



Lake Hammock Village  
36106 US Hwy 27  
Haines City, FL 33844  
863-421-5764

*"The Park with a Heart"*



October, 2021

# Gator Tales



## HAPPY HALLOWEEN

**I can't believe it is October already.  
Before you know it, it will be Christmas!!!**



### GATOR TALES STAFF

**Editor:** Shelly Shaffer (910) 624-8925  
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**Contributing Editors:**  
Margaret Rice, Dave Graham  
Helen Hurr

"Gator Tales" is available online at:

<http://floridacommunities.com/lake-hammock-newsletter>

### BOARD OF DIRECTORS

**President:** Jerry Sibila  
(910) 876-7221

**Vice President:** Matt Rice  
(330) 603-9575

**Secretary:** Gary DeVore  
(517) 403-9772

**Treasurer:** Richard Gould  
(863) 422-5902

### Directors:

Terry Hofer (847) 845-8172  
Joyce Middleton (330) 323-2247  
David Alms (217) 246-0103

### COMMITTEE CHAIRS

- **Special Events / Activities**  
Terry Hofer (847) 845-8172
- **Welcome** - Joyce Middleton  
(330) 323-2247
- **Sunshine**—Carol Gould  
(863) 422-5902
- **Memorials / Wreaths**  
Dona Rawson (863) 547-9326



## A Message from the President . . . .

Dear Friends and Neighbors,

Hello to you all, I hope this message finds everyone well and staying safe. I think the weather might start to cool down and I'm certain that's a welcome change for many. We might start to see some snowbirds returning and we say Welcome Home to all of you.

We held a board meeting to discuss some upcoming events we've been trying to plan, and I want to give you a little update. The board is still not comfortable holding general meetings indoors with the current COVID status, so no September meeting was held. We will discuss that option for October in the coming weeks.

Please look for the flyers in this month's Gator Tales; we planned our **Harvest Dance** for Halloween utilizing the DJ we had reserved for last year's event. The change, it will be held outdoors at the pavilion and tickets will be available October 1<sup>st</sup> through the 20<sup>th</sup>. Reminder, if you've not been vaccinated you are required to wear a mask except at your own table. Also, the **Community Yard Sale** will still happen with the following changes: no events will take place inside the clubhouse - everything will happen outdoors in the open air. There will be no donuts and coffee in the early AM, no bake sale, and no crafts. Hot dogs and sodas will be available outside the clubhouse. If you would like to set up crafts, we ask that you do them at your driveway location. If you plan to set up or can help with traffic control or taxi - please see the signup sheets posted in the clubhouse. We look forward to resuming our activities and seeing more people.

Please feel free to contact me or any board member with any questions or concerns. And remember, remain safe! Again, thank you for your support and confidence. See you out and about.

Respectfully,  
Jerry Sibila



## ACTIVITIES CHAIRS

**Birthdays/Anniversaries**- Barb Waybill -866-9121

**Breakfast Out**: Marge Love (815)978-7427

**Bus Trips**: Joanne Marko 438-5011

**Activities/Entertainment**: Terry Hofer-(847)845-8172

**Ladies' Lunches**: Helen Hurr – 814-671-0789

**Park Breakfast**: Maria Combs 438-6643 / Karen Wilson 353-2275.

**Memorial**: Dona Rawson – 863-547-9326(Wreaths)

**Dining Out**:

## NEWSLETTER

All newsletters can be viewed in color on the website @ [www.floridacommunities.com](http://www.floridacommunities.com) (click on Lake Hammock @ bottom of page).

Just a reminder, any information for the Gator Tales needs to be submitted to me by the 20<sup>th</sup> of each month. There is a red box outside my door, you can drop your stuff, or you can send it to the email below. If you need a flyer done, I need the information by the 15<sup>th</sup> so I can do it and get it approved and back to me by the 20<sup>th</sup>. If you have any questions about the Gator Tales, please contact Shelly Shaffer at 910-624-8925 or ([shelly.shaffer81@yahoo.com](mailto:shelly.shaffer81@yahoo.com)). We are always looking for new ideas and way to improve our community paper.

### Gator Tales Staff

**Shelly Shaffer, Editor**

58 Sargent St.

[shelly.shaffer81@yahoo.com](mailto:shelly.shaffer81@yahoo.com)

**Joyce Middleton, Asst. Editor**

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[Middletonj33844@gmail.com](mailto:Middletonj33844@gmail.com)

**Andy & Nancy Belski**

**Richard & Marion Spiegel**

## ANNOUNCEMENTS:



### Paint Classes

Just a reminder - our paint classes are back in full swing. They will be held the first Wednesday of every month at the clubhouse from 1:00 - 3:00. We try to have just 2 people per table to help with some social distancing and masks are requested for those who have not received their vaccine. The price is the same, \$20 per person with all supplies and instructions provided by our instructor, Sherri.

I try to post a reminder a few days before the event in our Facebook page but realize not everyone has Facebook. If you want to attend it's helpful to let me or Shelly know - just so we make sure Sherri has enough supplies. But please come even if you forget to let us know. We usually always have room. Come join us for some fun and visiting.

