



The official newsletter of the Cypress Isles Homeowners Association May 2014 Edition – Published Quarterly since 2001 http://www.CypressIsles.org

# **Come to the May 20th Annual Meeting**

You should already have your annual meeting packet. If not, let us know.

The **2014 Annual Members Meeting** will start at 7:00 pm on **Tuesday May 20<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 20th? Then PLEASE fill out a proxy and return it by May 19th to either the Secretary at 726 Divine Circle, or mail to the Property Manager at:

Associa Community Management Professionals, Inc. 4700 Millenia Blvd. Suite 515 Orlando, FL 32839 Attn: Bob Borg

Board meetings for the rest of 2014 are:

- Tuesday May 20<sup>th</sup> (after the annual meeting)
  Tuesday July 15<sup>th</sup> at 6:30
- Tuesday September 16<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 (Budget meeting)
- Tuesday November 18<sup>th</sup> at 6:30

Dennis Horazak, Secretary







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## Welcome to Cypress Isles!



Go over and say, "Hi!"

Welcome to our new neighbors at:

744 Spring Island Way

719 Divine Circle

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

#### You Otter See This!

*Cypress Isles has an otter – at least a part-time otter.* 

It was Friday morning, February 28<sup>th</sup>. A few ducks were swimming in the pond between Divine Circle and Crystal River Drive. But something else was swimming in the pond too, just under the surface, occasionally breaking the surface and diving down again. Gator? Nah, too fast. Cormorant? No, too close to the surface. Dolphin? Seriously??

When it scampered on shore it looked like a little seal, -- but there was no beach ball on its nose, haha. So alert homeowner Sandy Horazak grabbed her camera and snapped this picture.



Otto the Otter first sighted on February 28th

It's a river otter! (We looked it up.) Right here in Waterford Lakes! Sandy named him Otto, but she said if it's a "she" she'll name her Otta. So far nobody has stepped up to check (for which the otter is grateful), so the name is still Otto.

Otto made his next appearance on the evening of April 9<sup>th,</sup> when Harold Engold saw him go from the Cedarwood retention pond behind their house to the main pond behind their house (a.k.a. WLCA Pond 16). Harold thought he was *"a really a neat fellow. He or she is fine there. I still say we make him Cypress Isles' mascot!!!!!"* 

Otto's latest appearance was on April 12<sup>th</sup> back in the Divine Circle pond. Here's the latest photo.



Otto returns, April 12<sup>th</sup>

We understand that Otto probably swims in most or all of the ponds in Waterford Lakes, but we still like to think he likes Cypress Isles best.

Are otters dangerous? Sure – if you're a fish. Otters mainly eat fish, along with crustaceans, mollusks, insects, birds, oysters, shellfish, crabs, crayfish, frogs, rodents, turtles and aquatic invertebrates. Much of their diet is what humans consider eww-food, which makes them beneficial to our environment. Of course they will defend themselves if threatened, so leave them alone.

Cypress Isles President Frank Gallagher recently endorsed the views of the rest of the board when he voted to "let the Otter live in the infrastructure." He went on to say, "I deal with the complaints of 'where will the animals go' with new construction projects every day. The answer is they return later and live among us. Not to mention many times Otters travel in pairs. Also keep in mind that Waterford Lakes development created these water bodies for storm water management and open space requirements so it's not out of the question that Mother Nature would send a few Ambassadors."

River otters have an impressive vocabulary for a quadruped. According to mammalogists Larivière and Walton, *"River otters can produce a snarling growl or hissing bark when bothered, and a shrill whistle when in pain. When at play or traveling, they sometimes give off low, purring grunts. The alarm call, given when shocked or distressed by potential danger, is an explosive snort, made by expelling air through the nostrils. River otters also may use a birdlike chirp for communication over longer distances, but the most common sound heard among a group of otters is low-frequency chuckling."* (Probably some joke humans wouldn't understand)

If you still want to know even more about otters, you'll want to go to http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/North\_American\_river\_otter or visit http://www.otter.org

Become an Otter Spotter! Send your stories and photos to sanden@bellsouth.net.

Dennis Horazak, Nature Reporter Photography by Sandy Horazak

# **Cypress Isles Contact List**

V I		
Board of Directors		
Frank Gallagher, President	407-207-3032	fjg3032@comcast.net
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<u>CI News and Media</u> Sandy & Denny Horazak	407-207-6557	sanden@bellsouth.net

## Whatcha Gonna Click?

www.ocso.com Click- on "E-Reporting" - to report certain types of crime online, such as lost property, theft, vandalism, and vehicle burglary.

www.ocso.com- Click on "Property Crimes and Robberies in Your Zone" - to find out what types of crimes are occurring in your area.

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

#### Who Ya Gonna Call?

WLCA Office 453 Mark Twain Blvd. (answered 24/7)	407-380-3803	wlca@mywaterfordlakes.org
Orange County Sheriff's Office Non-emergency	407-836-HELP (4357)	
Animal Control (unleashed pets, etc.) 407-254-9	140 or 407- 836-3111	
Duke Energy Streetlight Repair or Power Outage https://www.progress-energy.com/app/Out	407.629.1010 utageEntry/default.aspx	
Call before you dig (Sunshine Network)	811	www.call811.com
Orange County 311One Call For Almost Anything	311	

#### **Dateworthy Notes**



## **CIN Publication Schedule**

July 27 - Sandy Horazak

The Cypress Isles News is now published on our website - <u>www.cypressisles.org</u>

The *Cypress Isles News* is published quarterly by the Board of Directors for the residents of Cypress Isles. We welcome non-commercial articles 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.

Sandy Horazak, Editor