



RESIDENTS PROVIDE INPUT AT NEIGHBORHOOD PLANNING MEETING

Following a presentation on Neighborhood Planning at the November 18th City Commission meeting, the City's Planning & Zoning staff hosted a "Neighborhood Planning Community Meeting" on December 9th at the Jaco Pastorius Park Community Center.

City residents, property and business owners were in attendance to gain input regarding the proposed Neighborhood Planning Concept, Community Appearance Standards for Residential and

Commercial Properties and Land Use Compatibility Issues within the City.

Following the introduction of the City's planners and an overview of the Neighborhood Planning Concept, the first phase of the meeting focused on the proposed Community Appearance Ordinances:

- Accessory Structures
- Landscaping (Non-Retroactive)
- Off-Street Parking (Non-Retroactive)
- Fences, Walls & Hedges



Community Appearance is an integral part of Oakland Park's image. The proposed Community Appearance Ordinances are intended to enhance the community.

The discussions

with residents also addressed Neighborhood Compatibility & Incompatible Land Use Ordinance(s).

•Master Business List: Modifications to Improve Compatibility with Neighborhoods

- Public Safety & Commercial Establishments
- Immediate Measures Ordinances (Schools & Outdoor Storage)

For more information on Neighborhood Planning, please

refer to the accompanying map or contact your neighborhood planner: Rick Buckeye (954-630-4345) Chris Gratz (954-630-4348) or Justin Proffitt (954-630-4339).

City on the Move Updates

The Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting has been awarded to the City of Oakland Park by the Government Finance Officers Association of the United States and Canada for its comprehensive annual financial report (CAFR). The Certificate of Achievement is the highest form of recognition in the area of governmental accounting and financial reporting, and its attainment represents a significant accomplishment by a government and its management.

NEW ART EXHIBIT AT OAKLAND PARK CITY HALL GALLERY



The City welcomed residents to a "Meet the Artist" reception in the second floor art gallery at City Hall on December 2. The art gallery is open to the public during regular business hours (8 a.m. to 5 p.m. weekdays) and showcases the talents of prominent local artists. The artist currently on display is Rolande Reverdy Moorhead. A realistic painter in watercolor, oil and acrylic, her art depicts still life, as well as Western, floral and nautical themes – while capturing the soul of her subjects.

2010 U.S. Census Complete Count Efforts Continue

Earlier this year, the City Commission, appointed a 17-member Complete Count Committee (CCC) to represent the City in 2010 Census Campaign Awareness activities.

At a recent City Census Complete Count Committee meeting, the members discussed ideas to participate in

the City's annual Youth Day celebration on March 19 and 20. The Friday evening event on March 19, which will be sponsored by the City and the 2010 Complete Count Committee, will showcase Oakland Park's ethnic diversity and feature Latin, Caribbean and Island music, food and entertainment.

The event will include rides for children, dancing, promotional giveaways and information/announcements related to the Census questionnaires that will need to be completed by every household in the City.

Each and every Oakland Park resident needs to be counted during the census to help ensure

more federal funding, grant opportunities and infrastructure improvements for the Oakland Park community.

To learn more about the City's Complete Count Committee, please contact Senior Planner Rick Buckeye at 954-630-4345.





At the close of another year, we gratefully pause to wish a warm and happy Holiday Season and a peaceful and prosperous New Year to the entire Oakland Park community.

Your Oakland Park City Commission

MAYOR AND CITY COMMISSION

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Richards Middle School Hosts Environmental Event



Richards Middle School and the Broward County “NatureScape” program had an environmental event on Saturday, November 21. Attendees enjoyed educational exhibits and demonstrations from local environmental

organizations, including the City’s community volunteer group “Welcome Our Wildlife” and how they are encouraging homeowners to have their properties certified as National Wildlife Habitats. This event was held to

celebrate Broward Schools Green Initiative. In addition to the many environmental group booths, there was a native plant giveaway, live music, a tour of the native plant park and a ladybug release.

Oakland Park Improves National Flood Insurance Rating Results in a 15 Percent Discount in Flood Premiums

The U.S. Department of Homeland Security/Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) has informed Oakland Park City Manager John Stunson that the City’s National Flood Insurance Program Community Rating System (CRS) has improved to a Class 7.

The floodplain management activities implemented by City staff qualifies property owners for a 15 percent discount in the premium cost of flood insurance for policies issued or renewed in Special Flood Hazard Areas.

“I commend you on your community actions and your determination to lead your

community to be more disaster resistant,” the letter states. “This commitment enhances public safety and property protection and protects the natural floodplains as well as reduces flood insurance premiums.”

