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### ST. PATRICK'S DAY DINNER 2022

Corned Beef Dinner, singer, dancers, and lots of fun for the 100+ residents attending the annual St. Pat's Dinner. The cake was also a hit and Patty Watkins shares her recipe with us on page 3. Thank you volunteers for all you do for us!



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# FOUND A FAWN

By Dana Matlock



On March 28, 2022, a small crowd started gathering across the street at 7 Tobias Lane, the home of Wayne & Vicki Hedrick. I was preparing dinner when Bob came running in to hustle me across the street so I could witness the important event. My heart melted as

I saw a beautiful tiny fawn snuggled up closed to the Hedrick's home. Lots of pictures were being snapped as everyone gushed over this little fellow while maintaining a very respectful distance. The fawn seemed to be a bit curious about us but not at all afraid. Finally, the discussion turned to what do we do for this tiny creature with no mama in site to care for it. I remembered hearing that if you find a fawn lying around all by itself, that mama is probably out gathering food and we should stay away from her baby. Several people starting searching on their phones for direction on how to proceed. I want to share that information with you today so you will know what to do in a situation like this.

Fawns, like many other wild animal babies, are frequently hidden and left alone for hours by their mothers while they forage for food. For the first couple of weeks, these babies generally nap while waiting for their mothers to return. They lay very still so as not to attract predators and are frequently mistaken for being in distress or abandoned. If roaming about, they may appear to be weak, stumbling, and newly born. Their mothers are usually within visual range and can always hear if their baby cries out. When a fawn is removed by humans or a predator, the doe will continue to look for it for two to three days, continually returning to the area where she last left the baby.



If you find a fawn, please leave it alone. Even if you cannot see the mother, she is very likely nearby and will return when you leave or within about 12 hours.

When she comes back, she may or may not move the fawn to a new spot. Hundreds of healthy fawns are captured each summer and taken from their mothers because people believe them to be

abandoned. Rearing a fawn is not easy and the job is best left to its natural mother. Even a recently captured fawn that has been picked up by people can be returned to its mother. It is not true that a doe will reject a fawn that has been handled by people

So, if you happen upon an adorable little fawn just enjoy the moment and appreciate the privilege to witness nature at its best.

## IMPORTANT CONTACT NUMBERS:

**Florida Fish & Wildlife** – 352-732-1225. Call them for injured or nuisance wildlife such as alligators, bobcats, deer, bears, etc.

**Wildlife Management** – 386-437-7783. Call them for injured or nuisance wildlife such as possums, racoons, snakes in the house, etc.

**Flagler Animal Services** – 386-246-8612. Officers respond to complaints of stray, injured, aggressive, and nuisance domestic animals (dogs, cats, birds). They investigate and report abuse, cruelty, and neglect. They also pick up injured birds such as pelicans on Flagler Beach for rehabilitation. After hours emergencies call Flagler Sheriff's Department at 313-4911.



**"CINCO DE MAYO"**  
**Saturday May 7<sup>th</sup>**  
**6:00pm - 9:00pm**

Bring your ticket and please be seated by 5:50  
program will start on time

## PROGRAM

- 6:00 Mexican "Fashion Show"
- "Los viejitos" Regional dance
- 6:45 Open Floor Dance
- 7:30 "Patricia Mambo Dance"
- 7:40 "Viva Amigo" & "Hat Contest"
- 8:15 Open Floor Dance

Plantation Oaks Residents Association  
info: Irma Reed 352-216-6294



# NATIONAL NURSES DAY

By Betty Vandermyn



On May 6, 2022, we recognize the important role nurses play in our lives by celebrating National Nurses Day. National Nurses Week is May 6 to May 12 every year and the week-long celebration ends on Florence Nightingale's birthday. At the end of the 19th century, "The Lady with the Lamp", or as she is more widely known, Florence Nightingale, who founded modern nursing. Thanks to her strict use of handwashing and hygiene practices while caring for wounded soldiers in the Crimean War, Nightingale and her helpers reduced the death rate from 42% to 2% ushering in nursing as we know it today. National Nursing Week was first observed in the United States in October 1954 to mark the 100th anniversary of Nightingale's pioneering work in Crimea. Twenty years later, in February of 1974, President Nixon proclaimed a National Nurse Week to be celebrated annually in May. Over the next eight years, various nursing organizations including the American Nurses Association rallied to support calls for a "National Recognition Day for Nurses" and on May 6 it was eventually proclaimed by President Ronald Regan in 1982.

