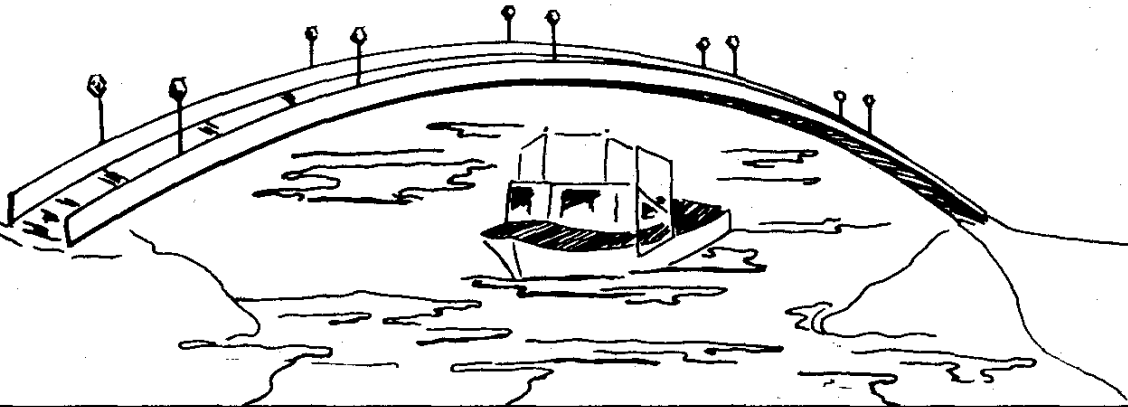


The Eden Isles Community Forum



Vol. 1 No. 1

P.O.Box 4044 Slidell, Louisiana 70459

October 1989

WELCOME TO THE COMMUNITY FORUM

This publication is an effort to fill a need in the community for a communication network whereby residents can air and share views and, hopefully, achieve a consensus on the issues that concern them. It is an effort to provide a forum-to get YOUR input; to be YOUR outlet. We want every homeowner to feel free to contribute to this effort, with letters, advertisements or humor -our objective is to produce a thought - provoking and informative means of communication between neighbors.

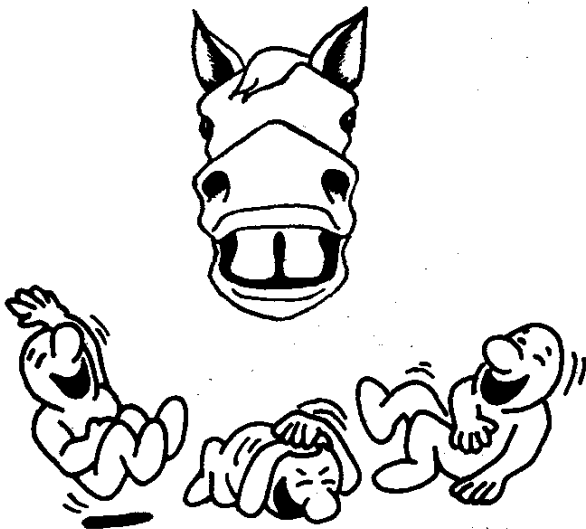
We are committed to the principals of accuracy and fairness and will not accept anything that smacks of personal attack on any individual. Your letters must be signed with name, address and telephone number as to ensure authenticity.

Let us hear from you with Community-related news, ideas or opinions; be the "reporter" for your block - - send us new baby\business\boats announcements, items for sale\swap,

lost or found. Send us your solutions remedies, and view points on local issues and "hot topics."

You can even send us a monetary contribution if you like the concept of this publication - it is a voluntary, not - for - profit effort with limited resources; therefore, additional financial support would be welcome.

