

THE  
*Magnolia*  
NEWS

NEWS OF INTEREST TO THE RESIDENTS OF MAGNOLIA POINT

VOLUME 7 • ISSUE 3

MARCH 2026



### Hello March!

In the month when Spring will, well...‘spring’, March brings the closing of a grocery institution, our very own Winn-Dixie, to be replaced by an international food retailer, and just a little more local color out the door. The only thing constant is what? Change? Well, keep yours handy, ‘cause the carts cost \$0.25. But you get it back at the curb! Meanwhile, a brand-new farm market makes its debut here. See **page 13**.

See the expanded MPWC update this month as we ride along on the first ‘Charity Caravan’ through Clay County, **pages 11-12**.



Magnolia’s Canada Geese take a stand in ‘The Great ‘Leafblower Rebellion’ of 2026 on **pages 27-28**.



In Part III of ‘Take It Away’, Christian examines the do’s and don’ts of weight shift, **pages 16-17**.



Got lemon? ‘Meyers Mist’ is the cure for all that tangy citrus in you yard, this month’s ‘MIXmagic’ on **page 30**.

Our Traffic Cam has been busy clocking the speed-demons on our roads, and we’ve included a look at the start of motorsports here, on **pages 18-21**.

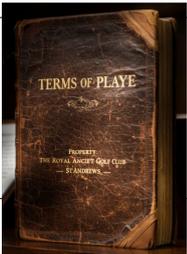


Take a stroll through ‘Early Florida’ at the Clay County Fair, starting up on April 2 in these parts, **Back Cover**



Bill shares his secrets of Parmesan Peppercorn French Bread in this month’s ‘Traveling Fork, YUM! **Page 23**.

The ‘Rules of Play’ are revealed with tongue-firmly-in-cheek on **page 26**.



**THE MAGNOLIA NEWS**  
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The Magnolia News does not accept political, social commentary, or opinion pieces for publication.



# EXTRA!

VOLUME 7 ISSUE 1

“BREAKING NEWS FROM BEHIND THE HEDGES”

MARCH 2026

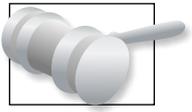
This store is closing soon

Winn/Dixie

# NOT!

*The Farmer's Market opens, see page 13*





## STRATEGIC PLANNING

This month, I wanted to share a sample of the work that the Strategic Planning Committee has been doing lately. This is the Executive Summary of the draft of our long-range, 5-year Strategic Plan that we recently developed. There is a more detailed plan that accompanies this summary, but too long to be shared here. This plan will be discussed at Board meetings in the coming months, but I wanted to give residents a sneak-peek at what we're thinking and where we are headed.

Questions or comments? Please email [spc@magpt.com](mailto:spc@magpt.com).

### **DRAFT - Strategic Plan for Magnolia Point Community Association (MPCA)**

This draft strategic plan establishes a clear road map for maintaining a high-quality access-controlled residential environment, protecting property values, and strengthening the relationship between MPCA and the privately owned amenities that define the community's character. With nearly 1,000 homes and significant recreational assets adjacent to MPCA property, long-term planning, communication, and financial discipline are essential.

#### **Community Vision**

An attractive, and financially stable access-controlled community where residents enjoy well-maintained common areas, strong property values, and positive relationships with the privately owned amenities that enhance the neighborhood's lifestyle.

#### **Strategic Priorities**

##### 1. Financial Stability & Long-Range Planning

MPCA will maintain a 10-year capital reserve plan, conduct reserve studies every three years, and target 70–100% reserve funding. Multi-year budgeting will ensure predictable assessments and avoid special assessments. If MPCA contributes to club operations, the owner will provide monthly profit and loss financial statements and annual audited financial statements to justify MPCA continued contributions. A financial liaison role will monitor the private amenity owner's operational health and coordinate on shared issues.

##### 2. Maintenance & Infrastructure Excellence

MPCA will maintain roads, sidewalks, stormwater systems, lighting, landscaping, ponds, and signage to high standards. A master maintenance calendar, digital work-order system, and vendor performance metrics will support efficient operations. Annual inspections will guide long-term upgrades and ensure asset longevity.

##### 3. Governance, Compliance & Board Professionalization

MPCA will modernize governing documents, standardize rule enforcement, and provide annual board training. In the near-term, MPCA will merge covenants from 16 separate phases into one overarching CCR. Transparent decision-making, digital voting, and monthly board reports will strengthen resident trust and improve governance effectiveness.

##### 4. Relationship Management with the Private Amenity Owner

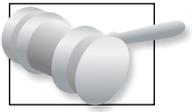
Because the golf course, clubhouse, restaurant/bar, tennis courts, and pool are privately owned, MPCA will establish a formal communication protocol, including regular coordination meetings. A memorandum of understanding will clarify expectations around access, events, parking, maintenance impacts, and resident concerns. A contingency plan will prepare MPCA for potential changes in amenity ownership or operations.

##### 5. Community Engagement & Communication

A modern website, and monthly digital newsletter will keep residents informed. Community events, advisory committees, and a new-resident welcome program will strengthen connection and participation.

*Continued*





### 6. Safety, Security & Risk Management

Annual safety audits, insurance reviews, access control reviews, improved lighting, and emergency preparedness planning will reduce risk. Partnerships with local law enforcement and installation of cameras in key areas will enhance community safety.

### 7. Sustainability & Environmental Stewardship

MPCA will promote water-efficient landscaping, smart irrigation, native plants, LED lighting, and solar opportunities for MPCA-owned facilities. Collaboration with the private amenity owner will support shared sustainability goals.

### **Implementation Timeline**

Year 1: Update governing documents, launch communication improvements, complete reserve study, formalize amenity-owner relationship, establish maintenance calendar.

Years 2–3: Begin capital projects, expand community programming, implement sustainability upgrades, strengthen enforcement consistency.

