

May 2026

Volume 19, Issue 05

The New Horizons





May Home of the Month
Steven & Yvonne Dejaegher
113 West Sterling Way



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!

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Manager's Note – May at Mid Florida Lakes

Dear Residents of Mid Florida Lakes,

As we welcome the beautiful month of **May**, I want to take a moment to share a few important updates and heartfelt acknowledgments with our community.



May is a wonderful time of year filled with warmer weather, blooming landscapes, and meaningful moments together. This month we proudly celebrate **Mother's Day on May 10**, and I would like to wish all the moms, grandmothers, and mother figures in our community a very happy and love-filled day.



I would like to extend a very special **thank you to our Shuffleboard Team** for their incredible efforts supporting **The Arc of Leesburg**. This community outreach project helped bring smiles to their residents with special needs, and it truly touches

my heart on a very personal level. I am so grateful for the time, patience, and kindness shown while teaching them the game of shuffleboard. What a beautiful example of compassion and community spirit.

With the seasonal weather changes, I'd also like to kindly remind everyone **not to feed the alligators**. During this time of year, they are especially active and feeding them can be dangerous for both residents and wildlife. Your cooperation helps keep our community safe.



**Don't feed the alligators.
One snack turns into
'Is that all you've got?'**



HELLO

May



Gate Update

Gate repairs have officially begun, and we are happy to share that the **new system will be installed within the next few weeks**.

Thank you all for your patience during this process. We will continue to keep everyone informed as progress is made.

1st Annual Community Clean-Up Day

Join us for our **1st Annual Community Clean-Up Day on May 27th from 10:00 AM–2:00 PM**. Bring your unwanted items, help keep our community clean, and enjoy hot dogs and refreshments—dumpsters will be available in the Woodshop parking lot. Bring a neighbor and make a difference together!

Please note: The following items **CANNOT** be accepted during the Community Clean-Up Day: **paint, batteries, hazardous materials, large furniture, and appliances**.

Thank you for helping keep the event safe and running smoothly.

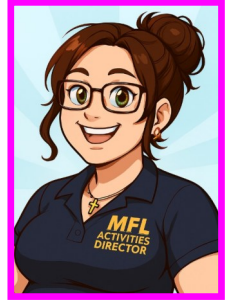
Thank you for making Mid Florida Lakes such a caring and welcoming place to call home.

As always, please feel free to reach out if you have any questions or concerns.

Warm regards,
Allie and Me'Shelle

The K. Lowe-Down

Monthly Musings from your Activities Director



As we welcome the month of May, I want to extend heartfelt **Mother's Day** wishes to all the wonderful **MFL Ladies**. Your love, strength, generosity, and care—both within families and throughout our community—are deeply appreciated. We hope your Mother's Day is filled with appreciation and joy.

Spring has officially transitioned into Florida's warmer season, and with that change, we bid a fond farewell to our **snowbirds** as they head home. While many residents migrate north for cooler weather, our year round **Florida "frogs" will be here until we croak** (borrowed from our 10:30AM coffee meet guys & girls), embracing the sunshine, heat, and everything summer brings.

I would like to personally give a heartfelt thank you to our **Shuffleboard Team** for their wonderful outreach with **The Arc of Leesburg**. From an outside perspective, it was impossible not to feel the joy in the room. Our Arc guests had the most wonderful time celebrating and "partying" alongside members of the Shuffleboard Club—and it truly felt like the feeling was mutual. The laughter, cheers, and shared moments made it clear that these connections meant something special to everyone involved. Witnessing such a love-filled awards banquet was deeply touching, and it left a lasting impression. It was a beautiful reminder of what community is all about, and I cannot wait to be even more involved in future tournaments.

As we move into May, planning is well underway for upcoming workshops, social events, classes, and entertainment. I continue to receive wonderful suggestions from residents, and I encourage you to keep them coming. **"New Season, New Ideas! Tell Me Your Thoughts!"** forms are available in the large hall outside my office and may be returned in person or emailed. Your ideas—whether for a new club, a favorite event, or something completely new—help shape a fun, inclusive, and well-rounded schedule for everyone.

New Horizons Additions & Community Highlights

We're excited to share several additions to our newsletter and community programming. This month launches **"MFL Club Spotlight,"** a rotating feature highlighting one of our amazing resident clubs. The featured club for the month will also be displayed in the cabinet located in the small hall.

We are also proud to introduce **"Why We Remember: Reflections by Rod Lewis,"** where Rod will share educational reflections on important historical dates and why they continue to matter.

In addition, we will periodically share **safety and technology guidance** provided by Equity LifeStyle Properties (ELS). Our Security Team has identified an increase in the use of artificial intelligence (AI) tools—such as online chat tools, writing assistants, and image creators. While these tools can be helpful and convenient, it's important to use them responsibly and protect personal information. From time to time, we will pass along simple tips to help residents stay informed and safe when using technology. **Also new this month is an ELS lesson through Blue Ocean Brain, titled *Adaptive Thinking: Getting Ready to React*.** This lesson focuses on preparing for inevitable and unpredictable change—both in our industries and in everyday life—so we are ready to respond rather than scramble. It highlights the importance of thinking ahead, staying flexible, and adapting confidently when change comes our way.

We're also happy to report that **Water Exercise and Aerobics classes have returned**, and we look forward to seeing familiar faces back in the pool and fitness spaces.

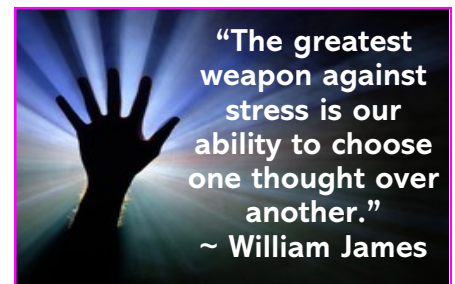
May brings many opportunities to connect, learn, serve, and reflect—including a Blood Drive, Trivia Night, All-Inclusive Ladies Day, Mental Health Awareness Month programming with a guest speaker, our **1st Annual Community Clean-Up Day**, and a Memorial Day observance honoring those who gave their lives in service to our country.

As temperatures rise, please remember to be **extra cautious around ponds and waterways**. This is **alligator breeding season**, and alligators are more active and can be aggressive during this time. Please keep a safe distance, never feed wildlife, and report any concerns to management.

Lastly, to help maintain comfort in the clubhouse, all thermostats are set to **AUTO**. You may wish to bring a light sweater or dress in breathable layers depending on personal comfort.

Thank you for your continued enthusiasm, involvement, and pride in our community. I look forward to seeing you around the clubhouse and at our many May activities.

Warmly, Kathie Lowe
Activities Director / Clubhouse Manager
Kathie_Lowe@equitylifestyle.com



Security Hints & Tips: Stay Safe When Using AI Tools

Artificial intelligence (AI) tools are becoming increasingly popular with individuals and organizations. While AI tools can be helpful, it's important to consider the security risks of sharing sensitive information and data with these tools.

