

Up and Down the Isles

Published by Englewood Isles Property Owners Association, Inc. - Units 4, 5 & 6

Englewood Isles.....A Deed Restricted Community

Find this newsletter and more Association information online at www.EnglewoodIslesFL.org

Message From Our President

Dear Friends and Neighbors,

Englewood Isles Alliance Committee Report

The Englewood Isles Community is comprised of seven participating units or Associations within Englewood Isles. The seven participating Presidents of the Associations meet as a committee to discuss issues that are common to all. The most recent issue of concern for the Alliance Committee is the equitable funding of the Parkway Committee.

The Parkway Committee is responsible for maintaining and improving the Englewood Isles Parkway including landscaping, maintaining contracts for lighting and electricity, providing maintenance for irrigation pumps and coordinating volunteers that provide many hours of labor. The Parkway is the common access road into our community and is a gateway that provides visitors and prospective home buyers their first glimpse of our neighborhood.

Funding the operation of the Parkway Committee is voluntary. The equitable funding of the Parkway has historically been divided between the seven participating Associations within Englewood Isles on a per door basis. The Parkway's 2015 budget was approved in late 2014. Five of the seven participating Associations agreed to fully fund the 2015 Budget. The remaining two Associations did not. Units 1 & 2, voted to pay only what they paid in 2014 and not to equitably fund the full 2015 Parkway Budget. Englewood Isles Unit 1, has yet to finalize their contribution due to the timing of their budgeting process and that of the Parkway's. Unit 1's 2015 contribution should be determined at their Monthly Board Meeting on April 8, 2015.

It appears that the historical equitable funding of the Parkway has been broken and it's future depends on how many Associations agree to commit to funding in 2016. If the number of Associations that fully fund the Parkway Budget decreases, and those that contribute less increases, an inequitable situation will be created. The immediate effect will result in a reduction in revenues to the Parkway, resulting in fewer services provided to help maintain the condition of Englewood Isles Parkway. The residual effect will be the discrepancy in what each property owner contributes to the Parkway and could mean the demise of the Parkway Committee. This could result in the lack of any oversight in maintaining the condition of Englewood Isles Parkway including, no street lighting, no trimming, no watering, no weeding, no fertilizing, no planting or mulching and no dedicated volunteers. If this occurs the County would mow the grass along Englewood Isles Parkway at their discretion. All other services provided by the Parkway Committee would cease including care of the wing wall areas at the intersection with SR 776.

At this time there are no scheduled meetings. If anyone has questions, please call me at 474-8866.

Bill Callahan, President
Englewood Isles Property Owners Association Inc., Units 4, 5 & 6

The following is a letter that was sent to Bonnie Wilkinson, past-president of Englewood Isles Parkway Association:

**Englewood Isles Property Owners Association, Inc.
Units 4, 5 and 6**

1811 Englewood Road #240
Englewood; FL 34223-1840



Bonnie Wilkinson
12 Dover Dr. North
Englewood, FL 34223

March 9, 2015

Dear Bonnie,

The Members of the Board of Directors of Units 4, 5, & 6 have expressed their desire to compliment you about the current condition of Englewood Isles Parkway and your leadership as President.

We have watched the Parkway's condition deteriorate as the contributions from the Community stagnated for 11 years. Taking inflation into consideration, today's revenues are a mere 70% of what they were in 2004. You proceeded to operate the Parkway in a business like fashion: by reviewing contracts, soliciting bids for services and encouraging volunteers. You changed an eyesore into a source of community pride. With a realistic view of the Parkway's financial condition, you took the difficult but correct position of requesting the necessary increase from the entire Englewood Isles Community. Our Board recognizes both the leadership skills and the amount of time and effort required to guide the Parkway Board thus far and want to thank you.

Please, keep up the good work. We support your positive efforts going forward.

On a personal note, if there is anything I can do to be of service, I would be honored to help.

Sincerely,

Bill Callahan
President
Englewood Isles Property Owners Association Inc. Units 4, 5, and 6

Englewood Isles Parkway

How Important Is It?

