

# GRAND



# HAVEN

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Volume 7, Issue 1 May 2014

## *The Oak Tree*

### **President's Message: The Best is Yet to Come**

As we head into Spring, the time of the year associated with new beginnings and a renewal of plants and landscaping, our community is undergoing a number of positive changes. Since the time of the collapse of the housing market, we were faced with an increasing number of foreclosures, deserted properties and those properties not being adequately maintained. Although Grand Haven continues to face some challenges in these areas, it appears that the worst is behind us and the future holds a great deal of promise.

Not only has there been a significant upswing in the number of new homes under construction but in addition, resales are staying on the market for shorter periods of time and in general, selling prices have increased. Wild Oaks, which contains the majority of undeveloped lots in Grand Haven is experiencing a level of new construction greater than ever before. In addition, the Riverview phase two condominiums adjacent to the Golf Clubhouse have been purchased by Lavaya Properties II, LLC, who are based in Jacksonville. The GHMA Board has been informed that construction on the existing structures is scheduled to begin in Summer, 2014. Projects under construction may not be pretty but the end product is more than worth the wait and inconvenience.

At the present time, out of the 1901 properties in our community, there are a total of 257 undeveloped lots and that number is diminishing almost daily. This would indicate that if the economy continues to grow, within the next few years, the build out of Grand Haven will be complete. In addition, as new construction increases and existing homes are sold, I would anticipate that there will be a significant decrease in the number of problematic properties with which we all must deal and a corresponding decrease in the number of rental properties throughout the community.

The governing of a community the size and uniqueness of Grand Haven is a complex process whether it involve the Community Development District (CDD) which is responsible for the common areas, infrastructure and amenities or the Grand Haven Master Association (GHMA), which is responsible for our 1901 residential properties. However, the accomplishments of these entities are dependent upon the support, cooperation and understanding of our residents. In that regard, we applaud each of you.

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## **GHMA Meeting Schedule for 2014**

The Board of Directors of the Grand Haven Master Association (GHMA) meets on the 3rd Friday of every month (unless otherwise noted.) All residents are welcome to attend.

**When: 2 PM, Friday, May 23, 2014**

**2 PM, Friday, June 20, 2014**

**2 PM, Friday, July 18, 2014**

**Where: Creekside Amenities Center**

**2 North Village Parkway**

## **GHMA Board Members**

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The Oak Tree is always looking for ideas and topics for future issues., especially those that would be of interest to Grand Haven residents—Grand Haven activities, clubs, happenings, sporting events, resident volunteer activities and opportunities. Please contact Nancy Carlton at ncarlton096@gmail.com with your suggestions.

## **Special Thanks to Patty Stauffer**

One of the things residents look forward to each and every quarter is the Oak Tree, the informative publication all about Grand Haven. The person who has worked tirelessly the last three years to give us the Oak Tree, Patty Stauffer, has stepped down from her role as editor. Patty has left her stamp on the Oak Tree. Under her stewardship the publication was expanded, color pages were added, photographs of residents and activities were included and advertisers were sought. Funds from advertisers made it possible for Patty to provide us with a more professional looking publication. Speaking on behalf of all residents, we wish to express our heartfelt gratitude to Patty for all that she did to make the Oak Tree the widely valued and trusted publication that it has become.

Grand Haven Master Association Board Members

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## President's Message...continued

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It would be naive to believe that as a community, we will not have challenges that we will be required to meet in the future. However, I believe that we have demonstrated our ability to successfully cope with economic adversity in the past and that the best is yet to come. There is something very special about Grand Haven that transcends the unique physical attributes of the community. In the final analysis, it is the human element that defines any community and our residents deserve the credit for the continued success of Grand Haven.

Dr. Robert Jay Carlton, President  
Grand Haven Master Association

## Where To Get Answers??

People ask all the time, "Who do I call to find out....?"

"Where do I look for answers to....?"

