



the

Carroler

**Memorial Day Walk
and Flag Raising**

May 25 See Page 8

HAPPY Mother's Day

Graduation

Time! See Page 21



Notice of Board Meetings

Monday, May 11, 2026

CRD Meeting: 6:30 p.m.

CCA Meeting: 7:30 p.m.

Carrollwood Rec Center • 3515 McFarland Road

Residents welcome to attend.

OC Activity Bingo

Page 22!



Kristin Nail



John Schinka



Corey McKeown



Jared Jones



Max McKinley



Jerrod Mills



Joey Ferraro



Bryan Huls



Maggie Shaffer



Luke Haydel



Neill Boyd



Raquel Pullaro



Ethan Pliskow

By Kristin Nail, CCA President

Welcoming a new CCA Board Member:

At our March meeting, we welcomed a new member of our Board, Maggie Shaffer. Maggie will be taking on the duties of “Newcomers” where she will be in charge of welcoming new neighbors. Maggie comes from a creative background as an artist and graphic designer and has lived in the neighborhood since 2015. We are happy to have her join our Board!

If you’re a newcomer and have questions about our neighborhood, please reach out to Maggie!
Contact: maggieshaffer@originalcarrollwood.com

Lake Concerns:

As the lake levels are at a critically low level, we are working hard as a Board to remain in contact with SWFWMD. We are meeting with a representative in person this month to express the concerns that our residents have brought forward. They will be looking to move our water gauge to a better area where they can obtain more accurate, up-to-date readings. We are committed to do whatever we can do to help preserve our lake for our Community. Let’s all hope for more rain in this upcoming season.

Events in May:

We are looking ahead to the summer and fun upcoming events.

On Memorial Day, May 25th, our annual Memorial Day walk will take place. This walk is led by resident and veteran, David Novak. This is a great tradition that we love to support. Please join David and his fellow veterans in remembering our troops who have lost their lives while in service to our country! (Begins at Belmore/Lipsy at 9 a.m. and ends at White Sands Beach)

On the last day of school, Friday, May 29th, we will be kicking off SUMMER at White Sands beach with the Kona Ice truck from 2 - 4 p.m.

Stay up-to-date with the Crime Watch/Events
Crimewatch@originalcarrollwood.com
 Original Carrollwood Civic Association
www.facebook.com/groups/CarrollwoodCivic
Text UPDATES to (813) 640-4655 to receive text alerts



Mark Snellgrove



Dr. Anna Brown



Mark Georgiades



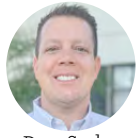
Kristy Taylor



Jared Brown



Matt Lavisky



Dan Seeley



Jack Griffie



Kevin Shidler

CRD News

by Nicole Barolo

ONE FOB CONTROLS ALL LOCATIONS

White Sands Beach, OC Tennis Courts, Scotty Cooper Park, AND Original Carrollwood Park!

By the time you read this Caroler issue, the south and east fences inside of Original Carrollwood Park will be replaced and added to the existing Fob system.

The dog park and dog run are accessible from inside OC Park with a separate key.




Come enjoy a picnic at White Sands Beach.

New tables are all assembled and cabled down to the deck!

FOB HOURS:

Your Fob will work during specific hours only.

- At OC Tennis Courts, the gate will work 7 a.m. – 10 p.m.
- At White Sands Beach and Scotty Cooper Park, gates are programmed to open from dawn to dusk.



UPDATE:

Residents can now reserve tennis/pickleball courts 7 days in advance (instead of the previously stated 48 hours).

REMINDER:

Private lessons must be by an approved CRD instructor.

Approval is granted after an instructor provides the CRD office proof of professional liability insurance (amount determined by the CRD).

OC BATHROOMS AND PAVILIONS

GET A REFRESH:

Work includes new floor coatings and updated plumbing in five bathrooms:

Original Carrollwood Park (1)

White Sands Beach (2)

Scotty Cooper Park (2)

The pavilions at Original Carrollwood Park and Scotty Cooper Park will also get new floor coatings (making them less slick and easier to clean).

Use the buzzer to visit Janet at the OC Rec Center during office hours.

All you need to do is press the silver button at the bottom of the intercom call box.



TENNIS COURTS AND SCOTTY COOPER PARK ON THE FOB SYSTEM

- Electronic access Fobs open the gates. Keys no longer work.
- Bathrooms still use the original metal key.
- Do not prop gates open.

The CRD continues to offer Fobs for purchase. See Janet at the OC Rec Center.

M-F, 9 a.m. – 1 p.m.

Fobs are \$30 each, with a limit of 2 per family.

Cash, check, or credit card (with additional processing fee) are accepted. Fobs are activated immediately upon payment

Do not share your Fob. Unauthorized use of Fobs is prohibited.

DID YOU KNOW?

