

Chairman's Notes

August 9, 2024

Well, I hope everyone is doing well this Friday afternoon. There is not a whole lot going on here at TGO this week, but I will give you a short update on the golf course and some information about a few other topics.

Spectrum is updating all of the old equipment in The Great Outdoors; in the next few weeks, they may be contacting residents who have equipment that needs to be upgraded. They may contact you by phone or postcard in the mail to remind you that equipment needs to be changed by the end of the year. If you have not gotten new equipment yet, this is the time to do it.

On Monday the 12th of August, our CSA utilities maintenance team will begin a three-week project to replace three fire hydrants on Sunset Drive. Those who live on Sunset will be getting notices to boil water for drinking purposes. The plan is to replace one hydrant per week over three weeks so we spread the impact to our Sunset residents. Of course, there may be some issues and this may take a little longer. Again, those who live on Sunset will get noticed directly by the CSA office.

The project to insulate and air-condition the Sunset bathhouse is underway. The insulation has been completed. If everything stays on schedule, the AC unit will be installed next Thursday.

For an update on the golf course, I have elected to send you a report that our golf superintendent Shane Willey wrote last week. Rather than just repeating the things he said, I thought I would pass along his excellent report to you:

Greens 18,1-7 are doing very well for being less than 3 weeks old. We have cut the water off on those greens and have begun the smoothing out process. They have been rolled and were mowed at .200" on Friday. We will continue this process going forward along with multiple sprays on them each week. We will gradually lower the heights of the mower as

needed until we get to our final height of cut. During the process of mowing the greens on Friday, we noticed a discoloration of the new Bimini sod. My conclusion was the new sod was being targeted by a new turf pest called mites. These mites are very new to our area (a problem in South Florida) but eat away at the top leaf blades not at the roots. Friday night and Saturday I went out and sprayed for these pests on all new grass 18,1-7. Already seeing the results from that spray.

Greens that were sprigged on Thursday 8/1 are doing very well despite all the wind and rain. Already saw some new green leaf blades coming through on Saturday. There will be some wash outs on the greens from all this bad weather we have received. These areas will get fixed after the sprigs have established themselves and we back the water down.

Moving forward this week there will be a lot of cleanups with construction crew to re-final shape greens, surrounds and practice areas to get them ready for sod and sprigs. The original plan was to get holes 14-17 and the 3 practice greens all sprigged this Friday. As we know we are weather dependent on the sod farm near St Augustine. Last update we received is they are flooded and don't anticipate sod being cut until later this week if possible. Fingers crossed that we can get some sod this week and move forward with those greens.

Below are some photos that I have taken to share with you.

If anyone has any questions or concerns, feel free to reach out.

Thanks,

Shane Willey, Golf Course Superintendent



I want to recognize Shane, Chuck and our golf staff; they are doing an excellent job with our course renovations. We are still on budget and I don't anticipate any budget overruns.

My notes are a little short this week but there is just not a lot going on in this very hot August weather.

Please do not feed our wildlife. And please do not try to approach any of our wildlife, remember they are wild and very unpredictable.

Have a great weekend.

Cliff