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Meet Your Staff

[Cindel Wolnizak](#) is the receptionist at Village Hall. Cindel has been a member of the Village Staff since January 2007. She is currently pursuing a Bachelor's degree in Public Administration from FIU. She is an avid reader, movie-goer and enjoys traveling.

Photo Gallery

E-News

December 2008

From the desk of Mayor Lerner

Welcome to our Inaugural E-news. I begin our new administration of the Village of Pinecrest by starting a monthly communication, in order to better inform and involve our residents. It is my hope that you will join me in exploration of the many means of outreach that we can employ.

We are sending out our monthly E-news which will include a message from me, and a discussion of an issue of the month. We will also provide you with updates on important issues we will be discussing in either a workshop, a Committee of the Whole or a Village Council meeting. You will receive regular updates on various capital projects we are working on in the Village.

In addition, E-news will include the following:

- a spotlight on a village employee, so you can get to know those who work so diligently to make Pinecrest a great municipality
- community center and public library programs and events
- a community calendar to facilitate involvement in the many organizations that our residents are members of

Whether you are new to Pinecrest or have lived here for years, we hope to make it easier for citizens to get connected with their community. There are worlds of opportunities for our residents, and I want to be sure we offer our residents a chance to be more involved.

To subscribe to the monthly E-news, please visit www.pinecrest-fl.gov and click on "Sign up..."

In the coming months, we will be holding workshops on various

Mayor Cindy Lerner was sworn-in as mayor on November 5, 2008.

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issues that we must have public input before we can proceed. The Village wants to have residents weigh in on how to best utilize our citizen transportation tax dollars allocated for transit purposes. I will be asking our manager to schedule a workshop and invite the director of the CITT program to educate us on how the money can be used and how other municipalities have used their dollars so we can together make a determination on how to best meet our residents needs. We have the expertise of Councilmember Joe Corradino to assist us, as he has in fact acted as a consultant for other cities to develop circulator systems, traffic calming devices etc. I look forward to hearing your ideas on this project.

Please contact me if you have any comments or questions at clerner@pinecrest-fl.gov.

Cindy Lerner
Mayor

Mayor's Advisory Councils

Pinecrest residents have much to offer; they are exceptionally bright, creative and energetic. I want to tap into that "intellectual capital" to make our community the best it can be. We have various challenges and opportunities and together we can meet them. I plan to name several Advisory councils: Education, Transportation, Green Strategies for Energy and the Environment and a few others.

The first Advisory Council to become active will be the Education Advisory Council. I am inviting members of the Administration, Principals, and PTSA leaders of our five Pinecrest area public schools, as well as our new school board member, Dr. Larry Feldman, to join me to discuss ways we can improve our schools, letting the Village be a facilitator to reach out to the entire Pinecrest community. We will delve into academics, classroom needs, security, traffic flow/parking and other issues as they arise. Several other municipalities have Education committees and with the challenges facing our public schools, it is time we step up to the plate to provide more community support for Pinecrest's public schools.

The first meeting will be on January 6, 2009 at 9:30 a.m. in the Pine Room at the Pinecrest Community Center. We will keep you all informed of the outcome of these discussions and how you can become more involved.

Water Project Update

This month's update is on the Backbone Water Main project, that will allow those property owners on wells who wish to connect to

the County water system to do so. Many months ago the previous mayor and Village Council authorized the manager to begin the process of going out to bid for the construction on the "backbone" which will lay pipes down main transit corridors in the Village that are not currently connected to the county's water system. The Village has previously received both state and county funding totaling \$4.5 million to pay for this part of the project. The Village's website, www.pinecrest-fl.gov, has a link to the map of exactly which homes will be affected by this construction. If you have any concerns about this project, please direct them to Danilo Caicedo, Resident Inspector, C3TS, at 786-367-7023 or Peter Lombardi, Village Manager, at 305-234-2121.

The only cost to residents who live on the backbone and want to connect, will be the cost of hiring a plumber and running the lines from your house to the street. This could be as much as \$5,000.00, or more if you have extensive landscaping, driveways etc to dig up. It began in the northeast section of the Village about 2 weeks ago, and is scheduled to be completed in May of 2009. Those homeowners who will be directly affected by having a line go down their street were sent a letter detailing the construction process by my predecessor, Mayor Gary C. Matzner. The letter is available on the Village's website for all to read as well. I have asked our manager to display a map of the project on our web site, with an update of where the project is currently being dug and where it goes next.

For those who do not want to hook up, I have asked our attorney to prepare a petition to amend the Environmental Quality Control Board's order issued back in 2007, which requires Pinecrest residents to hook up to county water within five years of having a water main installed on their street. There are three triggers that would require the resident to hook up sooner: if the property is sold, or if the owner makes substantial improvements in which the cumulative costs equals or exceeds 50% of the fair market value of the property or if the well is contaminated. In our Petition, I am asking the county to allow Pinecrest residents who do not want to connect, to extend the 5 year waiver to have a lifetime waiver, that is, as long as they live in Pinecrest, they would never be forced to hook up, unless one of the three triggers were to occur. I am also asking the county to declare a moratorium on proceeding on any home in Pinecrest they have already sent a letter to advising them they must hook up within 90 days, and to include all those homes in the petition for a lifetime waiver. I consider this a property right of our residents and am prepared to litigate over it. We believe we have other options at our disposal as well.

Community Calendar

VILLAGE COUNCIL

Regular Meeting

December 9, 2008, 7:00 p.m.

Pinecrest Municipal Center - 12645 Pinecrest Parkway

www.pinecrest-fl.gov/agendas.html

CLUBS

Pinecrest Garden Club Meeting
December 9, 2008, 11:30 a.m.
Pinecrest Gardens (Hibiscus Room) - 11000 Red Road

LIBRARY

Bedtime Stories (for all ages)
December 18, 2008, 7:00 p.m.
Pinecrest Branch Library - 5835 SW 111 Street
www.mdpls.org/info/locations/pc.asp

ARTS

Pinecrest Gardens Fine Arts Show
January 17-18, 2009
Pinecrest Gardens - 11000 Red Road
www.pinecrestgardens.com

If you are a non-profit or civic organization holding meetings or events in Pinecrest and wish to be included in this listing, please send an e-mail to communitycalendar@pinecrest-fl.gov. Please include complete event information such as name of organization, date, time, place, and contact information.



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