

The Canopy

COVERING OUR COMMUNITY



INSIDE

~ Pages 2 – 6 ~
President's Message
Managers' Corner
RealManage
Dollars & Sense
Amenities Update
Landscape Committee

~ Pages 7 – 11 ~
Spring Property Review
The Nose Knows
Trails Graduates
Ormond Beach Art Guild
Florida Native Plants

~ Page 12 ~
IMPORTANT DATES &
UPCOMING EVENTS
Calendar: Jul - Aug - Sept
Fun Facts
Pool Hours



BRANCHES OF OUR CANOPY



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Kathleen Grabow, President

Dear Neighbors,

Summer has officially arrived, and after what felt like a surprisingly chilly Florida winter, our community is once again looking vibrant and full of life. The change in seasons serves as a reminder that renewal is an ongoing process, whether it is refreshing our landscapes, maintaining our homes, or planning for the future of our community.

With summer comes hurricane season, and I encourage all residents—especially those new to Florida—to take time to prepare. A little planning today can make a tremendous difference when severe weather threatens. Please take advantage of the many resources available to help your family and property remain safe throughout the season.

One topic that has generated considerable discussion recently has been the community pool lightning policy. Resident safety remains the Board's highest priority. After extensive research by our onsite management team, RealManage's regional professionals, and industry experts responsible for resort-style properties throughout Florida, the Board adopted a revised policy that balances safety with resident concerns. We appreciate the homeowners, residents, and Board members who participated in constructive discussions and helped develop a policy that considers both patron enjoyment and the safety of residents and staff. The updated policy is included in this edition of *The Canopy*.

June also provided an opportunity to recognize the professionals who support our community every day. The Trails was honored to host RealManage's Central Florida Community Association Manager Appreciation Event on June 11th. Managers and support staff from across the region gathered at our clubhouse to celebrate National CAM Appreciation Day and the important work being done throughout the community association industry.

The Board would like to extend a sincere thank you to the entire Central Florida RealManage team. While residents most often work directly with our onsite management staff, Alexandra Wood and Brandie Hayes, it is important to recognize the tremendous support provided behind the scenes by RealManage's accounting, compliance, leadership, vendor management, and operational teams. Their hands-on approach and commitment to service provide valuable resources to both Management and the Board of Directors.

What was particularly meaningful was that many members of the regional team remained at The Trails following their appreciation event and attended the Board Meeting



Photo from National CAM Day Appreciation Event held at the Trails Clubhouse on June 11, 2026

that same evening. Their willingness to engage with our community demonstrated partnership and support that help make our operations successful.

As we continue through the summer, preparations are underway for the 2027 budget, reserve planning, annual meeting activities, and ongoing community improvements. None of these efforts would be possible without the dedication of our volunteers, committee members, Board members, management professionals, and engaged homeowners.

Thank you to everyone who attends meetings, shares ideas, volunteers their time, and contributes to making The Trails a stronger community. The true strength of The Trails has always been its people.

Wishing you and your family a safe, enjoyable, and memorable summer.

Be well neighbors,

Kathy

MANAGERS' CORNER

Brandie Hayes, LCAM/Notary
Alexandra Wood, LCAM/Notary
Email: TrailsHO@ciemail.com



As we move out of the second and into the third quarter of 2026, it seems fitting to pause for just a moment and ask: can you believe we're already halfway through the year? Before we know it, it will be back-to-school season, football weekends, holiday celebrations, and talk of "next year" all arriving in what feels like the blink of an eye.

This quarter brings a renewed focus on planning for our community's financial future. While budgeting is an ongoing process throughout the year, the third quarter is a particularly important time behind the scenes. Management and the Board continue to review operating budgets and reserve funding, coordinate with vendors, and evaluate upcoming projects to ensure we are balancing today's needs with responsible long-term planning.

Our goal is to have the proposed budget approved at the September Board Meeting so that, following the October 3, 2026, Annual Meeting and transition to the 2026-2027 Board of Directors, the financial framework for the upcoming fiscal year is already in place and ready to support the community's continued success.

Speaking of the Annual Meeting, please keep an eye on your mailbox for important notices, including the Notice of Intent to Be a Candidate for the Board of Directors and the Annual Meeting Notice. Depending on the number of interested candidates, the mailing may also include an election ballot in addition to the proxy form needed to establish quorum.

Serving on the Board of Directors is a meaningful opportunity to contribute to the future of our community. Florida law requires Board members to complete certification and continuing education requirements as part of their volunteer service. If you are interested in learning more about Board service or exploring whether volunteering may be right for you, please do not hesitate to contact the onsite office. We are always happy to assist residents in understanding the role and identifying educational opportunities available to meet certification requirements. As always, residents are encouraged to stay informed, attend meetings whenever possible, and share constructive questions, concerns, and suggestions. Working together truly makes a difference.

We would also like to extend a special thank you to the homeowners who regularly attend Board meetings and participate in community discussions. While meetings must be conducted in an orderly and respectful manner to allow the Board to accomplish its work, resident input remains an important part of the process. The perspectives, experiences, and opinions shared by our members help create thoughtful dialogue and contribute to better decision-making for the community. Finally, thank you—many times over—

to our volunteers, Board members, committee participants, and engaged homeowners for your continued support and involvement. The strength of The Trails has always come from the people who care enough to stay involved, lend a hand, and look out for one another. It is this spirit of participation, cooperation, and consideration that makes our community such a wonderful place to call home.

