

**Andrew 8/24/92**

## What Happens if The "Big One" Hits?

### *A Presentation from the Hillsborough County Emergency Management Department*

In August 1992, Hurricane Andrew hit the southeastern coast of Florida, causing unprecedented devastation to Homestead and the surrounding area. The cost was huge, with 65 lives lost, and about 600,000 homes and businesses destroyed or left impaired and 150,000 to 250,000 left homeless. It is estimated the total cost of Andrew was 26 billion dollars.

Moving ahead to August 2009, consider the lessons learned from this catastrophe and others – what can home and business owners in the Tampa Bay Area do to prepare for the worst case scenario of another major hurricane on our shores?

On Thursday, August 27, we are privileged to host the Director of the Hillsborough County Emergency Management Department, **Mr. Larry Gispert**, who will show us what emergency plans and preparations have been made and maintained by County, State, and Federal governments to limit the damage and danger of a major storm. In addition, he'll show us in dramatic fashion the projected effects of wind and storm surges in Hillsborough. Join us for an informative and perhaps life-saving program.

The meeting will begin promptly at 7:30 PM, following our popular 7:00 PM social hour featuring pizza, subs, desserts, coffee and soft drinks. Our "Kids Corner" will be open to keep the little ones busy. The meeting will be held at the **Wesley Memorial United Methodist Church Family Life Center, 6100 Memorial Highway**. Please enter from the church driveway on the west side.

### **Get a Free Health Screening at the Meeting**

Come to the August 27 meeting a little early for a cardiac assessment plus cholesterol, blood pressure and glucose checks, courtesy of our friends at

**TOWN & COUNTRY  
HOSPITAL**

### **IN THIS ISSUE**

Community Yard Sale	Projects	Code Enforcement
Mosquito Control	Events	Bay Crest On Your Side
Gardening News	Neighborhood Services	
Community Watch	Important Phone Numbers	
Household Hints	Announcements	

*...and more*



**SAVE  
THE  
DATE**

**BAY  
CREST  
FAMILY  
FUN FEST**

**Saturday, October 24  
More Info to Come**

Published Quarterly by the

**Bay Crest Park Civic Association**  
PO Box 261116 Tampa FL 33685

Newsletter Editor – Gene Milas

Call 884-5511 for copy and ad deadlines for  
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- Business Card – 3.5" wide x 2" deep
- Quarter Page – 3.5" wide x 5" deep
- Half Page – 7.5" wide x 5" deep
- Full Page – 7.5" wide x 9.5" deep

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- Keep trash cans out of sight
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**Are YOU a Good Neighbor?**

#### BAY CREST PARK CIVIC ASSOCIATION

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Juli Milas, President.....884-5511  
David May, Vice-President.....496-9337  
Theresa Shell, Secretary.....885-1510  
Gil Leimbach, Treasurer.....885-4203

##### DIRECTORS

Ken Broome .....884-9584  
Norm Coffman.....885-5090  
Jay Lovelace .....885-5985  
Gene Milas.....884-5511  
Todd Moran.....361-4499

www.neighborhoodlink.com/hillsboroughco/bcpca/main.html  
Webmaster – John Parcelewicz, 880-9412

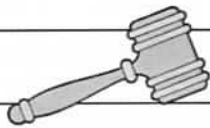
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Patrick Shell.....885-1510

Send comments, concerns or suggestions to the Bay Crest Special Dependent District (the "Taxing District") at: **baycrestpark@yahoo.com**



**"You can have a general anesthesia or just be numbed from the wallet down."**



## FROM THE PRESIDENT

**Juli Milas**

In looking back at some of my President's messages, I noticed the title of the August 2008 message was "Crime is on the rise – everywhere and in Bay Crest!" Surprise, surprise! Historically, it's that time of year – bored and unemployed young people, continued economic distress, leaving cars and patio and garage doors open and so on. There are more reasons, but I'm sure you get the idea.

Since I'm the world's #1 packrat, I looked back at Bay Crest newsletters dating from February 2000. The theme and comments have always been the same: "We need to keep our guard up" – "We need to be vigilant" – "Stay alert" – "Lock your cars and homes" – "Watch for juveniles wandering the streets at inappropriate times" – "Watch for people hanging around vacant houses" – "Trim trees and shrubs around your house." I receive calls from residents asking "What is the Civic Association doing about this?" In response, both the Civic Association and the Taxing District are volunteer organizations that depend on our residents to get involved. For example, we have asked for several years for people to "step up" by volunteering to head up or participate in the now defunct Good Neighbor Patrol, but to no avail. We made similar pleas for residents to join the Sheriff's Volunteer Citizen Patrol Program, but again...no takers.

If crime becomes a problem in Bay Crest Park, it won't be because of lack of attention from the Sheriff's Department, the Civic Association Board of Directors or the Taxing District Trustees. It will be because of the lack of interest and commitment on the part of our residents. I encourage everyone to become more proactive in safeguarding their property and watching out for their neighbors.

On a more pleasant note, please join us at the September 19th TNC 50 Going Gold celebration (see page 16). Among the various items the anniversary committee has prepared is a very comprehensive historical timeline-style banner. Please view this banner and look for interesting milestones specific to Bay Crest Park.

See you at the next meeting August 27th!

*Juli*



## TREASURER'S REPORT

**Gil Leimbach**

As of July 27, 2009, we have 492 paid members of the Association, or 53% of the homes in Bay Crest Park. Our treasury balance is \$12,376.01.

Our annual dues (a donation, not a required fee) continue to be only \$10 (or more if you choose). If you have not done so yet, please support your neighborhood and mail your membership check today to the Bay Crest Park Civic Association, PO Box 261116, Tampa FL 33685-1116. Please be sure to include your Bay Crest address on your check.

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Decals for home or car windows  
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High quality aluminum front  
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American Flags  
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President **Juli Milas** called meeting to order at 7:30 pm. Treasurer **Gil Leimbach** asked everyone to stand to recite the Pledge Of Allegiance.