Storing Your Information

AI tools collect and store large amounts of the information shared with them. Depending on the AI tool you use, your user data, conversations, feedback, and location can be collected and even reviewed by human AI trainers. These tools use this shared information to improve the content they generate. If the AI tool you use experiences a breach, your sensitive information could land in the hands of cybercriminals.

Spoofed AI Tools

Cybercriminals can also spoof legitimate AI tools or even create their own. If they trick you into using their versions of AI tools, you could be sharing information directly with cybercriminals and putting yourself at risk. With these malicious AI tools, cybercriminals can create specialized prompts and inputs designed to manipulate you into sharing sensitive information.

What Can I Do to Stay Safe?

Follow the tips below to keep your information safe when using AI tools:

- Use well-known and secure AI tools. Verify that the AI tools are legitimate and choose tools that have been developed with data security in mind.
- Limit the information that you share. Only share details that are necessary for the AI tool to function and exclude any identifying information.

Do your research. Familiarize yourself with the privacy policies of AI tools to understand the data privacy risks.

~The Equity LifeStyle Properties Security Team

Adaptive Thinking: Getting Ready to React

Leadership & Culture Insight



Are You Traveling in a Glass Submarine?

In 1899, a group of German artists began designing postcards featuring images that they believed would be commonplace in the year 2000. Among them are giant cruise ships sailing the sea on rails, individuals traveling the sky in their own blimps, and giant domes around our cities to protect us from the elements.

Looking Back to Understand What's Ahead

None of these predictions turned out to be true, of course. In some cases, the world changed more dramatically, in others less, but no one could have predicted just how different the modern world would look. The same is true for the next hundred years.

The people who will thrive throughout any changes the world brings are those most willing and able to adapt to an uncertain future by controlling two things: **impulses and ego**.

Adaptability in Action

1. Controlling Your Impulses

In 1972, Stanford University psychologist Walker Mischel conducted a famous experiment on delayed gratification by telling groups of children they could either eat the marshmallow in front of them or wait fifteen minutes and be rewarded with two marshmallows. Other studies, conducted more than twenty years later, showed that the same kids who found it easier to wait for the second marshmallow also scored higher on their SATs than the group that dived right in.

Science suggests impulse control is one of the first steps to adaptive thinking. We all have goals, but adaptive thinkers are able to hold off on achieving them until all possibilities can be considered.

2. Letting Go of Ego

None of us can predict the future on our own, but together we can often feel the winds of change before they hit. Being adaptable means being willing to listen to feedback—even when it's critical or uncomfortable.

The next time someone challenges one of your assumptions, consider embracing the change that might be necessary. Adaptive thinkers view these moments as opportunities to improve; if we're right, we remain right after testing, and if we're wrong, we gain clarity on what needs to change.

Key Takeaway

Adaptation is a willingness to change—and allowing ourselves to act on that willingness.

An adaptable person isn't caught up in their own intelligence or driven by every passing distraction, but remains open, thoughtful, and ready to respond to change.



Safety First – Golf Cart Rules: The Lake County Sheriff's Office reminds residents that golf carts must stay within community boundaries and are NOT allowed on or across Highway 44. Violations may result in a \$185 citation.



See a Sign, Follow the Rule: Let's work together to keep our streets safe by following: Speed limits, Stop signs, Pedestrian & bicycle rules. These guidelines protect drivers, walkers, bicyclists, and golf cart users.



Motorcycle Gate Exit Tip When exiting the community, please **stay on the far-right side** of the exit lane so the gate sensors detect your motorcycle properly.



Shine Bright, Stay Safe! Free **reflective safety tape** is available in the Activities Office. Use it on: Clothing, Bikes, Golf carts Enhance visibility when outdoors at night. *Provided by the MFL HOA.*



Clubhouse Rentals Available: Our clubhouse facilities are available for your next event!
Clubhouse Halls: \$50 fee + \$50 refundable deposit **Small Rooms:** \$50 refundable deposit only
 All reservations require a **signed contract**, and some exceptions may apply. To learn more or to book a space, please contact Kathie at: **352-504-2760** Kathie_lowe@equitylifestyle.com



Lift Assistance Available: Lake County Fire Rescue provides **non-emergency lift assistance**, transfer help, and guidance on medical needs.



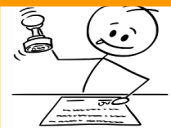
Protect Your Home: Lake County Fire Rescue will: Test detectors, Replace batteries, and install new units if yours is **10+ years old**. Schedule at **352-343-9450**.



For clubhouse or grounds emergencies outside business hours, call: 352-669-8300
 The answering service will contact on-call personnel. *For fire, police, or medical emergencies, always dial 911.*



Laundry Facility Update: The laundry room will be closed every Wednesday from 8:00–9:00 AM for deep cleaning. Please remove laundry promptly. Items left behind may be donated.



Notary Service Available - (By appointments only) Lorraine Van Hoesen: 305-872-2210 or Jeff Beardsley: 425-870-7996



St. Johns River Water Management District Watering Days

Odd or No Address-Wednesdays and/or Saturdays

Even Address-Thursdays and/or Sundays

Non-Residential-Tuesdays and/or Fridays

Key Rules Limitations: No watering between 10 a.m. and 4 p.m.

Duration: Maximum 1 hour per zone

Exceptions: New plant material/reclaimed water often have different, less stringent rules.

**Daylight Saving Time
Watering schedule
(2nd Sunday in March –
1st Sunday in Novem-**



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



Your Photos Could Be Published! Send your club events, community fun, or those gorgeous sunrise/sunset shots—plus a caption—to kathie_lowe@equitylifestyle.com and you might see your masterpiece in our monthly newsletter!

Neighborhood Safety & Essentials

7

We're dedicated to ensuring seniors and veterans receive the essential services they've earned. From daily wellness checks and in-home support to protection against financial scams, here's a quick overview of key local and statewide resources available to you and your loved ones.

For daily living support, contact the Lake County Elder Options Helpline at 1-800-262-2243 (Mon–Fri, 8AM–5PM). They provide Meals on Wheels, housekeeping help, caregiver support, and free Medicare counseling through the SHINE program. This helpline serves as the main gateway to local aging resources.

Lake County Senior Services (352-326-3540): Your main contact for general senior service inquiries and local program information.

Veteran Benefits & In-Home Care: Lake County Veterans Services (352-742-6585) helps veterans navigate Florida and federal benefits, file VA disability claims, request military records, and obtain ID cards—ensuring access to all earned entitlements.

Veterans Care Coordination (855-380-4400): Provides support with the VA Pension with Aid & Attendance benefit, helping veterans and surviving spouses with the application process and coordinating Homemaker Home Health Aide Care.

Personal Safety & Wellness–Senior Watch Program: The Senior Watch Program (352-343-2101, LCSO Non-Emergency Line) offers daily check-in calls for individuals living alone or with medical issues. If a participant does not call in, operators will attempt contact and dispatch a Deputy Sheriff if needed to ensure their safety.