Years 4–5: Reassess priorities, review financial health, evaluate long-term amenity risks, update reserve study and maintenance plan.

#### Success Measures

Key performance indicators include reserve funding levels, work-order completion times, vendor performance, rule enforcement consistency, resident satisfaction, engagement metrics, and safety audit results.

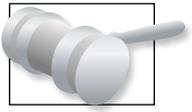
- ANN SIMS



Continued

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## RULES ENFORCEMENT

When people move into a community with an HOA, they become a party to a legal contract between the Association and the buyer that specifies certain rights, liabilities and commitments governing the use and occupancy of the property. The Declaration of Covenants runs with the land, is conveyed to the new owners at closing and Florida law presumes that each owner and all subsequent owners of the property have knowledge of its provisions. The intent of the Covenants is to maintain the appearance of the individual property and community and to maintain the physical condition and appearance of the neighborhood.

The Community Association Manager (CAM) conducts routine inspections of community properties to visually review homeowner lots for visual compliance. Violations will be generated and recorded, based on these inspections or reported by residents and verified by the CAM.

Noted violations result in an initial courtesy letter (1st Notice of Violation) to the homeowner explaining the problem and a request for owners to submit a written "Action to Satisfy" form within seven calendar days and to correct the problem.

If the problem is not corrected or addressed by the homeowner, a 2nd notice will be sent, followed by an "Intent to Fine" letter. If the homeowner disagrees with the complaint of violation or the CAM/HOA Board decision to fine, they may appeal the violations at a Rules Enforcement Committee hearing. The homeowner may address the committee regarding disagreement or concern with the violation, plans to correct the deficiency and any other appropriate mitigating circumstances. After consideration of the facts the committee may decide to fine as appropriate (up to \$100 per day for up to 10 days), to hold the fine in abeyance until the violation is corrected within an acceptable period, or to dismiss the fine entirely. The decision of the Rules Enforcement Committee is final and may not be further appealed.

What sort of discrepancies will result in a violation and required correction? Generally, the highest number of violations are landscape maintenance, general maintenance and driveways that need cleaning. We also see frequent violations for roof staining or mold and illegal parking including cars parked on the street overnight, cars parked on the grass and trailers/RV's without passes and or exceeding the 48 hour limit allowed in the community.

All the covenants and rules regarding this process are available on the community webpage.

- LARRY FRANCISCO

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## ACCESS CONTROL

### **Mold Remediation at Guard House**

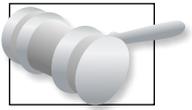
The mold remediation work at the guard house has completed. All affected drywall has been removed and replaced, the inside of the building has been repainted, the HVAC ducts have been replaced, and the rotted siding on the exterior has been replaced and painted. There is still one leaking window that is to be replaced in the coming weeks.

### **Rear Gate Improvements**

Funding was approved at the February HOA meeting to make some much needed improvements to the rear gate. The improvements consist of establishing a more orderly entrance to the community with the goal of curtailing people tailgating into the community. The minute design details are being evaluated. Residents can help with this ever-increasing problem by not blindly clicking their remotes to let in vehicles seen sitting at the

*Continued*





Existing Communications & Control Equipment



New NEMA container

gate just waiting for someone to let them in. This only encourages them to come back and wait for someone to let them in again instead of going to the front gate for entry or getting a pass from the person they are going to visit or service. If all residents sent passes (via the TekWave VMS) to both contractors and visitors ahead of time, this problem would be greatly reduced.

Other improvements are being made as well, such as upgrade of aging equipment and rehousing sensitive control and communications equipment to a clean, orderly NEMA container.

### Front Gate Lane Widening

As most are aware, widening of the entrance lanes at the front gate is underway. This effort is headed up by the Roads, Drainage, and Waterways (RDW) committee. When complete, this should help decrease the wait time that many residents experience trying to enter the neighborhood at peak traffic hours. The long waits at the gate for many of your visitors and contractors could also be reduced if everyone would just use the VMS to add visitors and contractors ahead of time so that when they reach the gate, the guard can see they are expected and processes them through quickly. Even faster processing if you send them a pass. The hold-ups come when the visitor reaches the gate and the guard does not see the visitor in the resident's authorized visitor list and attempts to call the resident to grant permission. Using the VMS is much more effective than calling the guard to add a visitor, as processing incoming vehicles takes priority over answering the phone, so it may take a while to get an answer. Our community is a busy one, below are the January statistics for both resident entries (using remotes) and visitors processed for both the front and rear gates.

Access Control Statistics (January)

	Front Gate	Rear Gate	Total
<b>Resident Transactions</b>	34,575	15,651	50,226
<b>Visitors Processed</b>	8,720 (Gate Guard)	1,358 (Visitor Kiosk)	10,078

- CHUCK COX



March

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## Toiletries Drive - AMIKIDS

On Friday, February 13, **Donna Habing**, liaison for AMIKids, delivered toiletry supplies to the school that were donated by Women's Club members. AMIKids located at 501 Lemon Street in Green Cove Springs, is an alternate school for education and assistance for at-risk boys ages 11-16, followed by a Workforce Development program for young men up to 24 years of age. The students attend full-time and they have a need for toiletry items, as well as small clothing items. Donna was joined by **Maria Przybylski**, Director of AMIKIDS, and seniors **Russel** and **Carl**. The two young men will be graduating this semester and were helpful in moving the large number of hygiene items that members generously donated. The school is very grateful for the Women's Club assistance and Donna thanks everyone who donated items.



## Cummer Museum Outing



On Tuesday, February 10, a group of Women's Club members had a great time visiting the Cummer Museum to see the Andrew Wyeth exhibit, "Andrew Wyeth at Kuerner Farm: The Eye of the Earth". The exhibit featured over 40 works from Mr. Wyeth while he resided at Kuerner Farm in Chadds Ford, Pennsylvania, as well as art from the private collection of Mr. Wyeth and his wife Betsy. The members also toured other exhibits throughout the museum. Following the tour, they enjoyed lunch at The Brick, located in Avondale. Thank you to **Bonnie Sprinkle**, a member of the Activities Committee, for planning the outing.

