



BROOKSHIRE BREEZE
www.brookshireclub.com
 Jul 2010—Aug 2010



President's Update

Happy July Brookshire Owners and Residents. We are over halfway through the year and much has been done and many more projects on the docket. Some of the most recent projects that have been completed are: Phase II Palm Tree Replacement, Berm Plantings, New Tile in the Lanai by the Big Pool and the completion of new office furniture in the second office at the clubhouse. Some details around the projects are below.

A row of mature palms still surrounds the big pool to help with shading the area while the new palms grow. Additional invasive and messy Carrotwoods, Mahogany and Bottle Brush trees were also removed. As you may remember, the berm along Daniels was cleared out in the early spring and we were waiting for rainy season to replant since there is no irrigation out there. The replacement planting is now underway and the new plants should fill in the berm nicely to help provide privacy for Brookshire. The tile in the lanai now provides level and safer footing for everyone and looks great

too. Lastly, last year we replaced the furniture in one of the offices and last month we finished the project and replaced the shelving and furniture in the other office.

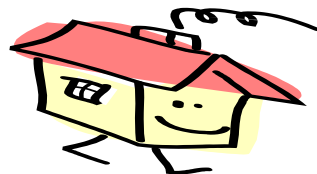
In the next few months, we have several projects in the "research, planning and bidding" phases. We are obtaining bids now to provide air conditioning to the lanai at the clubhouse. This project should be complete by October 1. We have already researched converting the small pool into a salt pool and are now in the bidding phase as well. We have one so far and are waiting for one more bid before making a decision. A salt pool conversion at the small pool will help in long-term chemical cost savings as well as healthier option for people and the facilities. We hope to have a decision made and the installation done also by October 30 before snow-birds start their return for the winter season. Lastly, we are working on relighting the raquetball courts along with repairing the ceiling tile in the courts.

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CLUB HOUSE HOURS

6 AM—10:00 PM M-F
 8AM-10PM Sat—Sun
 Office PHONE 768-0332



Brookshire Management Association

Alliant Property Management LLC

6719 Winkler Road Suite 206
 Fort Myers FL 33919

REMINDER

Residents can email if they have a concern, issue, praise, complaint, etc. to :

emailbrookshire@gmail.com

President's Update

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We are continuing to work on capital improvement projects that help our residents, owners and property values while keeping costs down. We are on budget for the year. Although we are over budget on the legal fees line item, we are

collecting more from delinquent accounts also so right on budget. We have over \$359,000 in our reserve and operating accounts. Approximately \$200,000 in reserves and all the projects that we are working on are within the reserve budgets. Additionally, we have over \$159,000 in our op-

erating accounts.

Have a great remainder of the summer and enjoy the back to school BBQ.

Respectfully,

Debbie

It's always fun at the Brookshire Back to School BBQ

(Read about this year's BBQ on page 5)



Fort Myers History

Tom Donohue

Edison had this house made in Maine then transported to Fort Myers to be put together.

The close friendship between Henry Ford and Thomas Edison brought Mr. and Mrs. Ford to Fort Myers in 1915 as guests in the Edison's home. The following year, Mr. Ford purchased the house next door to his good friend; and for 15 years, the Fords came to their home in Fort Myers every winter to spend time with the Edisons. They shared their families, local friends and

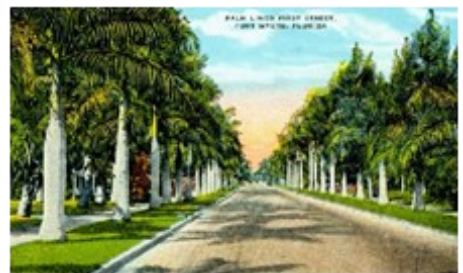
well-known guests, including Harvey Firestone and John Burroughs, the naturalist. The Ford home, "Mangoes," was purchased by the City of Fort Myers in 1988 and was opened for public tours in 1990.

