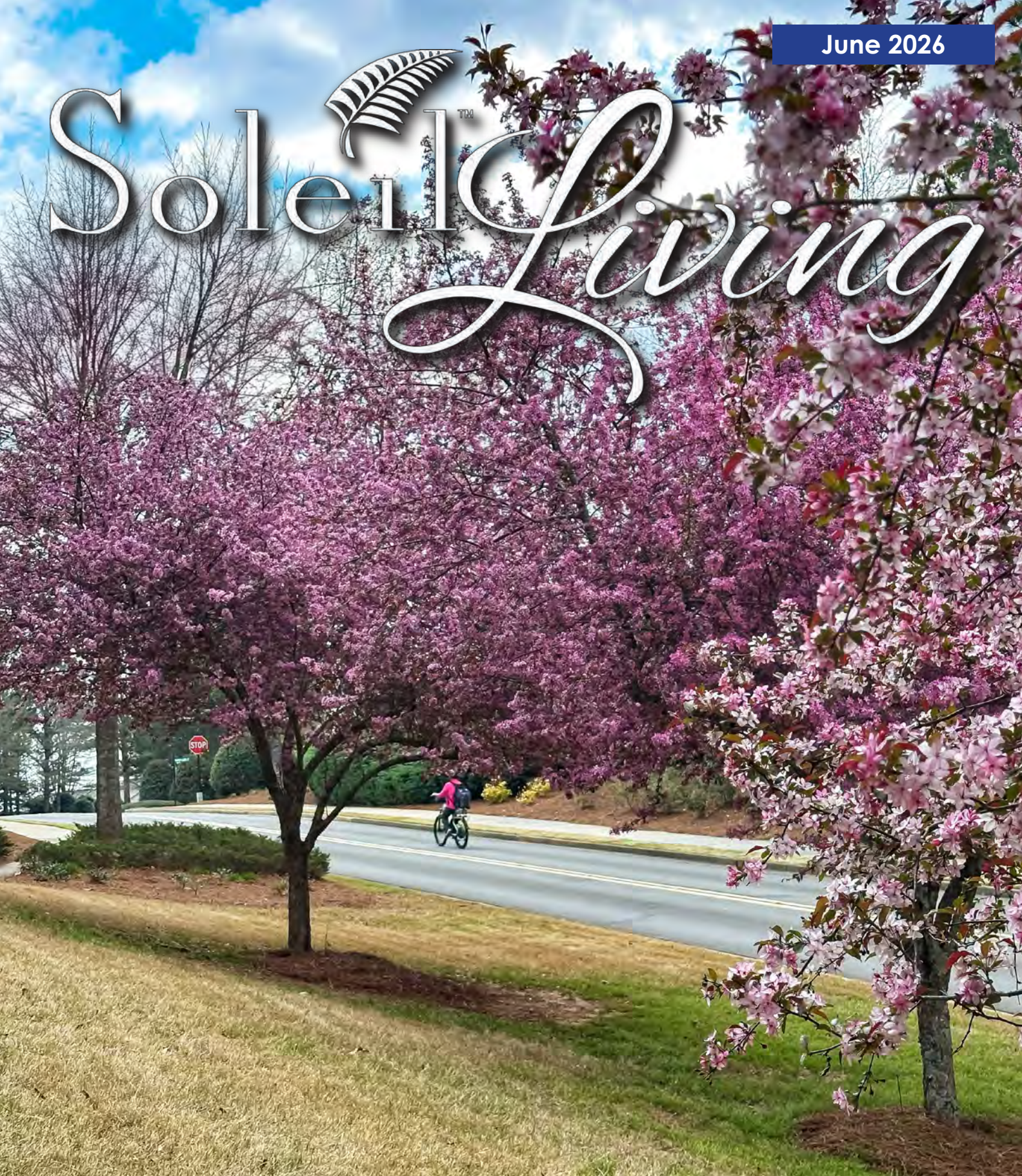


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Soleil Living Staff

Martha Crockett, Editor
Lou Knight, Assistant Editor

Craig Stichtenoth, Photo Editor
Chastaine Kendrick, Assistant Photo Editor

Digital copies of *Soleil Living* are now available on the Soleil website.
Go to: Resident Resources > Soleil Living Magazine



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CONTACTS

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Follow the prompts for Emergency Service, which is #9

Soleil Laurel Canyon Clubhouse Staff

Krista Kugelman, General Manager
generalmanagersoleil@heritageproperty.com

Jennifer Lorenz, Administrative Assistant
adminssoleil@heritageproperty.com

Judy Fauver, Lifestyle Director
lifestyledirectorsoleiljudy@heritageproperty.com

Brenda Holmes, Lifestyle Director
lifestyledirectorsoleilbrenda@heritageproperty.com

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The early spring blossoms of Southern Crabapple trees along Laurel Canyon Parkway provide a splash of seasonal color while attracting a profusion of pollinators. Photo by resident Craig Stichtenoth.



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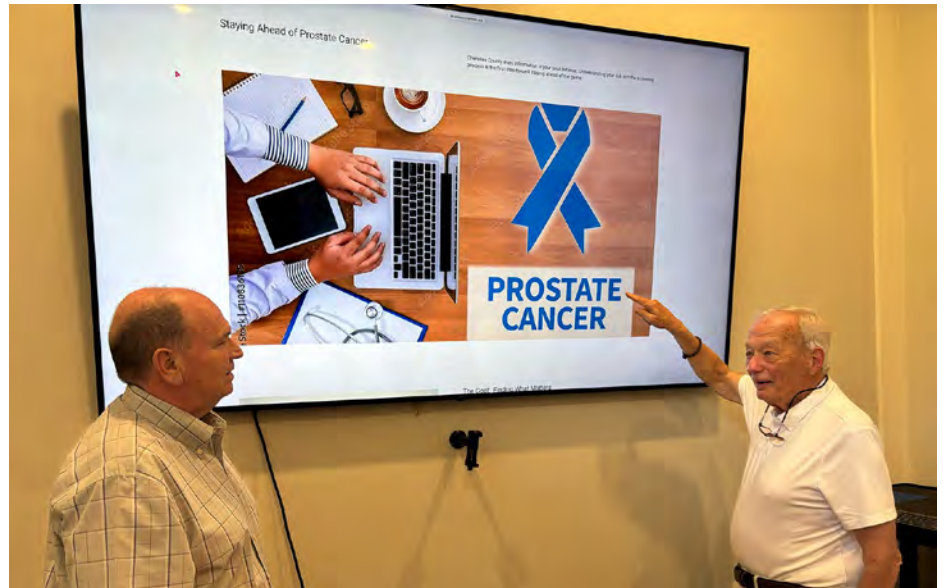
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Countywide Prostate Cancer Awareness Starts in Soleil