The CRD saves money with electronic access gates at White Sands Beach



CRD SAVINGS: By using the electronic access gates, the CRD has been able to reduce the security guard's hours, saving our Community about \$4,000 a month. To handle weekend beach traffic, a guard will still be present Friday-Sunday.

COMMUNITY CONTACT INFORMATION

Carrollwood Civic Association
www.originalcarrollwood.com

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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 Raquel@originalcarrollwood.com

Members-at-Large Luke Haydel 813.482.8111
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Original Carrollwood
 Civic Association

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Carrollwood Recreation District
www.originalcarrollwoodCRD.com

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Scotty Cooper Park Jack Griffie 813.503.4552
 JGriffie@originalcarrollwoodCRD.com

White Sands Beach Kevin Shidler 813.931.1662
 KShidler@originalcarrollwoodCRD.com

Carrollwood Recreation Center

3515 McFarland Road; Tampa, FL 33618
 813.932.1257 • Fax: 813.935.9057
 office@originalcarrollwoodCRD.com

Office Hours: Monday through Friday, 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Hillsborough County Sheriff's Office
Non-emergency • 813-247-8200



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Receipt of subscription payment prior to the 15th of the month will ensure following month's delivery.
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Yard OF THE Month



THE SWENSON FAMILY • 10910 CARROLLWOOD DRIVE



Amber, Sophie, and Andy

Q | When did you move to Original Carrollwood and what have you enjoyed most about living here?

A | Andy, Sophie and I moved into our home in December of last year, a few days before Christmas. It was the

best present we could have wished for! We adore the community and the friends we've made here. We feel like we've finally found our "village" and that's an amazing thing!

Q | What do you love most about your home and yard? Why?


A | We love the location the most. We're a couple

blocks away from Sophie's school, steps away from Scotty Cooper and have multiple friends as (almost) next door neighbors!

Q | When thinking of all the time you have spent in your yard, do you have a favorite memory?

A | Given that we've only been here for a handful of months, we know the best is yet to come. We're looking forward to all of the kiddos romping around the front yard, biking and scootering in the driveway, and all of the impromptu family Friday night block parties in our future!

Q | Any fun facts, hobbies or words of wisdom you would like to share with your neighbors?

A | We love great food, making new friends, and pretending like we have our lives together. Always looking for local hidden gems and fully supportive of spontaneous neighborhood happy hours! 

Email your nomination to: YardoftheMonth@originalcarrollwood.com

Include: Address of nominated yard • Reason for nomination • Your name, phone number, & email address • If possible, please include a photo of the yard with your nomination. Thank you! Nominations can also be made at the Community Center, at Board Meetings or by visiting our Community website: www.OriginalCarrollwood.com

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upcoming Social events



Original Carrollwood
Civic Association

As we head into the spring season, we're excited to bring our neighbors together for another round of fun, connection, and great times right here in Original Carrollwood. We have a full lineup of social events planned, and we encourage you to invite any new neighbors to join in the fun.

More details will be shared as each event approaches.

If you have questions or need additional information about any of our social events, feel free to reach out at events@originalcarrollwood.com.

Warm regards,
CCA Social Committee

MAY 25, 2026
Memorial Day Flag Walk and Ceremony
Ends at White Sands Beach

MAY 29, 2026 2-4 P.M.
Last Day of School – Kona Ice at White Sands
White Sands Beach

JULY 4, 2026
4th of July Parade, BBQ and Water Ski Show

We ask that you do not share our social events information publicly or post on other social media sites. We offer these events for our residents and close family/friends.

Monday, May 25 • 9 a.m. MEMORIAL DAY Walk & Flag Raising Ceremony

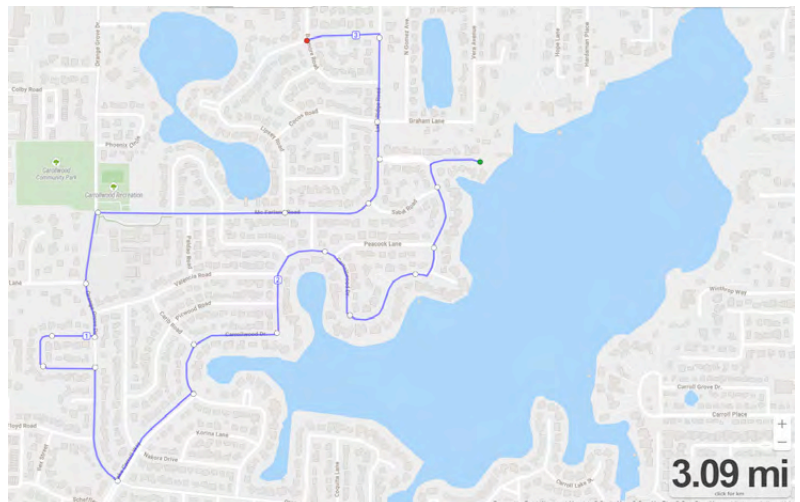
Starting at Belmore & Lipsey Rd.
Please see the map for full route.



