

By Janice Randolph



With the increasing popularity of essential oils, many people diffuse them in their homes for therapeutic use. Essential oils greatly help people in various ways such as relaxing and sleeping at night or treating a common cold. But is it safe to use on or around pets?

Many pet owners fail to recognize that some essential oils aren't safe to use directly on their pets. It's the same with diffusing the oil, which means you have to be careful in dispersing essential oil in your home. Cats and dogs have a keener sense of smell compared to humans, which means they smell essential oils better.

Also, each pet is different from the other, which means their reaction might differ as well. In that regard, while your dog might not have any reaction when you diffuse an essential oil, it doesn't mean that another pet won't have a reaction.

Due to its heightened sense of smell, even the faintest scent of essential oil might be the same as sitting next to someone with a strong perfume. Because of this, it is crucial that you first try out to see how your pets will react. It is a lot like trying a patch test when testing a product. By doing this, you can protect your pets.

The essential oils that should not be used for dogs are garlic, clover, oregano, rosemary, thyme, tea tree, and wintergreen oil. As for cats, the essential oils that aren't safe to use are eucalyptus, clove, lavender, spruce, cassia, lemon, birch, and more. The common safe oils to diffuse are chamomile, clary sage, cedarwood, marjoram, and myrrh oil.

Here are some signs of reaction if your pet comes into contact with essential oil:

- Scratching
- Excessive drooling
- Coughing
- Sneezing
- Lethargy
- Increasing breathing rate
- Weakness
- Lack of coordination
- Tremors
- If your pet developed these symptoms, bring it to

your veterinarian immediately. Here are some tips that will help make sure that your cat or dog will be perfectly safe while you enjoy the benefits of essential oil:

- Consult your veterinarian before using any essential oil near your pets.
 - Keep the diffuser out of reach of your pet and use only high-quality, therapeutic grade essential oil.
 - If using essential oil with cats, be extra careful. Cats can't metabolize appropriately since they don't have liver enzymes and ingesting essential oils can increase the risk of toxicity.
 - Diffuse oils in a place where there is proper ventilation. Also, be sure that the pet can leave the area. Never diffuse in a closed area.
 - Applying essential oil on the pet's fur or skin is not advised. It can cause an adverse reaction. Also, your dog or cat might lick the oil and thus lead to toxicity.
- Keep these things in mind to ensure the use of essential oil won't harm your beloved pet



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MEMORIAL DAY 2021 PICTURES



PANDEMIC EPIPHANIES

By Jean Scionti



Thankfully, the pandemic seems to be coming to an end; and, with that, I have made a few discoveries.

I had thought that the picture our editor posted of me in the June issue was great! No one could see that I had gotten older and that my dyed brown hair was now un-dyed and gray. But then I thought, "*Why not be who I am now?*" What follows are my "pandemic epiphanies!" Getting back to my hair...I had let it go gray just prior to the pandemic, but now, what about haircuts? My last visit to a salon was very disappointing. I remember telling the hairdresser that I wanted my hairstyle to reflect the one

that the actress "Rita Moreno" was sporting. He smiled, and when he was finished, I looked like Rita Moreno's grandmother! All the salons were closed, so, I decided to browse the internet, and look up, "How to Cut Your Own Hair." I chose a "Wiki" site. It said to grab one section of hair at a time; twist it with your fingers and cut. Voila! Not bad...I think?

Time for hubby to be shorn, "*Now where is that man,*" I thought, as I searched the house with a pair of shears in hand. My sweet husband decided after the lockdown to let his hair grow and grow. One day, after not shaving for a week and hair down to his shoulders, he finally said okay. I gave him his first "sans barber" haircut. He was pleased. I guess anything was better than the "Neanderthal" look.

I have worn makeup for years. Because I use organic brands, all had to be replaced. Is there an internet site on "How to Make Cosmetics? Wait! Why bother... masks are so in vogue!

We are "snowbirds." I left all my summer clothes up north thinking we would be heading home in the spring. I had virtually nothing to wear in preparation for the summer weather. Most department stores were closed, and online shopping has never interested me. So, I looked at what I had in winter clothing. I grabbed some scissors and cut sleeves, pant legs and ankle length shifts into a new summer wardrobe. Done!

