

## Eksten Honored By Baytree CDD

Robert Eksten, past chairman of the Baytree Community Development District (CDD) was presented with a certificate of appreciation for his service to the community by the current Baytree CDD Chair Maria Hernandez, as his replacement on the board, Mel Mills looks on. Hernandez thanked Mr. Eksten for his contributions to the board and the community and welcomed Mr. Mills to the CDD Board.

Mr. Eksten received a degree in Business Management from the Univ. of Illinois in 1968, and served two years in the military in Korea. He retired in 2000 from the Procter & Gamble Co. after 30 years in Sales Management. He and his wife Jean soon started looking at communities in Florida along the Atlantic coast.

Mr. Eksten commented, "We discovered Melbourne and Baytree (only half built at that time) and knew this was where we wanted to sink new roots. We've not been even slightly disappointed with our decision. In an effort to give back to our new community, I became active in several areas including serving on the Health First Institutional Review Board, Faith Viera Lutheran church and various capacities within Baytree. In Baytree, over the past five years, I've served as a Voting Member, a Homeowner's Association Board Director and finally as a Supervisor and Chairman of the Baytree Community Development District."

Mr. Eksten continued, "I am pleased with what our CDD board was able to accomplish following the devastating hurricanes two years ago. Baytree was awarded over \$120,000 in matching grants to re-beautify our community and I feel the results have been outstanding. We also have made great strides with security, infrastructure and management team upgrades to protect and enhance our property values. Baytree is simply a wonderful community in which to live! I'm so pleased that Mel Mills has now taken my position on the CDD board as I leave to attend to some personal business. I know he and the rest of the board will continue to keep Baytree as a premier community and one in which my wife and I plan to enjoy for many more years."

Mr. Mills was born in Maryland, graduated from the Baltimore Institute of Technology and served in the Army National Guard. He is the owner of Mills' Communications, Inc., a wireless communications company located in Maryland.

Mr. Mills currently serves on the following boards:

New Windsor State Bank, Carroll Lutheran School Board, Wuesthoff Hospital Foundation Board, Baytree Architectural Review Committee, and the Carroll County Historical Society Advisory Board. He is Past President of the Baytree Community Association. He is an avid antiques car collector and enjoys attending car shows. Mr. Mills and his wife, Linda, have lived in Baytree for four years.

