

The Southporter



Volume 1, Issue 2

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Out and About in the Neighborhood

Summer heat and warm breezes awaken those who call Southport home year round. And despite our daily weather forecast of partly sunny skies and frequent afternoon showers, there is much activity throughout the community. A number of homes are being built and frequent remodeling projects are changing our landscape.

Four new homes are under construction or nearing completion. Six remodeling projects have received the go ahead from our ARB; those returning next fall will find that much has changed.

Southport's own landscaping projects are taking shape as well. Gone are the unsightly terraces that front the preserves on both Southport Cove and Topanga. A special thanks goes to the owners who have allowed us

to tap into their sprinkler systems so that each area can be properly maintained.

Each of the four circles, located at the end of each street, have been planted and mulched. Area residents have taken responsibility for these as well. See the related story on page two of this newsletter.

The landscaping at the entrance to Southport has been updated with more vibrant plants and selective vegetation. The palm trees have been trimmed, weeds eradicated, and for the first time since development began, the Exotics have been removed from every lot and preserve area. The next phase will be the constant control of re-growth. But for now, those big bruisers the Australian Pines are gone and the stranglehold of Brazilian

Peppers corralled. Special thanks to each property owner who took care of business and helped vanquish the exotic intruders!

And speaking of the entrance to Southport ... we have a new call box. We hope you'll find the large clear display easy to see, and the cordless phone system easy to use. For visitors to enter the community they need only dial the code next to your name in the directory. This will initiate a call to your home telephone number. Once you answer the call, simply press the number "6" on your touchtone phone to open the gate.

Legal Update

This section was removed due to sensitivity issues.



Message from the President

Dave Douglas

Let me begin by extending a very hearty “thank you” to everyone in Southport that has volunteered their time to help the Board reach its goals! We cannot be successful alone.

There is so much going on in our community! Have you checked out the Social Calendar on page four? The Social Committee has planned a number of events that should be great fun – mark your calendars and please RSVP at your earliest convenience.

Next year we will have three openings on the Board of Directors. The

new board will then select a new President and Officers. We are looking for great candidates – how about you? Do you feel Presidential?

If you want to help keep Southport one of the finest communities in southwest Florida and you can spare a few hours each month, consider placing your name on the next ballot. Or if running for office is not your thing – how about serving on a committee? We need people to welcome new neighbors, help plan a social event, exercise their green thumbs with the Landscaping committee

or join the ARB – whatever your interest, we have a job for you!

With the summer months comes an exodus for many to parts less hot and humid. We are no exception; but instead of heading north, our destination lies out west. I look forward to seeing all of you upon returning to the paradise we know as Southport.

A True Team Effort

Have you seen the new landscaping around the common areas of Southport? It’s absolutely beautiful! Not only has the Landscaping Committee gone above and beyond, so have some area residents.

Next time you’re out and about in the neighborhood, check out the beautifully manicured circle at the end of San Mateo Drive. Depending on the time of

day that you go by, you might catch a glimpse of the reason that it looks so good. Kyle Kubik, age 7, his sister Stephanie, age 6, and brother Jonathan, age 4, have taken on the very big job of keeping the circle watered. We think you’ll agree, they’re doing a great job! From the Board of Directors – thank you!



Editorial

Tom Leonard

Friends and Neighbors: As you can observe for yourself, this newsletter is evolving into something a little different as each issue delivers “**what’s happening**” to your doorstep. We feel the newsletter is maturing, just as our neighborhood is becoming more mature. The neighborhood has accomplished many new projects to benefit all who live within our gates. It is our hope that this newsletter and the open communication at board meetings will become a valuable venue for understanding, knowledge, and cooperation. Issues of significant importance are constantly being reviewed in an effort to satisfy, compromise, and assist our neighbors. It is important to work within our structure of established covenants.

Neighborhoods such as ours do not just happen. It takes a lot of work by many and it takes cooperation.

When you receive a letter mentioning a violation that has been observed during the monthly review, please do not take it personally. No one intends for a letter or a telephone call to be a personal attack. It should be considered as simply a reminder. Ask yourself, have you overlooked something? Ask yourself, was I aware that rule existed? Your thoughts are important.

If you would like to bring your concern to the Board that is most welcome. You do not have to personally attend, simply put your concerns in written form and ask the Board for a response.

If you would like to express your view via a letter to the editor then, please be our guest. We only ask that suggestions be constructive and not personal in nature. Space is limited, so, if we do not print your letter, be assured

we will discuss its content at the next board meeting and someone will respond to your inquiry.



Please address your letters to: **The Southporter**, c/o Tom Leonard, 207 Topanga Drive, Barefoot Beach, FL 34134 or sent it via email to Stop2gab@aol.com.

Portrait of an Artist

Visitors to the Whittingham home on Malibu Cove are welcomed into an open, airy floor plan that makes the most of its waterfront location. Most striking however, are the numerous life-size portraits that grace the walls throughout the home. Each one representing a brief moment in the subject's life; captured on canvas by a very talented and experienced artist – Bill Whittingham.

Creating commercial illustrations for national magazines was Whittingham's initial career of choice. As a graduate of the University of Michigan School of Architecture and Design with a major in drawing and painting, he worked in New York for a commercial art studio. Doing portraits of family and friends became a cherished pastime. But soon the rigors of tight deadlines and demanding art directors led him to consider a career move. "I had a show of my illustrations and portraits from which I got several commissions," Whittingham recalls. "The next show I got about 28 commissions. I never looked back; I've been busy ever since."

Whittingham's time working in New York brought about a significant life change as well. While being recruited by a rival art studio he met a talented young woman named Joan. They've been married now for 37 years. Their two children Kimberly and Scott, and their six grandchildren are frequent visitors to Southport.

