

GRAND HAVEN



www.grandhavenmhoa.com

Volume 7, Issue 2 August 2014

The Oak Tree

The President's Message

Although we are enjoying the “dog days” of summer and activity generally slows down, your GHMA Board continues to run at full speed. In preparation for the upcoming contract bids, we recently conducted a “walk through” with prospective Private Lawn Maintenance (PLM) contractors. It is anticipated that this process will be completed in September and new three year contracts will become effective on January 1, 2015.

After a somewhat lengthy “request for proposal process”, which initially included five potential management companies, the Board will soon be selecting the company that will provide management services to the Board and the residents of Grand Haven for the next three years. This contract will be also become effective as of January 1, 2015.

Aside from the five GHMA Board members, there are a number of other volunteer positions that are filled by Grand Haven Residents. These individuals commit their time and energy simply because they want to contribute to their community and “make a difference”. They perform their duties without fanfare and it is likely that a good number of Grand Haven residents do not know what functions these groups fulfill.

Included in these committees and groups are the Architectural Design Committee, the Architectural Design Inspectors, the Fine Committee, members of the Neighborhood Watch Program, members of the Community Emergency Response Team (CERT), and members of the Neighbor To Neighbor Program.

On behalf of the GHMA Board, I would like to take this opportunity to thank each member of these various committees and groups for the contribution that they make to the lifestyle that we enjoy as Grand Haven residents. In the future as additional individuals are needed to support these groups, I would encourage other residents to volunteer their time and talents. Our community is not only large but also diverse and somewhat complicated. Community volunteers are instrumental in providing the services that are necessary in order to keep it all running smoothly and safely.

Continued on Page 2



GHMA Meeting Schedule for 2014

The Board of Directors of the Grand Haven Master Association (GHMA) meets on the 3rd Friday of every month (unless otherwise noted.) All residents are welcome to attend.

When: 2 PM, Friday, August 22, 2014

2 PM, Friday, September 19, 2014

2 PM, Friday, October 24, 2014

Where: Creekside Amenities Center
2 North Village Parkway

GHMA Board Members

| | | | |
|------------|------------------|----------|-----------------------|
| President | Rob Carlton | 447-5536 | rjcarlton5@aol.com |
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The Oak Tree

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The Oak Tree is always looking for ideas and topics for future issues., especially those that would be of interest to Grand Haven residents—Grand Haven activities, clubs, happenings, sporting events, resident volunteer activities and opportunities. Please contact Nancy Carlton at ncarlton096@gmail.com with your suggestions.

President's Message...continued

Continued from Page 1

I would also like to take this opportunity to express our appreciation to our residents for their continued cooperation, participation and support of the Grand Haven Master Association.

A final thought and good news to share. Thus far this year as a result of efforts by your Board, its management company and legal counsel, collections in the amount of \$128,752. in delinquent assessments, fines and associated fees and costs have been made.

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ADC CORNER

What do you do when you want to change the landscaping in your yard?

The easiest answer to that question is how much of a change are you talking about? If you wish to replace the things that are dying or add mulch to the landscape bed, then the answer is, just do it. Maintenance to your yard or landscape bed is something you should be doing all of the time. If you need to replenish the mulch, you do not need the ADC approval if you replace it with the same type of mulch. If you have flowers or shrubs that have died and you need to replace them with the same things, that's okay too.

Often times, folks are concerned that if they do something to their yards and do not get the approval from the ADC, they will be cited and possibly fined. That's not true if you are continuously maintaining your property. However, if you plan on making changes to your yard and landscape beds such as expanding your landscape beds, cutting down trees or installing landscape curbing, then the ADC approval is required.

When considering a change to your landscape, the best thing to do is visit the Grand Haven website at <http://www.grandhavenmhoa.com/>. From there go to the ADC and follow the prompts. If you need assistance, you may contact any one of the committee members at the contact information on the website. And, if you would like to know more about the ADC, you are always welcome to attend a meeting to observe what goes on.

We are your neighbors and we would love to assist you if you need it.

Your Architectural Design Committee Team

Submitted by: Tom Byrne, ADC Chair



Sheriff's Office Holds 100th women's self-defense class

On May 19, 2014, Grand Haven was honored to be the 100th women's self-defense class conducted by the Flagler County Sheriff's Office. This class was the 7th class held in Grand Haven.

