



The Fountain

Cape Haze Community Newsletter

Volume 16, Issue 2

March 2012



CHPOA President's Letter

After serving several years as President, Ross Witschonke has completed his term on the CHPOA Board. Thanks, Ross, for your leadership. At a January Board of Directors meeting the following slate was elected: Art Hanson, President; Jeanne Corbin, Vice-President; Mary Lou Fitzgerald, Secretary; Shell Rieley, Treasurer; Bill Blasdell, CAM; Susan Butler and Ralph Bond, Directors. (Biographies on most Board Members have been published in previous *Fountain* issues; Art Hanson is featured in the May 2011 edition. *The Fountain* is available at our website, www.capehaze.org.)

Members of CHPOA have seen many changes :

The Placida Road project has been changed considerably (See page 4 Bike Path Article).

A proposed trailer parking area at *The Landings* has been defeated (See page 5 Boat Storage Article.)

The Covenant of Revitalization (Deed Restrictions) is proceeding. It's currently in the hands of the State of Florida for review.

I would like to thank all the members of CHPOA for their support and participation in accomplishing these outcomes.

At our Spring Members Meeting on Saturday, April 14, 2012 we will be voting on a reduction of the quorum of a directors meeting to four members, since the number of directors has been changed from nine to seven. Also we will vote for a one-time change of director term from 3 years to 2 years so that this would insure an election of at least two new directors each year.

Please also join us for the Casserole Dinner, provided by the Women's Club, immediately after the meeting.

This has been a successful year for CHPOA. We have seen new landscaping around the Community Center, continued maintenance of our facilities, a vibrant Women's Club, and Friday Night Socials with a growing number of attendees.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank all those who have volunteered their services to CHPOA and those who have participated in our activities. I encourage your continued support in making CHPOA a strong community organization.

On Tuesday, March 27, come meet the candidates for Charlotte County Commissioners. The Candidates Forum will begin at 7 PM. Bring your questions and comments to hear how the candidates stand on important issues.

Art Hanson
President, Cape Haze Property Owners Association

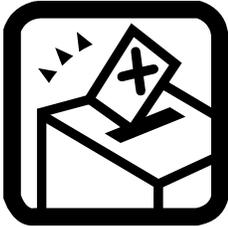
CHPOA Special Membership Meeting

Saturday, April 14, 2012 — 4:00 PM
Cape Haze Community Center

Deed Restrictions Update
By-Law Amendment Vote
More

All Welcome to Attend/Monitor AND Annual CHPOA Dues & CAM Contributions May be Paid

Meet the Charlotte County Commissioner Candidates



CHARLOTTE COUNTY BOARD of COMMISSIONERS CANDIDATES' FORUM

Tuesday, March 27, 2012 - 7:00 PM

Cape Haze Community Center

*Join us and find out the candidates' positions on the issues important to you.
Brief presentation by each candidate followed by Q & A period.*

Commission Candidates Attending

District 1 (Ken Doherty, Bob Starr)
District 3 (Valerie Guenther, Robert Skidmore, Bill Truex)
District 5 (Laurence Daniels, Tricia Duffy, Doug Tucker)

*Remember, **ALL** voters vote for candidates in **ALL** districts.
(Cape Haze is in District 3)*

Primary Election is August 14, 2012 - General Election is November 6, 2012
For Voting Information - Call (941) 833-5400 or check website www.charlottevotes.com

Sponsored in part by
Cape Haze Property Owners Association (CHPOA)

Community Center TV Antenna

A few months ago, a strong windstorm ripped our old, fragile TV antenna and mast off the building.

It has now been replaced by a new HDTV antenna, along with stronger attachment to the building, and TV operation is now available in the Community Center. Instructions for use are on the TV console.

Many thanks to the installation team of Ralph Bond and Shell Riele for their excellent work.

Bill Blasdell
CHPOA Board
CAM Manager



Community Reports

Vacant Lot Mowing

I have not reported on CHPOA's Vacant Lot Mowing Program recently, but would like you all to know the program is up and working quite well.

We have 82 vacant lots that CHPOA monitors. Nine of these lots are mowed by the owners, leaving 73 vacant lots under CHPOA's care.

In January, invoices with a letter explaining our program are sent to vacant lot owners, some local and some out of the country. The charge is \$160 for the six mowings we provide - (April/May, June, July, August, September/October, and November/December).