Continued



# MPWC



## Volunteer Readers – Spring Park Elementary School

On Friday, February 20, Schools Director **Judy Sessions** was joined by Vice President **Adele Murphy** and Communications Director **Sandy Waldrup** to read to kindergarten classes at Spring Park Elementary School. The ladies are part of the volunteer group who read at Spring Park Elementary as well as Charles E. Bennett Elementary. Spring Park Librarian **Shannon Pellegrini** is always welcoming to the members who volunteer to read, as are the classroom teachers and students.

## Three New Members So Far in 2026!

The Club has welcomed four new members so far this year. In late January, **Beth Clarke**, residing on Kapalua Court, joined and has already participated in Club-sponsored card games. In February, **Brigitte Morse** and **Lisa Ullsperger** joined. Brigitte, sister-in-law of Women's Club member Jan Morse, resides on Colonial Drive, and Lisa, who previously lived in Colorado, lives on Shinnecock Lane. **Jean Methe**, residing on Oglebay Drive, has also rejoined. Jean and her husband TJ have been residents of Magnolia Point since 2019.



Beth

Brigitte

Lisa

Jean

New members can join at a discounted rate of \$20 until the end of April 2026. Any woman who is a Magnolia Point resident or property owner, or a member of the Country Club, can become a member. If you know of someone who would like to become a Women's Club member, please have them contact **Diane Lochner**, Membership Director, at [diane.scorpio@gmail.com](mailto:diane.scorpio@gmail.com).



# MPWC Charity Caravan

On a cold and windy Monday, February 23, seven Magnolia Point Women's Club board members participated in a "charity caravan" organized by Past President Donna Habing. Two vehicles with Board members departed Magnolia Point at 9:00 a.m. on their mission to visit six Clay County local charitable organizations to glean more about their organizations. As many residents know, the Women's Club is a 501(c)(3) not-for-profit charitable organization and its mission is to support efforts to improve the lives of underserved residents of Clay County, Florida, offer educational incentives and opportunities to children within Clay

County and provide a support system and positive social experiences for its members.

This is the first such "caravan" that can be recalled being conducted since the Club's inception in 2001. The word "caravan" is a noun, meaning: (1) a vehicle equipped for living in, typically a trailer towed by a car traveling for recreation; and (2) a group of people, especially traders or pilgrims, traveling together across a desert in Asia or North Africa. The participants truly felt like they were pilgrims traveling from organization to organization, covering lots of "miles" on their trek.

The caravan's first stop was the Vineyard Transitional Center, located at 518 Pine Avenue in Green Cove Springs. Vineyard Transitional Center, under the direction of Pastor John Sanders and Joseph Smith, is building a new brick and mortar facility that will provide newly released inmates from the Clay County Jail the opportunity to reconnect with their families, and equip and prepare them with skills needed to rejoin the community.



The caravan then proceeded to Seamark Ranch, 3635 Seamark Ranch Road, Green Cove Springs, which provides a safe and traditional home environment for at-risk children aged 6 through 16 coming from a home going through crisis. The Board members met with Adam, a licensed therapist/case worker, to tour one of the group homes where students reside. Adam provided much detail about their program as well.

The next stop on the caravan was Hope Therapy, 1591 Big Branch Road, Middleburg. Hope Therapy began in 2001 to improve the quality of life for children and adults with various diagnoses, including PTSD, using equine-assisted activities and therapy. Its founders, Marianne Davenport, a pediatric nurse practitioner, and her daughter Becky Davenport, an occupational therapist, have extensive horse experience and the program is accredited with the Professional Association of Therapeutic Horsemanship International.



*Continued*





After lunch, the caravan met with Andrea Crowder, Executive Director, for a tour of the new Way Clinic located at 302 College Drive, Orange Park. In addition to medical services, the new facility also provides dental services to the underserved of Clay County. The Clinic, having outgrown their Green Cove Springs location, anticipates having a mobile clinic in the near future that will be available on certain days in Green Cove Springs. Donna Habing's niece, Nikki Haytain, is the Clinic Administrative Manager, and there are numerous volunteer doctors and staff that assist.

After the tour of the Way Clinic, the group proceeded to Pace Center for Girls, 429 College Drive, Orange Park. Pace Center is a non-residential year-round school for girls in the 6th to 12th grades, and staff work with students to improve their self-esteem, including substance abuse or life choices. Joining the tour were students Nani, a senior, and Izzy, an 8th grader. Both girls mentioned feeling comfortable and safe at the Center, and liked the learning opportunities that are afforded the students.



The last stop was Mercy Support Services, a 501(c)(3) organization since 2012, located at 515 College Drive, Middleburg. Carmen Queen, Director of Development, explained that Mercy provides support programs to help individuals and families in Clay County who are experiencing a housing security crisis. Their motto is a "hand up, not a hand out". The organization has seven homes throughout the County that are available for their clients, and are currently fundraising to build "Mercy Village", a complex of homes located next door to their offices.

It was a very long but rewarding day, with the group returning to Magnolia Point at 4:30 p.m. The caravan provided an

opportunity for the participating Board members to explore several organizations and see first-hand what each do and inquire about their needs. In keeping with its mission statement, the Board members who attended the caravan will bring their experience to the Women's Club when decisions are made on the charities to assist in the coming months, and then present their recommendations to the full membership.

