

March 2025

A Monthly Publication of the Carrollwood Civic Association



the

Carroler



Grab your
best Hawaiian shirt
and join us at
White Sands Beach!

March 8

6 p.m. to 9 p.m.

(Adult Only Event)

Notice of Board Meetings

Monday, March 10, 2025

CRD Meeting: 6:30 p.m.

CCA Meeting: 7 p.m.

Carrollwood Rec Center • 3515 McFarland Road

Residents welcome to attend.

Don't forget our Annual Easter Egg Hunt on April 19, 2025

See Page 16 for more details

CCA News



John Schinka



Josh Shaffer



Corey McKeown



Jerrod Mills



Eric Pellenbarg



Matt Enering



Kristin Nail



Bryan Huls



Jared Jones



Luke Haydel



Neill Boyd



Adrianne Enering




Ethan Pliskow

By John Schinka, CCA President

Your CCA Board had a great February meeting with several residents in attendance for some great conversation. Among those in attendance were members from Troop 202, our local scout troop who support our neighborhood in so many ways! We were pleased to contribute to their upcoming activities and look forward to our continued partnership. Thank you, Scouts!

Our spring social events are right around the corner. We look forward to seeing you all for some neighborhood fellowship! Our annual Easter event is upcoming; please don't hesitate to reach out for volunteer opportunities.

Lastly, now that election season has ended, please remember to remove political signs for your yard. Instead, let's show off those spring yard projects and keep our neighborhood looking beautiful!

If you're looking for more information, be sure to check out our website at www.originalcarrollwood.com and send us an email to get added to our mailing list at cca@originalcarrollwood.com. We also encourage you to sign up for our text messages to get neighborhood updates in real time! 



Troop 202
Photo by Luke Haydel

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

FAQ FOR CARROLLWOOD RECREATION DISTRICT PROJECTS

What is the scope of the projects to improve access to the neighborhood amenities?

White Sands Beach is the first space for installation of a custom entry and exit gate as well as a pedestrian gate.

How is this paid for?

As a result of the tax referendum in 2022, funds were allocated for improving the security and aesthetic appeal of neighborhood areas. Reliable and efficient access improvements to parks, beach and tennis courts are planned.

What is the timeline for Amenity improvement rollout?

Gate and electronic access key fob will happen at White Sands Beach first.

Completion is estimated to be late February to accommodate the busy season beginning during spring break. As new details and plans emerge, the CRD will communicate with residents.

How to get an electronic fob? Purchase from the business office inside the

Recreation Center (just like key purchases). We will let you know when we are ready to begin selling them.

How many fobs can a household obtain? Two

How much do fobs cost? Fobs cost \$30

It is the CRD's initial understanding that if someone loses their fob, it can be deactivated.

Replacement fobs can be purchased. Ultimately, the cost to the resident will be less than purchasing individual keys for each access point as the system operates now.

Where will the fobs work? The goal is to use the same fob to access all amenities. White Sands Beach, Scotty Cooper Park, Tennis Courts, Original Carrollwood Park, and the dog park.

What if I want to go to the dog park and tennis courts and not the beach? It is the CRD's understanding that the fob activation will allow for the programming of those fobs who wish to enter individual amenities. Residents will need approval.


What about the boat ramp?? No current plans for the boat ramp gate. The boat ramp gate is custom built and only a few years old, and it serves its purpose. White Sands Beach (WSB) is the only community park with vehicle access. The access control system will be most beneficial when the guard is not present. When the guard is present, the entrance gate will be open.

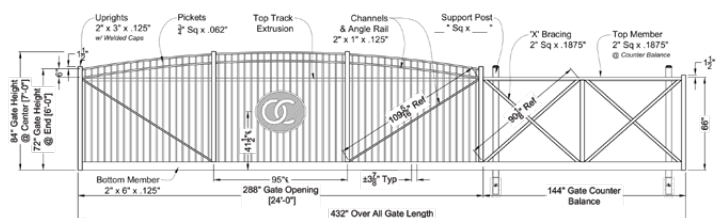
What is the estimated timeline for the other neighborhood spaces? It's impossible to have every park on the fob system on day one. This is a priority, so we will work to have all spaces active in 2025. There will be a period for transition, so fob and key access will overlap. Whether you have a fob or key, they both serve the same purpose.