I am a retired registered nurse. I worked 35 years of my nursing career in a cardiothoracic intensive care unit and followed by becoming a nurse of the rapid response team or more fondly called the SWAT team. I have so many memories of those bygone days and while most were wonderful ... some were not. The worst were the long 12-hour shifts which often became 14 hours, working overtime to provide care during times of high patient activity and lack of bedside nursing staff, and watching people pass this life into the next, while trying to console their grief-stricken families and often crying myself with them at the bedside.... and the list goes on. However, the many wonderful moments I remember were all about providing quality care to all my patients while also putting 100% into helping them understand and improve their lives and disease outcomes. As a nurse, you impact the lives of others and at the end of the day, no matter how challenging, I felt I impacted someone's life for the better. I was truly blessed to have chosen this career. I loved empowering and supporting patients and

families helping them get through a very difficult and vulnerable time in their life. Being a nurse is one of the most challenging and honorable professions someone can do. It was physically and mentally demanding at times pushing me to exhaustion. However at the end of the day, you feel amazing satisfaction and pride being able to help those in need.

Nursing is known for being a "behind-the-scenes" profession. They are the backbone of medical care. Nurses are on the front lines every day-administering injections, performing physical exams, nursing wounds and in many cases, caring for dying patients. Nurses are repeatedly ranked the most trusted profession. According to polls 80% if Americans think nurses have "high" or "very high" ethical standards. And even when they're not working, they're nursing family and friends. So, on National Nurses Day, thank the nurses in your life or those who may be caring for you or a family member. They will definitely appreciate your gratitude.



## ST. PATRICK'S DAY CAKE RECIPE

### PLANTATION OAKS CAKE

*Recipe Courtesy of Patty Watkins*

**Cake:** Duncan Hines cake mix yellow or white. Make according to directions and bake in a 9 X 13 pan. Cool.

#### Icing on Top

- 1 box vanilla pudding (instant)
- 1 cup milk
- 1/4 cup confectionary sugar
- 1 teaspoon vanilla
- 16 oz container of cool whip

Beat pudding, milk, vanilla, confectionary sugar until mixed then fold in cool whip. Frost cake.

Refrigerate for a couple of hours or overnight. Use one icing recipe for each box of cake mix.



# “THE MERRY MONTH OF THE MAY BASKET!”

By Jean Scionti



Have you ever heard of May baskets? Louisa May Alcott wrote about May Basket Day in the late 1800s. It wasn't until I met ... not Ms. Alcott...but Ms. Helen Reddy, a true New England "townie," and an old and very dear neighbor of mine, that I was awakened to the joy of the May Basket Day. Neither I, nor my children, had ever heard of "May Baskets", so without any prompting or hesitation Helen, proceeded to enlighten us.

"Now Jean," she said, "I cannot believe that you and your girls have never heard of a May basket. Why, when I was a child, we always looked forward to the celebration of spring with the making of May baskets. The week before May 1, my sisters and I would fashion baskets made from paper, then fill them with flowers, and sometimes candy. On May 1, we would take each basket and hang it on a friend or neighbor's door. We would call out "May Basket!" Then the three of us would scurry away so as not to be caught. What fun we had. Most often, the person knew who had left the basket, but they would pretend to be very bewildered about it all. We children loved every minute of it. And, I will say, it was a good way to cheerfully greet the warm weather." I was intrigued, and always looking for something to do with the kids, decided to resurrect this tradition for our much older neighbor.

The girls (ages seven and nine) were glowing with excitement. They collected the necessary-colored construction paper and weaved the baskets just as Helen had done in 1910. Then they decorated them with lace paper doilies, artificial flowers, and ribbons. Their creations were lovely.

Early in the morning on May 1, the girls tiptoed up Helen's driveway, clutching their baskets.

"Remember kids, you sneak up to the door. Place the baskets on the doorknob. Quickly ring the bell, call out "May Basket" and then run away."



Well, apparently this was not acceptable to the children.

"Mommy, we want Helen to know we made her the baskets," said Jenny.

"Gee Mommy, at her age, she'll never guess it was us," added Beth.

"But girls, according to Helen's

recollection, you're not supposed to be caught." I replied. "Well, this isn't 1910, it's 1985, and it's time for a change!" answered a determined Beth. So, a change was implemented. Run away and hide where Helen can see you.

All went off beautifully even if they did get caught. As it turned out, the children were right about being discovered, for Helen was truly surprised and greeted the girls with loving hugs. I even got a picture to record our first celebration of May.

And so, what was entertainment for the moment will now live in our memories forever. Thanks Helen.

## CINCO DE MAYO CELEBRATION

By Irma Reed



Do you know that this event became a party only here in the USA? For sure the Mexican party that most people enjoy! Time to drink Margaritas and wear sombreros.

On May 5, México celebrates the anniversary of a victory in 1862, over the French Empire; defeating the forces of Napoleon III in a battle held in Puebla, México. It is normally celebrated with a formal civic ceremony to honor and pay respects to the army and their commander General Ignacio Zaragoza. When you visit México, you can perceive the French influence that remained in some imperial buildings, Majestic Avenues, even a Magnificent Castle where the presidents used to live, all built with a French style.