If you read my last article, you know I have not been able to "dine out." And that being said, what follows is this month's "plant-based" recipe!

But one last comment...The above were all "epiphanies" of a striking realization. This pandemic has allowed me to look at myself and various situations with a new perspective. I don't need fancy hairstyles, designer clothes, and expensive makeup or even to dine out, I just need to be me!

Barbecued Portobello Mushrooms

Preheat oven to 350 degrees.

Cover mushrooms with barbecue sauce and place flat or slightly overlapping in a casserole dish. Add a small amount of water to the pan.

Bake for at least 30 minutes.

Before serving, cover each mushroom with pan juices.

Tip: These mushrooms are amazingly like meat. Serve them just like a hamburger...only healthier! Or place them on a bed of brown rice.



HAIKU

By Robert Persch

The storm comes ashore
palm trees bow
to father wind

Inside the cone
or outside
that is the question

First the wind
then the rain
then nothing

A black ring around the house
all that is wet
lies on the front lawn

You can hear them barking
left behind
one part of the family

A mighty storm
with might winds
and rain that never stops

Looking for help
in all the wrong places
when will it come

Today will never end
when will tomorrow come
watch out for boats

Hour was over so I knew it was curtains for me to get a ride. But wait, that didn't matter because I have Elite Cross-Country Premium Roadside Service. I paid only \$35.00 per year for this service. I had never used their service before, but I had heard such great reviews about them. I previously had roadside service through my insurance company, well low and behold the insurance company canceled my roadside service because I had a second car that I had to have towed several times. Another way I found out about Elite which is through FMO. For the ones out there, that don't know what FMO is, it is an organization in Florida that monitors and advocates for the rights and interests of manufactured homeowners living on leased land. Through FMOs involvement, the Florida Manufactured Home Act (Florida Statue 723) was drafted and enacted in 1984. It addresses the relationship between the park owner and homeowners of manufactured homes on leased land. The Florida Legislators recognized that manufactured homeowners and park owners both have certain basic rights that must be protected. FS 723 covers such items as:

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Now back to me sitting in the parking lot at the doctor's office. You won't guess what happened next, Elite Cross-Country was so fast and efficient I made it to Johnny D's before Happy Hour was over, I did say hello to the office staff that had left me out in the cold.

Something to think about! Have you ever wondered why aluminum foil is shiny on one side and dull on the other? I'll tell you why next month in my letter. Go join FMO, you are FMO. Until next time.

FEDERATION OF MANUFACTURED HOME OWNERS (FMO)

By James Pursley, Plantation Oaks FMO Rep



And how are my favorite followers doing? That is if I have any followers. Picture this, it was a cold and rainy night, wind was blowing, not a person in sight, I was in a doctor's office parking lot and my car would not start. Everyone had left, I had overheard some of the office

staff saying they had to get to Johnny D's before Happy

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THERE'S NO PLACE LIKE HOME

By Joe Cortese



“Gee but it’s great to be back home. Home is where I want to be” and getting back to Plantation Oaks, you know we couldn’t disagree. I often think of those old lyrics from Simon and Garfunkel when we’ve been traveling too long and have grown tired of hotels, restaurant food, continental breakfast and living out of a suitcase. It seems the older we get the quicker we miss the comforts of home so even though we were pretty excited to “escape the lockdown”, after a few weeks Glenda and I were clicking our heels together and murmuring “there’s no place like home”.

LIFE BEFORE THE COMPUTER

Submitted by John Mecurio

- Memory was something that you lost with age
- An application was for employment
- A program was a TV show
- A cursor used profanity
- A keyboard was a piano
- A web was a spider’s home
- A virus was the flu
- A CD was a bank account
- A hard drive was a long trip on the road
- A mouse pad was where a mouse lived



INDEPENDENCE DAY (U.S.)

By Betty Vandermyn



The Fourth of July commemorates the adoption of the Declaration of Independence by delegates from the 13 colonies in 1776. The Declaration of Independence is America’s revolutionary Charter of Freedom and the document

upon which the nation’s founding principles were established.

