



The Gulf View

Pennington Place Buffer

By Don Sussman

By now most of us have observed that foliage on the western shore of Pennington Place has been pretty much cleared. Talks with a representative of D.R. Horton (the current builder at Pennington Place) indicate that the clearing work has been completed.

This clearing was done with the permission of the Sarasota County Office of Natural Resources Environmental Protection. Discussions with that group and D.R. Horton indicated that they were unaware of Provision 3 of Sarasota County ordinance No. 2003065. This provision states that

Nuisance and invasive vegetation shall be removed from the property, where practical, and properly disposed of in an approved landfill or other method approved by Resource Protection Services. If this vegetation is acting as a visual buffer a phased removal and planting plan can be used with written approval from Resource Protection Services, which plan shall locate recommended trees and shrubs either within the rear yard of a proposed structure along the south line of the County easement or within the abutting common area to reduce visibility of such proposed structure by Gulf View Estates homes fronting Pierce Drive.

This provision was part of the original negotiations in 2003 between representatives of GVE, the developers of Pennington Place and Sarasota County, allowing the development of Pennington Place and insuring the maintenance of a visual buffer and other aspects of the appearance of the Pennington Development. Neither the resource protection organization nor D. R. Horton said they were aware of the provision when the cutting started. We owe a special thanks to Jerry Greenler for finding the original draft of this document.



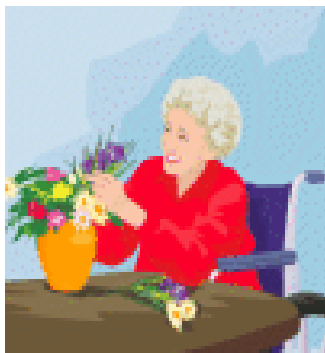
We have contacted the legal firm that represents GVE with regard to compelling D.R. Horton to meet their obligation and restore the visual buffer. It is their opinion that this is a straightforward matter of code compliance. They advised that we approach D.R. Horton to see if we can resolve this problem in a neighborly fashion without legal action, if not we can file a complaint with Sarasota County Code Enforcement to force compliance.

Stay Tuned For More Developments.

The Board of Directors will meet one week earlier this month, Wednesday, May 12, 7:00 PM, at Woodmere Park. All residents are invited to attend this final meeting before the summer hiatus.

Inside this issue:

EC&R Violations	2
Calendar	3
Bits and Pieces	3
Vets Affairs	3
Turtles	4



Happy Mothers Day

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Thought for the Day

*“The difference between
 ‘involvement’ and
 ‘commitment’ is like an eggs-
 and-ham breakfast: the
 chicken is ‘involved’ - the pig
 is ‘committed’.”*
 ~ ~ Anon

2010 Board of Directors		
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Vice-President	James Cassata	497-3205
Treasurer	Charles (Dale) Conant	497-5965
Maintenance	Edmund Kowalski	493-5584
Landscaping	Duane Pilarowski	492-9455
	Richard Vohsberg	587-8305
Architectural Review	Nanette Vuolo	244-2441
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Welcoming	Sandy Tustin	493-4734
Social	Ruth Cress	493-0660
Street Capt. Coord.	Lyn McConnell	496-8687
Nominating	Dolly Lewis	493-2208

Thoughts on Recent EC&R Violations

By James Cassata

It has been your Boards’ position and commitment to fairly and consistently keep our community protected from violations of our long established EC&R’s.

It is reasonable to assume that residents of Gulf View Estates invested in their homes here because of the desire to live in a community that is free from deteriorating properties. Thus the need for deed restrictions.

Our process has been, when a valid complaint is brought to the Board’s attention, to have Keys/Caldwell send a letter to the resident asking them to correct the violation that applies according to the EC&R’s.

In a few instances we have had the owner ignore a compliance request which prompts a decision by your Board to turn the problem over to our legal representative. The attorney then sends a registered letter requesting and expecting immediate compliance. This action on his part generates a \$350 expense at the outset and may increase based on additional legal activity if the request continues to be ignored.

To that end, we have had a circumstance recently whereby the violator ignored the Keys/Caldwell requests, perhaps thinking the action would just “go away”. The resident then received the attorney’s letter

and decided to attend our Board meeting to discuss the problem. It was then agreed to by the resident to correct the violation which was the desired result.

Unfortunately, the agreement was made only after costly legal involvement which could have been prevented.

The point we wish to make here is that ignoring the problem will **a)** not make it go away and **b)** surely cost you and your association additional expense in legal fees. We work hard at controlling costs to keep our GVE annual dues extremely low. Unnecessary attorney fees are a sure way of dramatically increasing annual legal expenditures. We do not wish the occurrence of these issues to ultimately increase everyone’s annual dues.

