



Special Election for City Commssion Seat #4



The polls will be open from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m.
Tuesday, August 24

A Special City Election to replace Commissioner Layne Dallett Walls who was appointed to temporarily fill Seat #4 following the resignation of former Vice Mayor Anthony Niedwiecki earlier this year.

OAKLAND PARK CHANGES:

- 1) Precincts **D21**, **D23**, and **D24** have been assigned to Grace Point Church
- 2) Precinct **D16** has been assigned to Boyd Anderson High School
- 3) Precinct **K006** has been assigned to Merrell Methodist
- 4) Precinct **R100** has been assigned to North Andrews Gardens Elementary

For the latest information about the City Election, including information about the candidates and polling places – contact the **City Clerk's Office** at **954-630-4300** or visit the City's website at www.oaklandparkfl.org

A PRECINCTS D1, D6, D7, D20
COLLINS COMMUNITY CENTER
3900 NE 3 AVENUE

B PRECINCT D2
OAKLAND PARK ELEMENTARY SCHOOL
936 NE 33 STREET

C PRECINCT D3
OAKLAND PARK LIBRARY
1298 NE 37 STREET

D PRECINCTS D4, D8, D10, D25
OSWALD PARK
2220 NW 21 AVENUE

E PRECINCTS D9, D15
BLESSED SACRAMENT CATHOLIC CHURCH
1701 EAST OAKLAND PARK BOULEVARD

F PRECINCTS D5, D11, D13,
UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST CHURCH
3970 NW 21 AVENUE

G PRECINCT D14
LLOYD ESTATES ELEMENTARY SCHOOL
750 NW 41 STREET

H PRECINCT D16
BOYD ANDERSON HIGH SCHOOL
3050 NW 41 STREET

I PRECINCT D17
BRAZILIAN TEMPLE
3980 NW 21 AVENUE

J PRECINCT D18
RICKARDS MIDDLE SCHOOL
6000 NE 9 AVENUE

K PRECINCTS D21, D23, D24
GRACE POINT CHURCH
5590 NE 6 AVENUE

L PRECINCT K006
MERRELL METHODIST
3900 N. STATE ROAD 7

M PRECINCT R100
NORTH ANDREWS GARDENS ELEMENTARY
345 NE 56TH STREET

Mayor and City Commission

Allegra Webb Murphy

Mayor, Seat #2

Telephone: 954-849-3804

AllegraM@oaklandparkfl.org

Term Expires: March 2011

Steven R. Arnst

Commissioner, Seat #3

Telephone: 954-943-2055

StevenA@oaklandparkfl.org

Term Expires: March 2011

Suzanne Boisvenue

Vice Mayor, Seat #5

Telephone: 954-298-8899

Suzanneboisvenue@yahoo.com

Term Expires: March 2013

Layne Dallett Walls

Commissioner, Seat #4

Telephone: 954-561-3025

LayneW@oaklandparkfl.org

Appointed: June 2010

Anne E. Sallee

Commissioner, Seat #1

Telephone: 954-253-0850

AnneS@oaklandparkfl.org

Term Expires: March 2013

City Administration:

John Stunson

City Manager

Telephone: 954-630-4209

JohnS@oaklandparkfl.org

City Election for Seat #4 August 24, 2010

Oakland Park Earns Improved Credit Rating

\$2.7 Million Savings in Debt Reduction for Water & Sewer Bond Issue

Oakland Park City Manager John Stunson and staff recently met with credit rating agencies in New York to advocate raising the City's investment grade for its upcoming water and sewer revenue bond issue.

"We are proud to announce Oakland Park received an AA- credit rating," Stunson stated. "This rating is classified as a 'High Quality' investment category."

Oakland Park joins other select local municipalities, including Coral Springs, in attaining this higher quality investment grade. Agencies use this credit rating scale to determine the credit worthiness of a bond issue and issuer - such as the City's upcoming \$17 million water and sewer projects.

"This improvement of the City's credit rating equates to approximately three-quarters of one percent (.075%) reduction in interest costs," said William Underwood, the City's Director of Financial Services. "The financial ramifications on Oakland Park's approximately \$17 million in water and sewer revenue bonds equates to a \$2.7 million savings on debt service."

"This is a huge impact," Stunson added. "It is gratifying to see Oakland Park rewarded for our fiscal stability. The importance of obtaining and maintaining a high credit rating determines the interest cost the City will carry over the life of the bond issue."

Annual City Budget

The Fiscal Year 2011 City budget will be finalized with three budget hearings in September. Oakland Park City government has been faced with several years of declining revenues, including property taxes, sales taxes and development activities.

