February 2026 Volume 19, Issue 02

The New Horizons



Community Highlights and Updates



February Home of the Month
Eugene Blakely
107 Pine Tree Drive





Each month, a home in our community is selected by an anonymous committee to receive the "Home of the Month" award. The recipient receives a $25 gift card and a yard sign to display for the month.

Thank you for helping keep our community a beautiful place to live!



Would you like to receive the newsletter by email?

Please email Steve Helmer at:



The deadline to submit content for the New Horizons is the 15th of each month.
Please email all information and updates to: Kathie_lowe@equitylifestyle.com

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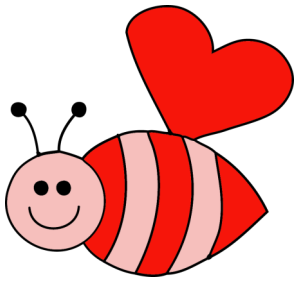
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Mid Florida Lakes – February Manager's Note

Hello Residents,

As we welcome February, thank you for helping us keep Mid Florida Lakes a beautiful and enjoyable community. Below are a few important reminders to keep everything running smoothly this season.

🏡 Home & Carport Appearance



Let's take advantage of the pleasant weather to freshen up our homes and carports.

Community Standards Reminder:

- Carports and the outside of homes **may not be used for storage**.
- Prohibited items include boxes, trunks, wood, pipes, bottles, garden tools, mops, ladders, paint cans, and similar items.
- Only **outdoor patio furniture and barbecue grills** may be used or stored on patios or porches.
- Carports should remain clean, uncluttered, and free of stored items.

Thank you for helping us maintain a tidy and welcoming appearance throughout the community.

🏷️ Selling Your Home? Please Follow Signage Rules

If you are selling your home—whether independently or with a realtor—please ensure compliance with our signage guidelines:

- Only **one "For Sale" sign** allowed (max size: **18" x 24"**).
- **Homes on main roads:** Sign permitted in the *front window*.
- **Homes on feeder drives:** Sign permitted on a *carport post only if the window cannot be seen from the main road*.
- **Waterfront homes:** One sign may be placed on the *rear of the home facing the water* and one on the *front*.
- **"Open House" signs** are *not permitted* unless approved by the community manager.

Wishing everyone a warm and joyful Valentine's Day! This is a great month to share kindness, friendship, and community spirit.

Thank you for your continued cooperation and care for Mid Florida Lakes. Let's make it a wonderful February!

Warm Regards,
Allie & Me' Shelle
General Managers, Mid Florida Lakes



The K. Lowe-Down
Monthly Musings from your Activities Director

Happy February, everyone! It's hard to believe we are already a month into the new year. As the winter season settles in, I find myself reflecting warmly on the wonderful start we've had together.
December was a whirlwind of "firsts" for me, and I could not have asked for a more welcoming introduction to this amazing community. From the Holiday Extravaganza to our festive New Year's Eve Party and all the delightful Club Christmas Parties in between, the season was filled with joy, dancing, delicious food, and an incredible abundance of holiday treats. Thank you to the HOA for your enthusiastic participation and for navigating a few challenges along the way—your efforts helped make each event truly special. I genuinely appreciated every warm greeting and holiday wish. You have made me feel right at home.

As we move into February, we have a full and exciting schedule ahead! Please be sure to review your monthly calendar and **"Save the Date"** pages for full details on upcoming activities, including:

- **American Legion Post 330 Spaghetti Dinner**
- **MFL Flea Market**
- **Super Bowl Party**
- **Resident Appreciation Dinner**
- **Coffee Social**
- **Valentine's Dinner Dance**
- **Auxiliary Card Party**
- **"Ultimate Anthem" The Arena Rock Tribute**
- **New England Party**
- **PA Party**
- **...and much more**



Community Spaces & Rentals
We've received several questions regarding the use of our community rooms. Here is a quick overview:
- **Large or Small Hall:** $50 rental fee + $50 refundable deposit (contract required)
- **Hallway Meeting Rooms:** $50 refundable deposit (contract required)
- **Celebrations of Life or Memorial Services:** No charge

A signed contract is required for all reservations. Please reach out to me with any questions or to secure a space.

Complimentary Bagged Ice
As a courtesy, **non-mandatory bagged ice** is available to residents Monday–Friday, 9:00 AM–4:00 PM, as staffing permits. Please note that ice will *not* be bagged on holidays or weekends, which may result in additional delays. Thank you for your understanding.

Roles & Responsibilities
To help our department run smoothly:
- **Gingerlily, Activity Assistant**, will now be handling **ELS activities duties**, including tickets, events, questions, and general concerns.
- **I will be focusing on essential director and management responsibilities**, ensuring everything runs efficiently and compliantly.

Once I'm fully grounded in these responsibilities, I look forward to being out in the community more often and sharing in the fun with all of you.

I also want to extend my heartfelt thanks to both **Gingerlily and Chuck**, who have been tremendous sources of support as I've transitioned into this role. If you ever experience a concern or feel there has been miscommunication, please come directly to me so we can resolve things quickly and kindly.
Miscommunication is often the root of unnecessary frustrations.

Thank you all for your patience as I continue getting up to speed, and thank you for your ongoing understanding and support. I am always reachable by **text or email** and available in person by appointment.

Warmly,
Kathie Lowe
Activities Director / Clubhouse Manager
Kathie_Lowe@equitylifestyle.com | 352-504-2760

~Kindness is the language which the deaf can hear and the blind can see- Mark Twain~

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Safety First! The Lake County Sheriff's Office reminds all residents that golf carts must stay within the community perimeter and are NOT permitted on or across Highway 44. Deputies are actively issuing $166 citations to violators. Please drive safely and legally!



See a Sign, Follow the Rule. Let's keep our streets safe for everyone. Please remember to obey all posted speed limits and one-way signs throughout the community. Following these rules protects all drivers, walkers, bicyclists, and golf cart users!



Motorcycle Riders: Gate Exit Tip! For a smooth and safe exit, please remember to hug the right side of the lane when leaving the community. Staying to the far right ensures the gate sensors detect your bike properly every time!



Shine Bright, Stay Safe! Free reflective safety tape is now available in the Activities Office! Use this adhesive-backed tape (no sewing needed!) on your clothing, bikes, or golf carts to boost visibility when you're out at night. This safety project is proudly funded by the MFL HOA.



Our clubhouse facilities are available for your next event! Clubhouse Halls require a $50 rental fee and a refundable $50 deposit, while Smaller Rooms require only a refundable $50 deposit. Both options require a signed contract, and some exceptions may apply. To learn more or to book a space, please contact Kathie, at 352-504-2760 or Kathie_lowe@equitylifestyle.com



Need assistance after a fall? Lake County Fire Rescue is here to help! Our trained paramedics can safely lift, assist with transfers, and assess if further medical care is needed. Call 352-383-1200 for lift assistance.



