

July 4 Buffet

About 2½ years since the beginning of the COVID-19 scare, Oak Hammock nonetheless celebrated July 4 with a cookout-style buffet. Due to rain on July 3 and its predicted continuation into July 4, the buffet was served entirely indoors. Few objections were heard, as residents and guests enjoyed grilled hamburgers, hotdogs, ribs, corn on the cob, baked beans, watermelon, various beverages, and desserts in cool comfort. All three dining venues were available, as well as tables in the upper commons and the Duckworth Garden. Thanks to the dining staff who worked on the holiday so we could celebrate in style!

- Bill Castine



Welcome Cheryl Hamrick

Cheryl was born and raised in Trenton, FL. She grew up on a farm that her family owned for several generations. After graduating from Trenton High School, she attended Florida State University where she received a Bachelor of Science degree in Education. Her first job was teaching high school English in Marianna, FL. She then moved to Fort Pierce, FL, to teach middle school. Cheryl notes that, at first, this was a difficult time to teach since Florida was integrating the schools at the time. The first years of this new system for the students and teachers of Florida must have come with many challenges.

Cheryl met her husband at school. He was the physical education teacher. At first she thought he was married and he thought she was married. They finally connected at a singles party and started dating. They were married after a year and had two daughters. One now lives in Arlington, VA, and has two children. The other daughter lives in North Carolina and has one child.

Cheryl and her husband retired after thirty years of teaching and moved to Okeechobee, FL. They built a home there but after a short period of time her husband passed away. Cheryl eventually moved back to Trenton and then on to Jonesville. Her decision to move to Oak Hammock was due to health issues. She finds the help and support she needs in a comfortable community.



She enjoys sewing and made many clothes for herself and her daughters. Cheryl considers herself a "bookaholic," enjoying historical fiction and murder mysteries. Her favorite authors are Preston and Child. Another bookaholic for Oak Hammock. Read away!
- Barbara Herbstman

Welcome Randy and Rita Fabal

Randy and Rita Fabal relocated to Oak Hammock from Key West, FL, where both had successful careers with the Monroe County School District that encompasses the Florida Keys and Key West.

Rita was raised in Athens, GA. Then she attended American University in Washington, DC, receiving her bachelor's degree there. She taught in Atlanta public schools while working on a master's degree from Georgia State University. In 1970, Rita relocated to Key West to be nearer her brother, Jake Scott, who was drafted and played for the Miami Dolphins and was named MVP of Super Bowl VII during the undefeated season. While in Key West, she completed her doctorate in education at Nova Southeastern University. She worked as a teacher, district math coordinator, assistant principal, and principal, retiring in 2005.

Randy was born and raised in Key West. He received his BA, MA, and JD from the University of Florida. Randy began his career as a teacher, working his way through various positions to become a school principal. After three years as a principal, he moved to Gainesville to attend the UF Law School. He worked in Tampa, primarily in bankruptcy law. In 2000, his first wife and daughter both passed of breast cancer. He returned to Key West to work again in the school district as an administrator until his recent retirement.



After he returned to Key West, Randy and Rita dated and were married in Fairbanks, AK, on July 3, 2001. They enjoy travel and attending concerts and athletic events. They have attended the New Orleans Jazz Fest twenty times and traveled to the Caribbean, Hawaii, Alaska, Canada, London, the Baltic, Australia, New Zealand, Tahiti, and Bora Bora. They have season tickets for Gator football, basketball, and volleyball, so far. Randy enjoys reading and Rita is an avid needlepointer.
- Cynthia Clements

You Make the Difference Awards

These employees received the "You Make the Difference Award." Details are located on the board by the Oak Room. Congratulations to all!

Sherica Brown-Thompson
Aaron Burton
Sheldon Clarke
Ernest Perry, Jr.

Health Care Administration
Information Technology
Culinary Services Manager
Security

Teresita Perry
Calvin Williams

Housekeeping
Floor Technician

Maria Capps, Assistant Director of Nursing

Maria Capps, RN, the new Assistant Director of Nursing, has joined us this month after serving on the orthopedic floor of North Florida.

She started out in health care as a CNA and, along the way, worked as an EKG tech and unit secretary until she finished her ASN in 2011 at Gateway, then known as Lake City Community College.

She very much enjoyed working as a CNA and administering personal care. She made the career change from the hospital setting to Oak Hammock so that she will have a greater opportunity to deliver care and work as a resource person with younger nurses.

She and her husband, who works in law enforcement, have two daughters, one who works as a CNA at North Florida and is about to start nursing school, and the other who is 9 and who hopes to work at NASA. Her mother and her in-laws live near her family, in Trenton. In her spare time, she enjoys being on the water, attending softball with her daughters, and spending family time.

When you see Michelle Parker, our Director of Nursing in the halls, stop and thank her for recruiting Maria, with whom she has worked previously, and, of course, welcome Maria to Oak Hammock.

- Karen Miller



Derrick Thrasher

Derrick is a new security officer who started at Oak Hammock a little over a month ago. He was referred by Chief Carroll, whom he knows from his church.

Derrick has lived in the Gainesville area for about twenty years, since he was a teenager. His prior work experience included custodial work, Lowe's home improvement, and working for a contractor who delivered for Amazon. In order to prepare himself for work at Oak Hammock, he completed a 42-hour course to obtain his security license and is scheduled to complete his CPR training before this issue is printed.

