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October 2023 Issue, Published 10/10/2023-Volume XXVII Issue 9, Editor Bob Davis, 651-3034 PO Box 1124 - Shalimar, FL. 32579-1124 (www.poquitobayou.com) bobbyz55x@gmail.com

# Greetings Fellow Poquito Bayou Residents! <u>Unwanted Solicitors?</u> Michael Aid

Recently one of our neighbors posted a question on Facebook, "Does anyone know how to officially make our neighborhood a no solicitation neighborhood"? We are not a gated community nor are we a Homeowner's Association. Either of these situations would allow us more control. Don't misinterpret what I'm saying though – no one is suggesting we become a HOA. So, I conducted some research. I called the Okaloosa County Sheriff's Office and asked what we could do. While there isn't (surprisingly) a County Ordnance on this topic, there is a State of Florida statute. According to Florida Statute 501.021-022, individuals who engage in certain door-to-door solicitation activities that sell, lease, or rent consumer goods or services with a purchase price of more than \$25.00 are required to obtain a Home Solicitation Permit. This permit is issued by the Clerk of Circuit Court for the county in which the applicants intend to conduct their home solicitation sales. Doorto-door solicitors have a right to freedom of speech under the First Amendment of the Constitution. However, so do the homeowners and business owners to post a sign or to prevent individuals from entering their property. To deter home solicitors from knocking on your door, you can post a "No Soliciting" sign on your property. If a solicitor ignores this sign, then they are trespassing. Your options at this point are to politely ask them to leave or you can call the Sheriff's office. Some common-sense steps you can take when someone knocks on your door are:

- 1. Ask to see their home solicitation permit
- 2. Ask to see a form of personal identification
- 3. Ask for a business card with the telephone and address of the business
- 4. If they refuse to provide their permit or refuse to leave, then contact the Sheriff's office

As a reminder, don't open your door if you are alone or you can't see who is ringing your doorbell. Be safe out there!

"Let's kick off this Halloween season with a smile: Why did the scarecrow win an award? Because he was outstanding in his field! Now, as a community, let's also be outstanding neighbors by keeping a watchful eye on our streets during trick-or-treating. Together, we can ensure a safe and memorable Halloween for all our little ghouls and goblins. Happy Halloween!"

### GENERAL MEETING & ELECTION—NEW FACES NEEDED AND WELCOMED!

As the Poquito Bayou Community Association looks forward to entering 2024, its 28th year, we are proud to say that we remain unique and successful in Okaloosa County as the only established neighborhood with an acknowledged background, a great history, but an even better future. I say that as one of the few long-time original members who sees the current group and its leaders as one of the absolute best ever, a group taking PBCA to new heights, for the benefit of all of us. All the officers and half of the street directors are up for re-election and there are still a few empty spots for fresh faces. Nominations are open until September 30, call, or text Pat Hollarn at 850-585-7768. Election is at the general membership meeting on October 12.

Our by-laws include positions for two junior directors, and at one time we had a successful teenage group of nearly six young neighbors who not only earned community service credit for school records but had fun "working" and helping the board. One young man's Eagle Scout project was part of the Veterans Memorial and Leo Norred Park. They also had the opportunity to let us know what we could do for our young people here in Poquito Bayou, so it's a double opportunity to take one of the two junior director positions.

REPEATED FROM LAST MONTH BECAUSE WE NEED YOUR HELP. PLEASE SUPPORT OUR GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING. TIME FOR SOCIALIZING WITH SNACKS AND ADULT BEVERAGES BEFORE HAND. SHOW YOU CARE!







#### Legendary Cove Subdivision Update by Dave Hensley

We're in the middle of our third extension. We received an email from the Okaloosa County Growth Management office late last month regarding three updated documents: drainage plan, construction plans and traffic report. These documents were corrected from public comments back in July. The comment period ended on October 8<sup>th</sup>. We're not sure what's going to happen next. If there are additional comments/issues with any of these documents, then the process will repeat over again. If there are no issues with the documents, then perhaps Okaloosa County Growth Management will proceed with the Development Order approval process. We are still hoping that the Florida Department of Environmental Protection will gain access to the site after the sale goes through. We're pushing for the deceleration/entrance/exit of the Legendary Cove Subdivision to go north through Eglin AFB property.

