

The City of DELTONA



City of Deltona - Proud to be part of it...

MARCH-APRIL 2008
VOLUME 12, ISSUE 2

On Page

- 2 • CALENDAR OF EVENTS
• RELAY RECOGNIZED

- 3 • COMMISSION DISTRICTS
• EARN A FREE BIKE

- 4 • GET WILDFIRE READY
• PET SHOT CLINIC

Our Mission:
It is the mission of the Deltona City Government to anticipate and provide for the needs of its residents with quality service, innovation and leadership for today and in the future.



Para recibir una copia en Español, favor de llamar al (386) 878-8755.

What does Amendment 1 mean for Deltona

AMENDMENT 1 garnered 64 percent of the vote on Jan. 29 and the provisions of the amendment will be in effect for our fiscal year 2008-2009.



There were four provisions in the amendment:

- An additional \$25,000 homestead exemption on the value of a homestead above \$50,000 except for school levies;
- Portability of a person's Save Our Home Differential applicable to all tax levies;
- A 10 percent cap on the

appreciation of value of non-homesteaded properties except for school levies, and

- A \$25,000

exemption on tangible personal property applicable to all tax levies.

Here's the breakdown on what this means for the City of Deltona and our residents. The additional \$25,000 homestead exemption means that a resident who qualifies for the additional \$25,000 homestead exemption, based on 2007

continued on page 2

Exciting news from Mayor Mulder...

AS WINTER NEARS

its end we move into what may prove to be an exciting time. As many of you may have read, I have forwarded a proposal to the City Commission for consideration of property tax elimination. This is a phased plan which would take place over the course of a couple of years. While cities including Deltona face Tallahassee tax reform, my focus has been on efficiency and beginning to look at our government similar to the way I have always viewed the private sector.



In private business if revenues are decent and operation costs are efficient, the stockholders are rewarded with dividends. In short, my proposal is to make homeowners the stockholders and full tax rebates the reward for our good work and efficiency. It is important to understand this plan makes no sense if it means cutting services to residents, so naturally service levels will remain high and in some cases increase.

The commission will consider this in the very near future and my hope is that it passes. Should this occur, homesteaded properties would get 100 percent relief from the City, possibly making Deltona the most progressive financial government in Florida. I am excited and I know that in these economic times all of us can use tax relief, not just empty promises and rhetoric, but instead real-deal tax relief that can make a difference in our lives. Please keep an eye out for the progress of this plan. I hope that 2008 has been a productive year for all of you, as I know it will be my most productive year to date leading the greatest city on planet earth.

Sincerely, Mayor Dennis Mulder

City Hall gets new lawn furniture



City residents should be grateful to Cub Scout Pack 241 who are responsible for a great new bench in the Courtyard at City Hall. The bench was purchased as part of the Pack's community service project.



The Official Newsletter of the City of Deltona

March - April Calendar of Events

March

- 11 Mayor's Table, 7 p.m., City Hall.
- 15 City's largest egg hunt--Eggstravaganza, 10 a.m. to noon, Dewey O. Boster Sports Complex, 1236 Saxon Blvd.
- 17 City Commission Meeting, 6:30 p.m.
- 21 City Offices closed for Good Friday.

April

- 5 Skate & Bike Competition, 9 a.m. to 6 p.m, Lake Butler Skate Park, 301 Courtland Blvd.
- 7 City Commission Meeting, 6:30 p.m.
- 8 Mayor's Table, 7 p.m., City Hall.
- 12 Music in the Courtyard, 7-9 p.m. in the courtyard at City Hall.
- 19-20 Spring Fest, "A celebration of cultural heritage and education," 10 a.m. to 8 p.m., Sat. and 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., Sun. at Dewey O. Boster

'Amendment 1' continued from page 1

millage rates, will realize a savings of \$242.48. This savings is from the following entities millage rates:

City of Deltona, \$82.09; Volusia County, \$117.58; St. Johns Water Management, \$10.40; Inland Navigation District; \$0.86; Hospital Operations and Debt, \$31.55.

For the 2008/2009 fiscal year, the City of Deltona estimates a \$1,888,704 reduction in revenue relating to the additional \$25,000 homestead exemption.

The now portable Save our Homes (SOH) is calculated based on whether a buyer "upsized" or "downsized"--whether the buyer's old just value is less than or greater than the new homestead just value. Up to \$500,000 of the ported SOH is applied to the new just value to calculate a new assessed value with portability.

Unlike homesteaded properties, businesses and commercial properties have no equivalent Save Our Homes tax protection. With the passage of this amendment, these entities now have a 10 percent cap on increase relating to annual assessment.

