

July 2009

Volume 6, Issue 3

Pipers Meadow News

A quarterly publication of Pipers Meadow Homeowners' Association, Inc.

Pipers Meadow HOA Board of Directors:

- **President:** G. D'Azzo
- **VP:** Shawn Stafford
- **Secretary:**
- **Treasurer:** Ian Duncan
- **Directors at Large:**
Willie Polacek
George Trimitsis
Eric George

Mailing Address:

PMHOA Inc.
P.O. Box 322
Palm Harbor, FL 34682

Email Address:

PMHOA@
pipersmeadow.com

Internet Address:

www.pipersmeadow.com

NWA Deputy:

Sherri Roberts
Pinellas Sheriff
727-582-6177
sroberts@pcsonet.com

Streetlight Repair:

Progress Energy
727-443-2641
Progress-energy.com

County Connection:

29582 US Hwy 19 North
727-453-3600
connect@pinellascounty.org

Property Manager:

Jim Ranallo
Citadel PMG
727-938-7730
jimr@citadelpmg.com

Always beware of possible scams

Always beware of scams and offers that “seem too good to be true” because they usually are. Recently a Neighborhood Watch member called me with information on a possible scam. They had received a phone call from somebody offering to “check” their roof in order to save them money on their homeowners insurance. The company was going to charge them \$85.00 to take a picture of the roof from inside the attic, which in turn, would show them if the roof was “hurricane proof”. First off, a simple picture isn’t going to be able to tell someone if your roof is “hurricane proof” and there are strict procedures that the state follows in order to give rebates or discounts on your homeowners insurance when it comes to storm coverage.

If you decide to have work done check to see if the company you are planning to use has a license with the county’s Construction and Licensing Board and the Florida Department of Business and Professional Regulation. Also check the Better Business Bureau to see if they have had complaints made against them.

If you decide to go ahead and get work done on your house make sure you receive written estimates, a written contract with all of the projects included and the warranty. As the work progresses pay the company in installments and when the job is finished make sure you get a written affidavit saying that all of the contractors have been paid to avoid a lien being placed on your house at a later date. (This article was submitted by NWA Deputy Sherri Roberts)

Support NWA

As budget cuts and staffing shortfalls plague law enforcement agencies nation-wide, community members worry that programs such as **Neighborhood Watch**, which are designed to build bonds between neighborhoods and police, will be negatively impacted. Community concerns are well-grounded, as many departments have cut or are cutting community-based programs to make up for shortages in first-responder positions—an impact of significant budget deficits. Clearly, at this time of economic crisis, law enforcement executives must be even more

cognizant of these concerns, and they must make every attempt to support community members and officers working to develop these strong community liaisons.

As the economy wanes, law enforcement executives and citizens fear an increase in crime that will directly impact neighborhoods. Across the nation, police chiefs and sheriffs are expressing their concern that the falling economy will directly affect crime rates in their areas, especially crimes traditionally considered to be quality-of-life-type crimes.

Although nationally, criminal justice researchers are reluctant to attribute increased crime trends to an ailing economy, local law enforcers across the country see a correlation as crimes increase in their jurisdictions. As crime trend data is released to communities, it raises fears that crime will increase, making demands for police service even more taxing to agencies that are already suffering from staffing and financial deficits. (Read more at USAonWatch.org Ezine article 20081219.)

So support our NWA and if you see crime or vandalism contact the Sheriff’s Dept. at

727-582-6177

Free Address

Pipers Meadow Homeowner's Association Inc. is offering free @pipersmeadow.com e-mail addresses. They are currently being allotted, one per household, only to Pipers Meadow homeowners.

The free addresses are "forwarding address accounts". That means the address will only forward e-mail messages from your @pipersmeadow.com to the e-mail address of your choice. That means when someone sends a message to your @pipersmeadow.com address it will automatically appear in the Inbox of your choice. It also means you will not be able to send Email from the forwarded address.

In order to **minimize spam**, the free addresses will be issued in the format firstname.lastname@pipersmeadow.com; such as john.dazzo@pipersmeadow.com. If you would like a free forwarded @pipersmeadow.com address please send an Email (from the Email address we will be forwarding to) with the first name and last name and street address of the homeowner to receive the new @pipersmeadow.com e-mail address.

Our intention is to make it easier for neighbors to communicate with one another. Members on the PMHOA community e-mail list were the first to receive this offer. Not on the list, send us an e-mail with your permission to put you on it.

Happy Computing from
PMHOA Inc. ☺

North CCC

The Pinellas County Connection Centers "connect citizens with government." The North CCC has been especially helpful to the Board of Directors recently when communicating with the County Public Works Department. The North CCC is expediting the construction of a chain link fence at Hermosa and Belted Kingfisher Drive and improvements of the storm water drainage outflows on our ponds.

Jane Muhrlin, Marie Elam and Janet Donegan are your representatives for all areas of county services. The North County Connection Center is located at the Clerk of the Circuit Court North County Branch, at 29582 US 19 North, Room 100. They can be reached by phone at 453-3600 or by email at connect@pinellascounty.org. Their informative monthly newsletter is available at <http://www.pinellascounty.org/community/CCC/>.

Call the North CCC if you need help solving problems with a Pinellas county department or need info about services provided.

Roof Cleaning

Mold or mildew makes black ugly streaks on a roof. Not only is it unattractive, it can actually shorten the life of your shingles, so you really should get rid of it. There are a number of commercial products available that will get rid of mold, but if you

are careful and don't mind working at heights, getting mold off roof shingles is really something you can do yourself.

