

This is the Season to be Jolly ...or is it? Happy Holidays and a Joyous 2009 to all.

As this article is being written, I can't but think, the holidays are upon us but for some reason I don't feel the jolly. You know the saying, "It's the season to be jolly". So I stop to think, why, what is different? Could it be the economy, the increase in foreclosures, the increase in unemployment, the sadness that I see on the faces of many these days?

The more I think, the further the jolly is. But why, I've been through hardship, I've faced job loss, I have lost love ones and I've been through tough times, why is the feeling so far off.

At this point the inner voice speaks and says because "you're focused on the wrong thing". Apparently, I was focused on the feeling instead of what creates the feeling. And what is it that actually creates the feeling? The inner voice gets louder and says "it is the giving that creates the jolly". If I want to feel the jolly, I will have to give. I would have to give more of my time, my finances and myself. And of course I'm thinking, please stop talking inner voice because this doesn't sound realistic. I don't have enough time nor enough money and how can I give

..... more of myself, I'm all tired out and yes, I still want to feel the jolly.

**"The more I think,
the further the
jolly is."**

I'm sure you know what happened next, the voice got even louder. "Since you're preparing the chicken soup for your family, cook a little more and give it to your neighbor, since you are

going grocery shopping pick up a few extra can goods for the needy, oh and by the way since you are going to get your hair done go and spend a little time at the shelter to cheer some of the ladies up. See you have a home, they do not. You have food, there are some that don't, you can go grocery shopping and no matter how little you think you are buying, some can't buy, they can only imagine."

Alright, I say, I hear you. My stomach is now in a knot but I begin to feel the jolly. If I give, I will receive a smile, a thank you, a gleam in the eye or a hug from a stranger. At the end of this article, the tears start to gather, my heart has some joy and that feeling of jolly is so much nearer than before. Then it was my turn to speak back to the inner voice. "I will do as you have asked me to do because I already feel what you are talking about. Thank you."

I wish all of you a happy and healthy New Year. Take a moment to hear the inner voice, turn off the television and listen to that small voice that is waiting to bring joy to your life again. You will be amazed by what you hear and the joy that is right around the corner.

Do a good deed for someone, just because, and I'm sure you will be glad you did.



2008

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NORTHWOOD
of Pasco

**Board
of Directors
Meeting Dates
2009**

The Northwood Homeowner's Association monthly Board of Director's meetings are held the first Thursday of each month at 7:00 pm.

**Board of Director's
Election Meeting
January 12, 2009
7:00 pm**



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**President's
Message**

My Fellow Northwood Neighbors:

This has been quite a year for our community. I along with the members of the Northwood Homeowners Association, Karen Uhlig Vice President, Jeff Sauber, Treasurer, Sharmaine Edginton, Secretary, and Laura Smith, Director, want to thank all of you for your support and constructive criticism throughout this past year.

I believe I can speak for the entire Board by stating we did our best to be the type of board you deserved, and we know that the job is not complete! We wanted to change the tone of our monthly meetings, create an atmosphere of mutual respect, have meaningful dialogue and account for all expenditures on behalf of our community.

We are now coming to the end of our term in office and you have the

opportunity to elect the kind of board you want to lead and manage the affairs of your community!

At our last board meeting each of the members of The 2008 Northwood HOA indicated they will seek your support for reelection to the 2009 HOA board. That includes myself.

We want to maintain the momentum we started in 2008. We want to make our community even better.

The CDD Board has made a final decision on our Club House, and if every thing goes according to plan the project should be completed within approximately 4-5 months. We must now insure the Club House becomes the Cornerstone of our goal of building a COMMUNITY.

I want to thank all of you for your confidence in me and my fellow board members, and I hope you will return us to the HOA to complete the process this board has started.

Thank you for your support during 2008, I would appreciate your support for our goals in 2009.

Burnis Kilpatrick
President, Northwood HOA

Worth Repeating ... Clearing Up the Confusion

Many homeowners are still confused or are unsure of the roles of the CDD and HOA Boards. In fact, there are three different boards within the community of Northwood and the confusion is understandable. We hope this article shed new light in understanding the different boards that exist within our community.

Your Homeowner's Association Board (HOA) is responsible for enforcing the community's governing documents (i.e., homeowner's upkeep of their properties). Also, the HOA organizes social events in an effort to bring the community together. Election occurs every year, in which you the homeowner select five members to serve as board members.

The Community Development District Board (CDD) on the other hand is responsible for maintaining the common areas, including the ponds. They are also responsible for hiring and/or firing security companies or off-duty police officers to patrol our

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NORTHWOOD IS IN NEED OF A FEW GOOD MEN & WOMEN

We are looking for a group of homeowners with lawnmowers to volunteer once a month to help maintain the abandoned homes. Together we can make a difference!

