



# Long Leaf Sentinel

## Board Meeting Highlights

A board meeting was held each month (October, November, and December).

October's meeting focused on Oktoberfest and the fall yard sale. Plans were finalized for the food, DJ, table and chair rental, lights, and keg of beer for Oktoberfest. It was decided to hold the festivities a little earlier this year to give children more time to enjoy the games and bounce house. Volunteers were asked to gather at 9:00 AM the day of to set up the tables and decorate. The hours were set for the yard sale.

In November, the focus was on the annual meeting. Goodies were requested and ballots were mailed out. We achieved a quorum this year and the two residents running for the board were elected. Hurricane related issues were also discussed.

At December's meeting, two residents were appointed to the board bringing the total number of board members to 6. In addition, Erica Usher volunteered to head up the Architectural Control Board. It was decided the board positions would be determined at the January 2023 meeting. Holiday decorations for our two entrances were discussed.

At each meeting, minutes of the previous meeting are read, and the treasure's report is given. Maintenance issues are discussed, and any complaint received during the month is discussed and a resolution proposed.

### .....Key Information.....

- POISON CONTROL.....800-222-1222
- W VOLUSIA CO POLICE, FIRE & EMS.....386 254-4657
- Duke Energy .....800-228-8485
- VOLUSIA CO ROAD & BRIDGE.....386-822-6422
- Report pot holes, drainage issues, signs & mowing
- VOLUSIA CO ANIMAL CONTROL .....386-248-1790
- VOLUSIA CO CODE ENFORCEMENT.....386-736-5925
- In residential areas, motor vehicles my not be parked in the front yard except on driveways.
- W VOLUSIA TRANSFER STATION.....386-423-3862
- For recycling and household hazardous waste
- WATERING DAYS (before 10am)/Daylight Saving Time...
- Even house # Thurs & Sun; Odd house # Wed & Sat
- Eastern Standard Time...Even house # Sun, Odd house #

## LETTER FROM THE CHAIRMAN

Dear Fellow Homeowners:

Unlike the cookie-cutter, stucco trailer developments to the East along Taylor Road, we have a community like no other. However, the beauty of this community does not hold up without the support of its members. As many a chairman has done in the past, I am writing to request that you join our Home Owner's Association in 2023. The \$100 annual dues (which works out to \$8.33 per month) that you voluntarily pay today collectively helps to maintain our community standards. This small amount covers a variety of expenses including:

- Lawn Maintenance, pruning of foliage and irrigation of the median along Stratford,
- Monthly electric bill for the lighting of the sign at the Taylor Road entrance,
- Hall rental for our annual board meeting,
- The Long Leaf Plantation website,
- July Fourth Parade and Oktoberfest,
- Yard of the Month prize,
- Mailing expenses for our dues statements,
- Directories, and various flyers,
- Legal services and liability insurance.

For added convenience, you may now pay your member dues online via our website at [lphoa.org](https://lphoa.org). It might surprise you to know that only approximately half of the homeowners in the community are members of the association. If you are already a member, please continue your support of this community by promptly returning your payment to the address listed in the dues letter or on-line. If you are not a member, please consider joining your neighbors this year to make this community better than it has ever been.

If you have improvement suggestions for the association please forward them to our website: <https://lphoa.org/contact-us>

Duncan MacKenzie  
Chairman, Long Leaf Plantation Homeowners Association


\*\*\*\*\*

## IN MEMORIAM


Millie McCain, a longtime resident of Black Ironwood Drive, was a familiar face to many as she walked her little dog Mimzee several times a day along our shady streets. Her family extends an invitation to all who knew her to attend a Celebration Of Life on Saturday, February 11th, at 11 a.m., at Deland First United Methodist Church, 115 E. Howry Ave, Deland, FL 32724.

Don Day





# Happy 100th Birthday!



Long-time Long Leaf resident **Russ Freeburg will be 100 years old on March 4, 2023!** A resident of our community for approximately 30 years, Russ has enjoyed a long and fruitful life, both in Florida and the Washington, D.C. area, where he lived with his wife Sally and family for many years.

