



Civic Improvement Association, Inc.
P.O. Box 121255 Fort Lauderdale, FL 33312

Nonprofit Organization since 1959

Summer Issue 2006

Acting President's Report

By Charles Love

The time has come the walrus said to speak of many things and one of those things was the resignation of Ray Figueroa. Ray resigned and as the vice president, I am now the Acting President until elections in November.

ANNEXATION REZONING

The city of Fort Lauderdale is hiring a consultant to provide planning services for the rezoning regulations of the recently annexed areas including the greater Riverland Road area. This process is also known as the re-certification and or the overlay study. The planning firm Dickey Consulting Services, Inc. of Fort Lauderdale will hold a number of town hall meetings with this community to determine the changes that might be affected by this rezoning. It appears to me the most talked about issue is the length of our docks. The present county zoning requires that the docks extend no closer than 10 feet to each of the side property lines. The city zoning allows for the docks to extend to the property lines. It is my opinion that the association will look to keep the present county zoning of the 10 foot set back.

CODE COMPLIANCE

The association recently asked the city for help in addressing the more unsightly homes in our area. We met with the city's Community Inspection's manager Cate McCaffrey who suggested that they would provide courtesy notices to the homes that they considered to have code violations. A commitment was made to Ray Figueroa, our former president, that they would not do a sweep of the area but they did in fact do a sweep. Four code inspectors came through our area and handed out 111 courtesy notices consisting mostly of cars and or trailers being parked on the front lawn. The requirement was to remove the boat or trailers parked on unpaved surfaces or provide a paved surface. Most of the homeowners either in-

creased the size of their driveway with an approved surface or provided a crushed rock parking area. Although we did not agree with the method the city used in this sweep we do feel there has been much improvement. Hopefully the homeowners that were most affected by the city's code compliance efforts feel that the association's concern for the appearance of the neighborhood was justified.

BULK TRASH COLLECTION

Recently some of our residents have noticed orange markings on their bulk trash and also received a notice posted on their front door. The city of Fort Lauderdale has sent a flyer to the residents indicating rules and regulations of the bulk trash pick up program. The city's intent is not to have the bulk trash placed at the curb days or weeks prior to the scheduled pick up date.

If there are any complaints about bulk trash pick up they should be directed to the city of Fort Lauderdale Public Works Department, Sanitation Division 954 828-8000. It is the city's responsibility to insure that All Service provides the necessary trash collection services. You can find more information about the bulk trash service at:

http://ci.ftlaud.fl.us/public_services/trash/bulk.htm

Continued on page 2



REMEMBER!

LICIA

**General Meeting at the
Yacht Club 2637 Whale
Harbor Lane**

Thursday, September 21st, 7:30 PM

Continued from page 1

Acting President's Report

TREE TRIMMING and REPLACEMENT

The city of Fort Lauderdale's Parks and Recreation Department recently, after a number of requests and assistance from our city commissioner, Cindi Hutchinson, came through the area to cut back and prune the existing trees on either side of Riverland Road. They are also in the process of removing and replacing the dead trees.

LANE SIGNS

LICIA Lane Sign Committee is submitting to the city of Fort Lauderdale's Neighborhood Capital Improvement Grant Program (NCIGP) an application for the proposed lane signs in the amount of \$16,000.00 which the association will match. At present we have collected approximately \$2,500.00 in donations for the proposed lane signs, with the balance of the association's \$8,000.00 share coming from dues. An additional \$8,000.00 of matching funds will be provided by Leland Easton a resident from Marathon Lane. The application will be submitted on or before September 22nd with all of the required documentation. If our application is approved by the city of Fort Lauderdale's city commissioners, the grant monies will be available the early part of 2007. Any comments pertaining to the proposed lane signs should be directed to Charles Love 954 587-1445.

City crews trim trees along Riverland



Ray Figueroa, Jerri Pryor, and a city engineer admire the new street signs.