The Ford porch, adjacent to the vintage automobile garage, offers a spectacular riverfront view of the Caloosahatchee.

Edison had a deep respect for nature, regarding it as an endless source of discovery. Through his sheer determination and dauntless efforts, the beauty and majesty of the royal palms lining Riverside Avenue (now McGregor Boulevard) were imported and we

believe McGregor Boulevard is one of the most beautiful streets anywhere in America

These magnificent Royal Palms, some towering at 75 feet, give the City of Palms its nickname. The fun and variety of tropical gardening is one of many great reasons to enjoy living in the Fort Myers area



Brookshire's Alligators On the Move

Jeff Key

An 8 foot alligator on our clubhouse pond - picture taken 6/10/2010 by Jeff Key



I was approached at the pool in May with a report that a resident had seen a 4-5 foot alligator walking down Brookshire Lake Blvd. the night before around 11:30pm. Then, there was another call about an 8 foot alligator that had reappeared on the clubhouse pond and several reports of a group of small alligators freshly arrived on pond #3 (the large pond on Brookshire Lake Blvd.). This is not surprising in spring as the mating season was on and alligators were on the move looking for mates, new territory and food sources. To describe their movements in our community, it must be understood the distinctly American reptile (there is also a rare smaller Chinese cousin) is born only a couple of inches long with up to 20 or more siblings from a nest of rotting vegetation. There are no nests around the ponds of Brookshire, but there are nearby in Six Mile Cypress Slough Preserve and secluded areas of 10 Mile Canal. The decompo-

sition of plants in the nest produces the heat needed to incubate the eggs. Hotter parts of the nest produce males and cooler parts, females. The babies feed on insects, worms or other small material and suffer over 50% mortality due to predation from birds, otters and other alligators. They remain with their mother for a year or two. At that time, their body length transforms their diet into larger prey such as fish and birds. Becoming a competitive threat to their mother, she drives the surviving members of her clutch away. That brings us to the group of 3 foot alligators in pond #3. The three of them have been seen lying together with great tolerance of one another likely indicating their relationship as siblings that recently have been forced to leave home. They arrived by walking here, probably at night, across streets or yards (occasionally, they are seen lying dead as road-kill by Six Mile Cypress Blvd.). Since they have arrived, the Muscovy Duck population on pond #3 has dropped to zero. The younger chicks may have been eaten and the adults have flown elsewhere now that there are predators on the pond. Thus, the hatching season for

aquatic waterfowl is another reason for alligator movement in the late spring. Meanwhile at the clubhouse pond, the 8 foot alligator has come and gone several times in the past years. The large reptile simply climbs over the embankment and drops into the canal along Daniels. A short swim later, it arrives at 10 Mile Canal. Brookshire appears to be part of its territory. FWC has been called for its removal more than once. But the trapper has had no success in finding the animal. The alligator leaves before the trapper arrives. Finally, our night time street walking alligator mentioned above was of reproducing age. This behavior was a response to the call of nature to mate around May or June. In all cases, feeding the alligators by our residents is illegal and extremely dangerous so please do not do so and discourage others as well. Feeding them diminishes their fear of people and increases the chances of attack. Be observant on pond edges especially near sunset. Our small residents on pond #3 may be with us for a while now before they lose tolerance for one another so enjoy the view now while they join us here in residence at Brookshire.

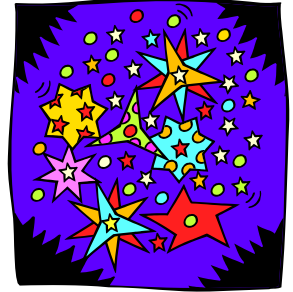
Sharing is Caring !

We can all keep in tune with what's happening in our neighborhoods by sharing what we know with others. You can do this in several ways. Send your info to Tom Donohue at seazeus@embarqmail.com **OR** jeannebiery@comcast.net or emailbrookshire@gmail.com



Sparks are Flying

During the July 4th and summer season watch the sparks fly in home sales. If you want sparks? Call Jim today!!