SANDY WALDRUP



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### NEW FARMSTAND OPENS AS WINN-DIXIE SAYS GOODBYE TO GREEN COVE SPRINGS

On February 27th The Farmers Market Produce welcomed its first customers to Clay County's newest farmstand. Located in the heart of Green Cove Springs directly behind Pelican's SnoBalls, The Farmers Market features a selection of fresh, local vegetables and fruits as well as brown eggs and dairy products. Produce is sourced from local farmers and based on what's in-season. The store also carries assorted provisions such as honey, Amish jams and jellies, and pickled veggies.

In addition to their local produce, The Farmers Market is excited to offer Clay County a rotating selection of breads from the French Pantry. Located in Jacksonville, the French Pantry is renowned for their unique breads such as sourdough, ciabatta, country farm, and squaw. (For those of you wondering, squaw is a sweet brown bread... think Cheesecake Factory bread!)

The Farmers Market is open seven days a week with fresh produce being brought in throughout the week. The best part is you can bring the whole family and get a fresh-shaved snoball or Hershey's ice cream right next door at Pelican's SnoBalls while you shop. For more information visit them online at [www.TheFarmersMarketProduce.com](http://www.TheFarmersMarketProduce.com)







# Playing Through

- CHRISTIAN SMITH

Photos: Editor

## TAKE IT AWAY. PART III.

This is the last in the series I started on the takeaway. The first two (last two editions of *Playing Through* if you haven't checked them out) were on how the wrists and arms should work in the backswing to set you up for a more seamless transition into the downswing. Keep in mind, the downswing is almost instantaneous and is largely predicated on how you drew the club back, so these principles help ensure you are making your effort the most streamlined and efficient as you can. This last article will focus on hip turn and how you can set yourself up for success by learning to turn correctly.



There are different schools of thought on hip turn and it seems to have changed a lot over time. Old school teaching, the likes of Percy Boomer talked about swinging in a barrel. The sides of your hips would be touching the inside of the barrel rim and they never went laterally in either direction. Percy and teachers like him advocated starting the backswing with the turn of the hips and preferred a larger hip turn (more than 45 degrees in most cases). Modern teaching has shifted to restricting the hip turn as you rotate the upper body as a means to create torque and keep you stabilized over the ball. Both can be effective and I prefer a mixture of the two. Turning in a barrel and leading the body's rotation by turning the hips can be a good trigger and allows more freedom of movement. The downside is that by trying to swing in a barrel often translates to a player reverse pivoting (weight moving backwards in the downswing) as they try to stay in the barrel. Restricting the hips can create torque, but it can also lead to injury.

It puts an enormous amount of pressure on your lower back and has ended the careers of some promising professionals, much less recreational golfers who have tried this method.

I recommend turning your shoulders, core, and hips together to start the backswing (one piece as they say). In doing this, there are a couple of key points to follow and I'll explain why. One, you want to maintain some flex in your trailing knee as you turn. You don't want to straighten the trailing leg because that alters your plane, allows you to turn too far back, and can cause you to tilt your upper body forward in the backswing. Two, you don't want your weight to get 'outside/behind' your trailing leg. You never want your trailing hip joint to get behind your femur bone in the backswing, or moving that trailing hip so that it is over the outside of your trailing foot. When you do



Continued



"The average time for a downswing in the golf swing for amateurs is .25-.35 seconds...you do not have time to correct mistakes in your backswing."

that, you are swaying or drifting off of the ball. This disrupts any coil you could have created and also demands that you reshift back to the center which is very hard to time and usually results in inconsistency in where the club is going to bottom out. This causes fat and thin shots because you lose control of where the club is going

to return when you transition into the downswing. If you ever see photos of Ben Hogan's setup, his trailing leg was at a bit of an angle with the trailing foot set 3-4" or so behind his trailing hip. His legs at setup were kind of like an inverted V. When he turned back, that hip joint would never get behind the middle of his foot. These two things are really important because 1) the slight flex kept in the knee does restrict the hips from turning too far, and 2) by not swaying (moving the hips laterally) you stay centered over the ball better. The golf swing is fluid, so there may be some slight lateral movement of the hips in either direction just from momentum, and I don't discourage that. You just don't want the hips getting outside of your feet in either direction.



*Knee Flexed, Good!*



*Knee Locked, Bad!*

The last thing I want to talk about is where the weight transfers when you turn your hips. The main topic of this series was a common thread of players getting stuck or having the club get too far behind them in the backswing. One thing that can cause this in the backswing is getting the weight too far into your trailing heel. When this happens, the opposite occurs in the downswing and the weight will counterbalance and throw your weight out to the toes in your lead foot. This becomes a 'weeble-wobble' effect and gets your balance thrown off. When you take it back, feel like you are moving your weight to the inside and middle of your trailing foot. For me, the front of my trailing

ankle is my balance point. I don't want my weight behind the ankle, or too far out towards my toes. As you turn the other direction, it's a similar feeling: your front foot will plant and you want to feel as if you are turning around your front ankle. The weight will go slightly in front of it, and then as you rotate through it will go around the heel and back into the heel.

The approach I outlined above mixes a bit of the modern and historical thoughts on how the hips work in the swing. I feel it provides stability and balance, but also freedom of movement. Knock on wood, I have played for 45 years and I have never had a golf related injury (other than a little tendonitis). Most injuries in golf occur from a lack of balance and too much restriction in the swing. Those same principles also cause a lot of bad shots. I hope you find this helpful and can put it to use. If you get the backswing right, it makes the downswing almost effortless.

