



### Inside this issue:

**Plantation Oaks Wildlife**

Page 4

**Birthdays & Anniversaries**

Page 7

**FMO**

Page 10

**Social Committee News**

Page 11



May 10, 2026

For Information, Comments,  
Questions contact:

Dana Matlock, *Editor*  
[dbmatlock@live.com](mailto:dbmatlock@live.com)

Kevin Gallagher, *Editor*  
[kjgallagher13@gmail.com](mailto:kjgallagher13@gmail.com)

COMPLIMENTARY NEWSLETTER PROVIDED BY



**FOR ADVERTISING INFO CONTACT**  
**941-375-3699**



### Washington Oaks Gardens State Park

6400 N. Oceanshore Blvd, Palm Coast, FL 32137

Join the Friends of Washington Oaks on the second Saturday of each month from 10:00 AM to 1 PM for unique, Florida friendly plants for your home and yard. The event is free with paid admission fee to the state park: \$5 per vehicle (Limit 2-8 people per vehicle). \$4 per single-occupant vehicles. *See page 3 for more information.*

Advertising in this newsletter does not imply endorsement by the publisher or the creators of this newsletter. The advertisers are solicited by and pay the publisher, Community Media, for the listing. In turn, the publisher provides the newsletter to Plantation Oaks at no cost.



# UNDERHOME ARMOR®

Quality Workmanship  
Honest Pricing

**10 Yrs Experience**

## Vapor / Moisture Barrier

- Underhome Encapsulated Insulation
- Hurricane Tie-Down Anchors

**BEFORE**



**AFTER**



## Are your Floors Soft?

- Sub-Floor Repair/Replace
- New Laminate Flooring Install

**BEFORE**



**AFTER**



# (352) 474-5644 or (800) 377-7885

FAMILY OPERATED  
ESTIMATES & SMILES ALWAYS FREE

FL State Licensed Mobile Home Installer # IH-1152514  
FL State General Contractor License #1531303

Mobile Home  
**2nd**  
Generation  
Specialist



## WASHINGTON OAKS STATE PARK

6400 N. Oceanshore Blvd, Palm Coast, FL 32137

By Carollee Eppinger



If you haven't been to this gorgeous park, I highly recommend taking a scenic ride there. It's especially fun on the second Saturday of the month when the Plant Sale happens. It's from 10 am to 1 pm, and people are always excited to enter the Plant Shade Pavilion, the fenced yard, and the greenhouse.



There are a wide variety of plants at reasonable prices and in good condition. You see, I volunteer there. I help with plant grooming, labeling, and creating plant displays. I've been volunteering for about three years now.

Apart from the Plant Sale, the gardens are absolutely lovely. There's a rose garden, ponds, large oak trees, and native flowers along the trails. The park is bordered by the Halifax River, and there are picnic benches and fishing spots. Music in the gardens is held and there are other events that encourage you to enjoy the park. Garden walks are also scheduled regularly. Besides volunteering at the Plant Bench, there are other places to help out. The groundskeepers take care of the beautiful trails and roses. There are entrance and traffic volunteers for special events. There's also a visitor gift shop staffed by volunteers. I treasure my time there because I love gardening and plants. I wanted to share the opportunities we have all around us for enriching experiences.



On a final note, it's people like you who have extra plants that grow in their yards that help us sell them. Aloe's, palms, staghorn ferns, and bromeliads grow a lot in our yards. If you have some plants you'd like me to take to the park, just drop them off at my house. Unless you'd rather take them to the garden yourself, of course. I live at 9 Julip Lane, and you can leave them in my little fenced garden.

## CONTAINER GARDENING TIPS

Submitted by Dana Matlock



Spring is in the air, and with it comes the urge to garden! The good news is you don't need a large yard to enjoy it - container gardening is an easy way to add plants to your space, whether growing flowers on a patio or tending a small herb plant on a windowsill. Gardening is a peaceful and rewarding way to stay active while enjoying time outdoors. Even simple tasks like watering plants or trimming leaves can lift your mood, encourage movement, reduce stress, and provide a sense of accomplishment

### Tips to get started:

#### 1) Choose the right container

- Make sure your pot has drainage holes so excess water can escape.

#### 2) Use quality potting mix

- Potting mix allows water to drain properly and helps plants grow stronger.

#### 3) Pick plants that match your space.

- Sunny spots are great for herbs, geraniums, petunias, or small tomatoes.
- Shadier spots do well with ferns, begonias, or impatiens.
- Indoors, consider low-maintenance plants like herbs, succulents, or peace lilies.

#### 4) Water consistently

- Container plants dry out faster than plants in the ground. Check the soil regularly and water when the top inch feels dry.

#### 5) Have fun with it

Mix flowers, herbs, or greenery and move containers around with the seasons.

Get your hands dirty and enjoy the simple pleasures of gardening. Who knows? Maybe you might just discover you've had a green thumb all along!

