

The Heron

East Lake Woodlands



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PRESIDENT'S REPORT

by Susan Whitehead

March heralded the latest annual meeting presented by the East Lake Woodlands Community Association. Each board member gave an overview of their respective committee including projects from 2018 and work to be done during the remainder of 2019. The slide presentation that was viewed at the meeting is currently available on our

website.

Board election results are one of the key agenda items at the meeting. I am happy to officially welcome Jeff Fosbrook to the board of directors. Jeff, a resident of Woodlands Estates, has been very active with the association for many years. Many of you remember that his wife Judy is a past president. Jeff has been invaluable as a member of the drainage committee and devoted countless hours ensuring that the original drainage project was done to exacting specifications. He will chair this committee as Jack Picker, former chair, will now head up the landscape committee.

We also have a new addition to the board with the appointment of Doug Edwards. Doug agreed to fill the remainder of the term vacated by Lee Scharrer, our former landscaping chair. Lee had some big changes at work and felt it necessary to resign from the board to manage the situation. Many of you may remember Doug from his years of having a CPA practice across the street

from the clubhouse. Doug sold his practice a couple of years ago and currently keeps himself busy as a realtor. We're thankful that he agreed to join our board as he brings a wealth of knowledge to the table.

Of course, for a new board member to be elected, another had to leave. East Lake Woodlands was privileged for 10 years to have Jeff Hunt on board as the editor of The Heron and committee chair of the communications committee. In my time with Jeff I realized that he is a tremendous cheerleader for this community. His smile is infectious and when he laughs, he REALLY laughs! He made sure that The Heron was "put to bed" each and every month and was able to reach all of our residents. Even more impressive is that Jeff did this while working full time as a much loved Walgreen's pharmacist. I'm guessing that Jeff will now use his additional free time by visiting more of our country's famed baseball parks! Please thank Jeff for his service when you see him.

And so...if Jeff could volunteer while working full time, I'm encouraging all of you to reevaluate your schedules and see what you can do. We are looking for residents who have some time to explore what it takes to run this community. If you have an interest in finding out a little more about a particular committee, please email us at board@eastlakewoodlands.com and indicate your preference. Someone will get in touch with you and I promise you can spend as little or as much time as you wish! We are particularly looking for volunteers for what I think will be a fun new committee, Holiday Decorating! Hope to hear from you soon!

NEW PHONE NUMBER FOR ROVER AND CONTROLLED ACCESS ASSISTANCE

813-462-8971

EFFECTIVE JUNE 1, 2019

Effective June 1, ELW residents should no longer call 727-785-7384 for controlled access assistance. The old number will now be used only for internal communications. Continued use of this number may result in delayed response time.

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GATE STATUS REPORT

Nov 2, 2018	NORTH GATE. Gate arm struck by resident. Payment recieved.
Nov 20, 2018	SUNTRUST outbound hit by a non-resident. Payment recieved.
Dec 3, 2018	SUNTRUST outbound struck by commercial vehicle. Company disputing responsibility; awaiting response.
Dec 18, 2018	SUNTRUST outbound struck by resident. Claim submitted; awaiting payment.
Dec 28, 2018	SUNFLOWER outbound struck by resident. Claim submitted. There is no change in the gate status with respect to payments or receipt of invoices needed to file a claim.
Jan 03, 2019	SUNFLOWER inbound struck by resident-awaiting invoices.
Mar 23, 2019	EAST LAKE ROAD struck by resident-awaiting invoices.

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**WATCH OUT FOR THIS!!**

by Keith Crank, Vice President

I do not understand why someone thinks it is appropriate to use the small parking lot in front of the park/ball field as a dump station. This is the second time in the past two weeks that someone has put tree limbs, leaves and other yard waste behind

the bicycle rack. Is it a resident or is it a landscaping company? Who knows but it certainly doesn't enhance the appearance of our community. Should anyone see someone dumping trash in this area please let our controlled access officers know. When we have to call someone to pick up the trash it costs all of us.