In his spare time, he enjoys fishing, nature, and spending time with family, including his mother who lives in Ocala. He is currently a student at Santa Fe and is delighted to be at Oak Hammock that he views as a job from which he can eventually retire. He would like to get to know more residents, so say hello if you encounter him at the gate or on his rounds that are expected to be evenings.

- Karen Miller



Joy Peebles

Joy Peebles is the latest addition to our social services department. She grew up as a "military brat" all over the state of Florida with a father in the Air Force and a mother in retail. She attended high school in Jacksonville and college at FSU where she earned her Bachelor of Social Work degree.

She and her husband now live in Dunnellon, a pleasant country ride drive away, with a son in high school and a daughter starting college in Georgia in the

fall. The children are very involved in athletics and that indirectly brought her to Oak Hammock because Brittany, our assisted living manager, also has children involved in athletics and suggested she apply.

For the last fourteen years, Joy has been employed in Ocala in social services, and although not unhappy in her previous job, she heard very good things about Oak Hammock from others and, when approached by Brittany, was motivated to apply. She and Matt Brandon will be working with residents in the health pavilion and will help with transitions, along with Leah and Lis. She is now learning all about resources available in the Gainesville area and is finding the other team members very collaborative.

To reach her directly, her office is located on the assisted living side of the health pavilion.

- Karen Miller



Norman Rockwell Memories

The phone rang. "Hi, neighbor. This is Billie Fisher and I've a little story that I want to share with you. Maybe *The Oak Leaf* too?" Here's Billie's little story:

His name was Norman Rockwell. His work took him to a high stool in front of a work-in-progress canvas that was soon to appear on a magazine cover. It was a portrait of Nikita Khrushchev.

I met Mr. Rockwell in his red barn studio in Stockbridge, MA, after being sought to help him with back pain. I am a physical therapist and I drove after work, about 20 miles from Pittsfield. Yes, I was able to help relieve his back pain after a few weeks—and got to know this man I admire.

He liked to paint from live models. His artwork appeared on many covers of the *Saturday Evening Post*. I got to see the original paintings of the "four freedoms" and the return of a soldier to his lonely tenement.

Mr. Rockwell drew from live models such as a state trooper (complete with knapsack) sharing an ice cream at the counter, talking to a runaway little boy. I enjoyed hearing the story about his cat-model, which he painted under-the-desk of a city hall worker. He "borrowed" a neighbor's cat, with the promise to return it to its owner by 5 p.m. But at 4:45 the drugged feline was still asleep. Fresh air would help—so he drove his son (who was holding the cat with its nose in the fresh air) around the neighborhood, without the luck of it waking up. He placed the cat under the hedge of his neighbor's yard. The cat got up and walked home!

Our friendship ended when I moved to Gainesville to teach at UF. But I was able to really enjoy the memories as I leafed through a volume of his paintings and kept attached to the inside cover a note from him wishing me success! (Now in my nephew's ownership.) And by the way—I earned \$2.00 per visit!

Note: for those "too young" to remember Norman Rockwell—he was known as 'the American Rembrandt' of his time. The *Saturday Evening Post*, once the most widely read American magazine, featured 332 of his covers over a 55-year career. His pictures depicted world events and people of his time—telling stories without saying a word.

- Barbara Dockery



Political Hot Line XI

By the time you read this, you may have already received your ballot if you are registered to vote by mail. It is an extensive undertaking to consider all the offices to vote for and all the candidates to review. In many cases you may not be familiar with the names of those running for office or even the qualifications necessary to adequately serve in that office. This is, indeed, a problem for many voters.

It is a fundamental principle of our system of government that we elect those who govern us. In our modern society, the number of offices to vote for has proliferated while the need to regulate our growing technological society has increased. This presents a difficult problem for many voters and the result is that ballots are often not completely filled out. Voters would rather leave a particular office unvoted for than choose a candidate they don't know. This often leaves a small group of vested interests determining the winner of that seat.

Being a conscientious voter requires a bit of work involving learning about candidates, issues, and offices. It is not an easy task and is often overlooked by many voters. The Oak Hammock League of Women Voters often presents programs during the year highlighting issues or elective offices. There will also be two Candidates Forums. It is incumbent upon you, the voter, to take the time to learn about the candidates and offices you are to vote for. It's a necessary adventure for our democracy to survive. Happy Voting.

- Barbara Herbstman

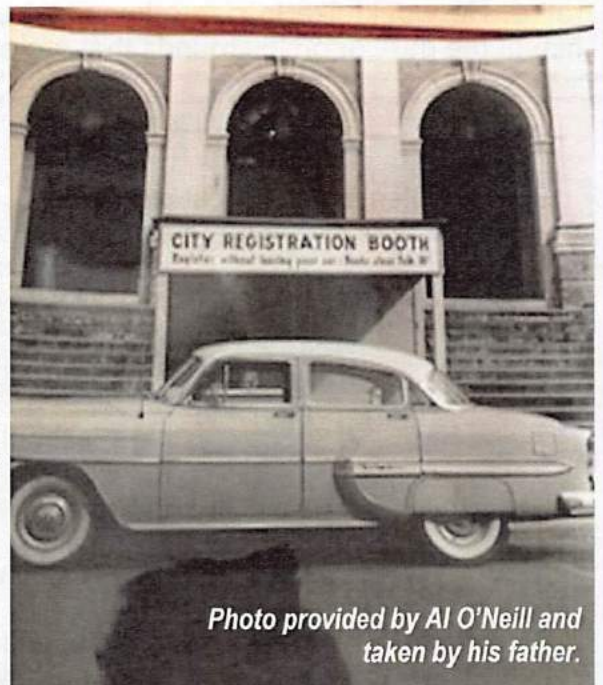


Photo provided by Al O'Neill and taken by his father.