I spoke for three minutes at the October 3<sup>rd</sup> County Commissioners meeting in Crestview. I spoke about the limited acceleration/ lanes in our area. After my presentation, Ms. Ketchel asked me to present our traffic concerns to the Florida Department of Transportation at the upcoming Transportation Planning Organization meeting on November 16<sup>th</sup> at the County Annex Building.

#### **Upcoming Veterans Day Ceremony by Jane Fedosky**

Our Veterans Day ceremony is scheduled for Saturday November 11<sup>th</sup>, 2023, 4 pm at the Veterans Memorial. **This will be our second year for our Quilts of Valor presentation.** Our guest speaker this year will be Retired USAF Colonel Ed Hubbard (former POW). Please come out for this solemn occasion to honor our local veterans.



## Poquito Bayou 2023 Semi-Annual Fall Community Garage Sale Saturday November 4<sup>th,</sup> 2023 and Sunday November 5<sup>th</sup> – 7 am-12 noon



Time again to gather your 'extra' stuff for the semi-annual sale!! Some folks thought it would be great to Sell MORE STUFF!! So, let's go again! Gather your stuff, price it and set it up for the yard sale junkies to come out and peruse!!!

Saturday November 4<sup>th</sup> will be the start up and instead of having a rain date, we will just advertise that the sale carries over into Sunday the 5<sup>th</sup>. This also acts as a rain date. 7 am to 12 noon is the time. PBCA will sponsor an ad in the NWF Daily News that will run Thursday, Friday and Saturday, ending Nov 4th to invite our neighbors to COME ON OUT and see us. Sharing the date with each other tends to draw a greater number of shoppers and pickers... Everyone Wins! YAY!

If you wish, fill out the PBCA Annual Membership form in this newsletter and include that \$10 with your payment to take care of both at once! I will get it to our Treasurer with all due haste! Dues went up to \$20 for 2023.

Late Friday afternoon, I will deliver the Balloon for your mailbox and copies of the list for you to share with the shoppers denoting the addresses of participating neighbors and a summary of the items they have for sale!!

#### PBCA Garage Sale Coordinator: Nance Wendel, 16 Walnut 850-461-8537

ame:	Address:	
Phone:	\$10 paid by	Cash Check #
mmary of Items for Sale:		

Kill 2 Birds! Combine w/membership and drop off to Nance – 16 Walnut Ave....

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

#### POQUITO BAYOU COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION Minutes of the October 2nd, 2023 meeting Cramer Residence, 20 Poplar

Meeting called to order at 18:00

Present: Pam Martin, Bob Davis, Dave Hensley, Michael Aid, Felicia Murphy, David Boyd, Pat Hollarn, Tricia Flaherty, Nance Wendell, Jane Fedosky-Hensley, Sean Cramer, Whitney Cramer, Allison Alley, and Mary Ann Leone.

Minutes of the September meeting had been distributed; an additional sentence was added regarding the presentation of the 2024 proposed budget by Tricia; motion to approve was made by Mike and seconded by Felicia, minutes were approved. Treasurer's report for September was presented by Tricia, motion to accept by Pam, seconded by Bob, report was accepted. The current balance (when corrected for allocated funds even if not yet spent) is \$4,485.59. Tricia previously submitted the proposed budget for 2024 and with a few minor adjustments, it will be presented at the general membership Annual meeting on 12 October.

Membership: Pam reported 119 members with paid renewed membership thus far for 2023. Going forward, new residents on the Facebook page will be contacted about joining PBCA. Mary Ann brought some welcome bags made to give to new residents. Those outside the boundary of Poquito are eligible for membership or volunteering, but not able to hold office in PBCA.

Events: The Harvesting Fall Festival is scheduled for 28 October, but Whitney reported that volunteers would be needed.

<u>BHEV</u>: Bob, the liaison, had no news to report, but it was noted that the CMSAF Binnicker Memorial Run will be held on 07 October, with a pasta dinner on Friday evening, 06 October.

<u>Poquito Boat Ramp Park</u>: Dave reported no new issues.

Street & Traffic Safety: Bob is still waiting for the traffic report on vehicle numbers and speed.