Seniors vs. Crime Hotline (1-800-203-3099): A dedicated resource for seniors facing scams, fraud, or deceptive practices, helping victims reclaim their money and restore their peace of mind.

Attorney General Fraud Hotline (1-866-9-NO-SCAM / 1-866-966-7226): For reporting consumer fraud, scams, and deceptive business practices throughout Florida.

Vial Of Life: This is a small container that contains all the pertinent information (allergies are just one example of things they should know to help you) that the paramedics may need, especially if you are unable to answer their questions when they arrive. When a person is unable to communicate, all the information is readily available to the proper professionals in the vial of life. These vials are available in the HOA office, so feel free to contact any board member to get one or come by the office when the HOA is open, Tuesday, Wednesday, or Thursday 10:00 AM to 12:00 PM.

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

Service	Contact Number	Pertinent Information
Lake County Animal Service	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) 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

Regular Collection Schedule (Mid Florida Lakes):

*Garbage/Trash: Every Tuesday and Friday *Recycling: Every Monday

Missed Pick-Ups & Bulk Item Collection: If your trash is missed or you need a bulk item picked up, contact the Mid-Florida Lakes Office immediately at 352-589-8300.

When Calling, Be Ready to Provide:

- Your name
- Address
- Phone number
- Details of the missed pick-up (which day) or type of bulk item

Bulk Item Reminder:

Furniture, appliances, & other large items must be placed at the curb **no more than 48 hours before the scheduled pick-up.**

8 Community Moments and Warm Welcomes

Welcome New Residents!

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.

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 Small Hall.

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.



MFL CLUBHOUSE WIFI

LARGE HALL WI-FI NAME: MIDFLORIDALKSCH | **PASSWORD:** Password6020
SMALL HALL WI-FI NAME: MFL_CC | **PASSWORD:** heavyflower374

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

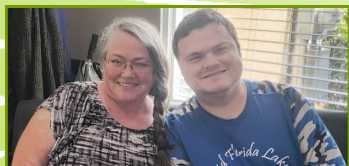
Community Moments and Warm Welcomes 9



ARC Tournament & Awards Banquet

MFL Shuffleboard had an incredible experience with **The Arc**! After two months of practice, our Arc players grew in skill and confidence, culminating in a spectacular two-day tournament.

They **proudly wore their** medals at a joyful awards ceremony filled with lunch, laughter, dancing, cheering, and so much love. It was **truly a huge success**, and we **can't wait for the Second Annual Arc Tournament**!



I ♥ SHUFFLEBOARD



10 Community Moments and Warm Welcomes

April was National Volunteer Month

Coffee Social Highlights: International Volunteer Opportunities with Mike Daley

Our **April Coffee Social** featured a special guest speaker—our very own **Mike Daley**—who inspired attendees with stories and practical insights into **international volunteer work** and disaster response.

During his presentation, Mike shared how service abroad can be a truly life-changing experience, not only for the communities served but also for the volunteers themselves. He explained that volunteering internationally offers a much deeper cultural experience than traditional travel—going far beyond what you might see on a vacation or even at EPCOT—by working side-by-side with local families and communities in ways that can make a generational difference.

Mike spoke from personal experience, having traveled to **five continents and eight countries**, serving through **medical assistance projects** and helping **build homes and schools** with five different service organizations. He also discussed how international volunteer trips can often be done with **surprisingly little personal expense**, thanks to well-organized programs, sponsorships, and volunteer-driven models.

As part of his talk, Mike highlighted several respected organizations that provide meaningful opportunities to serve both globally and domestically, including:

- **Team Rubicon** – Disaster response led by veterans and first responders <https://teamrubiconusa.org/>
- **All Hands and Hearts** – Disaster relief and resilience programs worldwide <https://allhandsandhearts.org/>
- **Habitat for Humanity – Global Village** – International travel and build experiences <https://www.habitat.org/volunteer/travel-and-build/globalvillage>
- **The Fuller Center for Housing** – Global Builders program focused on affordable housing <https://fullercenter.org/global-builders/>
- **JJOY Foundation** – Community-centered service and outreach initiatives <https://jjoyfoundation.org/>

The April Coffee Social was an engaging and eye-opening conversation that encouraged attendees to think differently about travel, service, and the impact one person can make. Thank you Mike Daley for sharing your experiences, resources, and passion for helping others around the world.



May's Coffee Social Guest Speaker is Charlotte Osborne, LMHC

In recognition of **May as Mental Health Awareness Month**, we are pleased to welcome **Charlotte Osborne, Licensed Mental Health Counselor (LMHC)**, as a guest speaker at our May Coffee Social. Charlotte will be joining us to share professional insight on mental health wellbeing and the importance of accessible, compassionate support at every stage of life.

Mental health plays a vital role in overall health, independence, and quality of life—especially as we age. National data show that millions of adults experience mental health challenges each year, yet many never seek support. Barriers such as transportation limitations, scheduling conflicts, cost concerns, and lingering stigma often prevent individuals from accessing care.

During her visit, Charlotte will discuss how mental health care has evolved to become more **person-centered, flexible, and respectful** of individual needs. Today's approaches emphasize dignity, privacy, and emotional safety, allowing individuals to engage in care in ways that fit their comfort level and lifestyle.

As a Licensed Mental Health Counselor, Charlotte brings experience working with adults, couples, and families to support emotional balance, stress management, coping with life transitions, and maintaining overall wellbeing. She will also highlight the value of early support, social connection, and recognizing when additional help may be beneficial.

As we observe Mental Health Awareness Month, this conversation offers an opportunity to learn more about emotional wellbeing, reduce stigma, and explore how professional mental health support can contribute to a healthier, more fulfilling life. Residents are invited to join us at the May Coffee Social on **Thursday, May 14th at 9:30 in the Large Hall** for this informative and encouraging discussion.

MENTAL HEALTH MATTERS



Community Moments and Warm Welcomes 11



We want to thank all of the volunteers and people who attended the New England gathering. You all made it so successful that we will have it again next year. See you then!
~Linda Rosti

I WOULD LIKE TO SAY A VERY BIG "THANK YOU" TO ALL THE RESIDENTS IN THE PARK THAT SENT ME PRAYERS, CARDS AND FOOD WHILE I WAS RECOVERING FROM MY HEART SURGERY. I TRULY FEEL LIKE I AM APPRECIATED AND LOVED. THANKS TO ALL OF YOU.