The Oak Hammock Weather Station

It is raining at the Airport in Gainesville, but it is not raining here at Oak Hammock. Do you want to verify that it is not just your imagination? Well, you can, because Oak Hammock has its own Davis Weather Station the purchase of which was supported by Recycled Riches and the Oak Hammock Administration in 2017. It is located near the back of the Assisted Living (AL) building near the Bocce Court.

In fact, the anemometer (which measures the wind) is secured on the top of the AL roof nearby.

The Davis Weather instrument collects data on the weather and sends the collected items wirelessly to a console in Madeleine Mitchell's apartment in Building 1. From there it goes via her router and the internet to Davis Instruments in California and comes back to us via the internet.



This is the console, a blinking X in the bottom right of the console screen indicates that it is collecting data every 4-5 mins.

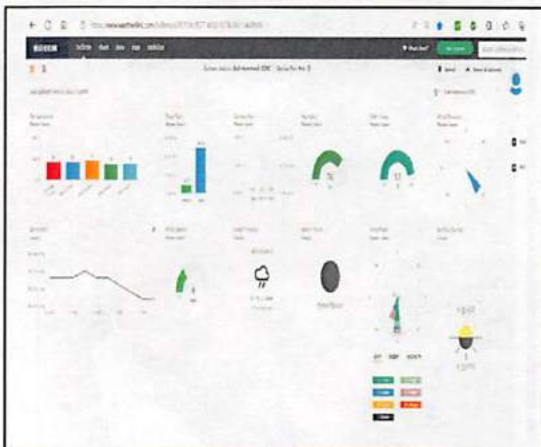
So that is fine, but how can you get the information it is collecting? (For example, an item is the amount of rain at Oak Hammock). There are three ways for you to get the data it sends back. The first one is the simple one. 1. Go to infoh.us and scroll down the left column until you reach the weather section. Below the Gainesville Weather and the Forecast is the **Oak Hammock Weather Graphs**. If you click or tap on the title, this is what you see:



If you scroll down one more screen you will see the graph of the high and low Temperature and Relative Humidity.



2. The Second method is to go to your usual **Browser** and put in the Words "Weatherlink.com" in your **address bar**, The sign-in page appears. Use Oak Hammock as the Username and get the password from Madeleine Mitchell or Keith Berg. (You cannot change the password otherwise you will not let others get on). Typically, this is what you will observe:



3. The third method, which is available for an iPad or iPhone, is the App from the Apple Store. Once you open the downloaded app, it needs the Username Oak Hammock and a password available from Keith Berg or Madeleine Mitchell. *This is the App from the Apple Store for you to download.* (The Android Download is available from Davis Instruments website).



The Oak Hammock Rockers Rock the Health Pavilion

On the afternoon of June 23, the Oak Hammock Rockers, our local band comprised of Al Goebel on accordion, Hank Pennypacker on guitar, Keith Berg on drums and washboard, and Ron Hoopes on vocals, brought their old favorites to the Health Pavilion dining room to get these lively residents "a rockin'!" They cheered the crowd with "I Left My Heart in San Francisco," "Beer Barrel Polka," "Old Man River" and many others. But the hit of the afternoon was when Al convinced Marilyn Ast to come up and sing "Saint Louis Blues." Marilyn wowed both the crowd and the band!

- Keith Berg, content;
Frank Townsend, photos



Songs of Love and Hope

Patrick Duff and Kristin Brewer (two Bookends members) once again presented a concert in the Oak Room. What a way to enjoy a relaxing Sunday afternoon at Oak Hammock with Patrick playing the guitar, and both voices singing pretty love songs.

- Bev Cone, content; Patsy Nelms, photo



Charles Dickens' Letter

Recently, the library committee was cleaning out the annex and organizing all the latest book contributions. We were just finishing up the last of them when I picked up a piece of paper off the floor. Before tossing it in the trash, I decided to peruse it. Much to my delight, the following is what I discovered:

Letter found in a clock which was in the hall of Gad's Hill, Rochester, until Dickens died in 1870.

My dear Sir,

Since my hall clock was sent to your establishment to be cleaned, it has gone (as indeed it always has) perfectly well, but it has struck the hours with great reluctance, and after enduring internal agonies of a most distressing nature, it has now ceased striking altogether. Though a happy release for the clock, this is not convenient to the household. If you can send down any confidential person with whom the clock can confer, I think it may have something on its works it would be glad to make a clean breast of.

Faithfully yours,
C. Dickens

- Beth Paul



Happy 4th!

- Barbara Dockery

Retirement Home for Horses Field Trip

Our trip to Mill Creek Farm was a wonderful experience. When we arrived on June 29, we were met by volunteers who took us in golf carts around the beautiful 350 acre farm and sanctuary for about 140 horses. Kirstin Chase, from WCJB TV, joined us to film a feature story on the meeting of the two retirement facilities. We stopped at about 12 different fields to meet the residents and give them lots of carrots. The horse I sponsor, Ma Impekhable, lives in a field with two other horses—one part zebra—and the three are best friends. Each of the horses is well groomed and cared for, and is placed in a field with other horses that they relate well with. They are free to roam the entire field where they live, and enjoy their retirement. Most of the horses are at least twenty years old, some much older, and each has a unique history and life story.