The Second Continental Congress actually made its decree for freedom on July 2, 1776, signing the Lee Constitution. Two days later, on July 4, Congress formally adopted the Declaration of Independence and the alarm for freedom was sounded at Independence Hall with the Liberty Bell. It was on August 4, 1776,

after delegates of the Continental Congress had signed the document, that the Declaration of Independence was made official.

“A resolution was passed without one dissenting Colony that these united Colonies, are, and of right ought to be free and independent States, and as such, they have, and of Right ought to have full Power to make War, conclude Peace, establish Commerce, and to do all the other Acts and things which other States may rightfully do.”

Let us end this brief history of Independence Day (U.S.) with text from the Declaration of Independence:

“We hold these truths to be self-evident, that all men are created equal, that they are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable Rights, that among these are Life, Liberty, and the pursuit of Happiness. That to secure these rights, Governments are instituted among Men, deriving their just powers from the consent of the governed. That whenever any Form of Government becomes destructive of these ends, it is the right of the people to alter or to abolish it, and to institute new Government, laying its foundation on such principles and organizing its powers in such form, as to them shall seem most likely to effect their Safety and Happiness.”

HOUSEHOLD HELPERS



Water your house plants with club soda that has gone flat. The chemicals that remain in the soda add vigor to the greenery



Wrap cheese in parchment or wax paper, then place in an open plastic bag; store in the refrigerator



To clear a clogged drain, pour ½ cup salt, ½ cup baking soda, and ¼ cup of vinegar down the drain. Close or plug until the fizzing stops then flush with boiling water.



To make a microwave oven smell fresh, fill a microwaveable cup with water and mix 1 tablespoon of lemon juice. Heat the water at full power for 1 minute.

STILL LOOKING

By Joe Cortese



The other day I was looking through my computer for a poem (which I never found) when I came across another poem that I wrote and have used many times in the dark. Many times, through life I have found myself up against walls, stuck in corners and/or “in the dark” and have used books, songs, memories and sometimes even my own poetry to help me through. Living now in a 55 plus community I find that most of us have lived long enough to have been through bad or sad times and so I wanted to share this poem. I wrote this when I was sixteen and it has always helped me. May it help you too!

Move Ahead

I hurt, you hurt, we die a little every day.
But sometimes we can learn through pain,
to try to find a better way.

The road ahead is ragged,
and many times we fall,
always fall forward, move ahead,
even if it's only a crawl.

The past is past, it cannot change.
What can is here and now.
Don't waste today lost in the past,
time will heal the wounds somehow.

Time can be friend or enemy
for we have so little to spend,
don't waste today lost in the past,
or the past will be your end.

Joe Cortese 1973



LIFE

Submitted by John Mercurio

Life is an opportunity, benefit from it.

Life is beauty, admire it.

Life is a dream, realize it.

Life is a challenge, meet it

Life is a duty, complete it.

Life is a game, play it.

Life is a promise, fulfill it.

Life is sorrow, overcome it.

Life is a song, sing it.

Life is a struggle, accept it.

Life is a tragedy, confront it.

Life is an adventure, dare it.

Life is luck, make it.

Life is life, fight for it."

Mother Teresa

SHE MADE ME LOVE HER!

By Carol Pursley



I'm talking about my half sister, Norma. Norma was 4 ½ years older than me and we were never close. I guess I was the pesky little sister. Norma got married at eighteen, so I never saw much of her.

I had little communication with Norma through the years, but I was aware that life was difficult for her with several bad marriages, and she was suffering with mental health issues. At one point I took her eleven-year-old daughter to live with me because the little girl kept running away from home. I thought I could rescue this little girl from her troubled life, but it didn't work out and she went back home. After that incident my sister and I had no communication for many years. Slowly my sister started calling me. Occasionally I would return her calls but not often. I didn't understand her mental illness or her life. My sister was persistent in calling me! As time went on, I started returning Norma's phone calls and before I knew it, I was calling her almost every weekend. I started sharing my life adventures with her and she was sharing her life with me. As I listened to her share her hardships, hurts and sorrows I started to develop compassion for what she had been through. Life had caused her so much heartache. Every time we would say goodbye on the phone, Norma would say,

Continued on page 13

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“I love you”. I couldn’t say those words back to her in the beginning, but as months passed, God started to put a love in my heart for Norma. Before I knew it I was telling her I loved her too! In the last couple of years Norma was getting sick and was diagnosed with lung cancer. She made it through chemo, but her health was failing, and she kept falling. She ended up in the hospital and unfortunately COVID struck her. On April 20, 2020, Norma went to heaven.