Born in Galesburg, Illinois, a small town about 180 miles southwest of Chicago, on March 4, 1923, Russ was a child of the prairie. He served in World War II with the 8th Armored Division of the 9th U.S. Army, seeing action in Holland, Germany, and the current Czech Republic. Russ attended Knox College in Galesburg, where he met and married his wife Sally. Moving to St. Louis, Russ attended and graduated from Washington University.

After graduating, Russ and Sally moved to Chicago, where Russ got his first professional job as a reporter for City Press, a training ground for Chicago's big metropolitan daily newspapers. With that experience, Russ was hired by the Chicago Tribune, where he worked for most of his adult career, rising through the ranks as a city desk reporter, financial reporter, and was transferred to the Tribune's Washington D.C. Bureau in 1959. There, Russ covered finance, Congress, various Cabinet Departments, including the State Department, and the White House. Russ was promoted to Washington Bureau Chief, and then became Managing Editor of the Chicago Tribune.



Russ left the Chicago Tribune in the early 1970's, and worked in public relations in the Washington D.C. area for the remainder of his working career. Russ retired in the early 1990's and moved to Florida with his wife Sally. Sally passed away in 2005, and Russ's son Jon came to live with him in 2011.

Russ authored two books, Oil and War in 1986, a history of the importance of oil to the Allied victory in WW II, and Inside the Front Page, From copy boy to Managing Editor: My life in the newspaper business, his memoir in 2019.

Russ can often be seen working in his yard. He still plays golf, but only 9 holes, where he hopes to shoot half his age. Russ is an avid reader, mainly non-fiction, and belongs to two local book clubs. He keeps up with current events, and enjoys spending summers in Michigan, where his family has vacationed since the 1960's.

After returning from covering various political events, such as nominating conventions and presidential campaigns, his children would run up to give him hugs. Russ would bend down to hug them back and say, "Kiss me kids. Nothing makes me sick."

**Please join Russ and his family at an open house celebrating his 100th birthday:**

When: Saturday March 4, 2023  
 Time: 1:00 – 5:00 PM  
 Where: 852 Torchwood Drive  
 Deland, FL 32724  
 Phone: (386) 736-3811

## YARDS OF THE MONTH

Congratulations to our Yard of the Month Winners! Thank you for helping to make our neighborhood beautiful! Remember, only paid HOA members are eligible for this award, so if you'd like to be considered, make sure you've sent in your annual dues of \$100. And be a good neighbor and consider nominating a yard you love by calling John or Teri Christopher at 386-956-8895. **Due to Hurricane Ian, the board chose not to pick a Yard of the Month for October 2022.**

### NOVEMBER

Karl and Bonnie Schaefer  
 676 Torchwood



### DECEMBER

Robert Volinsky and  
 Leslie Caverly  
 535 Black Ironwood Dr.



## COULD YOU BE A VICTIM?

The answer is a simple yes!

Here are a few ideas that you might find of some interest:

- Make sure your garage door is locked. If you travel consider unplugging the opener.
- Place rods in the tracks of sliding doors so they can't be opened.
- Consider an alarm system that minimally protects all exterior openings. Interior motion/infrared sensors are a plus. Many systems have door chimes so that when you are home and a door is opened a chime rings. Consider a monitoring company so that when you are away (or home) the police can be dispatched. A loud siren upon a security breach is a valuable deterrent. There are also many other do it yourself systems available for those skilled enough to install. And, they can be Wi-Fi enabled to your smartphone.
- Lighting, in and out. The general idea is to make your home appear occupied. Using timers and other features that mimic occupancy are used by homeowners as a measure to appear at home. External lighting around your home to light up the surrounding makes a thief think twice. However, don't forget the brazen thief that strikes during the daytime. And take whatever measures you think appropriate to safeguard your home and valuables, including yard equipment.
- Outdoor deterrent. The planting of a thorny type of shrub placed near entry points and close enough that it would be a painful endeavor to make you a victim. And, speaking of outdoors, it's not a good idea to hide keys outdoors. Give them to a trusted friend.
- Rather than cancelling your mail and newspaper, have a neighbor pick them up for you until you return.