We are celebrating “Cinco de Mayo Fiesta” here at our Club House with the color, the flavor, the music and the joy well known in the Mexican Culture. A large number of Plantation Oaks residents had organized a “Fiesta Program” to enjoy on May 7th. Hasta la vista amigos!

## BEAUTY TIPS

By Terry Johnson

Sandalwood boosts thick hair growth. Gently massaging sandalwood essential oil into your scalp daily prompts hair follicles to produce 30% more growth hormones, keeping them in their active phase for longer and prompting growth of thicker, healthier hair, reveals research published in the journal Nature Communications. Just mix 4 drops of the oil into a dollop of your favorite shampoo before washing.

# CHILDREN OF "THE GREATEST GENERATION"

Submitted by John Mercurio



## PART 3

Most of us had no life plan, but with the unexpected virtue of ignorance and an economic rising tide, we simply stepped into the world and started to find out what the world was about. We entered a world of overflowing plenty and

opportunity; a world where we were welcomed. Based on our naïve belief that there was more where this came from, we shaped life as we went. We enjoyed a luxury; we felt secure in our future.

Of course, just as today, not all Americans shared in this experience.

Depression poverty was deep rooted.

Polio was still a crippler.

The Korean War was a dark presage in the early 50s and by mid-decade school children were ducking under desks.

Russia built the "Iron Curtain" and China became Red China.

Eisenhower sent the first 'advisors' to Vietnam; and years later, Johnson invented a war there.

Castro set up camp in Cuba and Khrushchev came to power.

We are the last generation to experience an interlude when there were no existential threats to our homeland.

We came of age in the 40s and early 50s. The war was over and the cold war, terrorism, Martin Luther King, civil rights, technological upheaval, "global warming", and perpetual economic insecurity had yet to haunt life with insistent unease.

Only our generation can remember both a time of apocalyptic war and a time when our world was secure and full of bright promise and plenty. We have lived through both.

We grew up at the best possible time, a time when the world was getting better; not worse.

We are the Silent Generation; 'the last ones.' The last of us was born in 1942, and most of us believe we grew up in the best of times!



## TRIVIA

By Rich Bencal



Here are 10 questions to test your knowledge and stretch your brain cells. Some are easy, some may be hard, but they are all in fun. Think hard...good luck! Answers appear on another part of the POP.

1. Who is the only baseball player to hit a homerun in his first at bat and then never hit another? A little hint...he is in the Hall of Fame.
2. What was the name of the editor of the Daily Planet newspaper in the Superman series?
3. What was the first year for the Chevy Corvette?
4. How many voyages did the Titanic have before sinking?
5. What is the highest hand in poker?
6. Who was known as "The Intimidator" in NASCAR racing?
7. What did legendary Boston Celtics coach "Red" Auerbach do when he felt the team had won the game?
8. What was the Beatles last hit?
9. What is the most common first name in the world?
10. What is the most common last name in the world?

## MAY BRAIN TEASER

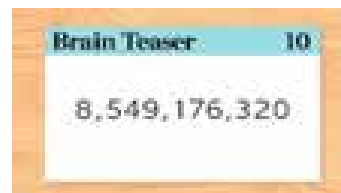


I am the beginning of sorrow and the end of sickness. You cannot express happiness without me, yet I am in the midst of crosses.

I am always in risk yet never in danger. You may find me in the sun, but I am never out of darkness.

Look for the answer in the June issue.

## ANSWER TO APRIL BRAIN TEASER



What makes this number unique?

8,549,176,320

Answer: It has each number zero through 9 and is listed in alphabetical order.



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# NEIGHBORS

By Gary Watkins



What is a Neighbor or as it spelled in Britain Neighbour. It is the person living next to you, across from you and behind you. Your neighbor could be right next to you, as in our situation or they could be a mile or two down the road. Neighborhood is an area of a location that is formed together as a group. We here at Plantation Oaks instead of a neighborhood we are called a community. A community made up of neighbors that live on streets they call their own.

There are neighbors and then there are neighbors. You can have a neighbor you never see or know and who does not care to see or know you. But then there are neighbors who want to be neighbors. Neighbors who you see and talk to and are interested in what is going on in your life. Neighbors who in a flash are there to lend a hand if needed or just to listen. I guess they use to say, borrow a cup of sugar. Borrow a tool, get advice or even a ride. A neighbor who if they should not see you for days check on you to make sure you are okay.

Although a neighbor lives next to you, I consider all the residents of our community my neighbor and have helped and have been helped by many. I think back when my son Stephen five years ago became ill and paralyzed how my neighbors of Plantation Oaks were there for Pat and me during our challenging time. I know that if a neighbor in our community needs something the neighbors are there. That is the type of community we are.