More than 1,200 women, ages 12 and up have participated in the class. Classes have been taught at churches, schools, the Sheriff's Office and community centers such as the Grand Haven room at the Village Center.

The class consists of three, two hour sessions for a total of six hours. There is no cost for the class, but pre-registration is required. Participants will receive safety information as well as hands-on defensive training from certified instructors.

Sheriff James L. Manfre was recently quoted in the Palm Coast Observer, "It is our pleasure to offer this type of crime prevention class to the public. We have taught many mother/daughter teams, to girls going off to college and even ladies in their 80's." You may recall in a previous Oak Tree article, we highlighted a Grandmother/Mother/Daughter team right here in Grand Haven.

The Neighborhood Watch Team has a wonderful relationship with the folks at the Sheriff's Office. Not only do they offer classes such as these, they also attend our Neighborhood Watch meetings to provide us with crime prevention materials and advice for dealing with issues which may be out of our control.

Please watch for the next class announcement. For more information, please contact your Neighborhood Watch representative located on the Grand Haven Website at www.grandhavenmhoa.com.



Croquet at Grand Haven

There is more than the usual excitement among the 87 members of the Grand Haven Croquet Club as we, at long last, will be getting the much needed new surface for our courts. Scheduled for this summer is the greatly anticipated renovation which will include new sod, especially favored for croquet courts, and the laser leveling of all the bumps and lumps that have proved so problematic and frustrating for players, old and new.

This will also allow us to schedule our popular Invitational Tournament, after a two year postponement. First held in 2006, it had previously been a yearly event in which our own players compete against a list of guest players. This tournament lasts four days and attracts not only croquet enthusiasts but many members of the Grand Haven Community who just enjoy watching the games. Attendance is free and fun! The Invitational is presently scheduled for October 23 through October 27.

We will again be offering our free croquet lessons this fall with dates to be announced. For those interested in taking the four free lessons please contact John Fitterman at 585-4634 or e-mail Cassandra Gaisor, cassbay@cfl.rr.com. The lessons are fun with no obligation to join the club, although they can lead to membership.

Submitted by: Cassandra Gaisor, President, GH

Grand Haven Amenities

Are you wondering about what days of the week and times of the day some of the many activities are occurring at Creekside Amenity Center and the Village Center? Wondering what is on the menu at the Village Café? Well, you can visit the website at www.grandhavenamenity.com and get the answers to your questions. Whether you are interested in Water Aerobics, Table Tennis, Dancersize or one of the many other activities being held, the days and times are listed. If you have further questions, you can call them at 447-0192.

Power of the Purse

The Women's Initiative Flagler will once again present their signature event to raise funds to create positive, measurable, long term change in the lives of women and children in Flagler County.

Monday, August 18, 2014 , 6—9 PM

Hammock Dunes Club

Tickets—\$50, includes dinner, cash bar, silent auction, entertainment, keynote speakers, raffle

For additional information, contact Alexandra Jennings at ajennings@unitedwayvfc.org



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Everyone has a role in keeping Grand Haven Grand, and as a community the items below will make for a Grand looking community in the fall and during the holiday season.

Landscape Mulch – Landscape mulch/ground cover is required for landscape beds pursuant the GHMA ADC Standards. It is necessary to add to or refresh your landscape mulch from time to time (bi-annually). The default approved landscape mulch/ground cover for all properties is naturally colored, organic (pine) bark chips. Red, black or green mulch is not permitted. REMEMBER – you should only add to or refresh the same landscape mulch that has been approved by the ADC for your landscape plan. If you would like to utilize a different type of mulch or mulch alternative (rock) you will need to submit to the ADC for approval prior to installing.

Street Tree Canopy – Trimming of the street tree canopy is a continual maintenance item. Selective pruning on a regular basis will continually prohibit limbs from interfering with street and/or sidewalk traffic. The minimum heights are:

- 7 feet over the sidewalk
- 9 feet over the curb or edge of the road
- 11 feet over the traffic lane and
- 14 feet over the crown of the road.

If you have questions about any of these items, please contact Troy Railsback at [386-446-6333](tel:386-446-6333).

Tennis Anyone ??

The above quote is credited to the late great actor Humphrey Bogart who supposedly uttered it while starring as an ingénue in a Broadway play in 1927. He denied it vehemently.

However, if you, or someone you know, has ever wanted to play tennis or wants to get back into tennis after a hiatus of a few years/ a few decades, or is an avid tennis player Grand Haven is the place to be. Use of the tennis courts is an amenity available for all.