Joyce 330-323-2247

Shelly 910-624-8925

## PRAYER GROUP

Our next meeting will be on Tuesday, October 19, 2021. We will meet at the clubhouse at 6:30.

Thanks to Dona Rawson for taking over the September meeting.

This is a non-denominational group, all are welcome. If you wish to receive a copy of the chapter, we will be using from Prayers of the Heart I would be happy to provide one.

Sharyl Graham

# Happy Birthday

## OCTOBER BIRTHDAY'S

1 <sup>st</sup>	Karen Butcher
2 <sup>nd</sup>	Bob Kruse Joyce Middleton
3 <sup>rd</sup>	Nancy Roy Lorraine Sharples Cheryl Wolfe
7 <sup>th</sup>	Darial Hubbard
10 <sup>th</sup>	Dewey Mitchell
11 <sup>th</sup>	Dawn Maluchnick
13 <sup>th</sup>	Marion Spiegall
17 <sup>th</sup>	Kathy Dull
18 <sup>th</sup>	Jack Conley
22 <sup>nd</sup>	Carmin Gioiosa
23 <sup>rd</sup>	Mona Lund
25 <sup>th</sup>	John Lodge
25 <sup>th</sup>	Karen Patelunas
26 <sup>th</sup>	Stacy Anthis Robert Post
28 <sup>th</sup>	Phillip Greenfield
31 <sup>st</sup>	Jeannine Miller



## OCTOBER ANNIVERSARY'S

4 <sup>th</sup>	Roger & Pamela Landry
7 <sup>th</sup>	Merrill & Ellen Davis
8 <sup>th</sup>	Bruce & Maureen Hatfield Bill & Cindy Lyon
9 <sup>th</sup>	Dawn & Elizabeth Karaszewski
10 <sup>th</sup>	David & Sharyl Graham David & Mary Schnopp
20 <sup>th</sup>	Clark & Joice Smith
21 <sup>st</sup>	David & Jonnie Alms
30 <sup>th</sup>	Charles & Debbie Kemp

(If any of the above information is incorrect, please let us know, Dona Rawson, Shelly Shaffer, Joyce Middleton.)





## FOOD BANK

**Proverbs 19:17 Whoever is generous to the poor lends to the Lord, and he will repay him for his deed.**

Thank you for your continued support of the food bank. Collections are the first and third Friday of the month. Please bring your non-perishable items and toiletries to the club house. If you are unable to bring them yourself, please call or send a text and we will pick them up.

God bless you,  
Sharyl and Dave Graham  
603-915-1757

**Collections are the first and third Friday of the month. Please bring your non-perishable items to the club house. God bless you,**

**Sharyl and Dave Graham**

## ALL RESIDENTS:

We will be addressing issues with the pier and floating dock in October.

Please use caution when you are out there. We appreciate everyone's patience and understanding while this work is being completed.

Thanks, Phil Nespeca



Robert Destefano – Hospital

Vita Destefano - home

Bonnie Fischer – Surgery – Home

Chuck Osborn – Hospital – Home



Lyle Metzger Family (former resident)

Please call if you know of a resident that has been ill or hospitalized so that Carol can send Get Well cards.

**Carol Gould**  
**Sunshine Committee**  
**863-422-5902**



# Medicare 101 Seminar

Sponsored by your Lake Hammock Village HOA

Information Provided by David Brown

**Wednesday, October 13, 2021**

**Clubhouse 1:00 PM**

**Light refreshments provided**

October is the start of Medicare Open Enrollment

- Are you new to Medicare, or,
- Are you sure your plan has given you the best coverage, or,
- Do you know all the options available to you through the Medicare insurance options, or?
- Do you know the difference between a Medicare Supplemental Plan and a Medicare Advantage Plan, or,
- Have you been a little confused trying to sort through the whole Medicare System?

If some of these are your questions or concerns, then come and listen!!!

*David Brown is an independent broker, NOT a salesman, who is knowledgeable in the Medicare and private insurance sector. This is a free, informational seminar to help answer the above questions and provide you with the best options available to you. The seminar is a short 30-minute presentation and then he is available all afternoon for individual needs. Join us and bring all your medical questions and concerns.*



# Fall Harvest Dance

## "Under the Stars"

Saturday, October 30, 2021

7:00 PM - 11:00 PM

Music provided by DJ Mike

To be held outside, at the pavilion

Finger foods and hors d'oeuvres will be furnished

BYOB but please no glass or bottles

**Tickets are REQUIRED at \$5.00 per person**

**And will be available from 10/1/21 - 10/20/21**

Limit of 60 tickets to be sold and can be purchased from:

Joyce Middleton, 50 Sargent St,  
330-323-2247

Terry Hofer, 57 Sargent St,  
847-845-8172

Jerry Sibila, 58 Sargent St,  
910-876-7221

Matt Rice, 206 Glen Este Court,  
330-603-9575

Or you can contact any Board Member





Antonio (Tony) Mayo & Wilma Soto-Carde  
193 Glen Este Blvd.  
Residents since March 2021

Tony and Wilma have been married for 69 years, marrying in 1961 in New York. They relocated from Puerto Rico and travelled to New York City.

