

The Northwest Wire



Serving residents and property owners West of El Dorado Blvd. and North of Pine Island Road to the city limits.

The President's Perch

Working Together Is Achieving Together!

2011 Year End

November/December—Issue #8

Thank you for giving me the opportunity to serve a third term as president during 2012. I also want to recognize Fred Vogelpohl for serving his third term as treasurer, Barbara Wenz for her second term as secretary, and Rich O'Donnell for serving as vice president in addition to being our Development Review Committee Chairman.

The NWNNA is our neighborhood association. Each of us has a responsibility in maintaining and growing a strong community in the Northwest as none of us can do it alone. After all, this is our community and while we have built a good reputation with city officials and city administration, we must continue to nurture those relationships and build new alliances along the way.

One of our ongoing challenges is volunteers to serve as officers as well as to support our committee initiatives. While there is no obligation expected after attending a committee meeting, you may discover how easy it is to have a voice in improving your community.

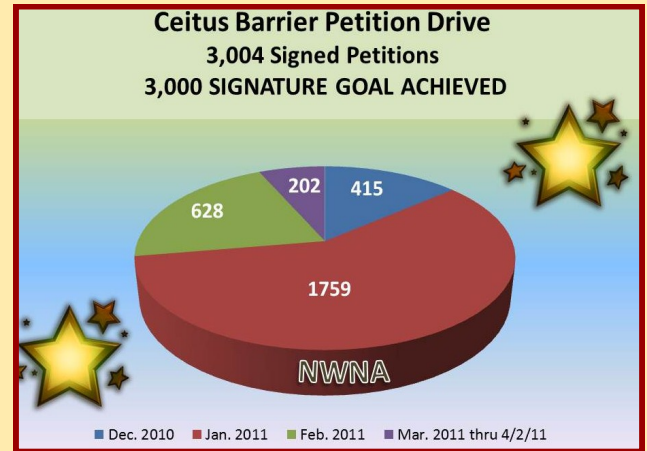
For those of us who are permanent residents, we already call the Cape our home. For property owners, it is an opportunity to build or discover their dream 'retirement' home. CNNMoney's staff even featured the Cape as one of the Best '25' Places To Retire in 2011. I could not agree with them more.

INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

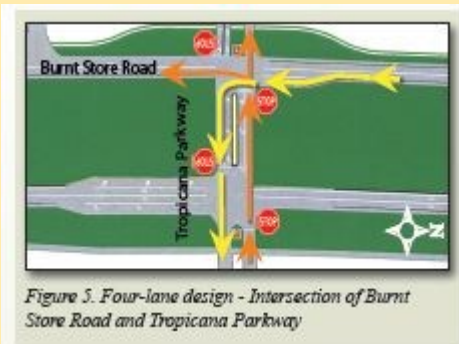
2011 Highlights	2
2011 Highlights (continued)	3
Canalside Calendar, 2012 Membership Drive	4
Hoo's Who In The Hood, The Crabby Corner Recipe, Wise Words	5
Cape Coral—One of the Best Places To Retire	6

2011 Highlights

- * Spearheaded ‘Petition Drive’ to deny reconstruction of the Ceitus Barrier and Boat Lift including the introduction of electronically signed petitions.
- * Authored and distributed a series of informative bulletins and flyers regarding the North Spreader Canal issue and the Ceitus Barrier Replacement to members and supporters.



- * Addressed City Council during their January 24th meeting regarding the purpose of our petition drive including the reporting of the current number of signed petitions. **Note: On 5/11/11 the City of Cape Coral received notice from the Florida Dept. of Environmental Protection denying the permit application to reinstall the Ceitus Boat Lift and Barrier.**






*Development Review Committee facilitated the Burnt Store Road Informational Meeting on February 14 at Christa McAuliffe Charter Elementary School to address the four-lane road extension due to its significant effect on every citizen, landowner and developer in the Cape. This meeting was a precursor to the February 24 Burnt Store Road Widening Public Information Workshop at the German American Club sponsored by Lee County Department of Transportation.