Source: Moosehaven



## PLANTATION OAKS WILDLIFE

by Gary Frechette

Plantation Oaks Living, October -November 2007

*Submitted by Rich Bencal*



This is an article on one of the residents we have in plantation oaks and the need to understand them and give them their space. We have a few living in the retention ponds within the community. Living in Florida we have to share our space with a very large reptile, the American Alligator. Because of Florida's booming population growth, people and alligators are constantly forced to cross paths, increasing the chances of conflict. Knowing where alligators live, how they behave and what you can do to avoid conflict with alligators is the key to sharing space safely. Feeding alligators and crocodiles in Florida is illegal. Statue 372.667 makes it a misdemeanor to feed alligators or crocodiles. The American alligator has survived the test of time. The family Alligatoridae first appeared about 35 million years ago.

The alligator can grow up to 500 lbs. Females average 8 feet long and males average 11 feet. The length of an alligator may be estimated by estimating the length of their snout. Each inch from the tip of the snout to the eyes, equals about 1 foot of length. If anyone would like to measure one, be my guest. They like shallow lakes, ponds, and rivers, and eat turtles, snakes, birds, and small mammals, often feeding at night.

Although crocodiles have been clocked swimming at 10 mph, there is no definite answer for how fast an alligator could swim. When alligators walk on land they can move very quickly and are capable of running at speeds of 7.5 to 9 mph for short distances. The speed at which alligators come move make them potentially dangerous in water and on the land.

There are a few myths about alligators:

- You should run zigzag - this is a common misconception. First, it is rare for an alligator to pursue a human because humans are too large to be suitable prey. However, if an alligator does make an aggressive charge, run fast and straight (away from the alligator, of course). They usually do not run

very far. But remember they are most likely to charge at you if you are near their nest.

- Alligators have poor eyesight - actually they have very good eyesight, which is an important adaptation for hunting. They are especially adapted to see and sense movement of potential prey animals. The position of their eyes on their head (almost on the side) gives them a wide sight range.

The only place they cannot see is right behind them. They are not good climbers - alligators have sharp claws and powerful tails to help them push their bodies up. Young alligators are agile climbers and adults have been known to climb fences to get to water or escape captivity.

## TRIVIA

*By Rich Bencal*



Welcome back to Plantation Oaks version of Trivia Land. Once again, after scouring many publications, I believe I have assembled 10 questions that just might befuddle you. Good luck and once again the answers will appear on another

page of the POP. HAPPY MAY!!!

### QUESTIONS:

1. What day in May is considered Star Wars Day?
2. How long was the first American in space?
3. What are the birth flowers for May?
4. What two zodiac signs are in May?
5. What sporting event is held annually on the first Saturday in May?
6. What two Holidays in May honor the Armed Forces?
7. What US state was admitted to the Union on May 11, 1858?
8. What did Christopher Columbus "discover" on May 4, 1494?
9. What meteor shower lasts the entire month of May?
10. What natural disaster occurred on May 18, 1980?

### Beauty Tip

Protect your skin from the sun



One of the best ways to care for your skin is to protect it from the sun's harmful effects. You can protect yourself by consistently applying sunscreen (even on cloudy days) and by taking a cue from your grandmother and wearing a sunhat or visor when outdoors.

# MY SNOWBIRD CHECKLIST

By Jeanie Scionti



With summer shortly upon us, my husband and I will soon be heading North.

Two years ago, in the spring of 2024, we left our winter retreat in Plantation Oaks prepared to return in the late fall. However, in the summer of that year, medical issues required us to stay in Massachusetts. It turned out that we did not return to Florida until mid-January of this year.

It was nice to see our winter residence, but lots happened during those twenty-four months of absence. Appliances failed, blinds fell, our air-conditioner froze-up, and mold took over the sidewalk, patio, and siding. I also had canned food and other staples that all expired and unfortunately had to be thrown away. Then, last week, a glass window cracked!

Now I have a list of what to do before leaving my beautiful home.

## Plumbing Maintenance Tasks

- ✓ Ensure garbage disposal is free of food particles.
- ✓ Clean out refrigerator. Turn off the icemaker.
- ✓ Turn off water valves to sinks, toilets, washing machine and dishwasher.
- ✓ Turn off the breaker for the hot water heater.
- ✓ Cover toilet bowls with plastic wrap to prevent water from evaporating. Optional: Put a capful of bleach in each bowl before covering it.
- ✓ Ensure the washing machine is drained and completely dry to prevent mold growth.
- ✓ Ensure your air-conditioner is functioning properly and replace the air filter.

## General Housekeeping Tasks:

- ✓ Empty and clean refrigerator.
- ✓ Make sure you have no food in pantry that can expire before you get back.
- ✓ Clean all waste baskets and garbage cans.
- ✓ Remove the vacuum cleaner bag and replace it with a fresh one.
- ✓ Make sure the stove is off.
- ✓ Clean all kitchen appliances. Clean toaster oven, toaster, microwave, etc.
- ✓ Unplug TV, DVD player, power strips, etc.
- ✓ Remove batteries from house phones and TV remote controls.
- ✓ Make sure all windows are closed.
- ✓ Close blinds inside house and storm shutters outside.

- ✓ Pull out loose cushions from furniture. This allows air circulation which retards mold and mildew.
- ✓ Bring in sunroom loose cushions.
- ✓ Cover all furniture and bedding with dust covers or sheets.
- ✓ Set thermostat to a suitable summer cooling temperature.
- ✓ After checking the house and ready to leave, spray a pest control formula around the outside of the house. Optional: Spray inside the house.
- ✓ Notify your close friends/neighbors and, if you live in a community, notify management of your departure and when you plan to be back.
- ✓ Bring a list of important phone numbers, such as utility companies, and neighbor's phone numbers.

