

Newsletter

FEBRUARY MARCH APRIL 2025

Building Unity In Our Community Together

The Way Forward Together But. Which Way, Which Way?

Have you ever felt like you don't know you're which way going, feeling overwhelmed but resolved to get through? Our initial reactions are not always the best ones like "I can't go through this again!" Time is helpful as it allows us to think it through, beyond the initial shock to our feelings. It's not an easy decision at any rate. We have the options - fix the house and move back in, downsize, raise the house, or move.

Yes, the fabric of the community will change and be tested socially and physically. We have had a few larger new builds already and one of those families has been an asset to our community. It is easy to overreach with our feelings. "The speculators are everywhere!" Carefully thinking through the options, but not impossible is the best path. Perhaps we need a community gathering to discuss our feelings.

However, one thing we know is that Bay Crest Park is here to stay! Whether you move or stay, I send my best wishes to all as we go forward. Friends and neighbors always! We are BAY CREST, and it is forever in our hearts.

Written in January for the February Newsletter by Civic Association Board Member and former President Norm Coffman of Hickorywood Lane.





Wesley Memorial Church held a yard sale, hosted Meet Santa, and continues to serve free meals for our community. Wesley worship and preschool were also flooded. Worship, feeding, childcare, and community groups are now meeting in the Family Life Center. Our Civic Association meets at Wesley.

Thank you, Pastor Christie and the Wesley Church Family, especially those who live in the Bay Crest neighborhood.

Dedication: Knowing your Neighbors

In meeting new neighbors, I met a family who was renting a house on Bay Crest Drive. I found out the female member of the family was a graphic designer for the Golf Channel. I asked her if she would prepare our newsletter. Despite being busy she agreed to take on the project. For over three years she has been organizing our content and working on our quarterly newsletter. Her name is Lauren Rykwalder. Due to the hurricane, Lauren and her family were flooded out of their rental home. Even though they moved to a new home she continues to work on our newsletter. It's a privilege to know Lauren, her husband Sean, and son Luke.

Thank you, Lauren, for your talents and gifts that you share unselfishly.

Norm

We are stronger together"- Unknown



Published for 938 residents of Bay Crest Park. Additional copies mailed to advertisers, county agencies, other neighborhood associations and friends of Bay Crest.

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Hillsborough County Services

You can find numerous community resources including code violations by using the following link: http://www.hillsboroughcounty.org/en/residents/property-owners-and-renters/code-violations Code Enforcement enforces land and property codes in an effort to eliminate conditions that

threaten the life, health, safety, and general welfare of residents. The department investigates complaints about possible violations.



Hillsborough Country

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YOUR BAY CREST PARK CIVIC ASSOCIATION OFFICERS AND DIRECTORS

The Bay Crest Civic Association has elected new officers to the positions of President, Vice President, Treasurer and Secretary. Volunteers elected to these positions by the residents of Bay Crest normally serve for at least a two year term.

Board Of Directors

President: Norm Coffman 813-885-5090 Vice President: Luis Silva Secretary - Rina Tabak 727-365-7329 Treasurer: Michael-Scott Lester 813-992-5265

The Board also includes the following Board Members:

Casey Curtis 813-957-5995 John Housand 813-220-9109 Mary-Grace Calix Mary Volipitta 813-417-0944 Tommy Frank 201-805-3600

Our mailing address is: Bay Crest Park Civic Association PO Box 261116 Tampa, FL 33685-1116

Bay Crest Park Special Dependent Taxing District

Winston Starr, Vice President	.352-262-4560
Michelle Burnside, Treasurer. burnsidebaycrestspecial@gmail.com	813-892-0474
Jonathan Jordan, Secretaryjjordanbaycrest@gmail.com	813-766-5415
Jann Poulos, Trustee	.813-240-3399
Joe Bonafine, Trustee	.781-248-5993
Molly Finn Johnson, Trustee mollybctd@gmail.com	813-495-8505

https://mydistrictwebsite.com/bay-crest-park-special-dependent-tax-district

Contact the listed Trustees of the Bay Crest Special Dependent District (the "Taxing District") with concerns or suggestions.

