

Village Voice

February 2011

Tax Help Available

Once again the tax season is upon us, and once again residents of SLCCV are fortunate to have free tax preparation available to them through AARP volunteers. Each year these men and women attend tax classes and pass a comprehensive tax test to be recertified as volunteer tax preparers.

In addition, they sign a pledge to accept no gratuity for their work and furthermore, not to blab about the tax returns they see. Aren't we lucky?!

But best of all, you can find these good people at the Lakewood Park Library three days a week, starting February 2, 2011. The times are:

Wednesday 5 p.m. to 7 p.m.
Thursday 1 p.m. to 3 p.m.
Saturday 9:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m.

If you wish to take advantage of this opportunity to have expert preparation of your tax return, please bring the following with you during the above times:

Last year's tax return
Social Security Cards and SSA form
Statements of interest, dividends and pensions
Checkbook or cancelled check

Good luck!! You will be in excellent hands.

Marie Carroll



WE NEED YOU!

SPANISH LAKES COUNTRY CLUB HOMEOWNERS ASSOCIATION
IS LOOKING FOR VOLUNTEERS TO FILL 2 POSITIONS ON OUR
BOARD STARTING APRIL 1ST, 2011

PRESIDENT
TREASURER

IF YOU ARE INTERESTED OR KNOW SOMEONE YOU WOULD LIKE
TO NOMINATE PLEASE SEE ANY CURRENT BOARD MEMBER
YOU CAN ALSO LEAVE NAME IN THE SUGGESTION BOX.

WE ALSO NEED SOMEONE TO VOLUNTEER TO
TAKE CHARGE OF OUR CANTINA MON-FRI

PLEASE

WE NEED YOU TO TO STEP UP AND BE ACTIVE IN YOUR
COMMUNITY.
WE KNOW THERE ARE QUITE A FEW NEW RESIDENTS THAT HAVE
FRESH IDEAS AND WE NEED YOU!



... Mailbox ...

The winners of the Christmas lighting contest here in the Village were:

1st, Mr. and Mrs. Richard Smith, 14 La Villa Court;

2nd place, Mr. and Mrs. William Muse, 184 Calle de Lagos;

3rd place, Mr. Robert McConnell, 8 Quito.

The COP would like to thank all of the businesses who gave to our prize fund. Without them this contest would not have been possible. The businesses were as follows: Dixie Cream Donut, Wynne Corp., Nino's, Winn-Dixie, Waves Car Wash, Subway, Bobbies Arcade, Dunkin Donuts, CVS, Napoli's Pizza, 2002 Restaurant and Loutina's. We are looking forward to the Christmas 2011 contest. All residents of the park will be eligible, including members of COP.

Thank you on behalf of the COP members for participating.

Morgan Jones

Wow! What a wonderful caring community we have. To those who said a prayer ... and there were many ... those who stopped to visit and brought food, baked delicacies, candy, etc. ... those who sent cards and cards ... those who phoned ... those who thought of me once or twice ... all of you cared and your wishes have helped me through a tough time. Now time will help me come back.

All of this is what makes SLCCV the community it is. We all have each other. I thank you with all my heart and soul.

God Bless you all!

Anita Tudino

To All of My Wonderful Friends and Neighbors at Spanish Lakes:

I just wanted to let you all know how much I appreciated all of the cards, phone calls, expressions of sympathy, food and donations to Hospice you sent during my time of sorrow when my beloved Jim passed.

I am so very grateful to you all for your thoughts and prayers which helped so much to carry me through this very sad time.

Kay Murphy 2.

Open letter to all homeowners.....

I have been asked over the last couple of months 'Why should I join the HOA? How does it benefit me?' I'm going to try to answer these questions.

The Homeowners Association Inc. of Spanish Lakes Country Club village is a non-profit organization incorporated in the State of Florida. Membership is limited to individual homeowners who have legal title to a dwelling in the Country Club Village.

The purpose of the association is to promote the general welfare of all members, to work with village management to maintain a harmonious relationship for the benefit of the homeowners. Also to provide leadership and take an active part in all the civic affairs in the park. We are alert to all activities and proposals which may adversely affect our homes or quality of life.