Your Board, as your representative, appreciates prompt compliance to deed restriction problems. In the event you feel the request is unfounded, please attend a Board meeting to discuss your situation.

We are working for you.



Bits and Pieces

Calendar of Events

May 12

The Board of Directors is meeting one week earlier than usual on May 12, 2010 at 7:00 PM at Woodmere Park. This is the final meeting until September when the usual meetings will resume. Members of the Board will be available during the summer months to take your calls if a problem arises.

May 13

Bill Cress is hoping to get enough men to join the R.O.M.E.O.s at the American Legion. If you are available, call Bill at 493-0660 ASAP.

May 27

Community Dinner Night Out has been changed to *Beyond the Sea* located on SR776 in Englewood (formerly *LaStanza*) at 6:00 PM. Please call Ruth Cress for reservations at 493-0660.

June 2

Ladies Luncheon will be at *Captain Eddie's Family Seafood Restaurant*, 107 Colonia Lane, Nokomis, at 12:00 noon—perhaps an ice cream at Nokomis Groves for dessert? Please call Ruth Cress for reservations at 493-0660.

June 24

Community Dinner Night Out is planned for *Mi Pueblo* in the Brickyard Plaza on US41 By-pass at 6:00

PM. RSVP to Ruth Cress at 493-0660.

R.O.M.E.O.s wanted: need at least two more for lunch at *The Frosted Mug*. Call Bill Cress at 493-0660.

Veterans Affairs Officer To Visit Board Meeting

The Sarasota County Veterans Service Office will brief on military veterans benefits available via the US Department of Veterans Affairs during the May 12, 2010, GVE Board meeting. Veterans may wish to bring their discharge forms, DD Form 214, to the meeting. Besides home loan assistance, health disabilities occurring years after discharge from military service that the veteran attributes to that service may be compensable. For example, hearing loss due to being an artilleryman or working around active aircraft runways or flight decks or diabetes which is automatically attributed to exposure the defoliant Agent Orange due to one or more days service in the Republic of Vietnam and other defoliant locations. The DVA Aid and Assistance Program may provide financial assistance to veterans and/or spouses if the veteran served at least one day in a hostile fire or "combat" zone and that data is on the DD F214.

Safety First

Summer will soon be upon us with the increased activity generated by children out of school and families

on vacation. Safety of all our residents is a primary concern and so this reminder.

Bicyclists are required by law to ride in the direction of traffic, obeying the same rules as vehicles.

Dogs must be leashed at all times (it's the law) and nobody wants to see them running unexpectedly into the path of oncoming vehicles.


Pedestrians are expected to walk only on the side of the street facing oncoming traffic.

Newsletter Editor

Your editor is once again on the lam - chased out of town by the lure of children and grandchildren in New England.

I have every intention of returning in late September and look forward to continuing the GVE newsletter.

By that time, it may be made available on the GVE website. Work on that project is ongoing. There will be lots of information requiring input. Anyone offering web skills would be warmly welcomed.



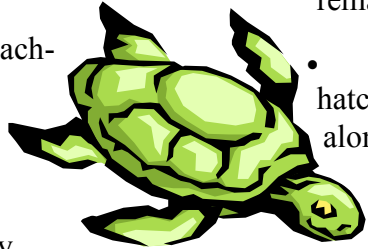
If you are planning any improvement project on your house or landscape, please check with a member of the GVE Board of Directors before starting work.

Turtle Nesting Season

Sarasota County Natural Resources officials are reminding residents and visitors that sea turtle nesting season begins May 1 and several local beaches are prime spots for mature female turtles to lay their eggs.

To protect sea turtles and their nests beachgoers should:

- Avoid areas marked with small flags
- Minimize beachfront lighting by turning off, shielding, or redirecting lights away from the beach
- Replace incandescent and fluorescent bulbs with amber or red LEDs
- Close blinds and draperies in oceanfront rooms at night
- Remove lounge chairs, cabanas, umbrellas, and boats, from the beach at night



- Do not walk dogs on the beach unless permitted
- Use your natural vision and moonlight when walking on the beach at night
- If you encounter a turtle on the beach at night, remain quiet, still and at a distance.
- If you encounter a sea turtle nest or hatchlings, leave the eggs and baby turtles alone
- Properly dispose of your garbage. Turtles may mistake plastic bags, styrofoam, and trash floating in the water as food and die when this trash blocks their intestines.

All sea turtles, including those that frequent Sarasota County beaches like loggerhead, green and Kemp's Ridley turtles, are protected by the Endangered Species Act, and Sarasota County's Marine Turtle Protection Ordinance.

For more information, contact the Sarasota County Call Center at 941-861-5000 or visit www.scgov.net.



GVE Pond Parade Courtesy of Don Sussman