**Please note: There are more 'inclusive' lists you can find on the internet.**

## WATER AEROBICS – JOIN THE FUN

Monday, Wednesday & Friday – 10 -11:15 AM



*Photograph from Brenda Souza*

## SAINT PATRICK'S DINNER, MARCH 20



## ASPARAGUS AT ITS PEAK:

### A Simple Technique That Tastes Bright



By Kevin Gallagher MS, CECE

By the time May rolls around in Flagler Beach, I've been craving food that feels lighter and simpler. Asparagus fits that mood perfectly. It's still in great shape this time of year, and when you treat it simply, good heat and seasoning, it gives you a clean, green flavor that tastes like the season turning.

Asparagus is one of those ingredients that rewards a light hand. You don't need a long list of extras; you just need enough heat to bring out its sweetness and enough seasoning to enhance its taste. Roasting creates spears that are tender with tips that are perfectly caramelized. The high heat gives you that mix of crisp edges and silky centers that makes asparagus feel more luxurious than the effort suggests. And if you're already cooking outside, asparagus grills beautifully with the same oil and seasoning. Cook for just a few minutes over medium-high heat until the spears pick up a perfect char, and you will be rewarded with a tasty veg.

A quick note on quantity, because it always raises eyebrows: the recipe calls for 2 pounds of asparagus for four people. That sounds like a mountain, but once you trim the woody ends, you lose a surprising amount—often a third of the weight. What you're left with is closer to 1¼ to 1½ pounds of usable spears, which is exactly the right amount when asparagus is the featured vegetable. It fills a platter without feeling excessive, and everyone gets a generous serving.

What makes asparagus especially appealing for coastal Florida cooking is how well it plays with bright, citrusy flavors. Lemon wakes it up without overpowering it, and Parmesan adds a savory depth that balances the sweetness. A splash of cream ties everything together into a sauce that feels restaurant-worthy but takes only a few minutes. It's a coastal riff on a classic French reduction—lighter, fresher, and perfect for warm evenings.

The sauce here is intentionally simple: warm cream infused with garlic and lemon, thickened just enough to cling to the spears. Spoon it over the roasted asparagus, add a little extra Parmesan, and the whole dish becomes something you could serve with grilled fish, roasted chicken, or even on its own with a piece of crusty bread. It's flexible, unfussy, and exactly the kind of cooking that feels right as we slide toward summer.

You can dress it up with herbs, swap Parmesan for pecorino, or add toasted almonds for crunch, but it doesn't need any of that to shine. Even in its simplest

form, it delivers what May cooking should: freshness, ease, and a little brightness on the plate.

### Roasted/Grilled Asparagus with Lemon–Parmesan Cream

Serves: 4

#### Ingredients

- 2 pounds asparagus, trimmed
- 1 tbsp olive oil
- 1 tsp kosher salt
- ½ tsp black pepper
- 1 cup heavy cream
- 1 garlic clove, finely grated
- ½ cup freshly grated Parmesan, plus extra for serving
- Zest of 1 lemon
- 1 tsp lemon juice

#### Instructions

1. Heat the oven to 425°F. Spread the asparagus on a sheet pan, drizzle with olive oil, and season with salt and pepper. Roast for 12–15 minutes, until the tips are lightly browned and the spears are tender. **To grill instead:** Place the seasoned asparagus directly on a medium-high grill and cook 5–7 minutes, turning or rolling, until lightly charred and just tender.
2. While the asparagus cooks, warm the heavy cream in a small saucepan over medium-low heat. Add the garlic and a pinch of salt. Let it gently simmer for 3–4 minutes, just until slightly thickened.
3. Remove the cream from the heat and stir in the Parmesan, lemon zest, and lemon juice. The sauce should be smooth and just thick enough to coat a spoon. Taste and adjust seasoning.
4. Arrange the asparagus on a platter and spoon the warm lemon-Parmesan cream over the top. Finish with a little extra Parmesan and freshly cracked pepper.



## THE MICROPLANE IS YOUR FRIEND

Tips by Dana



Microplane graters are great for taking zest off of citrus fruit. They're also great for grating ginger. They're great for grating garlic. They're great for creating a blanket of grated cheese over your pasta or pizza. They're great for grating whole nutmeg. They're just great. To clean: simply soak your dirty zester in hot water for five to ten minutes before washing it. Whatever small amount of remaining food that's stuck to the grater will come right off with a swipe of a soapy sponge.



# Welcome

We're Glad You're Here!

