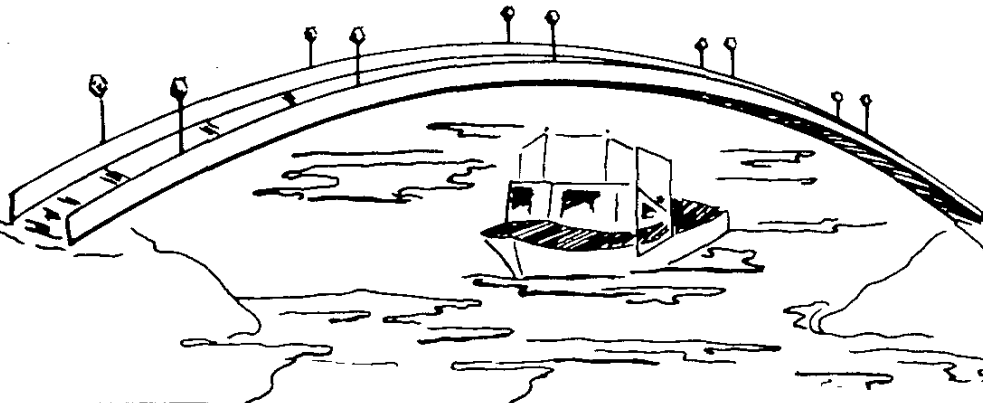


The Eden Isles Community Forum



VOL: 2 NO. 1

P.O.Box 4044 Slidell, Louisiana 70459

JANUARY 1990



BACK TO THE COMMUNITY FORUM

DEAR NEIGHBOR:

HAPPY NEW YEAR! MAY 1990 BE THE BEGINNING OF A HEALTHY AND PROSPEROUS DECADE FOR ALL. '89 CERTAINLY WENT OUT WITH A "BANG" - THE SNAP, CRACKLE AND POP YOU HEARD WERE THE SOUNDS OF PIPES BREAKING, PLANTS FREEZING, AND ENGINE BLOCKS CRACKING. WAS YOUR HEAT PUMP ABLE TO KEEP UP WITH YOUR THERMOSTAT? FINAL DAMAGE WILL BE ASSESSED WHEN THE ELECTRIC AND WATER BILLS COME IN ... SERIOUSLY, FOLKS, MANY NEIGHBORS SUFFERED SEVERE DAMAGE AS WELL AS GREAT INCONVENIENCE, ESPECIALLY, IN THOSE HOMES WHERE PEOPLE WERE AWAY. AND HOW ABOUT THE 38 FOOT BOAT IN THE GRETEL VE CANAL WHICH ALMOST SUNK??? IN MOST CASES, ALERT NEIGHBORS CALLED FOR HELP AND FIRE DISTRICT #1 AND PARISH PERSONNEL WERE ABLE TO RESPOND EFFECTIVELY. THANKS TO ALL WHO PITCHED IN TO AID IN THE CRISES.

INTERNATIONALLY SPEAKING, THE 1990'S LOOK BRIGHT WITH PROSPECTS FOR PEACE AND DEMOCRACY, WHAT WITH THE CRUMBLING OF THE BERLIN WALL, THE OUSTER OF COMMUNIST REGIMES IN EASTERN EUROPE, AND THE FALL OF THE PANAMANIAN DICTATOR. ON THE HOME FRONT, WE MUST WORK TO ENSURE THAT OUR GOVERNMENTS ARE FISCALLY RESPONSIBLE AND FIND OTHER MEANS TO SOLVE PROBLEMS BESIDES IMPLEMENTING NEW TAXES AND CUTTING SERVICES.

JAMES RESTON SAID IT BEST:

"ALL POLITICS ARE BASED ON THE INDIFFERENCE OF THE MAJORITY."

WE CANNOT AFFORD TO BE INDIFFERENT.

SECURITY

By Marilyn Meier

ON NOVEMBER 27, 1989, IT WAS REPORTED THAT ONLY 277 FAMILIES HAD PAID FOR SECURITY SERVICE DURING THE FINAL QUARTER OF THE YEAR. THIS FIGURE REPRESENTS AN ALL-TIME LOW, AS PARTICIPATION HAS NEVER DROPPED BELOW 300 BEFORE. IN RESPONSE TO COMMUNITY FEEDBACK, THE GUARDS WERE INSTRUCTED TO ROVE ONE HOUR EACH SHIFT INSTEAD OF TWO.

