

The Stagecoach Express

Newsletter of Stagecoach POA

Vol. 7, No. 6 – Nov. / Dec. - 2009

Stagecoach Information

Web site address ---www.stagecoachfl.org

Recreation Center – 991-9821

3632 Mossy Oak, Land O Lakes, FL 34639

Board President: Brian Troutman

Board Members :

Anne Cameron – Michael Cien – Mary Cluck –

Mark Hardy – Lisa McArthur - Robert Carpenter

Stagecoach Community Yard Sale

Saturday November 14

Starts 7:00am - 12 noon



If you plan to sell items, please place a balloon on your mailbox, so buyers can immediately recognize sellers' houses.

COMMUNITY NEWS

\$\$ From the Treasurer \$\$

Association Dues Remain the Same for 2010

Our Association Dues Will Not Be Raised This Year. We had to make minor adjustments from the 2009 budget to get the 2010 budget to balance. Two of our biggest concerns are the security patrols and the uncollectible bad debts. The need to increase spending for off-duty sheriff patrols is a result of the increase in crime in our community. But the biggest concern is and will be our uncollectible bad debt due to home foreclosures and people not paying their quarterly assessments. If in the future this trend continues on our uncollectible bad debt and unpaid Stagecoach assessments, we will have trouble making future budgets. The results will be an increase in assessment dues and / or a reduction in maintenance and service in this community with all around cut backs.

I would like to thank all the people who work in this community to keep our budget costs low. Thanks to all committee members (Board of Directors, Architecture Control Committee, and Hearing Committee) for taking time from their busy schedules and for their service. Thanks to Security Patrol volunteer members, who devote their time to keep Stagecoach safe. The volunteers who write, format, edit, and prepare the newsletter for mailing, deserve thanks and recognition. Also, the many volunteers who plan and assist with various community activities deserve accolades. And finally, thanks to our maintenance man and attendants who work for lower wages. All these people deserve credit for keeping our community assessments low for all homeowners.

Michael Cien, Treasurer

On Sunday, November 1st at, at 1 pm there will be a tree planting at the Stagecoach Rec. Center in memory of Carrol McVay.

ALL ARE WELCOME TO ATTEND

Crime Watch & Security Patrol News

Crime on the Rise

In the recent months Stagecoach has been affected by a number of serious crimes and criminal mischief that bring to mind a quote from the 1976 movie "Network". The quote should be the feeling of every resident in Stagecoach..... "I am mad as hell, and I am not going to take it anymore!" We have career criminals preying on our neighborhood, burglarizing our homes, stealing our property, and prowling overnight searching for unsecured property and unlocked vehicles.



Here are a few of the incidents that have occurred: During the morning hours in early October, a neighbor saw a van in a driveway across the street with the motor running. The driver was on a cell phone. The neighbor decided to go and see why the car was parked in the driveway. As he started to walk across the street, other men came running out of the house. The men jumped in the car and then the car sped off. One of the residents was sleeping in a bedroom, while the house was being

robbed. The woman was unharmed, but money and jewelry were stolen.

In another incident a week later, a couple had left for work in the early morning. Ten minutes later a neighbor heard glass break and went out to see what happened. A van was in the driveway. The neighbor wrote the license number, a description of the vehicle, and then called the Sheriff. The vehicle went around the corner, picked up a couple of people coming from other sections of Stagecoach, then sped off. Electronic and other items were stolen from the home. During the third week of October, on a Saturday morning, there was an armed home invasion and a robbery occurred in that home.

Youths Continue to Vandalize Stagecoach, WHICH IS A CRIME

We have youths from Stagecoach. Santa Fe and, other areas coming into our neighborhood to ruin, deface, and damage our property. Some of these young people in our neighborhood are violating the law and participating in criminal mischief. Ultimately this costs us, as homeowners, money. The labor and materials required to repair the damages are adding-up each week. The lights marking the entry way of each of the neighborhood sections are continuously destroyed and have to be replaced. Fences and buildings are tagged with signs and graffiti. There are also small groups of youth gathering in the park and at the lift stations. It has been witnessed that they are smoking "pot". **Parents please be aware of your children's activities and of their whereabouts.**

Making Reports to The Sheriff's Office

I am disappointed that in a previously wonderful neighborhood, we are plagued with this escalating level of crime. I am certain it may be a sign of the times, but we just can't sit back complacently and tolerate it. I am asking every Stagecoach resident, when something doesn't look right in the neighborhood, **CALL THE SHERIFF AND REPORT THE INCIDENT.** Be sure to quickly gather as much information as possible; license plate number, type of vehicle, and color. A good description of any individual that you are reporting should include; clothes color, hair color, and any other relevant information (Anything that you think might help identify the unknown persons)

