

DEEP CREEK CIVIC ASSOCIATION

DEEP CREEK NEWS



MAY/JUNE 2026
ISSUE NO. 03

*Turning Strangers into Neighbors –
and Neighbors into Friends*



With 4.00% APY* Max Checking, nearly

\$600 in annual earnings goes a long way.

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[JOIN OUR NEXTDOOR GROUP!](#)

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

DEAR DEEP CREEK NEIGHBORS,

AS WE MOVE INTO THE WARMER MONTHS OF MAY AND JUNE, I WANT TO TAKE A MOMENT TO CELEBRATE WHAT MAKES OUR COMMUNITY SO SPECIAL: THE CONNECTIONS WE BUILD AND THE MEMORIES WE CREATE TOGETHER.

THIS ISSUE HIGHLIGHTS MANY OF THE WAYS WE ARE TURNING STRANGERS INTO NEIGHBORS –AND NEIGHBORS INTO FRIENDS. FROM THE ENTHUSIASTIC TURNOUT AT OUR 4TH ANNUAL EASTER EGG HUNT (THANK YOU TO ALL THE FAMILIES, CHILDREN, AND INCREDIBLE VOLUNTEERS WHO MADE IT SUCH A JOYFUL MORNING!) TO THE FUN-FILLED EVENINGS OF MEXICAN TRAIN DOMINOES, BINGO, AND OUR RECENT CASINO BUS TRIP TO IMMOKALEE, IT'S CLEAR THAT DEEP CREEK KNOWS HOW TO COME TOGETHER AND HAVE A GREAT TIME.

I'M ESPECIALLY PROUD OF THE DEEP CREEK BOOK CLUB MEMBERS WHO VOLUNTEERED THEIR TIME TO ORGANIZE THE LIZZY THE LITERARY BUS FOR THE BOYS & GIRLS CLUBS OF CHARLOTTE COUNTY. THEIR HARD WORK, ALONG WITH THE GENEROUS BOOK DRIVE THAT COLLECTED OVER 200 BOOKS, IS A WONDERFUL EXAMPLE OF NEIGHBORS GIVING BACK TO SUPPORT LOCAL CHILDREN. A BIG THANK YOU ALSO GOES OUT TO EVERYONE WHO PARTICIPATED IN OUR COMMUNITY CLEAN-UP DAY AND THE RECENT BLOOD DRIVE—YOUR EFFORTS TRULY MAKE A DIFFERENCE.

LOOKING AHEAD, WE HAVE SEVERAL EXCITING EVENTS PLANNED FOR MAY AND JUNE. THESE EVENTS ARE WONDERFUL OPPORTUNITIES TO MEET NEW PEOPLE, RECONNECT WITH OLD FRIENDS, AND ENJOY EVERYTHING OUR COMMUNITY HAS TO OFFER. I ENCOURAGE YOU TO CHECK THE CALENDAR, REGISTER WHERE NEEDED, AND JOIN IN THE FUN—SPACE IS OFTEN LIMITED! TO OUR NEW MEMBERS WHO JOINED IN APRIL AND MAY—WELCOME! WE'RE GLAD YOU'RE HERE AND HOPE YOU'LL TAKE ADVANTAGE OF ALL THE ACTIVITIES AND FRIENDSHIPS WAITING FOR YOU IN DEEP CREEK.

A SPECIAL THANK YOU TO OUR DEDICATED VOLUNTEERS, BOARD MEMBERS, AND COMMITTEE CHAIRS WHO MAKE EVERYTHING POSSIBLE. AND OF COURSE, THANK YOU TO THE HARDWORKING NEWSLETTER COMMITTEE FOR PUTTING TOGETHER ANOTHER GREAT ISSUE.

WISHING YOU ALL A WONDERFUL MAY AND JUNE FILLED WITH SUNSHINE, GOOD COMPANY, AND THAT SPECIAL DEEP CREEK SPIRIT.

LET'S KEEP BUILDING THIS COMMUNITY—ONE NEIGHBOR, ONE EVENT, AND ONE FRIENDSHIP AT A TIME.



**WARM REGARDS,
ROB WILSON, PRESIDENT**

CONTENTS

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE	04
WELCOME NEW MEMBERS	06
CALENDAR OF EVENTS	07
VOLUNTEER WITH DCCA	08
THE TALE OF THE DEEP CREEK BOOK CLUB	09
UPCOMING EVENTS	10
DEEP CREEK WILDLIFE CORNER	12
PET OF THE MONTH	13
PAST EVENTS RECAP	14
LAWN OF THE MONTH	20
GARDEN CLUB SCHOLARSHIP WINNERS	22
BIRTH OF THE GARDEN CLUB	23
DISCOVERING THE PEACE RIVER PRESERVE	24
BIZ EXCELERATORS	28
COMMUNITY - CHARLOTTE CO WATER CONSERVATION	29
COMMUNITY - CHARLOTTE CO 2026 OWNERS MANUAL	30
DCCA OFFICERS AND DIRECTORS	31

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

APRIL/MAY 2026

PLEASE JOIN US IN WELCOMING

- | Cheryl Zenoz
- | Rita Puglise
- | Lori Miller
- | Rita Marotti
- | Susan Gardner
- | Bryan Mayda
- | Don Frazier

- | Matthew McCrory
- | Mary Miller
- | Renes Desane
- | Richard Niglio
- | Laura Dorazio
- | Karen Miller
- | Karen Mcrae
- | Ashley Gildart



**SEND DCCA
YOUR PHOTOS**



of events & happenings in our community



TO

dccaphotos@gmail.com



YOUR PHOTOS HELP TELL THE STORY OF OUR COMMUNITY! ❤️ THANK YOU!