Recently there has been a rash of complaints about the barcodes not working properly. If your barcode is several years old I strongly suggest that you have it replaced. The barcodes will only last so long especially if you car sits under the blazing Florida sun. The barcode can be replaced at Management and Associates. The replacement cost is five (5) dollars. There could be other reasons that the barcode is not working. One could be that if your barcode is hand held it could be in the horizontal rather than the vertical position. Another could be that if you are not a bound or contract member your barcode will only work at the Sun Trust and the Tampa Road gates.

As we are all aware, the Sun Trust exit gate has been hit several times recently. I would like to remind everyone to please wait until the gate is completely open before passing through. It has been noted that several cars recently that are trying to beat the traffic light on East Lake Road have passed through the gate before it is completely open. Patience will go a long way and save all of us a lot of unnecessary expense. Please don't be so focused on the East Lake Road traffic light that you hit the gate or barely miss hitting it. Remember that traffic light will usually change in about two minutes.

With the upcoming vacation season I wanted to inform everyone about a program offered by the Pinellas County Sheriff's office. It is called Vacation Home Watch and if you would like to take advantage of it you should call them at 727-582-6200. They will ask you for some information and then the patrol deputies working north Pinellas will check your home while you are on vacation. Remember our patrol officers will also check your homes while you are on vacation.

Pinellas County Sheriff deputies patrolled our community in March for 36 hours. They stopped 58 vehicles, issued four citations and fifty-nine warnings. All of the citations were for speeding with the top speed being fifty (50) in a thirty (30) mph zone and thirty-six warnings were also for speeding.

Ten warnings were for stop sign violations, nine were for seat belt violations, three for not having registration available, one warning for an equipment violation.

In all emergencies always call 911. To get in touch with PCSO non-emergency number is 727-592-6900. At the present time to get assistance from our controlled access patrol officers call 727-785-7384. As of June 1, 2019 the number for the controlled access patrol officers will change.



HOW WINDOW TREATMENTS CAN COMPLETE A ROOM

by Sally Giar

Using blinds in your windows may offer a sense of privacy from your neighborhood, but window treatments can provide extra comfort and bring style and sophistication into your home. Not only a functional factor, window treatments are an accessory that can completely transform a room, giving it more depth, character and coziness. Window treatments offer the perfect opportunity to express your personal style and make a room feel more complete.

But choosing the right option for your windows takes time, thought and effort. You can't just throw sheers into any room, and you certainly shouldn't opt for honeycomb shades as your only option around the house. To complete each room with a set of window treatments, you need to consider each room's theme, purpose, style and level of acquired privacy.

Before you dress your windows in any standard option, consider the following tips for choosing the perfect treatments:

KEEP THE PURPOSE OF EACH ROOM IN MIND

You can't just rush to the store and purchase a set of window treatments solely by the way they look. You first need to assess all windows in your house and make treatment decisions based on the purpose of each room. All of the spaces in your home are meant for something different, and that means you'll need to explore different types of window treatments as well.

For instance, you likely want the bedroom to be dark and dimly lit since it's mostly made for resting, so a set of room-darkening curtains make most sense here. A room that thrives off of natural light, such as the home office or living room, can use a beautiful set of sheers. In the bathroom – where you need privacy and solitude – you can get away with honeycomb shades, which block little light but offer total privacy.

CHOOSE COLOR AND STYLE WISELY

Just like you need to consider the purpose of your rooms before purchasing your window treatments, the style and color should complement the room's existing theme. If you're a fan of pattern and texture, this is your opportunity to go wild and

make a statement. On the opposite side of the spectrum, you can choose a neutrally toned set of window treatments that balance the room out.

Keep in mind that you also need to purchase curtain rods and must to be mindful of style here as well. This is a simple task that can make or break the flow and character you're trying to achieve.

HIRE A PERSONAL DECORATOR FOR HELP

While choosing a set of window treatments based on the purpose and character of each room in your home seems like a simple task, it can be difficult to complement your space correctly if you're feeling lost. Window treatments can certainly complete a room, but only when executed in the right way. If you're ready to give your windows a much-needed makeover call **DECORATING DEN INTERIORS** today.



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SOUTH WOODLANDS DRIVE PAVING PROJECT

by Bruce Berger

ELWCA Roads Committee, under the leadership of Chuck Fairman, oversaw the paving project on South Woodlands Drive during the latter part of March 2019.

