



Oakland Park Pioneers Honored



The Broward County Historical Commission recently honored three City of Oakland Park residents at its 39th Annual Pioneer Awards Celebration; former Oakland Park Mayor Allegra Webb Murphy, Rev. Eddie Murphy, and Dr. Malcolm Black.

Allegra Webb Murphy (pictured sixth from the left) shall always hold an esteemed place in Oakland Park's history as the City's first African-American elected official and Mayor. Her motto was "Listen, Learn and Lead."

A native of Georgia, Allegra and her husband the Reverend Eddie Murphy, Jr. built their home in the City of Oakland Park in 1971.

Allegra has a long and impressive resume as an educator, including integration of the faculty and student body at Northeast High School.

Allegra retired from the Broward County School System in 1996, but remained active in Oakland Park by serving on the City's Beautification Advisory Board and Charter Review Board in addition to her involvement with the Lakeside Homeowners' Association and the Oakland Park Kiwanis Club.

The Broward County Board of County Commissioners designated February 19, 2011 as "Mayor Allegra Webb Murphy Appreciation Day in Broward County." In 2010, Allegra received a "50 Years of Distinguished Service Award" from the Georgia Conference of Black Mayors.

The Reverend Eddie Murphy, Jr. – Allegra's husband of 55 years – served as pastor of Harris Chapel church, where he was instrumental in securing funds to purchase five parcels of property adjacent to the church.

Reverend Murphy (standing next to his wife in the photo) served as Chaplain for the Oakland Park Police Department and is a longtime member of the City's School Advisory Board. He was president and charter member of the Lakeside Homeowners' Association.

Dr. Malcolm Black (second from left in photo) moved to this area nearly 50 years ago and has had a distinguished career in education and music.

As a professional musician, he has played the saxophone, clarinet and flute with international acts as Sam Cooke, Patti Page, Ramsey Lewis, The Spinners, and many more.

Dr. Black was band director at Attucks Middle School and Dillard High School. He was the first black administrator hired by Broward Community College, now Broward College, as director of admissions and jazz studies. He was also lauded as a black Broward County Pioneer by the Fort Lauderdale Chapter of Links, and honored by former Florida Gov. Bob Graham for outstanding service to the state of Florida.

Dr. Black has made a positive impact on Oakland Park and the surrounding community. Just a few examples of his community involvement include the Oakland Park Code Enforcement Board, Kiwanis Club, The Lakeside Homeowners' Association, The Dr. Martin Luther King Committee and Sistrunk Historical Committee.

Other elected officials who represent Oakland Park in attendance for the Pioneer Awards were State Sen. Chris Smith, State Rep. Gwyn Clarke-Reed and Broward County Commissioner Chip LaMarca.

Five City Mayors Celebrate the Arts in Oakland Park



City of Oakland Park Mayor Suzanne Boisvenue was joined by four former mayors who participated Oakland Park Main Street's "Celebration of the Arts" honoring the 60th birthday of the late jazz great Jaco Pastorius, for whom the City's downtown park and community center are named. Guests enjoyed the opportunity to meet with acclaimed muralist Bill Savarese who created the mural on the south and east sides of the Jaco Pastorius Park Community Center and listen to a live performance of some of Jaco's music performed by local musicians. Photographed from left to right are Mayor Suzanne Boisvenue and former mayors Larry Gierer, Caryl Stevens, Layne Dallett Walls and Allegra Webb Murphy.

Holiday Schedule for Solid Waste Residential and Commercial Collection

Monday, December 26, 2011:

Regular Trash Collection and Bulk Pickup

Monday, January 2, 2012:

Regular Trash Collection and Bulk Pickup



Oakland Park Earns High Credit Rating

For its \$5.8 million 2011 Stormwater Bond Issue

Oakland Park Commissioner Shari McCartney, City Manager John Stunson and Director of Financial Services & Information Technology William Underwood recently met with Standard & Poor's credit rating agency in New York to advocate obtaining an investment grade rating for the City's upcoming \$5.8 million stormwater revenue bond series.

