

TWELVE OAKS ACORN

Twelve Oaks Civic Association

Published Since 1979

JULY 2011

Reporter/Editor: Rosemarie Middleton ~ Editor/Publisher: Karen E. Uhlig



Fourth of July traditions of parades, cookouts, and FIREWORKS are all part of our celebration of this American Holiday; however, with tight budgets and a sagging economy there may be less pop and more fizzle in some fireworks displays this Fourth of July. **Firecrackers and rockets are illegal for private use in the State of Florida.** The only thing legal are approved sparklers, according to Florida State Statute #791. The statute further defines sparklers as a “hand-held or ground based devise that emits sparks. A sparkler does not project through the air or make sounds.” The only exception to this statute is local public displays with county permits. For safety reasons it is best to **LEAVE FIREWORKS TO THE PROFESSIONALS!** We do not want to hear of one of our residents being injured or of any resident’s property being damaged.

TOCA Meeting - Tuesday, August 23 – The August TOCA meeting will feature a speaker from Hillsborough County Fire Rescue. In addition, staff from the Town ‘N Country Hospital will be on hand to do cholesterol and blood pressure screenings. Twelve Oaks Civic Association general membership meetings are held quarterly – February, May, August, and November. The purpose of these meetings is to welcome new residents and first-time attendees, socialize a bit and get to know other members of the community, bring in interesting speakers who have something worthwhile to offer, and to provide a forum for you to ask your questions and get some answers. Plan now to attend.

Gator Spotted in Lake: Tread carefully when walking next to the two lakes in Twelve Oaks these days. Residents have reported seeing a gator in both the lakes. Gators 4 feet and under are able to wander in and out of the connecting lakes in the area. Last year an 8 ft. gator crossed the road from the small pond to the larger one. Florida Wildlife Commission warns people not to feed alligators or other wildlife near the water or walk dogs near gators, especially at night or at dusk. If you encounter an alligator more than 4 feet long or one that poses a threat to life or property, call the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission alligator hot line at (866) 392-4286. Alligator Warning signs are posted on Twelve Oaks Blvd by each lake.

A Summer Fun Program for ages 5 and up is offered at the Morgan Woods Recreation Center located on the north side campus of Morgan Woods School. For registration information contact Kim Cannella, Park Director, at 813-801-6844.

Visit the Town ‘N Country Library: Summer is here and exciting activities are offered at our local library. (NOTE: The Library will be closed Monday, July 4.) Book discussions, beginners Spanish classes, conversational English, computer classes in English and Spanish, activities for toddlers, teens and adults are offered. A book discussion on *The Postmistress* by Sarah Blake will take place July 20 at 3:00 P.M. Special family programs in July include an amazing magic and comedy show featuring Eric Olson on July 5, Didgeridoo Down Under on July 6, A Many Festive Around the World celebration on July 26, and more. For information on these and other library activities visit the Town ‘N Country website, click on Schedule of Events or call (813) 801-6722.

The Town ‘N Country Senior Center / Adult Day Care program provides stimulating activities including health, wellness, and educational programs, opportunities for socialization, and nutritious meals in an enriched environment for active adults and senior citizens. The Center, located on the first floor of the Town ‘N Country Commons Library, is open from 8 A.M. to 4 P.M. Monday through Friday. (NOTE: The Center will be closed Monday, July 4.) A special Fourth of July celebration including food, games, skills

contests, and music will be held on July 1. Other events in July include the Book of the Month Club meeting, a dominoes tournament, an Armchair Travel to Africa/Galapagos Islands, a special birthday celebration, and more. For information about the Town ‘N Country Senior Center or for class and activity schedules call (813) 873-6336.

