



the echo

LIFE AT BENT TREE

★ *july issue* ★



COVER IMAGE BY
TAMMY ROZIER



When you can't tell
who has dentures, implants
or natural teeth,
we've done our job!



Dr. Michelle F. Ireland

310 Gilmer Ferry Road, Suite 200
Ball Ground, GA 30107

(678) 845-0366

www.IrelandDentistry.com

Our Services:

Dentures • Implants
Partials • Bridges
Veneers • Crowns • Fillings
X-Rays • Cleanings
Extractions • Emergencies



OFFICE HOURS:

Monday - Thursday
7:30am - 4:30pm
Lunch: 12pm to 1pm

About

DR. MICHELLE F. IRELAND



For over 20 years, Dr. Michelle F. Ireland has perfected the smiles of thousands of patients. Dr. Ireland graduated with her Doctorate of Medicine in Dentistry (D.M.D.) from the University of Alabama at Birmingham (UAB) in 1994 and became licensed to practice as a general dentist. Upon graduation, she completed additional educational requirements and specialized training at the UAB School of Dentistry to become a prosthodontist.

Dr. Ireland has served as a professor at UAB School of Dentistry in the Department of Prosthodontics, where she enjoyed teaching crown and bridge prosthodontics and

removable prosthodontics with an emphasis on esthetics, occlusion, and implant restoration.

Over the years, Dr. Ireland has counseled former students, general dentists and their patients, and continues to receive extensive training in the field of dentistry and prosthodontics. Dr. Ireland has built a reputation as a caring, compassionate, and competent dental practitioner. Her additional expertise is a blessing and is evident in the way patients are accepting of her recommendations.



“The Bent Tree Armada”

By Jim Pryor, General Manager

The maintenance and operation of Bent Tree community is a larger concept than most can fathom. On any given day, we have crews assigned to maintaining the golf course, operating the many facets of the water department, solid waste collection and hauling, maintaining 47 miles of roads/shoulders/drainage, renovating buildings, maintaining the perimeter of Lake Tamarack, safety patrol, fire/rescue, and the times of an emergency weather incident. While we have great employees coordinating these areas, it takes quite an armada of specialized equipment to adequately handle these tasks.

BTCI owns and/or leases 45 pieces of what is considered large capital equipment. This equipment varies from standard pickup trucks, fire trucks, ATVs, tractors, mowers to highly specialized units such as a bucket lift truck, leaf vac and hydraulic jackhammer. Some of the equipment in our fleet is over 30 years old. We have been very fortunate in recent capital budgets to replace some of the aged equipment requiring substantial maintenance with newer units featuring better technology and requiring less maintenance.

For over 20 years, BTCI owned a garbage truck for the purpose of collecting the dumpsters from the BTCI amenities and hauling that trash to the landfill. Recently, this unit succumbed to the fact that it required so much repair that we were better off financially retiring the unit and contracting a company to collect our garbage.

With 45 pieces of large equipment that we rely upon daily for our operation, it's imperative that we have someone that can perform the routine and preventative maintenance on this equipment to keep

things going. Someone that is highly skilled in fixing standard as well as unique specialty equipment.

This is where I would like to introduce Ray Titone to the community. Ray is one of our “unsung heroes” that nobody from the community will ever see or know. Ray is our Fleet Services Lead Technician and works daily in the 2-bay workshop that is part of the Golf Maintenance Center. Ray joined the Bent Tree team a little over a year ago. He grew up in the West Palm Beach area of Florida before his family moved to Georgia before his high school years. Ray graduated from Dawson County High School before obtaining his Automotive Certificate

from Lanier Technical College. Ray honed his mechanical skills for 11 years at Amco before coming to Bent Tree. Ray resides in Pickens County.

Ray is well respected by all divisions of the Bent Tree team because of his skill in fixing any piece of equipment and keeping our armada in action. When asked what a routine day is like for him, Ray says “there is no such thing routine day, no day here is ever the same”. Ray just shows up every day ready to take on whatever challenge comes his way. I often joke that he must be pretty dang talented to fix a piece of equipment that's older than him.



CONTACT US TODAY - 770-623-6220 • info@frontporchatlanta.com

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Bent Tree Fireworks 2026

By Michael Koorey, Director of Safety and Emergency Management

This year, the Bent Tree fireworks display will take place at approximately 9:30 PM on Friday, July 3rd. This celebration is conducted by vetted and trained professionals that have been contracted by Bent Tree. A tremendous amount of planning and safety measures are put in place to produce a great and safe show for all Bent Tree residents. We expect the fireworks display to be amazing again this year.

Fireworks cause tens of thousands of injuries and fires each year, and we do not want anyone or anywhere in Bent Tree to become part of those statistics. Because of our community's terrain and foliage, the risk of a catastrophic fire resulting from fireworks is too great to allow them to be used by anyone other than trained professionals with proper controls in place. Page 15 of our Rules and Regulations states, "The use of fireworks within Bent Tree is prohibited by anyone other than BTCI or others contracted by BTCI." The fine for a violation of this rule is \$1,000 listed in the schedule of fines as a violation of the burning/fireworks policy.

A firework is a device for producing a striking display by the combustion of explosive or flammable compositions. This also includes anything that would produce a flame or spark (sparklers). There are many alternatives to these flame producing products that would be allowed, including "glow sticks" and LED sparklers. Please help keep our community safe by refraining from the use of fireworks and reporting firework activity to Bent Tree Safety and Emergency Management at 770-893-2628. Have a safe and happy Independence Day and enjoy the show!