Mill Creek Farm is well laid out, well organized, and taken care of beautifully. The walkways where the golf carts travel with daytime visitors are all paved now, the fields where the horses live are well taken care of, and everything is explicitly cared for by the many volunteers. It was a treat to be there.

We met the lady who started this place with her husband in 1984, Mary Gregory. She and her husband were true animal lovers. Mary is proud that the farm is still so well manicured. Besides the retired horses living there, many wild birds enjoy feeders set out for them, and squirrel tree frogs also are found at some times of the year, hopping and croaking around the farm. They feed on spiders, termites, beetles, and other insects.

After a wonderful tour, we went for a delicious treat of southern cooking at Brown's Country Buffet in Alachua, then home. It was a wonderful trip with Oak Hammock residents enjoying the outside world together.

- Bev Cone, content and photos; Margarete Ruth, additional photo



Art League at Oak Hammock

The art studio has again become a place where our artists are availing themselves of that ideal room to bring forth creative thoughts. After asking our artists to please feel free to come in there anytime to do their art work, there have been several sightings of artists diligently making their art happen! It is a good feeling after the isolation of the pandemic to see life returning to normal.

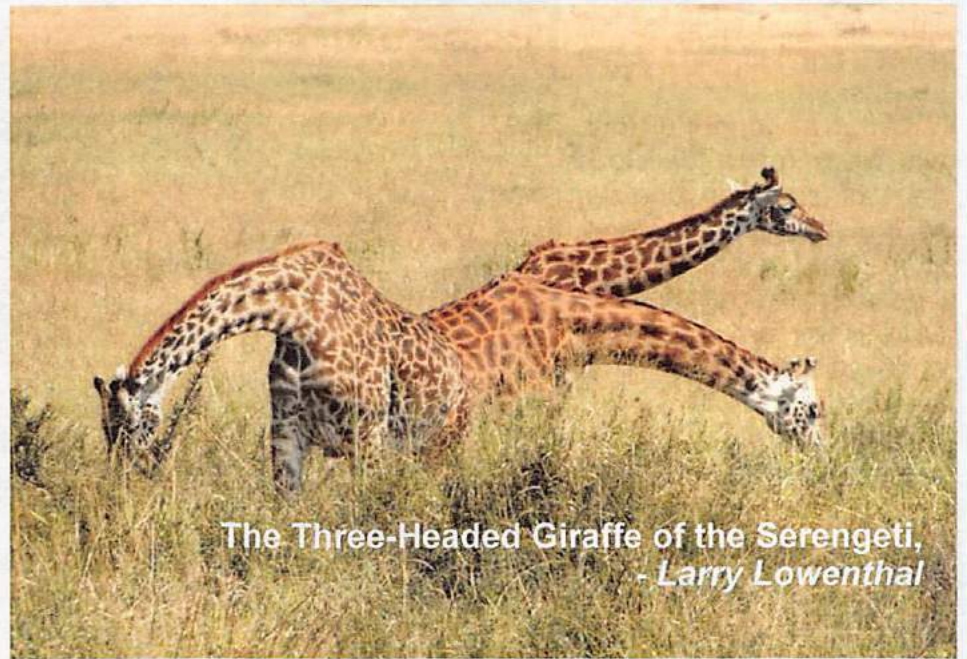
The Oak Hammock Residents, Staff, and Family Members show, now through October 15th, is having an opening reception on Sunday, July 17, 3 to 5 p.m. in the Upper Commons. The new show will feature not only the art of our Residents and Staff, but also we have added the art of our Residents' family members of all ages. Be sure to mark your calendars and bring your friends for a walk in the Gallery, and enjoy the excellent repast by our Oak Hammock chefs.

Once again, the amazing Jane Polkowski Levy and her elves have performed their magic. The Art League's June 28 program featured "The Art of the Honeycomb," thanks to Ray Goldwire, our in-house beekeeper and his contacts. It was a wonderful program and if you missed it you will still be able to watch, when Dick Martin posts a video link via email. If you like bees and art, you will find watching the video time well spent. We send a big thank you to Susan Bankston for facilitating these programs and all else that she does for the Art League.

Perhaps you would like to broaden your horizons with some summer reading. There is a wide array of art books in the art studio and these books can be borrowed. Just leave a

note with your name, date, and book title when you borrow one and do the same when you return it.

"No amount of skillful invention can replace the essential element of imagination." Edward Hopper
- Marion Siegel



The Three-Headed Giraffe of the Serengeti,
- Larry Lowenthal

Oak Hammock Artists (That We Know Of...)

(Alphabetical by First Name)

Anne Shands
Betty Jacobson
Charlotte Newman
Cynthia Clements
Donna Wagner
Doris Morrison
Elizabeth Wing
Fred Harden
Gail Robinson
Ginny Schrader

Jan Havre
Jane Polkowski Levy
Jeani Valter
Joyce Riffe
Karl Schwartz
Keith Berg
Marian Axley
Marilyn Hutchinson
Marion Siegel
Martha Rader

Mary Conner
Mary Polk
Mary Sue Koepfel
Michael Levy
Nancy Boyd
Pat Lucoff
Pat Reboussin
Susan Bankston
Susan Shafer
Vida Scarpello

Summer Solstice – Oak Hammock Style!