▲ Joe Rebele (left) and Dennis Burnette discuss features of the website Joe created for Blue Ribbon CHEROKEE. Mike Lee (not pictured) supplied fliers for the program. Dennis is scaling the record-breaking success of last September's health event at the Soleil Clubhouse—which facilitated 72 life-saving PSA tests—into a countywide mission. Now officially launched as Blue Ribbon CHEROKEE, the nonprofit utilizes a no-ask model to encourage early detection, funded through win-win sponsorships with mission-aligned healthcare-related entities. Fellow Soleil residents Mike Lee and Joe Rebele are lending their talents to ensure that the success found within our community's gate can protect men across Cherokee County. The website is blueribboncherokee.org. (Photo by Martha Crockett)



Welcome to Soleil!

Please join us in welcoming the following Soleil residents:

Name	Address
Sarah Bentley & Des Martin	507 Bonneset Court
Randy Dotson	107 Mountain Laurel Court
Lorraine Dupuis	158 Laurel Overlook
Barbara Kinmonth	102 Woodsdale Drive
Shannon & Tom LaPorte	605 Hemlock Trail
Lynn Lowe	115 Laurel View
William McCormack	206 Canyon Fairway Trace
Ginger & Steve Patten	235 Balsam Drive
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▲ Many of Soleil's Ambassadors gather for a photo on the clubhouse porch. (L-R): standing: Susie Asselin, John Amones, Chris Amones, Marty Spellman, Carla Spellman, Dennis Graves, Jodi Graves, Susan Abrams, Bob Abrams, Sheila Gerston. Sitting: Debbie Everett, Michelle Hume, Cynthia Battaglia, Larry Hoover, Judy DiBernardo (HOA President), Louie Eichman. Not pictured: David Battaglia, Kathy Cade, Wendy & Mike Chauvin, Kristina & Rick Croteau, Chris Digby, Craig Hume, Robin & Don McClelland, Linda & Chuck Nocht, Lori Poer, Mary & Mike Rainwater. (Photo by Craig Stichtenoth)

Ambassadors Show Soleil in its Best Light

By Louie Eichman

To preserve property values, Soleil's HOA board has been proactive in marketing the beautiful Soleil community by highlighting the amenities that sets us apart from all other active adult communities in North Georgia.

The marketing strategy includes listings on 55+ internet websites, ads in targeted publications, interviews with residents and HOA Board members on Atlanta News First TV, and producing a new video showcasing the Soleil community.

Soleil also provides the use of the ballroom to the Cherokee County Realtors Association to hold continuing education seminars. This enables realtors to learn more about what Soleil can offer their clients. In addition, Soleil is advertising in ALTA Net News—the Atlanta Lawn Tennis Association magazine.

Once prospective buyers' attention is captured, what often clinches the deal is a tour of Soleil's facilities and amenities with a Soleil Ambassador. This group of residents volunteers their time to give tours of Soleil amenities to potential new neighbors who want to see for themselves what the community offers.

How does this work? Marketing efforts steer interested buyers to the external Soleil website where they can complete a tour request form specifying the date and time they plan to visit and their activity interests (i.e., tennis, pickle ball, card games, fitness, fishing, book clubs, etc.). The request is channeled to the Soleil Ambassador coordinator, Louie Eichman. She emails the request to the ambassadors, and whoever is available will give the tour.

Soleil's resident realtors frequently ask ambassadors to be on standby to give a tour to potential clients who come to open houses. Touring guests have given Soleil high marks for the amenities that it offers.

Currently, there are thirty Ambassadors who are all enthusiastic about showcasing Soleil's wonderful amenities and caring community. The personal connection offered by ambassadors to potential buyers has been well received and appreciated by both potential buyers and real estate agents.