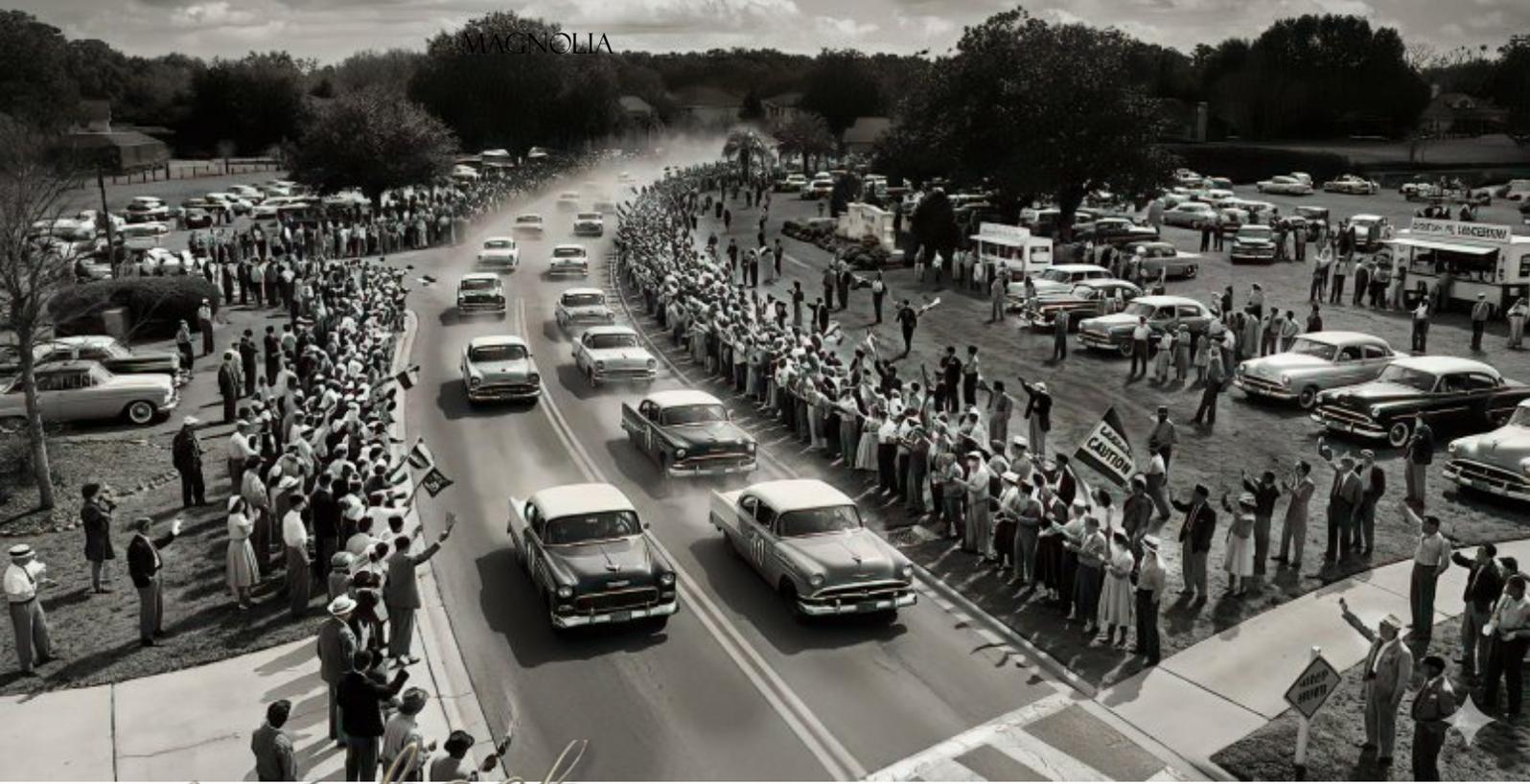
- CS



# 'COLONIAL DRIVING'







# Throwback

Folks, welcome to the '55 Daytona Qualifier, held on the manicured asphalt of Magnolia Point Golf & Country Club! We've traded sand for St. Augustine grass, and sea spray for the irate spittle of Superintendent "Biff" Henderson, who's currently chasing a '53 Hudson Hornet with a rake, screaming about "tire marks on the 4th fairway!"

Our portly Mayor, Barnaby "Buckle-Up" Tubbs, is presiding over the chaos from a makeshift grandstand in the club parking lot, sweating profusely in a wool suit and occasionally waving a checkered flag at passing golf carts. The roar of V8 engines is deafening, drowned out by the collective gasp of the MPWC and the Landscape & Irrigation Committee as a Chevy Bel Air takes out a prize-winning petunia bed. A spectacle of speed, dust, and wacky zoning permits...*pure Green Cove Springs magic!*



dp





‘WE’RE JUST GOING TO THE CLUB’



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# THE Traveling Fork

Photos:Editor

## PARMESAN PEPPERCORN FRENCH BREAD



Herewith, the Traveling Fork brings another great bread for your enjoyment. Your writer makes all the bread consumed at our table, so he is always on the hunt for a new bread. This recipe is one I dug out of a bread volume that is lost to me now, but fortunately I copied it, baked it, and enjoyed it many times in the past. It still graces our table along with others from the past. Once you get into making your own bread there is nothing like getting your hands into a wet dough.

### Ingredients:

- 1 ¼ cups water, 80-90 F° (avoid chlorinated waters)
- Extra Virgin Olive Oil 4 tbsp
- 1 ¼ tsp salt
- 1 tbsp molasses or honey
- 1 tbsp gluten
- 2 cups bread flour
- 1 ¾ cups whole wheat flour
- ⅔ cup grated parmesan cheese
- ⅔ tsp freshly ground black pepper
- 2 ¼ tsp active dry yeast

On your bread board (if you have one) or in a large dishpan-type bowl, mix the water, flour, olive oil, salt, molasses, gluten and yeast. Wet your hands and get into the mixture, kneading vigorously for about 10 minutes until a good, firm but pliant dough is achieved. At this point introduce the grated cheese and black pepper into the dough, working it into a homogenous loaf of your chosen shape. Place it in a warm environment (ovens with a proofing function are great) and allow it to rise for about an hour. Then break it down and knead for about 5-10 minutes; then place in an oiled bread pan and allow it to rise again for about an hour.