Public Safety Stats

5/1/26 – 5/31/26

By Michael Koorey - Director,
Donnie Arp - Fire Chief,
John Hawkins - Assistant Director

Call Responses

Fire	9
Medical	29
Resident Complaints	5
Resident Assists	4
Property/Resident Checks	5
Animal Calls	15
Public Safety Calls	38
Total	105
2026 Total	438

Patrol Mileage

Total Patrol Mileage (5/1 – 5/31)	2,214
2026 Total	10,101

Violations

Written Citations	88
Warnings	23
Total (4/1 – 4/30)	111
2026 Total Written Citations	189

40 Little Pine Mountain Road
Jasper, GA 30143 • 770-893-2628
publicsafety@bent-tree.com



GPS Directions to Bent Tree

Please give your visitors the following address (1 Little Pine Mountain Rd, Jasper, GA) to gain access into the front gate on Bent Tree Drive, which will alleviate GPS systems from sending them to the back gate off Grandview Rd.



We Want You...

... to email us short stories, interviews, poetry, and articles of general interest to our residents.
... to tell us what articles you would like to see.
... to share with us some of your amazing Bent Tree related images.

Thanks.

echo Editorial Committee

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A Legacy of Love for Bent Tree

By Sue Foley Weatherly

Anyone who has driven past Hole #8 recently has likely paused to admire the remarkable new retaining wall that now stretches along the left side of the fairway and up toward the green. The project has transformed one of Bent Tree Golf Course's most challenging and memorable holes into something truly special.

What many may not realize is that this beautiful improvement represents the final chapter of a six-year legacy left by two people whose love for Bent Tree ran deep—Bob and Barbara Foley.

Although Bent Tree was not their full-time residence, my parents maintained a small weekend home overlooking the 18th hole. Over the years, they came to cherish not only the golf course itself but also the friendships, sense of belonging, and community spirit that make Bent Tree unlike any other place.

They loved the course. They loved the members. They loved the community.

Most of all, they appreciated the people who made Bent Tree feel like home whenever they arrived through the gates.

Following their passing, a generous gift from Bob and Barbara Foley was entrusted to the Bent Tree Foundation. Their wish was simple: to give back to a community that had given them so much happiness.

The first phase of that gift came to life in 2020. The driving range was extended, creating a greatly improved practice facility for golfers. Soon afterward, the chipping green was added, providing another valuable area for players to sharpen their short game.

Then came what has become one of the most recognizable landmarks on the course—the Bent Tree clock tower.

Standing proudly near the practice area, the clock tower bears a message that perfectly captures the spirit behind their gift. It recognizes their generosity while expressing the reason they chose to give: their

appreciation for the people, friendships, and spirit of the Bent Tree community.

While those projects were completed several years ago, a portion of the donation remained in the Bent Tree Foundation, reserved for future improvements.

This year, the final chapter was written.

The project closest to my father's heart was Hole #8.

Golfers know Hole #8 well. For decades it possessed the unique ability to turn a promising round into a frustrating one in a matter of moments. The steep hillside along the left side of the fairway presented both aesthetic and maintenance challenges, while also adding to the hole's notorious reputation.

Today, that challenge remains—but the hole has been transformed by the construction of an extraordinary retaining wall that stretches from the hillside along the left side of the fairway and continues toward the putting green.

The craftsmanship is remarkable. The scale of the project is impressive. The finished result enhances both the beauty and playability of the hole while preserving its character.

It is, quite simply, a sight to behold.

With the completion of the Hole #8 project, the final portion of Bob and Barbara Foley's gift has now been put to work. Six years after their passing, the legacy they envisioned is complete.

As members enjoy the driving range, practice on the chipping green, glance up at the clock tower, or make their way down the eighth fairway, they are benefiting from a gift that was never really about golf alone.

It was about gratitude.

It was about giving back.

continues on page 10

FUN & GAMES

SUDOKU

C	X	F	N	R	L	R	C	C	B	A	J	H	S	H	E	A	T	D	K
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I	N	I	K	I	B	Q	S	R	N	O	C	O	B	Z	M	Z	S	N	R
S	J	K	B	V	E	A	B	O	I	H	A	M	M	O	C	K	U	F	I
M	A	L	N	P	N	T	L	S	E	S	A	L	G	N	U	S	K	J	
V	Y	Q	Z	D	B	E	O	V	O	W	K	H	H	A	P	K	A	A	L
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J	S	L	E	W	N	A	D	S	Q	X	A	P	E	U	N	X	U	U	I
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J	V	S	L	M	E	F	A	D	R	U	B	C	K	R	E	U	E	D	B
I	A	D	R	A	U	G	E	F	I	L	Z	Q	B	X	Q	S	L	A	G

Word list:

BEACH	LEMONADE	SAND	SUNDRESS
BIKINI	LIFEGUARD	SANDALS	SUNGLASSES
CAMP	PARK	SANDCASTLE	SUNSCREEN
FISHING	PICNIC	SEASHELLS	SUNSHINE
HAMMOCK	POOL	SHADE	SWIMSUIT
HEAT	POPSICLE	SUN	VACATION
ICECREAM	RELAX	SUNSET	WATERMELON



★ FRIDAY, JULY 3 ★



COMMUNITY HOURS

- Admin Office: Closed
- Golf Course: Open Normal Hours
- Courts: Open Normal Hours
- Tavern: 11:00 AM – 4:00 PM