Watch for:

- Break-ins of abandoned homes (being used for parties or sleeping quarters)
- The drinking of alcoholic beverages in the park and the Rec. Center parking lot. That is illegal!
- People in the park after 9:00 pm (the park closes at 9 pm)
- Suspicious vehicles or persons that don't seem to belong

Please report suspicious activity to the Sheriff's Office. The non-emergency number is 929-1204, but of course if it is an emergency call 911. Some time after the incident has been reported to the Sheriff, please report the information to the Rec Center office. The Rec Center number is 991-9821 If an attendant is not available, leave a message on the answering machine. They will get the information to me. But please remember CALL THE SHERIFF FIRST.

The Idea of a "Crime Watch" Network

There is a concept I would like to introduce you to. It is an organization called "Crime Watch". It is separate from the "Security Patrol". It does not require going out on patrol. What it does do, is create an organization of neighbors looking out for neighbors. Here is a summary of what "Crime Watch" would do: each street would have a team captain, with various participating team members. If a person observes something suspicious they would CALL THE SHERIFF IF NECESSARY then call the block captain. Then the captain would call the Stagecoach Crime Watch leader. The leader would notify the other Stagecoach block captains, who would in turn advise the other street participants. In a short period of time, key individuals all over Stagecoach would be aware of what was going on and be on alert. It is basically an informational fan-out system. If anyone is interested in starting this concept, please let me know.

Our Patrol Continues to Need More Members

The Stagecoach Security Patrol needs more folks like you to join us. We need as many patrol members as possible to keep our neighborhood a safe place to live. Please contact me if you can give a couple hours a month to support the security of Stagecoach!

Sheriff's Website

Take the time to view the Sheriff's new website. There is valuable and interesting information posted there. The countywide crime statistics are listed.

<http://www.pascosheriff.com/webapps/index.pgm>

The website contains most anything you might want to know about what's going on in Pasco law enforcement

Thank you for your support!
Craig Cameron 994-0014

FINING HEARING COMMITTEE NEEDS MEMBERS

We can't have a Hearing Committee until we have enough committee members to listen to residents who have received a fine and want to explain their reason for the violation and possibly have the fine rescinded. If you can volunteer a few hours a month, please call Joan Fiscella at the management company at (813) 433-2009.

STAGECOACH COMMUNITY EVENTS

LADIES NIGHT OUT!

Hey Ladies, Stagecoach LNO is back! We get together the 1st Wednesday of each month at 6:45 pm. If you know of a restaurant that we should try, let us know!

On November 4, Wednesday at 6:45 pm. the ladies of Stagecoach will meet at Marchello's Pizzeria & Restaurant 17669 N. Dale Mabry in Lutz (813) 949-7483



SEE YOU ON WEDNESDAY!!!!!!

If please contact Ann Troutman at the following e-mail address: atroutman@tampabay.rr.com

December Ladies Night Out 'Advent by Candlelight'



Our "Ladies Night Out" for December will again be "The Advent by Candlelight", at the Holy Trinity Lutheran Church in

Lutz on Wednesday, December 2 at 7:00pm. The Salvation Army Band will be performing and desserts will be served again this year. The cost is \$5.00 and payment is needed ahead of time, so we need to get a head count to order the tickets. If you would like to go, please contact Anne Cameron (994-0014) or Ann Troutman (477-7152) by November 7th so tickets can be purchased.



Newsletter Volunteers

Editor: Dr. Georgiana Cien

Volunteers:

Michael Cien, Florence & Fred Dichter, Clair & Lloyd Evans, Sal Buscarino, Betty Hart, Rhoda & Harold Soskin and Beverly Ackerman.

A big "THANK YOU" to the newsletter volunteers



"DECORATE YOUR HOME FOR THE HOLIDAYS" CONTEST

Stagecoach will hold this annual contest the week of December 14-18. One winner will be selected from each section. Winners will receive cash prizes. So have those lights turned on and let's light-up the neighborhood for the holidays,

If you would like to volunteer to help judge the houses, contact Anne Cameron at 994-0014 before December 13th.

Children's Holiday Coloring Contest

On page 4 of this newsletter is a holiday picture that your child can color or decorate and enter in **The Stagecoach Holiday Coloring Contest**. Hey kids, this is your chance to get creative. There will be four (4) age groups to be judged: The Infants/Toddlers (ages 1-2), The Preschoolers (ages 3-5), The Early School-Age (ages 6-8), and The Later School-Age (ages 9-10). The Judges will choose the 4 winners on December 18th. Winners will receive gift card from Toys R Us.