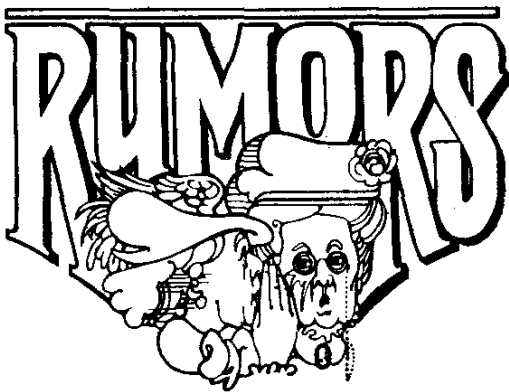
With your assistance and encouragement, we look forward to continuing the effort to build a stronger, friendlier community of which we all can be proud. This issue brought to you by Friends of the Community Forum: Mr. & Mrs. Lawrence Baas, Mr. & Mrs. Ralph Dixon, Mr. & Mrs. Earl Duke, Mr. & Mrs. Rene Durel, Capt. & Mrs. Roy Evans, Mr. & Mrs. J.B. Fortson, Mr. & Mrs. H. LeBlanc, Mr. & Mrs. B. Leto, Mr. & Mrs. R. Meier, Mr. & Mrs. A. Raimer, Mr. K. Pedeaux, Mr. & Mrs. W. Triay, and Mr. & Mrs. F. Vogt.



BULLETIN

"FROM THE HORSE'S MOUTH"

The Secretary of State's office has advised Chairman Van Geffen that the Eden Isles Community Services District Plan and Tax will not be able to appear on the November 18th ballot, due to certain time and paperwork requirements.



RUMOR OF THE MONTH

It is NOT true that the Loch Ness Monster is being flown in to patrol the canals in Eden Isles.

LAKESIDE UTILITIES REQUEST FOR WATER RATE INCREASE.

A call to Public Service Commission District #1, Commissioner John F. Schwegmann, revealed that Lakeside Utilities request for a rate increase "has been tabled indefinitely."

Eden Isles Garden Club

The first meeting of the club was held by the new president, Mrs. Marilyn Cazaubon at the home of Mrs. Jay Leto co-hosted by Mrs. Deanie Graff.

The club judged the back yards on August 8th, 1989 and the winners were:

1st. A.J. and Nell Forestall - 109 Carina Circle.

2nd. A.J. and Hazel Wonig - 440 Charles Court.

3rd. Bill and Linda Triay - 214 Constellation Drive.

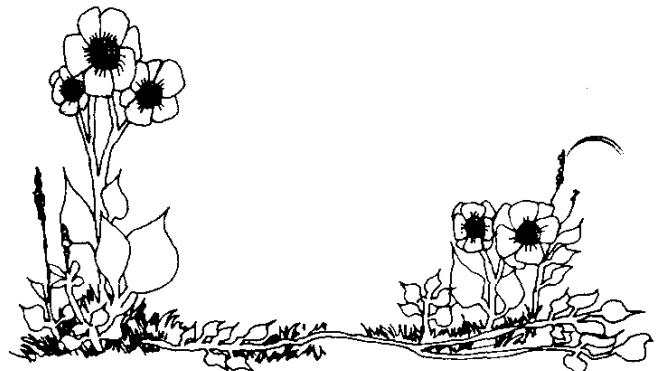
Front yards were judged September 5th and the winners are:

1st. Jim and Lynn Murden - 402 Eden Isles Boulevard.

2nd. Thomas and Judy Maurer - 205 Eydie Lane.

3rd. Lester and Gay Swanson - 124 Ranger Place.

The club will award the winner with a \$25.00 gift certificate from a nursery.



SECURITY

by Marilyn Meier

On August 21, 1989, it was reported that voluntary participation in the security service had dropped from a high of 420 homes (reported on 4/24/89) to only 295 for the quarter ended 9/30/89. This 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. (This "opinion" letter is not meant as any criticism of that committee.)

While some view the significant decrease in participation as final and conclusive evidence that "volunteerism" does not work, it behooves us to look deeper for the causes of this withdrawal of support for the security service.

Here are some theories:

1. Backlash

Security is funded on a voluntary basis. That fact was forgotten or ignored when the decision to change services and sign a contract was arbitrarily made by a few people. All of the people who pay for the service should have been called to a meeting, given the results of the bid process, and allowed a vote on how their money was to be spent, and with whom. This was not done. The "volunteer," denied input, sends a message -- he withholds his money.

