

## Entrance Wall Destroyed by Car

*Speeder trashes wall, gets arrested.*

A driver speeding home to Jade Forest around 1:45 a.m. Sunday morning March 4<sup>th</sup> lost control of his car and ran into the rear entrance wall on Spring Island Way. A resident of Waterford Bend witnessed the crash from across Lake Underhill.



Photo by Cookie Symons

According to the witness, the driver of a white BMW was trying to elude an Orange County deputy by turning into Cypress Isles, but he missed the turn and hit the center portion of the wall. The force of impact shattered the curved wall and the curvature made the pieces fly outward as if the wall had exploded.

The driver was not injured. He crawled out the driver side window and tried to leave but was stopped by the pursuing deputy. Meanwhile the driver's brother, who was also returning home in another white BMW, stopped and the two brothers began arguing. The deputy stopped that argument but then the driver who hit the wall began arguing with the deputy and was eventually arrested. (Since this article was first written we've learned that he was arrested for DUI.) The deputy called for backup and five other OCSO cars were on the scene by 2:00 a.m. blocking Lake Underhill. The Florida Highway Patrol arrived later to process the scene. Reports were filed with the Orange County Sheriff's Office and with the Florida Highway Patrol.

Later that morning, Cypress Isles board members Myron Davis and Cookie Symons collected the scattered damaged parts and placed them onto the grass, recovered torn pieces of sod, and cordoned off the scene with "Caution/Cuidado" tape. Cookie also turned off the power to the wall lighting, contacted WLCA to turn off the irrigation water, and contacted our manager Bob Borg to begin the restoration process. Repairs are being estimated while we wait for copies of the police reports that will be needed for insurance claims. The repair is expected to cost tens of thousands of dollars.

As an epilogue to the incident, the deputy stopped another driver as he tried to get around the police blockade on Lake Underhill. That driver was also arrested for DUI. The Waterford Bend witness reported that all arrests were handled professionally despite the attitudes of the arrested.

*by Dennis Horazak as reported by Cookie Symons*