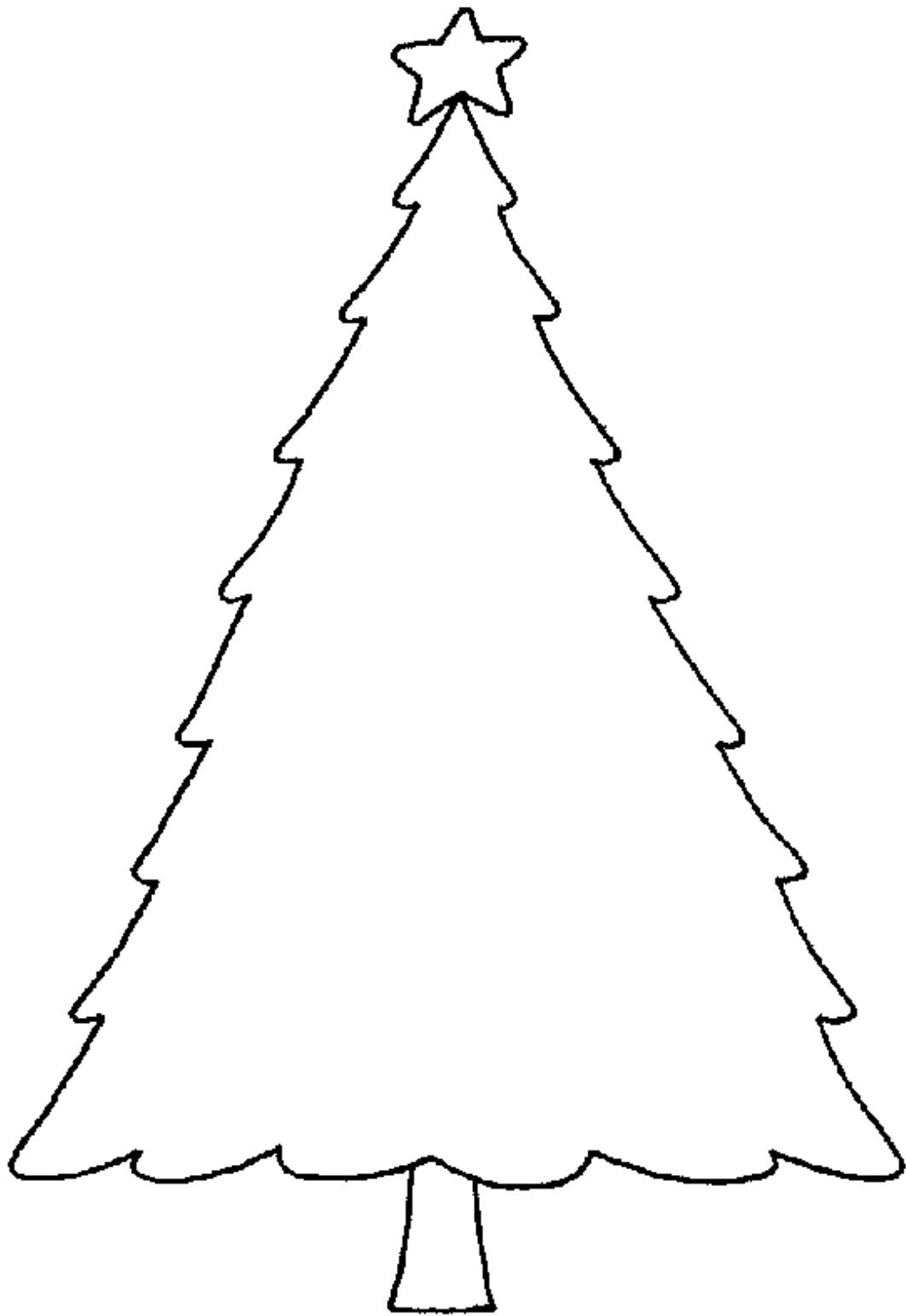
Have your child color or decorate the holiday tree/bush (only from this newsletter) and print their name, age, and address at the bottom of the picture. Drop it in the box at the clubhouse media room no later than December 17th by 6:00 pm. Additional blank pictures are available at the Rec Center Office.

MERRY CHRISTMAS AND HAPPY CHANAKAH!!!!!!!

If you have any questions, e-mail Gigi Cien at drgc52@verizon.net



**ON NOVEMBER 11,
THANK A VETERFAN
FOR HIS OR HER
SERVICE IN THE
UNITED STATES OF
AMERICA MILITARY.**



Name

Age

Address