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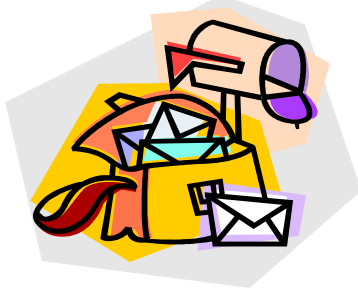
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Office: (239)489-1100 x252
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Email: JLIKUS@VIPREALTY.COM

Jim has lived in Brookshire for 12 years. He has 45 years experience buying and selling Real Estate and is licensed in NY and Florida

The Brookshire Breeze is published by resident volunteers under auspice of the Association's Master Board. Sincere effort is made to insure that information contained in this publication is accurate. Should you find significant errors of fact, please notify the Clubhouse Office ASAP or your editor so that we can publish a correction in the next edition.

Tips for Tough Times

Pat Washington
(received this in an email)



Dealing with Junk Mail

When you get 'ads' enclosed with your phone or utility bill, return these 'ads' with your payment. Let the sending companies throw their own junk mail away. When you get those 'pre-approved' letters in the mail for everything from credit cards to 2nd mortgages and similar type junk, do not throw away the return envelope. Most of these come with

postage-paid return envelopes, right? It costs them more than the regular 41 cents postage 'IF' and when they receive them back..

It costs them nothing if you throw them away! The postage was around 50 cents before the last increase and it is according to the weight. In that case, why not get rid of some of your other junk mail and put it in these cool little, postage-paid return envelopes.

Send an ad for your local chimney cleaner to American Express. Send a pizza coupon to Citibank. If you didn't get anything else that day, then just send them their blank

Application back! If you want to remain anonymous, just make sure your name isn't on anything you

send them.

You can even send the envelope back empty if you want to just to keep them guessing! It still costs **t h e m 4 1 c e n t s .**

The banks and credit card companies are currently getting a lot of their own junk back in the mail, but folks, we need to OVERWHELM them. Let's let them know what it's like to get lots of junk mail, and best of all they're paying for it ... Twice!

Let's help keep our postal service busy since they are saying that e-mail is cutting into their business profits, and that's why they need to increase postage costs again You get the idea !



Back to School Bar-B-Q Picnic Sat. 8/21/2010 11am-2pm

Jeff Key

The Brookshire annual Back to School Bar-B-Q picnic is being held on Saturday, August 21 from 11am - 2pm. The last two years of this event have been thoroughly enjoyed by those attending so please mark the date and come join us at the clubhouse for the community get together. For the kids, we will have a slip and slide provided by Let's Bounce on the front lawn of the

clubhouse. For the both adults and kids, a bar-B-Q style lunch will be provided inside the clubhouse. Wendy and Jeff Key will provide musical entertainment on the pool deck. A signup is provided at the clubhouse or by email at jeffgkey@comcast.net. It is important to sign up to properly gauge food supplies but it is equally important to come if you sign up. We had upwards of 120

people in 2008 and around 85 in 2009. One problem occurred last year in 35 people signing up and then not attending resulting in a volume of food leftover. Volunteers are needed for cooking, ice runs and slip and slide supervision. Please contact Jeff on this as well. We are looking forward to another successful party and opportunity to bring our community together.