DCCA CALENDAR OF EVENTS

MAY 2026

JUNE 2026

- MAY 1** [DCCA WINE & TRAVEL NIGHT](#)
5-7PM @ LMCU - 2120 KINGS HWY, PC
Explore global wines while discovering exciting travel opportunities.
REGISTRATION REQUIRED * SPACE LIMITED
- MAY 4** [DCCA MEET & GREET HAPPY HOUR](#)
5-7PM @ ELKS LODGE
1133 CAPRICORN BLVD, PG
Meet new people and reconnect with friends
- MAY 11** [GARDEN CLUB MEETING](#)
4PM @ SECTION 23 POA OFFICE
26217 RAMPART, PG
Open to residents interested in gardening & beautifying our community.
- MAY 12** [DCCA BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING](#)
6 PM @ SEC 20 POA OFFICE
24710 SANDHILL BLVD UNIT 804
All are welcome—discover how DCCA supports, connects, and enhances our community.
- MAY 19** [DCCA MEET & GREET HAPPY HOUR](#)
5-7PM @ DEEP CREEK GOLF CLUB
1260 SAN CRISTOBAL AVE, PG
Meet new people and reconnect with friends
- MAY 28** [MEXICAN TRAIN DOMINOES](#)
5:30-7:30 PM @ JB'S CORNER CAFE
1533 RIO DE JANEIRO, PG
Register for our monthly game. Seats are limited so register online. Beginners welcome!
REGISTRATION REQUIRED * SPACE LIMITED
- JUNE 1** [DCCA MEET & GREET HAPPY HOUR](#)
5-7PM @ ELKS LODGE
1133 CAPRICORN BLVD, PG
Meet new people and reconnect with friends
- JUNE 10** [DCCA CASINO BUS TRIP TO IMMOKALEE](#)
10AM @ LMCU - 2120 KINGS HWY, PC
Enjoy a fun day at the casino, special perks & bus bingo!
REGISTRATION REQUIRED * SPACE LIMITED
- JUNE 16** [DCCA MEET & GREET HAPPY HOUR](#)
5-7PM @ ELKS LODGE
1133 CAPRICORN BLVD, PG
Meet new people and reconnect with friends
- JUNE 18** [DCCA LET'S PLANT WORKSHOP](#)
6PM @ LMCU - 2120 KINGS HWY, PC
Get your hands in the dirt & create a succulent centerpiece. All supplies provided.
REGISTRATION REQUIRED BY JUNE 15TH * SPACE LIMITED
- JUNE 25** [MEXICAN TRAIN DOMINOES](#)
5:30-7:30 PM @ JB'S CORNER CAFE
1533 RIO DE JANEIRO, PG
Register for our monthly game. Seats are limited so register online. Beginners welcome!
REGISTRATION REQUIRED * SPACE LIMITED
- JUNE 27** [SUMMER INDOOR ARTS & CRAFTS FAIR](#)
9AM-2PM @ PILGRAM CHURCH
24515 RAMPART BLVD, PG
Cool off indoors & check out arts & crafter from local artisans.

Calendar FAQs

-  click on the event name & it will take you to the event page
-  you will find all details & registration (if applicable)
-  dcca website has the most up to date information on events

VOLUNTEER WITH DCCA

SHARE YOUR TIME & TALENTS!

- ✓ **COMMUNITY PROJECTS**
- ✓ **EVENTS & ACTIVITIES**
- ✓ **NEIGHBORHOOD SUPPORT**
- ✓ **LEADERSHIP ROLES**

Please contact **Deb Bambrick** at
specialevents@deepcreekcivic.org
if you have questions or would



LIZZY THE LITERARY BUS

THE TALE OF THE DEEP CREEK BOOK CLUB: COMMUNITY IN ACTION



Article by Debbie Brambick



Several members of the Deep Creek Book Club volunteered their time to help organize the Boys and Girls Club of Charlotte County's Lizzy the Literary Bus. Linda Blinn, Jen Arnold, Laura Doerr, Pam Dorrell, Renee Milioto, Bill Chesen, and Nance Carlson visited the bus on several occasions to unpack donated books and to organize the books on the shelves according to grade level. After organizing the bus, Bill Chesen fashioned a system to prevent the books from falling off the shelves when the bus is in motion. A big **THANK YOU** to all who volunteered their time in support of the kids in our community.

Earlier this year, the book club held a book drive to collect new and gently used books for the bus. Due to the generosity of the Deep Creek community, we were able to donate **over 200 books** to the bus.

Lizzy had hundreds of grade-level books from kindergarten to 8th grade. The bus is available to come to events where kids can come and select free books. Lizzy recently added infant, toddler, and pre-school books to the bus thanks to their partner, the Early Learning Coalition.