Black stains on your shingles could be mildew or just dirt. One way to determine if it's mildew is to put a few drops of chlorine bleach on to the black mark. If it's dirt, the dark stain will remain, but if it's mildew the stain will go away. A few years ago, commercial roof-cleaning products containing hydrogen peroxide (lye) were commonly recommended to remove mildew. These products have been shown to damage shingles. Don't use a pressure washer to clean or rinse your roof. It will remove surface granules from asphalt shingles, shortening their useful life (and may even void your shingle warranty). **Be careful.** Working on or near a roof is dangerous, particularly when it's wet and slippery.

Prevent mildew from forming by removing overhanging tree branches and allowing sunshine and air movement over your roof. This can eliminate the mildew-friendly environment and stop it from growing. Installing zinc strips under a row of shingles near the ridge of the roof will prevent mildew from forming. The mild chemical reaction caused by rainwater coming in contact with the zinc inhibits the growth of mold and mildew.

Applying asphalt roofing shingles containing a copper additive in their surface granules is an option. The copper granules in combination with rainwater have a

Pinellas County Watering Restrictions are still in effect!

Drinking Water: Only on the authorized one-day-per-week, lawns can be irrigated by hand watering with a sprinkling can, a hose equipped with an automatic cancelling nozzle, or a portable sprinkler from 6 AM to 8 AM and from 6 PM to 10 PM; Lawn irrigation from midnight to 4 AM.

Residential Car Washing is not allowed • Fundraiser Car Washes are not allowed • Operating Fountains and Artistic Water Features is not allowed • No Pressure Washing and No Washing Outdoor Surfaces

Reclaimed Water: Odd numbers - Wednesday, Friday, Sunday. Even numbers - Tuesday, Thursday, Saturday. No watering on Monday. Watering is prohibited between the hours of 10:00 AM and 4:00 PM.

For extensive information about establishment irrigation for lawns and plants visit

<http://www.pinellascounty.org/Utilities/water-restrict.htm> or call Pinellas County Utilities at 464-4000 or the Reclaimed Water Hotline at 464-4273. Proof of new lawn or plant material may be faxed to (727) 464-3717.

mild chemical reaction that prevents mold and mildew. Spray-on commercial products that you apply and leave on are also available. Annual application reportedly blocks the growth of mildew.

Two Roof Cleaning Solutions

Chlorine Bleach:

Spray all the plants growing near your house with water, and this will help protect them from any damage caused by the chlorine bleach solution.

Mix 1 part bleach to 3 parts water and apply to the mildew-covered area with a hand pump sprayer. Adding some tri-sodium phosphate (TSP) will help clean the roof at the same time. Let the solution sit for 15 minutes, then rinse it off with a hose. Check to see if any mildew remains on the roof. If so, it will feel slimy when you run your hand over the surface). If mildew is still present, allow the roof to dry and repeat the process. Always rinse the roof after applying the chlorine bleach solution. If you leave the bleach solution on the roof, it could damage the shingles.

Copper Sulfate:

Spray all the plants growing near your house with water, as this will help protect them from any damage caused by the copper sulfate solution.

Prepare a mixture of copper sulfate and water, using a ratio of 12 ounces (dry measure) of copper sulfate to 1 gallon of warm water.

Apply the solution to the mildew-covered area and wait for the mildew to turn brown.

Sweep the mildew off the roof using a push broom.

Rinse the roof with a hose and clean water.

(This how-to article by Murray Anderson is excerpted from http://www.ehow.com/how_2004140_mold-off-roof.html#)

Award Winner

Congratulations to the summer 2009 "A Home of All Seasons" Award Winners: Mr. and Mrs. Jean-Claude **Bihorel** of 1825 Pipers Meadow Drive. Their home was nominated by their neighbors and selected by PMHOA as the quarterly winner.

Be a Volunteer

Here's your chance to help your community. One person can make a big difference as evidenced by the number of positions now available. The Board of Directors is grateful for the charity that **Jennifer Carter** has bestowed on Pipers Meadow. Jennifer is returning to Louisiana to follow a career opportunity. Her resignation leaves the following openings:
Board Member,
Board Secretary,
Newsletter Editor and
NWA South Co-chairperson.

Jen's three year term on the Board would have expired at the annual meeting in March of 2010. The Board of Directors will appoint someone to complete her term at the next Board meeting on August fourth. Board meetings are held the first Tuesday of each month except in July. Meeting minutes are posted on the Board of Directors page at www.PipersMeadow.com.

Monthly Meetings

of the Board of Directors of Pipers Meadow Homeowners' Association Inc are held each first Tuesday of each month except July at **6:30pm**, at the Palm Harbor Community Activities Center on 1500 16th Street. Meet the Board of Directors, learn about issues facing the community, voice your concerns and meet your neighbors. Extra parking is available north of the Center, Building 2. The Architectural Cooperation Committee meets in the same room just before the Board at 6:00pm to review enforcement issues.

PMHOA Inc.
P.O. Box 322
Palm Harbor, FL 34682

HELP KEEP PIPERS MEADOWS SAFE AND SECURE

CALL THE SHERIFF **EVERY TIME** YOU SEE SUSPICIOUS BEHAVIOR
Communications 727-582-6177 Dial 911 for Emergencies

Cheeps & Chirps

- ◆The landscape committee has asked the Board's permission to update the six logo medallions at the entrances. The committee would like your input. Mock-ups are on the **News Page** of the website.
- ◆A homeowner e-mail says that "pool drains should be brought to the driveway as a courtesy to your neighbors instead of having them drain out towards other neighbors houses in back".

- ◆In a recent nighttime inspection the ACC still found open-bed trucks parked in driveways.
- ◆The Pinellas County's Public Works Department will be repairing the fence at Hermosa and Belted Kingfisher to prevent pedestrian traffic. Palm Harbor Middle School students will now be bused to school from the Wexford Leas area.
- ◆PMHOA Inc. is an all volunteer organization. We **thank you for your support.**