Heat your oven to 350 F°. before placing the bread in the oven. Bake it for one hour, take it out, let it cool down, and you have a delicious bread ready to eat.

Bakers know that flours all have variants in gluten content, moisture and other variables that some times require the baker to adjust liquid and/or dry ingredients. If you experience this, just make small corrections. ENJOY!

- BILL BLACKWELL





 **Couple's NINE HOLE LEAGUE**

**February 8** - A great Couples League game was had by all on Superbowl Sunday, Go Hawks!

*Results & Congratulations!*

**Wayne Costa & Bede Johnson, Patrick O'Neil & Rita Altman's team** came in 1<sup>st</sup> with a 39!

Some great playing today!

**February 22** - Beautiful day on the Front Nine for the Couples League, spring is in the air!

*Tie of 36 for two teams!*

**Bob & Diane Gove and Fred & Kristy Varn's team**

**Rick Koenig & Gail Larson and Wayne Costa & Bede Johnson's team** all had 36!

- DIANNE DEARTH

- DIANNE DEARTH



# LADIES 9 LEAGUE

**February 12** - Sunny and warmer with a breeze!  
Today was Individual Play, but flighted by handicap.

## ***First Flight***

***1st Place*** - Deb Elsea - 17 net

***2nd Place*** - Laura Bracken - 21 net

## ***Second Flight***

***1st Place*** - Karen Lioce - 19 net

***2nd Place*** - Bede Johnson - 23 net

***3rd Place*** - Val Flemming - 23 net

**February 19** - The team game today was Mutt & Jeff on the front nine, a beautiful, perfect golf day!

***1st Place*** - Cheryle Newman, Janine O'Connor and Sandy Waldrup - 48

***2nd Place*** - Deb Elsea, Donna Hirsch and Bede Johnson - 49

**February 26** - Beautiful, windy day on the Back Nine; the individual game played was Trouble!

***First Flight 1st Place*** - Deb Elsea - 2 Points

***Second Flight 1st Place (Tie)*** - Karen Lioce - 3 Points, Shirley Orvosh - 3 Points

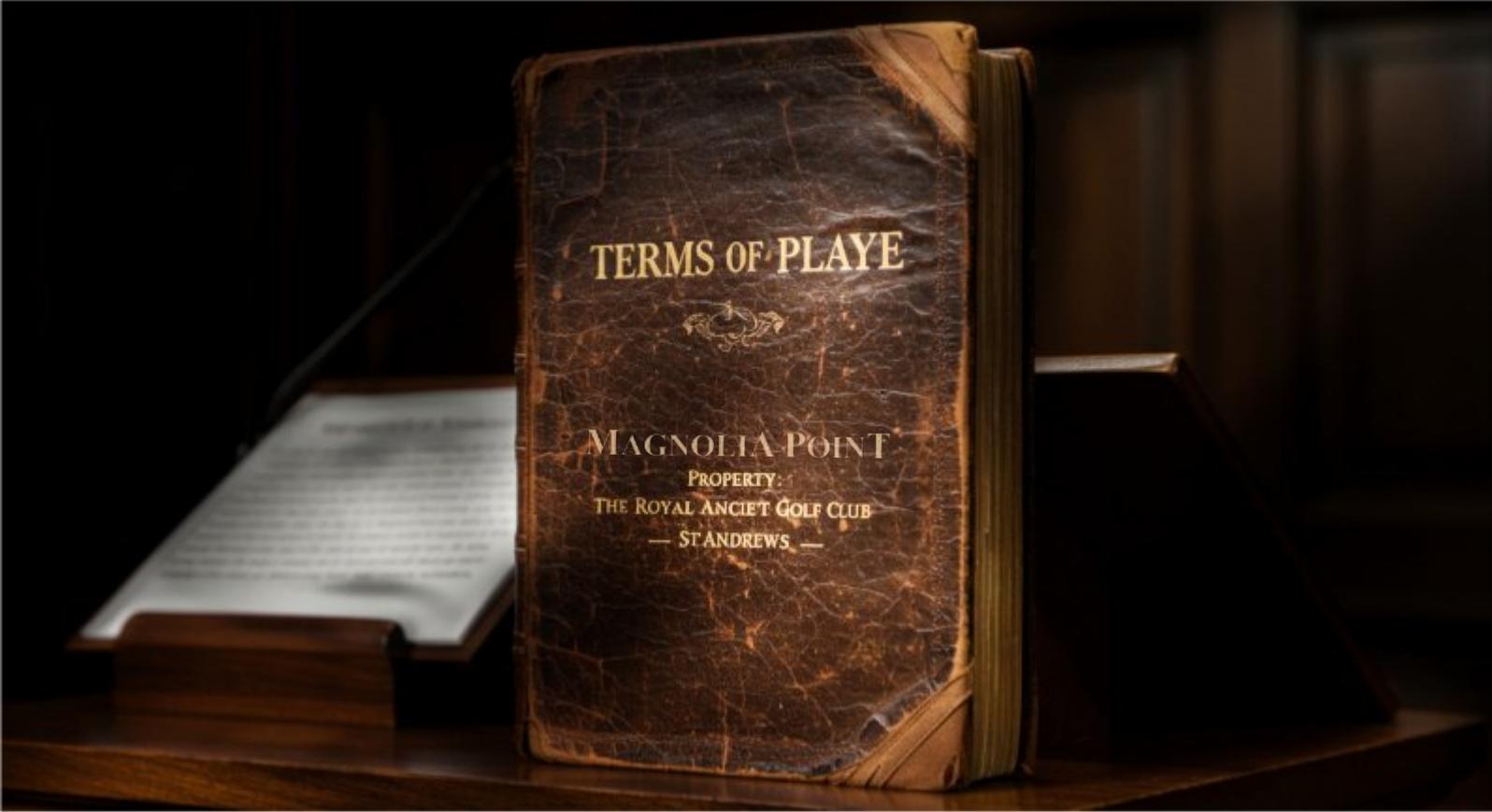


- DIANNE DEARTH



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## HEAR YE! OTHER TERMS OF PLAYE THAT ARE "REACHABLE"

On any given par 5, "reachable" means you've got a chance at glory with just two shots. But golf has many other similar, though less-used, descriptive terms. Here's a glossary you might consult during your next round:

### **1. "Myrtle Beachable" (adj.)**

Definition: Fairway or greenside bunkers clearly in play.

