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ISLAND IN THE SUN

• S E N T I N E L •

March • 2026
Issue 1
50th Year

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Island in the Sun Community Newsletter

This publication, Island in the Sun Sentinel, also referred to as the Monthly Media, contains names, contact information, community articles and information, an activities calendar as well as general interest articles. IITS residents can contribute ideas, articles, and photos to the publication. Contact Cathy Ralston at 203-257-3376 from 10 am to 10 pm, Lot 184, or e-mail iitsmonthlymedia@yahoo.com

Editor: Cathy Ralston

Media Delivery Team: Nancy Bilcheck, Ernie Grow, Sudie Borders, Cheryl D'Andrea, Sue Morley, Steve Marshall, Mike and Cindy Sadusky, Phil Tursi, Cecile Morock, and Sharon Carnes

Proofreader: Rusty Leslie

March 2026 Media Deadline March 4, 2026

Please e-mail articles and photos submissions to: iitsmonthlymedia@yahoo.com

You can also drop off articles not sent via e-mail at Lot 73

Representative to the Federation of Manufacturers Home Owners (FMO):

Need Volunteer

Please submit corrections to linda.olone@gmail.com or report to an HOA Board member.

Island in the Sun HOA Board

| | | | | |
|-----------------------|------------------------|---------------|--------------------|--|
| President..... | Pattie McDonough | Lot 266 | 727-475-0360..... | mcdonoughpattie@gmail.com |
| Vice - President..... | Roger Brown | | | |
| Treasurer | Cathy Ralston..... | Lot 184 | 203-257-3376 | |
| Secretary | Ken Gonska..... | Lot 313 | 303-704-5555 | |
| 1 yr | Steve Malara | Lot 202 | 732-977-4867 | smbombers@aol.com |
| 2 yr | Lisa Hoffman..... | Lot 125 | | |
| 3yr | Vacant | | | |

Non-Board Positions

| | | | | |
|-----------------|---------------------|---------------|-------------------|--|
| Robo Call | Chrissie Riley..... | Lot 290 | 404-353-1801..... | chrissiegriley@gmail.com |
|-----------------|---------------------|---------------|-------------------|--|

Committees

| Committee..... | Name/Chair..... | Lot# | Phone#..... | Email |
|----------------------------|------------------------|------------|-------------------|--|
| Activities Committee | Chrissie Riley..... | 290 | 404-353-1801 | |
| Bingo..... | Linda Olone | 73 | 727-214-7334 | |
| Bingo Callers | Linda Olone | 73 | 727-214-7334 | |
| | Ron Castor | | | |
| | Betsey Springman | | | |
| Dominoes | Jan Wisdom | | | |
| Ladies Lunch..... | Cindy Sadusky | 14 | 717-587-2498 | |
| Library | Cindy Sadusky | 14 | 717-587-2498 | |
| co chair | Nancy Bilcheck..... | 184 | 203-913-9450 | |
| Media Delivery | Nancy Bilcheck..... | 184 | 203-913-9450 | |
| Membership | Pattie McDonough | 266 | 727-475-0360 | |
| Phone Book..... | Tammy Blaisse..... | 297 | 580-301-4828 | |
| Pickleball..... | Paul Ranck | 134 | | |
| Shuffleboard | Elaine Ranck | 134 | | |
| Rummikub..... | Rose Leduc..... | 160 | 727-797-8026 | |
| Sign Board | Chrissie Riley..... | 290 | 404-353-1801 | |
| Texas Hold'Em | Rick Morabito | 174 | 303-704-9772 | |
| co chair..... | Rose Leduc | 160 | 727-797-8026 | |
| Welcoming | Rusty Leslie | 310 | 865-232-9072..... | kohanadancer@gmail.com |
| Yoga | Kathy Bowen | | | |

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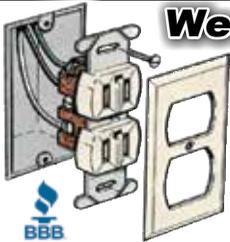
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FROM THE EDITOR

-Cathy Ralston



If you have an announcement or story you would like to share, please let me know. If you are new to IITS (or re-new) we would like to hear your story – where did you come from and why IITS!

From the HOA president



As my time as your HOA president comes to a close, It has been eye opening for me and it has had its challenges. I'm not perfect and have tried my best for the community. I would like to thank all of you who have supported the HOA and have volunteered their time to help with any events.