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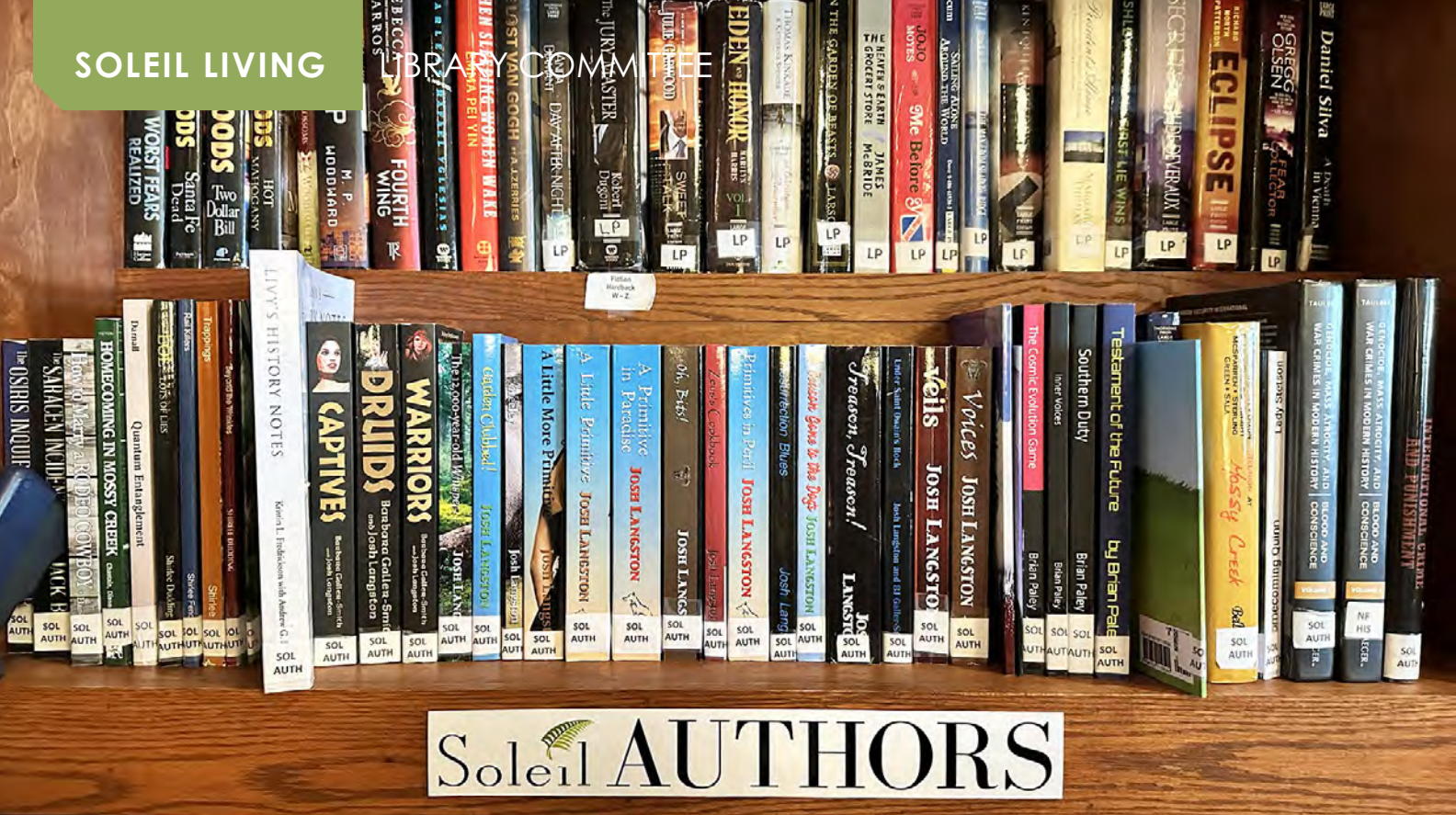
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Soleil **AUTHORS**

▲ Published authors in Soleil Laurel Canyon have their own dedicated bookshelf in the clubhouse library—same wall as the coffee bar but the opposite end. This sign was unveiled at the event. (Photo by Bev Stichtenoth)

Meet Soleil's Authors | March 24

By Shirlee Fender



▲ Soleil's authors gather for a group photo during the Meet the Authors event hosted by Soleil's Library Committee. Author Josh Langston spoke about what it takes to write a book and navigate the publishing process. (L-R): Seated: Kristen Frederickson, Shirlee Fender, Joan Sladen, Christine Ries. Standing front: Martha Crockett, Jack Bowie, Larry Taulbee, Kathy Schevling. Standing back: Josh Langston, Bradley Ballish, Lou Knight, Patricia Ballish, Brian Paley, Bob Pennington. Not pictured: Michael Werner and the Memoir Writing Group. (Photo by Craig Stichtenoth)



▲ The volunteer Library Committee comes together to strike the classic librarian pose... "Shhhh! Quiet in the library!" (L-R): Kelly Wilson, Ann O'Mahoney, Anne Owens, Liz Balak, Sally White, Anne Rhome, Shirlee Fender, Janelle Walker. (Photo by Craig Stichtenoth)



▲ The clubhouse library is abuzz for Soleil's first Meet the Authors event. (Photo by Bev Stichtenoth)



▲ Author Larry Taulbee confers with Sharon Jackson on the match game residents were invited to play. The game was designed by library volunteers to help participants learn about Soleil's resident authors. Winners received copies of Soleil authors' books. (Photo by Bev Stichtenoth)



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18th Annual Pancake Breakfast

April 11

Article by Lenora McCrea • Photos by Cathy Pica

The 18th Annual Optimist Club Pancake Breakfast saw more than 225 residents, guests, sponsors and club members treated to a delicious breakfast featuring pancakes, eggs, cheese grits, bacon, sausage, fruit, orange juice and coffee in the Soleil ballroom on April 11.

Club members worked diligently to obtain 49 sponsors from a variety of large and small businesses in the community, along with numerous raffle and silent auction prizes.

The club would like to especially thank our corporate sponsors IHOP, Publix, O'Charley's Restaurant, as well as Stitch Coffee whose donations helped make the pancake breakfast possible.

Other sponsorship levels include:

- **Diamond Level:** Hope & Faith Trust
- **Platinum Level:** Berkshire Hathaway Home Services GA Properties, Superior Storage
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The Optimist Club also thanks the club members and generous residents of the Soleil community who stepped up to help with other important tasks such as selling tickets and providing publicity, purchasing and gathering supplies and food items, setting up and decorating, making and displaying the sponsor frames, preparing coffee service, assembling fruit cups, cooking, waitressing, serving food, selling raffle tickets, organizing, displaying and assisting with distribution of raffle prizes and silent auction items and cleanup.

It takes hours with many hands working together to make this event a success. Please patronize our generous sponsors as you shop in the Cherokee community. Funds from the Annual Pancake Breakfast, along with the Yearly Raffle Sale, allow the club to help hundreds of children and youth, as well as seniors and homeless veterans in Cherokee County.

Optimist Club meetings, including lunch, are held on the second Monday of the month at Sidelines Grille. If you are interested in learning more about the club's projects or volunteering your time, please attend an upcoming meeting. For more information, contact Tony DeLuca, president, (tonydeluca1@me.com or 571-283-1858), or Ed Hill, past president, (evhilljr@yahoo.com or 770-880-6462).



◀ The fourteen ladies who served as waiters for the 2026 Pancake Breakfast pose before beginning their duties. (L-R): front row: Margie Olds, Debbie Everett, Sue Surdi, Ann Marie Folk, Lynn Joran, Jeanne Kraus, Mary DeLuca, Pam Dulin, Bonnie Burnett, Eileen Shafer, and Ginny Pallo. Back row: Jennifer Baker, Gayle Lee, Kathy Geroski.



▲ John Irizarry, Helen Ford and Barbara Burnsworth peruse the bid sheets for over 65 silent auction items donated by businesses and friends of the Optimist Club.



