



Village Voice



December 2010

HOA Happenings

First and foremost we would like to thank all our volunteers for all the time and hard work they put into making the events a success and we would also like to thank all the people who have supported the HOA so we can hold these events for everyone. Let's hope future happenings are as successful and fun as the last few were!

We are asking your help in finding some things we will be needing next year. We are looking for teapots, teacups and saucers, table linens and napkins, napkin rings and small floral arrangements. Donations will be appreciated. These are for our Ladies Tea on April 7th.

We are looking for an accordion player for the next Oktoberfest. If you know anybody who can play one, please have them contact me. Does anyone have any contacts for a school marching band for our St. Patrick's Day parade?

If you have any leads please call Joanne Frey, Activities Coordinator, 464-0452.

Other events planned are :

December 18th, 2010

Christmas Scavenger Hunt, Carol Sing and refreshments. Please report to the auditorium at 2 pm for your list of items to be found. Also bring a snack to share for our get-together afterwards. We will have a tie breaker in the event of a tie. You can go it alone or with a friend - your choice, but there will only be one prize. We are giving a Holiday Basket to the winner.

Rules: You can ask your neighbors or anyone in the park, but please be courteous and respectful. You will have one hour to gather as many items as you can. I know we haven't had one of these before but come on out and try it. It could really be fun!

February 6th, Superbowl Sunday

We will have a chili cook-off contest from 5-6 pm. Make a pot of your favorite chili and bring it to the auditorium for judging. Please be prepared to leave your chili with us as it will be the main feature of our tailgate party. We will be awarding ribbons for 1st, 2nd and 3rd place.

The tailgate party will begin around 6 pm. Come cheer your favorite team on with our own SLCCV Cheerleaders! Lots of good eats and fun for all. Then, of course, the Super Bowl on the big TV. For your comfort bring your favorite lawn chair or chaise lounge, and don't forget to wear your team colors. There will be a 50/50 and door prizes for this event.

There will be a donation of \$6.00 to defray the cost of food and prizes. More information about tickets later.

March 17th, 2011 St. Patrick's Day Parade

Let's make this a super parade! We had fun last Memorial Day, we can have an even better time with this one. Everyone is invited to join in the parade, decorate your golf cart, your bicycle, motorcycle, pets. If you know how to put together a float, by all means go ahead. You can walk, dance, dress like a clown, anything your imagination thinks of ... (oh, better rephrase that) anything reasonable. There will be no judging for this one, it is strictly for fun. If you have family here that can help you, get them involved.

April 7th

May 7th

May 8th

June 18th

Sept. 4th

October

Ladies Tea

Mother's Day Luncheon

Las Casitas Derby and Kentucky Derby

Father's Day

Labor Day 25 cent Carnival

Oktoberfest.

Joanne Frey, Activities Coordinator

Honor Flight of Southeast Florida

How do I start. What can be said once more about that day to be remembered. Nov. 6, 2010, when 100 WW11 Veterans were invited to visit the WW11 Memorial in Washington D.C.

Invited by the most wonderful organization I have ever had the privilege to be involved with: S.E. Florida Honor Flights, Inc., along with Rollin Ankeny; Ed Litman; Frank Wells and Tony Wells.

Two weeks prior, we were told to go to Stuart for a briefing. We met at 1:30 pm with all the volunteers (mostly fire-fighters from the Stuart Department). The Stuart Firefighters had raised \$187,000 so they could escort us. Each one had a job to do and, remarkably, they organized 100 veterans – 97 men and three women. Some passed out bags, T-shirts, hats, instructions, etc. Two women (staff) took individual photos. You know, like getting on a cruise ship.

Finally, we were introduced to our guardians for the day, again mostly fire-fighters. Surprisingly, I was assigned to a young woman. Her name tag read ‘Fran Wilson.’ After we sat down, I asked her if she was a fire-fighter and she said ‘No. I’m a Gold Star mother. I buried my 24-year-old son in Arlington last month.’ I was shocked. She was going to watch out for me, probably most of the time in a wheelchair. I thought I should be pushing her.

