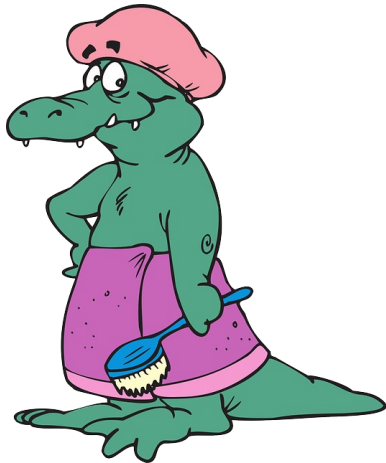




Lake Hammock Village
 36106 US Hwy 27
 Haines City, FL 33844
 863-421-5764
 "The Park with a Heart"



April 2024

Gator Tales

BOARD OF DIRECTORS



- President:** Carmine Gioiosa 709-516-9564
- Vice President:** Laura Miller 419-204-0875
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- Directors;** David Rawson 863-547-9326
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"Gator Tales" is available in color
 online at:
[http://floridacommunities.com/
 lake-hammock-newsletter](http://floridacommunities.com/lake-hammock-newsletter)



COMMITTEE CHAIRS

- Memorials/Wreaths:** Dona Rawson 863-547-9326
- Special Events/Activities:**
 Pat Gagne 863-353-2690
 Laura Miller 419-204-0875
- Sunshine:** Carol Gould 863-422-5902
- Welcome:** Millie Currey 315-854-6248





Message From the President.....

Hello everyone, Spring has officially arrived @11:06 pm March 19, 2024, and summer will soon be on its way. Snowbirds will be heading out soon, myself included for summer in other states. I suggest that all snowbirds attend the Emergency Preparedness Team session “Preparing Your Home Before You Leave” get a snowbird checklist and some helpful tips before you go on April 10, 2024, from 1:00 pm to 3:00 pm. All residents are invited.

The Resident Improvement Fund has purchased the following items: a new Bunn coffee maker, eight resin folding picnic tables and two outdoor patio heaters. These items should be in place by April 1, 2024.

I hope that everyone who attended the St. Patrick’s Day dinner last month enjoyed the food. The music and sing-along by Ben Kuslikis provided a fun time along with the green beer and Jameson whiskey.

The vendor fair on March 20th was very informative. I hope you took advantage of this great annual event. Thank you to Joyce Middleton for all your work putting this together.

Thank you to all the volunteers who made these events, and all the weekly and monthly activities a huge success.

See you at the April 9th board meeting. There are no meetings during the months of May through August. Board meetings will resume in September.

Ciao for Now!



All Residents:

Again, we have an issue with pet owners not leashing their dogs and letting them run unattended.

We are tired of talking about this. Please keep your pets leashed and pick up after them.

LHV, Management



NEWSLETTER

Just a reminder, any information for Gator Tales needs to be submitted to me by the **20th** of each month, **NO EXCEPTIONS**. There is a blue/gray box outside my door in the RV port, you can drop your stuff, or you can send it to the email LHVGatorTales@outlook.com. Please submit emails in **WORD DOCUMENT**. If you need assistance with your submissions or have any questions about Gator Tales, please contact Millie Currey at 315-854-6248 or send an email. We are always looking for new ideas and ways to improve our community paper.

ACTIVITIES CHAIRS

Activities/Entertainment:

Pat Gagne (603) 340-4734

Birthdays/Anniversaries:

Dona Rawson (863) 547-9326

Sharyl Graham (603) 915-1757

Audrey Gioiosa (708) 906-9817

Diabetes Support Group:

Maureen Hatfield (617) 874-7755

Ladies' Lunches:

Maria Combs (863) 438-6643

BINGO HOURS

Doors Open: 4:30 pm for food service.

Selling paper: 5:15-5:45 pm

Start playing: 6:00 pm

Hotdogs, Specialty Sandwiches, and homemade desserts.

Don't cook on Monday night, let us do the cooking for you.

LIBRARY

We want to thank everyone for the books for our library. We would like to ask that when you bring a book back, please leave it in the material basket. We would like to reshelve them ourselves.

Thank You,
The Librarians

FOOD BANK

"The generous will themselves be blessed, for they share their food with the poor." – Proverbs 22:9

The food will be delivered on the first and third Tuesday or Wednesday of each month. St. Vincent De Paul Charities sends its gratitude and love to our community.

Non-perishable items and toiletries can be dropped off in the back room of the clubhouse. If you would like us to pick up items at your home please call and we would be happy to do that.

Dave and Sharyl Graham

603-915-1757

Grandma's Attic

All donated and returned medical devices are to be left with Chuck Presby, 38 Sargent St. (386-402-2409). Please return all borrowed items CLEAN. Thank you for all your donations over the years.

C & D Bus Tours for 2024

See new flyer in following pages.



Jan Howerton—fell--home

Please call if you know of a resident that has been ill or hospitalized so that Carol can send cards. This is the only way she knows who to send them to. Carol Gould 863-422-5902



Our Beloved Pets: Over the Rainbow Bridge

Welcome to the Neighborhood!



