



THE PINE RUN NEWS

An

independent community publication

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From our President, Kip Kellogg:

So, as we race towards the end of 2021, the pace of activity picks up again in Pine Run. Rehab and new roofs are on buildings 8 and F, and now await painting and gutters. Just this morning, the crew from Maine Frame arrived at the clubhouse to begin setting up for demo and new construction to follow. This particular project has been a long time coming, from first walk thru to special assessment, to architectural and engineering plans, to the endless wait for a building permit. Fifty years of solid service to the Pine Run community from the current deck and stairs. We can hope that the next generation sees at least that much use and joy. I am unsure of what kind of timeline we are looking at. Much depends on inspection with regards to the footers and support for the roof. Granted this is no high rise, but the Miami tower collapse means extra scrutiny in following new building codes. The current footers are 3 feet deep, and new code calls for 5.

Safety during this project is very important. Keeping the large pool open for use by community members is also important. You will find the area fenced off for our safety. Access to the pool will be from the new patio side. The bathrooms, gym, and obviously the clubhouse will not be available during this time. Our maintenance office will be accessible from the front entry. During the week, you can expect the lot to be full of vehicles and equipment. Let's face it, this is a big project for us. Everybody tap your heels together 3 times and repeat..."there's no place like home."

I'll take another minute of your time to wish everyone a happy holiday season. Your Board of Directors volunteers a lot of time on your behalf to keep this place running. We don't get everything right the first time, but I believe that when you enter PR you see that it is cared for and watched over. Take a second and help us out, by making sure you are following the rules you signed for when you moved here. We will be doing another round of walk-throughs next week and the week after Christmas to finish our 2021 season.

Stay safe and enjoy this fabulous place we are lucky enough to call home...Kip

From our Landscape Chair, Keenie Bugenhagen:

Happy holidays from the Landscaping Committee! We wish Pine Run Residents all the best in the new year. Our committee has been very busy trying to improve and update the landscaping around the clubhouse, new firepit/grill area and the tennis courts. Extensive work continues on the irrigation system. Unfortunately, there are pump problems in Section 1 and at the Clubhouse, meaning that no water is available in those areas. Hopefully this will soon be remedied. In the meantime, if you see me hauling around a large kitty litter container, I am not dumping cat waste around the community. It is my water bucket; the cover allows me to actually get the bucket to plants without having spilled all the water on the way. Before the end of the year we hope to remove the Carrotwood tree that is overtaking Building 7, some invasive Queen palms that are dropping orange fruit all over walkways, as well as the Strangler fig engulfing a pine in Section 3.

Volunteers continue to meet Thursday mornings at 7:15 to remove vines and other small invasives from the common element. In addition, we have had a number of people “adopt” areas of the property to keep invasive plants from taking over. Any resident may sign up to do this by signing a waiver and having an orientation session.

Pine Run has contracted with four different landscaping companies during the time I have been involved with landscaping here. It is becoming increasingly clear that we will never be able to keep up with landscaping if we continue to follow our current trajectory. It would take full-time landscapers to adequately mow, trim and blow pine needles. Without significant increases, this will never be in our budget. We all presumably were attracted to Pine Run because of the naturalized setting and would hate to see the loss of our wooded common element. The solution is to become more diligent about what is planted where. If plants are strategically placed so that their mature size is not too big for the area, they do not need constant trimming. If we continue to replace problem and invasive plants with more well-suited plants, we will be able to enjoy living in an environment where we are surrounded by greenery that is beautiful, manageable, and affordable. To this end, please remember to get BOD approval before planting anything. Our committee will be happy to suggest appropriate plants for any area.

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A reminder of how things grow in Florida. Below is a picture of the fence line behind Building 5 taken in December 2018, and a picture taken of the same area today.

We will continue to highlight both an invasive plant that we are trying to remove from the common element and a Florida native plant that positively contributes to the ecosystem.



Melaleuca

Melaleuca quinquenervia or paper bark tree is easily identified by its bark. It is a Category 1 invasive tree that is prohibited in Florida. We have removed a lot of Melaleuca from Pine Run, but recently discovered several on the right side of the entrance to the clubhouse parking lot. It is native to Australia where it is a desired tree. Unfortunately, since it was introduced to Florida, it has taken over hundreds of thousands of acres of the Everglades. It is a prolific seed producer, which is how it spreads. Controlled burns help spread the seeds, so are ineffective in controlling this particular tree.



Live Oak

We are fortunate to have many Live oaks or *Quercus virginiana*, on the common element. These sturdy native trees are often draped in Spanish moss, which does not hurt them. They are important in sustaining the ecosystem, as Oaks provide habitat for more species of wildlife than any other type of tree in North America. They are hosts for almost 400 different varieties of butterfly and moth caterpillar. Oaks are best planted away from buildings and sidewalks, as they get quite large and their vast root system will buckle sidewalks. We need to stay on the lookout for



small seedlings coming up next to buildings so they can be removed before they become a problem.

Another Thyristor story from the 70s:

As I described in the last issue the Thyristor is a semiconductor device that could conduct hundreds of amperes and block more than a thousand volts. My company, Westinghouse, manufactured them in the US but the European market grew to the point that, with the restrictions of the “eurozone”, a factory was opened in France.

I knew some French but with this new need I received lessons at my desk at the Lab and I soon could get along in French but I was far from fluent. At the end of one visit to LeMans, where the factory was located, I had a few hours to kill before my train to Paris and the flight home.

As I walked around town I saw a barber shop and realized that I needed a haircut so I went in. I confidently announced “J’ai besoin d’un coup de cheveu.” I was greeted with looks of astonishment. It took me only a few seconds to realize that I had said “I need a horse cut.”

The French words cheveu (horse) and cheveux (hairs) are very similar in pronunciation...but that didn’t occur to these barbers. That was only one of many gaffes that I made in this role and I was always surprised that the French always looked shocked but did not see the humor in the situation. – Dan Muss

Classified Ads:

Rental Wanted: We would like to rent a two bedroom/ two bath unit in Pine Run for six weeks from Feb 15 to March 31, 2022. (All of Feb and /or all of March would be a second choice.) We have rented in Pine Run for the past six years. The unit we had rented has been sold. We really enjoy the scenery and residents of Pine Run and the warmth of the community. We can provide excellent references from Pine Run owners. Looking forward to hearing from you!

You can call **Mark and Terri** at [304-445-7822](tel:304-445-7822) or mobile, [304-646-2900](tel:304-646-2900) or email: twontrob@gmail.com