I hope that you will continue to support your HOA board (your fellow residents) in the future.

Thank you again
Pattie McDonough

HOA BOARD



MARCH 10TH at 7 pm is the next HOA meeting. Please make every effort to attend and meet your new board.

Island in the Sun PHONE BOOK



Deadline for updates to the community phone book has passed. No further changes, additions, or deletions can be accommodated. The book has been submitted to the printer. The printer has not provided a completion date so please be patient. When available the Phone Book will be delivered to homes along with the Monthly Media publication.



**A Complete Listing of Resident Services
can be found on the page before your calendar**

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FROM THE ACTIVITIES COMMITTEE:



Four ways to find out all about our events: Make sure you sign up for the robocalls as well, as event information is being sent via robocall, too. Contact Chrissie Riley at chrissieriley@gmail.com with your lot #, telephone number and name to join the list. These numbers are shared with no one.

Check out the Marquee at the park entrance by the clubhouse for upcoming events. HOA Events and announcements are located on the front and Resident Sponsored Activities are located on the back, if you would like your activity listed on the back please let Pattie McDonough know.

The calendar is kept current in the glass case at the Clubhouse.

Please join any or all of these IITS Facebook Groups, we post activities on these pages only.

- a. Island in the Sun Social Group
- b. IITS uncensored, sort of
- c. The Official Island in the Sun HOA. This page is only for HOA business.

Please contact the activities committee for activities you would like to host at chrissieriley@gmail.com We will provide you with help to get started.

As of now there are no resident activities planned for March. If there is any interest in a St. Patrick's Day event host(s) please get in touch with the Activities Committee.

Birthdays and Anniversaries



We would love to add your birthday and anniversary to our list! E-mail your name and date to iitsmonthlymedia.com so your friends and neighbors can help you celebrate your special days!

March Birthdays

- 3 Clayton Bowlen
- 9 John Holbach
- 10 Linda Boeckley
- 18 Scott McGann
- 26 Lillian Cutler
- 29 Rick Gay

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

March

Reminder to pick up your doggie poop and help keep our community clean. Waste stations are located all around the park for your convenience.

RESIDENT ACTIVITIES ANNOUNCEMENTS



These activities are not HOA or Cal-Am sponsored activities. They are resident led.

- **The Men's Breakfast** - meet monthly. The restaurant, date and time are announced on various IITS Facebook pages, sign up is online or at the Clubhouse. The participation is typically 6-12 men. All guys are welcome including people visiting the community. It's a great way to meet your neighbors! Hosted by Ron Holzer
 - **The Ladies who Lunch** - meet monthly. The restaurant, date and time are announced on various IITS Facebook pages, sign up is online or at the Clubhouse. Hosted by Cindy Sadusky
 - **8 or 9 Ball Pool** - Like to shoot pool? Every Saturday at 10 am there is a group who play 8 or 9 ball at the clubhouse. They are always looking for new players. Hosted by Elliot Lipford
 - **Texas hold 'em Poker** is played in the clubhouse on Sundays, Wednesdays, and Fridays at 6:30 pm. Come prepared to have fun. Hosted by Rick Morabito
 - **Bingo** – Every Monday at 7 pm, played in the clubhouse. Hosted by Linda Olone
 - **LRC (Left, Right, Center)** – 3rd Tuesday of every month – bring your dollars! Hosted by Nancy Bilcheck
 - **Pickle Ball** – Played Monday and Tuesday night at 6:30 – Join Dave and Malissa St Clair.
- Anyone wanting a resident activity to be spotlighted in the Media Guide please contact Cathy Ralston at iitsmonthlymedia@yahoo.com



Calendar

See the calendar in the Media Guide or on the clubhouse board for upcoming daily activities, HOA activities and Cal-Am activities.

Please note: the 2 calendars don't always sync up, so if in doubt, please call Chrissie Riley for Resident / HOA activities, and the Cal-Am front office for Cal-Am activities.

Bingo News!!!!!!

Bingo is back! Every Monday night at 7 pm! Bring your friends, bring your neighbors, bring your family!

