

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Jim Cunningham

OUR EDEN ISLES BOULEVARD. *(Just a little preaching)*

Some Truisms:

Everyone of us travels the Boulevard every time we go out or come home.

The Boulevard is our Front Door and our Back Door.

The first impression and last impression anyone gets of Eden Isles is that of the Boulevard.

The Boulevard is designed to make a most favorable statement or the Eden Isles Community.

Our Boulevard is great!
Right? No!

Our boulevard is now referred to as an expressway. It is a through street for all kinds of heavy trucks, fast food container disposals, speeders, LOUD speakers in small cars, storage facilities for boats, boat trailers, trailers, motor homes and reckless driving.

At a Lions Club affair one of the members was selling his real nice boat. He was renting over in Chamale Cove. I asked him to come and look at Eden Isles. He said that his wife didn't like Eden Isles because it looked like a boat yard and a used car lot. They did not even look into the neighborhoods off of the Boulevard. Hmm!

OK! Nothing is new here. What can I do about it anyway? o start with, obey the speed limit.

The boulevard is right at 1 mile from bridge to bridge. At 25 MPH and the two stops will probably require 2 minutes and 34 seconds. If all Eden Isles residents would obey the speed limit an effective traffic control will take place. All of the through traffic would have to follow our lead because they will be behind us.

We need to recognize that we do not own any property on the street. we have the privilege to use the space in front of our homes as long as we are responsible. The street ordinances are for the good of the community, not for the satisfaction of the homeowner facing the street. Most communities have very strict parking ordinances, some requiring even and odd number parking and time limits for parking. Eden Isles has very relaxed parking ordinances only requesting that boat, trailers and recreational vehicles not be left on the street for over 48 hours. Let us be good neighbors and clean up the Boulevard.

Finally, to use a worn out phrase, "let each one of us be part of the solution." If we respect our Boulevard those who use it will respect it. If we allow our Boulevard to look trashy and run down those same users will not respect it or us. Just think you are getting this 'preaching' just for your time. When you go to the Saturday/Sunday services you have to give 10% and your time. So! Think about it. Our Boulevard is a precious commodity.

Gary Carter Is the EIHOA Vice President

Mr. Gary Carter of 331 Eden Isles will be inducted as the Vice President at the March 26th Home Owners meeting.

Gary shares many of the same concerns that the Board has with the future of Eden Isles. He has been a board advisor for the two years and has lived in Eden Isles for eleven years. He brings technical expertise in the field of data and adds to our cadre of two who knows anything about the ins and outs of the computer world.

Gary is a helicopter pilot and enjoys taking long motorcycle trips with his wife Martha. They have gone as far as New Mexico on their 'bike'.

We appreciate Gary's decision to join the EIHOA board and let all of the community Welcome and support him as he carries out the duties as Vice President.

HOMEOWNERS

MEETING

Tuesday, March 26, 2002

Tammany Yacht Club

7:00 PM

WEB CAMS FOR OUR STREETS

by Bill Northup

Wouldn't you like to be able to check on the neighborhood even when you are away or even just when you are at work in New Orleans? Well, we can do that now without any major expense. Web cams, yeah! That's the ticket. Free and public. Anyone can just click on the web and check out the viewing looking down Charles Court. As a matter of fact, I have one looking down Charles Court right now. Just go to bnorthup.com and click on Bayou Cam and you can watch the cars come and go. If you are appalled, don't read any further, if you like the concept then join me and let's watch the neighborhood together.

Actually I have 2 web cameras looking out of my house. The one previously mentioned actually just puts snap shots up on the web, updated every three seconds. The bit stream is coming out of my house and updating a server in California somewhere. The web hosting service is part of the package my DSL provider gives (Telocity). If you read my article from last year you know about DSL. If you just have dial up internet access then the three second updates are too fast for you to see. But call me on the phone and I can slow down to refresh every ten seconds and then you can see it fine... There is no future in the dial up mode of internet access. It is just too slow. You need DSL or Cable Modem access. So this concept may be only for the more high tech members of the community. But I'll guarantee you there are many more people than myself who like being able to see what's happening while they are away.

I have another camera that looks out of the canal side of my

house. It uses Windows Media Encoder to give full motion video and audio in 100kb/s stream. It is not on the web site but if you know the port # (1061) you can open Windows Media Player at work and open the URL and see the view of the Clipper gate. Call me if you need details on how to see this lovely full motion view.