Well, an easy way to remember the answer to those questions is:

- CDD is responsible for the **common areas** (Gates, Gate Access Devices, Resident registration updates, Amenity Center, Creekside Facility, street-lights, etc. They can be reached at 447-1888 or visit website, [www.grandhavencdd.org](http://www.grandhavencdd.org) for more details..
- GHMA is responsible for **homeowner properties**, which includes enforcement of the CC&Rs and maintenance of the Crossings Pool. You can contact Southern States Management Group at 446-6333 or visit the GH Master HOA website at [www.grandhavenmhoa.com](http://www.grandhavenmhoa.com) for more details.
- Village Center Office provides a complete list of **activities** that take place at both the Village Center and the Creekside Amenity Center on their website, [www.grandhavenamenity.com](http://www.grandhavenamenity.com), phone 447-0192. They can also assist with visitor amenity guest passes.
- Having guests that need to gain access through the Main Guard Gate? Call 445-2376 and provide their name, your address, approximate time of arrival and length of stay, if they will be with you more than one day.



**Landscape Mulch** – Landscape mulch/ground cover is required for landscape beds pursuant the GHMA ADC Standards. It is necessary to add to or refresh your landscape mulch from time to time (bi-annually).

The default approved landscape mulch/ground cover for all properties is naturally colored, organic (pine) bark chips. Red, black or green mulch is not permitted.

REMEMBER – you should only add to or refresh the same landscape mulch that has been approved by the ADC for your landscape plan.

If you would like to utilize a different type of mulch or mulch alternative (rock) you will need to submit to the ADC for approval prior to installing.

**Mold on Roofs and Concrete Surfaces** – Each owner should take a look at their roof and consider having it cleaned. The roof itself can and will get dark in color and/or moldy (particularly tile roofs). Also the border or fascia around the edge of the roof may need attention as well. This is something to plan for at least annually if not more frequently.

Remember, driveways/walkways/sidewalks tend to develop mold this time of year. Cleaning roofs and concrete surfaces all at once can save time and/or money.

**Street Tree Canopy** – Trimming of the street tree canopy is a continual maintenance item. Selective pruning on a regular basis will continually prohibit limbs from interfering with street and/or sidewalk traffic. The minimum heights are: 7 feet over the sidewalk, 9 feet over the curb or edge of the road, 11 feet over the traffic lane and 14 feet over the crown of the road.

If you have questions about any of these items, please contact Troy Railsback at 386-446-6333.

## Volunteer Spotlight

More than 600 pairs of shoes for children in Flagler County have been purchased through the devoted efforts of Grand Haven resident **Henry Reid**, as he has tirelessly volunteered with the Flagler County Education Foundation. Reid, 85, grew up poor in South Carolina during the Depression years. "Times were pretty bad in 1935," he says, and he was one of two youths who did not have shoes in the first grade until a teacher bought them both a pair. Henry never forgot that kindness and is "paying it forward," by leading the foundation's Reid Shoes4Kids project. Since September of this year, more than 80 gifts to purchase shoes have been received. Many donors are Henry's Grand Haven friends and neighbors.

Henry recently joined the Flagler County Education Foundation Board of Directors and is already working on the upcoming Flagler County Education Foundation's Golf Classic to be held on September 22, 2014 at Plantation Bay Golf Club. Proceeds from the tournament will fund the Reid Shoes4Kids project as well as other FCEF programs that include Take Stock in Children College Scholarships, Innovative Grants for Teachers and the STUFF Bus.

FCEF Executive Director Deborah Williams says, "Henry's passion is contagious and his salesmanship is amazing. As a result of Henry's efforts the foundation has not only raised money to purchase shoes for children facing the greatest economic challenges, he has brought more than 40 new friends to the foundation. The FCEF has a large cadre of GH residents who volunteer in various capacities and we appreciate them all."

## Volunteer Opportunities

It seems appropriate that as I write this, it is National Volunteer Recognition Week. It has been my experience that the residents of Grand Haven are very generous with their time, talent and treasures. As Editor, I am hoping to provide a forum for many of our community organizations that need volunteers to list those opportunities in the Oak Tree in the event some of our residents are searching for opportunities to get involved. I find that with my personal volunteer roles in the community, I receive so much more than I give.

### FLAGLER VOLUNTEER SERVICES

We have an ever-changing list of volunteer opportunities available that include things such as working with youth as a mentor, tutor, or in the classrooms, assisting with fundraisers and special events that local non-profits are conducting, helping in offices, at state parks, in the hospital, at the humane society, library or many other locations. For more information, please call our office at (386) 597-2950.

If your organization would like to list volunteer opportunities, or if you would like to spotlight a resident volunteer, please email me at [ncarlton096@gmail.com](mailto:ncarlton096@gmail.com).



