



# POQUITO BAYOU TIMES

*A Newsletter Published by the Poquito Bayou Community Association*

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April 2023 Issue, Published 4/12/2023-Volume XXVII Issue 4 Editor Bob Davis, 651-3034  
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## Greetings Fellow Poquito Bayou Residents!

I trust everyone had a Happy Easter! The Events Team (led by Felicia Murphy) put together an awesome Easter Egg Hunt on the 1<sup>st</sup> of April. The weather cooperated after some last-minute shift in the times. Estimates are that there were more than 175 children that participated. The next major event is the Garage Sale scheduled for 15 / 16 April. Additional details are in this newsletter. I posted last month that we have a new PBCA President, and we welcome him enthusiastically. He had back surgery last week and he is well on the road to recovery. Sean and Whitney are having a huge positive impact on the community, and we look forward to implementing Sean's ideas to make our neighborhood a better place. On that note, I wanted to remind everyone that the Veteran's Memorial at the park is not a playground for toddlers or children. There are plenty of places for the children to climb and play in the playground within the park. Thanks, in advance, for your cooperation in helping us honor our Veteran's appropriately.

In news around the neighborhood:

**Veteran's Memorial.** Jane Fedosky and Ken Leone are finalizing their current improvements to the memorial and Jane should have all the plaques finished and affixed in the next month or so. They have both committed time and effort to make this something our community can be proud of. If you are interested in adding your name to the memorial, please contact Jane Fedosky at [djinshalimar@gmail.com](mailto:djinshalimar@gmail.com).

**Garage Sale.** The neighborhood garage sale is scheduled for 15 / 16 April. Look for details in this newsletter.

**Improvements.** We're still working on a list of potential improvements for Leo Norred Park. If you have any ideas, please let us know. We're also looking for a Committee Chair to head up these improvements.

**PBCA Membership:** Our membership drive is ongoing, and we now have nearly one hundred members renew their membership. Please help us by renewing your membership. Remember, the annual dues are now \$20. If you are a Board Member, please renew as soon as possible. Please see the form in this newsletter.

**PBCA Board Openings.** We have several openings on our PBCA Board: Hickory & Magnolia Street Director, Emergency Action/Neighborhood Watch and Poquito Boat Ramp Activity Committee. If you're interested in any of these positions, please step forward.

**Community Emergency Response Team (CERT).** At present, our neighborhood CERT needs more volunteers, especially individuals with medical backgrounds. Now is the time to start preparing for this year's hurricane season.