Wishing everyone a safe, enjoyable, and productive summer season.

Curious about your home's value?
Scan the code!

SELL YOUR HOME
with Taylor
Call: 386-405-8360

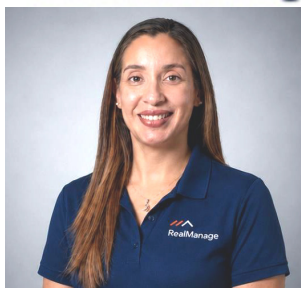
Taylor Westfall, J.D.
Taylor@SimplyREFL.com
www.TaylorWestfall.com





DIRECTORS & BACK OFFICE BIO'S

Virginia Ochoa CMCA, AMS | Director, Community Association Management



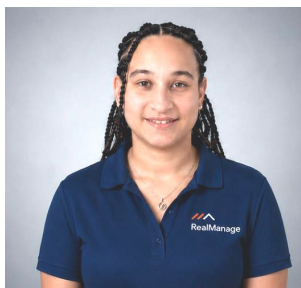
Virginia Ochoa, CMCA, AMS

Meet Virginia Ochoa, RealManage's Director of Community Association Management! With 17 years of experience in community management, operations, and leadership, Virginia is passionate about helping communities and the people who serve them succeed. She believes that strong neighborhoods are built on trust, communication, and teamwork, and she loves working alongside boards, residents, and management teams to create positive, lasting results. For Virginia, the best part of the job is knowing that every day brings an opportunity to make a meaningful difference in the lives of others.



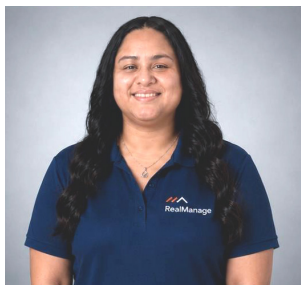
Tammy Collins, Senior CAM

Tammy Collins has been part of the RealManage family for three years and brings a wealth of experience managing onsite communities, CDDs, single-family neighborhoods, and condominium associations. She enjoys partnering with her boards to turn ideas into projects that enhance and beautify the community. Seeing those improvements come to life—and knowing she played a part in making them happen—is one of the most rewarding aspects of her role. Tammy also loves building strong relationships with residents and board members and is dedicated to creating a welcoming, positive experience for everyone she serves.



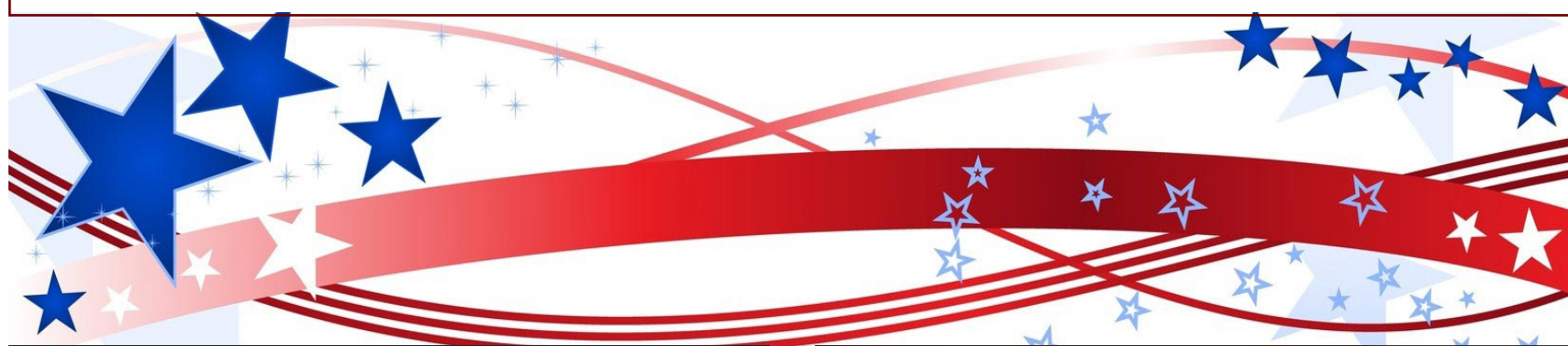
Yamily Torres

Yamily Torres is a dedicated Community Association Manager Assistant with more than three years of experience supporting boards, homeowners, and management teams. She has a passion for helping communities run smoothly by promoting fair and consistent compliance practices while fostering positive relationships with residents. Known for her attention to detail, organization, and friendly approach, Yamily enjoys finding solutions, keeping things on track, and helping preserve the beauty and integrity of the neighborhoods she serves. She takes pride in making a positive impact every day through teamwork, communication, and exceptional customer service.



Kyla Semino, Senior Community Manager

Say hello to Kyla Semino, our Senior Community Manager and a proud member of the RealManage team for the past five years! Kyla loves working closely with boards and residents to build strong partnerships, solve challenges, and create communities where people truly enjoy living. She believes that great community management starts with open communication, collaboration, and genuine connections. With a positive attitude and a passion for service, Kyla looks forward to continuing to support and strengthen the communities she serves each and every day.



BERLIN & DENYS
INSURANCE
Bringing Good People and Good Plans Together

WE'RE LOCAL.

-HOME & AUTO INSURANCE MADE EASY-

(386) 308-3268



SCAN FOR A QUOTE!
BDINSUREME.COM

**Family.
Friends.
Community.**



We're all in this together.

