The POP

Plantation Oaks Press

October 2026

Inside this issue:

CERT News
Page 5

Birthdays & Anniversaries
Page 10

Social Committee
Page 12

From the President
Page 12



October 13, 2026

For Information, Comments, Questions contact:

Dana Matlock, ***Editor***
dbmatlock@live.com



The pumpkins are plotting—I know it is true,
With crooked-tooth grins and a spooky-eyed view!
They giggle at midnight and glow with delight,
Then wink at the neighbors all through the night.
So grab your best pumpkin and carve with some flair,
Give it a wild grin—or a frightful stare!
We may be a little more seasoned with age,
But Halloween fun still belongs on our stage!

Photo by Rich Bencal - Salem, Massachusetts

Look for more pictures from Rich throughout this issue.

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By Nick Burnett



This month I visited with David and Carol Manowski who live at 12 Tobias. I originally met them when I was walking on the road to Bulow Plantation. They were so friendly to my dog that I knew they had to be from Plantation Oaks!

David and Carol were both teachers in Maine and David was an Army Reservist. Their daughter, also a teacher, was living in Palm Coast with her family so they came to be near her and away from the winters in Maine, or so it seems. They had retired from teaching, but their daughter convinced them to go back to teaching in Florida, and they found that they loved it. They had great stories about their students, some who became professional football players, and the opportunities that came from teaching here. They also have a son, who still lives in Maine and is in construction design.



When I asked about hobbies David said he never really developed any hobbies because he was always working. But they did say they traveled all over the US when their children were young. Taking advantage of summer vacations to travel to over 38 national parks. They have also become "cruisers" and enjoy taking ocean cruises regularly. They are active daily with walking (you may have seen them walking around Plantation Oaks!), they make great use of the Florida trail system and have walked many of the central Florida trails. While they love to garden, they lament the fact that the local deer seem to enjoy their gardens more than they do. Of course, they enjoy taking part in activities in the club house and are regular Bingo players. In the recent past they helped with the Ice Cream Social on Sunday evenings and seemed to enjoy that and some of the breakfast opportunities at the clubhouse as well. I noted they have a cute little VW convertible in their driveway. Carol admitted it was a bit of a guilty pleasure to take it for rides. It's their second one and she suggested her daughter might have designs on this one so they may have to borrow it back from her in the near future.

I asked how they met and I was treated to another amusing story! It seems that Carol was working in a local restaurant and one of David's Air Force buddies found her charming personality hard to ignore. But when he asked her for a date she politely turned him down. He went back to the barracks where his other friend started teasing him about it. David heard this and suggested "I bet she wouldn't turn me down!" It started with a big laugh but developed into a $10 bet! David told me he used that $10 to take her to a movie! They've been traveling and enjoying musicals ever since, and I bet they still laugh about the funny way they met.





By Rich Bencal



Greetings and happy October to all in Plantation Oaks. Our days are getting cooler, but daylight is also getting appreciably shorter for another few months. I have once again, with the help of various reference sources, prepared ten questions, all having to do with USA History. As always, the answers will appear on another page of the POP. Good Luck!!

QUESTIONS:

1. What state issued the first automobile license plate?
2. Who was the first woman to fly solo across the Atlantic Ocean?
3. Who was the first woman in Congress?
4. Who was the first President born as a citizen?
5. Who was the first President born in a hospital?
6. Who was the first President to live in the White House?
7. Who was the first President to fly while in office?
8. Who was the first American Olympic gymnastics all-around champion?
9. In what city was the first professional fire department?
10. Where and when was the first tax-supported public library established in the US?

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MARTY

By Jeanie Scionti



In my August 2024 column, I mentioned an introduction to a grocery store 'robot'. Since then, I have found that the robot now has a name - Marty!

Marty, our Stop & Shop resident robotic machine, is no longer feared by adults or children. I recently spotted a child hugging a stuffed 'Marty' replica. No screams, no tears, just pure love! I found a multitude of these stuffed baby Marty's on aisle three in the store. I must admit I was tempted to purchase one myself.



Marty and I have gotten to know each other now. But here's the funny part: a few days ago, as I was walking down an aisle, we 'locked' eyes and ended up in a hilarious combat situation. I was with my shopping cart, and he was trying to navigate a narrow passageway…each of us trying to avoid a giant pyramid of stacked cans in the middle of the aisle. It was like a dance of wills! I dodged to the right, he blocked me, I swerved to the left, he followed. Now, I was getting a bit annoyed. Somehow, I had to outmaneuver this robot! I took out my cellphone and looked up, "How to outsmart a robot. Got it!

Finally, I…the human…dodged to the left so quickly that Marty lost his bearings and crashed into the display of cans that went flying in all directions.