The guardians knew what they had to do.. They were all volunteers. Several speakers, mostly staff gave a great deal of info. How to dress, what to bring, etc. I think I was most impressed with Doc. D’Errico, (yes, a volunteer). He was wearing a backpack and opened it for us. He had in alphabetical order all of our medical information which would be at his fingertips if needed. A list of meds and any unusual conditions. They left no stone unturned.

Just before we left, they told us to swap telephone nos. with our guardians. They would call us the day before the flight, with weather info in D.C. and conditions for the very early flight We were all there on November 6th as advised by 4:30 am. They provided orange juice and fried egg sandwiches. No coffee. 5:00 am...time to board busses (4) for the trip to the WPB airport. As we filed through the door, we were greeted by people with American flags waving and clapping for us and that constant ‘Thank You.’

The busses followed a route through the town where people stood on corners and waved and all

in the fire stations saluted. A police escort stayed with us until we reached the entrance to I-95. On the overhead, five trucks were located with all lights on. Remember, it was still dark, only 5:30 am. When we arrived at the airport, we again were greeted by local people with flags, cameras and ... yes, “thank you’s”. Children in Cub Scout uniforms – did they realize what they were thanking us for?? And I had trouble with that myself.

The Air Flight to D.C.: After strapping in and getting comfy they brought us bananas, armfuls of them. And told us they were a good prevention against stroke. Lord knows with a hundred over 80-year-olds aboard, that could have been a possibility. Good flight. No strokes. One staff member started a trivia game. A WWII trivia. All I could think of was that most of the people on the flight could not remember what they had for lunch yesterday, and they were going to test us on WWII!

You would be surprised how many questions these vets could answer. It started some conversations across the aisles, and was quite interesting. Upon arrival in D.C. we were again overwhelmed. A band played us into the terminal where bagpipers took over. Again scout troops, etc, etc, and people with Old Glory everywhere saying ‘Thank you’. By the time I reached Bus #2, I was exhausted (mentally) and in tears, not physically tired, but emotionally.

First Stop: “Tomb of Unknown Soldier”. We were able to see the complete “Changing of the Guard”. A short stop when a few of the staff and a Marine took Fran and her also volunteer husband, Lance, to their son’s grave for a short private visit. Next...to Women’s Pavilion for lunch, where I was actually hounded by media people because I was a woman. A WAC. Woman’s Army Corps, WW II. They said they wanted my story. I had no story. Enlisted, went in, did my job after training (surgery tech, 5th) in Mass. No story. Their question: did I meet anyone special in the service? Oh, yes ... my husband, John. We were married for 55 years. I wore white at my wedding and six women friends from my barracks were military usherettes in white off-duty uniforms. I always did ‘love a parade.’ I was asked for a photo which I will try to locate. Most interesting few hours.

On to WWII Memorial which would take the rest of the day to visit. It is almost impossible to describe. I learned that in 1941, the U.S. entered WW11. Not to conquer, but to liberate a world fast falling to forces of tyranny. It also honors

millions who supported the war effort on the home front and it celebrates the American Spirit—National Unity and Victory. The Memorial is dedicated to 16 million Americans who served in uniform, of whom over 400,000 gave their lives. There are 4,000 gold stars on the Freedom Wall. That is only a small part of the Memorial. To be impressed doesn't tell it all. You had to be there.

I have a nose for news, so while enjoying the Memorial, I also enjoyed the conversations going on among the veterans in various locations around the grounds. Men who had never met until this morning were sharing war stories in groups of 25 or 35 as they viewed the greatness of this endeavor.

The sun was going down and we began our way back to the busses. But, one more stop. A group photo at the Marine Memorial, Iwo Jima. As the red bus pulled up to the terminal at WPB airport, we noticed how quiet it was. Terminal nearly closed - no flags - no photographers - no bands playing. I wondered, "Was it all in one day? Was it all real?" We easily passed through security ... and there they were. The people and the flags. There they were, to say "Thank You" once again. As I went down the gateway to the plane, one woman said to me "Because of all of you, my children speak English today", Another kissed my cheek and said "That's for my mother."

