

## **Back-to-School Safety Reminders for Motorists and Students**

1. Stop for school buses. A school bus will display flashing amber lights about 200 feet before it reaches a bus stop. When stopped, it will display flashing red lights and have a stop-sign arm extended on the driver's side. Florida law requires that motorists following a school bus or approaching from the opposite direction must stop a safe distance from the bus when its flashing red lights and stop sign are activated. Traffic must stop in both directions on all two-way streets and roads, including those with turning lanes. Vehicles travelling in the opposite direction of a stopped school bus may proceed at a safe speed only if the street or road is divided by one of the following:
  - A physical barrier
  - A raised median
  - An unpaved space of at least 5 feet
2. Slow down and watch carefully when approaching a bus stop. Children may not be paying attention to traffic.
3. Look on both sides of the road when children are at bus stops. Students may be crossing to get to the bus stop.
4. Watch for children on bicycles on their way to school or a bus stop.
5. Follow the direction of crossing guards so students can cross safely.
6. Slow down to posted speeds in school zones during opening and closing times.
7. Leave home earlier during the first week of school to allow for increased traffic.

### **Safety Reminders for School Bus Riders**

**(Parents, please remind your students to follow these rules.)**

1. Be alert to traffic. Check both ways for cars before stepping off the bus.
2. Make eye contact with the bus driver. Wait for the bus driver's signal before you cross the street.
3. Walk in front of the bus; never walk behind the bus to cross the street.
4. While waiting for the bus, stay in a safe place away from the street.
5. Never go under the bus to retrieve something you've dropped.
6. Be aware of backpacks or loose clothing that could get snagged on bus doors or hardware.

## **Get school shots updated now before school year begins**

With local schools scheduled to resume on Monday, Aug. 22, Sarasota County public health and school officials remind parents to get their child's immunizations updated now. Parents of children who will be entering schools in Sarasota County for the first time must provide the school office with a completed Florida Certification of Immunization (DH 680). Available through your health care provider, this is the official record showing that your school-age children have had all the immunizations needed for their grade level. The DH 680 form may be printed on white paper and is still valid as long as it contains the state of Florida seal.

By the time a child starts school, he/she should have already had a number of required immunizations. However, proof of updates, boosters and series completion is required to enter Sarasota County Schools for the first time and to advance to some grade levels.

The registrar must be at the school to process the DH 680 forms. While some school staff members work year-round, the majority of Sarasota County School District school registrars will return to work on Wednesday, July 27.

"Bring your student's DH 680 form to the school as soon as you can so your child's first day of school will be a positive experience," says Linda Glover.

Students who do not have the required immunizations will be sent home from public schools on the first day, Monday, Aug. 22. In addition, they will not be able to ride on the bus or participate in sports, band or other extracurricular activities until the school has the DH 680 form showing that they received the required immunizations.

The Sarasota County Health Department, through the federally funded Vaccines for Children (VFC) program, offers immunizations to eligible children at no cost. No appointment is needed. A parent or legal guardian must be present, and must bring prior shot records. Immunizations for eligible children are available at the following locations and times:

### **Sarasota County Health Department**

Adult, Children's and Travel Immunization Clinic

2200 Ringling Blvd., Sarasota

Monday-Friday (clinic does not close for lunch)

Monday- Wednesday: 8 a.m.-4:30 p.m.

Thursday: 8 a.m.-6:30 p.m.

Friday: 9 a.m.-12:30 p.m.

### **North Port Health Center**

6950 Outreach Way, North Port

Monday-Friday

Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday: 7-11:30 a.m. and 1-5:30 p.m.

Wednesday: 7-11:30 a.m. and 2-5:30 p.m.

For more information, contact your health care provider or the Sarasota County Health Department's Office of School Health at 941-927-9000, ext. 32101.

For a complete shot schedule, visit the Sarasota School District's health website,

<http://www.sarasota.k12.fl.us/schoolhealth>.

CGHA board announces new prices for advertising within Newsletter. Please contact the secretary Lori Rinker via email at [rinkld@aol.com](mailto:rinkl@aol.com) for more information.

Business card - \$5.00/month  
Quarter page - \$10.00/month  
Half page - \$15.00/month  
Full page insert - \$30.00/month

#### Newsletter Submissions

All articles, ads, and payments must be submitted by the 15th of each month. You can submit articles through the website or email [rinkld@aol.com](mailto:rinkl@aol.com)

#### Volunteering

Currently there is a need for newsletter delivery for the following areas, Winderwood and Brookmeade Drive area. This is a once a month volunteer duty and requires about 45 minutes of your time each month. For a high school student, this could serve as required community service hours. Contact Lori Rinker.



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#### Sarasota County School District 2011 Summer Hours

As a measure to reduce utility costs, offices of the Sarasota County School District, including central offices at The Landings, will be **closed Fridays from June 17 through Aug. 12** and open additional hours Monday-Thursday.

Offices at The Landings will be open **7 a.m.-5 p.m. Monday-Wednesday** and **7 a.m.-4:30 p.m. Thursday** during those weeks, except the week of July 4

(closed Monday, July 4; open 8-4:30 p.m. Tuesday, July 5 through Friday, July 8).

Some schools and departments may observe different schedules and some schools will be closed for extended periods. Please call first before visiting a particular school or site.

The school district will be closed Monday, Aug. 15 for one of two (unpaid) employee furlough days in 2011-12, and will reopen Tuesday, Aug. 16, when school and district offices will resume their Monday-Friday schedule.

**School starts Monday, August 22 for 2011-12.**

[www.sarasotacountychools.net](http://www.sarasotacountychools.net)

**Brentwood Elementary ~ 361-6230**

**McIntosh Middle ~ 361-6520**

**Sarasota High ~ 955-0181**

# Colonial Gables News

August 2011 Edition



**COLONIAL GABLES  
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**Colonial Gables  
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#### **GENERAL MEETINGS**

Colonial Oaks Park –  
5300 Colonial Oaks Blvd  
Sarasota 34232  
**Room C**

**Sept 6, 2011**

**7:00 - 8:00 p.m.**

#### **ASSOCIATION OFFICERS**

**~President~**

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232-8710

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**~Secretary~**

Lori Rinker  
[rinkld@aol.com](mailto:rinkl@aol.com)

**~Newsletter~**

*Needs a new volunteer*

#### **WEB SITE**

[www.colonialgablesnews.net](http://www.colonialgablesnews.net)  
Ivonne and Sean Malo  
[colonialgables@yahoo.com](mailto:colonialgables@yahoo.com)