## MAY BIRTHDAYS

- |                     |                           |
|---------------------|---------------------------|
| 2 Rita Mollica      | 18 Brett Howe             |
| 2 Wendy Wile        | 20 Christa Shanelaris     |
| 7 Stephen Seltzer   | 21 Allan Newell           |
| 7 Fred Way Lainhart | 23 Helen Byers            |
| 7 Janice Randolph   | 24 Carol Green            |
| 7 Donna Palmer      | 25 Katherine Bennett      |
| 8 Grace Mason       | 25 Guy Capuano            |
| 8 Stanley Masscotte | 26 Toni Burnett           |
| 8 Diane Pires       | 28 Sally Ann Berkstresser |
| 9 Tina Jeffe        | 28 Bob Luz                |
| 10 Muriel Fallon    | 28 Susan McLane- Maxwell  |
| 12 Don Kline        | 29 Glenn Woodall          |
| 14 Mary Francis     | 29 Jean Newell            |
| 15 Janis Bresland   | 30 Christine LoCastro     |
| 16 Tom Kavan        | 30 Janet Epperson         |
| 18 Pam Connolly     | 31 Gail Nelson            |



**Christa Shanelaris**  
**63 Claremount Drive**

Christa hails from Concord, NH. She is excited to be in Florida to be near her brother and our beautiful weather. She enjoys dancing, cribbage and baking

### **Greg & Mary Hunt** *(no picture available)*

#### **5 Morington Lane**

Greg, Mary and their fur baby, Weasly, will be snowbirds for now, splitting their time between New Hampshire and Plantation Oaks.



**Cyndie Heintz & Phyllis Burnett**  
**35 Habersham Drive**

Cyndie and Phyllis, Nick Burnett's mother and sister, recently moved from Iowa to Florida to be closer to family and escape the cold weather. They're both members of the

Tuesday night euchre group, and Phyllis celebrated her 95th birthday in April with her Plantation Oaks friends.

### **Silva Alff** *(no picture available)*

#### **6 Winthrop Lane**

Sylvia and her furry friend, Marshmello, made a move from St. Augustine to Plantation Oaks in January!



**Bill and Nancy Hennessy**  
**14 Claremount Drive**

Bill, Nancy, and their lovable doggie are from Durham, CT, and will be spending winters in their seasonal home in Plantation Oaks. They have family members who also live here.



**Charlie Smith & Kathleen Schultz**  
**85 Habersham Drive**

Charlie and Kathy are from Crecent City, FL. They are excited about making their home in Plantation Oaks their permanent residence.

Interests are golf (Charlie), water aerobics and cards.



## MAY ANNIVERSARIES

- 5 Ken & Sharon Boswell
- 6 Walter & Grace Mason
- 8 Barry & Sandy Levan
- 11 Malcolm & Anne Fraser
- 11 Michael & Shannon Fitzpatrick
- 12 Art & Sheri Bookwalter
- 16 Jack & Lynn Delvecchio
- 18 Phillip & Dianne Hageman
- 21 Gerard & Patricia Unger
- 22 Butch & June LaForge
- 25 Ken & Donna Copeland
- 27 Bob & Dana Matlock
- 30 Bob & Rebecca McDonald

*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) or [kjgallagher13@gmail.com](mailto:kjgallagher13@gmail.com).*

*Welcome Committee Chairs: Linda Theriault & Linda Morrison.*

## CERT - COMMUNITY EMERGENCY RESPONSE TEAM NEWS



By Donna Bruno



Communication infrastructure is vital to the safety of our community during an emergency. On March 29, members of the CERT administrative team met with the PORA Board. We sincerely thank PORA for their generous grant, which funded the purchase of 14 radios to be distributed to Block Captains to strengthen communication coverage.

On March 16, CERT partnered with the Red Cross to install 10-year battery-operated smoke detectors in nearly 50 homes. Due to overwhelming response, a second installation day has been scheduled, with plans to assist nearly 60 additional residents. CERT also recently hosted a fire safety program to help residents stay prepared.



We extend our gratitude to all residents who contributed to CERT's yard sale fundraiser held April 10-11.

Looking ahead, CERT will host "Driving Techniques for Seniors" on May 9 from 2:00-3:30 PM in partnership with the Red Cross.

The Plantation Oaks CERT was reorganized earlier this year. This FEMA-developed program trains volunteers in disaster preparedness and basic emergency response. The next CERT course, typically 27 hours, taught over 9 mornings will be offered in May at the Flagler County Emergency Operations Center. The first day of the class is May 5th.

If you need any further information, please email CERT at [po.cert2026@gmail.com](mailto:po.cert2026@gmail.com).



## JUST FOR FUN

Submitted by Keith Mowling



Moshe was sitting at the bar staring at his drink when a large, trouble-making biker steps up next to him, grabs his drink and gulps it down in one swig. Moshe burst into tears.

"Come on, man," the biker says, "I didn't think you'd CRY. I can't stand to see a man crying. What's your problem?"

"This is the worst day of my life," Moshe says. "I'm a complete failure. I was late to a meeting and my boss fired me. When I went to the parking lot, I found my car had been stolen and I don't have any insurance. I left my wallet in the cab I took home. I found my wife in bed with the postman and then my dog bit me."

"So, I came to this bar to work up the courage to put an end to it all. I buy a drink; drop a capsule in and sit here watching the poison dissolve; then you show up and drink the whole thing!"

"But enough about me, how's your day going?"



May 1, 2026, 6:00 PM. Half Step Down Band is a working Palm Coast/Ormond Beach/St. Augustine based Classic Rock Band. The members are seasoned pros, each of them with hundreds of performances representing years of stage experience. Some of the best musicians and solid vocals in Northeast Florida.