Clotide Torres—40 Sargent Street

Francisco Montes & Rosa Brandi—115 Silver Crest Drive

Elizabeth Seelenbrandt—155 Glen Este Court

Mae Robertson—32 Silver Crest Drive



Carol Radden

Angel Luis & Daisy Orta



April Birthdays

- 5th John Bialy
- 8th Robert Baughman
- 9th Nanci Emery
- 10th Mark Beaurain
Valerie Trejo Stanley
- 12th Greg Hintsala
Calvin Maluchnick
Bob Sharples
- 13th Tom Godfrey
Carolyn Pleuss
Shirley Smith
- 16th Mary Ackerson
Patti Keller
- 17th Sandy Blackman
Linda Carpenter
- 18th Terry Karaszewski
- 21st Donna Weber
- 23rd Raquel Roman
- 24th Phillip Dack
- 27th David Graham
- 29th Karen Neugebuer
- 30th Elaine Abair



April Anniversaries

- 15th John & Linda Bialy
- 18th Glen & Joy Loy
- 20th Tim & Terri Stump
Bruce & Brenda Martell

Birthday / Anniversary Celebration

We will celebrate March and April birthdays and anniversaries on **Sunday, April 7th at 5:30pm** at the clubhouse. **TWO GIFT CARDS** will be awarded for March and April birthdays and **TWO GIFT CARDS** will be awarded for March and April anniversaries. Seating may be prearranged when you arrive. **All residents are welcome** to attend for games, cake and ice cream.

A NEW IDEA has been presented--- Volunteers are welcome to take on this event to add extra months to the regular 6 Celebrations Dona, Sharyl and Audrey G. are taking on in 2024.

Maria Combs has reserved December 2024. She celebrates her birthday in December and wants to sponsor the event.

Please contact Dona Rawson for more information and clarification. (Home 863-547-9326) Come and join the fun!

UPCOMING EVENTS and NOTICES

Bingo Food

Always looking for volunteers to help with Bingo food and to bake desserts. If interested, call Art Stanley 863353-2690.

Book Club

Our book for April is Tara Road by Maeve Binchy. We will meet on the second Saturday of each month at 10:00. Hopefully at April's meeting we will have a completed list of books for the upcoming year.

Diabetes Group

DIABETES Brainstorming session: Government : updates on Diabetic Issues
WED. APRIL 3rd 7PM !! CLUBHOUSE
NEW MEMBERS ALWAYS WELCOME
FOR INFO. MAUREEN HATFIELD
617-874-7755

April 6: Golf Cart Poker Run

Hosted by Wanda Stanley

APRIL 7: MEMORIAL FOR GERARDO "JERRY" CRUZ HAS BEEN POSTPONED

The family has had to postpone this event until the Fall.

April 10: Special Meeting for Snowbirds and New Residents

1PM to 3PM Hosted by Hurricane Prep Committee

April 13: Spring Fling

Hosted by the HOA Board

April 24: Movie Night Grand Opening

Hosted by Gloria Lupo and Lisa & Dawn Karaszewski

May 4: Kentucky Derby

Hosted by Wanda Stanley

May 5: Cinco de Mayo

May 5 Hosted by Jan Baczkiwicz

May 8: Game Night to begin

Hosted by Gloria Lupo and Lisa & Dawn Karaszewski

May 27: Memorial Day

May 27 Hosted by Clark & Joice Smith

June Open House, around June 5th, the start of Hurricane Season.

Hosted by Hurricane Prep Committee

Volunteer Corner



up coming events that could use
your help

April 6 -Golf Cart Poker Run -Wanda Stanley

April 13 - Spring Fling - HOA Board

May 4 - Kentucky Derby - Wanda Stanley

May 5 - Cinco de Mayo --Jan Baczkiwicz

May 27 - Memorial Day - HOA Board



SPOTLIGHT ON THE CITIZEN'S ASSISTED PATROL (a/k/a CAP)

Would you like to make a difference? Here's how!

Join CAP for Lake Hammock Village!
Help keep your community safe.

Did you know there were over 35,000 patrols in Polk County in 2023, primarily in residential parks like Lake Hammock Village, consisting of approximately 113,140 volunteer hours? How do we know that it's enough? Do we wait for something to happen?

More patrol volunteers are needed.

Although this is a serious undertaking, it can also be a very rewarding one.

What can you do if you notice your neighbor's newspaper is still in the driveway and it's after 12 noon? Did you happen to notice the person in the hoodie climbing over the fence? Is there a strange vehicle at the lake? Might these instances be something that needs to be reported? You simply make a phone call and leave things to the pros.

OBSERVE & REPORT!

How do you volunteer?

Be prepared to pass a background check and once cleared, attend training to learn the manual. This requires 7 hours of your time. Once completed, you can join the patrol. Please contact Bob McDonald, Coordinator, or David Rawson, Assistant Coordinator, for further information. Their contact information is in the LHV Directory.