I would propose that if we get some more of these cameras working from different people's houses in the neighborhood, that we include some links to these from the official or unofficial Eden Isles Web Site. (We can easily abandon the old one if it seems desirable.) But I'm not going to be the one to take care of it. Too political for me. I just like the technical part of it. I'll now go into some details.

First, to originate video from your house in Eden Isles you must have DSL service with a fixed IP address. Then you need a DSL Gateway Router to branch off the camera traffic and still allow you to surf the Net. Then you need to get some software to encode the video into a web server format. (WebCamLive or equivalent \$15). Your computer must have a video capture card (\$50). You need to set up the family cam corder looking out the front window where it doesn't get a direct look at the sun.... That's all you need. The rest is all just hard work and trial and error. But us techies love this stuff.

MAIL BOXES

Want to save a stamp when mailing in your dues? Want so sa a stamp on that petition? Want to make suggestions to the Association? **DROP IT IN ONE OF THE MAILBOXES AT THE ENTRANCES TO THE NEIGHBORHOOD!** At the Marina Drive entrance, the mail box is on the Eden Isles sign as you are entering the neighborhood. At the Highway 11 entrance, the mail box is attached to the community billboard.

MOONRAKER/CLIPPER BRIDGE

Work on the north approach is nearing completion and the Parish has issued a work order to also repair the south approach. All work should be completed in about a month.

EDEN ISLES DRIVE

Construction on the south side of Eden Isles Drive (the lake side) is scheduled to begin around June. Construction on the north side is not scheduled at this time. The construction on the south side shall consist of removing the existing asphalt surface. As construction proceeds the contractor shall divert all traffic to the north side of Eden Isles Drive. In order to accommodate the two lanes of traffic on the north side of Eden Isles Drive **NO STREET PARKING WILL BE ALLOWED DURING CONSTRUCTION.**

Eden Isles Homeowner's Association Crime Survey March , 2002

The EIHOA Crime Committee is endeavoring to address the needs of our neighborhood. To assist us in determining what are your greatest concerns in relation to crime in our area, we are asking you to complete and return this short survey **if you did not already do so at the January meeting**. The results will help us establish priorities for the coming year.

1. Do you perceive a crime problem in Eden Isles? Yes _____ No _____

2. Do you feel that the growth of businesses near the entrances to the area have increased or will increase crime in our neighborhood? Yes _____ No _____

3. If you are concerned about crime in the area, what are your major concerns? Please list. _____

4. Are you willing to pay a monthly fee for private security? Yes _____ No _____

5. If "Yes," what would you consider to be an appropriate monthly payment?
 \$ _____

6. Which of the following would you be willing to pay for? Check all that apply.
 ____ Off-duty St. Tammany deputies patrolling the area.
 ____ Security personnel stationed in the guard houses.
 ____ Improved lenses on the security cameras.
 ____ Boat patrols on the canals.
 ____ Other ideas (Please list). _____

7. Do you have an Eden Isles sticker or front plate for your car? Yes _____ No _____

8. Would you consider using one to help identify you as a resident of the neighborhood? Yes _____ No _____

9. Are there areas of concern that you would like to see addressed? If so please state them here. _____

Other Comments:

Thank you for completing this survey. You may drop this off at the mail box at either entrance or mail to Carol Hopson, 333 Eden Isles Drive, Slidell, LA 70458. The results will appear in the next issue of the *Eden Islander*.

EDEN ISLES HOMEOWNER ASSN

STATEMENT OF REVENUES COLLECTED AND EXPENSES PAID
FOR THE MONTH ENDING 02/28/02

CURR. PERIOD RATIO: NET REVENUE YTD RATIO.....: NET REVENUE	THIS MONTH	RATIO	2 MONTHS	RATIO
INCOME				
DUES FEES & CONTRIBUTIONS	7,296.00	99.9	10,246.00	99.8
INTEREST INCOME	10.25	0.1	21.59	0.2
TOTAL REVENUE	7,306.25	100.0	10,267.59	100.0
EXPENSES				
ACCOUNTING	200.00	2.7	600.00	5.8
CONTRACT LABOR	925.00	12.7	925.00	9.0
LICENSES & TAXES	0.00	0.0	125.00	1.2
OFFICE	141.90	1.9	1,099.53	10.7
POSTAGE	275.00	3.8	552.38	5.4
PRINTING	913.50	12.5	1,970.38	19.2
RENT	0.00	0.0	95.00	0.9
REPAIRS & MAINTENANCE	0.00	0.0	59.32	0.6
TELEPHONE	13.98	0.2	27.96	0.3
UTILITIES	77.73	1.1	166.99	1.6
TOTAL EXPENSES	2,547.11	34.9	5,621.56	54.8
NET INCOME (LOSS)	4,759.14	65.1	4,646.03	45.2