State Farm® has a long tradition of being there. That's one reason why I'm proud to support *The Trails*.

Get to a better State™
Get State Farm.
CALL ME TODAY
386-677-1119



Ryan Ochipa
Insurance Agency
Ryan Ochipa, Agent
785 W. Granada Blvd.
Ormond Beach, FL 32174
386-677-1119



DOLLARS & SENSE: Building a Budget for Tomorrow

Dan Gowen, Trails HOA Treasurer, Brandie Hayes & Alexandra Wood

One of the most important responsibilities of any homeowners association is to ensure that the community remains financially stable, both today and for years to come. While budgets may not generate the same excitement as a pool party or community event, they are the foundation that allows every amenity, service, and improvement project to happen.

Under Florida law, homeowners associations are required to adopt a budget for each fiscal year. The budget must be balanced, meaning that anticipated income and available funds are sufficient to meet projected expenses. In addition to legal requirements, industry best practices encourage associations to utilize accrual-based accounting methods, which provide a more accurate picture of the Association's financial condition by recognizing income and expenses when they are incurred rather than simply when cash changes hands.

For a community the size of The Trails, budgeting is more than simply forecasting next year's expenses. It involves reviewing historical trends, evaluating vendor contracts, planning for maintenance projects, funding reserves responsibly, and preparing for the unexpected. The Board of Directors and Management Team spend considerable time analyzing these factors to ensure that the Association remains financially sound while continuing to provide the services and amenities residents expect.

Assessments: The Lifeblood of the Community

The good news is that homeowners at The Trails continue to demonstrate a strong commitment to supporting the community. On average, approximately **89% of assessments are collected on time each month**, which is a testament to the vast majority of homeowners who meet their financial obligations.

However, the remaining 11% **delinquency rate represents approximately \$62,000 in outstanding assessments** at any given time. While collection efforts continue through established procedures and legal remedies when necessary, unpaid assessments still impact cash flow and must be considered during the budgeting process.

To put this into perspective, every dollar not collected is a dollar that cannot be used for maintaining common areas, preserving amenities, funding reserves, or addressing future community needs. This is why collection efforts remain an important component of the Association's financial management strategy.

Looking Ahead to the 2027 Budget

Work has already begun on the preliminary 2027 Budget. Throughout the summer, Management and the Board will review operating expenses, reserve funding requirements, contract obligations, and anticipated projects to develop a responsible financial plan for the coming year.

The **2027 Budget Meeting is tentatively scheduled for September 10, 2026, at 6:00 p.m.** Residents will receive the official Budget Meeting Notice by mail during the **third week of August**, following completion of the Budget Workshop.

The **Budget Workshop date will be announced separately** once scheduling is finalized.

We encourage residents to attend the Budget Meeting and learn more about how the Association plans for both current operations and future financial stability.

Sub HOA Summit Coming This July...Building a Better Community Budget is the topic.

As part of our commitment to supporting the broader Trails community, the next **Sub HOA Summit** is scheduled to take place in **July 2026**. Board members of the various sub-associations will receive notification by email regarding the event date, time, agenda, and sponsoring partners. These summits provide an excellent opportunity for volunteer leaders throughout The Trails to share ideas, discuss common challenges, and learn about emerging trends affecting community associations.

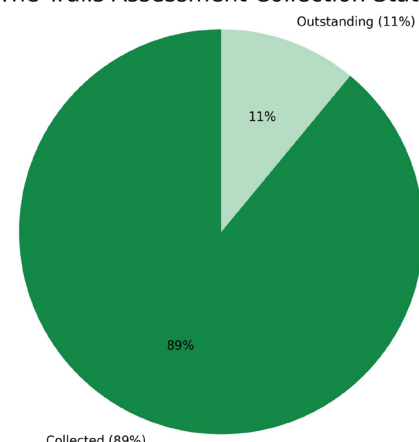
Financial Stewardship Matters

Strong financial management is not simply about balancing numbers on a spreadsheet—it's about preserving property values, maintaining community assets, and ensuring that future Boards have the resources necessary to serve residents effectively.

We appreciate the continued support of homeowners who pay their assessments on time, participate in community discussions, and remain engaged in the financial health of The Trails. Together, we can continue building a financially sound future for our community.

"The Trails continues to maintain a strong collection rate of approximately 89%. Even so, the remaining 11% represents roughly \$62,000 in outstanding assessments that must be managed through the Association's collection process and considered during annual budget planning."

The Trails Assessment Collection Status



AMENITIES UPDATE - Summer Fun, Pool Safety & Community Events

Brandie Hayes and Marra Mackenzie-Pranikoff

Summer is in full swing at The Trails, and we have several exciting updates to share regarding our amenities, pool operations, and upcoming community events.

Pool Rules Updated Based on Resident Feedback

One of the great benefits of living in a community like The Trails is that resident feedback matters. Over the past several months, pool patrons shared concerns and suggestions regarding certain pool rules and how they are implemented. In response, the Board of Directors reviewed those concerns and, during the June 11, 2026 Board Meeting, approved updates to our pool operations designed to balance resident enjoyment with safety and liability considerations.

Updated Lightning Safety Policy

Florida is known as the lightning capital of the United States, and lightning can strike miles away from visible storm activity. To better protect residents, guests, and staff, the Board adopted an updated Lightning Safety Policy that will be enforced by pool attendants utilizing a lightning detection application called My Lightning App that can be found in your Apple or Google Playstore.

