



Cypress Isles News

The official newsletter of the Cypress Isles Homeowners Association
August 2011 Edition – Published Quarterly since 2001
<http://www.CypressIsles.org>

Welcome to Cypress Isles!



Go over and say, "Hi!"

Welcome to our new neighbors at:

825 Spring Island Way
 13737 Crystal River Drive

If we've missed anyone else who recently moved in, please let us know so we can mention you in our next newsletter.

Sandy Horazak, Editor



Cypress Isles Wins Newsletter Award

On Saturday July 16th, at the annual Orange County Community Conference, Orange County Mayor Teresa Jacobs presented the Community Recognition Award for Excellence in Innovative Newsletter Production to Sandy Horazak, "Editrix" of the *Cypress Isles News*. Over 200 people were present at the ceremony, including Orange County councilpersons, homeowner association board members, property managers, and other hangers-on. A stunned Sandy was speechless at the announcement, and was quoted as saying, " . " ☺

Sandy regained her composure on her way to accept the award from Mayor Jacobs in an official photo. She was particularly delighted that she and the mayor wore color-compatible outfits.

The Excellence in Innovative Newsletter Production award recognizes "a publication that represents the 'best practices' in community/neighborhood-driven newsletter production and distribution." The field of candidates included newsletter editors from all deed-restricted homeowner associations in Orange County.

Dennis Horazak, Cub Reporter

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No Annual Meeting

Keeping with Florida Statutes, since there were not enough homeowners for an annual meeting, the directors keep their jobs.

There was no annual meeting on May 17th because only a few homeowners attended either in person or by proxy. In accordance with Florida Statutes, the incumbent directors stayed on the board and held their annual organizational meeting, at which they decided to keep the same officers and committee members.

To see the minutes, go to our website-- www.CypressIsles.org and click on Archives > Cypress Isles Board of Directors Meeting Minutes.

Waterford Runners

Like to Run, Walk or Bike?

John Tenney has organized Waterford Runners – a free 5k Fun Run event for health, wellness, and socializing afterwards. Running, walking, and cycling enthusiasts from Waterford Lakes, Avalon Park and other East Orlando neighborhoods have joined in the fun since the Inaugural Run in June.



To see photos, updates, dates and times of upcoming 5k meetings, and further info on signing up, go to: www.waterfordrunners.org.

The Case of The Mystery Keys



[Insert dramatic music here...]

If you were running or walking on Divine Circle on or before July 25 and your keys busted out of that hole in your pocket that you've been meaning to fix, look no more! We may have them. Someone left a set of keys on our front doormat. I would've expected a puppy or a kitten...but...keys??

Or maybe...Denny, you got some 'splainin' to do??

If you think you're the rightful owner, give us a call, and we'll compare your description with our forensics. 407-207-6557

*Sandy Horazak,
Lost 'n' Found Editor*

2012 Budget at September 20th Meeting



Next year's budget and homeowner fees are on the agenda for the September Board meeting.

Even though it's only August, the Board is starting to work on next year's budget for Cypress

Isles, including homeowner fees. The current plan is to present the budget for approval at the September 20th Board meeting, which will allow time to print and mail coupon books to homeowners in December.

Homeowners are welcome to attend the September 20th meeting at 6:30 at Connect Realty, 11513 Lake Underhill Road

Dennis Horazak, Secretary

Lost Pets Finders

Lost your pet? Found a lost pet? Here is a new FREE bulletin board.



Pet owners, you know how it is. You let your dog out and he runs off. Or your cat decides to spend a few days outdoors to “find herself.” You make 25 copies of a “Lost Pet” sign, add your phone number and an old picture of your errant pet, tape them to utility poles, mailboxes, and trees, and then you wait. The next day it rains and washes the ink from your signs.

Or maybe some new dog or cat has begun hanging around your house, but you don’t know how to begin to find its owner.

Well, now you can search for lost pets or lost owners online for FREE! Someone who has either lost or found a pet can upload details and a photo about that pet on a new website-- www.WaterfordLakesLostPets.com. They will send emails to “Pet Patrollers” who have signed up on their email alerts distribution list. It’s kind of like an animal Amber Alert. That way, as a community and as neighbors, we can look out for each other and our pets.