SINCERELY,

Betty Hebert
Betty Hebert



The Children's Christmas Committee wants to thank everyone who supported our "Food before Bingo" as well as those who bought raffle tickets for the Basket raffle. The basket winners were Dick and Ginger Kester! A special thank you to all those who helped us By cooking, serving, collecting the money and everyone who helped us in any way, we could not have done it without your help. We hope all who purchased the meal, enjoyed it. We are going to continue our Thursday Bake Sales twice a month during the summer so the delicious desserts will be available on those Thursdays. Again, thanks to everyone who support The Children's Christmas Committee, we really appreciate your continued support.

pancake



breakfast

MFL HOA Pancake Breakfast

Our monthly pancake breakfast runs on great volunteers! In March, the **Silver Threads Club** helped set up Friday night after a special show, returned Saturday at **7:00 AM**, served **113 meals**, and stayed to clean up. In April, the **Woodshop Club** followed the same routine with extra help, serving **121 meals** and wrapping up by **10:30 AM**. **HOA members eat free; Non-HOA members are \$4. MFL Clubs rotate monthly**—now that you know the routine, **come lend a hand!** Thank you for supporting this community favorite

In Loving Memory

Our community is deeply saddened by the loss of
Joe Wentworth on April 5th
Gloria Hatman-Todd on April 8th

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

As a result of feedback during April's general meeting, the board feels the need to reiterate what we as the board can and can't do when working with ELS. The main item we can do is negotiate rent increases with ELS. We can also help with concerns that you have with the happenings in the community. We can only help if you (the resident) follow a few guidelines. First a concern report must be filed with ELS at the front office, the report must be stamped with the date, and two (2) copies of the report must be made. One (1) for the HOA (a date stamped copy), and one (1) for your records. The HOA needs a date stamped copy to show that it has been turned into ELS.

The report must be as detailed as possible containing specific information (license plate number or description, for example) about the incident or concern. Pictures are the best, if possible, date and time of the pictures would help to elevate any doubts about when the pictures were taken. Please write legibly or print so the board knows the exact concern.

When no action has been taken or the residents are not satisfied with the result of the concern, there is the next step and that is in the Nelson Act. Sending the concern to Tampa and on up the hierarchy of the company. There is more detailed information on the website about the Nelson Act.

We as the board of directors have no power to force ELS to act, all we can do on your behalf after these steps are followed, bring up the concerns and make sure they are aware of the concerns. We are your sounding board to ELS about your concerns.

Thank you for your understanding
Mid Florida Lakes HOA

The H.O.A. Office

We are open on:
Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursdays 10AM-Noon
352-589-8305

The MFL HOA food program is offering food prior to Bingo. Lunch by the Pool is suspended until Fall.

This month schedule will be as follows:
Dinner before Bingo: 5/13 & 5/27 @ 4PM

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

Mid Florida Lakes Board Members

Steve Hahn- President sjhahn4545@gmail.com
Vince Freeman-
Vice President vfre126945@gmail.com
Peter Carter- Treasurer mfltreasurer@proton.me
Betty Hebert- Secretary blhebert1@comcast.net

Phillip James pgncjames5@aol.com
Steve Helmer helmer6@sbcglobal.net
Elise Freeman dha112rma@gmail.com
Mark Schelling mtschelling@yahoo.com
Tom Strittmatter tstritts@aol.com

HOA notary: Jeff Beardsley 425 870 7996



Like us on
Facebook.com/MidFloridaLakes

Visit MFLHOA.com—Your Go-To Community Resource!

Make the Mid Florida Lakes HOA website, **MFLHOA.com**, part of your daily routine. The site features the most up-to-date information on community events, clubs, calendars, and emergency info for residents and pets. You'll always find the latest edition of *New Horizons*, along with real-time updates that may not appear in the printed version. Accessible 24/7 from your computer, tablet, or phone, the website is designed to keep you informed and connected.



Volunteering at Mid Florida Lakes is a simple and rewarding way to support the community. Residents can get involved in many ways—from serving on committees and helping with events to assisting with projects or even running for the HOA board. Volunteers strengthen community unity, support the HOA, and make events and daily operations run more smoothly. Beyond improving the neighborhood, volunteering also offers a great opportunity to meet new people and build meaningful connections. For more information or to learn how you can get involved, please contact committee members **Elise at 717-599-6412** or **Sheila at 812-664-6064**.

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)

DICE, CARDS & BOARD GAMES WEEK at a GLANCE

SUNDAY

- 1:00PM: Wizard
- 5:30PM: Dominos
- 5:00PM: "313"

MONDAY

- 5:00PM: Double Pinochle
- 5:00PM: Backgammon
- 5:00PM: "313"
- 6:00PM: Euchre

TUESDAY

- 12:00PM: Double Pinochle
- 5:30PM: Dominos
- 5:30PM: Pitch

WEDNESDAY

- 1:00PM: Wizard
- 5:00PM: "313"

THURSDAY

- 1:00PM: "313"
- 5:00PM & 5:30PM: Dominos
- 6:00PM: "313"
- 6:30PM: Cribbage

FRIDAY

- 12:00PM: Single/Double Pinochle
- 5:00PM: "313"

SATURDAY

- 12:00PM: Double Pinochle
- 6:00PM Wizard

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

Swing by the small hall and join in a game!



Shuffleboard Practice

Monday & Friday at 9am
Tuesday at 5:00pm

Come learn about the game!



Sew Bee It

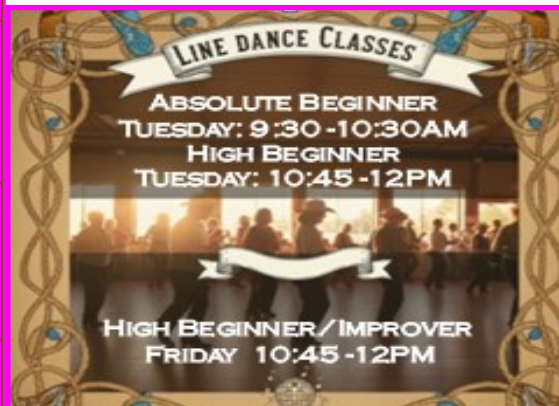
Meets every Monday
1:00pm in the Meeting Room, when there is an HOA meeting they meet at 12:00.

For more information, call Carol at 352-348-5111



YOGA
Monday,
Wednesday,
Friday
8AM to 9AM
in the
Large Hall

For more
info call
Carol Borst
414-412-4691



Friday &
Saturday at
7PM



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!*

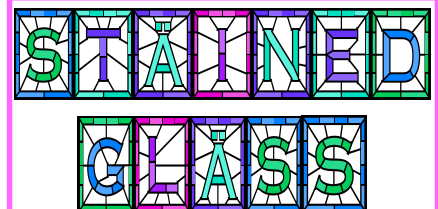
Thia Malenchik attended "The American Academy of Art" in Chicago. From her studio she taught all oil, painting, drawing, and pastels. She has sold her paintings throughout the country and taken numerous awards.



Tuesday/Thursday 8am
Beginner to Novice
Wednesday/Saturday 7:30am
All Others Front Courts

Nancy's Bus Trip

June 16: 9AM-5PM
New Smyrna Beach
Call Nancy for more info:
516-480-8467



Wed & Fri @1PM
In the Meeting Room

TOWN HALL
Come meet your candidates.
Ask questions and learn about their vision for our community.

