

Scenic Watch



Covering
News From
Feb
2018

Legal: Campaign Signs
"Sign controversy brewing on
Holiday Isle"



Photo: NWF Daily News

"Two residents of Holiday Isle in Destin were cited by the neighborhood's Holiday Isle Improvement Association this week for violating the organization's sign codes, but they believe the citations could potentially be politically motivated.



Fun Festivals
and Events

Central

To March 3
Real Music Concert Series,
Tampa Bay
March 1 and March 31
Climb to the Moon, Ponce
Inlet

Alan Osborne and Robyn Wehunt both have had posted campaign signs promoting candidates in the past without any issues.

However, both received citations from the Holiday Isle Improvement Association within hours of posting signs promoting charter boat Capt. Gary Jarvis' campaign for mayor. Jarvis' opponent in the race is current Mayor Scott Fischer, the director of the Holiday Isle Improvement Association's board of directors.

'Selective enforcement is the first step to control a government in socialism,' said Osborne. 'When it comes to rules, they either apply to everybody or nobody when your job is to represent the people.'

Wehunt agreed to have a 'Captain Gary Jarvis for Mayor of Destin' sign posted in her front yard after a member of Jarvis' campaign committee asked her permission.

'I left to pick up my daughter from school and by the time I came home, I found a citation on my front door,' Wehunt said.

Wehunt and Osborne both said they have posted Trump signs in their yards in the past without being cited.

The signage rules and regulations for Holiday Isle are posted on the improvement association's website and state that signs are prohibited in the right of ways, and only 'For Rent' or 'For Sale' signs shorter than four feet tall and two feet square in any given area are allowed.

Throughout the neighborhood, 'Scott Fischer Mayor' signs that include the phrase 'preserving the heritage of Destin' are displayed prominently on personal vehicles in driveways. The magnetic signs are within HOA code, according to Fischer, who said that he hasn't attended any association meetings or read any emails regarding association issues and is

March 1-11
Florida Strawberry
Festival, Plant City
March 2-4
Swamp Fest, Weeki
Wachee
March 3
First Saturday Workshops
and Jam, Barberville
March 3
Brevard County 4-H
Family 5K, Melbourne
March 3-4
Palm Harbor Craft
Festival, Palm Harbor
Through March 4
Music on the Bay, Tampa
March 3-4
Floral City Strawberry
Festival, Floral City
March 3-4
The Grant Seafood
Festival, Grant
March 3-4
Raymond James Gasparilla
Festival of the Arts,
Tampa
March 4
Chocolate Festival,
Melbourne
March 9-18
Orlando Bike Week,
Orlando
March 9-18
Bike Week, Daytona Beach
March 9-18
Firefighters' Indian River
County Fair, Vero Beach
March 10
Taste of Oviedo, Oviedo
March 16-18
Annual Winter Park
Sidewalk Art Festival,
Winter Park
March 17
Downtown DeLand Classic
Car Show, DeLand
March 22
ARTLife, Daytona Beach
March 23-26
Sertoma Youth Ranch
Spring Bluegrass Festival,
Brooksville
March 23-25
Annual Spring Daytona
Turkey Run

not in any position to comment due to the upcoming election.

The Holiday Isle Improvement Association declined to comment on the signage citations. The Destin Log contacted the Holiday Isle Improvement Association's security officer who said he was directed to issue citations for the Jarvis signs, but declined to say who directed him to do so.

David Schuessler, president of the improvement association's board of directors, said the security officer would not have been directed to issue citations on the signs by a board member, but would have done so on their own if the signs violated the protective covenants and restrictions of the association.

Congressman Mel Ponder, who served as the Mayor of Destin from 2014 to 2016, said that he did not remember being allowed to post campaign signs on Holiday Isle."

-- Maddie Rowley, NWF Daily News

[Read entire article](#)

"Milton mulls 'wind sign' amendment"



Photo: Wiki Commons

"City staffers have examined a law related to business signage, and are considering amending the ordinance to allow businesses to display certain

March 24
Color Me Crazy 5K
Walk/Run, New Smyrna
Beach
March 24-25
Melbourne Air and Space
Show, Melbourne
March 24-25
Indialantic Art Festival,
Indialantic
March 24-25
St Pete Beach Corey Area
Craft Festival, St Pete
Beach
March 24-25
Annual Spring Fine Arts
Festival, Englewood
March 26-April 1
Citrus County Fair,
Inverness
March 31-April 1
Annual Cuban Sandwich
Festival, Ybor City
March 31-April 1
Brownwood Paddock
Square Art and Craft
Festival, The Villages
March 31-April 1
Downtown Melbourne
Festival of the Arts

South

To March 4
Southwest Florida and Lee
County Fair, North Fort
Myers
To March 4
Festival of the Arts BOCA,
Boca Raton
To March 20
National Art Exhibition,
Punta Gorda
March 1 - 3
Sanibel Shell Fair and
Show, Sanibel Island
March 1-4
Okeechobee Music and
Arts Festival, Okeechobee
March 2
Naples City Live Music
Festival, Naples
March 3
Sharks Tooth 10K run,
Venice

types of signs for an extended period.