Sponsored by Flagler Beach & Surf 97.3 FM

## THE OLD COOT GETS OFF TRACK

By Merlin Lessler

Submitted by Dan Behanick



I write to laugh at today's world and my ineptness to adapt to it. Sometimes I get off track and stuck on grievance, again and again, but eventually that helps me accept it. I kept getting stuck on how hard it is to open things sealed in plastic

or bottles with tops that are too small to grip. I've aired those complaints so often the issue has become an amusement. When I'm confronted with it, I laugh out loud as I struggle to open something.

I also write with a "Pass-the-Wisdom-along," theme, in an attempt to give people headed toward old age a glimpse of the issues they will face, a roadmap to help prepare for the inevitable. And, to learn to laugh at themselves rather than fret over it on the steps along the old age path.

The old age journey is much easier in Japan where the elderly are respected, even revered. The journey is different here in our youth-oriented society. Old coots are either invisible to young people or a joke. We learn to laugh at ourselves along with them, knowing their day will come. If you laugh at life in general and old age in particular, the journey, in all its absurdity, is a more pleasant way to travel.

I stumble around with a lack of balance caused by neuropathy in my feet and legs. But I do get around, and pretty well. Especially if I'm using a walking stick or simply touching something nearby. Any stable object or a person's shoulder will do. I learned that technique from my friend Doc Williams, who gave a talk on balance at a Rotary meeting several years ago. He especially stressed using a stick rather than a cane, so you walk upright.

I'm scratching my head at this point, wondering what I was trying to get at in this article. You would think that after writing over 1500 old coot essays, I would be able to stay on track, but I can't. I put a pen in my hand, grab a piece of paper and off I go. Often not knowing where. The stuff spins out on its own and I take credit for it. Sometimes something good, sometimes something bad, and often something I never expected.



## OLDEST PERSON EVER

Submitted by John Mercurio



Jeanne Louise Calment had the longest confirmed human lifespan on record: 122 years and 164 days. It seems that fate strongly approved of the way Madame Calment lived her life.

She was born in Arles, France, on February 21, 1875. When the Eiffel Tower was built, she was 14 year old.

It was at this time that she met Vincent van Gogh. "He was dirty, badly dressed and disagreeable," she recalled in an interview given in 1988. When she was 85, she took up fencing, and she was still riding on her bike when she reached 100. At the age of 114, she starred in a film about her life; at age 115 she had an operation on her hip, and at age 117 she gave up smoking, having started at the age of 21 in 1896. In 1965, Jeanne was 90 years old and had no heirs. She signed a deal to sell her apartment to a 47-year-old lawyer called André-François Raffray. He agreed to pay her a monthly sum of 2,500 francs on the condition that he would inherit her apartment after she died. However, Raffray not only ended up paying Jeanne for 30 years but died before she did at the age of 77. His widow was legally obliged to continue paying Madam Calment until the end of her days. Jeanne retained sharp mental faculties. On her 120th birthday she was asked what kind of future she expected, she replied, "A very short one."

### **Quotes & Rules of Life from Jeanne Louise Calment:**

"I'm in love with wine."  
"All babies are beautiful."  
"I think I will die of laughter."  
"I've been forgotten by our Good Lord."  
"I've only got one wrinkle, and I'm sitting on it."  
"I never wear mascara; I laugh until I cry too often."  
"If you can't change something, don't worry about it."  
"Always keep your smile. That's how I explain my long life."  
"I see badly, I hear badly, and I feel bad, but everything's fine."  
"I have a huge desire to live and a big appetite, especially for sweets."  
"I have legs of iron, but to tell you the truth, they're starting to rust and buckle a bit."  
"I took pleasure when I could. I acted clearly and morally and without regret. I'm very lucky."  
"Being young is a state of mind, it doesn't depend on one's body, I'm actually still a young girl; it's just that I haven't looked so good for the past 70 years."



## FEDERATION OF MANUFACTURED HOMEOWNERS OF FLORIDA (FMO)

By James Pursley, FMO Representative



Hey there! It's me again. Hope you're all doing great!



Summer is almost here, and I can't believe how cold it was this winter. I know if you're from the far North, it was a breeze, but for us, it was a real challenge. That got me thinking - when do you start calling your current place 'home'? Or where you're from? I'll leave that up to you!

On a different note, I wanted to suggest something that might be worth checking out. There's this awesome organization called the Federation of Manufactured Homeowners (FMO). They've been around since 1962, which is pretty impressive. They're a statewide consumer advocacy group that protects the rights and interests of manufactured homeowners who live on leased land. They offer great prices for their services, so it's definitely worth a look. If you want to learn more, you can visit their website at [fmo.org](http://fmo.org). Or, if you prefer, you can reach out to me at [jpinvest129@gmail.com](mailto:jpinvest129@gmail.com). I'd be happy to chat more about it.