## PEOPLE PROTECTING POQUITO BAYOU

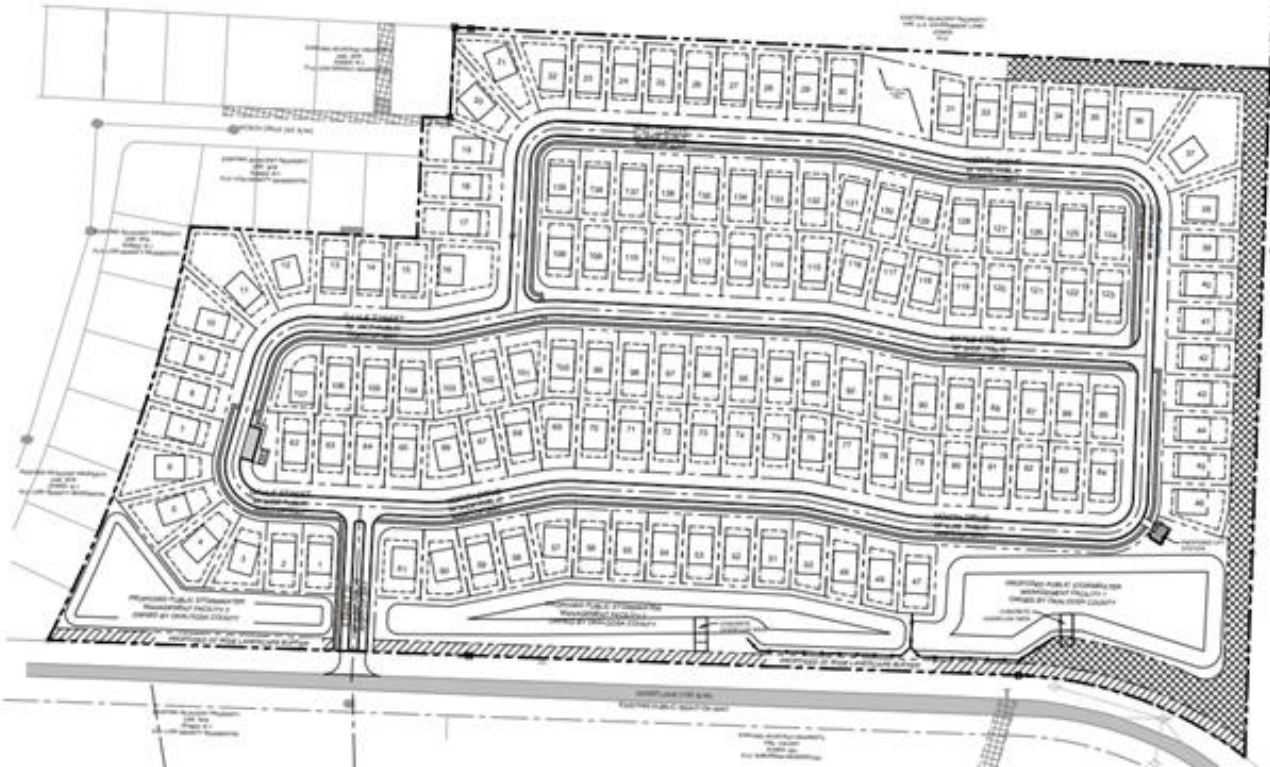
**People Protecting Poquito Bayou Update – Dave Hensley**  
As the old saying goes: "You can't fight city hall." However, recent events indicate that county officials do listen to their constituents. On April 4<sup>th</sup>, we found out that the North Drive ingress/egress into the proposed subdivision has been closed off!!! Many thanks to Lori Cnota who polished up a draft petition for circulation, Lori and other concerned citizens who circulated these petitions among residents in Longwood subdivision. Many thanks to the concerned citizens who signed the petitions. Lori presented the petitions to the Okaloosa County Commissioners on March 14th. Multiple concerned citizens expressed their displeasure that North Drive was going to be opened for this proposed subdivision. As a result of this public outcry, Okaloosa County Growth Management was directed to ask the engineering firm to close off North Drive!!! Your voices were heard!!! Great job concerned citizens!! This is a major victory.

As of March 23rd, a new 60-day window was started with the engineering firm to fix all the discrepancies the Okaloosa County officials identified in their review of the construction plans and traffic study. They found a plethora of issues with the utilities and roads. Then after 60 days, the 45-day clock starts over again for us to prepare our official rebuttal. I suspect we'll receive the revised documents for us to review at that time. I think several issues we were planning to object to were satisfied.

We recently received from Mr. Elliot Kampert, Okaloosa County Growth Management Chief new documents from their review of the Kimley/Horn Engineering firm's development order documentation. I recently posted them onto our People Protecting Poquito Bayou Facebook website for everyone to review. This also includes a wildlife study, prepared by Wetland Sciences Inc., which lists the species in the proposed subdivision document. now need to focus on the asphalt plant. I don't think the land was fully remediated. Many longtime residents feel the same way. Several concerned citizens have been going door-to-door with a petition requesting level 1 testing be done before the sale takes place. If you want to go door-to-door with our petition, please let us know.

We will be kicking off a well water testing program next week. Details to follow.

Thanks to everyone who has helped us out. If you want to help with your talents, please contact us at (850) 582-3780. **(See plat map that follows on next page)**



**LONGWOOD ELEMENTARY**



April 10, 2023

Our third quarter of school came to an end during the month of March. Upon return from Spring Break, we began our fourth and final quarter of the school year. Testing will be upon us before we know it. Our students have been working hard to prepare for these upcoming tests.