Dear Linda and Book Club helpers,
On behalf of the Boys & Girls Clubs of Charlotte County, we want to extend our heartfelt thanks to you all for your reorganizing Lizzy and dedication. Your hard work in reorganizing Lizzy the Literary Bus has made such a meaningful impact. We truly appreciate the time and care you put into arranging the books by proper grade level - it will make a difference for the children we serve.
Thank you for your generosity, teamwork, and commitment to our mission. We are so grateful for each of you!
With sincere appreciation,
Maria Jenkins



To coordinate Lizzy coming to you, contact Maria Jenkins, Boys & Girls Clubs Volunteer Coordinator, at volunter@bgcofcc.org or (941)-787-4263.

UPCOMING EVENTS



Wine & Travel Night

Presented by
The Deep Creek Civic Association in Partnership with
Dancing Moon Travel & The Traveling Vine

Friday, May 1st, 2026
Lake Michigan Credit Union
2120 King's Hwy
Port Charlotte




Come learn about and taste the wines of several regions around the world while discovering the amazing travel opportunities available!

This is a FREE seminar including:

- Wine Tasting/Education by Rita Puglise from The Traveling Vine
- Travel Consulting by Pat Hand and Kathy Ludeman from Dancing Moon Travel
- Food pairings with wine tasting
- Regions include California, Australia, and Italy

Register via website or QR code
www.deepcreekcivic.org

- click "Event Calendar" → "Calendar of Events List"
- scroll to Event Date
- click image for details & registration




Space is limited to 30 guests
DCCA Members will be able to purchase wine at \$20 per bottle.
Non-Members will pay retail price.




DEEP CREEK CIVIC ASSOCIATION SEMINOLE CASINO BUS TRIP IN IMMOKALEE

\$30 PER PERSON

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 10, 2026
DEPARTURE TIME: 10AM
DEPARTURE LOCATION:
LMCU, 2120 KINGS HWY, PC

CASINO PERKS FOR TRIP:
\$20 FREE PLAY
\$10 FOOD VOUCHER

BUS BINGO
\$1 per card, per game. If you want to participate, bring single \$1's with you.

www.deepcreekcivic.org

- click "Event Calendar" → "Calendar of Events List"
- scroll to Event Date
- click image for details & registration



Space limited to 55 people.
Minimum of 30 people the trip to take place.



UPCOMING EVENTS



Calling All Crafters

Summer Indoor Arts & Craft Fair

SATURDAY, JUNE 27TH

9 AM TO 2 PM

Pilgram Church

24515 Rampart Blvd, PC

VENDOR INFORMATION & REGISTRATION

- Cost of space - \$30
- Crafters must bring their own tables and any other equipment to display their products.
- There will be volunteers to help with setup if needed.
- Register @ www.deepcreekcivic.org or QR code
 - click "Event Calendar" → "Calendar of Events List"
 - scroll to Event Date
 - click image for details & registration



DEEP CREEK CIVIC ASSOCIATION

LET'S PLANT

by Kathy Kobrzycki

Succulent Workshop



Sponsored by Deep Creek Civic Association

Thursday, June 18, 2026 @ 6pm
LMCU - 2120 Kings Hwy, PC

\$45 per person - All supplies provided
Space is limited - Register by June 15th

www.deepcreekcivic.org

- click "Event Calendar"
- click "Calendar of Events List"
- scroll to Event
- click for registration & details



REGISTER HERE





Deep Creek WILDLIFE CORNER: OSPREY

Submitted by Deb Bambrick



APPEARANCE

- The osprey is a species of raptor that is sometimes mistaken for the bald eagle.
- This species can reach a height of 23" with a wingspan of 72".
- Ospreys have a white underside and head, and a brownish upper body with a black line across the eyes that extends to the wings.
- Several features distinguish the osprey from other birds of prey, including a reversible fourth toe and spines located on their feet that are used to help grasp their prey as they fly over the water.
- The undersides of the toes on each foot are covered with short spines, which help them grasp slippery fish.



HABITAT

- The osprey is smaller than the bald eagles that typically share the same habitats, but its five to six foot wingspan is impressive nonetheless. Adults are dark brown above with a white underside and head. Look for the distinctive dark line that extends behind the eye and the gull-like way the narrow wings are angled downward when the birds are in flight.
- The osprey is found year-round in Florida, both as a nesting species, and as a spring and fall migrant passing between more northern areas and Central and South America.
- Ospreys in Florida did not suffer the serious pesticide-related population declines that occurred in other states in the 1950s and 1960s. Pesticides, shoreline development and declining water quality continue to threaten the abundance and availability of food and nest sites.
- Osprey habitat includes the coast, lakes, rivers, and swamps in Florida. The osprey is widely distributed in North America and highly migratory at higher latitudes. Most North American osprey winter in South and Central America, with the exception of the non-migratory, resident subpopulation in coastal southern Florida.
- The geographic extent of this resident subpopulation is unknown. Some have suggested that osprey nesting in peninsular Florida are non-migratory residents. However, recent satellite telemetry documented that osprey breeding in Lake Istokpoga routinely migrate to South America.
- In Florida, non-migratory, resident osprey have been well-documented and extensively studied only in Florida Bay, the southern Everglades, and the Florida Keys, which are primarily or entirely within Monroe County.