I've got a bit of a story to share, but I'm not sure if you'll believe it. My lovely wife and I have cats for years now, and we've always been cat lovers. Cats are truly one-of-a-kind creatures. We have our "rescue" cats and for us they are always "indoor" only cats. About eight years ago we adopted a brother and sister named Kenny and Barbie. To make things even more fun, we also have a 14-year-old dog who's always up for a good time. Sadly, Kenny and Barbie passed away from cancer just a few months apart, which was incredibly tough on us. But we're trying to stay positive and are thinking about getting another rescue cat. We've met a lovely lady who runs a great rescue facility in Palm Coast, and we're keeping an eye on her online listings. But guess what? Carol's daughter, who's always been a cat person, came to the rescue! She's been taking care of her cat for about 3 years, and she and her husband wanted another dog. They said they couldn't get another dog until they had someone to take their cat. Carol and I had a chat about it, and we decided to take the cat. She's always been indoors, and she seemed healthy and happy. We've had her for several months now, and we've seen her the day she came here. Don't worry, she's safe and sound in our home. We feed her, clean her litter box, and make sure she has fresh water. Everything you're supposed to

give a cat. Carol asked her daughter about it, and her daughter said they saw her about three times during the whole time they had her. If I had to live with Carol's daughter, I'd probably hide too! But that's a whole other story. Oh, and guess what? KiKi, our new hiding cat has a brother named Aiden who does the same thing - a friend of Carol's daughter has her brother. So, there went our cat sitting in our laps and petting her dream. Well, I need to run now. It's time to feed our Phantom Cat. Take care, James

## GROANERS

Submitted by Keith Mowling



So, what exactly is a groaner? It's a joke or pun that elicits a groan or similar response from the listening audience. I gave you some in the April issue and I just know you wanted more, so ponder, or groan on these

1. Why is "phonics" not spelled the way it sounds?
2. If work is so terrific, why do they have to pay you to do it?
3. If all the world is a stage, where is the audience sitting?
4. If love is blind, why is lingerie so popular?
5. If you are cross-eyed and have dyslexia, can you read all right?
6. Why is bra singular and panties plural?
7. Why do you press harder on the buttons of a remote control when you know the batteries are dead?
8. Why do we put suits in garment bags and garments in a suitcase?
9. How come abbreviated is such a long word?
10. Why do we wash bath towels? Aren't we clean when we use them?
11. Why doesn't glue stick to the inside of the bottle?
12. Why do they call it a TV set when you only have one?
13. Christmas - What other time of the year do you sit in front of a dead tree and eat candy out of your socks?
14. Why do we drive on a parkway and park on a driveway?



## SOCIAL COMMITTEE NEWS

By Cyndi Easter



The Social Committee meets on the first Monday of every month, unless there is a holiday, at 1:30 in the clubhouse. The next meeting will be on May 4<sup>th</sup>. We look forward to seeing you there!



### MAY EVENTS

There will not be a community dinner this month.

**May 9<sup>th</sup> – Mother’s Day Brunch**, 10:00 am. Our cooks are planning a fabulous extended menu buffet! Each lady will receive a rose, and our own Berry Levan will be singing a few songs for us.

**May 12<sup>th</sup> – Coffee and Doughnuts**, 10:00 am.

**May 25<sup>th</sup> – Memorial Day Service**, 11:00 am at the clubhouse.

**May 25<sup>th</sup> – Pool Party**, courtesy of Murex. 12:00 – 3:00 pm. This is a free event for the entire community. To avoid the congestion we had last year, we will be handing out meal tickets in advance on May 11, 13, and 14 at the usual ticket sales times. You must present your ticket to receive your meal. We will have at least two serving areas to speed things along. This event is for residents only, so come on down!

**May 31<sup>st</sup> – Ice Cream Social**, 6:00 pm

### JUNE

We are planning a movie night this month at the clubhouse. Details to follow...

**June 6<sup>th</sup> – Monthly Brunch**, 10:00 am

**June 9<sup>th</sup> – Coffee and Doughnuts**, 10:00 am

**June 19<sup>th</sup> – Monthly Dinner**, 5:00 pm

**June 28<sup>th</sup> – Ice Cream Social** – 6:00 pm

### JULY

**July 4<sup>th</sup> – Potluck** 12:00 – 3:00. The cooks will be serving up Bob’s burgers and hot dogs. Everyone who attends is asked to bring a side dish or dessert for all to share.

If anyone has any questions or suggestions for future events, you can contact me, Cyndi Easter at (618)558-9976. I welcome all the help you are willing to give.

### A NOTE FROM OUR PORA PRESIDENT



By Gary Watkins

The first two lines of the Purpose of the Plantation Resident Association in the by-laws read:

- Promote the welfare and safety of its members, facilitate communications as well as promote social activities for the enjoyment of all.

\* Maintain an active liaison with community management through the Board of Directors.

I think I can say your fellow residents who are members of PORA, and your board of directors try their best to make this happen. Your fellow residents join PORA and volunteer with their time to make our events happen. Without them, we wouldn’t have our great events throughout the year. This includes the cooks’ making dinners and breakfast for us, the social committee putting on the dances and shows, and can’t forget the free ice cream (Murex splits with PORA), free coffee and doughnuts with speakers, and a free wine and cheese event (BYOB), all sponsored by PORA. Your Board of Directors keeps in constant contact with Murex and keeps the association informed either through emails or our website (ourpora.org). Your statutory committee meets with Murex to discuss rent increases and requests from the residents. In the past, things like the large TV in the clubhouse to replace the projector, (bingo players are happy), the gathering place with a fire pit, higher toilets and grab bars in the ladies’ bathroom, handicap doors on restrooms, and much more have been requested and received. Welcome committee who meets with new residents to welcome them to our great community. Your block captains who deliver this POP and help with other assignments. So many of your fellow residents who have joined PORA and who make everything happen. So, if you’re not a part of your resident association, why not? For twenty dollars a household for the year, you can be a part of our great association and help your fellow residents. Strength in numbers! See you around the neighborhood.



