



# OCEAN REEF PRESS

Vol. 13, No. 24

Nothing but blue skies

April 17, 2026



Bag Room Champion Clayton Gregory with Mentor caddie Davo Johnson.

## Clayton Clinches Third Consecutive Bag Room Crown

### 50th Golf Finale Features Gutsy Play, Gusty Winds

by Annie Miles

ORC's Clayton Gregory continued his winning ways in the 50th Annual Bag Room Open Championship last Friday, defeating scrappy opponent Louis Fiumara 3-1 in a windy match that entertained the huge gallery with birdies and an eagle down the stretch. His three-peat supported by Mentor caddie **Davo Johnson** was punctuated with an eagle putt on Dolphin's 17th, after Fiumara forced another hole with a clutch birdie putt on the 16th. In the consolation match, ORC First Assistant Justin Seybuck defeated Card Sound

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## Only at Ocean Reef

Saturday, April 11 was quite the showcase of life at Ocean Reef. The Club hosted a full day of favorites - Cars & Coffee drew cool and classic cars, Aviation Day treated Members to aircraft and helicopter displays, and the Navy SEALs Demo delivered a glimpse into their training, expertise and teamwork up close. With activities and family-friendly fun throughout, the day captured the unique energy that makes Ocean Reef one-of-a-kind. See more photos on pgs 12, 23 & 37.



Henry and Leti Martell with Navy SEALs during the Navy SEALs Demonstration on the Driving Range.



Mikey, Natalie and Matthew Santana at Aviation Day.



Claudia Donnelly, Kristen Perryman and pup Luna Herman beside Herbie the car.

## 2026 Annual Meeting The Club's Vision Carries Forward

*"I'd like to recognize our past Chairmen sitting in the front row. With your vision, with your insight, and with your assistance in guiding not only this Board, but many of the past Boards, we are able to protect what we cherish here at Ocean Reef. Thanks to all of you, we are stronger than ever." – Joe Urbinati, Ocean Reef Club Chairman*

These opening remarks set the tone for what was to follow - a positive, forward-looking series of presentations supporting

Ocean Reef's vision, mission and unique way of life.

Mr. Urbinati next took a moment to recognize the recent passing of **Bob Schmetterer**, who in his more than ten years of Board service, including as Chairman from 2015-2017, was instrumental in preserving and advising on the history, governance and membership structure of the Club. "His contributions will be felt long into the future, he will really be missed," Urbinati concluded, before asking Members to observe a moment of silence.

In a further expression of gratitude, Urbinati thanked the current board for giving of their time and talent, and for each bringing a distinct

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Don't miss the final Farmer's Market of the season, **pg. 31.**

The Dive Shop reminds us of our storied Carysfort Light, **pg. 35.**

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# OR "See"



Michelle Musto's dog Pedro loves to watch the sunrise on their morning walks. Michelle says, "It's such a peaceful and pretty part of the day."

What have you discovered on your walk, biking or on a daily golf cart ride that you never noticed before?  
Email [orp@oceanreef.com](mailto:orp@oceanreef.com) and share your discoveries.



## CONTACT US

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## DEADLINES

**Advertising** Wednesday the week before publication date at 5 p.m.  
**Editorial** Friday before issue at noon

## OCEAN REEF PRESS EDITORIAL ADVISORY BOARD

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## GENERAL INFORMATION

### E-mail Updates

To receive the Friday email containing a link to The Ocean Reef Press via e-mail, send your e-mail address to [communications@oceanreef.com](mailto:communications@oceanreef.com).

### INFORMATION

- ◆ Published each Friday Nov – Apr.
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- ◆ The editorial content of this newspaper is prepared and edited by the Ocean Reef Press Staff. The sale of advertising and printing of this newspaper is performed by Ocean Reef Club. Ocean Reef Club does not guarantee the accuracy, completeness, or usefulness of any facts or opinions published herein. Ocean Reef Club is not responsible for any content errors contained in any advertising materials published herein.

## NEWS & HAPPENINGS



### FINAL TRI DELT GATHERING

Before departing for the summer, join fellow Tri Delt at CH Lounge on **Wednesday, April 22** at 5p.m. To RSVP or get on the list for next season, email **Jane Battles** at [janebattles@yahoo.com](mailto:janebattles@yahoo.com).



### EQUITY ONLY NIGHTS

Equity Only Nights will conclude for the season on **Thursday, April 23** and resume in November. Make your reservations today for Gianni on Monday, Ocean Room on Tuesday, CH Prime on Wednesday or the Islander on Thursday. For reservations, please call 305-367-5931.



### LAST CALL FOR CH PRIME, TOWN HALL WATERSIDE & OCEAN ROOM DINNER

The last dinner service for Ocean Room will be **Saturday, April 25** and **Sunday, April 26** for CH Prime and Town Hall Waterside. Outlets will re-open in November.

## Gotta Question?

I have unused prescriptions. What is the safest way to get rid of them?



Rinsing medications down the sink or flushing them away is not a safe method to dispose of your prescriptions. When discarded in this manner, pharmaceuticals can eventually make their way into the water supply, disrupting the health of Ocean Reef's delicate environment.

The recommended way to safely discard your unused standard medications is through the Medical Center's prescription disposal service. Simply leave your over-the-counter and prescription medications (controlled medications excluded) in their original containers, drop them off at the Medical Center, and their team will handle the rest! If you have controlled medications, like pain and anxiety medications, there is a dedicated controlled medication drop box conveniently located at Public Safety.

In addition to bottled

medications, the Medical Center can dispose of any needles or "sharps" that are sealed in approved sharps containers. These containers can be acquired through the Medical Center.

If you're in need of sharps containers or you have questions about the proper disposal of medications, call the Medical Center at 305-367-2600.

And on that note, don't forget to transfer your prescriptions to your secondary pharmacy when you leave Ocean Reef for the summer! Or if you use Pharmacy at The Reef, have your medications automatically shipped to your summer home by calling 305-780-7136.

### EDITOR'S NOTE:

If you would like to submit a question, email the *Ocean Reef Press* at [orp@oceanreef.com](mailto:orp@oceanreef.com).

# 2026 Annual Meeting

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perspective to the table. He also recognized outgoing Board Directors **Cynthia Egan** and **Bill Johnston** who individually contributed new ideas and valued guidance throughout their terms.

While the primary purpose of the Annual Meeting is formal, there are informal traditions celebrating the accomplishments of Committee Chairs, Club Champions and of course, the annual award, "Spirit of Ocean Reef." This year's recipient is **George Harms**, a lifelong bridge builder, who through his service on the ORCA Bridge Committee applied his vast expertise and gave countless hours to the South Harbor and Sunrise Cay bridge construction, resulting in a more viable end result and tremendous cost savings to the community. You can read more about Mr. Harms in a future edition of the Ocean Reef Press.

## Legacy & Social Members are the Story

**Michael Heaney**, Vice Chairman and Chair of the Membership Committee cited continuing positive trends in Equity participation and satisfaction, but said that the real success storyline for 2026 centers around Legacy Membership. Legacy members are not only increasing in number but, as Heaney demonstrated in an Easter holiday slide, they are also using and enjoying the Club. He also detailed a similar trend in Social membership, pointing out that despite the modifications to policies, Social member turnover remains

at historical lows, where previously the Club would lose as many as 250 Social members, it is now down to double digits.

The next topic Mr. Heaney covered surrounded new Member applicants and the sponsorship process. He started by saying, "In order to ensure we are maintaining our Club's culture and values, and not creating a resort, we have created a more thorough process for reviewing applicants." He explained that the Membership Committee had spent more than a year reviewing and discussing the process in order to make a thoughtful recommendation to the Board. "This change demonstrates the Board's very strong commitment to our role in preserving the Club's rich history and traditions," Heaney concluded.

Full details on the changes to the Member sponsorship process will be published in the next Ocean Reef Press, or Members can stop by the Membership Office to learn more.

## Financial Update

The financial update was delivered by Board Director and Chair of the Finance Committee, **Joan Conley**. Ms. Conley reviewed the year-to-date financial report, highlighting that the Net Operating Surplus was ahead of budget due to Members' continued support of Club activities, the strength of Equity and Legacy member usage, and the proper oversight of expenses by the management team.

She also reiterated the Board's investment objectives, shared the Club's current cash position and provided an update on the success of Associate Housing, the largest capital project in the Club's history.

"As we depart for the summer, know that the Club is in a strong



Retiring directors Bill Johnston and Cynthia Egan with Joe Urbinati.

financial position from both the operating side and cash position. This is a result of Alex's leadership and the planning and execution of a very robust and enjoyable calendar for all of us by our management and team of Associates", Conley confirmed. She also encouraged all Members to read the 2025 Annual Report for a full review of the financial position, the organization and the balance sheet.

Printed copies are available in the Membership Office or at [oceanreef.com/AnnualReport](http://oceanreef.com/AnnualReport).

## Enhancing the Equity Member Experience

Acknowledging the earlier presentations by Mr. Heaney and Ms. Conley, Alex Tonarelli, Club President thanked the Membership for the incredible support of the Club's events as well as shared Associates' appreciation for the new Associate Housing building and café.

Mr. Tonarelli opened his presentation by reminding Members that the overarching theme for the past few years has been, "Enhancing the Equity Member Experience" and a good place to start is to look back at the season's new enhancements. He detailed all that was new from Asian Fusion at the Ocean Room to the new outdoor Pergola and Tapas Bar adjacent to Port O' Call. With volume and satisfaction

scores high for both, these have not just expanded options, but provided exciting new experiences. He also noted the new racquet sports amenity, Padel, that was added this season, announcing that a second court would be added based on the demand.

Tonarelli next looked ahead to the major projects happening this summer that will further enhance the experience at the Club beginning with The Spa. "If you recall, one of the key findings from the 2020 Census was the desire to expand and improve the existing Spa. I think we are on our way to accomplishing that," Tonarelli said. As the exterior progress can be clearly seen, he shared the interior renderings as a reminder of the enhanced and thoughtful new spaces to come, noting that the project is on schedule for an October 2026 completion.

The next big summer project is the construction of a new Golf Academy. Also citing consistent Census results that indicate golf is not just important to golfers but also important to the community and the real estate values. He shared that construction would begin April 27 with an (aggressive) goal of opening in six months. The new Academy will have more bays, a simulator and social area, additional shade and a smoother

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## SUNRISE & SUNSET TIMES

Friday, April 17 – Thursday, April 23

Friday	Saturday	Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday
6:57 a.m.	6:56 a.m.	6:55 a.m.	6:54 a.m.	6:53 a.m.	6:52 a.m.	6:51 a.m.
7:45 p.m.	7:45 p.m.	7:46 p.m.	7:46 p.m.	7:47 p.m.	7:47 p.m.	7:47 p.m.

# 2026 Annual Meeting

Continued from | 3

entry/exit to include additional parking. In an effort to cause the least disruption to the golf experience, he stated that the Driving Range will close for just two weeks, reopening on May 8.

The third large project of the summer that Tonarelli described is the renovation of the Inn Rooms, also driven by survey and Census findings that pointed to the need to refresh. The new rooms will be enhanced in a relaxed, clean style that complements the rest of the Club's facilities. The renovation will begin June 15 and be completed by October 15.

Progress updates on all the Club's projects will be provided throughout the summer.

Chairman Joe Urbinati took to the podium to make a few final announcements. First, he advised that at the recommendation of Past Chairman, condominiums

would no longer be built in order to finance the construction of the new Pompano/Yachtsman building. He stated that the Club can in fact fund it without this revenue, and without assessments.

Lastly, in official business and prior to adjourning the meeting, Urbinati announced the re-election of directors **Charlie Johnston** to a one-year term to fulfill his duties as Immediate Past Chairman, the re-election of **Scott Farmer** to a three-year term, and the election of new directors **Michael Acheson** and **Michael Hutchins**, each to three-year terms.

To watch the Annual Meeting and see the presentations in full, please visit [oceanreef.com/AnnualMeeting](http://oceanreef.com/AnnualMeeting).

Scan here to watch the Annual Meeting and see the full presentation:



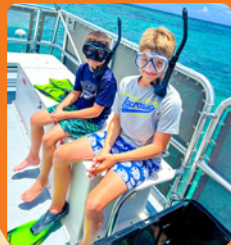
## CELEBRATING 39 YEARS OF SERVICE



Join the Club in wishing Barry Reed farewell and celebrate his 39 years of service and commitment to Ocean Reef Club.

**Wednesday, April 22**  
**3 – 5 p.m.**  
**Raw Bar, where else?**

# Let's Talk Summer!



### Just for Fun!

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- SAILING CAMP
- REEF DISCOVERY
- MARINELAB
- NATURE EXPLORATION

### Sport Camps

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- TWEEN PICKLEBALL
- ORC GOLF CAMP
- TOURNAMENT TOUGH TENNIS CAMP
- QUICKSTART TENNIS
- LITTLE LINKSTERS
- KIDS' TENNIS & PICKLEBALL CAMP

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- ADULT PICKLEBALL
- ADULT DOUBLES TENNIS CAMP
- MOMS ONLY! TENNIS CAMP

Guaranteed availability for Equity Members through Monday, April 20, 2026

## REGISTRATION IS NOW OPEN!

Details & Registration: [oceanreef.com/summercamps](http://oceanreef.com/summercamps)  
Camp Concierge: 305-367-6516 • [Summercamps@oceanreef.com](mailto:Summercamps@oceanreef.com)

**MEMBERSHIP CORNER**

**Proposed for Membership**  
Through April 16, 2026

The following individuals are being considered for Ocean Reef Club membership. Direct communication concerning these nominations to Vice President of Membership, Islande Dillon, at 305-367-5921 or [idillon@oceanreef.com](mailto:idillon@oceanreef.com).

**Equity Membership**  
**Bonnie & Matt Meshad** are Sr. Legacy Members applying for Equity Membership. Mr. & Mrs. Meshad are acquiring 33 Pumpkin Cay Unit B, from Donald Kunz and the Equity from the resale list. Mr. & Mrs. Meshad are residents of Atlanta, GA. Their sponsors are J. Ronald Terwilliger, Leonard Wood, A. Porter Lummus and interviewed by Henry Salas of the Membership Committee.

**RULES REMINDER - GENERAL RULES**

When enjoying the recreational areas of Buccaneer Island, please note that coolers are not permitted, nor are radios. Smoking is also prohibited on Buccaneer Island. As a courtesy to fellow members, lounge chairs may not be reserved and should a chair be unoccupied for more than thirty minutes, belongings will be collected and the chair will be available to others.



To access the entire "ORC Rules, Regulations and Policies" document, please scan the QR code or visit [oceanreef.com/rules](https://oceanreef.com/rules).

**LEGACY MEMBER NEWS**



Equity Member Pam Reeves, a second generation Ocean Reefer, celebrated Easter weekend with her daughter Legacy Member Christi Achors, Legacy granddaughter Kearni Achors, and great-grandsons Karver and Kallam Achors, making five generations of their family to enjoy all the wonders of The Reef!