On Monday May 25, Lipsey Road resident and veteran David Nowak will start a flag carry at 9 a.m. from Belmore & Lipsey through the neighborhood to White Sands Beach. Please see the map below for the full route.

We encourage anyone to join the walk or come out and watch along the route.

Route finishes at White Sands for flag raising by the Boy Scouts (estimated 9:50 a.m.). Afterward, there will be a service by the Boy Scouts for Flag Retirement. Residents can bring flags in need of retirement. Bagpipe music will accompany services at the beach.





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ECHOES OF THE PAST

Stories about Original Carrollwood

By Anna Brugge, OC Resident and Berkeley Prep Student

Many years ago, Original Carrollwood began when a man in his 30s named Matt Jetton started buying up land around Lake Carroll. He ran a real estate development company named Sunstate Builders Incorporated. In 1957, he purchased more than 300 acres of land. In fact, 200 of those acres were part of the J.M. Ingram Fruit Corporation orange groves. He felt strongly that the chance to be close to Lake Carroll would attract buyers. Location was also important because the University of South Florida was being built nearby.

A few years later, in 1959, Mr. Jetton started selling custom-built houses in Carrollwood. Many of the first home buyers in Carrollwood worked at USF. Fun fact – Matt Jetton was the grandson of Matthew Jetton, who contributed to the development of Hyde Park. So, building residential real estate ran in his family. The younger Mr. Jetton was very active in community service and philanthropy and is often called “The Father of Carrollwood.” Thanks to his vision and past efforts, we have our beautiful community of 925 homes today!

Help Maintain Lake Carroll Make a Donation

Residents! Help keep Lake Carroll clean and safe. Financial contributions are needed from everyone. Funds are used to offset expenses for vigorous water sampling and testing, and other lake maintenance and monitoring needs. Contributors are greatly appreciated and will be acknowledged in the *Caroler*.

LAKE FUND DONATION

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____


Amount: _____

Make funds payable to: Carrollwood Civic Association; 3515 McFarland Rd.; Tampa, FL 33618. Please include this form OR donate through PayPal on the OC website: www.OriginalCarrollwood.com

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Last of the USF Professors

by Paul Martin

My parents, Dr. and Mrs. Martin, moved to Carrollwood in 1964 and took up residence at 3402 Valencia Road. Best childhood ever growing up in Original Carrollwood. I think Dr. Clapp and my dad, Dr. Martin, were the last of the original USF professors living in Carrollwood. My dad had to move out of his house in 2024 to the Colonnade at Carrollwood Village Assisted Living after my mom passed away and he could no longer live by himself. Sadly, my dad passed away April 14 at the age of 93. He spoke fondly of Carrollwood and was told by the folks at USF in 1964 that Carrollwood is a neighborhood that many USF professors were moving into as USF was expanding and growing. They advised him to look there for a home. Very glad he did. My five other brothers and sisters all felt Original Carrollwood was a fantastic place to live. My dad had outstanding neighbors that looked after him and my mother. He enjoyed sitting in his garage handing out dog treats to people and their dogs as they passed the house. Never knew until recently people referred to our house as "The Smurf House," we just knew mom and dad liked the blue color. 



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Has Something Changed In Your Home

A New Baby? A Newcomer to OC?
Dropped a Land Line? Marriage?
New Email Address?

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 Children's (optional) _____
 Address _____
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 Owner or Renter? _____

Please email your updated information to
Directory@OriginalCarrollwood.com or drop off or mail to the
 Rec Center, 3515 McFarland Road, Tampa, FL 33618

Celebrating Women's Month

Look for specials this month celebrating all the women in your life during National Women's Month this May



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OC DIRECTORY UPDATES MADE QUARTERLY

Keep current for access to White Sands Beach! The guard service is given a new directory quarterly and all passes issued by the business office will expire. The quarterly updates will not be mailed out, but only utilized between the business office and the guard service.

CALLING ALL NEIGHBORS!

We are looking to add some new and exciting content to the *Caroler* in the upcoming months. We have a few ideas for articles.

We would love your help to contribute to some of these!



2. REMARKABLE RENOVATIONS —

Many homes in our neighborhood have gone through amazing transformations and facelifts. If you would like to share the work you've done on your home (exterior curb appeal or backyard renovations), send before/after photos and a small blurb about the work you've done to improve the appearance of your home.

Please e-mail all submissions to Kristin Nail
KristinNail@originalcarrollwood.com

1. YOUNG NEIGHBOR AWARDS AND ACHIEVEMENTS —

We would love to highlight some kids in the neighborhood who have earned awards or proud of something they have achieved. For example: Winning a soccer tournament, making a travel baseball team, district speech competition winner, learning how to ride a bike for the first time, etc. No achievement is too small! Send in a photo and blurb about your child and we will put it in a future issue.

