

January 2

Issue 11 49th Year

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Oak Crest/Acorn

Editor: Rick Martin, Lot 597

For additions and corrections please email Oakcrest33771@aol.com

***Monthly Deadline for Newsletter is the Tenth of each month ***

Oakcrest/Acorn Residents Club Officers and Directors

Officers	Directors
PresidentGisela MichaelLot 232727.326.7711	Nancy BarbozaLot 529 727.437.7415
1st VPKim PeckLot 434	Cathy HargisLot 244 941.258.2743
SecretaryDebbie Phillips Lot 36716.602.2494	Steve PhillipsLot 36 716.602.2494
TreasurerPaula Johnson Lot 505816.305.6598	Jeannie CarterLot 231 540.455.0043
	Barb RamseyLot 283 315.525.3092
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District 4Cathy Hargis		
District 5MaryJo Fallinski & Keven Grimes		
District 6Marianne Rossi		

District 1:A2-A3; 1-20; 39-119; 206-213

District 2:21-30; 120-202; 214-223

District 3:31-38; 203-205; 224-304; 336-356

District 4:305-335; 357-444

District 5:445-533 District 6:534-653 Manager 581-6900

Homeowners Association Officers and Directors

Directors:		
President	Bob CampbellLot 253 727.426.9200	Directors:
Vice Pres	Laurie StoneLot 195 585.233.0927	Rhonda Gillispie Lot 528 605.890.2420
Secretary	Steve StancickLot 205 610.737.3617	Boyd DeNoyer Lot 505 816.305.5056
Treasurer	Elsie BonarrigoLot 335 . 818.879.1298	Doug Metzger Lot 8 not listed

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AFTER

RESIDENTS CLUB

Gisella Michael, President

appy New Year everyone! 2025 is the first year I can remember without a hurricane coming, not only to Florida but to America. I for one am very grateful for all the blessings we have received in 2025. I thank you for the honor to have served as your president for 2025. I have met some wonderful people here. I have made lifetime friends and have memories with you that I will cherish for the rest of my life. With that said, look out 2026 because here we come! This Residents Club has learned so much from our first year. We're not perfect but you know what, we sure strive to be our best. We can't wait to serve you, entertain you, and put a smile on your face.

HOMEOWNERS ASSOCIATION

Bob Campell, President

Year. The HOA will be meeting on January 12, 2026. In order to accommodate your varying schedules, there will be two sessions, the first at 1-2 pm or longer if needed followed by a repeat session at 7-8 pm or longer if needed. Each session will cover the same information and you can plan to attend either or both. At the meeting, we will be discussing our plans to deal with the ongoing water, speeding and sidewalk cleaning issues. We also will be sharing the Month's Free Rent and Bicycle fundraiser results with you and will be seeking input for ideas for new fundraising initiatives. We will also go over the results of the votes which took place on December 18, 2026 concerning obtaining legal representation and establishing a new non-Facebook website.

We are also making our first annual donation request. Donations are completely voluntary and any amount would be appreciated. Your donations will go into our Contingency Fund. A donation envelope is enclosed and can be placed in Elsie's front door mail slot at 335 Twin Oak at your convenience or can be given to any of the HOA Directors. We look forward to seeing you on January 12, 2025.



ACTIVITIES COMMITTEE

Laurie Stone, Chair

ello, neighbors, I am hoping you all had a wonderful holiday season. The activities committee definitely enjoyed planning and participating in all the fun holiday activities! As we start the new year, let us keep our hearts full of LOVE, HOPE and JOY! We have a lot of fun events planned for the year. We hope to see you all at the many events we will be hosting in the coming year.

1/3 Breakfast 9-10:30

1/7. Show me the meat 7 pm

1/17. Music Bingo 7 pm

1/21. Show me the meat 7 pm



BREAKFAST COMMITTEE

Barb Ramsey, Chair

nother great turnout for Breakfast in December. It was our second breakfast with the new 9 am start time. Seems everyone has come and gone by 10:30 so this month our hours will be 9 am-10:30

Breakfast this month will be January 3rd

There will be a new dish to try along with scrambled eggs, bacon, sausage, tater tots and fruit cups Come join us!

MEDICAL CLOSET

Michelle Rudy

he lending medical closet is very well stocked with wheelchairs, walkers, crutches, canes, incontinence supplies, and bathroom aids. Anyone in need can privately message me or call me. I have a new number 727-313-7842. Please make a note of this. You may never know when you may need something.

MORE HAPPENINGS!

