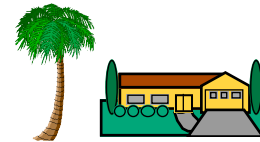


# Cypress Isles News



The official newsletter of the Cypress Isles Homeowners Association

**February 2010 Edition – Published Quarterly since 2001**

<http://www.CypressIsles.org>



HAPPY VALENTINE'S DAY



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## Financial Statements Available

If you would like a copy of the Cypress Isles year-end financial or income and expenses statement, please request in writing to:

Community Management Professionals  
5401 South Kirkman Road, Suite 540  
Orlando, FL 32819  
Fax: 407-903-9234  
Email: [Info@community-mgmt.com](mailto:Info@community-mgmt.com)

Specify whether you want delivery by mail, fax, or email.

A copy of the current year's budget is also available upon request, or from our website at [www.cypressisles.org](http://www.cypressisles.org) > Archives.

*Your Board of Directors*

## Pay Cypress Isles Assessments Online



Now you can pay your Cypress Isles quarterly assessments online. Go to the Cypress Isles web site ([www.CypressIsles.org](http://www.CypressIsles.org)) and select "Pay Assessments Online" from the menu. A secure connection will be opened with Smart Street, which is a division of RBC Bank. You will have three secure payment options: Credit Card, eCheck, and Recurring Payments. Discover, Master Card, and American Express are accepted (Visa is not accepted). There is no fee for the eCheck or recurring payments, but a \$9.95 transaction fee is charged for each credit card payment.

You can also pay your Waterford Lakes assessments online at: [www.mywaterfordlakes.org](http://www.mywaterfordlakes.org) at the "Make Association Payment" link. There are different payment options and fees for the Waterford Lakes assessment.

*Dennis Bode, Webmaster*

## Pay WLCA Assessments Online

You can pay WLCA fees using Visa, MasterCard or Discover, or you can pay from your standard checking account using e-check. Each credit card or e-check payments incurs a \$14.95 transaction fee, but auto-pay e-check payments

charge only \$2 per transaction. For more information go to the "Make Association Payment" link of the WLCA website, [www.mywaterfordlakes.org](http://www.mywaterfordlakes.org).

*Ken Zook, General Manager, WLCA*



## 2009 Holiday Lighting Winners



Three judges and a truck hit the streets of Cypress Isles on Sunday evening December 13th. Fewer homes seemed to be decorated this year (Recession?), and several homes had decorations but they weren't on (bad timing?), but those who decorated still radiated enough joy to make the season bright. The following non-monetary awards were awarded.

The First Place award went to the Janoske family, 505 Spring Island Way, for the way they decorated their house, and enhance the west/south/front entrance to our neighborhood, year after year.

The Second award went to the Garcia family at 818 Spring Island Way for their consistently elegant white-light display.

The Third Place award went to the Bowman family of 933 Spring Island Way for bringing holiday joy to the otherwise dark area of the east/north/back entrance.

The True Meaning of Christmas award went to the Gallaghers at 867 Spring Island Way for their modest but meaningful nativity scene.

The Nice-n-White award went to the Green family at 732 Spring Island Way.

The Patriotic Ensemble Award again went to the Pattens and the Gordons, neighbors at 702 and 708 Divine Circle, respectively, for their combined red, white, and blue displays.

The Most Colorful Mix award went to the Kranz family at 774 Spring Island Way.

The Lighted Walkway award went to the Shorten family at 525 Divine Circle for the "exit row lighting" outlining their front walkway.

And – new this year – the Outreach Award for Best Decorations Visible from Cypress Isles Even Though They Don't Actually Live Here goes to whoever lives at 14025 Lake Underhill Road, across from our east/north/back entrance. Nice work.

Also notably decorated were the homes at

519 Divine Circle,  
537 Divine Circle,  
629 Spring Island Way,  
713 Divine Circle,  
731 Divine Circle  
819 Spring Island Way  
830 Spring Island Way,  
13201 White Cedar Court, and  
13744 Crystal River Drive.

Happy New Year!

## An Angry Homeowner Writes...

*Editor's note: The letter below has been reproduced verbatim from an anonymous email that was sent to the president in December. The president's reply follows the letter, and my editorial is after that.*

Good morning,

As a resident of cypress Isle Subdivision, I have a complaint regarding Christmas decoration for cypress isle entrances!

As I'm driving down the road in Lake Under Hill, our subdivision is the only subdivision that doesn't have any holiday decorations!!! Our HOA fee going up every year but we are going down as far as taking care of our subdivision!!!! what is up with that? Is it that expensive to put up some lights on both entrances???? We pay for 2 association fees, Waterford lakes and for cypress isle separately. Decoration for the Waterford Lake East entrance is SOOOOOO SAD. they put up the smallest wreath that they could find to hang on the entrance, found the cheapest light that barley shines to go on it and yet, not for both of them. only one wreath has

light!!!!!! THAT IS A SHAME!! don't we  
pay enough ?????