Street Directors: A mailer (card) was mailed to the entire neighborhood. Pat and Bob complimented Whitney for a job well done.

Old Business: The Abandoned Homes committee has no news to report. Pat reported the work of nominations, with the only new name being Allison Alley, a new street director. Felicia reported that the well needs to be redone, and has a rough estimate for redrilling, with subtraction for the work that was recently done. Mike reported that the county had given permission for a storage shed at the park. The General Membership meeting will be held Thursday, 12 October at 1830, with refreshments starting beforehand. Mary Ann reported the refreshment committee is in good shape. The guest speaker will be Ms. Tucker, Longwood Principal. Mike and Sean presented the program, which was agreed upon by the Board. Tricia will present the budget, Pat nominations, Pam membership, Whitney events, Bob Street Safety, and Sean general remarks. The recent Shrimp Boil on 16 September raised approximately \$600, and the upcoming Krispy Kreme sale should also bring in money. The annual Veterans Day Ceremony at the park will be held on Saturday, 11 November. Col Ed Hubbard will be the guest speaker, a Quilt of Honor Ceremony will be held, and neighborhood Veteran names will be read. Jane discussed the program, and Pam discussed the Quilt of Honor Ceremony.

<u>New Business:</u> Mike will write an article about solicitation and discouraging it for the Poquito Times. Of note, solicitors for more than \$25 require a permit. A Halloween celebration will be held on Poplar, plus some trick-or-treating in the neighborhood. People are welcome to set up trunk-or-treating as desired, and can even use the parking lot at the park, but it will be unsponsored.

<u>Calendar</u>: General Membership meeting Thursday, 12 October at 1830 at BHEV, Fall Festival 28 October at the park, Garage Sale on 04 November throughout the neighborhood, Veterans Day Ceremony at Leo Norred Park Saturday, 11 November, Friendsgiving on 18 November at the park, and the Christmas Parade 16 December.

<u>Legendary Cove Subdivision</u>: Dave discussed the Sunset Road development proposal (Legendary Cove, DR Horton) and the 3rd extension (for 3 plans), as well as four signs in the neighborhood to remind citizens of what is at stake. The deadline for comments is 08 October.

<u>Announcements</u>: Newsletter articles for next newsletter due to Bob Davis by Saturday October 7th. Next PBCA board meeting to be held November 6th at the Wendel home at 16 Walnut at 1800.

Meeting adjourned at 18:58 pm.

David Boyd Recording Secretary

#### **PBCA**

#### **FINANCIAL REPORT**

#### September 2023

Balance Forward from August 31, 2023	ptember 2023		\$5,592.57
	September	Year to Date	
	2023	2023	
Income	<b>\$40.004</b>	¢4.000.00	
Membership Dues Donations	\$40.00 1 \$60.00 2	\$1,660.00 \$657.00	
Veteran's Memorial	\$0.00	\$50.00*	
Halloween Event	\$0.00	\$0.00	
Easter Event Income	\$0.004	\$217.00	
Annual Meeting Bake Sale/Raffle	\$0.00	\$0.00	
Annual Meeting Donations	\$0.00	\$0.00	
Crawfish & Shrimp Boil	\$738.333	\$1,563.33	
New Sign Fundraiser	\$0.00	\$50.00	
Advertising	\$0.00	\$100.00	
Garage Sale	\$0.00	\$170.00	
Total Income	\$838.33	\$4,467.33	
Expenses	ψ000.00	Ψ 1, 107.00	
Gulf Power	\$47.88	\$572.11	
Postage/P.O. Box	\$0.00	\$97.00	
Veteran's Memorial	\$1,445.06	\$1,445.06	
Garage Sale	\$0.00	\$484.77	
Annual Membership Meeting	\$0.00	\$100.00	
Supplies	\$0.00	\$265.89	
Childrens Christmas Party	\$0.00	\$0.00 \$0.00	
Friendsgiving Event Annual State Registration	\$0.00 \$0.00	\$0.00 \$61.25	
Website Expense	\$0.00	\$216.00	
Crawfish & Shrimp Boil	\$700.00	\$1,347.38	
Easter Event	\$0.00	\$281.52	
New Sign	\$0.00	\$0.00	
Mardi Gras Event	\$0.00	\$0.00	
Halloween Event	\$0.00	\$0.00	
Project/Repairs	\$1,200.00	\$1,200.00	
Leo Norred Mowing	\$160.00	\$1,440.00	
Total Expenses	\$3,552.94	\$7,510.98	
Reconciled Balance September 30, 2023	ψ0,002.04	Ψ1,010.00	\$2,877.96
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*Veteran's Memorial Collected to Date		\$3,510.00	
Venmo Balance as of 09/30/2023			\$3,512.95
Paypal Balance as of 09/30/2023			\$1,194.68
Total Obligated Funds (Shed \$1,000, Reindeer \$300, We	II \$1,800)		\$7,585.59 <u>\$3,100.00</u>
Available Funds September 30, 2023 YTD			\$4,485.59
1 Dues Actual	\$1,700		
2 Donations Actual	\$578		
3 Crawfish Boil Actual	8 \$2,612		
4 Easter Event Actual	\$261		