June 21, 2022, was the longest day of the year in Gainesville, Florida. Celebrating the occasion—known as the Summer Solstice—varies among cultures. Celebrating at Oak Hammock is spelled “Eat, drink, and be merry!” The Upper Commons and adjoining areas beckoned people to an *afternoon delight* of tasty light eating (think watermelon, shrimp, and key lime pie). Add frosty beverages that harkened to the days gone by (maybe Kahlua milkshakes and Dreamsicles?) Toss in soft island tunes. Oh my! Do we have to wait a whole year to celebrate again? Donations for the Alzheimer’s Association were cheerfully accepted.

The countdown to summer has begun!

- Barbara Dockery, content and photo; Bill Castine, photos



Music in the Oak Room

Multi-talented musician Steve Sternberg performed at Oak Hammock for the first time on June 25. He plays the piano, as well as playing the harmonica, sometimes both at the same time! He sings, plays the piano, and the harmonica, and sometimes even whistles in tune! He performed familiar, upbeat songs that had the audience energized and very interactive. My favorite songs were “Moon River,” with voice and harmonica, “Don’t Fence Me In,” and the last song, “Yankee Doodle Dandy”.

Steve Sternberg has been a professional musician since 1975. Let’s hope he returns again soon to the Oak Room, for more musical entertainment

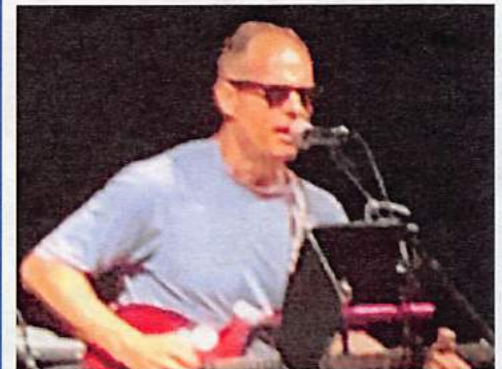
- Bev Cone, content;
Patsy Nelms, photo



More Music!

Dan Flok provided music and banter in the Oak Room. Although he had recent surgery, he accompanied his singing with flying fingers. Some of his songs were requests from the audience.

- Patsy Nelms



Two UF Museums Are COOL Too!

July has been proclaimed 'Museum & Cultural Center Month' in Gainesville. Lucky for Oak Hammock—two great UF museums are close by. Both the Samuel P. Harn Museum of Art and the Florida Museum of Natural History are COOL places to visit. They occupy adjacent space (3259 and 3215) on Hull Road, just off NW 34th Street.

Guests coming to visit? Don't fret about what to do. Visits to the nearby UF campus to the rescue. The Harn offers an outstanding variety of works—from Monet to Picasso. The Florida Museum features Florida's nature history, plus a butterfly garden. Both museums are admission free. The Florida Museum does charge for special exhibits and the butterfly garden. The campus wide speed limit of 20 MPH is enforced, as are specific parking regulations.

For current exhibition information and hours to visit call: Harn (352) 392-9826; FL Museum (352) 846-2000. *Enjoy being a Cool Gator.*



- Barbara Dockery

Warm Up and Read

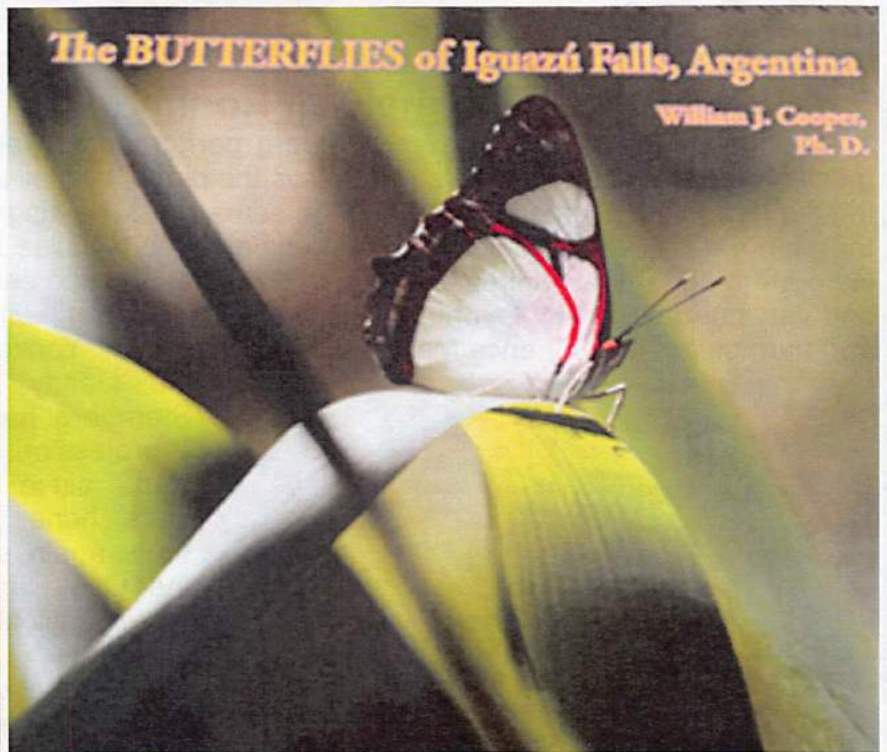
Alert: Mystery lovers and sleuths are hereby given notice to visit the recent creation of a display case by five crafty needlers. They laid down needles and thread, taking time to read. They're suggesting COOL titles for summertime enjoyment. "Reading" and "cozy" just go together. So, turn down the thermostat a notch and snuggle—with your favorite quilt—and help the author figure out 'the culprit *whodunit*'. (Note: crime scene yellow tape has been removed to ensure your viewing pleasure—the Lower Level, pool table location.)