If you are looking to get involved in something, come join us for Bingo. Let's get our crowd up so we can pay more money! Participation is sure way to keep this event going. Please feel free to bring your family and friends. See you all soon! Thank you ~ Linda Olone

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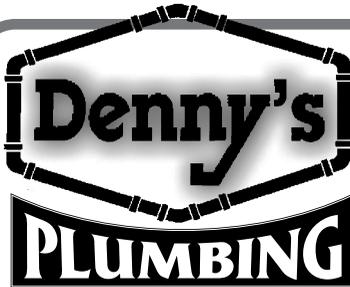


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Ladies Lunch

- Cindy Sadusky

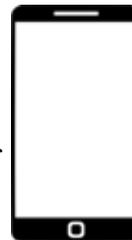


Ladies Lunch. The ladies of Island In The Sun get together on the 3rd Thursday of every month, at noon, to enjoy lunch together at various restaurants around the Clearwater area. I love choosing one of many locally owned restaurants, hopefully allowing us to experience restaurants that we may not have chosen ourselves. There are many that we have visited that have become favorites! I also welcome suggestions from the group. It should be a restaurant that can accommodate a group between 8-14 women, accept reservations and will do separate checks.

Communications

Notice: Cal-Am will be communicating information to the residents via texts. Would you like to receive text messages? Just go into Rent Café and edit your profile and select text messaging. (no texting and driving please). If you need help setting this up, please contact Katy at the office who will be happy to help you.

HOA will continue to use Robo call.



SIGN UP FOR IITS ROBOCALL TO STAY INFORMED

Cal-Am has a new way of communicating information to the residents. Would you like to receive text messages? Just go into Rent Café and edit your profile and select text messaging. (no texting and driving please)

HOA will continue to use Robo call.

The phone messaging service is used to:

- Remind residents of HOA meetings
- Announce/Remind/Poll activities and events
- Communicate information to specific groups (Bocce, Shuffleboard, etc.)
- Announce safety concerns in the community and surrounding area
- Other uses approved by the IITS HOA Board of Directors.



Please provide your information to Tammy Blaisse at 580-301-4828 or at tammy.blaisse@yahoo.com. Your information will be used strictly for this messaging service and will not be shared with anyone else.

Lot # _____ Telephone Number _____
Name(s) _____

WELCOME WAGON CORNER

by Rusty (Rosalind) Leslie



Welcome to my little corner of the world.
If you are new to our community and manufactured home living, I will be happy to answer any questions you might have. Our activities are listed in the center of this media guide.

If you have lived here awhile and have any questions, don't hesitate to ask.

I hope you take advantage of all the activities we offer and that you love living here as much as I do

Have a wonderful month

Rusty (Rosalind) Leslie

I am in Lot 310 - corner of Nassau and Windward.

Just come to my screened porch and ring the bell.

Call or text me at 865.232.9072

Email me at kohanadancer@gmail.com

Local Business Recommendation



We need your help!!!! Which local businesses do you recommend?
What services do you offer to our residents? Are you a handyman, a painter, electrician, house cleaner? Let us know!!

We once had a list of those in the community who offer services to others.

Send me your info – contact info below.

Please help get these lists going!!!

Send any information to Rusty - 865.232.9072

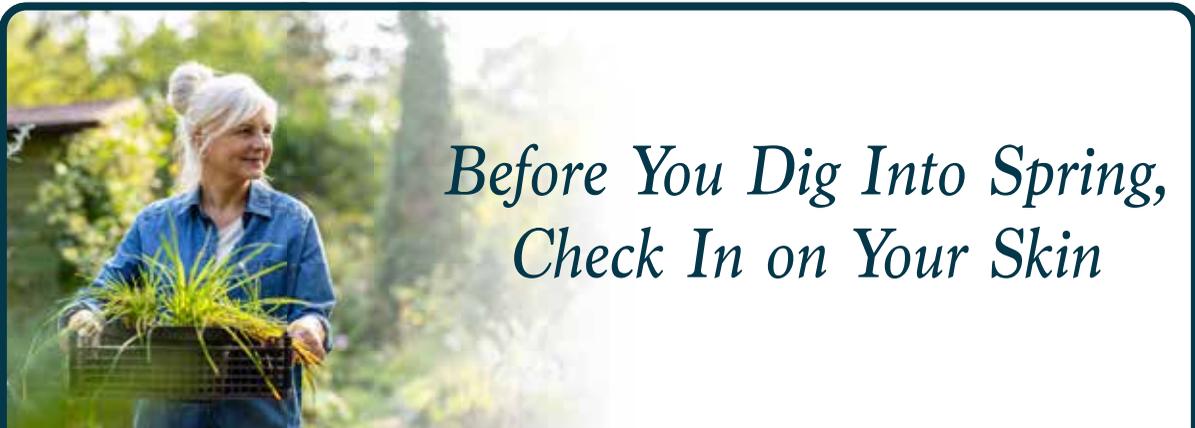
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Thank you.