Juli thanked **Norm Coffman** and Wesley Memorial for allowing us to use their facilities. She thanked **Ken** and **Victoria Broome** for hosting the meeting and **Lynette Peel** for always purchasing the sub sandwich.

Juli asked for any new residents in attendance to come forward to introduce themselves. Lynette gave all newcomers welcome packets. There were two newcomers at the meeting, **John Keane** from Onyx Place and **Matt Mobley** from Lopez Drive. **Peggy Gonzalez** of Quartz Place was a first time attendee, but has lived in the neighborhood for some time.

Juli introduced Deputy **Michelle Branscomb** from the Hillsborough County Sheriff's Office. She wanted to make everyone aware of the large amount of gang activity in Town and Country. **Brian Brown** with the HCSO does presentations regarding gangs. Also, if you need to report any activity, call 247-8200.

**Lloyd Humphrey** from Solid Waste retired. **Lisa Kirby** is our new contact person.

**Gil Leimbach** announced that the Bay Crest Park Civic Association's current account balance is \$11,950.91 as of 4/20/09. As of today, we have 423 paid members.

Gil reported that one of the flags displayed on the entrance wall for Memorial Day was torn down. Also, there was damage to several of the posts at Peel Park. **Tom Suttle** has made repairs and was thanked by Juli for doing so.

**Norm Coffman** welcomed and invited anyone to attend Wesley Memorial Church. He also thanked Bay Crest for putting a Wesley advertisement in the newsletter.

Juli reported that she was one of the presenters at a seminar at the Hillsborough County Neighborhoods Conference titled "How to Run a Successful Civic Association". Each presenter received a very positive response.

Juli reminded everyone that the Town and Country Going Gold Celebration will be held on 9/19 at Jackson Springs Park. Go to [www.NC50.com](http://www.NC50.com) for more information. Bay Crest will donate \$100 as one of the neighborhood sponsors of the event. Companies are being solicited for donations for the event as well.

Norm reported that there were 60 homes that participated in the May yard sale. In the fall, he will send an email to everyone a month ahead of time as a reminder and will increase signage. He has suggested changing the dates to early November for the fall event and April for the spring.

Norm advised we need more volunteers to help with the canvassing for dues, which has now begun.

**Todd Moran** is organizing an email database for the Association. He invited everyone to sign up on the laptop at the registration desk when coming to meetings.

**Theresa Shell** reported that the annual picnic date has been set for October 24 at Hooper's Hollow.

**Gene Milas** introduced the evening's program, featuring **Mr. Ed Hobin**, Outreach Program Coordinator with the Southwest Florida Water Management District. He presented an interesting program on our "Current and Future Water Supplies," which included a discussion of the agency's history and responsibilities and our current challenges for water supply and conservation in Hillsborough County.

Theresa conducted the evening's door prize drawing. All door prizes also included two free slices of pie from **The Village Inn** and one appetizer from **Cody's Roadhouse**.

**Pizza Hut** - 1 large pizza - **Paul Sullivan**  
**The Longbar Pub & Grill** - \$20 gift certificate - **Ardith Ternes**  
**Harry's Restaurant** - \$30 gift certificate - **Dorothy Wetzel**  
**Beef O'Brady's** - \$20 gift certificate - **Dot Kingray**  
**Carrabba's** - \$45 - **Anita Murray**

The next Bay Crest Park General Membership Meeting will be held on August 27. With all business concluded, Juli adjourned the meeting.



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## SWFWMD Speaker at May Membership Meeting



The May General Membership meeting featured a program from the Southwest Florida Water Management District, known locally as "Swiftmud."

Our speaker was Mr. **Ed Hobin**, Community Outreach Coordinator, who presented a slideshow covering the agency's history, responsibilities, authorities, and current organization. The information included a discussion of the sources of water supply for the Tampa Bay area, and the alternatives for conserving this precious resource. He also contrasted our local water supply problems with other localities, notably Pinellas and Pasco counties. His presentation was followed by a brief question and answer period. He also provided complementary rain gauges to everyone.



Top photo, Mr. Ed Hobin of SWFWMD addresses residents.

Bottom, Deputy Michelle Branscomb provides a crime update.

Photos courtesy of Jim Pidcock

Prior to the main program, Hillsborough Sheriff's Deputy **Michelle Branscomb** took the floor to advise residents of recent events in area crime, including area gang activities and Bay Crest incidents. She stressed that gang activity is on the rise in the Town N' Country area, and that we all need to recognize and report unusual activities or loitering of teen groups or unknown individuals or vehicles in our neighborhood. Residents should call the Sheriff's non-emergency number 247-8200 to report potential problems. Michelle is our designated Community Resource Deputy.

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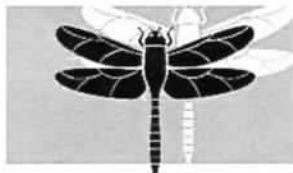
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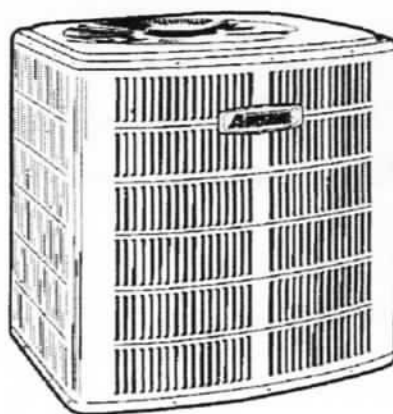
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## Community Yard Sale May 16

The Spring Bay Crest Park Community Yard Sale was a success. Board Member and Yard Sale Chairman **Norm Coffman** reports that 60 homes participated, a new record. Top streets participating were Bay Crest Drive, Flagstone, Driftwood, Boxwood, Flintstone and Travertine.