Town ‘N Country Youth Council will meet Sunday, July 3 from 2 - 3:30 P.M. at the Town ‘N Country Regional Library located at the corner of Ambassador and Paula Drive. YC teens will have the opportunity to earn volunteer hours this month by assisting at the Library Senior Center and at Rocky Creek Village. Plans are being finalized for a “Meet and Greet” picnic at Upper Tampa Bay Park on July 30 for TnC teens. The YC is open to all Town ‘N Country teens ages 12-17 who are attending school. Teens interested in joining the Youth Council and having an opportunity to earn community service hours can obtain a membership application by contacting Cindy Baron at 886-8791 or E-mail ppbaron@verizon.net

Attention Senior Citizens — Time is running out. Hillsborough County offers a Senior Citizen Discount to homeowners on their Solid Waste Annual Disposal Assessment, once you turn 65 years of age. The Solid Waste Management Department offers residential customers who qualify, a Senior Citizen's Discount of 25% from their solid waste disposal assessment. The reduced fee is reflected every year, in November, on the Ad Valorem Tax Bill. To qualify for the discount, you must be at least 65 years of age by January 1, 2012. You must own and live in the residential unit you list on the application. You must apply for the discount on or before August 1st in order to receive discount on the next annual billing cycle in November. Interested? Want an application? Call Waste Management Customer Service at 272-5680

Sheriff's Office Needs School Crossing Guards —The Hillsborough County Sheriff's Department is looking for qualified people to be school crossing guards for the 2011-12 school year. Guards are typically assigned intersections near their homes. Guards must be at least 19 years old and possess a valid driver's license or Florida identification card and a Social Security card. They must also pass a background check. Pay is \$10.38 an hour for 10 hours a week. The job entitles the participant to enroll in the Florida Retirement System. Uniforms, equipment, and training are provided by the Sheriff's Office. There are opportunities to advance to supervisory positions. For information, contact the Sheriff's Dept. Crossing Guard section at (813) 247-8123.

Report Problems or Continue to Put Up With Them. As you travel around Twelve Oaks and Town ‘N Country, you probably see many things that someone in the county should take care of — and they usually will if they know about them — but they don't have people out looking for things that need fixing. For that, they depend on citizens to call them in. If you see something that needs taking care of, such as: downed street signs, illegally dumped trash, pot holes, sidewalks in need of repair, clogged storm drains, injured or dead animals, snipe signs, etc., note the location and call it in at your first opportunity. If no one calls, nothing will ever happen. **Who Do You Call?** Contact the "Hillsborough County InfoLine" at 272-5900, a one-stop county service and information center! The center provides comprehensive information and referral to all government, health, and social services in the community. It coordinates government service requests and handles complaints quickly and courteously. Operators work with all county departments to ensure you receive accurate and timely responses. **Hillsborough County InfoLine 272-5900 – Se Habla Espanol – TTY (hearing impaired) – 301-7173.**

Twelve Oaks Civic Association Board of Directors

Officers:

Rosemarie Middleton, President – 885-5753 – Rmiddlet@tampabay.rr.com
Scott Keehn, Vice President – 476-9814 – skeehn@keehnhealthplans.com
Janet Owen, Secretary – 886-6286 – Jowen004@yahoo.com
Mike Fenimore, Treasurer – 889-7745 – jas.fenimore@verizon.net

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Linda Mann – 886-8193 – Lindaayn@tampabay.rr.com
Reggie Henschel – 884-1932 – reg76hen@yahoo.com
Marsha Craig – 886-7323 – MarshaCraig@tampabay.rr.com
Mary McQuinn – 885-3169 – mary.mcquinn@floridamoves.com

Twelve Oaks Special District Board of Trustees

TOSDtampa@gmail.com

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Marsha Craig – 886-7323

Yves Villard – 249-0173
Deborah Presnell – 290-8009

Neighborhood Watch

General Coordinator: Position Open
Doreen Clauer, Email Coordinator
nwatch12oaks@verizon.net

Community Resource Deputy,

Deputy Daniel Serrano
247-0330 or 975-2050
Sheriff (Non-Emergency Dispatcher)
247-8200

Twelve Oaks Official Community Website

www.TwelveOaksOnline.com

Twelve Oaks Special District
P.O. Box 260352
Tampa, FL 33685-0352

TOSDtampa@gmail.com

Meetings and Business Hours
7:00-9:00 P.M. On the 2nd Wed. of
every month at Morgan Woods
Recreation Center, 7001 Armand Dr.