2. Backlash

"Volunteerism" cannot and will not work when important, monetary decisions that affect the volunteer are made without full disclosure and an opportunity for the "volunteer" to voice his opinion, nor will it work without allowing the "volunteers" to choose their own representatives to administer the service. So long as the present practice continues, the "volunteer"

denied the democratic process. This situation demeans the worth of the "volunteer's" support and signals contempt for him. The payer ("volunteer") sends a message -- he stops paying.

3. Backlash

Many residents are still upset about the formation of the Eden Isles Community Services District. They cannot do anything about that until it's on the ballot, but they can send a message of disapproval by withholding funds and canceling membership in the Security Service. The resident sends his message -- he withdraws his support of the Security Service.

If you have withdrawn your support for security in the last six months for any of these reasons, AND

If you would be willing to resume your support under the leadership of an independent committee selected at an open meeting by the "volunteers" who pay for the service, please let us hear from you by returning the viewpoint questionnaire at the end of this publication to:

The Community Forum
P.O. Box 4044
Slidell, LA 70459



BOUQUETS TO CLECO for fixing the sprinkler system on the Eden Isles Boulevard neutral ground and for replanting the damaged areas, as they promised to do.

We appreciate their fulfilling the commitment they made to restore the disrupted areas. Thank you, CLECO!



TAXPAYER ALERT

This is what you paid for on your 1988 real estate tax bill, based on information from the Assessor's Office:

	Mills
Schools	85.41
Assessor	3.12
Sheriff	12.58
Drainage	2.11
Library	10.13
Public Health	2.11
General (Parish)	3.48
Lighting Dist. #7	5.29
Fire Dist. #1	21.28
Mosquito Dist.	8.50

Total 154.01

All taxing districts in the Parish start out with a base millage of 115.49 (1988). Eden Isles property owners paid an additional 38.52 mills for their special taxing districts in 1988.

Don't forget to vote on October 17, on the request for an additional 15 mill increase for the Fire District.

SLIDELL REGISTRAR OF VOTERS OFFICE RELOCATED

Yvonne K. Allison, Registrar of Voters, announces that the Slidell Branch Office will relocate at 2124 First Street which is in the St. Tammany Home Builders Association building. This move will become effective Monday, September 25, 1989.

Yvonne K. Allison
Registrar of Voters



Urgent Reminder

Police jury meets every 3rd Thursday at 4pm in Covington.

October meeting - Oct. 19th

Slidell phone - 646-4082

Covington phone 898-2362

Milton Gibson 641-6971
(your juror)

Eden Isles' Community Services District

Monday, October 2, 1989 -7:00pm

Abney Elementary School

Cafeteria - 825 Kostmayer Drive
Slidell

For information, contact: George H. Van Geffen, Chairman.

Telephone: 649-3742

OUTSTANDING TEEN

Carrie Baird, the 17 year old daughter of Karen and Bill Baird, (100 Constellation), was selected as student of the month for Salmen High. Carrie serves as president of the student council and has many awards and honors to her credit.

We are fortunate to have this outstanding young lady and her proud family as neighbors. Congratulations to all the Bairds.

Look What's Up!

MOONRAKER RESIDENTS WIN COVENANT BATTLE

J.L. and Elaine DiMiceli, Moonraker Drive residents, recently won a preliminary injunction against a property owner who was filling in part of Moonraker Lake.

Judge Remy Chiasson ruled that Moonraker Lake is dedicated for the use of residents and that no one can do anything to interfere with that right of use. The property owner was ordered to cease dredging and placement of fill dirt in the Lake.

Many other Moonraker residents supported the request for the injunction and appeared in Court to testify.

GOOD PEOPLE DOING

GOOD THINGS

More and more residents are pitching in to take care of the neutral grounds near their homes. Below are some that we know about, but we are sure there are many more. Help us give these public-spirited residents a "pat-on-the-back" by sending in their names for the next edition.

Constellation and Southern Star: cut by Bob Sassamon, "Keith", and Will Baird with the help of the La Portes.