Satisfied with myself, I watched Marty hitting a shelf while beeping and making pinging sounds over, and over again. He was stuck! Feeling as though I had just won a touchdown for the 'human' race, I smiled and moved on. After that incident I decided to find out just how this strange robot came into existence.

MARTY'S ORIGINS: Marty was trained at a robotics school in Nicholasville, Kentucky, called Badger Technologies. They conditioned his body, which is 6-foot-7-and-a-half-inches tall and weighs 130 pounds. They also equipped him with nine cameras for scanning and two laser-pulsing lidar cameras for navigation.

During all that time, though, no one thought to give the robot a face. And here is the too-good-to-be-true-but-it's-true part of the origin story: Before Marty's official deployment in 2019, he was doing a pilot run at one of Stop & Shop's sister stores, a Giant in Harrisburg, Pennsylvania, when a store associate decided something was missing. She went to a craft store and bought a pair of stick-on eyes. Sometime thereafter, the robot started showing up in stores with a mouth—sometimes a coy smile, sometimes a grin wide enough to include a written message. And Stop & Shop finally gave him a name, which is technically an acronym for "Mobile Autonomous Robot Technology."

Since he started working in Stop & Shop stores across the region, Marty has stumbled into an accidental second life as a brand ambassador. He visits elementary schools and college classrooms. He's been dressed in Christmas sweaters; and has inspired a line of plush dolls and a slew of social media posts.



Will Publix be Marty's next destination? I hope NOT!

HAPPY HALLOWEEN!



JUST FOR FUN

A new pastor was visiting in the homes of his parishioners. At one house it seemed obvious that someone was at home, but no answer came to his repeated knocks at the door. Therefore, he took out a business card and wrote "Revelation 3:20" on the back of it and stuck it in the door. When the offering was processed the following Sunday, he found that his card had been returned. Added to it was this cryptic message, "Genesis 3:10." Reaching for his Bible to check out the citation, he broke up in gales of laughter. Revelation 3:20 begins "Behold, I stand at the door and knock." Genesis 3:10 reads, "I heard your voice in the garden, and I was afraid for I was naked."

****

Dan was a single guy living at home with his dad and working in the family business. When he found out he was going to inherit a fortune when his sickly father died, he decided he needed a wife to share his wealth. One evening at an investment meeting he spotted the most beautiful woman he had ever seen. Her natural beauty took his breath away. "I may look like just an ordinary man," he said to her, "but in just a few years, my father will die and I will inherit 20 million dollars." Impressed, the woman obtained his business card and three days later, she became his stepmother. Women are so much better at estate planning than men.

Remember when the funniest jokes were the clean ones? Source, Lee Jay Colling, Attorney at Law

CERT NEWS

By Donna Bruno



Plantation Oaks CERT: Neighbors Helping Neighbors

The Plantation Oaks CERT team would like to extend a heartfelt thank-you to PORA for its continued support. On September 6, PORA hosted a CERT Town Hall, facilitated by Bob Greenlaw, giving our neighbors an opportunity to learn more about CERT and how we serve our community.

Did you know CERT is celebrating 40 years? The program was established in Los Angeles in 1986. Its mission is simple: **"Do the most good for the most people in the shortest amount of time."**

CERT members complete approximately 30 hours of training covering disaster preparedness, CERT organization and incident command, disaster psychology, fire safety and utility controls, light search and rescue, and terrorism awareness.

We are also pleased to announce that, in addition to Ed Kaspshak, Bob Greenlaw and Ken Cerney recently completed 24 hours of instructor training, giving Plantation Oaks three CERT trainers.



What Plantation Oaks CERT Does:

- Activates during community-wide and state declared emergencies in our area when first responders are overwhelmed or delayed.
- Sponsors safety and preparedness programs.
- Participates in events that help make our community safer.
- Conducts fundraisers to support the CERT mission.

What Plantation Oaks CERT Does <u>Not</u> Do:

- Exceed its level of training or expertise.
- Repair homes or assist with home damage such as downed trees or damaged roofs.
- Provide CPR.

Above all, CERT does encourage its members to help when possible, be a good neighbor—**"Neighbors Helping Neighbors."**

The Plantation Oaks CERT mission is to educate and assist our community in mitigating damage or harm to our residents before, during, and after an emergency, especially when first responders are unavailable or delayed.

Questions? Email **po.cert2026@gmail.com**.

And don't forget our upcoming **Ice Cream Social** on October 17**!** This free, ticketed event will feature Pastor Tom Olney presenting **Disaster Psychology**, followed by a cake & ice cream celebration.

CLEANING UP MOUSE DROPPINGS

By Dana Matlock



As the leaves fall and the weather cools, those adorable little creatures start looking for their winter habitat. They'll find any crack around water pipes or other places to squeeze into your home. If this happens to you, remember that mouse droppings can carry dangerous diseases like Hantavirus, Salmonellosis, Leptospirosis, and Lymphocytic Choriomeningitis (LCM). Hantavirus is especially serious because it can cause severe respiratory illness and has a high fatality rate.

