



South Daytona News

Published and Mailed to the Residents of South Daytona as a Citizens' Participation Program
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October/November 2007

MAYOR'S COLUMN

The Oct. 1 start of the City's 2007-2008 fiscal year features a budget based on yet another reduction in the property tax rate. In fact, this year marks the third year in a row that the rate has been reduced, contributing to a collective, nearly 27 percent reduction in the property tax rate.

To balance this year's budget, City Council members, administrators and staff pooled their years of experience in order to significantly reduce expenditures. One result is a cutback to 2002 levels in the number of City employees. Some ten full-time positions have been frozen, mostly through attrition, and a number of part-time positions have been deleted.

In addition, all capital projects dependent upon general fund revenues have been suspended and all new equipment purchases have been postponed on a rotation basis to future years.

Several stormwater projects throughout the City, however, remain in the budget since their revenue source is not dependent upon property tax revenue. The City Council, though, will be reviewing funding options more closely as cost estimates become more accurate.

City Council members are fortunate in being able to work with a talented and dedicated City staff committed to meeting expectations with ever-dwindling resources. Working in concert, we have crafted an austere budget that nevertheless will provide for the service needs of all who proudly call South Daytona home as well as those of our business community.

SUPER HOMESTEAD

In January 2008, you will be asked to vote in a referendum to amend the Florida Constitution that provides an option to property owners in how their homes will be assessed for tax purposes. This ballot question is called the "Super Homestead Amendment" and is expected to eventually phase out the 3% cap on annual assessments of homesteaded properties.

Since no one can really determine how many property owners would elect to go with the new exemption, forecasting next year's property tax revenue has become very difficult for City staff. They have stated, however, that if the referendum passes, it would have an adverse effect on the City's operational revenues.

Please visit the property taxes web page at <http://volusia.org/property/> and get familiar with how this constitutional amendment may impact your assessments before you vote on this very important issue.

NEW REFUSE COLLECTION HAULER

Beginning this month, a new refuse collection hauler will begin service in South Daytona on an interim basis. Waste Pro, a refuse company already serving New Smyrna Beach and Daytona Beach, has negotiated a transfer of contract with the City's existing hauler, Waste Services, pending City approval.

The City's contract with Waste Services is not due to expire for three years and the agreement must be negotiated and formally amended by the City Council before any changes in haulers can be finalized.

No change in collection days or routes is expected at this time. Remember, if you have any complaint regarding your refuse collection, you should contact 322-3080 and your City will ensure the problem is addressed in a timely manner.

City Hall will be closed on November 22nd and November 23rd for the Holiday.

SOUTH DAYTONA CITY COUNCIL

Mayor

Blaine O'Neal

Vice Mayor Seat 3

Ken McMillen

Councilman Seat 1

George Locke III

Councilwoman Seat 2

Nancy Long

Councilman Seat 4

Ronald Clifton Jr.

City Manager

Joseph W. Yarbrough



WWW.SOUTHDAYTONA.ORG

LOCK IT OR LOSE IT

“Lock It or Lose It” is a common expression in regard to preventing theft from unlocked vehicles, one that’s especially important to keep in mind during the upcoming Thanksgiving and Christmas holiday seasons.



The Police Department urges all residents to take special care to prevent the loss of valuables from unlocked vehicles by thieves who prey on unsuspecting holiday shoppers.

CITY ELECTION DAY IS OCTOBER 9

Two City Council seats are up for election to four year terms on Tuesday, Oct. 9 and everyone registered to vote in the election will be able to cast ballots in both contests. While Seat 1 election also will appear on the ballot, incumbent Councilman George Locke will remain in office as his opponent has formally withdrawn his candidacy.

Still up for election are the council seats of Mayor and Council Seat 4. Mayor Blaine O’Neal is opposed by Gary Wandelt and Seat 4 Councilman Ron Clifton is opposed by Rick Sita.

The Oct. 9 voting hours are from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. at the City’s four precincts - Precinct 701 at the Police Department Training Room, 1672 S. Ridgewood Ave., Precinct 702 at the South Daytona Christian Church, 2121 Kenilworth Ave. and Precincts 703 and 704 at the Piggotte Community Center, 504 Big Tree Road.

CITY COUNCIL ACTIONS

Bound by contract provisions, the Council has approved increases in refuse collection rates effective Oct. 1 that include a 2.2% increase in the residential refuse collection rate from \$8.35 to \$8.65 per month.