Oakland Park has significantly reduced expenses. Full-time positions have been reduced since 2007 from 246 positions to 188. In addition, the City implemented wage freezes (one year for most staff members, two years for senior management and three years for the City Manager). The traditional City pension plan was closed to new employees, new requirements for staff pension contributions were approved and higher deductibles were implemented for health plans to lessen cost increases.

Non-personnel operating expenses have been reduced from \$28.2 million in 2007 to \$22.5 million. This was accomplished in part through increased efficiencies in delivering services and in part through elimination of some non-core services. The community bus, crossing guard services for middle school children, the park rangers, landscaping, the City's performing arts program and several other programs have been reduced or eliminated. The City reprioritized its expenditures during this period to allow BSO, which provides police services to the City, to add deputies to further strengthen the City's aggressive focus on crime prevention.

The fiscal pressures continue with the property tax base down 16.7%. Pension costs will be up \$1.2 million and health costs are estimated to increase 20%. Due to County budget actions, the cost of BSO services could also increase by at least \$750,000. In light of these factors, the City was looking at a \$5.5 million gap between revenues and expenses when the Fiscal Year 2011 budget process began in January.

The City Commission has very preliminarily reviewed the recommended budget it received on July 7 and will provide final guidance during the three budget hearings in September.

Key components of the recommended budget include:

- Property tax rate increase of 20.9%. This will result in the City receiving slightly less property tax revenue next year than this year. The average residential homesteaded property will have a City property tax reduction of 1.6%.
- Fire assessment increase. For residential properties, a rate of \$178 per year is recommended. This reflects an adjustment after having been at \$149 per year for the past five years and \$140 per year for the two years before that.
- Further staff reductions with the net elimination of five full-time City positions with most reductions being senior management.
- Elimination of five BSO positions. These will be restored if a requested grant is received.
- Implementation of City-provided solid waste cart service in the areas annexed in 2005, effective as of January 1, 2011 with rates unchanged from this year.
- Increased water and sewer rates to cover increased costs of buying the City's drinking water from Fort Lauderdale and paying Fort Lauderdale and the County for processing the City's wastewater. The increased rates also cover the debt service for bonds being sold to finance the first half of the City's major upgrade to the water and sewer systems.
- On September 13th there will be a special hearing for the Commission to obtain community input and to adopt assessments for fire services for the entire City and for solid waste services for the recently annexed areas.
- On September 15th and September 29th there will be public hearings to obtain community input, to establish the City's property tax rate for the coming year and to provide final direction as to activities to be added to, or eliminated from, the final budget to balance it with available funding.

For additional information, please call the City's Office of Management and Budget at **954-630-4251**.

Parks and Leisure Services News & Notes



On July 13 and 14, the City's Parks Division partnered with the Broward County 4-H Club Summer Conservation Camp to plant 27 South Florida slash pines at Giusti Heart Par Cours Park, 600 NE 38 Street. This was a restoration planting project. The pine flatwood trees chosen were the dominant species that the City's pioneers saw when they settled in Oakland Park. The early settlers used the wood from the South Florida slash pines to build homes and other structures because the wood is very durable and termite-resistant.

Are you an Active Adult? Retired? Are you looking for some exciting things to do during the day? If so, we have just the thing for you in Oakland Park. The Active Adults program provides a variety of activities geared towards those 55 and over. Some of the activities include arts and crafts, bridge, aerobics, luncheons and various trips. The programs are held at Collins Community Center located at 3900 NE 3rd Ave and Jaco Pastorius Park Community Center, located at 1098 NE 40th Court. There is a full schedule of events and activities each weekday. For more information or to obtain a calendar of events, please contact Sheila Thomas at **954-630-4494**.

Author and former Oakland Park resident Patti Zelch is scheduled to appear at the Oakland Park Library, Tuesday, September 14th at 6:30 p.m. Mrs. Zelch will be launching her new book "*Ready, Set.....Wait! What Animals Do Before a Hurricane.*" Her book was released on August 10 by Sylvan/Dell Publishing. She will present information from her book and do a book signing as well. More information about her book can be found at www.authorsnow.com.

OCTOBER 1 & 2: 6TH ANNUAL OAKLAND PARK OKTOBERFEST

Broward County's largest authentic Bavarian Celebration just got larger! Oakland Park Main Street and the City of Oakland Park are teaming up to bring you the 6th Annual Oktoberfest at Jaco Pastorius Park, 4000 N. Dixie Highway just north of NE 38th Street. For the first time in the event's history, Oktoberfest begins Friday at 6 p.m. Come join us for two days of celebration with authentic German food and drink, music and dance. Browse through the Alpine Market and enjoy traditional German beverages the "Biergarten". Any interested vendors, volunteers or sponsors are encouraged to contact Oakland Park Main Street at **954-565-2627**.

