

CARROLLWOOD VILLAGE VOICE

A Legacy Community | "Best of the Best" award from Hillsborough County

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AND MORE!



A Message from Suzanne & Lindsey

As we say “good bye” to 2020, a year that changed all of our lives this issue is focused on acknowledging the accomplishments of the Homeowners Associations and the volunteers who overcame the challenges in 2020 to continue to make Carrollwood Village a Legacy Community. The Board of Directors and our property manager quickly switched to the Zoom format for the monthly Board of Directors meetings. More homeowners participated in these meetings than in person meetings bringing new ideas to the table.

The electronic communication with homeowners allowed the Homeowners Association to quickly communicate the closings and staggered re-openings of our amenities as well as changes in the scheduled county services. If you know of any of your neighbors who have not registered to receive electronic communication please encourage them to go to our website, Carrollwoodvillage.com and register.

The Homeowners Associations will continue to quickly adapt as new challenges present themselves in 2021. There are two articles in this issue asking for community input for ideas for Carrollwood Village events to build a “sense of community” in the Village and for the Ruskiewicz Field.

Your contributions to the Carrollwood Village Voice and questions are welcome. Please email us at communications@carrollwoodvillage.com. We would like to print articles in our Newsletter that reflect the opinions or ideas of our residents.

We are blessed to have great neighbors like you!

Suzanne and Lindsey

DAN RUSKIEWICZ FIELD COMMITTEE UPDATE



The Phase I Field Committee was created to implement improvements to Dan Ruskiewicz Field with the goal of developing a space that would offer new opportunities for Carrollwood Village residents. This space would not only become a place our residents would enjoy spending time but also a place to come together as a community.

Over the last two years, the Field Committee has been busy tackling the aging infrastructure at the field by

replacing the field fencing, crumbling parking stops, concrete entry, overgrown shrubbery, new marquee sign, and at the start of 2020 completed the addition of two Pickleball courts with benches. Thanks to the Hillsborough County Commissioners Neighborhood Mini-grants Program, the field committee applied and received a \$5000 Hillsborough County Grant in 2018 for up-lighting at the field and additional lighting at the field is planned for this year.

Unfortunately, 2020 would ultimately change planned activities and projects at the field including the Pickleball Grand-opening with the arrival of COVID-19. As we welcome 2021, the Field Committee is committed to continuing to work hard in creating a special community space to be enjoyed by Carrollwood Village residents for years to come.

If you have any special ideas or suggestions for the Field, we would love to hear from you! Please email the field committee: cvfieldcommittee@mail.com and we will post results (which may include a winning idea!) in a future newsletter.

The field committee would like to wish all a Happy and Healthy New Year!

- Scott, Stacey and Callen



VILLAGE EVENTS - HOPING 2021 WILL BE THE YEAR TO REBOOT - BILL WEST

As you know, the three homeowner associations jointly fund community events. With large gatherings being eliminated in 2020 and not expected to start back up until the second half of 2021, this is a good time to reboot and recreate the events.

Here is the goal: Create three signature events to showcase the Village and its unique amenities in a way that creates value. The value can showcase the Village to the outside world while providing a fun community event for the residents or an event intended to create value and community solely within our membership.

Current idea examples:

- **Village Volunteer Celebration:** A community-wide celebration and recognition of all the folks within the Village who volunteer their time to make the Village a better community. The format of this could be an Oktoberfest or some other style of event. This event would showcase, celebrate, and honor the high rate of volunteerism in the Village.
- **A 5K or a 5K/10K Event:** A road race starting in the new park, which could then be expanded into an entire Village Outdoor Living events day. There is no question that the Village is an excellent place for walkers and runners. Still, we have other great fitness activities too, such as tennis, pickleball, basketball, soccer, biking, and gardening at Vista Gardens, plus all the activities at the Country Club (golf/tennis/fitness for members and a swim team open to all) and now the new EOS Fitness Center. We have to mention that Village is a great place for our canine family members to walk, too. Now they even have their own park!
- **Christmas Light Parade:** I had heard in the past from a resident about another community in Jacksonville where they had a residents & Christmas light parade. Residents, and their families from all over, participated in creating a lighted parade throughout their community. This is the kind of idea that would be great fun.