Business and commercial entities, within the City of Deltona, who qualify for the additional \$25,000 Tangible Personal Property exemption, based on 2007 millage rates, will realize a savings of \$429.16. This savings is from the following entities millage rates:

City of Deltona, \$82.09; School District, \$186.68; Volusia County, \$117.58; St. Johns Water Management, \$10.40; Inland Navigation District, \$0.86; Hospital Operations and Debt, \$31.55.

For the 2008/2009 fiscal year, the City of Deltona estimates a reduction in revenue of \$41,568 relating to the \$25,000 tangible personal property exemption.

Sports Complex. Proceeds provide educational scholarships to area youth.

21 City Commission Meeting, 6:30 p.m.

25 Arbor Day Celebration, 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. in the courtyard at City Hall.

25-26 Relay for Life begins at 5:30 p.m. at Dewey O. Boster and ends at noon the next day.

Summer Recreation Registration

April 19 8 a.m. to noon, Wes Crile Park, 1537 Norbert Terrace.

April 22 6-9 p.m., Heritage Middle School, 1001 Parnell Court.

April 29 6-9 p.m. Deltona Middle School, 250 Enterprise Road. For details, call (386) 878-8900.

Spruce Up Deltona 2008 dates will be released soon on the city Website, DTV and in your local newspapers. For information, contact Janet Day, (386) 878-8569 or jday@deltonafl.gov.

City recognized for '07 Relay

THE CITY OF DELTONA RECEIVED the Golden Eagle Community Service Award at the Volusia League of Cities 2008 Annual Awards Banquet.

The Award was given for the City's Relay for Life program, and recognized the efforts of the City's employees and the residents of Deltona. Last year's Relay for Life raised more than \$53,000 dollars, and a total of 35 teams participated in the May 11-12 event at Dewey O. Boster Sports Complex. City employees made up six of those teams, and raised more than \$13,000 with bake sales, raffles, lunch sales and auctions-- just a few of the money raising efforts.

The theme for the 2007 Relay for Life was "Islands of Hope - Island Hopping for a Cure Tonight." City teams got into the spirit of the overnight event early on, and you could tell by the team names-- Surfin' Survivors (City Clerk's Office & Human Resources), Surfin' for a Cure (Public Works/Utilities),

Team Hawaii Five 0 (Finance & Internal Services), Remission Possible (Mayor & City Commission), Lei'n Hose for a Cure (Fire & Rescue) and Developers of Hope (Planning & Development Services). The co-chairs for the 2007 Relay for Life were Mayor Dennis Mulder and Administrative Assistant Janet Day.

Among the criteria for being selected for the top honor--the total amount of money raised, the number of people who volunteered, and the total of volunteer hours for the event. The Volusia League of Cities organization provided this statement, concerning the City's Relay for Life efforts: "The City's motivation toward raising funds and promoting awareness of cancer is not only ingenious but it is remarkable." The theme for 2008's Relay for Life is "CRFB"... Celebrate, Remember, Fight Back. The event will be from 5:30 p.m. April 25 through noon April 26.

You're Invited! The City's Beautification Advisory Board would like to invite Deltona residents and business owners to attend their meetings. They meet at 6:30 p.m. the fourth Tuesday of every month in the second-floor conference room at City Hall, 2345 Providence Blvd.

Do you know your Mayor, Commission?

Mayor Dennis Mulder, 1199 Page Court, (386) 216-3620,
dmulder@deltonafl.gov
Elected: Nov. 2005

Term Expires: Nov. 2009

Vice Mayor/District 6, Michael Carmolingo,
3126 Shallowford Street, (386) 848-1932,
mcarmolingo@deltonafl.gov
Elected: Nov. 2007

Term Expires: Nov. 2011

District 1, Zenaida Denizac, 2010 Montecito Ave.,
(386) 804-8463, zdenizac@deltonafl.gov
Elected: Nov. 2005

Term Expires: Nov. 2009

District 2, Herb Zischkau, 2760 Pinegrove Ave.,
(386) 860-7280, hzischkau@deltonafl.gov
Elected: Nov. 2007

Term Expires: Nov. 2011

District 3, Michele McFall-Conte, 1132 Galgano Ave.,
(386) 574-1956, mmcfall@deltonafl.gov
Elected: Nov. 2001

