

# **Cypress Isles News**



The official newsletter of the Cypress Isles Homeowners Association

May 2012 Edition – Published Quarterly since 2001

http://www.CypressIsles.org

# Come to the May 15<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting

Join Joan Rivers on the Red Carpet as the board of directors arrives...

The 2012 Annual Members Meeting will start at 7:00 pm on Tuesday May 15<sup>th</sup> at Connect Realty, 11513 Lake Underhill Road. This meeting features the annual election of directors and a chance to meet your fellow Cypress Islanders.

Can't make it on the 15th? PLEASE fill out a proxy and get it to the Secretary by May 13th.

Dennis Horazak, Secretary



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# **Welcome to Cypress Isles!**



Go over and say, "Hi!" Welcome to our new neighbors at:

13768 Crystal River Dr

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

#### Three Men and a Hose

They once were dirty but now are clean... and so are the walls...

Thanks to Frank Gallagher, Harold Engold, and Dennis Horazak, who spent 2 recent Saturdays power washing all 4 entrance walls... and to Frank for sealing the bricks afterward. Also thanks to the generous neighbors for the use of their water for the task.

The pressure washing was the prelude to some landscaping improvements at both entrances.

Sandy Horazak, Editor

#### Check Out the Entrances!

We have permanent replacements for the quarterly annuals.

Next time you drive past our entrances, do what you always do – keep your eyes on the traffic and try to survive. But the next time you're taking a walk, check out the new look at our entrances. The annuals, which were replaced four times a year (why didn't they call them *quarterlies*?) are gone, and some prettier, longer-lasting plants have been planted.

Dependable Property Care, our landscaper, took out the old plants and replaced them with arrangements of Knockout Roses (red things) and Arbicola Trinett (light green things). They're not that big now, but soon they'll grow to their full floral potential.

The front entrance also got four new Sylvester Palms (palm-looking things) to replace some

trees that were cracking the walls (bad things) and had to be removed.

Check out both entrances on your walk. Then when you get back home after making the loop, you will have walked about 2 miles!

Dennis Horazak, Foliage Reporter

## **Cypress Isles Contact List**

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# **Dateworthy Notes**

# Happy Anniversary to:



May 22 – Cookie & Scott Symons

May 27 – Sandy & Denny Horazak

July 19 – Harold & Cheryl Engold

# Happy Birthday to:



May 17 - Dick Patten

May 23 - Michael Symons

May 23 - Cheryl Engold

May 28 - Tara Engold

June 6 - June Glesener

July 12 - John Tenney

July 17 - Sophia Tenney

July 23 - Dennis Horazak

July 27 - Sandy Horazak

### TLC from the ARC

Most properties look pretty decent, but some could use some TLC. In some cases, that's Tender Loving Care, but in others it's Total Landscape Correction. Here are the results of the latest ARC patrol.

By the way, for easy access to all things ARC, check the Cypress Isles website: http://www.cypressisles.org/ > Architectural Review > Homeowner's Master Documents

Our neighborhood is a blend of established residents who keep up their properties, established residents who have let things slide,

and new residents (welcome!) who are still learning our ARC rules. So let's sort it out.

### ARC Violations

These are ripped from the pages of the voluminous WLCA and Cypress Isles "documents" that you should have received at closing. (Didn't get them? You're not alone; realtors don't always deliver. Again, check our website.) Anyway, heed these:

- If it's not Tuesday or Friday (garbage pickup days), garbage cans and recycle containers must be stored so that they cannot be seen by the surrounding properties.
- Lumber, metals, bulk materials, discarded chicken coops, and other refuse or trash should be stored so that they cannot be seen by the surrounding properties EXCEPT if they're at the curb on Tuesday or Friday mornings for trash pickup.
- Lawns should be edged and grass should be trimmed from growing up the side of the house or fence.
- If weeds are filling the flowerbeds, a little Roundup® or Spectracide® goes a long way. Spray the leaves of the weeds but not the leaves of your flowers or bushes.
- Driveways are for cars, not weeds.
   Roundup® or Spectracide® kills this problem in a few hours.
- Dead palm fronds need to be removed. Palms too tall to trim? If your Washingtonian Palm is reaching for the stratosphere, consider replacing it with a Queen or other shorter palm. It will look better next to your house, and it will be easier to maintain.