If you have ideas and/or would like to participate in the Carrollwood Village Events, please go to the Village website under Phase III Board of Directors - <https://www.carrollwoodvillage.com/board-of-directors-phase-3/> and send a message to William West. The goal is to generate and distill ideas in collaboration with the Carrollwood Cultural Center (our event coordinator) by the end of March and then lay out the implementation plan with an appropriate timeline.



INTERESTED IN RUNNING FOR A SEAT ON THE PHASE III BOARD OF DIRECTORS?

Are you a Carrollwood Village Phase III homeowner who wants to actively serve your community? Three of the nine positions for Phase III Board of Directors are elected each year by the homeowners. Have you volunteered or served on a Carrollwood Village Homeowners Association Committee or served on a Homeowners Association Board of Directors for another community? Board of Directors are community focused volunteers who commit to actively serving on a committee, attending the Board of Directors meeting one evening a month (the last Wednesday of the month) and spending 6 or more hours a month on Association projects. This is a three-year commitment. If you would like an application please request one from Van Chandler at vchandler@greenacre.com. The deadline to submit your application is February 15, 2021 at 5 PM. All completed applications need to be emailed to the property manager, Van Chandler with a cc: to communications@carrollwoodvillage.com.



PHASE III THANKS HILLSBOROUGH COUNTY

Phase III thanks Hillsborough County for returning our tax dollars back into our community. In addition to added amenities to the Carrollwood Village Park the county made the following repairs & improvements in our neighborhood. Many kudos to our property manager, Van Chandler for keeping the county aware that these items needed to be addressed!

- Completed the drainage and resurfacing of Sussex Wy and the adjoining streets. The disruption to traffic flow, noise, dirt, no reclaimed water for irrigation and challenges getting in and out of our driveways were worth the wait! The street surfaces are a huge improvement!
- Completed repairing the broken and displaced sidewalks along West Village Dr.
- Repaired three weir collection structures in our ponds allowing the level of the ponds to fill to their proper level.

The County is now working on drainage and resurfacing of the streets in Wolcott.



VILLAGERS WORKING TOGETHER GOT RESULTS

A dedicated group of Carrollwood Village residents lead by Hayward Place resident, John Perella, saved the ancient cypress dome (wetland) just north of Bonefish Grill from being forever damaged by misguided development. The group organized a campaign to bring awareness of the rezoning request to our community, collected hundreds of signatures on a paper petition and thousands of signatures on an internet petition, filed numerous technical documents challenging the claims made by the developer to the County and made persuasive presentations to the Zoning Hearing Master and Board of County Commissioners. In the end, the group of Carrollwood Village residents prevailed with the Board of County Commissioners voting 7-0 in their favor. A special thanks goes out to Rick Miller for initially organizing the Hayward Place Residents and spearheading the signature drive and to Peggy Bryan and Dr. Bruce Shepard for stepping up to the plate and being heard during the ZHM and BOCC hearings.



I BET YOU NEVER KNEW ABOUT THE “WORST DRIVER AWARD”. WHO WON FOR 2020?

There were plenty of bad drivers to choose from when reviewing the nominations for the 2020 Worst Driver Award. The dreadful driving violations ran the gamut from a 14-year-old in a stolen car to wrong way drivers with drugs and illegal firearms.

But one driver, M.J. (name withheld), eked out the victory by receiving “multiple speeding tickets” all in one day and in less than 2 hours on South Village Drive. Any pedestrian struck by that 50 + MPH vehicle would have perished or if another car was struck, there would certainly be a trip to the ER.

The Florida Highway Patrol’s Mission is getting you and your family home safely each day while protecting our property from those wishing to do us harm. Nearly 9,000,000 vehicles pass through Village Phase 1 and ancillary roadways annually. This is a staggering number, so much so that even if 1% of the 9 Million vehicles present a danger to residents, that is 90,000 potentially life-threatening instances and must be addressed.

That 1% includes hit and run crashes, careless and reckless driving, excessive speed, property damage, DUI, wrong way drivers, drug and weapon violations, felony warrants and warrants, stolen cars, no insurance, no license, suspended licenses, and running cross walks, stop lights and signs and those casing neighborhoods. You can understand why FHP has its hands full protecting our Villagers.