- * Participated in ‘Help Plan the Cape’ workshop with city planners to provide input on land use, economic development, transportation, housing, infrastructure, public schools, park facilities and more.
- * Supported the annual ‘Trash Bash’ at the Burnt Store Road Boat Ramp in conjunction with Keep Lee County Beautiful & Great American Cleanup Earth Day events. The NWN has been one of the ongoing sponsors for this event.



2011 Highlights

- ★ Published our first Nwana newsletter, The Northwest Wire.
- ★ Produced our inaugural recipe book, Cooking Capers.
- ★ Led by our Environmental Committee, an ‘informational gathering’ stage was formed to assess a prototype for median landscaping in our community. This committee will be presenting its formal proposal to our Board during January 2012.
- ★ Released our first electronic survey for member feedback. Several members expressed interest in short term assignments and will be contacted during January regarding their availability.
- ★ Sponsored and hosted two candidate forums during August for City Council candidates. Both forums were well received by the attendees.
- ★ Participated in hosting October 15th Open House at Fire Station #7, Burnt Store Rd., N.
- ★ Donated gifts for ‘Special Needs’ Children in conjunction with CERT (Community Emergency Response Teams) and the Cape Coral Fire Department ‘Gifts from Santa’ project.
- ★ Provided an informational booth during the December 10th Christa McAuliffe Charter Elementary School’s ‘first’ Community Fair.
- ★ Voiced Nwana’s concerns to City Council during their December 12th session regarding increased densities in Coastal High Hazard zones unilaterally throughout the Cape.

Our success can be attributed to a small group of volunteers who are not only dedicated but also work tirelessly to assure that we are represented on the issues that affect our northwest community.



canalside calendar

2012 General Meeting Schedule

**January 26th, March 29th, and
September 20th**

2012 Annual Meeting

November 15th

“NEW” Meeting Location

**Christa McAuliffe Charter
Elementary School Cafeteria
2817 SW 3rd Lane, Cape Coral**

**Note: Doors open at 6:30pm for
member sign-in and socializing.
Meeting Time: 7pm to 8:30pm**

**Informational Meetings on critical
issues affecting our northwest
community will be scheduled as
needed.**

Board of Directors Meetings. January 19, March 22, September 13 and November 8. Board meetings are generally scheduled at 7pm at one of our officer's residences. Members who would like to attend a board meeting may e-mail president@nwcape.com

2012 MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL DRIVE

***DUES NOTICES WILL
SOON ARRIVE IN
YOUR INBOX.***

***ANNUAL DUES
REMAINS AT \$15 PER
HOUSEHOLD.***

Your membership dues covers our operating costs such as: post office box rental, storage unit rental, annual State of Florida corporate filing fee, liability coverage, copier paper/ink supplies, website domain renewal, fee for online survey, annual contribution to Mariner High School Athletic Booster as our meeting space was provided at no cost.

Project related costs incurred for 2011: Ceitus Barrier (handouts for Ceitus Barrier literature, electronic survey fee), Burnt Store Road Informational Meeting (future land use maps, road signs, 2011 Trash Bash (food/beverage for lunch, sponsor t-shirts), Two Candidate Forums (Mariner auditorium rental fee; audio technician fee, security guard expense), Cooking Capers printing costs.

More importantly are the countless volunteer hours of a small group of members who work tirelessly to support our daily operation and ongoing initiatives.

Hoo's Who in the 'Hood

President
Stella Peters
president@nwcape.com

Vice President
Rich O'Donnell
vicepresident@nwcape.com

Treasurer
Fred Vogelpohl
treasurer@nwcape.com

Secretary
Barbara Wenz
secretary@nwcape.com

Email: nwna@nwcape.com
Website: www.nwcape.com
Mailing Address: PO Box 411
Cape Coral, FL 33993-0411

Development Review Committee
Rich O'Donnell, Chairperson
rod6447@yahoo.com

Environment Committee
Judy Harvey, Chairperson
jharvey48@embarqmail.com

Information Technology Committee
Cathy Eybs, Chairperson
webmaster@nwcape.com

Marine Committee
Rick Williams, Organizer
w1rik@hotmail.com

Membership Committee
Chairperson needed.
president@nwcape.com

Parks Committee
Terry O'Donnell, Chairperson
terryod435@yahoo.com



During 2012, the Northwest Wire will be published on a quarterly basis.