Those wonderful people of Honor Flight, Inc. of Southeast Fl. are angels in disguise. ALL, All are volunteers.

If you would like to donate to this wonderful cause, please make your donation payable to:

S.E. FL. Hon. Fl., Inc., Post Office Box 1503, Stuart, FL 34995.

Dottie Fenton, and shared by: Rollin Ankeny, Ed Litman, Frank and Tony Wells.



Fitness Games Coordinators' Meeting

There will be a Coordinators' Meeting on Monday, January 10th at 3:30 p.m. in the Pow Wow Room for ALL coordinators involved in the Fitness Games. Please write this down.

If you can't attend please call 467-8757 or 461-4810.

Neighbors Helping Neighbors Surveys

NHN surveys have been a vital part of this program since its beginning in 2005. The one page form takes a few minutes to complete. It has three parts. The first part asks for some basic information on the household, whether residents are full time or part time and, if part time, usual months away, cell phone numbers, if any and whether the household has a car. The second part seeks to identify households with special limitations, such as in mobility, dependence on oxygen or refrigeration. The aim here is to alert area volunteers in the event of an emergency such as a hurricane. The third area is information on who to contact in the event of an emergency while residents are here or while they are away. This information has been absolutely invaluable in many instances. Emergency contact information is maintained by the Recreation Department and by NHN.

Currently we have surveys on 950 homes. Area volunteers will be seeking new surveys or updated surveys. However, if you have not been surveyed, or if you have new information on emergency contacts, you can get a form at the Recreation Department desk, complete the information and return it to the desk. It will be processed and passed onto the NHN Area Coordinator for your address.

Doggy Lament

Where oh where has your little dog gone? Oh where oh where did he go?

I'll tell you where.....he left his "calling cards" on the grass from Ipanema Way to the far end of the lake. There are more than 15 piles of "doggy doo" along there!!!! And they are not small piles!!! It is impossible to walk in the grass along the lake without stepping in it.

Why does someone think they are not obligated to pick up after their dog when everyone else does?

I do not want my dogs exposed to this, it is how dogs become ill.

Come on folks, be responsible dog owners.....
PICK UP AFTER YOUR DOG!!!!

Madelyn Sandall



... Mailbox ...

The family of Bill Bradley would like to thank all the SLCCV residents who offered prayers, visits and encouragement during his recent illness.

Eleanor and Family

It is once again that I am so thankful for the "Village Voice" by which to extend my gratitude and thanks to all of my wonderful friends and acquaintances here in SLCCV. Were I to try to send each and every one of you a Thank You note, I do not think I could manage it.

My husband Jim, a friend, a 'Mr. Fix-It' for so many, and an all-around great guy, passed away on October 15th. As my family and I agree, he is now at long last at rest, at peace, pain free and in a better place.

All of your Mass cards, sympathy cards, visits, phone calls, food and desserts helped to make it easier to me to get through this difficult time. You have proven once again what a great, loving and caring community we are and, from my children and myself, a great big THANK YOU for being there at a time of need, and for your overwhelming acts of caring and kindness.

With appreciation and sincerity from the bottom of my heart, and my wish for God's choicest blessing on every one of you.

Lucy Countie

On June 23rd Ed peacefully left us behind.

Perhaps you sent a lovely card, and even though you were not here in body to provide comfort in our sorrow, we felt the love you shared.

Thank you for your friendship and all the kindnesses you gave to Ed and me. He was a special person and his happy smiling face and his handshake will never be forgotten.

When we talk of him and remember the kind of person he was, we are proud and feel lucky to have known him. Thanks again.

Peggy Gallant

When I *moo-sied* down to the mail box the other day I was delighted to receive a letter from a friend who wanted to give us an update on our own resident friendly cow Elsie. This is part of the letter:

Dear Reader:

Elsie is now on a fresh pasture and was overjoyed to find her offspring again. She has gotten so big. Elsie was amazed and happy to see her growing up to look so much like her Mom. Like mother, like daughter, as the saying goes. Other than having her tail reattached, Elsie has been in excellent health until, after visiting the vet, she finds she has cow fever. Elsie so wanted to spend another Christmas here. One of her life's wishes was go on a sleigh ride with some of the friends she has made over the years. I hope she still can. Then she will go to the retirement barn without kicking and mooing.