The biggest mistake people make is **sweeping or vacuuming** mouse droppings. This stirs up contaminated dust from dried droppings, urine, and nesting materials, increasing the risk of inhaling harmful viruses and bacteria.

To clean up safely:

- **Ventilate the area** for at least 30 minutes by opening windows and doors.
- **Wear protective gear**, including gloves and a face mask.
- **Soak the droppings** with a disinfectant or a solution of **1 part bleach to 10 parts water** before handling them.
- **Wipe up the droppings** with paper towels—never sweep or vacuum.
- **Disinfect the surrounding area** thoroughly after cleanup.
- Dispose of contaminated materials properly and wash your hands.

If mice continue to return or the infestation is extensive, eliminating the rodents is essential. In those cases, **professional pest control** may be the safest and most effective solution.

We would love to hear your tips – just shoot an email to dbmatlock@live.com and let's work together to help our neighbors.

Parts of this article are summarized from Family Handyman's Editorial Process



PROSPECTUS – EXHIBIT B, RULES AND REGUALTIONS

By Dana Matlock



As a friendly reminder, I'm not a lawyer, so I can't give you legal advice. But I've been volunteering with the Plantation Oaks Residents Association (PORA) and the Federation of Manufactured Homeowners (FMO) for over 20 years, so I've learned a thing or two along the way.

When we talk about the prospectus, we're referring to the actual text of the document. It can only be changed with the permission of the manufactured homeowners involved, or for the reasons listed in rule 61B-31.001(4), of the Florida Administrative Code (FAC). The exhibits attached to the prospectus, like Exhibit B, Rules and Regulations (R&R), can be changed by the community owner after giving the 90-day notice to the manufactured homeowners and PORA.

Every land-leased manufactured home community has its own rules and regulations that everyone must follow. We can't go through all of Plantation Oaks' fifty-five R&Rs here, but we'll try to highlight a few that might be of interest to you. I highly recommend taking a look at your prospectus and Exhibit B, Rules and Regulations.

If the community owner wants to change the rules, they first need to submit the change to the Division of Florida Condominiums, Timeshares, and Mobile Homes for review and approval. This means that the change is in line with the Division's guidelines. If the Division deems it is appropriate, management can send a copy to all the homeowners in the community and the PORA board. The community has 90 days before the new rules take effect. This gives time for the owners, management, and PORA, or the statutory committee, to talk about the changes. The community owner doesn't have to meet with each homeowner individually. *The last rule change for Plantation Oaks was noticed on December 15, 2025, regarding weapons in the community.* **Admittance, Occupancy and Minimum Age -** Rule # 6-7 – tells us who can live in the home and the age limits. Since we are a 55+ community 80% of the homes must have at least one person 55 or older. This applies to persons living in the home not necessarily the homeowner. No one under the age of 18 can live in the community without prior written approval from the community manager. In fact, all the people living in the home must be approved by the community manager. **Rents and Fees,** Rule #10-14 – Rental spaces are based on one or two people. If more than two people live in the home permanently, the rent could go up. Rental rates can only be changed once a year.

Care of Home and Lot, Rule #15-21 – The magic words here are "home and lot." Yes, you are required to follow all the rules, which includes maintenance and care of your home and lot. To do this you must first know where your lot starts and ends. The community manager can give you a sketch of your home and lot with the measurements from your home to the outside boundaries on all sides. You may have received this sketch when you purchased your home.

You are not required to keep up the common areas outside your lot boundaries – that is for management to do. If you see a big tree in the "common" area but has a heavy limb growing over your home that could cause damage to your home or person if it falls, you should send a certified, returned receipt requested, letter to the community office stating your concerns. If they don't fix it and the tree falls on your home or person, they could be held liable, so they'll probably take care of it. But you need to send that letter to prove they were notified.

Resale and Subletting, Rule #41-43 – Lot rental agreements can't be transferred. Before you sell or lease your home, make sure the buyer or lessee has been approved by the community manager. If they're approved, they can keep paying your current rent until the new rate starts on January 1st of each year. Then, it'll go up to "market rent." There's no set percent increase from last year's market rent. It's just what the community owner decides he can get each year. Depending on how long you've owned your home, it could be a big increase.

Eviction, Rule #46-47 – A homeowner, or the home, may be evicted for one or more of the following reasons: not paying lot rent; getting convicted for a violation of a federal law, state law, or local ordinance where the violation is bad for the health, safety, or well-being of the community and/or its residents; changing the use of the land; not getting approval from the community manager; breaking a community rule or regulation.