Ray Figueroa replants a tree uprooted by Wilma

WATER AND SEWER

The latest information on the proposed installation of new water and sewer lines for Andros Lane, Bimini Lane, Cat Cay Lane and Duck Key Lane will not take place until the early part of 2011. It is also important to note that the city's agreement with Broward County when this area was annexed that

there would be no connection charge made to the homeowners when the sewers are finally installed.

If there are any questions you can contact WaterWorks 2011 at 954 522-2604.

LICIA Business Reports

Financial Statement

For fiscal period 11/01/05 THRU 9/11/06

INCOME:

Dues collected	\$ 4,425.00
Advertising	1,798.00
Lane sign contributions	2,095.00
TOTAL INCOME	\$ 8,318.00

EXPENSES:

Awards & plaques	.00
Lane sign expense	112.11
Printing of newsletter	440.23
Riverland tree project	.00
Annual fee for web domain	61.25
Bank service charges	28.80
Neighborhood party	.00
P.O. BOX RENTAL	96.00
Civic assoc fee	50.00
American Red Cross	.00
Welcome kit & supplies	<u>145.57</u>
TOTAL EXPENSES	<u>933.96</u>

Excess of income over expenses \$ 7,384.04

Add: Cash in bank 11/01/05 13,587.76

New cash reserves 9/11/06 \$ 20,971.80

I have examined the books and records of the association for the stated period and have found them to properly reflect the activity for the period.

Respectfully submitted,

Keith Lindgren, Treasurer: September 11, 2006

Agenda

LICIA General Meeting

September 21, 2006 7:30 p.m.

Lauderdale Isles Yacht and Tennis Club

- 1 Take attendance of voting members
- 2 Approval of minutes of previous meeting of August 17, 2006
- 3 Treasurer's Report / fund raising, grant application
- 4 Police Department report
- 5 Report by city staff for the annexation rezoning
- 6 441 update
- 7 November elections, solicit nominations for the following positions: President, Vice President, Secretary,
- 8 New Business / general discussion
- 9 Adjourn

We would like to encourage as many residents as possible to attend this meeting and to give some thought to volunteering to run for one of the positions. Our neighborhood needs concerned citizens who are willing to give a few hours a month to help keep our neighborhood an attractive and great place to live.

Helpful Phone Numbers

Airport Complaint Line - Day	954-359-6181
Airport Complaint Line - Night	954-359-1200
Animal Control	954-359-1313
Dept. of Natural Resource	954-519-1400
DNRP Pollution Comp. Hotline	954-519-1499
Building/Construction	954-828-5191
Code Enforcement	954-828-5207
Police non-emergency	954-828-5700
Fire non-emergency	954-828-5320
Planning Zoning info	954-828-5191
Traffic Signal out	954-484-9600
Trash & Debris	954-828-8000
Water & Sewage	954-828-8000
Vehicles (abandoned or parked In right of way)	954-828-5207
Broward Co. Mass Transit	954-357-8400
The Mayor and all City Commissioners may be reached at	954-828-5004

Lauderdale Isles Civic Improvement Association,

Inc.

Acting President: Charles Love

Acting Secretary: Marie Love

Treasurer: Keith Lindgren

Letters and articles may be mailed to:

2430 Sugarloaf Lane

Ft. Lauderdale, FL 33312

or emailed to:

bootsn@bellsouth.net

Editor: Ollie Kollmann

Unless otherwise stated, all materials submitted will become the property of the association and may be printed

Civic Concerns

BURGLARY ON THE RISE IN THE ISLES

By Ann Guardino

Several of our neighbors in the Isles have felt the pain and resulting anger after having been victims of thefts in the last four months. According to Sgt. Martinez of the Ft. Lauderdale Police Department, there have been at least 13 vehicle burglaries (breaking into a car or truck) since May 1st **of this year. And here's the kicker - - 10 of those thefts occurred from cars which had been left unlocked!**