The new access points require electricity and cameras. So, there are various considerations at each location. As details

and plans emerge, the CRD will let the Community know.

Why haven't we always had fences, gates, and key and fob access? Our Community is 66 years-old and the community around our neighborhood has grown significantly. Google searches did not exist until more recently, and many non-residents leave negative and positive reviews about our amenities and facilities. With the installation of key access to Scotty Cooper Park, for example, access control has proven to be effective and safer.

Will the fobs be easier and more secure to use than keys? They can't be copied at a store, they can be deactivated upon loss, and residents will only need to touch the fob to the sensor to enter and leave. 



COMMUNITY CONTACT INFORMATION

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www.originalcarrollwood.com

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Carrollwood Recreation District
www.originalcarrollwoodCRD.com

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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.

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Non-emergency • 813-247-8200



CAROLER AD SIZE & RATES

SIZE	SPECS	RATE PER ISSUE	
		REGULAR*	PRINT
Full page	7.5" w x 10" h	\$225	\$425
1/2 page	7.5" w x 4.875" h	\$140	\$235
1/4 page	3.625" w x 4.875" h	\$75	\$145
1/8 page	3.625" w x 2.375" h	\$45	\$80

PREMIUM PLACEMENT:

Inside Front or Back Cover, Page 3	\$275	\$475
Back Cover	\$275	\$550

Classifieds: \$20/month for 25 words

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Yard OF THE
Month

KATINA AND BOB JOHNSTON
11003 CARROLLWOOD DR

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

A | "We moved to Original Carrollwood in 1988."

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

A | "We have owned two homes in our time in Original Carrollwood, one on Sabal Road and now on Carrollwood Drive. We have loved both homes and yards. What we love the most about our yard now is the space. Our front is large and our back yard even a little larger. It is a very unusual lot."

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

A | "Our favorite moments were bringing both of our children home from the hospital at birth and raising them right here. They attended Bowman Center and Carrollwood. They were raised on the lake, fishing and skiing."

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

A | "Original Carrollwood is a special place. When we moved here, we were newlyweds, 24 years old, and had not started our family yet. We used to look at the 'old people' sitting on the side of the road in folding chairs watching the Halloween parade. And now we have become those people. It's been a wonderful ride. 'Let the good times roll' as they say!"

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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OC REAL ESTATE

By Clay Brown
Managing Broker/Market President
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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	3201 Belmore Road	2,186	\$475,000
A	10603 Coquita Lane	1,827	\$595,000
P	10315 Lake Carroll Way	4,217	\$975,000
S	3014 Samara Drive	2,328	\$837,500



Back in 2010, I was fishing on the dock at Scotty Cooper Park early one March evening. As the sun was setting, I flipped a wacky-rigged trick worm into a patch of lily pads some 30 feet away. About 4-5 casts in, my line twitched. That surge of adrenaline coursed through my body while at the same time, every ounce of self-control told me to wait and slowly reel in the slack in the line before setting the hook. 3...2...1... WHAM. Hook set, and the fight was on. I could tell immediately that this bass was picture-worthy. In the middle of the fight, my brother-in-law looked at me in shock as my drag started singing. Trying to play it cool, I lowered my rod and continued to work the fish toward the dock. Pulling parallel with the dock, I finally got an idea of the size of my soon-to-be Facebook profile picture. Now within my grasp, the fish made one final last-ditch effort. It jumped at the shoreline, mouth agape. Both of my fists would have easily fit inside this literal largemouth. After one huge shake of its head, I saw my hook leave its mouth while my gut sank to my feet and I had to watch helplessly as the fish swam away.

Fifteen years later, I have that same sunken feeling. Countless times afterward, I visited SCP with the same rig, the same color, and cast to the same spot, but with no success. To this day, my brother-in-law, who witnessed the travesty firsthand, will remind me of that evening...I'm assuming just to put salt in the wound. I will never forget the range of emotions I felt that evening. But that doesn't mean I stopped fishing either.