Protect Your Home: Get a FREE Smoke Detector Check! Lake County Fire Rescue offers a free service to check your detectors and replace batteries. If your unit is over 10 years old, they will sell you a new one and install it. Call 352-343-9458 to schedule your appointment today!



Property Emergency Protocol (After Hours): For property-related emergencies (clubhouse or grounds issues) occurring outside of regular business hours, call 352-589-8300. An answering service will contact the appropriate on-call personnel. IMPORTANT: This line is NOT for 911 emergencies. For fire, police, or medical emergencies, always call 911.



We're committed to keeping our community laundry facility spotless! It will be closed for deep cleaning every Wednesday from 8:00 AM to 9:00 AM. Key Rule for Smooth Operation: Please retrieve your belongings as soon as the cycle finishes. Laundry remaining in the machines will be donated to charity.



Notary Service Available by Appointment: Need a document notarized? Assistance is available! Please contact Lorraine Van Hoesen (MFL Leasing Coordinator) at 305-872-2210 or Jeff Beardsley at 425-870-7996 to schedule an appointment.



As a courtesy service, non-mandatory bagged ice is provided to residents as a goodwill gesture on weekdays (Monday–Friday) between 9:00 AM and 4:00 PM, provided that staffing and time permit. Please note that ice will not be bagged on holidays, which may cause additional delays; we appreciate your understanding.



Mandatory Irrigation Schedule Reminder: Remember that irrigation is strictly prohibited between 10 AM and 4 PM. Schedule: Odd Addresses water on Wed & Sat. Even Addresses water on Thurs & Sun. Please limit watering to 3/4 inch of water and/or one hour per zone per day. (Micro-irrigation and hand-watering are allowed anytime!)



ATTENTION MFL RESIDENTS: Grow Your Business Locally! Turn your neighbors into customers and put your business in the spotlight! We are officially renting ad space in the newsletter to residents who want to promote their professional services or local businesses. Whether you're a contractor, a consultant, or a creator, this is your chance to reach your community directly.
Monthly Rates: Business Card: $45 ~ 1/4 Page: $85 ~ 1/2 Page: $110 ~ Full Page: $160

6 Neighborhood Safety & Essentials

We are committed to helping our senior citizens and veterans access the vital services they have earned and deserve. From daily welfare checks & in-home support to defense against financial scams, here is a breakdown of key local & statewide resources available to you and your loved ones.

Caring for Daily Needs & Home Support: If you or a loved one requires assistance with daily living, start here: Lake County Elder Options **Helpline: 1-800-262-2243 Monday-Friday 8AM-5PM** Services include: Meals on Wheels, housekeeping assistance, caregiver support, and free, unbiased Medicare counseling through the SHINE (Serving Health Insurance Needs

Lake County Senior Services (General Inquiries) Contact: 352-326-3540 Focus: General information & local programs

Veteran Benefits & In-Home Care: Our veterans have specialized services to meet their unique needs: Lake County Veterans Services **Contact: 352-742-6585** Assistance with: Navigating Florida Veterans' Federal & State Benefits, VA . Disability claims, requesting military records, & obtaining ID cards. This office helps you understand all your earned

Veterans Care Coordination Contact: 855-380-4400 Focus: Support services related to the VA Pension with Aid & Attendance benefit. They assist veterans & surviving spouses with the application process & coordination of Homemaker Home

Personal Safety & Wellness Ensure your security & well-being with these daily check & fraud prevention programs: **Senior Watch Program (Daily Check Call) Contact: 352-343-2101 (LCSO Non-Emergency Line)** Purpose: Provides security for those living alone or with medical problems who have no one to check on them daily. If you don't call in, operators will check

Seniors vs. Crime Hotline: 1-800-203-3099 Focus: A vital resource specifically for seniors regarding scams, fraud, &

Attorney General Fraud Hotline: 1-866-9-NO-SCAM (1-866-966-7226) Focus: For reporting general consumer fraud,

ERT Durable Medical Equipment (DME): Chief Derek Moore - 812-664-1813 or Captain Lisa Horner - 717-917-4759 (Call before 10PM) Focus: Provides a comprehensive range of mobility and personal care equipment—including wheelchairs,

Wildlife & Animal Services Know who to call for domestic and nuisance wildlife issues:

Service	Contact Number	Pertinent Information
Lake County Animal Serv	352-343-9688	For reporting animal abuse, stray, aggressive dogs, or domestic animals in distress.
FL Nuisance Alligator (FWC)	1-866-FWC-GATOR (1-866-392-4286)	For alligators 4 feet or longer that pose a threat to people, pets, or property.
FL Nuisance Bear (FWC)	850-265-3676 (Regional) or **1-888-404-FWCC** (24-Hr Alert)	For reporting problem or nuisance black bear activity to the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission (FWC).
FL Wildlife (General/Other) (FWC)	1-888-404-FWCC (1-888-404-3922)	**FWC's Wildlife Alert Hotline** for general wildlife issues, violations, or reporting sick/injured non-domestic animals.

Waste Collection Notice: Mid-Florida Lakes Pick-Up Procedures

Keeping our community clean requires a reliable waste collection service. Please review the regular schedule and follow these easy steps if you experience a missed pick-up or need to schedule a bulk item collection. Please remember the standard days for waste collection in Mid-Florida Lakes: **Garbage/Trash Pick-Up:** Every Tuesday and Friday / **Recyclables Collection:** Every Monday.

Reporting Missed Pick-Ups or Scheduling Bulk Items: If your trash was missed, or if you have a large item that needs removal, it is crucial to contact the Mid-Florida Lakes Office immediately.

Procedure for Missed or Bulk Collection: Call the Mid-Florida Lakes Office: 352-589-8300. Please be ready to provide: Your name, address, phone number, specific details of the missed pick-up (which day was missed) or the exact type of bulk item you need collected. Bulk items (e.g., furniture, appliances) must be placed at the road no more than 48 hours prior to their scheduled pick-up time.

Mid Florida Lakes Welcome Wagon

There is something truly special about the first few weeks in a new home— the excitement of a fresh start, the beauty of our lakeside views, and the anticipation of new friendships. If you have recently moved in, or if you see a moving truck pulling in down the street, we want you to know that you aren't just moving into a house; you're joining a vibrant, active family.

The **Welcome Wagon of Mid Florida Lakes** is a dedicated group of volunteers whose sole mission is to ensure every new neighbor feels right at home from day one.

