

# Sugarmill Woods

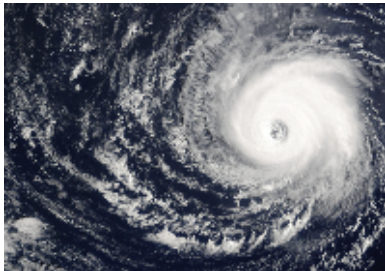
June 2009  
Newsletter



# Civic Association

108 Cypress Boulevard West  
Homosassa, Florida 34446

## Sugarmill Woods Civic Association's Community Outreach Program



Tuesday, June 16, 2009  
Sugarmill Woods Country Club  
6:30 PM

**Captain Joe Eckstein**  
Director, Emergency Operations Center

Director Eckstein will discuss county plans to respond to a hurricane threat and will offer advice to residents on how to prepare and how to react should a hurricane threaten the area.

Members of the Sugarmill Woods Community Emergency Response (CERT) team will also attend to explain its role in cooperating with county officials in assisting Sugarmill Woods residents in the event of a catastrophe. Residents are encouraged to attend.

## Reservations being accepted for exams at new Medical Center

Confident that construction will be completed on schedule, Citrus Memorial Health System is accepting reservations for mammograms and bone density examinations at the new Sugarmill Woods Health Care Center on Highway 19, north of the Sugarmill entrance.

Expecting the construction to be complete in mid-August with an opening in mid-September, appointments made be for dates beginning on October 6<sup>th</sup>. Patients may call 344-6460 to schedule appointments.



The 40,000 sq. ft., \$6 million center will have diagnostic imaging facilities, a walk-in clinic, laboratory, blood collection and donor center. Furthermore, there will be physical, occupational & aquatic therapies with staff and equipment. It will also house the primary care center for Dr. Tim Peterson and Connie Bautista, ANRP.

George Mavros, Director of Professional Services and a longtime resident of Sugarmill Woods, told a meeting of local residents that the clinic will be similar to the one at Allen Ridge and will operate on expanded hours. The amount of "traffic" will determine the hours and whether the clinic will be open on weekends.

Mavros said the facility will employ an additional 20 employees in the beginning and announced that a corps of 40 volunteers is being recruited currently. People wishing to volunteer may call Volunteer Coordinator Maria Nunez at 560-6298.

Sugarmill Woods residents will be notified of the date for the Grand Opening of the Center, which is to be held in mid-September.

## Sheriff Dawsy Introduces Crime Monitor System

Speaking at a Civic Association Community Outreach meeting in May, Sheriff Jeff Dawsy demonstrated a web site that permits residents to monitor criminal activity in the neighborhood.

By logging on to [www.crimemapping.com/map/fl/citruscounty](http://www.crimemapping.com/map/fl/citruscounty) and entering an address and a time frame, citizens can observe what types of crimes were committed in their neighborhoods.

The Sheriff emphasized common sense measures to prevent crimes in and around the home: lock the doors in the house and cars; do not leave valuable items in plain sight in cars or leave tools outside overnight; and install an alarm system.

Never give personal information to strangers; use a crosscut shredder to destroy documents with personal account numbers; and install virus, a firewall and antivirus protection on computers.

Dawsy is serving his fourth four year term having first been elected in 1996.

Commander Richard Byrnes of the Sugarmill Woods Crime Watch program described the services performed by the 100 volunteers who patrol Sugarmill Woods neighborhoods daily. Each volunteer devotes five hours a month: two separate two hour patrol sessions and a one hour meeting. Additional volunteers are welcome. Contact Mr. Byrnes at 382-5388.



## Citrus County Property Appraiser addresses Sugarmill Woods Residents



Citrus County Property Appraiser Geoffrey Greene told a group of Sugarmill Woods residents that his goal in office is to manage his operation at maximum efficiency.

"I report to you, the citizens of Citrus County. You are my number one priority", he said as he addressed a Civic Association Community Outreach program in April.

Elected last November, Greene eliminated his Human Resources Department to save money and struck an agreement with County Commissioners to purchase those services from the county on an "as needed" basis. He pledged to continue to seek ways to reduce overhead but improve services to the citizens.

His office keeps records on the 161,165 parcels in the county: 53,366 single family residences; 15,841 mobile home lots and 63,957 vacant residential parcels. He reported that the average single family Citrus home has an assessed value of \$126,188.

## Third Water Conservation and Management Workshop held in Sugarmill

The Sugarmill Woods Civic Association sponsored another water conservation/use workshop in April to inform residents of methods to conserve water and, at the same time, improve irrigation practices on their lawns and shrubs.

Staff members from the County Water Resources Department, UF/FAS Services and a local nursery instructed residents on planting and maintaining "Florida friendly" plants and offered advice on how to conserve water inside their homes.

About a hundred residents took part in the workshop.



## Commissioner Webb Introduced to Sugarmill Residents



A self-declared "rookie" in government, County Commissioner Winn Webb told those attending a Civic Association Community Outreach meeting in March that he quickly learned that the county must become better at the management of its resources because of the shrunken economy.

The lifetime resident and longtime businessman in Citrus County was elected to the Board of Commissioners last November in his first foray into politics. He stressed the need to preserve "our most precious asset, the environment". Our natural attractions bring in tourist money that helps keep taxes down. Plus, we want to protect the very things that led us to the area as residents.