GOLF CART PARADE

- Lineup at The Tavern: 3:30 PM
- Parade Begins: 4:00 PM



BEACH PAVILION CELEBRATION

- Tavern Grill Team On Site: 11:00 AM – 7:00 PM
- Burgers, Hot Dogs, Ice Cream & Cold Beverages



FIREWORKS

- Dusk over Lake Tamarack

★ SATURDAY, JULY 4 ★



COMMUNITY HOURS

- Golf Course: Open Normal Hours
- Courts: Closed
- Tavern: 11:00 AM – 7:00 PM



ROAD RACE

- Registration: 7:15 AM
- Race Begins: 8:00 AM
- Bent Tree Beach



UPPER POOL CELEBRATION

- Complimentary Pool Grill Out: 11:00 AM
- Live Music by the Mountain City Mavericks: 12:00 PM – 3:00 PM
- Feel free to bring a favorite side dish or dessert to share.





Bent TreeSM

INDEPENDENCE DAY CELEBRATION

★ AT THE LAKE ★

★ FRIDAY, JULY 3RD! ★

ALL THE FESTIVITIES, FOOD & FIREWORKS
ARE ON FRIDAY, JULY 3RD!




GRILLING
DOGS & BURGERS


BEV CART
REFRESHING
BEVERAGES


ICE CREAM
TREATS FOR
EVERYONE


FIREWORKS
OVER THE LAKE
AT DUSK

★ GOOD FOOD. COLD DRINKS. GREAT COMPANY. ★



May Turtletown Creek Falls Hike

By Robert Calhoun

On May 7th, Bent Tree Hiking Club leaders Robert and Janet Calhoun set out with 10 intrepid Bent Tree hikers, all with a belief that by the time we drove to the trailhead, there would be a break in the previous two days of continuous rain, plus raging waterfalls. Thankfully, our timing was perfect, and so was the weather. The route took us about 2 hours north to a two-waterfall hike on TurtleTown Creek in Tennessee. Our pit stop was in McCaysville, Georgia at the nice and clean McCaysville City Park, which was one of few spots available in the area at the time.

This was a four-plus mile lollipop loop hike, with approximately equal segments along the scenic river to the two waterfalls, and a remote section along a forested trail up a small mountain. Elevation gain for the entire loop was 564 feet. It doesn't matter which way you go, since the elevation becomes equal over the loop, but we took the wooded trail and returned along the river. The hike is rated as moderate on ALLTRAILS and took our group approximately 2.5 hours, including time for lingering at the waterfalls. There had been a forest fire adjacent to the hike route, but the rain had extinguished all, but a couple of smoking stumps and we hiked by along what was once a forest trail, but which now had become a firebreak. It was sad to see that some of the magnificent evergreens had been destroyed by the fire.

Lunch after the hike was enjoyed at Habanero's Fresh Tex-Mex, 120 Oboe St, Copperhill TN. Parking can be an issue on the street in front, but there is a lot behind the restaurant.

If anyone is interested in taking this trip on your own, the trailhead shows up as Turtletown Falls Trailhead on Google Maps, or you can use 1239 Farner Rd., Farner TN. 37333, which takes you to a marked turn onto a gravel road leading to the trailhead. It's worth the trip!

**Turtletown
Falls Trailhead**
1239
Farner Rd.
Farner, TN
37333





Friends of the Forest – Canadian Goose

By Lynn Kaiser Conrad

When I think of these birds, I think about watching where I walk because they are profound poopers. Then, I read a bit about Canadian Geese, and while it is true they are extreme excrementors, they are so much more.

Geese fly in the V formation because it helps with lift, energy, and communication. In the V, the birds are able to see others in the flock and this not only creates a syncopated and coordinated flight, it also creates a draft which reduces wind resistance. Talk about efficient. When the lead bird gets tired, it just drops back and a different goose voluntarily rotates to the front.

A goose has between 20,000 to 25,000 feathers. Most of the feathers are short creating insulation for the birds (and pillows and comforters and jackets...). Each year the geese molt their old feathers in the summer which grounds them for about a month as

they replace the old with the new. Goose down is soft and fluffy. Fully featured, geese weigh between 12 to 14 pounds.

At about two years old, geese seek out a mate for life. One of the primary criteria that must be met is the geese are similar in size. Goslings, those cute squawking babies, form pal groups or play dates called gang broods. Who knew geese would form gangs? So, beware at the lake.

Canadian geese do have a reputation for being aggressive. If it feels threatened, a goose will not back down even with the much larger animals. The goose will hiss, spread its wings and extend its neck and bob its head up and down (maybe they learned this in their childhood gangs?). If that doesn't intimidate, then the goose may run and charge or fly directly at the threat, even people. If you witness these behaviors, understand the goose is not being playful.

Day Tripping – Beer and Breweries

By Lynn Kaiser Conrad

Independent beer brewers have about 13% of the U.S. Beer market by volume. In 2022, there were more than 9500 craft brewery cations in the U.S. Considering the three broad categories of alcohol beverages: beer, wine, and sprits, beer is by far the most consumed. In 2022, over 6.4 billion gallons of beer was drunk in the U.S.