By contract, the City annually must accept increases based on the Consumer Price Index if requested to do so by Waste Services Inc., which has made such requests in three of the past six years, City Manager Joe Yarbrough told the Council.

In other action, in line with already-adopted procedures in many area cities, the Council has changed the composition of the canvassing board - which previously consisted of the five council members - that certifies the results of City elections.

The board now consists of three council-appointed members, including a council member not involved in an election contest. For the Oct. 9 City election, its members are Councilwoman Nancy Long, Yarbrough and Deputy City Clerk Debbie Fitz-Gerald.

On another matter, the Council has approved an agreement with Clark Properties allowing the firm to use four acres it owns south of Sunshine Park east of an existing electrical substation for small-vehicle outdoor storage on a temporary basis.

Such use of the site, on which future development of a senior citizen residential facility is intended, is limited to a period of three years which, if exceeded, will result in a \$500-per-day fine.

FLU SHOTS AVAILABLE

The Fire Rescue Department is slated to begin providing flu shots on Monday, Oct. 1 at the main station at the City Hall Complex. Flu vaccine will be available to the public Monday through Friday from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. and on weekends from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Flu shots also will be available at the department’s Open House event Oct. 6.

The cost of the shots is \$25.00, payable only by cash or check as the department is unable to accept Medicare.

REMODELING PROTECTION

Remodeling a home can be an intimidating process. Here are some dos and don'ts to protect yourself and your investment:

- ✓ Do sign a contract that's as specific as possible about the work to be done, establishes a firm price and includes financing terms and hourly rates for any additional work.
- ✓ Do ask to see the contractor's proof of insurance and workers' compensation insurance coverage.
- ✓ Do confirm the contractor's permanent business address and whether the person is licensed to work in the State of Florida, Volusia County and South Daytona:
- ✓ Do ask for references and ask to visit a site where work is in progress.
- ✓ Don't sign a contract if it differs from verbal promises.
- ✓ Don't get your own permit for the work. The person who obtained the permit is liable for all work performed. Let your contractor take that risk – it's part of what you paid for when hiring the contractor.
- ✓ Don't make a final payment until the project is finished and a final inspection has been approved by the Building Inspector.
- ✓ Do keep your receipts. Investments in your home can be deducted from your capital gain when you sell and you meet the IRS regulatory requirements.

LICENSE VERIFICATION WEBSITES:

www.myflorida.com/dbpr/consumers/html

www.volusia.org

www.southdaytona.org

DO YOU PAY UTILITY BILL AT BANK WEBSITE?

Most banks offer on-line bill payment options. You may have already used this service yourself - but do you really know how it works? If you aren't aware of how your bank processes your on-line requests, your payment still could arrive late.

When you initiate an on-line bill payment for your utility bill, your bank prints a check and mails it to us from one of their processing centers around the U.S. Our utility billing staff, however, can't consider your bill "paid" until we actually receive the bank check. Therefore, you may need to allow 7 to 10 days for payment to reach us. So, to avoid any late payment penalties, please be sure to consider this fact when initiating your on-line payment.

As an alternative, the City of South Daytona offers a FREE service guaranteed to pay your utility bill on time. The City can automatically deduct the amount of your bill payment from your designated bank account approximately 15 days after the bill is mailed. You will still receive a copy of your bill monthly, but payment will occur automatically just prior to the due date. Stop by the Utility Billing Office at City Hall or call us at 322-3002 to request an Electronic Funds Transfer enrollment form. It only takes a moment to ensure that your bill is paid on time every month, even when you're busy or away from home.

THANKSGIVING REFUSE COLLECTION

There will be no changes in refuse collection services on Thanksgiving Day, Thursday, Nov. 22. Refuse will be picked up as usual and should be placed curbside by 7 a.m.

POLICE DEPT. ACCREDITATION

In 2002 our Police Department gained Commission for Florida Law Enforcement Accreditation, the highest award a law enforcement agency can obtain, becoming the 5th Volusia County agency and the 87th among more than 400 in the state to earn the award.

The accreditation is not permanent and must be re-earned every three years. This was achieved in 2005 and now the process has begun in regard to earning re-accreditation next year.

In September, a preliminary review of department operations took place and in November CFLEA representatives will conduct an on-site assessment to include records inspection, handling of evidence, training procedures and health safety issues.