The benefits of membership are;

- The HOA, through its board members, acts as a liaison with the village management in implementing needed improvements.
- The HOA co-ordinates many activities in the park, such as Memorial Day and Labor Day picnics, dances etc.
- The HOA organized and runs the library and the video rentals.
- The HOA publishes the *Village Voice* to keep members informed of various activities.
- The Circle of Friends and Neighbor Helping Neighbors provides membership and the opportunity to help residents in need.
- The HOA participates in flag raising, providing speakers in the auditorium, fitness games and activities such as super bowl parties.

I hope I have made it clear why it is important to support your HOA. It gives you the opportunity to be actively involved in your community.

We will be conducting a house to house membership drive in February 2011. THE DUES ARE ONLY \$2.50 per year. I hope you will support us and have a voice in your community.

The monthly meetings are on the last Wednesday of each month in the auditorium.

Joanne Trainor

Getting Involved

When I moved into this community four years ago I was told that I could get involved as much or as little as I want. My first attempt to get involved with something was with the Kazoo band. I waited all summer for them to begin in October, unsure but excited at the same time. The day came. I walked into the auditorium not knowing a soul and very nervous. It just took but one person to talk to me and I felt more and more comfortable. I started to know quite a few people and really had a lot of fun with the band. Two years later I took a big step and am now producer of the band. I also took on the Homeowner's Association by volunteering for the Activities Coordinator position.

Now here I am up to my neck with so much to do and so many people, I would never have imagined being in this position four years ago. But I love it.

I love sitting in the card room, on occasion, and listening to people talk about how it used to be here at Spanish Lakes. Granted they are from another generation (we all know how the generation thing goes) but if you sit and really listen they had a lot of fun, good ideas, willingness to get involved for the good of all living here. What happened?

They got older and are forced to leave it to us. It's still here; the clubs, the HOA, Neighbors Helping Neighbors, COP and all the activities Spanish Lakes has to offer.

I know I moved in here to be in a safe community with people my age and have all the amenities I would not otherwise have living outside a 55+ over community. These are the things that attracted me to Spanish Lakes and it's breaking my heart to see that there aren't very many people my age that care to help preserve it.

In order to preserve it, WE all need to step up and take some kind of active role in our community. We don't all need to go overboard like I did and bite off a big chunk all at once, but if each person got involved in one thing it wouldn't be so difficult to keep things going.

I see the same few people volunteering all the ideas. We cannot bring back what was but we can

preserve as much as we can and make this a safe, caring and active community.

In my job as Activities Coordinator, I am trying to offer you fun events so we can come together and get to know each other and have some of our own good times like they did over the last 25 years, but I need you to take some interest in attending them and volunteering to help.

PLEASE get out there and volunteer or join something. If you are still working like a lot of us have to these days, think of something you might be interested in for an evening club or activity. Anyone can start an activity. All you need to do is advertise in the bulletin to see if there is any interest in said activity and go from there.

This brings me to the bulletin! This is a vital tool to find out what's up in Spanish Lakes. There is also a web site www.slccv.org that has everything you need to know. Does anyone have any suggestions on how we can communicate better and get information out there to you? Please, put your suggestion in the HOA suggestion box

Joanne Frey

Great Decisions

Have you heard about Great Decisions? Are you interested in world problems? For many years our local Lakewood Park Library has held Great Decisions meetings in their Activities Room. For the 2011 meetings, Robin Tempest (466-3172) and Ruth Schaming (461-0498) have contacted librarian Carol Shroyer for use of the Activities Room. She will also order Great Decisions books for our group from Foreign Policy Associates, Inc. They have selected eight world topics, making up the material in the books.

The time schedule is eight Tuesdays, starting February 8th through March 29th from 2.00 to 4.00 p.m.

The group members must be prepared for discussing a chapter each week and getting to the library on time. Call either Robin or Ruth for signing up and more information.

Ruth Schaming

Presidents Corner



Actually I am the "acting" president since Colleen Thibault resigned in December due to conflict of interest with her new employment. This is an on-going education for me, learning how much the HOA does for our community.