IT IS IMPERATIVE THAT WE DEFINE THE PROBLEMS AND IMPLEMENT SOLUTIONS TO ADDRESS THE LOW PARTICIPATION IN SECURITY MEMBERSHIP. IT IS NOT ONLY A LOT CHEAPER TO PAY \$120.00 PER YEAR FOR OUR OWN SERVICE, RATHER THAN \$300 A YEAR TO A TAXING DISTRICT (WHICH, IF VOTED IN, WILL LIVE FOR THE NEXT 50 YEARS,) BUT IT IS A LOT MORE COST-EFFECTIVE. YOUR \$120.00 WILL GO 100% FOR SERVICE YOU CAN SEE, AND YOU WILL NOT LOSE 40 CENTS OUT OF EVERY DOLLAR TO PARISH AND OTHER OVERHEAD COSTS.

\$120 IS ALSO A LOT LESS THAN WHAT ANOTHER HALF-CENT SALES TAX WOULD COST YOU DURING THE YEAR (IF JANUARY 20TH REFERENDUM PASSES) AND, AGAIN, THE BIG ADVANTAGE IS THAT YOU CAN BE ASSURED THAT EVERY PENNY OF YOUR MONEY IS BEING SPENT HERE, AT YOUR "FRONT DOOR."

OUR EXPERIENCE HAS TAUGHT US THAT, NO MATTER HOW MUCH MONEY YOU ARE REQUIRED TO GIVE TO A BUREAUCRATIC GOVERNMENT ENTITY, THE TAXPAYER NEVER GETS HIS MONEY'S WORTH, SO DON'T DEPEND ON "BIG BROTHER" TO TAKE CARE OF YOU. WE NEED TO TAKE CARE OF OURSELVES.

REMEMBER, THE POLICE ARRIVE ONLY AFTER SOMETHING HAPPENS (THE SHERIFF'S RESPONSE TIME TO A CALL THESE DAYS IS 15 MINUTES), WHILE YOUR GUARDS, BY THEIR MERE PRESENCE, DETER THE CASUAL THIEF FROM COMING IN AND HELP PREVENT "HIT AND RUN" STRIKES BY OUTSIDERS.

THE GUARDS DO MORE THAN THAT, HOWEVER, AND IN THE FUTURE YOU WILL BE HEARING ABOUT SOME OF THE OTHER BENEFITS YOU REAP BY SUPPORTING THIS SERVICE.

TAXPAYER ALERT

ST. TAMMANY SHERIFF PAT CANULETTE HAS A ONE-HALF CENT SALES TAX REFERENDUM ON THE BALLOT FOR SATURDAY, JANUARY 20TH. HIS DEPARTMENT'S PRESENT BUDGET IS 7 MILLION DOLLARS PER YEAR. IF PASSED BY THE VOTERS, THIS TAX WOULD RAISE AN ADDITIONAL 5 MILLION DOLLARS, THEREBY ALMOST DOUBLING HIS FUNDS. WHILE THE SHERIFF'S PRESENTATION AT A PUBLIC MEETING ON NOVEMBER 27TH WAS LENGTHY IN DETAILING WHY HE NEEDED ADDITIONAL LAW ENFORCEMENT FUNDS, IT WAS ALSO SOMEWHAT INFLAMMATORY AND SEEMED DESIGNED TO ALARM VOTERS.

WE URGE YOU TO EXERCISE YOUR VOTING PRIVILEGE ON SATURDAY, JANUARY 20TH.

(AND REMEMBER, "FOR EVERY BENEFIT YOU RECEIVE, A TAX IS LEVIED.")
[EMERSON]

Look What's Up!

IT TOOK OUR LAST EDITION'S "RUMOR OF THE MONTH" TO SMOKE 'EM OUT, BUT IT WAS NICE TO FINALLY HEAR SOMETHING FROM AND ABOUT OUR DRAINAGE DISTRICT.