I have milked the Elsie story long enough, so will close with wishes for a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year from Elsie.

A Farmer

Elder Law Issues

The SLCCV Neighbors-Helping-Neighbors program is pleased to be able to present a seminar on ***Elder Law Issues & Estate Planning*** on Monday, January 17, 2011, 1pm to 3pm, in the Auditorium. The presenter is Attorney Marie Sullivan Conforti who has offices in Vero Beach. We had an opportunity to hear Ms. Conforti give this seminar in Country Club Village in 2007 and 2008. We highly recommend it. Some important questions answered: Do we need a Florida will, legal considerations owning homes in two states, who is the best person to designate as health care surrogate to make medical decisions if we are unable, who is the best person to appoint as durable power of attorney to handle our financial matters, do we need a "pre-need" guardian to act as guardian if it is necessary, important changes in Medicaid qualification, etc. Even those who attended the earlier seminars might want to catch up on these important issues. No RSVP is required and there will be no sign-in sheet. For further information contact Betty Yon or Bill McCurdy.

Miss Debbie's Story

I am writing this to tell you about a wonderful woman, Debbie McCullough. She had a job she wasn't happy with and spoke to an acquaintance who wanted to help her. Her name is Cathy Tofstad and she became Debbie's partner, without whom this program would not be. They worked on this idea for two years (behind many closed doors).

Debbie worked in a school as an aide for crippled, retarded and then for at-risk children. At the time she and her husband Eddie fostered a bi-racial girl with numerous problems. She was at the Juvenile Courts many times. One day Debbie talked to the judge about something she really wanted to do for these troubled children.

She has an 8-acre farm in Clark County outside of Springfield, Ohio where she was raising goats, chickens, turkeys and donkeys. She told the judge that if she could have the children come to her farm she knew she could help these at-risk children in several ways. She wanted to teach them back-to-basics life skills. The judge agreed but said there was no funding. She then got a Title II grant from the Department of Juvenile Justice. They now get funding from Clark County Job and Family Services; VA; Conalog Trust; Turner and Springfield Foundations. Her financial funding was cut into less than half this year due to the recession. In total they receive about \$150,000, of which Debbie keeps \$35,000 in pay.

The program's name is On-The-Rise. Their names are now Miss Debbie and Miss Cathy. They do everything they can to keep the program alive financially and learned to stretch the money. They write grants, sell goat brats (like a bratwurst but made from goat meat), vegetables, eggs, flowers, etc.

A bus driver was hired to bring 10-15 children a day to the farm and then back home. This is a full year program, boys two days, then girls for two days. The children are between 8 and 14 years old, and are sent from the courts and schools.

When the children start they must learn manners, cleanliness and appropriate dress (no drooping drawers). They have discussions about bullying and having respect for everyone. Once at the farm they go to the barns, feed, clean and play with their favorite goats (at times there are about 45 goats). They collect eggs from over 100 range-free chickens, clean the brown eggs and package them to be sold. Some goats are used for Miss Debbie's 4H club where the children learn to show and sell them at the fair. Others are made into goat brats (really good and healthy eating).

After chores they come in from the barns, wash up, help make dinner, set tables and clean up. The children love to cook. Miss Debbie believes that every child should have at least one healthy meal a day, which she provides. They discuss a lot about nutrition and the current obesity problem. An agent from the Extension Office comes at times to talk about nutrition and cook with the children.