▲ Buckets wait to receive raffle tickets as breakfast guests choose which of 68 prizes to win. Prizes were obtained from local businesses and donations by club members and residents.



▲ Scott Davis prepares to deliver a pan of scrambled eggs to the serving table in the ballroom.



▲ Tony Lee (left) and Bruce Hinkley show off the fruits of their labor as members of the Pancake Brigade. They were helped by Randy Plant and Wayne Smoak (not pictured). Guests enjoyed over 500 pancakes cooked from batter donated by IHOP.



▲ Food Servers include (left to right) Robyn De La Houssaye, Valerie Hill, Sandy Smoak, Phil Rodes.



◀ Ten members and friends of the Optimist Club Kitchen Crew pause in the middle of scrambling eggs, frying bacon and sausage, stirring cheese grits and flipping pancakes. (L-R): Tony Lee, Scott Davis, Bruce Hinkley, Chuck Surdi, Chris Everett, Ed Hill, Ron Fender, Rob Kraus, Randy Plant, Wayne Smoak.

Look for the Red Signs for Emergency Equipment

Article by Susan Abroms • Photos by Martha Crockett

Did you know there are five AEDs (automated external defibrillators), eight first aid kits, four life vacs and five emergency phones in our clubhouse? In an emergency, could you find the closest one?

Look for the red signs! All throughout the clubhouse—inside and out including the racquet courts—red and white signs jutting from walls indicate the location of emergency equipment and alarms. See below for a list of locations.

DEFIBRILLATORS (AED):

- Business Office – opposite the window, between the Billiard Room and the Library
- Fitness Center (gym) – opposite the door, before heading down the hallway to the pool
- Racquet Center – west side of the office
- Guardhouse
- Ballroom on back wall by door, right of stage.

FIRST AID KITS:

- Business Office – opposite the window, between the Billiard Room and the Library
- Kitchen – west wall by the thermostat
- Arts/Crafts Room – by the sink
- Fitness Center (gym) – opposite the door, before heading down the hallway to the pool
- Indoor Pool – by the door to the Pool Equipment room



- Outdoor Pool – to the right of the fireplace
- Racquet Center – west side of the office
- Guardhouse

EMERGENCY PHONES— CONNECT DIRECTLY TO EMERGENCY RESPONDERS:

- Ballroom – outside door
- Fitness Center (gym) – opposite the door, below the TV
- Indoor Pool – top of the ramp by men's locker room door
- Outdoor Pool – to the right of the fireplace
- Racquet Center – west side of the office

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- Over First Aid Kit in kitchen just inside door
- The indoor pool by the other emergency equipment
- With the AED and other emergency items by the office
- Tennis Center



▲ Red and white signs—such as this one signaling the location of an AED (automated external defibrillator)—jut from walls throughout the clubhouse and outdoor amenities indicating the location of emergency equipment.



▲ An emergency phone that connects directly to Emergency Responders is located right outside the Ballroom door, along with a fire extinguisher.



▲ The wall directly across from the Business Office has an AED, a Life Vac and a fire extinguisher.



▲ This Life Vac anti-choking device is located on the west wall of the kitchen.

Building Trust with Your Doctor | March 16



▲ Soleil resident Dr. Jeff Stone talks to residents about “Building Trust with Your Doctor.” Dr. Stone offered tips on what to look for when choosing a physician and the importance of open communication and mutual respect. Attendees asked questions and learned about the increasing challenges facing physicians. (Photo by Sallie Swartz)



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**Soleil
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Genealogy: Understanding Personal History

March 10

Article & Photos by Pam Kuester

The practice of genealogy is not just a cold gathering of facts, but rather a practice which breathes life into family stories. Those who engage in genealogy exploration are better able to understand history and how it shaped who they are today.

On March 10, Genealogy Club President Debbie Brodowski gave a presentation at the monthly club meeting on “Photographs: ‘Flesh to Bones’ for Ancestors” which featured an understanding of the history of photography relating to family photos. It’s important to realize that photographs are evaluated like any other document to help understand the time, date and place of our ancestors’ lives.

While Debbie Brodowski has been the primary presenter for the Genealogy Club since 2021, other resident amateur genealogists have also made memorable presentations including Craig Stichtenoth on his German ancestors, Susan Asselin on those who arrived on the Mayflower and Dennis Manning on Military Ancestry.

The Genealogy Club is open to all Soleil residents and currently no dues are collected. The club meets monthly September-May on the second Tuesday of each month, 1-2:30 p.m. Current officers include Debbie Brodowski, President; Dennis Manning, Vice-President; Ed Hill, Treasurer; Melinda Long, Secretary.

From those curious about their past to avid, seasoned genealogists, the Genealogy Club has something for everyone.



▲ Debbie Brodowski offers tips for deciphering important clues about your ancestors through the examination of old family photographs during the March 10 Genealogy Club meeting.



▲ In addition to examples of old photographs that Debbie brought to include as part of her presentation, others were invited to bring old photographs to share with the group as well.

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LadyBug Quilters and Babies

By Sharon Monaco

LadyBug Quilters held their Spring retreat at the clubhouse April 17-20. The theme was 'Babies.'

Searching through the stash of flannel, quilters used a cutter called an AccuQuilt to precisely cut bibs and burp cloths. Over the four-day retreat, they finished 109 bibs and 113 burp cloths.

Baby quilts and blankets are also in process. These items will be delivered to the Hope Center—a free clinic for prenatal and postnatal care for lower income clients in Woodstock—and the Charlie Ferguson Community Center.

LadyBugs also spent time at the retreat working on their own projects, eating, learning, teaching and laughing. Blocks for this year's Quilt of Valor were completed and assembly begun.

If you are interested in quilting and the fiber arts, please join our group Mondays and Fridays, 10 a.m.-2 p.m. in the Arts & Crafts Room. For more information, contact Sharon Monaco, President (sharonmonaco@gmail.com) or Cynthia Rubant, Vice President/Secretary (quiltsrubant@comcast.net).