## Neighborhood Watch

Your Neighborhood Watch Team is encouraging everyone to remember that just because you live in a gated community, doesn't mean that crime won't happen here.

Please keep these tips and suggestions in mind every day:

- Call 911 if you feel you are being threatened.
- Remember to keep the non-emergency Sheriff's telephone number handy – 313-4911
- Get to know your neighbors and rely on the trusted ones when you are away.
- If your vehicle is left outside, lock it!
- Look for strange vehicles in driveways or parked on the street. If you know it is not a welcome visitor, call the non-emergency number.
- Pick up papers in the driveway so they don't accumulate.
- Call your neighbor if they forget to close their garage door.
- If you are unsure about whether you should call the Sheriff's Department, MAKE the call! They encourage it.
- Report ALL crimes to the Sheriff's Department. If they don't know that crime is happening, how do you expect them to respond to it?
- Don't start rumors. If you don't know the information to be factual, don't discuss it.
- Get involved! Volunteer to be a Neighborhood Watch representative.

So, stay alert, stay diligent, be a good neighbor and don't give criminals open opportunities to commit crimes. Make it tough on them.

## Croquet at Grand Haven

Memories of the days when most of us played “Back Yard Croquet” quickly vanish as one observes the sophisticated game of “American Six Wicket Croquet”, as played here on the Creekside Court in Grand Haven. The large, 105’ by 85’ court is the standard size for this game, but is divided into two smaller courts at Creekside, so as to accommodate the large and active group of residents organized as The Grand Haven Croquet Club. The Club began with a small handful of residents, some dozen or more years ago and now maintains a membership level of between 85 and 100 members.

Four free lessons are offered to any resident that wants to learn the game. After the free lessons are over, participants are offered an opportunity to join the Croquet Club, although there is no obligation to do so. Many of the early players are now among the Instructors that coach and teach our members today.

First and foremost is the Club’s Instruction program that allows members at all levels to continue the learning process. American Six Wicket Croquet is a challenging game. It requires developed skills at shot-making and an understanding of strategies, as well as the sometimes complex rules that are part of the game. Three weekly “clinics” help club members improve their game and get greater enjoyment from their play. These clinics or classes are free to members of the club and are provided by the dedicated members of the Instruction and Education team. Besides “Six-Wicket” the Club also provides opportunity for a more relaxed and very social game called “Golf Croquet”. This is an easy game to learn and is played every week. It can attract as many as 30 to 35 players at a time. When not playing, the members simply enjoy the social life that goes with Golf Croquet.

The Grand Haven Croquet Club is one of the larger member clubs of the United States Croquet Association. (USCA). Today there are over 300 Clubs and roughly 3,000 members of the USCA across the country. Membership in both the Croquet Club

and the USCA come with an obligation to maintain high standards of courtesy and to wear white when on the court. Dues are nominal, costing less than ten dollars a month. Mallets are provided during the free lessons, but members must purchase their own mallets when they enter the club.

Social life is an important part of membership in the Club. It includes dinners and numerous special events, as well as being a component of competitions and tournaments. In addition we celebrate a special Grand Haven Croquet Day when we invite the non-member residents of Grand Haven to join us, pick up a mallet, learn the basics and meet our members,

The beauty of croquet is that players of any age can learn the games and men and women play on an equal level. At present, four of our top eight players are women. It is a game for all but, be warned, it is also highly addictive!

The Grand Haven Croquet Club also has its very own website. Come visit us!

Cassandra Gaisor

President, Grand Haven Croquet Club.

## Sidewalk Repairs

For those residents who will need their sidewalk(s) repaired due to sidewalk deflections, listed below are those contractors who have been used by some of the Grand Haven residents. This will afford you the opportunity to get more than one estimate to compare. Also, the Pennysaver generally lists concrete contractors as well.

*Submitted by:*

*Grand Haven residents Dave Reisman & Bob Hopkins.*

Stay Hard Concrete

386-793-1239

386-447-7077

Ray Aguiar Concrete Works

386-931-2709

F & S Hardscaping Lawn Care, Inc.