3. NEWCOMER SPOTLIGHT —

If you have recently moved into the neighborhood (within the last year or so), we would love to get to know you! Email Kristin Nail at KristinNail@originalcarrollwood.com and she will send you some short/easy interview questions for a spotlight article.

Thank you! Look forward to seeing more of you in the *Caroler*.

this & that



OC REAL ESTATE

By Clay Brown
 Managing Broker/Market President
 Berkshire Hathaway HomeServices
 Florida Properties Group. 813-786-4982



Do you remember last year when I told you about the garden project we were taking on in our backyard? Well, if you're a newer neighbor and missed that one, allow me to catch you up. And if you were here for it, buckle up, because it's paying off.

Starting in the spring of last year, my family converted a pretty uninspiring corner of our backyard into a raised bed garden. We're talking crushed granite paths, irrigation lines, the whole thing. It took longer than expected, cost more than

budgeted, and there were at least two Saturdays where I questioned every decision I had ever made. But we pushed through, and somewhere between the planning and the planting, we were genuinely proud of what it became.

Fast forward to today. We've grown okra, squash, strawberries, tomatoes...more tomatoes than any family of five has a reasonable right to consume...sweet potatoes, yard-long beans, snap peas, and blueberries. Some things like the brussels sprouts and blackberries do better in the fall, so we're already planning the next round. And the herbs. Parsley, sage, rosemary, thyme, basil, and mint. Simon and Garfunkel would be proud.

Here's what a year of gardening taught me about homeownership, and I mean this genuinely. You get out of it exactly what you put in. Not immediately. Not always on your timeline. But eventually, and often beautifully.

The homes in Original Carrollwood that hold their value,

and hold it well, are the ones where someone has been paying attention. Not obsessively, not expensively, but consistently. A fresh coat of paint before it peels. An HVAC service before it fails. Landscaping that gets trimmed before it gets embarrassing. Gutters that get cleaned before they become a science experiment. The small, steady investments that keep a home from quietly falling behind.

Deferred maintenance is just a formal way of saying I'll deal with it later. And later, in real estate, almost always costs more than now.

But it's not all responsibility and to-do lists. There's a real joy in a home that's been loved. You feel it when you walk in. Buyers feel it too.

Tend the garden. Enjoy the tomatoes. And if things are growing faster than expected and you're wondering what your home is worth these days, I'm always happy to talk.

Happy Memorial Day,
 Original Carrollwood.

OC Listings as of the Caroler deadline

Compliments of Clay Brown, Realtor®

A=Active; P=Pending; S=Sold in the last 30 days

Status	Address	Htd Sq Ft	Price
A	10408 Butia Pl	2,405	\$769,900
A	10603 Carrollbrook Way	1,602	\$325,000
A	3106 Lake Ellen Dr	2,348	\$789,900
A	11606 Lipsey Rd	4,282	\$1,225,000
A	3312 Nakora Dr	1,540	\$460,000
A	3025 Samara Dr	2,631	\$650,000
P	10705 Carrollwood Dr	2,828	\$1,850,000
P	3108 Lake Ellen Dr	1,753	\$575,000
P	11713 Phoenix Circle	2,550	\$875,000
P	10408 Reclinata Ln	2,849	\$600,000
S	10604 Carrollbrook	1,602	\$270,000
S	3402 Latania Dr	1,178	\$260,000
S	10414 Reclinata Ln	2,066	\$525,000

Class of 2026 Graduation Announcements will appear in the July issue of the Caroler. Please send your graduate's picture and short bio before June 10 to be included in this annual tradition!

email: Caroler@roxc.graphics





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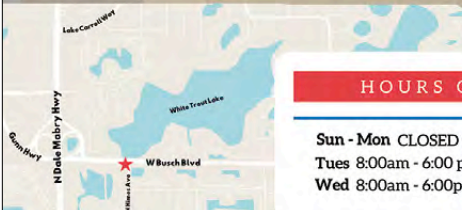
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BEEF 'O' BRADY'S PLAZA

STAY CONNECTED!

MAKE SURE YOU ARE RECEIVING ALL THE NEIGHBORHOOD NEWS

EMAIL:

If you are a new resident or have not been receiving the Crime Watch/Events and Neighborhood emails, please contact: Crimewatch@originalcarrollwood.com to get signed up. The emails contain Crime Watch notifications, the *Caroler* newsletter, social event information, and other neighborhood news.



TEXT:

Receive text message alerts about OC Events and OC Crime Watch Information: To subscribe, text UPDATES to (813) 640-4655 or visit oclinks.cc/texts



FACEBOOK:

You can also join our Facebook page for updates on neighborhood news and social events. This page is the same as the emails so you will not miss anything if you are not on Facebook.

