



ADVENT CHRISTIAN VILLAGE
AT DOWLING PARK

Friendly Neighbor News

Advent Christian Village, Dowling Park, FL 32064

“Where People Enjoy Living”

24/7/365 Assistance/Operator	658-3333	Housekeeping	658-5374
Cashier's Office	658-5343	Environmental Svcs.	658-5155
Copeland Medical	658-5300	Post Office	658-5270
Finance Department	658-5450	Security/Emergency	658-3333
Home Care	658-5460	Shuttle Bus	208-2584

MARCH 27, 2026

Friday	3/27	8:30 a.m. <i>10:00 a.m.</i> 10:30 a.m. 11:00 a.m. 2:00 p.m. 5:45 & 6:00 p.m. 7:00 p.m.	Florida Conference WHFMS Annual Meeting—BC <i>Bible Study—VC Room 5</i> Gentle Movement and Self Massage Class—OPR Ask-a-Lawyer Clinic—DR Crafty Crew—CH Activity Room Bus Trip: Community Concerts of Lake City: Ring Sarasota—DH & LAP Florida AC Conference Evening Program—BC
Saturday	3/28	8:30 a.m. 3:00 p.m. 7:00 p.m.	Florida AC Conference Annual Meeting—BC Choir Clinic—VC Live! at Dowling Park Artist Series: Joel Raney—VC
Sunday	3/29	<i>9:40 a.m.</i> <i>11:00 a.m.</i> <i>11:00 a.m.</i> 6:00 p.m.	<i>Morning Worship Service—VC</i> <i>VCBI: Unfolding the Great Commission—OPR</i> <i>Sunday School for All Ages</i> Easter Cantata—VC
Monday	3/30	1:00–3:00 p.m. <i>1:30 p.m.</i> 2:00–4:00 p.m.	Connecting Threads Ministry—KC <i>VCBI: The Gospel of Luke—VC Room 5</i> Ceramics—PCS
Tuesday	3/31	<i>8:30 a.m.</i> 10:00 a.m. 10:00 a.m. 3:00–5:00 p.m.	<i>Men's Bible Study—VC Room 5</i> Donuts with David—RDR Model Train Club—CB Spring Membership Fellowship Event—RDR
Wednesday	4/1	8:15 & 8:30 a.m. 9:00–11:00 a.m. 1:15 & 1:30 p.m. 6:30 p.m.	Bus Trip: Walmart—CH & DH Ceramics—PCS Bus Trip: Walmart—CH & DH Chancel Choir Rehearsal—VC
Thursday	4/2	9:00 a.m.–3:00 p.m. 9:30 a.m.–12:30 p.m. 10:00 a.m.–2:00 p.m. 10:00 a.m. 6:00 p.m.	Suwannee County Tax Collector—VS Village Artists Guild—KC Florida Licensing on Wheels—VS Plarn Ministry—CMH Maundy Thursday Communion Service—BC
Friday	4/3	Good Friday <i>10:00 a.m.</i> 10:30 a.m. 3:00 p.m. 2:00 p.m.	<i>Bible Study—VC Room 5</i> Gentle Movement and Self Massage Class—OPR Good Friday Service—VC Crafty Crew—CH Activity Room



BOLD: ONE-TIME AND MONTHLY EVENTS — ITALIC: PROGRAMS FOR SPIRITUAL GROWTH

BA	Butterfield Acres	CT/MT	Cardinal/Magnolia Terrace	IC	Information Center	POP	Park of the Pines
BC	Bixler Chapel	DH	Dowling House	JKPL	Jo Kennon Public Library	RDR	Rumph Dining Room
CB	Chriss Building	DM	Dacier Manor	KC	Keepers Cottage	RV	Smith Riverview Apartments
CH	Carter House	DMA	Dowling Manor	LAP	Lake Aquilla Parking Lot	RW	Riverwoods
CCC	Copeland Community Center	DR	Depot Room	MS	Member Services	SMR	Sawmill Room
CMC	Copeland Medical Center	ET	Edgewood Terrace	OPR	Old Pavilion Room	VC	Village Church
CMH	Cleo's Meeting House	GSC	Good Samaritan Center	PCS	Polk Ceramics Shop	VS	Village Square

IN LOVING MEMORY

Patsy Odenbrett, who was a resident of Dowling House and GSC, died March 25. Her memorial information will be provided when available.
Linda Latta, who was a resident of GSC, died March 22. Her memorial information will be provided when available.
Lou Leone (husband of Barbara), who was a resident of Riverwoods, died March 20. His memorial information will be provided when available.
Sylvester Bryant, Jr., who was a resident of GSC, died March 18. His home-going service will be on April 4 at 11:00 a.m. at the African Baptist Church in Live Oak.
Virginia Robertson (wife of Robbie), who was a resident of Dowling Park North, died Jan. 30. There will be a Celebration of Life service held at First Methodist Church of Live Oak on Saturday, April 18, at 2:00 p.m.

NEW MEMBER

Tresie Thomas of Jasper, Florida, has moved to Carter House. Her mailing address is P.O. Box 4049.

TRANSFER

Robbie Robertson has transferred from Dowling Park North to GSC. His new mailing address is P.O. Box 4325.

MOVE OUT

Jan Hendrickson has moved from Dowling House.

ACV EVENTS

FLORIDA CONFERENCE OF ADVENT CHRISTIAN CHURCHES Thursday–Saturday, March 26–28

The Florida Conference of Advent Christian Churches will hold their annual meetings March 26–28. The WHFMS will have meetings the 26th with a program that evening. The board and committees of the conference will hold meetings the 27th, a program involving multiple speakers the evening of the 27th, and a time of food and fellowship following the meeting. The annual delegate meeting will be held on the 28th at 9:00 a.m. in Bixler Chapel. All are welcome to attend, but only delegates are able to vote on business. If you would like to be a delegate, please sign up in the Village Church office. You must be a full member of an Advent Christian Church to be a delegate.

ASK-A-LAWYER CLINIC

Fri., March 27, 11:00 a.m.–2:00 p.m. - DR

Three Rivers Legal Services, Inc. is a non-profit law firm dedicated to the provision of quality legal assistance to the poor, abused, disabled and elderly, and empowerment through preventive legal education. They come to ACV monthly to provide assistance to those needing legal help. If you have generic legal questions, drop in anytime between 11:00 a.m. and 2:00 p.m. If you have specific questions about your own legal situation and want one-on-one help, please come to Member Services to pick up an application ahead of time.



BUS TRIP: COMMUNITY CONCERTS OF LAKE CITY: RING SARASOTA

Friday, March 27, 7:30 p.m.

Florida Gateway College

Alfonso Levy Performing Arts Center

149 SE College Place, Lake City

5:45 p.m. - DH & 6:00 p.m. - LAP

Bus: \$5.00 members, \$9.00 non-members

Sixteen handbell ringers entertain with a variety of popular hits utilizing 14 pairs of mallets, 95 handbells, 70 chimes, and one keyboard. Fun to watch! Fun to listen! This event is included in your ACV season pass, or you may purchase individual tickets by calling (386) 365-8488 or visiting communityconcerts.info. Individual ticket prices are \$30 for adults. The ACV bus fee is

\$5.00 for ACV members and \$9.00 for non-members. Sign up at the Information Center.

MARCH GOSPEL SING CANCELED

The gospel sing held the fourth Saturday of each month in the Carter House activity room has been canceled for March.

LIVE! AT DOWLING PARK: JOEL RANEY — PIANO AND CHOIR Saturday, March 28, 7:00 p.m. - VC

Joel Raney is a renowned composer, pianist, and music editor whose distinctive blend of gospel roots and classical training has made a lasting impact on church music. With degrees in choral conducting and piano performance from the University of North Alabama and The Juilliard School, Joel brings both passion and precision to his work. He has published over 250 compositions — ranging from choral anthems to piano solos — and serves as editor for Hope Publishing. A dynamic performer and clinician, Joel tours extensively across North America, sharing concerts and leading workshops. He currently serves as minister of music at First Baptist Church of Oak Park, Illinois.

As well as performing his own works on piano, Joel will direct the Village Church choir and guests as they sing some of his beautiful choral works.

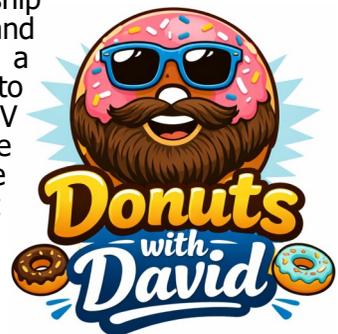
Individual tickets can be purchased from the ACV cashier's office and at the event for \$18 (ACV members and staff) and \$26 (non-member).