By the first mowing (April/May) over half the vacant lots have been paid for OR the owners have sent notification that they will maintain their lots. We are happy to see that these owners take responsibility and have pride of ownership.

If we have not received payments by April 1, another bill is mailed. Payments do come in slowly

after that and we keep mowing all the Community's vacant lots to keep Cape Haze clean and orderly.

NOW THE SALES PITCH!

CHPOA is looking for someone to take over the Vacant Lot Mowing Program. No, I have not been fired !!!

I will be here to help with the transition. I have done this job for eight years and have THOROUGHLY enjoyed doing it. It is a TOTALLY Volunteer job -- no primaries and no campaigning!

Remember CHPOA needs many volunteers and this is a very important opportunity to serve. Do call and volunteer !!!!

Clare Landmann
697- 8492



Roadside Clean-Up

Cape Haze has taken on the responsibility for keeping our side of Placida Road, from Green Dolphin Drive North to Green Dolphin Drive South, clear of trash. Toward that end, we schedule neighborhood clean ups whenever necessary.

The last effort was Saturday, March 10 and we collected 13 bags of trash and 3 bags of recyclables (it's sort of discouraging since we did a

clean-up less than six weeks ago). Thank you to all the residents who help with our roadside clean-up -- your efforts are truly appreciated.



NOW THE SALES PITCH!

We need a coordinator to take over the responsibility for these clean-ups. It entails scheduling a clean up, letting neighbors know about it by putting signs out and composing an e-mail to be distributed to the community, and writing a quick report to the County after the event.

It takes about an hour before and after the event and an hour at the actual event. Clean-ups are usually more often during season and few are scheduled during the summer. Please call either Mary Lou Fitzgerald, 697-6228, or Penny Rieley, 697-9811, for more information.

Thank you,
Penny Rieley, 697-9811

Your Community Newsletter - *The Fountain*

Still looking for a new Editor

Be Your Own Boss, Work Two Weeks a Year, Help Your Community

Training Provided, Contact Nancy Buechler Today!

nancybue@aol.com - 697-0885

Women's Club Annual Luncheon



Officer Election/Installation and Annual Luncheon

Monday, April 2, 2012
Noon

Cape Haze Community Center

Salad Potluck Luncheon

*Bring your favorite salad to share
Coffee, Wine, and Dessert will be provided.*

Come ready to party and welcome the new Board

NO CHARGE, but RESERVATIONS NEEDED
(We need a head count by Wednesday, March 28)

Contact Nancy Buechler, 697-0885,
nancybue@aol.com



Bike Path on Placida Road

As you probably know, The Charlotte County Board of Commissioners has been discussing many changes to Placida Road. These have ranged from a four-lane highway to nothing.

The latest plan is to repave the road and add turn lanes including a southbound deceleration lane for the turn into Cape Haze Drive. The latest controversy came from the suggested lighted 10-foot wide path on both sides and paved shoulders.

Citizens for a Better Placida Road fought this and they are very happy with the results. Susan Butler says, "We had the best of all outcomes. County Commissioners agreed unanimously to extend the current (east side only) multi-use path to the causeway, no lights and no paved shoulders. Even the County engineer agreed that paved shoulders provided no added safety benefit to motorist or

bikers and that universally they were not being used if a sidewalk also existed. The bike rider would choose to use the sidewalk instead."

Susan asked us to share this information and to thank all who have helped achieve this outcome.

Currently there are 15 green spaces on the Cape Haze Peninsula and the hope is that eventually all these will be connected by multi-use paths.

The Cape Haze Pioneer Trail is currently open from the 771/775 bridge in Placida to the northern trail head near the intersection of Gasparilla Road and SR 776. Happy Riding!



Casserole Dinner Coming

“Let’s Roll” - Casserole That Is!!