We have seven Har-Tru courts (a kind of synthetic clay) that are lighted for evening play. They are well maintained daily by our very attentive and diligent facilitators who reline and rake them as needed. The courts have their own irrigation and drainage systems so they are available for play every day. (Mother Nature permitting of course.) It is best to make reservations to use a court. Just call the Village Center.

There is Community/ Round Robin Tennis which is non-competitive, great exercise and great fun. It is offered on Tuesday, Thursday, Saturday @ 8 – 9:30 AM and on Monday and Thursday @ 5 – 6:30 PM. You can sign up for these at the Village Center 7 days to 48 hours before each session. This so enough courts are reserved for those playing. If you are new to Grand Haven or to tennis this is a great opportunity to meet other residents and to find players for individual play.

More competitive tennis is usually played by individual groups between 8 – 11AM or in the early evening. Reservations must be made for these times also.

We are also exceptionally fortunate to have on site USPTA tennis instructor Brian Counts who has been teaching tennis for 20 years. Brian gives both individual and group instruction. Not only is he a wonderful teacher, but he is incredibly patient. Reservations can be made with him five days a week. Call the Village Center for more information.

Submitted by: Kathleen Garofalo & Nancy Snodgrass

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Frequently Asked Question

Because of the excessive rains and high humidity levels of the past several months I have noticed that there is, what seems to be, an increased amount of mold/fungus on my home's roof, driveway, walkways, and sidewalks. When will Grand Haven begin the clean-up?

You are correct in noticing the increase in mold growing on all the surfaces you mentioned. And Mother Nature has had a very strong hand in this occurrence. However, it is **not** the responsibility of Grand Haven to "clean up." Each homeowner is responsible to remove the mold/mildew on all improvements of their property, including the sidewalk. A good power washing works well on all the concrete surfaces. The roofs, especially tile ones, will darken in color due to the increase in mold. In addition, the border or fascia around the edge of the roof may require attention as well.

Pickleball, You Say??

Approximately three years ago, Ron Conklin, an Osprey Lakes resident of Grand Haven, was meeting a friend for lunch who was on his way to The Villages. His friend was telling him how much he couldn't wait to get there so he can play his favorite sport, Pickleball. Ron's initial response was "What is Pickleball? Never heard of it." His friend started to explain the concepts of the game, and Ron thought this would be a great recreational activity to bring to Grand Haven. Thus the story of how "Pickleball" came to Grand Haven!

Pickleball is a game much like tennis, but on a smaller scale. The court is smaller, divided into four quadrants with a net in between, and the players serve into the diagonal court, just like tennis. There is a non-volley area on either side of the net which is commonly referred to as the "kitchen". Ever hear the term "stay out of the kitchen"? Well this is true in the game of Pickleball.....standing in the kitchen is not permitted and considered a 'fault'.

Instead of a racquet, Pickleball players use a "paddle", similar to a ping pong paddle, but slightly larger. And the ball is plastic, similar to a whiffle ball. After the initial serve, the ball is rallied back and forth until one side commits a fault, resulting in either a loss of serve, or scoring a point, depending on whether they are the serving team or not. Pickleball has become a growing phenomenon in the realm of sports. It is much less physically demanding than other activities, but still provides a great form of exercise.

Here in Grand Haven, Pickleball is played with a portable indoor/outdoor net which is set up on the Creekside basketball court. As in tennis, we play as doubles, with four players. Usually there are two, and sometimes three times that amount of players showing up to play, so players simply rotate in at the end of each game.

Any time you wish to get a feel for what Pickleball is about, come on down to the Creekside basketball court, and watch the game in progress. Play is held every day, Monday thru Saturday, at 8:00 am.

See you on the court!

Grand Haven Woman's Club

After a successful 2013-2014 year, the Grand Haven Woman's Club is on its summer break with our meetings beginning again in September.

This past year, the group has enjoyed speakers from I Can Read/Reading Partners, Flagler Tourism, Take Stock in Children, the USO of Greater Jax, Family Life Center and the President of Flagler College, Dr. William Abare, who shared with our group so much of the history of Flagler College as well as St. Augustine.