CAN'T SAY IT ENOUGH

The entire 2008 HOA Board extends our sincerest appreciation for the support you have shown us this past year. Thanks to every homeowner who attended the monthly HOA meetings. We appreciate your feedback. Many thanks to the volunteers for helping to pass out flyers and the newsletters. Thanks to the volunteers for assisting with the social events and thanks to the volunteer for donating of their time and finances. We could not have done it without your help. THANK YOU!



Karen E. Uhlig
Vice-President

New Year Superstitions

Kissing your spouse or life partner at the stroke of midnight is a very popular New Year superstition. Most superstitions, traditions and customs related to beginning of a year stems from the belief that whatever you do on the first day of the year will set the pattern for the whole coming year. Other superstitions are to ward off evil spirits and invite Lady Luck in our house. January 1st is supposed to be the most important day of the year as

everything we do on this day is supposed to become a part of our life for the next 364 days. Some popular New Year superstitions are:

Avoid breaking things, crying and wailing on the first day of the year, if you don't want to continue the pattern for the entire year.

Babies born on 1st January is said to be the luckiest of all throughout their lives.

Do not let money, jewelry, precious items or other invaluable things leave your home on New Year Day.

Do not pay loans and bills or lend things to anybody, if you do not want to show just-entered fortune the way to leave during the year.

People go to the extent of not taking out garbage or even not dusting their carpets on this day to ensure that nothing goes out of home during the year.

Dress well throughout the year by wearing new clothes on January 1st.

Full cupboards stocked up with food and wallets and purses full of money bring prosperity in New Year.

If you must take something out from the home, let someone come with the present inside the home first.

Never leave the home before someone comes in first. First footer in the house should be ushered in with a warm welcome and should not have flat feet, cross-eyes or eyebrows stretching out to meet in the middle.

Pay your bills and loans before New Year Eve, so you don't have any debt left for New Year.

Superstitions are fun to read and we all know there is not a lot of value to them. The best value and advise you can get for 2009 is to be part of your community. Come to our meetings, let us know what you want and need from us. We want to serve you the best way we can. My hope for 2009 would be to be able to meet each and every one of you.

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Worth Repeating ... Clearing Up the Confusion

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community. Additionally, the CDD board is responsible for the operation and upkeep of the community amenities such as the pool, basketball and tennis courts, and the kid's playgrounds. Each board member serves for four years

The Barrington sub-section has its own HOA management company separate from CAMS. However, residents in the Barrington are held to the same guidelines as the other two sub-sections within Northwood, Preserve and Carlyle.

Your HOA management representative can be reached at (813) 874-2200 and your CDD management representative can be reached at (813) 873-7300.

Visit the community's official website at www.northwoodofpasco.com for meeting updates and upcoming events.



Jeff Sauber
Treasurer

Hello to the Residents of Northwood

Wow! What a year this has been. The residents of Northwood have been on a roller coaster ride this year, but I believe we have come through better than anyone anticipated. We wrap up this year and begin a new one very soon. We will be voting again soon for HOA board members. I personally have decided to go ahead and run again. The year we just had I cannot imagine a better opportunity to see come to fruition of all the effort that myself and fellow board members have done to help improve the community.

I have enjoyed very much the time I have spent this year with a terrific group of people that have had the best interests of Northwood at heart at all times. The integrity, openness, and honesty have flowed freely with contributions from many members of our community.

The inputs have been a welcomed factor all year long.

Personally, I have enjoyed tremendously the actions and passion that the residents of our neighborhood have shown in developing the plans we have instituted at various times this year and look forward to the same in 2009.

Thank you to all who have shown support throughout the year. I hope to see all of you at the election. In closing, I wish all a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!

Your Vote Matters and It's All Up to Us!

January 2008 Annual Election meeting broke all records by most accounts. Let's set a new record this year.

The 2009 Annual Election Board of Director's meeting is Monday, January 12th @ 7 PM at the Pebble Creek Golf Club on Bruce-B-Downs Blvd. Please help keep Northwood moving in the right direction with your vote. If you cannot attend on election night, then send in your ballot. Also, you may sign over your proxy to a friend or neighbor and allow them to vote on your behalf.

Do not allow our community to revert back to the status quo, let your voice be heard. Vote on January 12th for your 2009 board members.

We can all think back at those times in our life when we asked ourselves, what if we would have voted, what if we would have gotten involved, what if we would have taken the time could and would the results be different? If we would have learned more about the candidates could

the troubles have been predicted? Would we be faced with the issues we have now or would it be better? If only we would have stepped up to the plate! These thoughts play over and over and over in our minds always after the fact. Hind site is always 20/20.