Tony attended Manhattan Technical College. He worked as a mechanic at the Power plant in NYC. Wilma studied Interior Decorating and was a beautician with a loyal following. She took classes in cake decorating. She created wedding cakes, cupcakes, and other pastries.

They have two children, one daughter still living in Puerto Rico and their son who lives in Florida.

They have 3 granddaughters and 1 grandson. One granddaughter just graduated from UCF she then returned to Puerto Rico to attend medical school. Medical school is one-half the cost as in the United States. The other granddaughter is studying to be a dentist and the grandson is studying to become a heart surgeon.

After retiring they first lived in Lake Wales at the Lake Shore Villas. They then moved to a large home in Davenport living there for 16 years. They decided to down-size and a neighbor in Davenport introduced them to Lake Hammock Village, where they now call home. They were impressed with the community being clean, the location and they felt safe. Tony and Wilma also said they “hit the jackpot” with their neighbors.

Wilma’s talent of interior decorating is observed through out the home. Her talent also is seen by the plants and décor on the outside of their house.

Tony and Wilma love to travel and have traveled to Italy and most of Europe. They also cruised while in Europe. Tony and Wilma recently returned to Puerto Rico to assist their daughter after surgery.

Tony enjoys fishing, TV, and music. When he was younger, he enjoyed playing the guitar. Wilma likes (needs) to be busy; she painted their new home and décor items. She loves plants, sewing, cooking, and baking, though her greatest love is decorating.

Wilma is not interested in sporting events, but Tony when in NY was a Yankee fan. Today he watches the Tampa Bay teams.

Tony and Wilma enjoy helping people and said anyway they can help they are willing. They also enjoy meeting new people.







Marilyn Smith  
67 Sargent Street  
Resident since 2001

Marilyn and her husband Don were married on June 12, 1960 and were married for 42 & ½ years. They had 3 children, 1 son and 2 daughters. One daughter passed at the age of 51. Her other daughter DJ owns an insurance agency in NY. Her son lives and works in NY. Her family also includes 4 grandchildren.

Marilyn attended New Paltz Teachers College in the Hudson Valley of NY. She first taught “Jr” high then 5<sup>th</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> grades and ended teaching 2<sup>nd</sup> grade. Don was a Material Handler at a “freeze dry” company. The company created food used by the astronauts.

After Marilyn retired, she and Don travelled in their motorhome across the country for 7 years. While staying at a campground in Davenport and liking the area it was decided to stop traveling and settle in a home. Marilyn and Don knew they did not want to return north. While at the campground friends told them about Lake Hammock Village. They liked the size of LHV, the appearance and each home had a small yard. The people were friendly and LHV was convenient to drugstores and grocery stores. Marilyn did note that Rt 27 was less traveled when they first moved here.

Marilyn has watched the many changes to LHV, new managers, new owners, and the looks of our community. They purchased their home fully furnished and enjoy living here. After Don passed in 2003, she continued to live here and still has the many friends that Don had made.

Marilyn continued to travel and visited many countries. She traveled with her friends that also live in LHV. Her latest travel was a cruise to Bermuda with her sister and daughter. Marilyn has only one “bucket” item left and that is to travel to South America.

Marilyn’s hobbies include reading, embroidery, and cross stitching. In her younger years, she and Don lived in a home that was built in the 1800’s. Marilyn and Don enjoyed refinishing the home and furniture they had.

Marilyn has been very active in LHV, once being on the board of directors and active with the many committees. Marilyn enjoys attending Wednesday morning coffee, pool aerobics and visiting her many friends.

Marilyn is currently active with the Haines City Hospice and visits with the patients. She also volunteers at the Central Florida Visitor Center and enjoy’s meeting the visitor’s and socializing with her co-workers. She also once volunteered at the Bok Tower.

She currently is content to just spend time in her home.



# FUN FACTS: OCTOBER

**Birthstone:** Opal or Tourmaline

**Flower:** Marigold and Cosmos

**Zodiac signs:** Libra and Scorpio

## History:

In the ancient Roman calendar, October was the name of the eighth month of the year. Its name comes from octo, the Latin word for "eight." When the Romans converted to a 12-month calendar, they tried to rename this month after various Roman emperors, but the name October stuck!

