

# Portraits Homeowners Association

Special points of interest:

- On the lakeside, do you have Lily pads?
- Interested in helping plan a Spring Fling or Fall Festival
- Reminders for everyone in Portraits

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## Portraits turns 30!

As we embark on the Landscape Capital Improvement project, Portraits for awhile will look a little like it did 30 years ago with new trees and level sidewalks.

A few Homeowners who moved into Portraits the fall of 1993 are still here and may think they stepped back in time.

In 1993 the roads were all mud or dirt, which meant the USPS would not deliver mail. So everyone went daily to the Post Office to secure their mail until the streets were paved.

At that time the Mahogany trees were little and provided no canopy, the sidewalks were level and great to push strollers without fear of hitting a bump.

We had basic cable, (not the HD package we have now), no newsletters, or monthly meetings.

We've grown as any 30 year old would and have matured. In the past 30 years the Mahogany trees, have greatly expanded, the sidewalks have become cracked and or began to buckle with the intrusion of the roots of the trees, and the roads have began to show the stress of the expanding roots as well.

To keep everyone better informed, we started a web page and a quarterly newsletter.

If you have any pictures of Portraits from 1993 we would love to publish them. Please scan a JPEG and send it to [Portraitshoa@comcast.net](mailto:Portraitshoa@comcast.net)



We will celebrate our 30<sup>th</sup> Anniversary (with cake) at the Annual Meeting on January 9, 2024 at 6:45 p.m. at the Pool. Please bring a chair as we hope everyone comes.

## Thank you!

Thank you to **Juan and Ana Morales** for decorating our entrance. They did a super job and have volunteered to do it again in December 2024!!

You may have seen on the Next-Door app, different communities complaining about the cost of their community light display. Portraits Board has never hired a company to decorate and quite frankly, we

don't want to add that type of expense to our budget.

Therefore, we would like to ask for any donations of lights for next year, or something that you would like to donate to add to our entrances. If you would like to donate lights or anything else, please send a note to

[portraitshoa@comcast.net](mailto:portraitshoa@comcast.net) and it will be forwarded to Juan and Ana who will then

reach out to you. If you'd like to help decorate next year, please send an email, and we will pass your information along. It would be great to have a group decorate and have fun next year.

# Portraits Homeowners Association



**ANNUAL MEETING**  
at the POOL on  
January 9, 2024 at  
6:45 p.m.

**Board Meeting and  
Special  
Assessment  
Meeting begin after  
the Annual Meeting**

**Please bring a chair**

## 2023 Accomplishments:

- New automatic shutoff Faucets in Men's and Ladies rooms in the Pool Building. This helps our water bill
- Removed the 30-year-old landscaping at the pool entrance – watch for new landscaping there soon
- Storm sewers cleaned
- Sidewalks pressure cleaned
- Pool Pavers leveled to eliminate trip hazards
- Hired a Company to control the weeds at the pool, the parking lot, and the 7<sup>th</sup> St. Cul de Sac
- Hired a Company to control the ants at the pool
- Shopped for and secured new Insurance for the community saving us over \$2,000 per year
- All mailboxes checked and secured

## Looking ahead:

- New landscaping at the
- pool entrance to be planted.
- Hedges surrounding pool to be replaced – the existing hedges drop too many leaves into the pool and this causes issues both in appearance and cleanliness.
- Landscape Capital Improvement Project to be completed
- Engineering study on 2<sup>nd</sup> circle to prevent flooding
- Committee needed to plan a Spring Fling or Fall

## You've got mail?

Our new USPS carrier, Chris is quite dedicated and has quite a memory for detail. He sends us notes when he can't deliver the mail, and remembers for the most part, which house the car in front.

In turn, we send an email that you didn't get your mail delivered and to please not block the mailbox.

PLEASE DO NOT BLOCK THE MAILBOXES. Parking in front of a mailbox impacts two homeowners. Let's be courteous to our neighbors.



## Interested in a Community Garage Sale?

There appears to be some interest in a Community Garage Sale this winter.

Permits are required, and Elise Herman would be happy to get your permit if you give a copy of a utility bill, the \$5.00 fee and a completed application.

We need some suggestions for dates, preferably in late January or March. An idea

for a date is Saturday, January 20th. or March 16th  
Please email your interest to Portraits HOA@comcast.net and of a date preference



## On the Lakeside?

South Broward Drainage District has said that they will not remove the lily pads as they are native species.

You as a homeowner can remove the lily pads with an AQUATIC SAFE remover. DO NOT use Round up or any chemical in the lake, as this will filter into the aquifer.

Hand-pulling or cutting using an Aquatic Weed Eradicator (A.W.E.) or a Lake Rake can be successful for a small area if repeated on a regular basis. Cutting and harvesting must be done on a regular basis to maintain control.

Plant material must be removed from the water body after cutting.

Physical removal in conjunction with chemical control will maximize success.

Aeration has also been used as a mechanical approach to hinder lily pads proliferation. Water lilies prefer to grow in stagnant waters; aerators, such as water circulators or surface aerators will disrupt the surface of the water and can limit the growth of these plants.