DONUTS WITH DAVID

Tuesday, March 31, 10:00 a.m. - RDR

It's time for another Donuts with David — a sweet way for us to connect, share, and spend some time together. Please join VP David Klumpenhower, along with his Independent Living leadership team, for coffee, tea, donuts, and good conversation. This will be a relaxed opportunity for you to hear what is happening at ACV and to ask questions or share concerns. This event will take place on Tuesday, March 31, at 10:00 a.m. in the dining room, so whether you are a fan of glazed or chocolate covered, you "donut" want to miss this!



SPRING MEMBERSHIP FELLOWSHIP EVENT

Tuesday, March 31, 3:00–5:00 p.m. - RDR

This year's Spring Membership Fellowship Event has been scheduled for Tuesday, March 31. All ACV members are invited to drop in between 3:00 and 5:00 p.m.

to enjoy finger foods, music and fun. This fun and free event is one of the ways ACV says thank you to its members.

This year's theme will be a '50s Sock Hop. All attendees are encouraged to wear costumes. There will be prizes for the "best dressed".

At 4:00, a program will include an address by Vice President David Klumpenower; the recognition of new members since last year; and the recognition of "Silver Villagers", those who reached 25 years of membership since last April. After that, we'll play Hollywood Squares.



This event is restricted to ACV members and any out-of-town guests who might be visiting them. While the event is free, we do ask that each of you who intends to attend pick up a ticket from the Information Center so we can plan appropriately. Pick up your ticket by Friday, March 27.

SUWANNEE COUNTY TAX COLLECTOR
Thurs., April 2, 9:00 a.m.–3:00 p.m. - VS
Closed 12:00–1:00 for lunch

Staff from the Suwannee County Tax Collector's office including Suwannee County Tax Collector Sharon Jordan are normally in the Village Square professional offices on the first Thursday of each month from 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. (closed from 12:00 to 1:00 for lunch). This service will enable you to purchase automobile tags and pay your property taxes. For more information, please contact the Tax Collector's office at 362-2816, or you may visit their website at suwtax.com.



STATE OF FLORIDA:
FLORIDA LICENSING ON WHEELS

Thurs., April 2, 10:00 a.m.–2:00 p.m. - VS

The Florida Department of Motor Vehicles FLOW vehicle is coming to Dowling Park. FLOW stands for Florida Licensing on Wheels. FLOW brings the following services directly to the customer:

- Change from out-of-state driver license to Florida license
- Renewals
- Duplicates for lost or stolen license
- Address/name changes ID cards
- Reinstatements
- Emergency Contact Information registration

For driver licenses and ID cards, you will need to bring specific items to prove your identify. Visit flhsmv.gov/whattobring for the entire list.

MAUNDY THURSDAY
COMMUNION SERVICE

Thursday, April 2, 7:00 p.m. - BC

You are invited to participate in a time of reflection and communion in Bixler Chapel on Thursday, April 2, at 7:00 p.m. to celebrate Maundy Thursday, the holy day that commemorates the Last Supper of Jesus Christ with his disciples.

GOOD FRIDAY SERVICE

Friday, April 3, 3:00 p.m. - VC

Join us Friday, April 3, at 3:00 p.m. in the Village Church to celebrate Good Friday.

BUS TRIP: DINE-OUT TO OLIVE GARDEN AND LONGHORN STEAKHOUSE

Saturday, April 4

10:15 p.m. - DH & 10:30 p.m. - LAP

Bus: \$5.00 members, \$9.00 non-members

Whether you are in the mood for pasta or a good steak, plan to ride on the bus to Lake City, Florida, for lunch on Saturday, April 4. The bus will park in the lot shared by Olive Garden and Longhorn Steakhouse to allow riders to eat at either establishment. Bus cost is \$5.00 for members and \$9.00 for non-members. Please sign up at the Information Center.

COPING WITH LOW VISION
SUPPORT AND RESOURCES GROUP

Monday, April 6, 1:30 p.m. - OPR

Our monthly support group brings people with vision loss together to share challenges and celebrate successes. The individuals who attend are in all stages of vision loss. Some still have most of their sight, while others have lost their sight completely. Together, they foster a warm, inviting place to help one another overcome barriers to living independent, vibrant lives. Join Wayne Warner from Lighthouse of the Big Bend for this monthly support group and meeting.



MEMBER BIRTHDAY PARTY

Thursday, April 9, 3:00 p.m. SMR/DR

Join us for the April member birthday party. Everyone is invited, and ACV members with April birthdays will receive special recognition. The entertainment guest will be Robyn Rennick, a professional storyteller. You won't want to miss her. See you there!

WHAT DOES THE BIBLE SAY ABOUT ...?

Friday, April 10, 1:00 p.m. - DR

On Friday, April 10, at 1:00 p.m. in the Depot Room you are invited to listen and participate in a discussion concerning biblical topics.

LADIES' BREAKFAST

Saturday, April 11, 8:30 a.m. - RDR

The next ladies' breakfast will be held on Saturday, April 11, at 8:30 a.m. in the dining room. We will meet with the men. A special invitation is extended to new residents; we want to meet you! Come join us for a wonderful time of table fellowship.

The cost of the full and delicious breakfast buffet is \$7.75. Tickets are purchased at the Lopin' Gopher. Tickets for the ladies' and Men's Fellowship breakfasts will still be available for purchase on the day of the event, but we strongly encourage everyone to buy their tickets in advance. This will assist our food service staff in estimating the amount of food to prepare. Thank you for your cooperation in this matter.



MEN'S FELLOWSHIP BREAKFAST

Saturday, April 11, 8:30 a.m. - RDR

The next Men's Fellowship breakfast will be held on Saturday, April 11, at 8:30 a.m. in the dining room. We will meet with the ladies. Come join us for fellowship, prayer, inspiration, and breaking bread together!

The cost of the full and delicious breakfast buffet is \$7.75. Tickets are purchased at the Lopin'

Friday and Saturday Soup: Minestrone

Friday, March 27

Lunch only: BBQ Pulled Pork Subs with French Fries, \$13.95

All day: Thin-Sliced Top Round Roast Beef with Mashed Potatoes, Gravy and a Vegetable, \$18.95

Saturday, March 28

All day: Eggplant Parmesan with Penne a la Vodka and Garlic Toast, \$17.95



Gopher. Tickets for the Men's Fellowship and ladies' breakfasts will still be available for purchase on the day of the event, but we strongly encourage everyone to buy their tickets in advance. This will assist our food service staff in estimating the amount of food to prepare. Thank you for your cooperation in this matter.

EVENTS HERE AND THERE

Events in this section are not sponsored by ACV, even if they take place at ACV.

100TH CELEBRATION AT W.B. HOWLAND Saturday, March 28, 10:00 a.m.–2:00 p.m. 610 11th Street SW in Live Oak

You are invited to celebrate W.B. Howland's 100th anniversary on March 28. They are advertising free food, prizes and fun for the whole family: "legendary" hand-dipped ice cream, exciting giveaways and raffle prizes, and special fun activities for kids.

ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS MEETINGS Mondays at 7:00 p.m. The Lighthouse on CR 250

Drug or alcohol problems? If you or a loved one is having a problem, help is available at the Lighthouse at 23594 NW CR 250 in Dowling Park on Mondays at 7:00 p.m. Call (305) 407-0895 for more information.

DEMENTIA CAREGIVER GROUP Tuesdays at 10:00 a.m. 23379 Elmwood Ln. in Riverwoods

If you are a caregiver to a family member, or have a loved one in a nursing home or assisted living facility with dementia/Alzheimer's, you are warmly invited to a "Meet & Greet" at the Campbell home (23379 Elmwood Lane in Riverwoods) with other caregivers. This is a discussion group where we share experiences, learn from one another, and realize that we are not alone. Our policy is "What is said here stays here." We would love for you to join us!

BIBLE STUDY Tuesday, March 31 10:00 a.m. - OPR

Gaye Martin's March Bible study will conclude Tuesday, March 31, at 10:00 a.m. in the Old Pavilion Room. The topic has been "Who is studying your style?" Everyone is welcome.

WALKING WITH GOD

Tuesdays, 6:30 p.m. - Lake Aquilla

Join us at Lake Aquilla Tuesday nights at 6:30. Together, we will better our health and strengthen our relationship with Christ. Until May 26, we'll be meeting for devotion and a low impact walk around ACV! Bring a friend or come solo; either way we'd love to have you!

SUPPER POTLUCK

Saturday, April 11, 5:00 p.m. - RDR

We will have the next potluck on Saturday, April 11, at 5:00 p.m. in the dining room. It will be Latino themed. If you can't make a Latino dish then just bring what you like. There is no need to list ingredients.

Do you have trouble reading the FNN in its print format?