- Barbara Dockery



Butterflies

Fifty-one people enjoyed a special Natural History Society presentation in the Oak Room on June 17th. Dr. Bill Cooper presented a program on butterflies of Argentina. He also donated his book, *The Butterflies of Iguazu Falls, Argentina*, to the Oak Hammock library. - Deborah Rossi, content; Bill Rossi, photos



Amazon now rebates money to our Benevolent Fund on most purchases made by residents of Oak Hammock!

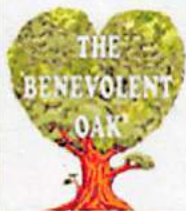


1% off the top!

Log on to smile.amazon.com and designate Oak Hammock to get the rebate. Then always do your shopping at the smile site.

Because if we don't get it...Amazon keeps it!

- Larry Lowenthal



Benevolent Fund

Since our last report, a total of \$1050 was received in memory of Katherine and John Lowe and in honor of Pat Liston.

- Jonathon Mann

Be the reason someone smiles today!

Recycled Riches

Recycled Riches is doing a good business with our Flash Sales. If you have items you want to give us, send a picture to Doris Greene. We will do our best to find someone who wants it.

We still have medical supplies such as walkers, shower chairs, canes, and potty chairs available for loan or purchase.

One area where we can help all Oak Hammock residents is to give you good information about downsizing or cleaning out residences. We have

many well qualified members on our committee who are happy to visit with you or your families to give you advice, lists of areas inside and outside of Oak Hammock that take donations, and help make your transition as organized as possible. Remember that what we can use here at Oak Hammock helps our staff and our bottom line.

Our next meeting will be on Monday, July 25, 11 a.m., in the Acorn Room. Come join us. Please observe current rules for Covid-19.

- Valerie Griffith, Chairman, Recycled Riches

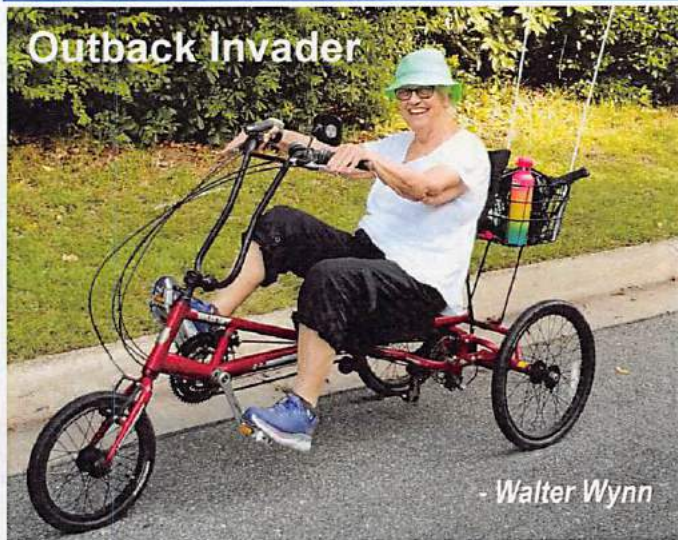


A Resident Led Association to Ensure Quality of Life in Retirement Communities
Lamar Miller Chapter 255

During the Legislative Session, FLICRA works closely with LeadingAge Florida, a not-for-profit corporation. They work closely with members to help them be the best they can be. Their members include CCRCs, Nursing homes, Assisted Living Facilities and many things related to quality care and services to senior citizens.

As a CCRC and a member of FLICRA, we are also a member of LeadingAge. They help FLICRA keep up with and navigate thru any new bills that relate to senior living and health care. We are lucky to have these two organizations working with and for us.

- Mary Sanford



- Walter Wynn

Garden Happenings

The Garden Committee and others have been investigating Vego Metal Raised Beds to add to our garden (www.vegogarden.com).

Grow Hub, behind Lofton High, has more than 25 Vego beds that are being used by their adult workers with disabilities. Unfamiliar with Grow Hub? Many are, including some in the group from Oak Hammock who recently visited. We were given a tour by their Director and shown how their Vego beds are used. All were impressed by Grow Hub's operation and proud that Oak Hammock supports them by buying many of the plants they produce. In addition, in their earlier stages of formation, Recycled Riches donated leftover furniture to them to resell for needed funds.

A Request for Plant Operations' Special Projects has been filed. This is not a request for funds, but rather for approval by Oak Hammock management. If approved, funds will be requested from Recycled Riches for three trial garden beds. They will be located in front of the Garden Cottage. Yesterday, I placed frost cloth marking their proposed locations. We will be trialing three different sizes and shapes, one of which will be a "counter height" bed for those who prefer standing. Their color will be British Green to echo the green door and trim of the Garden Cottage.

Sadly, a walker recently mentioned that the garden area is dangerous. Look around and you'll see many hazards, some of which have caused injury. Please secure metal cages either on the side of the greenhouse or within your assigned plot. Keep aisles clear and empty pots in your shed space. Wrap your hose tightly around your raised bed or place it within your plot. Let's all do our part in controlling mosquitoes by eliminating standing water.

Spend time this summer in cool "store bought" air while browsing through seed catalogs. One of my favorites is Baker Creek Heirloom Seeds (www.rareseeds.com). I think you'll find their story interesting.

- Peg Owens, content; Karen Arola, photo



This beautiful Live Oak/*Quercus virginiana* fell across the street west of the Tennis Courts. Why??