Ronnie Murchinson-Rivera
Candidate For
US House of Representatives - District 6

Robyn Elaine Lawrence
Candidate For
Florida House of Representatives - District 26

Dan Williams
Candidate For
US House of Representatives - District 11

**Saturday
May 2
2026**

**Mid Florida Lakes
188 Forest Dr.
Leesburg, FL 34788**

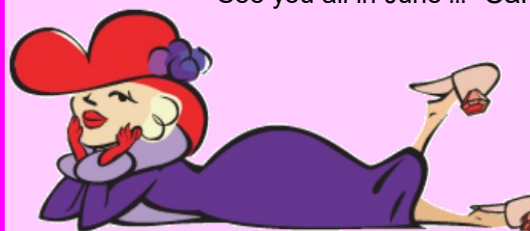
**2PM
TO
4PM**

Ron4Congress.com
Paid For By Ronnie Murchinson For Office

Vote4RobynLawrence.com
Paid For By Friends To Elect Robyn Elaine Lawrence

DanWilliamsForCongress.com
Paid For By Dan Williams For Congress

There will be no Red Hat Luncheon in May.
See you all in June ... Carol



WE MAY NOT
HAVE IT ALL
TOGETHER...
BUT TOGETHER
WE HAVE IT ALL!



Coffee Social

Join us for coffee
and pastries on
Thursday, May 14th
at 9:30 a.m. in
the large hall



You're the reason
To celebrate!
Join us for our
monthly MFL
celebration of YOU
On Friday, May 29th at
1:00 p.m. in the LH.

Yummy!

PANCAKE BREAKFAST
— MFL HOA —

**Saturday
May 9th @ 8AM
Large Hall**

7 15 FOOD BEFORE BINGO!
Presented by the MFL Ceramics Group

MAY 13 • 4:00-6:00 PM
MID FLORIDA LAKES - LARGE HALL

Smoked Pulled Pork • All Beef Hot Dogs
Pasta Salad or Coleslaw • Chips

Drinks & Sweet Treats Available!

COME EARLY, EAT WELL & STAY FOR THE BINGO!

★ BOAT AMERICA ★
SAFE BOATING CLASS

USCG AUXILIARY – LAKE COUNTY FLOTILLA 43

★ IT'S THE LAW! ★

Did you know that anyone born on or after
January 1, 1988 must complete a Boating Safety
Education Class to **legally operate a boat**
of **10 HP or greater** in the state of Florida?

Take this Safe Boating Class, pass the required exam,
and you will receive a **temporary (90-day)** boating
safety education ID card.

YES — YOU CAN BOAT LEGALLY RIGHT AWAY!

FWC will then email you your official **State Safe
Boating Education Card**.

SAFE BOATING EDUCATION CLASS ★

MAY 16, 2026
8:00 AM – 5:00 PM (1-hour break for lunch)
Mid Florida Lakes - MHP Clubhouse
200 Forest Dr. Off County Rd. 44 Leesburg

★ TO ATTEND YOU MUST CALL: 740-403-2680 ★

★ \$25.00 per person ★ \$35.00 per couple ★ 17 & under - FREE

Everyone passing the course will receive a **Certification Document**.

Many insurance companies offer **discounts** to boaters
who complete the **BOAT AMERICA** class.

SENIOR POOL PROGRAMS



WATER AEROBICS

(WEATHER PERMITTING)

THURS & SAT
AT 8:30AM

STARTS MAY 2ND
CAROL BORST
414-412-4691

WATER EXERCISE

MON, WED, FRI
@ 9:30AM

STARTS MAY 4TH
BARBARA FAULKNER
352-431-6172



DONATE BLOOD

Mid-Florida Lakes
Thursday, May 7
10:00 AM - 2:00 PM

All donors receive*:

- \$20 eGift Card
- Sun Shade
- **Wellness Checkup** including blood pressure, pulse, temperature, iron count, and cholesterol screening.

Fact: Only 3% of those who are eligible actually donate blood.



Appointments are encouraged, please visit oneblood.org/donate-now and use sponsor code 57191

ID REQUIRED

*One offer per donor per donation. No cash value. Not transferable. Gifts may vary. For more information please visit oneblood.org/details.



oneblood
Share your power.

JOIN US FOR A DAY OF ACCESS TO
RESOURCES, SUPPORT, AND COMMUNITY!



LAKE COUNTY

Veteran Resource & Benefits Expo

WEDNESDAY, MAY 20 ★ 10 A.M. TO 3 P.M.

Eustis Community Center

601 Northshore Drive Eustis, Florida 32726

★ ★ ★ FREE SERVICES FOR VETERANS ★ ★ ★



Immunizations &
Wellness Checks



Veteran Support
Information

We're bringing together experts at this year's expo to ensure that you can receive the benefits, care, and legal assistance you have earned.

- Toxic exposure screenings
- Veterans Mobile Medical Unit (Mental health support and women's health)
- Florida Dept. of Health in Lake County (Health screenings and vaccinations)
- Clermont Vet Center
- Community Legal Services
- Claims representatives on site



For more information,
contact (352) 742-6580



SEED LIBRARY GROW YOUR OWN!

Where?
Keep Your Eyes PEELED — for the Calendar
Small Hall of the Clubhouse

Why?
To enjoy FREE refreshments, take home a few FREE giveaways,
and help us create a community driven resource!

Do you take donations?
If you have seeds to donate, please contact:
Gingerlily.Mines@equitylifestyle.com
@352-782-2718, Mon-Fri, 8am - 4:30pm

Book Club

Our meetings are usually on the **4th Tuesday of Every Month, 10AM, in the Meeting Room of the Clubhouse.** We will be providing snacks to discuss our ideas. If you're unable to make it but you're curious, we encourage you to email us or come by for a questionnaire. Thank you.

Kathie_Lowe@equitylifestyle.com
OR Gingerlily_Mines@equitylifestyle.com




SUMMER SOLSTICE PARTY

**JUNE 21ST
AT 5:30PM**

**PICNIC FOOD: HOTDOGS, MACARONI
SALAD, BAKED BEANS, WATERMELON
SWEET TEA, LEMONADE, DESSERT
GAMES AND PRIZES • MUSIC BY BUTCH • B.Y.O.B.**

SPONSORED BY PARK PLAYERS

TICKET SALES WILL START ON MAY 20TH

**\$10 TICKETS ON SALE
EVERY WEDNESDAY
FROM 10-11AM IN THE SMALL HALL**

LEESBURG TRAVELERS CARIBBEAN ESCAPE

MIAMI • ARUBA • BONAIRE • PUERTO PLATA • MIAMI



Beachcomber

FEBRUARY 19 THROUGH 27, 2027

★ BUY TICKETS ★
PURCHASE YOUR TICKETS NOW!