In the past, the Isles has enjoyed a very low crime rate. According to the police, however, areas that have historically been secure are now being targeted by criminals who are taking advantage of our complacency. Apparently, thieves have been operating in at least three neighborhoods in the city where they specifically look for cars which have been left open. We are one of those neighborhoods. A local police officer said "the burglars have been walking down the streets and trying every car door. When they find an open vehicle, they help themselves." Let's not make it so easy on them. The solution is simple - - lock your doors whenever you are not in your car. This will have the added benefit of making our neighborhood less attractive to the opportunistic thief. In fact, this technique already worked in the Harbor Isles neighborhood

In addition, there have been at least two major thefts of boats valued at over \$100,000 each. According to one of the victims, he did find his boat on the side of the road near Marina Mile but it had been completely stripped, painted black and then set on fire, all within 48 hours of the theft. The owner speculates that the boat was taken off of his property by professional thieves who operate a chop shop in the area. Marine accessories were also stolen from someone's carport recently. Boating is a big business in Florida.

Lastly, for at least the second time, a home has been robbed while the owners were at work and another while they were on vacation. Although neighbors were home, they did not see anyone enter the house. Perhaps the thieves came by water or were dropped off by a car that came back later.

Some suggestions to protect yourself and your property.

- 1 Keep your vehicle doors locked.
- 2 If you must leave anything of value in your vehicle, do not leave it in plain sight..
- 3 Keep your garage door closed if you are not working in it.
- 4 Motion sensor lights around your home and on your dock can be a deterrent..
- 5 Consider a silent boat lift alarm that goes off in your house if someone turns on your lift. A sensor like Lo-Jack would be a good idea for valuable boats, too. The cost may be less than your deductible.
- 6 By their nature, yard sales attract people from out of the area and may bring the criminal element right to your front door. Community sales are more secure. If you are a LICIA member try our new free classified ad instead.
- 7 If you will not be home to bring your trash cans in from the street, be sure to ask a neighbor or friend to bring them up close to the house.
- 8 Ask for a "vacation stop" for your newspaper delivery so the papers don't pile up on your lawn as an invitation to an "open house" for burglars.
- 9 Spend an hour writing down the model and serial number of the valuables in your home. Even etching your initials on them allows the police to retrieve the items back from pawn shops. Keep the list in a safe place other than on your computer which may be easily stolen
- 10 If you see any suspicious activity, whether on the canal or on the street, please call the police at 954-828-5700 for non-emergencies or 911 if you feel it is an emergency. You can remain anonymous if you prefer.

You can get more crime information on the LICIA web site at: <http://www.licia.org>

Also on the Ft. Lauderdale site at :

<http://ci.ftlaud.fl.us/police/statistics/hoa/hoalauderdaleisles.html>

Bits and Pieces

Where Do We Go From Here?

By Alain Jean

In a state with hundreds of smart and talented public officials, we still find ourselves in the middle of an unresolved crisis as it relates to property insurance. It does not take great analysis to conclude property insurance is rising too high too fast. In the past two years the state of Florida has witnessed over 10 catastrophic storms, leaving billions of dollars of insured and uninsured damage in its aftermath.

For those who follow the Legislature, know that this has been an issue that has been ignored for several years. Cynics will say the insurance company's have a strong presence in our Capitol and more importantly on Election Day for many of our state officials, therefore the everyday family gets the shaft. That may be so, but this happens to be an issue where the everyday family needs to be put in front of Tallahassee politics. At the end of the-day all solutions must-point in-the direction of stabilizing the insurance market, increasing market competition, and lowering insurance rates.

It also does not take great analysis to conclude: insurance companies simply raising our rates and cutting back our coverage alone will not stabilize the insurance market. We cannot allow every industry from utilities to insurance companies to use hurricanes as the sole factor for record increases to everyday Floridians.

This happens to be one of those very serious issues that have very serious consequences. Many of us have already seen family, friends, and fellow Floridians leave this state because of issue relating to the affordability of homes and homeowners insurance. Recognizing the many great reason why so many of us live in this beautiful state, the opportunity for us to resolve this property insurance crisis is still here.