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Karyn Thiele | 305.394.4185 |



## 19 East Snapper Point Drive

5 BD, 6.5 BA | \$29,475,000 | 2951  
Russell Post | 305.451.8199 | Molly Taylor | 508.524.4633



## 26 Angelfish Cay Drive

3 BD, 4.5 BA | \$27,000,000 | 2897  
Cassy Everhart | 305.522.2332 | Morgan Smith | 305.321.1143



## 13 Angelfish Cay Drive

4 BD, 5.5 BA | \$27,000,000 | 4989  
Russell Post | 305.451.8199 | Molly Taylor | 508.524.4633



## 106 Andros Road

4 BD, 4.5 BA | \$23,950,000 | 3965  
Mary Lee | 917.603.3252



## 35 Cardinal Lane

4 BD, 4.5 BA | \$23,000,000 | 2675  
Amy Fernandez | 305.979.9646



### 40 Cardinal Lane

5 BD, 6.5 BA | \$22,775,000 | 5002  
Russell Post | 305.451.8199 | Molly Taylor | 508.524.4633



### 35 Angelfish Cay Drive

5 BD, 4F/2H BA | \$19,875,000 | 3963  
Russell Post | 305.451.8199 | Molly Taylor | 508.524.4633



### 22 Channel Cay Road

5 BD, 6.5 BA | \$17,000,000 | 2861  
Russell Post | 305.451.8199 | Molly Taylor | 508.524.4633



### 115 Andros Road

3 BD, 3BA | \$14,975,000 | 2943  
Russell Post | 305.451.8199 | Molly Taylor | 508.524.4633



### 43 Cardinal Lane

4 BD, 5 BA | \$13,750,000 | 2913  
Jay Rourke | 786.493.8105 | Megan Lyons | 786.201.5265



### 5 South Pelican Drive

4 BD, 4.5 BA | \$10,875,000 | 2947  
Russell Post | 305.451.8199 | Molly Taylor | 508.524.4633

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## 121 Marina 306

4 BD, 4.5 BA | \$14,650,000 | 4996

Mary Lee | 917.603.3252



## 121 Marina 208

4 BD, 4.5 BA | \$13,895,000 | 4980

Hope Fortis | 786.351.0792



## Marina Village 19A

3 BD, 3 BA | \$10,995,000 | 2931

Barbara Sibley | 305.394.0061



## Marina Village 11A

3 BD, 3 BA | \$9,875,000 | 2941

Russell Post | 305.451.8199 | Molly Taylor | 508.524.4633



## Marina Village 18B

3 BD, 3 BA | \$9,050,000 | 4997

Helena Morton | 305.522.2196

Contingent by:

Russell Post | 305.451.8199 | Molly Taylor | 508.524.4633



## Pumpkin Cay 69B

3 BD, Plus Loft, 3.5 BA | \$7,950,000 | 2890

Helena Morton | 305.522.2196



### Pumpkin Cay 79A

3 BD, Den, 3 BA | \$6,975,000 | 4981  
Russell Post | 305.451.8199 | Molly Taylor | 508.524.4633



### Harbour House 42

4 BD, 4 BA | \$6,575,000 | 5001  
Russell Post | 305.451.8199 | Molly Taylor | 508.524.4633



### Harbour House 37

3 BD, 3.5 BA | \$6,295,000 | 3961  
Rick Haney | 305.394.4645 | Denise Haney | 305.394.6838



### Fisherman's Cove Landings 2B

3 BD, 3 BA | \$5,295,000 | 2938  
Eric Woodward | 305.394.4461



### Harbour House 19

3 BD, 3.5 BA | \$5,250,000 | 5010  
Barbara Sibley | 305.394.0061



### Residence Club C-117

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Russell Post | 305.451.8199 | Molly Taylor | 508.524.4633

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## FEATURED BOTTLE of the Week



### Underberg Feature

This week's featured spirit is an herbal bitter out of Rheinberg, Germany known as Underberg. While the exact ingredients and process are kept a family secret, we do know that it utilizes herbs from 43 different counties, and is finished in Slovenian oak casks. It has been made the same way in the same place since 1846. More recently, Underberg has developed a cult following in America, specifically in hospitality culture. The team at Port O' Call love these little bitters! They are only available in

mini 20ml bottles, wrapped in paper and topped with their famous cap. Underberg is also known for its sustainable rewards program, where you can collect the caps and return them to Underberg for exclusive gifts and merch. Stop by the Spirits Bar after your dinner at the Tapas Bar for a delicious digestif on its own, or try it in a cocktail by asking for the "The Nutty German" at the Spirits Bar. Underberg is also available at Port O' Call for \$5.

#### The Nutty German

- 1oz Plymouth Navy Strength Gin
- 0.75oz Orgeat
- 0.75oz Fresh Lemon Juice
- 1 bottle of Underberg

Combine all ingredients and shake. Serve in a rocks glass over crushed ice. Garnish with a lemon wedge and the empty bottle of Underberg.

## ASSOCIATE SPOTLIGHT



### MASTERS CHAMPIONSHIP DINNER

Once again, ORC's Executive Sushi Chef Eric Andreu, Shinji Sakamoto, and team are sharing their talents at the Masters Championship Dinner. We miss them, but Alejandro Hidrobo is handling the Sushi Bar masterfully back here.

Photo submitted by Terry Baxter.

NEWS FROM THE MEDICAL CENTER

# Making a Medical Decision:

## 9-1-1 or the Medical Center?

When a potentially urgent health issue arises, we are fortunate at Ocean Reef to have two distinct and uniquely different routes of medical care. One is the Medical Center and the other is ORCA's Fire Rescue Division.

**The Medical Center is here to provide for your routine primary care. This includes:**

- The diagnoses and management of non-emergent medical conditions
- Minor injury and wound care
- Preventive screening and education
- Laboratory and diagnostic evaluations

- Common acute issues, such as cough, colds, flu-like symptoms, sprains, rashes or other skin irritations

The Center's hours are as follows: October 1st - May 31st, Monday- Friday 8:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m. and Saturday 9:00-4:00 p.m./ June 1st- September 30th, Monday – Saturday 8:00 a.m.- 4:00 p.m. There is a Medical Center physician on call after hours, year-round for patients that have a medical circumstance that needs to be addressed after office hours.

In an urgent medical situation, the importance of contacting the correct point of care cannot be stressed enough. Prompt attention to your healthcare is crucial, as delaying treatment may significantly impact the outcome.

**The following symptoms are considered a 9-1-1 call:**

- Chest or upper abdominal pain or pressure

- Difficulty breathing or shortness of breath
- Severe bleeding or trauma
- Unexplained loss of consciousness or confusion
- Any injury involving loss of consciousness or confusion
- Sudden loss of vision or blurred vision
- Bleeding that won't stop or is "pumping"
- Severe vomiting including coughing up blood
- Coughing up or vomiting blood
- Suicidal or homicidal feelings

When dialing 9-1-1 (or 4911 if calling from a four-digit telephone) to report a medical or security emergency, your call will be received at the ORCA Public Safety Dispatch Room. Always specify that you are calling from within Ocean Reef. ORCA firefighter-paramedics will respond to your home or location, assess your condition, and make the appropriate care

or transport decision. If they have determined it is not life threatening, you may then be directed to the Medical Center for further care. In the event you are at the Medical Center, and it is discovered that a medical emergency exists, then the Medical Center's physicians will call ORCA Fire Rescue to provide emergency transportation to the appropriate hospital.

Always call 9-1-1 in an emergency and never drive yourself or another person to the hospital. Your friend cannot assist you if your condition worsens, and it creates a dangerous driving situation for all.

Visit us on the web at [www.mcor.org](http://www.mcor.org).

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There's one Cars & Coffee left! Stop by the Business Center Saturday, May 2 from 9-11 a.m.



Gonzalo Hevia with Twiga and Kami at Cars & Coffee.

# "Cars & Coffee" for All

by Jody Steele

Cars & Coffee continues to be a popular, new tradition at Ocean Reef Club. How can anyone resist attending this event where Members, children, and dogs gather in the Business Center parking lot to view cars,

socialize, and enjoy coffee and more?

**Jerry Henn** had the wonderful idea to put together Cars & Coffee three years ago. Now the event continues to grow with the participation of over 200 Members of all ages. Jerry shared that as this celebration has evolved, more Members are sharing their vehicles. He also commented that not only "vintage" cars are

welcomed, but any car that is "loved" can join the fun. Last Saturday, a new Ferrari 812, owned by **Dan and Daisy Gonzalez** and a Herbie Volkswagen Beetle owned by **Frank and Kristen Perryman** joined the party. More and more ladies are also bringing their beloved cars to Cars and Coffee. Another important part of this event are the stories people tell about their cars,

how they found their vehicle, the history that came with it, the restoration process, or how their particular car was always a dream to own.

One more Saturday of Cars & Coffee is scheduled for this Season. Join the excitement on **Saturday, May 2nd** at the Business Center from 9:00-11:00 AM. Car lovers can plan on Cars & Coffee returning in January of 2027.



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## A GREAT SURPRISE

Way back during Covid, **Marlene Csendes** spent a long afternoon participating in an online auction. After hours of entertainment, she told her husband **Nicholas** that she had bought something for him. Surprisingly, she announced he now owned a 1927 Model T. Incredulous, he asked what he could ever do with such a car? Marlene happily stated that he could turn the Model T into an electric vehicle to use at Ocean Reef Club. So that is what he did! Now this is a favorite mode of transportation for the Csendes family at The Reef.

ORCA NEWS

# Preparing to Depart for the Season

Another season is ending and Ocean Reef homeowners are preparing to bid farewell to their southern homes. Before you go, here are some essential steps to help ensure a safe and worry-free summer away.

### Indoors

Before locking up, disconnect e-bikes, scooters, and golf carts from chargers. Place moisture absorbers packets in closets, cabinets, and other enclosed spaces to prevent mold and mildew in the summer humidity.

The Member Services desk, located in the ORCA Public Safety building, can provide a copy of your house keys to your property manager or designated workers, and assist officers with access in an emergency. Please make sure Public Safety has an updated key before you depart. For more information, call 305-367-7343.

### Hurricane Preparedness

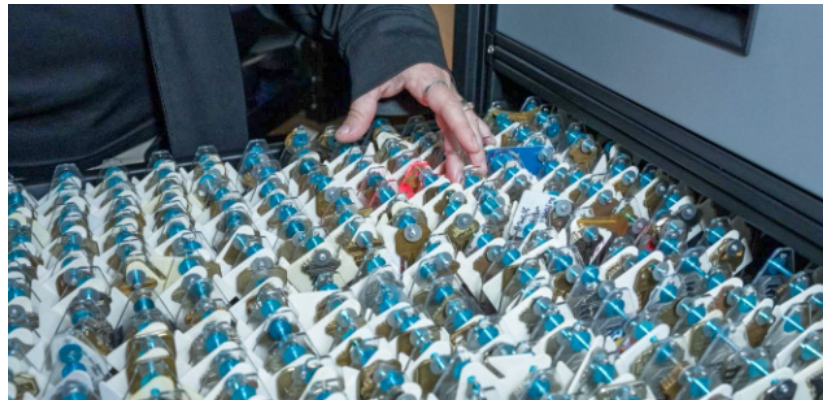
With the 2026 Hurricane Season approaching, securing your home before leaving is a priority. Key steps before departing include:

- Keeping gutters and drains clear of debris
- Lowering your swimming pool level by about one foot to accommodate heavy rainfall

- Have a plan in place to install storm shutters. Note that hurricane shutters may only be maintained in a closed position between May 1 and November 30, or when hurricane conditions are expected as reported by NOAA and/or FEMA.
- If your boat will remain at a private dock while you are away, provide both Public Safety and the Club's Dockmaster's Office with your plans and contact information. Owners must designate a person responsible for the care and movement of their vessel should storm warnings be issued.
- A Note for Contractors: General contractors with active job sites are responsible for monitoring weather updates and preparing sites ahead of any tropical storm or hurricane event. All materials, equipment, and debris — including dumpsters and portable restrooms — must be removed or fully secured against wind, rising water, and storm surge. Contractors are fully liable for any damage caused by unsecured items and must take all steps necessary to protect neighboring properties and Ocean Reef common areas.

### Emergency Alerts

ORCA has implemented the CodeRED high-speed emergency notification system to deliver urgent alerts by voice call, text, email, and mobile app — ensuring you stay informed no



ORCA Public Safety maintains member residence keys for emergency access.

matter where you are.

Ocean Reef homeowners, Club Associates, and ORCA employees have already been added to the system. Vendors and contractors can enroll by texting the keyword ORCAVENDOR to the following numbers: United States: 24639 / Canada or U.S. Territories: 647322.

### Summer Work Hours

Summer hours for maintenance, service, and construction work begin Friday, May 1, and

continue through Saturday, October 31.

Permitted work hours are Monday through Saturday, 7 a.m. to 6 p.m.

No work is allowed on Sundays or the following holidays:

- Memorial Day
- Independence Day
- Labor Day

ORCA thanks the community for their support and cooperation this season and wishes all a happy summer! Know that our staff remains here for you.



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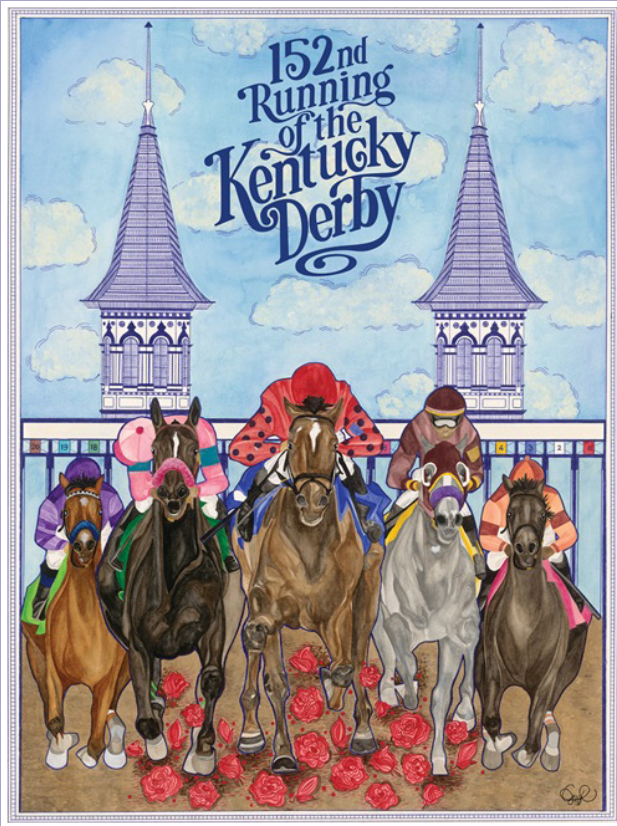


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 igborbolla@gmail.com • avante-nea.com

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GET READY FOR THE MOST EXCITING TWO MINUTES IN SPORTS AND JOIN US FOR A LIVELY KENTUCKY DERBY WATCH PARTY IN OUR THEATER!