Your Guide to the Neighborhood
Navigating a new community can be overwhelming, but we're here to make it easy. Our volunteers provide every new resident with an **Informational Packet**. Inside, you'll find our comprehensive booklet, which serves as your "owner's manual" for life at Mid Florida Lakes. It includes details on:

- **Clubs & Activities:** From hobbies to fitness, find out where you fit in.
- **The Community Clubhouse:** Your hub for social gatherings and events.
- **Amenities:** Everything you need to know about our pools, docks, and more.

If you have questions or concerns that aren't covered in the booklet, our volunteers are happy to refer you to the proper source to get the answers you need.

Join Us for a New Residents Meeting
Three times a year, the Welcome Wagon sponsors a **New Residents Meeting**. This is a fantastic opportunity to meet your neighbors and hear directly from Mid Florida Lakes management, the Home Owners Association (HOA), and representatives from our many social clubs.

Pro Tip: Keep an eye on the *New Horizon*, our monthly community newsletter, for the specific dates and times of these upcoming meetings!

Come Say Hello!
We would love to meet you in person. Whether you have a question, need a packet, or just want to see a friendly face, stop by and see us:

- **When:** Every Wednesday morning
- **Time:** 10:00 am – 11:00 am
- **Where:** The Smaller Community Room

Get in Touch
Can't make it on Wednesday morning? No problem! For more information or to request a packet, please feel free to reach out to our coordinators:

- **Carolyn Griffith:** 231-510-9518
- **Judy Silver:** 570-472-4505

We look forward to meeting you and helping you discover why Mid Florida Lakes is such a wonderful place to call home.
Welcome to the neighborhood!

Like us on Facebook.com/MidFloridaLakes

Welcome
New Residents!

8 Community Moments and Warm Welcomes





Home of the Year (2025)
186 Hibiscus Dr. / Shelia Neilson & Jesse Butler





Mid Florida Lakes

2025 Home of the Year Award

Each month, a distinguished residence is selected as **Home of the Month** by an anonymous committee. From these honored homes, one is chosen as the annual **Home of the Year**—a recognition accompanied by a **$50 gift certificate**.



This year, we are proud to honor:

Shelia Neilson & Jesse Butler

Please join us in congratulating them for their exceptional pride in homeownership and contributions to the beauty of our community.

January Coffee Social Guest Spotlight



Featuring Second Harvest Food Bank of Central Florida

Residents enjoyed an uplifting and informative January Coffee Social as we welcomed **Arika Richardson** from **Second Harvest Food Bank of Central Florida**. Her presentation highlighted the organization's mission to ensure that every Central Florida resident has access to nutritious food, especially during challenging times.

About Second Harvest Food Bank

Second Harvest partners with hundreds of feeding programs across seven counties, supporting food pantries, mobile distributions, and community organizations that help individuals and families facing food insecurity. While they do not distribute food directly from their main facility, their extensive network ensures that assistance is available close to home.

Highlights From Arika's Presentation

- **Food Finder Tool:** Feedhopenow.org Enter your ZIP code online to locate nearby food pantries and distribution sites.
- **Call Ahead: 407-295-1066** Hours and availability vary, so contacting a site before visiting is recommended.
- **Flexible Access:** Some locations offer walk□up service, while others may require appointments.
- **Mobile Distributions:** These events provide fresh produce and pantry staples with simple on site registration.
- **No Eligibility Requirements:** Anyone in need can receive food assistance; benefits such as SNAP are not required.
- **Help for Neighbors:** A friend or family member may pick up food on someone's behalf with a signed note.

Arika emphasized that support is available with dignity and compassion, and no one should feel alone when facing hunger.

Additional Community Resources

For urgent needs outside pantry hours, dialing 2-1-1 connects callers with United Way's 24/7 helpline for food, housing, healthcare, and more.

January Coffee Social Raffle Ticket Winners



Robert & Deanda Scaggs
Divas of Soul Concert Ticket Winners



Rick Moore
"Rise & Shine" Extra Large

Coming Up Next Month
February Coffee Social Guest Speaker

Paws Therapy Dogs Inc February 12th at 9:30 AM

Join us for a heartwarming visit from Paws Therapy Dogs Inc. Their certified therapy dogs and handlers will share how animal assisted therapy brings comfort, joy, and emotional support to people of all ages. It's sure to be a morning filled with smiles and wagging tails.

Food and a raffle will be provided.

This is a start to a new year, as the new board takes over, we are hoping to serve the community to the best of our ability. Our goal is to have better communication with the community and with ELS. We will try our best to keep you informed on issues that we are working on.

Please join the FMO (Federation of Manufactured Homeowners of Florida), they are our only link to legislation, membership is dwindling and our voice is getting weaker. It doesn't seem like much, but every membership counts.

THE FMO NEEDS YOU NOW!
The FMO is an organization dedicated to advocating for the rights of mobile homeowners at the state level.

A Prime Example: The FMO has successfully advocated in the state legislature to ensure that PERMANENT MOBILE HOMEOWNERS are exempt from paying Sales Tax on their monthly lot rent. This highlights the crucial role the FMO plays In protecting our interests.

For example: If a 7% sales tax is imposed on lot rent for mobile homeowners and your rent is $850.00 each month, which totals $10,200.00 annually. With a sales tax of 7%, you would pay around $59.50 monthly or $714.00 yearly (nearly equivalent to one month's rent!).

For just $40.00 per household each year, you can become a member of the FMO, ensuring that your concerns are voiced at the state level.

Think about joining the FMO before the opportunity slips away!

Sincerely,
Steven Hahn, HOA President

MFLHOA.COM



Make the website (mflhoa.com) part of your daily habit!
The website is designed to have the most current info on what's going on inside Mid Florida Lakes. You'll always find the latest version of New Horizons in there and changes to New Horizons that can't be updated in the printed version are updated in real time on the website. You'll also find lots of need-to-know information available to you 24/7 with just a couple of clicks on your pc, tablet or phone. The HOA is working to make sure that the website is your online information resource!

If you haven't checked it out for yourself yet you really should!