### Chemical Control

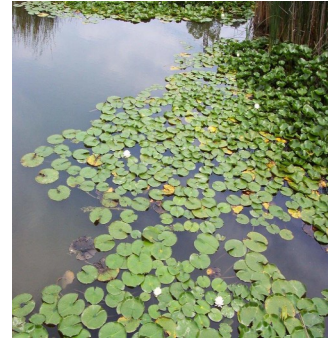
Aquatic herbicides made specifically for use in and around water are a safe and effective management tool.

Aquatic herbicides are very

successful in treating lily pads. Products such as Shore-Klear or Reward and Weedtrine D, when mixed with a nonionic surfactant such as Cygnel Plus work very well at killing Lily Pads and assisting in gaining control over them.

Shore-Klear is a systemic herbicide that will translocate down into the root systems killing the plant. Successful water lilies management in heavily infested areas can take several applications.

Reward is a fast-acting contact herbicide, highly effective in killing any part of the plant that comes into contact with.



Cygnel Plus is a nonionic wetting agent, sticker, activator, and penetrant all in one. Cygnel Plus increases the effectiveness of herbicides uptake into the plant tissue.

## Coconuts:

Coconuts are an essential part of a great Pina Colada, or Coquito but they are not so great in our lake or hanging over cars.

If you have a coconut palm, please remove them before they fall into the water.

The "coves" become a collection point for them, and many homeowners are assisting by

removing them. But they are very heavy and unsightly.

It would be substantially easier if you remove them BEFORE they fall into the water.

If your Coconut Palm is near your driveway, please assure that you remove them regularly. Nothing like a dropping coconut hitting a delivery truck to cause an issue.



Coconuts are dangerous projectiles. Always remove coconuts before storm season or the arrival of any windstorm.

**Coconuts are great in a Pina Colada but not our lake**

## Live on the Perimeter?

The hedges are looking a little better than in previous years. We will be having them sprayed for white fly again this January (White fly only attacks the Ficus species.)

The hedges are owned by you, and the fence by the HOA. Agreed, it is weird, but that is what the Developer did.

You may remove/ replace the hedges with arbutus. Just send us an ARB so we are aware of the replanting.

Please remove any invasive weeds from your side of the fence, as keeping them under control helps the overall health of the hedge.

There are some philodendrons growing through the fence that are attacking the

hedge it would be truly appreciated if you take some time and remove them.

Those on the perimeter give those passing by the first impression of Portraits.

We would ask that you please also trim your palms, and if you have a large tree, with branches extending over the sidewalk, please have the tree trimmed.



# PORTRAITS HOMEOWNERS ASSOCIATION

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We're on the Web:

PortraitsHOA.com

## Property Manager:

Melissa Georgianna

Phone: 954-931-3245

Email:

Melissa@CommandFlorida.com

## BOARD

Elise Herman President

Elsie Florido Vice President

Mark Gerwig Treasurer

Scott Hoch Secretary

Director—Open

## VISION STATEMENT:

The Portraits Board members envision the community as a desirable place that we are all proud to call home. A community of well-maintained, safe, caring and respectful neighbors who cooperate with each other to uphold and grow the value of our properties, and our family, friends and community relationships,

## MISSION STATEMENT:

The mission of the Board Members of the Portraits Homeowners Association is to preserve and enhance the property of our community by maintaining the common ground areas, and upholding our Covenants, By-Laws, Deed Restrictions, Guidelines, and policies. The Board will serve the homeowners by taking a fair, ethical and objective approach in representing the interest of all homeowners. Portraits will be maintained as a safe, friendly and enjoyable place to live for each homeowner and his/her respective family. We will enforce the Associations Covenants, By-Laws and Restrictions by providing ethical and fiscally responsible solutions to promote a sense of community, to enhance our property values and to plan for the future.

## ANNUAL MEETING

The Annual Meeting will be held at the Pool on January 9, 2024 at 6:45 p.m.

**A Special Assessment meeting** will be held immediately following the Annual Meeting and Board Meetings. **The amount of the special assessment will be voted on by the board to cover the costs of the Portraits Landscape Capital Improvement Project**

Unfortunately, Money does not grow on our trees. If it did, our trees would be extremely popular. From previous newsletters you know that quite a bit of time and effort has gone into what to do about the issue the large trees are

causing to our sidewalks and roads. There are a lot of rumors and unsubstantiated so called facts going around Portraits. Contrary to what you may have heard, we are not Paul Bunyan and asking for volunteers to help chop down trees. We are not engaging with a Secret Society to remove our trees, and finally we have not requested that there be a committee to Hug each tree daily, nor will the assessment be \$3,000! And finally, this decision has not been made in a vacuum. **We are homeowners like you** and want to do what is best for our safety and what is fiscally responsible. What we have done is get proposals for what can be done to mitigate

the sidewalk issues. Whether or not you have a Mahogany tree or are on the sidewalk side, each Homeowner is going to be impacted by this landscape capital improvement project. The Board has gone through each proposal for the trees, sidewalk and replacement trees and every homeowner with a Mahogany tree has been given choices for their replacement tree.

As you know, there are no monies available in the monthly budget to address these needs. A Special Assessment will be voted on in the January 9<sup>th</sup> meeting at the pool at 6:45 PM. Please plan to attend the meeting and bring a chair.