Rusty





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- Kohl's 15% every Wednesday. Senior Day
- Bealls – 10% Tuesdays. Senior Day.
- TJMaxx – 10% Mondays Senior Day
- Ross – 10% Tuesday Senior Day
- Walgreens - The first Tuesday of every month is Senior Day at Walgreens. Customers 55 and up who are enrolled in the MyWalgreens rewards program can get up to 20% off their purchase, which includes everything from toiletries to snacks. The discount is also available for online shoppers, and it usually lasts for the first week of every month.
- JC Penney - Join the rewards program! get a 30% off JCPenney coupon for your first order, plus you earn rewards for great deals on every purchase.
- Michaels - Get your craft on at Michaels, where anyone over 55 can receive 10% off their purchase every day. Bonus: The discount includes sale items. Make sure to register to get your discount, which can be used in store and online.
- Pep Boys - Car trouble can be a huge pain. Luckily, AARP reported that Pep Boys customers 55 and older can get 10% off their in-store purchase, which can help alleviate the cost of getting your vehicle in tip-top shape.
- Sam's Club wants to give back to seniors 50 years or older by offering seniors a special membership offer. Qualified seniors who join Sam's Club online as a new member will receive a 60% discount on Club membership or \$50 off Sam's Club *Plus* membership. Join as a *Plus* member and get free Curbside Pickup, free Delivery from Club on eligible orders of \$50 or more, free shipping on eligible orders of \$50 or more and early shopping at select locations.



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Visit The National Hearing Test website and use your AARP login.
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Free Smoke Detectors!

The American Red Cross offers free smoke alarm installation through its Home Fire Campaign. You can request a free smoke alarm installation in Clearwater, FL, by completing a form available on the American Red Cross website. The Home Fire Campaign also provides home fire safety education.



Here's how to request a free smoke alarm installation:

1. Visit the American Red Cross website: Go to the Smoke Alarm Request page for South Florida.
2. Complete the form: Fill out the online form with your information.
3. A Red Cross team will follow up: A member of the Home Fire Campaign team will contact you to schedule a free smoke alarm installation appointment.
4. Learn about home fire safety: The Red Cross also provides valuable information and resources on home fire safety.

Also - Many Fire Departments offer free smoke detectors. Call them to inquire.

Trash collection in Clearwater – 2026: There are no changes in March.

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| 6:30 Poker 8 | 10am Water Exercise 6:30 Pickleball 7:00 Bingo <i>Daylight Savings Begins @ 2am</i> | 10am Water Exercise 1:00 pm 6:30 Pickleball 7:00 H... meeting |
| 6:30 Poker 15 | 10am Water Exercise 6:30 Pickleball 7:00 Bingo | 10am Water Exercise 1:00 pm 6:30 Pickleball 7:00 Le... Center <i>S. P...</i> |
| 6:30 Poker 22 | 10am Water Exercise 6:30 Pickleball 7:00 Bingo | 10am Water Exercise 1:00 pm 6:30 Pickleball |
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| 3 Yoga m Dominos ickleball eft,Right | 4 10am Yoga 6:30 Poker | 5 10am Water Exercise 6:00 Unify in the word | 6 1:00 Shuffleboard 4-7pm Food Truck 5:00 Chit Chat 6:30 Poker | 7 9:00 Stretch and Balance | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 10 Yoga m Dominos ickleball OA g | 11 10am Yoga 6:30 Poker | 12 10am Water Exercise 6:00 Unify in the word | 13 1:00 Shuffleboard 5:00 Chit Chat 6:30 Poker | 14 9:00 Stretch and Balance | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 17 Yoga m Dominos icklebal eft Right | 18 10am Yoga 6:30 Poker | 19 10am Water Exercise 6:00 Unify in the word | 20 1:00 Shuffleboard 4-7pm Food Truck 5:00 Chit Chat 6:30 Poker | 21 9:00 Stretch and Balance | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Patrick's Day | | | First Day of Spring | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 24 Yoga m Dominos ickleball | 25 10am Yoga 6:30 Poker | 26 10am Water Exercise 6:00 Unify in the word | 27 1:00 Shuffleboard 5:00 Chit Chat 6:30 Poker | 28 9:00 Stretch and Balance | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 31 Yoga m Dominos ickleball | | | | <p style="text-align: center;">AMEX</p> <table border="1"> <tr> <td>8</td><td>M</td><td>T</td><td>W</td><td>T</td><td>F</td><td>S</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td><td>1</td><td>2</td><td>3</td><td>4</td><td></td><td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>5</td><td>6</td><td>7</td><td>8</td><td>9</td><td>10</td><td>11</td> </tr> <tr> <td>12</td><td>13</td><td>14</td><td>15</td><td>16</td><td>17</td><td>18</td> </tr> <tr> <td>19</td><td>20</td><td>21</td><td>22</td><td>23</td><td>24</td><td>25</td> </tr> <tr> <td>26</td><td>27</td><td>28</td><td>29</td><td>30</td><td></td><td></td> </tr> </table> | 8 | M | T | W | T | F | S | | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | | | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 | 15 | 16 | 17 | 18 | 19 | 20 | 21 | 22 | 23 | 24 | 25 | 26 | 27 | 28 | 29 | 30 | | |
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Elder Abuse Prevention Program