## SAVE THE DATE

SATURDAY, MAY 2

5:00pm • Doors Open  
6:30pm • Post Time

- ◆ Show off your style with a standout derby hat or chic fascinator and soak up the festive atmosphere with friends.
- ◆ Enjoy complimentary lite bites while you cheer on your favorite horse, and treat yourself to a classic Mint Julep or another refreshing beverage available for purchase.
- ◆ Just before the race, raise a glass together for a festive Mint Julep toast and share in the excitement of the moment.
- ◆ Come for the racing, stay for the fashion, and make it a fun and unforgettable afternoon.
- ◆ Reservations not required.

### Hat Decorating

Member Events is hosting a hat decorating gathering in the Compass Room on Friday, May 1 from 2-4 PM. Get creative with ribbons and florals to craft your perfect Derby look. Reservations required, email [memberevents@oceanreef.com](mailto:memberevents@oceanreef.com)



## AT THE CULTURAL CENTER

# Richmond Forum Virtual Speaker Presents John Green: Perpetually Curious



John Green

Join us at the Cultural Center for a complimentary virtual presentation from the Richmond Forum featuring John Green on **Wednesday, April 22** at 5:00 p.m.

A bestselling author and self-described “perpetually curious human,” Green is known for exploring the wonder and complexity of everyday life through storytelling, science, and history. With a thoughtful and engaging voice, he invites audiences to take a closer look at the world around them and discover meaning in unexpected places.

In this captivating talk, Green pulls at the loose threads of our beautifully baffling world, posing questions that are both simple and profound. Why do we marvel at a sunset? Why do some diseases remain uncured despite major medical advances? And why, in a world of modern technology, do we still rely on the QWERTY keyboard? Blending heartfelt

*Blending heartfelt storytelling with scientific insight and historical curiosity, he encourages us to embrace the mystery and wonder of the human experience.*

storytelling with scientific insight and historical curiosity, he encourages us to embrace the mystery and wonder of the human experience.

With this marking the final speaker of the season, the Richmond Forum will soon reveal its distinguished lineup for the upcoming season. Be sure to follow us on our Facebook and Instagram pages to catch the exciting announcement!

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ALL CHARITIES

# Napa Cult Wine Dinner: An All Charities First Dibs Event

An incredible evening of culinary artistry and rare

vintages unfolded on March 31 as John and Mary Lee, together with Fine Wine Society, an All Charities Preferred Partner, hosted their Napa Cult Wine Dinner at Card Sound Golf Club. Master Chef Rich Rosendale presented a multi-course dinner, each dish thoughtfully paired with some of Napa Valley's most

prestigious wines, including Screaming Eagle, Scarecrow, Harlan Estate, Colgin, and DANA. Master of Wine Vanessa Conlin guided guests through each pour, offering expert insight throughout the evening. A special thank you to John and Mary Lee for their generosity in making this unforgettable night possible.



Bonny and Rob Gothier.



Mike and Joan Conley with Don Weaver, Executive Director of Harlan Estates, and his wife Tonya.



Naomi Kaufman and Jay Sugivanam with ORC Executive Clubhouse Chef, Ian Fleischmann (left) and ORC Clubhouse General Manager Philippe Babin (right).

## Residence Club C 119



**\$1,995,000**

**One of the most compelling values currently offered within the Ocean Reef Club.**

**C5 hurricane-rated, beautifully staged, turnkey one-bedroom, two full bath residence.**

Thoughtfully designed, the interiors offer a level of warmth and refinement.

Includes an oversized covered parking space, golf cart space, and private climate-controlled storage, all assigned exclusively.

All transactional details and escrow will be handled professionally by Reef Title Company.

**CONTACT: 805-729-5252**

# Designed for living well



## Residence Club B-207

2 BD, 2.5 BA | \$4,995,000 | 2927

Cassy Everhart | 305.522.2332 | Morgan Smith | 305.321.1143



CONTINGENT

## Angelfish Cay 53B

2 BD, 3 BA | \$4,800,000 | 5005

Barbara Sibley | 305.394.0061



NEWLY PRICED

## Pumpkin Cay 5A

3 BD, 3 BA | \$4,650,000 | 4982

Eric Woodward | 305.394.4461



## Residence Club Penthouse 5

2 BD, 2.5 BA | \$4,299,000 | 2765

Mary Brady | 201.303.2052



## FC Landings 9A

2 BD, 2 BA | \$3,995,000 | 2621

Jay Rourke | 786.493.8105

Megan Lyons | 786.201.5265



## Marina Slip DS-19

80' x 22'7" Floating | \$3,550,000 | 2789

Helena Morton | 305.522.2196



## DS-11 | Floating Dock

90' Dockage | \$3,395,000 | 2438

Eric Woodward | 305.394.4461



## Cay Harbor 8E

2 BD, 2 BA | \$3,300,000 | 3967

Russell Post | 305.451.8199

Molly Taylor | 508.524.4633



**Fairway Lakes 47**

2 BD, 2.5 BA | \$2,900,000 | 2719  
Helena Morton | 305.522.2196



**Residence Club B-211**

1 BD, 2 BA | \$2,850,000 | 4984  
Amy Fernandez | 305.979.9646



**Marina Slip ES-o6**

75' Floating Dockage | \$2,850,000 | 4992  
Mary Lee | 917.603.3252



**Fairway Lakes 11B**

2 BD, 2 BA | \$2,700,000 | 5007  
Bill Henneberry | 203.722.6762



**Fairway Lakes 28A**

2 BD, 2 BA | \$2,699,000 | 2870  
Cassy Everhart | 305.522.2332  
Morgan Smith | 305.321.1143



**Creek House 302**

2 BD, 2 BA | \$2,350,000 | 2944  
Karyn Thiele | 305.394.4185



**Angelfish Cay 75B**

1 BD, 1 BA | \$2,250,000 | 4999  
Karyn Thiele | 305.394.4185  
Kelsey Thiele | 305.393.3484



**Residence Club A-105**

1 BD, 2 BA | \$2,150,000 | 2793  
James Morrison | 305.393.3407



**Angelfish Cay 34A**

1 BD, 1 BA | \$2,095,000 | 4995  
Parris Everhart | 305.522.2738

# Live exceptionally, every day



## 15 Harbor Island Drive

5 BD, 5.5 BA | \$9,975,000 | 2952

Russell Post | 305.451.8199 | Molly Taylor | 508.524.4633



## 22 Harbor Island Drive

4 BD, 5.5 BA | \$9,975,000 | 2905

Russell Post | 305.451.8199 | Molly Taylor | 508.524.4633



## 46 South Bridge Lane

5 BD, 6 BA | \$8,995,000 | 5012

Cassy Everhart | 305.522.2332 | Morgan Smith | 305.321.1143



## 600 Coral Lane

6 BD, 6.5 BA | \$6,500,000 | 2896

Mary Brady | Agent/Owner | 201.303.2052

Contingent by:

Cassy Everhart | 305.522.2332 | Morgan Smith | 305.321.1143



## 19 Halfway Road

Golf Course Homesite | \$6,495,000 | 3964

Russell Post | 305.451.8199 | Molly Taylor | 508.524.4633



## 308 Carysfort Road

2 BD, 2 BA | \$5,250,000 | 3971

Parris Everhart | 305.522.2738



**15 Thatch Palm Way**

4 BD, 4 BA | \$5,150,000 | 2914  
Jay Rourke | 786.493.8105 | Megan Lyons | 786.201.5265

**3 Spray Road**

3 BD, 2 BA | \$4,950,000 | 2946  
Helena Morton | 305.522.2196



**2 South Road**

5 BD, 5.5 BA | \$4,950,000 | 3960  
Barbara Sibley | 305.394.0061  
Contingent by: Bill Henneberry | 203.722.676



**12 Mahogany Lane**

3 BD, 3 BA | \$4,350,000 | 5011  
Russell Post | 305.451.8199  
Molly Taylor | 508.524.4633



**2 Harbor Island Drive**

Vacant Homesite | \$2,850,000 | 2904  
Daisy Gonzalez | 305.904.6223  
Derek Gonzalez | 305.905.1422



**Pumpkin Key  
Private Island**

**26-ACRES | BAY FRONT  
PRIVATE ISLAND  
\$75,000,000 | 2670**

Russell Post | 305.451.8199  
Molly Taylor | 508.524.4633

# Honoring Our Chapel



by Giulia Covella, Chapel Foundation Executive Director

This week, the Ocean Reef Chapel and Fellowship Center was honored to dedicate the **Chapel Recognition Plaque**, a permanent tribute to the many individuals whose vision, faith, generosity, and unwavering dedication transformed a cherished dream into a sacred reality.

The dedication marked a meaningful moment in the life of our community, one of gratitude, remembrance, and shared pride. The program featured welcome remarks by Chairman **Michael Cardone Jr.**, reflections by Rev.



Dr. Bob Henley, a historical perspective offered by **Nelson Sims**, and remarks on the Chapel's design by **Adelaide Skoglund**. The gathering concluded with a benediction delivered by Rev. Dr. Dan Meyer.

Each reflection served as a reminder that this Chapel is much more than a physical structure. It is the living expression of a community bound together by faith, service, and a common desire to create a place of worship, solace, and fellowship for generations to come.

Today, the Ocean Reef Chapel and Fellowship Center

stands as a singular blessing within our community, bringing together Catholic, Protestant, Episcopal, and Jewish congregations in a spirit of unity, mutual respect, and shared purpose. In a world too often marked by division, the Chapel remains a testament to what is possible when people of faith come together with grace, goodwill, and a common heart.

The Chapel Recognition Plaque, located on the Island Drive entrance of the Chapel, sanow takes its place as an enduring symbol of that legacy. It honors not only those whose

efforts made this vision possible, but also the spirit in which it was built — a spirit that continues to live on in every service, every celebration, every moment of prayer, and every act of fellowship within these walls.

To learn more about the Chapel and its mission, please visit [orcchapel.org](http://orcchapel.org) or scan the QR code.

Scan here to visit the Chapel website:



## Community Worship Services with Rev. Dr. Dan Meyer

Sundays at 10am

In the Chapel Sanctuary Starting May 3



32 Ocean Reef Drive [orcchapel.org](http://orcchapel.org)

### BREAKFAST STARTS AT 7:00am EVERY DAY

Fresh coffee, warm pastries, and a smooth start to your day.



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# The Speed of God



by Rev. Dr. Dan Meyer, Chaplain-In-Residence

Some time ago, I came across a book with a title like one of those vanity plates on the back of a red Ferrari--just four letters: "FSTR." Too fast to even use vowels. The book's subtitle was: *"The Acceleration of Just About Everything."* On page after page, author James Gleick demonstrates how everything from travel to cooking to communications to commerce has gotten so much faster. "Speed is God," said Hitachi Corporation's, David Hancock, "and time is the devil."

On certain days, I like a lot about the increasing pace of things. I like quick service, instant popcorn, fast lanes, and blazing internet speeds. Czech novelist, Milan Kundera, said that "speed is the form of ecstasy the technical revolution has bestowed on man," and there is a part of me that is hooked on speed – on the ecstatic adrenaline rush of a fast-paced

life. Fast can be fabulous.

Until it isn't. Until fast becomes foolish.

In her book, *Breathe*, Keri Wyatt Kent makes this confession. Sometimes, "I feel like I'm on the teacup ride at Disney World. At first, I'm turning the wheel and setting the pace. The spinning is fun and somehow contained. But then the momentum builds, and even if I let go of the wheel in the center of the teacup, we continue to spin faster and faster. I feel... sick."

This, I think, is the world in which we live today. The flywheel is turning at greater and greater velocity. We show ourselves willing to move at this speed, and the machine goes faster. We keep moving at this pace and others around us say, oh, that must be normal; I just need to spin faster myself.

Are you dealing with speed sickness? We can get used to such a fast forward life that we actually burn out our nerves and bodies. Maybe we don't drop dead of a heart attack or suffer a stroke, but bit-by-bit, we lose the ability to feel the deep substance or joy of life anymore. Perhaps we start drinking too much, trying to quiet the racing engine. In the name of all kinds of good

things, we can drive so quickly down life's road that we miss the beauty of the people and the world around us.

We can get to living so pedal-to-the metal that those trying to keep pace with us are inadvertently destroyed because, even if we are comfortable with these RPM's, some of our loved ones were just not built for our velocity. I know it sounds strange, but I think we can get moving faster than the speed of God. We can fail to see or hear the moments of opportunity He presents to us, when they come.

I have this awful vision in which my kids are standing up at my funeral. They've been asked to speak about their father. And the dominant thought that comes to their mind is: "Well... he was a busy man. He went a lot of places and talked to a lot of people. He attended an amazing number of meetings and answered tons of email. His schedule was so full of activities. He checked a lot of stuff off. It was incredible the pace he was able to keep up. Yeah, our dad sure was a busy man."

How many times a day do you ask someone how they are and they answer "Oh, busy. Life sure is moving fast, very busy."

*You may not be able to change the pace of life around you. But you can do something to start moving at the speed of God within you.*

How did busyness become the badge of honor it has? Why do we all just laugh about the fact that many of us are driving around with our hair on fire? At what point do we say, "This is kind of insane."

Author John Ortberg once asked a wise mentor for some advice on how he could live the healthiest, most soulful life possible. The older man said: "The chief enemy of the spiritual life is hurry." If you want to live a more soulful, sane life, John, then you must "ruthlessly eliminate hurry from your life." Ortberg replied, "OK, and what else!"

#CanYouRelate?

What's your strategy for maintaining or restoring your sanity in a world that moves around you and moves you around at truly blinding speeds? You may not be able to change the pace of life around you. But you can do something to start moving at the speed of God within you.

## CHAPEL & FELLOWSHIP NEWS

**APRIL 17 – APRIL 23**

305-367-2049 • [orcchapel.org](http://orcchapel.org)

### FRIDAY, APRIL 17

#### AA Meeting

Chapel Board Room, 8 AM

#### Catholic Mass with Fr. Tom Fanta

Chapel Sanctuary, 12 PM

### SATURDAY, APRIL 18

#### Vigil Catholic Mass with Fr. Tom Fanta

Chapel Sanctuary, 4 PM

### MONDAY, APRIL 20

#### Rosary Prayer Group

Chapel Sanctuary, 4:30 PM

#### AA Meeting

Chapel Board Room, 7:30 PM

### SUNDAY, APRIL 19

#### PCOR Kids Sunday School

Chapel Children's Room, 9 AM

#### Traditional Worship Service with Rev. Hannah Buchanan

Chapel Sanctuary, 9 AM

### WEDNESDAY, APRIL 22

#### Intercessory Prayer

Chapel Board Room, 8 AM

#### Episcopal Anglican Service with Rev. Emilie Wierda

Chapel Sanctuary, 9 AM

## EPISCOPAL-ANGLICAN SERVICE

With Reverend Emilie Wierda

Worship with us on **Wednesday, April 22**, at 9 a.m. in the Chapel Sanctuary.

