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Behind the Gate

NOVEMBER 2021 **HAPPY THANKSGIVING** VOLUME 2 • ISSUE 11



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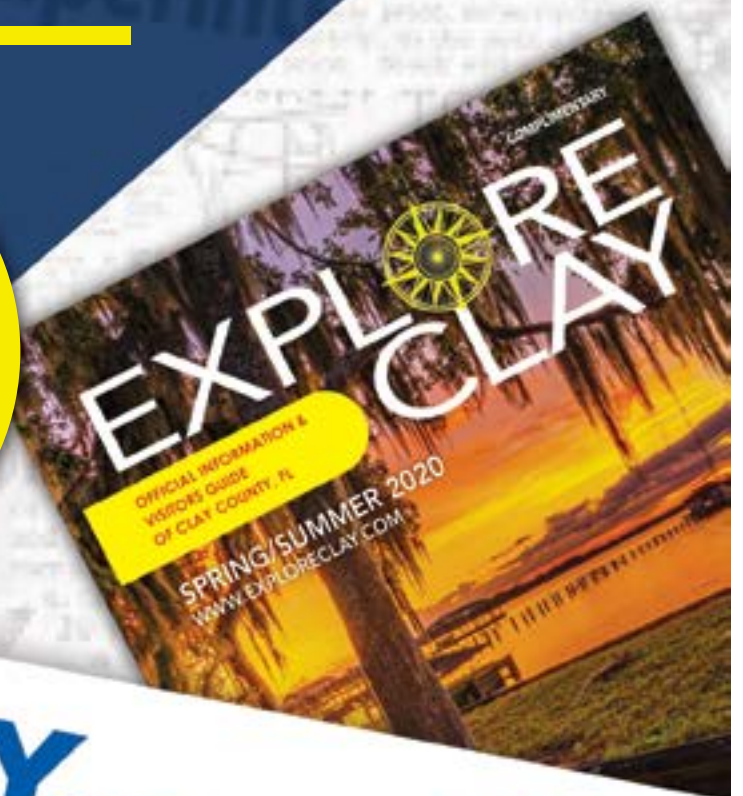
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**CLAY
TODAY**

This Week ...

LEGO team makes their mark - PAGE 11
Spartans earn eighth state bid for state title
Clay Entertainment Guide - INSERT

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 27, 2020

Broskie selected as interim superintendent

Governor taps Davis
assistant to run school
district until elections

By Don Coble
Reporter

The governor acted quickly to replace Addison Davis, who resigned his position after being selected unanimously by the Edgewater County School Board.



David Broskie

Effective March 1, Broskie, of Fleming Island, has been the assistant superintendent of the Clay County School District since 2015. He's worked for the school district for 30 years and served as a principal from 2003 until 2013.

"I think there was a group of people who really wanted to see stability in the district, so continue the upward trend," Broskie said. "There isn't a capacity I haven't been involved with in the last 20

years.

"At the same time, this is all brand new."

He was recognized as Principal of the Year in 2010 by the Florida Department of Education. Broskie earned his bachelor's degree in education from Mansfield University of Pennsylvania and his master's degree in educational leadership from the University of North Florida.



VOLUME 56, NO. 9 75¢





OPCC Board of Directors Meeting

October 20, 2021 / By Bob McKinney

We had the largest attendance at this meeting, I believe we have ever had. While many came to hear the results of the community survey, I am sure the main attraction was the presentation by Mr. Banks Shao who is interested in purchasing the golf course property. What was intended to be a 15-minute presentation ended up being almost an hour, with questions from the board and members in attendance. The presentation is available to anyone that wants it. I expect the link will be posted on our website. There was no decision on support, but this was an offer from the community to hear what one plan might be. Any buyer will have many hoops to jump through before any dirt is moved.

As for the results of the community survey there were 168 yes replies and 164 no replies. Failures to reply were, in effect, a no vote. Since the threshold for passage was approximately 413 - 421 yes replies, depending on who was considered eligible to reply, the option to purchase by the HOA failed. The board voted to accept the community's decision and any future discussion about the HOA making a purchase offer has been tabled. It is now in our best interests to attempt to work with a potential buyer to get the best outcome for OPCC.

The ARB continues to be active as several projects were approved. Now the hot season is ending, there will be more interest in starting home improvement projects. As always, any exterior work must be approved by the ARB prior to commencement.

The board also approved an increase in a previously approved plan to correct the paver situation at the outbound side at the gatehouse. The timing of that project has not been determined, but we hope to minimize any disruptions while the concrete work is underway.

Necessary tree trimming for safety reasons and landscaping changes at the wingwalls was approved.

By the time this issue arrives, we will have conducted an open meeting for the 2022 budget review. The budget, which has to be approved at the November board meeting, will be available on-line and in print version for those without computer/phone access.