I am forever grateful that God healed my heart many years ago and I was able to love my sister and have a loving friendship with her. Life takes a toll on all of us, and we don’t always know what someone has gone through. I learnt from listening to her without judgement and with empathy I could finally understand her mental illness and love her just the way she was. Isn’t that what we all need from each other? To be loved just the way we are? That’s how God loves us! His commandment is to love one another! Because I was able to love Norma, I was blessed with a sister I never knew and her laugh which I will never forget! It’s a year since she has been in Heaven and I can still hear that laugh! I miss her so much!

THE OAKS ROCK PAINTERS

By JoAnn Larkin

The rockers are working on rocks to give at our July 4th celebration. Since it is almost impossible to find river rocks in Florida a group of rock painters are going on a road trip to buy rocks at Stones Plus in Bunnell and go to lunch while we are out. Don’t forget to stop by the rock garden take one for the next time you go shopping and put it outside the store.

ATTENTION: the rock painters



are inviting any children visiting to attend the rock painting group on Fridays 1:00-3:00 at poolside. There will be a one-time \$5 charge for supplies and materials. They can attend as many times as they like. If they are unable to attend bring them by the garden. Call Jo 410-322-5440.



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BENTLEY'S TALE/A DOG'S STORY

By Betty Vandermyn



As Bentley's mom it has not been an easy journey, but he is our special little boy and is loved so much. Part 2 of Bentley's tale is about his rescue and return to home, an ordeal which I never want to experience again.

Bentley began his journey by inverting himself out of a vest and running down the back trail behind Galemont Drive. Despite calling and calling his name, he never turned around and being an Italian greyhound, he can run. Steve and I searched on foot and in the car to no avail. Our friends and neighbors joined our search and despite our combined efforts, not one sighting. To make matters worse, it started pouring rain, thundering, and lightning. As time passed into evening, I was heartbroken, thinking to myself how scared, cold, and lonely he must be. We only had him for 3-4 days and he didn't know the lay of the land. Sad and depressed, I left for work at 6pm and spotted him on Habersham Dr. Frightened by a passing car, he ran off into the wildlife preserve. I immediately returned home, notified work I would be late, and our search began on Habersham going into the woods. 2 hours later with no success, I went to work. Devastated and sad I remember thinking; how will my little boy survive in the wild and this stormy weather? That was one of the longest shifts in my entire nursing career. However, my fellow nurses offered me some particularly useful advice on an amber search website for dogs called... lostmydoggie.com. As soon as I returned home, I went onto that website to create a listing and to print up lost and found flyers. I posted the flyers at numerous stores and businesses. I spoke with the game warden at Bulow State Park and posted flyers. My last stop I posted flyers at Bulow RV Park and then we searched and waited. On the third morning I received a phone call from someone who recognized Bentley from his flyer at Bulow RV Park. They kept an eye on his location until we arrived. I found him by the canal behind someone's house. Sitting with a can of salmon, I waited for him to approach, calling his name, and talking to him softly. When he came close enough, I grabbed him and held him tight, hugging him closely to me. We whisked him away to a veterinarian to remove 38 large ticks, antibiotics, and steroids. We brought him home and he has never left home since.

Myself, I cannot even imagine what he saw or experienced during his travels. How he managed to survive for 3 days in a wildlife preserve, alone, with all kinds of scary wildlife remains a mystery. Since he is so fawn like, maybe deer befriended him and led him back to civilization. Or maybe it was everyone's prayers or the protection and guidance of an angel. We'll never know but we're so happy to have Bentley home. Stay tuned for part 3 next month. The long road of recovery/training.

PET AMBER ALERT!!!