Special thanks for those who have participated in the past! Your help was most appreciated!
NOTE: Some residents have already passed the background check and have even done the training. It would be terrific for you to contact Bob or David so you can get started in increasing the patrols.



Bob McDonald, Coordinator

Phillip (Phil) and Martha Dack

87 Reineke Road

Residents since May 2023



Phil and Martha were married September 9, 2021. They met on a dating website “Zoosk”. Phil and Martha were married after both spouses passed. They were married at an English Inn. The location was originally owned by Ransom E. Olds, the founder of the “Oldsmobile”.

Phil and Martha previously stayed at Casa Del Sol and Sun City Center. Residents James and Connie Moran, longtime friends, introduced them to Lake Hammock Village. They had visited the Moran’s and enjoyed the community.

Phil and Martha liked 87 Reineke and immediately knew that was their home. Martha has enjoyed getting their home in order and has completed beautiful outside landscaping. They have another member of their family, Mia, their 2-year-old Cavalier Bichon.

Phil and Martha are “snowbirds” coming from Pleasant Lake, MI. Phil was employed by General Motors for 36 & ½ years. He did machine and tool work. Phil was drafted in to the Army (1960 – 1962). Phil’s duties were to patrol the Berlin Wall as part of the reconnaissance operation.

Martha did office work for many years, later found her calling in the health care field. Health Care completed her working years.

Between Phil and Martha, have three children and six grandchildren. Phil’s one daughter lives in New Port Richey. The other children still live in Michigan.

Phil’s hobbies include fishing, bowling, and golf. They both enjoy dancing including square and round dancing, but it is difficult to find “callers”. They also like playing cards and other games. They currently play CLR and Euchre at the clubhouse. Phil and Martha enjoyed all the parties they attended. They hold a Bible study from their church at their home once a week.

Phil and Marthas favorite sports team include Detroit Lions, Detroit Tigers, and Michigan State.

They have enjoyed meeting the residents of Lake Hammock Village and say everyone has been friendly.

CARRIE and CHLOE

By Linda Casinover



Carrie



Chloe

Beautiful Carrie is a Black Mouth Cur dog breed who was born in 2019 and weighed 24 lbs. when she was adopted in 2021 from the SPCA in Lakeland. Initially, her humans were disappointed when they went to adopt a particular dog and were told they were too late. Instead of leaving the kennel, they decided to look around at the other dogs and soon saw one that caught their attention. When her now human Richard put his hand in her cage, she licked it without hesitation. Carrie just chose her forever home!

Nobody seems to know exactly where this mixed breed came from, but they were likely developed to be multi-purpose working/hunting dogs as they excel at farm tasks and are easy to train. They are a mixed breed (cur) and are considered “inferior”, which is hard to understand once you meet one. They are lean, muscular and their legs are relatively long.

Carrie has a lot of energy. She loves to run alongside the golf cart on her twice daily (at a minimum) ride through the trails to the lake and back. Thankfully she is on a long leash as instinct takes over and she wants to run after any little creature she sees on her journey.

The only time that this reporter has seen her go “ballistic” is when her humans attempt to turn on the living room fan. Carrie jumps all over the place until she is convinced the fan is not going on, all the while smiling and wagging her tail. She is even more adorable with her ears folded over.

During Carrie’s downtime, she can be seen seeking a treat or carrying around her favorite toy or happily chewing on her over-sized Nylabone.

Now for Calico Chloe. This gorgeous feline was adopted about a year ago when one of the residents in the park passed away. She is so beautiful to look at and is about 10 years old.

At first, she was understandable upset and constantly on the defensive. Her human Marian, anxious to love her, was repeatedly scratched. Marian ultimately landed at the doctor’s office due to her infected wounds. Not wanting to give up on Chloe, she continued to be patient. After lots of love, Chloe’s humans have been accepted. However, Chloe WAS and IS NOT happy with Carrie who only wants to play with her. Chloe just prefers to play with her little cat toys instead.

When Chloe is relaxing and avoiding Carrie, she can be seen lounging on the back of the couch or on one of the arm rests of the chair. She is a terrific addition to this family!

This reporter has noticed that Carrie and Chloe love their home, but at the end of the day, each cuddled up with their favorite human. I’ll leave you to guess who they are.

Carrie and Chloe live with their humans, Marian and Richard Spiegel of 84 Reineke Way.



Saturday April 6th

Time: 4:00 PM – 7:00 PM

Hosted by Wanda Stanley

Refreshments will be served. BYOB

Rules: No motorized vehicles; golf carts & passengers, bicycles, tricycles, scooters and walkers only.

Meet at the Club House at 4 PM to receive your poker hand score sheet and DRAW YOUR FIRST CARD.

Everyone will then take off to the FIVE stops to draw a card and record results on score sheet.

After completing all FIVE stops, return to clubhouse between 5 & 6PM to DRAW FINAL CARD. All score sheets will be tallied at 6PM, prizes for 1st, 2nd and last will be awarded.

COST IS \$5.00 PER POKER RUN SCORE SHEET.