The Board appreciates the turnout from this meeting and the interest in what is happening in our community. To the few hardy souls that stayed until the very end – it took real commitment to fight off the overwhelming mosquito attacks. The next meeting will be held November 16 at 6:00 p.m.

OPCCOA/LRIA Steering Committee Report

October 2021 /By Daniel Butler

October's meeting was called to order at 6:00 p.m. and there was a quorum of committee members present. The September meeting minutes, financials, and gatehouse report were reviewed and accepted. The committee unanimously approved two landscape proposals: one to trim trees along the Blvd and another to install Crepe Myrtles along the Blvd. We are on the waiting list for the county to clean up the gabion and fill in some of the deteriorated banks of the inbound pond of the Blvd. A proposal is being reviewed for the installation of Christmas lights at the gate. A modified proposal for the paver project at the gate, adding some concrete replacement, was also approved. Scheduling for the paver project is in process. The transition from Garda to Giddens Security is underway and will be in effect November 1st. The steering committee began review of the 2022 budget. The meeting was adjourned at 7:08 p.m. and the next meeting will be November 18 at 6:00 p.m.

2021 OPCC Board of Directors

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Randy Rutan, Secretary
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Quint Bowman, Member at Large
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Wilma Miller, Member at Large
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ecology22@aol.com

Publication Policy

The function of the community newsletter, "Behind the Gate" is to serve the entire gated community of Loch Rane and Orange Park Country Club and is a product of Clay Today.

Priority will be given to reporting news and activities of the community and other news and events that directly affect the residents. Second priority will be given to articles of general interest as space permits. Articles and photos must be sent to Lisa Beach at lisabeach@gmail.com by the deadline date below. Due to space limitation, all articles are subject to editing.

Letters of opinion must be signed, as well as brief and in good taste. Views expressed are those of the writer and do not express the viewpoint of the publisher, OPCCOA or LRIA.

Acceptance of advertising does not constitute an endorsement or approval of any product or services by the publisher, OPCCOA or LRIA. The publisher reserves the right to refuse advertising that does not meet the standards of the publication.

The publisher of "Behind the Gate" agrees to indemnify and hold harmless OPCCOA and LRIA for any claims asserted against or financial liabilities incurred by them arising from commercial content of this publication or anything contained in any advertising copy, including without limitation any claims of whatever nature asserted by advertisers or potential advertisers.



Loch Rane Board of Directors Meeting

By Brian Rogers

The October meeting of the Loch Rane Board of Directors was held on October 26. It was attended by a dozen or so residents in person and via Zoom.

The BOD announced the flowing water issue on Ennis due to a city main leak has been corrected. We are now able to move forward on the project to repair the sinking asphalt and concrete at the corner of Ennis and Duart. The BOD approved the bid of \$5,128 for this repair. Our hope is work will be completed sooner rather than later. Unfortunately, the company we had contracted with for the Cameron/Duart swale drainage project has ceased performing this kind of work. We reached out to another vendor who inspected the project and provided us a bid. However, the bid did not arrive in time to be presented at the meeting.

Planning for 2022 infrastructure projects continues and we anticipate similar expenditures for these long overdue drainage and road paving repairs. Unfortunately, these issues exceed a million dollars, and we simply will not ever catch up without additional funds from the community. The only viable solution will have to be additional special assessments. The BOD is deciding between yearly individual assessments over the next few years, or one large assessment that is broken up over the next few years. The benefit of the larger multi-year assessment is we save thousands of dollars in special assessment fees charged for each individual special assessment to the tune of nearly \$7000/assessment. We will continue to discuss this, as well as continue to work on the plans for 2022 over the next few meetings. We hope to announce the final decision at the annual meeting in January.

As was mentioned last month, GARDA has been

replaced as the security contractor by Giddens which is a local Jacksonville company. While they officially do not take over on November 1, you will begin to see new faces at the gatehouse. A number of previous GARDA employees accepted the offer to switch over to Giddens and serve in their same roles.

The first draft of the 2022 proposed budget was provided by the CAM team. Due to the increased operating costs of security and landscaping, we had no choice but to increase the annual dues another 5% this year. Sadly, the increase doesn't cover the two items above and we will be working to trim the 2022 budget in other areas. We should have a completed 2022 budget at the November meeting.

The BOD does not enjoy making these types of decisions and are residents just like you, subject to increases as well.

We also want to remind all residents that three BOD seats are up for election in January and only two of those seats are currently seeking re-election. As of this meeting, we have had no submissions for the open BOD seat. We urge any resident who wants to volunteer to submit your name/bio to the CAM team before December 1. Please consider volunteering to serve your community.

Lastly, the neighborhood yard sale is being planned for late March-early April/2022. We hope the date will be finalized before the next meeting and announced/advertised/etc. Volunteers are still needed for this event.