At **Pendley Creek Brewing Company**, craft beers are brewed in the front room of the establishment, which faces downtown Main Street in Jasper. Owned and operated by locals Daniel and Pam Briordy, the pair are always rotating their selection and looking for new tastes. There is both inside and outside seating. If you are curious about how they make beer, stop by for a lesson and a micro tour. For more information about their beers, check out their website. *57 N. Main St., Jasper, Ga www.pendleycreekbrewingco.com*

Talking Rock Brewery is located in a railcar and according to their website they are only one of two breweries in the U.S to be so situated. So, even if you don't enjoy beer, you can go for the novelty and buy the t-shirt! Railcar seating is limited, but there is a large

outdoor space for games, music, food rucks, and an environment to meet up with old and new friends. *4500 GA-136 W., Talking Rock, GA talkingrockbrewery.com*

Rock Solid Brewing Co. is a bit south located in downtown Ball Ground. There is usually something brewing at Rock Solid in addition to beer. You can participate in Trivia night or play games in the drinking room. Keep an eye on their website for upcoming events such as comedy nights, live music nights, and Rocktoberfest. *345 Gilmer Ferry Rd., Ball Ground, GA rocksolidbrewingco.com*

There is no shortage of breweries in the north Georgia mountains. You may need to gather your pals and go on a taste testing weekend. Other breweries in the area are:

- **The Dahlonega Brewery** – 3003 Morrison Moore Parkway, Dahlonega, GA
- **Cartecay River Brewing Co.** – 26 River Terr., Ellijay, GA
- **Grumpy Old Men Brewing** – 1315 E. Main St., Blue Ridge, GA
- **Fannin Brewing** – 3758 E. First St., Blue Ridge, GA

A Legacy of Love for Bent Tree

continued from page 5

It was about honoring a community that had become an important part of their lives.

As their daughter, I have had the privilege of watching these projects come to life over the past six years. I know how much it would have meant to my parents to see golfers enjoying these improvements today. More than the projects themselves, they would have loved knowing that their gift continues to benefit the community they cherished so deeply.

I like to think that somewhere above, my parents are smiling as they look down upon the course they loved so much. They would

undoubtedly be proud of what has been accomplished—not because their names are associated with these projects, but because the people of Bent Tree are enjoying them.

The driving range. The chipping green. The clock tower. Hole #8.

Together they stand as lasting reminders of two people who loved Bent Tree and wanted future generations to enjoy it as much as they did.

Their generous gift helped improve the course.

Their love for Bent Tree helped strengthen the community.

And that legacy will endure for years to come.

Counting Down the Days Until Sweet Stables Arrives at Bent Tree!

We are officially counting down the days until our arrival at the Bent Tree Stables! We want to sincerely thank everyone for their support and patience during this transition, as it has certainly been a challenging journey at times.

We would also especially like to thank all of the incredible volunteers who have dedicated their time and hard work to helping bring the stables back to life.

We are excited to announce that we expect to have the horses moved in during the second week of June.

Summer Fun at the Stables

Youth Week will kick off an exciting summer at the barn, followed by four weeks of Sweet Stables at Bent Tree Summer Camp!

Camp Dates:

- July 6-10
- July 13-17
- July 20-24
- July 27-31

Camp hours will be from 9:30 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. each day. The cost is \$550 per child, and campers ages 7-15 are welcome. We will only have a limited number of spots available for each week.

Each camper will receive an official *Sweet Stables at Bent Tree* T-shirt that we will tie-dye together during camp, along with a fun daily craft to bring home as a memory of their week at horse camp.

Our camp days will include:

- Learning proper horse handling and safety
- Grooming and tacking horses
- Mini riding lessons
- Trail rides
- Fun horse facts and games
- Daily opportunities to win prizes for participation

Campers should bring their own lunch each day, but snacks and drinks will be provided.

After a fun-filled day of working and riding at the stables, we will cool off with some swimming to wrap up the afternoon!

If you would like to reserve a spot for camp, please text or call: **Shana Sweet** — (770) 289-0327

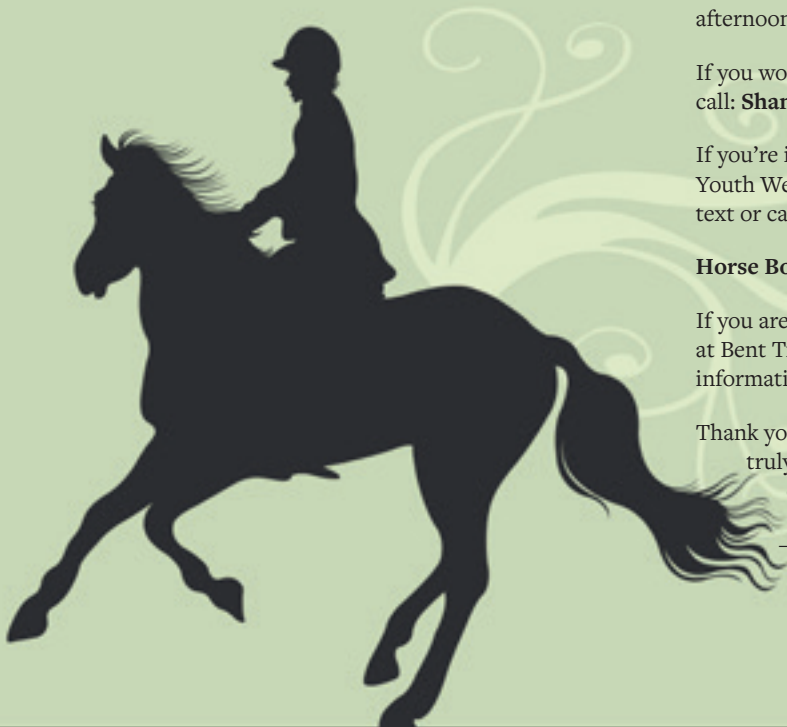
If you're interested in volunteering at the stables for Youth Week or any of the camp weeks, please give me a text or call as well!

