



2011 Local Government Academy Graduates

The City of Oakland Park recently conducted a graduation ceremony for the 24 participants in its 7th Annual Local Government Academy (LGA). Mayor Suzanne Boisvenue, Vice Mayor Anne E. Sallee, Commissioner John Adornato and Commissioner Shari McCartney congratulated each LGA graduate and presented them with a Certificate of Appreciation for their commitment to their community. Many of the LGA sessions were inter-active and allowed the participants to learn up close from Fire Rescue, Public Works and BSO and other personnel.

“We have witnessed our LGA graduates become engaged ambassadors for our City and take a more prominent role in Oakland Park,” said Assistant to the City Manager Marie W. Elianor. “From becoming active in their homeowner or neighborhood association to

Local Government Academy “Class of 2011”

Alejandro Araya
 Alfred Smith
 Anna Strein
 Antwawn Roberts
 Caryl Stevens
 Daniel West
 Diana Eustice
 Dustin Eich
 Fred Henry
 Ingrid Gottlieb
 Jairo Aragon
 Jermaine Johnson

Joseph Teolis
 Lauren Kiefer
 Lillie Woodward
 Mia Woodward
 Mike Natiello
 Patrick Brochu
 Priscilla Strickland
 Robert Helland
 Sharon Connolly
 Timothy Hart
 Virginia Jordan
 William Keane-Delgado

...serving on City Advisory Boards to following the path to elected office, the LGA continues to graduate new leaders in our community.” Past graduates of the Local Government Academy include Vice Mayor Anne E. Sallee and City Commissioners John Adornato, Shari McCartney and Jed Shank, as well as former Mayor Layne Dallett Walls and former Vice Mayor Anthony Niedwiecki.



City Enforcing Watering Restrictions

Following a dry season where Florida received record lows in precipitation and with Broward County currently under Phase II watering restrictions limiting watering to two days a week and never between the hours of 10 a.m. and 4 p.m., Oakland Park’s Code Enforcement Division is reminding Code Enforcement officers to enforce watering restrictions.

Residents can utilize the City’s on-line “E-Code” to report water restriction violations and other Code Enforcement issues or call 954-630-4400.



Economic Development Forum to be Held in Oakland Park

The City of Oakland Park in conjunction with the Broward County Office of Economic and Small Business Development will presents its Inaugural Economic Development Forum on April 22 from 8 to 11:30 A.M. at Jaco Pastorius Park Community Center.

Many business owners are not aware of the vast number of incentives available to them at the municipal, county, and state level. The forum will cover how our local economy is changing, re-shaping, and re-inventing itself and help educate businesses on how to access resources necessary to thrive long-term. You will learn:

- How to Gain Competitive Advantage – Doing Business in Oakland Park
- How to Take Advantage of County and City Business Incentives
- How to Interact with Oakland Park and Broward County Economic Development Officials
- How to Position Your Firm to Take Advantage of the South Florida Import/Export Market
- Facts Regarding Business Financing You Never Knew
- How to Get Paid for Being an Employer – State of Florida Incentives for Employers
- Trends in Unemployment Insurance Tax Rates

For any questions please contact Ray Lubomski, Community & Economic Development Director, at 954-630-4344 or e-mail RSVP to rayl@oaklandparkfl.org

Mayor and City Commission

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Suzanneboisvenue@yahoo.com

Term Expires: March 2013

Anne E. Sallee

Vice Mayor, Seat #1

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Shari McCartney

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Term Expires: March 2015

Jed Shank

Commissioner, Seat #4

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Term Expires: March 2013

City Administration:

John Stunson

City Manager

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City Commission Meetings, 1st and 3rd Wednesdays of the month at 6:30 p.m. Agendas and Backup on-line at www.oaklandparkfl.org. Call the Office of the City Clerk at 954-630-4300 for meeting information.

Mayor Suzanne Boisvenue Takes Office and Addresses City



Suzanne with Great Pyrenees friends: Angel, Greer, Lily and Sam

Coral Lakes Dredging Project



The City of Oakland Park Engineering and Community Development Department is pleased to announce the Coral Lakes System dredging project is underway.