▲ LadyBug Quilters show off the fruits of their labors during the spring retreat April 17-20 in the clubhouse where the focus was on babies. (L-R): Lois Rebele, Susan Hawkins, Michelle Young, Jo Laswell, Joyce Verseput, Terry Deloney, Sharon Monaco, Stephanie Compton, Marjorie Heywood, Cynthia Rubant, Jeanne Bayer. (Photo by Jennifer Lorenz)



▲ LadyBug Quilters discuss the design and craftsmanship of a quilt. (L-R): Jan Gradle, Marjorie Heywood, Cynthia Rubant, Jeanne Bayer, Jo Laswell. (Photo by Terry Deloney)



▲ Baby bibs and burp cloths sewn by the LadyBugs during their April retreat fill a table in the Arts & Crafts room. (Photo by Jo Laswell)

Soleil Collectors Sell Pieces in Dalton Show

April 17



▲ *Soleil collectors pause after a successful day selling collectibles at the Dalton Coin Show where they found hundreds of dealers willing to pay good prices for stuff they wanted to sell. (L-R): front row: Joan Olschewske, Mary Farrington, Sue Polmanski. Back row: Ron Sifen, Grig & Riva Adamovsky, Karen Converse, Ron & Shirlee Fender, Ray Lorenzi, Scott Farrington. Not pictured: Dieter Kinderman and Chris Everett. The Soleil Collectors Club provides opportunities to share enjoyment of collectibles with neighbors in Soleil. The meetings are basically show and tell—no membership requirements or dues and no set schedule for meetings. Contact Ron Sifen for information (rsifen@aol.com | 770-826-9346)*

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After the Frogz | March 29

Photos by Dick Slaats



▲ Stage left, Diane Taulbee (Waylon, aka Harley) is on the phone with Ed Kuester (radio call-in host Dr. Dave). Stage right, Sherry Remillard (Mary) and Larry Taulbee (James, grandfather of Waylon) await their next scene. Throughout the play, the action and dialog alternates between Dr. Dave chatting with his caller on stage left and the conversations of Mary and James in their home on stage right.



▲ Sherry Remillard (Mary) and Larry Taulbee (James) engage in one of several living room conversations, along with several glasses of wine, throughout the duration of the play.



▲ Dr. Dave listens intently as Harley tells his story. Unbeknownst to either of them, Mary and James are listening as well since they are tuned into the radio program, "Let's Talk About It..."



▲ Resident playwright Diane Taulbee (in baseball cap) receives accolades from the cast and the audience at the conclusion of "After the Frogz." (L-R): narrator Dick Jackson, Diane Taulbee, Sherry Remillard, Larry Taulbee, Director Ed Kuester.

Ladies Night Out | April 1



▲ A bus load of Soleil ladies enjoy a fun evening at Guston's Grille in Woodstock.
(Photo by Jackie Schierer)



▲ Sue Rabson, Jean Harmon, Brenda Dempsey, Gayle Lee (L-R) share a table.
(Photo by Mary West)



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Art Show Features More Artists than Ever

March 28



▲ Participating artists in the Soleil Spring Art Show on March 28. Over 25 artists participated—the most ever for this annual show. Types of media included water colors, pencil drawings, photography, laser etchings on wood, fabric art, acrylics and acrylic pours, oil paintings and pastels. Free Door Prize tickets were also given to each attendee. (L-R): Cheryl Kacher, Chastaine Kendrick, Diane Pfaeffle, Patty Sawyer, Sharon Golden, Joanne Searcy, Ron Sifen, John Quinn, Kevin Reynolds, Arlene Hobbs, Bruce Geibel, Dixie Moore, Tom “TJ” Jacobs, Michael Berkman, Rick Zenna, Lisa Fletcher, Rich Elwell, Marlene Caracalas, Terry Caracalas, Alan Bernhardt. Not pictured: Tim Carrera, Alan Lodwick, Jim Heywood. (Photo by Craig Stichtenoth)



▲ Soleil residents Michael and Dixie Moore relax by the display of Dixie’s beautiful paintings. (Photo by Chastaine Kendrick)



◀ Marlene Caracalas stands by her colorfully textured fabric art. (Photo by Sallie Swartz)



◀ Rick Zenna displays his most recent watercolor. (Photo by Chastaine Kendrick)



◀ Cathy Pica proudly holds the raffle prize she won—a photograph by Tommy “TJ” Jacobs (right). (Photo by Sallie Swartz)



▲ Artists Tim Carrera (left) and Patty Sawyer discuss Patty's watercolors. (Photo by Craig Stichtenoth).



▲ Artist Rich Elwell (left) discusses his distinctive Civil War drawing with Dick Jackson. (Photo by Craig Stichtenoth)



▲ Cheryl Kacher's artwork is not limited to canvas... and not limited to paint. (Photo by Sallie Swartz)



▲ Docent Karen Perkul (right) chats with raffle attendants Arlene Zucker and Sunny Lewitt. The raffle helped the Soleil Artists Guild raise over \$400 that will offset costs of this and future shows. (Photo by Chastaine Kendrick)



▲ Participating in the Heritage Art section (art created by family members of residents), Craig Stichtenoth displays a watercolor painting created by his father, Warren Stichtenoth, a work of art believed to have been inspired by a pair of historic early 20th century photos by the noted photographer, Edward S. Curtis. Warren's career as an artist included both commercial and fine art. (Photo by Sallie Swartz)



▲ Not all art is created with things you can paint or sculpt. Tim Carrera displays his captivating photography and digital art. (Photo by Alan Bernhardt)

Fluid Acrylic Workshop | March 5

Photos by Sharon Golden



▲ Cheryl Kacher (left) demonstrates a Chain Pull (pulling a chain through acrylic paint to make an intricate design) as Karen Strand, Patty Sawyer and Barbara Kinderman (L-R) look on.



▲ Gayle Lee (left) and Jim Simunek begin a Pour Over of acrylic paint onto an object to create a colorful pattern.

Cinco de Mayo | April 30

Photos by Craig Stichtenoth



▲ DJs Fred & Tiffany get residents moving on the dance floor so they can work off the taco dinner catered by Moe's Southwest Grill.



▲ Chuck and Nancy Lampman are in the celebratory spirit of the day.



▲ Two guys from Moe's are delighted to prepare tacos for Carol Marmitt, Lynn Joren and Anna Marie Folk (L-R).