People want to live in safe communities. Often, safety is judged solely on crime and many people consider large cities, where homicides occur in higher numbers, to be more dangerous than the suburbs. But while violent crime there makes the news, traffic crashes and fatalities here present an even greater threat to society. In addition to the risks they pose to people’s safety, the economic costs of traffic crashes and the human cost to our community are tremendous with lost wages, damaged vehicles, personal injuries, recovery, and loss of employment, on and on.

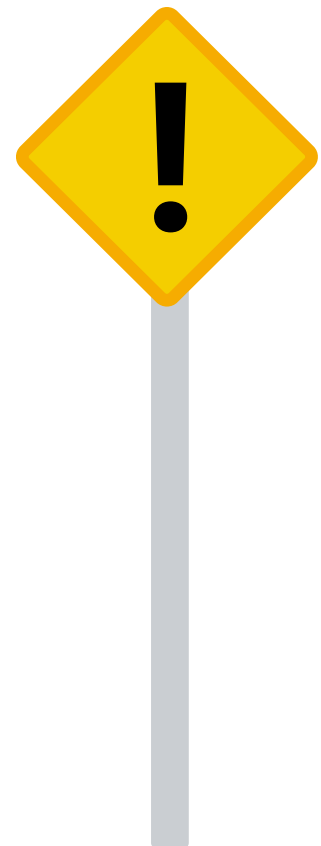
Through FHP and the Hillsborough County Sheriff’s efforts and our Phase 1 Plans, the crime rate, traffic crashes, personal injuries, and property damage is now the lowest it has been in our 40 plus year history. This translates to keeping our HOA fees low, property values high and personal safety the highest ever. Do your part to help bring this percentage down even lower by driving the speed limit and obeying all traffic laws. You don’t want to be in the running for the 2021 Worst Drive Award.



A FRIENDLY WARNING

Now that the holidays are over and the rainy season is a few months away. Our property manager will be issuing “Violation Letters”! Take a close look at your driveway... does it need cleaning? What about your house (especially your chimney) and mailbox... is there mold and mildew growing? Do your palms have dead fronds? These are the most frequently noted in the Violation Letter.

Remember that you must get approval for any exterior alterations. This includes repainting your house, putting on a new roof, installing a paver driveway, fence, etc. Take a minute to review the “Community Guidelines” posted on Carrollwoodvillage.com under the Resources tab. You will also find the required Architectural Review Committee (ARC) form.



PHASE III 2020 ACCOMPLISHMENTS:



PHASE III was the recipient of a 2020 tree grant from the Hillsborough County Neighborhood Relations and the County Commissioners. The grant allowed the planting of 18 oak and crepe myrtle trees along West Village Dr. They also are excited to be the recipients of a 2021 tree grant which will be used to plant crepe myrtle trees along Burrington Dr. and Sussex Wy. The single trunk hot pink trees will grow to a height of 20 to 25 feet, provide a food source for birds and create a “branded” look to the neighborhood.



The Giving Committee comprised of 3 board of directors and 4 residents was formed to encourage Villagers to leave a lasting contribution to our neighborhood with a commemorative bench or tree. The first gift was the Markarian bench at the Sussex Wy. Basketball court. Please contact the committee at communications@carrollwoodvillage.com if you are interested in making a gift.



The Grounds Committee has focused on educating homeowners living on the ponds the importance of establishing a 2-foot buffer of natural plants along the pond banks. Three ponds are scheduled to have the littoral shelf planted with aquatic plants this year. The goal is to have the pond environment to be sustainable and self-cleansing.



ARCHITECTURAL REVIEW COMMITTEE PHASE 1

Committee Chair, Jennifer Grebenschikoff, with Committee Members Linda Blake and Carroll Shephard

Thank you everyone in Phase 1 who in 2020 submitted requests to the ARC--- for review and approval of your exterior home projects. We very much appreciate your efforts and energy to improve your homes and to work within the ARC process. Last year's 111 requests set an all- time record in Phase 1!

These requests were mostly for new paint, new or replacement fences, and new roofs. The remaining others were a handful in each of these categories: new landscaping, new driveway pavers, installing new windows and doors, new sheds, adding a new room, new garage doors, exterior house boards, and new gutters.