386-237-1847

386-338-2536

## ADC CORNER

I would venture to say that everyone knows that the Grand Haven community has an Architectural Design Committee (ADC). And, I would also say that most everyone knows why the community of Grand Haven has an ADC. But, does everyone know how it works, who is on it, who do we report to and where do we get our directions?

You may recall, in mid-2013, the ADC was split into two committees. There is one for new construction which is run by the Declarant and has five members, two of which are Grand Haven residents. The other ADC is for modifications to existing properties and has seven members. All members of this committee are Grand Haven residents and report directly to the Grand Haven Master Association. Both committees work off of the same guidelines, called "Architectural Design Standards".

The easiest way to submit an application for an exterior change to your property is to go onto the Grand Haven web-site at [www.grandhavenmhoa.com](http://www.grandhavenmhoa.com). From there click on ADC. Once there you will be able to review the Standards and print an application form.

Both ADC meetings are held on the **first and third Wednesday** of each month at 8:00 AM and 9:00 AM respectively. If you wish to be on the agenda for an ADC meeting, your application must be received by Southern States Management Group **no later than 12:00 Noon on the Friday prior to the meeting on Wednesday**. Applications received after Friday at 12:00 Noon will be considered at the following scheduled meeting. Agendas have to be prepared and site visits are often necessary in order to prepare for the meeting, i.e. paint colors of houses in the neighborhood if you are changing the color of your house. For your convenience, there is a drop off box located on Marlin Dr., next to the parking lot of the Creekside Athletic Club. You can also mail it to Grand Haven ADC, Post Office Box 354785, e-mail it to [trailsback@ssmgrouppinc.com](mailto:trailsback@ssmgrouppinc.com) or drop it off at Southern States Management Group at their office at 2 Camino Del Mar.



Property owners are encouraged to attend the meetings so they can discuss and hear the decision by the ADC in person. But, more importantly, if questions arise, you are there to answer those questions. The approval or denial letters are usually mailed out the Tuesday after the meeting and this serves as your official notice for your records.

I am hopeful that this article assists you in understanding the workings of the ADC. You are always welcome to attend a meeting to listen in or observe. Hope to see you there.

*Submitted by: Tom Byrne  
ADC Chair*



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## Special Thanks to Palm Coast Fire Department

Did you have the batteries in your smoke detectors changed over the last several months? If you didn't, you missed out on a great program. Approximately 400 residents in Grand Haven had their smoke detector batteries replaced by some extraordinary firemen of Palm Coast.

This was an exhausting and sometimes difficult task to keep up with and there were a few glitches along the way. As the program continued through the community, word of mouth made it grow and grow. Each time the firemen came out, neighbors in the Villages would ask them to stop at their house. And, the firemen stepped up and helped the ones who asked even if they had not signed up for the program.

The City of Palm Coast has wonderful services to offer its citizens, but the firemen in this city of ours are second to none. So, to those firemen we want to offer our most sincere and heart felt appreciation for their service to our community and to its citizens. By the way, they also answer calls to put out fires.

This program was coordinated by GH Neighborhood Watch



An appreciation plaque was presented to the Firemen who participated in the Smoke Detector Battery Replacement program. From left are Grand Haven Neighborhood Watch Team members, Murray Salkovitz, Tom Byrne, Lisa Mrakovcic, Flagler County Sheriff's Office Information Officer, Deputy Sheriff Paula Priester, Fire Chief, Mike Beadle, Fire Fighter, Colin Craig, Fire Fighter, Chris Timofiejczyk (T-Moe), Lt John Peacock, Mayor, Jon Netts and Sheriff, Jim Manfre.

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## Grand Haven Woman's Club

### 10 YEARS AND COUNTING!

By the time this reaches your mailbox, the Grand Haven Woman's Club will be closing another successful year. The Club was started by twenty-two Grand Haven women in 2005, at which time we gained membership in the General and Florida Federation of Women's Clubs. And today, just 10 years later, we are approaching 200 women working for the good of our friends and neighbors. The purpose of our group is to promote and provide education and charitable activities for our community.