Get on the email list to receive the FNN each week digitally by contacting Member Services at fnn@acvillage.net or 658-5400, and zoom in to your heart's (and eyes') content.

Or view it online at

www.acvillage.net/news/fnn/

or on the member app under Newsletters.

LADIES BIBLE STUDY

Tuesday, April 14, 10:00 a.m. - CCC

We meet the second and fourth Tuesday of each month at 10:00 a.m. at Copeland Community Center. The next study will be on April 14. Come and join us. The Bible study is on the book of Luke. Hope to see you there.



JO KENNON PUBLIC LIBRARY

386-658-2670

Website: srrlib.org

Email: dpark@neflin.org

Mon., Wed.–Fri. 9:00 a.m.–5:30 p.m.

Tuesday 9:00 a.m.–7:00 p.m.

Saturday 9:00 a.m.–1:00 p.m.

Closed Sunday

What's Happening This Week:

Chair Yoga Level 2	Mondays	9:00 a.m.
Chair Yoga Level 1	Mondays	10:00 a.m.
Starbooks Café	Tuesdays	9:30 a.m.
Scrabble	Wednesdays	10:00 a.m.
Crochet Creations	Wednesdays	2:30 p.m.
Chair Yoga Level 1	Fridays	10:00 a.m.
Kids Corner	Saturdays	11:00 a.m.

The Library will be closed on Friday, April 3, in observance of Good Friday.

New Hours of Operation

To better serve our community, the JKPL will be updating its hours of operation beginning April 6:

Monday, Wednesday and Friday
9:00 a.m.–5:00 p.m.

Tuesday and Thursday
9:00 a.m.–7:00 p.m.

Saturday and Sunday
Closed

As always, our online catalog, book drop, and electronic resources are available 24/7 for your convenience. We look forward to the additional resources and programs these new hours will make possible for our community.

April Programs and Events List is Now Available

The April events and programs list is now available at the JKPL. Stop by to pick up a copy and explore all the activities, classes, and special events planned for the month. There is something for all ages, so be sure to take a look and mark your calendar.

Starbooks Café

Everyone is welcome to join us for Coffee & Conversation every Tuesday from 9:30 to 10:30 a.m. We'll kick things off with the topic "What invention do you think has changed the world for the better?"

Crochet, Knit, Stitch and Create!

Crochet Creations is getting a fresh update with a new name that better reflects all yarn and thread arts, including knitting, stitching, and more. The group will continue meeting on Wednesdays, now at the new time of 2:30 p.m. All skill levels are welcome, so bring your project and join us for a creative and relaxing time.

Dementia Support Group

Are you a caregiver for a loved one with dementia? The dementia support group is a space for you to share your experience with others, and learn more about the resources that are available to you. This month's meeting will be on Thursday, March 26, at 1:30 p.m.

Cross-Stitch for Beginners

Curious about cross-stitch? Join us on March 31 at 1:30 p.m. for a beginner-friendly class where you'll learn the basics and create a simple design to take home. All supplies are provided; just bring yourself and a willingness to try something new! Sign up today to save your seat!

As the Page Turns Book Club

Visit the big top with this month's book club book, *Water for Elephants* by Sara Gruen. This best-selling historical fiction follows Jacob Jankowski, a recently

orphaned student who runs away to join a circus, and the relationships and hardships he has to navigate in a gritty 20th century traveling circus. Prefer to read on your Kindle or phone? Check out the CloudLibrary and Libby apps. The next book club meeting will be April 2 at 2:00 p.m.

Spring Table Décor Crafts

Celebrate spring on April 2 at 3:30 p.m. by creating charming seasonal décor for your table. Choose from three adorable Easter-themed crafts, or make one of each. All supplies will be provided, and no registration is required. Just stop by and enjoy a fun afternoon of crafting!

Seed Library

Spring is the perfect time to grow something delicious! Visit the JKPL Seed Library to explore a variety of vegetable and herb seeds. Patrons may take up to three seed packets, so stop by, choose your favorites, and start growing fresh goodness at home.

ACV Health Fair

It was great to see everyone who stopped by the JKPL booth at the ACV Health Fair. We enjoyed connecting with you and sharing ways the JKPL can support your health and wellness journey. Be sure to explore our wide range of health resources, including books, DVDs, and online databases available at the JKPL.

Save the Date

April 2 — There will NOT be a History of Suwannee County presentation. It will resume in May.

April 9 — UF/IFAS Lunch & Learn: Connecting with Kids

April 12 and 21 — Painting with Liz

April 16 and 17 — Plant Swap



BUS TRIPS

No eating or drinking, and no open food or drink containers on either of ACV's buses. The only exception is plain water. Thank you for your cooperation.

If you wish to ride the ACV bus on these trips, you must contact the Information Center in person or by phone at 658-3333 to sign up. Please be considerate of those who have allergies and limit your use of perfumes, aftershaves, and colognes when riding the bus.

WEEKLY LIVE OAK SHOPPING TRIPS

There is no charge for Village members to participate in the regular weekly Live Oak shopping trips. If you have questions, call Member Services at 658-5400.

Please remember to bring your own bags on the weekly shopping trips to assist in keeping everyone's purchases separate.

Those who sign up for a weekly shopping trip will be put on the waiting list if they sign up for the same trip the following week. If seats remain available, those on the waiting list will move to the regular list.

Only one scooter or power chair per regular Wednesday shopping trip will be allowed.

- **April 1 morning — Walmart** — Leave CH at 8:15 a.m. and DH at 8:30 a.m. Leave Walmart at approximately 11:15 a.m. and return to the Village at noon.
- **April 1 afternoon — Walmart** — Leave CH at 1:15 p.m. and DH at 1:30 p.m. Leave Walmart at approximately 3:45 p.m. and return to the Village at 4:30 p.m.
- **April 8, morning — Winn-Dixie, Save A Lot & Publix** — Leave CH at 8:15 a.m. and DH at 8:30 a.m. Drop off at Winn-Dixie and Save A Lot, park at Publix. Leave Publix at approximately 11:15 a.m. and return to the Village at noon.
- **April 8 afternoon — Walmart** — Leave CH at 1:15 p.m. and DH at 1:30 p.m. Leave Walmart at approximately 3:45 p.m. and return to the Village at 4:30 p.m.
- **Tuesday, April 14, morning — Walmart** — Leave CH at 8:15 a.m. and DH at 8:30 a.m. Leave Walmart

∞ At the Village Square ∞

Shop gift certificates are available in each shop. Bless someone with this special gift!

Riverside Gifts

Fine gifts, cards for all occasions, and seasonal items await you. There is an excellent supply of Bibles, study helps, Bible covers, and coloring books on a variety of subjects. Jesus is risen! Celebrate with devotionals, plaques and crosses. Choose an Easter flag for this reflective season. Children's books about Easter, stuffed animals, and toys are just some of the items in our very well-stocked children's section. There are cute teddy bears, tiny bunnies in their Easter best, and small Highland cows wearing wellies.

The vintage chiming wall clocks are waiting for new homes. Perhaps you need a stove timer, Easter dish towel, or new salt-and-pepper set. We have an excellent supply of mugs and travel mugs.

Watch and clock repair and new battery installation for time pieces, car fobs and garage door openers are available at reasonable prices.

658-5771. Open Wednesday–Friday, 10:00 a.m.–4:00 p.m., and Saturday, 10:00 a.m.–2:00 p.m.

Rustic Shop

Easter is here soon – do you have your Easter cards yet? The guessing game for Easter eggs is almost over. Stop in, write down your bid, and hope it wins the gift prize basket.

The back table has a wonderful display of kitchenware items at half-off. There are tea lights and glass holders for those very special occasions. Choose candles of different sizes and colors to match your décor.

If you are looking for a basket, stop in! You'll find small, medium, and large baskets ready to fill with treasures and picnic items. Check out the quilted potholders, crocheted dishcloths, and scrubbies.

Watch and clock repair and new battery installation for time pieces, car fobs and garage door openers are available at reasonable prices. Currently no clothing alterations are being accepted.

658-5273. Open Wednesday–Friday, 10:00 a.m.–4:00 p.m., and Saturday, 10:00 a.m.–2:00 p.m.

Twice Nice Shop

There are great bargains on clothing for all ages. Scrubs are available at excellent prices. There is a size small tuxedo with its jacket, trousers, bow tie, and cummerbund. You'll find fancy dresses and a prom section at the front of the store.

There is a large selection of men's shoes. If you are searching for women's shoes or sandals, heels or flats, then check out the wall full of shoes!

Hey songbirds, karaoke music just came to roost on the kiosk at the Book Nook entrance. Country, gospel, oldies, and rock titles can be found to expand your repertoire. Rather read? Find a myriad of genres to suit your fancy. Love movies, board games, magazines, and rare and vintage books? We have them too! Need another Bible? These are always free — our gift to you just for stopping by! Note: The half-price sale has ended on books.