The next meeting will be held on November 23 at 6:30 p.m. in the admin building. Please consider attending in person or via zoom for budget and future assessment discussions.

2021 Loch Rane Board of Directors

Brian Rogers, President
rogersbw@gmail.com

Chuck Bryner, Vice-President
bryner@comcast.net

Marie Bryan, Treasurer
marieandbobby@yahoo.com

James Hudgins, Secretary
james.hudgins@hotmail.com

Thomas Coppola, Member at Large
tcoppola4778@gmail.com

Kathryn Marko, Member at Large
navynomad@hotmail.com

Gary McMahonill, Member at Large
mcmahidga@aol.com

2021 Steering Committee

Kathryn Marko, Chairman

Randy Rutan, Secretary

Daniel Butler, Member

Thomas Coppola, Member

Gary McMahonill, Member

The Steering Committee meets on the third Thursday of each month at 6:00 p.m. at the community building. The purpose of the committee is to oversee issues of joint interest in the common areas of Loch Rane and OPCC. Homeowners of both communities are invited to attend.

Submit Your Stories

Help contribute to your community newsletter!

This newsletter is produced for Loch Rane and Orange Park Country Club. If you'd like to offer content for publication, here's how to get started:

Stories/Photography: Send your articles and/or high-resolution JPEGs to Lisa Beach at lisabeach@gmail.com. Articles should be sent as Microsoft Word attachments that are saved

as ".doc" files. Photos should also be sent as attachments not embedded in an email.

The December 2021 Deadline for content; Sunday, November 14.

About this Newsletter

Publisher/Advertising:
Jon Cantrell, jon@opcfla.com



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Loch Rane Board of Directors Call for Candidates

Election will be held at the annual meeting January 2022.

Only two of the three existing board members are seeking re-election so we will have a vacant seat that needs to be filled!

Any and all residents who wish to volunteer to serve on the board are encouraged to run!

If you are interested in volunteering to help manage and maintain our community as a member of the BOD, please submit a bio to the CAM Team (lochrane@agentlink.net) or by regular mail **before December 1st to ensure your name is on the ballot sent to all the residents prior to the annual meeting.**

NOVEMBER FUN EVENTS

November 2 - FALL/WINTER CHAIR YOGA/PILATES begins

Classes will be held Tuesdays and Thursdays from 9 – 10 a.m. at the cabana through February 2022. Robin McKenzie will be the instructor. The cost is \$10/mo. You will need a pair of hand weights 2 or 3 pounds or heavier if you choose. Contact Wilma Miller at wcmil@bellsouth.net or 904-553-1407 to sign up.

November 5 - FOOD TRUCK FRIDAY, 5:00 – 8:00 p.m. at the cabana

Come enjoy the last food truck event of the year. There will be three trucks. *What's the Catch*, has great seafood, chicken tacos, and chicken tender and shrimp baskets. *What's Smokin*, serves smoked pulled pork and smoked chicken sandwiches, plus BBQ melts sides and more. *Halo-Halong*, offers shaved ice treats. You can view the menus online.

November 10 - LADIES LUNCHEON, 11:30 a.m. at the Club Continental

All ladies of OPCC and Loch Rane are invited. Meet us at the Club Continental. Enjoy wonderful food and lively conversation. Cost is \$18.00 including gratuity. For more information or to be added to the Ladies Luncheon email list, contact Frances Smith at fksmith63@comcast.net or 917-916-9884.

November 12 - TEAM TRIVIA, 7:00 – 9:00 p.m. at the cabana

We are trying something new – TEAM TRIVIA! All of you trivia lovers, bring your teams or put one together when you get to the cabana and enjoy the fun of testing your knowledge skills. You can also BYOB and snacks to share. Our own Kevin Schad will host the event and will provide music during breaks.

November 19 - FALL FAMILY HAYRIDE, 6:00 – 8:00 p.m. at Spencer Farm

Charles Spencer is such a great host. Come park at the farm. Bring blankets/chairs to sit on and food to share. You can cook hotdogs and marshmallows on the bonfire and use grills. Charles will take you on a hayride around the farm. This is a wonderful family evening!

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LADIES CHRISTMAS TEA

Come start your holiday season with the Annual Christmas Tea.

Inviting all OPCC and Loch Rane ladies to the annual Christmas Tea on **December 1, 12 noon at Over the Second Tea Room**, located on Kingsley Avenue at the railroad tracks.

Due to rising cost there is a slight increase, this year the price is \$32.50pp, gratuity is extra.

Please contact Wilma Miller (wcmil@bellsouth.net) for reservations prior to November 23. Seating is limited.

If you have not attended the Annual Christmas Tea, this may be just the year to begin a new tradition.

