PCA Newsletter

The Plantations Community Association, Inc.

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Calendar of Events

Ongoing: 2nd round of home inspections

Trivia Every Friday @ Doc Waters Cidery

9/1: Gaithersburg Labor Day Parade

9/5-6: Live Music @ The Crossvines

9/12-10/10: Live Music Every Friday @ Rio Lakefront

9/18: PCA Board Member Election

PCA Board Member Election

Consider a dive into the candidate pool and join us on the board. It's a fantastic chance to give back to your community and be heard when impactful decisions are made. The upkeep of our parks, the common areas in between the houses, and the overall look of the neighborhood are overseen by the HOA board. The board gathers once a month, on the second Monday, to discuss and plan community maintenance and improvements. We have committees that dive into grounds issues, splash into architectural control issues, finances, and communications.

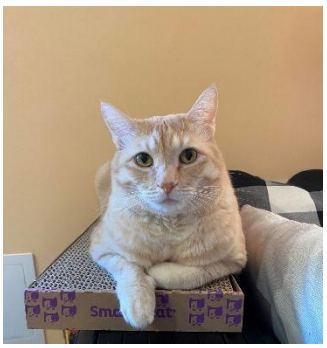
To add your name to the pool of candidates or make inquiries, email info@plantations1.org.

Not available for a board member's obligations? No worries; we also need community members who want to get involved but aren't ready to commit to a seat on the board. Consider joining the PCA Volunteer Corps. We will get in touch with you when volunteer opportunities, such as newsletter distribution or neighborhood clean-up events, become available. This is a fantastic chance to get to know your neighbors and contribute to your community! If you are interested, please send your contact information to info@plantations1.org with Volunteer Corps in the subject line.

Current PCA Board

Officers	Board Members
President – Rod Ibacache	**Kathy Giles**
VP – Nathan Booth	**Mike Giles**
Secretary – Debbie Diatz	**Denitsa Kirilova**
Treasurer – David Keim	**Chris Kiron – Grounds Chair**
	Brandon Martin

PCA Pet Profile



Meet Kelly, a six year old kitty. She likes to eat between long bouts of sleep, lazy lounges on furniture, and soulful stares into the depths of your being where your most deeply held secrets are exposed to her nonchalant and capricious examination as you quiver with fear of her imminent judgement. – Submitted by Denitsa Kirilova and overly edited by the anonymous Editor.

Want to make your pet neighborhood famous? Email us their name, age, sex, and favorite activities or short story at info@plantations1.org.

Community News & Groups

The PCA sends out occasional email notices, to keep you informed of upcoming meetings, announcements and occasional volunteer opportunities. We never share your email address. To be included, please send your email address to: info@plantations1.org

Facebook Users: There is a group for **Plantations I and II**. It is not affiliated with the PCA but is a nice way to communicate and keep up with the goings on in the neighborhood.
https://www.facebook.com/groups/108739809260974

Lost Pet Resources

- Damascus, MD Lost & Found Pets Facebook group
- Montgomery County MD Lost Pets https://www.facebook.com/MCMDLostPets
- If your pet is lost or you find a pet, the Montgomery County Animal Services Center recommends you file a report at 24petconnect.com

Club View Park

24110 Club View Drive, 20882

Do you all know we have a beautiful and well-equipped neighborhood park on Club View Drive? Our park has a huge open field perfect for soccer, football, tag, you name it. Prefer court sports? Well, the basketball and tennis courts have been recently renovated! A shady playground and well-maintained pavilion round out the package to make for a great picnic or birthday party, all just around the corner!

Protect the turf

To avoid damage to the playing field turf, avoid using the playing field when it is wet and soggy. All motorized vehicles are prohibited from driving on the grass.

Club View Park FAQs

Can residents use Club View Park Pavilion for an event? YES! The use of the park pavilion for activities like family gatherings is included in the HOA dues you pay! In order to accommodate everyone and avoid unwanted issues, a reservation request must be filed with the PCA (form available online). All requests will be confirmed on a first-come, first-served basis.

Can my team or athletic group pay to use the Club View Park playing field? YES! Group and team use of the playing field requires a $20 fee for a two-hour period of use. This fee helps pay for the upkeep and maintenance of our field and goals, so we can all continue to enjoy them.

Can residents use the tennis courts? YES! The courts are available to PCA residents and their guests. Just email the PCA for the gate code. To keep the courts in the best shape, we ask all residents to refrain from skateboarding, rollerblading/skating, and other non-racket-type sports that can damage the court surfaces.

Non-residents who live nearby can also use the courts for a small annual fee.

Free business card sized ads for young entrepreneurs

If your child would like to earn money doing work for neighbors, we will gladly publish their information. Contact the PCA if you would like to have their name and service listed here free of charge. Applies to residents 17 and younger.