BEHAVIOR

- Ospreys, also known as "fish hawks," are expert anglers that like to hover above the water, locate their prey and then swoop down for the capture with talons extended.
- In Florida, ospreys commonly capture saltwater catfish, mullet, spotted trout, shad, crappie, and sunfish from coastal habitats and freshwater lakes and rivers for their diet.
- Osprey feed by flying over water and diving feet first to grasp fish with their talons.



NESTING

- Ospreys build large stick nests located in the tops of large living or dead trees and on manmade structures such as utility poles, channel markers, and nest platforms.
- Ospreys have adapted so well to artificial nest sites that the species now nests in areas (e.g., inner cities) once considered unsuitable.
- Nests are commonly reused for many years.



REPRODUCTION

- Nesting begins from December (south Florida) to late February (north Florida). The incubation and nesting period extends into the summer months.
- In courtship, the male will bring food to the female to keep her from mating with another osprey.
- Females lay two to four yellowish eggs that are incubated for approximately 32 days.
- Both adults tend to the eggs and nestlings, though the female does more while the male brings food to the nest.
- Young osprey take their first flight around 55 days after hatching, and the adults feed young until they are approximately 100 days old.



THREATS



Historically, one of the main threats to ospreys was Organochlorine pesticides (ex. DDT), which were used to control insects. This chemical caused the osprey's egg shells to soften and prevented the young from developing, which caused a huge decline in the population. These chemicals are now banned in the U.S., allowing the population to rebound.



The current threat for osprey is exposure to mercury. Mercury is found in many waterways which can cause reproductive issues. Mercury builds up and remains in the food chain, so ospreys are exposed by eating fish which have fed on organisms containing mercury. Another limiting factor is prey availability, which has decreased due to the development of coasts, degraded water quality, and pesticides.



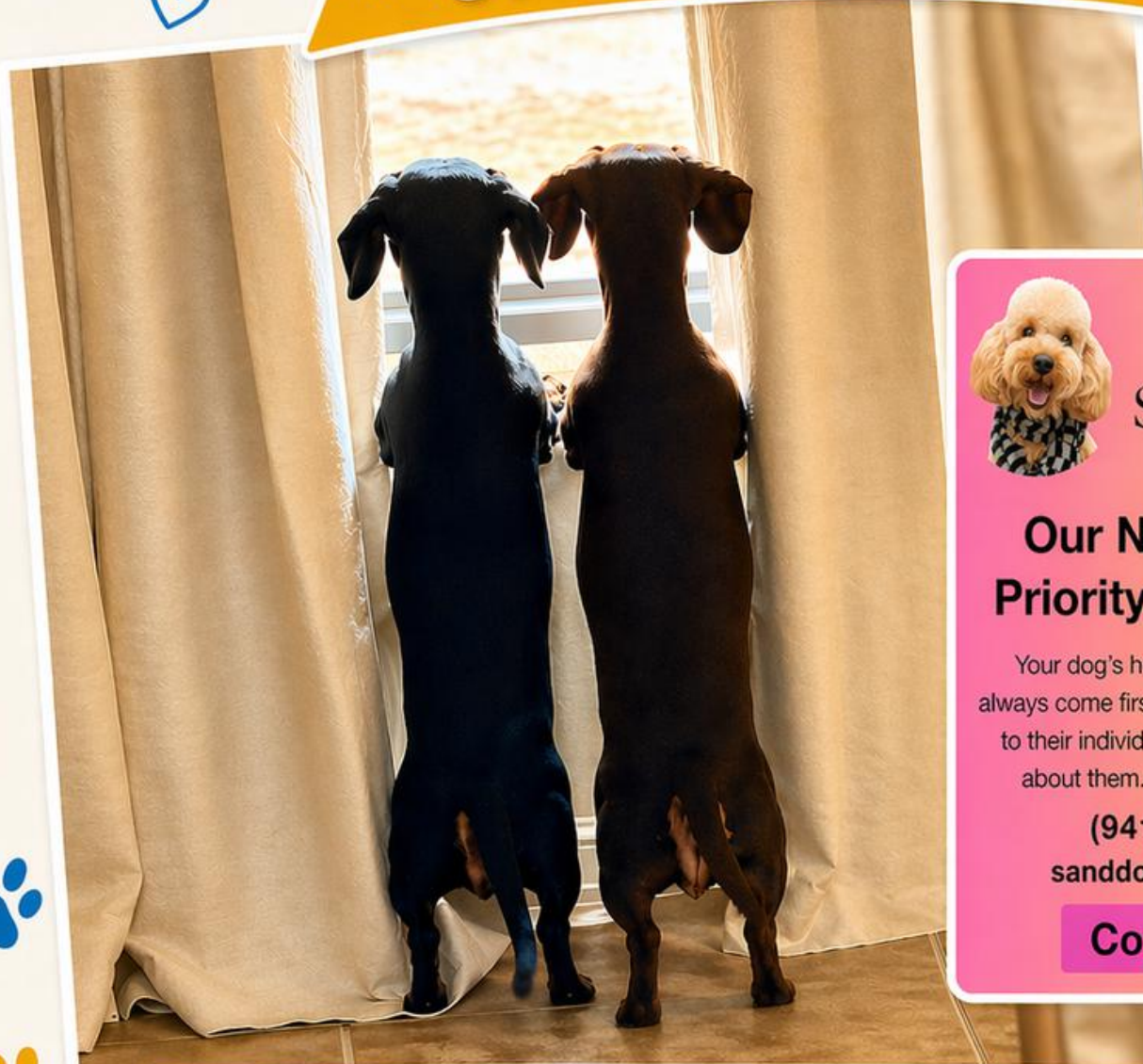
Florida Fish and Wildlife
Conservation Commission