658-5271. Open Wednesday–Friday, 10:00 a.m.–4:00 p.m., and Saturday, 10:00 a.m.–2:00 p.m.

∞ On CR 250 ∞

Twice Nice Furniture & More

23353 CR 250 • 658-5871

For pick-ups, call Larry at 386-678-1219

Mondays and Thursdays, 8:30 a.m.–1:00 p.m.

Saturday, April 4, 9:00 a.m.–2:00 p.m.

New to us: Beautiful exercise machine, bureaus, air fryers, bicycles, outdoor/porch table with 4 chairs, linens, spring & Easter décor, an elephant, and more!

at approximately 11:15 a.m. and return to the Village at noon.

- **Tuesday, April 14 afternoon — Winn-Dixie, Save A Lot & Publix** — Leave CH at 1:15 p.m. and DH at 1:30 p.m. Drop off at Winn-Dixie and Save A Lot, park at Publix. Leave Publix at approximately 3:45 p.m. and return to the Village at 4:30 p.m.

DEPARTMENT NEWS

THE VILLAGE CHURCH

Rev. Sam Worley, Senior Minister
Church Office - 658-5344 - P.O. Box 4314

SERMON: "How Jesus Chooses to be Noticed"

TEXT: Luke 19:28–48 NIV '84

SPEAKER: Rev. Sam Worley

Creation Arts Camp 2026 will be June 8–12. It's that time again! We need teachers. We need helpers. We need prayer. Do you have a passion for painting, sewing, cooking, photography, woodworking, sculpting, science, writing, and/or arts and crafts? Anything is a blessing for these children. Campers are in kindergarten through fifth grade. Assistants are in sixth through 12th grade. Your obligation would be to teach one 50-minute class to the same children each day, and on Friday night they will share what they did throughout the week. Please contact pastors Traci Nissley or Randy Lamb if you are interested in participating this year.

The following Village Church events are happening this week:

Friday, March 27

8:30 a.m. — FL Conference WHFMS Annual Meeting (Chapel)

10:00 a.m. — Bible Study (Room 5)

7:00 p.m. — FL Conference Service (Chapel)

Saturday, March 28

8:30 a.m. — FL Conference Registration (Chapel)

9:00 a.m. — FL Conference Annual Meeting (Chapel)

Sunday, March 29

11:00 a.m. — VCBI: Unfolding the Great Commission, Tom Spannagle (Old Pavilion Room)

11:00 a.m. — Sunday School

4:00 p.m. — Regeneration

5:00 p.m. — Alive

5:00 p.m. — Youth (Lighthouse)

6:00 p.m. — **Easter Cantata** (Chapel)

Monday, March 30

1:30 p.m. — VCBI, Mike Cuddy (Room 5)

6:00 p.m. — Youth Handbells Practice

7:00 p.m. — Adult Handbells Practice

Tuesday, March 31

8:30 a.m. — Men's Bible Study (Room 5)

Wednesday, April 1

6:30 p.m. — Choir Practice (Church)

Thursday, April 2

6:00 p.m. — Maundy Thursday Communion (Chapel)

Friday, April 3

10:00 a.m. — Bible Study, Donald Wrigley (Room 5)

3:00 p.m. — Good Friday Service (Church)

CASHIER'S OFFICE

Lynn Mabey—386-658-5343

The cashier's office will be closed Friday, April 10.

COPELAND COMMUNITY CENTER

Katie Nanuseski—386-658-5555

Survey Coming Soon — Your Voice Matters!

Our community is always striving to grow, improve, and better serve the needs of our residents — and your input is a vital part of that effort. In the coming days, you will receive a Copeland Community Center survey in the mail. Please keep an eye out for it.

This survey is an important opportunity to tell us what matters most to you. Your responses will help guide future decisions, shape upcoming programs and services, and ensure we continue building a community center that reflects the needs and interests of our members.

As a thank you, those who complete the survey can tear off the slip at the end and return it to the Copeland Community Center or Information Center to be entered into a drawing.

Every voice truly makes a difference, and we sincerely value your perspective. Thank you in advance for taking the time to participate.

DINING SERVICES

Arlene Yow—386-658-5260

We are planning a special, delicious Easter lunch buffet. Spread the word to your friends, neighbors, and fellow church-goers!

Raspberry Glazed Ham
Herb-Roasted Rotisserie Chicken
Sliced Turkey
Roasted Potatoes
Rice Pilaf

Crustless Vegetable Quiche

Sweet Potato Soufflé

Oven-Baked Apples

Green Beans Almondine

Honey Butter Glazed Carrots

ACV House Salad

Assorted Artisan Dinner Rolls

Assorted Desserts

Many items are gluten-free!

The cost for this bountiful buffet will be \$18 for ACV members and \$25 for guests (\$9.00 for children 6–11). Also note that the buffet will be open until 2:00 on Easter, so don't worry if your church service goes long.

The regular Sunday buffet pre-paid tickets will not be accepted on Easter. Easter Sunday buffet tickets are available at the Lopin' Gopher if you'd like to skip the register line.

As usual, to-go containers will be available for those who would like to go through the line with a to-go container to take their food to eat elsewhere. (To-go containers will not be given to those who go through the line with a regular plate.)

MEMBER SERVICES

James Sutter—386-658-5400

Hey there, hep cats and cool dolls — don't be a square! Plan to join our sock-hop-themed Spring Membership Fellowship on Tuesday, March 31. This free shindig for all ACV members promises a real gas: tasty eats, friendly fellowship, and a rollicking round of Hollywood Squares.

Every guest gets a shot at winning as our squares — Cindy Beaver, Bob Copeland, Mike and Jan Cuddy, Errol Gillette, Randy Lamb, Doug Mabey, Gaye Martin and Paul Minor — take the stage, prompted by our host, Darleen Hinrichs. They'll do their darndest to make us laugh as they answer the questions. Will you agree or disagree? Come on out and see who's got the right stuff!

Costumes aren't required, but they will be judged. There will also be photo opportunities, toe-taping '50s jams, and special recognition of new members and those celebrating 25 years. Come dressed to impress or come as you are — either way, it's going to be the bee's knees.

Member Services Tip of the Week

At ACV, golf carts are required to drive on or beside the sidewalks along Dowling Park Drive and Marvin Jones Blvd. to keep from impeding vehicle traffic on those two roads. On all other ACV streets and in parking lots, golf carts are required to follow the same traffic laws as

Village Cashier's Office

Monday–Friday

9:30 a.m.–12:30 p.m.

658-5343

cars: stop at stop signs, yield to pedestrians, do not drive the wrong way when signs and/or arrows indicate one-way traffic, park in designated areas, etc. Following these rules help keep everyone safe.

Scam Tip of the Week: Utility Scams

Imposters claim to be from one of the utilities in Florida and threaten to turn off the power, gas or water unless a payment is made. Should you receive such a call, hang up and contact your utility provider using the phone number that appears on your bill to determine the status of your account. Report any fraudulent utilities calls to your utility provider.

If you believe you are the victim of a scam, file a complaint with the Attorney General's Office online at www.myfloridalegal.com or by phone at 1-866-9-NO-SCAM. You may also file a complaint with the Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services, which acts as the State's consumer complaint clearinghouse, at www.floridaconsumerhelp.com. (Source: The Florida Attorney General's Office)

Member Benefit of the Week

ACV members and employees are able to borrow from the Village library, which is located in the Schoolhouse Room near the Information Center. It offers books, audiobooks and DVDs. Located within the Village library are computers available to members to use.

TV2

When an individual who was interviewed for *Front Porch Conversations* dies, we like to air the episode soon after their passing as a memorial to the individual. The second episode of *Front Porch Conversations* in next week's double feature is an interview with Lou and Barbara Leone so that you may remember (or learn for the first time) what a wonderful person Lou was. *Front Porch Conversations* airs Tuesday at 10:00 p.m., Thursday at 7:00 a.m., Friday at 4:00 p.m., and Saturday at 11:00 a.m.

In next week's episode of *What the Bible Says About ...*, the following questions are answered:

- Why do we observe sacraments? How many are there?
- I was baptized as an infant. Do I need to be re-baptized by immersion?
- In the Communion service, are the elements really the body of Christ?
- Where did God come from?

What the Bible Says About ... airs Monday at 8:30 a.m. and 11:30 p.m., Wednesday at 2:30 and 9:30 p.m., and Saturday at 10:30 a.m. and 9:30 p.m.

ACV ACTIVITY NEWS

BRIDGE CLUB

Dottie Stone, Reporter

The Bridge Club meets on Wednesdays at 1:00 p.m. in the Old Pavilion Room. If you would like to play, please call me at (352) 316-5161 by noon on Monday.