Place Your Ad Here

Your very affordable ad reaches **406** homes! Place an ad, **watch your business grow**, or **sell unneeded items,** or **celebrate upcoming events**! For more information, e-mail: info@plantations1.org.

The PCA newsletter is published in February, May, August, and November.

Full Page $68.00 - Half Page $40.00 - Quarter Page $22.00 - Business Card $12.00

Jambalaya

Highly tailorable with your favorite proteins or veggies.

Ingredients

- 3 tablespoons olive oil, divided
- 2 boneless skinless chicken breasts, cut into bite-sized pieces
- 1 pound andouille sausage, thinly sliced into rounds
- 3 small bell peppers, cored and diced (I used a yellow, red and green bell pepper)
- 2 ribs celery, diced
- 1 jalapeño pepper, seeded and finely chopped
- 1 white onion, diced
- 4 cloves garlic, peeled and minced
- 1 (14-ounce) can crushed tomatoes
- 3-4 cups chicken stock
- 1 1/2 cups uncooked long grain white rice
- 2 tablespoons Cajun seasoning or Creole seasoning
- 1 teaspoon dried thyme, crushed
- 1/4 teaspoon cayenne pepper
- 1 bay leaf
- 1 pound raw large shrimp, peeled and deveined
- 1 cup thinly-sliced okra (fresh or frozen)
- Kosher salt and freshly-cracked black pepper
- optional garnishes: chopped fresh parsley, thinly-sliced green onions, hot sauce

Preparation

1. Heat 1 tablespoon oil in a stock pot (or a very large, deep sauté pan) over medium-high heat. Add the chicken and sausage and sauté for 5-7 minutes, stirring occasionally, until the chicken is cooked through and the sausage is lightly browned. Transfer to a clean plate and set aside.
2. Add the remaining 2 tablespoons oil to the stock pot. Add bell peppers, celery, jalapeño, onion and garlic. Sauté for 6 minutes, stirring occasionally, until the onions are softened.
3. Add the crushed tomatoes, chicken stock, rice, Cajun seasoning, thyme, cayenne, bay leaf, and stir to combine. Continue cooking until the mixture reaches a simmer. Then reduce heat to medium-low, cover and simmer for about 25-30 minutes, or until the rice is nearly cooked through, stirring every 5 minutes or so along the way so that the rice does not burn.
4. Add the shrimp, okra, and stir to combine. Continue to simmer, stirring occasionally, until the shrimp are cooked through and pink. Stir in the chicken and sausage, and remove and discard the bay leaf.
5. Season with salt, pepper, and additional Cajun seasoning if needed. Remove from heat and serve warm.

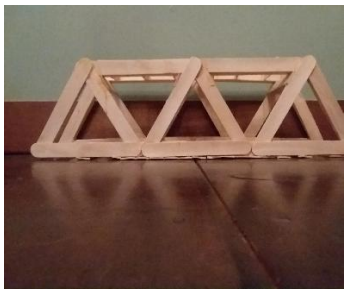
Credit: https://www.gimmesomeoven.com/jambalaya-recipe/

Joke of the day

Why should you never play poker at the zoo? Too many cheetahs

Credit: laughfactory.com/jokes

Bridge Build Challenge



Background

Ever wonder why bridges look the way they do? Beam bridges are simple and straight, truss bridges have triangular supports, and arch bridges have curved support. Your mission is to build a bridge to hold a car, then apply as much weight as possible until the bridge fails.

Supplies

- Essential: 50-100 Popsicle or craft sticks, masking or duct tape, small toy cars or weights, 2 chairs or boxes to create the gap for the bridge, ruler or measuring tape
- Optional: rubber bands, paper clips, string or yarn, cardboard pieces, plastic cups

Steps

1. Find pictures of the three bridge types above and study their shape.
2. Build a beam bridge using 3-4 sticks side-by-side to create a flat deck.
3. Test the bridge with the toy car, weights, and by changing the length of the gap between the chairs or boxes. Modify to find ways to strengthen the basic bridge shape.
4. Build a truss bridge by creating triangular shapes with the sticks and attaching these to the bottom of the flat deck.
5. Test the bridge as you did in Step 3. Modify to find ways to strengthen the basic bridge shape.

Tips

- Build with the flat deck first
- Add supports under the deck for strength
- Triangles are the strongest shape
- More tape connections will increase the strength
- Test frequently as you build

Send us a message at info@plantations1.org, subject "Bridge Challenge" and we will post your sightings in the next newsletter!