Of course, you can have a terrible neighbor. You try your best to change that but, in the end, if you cannot, it makes it tough. Pat and I are lucky as our neighbors are great neighbors. Neighbors who we consider friends. Neighbors who look out and help when needed. We came from a house in the E section, we had neighbors but not friends. Here we are friends. I can say my street Ashbury Lane is full of great neighbors.

So, I will close is saying I hope you, as we do, have great neighbors, if not there is always a way to try to change that. Work on getting to know your neighbors and having them get to know you. After helping a neighbor and they start to thank me I always tell them "That is what neighbors are for." Are you a good neighbor? I hope you all consider Pat and me your neighbors.

# "MAY FUN FACTS"

- It is the third and last month of the season of spring.
- The birthstone of May, the emerald, symbolizes success and love.
- May in the Northern Hemisphere is similar to November in the Southern Hemisphere.
- May was once considered a bad luck month to get married. There is a poem that says "Marry in May and you'll rue the day".
- In Old English May is called the "month of three milkings" referring to a time when the cows could be milked three times a day
- The Indianapolis 500 car race is held each year during this month. The Kentucky Derby, the world's most famous horserace, is also held on the second Saturday of this month.
- The last week of May is Library and Information Week.
- The United Kingdom celebrates May as the National Smile Month.

# "MAY HOLIDAYS"

- May Day
- Cinco de Mayo
- National Teacher Day
- Mother's Day
- Victoria Day
- Memorial Day



## MAY BIRTHDAYS:

- 2 Rita Mollica
- 3 Joann Cline
- 4 Rita VanPelt
- 4 Tom Lee
- 5 Susan Clerico
- 6 Marlene Gilman
- 7 Nicolas Andreacchio
- 7 Stephen Seltzer
- 7 Fred Way Lainhart
- 8 Stanley Masscotte
- 8 Diane Pires
- 9 Tina Jeffe
- 9 Ray Neeb
- 10 Muriel Fallon
- 14 Mary Francis
- 15 Janis Bresland
- 16 Tom Kavan
- 18 Pam Connolly
- 18 Sally Lassiter
- 19 Bob Avery
- 19 Barbara Jacobs
- 20 Barbara Cerasa
- 21 Allan Newell
- 23 Helen Byers
- 23 Frederick Mayes
- 23 Karen Murphy
- 23 Lori Parker
- 24 Carol Green
- 25 Katherine Bennett
- 25 Guy Capuano
- 26 Toni Burnett
- 27 Lynn Lauterbach
- 28 Bob Luz
- 28 Susan McLane- Maxwell
- 29 Glenn Woodall
- 29 Jean Newell
- 30 Janet Epperson
- 30 Christine LoCastro
- 31 Gail Nelson



**PRETTY WILD  
HOW WE USED TO  
EAT CAKE AFTER  
SOMEONE HAD  
BLOWN ON IT..  
GOOD TIMES...**



## MAY ANNIVERSARIES

- 4 James Mc Mahon & Helen T. Wells
- 5 Ken & Sharon Boswell
- 5 Peter & Linda Stahl
- 8 Barry & Sandy Levan
- 10 Ken & Shirley Avery
- 11 Malcolm & Anne Fraser
- 12 Art & Sheri Bookwalter
- 13 Frank & Pamela Taylor
- 18 Phillip & Dianne Hageman
- 19 Joe & Johanna Mariorano
- 20 Joe & Jeanie Bowe
- 21 Gerard & Patricia Unger
- 22 Butch & June LaForge
- 23 David & Carol Manowski
- 24 Eddie & Gerri Remondi
- 24 William & Carol Haseltine
- 25 Ken & Donna Copeland
- 27 Bob & Dana Matlock
- 29 Ron & Cheryl Furi
- 29 Mike & Karen Murphy
- 29 Roger & Janet Epperson
- 30 Bob & Rebecca McDonald



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







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## THE DAYDREAMER

By Joe Cortese



“What a day for a daydream, custom made for a daydreaming boy”. That song by The Lovin Spoonful was released in 1965 but today April 2, 2022, it fits my frame of mind because, it’s my birthday! Now I admit that it’s been a while since anybody has referred to me as a youth or

boy, although my wife does accuse me of acting childish (although I don’t think that right) but I have, with some trepidation, anticipated this birthday for most of my life. I just turned 65.

When I was young, I thought people 65 had one foot in the grave and the other on a banana peel but in the span of one short lifetime (mine) 65 no longer seems old. I remember the Beatles asking “will you still need me, will you still feed me when I’m 64” but I’ve already blown past that mark and I’m still here. There’s an old joke that goes something like this, if I’d known I was gonna live this long I would have taken better care of myself, but I don’t think anybody could have predicted the dramatic increase to our lifespan that this generation has seen. According to Google in the 20th Century our life expectancy went up by close to 17 years and in 2021 the average lifespan has come close to 79. Now some of you reading this may be closing in or already hit that 79-year-old mark but that doesn’t mean you’re at the end of the road it just means that you’re above average! It’s hard to figure the cause of this phenomena, amazing advances in medicine, better food or better working conditions but whatever the cause, every day's a blessing.