ALL MONEY WILL BE AWARDED IN CASH PAYOUTS

Attention!

Snowbirds & New Residents

The HOA Emergency Preparedness Team Presents:



Special Information Session

April 10, 2024

1:00PM to 3:00PM

At the Clubhouse



Join us for an informative session by Team Members

Including:

Meet & Talk with Team Members

Handouts & Hurricane Information

Question & Answer Session

Light Refreshments

**Hurricane Season lasts from June 1st to November 30th
Almost Six Months!**

So.....

Be Prepared! Let Us Help You!





SPRING FLING

GOLF CART PARADE

(decorate your golf cart for Spring or Easter)

April 13th

Line up: 11:45 at Clubhouse

Parade starts: 12:00

Two trips around the community and back to the clubhouse for voting

Any questions contact Larry Quinter @

202 Glen Este Ct



SPRING FLING

APRIL 13, 2024

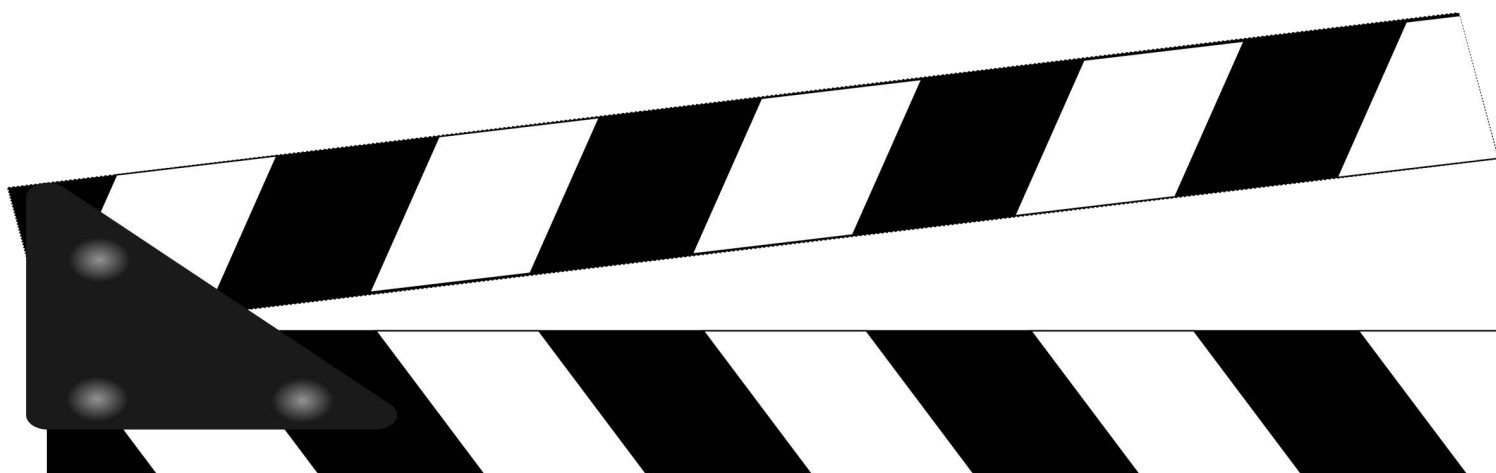


HAMBURGERS - HOT DOGS - POTATO SALAD
BAKED BEANS AND ICE CREAM

GOLF CART PARADE STARTS @12:00PM
PARADE LINEUP IS @ 11:45
BEST DECORATED GOLF CART PRIZE
BEST DECORATED HAT PRIZE
THIS IS A FREE EVENT FOR HOA
MEMBERS

Sponsored by:
LAKE HAMMOCK
VILLAGE
BOARD OF DIRECTORS





PRODUCTION WONKA 2023

SCENE

POPCORN provided

TAKE

BRING your own DRINKS

DIRECTOR

Gloria Lupo, Lisa & Dawn Karaszewski

CAMERA

LAWN CHAIRS are welcome

DATE WEDNESDAY, APRIL 24TH — 7:00 to 9:00 ???



Saturday May 4th

1pm – Lunch

POST TIME 1:30

Paid HOA members \$5/ non- members \$7

Eggs Salad and Chicken Salad sliders will be served.

Please bring a dish to share.

TICKETS WILL NOT BE AVAILABLE AT THE DOOR

****ADVANCED SALES UNTIL TUES., APRIL 30TH**

***Jockey's must bring horse figurine to enter races**

***Horse will need name/given at time of ticket purchase**

*** Prizes for 1st place single race winners-all 1st place winners will have a final race.**

*** 1st, 2nd, 3rd places will be awarded at Winner's Circle**

WOMEN

Your decorated derby hat enters you into a prize drawing

Tickets available from

Wanda Stanley	140 Glen Este Blvd
Donna Larmon	148 Glen Este Blvd
Laura Miller	136 Silvercrest



SUNDAY, MAY 5TH

DOORS OPEN AT 4:00

DINNER AT 4:30

BYOB

(ICED TEA & WATER WILL BE PROVIDED)