Constellation
Rick Wolz and David Monahan

Charles Court
George Jensen, Ray Crockett, Jr., J. Woniger

Eden Isles Drive
Mr. and Mrs. J. Elder, Milton Gibson, Peggy & Sid Menard, Eugene Ronena, A.K. Wilson, Calvin Quatray, Bob Natuin

Lorelei
Dean Bari, Greg Gerdes, Arthur Budgeyko, Albert Marquez, Bruce Mullen, Herb LeBlanc

Rampage Loop
Jack Devereaux, Edward and Anthony Graff, Sherman Faust, Ralph Dixon, John La Coste, Benny Leto, Leen Polderman, Edgar Saucier, Donald Smith, George Livermore

Southern Star (cul de sac)
cut by Conrad Baker, Jr., with the financial support of the Bakers, Bennetts, Durels, Harris', Manginos, Meiers, & Da Vincentis.

Blackfin Cove
Bubba Sanchez
Windward Passage

Many thanks to Dr. Robert Tassin and Nell Forstall for their persistence in getting some of the overgrown vacant lots cut; we hope the Parish continues to cooperate in the effort until all the unsightly overgrowth is eliminated.

Thank You



SWAP OR SELL

1/2 interest in a 1981 Chaparel, 170 HP., 18 feet. \$2500 649-4584

Boys bedroom set, 3 pieces, Ship's Wheel motif, \$150 649-4584

Pinball machine, Elvis theme, \$100 649-4584

Send your ads for the Swap or Sell by the 15th of the month to The Eden Isles Community Forum, P.O. Box 4044, Slidell, LA. 70459
Donation: \$2.00 per ad.

Letters

TO STAY OR NOT TO STAY

by Rene Durel

In March of 1981, we moved to Eden Isles, enticed by good friends, a clean, quiet, and serene community with light traffic, handy shopping, and the appearance of security. Our children and grandchildren joined us in enjoying the advantages of a water front-home fishing from the dock, pulling up a crab trap with a few fat ones, feeding the ducks, and watching the purple martins nest and the ducks hatching in the spring.

We paid our dues to the Homeowners and Security Service and were content to let matters take their course while we traveled, or enjoyed the leisure we had earned

after many years of hard work. We did not anticipate that our peaceful existence would be under constant assault by people in the subdivision who were eager to saddle us with another layer of government. In November, 1987, we fought off a plan to incorporate Eden Isles. Now without our knowledge or consent, we find ourselves part and parcel of a "taxing district." Now we must fight off another hand in our pocket, snatching at our ever-dwindling retirement savings.

We do not need more government and more "officials" making ordinances; we do not need to be taxed \$300 a year so that the 300 or less families who support security can force the other 300 or more to do likewise. It is too heavy a price to pay on top of our federal, state and parish tax burdens.

I don't want anyone to get the wrong idea. We moved here because we like it here, and we don't want to move. I didn't work all my life to settle down and let a group of self-made bureaucrats force me to pay for more government that makes no sense. They even admit that 42% of every dollar they want to force me to pay will go for bureaucratic red

tape called "overhead". It would be just the same to keep the 60% of the people who are already paying as force everybody to pay 40% more. I don't want to support a system that is that in-efficient. I can go anywhere to enjoy my retirement, but if this tax district passes, I am ready to move on to a new and true eden.

We have many neighbors and friends who share this view, and we will do what we can to alert everyone to the November 18th election and the necessity to VOTE. Depending on the outcome of that vote, we will answer the question posed at the top of this letter.

ASKING A LOT FOR TOO LITTLE

by C. Baas

We have guard service that cannot arrest anyone, and does not carry a gun. I do think they change or help change a thieves mind about stealing or breaking into homes. I think having a guard is a good idea, but trying to force someone to pay for service they are volunteering for now, will meet some resistance. One way of resistance is to stop paying.

The electrical, T.V. cable, telephone, water and sewerage companies using Eden Isles' common grounds for business should maintain the grounds. There are sewerage huts, electrical boxes and other objects on the common grounds being used by companies doing business, for a profit. Also the grounds are dug up from one end to the other very often by the companies.

Asking anyone to vote for guards that cannot arrest anyone, and maintenance of grounds that companies use for business is asking a lot. Voting for this may put a lien on your home or maybe one on my home in the future. Voting for the district is a big step. I vote for volunteer paying only, please.