WE NOT ONLY HAD SANTA BY BOAT ON DECEMBER 17, BUT SANTA ON A FIRE TRUCK, CLANGING THROUGH THE SUBDIVISION ON DECEMBER 24 WITH HIS HELPERS. SANTA'S REINDEER WERE HOME AT THE NORTH POLE WHERE IT WAS A NICE, WARM 23 DEGREES, SO FIRE DISTRICT #1 PROVIDED THEIR 1952 ANTIQUE FIRE TRUCK AND A NORTH SHORE VOLUNTEER DRIVER FOR THE TRIP AROUND N ISLES. DUE TO HIS CONVINCING PERFORMANCE, WE UNDERSTAND THAT THE DISSIDENTS AT THE NORTH POLE ARE DRAFTING MILTON GIBSON TO RUN FOR KRIS KRINGLE'S #1 SPOT IN THE WESTERN HEMISPHERE NEXT YEAR. (AND A HEARTY "HO HO" TO YOU-ALL.)

Thank You

WE'D LIKE TO TAKE THIS OPPORTUNITY TO THANK THE DEDICATED PEOPLE WHO HAVE BEEN HELPING US WITH THE COMMUNITY FORUM - AND A SPECIAL BOW TO THE HEARTY SOULS THAT DELIVER IT YOUR FRONT DOOR. THANKS GANG!


DEDICATION CEREMONIES WILL BE HELD ON FRIDAY, JANUARY 19 FOR ENGINE #4, PURCHASED AT AUCTION BY THE NORTH SHORE VOLUNTEERS. THIS TRUCK WILL BE STATIONED ON CARR DRIVE AND WILL BE USED TO RESPOND TO CALLS IN EDEN ISLES.

A 3 YEAR CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM FOR THE PARISH ROAD SYSTEM WILL BEGIN THIS YEAR; THE ONLY EDEN ISLE STREET SLATED FOR IMPROVEMENT IN 1990 IS MOONRAKER DRIVE. (SORRY, RAMPAGE LOOP ...)

FIRE DISTRICT #1 UNVEILED ITS \$4,110,870.00 BUDGET RECENTLY. (YOU WILL REMEMBER THAT THEY WON A REFERENDUM FOR ADDITIONAL MILLAGE IN NOVEMBER.) A WHOPPING 80% OF THE FUNDS IN THE NEW BUDGET ARE DEVOTED TO SALARY INCREASES OF 78 PAID PERSONNEL IN 1990.

SWAP OR SELL

OAK FIREWOOD DELIVERED AND STACKED RACKS AND KINDLING, TOO!
649-5572 OR 649-7402



Urgent Reminder

YOU PAY TO SUPPORT THESE TAX DISTRICTS ... HAVE YOU EVER GONE TO A MEETING???

FIRE DISTRICT #1: MEETS ON SECOND TUESDAY OF EVERY MONTH AT 7:00 AT CHAMPAGNE FIRE STATION, BOUSCAREN & SGT. ALFRED, SLIDELL.

DRAINAGE DISTRICT #2: MEETS ON THE THIRD WEDNESDAY OF EACH MONTH AT SLIDELL/CHAMBERS, 2055 SECOND STREET AT 3:30 P.M.

LIGHTING DISTRICT #7: NO REGULAR MEETINGS/NO COMMISSIONERS. REQUESTS FOR STREET LIGHTS MADE THRU MILTON GIBSON, POLICE JUROR. JOHN BLAIR, DEPT. OF PUBLIC WORKS, OVERSEES WORK AND BUDGET.

MOSQUITO DISTRICT #2: MEETS ON THIRD WEDNESDAY OF EVERY MONTH AT 7:00 P.M. AT 2800 TERRACE AVE., SLIDELL. ALL 5 MEMBERS APPOINTED BY POLICE JURY.

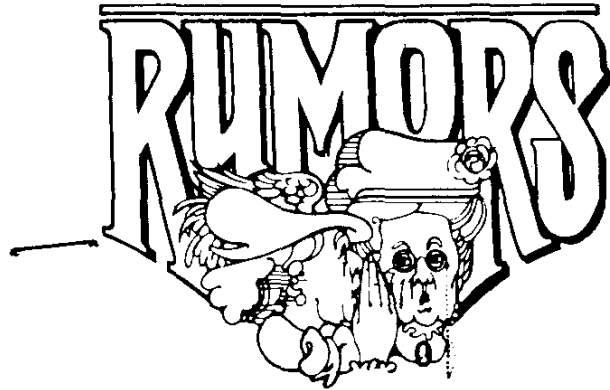
POLICE JURY: MEETS ON THIRD THURSDAY OF EVERY MONTH AT 4:00 P.M. AT 428 E. BOSTON STREET, COVINGTON.