Tickets go on sale April 1st, last day to purchase tickets May 15th

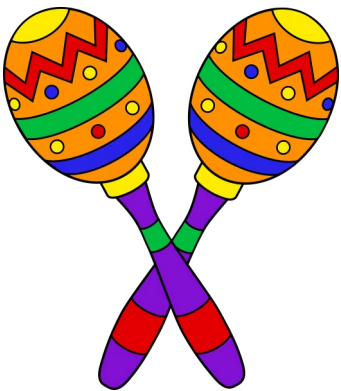
\$6.00 HOA members

\$8.00 Non-members

Purchase your tickets from: Jan Baczkiewicz #25

Kathy Deuel #194

Terry Hofer #57





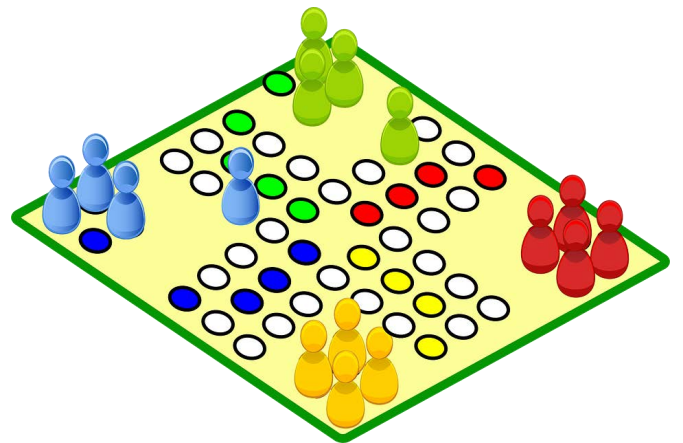
Coming to Lake Hammock Village

Game Night

Hosted by Gloria Lupo & Lisa Karaszewski

May 8, 2024

7:00 to 9:00



C & D TOURS

All remaining tours for 2024 are filled!

Cindy (C of C&D) is working on the 2024-2025 schedule.

If anyone has any requests for future tours, please let me know.

Cindy is meeting with Park Coordinators (Barbara Pund) in April and is open to suggestions.

As soon as the tours come available, usually in September, let me know if you want to participate and I will book you with Cindy.

Barbara Pund

Barbpund@gmail.com

863-419-8231

C&D TOURS INFO:

Website: cdtours.net

Email: CHartline07@yahoo.com

Phone: 863-632-0360



Vendor Fair

Thank you – Kudos – Gracias

I want to acknowledge and thank all of my volunteers who helped with all the work to make this year's Vendor Fair run so smoothly and with such great success.

First, we must set everything up, move tables and chairs around, furniture out of the way, etc. and for that I say thank you to:

Terry Karaszewski	Bob Kruse
Bob McDonald	Bob Cappell
Jerry Sibila	Shelly Sibila

And early Wednesday morning before the event starts the canopies must go up for our outside vendors and for that I say thank you to:

Carmine Gioiosa	Bob McDonald
Bob Cappell	Terry Karaszewski

Then we have food and again this year Joice and Clark Smith take on the task of ordering, cutting, serving, and cleaning up the kitchen and that is one less thing I have to worry about, and for this I am so grateful.

And also acknowledge and thank Joice's helper with this job:

Phyllis & Dave Lennox

Golf cart drivers help the Vendors unload their cars, direct them to parking spots and bring them back. Then at the end of the event, they shuttle them back to their cars and help them load. Thank you to those drivers who did all this:

Bob Kruse	Terry Karaszewski	Carmine Gioiosa
Pat Gagna	Sheryl Nykaza	Mike Ackley
Brin McDonald	Bob McDonald	Bob Cappell

And finally, the event is over, all those tables and chairs, tablecloths, decorations, furniture, canopies – everything has to go back where it was, plus sweeping up, etc. Thanks for the help to:

Bob Kruse	Shelly Sibila
Laura Miller	Carmine Gioiosa
Bob McDonald	Bob Cappell

Finally, I must acknowledge and thank the table workers who get you all signed up for the door prize drawings: Carolyn Pleuss, Shelly Sibila, Wanda Stanley, Laura Miller, Jen Ackley

Thank you all so much, and if I missed someone – I am sorry! Without these great volunteers our events are not possible – so again, thank you everyone!!

Joyce Middleton



HAPPY VALENTINES DAY



CARMINE-- OUR EXECUTIVE CHEF

ASSISTANT CHEFS/SERVERS



LAKE HAMMOCK VILLAGE – FEBRUARY 14, 2024

A Wonderful afternoon!
Every lady in attendance
had an awesome time!
Thank you, Alice Larson.

Ladies Tea
March 2024

Hosted by Alice Larson
and Diane, Gloria, and Millie



One lucky man
surrounded by
beautiful ladies!