Congratulations to our March 18 winners: 1st high was Dottie Stone and Jim Varnell, and 2nd high was Henry Simonds and Glenda Hamby.

CERAMICS SHOP

Sue Riedel, Reporter

The Polk Ceramics Shop will be open Saturday, April 4, from 9:00 to 11:00 a.m. Come join us.

CONNECTING THREADS

Mondays, 1:00–3:00 p.m. - KC

The Connecting Threads Ministry will meet Monday, March 30, from 1:00 to 3:00 p.m. at Keepers Cottage.

CRAFTY CREW

Fridays, 2:00–4:00 p.m. - CH Activity Room

Last week we made beautiful Easter cards and plan to do some more this Friday. We used a variety of techniques. Joan discovered she has a great knack for coloring with magic markers! She prepared some pieces for the rest of us to use. There was also some knitting, crocheting, and clay work going on. Cora brought in some more of her artwork for us to see. We were

fascinated by her use of Styrofoam and objects from nature.

Come join us for some creativity and fellowship! Feel free to bring along your own projects to show us and to work on as well. Get in on the fun!

If you have questions contact Sister Maria Ann at sistermariaann2002@yahoo.com or Sue Donnelly at SueWDonnelly@gmail.com.

GARDEN CLUB

Sue Riedel, Reporter

The Garden Club is participating in the ACV Spring Fling on April 25 at the Village Square. We are requesting plants and other garden-related items to sell. Please plan to drop them off the evening of the 24th at Verna Piper's home — 11052 Dowling Park Drive — or call Verna at 208-1967.

VILLAGE LIBRARY

Monday–Friday

10:00 a.m.–12:00 noon & 1:00–3:00 p.m.

Brenda Reas, Reporter

Five recently donated mysteries and one historical fiction are ready for check-out. The authors include Robert Crais, Jeffrey Archer, Randy Alcorn and Lynn Austin.

We have an audiobook section, paperback rack, and many movies and TV series on DVD for check-out. Magazines can be borrowed without being checked out; just return them when you finish looking at them.

Please have your ACV ID badge available when you come to check out books and DVDs. We are located in the Schoolhouse Room between the Old Pavilion Room and Information Center. Our drop box is located around the corner across from the restrooms (beneath the bulletin board), and you may return books and DVDs there at any time.

PEN PAL PROGRAM

**A Committee of the Membership Association
Monica Serlick, Reporter**

The next pick-up date is **Friday, April 3**. Get your letters to the Information Center or Carter House desk before 11:30 a.m. Remember to keep the letters you receive.

If you still haven't contributed toward the end-of-year awards we present, please do so before April 15. My address is P.O. Box 4011, Dowling Park, FL 32064. The awards banquet will be held in early May. The exact date will be provided later. The last day of school is May 14.

If you would like to be a pen pal please contact me at (386) 330-4865 and leave a message. I will call you back.

"Success is not final, failure is not fatal: It is the courage to continue that counts" (Winston Churchill).

STEPHEN MINISTRIES

Darleen Hinrichs, Reporter

We now have 10 trained and commissioned Stephen Ministers at ACV. People sometimes ask why we need Stephen Ministers — don't our pastors provide caring ministry? The simple answer is yes, and as wonderful as our pastors are, they cannot possibly provide all the caring ministry needed in the community. Our pastors are a bit like firefighters — when a crisis happens, they rush to the scene to put out the fire. But shortly after that, another fire will break out in our congregation, and they'll rush to that scene. The needs are great.

This is where Stephen Ministers come in. The pastors will always be our firefighters, but our Stephen Ministers are people who can come in after the fire is out and help rebuild. Stephen Ministers continue to give weekly care as long as needed — one month, two months, six months, or more. They provide the steady, consistent one-to-one follow-up care that our pastors want to but simply cannot provide.

Another reason is to make use of people's spiritual gifts. The Holy Spirit has blessed us all with gifts for ministry, and He wants us to use them. Stephen Ministry provides a place where those who have the gifts for caring ministry can put them to use in a meaningful way.

Stephen Ministry also fits hand in hand with the mission of ACV. Our mission statement tells us "The mission of Advent Christian Village is to express Christ's love by providing compassionate care ..."

"Carry one another's burdens and in this way fulfill the law of Christ" (Galatians 6:2)

Stephen Ministries is a worldwide Christian ministry of trained lay people who provide confidential one-to-one emotional and spiritual support to care receivers who are going through some of the most difficult days of their lives. The goal of ACV's Stephen Ministries is that no one at ACV will hurt alone. This is another way ACV seeks to express Christ's love to those we serve. Please keep Stephen Ministries and all involved on your prayer list. Questions? Call 386-658-5358 or speak to a Stephen Leader: Robin Copeland or Darleen Hinrichs.

NEIGHBORHOOD NEWS

BUTTERFIELD ACRES

Jack "CrackerJack" Dixon—386-658-2113

"But you belong to God, my dear children. You have already won a victory over those people, because the Spirit who lives in you is greater than the spirit who lives in the world" (1 John 4:4 NLT).

We had a wonderful experience Friday night as we attended the Easter presentation by the good folks at Westside Baptist Church. The performance depicted the last day of Christ here on Earth. This creation was the brainchild of Bud and Joyce Royal over the years. We are blessed to have such talent living right here in Dowling Park.

Don't forget to mark your calendars for our potluck on Saturday, April 11, at 5:00 p.m. at the Harmony Center. Let's make it a big turnout before our "snowbirds" take flight for the summer.

Let's ring the birthday bell for our members' birthdays, which make this a busy month. Coach Gene Peters celebrates on April 4. Carroll Polk follows with his special day on the 13th, Ann Perry on the 14th, and right behind her is her daughter Paula Lucas on the 20th. And to round out the month, Amy Hancock turns another year younger on the 27th. God bless you all, and may He grant you many more healthy and happy birthdays in the future.

On April 3, Amy Hancock will celebrate five years as your personal cosmetologist here at the Village and a total of 35 years since she began cutting hair as a teenager. Stop in at Square Cuts and More and wish her a big congratulations on her 35 years as a cosmetologist and a happy birthday — and set an appointment for a fine hairdo. Tell her CrackerJack sent you!

The only thing about "letting sleeping dogs lie" is that they are usually in my chair. Have you ever wondered why folks never put out a yard sign that says "Nice dog"?

Remember, character is much easier kept than recovered, and never forget who is in charge. Isaiah 40:28-31. God bless.

CARTER HOUSE

Monica Serlick—386-330-4865

We have four birthdays and one anniversary to report for the coming week. Birthday wishes go out to Kathleen Kemp and Donna Willberg on Friday, March 27; Hilary McIndoo on Tuesday, March 31; and Sister Maria Ann Decker on Friday, April 3, as they celebrate another turn around the sun. We wish you a blessed and happy birthday. May your day be filled with joy, happiness and smiles.

We extend happy anniversary wishes to Richard and Evelyn Gillette on Sunday, March 29. "Be completely humble and gentle; be patient, bearing with one another in love. Make every effort to keep the unity of the Spirit through the bond of peace" (Ephesians 4:2-3 NIV).

We have several folks going through medical issues. Please continue to pray for those who are sick and recovering from illnesses or treatments. "Let my

whole being bless the Lord and never forget all His good deeds: how God forgives all your sins, heals all your sickness" (Psalm 103:2-3).

We extend a warm welcome to our newest resident, Robin Rife. She has moved to the fifth floor. Please say hello and welcome her to her new home when you see her out and about.

It looks like spring is here to stay. Leaves are back on the trees, and flowers are blooming. The weather is getting warmer every day, and for many of us, just like when it's cold, that means trying to get as close as possible to the entrances of our buildings when parking our cars.

NEVER park a car in an area that does not have a designated parking space unless you are unloading a person or groceries. Move groceries out of the way and then go park your car. Some handicapped parking spaces are wider than others, but that does not mean two cars can park in one space. One car per parking space is the rule everywhere, and definitely do not park in handicapped unloading zones. That is a violation of Chapter 316 of the Florida Statutes, which states that local police have the authority to ticket or fine anyone not in compliance with current laws.

Let's try to be considerate. Some folks have very limited mobility, while others are fortunate to still be mobile. Kindness should not be an occasional act but a lifestyle.

Remember to be respectful of other residents and visitors. Please do not confront anyone if you think they are violating any of ACV's rules or policies. If you see anything that seems out of the ordinary or inappropriate, please contact the Information Center at 658-3333 and report it. They will ensure someone is sent to check things out. This is your home — IF YOU SEE SOMETHING, SAY SOMETHING.