This new website is a clearinghouse for pet owners in Waterford Lakes, Avalon Park, and the surrounding areas of East Orlando, helping to reunite pets who have become separated from home with their owners.

Ward and Cheri Wells started Waterford Lakes Lost Pets this year, and they have about 70 people on their email list. They also operate LoveyLoaves Inc. (www.LoveyLoaves.com), a pet advocacy and wellness non-profit organization. The new pet-finder service was

modeled on a similar website that has been successfully serving Winter Park for about two years.

*Dennis Horazak,
Senior Pet Correspondent*

ARC Request & Approval

As a reminder, all changes to the properties within Cypress Isles community are required to be approved by the Architectural Review Committee (ARC) prior to implementing the changes.

So how does the ARC review & approval cycle work?

1. Contact the WLCA office at the community pool cabana, call 407-380-3803 to get the proper ARC application form, or go to our website: www.cypressisles.org to download it.

DO NOT IMPLEMENT REQUESTED CHANGES PRIOR TO APPROVAL BY THE ARC.

2. Complete the top section; provide information on requested change. Listed below are examples of the information that is needed with the application is submitted.

- If submitting a structural change (fence, swing set, landscaping, pool, building addition), include a copy of the plot plan with the changes noted on plot plan.
- If requesting solar panel approval, note which sides of the roof the panels will be installed.
- If changing the color of the home, include samples of the colors and note where colors are to be used (trim, walls, porch, etc.).
- If tinting windows, include sample of material to be used.

3. Take the completed application form to WLCA. WLCA will log it in and send it to the Cypress Isles ARC. The CI ARC and WLCA have up to 30 days to approve or disapprove the request.

4. Once approved by both the Cypress Isles and WLCA ARC, a copy of the application will be mailed to the requestor. If disapproved, the ARC will provide written rationale for disapproval or ask homeowner to resubmit the application.

Architectural Review Committee

Whose Job Is It Anyway?

We live in the midst of traffic jams and bureaucratic mazes, so it's no surprise that we often don't know who can help us with which types of problems. We hope the alphabetical list below will provide some of the answers. If you know of others, please let us know so we can share.

Dennis Horazak

Alligators – Florida is alligator country, and they're allowed to be here, same as you, unless they become physically threatening. If the alligator is away from you, leave it alone. Most likely the alligator will just stay where it is. If you are close to the 'gator, move away. Alligators are very fast in the water, but they can also run pretty fast on land, especially if they have the munchies. An alligator can outrun a human for short distances.

The Florida Game and Fresh Water Fish Commission (352-732-1225) will not come out until an alligator has grown to 6 feet or longer, or until it becomes aggressive toward humans.

Animals, dead - Contact Orange County for removal of dead animals in the road and sidewalk areas of Waterford Lakes. Dial 311 and report the problem and be as exact as possible as to the location.

Animals, pets (unleashed pets, pets tied to trees in the sun without water, etc.) – Call Animal Control at 407-352-4390.

Animals, wild - For all problems with wild animals, you must hire a private nuisance trapper. Orange County Florida Animal Control will only assist in problems involving dogs and cats, but will **NOT** assist in any situation involving wild animals, such as raccoons, squirrels, and snakes.

Crime (break-ins, burglary, lost property, theft, vandalism, vehicle burglary, etc.) - If it's happening right now, call 9-1-1 and stay on the line. If it happened before now – like you just got home and your home has been broken into – call the Orange County Sheriff's Office non-emergency number at 407-836-HELP (4357). If nobody answers, call 9-1-1. Or you can file a crime report on-line.

Crime reporting on line – Go to www.ocso.com and click on "E-Reporting" to report non-violent crimes online, such as lost property, theft, vandalism, and vehicle burglary. Click on "Property Crimes and Robberies in Your Zone" to find out what types of crimes are occurring in your area.

Go to www.cfcrimelinewarrants.com - to check individuals for warrants.

Dig, but call before you do – Power, phone, and cable lines are buried everywhere. Dial 8-1-1 for the Sunshine Network 811, or go to www.call811.com and soon technicians will fill your lawn with little flags.

Disaster Plan – The Waterford Lakes Disaster Plan is posted within the WLCA website. (<http://www.mywaterfordlakes.org> > Documents > WLCA Long Range Planning Committee > Disaster Plan.) The plan includes guidance for neighborhoods and residents.