▲ Volunteers Wendell & Betty Henry add salt around the rims and an appropriate amount of tequila before thirsty neighbors get their cups filled at the frozen margarita machine. In line front-back: Stuart & Linda Blake, John Nettuno, Bernie Rosner, Bev Stichtenoth, Chuck Lampman.



▲ Chuck Nochta (left) operates a smartphone camera as revelers all but block the Cinco de Mayo sign. (L-R): Bill & Lois Healey, Carol & Bobby Munster, Robyn & John De la Houssaye, Karen Randall and David Mackay.



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Soleil Dinner Club

February 28

The Soleil Dinner Club kicked off this year's hosted dinners on February 28. Dinners featured eleven host homes with eighty club members attending. The dinner club holds three hosted events throughout the year and one banquet at the end of the year. If you are interested in joining, please contact Margie Brisson at margieandco@gmail.com.



▲ Guests at the dinner hosted by Arlene Zucker and Sunny Lewitt smile for the camera. Clockwise from left: Charlie Monaco, Sharon Monaco, Arlene Zucker, Tom Wise, Judy Wise, Geraldine Klein. (Photo by Sunny Lewitt)



▲ Jim Hemmen takes a snapshot of the dinner party hosted by Rose Blouse. (L-R): Jim Hemmen, Rose Blouse, Tom Cutilletta, Earnie & Marci Zied, Ingrid Friedman, Bernadine Cutilletta, Anne Brandt.

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The 70s Kids | March 20

Photos by Craig Stichtenoth



▲ The dance floor is busy... "Love Will Keep Us Together" is one of many 70s hits that fill the dance floor.



▲ One of the Pink Ladies (Marge Nettuno) seems to have a thing for the guitar man (Mike Rainwater).



Bingo March 25

◀ Chris Digby (left) and Myra Hadley await the right numbers to be called in hopes of becoming a winner. (Photo by Mary West)

Glow Band | April 24

Photo by Craig Stichtenoth



▲ There's nothing like a slow song to fill the ballroom dance floor. "Imagine all the people livin' life in peace..."

Karaoke | April 25

Photos by Rob Kraus



▲ Bruce Burnett makes an impressive Soleil Karaoke debut with his interpretation of the David Allan Coe classic, "You Never Even Called Me by My Name."



▲ Bob Hamilton channels his inner Elvis with "I Can't Help Falling in Love."



▲ Gary Gettis gets surprise help from Nancy Back as he delivers his take on the George Strait hit, "I Just Want to Dance with You."

A Coastal Spring Dinner | March 17



▲ A team of Winers & Diners plate their delicious dinner in the kitchen. (L-R): Ann Owens, Linda Selfridge, Kittie Massie, Debbie Simmons, Linda Penrose, Paula Barbin, Jean Harmon, Ingrid Friedman, Crystal Jacobs, Mary Rusch. (Photo by Pat Stephen)



▲ The gracious hosts for the evening. (L-R): Nancy Krocza, Paula Barbin, Pat Stephen, Debbie Simmons. (Photo by Mary West)

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Diving into Dinner! | March 24

Photos by Craig Stichtenoth



▲ John Amones and co-host John Irizarry prepare multi-colored potatoes for the oven.



▲ George Goodmand and Richard Cheap sauté spinach and mushrooms that were served with a citrus baked chicken breast and roasted potatoes.



◀ Chef Kip Lowery (right) of Dive Southern Coastal Kitchen in Canton, discusses the menu with members of the Soleil Cooking Club. (L-R): George Horack, Frank Schmitt, Ed Hill, John Byers, John Amones, George Goodman. The menu also included a watermelon mint salad as a starter and blueberry cobbler with ice cream for dessert.



Fitness is as Close as the Clubhouse

By Fitness Center Director Gina Beckwith

Six days per week Soleil offers a variety of land and water fitness classes. Class info (days/times) can be found on the resident website under Amenities/Fitness. These classes are led by certified instructors and resident volunteers.

Participants benefit at group classes from more than just the workouts. Friendships made by working together in a common goal, accountability to show up week after week, connections with the instructor, etc. all help to further fitness goals.

But maybe group classes aren't your thing, and you prefer to work out in the comfort of your home. That's okay too.

Here are three trusted-source websites for you to visit that share information on how to get started working out—suggested activities and movements, nutritional information, and lots more.

- National Institute on Aging - US Government: nia.nih.gov/health
- HelpGuide.org - Experts from Harvard Medical: helpguide.org
- American Association of Retired Person: AARP.org

Consult your physician prior to beginning any exercise program.

If you are interested in trying classes and don't know where to begin or would like more info on our fitness offerings at the Clubhouse, contact Gina at soleilfitness@outlook.com.



▲ Ladies in Ann Alman's MWF morning Body Balance class keep the water churning as they exercise in the indoor pool. (L-R): Martha Turner, Joan Lanier, Ann Alman, Riva Adamovski, Stan Carder, Sandra Arnold. (Photo by Martha Crockett)

Free Golf Cart Clinic | April 18



▲ Soleil golf cart owners line up early on April 18 to have the health of their carts checked out by the Golf Cart Guru, Tim Broadwell. From 9 a.m.-3 p.m., 47 golf carts were inspected. With over 150 registered golf carts in Soleil that need regular maintenance, this free service was the brain child of resident Greg von Seeger. Plans are in the works to offer this clinic biannually. (Photo by Martha Crockett)