YOUR POLICE JUROR: MILTON GIBSON,
641-6971

EDEN ISLES COMMUNITY SERVICES DISTRICT: MEETS ON FIRST MONDAY OF EVERY MONTH AT 7:00 P.M. AT ABNEY ELEMENTARY SCHOOL, SLIDELL. NEXT MEETING: FEBRUARY 5, 1990.

TAXING PROPOSITION SLATED FOR BALLOT ON APRIL 7, 1990.

(CHAIRMAN; GEORGE H. VAN GEFFEN,
649-3742)

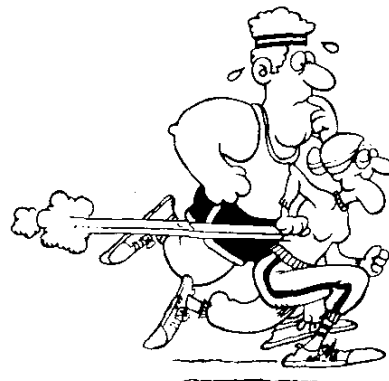


RUMOR OF THE MONTH

WE KNOW YOU'VE HEARD IT MANY TIMES BEFORE, BUT ON JANUARY 9 THE DOTD ADVISED THAT WORK CREWS HAD 18 MORE DAYS OF WORK TO COMPLETE BEFORE THE OAK HARBOR/I-10 INTERCHANGE COULD OPEN; THEY THEREFORE ESTIMATE THAT, ALLOWING FOR WEEKENDS AND INCLEMENT WEATHER, THE NEW EXIT/ENTRANCE SHOULD BE READY BY THE MIDDLE OF FEBRUARY.

A L S O:

LOOK AND LISTEN CAREFULLY IN THE NEXT COUPLE OF MONTHS AND YOU MIGHT SEE/HEAR SOME NEW FACES AND NEW IDEAS BLOWING THROUGH THE SUBDIVISION ...



BULLETIN



IMPORTANT!! IMPORTANT!! IMPORTANT!!

CLECO NEWS

A RECURRING PROBLEM AT THE HIGHWAY 11 ENTRANCE TO EDEN ISLES IS THAT SOME DRIVERS USE THE OUTWARD BOUND, EXITING LANE TO TURN IN FROM HIGHWAY 11, AND OTHERS EVEN USE THE ENTRANCE LANE TO TURN OUT INTO HIGHWAY 11. THIS IS A VERY DANGEROUS SITUATION, AND THERE HAVE BEEN SEVERAL NEAR ACCIDENTS. THE SECURITY COMMITTEE PURCHASED "ONE-WAY" SIGNS FOR USE AT THE HIGHWAY 11 ENTRANCE/EXIT, BUT THEY ARE STILL SITTING IN THEIR CARTON. SINCE EARLY DECEMBER, SEVERAL CALLS HAVE BEEN MADE BY SPONSORS OF THIS NEWSLETTER TO THE PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT (WHICH IS POSED TO BE IN CHARGE OF SUCH MATTERS) ASKING THEM TO GET ONE WAY SIGNS ERECTED, BUT THESE HAVE BEEN MET WITH STUDIED INDIFFERENCE ON THE PART OF THE PARISH. WE HOPE THAT SOMETHING IS DONE BEFORE SERIOUS PROPERTY DAMAGE AND PERSONAL INJURY RESULT FROM SOME PEOPLE'S CALLOUS DISREGARD OF THE CONVENTIONAL USE OF THE ENTRANCE/EXIT LANES TO AND FROM HIGHWAY 11.

DID YOU MISS YOUR HEAT, COFFEE, OR TV PROGRAMS LAST MONTH? DID YOU GET "CAUGHT" WITH A CAKE IN THE OVEN, OR WET CLOTHES IN THE DRYER?? ON DECEMBER 13 AND 14 THE SUB-DIVISION EXPERIENCED POWER OUTAGES RANGING FROM A FEW MINUTES TO APPROXIMATELY 4 HOURS. THESE, WE ARE TOLD, WERE DUE TO CABLE FAILURES AND A WIRE WHICH BURNED DOWN ON A POLE LOCATED ON PEBBLE BEACH DRIVE. THE PEBBLE BEACH PROBLEM WAS SOMEWHAT DANGEROUS; CLECO HAD TO KILL ALL POWER WHILE A SPECIAL CREW WAS CALLED IN TO REPLACE THE BURNED WIRE.

