

Volume 2/Issue 4

4th Qtr 2023

Etched in *WindStone*

Welcome to the newsletter for our neighborhood. The intent is to provide a vehicle to keep homeowners informed of quarterly events, address issues in the neighborhood and communicate information from the POA Board of Directors, ARC Committee and related Committees.



President's Message

by Erin Dardis

Hello, neighbors and Happy New Year! I hope everyone had a joyous holiday season and had the chance to make wonderful memories with family and friends. One thing I love about the holiday season is how everyone (well, almost everyone) is in great spirits and people are nicer to each other. Wouldn't it be great if that aspect of the holidays carried over throughout the entire year? I did an internet search and found the following article (condensed for our newsletter), which I believe is apropos.

The Importance of Being a Good Neighbor

You can pick your friends, but you can't pick your neighbors. If you are lucky, you have good ones, but some are unpleasant and make your life miserable. If you have good neighbors, consider yourself blessed. Neighbors can play an important role in our community and our lives. Remember that you are a neighbor, too.

By definition, a neighbor is someone who lives close to you, but; is a relative term. For the city dweller, the neighbor is probably someone in the next apartment, but for the suburban family, the neighbor is a bit further away. And for those who live in rural areas, neighbors may live a mile or two away.

But what is a good neighbor?

A good neighbor is friendly and considerate. Though good neighbors may live close, they respect your space and privacy. Good neighbors wave at you, may stop to pet your dog, chat, and buy lemonade from your children. Good neighbors take time to talk (a simple "hello" will suffice) and smile. They reach out to connect with you. Good neighbors' actions support the community. A good neighbor looks out for others. Good neighbors help each other. Most important, good neighbors are respectful. They consider the others who live around them. They mow their lawns and maintain their property. They try to teach their kids to be respectful, too.

Good neighbors are important. According to the old African proverb, "It takes a village to raise a child". Our neighbors are our village. My kids know our neighbors, and I'm glad about that, as through their associations with our neighbors, they have come to appreciate the idea that we have something in common with everyone. Perhaps sometimes we should focus on our similarities and not our differences.

Ask yourself, "Am I a good neighbor?" Remember, *you get what you give*. Try to be a good neighbor.

"Attitude is a little thing that makes a big difference." — Winston S. Churchill



Beautification Committee Report

by Kathy Stauffer

Winter months are here! I hope you're enjoying the cooler weather and had great holidays!! WindStone's entrance looked very pretty during the holidays! Shout out to the company that does our holiday lighting, 'Let there be Lights'. They always do such a nice job putting up and taking down our lights. As large as this company is, we are very lucky to have our entrance lit right after Thanksgiving and turned off right after New Years. They are very good to us like that!! Not sure if anyone noticed but we have new wreaths for our gates. It was time to replace them for sure. On another note, we'll be replacing a small area of sod in front of our community where trucks have gone off the road and it's just mud at this point. Otherwise, this time of year everything grows slowly and it's all about maintaining. New planting doesn't happen until spring. Enjoy the rest of the winter months.

Let's make 2024 a year to be kind and respectful to one another! A very Happy New Year to you all!!

Kathy

ARC Report

by Mary Emerton

Behold the Beauty of Winter!

'Tis the season we all reflect of why we are in Florida this part of the year. The Emerton's aren't native Floridians but feel more at home here since we arrived in 2016 than any of our prior locations, neither snowmageddons nor atmospheric rivers for 8 months a year.

The last couple of months have been slow for the Architectural Review Committee. Our Guideline work wrapped up a little early this year (watch your mail for the edits) and we've had fewer than typical applications. The year-end wrap up will be presented at the Annual Meeting. The ARC Team welcomes input to annual guideline reviews and invite all property owners to attend any of our Zoom meetings held monthly on the 1st and 3rd Tuesday.

Best to you all,
Mary Emerton, Ryan Fonash, Mark Griffin, Gary Metal and Robert Tinley

Garbage Pickup Days & Policy

This is a reprint as we have had many people who are not aware of the new policies. Please Note these additions to the repeated message:

1. **Please do not place your garbage or recycle bins on the curb more than one day before pickup.**
2. **Do not blow your leaves and lawn detritus into the street and leave it there.**

Garbage Pickup Days:

Monday: Recycling and Garbage
Wednesday: Yard Debris in cans or tied in bundles
Thursday: Garbage Only

Please Note: New Policies!

Bulk Trash and Green Waste piles that require the claw machine **must be** called in (772- 546-7700) to arrange pickup. It will then be picked up the **next Tuesday**. To be clear, if you call in on a Tuesday, it will not be picked up that day. It will be picked up the next Tuesday.

Another new policy from Waste Management is **they will NOT pick up bulk green waste in common areas or empty lots**. To be picked up, the waste must be in front of a home with an address.



Spring Fling!

*Rosemary Metal
& Lisa Kraft*

Wouldn't it be lovely to take a stroll around WindStone this spring and visit some of the gardens in our own neighborhood? We are looking for some gardeners that would be interested in opening their front and back yards to their neighbors as well as those who would be interested in seeing the gardens. There are many lovely yards in WindStone and it would be a nice way to gather and be inspired by other gardens/gardners.

If you would have any interest in showing off your garden efforts, **please let us know**. If you like the idea of seeing gardens **let us know that too**. We are envisioning a Sunday afternoon from 2-4, perhaps in April. This event would only be intended for WindStone residents. In the meantime, happy gardening! We **need your input** before we do further planning for this event!! Email or text your interest level.

Rosemary & Lisa
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Welcome to the Neighborhood!

No New Neighbors to Report

Out and About on the Treasure Coast

Please send me your favorite place in the Treasure Coast! My email is lisadkraft@gmail.com. If you don't have the time to write a paragraph about it, I will google it and find needed info. Just send me the name of it.

Lisa Kraft

Maggie's Hammock

Rosemary Metal

The other day I found a hidden gem in Port Salerno. Next time you are in the area and have a half hour for a lovely stop be sure to go to Maggy's Hammock. This large piece of property has a paved main path and another mile of dirt hiking trails that circle the property. It is very beautiful and filled with bird life. The best thing is that it's right next to town and borders civilization, which makes it convenient.

The park was named after Maggy Hurchalla (1940-2022), who was a Martin County commissioner from 1974 to 1994. Maggy was instrumental in keeping Martin County green and not being over developed. She was responsible for the preservation of wetlands and wilderness that makes our county special. Taking this hike is a homage to her legacy.



"Hurchalla was a lifelong, fearless advocate for Everglades restoration and an emphatic voice for protecting Florida's natural beauty. She was an Everglades Coalition Hall of Fame member and won countless local, state and national environmental awards for her conservation work.

"Maggy's impact on Florida's conservation movement cannot be overstated," said Eve Samples, executive director of Stuart-based Friends of the Everglades.

"She's the reason developers can't fill in wetlands in Martin County, and the reason I-95 bends away from Stuart ... She helped craft development rules that made our community a leader in the state for environmental preservation," Samples said." Taken from: *Treasure Coast News*, tcpalm.com