You can search for Original Carrollwood Civic Association on Facebook or visit this link: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/CarrollwoodCivic>

NEW RESIDENTS:

New residents, please contact Kristin Nail: KristinNail@originalcarrollwood.com or CCA@originalcarrollwood.com

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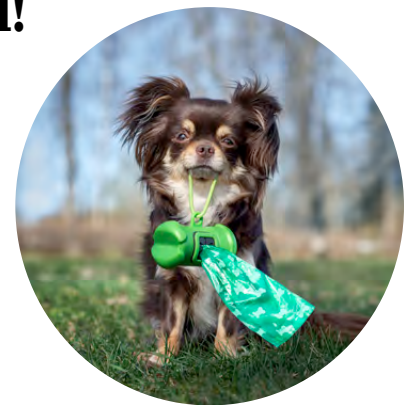
(Facility name = Carrollwood Recreation District)

Secure your request no earlier than seven days in advance of play. You can view the court schedule either on YourCourts or on the bulletin board on the side of the Rec Center.

Dooooo Be Courteous...

Pick up after your dog in our neighborhood!

and don't forget, leashes are required by Hillsborough County Ordinance.



A friendly reminder from your neighbors and Community leaders.



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SAFE STREETS:

Navigating Original Carrollwood by Bike and Scooter

by Jared Jones

Whether you are commuting to Carrollwood K8 or exploring the Upper Tampa Bay Trail, navigating the busy roads of Hillsborough County requires more than just balance—it requires a firm grasp of Florida’s traffic laws. In Florida, a bicycle is legally defined as a vehicle. This means when you are on the road, you have the same rights and responsibilities as a motor vehicle driver, including stopping at red lights and yielding the right-of-way.



(Photo courtesy of okai.co)

Essential Rules of the Road

- **Ride with Traffic:** Always travel in the **same direction** as motor vehicles. Riding against traffic is illegal on the road and significantly increases the risk of accidents.
- **Lane Positioning:** Use designated bike lanes whenever available. If no lane is available, stay as far to the right as is "practicable." You may "take the lane" if it is too narrow to share safely or if you are preparing for a left turn.
- **Sidewalk Etiquette:** While sidewalk riding is generally allowed in Florida, you must yield to pedestrians and give an **audible signal** (like a bell or verbal "on your left") before passing. In some high-traffic areas, like certain downtown Tampa districts, sidewalk riding may be prohibited by local ordinance.


Safety Equipment and Visibility

- **Helmet Laws:** Florida law requires all riders and passengers **under the age of 16** to wear a properly fitted, federally approved helmet. While not legally mandated for adults, helmets are strongly encouraged for all ages.
- **Lighting at Night:** If you ride between sunset and sunrise, your bike must have a **white front lamp** visible from 500 feet and a **red rear lamp and reflector** visible from 600 feet.
- **No Headphones:** It is illegal to wear headsets, headphones, or other listening devices while riding, as they impair your ability to hear surrounding traffic.

Special Rules for E-Bikes and E-Scooters

The rise of micromobility has led to new regulations aimed at protecting all road users:

- **The 10 MPH Rule:** When riding on a sidewalk or shared path, be prepared to slow down when pedestrians are present to ensure mutual safety.
- **Age Limits:** You must be at least **16 years old** to operate Class 3 e-bikes (which reach speeds of up to 28 mph) or most electric scooters.
- **Motor Limits:** Only e-bikes with motors of **750 watts or less** are treated as bicycles. Devices exceeding this power or 28 mph may be classified differently and require registration or a license.

For more detailed maps and safety resources, you can visit the [Hillsborough County Pedestrian and Bicycle Safety page](#) or check for local trail updates on [Plan Hillsborough](#). 

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The Green Heart of Original Carrollwood: Celebrating Arbor Day Under Our Canopy

In Original Carrollwood, trees are more than just scenery—they are the living infrastructure that has defined our neighborhood since Matt Jetton first envisioned it in 1959. From the towering live oaks on Lacewood Road to the lush palms around Lake Carroll, our mature canopy provides the shade and character that make our Community one of Tampa's finest.

As we approach **National Arbor Day** on the last Friday of April, we celebrate the legacy of our "urban forest" and the simple, seasonal acts—like raking and tree care—that keep it thriving.

Why Trees Matter in Our Neighborhood

Original Carrollwood was designed with sustainability and green space in mind. Our trees do more than look beautiful:

- **Energy Savings:** Homes shaded by our mature canopy can see a reduction in air conditioning needs by up to 10%.
- **Property Value:** Healthy trees can increase a home's value by 4% to 15%.
- **Cooler Streets:** Strategic planting can lower local temperatures by about 3 degrees through evapotranspiration.

Raking and Maintenance: Stewardship in Every Season

While Florida observed its state Arbor Day in January, April is the perfect time for maintenance before the summer storm season.

- **Raking for Lawn Health:** In a neighborhood known for its pristine lawns, removing thick layers of fallen leaves prevents "smothering" and mold growth, ensuring your grass remains healthy through the spring.
- **Smart Mulching:** Instead of bagging all your leaves, consider mulching them into a 2-to-4-inch ring around the base of your trees. This retains moisture and provides natural nutrients.
- **Tree Care Guidelines:** To protect our historic feel, Hillsborough County suggests pruning no more than 25% of a tree's canopy in a single season. If you are tending to a "Grand Oak," remember that specialized permits or consultations with a certified arborist may be required.