Our third-grade students participated in a science activity with the Emerald Coast Science Center. Members of the ECSC team came to Longwood and helped our students in the dissection of flowers.

Our character phrase for the month of April is: "Be Brave". Each morning we give examples to our students of the importance of always being brave. At the end of the month we will recognize the students from each class that best exemplify being brave.

To find more information regarding our school, please follow us on Facebook at <https://www.facebook.com/Longwood-Elementary-School-1261954677180100/>

**POQUITO BAYOU COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION**  
**Minutes of the April 3rd, 2023, meeting**  
**Martin Residence, 17 Magnolia**

Meeting called to order at 18:00

Present: Pam Martin, Bob Davis, Dave Hensley, Michael Aid, Felicia Murphy, David Boyd, Pat Hollarn, and Whitney Cramer.

Minutes of the March meeting had been distributed; motion to approve was made by Pam and seconded by Bob, minutes were approved. The treasurer's report for March was presented by Mike on behalf of Tricia Flaherty, motion to accept by Bob, seconded by Pam, report was accepted. The current balance is \$6,794 in our account. There is also \$2,799 in Venmo and \$1051 in PayPal. The money for the plaques still must be paid, though nearly half has already been paid and Jane has money from many of the donors. It was generally agreed that we would wait to make any significant expenditure until that expenditure was complete.

Membership: Pam reported ninety-seven members with paid renewed membership thus far for 2023. A table was set up in conjunction with the crawfish boil (11 March) and Easter Egg Hunt on 01 April.

Welcome: Cindy Henry was not present. Emergency Action/Watch/CERT: No specific updates.

BHEV: Bob is the liaison. He has been working on access to the workout facilities, but there is one resident there who may be opposed to Bob Hope Village and the surrounding community working together for the good of both.

Events: Kiki was not present but has informed Michael that she will no longer be the Events Director. She is still interested in helping and participating. Felicia reported that the Easter Egg hunt had approximately 175 participants (approx. 125 age 0-6 and 50 older children). Only \$280 was spent and the bake sale netted \$217.

Leo Norred Park: The plaques have all been ordered and are still awaiting delivery. Jane Fedosky-Hensley continues to monitor the production/progress. There is no change in status.

Poquito Boat Ramp Park: Dave reported that commercial watercraft with large trailers have been parked at the boat ramp, and despite the inconvenience for the community, it is still allowed.

Street & Traffic Safety: There is a large drop off on Poplar, and a photo will be sent to Bob so he can get it addressed. Bob noted that the cleanup day was not required due to county action.

Street Directors: Felicia plans to hold a street director's meeting on or about 17 April.

Old Business: Mike plans to meet with Kiki on or about 16 April to see how many storage containers are required. Whitney, who will be acting as a primary events coordinator, also plans to participate. With respect to the pathway between Magnolia and Holly used by children walking to school, Mike will take over contact with Ms. Ketchel (County Commissioner). With respect to the Facebook pages, Mike will contact Kiki, along with Whitney, and they will coordinate from an association perspective. There is no update on the Abandoned Homes committee. Felicia reported that the Crawfish Boil netted \$1325 and made a profit of \$677. Pam discussed that Yard of Month starts in April, and she will enlist the help of Nora Torres. The garage sale is still scheduled for 15-16 April.

New Business: Whitney may take over as Events Coordinator. At the next meeting, a list will be started for spending goals. Felicia will discuss Summer Events at the next meeting, perhaps including educational programs for children.

PPPB: Dave discussed the Sunset Road development proposal (DR Horton) and what is being done to try to prevent an ecological disaster (including contamination from the old asphalt plant). HE discussed the County Commission meeting on 14 March and the Town Hall on 23 March. A 45-day extension has been granted to allow the developer to resubmit paperwork that did not pass muster with the Planning Department. Dave announced that the entrance would not be on North Drive. The Nabors family actually paid \$10 for the forty acres back in 1947, a correction from the previous minutes.