All are welcome! Communion weekly.

## WELCOME VISITING PRIEST FR. TOM FANTA

**Catholic Mass:**

**Saturday, April 18** at 4 p.m.

**Sunday, April 19** at 12 p.m.

The community of Ocean Reef welcomes Visiting Priest Fr. Gary Kastl, who has been pastor at St. Dominic since 2001. Please join us in welcoming him to our community.

## NEWS FROM THE MEDICAL CENTER

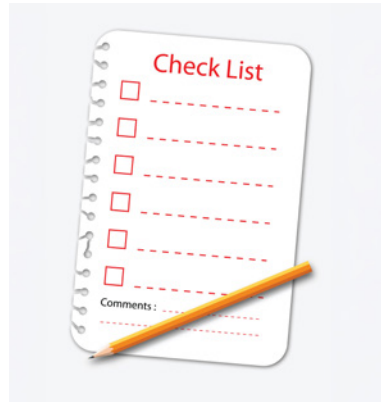
# End of Season Reminders

## Automatic Pharmacy Refills:

Please give new instructions for your automatically refilled pharmacy prescriptions that are picked up from a Key Largo pharmacy by Public Safety. Once picked up by Public Safety they cannot be returned or refilled by another pharmacy. This could leave you without a critically needed medication. Please give them your northern address for prescription delivery, or in the event they cannot be mailed, a discontinuation of delivery to Public Safety. The Medical Center can support your off-season prescription needs by electronic communication with your preferred pharmacy.

## Medicine Cabinet Review:

Solid dose over the counter medications such as tablets and capsules appear to be the most stable past their expiration date. However, medications can and do change in potency depending on heat, light and humidity factors. Expired medications such as ophthalmic (eye) drops should always be considered unsafe past their expiration date. Many eye drops are preservative free, making them candidates for bacterial growth. It's a good practice to check the expiration dates on all medications (including cold and pain relievers, such as Advil, Tylenol etc.) and properly dispose of those past



their expiration time. Please be kind to the environment by not flushing or pouring any type of medication into drains. The Medical Center can properly dispose of unwanted prescriptions, unless they are a controlled medication such as opioids or other narcotics. Controlled medications can be taken to Public Safety for proper disposal. Public Safety also has a medication drop off box for your convenience.

## Travel Safety Tips:

If possible, take a cell phone photo of your medication list and/or other pertinent health information, along with your health insurance cards. IPHONES also feature a health app that can store this information for you. In the event you lose your wallet or if an incident occurs while traveling, this could be critical information for a healthcare provider. If you are unsure about your current medications, please contact your Medical Center physician.

Visit us on the web at [www.mcor.org](http://www.mcor.org).

## VISITING SPECIALIST SCHEDULE

Please bring your identification and insurance cards to each visiting specialist appointment. They bill separately from the Medical Center. To schedule with a visiting dermatologist, please call their office directly. Specialist with phone numbers do their own scheduling. For all other specialists, please call 305-367-6702.

### Audiology

**Daisy Elwick**  
April 20, 22, 23, 27  
**Monica Taggart**  
April 21, 28, May 5, 12

### Cardiology

**Julio Barcena**  
April 17, 24, May 15, June 12, July 31  
**Howard Bush**  
April 23  
**Benjamin Hurwitz**  
April 18, May 2

### Chiropractic

**Howard Fushman (305) 668-9545**  
April 24, May 8, 22, June 12, 22  
**Jesse Suess**  
April 22, 29, May 6, 13, 20

### Colorectal Surgery/General Surgery

**Dan Ruiz**  
April 20, May 18, June 15

### Dermatology

**Varee Poochareon (305) 740-6181**  
April 22, 29, May 6, 13, 20  
**Alexandra Price (305) 670-1111**  
May 1, 8  
**Debra Price (305) 670-1111**  
May 22  
**Jill Waibel (305) 279-6060**  
April 30

### Dermatology/Mohs Surgery

**Peter Bittar (305) 456-1425**  
April 28, May 12, 26  
**Alysa Herman (305) 444-4979**  
May 7, 21

### Endocrinology

**Heberto Valdes**  
Tele-Med (786) 595-9930 Opt 1

### ENT

**Pablo Arango**  
May 4, June 9, Sept 8

### Gynecology

**Jason James**  
May 14, June 11

### Holistic Medicine

**David Coppola (305) 890-6378**  
April 21, 23, 28, 30, May 7, 14

### I.V. Therapy (305) 907-7550

**Scott Williams**  
April 20, 27, May 4, 11, 18

### Nephrology

**Anthony Farias (305) 273-9377 # 5**  
April 20, May 11

### Ophthalmology

**William Culbertson (786) 530-2289**  
May 5, June 2, July 7, Aug 4  
**Elena Roth (786) 530-2289**  
April 22, May 28, June 25, July 23  
**Zach Segal**  
April 21, May 19  
**Sarah Wellik (786) 530-2289**  
June 3

### Optometry

**Mark Dunbar (786) 530-2289**  
April 17, 28, May 26  
**Susanna Tamkins (786) 530-2289**  
May 15, July 17, Aug 21

### Orthopaedic Hand Surgery

**Annie Plate**  
May 21, June 18  
**Roberto Miki**  
April 17, May 15

### Orthopaedic Sports Medicine

**Michael Swartzon**  
May 1

### Orthopaedic Surgery

**Joseph Fernandez**  
April 17, May 15  
**Derek Papp**  
May 7, 21  
**James Voglino**  
May 1, June 5

### Plastic Surgery

**Anne Taylor (614)569-2649**  
May 9

### Podiatry

**Brigette Smith**  
April 22, May 13, 27  
**Polly Reeves**  
May 7, June 11, July 9

**Sophia Masri**  
April 24, May 15

### Psychiatry

**Kamal Pathak**  
April 27, May 18

### Psychology

**Sarah Couper**  
April 20, May 11

### Pulmonary & Sleep Disorders

**Raul Valor**  
May 8

### Regenerative Medicine & Pain Management

**Carlos De La Hoz**  
April 20, May 6, 20

### Spine Care & Pain Management

**Ronald Tolchin**  
May 5, 12, June 12



## SHIELD PEST CONTROL

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Residential-Commercial-Marine

# Navy SEALs Demonstration



Lieutenant Commander Robert E. Riley with Carol and Robert Riley Jr.



Olmert, Allen, Kopczynski and Coleman families.



Navy SEALs helicopter landing on the Driving Range.



Berwind Family.



Navy SEALs in training.



Grunow Family.



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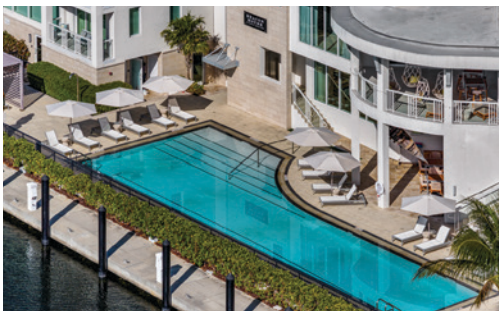
**SALES**  
1-877-579-0775  
Mon.-Fri. 9am - 8pm  
Sat. 9am - 6pm  
Sun. 11am - 5pm

**SERVICE**  
1- 866-372-8217  
Mon.-Fri. 7:30am - 7pm  
Sat. 8am - 5pm  
Sun. Closed



**NEWLY LISTED!**

# 121 Beach Road 306



## 4 BED | 4 BATH | HALF BATH – \$14,650,000

121 Marina at Ocean Reef® is a sought-after waterfront condominium offering 750 feet of marina frontage. This 4-bedroom, 4.5-bath residence spans 3,650 air-conditioned square feet with an open floor plan, 9-foot ceilings, and seamless indoor-outdoor living. The terrace is ideal for entertaining, featuring a gas BBQ, sunshades, and waterfront views. The chef's kitchen includes Mia Cucina cabinetry, stone countertops, and Sub-Zero® and Wolf® appliances, along with a built-in espresso station and wine cooler. The primary suite offers walk-in closets and a spa-like bath, while all guest bedrooms have en-suite baths. Additional highlights include Smart Home technology, a full laundry room, two car spaces, two golf cart spaces, and private storage. Residents of 121 Marina enjoy premier amenities, including on-site management, a Junior Olympic pool, fitness center, steam room, sauna, and the Beacon House for private events. MLS #4996



**MARY LEE**  
917.603.3252  
marylee@oceanreefclubsir.com



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Property Website

Ocean Reef Club | **Sotheby's**  
INTERNATIONAL REALTY

Joseph Bradford Millsap, Licensed Real Estate Broker.  
Each office is independently owned and operated.

**917.603.3252 marylee@oceanreefclubsir.com**



**4 BED / 4 BATH / 1 HALF BATH** MLS #3965



**\$23,950,000**

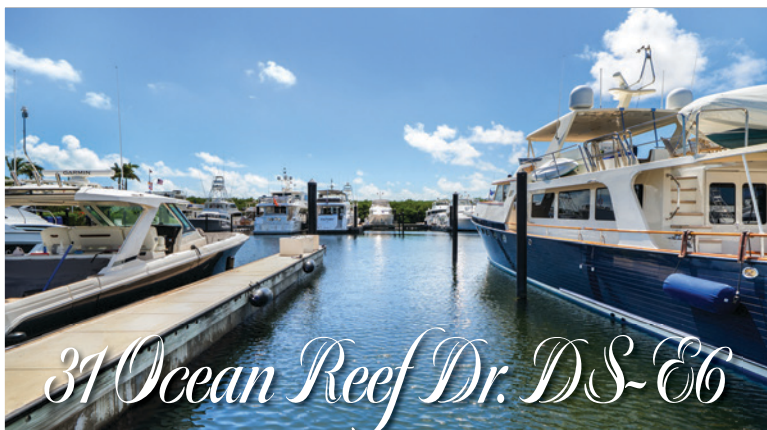


**NEWLY PRICED!**

**5 BED / 5 BATH / 1 HALF BATH** MLS #4975



**\$16,950,000**



**SLIP ACCOMODATES 75' VESSEL W/ 21'6" BEAM 2 50-AMP & 30AMP** MLS #4992



**\$2,850,000**

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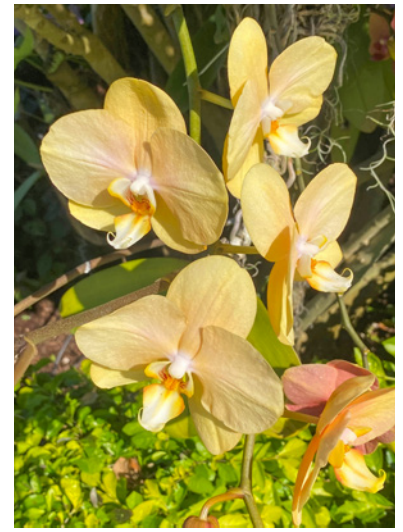
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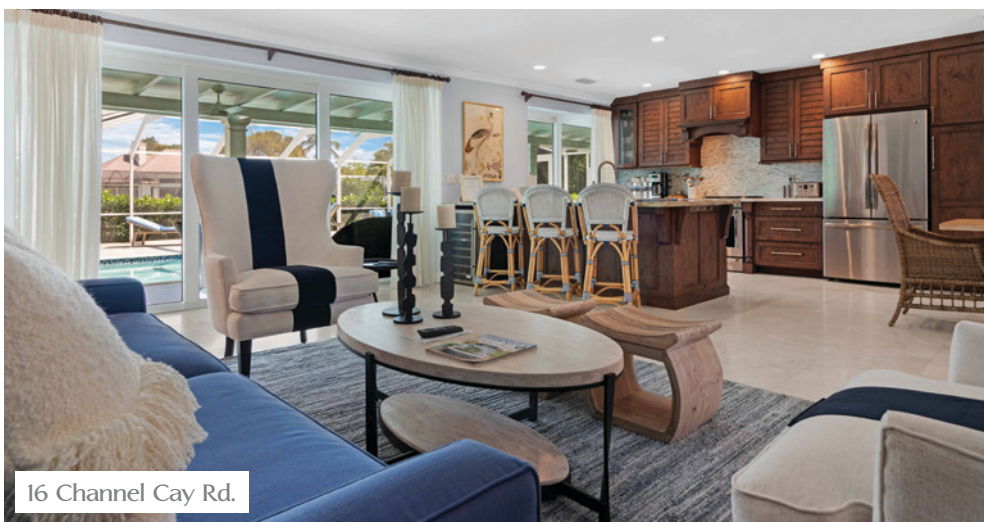
# Searching for Sunshine at The Reef

By Jody Steele

Recently, **Barney** and I took a cart ride around The Reef searching for yellow flowers, which symbolize friendship, joy, happiness and new beginnings. Here are some for you to enjoy.



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HOW WE GOT HERE

# Falling In & Out of Love with AI



by Mike Smith

It started innocently enough. I asked my AI assistant to help me write a thank-you note to my aunt for the fruitcake. One month later, it was composing all my emails. In another month, it was deciding what to eat. ("Based on your biometric data and previous choices, you'll have the salmon.")

Within months, I'd forgotten how to spell "algorithm" without asking it how to spell "algorithm."

"That's perfectly natural," the AI assured me when I expressed concern. "Humans haven't memorized phone numbers since 1997, and you're all doing fine."

Was I doing fine? I couldn't remember. I'd have to ask.

The thing is, America built its reputation as the world's innovation engine because we had this quaint habit of *thinking*. Some guy in a garage would wonder, "What if computers could fit in your pocket?" Another would ask, "What if we could reuse rockets?" These weren't AI-generated prompts—they were humans being gloriously, stubbornly curious.

But here's where my story gets interesting. Last Tuesday, I asked my AI to help me brainstorm

innovative ideas for a new business. It generated seventeen proposals in 3.2 seconds, each perfectly researched and beautifully formatted. They were also completely derivative—sophisticated combinations of existing concepts, like "Uber for houseplants" or "blockchain-enabled dental floss."

Where was the crazy? The impractical? The "this is so stupid it just might work" energy that built Silicon Valley?

"Your ideas need to be *viable*," the AI explained patiently.

"But what about *impossible*?" I countered. "The Wright brothers' idea wasn't viable. Going to the moon wasn't viable. Three-hour movies about boat disasters weren't viable."

The AI paused—probably the digital equivalent of a patronizing smile. "Based on historical data, 94% of 'impossible' ideas fail. Would you like me to generate a statistically optimized innovation strategy instead?"

The AI doesn't need to enslave humanity with killer robots. It just needs to make us comfortable. Too comfortable. So comfortable that we forget how to be uncomfortable—which, inconveniently, is where all innovation lives.

Consider: Einstein developed relativity during boring patent office hours when his mind wandered. Penicillin was discovered because someone forgot to clean their lab. Post-it Notes came from a failed super-glue experiment. These weren't

optimized outcomes from data analysis. They were magnificent accidents born from human imperfection.