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

According to the Standard & Poor's report, the rating reflects strengths associated with the City's fiscal policies, fiscal operations and recent steps taken by the City Commission to improve the process of storm water collection fees.

Oakland Park joins other select local municipalities in attaining this higher quality investment grade from Standard & Poor's. The agencies used this credit rating scale to determine the creditworthiness of a particular issue and issuer.

The City's stormwater system currently consists of swales, canals, catch basins, ex-filtration trenches, pipes, culverts and detention areas designed to manage stormwater runoff. The system does not include active water treatment facilities. The City has identified approximately \$15 million in capital funding needs for the system. Of these projects, approximately \$5.25 million have been determined to be high priority that will be completed while the City makes water and sewer line improvements in various geographic areas, including Garden Acres, Lloyd Estates and several others. The City plans to finance these projects with proceeds from the Series 2011 Bonds. The balance will be paid for from Stormwater System revenues.

"The financial ramifications on Oakland Park's approximately \$5.8 million stormwater revenue bonds equates to hundreds of thousands of dollars in savings on debt service," said Underwood.

"This is a huge impact," Commissioner McCartney 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."

Project Updates

Lloyd Estates Residential & Industrial (LERI) Drainage Project: The project was awarded to Lanzo Construction Company at the October 19, 2011 Commission Meeting. The pre-construction meeting was held on November 9, 2011 and representatives of the Lloyd Estates Neighborhood Association were in attendance. Construction began on the streets west of Powerline Road with the installation of water mains and has moved over to the residential streets on the east. Weekly Traffic Impact updates will be provided to Public Information Officer for posting on City's website. The City is committed to building this project with the least inconvenience to the residents. Any issues with regards to this project should be reported to the City's Project Manager John Perez who can be reached at 954-630-4479 or by email at johnmp@oaklandparkfl.gov.

Dixie Highway Mast Arms: City staff has been working with the Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT) to secure mast arms for the intersections of Dixie Highway and cross streets as part of the Dixie Highway 3R Project that is being designed and built by FDOT. Staff negotiated with FDOT and the developer of the JP Morgan Chase Bank proposed for the southwest corner of the intersection of Oakland Park Boulevard and Dixie Highway. As a result, the City has obtained funding and right-of-way commitments to add mast arms to the Oakland Park Boulevard stamped asphalt crosswalks and a dedicated right-turn lane on eastbound Oakland Park Boulevard. At the November 16, 2011 Commission meeting, the City Commission approved the commitment of City funds to cover the cost for installation of mast arms at NE 34 Court and Oakland Park Blvd; and stamped asphalt crosswalks at NE 38 Street, NE 34 Court and Oakland Park Boulevard.

Mayor and City Commission

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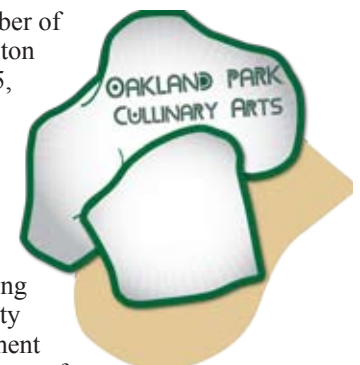
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January City Commission Meeting Schedule:

January 11, 2012 at 6:30 p.m.

Making Downtown Oakland Park a Culinary Destination

The Greater Fort Lauderdale Chamber of Commerce and the Oakland Park/Wilton Manors Council met on November 15, 2011 at the Jaco Pastorius Community Center in the City of Oakland Park. President of the Greater Fort Lauderdale Chamber of Commerce Dan Lindblade welcomed guests and gave a brief overview of their Washington D.C. fly-in and the exciting things the Chamber is involved in. City consultants Redevelopment Management Associates (RMA) presented the concept of a Culinary District for the City's downtown. Anything about, for, and in support of food – including cooking classes, fresh market, restaurants, culinary supplies, special events, etc. in the City's downtown district, as well creating a branding strategy to promote redevelopment opportunities with the culinary concept. Attendees seemed excited about the idea and look forward to the implementation. To learn more, call the City's Community and Economic Development Director Ray Lubomski at 954-630-4344.