An overwhelming majority of members present passed the By-Law changes which were proposed. There will be a much-needed increase in dues in 2012 from \$2.50 to \$3.00 and the fiscal year will now run from January 1st to December 31st, with, hopefully, all new memberships paid by April 1st. The November meeting is changed to the first week in December, so that there will not be such a long gap between meetings, between mid-November and end of January.

I recently introduced myself to the new manager of our Village, John Brennan. My first impression was extremely favorable. I had a request for a repair that was taken care of quickly. John attended our January HOA meeting so that you will be able to recognize him when you see him around the Village. He has already initiated a number of good changes such as: WiFi in the Longevity Building and soon to be in the main club house; the owners pool has a cover to retain the heat overnight; the entry into our Village is being widened, then the rest of the paving will be completed. Even though you recognize John, please do not approach him with problems or suggestions. He "likes a paper trail" so submit your items in the Suggestion Box in the lobby.

The paved roads make it very tempting to drive faster than the speed limit of 15 but resist! **DO NOT SPEED.**

The HOA is actively seeking a new President, preferably someone who is a full-time resident. This is a very important position but one that has full backup from the Vice President and the rest of the Board. The HOA is sponsoring numerous events, listed elsewhere, including opening the Cantina each Friday starting January 28th. An evaluation will be made regarding the feasibility of opening more days. Volunteers can call Joanne Frey.

The HOA will be conducting a membership drive in February and needs volunteers to go door

to door. **There is strength in numbers!** We need more members to keep our HOA voice strong. An excellent suggestion was made that each member present should enroll two more members from new friends and neighbors. Welcome to all the returning snow birds. Hope to see you at the February meeting. And don't forget that you can access all our happenings at www.SLCCV.org.

Irene Kanzler

Don't Wait Until Hospice

We've all seen moms-to-be rubbing their abdomens. Even before their child is born they are trying to communicate comfort, that all is and will be well. And, of course, once the baby arrives, there is no end to the physical touching, hugging, kissing, rocking, cooing among them.

If as mom and dad we continue to do this over time, we may begin to hear criticism for this approach. "She's outgrown that," "You'll make him a sissy" etc. Of course, that's not true, but many moms and dads do stop.

When we become young men and women we resume the touching, kissing and caressing, hand-holding and arm around the shoulder. Then, for reasons that vary from couple to couple, or by gender peculiarity, that touching ends as well.

Some couples, though not all, resume a hand-holding ritual in public as they get older (over 60?). It is not unusual for younger onlookers to say "Isn't that cute!"

No! It is not cute. It is necessary. We never should have stopped. It is an essential way of communicating love, caring, valuing, comfort. Have you noticed when people are ill and they get washed, or have a back rub (at least they used to) how much they look forward to that touching.

When the patient and family take advantage of Hospice for end of life care, they often comment about the gentle, loving care of their loved one by Hospice, often demonstrated in their loving touch.

One of the factors that prolongs grieving is called "unfinished business," regrets about what we should have done. **DON'T WAIT.**

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

Too Much Information!

I just want to thank all of you for your educational e-mails over the past year. I am totally screwed up now and have little chance of recovery.

*I no longer open a public bathroom door without using a paper towel or have the waiter put lemon slices in my ice water without worrying about the bacteria on the lemon peel.

*I can't use the remote in a hotel room because I don't know what the last person was doing while flipping through the adult movie channels.

* Eating a little snack sends me on a guilt trip because I can only imagine how many gallons of trans fats I have consumed over the years.

*I can't touch any woman's purse for fear she has placed it on the floor of a public bathroom.

*I MUST SEND MY SPECIAL THANKS to whoever sent me the one about poop in the glue on envelopes because I now have to use a wet sponge with every envelope that needs sealing.

*ALSO, now I have to scrub the top of every can I open for the same reason.

I no longer have any savings because I gave it to a sick girl (Penny Brown) who is about to die in the hospital for the 1,387,258th time.

*I no longer have any money at all, but that will change once I receive the \$15,000 that Bill Gates/Microsoft and AOL are sending me for participating in their special e-mail program.

*I no longer worry about my soul because I have 363,214 angels looking out for me, and St. Theresa's Novena has granted my every wish.

