

Harbour Heights BEACON

www.hhcivic.org

2530 Harbour Dr., Harbour Heights, FL 33983 Phone 941-629-2313

September 2019

VISION: The Board of Directors of the HHCA envision a community that offers an inspiring lifestyle and quality of life and is a desirable place to live and enjoy the benefits of family, friends and community.

MISSION: Our mission is to enhance and preserve the quality of life and sense of community through effective and efficient management of the association and to support initiatives that benefit the greater good of the community.

FROM THE PRESIDENT



As I write this note I'm also watching the news as they track Dorian. I'm hoping, as you all are, that it will miss us. It appears at this time we shouldn't get hit too hard. However, we all need to be diligent. Many of you remember how Charlie was also supposed to miss Harbour Heights. That didn't work out too well.

We are working hard on making fall plans trying to have programs that are interesting to all. We had a setback when we had to cancel the Casino Night. We just couldn't get the number of volunteers, and generate the dollars needed for such a project. We truly appreciate Steve and Debbie Vieira's work on this project and sorry we couldn't make it a success.

The House Committee continues to do good work. The committee has prepared the building for new gutters which will be installed Friday September 6, 2019. The spotlights on the disco ball went on the blink and they have replaced the old fixtures with new modern spotlights.

Everyone have a safe September and let's all hope there are no more hurricanes.

Dan Topp, President

PROUD TO BE AN "A" SCHOOL



The 2019 - 2020 school year has gotten off to a great start. This is an extremely exciting year for Deep Creek Elementary School. It was always known by our staff and students that DCES was a special place, but now the state knows it too! Deep Creek Elementary is proud to have earned an "A" on this year's Florida Schools Accountability Report. This "A" rating not only signifies the hard academic work put forth by our students and staff, but also the relationships that have been established within our CUB family. When our students, staff, and families feel connected as a school family, we are capable of amazing things.

The 2019-2020 school year is no exception. We are proud to have two strong messages that we convey each and every day: "We are Cubs!" and "Nothing Less than My Success!" We strongly believe that relationships are the foundation to all things great at DCE. Our belief that "We are Cubs" sends the message to our students that no matter where we come from, what our beliefs are, or what strengths and weakness that we may have, that we are all in this together and are here to support one another. As our Cubs enter our doors each morning we also expect that they put forth their best effort. "Nothing Less than My Success" requires that all of our students and staff push themselves to be better than they were the day before. Each and every day we will encounter obstacles and challenges, but with hard work and determination each day we can get closer to our goals. We are looking forward to an amazing school year.



**HAPPY
LABOR
DAY**

James Vernon, Principal

Real Estate Roundup



NEW LISTING

2329 Pinellas Dr, Harbour Heights **\$379,900** MLS# C7419126
3 beds/2.5 baths/2 car garage/carport ~ swimming pool ~ 0.70 acre
2,235 SF under air ~ 3,795 SF total ~ outdoor kitchen ~ shed



NEW LISTING

27246 Madison St, Harbour Heights **\$315,000** MSL# C7419095
3 beds/2 baths/loft/detached 2 car garage ~ built 2017 ~ 0.55 acre
1,732 SF under air ~ 2,967 SF total ~ scrub jay mitigation paid



THANK YOU FOR YOUR VOTES & RECOMMENDATIONS

Only 1% of all businesses win this award

Steve Vieira - Coldwell Banker Residential Real Estate won for favorite Real Estate Agent in Nextdoor neighborhoods across Punta Gorda, FL.