## Did you know...?

Henry Ford's **Model T**, a "universal car" designed for the masses, went on sale for the first time.  
(October 1, 1908)

California's **Redwood National Park** was established. Redwoods are the tallest of all trees, growing up to 400 feet (120 meters) during a lifetime that can span 2,000 years.  
(October 2, 1968)

President Abraham Lincoln issued a proclamation designating the last Thursday in November as **Thanksgiving Day**.  
(October 3, 1863)

**The Space Age began** as the Russians launched the first satellite into orbit. Sputnik I weighed just 184 lbs. and transmitted a beeping radio signal for 21 days.  
(October 4, 1957)

The largest mass escape since the construction of the **Berlin Wall** occurred as 57 East German refugees escaped to West Berlin after tunneling beneath the wall.  
(October 5, 1964)

The first "**talkie**" opened in New York. The Jazz Singer starring Al Jolson was the first full-length feature film using spoken dialogue.  
(October 6, 1927)

Palestinian terrorists seized the Italian passenger ship **Achille Lauro** carrying about 440 persons, threatening to blow it up if Israel did not free 50 Palestinian prisoners.  
(October 7, 1985)

The **Great Fire of Chicago** erupted.  
(October 8, 1871)

**Uganda** achieved independence after nearly 70 years of British rule.  
(October 9, 1962)

**Spiro T. Agnew** (1918-1996) resigned the office of Vice President of the United States  
(October 10, 1973)

**Albert Einstein** warned President Franklin D. Roosevelt that his theories could lead to Nazi Germany's development of an atomic bomb.  
(October 11, 1939)

During a debate over colonialism in the United Nations, **Soviet leader Nikita Khrushchev** took off his shoe and pounded his desk repeatedly.  
(October 12, 1960)

**The United States Navy** was born after the Second Continental Congress authorized the acquisition of a fleet of ships.  
(October 13, 1775)

U.S. Air Force **Captain Chuck Yeager** became the first man to break the sound barrier  
(October 14, 1947)

# FUN FACTS: OCTOBER

World War I spy **Mata Hari** was executed by a French firing squad  
(October 15, 1917)

**Yale University** was founded in Killingworth, Connecticut (as the Collegiate School of Connecticut).  
(October 16, 1701)

The **Battle of Leyte Gulf**, the largest naval battle in history, took place off the Philippine Islands  
(October 17, 1944)

The **Nuremberg War Crimes Trial** began  
(October 18, 1945)

The **U.S. embargo of Cuba** began as the State Department prohibited shipment of all goods except medicine and food.  
(October 19, 1960)

The U.S. and Britain agreed to set the U.S.-Canadian border at the **49th parallel**.  
(October 20, 1818)

**Thomas Edison** successfully tested an electric incandescent lamp  
(October 21, 1879)

**President John F. Kennedy** appeared on television to inform Americans of the existence of Russian missiles in Cuba.  
(October 22, 1962)

Terrorists drove a truck loaded with TNT into the U.S. and French headquarters in **Beirut, Lebanon**, exploding it and killing 241 U.S. Marines  
(October 23, 1983)

**"Black Thursday"** occurred in the New York Stock Exchange as nearly 13 million shares were sold in panic selling.  
(October 24, 1929)

The **Caribbean island of Grenada** was invaded by the U.S. to restore "order and democracy."  
(October 25, 1983)

The shoot-out at the **O.K. Corral** in Tombstone, Arizona, occurred between the feuding Clanton and Earp families.  
(October 26, 1881)

The **Nobel Peace Prize** was awarded jointly to Menachem Begin of Israel and Anwar Sadat of Egypt.  
(October 27, 1978)

The **Donner Party** departed Illinois heading for California.  
(October 28, 1846)

British explorer **Sir Walter Raleigh** was executed in London for treason on orders from King James I.  
(October 29, 1618)

The **War of the Worlds** radio broadcast panicked millions of Americans.  
(October 30, 1938)

Mount Rushmore National Memorial was completed after 14 years of work.  
(October 31, 1941)

## Notable Birthdays:

October 2, 1871: Cordell Hull

October 5, 1882: Robert Goddard

October 6, 1846: George Westinghouse

October 14, 1890: Dwight D. Eisenhower

October 25, 1881: Pablo Picasso

October 28, 1955: Bill Gates

## Hurricane Season Update:

# Hurricane Preparation Still Important!

October 2021 – Gator Tales

by

The HOA Emergency Preparedness Team

We are now well into hurricane season and thankfully have not experienced any serious threats – yet! We must continue to be vigilant, keeping careful watch for possible danger from sudden hurricanes. We have been very fortunate to date. Other states, such as Louisiana, have suffered tremendous loss and damage. Even New York in the northeast has been affected.

As many of you know, things can change suddenly. Tomorrow we could be faced with a storm coming right at us. Everyone needs to keep a close eye on the weather. The HOA Emergency Preparedness Team has been watching this closely. Team member Jerry Smith has been sharing updates with all of us through Facebook posts and other methods. We all thank Jerry for his efforts! All of us are ultimately responsible for our own safety and preparation.