*I no longer eat KFC because their chickens are actually horrible mutant freaks with no eyes or feathers..

*I no longer use cancer-causing deodorants even though I smell like a water buffalo on a hot day.

*THANKS TO YOU I have learned that my prayers only get answered if I forward an e-mail to seven of my friends and make a wish within five minutes.

*BECAUSE OF YOUR CONCERN, I no longer drink Coca Cola because it can remove toilet stains.

*I no longer can buy gasoline without taking someone along to watch the car so a serial killer won't crawl in my back seat when I'm pumping gas.

*I no longer drink Pepsi or Dr. Pepper since the people who make these products are atheists who refuse to put 'Under God' on their cans.

*I no longer use Saran Wrap in the microwave because it causes cancer.

*AND THANKS FOR LETTING ME KNOW I can't boil a cup of water in the microwave anymore because it will blow up in my face.. disfiguring me for life.

* I no longer check the coin return on pay phones because I could be pricked with a needle infected with AIDS.

*I no longer go to shopping malls because someone will drug me with a perfume sample and rob me.

*I no longer receive packages from UPS or Fed Ex since they are actually Al Qaeda in disguise.

*I no longer shop at Target since they are French and don't support our American troops or the Salvation Army.

*I no longer answer the phone because someone will ask me to dial a number for which I will get a phone bill with calls to Jamaica , Uganda , Singapore , and Uzbekistan.

*I no longer buy expensive cookies from Neiman Marcus since I now have their recipe.

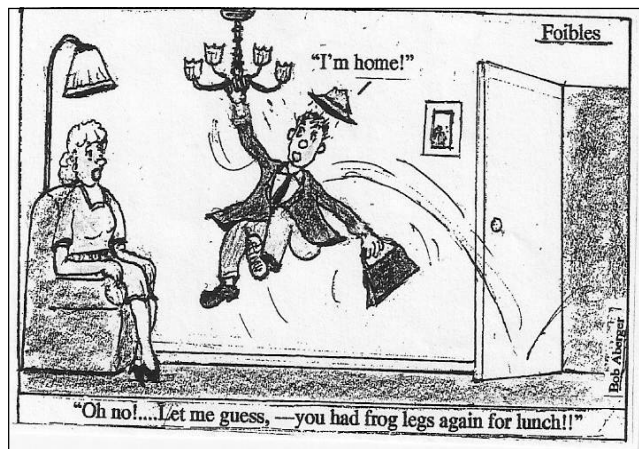
*THANKS TO YOU I can't use anyone's toilet but mine because a big brown African spider is lurking under the seat to cause me instant death when it bites my butt.

*AND THANKS TO YOUR GREAT ADVICE I can't ever pick up \$5.00 dropped in the parking lot because it probably was placed there by a sex molester waiting underneath my car to grab my leg.


*I can no longer drive my car because I can't buy gas from certain gas companies!

*I can't do any gardening because I'm afraid I'll get bitten by the brown recluse and my hand will fall off.

*And I now keep my toothbrush in the living room, because water splashes over six feet out of the commode.



Service Corporation



On Tuesday, January 11, 2011 at 4:00 p.m. the annual meeting of our Country Club Village Service Corporation was held in the auditorium. Board members present were Joel Wynne, president; Eric Wynne, secretary; Alfred Camacho, controller for Wynne Building Corporation; Marilyn Carlson, John Reiff, Colleen Thibaut and Steve Rodriguez, general manager of the physical plants.

The first order of business was to open up the elections to the board for the three resident representatives. There being no new nominations, a poll was conducted and the current representatives were reelected for two more years.

Mr. Camacho was then called on and he gave his report on our financial condition, with accompanying comparative statements. We were all pleased to find that all of our debt for the construction of our reverse osmosis plant has been paid in full during the fiscal year ended on November 30, 2010.

Mr. Wynn then introduced Eric Wynne, who gave us a rundown on the physical plant's operation. Based on his description the entire system is running at peak efficiency and is expected to remain so, as there are no anticipated changes to be made.

Mr. Wynne then opened the meeting to questions from the floor.

Question: Have all homeowners paid their share for the construction of the reverse osmosis plant.

Answer: Yes, 100%.