Under the revised policy:

- A lightning warning will be issued when lightning is detected within 15 miles of the pool.
- Pool umbrellas will be closed, and patrons will be advised that conditions are being monitored.
- The pool will immediately close when lightning is detected within 10 miles of the facility.
- All patrons must leave the pool area and seek appropriate shelter.
- The pool will remain closed for a minimum of 30 minutes after the last detected lightning strike, with the clock restarting if additional lightning is detected.

The safety of our residents and staff remains the primary consideration, and pool attendants have full authority to implement and enforce these procedures.

Why Are Large Floats Not Allowed?

Another topic frequently discussed by residents involved oversized pool floats and inflatables. While everyone enjoys relaxing in the water, large floats can create significant safety concerns in a community pool environment.

The restrictions are based on several important factors:

- Large inflatables can block visibility, making it difficult for pool attendants and supervisors to see swimmers beneath or around them.
- Oversized floats take up valuable space in a shared recreational facility and can limit opportunities for active swimming.
- Inflatable rafts and loungers can create entrapment hazards if they flip over or deflate unexpectedly.
- Bulky floats often contribute to collisions, horseplay, and accidental injuries.

Smaller recreational flotation devices and Coast Guard-approved life jackets remain the preferred options for safety and enjoyment. We appreciate everyone's cooperation in helping keep the pool a safe and welcoming environment for all residents.

Mark Your Calendars!

Movie Night at the Pool

Friday, July 24, 2026

Grab your swimsuit, a towel, and your favorite movie snacks as we gather poolside for our next Movie Night. This year's feature presentation will be Super Mario Galaxy, a family-friendly adventure sure to be enjoyed by children and adults alike.

Back-to-School Dance & Pool Party

Friday, August 7, 2026

Help us celebrate the end of summer and the start of a new school year with an evening of music, swimming, and fun. Residents and their families are invited to attend our annual Back-to-School Dance and Pool Party.

Thanks to community support, we will be providing:

- Free Hot Dogs
- Pizza
- Kona Ice

Food and refreshments will be available while supplies last.

We appreciate the continued participation and feedback from our residents. The Board of Directors remains committed to maintaining amenities that are safe, enjoyable, and responsive to the needs of the community. We look forward to seeing everyone at the pool this summer!

LANDSCAPE COMMITTEE

Marilyn Dorinson, Committee Member

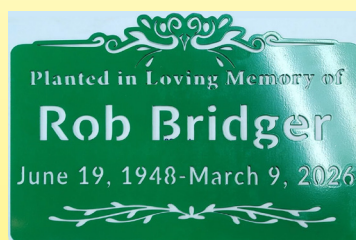
Spring has come to the Trails and our frost-damaged plants are making a valiant effort to come back to life. Some were too damaged to survive, but most yards are recovering. We will resume The Yard of the Quarter award in the next edition, allowing yards to return to their full beauty. The April planting of pentas at the entrances will be followed by vincas by July 4, and the new ponytail palms at the pool and in the planters replaced those lost to the freeze.



The irrigation on Timberline Trail has been completed, and the enhancement plantings of Bahai grass, plumbago and drift roses will be completed by summer's end to complement the crepe myrtles that replaced the tall trees there. Bougainvillea is to be planted to the rear of the waste yard site. The Bismarck palm in the island on the Main Trail curve is looking healthier, and the soil on Eclipse and Mimosa Trails was to be tested for impurities. Mulch from bags was spread by the Yellowstone staff on around Memorial Day and they began regular mowing in April on Thursdays and will continue until November.

Carl will remove the graffiti from several trails near Rio Pinar Trail.

Rob Bridger, former HOA board president and editor of The Canopy, was honored with a tree planting in his memory on Arbor Day and a sign will be erected and uplighted at the site.



AROUND THE COMMUNITY

Spring Property Review & Community Maintenance Reminder

Dear Members,

A well-maintained community plays a vital role in preserving property values—something that benefits all homeowners. The Association's rules and covenants are in place to support that goal, and their success depends on a collective effort from all residents.

With spring underway and summer around the corner, a preliminary community inspection is being conducted. We appreciate the many homeowners who have taken pride in maintaining and improving their properties—your efforts do not go unnoticed.

During this review, several areas requiring attention were observed, including:

- Wood rot
- Fences in disrepair
- Unpainted fences
- Homes with blotchy or faded paint
- Garage doors with blotchy or faded paint
- Pressure wash siding and driveway for mold.
- Landscape Maintenance Mow, weed, removal of dead trees and bushes
- Parking on the Grass or Boats, Trailers, and RVs on the driveways

Friendly Reminders:

Trash & Recycling:

Bins may be placed at the curb no earlier than the evening before collection. Please avoid placing yard debris in the street or near storm drains. When not in use, bins must be stored out of view (in the garage or behind a fence).

Architectural Changes:

All exterior modifications require prior approval from the Architectural Review Committee (ARC). This includes, but is not limited to, fencing, roofing, exterior painting, window and door replacement, and major wood rot repairs.

Electronic Communication Opt-In:

With postage rates increasing to \$0.82 in July, we encourage homeowners to opt into electronic communications. This helps the Association manage costs while ensuring timely updates.

The Electronic Transmission Permission Form is available on the Trails HOA website. Please return the completed form via email, mail, or the clubhouse drop box.

The Trails HOA continues to be a community we can all take pride in and maintaining that standard requires everyone's participation.