The project is presented in the several following pictures.



ELWCA MANAGEMENT COMPANIES

Management & Assocs. 813-433-2000

Aberdeen
Cluster 1
Cluster 3
Cluster 4
Cross Creek
ELW Community Assn.
Enclave
Greenhaven 1
Greenhaven 2
Greenhaven 3 & 4
Pinewinds
Pinnacle
Silverthorne
St. Andrews
Woodlands Estates
Woodridge Green
Worthington

Citadel Management 727-938-7730

Cypress 3
Woodlake Run 1, 2 & 3

Ameri-Tech Prop. Mgmt. 727-726-8000

Creekside
Turtle Creek 1 & 2
Woods Landing

Jim Nobles 727-447-8949

Stonebriar

First Choice Management 727-785-8887

Preserve

Innovative Community Mgmt. 727-938-3700

Muirfield

Elite Property Mgmt. 727-224-1871

The Meadows
Hunter's Crossing

Progressive Mgmt. 727-773-9542

Cypress 1
Cluster 5
Heatherwood/Laurel Oaks
Patio Homes

Property Group of Cent. Fla. 727-771-7753

Diamond Crest
Isleworth

Resource Management 727-796-5900

Deerpath
Hunter's Trail

Sentry Management 727-799-8982

Kingsmill
Turtle Creek 3 & 4

Holiday Isles Prop. Mgmt. 727-548-9402

Cross Pointe

Self-Managed

Avenel
Lake Shore Vista
Warwick Hills
The Cove at East Lake Woodlands

As of 03/28/2019

UPDATE OF THE PINELLAS COUNTY DITCH - EAST LAKE ROAD

by Bruce Berger

Last month an overview of the Pinellas County Public Works project on the the east side of East Lake Road immediately south of Woodlands Boulevard.

After several years of obvious issues causing the misdirection of stormwater of water north onto Woodlands Drive, PC Public Works was advised of the situation at the end of Jan. 2019 by the author.

To date the ditch has been "resculpted" and areas around conduits cleared of conduit entrances cleared of debris.

The proper functioning of the ditch, i.e. moving road runoff away from ELWCA should remain a concern.

Further progress of project will be reported.



HOW TO SAFELY TACKLE HOME PROJECTS

(Family Features) When contemplating home upgrades or building projects, contractors and DIYers alike focus on factors such as budget, scheduling and materials. Another important consideration before starting work on any project - from renovating a main living area to expanding a bathroom or transforming your outdoor space - is safety.

While having properly functioning tools is crucial to completing projects both big and small, proper handling and transportation of power tools and batteries can sometimes be overlooked. Due to their efficiency, energy storage capabilities, convenience and durability, lithium-ion battery-powered tools are a popular choice for taking care of task lists of all sizes, but must be handled correctly.

With members representing portable and stationary power tool brands, the experts at the Power Tool Institute - the leading organization for power tool safety resources, information and education - recommend these tips for safe use, storage, transportation and disposal of lithium-ion batteries.

USE:

- The higher energy potential and small size of lithium-ion batteries makes them ideal for cordless power tools but also pose additional safety risks when misused.
- Batteries are not interchangeable, so it's important to only use batteries and chargers from the original power tool manufacturer.



Continued on page 12



HOME IMPROVEMENTS CAN HAVE BROAD MARKET APPEAL

by Ernie Del Barba

In May most of us are relieved that our taxes are filed, and if there is a return coming, what will we do with it? If you are thinking about adding value to your home with one or many home improvements, there are things to keep in mind when making those decisions. Every year 10,000 baby boomers are turning 65, and many of them are thinking about making Florida their retirement destinations. Those of us that have already made ELW our retirement destination might need to alter things to make things around the home easier to navigate, especially as we get older. Another generation to think about when making choices is the after-boomer aged population that are or will be raising families here. You might think that you are trying to please opposite needs with these two generational groups, but if you take inventory you will see that the decisions you make can please everyone.