Question: How many residents out of approximately 1,300 lots participate in the annual financing of the systems.

Answer: It's estimated at approximately 92%.

Question: Will the new paving of the roads impact our water delivery and how will repairs be made?

Answer: the paving will in no way impact our water delivery and repairs will be made by cutting open the new roadway, then repairing it by adding new blacktop to the cut out section.

There being no further questions, Mr. Wynne thanked those in attendance (approximately 25) for coming and assured the audience that the board would do everything possible to maintain the current status quo.

John Reiff

Golf Update

Wednesday, January 26th was a "Mystery Partner" Men's/Women's golf tournament, where net scores (using handicaps) brought us many winners:

1st place: Tim Feeley/Frank Pugsley (yes, we had more men sign up than women, so there was one team of all men...!_).

2nd place: Linda Minde/Dan Borman tied with Jo McPherson/Bob Carson;

3rd place: Jeanne Gamache/John Tyler.

Congrats to all who played for a great time! Our next men/s/women's tournament will be on Wednesday, February 23rd. Watch for the signup sheets in the Tiki Hut and on the men's golf bulletin board. It's open to all golfers (residents) in the park, even if you're not in a league, and costs only \$3.00 (which includes refreshments afterward). Our next game will be a fun variation of Bingo on the Greens. Jackie Tyler and Joan Aldridge can supply further information.

Joan Aldridge

Village Entrance Flag Pole

Although the flagpole at the entrance to the Village had been erected and maintained by the late Jim Purcell Fund as a tribute to our wonderful village, there have been several requests from villagers asking if they could buy future flags to honor their deceased loved ones. In keeping with our spirit, this seemed like a good idea.

The new flag that was raised on January 13, 2011 is in memory of the late Ginnie Hankish. This flag was donated by her friends, Paul Fenton and Gerrie Purcell.

Thank you to John Reiff and Mario Noverini for helping me maintain the flag, especially on holidays. I appreciate it.

If you would like to reserve a flag in memory of a loved one, please contact me at 461-4810.

Gerrie Purcell

Opportunities for Residents

As it enters its sixth year the SLCCV Neighbors-Helping-Neighbors program offers a range of opportunities for residents in interesting and useful volunteer activities. These opportunities lie in all the NHN services described below. One example: Get surveys completed or updated when you wish and for as much time as you wish--a great way to meet residents.

The mission of the Neighbors-Helping-Neighbors program is a commitment to assuring the safety and well being of the residents of Spanish Lakes Country Club Village. Over 120 volunteers currently offer the following services:

Area Services: The 1,300 households in SLCCV are divided into 15 areas each with an Area Coordinator and Neighborhood Assistants. Areas are responsible for:

- *Maintaining an up-to-date survey of information on residents especially on who should be contacted in an emergency affecting the household.

- *Monitoring what is going on in the area and alerting the Coordinating Council to problems found and suggestions for possible NHN action.

- *Identifying residents in the area who may be eligible for a special needs shelter should a hurricane threaten and helping them register.

Resource Development: This program develops publications of use to residents. It also offers seminars on topics of concern to residents, such as Elder Care and Elder Law.

Ramp Committee: Volunteers in this program assist residents with mobility problems by loaning and installing ramps for access to their homes at no cost to them.

Crisis Intervention Team: When a resident experiences serious problems and finds it difficult to cope, NHN will attempt to involve other resources to assist them such as community services, neighbors, social services and relatives if they exist. This service, which is time consuming, has involved relatively few families but has had success in resolving some very difficult situations.

Emergency Preparedness: NHN developed a hurricane response plan with park management and has a plan for mitigation of damage after a storm.

Vial-Of-Life Program: NHN sponsors the "Vial-of-Life" program. In the event of an emergency such as sudden hospitalization or paramedics being called to your home, the medical information inside the Vial of Life will speak for the resident if they cannot communicate.

7. Visitation Team: This service seeks to link residents who are homebound or otherwise isolated with another resident who is prepared to visit them regularly.

If you are interested please contact: Bill Brown 465-2769, Betty Yon 465-1100, Frank Buzzelli 466-9152 or Bill McCurdy 464-3462.