The fall programs begin on a very strong note again this year. The Canine Companions for Independence will kick off the year with a presentation regarding their Wounded Veterans Initiative. In addition to programs, the ladies, who now number almost 200, will help the community with their usual projects, with members volunteering thousands of hours to the schools, at the Library, the Hospital, Animal Shelter, the Arts, etc. In addition to a variety of fund raising activities the Club conducts in order to provide contributions to numerous non-profit organizations in the community, the Club membership are also a very talented group, displaying the wide variety of crafts and art they have created, cooking and sharing recipes, and generously supporting the local food bank with monthly food donations.

You can view the GHWC Facebook Page by visiting www.GrandHavenWomensClub.com to see all the activities and fun this group enjoys. If you are interested in more information about the Grand Haven Woman's Club or are interested in joining, just ask any Club member to bring you to a meeting as their guest.

Submitted by: Pam Walker

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The **Palm Coast Arts Foundation** is proud to be partnering with the Flagler County Art League, The Palm Coast Observer, and the City of Palm Coast celebrating the annual **International Festival, Saturday, October 4** in Town Center.

A “Chair Affair” will be presented as the focus of the arts. Many of us scoured estate and yard sales to acquire chairs, benches, stools of all kinds, and repainted them in a beautiful scenic or art genre of their liking.

PCAF and FCAL would like to thank so many of you who have submitted chairs to the event! The call went out, and YOU responded! The deadline to register a chair for the festival is near so if you are interested in submitting a chair, please contact the FCAL office for a free application (flaglercountyartleague.com). We have until September 1 for any sponsorship opportunity! Sponsors willing to donate \$300 towards a newly redecorated chair will have their name associated with the chair and the artist. If you don’t have a bench or chair to donate, one will be provided to the artist on your behalf. A special pool of talented area artists are being selected for these sponsor chairs and would provide the sponsor the vision for their chair or bench before embarking on the project. OR, you can paint the chair yourself or make it a group project with your employees!

All chairs or benches would be on display Friday night, October 3, during a special ticketed event sponsored by the Palm Coast Observer benefiting the Palm Coast Arts Foundation. All proceeds from the chair sales on Friday and Saturday will be shared between PCAF and FCAL

We hope you would join us, be part of the fun, and not miss out on this fun multi-faceted event. Be part of this festival highlight. Even if you don’t submit a chair, come out and support your artists and see the beauty in these transformations! **All finished chairs will be judged by a jury of artists**; so sponsors don’t delay in case we need to pair you up with a talented artist to complete your project! Judges will choose the best decorated chairs for the live auction Friday, October 3 at the special event.

Contact me if you would like to be a sponsor in this City Festival: Nancy Crouch, PCAF Trustee, ncrouch6@gmail.com.

Did You Know???

In the three month period from April 13—July 13, 2014, there were 28 homes that sold in Grand Haven, ranging in price from a high of \$875,000 (in The Bluffs) to \$177,000 (bank owned foreclosure). There were also 10 lots that sold during this time frame, ranging in price from \$335,000 for an Intra-coastal lot on Front Street to \$30,000. These 38 sales totaled \$10,543,550. Appears that sales are healthy and contributing to keeping Grand Haven “Grand”.

Source: MLS Website

Wild Oaks Eagles

As I gather my thoughts for this update on our resident eagles, I have a joyful heart. Considering what eagles (and all wildlife) endure, how blessed we are the same eagle pair return to their special nest year after year for the past six years. Plus they have raised eleven youngsters that have successfully fledged. Considering only 50% of eaglets hatched successfully fledge, that's high odds.....almost 100%!

I came across a poem a fellow eagle enthusiast wrote. I would like to dedicate it to all the Wild Oaks fledglings that dared to take the leap.....

Two little eaglets way up in the tree. Two little eaglets looking down at me.

You sit there in your aerie staring at the sky, and every time you flap your wings, my heart lets out a sigh.

Silly little eaglets hovering o'er the nest.

Don't you know that you can fly? Your wings will stand the test.

Don't you care that I'm waiting here to see you soaring high?

I'm tethered to the earth below, but you....you own the sky!

If I were an eaglet and could do what you can do, Without a moment's hesitation, I would launch into the blue.

But wait....one's perched upon the edge....it leans into the breeze.

It spreads its wings, hops back down....oh, you're such a tease!

I know that you are old enough. Your wings are sure and strong.

Dancing high across the sky is where eagles belong.

You're made for inspiration. You can make the mule heart sing.

Rejoicing in your majesty borne on outstretched wing!

"Why don't you fly?" I ask out loud, "When will you learn to soar?"