Master gardeners come and help set up the gardens. Each child picks out their seeds and plants them. They are amazed at how a seed can become a big, wonderful, tasty vegetable. They cook them in all different ways for dinner, some are sent home for the child's family and some are sold at the market. A seamstress teaches sewing by hand and by machine. They make aprons for themselves for cooking and make gifts for a nearby nursing home, where they visit with the elderly. (Both child and adult enjoy this). A gentlemen from Tac Industries asked Debbie and Cathy about working with his clients, who are mentally retarded. He had heard many wonderful things about her program. They now come to the farm once a week for four hours. They have a waiting list for the program, since they all love the farm and goats so much they don't want to leave!

When the children are gone Debbie has to feed, clean barns, goat kidding (birthing, making hay, hauling feed, collecting eggs, etc.) She does much public speaking, goes to the schools, courts and takes many classes. Wittenburg University sends two to four students a day for their community service. They help in many ways, help with homework and are positive role models for the children. On-The-Rise has developed a multi-sensory reading program. Every Saturday morning for 17 weeks Miss Debbie takes some of the children to the Farmers Market in Springfield, where they sell eggs, goat brats, vegetables and flowers. It's a good way for the children to mix with the people, sell, learn about money, making change and saving money.

There are so many ways that Miss Debbie and Miss Cathy have helped the children learn and become good, caring adults, since they both believe they can make a difference!

This year Debbie received the award from Clark County, OH for the most empowered Woman of the Year. On-The-Rise with Debbie, Cathy and the children was televised the week of October 2nd, 2010 on our Ohio channel.

This article was written by Miss Debbie's proud mother:

Doreen Tassone

Fear of Falling

The other night I was dreaming I was escaping from something and fell out of bed, hitting my head against the dresser. In the morning I had a bump on my head and I was too ashamed to tell my wife how it got there. While we tend to think about heart problems or strokes sending a neighbor or family member to the hospital, in this community a more serious health risk is falling. Yes, falling.

Falls and falling pose the most serious health risk among seniors over the age of 65. Falls and falling affect more people at that age than do strokes and heart attacks combined. That is a horrendous statistic!

Falls are the leading cause of death due to injury for those of us over 65.

Of all hip fractures, 95% are caused by falling; 40% of those hospitalized for hip fractures do not return to independent living; and 20% will die within a year.

Those who fall are two or three times more likely to fall again.

Getting help quickly after a fall reduces the risk of hospitalization by 25% and death by 80%.

PREVENTION! PREVENTION!

There are several things you can to help prevent falls.

- ◆ Have a night light for the bedroom, bathroom and hallway.
- ◆ Keep a flashlight handy and use it.
- ◆ Make sure throw rugs are secured.
- ◆ Move “stuff” out of areas where you walk.
- ◆ Exercise will help you with your balance.
- ◆ Use a walking stick or walking cane.
- ◆ If your medicine makes you dizzy, talk to your doctor about it.
- ◆ Have handrails by your entrance doors, your bathroom, and shower.
- ◆ Consider a “Life Line.” If you fall just push the button and it will call 911 for you.

The reason Neighbors-Helping-Neighbors created the Ramp Committee was the number of requests for ramps so that a family member who had fallen could be released from the rehab center and go home. After about half a dozen of requests, we realized the serious situation we have. Falls are a big problem in this village, so let us work together to prevent them.

Winter Song

A bunch of germs were whooping it up
In the bronchial saloon.

The bacillus handling the larynx

Was jazzing a gag-time tune.

While back of the tongue in a solo
game



Sat dangerous Ah Kerchoo.

And watching his luck was his light of love

The malady know as FLU.