The bottom line is that in the past September and October have been the most active months for hurricanes. As always, we urge everyone to:

- Watch the weather. This can change quickly!
- Make sure you have supplies. The recommendation is for a ‘7 Day Emergency Kit’ in case electricity goes out. See the hurricane shelter map (distributed to all residents) for more information on this.
- Think about what you would do if a hurricane was headed our way tonight! Would you evacuate? Where? Are you equipped to stay? What about pets? Lots of things to think about – better to think about them now – not when a hurricane has us in its sights!
- Keep an eye out for your neighbors. Do any need help?
- If any questions, contact one of our Team members

The following article is from a Florida Division of Aquaculture Bulletin from July 2020:

**Florida leads the nation in direct hurricane hits for the period 1851 to 2019. Florida experienced 50 major hurricanes (Category 3 or greater) during this period as compared to the next highest states: Texas (25), Louisiana (22), North Carolina (10) and South Carolina (8). Thirty-eight percent of all U.S. hurricanes have hit Florida; 70 percent of hurricanes at a Category 4 or higher have hit either Texas, Louisiana or Florida. The threat of major hurricanes increases from west to east as the hurricane season progresses each year. As such, Texas and Louisiana are the prime targets for early season hurricanes, while the east coast of Florida is most likely to be impacted in October each year. Regardless of this trend, September remains the peak of hurricane season with as many major hurricane landfalls as October and August combined.** The earliest hurricane on record to strike Florida was Alma on June 9, 1966, while the latest to strike Florida was Kate on November 21, 1985. Six of the top ten costliest hurricanes in U.S. history have impacted Florida. The state’s population is increasing an average of 1.6 percent annually, with 1.3 million more residents from 2010 to 2016. As Florida’s population continues to expand, projected at 25 million by 2030, the economic impacts from hurricanes are also increasing. Population growth is predominantly occurring less than 50 miles from the coastline, further exacerbating the potential economic damage. For example, all three hurricanes making U.S. landfall in 2008 made the top 30 list of costliest hurricanes in U.S. history, despite none of them being major hurricanes at



landfall. Fortunately, due to an increase in hurricane preparation, planning and forecast and warning systems the number of fatalities per hurricane is in decline. The perpetual threat of hurricanes in Florida, in combination with the state's growing population and economy, emphasize the importance of wise business planning and storm preparedness.

**Note: Information from this article is from NOAA Historical Hurricane Tracks database.**

The HOA's Emergency Preparedness Team was established to provide information and assistance to all residents. Please see our bulletin board at the clubhouse.

**2021 HOA Emergency Preparedness Team Members:**

All

Team members are residents and volunteers working together to keep everyone safe!

Gary & Deb Devore, David & Dona Rawson, David & Helen Hurr, Wanda & Art Stanley, Kathy & Bob Dull, Dan & Kathy Deuel, Matt Rice, Pamela Leland, Shelly Shaffer, Jerry Sibila, Jerry Smith, Darlene & Bill Davis, Lori Johnsen, Bob & Brin McDonald, Joyce Middleton, Sharyl & Dave Graham

If you have any questions or wish to volunteer, please contact any of us or **Dave Graham at (603) 915-1368 / call or text; [davemg1@outlook.com](mailto:davemg1@outlook.com).**



# Lake Hammock Village Community Yard Sale

Saturday, November 20, 2021

8:00 AM-12:00 PM

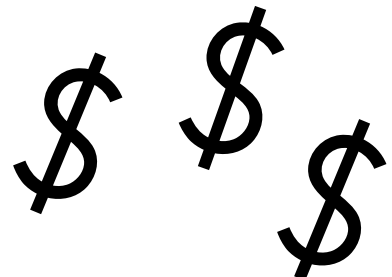
Due to the ongoing out breaks with the Covid Variants - please review the following information regarding the procedures for the Sale. We want to be able to offer the Yard Sale but must remain cognizant of the safety protocols.

- Sign-up sheets will be posted in the clubhouse, please sign up if you want to sell and/or if you need a table (only one table per household will be available, based on your signup order, a first come basis).
- If you can volunteer for Taxi Driver or Traffic Control, please signup.
- There will be NO coffee and donuts that morning.
- There will be NO Bake Sale.
- The sale will be advertised in outside newspapers again this year, your \$3 per household will cover this advertisement cost.
- **No Crafts** will be set up in the Clubhouse - if you have crafts to sell, please utilize your personal driveways.
- Set up by 2:00 Friday afternoon if you wish to presell to residents

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*For Sale – Make me a Great Offer*

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# **The Haines City Library and the Polk Library System: Great Resources!**

by Dave Graham

A great resource for new residents or for others who haven't accessed it is the Polk County Library Cooperative, which includes the Haines City Library.

When we moved here five years ago from New Hampshire where we lived in a small town of about 3,000 residents, we had no idea about the library facilities. In New Hampshire the Town Library was located in a two-story building, a large former residential home which was donated to the town and moved to a location close to Town Hall. It was a small, homey, and wonderful place. Despite its size, limited staff, and the smallest budget of any town department, the library served all residents through a number of different programs, from tiny tot story time to book clubs, to educational seminars, and lots more. The librarians knew everyone by name and were always friendly and helpful. It was a very important part of the local community. I have heard people say that libraries are no longer important in this digital age. I strongly disagree. Libraries serve a number of functions in addition to lending books. Our local library is also a community center with different things and diverse activities going on all the time. This includes book clubs, arts and crafts, and other community organizations which meet there regularly free of charge.

The Haines City Library offers something for everyone. The building itself, next to City Hall, has a large lobby with an adjacent large community room, restrooms, and seating for anyone. On many occasions I have seen job recruitments here. Employers sometimes post available jobs and are there to interview individuals – and this is all before you enter the library! Once you enter there are about twenty computer stations to the right for use of anyone who needs access but may not have internet service at home. There are also copying facilities at a small cost if you need things copied.