If we had another chance would we make sure we did the right thing?

It seems that only when we have been dealt a bad blow do we get up, get out, get involved and vote. The 2008 Presidential election is proof of that. When everything "appears" to be fine and our well being isn't at stake we make excuses on why we don't have time to vote, it's really not important since our comfort is not being disturbed...

We are now hereby challenged to think and believe otherwise.

When all appears to be calm we must get out and vote to make sure the right

individuals are elected. If it is calm and change has come then we must vote to re-elect the individuals who have brought about the good change. If we stay quiet (our vote is our voice) we must expect that the wrong individuals will be seated and if turmoil exist, blame OURSELVES!

The 2008 Board members are running for a second term to complete what they have started. The accomplishments of the 2008 Board is due to us voting them into office and holding them accountable. They need all of us to do our part again. The 2008 Board holds meetings where all owners get an opportunity to speak, have recorded minutes of their meetings per F.S. 720, adopted community standards to bring the association in to compliance with F.S. 720, donated their time and monies to hold community events, worked with management to make sure funds are spent accordingly to the budget and acceptable accounting practices and has

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Sharmaine Edginton
Secretary

Hope

My last article talked about counting our blessings. In light of some of the conversations I have shared with some homeowners as well as my own personal experiences this past year, I felt compelled to write about hope.

Hope is a **belief** in a positive outcome related to events and **circumstances** in one's life. Hope is the feeling that what is wanted can be had or that events will turn out for the best. To hope is to wish for something with the expectation of the wish being fulfilled, a key condition in **unrequited love**. -(Wikipedia).

It has been a difficult year for many of us. Some of us have lost our jobs, others have had health issues, many face financial issues and some have had personal relation issues. In a community of 638 homeowners, no doubt there is someone on your street who is going through the exact or similar situation. We all know the old saying, "it takes a village to raise a child." I believe it takes caring individuals to build a community. Recognize that even though we are all so vastly different, in many ways we are all the same. We all want to live in peace. We all want to have financial and physical security and most of all we all want to be love and respected.

The aforementioned can apply both to our personal lives and as members of our community. First, remember that in order to have good neighbors, you must first be a good neighbor yourself. Respect and consideration of others goes a long way in building good relations with others. Second, in terms of personal relationships, I believe in the following quote: "I will put what you need the most, when you deserve it the least at my cost"-(Unknown). As a wife and resident of Northwood, I share with you these two principles by which I live my life.

As we all continue to do our best to make it through this year in one piece, let's hope and trust that there is a brighter tomorrow. Do not allow the pressures of life to affect your relationship with your loved ones or neighbors. Remember, to have good neighbors, first you must be a good neighbor. Don't expect your neighbor to look the other way to your wrongdoing. Likewise, treat your loved ones as if you will never see them again. After all, tomorrow isn't promised to any of us.

My hope for 2008 was to help bring positive change to Northwood. I sincerely hope, the effort of this board, at the very least has lead us in the right direction. Whether or not I am re-elected in 2009, I pray that the best interest of the community as a whole as well as each homeowner will always be and remain a priority to board members.

I Thank each and every one of you for entrusting your well being and that of our community to my fellow board members and me this past year, and I hope our intentions were well received.

A Healthy and Prosperous 2009 and beyond to All.

Be Blessed, *Sharmaine*



Your Vote Matters and It's All Up to Us!

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been transparent regarding all aspects of the community.

The 2009 Annual Elections will be held January 12, 2009 at the Pebble Creek Golf Club and the community is scheduled to elect five members to govern the affairs of the association. Members who are running for the Board should be in good standing with the association (paying assessments on time and not in violation of governing documents and rules and regulations) and have the best interest of the community in mind. For the right individuals to be elected to the Board we must be willing to step up and stand up for what we believe in. For those who are unable to attend the annual meeting (remember there is no excuse) complete a proxy and give it to a friend or neighbor who you know will vote your values.

There are countless events where elected Board members had their own selfish agenda in mind. These individuals placed the wellbeing of the community at stake all for their selfish gain. Elected Board members have a responsibility to balance the needs and obligations of the community as a whole, understand the association's governing documents and become educated with respect to applicable state and local laws, and to manage the community accordingly, encourage input from residents on issues that effect them personally and the community as a whole, encourage events that foster neighborliness and a sense of community and be willing to give of their time, freely.