#### OKALOOSA COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE



# CRIME PREVENTION UNIT





At the request of numerous groups and individuals, the Okaloosa County Sheriff's Office is RECOMMENDING that trick-or-treaters head out Tuesday evening, October 31st from 6pm to 8pm.

- Motorists should exercise special caution in residential areas. Adult partygoers should make "Designated Driver" arrangements if alcohol is served.
- Carefully inspect all food items prior to consuming them. Throw out any candy that is not in its original wrapper or looks like it has been tampered with.
- Tell your kids to never accept a ride or go anywhere without permission.
- Tell your kids to stay on the porch, never enter someone's home.
- Keep pets indoors.
- Make sure the costume does not impair mobility for safe walking or driving.
- Select costumes with safety in mind. Avoid masks that restrict vision. Long, flowing costumes may become snagged or cause the wearer to trip.
- If you set jack-o-lanterns on your porch with candles in them, make sure that they
  are far enough out of the way, so that's kid's costumes won't accidentally be set
  on fire.
- When out at night be visible, carry a flashlight with strong batteries and/or glow sticks.
- Make certain all materials used in the costume are fire-retardant.
- Map out your plan, designate a route before your kids begin trick-or-treating and make sure they stick to it.
- Not everyone participates in Halloween. Bypass houses that are dark and not decorated.
- Children should stay in groups, with an adult or responsible older child present to always supervise.

Okaloosa County Sheriff's Office Non-emergency number 850-651-7400

## October

MON - FRI 11AM-1PM



30 HOLLY AVE. SHALIMAR, FL 32579 (850) 376-1916 CALL FOR AFEV CAMPUS DELIVERY

2023

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1	CHICKEN CORDON BLEU, rice & veg	CHICKEN POT PIE & side salad	NATL TACO DAY BEEF TACOS, chips & queso	PORK CHOPS, baked potato & veg	FISH & CHIPS	7
8	PIEROGIS & KIELBASA & braised cabbage	MONTE CRISTO SANDWICH & fruit salad	THAI BEEF RICE BOWLS	LASAGNA, garlic bread & salad	*CLOSED*	24
15	SPAGHETTI & MEATBALLS, bread & side salad	CHICKEN FRIED STEAK, mashed potatoes & veg	MEATLOAF, mashed potatoes & veg	CHICKEN & DUMPLINGS & side salad	PULLED PORK SANDWICH & chips (no regular menu)	21
22	CHICKEN & WAFFLES w/fruit salad	GRILLED REUBEN SANDWICH & French fries	CHICKEN MARSALA, pasta & vegetable	RIBS, beans & macaroni salad	COOKOUT grilled burgers & dogs (no regular menu)	28
29	FRIED CHICKEN, mac-n-cheese & vegetable	SLOPPY JOE, tots & slaw				















#### Let us support you!

A respite ministry for people and caregivers living with dementia right in your own backyard (almost)! Respite days at the church are Tuesdays & Thursdays from 10-2, \$40 includes lunch.

Call Leigh Rice @ 850-865-4123 for more information on attending or volunteering.

Text FOOD to 850 685-4759 for \$20 gift card to Knife's Edge.