Submitted by Pattie McDonough



Elder abuse refers to any knowing, intentional or negligent act causing harm or a serious risk of harm to a vulnerable adult. Abuse, neglect, exploitation, or fraud can happen anywhere, anytime, and often affects the most vulnerable members of our community.

The DOEA Elder Abuse Prevention Program supports programs and services to protect elders from abuse in all forms, physical, emotional, and financial. In partnership with the Department of Children and Families Adult Protective Services, DOEA and the Aging Network work to protect disabled adults or elderly persons from further occurrences of abuse, neglect or exploitation. Services provided may include protective supervision, placement, and in-home and community-based services.

How to Report Elder Abuse, Neglect, and Exploitation

The Department works in conjunction with the Department of Children and Families (DCF) Adult Protective Services and the Aging Network to protect disabled adults or elderly persons from further occurrences of abuse, neglect or exploitation. Services provided may include protective supervision, placement and in-home and community-based services. To report online – go to the DCF web site at Abuse Hotline | Florida DCF (myflfamilies.com)

To report by phone – call Florida Abuse Hotline at 1-800-96-ABUSE (1-800-962-2873). Press 2 to report suspected abuse, neglect or exploitation of a vulnerable adult. This toll free number is available 24/7. TTY (Telephone Device for the Deaf): 1-800-955-8771. To report via fax, please print and complete the DCF fax reporting form with details and fax to 1-800-914-0004.

10 Ways to Avoid Getting the Flu — Or At Least Lower Your Risk

Catching the common bug isn't inevitable. Here's what the experts recommend to stay healthy this influenza season

Though it may seem like getting the flu is inevitable, there are a few things you can do to steer clear of the virus. And you'll want to, because the probability of severe infection increases after you're 60, says Adolfo Garcia-Sastre, a microbiology professor and director of the Global Health and Emerging Pathogens Institute of Icahn School of Medicine at Mount Sinai in New York.

Pneumonia is the most common complication, he says. Heart attack and stroke can also occur as a result of having the flu, notes Robert H. Hopkins, Jr., M.D., medical director of the National Foundation for Infectious Diseases (NFID).

“Even after recovery, many older adults have difficulty returning to their previous level of activity or independence,” Hopkins adds.

Last season (2024-2025) was one of the most severe flu seasons in at least 15 years. Between 610,000 and 1.3 million Americans were hospitalized with the illness, according to preliminary data from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC). It's estimated there were between 27,000 and 130,000 flu deaths. In recent years, anywhere from 70 to 85 percent of flu-related deaths and 50 to 70 percent of hospitalizations in the U.S. were in individuals over 65.

continued on page 30

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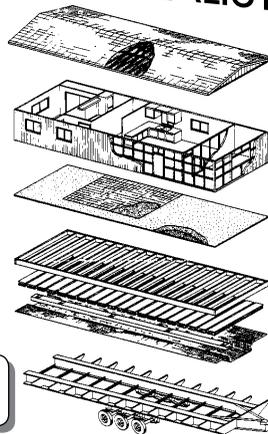
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Here are 10 ways to reduce your flu risk:

1. Get a flu shot

An annual flu vaccine can protect you from the virus, reduce your risk of hospitalization, make your case less severe if you're infected, and help prevent complications, according to the CDC. High-dose flu shots work much better for older adults compared with standard vaccines, says Laura Haynes, a professor of immunology at the UConn Center on Aging, because they contain more of an ingredient that gives the immune system an extra boost.