Horse Boarding

If you are interested in boarding your horse with us at Bent Tree Stables, please feel free to call for more information and details about availability.

Thank you again for the warm welcome and support. We truly cannot wait to become part of the Bent Tree community!

— Shana Sweet





The Crazy, Lazy Days of Summer

by Margie Robinson

They come and go away too fast.

Here we have already opened the pools, excited to celebrate our country's 250th birthday and headed for our annual tradition - Last Blast of Summer.

So don't let this fun event slip past you.

Shimmer Band is well known for its high energy and will keep us in celebration mode. Plus, this event is one of our best Bent Tree mixer events - making new friends and catching up with old. One of my favorite parts of the evening is to see the kiddos fill the dance floor. They make us all feel alive.

We will bring back some of your favorite food trucks or bring your own food delights. Bring your chairs and coolers and let's enjoy the journey of summer together with the Last Blast of Summer.

AUGUST 29th. Mark your calendars now.

Friday Morning -- Ladies Bible Study

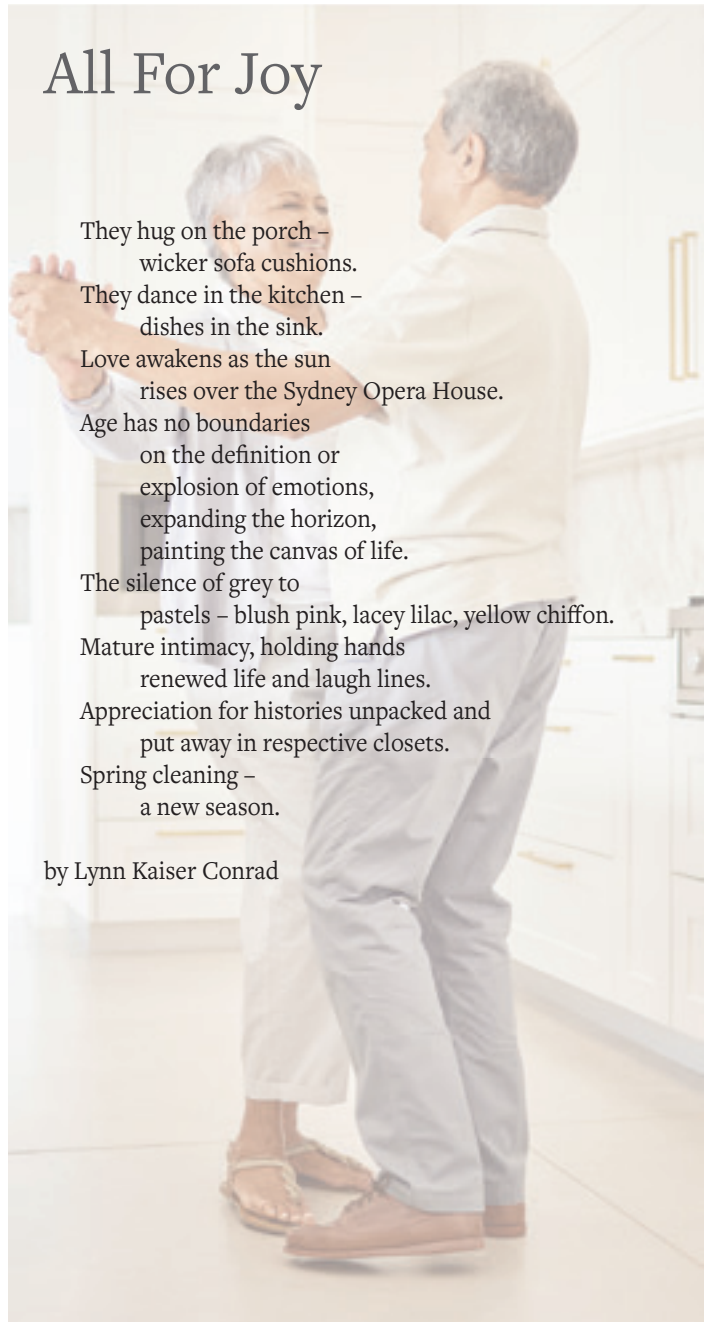
Walk With Us Into the Promised Land!

Join us August 14th as we resume exploring the lessons found in the book of Exodus

10am - Fridays - Rec Room of Club Tamarack

Contact Laura Trousdale @ a2tbunch@gmail.com

Mark Your Calendars! Resuming August 14th



All For Joy

They hug on the porch –
wicker sofa cushions.
They dance in the kitchen –
dishes in the sink.
Love awakens as the sun
rises over the Sydney Opera House.
Age has no boundaries
on the definition or
explosion of emotions,
expanding the horizon,
painting the canvas of life.
The silence of grey to
pastels – blush pink, lacey lilac, yellow chiffon.
Mature intimacy, holding hands
renewed life and laugh lines.
Appreciation for histories unpacked and
put away in respective closets.
Spring cleaning –
a new season.

by Lynn Kaiser Conrad



CALLING

ALL

Bent Tree Newcomers

you are invited to a

WELCOME PICNIC

*Newcomers please RSVP to:
newatbentree@gmail.com*

Hosted by Monday Night Picnics

Monday, July 13th

5:30 pm mingle-6:00 pm feast!

Beach Pavilion

*Featuring local musicians:
Gold Dust Moon*

Sponsored by
Bent Tree Activities Committee

Happy 250th Birthday America!

