

LakeRidge Falls

4200 LakeRidge Blvd.
Sarasota, FL 34243

08-23-2019

Here are the more important stories we had this past and upcoming weeks:

Renovation Update – This week, the clubhouse’s contents were delivered back from storage. Thanks to Mrs. Paula Murray's outstanding supervision and guidance, and needless to say hard work, this entire procedure was flawless. As a result, the moving company crew was able to unload 3 large trucks in less than 5 hours. Following the delivery of the contents, members of the Board of Directors and volunteers from the Social Committee and Design Group started organizing items and putting them in order. An example of this work can be seen in the full day members of the Social Committee spent in organizing kitchen items, washing dishes, and placing everything in the new cabinets. Another great example is the hard work Mrs. Mary Cochran, President, Ms. Lori Klein, Vice President, and Ms. Judy Buffa, member of the Design Group, put in organizing the new pool/library/computer room (i.e. annex building). We wish to take a moment and thank all members who are working to help get the clubhouse ready for its official reopening.

During the process of unloading the trucks, as some may have noticed, a few furniture items were left in the clubhouse parking lot. These items were pieces of furniture the Design Group recommended, and the Board of Directors approved, to be disposed of. It took a couple of days, but all items left in the parking lot were removed. With this in mind, we were informed that the new furniture is scheduled to be delivered on September 3rd. Also left outside the clubhouse is the old fitness equipment. If you are wondering why, this is because the new fitness center equipment is going to be delivered on Friday of next week, August 30th. At that time, Gym Source, the vendor the Association purchased the equipment from, will pick up this equipment. We wish to apologize for this temporary eyesore, but as one can imagine, there is no justification in putting the previous fitness equipment in the fitness center just for it to be removed next week.

On a positive note, Pressure Perfect, a pressure cleaning company, was on site a couple of days ago cleaning the clubhouse parking lot. More specifically, Pressure Perfect focused on the parking lot’s pavers which were impacted the most from the construction project. While speaking of the parking lot, some have asked why we have placed a few orange cones on one of the parking spots. The answer is simple, safety. After the trailer was removed, we noticed a small hole in the asphalt that was caused by one of the trailer’s corners “digging” into it. We, of course, place a service call with a local asphalt company, Asphalt Maintenance. The owner of the company promised to take care of the matter but advised that the rainy season clogs his schedule. Therefore, he informed us it make take him a few weeks before he will be able to send a crew to repave the damaged section. Until then, we ask that you pay attention to the orange cones and refrain from parking or walking in this marked area.

Final note, we are still in a renovation mode and therefore my response time to phone messages, emails, and request may be delayed. Sorry in advance and thank you for your understanding.

Landscape/Palm Trees – Unfortunately, Aquatic Consulting Inc (ACI) Tree Care division underestimated the amount of time required to prune LakeRidge Falls’ palms. This created a scheduling conflict with one of their other projects, which was scheduled to start on Wednesday of this week. Understanding we are all human and no harm was caused by this miscalculation, we agreed to allow them to pull their crews out of the community until Monday of next week. Therefore, please don’t be alarmed if your palm was not trimmed while your neighbor’s palm across the street was. As with any given battery, there is no minus without a plus. The plus out of this story is that ACI agreed to donate two 65-inch television sets for the new grand salon. This generous gesture will allow members of the Association to enjoy high-definition televisions at no cost to them. It would also serve as a great tool for the Board of Directors and the various committees to deliver presentations to the community. We wish to take a moment and extend a heartfelt thank you to ACI for what many would agree are wonderful gifts.

Phone Lines – As reported last week, our phone lines were down for a few days. Although they promised to come on Thursday and Friday of last week, Spectrum’s service technicians were a no-show/no-call. We eventually were able to have a technician come on-site early this week. It took the technician a couple of hours to overcome the problem, but in the end, the phone system is up and running again. What we did learn out of this ordeal, and actually a few from the past few months, that something had to be done to overcome the dependency the Association has with some of its vendors such as Spectrum. Therefore, the Board of Directors instructed to convert all gates communication system into a Serial Over Ethernet system.

Without going into too many details, after all it is way over my level of understanding, we used to send data to the gates using a modem dial-up system. In other words, each time we programmed a new FOB key or RFID sticker we transfer the new information to the gates pretty much the same way someone is sending a fax. As with sending a fax message, this process was slow, to say the least. Another problem we faced was the issue mentioned above. Each time a dedicated phone line and/or a modem on one of the gates was down, we were unable to program new FOB keys or RFID stickers for this gate. As many new residents came to learn firsthand, this was the main problem we faced when the phone was down at the annex building during the renovation project. In these kinds of situations, we were at the grace of Spectrum.

Therefore, all gates that are operated by a FOB key or an RFID sticker were converted into the new Serial Over Ethernet system. This simple transition means that now all data is transferred to gates using our internal interest system. One benefit of the new system is that it is much faster than the previous system. Moreover, we are no longer dependent on one vendor. Unlike with Spectrum’s semi monopoly, there are several companies in our area that can service the new system. The final and most significant benefit of this transition is that we are no longer required to have a phone/modem service at each gate. This means a savings of about 200 dollars a month for all the converted gates. As someone famous once said: technology is our friend.

Paula Murray’s Office Hours – Please make a note that Mrs. Murray’s office hours have changed. Her new office hours are Monday, Wednesday, and Friday from 9:30 - 3:30 with a lunch break at noon.

Have a great and a safe weekend.

Sincerely,

Oded Neeman – Community Association Manager
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