How to Get Involved This April (May too!)

Join your neighbors in honoring the spirit of Arbor Day with these local activities:

- **Visit the Arboretum:** Take a short trip to the nearby [Carrollwood Village Park](#), which features over 330 trees and 60 different species.
- **Tree Giveaways:** Look for City of Tampa events like the [Earth Fair](#) on April 19, 2026, where residents can often receive free trees or compost to help green their own yards. (note your calendar for next year!)
- **Participate in Tree Quest:** Scan QR codes on tagged trees in local parks to learn about our unique Florida species and potentially win tree-themed prizes.

By raking with care and planting for the future, we ensure that Original Carrollwood remains a lush, shaded sanctuary for the next 60 years.

Chamberlain High School Honors Distinguished Alumni at Legacy Honors Hall of Fame Ceremony

by Nancy Leach, Vice Chair of the Chamberlain High School Legacy Alliance, and OC Resident

The Chamberlain High School Legacy Alliance hosted the Legacy Honors: Chamberlain High School Hall of Fame Induction Ceremony on Thursday, April 23, 2026 in an evening of inspiration and connection. This special event was open to the public, with all alumni, families, and community members encouraged to attend.

The ceremony recognized six outstanding Chamberlain alumni whose achievements span public service, business innovation, professional sports, and higher education leadership:

- Jane Castor (Class of 1977), Mayor of Tampa
- Kathy Castor (Class of 1984), U.S. Representative
- Robin Fuson (Class of 1976), former professional athlete and Hillsborough County Circuit Court Judge
- Adam Goldstein (Class of 1997), CEO & Co-founder of Archer Aviation
- Brad Holmes (Class of 1997), Executive Vice President & General Manager of the Detroit Lions
- Rhea Law (Class of 1967), Immediate Past President of the University of South Florida

In addition to the individual honorees, the program included a special tribute to the 1961-62 Chamberlain State Championship Football Team, with recognition of their historic achievement and the leadership of Coach Ken Nuznoff.

Following the ceremony, guests were invited to attend a dessert reception that provided an opportunity for alumni and community members to connect and celebrate.

The Chamberlain High School Legacy Alliance is a nonprofit organization dedicated to preserving the school's rich traditions, supporting current students, and strengthening connections among alumni and the broader community.

Hillsborough County Public Schools Days of Note

MAY 2026

Monday, May 25, 2026

Memorial Day/Non-Student Day

Friday, May 29, 2026 - Last Day of School



CELEBRATE YOUR GRADUATE!

Email a short bio and photo before June 10 to be published in our annual Graduation Announcements that appear in the July issue.

Send to:

Caroler@roxc.graphics or Roxanne@roxc.graphics

The July issue will be printed and mailed to every OC residence!



Social events

ANNUAL

O.C. EASTER EGG

HUNT

What another successful Easter Egg Hunt for Original Carrollwood! This year, we distributed over 4,400 Easter eggs filled with toys and candy, divided into three age groups. We were also excited to have Buddy Brew join us this year serving coffee and lattes, and a big THANK YOU to Maddox Mills who did a fantastic job as our Easter Bunny spending extra time taking photos and hopping around with families.

We also want to thank Sheriff Chad Chronister and the Hillsborough County Sheriff's Office for sending a deputy to assist with the event and help with road crossings. We couldn't have done it without our amazing group of volunteers—thank you to everyone who came out Friday night to help with setup, and to everyone who participated on Saturday. We had our largest turnout of student volunteers to help run this great event.


It was a wonderful family event, and we're already looking forward to next year! 



Photo by Lawrence Davis



District Declares Modified Phase III Water Shortage

News Release **March 24, 2026**

All residents remain under one-day-per-week watering restrictions with stricter watering hours

The Southwest Florida Water Management District (District) Governing Board voted today to declare a Modified Phase III “Extreme” Water Shortage due to ongoing drought conditions throughout the region, which requires all residents, including those on private wells, to follow one-day-per-week watering restrictions with stricter watering hours.

Unless your city or county already has stricter hours in effect, watering hours are reduced to **12:01 a.m. to 4 a.m. or 8 p.m. to 11:59 p.m.** Properties less than one acre in size may only use one of these windows.

