

Communications Committee Report

Jan. 25, 2018

This has been a busy year in terms of communication. Approximately 1,000 emails came across Saratoga's gmail account before, during and after Hurricane Irma hit. Although Irma was destructive, she brought our little community together. Neighbors helping neighbors.

I appreciate the compliments from everyone. But there were many who made it possible to get the information out. After all, I wasn't here.

At the risk of overlooking some (which I apologize if I do), there are many thanks to go around.

- Christina Chomo who came up with the idea of having residents who planned to stay during the hurricane share their unit #s and cell phones with others who were riding out the hurricane. Emails were share with those owners so we could know who was here in case the worst happened.
- The many upstairs unit owners who opened their condos to those in lower units when the threat of 15 ft surges were being predicted. This includes owners who weren't even in Saratoga at the time.
- The Morgans, Fords, Childs, Mohns, Hal Bardon and my husband, John, who submitted photos and first-hand narratives of what was going on so that those of us who were hundreds of miles away watching the hurricane events unfold had a general idea of what was going on here in Saratoga. The Childs' photo from their lanai of the scene before, during and after was incredible.
- The many residents who used chain saws and muscle power to remove the landscaping debris so our roadway could be opened – and then let me know what happened so I could convey that information to our residents.

I owe these people a lot of thanks for making my job communicating easier as to what was going on. That way I could share that with all of the members of our Saratoga family.

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On a different note, I am putting the finishing touches on the community directory and hope to have it available next month. This will be the 6th one published. For those who are new, we publish a directory every other year. In addition to names and other information of residents who want to be a part of it, there is information about the rules of regulations, the days garbage service is not available and important numbers.

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I recently read that condo associations that have 150 units or more will be required to have a website beginning this year. We are ahead of the game. We try to provide information of interest to our residents. We have an average of more than 550 hits per month to our website. This month it has been accessed more than 600 times and we still have a few days left. About 25% of the users are from Naples, the remaining 75% are from outside Naples.