FEE UPDATE

The Oakland Park City Commission approved a staff proposal to adjust the fee structure of several of the City's Parks and Leisure Services programs with the understanding that fees for two of most popular program will not be increased.

"This is the first adjustment in fees since 2007 and represents an increase of approximately five percent," said Jenna LaFleur, Director of Parks and Leisure Services. "The revisions will generate approximately \$22,000 in additional revenue annually or about 50 cents per resident."

During Commission discussion, the Commissioners directed staff to maintain the current fees for the City's popular Afterschool and Summer Programs. The fee increases include adult athletic teams, youth athletics, tennis memberships, field permits and facility/pavilion rentals. The revised fee structure will take effect September 1.

"Oakland Park's new rates compare favorably with the neighboring communities and provide tremendous value with the high quality of our programs and parks facilities," LaFleur said. "Our City's Parks and Leisure programs make a positive contribution to the overall quality of life in our community and also help to create a positive sense of participation and identity among our residents of all ages." For more information, call the Parks Departments at **954-630-4500** or log on to the City's website: www.oaklandparkfl.org



Congratulations to the City of Oakland Park "Complete Count Committee" who were recognized with a plaque for their outstanding efforts with the 2010 U.S. Census. Broward County Census official Gloria Battle presented the plaque for the City Commission to Mayor Allegra Webb Murphy and the plaque for the City's Complete Count Committee to former Mayor and City Commissioner Layne Dallett Walls and Assistant to the City Manager Marie W. Elianor, who served as Chair of the City's Complete Count Committee. Broward County Census recognized the City of Oakland Park for exceeding its census response goals. Not pictured are Senior City Planner and Vice Chair of the Complete Count Committee Rick Buckeye who was instrumental in providing data to ensure a complete census count. Other members who volunteered to serve on the Complete Count Committee included:

Freddy Bonillo	Annie Hugley	Teresa J. Perez
Michael Carn	Linda Martin	Cheryl Purchase
Jovan Conde	Marty Meek	Darrell Purchase
Sandra Edwards	Rony Nelson	Layne Walls
Tony Field	Shalanda Nelson	Dawn Whittenberg
Fred Henry	Herbie Perez	
Shirley Henry	John Perez	

Property Tax Exemption Filing Dates Assistance at City Hall

The Broward County Property Appraiser's Office hosts a community outreach event the first Tuesday each month from 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. at Oakland Park City Hall. Deputy Appraisers will be available to assist with Homestead, Senior and other property tax exemption applications, as well as answer questions on property taxes. They also accept applications for Portability. The outreach program is designed to provide convenient and accessible service to the residents of Oakland Park.

To better accommodate busy working families, the Broward County Property Appraiser's Office will be open from 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. on Saturday, August 28 and Saturday, September 11.

You still have time to file if you forgot to file for a 2010 Homestead Exemption, Widow/Widower Exemption, Disability Exemption, Portability, or other exemption. Contact the Property Appraiser's office to complete your application by the **September 20, 2010** deadline. For further information please visit the website at www.bcpa.net or contact the Outreach Department by phone at **954-357-5579**.

Low-Cost Rabies Vaccinations at Collins Community Center

Saturday, September 11 from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Broward County Animal Care will present a low-cost rabies vaccination clinic from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. on Saturday, September 11 at Collins Community Center, 3900 NE Third Avenue. Dogs and cats will be able to receive a one-year rabies vaccination and Broward County pet license. The cost is \$15 with cash only payment accepted. No appointment is necessary and customers are taken on a first-come, first-served basis. All dogs must be on leashes and all cats must be in carriers.



To qualify to attend the rabies clinic, a pet owner must have proof of Broward County residency, such as a valid Florida driver's license or a current utility bill.

Residents are reminded that Broward County law requires that all pets be vaccinated against rabies and licensed. Pet owners not eligible for the Rabies Clinic are encouraged to contact their local veterinarian for the vaccination.

Note: The City of Oakland Park does not have an Animal Care Division. Unless there is a code violation, all animal issues should be referred to Broward County Animal Care at **954-359-1010**.

Fire Rescue News



Firefighter **Jorge Ginzo**, left, and Chief of Fire Rescue **Donald Widing**

Firefighter Jorge Ginzo was nominated by his peers for his outstanding paramedic skills. Ginzo has been with the Department since October 1999. During his tenure with Oakland Park, Ginzo has handled the most extreme and critical cases with an exactness and calmness that keeps everyone safe and focused on the task at hand. Ginzo's presence and guidance keeps the team calm, and able to focus on giving the patients the highest quality care. Ginzo consistently goes above and beyond to keep up with the latest EMS information and continues to share that information with others. Oakland Park is fortunate to have a paramedic like Ginzo who is dedicated and serves as a mentor to newer firefighters. Congratulations to Firefighter Jorge Ginzo for his outstanding contribution to the Department.

