

# **Avant Garde News**

**Third Quarter 2023**

## **New Office Manager**

We are pleased to introduce our new office manager, Ms. Kelly DeRocha. Kelly has been in the office for a few months learning our programs, our accounting, our complex, and most of all our owners and residents. If you get a moment, stop by the office and introduce yourself. You will be glad to meet a smiling face and a personable attitude.

## **2023 Annual Meeting**

It's that time again! The Annual Meeting is tentatively scheduled for November 17, 2023 at 7:00 PM in the Fiesta Room (room next to the office). All AGHOA homeowners are asked to attend if at all possible. Information pertinent to the association will be announced, discussed, and voted on. (Owners with personal issues will need to request a private appointment with the Board through the office.)

This year we will be filling three board positions. If you would like to run for the board, complete the form on the next page and return it to the AGHOA office before September 30, 2023.

Forms will not be accepted after September 30, 2023.

# Avant Garde Homeowners Association

## NOMINATIONFORM

I would like to nominate \_\_\_\_\_

MEMBER NAME: \_\_\_\_\_ UNIT \_\_\_\_\_

\*If you are nominating yourself, please complete & sign below.

\*If you are nominating someone else, please have them complete and sign this form confirming they accept the nomination.

Form must be completed and returned to the office by **October 31, 2022.**

With completion of this form, you are verifying that you are an owner and member of the Avant Garde Homeowner's Association. Should you be elected to a Board of Director position, you agree to:

- a) attend scheduled and special Board of Director meetings, Homeowner's meetings, as well as the annual membership meeting.
- b) provide the Association Office with an email address to conduct Board of Director business.
- c) keep your unit(s) dues current.
- d) be available to assist homeowners.
- e) be available during emergency conditions.
- f) promote and uphold the Bylaws, Amendments, Rules & Regulations, Guidelines, Procedures, etc. of this Association.
- g) conduct yourself in a professional manner, at all times, when with Homeowners, other Board Members and Staff; during meetings, gatherings, etc.
- h) submit to a background check, with all expenses covered by the Association.
- i) complete the required Board of Director documents (confidentiality and guidelines for conflicts of interest agreements).
- j) provide a copy of your current driver's license.

PLEASE COMPLETE THE FOLLOWING:

1, What qualifications or job experiences do you have that would benefit the Association? (If you need additional space, please continue on the reverse side.)

---

---

---

2. How long have you been a member (owner) of this Association? \_\_\_\_\_

3. Please provide your current residential address: \_\_\_\_\_

CANDIDATE SIGNATURE \_\_\_\_\_ DATE: \_\_\_\_\_

### Painted Parking Spaces

No, you're not seeing things... wait, yes you are seeing things. You're seeing the newly painted, bright yellow lines and numbers in our parking areas.

Thanks to our maintenance man, Herman, and his voluntary assistant, Billy, we have easy to see lines and numbers. The best part is that they saved the Association mega-bucks by not having to hire an outside contractor. Good job!

### Parking Passes

Just a reminder, if you are going to have company staying overnight or several nights, you need to go to the office and get a temporary parking pass for them if they are going to park a vehicle on the premises.

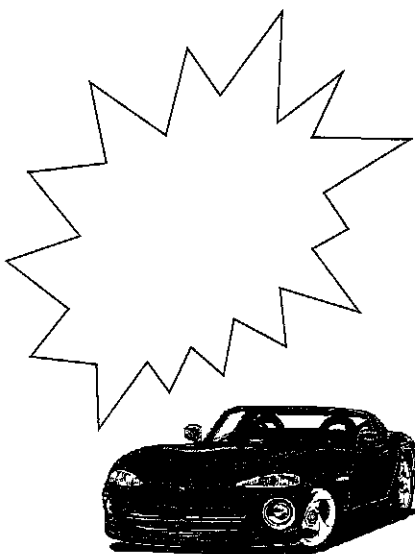


#### TEMPORARY PARKING PERMIT

License # \_\_\_\_\_

Date(s) \_\_\_\_\_

Area(s) \_\_\_\_\_



### Parking Spotlights

Last night, like every other night, I checked my vehicle outside and around my condo before going to bed. The parking lot was dimly lit by the lolly-pop light.

Tonight, when I stepped outside for my routine check, I couldn't believe my eyes. Our parking area was bright! Our Entergy spotlight was finally repaired, and our area was brightly lit.