Though he would prefer to keep the county population small, the reality is growth is needed just to keep up with the cost of maintaining what we have. "Without growth, taxes must be raised."



## Civic Association Makes Annual Contribution to CERT

Warren Blodgett, Civic Association Board member, presented the organization's annual contribution to the Sugarmill Woods CERT (Community Emergency Response Team) chapter in a recent meeting with Gerry Brummer, Chief Coordinator and Chairman of the group. Brummer said the money will be used to purchase additional radio equipment and, if granted permission from the county, to install an antenna on the fire station building on Oak Park Blvd. CERT members are trained to be first responders to work with county emergency personnel in the event of a disaster.



## Installation of a 500,000 Gallon Water Storage Tank About to Begin

The Citrus County Water Resources Department has hired a contractor to make improvements at the Sugarmill Woods Water Treatment Plant #2 located south of Corkwood Blvd. and adjacent to the Progress Energy power line.

The major improvement, a second 500,000 gallon storage tank, will be erected on the site beginning this month. Three existing smaller tanks will be demolished and removed. Construction is expected to be completed by January 15<sup>th</sup>, 2010.

Nearby residents are advised that they can expect typical construction noise on Mon. - Fri. from 7 AM to 5 PM. When completed, this large tank will be the third that is on line to service Sugarmill Woods.

## Chronicle Declines to Publish 2010 Telephone Directory

Citing the current economy and the fact that it has lost money two of the last three years, Citrus Publishing has decided it cannot continue publication of the Sugarmill Woods telephone directory. The cost of publishing the book has been offset by revenue from the advertising in its yellow pages.

The Civic Association has distributed the directory to every Sugarmill Woods residence every year since 1979. The Board of Directors is exploring alternate plans to publish the 2010 directory in November.

## Recycle Plans on Hold



FDS, the company that has proposed residential pickup of recycle material in Sugarmill Woods, continues to explore ways to provide the service in a cost-efficient manner. Earliest predictions for resolving the issues and beginning the service now are in the late Fall.

Just as the program was to begin earlier this year, the company was notified of a major increase in drop-off fees for the material. It is seeking estimates from other transfer

stations and also considering whether it would be practical to establish its own transfer station.

As for the proposal to establish a recycle center in the vicinity of the Highway 19/98 intersection, the county is negotiating with property owners to acquire the use of a suitable site.

Civic Association President Duane Dueker will keep residents advised of the progress in both instances via his periodic e-mail bulletins.

## Civic Association Telephone Number Changed

Citizens wishing to contact the President of the Sugarmill Woods Civic Association are advised that the telephone number has been changed.

The new number is 352-246-5597.



*This Newsletter is published by the Sugarmill Woods Civic Association as a community service to all residents of Sugarmill Woods.*

### Board of Directors

President ~ Duane Dueker  
Vice President ~ Jim Roys  
Treasurer ~ Charlie Hoke  
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### Board Members

Richard Eisner ~ Deborah Faunce  
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Francesca Paar ~ Tom Paslay  
Ed Schiller ~ Nancy Weber

### Consultants

Skip Christensen ~ Norm Wagy

[www.sugarmillcivic.org](http://www.sugarmillcivic.org)

## Message from the President

Our Community Outreach Program meetings continue to have good participation. Please take time to read about some of the recent meetings which are featured in this newsletter. We have another one scheduled for Tuesday, June 16 to address Hurricane Preparedness which I encourage you to consider attending. It is very important that you are prepared in the event a catastrophe does occur. With regards to future meetings, we are planning to invite other County Commissioners, our new County Administrator, and other selected county officials. The details of who is speaking, when, and where can be found in Sugarmill Woods Bulletins, the three village web sites, and bulletin boards around the community. If you are not on the distribution list for these bulletins and wish to be added, please send an email to [president@sugarmillcivic.org](mailto:president@sugarmillcivic.org).



For those of you who might have missed my bulletin earlier this year, the new Sugarmill Woods Water Usage Permit renewal was approved February 24, 2009 by the Southwest Florida Water Management District. While the permit allows modest population growth, it is offset by the SWFWMD requirement to achieve 150 gallons per person per day usage by 2019. This is a district wide requirement. Today we use 190 gallons per capita per day. We will need to reduce our annual daily average usage about four gallons per person per day each year over the next ten years to achieve the 2019 requirement. With the recent heavy rains, hopefully many of you have seen some improvement in your lawns and landscaping from the damage of last winter. We need the rainy season to continue to get us back to normal levels.

With the summer season here, many of our residents may be doing more walking and riding bicycles in the early morning and evening hours. Please remember some basic rules of the road. If you are driving, please adhere to the speed limits and look out for walkers and bicyclists. Provide ample space when driving around them. If you are walking, please remember the roads are intended for vehicles. Always walk on the left side of the road or shoulder facing the vehicles approaching from the opposite direction. If you are biking, you must obey the same laws as motor vehicles, stop at stop signs, no passing on the right, etc. Bicyclists should always ride on the right hand side of the road with the flow of traffic. Please remember that bicycles are no match against vehicles so be careful and safe. Please remember "Your Safety is Your Responsibility." Enjoy your summer!

*Duane Dueker*