We ask that you take a few minutes to review your property. If maintenance or improvements are needed, please submit your request to Management as soon as possible.

Follow-up inspections are conducted approximately every 30 days. If no ACC request has been submitted and maintenance concerns remain, after courtesy notices are initially sent for properties that are in need of maintenance attention. Formal violation notices will be issued.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact us by phone or email. If you've received a courtesy notice and need extra time to cure the item in question, do not hesitate to reach out to us.

Thank you for your continued cooperation and commitment to the community.

The Nose Knows By Gizzy the Corgi of Ridge Trail

w/ a creative assist by AI

Hello, neighbors. My name is Gizzy, and while some may describe me as a "short-legged loaf with attitude," I personally prefer Neighborhood Scent Investigator Extraordinaire. Every morning, my human clips on my leash, and off we go for what they call a "walk."

But let me clarify something important:

This is not merely a walk.

This is research.

Fieldwork, Community intelligence gathering.

You see, when humans stroll through the neighborhood, they mostly use their eyes. Dogs? We use our noses. And trust me—the nose knows everything. That patch of grass by the mailbox?

Breaking news. The fire hydrant near the bike path? Today's gossip column....The corner by the lake? Essential community updates.

When you see me standing perfectly still with my nose buried in the landscape for what feels like an eternity, I'm basically reading the paws version of The Canopy newsletter. To a dog, sniffing is the equivalent of the master of the manor sitting down with the latest edition of their preferred news source. To me and my four legged community peers, we're catching up on who's been where, who got a new puppy, who ate chicken yesterday, and which squirrel continues to violate all reasonable standards of public conduct.

Our noses are incredibly powerful—far better than human noses.



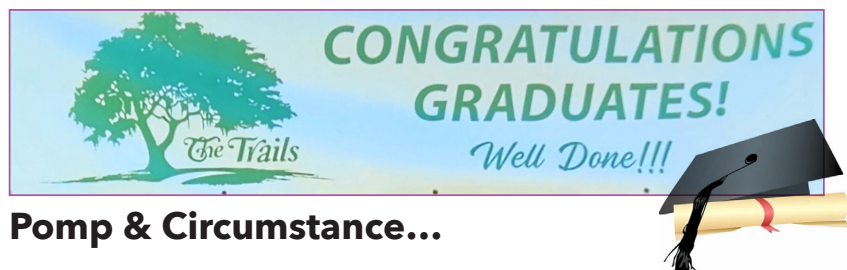
We can detect scents layered over other scents, even hours later. One sniff can tell us:

- Which dogs walked by
- Whether they were happy, nervous, or excited
- If a raccoon visited overnight
- Whether someone dropped a snack crumb nearby
- And occasionally... whether Mark the President of Tuscany HOA from two streets over, grilled burgers again.

Frankly, it's fascinating. Now, while humans may think they're leading the walk, let's be honest: most of the time we dogs are conducting an investigative tour while politely dragging you along for support staff duties. And speaking of support staff...A gentle reminder from your friendly Ridge Trail Corgi correspondent: Please help keep our sniffing adventures enjoyable by properly cleaning up after your four-legged family member. Nothing ruins an otherwise informative scent expedition faster than an unexpected "landmine" interrupting valuable nose-based journalism. Remember, neighbors: A clean community makes for happy paws, better walks, and superior neighborhood reporting.

Until next time...Keep sniffing responsibly.

- Gizzy 🐾



Pomp & Circumstance...

CONGRATULATIONS To Trails Graduates!



LYLA ROBERSON

Graduate of Seabreeze High School with plans to attend Florida State University.

Congratulations to you and all the best in your future endeavors!!! - *Grandmother Lynda Wilson*



ABIGAIL ELAINE MACKENZIE

Seabreeze High School Home of the Sandcrabs! Abigaile ("Abi") Elaine Mackenzie proudly joins a family tradition as a graduate of Seabreeze High School's Class of 2026.

She is the daughter of Marra Pranikoff-Mackenzie, a proud Seabreeze graduate from the Class of 1990, and the niece of Michael Pranikoff, Seabreeze Class of 1992.

This fall, Abi will begin her studies at Daytona State College, where she plans to earn her Associate of Arts degree before continuing her education in Forensic Science. While she is still exploring which university she will attend next, she is excited to pursue her passion for forensics and the opportunities that await her.

Congratulations, Abi, on this wonderful accomplishment and on continuing the Sandcrab legacy! 🐾🎓🦀💙💜



AUSTIN RICKMAN

Austin just graduated from Seabreeze High School on May 29, 2026. He will be attending Daytona State College in the fall and transferring to UCF to pursue a degree in Mechanical Engineering. We are very proud of all of his accomplishments.

- Mom & Dad

Look Who Graduated from the Working Class to Retirement!

On June 12, residents of The Trails gathered to celebrate and say farewell to our beloved "Mail Ma'am," *Laurie Fitzgerald*, as she officially traded her mailbag for retirement.

For the past 13 years, Laurie has been much more than our mail carrier—she has been a friendly face, a helping hand, and a valued part of our community. Whether delivering the everyday mail, sharing a smile, or going above and beyond to help a neighbor (or even a lost pet!), Laurie always served The Trails with kindness and dedication.

Family, friends, neighbors, and residents stopped by the Clubhouse to wish her well as she begins this exciting new chapter filled with beach days, road trips, and well-deserved relaxation.