SAINT PATRICK'S DAY LAKE HAMMOCK VILLAGE 2024



Donna & Carmine



Ben providing music



Carmine & Audrey



David & Carmine



Shelly, Phil & Jerry



Bob & Joyce



Audrey & Sue check in



Julie & Mary



**HE STOLE
MY HAT!!!!**



Hurricane Planning Update

by
The HOA Emergency Preparedness Team
for the April 2024 Gator Tales

The Emergency Preparedness Team held a **2024 Planning Session on March 13th**. We were very fortunate to avoid any hurricanes in 2023. This year promises to be even more active in terms of weather threats. Early preparation is important. We need to **hope for the best but prepare for the worst**.

At the meeting the Team decided on the following:

- **To utilize the existing Zone Plan from 2023:**
We need to have several volunteers to concentrate on each zone. We can only do as much as we can with the volunteers we have.
- **Update Team membership:**
The Team is updating membership for 2024. New volunteers are welcome. Our goals and objectives are the same as last year and the Team agreed on a similar approach.
- The Team had a table at the **Vendor Fair on March 20th** where we were able to talk with people about hurricane preparation, etc. The Team continues to work on a **master list of Snowbirds** which will help in planning.
- For the past few years we have been discussing **Snowbirds** and ways to help them before they leave and after they return. The Team will have a **Special Meeting for Snowbirds and New Residents on April 10th from 1PM to 3PM**. The meeting is open to anyone who wishes to attend.
- The Team will continue to submit **monthly articles to Gator Tales**. We also hope to better utilize our **Bulletin Board** and need someone to keep it updated.
- The Team plans to provide **Hurricane Information Packets** to all residents, as we have for the past four years. Materials are obtained from various sources. We have begun to request them.
- The Team will sponsor a **June Open House, around June 5th, the start of Hurricane Season. This will be an event similar to last year.** We will be looking for guest speakers, other exhibitors, and hopefully offer lunch.
- The Team plans to continue its **Generator Sharing Program**. However, this valuable program needs work to update the list of owners willing to share and to keep in contact during hurricane season and manage this. **The Team would like one or two people to take this over.**

There is lots to do to continue our **Mission** to help all residents deal with hurricane related issues:

To keep our residents safe, to help each other, and to help all of us be better prepared in case of hurricane or other emergency

Please think about being part of this very talented and dedicated group.

If you have questions, need information, or want to join, please contact any of our members or Dave Graham at (603) 915-1368, davemg1@outlook.com

Hurricane Planning Update, Cont.

At the February HOA Meeting the Board gave the go-ahead for the Team to begin planning for 2024. As part of the Meeting Agenda, Dave Graham gave a brief report on the Team for 2024. He also passed out a flyer with information about the Team in hope of attracting new volunteers to add to our existing Team.

The Team will have an **Organizational Meeting on Wednesday, March 13 at 6:30PM at the clubhouse.** At that time the Team will review Team membership for 2024 and begin our planning. We hope that all our members will return but realize that this may not be the case for various reasons. We welcome everyone, no required time commitment, and no required lifting or heavy duty – **YOU choose the time you can spare and what you would like to do.** Even if you can spare one hour each month it will help us provide services to our residents. We need people to help with lists and make phone calls to follow up with residents, and other tasks, such as revising our **Hotel List** which is available to anyone for use as a planning guide during hurricane season, etc.

The Team goals will be dependent on volunteers available. We hope to be able to do what we did last year.

The Team will participate in the **Annual Vendor Fair** which will be held **March 20, 2024.** In 2023 we set up exhibits, gave out information, and had the opportunity to meet and talk with residents as they entered the fair.

A possible early **June Open House** will be discussed. In 2022 & 2023 the Team held this event. Last year we had guest speakers and served a light lunch to everyone attending.

We also hope to provide **Hurricane Information Packets** to all residents, as we have for the past four years.

The Team will also submit a **Hurricane / Emergency Preparedness article to Gator Tales** each month, as we have over the past four-plus years.

If you are interested in learning more, please come to our meeting on March 13th.

Remember, the Emergency Preparedness Team works together with its volunteers on the goals and objectives which are:

2023 Members:

Matt & Margaret Rice; David & Helen Hurr; Bob & Brin McDonald; Wanda & Art Stanley; Joyce Middleton; Bob Cappelli; Pamela Leland; Dona & David Rawson; Darlene & Bill Davis; Jerry Smith; Lori Johnsen & Jeff Hunt; Deb & Gary Devore; Bob Kruse; Kathy & Dan Deuel; Terri Cruz; Barbara Pund; Mary Ann Donovan; Gary & Valerie Stanley; Jerry Sibila & Shelly Shaffer; Sharyl & Dave Graham

Sheriff Grady Corner



Human Trafficking

From Feb 22 to 29, 2024 our agency, along with a number of other law enforcement agencies, conducted an undercover sting that focused on those who engage in human trafficking. We made a record number of arrests – 228- of suspects who either traveled to our undercover location to have sex with who they thought was a prostitute, or suspects who were offering to commit prostitution. Our goal is to identify and provide services for those who are being victimized, and to charge those who perpetuate the crime of human trafficking.