The project consists of dredging the “choke points” along the Coral Lakes Waterway from the south side of Oakland Park Boulevard bridge to the Floranada Road bridge. Dredging is being conducted using hand held hydraulic equipment.

In the photo, Gator Dredging operator-diver Charlie Gertz maneuvers a dredge head to vacuum silt from the bottom of the Cherry Creek/Corals Waterway at Cherry Creek Park. The submersible dredging apparatus resembles an oversized home swimming pool vacuum. **Photo courtesy of Friends of Cherry Creek.**

Construction activities currently take place Monday through Friday from 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. with the project anticipated to be completed this July. Residents and businesses may experience temporary driveway and parking closures in certain areas which will be communicated approximately 48 hours in advance.

For more information on the Coral Lakes Dredging Project, please contact the City’s project manager Ronald Desbrunes, P.E. at 954-630-4482. The afterhours emergency number is 954-561-6275.

The following are excerpts from Mayor Boisvenue’s recent address when she took the oath of Mayor:

There are 10 principles that have always guided me through my career as a nurse and as an elected official. Principles that will guide my time as your Mayor:

- Accessibility
- Accountability
- Cooperation and collaboration
- Communication
- Diversity and Inclusiveness
- Innovation
- Openness and Transparency
- Public Participation
- Respect
- Responsiveness

This is a great time to be a part of Oakland Park. We have a bright future. We are a City on the rise. We possess everything we need to succeed.

As your new Mayor, I am committed to building upon the successful programs established by my predecessors.

But I am also committed to creating an unprecedented level of openness, transparency, acces-

sibility, communication and service in Oakland Park. We will work together to develop programs to ensure the public trust and establish a culture of transparency, accountability, public participation, respect and responsiveness.

Our #1 reason for being here is to serve the residents, businesses and visitors to Oakland Park. We cannot begin to tackle the challenges we face in the short term to revive our economy and in the long term to put us on the path to growth without the help and support of everyone in our community. We welcome not only your suggestions, but your involvement in creating ways we can better serve your needs.

My colleagues and I are looking forward to serving you. We will work to hear your concerns and to address them. But we ask that you do your part. The quality of life we enjoy here is proportionate to the level of engagement of the people who live and work here. Your participation and passion makes for a successful city. Without you, we would not exist and we cannot succeed.

Let’s get to work! Thank you.

54th Annual Youth Day a Tremendous Success

The Parks and Leisure Services Department hosted the 54th Annual Youth Day event on March 26. The revised parade route was a huge success, nearly doubling the parade entries from 29 (2010) to 56 (2011). The festival packed in thousands of children and families to experience the rides, games, entertainment, delicious carnival food and fireworks. We are happy to report that the event brought in close to \$24,000 in revenue, just shy of last year's event that was held over a two day period. We would encourage all comments on the event so we can continue to grow and improve. Please email comments to jennal@oaklandparkfl.org



Parks and Leisure News & Notes

SUMMER CAMP REGISTRATION UNDERWAY

The nine-week camp experience will include exciting field trips, swimming, sports, arts & crafts and other social and recreational experiences. Summer Camp begins June 13 and concludes August 12. Operating hours are from 7:30 a.m. to 5:45 p.m. A child's current grade will dictate the site at which they are placed:

- North Andrews Gardens Community Center Grades K – 2
- Collins Community Center Grades 3 – 5
- Spiher Recreation Center Grades 6 – 8* (must not turn 15 prior to September 1)

For registration and other information, please call the Parks and Leisure Services Department at **954-630-4500**.

OAKLAND PARK GARDEN CLUB

If you are interested in gardening, horticulture, landscaping, the environment and making new friends plan to attend the next meeting on April 19 at 6:30 p.m. in the Jaco Pastorius Park Community Center. Each meeting will have lively topics and speakers. For more information, please call **954-564-3259**.