So, when I was young, I feared 65 but as I got closer to retirement, I started seeing it as a brass ring. 65 is the magic threshold where over course of one day you can go from private insurance (or worse, no insurance) to “Medicare”. Yesterday (April fool’s day) I joined the millions of Americans who have Medicare as opposed to the obscene payments I was making to cobra into my former employers’ health insurance and so another dream has come to pass.

65 no longer terrifies me and if asked “would you have changed anything” I guess the answer is no. Jimmy Buffet tells us in “Son of a Son of a Sailor” “where it all ends I can’t phantom my friend, if I could I might throw out an anchor, so I drift along always searching for song, not a lawyer a thief or a banker”. I think Jimmy is telling us you gotta play the cards you get, and I didn’t say “no”

because I think I’ve done everything right but (as we learned in “Back to the Future) if we change the then, we might get a new now and my daydream might not have come true.

“What a day for a daydream.....

## THE OAKS ROCK PAINTERS

By JoAnn Larkin

After some date confusion we are now meeting on the second and fourth Thursday of the month. May dates are 12 and 26th. Everyone is welcome to visit and try rock painting.

Easter has come and gone and a big thank you to Betty Shaver, Helen Wendorf, Maureen O’Connor and Shari Bookwalter for delivering rocks to neighbors. They are all residents but not rockers. Paula Davies, one of the rockers who has been out due to surgery, was able to also deliver rocks on her street and hopefully will be back to the group soon. Many Easter rocks were placed in the rock garden for residents and visitors to enjoy.

We welcomed 2 new rock painters Ruth Sniffin and Christine LoCastro.

So many people are telling me how much they enjoy the rock garden. One resident told me her grandson wants to go to the garden every time he gets into the golf cart. Another said she likes to give them to neighbors to cheer them up.

Toni Christ asked me to paint a rock like a red egg. I was surprised because she just wanted red. Toni said In Orthodox Tradition at Easter the eggs are dyed red to represent the blood of Jesus and the resurrection to symbolize new life. Each person holds an egg and taps another person’s egg. In Greek it is said that each time an egg is cracked he is risen. The person left with an egg not cracked is said to have luck during the year. We had a perfectly egg-shaped rock my husband found 30 years ago on a camping trip, and we agreed it was time to paint it red. I was happy to bring back those happy memories for Toni.



# WELCOME COMMITTEE

By Bob Matlock



May, of course, as we all know, is the fifth month of the year in the Julian and Gregorian calendars. It is also one of the seven, out of our twelve months, that has a length of 31 days. Some historians claim that May was named after the Greek goddess Maia, who was identified with the Roman goddess of fertility, Bona Dea, who was celebrated with a festival in May. However, other historians argue that Ovid, the Roman poet, claimed that the month of May was named for the “maiores”, Latin for “elders,” and the following month, June, was named for the “iuniores”, or young people. So, if your birthday is in the month of May and you would rather not be counted among the “old folks” then you have to change the month of your birthday and reflect it with the new month on all those official documents you are in possession of. Good luck with changing your birth certificate. Every day in May has multiple U.S. National or International observances of some person or event(s). For the U.S., Mother’s Day and Memorial Day are the major ones celebrated. However, there are some observed days you probably never heard of such as a Pizza Party, Paper Airplane, Train, Tap Dance and many, many more. When you count all the observed religious and country-oriented days on the International/World list there are several hundred. More than you want me to list here.

Please remember to say hello to your neighbors, especially the new ones and for those who are traveling to spend the summer with family and friends we give them our very best wishes for a safe and happy journey. Be kind to each other. I will be back in about a month.

The month of May was **named for the Greek goddess Maia**. She was the goddess of fertility. The Romans had a similar goddess named Bona Dea. They held the festival for Bona Dea during the month of May.



Welcome!  
We are glad you are here!

## NEW NEIGHBORS



**Shaw, Mary E.**  
4 Morington Lane  
From Hackettstown, NJ



**Wanatt, Jack & Marilyn**  
10 Tobias Lane  
From Susquehanna, PA – arriving in October

## FUNNIES FROM YOUR EDITORS

Why didn't the dog want to play football? It was a boxer.

What do you get a lawyer for his birthday? Briefs  
What did the Gingerbread Man put on his bed? A cookie sheet.

Why did the frog have a long face? He was un-hoppy.

Why did the elephant eat the candle? For light refreshment

What do the trees wear to the lake?  
Swimming trunks.