HE WHO GOVERNS

LEAST

GOVERNS BEST:

Ben Franklin

I am not in favor of the proposed tax plan. Not because I am against the proposed services, but because I do not believe the District can provide these services and certainly not at a cost effective price. I doubt that the idea of a private guard service would survive the legal system, if tested in the future, although the taxing district would continue to take money from our pockets for fifty years for a service it could not legally provide!

What about the other services? What other services? I already have garbage pick-up for less than one hundred dollars per year. Mowing the

neutral grounds? More than a dozen homes (not counting vacant lots) surround the neutral ground of the CulDeSac where I live. If each of us paid two times a year to have the area cut, that would be twenty four cuttings during the growing season at a fraction of the yearly tax.

If you really want to improve the Eden Isles community, get involved in the Homeowners Association - Reform it - or join a movement to start a new Homeowners Association.

You can quit the Homeowners Association anytime, You can't quit the taxing district - at least not for fifty years.

Merle Fortson

"LEGISLATIVE ALERT"

The October 7, 1989 primary date is extremely important to all Louisiana residents, because it is the day we are asked to vote on 13 Constitutional Amendments. Some of these are good, and will not cost the taxpayer any money; others are worthwhile although they may cost a little (#11); some however, cry out for a resounding NO vote.* Here's a brief summary:

1. Creating a highway trust fund to pay for a construction program for roads, ports and airports. (raises gasoline tax about 1 cent per gallon).

2. Dedicating \$5 million a year in mineral revenues to a wetlands trust fund, to come out of the State's "general" fund.

3. Allowing the State to grant property tax exemptions on inventories of certain manufacturing and distribution firms.

4. Making it easier for law enforcement agencies to seize and dispose of illegal drug traffic property.

5. Creating a new State Supreme Court District in New Orleans to provide more input to blacks in electing judges.

6. Redistricting certain State Courts to facilitate the election of blacks.

7. Permitting the Legislature to continue naming some members of Ethics Boards.

8. Allowing local government to donate land to new industries.

9. Reorganization of some internal legislative proceedings.

10. ALLOWING CITIES TO LEVY 7 MILLS IN PROPERTY TAX WITHOUT VOTER APPROVAL.

11. Charging an auto license fee according to vehicle's value - \$1.00 per \$1000 value, with a minimum of \$10 and a maximum of \$20. The legislature would be prohibited from spending the revenue on anything but road improvement.

13. Reallocating the State lignite tax (important only to De Soto Parish).

We urge all residents to exercise their voting privilege on October 7, 1989 and decide whether they want the constitution of the State of Louisiana changed or left as is.

* Become informed - decide for yourself.



RELO REALTOR **R REALTOR**

LINDA TRIAY
REALTOR ASSOCIATE

Distinctive
REAL ESTATE, INC.

Slidell (504) 649-6300
Mandeville 626-0022
New Orleans 525-9666

1501 Cause Blvd., Suite 1
Slidell, Louisiana 70458

Eden Isles GREEN FORCE

Dear Fellow Resident:

Out of concern for seeing that property values in Eden Isles are maintained at the highest level possible, my husband and I have joined the dedicated group of residents who give their time and monies to maintain some of the neutral grounds in our subdivision. I am certain that the majority of residents would agree that a fair solution to this problem is not just a few shouldering the responsibility but rather all sharing in it. A drive down Eden Isles Boulevard is a signal to anyone that we are not together in the kind of objectives that "pay-off" for everyone.

In an effort to fund neutral ground maintenance while awaiting the opportunity to vote on a plan which may offer long-term solution, I mailed a letter to a sampling of residents explaining the objectives of a volunteer program called Green Force. The response was encouraging enough to continue my efforts and through the generosity of Mr. Paul Wogan, we have \$200 to seed the program.

Sponsorships in Green Force are \$24 per year and monies pledged will be collected as the work progresses. Green Force will begin with one neutral ground and as the sponsorships increase, the program will expand. Young, neighborhood people will be utilized to mow, weed, edge and prune the grounds. A committee of sponsors will manage the program and periodic reports will be sent to all sponsors.