For boat ramp permits and gate keys, contact the Taxing District at boatramp@baycrestpark.net.

Neighborhood Services

dc.baycrest@gmail.com

As a service to Bay Crest residents, Bay Crest residents 18 or younger or full-time students to age 26 who have made their annual contribution can promote their Bay Crest services at no charge in the Bay Crest newsletter. Examples would be babysitting, pet care, tutoring and lawn services.

To get listed in the newsletter, please email sninedesign@outlook.com with your name, the service you provide and your phone number.

Companies that provide services outside of Bay Crest can also pay to advertise in the newsletter by contacting IKare Publishing (813) 991-7843.



Recovering Together

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As we continue to recover and rebuild after the hurricanes, I want to share some updates and offer my support. I have moved back into my home, and renovations are nearly complete. Over the past months, I've spent a lot of time counseling homeowners on the best ways to manage during this challenging time, and I'm deeply committed to helping our community rebuild. Like always, I am here for you. I care about you, and I care about our beautiful community! If you need advice, resources, or a helping hand, don't hesitate to reach out. Together, we'll overcome this.

Let's rebuild our community together. Contact us today for advice, referrals, or assistance with your real estate needs.



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Bay Crest Santa Visit and Toy Drive!

The Annual Santa visit, and 1st Toy Drive was a huge success!! A big thank you to Michelle Cuilla, Britt Galvin and all the volunteers and sponsors for coordinating a joyous event!

Thank you to all the following volunteers that helped make this happen!

Britt Galvin, her Instagram followers (generous donations toward purchasing toys/gifts)

Jayce and JB Galvin (Mr. Snowman & Mr. Gingerbread)

Britt Galvin's Aunt (facepainting)

Civic Association Board (treat bags)

C.J. Smith, Jearlinee Riviera and Katie Kraus families (sponsored Santa, Mrs. Claus and Elf)

Dana Wood – (bike helmet donations and Santa's mailbox)

Jessica Bailey (Santa's mailbox and stationery)

Burnside family (Candy handouts & helping at event)

Jim Cuilla (building bikes, putting batteries in toys, meeting people to pick up packages)

Michelle Cuilla (chairing this great event!)

Freeland family (All treats for hot cocoa bar)

Shelly Ann Torchia DeFilippis (Footballs, Soccer Balls, Basketballs)

Stacy Theobald

Teresa Leigh (Crumble Cookie donations)

Thelecia Flowers Johnson (pro photos with Santa)

Zack David's daughter (helped the kids write their Letters to Santa)

Corporate Sponsors:

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Wesley United Methodist Church (Leslie & Charles for providing us the room and set up)

They handed out over \$5000 worth of gifts and toys to 200 children of Bay Crest. The outpouring of support and generosity was extremely heartwarming.

The kids of Bay Crest were thrilled with their gifts and fun activities! What a great example of Bay Crest pulling together to do something great for others! This year was a tremendous labor of love! Thank you one and all!















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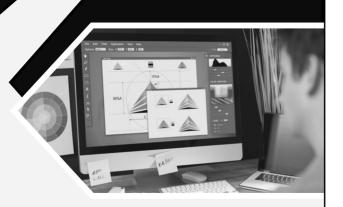
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Many thanks to our Boat Parade & Dock Decorating Sponsors

Every year our sponsors are a big part of making the Bay Crest Boat Parade and Dock Decorating Contest so special. Thanks to the generosity of these sponsors, we are able to award some nice prizes to all participants.

Bay Crest Sponsors 2024

A special thank you for the personal contributions and contributions from Bay Crest owned companies!

Bay Crest-Owned Companies

Please consider patronizing these sponsors who live right here in our community.

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Beachwood Seafood Kitchen and Bar

Please consider patronizing these businesses and when you do, tell them that you appreciate them sponsoring the Bay Crest Holiday Boat Parade and Dock Decorating Contest.