HOMEOWNER'S ASSOCIATION

HOA Bulletin Board Rules -

***MFL Homeowners Only,**
***4 inch x 5 inch limit,**
***Must be dated,**
***No soliciting.**

Notices that do not meet this criteria will be removed. (The board by the coffee station in the small hall)

2026 H.O.A. Board Of Directors

President: Steve Hahn, sjhahn4545@gmail.com
V. President: Vince Freeman, vfre126945@gmail.com
Treasurer: Peter Carter, MFLTreasurer@Proton.me
Secretary: Betty Hebert, BLhebert1@comcast.net

Directors:
Phillip James – pgncjames5@aol.com
Steve Helmer – helmer6@sbcglobal.net
Elise Freeman – dha112rma@gmail.com
Mark Schelling –mtschelling@yahoo.com

The H.O.A. Office

We are open on: Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursdays ~ 10AM-Noon



Volunteering is a term used to describe someone, who offers to do something that you do not have to do, often without having been asked to do it and/or without expecting payment. But maybe you're not sure of how you can volunteer. At Mid Florida Lakes there are plenty of options. Contact committee members: Elise (717-599-6412) or Sheila (812-664-6064) who will surely be able to list some specific positions you could address.



There are always ways to help:

∗Volunteers cultivate unity within the HOA.
∗Volunteers make life easier for the HOA board members and community events.
∗Simply put, volunteers make the community a better place to live.

<u>To help you brainstorm, here are a few quick suggestions for HOA volunteerism</u>:

1. Serve on an HOA committee! Your board members will surely have some ideas for how you can do this.
2. Ask your HOA board members about any big projects that are underway—projects where an extra set of hands might come in handy.
3. Sell tickets for HOA events.
4. Volunteer as prep workers and/or servers for events.
5. Cleaning up after events is always welcome.
6. Consider running for a position on the HOA board! That's the best, most effective way you can make yourself an asset to the community.



There are always ways in which you can help out. The first step is just making the decision to get involved. In fact, volunteering is an important and interesting way to meet people who you might not normally connect with: people from different age groups, ethnicities or social groups. Because volunteering is open to everyone, it allows you to meet a wide variety of people from all sorts of walks of life, something that can only broaden your life experience further.



The MFL HOA food program is offering food prior to Bingo and Lunch by the Pool.

This month schedule will be as follows: Dinner before Bingo: 2/11 & 2/25 @ 4PM
Lunch by the Pool: 2/5 & 2/19 @ 11AM

If there is a 5th Wednesday of the month, the HOA will take offers form MFL Clubs to provide food services.
Please contact the HOA for more details.

MFL Name Tag

A great way to meet new folks without the awkward "What was your name again?" The name tag has a magnetic attachment so your clothes will not be spoiled by pin holes. They are $7.00 each (our cost). Please fill in the attached coupon (print please) and mail it to The HOA Office, 188 Forest Drive, Leesburg, FL 34788 or drop off the coupon with your check in the HOA office.

MFL Name Tag Order Coupon
$7.00 each name tag

Name:_____

Address:_____

Phone number:_____

Send to MFL HOA
188 Forest Drive, Leesburg, FL 34788
Or
Drop off at the HOA Office

Save the Date



SUNDAY	•1:00PM: Wizard •5:30PM: Dominos
MONDAY	•5:00PM: Double Pinochle •5:00PM: Backgammon •5:30PM: "313" •6:00PM: Euchre
TUESDAY	•12:00PM: Double Pinochle •5:30PM: Dominos •5:30PM: Pitch
WENESDAY	•1:00PM: Wizard •5:30PM: "313"
THURSDAY	•1:00PM: "313" •5:30PM: Dominos •6:00PM: "313" •6:30PM: Cribbage
FRIDAY	•12:00PM: Single/Double Pinochle
SATURDAY	•12:00PM: Double Pinochle •6:00PM Wizard

Anyone interested in Hand and Foot, please Contact: Lasie Smith at 352-901-8936



Looking for Pinochle players!
Contact Gig @352-630-2701 *See ya there!*

Is our Week at a Glance missing something? For all corrections, updates, or new event additions, please reach out to Kathie: 352-504-2760 | Kathie_lowe@equitylifestyle.com



Grab Your Tickets Before They Are Gone!

Don't miss a moment of the fun!

Whether it is a community celebration or a club activity, making sure you have a seat is easier than ever.

Three convenient ways to get your tickets:

- **Wednesday Mornings: Stop by the Small Hall between 10:00 AM and 11:00 AM.**
- **Wednesday Evenings: Catch us right before Bingo from 5PM to 6:30PM.**
- **Pancake Breakfasts: Look for our**
- **dedicated ticket table at the next monthly breakfast.**

Our most popular events tend to sell out fast! We recommend purchasing your tickets asearly as possible so you don't miss





Please join us for Our Annual mid Florida Resident appreciation dinner

TICKETS ARE REQUIRED COST IS FREE

Pick up location: Activities Department
Deadline: Tickets must be acquired by Monday, Feb 16th

FRIDAY 20 FEBRUARY

5:00PM

LARGE HALL

Menu

- Rotisserie Chicken
- Baked Potatoes
- Green Bean Almondine
- Cake for dessert

THANK YOU

for being the key to our success!



WE ♡ OUR RESIDENTS!

February

SPAGHETTI DINNER

FEBRUARY 5TH
@ 5PM $12
HOSTED BY
AMERICAN LEGION
POST 330
ALL ARE WELCOME

COFFEE SOCIAL

LARGE HALL
February 12th @ 9:30am
WITH PAWS THERAPY DOGS!





AMERICAN LEGION

CARD PARTY

FEBRUARY 16, 2026
12:30 LARGE HALL

TICKETS ARE SOLD AT TICKET SALES AND BEFORE BINGO

TICKETS $4.00 SOLD AT TICAET SALES AND

MID FLORIDA LAKES FLEA MARKET

OPEN TO THE PUBLIC
188 Forest Drive, Leesburg,FL 34788
SATURDAY, February 7, 2026
8 am to 12 pm
$10.00 per 8 foot table
Set-up Friday Feb 6, 4-7 pm and Saturday 7-8am
CONTACT- MARK SCHELLING
603-289-5567

FOOD IS AVAILABLE

Breakfast 8 am to 10:30 am- Breakfast sandwiches, Breakfast treats and coffee

Lunch 11 am to 12:30 pm-hamburgers, cheeseburgers,hot dogs. Also chips and Drinks.

Join us and show everyone what you have to sell or shop 'til you drop! There's something for everyone!

ULTIMATE ANTHEM

THE ARENA ROCK TRIBUTE



FRIDAY, FEB 13TH 2026 AT 7PM

RED HAT TRAVELERS LUNCHEON

AT MELLOW MUSHROOM
18221 US HIGHWAY 441

FEBRUARY 23, 2026
12 PM
CALL OR TEXT
CAROL TUCCI
856-981-4927

FEBRUARY EVENTS

BAKE SALES

THURSDAYS, FEBRUARY 5TH & 19TH
LARGE HALL
11:30AM – 1:00 PM

LUNCH BY THE POOL

FEBRUARY 5TH & 19TH
11:30AM – 2:00PM
Facilitated by the Children's Christmas Committee.