The flu vaccines — other than the FluMist vaccine, which isn't recommended for older adults — don't contain a live virus so you can't get the flu from the shot, Haynes adds.

As far as scheduling, try to wait until mid-October, Haynes says, because you want the protection from the vaccine to last through the end of flu season in May. Flu shots generally protect against serious illness for about six months, but that can vary depending on your immune system, Hopkins says.

2. Steer clear of sneezers (and coughers)

Keep an eye out when others sneeze or cough, as the virus can spread in those droplets. You also may want to avoid close contact with others — especially if they are or seem to be sick. Masking up is another option, particularly if you or someone in your household is at increased risk of severe illness, Hopkins adds. In addition to age, conditions such as asthma, kidney disease and liver disease can increase your risk of severe illness from flu.

3. Become an expert hand-washer

Wash your hands regularly to protect yourself from germs. Keep alcohol-based hand sanitizer handy for those times when you don't have access to soap and water, the CDC advises.

4. Be mindful of what you touch

You never know what germs are lurking on items or surfaces — especially in public places. Be mindful of touching your mouth, nose or eyes, as that could be an entry point for infection.

5. Keep things clean

Clean high-touch surfaces like doorknobs and light switches regularly or run an air purifier (or even open up a window for fresh air) to lower the risk of exposure to viruses, the CDC says.

6. Prioritize sleep

Getting enough sleep is critical for a healthy immune system. Many older adults can struggle with falling asleep and staying asleep, so taking steps to ensure you get enough Zzzs is crucial. "Good sleep hygiene is really important since sleep patterns change with aging," Haynes says. Some things you can do to help improve your sleep: Get regular exercise; stick to a bedtime routine; avoid caffeine late in the day; avoid large meals at night; and set your bedroom to a comfortable temperature.

7. Stay active

Physical activity can boost resiliency and helps to keep your immune system in fighting mode to thwart infections, Haynes says.

8. Think nutrition

Good nutrition can raise your defenses to fight off infections like the flu. Limit ultra-processed foods while opting for lean proteins and plenty of fruits and veggies. Pay attention to how much protein you consume, as it can help retain your muscle mass, Haynes explains. Vitamins and supplements can also round out any deficiencies if your doctor suggests them.

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9. Hydrate like it's summer

Drinking plenty of water throughout the day can help your body perform its best. (Water-rich foods work, too — think watermelon, cucumbers, tomatoes — if you struggle to drink a lot.)

10. Keep tabs on your meds

While this is a must any time of year, it's especially important during flu season, Hopkins says. Older adults may have comorbidities, so making sure you're taking care of those can count if you develop the flu. "Utilize pill organizers to avoid confusion," he says.

Feeling sick? What to do

If you do come down with the flu, knowing what to expect may help you recover quickly and avoid complications.

Common symptoms of the flu

Some signs you may have the flu include:

- Fever or chills
- Fatigue
- Sore throat
- Runny or stuffy nose
- Muscle or body aches
- Cough
- Headache
- Vomiting and diarrhea

Not everyone who has the flu will have a fever.

Flu symptoms can present differently as you age. For example, you may not get a high fever (many older adults don't), but instead may feel weak. Or you may experience stomach pain, diarrhea and nausea more often compared with younger individuals. Nasal congestion, sore throat and runny nose aren't always a given with the flu. If you have symptoms or know you've been exposed to the flu, head to your doctor's office or an urgent care for a quick test.

If you test positive for the flu, your doctor may prescribe antiviral medications that can ease symptoms, reduce the risk of hospitalization and, according to Garcia-Sastre, lower the time you're contagious.

Red-flag symptoms that should send you to the ER include trouble breathing or feeling short of breath, pain or pressure in chest or abdomen, dizziness or confusion, seizures, and not urinating, to name a few.

Kristen Fischer is a contributing writer at AARP based at the Jersey Shore. She has also written for Health, WebMD, and McKnights and is the author of Zoo Zen: A Yoga Story for Kids.