The sobering news is that we identified 13 victims of human trafficking during the operation – and since February 2023, that brings the total number of victims we’ve identified to 58. We work hand-in-hand with organizations such as the Florida Department of Children and Families, Seleh Freedom, One More Child, and Heartland for Children, to provide services to these victims and help them get out of this dangerous situation.

During these types of investigations, we also see victims who are in the country illegally and those who:

1. Are being forced to perform sex acts for money in order to “pay off” debts to those who got them into the US.
2. Are threatened with violence against their families back home if they do not perform.
3. Who cannot gain legal employment in the U.S. and use this as a quick way to get money.

Some of the myths of this crime are that traffickers target and abduct strangers in a “snatch and grab” type of kidnapping, enslaving their victims, who are never again found and reunited with their families. We can’t say this never happens, but it is rare. But human trafficking – and sex trafficking - is real, and it is a crime that we are focused on here in Polk County. We will continue to conduct these types of investigations to help emancipate the women who are pressured, groomed, and forced into this trade.



Polk County's Hazardous Waste Facility

Can you imagine if Polk County didn't have a Household Hazardous Waste Collection Facility?

Where would electronic items like broken TV's, Computers, and Monitors go? They are incompatible with the landfill and they can't be carted away with the regular garbage pickup. Instead they'd probably end up sitting on the side of the road, littering our county.

Fortunately, there's an alternative for Polk County residents. Household chemicals, and electronic waste (up to 5 units) are accepted at no additional fee at the Household Hazardous Waste Collection Facility, located a 5 Environmental Loop Rd, South in Winter Haven.

This facility provides a safe, convenient way for residents to properly dispose of hazardous materials free of charge. Some examples of household hazardous waste accepted at the facility are old paint, pesticides, motor oil, compact fluorescent light bulbs, pool chemicals and lithium-ion batteries.

Each of these materials requires special handling. They should never go in your trash containers, or down the drain, or anywhere other than the Household Hazardous Waste Facility. Proof of county residency may be required.

Jerry Smith

Hey L.H.V. - Let's Dance



Word List

BALLET

CHARLESTON

MAMBO

SWING

BALLROOM

DISCO

RUMBA

TANGO

CHACHA

LINE

SALSA

TAP

Crossword #1

Across

- 1. Peter I, for one
- 5. Border plant
- 10. Call to a mate
- 14. Altar locale
- 15. Gibson garnish
- 16. Ice cream treat
- 17. Quarterback's option
- 18. Girder material
- 19. Comedienne Imogene
- 20. "Halt!"
- 21. Verse of four measures
- 23. Show fear
- 25. Dead letters?
- 26. Kind of cord
- 28. Chill out
- 33. Unrefined
- 34. Energize (with "up")

- 35. Block
- 36. Hourly charge
- 37. Stake
- 38. Look after
- 39. Chowd down
- 40. Neglected boy
- 41. Abstain
- 42. From the age of chivalry
- 44. Plow's trail
- 45. "Gosh!"
- 46. Heart line
- 47. Smelly pranks
- 52. Desire
- 55. Fashion designer Chanel
- 56. Circa
- 57. Showy flower

- 58. Unpleasant emanation
 - 59. Hangman's knot
 - 60. Air show stunt
 - 61. Strengthen, with "up"
 - 62. Dissuade
 - 63. Kitty starter
- Down**
- 1. Last call?
 - 2. Cross words
 - 3. Kind of press
 - 4. Answer
 - 5. Inexpensive lodging
 - 6. Script direction
 - 7. South Beach, for one
 - 8. Suffix with theater

- 9. Darkroom apparatus
- 10. Click the OK button
- 11. Knee-slapper
- 12. Enough, for some
- 13. Academic period
- 22. Personal air
- 24. Is no longer
- 26. "Beat it!"
- 27. Go on and on
- 28. Watch
- 29. Square
- 30. Mental lapse
- 31. Ballroom dance
- 32. Fund
- 34. Buddhist leader
- 37. Range of frequencies

- 38. Tex-Mex staple
- 40. Nerdy one
- 41. PETA peeve
- 43. Slight, in a way
- 44. Encourage
- 46. Bullying, e.g.
- 47. Kilt wearer
- 48. Type of list
- 49. Desktop feature
- 50. Double-reed instrument
- 51. Kind of court
- 53. Congeal
- 54. Hoopla

1	2	3	4		5	6	7	8	9		10	11	12	13	
14					15						16				
17					18						19				
20					21					22					
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47	48	49					50	51				52		53	54
55							56					57			
58							59					60			
61							62					63			

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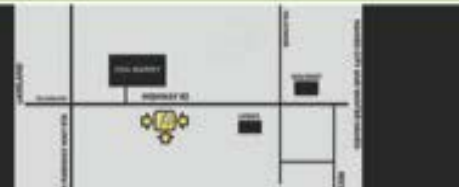
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Solution for Crossword #1