Valentine's Dinner Dance

Saturday, February 14, 2026

6 PM In the large hall

$15 a person or $25 a couple

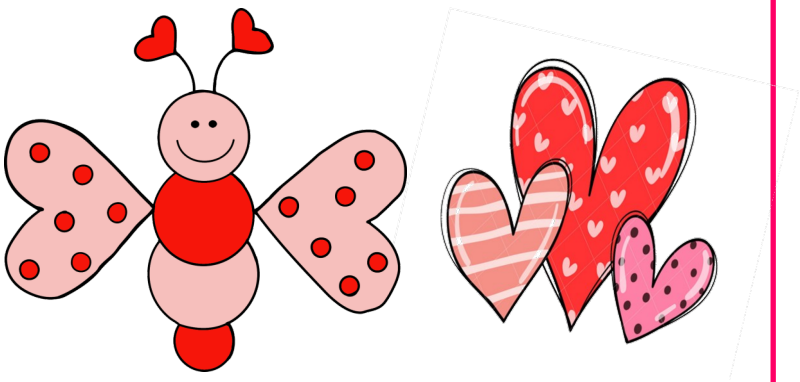
Baked Ziti, Breadstick, Salad, and Dessert. Tea and Water

DJ Bob will be providing music

Tickets sales begin on January 7th and are available every Wednesday morning in the small hall from 10-11am, Wednesday evening from 4-6pm in large hall before bingo or in activities office. Last day of ticket sales is February 4th. No late sales

All proceeds benefit HOA





MFL/Pennsylvania Residents, Friends & Family

Pennsylvania Party
Saturday, February 28, 2026
Doors open at 12:30PM
Meal served at 1:30PM

WELCOME TO THE PARTY!! BYOB

$8 Tickets will be available on:
Wednesdays in the Small Hall 10AM-11AM
and before Wednesday Night Bingo in Large Hall
Place settings, silverware, and water will be provided.

Please join us in the Large Hall for Fun, Food, and Prizes!

Volunteers Needed!!!
Please contact
Marsha at 814-404-7431
to see how you can help!

You have a friend in Pennsylvania!

Save the Date

Park Players Present



Tickets on Sale Beginning February 6
Price: $8.00 — includes drink & chips
Bonus: Door prize drawing at each show!



Show Dates & Times
March 6 & 7 — 7:00 P.M.
March 8 — 2:00 P.M.



BAKED POTATO or Sweet Potato Bar

Thursday, March 26 5pm to 6:30pm

Includes Regular or sweet Potato. Meat is pulled pork, chicken or chili. Then add sour cream, cheese, green onion, chives, broccoli, bacon, marshmellow, brown sugar, cinnamon butter, pecans, chocolate chips and more!

HOA Members $7 Non-Members $9
Drinks and deserts available for $1 each

Tickets available until Friday March 20th

Tickets go on sale Wednesday February 18 in the small hall from 10 am to 11am and in the large hall before bingo from 4pm to 6:30pm. Tickets will be sold every Wednesday at these times until March 18th. They will also be available in the activitiy office until Friday March 20th. No tickets will be sold after that date.



17th Annual
St. Patrick's Day Dinner Dance

Bagpiper from 5:00 – 6:00

All MFL Residents Are Invited – Tickets Are Limited

Saturday, March 21, 2026

Doors Open 5:00 pm / Dinner 5:30 pm / DJ 6:00 pm



Corned Beef & Cabbage
or
Breaded Chicken Tenders
and
Boiled Carrots & Potatoes
Irish Soda Bread
Holiday Cupcakes
Green Beer
Bring Your Own Beverage
(including water)



DJ, Music, Dancing and Door Prizes following dinner

$25 per person

Tickets on sale February 4 – March 18, on Wednesday's, in Small Hall 10:00 - 11:00

Sponsored by the MFL Boat Club



ONE BLOOD BUS

THU 3/5/2026
11:00 AM – 4:00 PM



NEW ENGLAND POT LUCK

MARCH 22
AT 4 PM



Pick up tickets starting on Wednesday, Feb. 11th in the Small hall from 10-11AM During ticket sales.

Ticket sales will be available until 3-18-26

For more details please Contact Linda Rosti





Mar 2nd Hosted by ELS Staff 7AM	Bagged Breakfast
Mar 6th Hosted by Robert Yost 11AM-2PM	Car Show
Mar 9th Hosted by ELS Staff 4:30PM-6:00PM	Wine & Cheese Party
Mar 11th Hosted by Theresa Watkins 11AM-1PM	Succulent Planter
Mar 12th Hosted by Elder Options 9:30AM	Coffee Social
Mar 13th Feat. Maximum Bands 7PM	Concert Fleetwood Max
Mar 16th Hosted by Katy Hanley and Carol Borst 9AM	Wellness Retreat
Mar 18th Hosted by Thia Malenchik 10AM-12PM & 1PM-3PM	Paint & Sip
Mar 20th Hosted by ELS Staff 1PM	Birthdays & Anniversaries Trivia
Mar 24th Hosted by the Clubs of MFL Ref to Sign-Up Sheets for Times	Shuffleboard, Cornhole & Billiards Tournaments
Mar 30th Hosted by ELS Staff 9:30AM-11AM	Breakfast & Mimosas
TBD	Woodshop Craft
Mar 1st—27th Turn in Your Number Sheet to Ginger	MFL's Community Egg Hunt

SIGN UP SHEETS IN FRONT OF KATHIE'S OFFICE
FEB 1ST-FEB 28TH



Want to get the word out about your club or group?
We have a promotional display cabinet available in the corner of the small Hall. This is a great, highly visible spot to showcase your activities, membership drives, and upcoming events! If your club is interested in utilizing this display space, please contact Gingerlily: 352-782-2718 to reserve your spot and coordinate setup.

American Legion Post #330

Your American Legion Post #330 has placed a container for old flags at the Clubhouse. It is located adjacent to the shuffleboard courts, beside the water machine.

Please feel free to use this container for all unserviceable flags, but do NOT put trash or plastic bags in with the flags. *Thank you for your cooperation.*



Welcome to our new President, **Leona Chandler**, and thank you to our past President, **Carol Bushong**, for stepping up to fill the Vice President position. Please attend our next Executive and General meetings to support these ladies and help our group be a success in 2026.

On **February 5**, the men of American Legion Post 330 will be holding a spaghetti dinner in the Large Hall. We have been asked to help with setting up and providing desserts. Please contact **Carol Tucci** if you have not already volunteered.