I've gone over my word limit, so I'll stop here. I hope this helps! Feel free to contact me if you have any questions.

BRAIN TEASERS



Submitted by Linda Morrison

New Series: 5 Each Month!

Here are the 5th and final set of teasers:

Example: 16 = O in a P ….Ounces in a Pound

Answers found on another page in this issue.

1. 11 = P on a F T
2. 1,000 = W that a P is W
3. 29 = D in F in a L Y
4. 64 = S on a C B
5. 40 = D and N of the G F



OCTOBER IS NATIONAL SEAFOOD MONTH

By Chef Kevin Gallagher MS, CECE



Hull's Seafood

Located at 111 West Grenada Blvd, in Ormond Beach, it is one of the most reliable sources for fresh local fish on the northeast Florida coast. They operate both a market and a restaurant, but the market is the real asset: daily deliveries, strong relationships with local boats, and consistent quality control. Shrimp, redfish, black drum, flounder, sheepshead, snapper, and seasonal offshore species like mahi and grouper rotate through depending on what's actually being caught — not what's convenient to stock.

What sets Hull's apart is how they manage the fundamentals that matter to serious home cooks:

Day-boat freshness: Fish often arrive the same morning they're sold. Hull's works directly with boats fishing local waters, so the product hasn't been sitting in a warehouse or moving through multiple distributors. That freshness shows up immediately in texture, moisture retention, and how cleanly the fish cooks on the grill.

Accurate labeling: Species are exactly what they say they are. In today's market where mislabeling is common — especially with snapper, grouper, and imported shrimp — Hull's is consistent. If they label it redfish, it's redfish. If they say local mahi, it's local mahi. They take the truth in advertising law to heart.

Clean filleting with minimal waste: Their cutters break down fish properly. Fillets are trimmed cleanly, bones removed, and portions even. You don't get ragged edges, leftover pin bones, or sloppy knife work that makes cooking harder than it needs to be.

Local shrimp that's not pumped or treated: Hull's shrimp are one of their strongest products. They're local, firm, and naturally sweet — not injected with brine, preservatives, or phosphates. Untreated shrimp cook the way shrimp should: they sear instead of steam, they hold their shape, and they stay tight and snappy on the grill. For any recipe where shrimp is the focus, this is the difference between a clean result and a mushy one.

This month's featured recipe celebrates National Seafood Month by using local shrimp in a simple, controlled preparation: bacon-wrapped grilled shrimp with a blackberry reduction. It is one of my favorite shrimp recipes. The sauce is made from scratch — no bottled BBQ, no heavy sweetness — just fruit, acidity, and a clean reduction that complements the shrimp. It's fast, it plates well, and it fits October without leaning on heavy fall flavors.

Grilled Bacon-Wrapped Shrimp with Blackberry Reduction

Serves 4

Ingredients

For the Blackberry BBQ Sauce:

1¼ cup fresh blackberries
¼ cup honey
¼ cup ketchup
¼ cup brown sugar
1 tablespoon fresh ginger, grated
1 teaspoon pepper
1 teaspoon hot sauce (to taste)

For the Grilled Shrimp:

24 large local shrimp, peeled and deveined
12 slices thin-cut bacon, halved

Instructions



1. Combine blackberries, wine, vinegar, shallot, and a pinch of salt in a small saucepan. Simmer on medium until berries break down and the liquid reduces to a glossy sauce, about 10–12 minutes. Adjust acidity or sweetness as needed.
2. Pat shrimp dry. Season lightly with salt and pepper.
3. Take bacon strip and flatten with the backside of a chef's knife, stretching it out without breaking it. Wrap each shrimp with a piece of bacon, securing it with a toothpick.
4. Grill shrimp over medium-high heat, turning as the bacon crisps. Total cook time is 4–6 minutes.
5. Serve with the warm blackberry reduction spooned over or on the side.



Wine Pairing: Albariño (Rías Baixas)

Albariño is the best match for this dish. It has the acidity to cut through the bacon, the citrus to match the reduction, and the saline edge that works naturally with seafood. It's light enough for shrimp but structured enough to handle grilled flavor.

Other safe options: Vermentino, dry Riesling, or unoaked Sauvignon Blanc.

Avoid oaked Chardonnay or anything with residual sugar — both will flatten the sauce and fight the bacon.

A LITTLE LAUGHTER

Submitted by Keith Mowling



Always start your day with a smile!