The Acorn, the community newsletter for Twelve Oaks, has changed in size due to the economy and companies not being able to advertise. IKare Publishing is making every effort to keep looking for advertising support. The best way you can help is by calling on the advertisers who support your newsletter and letting people you do business with know about your newsletter.

Concerned About Solicitors & Flyers? Here's a great suggestion! When you get flyers taped to your mailbox or placed at your door, instead of throwing them away, call or email me with the name and number of the company. It would be a great way to get new advertisers for The Acorn. Karen - 907-3629 ikarepublishing@aol.com



TOSD Meeting
July 13, 2011
7:00 PM

Recreation Center Morgan Woods School

TOCA Business Meeting
July 26, 2011
7:00 PM
7003 Edenbrook

Please support the advertisers in this newsletter as it is due to their support and IKare Publishing, Inc. that the ACORN is printed and mailed to every resident in Twelve Oaks.

Twelve Oaks 2011 Ad Prices
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1/4 page 100.00
1/2 page 130.00
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Baby Sitter.....Mary Ann Fabric.....735-7088
Baby Sitter.....Grace Fabric.....735-7088
Male Care-giver.....Emanuel Fabric.....735-7088

Please call Rosemarie at 885-5753 to have your name listed. Parents call for your child. No children cell phones will be listed. You must be a current member of TOCA.



The Twelve Oaks' Ladies Social Group

will meet for lunch

at Longhorn Steakhouse, 8212 Citrus Park Drive (across from the mall) on Monday, July 25th at 11:30 A.M. We would love for you to join us. Interested? Call: Marsha at 886-7323 or Rosemarie at 885-5753.



Did Your Dog Drop Something?

Green "Doggie Bag Dispensers" and black trash receptacles, provided by TOCA, are located at the canal areas on Kirkwood, Barry Rd, Overbrook, Rustic Drive (near Oakmoor), Rustic Drive (near Vassar), by the lake on Twelve Oaks Blvd. and on Twelve Oaks Blvd. near Oakview Circle. Dog-walkers are encouraged to take and use one of the disposable bags that are provided to clean up after their pet. If you walk your dog in an area that does not have a dispenser, take a disposal bag with you. Please dispose of the used bags properly.



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Have you forgotten to renew your 2011 Twelve Oaks Civic Association Membership?

It's never too late to join or renew. A \$10 annual donation (or more if you choose) supports year-round community events and services

that maintain the quality of living in our beautiful community. Each new member makes us that much stronger, both in numbers, and in the resources available to our organization. If you have not joined or renewed your TOCA membership, please do it today. Complete the application in this issue of the Acorn and mail it along with your check made out to **TOCA @ P.O. Box 261012 Tampa, FL. 33685.**

Thank you to the following residents whose membership dues were received between **May 5th and June 3rd:**

Sergio & Ellen Giorgis - Brookhaven
Douglas & Jacqueline Robb – Brook Hollow
Ivonne Williams - Forestview
Dennis & Kathy Gomez - Oakvista
Jose Vasquez - Summerbridge
Alicia Mejias – Twelve Oaks

TWELVE OAKS CIVIC ASSOCIATION TOCA MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION 2011 Aplicacion de la Membresia de TOCA 2011 Mail to P.O. Box 261012, Tampa, FL. 33685

ANNUAL DUES / Costo Anual:
\$10 minimum plus any additional contribution you wish to make / Donacion de \$10 o' mas so lo desea

NAME(s) / Nombre (s): _____

ADDRESS / Direccion: _____
OWNER / dueño _____ RENTER / Rentero _____

PHONE NUMBER /
Numero Telefonico: _____

E-MAIL ADDRESS / Direccion
Electronica: _____

Permission to share with Neighborhood Watch / Permiso
de repartir con Neighborhood Watch:
YES /Si _____ NO / No _____

E-mail or phone information will be used only to notify
residents of neighborhood events, concerns, or
emergencies.