Public participation is a part of the re-accreditation effort and input on how the department serves the citizens of South Daytona is encouraged.

That can be accomplished via a special local telephone number to be announced near the time of the on-site inspection or by writing the Commission for Florida Law Enforcement Accreditation, Suite 380, 3504 Lake Lynda Drive, Orlando 32817.

The commission also may be reached by phone at (800) 558-0218 or (407) 897-2828, or by fax at (407) 275-4174.

SOUTH DAYTONA'S CLEAN WATER PROGRAM

Car Care For A Clean Home

We all know that cars cause air pollution. But did you know that cars also cause water pollution? You can help stop this kind of pollution.

As we drive, our cars and trucks leave bits of tires, brakes and rusty metal on the street.

When we park, our cars and trucks leave stains of oil, grease, and transmission fluid on driveways and parking lots.



Less visible are the tiny exhaust particles that gradually settle out of the air or come down with the rain. What happens to all this "car dirt" when it rains?

Rain washes auto pollutants off the pavement, down the gutter, and into storm drains.

Under these drains are storm sewers - pipes that carry the dirty water to rivers, lakes, streams or wetlands.



Here are some simple steps that lead to cleaner cars and cleaner water:

1. Recycle Oil

Old motor oil can be reprocessed and used again and again. Take it to a community oil recycling center - South Daytona residents have one at the Public Works Department, 1770 Segrave St. Don't pour anything else in with the oil because contaminated oil cannot be recycled.

Recycling is the only safe way to get rid of used motor oil. Never use old oil to kill weeds or to oil roads. Oil poured down the storm drain ends up in our rivers, lakes and streams. The five quarts from your car could create an oil slick the size of two football fields or pollute a million gallons of drinking water.

2. Use Commercial Car Washes

Taking your car to a commercial car wash or spray booth is a good way to protect our waters. The dirty water from the car wash goes to a wastewater treatment plant where pollutants are removed.

If you wash cars on a paved driveway or parking lot, the dirty water ends up in our rivers, lakes and streams. In addition, phosphates in the soap you use acts like fertilizer. Weeds and algae decompose and use up oxygen needed by fish.

If you want to wash your car at home, drive it onto the lawn or a gravel drive where the water will soak into the ground. The soil will filter out most pollutants. Thinking of having a car wash to raise money for charity? Team up with a commercial car wash and sell car wash tickets for an environmentally-friendly fund raiser. If you do wash your car at home, please remember to follow the current watering restrictions.

3. Keep Your Car Tuned Up

Cars that run smoothly burn less fuel and cause less pollution. A tuned-up car saves you money by using up to 20% less gasoline. Regular tune-ups also reduce the amount of hydrocarbons, nitrous oxides and other pollutants that come out of your car's exhaust pipe.

These chemicals pollute our water as well as our air. Hydrocarbons can cause cancer and nitrous oxide is one of the ingredients in acid rain. Acid rain increases the toxicity of other pollutants in street runoff, which adds to the risk of sickness or death for fish and other aquatic life.

4. Repair Leaks

Spots on your driveway or garage floor mean the engine, transmission or radiator in your car is leaking. Have the leak repaired right away. Then clean up the spot by using cat litter or another absorbent material to soak up the spill. Sweep up the cat litter and put it in a sealed bag in the trash for disposal. Do not scrub the spot with detergent and wash the dirty water into the street. Remember, all that dirty water ends up in our rivers, lakes and streams.

IT ALL ADDS UP.....By following these simple steps we can help reduce the pollution that comes from our cars, streets, driveways and parking lots. Together, our actions will add up to cleaner water for us and our children.

For more information, call the Public Works Department at 322-3080 or email the Clean Water Program Coordinator at cleanwaterprogram@southdaytona.org.

5. Recycle Antifreeze

Recycling antifreeze can be a challenge. Check with your local gas station or auto repair shop - they may accept used antifreeze. Used antifreeze should not be flushed down the drain because it has pollutants that may cause problems for sewage treatment plants or septic tanks.

Antifreeze is very poisonous to people and animals. Because of its sweet taste and smell, antifreeze may attract children or pets and other animals. Drinking only three ounces may kill an adult and even less will kill children or pets.