ARTICLES

THIS IS YOUR NEWSLETTER! If you would like for the Association to publish your article in the newsletter, call the **HOTLINE** at 781-0091.

TAX TIP

by **M. Dale Wood Jr., CPA, MS***
(* - in Taxation)

Do you have a relative living in your house? You may qualify for an additional exemption on your tax return for that person. A child, descendent of a child, stepchild, brother, sister, half-brother, half-sister, stepbrother, stepsister, father, mother, grandparent, great-grandparent, stepmother, stepfather, nephew, niece, uncle, aunt, brother-in-law, sister-in-law, father-in-law, mother-in-law, son-in-law, daughter-in-law are all eligible if you can meet certain dependency tests. Consult your tax advisor. An additional exemption could reduce your tax bill.

CRIME REPORT

The crime report from the St. Tammany Parish Sheriff's Office for December 15 through March 7 is as follows"

Dog attacked by Nutria (don't know who won)

Traffic stops	6
Warrants	3
Reckless driving	1
General complaint	7
Resident burglary	1
Forgery	2
Theft	5
Drugs	1
Suspicious per/car	8
Thefts from auto	3
Criminal damage	1
Fire	2
Intoxication	1
Medical emergency	12
Animal call outs	3
Fireworks	1
911 Mis dials	5
Alarm activation	24
18 Wheeler	1
Missing person	1
Extra patrol request	2
Deaths	2

Your Property Taxes and You

by Linda Triay

How do you feel when your tax bill arrives in December and there is an increase which you did not expect? Many things can raise the taxes you pay including millage increases, reassessment of property by the tax assessor, or even improvements to your property. I don't think people realize how much impact a millage increase can have on your tax bills even though we must vote on these increases occasionally to better our community.

The facts are that the assessor does not raise or lower the taxes, nor does the assessor make the laws that govern property taxes. These laws are made by the Louisiana Tax Commission. What the assessor does control however is what they feel is the fair market value of your property. Land is assessed at 10% of its fair market value as well as land with residential improvements. Commercial property is valued at 15% and commercial land at 10%. Your taxes are determined by the same method used by appraisers. These being cost, income and market value. Market value is defined as "the price for property which would be agreed upon between a willing buyer and a willing seller under usual and ordinary circumstances."

The assessor tells us our taxes are also increased when we make improvements to our property such as garages, additions, swimming pools, and bulkheads to name a few. Some owners don't realize that a wooden deck attached to their home is also considered an improvement.

A number of years ago, I received a tax bill which was 30% higher than many on the same block and I had fewer improvements than most. I was told that all the property in the parish was being reassessed that year. When I questioned the clerk as to why my bill was higher than any others on the block even though I had several bills to prove my point, I was then told to fill out some forms in order to have a review. The out come was a nice refund check and a fair assessment of the property in question.

If we do not want to be unfairly assessed we must take charge as property owners and visit the assessors office yearly in order to keep an eye on how we are being assessed. Do not assume that if there is no change in millage that you will be safe from any increases. You can be reassessed each and every year if they feel the need to do so.

If after you review the rolls you disagree with the assessor's office, even though you have provided the data to back up your claims, you may then appeal to the St. Tammany Board of Review. If the Board agrees with the assessor, you can then appeal to the Louisiana State Tax Commission. If the Commission agrees with the Board you may then go to the courts if you so choose.

The time to check your property's value is between August 15th and September 15th. This is the only time the books are open to the public. And please don't forget to apply for your homestead exemption before the April 15th deadline if you have bought a home in the past year.

One more tip is for our senior citizens. There is an age when you may go to the assessor and have the taxes frozen at the current amount avoiding any increases. Please see your assessor for more information as things may change from time to time.