Celebrating 8 years at 2441 Broadpoint Drive



in partnership with



2013 2014 2016 2017 2018
2019

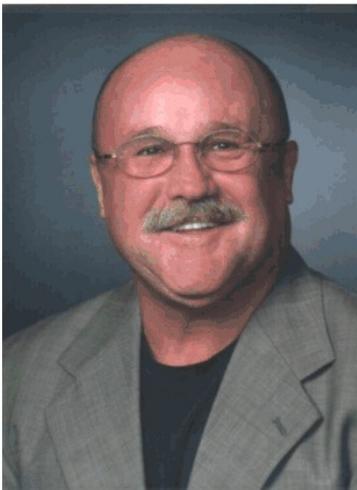


2015



where the future takes shape

2017 2018 2019



Steve Vieira

REALTOR®, SRES®

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RESIDENTIAL REAL ESTATE



HOUSE COMMITTEE

New gutters have been installed on the HHCA building. Six inch gutters with leaf guard protectors were included. The existing fascia boards were found to be rotted and needed to be replaced prior to gutter installation. Joseph Usher, Jim McBride and John Ginter took on the task after the President and Board approved and appropriated the funds. New fascia boards were installed with aluminum wrapping to prevent future water damage. The trash cans now have a new ‘house’ somewhat hidden from sight. We are planning new projects for the

shrubbery around the Civic, painting the exterior of the building is also in the works and we would love to see a new paint scheme. If you have a suggestion please contact Dan Topp at 626-8456 or Joe Usher at 501-366-3658. For the future, we need to plan some fundraisers in order to be able to implement the outdoor patio designs created by Chris Alonso.

Ship N Shore
 Coin Laundry
 Port Charlotte, FL • Schoolhouse Square
 (8/10 mile N. of Peace River Bridge)

Video Entertainment

- * Attended 9am-6pm 7 days a week
- * Air-Conditioned
- * Ship-Shape Clean
- * Drop-off Laundry
- * Large Machines for Bedspreads

WIFI

Same Spot for 28 Years!
 Open 6:00 a.m. - 9:00 p.m. Daily
 941.743.SUDS

WELCOME TO NEW MEMBERS
 Tom and Robyn Strobel of Dover Drive

We are glad to have two more members renewing for another year----
 Doug and Kjersten Hobbs of Dover Dr.



The Creative Arts and Crafts group will continue to meet the second and fourth Wednesday of each month at the Harbour Heights Events Center from 1:00 to 4:00. Anyone interested in joining this group of like-minded (crafty) women are invited to join us as we enjoy one another's company and learning new crafts (if interested) from other members of the group.

Mark your calendars for our Annual Creative Arts and Crafts Fair which will be held at the Harbour Heights Event Center Saturday, November 23, 2019 from 9 am - 3 pm. This event promises to be a great place to buy quality hand-crafted merchandise for those hard-to-by-for people on your Holiday gift list! All items for sale have been made by the talented Creative Arts & Crafts club members from Harbour Heights, Deep Creek, and surrounding areas.

Get Well Wishes were extended to Jean Tuggle who is recovering from foot surgery.

Get Well Soon!
 Bharthu.com



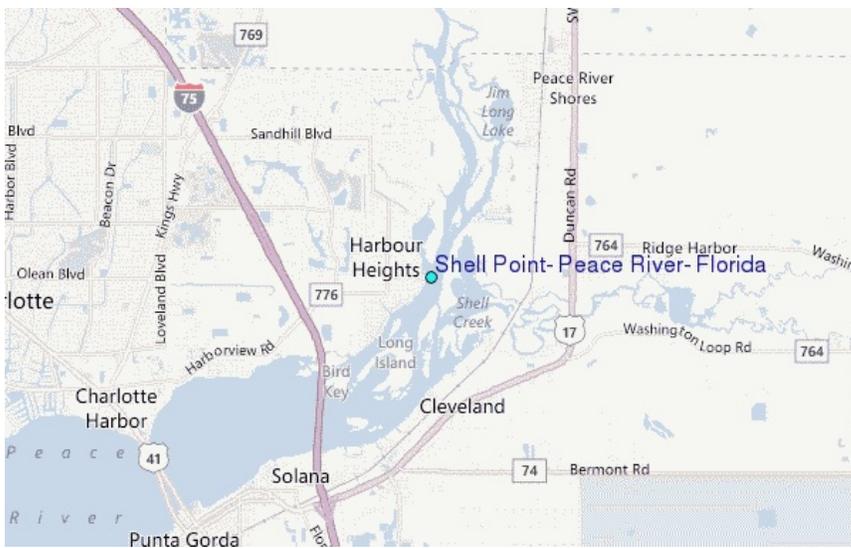
RENTAL CORNER

We continue to have many calls for rentals and weekends are filling up fast for the fall season. Don't forget as a Civic member YOU are eligible for 25% discount. Please visit www.hhcivic.org to check the calendar availability or call 941-629-2313 for your