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## A STORY OF DESTINY

By Carollee Eppinger



I was a social worker and had many experiences throughout that time. I was working for a Christian organization and my position was Director of Domestic Adoptions. We worked with abortion clinics, and planned parenthood but our Christian values did not support abortion. Nevertheless, we had good relationships with the local abortion clinics. We would be called when a woman changed her mind about having an abortion. We served her and her unborn baby with counseling about her choices. Often, she wanted to choose an adoptive family for her baby.

One particular mother decided that adoption was her loving choice for her baby. She looked through the photo albums at families that she would consider. She found a young couple she thought would be ideal for her baby. We then arranged a placement ceremony where the mother after she gives birth places her baby in the arms of the new adoptive family. I asked the mother what she was going to name her baby if she chooses to parent her. She said she would call her Destiny.

We all met at the agency for the heartfelt placement ceremony which was always emotional for everyone. When the mother placed the child in her new adoptive families' arms, I asked what name they had chosen for this little girl. The adoptive family said that they had always wanted to name a baby girl Destiny. We all had our breath taken away as we realized God's destiny for this little girl.

## QUOTES AND NOTES

By Mary Ann Rabuazzo



As many of you know, I'm originally from Missouri, the "Show Me" state. Just recently we were blessed with a visit from my first cousin, Craig, and his wife, Norene. They live on a farm very near where we were all raised. Anyway, I suppose because of their presence, I thought of Mark Twain, one of the most talented and respected writers not only for his unflinching humor but his wit and wisdom as well. So, I decided to look up and share some of his quotes on old age. I hope you enjoy them as much as I do.

- "Wrinkles should merely indicate where smiles have been."
- "Age is an issue of mind over matter, if you don't mind, it doesn't matter."
- "We can't reach old age by another man's road. My habits protect my life but they would assassinate you."
- "When I was a boy of 14 my father was so ignorant, I could barely stand to be around him. But when I got to be 21, I was astonished at how much the old man had learned in seven years."

### KITCHEN HELP NEEDED



We need volunteers for kitchen cleanup during cooks' events! Duties include, washing pots, pans, dishes, and utensils as well as maintaining cleanliness of kitchen during cooks' events.

Please Contact: Andrew Rinaldi

TEL. # 610-675-9094



**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](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). You may also register for special needs evacuation assistance on this site or call **386-313-4200**.

DAY 12 WITHOUT  
CHOCOLATE

Lost hearing in  
my left eye

## FEDERATION OF MANUFACTURED HOMEOWNERS (FMO)

By James Pursley, Plantation Oaks FMO Rep



Well, it's me again, has anyone missed me, let's not go there. Have you ever just didn't have anything much to say or just couldn't talk about a topic. Well gang if you haven't noticed that's me this month. I was going to talk about different topics such as Ponytails yes

Ponytails, I am sporting one now. I may be the only guy in Plantation Oaks to have one. One of my neighbors down the street says he is going to grow one, but I haven't seen it yet. Mine is my wife's idea, really it is.

The weather was a little dicey this morning, tornado warnings, this is when you miss a basement. The weather lady said go to the lowest point in your home. I guess for us that is where the floor sags from a leaky toilet for over a year that I forgot to fix.

Well, it's getting late and it's time to watch a few Seinfeld reruns. You see Carol and I like to watch comedy shows before we go to bed at night. We watched all the "King of Queens" then we recorded and watched all the "Friends" series, it was a lot of them, now we are watching "Seinfeld".

Well by now you can really tell I could not think of an interesting topic to enhance my follower's knowledge, But the one thing I can talk about that never gets old is the FMO, Federation of Manufactured Home Owners. It is an interesting subject to talk about. You see they represent us homeowners that have homes on leased land. The FMO has an attorney and a Legislative Counsel to represent us in Tallahassee. And to top that they have now partnered with "Partners in Association Management" (PIAM) to take over the day-to-day operational duties. PIAM is also based in Tallahassee. What more could you ask for. It would take days for me to tell you everything they do. For all this representation it only costs \$25.00 per year or \$65.00 for 3 years and that's not all folks, you can join Elite Cross Country Premium Roadside Service, great service for \$35.00 per year.

To join go to [fmo.org](http://fmo.org) or contact me James Pursley, the one with the pony tail, you can pay with credit card if you do it online. To get in touch with me, email [jpinvest129@gmail.com](mailto:jpinvest129@gmail.com) Ph. 386-986-9632.

I promise I will have something to talk about next month. Take care and stay safe!