In circulating throughout the neighborhood, Norm did a short survey of both buyers and sellers and compiled a list of comments that will be used to make future sales even more numerous and well-attended:

- Most everyone thought the concurrent sale held by Wesley Memorial United Methodist Church helped our neighborhood attendance.
- Signs were placed on Memorial Highway to advertise the sale during the prior week, but signage is needed even earlier within the community, to allow residents more time to prepare.
- We should try to coordinate with Westchase and Twelve Oaks sales.
- This year, signage at the end of streets was improved over past sales. This helps buyers quickly find the selling sites.
- The Fall sale, usually held in November should be moved to an earlier date in the month.

As for past events, our sale was publicized in several sources, including the Tampa Tribune, the Tribune's Northwest section, Craig's List, The Flyer and our Newsletter. In addition, the Association is working on an email database, which we will also use for additional publicity in the future.

Norm suggests that residents plan to do sales together and make the event a social gathering in addition to cleaning out unwanted items. The Association is always considering ways to make the sales more successful and allow our community to build relationships among neighbors.

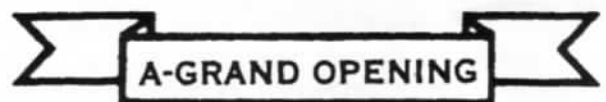
- photos courtesy of Norm Coffman



"Instead of getting neutered, can you just give me a lecture on abstinence?"

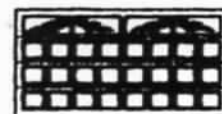
**Advertise in the Bay Crest Newsletter**

**Ad Rates and Sizes on Page 2  
Call 884-5511 for More Information**



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## Mosquito Control Tips

Here are the top ten mosquito prevention tips from Hillsborough County's Mosquito and Aquatic Weed Control Unit:

- Get rid of mosquito-breeding containers. Destroy or dispose of tin cans, old tires, buckets, unused plastic swimming pools or other containers that collect and hold water. Do not allow water to accumulate in the saucers of flowerpots, cemetery urns, pet dishes, birdbaths, boats/canoes or livestock troughs.
- If you aren't using your swimming pool, put a cover over it. Make sure the cover doesn't sag and hold pools of rainwater, which can also provide a breeding ground. Another option is to stock the pool with fish, which will eat the mosquito larvae and prevent them from hatching out. *Gambusia*, or mosquito fish, are available to residents from Mosquito Control staff by calling 554-5029.
- If you have bromeliad plants in your yard, regularly rinse them out with a garden hose. Mosquito larvae need water to grow and evolve, and bromeliads are an excellent host.
- Protect your children from mosquitoes, especially at night. Hot, sweaty children playing outdoors at night are like a glowing beacon to mosquitoes. Protect your children from irritating bites and the possibility of mosquito-borne illnesses by ensuring they cover exposed skin, and wear an insect repellent containing DEET.
- Keep your rain gutters cleaned out. Rain gutters can get clogged with leaves and debris, which impede the flow of water. Not only is that bad for your roof, it creates an ideal habitat for mosquito larvae, which need water to grow into adults.
- Take special precautions at dusk. Dusk is a mosquito's favorite time to fly and bite. A good onshore breeze will keep the mosquitoes at bay, but if you haven't got one, a portable fan will do the trick. Mosquitoes aren't strong fliers and air currents moving past you will keep the mosquitoes moving too.
- Take special precautions in high mosquito areas. Use head nets, long sleeves and long pants if you venture into areas with high mosquito populations, such as salt marshes. Also use insect repellent containing DEET on any exposed skin.
- Be extra careful when a warning is in effect. If there is a mosquito-borne disease warning in effect, stay inside during dawn and dusk when mosquitoes are more active.
- Make sure window and door screens are "bug tight." Check your screens periodically to make sure there are no holes and replace worn-out screens.
- Watch out for puddles in your yard. Irrigate lawns and gardens carefully to prevent water from standing for several days.

If you have tried these tips and are still having a mosquito problem around your home, you can call the Public Works Customer Service number at 635-5400 to speak to staff and request service. The Unit employs a modern approach to mosquito control, which includes mosquito and bird surveillance, mosquito source reduction, biological controls, mosquito larvicide control, barrier spraying, educational outreach, and when necessary as a last resort, adult mosquito spraying.

For more information on the Unit visit their website at: [www.hillsboroughcounty.org](http://www.hillsboroughcounty.org), click on the A-Z Index link, and then select "Mosquito and Aquatic Weed Control."

### Krista's Cleaning Service



*Monday – Friday  
Weekly, Bi-weekly*

*Contact Krista at  
813-468-0600*

*Step into a home cleaned to your  
complete satisfaction.*



## Partying on Palisades



Thanks to the organizing efforts of the Grays (Cheryl and Joel) and the Smiths (Debbie and Guy), a large group of Palisades Drive neighbors enjoyed a "Cinco De Mayo" Block Party on Saturday, May 9. The event has been in planning since Christmas, when the neighborhood ladies enjoyed a Tea and Cookie Exchange at the home of **Barbara Lippincott**. The group decided to plan a summer event for the enjoyment of the entire family. A block party was the result.

Based on the success, this event promises to become an annual event. What a fabulous way to better know all your neighbors!

- photos by the Lippincotts (Barbie and Ken)



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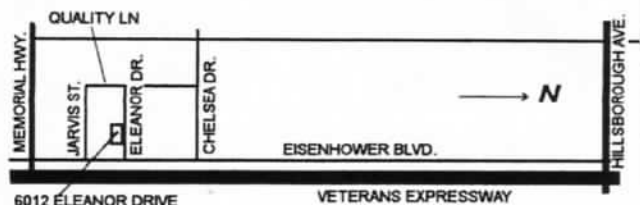
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## BAY CREST ON YOUR SIDE

**Neighborhood mischief.** One or more vandals struck our neighborhood during the Memorial Day weekend, damaging the wooden railing on the deck at the Bay Crest Drive mini-park ("Peel Park") and also stealing a decorative 3' x 5' American flag from one of the entrance walls at Lopez Drive. We hope that the missing flag will at least be displayed with respect somewhere.