DOWLING HOUSE

Cora Huckaba—850-464-7113

Neighbors, I pray you are well and full of joy, and that it bubbles up from your heart and puts a smile on your lips. "Now may the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace" (Romans 15:13).

"If wrinkles must be written upon our brows, let them not be written upon the heart. The spirit should never grow old" (James Garfield).

This week has been a busy one. There have been grandchildren and great-grandchildren visiting at my daughter's, and they have also been out here to visit. I wrote last week about them shopping in my room. Riley and Owen saw the bird tree and wanted me to make them one. The youngest, Owen, was very specific — he wanted a blue jay, a cardinal, a parakeet, and a nest with blue eggs. Since they were going home in two days, I had to work double time. They went back home happy with their bird trees.

The Sock Hop is next Tuesday afternoon, and I hope you have your costumes ready. Show up and enjoy the fun.

There has been some activity at the lake lately. A few visiting birds have stopped by. The big blue heron was sitting on the gazebo all fluffed up like he was freezing — and I imagine he was, because it was cold and windy that morning. The white ducks were swimming around and eating duckweed, not bothered at all by the cold.

The ACV trio — Dick Beggs, Jean Snyder and Barbara Rawls — enjoyed a wonderful four-day family reunion at Walker Cottage. There were 27 in attendance, including five children. Traveling from Clearwater, Brandon, Riverview, Valrico and Stuart, Florida; Madison, Alabama; Lumberton, Mississippi; and Elm City, N.C., the family prepared a home-cooked meal each day. I know that had to be some delicious eating. The highlight of the gathering was celebrating Barbara's 95th birthday. Happy birthday, Barbara!

I had a wonderful surprise when I checked my mail today — a beautiful handmade Easter card from Chris and Annabel Christiansen. Thank you! I always look forward to the holidays when I know one of those beautiful cards will arrive.

I also wanted to mention: someone took pictures of Scoots last week. If they turned out well, please share them with me. I always like to have a

good picture of her when people start bragging about their fur babies.

Thanks as well to the person who left the little book on my door. It will come in handy — I love the quotes. And thank you to whoever left the pretty framed flower picture. It will make a lovely decoration.

Scoots and I took our stroll around Lake Aquilla Tuesday morning. The Village's big birds were on the far side having breakfast from a large fish at the edge of the lake. I love watching the big fish zip through the water, making a big splash.

A friend was working at an amusement park when a couple stopped him. The woman pointed to the pond and asked, "Excuse me, what is that water made of?" He said, "Two parts hydrogen and one part oxygen." She turned to her boyfriend and said, "See, I told you it wasn't real."

Until next week — hold your head high, smile like you have a secret, and make people wonder what you are up to.

EDGEWOOD TERRACE

Cathy Oberg—386-658-3237

Good morning, neighbors. Happy birthday wishes go out to Debbie Davis and Marilyn Yale, both celebrating on the 29th. May your special day bring each of you happiness, health, peace and joy.

Those unable to attend the potluck last week — you were missed. Approximately 28 people enjoyed a breakfast buffet of biscuits and sausage gravy, cheesy grits, bacon, corn muffins, egg casseroles, fruit salads and desserts of coffee cakes and cobblers.

It warmed my heart to watch neighbors reconnecting as well as welcoming new residents. Everyone seemed to have a relaxing time.

We also discussed the next neighborhood event: Edgewood Terrace's annual patriotic ice cream social. Mark your calendars for Friday, July 3. Cleo's Meeting House has been reserved. Plan on joining the fun as we celebrate America's 250th birthday.

I recently learned of some accidents, mishaps and illnesses around our neck of the woods, and I will admit to being remiss in my neighborly duties. Friends, please be aware of the routines around you and any changes that seem out of the ordinary. Everyone's help is needed to keep all of Edgewood Terrace the happy, healthy and safe place we love.

GOOD SAMARITAN CENTER AND DACIER MANOR

Bruce Arnold—386-658-5550

Recently I had a leak under my kitchen sink. I noticed the wood was wet, so I wiped it up and thought maybe something had spilled. But I kept finding it wet, so I had the idea that if I put a cup underneath it, it wouldn't soak everything under the sink. The cup filled up, so I got a bigger container. That container filled and overflowed. I had visions of crawling under the sink, replacing a valve and running into all kinds of problems.

I knew I had to do something, so I went to YouTube. I watched a video and in about 10 minutes I had the leak stopped, and it is dry under my sink once more.

Little things can grow into big problems if we don't take the right actions to correct them. In Galatians 5:9, Paul said, "A little yeast works through the whole batch of dough." What we may think of as a nuisance — a little sin — will not stay small. It will eventually grow and bring big trouble. But 1 John 1:9 says, "If we confess our sins, God is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to purify us from all unrighteousness." Thank God we can find deliverance and know that He is merciful. Don't ignore the little things — take them to Jesus and let Him set you free.

On Sunday, March 22, Rev. George Waterman came to speak at GSC since Evelyn and I were away for the morning. Thanks to Richard Johnson and Sue Donnelly, who also took part in the service by sharing a song. The rest of our regular volunteers were there as usual to help residents get to the service and then back to their courts afterward. God's Word continues to go forth and touch lives at GSC.

On Monday, March 23, residents at GSC observed "Love Your Pet Day." We shared pictures and

stories about our pets. We heard about the common ones — cats and dogs — as well as parakeets, gerbils and even one resident who had a pet snake. We love our pets, and we're thankful for their companionship.

We recognized our employee of the month, Latoria Virgil of the activities department, on Tuesday, March 24. We're so thankful for all that Latoria does to help and bring smiles to our residents.

RIVERWOODS

Patty Ganeskis—386-658-2024

Hi there, from my view of the meadow. And what a pretty view it is. The other day I was sitting on the front porch when a friend dropped by to visit. She's a writer, and at one point she made the observation, "This weather is intoxicating." Yes indeed — being outside on these beautiful days is delightful. If you are usually inside, do yourself a favor and take a trip outdoors.

I've recently been advised that some Riverwoods residents cannot get to a grocery store. Did you know you can have groceries delivered to your house? The Village Grocer delivers within the Village. My research revealed that Publix, Walmart and Winn-Dixie also provide home delivery. Each of the four stores has a fee associated with the service.

I have used the Village Grocer on numerous occasions and have always been pleased. I know people who use Publix (via Instacart) and Walmart who are also pleased. I do not know anyone who uses Winn-Dixie (via DoorDash). If you're interested in this service, visit the store's website or call for information.

It's good news that new neighbors are moving into Riverwoods. Why not welcome them in a way that is personal to you? Take a basket of muffins, invite them for coffee, or bring a bouquet of "Welcome to the Neighborhood!" flowers. When we moved in, we received homemade bread, cookies and jams. This really is such a friendly place.

"Do not forsake your own friend or your father's friend, nor go to your brother's house in the day of your calamity; better is a neighbor nearby than a brother far away" (Proverbs 27:10).

THANK YOU

As many of you know, Friday, March 27, is my last day here at ACV as the Residential Building Manager for Carter House, Dowling House and Wilson Gardens. After almost three years I have chosen to retire to spend time with family as I await the birth of my first grandchild. I want to THANK YOU all. I greatly appreciate the kind and gracious words expressed in gratitude for the job that has been done. I will miss everyone here as I have grown very fond of all the residents. I wish everyone nothing but the best in your future. It has been my pleasure to serve each and every one of you over the past several years.

Jim Powell, Residential Building Manager

FOR YOUR INFORMATION

VIRGINIA ROBERTSON OBITUARY

Virginia Carolyn Colter Robertson, 89, passed to her eternal reward on Jan. 30, 2026, from her home in Dowling Park. Virginia was born in Winston-Salem, N.C., on Aug. 19, 1936. A private interment was held in Bixler Memorial Gardens East. There will be a Celebration of Life service held at First Methodist Church of Live Oak on Saturday, April 18, at 2:00 p.m. In lieu of flowers, the Robertson family requests that donations in Virginia's memory be made to Advent Christian Village or First Methodist Church of Live Oak.

MY HERO CROSSES

Sgt. Howard Cleveland Barker American Legion Post 422 in Lee, Florida, is pleased to announce they are bringing the My Hero Crosses program to Dowling Park.

Honor your hero. The flag/cross combos seen in Live Oak and elsewhere will be positioned along Dowling Park Drive twice yearly from before Memorial

Day until after July 4 and for Veterans Day before Nov. 11 until the weekend after. The cost is \$50 per My Hero Cross for the first year and \$25 for each year thereafter.

To sponsor a My Hero Cross, please contact Billy Howard at (321) 794-8993 or alpost422@gmail.com. If you prefer, you can mail the form (that you can pick up at the Information Center) and your check to Sgt. Howard Cleveland Barker Post 422, P.O. Box 9454, Lee, FL 32059.