By Betty Vandermyn

Having a pet get loose, wander away from home can be devastating to their families. How and where to search and who to seek out for assistance is of utmost importance when they are initially lost. When I lost my little Bentley, I was lucky enough to have someone tell me about an amber alert web site for lost pets. I'm hoping this information will help someone else who loses their pet. Pets include dogs, cats, birds, ferrets, pigs, reptiles, and horses. The web site is "lostmydoggie.com". This web site provides:

- *FREE Alerts to Shelters, Rescues, Vets
- *Issue "Amber Alert" to Neighbors
- *Print Lost & Found Flyers
- *Post To Facebook Lost Pet Pages
- *List Your Pet in Their Lost & Found
- *Reach 1000's Of People Instantly

You create a free lost or found pet listing that is emailed & faxed to over 25 local shelters and rescue groups (over 35K in their network). Include an "Amber Alert" to neighbors and additional mailings and Facebook ads. If you or anyone you know lose a pet, go on this web site as soon as possible for the best possible results. There are other sites out there to utilize but this site comes with my and Bentley's referral.



SOCIAL COMMITTEE

By Christine Davis



Hello all! I believe the month of May was just the beginning of great times to come at Plantation Oaks. First, we had the ladies' luncheon on May 20th which was held at Tortugas in Flagler Beach. The managers and servers were very accommodating and patient with 20 women. The food was amazing, and the event turned out to be a great success. Thank you to those who made it possible and for the cute tropical cups we received as gifts.

Rock painting is still being held on Fridays from 1-3pm. Please come and join in on the fun so we can spread painted rocks around with words of love, encouragement, and hope. Bring your artistic-or not so artistic abilities and have some fun.

Last, but not least was Memorial Day. Terry left me in charge of the event, and I sort of panicked-YIKES! How do I do this alone? Well, lo and behold, no one is ever left alone around here to get things in place for a huge event like this was. So many people stepped in to help and assist with direction and advice. TEAMWORK and it was wonderful! Thank you to every one of you who made me feel at ease and confident that this was going to work, and it surely did! The food, the cooks, the ladies serving and the many others who assisted and attended the affair made this Memorial Day so special and worth the long wait! A special thank you to Tom Bailey for the memorial service prior to the cookout and leading our Memorial Day golf cart parade. We had 23 decorated golf carts and owners who also made it incredibly special.

On that note, keep checking the community board for upcoming events and happenings at Plantation Oaks. Save The Date: July 16 is outside dance party. Bring your own snacks and drinks. Starts at 6pm. Also, activity day is July 20th from 6-7:30 pm. Please bring your own snacks and drinks and come have fun playing games and socializing outside. Ice cream truck will also be there from 6pm-8pm.



THE GIFT!

Submitted by John Mercurio

Sitting at the window of her convent, Sister Barbara opened a letter from home one evening. Inside was a \$100 bill her parents had sent. Sister Barbara smiled at the gesture.

As she read the letter by the window, she noticed a shabbily dressed stranger leaning against the lamp post below.

Quickly, she wrote, "*Don't despair. - Sister Barbara,*" on a piece of paper, wrapped the \$100 bill in it, got the man's attention, and tossed it out the window to him.

The stranger picked it up, and with a puzzled expression and a tip of his hat, went off down the street.

The next day, Sister Barbara was told that a man was at the Convent door, insisting on seeing her.

She went down and found the stranger waiting. Without a word, he handed her a huge wad of \$100 bills.



"What's this?", she asked.

"That's the \$8,000 you have coming Sister," he replied.

Don't Despair paid 80-to-1."

Medicare.gov

After you get your COVID-19 vaccine, **keep your vaccination card safe** — scammers are using the COVID-19 pandemic to try to steal your personal information.

Don't share a photo of your COVID-19 vaccination card online or on social media.

Scammers can use content you post, like your date of birth, health care details, or other personal information to steal your identity.

You should get a COVID-19 vaccination card at your first vaccine appointment. If you didn't, contact the provider site where you got vaccinated or your state health department to find out how to get a card.

If someone contacts you to buy or sell a vaccination card, it's a scam.

If you suspect COVID-19 health care fraud, **report it online** or call **800-HHS-TIPS (800-447-8477)**. TTY users can call 1-800-377-4950.