Our Club donates funds to many organizations both locally and nationally, including the State Special Olympics, Hacienda Girls Ranch, Rock Camp for kids with Cancer, Florida Sheriffs Youth Ranches, and locally to the Church Women United, Flagler County Family Life Center, New Beginnings, Flagler Habitat for Humanity, Florida Hospital General Fund, Stuart F. Meyer Hospice and the Freytag Children's Rehabilitation Center. We give to the Flagler Free Clinic, Flagler County Education Foundation's S.T.U.F.F. Bus and Take Stock in Children. Our Club also donates funds to the Flagler County Library, Flagler Volunteer Fire/Rescue, Cancer

Fund's Relay for Life, Washington Oaks Gardens, Flagler Humane Society, Flagler/Volusia Turtle Patrol, Audubon Center for Birds of Prey and the Flagler Playhouse.

Each year, GHWC provides two \$1000 scholarships to deserving graduating seniors one at Matanzas High School and one at Flagler Palm Coast High School.

Grand Haven Woman's Club now has a Facebook Page for everyone to see. Photos of our meetings and speakers are posted monthly along with the special events we have each year. Panache Shoes, in European Village hosts a gathering each year where we enjoy hospitality as well as great food from La Piazza next door. We have had two events at Chez Jacqueline, who's owner has done several fashion shows and fed us rather well as we watch and shop. Grand Haven itself and also all our neighbors are to be thanked for our Annual Book Sale at the Village Center, which this year raised over \$1,415 to give to our charities.

We always welcome new friends and members, and we are so thankful that we have the Grand Haven Clubhouse to meet in once a month. The staff there has done another wonderful job in providing us with good food and warm hospitality again this year.

So stick around and see what is in store for 2014 to 2015. We are on a roll now and are looking forward to the next 10 years!

## Downsize Your Home Increase Your Nest Egg

### Ask Me About The UP Side of DOWNSizing

**Retired?** Are the kids grown and living in their own homes?  
Are you finding you no longer need all that space and that huge backyard?  
Have you considered downsizing your home to boost your nest egg?

**Reasons to downsize:**

**Cutting your housing costs increases your nest egg and secures your financial future.**

**Lower your cost of living • Lower your taxes • Lower your utilities**

**Lower your upkeep • Increase your free time and flexibility!**

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## Grand Haven Critters

### Raccoons: The Masked Bandit

The raccoon, with its distinctive black mask and ringed tail, is one of our most easily identifiable wild animals. Apparently, the mask helps to reduce glare and enhance their night vision when foraging for food. Found everywhere in the U.S., a raccoon will eat anything, fish, rodents, insects, eggs, trash, your tomatoes and whatever fruit they relish. Because their front legs are shorter than their hind legs, they have to arch their backs when walking, which gives them that humped look.

We rarely see raccoons during the day, yet, besides its mask, a raccoon's paw prints are very recognizable and often seen on the wooden bridges here in Grand Haven, usually when their paws are wet. Their paws are un-webbed and their claws are non-retractable. Front paws are smaller than the hind and function like five little fingers. Their determination and curiosity when it comes to eating allows them to get into and open just about anything, including door-knobs, jars, drawers, latches and garbage cans. A sense of touch is their most important asset. Raccoons possess "vibrissae" which is a growth of whisker-like hairs extending beyond their sharp claws. With these tactile hairs they can often identify objects even without touching, which is very useful in nocturnal animals. It is a myth that they wash their food, but they do manipulate it, using these same motions, which helps them identify what they have in their "hands". Raccoon eyesight is not good for distances but hearing is exceptional. It is said they can hear the movement of earthworms below the soil! Raccoons are good swimmers and can stay in water for hours, grabbing fish crayfish or frogs etc. Also adept at climbing, they build their nests high in trees (or attics) to protect their babies. As they climb down they walk backwards until they are almost to the ground when they turn and jump. In Florida they usually birth their kits in March or April. Newborns are born deaf and their eyes stay closed for three weeks. Fathers are not involved in raising their young but

mother will stay with her kits for about 10 months until they can hunt on their own. Many people consider raccoons cute and cuddly, but we should not forget that they are wild and unpredictable animals and should treat them as such. A mother raccoon with kits is particularly dangerous. Another reason to avoid these animals is the fact that they can carry several diseases including rabies although the risk of rabies is not great.

This stocky but handsome creature has a peppery gray coat with a dense under-fur which provides perfect protection against winter chill. This insulating factor probably accounted for the popularity of the "raccoon coat" in the 1920's, when it was de rigueur for college students to own one. Trapping raccoons is legal in many states and raccoon coats (\$3000 - \$5000) and Davy Crockett hats (\$189) are still marketed. After this winter there may be a new market for them, even here!