Our **Winter Card Party** will be held on **February 16 at 12:30** in the Large Hall. Tickets are **$4.00**, and no tickets will be sold at the door. Tickets will be available on Wednesdays from 10:00 to 11:00 a.m., and before Wednesday night bingo. Anyone wishing to donate items for our raffles may contact any of our members. Clubs may also consider joining us in donating. All proceeds go into our General Fund and help us support others.

Future plans include **Poppy Donations**, which we will be holding on Memorial Day weekend. We are partnering with the Post to present them over Memorial Day, and we will also be in the Hall during the Memorial Day celebration. Anyone wishing to honor a veteran who has passed may do so by informing the Post. This is a special ceremony held by the flagpole. We will be welcoming new members to the Auxiliary. Anyone with a connection to the military is welcome—parents, siblings, aunts, uncles, and even grandparents. The process is simple. There is so much you can do to help us help our veterans. **~Carol Tucci, Secretary**



With all of our new bridge officers in place now, we enter into the "month of love", with excitement of all the things to take place this month. We are also getting things ready for the Community Wide March Social to celebrate St. Patrick's Day. Please look for the flyer in this copy of the New Horizons.

Boat Club Events for February

Wednesday, February 18th - Board Meeting
Our Board Meeting is February 18th at 11:00, in the Hospitality Room, (the one with the piano), which is to the left of the small hall, first door on the right. Board Members and Executive Committee Members should attend, if possible. All other members are welcome to attend.

Saturday, February 21st - February Social
For our Social Event, our theme is "Italian Dinner"!! It will be a delicious taste of Italy. It is on Saturday, February 21st with the Social Hour at 5:00 & Dinner at 6:00. Our MENU includes the following: An Italian Appetizer Table - (Members are welcome to add to the table). Meat & Vegetable Lasagna, Caprese Salad, Garlic Toast, and Cannoli's for Dessert. There will be a Wine Bottle at each table. Bring Your Own Beverage, including water. The cost is $15.00 per person. Ticket Cutoff date is Ticket Wednesday, February 18th. (Earlier in the day, the 21st, at 11:00, we will meet to prepare the Large Hall. Help from all members is desired, and appreciated.)

Monday, February 23rd - General Meeting
Our General Meeting is on February 23rd at 6:30 in the Large Hall. Come and spend time with your fellow club members, eat donuts, and learn about things going on the club. The meetings are packed with information.

Thursday, February 26th - Boat-A-Cade
For our February Boat-A-Cade we will be enjoying a nice ride on Lake Eustis. The date is Thursday, February 26th. We will be going to Hurricane Dockside Grill. If you are coming by car, the address is 3351 W. Burleigh Blvd in Tavares. It is Captained by Dani Bennett (352) 360-3923 & Karen McDaniel (860) 861-7045. If you have questions, reach out to them. We are meeting in Lake Melody, the Clubhouse Lake. Arrive at 1:00 - Depart at 1:15 - Lunch at 2:00. There will be a Captain's meeting before departing.

Tickets are $1.00 per person. The Cutoff date is February 18th. If you have questions, reach out to Debbie Todd, MFL's Boat Club's

If you like delicious homemade desserts, and who does not, please come to the Large Hall on FRIDAY FEBRUARY 13th from 10-2. We are having our annual SPECIAL VALENTINES DAY BAKE SALE.

We will have pies, cakes, cupcakes and a variety of homemade desserts all packaged beautifully so you can give them to your special someone or just treat yourself with something delicious. We sold out last year so we will have some of the same things and also some new and different desserts.

Also on the days when there is Lunch by the Pool, we will have our usual bake sale where most items are $1.

We have a few other events planned, so keep checking the Horizon and the sign out front for future events.

As always, we appreciate your continued support.
Thank you
The Children's Christmas Committee

MID FLORIDA LAKES CHURCH

February is the second month of the year, and different from all other months. Less than 30 days, and every four years an extra day is added making it 29 days instead of 28, which we call Leap Year. In 2026 there are just the traditional 28 days. At your Mid Florida Lakes Church, February 2026 is special for several reasons.



To begin, at Mid Florida Lakes Church we are continuing to devote ourselves to **40 DAYS OF PRAYER**. Throughout the 40 Days of Prayer series, you will learn how to cultivate a powerful prayer life and experience breakthroughs in your relationship challenges, financial difficulties, bad habits, health crisis, and many other areas of your life. The forty days begins Sunday, January 25th. It is not too late to join in on this life-changing series! Make plans to join us THIS SUNDAY! (If you miss a week, you can always catch up by going to our Facebook page!)

February 22 Movie Night! Our movie is "The Shack." The movie is based on the bestselling book written by William P. Young. It stars Sam Worthington, Octavia Spencer, and Tim McGraw. The plot is about Mack Phillips (Sam Worthington), a loving husband and father of three children. One weekend in the summer he goes on vacation with his family, only to not pay attention during a certain moment to have his youngest daughter Missy (Amélie Eve) kidnapped. Sadly, when she is found in the shack, the worst of his nightmares come true. Sometime later, he receives a mysterious letter inviting him back to the shack. Wanting to take matters into his own hands, he sets off. When he arrives, he realizes he's come to meet God and thus begins his journey of self-enlightenment. Tickets for food will be available in the small hall starting Wed, Jan 28. Cost is $3.00 for a hotdog, chips, and a drink! Where else are you gonna get a better deal! As in previous years there is no charge to attend and freshly made popcorn is provided. (Cut off for food tickets is Wed. Feb 18th).

Future events: Our annual ***Christ in the Seder Passover service*** will be held Palm Sunday, March 29th. For those unfamiliar with this service, it is it a two-hour celebration of Passover with a "play by play" description of the events of the Last Supper, including the meaning of the four cups, and why there are certain foods served. For more than four thousand years, the Jewish people have celebrated Passover as an annual event. Over the course of that time, the special Seder celebrating the first Passover itself has changed extraordinarily little, *but many people do not realize Passover is not only for Jews, it is for Christians as well.* This year Easter comes early, April 5th the first Sunday of the month,. We will have 2 services in the small hall, sunrise, and our normal service at 10.

Come check us out. Sundays begin at 9:30am in the large hall with a fellowship breakfast followed by service at 10. Our services have been and will continue to be broadcast on our Facebook page. The beauty of the Facebook broadcasts is all the lessons are available, so people can go back and catch up on any week that they might have missed. If you can't visit in person, look us up on Facebook, we broadcast there weekly (Mid Florida Lakes Church).