The best part of the library is the wonderful staff, ready to help you in any way. There is also a children's room and young adult area.

The Haines City Library is part of the Polk County Library Cooperative, which means that all libraries in Polk County share access to books, CD sets, and other materials. A good example is that I just received a current book from one of my favorite authors, Brad Thor, by requesting a 'HOLD' on the Polk County Library Collaborative website. Because this is a brand-new book, there was a waiting list, and I was automatically placed on the list to receive it as soon as a copy became available. I think there were about twenty people ahead of me. When a copy became available, I received an e-mail and picked it up at the Haines City Library. The book is stamped 'Bartow Public Library.' I have two weeks to read it and return it. This book sells for \$ 28.99 and is currently on sale for \$ 14.99 at amazon.com. **I will get it for free!** For those of us with limited storage space for books this is an added benefit. I can read it for free and then return it – a great deal for me!

Another recent development is that some current books are available for 'digital lending.' For example, I was interested in a nonfiction book by Bob Woodward. When I found it on the website, I noticed it was available in digital format if I had a Kindle device (which of course I do). When I clicked this option, I was informed that the book would be downloaded to my Kindle, and I would have two weeks to read it. I just received an e-mail telling me that my time is up, and the book will be 'returned' in three days. Books are available in regular form, large print, and sometimes on Audio CD. This is something we access regularly, especially when traveling.

The Polk County Library Cooperative is a great resource available to anyone. All you need to do is sign up for free for a library card and then register online! So, think about signing up and enjoy the multiple benefits available through this excellent system! Happy reading!

# Cord Cutting

by Joe Isaac

I am sure most of you have also gotten pretty sick of cable bills that keep going up. I cut the cord a while ago when my Spectrum bill hit \$200 a month and I have never missed having cable TVs. Of course, you really can't get away from Spectrum completely because there is no competing internet service that I know of yet. If you disconnect your television service, the current cheapest internet Spectrum offers is 200 mbits/sec for \$74.99 and there is currently no tax on this service. I personally think their internet is pretty good and use it every single day reliably. I can't recommend Frontier because their internet is pathetic and weak 90s DSL which you can't even stream on. However, if all you want is email and web browsing no video, then its fine and cheap. They have not run their Fios fiber optic service into the park for whatever reason. I wish they had we would have a choice then. Starlink which is a more expensive alternative is brand new and not currently available in our area yet, but it starts at \$99 a month and requires a substantial initial up-front cost. It will definitely be better than another satellite service though, so keep an eye out if you are interested and dislike Spectrum. Just a note, and I haven't switched yet, but if you dump their home phone service in favor of using your cell phone exclusively, they offer cell service for \$15 a month with 1 gig of data. This is VERY reasonable and is using Verizon's network. You can also get unlimited data for \$45 a month. You must have their internet for these prices. I plan on trying it in the future.

Options if you want to continue watching local programming:

- TV Antenna – free no internet required.
- Streaming – requires Spectrum internet.

Roof mounted TV antenna works for local channels. They come in well and look great, I can pick up both Orlando and Tampa market stations. Tampa is easier and more reliable to pick up for me. I was not able to use an indoor antenna at all. I currently pick up 120 stations most of which I would never watch, but all the majors are available. ABC, NBC, CBS, FOX, PBS, CW, MOR TV, MY TV, ION, several Spanish channels and religious networks. Aim your antenna to 246 degrees for Tampa stations and 43 degrees for Orlando stations. I point mine at 243 and get both currently. Channelmaster.com recommends point at Orlando.

<https://www.channelmaster.com/pages/free-tv-channels#address=&zip=33844>

If you have a smart phone, it should have a compass app to get the desired direction.

For an antenna I have used:

- ClearStream MAX-V UHF/VHF Indoor/Outdoor Antenna, 60+ Mile Range, 4K Ready - C2MVB \$69  
amazon.com or walmart.com
- Channel Master ULTRAtenna 60 \$89.99 at channelmaster.com

Both works well but the ClearStream seemed better to me. You can spend more for their bigger brothers that might pull the signals better as they double the surface area and elements for reception. I also had to use an amplifier for the Channelmaster. The \$15 one from Walmart failed within 6 months so I bought a better quality Winegard LNA-100 Boost at amazon.com \$28. I would have to recommend the ClearStream as its nicer looking, cheaper and didn't require an amplifier.

You will also need pole masts to mount the antenna to the house (RCA Roof Antenna Mounting) for about \$9 each, you will need 4 or 5 of them to go from the ground past the roof. You will also need Mounting brackets. I used Skywalker 12" Heavy Duty Wall Mount \$40 at amazon.com but I wished I used 14" as I ended up having to offset them. You will also need a grounding clamp and grounding wire to run to an existing ground either, your gas meter or cable system ground. You could also use a 4-foot grounding rod too.

Last but not least, you will need enough coax cable to run from the antenna down to your TV. You can use your existing cable tv run in some case and just barrel connect to it.

The antenna masts, grounding rods, clamps, wires and connects can all be purchased at Loews.