Se usa la informacion de e-mail o telefono solo para
notificar los residentes de actividades, inquietudes o
emergencias.



Welcome / Sunshine

Welcome Matthew O'Donnell, new owner of 7522 Clearview Dr. You have remembered the three most important things when choosing a home: location, location, location. We hope that you will enjoy living in this great community for many years. I encourage you to become involved in YOUR community. Begin by joining our civic association. Attend meetings, ask questions, become a volunteer. YOU can make a difference. Take the time to read The Acorn, our community newsletter and visit our community website – www.TwelveOaksOnline.com. This is the best way to stay informed about what is happening in and around our community. Questions? Concerns? Please call any TOCA Board member. You will find our phone numbers and email addresses on page 2 of this newsletter



Happy Birthday America: Independence Day celebrates the birthday of the United States of America. Founded July 4, 1776, with the signing of the Declaration of Independence, America is celebrating its 235th birthday this year. The Fourth of July is a time for the red, white, and blue. It is a time for picnics, parades, and marching bands. A time for beaches, BBQs and "Bombs Bursting in Air." We are fortunate to live in a free and independent country. Take a few minutes while enjoying your Fourth of July holiday and silently thank the patriots who fought for our freedom many years ago and those patriots serving in our armed forces today. Remember, freedom is never free! We should never take our liberty for granted. Be proud of your country and proud to be an American.

The Fourth of July is a day to proudly fly the American flag. Residents are encouraged to remember that when the flag is in such condition that it is no longer a fitting emblem for display, it should be replaced with a new one. Faded, torn, or tattered flags should be destroyed in a dignified way – preferably by burning. The American Legion and the Boy and Girl Scouts accept old flags and will see that they are properly destroyed

JULY DATES TO REMEMBER:

July 4 – Independence Day
July 11 – HARTFlex begins in TnC
July 13 – TOSD meeting
July 25 – Ladies Luncheon at Longhorn Steakhouse
July 26 – TOCA Business Meeting

TOSD Wall Project Good News / Bad News

The good news: Several contractors have evaluated the repair work and paint job that was done on the wall surrounding Twelve Oaks. Everyone agrees that the color looks great, the paint job is outstanding, and the wall on Waters really looks good. **The bad news:** TOSD Trustees are not satisfied with the looks of the wall on Hanley Road. The shadows that can be seen, especially early mornings, late afternoons, and evenings are caused by the stucco repair work that has been done over the years. The combination of a new paint job and the darker color that was chosen has accentuated the problem. The Special District's Maintenance Committee is investigating ways to resolve this issue.



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What can you get for under a dollar? How about curbside pickup from your door to the store, the Library, to school, personal appointments, shopping or even lunch? HART is rolling out its new Flex service to the Town 'N Country area July 11th. Flex will be based at HART's Northwest Transit Center located near the intersection of Sheldon and Waters and will serve the surrounding area. HARTFlex will run hourly, Monday through Friday, 5:15 A.M. – 7:00 P.M. You will be able to catch the Flex van at any bus stop along the route or, with an advance reservation, the service will deviate up to half a mile from the route to pick you up and take you to your destination within the Town 'N Country Flex zone. For information about Flex service call 813-449-4555



Dear Neighbor,
You may not realize that your dog is barking all night while he's outside. He may be bored, scared, or lonely.

All of us in the neighborhood would appreciate your attention to this disturbance.

Another Dog Lover



TOSD Trustees, Debbie Presnell and Don Graham, replaced broken and worn reflectors on the islands throughout Twelve Oaks. Many of the original reflectors were worn down or missing entirely. DOT approved safety reflectors were purchased and approved by the TOSD Board. Pictured in photo above is Don Graham.



What reduces property values in a neighborhood?

- ▶ Overgrowth
- ▶ Accumulations of junk, trash, debris
- ▶ Vehicles, trailers, boats parked on front yards.

Are you responsible? It's time to turn eyesores into assets.