Whittingham completes about ten portraits a year; his career total has surpassed 500. The process begins with a visit to the subject's home. They discuss where the portrait should take place, what the subject should wear and where in the home the portrait might hang. Capturing the mood and attitude of the subject is just as important as the accurate representation of the persons' likeness. Then he takes numerous photographs, using natural light, to find just the right set-up, pose and background.

Then to record the true subtleties of color and value which can be distorted in color photographs, Whittingham does a sketch of the person's face, in oil. "With that sketch and the photos, it gives me an exact likeness and an attitude or expression I can work from. I pretty much have all the material I need and can return to my studio to execute the final painting," Whittingham says. An 8"x10" full-color sketch then provides the client with the first glimpse of what the finished portrait will look like.

Clearly children are Whittingham's most favorite subject – evidenced by the many portraits of his own children and grandchildren pre-

Sharon Paximadis

sent throughout their home. He prides himself on being a realistic painter, one that can capture a good likeness while creating a painting pleasing to viewers whether they know the subject or not. His goal is to make each portrait like a painting of life; one that has vitality to it. The portrait that hangs in their living room is a perfect example. He took his two children and his camera out to the shore on Long Island Sound one day. Kimberly and Scott are seen sitting casually on a rock, but you wouldn't be surprised if they stood up and walked toward you. It's a moment of life, captured on canvas forever.



Bill and Joan Whittingham at home in Southport.

Legal Update continued from Page 1

Legal fees for the defense of this action are being paid from our operating budget – not from the funds held in escrow. Through the end of May, \$5,790.25 has been spent. This year's operating budget provides \$12,000 for legal fees. Based on the current activity, we anticipate our legal expenses will exceed the budgeted amount. However, we have identified funds within the existing budget to cover the overruns. Special thanks to Don Churilla for the

countless hours he has spent researching and collecting data for our defense. This has allowed us to manage our legal fees quite efficiently.

The Legal Committee feels that now is the time to settle this issue once and for all. Unfortunately we are dealing with a Master Association that does not represent the interests of the Barefoot Beach community; rather, it serves the interests of one person.

The entire process is estimated

to take another two years. Your Board or Directors and the Legal Committee understands how important this issue is to our entire community. We will continue to work diligently toward a reasonable and long-lasting resolution. We appreciate your continued support and welcome your comments and questions.

CLASSIFIED

BABYSITTING/PET SITTING

Lydia Huelin, age 14, 67 Southport Cove, is available for babysitting and pet sitting in the neighborhood. References available. Cost per hour: \$5.00. Available evenings for pet sitting, weekends for babysitting. Call (239) 948-0178.

GOT SOMETHING TO SELL? LOOKING FOR AN ITEM TO BUY? NEED HELP WITH A PROJECT?

Why not place an ad in **The Southporter**! The next issue will be published in September. Contact Sharon Paximadis at (239) 992-9432.

The Southporter is published throughout the year by the Southport on the Bay Board of Directors for the residents and property owners of Southport. Comments, suggestions and contributions are welcome.

Editor: Tom Leonard

Associate Editor: Sharon Paximadis

Property Management

R & P Management has assigned a new coordinator for Southport property owners. Her name is Kellie Howerton and her extension is 207.

If you have a change of address this is the place to call. If your telephone numbers change please forward that information to Kellie.

Frequently we hear from owners that they are not receiving the newsletter, association mailings about legal matters or the meeting agenda. Information is mailed to the address on file. It's up to each owner to make sure this information remains current. Simply call R & P Management at 239-597-4988. The receptionist can check the Southport on the Bay owner telephone directory. State your lot number or property address and R&P will do the rest.



Welcome Wagon

Please join us in welcoming Don and Karen Manley to Southport! They're located at 201 San Mateo Drive.

The Manley's are from Findlay, Ohio and will be part time residents for now. We hope to see Don and Karen at some of the upcoming Southport activities.

The Welcome Committee has been actively working to ensure that each new resident receives a formal welcome and a copy of the latest Restated Declaration of Covenants, Conditions, Restrictions and Bylaws of Southport. We also try to answer many of the questions that are sure to arise with the move to a new neighborhood.

If you like meeting new people – and helping new neighbors feel welcome, why not join the Welcome Committee? Contact Tom Leonard or any board member for more information.

Social Calendar

Summer Golf Tournament- September 11th, 2002

We recognize the importance of this date and thought a planned activity might be a great way to celebrate our freedom and community.

Scramble format: Two person teams. Alternating shots each hole, alternating drives regardless. Property owners only.

Cost approximately \$40.00 per person.

Location to be announced.

Sunset Dinner Boat Cruise. Date: Saturday Sept 28th 2002

Dinner and cruise will cost \$45.00 dollars per person

(Tax, Service, Port Charge included) 20 people are needed to make this event work.

Contact a committee member today!

Barefoot Beach Women's Meet & Greet

Monthly gatherings to resume in October 2002

Watch for details!

Adult Halloween Costume Party. Date: Saturday, Oct 26th 2002

Barefoot Boat Club. Pot luck dinner, BYO Beverage, Cover Charge \$15.00 will cover cost of location rental, decorations, DJ.

Christmas Party Date: Saturday December 14th, 2002

Barefoot Boat Club. Pot luck dinner, BYOB, DJ for dancing. Cover charge to be announced.

Social Committee members:

Goran Vlahovic– Chair

Dave Douglas

Kathy Vlahovic

Mary Noonan

Debbie Douglas

Please be sure to RSVP for the event in which you wish to participate so that final arrangements can be made. This applies in particular to the Sunset Boat Cruise and Summer Golf Tournament.!