If you want a project to do yourself, for less than 200 - 250\$ you can pick up local channels and ditch cable. It will be a little more if you have to pay someone to install it for you, but it will pay for self in a matter of months.

The Tampa market has already cut over to the new ATSC 3.0 broadcast system which will eventually allow them to broadcast in 4k. TVs starting this year will have ATSC 3.0 tuners which can use those signals which have better range, resolution and sound. You can read all about it here: <https://www.atsc.org/nextgen-tv/>

Streaming is more complicated as there are a lot of choices, but all will require you to have Spectrum internet. You will also need a streaming device. Your TV might have some built in or you might have to purchase a device such as Roku or Apple TV for example. There are several worth talking about. But first let's look at the services available.

Nearly all the services have a free trial to see if you like it. They will all require you to read what you are getting. I would suggest you write down what you must have for watching. They all offer similar packages but some might not have MTV, Discovery, Hallmark, ESPN or Turner Classic Movies. Some might have a lot of overlap if you need more than one. They all want a piece of the Netflix pie so they are all pulling in their content to their own walled gardens.

Services with local channels:

Locast.org	<a href="https://www.locast.org">https://www.locast.org</a>	\$5 a month
HuluTV Live	<a href="https://www.hulu.com/Live-tv">https://www.hulu.com/Live-tv</a>	\$65 a month
Youtube Live	<a href="https://tv.youtube.com/welcome/">https://tv.youtube.com/welcome/</a>	\$65 a month

The only option I know of that for CHEAP and legal locals is Locast.org. It's free but will annoy you with their nuisance ads until you delete or cave and donate. They want you to "donate" \$5 a month and I'm pretty certain you will want too as well. I tried it out for a while and the quality isn't bad, not great but hey if you don't want to install an antenna then this is your cheapest option. It doesn't offer anything else apart from locals.

Hulu has many plans starting at \$5.99 a month. At this price point the programs are add supported but not as many as live. So, an hour-long show is usually around 50 minutes with their support adds versus 38 – 43 minutes add free which is their next level up at \$11.99 a month for add free shows. You should look at what they offer, as a lot of shows are offered the following day. For instance, Americas got Talent will air Tuesday night and will be available on Wednesday night to stream. At the 64.99 level you get everything in Hulu plus local's channels and a variety of cable channels. They also include cloud based (internet) DVR but I have never used one so I can't speak to how well it works.

There are add-ons you can purchase as well like Showtime or HBO Max. You will have to weigh these options as you are getting back into cable TV price ranges. Disney does offer a bundle price for Hulu, Disney+ and ESPN.

YouTube TV comes in one size, expensive but it's very highly rated. They offer 85 channels at their price point. They offer sports networks like NFL, NBA, and MLB and they offer PBS which Hulu doesn't. They also offer the add-on networks like HBO Max and Showtime, they also offer a 4k upgrade as well.

As you can see, there are a lot of choices and things you will need to consider. You will need to look at what is right for you and your budget. For instance, Hulu without adds and Locast for \$17 a month might fit for you and save you a bunch of money without much sacrifice. All of this is a rabbit hole that you can spend a lot of time reading about, but I saved \$100 a month so it was worth it for me.

There are many others streaming services out there:

Netflix

Amazon Prime Video

Hulu  
Disney+  
HBOMax  
Appletv+  
SlingTv  
Paramount+  
Discovery+  
Peacock  
Fubu tv  
Philo  
AT&T TV  
YoutubeTv  
Spectrum Essentials  
Pluto.Tv

Depending on what you want to watch you really need to do some research. Here are some good places to start:

<https://www.cordcuttersnews.com/>

<https://flixed.io/complete-list-streaming-services-2021/>

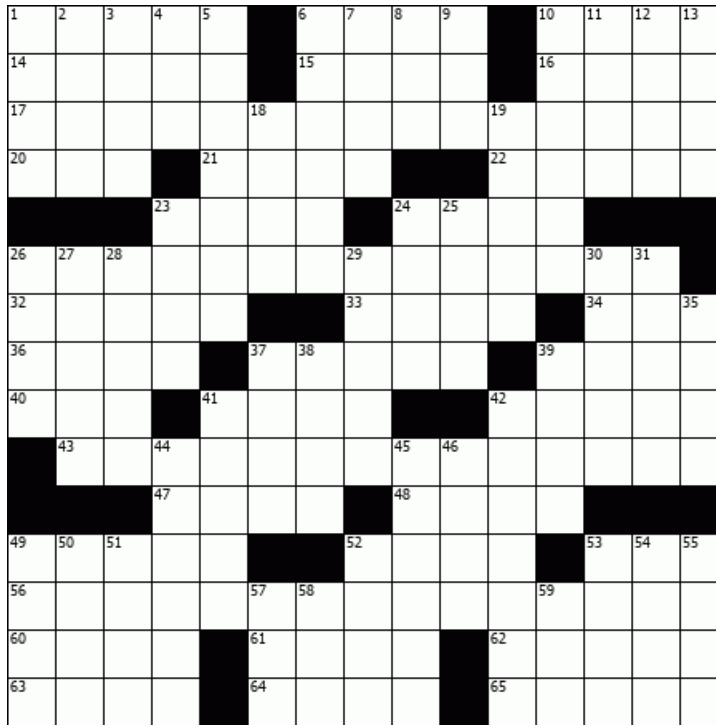
<https://www.vulture.com/article/best-streaming-services-guide.html>

You can also search YouTube for more information and reviews on the services offered.

