



# The Groundhog



## *A Note From the Board:*

The Homeowners Association Board of Directors has been busy reviewing policies and an extensive list of items that need to be addressed. During review of the home and yard maintenance standards we discovered that there was a recommendation to routinely pressure wash roofs. The BOD has decided to remove this recommendation from the yard and home standards. Additionally, we have listened to home owners request to extend the pool hours and are excited to announce they will soon be changed to 8am-9pm. These hours will be consistent year round.

The current board has new members and some prior members in new roles. We are learning and look forward to working together with the rest of our neighbors in the Mentone to keep our neighborhood a place we all can be proud to call home.

Our HOA website ([www.mentone.go.to](http://www.mentone.go.to)) has been updated with former meeting notes, financial reports, and a list of upcoming events. Please visit our site routinely to stay updated with the newest happenings in Mentone.

*-Mentone Board of Directors*

## Neighborhood News

Due to a high volume of abuse, the emergency exit button at the pool has been deactivated during normal operating hours. Key fobs will only work during normal hours. That means, key fobs will not allow you to exit the pool if you miss the 9pm closing time. The emergency exit button will, however, work for a short period of time following closing. Please be mindful of what time it is when utilizing the pool. Please note, if a visitor does not have a working key fob, they do not currently have pool privileges.

Please do not assist them in entering the pool.

Fall 2009

### BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETINGS:

**HOMEOWNERS ARE WELCOME TO ATTEND THE 6:30 PM BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING HELD AT THE POOL PAVILION THE THIRD THURSDAY OF EVERY MONTH. ARCHITECTURAL REVIEW BOARD MEETS AT 6:15 PM.**

### ARCHITECTURAL REVIEW

Please remember if you change the curb appearance of your home, including your landscape, you will need the approval of the ARC.

You can find the form online at [www.mentone.go.to](http://www.mentone.go.to) or contact Kelly Burch at Florida Community Management .

## Upcoming Events

Fall Garage Sale  
October 3, 2009  
8am — 12pm

**Fall Door Decorating Contest  
October 22, 2009**

**Mentone Halloween Festival  
Saturday, October 24, 2009  
Mentone Pavilion  
4:00 — 5:30pm**

If you are interested in volunteering to help with Mentone events, or would like to join the social committee, please email:

[Social\\_Committee@mentonecommunity.net](mailto:Social_Committee@mentonecommunity.net)

## *Your Yard and Home...by Nick*

First of all I would like to congratulate the Mentone Community for all the work that they have accomplished in maintaining their homes, yards, and flower beds. Last year I only had a few yards that qualified each month for Yard of Month, but just this past month I had 10 yards to review for the number one pick. That's a real improvement and says a lot about the change in character for our community.

## *General Housekeeping*

We have had some problems with residents hosting unapproved pool parties which causes an added stress on homeowners visiting the pool. Some of these parties have involved glass beverages and/or alcoholic beverages. Bringing glass containers and alcoholic beverages into the pool area is not only a potential hazard to all residents visiting the pool, it is against the Florida statutes, Alachua County ordinances, and the Mentone covenants. Please respect our pool rules and have parties pre-approved for the enjoyment, safety and comfort of all Mentone residents.

### *Board positions available:*

The HOA BOD is always interested in receiving help. If you would like to volunteer to assist the BOD or to serve as a board member, please contact Kelly Burch at [kellyb@floridacommunitymanagement.com](mailto:kellyb@floridacommunitymanagement.com) for more information. Thank you!

### *Friendly Reminders:*

The community pool/pavilion area is one of our most beautiful amenities and serves as a gathering place for the entire neighborhood to enjoy. Here are some items to help it stay that way:

1. Please keep in mind that pool party requests need to be submitted to the management company two weeks in advance and are limited to relatively small groups.
2. Remember, the pool closes at 9pm and gate key fobs will not work after 9pm. The emergency override button is to only be used if you accidentally get locked in for a few minutes after 9p.
3. DO NOT LEAVE THE GATE OPEN to the pool area at any time! The pool area must remain fully enclosed at all times for liability reasons. We do not want anyone to be harmed. Please note, the health department can shut our pool down for the gate being left open if seen during a routine inspection.
4. Since the pool closes at 9pm, people inside of the pool area after 9pm are considered trespassing unless they are an authorized vendor or attending to board approved maintenance or business.
5. Please immediately call the non-emergency number for the Sheriff's Office, 955-1818, if you see anyone vandalizing or trespassing in the pool or pavilion area!
6. Please apply all sunscreen products 45 minutes prior to entering the pool to prolong the life of our pool equipment.

***Please continue to respect the rules for the benefit of all.***

### **MOMS group of Mentone:**

Meets the first Wednesday morning of each month. Please contact [Social\\_Committee@mentonecommunity.net](mailto:Social_Committee@mentonecommunity.net) for more information.

### *Pool Update:*

The new pool heater is working! The board is currently working on the remaining pool repairs needed in the pool area. Some of these repairs will temporarily close the pool for a short period of time. Please check our website for more information regarding these upcoming repairs.

### *Let's Stay Connected:*

We are excited about the opportunities we all have to network with others in the neighborhood via our virtual community sites on Facebook and Yahoo!Groups. Visit [www.mentone.go.to](http://www.mentone.go.to) for more information on these groups.

Pet Safety and Courtesy  
\*Tips for Meeting New Dogs\*

By Melissa Jenkins

As a pet rescue volunteer, I meet new dogs every week. I have learned that while many dogs love people and can't wait to be petted, not all dogs like to be touched immediately, especially if they are shy or anxious. Getting off to a good start is important, so I make sure that I follow a few simple rules every time I meet a new dog. By following these tips, you can help to make the meeting a pleasant experience for yourself and the dog, and you can help prevent the dog from acting out in a fearful way. It is especially important to teach these tips to children so that they can learn the proper way to make friends with a new dog.

*To read the entire article, visit the 'Guest Writer' page on our website.*

*Do you have an aspiring writer in your home? Send us your articles or topic ideas.*

**Please address all questions and concerns with  
Florida Community  
Management at 375-6666.**