Parks and Leisure News and Notes



Youth Soccer

The City has more than 450 participants and matches continue until February 4, 2012. These boys and girls ages 4-16 will keep the Wimberly Athletic Complex and Stevens Field buzzing with action Monday to Saturday. If you have some knowledge about soccer and love to share it with our young athletes, staff is still looking for coaches in some divisions. Please contact Theresa at 954-630-4515 for more information. Photo of Youth Soccer "Team Fury" in Division 2 Girls (8 to 10 years old) ready for their first match of the new Youth Soccer season.

Men's Soccer

Calling all Men 18 & over who love to play soccer... registration is currently under way for the 2012 Season. The team fee is \$600 and league play starts February 11, 2012 with games played on Tuesdays and Saturdays.

T-Ball, Coach Pitch & Girls Softball

Registration is currently under way for T-Ball, Pitchball & Girls Softball serving children 4-17. This program is definitely a home run. Don't miss out on your chance to be a part of the grand slam experience. Spaces are limited and coaches are needed. Registration fee: \$55 (residents) and \$100 (non-residents) and can be done online or at City Hall, 3650 NE 12 Avenue, weekdays from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Open Gym

The NBA is back and so is basketball in Oakland Park with interested players participating in the City's Open Gym program. This is a great way to get active and spend time with other basketball enthusiasts. Check out either of our 2 sites: Harris Chapel: Mondays & Wednesdays and Rickards Middle School: Monday - Thursday. Doors open at 6:30 p.m. and we keep hoopin' it up until the last buzzer at 9 p.m.

Special Events Update

Citywide Yard Sale: The City of Oakland Park hosted another Citywide Yard Sale on Saturday, November 19 at Jaco Pastorius Park. Nearly 20 vendors lined the winding walking path along North Dixie Highway to showcase their items and enjoyed a cool, breezy morning on the green. A steady crowd of shoppers came to find some great bargains and everyone enjoyed a profitable day! For more information on this quarterly event, please contact the Parks and Leisure Services Department at 954-630-4500 or e-mail at ericw@oaklandparkfl.org.

Veteran's Day Ceremony: On Friday, November 11, more than 100 people, including many current and former military personnel, joined the American Legion Post 222 and the City of Oakland Park to honor all veterans with a patriotic ceremony held for the first time at the new Jaco Pastorius Park flag pole. A special memorial honoring Marine Sergeant Marlon E. Myrie took place with many members of the Myrie family in attendance. A 21-gun salute and a bugle version of taps rounded out this touching tribute to American veterans.

7th Annual Woodson Heritage Festival Great BBQ Cookout: The 7th Annual Woodson Heritage Festival Great BBQ Cookout will return to Jaco Pastorius Park on Saturday, February 18, 2012 with some of the best BBQ in South Florida. This festival was established in 2006 to provide the general public with knowledge of Dr. Carter G. Woodson, an African-American historian, author, journalist and the founder of Negro History Week, which became **Black History Month**. In addition to great food, music, storytelling and old fashioned field events, children of all ages will have a valuable cultural and educational experience. For more information, please visit www.oaklandparkfl.org or call 954-552-0890 or 954-630-4500.

