



## Fire officials urge wildfire vigilance; lack of rain increases state's wildfire risk

Each year, thousands of acres of land and many homes are destroyed by wildfires. Droughts, lightning, burning debris or carelessness contribute to the ignition of wildfires. Also, a growing number of people live in new Florida communities and are building homes in areas that were once undeveloped and overgrown. The below-average rainfall for the last four to five months has significantly increased the state's wildfire risk.

Sarasota County Assistant Chief Fire Operations John Elwood warns that "lack of concern of fire safety measures can be disastrous.

Florida residents and visitors who need the latest information about travel conditions during wildfires should call the Florida Department of Transportation's (FDOT) free 511 Travel Information System. During times of limited visibility due to wildfires, travelers can get up-to-the-minute reports on major evacuation routes, bridge and road closures, and roadways with toll suspensions by calling 511 or visiting the [www.FL511.com](http://www.FL511.com) website.

Visit [www.firewise.org](http://www.firewise.org) and the [www.scgov.net](http://www.scgov.net) All Hazards site to obtain more information about wildfires, or contact the Sarasota County Call Center at 941-861-5000.

## Tax Year - 2012 Due Date Deadlines for 2011 Tax Returns

APRIL 17, 2012



Colonial Gables  
Homeowners Association  
Founded 1980

### GENERAL MEETINGS

May 1, 2012

7:00 - 8:00 p.m.

Colonial Oaks Park  
5300 Colonial Oaks Blvd.  
Room C

Sarasota, FL 34232

### BOARD MEETING

April, 3, 2012 - 7:00 PM

Call for location

### ASSOCIATION OFFICERS

~ President ~

Nicholas Mavrikas

NickMavrikas@verizon.net

232-8710

~ Vice President ~

Casey Martin

PamperedMovers@aol.com

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Lori Rinker

rinkld@aol.com

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~ Newsletter ~

Dan Patterson

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### WEB SITE

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

Ivonne and Sean Malo  
colonialgables@yahoo.com

## Sarasota County libraries and AARP offer free tax return assistance

Sarasota County libraries and the American Association of Retired Persons (AARP) are offering free assistance with the preparation of 2011 tax returns through April 17.

AARP Tax-Aide volunteers are available to assist with filing federal returns at the following locations:

- Fruitville Library, 100 Coburn Road, Sarasota
- Gulf Gate Library, 7112 Curtiss Ave., Sarasota
- Jacaranda Library, 4143 Woodmere Park Blvd., Venice
- Selby Library, 1331 First St., Sarasota.

Days and times vary by location. For more information, contact the Sarasota County Call Center at 941-861-5000 or visit the libraries website at [www.sclibs.net](http://www.sclibs.net), and click on Taxes.

## Friendship Baptist Church

“The Old Country Church”

5700 Palmer Blvd. Sarasota, FL

Traditional Services

Sunday 10:45 AM & 6:30 PM Sunday School for all Ages 9:30 AM  
Bible Study & Prayer Meeting Along with Team Kids & Youth Wednesday 6:30 PM

## Come Join Us for Worship & Fellowship

371-2301

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A Colonial Gables resident since 1978. Realtor since 1987  
 The only Realtor you will ever need.

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

**Sarasota County Call Center**

**One phone number connects you to Sarasota County 861-5000**

- Contact for any county department
- Ask about a project or service

Other phone numbers

- Animal Services 861-9500
- Sheriff's non-emergency /Main Switch Board 861-5800
- Sarasota County Utilities 861-6790
- Sarasota County Property Appraiser's Office 861-8200
- Sarasota County Human Resources 861-5353
- Sarasota County Health Department 861-2900
- Sarasota County Area Transit (SCAT Plus reservations) 861-1234
- Foreclosure Prevention 888-995-HOPE
- Call 2-1-1 for local assistance



April 2012 Edition

**Membership Drive**

The association will be starting the membership drive soon, for the June 2012 to May 2013 membership year.

The only way the CGHA can continue creating a newsletter for every home, and continue the improvements, is by creating a larger membership level. It does not matter if you're a homeowner, or only renting a home, if you enjoy the work of the CGHA, including reading the monthly newsletter, your assistance is required.

Currently, the "dues" are \$20 per year. That is not very much when you think about all that is done with each year. If you want to send your membership early, please send to the Colonial Gables Homeowners Association:

**C.G.H.A.**  
**PMB 137**  
**4025 Cattlemen Road**  
**Sarasota, FL 34233**

**Kids Corner**

Easter Bunny

Using light color construction paper.

Place child's shoe onto the paper and trace outline of the shoe onto the paper

Cut out tracing.

Glue on cotton ball for tail.

Glue on your own designed bunny ears.

Glue on yarn or pipe cleaners for whiskers.

Finish by drawing in eyes and nose.



**Kids Corner**