Learn more:
<https://myfwc.com/wildlifehabitats/profiles/birds/raptors-and-vultures/osprey/>



PET PHOTO

★ OF THE MONTH! ★



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YOUR ADDRESS (VERIFICATION ONLY-WONT BE PUBLISHED)
& IF THE PHOTO HAS A STORY TO NEWSLETTER@DEEPCREEKCIVIC.ORG



DEEP CREEK CIVIC ASSOCIATION

4th Annual

EASTER EGG HUNT

What a wonderful morning! Thank you to everyone who joined us for our 4th Annual Easter Egg Hunt. It was a joy to see so many smiles, so much excitement, and so many memories made together!



A Wonderful Morning of Community, Fun & Memories!

HUNDREDS OF EGGS • BIG SMILES • HAPPY MEMORIES

WE HAD THREE AGE GROUPS:

0-3
YEARS

4-6
YEARS

7-9
YEARS

THANK YOU FOR HELPING MAKE THIS EVENT SO SPECIAL!



THANK YOU

to our incredible volunteers!



From planning and preparing to setting up, organizing, and making sure everything ran smoothly, our volunteers went above and beyond. We couldn't do it without you!



Thank You!

To everyone who participated, donated, volunteered, and helped make our 4th Annual Easter Egg Hunt such a success—THANK YOU!

We look forward to seeing you again next year!

What a Night!

MEXICAN TRAIN Dominoes

GAME NIGHT

Great company, lots of laughs
and plenty of strategy!



GOOD TIMES
GREAT FRIENDS
UNFORGETTABLE
MEMORIES



Thanks TO EVERYONE WHO JOINED!



DCCA Casino Trip TO IMMOKALEE

A DAY OF FUN, FRIENDS & LUCK!

- COMFORTABLE RIDE
- EXCITING SLOTS
- GREAT COMPANY
- LASTING MEMORIES



Thank you to everyone who joined us!
We can't wait for our next adventure!

B 12 G 53
DCCA
BINGO
Night!
 N 31 O 68

★ FUN, FRIENDS & GREAT PRIZES! ★

Thanks to everyone who joined us for a fantastic evening of bingo and community!



GREAT COMPANY
 Laughs, conversations and lots of fun!

EXCITING GAMES
 Everyone was a winner in so many ways!

AWESOME PRIZES
 Great prizes and happy winners!

COMMUNITY SPIRIT
 Thanks for making it a great night!

See you at the next one!



SEND DCCA YOUR PHOTOS



of events & happenings in our community



TO

dccaphotos@gmail.com



YOUR PHOTOS HELP TELL THE STORY OF OUR COMMUNITY! ❤️ THANK YOU!

DCCA
 Proud to Support.
 Committed to Give Back.

THANK YOU

Blood Donor HONOR ROLL

Thank you for participating in the blood drive at The Deep Creek Civic Association on Sunday, March 22, 2026

• WARD BRANDON	• HOOVER CHERYL
• CARROLL CHRISTIAN	• ACKER DAVID
• MECHING DEBORAH	• GORNEY DORIAN
• MC NABB DUNCAN A	• BYRD JAMES
• HOOVER JAMES	• PELLETIER JAMES
• JAEGER JODY	• GOUSIE KAREN
• LEBEL LISA	• STOLARCZYK LUKE
• FEINBERG MARGARET	• LANDERS MARK
• EMANUEL MAXIMUS	• GARDNER MICHAEL
• JUSTICE MICHAEL	• WADDEN NICHOLAS
• NAHACZEWSKI PAULA	• WOOD PHILLIP
• STOLARCZYK RAYMOND	• DAVIS RICHARD
• WILSON ROBERT	• NASTROM SANDRA
• HURD SPENCER	• BEGGS TERRY
• STARKS JR WILLIAM	

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THE DEEP CREEK CIVIC ASSOCIATION'S COMMUNITY CLEAN UP DAY EVENT RECAP

THANK YOU TO EVERYONE WHO JOINED US TO KEEP DEEP CREEK BEAUTIFUL!

- OUR NEIGHBORS SHOWED UP!
- TEAMWORK MADE A BIG IMPACT!
- CLEAN STREETS, STRONG COMMUNITY!

TOGETHER WE:

- Picked up litter and debris
- Improved the beauty of our neighborhood
- Made Deep Creek a cleaner, safer place to live

Keep Charlotte Beautiful
 PROUD PARTNERS IN KEEPING OUR COMMUNITY BEAUTIFUL!

WE APPRECIATE YOU!
 SEE YOU AT OUR NEXT CLEAN UP DAY!