Brookshire's Swimming Lesson Program Brings Fun and Laughter to Resident Children and Adults

Mary Soucek

"Swimmer's Salute" – those are the words that were commonly heard on Saturday mornings for the past couple of months at the Brookshire Bath and Tennis Club's big pool as children overlapped both hands high over their heads, pointing them to the sky preparing to do a front glide with a kick or a back glide with a kick in the water. Twenty-four children from the Brook-

shire community and their friends participated in this year's annual program of swimming lessons for children as young as 18 months up including adults. Besides the older children working on swimming strokes, laughing, giggling and squeals of delight could be heard as the many smaller Brookshire children and their parents had swimming contests on their make believe seahorses or were looking for dinosaurs in eggs as they learned to blow bubbles in the water. Not a weekend went by when the sun wasn't shining brightly and the water was a perfect temperature for learning new swimming skills. Besides swimming skills, long-time resident and American Red Cross swimming in-

structor, Ms. Mary, emphasized in all classes the importance of safety when playing in and around the water. It truly was a FUN and PLEASURABLE beginning to the summer season for all children and parents involved. SO, mark your calendars for next summer when Brookshire provides its residents with this opportunity again. Have a GREAT summer! And Stay safe!!

Mary Soucek, our swim instructor, is a Brookshire resident, a qualified teacher and a real hero in our community for what she does for our children. Many thanks to her. - Jeff Key, Brookshire Breeze chairperson

Contribute to the Brookshire Breeze

Please feel free to email, call or drop off any information about activities here in our community at the clubhouse. You may also email to: emailbrookshire@gmail.com



Obituary - FELIX J. MALDONADO



Felix J. Maldonado, 73, of Fort Myers went to be with the Lord after a courageous battle with cancer June 12, 2010. He was born in Puerto Rico

and moved to the United States at a young age. He was a major league baseball player in the minor leagues and has been with the Boston Red Sox as a coach, manager, scout, player development consultant for over 50 years.

Felix bought a condo in Brookshire in July 2002 where he volunteered with his neighbors for various tasks on the landscape committee. His warm smile and presence will be missed.

Mr. Maldonado is survived by his mother Francisca Tricoche; children Carmen Ortiz, Lillian Ortiz, Isamarie Ortiz, Felix R. Ortiz and Karina Ortiz. He was preceded in death by his father Rafael Ortiz,

son Felix Ortiz Jr., and daughter Iris Dalia Ortiz.

The family will receive friends at a viewing on Monday 4-7 PM at Lee Memorial Park Funeral Home, 12777 State Road 82, Fort Myers, FL 33913 - Phone Number: (239) 334-4880. A prayer service will be at 6:30 PM.

A funeral service and burial will be in Puerto Rico on Thursday, June 17.

Memorial contributions in his name may be made to Jimmy Fund, 10 Brookline Place W., 6th FL, Brookline, MA 02445-7226 or Hospice of Lee County. Hope Hospice Development Department, 9470 HealthPark Circle, Fort Myers, FL 33908 - Phone number (239) 489-9147. Donations on line can be made at <https://www.hopehcs.org/donateform.php>.

Things that work

Tom Donohue



I have cleaned my driveway with a pressure washer many times, but never was satisfied with the job. I did a little research on the web and found commercial cleaning companies use hot water (instead of cold water), high pressure and a rotary brush like floor scrubber to do the job. A month or two later, I ran into a person here in Brookshire who had used such a service. I was impressed at how clean the drive-

way looked as that property was neglected for 3 years and the driveway had dark mold stains. It was the heated water and the scrubbers that made the difference. I then contacted a company with the very specialized equipment needed to work on my driveway. The process employs hot water supplied from a truck or trailer mounted tank injected into a rotary brush cleaner, which looks like an industrial floor buffer. The rate quoted was very reasonable around \$50 for a 4 car driveway. The process was relatively quiet and took about a half hour to complete. My wife and I were impressed as we never thought the driveway would ever be that

clean again. It has been 8 months and believe me the driveway still looks good.

So what I want to pass on to you is, if you have a concrete unpainted driveway and you are tired of the results you get pressure washing it yourself then there is a way to get a great looking clean driveway without breaking your back for hours and the cost is very affordable. Check the yellow pages for local pressure washers but be sure to ask for heated water and rotary brush cleaners.

Please check our website often.....
www.brookshireclub.com



Brookshire Bits and Pieces

homes in based on the reputation of the Brookshire community.....Maybe we need a fund to pay for lawn-mowing in empty houses??.....