Seriously!!!!!!!!!!!!

### **Please fix the decorations!**

Christmas is around the corner!!!

It doesn't take that long to put 4 wreaths up for  
both entrances and hang some lights around it.

Thanks

Cypress Isle Resident

### **...and Our President Replies...**

I am sorry that your e-mail was not responded to  
before now. Every Christmas the Cypress Isles  
board talks about entrance Christmas  
decorations and for the last few years we did  
have wreaths and lights at the south (or main)  
entrance. This year they were not put up for no  
other reason than people not having the time to  
do it.

You see, being on the board is a volunteer role  
and all committees are volunteer as well. The  
problem is we do not have enough volunteers.  
We would love to have a Christmas Decorating  
committee that would take on the responsibility  
of hanging wreaths and lights, but every year  
the same thing happens. NO VOLUNTEERS!

Some of your board members have taken the  
time in the past to decorate, but we can't do it  
all. We need people like you to volunteer and  
help get other neighbors to do the same. Then  
you can be assured that Cypress Isles will look  
great at Christmas.

So we look forward to seeing you this year at  
the November meeting leading a newly formed  
Christmas Decorating committee.

On another note...

You really need to take a look at our budget and  
see just how your dues are spent. I think you  
will see that your board outperforms any other  
community within Waterford Lakes. Where  
other communities have raised their dues to the  
max, such as the Master Association, or are  
broke, your board has kept dues low and working

for you in the best possible way. We will  
continue this practice even if sometimes it  
means making hard decisions like paying  
someone to hang Christmas lights, as we would  
rather try and do it for ourselves.

Thank you for your comments and please do not  
hesitate to attend any of the HOA board  
meetings. We sincerely welcome all of our  
residents to come and share their thoughts for  
this is your community.

Ron Wiley  
President  
Cypress Isles HOA  
13206 White Cedar Court  
407-230-3675

### **Editor Puts in Her Two Cents**

*What's a homeowner to do? Contribute.*

Before criticizing work that others do, I wish  
some homeowners would remember the words  
of the late Casey Stengel:

*"There are three kinds of people: Those who  
make things happen, those who watch things  
happen, and those who ask 'What  
happened?'"*

Cypress Isles has seven board members, ten  
neighborhood watch block captains, two of  
whom are board members doing double and  
triple duty in other capacities & committees;  
volunteer COPS drivers; and a webmaster who  
devotes a lot of time on our 5-star website. All  
past and current board members and volunteers  
have spent hours of personal time, juggled with  
day job, home & family responsibilities; and  
incurred some personal expense just to help  
keep your association dues low. One year a  
current board member bought Christmas  
wreaths for the entrances with his own \$\$, only  
to have them stolen.

There are also countless unsung heroes among  
our neighbors who pick up garbage from the  
streets, yards, and ponds while out walking; or  
help care for lawns of abandoned homes.  
Anyone driving through Cypress Isles can see

that this is a generally well-kept neighborhood, with generally responsible homeowners.

Think about this next time you're inclined to complain about your HOA. And please, anyone is welcome to spend his or her own money on wreaths for the entrances next year.

*Fondest editorial regards,  
Sandy Horazak, Editrix*

### **This Just In...We're Finalists!**

*We must be doing something right...*

Our property manager, Judith Meldrum, entered Cypress Isles in the 2010 Florida Communities of Excellence Awards and received this response:

I am writing to extend congratulations to you and your community as a finalist in the 2010 Florida Communities of Excellence Awards!

Your entry has been submitted for the final round of judging to determine the 2010 Awards winners, which will be announced at the 2010 Florida Communities of Excellence Conference & Awards Ceremony. The event is scheduled for Tuesday, March 23 at the University of Central Florida Fairwinds Alumni Center in Orlando.

The 2010 Florida Communities of Excellence Conference & Awards Ceremony will provide an examination and discussion of "Best Practices" for Community Associations. The program will offer thought-provoking and timely presentations, expert panels, and opportunities to network with Community Association leaders from across the state. The conference will begin at 1:00 PM with a Gala Reception at 4:30 PM, followed by the Awards Ceremony.

Please note these important details about your participation in the March 23 event:

Finalists will be featured in the March issue of the Florida Community Association Journal, and we will be providing information about the finalists to local media statewide. The complete list of finalists is posted on the Communities of Excellence

<[http://www.communitiesofexcellence.net/2010\\_finalists.html](http://www.communitiesofexcellence.net/2010_finalists.html)> and Florida Community Association Journal <<http://www.flcaj.com/coe/>> websites.

Congratulations again on being selected by the judges from the almost 200 entries submitted by communities from across the state.

Sincerely,  
Jim McMurry  
General manager  
Advantage Publishing Company  
*Florida Community Association Journal*

### **Fridays Are Bulk Pick-Up Days**

Please remember to haul your old air conditioners, water softeners, and any other large items you are stashing in your driveway to the curb on Fridays and they will be picked up. You cannot leave them in your driveway. Also, please remember to store your garbage cans and recycle bins in your garage, not in your driveway.