ENVIRONMENTAL LECTURE SERIES

The City's next Environmental Lecture will be Thursday, May 12 from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. at Jaco Pastorius Park Community Center, 1098 NE 40 Court. The speaker will be C. Way Hoyt, Registered Consulting Arborist and owner of Tree Trimmers and Associates. Mr. Hoyt's topic will be on "Trimming

Trees for Good Structure and Strength." This free program will include some hands-on trimming of trees in the park and an indoor program. For more information, please call **954-630-4511**.

8TH ANNUAL POLYNESIAN CULTURAL FESTIVAL

Scheduled for Sunday, May 15 from Noon to 8 p.m. at Jaco Pastorius Park, 4000 North Dixie Highway. This popular festival features live Polynesian entertainment, delicious food from the Polynesian islands and South Pacific arts & crafts. Special guests include World Champion Tag Team Wrestlers "The Wild Samoans" and Miami Dolphins star nose tackle Paul Soliai. For information, please call **954-938-9010**.



How to Remove a Tree in the City of Oakland Park

Sometimes a property owner has concerns about a tree on their property and decides their best option is to remove the problem tree. Because Oakland Park highly values the trees in our City, and follows the Broward County Tree Preservation Code, there is a procedure to follow before you call a tree removal company.

The first step is to visit the Municipal Building at 5399 N. Dixie Highway and apply for a tree removal permit. Soon after filling out the form, the City arborist will visit your site and confirm the species, size, condition and reasons for removal. If your application is approved, you will then be required to pay the appropriate fee and you can freely remove the tree. In most circumstances, a replacement tree will be required to mitigate for the tree that is removed.

If a tree is dead, or belongs to one of seven invasive species included in our City ordinance, a fee will not be required, but most likely you will be asked to plant a replacement tree. City staff will provide any information you need on tree selection and tree care.

If the tree is removed without first obtaining a tree removal permit, then the fee will be doubled if one is subsequently cited. Reputable tree removal companies will not take trees down unless a legitimate permit has been obtained. If you have any questions or would like to speak to the City Arborist, call the Code Compliance Department at **954-630-4401**.

Annual Chlorination of Water System

Water Treatment Scheduled for April 30 to May 21, 2011

The City of Fort Lauderdale will temporarily return to using free chlorine in its drinking water system. This preventive maintenance procedure will be conducted beginning at 9 a.m. Saturday, April 30 and will end at 9 a.m. Saturday, May 21, 2011. This procedure will affect the City of Fort Lauderdale, as well as Oakland Park.

Free chlorination is a common practice for water systems using combined chlorine disinfection and is strictly a routine part of water treatment procedures. The chlorination period is anticipated to be transparent to customers; however, some may notice a slight change in the taste or smell of their tap water.

Water customers who receive a City of Oakland Park utility bill, can call **954-630-4430** for more information.

Water customers who receive a utility bill from the City of Fort Lauderdale may call **954-828-8000** or online at www.fortlauderdale.gov/customerservice.

Welcome Our Wildlife



This month's showcase "Certified Wildlife Habitat" property is a NW 36 Court residence. To learn how you can certify your property as a wildlife habitat through the National Wildlife Federation (NWF) pick up an application at Parks and Leisure Services Department, located at City Hall, 3650 NE 12 Avenue, or visit the NWF website at www.nwf.org/certify



City Commission Recommends Charter Review Board

The City Commission has directed staff to take the steps necessary to establish a Charter Review Board to provide recommendations on modifications to the City's Charter. Among the topics they are anticipated to review are: moving the Municipal Elections from March to November and establishing a process for selecting a vice mayor, if that office is vacated. Commission will discuss the composition of the membership, role and timeframe for board deliverables and anticipate making appointment of members in late May. For more information, please contact the City Clerk's office at 954-630-4300.

Solid Waste Update: Refuse, Bulk & Recycling Collections

The refuse, bulk and recycling collections in the annexed areas of the City have been going as planned and scheduled, according to the City's Assistant Public Works Director Ken Resor. He reports it has been a very smooth transition from the use of private contractors to the use of City resources in the annexed areas due to the assistance of the Homeowner/Neighborhood Associations and residents. For information on Refuse, Bulk and Recycling Collections, please call the City's Solid Waste Division at **954-630-4452**.