



Please enjoy this edition of the Sunrise Rotary Club newsletter. Sunrise Rotary is an active club of about 70 members who take pride in our community. Through our service projects and fellowship, we are changing lives and making a positive difference. If you would like to subscribe a friend to our newsletter, please send their [email to Dorothy Zimmerman](#) and we will add their name.

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Step Up and Help Distribute Dictionaries to Local 3rd Graders

By Dorothy Zimmerman

As explained at last week's meeting, the Dictionary Project is getting underway this week. For those who may not know, the Dictionary Project is a long-running joint effort by all the Rotary Clubs in Gainesville to distribute a paperback dictionary to each and every 3rd grader in Alachua County public schools.

There are 2 ways to help. Feel free to do one or both!

1. Attend a labeling party at the Ronald McDonald House (the new location at 2121 SW 16th St) to affix the labels to the books. We will do this on **TUESDAY, April 23, 2024, beginning at 3 pm**. If you can come help, great!

2. Select a school where you can distribute dictionaries this week. Please deliver the books on one of the school days before May 1, when standardized testing takes place. You will need to pick up the box of dictionaries counted and labeled for your school either at the labeling party, or at some point before you visit the school. Email Dorothy with your top choices and we'll try to get you accommodated. We'll also send you all the info you need to make contact.

Here is the list of participating schools:

Alachua Elementary || Archer || Alachua E-School || Chiles || Foster || Glen Springs || Hidden Oak || High Springs || Idylwild || Lake Forest || Littlewood || Meadowbrook || Metcalf || Newberry || Norton || Parker || PK Yonge || Rawlings || Shell || Talbot || Terwilliger || Wiles || Williams || Sidney Lanier || Alachua Learning Academy || Boulware Springs Charter || Caring & Sharing || The Einstein School || Expressions Learning Academy || Healthy Learning Academy || Micanopy Area Cooperative School || One Room School House

Each school's delivery may vary. Some may allow you to visit the individual 3rd grade classrooms. Some may ask that you leave the books with the office personnel.

If you're allowed in the classroom, we encourage you to talk about Rotary and the importance of reading. Present each child a book with a handshake. Be sure to tell the kids, "It is your book!"

And please take lots of pictures to share with your club's newsletter or social media platforms. Thanks!

This Week: Orange Insurance Exchange



Everyone knows about the insurance problems facing Floridians. On a personal note, the editor's home insurance has increased 101% and my automobile insurance has increased 71% over the last two years. The same home, the same automobiles. Many insurance companies have folded their tents and left the state, and some new ones have recently



companies have joined their tents and left the state, and some new ones have recently raised their tents in the state. Eight new ones have recently entered the Florida market, and Orange Insurance Exchange in Gainesville is one of them. This is your chance to learn more about the current Florida Insurance market and ask the questions you've always wanted to ask.

Orange Insurance Exchange, a reciprocal insurer, was recently launched in the Florida property insurance market. It is led by **CEO Don Matz**, an industry veteran who previously served as the CEO of Producer's National Corporation and the President of Tower Hill Insurance Group. His extensive experience in coastal property insurance underwriting positions him well to lead Orange. The company aims to provide a new alternative for property insurance policyholders in Florida. Orange has received its **Certificate of Authority** from the Florida Office of Insurance Regulation. It is backed by Griffin Highline Capital, which is the majority investor, and collaborates with strategic partner Cabrillo Coastal General Agency.

Last Week: GRU's Integrated Resource Plan

We learned a lot last week about how GRU does its long range planning to provide electricity in its service area, which covers about 75% of Alachua County. GRU has a number of generating options with one of them going offline in 2027 due to age and technology becoming obsolete. Deciding on which technology to use sometimes requires four years from decision to the generating technology coming online. Long range planning is started

every 3-5 years and looks far into the future. We also learned some practical tips. If you are thinking about adding solar power to your rooftop, first look at replacing windows and updating your HVAC units to the most energy efficient technology. The savings may be better than installing solar power.