Give some thought to the layout of your rooms before you make alterations, especially in Kitchens and Bathrooms. These are the main spaces that need move around room, so the idea that less is more in achieving added functionality is something to keep in mind. We all need user-friendly appliances so while you are at it think about the placement of the controls and possibly raising or lowering dishwashers and microwaves. Convenient lever handles, non-slip flooring and LED lighting can take you away from a dated look as well as making things more convenient. When picking cabinets think about them having roll out or pulldown features. In the Bathrooms minor alterations can result in added space. Newer designs have made properly placed grab bars useful and even attractive. Access to shower and sinks and vanities, the fixtures, toilet height are all

strategic choices that result in easier maintenance and will appeal to a broader customer market if you decide to sell your home.

The McCaffery Team at Berkshire Hathaway East Lake Woodlands office wants you to think of us when you are making your real estate decisions. Bob McCaffery, Joan Daly, Sharon Greenfield, Grace Rudawski (bilingual), Claudia Preisig (bilingual), I, and Fonda Dillard are proud to boast that we know ELW. Team member Fonda Dillard has made the leasing market in ELW one of her specialties as a realtor, and she can answer your questions about what types of changes to your home can be made to attract and appeal to a broader market while satisfying you as a homeowner. ELW is in demand for seasonal renters, so if you are ever thinking about this as an option for you, please contact Fonda. Enjoy this beautiful Florida spring season and stop by our office anytime. We are very walk-in friendly!



Fonda Dillard from The McCaffery Team, standing along side of Allen Crumbley and Dewey Mitchell, co-owners of Berkshire Hathaway Home Services/Florida Properties Group and Matt Vigh, Regional Market President, accepts top sales performance award at recent annual gala in Tampa, Florida. Dillard is one of the ten current members of The McCaffery Team that achieved top two percent status for 2018 overall sales. This is the team's third consecutive yearly win.

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BIRD OF THE MONTH RINGED KINGFISHER

by Jake Jacoby

The Ringed Kingfisher is a large, conspicuous and noisy kingfisher found all the way from Texas in the U.S. all the way down to the tip of South America. I photographed these kingfishers while on a photographic workshop in Brazil. These kingfishers have a rufous belly, a massive bill and a blue back. It is impossible to tell the sexes by size, as they are the same; however, they can be identified by differences in coloration. The males have rusty-brown underparts with white undertail coverts and a white throat. Females have a bluish-gray band seen on their upper breast and a whitish band.



Female Ringed Kingfisher

Ringed Kingfishers are found in freshwater habitats, marine



Male Ringed Kingfisher



Female Ringed Kingfisher



Male Ringed Kingfisher with fish

shorelines, and sometimes offshore islands. Breeding will occur in aquatic areas that support fish populated areas suitable for nesting burrows. These kingfishers can perch for several hours on trees while watching for prey and will then catch their prey by diving from the perch. Their diet is largely dependent on fish, but they will sometimes target invertebrates, crabs and crustaceans.

These kingfishers nest in a horizontal tunnel made in a river bank or sand bank. The nest site is a burrow excavated by both the male and female. The burrow may be 5 to 8-feet long, with an enlarged nest chamber at the end. They bring in little or no nest material but debris may accumulate in the chamber.

The mating ritual involves the male offering fish to the female before copulation. The female will lay 3 to 6 white eggs and incubation is done by both parents. The young will leave the nest in about 5-weeks after hatching and appear to be cared for by the adults for quite some time thereafter.

Predators of the Ringed Kingfisher include the White-tailed Hawk, Sharp-shinned Hawk, Bald Eagle, Golden Eagle and the Peregrine Falcon.



SMALL UNMANNED AIRCRAFT - "DRONE" REGULATIONS

by Doug Edwards

All East Lake Woodlands residents should be aware of and follow FAA Guidelines associated with operating drones. Here is what was found on the FAA website as a press release:

The Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) rules for small unmanned aircraft (UAS) operations other than model aircraft – Part 107 of FAA regulations – cover a broad spectrum of commercial and government uses for drones weighing less than 55 pounds. Here are the highlights of the rule.

OPERATING REQUIREMENTS

When manipulating the controls of a drone, always avoid manned aircraft and never operate in a careless or reckless manner. You must keep your drone within sight. Alternatively, if you use First Person View or similar technology, you must have a visual observer always keep your aircraft within unaided sight (for example, no binoculars). Neither you nor a visual observer can be responsible for more than one unmanned aircraft operation at a time.