Among the factors contributing to the City improved rating:

- Stormwater Management – the City enforces regulations for stormwater management and soil and erosion control
- Drainage System Maintenance – regularly inspected and maintained throughout the year by the City’s Public Works Department

- The Building Department maintains elevation certificates for new and substantially improved buildings
- Open Space Preservation – Credit was provided for preserving a minimum of five acres in the City’s Special Flood Hazard Area as open space
- Posting Flood Protection information on the Emergency Management page of the City’s website, including the local Flood Zone Map and the City Floodplain Management Plan
- Flood Protection Assistance – City planners provide technical advice and assistance to interested property owners

Oakland Park Library News

The City's Library offered an amnesty period for outstanding fines on overdue books during the last three weeks of November. The program offered to waive the fines for overdue books if patrons returned the outstanding books and additionally brought in non-perishable/canned goods.

As a result of the program, the Library waived \$3,150 in fines and received more than 300 books that will be now returned into circulation.

In addition, the Library received approximately 12 boxes of canned goods and contacted three local non-profit organizations (All Saints, Kiwanis and Blessed Sacrament) and asked them to assist with distributing the food items to the needy. These organizations assured staff that they either used the canned goods to prepare food or to assemble care packages which were provided to the needy.

CHILDREN'S PROGRAMS

Call 954-630-4372 for more information

JANUARY 4

10 a.m. "Fired Up About Reading" Story Time. Come and meet an Oakland Park Fire Fighter as she/he shares stories with the children. The

fire fighters will arrive in a fire engine!

JANUARY 5, 6, 7, 11, 12, 13, 14, 20, 21, 25, 26, 27, 28

3:30 – 4:30 p.m. Homework Help provided for elementary age students.

JANUARY 5

6:30 p.m. Family Night "Let It Snow" crafts and stories for everyone. Children of all ages are invited to attend.

JANUARY 6

10 a.m. "Snow" stories and crafts with storyteller Miss Jo. Children of all ages are invited to attend.

JANUARY 8

10 a.m. Toddler Time "Snowmen" stories and crafts with storyteller Miss Jo. Everyone is invited to attend!

JANUARY 11, 25

10 a.m. Deputy Story Time. Come and meet a Broward Sheriff's Deputy as he shares stories with the children.

JANUARY 12

6:30 p.m. Family Night "Sing-a-Long Puppet Show" for everyone. Children of all ages are invited to attend.

JANUARY 13, 15

10 a.m. "Sing a long puppet show" with storyteller Miss

Jo. Free. Children of all ages are invited to attend.

JANUARY 19

6:30 p.m. Family Night "I Have A Dream" puppet show for everyone. Sharing our dreams for our future! In celebration of Martin Luther King Day. Children of all ages are invited to attend.

JANUARY 20, 22

10 a.m. "Mighty Trucks" stories and crafts with storyteller Miss Jo. Everyone is invited to attend!

JANUARY 26

6:30 p.m. Family Night "Under the Big Top" for everyone. Children of all ages are invited to attend.

JANUARY 27

10 a.m. Toddler Time "Arthur's Circus" Stories and toddler band with Miss Jo.

JANUARY 29

10 a.m. Toddler Time "Elephants and more! Stories of the circus" stories and crafts with storyteller Miss Jo. Everyone is invited to attend!

NOTE: The Oakland Park Library will have Holiday hours on December 24 and 31 of 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.

NOTE: Residents should never attempt to trim any vegetation growing near or on any overhead power lines. Only specially trained line clearing professionals should work around power lines. Visit FPL.com for information on working with qualified tree trimming professionals.

the reliability of your electric service, according to officials from Florida Power & Light (FPL).

For tree planting options and other landscaping information, please call FPL toll-free at 1-800-226-3545 for a free Right Tree, Right Place poster or consult with the City's Horticulturist at 954-630-4511.

SANTA'S ANNUAL VISIT TO OAKLAND PARK



A large number of residents – young and not so young – gathered at Collins Community Center on December 11 to welcome Santa Claus and friends, play in the snow, ride on a sleigh and make a craft while listening to some jolly holiday music.

Parks and Leisure Services News & Notes

VETERANS' PARK REPAIRS AND RESTORATION UPDATE

City staff from Parks and Leisure Services and Engineering and Community Development recently met with the contractor performing the repair project at Veteran's Park. The following items were discussed:

- Mobilization commenced on December 1 with a final completion date of March 30, 2010. The contractor estimates the project could be completed in February.
- City staff will schedule update meetings to inspect the progress.
- The City's irrigation crew will meet with contractor on site to determine how they will interrupt the irrigation.
- The City's Horticulturist will flag the trees the City wants saved that are located on the embankment of the lake.