ONE OF THE LONG-TERM ADVANTAGES OF CLECO'S ONGOING PROJECT TO REPLACE UNDERGROUND POWER CABLES IS THAT THE NUMBER OF HOMES AFFECTED BY ANY PARTICULAR CABLE FAILURE WILL BE GREATLY REDUCED.

WE TRY TO THINK ABOUT THE IMPROVEMENTS THAT ARE PROMISED (LESS INTERRUPTIONS AND BETTER SERVICE) AS WE DRIVE THROUGH THE SUBDIVISION AND OBSERVE THE INCONVENIENCE AND "MESS" BEING CREATED BY THE BACKHOES. ONE CAN ONLY HOPE THAT THE WORST WILL BE OVER SOON.

"THERE IS ONE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN A TAX COLLECTOR AND A TAXIDERMIST

THE TAXIDERMIST LEAVES THE HIDE."

MORTIMER CAPLAN
INTERNAL REVENUE DIR. 1963.

Letters

MORE RESPONSES TO "VIEWPOINT"

I WOULD LIKE TO SEE GUARD SERVICE USED AT KEY TIMES AND OTHER RANDOM SELECTED TIMES, SO AS NOT TO SEE A PATTERN WHICH WOULD MAKE IT EASY TO PREDICT THEIR (GUARDS) TIME ON THE SCENE.

MICHAEL DOOLEY

WE ARE VERY HAPPY TO HAVE A SECURITY SERVICE. IF ANY REASON YOU CAN'T AFFORD SECURITY GUARDS FOR 24 HRS. THEN YOU CUT DOWN GUARD DUTY FOR DAYTIME, BUT FOR SURE WE NEED NIGHT TIME SECURITY. PLEASE KEEP IN MIND OUR REQUEST.

A. & V. SAINI

CAN'T HELP BUT WONDER ... IF THE RESIDENTS IN EDEN ISLES WHO ARE OPPOSED TO GUARD SERVICE EVER LIVED IN A NEIGHBORHOOD WHERE THEY (AND ALL THEIR NEIGHBORS) WERE BURGLARIZED?

MR. & MRS. V. M. PHELPS

OUR STREETS ARE DEDICATED PUBLIC PROPERTY FOR LAWFUL USE BY ANY AND ALL CITIZENS. WE HAVE NO RIGHT TO INTIMIDATE THOSE WISHING TO USE THEM. I DO NOT ASPIRE TO THE BELIEF THAT WITHOUT THE "GUARDS" OUR SUB-DIVISION WOULD BECOME A CRIMINAL HAVEN.

FRED J. VOGT

JUST CHECK THE POLICE REPORTS FOR SLIDELL VS. EDEN ISLES. THE GUARD SYSTEM WORKS!

J. R. ANSLOW

EDITORIAL NOTE:

"FORUM" RECEIVED A LENGTHY LETTER FROM BETTY YOUNG, 1989 SECURITY COMMITTEE CHAIRPERSON FOR THE HOMEOWNERS ASSOCIATION, WHEREIN SHE DESCRIBED HOW THE COMMITTEE OPERATED AND POINTED TO THE FACT THAT ONLY 10% OF RESIDENTS HABITUALLY RESPOND TO REQUESTS FOR INPUT. INASMUCH AS MRS. YOUNG HAS HAD THE OPPORTUNITY, ON A MONTHLY BASIS, TO PRESENT THIS SAME INFORMATION IN THE "EDEN ISLANDER," AS WELL AS IN PERSON AT ASSOCIATION MEETINGS, WE DID NOT OPT TO PRINT HER LETTER, PREFERRING INSTEAD TO USE THE SPACE FOR OTHERS WHO HAVE NOT PREVIOUSLY BEEN PUBLISHED. WE STATED IN OUR FIRST ARTICLE ON SECURITY THAT: "THIS (DROP IN SECURITY PARTICIPATION) HAS OCCURRED DESPITE THE BEST EFFORTS OF THE EDEN ISLES HOMEOWNERS ASSOCIATION SECURITY COMMITTEE, WHO HAVE WORKED DILIGENTLY TO GIVE US THE MOST FOR THE LEAST." NO CRITICISM OF INDIVIDUAL MEMBERS OF THE COMMITTEE WAS EVER IMPLIED OR INTENDED.