Usage: "Careful, that side's *Myrtle Beachable* if you catch it thin!"

### **2. "Teachable" (adj.)**

Definition: A ball lying on the green that reveals the line to the hole for others.

Usage: "Thanks for leaving that *teachable* roller. Dead center."

### **3. Preachable (adj./n.)**

Definition: The moment someone gives golf advice, usually unsolicited, after one decent shot.

Usage: "Nice drive, Dave, and *preachable*. Didn't realize it came with a sermon."

### **4. "Screechable" (adj.)**

Definition: Any mishit so ugly it makes fellow players wince or yell.

Usage: "That hosel rocket was *screechable* from two fairways over."

### **5. Breachable (adj.)**

Definition: A hazard (bunker, creek, etc.) that's just barely carryable, often attempted with hubris.

Usage: "The pond's *breachable* today with a solid 3-wood and a prayer."

### **6. "Impeachable" (adj.)**

Definition: A blatant breach of etiquette or rules.

Usage: "He gave himself a better lie again? That's *impeachable!*"

### **7. "Speechable" (adj.)**

Definition: A shot so spectacular it deserves a celebratory (or self-congratulatory) speech.

Usage: "Chip-in for birdie? *Speechable!* Floor's yours, champ."

### **8. "Leechable" (adj.)**

Definition: A player who mysteriously never brings their own tees, balls, or marker.

Usage: "Another tee? *And* a Skittles?! You sure are *leechable* today."

### **9. "Bleachable" (adj.)**

Definition: A property whereby an article of wardrobe will hopefully survive stain treatment.

Usage: "You go into that pond and you better hope those pants are *bleachable.*"

### **10. "Stacy Keachable" (adj.)**

Definition: An insurmountable task, requiring the skills of a legendary detective to solve.

Usage: "You're gonna need Mike Hammer to find that ball, pal!"

- STORY, PHOTO: EDITOR



# THE GREAT LEAF BLOWER REBELLION

It was Saturday morning, much too early, when the leaves were still flying and the weekly ritual of lawn maintenance at Magnolia Point suddenly announced its arrival in full on, noisy pitch. Libby Gable on Medinah, a woman known for a meticulous nature that extended from her prize-winning roses to the precisely raked lines in her lawn, had hired "Green Sweep Genies" for the spring cleanup. Three young men in bright green shirts buzzed across her property, their machines exhaling torrents of golden and russet leaves.

Suddenly, a disruption to the suburban symphony waddled into view on her doorbell camera feed. A large Canada goose, its sleek black neck contrasting sharply with its pale breast, strutted onto her porch with an air of undeniable authority. Behind it, like a feathered entourage, trailed four more geese, their beady eyes fixed on the swirling vortex of leaves, and the assembled lawn crew. Then, the goose at the door rang the bell! In her kitchen, Libby found herself both startled by the 'ding-dong' on her display, and puzzled by what could possibly have made her, without pause, reply, *'May I help you?'* to the face of a goose peering into the camera! But then, what else to do? And of course the sound of Libby's voice startled the goose, who responded with an equally startling high-pitched *'Cluck!'*



Out on the lawn, Kevin, the Green Sweep Genie closest to the street, barely registered the avian arrival until one goose let out a sharp, indignant honk. It was a sound that cut through the whine of his leaf blower, a feathered declaration of war. Before Kevin could react, the goose spread its impressive wings, its silhouette filling the wide-angle lens, and charged towards the nearest pile of freshly blown leaves, scattering them with a disdainful flap.

*"Hey! Get outta here, you feathered menace!"* Kevin yelled over the roar of his machine, taking a step towards the goose.

This only seemed to embolden the avian intruder. With another strident honk, it turned its attention to the duct hose on Kevin's blower, its sharp beak making a surprisingly effective jab, and, being behind his elbow, a hard spot to defend. To Kevin's utter astonishment, the other geese followed suit, pecking and tugging at the ducts and throttle sticks of the blowers like they were particularly annoying earthworms.

One managed to latch onto a coupling, its pecking and tugging eventually separating the hose from the blower with a frustrated sigh of expelled air and the high-pitched whine of unrestricted airflow. Kevin stared, dumbfounded, as his colleagues sputtered and cursed, their leaf-blowing advantage significantly diminished.

*Continued*





It was at this moment of peak suburban absurdity that Agnes Periwinkle, a renowned but slightly eccentric ornithologist from the Long Cove Court, ambled into the frame. Agnes, clad in sensible walking shoes and a tweed vest adorned with numerous bird pins, had been enjoying her morning constitutional, binoculars clutched in her hand, when the unusual commotion caught her attention.

She stopped at the edge of Libby's lawn, and though certainly close enough to see, continued peering through her binoculars with an expression of utter fascination. The sight of five large Canada geese actively sabotaging lawn maintenance equipment was, to put it mildly, unprecedented in her extensive birdwatching career. "Good heavens," she murmured to herself, adjusting her spectacles. "I've never seen such... organized aggression in *Branta canadensis*. Note the coordinated attack on the air duct couplings! Remarkable!" Kevin, his face flushed with a mixture of annoyance and bewilderment, threw his hands up in the air. "Lady, can you...do something? They're attacking our equipment!"