The signs in question are wind signs – sometimes known as feather, teardrop or blade flags – which usually comprise a pole and a suspended sign made of flexible material fastened in such a manner as to move in the wind, according to city ordinance 16-3.

Under the current ordinance, wind signs are known as “grand opening wind signs,” as they were only permitted for use from the date of business license issuance for a period not exceeding 30 consecutive days. The temporary permit for these signs is non-renewable.

'A number of months ago, we had a business owner ... put up a couple of wind signs on the property that she leases,' Planning Director Randy Jorgenson said of how the item was brought to the city's attention. 'We allowed wind signs to exist during a grand opening ... following that period, approached her to have the signs taken down and she indicated that was one of the few methods of advertising that ... would get the attention of the traveling public on Highway 90.'

The Milton Planning Board reviewed the ordinance related to wind signs and recommended approving the addition and deduction of certain language to the Unified Development Code.

Currently, businesses are limited to two signs per street frontage, and a business in a multi-tenant complex is limited to one sign.

Under the projected new ordinance, businesses would be permitted to put up wind signs during four different periods of 30 consecutive days. The \$10 permit would be renewable for three more 30-day periods during the first year, and four 30-day periods each subsequent calendar year, allowing businesses to display wind signs a total of 120 days per year.

Wind signs are prohibited outside C1, C2, C3 and

March 3
Southwest Florida Reading
Festival, Fort Myers
March 3
Carnaval Miami Cork and
Fork, Coral Gables
March 3
Conch Shell Blowing
Contest, Key West
March 3-4
Las Olas Art Fair Part II,
Fort Lauderdale
March 3-4
Downtown Venice Art
Classic, Venice
March 3-27
Sanibel Music Festival,
Sanibel Island
March 4
JM Lexus Sunday Jazz
Brunch, Fort Lauderdale
March 4
13
1 Marathon Miami, Miami
Beach
March 5-6
Bonita Springs National
Art Festival, Bonita
Springs
March 8-11
All-Florida Championship
Rodeo, Arcadia
March 9-18
Miami International Film
Festival, Miami
March 9-11
Fairchild's International
Orchid Festival, Coral
Gables
March 10-11
Art Festival Miami Springs,
Miami
March 10-11
Original Marathon Seafood
Festival, Marathon
March 10-11
Art Fest by the Sea, Juno
Beach
March 9-11
Art Under The Oaks, Vero
Beach
March 10-11
Fort Myers Beach Lions
Club Shrimp Festival, Fort
Myers Beach
March 10-11

SSC-RC zoning districts within Milton city limits. In multi-tenant complexes, the total number of wind signs displayed at a single time must not exceed four.

'Signage ... serves a useful purpose. It provides information to the traveling public,' Jorgenson said. 'The other side of that is ... signs, if they are proliferated, create a lot of what is commonly called visual clutter. You don't see what a community consists of for the signs that you're looking at.'

And they can constitute even a public safety hazard, in that they attract the driver's attention away from what they should be paying attention to.'

While the city was exploring the ordinance change, they didn't enforce the current ordinance.

According to Jorgenson, the City Council will vote on the item at the next meeting."

-- Alicia Adams, Santa Rosa Press Gazette

[Read entire article](#)

Legal: Illegal billboards are simply removed in Pakistan



Photo: Pakistan Today

Punta Gorda Sullivan
Street Craft Festival,
Punta Gorda
March 14-18
Art Boca Raton, Boca
Raton
March 16-17
Delray Beach St Patrick's
Day Festival, Delray Beach
March 16-17
Historic House Tours, Key
West
March 17-18
Coral Springs Festival of
the Arts, Coral Springs
March 22-25
Palm Beach International
Boat Show, West Palm
Beach
March 23-25
Ultra Music Festival,
Miami
March 23-25
Marco Island Seafood and
Music Festival, Marco
Island
March 24
TurtleFest, Juno Beach
March 31
Cars as Art, Marco Island

North

March 2
First Friday at Railroad
Square Art Park,
Tallahassee
March 2-31
Miniature Marks Art
Exhibit, St Augustine
March 3
Menorcan Cultural
Celebration, St Augustine
March 3
Race the Tortoise 5K,
High Springs
March 3-4
Azalea Festival, Palatka
March 3-4
The Gulf Coast
Renaissance Faire,
Pensacola
March 3-4
Battle of Natural Bridge
Reenactment, Woodville

"National Highways Authority (NHA) and district administration on Tuesday jointly started a drive against illegal billboards around motorway near Charsadda interchange and pulled them down.