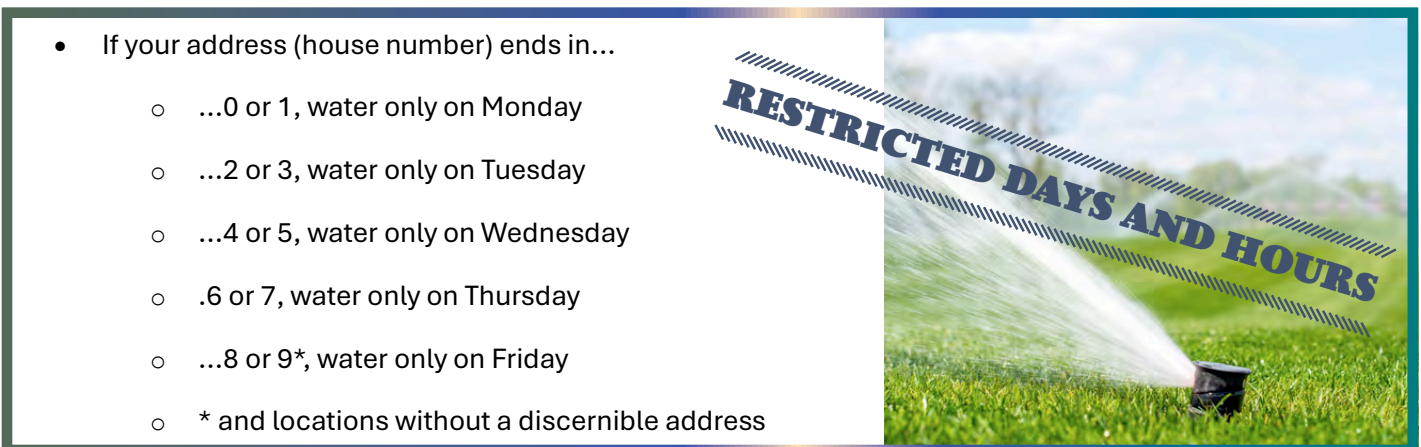
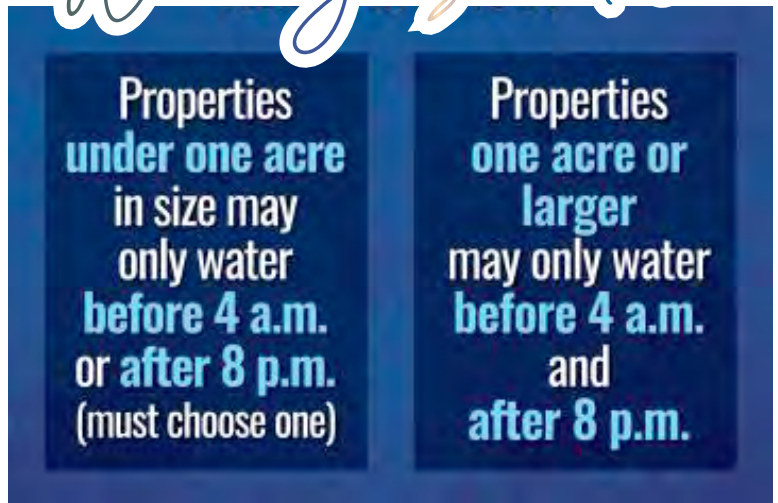
The restrictions apply to all of Citrus, DeSoto, Hardee, Hernando, Hillsborough, Manatee, Pasco, Pinellas, Polk, Sarasota and Sumter counties; portions of Charlotte, Highlands and Lake counties; the City of Dunnellon and The Villages in Marion County; and the portion of Gasparilla Island in Charlotte County from **April 3, 2026, through July 1, 2026.**

The District received below average rainfall during its summer rainy season and currently has a **13.7-inch** regional rainfall deficit compared to the average 12-month total. In addition, water levels in the District’s water resources, such as aquifers, rivers and lakes, are continuing to decline and many are severely abnormal. Moreover, public water supplies are extremely low for this time of year.

Outdoor water use accounts for more than 50 percent of water consumed by households and residents should know and follow their local watering restrictions as well as conserve water wherever possible. Residents should check with their city or county for their allowable day and times as many have different schedules or stricter hours in effect. Below is the standard schedule:

- If your address (house number) ends in...
 - ...0 or 1, water only on Monday
 - ...2 or 3, water only on Tuesday
 - ...4 or 5, water only on Wednesday
 - .6 or 7, water only on Thursday
 - ...8 or 9*, water only on Friday
 - * and locations without a discernible address

Updated OC
Watering Schedule



- Unless your city or county already has stricter hours in effect, properties **one acre or larger** may only water **before 4 a.m. and after 8 p.m.**

Puzzles OF THE Month



Find the hidden peacock within the pages of this issue of the Caroler!

SUBMIT YOUR ANSWER BEFORE MAY 10
Email Caroler@roxc.graphics
All who reply will have their name posted in the next issue of the Caroler!

Location of the hidden peacock in the previous issue:
Page 4 on the Easter egg.