From all of us at The Trails, thank you, Laurie, for your years of service and friendship. Congratulations on your graduation from the working world to retirement—we wish you endless adventures, sunny days, and not a single heavy package!



What spring projects would you do with a Home Equity Loan?

- ✕ Home Equity Loans
- ✕ Home Equity Credit Lines
- ✕ Fixed Rate Home Equity Credit Lines

New Pool? New Addition? Family Vacation?

Ormond Beach Office
115 N Nova Road • Ormond Beach, FL 32174
Office: (386) 256-3813 • Emorkous@trustcobank.com



Member Spotlight: Risa Martinez - Artist, Volunteer, and Community Leader

Many residents know Risa Martinez as a dedicated member of both the Ramblewood Board of Directors and The Trails Architectural Control Committee, but fewer may know that she is also a talented and accomplished artist.

Risa's artistic journey began in high school, where her art teacher quickly recognized her talent and encouraged her to continue developing her skills. Like many aspiring artists, however, life's responsibilities took center stage. As an adult, Risa built a successful career in residential real estate, working closely with homebuilders while raising her two daughters. Although painting took a back seat during those busy years, her passion for art never faded.

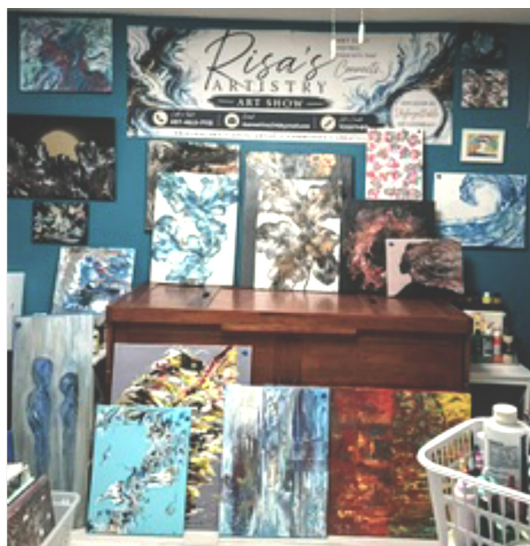
Following her retirement, Risa finally found the time to return to the creative outlet she had always loved. Today, she works in a variety of fluid mediums, creating vibrant and imaginative pieces that showcase both technical skill and artistic vision. Her unique process often begins with fluid pouring techniques, followed by additional hand-painting that adds depth, detail, and personality to each work.

In addition to creating original artwork, Risa also accepts commissioned pieces, allowing clients to bring their own artistic visions to life through her talents.

Residents may have seen Risa's work at The Trails Community Trade Show, where she showcased many of her beautiful creations. Her artistic accomplishments continue to gain recognition, and she will be one of the featured artists at Ormond Beach's upcoming Starry Night event this June.

The Trails is fortunate to have community members who

contribute their time, talents, and creativity in so many ways. We congratulate Risa on her artistic success and thank her for her continued service to our community.



Please join us on Nextdoor The Trails - Ormond Beach

Babysitter needed

Free kids bike!

Garage sale this Saturday

Car break-in!
See anything?

Anyone missing
a dog?



Nextdoor The Trails - Ormond Beach is the neighborhood hub for trusted connections and the exchange of helpful information, goods, and services. On Nextdoor, neighbors share crime and safety concerns, local events, recommendations, items for sale/free, ideas about how to make our neighborhood better, and more.

Our neighborhood is using an online platform called Nextdoor. Please join us to build a better neighborhood!

- Brandie H.
Main Trl

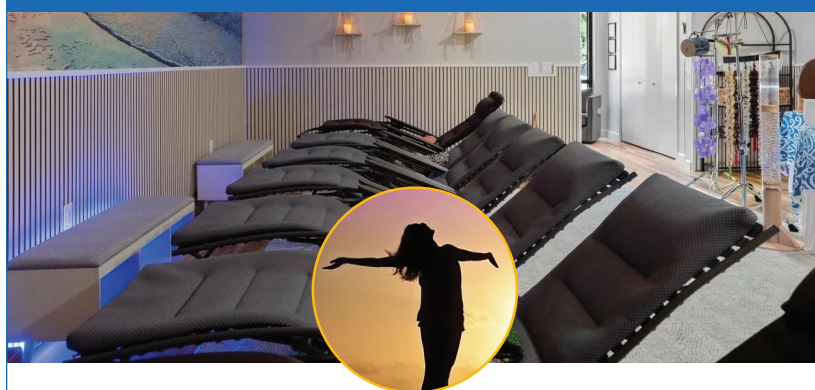
Please join us!



Don't miss out :)



7th Heaven Sound Baths™



Experience Deep Relaxation with a Sound Bath

Let soothing sound wash over you as crystal singing bowls, chimes, and nature-inspired instruments guide you into deep calm. Release stress, restore harmony, and reconnect with your peaceful self. Join us for a transformative Sound Bath at Ormond Beach's only year-round dedicated Sound Bath studio.

725 W. Granada Blvd. Suite 11 Ormond Beach, FL

BOOK AN APPOINTMENT!

7thheavensoundbaths.com

INTRODUCTION TO FLORIDA NATIVE PLANTS

Florida native plants are beautiful and sustainable alternatives to the non-natives found at the big box nurseries. Defined as plants that were present in Florida before the Europeans arrived, native plants grew here for thousands of years all by themselves without irrigation, fertilizer, or pesticides. This means they grow happily here in our dry, sandy, infertile soil - with minimal inputs. They have adapted over time to our dry winters, rainy summers, and violent storms, so if anything is going to rebound from extreme weather, it is Florida's native plants.

