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MANAGER'S REPORT



Storm Preparedness

Being prepared means we are proactive. All Harbor Lights residents need to secure outdoor furniture and remove any debris that can be considered a projectile. Please be aware of loose siding, roofing or awnings and secure any items around your home that may break free and cause damage to your property or your neighbors. Even winds below hurricane force can still cause injury & damage. If you are unable to secure items around your property, please call the office and we can assist in making arrangements.

If there is a storm, do you know your evacuation route? Do you know when it is time to evacuate? Harbor Lights is in a special evacuation area - all mobile homes are in Evacuation Level A, regardless of their location within the city. Local authorities will announce evacuation levels through Alert Sarasota County and the city of Venice Facebook page. The 2025 City of Venice Hurricane Guide and The Sarasota County Emergency Preparedness Guide packets are available in the clubhouse and in the office. Please stop by and get your copy, they are full of useful information.

What are the 5 P's of preparedness?

The 5 P's of preparedness are helpful for remembering key items to gather during an evacuation: People, Pets, Prescriptions, Papers, and Priceless items. These items ensure personal safety, health, and the preservation of important belongings during a disaster.

Here's a breakdown of each "P":

- **People:**

This includes yourself and your family members. Ensure everyone knows the evacuation plan and has a designated meeting point.

- **Pets:**

Don't forget your furry, scaled, or feathered friends. Have carriers, leashes, food, and water ready for them.

- **Prescriptions:**

Gather medications, medical equipment, and any necessary medical supplies.

- **Papers:**

Important documents like identification, insurance papers, financial records, and emergency contact information should be gathered.

- **Priceless Items:**

This category includes sentimental items like photos, family heirlooms, or other irreplaceable possessions.



WHAT IS AN ACH?

An ACH transaction is an electronic money transfer made between banks and credit unions across a network called the Automatic Clearing House. We are mainstreaming our bookkeeping for the cooperative to have the most efficient systems in place. Harbor Lights Cooperative, Inc. would like all residents to know that this service is available and can be set up for anyone's account with routing numbers from a checking account. If you have any questions about this payment system, please contact the office.



R&R RULES & REGS

Guest/Tenant Process

Please help us keep Harbor Lights safe by understanding the importance of the screening process for guests and tenants. We need to start this process before the guest/tenant arrives. All owners of units at Harbor Lights must notify the office if:

- people are staying in your unit with or without a resident present,
- are renting out your unit,
- your guests are staying in another unit in the park.

We can immediately start the process of background checks. It may seem like a bothersome task but the rules and regs for guests and tenants were written to ensure your investment in this community remains secure. Please notify the office of any guest/tenant vehicles parked on the property and obtain the proper guest parking sticker. We are trying to avoid random people (from the restaurant or other) from parking in your resident parking spaces, but we need your help to make this system work.

**Thank you,
Kim Witkop**

within the city of Venice who would be interested in signing up as a partner.

The Resilient Florida Program includes a selection of grants that are available to special districts with specific responsibilities and regional resilience entities. Under this program, The Florida Department of Environmental Protection has a Statewide Flooding and Sea Level Rise Resilience Plan that funded 71 projects across the state however, not one grant is located within Sarasota County. One project worth noting was done at a community, the Bayou Grande Villas, a subdivision of 220 homes, that were awarded \$2.25M for a drainage project in Escambia County. Last year the town on Lantana in Palm Beach County received \$900K for seawall repair at Bicentennial Park. This program is targeted towards the flooding of coastal areas and the safety of the people of Florida. I do not know if Harbor Lights would qualify for these grants, but it is worth pursuing to find out.

We are also looking at any funding available through the West Coast Inland Navigation District (WCIND). They work closely with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers with any construction and maintenance of the Gulf Intracoastal Waterway (ICW).

I did contact Mara Skadden of the Marine Resources Council, and she told me the grant situation on her end has not changed. She now knows that I am working at Harbor Lights, and we will keep in touch.