**New Sign.** The Bay Pointe/Lopez entrance to Bay Crest Park is now marked with an attractive new sign, with logo and colors matching the main Memorial Highway entrances. In the photo at right, Board Member **Ken Broome** and volunteer **Paul Sullivan** install the sign, which was designed and procured by Board Member **Gene Milas**.



**Save the date. Saturday, October 24** will be the date for the **Bay Crest Park Family Fun Fest**, our annual event at the Hooper's Hollow picnic grounds (next to the Shrine Temple on Dana Shores Drive). We'll have BBQ from Sonny's, music, children's games, a magician, fabulous door prizes, and much more. Look for a separate mailing for full information on events, times, and how to make your reservation. Free for Association members and their immediate families.

**Save another date.** On Saturday, September 19, Town N' County celebrates its 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary with the TNC50 "Going Gold" Celebration at Jackson Springs Recreation Center. Check page 16 for full details of this outstanding event.

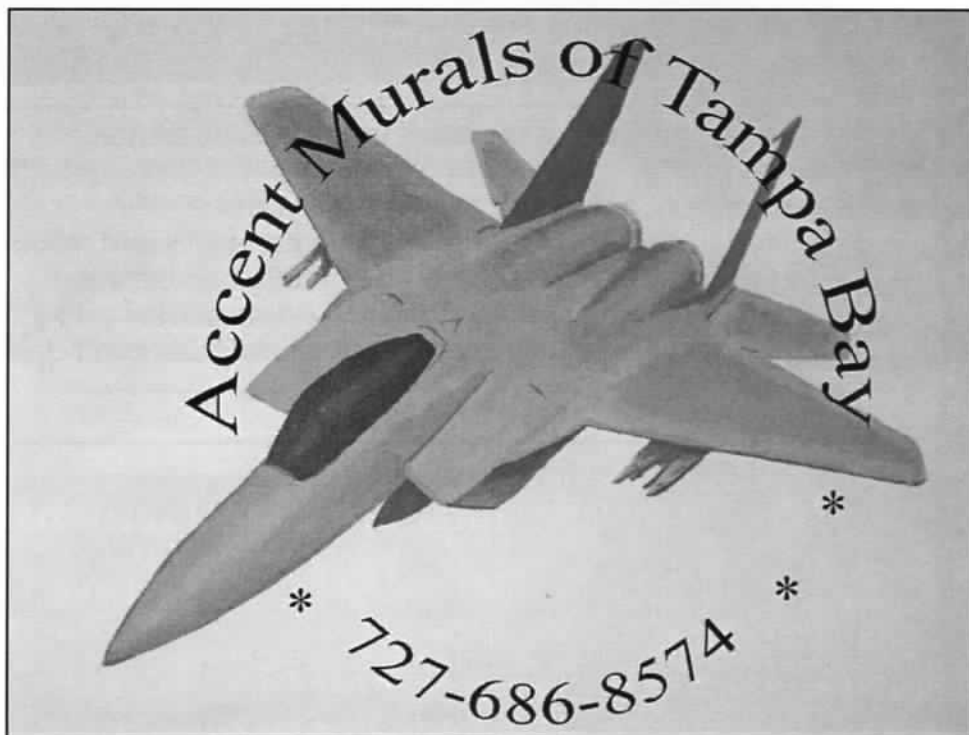
**Boot the peddlers.** Help keep "squatting" vendors from illegally selling carpets, Elvis paintings, shoes and knock-off goods on street corners in our area. When you see one, immediately call Code Enforcement at 274-6617. Our Code guy, Paul Morales, works through Saturdays each week and can pay a visit to the offending vendors and have them promptly removed.

**Got a problem and can't find the right agency?** The **Hillsborough County Citizen Action Center** is open seven days a week from 7:00 AM to 11:00 PM. Call the Info Line at 272-6900 for any County service. The CAC receives more than 145,000 requests for County services via telephone, fax, and email. It handles complaints quickly and courteously and disseminates accurate information and referrals to community social service and health agencies and County offices.

**Town N' Country Garden Circle.** The Circle will resume monthly meetings in September. If interested, contact Fran Gamester, 884-3462, for program and membership info.



"Take one of these whenever you get the cap off"



## Bay Crest Elementary Play Court Cover Project Underway

On Thursday, May 21, Association President Juli Milas participated in a check presentation ceremony at Bay Crest Elementary School. The occasion was to formally present an Association contribution to the school's fund-raising project to build a cover for the play court area, to protect children from sun and rain during outside activities. The project's funding is complete, and the cover should be in place for the new school year.

In the picture at right, Juli presents a ceremonial check to Assistant Principal **Jennifer Robison** (right) and PTA President **Stephanie May**. The presentation was made during the school's spring concert event. Below is a thank-you note the Association received from Bay Crest Principal **Susan Parks**.



Bay Crest Elementary

Dear Bay Crest PTA Assoc.,  
Thank you so much for  
your generous donation of  
\$2000 for our shade structure.  
Our students and staff will  
certainly benefit from the  
sun and heat relief it will  
offer.  
As soon as it's erected,  
you are all invited to the  
ribbon cutting.

Sincerely,  
Susan Parks  
Principal

As reported in the May newsletter, the cover will consist of rigid vertical supports and a weather-resistant fabric cover. The school's main court and playground will be covered, in addition to updating the courts with four new basketball hoops and painting to include a designated walking area.

*Government's view of the economy  
could be summed up in a few short phrases:  
If it moves, tax it. If it keeps moving, regulate it.  
And if it stops moving, subsidize it.*

- Ronald Reagan  
(contributed by Norm Wetzel)

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## July 4 Bike Parade



Bay Crest Drive was again the scene of a large gathering of bikers, walkers, wagons, strollers, cars and a golf cart, as residents celebrated the Fourth of July with a grand parade. The annual event was organized this year by Chairperson **Erin Greaser** (shown at left on golf cart with Parade Grand Marshal **Roy Kaplan**) and **Lynette Peel**, who has worked on the event every year since inception.