RATES ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE

BOOK BY AUGUST 30, 2026
EARLY BOOKING RATES INCLUDE

- * 8-NIGHT CARIBBEAN CRUISE
- * CRUISE TAXES & PORT FEES
- * \$50.00 PER CABIN CREDIT
- * BEST AVAILABLE CABIN
- * PREFERRED OPEN DINING

\$200.00 PER PERSON REFUNDABLE DEPOSIT REQUIRED. CABIN RATES BASED ON DOUBLE OCCUPANCY, AVAILABILITY & CHANGE FINAL BALANCE DUE DATE = OCTOBER 09, 2026

\$644.95

COZY INTERIOR

\$872.95

OCEAN VIEW

\$1,024.95

BREEZY BALCONY

DAY 1 - MIAMI, FLORIDA
PORT MIAMI | DEPART 4:00 PM

DAY 2 - AT SEA

DAY 3 - AT SEA

DAY 4 - ORANJESTAD, ARUBA
11:00 AM - 9:00 PM

DAY 5 - KRALENDIJK, BONAIRE
8:00 AM - 4:00 PM

DAY 6 - AT SEA

DAY 7 - PUERTO PLATA, DOMINICAN
7:00 AM - 3:00 PM REPUBLIC

DAY 8 - AT SEA

DAY 9 - MIAMI, FLORIDA
PORT MIAMI | ARRIVE 7:00 AM

ARRIVAL AND DEPARTURE TIMES ARE APPROXIMATE AND MAY VARY BY SAILING

RESERVATIONS & PAYMENTS CALL 352-504-4422

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All Inclusive
Ladies
DAY



Come Create, Celebrate, and Shine!

Monday, May 18th @12PM
Clubhouse-Large Hall

**Bring
Your
Own
Bottles
& Bites**

**Crafts
Potluck
Games
Dancing**

Tickets Available Starting April 23rd
@the Activities Office in the Clubhouse

Tickets Are REQUIRED for Entry
Tickets Will Not be Available After May 11th



Mid Florida Lakes HOA and ELS Presents



Grab your friends and join us for
a great night of fun



FRIDAY MAY 22



Doors open at 6:00 pm

Trivia starts at 7:00 pm

6 people to a table

**\$10 per person includes pizza
at each table, drinks and chips.**

Prizes for the 2 top teams

MEMORIAL DAY PROGRAM 2026

Presented by Mid Florida Lakes American Legion Post 330

In Honor Of Those Who Gave Their Lives



Guest Speakers:

LCDR Kathryn A. Wilgus USN, Afghanistan Veteran

And

Deputy Sheriff Walter W. Wolf, USMC— Vietnam Veteran

MONDAY, MAY 25, 2026 10:00 AM

AT THE MID FLORIDA LAKES

MEMORIAL FLAGPOLE

Featuring Lilly Parker on Bagpipes W/Drum Corp

USMC or MFL Post 330 Honor Guard

You Don't Want To Miss This!!!

Refreshments to follow in the Large hall.

SPRING INTO ACTION!



1ST ANNUAL COMMUNITY

CLEAN-UP DAY

MAY 27th

10:00 AM – 2:00 PM

DUMPSTERS LOCATED IN THE
WOODSHOP PARKING LOT

Bring your unwanted items and take advantage
of our on-site dumpsters.



WE CANNOT ACCEPT:

- Paint
- Batteries
- Hazardous materials
- Large furniture
- Appliances

HOT DOGS AND REFRESHMENTS
WILL BE PROVIDED!



Bring a neighbor and help make a difference in community.

MFL Club Spotlight

Mid Florida Lakes Loomers and Crafters, *Helping Others... One Hat at a Time*

Mid Florida Lakes Loomers and Crafters is a volunteer, nonprofit group dedicated to meeting the needs of residents within Lake County and the Mid-Florida Lakes community. Our members share a love for looming, knitting, crocheting, and crafting—using those skills to support local charities, agencies, and neighbors in need.

Our Mission

Our mission is to help meet the needs of Lake County residents by creating handmade items that provide comfort, warmth, and care.

Volunteers proudly make loomed hats, blankets, washcloths, soap sacks, scrubbies, and crocheted or knitted items for local residents, shelters, schools, and service organizations. All finished items are donated within the community and shared with nonprofit agencies that serve children, veterans, seniors, and individuals receiving medical or rehabilitation services.

What We Make

Using primarily 36-peg looms, our members create hats in small, medium, and large sizes. We also produce chemo hats, crochet blankets and shawls, cotton soap sacks, and washcloths. Soap sacks are made using 100% cotton yarn and are filled with donated bars of soap.

For safety, comfort, and care requirements, we use soft, new 4-ply acrylic yarn only for hats and blankets. Wool yarn is not used due to laundering limitations. Yarn donations must be clean, animal-free, smoke-free, and stored in a controlled environment.

Who We Serve

Our handcrafted items are donated to elementary schools, homeless shelters, nursing homes, veterans and veteran organizations, hospice programs, cancer centers and medical offices, daycare centers, and PAWS therapy partners supporting individuals with service dogs.

In 2024, the group donated over 2,200 hats to area elementary schools. In 2025, more than 750 hats were distributed, along with soap sacks to women's shelters and veteran homes. Members also create "squares of kindness" to spread encouragement throughout the community. Blankets and shawls are delivered to residents receiving rehabilitation, home care, or health services within the park and surrounding areas.

Get Involved

New members are always welcome. We meet Thursday evenings from 6:00–7:30 PM in the clubhouse small meeting room. No experience is required—we are happy to teach loom techniques, provide loaner looms, and supply yarn so you can try hat-making before purchasing your own loom. There are no dues and no formal officers. We work together as a unified group and also maintain a Facebook page for members to stay connected.

Donations & Fundraising

We accept donations of new acrylic yarn and cotton yarn for soap sacks. The group holds one annual fundraiser to support yarn purchases, but supplies and color availability depend on donations and current stock.

Contact Information

Deb Collin, 138 Crossways Drive, 517-331-0344 , Joan Loonam, 106 Pine Tree Drive, 603-733-8724

Rachel Helterbrand, 112 Pine Ridge, 419-512-1060

If you have questions, need items, or would like to participate, feel free to contact us or attend one of our meetings.

Everyone is welcome—we are all friends here.



American Legion Post #330

Why We Remember: Reflections by Rod Lewis

MAY 1

Silver Star Service Banner Day Silver Star Service Banner Day is celebrated. It is a time to remember the sacrifices of our service members who have been wounded, sickened or killed in combat. The tradition of a service banner with blue star covered in threads of silver began during World War I. However, it went out of use when gold and blue star service banners were adopted by the U.S. The color silver symbolizes the gallantry of service members, and blue symbolizes hope. An organization, the Silver Star Families of America, brought back awareness of the banner itself and also lobbied states and the United States Congress to name May 1st as the day to recognize it. In 2010, Congress and President Barack Obama acknowledged this date of recognition. MAY 6 National Nurses Day National Nurses Day honors our nation's nurses, both civilian and military. We honor the men and women who put their lives on the line to care for the ill and wounded. The contributions of U.S. military nurses reaches as far back as the American Revolution when women cared for the fallen on battlefields and in camps. At the end of the 19th century, Florence Nightingale introduced strict hygiene practices while caring for wounded soldiers in the Crimean War. She helped usher in the foundations of modern-day nursing and inspired others through her commitment to patient care, example of compassion and diligent and thoughtful hospital administration.