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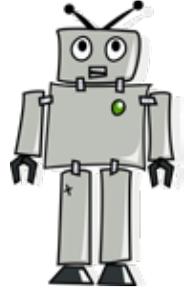
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Your Guide to the New Google Search Results

AI summaries may not always be trustworthy

By Lexi Pandell, AARP



This past June, when people searched Google for the nonemergency police line in Salem, Oregon, the top search result was not the police station but instead the phone number for the husband of AI researcher Melanie Mitchell.

“He was getting all these voicemails saying things like, ‘There’s somebody driving erratically on the highway,’” says Mitchell, a resident faculty member at the Santa Fe Institute. Her husband’s phone number was not anywhere else on the internet, so as far as Mitchell can deduce, Google’s AI made up the number for the Salem police line.

Others have reported similar stories about Google’s [AI Overview](#), which was launched widely in 2024 and is intended to give the web searcher the information they seek up top; no need to click on a link. In many cases, AI Overview presents a summary of information gleaned from its web search. [Sometimes it’s accurate](#). At other times, well ... it has told Google users that they can help cheese stick to pizza by using glue. Or worse, it has surfaced scam numbers for those looking for customer service information.

Why does this happen?

Upon receiving a search prompt, Google’s AI scrapes—or pulls information from—its search results. It may find reliable information from reputable sources—or it may pull in misinformation or confuse satire for facts. And there’s more potential for error beyond bad search results. That’s because the AI isn’t simply regurgitating what it finds; it’s generating an original answer. Like in the case with the nonemergency number mix-up, it may even “hallucinate,” piecing together a response that “sounds right, but it’s not correct,” says Chirag Shah, a professor at the University of Washington’s Information School. In some instances, AI Overview may include links to its sources, but that’s not foolproof. “Actually that’s, in some respect, even worse, because it gives you a false sense of validity,” Shah says.

In response to questions about AI Overview, a Google representative replied: “The accuracy rate for AI Overview is on par with other well-established search features.... At the scale of the web, with billions of queries coming in every day, there are bound to be some oddities, as there are with all search features. When issues arise—like if our features misinterpret web content or miss some context—we use those examples to improve our systems.”

Meanwhile, Google subsequently also released a search tool called AI Mode, in tandem with its Gemini AI technology. Though still in its experimental stages, AI Mode is available for consumers to try. According to Google, you can get deeper and more nuanced search results and ask any question with text, voice or images.

What can you do?

Incorrect or misleading results are big problems for those who trust their search engine. A Pew Research Center study from 2025 found that users presented with Google AI summaries were about half as likely to click on search result links, and a quarter ended their browsing session entirely after reaching an AI summary. In short, searchers believed—perhaps mistakenly—that AI Overview had delivered the information they needed. “It’s incredibly convenient,” Mitchell says. “But you’re trading convenience for trustworthiness.”

...continued on page 36

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Shah suggests treating AI Overview like a prototype—and approaching it with caution. “We’re all the guinea pigs here,” he says.

AI Overview is now a core part of Google’s search feature and can’t be turned off when conducting a search. But you can just scroll past it and go right to the web links. Or, after the search, go to the Google menu bar at the top and click on “More,” then “Web.” That will instantly take you to a page with only web links.

Or use a different search engine. Those you can use without AI summaries include DuckDuckGo, Startpage, Brave and Dogpile.



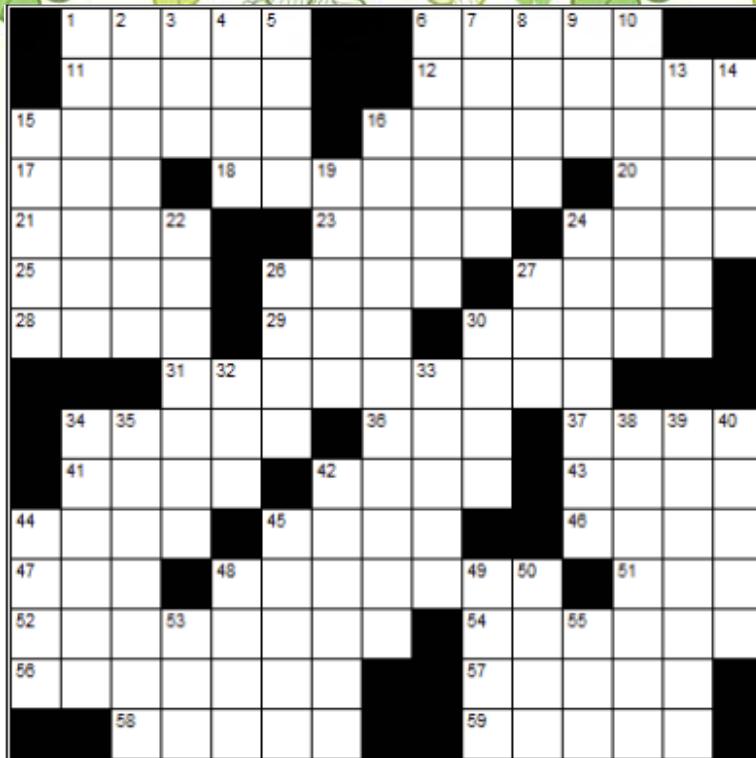
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MARCH CROSSWORD



