

# The Newsletter of Your Summers Creek Homeowners' Association

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## Association Board Members

President: Marnie Stant

Vice President & Treasurer:  
Richard Moticska

Secretary: Charles Rock

Directors:  
Joe Ratino  
Jim Carter  
Jim Kinney  
Marina Parenti

**Architectural Review  
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& Beautification:**  
Pat Carter

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Charles Rock (Acting)

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*(Send us your email address if you want to receive future e-newsletters.)*

*Summers Creek HOA Website:*  
**[summerscreek.us](http://summerscreek.us)**

The Summers Creek Homeowners' Association Board meets at 6:30PM on the second Thursday of each month at Kiwanis Island. Notices for meetings are posted two days in advance at the entrance of the community. Everyone is welcome to attend and contribute their concerns and ideas. Meeting minutes are posted on the website as they are approved.



## *A Note From Your HOA Board of Directors....*

*Your HOA board made significant progress in 2011. We improved administrative processes to operate more efficiently, repaired or refurbished several areas of the common property to improve functionality or enhance appearance and took steps to reduce cost.*

*One notable accomplishment was reducing our energy consumption. Last month, we conducted a comprehensive energy study to identify where we could save and how. We made changes to the lake aeration system, front entrance lighting, entrance fountain and sprinkler systems, which resulted in substantial projected reductions. As these savings become actual, they will be reflected in future budgets.*

*We believe that in today's economy, effective cost management and cost reduction efforts are essential in keeping maintenance fees low.*

*This year, we will continue our efforts to make Summers Creek the very best it can be. If you would like to be a part of this ongoing endeavor, now is the time to consider volunteering for the board. Send your name to the nominations committee before January 23rd by email to:*

***[nominations@summerscreek.us](mailto:nominations@summerscreek.us)***

## Special Announcements

### **Annual Meeting & Election—**

Elections for the 2012 Summers Creek Board of Directors will be held at the Annual Homeowners Meeting on Tuesday, February 7, 2012 in the Kiwanis Island Karen Rood Room at 6PM. This is the first building you see as you drive in to the park.

### **No Soliciting Exception—**

School age children of Summers Creek selling items like candy and Girl Scout cookies, are generally considered an exception to the community's 'No Soliciting' policy, but if you prefer to opt out of these offerings, you may contact the board and we will post a list of no contact addresses on the website if there is enough response.

### **A Word About Safety—**

Please observe the posted speed limits on Summers Creek Dr. and Bent Palm Dr. In addition to many adult pedestrians walking, biking, skating and jogging, there are a lot of small children in this neighborhood that play near or on the streets; running, playing ball or riding a variety of wheeled things. They move very quickly, can come out of nowhere, are often hard to see and not always mindful of approaching vehicles. Regardless of how hurried your life may be, the risk of hitting someone with a car is not worth the few seconds you may save by speeding. Also, parents are asked to be mindful of the dangers of vehicular traffic that may be moving faster than it should. There have also →

## *Important Messages & Information...*

been reports of small children sitting and laying down in the streets, playing in the streets and jumping out at cars as they approach. If you have small children, please make sure they are appropriately supervised and not playing where they shouldn't. The streets are intended primarily for roadway-approved vehicles. Also consider that street-parked vehicles create blind spots for drivers that may not see a child or pet dart out from behind them in time to stop. Let's all work together to keep Summers Creek safe for everyone.

### **Treasurer's Message—**



Your Association maintenance fees for 2012 are now due. You are asked to please pay at your earliest opportunity to ensure that all budgeted expenses can be met.

### **A Note From The Beautification Committee on Cold Protecting Plants —**



With colder weather approaching, it is frequently asked: what kinds of plants need covering, when and how? Fortunately, we do not get many freezes for long enough to have to do anything. Most of the common plants in our area are cold tolerant within the range we normally see and many plants that are susceptible to cold damage revive in the spring. However, the short answer is to protect when a hard freeze is forecasted, to use cloth instead of plastic and arrange by tenting instead of laying material directly on plants. Material designed for this can be bought from many garden centers. Mulch will protect roots. Sensitive potted plants can be brought indoors or put in the garage overnight. Don't run your sprinklers and don't cut back frost damaged growth before the end of March. More information can be obtained online by Googling— "how to protect florida plants from freezing temperatures."

### **From Your Neighborhood Watch—**



Before the holidays, there was a foiled home burglary attempt just outside our neighborhood and two reported instances of attempted car burglary in our neighborhood. Two non-resident juveniles were arrested. You are asked to report suspicious activity to the Brevard County Sheriff's Office at 633-7162 or call 911 if you see a crime in progress, then notify your Block Captain.

### **Home Security Reminders**

- Remember to breakdown boxes discarded from valuable Christmas gifts like home electronics and computers to avoid advertising what is inside your home to criminals.
- Nearly all car burglaries can be prevented by simply remembering to lock the doors of your outside vehicles. Also, know that car burglary can happen any time of the day or night.
- Outdoor lighting is the number one deterrent against prowling.
- Security cameras for the home are becoming less expensive and increasingly popular everywhere these days. They are recommended by law enforcement to prevent crime and can even lower your home insurance premiums.

### **Home Maintenance Tips**

- If your lawn lamp no longer works, and it's not the bulb, it may be controlled by a photocell that has gone bad. It is usually located on an outside wall by an outlet. It can be replaced for about \$15 with a basic knowledge of home electricity.
- If the 'Power' light on your alarm system control panel is blinking, it may be time to replace the big lead acid battery in the metal junction box.

Have any ideas for future newsletters? Just drop us a note at [hoa@summerscreek.us](mailto:hoa@summerscreek.us). We welcome your suggestions.

***Have a Great Year Everyone!***

