

Feb Upcoming School Events and Items of interest

** End of 3rd Grading Period - March 24, 2010

** Professional Day – (no classes) March 26, 2010 **

** Spring Break – (no school) March 29 through April 2, 2010 (Class remove April 5th)

Brentwood Elementary upcoming events:

PTO Spring Book Fair - March 1 through March 5, 2010

Various FCAT testing - Grades 3-5 March 9 through March 19, 2010

Sarasota High School - UPCOMING FCAT DATES

TUESDAY, MARCH 9: GRADES 9 & 10 - Reading RETAKES

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 10 GRADES 9 & 10 - Math RETAKES

March 16 Referendum Election Information

On Tuesday, March 16, 2010, a special election will be conducted in Sarasota County. The ballot will include a referendum to allow the Sarasota County School District to continue a 1-mill levy to support public education.

During the early voting period, eligible voters may cast their ballots at any of the three Supervisor of Elections offices in Sarasota, Venice, and North Port between the hours of 8:30 a.m. and 4:30 p.m. weekdays, 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. on Saturdays, and 1 to 5 p.m. on Sundays.

Voters who have questions may contact the supervisor of elections office at 861-8600 or visit the SOE Web site at www.sarasotavotes.com.

Looking for health care? Contact the Health Department

Sarasota County Health Department provides health care, human services and environmental services to residents of Sarasota County, Florida. Our medical and other programs help keep you, your family, and the public healthy. We offer health centers (clinics) with doctors and nurses, immunizations (shots for school and travel), STD and pregnancy tests, WIC, dental, HIV / AIDS services, wellness programs in the community, and much more. Call with any questions: (941) 861-2900 or visit www.sarasotahealth.org

Cone Zone

Honore Avenue from Fruitville Road to Bee Ridge Road: Construction continues this week on Phase 1 of the Honore Avenue improvement project. Phase 1 consists of the section from Bee Ridge Road to Colonial Oaks Boulevard. Crews are working on the substructure of the bridge over Phillippi Creek. Between Stokes Way and Brookmeade Drive, crews are installing a new force main in advance of roadway construction.

Motorists may experience some temporary road closures and detours over the next few months. The entire project will result in a new 3-mile-long, two-lane divided road with roundabouts, bicycle lanes, decorative streetlights, Florida-friendly landscaping, and rain gardens to treat stormwater runoff. Construction will be done in three phases, and is scheduled to be completed in March 2011.

LETTER FROM YOUR OUTGOING TREASURER

In the August 2009 newsletter, I wrote that I had already told the current board; that I will be stepping down, when my 'current' term ends in May 31, 2010 as the treasurer. This will give me four years as a board member, as the treasurer. In the November 2009 newsletter, the current secretary Lori Rinker, wrote how she felt that with her accounting background, she was more suitable for the responsibilities of Treasurer. After the November's newsletter, I received feedback how that appeared to be a negative remark, or that there may be 'differences' among board members. My reply to those remarks has been I believe the statement was misunderstood.

There may have been a better way to state this in different terms. I believe there was an important point to be made. I feel that Lori was pointing out that with her accounting background; her passion would be better suited fulfilling the treasurer's duties over the duties of the secretary. Now I will be the first to stand up and state that Lori's performance as the secretary has always been outstanding! And I believe she will be even more effective treasurer, and to continue to support all the board members. Lori has my support, and I look forward to turning the treasurer's duties over to Lori.

Lori and I have each donated a lot of time to board duties and functions. The two of us, along with the other board members have always worked well to achieve the goal of making our neighborhood outstanding place to live and visit.

Now I would like to turn my focus in the direction of the upcoming elections during the general meeting May 4th.

LETTER FROM YOUR OUTGOING TREASURER CONTINUED

You may ask why I bring up this election topic in March newsletter. When was the last time you, (regardless of being a paid member or not), attended a general meeting? What is it going to take to get more individuals interested in the homeowner association? I believe the board has really focused to provide a clean appearance at each entrance. To create a warm and welcoming entrance way to our neighborhood. We always receive verbal thank you, or someone will stop to say what a great job was done. But it's always the same few folks that come out and support the efforts.