ACROSS

1. Boundary
6. Reveals
11. Battery terminal
12. Futile
15. Reply
16. Nasal spray, for example
17. Decay
18. Metal refinery
20. Sticky stuff
21. Distinctive flair
23. Secluded valley
24. Belch
25. One less than 10
26. Dry
27. Puncture
28. Against
29. Animal companion
30. Invoices to pay
31. Flashy
34. Earth tone
36. Small piece of cloth
37. A cooperative unit
41. Jury member
42. Chats
43. Decorative case
44. Darling
45. Carry
46. Tatters
47. N N N
48. Kneecap
51. Destroy the interior of
52. Snobs
54. Blood vessel
56. Nerve junction
57. Tally
58. Color of most grasses
59. Rip up

DOWN

1. Ointment ingredient
2. Blink of an eye
3. Cut grass
4. Mid-month days
5. Duration
6. Tapped without swinging
7. Pale
8. Towards the back
9. Addition
10. Mostly white aquatic bird
13. Breathes noisily while sleeping
14. Cease
15. Sporting venue
16. Nonreaders
19. Wading bird
22. Not one or the other
24. Fortify
26. Abbey area
27. Not hers
30. Pleads
32. Arrange (abbrev.)
33. Record company
34. Candidly
35. Discontinuing
38. Knickknack holder
39. Foretold
40. Foggy
42. Received
44. D D D
45. Thigh armor
48. Tube
49. Young woman
50. Curve
53. Driveway surface
55. Craggy peak



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| <p>EVENTS & PROGRAMS</p> | <p>Golden Acres ROA Bazaar. Saturday, March 7, 9am-12:30pm. Clubhouse, 1040 Main Street, Dunedin Florida</p> | <p>Spring Craft Fair, Sunset Palms MHP, 3401 Gandy Blvd., Pinellas Park. March 21st, 9:00am until 2:00pm. Handmade arts and crafts: quilted items, resin art, handmade cards, diamond art creations, jewelry, wreaths and so much more. Homemade baked goods.</p> |
| <p>2 Day Park Wide Sale. Friday and Saturday, March 6 & 7, 2026. 8am -1pm. Vendors in the clubhouse on Friday ONLY. Semiannual Bake Sale and Refreshments available Friday ONLY in the Clubhouse. La Plaza MHP 6700 150th Ave. N. Clearwater</p> <p>HUGE SALE! TRUCK LOAD OF: CRAFT SUPPLIES / WOMENS BOUTIQUE, CRAFT ITEMS, WOODCRAFT, RESIN, BEADS, CERAMIC. TOO MUCH TO LIST. WOMENS CLOTHING, GIFT ITEMS, JEWELRY, BAGS & SO MUCH MORE! ALL NEW w/TAGS. SINGLE ITEMS OR BY THE CASE. LA PLAZA MHP 6700 150th AVE N. FOLLOW THE SIGNS I WILL HAVE FLAGS OUT FRONT OF LOT. This is a neighborhood wide sale. SAT MARCH 6-7, 8AM-?</p> | <p>Lake Seminole Resort Spring Flea Market, Bake Sale and Lunch on Saturday, March 7th, 9:00am - 1:00pm. Located at 10245 110th Ave. N., Largo, Florida</p> | <p>ART/CRAFT FAIR Saturday, March 21. 9 AM to 1PM. Lake Highlander MHP, 1500 County Road 1, Dunedin. Food available.</p> |
| | <p>SPRING CRAFT FAIR 3/7/26 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. AMERICANA COVE 7201 1st Street NE Saint Petersburg</p> | <p>ARTS & CRAFTS SHOW & SALE 03/21, 11-3 Westwind MHP 3301 Alt19 Dunedin</p> |
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