May God continue to bless you and give you peace. Amen



LADIES GOLF

I have been told that there are ladies here in Mid Florida Lakes who are interested in golfing. We do have a small group of women who golf every Monday Morning at 7:45 at Pennbrook Fairways. We are part of the Men's Golf Club here at MFL but we only golf with the Ladies and golf 9 holes. We have a great time together, no one is upset how we play but we always cheer for each other and offer encouragement to all the other ladies. You don't have to be a good golfer, but if you are, the rest of the golfers who are trying to learn, including myself, are always open for suggestions. After we have some laughs and hopefully golf fairly good we go to breakfast . We carpool to the course so you don't have to drive every week or go by yourself. Our winter rate if 23.01. (We are not sure of why there is the .01 but that is the fee set by the course.)

If you are interested in joining us, and we would love to have you, please call myself Jean Bales at 614-569-1011 or if you know any of the other ladies Linda Ailing, Nancy Culver, Lisa Mitchell, LuAnn Davis just let them know you are interested and we will make it happen.

Hope to hear from you and see you on the course.

LGBTQ & Friends

Come Join us on the 2nd Thursday of every month for our LGBTQ and Friends at the Clubhouse in the meeting room at 7pm. You may bring a snack to share (not required) For more information please Email Robyn at robynreeder@hotmail.com Everyone welcome.

MFL LIBRARY NEWS

Looking for fast paced family sagas with resilient and relatable characters? February's featured author is Danielle Steel. She writes heartwarming stories with happy endings. Spend some time with her emotional novels often set in lavish or famous circles. The library has lots of her books to choose from as well as her most current books!

Join us in the library on **MONDAY**, February 9th between 9am-11am for a Valentine craft and treats! All are welcome to try Valentine diamond art.

Don't forget that the library has a **Grandparent Bag** to sign out when the young grandchildren come to visit during spring break. It is filled with books, puzzles, movies and coloring materials for children under 7. Stop by during library hours to see what is in the bag!

*****Library Hours*****
Tuesdays, Wednesdays, Thursdays from 10am to 12pm.
Wednesday Evenings 2/11 and 2/25 from 5pm to 6:30pm
Sundays from 4pm-5:30pm

LOOMERS
WEAVE. CREATE. CONNECT.

Third Annual
Golf Cart Poker Run
(To benefit MFL Loomers Club)



WHEN: Saturday, March 21 (staging @10:30 am)
WHAT: A fun scavenger hunt/poker run within the park
COST: $5:00 per person—optional purchase of up to 2 extra cards @1$ each
PRIZES: ***Cash*** *prizes for top 3 poker hands [1st place: $100, 2nd: $50, and 3rd: $25], Chinese Auction, and 50/50 raffle*



TICKETS: Available on Wednesdays from 10-11 and before BINGO QUESTIONS? Ask a Loomer!
(We meet on Thursdays @ 6!) **Pulled pork lunch, soda, and baked goods will be available for purchase after the run while you wait for contest results!**

NO POKER EXPERIENCE NEEDED TO PLAY THIS GAME OF CHANCE!

MFL Computer Club

Dive into the world of technology with the MFL Computer Club where your computer & phone become your greatest assets.

Join us on the *2nd Tuesday of this month at 2 pm* in the meeting room for hands-on tips & tricks. Become a member for just $10 a year and gain access to our fully equipped computer lab as well as training sessions.

Got questions? Call Pam Szymanski @ 419-260-8328 or paszymanski21@gmail.com
Let's make technology work for you!



Wednesdays 9:30AM-12PM
$3 Cost for Instruction, Per Class
No Experience Necessary



Supplies are provided for your initial painting.

You are encouraged to purchase your own supplies.

Supply List Available Upon Request. *Beginners Welcome!*

Thia Malenchik attended "The American Academy of Art" in Chicago. From her studio she taught all oil, painting, drawing, and pastels. She has sold her paintings throughout the country and taken numerous awards.

Contact @847-971-0097 if you are interested!



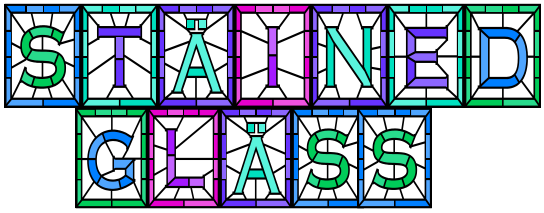
Sew Bee It

Meets every Monday@1:00pm in the Meeting Room, when there is an HOA meeting they meet at 12:00. For more information, call Carol at 352-348-5111

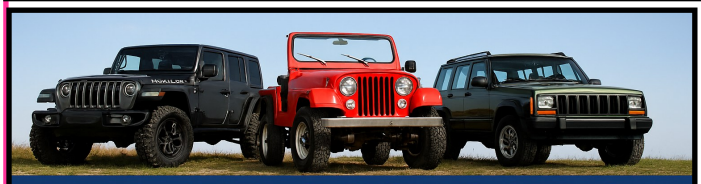


Shuffleboard Practice

Every Monday & Friday at 9:00am,
Tuesday at 5:00pm
Come learn about the game!



1:00pm Wednesdays & Fridays
In the Meeting Room



ALL JEEPS WELCOME!

MFL Jeepers, Do you own a Jeep?
Want to have fun, socialize, go on rides?
Join MFL Jeepers Club!
Contact us at **352-497-9456** or
email **robynreeder@hotmail.com.**



Tuesday + Thursday 8am
Beginner to Novice
Wednesday + Saturday 7:30am
All Others Front Courts
Two courts available for play.

Anyone interested in playing Croquet or Bumper Ball pool?



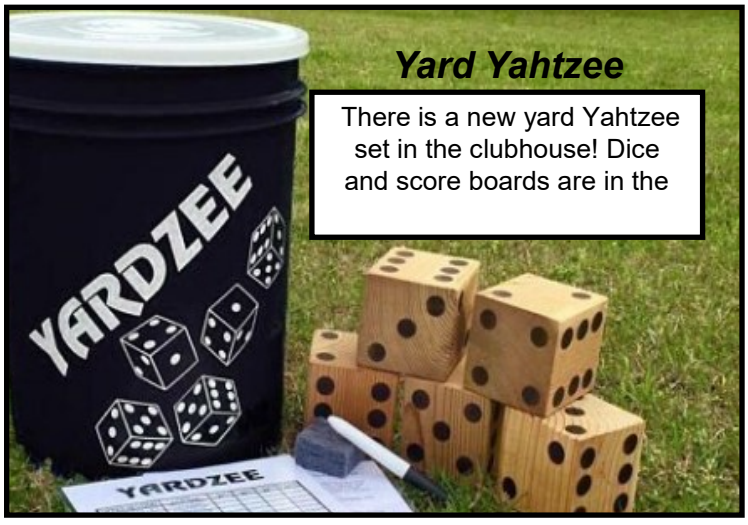


Games supplies are in the small hall by the puzzles.