JULY BIRTHDAYS:

1-July Carol Manowski
2-July Ann Mowling
3-July Nancy Schmidt
4-July Paul Eckstein
5-July Jane Marsden
6-July Dana Matlock
6-July Jeffrey Dawkins
6-July Bern O'Connell
6-July John Taylor
7-July Gary Maitland
8-July Joseph Falis
8-July Larry Pickett
8-July Marie Grudzien
9-July Nancy Mather
9-July Judith MacLeod
10-July Colin MacLeod
10-July Linda West
12-July Gail Pulak
12-July Ann Nelson
12-July Bill Yarina
12-July Sharon Avery
14-July Fran McNamara
14-July Mike Reed
14-July Tom Young
15-July Patricia Rewitzer



15-July Judy Waters
17-July Tina Montoya
18-July Chuck Allspach
18-July Grace Patrick
19-July Carol Eppenger
19-July Kathleen Akins
19-July Suzanne Ertl
19-July Elizabeth Vandermyn
20-July Norma Van Horn
21-July Joe Catalano
21-July Robert Stearns
22-July Robert Bataille
23-July Judy Brady
24-July Bernie Connolly
24-July David Manowski
24-July Christine Davis
25-July Frank Clair
26-July Tom Brennan
26-July Ann O'Leary
27-July Sandra Thomas
27-July Debbie Marron
28-July Lee Burbridge
28-July Karen Dolan
29-July Paul Lawrence
31-July Sharon Szenas



JULY ANNIVERSARIES

4-July Phyllis & Bill Yarina
6-July Tom and JoAnn Bailey
8-July Michael & Donna McGeehan
11-July Betty & Tom Brennan
11-July Fred & Sharon Mayes
12-July Sue & Bob Persch
14-July Richard & Betty Smith
15-July Tom & Gail Young
15-July James & Gisela Kelly
16-July Gary & Patricia Watkins
18-July Linda & James Theriault

20-July Marlene & Harry Gilman
20-July Don & Deb Clack
22-July Ann & Tom Greene
24-July Joyce & John Popp
24-July Frank & Val Clair
26-July Rosemary & Mike Merry
26-July Sharon & Wilson Fedewa
27-July Jack & Carla Ramsey
27-July Cliff & Pam Oberg

We try hard to get it right. However, if we have missed your birthday or anniversary, or have the dates wrong, please contact Betty Vandermyn at elzbthvnd@att.net or Dana Matlock at dbmatlock@live.com so we can correct our information for the newsletter. Thank you!



PLANTATION OAKS COMMUNITY EMERGENCY RESPONSE TEAM (CERT)

By George Byrne, Team Leader



Hello Plantation Oaks. Hurricane season is fast approaching! It officially begins on June 1 and ends November 30, 2021. As we focus on a safe and healthy reopening of our state, it remains critically important that we also remember to make the necessary preparations for hurricane season. Your safety is our priority. FSA encourages you to prepare, and remember these key hurricane preparedness tips:

- Create a hurricane preparedness plan. **Plan & Prepare**
- Take advantage of the upcoming 10-day disaster preparedness tax free holiday from May 28 to June 6.
- Make sure you have all the supplies you need like water, batteries, canned foods, and medications for a minimum of 7 days.
- Charge your smart phone. You will need it for updates during the storm if you lose power.
- Hold a family meeting to discuss your hurricane preparedness plans. Have a plan for pets or anyone with special needs living in your home.
- Call out-of-town friends and family to let them know where you plan to stay during the storm.
- Make note of nearby shelters. Do not hesitate to go to a shelter if you live in an evacuation zone or don't feel secure in your home.
- Secure your home appropriately and safeguard important documents.

Document assets for insurance purposes and understand your insurance policies.

Regardless of where you live in Florida stay aware of your surroundings and be ready to act when your sheriff and other local officials issue orders. Social distancing and other CDC guidelines to keep you safe may continue to impact your disaster preparedness plan this year. This could include what is in your go-kit, evacuation routes, shelters, and more.

Below are additional resources on ways you can prepare and stay informed about current conditions. •

National Weather Service
State Emergency Response Team
Center for Disease Control and Prevention



Mission 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, 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. You may also register for special needs evacuation assistance on this site or call 386-313-4200.

