



Wiggins Bay Foundation Newsletter

April 2026

Annual Meeting Recap

The Wiggins Bay Foundation Annual meeting was held on Thursday, March 26 at 10:30am at the Tarpon Cove Yacht & Racquet Club. Collier County, District 2 Commissioner Chris Hall was our special guest and updated us on several initiatives relevant to Wiggins Bay Residents.

Highlights include:

Kinsale Utilities Equipment — Commissioner Hall advocated on our behalf and secured the cooperation of both Soave executives and Collier County utilities staff. Significant aesthetic improvements will be made to improve Wiggins Bay residents view as we exit our community.

Wiggins Pass Road — Negotiations are underway with FDOT to finalize sidewalk improvements and the addition of a bike lane on the south side of Wiggins Pass Road.

Veterans Parkway East West Corridor—Design plans for the extension of Veterans Parkway to US41 can move forward as the CC Commission recently voted to acquire the property necessary to complete the project. This property will also come into play to extend the Bonita Estero Rail Trail (BERT) into Collier County.

Tract 10—Just prior to our Annual Meeting ,the Commissioner was working with Soave executives to fast track the construction of the Cocahatchee Park overflow lot planned for tract 10. County staff have the bulk of the design completed. Bill Knab and his committee of interested parties have ensured resident concerns are addressed. The Commissioner feels handing over the permitting and construction responsibility to Soave can bypass some bureaucracy resulting in an earlier completion date.

Welcome New Board Director—Eugene (Gene) DuAime



Princeton Place resident Gene, and his wife, Sharon, are Florida residents. spending seven months in Naples.. Their summer residence is on Long Beach Island, New Jersey. Upon joining our community in April 2019 they were immediately impressed by its beauty. Gene and Sharon enjoy boating, fishing, and spending time at the beach.

Gene is semi-retired from the healthcare industry, having spent over forty years working across clinical and commercial pharmaceuticals, drug distribution, and the payer space. Prior to retiring, Gene served as Chief Strategy Officer at Innovative Precision Health. He holds a BS in Clinical Chemistry and an MBA with a focus on Pharmaceutical Marketing.

From 2017 to 2020, Gene served on the Board of Governors of the Spray Beach Yacht Club and has been an active team leader on the club's Property and Grounds Committee since 2015.

A believer in open and frequent communication Gene values diverse perspectives and actively seeks input to help determine the best path forward when addressing complex projects. Comfortable leading strategy, he is equally willing to take a hands-on approach to ensure projects are completed correctly, on time, and within budget.

We welcome Gene to the Wiggins Bay Foundation Board of Directors!

DEADLINE

If you are not yet converted to the new Summit Broadband system please schedule your appointment as soon as possible. Instructions on scheduling your appointment can be found on our web site, www.wigginsbayfoundation.info
You have until Aug 31, 2026 to complete the upgrade without additional charges.

If you have converted and have frequent problems with loss of signal or internet speed you should put in a service call with Summit. If they are not able to resolve the problem with multiple service calls please contact Mike Dean, our Property Manager, and he will escalate your issue.

Neighbor Spotlight—Making a Real Difference

The Peanut Butter & Jelly food drive in February resulted in 1000 lbs of food collected and distributed to local families. That translates to approximately 800 meals. Thanks to all who participated and thanks to Colony resident, Wendy Therault for spearheading the drive.



"Spread the Love" Food Drive!

Nature Spotlight—Look up & Look Down

UP Did you hear the owl in the Villa's preserve?

Photo courtesy of Gina Chilcoat, WB Villas



One of our most common owls, Great Horned owls are found throughout all of North America. They are Florida's largest owl. Like most birds of prey, female great horned owls are larger than the males. They can be 2 ft tall with a wing span of 3 to almost 5 ft, but only weigh 2-5.5 pounds! Hard to spot, with their patchy grey, brown, and tan body, look for a large big-bodied owl with ear tufts (which aren't really ears at all), a black bill, large yellow eyes, reddish-brown feathers around their face ringed with black, and white chin feathers. Owls are so well camouflaged, you may hear them before you see them. Great horned owls make a variety of noises, but their most common call is a 4-5 note "whooh, whooh-hoo, whooh, whooh". Often heard calling back and forth to their mate, a male owl's call is deeper, while a female owl's call will have a higher pitch.