### **CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP AT PLANTATION OAKS**

Did you know the Bible is filled with life principles to help guide your daily choices? We invite you to join us in **Christian Fellowship on Sunday, May 10 (Mother’s Day) 3:00-4:30 PM** for our monthly gathering at the clubhouse.

Come join your friends and neighbors as we share this time of learning and encouraging one another in our Christian faith.

*The Plantation Oaks Christian Fellowship is a non-denominational group where everyone is welcome to learn and grow in their faith. Contact Carol Cerney 507-213-0121 if you have any questions.*

# PORA

Plantation Oaks Residents Association

## 2026 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

**President – Gary Watkins**

386-986-6246 – [gwatty62@cfl.rr.com](mailto:gwatty62@cfl.rr.com)

**Vice President – Stanley Niedzwieki, Jr.**

386-569-1068 – [nedz1@cfl.rr.com](mailto:nedz1@cfl.rr.com)

**Secretary – Sue Kline**

717-418-3713 – [prdgranma@comcast.net](mailto:prdgranma@comcast.net)

**Treasurer – Tony Faust**

920-979-2528 – [agfaust91@gmail.com](mailto:agfaust91@gmail.com)

**Director – Phyllis Holdsworth**

862-266-1397 – [phyllisholdsworth@gmail.com](mailto:phyllisholdsworth@gmail.com)

**Director – John Clabaugh**

570-772-2499 – [jclabaugh7@yahoo.com](mailto:jclabaugh7@yahoo.com)

**Director – Sam Miller**

386-372-8786 – [highwaysam@aol.com](mailto:highwaysam@aol.com)

**PORA website: [ourpora.org](http://ourpora.org)**

2026 Quarterly meetings held the 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of the month at 7 PM in the clubhouse:

**June 7, September 6, December 6**

*(Workshops: May 31, Aug. 30, Nov. 29)*

**Annual Meeting January 16, 2027**

## 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, reserve the right to edit submitted material for proper grammar, punctuation, content, and length. To submit an article for consideration, simply email it to: [dbmatlock@live.com](mailto:dbmatlock@live.com), [kjgallagher13@gmail.com](mailto:kjgallagher13@gmail.com). 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.**

**They keep this newsletter coming to you!**

We hope you find this newsletter informative and engaging. As always, we welcome your feedback and suggestions for future topics. Thank you for being an integral part of our community!

## TRIVIA ANSWERS

1. May 4th
2. Alan Shepard was in space for 15 minutes, 28 seconds on May 5, 1961
3. Lily-Of-The-Valley and Hawthorne
4. Taurus and Gemini
5. Kentucky Derby
6. Memorial Day and Armed Forces Day
7. Minnesota
8. Jamaica
9. Eta Aquariids
10. The eruption of Mt. St. Helens



## MEMORIAL DAY – May 25, 2026

Memorial Day serves as a solemn tribute to those who made the ultimate sacrifice in service to the United States.

## PLANTATION OAKS

**Federation of Manufactured Homeowners  
(FMO) Representatives**



Dana Matlock - 386-439-3443

James Pursley - 386-986-9632



**NEW! 2026 Mission Statement:** To educate and assist our Community to mitigate damages or harm to our residents before, during, and after an emergency situation especially when first responders are unavailable or delayed. **All residents are urged to encouraged to register at [PO.CERT2026@gmail.com](mailto:PO.CERT2026@gmail.com) with any special needs or assistance you may require during an emergency.** This will greatly assist us in planning and executing an emergency response. Also, residents are encouraged to join the Community's CERT Team. Training will be ongoing and tailored to our Community. Please plan to attend our meetings, seminars and training exercises. For information, please email [PO.CERT2026@gmail.com](mailto:PO.CERT2026@gmail.com).

**DO YOU HAVE  
MOISTURE  
UNDER YOUR  
MOBILE HOME?**



**FloridaAnchorAndBarrier.com**

**VAPOR BARRIERS • A/C DUCTS • CARPORTS • HURRICANE ANCHORS**

Most homeowners don't realize **what's happening underneath their home...**

- Rotting subfloors
- Mold and musty odors
- High A/C bills
- Deteriorating AC ducts

**BEFORE**



**YOUR CRAWLSPACE  
SHOULD BE CLEAN,  
DRY, AND PROTECTED**

**AFTER**



**Signs you have moisture issues:**

- Musty smell inside your home
- Floors feel soft & spongy
- High energy bills
- Visible moisture or standing water

**FLORIDA MOBILE HOME SPECIALISTS**

- Vapor barrier installation & replacement
- A/C duct repair & full replacement
- Hurricane anchors & tie-down systems