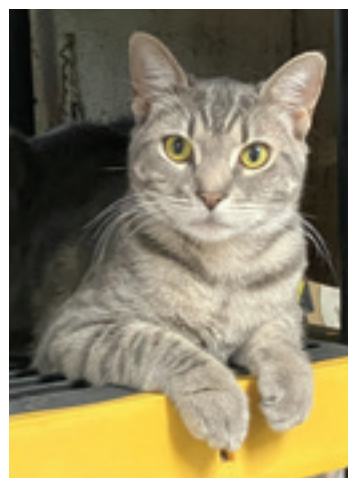
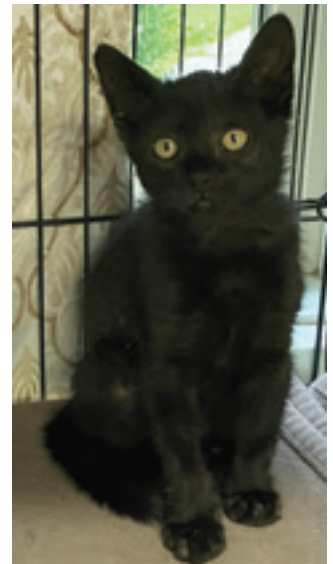
By Veda L. Wohlford

Happy Independence Day from your Bent-Tree Animal Shelter!

Wouldn't it be awesome to celebrate America's 250th Birthday by welcoming one of these adorable kitties into your home and family? Help us give them a Star Spangled surprise for our Semiquincentennial!

Remember, all our cats and dogs are fully vetted medically and spayed or neutered before being eligible for adoption. When you fall for one of these beautiful, sweet faces, please consider coming by to meet him or her! Bent-Tree's Animal Shelter has so many cats and kittens available for adoption. Big and little kitties, sweet or shy kitties, energetic and totally chill kitties! No matter the "purrsonality", all of them would love to join your family! If you would like to visit any of our kitties to see if you're a match made in heaven, please contact LuAnn Chambers at 678.414.1047.

Photographs by Veda L. Wohlford



2026 Golf Tournament Schedule

July

11	1pm Shotgun	Matthew Campbell
13	AM Tee Times	Georgia Mid AM Qualifier
17	1pm Shotgun	Pickens HS Fundraiser
18	8:30 Shotgun	MGA Red, White, & Blue
31	4pm Shotgun	Couples Scramble

August

3	8:30 Shotgun	GSGA
15-16	8:30 Shotgun	MGA King of the Mountain

21	4pm Shotgun	Couples Scramble
29-30	AM Tee Times	Bent Tree Club Championship

September

10-12	TBD	Salazar Group
14	9am Shotgun	Ed Belemy Memorial Tournament
15-16		Aerification

October

5	TBD	Habitat for Humanity
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10-11	8:30 Shotgun	MGA Lee Wilson Colligiate
12	8:30 Shotgun	Northeast Georgia Seniors
20	TBD	Joyhouse Tournament
24	1pm Shotgun	Marine Corp League
26	9:30 Shotgun	NWGASR
30	4pm Shotgun	Couples Scramble

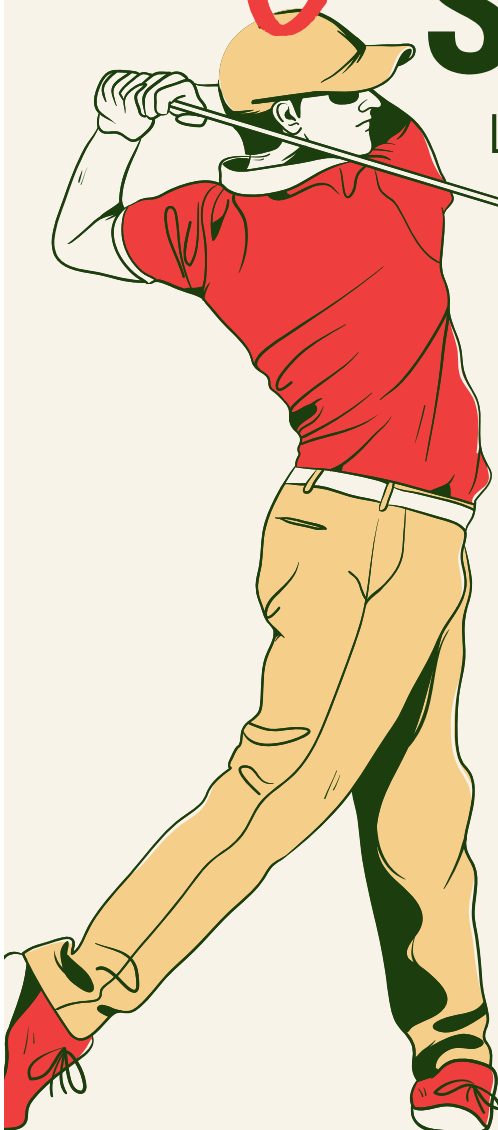
November

7	8:30 Shotgun	MGA Foley Cup
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Couple's SCRAMBLE

Last Friday of the Month



JULY 31ST
4:00 P.M.

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Fun on the Fairways with the Bent Tree Niners

By Wendy Kaplan

The Bent Tree Niners have been keeping the fairways lively with creative games, friendly competition, and plenty of laughter. From choosing your favorite playing partner to testing your skills with just three clubs, the season is off to a fantastic start!