FIRST FEDERAL BANK

Float further with First Federal Bank's Visa credit cards, designed to keep your goals within reach. Proudly serving Dowling Park as your trusted community bank.

Located at 11035 Dowling Park Drive in the Village Square, the Dowling Park branch is open (lobby and drive-through) Monday–Thursday, 9:00 a.m.–4:00 p.m., and Friday, 9:00 a.m.–5:00 p.m.

Our Interactive Teller Machine (ITM), where our highly-trained tellers can assist you with transactions that go beyond the standard ATM transactions, is open Monday–Friday, 7:00 a.m.–7:00 p.m.

FINANCIAL ADVISOR

Wendy B. Meyer, CFP®, BFA®, financial advisor with Pivotal Wealth Planning is at the Village on the third Wednesday of every other month (February, April, June, August, October and December) from 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. in the Village Square professional offices. Call (850) 973-8888 for more information or to schedule an appointment.

SQUARE CUTS AND MORE SALON

Open Monday, Tuesday & Thursday

12:15 to 7:00 p.m.

Open Friday 12:15 to 6:30 p.m.

Square Cuts and More Salon specializes in all your hair care needs. Everything from shampoo and sets to perms, color, highlights, and specialty cuts like razor clipper, precision, regular men's and women's cuts.

Ladies, we do waxing as well! For appointments please call or text Amy at (386) 647-6240. Kindly give a 12–24 hours notice of cancellation. For any chemical service like perms, colors and highlights please give a 48-hours notice of cancellation, or extra charges will apply.

Walk-ins are welcome, but all great hair happens by appointment. I appreciate your business.

VERIZON

Verizon representatives come to the Village Square professional offices the third Tuesday of each month from 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. They are available to answer questions about their products; offer technical support; perform account analysis; streamline your account; add new lines; and sell upgrades, home internet, and devices.

TAXES PREPARATION

A team from Tina Singletary, CPA in Mayo, Florida, will be at the Village Square once a week until Tax Day to allow area residents to meet with a tax expert and have their taxes filed. The dates they will be in the professional offices at the Village Square are as follows: March 31; and April 9 and 13. They will be available 9:00 a.m.–12:00 noon and 1:00–3:00 p.m. Call (386) 294-1040 to make an appointment. Be prepared to leave this year's and last year's tax forms. They take two weeks to file. You pay when they finish; fees start at \$125.

The Village Post Office



Monday–Friday

11:00 a.m.–12:30 p.m.

1:00–3:00 p.m.

Saturday

11:00 a.m.–1:00 p.m.

658-5270

WATTS UP WEDNESDAYS

A Suwannee Valley Electric Cooperative representative is in the Village Square professional offices the fourth Wednesday of every month from 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon. Residents can pay their bill or ask questions about their service. No appointment is necessary. Call (386) 330-5672 for more details.

DONNA HAGAN, EA

Tax Preparation Services by an Enrolled Agent are available March 27 at the Village Square professional offices, 9:00 a.m.–3:00 p.m. Call (850) 253-5400 to make an appointment.

HAIR CROPPERS

For April Spa Days: Special offer for couples or groups of five or more! Whether you're relaxing solo, with a partner, or bringing your friends together, we've got the perfect facial treatment for you. Take \$5.00 off 30-minute facials, and \$10 off 60-minute facials for couples or groups of five.

We also offer spa pedicures, spa manicures, hot stone leg and foot massages, and our signature hand-wrapped treatment. Upcoming spa days are April 4 and 7. Call or text (386) 205-3791 for booking.

LEGAL SERVICES

The law firm of Robinson, Kennon & Kendron, P.A. will see clients by appointment only from 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon on the following dates in the Village Square professional offices: April 10 and 24, May 8 and 22 and June 5 and 19. To make an appointment, please call Leigh Ann Cannon at (386) 755-1334, Ext. 114

MISCELLANEOUS

FOR SALE: Two bedroom, two bath mobile home in POP. Washer, dryer and some furniture included. Handicapped ramp and deck. Please contact Colleen at 850-443-1531.**

FOR SALE: Early American style, walnut-in-color dining table with four chairs. Good condition. Asking \$60 OBO. 5x8 Bir metal utility trailer. Good condition. Asking \$750 OBO. Contact Ted by calling or texting 941-209-9203.**

FOR SALE: Never used (still in the box) twin-size air mattress with built-in pump, 20" tall, flocked top for softness, and cost \$60. Bought last week and didn't need. My loss — your gain. Asking \$40. Call or text 386-688-6610.*

IN SEARCH OF: Adult tricycle. Please text or call if you have one to sell. 386-688-6610.*

FOR SALE: A little freezer for \$25. It is located in RW. Contact Nancy at 352-423-3146.*

ESTATE SALE: Saturday, March 28, 8:00 a.m.–1:00 p.m. at 23341 Live Oak Lane in RW. Everything in the house must go. Final sale. Call Ron at 904-509-2838 with questions.*

VILLAGE BOOKWORM

I never read science fiction, and yet *Project Hail Mary* by Andy Weir is on my "best" list. This gripping novel blends humor, suspense and real scientific problem-solving with an engaging plot and a lovable main character.

The story follows Ryland Grace, a middle school science teacher sent on a desperate mission to save Earth from a mysterious microorganism that is draining the sun's energy and threatening all life on the planet. Along the way, he encounters an unexpected ally who adds depth, emotion and humor to the story. Their cooperation highlights themes of friendship, trust and the importance of working together across differences.

If you liked *The Martian* by Andy Weir, you will love *Project Hail Mary*. And like *The Martian*, this book has been made into a movie.

I would love to hear what's on your "best" list. Send replies to sgermaine720@gmail.com.

Prices effective 3/27-4/2



THE VILLAGE GROCER

Monday-Saturday • 9:00 am-6:00 pm • We deliver at 2:00 pm every day! * 658-3130

GROCERY

IGA Canola Oil	48 oz.	\$ 5.00
General Mills Rice Chex	12 oz.	\$ 7.20
Hershey's Syrup	24 oz.	\$ 4.80
IGA Wide Egg Noodles	16 oz.	\$ 2.40
Lil Dutch Maid Cream Cookies	32 oz.	\$ 4.00
Hunt's Ketchup	32 oz.	\$ 3.00
Libby's Pineapple Juice	64 oz.	\$ 5.50
Puffs Ultra Soft Tissue	56 ct.	\$ 1.80

DAIRY

Yoplait Yogurt	2 for	\$ 1.00
Boar's Head Hummus	10 oz.	\$ 2.00

PRODUCE

Fuji Apples	per lb.	\$ 2.50
Whole Carrots	16 oz.	\$ 2.00

FROZEN

Hungry Man Dinners	16 oz.	\$ 5.20
Crav'n French Fries	28 oz.	\$ 4.50

MEAT

Boneless Chicken Breast	per lb.	\$ 4.50
Beef Chuck Roast	per lb.	\$ 8.50
Bone-In Pork Chops	per lb.	\$ 5.00
Sunset Farms Baby Loop Sausage	16 oz.	\$ 4.80
On Cor Breaded Chicken	48 oz.	\$ 6.00
Seabest Tilapia Fillets	16 oz.	\$ 5.00

CHEESE OF THE WEEK

Muenster Cheese — \$5.30 per lb.

DON'T FORGET TO ORDER YOUR ROTISSERIE CHICKEN

Full chicken \$9.99, Half chicken \$5.99

** Call 658-3130. Order by 11:00 a.m. for 2:00 p.m. pick-up! **

This Week's Verse

We despised him and rejected him; he endured suffering and pain ...
he endured the suffering that should have been ours,
the pain we should have borne.

Isaiah 53:3

*Delivery available to on-campus ACV members only

April 2026

PLEASE KEEP THIS PAGE FOR THE MONTH OF APRIL;
IT WILL APPEAR THIS WEEK ONLY.

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Lot 11 Wildwood Cir.: \$15,000; .214 acres; 85' (frontage) by 110', wooded. MLS #120450.

23329 Live Oak Ln.: \$265,000; 1,238 sq. ft.; nice 2-bedroom/2-bath on .19 acre; beautiful backyard with screened back porch, and 1-car garage. MLS #126218.

10425 River Wood Dr.: \$279,000; Pending; 1,270 sq. ft.; built in 2018; 2 bedrooms, 2 baths, 1-car garage. Granite countertop, security system, generator. MLS #128029.

23350 Meadow View Dr.: \$289,000; 2,200 sq. ft.; built in 1994. Large brick home on large lot; 3 bedrooms, 3 full baths, and attached 2-car garage. MLS #123514.