Leveling, Skirting, and Windows

It gets worse over time

It spreads damage throughout your home



**MOISTURE DOESN'T  
FIX ITSELF**

**DON'T WAIT UNTIL DAMAGE GETS WORSE**

**Call 800-681-3772  
Call 772-539-5154**

*We protect your home from the ground up.*

**FREE ESTIMATES  
FAST TURNAROUND  
TRUSTED & INSURED**

C6C004138 • IH/1025429

# MAY CROSSWORD



## ACROSS

1. Clutch
6. Engage in
10. Combines
14. Eagle's home
15. Minerals
16. Voucher
17. Coniferous forest
18. Regrets
19. Bay
20. Stuporous
22. Detail
23. Not new
24. Low point
26. Worldwide
30. Stash
32. Scrutinize
33. Pomp
37. Pretentious person
38. Desert watering holes
39. You (archaic)
40. Idioms
42. Offering little or no hope
43. Twiddled one's thumbs
44. Purchasers
45. Chocolate source
47. Not thin
48. Roman robe
49. Hyperactive
56. Wicked
57. Knockout
58. Custom
59. Peddle
60. Distinctive flair
61. Genus of heath
62. 3
63. Break
64. Adjust again

## DOWN

1. An international trade treaty
2. Towards the back
3. Diva's solo
4. Portent or omen
5. Navy jacket
6. Planet
7. African sheep
8. Nerd
9. Flavoring extracts
10. Without intention
11. Hindu loincloth
12. Scuba user
13. Flower stalk
21. Addition
25. Revelation response
26. Sharp intake of breath
27. Moon goddess
28. Scent
29. According to the Bible
30. Enclosed
31. Anagram of "Sage"
33. Rate
34. You (archaic)
35. Big laugh
36. Guffaws
38. Witness
41. American Dental Association
42. Meat retailer
44. Sheep sound
45. Shroud
46. Nimble
47. Not back
48. Exam
50. Low-lying area
51. Nestling hawk
52. Empty weight
53. Nile bird
54. Moral weakness
55. French for "State"



**SOFT  
OR  
SAGGING  
FLOORS?**



**WE FIX MOBILE HOME SUBFLOORS RIGHT.**  
[floridaanchorandbarrier.com](http://floridaanchorandbarrier.com)

**BEFORE** - Soft, Unsafe, Damaged

**AFTER** - Solid, Level, Safe



Spongy floors aren't **normal** — they're a **WARNING SIGN.**

**YOUR FLOOR SHOULD NOT FEEL LIKE THIS:**

- Soft or "spongy" when walking
- Sagging or dipping areas
- Squeaking or shifting
- Weak spots near bathrooms or kitchens
- Flooring separating or bubbling
- Musty smells coming from floor
- Floors can eventually collapse

**FLORIDA MOBILE HOME SPECIALISTS**

- Crawlspace & vapor barrier experts
- Clean, professional work
- Honest, no-pressure assessments
- We also do carports & AC Ducts

**SMALL SOFT SPOTS  
TURN INTO BIG SOFT SPOTS**

Moisture destroys subfloors from underneath  
 Floors can eventually collapse  
 Repairs become more expensive over time

**DON'T WAIT UNTIL YOUR FLOOR FAILS**

*We replace entire rooms for guaranteed subfloor integrity.*

**Call 800-681-3772  
Call 772-539-5154**

**FREE ESTIMATES  
FAST TURNAROUND  
TRUSTED & INSURED**

CCGC004138 | IH/1025429

**J&J CONSTRUCTION**  
GUTTERS INC.

**386-446-5118**

Metal • Shingle • Tile • Slate • Flat

Your local roofing experts since 1995!



COC 1517233  
CCC 1329048

- Full Roof Replacements & Repairs
- New Roof Construction
- Competitive Pricing & Financing

Visit [jandjgutters.net](http://jandjgutters.net) to learn more!

SEAMLESS GUTTERS - SOFFIT - FASCIA - SIDING - WINDOWS - DOORS - DRYWALL  
SCREEN ROOMS - POOL ENCLOSURES - FRAMING - CONCRETE - DUMPSTER RENTALS

**MOBILE HOME DEPOT**

**YOUR MOBILE HOME PARTS WAREHOUSE!**

Doors • Low-E Windows • A/C Units  
Screen Rooms • 54"x27" Tubs & Showers

2150 S Nova Rd Ste B, South Daytona  
**386-756-2525**

[www.mobilehomedepot.net](http://www.mobilehomedepot.net)

**FOUR STAR**  
*Homes, Inc.®*

**Resident Sales Agents**  
*Knowledge, Experience and Dedication 24/7*

**Mike & Irma Reed**  
**352-216-6294**

*Serving Plantation Oaks since 2010*

[www.FourStarHomes.com](http://www.FourStarHomes.com) [Irma.Reed@FourStarHomes.com](mailto:Irma.Reed@FourStarHomes.com)

**Leaving Florida?**

Don't miss any issues of the newsletter while you're away for the summer!

Sign up for  
**Summer Mailing:**

- Call our office to sign up for Summer Mailing
- \$5.00 flat fee per shipped issue  
*(International is \$6.00)*
- Newsletters are shipped at the beginning of the month
- Pay by check

(941) 375-3699  
220 Bahama Street  
Venice, FL 34285



COMMUNITY  
media



★ ★ ★

**MEMORIAL DAY**

REMEMBER AND HONOR