You can fly during daylight (30 minutes before official sunrise to 30 minutes after official sunset, local time) or in twilight with appropriate anti-collision lighting. Minimum weather

visibility is three miles from your control station. The maximum allowable altitude is 400 feet above the ground, higher if your drone remains within 400 feet of a structure. Maximum speed is 100 mph (87 knots).

You currently cannot fly a small UAS over anyone not directly participating in the operation, not under a covered structure, or not inside a covered stationary vehicle. No operations from a moving vehicle are allowed unless you are flying over a sparsely populated area.

You can carry an external load if it is securely attached and does not adversely affect the flight characteristics or controllability of the aircraft. You also may transport property for compensation or hire within state boundaries provided the drone, including its attached systems, payload and cargo, weighs less than 55 pounds total and you obey the other flight rules. (Some exceptions apply to Hawaii and the District of Columbia.)

You can request a waiver of most restrictions if you can show your operation will provide a level of safety at least equivalent to the restriction from which you want the waiver.

REGISTRATION

Anyone flying under Part 107 has to register each drone they intend to operate. If your drone weighs less than 55 lbs., you can use the automated registration system.

Source: FAA Website Press Release: Fact Sheet – Small Unmanned Aircraft Regulations (Part 107); July 23, 2018

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THE YMCA BRINGS "US" TOGETHER

In many cases here in America, the zip code you're born into may have the ability to determine your future. Sometimes these divisions exist mere miles from each other, in zip codes that are just one number apart. However, the YMCA of the Suncoast believes everyone deserves the same opportunities, no matter who you are or where you're from.

The Y is committed to helping bridge these gaps nationwide. Here in the Tampa Bay area, the Y aims to build equity and close opportunity gaps through a number of school age programs and so much more.

"Our goal is to strengthen our community through youth development, healthy living and social responsibility," said G. Scott Goyer, YMCA of the Suncoast President and CEO.

"We're proud to offer school age programs, memberships to children in Foster Care and teen leadership programs to help ensure everyone can thrive, regardless of who they are or where they're from."

Did you know that the North Pinellas YMCA is just a few miles away and offers you the opportunity to swim, play tennis, take group exercise, partake in family activities, attend summer camp, and so much more! The Y also has before and after care at many local elementary schools. You and your family can truly thrive at your local YMCA. Visit www.ymcasuncoast.org or call 727-772-966 for more information on how to join the Y community.



2019 EASTLAKE WOODLANDS COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION BOARD MEETING SCHEDULE

May 21st	6:30pm	East Lake Woodlands Country Club
June 18th	8:00am	Management & Associates
July 16th	6:30pm	East Lake Woodlands Country Club
August 20th	8:00am	Management & Associates
September 17th	6:30pm	East Lake Woodlands Country Club
October 15th	8:00am	Management & Associates
November 19th	6:30pm	East Lake Woodlands Country Club
December 17th	8:00am	Management & Associates

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“JUST SPECULATING”

by Paul Burmeister, Editor

Editor’s Note: This column is intended to be part serious and part fun. I’ll respectfully leave it to the reader’s discretion to decipher which is which.

As you may be aware, the Annual Meeting of the East Lake Woodlands Community Association was held on March 26th at the ELW Country Club. Based on prior experience and on a completely subjective, unscientific basis I thought the turnout for the meeting was extremely good and was glad the board had the opportunity to share 2018 accomplishments and 2019 initiatives with our residents. Our Board of Directors led by President Susan Whitehead, committee volunteers and property management professionals work extremely hard on a daily basis to essentially manage a small town and protect everyone’s investment. Our community has a lot to be proud of as a result of the efforts made by these individuals.

At one point during the presentations, I scanned the room and noticed former board members Michael Berry, Janet Petersen, Pam Brown and John Fernsler in the audience. Reflecting on the meeting a day or two after, my thoughts turned to how gracious it was for each of them to attend and support the current board’s efforts. Not only had each of these individuals made significant contributions to East Lake Woodlands in their own right, collectively they all served with distinction because they each had always put the long term best interests of the community first and not surprisingly were all still very interested in attending the meeting, staying involved, expressing their thanks and offering to lend assistance in any way they could.