PLEASE...consider joining Green Force by filling out the attached pledge form. DO NOT SEND MONEY. You will be contacted for your pledge commitment.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Peggy Menard

(tear and return to: Peggy Menard,
328 Eden Isles Dr., Slidell, LA. 70458
DO NOT SEND YOUR SPONSORSHIP PAYMENT

Yes, I wish to be a Green Force sponsor _____

Name: _____

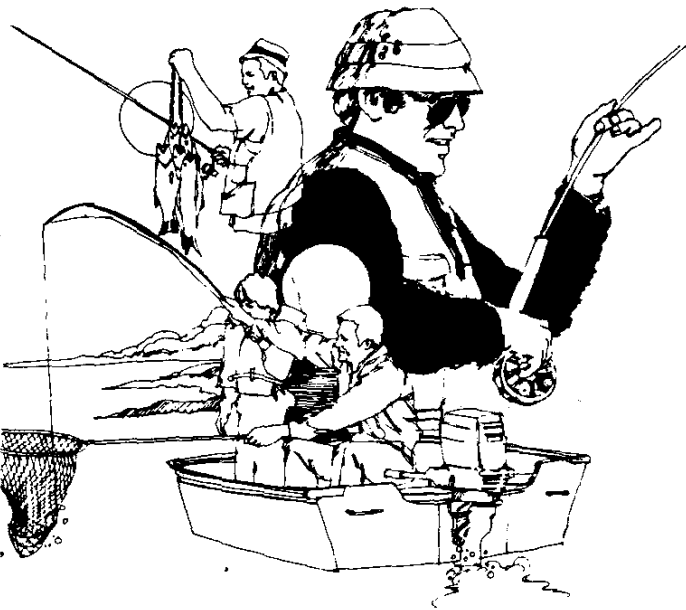
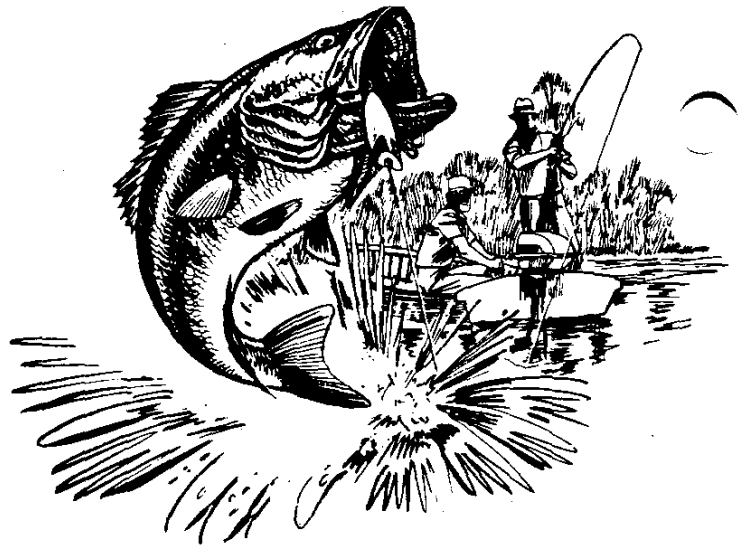
Address: _____

Telephone: _____

I wish to serve on the Green Force Committee _____

NAME, ADDRESS AND PHONE OF YOUNG PERSON WISHING TO WORK FOR GREEN FORCE:





EDEN ISLES, LOUISIANA

VIEWPOINT

In order to find out what the general concensus is regarding security, please fill out the questionnaire and mail to the Community Forum. Results will be published in next month's issue. You do not have to use your name if you do not wish to do so.

- | | YES | NO |
|---|-------|-------|
| 1. Would you be willing to support the Security Service under the leadership of an independent committee? | _____ | _____ |
| 2. Do you want 24 hour guard service? | _____ | _____ |
| 3. Do you want a guard at both gates? | _____ | _____ |
| 4. Would you pay \$20 a month for two guards? | _____ | _____ |

NAME: _____

ADDRESS: _____

PHONE: _____

Comments: _____

Tear off this page and mail to the Community Forum; next month look for results.

FROM

PLACE
STAMP
HERE

THE COMMUNITY FORUM
P.O. BOX 4044
SLIDELL, LA. 70459