Something similar can happen in real estate. Most of us remember when rates were under 3% or when you could buy a starter home for under \$150K. Many can also recall the one that 'got away' as well. Too often, we get hung up on past experiences and let them dictate our future decisions. We keep waiting for the 'perfect' house to come along and fall into our lap. Unfortunately, that isn't going to happen. And in doing so, we may even cost ourselves more in the long run with that line of thought. In fact, if you poll individuals who custom-built their home from the ground up, I would argue that most, if not all of them, will tell you about how they would have changed something along the way. The pitch of the roof, the type of siding, the size of the patio—you name it, there is always something they would tweak.

Regret can be a powerful thing, but it doesn't have to define our future decisions. The truth is, no home—or timing—will ever be 100% perfect, but that doesn't mean it won't be the right one for you. The key is to recognize a great opportunity when it presents itself and to move forward with confidence. You don't have to give up on finding the right home—but you have to be ready to make the catch. Remember, it's not about TIMING the market but rather your TIME IN the market. 

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Introducing... The Swanson Family

Adam, Kristin and Myra (age 1) Swanson moved into 3310 Lacewood Road in July of 2024.

Kristin has deep roots in Original Carrollwood, what she refers to as "The Real OC." It's where she grew up and where her parents still reside. And she's now a teacher at Carrollwood Elementary, nurturing the young minds at the same school that inspired her to become an educator. It has always been her dream to raise a family in the same neighborhood that has provided so many treasured memories and relationships. Adam and Kristin explain that they both had childhoods where it 'took a village,' and are thrilled to live in a place where they are surrounded by their closest friends and family.

Adam is a huge sports fan who loyally supports his hometown teams in Baltimore, but has

also found favor with both the Lightning and Buccaneer organizations. Kristin, an Alabama alum, loves cheering on the Crimson Tide and is a major "Swiftly" who enjoys a good country concert outdoors. Their little one, Myra, is full of energy and curiosity, always wandering off to explore. They love taking family strolls around the neighborhood with their German Shepherd, Anna.

The Swansons deeply value community and enjoy volunteering, participating in local events, and meeting new people.



We are thrilled to welcome Adam, Kristin and Myra to the neighborhood! Make sure to introduce yourself if you see them around.

Adam, Kristin and Myra (1) Swanson.
(Photo taken by fellow OC resident, Kim Lloyd)

Neighbor TO Neighbor



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REMARKABLE RENOVATIONS

The Pearson family at 3406 Nakora Drive recently did a renovation to enclose a courtyard area and add some much needed square footage for their growing family.



AFTER

FROM HOMEOWNER BEN PEARSON:

"Our house had a 20' x 20' courtyard separating the dining/living room from the front porch/carport area.

I'm sure the courtyard was a nice feature when the house was originally built in 1961 but did not serve a purpose for us.

After the birth of our 1st child in December of last year, we figured some extra room would be nice, so we enclosed the courtyard to create a new living Room for us that connects to the old existing dining room. In addition, the new enclosed area allowed us to move our laundry room to our hallway, instead of having to



go outside to the original Laundry room and also allowed us to double our master bedroom closet size by utilizing the old laundry room area."

If you have done a recent home renovation and would like to share some before/after photos, please reach out to Kristin Nail at kristinnail@originalcarrollwood.com!

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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.

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 or scan the QR Code >>>



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, please contact Kristin Nail: kristinnail@originalcarrollwood.com or cca@originalcarrollwood.com

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*.

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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

Welcome Newcomer



Please contact **Kristin Nail, Newcomer Chairman** to receive a welcome packet.

kristinnail@originalcarrollwood.com
813.205.0541

HELP KEEP OUR RESIDENT DIRECTORY UP-TO-DATE

Here's the information we need:

Last name: _____

First name(s): _____

Phone number: _____

Address: _____

Email: _____

Email: _____

Names of children (optional): _____

Email your information to:

Directory@originalcarrollwood.com or drop it off at the Carrollwood Recreation Center 3515 McFarland Road

DIRECTORY UPDATES MADE QUARTERLY

Keep current for access to White Sands Beach. The guard service will be 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.

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Check our website for Wednesday Evening Lenten Dinner & Service times; gracetampa.org

upcoming Social events



(to be updated with additional information/events)

2025

MARCH 8

Hawaiian Luau
(adult only party)
White Sands Beach

APRIL 5

Community Yard Sale

APRIL 19

Easter Egg Hunt
Original Carrollwood Park

Have questions or need information about any of the social events, email us at events@originalcarrollwood.com

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. Thank you.