- Today a man knocked on my door and asked for a small donation towards the local swimming pool. I gave him a glass of water.
- I want to die peacefully in my sleep, like my grandfather. Not screaming and yelling like the passengers in his car.
- Today I was a hero!! I rescued some Amaretto that was trapped in a bottle.
- I read that 4,153,237 people got married last year, not to cause any trouble but shouldn't that be an even number?
- I find it ironic that the colors red, white, and blue stand for freedom until they are flashing behind you.
- When wearing a bikini, women reveal 90% of their body... men are so polite they only look at the covered parts.
- Relationships are a lot like algebra. Have you ever looked at your X and wondered Y?
- America is a country that produces citizens who will cross the ocean to fight for democracy but won't cross the street to vote.
- You know that tingly little feeling you get when you like someone? That's your common sense leaving your body.
- Did you know that dolphins are so smart that within a few weeks of captivity, they can train people to stand on the very edge of the pool and throw them fish?
- My therapist says I have a preoccupation with vengeance. We'll see about that.
- I think my neighbor is stalking me as she's been googling my name on her computer. I saw it through my telescope last night.
- Money talks ..but all mine ever says is goodbye.
- If you think nobody cares whether you're alive, try missing a couple of payments.
- I always wondered what the job application is like at Hooters. Do they just give you a bra and say, "Here, fill this out?"
- I can't understand why women are okay that JC Penny has an older women's clothing line named, "Sag Harbor."
- My therapist said that my narcissism causes me to misread social situations. I'm pretty sure she was hitting on me.
- My 60-year kindergarten reunion is coming up soon and I'm worried about the 175 pounds I've gained since then.
- Denny's has a slogan, "If it's your birthday, the meal is on us." If you're in Denny's and it's your birthday, your life sucks!
- The pharmacist asked me my birth date again today. I'm pretty sure she's going to get me something.
- The location of your mailbox shows you how far away from your house you can be in a robe before you start looking like a mental patient.
- I think it's pretty cool how Chinese people made a language entirely out of tattoos.
- Money can't buy happiness, but it keeps the kids in touch!
- The reason Mayberry was so peaceful and quiet was that nobody was married. Andy, Aunt Bea, Barney, Floyd, Howard, Goober, Gomer, Sam, Earnest T Bass, Helen, Thelma Lou, Clara, and, of course, Opie were all single. The only married person was Otis, and he stayed drunk

TRIVIA ANSWERS

1. Massachusetts in 1903
2. Ameila Earhart
3. Jeanette Rankin
4. Martin Van Buren
5. Jimmy Carter
6. John Adams
7. Franklin D. Roosevelt
8. Mary Lou Retton
9. Cincinnati, Ohio 1853
10. Peterborough, New Hampshire in 1833





Photo by Rich Bencal

HALLOWEEN FUN

What happens when you stay up all night on Halloween? Wait for it—it will dawn on you.

Why are monsters so into astrology? They love reading their horror-scope.

What happens if you forget to pay your exorcist? You get repossessed.

What do ghosts order at the bar? Boos. And then they leave sheet-faced

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- Floors feel soft & spongy
- High energy bills
- Visible moisture or standing water

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OCTOBER BIRTHDAYS

1 Stephan Vandermyn
1 Dennis Walker
1 Thomas Wagner
2 Joan Lainhart
3 Michelle Keappock
3 Cara Kavan
4 Paula Budzyna
4 Kay Johnson
5 Diane Micalizzi
6 Dick Schmied
7 Maddy Kahn
7 David Kegel
8 Louis Gosson
8 Steve Hamer
8 Mike Armstrong
8 Sharon Fedewa
9 Joan Harris
10 Ruth Sniffin
13 Donna Harrell
13 Dawn Sciarappa
14 Nancy Hennessy
14 Jim Schafer
15 Mary Morisco
16 Connie Schneider
16 Garry Ward
17 MaryAnn Rabuazzo
19 Mike Czerwinski
20 Carm Gross
20 James Nichols
20 Anthony Faust
20 Butch French
21 Diane Williams
22 Judy Waterman
22 Ron Furi
23 Jack Jeffe
24 Art Higgins
25 Karen Batkin
26 Edward Zoller
26 Kathryn Vivlamore
27 Jim Batkin
29 Claudia Zoller
29 Carol Cerney
29 Cynthia Rider



We try hard to get it right but if we have missed your birthday or anniversary, have the dates wrong or name misspelled, please contact dbmatlock@live.com.





OCTOBER ANNIVERSARIES

1 Bill & Nancy Hennessy
5 Diane & Frank Micalizzi
5 Anthony & Glynne Faust
7 Leonard & Mary Jean Gucciardo
7 Art & Elissa Brehm
8 Ed & Rosie Reese
13 Tracy Pavlicek & Andrew Rinaldi
14 Mike & Mary Czerwinski
15 Alan & Carol Waltersdorf
19 Gary & Jean Dickerson
21 Colin & Judy MacLeod
23 Bob & Fran McNamara
23 Mariana & Greg Pankau
26 Jim & Cindy Bowen
27 Joe & Tina Ciccio
29 Richard & Janet Bancroft





New Friends
We are happy you are here



Cathy Boullion
5 Tobias Lane

Cathy made a big move from Georgia to sunny Florida! Her husband worked in the aerospace industry, which meant they had to move around quite a bit. But Cathy's got a creative side - she loves painting, especially landscapes and still life in oils and watercolors. She's thrilled to be settled in Plantation Oaks and has already joined water aerobics. Cathy is a mom of three - one lives in Hawaii, and the other two are in Florida.