Second term expires: Nov. 2009

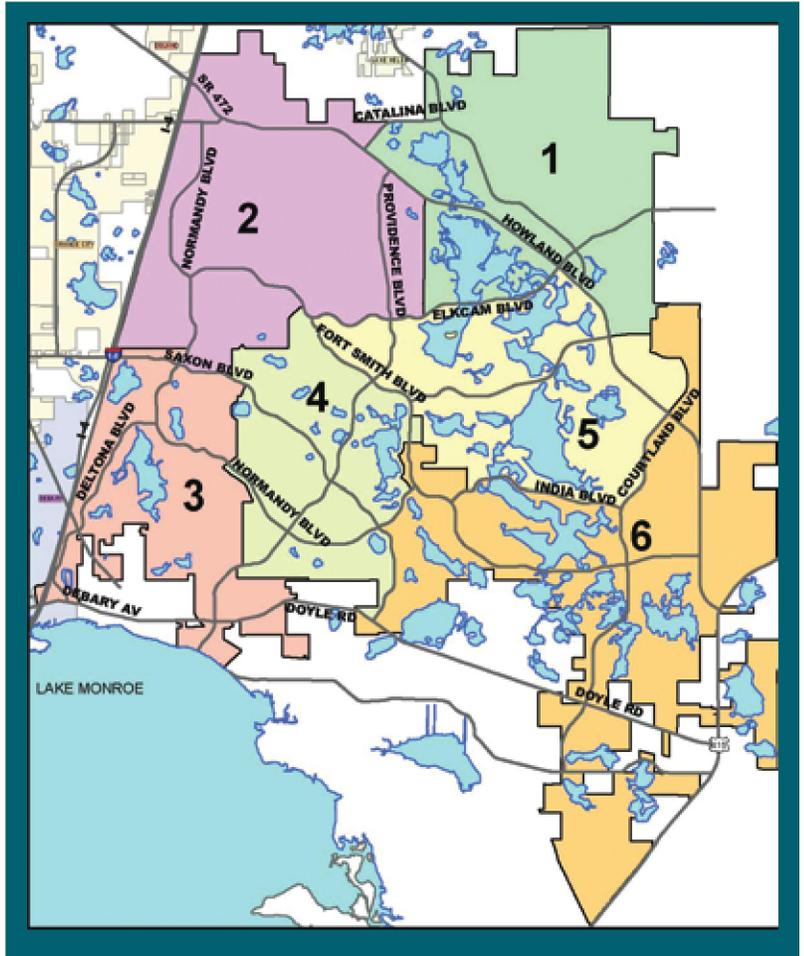
District 4, Paul Treusch, 1850 Fort Smith Blvd.,
(386) 785-4890, ptreusch@deltonafl.gov
Elected: Nov. 2007

Term Expires: Nov. 2011

District 5, Janet Deyette, 2451 Timbercrest Drive,
(386) 848-1625, jdeyette@deltonafl.gov
Elected: Nov. 2005

Term Expires: Nov. 2009

To reach the Commission Office at City Hall, call Commission
Assistant, Heather Brooke, (386) 878-8860.



City launches Economic Development newsletter

THE OFFICE OF ECONOMIC Development recently launched a new newsletter, *Deltona Business News*. The newsletter, which can be accessed via the City's Web site, deltonafl.gov and at deltonameansbusiness.com, was developed as a resource to keep the business community informed of recent development projects in the City.

The newsletter's format includes a section highlighting recent development announcements, sections listing available retail and office space and a section announcing upcoming events.

The Deltona Economic Development Advisory Board received approval from the City Commission for its strate-

gic five-year plan, one of the objectives of the plan was "to gain more interest from developers by creating marketing programs to promote interest." The Economic Development Office, led by Sally Sherman, developed the newsletter as a cost effective way to help achieve this goal by informing the business community and promoting the City's development projects. This is one of several new marketing tools the City has created to increase the awareness in the development community about the opportunities in Deltona. Others include new marketing packets and a resource guide on doing business in Deltona. Both are available on the City Web sites.

Fire hydrant testing

SINCE FEBRUARY, THE FIRE Department has been working on their annual flow testing of the hundreds of fire hydrants throughout the city. Testing, which will continue through June, involves opening each fire hydrant and allowing flow for several minutes while data is collected.

Testing not only ensures that each hydrant in the system functions properly, but also helps firefighters become more familiar with hydrant locations.

The testing can impact our residential water supply. Sediment and debris settles in the bottom of all water supply piping and as a result, resident's water may appear dirty or cloudy. If a resident experiences cloudy water they should

open an outside water faucet and allow water to run until clear. To minimize inconvenience, crews will test between 9 a.m. and 2 p.m. on weekdays. Crews will notify Deltona Water of the areas they will be testing. Citizens with water problems should call Deltona Water Customer Service, (386) 575-6800.