*Submitted by: Anne Sciuto*

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## Celebrate Spring—and Creativity—at the Flagler County Art League

It's Spring—days are longer, flowers are blooming and all things creative are flourishing. In Palm Coast, our Flagler County Art League gallery and studio are indeed flourishing. With over 300 members, many of whom are Grand Haven residents, we are offering more classes and workshops than ever, hosting shows with brand new themes, offering "Lunch & Learn" lectures, and, in general, presenting a great "Celebration of the arts." Our members range from professional artists, "emerging" artists and art lovers and supporters.

We invite all Grand Haven residents to tour a show, take a class or workshop, and join! You may discover talents you didn't realize you had or you may simply have fun. For Mike Gleason and his wife, who have resided in Grand Haven for the last seven years, it's all of the above. When he moved here from Michigan, where he'd been a middle school math teacher for 38 years, he decided to join FCAL. "I had always had a great love of art but never believed I had any ability," he says. "My art training was absolutely zero. But, since retirement offered me the time, I decided to join FCAL on a whim. There, I met some fantastically interesting, inspirational and welcoming people who encouraged me to take a few (extremely inexpensive) classes which have opened up a whole new world for me. I am living proof that the old adage 'I need a ruler to draw a straight line and therefore have no artistic ability' simply is not true.

"FCAL is a wonderful organization working to support the arts and culture in our community," he adds. "It may interest you to know that approximately 60 of your Grand Haven neighbors share my enthusiasm for this fine organization. Did you ever consider giving it a try? You should."

Mike is now one of the best-selling artists in the gallery, a frequent award winner at our shows, a volunteer - helping to hang our shows every month, and has been invited to display his work at a local gallery!

Many of our newer members who have moved to Palm Coast and are looking for friendships have found a sense of community with FCAL – our altered artists, watercolor, polymer clay and acrylic classes and especially our Wednesday evening free open studio "Wine Women and Whatever" have created "families"!

Opening on May 10<sup>th</sup>, but displayed until June 10<sup>th</sup>, you will want to catch our first-ever "Food, Glorious Food!" themed show and in June our "Through the Eyes of a Child" show which will open on June 14<sup>th</sup> and run through July. The gallery is open Mon-Fri from 1-4pm and Sat 10-1pm.

FCAL will be presenting more lectures and workshops along with classes as we plan for the fall. If you want to try your hand at something yourself, from painting to polymer clay to multi-media, photography and even filmmaking, check our schedule of classes on [www.flaglercountyartleague.com](http://www.flaglercountyartleague.com). For more information on classes and events, you can also call the art league at (386) 986-4668.

*Submitted by Stephanie Salkin*



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# Tow Away Zones??

Have we become victims of our own success??

Along with its preserved wood lands, well maintained common area landscaping, and natural beauty, Grand Haven is renowned for its numerous recreational, sports, and social community activities. The District is currently experiencing a building boom and an influx of new residents not experienced in many years. More residents equates to more demands on the infrastructure and all of its amenities.

Some would argue that the original developers did not construct amenity buildings and parking areas large enough to accommodate the community at full build-out. The undeniable fact remains that we are all now experiencing a lack of parking at certain times of the day on certain days of the week and at certain amenity facilities.

The problem is especially acute on Monday mornings at Creekside, when residents are enjoying Croquet, Pickle Ball, Tai Chi, Water Aerobics, the gym, and community club meetings/activities in the small conference room and card playing areas of the Creekside Amenity Building.

Residents have discovered their vehicles trapped by illegally "overparked" cars. Contractors and visitors to the CDD offices have been forced to park their vehicles along Colbert Lane and the entrance roadway at the North Gate, placing themselves and children entering/exiting school buses at risk.

Possible solutions to this lack of parking problem include:

### Residents carpooling to activities

This is the least expensive (for both the District and residents) and most immediate alternative to reduce the "overparking" problem. All residents are highly encouraged to begin organizing carpooling alternatives with their friends and neighbors.

### Residents riding their bicycles to activities

If demand warrants, the District will provide additional bike racks at the amenity facilities. This again will provide a less expensive and immediate alternative to reduce the "overparking" problem, plus beneficial exercise! Many thanks to those residents already bicycling to activities.