Susan Marsten

says: A reminder to people that with the number of houses turning over and foreclosures, it's critical that we all maintain our outside landscaping. It's the best way to maintain our property values. A big part of the value of our individual

Reminder to Dog Owners:

Please pick up after your pets....this is not always being done.....

Misc Racquetball news from Gerry French:

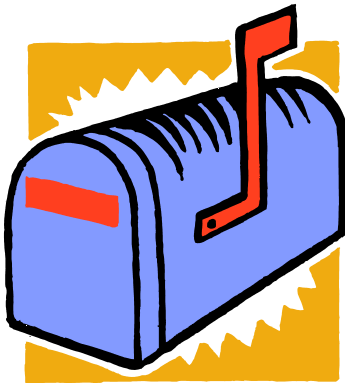
Four teams competed in the June tournament with the following results:

James Rats and Brian Maloney, with a combined Hc of 22 came in first winning all three of their matches for a total score of 45 and won **\$25**



each. Second place ended up in a tie at 30 points. Gerry French and Andy Whitebread, with a combined HC of 25 won the playoff game against **Rowan Connally and Jim Likus combined Hc of 21. Each player collected \$15. Next tournament is scheduled for Aug 26.**

Don Smith of St Edmunds Loop is recovering at home after a stay in the hospital



Mail Boxes

Vee Gee McCort

The Brookshire Bath and Tennis Club, like many planned communities, requires a standard mail box structure at the street of all single family homes. The purpose of this requirement is to assure harmony of appearance, provide easy access for postal carriers and add nighttime security to our neighborhood. Our Master Documents and Rules and Regulations require the Board of Directors enforce these standards.

Maintenance. The post must be painted a dark brown (Behr's Cordovan Brown or similar color), a black mailbox must be mounted on a

base 38 to 42 inches from the ground, a light bulb must be functioning in a white globe. In practical terms a home owner must: paint the post if it is faded and weathered; replace the mailbox if it is faded or in disrepair; replace a burned out light bulb or have an electrician repair/replace wiring if the light won't work; and replace the white globe if it is broken, missing or otherwise in disrepair. The globes are available for purchase in the Clubhouse office for \$20. If the post is not stable, leaning or tottering, the whole structure must be replaced.

Other Considerations. For ease in lawn maintenance many homeowners have landscaped the area around their mail boxes. This landscaping must not interfere with the mail carrier's access to the mailbox. Also

the landscaping must not obstruct the light. Further, our Rules and Regulations require every house of have address numbers posted on the mailbox, mail post, and/or house. If numbers are posted on the mailbox or mail post, the landscaping must not obstruct these numbers.

Finally, the Board permits decoration of mailboxes and posts, and use of colored lights during holiday seasons. But once the season has past, the mail boxes must be black and the light bulbs white. Painted, covered or otherwise decorated mailboxes destroy the harmony of appearance that the Board is required to enforce. In the coming month the Architectural Committee will be checking that all mailboxes meet these requirements. Home owners not in compliance with these requirements will be notified to correct any areas of noncompliance. Please, check that your mailbox meets the requirements and avoid the aggravation of a letter from the Association.



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Debbie Keller	President	2011
Lee Redmond	Vice President	2011
Vince Hayes	Treasurer	2012
Jayne Grant	Secretary	2013
Glenn Barger	Director	2011
Jeff Key	Director	2012
Eileen Shiemke	Director	2013
Vee Gee McCort	Director	2012
Ben Stewart	Director	2013

RESIDENTS MAY CONTACT

MEMBERS OF THE MASTER BOARD

Residents can email if they have a concern, issue, praise, complaint, etc. to :

emailbrookshire@gmail.com

There is a also a mailbox for each director in the clubhouse office. Residents may leave signed notes for a particular director in his/her box. These boxes are checked regularly.

Gabriele Lewin
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