

Forest Hills East

For all Forest Hills East residents, courtesy of Forest Hills East Civic Association, Inc.

February 2024

PO Box 3781 Holiday, FL 34692

Annual Dues: \$30 per household

General email: ForestHillsEast@gmail.com

Website: www.ForestHillsEast.com

OFFICERS AND BOARD OF DIRECTORS:

President: Brian Thompson 352-359-4279

Vice-President: Bill Dobey

Secretary:

Treasurer: Joanne Mangos 727-741-8776

PASCO COMMUNITY CONTACT INFORMATION:

Emergency: Sheriff, Fire and EMS: 911

Non-Emergency: Sheriff, Fire and EMS: 727-847-8102

Code Compliance: 727-847-2411

Water: 727 847-8131

Animal Services: 813 929-1212

Tax and Tag Office: 727 847-8165

Duke Energy General #: 1-800-700-8744

Waste Connections (Trash Collection): 727 847-9100

Our Next General Meeting: Will be held on Tuesday, March 5th, 2024 in the church on Berry Hill and Grand. Social time 6:30 pm, meeting will be called to order at 7:00 pm.

Dues: 2024 Dues are now being collected. The amount will remain at \$30, but we are asking, for those where it does not create a hardship, to pay \$50. At our meetings discussing how the money is spent and what we could be doing is always an open topic. Mail your dues to Forest Hills East Civic Association, PO Box 3781, Holiday, FL 34692. Include a note with your remittance providing your email address, so we can email you our Newsletter.

Island Committee: Brian Thompson has been in contact with the following people in Pasco County government. <kdolatowski@mypasco.net>, <badumuah@pascocountyfl.net>, <rhayes@pascocountyfl.net>

The context of his email is as follows:

(Sent via email 2/29/2024) Katie & Others, my name is Brian Thompson and I am the President of the Forest Hills East Civic Association. A resident of Forest Hills East, and member of the Forest Hills East Civic Association, Inc. has been in contact with various agencies within Pasco County about the breach into the Anclote River.

We have been unable to get any kind of coordinated response in what is approaching a year since the breach to the river - I asked membership to start reaching out to County, State and Federal agencies seeking assistance to resolve this breach.

The facts of the issue are there is a peninsula that is on the impound lake that was breached to the Anclote river. Another developer (and there have been several potential developers over the years) bought the property and started clearing the land of 'brush'. There is a very narrow area that closes the impound to the river that was ordered closed by the Corps of Engineers years ago. I have the court cases.

On/Under this narrow berm was a concrete weir (I do not know the exact construction) that allowed overflow in extreme weather events. Well, as part of the brush clearing, the owner's crews brought heavy equipment and ripped trees and brush out of this narrow area leading very rapidly to full failure of the berm/weir system. The court cases clearly pass responsibility for the maintenance of this weir system to the owner. When it collapsed there was a fish kill in the lake. It is now brackish and we have numerous photos of manatee, dolphin, etc. in this impound area. We have brought this to the attention of state and county agencies. As best we can tell the can has been kicked to an unknown decision maker somewhere in the Federal legal system.

Why should the county care? First, you are or should be responsible for unpermitted activities such as this developer conducted and it needs thorough investigation. Second, it is our understanding that the county has storm water that feeds the impound and hence is now tidal and doing who knows what to the Anclote river. Third, you have a number of constituents who are asking for help to resolve this situation and get that breach fixed.

Specifically we are asking today that you find out who is responsible at the Federal level for this right now and what they are doing about it. From there we can all coordinate to ensure a process is followed and your constituents' voices are heard. I did send a note to Congressman Bilirakis' office a few weeks ago but have not heard back.

I can be reached at this email or directly at 352-359-4279. Thank You.

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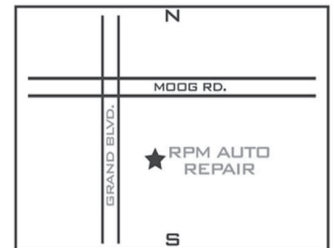
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