Students of the Quarter



Oakland Park Mayor Suzanne Boisvenue and the City Commission recognized the following "Students of the Quarter" at a recent City Commission meeting:

- Tyler G., 5th Grade, Lloyd Estates Elementary School
- Ryan J. 5th Grade, Floranada Elementary School
- Eric R., 5th Grade, North Andrews Gardens Elementary School
- Demi M. 8th Grade, Rickards Middle School
- Michael R. 12th Grade, Northeast High School

BSO Update: Tips to Prevent Residential Burglaries

South Florida is experiencing an increase in residential burglaries and the Broward Sheriff's Office offers the following information to help protect your home and neighborhood:

- Burglaries frequently take place during daylight hours.
- Burglars may dress as repairmen or delivery drivers, knock on the front door and proceed to the back of the home if it appears nobody is home.
- Secured doors and locks are often broken and criminals are smashing glass doors and windows to enter homes.
- Criminals target neighborhoods during the times when the majority of residents are working and children are in school.
- If you see any suspicious activity in your neighborhood, call 911 to report it immediately.
- Always advise your neighbors when you are expecting a repair person or special delivery; and ask that they call 911 if they observe someone near your home.
- Invest in a home alarm system and ensure the alarm will sound if a window or door is shattered.
- Lock and secure all windows and doors.
- Leave a television or radio on to create noise.
- Stay informed by signing up for BSO's "CyberVisor" program at www.sheriff.org/CV.
- Remember...it is suspicious to you, it is suspicious to us. Call BSO at 954-765-4321 to report suspicious activity.

2-1-1 Broward Honors Oakland Park as Community Partner



2-1-1 Broward recently honored the City of Oakland Park for their support as a community partner and for helping the organization fulfill its mission and meet its goals.

Oakland Park City Commissioner John Adornato, III, (pictured third from right) accepted the award on behalf of the City.

2-1-1 Broward operates 24 hours a day, seven days a week. They serve as the central gateway to health and human services, providing callers with support, advocacy, information and referrals that connect them to the providers that can best address their issues. 2-1-1 Broward services are free, confidential and anonymous for all residents of Broward County.

For more information, visit www.211-broward.org.

Visible House Numbers Key to Emergency Response Times

In the case of an emergency, such as a medical emergency or fire, a difference in minutes can mean the difference between life and death. Firefighters are equipped with many tools to help improve arrival time. One of these tools is a detailed map of their designated area(s). However, house numbers are imperative for a quick reference. The more camouflaged and hard to find the numbers are, the longer it will take Oakland Park Fire Rescue emergency personnel to arrive at the scene. According to the Live Safe Foundation, here are some of the basic requirements for house numbers:

- Must be Arabic numerals. Fancy numbers or numbers that are spelled out may be aesthetically pleasing, but are very difficult to read from the street.
- Need to be a minimum of three inches high and in a contrasting color to their immediate background. Brass or bronze numbers are difficult to see.
- Must be displayed on the front of the dwelling and visible from the street.
- If the dwelling is located more than 45 feet from the front lot line, the number should be displayed on a gate post, fence, mailbox, or other appropriate place that will make it visible from all directions when approaching from the street.
- Cannot be obstructed by shrubs, trees, decorations, etc.

For more information regarding specifics of Oakland Park's requirements, you can refer to the City's Code of Ordinances (Chapter 24) in the Land Development Code section and you may also contact the Fire Marshal's office at 954-630-4544.

Lakeside Sand Pine Preserve Welcomes New Residents

The City of Oakland Park's Lakeside Sand Pine Preserve recently received four gopher tortoises from the Gumbo Limbo Nature Center in Boca Raton. In preparation for this adoption, City Horticulturist Charles Livio worked with Florida Wildlife Commission staff and an Environmental Specialist at Florida Department of Transportation. The permitting process to adopt these gopher tortoises was at no cost to the City. For the soft release of the gopher tortoises, staff installed 235-linear feet of temporary fencing to acclimate the tortoises to their new home. After six months, the fencing will come down and the gopher tortoises will have the entire nature preserve to roam. Gopher tortoises are an endangered species and are protected by law. Visitors may view them, but must not touch, harm or disturb their burrows or the fencing. They are vegetarians and their diet will be supplemented and water supplied until they are able to thrive in their new habitat. For more information please call Charles Livio at 954-630-4511 or email at charlesl@oaklandparkfl.org