641-1911

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HOURS

Monday

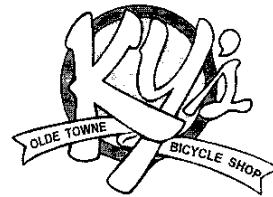
11:00 a.m. - 10:00 p.m.

Tuesday - Thursday

11:00 a.m. - 11:00 p.m.

Friday - Saturday

11:00 a.m. - Midnight



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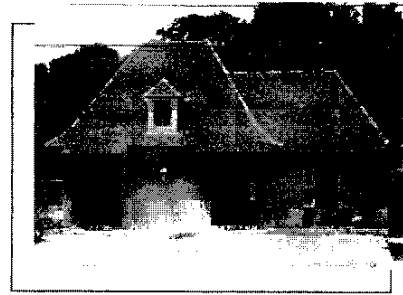
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Ashley Menutis
118 Dominica Ct.
The Moorings
504-881-8165



Mary Najolia
1439 Royal Palm
Clipper Estates
504-491-5690



Cheryl Timphony
127 Pebble Beach
Eden Isles
985-960-0859

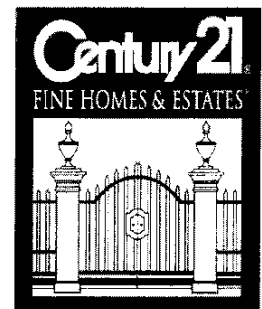
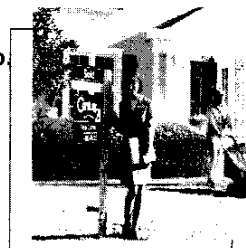
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DIVISION

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Garden Club

by Pam White

I'm ready for spring--how about you? I know it means cutting the grass, weeding flower beds, trimming the trees and bushes, etc, but we can at least do those things without coats. How wonderful!

The members who judged the February Mardi Gras doors came up with four homes they wanted to recognize. The traditional sign that reads "Garden of the Month" didn't seem appropriate, so there was no first place winner, but the four honoree homes were 19 Ondine Lane, 122 Columbia Place, 214 Ranger Place, and 400 Windward Passage. They were all very festive.

We met at the home of Kathy Schrieffer for our February 6th meeting. Kathy and her co-hostesses, Jamie Cefolia, Nunny Levis and Linda Palisi, kept the mood of Mardi Gras going with the traditional lunch of hot dogs, potato salad, and all of the trimmings. After the meeting, we held our annual White Elephant Sale, which is always fun. We had enough "pachyderms" to fill a circus tent. There were liquid ones, ones filled with dirt, shiny ones, folding ones, clear ones, and ones that were beyond description. The best part of the sale (which was really an auction) was out-bidding each other for the treasures.

You might have seen the "Eden Islanders Working" signs up as you passed the Hwy. 11 entrance on Saturday, February 16th. 17 ladies from the garden club and 5 members of the Eden Isles Homeowners' Association showed up for a work day held to beautify the Hwy. 11 entrance and the boulevard. Some of the volunteers pruned and weeded flower beds, some pruned and fertilized the younger trees on the boulevard, and some of the men with a powered pruning saw helped with some major thinning of a planting in front of the side fountains by the guardhouse. Things are much improved, but there is still work to be done--more pruning, especially of the larger oak trees down the

boulevard. Watch for a notice to be posted of the next scheduled work day. Please feel free to show up and to help beautify your neighborhood. The more, the merrier! And speaking of beautifying the neighborhood, a couple of garden club members went out of their way to try something new to bring some late winter, early spring color to their gardens. They planted tulip bulbs! So if you want to see something gorgeous, take a moment to drive down Rampage Loop and Weatherly Cove and see the spectacular results of their experiments.

The Garden Club spent a day at the races on Friday, February 22. 23 members and 8 of their guests spent the afternoon at the Fairgrounds in New Orleans, dining on corned beef and cabbage before the racing began for the afternoon. A good time was had by although a couple of them were even lucky on their betting, making them a bit happier than the others!!!

In preparation for the upcoming annual flower show in April, a workshop was held at the Slidell Recreation Center on February 28th. Guest speaker Harriet Osborne taught attendees from garden clubs in the Slidell area the basics about several new types of designs that will be featured in the flower show. These included framed spatial designs (which are arrangements suspended within a frame) and underwater designs (in which all or part of the arrangement is underwater). Harriet is a very nice lady and a very knowledgeable speaker, and all who attended learned a lot from her.