Bay Crest Holiday Boat Parade and Dock Decorating Results

The results are in! Thank you to everyone who participated in our 25th Annual Bay Crest Park Holiday Boat Parade and Dock Decorating Contest! We had a total of 7 boats and 4 docks participating this year. Not bad for our post-apocalyptic year! Everyone did a great job decorating! Thank you!

The boat parade winners are:

1st - Ryan Kaminski (#3) - Bay Crest Construction

2nd – John & Barbara Housand (#1) – TECO Christmas

3rd – Bob Yager (#9)– Reindeer

Honorable Mention (tie) – Jeff Klinge (#5) – Dancing Santa & Michael Glunk (#12) – Big Light Bulbs

The dock decorating winners are:

1st - Ryan & Dana Wood - Bay Crest Dr (Dock K)

2nd –The Bells, Bay Crest Dr (Dock F)

3rd Tie – Mark Daverin/Denise Clark, Flagstone Dr (Dock R) & Dan Cope, Bay Crest Ln (Dock D)

A big thank you to the Boat Parade Committee: Luann Hoffmann, Harry Paddock Scott Purol, Barbara and Amanda Housand. They put in a lot of hard work planning and coordinating the event and getting prizes. Another big thank you to the 67 people who voted online this year!













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A distinctly American holiday, Presidents' Day was originally established to recognize the contributions of George Washington, and later expanded to include Abraham Lincoln, who both have February birthdays. It is now considered a day to honor, and learn, about all U.S. presidents. Here are some ideas for teaching your kids about the legacy of each.

Put on a Presidents' Day play

Have your kids reenact a famous presidential speech, such as Abraham Lincoln's Gettysburg Address or John F. Kennedy's Inaugural Address, which was named by Time as one of the top 10 greatest speeches of all time. You can even turn Presidents' Day into a play date by inviting the neighborhood kids over to

write, and star in, a play about a specific president. Hit the library first, and nab a few books the kids can read that provide rich descriptions and potential scenes that would work well in a play format. Some good ones to try include A Christmas Tree in the White House, a lovely children's book about Theodore Roosevelt's family, commitment conservation, or George Washington and the General's Dog, a true-life story about George Washington and an adorable pooch who wanders onto a battlefield. The day can include making costumes, memorizing lines, and painting scenery. Be sure to record the final result! For an even better play, try acting out the hidden talents of American presidents.

Communicate With the White House

Let your child know their voice can be heard by having them write to the current President, First Lady, or Vice President. They can communicate their hopes for the future, and their feelings about current events. "Your child can send a letter through the U.S. mail, or they can send an email. They can also post on the President's official Facebook page, or send him a tweet. Just be sure to follow the official White House guidelines to ensure

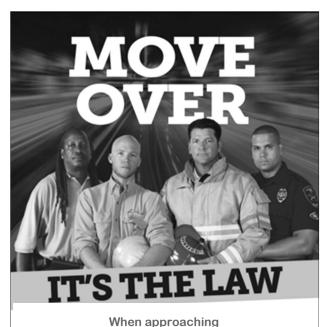
your message gets through.

Make President's Day Crafts

Kids and crafts go together, like presidents and legislation. It doesn't take a whole lot of supplies to get started, and there are tons of Presidents' Day crafts you can access on Pinterest for inspiration. An easy one to recreate: Lincoln's signature top hat recreated with black construction paper and glue. Another idea: An Air Force One paper airplane. Simply fold your own paper Air Force One plane, and pretend it is taking off from Washington, D.C. This activity benefits fine motor skills. You can also incorporate facts about geography, by discussing where in the world your plane may land.

Help Your Child "Run" For Office

Help your child come up with a campaign slogan, and a platform of issues. Ask if there are problems they can see, and what he or she would do to fix them. This is an excellent academic activity, because it helps children learn about government, and what a president does. Have your child craft campaign materials, such as posters, buttons, and flyers, to go along with their campaign. Then, you can stage an election, using your child's stuffed animals or dolls, as the voters.



Law Enforcement, Emergency Responder, **Utility Service or Sanitation Vehicles** MOVE OVER to the far lane or slow down to 20 miles under the posted speed limit.

Have some green fun with the kids this St. Patrick's Day by making this yummy treat.