Again - Thank you to all the Carrollwood Village homeowners in Phase 1 who have worked with your ARC as you maintained and improved the exterior of your homes and landscapes. Your dedication to your homes is what helps to make Carrollwood Village such a wonderful place to live, play and work!



THE CARROLLWOOD VILLAGE PARK

The Carrollwood Village Park has become a treasure in our neighborhood, especially in “The Time of COVID”. It is a great place to see others and enjoy the great outdoors. Be sure to check out the improvements made in 2020!

Challenge Course

Pump track

Boardwalk/Fishing Pier across the lake which was stocked with 100’s of fish last fall

Pond Fountains

OPENING SOON – the Nature Center

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

January 20, 2021 Homeowners Association Dues payment deadline.



The monthly Board of Directors Meetings are now conducted via Zoom. You will need to sign-up to attend the meeting. Please email Thevillage@greenacre.com before NOON the day of the meeting if you wish to attend. If you wish to speak during the resident comment section of the meeting you must sign-up to speak in

advance at Thevillage@greenacre.com. The notice of the meeting and the agenda will be posted on the website Carrollwoodvillage.com under the “Resources tab” and will be physically posted on the bulletin board at the park in advance of the meeting. Once you sign up to attend, an email will be sent to you the afternoon of the meeting with the link to the Zoom meeting.

Phase I Board of Directors Meeting, January 25 at 6 p.m.

Phase II Board of Directors Meeting, January 26 at 6 p.m. and the Annual Homeowners Association Meeting at 7 p.m.

Phase III Board of Directors Meeting, January 27 at 7 p.m.



Live at the Center.

Things to Do in **February**

(813) 922-8167 • CarrollwoodCenter.org

NOW we know
what it's like

- ...to be without the arts.
- ...to be closed.
- ...to have to cancel.
- ...to stay away.
- ...to be missed.
- ...to start over.

Together we'll know
what it's like

- ...to rebuild.
- ...to be stronger.

But we need your help.

Donate NOW.



■ EVENTS & ENTERTAINMENT

Sister Robert Anne's Cabaret Class

Music, Book & Lyrics by Dan Goggin

 Thu., Feb. 4 • 8 pm

 Fri., Feb. 5 • 8 pm

 Sat., Feb. 6 • 8 pm

Virtual Access: \$10

Sister Robert Anne's Cabaret Class is being produced through a special arrangement with Concord Theatre Co.

"Black Matters...Past, Present & Future" Gallery Event

Presented by the Gallery at Carrollwood Cultural Center

Fri., Feb. 12 • 5:30 – 7:30 pm

To help with social distancing, an RSVP is required.
Please email curator@carrollwoodcenter.org to RSVP.

Jazz with Jim

Watch it in person or online!

 Fri., Feb. 19 • 7:30 pm

See it in Person: \$13 member / \$18 general admission

Watch Online: \$10

Bandstand presents...The 1950s!

Sun., Feb. 21 • 4 pm

Admission: \$22

Girls Night Out Comedy Show

w. Catherine Maloney, Tiffany Barbee & Angela Nacca

Watch it in person or online!

 Fri., Feb. 26 • 8 pm

See it in Person: \$15 member / \$20 general admission

Watch Online: \$10

 = Virtual Events

■ IN THE GALLERY

Black Matters: Past, Present & Future

w. various artists: Main Exhibit

The Two of Us

w. Bernard & Gwendolynn Aquí-Brooks: Lobby

Microorganisms: A Visual Study

w. Dionne Seevers: Atrium

Art Has No Boundaries

w. Ray Peloquin: Corridor

Mouth Artist Overcomes Obstacles

w. Sara May: Upstairs Alcoves

Schedule a tour with Michele Stone at curator@carrollwoodcenter.org



Live at the Center.

Things to Do in **March**

(813) 922-8167 • CarrollwoodCenter.org

NOW we know
what it's like

- ...to be without the arts.
- ...to be closed.
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- ...to start over.

Together we'll know
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- ...to rebuild.
- ...to be stronger.

But we need your help.

Donate NOW.



