

**Decorate your home and save money with Sarasota County's LED light exchange**

The holidays are right around the corner and Sarasota County wants to help residents enjoy a safer and more energy-efficient holiday season by introducing them to the energy-saving benefits of light emitting diode (LED) holiday lights. For a limited time, residents can exchange their old incandescent holiday lights for new ENERGY STAR LED lights at no cost.

County residents can bring in up to two strands of their old incandescent holiday lights to exchange for an equivalent number of energy-efficient LED lights at any one of four locations on specific dates. There is a limit of two LED light strands per household. White and multicolored light strings with 70 bulbs each will be available, while supplies last.

"We are excited to help residents save money while celebrating the holidays this year," said Lee Hayes Byron, Sarasota County's Sustainability Manager. "By taking advantage of the latest technologies, residents can decorate their homes with LED lights that save up to 90% on holiday lighting costs, are cool to the touch, shine brighter, last up to 10 times longer and reduce the risk of fire."

Sarasota County's ENERGY STAR LED holiday light exchanges will take place Nov. 18 through Dec. 2 at select county fire stations. Information on fire prevention and home energy efficiency improvements also will be available at the events. The exchange can be made at the following Sarasota County fire stations:

Saturday Dec. 1: 3-5 p.m.  
Fire Station # 21 - 721 Center Road, Venice

Saturday, Dec. 1: 10 a.m.-noon  
Fire Station # 4 - 3530 Old Bradenton Road, Sarasota

Sunday, Dec. 2 - 3 to 5 p.m.  
Fire Station # 8 - 6750 Bee Ridge Road, Sarasota

Sarasota County is providing this service to residents, thanks to energy education funding through the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) Energy Efficiency and Conservation Block Grant Program, U.S. Department of Energy. To learn more about the ENERGY STAR LED holiday light exchanges in Sarasota County, visit [www.EnergyUpgradeToday.com](http://www.EnergyUpgradeToday.com) or contact the Sarasota County Call Center at 9041-861-5000

**Colonial Gables  
Homeowners Association  
Founded 1980**

**GENERAL MEETINGS**

**December 4, 2012**

**6:30 - 8:30 p.m.**

Colonial Oaks Park  
5300 Colonial Oaks Blvd.

**Room A**

Sarasota, FL 34232

**BOARD MEETING**

January 8, 2013 - 6:00 PM

Call for location

**ASSOCIATION OFFICERS**

**~ President ~**

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**WEB SITE**

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**County government offices close for Christmas holiday**

Sarasota County government offices, including libraries, the History Center and recreation centers, will be closed Monday Dec. 24, and Tuesday, Dec. 25, for the Christmas holiday.

There will be no Sarasota County Area Transit (SCAT) bus service on Dec. 25, Christmas Day or New Year's Day (Jan. 1, 2013).

Residents who live in unincorporated areas of the county will not have yard waste, recyclables or garbage collection on Christmas Day, Tuesday, Dec. 25. For residents whose regular collection day is Tuesday, yard waste, recyclables and garbage will be collected Wednesday Dec. 26. Because collection times vary, residents should place refuse materials at the curb by 6 a.m. the day of pickup.

For more information, contact the Sarasota County Call Center at 941-861-5000.

**Upcoming Sarasota County School Dates**

Winter Break - December 24, 2012, through January 4, 2013

Classes resume - January 7, 2012.

End of 2<sup>nd</sup> grading period - January 14, 2013

Martin Luther King Day (no school) January 21, 2013

Professional Day (no classes) January 22, 2013

**Recycling Guidelines**

**Blue Bin**

For recycling cans, glass and plastics

- glass bottles and jars (all colors)
- aluminum cans/foil trays
- steel tin cans with lids
- aerosol cans (empty)
- drink boxes (remove the straws)
- milk and juice boxes
- plastic bottles \*

\* with neck and a  or  symbol; remove tops and place them in garbage

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## Colonial Gables Newsletter

CGHA newsletter 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)



December 2012 Edition

# Colonial Gables News

Colonial Gables News



## CGHA Holiday Party

Our annual Neighborhood Winter Holiday Party will be on December 4<sup>th</sup>, from 6:30 to 8:30 at Colonial Oaks Park, Room A.

The party is open to all residents of the Colonial Gables. You do not have to be a member of the association to attend the party.

Join us for fun and food. Start the holiday season off with peace and good will by coming and sharing the evening with friends and neighbors. We ask that each family attending to bring a covered disk (casseroles, meatballs, chicken, chili, scalloped potatoes, vegetables, salad, etc.) or a dessert (cake, pie, brownies, cookies, etc.) to share at the "Pot Luck Dinner".

The Association will provide some food, drinks, plates, eating utensils, cups and napkins.

If you have any questions, call Carol Daniels at 371-3275.



## Winter Vacation in Sarasota County Parks and Recreation

Dates: Dec 26, 27, 28, 31, 2012 and Jan 2, 3 & 4, 2013

Time: 7:30 AM - 5:30 PM

Location: Colonial Oaks Park, 5300 Colonial Oaks Blvd.

Description: Daily themes make for loads of fun! A supervised lunch hour is provided for those attending both daily sessions. Cost is \$8.50 per each half day session (7:30 a.m. - noon and 1-5:30 p.m.) or \$110 for all 7 days. Pre-registration required online at [parksrsonline.scgov.net](http://parksrsonline.scgov.net), by mail or phone. Call 941-861-9870 for information.

## Kids Corner



### Crafty Candy Canes

This holiday craft not only looks great, but also provides youngsters with plenty of pattering practice. In advance, collect two paper towel tubes for each child in your home. Have the child paint one tube red and one tube white. When the tubes are dry, help them cut each one into six pieces. Next, provide the child with a 24-inch length of floral wire; then have them thread the tube pieces onto the wire, alternating the colors. Bend the ends of the wire around the edges of the top and bottom pieces; then have the child bend the wire into the shapes of a candy cane. To display these sweet crates, tie a length of yarn around the cure of each cane; then hand the canes around your home.