Join DCCA
 for the fun
 AND TO DO GOOD

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LAWN OF THE MONTH



• 381 RIO DE JANEIRO •



OWNER: JOYCE AND GENE DAIGNAULT

 SPONSORED BY DEEP CREEK GARDEN CLUB



LAWN OF THE MONTH



• 26801 CONSTANTINE •



OWNER: RICHARD DANIELS



SPONSORED BY DEEP CREEK GARDEN CLUB



DEEP CREEK GARDEN CLUB

Deep Creek Garden Club *Scholarship*

Supporting Our Future Leaders

Scholarship up to \$3,000

2026 SCHOLARSHIP WINNERS

Scholarships (Jane Merriam & committee)

Jane and her committee meet to discuss the scholarships and it was decided to give three (3) \$1000 scholarships.

They were awarded to :

- ★ Brody Schneider (FLSWCHS)
- ★ Scott Mason (CHS)
- ★ Haley Narine (CTC)

All live in Deep Creek and will be at the May Garden Club meeting to get the scholarship.

THE GARDEN CLUB MEETINGS

ON THE SECOND MONDAY OF EACH MONTH AT 4:00 PM
SECTION 23 POA OFFICE (26217 RAMPART BLVD)
FOR QUESTIONS OR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION, PLEASE
EMAIL GARDENCLUB@DEEPCREEKCIVIC.ORG.



THE BIRTH OF THE DEEP CREEK GARDEN CLUB

“FROM A HANDFUL OF NEIGHBORS TO A LASTING COMMUNITY LEGACY.”

BY MARGIE KANG

When Clyde and I finally took possession of our new Deep Creek home in 2006, he quickly volunteered to serve a three-year stint on the POA. It was there that he met Don Petersen. Don had taken upon himself to care for the three Deep Creek entryways, without any formal request, mandate, or employment from either of our DCCA or POA,. With some financial help from both organizations that he managed to get, he tended to these entryways regularly, performing all the necessary tasks to keep them presentable: planting, weeding, watering, fertilizing, etc.

Going forward, however, he realized he was having to address far too many family health responsibilities and would not be able to continue his work with the entryways. It was at that point, in 2008, that he asked Clyde if I would field interested individuals and help form a "garden club". Don believed the time had arrived to have a group of residents systematically and regularly care for the entryways. The request was sent out to meet at a given date in our dining room.

From this modest group of about seven women arose our leader for the first eight years of our club's life... our recently deceased Ilona Neumann. Ilona worked enthusiastically and tirelessly with our small membership, and, at times, their spouses, to help create an even more carefully curated set of entryways.

Despite recent setbacks regarding the placement of our entryway monuments and landscape, Don's and Ilona's spirit continue to guide our ever increasing membership to create and maintain our entryways that have become showcases of attractiveness and good gardening practices.

Further, the club has expanded its mission. Among its many activities, the club's monthly meetings serve to host guest speakers who inform the membership about gardening topics; to plan visits to horticultural sites in SW FL; to sponsor annual plant sales; to perform landscape reviews, and to plan an annual award to a Deep Creek high school senior.

Please join us! We are still growing and expanding our mission and horticultural interests. We meet at the Section 23 POA, 26217 Rampart Blvd. the second Monday of the month from September to April.

DISCOVERING THE Peace River Preserve

EXPLORING NATURE RIGHT HERE IN SOUTHWEST FLORIDA

HAMMOCKS: FLORIDA'S HIDDEN FORESTS

Here in Southwest Florida, there are three key types of hammocks—also known as hardwood forests—that develop based on elevation, soil, and water levels. These natural conditions create the shaded canopies that define these unique environments.



1. XERIC (DRY HAMMOCKS)

Found in higher, well-drained areas, in these environments, you can find trees like **Pignut Hickory**.



2. MESIC (MOIST HAMMOCKS)

These areas have moderate moisture levels and support a wide variety of plant life, including the familiar **Cabbage Palm**.



3. HYDRIC (WET HAMMOCKS)

Located in lower, wetter areas, these dense forests often include species such as **Red Cedar**.



THE FOUNDATION OF HABITAT

Together, these hammocks create a mosaic of habitats that support an incredible diversity of plants and animals while helping regulate temperature and moisture in the environment.

*Protect
Our Preserves,
Protect Our
Future.*



MORE
INFO



AUTHOR:
Jennifer Smith



PHOTOGRAPHY:
Jennifer Smith



WILDLIFE & WETLANDS

The preserve is a mix of scattered depressional marshes where you can find frogs and a variety of wildlife.



FROGS

Listen for their calls in the marshes and along the trails.



WADING BIRDS

Look for egrets and herons gracefully wading in the wetlands.



WOOD STORK (ENDANGERED)

Keep a lookout for this beautiful and endangered wading bird.



ALLIGATORS

These ancient reptiles can often be seen basking near the water.



WHY MANGROVES MATTER



NURSERIES FOR MARINE LIFE

Mangrove swamps provide vital shelter and food for countless fish and shellfish.



CARBON SINKS

They store large amounts of carbon, helping to reduce greenhouse gases.



WATER FILTRATION

Mangroves naturally filter pollutants and improve water quality.



STORM BUFFERS

They protect inland areas by reducing wave energy and storm surge.

While the name may not sound appealing, mangrove swamps are one of Florida's most important ecosystems—essential for wildlife and for protecting our coastline.