Announcements: Newsletter articles for next newsletter due to Bob Davis by Sunday Apr 9th. Next PBCA board meeting to be held Monday May 1st at the Boyd home at 3A Poquito at 1800.

Meeting adjourned at 19:00 pm.

David Boyd

## April Membership

Below are the latest membership stats.

Thank you for all those that have paid. We are doing great things with your membership dollars.

We just had a successful Easter Party for neighborhood children and the Crawfish Boil. Both had a great turn out. If you have not, please consider paying your membership dues of \$20. You can pay by check, cash, Venmo or PayPal. You can drop cash or check at 17 Magnolia Ave. There is a black mailbox on the chain link fence, left side of home.

<u>4/10/2023</u>					
Bay Street		<b>2</b>	<b>1</b>		<b>50%</b>
Birch Ave		<b>38</b>	<b>6</b>		<b>16%</b>
Hickory Ave		<b>27</b>	<b>3</b>		<b>11%</b>
Holly Ave		<b>24</b>	<b>3</b>		<b>13%</b>
Japonica Lane		<b>28</b>	<b>3</b>		<b>11%</b>
Magnolia Ave		<b>43</b>	<b>11</b>		<b>26%</b>
Maple Ave		<b>41</b>	<b>6</b>		<b>15%</b>
Poplar Ave		<b>46</b>	<b>11</b>		<b>24%</b>
Poquito Road	1 through 51	<b>43</b>	<b>17</b>		<b>40%</b>
Poquito Road	52 through 94	<b>36</b>	<b>13</b>		<b>36%</b>
Poquito Road	95 through 149	<b>32</b>	<b>7</b>		<b>22%</b>
Other			<b>8</b>		<b>#DIV/0!</b>
Walnut Ave		<b>35</b>	<b>8</b>		<b>23%</b>
		<b>383</b>	<b>97</b>		<b>25%</b>

**POQUITO BAYOU COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION, INC. MEMBERSHIP REGISTRATION YEAR**

Please complete this form and submit along with your \$10 dues to your Street Director or drop it off at the PBCA mailbox located at 17 Magnolia Ave (Pam Martin's house). Checks will be accepted, made payable to PBCA. Or mail to P.O. Box 1124, Shalimar, FL 32579

**(PLEASE PRINT CLEARLY) FOR YEAR 2022 \_\_\_\_\_ OR 2023 \_\_\_\_\_**

Date Paid: \_\_\_\_\_ Dues: \_\_\_\_\_ Donation (specify area): \_\_\_\_\_ Check #: \_\_\_\_\_ Cash \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Spouse's Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
(Last) (First)

Address: \_\_\_\_\_ Telephone No.: \_\_\_\_\_ E-Mail Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
Please enter current E-Mail Address (If it changes, notify pcmartin1@outlook.com)

Minor Children: Boys (  ) Ages: \_\_\_\_\_ Girls (  ) Ages: \_\_\_\_\_  
(If it changes, notify pcmartin1@outlook.com)

Concerns: 1. \_\_\_\_\_ 2. \_\_\_\_\_ 3. \_\_\_\_\_ 4. \_\_\_\_\_

Would you be willing to help with: Events for Kids \_\_\_\_\_, Baking \_\_\_\_\_, Adult Social Events \_\_\_\_\_, Leo Norred Park & Clean-Up Days \_\_\_\_\_, Garage Sales Event \_\_\_\_\_, Interest in Action Committees? Street Maintenance & Traffic Safety \_\_\_\_\_, Environmental Matters \_\_\_\_\_, Emergency Action & Neighborhood Watch \_\_\_\_\_, Eglin Interface \_\_\_\_\_, Are you interested in serving on PBCA Board of Directors? \_\_\_\_\_ Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) Training \_\_\_\_\_, Street Director \_\_\_\_\_

Other interests, ideas; things you'd like addressed? What are they? \_\_\_\_\_  
**(USE BACK OF FORM IF NECESSARY)**

mbrform Rev. 10-2022

The form was not changed but 2023 dues are \$20 vice \$10. We are investigating a number of ways to enhance our neighborhood and it costs \$\$\$\$.