More Benefits of Native Plants

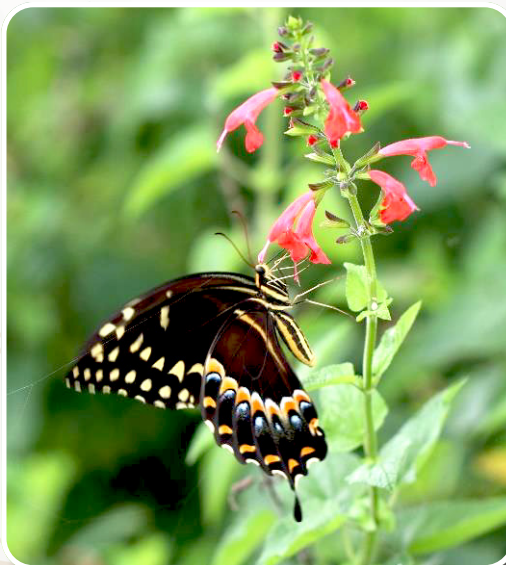
Florida native plants have coevolved with local wildlife to form close relationships. Because of this, many animals are dependent on certain plants. About 25% of pollinators are specialists, meaning they require a specific genus or family of plants to survive; if their particular plants are not present, they won't be either. Planting native flowers ensures your yard supports more butterflies and native bees (which, by the way, do not sting unless provoked).

Birds, both migratory and local, are dependent on native berries and seeds that have the nutrition they need to travel long distances or to stay home and raise a family. Recent research has shown that native plants are necessary to maintain our songbird populations. In fact, the National Audubon Society now recommends homeowners add native plants to their landscapes to help reverse the declining numbers of birds in our country.

In addition, native wildflowers are easy on your wallet. Unlike non-native annual flowers, native wildflowers are either perennial (they last year after year) or they make seeds that will spread in your garden to supply you with new plants. With native wildflowers you save time and money by not having to purchase and plant new flowers each season.

Florida-Friendly Landscaping and Florida Native Plants

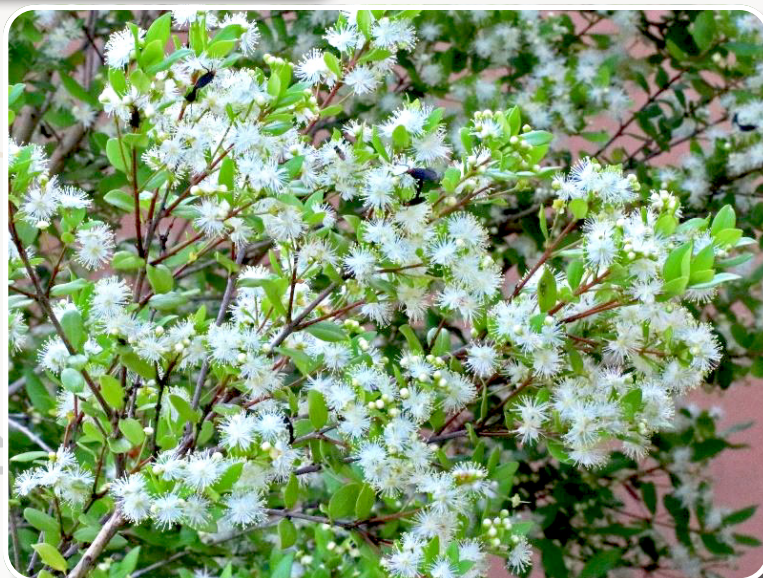
It is important to note that Florida-Friendly Landscaping and Florida native plants are not equivalent. Florida-Friendly plants are those that grow in our climate, don't demand excessive maintenance, and are not invasive. Native plants of course are Florida-Friendly, but there are many Florida-Friendly plants that are not native. The non-native Florida-Friendly plants are acceptable plants for Florida, but they don't have the ecological benefits of natives as described above.



**Black
Swallowtail
nectaring on
tropical sage**



Tropical Sage plant



Stopper Shrub in bloom

Two Fabulous Starter Native Plants

To get started with native plants, here are two natives that are attractive to both people and wildlife. Tropical sage (*Salvia coccinea*) is a perennial wildflower that feeds butterflies, bees, and hummingbirds. It blooms all year long with flowers that are most commonly a bright red, but they can also occur in softer white or pink. Growing 2-4' tall, tropical sage likes full or part-sun and soil that is dry to moderately moist. Once you have one plant, you have many, as it reseeds readily to populate your yard with cheerful color.

Simpson's stopper (*Myrcianthes fragrans*) is a medium to large shrub that produces lovely fragrant flowers for pollinators in the spring and large red berries for birds in the summer. This evergreen shrub can grow in full sun or part-sun and reaches 8' tall and 4' wide, but can be pruned to keep a smaller shape. Simpson's stopper survived last winter's hard freeze without a care. Use this attractive, sturdy shrub in a hedge, in a foundation planting, or as a single specimen. You, the birds, and the pollinators won't be disappointed.