To say that Englewood Isles Parkway is important to our development is an understatement. Englewood Isles Parkway *is* the initial “curb appeal” for every single home in every unit of Englewood Isles. That means your home and mine! Our entrance and the one-half mile of 9 islands that comprise Englewood Isles Parkway form the first impression that a potential buyer has of our community. Anyone who flips houses for a profit will tell you they spend a lot of time and money on the curb appeal of the home (exterior appearance and landscaping) in order to sell it in the shortest possible time for the highest possible price. By the same token, developers often spend hundreds of thousands or millions of dollars on the entrance to their communities to create curb appeal. This reinforces the old adage “*You don’t get a second chance to make a first impression.*”

An article entitled “**Community Curb Appeal**” published in <http://associationtimes.associating.com/2013/05/create-curb-appeal/> quotes Lucinda Hoe, Executive VP Property Services, N.N Jaeschke, Inc., company that manages property and community associations in **San Diego**, as saying, “*As a community matures, landscaping in older communities may show signs of aging. This is the time of year that many boards across the country are considering different ways to update and enhance their landscaping. It’s a good financial investment that can enhance the curb appeal, add direct value to individual residences, and increase the quality of life in an association.*” This article goes on to address six ways an established community can renovate and upgrade its green spaces? They include the following:

Have a plan

Establish a regular program to replace plant material

Replace shrubs in declining health or improper location

Use ground cover

Replace trees that have grown too big

Upgrade irrigation

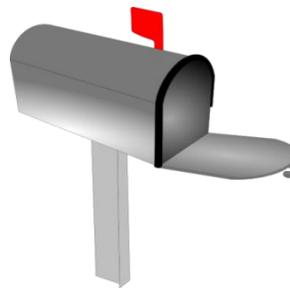
The article concludes by saying “*Landscape is usually one of the largest and often the most visual part of a community. Enhancing it not only brings enjoyment to your residents, but it’s an investment that can increase property values.*”

In the midst of the current turmoil, we must remember that each one of us has a vested interest in making sure that the Parkway is preserved and maintained to insure our community curb appeal and ultimately protect the demand for and value of our own property. Going forward, we must provide the funding and have a leader who, like Bonnie Wilkinson, understands the importance of having, funding, and implementing a plan to preserve the Parkway.

Bald Eagle Found Dead



The Florida Fish & Wildlife Conservation Commission reported that a Bald Eagle was reported dead along Gladstone Boulevard in Englewood, FL on 1-30-15. A passing neighbor reported the incident. No other details were reported. The non-evidentiary eagle carcass was collected and disposed of by the Fish & Wildlife Representatives.



You’ve Got Mail!

Have you looked at the condition of your mailbox lately? Mine isn’t looking so great. The once white base is now rust colored from the minerals in my well. The screws that hold the box together have rusted. It just doesn’t compliment my house? Does yours? A mailbox might seem insignificant, but there is one in front of every home. Their appearance makes a difference to the overall look of the street. I’m going to replace my mailbox. Is it time to replace or refurbish yours?

Interstate Gladstone?

Think people couldn't drive interstate speeds on Gladstone Boulevard? Read on. The problem of speeding on Gladstone Boulevard has been an ongoing issue that your Board has addressed through many hours of meetings with Sarasota County. The posted speed limit throughout Englewood Isles, including Gladstone Boulevard, is 25 mph. To validate that speeding was a problem, the County installed a Speed Enforcement Evaluator equipped with a radar box on Gladstone and clocked **3,403 cars** on December 4 through 10, 2014. **More than 79% of the drivers were in violation of the speed limit.** In fact, **6 people drove more than 65 mph! This is interstate speed.** The results are shown in the following County's report:

Speed Enforcement Evaluator

Location:
Gladstone Blvd

Total Percentage of
Enforceable Violations

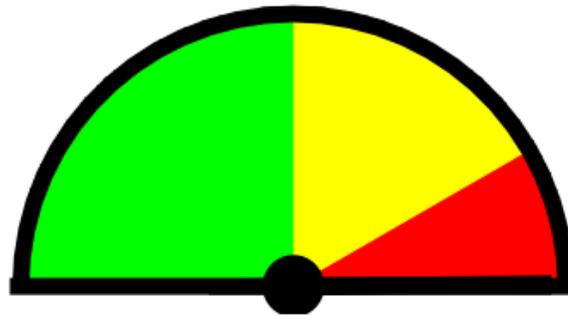
GPS:
0' 0.0000 South
0' 0.0000 East

Closest Cross Street:
Woodland Dr

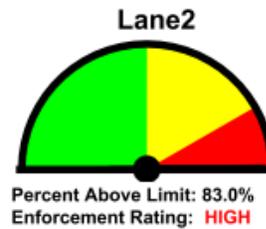
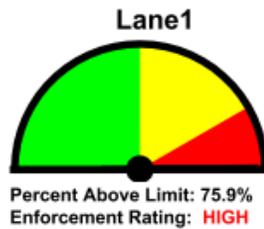
Analysis Dates:
Thursday, December 04, 2014
Wednesday, December 10, 2014