# Poquito Bayou



## Neighborhood Garage Sale

Time: 7am-12pm

Date: April 15 & 16

Where: Poquito Bayou Community

Contact: Nance Wendel

850.461-8537

nance.wendel@era-american.com

Due by April 12th

Only \$10 for balloon & ad



### PBCA Garage Sale COUPON

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ \$10 paid by \_\_\_ Cash \_\_\_ Check # \_\_\_\_\_

Summary of Items for Sale:

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

**POQUITO BAYOU COMMU-  
NITY ASSOCIATION  
FINANCIAL REPORT  
March 2023**

**Balance Forward from February 28, 2023**

**\$6,434.66**

	<b>March 2023</b>	<b>Year to Date 2023</b>
<b>Income</b>		
Membership Dues	\$760.00 <sup>1</sup>	\$1,290.00
Donations	\$347.00 <sup>2</sup>	\$472.00
Veteran's Memorial	\$0.00	\$50.00*
Halloween Event	\$0.00	\$0.00
Easter Event Income	\$0.00	\$0.00
Annual Meeting Bake Sale/Raffle	\$0.00	\$0.00
Annual Meeting Donations	\$0.00	\$0.00
Crawfish & Shrimp Boil	\$825.00 <sup>3</sup>	\$825.00
New Sign Fundraiser	\$0.00	\$50.00
Advertising	\$0.00	\$100.00
Garage Sale	\$0.00	\$0.00

<b>Total Income</b>	\$1,932.00	\$2,787.00
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<b>Expenses</b>		
Gulf Power	\$147.18	\$232.13
Postage/P.O. Box	\$0.00	\$97.00
Veteran's Memorial	\$0.00	\$0.00
Garage Sale	\$0.00	\$0.00
Candidates Night	\$0.00	\$0.00
Supplies	\$0.00	\$0.00
Childrens Christmas Party	\$0.00	\$0.00
Friendsgiving Event	\$0.00	\$0.00
Annual State Registration	\$61.25	\$61.25
Website Expense	\$216.00	\$216.00
Crawfish & Shrimp Boil	\$647.38	\$647.38
Easter Event	\$180.14	\$180.14
New Sign	\$0.00	\$0.00
Mardi Gras Event	\$0.00	\$0.00
Halloween Event	\$0.00	\$0.00
Project/Repairs	\$0.00	\$0.00
Leo Norred Mowing	\$320.00	\$480.00

<b>Total Expenses</b>	\$1,571.95	\$1,913.90
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**Reconciled Balance March 31, 2023**

**\$6,794.71**

* Veteran's Memorial Collected to Date		\$3,510.00
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Venmo Balance as of 03/31/2023

**\$2,798.95**

PayPal Balance as of 03/31/2023

**\$1,051.29**

**Total**

**\$10,644.95**

1 Actual \$920  
2 Actual \$377  
Actual  
3 \$1,323.95

# YARD OF THE MONTH

The Poquito Bayou Yard of the Month Award recognizes the hard work and pride exhibited by residents who beautify their yard.

It's Spring and time for the Bee's and Butterflies to start flying around. Looking for all your flowers and plants.

This year we will have two Yards of the Month, one for each street being judged.

If there is no winner on a street, then there will only be one winner.

See below when your street will be judged.

April – Magnolia Ave and Hickory Ave

May – Poplar Ave and Walnut

June - Maple Ave and Birch Ave

July – Poquito Rd 1-72 and Poquito Rd 73-149

August-Holly Ave and Japonica Ln

**April's Yard of the Month goes to!!!!**

**36 Magnolia Ave, the Whitley Family**

Honorable Mentions 20 and 33

&

**9 Hickory Ave, the Craft Family**

Honorable Mentions 15, 23 and 28

Though early in the season their yards were beautiful.



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