### Enlarging parking lots

The CDD is currently evaluating all potential permissible areas where additional parking could be developed. Unfortunately most of the areas surrounding the existing parking lots are preserved uplands and wetlands under the control of the Saint John's River Water Management District, and development of those areas is not allowed. This would be a costly alternative.

### Reducing the number and/or frequency of activities scheduled at an amenity.

This would be a very unpopular, "last ditch" alternative.

### Towing illegally parked and unauthorized vehicles (a safety and security issue)

The District will shortly place four Tow Away Zone warning signs (see picture) at entrances to the Village Center and Creekside parking lots. Vehicles parked so as to create a public safety hazard, and unauthorized vehicles parked overnight without GH CDD permission, in the GH CDD parking lots, will be subject to towing.

As a courtesy, during regular GH CDD office hours (M - F 8am to 5pm,) an attempt will be made by CDD office staff, via the vehicle owner's registered home or cell phone, to call and inform the owner that their illegally parked vehicle is about to be towed if not immediately removed. Vehicles may be towed whether the courtesy contact is successful or not.

Owners will be required to retrieve their towed vehicles at:

John's Towing  
1103 North State Street  
Bunnell, Florida  
386-437-5555.

The owner of the towed vehicle must pay the \$125 towing fee, plus storage fees at \$25/day. The owner must present a picture ID, key to the vehicle, and the vehicle's Florida registration form.

Please don't let this happen to you!

Remember to park safely in designated legal parking areas, and better yet: carpool!

## Wild Oaks Eagles

For the past 6 years as I have monitored the eagle nest at Wild Oaks, the resident breeding eagles have resumed amazingly consistent nesting seasons. They return early in September like clock-work. They quickly frequent their favorite perching spots. Then their bonding and nestorations begin as they feverishly bring more sticks to the already constructed "penthouse in the sky" they call home.

This past year they have found a favorite dead tree near the nest (lumber yard?) where they were often seen snapping off branches and making a bee-line back to the nest. Although the never ending "stick-a-thon" is part of their bonding, their mission is intense. They need to build up the sides up of the nest (crib rail?) to protect the new family they will soon be raising, as it is left completely flattened by the active youngsters from the previous season.

This nesting season is coming to a close but somehow it was different this year.....after their summer vacation apart in 2013, they were early arrivals and both returned to the nest on the same day (August 28)! I have never observed that in the past, but oh what a welcome sight.

Considering our resident eagles are wild, they have always been referred to as "Mom and Dad Wild Oaks". But this year I felt they needed a name. Hmm.....how about "Romeo" and "Juliet"? Romeo and Juliet it was.

Incubation started on Nov 14 and first hatch was Dec 20.....that's when they went into full gear! Although both parents share duties, Juliet does most of the incubating (leading to brooding) as the hatchlings need their parent's body heat for several days until they can regulate their own body temperature. Juliet also remains at the nest much of the season standing guard. Early in the nesting season they tolerate visiting immature eagles. However, they remain on high alert and guard their territory with their lives. Any unwelcome intruding eagle doesn't stand a chance!

Thru the nesting season both parents faithfully provide "room service" to their youngsters. Mostly fish is delivered. However, squirrel is another favorite. Even coot and a deer leg were "flown" in! The two nestlings didn't miss a meal, and by 10wks (when they were fully grown) by several indicators, it was apparent Romeo and Juliet had produced a male and fe-



male. It was only fitting to name these little darlings. Hmm.....how about "Samson" and "Delilah"? Samson and Delilah it was!

Samson and Delilah progressed "on spot". They were quite entertaining (yippers) and had a

special bond following each other in flight and often perched near each other.....another consistency just like previous years.

Although Delilah left the area early at 15wks, (as I write) Samson still loves his "digs" and being served by mom and dad. At 16wks he will likely soon find his "highway in the sky" and spread his wings a bit farther. Romeo and Juliet will do the same likely sometime in May. Consistency is good!

