



July 2020

Lazy Hazy Crazy Days of Summer Edition

July is now history and August is close at hand. I hope all of you, no matter where you are this summer, are enjoying it. Here at Ocean Village, we are kicking back, just a little. Many of our winter friends have stayed longer than usual and are now going north for a shortened summer respite.

The Covid pandemic has kept many of us from getting out and about as much as we like. Our LWR (Recreation) department has been extremely active providing on site and online activities. If you have not done so already, go to their Facebook page for all of the latest happenings, click this

Button



Pool Life



Summer is the time for a cool dip in the Beach Club Pool. This pool is equipped with chillers which keep the temperature of the water at a comfortable level for wading or swimming. For those who prefer, what I call bathwater, the other pools will suit you just fine.

While discussing the pool, please do not put your drink right next to the pool. They should really be kept next to your chair or lounge. There is too much temptation to pick it up while in the pool and take a quick swig. Use it as a chance to get a little exercise by walking to your chair and back. No, pop, chug and crush is not exercise, no matter what you have been told.

Recently, we have had several incidents where we have been required to close the pool bathrooms and shower due to plugged sewers. It is truly amazing what people try to flush down the toilets. Please, if it won't fit at home, it won't fit here either. I'm sure your mother taught you what goes down and what doesn't. I know mine did.



Board Meeting Update

Yesterday was our monthly Board of Directors Meeting. We had 8 people in the live audience and another 35 who participated online. Thanks for being involved.

We approved the first palm tree trimming of the year. This is the most important one both, from hurricane damage and safety standpoints. Those bowling ball size coconuts can do some real damage if not removed.

We also approved adding more insulation to both the office and security gatehouse. While replacing the AC units, we learned that the ceiling insulation was far from adequate.

Probably the most important to our owners was the approval of a set of guidelines for the Building Committee as it begins the task of designing a new facility to replace the current OV Center. This is a design and obtain quotations phase only. As I explained to an owner this morning, once the design and quoting work is complete which could be a year away, we will evaluate those costs, the economy, and the US political situation and decide whether we wish to go forward or not. Based on the current economic conditions, there is the potential for some extremely cheap money which would allow us to spread our costs over many years. For this to happen, we need to have something ready to build. It is the Boy Scout motto: Be Prepared. If we wait to do anything, our window of opportunity for these funds will be gone. The key change from the draft you received with the agenda is the first sentence which now reads as follows: "Facility size to be targeted in the 5,500 square foot range and not to exceed 7,000 square feet in size."

Hurricane Season is Upon Us



Hurricane season is heating up. We are in Florida and it is the season. Typically, here at Ocean Village, we see most of the action from August through October. It is not the time to panic, rather the time to prepare and be prepared.

Make sure your outdoor furniture and anything that can blow and become projectiles are put indoors. Make sure your hurricane kit is ready. If you need to evacuate, please shut off your water, particularly if you are in a multi-unit building.

As this E-Word is being sent, Tropical Storm Isaias is working its way, rapidly, toward our area and scheduled to hit tomorrow afternoon, evening, and into Sunday. If you are staying here at Ocean Village, please take the necessary precautions. As there is a potential for local flooding, please do not park your vehicle where water is known to accumulate due to major rains. Owners at Seascape II are welcome to park their vehicles in the restaurant parking lot until this passes. Other owners may do the same if your area typically floods.

If Windward Drive floods, we have installed chains at the critical flood points and will be pulling them across the road, These are replacing the old cones and bars previously used. Please watch for them if the water becomes too deep for safe vehicle passage.

Here is a link to a variety of pieces of information regarding hurricane preparedness here on the Treasure Coast: <https://www.treasurecoast.com/hurricane-season-2020-preparation/>

The Inn Zone & Tiki Bar

The new Inn Zone in the North room of our restaurant is open Fridays, Saturdays, and Sundays, starting at 4 PM. Please drop in, see your friends, and have something to eat and drink. Also, the Tiki Bar is open 7 days per week from 11 AM to 6 PM. During the day, this is, definitely, where the action is. Tony and his crew are doing their best to support us. Let's support them in return.

Covid Reminder

Here at Ocean Village, we have been very fortunate with no reported cases this past month. Please remember to maintain that 6 ft social distance and, if impossible, wear your face mask. As a reminder, too, remember that here in St Lucie County we must wear face masks whenever we are in a public place which includes restaurants (when not eating or drinking), government building, and stores. Let's all do our place to, not only stay safe, but keep our families and neighbors safe as well.



Planting Your Favorite Posy



We all love our tropical plants, especially if we came from the land of ice and snow. We bring those spindly things down to this tropical climate and they begin to grow and grow and grow.

Not wanting to let them die, we look around our condo and see an open space to plant them. They continue to grow. Here at, Ocean Village, we are dealing with this reality, particularly along the north property line. It has now turned into a dense jungle crowding out all of the original plantings and requiring significant landscaper attention. In the next few weeks, our landscape service will clean up this area, removing many overgrown plants.

We are asking our owners, unless they actually own the land around their place, please do not plant those tropicals here at Ocean Village. They have this habit of growing and growing and growing and, sometimes, falling over.



Drainage update

During a 3 day period in May, 10.5 inches of rain fell on Ocean Village which flooded our ponds, golf course and driveways. Whether we like to hear it or not, this is normal. In fact, it is by design.

On July 8th, a team of us met with Keith Roberts, City of Fort Pierce Streets and Drainage Division Manager to discuss our drainage system. What we learned is as follows:

- We have two drainage outlets from Ocean Village. They are sized, by design, to limit the flow of water from the property.
- These drains flow into a swale (ditch) at the side of South Ocean Drive which is owned by the State of Florida Department of transportation.
- This water flows to a drain owned by the City of Fort Pierce which crosses South Ocean Drive near the north end of our property and flows a short distance to a 500 acre swamp abutting the Indian River. This same city drain pipe carries all of the stormwater in this part of South Hutchinson Island starting at Melaleuca.
- Every suggestion made by Mr. Roberts regarding stormwater management at Ocean Village is already being done.
- Any drainage changes, whether major or minor, must be fully engineered and approved by the South Florida Water Management District. Changes that increase the amount of water

leaving the property during a given time is highly unlikely to be approved as it merely moves the water to a neighboring property.

Surveying of all our POA drain inlets and ponds is now under way. We are working with a local civil engineering firm to help us develop relationships with the SFWMD and Florida DOT as an effort to obtain original permit data and learn options for addressing our problems.

Beach and Dune Committee
By Carolyn Fortuna, Chair

You know that accumulation of marine debris that gets washed up and deposited on the beach at high tide? It's called a "**wrack line**." Typical debris within a wrack line includes uprooted seagrasses, sargassum, algae, seeds, mangrove leaves and propagules, along with sponges, soft corals, shells, egg cases, and worm tubes.



Sometimes the organic nature of the wrack line seems to offend humans, but the wrack line is an important part of a beach ecosystem here at Ocean Village. Once established, the wrack line provides shelter for a variety of animals such as insects, crabs, and amphipods, thus making it a vital component of our coastal ecosystem.

The organic material within the wrack line also provides critical nutrients to dune vegetation and helps to stabilize shifting beach sands so new dunes can form. The size and duration of the wrack line can vary depending on storm activity, winds, and tide conditions.

Wrapping It Up

Enjoy the rest of your summer, stay safe and healthy. Remember that, no matter where we are in life:



Jim Seymour
Ocean Village POA President