6. Return Used Batteries

Return your used car or truck battery to the place where you bought it. Other retailers may charge you for disposal. Be careful - old batteries may leak acid. Wear gloves and goggles and put the old battery in a leak-proof container. If you drop it, neutralize any spilled acid with baking soda or lime. Old batteries contain hazardous chemicals that can leach through the soil and pollute our groundwater.

7. Check Tire Pressure

One of the simplest and cheapest ways to prevent pollution is to keep your tires inflated. For every pound that your tires are under-inflated, your car loses 1% in gas mileage. Under-inflated tires also wear out sooner.

The solution is simple - check your tire pressure frequently, especially as temperature changes in the fall and spring. Tires lose a pound of pressure for every 10-degree drop in temperature. By reducing the amount of gasoline your car burns, properly inflated tires reduce the amount of polluted exhaust that your car makes.

8. Use up Paints, Polishes and Cleaners

Paints, polishes and special cleaners for cars are usually flammable and toxic. Try to buy only what you need. If large amounts are left over, donate them to a friend or a school auto-repair class.

To dispose of small amounts, leave the container open in a safe place away from children, pets, wildlife and flames. When the liquid is gone and the substance is hard, put it in the trash. The potentially toxic ingredients are locked into the hardened material and are less likely to cause pollution.

9. Drive Less

Driving less is the best way to prevent pollution. Water quality tests show that the most polluted runoff comes from heavily traveled streets and highways. This runoff often contains enough zinc, lead or copper to kill fish and other aquatic life.

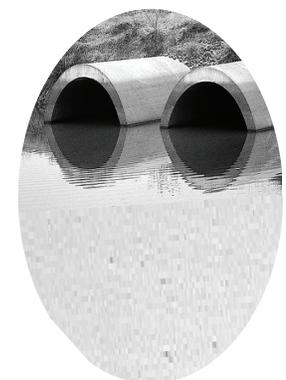
Is there a way you could help reduce water pollution by driving less? Could you walk, ride a bike, car pool or take the bus to work? If not every day, could you do this once or twice a week? Could you do several errands on your next shopping trip? Could you work at home one day a week?

Even on sunny days, polluted water often flows out of storm sewers. To understand why, take a walk to a small stream in your town. Do you see mounds of foam? Streaks of blue? An oily sheen?



The foam may come from soapy water that runs down the street when we wash cars in our driveways. The bright blue streaks are probably antifreeze drained from radiators. The oily sheen may come from used motor oil dumped down the storm drain.

You can help stop this kind of pollution. Explain to your family and friends that storm sewers carry water directly into our rivers, lakes and streams. They do not connect to wastewater treatment plants.



NANCY LEE HONORED

Investigative Assistant Nancy Lee is the Police Department's Employee of The Quarter, selected by the department's Employee Awards Committee based on her contributions to the success of the 10th Annual Kids Fishing Tournament.

Lee's efforts on behalf of the tournament co-hosted by the department and the Daytona Beach Shores Department of Public Safety were appreciated by all and the award was well deserved, according to Police Chief Bill Hall.

A total of 98 kids and more than 85 adults participated in the tournament for which the co-hosts and 55 community sponsors, raised \$9,000 to supply entrants with fishing rods, T-shirts, goodie bags and lunch, in addition to providing trophies and other prize awards.

An official presentation of the award was made to Lee by the chief at a recent City Council meeting, during which he noted they both began their careers in the department in 1975.

During her more than 30-year tenure Lee served in a number of department capacities before her current assignment as investigative assistant. "I applaud Nancy for her accomplishments and loyalty to the citizens of South Daytona," Hall said.

FIRE RESCUE OPEN HOUSE IS OCT. 6

The Fire Rescue Department invites everyone to its Open House event on Saturday, Oct. 6 from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the main fire station at the City Hall Complex to help kick off Fire Prevention Week (Oct. 7-13).

The event is an opportunity for residents and families to visit the Fire Department to learn about fire safety, view fire-fighting equipment and meet their firefighters, who will demonstrate the use of safety gear and the department's 65-foot-high ladder capability.

A first-ever Pie-Baking Contest will be featured instead of the chili cook-off held in previous years. The contest is open to all - there is no entry fee - and entry forms are available at the main fire station. For more information call the department at 322-3033.

Games and activities for kids of all ages also will be featured, door prizes awarded and the Parks and Recreation Department will provide other activities such as face painting, DJ music, a petting zoo and a bouncing tent.