■ EVENTS & ENTERTAINMENT

"TESA Spring Expressions" Gallery Event

presented by The Exhibiting Society of Artists

Fri. March 12 • 5:30-7:30 pm

To help with social distancing, an RSVP is required.
Email curator@carrollwoodcenter.org to RSVP.

Jazz with Jim

Watch it in person or online!

 Fri., March 19 • 7:30 pm

See it in Person: \$13 member / \$18 general admission
Watch Online: \$10

Meshuggah-Nuns!

Music, Book & Lyrics by Dan Goggin

Watch it in person or online!

 Thu., March 25 • 8 pm

 Fri., March 26 • 8 pm

 Sat., March 27 • 8 pm

 Sun., March 28 • 4 pm



Meshuggah-Nuns! finds the sisters on an all-expense paid trip on the "Faiths of All Nations" Cruise. When the cast of "Fiddler on the Roof" (with the exception of the guy playing Tevye) gets seasick, the ship's captain asks the sisters and Tevye to put on a show. The result: **Meshuggah-Nuns!** Hilarity reigns supreme on the high seas with songs like *Say It In Yiddish*, *Contrition*, *In the Convent*, and *If I Were a Catholic*. From Sister Amnesia's attempt at magic to the sing-along *Fiddlerspiel*, **Meshuggah-Nuns!** is an ecumenical fun-fest. You don't have to be Catholic. You don't have to be Jewish. This is a show for anyone who loves a good laugh!

See it in Person: \$21 member / \$25 general admission
Watch Online: \$10

Meshuggah-Nuns! is being produced through a special arrangement with Concord Theatricals.

 = Virtual Events

■ IN THE GALLERY

TESA Spring Expressions

w. The Exhibiting Society of Artists

The Two of Us

w. Bernard & Gwendolynn Aquí-Brooks: Lobby

Artwork by Patrick Mitchell

w. Patrick Mitchell Corridor

Mouth Artist Overcomes Obstacles

w. Sara May: Upstairs Alcoves

Schedule a tour with Michele Stone at curator@carrollwoodcenter.org



Find your Center.

Adult Class Schedule (Winter II)

Starting the week of Feb. 22
(813) 922-8167 • CarrollwoodCenter.org

■ BASIC INFO

Visit CarrollwoodCenter.org for class descriptions, faculty info and registration policies.

Visit the website for details about:

- supplies lists (✕),
- required books (📖)
- required attire/items (★)
- instrument info (🎵)

Virtual classes have a 🖥️ symbol. All other classes will be held at the Center.

All classes run once a week for six weeks unless otherwise noted.

Private lessons are also available. Contact the Center for details.

PLEASE REGISTER ONE WEEK BEFORE CLASS STARTS.

■ ART

Art Studio (Independent Study)

Wed. • noon – 2 pm

\$100 member / \$115 non-member
No Materials Fee / ✕ / Ages 18+

Experimental Painting

🖥️ Sat. • 5 – 7 pm

\$100 member / \$115 non-member
No Materials Fee / ✕ / Ages 18+

■ CERAMICS

Wheel Throwing

Mon. • 6 – 8:30 pm ^{or}

Tue. • 1 – 3:30 pm ^{or}

Tue. • 6 – 8:30 pm ^{or}

Wed. • 1 – 3:30 pm

\$120 member / \$140 non-member
\$50 Materials Fee / ✕ / Ages 15+

Hand Building

Fri. • 10 am – 12:30 pm

\$120 member / \$140 non-member
\$50 Materials Fee / ✕ / Ages 18+

Assisted Ceramics

Sat. • 9:30 am – noon

🖥️ Sat. • 2 – 4:30 pm

\$120 member / \$140 non-member
\$50 Materials Fee / ✕ / Ages 18+
Class must be purchased thru the Center for the virtual class.