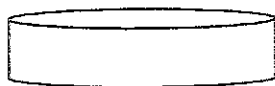
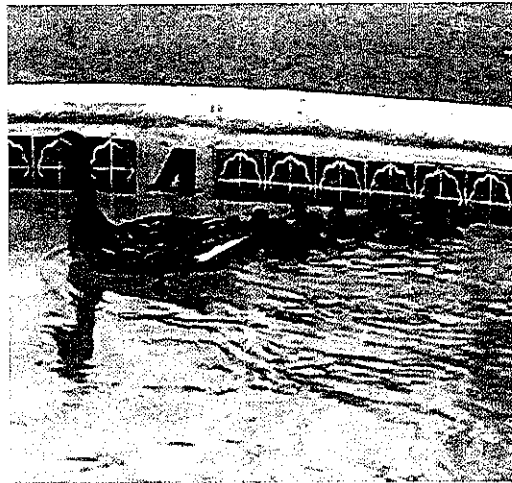
For years the office has been trying to get Entergy to fix four malfunctioning parking area spotlights. Herman saw an Entergy repair man working on a light and politely requested repairs on the four malfunctioning lights. This person must have been more than a repair man, or he knew someone, because a few days later all four lights were working.

The office, the Board, and the residents of Avant Garde thank you Herman for finally getting the job accomplished.

## Ducks

Who came to Avant Garde first, the ducks or the humans? If you guessed ducks, you are correct!

The ducks were here when Avant Garde was still a swamp and have been kind enough to share their swamp with us for over 40 years. Every year the ducks come back, build a nest in the bushes, and bless us with adorable babies. They prance around the grounds in parade format and swim in our pools to everyone's delight. Proof of that is in this picture of Momma and her babies. Enjoy!



## Wristbands

The new wristbands have been available for months now and they **ARE REQUIRED TO BE WORN** while present in the amenities area.

The approved colors for 2023 are: solid yellow for residents and orange with yellow swirls for visitors. Each condo is allowed only four (4) visitors.

If you see someone in the amenities area without wristbands, ask them if they live here. Ask them nicely if they know that wristbands are required when in this area. Use your best judgment and if you feel they really don't belong here, phone the police and let the police sort it out.

## **AMENITIES AREA**

There are several issues that need to be addressed in the amenities area. After reading this article, any and all comments are welcome. Please send them **in writing** by email, US postal service, or drop them off in the office mailbox. Include your name and unit number.

The amenities area is relative to all who own and/or live in Avant Garde. Here is a short story of two families that were observed.

The father, mother and three children came into the area with their lunch, snacks, blow-ups, and swimsuits. They did wear their AGHOA ID bracelets. The children removed their outer clothes and sloppily tossed them on several chairs and ground around the table. They began their running, yelling, pushing, and aggravating immediately. The father dragged a lounge chair over beside the table, sat down, popped a top and relaxed. The mother dumped an armful on the table and opened the umbrella. She dragged a chair over and sat down. Within the next three hours the family had a great outing! The father never moved from the lounge chair except to get another pop top from the cooler. The mother neatly spread newspaper on the table and dumped a large bag of crawfish for the family. The children stood around the table peeling crawfish and throwing the shells at each other. The mother politely told them to behave and stop throwing shells on the ground. After their crawfish lunch, the children jumped back into the pool to wash off the crawfish juices and debris from their hands, faces, and bodies. The mother rolled up the newspaper containing the shells and dropped it into a nearby trashcan. About an hour later, the father was out of pop tops, so it was time to leave.

A couple came into the area about 15 minutes later with their three children. They proceeded to pick up the cans, the crawfish shells from the ground and a few left on the table, the clothes and blow-ups left behind on the chairs, removed the trash bag full of stinking crawfish shells and brought it to the dumpster. They put a fresh bag into the can and washed the table and surrounding chairs. Now they could finally start enjoying their outing. Several hours later they cleaned the area again in consideration of the next users, closed the umbrella and left.

**WHICH ONE OF THESE ARE YOU?**

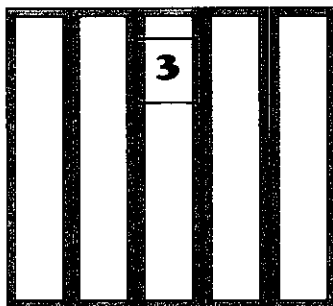
**PLEASE BE THE SECOND FAMILY!**

## Umbrellas

This summer has been a scorcher! The umbrellas have been a blessing for blocking the sun. Unfortunately, users of umbrellas think to open them, but don't think to close them. Like hand held umbrellas that are open, the wind turns them inside out and breaks them. We are only a few weeks into summer, and already we have had to replace three umbrellas because someone left them open, and the wind broke them. At \$80.00 per umbrella, we can't keep replacing them.

We don't have pool attendants to babysit pool visitors. Therefore, we have two choices: 1) We can check the cameras and bill the condo owner \$80.00 for the broken umbrella. And / Or 2) If umbrellas continue to be left open and broken by the wind, we can stop replacing them, and you will need to bring your own umbrella.