Be sure to invite your Leprechaun friends!

Leprechaun's Shake

- 1 cup skim milk
- 2 scoops vanilla nonfat frozen yogurt
- 1 teaspoon peppermint extract
- 2-3 drops green food coloring

Pour all ingredients into a blender and whirl until smooth and green.

Serve with a shamrock.



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Happy New Year, Bay Crest clients and friends! As I mentioned in past newsletters, <u>based on my research on the Ft. Myers market pre/post Hurricane lan, our prices most likely will not drop more than 15% if the house is restored.</u> MANY in Bay Crest are selling unrestored which requires cash buyers and, be prepared, will likely bring down our overall values and future appraisals.

- Our pre-storm average list price for waterfront was \$768K, avg sales price \$725K (\$412/sf).
- After the storm waterfront \$687K list, \$657.5 sale price and \$343/sf
- Non-water has gone from \$491K pre-storm list and \$474K sale to \$310K list and \$390K sale (based on one post-storm sale as of 1/9/25).

We are still holding at a 15% decrease in value, whether or not your home flooded. Our ENTIRE market area has lost value. I am here to give you guidance on restoring your home for a maximum sales price or selling as-is. Call, text or email me to discuss your options. God bless you and keep the faith.

Address	BE	FB	НВ	HTD	Pool	Current Price ↓	Close Date ↓
4924 SHETLAND AVE	4	2	0	1,630	Private	\$510,000	02/23/2024
4702 SHALE PL	3	2	0	1,716	Private	\$585,000	03/04/2024
4718 SOAPSTONE DR	3	2	0	1,415	Private	\$406,000	03/29/2024
4921 SHETLAND AVE	2	1	0	1,100	None	\$355,000	04/12/2024
4616 BAY CREST DR	3	2	0	1,669	None	\$623,900	04/12/2024
4617 BAY CREST DR	3	2	0	1,656	None	\$625,000	04/17/2024
4703 BAY CREST DR	3	2	0	1,528	Private	\$500,000	04/22/2024
8444 BOXWOOD DR	4	3	0	2,195	None	\$515,000	04/23/2024
4623 BAY CREST DR	3	2	0	1,640	None	\$720,000	04/26/2024
8702 THORNWOOD LN	3	2	1	1,668	Private	\$665,000	05/03/2024
4703 TRAVERTINE DR	3	2	0	1,408	Private	\$455,000	05/17/2024
8405 MILLWOOD DR	4	2	0	1,683	Private	\$515,000	05/21/2024
8725 BAY POINTE DR	3	2	1	1,727	None	\$590,000	06/14/2024
4714 LODESTONE DR	4	2	0	1,766	None	\$725,000	06/17/2024
4809 WYNWOOD DR	3	2	0	1,416	None	\$410,000	06/27/2024
8720 BAY CREST LN	3	2	0	2,133	Private	\$845,200	07/08/2024
8409 LAVA PL	3	2	0	1,992	Private	\$524,900	07/12/2024
4811 BAY CREST DR	3	2	1	1,746	None	\$425,000	08/02/2024
4719 TRAVERTINE DR	4	2	1	2,050	Private	\$460,000	08/05/2024
8302 N FLINTROCK CT	3	2	0	1,492	None	\$315,000	08/12/2024
8404 FLAGSTONE DR	3	2	0	1,792	Private	\$510,000	08/12/2024
4634 BAY CREST DR	3	2	0	1,682	None	\$645,000	08/14/2024
8410 FLAGSTONE DR	4	2	0	1,826	None	\$470,000	08/23/2024
4636 BAY CREST DR	3	2	0	1,839	Private	\$950,000	09/06/2024
8412 BEDFORD LN	3	2	0	1,488	None	\$365,000	09/20/2024
4618 BAY CREST DR	4	2	0	2,197	Private	\$660,000	11/05/2024
8720 HICKORYWOOD LN	3	2	0	1,695	Private	\$655,000	11/26/2024
4911 SHETLAND AVE	3	2	0	1,814	None	\$390,000	12/06/2024