

Park Place

Block Captain Neighborhood Watch Program

The Vial of Life Program

Something old is **new** again, brought back by your Block Captain Neighborhood Watch program but with a new twist added by Indian River County Fire Rescue. Again, our resident's well being is the primary concern of this program. When time is of the essence, the Vial of Life will be a major help to those paramedics fighting to save time and a life.

Several years ago (maybe 8-10 years) the Park Place community participated in a then new program to assist paramedics and first responders on an emergency call. A list of all medications was to be stored in a prescription bottle (vial) on the top shelf of the resident's refrigerator.

It's back!! But the new twist actually helps save storage in the refrigerator...a plastic sandwich bag vs. a prescription vial. And since we're talking about the placement of the bag, why the refrigerator? An easily found spot in the house for arriving paramedics instead of waiting for the resident to tell them, 'the top drawer next to the stove'. But if unconscious, who will tell them where it is? That's why everyone should store their accurate up to date prescription list in the refrigerator.

Paramedic Donna Garafalo of Indian River County Fire Rescue spoke at the PPHA meeting on Tuesday evening provided attendees with some compelling real life situations and reasons to fill out and keep the list up to date in your refrigerator. Everyone who attended received a Vial of life kit in a plastic bag suitable for storing in a refrigerator. The kit also includes two decals to place on the resident's front door. This is the trigger that tells the paramedic that the residents are participating and to look on the front or side of the refrigerator for the plastic bag with the prescriptions list inside. To save space, Donna said the bag could be taped to the side wall of the refrigerator just above the top shelf.

Your Block Captain has a supply of the FREE Vial of Life packets. Anyone and everyone should participate with this free time saving program that could save your life. The packet includes complete instructions.

Special note: **Each resident should have a vial of life with their name clearly visible and printed on it in large letters** so paramedics open the correct bag/packet.

Packets are available through any Block Captain or at Park Place Homeowners Association Resident Meetings.