Where to Get Florida Native Plants

It takes a little bit of effort to purchase native plants since the larger nurseries do not sell them (the big growers haven't caught on yet). Visit Lindley's Nursery in New Smyrna Beach or contact Natural Beauty Native Landscapes in Ormond Beach to get your plants. For a list of other options in the area, look for the native nursery list on the website of the Pawpaw Chapter of the Florida Native Plant Society (pawpaw.fnpschapters.org). To learn more about native plants, see FNPS.org and FlaWildflowers.org.

Where to See Native Plants in Action

To see native plants growing in local landscapes, visit the Environmental Discovery Center at 601 Division Avenue and Vadner Park on the peninsula at 105 Seminole Avenue. You can also stop by Kristen's or Leslie's home (addresses below) to see their native plant gardens.

Go native to save money, help the environment, and bring life to your landscape!

Leslie Nixon (23 Iroquois Trail)

Kristen Okarski (17 Iroquois Trail)



**Mockingbird eating a berry
on the stopper shrub**

**Native plants in
Kristen's yard.**



THE TRAILS HOA NEWSPAPER

The Trails Board of Directors

Kathleen Grabow
President

Jeffrey Levinson
Vice-president

Lourdes McLean
Secretary

Dan Gowen
Treasurer

Dann Dragone
Chuck Harris
Heather O'Neill

Phil Rikas
John Whitley



The Canopy Newspaper Committee

Alexandra Wood
Brandie Hayes
Dan Gowen
Heather O'Neill
Marilyn Dorinson
Maureen Bridger

Associated Printing & Graphics

PRESORTED
STANDARD
US POSTAGE
PAID
DAYTONA BCH
PERMIT #447

THE TRAILS HOA OFFICE / CLUBHOUSE
201 Main Trail • Ormond Beach, Florida 32174
(386) 673-0855 • Email: TrailsHo@ciramail.com

FREE copies of the *Ormond Beach Observer* are available at the Clubhouse every Thursday

IMPORTANT DATES & UPCOMING EVENTS AT THE CLUBHOUSE (CH)

MONDAYS: 11:30 am - 3:30 pm Every other week Bridge Club, also Girls Scouts and Brownies evening meetings

TUESDAYS: 8:30 am - 12:00 p.m. the Senior Art Guild meets in the Clubhouse.

THURSDAYS: 11:30 a.m. - 4:00 p.m. is available for Card club (each week). Note: Volunteer needed to host club.

The Trails Pool is open daily from 10a.m.- 6p.m 7 days a week until May 1, where it will be open until 9 p.m. Mon-Sat. The pool will be closed during the pool resurface project scheduled to begin



When you see this flag on the calendar - display your flag at your mailbox.

July 2026

07/01 - Your 3rd Qtr. Assessment of \$274.00 is due.

07/02 - Landscape Committee meeting 3:00 p.m.
- 1st floor conf. room (CH)

07/03 - Observance of 4th of July Office is Closed

07/04 - 250th Celebration of the 4th of July

07/08 - ACC Meeting 9:00 a.m. 1st floor conf. room (CH)

07/09 - Board of Directors Meeting (CH 6:00 p.m.)

07/24 - Movie Night at the Pool- Mario Movie

07/22 - ACC Meeting 9:00 a.m. 1st floor conf. room (CH)



August 2026

08/01 - 3rd qtr. Assessment past due.

08/06 - Landscape Committee meeting 3:00 p.m.
- 1st floor conf. room (CH)

08/07 - Back To School Pool/Dance Party

08/12 - ACC Meeting 9:00 a.m. 1st floor conf. room (CH)

08/13 - Board of Directors Meeting (CH 6:00 p.m.)

08/14 - Intent to Candidate deadline 4:00 p.m. Clubhouse
(email/dropbox)

08/20 - Dog Days of Summer

08/25 - Happy shared Birthday to
Brandie & Alexandra in the office

08/26 - ACC Meeting 9:00 a.m. 1st floor conf. room



September 2026

09/03 - Landscape Committee meeting 3:00 p.m.
- 1st floor conf. room (CH)

09/07 - Labor Day Office Closed

09/09 - ACC Meeting 9:00 a.m. 1st floor conf. room (CH)

09/10 - Board of Directors/Budget Meeting (CH 6:00 p.m.)

09/11 - Rosh Hashana

09/13 - Grandparents Day

09/20 - Yom Kippur

09/22 - 1st Day of Fall Y'all

09/23 - ACC Meeting 9:00 a.m. 1st floor conf. room (CH)



Fun Florida Fact: A mature live oak tree can produce enough oxygen annually to support two people and can live for hundreds of years. Many of the beautiful oaks throughout The Trails were already mature when the community was developed in the 1970s.



Hot pavement warning: When the air temperature reaches 87°F, asphalt can exceed 140°F. If it's too hot for your bare feet, it's too hot for your pet's paws.

Summer Reminder: Stay hydrated, wear sunscreen, keep an eye on weather alerts, and most importantly—take a little time to enjoy the amenities, neighbors, and natural beauty that make The Trails such a wonderful place to call home.



Summer flies by: There are only **92 days of summer**, which means by the time you're reading the next edition of The Canopy, we'll already be talking about fall, football, pumpkins, and holiday decorations!

POOL HOURS

May 1 - September 30

Mon-Sat 10 a.m. - 9 p.m.

Sunday 10 a.m. - 6 p.m.

October 1 - 31

7 days a week 10 a.m. - 6 p.m.

November 1 - March 31

10a.m. - 4p.m

April 1 - 30

7 days a week 10 a.m. - 6 p.m.

Pool will be closed during resurfacing project.