During the month of October as part of the observance of Fire Prevention Week, the department will be hosting area schoolchildren and their teachers, who will tour the station, receive fire hats and badges, observe fire hose use and learn fire prevention tips. Such tours for students or other groups are available on a regular basis and can be arranged by calling 322-3033.

ENCHANTED FOREST TICKETS AVAILABLE

Enchanted Forest is a South Daytona tradition and the 17th annual celebration of the event scheduled for Oct. 25-27 will feature a fantasy-filled hayride through Reed Canal Park and fairy tale and nursery rhyme performances by local high school drama clubs.

Reservations are required as Enchanted Forest tickets sell out rapidly. Tickets are now on sale at the Piggotte Community Center on Big Tree Road at \$3 per person (there is no charge for children two years old and under).

For additional information, to volunteer or to help sponsor the event, please call the Parks & Recreation Department office at 322-3070.



PARKS AND RECREATION PROGRAM INFORMATION

Piggotte Community Center
504 Big Tree Road - 322-3070

October Activities:

Special Events/Programs

Lion's Club Pancake Breakfast	Oct. 13
Joy of Painting Workshop	Oct. 15
Mayor's Cup Golf Tournament	Oct. 20
Enchanted Forest	Oct. 25-27
4 th Annual Costume Contest	Oct. 31

Adult Programs

Country Line Dance	Oct. 3
Belly Dancing	Oct. 3, 4, & 9
Evening Yoga	Oct. 16
Morning Yoga	Oct. 17
Tai Chi	Oct. 23
Argentine Tango	In Session
Card & Game Play	Ongoing
Tennis Lessons	As scheduled

Children's Programs

Gymnastics	Oct. 15
Tap, Jazz, Ballet	Oct. 22, 23, 24, & 25
Tae Kwon Do	Oct. 23
Tennis Lessons	As Scheduled



November & December Athletic Programs

Baseball Lessons	As Scheduled
Youth Flag Football	Continued registrations through Oct. 12
Adult Flag Football	Continued registrations through Oct. 8
Men's & Co-ed Softball	Registrations begin November 26

November Activities:

Special Events/Programs

Joy of Painting Workshop	Nov. 12
Tree Lighting Ceremony	Nov. 30

Adult Programs

Country Line Dance	Nov. 7 & 28
Argentine Tango	Nov. 8
Belly Dancing	Nov. 13, 14, & 15
Falun Dafa in the Park	Nov. 29
Yoga Classes	In Session
Tai Chi	In Session
Tennis Lessons	As Scheduled

Children's Programs

Tap, Jazz, Ballet	Nov. 26, 27, 28, & 29
Gymnastics	Nov. 26
Tae Kwon Do	Nov. 27
Tennis Lessons	As Scheduled

Piggotte Community Center

The center may be rented for events such as wedding receptions, baby showers, birthday parties and retirement parties.

Information on availability and costs may be obtained by calling 322-3070.



November 4th - Don't forget to



 CITIZENS ALERT SCHEDULE			
Oct. 4	General Meeting	City Hall	7:30 pm
Oct. 18-20	Biketoberfest / Crime Dog Wagon Sunshine Mall		
Oct. 24	Board Meeting	Mall Office	3:30 pm
Oct. 25-27	Enchanted Forest / Crime Dog Wagon Reed Canal Park		
Nov. 1	Covered Dish Dinner	Piggotte Community Center	5:30 pm
Nov. 29	Board Meeting	Mall Office	3:30 pm
Please call 322-3050 for information			

Calendar of Events

October	3	6:00 pm	Adjustment & Appeals Bd.
	9	6:00 pm	City Council Meeting
	11	9:00 am	Special Magistrate Code Enforcement Hearing
	17	6:00 pm	Land Dev. Reg. Board
	18	6:00 pm	Parks & Recreation Board
	23	6:00 pm	City Council Meeting
November	7	6:00 pm	Adjustment & Appeals Bd.
	8	9:00 am	Special Magistrate Code Enforcement Hearing
	13	6:00 pm	City Council Meeting
	15	6:00 pm	Parks & Recreation Board
	21	6:00 pm	Land Dev. Reg. Board
	22 nd & 23 rd		CITY HALL CLOSED

*Please Make a Note:
Parks & Recreation Board meetings now begin at 6:00 p.m.*

This newsletter is scheduled to be delivered by the first of every other month. If you do not receive your copy in a reasonable amount of time, please contact City Hall or the Post Office.



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