A few days later my mind began to wander again and was bouncing around from thought to thought as if it we’re in an arcade pin ball machine and I thought about their attendance again. At that point I found myself pondering what is it that makes people come forward and volunteer to donate their time, energy and expertise to improve our community. While I can attest from personal experience that the comradery is great and the feeling of accomplishment is extremely satisfying, no one is doing it for the money. There’s no fame or glory, no limos or private planes, no media coverage, red carpets, lavish dinners or award ceremonies. What also struck me is there are a lot of reasons individuals come forward and the reality is each person’s motivations are personal to themselves.

In numerous towns and communities people will spout platitudes about how noble it is to serve, some may tell us what they think we want to hear, others like me who don’t happen to have any filters will blurt out whatever comes to mind at the moment. Kidding aside, the most important character trait that I’ve seen in the board and committee members since becoming a resident 23+ years ago is an altruistic dedication to serve. Aside from that it also seems as though whenever we try to figure out a person’s true motivations for whatever it is they’re doing, we’re really just speculating about what we think their reasoning is and really don’t know for certain. In some respects it’s kind of like the following:

Why does someone speed past you on the highway only to sit next to you at a traffic light?

Why do men wear bad toupees or do comb-overs when everyone knows there actually bald underneath? Why do people insert really old pictures of themselves into their obituaries columns when no one will ever recognize them compared to what they looked like recently and most of their current friends probably didn’t know them 30+ years ago anyway? Why do people leave mattresses and furniture along the side of the road when more than half of the work associated with getting rid of their junk properly is already done? Why did I ever agree to write this goofy column?

And finally, why did legendary “American Top 40” host the late, great Casey Kasem always close each Sunday night radio show reminding us to “keep our feet on the ground and keep reaching for the stars”.

Now let’s be honest with each other and even though I might be speculating myself, Casey had to know you can’t actually reach out and touch the stars in the sky. You can jump up and down and grasp at them all you want but your chances of actually touching the stars isn’t probable. Ladders, stilts, trees and really tall buildings don’t help and you’ll probably just fall and break something like a leg, knee or pelvis. But yet, week after week Casey would repeat the same reframe even though I may be speculating I’m certain he knew there were a lot of people taking his words literally and didn’t understand he was using a stupid metaphor. Why he put our physical wellness at risk we’ll never know. Now back to the count down.

So there you have it, another column written and another Pulitzer Prize I’ll speculate won’t be awarded to me. I’ll try to do better next month.

**EAST LAKE WOODLANDS
COMMUNITY PATROL REPORT**

Tampa Road Gate 727-785-7384 or North Gate 727-785-1465

MARCH 2019

Alarm Calls/911 Hang Up	0
Emergency Calls	0
Complaint Calls (Noise, speeders, solicitors, domestic disputes, trespass, fireworks, suspicious persons)	20
Parking Violations	25
Irrigation Calls	5
Motor Vehicle/ Pedestrian Accidents	2
Crimes Reported (Vandalism to mailboxes, gates, grass damage, stolen bikes, dumping, all other criminal activity)	2
Miscellaneous/Other (Welfare checks, pets, wildlife, all others)	10

The Sheriff monitored 36 hours during March 2019

Performed 36 Hours of Presence/Visibility.

Citations 4, Warnings 59, Vehicles Stopped 58

Top Speed:50/30 MPH and 38/20 MPH, There were 40 warnings/citations for speed, 10 warnings for stop signs, 13 warnings for other offenses, ie.-seat belts, no registration available and equipment.

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For a physician referral: (844) 260-7155 | BayCareJointPain.org



**Mease Countryside
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BACK TO COLLECTING HISTORY ON A HORN

by Paul J.H. Leaser

Some time ago, a collector friend of mine from New England sent me pictures of items he had “lucked into” at a flea market.

This is a carved American war of 1812 powdern adorned with scrimshawed depictions of ships, mermaids, peacocks, and a large American eagle holding a flag in its beak depicting banners engraved within, “E. Pluribus Unum 1812”. In addition, there are engravings of swords and military motifs.

Today, to find and acquire such an item is a rarity, but it reveals the possibility of still finding such a treasure.