From the Editor's Desk

We are certainly in the middle of a busy season, and I hope you are all having a good time. The Fitness Games will be well under way by the time this issue is printed, and Gerrie Purcell and the Mahoneys, together with all their helpers, are to be congratulated on keeping this annual event going.

It is now announced that we have wi-fi access in the longevity room—long awaited. All you snow birds can now take your laptops there to e-mail your families, instead of going to Starbucks, McDonalds, wherever. Now if we could only get internet hookup in the computer room ...

Ray Copley stopped me the other day and asked if I would like his scrap books. Those of you who have been here a few years remember that Ray and Loretta Copley wrote a weekly piece for the local paper about doings in our community. This was discontinued some time ago, but Ray kept all the columns beautifully preserved in albums and has now reached the stage of wondering what to do with them. They have great memories of past years and it would be a shame to lose them. If anyone would like them, or has a good idea, please contact Ray.

We are all looking forward to seeing what talent we have among us with the Players annual show, and the Kazoo Band. Please be sure to come out to see these shows that entail so much hard work.

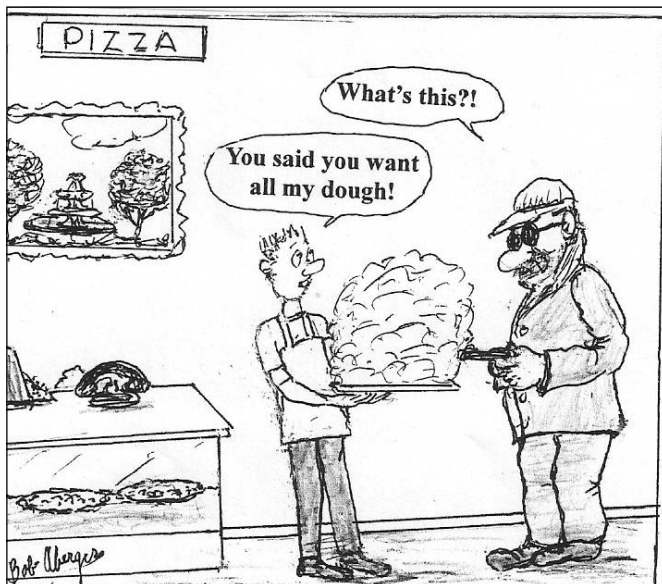
Starry Night Musings

In this town of Spanish Lakes on many a night like this,
Kathy and I would sit and simply reminisce
On the good life that we share
Because both of us care.

We would sit together and hold each other's hand.
The feeling that we get from this is simply grand.
But there were times we had our downs and ups
Because life is not always a Loving Cup.

We made a promise that came right from the heart
That we would stay together until death would us part.

Tom Pitera



Life Begins at 80

I have good news for you. The first 80 years are the hardest. The second 80 are a succession of birthday parties.

Once you reach 80, everyone wants to carry your baggage and help you up the steps. If you forget your name or somebody else's name, or an appointment, or your own telephone number, or promise to be three places at the same time, or can't remember how many grandchildren you have, you need only explain that you are 80. Being 80 is a lot better than being 70. At 70 people get mad at you for everything. At 80 you have the perfect excuse no matter what you do. If you act foolishly, it's your second childhood. Everybody is looking for symptoms of softening of the brain.

Being 70 is no fun at all. At that age they expect you to retire to a house in Florida and complain about your arthritis (they used to call it lumbago), and you ask everybody to stop mumbling because you can't understand them. (Actually your hearing is about 50 percent gone.)

If you survive until you are 80, everybody is surprised that you are still alive. They treat you with respect just for having lived so long. Actually they seem surprised that you can walk and talk sensibly.

So please, folks, try to make it to 80. It's the best time of life. People forgive you for anything. If you ask me, life begins at 80.

DEPARTED FRIENDS

We shall miss the following departed friends. This list is as known to the front desk from December 1, 2010 January 31, 2011.

Rosemary Gallo
Harold Miller

Carol Purcell
Rodman Law

Bob Sugrue
Bob Tong

Jennie Mercandino
Don Carnahan

VILLAGE VOICE

Newsletter of Spanish Lakes Country Club Village
Home Owners Association
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