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- ✓ Drywall & stucco repairs
- ✓ Soffit & fascia
- ✓ Interior & exterior painting
- ✓ Lanai acrylic windows
- ✓ Remodeling
- ✓ Roofing



David J. Shepard, Jr. LLC

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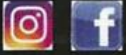
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Ellie (616) 299 9934

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Free estimates

- ✓ Rotted wood repairs
- ✓ Windows & doors installed
- ✓ Lanai vinyl ceilings
- ✓ Drywall & stucco repairs
- ✓ Soffit & fascia
- ✓ Interior & exterior painting
- ✓ Lanai acrylic windows
- ✓ Remodeling
- ✓ Roofing



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DCCA BUILDS STRONG COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIPS

Through BESWFL



The Deep Creek Civic Association (DCCA) was invited by **Natalie Proctor**, Branch Manager at Lake Michigan Credit Union, to join a dynamic networking group known as **Business Excelerators of Southwest Florida (BESWFL)** approximately two and a half years ago.

BESWFL brings together small businesses, contractors, financial professionals, charities, and insurance providers with a shared goal: supporting one another through referrals and community connections.



FROM THE START...

At the time, **Steve Arnold**—then serving as Director-at-Large and now DCCA Vice President—began attending meetings. During his first meeting, he was asked to introduce the DCCA and explain its value to the group.

His response was simple but impactful: Deep Creek is home to approximately 7,400 households and nearly 17,000 residents during peak season—representing a strong potential client base for every business in the room.



The reaction was immediate. A member called out, **"You're in!"**—followed by laughter and a unanimous vote welcoming the DCCA into the organization.



A PARTNERSHIP THAT GIVES BACK

Over the past two-plus years, Steve has built both professional and personal relationships within BESWFL. These connections have translated into meaningful support for DCCA initiatives.

WHEN DCCA HOSTED ITS FIRST GOLF TOURNAMENT, BESWFL MEMBERS STEPPED UP:

- ✓ One member pledged a \$1,000 sponsorship
- ✓ Another donated a \$1,000 professional photography package

BESWFL MEMBERS HAVE ALSO CONTRIBUTED TO NUMEROUS DCCA EVENTS, INCLUDING:

- Cornhole Tournament
- Easter Egg Hunt
- Trunk or Treat
- Bi-annual Community Clean-Up Days



Notably, members have even donated dumpsters to assist with neighborhood clean-up efforts—demonstrating a true commitment to community partnership.



The **Business Excelerators of Southwest Florida** is a network of local small businesses committed to growth through collaboration and community partnership. Members meet weekly to share ideas, discuss strategies, and connect with fellow entrepreneurs. The organization actively supports nonprofits like the **Deep Creek Civic Association** through sponsorships and donations.

BESWFL AT A GLANCE



About 60 members



Meets every Thursday



8:00 AM for one hour



Focus: Referrals, Relationships & Community Support

HOW BESWFL WORKS



The meeting opens with announcements from the elected president



Guests and prospective members are introduced



Each member shares a brief introduction and any current "asks"



A featured speaker presents their business, services, or expertise



Members report referrals made during the week and thank the speaker



A VALUABLE RESOURCE FOR OUR COMMUNITY

BESWFL has been a strong supporter of the DCCA and continues to be a valuable resource for residents. Whether you're looking for trusted local services or ways to support businesses that give back to the community, this network plays an important role in strengthening Deep Creek.



Interested in **ADVERTISING?**



Contact Laura Doerr,
Advertising/Business Director

 advertising@deepcreekcivic.org



*Exciting
Changes*



To our future and current advertisers—
we will have some **EXCITING CHANGES**
in our advertising plans which will be
unveiled prior to the next newsletter edition!

STAY TUNED FOR MORE DETAILS!

THANK YOU FOR SUPPORTING OUR COMMUNITY!

We appreciate your continued support!

CHARLOTTE COUNTY WATER CONSERVATION

Modified Phase III "Extreme" water shortage restrictions from April 3 to July 1, 2026

▲ From April 3, 2026 through July 1, 2026, lawn watering is limited to once a week, from 12:01 a.m. to 4 a.m. only under the Southwest Florida Water Management District's water shortage declaration.

Charlotte County residents are encouraged to follow these guidelines unless stricter city, municipality or neighborhood rules apply.

> [Section 3-8-74: Year-Round Conservation and Water Shortage Measures](#)

> [Ordinance 2020-045](#)

Lawn Watering Days

Watering days are based on the last number of your street address:

- **0 or 1:** Monday
- **2 or 3:** Tuesday
- **4 or 5:** Wednesday
- **6 or 7:** Thursday
- **8 or 9:** Friday (also for locations with mixed or no address, such as subdivision common areas)

Allowed lawn watering hours: morning only, from 12:01 a.m. to 4 a.m.

Hand watering and micro-irrigation of **plants (not lawns)** are allowed any day, any time.

Reclaimed Water

Reclaimed water follows voluntary watering hours unless it is blended with another source or restricted by a local government or utility.

Fountains, Car Washing and Pressure Washing

There are currently **no specific restrictions** on fountains, car washing or pressure washing. However, you should still use water efficiently, such as by using a shutoff nozzle on each hose to avoid waste.