As an update to my previous mention of the Bayfront Project near Longboat Key, they have completed the installation of concrete panels that mimic mangrove roots promoting the marine habitat along a new 300-foot vinyl seawall. Ryan Gandy, the Science & Restoration Manager at Sarasota Bay Estuary Program said there will be a ribbon cutting ceremony in October at low tide to highlight the living seawall. They received \$500K from the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law,



SEAWALL UPDATE

We are in the process of gathering funding information from grants and reimbursement programs. After meeting with a local grant writer, she informed me that research is the key. If we can find the right type of grant(s), she would work with us throughout the grant writing process.

Many of these grants require a partnership with a municipality, so for example we would have to ask the city of Venice to be a partner with HLCI for the Coastal Partnership Initiative Program, which is another grant we are researching. This program has awards of up to \$60,000 for construction projects. I am working on a contact

now known as the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act.

We are talking with marine construction engineers for their professional opinion on how to strategically go forward with this project. We will also be meeting with our neighbor, Mike Miller, as he will have a vested interest in maintaining the navigable waterway by his marina. As a developer, he may have some insight into the seawall funding and maintenance.

Again, I thank the residents who are offering helpful suggestions for solutions to the seawall situation.

**Thank you,
Kim Witkop**

THANK YOU

Dear Harbor Lights Residents,

I want to express my sincere gratitude for all the kindness shown to me during this time of loss of my husband, Bob.

All the prayers, cards, food and rides are truly appreciated. It is nice to live in a park with such thoughtful people.

Again, thank you!

Sincerely,

Carolyn Welton #11



COVER PAGE

Some pictures of Sunset Park, taken by Lynda Southerland and arranged by Lynda for the front page. Residents will enjoy the sights of the waterway and watching the boats go by.

New sign in Sunset Park.

Sunset pictures will be shown next month.



FLEA MARKET DONATIONS

Your Trash is Somebody's Treasure!

Spring is a wonderful time to clean out/change up and your hand-me-downs will go to a good cause!*Your donations go to the special community events that make Harbor Lights the place we all love!**



Options:• Bring items to the Flea Market room. (The left doorway just before the ceramics' room). Drop off items anytime in the bins in the hallway of the flea market room. If you have items that don't fit in the covered bin and there's a chance of rain, call one of us and we'll come up. (We check almost daily to move things inside but we might miss you).

- For major clean out of house or shed, call one of us. We'll set up a time to get the goods!
- If you need assistance or if you have any questions, just call!
- *No furniture other than what could be moved by 1 person (small decorative tables, chairs...).
- *No computers.
- *No building materials
- *No clothes with stains or rips!

Thank you!

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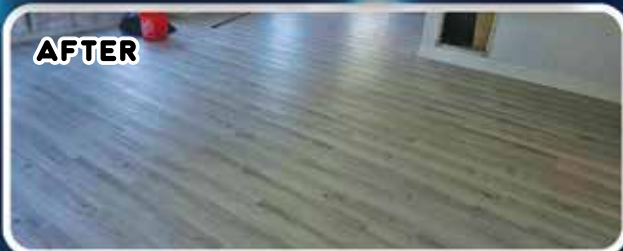
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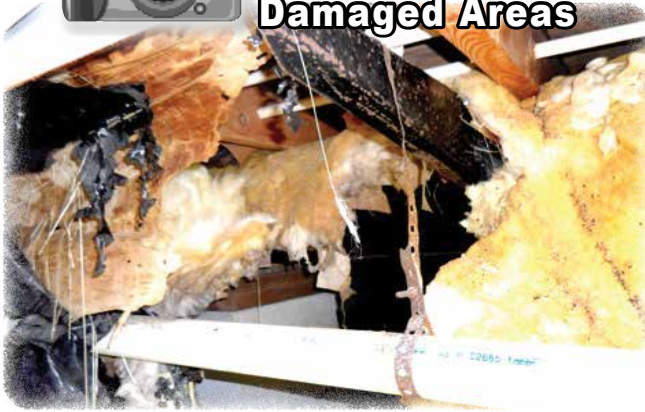
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