CORRECTION

In the September issue, there was a small mix-up. Jim and Karen Batkin, who live at 27 Ashbury Lane, were listed as Jim and Carol. We're so sorry for any confusion this might have caused.

5 REASONS TO THINK TWICE BEFORE USING A DEBIT CARD



Debit cards are convenient, but credit cards may offer advantages, especially if you pay the balance each month.

1. Fraud could affect your bank account. Debit cards can be used for fraudulent purchases, which can drain your funds for bills or rent before you realize. Credit cards generally provide stronger fraud protection.
2. Your money could be temporarily frozen. Hotels, car-rental companies, and other businesses may place a temporary hold on your debit card funds, reducing your available funds and potentially causing an overdraft.
3. You may miss out on rewards. Many credit cards offer cash back, points, or travel rewards, which debit cards generally don't.
4. Debit cards don't build your credit. Using a debit card doesn't help establish or improve your credit history. Using a credit card responsibly, making timely payments and paying the balance in full, can help maintain or improve your credit score.
5. Credit cards may offer extra protection. Depending on the card, credit card purchases may include benefits like extended warranties, purchase protection, price protection, or travel and rental-car insurance.

In summary, debit cards are useful for withdrawing cash, but credit cards may offer better protection and additional benefits if used responsibly, including paying the balance in full and on time to avoid interest charges.

Summarized from Reader's Digest Online

THE OLD COOT IS LOSING HIS VOCABULARY! *By Merlin Lessler*

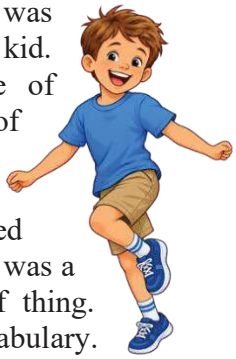
Submitted by Dan Behanick



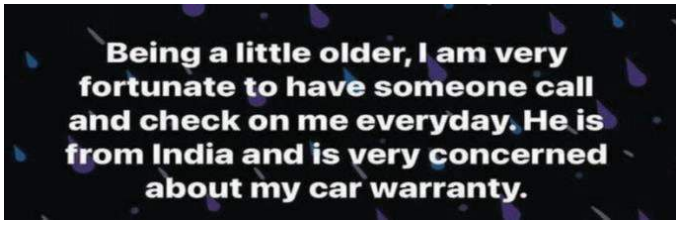
There are certain words in the English language I can't use anymore. It's an old Coot thing. Words like "hop," as in hop on a bike. I tilt mine at a severe angle, swing my leg so it barely makes it over the seat, straighten the bike back up so I can mount it and pedal away. But first, I feel for a pedal, push it up high, and then off I go, like a newborn colt trying out its legs for the first time. Another word is "dash." If I applied for a DoorDash job, they would have to replace the word dash with limp, shuffle and weave to the door.

Equestrian is another word I can't use, not as it applies to me anyhow. I rode a horse on a trail in Utah at Zion National Park a couple years ago. His name was Frosty. It suited him to a tee. He was chilly, to say the least. He knew I was a hesitant rider and decided to make it my last time in the saddle. He kept trying to bite my leg and paid no attention when I pulled the reins. He bounced me along for more than an hour; I ended up with a nice blister at the bottom of my spine. I was never much of a rider anyhow. A horse I rode when I was a kid, bolted from the group, and galloped back to the barn. I ducked just in time to avoid smashing my head into the door frame. At my daughter Amy's wedding, I led her on a white horse to an outcropping on a mountain in Colorado. The horse constantly nipped at and pushed me. No more equestrian antics for me.

I can't say "skip" anymore. Ten years ago, I got it into my head that I'd like to skip; it was something I loved to do when I was a kid. I skipped all over the south side of Binghamton. You can cover a lot of ground, and fast, when you skip. Close to running speeds. Ten years ago, it was still in my vocabulary. I tried it the other day. It wasn't skipping; it was a jerk, wobble and stumbling kind of thing. Skip, as in skipping, is lost to my vocabulary.



As is chin-up, hanging from a bar and pulling yourself up. That's gone as well. I did 1/4 of one last week. What's my point? Hang onto your vocabulary as long as you can.





Captain Johnston Band
Friday, October 2, 6 PM

Bring a chair, bring your crew, and get ready to enjoy some great classic rock music.