Free and Reduced School Meals

Families are encouraged to sign up early for the free and reduced price breakfast and lunch program in Broward County Schools. You may contact the Food and Nutrition Services Department by phone at **754-321-0250** or e-mail freereduced-meals@browardschools.com for an application or assistance.

For additional social service information, please call Broward County's information line 2-1-1.

Community Contact Information

Our Mission: We strive every day to deliver – in a friendly, courteous, reliable, and responsive manner – a diverse set of efficient and effective City services that exceed the expectations of our residents, businesses, and employees.

CITY TELEPHONE NUMBERS

Active Adults Program	954-630-4494
Building & Permitting	954-630-4350
Business Tax Receipts	954-630-4337
City Clerk/City Boards	954-630-4300
City Manager/City Hall	954-630-4200
Code Enforcement	954-630-4400
Collins Community Center	954-630-4515
Community Redevelopment (CRA)	954-630-4344
Dillon Tennis Center	954-561-6180
Engineering	954-630-4480
Financial Services	954-630-4250
Fire Department (NON-emergency)	954-630-4550
Human Resources/Employment	954-630-4313
North Andrews Gardens Community Center	954-938-0619
Oakland Park Library	954-630-4370
Parks and Leisure Services	954-630-4500
Planning & Zoning	954-630-4333
Police Department (NON-emergency)	954-561-6161
Public Works (After Hours Emergencies)	954-561-6275
Solid Waste & Recycling	954-630-4460
Spiher Recreation Center	954-630-4495
Utility & Billing Services	954-630-4280
Volunteer/CERT Team	954-630-4544

FREQUENTLY CALLED NUMBERS

Emergency (police, fire and medical calls)	911
First Call for Help	211
Broward County Services (NON-emergency)	311
Broward County Animal Care	954-359-1313
Broward County Emergency Operations	954-831-4000
Broward County Schools	754-321-0000
Comcast (Cable Operator)	954-252-1937
Drivers License Office	954-497-1570
Fort Lauderdale Executive Airport	954-828-4955
FPL	954-797-5000
Poison Control	800-222-1272
Post Office	800-275-8777
Taxes (Property Appraiser)	954-357-6830

Local Flood Hazard Information

Nearly 90 percent of Oakland Park is in an AH or AE zone Special Flood Hazard Area (SFHA). This means that if you live or own a business in Oakland Park you are in or adjacent to an SFHA and are at risk for flooding. Buildings in an SFHA have a 26% chance of being flooded during a 30-yr mortgage. Inland flooding occurs when rain from hurricanes overflows rivers, streams and canals such as the North Fork of the Middle River. Property owners in Oakland Park filed claims in 1979, 1986 and 1999 (with both Hurricanes Floyd & Irene) when heavy rainfall caused severe flooding, and again in 2003, 2004 and 2005 (with Jeanne, Francis and Wilma). To better understand flood issues, a helpful resource is: www.nws.noaa.gov/oh/hurricane/inland_flooding.html

CRS DISCOUNT

Oakland Park is helping to keep the cost of flood insurance low by participating in

the Community Rating System (CRS). The CRS is administered by the National Flood Insurance Program, which offers discounts to property owners located in Special Flood Hazard Areas in exchange for certain requirements being met by the City. Oakland Park is currently earning a 10% discount for its residents (Oakland Park expects a 15% discount later this year). Make sure your insurance premium includes this benefit.

WHEN FLOOD INSURANCE IS REQUIRED

The Flood Disaster Protection Act requires the purchase of flood insurance to receive federal or federally-related financial assistance for acquisition and/or construction of buildings in an SFHA. Homeowner's insurance does not cover flooding, therefore, a separate policy must be purchased.

Under the recently enacted National Flood Insurance Reform Act, the lender is legally respon-

sible for determining if a flood insurance policy is required for a loan. Coverage may be purchased for both the building and its content. Residences can be insured for up to \$250,000 for the building and \$100,000 for the contents. Because content coverage is separate, renters can also insure their belongings up to the said amount. Nonresidential buildings can be insured for up to \$500,000 for the building and \$50,000 for the contents. Since these figures can vary, check with your insurance company for further details.

If you are one of the 10 percent that are not in a Special Flood Hazard Area and you wish to purchase flood insurance, a Preferred Risk Policy is available at a discounted rate. Because these policies already have the lowest premium possible, the CRS discount will not apply. Coverage limits may be \$250,000 for the building and \$60,000 for the contents.