The parade began at the boat ramp and proceeded to the Peel Park deck at the end of Bay Crest Drive, where snacks and drinks were served.

A great "Red, White & Blue" event to commemorate our nation's birthday!



- photos by  
Gene Milas and  
Norm Coffman



## SHARE THE JOURNEY



*For Youth on Fire  
Call Kevin 886-2536*

*For Children's Ministry  
Weekday and Sunday  
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### JOYFUL WORSHIP CELEBRATIONS

9:00 AM Traditional - Chancel Choir  
9:00 AM Breakfast - \$3.00  
10:15 AM Education and Growth  
11:15 AM Contemporary Worship/Praise Team  
Casual dress appreciated

**Clark Edwards, Senior Pastor**



*Wesley Early Learning Center  
Call Janis 882-9921*

*Family Life Enrichment Center  
Call Lenny for availability  
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*For music call Joel or Warren*

## Wesley Memorial United Methodist Church

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[www.wesley memorial.net](http://www.wesley memorial.net)

**Don't miss Wednesday Nite Live for Children, Youth and Adults, Supper at 5:30 PM by reservation**



**Aldi's sets a good example.** This new store's method of keeping their shopping carts from wandering is commendable and worthy of emulation, as is the cleanliness of their store. While Publix may own the slogan "Where Shopping Is a Pleasure," Aldi's is also. It's clean and quiet, and they don't subject their senior citizen customers to loud, obnoxious music like most of the other stores.

**Boat ramp fence takes another hit.** Someone again ran into the fence, causing a fair amount of damage. A call to Mike Kruger of the Parks Department got quick action and a bollard (a short vertical post) was installed to prevent further damage.

**New city water lines being installed in Middle Bay Crest.** Digging has begun along Millwood, will start on Archwood, and looks as if it will extend on down to Bay Crest Lane. Don't know much more, except it's nice to see some work going on in our community.

**Businesses looking better.** There have been some improvements of late in the appearance of businesses in the Town N' Country area. Several of the strip malls and business locations in the area have been required to clean up and they sure look better for the effort. Businesses are required to obey the same rules as homeowners, so if we won't tolerate trash in our community, why should we tolerate it around the stores we patronize? Best way to get the point across is to complain to the management. And, trash containers should be located in front of every business.

**Rental problems.** A few rental houses have some strange activities popping up in and around them, possibly because we don't know what the codes require. This is not to denigrate renters as a group, but these days we need to be extra cautious since crime is on the upswing and we need to be more watchful than ever. Some of the owners could do a better job of screening their tenants and write some better contracts. Failing this, it is up to other homeowners on that street to report any unusual and/or prohibited activities. The best way to get action is to notify Code Enforcement, which can pressure the homeowner.

**Trash rules.** The ordinance for households require trash cans of 35 gallons or less and a maximum load of 50 lbs. The container must be watertight to prevent leakage of foul-smelling liquids, have handles to facilitate handling and loading, and a tight-fitting lid to prevent insect infestation. On non-collection days, containers shall be placed out of sight on the property, something many people ignore. Any residue left behind on the street or not picked up still belongs to the resident and should be cleaned up promptly.

**Four feet.** Remember that number, for this is a test. Four feet is the length specified by code for limbs, palm fronds, and other yard waste put out for pickup. This material often doesn't get collected for several cycles if it exceeds this length. Now what's that length again?

**Parking in cul-de-sacs.** Despite having published several articles about parking, questions are still asked as to what is proper and what is not. One query was about parking in the cul-de-sacs. Is it legal to park head on, or must one park parallel to the roadway? The answer is found in the law, which states that a vehicle must be parked with the right front wheel no more than one foot away from the curb or edge of the roadway.

**Master Gardener program.** Many of the vegetables we pay high prices for at the stores can be easily grown at home, either indoors or outdoors. If people can grow pot in pots inside their house, why not vegetables? If you want to learn more, the Master Gardener program meets at 7:00 PM on the second Thursday of each month at the Town N' Country Regional Library.

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## Tom Suttle Bows Out



One of our most industrious and inventive residents and members has tendered his resignation from the Bay Crest Park Civic Association Board due to personal and health reasons. **Tom Suttle** has earned the affectionate title of "Senior Damage Control Specialist" for the many times he has painted, fixed or otherwise improved neighborhood amenities. Tom has repaired and painted parts of the Peel Park deck, benches, planters and boat ramp fencing numerous times. He also designed, built and maintained the floodlight housings at the base of our flagpoles and in entrance planters. He also planted, painted, and maintains the flower bed at the small entrance wall on Stillbrook Avenue. He was a regular volunteer for community "dumpster days" and last year refurbished a number of salvaged bicycles for disadvantaged children. These actions and many more have earned our respect and admiration. Tom's wife **Dot** also volunteers for community projects and always assists in food preparation and setup for quarterly meetings. The Suttles reside on Stillbrook Avenue.

Though he won't be as active, we still hope to see Tom and Dot regularly at meetings and other Bay Crest Park functions.

## Memorial Highway as it "Used to Be"

The May 2000 issue of the Bay Crest Park newsletter included the photo at right, which shows Memorial Highway shortly after the road's dedication on January 2, 1921. It was called the nation's first "road of remembrance" for soldiers and sailors who died in what was then known as "The World War" from 1917-18. Thousands of people gathered for the formal dedication ceremony for the then "state-of-the-art" roadway.



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## Bay Crest Renovations

Many homeowners in our community have made substantial improvements in their properties, as shown by this small sample of photographs taken recently.

Whether a major structural upgrade, or improvements to lawn and landscaping, these homeowners help us all to maintain the value and "curb appeal" of Bay Crest Park. Many thanks to these conscientious residents for work well done!