1	T	2	S	3	A	4	R		5	H	6	E	7	D	8	G	9	E		10	A	11	H	12	O	13	Y
14	A	P	S	E					15	O	N	I	O	N						16	C	O	N	E			
17	P	A	S	S					18	S	T	E	E	L					19	C	O	C	A				
20	S	T	O	P					21	T	E	T	R	A					22	M	E	T	E	R			
			23	C	O	W	E	R							25	R	I	P									
26	S	27	P	I	N	A	L			28	V	E	G	E	T	30	A	31	T	32	E						
33	C	R	A	S	S				34	L	I	V	E	N			35	B	A	N							
36	R	A	T	E					37	W	A	G	E	R			38	T	E	N	D						
39	A	T	E						40	G	A	M	I	N			41	F	O	R	G	O					
42	M	E	D						43	I	E	V	A	L			44	F	U	R	R	O	W				
									45	G	E	E					46	A	O	R	T	A					
47	S	48	T	I	N	K			50	B	O	M	B	S			52	I	T	C	H						
55	C	O	C	O					56	A	B	O	U	T			57	L	I	L	Y						
58	O	D	O	R					59	N	O	O	S	E			60	L	O	O	P						
61	T	O	N	E					62	D	E	T	E	R			63	A	N	T	E						

DIABETES SUPPORT GROUP 2023-2024

Will meet on the following dates at the CLUBHOUSE at 7pm.:

WED.APRIL 3RD-GOVERNMENT UPDATES

WED.MAY 1ST- WRAP -UPS

April 2024

March '24							May '24						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S
3	4	5	6	7	8	9	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
10	11	12	13	14	15	16	12	13	14	15	16	17	18
17	18	19	20	21	22	23	19	20	21	22	23	24	25
24	25	26	27	28	29	30	26	27	28	29	30	31	
31													

Sunday		Monday		Tuesday		Wednesday		Thursday		Friday		Saturday	
31		1	9:15 Water Aerobics 10:00 Shuffleboard 6 pm BINGO Beef & Noodles	2	10:00 Cornhole 11:00 Activities Meeting 12:00-3:00 Billiards 7:00 HOA Board Meeting	3	8:00 Coffee & D 9:15 Water Aerobics 10:00-12:00 **** 1-3 Paint Class 1:00 Hand & Foot 7:00 Diabetes Group	4	10:00 Shuffleboard 12:00-3:00 Billiards 1:00 Line Dancing 7:00 Dominos	5	9:15 Water Aerobics 1:00 Pokeno 1:00 Pinochle 7:00 CLR	6	8:30 Breakfast at Diner 4:00 to 7:00 Golf Cart Poker Run 6:00 Men's Poker
7	5:30 Birthdays & Anniversaries 6:30 pm Euchre	8	9:15 Water Aerobics 10:00 Shuffleboard 6 pm BINGO Meatloaf	9	10:00 Cornhole 12:00-3:00 Billiards 1:00 Sassy Stitchers 7:00 HOA Meeting	10	8:00 Coffee & D 9:15 Water Aerobics 10:00-12:00 **** 1:00 Hand & Foot 1-3 Hurr. Prep meeting snowbirds/new residents	11	10:00 Shuffleboard 12:00-3:00 Billiards 1:00 Line Dancing 7:00 Dominos	12	9:15 Water Aerobics 1:00 Pokeno 1:00 Pinochle 7:00 CLR	13	10:00 Book Club SPRING FLING 12:00 CART PARADE 1:00 LUNCH 6:00 Men's Poker
14		15	9:15 Water Aerobics 10:00 Shuffleboard 6 pm BINGO Baked Chicken	16	10:00 Cornhole 12:00-3:00 Billiards	17	8:00 Coffee & D 9:15 Water Aerobics 10:00-12:00 **** 11:30 Ladies' Lunch 1:00 Hand & Foot	18	10:00 Shuffleboard 12:00-3:00 Billiards 1:00 Line Dancing 7:00 Dominos	19	9:15 Water Aerobics 1:00 Pokeno 1:00 Pinochle 7:00 CLR	20	6:00 Hot Dog Roast 6:00 Men's Poker
21	6:30 pm Euchre	22	9:15 Water Aerobics 10:00 Shuffleboard 6 pm BINGO Chicken & Egg Salad	23	10:00 Cornhole 12:00-3:00 Billiards 1:00 Sassy Stitchers	24	8:00 Coffee & D 9:15 Water Aerobics 10:00-12:00 **** 1:00 Hand & Foot	25	10:00 Shuffleboard 12-3 Billiards 1:00 Line Dancing 7:00 Dominos	26	9:15 Water Aerobics 1:00 Pokeno 1:00 Pinochle 7:00 CLR	27	6:00 Men's Poker
28	6:30 pm Euchre	29	9:15 Water Aerobics 10:00 Shuffleboard 6 pm BINGO Spaghetti	30	10:00 Cornhole 12:00-3:00 Billiards	7-9 Movie Night	1	2	3	4			
5	6:30 pm Euchre	6											

Notes

*Bingo: 4:30 pm--doors open
5:15-5:45 pm--sell paper
6:00 pm--start playing

****Clubhouse cleaning hours--
please limit use of front room.