### Just Common Sense

Strictly speaking, the points below aren't ARC-enforceable, but it just makes good sense to do them to keep your investment looking good.

Your home and the surrounding property are your investment. The way your property looks, and the way your neighbors' properties look, reflect on the value of your home, your investment. And the way your property looks reflect on the values of your neighbors'

investments. We're all in this together; we're a neighborhood.

- Please roll your hose up when you are finished hosing.
- Don't store your lawn equipment and garden related items at the back of your driveway.
   They're not as durable as cars. They need a garage to protect them from the sun.
- Some fences are looking very weathered.
   Power washing the fence restores "the look."
- Basketball hoops are allowed but must be maintained. A little paint cleans them up very nicely.

### ...and Mulch, Mulch More

Every spring the weeds try to get a couple of laps ahead of the plants you want. Now is a good time to stop 'em in their tracks. First, spray-kill the weeds or pull 'em out "old school," then cover your beds with about 3 inches of mulch or bark nuggets. Mulch keeps moisture in, weeds out, and the ARC off your butt.

Cypress Isles Architectural Review Committee

### Grass Clippings + Drain = No-no

Mamas, don't let your grass clippings go down the storm drains!

You may have noticed the "No Dumping" notices placed by Orange County on our storm drains. It's not what you think...(but don't do that either.) It means please don't toss trash or blow your grass clippings into the storm drains! When that stuff decays in the ponds, it takes oxygen out of the water, kills the fish and plants that should be there, and lets the algae take over.

Don't let the algae take over. Keep trash and grass clippings out of the drains.

### Orange County 311 "One Call Does It All"

Did you know Orange County has one of the best-kept secrets anywhere?

Orange County maintains a phone service where residents can call for assistance in many areas of service. These numbers are for landlines as well as cell phones (Carrier restrictions may be in place on some service providers). Orange County 311 is the point of contact for some of the following services:

Animal Services including reporting animal bites, pet adoption, stray or injured and neglected domestic animals and making Spay and Neuter appointments.

Code Enforcement including reporting graffiti, inoperable vehicles, lot cleaning, property in disrepair and trash, junk and debris concerns.

Roads and Drainage including reporting potholes and tree branch hazards on public property.

Traffic Engineering including reporting fallen stop signs and traffic light malfunctions

Zoning including getting Garage Sale permits, fence permits and Land Zoning and Use issues.

You can call 311 to get contact numbers for County officials, general government information, reporting dead animals on roadways and report mosquito problems.

311 is also the point of contact for disaster situations within unincorporated Orange County. Report flooding, blocked roads and sandbag requests.

The hours of operation for this service are: Monday – Friday 7:00 a.m. to 9:00 p.m. Saturday and Sunday 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

You can visit the website at www.ocfl.net/311 <a href="http://www.ocfl.net/311">http://www.ocfl.net/311</a> For the hearing impaired you may use TTY at (407) 836-4250

And here are some other quick reference numbers that are available for you:

2-1-1 will put you in touch with Community Service Network and the Elderly Hotline

4-1-1 will put you in touch with telephone Info

5-1-1 will put you in touch with Traffic Info

6-1-1 will put you in touch with Telephone Repair

7-1-1 is Hearing Impaired Assistance

8-1-1 is Call Before you Dig!

9-1-1 is for Emergency

Ken Zook, WLCA General Manager

### **CIN Publication Schedule**

Check out our website - 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. 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', the Engolds, the Greens, and the Gallaghers 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