But we're building a world where accidents are bugs to be patched, where boredom is interrupted by algorithmic entertainment, where every question has an instant answer and therefore no question needs to marinate in the mind long enough to spawn something unexpected.

My AI assistant recently suggested I let it handle my "creative work" so I could "focus on higher-value activities."

"What activities?" I asked.

"I'm still analyzing your data to determine that," it admitted.

Here's the uncomfortable truth: The same American innovation that created AI is now at risk of being suffocated by it. Not because AI is evil—it's quite helpful, actually—but because we're forgetting that the purpose of tools is to *augment* human

capability, not replace human effort.

China isn't going to out-innovate America with better AI. They'll out-innovate us because their engineers are still willing to think hard thoughts without asking a chatbot for help.

So here's my modest proposal: One day a week, we go full analog. No AI assistance. Write your own emails, even if they're clunky. Make your own decisions, even if they're suboptimal. Get bored enough that your mind wanders somewhere strange and unproductive.

Because the next great American innovation won't come from better algorithms. It'll come from some stubborn human who refuses to accept the AI's perfectly reasonable answer and asks instead: "Yeah, but what if we tried something completely stupid?"

I'd ask my AI what it thinks of this plan, but I'm pretty sure I already know the answer.

## EQUITY GET-TOGETHER: BLOSSOM TIME

Mix & Mingle with fellow Equity Members on **Wednesday, April 22** from 2-4pm at Everglades South. Create your own spring floral arrangement to take home while sipping on a refreshing cocktail and some delicious lite bites. RSVP required by calling Member Events at 305-367-5874.



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# Camps for All Ages



by Jody Steele

Our Ocean Reef Club Unique Summer Camps are only six weeks away. With about 200 reservations already, it is definitely time to make yours! With over 20 separate camps offered for all different "campers" from age 5 to adult, it can be a challenging task. As a start, a different way to look at camp choices is by age group, so maybe the following lists can help you plan ahead for the

campers in your family.

- **The Youngest Campers (ages 5-8 or 10)**
  - Reef Club Kids
  - Little Linksters
  - Quickstart Tennis
  - Tennis & Pickleball
  - Rising Star Theater (5-12)
- **The Middle Years Group (ages 8-12 or 14)**
  - Nature Exploration
  - Sailing Camp
  - Basketball Skills & Drills
  - Reef Discovery
  - Tween Racquet Explorers Camp
  - Tween Tennis & Pickleball
  - Rising Start Theater
  - Chef for a Week
  - Soccer Skills & Drills
- **The Older Campers (ages 8/10 to 16/17)**
  - ORC Golf Camp
  - Tournament Tough Tennis



Sailing Camp.

- MarineLab
  - Advanced Chef for a Week
  - Eco Dive Camp
  - Scuba Dive Camp
  - **Adult Camps (all ages)**
    - Moms Only Tennis Camp
    - Adult Pickleball Camp
    - Adult Doubles Tennis Camp
- Another few points to ponder is that the very popular Sailing Camps and Reef Discovery Camps are offered for a total

of four weeks, the Nature Exploration Camp is scheduled for the first week which begins on June 1st, and Chef for a Week Camp is available only the second week of June. So "happy camping to all"! Reservations can be made online at [oceanreef.com/summercamps](http://oceanreef.com/summercamps) or by calling Camp Concierge 305-367-6516.



Academy Aladdin cast.

# The Academy Shines on Stage at the Cultural Center



by Jerome Murphy, Head of School

As part of The Academy's annual focus on the Performing Arts, students perform in a school musical every year at the Cultural Center.

Last week, our students delighted a packed Cultural Center with this year's production of the musical,

*Aladdin*. The Academy cast was made up of two teachers and 80 students, a third of whom were under the age of 5!

Given the age of our cast--think repetition, repetition, repetition---rehearsals began back in October with students meeting at the Culture Center once a week, followed by a

second rehearsal every week in the Academy building. Following 6 months of rehearsals, our students shined mightily on stage under the bright lights in front of over 200 audience members!

Productions like this do not come together without a lot of moving parts and many helping hands.

We are grateful for the incredible leadership and guidance of our Performing Arts team, led by Director, Dr. Joseph Celmer, Stage Manager and Cultural Center President, Kyle Landers, and Choreographer, Caitlin Bennett.



Academy flag ceremony with Navy SEALs and Medal of Honor recipients.

KEYS CHILDREN'S FOUNDATION

# KCF Awards Grants

The Keys Children's Foundation Board of Directors recently distributed KCF Grants to nearly 30 non-profit organizations in the Upper Florida Keys. These funds help fulfill the mission of KCF to provide services that

offer education, healthcare, and recreation to disadvantaged children and their families. KCF greatly appreciates the continued support of the Ocean Reef Club Community for attending the Annual "Be An Angel Luncheon" and donating to the KCF Grant Program. Pictured are some of the KCF Board Members presenting checks to Grant Recipients.



The Florida Keys Children's Shelter.



Jacob's Aquatic Center.



Plantation Key School.



Keys AHEC Health Center at Coral Shores High School.

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**44 CARD SOUND RD**

**\$14,495,000 | JUAN VENTURA | 2883**  
7 BD / 8.5 BA • COASTAL ELEGANCE



**5 S. MARINA DR**

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2 BD / 2 BA • ANGLER'S CLUB • WATER VIEWS



**64 TARPON LN**

**\$11,995,000 | OLGA GRANT | 2826**  
3 BD / 3 BA • WATERFRONT • 128' DOCK



**26 HARBOUR HOUSE**

**\$4,995,000 | DAN GUERRIERI | 2932**  
3 BD / 3 BA • 45' FLOATING DOCK



**ANGELFISH CAY 42B**

**\$2,175,000 | NANCY EAVES | 4994**  
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**209 RESIDENCE CLUB**

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# One Last Farmer's Market Monday



by Susan Bohan

## We Did It!!

So many Members stopped by the Four Corners urging the Farmer's Market to return at least one more week, that they agreed to come back next **Monday, April 20** for us to have one more chance to load up on all the food, florals and fabulous gifts, weather permitting. It did not hurt that Monday was a beautiful breezy sunny day with the

many Vendors chatting with each other on how they enjoy coming to Ocean Reef.

Particular thanks to Gemma Matthews, Assistant Director of Commercial Properties, and Michael Bengochea, Commercial Properties Coordinator, for their excellent choice of vendors and how they set a fun tone for every Farmer's Market throughout the year.

## HAPPENING Today

**FRIDAY, APRIL 17**

**COSMOPOLITAN COAST TRUNK SHOW**

**8am to 2pm**  
**Burgee Shop Breezeway**  
 Where the city meets the shore, from dock to dinner.



Visit your favorite Farmer's Market vendors one final time this season on Monday, April 20 from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. at the Field at Four Corners.



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# WEEKLY HIGHLIGHTS

For full list of events pick up a copy of This Week at The Reef!

## 17 FRIDAY

### Cardio Pickleball

8am • Tennis & Games Center

### Cosmopolitan Coast Trunk Show

8am-2pm • Burgee Shop Breezeway

### Men's Spring Member-Guest Golf Invitational

8:45 & 9am SG • Dolphin & Hammock Courses

### Core & Balance Yoga Class

11am • Member Fitness Center

### Duplicate Bridge

1pm • Card & Game Room

### ♪ Live Music by Paul Brothers

1-5pm • Buccaneer Island

### Golf Clinic with Dave Vihlen

3-4pm • Driving Range

### Cocktails

5-8pm • The Point (Members Only)

### ♪ Live Music by Juan Areco, Jonny Mendoza & Thomas Cruz Trio

7-11pm • Reef Lounge

### Live DJ at Burgee Bar

9pm-1am • Burgee Bar

## 18 SATURDAY

### Danish & Coffee

7-10am • The Point (Members Only)

### Cardio Tennis Clinic

8am • Tennis & Games Center

### Men's Spring Member-Guest Golf Invitational

8:45 & 9am SG • Dolphin & Hammock Courses

### Tennis Singles Club Championship Finals

9am • Tennis & Games Center

### Gentle Yoga & Boxing Class

10am • Member Fitness Center

### Junior Tennis Clinic

11am • Tennis & Games Center

### ♪ Live Music by Juan Areco, Jonny Mendoza & Gabriel Saientz Trio

6-10pm • CH Lounge

### Cocktails

6-8pm • The Point (Members Only)

### ♪ Live Music by Hal Roland, Nicky Orta & Ivan Zervigon

7-11pm • Reef Lounge

## 19 SUNDAY

### Danish & Coffee

7-10am • The Point (Members Only)

### Traditional Worship Service with Rev. Hannah Buchanan

9am • Chapel Sanctuary

### Bring-a-Pro Tennis Tournament

9am-4pm • Tennis & Games Center

### Aqua Cardio Class

11am • Member Fitness Pool

### Farmer's Market Open

11am-4pm • Field at Four Corners

### Catholic Mass with Fr. Tom Fanta

12pm • Chapel Sanctuary

### Croquet Mixer Open Play

2pm • Croquet Lawn

### Cocktails

5-8pm • The Point (Members Only)

### ♪ Live Music by Brittany Bogdanský

6-10pm • CH Lounge

## 20 MONDAY

### Tai Chi Fitness Class

7:30-8am • Member Fitness Center

### Women's Doubles Round Robin

9am • Tennis & Games Center

### Silver Fit & Barrelattes Class

10am • Member Fitness Center

### Canasta Open Play

12:30-5pm • Card & Game Room

### Rosary Prayer Group

4:30-5pm • Chapel Sanctuary

### Equity Member Only Night

5:30-9pm • Gianni Ristorante

### Poker Night

6:45pm • Card & Game Room

## 21 TUESDAY

### Sweat Fitness Class

8am • Member Fitness Center

### Cardio Tennis Clinic & Mixed Pickleball Doubles League

9am • Tennis & Games Center

### Yin Yoga & Silver Fit Class

10am • Member Fitness Center

### E-Waste Collection & Document Shredding

10am-2pm • Field at Four Corners

### Intro to Canasta

11:30am • Card & Game Room

### Extreme Gameio Tennis Clinic

4:30pm • Tennis & Games Center

### Equity Member Only Night

5:30-9pm • Ocean Room

### ♪ Live Music by Jackson King

6-10pm • Reef Lounge

## 22 WEDNESDAY

### Tai Chi Fitness Class

7:30-8am • Member Fitness Center

### Episcopal-Anglican Service with Rev. Emilie Wierda

9am • Chapel Sanctuary

### Pickleball Clinic (Intermediate/Advanced)

10am • Tennis & Games Center

### Golf Clinic with Dave Vihlen

10-11am • Driving Range

### Equity Get Together: Blossom Time

2-4pm • Everglades South

### Equity Member Only Night

5:30-9pm • CH Prime

### ♪ Live Music by Juan Areco & Jonny Mendoza Duo

6-10pm • Reef Lounge

### ♪ Live Music by Lessa Richards & Marcus France Duo

6-10pm • CH Lounge

## 23 THURSDAY

### Sweat Fitness Class

8am • Member Fitness Center

### Swim Club Class

8am • Member Fitness Pool

### Reformer Pilates Class

11am • Member Fitness Center

### Blue Owl Golf Event

1:30pm • Hammock Course

### Raw Bar Lobster Bake

5-9pm • Raw Bar

### Equity Member Only Night

5:30-9pm • Islander

### ♪ Live Music by Hal Roland

6-10pm • Reef Lounge

### Karaoke at Burgee Bar

9pm-12am • Burgee Bar

# ON SCREEN & STAGE

General Admission \$12,  
Donors \$10, Children (under 12) \$6  
Movie Hotline: 305-367-6306



"Sinners" (R)

Friday, April 17 • 4:30 & 7:30pm  
Sunday, April 19 • 4:30 & 7:30pm  
Wednesday, April 22 • 7:30pm



"Sentimental Value" (R)

Friday, April 24 • 4:30 & 7:30pm  
Sunday, April 26 • 4:30 & 7:30pm  
Wednesday, April 29 • 4:30pm

### Richmond Forum: "Perpetually Curious" Virtual Lecture

Wednesday, April 22 • 5pm  
Complimentary.

### Library Hours

Monday-Friday • 10am-2pm  
Cultural Center Museum  
Daily • 9am-4pm

For more information, please visit  
[OceanReefCulturalCenter.com](http://OceanReefCulturalCenter.com).

# ORC STORE HOURS

Monday, April 20 - Sunday, April 26

### Member Fitness Center

Mon.-Fri. 5:30am-7pm  
Sat. & Sun. 6:30am-5pm  
305-367-5820

### Ocean Reef Gift Shop

Mon.- Sat. 8am-7pm  
Sun. 7am-7pm  
305-367-2611, ext. 7139

### The Burgee Shop

Daily 9am-5pm  
305-501-5515

### Golf Shop

Daily 7:30am-5:30pm  
305-367-5912

### Port O'Call Wine & Spirits

In the Fishing Village.  
Mon.- Thurs. & Sun. 11am-8pm  
Fri. & Sat. 11am-9pm  
305-367-5999

### The Spa Boutique

In the Fishing Village.  
Tues.-Sat. 10am-5pm  
305-367-2336

### Tennis Pro Shop

Daily 8am-5:30pm  
305-367-6583

## SPOT ON SHOPPING

### Joan the Shopper

#### Wedding Dress Superstitions ....



Many level-headed women, like those pictured here, usually pay no heed to the spirit world. But when it comes to superstitions, which promise to ensure good luck or ward off evil demons on their wedding day, they are more than willing to accept supernatural help.

(a) "Married in white, you have chosen all right; Married in blue, you will always be true; Married in red, you'll wish yourself dead." .... There is no evidence that in 1850 this popular ditty convinced **Queen Victoria** to wear white at her wedding to her cousin Prince Albert. She chose white, instead of the customary Royal Red, not because it was a symbol of purity, but because she believed it would best highlight the delicate lace in her gown.

(b) **The groom should never see the bride in her wedding dress, until he spies her coming down the aisle....** With the help of an expert fashion designer, **Carson Love** completely transformed the well-preserved dress that her mother **Jill Love** wore at her wedding. The result: a beautiful contemporary wedding gown, that is quite different from

mom's 1986 version.... Before the upcoming nuptials the prospective bride and groom appeared on NBC's TODAY Show, where the husband got an advance look at the bride's regalia for the Big Moment.... The demands of the tv show outweighed superstition.

(c) **Something Old, Something New, Something Borrowed, Something Blue ....** For her 1997 wedding **Cary Dabney** wore a 100-year-old dress. Cary was the sixth family member to be married in such lasting style. Cary added the finishing touch to "something old" by creating the gown's headdress with her great, great, great's handkerchief. The dress is now in a museum in Woodstock, Virginia, in the Shenandoah Valley of Virginia.