Russ Marth

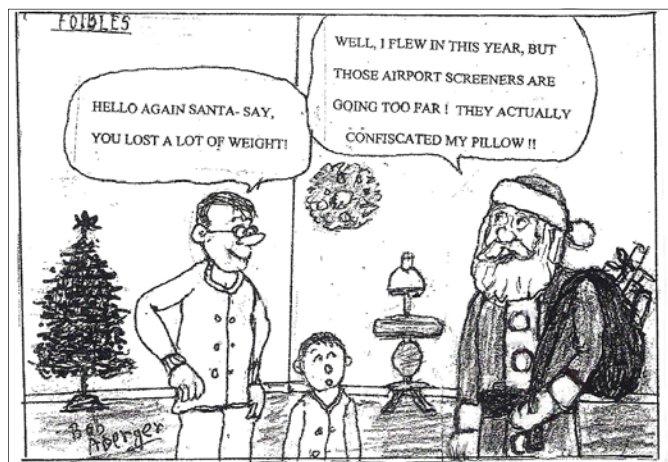
Friends are Important

The longer you live, the greater the chance that you will outlive your spouse and long-time friends. It's important to stay in touch with friends—and make new ones. A social network of friends of all ages ensures help in times of need. Regular social contact can also reduce your body's stress response. Researchers have found that retirees with at least 16 people in their social networks report more satisfaction with their lives. People attract relationships most often by having a positive outlook and a sense of humor.

to volunteer
participate
oriented
neighbors,



Make a commitment in the community, in clubs or member-activities, chat with move closer to family members, or simply call people more often. Having regular contact helps build important bridges for the future. We are fortunate to live in a community where there are so many opportunities to enjoy spending time with other people. Get involved, and don't stay home alone too much.



From the Suggestion Box

Since our winter residents are returning, we will continue with the standard opening caveats before getting into the juicy stuff:

First, another reminder that the Suggestion Box is for HOA members ONLY. If you are not a member, you can 1) join the HOA, or 2) address your concerns directly with the Park Management.

Please sign the form. In many cases, you will be contacted for more information, or just to let you know your suggestion has been received. No action will be taken on unsigned or anonymous forms.

Complaints addressing a specific needed repair should be directed to Craig Waddell, the Park Manager, for action as required.

General suggestions and recommendations are reviewed by the HOA Board and then presented to Park Management for review, consideration, and action. The same holds true for general laments regarding general conditions, rules, or regulations.

It has been pointed out that the rules have been in effect since the first Spanish Lakes Community was built. They were written by Chester Wynne, and have stood fast throughout the years. For those residents who would like to recommend or suggest specific rule changes, it is recommended that you write to Joel Wynne directly. Yes, he does indeed read all of his mail and is very much in touch with the pulse of these parks!

In the meantime, this column will continue to address, often with tongue still squarely planted in cheek, some of the more entertaining and/or bizarre complaints, information and suggestions, ideas, and even criticisms we get. We will also include those that we believe are of interest or import to other residents.

Along with said return of winter residents, and cooler temperatures awakening the permanent residents from their summertime hibernation, the number of submissions into the Suggestion Box increases exponentially. A coincidence? I think not. Here are a few:

Mr. B and Mr. W. have both written about *concerns and problems with the distance of the mailboxes from the curb, citing the narrowness of the road when two vehicles need to pass in the opposite direction and the wing mirrors can be clipped.*

Dear Mr. B and Mr. W: Well, caution when driving is the key here. It's pretty certain that the roads have not gotten any narrower, (Have cars gotten wider?) so we look elsewhere: According to US Postal regulations, mailboxes must be 41" to 45" high and the face of the box set 6" – 8" from the road edge. If you feel one of your neighbors needs to set their box back 3" or 4" then offer to help them move it. Otherwise, you need to contact the Post Office, who will issue a complaint to the homeowner. After three or four of those the Post Office can refuse to deliver mail. It seems that it might be a lot easier to take turns passing those narrow areas.

Ms. W wrote that *someone kept turning the lights on and off in the clubhouse and it was only 8:30 pm. She was chatting with neighbors. Isn't the club house open till 10:00?*

Dear Ms. W: Yes ma'am it is. Was someone absented-mindedly leaning against the light switch? Or just playing fun with you? If not, go to the front desk or find out who is on duty. The clubhouse IS open until 10:00 pm for the residents' use and enjoyment.

We have a wonderful idea from Ms. G that we *"take a positive approach" to safety issues in our Village. Develop a monthly contest for the best safety slogan, judged by COP or HOA, printed in our bulletins giving credit to the writer.*

Ms G...Kudos! Great idea! Will let you know what we come up with!