And speaking of the flower show, you might want to place the date on your calendars, because I think it may be the best show ever. It will be held in the city auditorium from 1PM to 5PM on April 11th, and best of all, it is free! In addition, there will be a plant sale at the Slidell Recreation Center on Thursday and Friday, April 11th and 12th, from

9AM to 5PM. We hope to see you there.

Our March meeting was held at the home of Linda Triay, with lunch prepared by Linda and her co-hostesses, Hilda Vaughn, Gwen Knowles, Gail Smith, and Wylene Heatherly. After the meeting, guest speaker Mr. Gene Veillon presented a program on Cacti and Succulents. Mr. Veillon is quite knowledgeable on this subject, and usually helps us out with plant identification in this category at the flower show each spring.

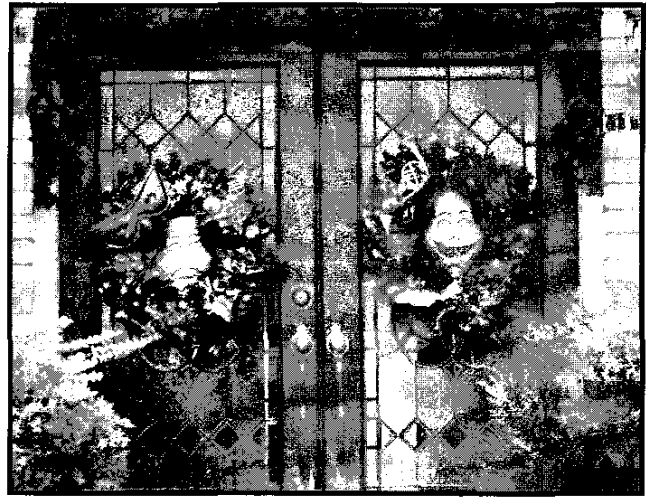
There are other dates you might want to mark on your calendars. Included will be the Mississippi Gulf Coast Pilgrimage, scheduled for March 9th through 16th. For those of you who don't know about the pilgrimage, it is a tour of homes, gardens, museums and historical landmarks along the MS coast towns. Each day showcases different towns from Diamond Head to Biloxi. You can find information each year at the MS information centers in early February.

Another date to note is March 21-24, which is the "Art in Bloom" exhibit at the New Orleans Museum of Art. Eden Isles Garden Club was invited to participate in this event for the first time, and club member Yvon Molinary has stepped up and accepted the challenge of interpreting in flower design the painting "Insect Bird" by Victor Brouner, painted in 1903. This exhibit is always fascinating, and I encourage you to spend an afternoon checking it out.

So spring has just about arrived, and along with it, lots of things to do. So get your hands dirty and your yards looking good, find some activities to attend or get involved with, and enjoy the season. And remember, you may be a late bloomer, just don't miss the flower show!



February Hostesses: Nunny Levis, Kathy Schrieffer, Linda Palisi, and Jamie Cefolia



One of the top door decorations for Mardi Gras



Members attending a "Day at the Races" with the winning jockey for the Eden Isles Garden Club Purse



Nunny Levis acting auctioneer for the annual White Elephant Sale



Garden Club and Homeowners's Association members working together to clean up the Hwy. 11 entrance

MEMBERSHIP

Interested in joining the Association? A membership form is included in this newsletter. This is your Association! Please support it with your membership dues, GREENFORCE fees and voluntary contributions to the legal fund.

!!MEMBERSHIP CONTEST!! Win \$ 55!!

YOU CAN WIN A COMPLIMENTARY PAID MEMBERSHIP IN THE HOMEOWNERS' ASSOCIATION AND A REFUND OF YOUR GREENFORCE FEES JUST FOR ATTENDING THE ASSOCIATION'S GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING AND BRINGING YOUR EDEN ISLANDER WITH YOU.

Your EDEN ISLANDER is numbered (see the back cover). We will randomly select a valid number just prior to the Association's general membership meeting on January 29, 2002.

If you are present at the meeting, have the winning copy of the EDEN ISLANDER in your possession AND have PAID your MEMBERSHIP dues and GREENFORCE fees - YOU WIN! The Association will refund you \$55 for the fees and dues that you paid this year.