Equipment Used:
JAMAR Radar Box

Installed By:
Dep Mitchell



Posted Speed Limit: 25 MPH
Enforcement Tolerance: 1 MPH
Enforcement Limit: 27 MPH & Up
Percentage Above Limit: 79.3%
Enforcement Rating: HIGH



Combined

1-5	6-10	11-15	16-20	21-25	26-30	31-35	36-40	41-45	46-50	51-55	56-60	61-65	>65
1	26	94	116	331	945	1168	566	129	15	4	2	0	6

85 percentile = 36

Lane1

1-5	6-10	11-15	16-20	21-25	26-30	31-35	36-40	41-45	46-50	51-55	56-60	61-65	>65
1	24	57	62	206	592	586	209	31	2	1	0	0	4

85 percentile = 34

Lane2

1-5	6-10	11-15	16-20	21-25	26-30	31-35	36-40	41-45	46-50	51-55	56-60	61-65	>65
0	2	37	54	125	353	582	357	98	13	3	2	0	2

85 percentile = 37

Sarasota County Sheriff's Department officers patrolled Gladstone for 9 days in February, some days both mornings and afternoons. Their appearance resulted in tickets being issued. Sadly, many of the speeders are our own residents! Are you one of them? How can we complain if we don't set the example for others driving through our community. Driving the speed limit is a conscious task. The foot doesn't know 25 mph. It starts with the mind wanting to obey the speed limit. Then, it requires a conscious effort to glance at the speedometer and adjust the accelerator accordingly to stay within the speed limit. Many drivers aren't thinking about their speed, feel that the law doesn't apply to them, have inflated the importance of their time, or feel that they'll just "keep up with the traffic." To test this, simply drive the posted speed limit on 776, Jacaranda Boulevard, or 175. Watch the cars pass you. There is no amount of enforcement that can make a person want to obey the law. Let's start by setting the example right in our own back yard. **Drive 25.**



FOUND.....One pierced earring on the sidewalk at the corner of Gladstone and Brandywine. About 2" long, ¼" wide, silver resembling a lightning bolt. Call Kim at 460-8042.

Upcoming Board Meetings



The Board of Directors meets monthly at the Elsie Quirk Library on Dearborn Street in Englewood on the following Wednesdays at 6:00 p.m. Residents are encouraged to attend.

May 13

Off season break

October 14

November 4

December 9

The Award Goes To.....



the man who walks Gladstone Boulevard mornings picking up cans to keep the neighborhood looking great...

the lady who helped her elderly neighbor bring in the trash cans when her helper didn't show up...

the people who pick up the poop after their pets, every time, not just when people are looking...

the people who help keep Elsie Quirk Library going as volunteers...

the woman who moved her car closer to the house to keep the sidewalk open for walkers...

the man who greets everyone with a cheerful "hello" and a smile on his morning walks...

Your efforts are being noticed!

What's Your Flood Zone Number?

It's a good idea to know your flood zone number and to understand our flood zone maps. Your insurance company knows this information, and you should, too. To find out, visit the floor zone map web site and follow the instructions at

www.Ags2.scgov.net/sarcoflood

Traffic Safety Committee

Volunteers Needed!

A new committee has been formed to address traffic safety issues. If you'd like more information or to volunteer, call Laura Marcusa, Chair, at (941) 474-0670.

Color Blindness Test

COLO RIIUDUG22 1620



If you are not seeing the vibrant colors in this paint splash, then it might be that you are not receiving your newsletter via email. Please send your email address to fox.kim55@gmail.com. **Be sure to include your name and address in the email.** This saves your association over \$1.00 per mailed copy not including the time involved in preparing each copy for mailing.

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Why Englewood Isles?

Meredith Herrington, Chair of the Welcoming Committee, asks all new residents why they chose to live in Englewood Isles. Here are some of their comments.....

"At first it was the beautiful house, but the community won us over. We also love the well-kept yards and houses. We love that there are no streetlights. The stars are so bright."

"Chuck's parents retired to Englewood some years ago. This fact brought us to Englewood. Our realtor introduced us to Englewood Isles."

"Very happy we chose Englewood Isles. People are very friendly, and I love all the homes and location. We are very happy to be here. Also, my younger sister and I have never lived in the same state, and now we are in walking distance from each other's homes."

"Clean community with deed restrictions."

"My daughter told us about this area."

"The community here is so lovely. Our neighbors are terrific. Feeling blessed."