Happy 4th of July



From:
Community Media

EASY ZUCCHINI

by Chef Kevin Gallagher, MS, CEC



This is the time of year for all sorts of wonderful summer vegetables. Zucchini right now is abundant and flavorful. The following two simple recipes go great with grilled meats or poultry. The zucchini bites also are a great appetizer for parties!

BAKED CHEESY ZUCCHINI BITES

Yield: 2 -3 dozen zucchini bites

Ingredients

- 1 1/2 cups packed shredded zucchini, (no need to peel the zucchini)
- 1 large egg, lightly beaten
- 1/2 cup shredded sharp cheddar cheese
- 1/4 cup panko or regular breadcrumbs
- 1/4 tsp dried basil, (or 1-2 teaspoons fresh)
- 1/4 tsp garlic powder or 1 clove garlic, finely minced
- 1/4 tsp salt
- 1/8 tsp pepper

Instructions

1. Preheat the oven to 425 degrees F. Line a rimmed baking sheet with parchment paper and lightly coat with cooking spray or lightly grease an unlined baking sheet.
2. Place the shredded zucchini in a clean kitchen towel and wring out all the excess water over the sink until the zucchini is really dry.
3. Place the zucchini and remaining ingredients in a medium bowl and mix until combined.
4. Drop the mixture by tablespoonfuls on the prepared baking sheet and lightly press the mounds with your hands to flatten slightly.
5. Bake for 16-20 minutes until the edges are golden.

TOMATO ZUCCHINI CASSEROLE

Servings: 4

Ingredients

- 1 ½ cups grated Cheddar cheese
- ⅓ cup grated Parmesan cheese
- ½ teaspoon dried oregano or 1 teaspoon fresh oregano, minced
- 1 teaspoon dried basil or 2 teaspoons fresh basil, minced
- 2 cloves garlic, minced
- Salt and pepper to taste
- 2 medium zucchinis, thinly sliced
- 5 plum tomatoes, thinly sliced
- ¼ cup butter
- 2 tablespoons finely chopped onion
- ¾ cup panko or fine breadcrumbs

Directions

1. Preheat oven to 375 degrees F (190 degrees C). Lightly butter a 9x9-inch pan.
2. In a large bowl, combine Cheddar, Parmesan, oregano, basil, and garlic. Season with salt and pepper and set aside.
3. Arrange half of the zucchini slices in the pan. Sprinkle 1/4 of the cheese and herb mixture on top. Arrange half of the tomatoes, and top with another 1/4 of the cheese mixture. Repeat layers.
4. Melt butter in a skillet over medium heat. Stir in onions and cook until soft and translucent. Stir in breadcrumbs; cook until they have absorbed the butter. Sprinkle on top of casserole.
5. Cover loosely with foil and bake in a preheated oven for 25 minutes. Remove foil and bake until the top is crusty and the vegetables are tender, about 20 minutes.



SMALL TOWN AMERICA

By Mary Ann Rabuazzo



I grew up in the rural village town of Monticello, Missouri (MO), Lewis County, population 157. The town is in the Northeast corner of MO, 10 miles west of the Mississippi River. Monticello's distinction was, and still is, the smallest county seat in MO. It was established in 1833 and named in honor of the Thomas Jefferson estate in VA. Although small, the town thrived due to its business district which consisted of the courthouse, county vehicle fleet, Farm Bureau, Bank, Post Office, grocery store, DMV, gas station, restaurant, appliance store, an abstract company, health department, feed store, attorney's office and Agricultural Stabilization and Conservation Service. All were in the very large town square. Other than the business district there were three churches, the Lodge, Masonic Hall, family cemetery and private homes. The county sheriff also resided in town and the top floor of his house was the county jail. We had an elementary school but were bussed to another town for junior and high school. There was always lots to do.

Movies on the courthouse lawn, softball and baseball, horseback riding, games, farm clubs, church clubs, gardening clubs, scouts, 4-H, hayrides, hot dog and marshmallow roasts, sledding and cycling. The town population has declined but there are still many farming communities in the area. They have opened a large park and golf course. Right outside of town is now a private airplane landing strip. It was a nice place to live, and I still have family and friends in town and the surrounding farms and communities.

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