Yes, I tried to buy it or trade it out of him but to no avail!



EAST LAKE COMMUNITY LIBRARY MAY 2019 SPECIAL EVENTS

by Patty Ann Wieczorek, Reference & Marketing Librarian

PAINTING SUNFLOWERS

Monday, May 13, 1:00-3:00pm



April showers bring May...sunflowers! Join us as we learn to paint cheerful Sunflowers inspired by the master artist Vincent Van Gogh! Local Artist Shawn Dell Joyce will be guiding us in unleashing our inner artist. Shawn will also be sharing the history and life of Van Gogh as we create our own masterpieces! So, grab your friends and enjoy an afternoon with us! Reservations (by phone or in person at the library) and a nonrefundable \$8 materials fee is required for this class. Ages 16 y/o and up.

WRITING WEDNESDAY FOR GRADES 6-8

Wednesday, May 15, 6:30-7:30pm

Writers in grades 6-8 can join Mrs. Nicky to workshop fiction, essay/memoir, poetry, blogging, script-writing, journalism and more. Writing prompt and notebook provided upon registration. Registration required.



WEE PLAY

Monday, May 20, 10:30-11:00am



Let loose and have some fun! Summer is almost here and to celebrate, our Wee programs are gearing up to have the best time ever! Join us for some stories, songs, and most importantly, fun! Caregiver participation required, children ages 4 and under. No registration required.

ELCL AUTHOR SHOWCASE:

MEET MATT LARKIN!

Tuesday, May 21, 6:30-7:45pm



Matt Larkin has more than 20 books in print and hopes to continue writing until the end of time. He retells mythology as dark, gritty fantasy. Matt “strives to combine gut-wrenching action with thought-provoking ideas and culturally resonant stories.” Come hear how he does that!

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A MESSAGE FROM THE NEW MANAGER

by Debi Hudrlik, AMS, CMCA

Happy Spring ELW residents, I hope everyone is enjoying this wonderful weather. I participated in my first ELWCA annual membership meeting on March 26 at the Country Club. We achieved a quorum of 350 members, 307 by proxy and 43 in person. Although the meeting was lengthy, the Board presented an excellent overview of the Association's 2018 accomplishments and 2019 goals. We have uploaded the PowerPoint presentation to the community website at www.eastlakewoodlands.com. Click on Community Association/Documents/2019 Board Annual Meeting Presentation. I really encourage everyone to review this as it is very informative. We also post monthly the financials, treasurer's report, manager's report and the board meeting minutes once they are approved. Please log on to the website on a regular basis to get the most updated information about ELW. Many thanks to the entire board for preparing their specific segment for the PowerPoint presentation. Well Done!

GATE OPERATIONS – We continue to receive a few calls per month that the bar code readers are not working, particularly at the SunTrust and Metro locations. We have spent a significant amount of time investigating this, and the consensus is that it is not malfunctioning bar code readers, but it is the bar codes themselves. If your bar code is over two years old and you are experiencing issues, we highly recommend that you replace your bar codes. The Florida elements break down the bar codes and they fade after a while, and the readers are not capable of scanning them appropriately once they have been damaged. Replacement bar codes can be purchased from Management & Associates at 720 Brooker Creek Blvd., Suite 206, Oldsmar, Monday – Friday between 8AM and Noon and 1:00 PM and 4:00 PM. The cost for a replacement bar code is \$5.00.

During our time inspecting the gates we have noted a lot of tailgating and impatience on the part of drivers. Complaints are escalating and the number of tickets issued by the PCSO is increasing. Likewise, we have experienced a surge in gate collisions. Although the association is usually able to file a claim with the offender's insurance, the time it takes to handle these claims takes away from servicing other members and needs within the community. Please slow down and be mindful of your surroundings.

We have also received requests to open up particular gates to accommodate community garage sales. Please note that the Board and Access Control Committee have elected not to accommodate these requests. If you are holding a garage sale, please notify the North and South guardhouses and provide them with copies of a map and directions to your neighborhood. The officers will be happy to hand these out to visitors to participate.