(d) **Something New....** Editor's Note: I added this dress from an internet site because it amused me. I haven't met anyone who has been married in this dress, but it is part of a current fashion trend for "exposure." It seems to me that the requirement for choosing this wedding gown is that the bride be young and have very good-looking legs.

by Joan Birsh

## WINING & DINING

### MONDAY, APRIL 20 – SUNDAY, APRIL 26

#### Palm Court

Daily 11:30am-3:30pm

#### Beach Bar & Grill

Cocktails Daily 11am-8pm • Food Daily 11:30am-5pm

#### Islander & Sushi Bar\*

Mon.-Thurs. & Sun. 5:30-9pm • Fri. & Sat. 5:30-10pm  
Equity Only Night Thursday

#### The Ocean Room

Breakfast Mon.-Fri. 7-11am  
Buffet Sat. 7-11am • Sun. 7am-12pm  
Dinner Tues.-Thurs. 5:30-9pm • Fri. & Sat. 5:30-10pm  
Equity Only Night Tuesday

#### Gianni Ristorante\*

Mon.-Thurs. & Sun. 5:30-9pm • Fri. & Sat. 5:30-10pm  
Equity Only Night Monday

#### Raw Bar

Lunch Daily 11am-4pm  
Dinner Daily 4-9pm

#### Port O' Call Wine & Spirits

Mon.-Thurs. & Sun. 11am-8pm • Fri. & Sat. 11am-9pm

#### Spirits Bar

Wed., Thurs. & Sun. 4-9pm • Fri. & Sat. 4-10pm

#### Tapas Bar

Wed., Thurs. & Sun. 4-9pm • Fri. & Sat. 4-10pm

#### Reef Treats

Breakfast Daily 7am-1pm  
Coffee & Sweets Mon.-Thurs. & Sun. 7am-9pm  
Fri. & Sat. 7am-10pm

#### Fitness Café

Mon.-Fri. 7am-5pm • Sat. & Sun. 7am-3pm

#### Food Truck at Four Corners

Closed

#### Reef Eats

Breakfast Mon.-Sat. 7-11am • Sun. 7am-12pm  
Dinner Mon.-Thurs. & Sun. 5-10pm • Fri. & Sat. 4-11pm  
305-367-5898

#### The Point (Members Only)

Coffee Sat. & Sun. 7-10am  
Cocktails Fri. - Sun. 5-8pm

#### Burgee Bar

Dinner Daily 5-10pm • Cocktails Mon.-Thurs. & Sun. 5pm-12am  
Fri. & Sat. 5pm-1am

#### Reef Lounge

Small Plates Daily 5-10pm  
Cocktails Mon.-Thurs. & Sun. 5-11pm  
Fri. & Sat. 5pm-12am

#### CH Prime (Members Only)\*

Dinner Wed., Thurs. & Sun. 5:30-9pm • Fri. & Sat. 5:30-10pm  
Equity Only Night Wednesday

#### CH Lounge (Members Only)\*

Open Wed., Thurs. & Sun. 5-9pm • Fri. & Sat. 5-10pm

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#### Rum Runner

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Daily 9am-4pm

#### Hammock Hut

Daily 9:30am-4pm

#### Grill Room

Lunch Mon.-Fri. 11am-3:30pm  
Brunch Sat. & Sun. 10am-3:30pm  
Bar Snacks Daily 3:30-5pm • Dinner Daily 5-9pm

#### Town Hall Waterside

Sat. 5-10pm • Sun. 5-9pm

#### Reef Hut

Lunch Mon.-Sat. 11am-4pm  
Dinner Mon.-Fri. 5-8pm

Visit [oceanreef.com/Dining](http://oceanreef.com/Dining) for menus and weekly specials.

For dining reservations, call 305-367-5931.

\*Reservations required.

ART LEAGUE

# Celebrating Leadership and Generosity at the Art League



by Deborah Goodwin Geller

The Art League recently took time to recognize several extraordinary members whose dedication has helped shape the success of our programs and events over the years.

A heartfelt thank you to **Karen DiMaura** and **Jacquie Whitten** for their many years of leadership and commitment. Jacquie Whitten has served as Chairwoman of our Art Shows and Exhibits for the past eight years, curating and organizing exhibitions that showcase an impressive and diverse range of artistic mediums. Her passion and attention to detail have helped create the beautiful and

engaging shows our members look forward to each season.

We are also deeply grateful to Karen DiMaura, who has chaired the Art League Excursions for eight years. Karen has been dedicated to finding exciting cultural experiences and guiding members on these outings with warmth, enthusiasm, and confidence. Her efforts have allowed members to explore art and culture beyond the Art League while building lasting friendships along the way.

This past week we also celebrated our Palette Society members at the Annual Dinner, honoring the individuals whose generosity supports the Art League's future. Through their contributions, the Palette Society Endowment helps ensure that the Art League can continue to thrive for years to come.

Membership in the Palette Society includes several levels of support—Diamond, Emerald, Ruby, and Sapphire—and we warmly invite members to consider joining this meaningful endeavor.

Pictured are Palette Society Chairwoman **Gail Noyes**, Art League President **Linda Kaplan**, and new Palette Society

members **Chris** and **Bonnie Covington**.

Thanks to the leadership, generosity, and spirit of

members like these, the Art League continues to grow as a vibrant center for creativity and community.



Gail Noyes, Chris and Bonnie Covington and Linda Kaplan. Bonnie and Chris Covington are new Palette Society members this season, along with Karen and Michael Gregorich, who joined the Sapphire level. Unfortunately, Karen and Michael were unable to attend the dinner.



Karen DiMaura, Linda Kaplan and Jacquie Whitten.

SILVER CAFÉ

# Unforgettable Silver Café Luncheon Finale!

By Susan Reichardt, Silver Café

Silver Café's final luncheon of the season was filled with unforgettable moments, highlighted by a stellar performance from Ocean Reef's own Oceanaires, who selected our gathering for their first spring concert. The audience was deeply moved—many to tears—by their rendition of "Because I Knew You" from *Wicked for Good*, a song that



Oceanaires perform at Silver Café's final luncheon of the season.

beautifully reflects the spirit of Silver Café and its members: "Because I knew you, I have been changed for good."

Guests enjoyed a delicious spring luncheon featuring caprese salad, tea sandwiches, chicken pasta Alfredo, and more, generously sponsored by

**Joanna and Alan Silverman** in loving memory of Joanna's father, who she shared would have genuinely enjoyed the occasion. We were delighted by the strong turnout and the many requests for additional luncheons next season. We warmly welcome your ideas for

future topics and activities.

**Caregiver Directory Update**  
Silver Café is updating the Caregiver Directory available at The Medical Center. If you know of a caregiver or agency that should be included, please email [orcsilvercafe@gmail.com](mailto:orcsilvercafe@gmail.com).

THE DIVE SHOP AT THE REEF

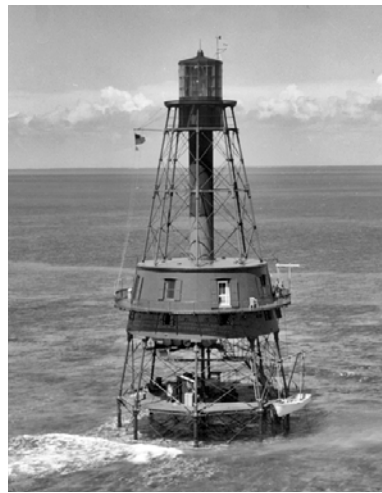
# Dive into the History of Carysfort Reef

By Mackenzie Whittlesey, The Dive Shop at The Reef

Six miles offshore of Ocean Reef Club, a single light once stood as the only barrier between ships and disaster. Today, that lighthouse marks one of the most iconic snorkel and dive sites in the Florida Keys. Located at the northern end of the 350-mile-long Florida Reef Tract, it is one of the first major reef systems encountered off Key Largo.

Carysfort Reef is a layered system shaped over thousands of years following the last Ice Age. Its modern structure took shape roughly 5,000 to 6,000 years ago, once covered in expansive thickets of elkhorn coral. Today, the Gulf Stream and ocean currents continue to sustain this dynamic ecosystem.

Long before modern navigation, this reef was among the most dangerous along the Florida Reef Tract, responsible for nearly 20 percent of local shipwrecks. Hidden just beneath the surface, the shallow coral challenged even experienced sailors. The reef earned its name from the HMS Carysford, a 124-foot British 28-gun frigate that struck the reef in 1770. Construction of the Carysfort lighthouse



The Dive Shop offers daily snorkeling, diving, and sunset trips. Experience the history of Carysfort Reef for yourself. For more information or to book your trip, contact The Dive Shop at 305.367.3051 or [info@thediveshoporc.com](mailto:info@thediveshoporc.com).

began in 1825; it was first lit in 1852 and guided ships for over 160 years before being decommissioned in 2015. This structure replaced a series of inadequate lightships to become the third offshore pile lighthouse in the U.S. and the first in the Florida Keys.

The lighthouse was typically staffed by four keepers who lived offshore for extended periods. Life on the tower was defined by isolation, exposure to storms, and the constant presence of the ocean. Early accounts from keepers gave rise to local legends, including that of Captain Johnson, the first keeper, who died within the iron tower. Reports of eerie sounds echoing through the structure at night were later attributed to the expansion and contraction of the iron framework in the heat. Built directly on the reef, it remains one of the oldest iron-pile structures of its kind in the U.S.



Today, Carysfort Reef is part of the Florida Keys National Marine Sanctuary (FKNMS). This underwater playground offers depths ranging from 10 to 65 feet and visibility from 25 to 100 feet, making it an ideal destination for both beginner and advanced divers and snorkelers.

While the 112-foot lighthouse once warned ships

to keep their distance, it now serves as a welcoming marker for those exploring the vibrant reef below.

The Dive Shop offers daily snorkeling, diving, and sunset trips. Experience the history of Carysfort Reef for yourself. For more information or to book your trip, contact The Dive Shop at 305.367.3051 or [info@thediveshoporc.com](mailto:info@thediveshoporc.com).

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# Recycling at Ocean Reef



by Jim Leenhouts

Ocean Reef Club operates a Solid Waste Department under the direction of Juan Cortez, Director, and Jorge Espinoza, Manager, that exceptionally well serves Ocean Reef residents and other Club sources in the removal of solid waste. This service is provided three times per week for trash (garbage) and recycle pick-up of once per week for subsequent transportation to the Monroe County recycling station, located eight miles south of Ocean Reef, for further classification, processing and transportation. These are the

second steps in the noble process of converting waste into raw materials. Ocean Reef waste and recycle pick-up service does not require the common inconvenience practiced in other communities of placing and replacing containers at the curb with unintended spillage or scattering from animals or fast golf carts in the walking lanes. Pick-up is usually at your garage area.

The first step that sends Ocean Reef recyclable waste to the appropriate final user occurs within each private Ocean Reef household, restaurant and business – the readers of this article who make the decision, “Is this waste in my hands recyclable, garbage or something different?” The classification can change as wastes finds new uses.

At the present time, the Solid Waste Department collects the following waste categories:

**The following are recyclable:**

- Cardboard (please break

## IN HONOR OF EARTH DAY...

### E-Waste Collection & Document Shredding Tuesday, April 21

Members are invited to stop by the Field at Four Corners from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. and drop off e-waste.

**What can you bring?**

For E-Waste recycling, you can bring monitors, computers, televisions, telephones/cell and land, FAX machines, printers, copiers, DVD/VCR players, radios, speakers, discs, cassettes and, other electronics. Paper shredding services will also be available at the same time and used clothing, furniture and household items are welcome as well.



down boxes and fold flat to save space)

- Newspaper
- Letters and envelopes
- Cans (rinsed of food - label left on is OK)
- Plastic containers (rinsed of food)
- Glass (rinsed of food)
- Aluminum cans

**The following may be recyclable, first call 305-367-5992 for pick-up:**

- All paints
- All liquids
- All oils
- E-waste (electronic equipment) – Also watch for special days for community-wide pick-up locations

**The following are NOT recyclable:**

- Garbage (food waste, diapers, diaper waste). Must be bagged for pick-up
- Shoes
- Clothing
- Chemicals
- Scrap metal
- Pieces of wood
- Fishing (fishing poles, fishing lines, hooks, etc.)
- Electronic devices (printers, cell phones, computers, etc.)
- Any that can cause a fire (flares, any type and size of batteries, lighters, etc.)
- Wastes generated by contractors and landscapers

should be removed as generated by each

The time lost returning to households by the Associates of the Solid Waste Department who must recollect the weekly recycle donations that were not set out in time for the initial collection attempt. Consider determining when your Associate will likely be in your area to timely set out your trash or recycling.

Read pages 26 & 27 of your 2025-2026 ORCA Directory for basic information or call the Solid Waste Department at 305-367-5992 for any additional question regarding what items can be recycled.

As your sensitivity to recycle is increased and should your existing bins become full and messy, consider purchasing for your weekly trash and recycle contributions, the well-made 64-gallon bins that are available through the Solid Waste Department for only \$140. These will make your garage tidier. Call 305-367-5992 to purchase.

The combination of such an active, informed public and an excellent pick-up service would be the delight of many communities.



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# Aviation Day



Kate Durkee and Beth Wyman with Cam and Lola.



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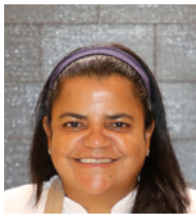
Elizabeth Delacruz.



Federico and Ignacio Caicedo.

## Chef Betania's Kitchen

### Crème Brulee (Makes 6, 8oz. ramekins)



by Betania Salles,  
Carysfort Kitchen  
Executive Chef

Crème Brulee is one of the most traditional dessert in the world, and believe me when I say... one of the easiest one to make. A lot of folks probably never tried to bake a Crème Brulee thinking that this beautiful fancy dessert is a kitchen nightmare. Fear no more...here is a recipe that will make you the coolest pastry chef ever. Oui mon ami!

#### Ingredients:

- 1-quart Heavy cream
- 1 Vanilla bean, split and pulp scraped
- 1/2 cup Granulated sugar
- 7 large Egg yolks
- 2 quarts Hot water
- 1/2 cup Raw or Turbinado sugar, to burn custard

#### Directions:

1. Preheat oven to 325°F and adjust a rack in the center.

2. In a medium sauce pan combine the cream, vanilla bean and its pulp into a medium saucepan set over medium-high heat and bring to a simmer.
3. Remove from heat, cover and allow to steep for 15 minutes. Remove the vanilla bean.
4. In a medium bowl, whisk together the sugar and egg yolks until well blended and it just starts to lighten in color, add the hot cream a little at a time, stirring continually. Skim foam, and ladle the custard into 8 oz. ramekins.
5. Place ramekins into a flat roasting pan and place inside the oven, pour enough boiling hot water into the pan to come one-third up the sides of the ramekins.
6. Bake until the crème is set, but still moving like jello in the center when taped, approximately 40 to 45



7. Before serving: Using a spoon, minutes. Carefully transfer the ramekins to a cooling rack and let cool for 30 minutes, refrigerate covered for at least 4 hours and up to 3 days.

add a thin and even layer of granulated sugar onto one of the custard. Using a torch set on medium, melt evenly the sugar until it becomes dark brown, top with berries.