We must first create an environment where insurance companies can fairly compete. Then we must revamp our Hurricane Catastrophe Fund making it possible for homeowners to receive direct assistance. This will make it possible for the state to share the windstorm coverage risk and burden with the private insurance companies and minimize the suffering of way too many Florida homeowners. Recognizing this year is an election cycle that will bring about a new governor, cabinet, and a third of the legislature we do have an opportunity (or a fresh start. I(we can put Floridians first before politics, we will in the very near future resolve this permanent reality with a common-sense approach.

The State of Real Estate

By Richard Thompson

One question that seems to be on everyone's minds lately is, "What's going on with the real estate market and are prices going down?" The answer to that is "No they are not".

What's happening is that there is a glut of houses on the market. Last year there were maybe 5 or 6 properties for sale at any given time compared to over 40 properties today.

The sellers have been competing with each other and the buyer does not have to make any fast decisions.They can take their time. Broward county this time last year had around 2,800 homes for sale and now there are 10,000 on the market.

I feel that the market will pick- up but at a slow rate. There are buyers that think that they can come in and offer far less than the home is worth. They think that they can take advantage of this market we are in. Taxes are also a very large part of this problem,when the buyer adds it into their mortgage payment. Price your home right and you will have a better chance to sell it. Remember this is waterfront property and not a dry lot and is therefore more desirable to certain buyers.

Mail Problems

By Ollie Kollmann

Have you been getting other people's mail and they've been getting yours? Although this has happened infrequently through the years it has now become an almost daily occurrence.Last month I had to pay late charges for 2 bills that I didn't receive until a MONTH later! A neighbor's bank statement was delivered to someone else and she received someone's report card. Another neighbor received a medical report meant for someone else. This week we received, on different days, 2 packages, each for different addresses I'm wondering if others are having the same problem. They must as we're getting their mail. After repeated complaints, I finally got a name and a number to call. I was told that if *ANYONE* receives someone else's mail they should call 954-316-8052 and ask for David Cooper immediately. This way they can begin to narrow down the day and deliverer and find the person who is responsible.

I don't know about you but I don't want my personal information getting into unknown hands. It's an open invitation to identity theft.

Meet Your Neighbors

Meet Alley/Allie?



Marci and Myron of Sugarloaf Lane came home from work the week after Ernesto and found this new approximately 8 foot resident sunning itself on the work platform at their dock. It did not seem the least bit leery of humans and posed obligingly for a photo shoot before it leisurly swam away. Since our canals are brackish and alligators prefer fresh water, we felt that it had just made a wrong turn and would soon find its way back to a fresh water pond but that doesn't seem to be the case. On September 8th, I saw it just west of the 441 bridge swimming east. So as of that date it was still prowling our canals. Our seawalls make it unlikely that it will be able to climb up into our yards but it did get onto the work platform and if it had been high tide it could have made it onto the dock. So just be aware and watch your pets.

New LICIA Newsletter Editor:

By Yelka Mikolji

Hi. I'm Yelka. I'm your new editor for the newsletter and also trustee for Gulfstream Lane. I was born in Caracas, Venezuela from a Nicaraguan mother and a Croatian father (hence the Slavic name!). I grew up there and came to the U.S. when I was still a teenager to attend Rutgers College. After college I lived in New Jersey for 12 years until I moved to South Florida in 1999 (I couldn't take the cold weather any longer). I love it here. The weather and the people remind me of my homeland. I love our community and moved to Lauderdale Isles almost two years ago thanks to Rich Thompson. I live with my mother Marina and my little dog Mickey the pug. When I'm not working programming, I like to garden. I'm now researching and reading all about Florida native plants and hope to someday get my yard certified.

I look forward to getting to know you better as you send me your articles for inclusion in the Newsletter. Feel free to contact me any time especially if you have any ideas about how we can make our newsletter even better!



Editor's note:

Yelka will be taking on the job of newsletter editor beginning with the February edition. In the meantime she has assisted with this edition and will be doing most of the work on the November edition. Let's all give her a big welcome not only as a new resident but as someone who cares about her community and has volunteered both as a trustee and editor.