Saturday, April 14, 2012
After the 4:00 CHPOA Meeting

Enjoy a variety of **HOMEMADE CASSEROLES**
FRESH BREAD AND ROLLS

Refreshing **SALAD** & Yummy **DESSERTS**

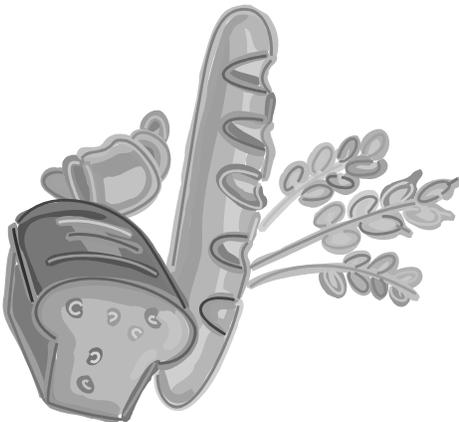


COST: \$12 per person

Reservations by Saturday, April 7 by check
to Cape Haze Women

Reservations to Nancy Buechler
545 Green Dolphin South, 697-0885

*Don't forget to bring your beverage of choice for the
social time before dinner*



Boat Storage Plans Thwarted

The Charlotte County Board of Zoning Appeals heard a petition for a special zoning exception requested by *The Landings* (located on Placida Road directly across from Cape Haze) in public hearing on March 14, 2012. February 24, per Charlotte County Zoning Code, a request notice was sent to property owners within 200' of the variance location; not including most Cape Haze property owners. However, thanks to Penny and Shell Rieley, Cape Haze residents were notified of the hearing.

Kenneth J. Quillen Jr., Charlotte County Planner III, said "*The Landings* requested a special (zoning) exception to allow an outdoor storage yard, for boats and recreational vehicles, as an accessory use to the residential development, in a Residential Single-family 3.5 (RSF 3.5) zoning district. The property . . . is described as Boat Storage Units (BSU) one (1) through twenty-two (22), of *The Landings at Coral Creek Subdivision*, located in Section 02, Township 42 South, Range 20 East."

Thanks to the efforts of Cape Haze residents and others (including some residents of *The Landings*) this application was denied by a vote of 5 to 0.

However, please be aware that this special request for exception is NOT the first for *The Landings*. In 2001 they successfully petitioned for the right to build the cluster units we now see instead of single family homes. Also know that this piece of property in question is NOT the only one in *The Landings* plan designated for boat/RV storage. There at AT LEAST THREE other areas along Placida Road designated for storage when/if *The Landings* builds out on the land it owns to the south. **CONSIDER HOW UNSIGHTLY OUR ROAD COULD BECOME!!**

We're asking neighbors to be vigilant in keeping an eye on things like this and to please let the Community know if you discover anything. We also thank Penny and Shell for leading this effort in Cape Haze.

Cape Haze Women's Club

This has been a very busy season for the Women's Club and we hope you've enjoyed it so far.

The dinner following the January CHPOA meeting was delicious and well attended. Thank you Mary Lou Fitzgerald and Cindy Howell for hosting this.

The Fashion Show on Boca Grande was the best ever and thank you to Jan Hayes for coordinating our attendance.

Annual shelling and lunch on Palm Island entertained a record attendance of 52! Great job again Karen Irvine!!

The Punta Gorda Trolley and Boat Tour were lots of fun and we all learned something new about our area. Thanks to all who drove to this and to Martha Combs for suggesting our lunch stop.

Special programs following business meetings included an Alzheimer's Presentation and Safety Tips from the Charlotte County Sheriff's Department. Thank you Clare Landmann for planning this informative session.

Our Friday Night Socials have been very well attended and we thank all who contribute to this relaxing social evening. Thanks to hosts Mary and Gerry Landy, Jan and Pete Hayes, and Karen and Hank Irvine.

Game night was not a popular event and we've cancelled it due to lack of interest.

We currently have 55 paid members of the Cape Haze Women's Club and it's not too late to join. Annual dues are only \$20 and it's a wonderful way to get to know your neighbors and make good friends.

We still have a few fun events planned for the rest of the season and we hope you can join us for at least one - hopefully more!

The CHW **Officer Election, Installation and Pot Luck Salad Luncheon** will take place on **Monday, April 2 at Noon**. The Nominees for open Board positions are Co-Presidents Cindy

Howell and Karen Irvine and Co-Vice-Presidents Nada Foehringer and Lee Ann Tobin. Thank you to the Nominating Committee, Sharon Blasdel, Mary Lou Fitzgerald, and Clare Landmann for this wonderful slate. Please try to join us for this important meeting and to close the season with a fun event. See page 4 for more information.

Let's Roll is the theme of our **dinner following the April 14 CHPOA Meeting**. Homemade casserole dishes will be featured and will be accompanied by Salad, Rolls, and Desserts. Reservations are needed by April 7. See page 5 for more information. This is a great opportunity to bid farewell to those who will head north for the summer. Chairperson is Mary Lou Fitzgerald.

