

Hammocks Happenings

The Hammocks: The Nicest Community on the Sun Coast

September 24th, 2019

Below please find a number of 'Items of Interest' regarding River Wilderness and the Hammocks.

Upcoming Meetings & Events

- Hammock's September HOA board meeting: Thursday, September 26th, at 5:00 PM in the RW Community Center.
- Hammock's October HOA board meeting: Thursday, October 24th, at 5:00 PM in the RW Community Center.
- Hammock's Annual Member's meeting: Tuesday, November 19th, at 6:30 PM in the RWGCC main dining Room. An 'Organizational' meeting will immediately follow the Member's meeting.
- **The Hammock's** HOA does **not** have a December board meeting scheduled at this time.
- RW Master HOA's October board meeting: Tuesday, October 15th, at 2:00 PM in the RW Community Center.
- RW Master HOA's November board meeting: Tuesday, November 19th at 2:00 PM in RW Community Center.
- **The RW Master** HOA does **not** have a December board meeting scheduled at this time.

HOA Board Notes

- The Hammock's HOA will be approving the budget at the October board meeting. It is anticipated that the quarterly assessments will increase due to increased irrigation and landscape maintenance costs.
- As noted above the Hammock's Annual Meeting will be held on November 19th. There are three board positions open for election. You will be receiving a 'First Notice' regarding this meeting shortly. Included in that letter will be a 'Notice of Intent to be a Candidate' form. If you think you would like to run for the board, please complete this form and return it to Justin Gonzalez at Argus Property Management by October 11th. The complete address is on the form.
- Please note that the Hammock's HOA board meetings and the Master HOA board meetings will be held in the RW Community Center at 1

Wilderness Blvd. The Hammock's Annual Member's meeting will be held in the RWGCC main dining room.

Welcome Aboard

The Hammock's HOA board and the entire community would like to extend a very warm welcome to the following newcomers:

- John and Pamela Northam 12127 Maple Ridge Drive
- Caitlyn Cole and Andres Hausinger 12120 Maple Ridge Drive
- Ricky and Theresa Kletschla 3307 Woodland Fern Drive
- Norwood Gay 3208 Woodland Fern Drive
- Mike and Cam Olsen 12162 Maple Ridge Drive
- Anthony and Caressa Addair 12150 Maple Ridge Drive
- John Dillon 12124 Maple Ridge Drive

Welcome to River Wilderness and the Hammocks.

What's New?

- Well, we have seen major road and interchange reconfigurations accomplished at exits 213, 217 and 220 over the last couple of years; now it's our turn. There are major changes coming to the exit 224 – I75/US301 interchange. The funding is in FY 2021 budget but exactly what that means regarding construction activity is unclear. Below is text from the Florida Department of Transportation website.

<http://www.i75-us301.com/about-the-project.html>

The proposed improvements include reconfiguring the existing interchange as well as enhancements to three intersections along US 301: 51st Avenue East, 60th Avenue East, and 19th Street East.

The Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT), along with Manatee County, has identified the need to make improvements to and around the I-75/US 301 interchange in order to improve highway operations, safety, and regional mobility.

The scope of this project is to widen the I-75 (SR 93) facility and reconstruct the I-75 (SR 93)/US 301 (SR 43) interchange from a partial cloverleaf interchange to a tight diamond configuration. New bridges will be constructed over the Manatee River for a northbound exit ramp and a southbound entrance ramp. They will be compatible with the ultimate

section for future mainline traffic. The widening and reconstruction of I-75 (SR 93) will provide for an eight-lane divided roadway with 12-foot inside and outside shoulders (10-foot paved) and a median that varies from 64 feet to 161 feet. A depressed median with roadside ditches will be used to convey storm water.

The redesign of the I-75/US 301 interchange will not only handle the existing six lanes of traffic more efficiently, it will accommodate up to ten lanes (two express lanes and three general use lanes in each direction). These future ultimate improvements are planned to extend the acceptable level of service for I-75 well beyond 2050.

Acquisition of right of way for the construction improvements are currently funded FY 17 and Construction is currently funded FY 21 in FDOT's five-year work program.

- Almost exactly a year ago the Happenings mentioned a rumor about a new waterfront restaurant coming to Ellenton. Well, it is no longer a rumor; Specialty Restaurant Corporation recently announced that a 'Floribbean' themed Whiskey Joe's Bar and Grill is scheduled to open in early 2020 on the site of the recently leveled Leverock's at I75 and US301. Representatives of SRC say 'the new eatery will have 12,000-square-foot indoor-outdoor space that will serve as a watering hole for tourists and a stay-cation spot for locals'. Check out the menu of other Whiskey Joe's and you will see abundant appetizers, pizza, pasta, sea food, salads and sandwiches. It has been awhile in coming but it appears that it will have been worth the wait.

Hear It / See It / Report It