Agnes lowered her binoculars, her eyes wide with scientific wonder. "Interfere? But this is a fascinating display of interspecies conflict! Observe the lead gander's tactical prowess!" She raised her binoculars again, completely engrossed.

The Ring camera continued to record the surreal scene: the frustrated Green Sweep Genies attempting to wrangle rebellious geese, the air filled with angry honks and the sputtering of malfunctioning leaf blowers, and Agnes Periwinkle, oblivious to the chaos, meticulously documenting the "*Great Leaf Blower Rebellion*" with scholarly enthusiasm. The perfectly manicured lawns of Magnolia Point had, for a brief and bizarre interlude, become a battleground in a war waged with wings and wayward leaves, Canada Geese 1-0!

- STORY, PHOTOS: EDITOR



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# MIX *magic* MEYER'S MIST

This drink is designed to bridge the gap between the lingering chill of late winter and the brightness of early spring. It highlights the unique floral, sweet-tart profile of Meyer lemons, paired with warm vanilla and honey to evoke the lush, fragrant scent of a magnolia blossom in bloom.

## Ingredients:

- 1.5 oz Freshly squeezed Meyer lemon juice (about 1 medium lemon)
- 1 oz Vanilla-Honey Syrup (recipe below)
- 3-4 oz High-quality sparkling mineral water (chilled)
- 1 Large ice cube
- Garnish: A fresh sage leaf (smack it between your palms to release oils) and a thin wheel of Meyer lemon.

## Recipe:

1. *Combine:* In a shaker tin, combine the Meyer lemon juice and Vanilla-Honey Syrup. (Do not add ice to the shaker yet).
2. *Dry Shake:* Shake briefly to integrate the thick syrup with the juice.
3. *Build:* Place the large ice cube into a rocks glass or coupe.
4. *Pour:* Pour the lemon-honey mixture over the ice.
5. *Top:* Gently top with the chilled sparkling water. Stir once, very gently, to combine without killing the carbonation.
6. *Garnish:* Float the lemon wheel and tuck the sage leaf into the side of the glass.

The Vanilla-Honey Syrup (Prep)  
1/2 cup Honey (Orange Blossom honey works best)  
1/2 cup Water

1/2 tsp Vanilla bean paste (or 1 tsp vanilla extract)

Heat water and honey in a small saucepan over low heat until dissolved. Remove from heat and stir in vanilla. Let cool completely before using.

## Alcoholic Versions

The *Gin Variation* (Bright & Crisp):  
Add 2 oz of London Dry Gin to the shaker.  
The juniper cuts through the honey and highlights the floral lemon.

The *Bourbon Variation* (Warm & Southern):  
Add 2 oz of Wheated Bourbon. The vanilla notes in the bourbon pair perfectly with the syrup, creating a "Magnolia" version of a Whiskey Sour.

The first impression is the earthy, herbaceous scent of fresh sage, followed immediately by the sweet perfume of vanilla. The attack is bright and citrusy but lacks the harsh bite of standard lemons. The mid-palate is rounded and creamy due to the honey and vanilla, mimicking the velvety texture of a magnolia petal. The drink has a clean, effervescent, and slightly floral, leaving a warming sensation that feels appropriate for the changing season.

- RECIPE, PHOTO: EDITOR



## MAGNOLIA POINT BRIDGE

*New Players Welcome!*

All games are friendly, and we welcome new players. Sign up with a partner or as a single. For social one prize is paid out for each table, i.e., if there are four tables, the top four scores win money. Duplicate pays first three winners NS and EW with Mitchell movement.

**Duplicate and Social Bridge** play on alternate Thursdays in the clubhouse dining room from 1:30 to 5:30PM. The fees are \$2.00 for Social and \$3.00 for Duplicate to cover the cost of prize money and supplies.

### CONTACT

**Social:** [mamers3@bellsouth.net](mailto:mamers3@bellsouth.net)

**Duplicate:** [JonBastress@gmail.com](mailto:JonBastress@gmail.com)

### **Social Bridge, Thu Jan 29**

1. Susan Mitchell & Sharon Sprott
2. Jon Bastress & Joe Thill
3. Marty Essex & Cindy Jennings
4. Don Maneval & Nancy Petillo
5. Jim Cardozo & Ed Hayes
6. Jef Flemming & Rannel Westberry

### **Social Bridge, Thu Feb 05**

1. Connie & Michael Byers
2. Marty Essex & Cindy Jennings
3. Jola Griener & Sharon Sprott
4. Jef Flemming & Rannel Westberry
5. Mary Kendall & Sharon Murphy
6. Dotti Lunt & Val Shepard

### **Social Bridge, Thu Feb 12**

1. Tie: Alice Lodge & Kaaren Tague and Marty Essex & Cindy Jennings
2. Brad Lucas & Joe Thill
3. Kim Belcher & Carol Studdard
4. Monica & Steve Harmon
5. Jef Flemming & Rannel Westberry

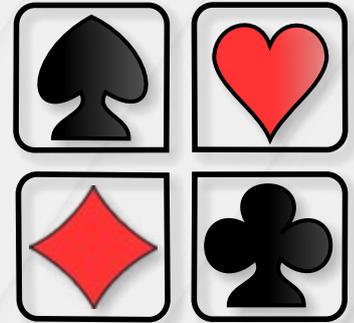
### **Duplicate Bridge, Thu Feb 19**

#### East/West Winners

1. Connie & Michael Byers
2. Marty Essex & Cindy Jennings
3. Jon Bastress & Joe Thill

#### North/South Winners

1. Sharon Sprott & Ed Szymanski
2. Kim Belcher & David Miller
3. Joan Sabanski & Carol Studdard



- SHARON MURPHY

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Legendary Daytona champion Frankie 'Fuzz' Fleming, Clay County born and raised, and one of the designers of Colonial Drive. "Great track. Lotta fun." See **pages 18-20**.



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