- photos by Norm Coffman



If you have a recently-upgraded property in Bay Crest Park, or know of someone who does, send us a photograph for publication in a future issue of the Newsletter. The address or owner's name will not be disclosed without permission.

Send photos with any other information about the improvements to: [gmlas1@verizon.net](mailto:gmlas1@verizon.net).



"I'm not sure I'd want to go to a doctor who would accept our medical plan."

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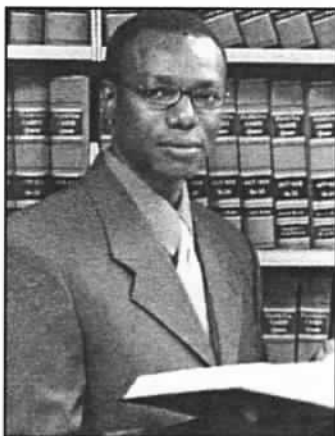
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- *Auto Accidents, Dog Bites*

### *Mission*

The Mission of Desmond H. Staple, P.A. is to protect and serve the rights and interests of the elderly, abused, neglected, disabled, and those who suffer injury or death as a result of the negligence or willful conduct of others.

When we place our loved ones into a nursing home or under the care of a physician or other health provider, we expect them to be treated with dignity, courtesy, and competence. Most medical providers do a good job in caring for our loved ones. There are instances, however, when our loved ones are abused, neglected, and/or suffer unnecessary pain, medical procedures, loss of enjoyment of life, embarrassment, or even death due to the negligence of others. There are also instances where one may suffer personal injury and/or death outside of the health care setting, due to the negligence of others. It is the Mission of this law practice to give a voice to these individuals and protect their legal rights.

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E-mail – [info@staplelaw.com](mailto:info@staplelaw.com)

Website – <http://www.staplelaw.com>

### *Background*

Mr. Staple grew up in the greater Tampa Bay Area, graduated from Florida State University with degrees in political science and economics, and earned a law degree from Capital University's School of Law, where he served with distinction as a member of *Law Review* and the Moot Court Board.

His experience includes the following:

- Former Prosecutor
- Former Insurance Defense Attorney
- Former Health Care Defense Attorney
- Prosecution of over 100 jury trials
- Extensive experience mediating personal injury and wrongful death cases
- Law Review
- Publication in Capital University Law Review (vol.25, 1996)
- Admitted to practice before the Supreme Court of Florida, all Florida State Courts, and the U.S. District Court for the Middle District of Florida

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## A Few "Swine Flu" Facts

- from Prevention Magazine and  
the Centers for Disease Control(CDC)

Q: What is Swine Flu?

A: Just like humans, pigs can catch and spread the flu—a respiratory infection caused by a type of influenza A virus. Usually the virus is spread only among pigs, but sometimes humans can catch it too. This isn't the first time H1N1 has struck: From December 2005 to February 2009, 12 cases were reported in the U.S. The official name of the "Swine Flu" is "**Novel H1N1**." Currently 263 deaths have been attributed to it in this country.

Q: Is H1N1 contagious?

A: Yes, the virus is contagious and has spread from person to person (rather than just from direct contact with an infected pig), but we currently don't know exactly how contagious it is, according to the CDC. The disease was first identified in Mexico, and has now been found in several states in the U.S. and around the world.

Q: How is H1N1 spread?

A: Experts think this virus is spread the same way regular seasonal flu does—when an infected person coughs or sneezes and send the germs to other nearby people. Touching a surface that has been contaminated with the H1N1, such as a door handle or countertop, and then touching one's mouth, nose, or eyes can also transmit the virus.

Q: What are symptoms of H1N1?

A: H1N1 symptoms are similar to those of the regular flu: fever, cough, sore throat, body aches, headache, chills, and fatigue. Some people have reported more gastrointestinal-like symptoms, like diarrhea and vomiting. The only way to know for sure if you have the disease is for your doctor to send a respiratory specimen for testing to a CDC-affiliated lab..

Q: How can I prevent myself or my family from catching H1N1?

A: The #1 thing you can do is be more vigilant about hand washing. This is especially important after you've been in contact with other people (sick or healthy) or have used communal objects, such as the microwave at work. You'll only get sick if the virus actually enters your body, usually through your mouth or nose.

Q: Should I wear a face mask to protect myself?

A: "We would not recommend this as a precautionary measure," says an expert. Outside of healthcare settings where workers come into direct contact with infected people, the evidence for face masks reducing the spread of flu is not very strong.



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Q: Are there any medicines to prevent or treat H1N1?

A: Luckily, the current strains of H1N1 are responsive to common antiviral drugs. These prescription medications, which keep flu viruses from reproducing in your body, can be used to treat people already infected with H1N1 (they may make the illness milder, help you feel better faster, and reduce serious complications), as well as to prevent infection in high-risk people.

Q: Is there a vaccine for H1N1?

A: No, there is currently no vaccine for the H1N1 and existing vaccines, like the flu shot you may have already received are not effective in preventing H1N1.

Q: Should I stop eating pork or other pig products?

A: No. The swine flu cannot be spread through food. But it is important to make sure your meat is properly handled and cooked to reduce your risk of food borne illness.

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## Code Enforcement – Inoperable Vehicles

**Hillsborough County's Minimum Standards Ordinance** requires that all properties be kept free from certain conditions which degrade from the health, safety, and/or welfare of Hillsborough County's citizens. Among these conditions are overgrowth, accumulations of junk, trash and/or debris, inoperable vehicles, and improperly secured swimming pools. In this edition we will focus on inoperable vehicles and the common questions associated with this type of nuisance.

**Q: What is an inoperable vehicle?**

**A:** While the answer to this question would seem obvious, it is often misunderstood what vehicles the Code allows us to contend with. The Hillsborough County Minimum Code defines an inoperable vehicle as one which "is in a state of disrepair and or incapable of being moved under its own power". As of a 2008 change in the law, vehicles which are untagged are also in violation. The intent of this prohibition is to prevent junk and dilapidated vehicles from having a negative impact on the community.