This is not something that needs to be voted on! If you wish to continue to enjoy the shade compliments of the Association, close the umbrella when you leave the area..



## Dumpster Gates

Dumpsters in the news AGAIN??? But this time it is good news.

Keep your eye on the dumpster gates. Herman is numbering them so that if you have an issue with one of the dumpsters, you can easily identify which it by its number. Ahhhh, sometimes the simple things are all we need. ☺



## **Fiesta Room Rentals**

Are you planning a party, reception, or maybe just a get-together? The Avant Garde Fiesta Room may be just the place you need. It accommodates up to fifty people. Tables and chairs are included. The room has air conditioning and/or heat as necessary. With your rental, you also have exclusive access to the pavilion and kitchen areas during your celebration. Summer rentals allow guests usage of the large pool.

Now the best part.... The price!

Condo owners may rent the Fiesta Room for \$75.00 per four-hour rental.

Condo renters may rent the Fiesta Room for \$125.00 for a four-hour period.

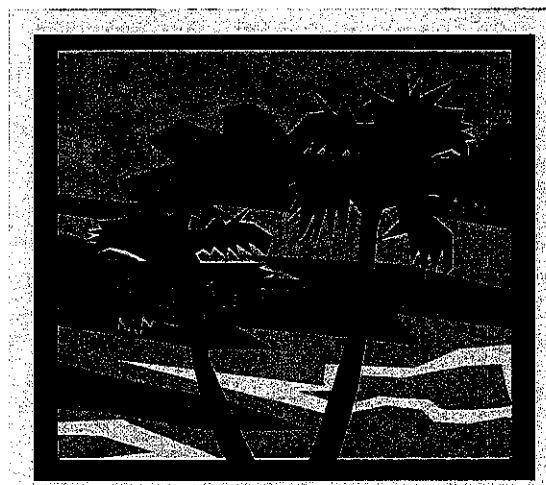
A deposit is required. If you clean the area after your activity, don't break any of the AGHOA rules, or damage the property, you will be refunded your full deposit.

A reservation form is available in the office or on line at the AGHOA website,

[AvantGardeHomeownersAssoc.com](http://AvantGardeHomeownersAssoc.com).

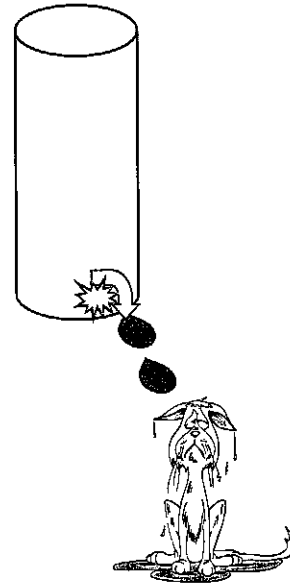
## **Palm Trees**

At present we are taking bids to clean up the palm trees in the amenities area. If you know someone that would be interested in submitting a bid, please have them contact the office at (504) 469-5959, or request a copy of the docs at [condos.AvantGarde@gmail.com](mailto:condos.AvantGarde@gmail.com)



## Water Falls

This morning when you left for work, did you notice the water falls was off? In an effort to conserve energy during these very hot days, we are running the water falls from 2:00 – 10:00 PM only.



## Dog Poop

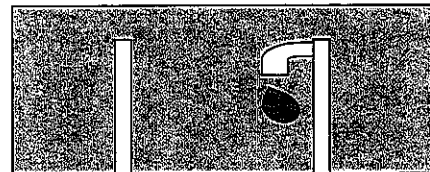


In every newsletter there is an article about dog poop. If you don't want to pick up YOUR dog's poop, at least keep your dog pooping by your condo, where your dog's poop belongs... Your neighbor don't want it.

Note: If you see someone's dog pooping and the owner is not picking it up, please take a picture. We'll find out who they are and send them a fine.

## Water Heaters

How old is your water heater? Here in the complex, several water heaters that were installed post Katrina were still in use and have busted and caused damage not only to its condo, but also to the adjoining condos. Please, if your water heater is over seven years old, have it checked. If you don't want to have it checked, at least check your homeowner's insurance for flood coverage.



## Water Supply

On the outside of each downstairs condo there are two pipes that go into the wall. One of them usually has a facet on it. These two pipes are the water feed for the upstairs and downstairs condos. Unfortunately no one has ever marked which one goes to which condo. Herman, our maintenance man is currently going around testing the pipes so he can label them. This way if there is a leak or work that needs to be performed, the workman will know whose water is whose! Please assist Herman if he asks you to turn on your water while he is testing.