SCRABBLE GROUP

The Scrabble group will be meeting in the Clubhouse. If anyone would be interested in the Scrabble group, please contact Sharon Smith at 727-251-4007

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SHUFFLEBOARD GROUP

Jill Chambers

Toin people in the community playing shuffleboard on Mondays at 11am. You do not need to know how to play. Everyone is there to have fun and would be happy to show you.

PINOCHLE TUESDAYS

Rita Gardiner

Telcome all card players! We now have openings for our pinochle group, and would like to see you in the Clubhouse Tuesdays at 5 pm. All are welcome. If you are a beginner, we have instructions, and if you have experience, also great. You can get a chance to make more friends and have FUN. Please give me a call at 609-634-0040 if you'd like to find out more.

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- JAN. 25, SUN SHOPPING with WENDY at Wiregrass & more...\$64
- JAN. 29, THURS. "PENN & TELLER 50TH TOUR"...\$129

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Monthly

B ook Blitz Month. This is a time for authors of all genres to put themselves out there and promote their work. For the rest of us, it's a time to celebrate literacy, set personal goals to read more, and curl up with a good book.

National Braille Literacy Month. Developed in the 19th century by Louis Braille, this tactile system allows visually impaired and blind individuals a way to read, write, and learn.

International Creativity Month. Whether you're a homemaker, student, employee, employer, or retiree, this is the month to challenge yourself and your usual way of doing things. Try something new, explore, innovate, broaden your horizons of expression, and create something.

Hot Tea Month. Black, white, green, herbal, oolong, Darjeeling, Ceylon, chai—the list can go on for several pages. There are thousands of teas and blends to try. Find a new favorite and warm up with a cup of fragrant goodness this winter.

Self-Love Month. Many of us have already promised to become better at being better this year. Why not start by showing yourself some TLC? Find a way to honor, appreciate, and love yourself this January.

Weekly

lvis Presley Birthday Celebration Week, Jan. 7-11. If you can make it to Memphis, you can walk in the footsteps of "The King" and visit Elvis' estate, Graceland, where plenty of activities will honor the legendary singer.

Universal Letter Writing Week, Jan 11-17. Since 1971, the Universal Postal Union has held a letter writing competition for young people age 15 and under. The event is a way to promote both literacy and the development of composition skills throughout the world. The theme of this year's contest asks writers: "Imagine you are a letter travelling through time. What message do you wish to convey to your readers?"

Healthy Weight Week, Jan. 18-24. This isn't about diets or the latest weight loss trends. A healthy body image is the key to establishing realistic goals and strategies that will help you to achieve and maintain a healthy weight and body mass. Factors such as age, bone structure, height, and physical ability should also be considered when developing personal health standards. Check in with your physician before making any changes to your diet, nutrition, and activities.

National Clean Out Your Inbox Week, Jan. 21-27. This can be a challenge of epic proportions for those who don't prioritize, sort, and organize incoming emails. Use this week to unsubscribe from or change delivery preferences for electronic communications cluttering your inbox. Save only what's necessary. Delete, delete, delete.

The courage to try

ife lessons can come from the most unlikely sources if we are open to receiving what they have to offer us. For Tricia Goyer, a wife, mother, and accomplished author, a lesson in bravery came from her twentysomething son Nathan.

When he announced his plans to write a book, Goyer encouraged him and even promised to edit it once the manuscript was completed. With 500 magazine articles bylines and more than 50 published books of nonfiction and fiction, Goyer knew her insight would be beneficial. She also knew that Nathan had a gift for creating and telling stories, which had been a favorite pastime since his childhood.

As Goyer edited Nathan's rough draft she realized that her son had a talent for writing and decided they should hire a professional editor to review the text. The editor also liked Nathan's work and offered the aspiring novelist some constructive feedback.

After the rewrites were finished, Goyer told her son to start weighing his options about next steps in the publishing process. He could go the traditional route and work with a publisher, or self-publish. Nathan told her he'd need time to think things over and then excused himself to run an errand. He returned a short time later and announced that he would self-publish his work as an e-book. The next day his novel Bask was for sale on Amazon.com. It has even received a few positive reviews.

For Goyer, taking those next steps in the process of publishing one of her many books has never been something she could act on with that kind of certainty or efficiency. She says she would first share copies with as many as 20 friends and consider their feedback. Next she might attend a workshop or conference to solicit even more feedback and advice before deciding which route to take.

Nathan has inspired Goyer to believe that "sometimes we just need to roll up our sleeves and do what we've been afraid to try."