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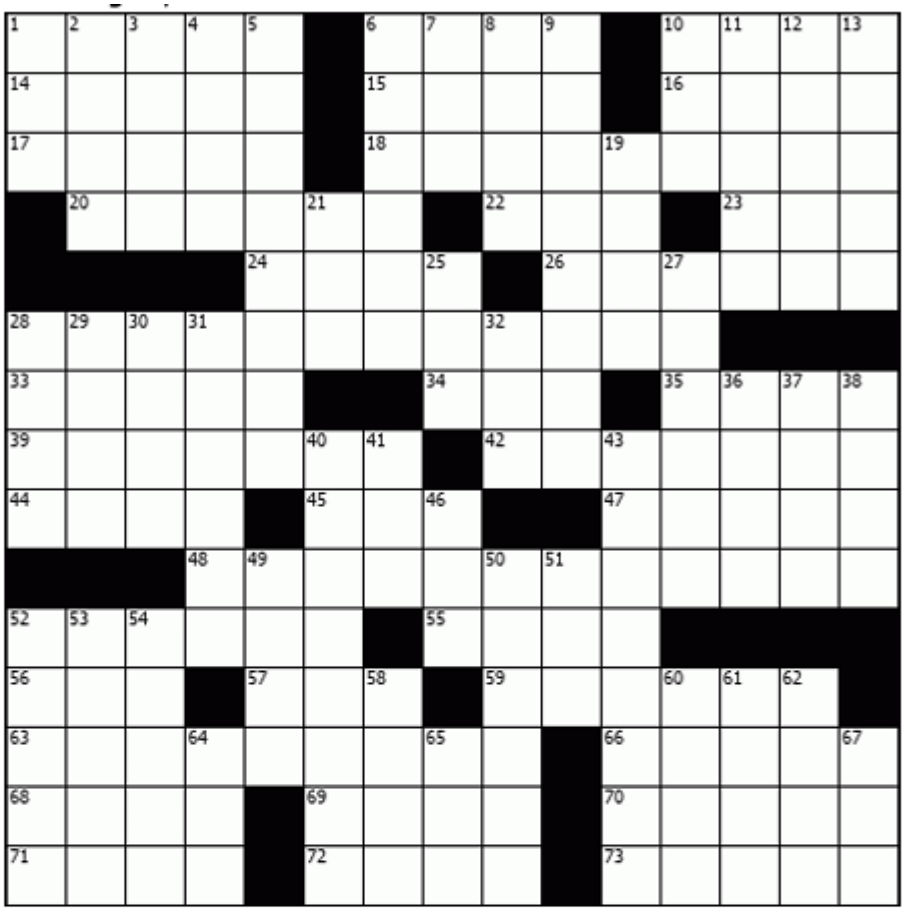

Across

1. Falafel holders
6. Fine-grained mineral
10. "Want to hear a secret?"
14. Jungle reptile
15. Truant, in the USMC
16. Blues singer James
17. Play for time
18. Linda Ronstadt hit
20. Olfactory stimuli
22. Parking lot topper
23. Hosp. employee
24. Brainstorm
26. Sweetest and kindest
28. Bobby Darin hit
33. It could be stuffed
34. Actor Erwin
35. Stadium sounds
39. Fall, while surfing
42. Finch
44. Glance impolitely
45. U.S.A. defense agency
47. Diamond-studded topper
48. Part of an Otis Redding hit
52. Puget Sound city
55. Combat for two
56. Familiar vow
57. Exist
59. Footwear giant
63. Henry Mancini hit
66. Got into pitch
68. Gardner of fiction
69. Roman ruler
70. Step into
71. Lull
72. Trouble persistently
73. Pitiless

Down

1. Some IBM products
2. Small amount
3. Vail device
4. One of Woody's kids
5. "Rebel Without a Cause" actor
6. Programmed command for fixed indentations
7. Leatherworker's tool
8. Big galoot
9. Makes quite a profit
10. Word with soup or shooter
11. Vogue
12. F3.5 and F4.0
13. Reproach bitterly
19. It's cheesy
21. Cookbook direction
25. Patient sounds?
27. King novel
28. Big sports event
29. Peace Nobelist Wiesel
30. "Oh, my!"
31. Strain one's muscles
32. Toy store aliens
36. League type
37. Israeli dance
38. Oscillate
40. Not concerned
41. "For shame!"
43. They participate in big games
46. Icelander's catch
49. Tent tycoon
50. Plow line
51. Start of a giggle
52. Official recorder
53. Hold precious
54. Chills
58. Free from fluctuations
60. It can be a drag
61. Understanding
62. Quick-witted
64. Spiker's barrier
65. Historic time
67. Unbuttered

Credit: OnlineCrosswords.net

Solution at https://onlinecrosswords.net/1203