## ARE YOU READY?

By Steve Vandermyn



Spring is here with comfortable cool mornings, warm afternoons, nice evenings, and beautiful sunsets. Well, that's April and May. However, June is coming, and we know what that means. The start of hurricane season. Weather will become much warmer, increasing humidity with thunderstorms and torrential downpours. This is Florida so we know what we are in for. It's time to talk about hurricane season. Are you ready? Are you prepared for potential loss of electricity? Do you have an evacuation plan and know your evacuation route? Is your vehicle ready in case you have to leave? Do you have an emergency box prepared for necessities in case we are hit with a disaster? In that box you need to have items such as a working flashlight with extra batteries, nonperishable food to last at least 7 days for you and your pets, water at least 1 gallon per day for 5-7 days, clothing, blankets, pillows, first aid kit, medications, toilet paper, pet supplies, cell phone charger, a radio, cash, important documents, and tools. Notify family and friends of your evacuation plans and destination. So, start your list now of everything you might need and set what you can aside. Get started and be prepared. You can go online to [www.flagler.gov/disaster](http://www.flagler.gov/disaster) and you will find a Disaster Preparedness Guide which gives you all the information that you will need to know. June is just around the corner.





## SOCIAL COMMITTEE

By Terry Johnson



The social committee has been restructured and reorganized to better serve our community. I am now the social committee director and Debbie Pate will assume co-director as my backup. We have reorganized the committee into groups and have appointed group leaders.

### Category and Group Leaders:

- Decorations - Patti Watkins
- Printing and Events Calendar - Maureen Hutson
- Ticket Sales - Judy Ward
- Entertainment - Terry Johnson
- Communications - Vivian Reed
- Out and About Town - Maureen O'Hara

With everyone's help, we hope to have a successful 2022. Pick which category interests you the most and sign up with the team leader(s) of your choice to participate. April has been a very busy month, starting off with a chili cook off on April 3rd which was a sellout. We had 13 chili entrants as well as three residents who cooked up 3 crocks of chili to ensure we had enough for everybody. We wish to thank all who assisted in this event who made it possible to be such a success. Congratulations to all the winners and to all our participants. Medals were given to all winners as well as a gift card for 1st place winners.

### May Events:

- Cinco de Mayo celebration at the clubhouse starting at 6 till 9pm Featuring a Mexican Regional Fashion Show, hat decoration contest, dancing to the music of Tony and Debbie and many more surprises. Appetizers will be served and BYOB. Tickets are \$10 each.
- May 29 will be the ice cream social at 6 PM sponsored by PORA and Murex. Event is free to all our residents.
- May 30 will be the Memorial Day celebration. Please check the social event calendar in the clubhouse and read your email for update of event.

**June 18** - Pool Party with The Coconuts entertaining. More info to follow. Please check social board in club house and watch for emails.

I encourage all to attend our monthly meetings which are held the 1st Monday of each month.

Any questions or suggestions, please contact me Terry Johnson 609-876-0837.

## 7TH ANNUAL CHILI COOKOFF APRIL 2, 2022

92 residents enjoyed a great meal sampling a variety of chili pots made by 15 of our residents. Chili was served with cornbread, sour cream cheese, Fritos and iced tea and delicious cake (*recipe on page 3*). Cookoff winners are:

**Mild Category:** 1<sup>st</sup> Place, Bobbie Sharpe; 2<sup>nd</sup> Place, Norma Vanhorn; 3<sup>rd</sup> Place, Tom Greene



**Medium/Other Category:** 1<sup>st</sup> Place, Chris Davis; 2<sup>nd</sup> Place, Dana Matlock; 3<sup>rd</sup> Place, Nancy Lester



**Hot/Spicy Category:** 1<sup>st</sup> Place, Mike Reed; 2<sup>nd</sup> Place, Debbie Pate; 3<sup>rd</sup> Place, Mike Smith





## PLANTATION OAKS COOKS

Every first Saturday of the month, Breakfast will be served between 8:30 & 9:30 AM.

Cost \$7.00

Every third Wednesday of the month, Lunch will be served between 12:00 & 1:00 PM.

Cost \$8:00

**Menus for each breakfast and lunch will be posted in clubhouse 1 week before each event.**

### TRIVIA ANSWERS (from page 5)

1. Hoyt Wilhelm
2. Perry White
3. 1953
4. The Titanic was on its maiden voyage
5. Royal Straight Flush
6. Dale Earnhardt, Sr.
7. Light a "victory" cigar
8. The Long and Winding Road
9. Mohammed
10. Chang

## MAY IS NATIONAL BARBEQUE MONTH!

by Chef Kevin Gallagher, MS, CEC



The weather this time of year is beautiful here in Florida and it's time for some tasty and healthy spring lamb to place on the barbeque. Lamb chops are easy and quick to cook on the grill and marinating takes less than an hour!

Over 50% of the lamb sold in in the states comes from the USA. **American lamb is fresher, milder in flavor, and yields more meat than imported lamb.** Over 68% of eaters prefer American lamb over New Zealand or Australian lamb, rating it high in flavor, quality and tenderness. American lamb is grown without hormones and regularly inspected for wholesomeness and quality.