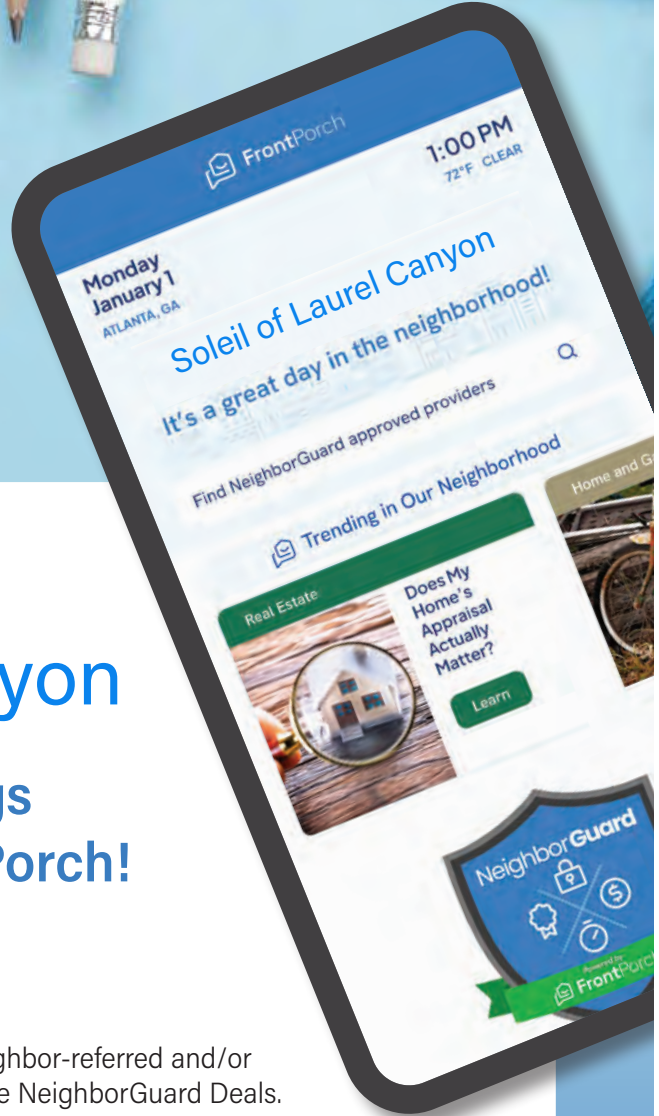


▲ Tim Broadwell (left), owner of Golf Cart Guru, discusses service needed on the golf cart owned by Greg von Seeger (right). The free clinic included an inspection and diagnostic service on cart tires, batteries and accessories. Many residents who need more in-depth service will have Tim come to their homes in the coming weeks with his mobile golf cart repair. (Photo by Penny O'Shaughnessy von Seeger)



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- Find new Landscaper Neighbor suggestions?



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- Local Community updates, events and informative content.



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Tai Chi at Soleil

By Tom Snipes

In early January 2026, several people on the Soleil blog requested Tai Chi instruction. In response, Fitness Center Director Gina Beckwith contacted several Tai Chi instructors but was unable to find one willing to teach in Soleil.

When Jill and I first moved here in 2015, Tai Chi was offered by Margaret Miller (Wellesong LLC). Residents took instruction from her until she relocated to Florida. Some of those same residents continue to practice on their own each Tuesday at 9:30 a.m. in the aerobics room.

Since I have been studying and practicing Tai Chi and Qigong for almost 30 years, I volunteered—with Gina’s approval—to lead an introductory class titled, “Qigong and Tai Chi: Would They Be Right for You?”

I posted the sign-up for a free introduction to Tai Chi on the Soleil blog in mid-January. The response generated over 60 sign-ups the first day alone.

Classes started in late January and ended in March. Students were divided into two groups. The first 36

were split into three separate classes, held once a week for four weeks. When the first group ended, the same setup was used for the remaining 32 people in the second group, which ended in March.

The goal of the course was to help those interested in learning about Qigong and Tai Chi, including its history, development and health benefits. Whether this discipline would work for them depended on their health, physical activity level and time commitment. I emphasized that while Tai Chi may not be for everyone, Qigong is.

Qigong and Tai Chi are both Chinese mind-body practices that improve health through slow, mindful movements, breathing and energy cultivation. Qigong is simpler and focused on cultivating “qi” (energy) through repeated, gentle movements. Tai Chi is a complex, structured martial art featuring continuous, flowing sequences (forms).

When asked why they wanted to learn Tai Chi, almost everyone agreed they want to work on improving balance, mobility and preventing falls.

Doctors and wellness experts alike recommend Tai Chi for overall well-being. Studies show that consistent practice improves posture, coordination and flexibility, reduces anxiety and supports cardiovascular health. Unlike high-impact workouts, Tai Chi is gentle on the joints—making it suitable for people of all ages and fitness levels, especially seniors seeking a mindful, low-stress approach to fitness.

Leading the classes and sharing what I have learned has been a fun, challenging and educational experience. Connecting with many Soleil folks I hadn’t met before, making new friendships and enjoying the enthusiasm they showed as we explored Qigong and Tai Chi together.

Once I complete my Board certification later this year, I plan to offer Yang Style Tai Chi instruction at Soleil, sponsored by Wellesong LLC.



▲ An instructor’s view of students practicing the Tai Chi walking exercise. (L-R): Jim Carver, Jim Struck, Jill Snipes, Jackie Carver, Karen McCloud, Trica Dunham, Trica Hanley, Janet Lowe, Nancy Farris. (Photo by Tom Snipes)



▲ In one Tai Chi class, participants perform a movement from the Yang 24 Style Tai Chi called Part Wild Horses Mane. (L-R): Instructor Tom Snipes, Nancy Sprague, Linda Cullinan, Mark Bourque. (Photo by Craig Stichtenoth)

Bowling Season Ends with Awards Day

May 6

Photos by Bob Abrams



▲ The ladies and men in Soleil's Bowling League show their smiles and their winnings at Awards Day held at the Cherokee Lanes where the league plays. Awards Day is the culmination of the 2026-26 season. The 88 women and men bowlers play Wednesdays 1-3:30 p.m. every week (except when Cherokee Co. schools are out), taking up all 22 lanes in the bowling alley. The league has 32 subs for when players aren't available. The season runs early September through April. Teams are put together every August at a meeting in clubhouse held by Roz & Jerry Gladstone along with Jeannie Doherty. For information about next season's play, contact Roz or Jerry Gladstone (770-704-9150 / mrs611@aol.com)



▲ Boasting a first place finish, the Laurel Canyon team of (L-R) Mike Gecan, Bob Vetter, Jerry Gladstone pose in front of the 22 bowling lanes at Cherokee Lanes. Not pictured is their fourth team member, David Priddy. The second-place team, the Alley Cats, include Gary Brooks, Scott Davis, Steve Patrick, Chuck Surdi. The third-place team, Bowl Me Over, is comprised of Stuart Blake, Jeannie Doherty, Bill Smith, Sally & Reed Thursby. They have 5 players because they have their own permanent sub.