Colleen Thibaut



The Car in the Ditch (Reverse can be good)

In the past seven months we have all heard hundreds of times about the car in the ditch as a metaphor to describe our current national financial situation. First comes the blame. After all, the car didn't get into the ditch by itself. Then comes some very difficult-to-understand explanation of how to get the car out of the ditch. Once the car is out of the ditch we are warned not to select reverse (go back) but rather to put the car into Drive (progress). Reverse is bad, progress is good. Really??? Is it that simple?

In the name of progress bones and internal organs can now be seen radiographically, leading to better diagnosis. Telecommunications of all variety put almost everyone in the world "in touch" in the name of progress. The list could go on and on. The 'progress' of better, quicker diagnosis has contributed significantly to increased medical costs. 'Progress' in communication has led to people feeling increasingly isolated (less human face-to-face contact.) So many chances are explained in the name of 'progress.'

For myself I would prefer going back to: men holding doors for women; saying a prayer in school; standing when the flag passes by; my government executing the will of the people; immigrants willing to jump through hoops to become citizens; public schools teaching western civilization and the Constitution; respect and tolerance for religious freedom and its public expression; commitment as a cornerstone of marriage. The list could go on and on, but I think you get the idea.

Progress is clearly a two-edged sword. In the name of progress entire institutions can be destroyed. Yes, Reverse can be a good thing.

Dr. John F. Fitzgerald, PhD, F.A.M.P



I wish all my readers a good Christmas season,

From the Editor's Desk

and hope you all enjoy the many parties, lunches, dinners and get-togethers that have been arranged. The Neighbors Helping Neighbors was pleased to contact all those who lived alone to make sure they all had a Thanksgiving dinner delivered by the fire department if they wanted one.

I know they have been thanked but I do want to add my appreciation to Bud Henly for the Halloween tree decorations; to Bill Brown and his gang for the fun seasonal creations at the entranceway; to Russ Marth, Mario Noverini and others for the Christmas lights that make us so festive. They all help to make Spanish Lakes a fun community to live in, where so many people are willing to use their talents to provide pleasure to others.



There are newcomers to the park who have asked 'Why Zinni's Point?' at the entrance to the park at Christmas. The history is that way back in 1986 Tony Zinni and his wife Terry (now Terry Klein) started the tradition of decorative lights at the gateway island and continued each year until his death in 1998. At that time the island was named in his honor and memory. It's good to know we had community-minded people here right from the start.

Another favorite to note is Elsie, the wandering cow. Where she came from is a closely-guarded secret, but we all enjoy her and her calf.

Also a big thank you to the COP drivers who help keep our community 'the safest in the area' according to the Sheriff's Deputy.

I was impressed by the list of activities Joanne Frey has planned for next year. Who says the HOA doesn't do anything?! Keep all these in mind when Joanne Trainor starts her membership drive and show your support for these dedicated people with a very minimal membership fee.

And here's to another calm and storm-free year in 2011!

President's Corner



Th-e-y'-r-e b-a-c-k! Hello Winter Residents!!...the park is filling up again, and it's time for everyone to join in the fun, appreciate the Treasure Coast's wonderful winter weather, take more care when walking, jogging, and bike-riding, be more courteous and attentive when driving, and SLOW DOWN!!! ENJOY!!!!

The HOA Activities Director, Joanne Frey, has some **great** events in store for everyone this coming 2010-2011 season, and we invite you all to join in the fun! The list is too long, but you can see the whole line-up on the website under Joanne's new section in the HOA page at www.SLCCV.org!

On December 18th from 2-5 pm there will be a Christmas Scavenger Hunt, Carol Sing and Refreshments. Tell your neighbors you will be out and around bugging them for goodies so they are prepared for your visit. The scavenger list will not be given until that day so no cheating! The HOA will supply the hot chocolate, punch and cookies. YOU bring some kind of goodie to share.

As I write this, the status of La Cantina is still up in the air. There is presently no plan in place to open it on a daily luncheon basis this season. Clubs and groups, this is your opportunity to make some money this season. Interested in serving a lunch once a week or so? Talk to any HOA Board Member for more information.