Sponsored by Flagler Beach & Surf 97.3 FM

BRAIN TEASER ANSWERS



1. 11 = Players on a Football Team
2. 1,000 = Words that a Picture is Worth
3. 29 = Days in February in a Leap Year.
4. 64 = Squares on a Checkerboard
5. 40 – Days and Nights of the great Flood

Beauty Tips & More *by Terry Johnson*



Stretch Your Way to Lower BP

If exercise hasn't helped your blood pressure, you have permission to take a gentler route. When more than 2,000 overweight adults practiced yoga, meditation, and breathwork for 12 weeks, they saw systolic blood pressure drop by 2.06 mmHg, per a review of 30 studies. Why? Soothing activities calm inflammation while being less stressful on the body than intense exercise. Check out our clubhouse for yoga.

CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP IN PLANTATION OAKS!

The Plantation Oaks Christian Fellowship will meet on Sunday, October 11, from 3:00 to 4:30 in the Clubhouse.

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

SOCIAL COMMITTEE NEWS

By Cyndi Easter



I hope everyone had a wonderful summer! With cooler weather arriving and our snowbirds returning, it's time for some serious partying. We have many fun activities planned for the rest of the year, and we need volunteers to help make them successful. Opportunities include decorating, preparing meals, serving, and cleaning up. Sign-up sheets for various events are posted on the bulletin boards, so please consider donating some of your time.

OCTOBER

October 3 – 10:00 AM, Monthly Brunch.

October 13– 10:00 AM, Coffee and Doughnuts. This month's topic is "Estate Planning Made Simple".

October 17 – 7:00-9:00 PM, Movie Night



October 24 – 3:00-7:00 PM, Luau/Pig Roast. Dinner will be served at 5:00 PM and includes pulled pork, roasted red potatoes, baked beans, coleslaw, dessert, and beverages. Music and dancing by Rod Mathews from 4:00 – 7:00 PM. Tickets are $24.00 and will be sold September 28, 30, and October 1.

October 25 – Ice Cream Social

October 31 – Halloween Party and Golf Cart Parade. The parade starts at 5:30 PM after a 5:15 PM line-up. The party begins inside at 6:00 PM and features light appetizers and beverages, games, a costume contest, prizes, and more. Tickets are $8.00 each and go on sale October 12, 14, and 15.

NOVEMBER

November 7 – 10:00 AM, Monthly Brunch.

November 14 – 7:00-9:00 PM, Movie Night

November 20 – 5:00 PM, Thanksgiving Dinner

November 29 – 6:00 PM, Ice Cream Social



DECEMBER

December 5 – 10:00 AM, Monthly Brunch.

December 12 – Christmas Party sponsored by Murex. More details to follow.

December 27 – 6:00 PM, Ice Cream Social.

December 31– New Year's Eve Dinner/Dance. Catered by Chef Bill's Legacy. Music by DJ Patch



Just a heads up, we're rescheduling Casino Night. It's such a blast, but we could really use your help! We need dealers and others to run the various tables. If you're up for working any of the tables for an hour or so, please let Patty Watkins know.

If anyone has any questions or suggestions for future events, you can contact me, Cyndi Easter at (618) 558-9976. We're always looking for volunteers for our events. We welcome any help you can give.

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 October 5, and we urge our residents (especially our new residents) to come and get involved with your neighbors. We look forward to seeing you there!



A NOTE FROM OUR PORA PRESIDENT

By Gary Watkins



Well, it's that time of the year when we get letters from Murex in reference to rent increases. PORA Statutory Committee is ready to request a meeting with Murex to discuss any increase and also to present a list of items requested by residents. Most of the wish lists were submitted by residents at a town hall meeting held back in June.

As our clubhouse has reopened, your PORA social committee and cooks' team are back in action, putting on events for everyone to enjoy. Flyers are usually sent out, but you can also check the social club bulletin board in the clubhouse. It's great to see full tables on Monday for cards and Mahjong players, especially since many of them are learning to play. I asked for two more small tables because all the tables were being used. I sent the request to the office, and soon after, two tables were brought down and placed behind the bar to use if needed. Marlene Anderson hosted her first coffee and doughnuts event since taking over. Jim Nichols presented a presentation on Florida Blue Society which was well attended. There was interest in starting a Plantation Oaks blue bird club. I strongly urge everyone to read your prospectus to get refreshed on the information. Also, we all should read and become familiar with Florida Statute 723 as it relates to manufacture home parks. It' always good to stay up to date with information.

Finally, I would like to commend your Plantation Oaks CERT Team as they are prepared and stay prepared for any major storm. See you around the community.



Photo submitted by Rich Bencal (Background was removed.)