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Oak Crest

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		HAPPY	9-12 Crafting	9-11 Breakfast
		NEW	9:45 H20 Aerobics	
		YEAR!	3:30 Vet Guitar	
			1 pm Bingo	
			7 pm LRC	
		New Yours Day		
6	7	1	9	10
20 Aerobics	9:45 H2D Aerobics	9:45 HZO Aerobics	9-12 Crafting	
adian Club	1 pm Bingo	12:30 Bridge	9:45 H20 Aerobics	
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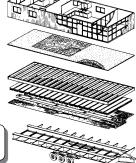
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DOWN

- 1. Land
- 2. Male genitalia
- 3. Uncooked
- 4. Small island
- 5. Not more
- 6. Arrive past due
- 7. Utilizers
- 8. Neuter
- 9. 2000 pounds
- 10. Kill oneself intentionally
- 13. Breathes noisily while sleeping 14. They come from hens
- 15. Started
- 16. Gun repairing
- 19. Dogs wag these
- 22. Anticlimax
- 24. Blimp
- 26. Opening

- 27. Deli loaf
- 30. King of the jungle
- 32. Anagram of "One"
- 33. They can be fraternal or identical
- 34. On land
- One who establishes
- 38. Building 39. Mammals like camels
- 40. Apprehensive
- 42. Objects
- 44. Fired a projectile
- 45. Holy person
- 48. Smile
- 49. Gorillas
- 50. English royal house
- 53. An uncle
- 55. Fifty-two in Roman
- numerals

ACROSS

- 1. Spring month
- 6. Failures
- 11. Pursue
- 12. Take up the cause
- 15. Barroom fights
- 16. Harvesting
- 17. Snake-like fish
- 18. Wide part of a river
- 20. Sprocket 21. Chutzpah
- 23. Picnic insects
- 24. Broadcasts
- 25. Chills and fever
- 26. Workshop gripper
- 27. Fair attraction
- 28. Bird home
- 29. Type of tree 30. Harps
- 31. Amounts per unit size
- 34. Underway
- 36. One plus one 37. Make well
- 41. Scattered seed
- 42. Not fat
- 43. Inactive
- 44. Blackball
- 45. Tibia
- 46. Tube
- 47. Term of endearment
- 48. Deny
- 51. Distant
- 52. Making menu requests
- 54. A plan of action
- 56. Abounding
- 57. Genus of heath
- 58. Leases
- 59. Where clouds are

Who you want to be

farmer on his way into town pulled over to pick up a young man thumbing for a ride.

The two men began to talk, with the younger man sharing his experiences of his solo hiking and camping adventures.

"So what do you plan to do when this is over?" the farmer asked.

The young man mapped out his plans of a university education, graduate school, a job with a fancy title and a huge salary, future board positions, his own company, and more money than he could spend in three lifetimes. "You know what they say," the young man remarked. "You should dream big or not dream at all."

"It's a pretty big dream," the farmer said, "but little more than that."

The farmer continued, "It seems to me that if you wanted to accomplish any of those things you wouldn't be hitchhiking through small towns. You'd be somewhere else working and building on the knowledge and skills required to help you achieve your goals."

"Right now, I'm figuring out who I am," the young man said.

"Why don't you try figuring out who you want to be?" the farmer replied.



Quotes

Te are, as a species, addicted to story. Even when the body goes to sleep, the mind stays up all night, telling itself stories.

—John Gottschal

Words are how we think; stories are how we link.

— Christina Baldwin



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A changed man

Then Fred stumbled home from a night of revelry, he immediately fell on his knees and said, "God, thank you for helping this sinner make it home tonight."

He went to the medicine cabinet for aspirin and gasped when he glimpsed his reflection in the mirror. His eyes where bloodshot, his hair was matted to his head with some unknown sticky substance, his skin looked like sandpaper, his knuckles where scraped, and his clothes were ripped and disheveled. "That's it," he proclaimed to his reflection. "I'm going to turn my life around."

Before he passed out that night, Fred mumbled, "God, I'm going to mend my wicked ways."

The next day Fred awoke a changed man. He stopped drinking and started juicing. He became a vegetarian. Instead of partying all night, he rose early and went for runs, started lifting weights. He rode his bicycle just about everywhere and was in the best shape of his life. Friends remarked that he looked 20 years younger.

One day, while crossing the street to go to the health food store, Fred was hit by a car. As he was dying on the curb, he said, "God, why now? I was doing so much better."

God replied, "Fred? Is that you? Oh, man, I didn't recognize you."