Twelve Oaks Special District

Proposed Budget for Fiscal Year 10/11 to 9/12

Suggested Assessment for 2012 remains at \$120.00

994 homes X 120.00 =	\$119,280
Less County collection expense	<u>4,200</u>
Gross Income from Tax =	\$115,080

MAINTENANCE:

Maintenance – Contracted with Boyd Landscaping	28,800
Emergency Repair Expense and New Projects	16,935
Maintenance – Lakes	6,720
Maintenance – Street-Sweeping	5,000
Maintenance - Utilities	<u>5,000</u>
Total Maintenance	\$62,455

SECURITY:

Security – FHP Patrols (16 shifts per mo.x185x12)	36,000
Neighborhood Watch & Patrols	2,500
Total Security	\$38,500

ADMINISTRATION:

Admin Expenses	8,125
State Required Audit	<u>6,000</u>
Total Administration	\$14,125

TOTAL PROPOSED EXPENSES: **\$115,080**

Note: all of the above are approximations.
 Submitted by: James M. Fenimore, Treasurer
 Twelve Oaks Special District



Twelve Oaks Special District 2011-12 Budget Vote Wednesday July 13th - 7:00 P.M.

Morgan Woods Rec. Center

Homeowners are urged to attend.
Proposed assessment per home to remain \$120.00

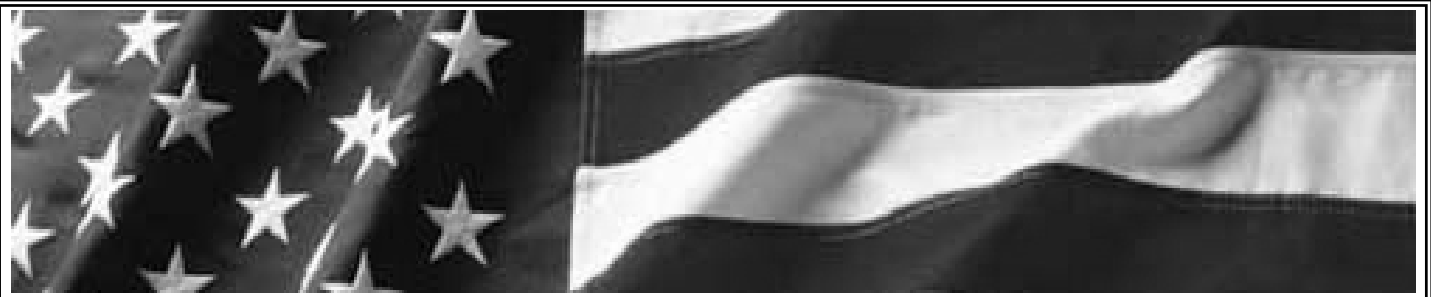
NOTE: The proposed budget was published in the May and June Acorn. You can also review the budget at www.TwelveOaksOnline.com



Grass and weeds too tall? Guess what? It's Time To Mow.

Some residents are doing everything they can to improve the looks of their yards and homes. Please step outside and check your home and yard. Are you responsible for lowering property values on your street? Are you doing everything you can to keep Twelve Oaks looking good?

Let the Mowing Begin!



WANT TO CHOOSE YOUR NEIGHBOR?

NEW ON THE MARKET



7309 Summerbridge Drive \$172,000.

Spacious 4 bedroom/2 bath "Almonte" model on extra wide fenced lot with screened pool and patio for hot summer days. Cathedral ceiling family room with fireplace for cool winter evenings. All in over 2100 sq. ft. of living area and a two car garage!

GONE!

8204 Greenshire Drive \$170,000.

This is also a 4 bedroom/ 2 bath pool home and it has been leased with option to buy!!

READY TO MOVE!

7511 Brookhaven Ct. \$173,500.

This 4 bedroom/2 bath home has been updated and is ready for a new owner to cool off in a resurfaced pool and spa! Such a large walk-in closet in master suite! Updated kitchen and baths make this move-in ready!

**For YOUR FREE staging advice and Market Analysis
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