YOUTH BASEBALL

For more than 40 years, two youth sports providers provided baseball opportunities under the Parks and Leisure Services umbrella of the City. Northeast Little League calls Northeast High School home and the former Oakland Park Little League and more recently, Oakland Park Baseball Club utilizes the Wimberly Field athletic complex.

Recently, the two organizations merged and will utilize both parks to play baseball beginning with the 2010 season. The new name for the organization is Northeast Little League at Oakland Park. This merger will create a cost savings for the City as the Parks and Leisure Services Department supports both organization with field maintenance and supervision.

Boys and girls between the ages of 7-18 are eligible

to play and must live within the little league boundaries. Early registration has begun and participants will receive a discount if registered before December 22. For more information, please contact League President Dave McLeod at 954-793-2348.

REGISTRATION INFORMATION

Registration for T-Ball, Pitch Ball and Girls' Softball will be held at City Hall, 3650 NE 12 Avenue, or online at www.oaklandparkfl.org from December 7 through January 22, 2010 for Oakland Park residents and from December 14 until Jan. 22, 2010 for non-residents. Registration will end on the closing date or when the league is full. Office hours for registrations are 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. weekdays. Registration fees are \$50 for Oakland Park residents and \$90 for non-residents.

Help Prevent Power Outages by Planting the Right Tree in the Right Place

The small, immature trees that one might purchase from the local nursery may grow into problem trees by interfering with power lines and increasing potential for electrical outages. Selecting the right tree and planting it in the right place so as to not to interfere with power lines can eliminate potential safety hazards and improve

Kiwanis Club

The Oakland Park Kiwanis Club sponsored the recent "Illustrate-a-Book" contest at the Oakland Park Library. The winner was a first grade student from North Andrews Gardens Elementary School. The Library staff thanks the Kiwanis Club for their generous sponsorship of this annual event.



Oakland Park Fire Rescue Update



Approximately 1,500 fire hydrants in Oakland Park are currently being tested to ensure they are in working order and verify their flow capacity. In addition, testing fire hydrants is a function the fire department performs in order to receive a lower Insurance Service Organization rating (ISO). The hydrant testing also helps keep the hydrants

flushed from debris and provides information on pressure and amount of water available at each hydrant.

Firefighters will be testing hydrants (in between emergency responses) throughout the City during daylight hours through the end of January. Please take necessary driving precautions when you see hydrants being tested. For more information, please call the Fire Marshals office 954-630-4544 or the Water Department 954-630-4430.

Congratulations to Firefighter Paramedic Blake Engle who was nominated Firefighter for the 3rd Quarter 2009.

Engle was chosen for her initiative to introduce the City of Oakland Park to the "Pajama Program". The Pajama Program provides sleepwear and nurturing books to children in need. Children involved in this program do not know the comforts of a mother or father to tuck them into a cozy bed and read them a bedtime story. Many have been abandoned or abused; in fact, most are deprived of any love at all. Firefighter/Paramedic Engle's initiative demonstrates the care and compassion for which Oakland Park's firefighters are recognized by the community.

BSO/Oakland Park District Report



Pride in Service with Integrity

Prescription drug abuse has become a serious problem in Broward County and nationwide. The Broward Sheriff's Office is fortunate to have received a grant from the Florida Department of Law Enforcement's Recovery

Act to provide prescription drug "take back" programs throughout the county, as well as to provide educational programs for children and adults. This educational component is meant to enhance enforcement efforts.

The name of the program, "Operation Medicine Cabinet", reflects one of BSO's main goals – to have people clean out their medicine cabinets of unnecessary, unused, or expired medication. All too often, prescription drugs get into the hands of children

or drug abusers because they went unmonitored. Perhaps you have medication you no longer need in your medicine cabinet. If that's the case, you are encouraged to participate in one of the "take back" programs. Participants who turn in their medication will receive a \$5 voucher to use at local pharmacies or Wal-Mart stores (voucher locations vary).

For more information, please call the BSO/Oakland Park District's Administrative Offices at 954-202-3131.



Photos by Sara Guevrekian, Royal Palm Isles Homeowners' Association

YARD SALE ON THE GREEN

The City of Oakland Park once again hosted a Yard Sale on the Green on Saturday, November 14 at Jaco Pastorius Park. The vendors lined the winding walking path to showcase their items and they were not disappointed as they enjoyed a picture perfect and profitable day.

Several hundred bargain hunters filled the park from 7 a.m. through 1 p.m. searching for the best deals in town. The feedback continues to be positive and the Parks and Leisure Services staff looks forward to organizing another Yard Sale on the Green at Jaco Pastorius Park early in 2010.



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 (8 a.m. to 5 p.m.)	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
U.S. Census Complete County Committee	954-630-4205
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