MAY 6

Military Spouse Appreciation Day Military Spouse Appreciation Day honors our nation's military spouses. Each year, the Friday prior to Mother's Day is dedicated to U.S. military spouses across the globe. We are immensely grateful for all military spouses – their achievements, sacrifices and patriotism that help build and shape the communities we live in today.

MAY 13

Children of Fallen Patriots Day Children of Fallen Patriots Day honors the families of our fallen. This day honors the more than 20,000 children who have lost a parent in service to our country. The date of May 13 was selected because it is also the day Arlington National Cemetery was established in 1864. This is the final resting place for many war heroes and serves as a reminder of their sacrifices.

MAY 21

Armed Forces Day Armed Forces Day honors our nation's service members of all U.S. military branches — past, present and future. Established in 1949, the day was conceived by President Harry Truman with inspiration by the recent unification of our military under the Department of Defense.

MAY 21, 1881 The American Red Cross, a humanitarian aid organization, is founded The American Red Cross, a humanitarian aid organization, is founded. The American Red Cross was founded by Clara Barton and Adolphus Solomons, and by 1882, the U.S. ratified the Geneva Conventions — laws that, to this day, protect the war-wounded and civilians in conflict zones. This later resulted in a U.S. congressional charter, officially recognizing Red Cross services. Barton served as president for 23 years and today, her legacy lives on through the volunteers and their enduring spirit of help and hope to many across the world. **MAY 30, 1868** First official Decoration Day, precursor to Memorial Day, was celebrated First official Decoration Day, precursor to Memorial Day, was celebrated.

MAY 30

On May 30, 1868, Ohio Rep. James A. Garfield, a former general and future U.S. president, addressed a crowd of 5,000 gathered at Arlington National Cemetery. May 30 was a day touted by the Grand Army of the Republic, an association of Union Civil War Veterans, as an official day of remembrance for people across the country. The hope was to honor the war's dead by decorating the graves of Union soldiers. Please join us at Mid Florida Lakes at 10:00 AM for the outdoor ceremony that will feature bagpipes and drums .The celebration continues indoors with guest speakers . Not to be missed is the Mt. Dora ROTC cadets who are stirring in their presentation of "The Missing Man Table"..



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.

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.



Poppy Month – A Time of Remembrance

May is **Poppy Month** throughout the country—a time to remember all who served and who have since departed from this earth.

After World War I, a poem was written about the poppies that grew in *Flanders Fields*, where even the soil had been scorched by war. In 1920, Auxiliary women began using the poppy as a symbol of remembrance. The annual **Poppy Appeal** is the oldest of its kind.

Each year, women from the Legion Auxiliary, along with members of the Legion, distribute poppies in our community to honor these brave soldiers. Donations received help us continue supporting today's veterans. Poppies will be available at our **Community Memorial Service**. Please wear your poppy proudly in remembrance of the brave men and women who fought for our freedom.

As summer approaches and our snowbirds head north, we are reminded that our work is ongoing. Please attend our meetings and let us know how you can help—no idea is ever too small.

We meet on the **third Thursday of each month at 7:00 PM** in the **Large Hall**.

Carol Tucci, Secretary

IN FLANDERS FIELDS

In Flanders
fields the poppies
blow Between the
crosses, row on row,
That mark our place;
and in the sky
The larks, still bravely singing,
Scarce heard amid
the guns below.

We are the Dead.
Short days ago
We lived, felt
dawn, saw
sunset glow.

We are the Dead.
Short days ago
We lived, felt dawn,
saw sunset glow.
Loved and were loved,
and now we lie
In Flanders fields.

Take up our
quarrel with
the foe:
To you from
failing hands we throw
The torch; be yours
to hold it high.
If ye break faith with us who
die We shall not sleep,
though poppies grow
In Flanders fields.

JOHN MCCRAE • 1915



Bible Study Group – All Are Welcome!

Looking for a place to dig deeper into God's Word and enjoy meaningful conversation? Come learn and grow with us! We are a diverse group from many denominations and levels of biblical knowledge, gathering together to read and explore Scripture. We are currently reading the Book of Daniel.

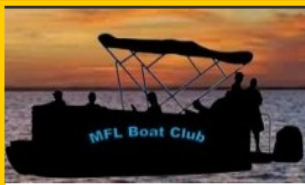
Whether you're brand new to the Bible or have been studying for years, we invite you to join us as we seek a closer, more personal relationship with our Lord and Savior through reading His Word together. We meet on Mondays from 7:00–8:00 PM.

We join together in the Hospitality Room. As our group continues to grow, we may gather in the Meeting Room instead.

Refreshments will be provided.

For questions or more information, please contact Alecia Barker at 585-519-3627.

We hope to see you there for faith, fellowship, and fun!



BOAT CLUB EVENTS FOR MAY

As some of our members head north for the summer, we prepare to wish them a safe and happy trip. We will miss them, but plan to enjoy some fun times ahead!



Board Meeting

Wednesday, May 20th at 11:00

The meeting is held 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.



BOAT-A-CADE Thurs, May 14th@12:00.

We will be enjoying another nice ride across Lake Eustis and down the Dora Canal. We will be going to Ruby Street Grille. If you are coming by car, the address is 221 E. Ruby St, Tavares.

It is Captained by Buck Todd (772) 284-1870.

If you have questions, reach out to him. We will be meeting at "Lake Melody", which is the Clubhouse Lake. Arrive at 12:00 - Depart at 12:15 - Lunch at 1:30. There will be a Captain's meeting before departure. Tickets are \$1.00 per person. The Cutoff date is May 13th.



GENERAL MEETING

Tuesday, May 26th@6:30
Please note the day change!

Due to Memorial Day, we are having the meeting a day later. The meeting is held 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.

MFL Boat Club Social



Saturday, May 16th Social Hour at 5:00 Dinner at 6:00

We will be enjoying a Taco Fiesta! This event is organized by Dani Bennett and Karen McDaniel & Helpers. The **MENU** this month is the following: It will be a fix it yourself meal, with all the fixin's.

Appetizer Table Supplied by Members. At sign up you will choose between: 3 Beef or Chicken Tacos or 1 Taco Salad or 2 Tostadas Rice and Beans Dessert Bring Your Own Beverage, including water. There will be a piñata after dinner to take a swing at! The cost is \$12.00 per person.

Cut off date to buy tickets is May 13th.

If you have questions, reach out to
Debbie Todd,
MFL's Boat Club's
Communications Director at
lildeb444@bellsouth.net



Bob Colyer—better known around here as “Beirut Bob,” and the Commander of the American Legion at MFL—decided it was time to try something new and step into the ceramics room. Like most of us, he was a little hesitant at first... but once he got started, he dove in headfirst I had a feeling a certain style would suit him perfectly, so I

pointed him in that direction and let him know—whenever he was ready, we were ready for him. And while it “takes a village,” this time the village barely had to step in headfirst.

I had a feeling a certain style would suit him perfectly, so I pointed him in that direction and let him know—whenever he was ready, we were ready for him. And while it “takes a village,” this time the village barely had to step in.