Thanksgiving Word Scramble



- | | | | |
|---------------|-------|--------------|-------|
| 1. rcon | _____ | 11. solrl | _____ |
| 2. ukppmin | _____ | 12. eremnbv | _____ |
| 3. krueyt | _____ | 13. gobabl | _____ |
| 4. omfaylwer | _____ | 14. dessret | _____ |
| 5. niwsebho | _____ | 15. ngstuff | _____ |
| 6. ciarrbesne | _____ | 16. uyhtarsd | _____ |
| 7. spmiligr | _____ | 17. efats | _____ |
| 8. ricdukmts | _____ | 18. rgavy | _____ |
| 9. dnenir | _____ | 19. nnasidi | _____ |
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OPCCOA NOTICE OF ELECTION OF MEMBERS OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS



NOTICE is hereby given that an election will be held at the following time and place:

DATE: Thursday, December 9, 2021

TIME: 6:00 p.m.

PLACE: Community Building – 2220 Loch Rane Boulevard

PURPOSE: To elect two (2) directors

Ballots and voting instructions are being mailed to members. Photos of the six candidates are available in this issue of our community newsletter. The photos and the candidate application forms are posted online at www.opcc.info and hard copies are available in the community building. Due to coronavirus restrictions voting will not be done in person. Voting will be done by secret ballot and the envelopes can be placed in the mail slot at the community building, given to a street captain to deposit for you or mailed to the management company. The Election Committee will convene at the community building at 6:00 p.m. on Thursday, December 9 for the purpose of counting the votes. We will use Zoom video conferencing so that you will be able to check in on the vote counting. A link will be provided to you prior to the election. During the election process, the current Board of Directors will provide community and committee updates. Following the election, there will be no annual meeting.



Andrew Behan



Jim Oechsler



Mark Blakewood



Lou Manz



Bob McKinney



Matt McCary



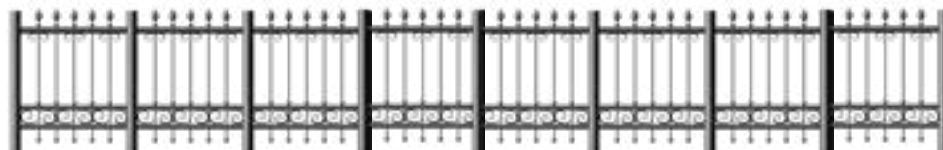
INTRODUCING OUR NEW GATE SECURITY COMPANY MEET GIDDENS SECURITY CORPORATION

Giddens Security Corporation is a Florida based security firm that was established in 1982 by Darrell Giddens. According to the company's website, Darrell began operations because he saw a need for high quality, customer focused security service in Jacksonville. Giddens is the longest active Licensed Security Manager in the Greater Jacksonville area. Conveniently located on the westside of Jacksonville at 528 South Edgewood Avenue, Giddens Security offers armed and unarmed security and patrol services throughout Florida and Southeast Georgia. Emergency services are available 24 hours a day.

Giddens is bringing in a team of very experienced individuals including some familiar faces to serve our community. Herbert Peterson will be the Gate Captain (site supervisor). Herbert's background includes service in the Navy with both medical and security experience. He will be on duty

weekly Monday – Friday. His cell phone number is 904-327-2425 and email address is HPeterson@Giddenssecurity.com. Herbert says he is excited to work with us and his bosses bragged that he has good people skills. Herbert and other representatives from Giddens plan to attend the Steering Committee Meeting on November 18.

To make the transition easier for residents, Giddens will continue to use Gate Key Plus which is an internet-based resident and guest management system for gated communities.



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Dear extended family of Loch Rane and OPCC,

The reason for this letter is to say good-bye and thank you. Saying good-bye is not an easy thing for me to do. But this bittersweet moment has come to be as I will be delivering the mail one last time on December 29th 2021. After working for the Postal for over forty plus years, eighteen have been as your mail carrier.

For all the years I have been here we have shared cheers and tears together. Sharing in your celebrations of children and grandchildren accomplishments, the stories of your past adventures always inspired me and brought me joy. And of course the jokes that were told always brought a smile to my face. Tears were also shared throughout the years I will remember all the loves ones we have lost over the years. I felt as though I was part of your family, and I felt the sorrow and pain with you.

The friendships made will last a life time and I thank you all for these memories. I believe that paths in life are not made by accident, but rather they are guided and placed there for a reason. And I thank God for placing me on that path that included you all. All of you have touched my life, and I pray I have touched yours.

It has been an honor and a privilege to be your friend and to have known you all. I hope that our paths will pass again in the future, but if not, please stay safe and May God bless you and your families.

*Always in my memories,
Chuck (The mailman)*

Sheila's Monthly Inspiration

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736 Westminster Drive

Terra Dowdell
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Joshua Boyts
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