



# Spring Lake

## BREEZE

Florida . . . the way it should be.

VOL. 2 NO. 6

www.seabreezecomunications.com

JUNE 2008

## How Sweet It Is!!

By Debbie Delaney

The Interclub golf program has been a part of the Highlands County golf community for over 15 years, providing competition for both women's and men's teams from various courses in the area.

Sun 'n Lake Golf Pro Andy Kessler, who worked at the Spring Lake course during his high school days, manages both of the Interclub programs. Teams from participating courses travel to a different golf course once a month between April and December for not only competition, but also to meet new friends and have fun. The participating courses rotate play at their respective courses, so participants get to play nearly 10 different courses per year. Gift certificates are sent back to the home course for the members of the three winning teams, and individual prizes for long drive and closest to the pin. Team points are kept for each week's competition and the Interclub champion is determined by total points at the end of the season.

The inaugural event for 2008 was at Harder Hall, and the competition started out SWEET with Spring Lake winning FIRST PLACE. Teri Swisher is team captain and put together a winning line up for the first event. Dottie Blackwell led the way with +12



First Place Interclub Team

points followed by Joann DeWeese with +5 and Rebecca Shantley with +6. Congratulations team!

The June 23<sup>rd</sup> event will be hosted by Spring Lake and everyone is encouraged to come out and support our local women's

team. Other scheduled events include Sun 'n Lake on May 19; River Greens July 28; Sebring Golf Course August 25; The Bluffs September 22; Highlands Ridge October 20; Sun 'n Lake November 17; and Placid Lakes December 15.

## Oak Leafe Renovations

By Gordon Robb

For those of you who may not know where our little community is, we are located on the southeast side of Duane Palmer Blvd., just ¼ mile west of the Improvement District pump station. While our Homeowners Association is small compared to the others, there is ample space for our community to grow.

The road infrastructure has been in disrepair for several years, and the entrance sign has not been painted in at least five years. The entrance lighting has been suspect and trees in the berm areas have not been pruned in over 10 years.

At our annual Homeowners Association meeting back in November, resident Thais Muzzillo pointed out the poor condition of our entrance pavement, and a project was born. After lengthy discussions the Board hired a company to undertake the repair to the entrance pavement and work commenced on April 3, 2008. The pavement was completed to County standards in just 10 days.

Volunteers from our community agreed to assist with the tree trimming, and the Improvement District agreed to take the debris to the nearby burn pile. We want to thank the SLID staff for their help and assistance. Special thanks to: Peter and Mary Cebula; Leslie and Frank Odierno; Jean Kennedy; Maggie Robb; Corine Snelling; and Lois Hofman. Jerry Ables did a wonderful job in taking care of the electrical problems and providing our entrance lighting once again.

The County does not maintain our roads because they are were installed using concrete, and the County will only maintain



paving; thus, we have to pay for all the repairs ourselves. Phase I of our Oak Leafe road repairs has been successful, and I personally



want to thank all of our residents for their financial support and their sweat equity on the tree trimming.

## County Clean-up Continues

Road and Bridge Supervisor Jack Bennett and his staff have been busy following up on their commitment to assist the District with some difficult cleaning of drainage areas. The District does not have the heavy equipment needed to clear debris that has built

up over the years, so the County is assisting. The District will now be able to properly maintain these areas within our lot mowing program. These pictures show the work that was done at Lakeview Estates in Village VIII.



## Board News

At its May meeting the Board of Supervisors reviewed the status of the Updated Plan of Reclamation and the timetable that will be put



into place for public review and comment. The July issue of The Breeze will have a full calendar of the process the Board will be going thru during the approval process. The last several issues of The Breeze have highlighted the projects that will be necessary for the future well being of the District, and residents can refer to those issues or go to the District web site and view past issues.

Capital Improvement Program Chairman Bill Lawens and his committee have mailed a questionnaire to every resident and lot owner in our community. This is the first ever attempt to have our own needs and interests survey, as well as accurate census data. If you have not received your copy in the mail by the time you read this article, please contact the District office at 863-655-1715. A phone follow up will be made to those who do not return the surveys to make sure they have received a copy. Presentations will also be made at various community gatherings. This is your opportunity to be heard, please participate.