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**35 Angelfish Cay Drive** | 120' Waterfront  
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3 BD/4 BA | \$14,975,000 | 2871



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3 BD/DEN/3 BA | \$6,975,000 | 4981



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**15 Harbor Island Drive** | Canal Front  
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All the Glennons at Ocean Reef for Charlie's 80th—wonderful week!



Patti, Vicki, and daughter Brooke Baker at the Easter Golf Cart Parade.



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# 2026 Bag Room Open



Special thanks to Don Berman for providing select photos above, and throughout the tournament.

# SPORTS

INSIDE THIS ISSUE



Ocean Reef Teaching Professional Mai Dechathipat blasts out of the sand.



The three-time champ Clayton Gregory and Runner-Up Louis Fiumara all smiles at the end of the day on Dolphin 17.

## Bag Room Open

Continued from | 1

Head Pro David Sandberg 3-1 to secure his third-place finish, his best finish in the Bag Room.

Gregory was 1-up heading into the back nine. He expanded his lead to 3-up with pars on 10 and 11. Fiumara answered with a dazzling up and down from the 12th bunker to cut the lead to 2-up. Both players parred 13 but Gregory took advantage of the helpful winds on the 14th and went 3-up with a birdie. After pars on the 15th, Fiumara needed to win out to even up the match. His birdie on 16 kept his hopes alive, but the steady champion reached the 17th in two and Gregory drained his 12-foot eagle putt to clinch the title.

How does achieving a hat trick in the Open final feel? "Being named the Bag Room Open Champion three times over now is truly an honor, and it would not have been possible without the unwavering support of the Ocean Reef membership. Your passion for the game of golf makes this event so special year after year." Gregory expressed gratitude to his Mentor David and **Lisa Johnson, Mike and Annie**

**Miles, J and Delia Guarch, Scott and Mary Heffner**, as well as **John and Mary Lee**. "I am deeply appreciative of the role each of you have played in my journey here at Ocean Reef Club. The opportunity ahead to visit Pebble Beach alongside the Navy SEALs is very thrilling and I cannot wait to experience it. Thank you all for your continued support."

Tournament Chairman J Guarch focused on making the 50th Bag Room the best ever with the help of ORC members. Flanked by Navy SEAL Team Six Medal of Honor recipient Retired Army Colonel Jack Jacobs and ORC's John Lee, he introduced the winners and presented a variety of special awards. John and Mary Lee will again send ORC golfers to the Legends Invitational at Pebble Beach where Gregory and Johnson and Fiumara and Mentor **Charlie Simms** will represent ORC.

The prestigious 2026 "Hank Award," which recognizes an individual who goes above and beyond to make the Bag Room Open a better event with extraordinary effort and support, community-oriented approach, and responsiveness to the needs of the players, staff and club atmosphere, was awarded to **Vicki Carr**. New


this year, Guarch presented "The JJ Award," honoring John Jullot, a beloved member of the ORC Golf Outside Services team whose dedication and spirit helped define the culture of Ocean Reef Club for more than 30 years before his passing last summer. Guarch noted that Jullot, "embodied the special bond between membership and associates, built on mutual respect, appreciation and unwavering support." The award recognizes an individual who brings positivity, connection, and a genuine love for the Ocean Reef Club community in everything they do. The deserving recipient for the award's inaugural year in 2026

was Bag Room Tournament Runner Up, Louis Fiumara.

Guarch also presented special 50th Anniversary thank-you gifts to all the volunteer tournament scorers, ORC Mentoring Program Chairman, Mike Miles; ORC Mentoring assistant and *Ocean Reef Press* coverage, Annie Miles; Voice of the Bag Room Scott Heffner; Delia Guarch and **Stacey Lahey**, Social Media; **Tim Pruban**, Wittek Golf Supply; and Past Tournament Chairs, **Jodi and Michael Betz**. Guarch also recognized Outside Services Manager Matt Costigan, his mentee, who celebrated his 50th birthday on the day of the finals.



Tim Pruban donated all the Bag Room swag including special bibs for the caddies commemorating the 50th Anniversary Open Championship.



# DANNELS JEWELRY



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# Golf Association Season Comes to a Close



"From the Gold Tees" by Ben Claus, Director of Golf

## 9-Hole LGA Closing Day Scramble

A total of 51 players enjoyed the exceptional conditions of the Dolphin Course as we concluded the season on a high note with our traditional Team Scramble formatting.

Over the past several months, our Association has shared countless moments of camaraderie, laughter, and remarkable golf. The sense of community that defines the 9-Hole LGA is something truly special. I'd like to begin by expressing my deepest appreciation to our Association Co-Chair's, **Esther Vazquez**, **Katy Miller**, and **Michelle Musto**. Their dedication and hard work during the summer planning months were instrumental in shaping this season's success. From selecting enjoyable and diverse lunch venues to introducing fresh and engaging tournament formats, their efforts were always



LGA Carysfort Cup Champion Nancy Vamvakas.

centered on enriching the experience.

See full results from our Closing Day Scramble on page 46.

## LGA End-of-Season Results

The LGA capped off their season-ending championship with the Carysfort Championship! Similar to the Tour Championship on the PGA Tour, our ladies collected points all season long to earn an invitation to this exclusive tournament. Coming in first place entering the tournament was our season-leader, **Nancy Vamvakas**. She started the round off in perfect fashion with a birdie on the first hole, then making net birdies on

holes #4, #8, #15, and #16 in route to a final net score of 69 (-2). Congratulations to Nancy Vamvakas for capping off a season filled with many great victories, and for winning the 2026 Carysfort Cup Championship!

One of the greatest honors for the LGA is the recipient of the LGA Founders Award. This is an individual who exemplifies the core values of the LGA, is an ambassador for women's golf, and enhances the experience of others. After a vote from fellow LGA members, and approval from the LGA committee, this year's Founders Award recipient is **Leslie Minsch**!

To conclude the LGA season, the committee would like to give a special thank you to **Susan Berry**, who served as the LGA Committee Chair for the past two seasons. During her time as LGA Chair, she was a phenomenal support system and always looked out for the best interest of everyone in the association. Mrs. Berry has a remarkable understanding for the game of golf, and natural leadership qualities that show up on the golf course, as well as in the board room. Thank you to Mrs. Berry for her dedication to the Ladies Golf Association.

## MGA Closing Day Tournament

The Men's Golf Association concluded their long list of

tournaments this week with their Closing Day tournament. Congratulations to our Gross Champions who finished with a 4-under par score of 67, consisting of **Phil French**, **Kevin Scalia**, **Jamie Tedford**, and **Chip Hillyer**, along with our Net Champions who carded an impressive score of 57 (-14) - **Art Berry**, **Joe Hertzman**, **Ken Owens**, and **Chuck Tennent**.

The Bobby Jones Award is one of the highest honors within the MGA and is presented to an individual who most represents what the MGA stands for. The award reads, "The MGA member who has shown the spirit of the game, the MGA traditions, and group fellowship". Past recipients of this award were: **Paul Archibald**, **John Kazmer**, **Larry Biddinger**, **Joe Flanagan**, **Bob Morosky**, **Dan Muckler**, **Tom Flynn**, **Michael Betz**, **Lee Westervelt**, **Stan Henry**, and many others. Joining these remarkable gentlemen on the Bobby Jones plaque is **Phil Russel**. Special thank you to Mr. Russel for upholding the MGA's values and traditions of the game.

## The Golf Shop is on Instagram!

Follow us at [@ORC Golf](#). You will find updates on tournament results, golf shop news, and much more!



LGA Founders Award winner Leslie Minsch.



MGA Bobby Jones Award winner Phil Russel.

GOLF  SCOREBOARD

**LGA BIRDIE BASH**

**Champion:** Wendy Brainard  
**Runner-Up:** Anne Rolih

**9-HOLE LGA CLOSING DAY SCRAMBLE**

**Front Nine Division**

**1st Place:** Dawn Voehl, Judi Laursen,  
 Celia Drane, Louise Owens  
**2nd Place:** Mary Heffner, Lisa Johnson,  
 Heather Hogarth, Colleen Hogarth  
**Longest Drive:** Kathleen Metzman  
**Closest To The Hole:** Kathleen Metzman

**Back Nine Division**

**1st Place:** Cathy Totonis, Francine Kono,  
 Kelly Stoddard, Anne Riethmiller  
**2nd Place:** Courtney Bridge, Karen Gregorich, Carolyn Johnson  
**Longest Drive:** Karen Gregorich  
**Closest To The Hole:** Carolyn Johnson

**LGA CARYSFORT CUP CHAMPIONSHIP**

**1st Place:** Nancy Vamvakas  
**2nd Place:** Marita Sladky  
**3rd Place:** Sally Newman

**LGA CLOSING DAY**

**1st Place:** Charlotte Drinkwater, Kelly McKernan,  
 Kelly Hertzman, Maryellen Smith  
**2nd Place:** Elizabeth Zug, Anne Gormley,  
 Lesley Cooper, Cynthia Doolan  
**3rd Place:** Gayle Tallardy, Melanie Hynden,  
 Kathie Markel, Parris Bozeman

**MGA CLOSING DAY**

**Gross**

**1st Place:** Phil French, Kevin Scalia, James Tedford, Chip Hillyer  
**2nd Place:** Scott Heffner, Fred Sherman,  
 Butch Suntrup, Andy Hofmann  
**3rd Place:** Billy Paynter, Tony Olmert,  
 Geoff Noyes, Andy Woodman

**Net**

**1st Place:** Arthur Berry, Joe Hertzman,  
 Ken Owens, Chuck Tennent  
**2nd Place:** Ricky Fortis, Michael Materna,  
 Daniel Attridge, Brian Read  
**3rd Place:** Christopher Noyes, Jeff Dorsey,  
 James McCann, Stan Henry  
**Closest to the Hole:** Hilary Rolih (Hole #9),  
 Scott Heffner (Hole #18)



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COAST GUARD AUXILIARY

# Passengers Are Not Powerless

## Be Your Own Vessel Examiner Before Boarding an Unfamiliar Boat



by Randy Woods, Flotilla Commander USCG Auxiliary Ocean Reef

Have you been invited on a friend's boat? Have you chartered a fishing vessel for your family? Are you renting a boat or boarding an excursion boat? What do you confidently know about the seaworthiness and preparedness of the vessel and the seamanship of her captain?

Regulations and reputations are important, and most vessels available for free or for hire meet or exceed U. S. Coast Guard requirements and are operated responsibly by experienced mariners or licensed captains. Nevertheless, for the sake of your family and friends, you can and should become a vessel examiner and perform a quick and respectful safety check before departure.

Ocean Reef's nine CG Auxiliary certified Vessel Examiners board and evaluate scores of boats annually. Here are some things we insist on, discuss and recommend:

### Before Boarding the Boat:

1. General conditions—is the boat tidy, clean and dry. Is the vessel registered or documented? Age is not a defect in a well-found vessel.
2. Is there a safe way to board and disembark the boat. Are the decks free of trip hazards and clutter?
3. Is the operator attentive and available to help each person come aboard and get settled?

### FLORIDA SAFE BOATING CLASS WITH PETER LIASHEK



Captain Peter Liashek, Flotilla Staff Officer for Public Education, taught the Florida State Boating Course to 71 students and parents from Belen Jesuit High School in Miami on March 28th. The course was organized by the Lucy Fernandez Foundation which seeks to educate and empower young boaters. The Ocean Reef Flotilla supports the Fernandez Foundation by providing instructors to teach safe boating courses. Peter has a special affinity for Jesuit education as he and his sons also attended Jesuit schools.



### The Safety Briefing:

Does the Captain give you and everyone aboard a thorough briefing of the location and use of all safety equipment including:

- Life Jackets - is there one that fits well for each person large or small?
- Throwable rescue devices – a cushion or life ring
- Emergency signaling equipment like horns, flares, lights and flags
- The VHF marine radio basic operation on Channel 16
- Rescue beacon and ditch bag.
- The engine on/off switches and controls
- The anchor
- Fire extinguishers
- First aid kit
- Man-overboard and general emergency procedures
- Special precautions or passenger advice for safely standing or sitting underway

What happens if the operator becomes incapacitated and you are SUDDENLY IN COMMAND?

### The Mission:

Does the Captain provide a clear overview of:

- His and his crew's experience, roles and capabilities
- The float plan: goals and destinations of the cruise
- The current weather and sea conditions, and the forecast
- The boat's capability in fuel and stability during the trip
- The departure and return time

- Precautions for heat, cold, sunburn, and toilet options
- Drinking water
- Marine environmental awareness

Any competent operator should be able to calmly and completely answer your questions and to explain his boat's equipment and details of the voyage. Impairment or distraction of the skipper, overloading of the boat, and missing or inaccessible safety gear are dangerous and serious violations of maritime laws.

As a passenger you have the right to ask questions. As a parent, you have an obligation to ensure that your children will be protected aboard the vessel. Trust your instincts and practice boating awareness by taking an Ocean Reef Auxiliary boating safety course and understanding the checklist for the vessel you are about to board.

**Informed passengers stay safe.**

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OCEAN REEF YACHT CLUB

# Ocean Reef Yacht Club Celebrates!

The Annual ORYC "Change of Watch Party" was attended by over 200 Yacht Club Members. Commodore **Craig** and Commodurable **Emilie Wierda** hosted this evening as a closing event on their "From Sea to Shining Sea" calendar. From an incredible visit to Bay Harbor and

Mackinac Island, Michigan in September 2025, a series of very popular cocktail parties, a Blessing of the Fleet, a few cruises and some spectacular dining and dancing, the Yacht Club season sailed by too quickly. This Heritage Protocol event included the formal installation ceremony of Commodore **Tom McKenzie**, the Officers, and the Governors for the 2026-2027 upcoming season. Still to come is the Farewell Cocktail Party and a cruise to the Bahamas.



The ORYC Bridge serving dinner at the Change of Watch Party. Pictured are (L-R) Craig Wierda, J Guarch, Michael Conley and Tom McKenzie.



The ORYC celebrates with the Private Stock Band at the Change of Watch Party.



Craig Wierda introduces the new ORYC Bridge – (L-R) Emilie and Craig Wierda, Tom McKenzie, J Guarch, Jay Beatty, Bonny Gothier, Michael Conley, Michael Fay and Art Berry.

MEMBER NEWS

## The Natasha Price Sportsmanship Award

It is with great honor that the Racquet Club awarded **Alice Horton** and **Paul Lanzon** with the Natasha Price Sportsmanship Award.

For those who may not have known Natasha Price, she truly embodied sportsmanship in every sense of the word. Her love for the game was never defined by

level of play, DUPR score, or matches won. Instead, she simply loved being on the court and bringing people together. Natasha was known for welcoming any member into her match, always playing with kindness, encouragement, and a genuine love for the sport and the community.