DO YOU KNOW WHERE YOU LIVE? – We receive several calls a week from homeowners requesting assistance, and in order to assist you and route your call to the appropriate individual, we need to know what neighborhood you live in. East Lake Woodlands is the community, not the neighborhood. There are 52 "neighborhoods" within East Lake Woodlands, and there are numerous different managers and even management companies that manage neighborhoods. When you call, please let us know that you are calling from Aberdeen, Deerpath, Woodridge Green, etc. at East Lake Woodlands, and we will be able to assist you more efficiently.

HOMEOWNER ASSOCIATION ASSESSMENTS – When paying your assessments, there are two different entities to which you should be mailing your payments. Management & Associates invoices for the ELWCA assessment, and your neighborhood association/management company invoices for your neighborhood assessment.

We continue to receive ELWCA assessment payments that include mortgage payments, Country Club payments, neighborhood association payments, etc. Mailing your assessments to the incorrect entity causes a delay in posting payment to your account. Please be cognizant of where you are remitting payment. If you are not sure where to mail a payment and require assistance, feel free to contact our office at 813-433-2000 and we will be happy to assist you.

ARCHITECTURAL CHANGES – Please note that requests for paint colors to paint your home, front door, install gutters, etc. need to be addressed to the Management Company or Manager for your particular neighborhood. I am the manager for the ELWCA only, and the ELWCA does not approve architectural criteria for individual home sites. Likewise, if you are experiencing an issue with the Board of Directors or Management Company of your particular neighborhood, please understand that the ELWCA Board nor I have any jurisdiction over the neighborhood Boards, Management Companies or activities. The ELWCA is solely responsible for security/gate operations, maintenance of the main roads, maintenance of the main drainage system, and landscaping along the main roadways. Everything else is handled by your neighborhood sub-association. Likewise, ClubCorp and East Lake Water are responsible for activities located on property owned by them.

NEW RECEPTIONIST AND DESK AT MANAGEMENT & ASSOCIATES – We have added another receptionist, Christine, and have installed a new reception desk at the management office. Mary will continue to assist everyone with bar codes and will be assuming more responsibility for gate operations. Should you require assistance with the gates, Mary can be reached directly at 813-433-2014.

DRONES – We have received concerns the last month about drones flying over neighborhoods. The ELWCA Board has contracted with an entity to take some footage of the community for the new website; however, this recent activity has NOT been related to the contractor that was hired. Our contractor will not be flying drones low and directly over your home. If you have a drone and are flying it over homes within the ELW community, please be advised that there are Federal guidelines with respect to such usage, and the Board will be discussing the adoption of policies and procedures for such usage. You can familiarize yourself with the federal guidelines by visiting <https://uavcoach.com/drone-laws-in-united-states-of-america/>.

We thank everyone in advance for their cooperation in these matters. Should you have any issues pertinent to the ELWCA, I can be reached at 813-433-2004 or dhudrlik@mgmt-assoc.com.



HOW TO SAFELY TACKLE HOME PROJECTS ... continued from page 4

- Original manufacturer batteries are engineered to communicate and work with specific tools and chargers. These components go through a rigorous certification and testing process. Third-party batteries are not always held to the same standard, and can pose fire, property damage or personal injury risks.
- Never modify, disassemble or tamper with a battery. The performance of damaged or modified batteries can be unpredictable and dangerous.
- If a lithium-ion battery is damaged, contact the manufacturer before use.
- Never immerse your tool, battery pack or charger in fluid or allow fluid to enter it

STORAGE AND TRANSPORTATION:

- Inspect batteries regularly for signs of damage, such as crushing, cuts or punctures.
- Store your battery in a cool, dry place, away from combustible and flammable items.
- Avoid contact with metal objects, such as keys, coins, screws and nails.
- Always transport and store lithium-ion batteries as instructed in the owner's manual.

DISPOSAL:

- Throwing a lithium-ion battery in the trash or municipal recycling can be a fire hazard.
- Safely dispose of used or damaged lithium-ion batteries by taking them to a local battery recycling center or placing them in a receptacle specially designed for recycling batteries.

Find more information on safe battery use at TakeChargeOfYourBattery.com, or visit PowerToolInstitute.com for additional power tool safety and operation tips.

*Photo courtesy of Getty Images #14681
Source: Power Tool Institute*



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