Not a member of the HOA? Although we hope you will all want to join, non-members are invited to attend any HOA meeting. Just remember you are limited to sitting in the back rows, and may not participate in any way in the meeting.

OK...here I go...I am dragging out my soapbox to add some personal commentary. I admit it...my feelings are hurt. Seriously..yes, they are! Following the October HOA General Meeting, several attendees were heard to make comments such as: "Is it always like this?" "Is it always this long?" "It's always the same thing and the same people complaining at every meeting...I'm not coming back."

The meetings USUALLY average 45-60 minutes. This is a platform and opportunity for member residents to get updates from the Sheriff's Office, find out and/or share with other what's new or upcoming events, voice concerns, advise about clubs and groups...and yes, even complain about the same thing over and over and over again. Occasionally, we may even have guest speakers.

Sure, some people complain about things that are above and beyond the scope and control of the HOA. Some people want to vent. Some are frustrated. BUT, on a different note, some have INFORMATION to share, some want to tell news about their clubs, organizations, or other happenings in the park. There is positive input. There is negative input. Sometimes, we even, shocker, have things to laugh at or about!

C'mon guys...we can't make changes or improve the meetings if everyone takes such sour attitudes...and you know who you are!

My all-too-familiar platitude: If you aren't part of the solution, you are part of the problem.

Kazoo Band

We are looking for talented and not-so-talented people to join our band. If you can dance, sing, tell jokes, play a musical instrument or just want to have fun, come join us. We have openings for six more people. Our show will be March 11th and 12th next year and you must be able to commit to rehearsals on Thursdays from 3-4 p.m. Come on out and try it, we have a great group of people and it's a good way to get your feet wet and meet people.



How I learned to mind my own business

I was walking past the mental hospital the other day, and I could hear a lot of the patients shouting 13—13—13. The fence was too high to see over, but I saw a little gap in the planks so I looked through to see what was going on.

Some idiot poked me in the eye with a stick. Then they all started shouting 14—14—14.

A few good things about getting old

- In a hostage situation you are likely to be released first.
- Your joints are more accurate than the National Weather Service.
- Your secrets are safe with your friends, because they can't remember them either.
- Kidnappers are not interested in you.
- If you never smoked you can start now, and it won't have time to hurt you.
- Things you buy now won't wear out.
- No need to spend money to see your future.
- People no longer view you as a hypochondriac.
- Finally, you get to have dinner at four o'clock.

Mary Kovacs

Fitness Games—2011

The Fitness Games in 2011 will start with registration on Saturday, January 15th and Saturday, January 22nd from 9:00 to 11:00 am in the auditorium.

These are fun-filled weeks of good-natured competition and will only cost \$6.00 for one or as many events as you wish to participate in. If over 85 years of age, just bring proof of age and all events are yours for ... Free.

Games will begin with tennis and end with bocce. All the following activities will be played: pocket billiards; bocce; putting; walking; tennis serve; basketball toss; ladies and mens horseshoes; golf; scrabble; darts; ladies and mens table tennis; football and softball toss; bowling and shuffleboard.

The Fitness Games Awards Party will be held on Sunday, March 13th, from 2:00 to 5:00 pm. Volunteers are always needed for any facet of the games.

New residents: We encourage you to sign up, meet new friends and experience the camaraderie of our village.

Everyone: Come join in these activities, test your skills or non-skills and join in this festive part of the winter season.

John and Ces Mahoney 467-8757
Gerrie Purcell 461-4810, Co-Chairpersons

DEPARTED FRIENDS

We shall miss the following departed friends. This list is as known to the front desk from April 1, 2010 to November 30, 2010.

Rosalie Dill
William Bradley
Walter Jones

Chris Healy
Karl Johanson

George Tkach
James Murphy

James Countie
Lillian Gates

VILLAGE VOICE

Newsletter of Spanish Lakes Country Club Village

Home Owners Association

Editor: Carol Fensterer

Assistant: Gerrie Purcell

Setup and Computer: Carol Fensterer

Cartoonist: Bob Aberger