*Submitted by: Gretchen Butler  
Audubon EagleWatch Nest Monitor/Volunteer  
American Eagle Foundation/Volunteer*



Romeo & Juliet (aka Mom & Dad)

## PCAF THANKS GRAND HAVEN SUPPORTERS!

The Palm Coast Arts Foundation (PCAF) appreciates the generosity of fellow Grand Haven residents supporting our efforts in realizing the Center for the Arts in Town Center. I am proud to reside among cultural philanthropists who include Founding Members Peggy Smith, Patrons Jim Harter, to Individual Members whose roster is a near perfect A to Z representation from Anita Anderson to Pam Walker (where are those Q, X, and Zs?). In the middle of this alphabet soup, we recently received a generous \$5,000 gift from Ed and Lois Konikowski to help us in our campaign and operating efforts.

We know the desire and commitment of this endeavor travels through our veins as we plan to top off our community with the cultural entertainment many of us were accustomed to before moving to Palm Coast. Having the lease to the property in Town Center for a year now, we are poised now to garner funding attention; yes, we needed an address before any major grants could be submitted.

And here's what's coming up...It has been fun partnering with the Flagler County Art League, The Palm Coast Observer, and the City of Palm Coast in planning the International Food and Wine Festival, October 18 in Town Center. Please come and enjoy the wine and entertainment featuring a wonderful **chair-ity** event! Painted recycled chairs of all sizes, shapes, and styles will be for sale; painted by local artists (and by some of us that feel they have not earned the designation of artist). There's still time if you want to submit a chair custom painted by you! Contact FCAL ([flaglercountyartleague.com](http://flaglercountyartleague.com)) for a submission form (deadline is July 15) – it's free; gather friends and make it a group project!

AND, keep August 16 available! PCAF is hosting a 1930s themed benefit evening with a stage reading of Tennessee Williams' *Suddenly Last Summer* in the Whitney Lab at Marineland. Yes, it's *edgy* and based on elements of Williams' personal life, yet perfect for a warm summer outing. This promises not to be your

average night on the town in Palm Coast, so watch for details! Play dress up; come in 1930s attire! A prize will be presented for the most authentic style dress of the evening.



*Actress Annie Gaybis starring in the role of Catherine Holly  
Directed by John Sbordone of the City Repertory Theatre*

*Submitted by: Nancy Crouch, PCAF*

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By Appointment



Memorial Day at the Village Center

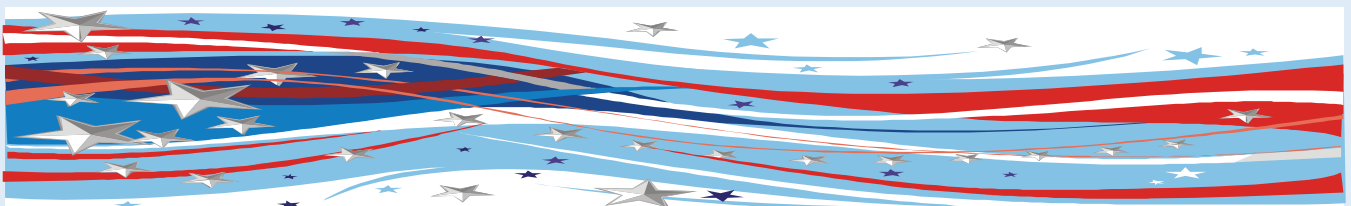
Monday, May 26, 12 Noon—4 PM

Cookout with entertainment

\$10/person

Tickets available at the Village Center

Look for more details about menu that will be sent via eblast from the Village Center



**GHMA NEWSLETTER**

**Grand Haven Master Association, Inc.**

**P.O. Box 354785**

**Palm Coast, FL 32135**

Southern States Management Group	<a href="http://www.ssmgroupinc.com">www.ssmgroupinc.com</a>	(386) 446-6333
Grand Haven Master Association	<a href="http://www.grandhavenmhoa.com">www.grandhavenmhoa.com</a>	(386) 446-6333
Community Development District (CDD)	<a href="http://www.grandhavencdd.org">www.grandhavencdd.org</a>	(386) 447-1888
Grand Haven Main Gate Guard		(386) 445-2376
Village Center Office		(386) 447-0192
Village Center Waterside Café		(386) 447-0239
Grand Haven Golf Club Pro Shop		(386) 445-2327
Grand Haven Golf Club Restaurant		(386) 445-1027
Palm Coast Utilities	<a href="http://www.ci.palm-coast.fl.us">www.ci.palm-coast.fl.us</a>	(386) 986-2360
Palm Coast City Hall		(386) 986-3700