HOMEOWNERS' ASSOCIATION ™MEMBERSHIP

It is time to renew our membership or join in the Eden Isles Home Owners' Association. The more families we have in the Association, the more 'clout' we have in getting things done for Eden Isles that will benefit ALL of us.

The Association has identified the following items as having high priorities for our families:

- 1.) The marking and lighting of the Harbor entrance.
- 2.) Improving the security and safety of Eden Isles
- 3.) Over seeing the activities of the 'Utility Companies' and following up to assure completion of their work.
- 4.) Campaigning for a safer Eden Isles Blvd., including the regulation of through traffic and a crackdown on speeders.

Without a strong support from the families of Eden Isles, the success of the Association will be limited proportionally.

The Eden Isles Homeowners' Association is only as strong as you want it to be. Please continue your support of the Association and those of you who have not contributed to the Association we are asking for your commitment. We all benefit from the work of the Association.

We are working for you!

EIHOA MEMBERSHIP FORM

Name: (Please Print) _____

Street: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Phone: _____ E-mail _____

Signature: _____

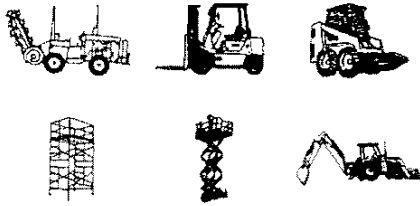
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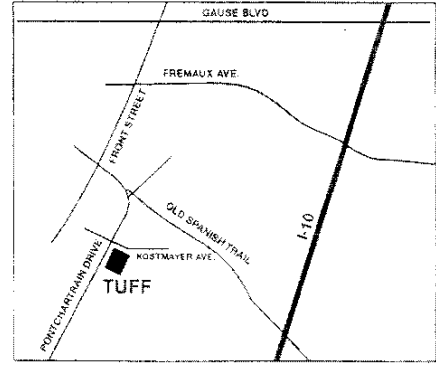
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NEIGHBORHOOD WATCH PROGRAM

Thanks to the efforts of Marion Bencke we are holding neighborhood watch meetings so that our community can be apart of this nationwide effort. Two very successful meeting were held in February. If you would like to hold a meeting or help sponsor a meeting in your area, please contact Marion or one of the crime committee members. One of the things we learned from DEPUTIES WHO CONDUCTED THE MEETINGS IS THAT THE MOST IMPORTANT STEP IS TO KNOW YOUR NEIGHBORS. Those to the right and left of you and those directly across the street from you and your immediate neighbors. Fill in the table below correctly and bring it to the next meeting. We will put all of the correctly answered tables in a jar and pull for a prize. Now is the time for you to meet your neighbors and learn their names. Let's have lots of entries in the jar!!!

P.S. Keep a copy at home and keep it current.

Across the street left	Across the street	Across the street right
Neighbor to the left	My House	Neighbor to the right

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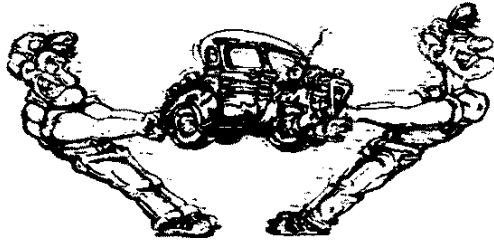
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THE EDEN ISLANDER

A bimonthly publication of the
Eden Isles Homeowners' Association
 P.O. Box 2746, Slidell, LA 70459

Jim Cunningham
President

Circulation: 1100
*Distributed at no charge to residents of
 Eden Isles*

*Advertising information please call
 Louis Pendarvis at 847-0296*

Deadline for May/June issue
 May 15, 2002

ADVERTISING RATES

(Camera Ready)

Our advertising rates are as follows:

Ad size	Price (single issue)	Price (per year 6 issues)
1/8 page	\$35	\$175
1/4 page	\$60	\$300
1/2 page	\$110	\$550
2/3 page	\$130	\$650
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THE EDEN ISLANDER

VOLUME XV No. 1

January/February

- **EIHOA Vice President Vacancy Filled**
- **Eden Isle Blvd. To Be Resurfaced**
- **Horticulturist To Be Guest Speaker at the March 26 Homeowners' Meeting**
- **Bridge Construction Nearly Complete**
- **Membership Dues Form**
- **Homestead Exemption Info**



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