While the Colonial Gables Homeowners' Association welcomes both homeowners and renters into the membership, the bylaws do state that to be a board member, you must be a 'homeowner'. I personally believe that needs to be changed, but without more individuals coming to the general meetings, changes like this will never be made. What changes do you feel need to be made in this association? Within the neighborhood? Within the Sarasota community? I would like to ask every paid member, whom is a homeowner, to take the time to consider taking responsibility of assuming an active role within the association. Even consider being a board member. It really only takes less than 2 to 3 hours per month!

So I challenge each and every homeowner, or renter, to think about what they want from the Colonial Gables Homeowners' Association. Don't come to a meeting with your complaints. You have to come with solutions too! Consider what you can do to assist in reaching that item or goal? Will I see you at the next general meeting?

Colonial Oaks Park –
5300 Colonial Oaks Blvd - Room C on May 4, 2010.

It time for others to take the active role! I submitte the challenge to each and everyone one of you! Will you accept?

Dan Patterson



Ronnie Miller Painting, Inc.

Ronnie Miller

5408 Brookmeade Drive
Sarasota, Florida 34232 USA

Phone: (941) 378-2035
Cell: (941) 302-4196

FREE ESTIMATES

Our community website was developed to serve as an information portal for our neighborhood and our local community.

www.colonialgablesnews.net

Have you visited the new Colonial Gables website. Please let someone know your ideas of the website. If you have input for the website, please email them to

colonialgables@yahoo.com
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 djpat77@verizon.net.



To report a hazardous condition or power outage, please call 1-800-4OUTAGE (1-800-468-8243).

Sarasota County Call Center

A one stop phone number connects you to Sarasota County for all your needs.

941-861-5000

or

Visit www.scgov.net and follow the link for an online service request.



WAGNER REALTY
Bringing People Home Since 1939

Jack Whittington
REALTOR®
Direct: 941-374-7498

47 S. Palm Avenue—Suite 301
Sarasota FL 34236
Email: 5455Whittington@comcast.net
www.WagnerRealty.com

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

American Red Cross

Southwest Florida Chapter
2001 Cantu Court, Sarasota, FL 34232
941-379-9300



Do you have an emergency! Do you see an active crime?
Then call 911

For those non-emergency reports, contact Sarasota County Sheriff's Office by calling the Main Switch Board at

861-5800

(this non-emergency phone number is answered 24 hours a day, including all holidays!)

Colonial Gables News

March 2010 Edition



The Florida Public Transportation Association (FPTA)

Floridatransit.org wants to know what you think about the importance of public transit to Florida's Future. They care about your opinion so much that they are willing to offer you a chance to win a Free 8GB iPod Touch for just a few moments of your time. Visit web site www.floridatransit.org/survey.html

Free Tax Aid to help people file for valuable tax credits

Free tax aid is available at locations throughout Sarasota County for the quick filing of federal individual income tax returns at AARP Tax Aid sites and Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA) sites. Residents who earned \$48,279 or less last year can use the VITA tax aid sites in Sarasota County. This service is not for business returns or complex tax issues.

Both the AARP and VITA free tax sites allow residents to electronically file their tax returns so they can receive any refund sooner.

Visit www.scgov.net for more information on Local AARP and VITA Tax Aid E-File Sites and their hours. If you do not have computer access, call United Way 2-1-1 of Manasota Inc. by dialing 2-1-1 for more information.

Those with mobile or pay phones should call 941-308-4357.



Upcoming Yard Sale

Colonial Gables Homeowners Association will sponsor a community yard sale. This will include advertisement in various publications for March 20, 2010 from 8 AM to 1 PM. Rain date March 27th. A listing of those yard sales that have made a donation will be listed in a master yard sale listing that will be provided to guests as they arrive, along with a map. For more information, call Robert Summerall (Vice President) or email Lori Rinker (Secretary). Hurry, your information must be submitted by **March 5, 2010**.

Colonial Gables
Homeowners Association
Founded 1980

GENERAL MEETINGS

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

May 4, 2010
7:00 - 8:00p.m.

ASSOCIATION OFFICERS

~President ~
Ken Jomisko
371-2976

~Vice President ~
Robert Summerall
handyrob@comcast.net
342-8671

~Treasurer ~
Dan Patterson
djpat77@verizon.net

~Secretary ~
Lori Rinker
rinkld@aol.com

~Newsletter~
(Pending)

WEB SITE

www.colonialgablesnews.net

Ivonne and Sean Malo
colonialgables@yahoo.com