One 3-ounce portion of lamb delivers 23 grams of protein, almost 50% of your daily protein needs. It is naturally nutrient rich and is an excellent source of protein, zinc, selenium, riboflavin, niacin, vitamin B12 and vitamin B6. It is lean and is approximately 160 calories for 3 ounces. 57% of the fat in lamb is heart health monounsaturated fat. White blood cells require zinc to function and fight infection. Selenium has antioxidant properties, protecting immune cells from oxidative stress. It also plays a role in protein synthesis. Iron is a fundamental element for immune response, helping lymphocytes grow and mature so they can attack infections. Protein provides the body with amino acids. These amino acids act as building blocks to produce immune cells and antibodies. Vitamin B6 is needed to activate an immune signaling molecule that regulates the activities of white blood cells. Vitamin B12 plays a critical role in the production of protein synthesis which is vital to produce immune cells and all human tissue.

### Grilled Lamb Chops With Garlic, Rosemary, And Thyme

Servings: 2

#### Ingredients

4 lamb loin chops, about 1 inch thick

#### Marinade:

2 tablespoons red wine vinegar

2 tablespoons chopped fresh rosemary

1 tablespoon chopped fresh thyme

1 teaspoon minced fresh garlic

2 Tbs olive oil

Fresh ground black pepper, (to taste)



#### Instructions

1. Trim most of the visible fat from lamb chops. Combine marinade ingredients. Place lamb chops
2. inside a small Ziploc bag, pour marinade in, and marinate 1 hour.
3. Preheat gas or charcoal barbecue grill to high heat. Grill lamb chops about 5 minutes per side for medium-rare, approximately 125 degrees F (cooking time will depend on the thickness of the lamb chops and how hot your grill is). Check temperature with electronic thermometer in center of meat, avoiding the bone. Season with salt to taste and serve hot.
4. f you don't have an outdoor grill, these lamb chops can be cooked on a stove-top grill pan with ridges or a George Foreman Grill with good results.



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# "THE STORY CONTINUES..."

By Jean Sciorti



The following is an addendum to my article on "May Baskets."

A few years later, after my introduction to May baskets and Ms. Reddy had passed away, I decided that my story and this

tradition needed to be re-visited. I wrote an essay on the incident with our neighbor, and submitted it to our local newspaper, along with a picture of Helen. When I did not see it published, I called the editor, and asked why. Mr. Editor said that the story was "corny." I then said, a bit angrily, "Keep the article or throw it away but send me back my picture!"

Two years after that exchange, in late April, I got a call one morning from that same editor. I was perplexed. He said, "Jean, I want to publish your article on May baskets." I replied, perhaps a bit sarcastically, "Why? I thought it was too corny." He comes back with, "Hey! Haven't you ever had a bad day? I was not myself that

day, but it is good and very appropriate for this edition."

By this time, I was over the whole getting it published and said, "I don't care. Do what you want with it." He complimented me again on the piece and published it. However, the story



does not end here.

About two weeks into May, I was at work and got a call from Atlanta, Georgia. When my boss said there was a woman from Georgia on the phone for me, I thought there must be some mistake. To this day, some thirty years later, I am still pleased that I took that call.

The woman said, "I have been trying to reach you to say thank you. My daughter and I have been estranged. We have not spoken in over two years. She lives in your area and read your article."

She then went on to say that her daughter cried when she read the piece. The story reminded her of her childhood and making May baskets with her mom. Now her child calls her frequently.

I was both surprised and happy at the same time that a short and supposedly "corny" essay could heal emotional wounds between a mother and her child. Not to mention the fact that she searched me out to tell me. The call ended with both of us thanking each other.

**HAPPY MAY BASKET DAY EVERYONE!**



## DRIVING TIP OF THE MONTH

From the National Institute on Aging

Submitted by John Mercurio

### Slower Reaction Time and Reflexes

As you get older, your reflexes might get slower, and you might not react as quickly as you could in the past. You might find that you have a shorter attention span, making it harder to do two things at once. Stiff joints or weak muscles also can make it harder to move quickly. Loss of feeling or tingling in your fingers and feet can make it difficult to steer or use the foot pedals. Parkinson's disease or limitations from a stroke can make it no longer safe to drive.

*Safe driving tips:*

- Leave more space between you and the car in front of you.
- Start braking early when you need to stop.
- Avoid heavy traffic areas or rush-hour driving when you can.
- If you must drive on a fast-moving highway, drive in the right-hand lane. Traffic moves more slowly there, giving you more time to make safe driving decisions.





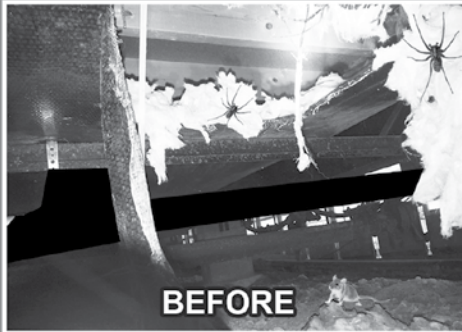
# May Word Search



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