MAY OC ACTIVITY BINGO

How many Bingo items can you score? Send photos of your Bingo adventures to Caroler@roxc.graphics

ATTEND RIVERFEST	ENJOY A MARGARITA	WALK THE OC PARK TRAIL	PLAY TENNIS AT OC	WRITE A KIND NOTE TO A NEIGHBOR
SLIDE DOWN AT SCOTTY COOPER PARK	CELEBRATE ARBOR DAY, HUG AN OC TREE	DO SOMETHING NEW	DO SOMETHING OLD	ENJOY A SUNRISE AT WHITE SANDS
WATCH INDY 500	WATCH A STAR WARS MOVIE	FREE	GRAB SOME MAY FLOWERS	EXPLORE A COUNTY PARK
VISIT JIMMIE KEEL LIBRARY	HELP A NEIGHBOR WITH A PROJECT	CALL YOUR MOTHER	KAYAK HILLSBOROUGH RIVER	DECLUTTER A CLOSET
PLAY A BOARD GAME	PICK/EAT A BLUEBERRY	COOK A MEAL AS A FAMILY	HAVE LUNCH WITH A MOM	BIKE TO GRAB GROCERIES

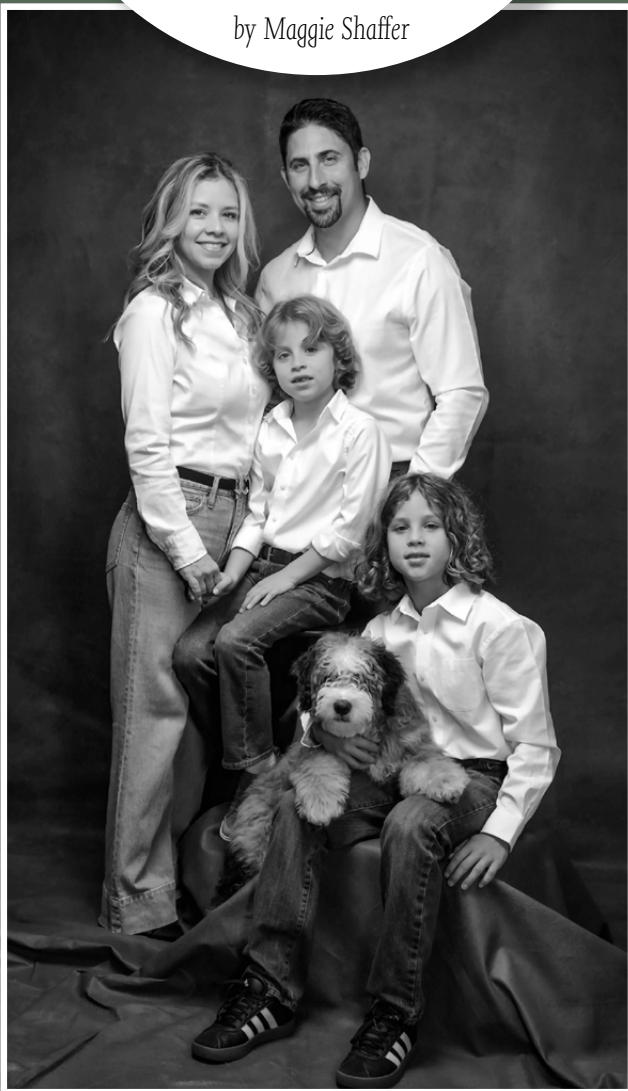
Congrats and thanks to last month's puzzle player!

Marilynn Bozak

The logo features two interlocking teal circles above the text "Neighbor Spotlight". "Neighbor" is in a bold, teal, sans-serif font, and "Spotlight" is in a teal, cursive script font.

Neighbor Spotlight

by Maggie Shaffer



Zawacki Family

Can you tell us a little about your family?

We are Hank, Rebeca, Henry and Alec. We have a puppy named Gunnar. Our boys go to Carrollwood K-8. Hank works from home and Rebeca is a stay-at-home-mom and volunteers at school whenever possible.

How long have you lived in the neighborhood?

We have been in the neighborhood since June 2016.

What brought you to Original Carrollwood?

We were both drawn to the neighborhood by its charm, beautiful trees, and local school. Two different paths led us to call OC home. Rebeca, originally from Costa Rica, first came to the neighborhood while working as a caregiver for an elderly couple and immediately fell in love with OC. Hank grew up nearby, attended Adams and Chamberlain, and always hoped to raise a family here. Before moving in, we lived in a nearby townhome and often rode our bikes through the neighborhood. About a year after welcoming our first son, the timing felt right to buy a home and put down roots here. We both truly value the strong sense of community that makes this neighborhood so special.

Where do you typically spend time around the neighborhood?

We love spending time with friends in the neighborhood, and our kids are always out playing with theirs. Over the years, we've enjoyed visiting nearly every park. When the kids were younger, we especially loved going to Scotty Cooper Park and White Sands Beach. We've celebrated many birthdays at the parks, creating so many special memories. These days, we find ourselves most often at the tennis and pickleball courts and OCP. And now that we have Gunnar, we're excited to start enjoying the dog park as well.

Advertise to your neighbors!

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Caroler

*Next deadline May 10
for the June issue.
Next print edition: July!*

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