New Lawns and Plants ("30/30" Rule)

New lawns and plants have a two-phase, 60-day establishment period:

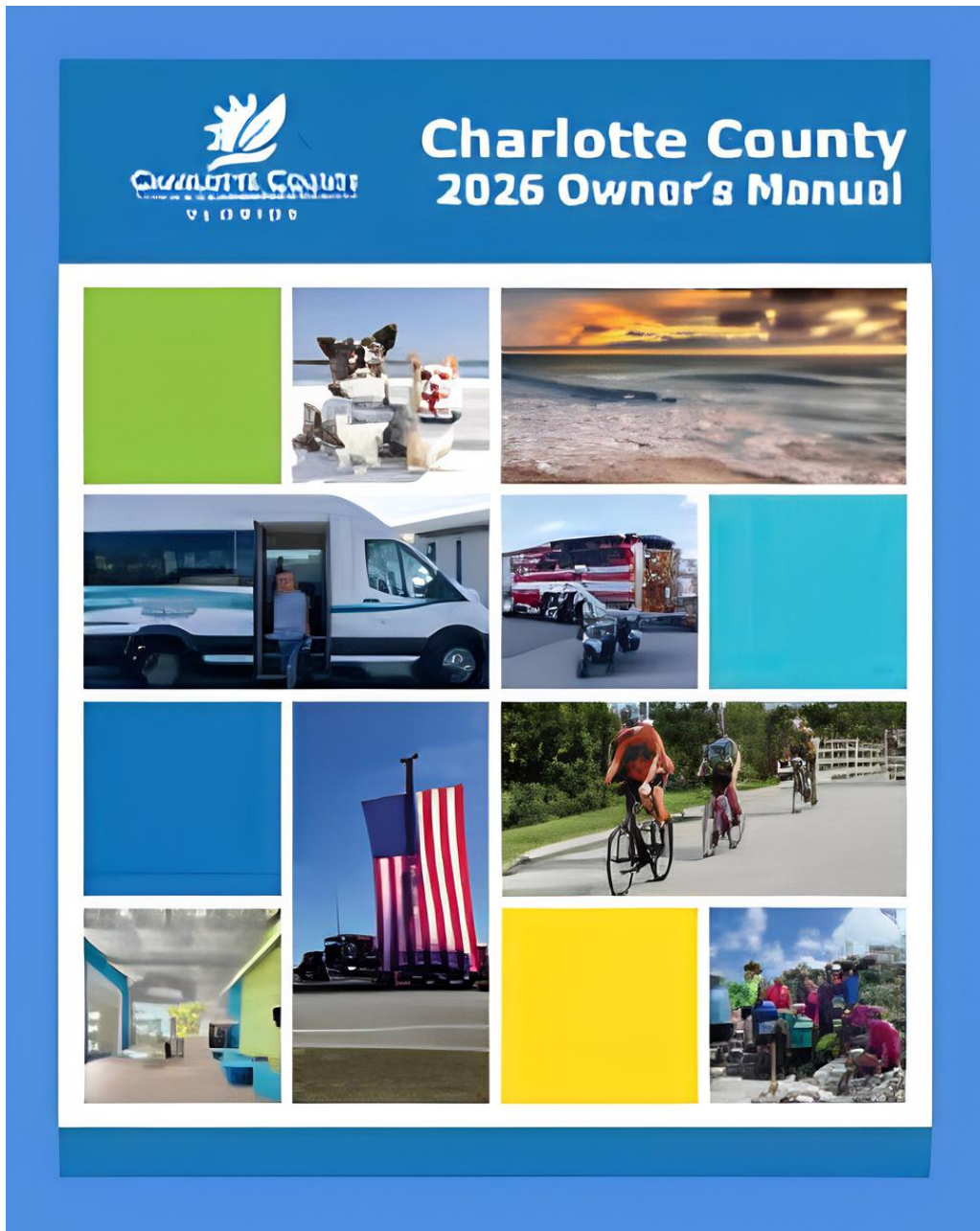
- **Day of installation:** watering allowed any time.
- **Days 1-30:** watering allowed any day during the allowable hours.
- **Days 31-60 (three days per week):**
 - **Even-numbered addresses:** Tuesday, Thursday, Sunday
 - **Odd-numbered addresses:** Monday, Wednesday, Saturday
 - **No discernible address:** Tuesday, Friday, Sunday



[Charlotte County Water Conservation](#)

CHARLOTTE COUNTY 2026 OWNERS MANUAL

ULTIMATE GUIDE TO LOCAL ORGANIZATIONS AND RESOURCES IN OUR COMMUNITY



click the photo to take you to the flipbook

DEEP CREEK CIVIC ASSOCIATION

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Clyde Sweatt

SECTION 23 POA LIASON

Jennifer Smith

Chairpersons

WELCOME WAGON

Diane Gorman

GAREN CLUB

Sylvia Kelsey

The DCCA Board of Directors meets on the second Tuesday of each month at the Section 20 Property Owners Association Office, promptly at 6:00 PM.

Meetings are generally open to all members.

Individuals wishing to address the Board or submit items for inclusion on the meeting agenda are requested to contact the DCCA Secretary in advance, please secretary@deepcreekcivic.org



*Turning Strangers into Neighbors –
and Neighbors into Friends*

HAVE AN ARTICLE OR INFO FOR THE NEWSLETTER?

NEWSLETTER@DEEPCREEKCIVIC.ORG

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