To avoid causing water pressure damage to lawns, fire crews place a device called a diffuser on hydrants to break up the water stream. Citizens can help by keeping the area around fire hydrants clear of plants and foliage. Anyone with questions about hydrant testing can call the Deltona Fire Department, (386) 860-7177.

Important City Numbers

City Hall, 2345 Providence Blvd.,
(386) 878-8100

Mayor and City Commission, (386) 878-8860

City Clerk's Office, (386) 878-8500

Communication and Public Information,
(386) 878-8755

City Manager's Office, (386) 878-8850

Human Resources, (386) 878-8750

Building & Zoning Services, (inspections
and permitting), (386) 878-8650

Automated inspection information,
(386) 575-6900 or (407) 936-9999

Planning & Development Services,
(386) 878-8600

Zoning Division (Residential),
(386) 878-8660

Zoning Division (Commercial),
(386) 878-8600

Animal Control, (386) 860-7177

Code and Solid Waste Compliance,
(386) 878-8700

Public Works, 201 Howland Blvd.,
(386) 878-8950

Water and Sewer, 255 Enterprise Road,
(386) 575-6800 (customer service)

Parks & Recreation, 2345 Providence Blvd.
(386) 878-8900 (programs and facilities)

Fire Department Administration, 1685
Providence Blvd., (386) 860-7177

Waste Services Inc., (Recycling bins, garbage
pick-up and special pick-ups),
(386) 574-0778

Volusia County Sheriff's Office, 1200
Deltona Blvd., (386) 860-7030 or after 4:30
p.m. Monday-Friday, (386) 736-5999

Emergencies, 911

Is your home ready for wildfire season?

WILDFIRES CAN FLARE UP RAPIDLY AND CAUSE significant damage to homes and property. Vacant, overgrown lots threaten our homes. There are steps homeowners can take to reduce the spread of wildfires.

Good yard maintenance and removing flammable debris from yards helps minimize fire spread. Dead leaves and tall, dry grass are very flammable. Create a 30-foot defendable space around your home by removing flammable or dried vegetation. Keep your firewood pile at least 30 feet away from buildings and fences.

Using stone mulch around your house, instead of organic mulch can add a unique decorating touch and is not flammable. Stone mulch can actually provide a barrier that might stop a fire. Clearing leaves, dead branches, and pine needles from your roof can prevent sparks from igniting those materials. If your home has a chimney flue, it should be covered with a 1/2-inch mesh, metal screen. Avoid power lines and use a partner for safety whenever using a ladder to access your roof. Crawl spaces and void areas under your house or porch should be covered with a non-flammable material and make sure that no flammable materials or vegetation have

accumulated in these spaces.

Trees also need preventative care. Branches, especially dead ones, hanging over a house should be removed. During a brush fire, the branches can actually form a bridge allowing fire to travel to the roof. Tree limbs should be pruned so that a six to ten foot gap exists between the lowest branches and the ground. This can help prevent ground fires from traveling up into a tree. Shrubs and bushes also must be pruned regularly, with special attention given to removing dead sections.

After cleaning up your yard, there is most likely going to be a great deal of yard debris left over. What exactly should you do with it? Throw it in the vacant lot down the street? Absolutely not, the accumulation of debris in a wooded lot can lead to disaster. A lightning strike, carelessly tossed cigarette butt or a child playing with matches can easily ignite a huge fire among the dried out debris. Deltona yard waste collection is on Mondays and Tuesdays, visit DeltonaFL.gov for specific information.

For information about keeping your home safe from wildfires visit www.Firewise.org or call the Fire Department at (386) 860-7177.

Low-cost shot clinic offered

State Law requires all dogs and cats be vaccinated for rabies by a licensed veterinarian. Vaccinated animals are protected from becoming infected by rabies if bitten by an infected animal.

The City's Enforcement Services Department is sponsoring a low-cost vaccination clinic at Cohen's Veterinarian Center, 2879 Elkcam Blvd., at 2 p.m. March 15. The clinic is limited to the first 150 customers. Dr. Allan Cohen will administer the shots. Cost is \$5 per pet (cash only). Canine and feline distemper 4-in-1 shots will be available for \$10 per cat. City licenses will also be available for sale.

All pets must be on a leash or in carriers. For information or questions, call the Enforcement Services Office, (386) 878-8700.



City of Deltona
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www.deltonafl.gov

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