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### Who's Who?

The Improvement District is managed by a Board of Supervisors, a full-time staff and advisors. Here are the people in charge of SLID:

**Board Of Supervisors:**

Leon Van	Chairman	Ken Poe
Marsi Benson	Vice Chairperson	Bill Lawens
Brian Acker	Secretary	

**District Staff:**

Joe DeCerro	District Manager
Diane Angell	Administrative Assistant
Jay Angell	Water Superintendent
Randy Nelson	Maintenance Department Supervisor
Gladys Eaglen	Secretary

**Field Staff:**

John Laiosa	Brian Patrick	Corey Jones
JR Clarke	Neil Wilkinson	Buddy Heinley
Bill Maine		

**District Advisors:**

William Nielander	Attorney
Gene Schriener	Craig A. Smith Engineering
Matt Morris	Financial and Management
Bruce Stratton	Accounting and Auditing

To contact the District Office, call 655-1715, e-mail at [slid115@embarqmail.com](mailto:slid115@embarqmail.com), or visit our Web site at [www.springlakeimprovement.com](http://www.springlakeimprovement.com). The offices and drive-up window area open daily from 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. and closed on weekends. There is a mail drop for depositing water bills just to the left of the main entrance.

### Important Phone Numbers

**Emergency 911**

Spring Lake Improvement District .....	655-1715
SLID After Hours .....	655-0615
Spring Lake Property Association .....	655-2230
Ambulance and Sheriff .....	385-5111
Sheriff Dispatch .....	402-7200
Highlands County Emergency Center .....	385-1112
Lorida Fire Department .....	655-0122
Desoto City Forestry Division .....	655-6407
Animal Control .....	655-6475
Florida Game and Wildlife .....	800-282-8002
Reliable Sanitation .....	385-0817
Auto and Boat Registration .....	402-6685
Comcast Cable .....	385-2578
Drivers License Facility .....	386-6053
Progress Energy .....	800-700-8744
Lorida Post Office .....	655-1321
Sebring Post Office .....	382-0578
Embarq .....	800-339-1811
Voter Registration .....	402-6655
School Board .....	471-5555
Hunting and Fishing License .....	402-6685
Hammock State Park .....	386-6094
Highlands Regional Medical Center .....	385-6101
Florida Hospital .....	314-4466

### Legal Notice

**Notice Of Meetings**

The Board of Supervisors of the Spring Lake Improvement District will hold their meetings at the District Office, 115 Spring Lake Blvd., Sebring. The meetings will be held the second Wednesday of each month, beginning at 2 p.m.

Any person requiring special accommodations at these meetings because of a disability or physical impairment should contact the District Office at (863) 655-1715 at least five calendar days prior to the meeting. Meetings may be continued at a later date and time, which will be announced at the meeting.

Each person who decides to appeal any decision made by the Board with respect to any matter considered at the meeting is advised that that person may need to ensure that a verbatim record of the proceedings is made, including the testimony and evidence upon which such appeal is to be based.

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## New Facility Close To Completion

The new District facility that will house both our Field Maintenance and Water Departments is nearing completion. This is the first expansion of a much needed facility since the District began in 1972. When completed, the building will provide the space needed to properly maintain our fleet of vehicles and equipment,

and to properly administer our programs and services. Offices, workroom, kitchen, and locker rooms will be part of the facility.

The District plans to have an open house to provide residents the opportunity to see our new facility and the vehicles and equipment we have to provide services and programs to our community.



## Bits And Pieces

1) Our sincere sympathy to the families of individuals who lived and participated in our Spring Lake Community and are recently deceased:

Dorothy "Dot" Emerson	March 14, 2008
Ray John Annis	April 8, 2008
Don Bishop	April 13, 2008

2) The Friends of Istokpoga general membership meeting was held on May 15 and officers elected at the February meeting conducted the gathering held at the Lorida Community Center.