- Margarete Ruth, content,
Bev Cone photo

Oak Hammock Forum

A very successful Candidates' Forum was conducted by the Oak Hammock unit of the League of Women Voters. Candidates for Mayor of Gainesville, City Commission District 3, and School Board were in attendance. Questions prepared by our own LWV members were asked by moderator Karen Miller. Responses were timed by Pushpa Kalra and Ken Blanchard. Those going over the one-minute allowance were treated to a peal of Ken's bell. Members of the audience had the benefit of an Oak Hammock Voter Aid to help keep track of the 16 candidates who attended. Copies of the Voter Aid are now available at the reception desk. Dick Martin filmed the event and the Aid will be most helpful as you watch the video.

- Barbara Herbstman, content;
Bill Castine, photos



WE NEED YOU!
Please consider running for the Oak Hammock Residents' Council.
Contact Mary Kilgour for more information



- Karen Arola

Celebrating 100 with Brenda Thomas

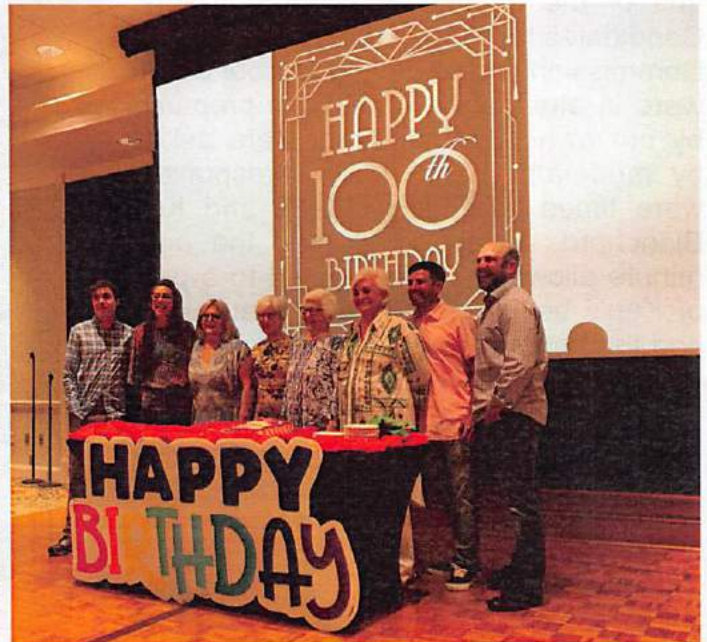
Reaching the milestone age of 100 calls for celebrating! Make that plural. Oak Hammock residents and community friends filled the Oak Room to enjoy refreshments, raise a glass of cheer, and sing Happy Birthday to Brenda Thomas. Make that plural too – a granddaughter shares her grandmother's birthday.

Daughter Sharon had been gathering memories from Brenda's family and friends, creating a surprise "Memory Book". After presenting the special gift to Brenda, people attending the party were invited to add comments and sign her book.

Time out for a television interview. Then another celebration. A small gathering of family and friends mingled in the Oak Room to enjoy dinner, socialization, and a rousing rendition of Happy Birthday. Apparently, family members will continue to arrive in Gainesville to remember special times together and to applaud the wonderful 100 years of Brenda Thomas.

The English poet and writer Jenny Joseph is remembered for declaring: "When I am old, I shall wear purple—with a red hat, which doesn't go—and doesn't suit me!" Obviously, that woman never met a special lady named Brenda Thomas. This special lady looks lovely in purple. Or any color, for that matter. There's a certain inner glow, enhanced by Brenda's beautiful white hair and blue eyes, that charms people. A lyrical voice and mischievous laugh totally captivate unsuspecting people.

Blessed are the people who have met Brenda Thomas during her one-hundred-year reign. She wears her crown humbly. Caring for family, friends, and those in need have filled her life with joy and love. The colorful quilts that Brenda continues to create are stitched with happiness. Being a different person as she "matures" isn't Brenda's style. She'll look beautiful wearing purple—with a red hat—if she chooses.



- Barbara Dockery, content; Kathy Cafazzo, photos



Oak Hammock by the Numbers, July 1 Independent Living

	Total	Occupied or Reserved	Available to Sell
Houses	57	56	0
Apartments	212	209	0

- Nickie Doria

	Total	Occupied	Available
Assisted	46	41	5
Memory*	24	10	2
Skilled**	73	59	14

Health Pavilion

* 12 units are set aside for quarantine

** fluctuates daily

- Mary Sabatella

A Gift to Shands Children's Hospital

Oak Hammock donated over two hundred books to the Children's Medical Services Clinic at Shands Children's Hospital. Money was collected from the three book clubs at Oak Hammock, and Janet Janke was able to obtain these books through creative purchasing.

The books will be mainly for children whose families are on Medicaid. Each child going to the clinic will receive a book. The books were accepted by Angela Looney, the Continuity Clinic Coordinator. We hope this will be an annual presentation to the clinic.

- Barbara Herbstman, content; file photo



Music Bingo!

We had a great time at our first ever Music Bingo on June 9, so make sure you join us on August 16. Get ready to sing, dance, and know things!

- Katherine Osman

At right, Pat Blews shows off her major award for winning a round.