**Q: Why are inoperable vehicles considered to be a violation?**

**A:** Inoperable vehicles typically leak fluids such as anti-freeze, gasoline, and other automotive fluids onto the ground contaminating the local area. These vehicles also create an attractive nuisance to children by presenting an enticing, but dangerous, play thing. There are several documented incidents of children becoming locked inside a vehicle and succumbing to the extreme temperatures produced within the vehicle. Inoperative vehicles also detract from the neighborhood's appearance and invite an undesirable element into your community.



**Q: What about my hobby car?**

**A:** Vehicles which are kept within a completely enclosed structure are not considered a violation by Hillsborough County Code.

**Q: How can I report a suspected violation?**

**A:** Suspected violations of this code can be reported in several ways: phone, website, fax or in person.

**Q: Can I remain anonymous when registering a complaint?**

**A:** Yes. We do not require that you provide any personal information when registering your complaint. Remember that all information you choose to provide to the County, including names, phone numbers, or email addresses, is subject to the Public Record Laws. In other words, we must provide this information to anyone who asks for it. If you wish to remain completely anonymous, do not provide your personal information when registering the complaint.

**Q: What do I do if I've received a notice of violation?**

**A:** If you have any questions about what is required of you to achieve compliance with Hillsborough County's Code, please contact the Investigator assigned to your case. The Investigator's name is listed at the bottom of the notice you received. The goal of Code Enforcement is to preserve the quality and value of public and private property, and maintain a high standard of living by eliminating conditions that threaten the life, health, safety, and general welfare of the public. The department recognizes that this goal is most effectively achieved through the education of, and cooperation with, the citizens of Hillsborough County.

The Code Enforcement Investigator for Bay Crest Park is Mr. Paul Morales. For information or to report a suspected code violation, call him at 813-274-6617. E-mail is [moralespj@hillsboroughcounty.org](mailto:moralespj@hillsboroughcounty.org).





## ANNOUNCEMENTS AND SERVICES

**Adoptive/foster Parents Wanted.** The Children's Home at 10909 Memorial Highway is always looking for families who want to adopt a child or offer long-term foster care. For more info, call Ellen Fisher at 855-4435, Ext. 2037.

**Elder Net Services.** This service, offered by the Crisis Center of Tampa Bay, provides daily reassurance calls, helps reduce feelings of isolation and loneliness, and provides peace of mind. It's also a source for information and referral, case management, and chore service. To learn more, call 964-1577.

**Miss Myrle's Pet Reunification Service.** If you have lost your pet or have found one, call Myrle. She's our Bay Crest neighborhood clearinghouse for such information and performs a very valuable service. To report a pet either lost or found, call her at 885-2205.



**Bay Crest Service Providers.** The residents listed below offer the services listed to their Bay Crest neighbors. If you would like to get your name on this list, call 884-5511. You must be an association member in good standing to receive this service. **Note that the Association does not endorse any person listed, but only provides names as a service to the community. If you are currently listed and have revisions or wish to be removed, please call 884-5511.**



Service Offered	Name	Adult	Phone
Adult Care	Sidrah Audifferen	Yes	887-5704
	Frederika Grondijs	Yes	886-4757
	Diane Moore	Yes	884-1777
	Joey Winborg	Yes	886-6563
Babysitting	Mikhaila Fabian	Yes	884-5267
	Wendy Hall	Yes	881-0704
	Maureen McAuliffe**	No	884-8452
	Annette Rodriguez***	No	598-4377
	Carly Sharrock**	No	889-9337
Estate Sales, Garage Clean-outs, Hauling	Chet Krupski	Yes	886-3722
General Home Repairs	Lance Hall	Yes	300-8216
Home Repairs & Maintenance	Charlie Griffin	Yes	885-6699
House Cleaning	Rose DeLucia	Yes	884-5621
	Casie Moore	Yes	884-1777
Ironing Service	Donna Fiore	Yes	884-7769
Lawn Mowing	Andre Martins	No	245-4215
Mobile Notary Service	Heidi Fritz	Yes	263-9521
Moving and Hauling	Michael Mandia	Yes	355-1787
Painting and Pressure Cleaning	George Hammond	Yes	841-5980
Pet Care	William Carey	No	885-7944
	Lorraine Mathes*	Yes	885-5384
	Steve Sharrock	Yes	889-9337
Plumbing, Electrical, General Home Repair	Andy Tom	Yes	924-4508
Sewing and Alterations	Gloria Jensen	Yes	887-4654
Pressure Washing, Roof Cleaning, Landscaping, Misc.	Michael Harrell	Yes	679-7657
Tutoring	Andre Martins	No	245-4215



\* Certified Veterinary Technician

\*\* Taken Certified Baby Sitting Program

\*\*\* CPR, First Aid, Oxygen Trained

## 2009 BAY CREST PARK COMMUNITY EVENT SCHEDULE

Board of Directors Meeting – Wesley Memorial - 7:30 PM..... Last Tuesday of each month (except Dec)  
 Community Picnic ..... Saturday, October 24  
 General Membership Meetings – Wesley Memorial United Methodist Church..... August 27, November 19  
 Hazardous Household Waste Accepted at Sheldon Road – 8:00 AM -2:00 PM ..... First Saturday of each month  
 Taxing District Board Meetings – Town & Country Library – 7:00 PM..... Second Monday of each month (except July)