▲ The pompons Lois Healey brings to cheer on her team make a statement. (L-R): Lois Healey, Myra Witten, Jeannie Doherty, Roz Gladstone, Sally Thursby, Trina Selby, Jody Sklar, Norma Robich.

Racquet Club Dedicates Bench to Bruce Digby

Photos by Rob Kraus



▲ A large crowd of neighbors and family—some tennis players and some not—gather in the Soleil Racquet Club to witness the dedication of new bench in memory of Bruce Digby.



▲ The memorial bench for Bruce Digby joins a similar bench dedicated in 2024 to the memory of Bill Moxley, one of the key early figures in the Soleil tennis scene.

Soleil Players Win First in Local Pickleball Tournament



◀ Congratulations to Soleil Pickleball players Pam Lee and Debbie Murphy on their outstanding achievement. Competing in the Stand Up for Seniors charity pickleball tournament in Canton, they brought home first place and earned the gold medal in the ladies' 3.0 division. Stand Up for Seniors is an organization dedicated to supporting and improving the lives of older adults through community programs, advocacy and charitable initiatives, making this victory even more meaningful. (Photo by Jessica Poole)



Women's and Men's ALTA Teams Reach Second Round of Playoffs



▲ The ALTA B7 Senior Men's tennis team made it to the second round of the playoffs this spring. (L-R): front Row: Tom Cousens, Dennis Staller, Tom Baker, Larry Shaffer. Back row: Racquet Club Director Tom Cobb, Chuck Lampman, Mark Roberts, Charlie O'Mahoney, Team Captain Craig Hume. Not pictured: Roger Dennington, Neil Fletcher, Bruce Hinkley, Doug Starr. (Photo by Craig Stichtenoth)



▲ The ALTA B7 Senior Women's Team also earned a spot in the playoffs this spring, again reaching the second round. Team captain Ann O'Mahoney gave the team the nickname "The Comeback Kids of Cherokee County" because they often came from behind to win their matches. (L-R): front row: Team Captain Ann O'Mahoney, Karen Ross, Marge Nettuno, Mary Martin, Michelle Hume, Gina Coenson. Back row: Racquet Club Director Tom Cobb, Merilee Heath, Barb Roberts, Tomi Pinkowski, Barbara Kindermann, Janet Welborn, Kathy Fionte. Not pictured: Jean Desvernine. (Photo by Craig Stichtenoth)

Swinging into Spring

Article & Photos by Bonnie Johnson

Rain, poa annua weeds and even wild boars were no match for the unstoppable ladies of the LGA as they would not be denied playing the first major tournament of the year “Swinging into Spring.”

And swing they did in a threesome best ball format where two teams tied for first place with a net score of 55, and two teams tied for third with scores of 58!

In addition, prizes were awarded for Closest to the Pin with Kay Abernathy winning on hole #2 and

Connie Manderscheid on #14. Brenda Kees had the Longest Drive on the 6th hole. Great playing for all the winners.

Ann Brackett and Char Bailey chaired a wonderful event with a delicious Stratus salad bar lunch, and the staff led by Katelynn Cowen were awesome as they served “Transfusions” to the adventurous indulgers.

The beautiful decor brightened a gloomy day with colorful blossoms and begemmed golf shoes in every hue. Can’t wait to see what the next tournament has in store.



▲ There’s no place like Fairways—even Dorothy would rock these pumps.



▲ The threesome of Teresa Ratteree, Linda Lorenzi and Karen Barber (L-R) share first place honors with the team of Kathy Cade, Evie Lewis and Colette Sanders.



▲ The team of Kathy Cade, Evie Lewis and Colette Sanders (L-R) celebrate their tie for first place with the threesome of Teresa Ratteree, Linda Lorenzi and Karen Barber.



▲ Sue Milovich, Connie Manderscheid, Ann Brackett, Betty Minick, Charlotte Loadwick and Cleo Hutchins (not pictured) played on two teams that tied for third place.



▲ Connie Manderscheid and Kay Abernathy were closest to the pins and Brenda Kees had the longest drive.

Doug Ellsworth Named LCMGA Sportsman of the Year

By Dwight Kees

On March 11, the LCMGA annual season kick-off breakfast and all-member meeting was held at Stratus Kitchen—providing the opportunity for members to hear from various club officers and staff members for Fairways of Canton.

Following Jesse Irwin's opening, attention turned to the highlight of the breakfast—naming the 2025 LCMGA Sportsman of the Year. This award is given each year to an individual in recognition of their contributions to the organization.

This year's recipient is Doug Ellsworth. In addition to his title of Director of Golf, Doug took on handicap chairman for all the organizations at FoC. Doug is also responsible for overseeing the coordinators program.

LCMGA officers then took turns bringing the membership up to speed on various issues. Fairways of Canton course superintendent Peter Barth shared plans for continuing course improvement.

JONES OPEN

The Jones Open, the inaugural major tournament of the year—named for famed golfer and founder of Augusta

National Bobby Jones—was hosted by Joe Simpson and John Mathis on April 14. The competition was fierce as a plethora of players posted tie scores with final standings being decided via a scorecard playoff.

Masters Flight - Net Score

1. Michael Kohl - 67
2. Jim Pefinis - 71
3. James Bishop - 72

Champions Flight

1. Barry Compton - 68
2. Matt Tomlinson - 70
3. Ed Calleja - 71

Legends Flight

1. Greg Jansen - 66
2. Roger Dennington - 70
3. Leo Shannon - 70

The tournament turned into a serious Birdie Haul with 42 birdies carded among the 30 players who scored at least one. Jim Pefinis, Scott Cameron and Michael Kohl shared top honors with three each.

Those players taking closest-to-the-pin winnings were Don Cheyne hole 2, Jim Harvey #8, Scott Cameron #14 and Joe Tollus #17.

Hit 'em straight and not too many.



▲ Steve Jensen (left) presents the 2025 Sportsman of the Year plaque to this year's winner, Doug Ellsworth. Steve was the first recipient of the award in 2022. (Photo by Tom Snipes)



▲ Winners of the 2026 Jones Open Winners 2026 are (L-R): Greg Jansen, Michael Kohl, Barry Compton. (Photo by Jim Strand)

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