



Directors Choice, LLC Newsletter July 2013

In This Issue

[Tip of the Month](#)
[Whiz Kids Play Zone](#)

Quick Links

[Our Services](#)
[Previous Tips](#)
[Related Topics](#)
[More On Us](#)

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Social Media

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Issue: #23

July/2013

Dear Janet,

Happy Independence Day!

We would like to extend a heartfelt thanks to the attendees of our recent Board Certification Course. We had a wonderful time and sincerely appreciate you taking time out of your weekend to join us. We hope it proved to be a source of helpful information to you in your role as a Director.

If you missed it, be on the lookout for our next notice! We plan to host another event in the first or second week of November. Snowbirds, we hope you can make it!

TIP OF THE MONTH

Lock your Vehicles, SW Florida!

We are all fortunate to live in South West Florida, which is a truly wonderful community. Because of this it has become very easy for all of us to have a false sense of security. Many people frequently leave their vehicles in their driveways unlocked, leave their houses unlocked, and sleep with their windows open. It is this false sense of security that makes our area a perfect playground for petty criminals.



"Car Shopping" has become a very real issue to many communities. Opportunistic criminals (and misguided teenagers) enter both gated and un-gated communities on foot in the early hours of the morning and stop at each driveway. They check every door for an unlocked vehicle and then simply take what they want. The more bold criminals will search for a garage door opener so they can come back later while the owners are away and rob the house with easy access. If these thieves are met with obstacles such as locked doors or alarms, they simply will move on to the next vehicle or the next house. In one of the communities we manage, an owner left the keys to their vehicle inside their vehicle one night. They awoke the next morning to realize they no longer had a vehicle. The criminals simply started up

the car and drove it out of the community with no one the wiser.

Your community may have security cameras at the entrances, but they can certainly not stop a crime. Gates will not stop a crime either. We have been notified the homes in the higher-end communities are sought after by the more sophisticated criminals who actually travel over from the East coast. They watch to see whether the owners have armed their house alarms and then will search for any unlocked doors, windows, or sliding glass doors.

These criminals also watch for seasonal residents. In particular, they prefer the homes where the residents have left their vehicles in the garage. Then they can simply load what they want into the car and drive away.

According to the Collier County Sheriff's Department, in most cases these thieves do not feel they are doing anything immoral. They are not committing acts of violence and simply consider these acts a business transaction. It is no problem for them to sit in jail for 6 months and then resume where they left off when released.

Residents, don't be victims of these crimes. If possible, park your vehicles in your garages. If there is not room, lock your vehicles while they are in your driveway. Lock your doors when you leave your house and if you have an alarm- use it! If you are a seasonal resident and leave your vehicle in your garage while you are away, put blinds or black-out tinting on your garage windows. For your sliding glass doors, install a "Cal-Double-Bolt Lock" to prevent criminals from accessing your home through your sliders. Simple items, like lights on times that come on in different locations throughout the house at different times each evening help as well. Let's all work together to keep South West Florida's reputation as a beautiful, safe location, to live, work, and play! One more thing- your property manager is not a police officer. If you have been the victim of one of these crimes, call the police, not the manager... While the manager should know so the community can be notified, they cannot solve the crime for you.

VENDOR SPOTLIGHT

Whiz Kids Play Zone & Tutoring Center

Over the past several days we all have seen a lot of wet days! The kids are stuck inside as the drainage systems swell with water. Meanwhile, the mosquitos are breeding and planning their next attack...



Want an alternative to the rain, humidity, and swarms of newly hatched pests? How about a 4,000 square foot air-conditioned, newly remodeled, indoor playground!

Conveniently located at 1050 Pine Ridge Road (near the corner of 41 and Pine Ridge- next to Pelican Larry's), Whiz Kids Play Zone & Tutoring Center will be opening its doors on Tuesday, July 9th. The play zone is specifically designed for kids ages 0-6 with a specially designated area for toddlers. They also have a music room, craft room, magnet wall, and LEGO wall for kids of all ages. Comfy couches and free Wi-Fi will keep you grown-ups well-occupied while your kids shake their sillies out to their hearts' content!

The Grand Opening will be held on Tuesday, July 9th, from 12pm to 7pm. Balloon twisting and face painting will be available from 2pm to 4pm. Admission is \$12 for the first child and \$8 for any siblings. Kids 7 and older get a

discounted rate. Feel free to stay and play all day!

The Center is available for birthday parties, private events, and also provides tutoring services for Kindergarten through 6th grade subjects. Activity classes will be scheduled monthly as well. Want to learn how to make your own playdough or tie-die a shirt? How about a snow day in August? Be sure to check their calendar of events at:

www.naplesfloridakids.com

Whiz Kids Play Zone & Tutoring Center
1050 Pine Ridge Road
Naples, Florida 34108
(239) 263.7017

See you there!

Directors Choice, LLC is a Naples, Florida based Community Association Management firm working with Condominium and Homeowners' Associations. We provide a full range of financial, consulting, and management services to our clients.

If you feel we be of service to your Association in any way, please contact us. We would love to speak with you.

Best regards,
Janet Howard
Directors Choice, LLC
239.877.7457 office
239.877.1295 direct
239.791.1076 e-fax
janeth@directorschoicellc.com
www.directorschoicellc.com

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Directors Choice, LLC | 3784 Progress Avenue | #107 | Naples | FL | 34104