reservation. Hope to host your event soon!

HARBOUR HEIGHTS HISTORY PART III

In 1850 the United States Congress passed the ‘Swamp Lands Act of the Congress of the United States’. This act granted a patent from the Federal Government to the State of Florida wherein the Commissioner of Agriculture of the State was appointed as the official custodian of all patents. Pursuant to this in 1855 the Florida Legislature approved ‘An Act to Provide for and Encourage a Liberal System of Internal Improvements in this State’. This allowed the lands acquired by the State from the Federal government under the Swamp Lands Act to be made available for settlement.



On June 24th 1886 the Internal Improvement Fund of Florida transferred 72.80 acres of land at Shell Point to Niles C. Larson of Manatee County a transplanted farmer from Iowa who planned on growing citrus here. Three of these acres “had been “improved” with a dwelling appraised for \$250. He acquired 230 additional acres nearby about five years later.”¹ The land at Harbour Heights Park and the County’s congregate dining facility adjacent to the park are located opposite the best fishing hole in the Peace River. “Early pioneers called the spot Shell Point and took large tarpon there before phosphate mines in the river bed destroyed all marine life for many years.”¹

A dirt trail linked Larsen’s Shell Point home with Nathan DeCoster’s Harbor View subdivision and the little cattle town of Hickory Bluff—now called Charlotte Harbor town.”¹ When DeSoto County was created out of Manatee County, Nathan DeCoster was elected as a commissioner. Most of the land in this area was still owned by the Internal Improvement Fund of Florida and they used much of the land in this area (sections 15 and 21) with the exception of the land owned by the Larson’s at Shell Point in Harbour Heights to reward the Florida Southern Railway when it completed it’s line from Bartow to the newly platted town of Trabue, now Punta Gorda.

“The railroad sold its land there the following year to John Brewer, a financier of Bingham, Mass. Brewer and his descendants leased the land to the Consolidated Naval Stores Company for the bleeding of pine trees for turpentine—valuable in those days of wooden sailing ships. When the pines had been bled to death in 1912, the property was leased to the Russ Lumber Company of Arcadia for the taking of timber. The land was sold in 1920 to the Bay Shore Company of Punta Gorda.

The Florida Land Boom was just getting underway. Bay Shore expected its land would become priceless when roads were extended to Shell Point. Neil Larsen sold his homestead to Bay Shore in 1925 at the height of the boom and moved to Charlotte Harbor Town.

The speculation bubble burst in 1929. Land was worthless. Unable to pay taxes which had skyrocketed when land values soared, owners let hundreds of thousands of acres revert to the state. Shell Point was one of the properties abandoned. Shell Point lay idle during the ensuing Great Depression until 1934. At that time, it was picked up for \$107.24 in back taxes and another \$300 in interest and court expenses. The purchaser was a retired U.S. Army Air Corps general names Charles H. Danforth.”¹

1. 1. Our Fascinating Past, Charlotte Harbor: The Early Years by Lindsey Williams and U.S. Cleveland. Jean Tuggle, Editor

IT SEEMS THAT WE HAVE DODGED THE BULLET THIS TIME WITH DORIAN HEADING UP THE EAST COAST SKIRTING MOST OF FLORIDA. YOU CAN GET HURRICANE INFORMATION ON LINE AT CHARLOTTE COUNTY EMERGENCY OPERATIONS CENTER.