Transition Dinner: Mark Your Calendar

Out with the Old; In With the New! Mark your calendars for June 20, 2024, for the Sunrise Rotary Club Transition dinner. The location will be Embers Wood Grill. Details will be provided later.

transition

Firefighter Appreciation Picnic

By Sherry Nungesser Houston

This year's Firefighter Appreciation Picnic is Saturday, May 18, 2024, at 11am at Ronald McDonald House Charities of North Central Florida located at 2121 SW 16th Street, Gainesville. We are thrilled to have the leadership of Dave Ferro. Volunteer opportunities to serve and celebrate are to come.

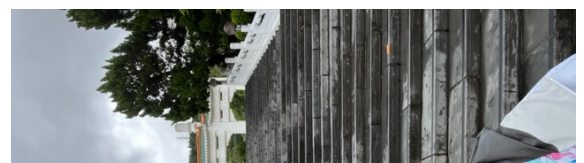
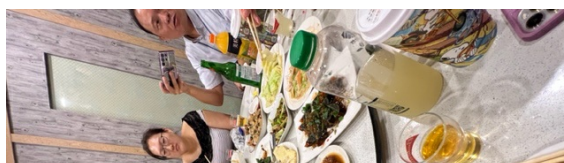
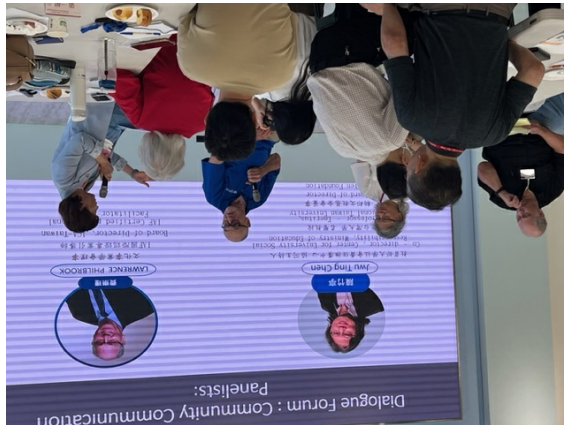


Mike and Karen in Taiwan--Still Teaching

By Mike Spranger

We have been in Taiwan almost a week, during which we did some sightseeing and some work. We visited the National Palace Museum and the Taipei 101 Building. We were a part of community workshops in Keelung, and saw a Taipei Dragon baseball game (full of horns, banners, cheerleaders and a crazy crowd). We are now in the southern city of Kaohsiung for the National Academy of Marine Resource Vision Conference where Karen and I are speakers. Last night, our host, Dr. Ray treated us to a traditional 30-course Taiwanese feast. Next week we travel to Korea.

PS: The editor received this note from Mike on Monday morning at about 8AM. There was a series of earthquakes on the northeast Taiwan coast about an hour ago. We will be in that area by the end of the week. But now in Kaohsiung, southwest Taiwan. We felt tremors, a little rumbling like being on a vibrating chair. But all clear here.





Bill and Dan Kayak the Santa Fe

By William Menadier

Dan and I visited the Santa Fe River and paddled from the High Springs boat ramp to the river rise on Saturday morning. The day started with a bit of fog but cleared nicely once the sun came up. Dan shared some wisdom he gained from an encounter with another kayak enthusiast. He stated, "I paddle up stream for my heart, and down stream for my soul." Having made it to the river rise, the down stream paddle definitely filled the soul. We had a great experience. Stay tuned for our next Sunrise paddling trip announcement. There is a plan in the works!





News from Richard and Penny

Several weeks ago, we mentioned that Penny Wheat would be undergoing surgery to remove a small nodule from her right lung at the UF Health Heart/Vascular Hospital. Richard Williams has let us know that the surgery is complete, but Penny has had lots of pain this past week, although the healing appears to be going well. Richard has been transferring to a new email system, but appears to have accomplished that mission successfully. Best regards to both.

Quote of the Week



Source: On the wall at the Rusty Spur Steakhouse and Saloon in Vernon, Texas.

This Week's Humor: The Sun Got Mooned





Source: Facebook

Happy Earth Day!



Well, it's one day late, but Happy Earth Day, which was Monday.
Source: Rebecca Heflin's Facebook post.

Join Us

Gainesville Sunrise
Meets at Hilton University of Florida Conference Center Gainesville
1714 SW 34th Street
Gainesville, FL 32607
Time: Thursday at 07:00 AM



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