Great horned owls lay 1-4 eggs once a year. When defending their nest, they make a variety of noises from clapping their beak, hissing, screaming, or guttural noises. They will also fly close to the offender and may even strike with their talons. In Florida, they generally nest in winter. Right now the young owls are fledging from the nest! This means they are learning to fly and hunt on their own.

Dr. Katherine Clements, Ecology and Natural Resources Educator for UF/IFAS Extension

DOWN Have you seen a False Parasol or Green Spored Mushroom?

The "false parasol" or "green-spored parasol" mushroom is a poisonous mushroom that is the most common cause of mushroom poisoning in the US. This mushroom is widely distributed throughout Florida and commonly creates a complete or incomplete "fairy ring" in lawns, grassy areas, and open woods. When mature, it can be relatively easy to distinguish from other mushrooms based on its large cap, the ring around its stem, and the greenish color of its gills (underside of the cap) resulting from the green spores that it produces. Children and pets are at a high risk for poisoning. If you pick and discard them be sure to wear gloves.



Safety Through Courtesy

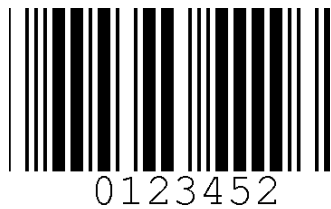


Speed bumps may be in our future as residents continue to exceed the 15mph speed limit and ignore stop signs. The problem is most evident on Wiggins Bay Drive, cars proceeding North. Too many cars roll through the intersection, neglecting to look for pedestrian or bicycle traffic. A complete stop should be long enough to allow the driver to assess the intersection and ensure safe passage.



The intersection of Horse Creek Drive and Wiggins Bay Drive should be navigated as a 3-way intersection with the entry traffic having the right-of-way.

Residents driving east on Horse Creek or west on Wiggins Bay Drive from the Villas should allow cars entering through the gate to proceed.



In February, Property Manager Mike Dean sent out a tip sheet for the resident lane. Occasionally there is a problem with damage to or positioning of the bar code on a car but the majority of the time it is driver operator error. Hugging the curb on the reader side of the lane is the primary culprit. The tip sheet is posted on our web site under policies & procedures.



Paramont Properties, our Property Management Company and dwellingLive, our guest entry software, are address based systems.

When you relocate within Wiggins Bay you are required to contact Paramont and they will make the appropriate changes to the software.

If you have an email change Paramont needs to know.

Paramont Properties 239.734.3200

Mike Dean—mike@paramontproperty.com

How to stay safe during alligator mating season.

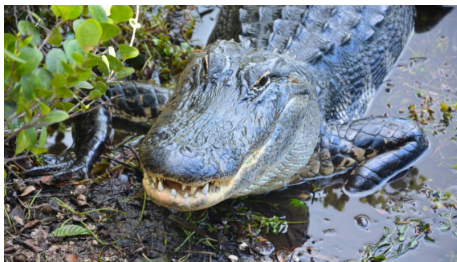
As spring warms Florida's waters drawing locals and tourists alike, it also marks the beginning of alligator mating season. While courtship rituals began in April, mating occurs during May and June, a time when these iconic reptiles become more active and territorial.

Last year's tragedy at Lake Kissimmee State Park highlights the importance of remaining vigilant this time of year. Alligators can be found in nearly every freshwater body in the state. Encounters are rare, but they can happen—particularly during times of heightened activity like mating season.

The Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission (FWC) reminds Floridians and visitors to only swim in designated areas during daylight hours and never approach or feed an alligator. Doing so not only endangers your life, it also teaches alligators to associate people with food, which can lead to more aggressive behavior.

Pets are especially vulnerable, as they resemble natural prey. Always keep dogs on a leash and well away from shorelines. Florida's wild places are safest when we share them with care. Understanding alligator behavior, especially during breeding season, can help prevent tragedy and allow us to coexist with the powerful predators that have called Florida home for millions of years.

Fish & Wildlife Foundation of Florida



If you are concerned about an alligator in Wiggins Bay, email Mike Dean and he, in turn will contact SNAP, the Statewide Nuisance Alligator Program. Generally, an alligator is deemed a nuisance if it is at least 4 feet in length and poses a threat to people, pets or property.

Follow Up

In January 2024 we featured an article about Margie Lynch, python hunter! A veterinary tech, Margie and others are helping to ensure the return of native wildlife to the Everglades through python hunts. Pictured below is Margie, one of her pythons and a purse she had made to remember him by!