The next **Friday Night Social is May 11** and will be hosted by the Medintzes. Socials continue through the summer on **June 8, July 13, and August 10, 5:00—7:00 PM**. Summer hosts are the Fitzgeralds, Hansons, and Landmanns. **September 14 social** will be hosted by the Howells. **October 12** needs hosts, please contact a CHW Board Member to volunteer. Remember to bring an appetizer to share and your own beverage. All invited to attend.

Don't forget the regular activities that take place in our Community Center:

Aerobics: Every Monday, Wednesday, and Friday morning at 8:00 am, through May.

Book Club: Second Tuesday of month, October through May, 10:00 AM. Discussion Books listed on Upcoming Events Calendar, next page.

Thank you to everyone who has helped me with the duties of President of the Women's Club, I truly appreciate all that you've done. I hope you've enjoyed our events and will support the new Board as they plan next year's social calendar.

Hope you feel the community spirit here at Cape Haze and looking forward to seeing you at our events.!!

Nancy Buechler, CHW President



Mark Your Calendars

Upcoming Events

Unless otherwise noted, events take place at the Community Center

- | | |
|--------------|--|
| April 2 | Women's Club Election/Officer Installation and Salad Potluck Luncheon - Noon |
| April 10 | Book Club - 10:00 AM - <i>In the Woods</i> by Tana French |
| April 14 | CHPOA Special Membership Meeting - 4:00 PM |
| April 14 | "Let's Roll" Casserole Dinner Following CHPOA Meeting |
| May 8 | Book Club - 10:00 AM - <i>Dreams of Joy: A Novel</i> by Lisa See |
| May 11 | Friday Night Social - 5:00 PM - 7:00 PM |
| June 8 | Friday Night Social - 5:00 PM - 7:00 PM |
| July 13 | Friday Night Social - 5:00 PM - 7:00 PM |
| August 10 | Friday Night Social - 5:00 PM - 7:00 PM |
| September 14 | Friday Night Social - 5:00 PM - 7:00 PM |
| October 9 | Book Club - 10:00 AM - Discussion Selection TBA |
| October 12 | Friday Night Social - 5:00 PM - 7:00 PM |

Stay informed, check our website - www.capehaze.org

Kids' Needs is the Charity supported by our Cape Haze Community.

Kids' Needs serves Englewood area school-age children by providing school clothing, shoes, toiletries and school supplies. The purpose is to keep kids in school.

Currently, the needs are dressier clothing for high school boys and girls. Formals, dress shirts and slacks, dress shoes, accessories like ties and purses, and even sport coats. These will help the

students be part of the school experience by helping them attend the PROM in style. Lots of this clothing is also great for job and college interviews.

Please look through your closets and drop off donations at the Community Center. (There are people ready to help transform your evening wear to younger styles if necessary.) We'll be doing this again in the fall for HOMECOMING so if you clean your "UP NORTH" closets, remember Englewood KIDS' NEEDS!

Thank you all for your help.

Boat Trailers in Yards!!

Yes, that's right—even in Cape Haze! Neighbors are parking all kinds of things in plain view and leaving them for months (YES MONTHS!) at a time.

Some neighbors trying to sell properties are getting questions about an expensive area allowing this—and who can blame them? Remember when you bought here? Would you have given it a second thought if you had seen as many “things” parked on street and water side yards as we have now?

Please, even if you don't see these eyesores anymore, the rest of us do. So, PLEASE - PLEASE, consider your neighbors and FIND A PLACE out of site to store your extra vehicles.

Thank you.

The Fountain

is published January, March/April and November.

All articles, letters, photographs, and “Upcoming Events” received by deadline will be considered for publication.

Text submissions should be Microsoft Word files.

Photographs should be .jpg files of at least 400kB in size.

Text and photographs should be attached to e-mail with “Fountain Submission” in the subject box, and forwarded to NancyBue@aol.com.

Hard copy submissions may also be considered.

**November Deadline is
November 1, 2012**

The Fountain

Cape Haze Property Owners Association
P. O. Box 690 Placida, FL 33946

**CHPOA Membership Meeting
Saturday, April 14 - 4:00 PM**

Inside this Issue:

- **Charlotte County Candidate Forum**
- **Boat Storage Yard Plans**
- **Bicycle Path on Placida Road**

The Fountain is produced by Nancy Buechler Cape Haze Florida