Bob didn’t just finish his piece—he conquered the dragon. Literally.

So... who’s next? Come find your Zen in the ceramics room.

Tarri O’Shea , 352-455-5532



Mid-Florida Lakes Church



In May we will be continuing with our series titled “Can You Hear Me?” This is a series of talks about learning to hear and discern God’s voice in our everyday life. The first Sunday in May is our Communion Sunday and the service will be followed by our monthly fellowship lunch.

There are three big days in May that we as a church participate in:

First is The National Day of Prayer. It is always the first Thursday in May, and this year 2026 it falls on May 7th. The National Day of Prayer exists to mobilize unified prayers for America. This year is not only the 250th anniversary of the United States it is also the 75th annual observation of the National Day of Prayer. The theme for this year is Glorify God Among the Nations, Seeking Him in all generations. We hope that you will take some time on this day to reflect and pray not only for our nation, but for the world, our community, our friends, and family members.

The second big day in May is Mothers' Day, Sunday May 10th. We will be celebrating mothers and women in general that Sunday with a special message. Make plans to join us, you won't be disappointed.

The third special day in May is Memorial Day, May 25th. This holiday is observed in part by the National Moment of Remembrance, which encourages all Americans to pause at 3 p.m. for a moment of silence. We will have a message of remembrance for those members of the armed services we have lost during our Sunday service (May 24th).

On our back table you will find several free pamphlets and books. One example is a three-month devotional book titled “Our Daily Bread.” Each page has a scripture, and a short Bible lesson. By setting aside the time to read a page a day, it allows us to have that special time to pray and commune with God.

The truth is any Sunday in May is a good day to stop in and visit us at Mid-Florida Lakes Church. Our Fellowship time begins at 9:30 and includes coffee and light snacks. The weekly services begin at 10:00 am. If you can't make it to one of our services, then visit with us on Facebook (Mid-Florida Lakes Church) where we broadcast our services live. You can also go back and watch/listen to past services if you want to “catch up” on the current series.

For those heading North, we wish you a safe journey. We will see you in the fall.

As we pass through this time in our journey of life, may God continue to bless you and give you peace.



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!



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.



Come Join us on the 5th Thur. of the month for our LGBTQ & Friends gathering 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 is welcome!

MFL Library May News

**Are you ready for your appliances to take over the world?
Do you want to time travel to another place and time?
Would you like to head into outer space?**



Any of these things can happen if you pick up a science fiction book from the library. Come try our small collection of sci-fi including some newer authors and enjoy a dip into speculative and imaginative fiction. And if science fiction is not your genre, the library has plenty of brand new and recently released books by popular authors.

Remember that the library also has puzzles that can be borrowed or taken. From 300 pieces to 1000 pieces, there are lots to choose from and no time limit!



If you missed the stickering event in the library on March 12th you missed a good time. Creating pictures using stickers is a great way to try something new, meet new people and enjoy wonderful munchies. This event will be repeated later in the year!

Library Hours

**Tuesdays, Wednesdays, Thursdays from 10am to 12pm.
Wednesday nights 5/6 and 5/13 from 5pm to 6:30pm
Sundays from 4pm-5:30pm**

WARNING
DUE DATES ARE CLOSER
THAN THEY APPEAR

To ensure timely publication of *The New Horizon*, all articles and club information must be submitted by the 20th of each month. Content received after the 20th will be included in the following month's newsletter. Please email all submissions and updates to Kathie_lowe@equitylifestyle.com. Thank you for your cooperation.

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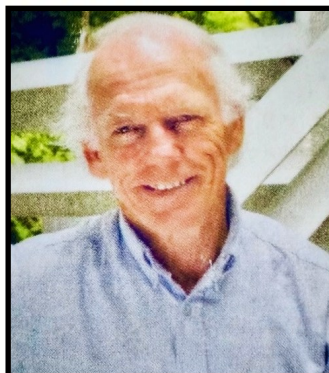
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Is our Newsletter missing something?
For all corrections, updates, or new event
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Tussock Moth Caterpillars

Other species, such as Slug Moth and Cup Moth caterpillars, may also appear throughout the region. While less common, they often have striking colors or unusual shapes and can cause varying degrees of skin irritation. Regardless of the species, the safest approach is to avoid touching any fuzzy caterpillar you encounter.

If you do come into contact with one of these caterpillars, quick action can help reduce discomfort. The first step is to remove any hairs or spines from the skin. Pressing a piece of tape—such as scotch tape or duct tape—onto the affected area and lifting it away can help pull out the irritants. Washing the skin with soap and water, applying a cold compress, and using over-the-counter anti-itch creams can ease symptoms. However, if someone experiences severe pain, swelling, or signs of an allergic reaction, medical attention should be sought promptly.

Managing these caterpillars around your home requires caution but not panic. Avoiding direct contact is the most important step, especially for children and pets who may be curious. If caterpillars are gathering on your property, they can be removed by gently sweeping them—while wearing gloves—into a bucket of soapy water. When working outdoors, particularly near oak trees where these species are most common, wearing long sleeves and gloves provides an added layer of protection.

Central Florida is experiencing a noticeable surge in fuzzy caterpillars this season, and while these creatures may appear harmless—even cute—their presence brings real risks for residents. Two species in particular, the Tussock moth caterpillar and the Puss caterpillar, are appearing in unusually high numbers on oak trees, outdoor furniture, and even vehicles. Understanding the differences between these caterpillars, the reactions they can cause, and the steps you can take to protect yourself is essential as we move through this active period.

The Tussock moth caterpillar is the one most residents are likely to encounter. These caterpillars often appear in clusters, covering tree trunks, porch railings, and siding. Their distinctive tufts of gray, white, or orange hairs give them a dramatic appearance, but those same hairs are the source of trouble. They act as urticating hairs—tiny, brittle fibers that break off easily and lodge in the skin. The result is an itchy, irritating rash that can feel similar to fiberglass exposure. While the reaction is uncomfortable, it is generally limited to the skin and does not involve venom.

The Puss caterpillar, however, presents a more serious concern. Often described as looking like a miniature toupee, this caterpillar's soft, fuzzy exterior hides venomous spines capable of delivering a painful sting. The reaction can be immediate and intense, with pain radiating up the affected limb. Some individuals may experience swelling, nausea, headache, or, in rare cases, difficulty breathing. Because of its deceptively gentle appearance, the Puss caterpillar is especially dangerous—people, particularly children, may be tempted to touch it.



Puss Caterpillars



Two yellow maple leaves are positioned on either side of the text "Goodbye May". The leaves are dry and have a warm, golden-yellow hue. The background is a dark, textured wooden surface with horizontal grain lines.

Goodbye May

The background for the text "Welcome June" is a scenic image of a sunset or sunrise. The sky is a clear, vibrant blue, transitioning into a warm orange and yellow glow near the horizon. A dark, silhouetted hill or mountain range is visible in the bottom right corner, partially obscuring the sun.

Welcome June