President	Bert Galloway
Vice-President	Gary Albin
Secretary	Virginia Greene
Treasurer	Jeanne Porter

Carol Derr will be heading up the committee to follow the Highlands County Land Use Plan and zoning changes being recommended to the Highlands County Board of County

Commissioners.

The May program included a progress report on the hydrilla program, funding for the canal cleaning project, the S-68 Spillway structure, the progress on the Lake canal water retention structure, and the boat ramp on U.S. 98 with access to the Kissimmee River.

3) Sheriff Susan Benton was guest speaker at the Spring Lake Property Association meeting on May 12 and she discussed the new web site that everyone should take a few moments to explore. Simply go to [www.highlandssheriff.org](http://www.highlandssheriff.org)

4) The next issue of The Breeze will contain the government required Drinking Water Quality Report. This year's report should be as positive as past years.

5) This is the last month that Important Phone Numbers will be listed in every issue of The Breeze. We will be publishing a list in January and February only, so if you find the numbers helpful, be sure to cut them out of this issue for future reference.

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## SFWMD Inspects Proposed Work

Prior issues of The Breeze have outlined the progress that has been made in getting the courts to lift the injunction that our pump station is under. An agreement has been reached and the last hurdle is getting SFWMD to agree on the final stages of work that has to be done in and around land near the pump station.

These pictures show SFWMD personnel and our engineer, Gene Schriener, going thru an inspection of the land to make sure that we do not affect wetlands with the continuation of the sea wall that will lift the injunction. While there has been much debate, discussion, and meetings relative to these 1,500 square feet of land,

we feel confident that SFWMD will realize some encroachment onto this land is better than the flooding of our community again. We must be able to pump on a regular basis, and we are hopeful that will be happening by the time the rainy season is upon us.



## Playgrounds Are A Success

New playground equipment has been installed at Village I Park, and additional items have been added to Pine Breeze Park. All that remains to complete work in Village I is a small shelter to be erected between the playground and the newly resurfaced shuffleboard courts. New picnic tables, benches, and grills have already been installed.

The Improvement District will continue to upgrade our parks as more and more families with children are moving into our community and using the parks. A State Grant to assist with the development of Arbuckle Creek Park is progressing, and Florida Fish and Wildlife will announce the grant recipients in October.



Justin and Damian Angell enjoy the new playground.



## Protect Our Children

Mary Anne McKenzie has shared a very valuable piece of information to The Breeze that is important to all of us; a web site that locates predators!

When you enter this site you simply type in your address, and a map will appear with your house as a small icon. There will be red, blue, and green dots surrounding your entire neighborhood. When you click on these dots a picture of a criminal will appear

with his or her home address, and the description of the crime he or she has committed. The pictures of predators can be shown to your children so they can always be careful.

This site was developed by John Walsh, who is the originator and producer of America's Most Wanted. This is another wonderful tool to help protect our kids.

[www.FamilyWatchDog.us](http://www.FamilyWatchDog.us)

### DRIVE-THRU PETS-OF-THE-MONTH



Goose



Max



Snoopy & Geo

## Do You Remember Tom Mix?

By Joan Mix

Tom Mix is probably one of the most famous Cowboys of the silent film era. Even today they are producing DVD's of the movies that Tom Mix starred in. Many readers of The Breeze can probably remember sitting in the old movie theaters watching the action and excitement the silver screen stars brought to us.

I was married on August 25, 1946 in Chicago. My husband and I had six children and my daughter Louise and I have been in Spring Lake for many years. All of us were related to Tom Mix, as he was my husband's fifth cousin. While this would not be considered immediate family, it is nice to know that a famous silent film actor is in our family lineage.

In September of 1940 my husband's uncle, Father John Mix, actually went to Hollywood and spent some time with Tom Mix. The picture shown in this article has been in our family for almost 70 years.



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MLS #	ADDRESS	PRICE
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194557	1202 Villaway	\$114,900
197571	1310 Villaway	\$114,900
195931	1105 Villaway	\$114,900
192670	207 Villaway	\$129,900
202351	230 Clubhouse Ct	\$225,900



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