### GOOD TELEPHONE NUMBERS TO KEEP

Abandoned Shopping Carts.....	274-6600	Medicaid (State of Florida) .....	871-5050
Animal Services.....	744-5660	Mosquito Control .....	635-5400
Auto Problems (Lemon Law).....	800-321-5366	Parks & Recreation .....	975-2160
Bay Area Car Pooling Service .....	800-998-RIDE	Pets, Lost & Found in Bay Crest .....	885-2205
Building Permits.....	272-5600	<b>Poison Control Center.....</b>	<b>800-222-1222</b>
> Code Compliance.....	635-7313	Port Authority (Dock Permits) .....	905-7678
Canals - Permits/Questions .....	905-7678	Post Office (Paula Drive) .....	888-6839
Chamber of Commerce.....	854-5344	Price Gouging Hotline.....	800-435-7352
Child Abuse (Emergency).....	224-9911	Public Service Commission .....	800-342-7940
Child Care Licensing.....	272-6487	Public Works Department (County).....	635-5400
Child Neglect.....	800-962-2873	Rental Property Inspections .....	274-6651
<b>Citizen Action Center .....</b>	<b>272-5900</b>	Roadway Maintenance (WSU) .....	554-5006, x 707
Code & Housing Enforcement.....	274-6600	Roadway Maintenance (State) .....	664-8381
> Illegal Sign Removal.....	274-6633	Roadway Maintenance (City of Tampa) .....	622-1940
Consumer Protection Agency.....	903-3430	R-O-W Mgt. Office (Permits) .....	274-6500
Contractor Problems.....	272-5600	School System .....	272-4000
<b>County Commissioners:</b>		Sewer Department (County) .....	272-6680
Rose Ferlita (District 1).....	272-5470	> (Emergency) .....	744-5600
Kevin Beckner (At Large).....	272-5730	Sexual Predators.....	888-357-7332
Jim Norman (At Large).....	272-5725	<b>Sheriff (Main Office Dispatcher) .....</b>	<b>247-8200</b>
Mark Sharpe (At Large) .....	272-5735	> District III Office.....	247-0330
Crisis Center .....	211	> Environmental Abuse .....	247-8641
Elder Help Line .....	273-3779	> Marine Patrol Unit .....	276-2608
Elder Net Services.....	964-1577	Small Claims Court .....	776-8100
Electronics Equipment Recycling.....	621-2319	Solid Waste (County).....	272-5680
Environmental Protection (County) .....	627-2600	<b>State Rep. Faye Culp .....</b>	<b>272-2920</b>
Environmental Deputy .....	690-8564	<b>State Senator Charlie Justice .....</b>	<b>727-217-7970</b>
Florida Fish & Wildlife/Marine Patrol .....	272-2516	Tampa Electric Co .....	223-0800 or 228-1111
Free/Low Cost Medicines .....	941-753-2262	> Emergency Reporting .....	877-588-1010
HARTline.....	623-5835	> Malfunctioning Street Lights.....	223-0800
<b>Hospitals:</b>		Traffic Sign Repair (County) .....	635-5400
St. Joseph's.....	870-4000	Trash Pickup (Republic Waste Service) .....	265-0292
Shriner's Children's.....	800-237-5055	Truancy Reporting .....	975-2018/9
Tampa General .....	844-7000	Veterans Affairs .....	975-2181
Town & Country.....	888-7060	Water Department (City - Emergency) .....	274-7400
VA Hospital.....	972-2000	West Service Unit.....	635-5400
		Zoning Department .....	272-5920

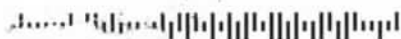


**The Salvation Army is in constant need of donations** at its transitional housing facilities for men, women and families. Always needed are diapers, towels, washcloths, baby formula, bed linens, blankets, pillows and personal hygiene items such as toothbrushes and toothpaste and deodorant. Additionally, families always need disposable diapers and baby formula. Donations of non-perishable foods are also welcome to support food services for hundreds of people each day. Drop off any of these at the Tampa offices, 1603 N. Florida Ave. Larger items (up to and including automobiles) may be delivered to any Salvation Army Thrift Store. Residential pickups may also be arranged by calling 800-330-2769.

# Bay Crest Park Civic Association

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## Gardening Tips

-from the Hillsborough County Extension Service  
<http://edis.ifas.ufl.edu>



### WHAT TO PLANT IN AUGUST

FLOWERS: Annuals: Coleus, Impatiens, Kalanchoe, Periwinkle/Vinca

VEGETABLES: Beans (Pole), Broccoli, Celery, Collards, Corn, Cucumbers, Eggplant, Onions (Green), Pepper, Pumpkin, Southern Peas, Summer Squash, Tomatoes, Turnips, Watermelon

HERBS and SPICES: (From plants, not seeds) Basil, Bay Laurel, Ginger, Horehound, Lemon Balm, Marjoram, Mexican Tarragon Mint, Oregano, Rosemary, Thyme

BULBS: African Lily, amaryllis, Aztec Lily, Blackberry Lily, Canna, Crinum, Crocosmia, Elephant Ears, Gingers, Gladiolus, Kaffir Lily, Louisiana Iris, Moraea, Rain Lilies, Gladiolus, Iris, Moraea, Society Garlic, Spider Lily, Walking Iris

### WHAT TO DO IN AUGUST

Plant and fertilize annuals.  
Fertilize palms.  
Watch for lacebug infestations.  
Spray roses for black spot disease.  
Fertilize muscadine grapes after harvest.  
Check lawns for insect pests.  
Fertilize outdoor potted plants.  
Plant palms.  
Solarize garden soil.

Add organic matter to garden soil. Grass clippings, leaves, manure or compost are all suitable as soil amendments. Till it in, wait two weeks and have soil pH tested. County Cooperative Extension offices offer soil-testing services.

Plant vegetable seeds directly in the garden or seed bed. Sow watermelon seeds by the 10th, but delay planting others until mid-month (See above list). Sow seed no deeper than twice its diameter.

Remove old flower and seed heads from annuals, perennials and crape myrtle. Prune off old flowers to encourage blooming. Groom roses to enhance fall bloom. Remove dead and dying twigs and reduce length of excessively long canes. This is a neatening, not a major pruning.

Lightly prune poinsettias for the last time. Flower buds initiate in October. Pruning after September 10 results in small bracts (flowers) or none at all.

Apply magnesium sulfate (Epsom salts) to palms. Correct yellowing of older fronds with one to five pounds of magnesium sulfate depending on the size of the palm.