Mudslingers Studio Pass

Tue. • 10 am – 12:30 pm ^{and}

Wed. • 10 am – 12:30 pm ^{and}

Thu. • 10 am – 12:30 pm

\$140 member / \$155 non-member
\$50 Materials Fee / ✕ / Ages 15+

■ CREATIVE WRITING

Fiction: Form & Technique

Tue. • 6 – 7:30 pm

\$85 member / \$100 non-member
No Materials Fee / ✕ / Ages 18+

■ DANCE

Ballet for Joy & Vitality

Tue. • 5 – 6:30 pm

\$85 member / \$100 non-member
No Materials Fee / ★ / Ages 30+

Adult Ballet (1x per week)

Mon. • 5 – 6:30 pm

\$85 member / \$100 non-member
No Materials Fee / ★ / Ages 18+

Adult Ballet (2x per week)

Tue. & Thu. • 10 – 11:30 am

\$130 member / \$145 non-member
No Materials Fee / ★ / Ages 18+

Adult Jazz/Tap Combo

Tue. • 7 – 8:30 pm

\$85 member / \$100 non-member
No Materials Fee / ★ / Ages 18+

Just Dance

Mon. • 6:45 – 8 pm ^{or}

Wed. • 11:45 – 1 pm

\$68 member / \$80 non-member
No Materials Fee / ★ / Ages 18+

■ THEATRE

Sharing the Stage

Tue. • 11:45 am – 1 pm

\$85 member / \$100 non-member
\$10 Materials Fee / Ages 18+

■ CERAMICS CONTINUED

The Audition

🖥️ Sat. • 1 – 2 pm

▶ 3-WK MINI Feb. 27, Mar. 6 & 13
\$45 member / \$50 non-member
No Materials Fee / Ages 18+

■ WELLNESS

Gentle Hatha Yoga

🖥️ Mon. • 11 am – 12:30 pm

\$68 member / \$80 non-member
No Materials Fee / ★ / Ages 13+

Hatha Flow Yoga

🖥️ Wed. • 6:30 – 8 pm

\$68 member / \$80 non-member
No Materials Fee / ★ / Ages 13+

Power Yoga

🖥️ Thu. • 6:30 – 8 pm

\$68 member / \$80 non-member
No Materials Fee / ★ / Ages 13+

Intro to Tai Chi for Health

🖥️ Tue. • noon – 1 pm

\$100 member / \$115 non-member
No Materials Fee / Ages 18+

Qi-Gong for Energy & Health

🖥️ Thu. • 6 – 7 pm

\$100 member / \$115 non-member
No Materials Fee / Ages 18+



Find your Center.

Youth Class Schedule (Winter I&II)

(813) 922-8167 • CarrollwoodCenter.org

■ BASIC INFO

Visit CarrollwoodCenter.org for class descriptions, faculty info and registration policies.

Visit the website for details about:

- supplies lists (☞)
- required books (📖)
- required attire/items (★)
- instrument info (🎵)

Virtual classes have a 🖥️ symbol. All other classes will be held at the Center.

All classes run once a week for six weeks unless otherwise noted.

Private lessons are also available. Contact the Center for details.

PLEASE REGISTER ONE WEEK BEFORE CLASS STARTS.

Winter I: Starting the week of Jan. 4

■ ART

Monet's Apprentice

Wed. • 2:30 – 3:30 pm

\$68 member / \$80 non-member
\$20 Materials Fee / Ages 5-7

Lil Rembrandts

Wed. • 3:45 – 4:45 pm

\$68 member / \$80 non-member
\$20 Materials Fee / Ages 5-7

Jr. Artist

Wed. • 5 – 6 pm

\$68 member / \$80 non-member
\$20 Materials Fee / Ages 8-10

Drawing Basics

🖥️ Wed. • 7 – 8 pm

\$85 member / \$100 non-member
No Materials Fee / ☞ / Ages 11-13

■ DANCE

Creative Dance

Mon. • 3:45 – 4:30 pm

*No Class Jan. 18
\$68 member / \$80 non-member
No Materials Fee / ★ / Ages 3-5

Winter II: Starting the week of Feb. 22

■ ART

Monet's Apprentice

Wed. • 2:30 – 3:30 pm

\$68 member / \$80 non-member
\$20 Materials Fee / Ages 5-7

Lil Rembrandts

Wed. • 3:45 – 4:45 pm

\$68 member / \$80 non-member
\$20 Materials Fee / Ages 5-7

Jr. Artist

Wed. • 5 – 6 pm

\$68 member / \$80 non-member
\$20 Materials Fee / Ages 8-10

Drawing Basics

🖥️ Wed. • 7 – 8 pm

\$85 member / \$100 non-member
No Materials Fee / ☞ / Ages 11-13

■ DANCE

Creative Dance

Mon. • 3:45 – 4:30 pm

\$68 member / \$80 non-member
No Materials Fee / ★ / Ages 3-5

Kids' Dance

Tue. • 3:45 – 4:30 pm

\$68 member / \$80 non-member
No Materials Fee / ★ / Ages 8-10



A NEW EXCLUSIVE 12-WEEK PROGRAM

Study the theatrical and cinematic productions of WEST SIDE STORY and work with a stage director, vocal coach and choreographer to perform and film a handful of scenes and songs from the musical.