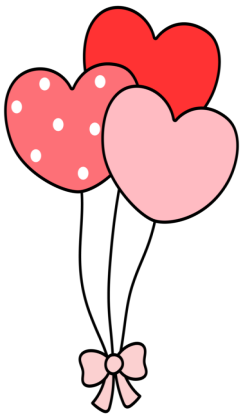
Reach out to Nancy Tynan for more infor-





Yard Yahtzee

There is a new yard Yahtzee set in the clubhouse! Dice and score boards are in the





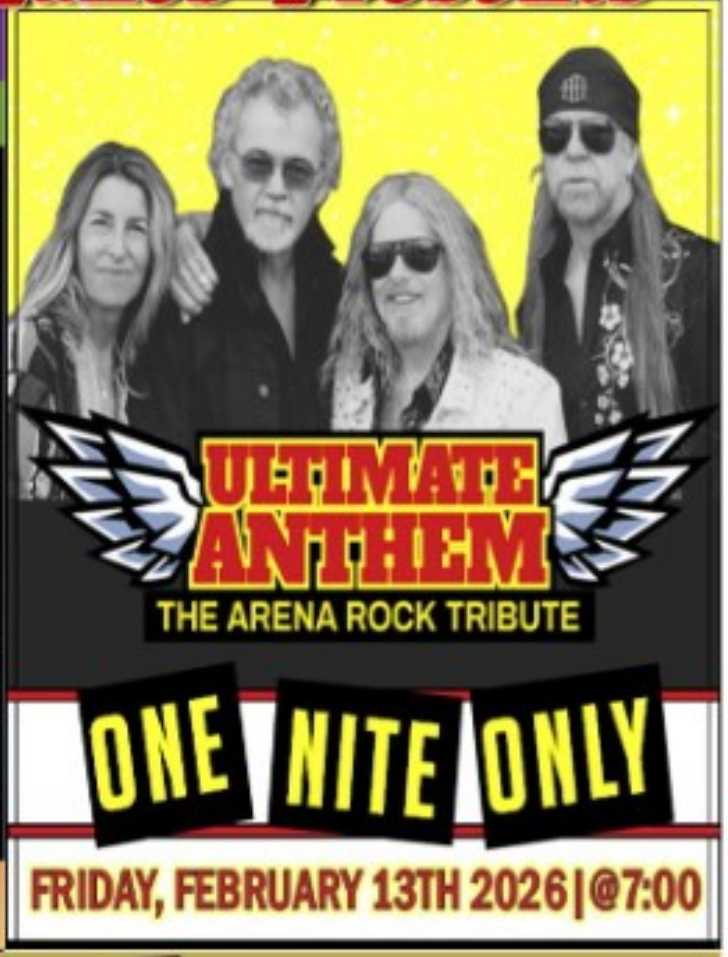
Mid Florida Lakes Presents

Concert Tickets Still Available!

Got a favorite **band, artist, or show** you'd love to see us bring in?
Send your ideas to
Gingerlily_mines@equitylifestyle.com

Monthly Dances?
Would you come to a monthly dance night?
More Community Potlucks?
Should we host them more often?
Your Ideas Needed!
What new **clubs, events, or games** should we add?
Drop your suggestions below!
Event Suggestions
Got an event idea? We want to hear it!

Bring Back a Favorite!
Tell us which past events you'd love to see return.









Thinking about selling your home?

Let the team at Mid Florida Lakes help you!

We're on site 6 days a week and offer a full service program to help you get top dollar for your home.

Why Choose Our Team:

- Our experience and knowledge of this community is unmatched in the area.
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- We do all the work! When you list with us, you'll get a reliable, honest sales expert to work with in a convenient, no pressure environment.

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Home details apply to specific homes only. Specifications, options, layout vary by model and are subject to change without notice. Must meet residency requirements. See sales office for further details.

A separate agreement must be signed for this arrangement.

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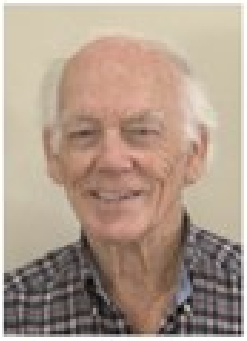
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Customer satisfaction guaranteed!

Advertise Your Business Here!

ATTENTION MFL RESIDENTS: Grow Your Business Locally!

Are you a small business owner, entrepreneur, or professional looking to expand your reach? Now's your chance to put your business in the spotlight—right here in your own community!

We are excited to announce that **MFL is officially offering ad space in the community newsletter** for residents who want to promote their services or local businesses. Whether you're a **contractor, consultant, crafter, creator, or service provider**, advertising in the newsletter is the perfect way to

connect with your neighbors and grow your customer base.

Reach the people who know you, trust you, and live right next door!



Monthly Advertising Rates

- **Business Card Size:** $45
- **1/4 Page:** $85
- **1/2 Page:** $110
- **Full Page:** $160
-

It's affordable, local, and designed to help you succeed.
Secure your spot and let your neighbors become your next customers!

Honoring our heroes, one flag at a time.

American Legion Post 330 and Auxiliary Unit 330 are proud to continue our tradition of honoring our deceased veterans through our Memorial Flag program.

At the veterans' memorial, we fly a service flag representing the veteran's specific branch of service beneath the American flag. Each memorial flag is flown for one month and receives full honors during both the raising and lowering ceremonies. Along with the flag, a dedicated placard featuring the veteran's name, important dates, branch of service, and photo is displayed.

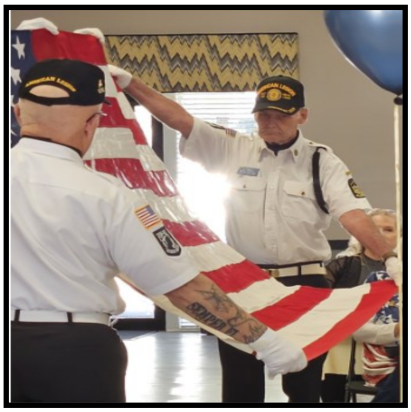
Interested in honoring a loved one?
To coordinate a memorial or for more information, please call Bob Colyer at 352-630-3990.



Celebrating the life of Dick Wandersee, a man whose service and spirit touched so many.









In Loving Memory

Our community is deeply saddened by the loss of

Richard “Dick” Wandersee,
who passed away on Dec. 30th

Millie Desser
Who passed away on Jan. 5th

Gay Conners is the Memorial Chairperson. Contact her with your Memorial Information at 352-400-0456

celebration of life



Jerry Vincent’s closest friends and family are cordially invited to attend an intimate celebration of his life on February 28th at 1PM in the meeting room.