In the presence law enforcement personnel, the staff of NHA and the district administration led by Charsadda Assistant Commissioner Talat Fahad used heavy machinery to pull down the illegal billboards, raised around the Charsadda interchange and retrieved millions worth of government land from the occupants.

Talking to media, the AC said that no one would be allowed to take law into his own hands and the operation against illegal structures would continue indiscriminately..."

-- Pakistan Today

[Read entire article](#)

Legal: In Kenya, county "pulls down billboards of firms that illegally fell or poison trees"



Photo: Collins Langat, The Star, Kenya

March 4

Tallahassee Jewish Food and Cultural Festival, Tallahassee

March 8-11

Red Hills International Horse Trials, Tallahassee

March 9-11

Amelia Island Concours d'Elegance, Amelia Island

March 9-11

The St Augustine Celtic Music and Heritage Festival, St Augustine

March 10

Gate River Run, Jacksonville

March 10- 16

Choctawhatchee Challenge, Gainesville

March 16-18

Lions Seafood Festival, St Augustine

March 16-18

Smokin' in the Square, Pensacola

March 16-29

Suwannee Spring Reunion, Live Oak

March 17

City of Destin Run with the Dogs 5K, Destin

March 23-25

Tallahassee Film Festival, Tallahassee

March 24

The Fuzzy Pineapple Art and Craft Festival, Tallahassee

March 23-25

Duval Spring Fest, Jacksonville

March 24

Phoenix Rising Festival, Jacksonville

March 24-25

Spring Garden Festival, Gainesville

March 31

Brick City Beer and Wine Festival, Ocala

March 31

Springtime Tallahassee Festival and Grand Parade, Tallahassee

"The county says it will pull down billboards owned by at least five advertising firms, which it says are notorious for illegally felling trees on major roads. It plans to start this week.

Some trees even have been poisoned by toxic chemicals poured on the soil, county officials said...

The county said it will start pulling down all board standing near felled trees to 'discipline' companies for the illegal act.

'This can start anytime. We cannot tolerate this,' Agriculture executive Danvas Makori said.

'We are going to arrest anybody cutting down trees for billboards and bring down those billboards. We're not going to permit billboards if it means a tree or even a branch has to be cut off to put up a billboard,' he said...

'They are now pouring chemicals under trees and after a short time, trees start withering and die. This is a new trick' he said.

Agriculture committee chairman John Mwangi called the tree felling regrettable and said he would demand a comprehensive report.

He said the Finance sector is auditing to establish the number of billboards that are not permitted and for which companies have not paid taxes.

Ex-Governor Evans Kidero issued a similar caution following rampant felling of trees. He ordered the removal of billboards interfering with trees.'

-- Julius Otieno, The Star, Kenya

[Read entire article](#)

"Digital billboards coming to Gainesville; deal came after

[For many more events and details please visit the Orlando Times Travel Calendar here](#)



Fairway threatened lawsuit"



Photo: Scott Rogers, Gainesville Times

"Gainesville officials have reached a compromise to allow digital billboards within the city limits after nearly three years of negotiations and threats of a lawsuit.

Close to 70 billboards are located in Gainesville, with the vast majority owned by Fairway Outdoor Advertising.

Fairway owns an additional 32 billboards across Hall County, where digital billboards are allowed...

Limits on brightness, transition time between advertisements and the distance between billboards were major considerations for city officials.

City officials also wanted to reduce the number of billboards altogether...

Fairway had previously submitted 15 applications for permits to convert existing "static" billboards into digital displays, all of which were denied.

Fairway then threatened to file a lawsuit.

'We had been negotiating for quite some time,' City

Manager Bryan Lackey said. 'I thought things were progressing well. Before they dropped the threat of litigation, they didn't want any restrictions on timing.'

City officials were willing to give Fairway several years to make the conversions...

The agreement, which City Council approved this week, requires that Fairway must remove two existing billboards for every digital billboard it converts within the first two years.

That means, according to the terms obtained by The Times, that Fairway will remove 14 "static" billboards and convert another seven to digital displays.

After the second year, Fairway has an indefinite amount of time to remove 18 existing billboards and convert just five.

The digital displays cannot exceed 300 square feet in size and their height is limited to 35 feet; must use brick or stone around base poles to a height of 10 feet to improve aesthetic; and must be placed on or within 50 feet of an existing spot.

Moreover, displays must last at least 10 seconds and the transition between messages can be no more than two seconds. There can be no flashing or scrolling advertisements, and there are limits on brightness, as well..."

-- Joshua Silavent, Gainesville Times

[Read entire article](#)