Member-Member Brings Team Spirit

On May 21, members teamed up with a Niner of their choice for the always-popular Member-Member tournament. Great golf and great friendships made for a memorable day.

Winners

- 1st Place: Ellie Gerard and Arlene Scott
- 2nd Place: Mary Lou Weng and Linda White

Three Clubs and a Putter Tests Creativity

Who says you need a full bag to play great golf? The Three Clubs and a Putter game proved that less can definitely be more!

Gross Winners

Ellie Gerard
Wendy Kaplan
Michele Shaefer

Net Winners

Robin Roberts
Donna Stapleton
Susan Paul

Three Blind Mice Keeps Everyone Guessing

On June 4, luck and strategy combined in one of the Niners' favorite games—**Three Blind Mice**, where players get to toss out their three worst holes. It's amazing how much prettier a scorecard can look with a little help from the mice!

Gross Winners

Ursula Chapman
Ellie Gerard
Laura Dutton

Net Winners

Sherry Sather
Linda White
Mary Lou Weng

More Ways to Join the Fun

There's always something happening at Bent Tree!

Lovely Ladies meets every **Tuesday at 2:30 p.m.**—a wonderful chance to sharpen your game, practice with friends, and enjoy some camaraderie.

Golf Pro Rob's clinics are held every **Wednesday and Friday at 9:45 a.m.**, featuring tips and techniques for both the short game and long game.

Looking for even more fun? The Bent Tree Pro Shop hosts a **Ladies Scramble every Thursday at 4 p.m.** Come out for a relaxed round, friendly competition, and lots of laughs.

A Season to Remember

With imaginative games, spirited competition, and friendships that make every round special, the 2026 Bent Tree Niners season is already shaping up to be one for the record books. Whether you're chasing birdies or simply enjoying time with friends, there's no better place to be than on the course.

Here's to making memories, celebrating great shots, and enjoying every swing. See you on the fairways!



Fun on the Fairways with the Bent Tree Niners#1: Three Clubs and a Putter winners. From left: Michele Shaeffer, Robin Roberts, Wendy Kaplan and Donna Stapleton. Not pictured Ellie Gerard and Susan Paul.

Fun on the Fairways with the Bent Tree Niners#2: Member-Member winners. From left Arlene Scott, Ellie Gerard, Linda White and Mary Lou Weng



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Ladies Golf Association News

By Lyn Orletsky

The much-needed rain, rain, and more rain made golf extra challenging for LGA Tuesday play this month.

Getting ready for our Invitational next month, the game for May 12 was points. The ladies prefer to use a 54-point basis which means your handicap minus 54. Then you earn points using the following scale:

Double bogie: 1 point

Bogie: 2 points

Par: 3 points

Birdie: 4 points

Results

1st Lyn Orletsky +5

2nd Zandra Sommer +1

3rd Cindy Williams -3

4th Bonny Pearson -4

5th Wendy Kaplan -4 (card playoff)

6th Judy Crain -5

Finally, we had sunshine on May 19, bringing lots of ladies out to play for the member/member tournament. The format is best ball net of the pair, using full handicap. Welcome back Summer Turner and Melodee Christensen. We hope you can continue to get off work on Tuesdays, so we can see you more often!

Results

1st Net: Carole Fallgren and Theresa Shattock, 61

2nd Net: Susan Carmichael and Gayla Smith, 61
(card playoff)

3rd Net: Lynn Manni and Ellie Girard, 63



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Across the net, and interview with pickleball player, Chuck Hahn...

By Bob Coleman

Q. Where were you born and raised?

A. Born: St Augustine, FL while my father was stationed in Green Cove Springs, FL. Raised: New Buffalo, MI until I was 10 years old when my father decided to leave Michigan and move to Florida, Pompano Beach

Q. Who was your best friend in elementary school, High School?

A. Glen Mankowski (New Buffalo) Rick Seelig (Pompano), Cabot Knowlton (High School)

Q. Did you attend college? If so, where? Major?

A. Yes, several. Northeastern Jr. College Sterling, Colorado on a football scholarship (stayed one year) LSU Baton Rouge, LA (2.5 years), Florida Atlantic University, Boca Raton, FL (off and on until I finally graduated in September of 1972) Many different majors but my diploma says I earned a Bachelor of Arts in Humanities with a major in History.

Q. What was your career? What did your job path look like growing up?

A. Similar to Lou Gehrig saying he was the luckiest man on earth, in 1968, I said the same thing. On a dare I applied at IBM in Boca Raton, FL and for whatever reason they decided to hire me. At the time I was a college dropout working construction. My mother said I wouldn't last 3 weeks working indoors, I showed her. My career path prior to that was a little hazy if not gloomy. Who knows.

Q. Favorite Movie of all time? Favorite book? What is the last book you read?

A. The questions are getting harder now. Movie? How would you pick one? Butch Cassidy and the Sundance Kid was a sentimental favorite when we were getting married. Loved Lonesome Dove. What does Gus say as he was dying, "Aye God Woodrow (Tedi) it's been quite a party ain't it"? I would put that on my tombstone but there won't be one. Book: I would say the bible but no one would believe that. I was a big fan of Dan Jenkins Semi-Tough. The last book I read was Heaven and Hell: My Life in the Eagles (1974-2001)

Q. What type of music do you enjoy most?

A. Traditional country, Country rock

Q. How many places have you lived? |

A. Michigan, Florida, Alabama, Georgia (Colorado and Louisiana if you count college)

Q. How long have you lived in Bent Tree?

A. We've lived here permanently since September of 2004. We bought our first lot in 1992 and the adjacent lot a couple of years later. What attracted you BT? The topography and the amenities, specifically the golf. What do you enjoy the most about living here? The view (wink), the peace and quiet, the wildlife, previously the golf but I stopped playing nearly 3 years ago. Recently the people I've met at the Tennis Center.