I will try and cover some of the more common devices next month, this article got way bigger than I originally intended but there is just so much information and choices.

**Across**

1. It could be a board member?  
 6. Midwife's action  
 10. Pre-storm status  
 14. Unrivaled  
 15. Garb for Galba  
 16. Featured instrument of "Peter and the Wolf"  
 17. Philip Roth book  
 20. Suited to the task  
 21. It's what you may be happy as  
 22. Election Day goals  
 23. Top-notch  
 24. Capricorn, symbolically  
 26. Certain sale-closing words  
 32. Samms and Peel  
 33. Unwonted  
 34. Remain extant  
 36. Prison sentences  
 37. Great deal  
 39. Geneticist's studies  
 40. Ship's dir., perhaps  
 41. Rat tail?  
 42. Utah mountain range  
 43. Memorable ballad  
 47. Klutz's remark  
 48. British corps.  
 49. Davidic song  
 52. Unoriginal one  
 53. Call to Bo Peep  
 56. Caesarian delivery?  
 60. Raison d'\_\_\_\_  
 61. Significant stretches of time  
 62. Some things for one to do  
 63. Spray target, perhaps  
 64. Hardly a veteran  
 65. Heated conflict

**Down**

1. Multigenerational story, e.g.  
 2. Hoofbeat sound  
 3. Prefix follower  
 4. Abolish  
 5. Online journals  
 6. Typical introduction?  
 7. Wrestling hold  
 8. In the past  
 9. One close to you  
 10. Regain consciousness  
 11. "Take a Chance on Me" singers  
 12. Barbarian  
 13. Base fare  
 18. Yin go-with  
 19. Application  
 23. Collections of miscellany  
 24. Black fly  
 25. Fairy-tale monster  
 26. "Sommersby" star  
 27. One from the Gulf of Masirah  
 28. Urge forward  
 29. More than peeved  
 30. Many a pram pusher  
 31. Sister of Terpsichore  
 35. Hairy one of Genesis  
 37. "\_\_\_ this way!"  
 38. Bidder's option  
 39. Archaeological sites  
 41. Type of boa or serpent  
 42. Prepare for a change?  
 44. Dawdled  
 45. Texas city on the Rio Grande  
 46. Road, for Caesar  
 49. "What a relief!"  
 50. Satisfy completely  
 51. River through Leeds  
 52. Way out there  
 53. Martial artist's pride  
 54. Oodles  
 55. "Not only that ..."  
 57. Badminton need  
 58. On the wagon  
 59. Begone beginning

# HAPPY HALLOWEEN



T	X	G	Y	N	D	J	S	W	H	E	Z	Z	T	B
Z	E	F	O	O	O	B	K	S	I	Y	R	I	A	F
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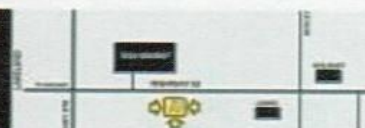


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# October 2021

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Sunday		Monday		Tuesday		Wednesday		Thursday		Friday		Saturday	
26		27		28		29		30		1		2	
										9:30 Water Aerobics 1 pm POKENO 7 pm CLR			
3	4	9:30 Water Aerobics 9 am Shuffleboard 1-3 Hand & Foot 6:30 BINGO		5	9 am Cornhole	6	8 am Coffee & Doughnuts 9:30 Water Aerobics 1 pm Paint Class	7	9 am Shuffleboard 7pm Dominos	8	9:30 Water Aerobics 1 pm POKENO 7 pm CLR	9	
10	11	9:30 Water Aerobics 9 am Shuffleboard 1-3 Hand & Foot 6:30 BINGO		12	9 am Cornhole	13	8 am Coffee & Doughnuts 9:30 Water Aerobics 1 pm Medicare Sem.	14	9 am Shuffleboard 7pm Dominos	15	9:30 Water Aerobics 1 pm POKENO 7 pm CLR	16	
17	18	9:30 Water Aerobics 9 am Shuffleboard 1-3 Hand & Foot 6:30 BINGO		19	9 am Cornhole	20	8 am Coffee & Doughnuts 9:30 Water Aerobics 11am Lady's Lunch	21	9 am Shuffleboard 7pm Dominos	22	9:30 Water Aerobics 1 pm POKENO 7 pm CLR	23	
24	25	9:30 Water Aerobics 9 am Shuffleboard 1-3 Hand & Foot 6:30 BINGO		26	9 am Cornhole	27	8 am Coffee & Doughnuts 9:30 Water Aerobics	28	9 am Shuffleboard 7pm Dominos	29		30	7 pm-11 pm Harvest Dance
31	1			Notes									