Welcome to the Isles, Yelka!

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Environmental Corner

Rains, Drains And Pollutants...A Dangerous Mix

During South Florida's rainy season, stormwater pollution prevention is more important than ever. The excessive stormwater generated by heavy downpours flows from driveways, streets and sidewalks, picks up pollutants and carries them to the nearest storm drain. While water flowing into a storm drain is very visible, the pollutants flowing into them are not.

Untreated Stormwater is deposited into the same water bodies used for swimming, fishing and drinking water. This means that grease, fertilizer, paints, solvents, soaps, antifreeze, yard waste, construction debris and other pollutants that go down the drains flow into the City's waterways. This "polluted" water can negatively impact water quality and aquatic plant and marine life.

There are 138 miles of storm drainpipe and approximately 6,525 storm drains and catch basins located throughout the City. That leaves a lot of places for pollutants to enter the waterways. While it may seem impossible to manage, there are many things that residents can do to help prevent pollutants from entering these storm drains:

Clogged Drains

Report clogged storm drains by calling the 24-hour Customer Service Center at 954-828-8000. If there is a clogged storm drain or catch basin near your property, please remove the debris.

Lawn Care

Use fertilizers and pesticides sparingly. Apply only the recommended amounts and avoid applying if rain is forecasted. Avoid over-watering the lawn. Properly adjust sprinklers so they do not water the pavement and turn the sprinkler system off when rain is expected.

Yard Waste

Put all yard waste in the designated yard waste cart for sanitation pick up. Do not put grass cuttings and yard waste in the storm drain or in the street.

Pet Waste

Bag pet waste and dispose of it in your garbage cart. Do not put pet waste in the storm drain or hose it into the ground.

Vehicle Maintenance

Check all vehicles and motorcycles for leaks. Properly clean up any spilled fluids immediately with an absorbent material such as cat litter or sand and properly dispose of waste.

Household Waste

Properly dispose of used motor oil, automotive fluids, paints, pool chemicals, pesticides, household cleaners, lawn and garden chemicals, automotive fluids and other household hazardous waste at a Broward County Household Hazardous Waste (HHW) collection site. (For HHW collection locations please visit www.broward.org/waste/iwi04100.htm)

- **Clean paint brushes in a sink, not outside.**
- **Purchase and use non-toxic, biodegradable, recycled and recyclable products when possible.**

Caution

It is illegal to dump anything down a storm drain. Please report any illegal dumping into the stormwater system by calling the City of Fort Lauderdale 24-hour Customer Service Center at 954-828-8000. Please be prepared to provide the street address or specific location information.

Sara Nichols
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Refrigerator List - Clip it and save
It might come in handy!



**LAUDERDALE ISLES CIVIC
IMPROVEMENT ASSOCIATION
BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

Officers:

Acting President:: Charles Love 954-587-1445
Acting Secretary: Marie Love 954-587-1445
Treasurer: Keith Lindgren 954-584-6004

2003 LICIA Trustees

Name	Lane	Telephone
David Zeitz	2530 Andros	954-581-6332
Dirk Lowry	2512 Bimini	954-584-3783
Sheriden Clarry	2507 Cat Cay	954-584-9315
Sharon Barre	2720 SW 34th	954-587-7308
Dave Nicoll	2442 Flamingo	954-805-7406
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Newsletter Editor email: bootsn@bellsouth.net

Yelka Mikolji 954-958-8441

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Classified Ads

Classified ads are free to members of LICIA. Ads are limited to one ad of 25 words or less, per issue per household and can only be for household goods.

Building material for sale:

4 - 4 x 6 x 16' #1 Douglas Fir beams
4 - 2 x 8 x 10' #2 Douglas Fir lumber
3 pcs. Homosote Roof Deck / "Ceiling Tile" - 23" x 8', 15" x 8' and 23" x 32" - great for repair!
Call Bonnie 954-931-0459

Free - Furniture:

1 queen size waterbed w/comforter & shams
1 dresser, 1 daybed, 2 bookcases.
Call 954-583-7215



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