Chuck has certainly been a great addition to our court's community. I grateful for his time and willingness to share a little bit of his story. Say hi to Chuck when you see him. Remember, he's a lot happier than he looks. Hope you, like Chuck will join us at the Courts to see first-hand what all fun is about.



Summertime is the perfect time for making memories.

So, mark your calendars and register quickly as spaces are filling up.

Contact Coach Bob at 770-877-0884

for more information or registration.

Tennis and Pickleball are both lifelong sports.

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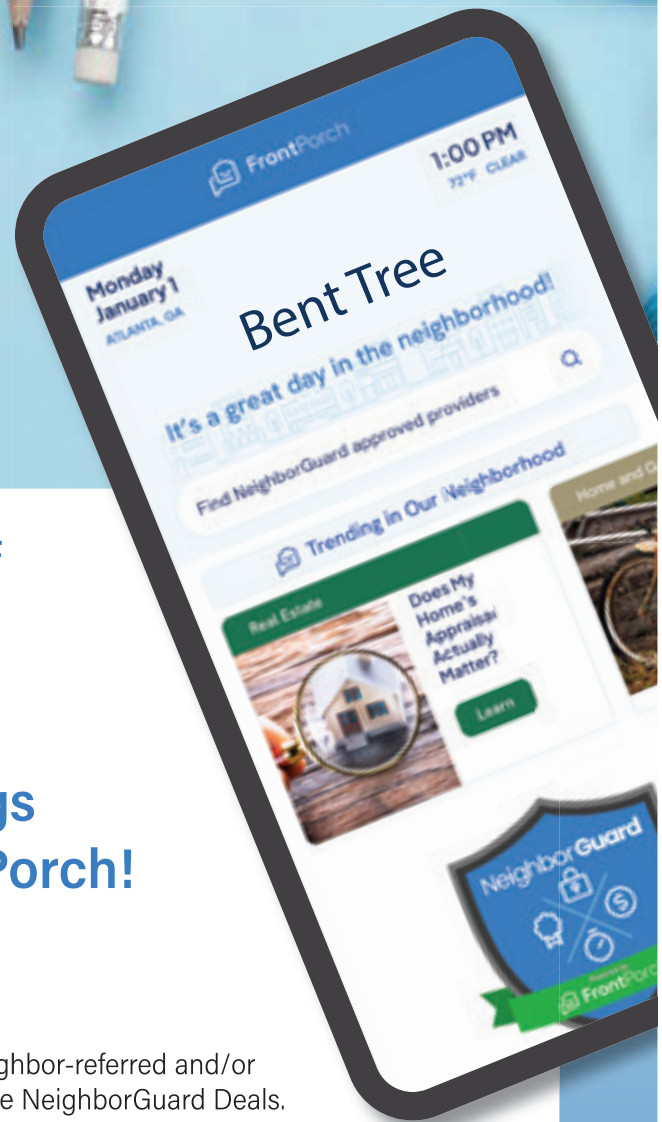
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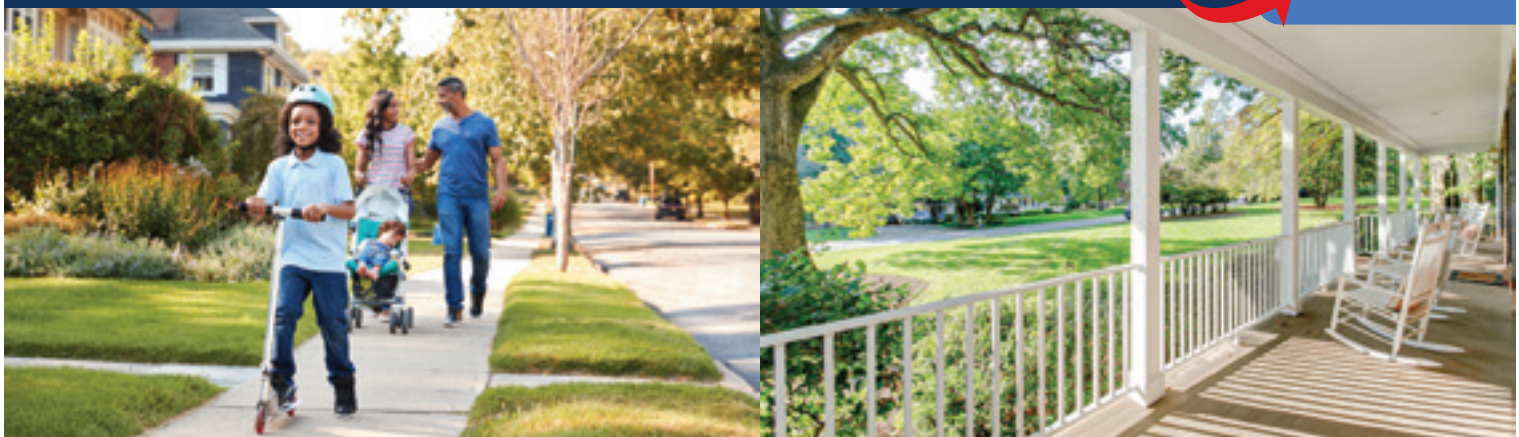
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