*Architectural Review Committee*

### **Water Line to Cross Lake Underhill**

*Another reason to go into work late ☺*

If you drive on Lake Underhill (and who doesn't?) you will soon have reason to drive even slower as crews dig under the road at the Woodbury intersection to install the 42-inch Reclaimed Water Main. This tunneling operation – called a "jack and bore" – is expected to start during spring break [any parents know when that is?] and continue into the start of the post-break school session. The school crossing guards will be instructed on what will be happening, and additional guards will be used if needed.

If you're keeping score, crews have been working on the Reclaimed Water Main project for 179 of the 365 days scheduled for the project, and 5,347 feet of pipe installed in this section of the project so far.

*Dennis Horazak, Tunnel Rat*

*For more information about this project, see the City website at [www.cityoforlando.net](http://www.cityoforlando.net), click on Departments > Public Works > On-going Projects, then scroll down to "ERRWDS Contract 1B Woodbury Road South."*

## Trim Not Thy Frozen Plants!

*Reports of plants' deaths might be greatly exaggerated*

This message is for all homeowners who are dealing with plants that were damaged by the recent freezing weather. LEAVE THEM ALONE! Don't prune or trim anything until mid-February or later to do any hard pruning. This advice comes from WLCA's Certified Consulting Agronomist-Horticulturist, who cautioned against pruning freeze-damaged plants – even if they look “dead” -- until they have a chance to recover. Plants rebound first at their tips and along their edges, and cutting those parts away now undermines the plant's chances for survival. Also, the dead material helps to protect the underlying live plant in case there is another freeze.

*Dennis Horazak  
Plant Kingdom Correspondent*

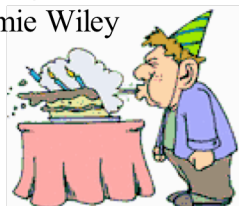
## Dateworthy Notes



**Happy  
Anniversary  
to:**

February 26 – John & Kathleen Tenney  
March 5 – Mike & Mary Kranz  
April 16 – Ron & Jamie Wiley

**Happy  
Birthday  
to:**



February 20 - Pam Janoske  
February 23 - Grace Tenney  
May 5 – Steve Wood

## Whose Job Is It Anyway?

Need help with a problem but don't know who to call? Go to our website, [www.CypressIsles.org](http://www.CypressIsles.org),

click on Architectural Review, and then on “Whose Job is it Anyway?” The alphabetized list covers everything from Alligators to Wild Animals and identifies the responsible agencies with their websites and phone numbers. If you know of others, please let us know so we can share.

## Cypress Isles Contact List

### Board of Directors

Ron Wiley, President	407-384-2564 rwiley4@cfl.rr.com
John Tenney, Vice-President	407-383-3079 jt_hoa_repository@yahoo.com
Dennis Horazak, Secretary	407-207-6557 densus@bellsouth.net
Myron Davis, Treasurer	407-737-8200 mdavis8200@comcast.net
Bob Hopper, Director	407-232-5555 epcorlando@cfl.rr.com
Harold Engold, Director	407-273-4990 LTHEJHPD@aol.com
Cookie Symons, Director	407-273-5460 Minnieland@aol.com

### Community Management Professionals

Judith Meldrum	407-903-9969 Ext. 106 Judith@community-mgmt.com
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### Neighborhood Watch

Sandy Horazak, Coordinator	407-207-6557 sanden@bellsouth.net
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### COPS Committee

Harold Engold, Coordinator	407-273-4990 LTHEJHPD@aol.com
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### Media

Dennis Bode, Webmaster	dbode@cfl.rr.com
Sandy & Denny Horazak, CI News Editor	407-207-6557 sanden@bellsouth.net

## Dates for Daylight Saving Time

Daylight Saving Time in the United States will begin at 2:00 a.m. on Sunday March 14<sup>th</sup>. Set your clocks ahead 1 hour so you won't be late for stuff. If you do it on Saturday, you won't have to stay up until 2:00 AM to make the change.

Publication of this newsletter was made possible by:



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**PAY-suranceHR.com 800.788.8343**

### CIN Publication Schedule

Check out our website - [www.cypressisles.org](http://www.cypressisles.org)  
to see your newsletter in color!

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](mailto: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 advertisers. We recommend that consumers check references.

### Thanks...

...to the Symons' and the Engolds 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*

### WLCA Has an On-line Newsletter

WLCA now has an online newsletter, called *NewStream*, that contains WLCA news and general community. To see it, go to [www.mywaterfordlakes.org](http://www.mywaterfordlakes.org), then click on "Waterford e-magazine" on the home page (no login needed), then click on Waterford e-magazine > Waterford E-Newsletters > February 2010 to get to the actual newsletter.