I know you are ready. What are you waiting for?"

Then deep within my spirit the eaglets speak somehow.

They say, "We'll take that leap of faith when we hear God whisper "Now!"

(Poem written by Jim Weller/Eastwood Eagle Watchers)

Now looking forward to Romeo and Juliet's return approximately September 1.

Submitted by:

Gretchen Butler/Audubon EagleWatch Volunteer,
American Eagle Foundation/Volunteer



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Isn't it time for a change?



Grand Haven Critters Squirreling Away

Florida has four species of squirrel, three of which are the Eastern Gray, the Mexican Gray and the Fox Squirrel. These three are known as "Tree Squirrels". The fourth is the Southern Flying Squirrel, distinguished by its "flying" capability. The squirrel family includes chipmunks!

Of Florida wildlife, the Eastern Gray Squirrel is most abundant encountered everywhere across the state, urban and suburban alike. Male and female have the same coloring making it impossible to know which is which. Their coat varies from light to dark gray with white tips on the tail: that busy bushy tail is half their entire length. Using its tail to maintain balance as it leaps, if it falls the tail becomes a parachute and used to cushion the fall.

Squirrels are agile; they take a flying leap up the nearest tree if we get too close for comfort. They also scurry up or across our pool cages on their way to their nearby lodgings. Squirrels live year-round in trees, making nests in hollow holes or in deciduous treetops. Their "penthouses" are hard to spot as they build them with green leaves in spring although in autumn we can see their untidy brown nests. Babies are born spring and summer. Unlike humans, mother moves out to build a new nest for the summer litter, leaving the old dwelling for the teenagers. Diet is nuts, berries, insects, bird eggs and the contents of your bird feeders.

People find squirrels endearing although some refer to them as "rats with tails" Ouch!

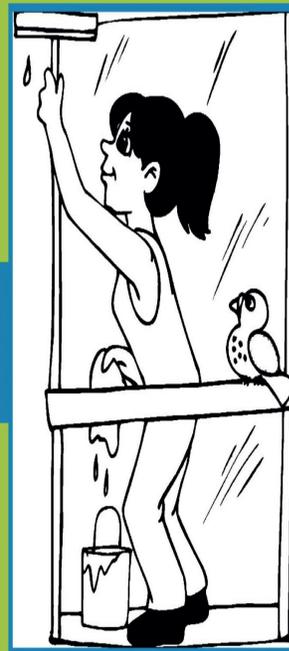
Submitted by: Anne Sciuto

Editor's Note: I have heard from some neighbors who have needed expensive repairs due to damage from squirrels nesting in their attics or eating away at their screen enclosures. That may explain why not everyone finds squirrels "endearing".

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2014 Walk to End Alzheimer's

Saturday, September 20, 2014
Veteran's Park, Flagler Beach
Registration at 8am | Ceremony at 9am
Walk at 9:30am
Route Length: 2 miles

Karen Wolford is once again leading the charge to have a big Grand Haven presence for the Walk to End Alzheimer's. You can join a team that has already formed, you can form your own team or you can just make a donation to the cause. Karen will be the contact if you would like to make a donation or if you have any questions about this event. Karen can be reached at kwolford3@cfl.rr.com, 386-864-8691.

You can also visit their website to learn more about the Walk at:
http://act.alz.org/site/TR/Walk2014/FL-CentralandNorthFlorida?fr_id=5678&pg=entry



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Unique Programs being Crafted by the Flagler County Art League

Fall is coming, and with it a new season of monthly shows, classes, workshops and lectures at the Flagler County Art League (FCAL) in City Market Place.

In addition to our usual watercolor, oil, acrylic, altered art and colored pencil classes at all levels, we will be offering "art for the non-artist" evening events. Starting September 9th we will feature a different art media every month, and everyone will work on the same project while you sip wine and chat with fellow budding artists.

Visit the gallery and see our latest show – a new one every month - and if you come before October 4th you can see our "Painted Chairs." FCAL is collaborating with the Palm Coast Arts Foundation for a fund-raising event (see PCAF article in this issue).

And, for those of you who are craft-oriented, former Grand Haven resident and award-winning artist Judi Wormeck will be teaching a collage workshop and a paper-making workshop. Her own beautiful mixed media art, incidentally, is among FCAL's best sellers!