Publication dates covering the previous three months are: April 1, July 1, October 1 with the final edition released on December 31st.

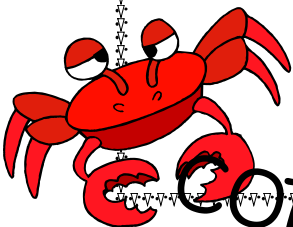
Members are invited to submit newsworthy information to share with our community no later than 15 days prior to the publication dates listed above.

Last-Minute Crab Casserole

T
H
E
C
R
A
B
B
Y

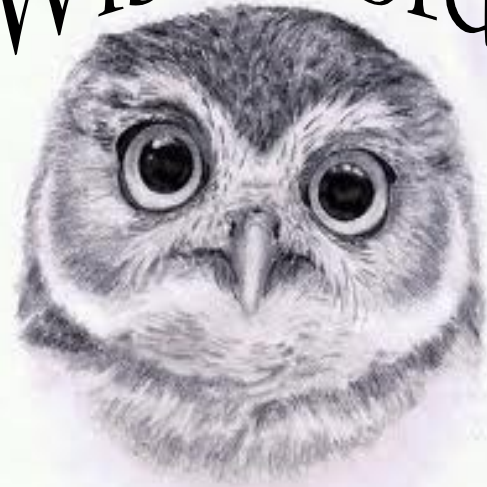
- 1 can condensed cream of mushroom soup
- 2 cubes chicken stock
- 1/2 soup can of milk
- 1 tbsp. vermouth
- 1 lb. crab meat
- 1 package frozen peas, uncooked
- Dash of cayenne
- Salt
- 1/2 cup Swiss cheese, grated
- Paprika

Heat oven to 350° F. Rub casserole or shells with margarine. Heat the soup and add the chicken cubes, milk and vermouth. Add the crab meat, uncooked peas and cayenne. Taste before adding the salt or additional seasoning. Place in the casserole or individual shells and top with grated cheese. Sprinkle paprika over all. Bake about 20 minutes until lightly brown.



CORNER

Wise Words



*Alone we can do so little,
together we can do so much.*

...Helen Keller

The Northwest Wire is a publication of the NWN.A.
Creator: Barb Wenz; Editor: Stella Peters

CNN Money ranks Cape Coral, FL as one of the 25 Best Places To Retire in 2011. Cape Coral, Florida.



COURTESY: TARPON POINT MARINA

Cape Coral, Fla., is paradise for water lovers.

- * **Population:** 154,300
- * **% over 50:** 38%
- * **Median home price:** \$95,000
- * **Top state income tax:** None
- * **Cost of living index:** 96

For retirees who are looking for lower taxes, cheap housing and a gentle climate, Cape Coral scores on all fronts. Home prices here, for example, have fallen more than 60% since the 2006 peak. For homebuyers, that means a lot of bang for the buck: A newly renovated three-bedroom, 1,800-square-foot house with a pool was recently bought here for \$145,000.

Lots of Florida towns have seen dramatic price drops, of course, but Cape Coral has something else going for it: It's paradise for water lovers. The town is sliced with 400 miles of canals, half of which have access to the Gulf of Mexico, about 20 minutes away by boat.

This quiet place doesn't offer much nightlife. But there's a public golf course, a weekly farmers' market with live music, and a nearby outlet mall. Training camps for the Boston Red Sox and Minnesota Twins are just 15 minutes away.

Source: Money.cnn.com, Best Places To Retire 2011, written by CNNMoney staff,

Beth Braverman and Sarah Max, 09-16-11.