**IT'S ALL UP TO US, LET'S VOTE
THE 2008 BOARD BACK IN!**

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**NORTHWOOD HOMEOWNERS
WISH TO THANK THE 2008 HOA BOARD
THROUGH THIS FULL PAGE AD**

**RE-ELECT
Burnis Kilpatrick, Karen Uhlig
Jeffrey Sauber, Laura Smith
and Sharmaine Edginton**

We cannot THANK YOU, enough for ALL the HARD and DILIGENT voluntary work you did for NORTHWOOD COMMUNITY this year "2008". We know you did it without a budget and faced many challenges. This year's success could not have happened without good leadership.

The Easter Egg Hunt: The weather permitted the children of our community to enjoy the famous Easter Egg Hunt, games and of course the one and only Mr. Easter Rabbit. What a joy to see the kids from our Communities have so much fun.

The Veterans Parade: Wow, you never know who has served our country. We are sure that we have more men and women in our community that serve or have served our country that did not show up. To witness those who serve UNITED STATES OF AMERICA is something to be proud of. We thank God for all those special men and women who have served or is currently serving our county. What a breathtaking event.

The PICNIC (AKA BBQ): Everybody had fun. The weather was great. The BIG tent was an excellent idea. Did not feel the heat. There was plenty of food, and gave away what ever was left over. Thanks to some of the people who donated food, we had more than enough.

The TWO YARD SALES: Always glad to get rid of things that make money for us. Right?

The SANTA CLAUSE EVENT: The one event the children look forward to. There was nothing phony about Santa. Jolly Santa paraded all over Northwood Community. God dearly blessed him with a lot of gifts to share with the children. Every child that attended the event received a gift. THANK GOD for Santa, who came to visit our kids in our community.

HOA Board, the above-mentioned events would never happen without all the planning you did to make it happen. We look forward for your services once more next year. YOU CERTAINLY HAVE OUR VOTE ON 1/12/08. We need honest and good leadership to represent NORTHWOOD COMMUNITY. We thank each and every one of you HOA MEMBERS for making it happen. We love you.

THIS IS A BOARD WE CAN BELIEVE IN AND WE MUST VOTE THEM BACK IN!

NORTHWOOD HOMEOWNERS



Laura Smith
HOA Director

Greetings to All My Friends and Neighbors

Hello Friends and Neighbors. During this busy time of year, I hope you all take time out to enjoy yourselves and spend some fun time with the ones you love. The community around us has grown so quickly these past few years, it is almost not recognizable from the time Northwood first began moving in residents. The new Wiregrass mall that has been in planning and construction for years now is a reality. Although it is overwhelmingly crowded from time to time, it is really beautiful with a lot of fun shops to visit. I hope you all get a chance to visit the Christmas tree lighting and music production they put on during the holiday evenings. But if stores and shopping don't interest you, then spend an evening walking around the neighborhood and see the holiday displays that your neighbors have put up. Some of the houses are absolutely beautiful, and most just make you smile on a chilly night. Sometimes the best holiday memories are the simple ones; a bowl of popcorn, hot cocoa, and a favorite seasonal movie that the whole family enjoys together.

But as this is our last newsletter of the year, I want to tell you what I wish for the New Year. But instead of sharing my resolutions for using the treadmill 5 times a week, or finally cleaning out the junk from the garage, I want to share my hopes for the residents of Northwood. I hope that the clubhouse is built and we are able to use it as a gathering place for community business and fun events. I hope we have beautiful weather for all the planned events, and our neighbors come together to share some smiles. I hope we are able to start some special interest clubs, like a book reading club or Mommy and Me club, so that we can make new friends. I hope that the CDD and the HOA are able to meet their goals of serving the community and maintaining a balanced, sensible budget. Most of all, I hope that the difficult times the current economy has caused will improve and the lives of all our residents becomes an easier, more relaxed pace.

I close this column with a simple message. I wish all of you Happy Holidays and a bright New Year. And for those of you, who are visiting up North this time of year, get some long underwear because it's cold up there.

TOP TEN New Years Resolutions

1. Spend More Time with Family & Friends
2. Fit in Fitness
3. Tame the Bulge
4. Quit Smoking
5. Enjoy Life More
6. Quit Drinking
7. Get Out of Debt
8. Learn Something New
9. Help Others
10. Get Organized


NORTHWOOD
of Pasco
 Homeowner's Association

Community Maintenance Committee Volunteer Application

Name (please print) _____

Address _____

Preserve, Carlyle, Barrington (Please circle one)

Phone _____ Email _____

What are your available days and times? _____

Please mail to: CAMS-Northwood of Pasco Volunteer Committee - 2002 N. Lois Ave. Suite 507 Tampa, FL 33607

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Mark Your Calendars!

The HOA
 Election meeting
 is scheduled for
 Monday,
 January 12, 2009
 at the
 Pebble Creek
 Golf Club

Regular HOA Board meetings
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