If you'd rather listen to experts in all areas of art share their experiences and expertise, we also have monthly programs, held the third Thursday of the month, free and open to the public. You don't have to be an artist to enjoy them. Grand Haven artist Barbara Kurp is responsible for these programs, and she has a fabulous list of speakers for this coming season.

Speaking of shows, our very talented gallery director Wendy Berg Roth and her committee have put together some brand new show themes, starting with "Going Green" which will open September 12.

For more information, call 386-986-4668 or visit www.flaglercountyartleague.com.

Submitted by: Ann DeLucia & Stephanie Salkin



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Loretta Consolla at polymer clay class taught by Lynn Spancake and Terry Ward



Grand Haven's NEXT CHAPTER— A Widow & Widower's Group

It all started with a simple yet poignant declaration at one more service for a lost spouse: “we need a group to help each other”. In the spring of 2012, widows and widowers were invited via an email blast from the Village Center to attend an organizational meeting to share ideas and needs. Thus was born **Next Chapter**, a resource for fun, friendship and fellowship.

The group has enjoyed various activities including picnics, full moon parties on the beach, theater, game days, dinners out, house parties and day trips. From time to time, we also host a guest lecturer and have had a positive response to topics presented on estate planning, financial management and living facilities beyond our own homes. Ideas generate from a social committee as well as individual members. A welcome aspect of the group is getting to know new people with whom one can socialize and plan activities for themselves as we forge our new lives without our loved ones.

Members best describe what **Next Chapter** means to them in the following ways:

“Fun-filled activities, dedicated people who care about each other, opportunity for new friendships and to connect with people in a similar place in life, laughter.”

“A great resource in filling the void so many of us share.”

“An incredible source of comfort to know these new friends have walked in my shoes and understand me.”

Often when we are out and about, others will comment about how much fun we appear to be having and wish they could join in. Next Chapter is not a group that anyone would choose to join but it is a wonderful group to be a part of when needed.

If you feel you would like more information about Next Chapter, please contact Bet Fraioli at 446-7770 or ma-bet23@bellsouth.net.

Submitted by: Susan Wimmers



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Frequently Asked Question

Since we moved into Grand Haven several years ago the unimproved lot next to us has been vacant. It is very overgrown and littered with broken branches, dead plants and trees, and debris. Who is responsible for this eyesore and potential health hazard?

It is the lot OWNER's responsibility. The owner is to keep the lot free and clear of dead material, including, without limitations, trees, fallen branches, and assorted flotsam and jetsam. Any portion of the lot that has been cleared and/or has grass growing on it, needs to be mowed and maintained to a height of six inches or less and be cleared of all weeds and unsightly vegetation. If the owner fails to maintain his lot in accordance with the CC&Rs, the Grand Haven Master Association will contact the owner with written notice of the Association's intent to provide the necessary maintenance and/or cleaning, at the sole cost and expense of the owner. The owner will be given 15 days to complete the work as required. In the event the owner fails to comply, the Association will arrange for and provide any maintenance and/or cleaning, at the sole cost and expense of the owner. This will be added to and become a part of the Assessment to which the owner and his property are subject and it will become a lien against the property.



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School Bells Will Soon Be Ringing

On August 18, Flagler County Public Schools will open its doors for the 2014-15 school year. Each year, there is heavy demand from families in Flagler County who face the greatest financial challenges. Anxious parents and grandparents call asking for help in the form of services from the Flagler County Education Foundation STUFF Bus. Caring individuals and organizations provide 100% percent of the funding needed to support requests for supplies from the STUFF Bus. More than 60% of the students in Flagler County are on the Free & Reduced Lunch Program and qualify for STUFF Bus services.

Executive Director Deborah Williams says, "Grand Haven residents have opened their hearts and wallets to support children who would go without school supplies and essential clothing items. We can't thank these caring individuals enough for making sure our students come to school ready to learn."

For more information, call Deborah Williams, 386-437-7526 ext 3125, or visit www.FlaglerEdFoundation.org.



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| Southern States Management Group | www.ssmgroupinc.com | (386) 446-6333 |
| Grand Haven Master Association | www.grandhavenmhoa.com | (386) 446-6333 |
| Community Development District (CDD) | www.grandhavencdd.org | (386) 447-1888 |
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| Grand Haven Golf Club Pro Shop | | (386) 445-2327 |
| Grand Haven Golf Club Restaurant | | (386) 445-1027 |
| Palm Coast Utilities | www.ci.palm-coast.fl.us | (386) 986-2360 |
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