Trivia

Tuesday, August 2, 7:00 p.m., Oak Room



Music Bingo, Oak Hammock Edition
Tuesday, August 16, 7:00 p.m., Oak Room

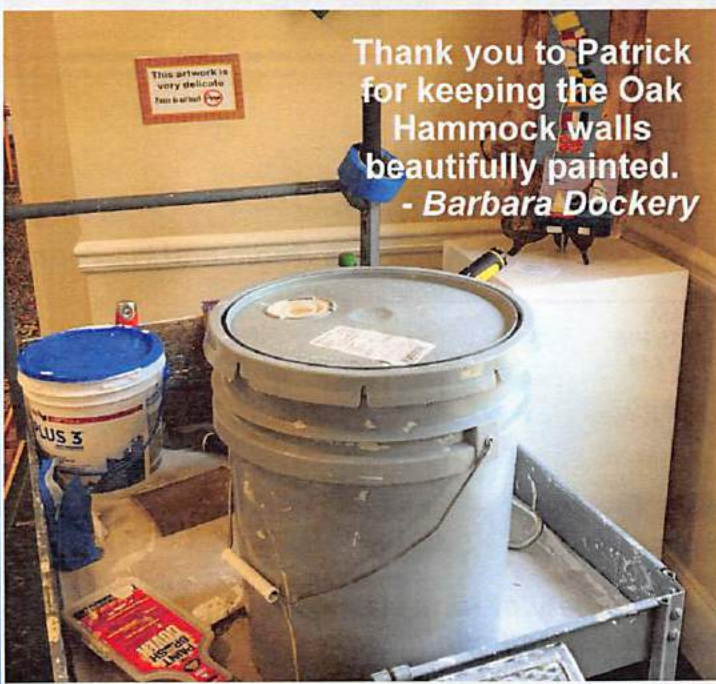
The Longest Day



Ted Wasserman, Penny Whitley, Barbara Wasserman, and Kenny Whitley played in the bridge tournament at Oak Hammock to help raise over \$8000 to fight Alzheimer's disease.

- Beth Paul

Thank you to Patrick for keeping the Oak Hammock walls beautifully painted.
- Barbara Dockery





Editor: Patsy Nelms; **Assistant Editor:** Janet Axe;
Proofreader: Bill Castine

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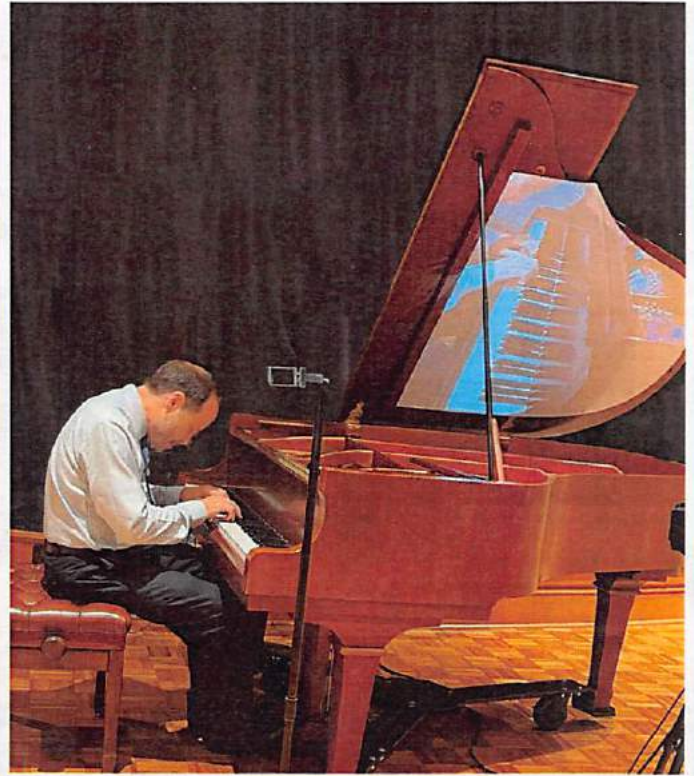
Frederick Moyer, Pianist

Frederick Moyer's music tells a story. He feels the classical music that he plays and brings it to new life for the listeners. He has played the piano since he was a child, learning a lot from his grandfather.

The Oak Room was packed for the Father's Day performance. It was a treat to sit in the audience, watch his fingers on the keyboard, and hear the sounds of a Chopin ballad, a sonata by Robert Schumann, and several other pieces. We cannot wait for him to return!

For more information about Mr. Moyer, his concerts, and his recordings, you can visit his website, www.frederickmoyer.com.

- Bev Cone



Me! Me! Me!



- George Arola



2022 Residents' Council

President	Martha Rader
Vice President	Norm Cooney
Secretary	Doug Merrey

The Council meets at 10:00 a.m. on the second Friday of each month in the Oak Room and via Zoom.

Committee	Meeting Time	Chairperson
Active Lifestyle	1st Monday, 11:00 AM	Keith Berg
Planning and Design	2nd Wednesday, 3:15 PM	Dick Suttor
Buildings and Grounds,	2nd Thursday, 10:00 AM	Jan Lowenthal
Communications and Marketing	4th Friday, 1:30 PM	Mary Kilgour
Community and University Partnerships	4th Wednesday, 3:00 PM	Michael Plaut
Dining Experience	1st Friday, 10:00 AM	Bruce Blackwell
Finance	3rd Thursday, 1:30 PM	Al O'Neill
Health and Well-being	1st Thursday, 3:30 PM	Henri Logan
Technology and Services Innovation	3rd Friday, 10:00 AM	Bill Zegel
Assisted Living Representative		Jim Piety

**Committees are meeting using a variety of formats.
 Please contact the Committee chairs for specific information.**