Stage one

Toe asked his friend Dan for a cigarette.

"I thought you made a resolution to stop smoking this year," Dan replied.

"I did," Joe agreed, "but it's a process with many steps that must be completed before you actu-



Three tips to spark your brain

I veryone can be creative, as long as they're willing to give up some preconceptions about what being creative really means. Try these tactics for opening up your mind to innovative possibilities:

Focus on intuition, not intelligence. You don't have to be a genius to be creative. Train yourself to listen to your feelings, random thoughts, dreams, and intuition. Often ideas and solutions come to us when we aren't looking.

Give yourself space to think. Collecting data about what you're working on is good, but don't let facts crowd out your creative impulses. Set the information aside and step back to allow your mind to process it without pushing. Build some room inside your head to let ideas grow.

Try something different. Breaking your routine can lead to creative insights. See the kind of movie you'd never ordinarily watch. Take a walk in a new neighborhood. Fly a kite, or take up a new exercise regimen. Mixing things up can help your mind look at the world in new and different ways, sparking your imagination.

How creative types have gotten into the groove throughout history

ome people take unusual steps to get their creative impulses going. From the Mental Floss website, some examples of how famous folks have jumpstarted their imagination:

Yoshiro Nakamatsu. This Japanese inventor with more than 3,000 patents to his name dives underwater, holds his breath, and scribbles ideas on a Plexiglas board in his swimming pool.

• Leonardo da Vinci. The Italian artist and inventor honed his creative instincts by taking short naps every four hours throughout the day. He's said to have slept a total of just two hours every day.

Thomas Edison. This inventor was also a fan of naps, with a twist: He'd sit up holding a handful of marbles and think about the problem he was working on until he fell asleep. When the marbles dropping to the floor woke him up, he wrote down whatever came into his mind, regardless of whether it offered a solution.

Johann Wolfgang von Goethe. The German noet kent a rott

that it helped him write more eff Charles Dickens. The British n

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What friends are for

wo women were discussing their weight loss goals and dieting strategies. "We should team up. We could work out together, exchange recipes, and support each other," said one woman.

"Sounds like a plan," replied the other.

"And when I'm craving a deep-dish pizza with a side of cheese fries, like I am right now—"

"Don't worry, sister, I've got your back," said the friend. "I could go for a slice myself and know just the place. Come on, I'm driving."

The meaning of life

Ryan left behind a successful career and all the material trappings his wealth afforded. In his quest for a more meaningful life, he embarked on a pilgrimage to a faraway land to seek the counsel of a sage rumored to live on the summit of a mountain.

Ryan's journey took him through villages, valleys, and forests; he hiked through rugged terrain and climbed over sharp rocks. He was exhausted once he reached the base of the mountain and camped out there for a couple of days to regain his strength before his ascent.

The climb up the mountain was grueling, but Ryan knew he would be rewarded once he reached the top and learned the meaning of life from the sage.

When Ryan finished his climb, he made it to a tiny hut where he encountered the sage sitting cross-legged in the middle of the floor. Ryan sat cross-legged across from the sage and said, "I have discarded all of my material possessions and traveled thousands of miles to learn the meaning of life from you."

The sage cleared his throat and said, "Life ... is like ... a—" The sage dropped his head and began to snore. Ryan poked the sage on the shoulder and the sage mumbled, "What was I saying?"

"You were going to tell me the meaning of life."

"Oh, yes," the sage said. "Life is like a rock." He shrugged his shoulders and then coughed.

"That's it?" Ryan asked.

"Hey, what did you expect? I'm just an old man living alone on the top of a mountain."

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One hour of exercise may relieve depression

eeling depressed? Get moving. As the Medline Plus website reports, a survey of some 34,000 adults found that people who exercise just one hour a week have a 44 percent lower risk of depression over 10 years than those who don't exercise at all.

A Norwegian survey tracked exercise habits along with depression and anxiety risk among people with an average age of 45 who underwent physical exams and filled out questionnaires about their medical needs and lifestyles. The results showed that the intensity of the exercise didn't matter—an hour-long walk provided just as much relief as a high-impact workout.

Exercise didn't appear to have any effect on anxiety risk, but the researchers found that regular exercise for at least one hour per week was connected to a lower risk of depression, regardless of gender or activity intensity.

However, more than an hour's exercise didn't appear to further decrease the risk of depression substantially. Also, the scientists have noted that they haven't proven a direct cause-and-effect relationship between exercise and depression.

Still, it sounds like another good reason to get off the couch and start up a modest exercise routine.

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