*Take advantage of the internet and Google areas of interest related to protecting your home. These are just a few thoughts to keep you thinking of being safe. Do your research and see what professionals in the security profession or police/Sheriff's departments recommend.*

**EVER WONDER HOW YOUR DOG SEEMS TO KNOW WHEN YOU'RE STRESSED?** According to an article in the AARP magazine, a new study in the journal PLOS found that, with amazing accuracy, dogs can smell subtle changes in your sweat and breath caused by stress. They further suggest that the finding may help in training PTSD service dogs.

# MANY THANKS TO OUR ADVERTISERS FOR THEIR SUPPORT!

{ Please patronize their business! }



**GLORIA EIDSON**  
Solar Energy Specialist

Corporate Headquarters: 1523 Ridgewood Ave., Holly Hill, FL 32117

Office: 386.441.2299

Cell: 386.846.3888

www.solar-fit.com

gloria@solar-fit.com



Greg Hanson, Owner

**Greg & Vicki Hanson — Owners**

844 E. New York Ave DeLand, FL (386) 736-9340  
915 N. Spring Garden DeLand, FL (386) 734-9460  
1501 S. Volusia Ave Orange, City, FL (386) 774-5525



*"Serving West Volusia Since 1972"*

408 N. Spring Garden Ave.  
DeLand, FL 32720

**(386) 734-6289**  
Fax (386) 734-4232



1109 W. Euclid Ave.  
DeLand, FL 32720

Licensed Psychologists

Anita K. Sanz, Ph.D. (PY5640)  
Donald L. Sanz, Ph.D. (PY5066)

(386) 943-9040 Fax (386) 943-9937

sanzandsanz.com



**386-756-3344**

Mark Johnson

Licensed & Insured

AUTHORIZED ROOF LIFE DEALER

NEW ROOFS

CLEANING OLDER ROOFS WITH BLACK STAINS

**Grant Hearing Center**

**Russell J. Grant, BS., NBC-HIS**



890 North Boundary Avenue, Suite 200  
(Corner of Boundary & Plymouth - 1 Block West of Hospital)  
DeLand, Florida 32720  
(386) 734-5870

*"Listen to what you have been missing!"*

www.grantheating.com



**386-626-4163**

info@NikkisFurniture.com

1150 N. Woodland Blvd., DeLand, FL 32720

NikkisFurniture.com



Direct | 386-873-0264  
Fax | 386-736-6701  
mmaniscalco@pageinsuranceagency.com

500 E. New York Avenue • DeLand, FL 32724

www.pageinsuranceagency.com

Facebook.com/pageinsuranceagency



**Matthew Maniscalco**  
President

Rebecca Verrastro  
REALTOR®

**kw HERITAGE**  
KELLERWILLIAMS REALTY  
386.310.2404

rebeccaVrealtor@gmail.com  
www.rebeccaVrealtor.com  
1150 Douglas Ave, #2020  
Altamonte Springs, FL 32714

Each Office is Independently Owned and Operated



ELECTRICAL CONTRACTOR

EC0001542

**PAT'S ELECTRIC, INC.**

104 WEST CEDAR AVENUE  
ORANGE CITY, FLORIDA 32763  
patselectricinc.com

PHONE: (386) 775-7776  
office@patselectricinc.com

JAY SMITH

**Advanced Garages, LLC**

*Everything Garage Doors!!*

Garage Door Repairs & Replacements ·  
Manual or Motorized Garage Door Screens ·  
Garage Door Opener Repairs &  
Replacements

**(386) 320-8218**

Licensed & Insured For Your Protection

## 2022 Christmas Decoration Contest Winners

This year, Teri and Rebecca rode through the neighborhood in the evening looking at all the decorations. Lot of homes were decked out for Christmas this year making it hard to choose just 4. If a resident was not an HOA member, their home was ineligible – no matter how great the decorations were. The winners for Christmas 2022 were:

**Joel and Caitlin Jason**

1052 Torchwood Dr.

**Morris and Diana Goodwin**

662 Princewood Dr.

**Rick and Margie Carrillo**

779 Torchwood Dr.

**Lawrence and Erica Usher**

921 Torchwood Dr.



**Little  
Free  
Library**

*504 Black Ironwood*

Take a book  
Leave a book

*Open dawn to dusk*