~ CCA Social Committee



ANNUAL C EASTER EGG HUNT

April 19, 2025

Original Carrollwood Park!

Free specialty coffee drinks provided by Buddy Brew Coffee Truck!

This year's Easter Egg-citing Hunt will be held at Original Carrollwood Park on Saturday, April 19, starting at 10 a.m. In addition to donuts, coffee and water, we will have prizes for Best Bonnet, Handsome Hair & Festive Family. And a special prize for finding the Golden Eggs in each age group.

This unbeatable egg hunt will be broken up into three groups:

- 0-3 years old's (starting at 10 a.m.)
- 4-6 year old's (starting at 10:10 a.m.)
- 7 to 13 year old's (starting at 10:20 a.m.)

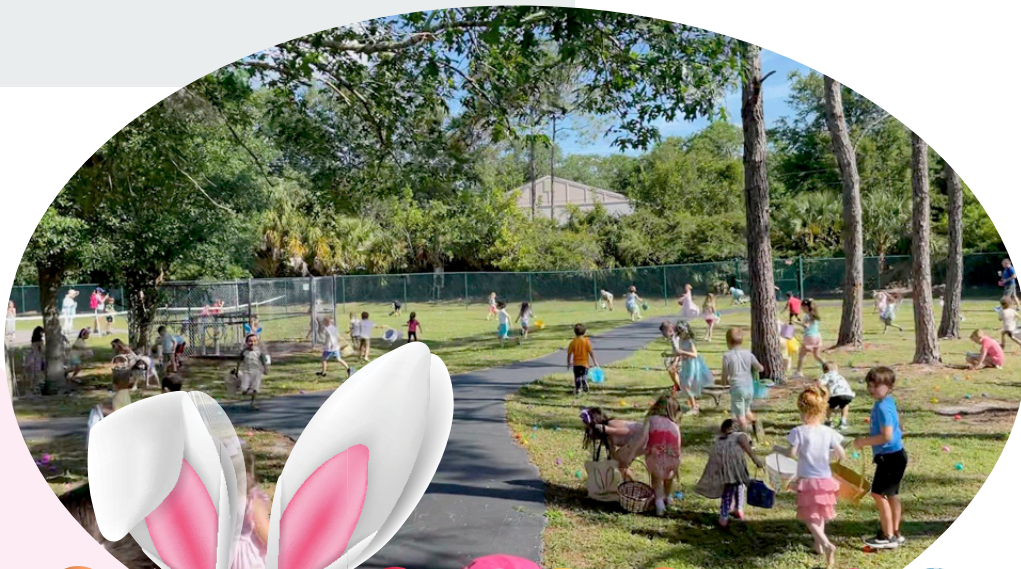
Bring your camera for pictures and enjoy a latte!

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

We are in need of volunteers. All volunteers will collect service hours, and the bunny costume volunteer is paid \$30 plus service hours. All volunteers must be at the park by 8 a.m. on Saturday. Email events@originalcarrollwood.com to volunteer.

Adults & Volunteers – We will be setting up Friday late afternoon/evening. Email events@originalcarrollwood.com if you are interested in helping.