PORA
Plantation Oaks Residents Association

2026 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

President – Gary Watkins
386-986-6246 – gwatty62@cfl.rr.com

Vice President – Stanley Niedzwieki, Jr.
386-569-1068 – nedz1@cfl.rr.com

Secretary – Sue Kline
717-418-3713 – prdgranma@comcast.net

Treasurer – Tony Faust
920-979-2528 – agfaust91@gmail.com

Director – Phyllis Holdsworth
862-266-1397 – phyllisholdsworth@gmail.com

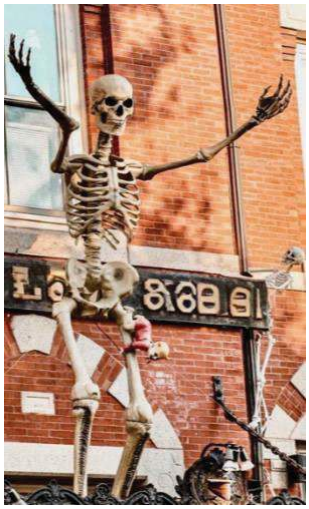
Director – John Clabaugh
570-772-2499 – jclabaugh7@yahoo.com

Director – Sam Miller
386-372-8786 – highwaysam@aol.com

***PORA website:* ourpora.org**

2026 Quarterly meetings held the 1st Sunday of the month at 7 PM in the clubhouse:
December 6
(Workshop: Nov. 29)
Annual Meeting January 16, 2027

Photos by Rich Bencal, Salem, Massachusetts





Why did the skeleton run away while trick-or-treating? Because a dog was after his bones.

THE PLANTATION OAKS PRESS *(The POP)*



The POP was started by, and continues to be 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 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. 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. Click on: Contacts/Links/*The POP*. If you are unable to reach this site, you can also access the publications on 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 recent 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!

PLANTATION OAKS
Federation of Manufactured Homeowners (FMO) Representative
Dana Matlock - 386-439-3443

CERT ***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 encouraged to register at 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**.

OCTOBER CROSSWORD



ACROSS

1. Confess
5. Grain stubble
10. Cobras
14. Melange
15. Dried plum
16. Exchange
17. Self-control
19. Wife of Zeus
20. French for "Friend"
21. Horse sound
22. Ships
23. Precise
25. Blatant
27. Diety
28. Fade away
31. Student
34. Wall coating
35. Possesses
36. Makes a mistake
37. Embankment
38. Ceremonial splendor
39. Bigheadedness
40. They form skeletons
41. Young dog
42. Navy jackets
44. Automobile
45. Large Asian country
46. Guarantee
50. Nickel or steel
52. Nigerian money
54. Expected
55. Greek goddess of discord
56. Instigators
58. Pew area
59. Music genre
60. Formerly (archaic)
61. Utiliser
62. Sows
63. T T T

DOWN

1. Complete
2. Lacquer ingredient
3. Boundary
4. Chop off
5. Distributed
6. Hiker's path
7. Step
8. Pizza topping
9. Tiny
10. On land
11. Illegal factory
12. Role
13. Resorts
18. Enlist
22. Twisted
24. Sponsorship
26. Windmill blade
28. Roof overhangs
29. Tent-pitching place
30. Glimpse
31. Chick's sound
32. Desire
33. Looking ahead
34. A star with 5 points
37. Amount lent
38. Contented cat sound
40. Roil
41. Monetary units of Serbia
43. Drink after a drink
44. Gentle touch
46. Full of excitement
47. Love intensely
48. Care for
49. Quizzes
50. List of choices
51. Ages
53. Chills and fever
56. Stomach muscles, for short
57. Band performance



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OCTOBER WORD SEARCH

R	U	E	K	A	L	W	A	Y	S	L	B	N
W	E	E	G	E	E	R	U	T	L	U	C	O
T	Y	A	V	N	D	I	R	T	Y	F	O	I
S	M	E	S	S	A	G	E	S	C	S	N	T
R	L	U	P	O	A	R	M	I	G	S	T	A
I	B	E	H	I	N	D	O	L	U	E	E	T
F	N	W	O	R	L	D	C	N	A	C	M	C
T	E	D	I	S	A	L	T	E	R	C	P	E
E	S	C	U	U	U	O	U	K	D	U	L	P
V	T	U	G	C	D	G	O	A	L	S	A	X
O	O	U	K	A	E	M	R	A	H	C	T	E
C	R	Y	Y	E	N	O	Y	R	E	V	E	M
I	M	A	G	E	V	I	D	E	N	C	E	T

always
aside
augur
behind
buys
calm
charm
contemplate
covet
culture
dirty
enlist
everyone
evidence
expectation
first
goals
gold
guard
haul
image
induce
keys
lake
laud
level
lucky
message
nest
orange
outcome
pace
reason
spent
storm
successful
today
world