January - March 30

Meet twice a week:

Tuesdays, 6-8 pm

Saturdays, 10 am - noon

Tuition (for the entire 12 weeks):
\$325 member / \$345 non-member

■ DANCE CONTINUED

Jazz/Hip Hop

Mon. • noon – 1:15 pm

\$68 member / \$80 non-member
No Materials Fee / ★ / Ages 9-12



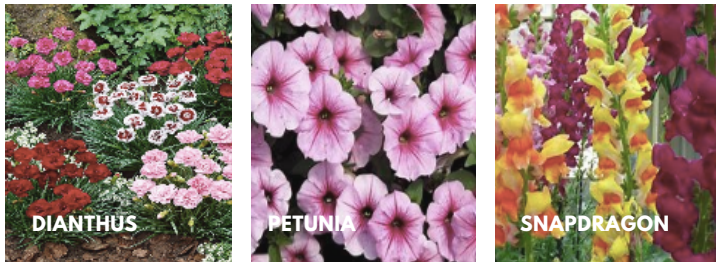
HERE'S WHY CAR THEFTS ARE SOARING (HINT: CHECK YOUR CUP HOLDER)

After years of declines, car thefts appear to be surging in cities and suburbs all over the country. The spree, which has been exacerbated by the pandemic, does not appear to be the work of sophisticated crime rings, the police say. Instead, this new wave of car thefts seems to stem from a combination of simple carelessness and the same technological advancement that once made stealing cars nearly impossible: the key fob. The broad adoption of keyless ignitions that began in the late 1990s ushered in a dark era for car thieves. New cars had engine immobilizers that only a microchip in the key fob could unlock, and vehicle thefts quickly plummeted. From a high of 1.7 million a year in 1991, thefts had dropped more than 50 percent in recent years, according to data compiled by the Federal Bureau of Investigations. Technology, it seemed, had largely solved the problem of stolen vehicles. Until people started leaving their fobs sitting in their cup holders. Now, the police say forgotten fobs and keyless technology have contributed to soaring stolen car cases that do not look much like the crimes that plagued cities three decades ago.

LANDSCAPING TIPS FOR JANUARY

WHAT TO PLANT AND WHAT TO DO

Bedding Plants: Plants that can be added to the garden during the coolest months include dianthus, pansy, petunia, viola, and snapdragon.



Annuals in Florida Bulbs: Crinum, agapanthus, and gloriosa lily bulbs can be planted now. Provide a layer of mulch for protection from cold temperatures.



Camellias: Select and plant camellias this month. Visit local nurseries now for the best selection of colors and forms.



Vegetables: Continue planting cool season crops including beet, cabbage, turnip, lettuce, potato, and broccoli.

Deciduous fruit: Now is the time to plant deciduous fruit trees. This will give roots time to develop before the warm and dry spring months. **Cold protection:** Frost or freezes are likely this month and next. Be ready to cover tender plants to minimize damage and make sure covers extend all the way to the ground. Old sheets are perfect, weight the edges so the wind does not blow them off.

Irrigation: Lawns and landscape plants are dormant and need minimal irrigation.

Shrubs and Trees: Prune non-spring flowering shrubs and trees this month to improve form.

Arbor Day: Florida observes Arbor Day on the 3rd Friday of January. To celebrate, plant a tree in your yard or community.

Crepe Myrtle: While crepe myrtles do not require pruning, removing seed pods, crossing branches and small twiggy growth improves the appearance and form of the plant.



Pests: To control scale on citrus, shrubs, camellias, and deciduous fruit trees, apply horticultural oil while plants are dormant.