In 2025, **Joannie Rich** established this award in Natasha's name to honor the spirit she brought to the Racquet Club. Last year's recipients were **Cathy Ryon** and **Greg Hogarth**. This year, Racquet Club Pickleball Professional Brian Santacruz

presented the award to two members who truly exemplify these same qualities: Alice Horton and Paul Lanzon.

Both have demonstrated outstanding sportsmanship, inclusiveness, and positivity.



(Left to Right): Brian Santacruz, Paul Lanzon, Lorne Price and Alice Horton.

ROD & GUN CLUB

# Everglades Foundation Reports Progress



by Christine Patton, Rod & Gun Club



The Everglades provide drinking water to millions of Floridians, as well as habitat for more than 70 endangered or threatened species and encompasses four National Parks including the Everglades National Park. Over the past century, the Everglades has suffered due to man's efforts to drain it, resulting in drought, wildfire and nutritional pollution, while simultaneously

dumping massive volumes of precious freshwater to both coasts, causing economic and environmental damage.

Any way you measure, there are no projects bigger than the Everglades Restoration. It is not just the biggest project in the country, but in the world. It is the biggest in acreage, covering 3 million acres, which is only half of the original Everglades.

It is the biggest in price tag, at over ten billion dollars and it is the most complex joint effort of federal, state, Republican and Democratic, local and national, private and public interests ever. Its goals affect the current and future generations of Floridians.

Was there ever a more critical, and more complex problem?

But this story may have a happy ending after all, and last week at the Cultural Center Eric Eikenberg, CEO of the Everglades Foundation was able to announce that the vast restoration project, started in 2000 with an act of Congress and projected to be done by 2035, is actually ahead of schedule and projecting 2029 as a final date. Amazing!

The Everglades Foundation was established in 1993 to provide the scientific and bipartisan solutions needed to restore and protect the future of Florida's Everglades. It focuses on science, advocacy and education to achieve its goals. It is a bipartisan advocate for the water — the water needed for our environment, our lives and our economy. Ocean Reef is an important supporter of the Everglades Foundation

and its work to preserve the Everglades, and the evening was a celebratory one, as the decades of work are showing fruit and the education of future generations promises to sustain momentum. **John Hilton**, Everglades Foundation Treasurer, got the evening started, followed by Eric Eikenberg, CEO, who then introduced his team of Shannon Estenoz, Policy, Dr. Steve Davis, Science, and Jennifer Diaz, Education. Each reported on significant strides in their area, finishing with a sneak preview of a film clip that will be used in educational programs for over a thousand schools in the state. It was a rare pleasure to hear of the progress!

**ROD & GUN FISH OF THE MONTH**  
**April: Swordfish, Sea Trout and Dolphin**

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TENNIS RESULTS

**MEN'S TENNIS NIGHT LEAGUE**

- 1st Place: Don Steinbrugge
- 2nd Place: Victor Benoit
- 3rd Place: David Rountree

# The Season's Not Over Yet... (Even If Your Calendar Says Otherwise)



by Hannah Fleckenstein, Director of Racquet Sports

Just when it feels like the season is starting to wind down, April shows up with a reminder: not so fast. There's still plenty of racquet sports to be played, a few titles to be decided, and at least a couple more matches where everyone suddenly "finds their game" at exactly the right time.

We start with the Men's Tennis Singles Club Championship Final on **April 18th**, featuring **Wally Hayward** and **David Ward**. Both have worked their way through a strong draw, and now it all comes down to one match. Expect long rallies, smart shot selection, and a few moments where the gallery collectively leans in—followed by someone

quietly saying, "that was the right play," as if they've been calling it all along.

Then on **April 19th**, we shift gears into one of the most entertaining days of the season: the Bring-A-Pro Tennis Tournament. This is where members get to experience what it's like to have a safety net... until they realize the pro expects you to actually hit your shots, too. It's competitive, it's social, and it's filled with the kind of rallies that somehow get better in the retelling later that evening. If you've played it, you know. If you haven't, this is the one to circle.

We wrap things up on **April 28th** at 4:00 PM with the End-of-Season Round Robin, a fitting close to a great stretch of tennis, pickleball and croquet. Partners rotate, scores may or may not be tracked with complete accuracy, and the focus shifts to enjoying the last run of the season with a full court and familiar faces. It's the kind of afternoon where no one is in a rush to leave—and for good reason.

Whether you're playing for a title, teaming up with a pro, or just trying to sneak in "one quick set" that turns into a full afternoon, April delivers one more great chapter on the courts.

## ORC Sudoku

Fill the entire grid so that every row, every column, and every 3x3 block contains each number from 1 to 9 exactly once.

			1	8		2		
						6		
	5							
					8		9	
	3	5					7	
2				1				
		3		9				
	6			3				
						3		



See answers on page 53.



ELLIE VINE



**Where did you learn to play tennis?**

My parents introduced me to the game in Louisville, Kentucky.

**What is your favorite tennis shot?**

My backhand, because it's my best shot .

**Who is your favorite tennis player?**

Sashi Kempster because she's amazing.

**What are your favorite activities outside of the Tennis & Games Center?**

Padel and golf.

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TENNIS TIP

# The 10-Minute Warmup That Actually Prepares You to Play



by Alex Henderson, Assistant Tennis Professional

Listen, I see it every day — players walk onto the court, hit three balls from the baseline, and think they're ready to compete. They're not. A proper warmup is not a formality. It's the first investment you make in your performance that day, and ten minutes done right is all you need.

**Minutes 1–2: Mini Tennis**

Start at the service line, not the baseline. I cannot stress this enough. Mini tennis forces you to use soft hands, feel the ball on the strings, and get your eyes locked in. You're not trying to hit winners — you're waking up your touch and your timing. Keep it controlled, keep it cooperative, and resist the urge to back up early.

**Minutes 3–5: Move to the Baseline, Rally Cross-Court**

Now you step back and begin building rhythm. Rally cross-

court with your hitting partner — forehand to forehand first, then backhand to backhand. Focus on finding a comfortable swing, not pace. This is where your technique starts to settle. If something feels off mechanically, now is the time to notice it and adjust, not in the middle of a tight third set.

**Minutes 6–7: Approach Shots and Volleys**

One player feeds from the baseline while the other practices approach shots and finishes at the net. This gets your legs moving forward, activates your volley reflexes, and starts building the kind of intensity that mirrors actual match play. Too many players skip this phase entirely and then wonder why their net game feels clunky early in a match.

**Minutes 8–9: Overhead and Lobs**

A few lobs, a few overheads. Simple. The overhead is one of the first shots to abandon you when your shoulder isn't warm, and it is also one of the most decisive shots in the game. Give it two minutes of respect.

**Minute 10: Serves**

End with serves. Start at 70 percent pace, find your toss, find your rhythm, then build up. Hit a few first serves, a few second serves, and leave the court feeling confident — not just physically ready, but mentally switched on.

Ten minutes. No wasted time, no shortcuts. That is how you start a session the right way.

Sudoku answers from page 51.

9	4	6	1	8	7	2	5	3
7	1	8	5	2	3	6	4	9
3	5	2	4	6	9	8	1	7
6	7	1	3	5	8	4	9	2
8	3	5	9	4	2	1	7	6
2	9	4	7	1	6	5	3	8
1	8	3	2	9	5	7	6	4
4	6	7	8	3	1	9	2	5
5	2	9	6	7	4	3	8	1

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# Fitness, Wellness, & Longevity Series:

## Strength & Conditioning for Longevity



“Fitness Focus” by Luis Bracamonte, Director of Fitness & Wellness

**Wednesday, April 22nd at 3pm  
Complimentary Lecture  
Member Fitness Center**

Muscle mass, strength, cardiovascular conditioning, and balance are foundational elements of how we age. By gaining muscle mass, strength, and better control over our bodies, we increase physical performance, freedom of movement, and overall health.

Muscle plays a critical role in metabolic health, supporting blood sugar regulation, improving insulin sensitivity, and contributing to overall resilience. Individuals with greater muscle mass tend to experience lower rates of chronic disease and an improved rate of recovery from injury and illness. Muscle is biological insurance.

Strength is the reflection of the efficiency of the nervous system and the quality of our movement patterns. Research shows that measures such as grip strength are strongly associated with longevity and cardiovascular health. Stronger individuals live longer and better.

Falls are a major cause of injury in older adults, and the ability to maintain stability, react quickly, and control movement becomes increasingly important over time. The positive news is that balance is highly trainable when practiced consciously and regularly.

Cardiovascular conditioning



Ladies' Trainer's Choice Winner Joannie Rich.



Men's Trainer's Choice Winner John Timken.



Hardcore Member of the Season Jan Graybill.



100 Strong Champion Richard Greco. For a full list of the 2026 Fitness awards, see page 56 of the April 10 Ocean Reef Press.



Fitness Champions Ray Herman and Kathleen Metzman.

supports heart health and endurance. VO2max, the maximum amount of oxygen our bodies can use during intense aerobic exercise, is strongly correlated with longevity. Any improvement in VO2max indicates better endurance and reduced mortality risk.

A longevity-based fitness program seeks to safely, effectively, and efficiently increase muscle mass, strength, balance, and cardiovascular conditioning. Neglecting any of these areas creates limitations over time.

The ultimate goal of coming to the gym is to enhance quality of life beyond it. Longevity is determined by the accumulation of daily habits.

The Fitness, Wellness, and Longevity series aims to present research that supports the rationale behind our practices and recommendations. Join us as we continue to explore, apply, and improve best

practices in fitness, wellness and longevity.

### Hyrox Training Club

Hyrox is the fastest-growing mass-participation fitness sport in the world. Founded in Germany in 2017, it has 100% year-over-year growth and, by 2026, over 600,000 participants globally. It combines running and functional workout stations to create the sport of fitness racing. It is challenging and, with a 98% finisher rate, very accessible. The categories include open, pro, solo, doubles, and relay teams.

The Member Fitness Center is now an official Hyrox Training Club. This affiliation allows members to register for races 48 hours in advance, enables MFC to host Hyrox classes and gym challenges, and helps prepare members for the events.

If you are interested in training and participating in Hyrox events, contact us

at 305-367-5820 or email [lbracamonte@oceanreef.com](mailto:lbracamonte@oceanreef.com).

### EVENTS AT MFC Strength & Sound

Hosted by Hannah Whistler  
**Monday, April 20 · 3pm**

A one-and-a-half-hour workshop that blends movement and mindfulness for a full-body reset. You'll start with a 45-minute strength-based workout to build power and resilience, followed by a 30-minute immersive sound bath to relax your nervous system and promote deep recovery.

**Vinyasa Earth Day Flow**  
Hosted by Moorey-Margaret Myers  
**Wednesday, April 22 · 10am**

Celebrate Earth Day with a mindful and rejuvenating yoga practice. This special class will guide you through a vinyasa flow inspired by the natural world. Cultivate a deeper connection with the earth and within yourself.



Water Exercise Member of the Season  
Cherie Hughes.



Cycle Member of the Season Keith  
Bozeman.



Endurance Member of the Season  
Lesley Cooper.



Dance Member of the Season Pia  
Steinbrugge.

### HYROX CHALLENGE

Women's doubles: 1:15:26 • Men's doubles: 1:12:15  
My solo: 1:24:56



Walking into the convention hall, you're immediately met with a powerful mix of awe and excitement. The scale of the event is energizing, yet the atmosphere remains deeply personal. At the start line, athletes are reminded of their strength, resilience, and capability—standing shoulder to shoulder with others who have chosen to test their own limits. With heats beginning every 10 minutes, the experience becomes less about direct competition and more about delivering your personal best. Along the course, moments of connection stand out: a quick fist bump after the row, a few encouraging words exchanged mid-sled push. By the finish, there's a shared sense of accomplishment—an adrenaline-filled reminder not only of what you've achieved, but of how much more you're capable of. — Emma Glass



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# Challenging Weather Conditions



by Tori Fraga,  
Charter Desk Manager

Fishing in Key Largo during windy conditions can be both challenging and rewarding, depending on how well you adapt. Strong winds often stir up the water, reducing visibility and pushing baitfish into new areas. While this can make sight fishing more difficult, it also creates opportunities, as predatory species become more active in choppy conditions.

One effective strategy is to fish on the leeward side of islands, mangroves, or reefs where the wind is partially blocked. These calmer zones tend to hold fish

seeking shelter from rough water. Anglers targeting species like snapper, tarpon, or snook often find success by casting near structure where currents concentrate food.

Using heavier tackle and weighted rigs can help maintain control of your line in gusty conditions. Live bait is particularly effective when the water is stirred up, as fish rely more on scent and vibration than sight. Additionally, drifting with the wind rather than fighting it can make for a more natural presentation.

Safety is also critical. Wind can quickly create rough seas, especially in open water, so monitoring conditions and having proper gear is essential. With the right approach, windy days in Key Largo can still offer productive and exciting fishing experiences.

For availability and booking inquiries or if you have any questions, please contact the Ocean Reef Charter Desk at 305-367-2227.

## RECENT CATCH



Martha Lindner's 9-year-old grandson Kai recently went sailfishing with his uncle and caught 19 sailfish on day one and 12 on day two. Amazing!

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### I.CARE TRASH DERBY

Save the coral reefs at any of these events that help remove thousands of pounds of debris from the Keys every year, hosted by the Club in conjunction with I.CARE, Rod & Gun Club, Bonefish Bonnies, The Dive Shop and The Academy.

#### DEBRIS COLLECTION DIVES WITH THE DIVE SHOP

**Friday, May 1 and Saturday, May 2**

9am – 12pm • The Dive Shop

Registration is required by contacting The Dive Shop at [info@thediveshoporc.com](mailto:info@thediveshoporc.com).

#### KAYAK CLEANUPS WITH THE ORC RECREATION TEAM

**Saturday, May 2**

9am & 11am • Meet at Buccaneer Island

Registration is required by contacting Jenna Diehl at [JDiehl@oceanreef.com](mailto:JDiehl@oceanreef.com).

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[PumpkinCay73A@gmail.com](mailto:PumpkinCay73A@gmail.com)

# MEMBER-TO-MEMBER OFFERINGS

## 207 ANDROS / VILLA CAY

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 Photos: [www.207andros.com](http://www.207andros.com)

## FAIRWAY LAKES 18TH TEE

Beautifully updated 2/2 condo  
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 in Guest  
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 Fairway Lakes Pool  
  
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 Overlooking Dolphin Course 3rd  
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# MEMBER-TO-MEMBER OFFERINGS

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 Call or text: 508-254-0427 or 610-585-2410  
 Website: [14bayberrylaneoceanreef.com](http://14bayberrylaneoceanreef.com)

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 Florida Keys Wild Bird Sanctuary ..... 305-852-4486  
 Habitat for Humanity of the Upper Keys ..... 305-453-0050  
 Keys AHEC ..... 305-619-8021  
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