10498 Wildwood Dr.: \$279,000; 1,111 sq. ft.; nice 2-bedroom, 2-bath on .26 acres. 2 car garage, screened in breezeway with newer roof/carpet/paint and D/W. MLS #129695.

10624 Wildwood Dr.: \$299,900; 1,728 sq. ft.; beautiful 3 bedroom, 2 baths with bonus room on .34 acres. Screened and heated back porch and new roof (2025). 2 plus car garage with a golf cart bay. MLS #129777.

23321 Live Oak Ln.: \$260,000; 1,254 sq. ft.; lots of upgrades in this 2-bedroom/2-bath home, including newer roof, A/C, hot water tank, cabinets and appliances. MLS #127730.

10271 Wildwood Cir.: \$295,000; 1,812 sq. ft.; spacious 3-bedroom, 2-bath with sun room and screened-in back porch overlooking the common area, newer furnace and A/C, and whole-house generator. New on the market. MLS #129409.

10438 Wildwood Dr.: \$289,900; 1,829 sq. ft. 3 bedroom, 2 full baths on .27 acre lot with Florida room, indoor laundry and 2-car garage. Move-in Ready. MLS #130454.

10407 Riverwoods Dr.: \$198,000; 1,720 sq. ft. nice 3 bedroom, 2 bath home with fireplace, on .3 acres overlooking the Suwannee River. MLS #129276.

Birthdays

- 1.** George Wilson*, Peggy Zachow; **3.** Sister Maria Ann Decker; **4.** Lavonne Wynn*; **5.** Joan Babineau*, Grace Bailey, Shawn Kuse; **6.** David Clark; **7.** Lee McGauley; **8.** Erich Quigley*, Debbie Welling; **9.** James Harvin*, Roger Swift*; **10.** Martha Cathcart*, Cookie Spangler*, Jimmy Knowles, Ruth Shields; **11.** Pat Sinclair, Phyllis Doty, Sue Paris; **12.** Michele McSweeney, Susan Riedel; **13.** Cindy Goodman, Carroll Polk, Susan Moody; **14.** Ann Perry, Barbara Rawls, Earl Martin, Gina Race, Phil Martin, Ted Rowell; **17.** Rob Crankshaw; **18.** Audrey Murray, Gail Geer, Teresa Pahl; **19.** Elaine Brennan, Judy Hatch, Owen Ellis; **20.** Jerry Owen; **21.** Shirley Boyd*, Mary Jane Klements, Sandi Nicholls; **22.** Eleanor Klemesrud; **24.** Donna Robb; **25.** Steven Amodie; **26.** Buddy McCall*; **27.** Clifford Randolph, Marilyn Griffith; **28.** Celeste Cook, David Hall, Jim Hollister; **29.** Betty Dobbins*; **30.** Evan Spangler.

Anniversaries

- 2.** Becky and Phillip Mahler; **16.** Phil and Gaye Martin; **30.** Russell and Carolyn Wadsworth.

*Denotes GSC resident. Send cards to P.O. Box 4325.

FNN purpose: The *Friendly Neighbor News* (FNN) is published and distributed weekly by the Member Services office with the aid of volunteers. As an official publication of the membership of Advent Christian Village at Dowling Park, Florida (ACV, www.acvillage.net), its purpose is to inform the ACV community (members, staff and friends) of events, news, and services. The FNN, funded by membership fees, is delivered (without charge) to on-campus residences and facilities and to residences in the satellite communities of Dowling Manor, Dowling Park North, and Butterfield Acres. Additional copies are distributed to several Village Square locations and to the Information Center for visitors. **FNN ad policy:** ACV members and employees (only) may advertise in the FNN. For ad information, call Member Services at (386) 658-5400. All member and staff ads will be strictly limited to a maximum of eight lines and will be run for two weeks. The ad submission must include the person listing the ad (but does not need to be published). Deadline for submissions is Tuesday by noon of the week for publication unless otherwise publicized and may be sent by email to fnn@acvillage.net, dropped off in the FNN box near the IC, or delivered to Member Services. **Volunteer editorial staff:** Paul Cook, Verna Piper, and Liz Reynolds. **Electronic distribution:** If you would like to receive the FNN electronically through email, contact Member Services at (386) 658-5400 or fnn@acvillage.net.

March 27–April 3, 2026

FRIDAY, 3/27

- \$2.75 Soup:** Lobster Bisque
\$6.95 Entrées: GF Baked Catfish, GF Shrimp, Sloppy Joes, Fried Catfish
\$1.40 Sides: Mixed Greens, Catalina Vegetable Mix (Broccoli, Green Beans, Yellow Carrots, and Red Peppers), Cold Salads, Fruit, Cheese Grits
\$3.00 Desserts: Assorted Regular and NSA Desserts

SATURDAY, 3/28

- \$8.50 Whistle Stop Special:** Stuffed Cabbage, Green Beans, Mashed Potatoes, Dinner Roll, Assorted Desserts, Fountain Drink

SUNDAY, 3/29

Lunch Buffet

Members \$14.00 | Non-Members \$20.00 | Beverage Included

- Entrées:** Roast Beef, BBQ Sausage, Fried Chicken
Sides: California Vegetable Blend (Cauliflower, Carrots and Broccoli), Sweet Corn, Mushrooms, Salad, Fruit, Mashed Potatoes with Gravy
Desserts: Assorted Regular and NSA Desserts

MONDAY, 3/30

- \$2.75 Soup:** Cook's Choice
\$6.95 Entrées: Homestyle Meatballs, Loaded Hot Dog with Chips, Chicken Livers
\$1.40 Sides: Five-Way Vegetable Mix (Corn, Lima and Green Beans, Carrots, and Peas), Pickled Beets, Cold Salads, Fruit, GF Rice, Tater Tots
\$3.00 Desserts: Assorted Regular and NSA Desserts

TUESDAY, 3/31

- \$2.75 Soup:** Cook's Choice
\$8.50 Special: Salad Bar
\$6.95 Entrées: Meatloaf, Country Fried Steak
\$1.40 Sides: Succotash, Breaded Yellow Squash, Cold Salads, Fruit, Mashed Potatoes
\$3.00 Desserts: Assorted Regular and NSA Desserts

NOTE: Prices listed are the retail cost per item. ACV members who present their ID badge at the cash register will receive a 10% discount. Menu is subject to change. Individual beverage cost: \$2.35.

GF=Gluten-Free NSA=No Sugar Added

Rumph Dining Room Midday Dining Menu

March 27—April 3, 2026

WEDNESDAY, 4/1

\$2.75 **Soup:** Cook's Choice

\$6.95 **Entrées:** Pork Chops, Fried Chicken

\$1.40 **Sides:** Cabbage, Peas and Carrots, Cold Salads, Fruit, Scalloped Potatoes

\$3.00 **Desserts:** Assorted Regular and NSA Desserts

THURSDAY, 4/2

\$6.95 **Entrées:** Chicken Fajitas, Beef Tacos

\$1.40 **Sides:** Five-Way Vegetable Blend, Chuckwagon Corn, Pinto Beans, Fruit, Cold Salads, Spanish Rice

\$3.00 **Desserts:** Assorted Regular and NSA Desserts

FRIDAY, 4/3

\$2.75 **Soup:** Shrimp Corn Chowder

\$6.95 **Entrées:** GF Baked Catfish, Vegetable Lasagna, Coconut Torpedo Shrimp, Fried Cod

\$1.40 **Sides:** Mixed Greens, Bermuda Vegetable Blend (Green Beans, Broccoli, Carrots, and Peppers), Pickled Beets, Baked Beans, Cold Salads, Fruit, Cheese Grits

\$3.00 **Desserts:** Assorted Regular and NSA Desserts



RUMPH DINING RM. \$9.75 WEEKDAY VALUE PLATE

Includes 1 entrée, 2 sides, bread,
and a fountain drink.



LUNCH & DINNER SPECIALS

Friday and Saturday: Minestrone

Friday, March 27

Lunch only: BBQ Pulled Pork Sub with French Fries,
\$13.95

All day: Thin-Sliced Top Round Roast Beef with
Mashed Potatoes, Gravy and a Vegetable, \$18.95

Saturday, March 28

All day: Eggplant Parmesan with Penne A La Vodka
and Garlic Toast, \$17.95

Ann & Quinton
Rumph
DINING ROOM

658-5259

Mon–Fri: 11 am–1 pm

Sat. & Sun: 11 am–1:30 pm

THE LOPIN' GOPHER
D E L I

658-5259

Sun: 7:30–10 am | 3:30–7 pm

Mon–Fri: 7:30–10 am | 2:30–7 pm

Sat: 7:30–10:00 am | 3–7 pm



658-5777

Wed–Thurs: 11 am–2 pm

Fri–Sat: 8–10:30 am | 11 am–8 pm