Thank you, CCA Social Committee



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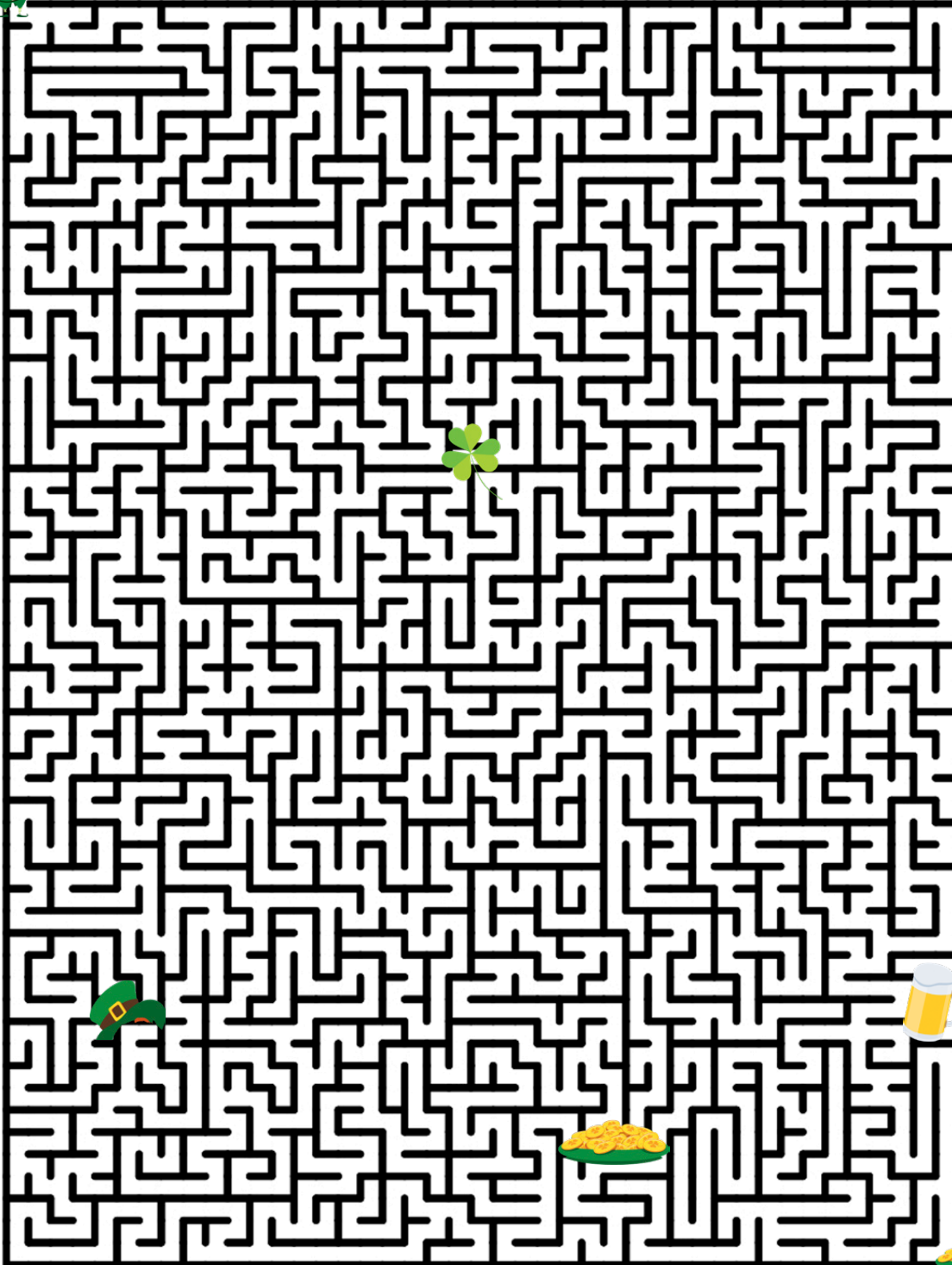
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When you do, your answer should contain the item(s) he passed along the correct route to the pot of gold.



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BEFORE
MARCH 10

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All who reply will
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**Congratulations
to last month's
players!**

Terry Kors
Marilynn Bozak
Charles Rivenbark

**Last Month's
Answers:** Location of
the hidden peacock in
the previous issue:
Page 16.

The Woman's name is
"There"

CARROLLVIEW BLOCK PARTY

The Haydel Family hosted a block party on Carrollview Drive in January 2025. The event was a great success! Neighbors of all ages from Carrollview Drive to Orange Grove Drive gathered in the Haydel's corner lot to enjoy chili, hot dogs and smores. The kids all enjoyed themselves in a giant bounce house while the adults chatted and enjoyed each other's company around the fire. It was a lovely evening of neighbors meeting and getting to know one another.



White Sands Beach!

LUAAU PARTY



March 8
6 p.m. to 9 p.m.
(Adult Only Event)



**Food:
Pig Roast
& some sides**

Grab your best
Hawaiian shirt
and join us at
White Sands Beach
on March 8th
for our Hawaiian
Luau party!!