Neighbors with unkempt yards – Contact your neighborhood association. If the problem is an Orange County Code violation, your neighborhood association should "kick it upstairs" to the county.

Neighbors, nosy – You're on your own.

Neighbors, unruly – Your neighborhood association and WLCA do **not** have jurisdiction over neighbor behavior. Call the Orange County Sheriff's Office non-emergency number at 407-836-HELP (4357), or if nobody answers, call 9-1-1. If you and your neighbor are having a dispute, call Orange County Bar Association Citizen Dispute Settlement at 407.423.5732.

Power Outage – Call Progress Energy at 1-800-228-8485, or go to www.progress-energy.com.

Speeders – Report the tag number to Orange County Sheriff's Office non-emergency number at 407-836-HELP (4357), or if nobody answers, call 9-1-1.

If UCF students are speeding and you report their tag numbers (or even better, student tag numbers) to Orange County Sheriffs and ask the sheriffs to report them to UCF, the sheriffs will report them to UCF, and UCF can discipline the offending students.

Streetlight Repair– Know the address closest to the light (light pole number is even better), then call Progress Energy at 1-800-228-8485, or go to www.progress-energy.com > Residential > Florida > Request Streetlight/Area Light Repair in Florida.

Suspicious people – Contact your neighborhood watch block captain. (See Neighborhood Watch.)

WLCA Office (Becky) 407-380-3803
453 Mark Twain Blvd. wlca@bellsouth.net

Trick or Treat!



Halloween seems like a long way off, but it's really just around the corner and will be here before you can say "Boo!"

Trick or Treat night will be on Monday, October 31st (a.k.a. Halloween), starting at 6 P.M., ending at 9 P.M., or whenever the treats run out. Turn your porch lights on and meet your neighborhood goblins.

Where to go? I'm glad you asked. Good rule of thumb, or foot, is: Porch light on – go there. Porch light off – don't go there.

Trick-or-treaters: Watch out for vehicles and be extra careful because your costumes can make it hard to see. Carry a flashlight to make it easier for you to see, and for others to see you.

Drivers: Watch out for trick-or-treaters and be extra careful because behind every bag of goodies is an excited child.

Moms and Dads: Those costumes are great; we have no idea who they really are.



Everyone: Don't forget to check those goodies before eating them.

As the Clock Turns



Remember last March when we sprang forward and lost that hour of sleep? Well, soon you will be able to regain that hour of lost sleep (supposedly). On Sunday, November 6 at 2 a.m. we return to EST – Eastern Standard Time. This means you will turn your clock BACK one hour. So you can either set your alarm to get up at 2 a.m. and make the change, or do it at a reasonable hour later in the morning, or before you go to bed Saturday night. No excuses for being late the next day, like when Daylight Saving Time returns in the spring. And don't forget to change those smoke alarm batteries, if applicable, and other things you may only do twice a year when the clocks change...

Dateworthy Notes

Happy Anniversary to:



August 17 – Bill & Kathi Snook

Happy Birthday to:



September 20 – Dick Glesener
October 2 – Jerry Matthews
October 3 – Harold Engold
October 3 – Mary Kranz
October 5 – Mike Kranz

advertisers. We recommend that consumers check references.

Thanks...

...to the Gallaghers, Engolds, and Symons for delivering the newsletter to our homes.



...to our Webmaster Dennis Bode for maintaining the best website in Waterford Lakes – <http://www.Cypressisles.org>



Sandy Horazak, Editor

CIN Publication Schedule

Check out our website - www.cypressisles.org to see your newsletter in color, and photos that didn't make it to this black & white print version. (They turn out like a dark blob.)

The Cypress Isles News is published quarterly by the Board of Directors for the residents of Cypress Isles. We welcome non-commercial articles and paid advertising from our neighbors. Send email submissions to Sandy Horazak - sanden@bellsouth.net. Copy deadlines are February 1 for the February issue, May 1 for the May issue, August 1 for the August issue, and November 1 for the November issue. Articles may be edited for length, clarity, or content. Advertisements are subject to approval of the Cypress Isles News staff and the Cypress Isles Board of Directors.

Advertising in the Cypress Isles News does not constitute endorsement by the Cypress Isles HOA or the Cypress Isles News. We do not guarantee the accuracy of the advertisements or the performance or proper licensing of our

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