

FEBRUARY 2002

CHARTER REVISIONS ON MARCH BALLOT

City residents will be voting for three Commission Seats and three referendum questions which pertain to Charter Revisions in the March 12th municipal election. As of February 1st, the following candidates have filed for election:

Mayor Seat #5

David Schmidt (incumbent)

Commission Seat #2

Pat Archer (incumbent)

Gerry Franciosa

Commission Seat #4

Alberta Perry McCarthy (incumbent)

The qualifying period for candidates runs through noon on February 12, 2002.

The following is a summary of the three referendum questions:

Question #1

READABILITY

Makes the Charter easier to read and understand by clarifying and reorganizing the Charter, correcting grammatical errors and deleting obsolete terms. Effective upon voter approval.

Question #2

FILLING MAYORAL VACANCY

Calls for a special election the 2nd Tuesday in May if a vacancy occurs LESS THAN 60 days before an election. This allows time for candidates to qualify. The elected official's term would end in March of the second year of the term. Effective upon voter approval.

Question #3

SERVING OUT ELECTED TERM

Permits term limited elected official to serve out their entire term if a 6 year term limit is reached. Effective March 2003.

Only registered voters may vote in any election. Florida Law requires that you bring a **photo ID with your signature** with you when you go to the polls. The polls will be open from 7am-7pm. Absentee ballots can be obtained by calling the Supervisor of Elections Office at 930-2650.

SPECIAL TRIBUTE TO C. SPENCER POMPEY

In celebration of Black History Month there will be a special screening of the documentary, "**The Life of C. Spencer Pompey**" on February 23rd, at Pompey park. The event begins at 5:00 P.M. **For more information, call 278-3577.**

DUNE REVEGETATION AND MAINTENANCE PROGRAM

The City is involved in an on-going revegetation and maintenance program for the dune system along the municipal beach. This dune system, which includes the area between the beach and the sidewalk adjacent to A1A, offers protection for upland properties from erosion and storm surges. The vegetative growth and elevation of the dune system also helps to shield light "spillage" onto the beach, which may disorient sea turtle hatchlings trying to find the ocean.

Prior to 1973, the entire natural dune system had been washed away, and only 18-feet of beach separated the Atlantic Ocean from A1A. After the first beach renourishment project, numerous types of vegetation and sand fences were installed to catch wind-blown sand to form the dune. The exercise worked as our current dune system has an approximate elevation of 8-feet (above sea level), an average width of 100-feet, and is still growing!

This system requires ongoing maintenance in order to keep it flourishing. Some of the vegetation, particularly Sea-grapes, require periodic pruning. Other species of vegetation originally installed to establish the dune, such as Scaevola (Hawaiian Sea Grapes) and Brazilian Peppers, have since been designated as Category I Invasive Pest Plants. As such, these plants are currently being eradicated from the dune and replaced with species that are considered native, such as Sea Oats, Coco-plums, and Saw Palmettos.

The project is currently focusing on an approximately 800 feet long section of dune, starting approximately 600 feet north of Atlantic Avenue, and proceeding northward. Other sections of the dune will be done on an on-going basis.

DATE SET FOR THE NEXT NEIGHBORHOOD SUMMIT

Plans are underway for the 2nd Annual Neighborhood Summit. It will be held on Saturday, May 18, 2002 at Old School Square.

The Neighborhood Summit will provide workshop opportunities for participants to develop leadership skills, broaden their knowledge of available resources that can help to sustain neighborhoods, and learn how other neighborhood residents and staff are making a difference in their communities. More information on the summit will follow in future issues of this news-

OLD SCHOOL SQUARE RECEIVES NATIONAL HONOR

The Freedoms Foundation at Valley Forge has designated Old School Square as a recipient of the **George Washington Honor Award** for the 2001 Freedoms Foundation National Awards Program.

Old School Square was recognized for its community leadership, partnerships and programs which serve to "promote an understanding and appreciation of responsible citizenship and the benefits of a free society."

The Freedoms Foundation is a national, not-for-profit, non partisan, non-sectarian, educational organization whose mission is to "help preserve the ideals and principles upon which the United States was founded." Since its beginning in 1949, the Foundation has presented more than 55,000 awards to Americans from all walks of life. For more information on the Foundation and its many programs, visit the Foundation's website at www.ffvf.org.

BEACH RENOURISHMENT TO BEGIN SOON

For the fourth time in 30 years, the City's municipal beach will undergo a maintenance nourishment project to replace sand lost to erosion. Preparations are underway to begin the dredging in mid-February. Approximately 1.1 million cubic yards of sand will be dredged from offshore and placed on the beach, widening the beach to offset erosion since the last renourishment project was done ten years ago.

The initial work will consist of assembling the pipelines to carry sand from the borrow area, about one-half mile to the beach. Sand will then be pumped along the beach to be deposited. The actual placement of sand will start February 15th and will continue for six weeks.

The project area is from Atlantic Avenue south to a point south of Atlantic Dunes Parks. During the dredging operation, a mixture of sand and water, called slurry, is pumped onto the beach, where it is shaped by bulldozers. The slurry is pumped at high velocity, so it is dangerous for people to be close to the outfall pipe. Dredge personnel will keep people a safe distance from the outfall, using fencing on the municipal beach. Bulldozers can also be hazardous and should be avoided. Due to safety concerns the bulldozers will use backup alarms. The operation will continue 24 hours a day, seven days a week, weather permitting.

GRAND OPENING FOR NEW ENTERTAINMENT PAVILION

The Old School Square Entertainment Pavilion will officially open on February 14th at 7:00 p.m. with a ribbon cutting ceremony followed by a fabulous FREE concert with southern rock legends, The Marshal Tucker Band. Opening for Marshall Tucker will be the Florida Atlantic University Jazz Band, featuring noted drummer Duffy Jackson, and the FAU Vocal Jazz Ensemble. Everyone is invited to bring blankets and lawn chairs. Plenty of food and beverages will be available for purchase.

The Grand Opening kicks off an entire weekend of music and art at Old School Square. Here's the complete schedule:

Feb. 14-Exhibit of seven stone sculptures by Zimbabwe's leading sculptor, Dominc Denhura will be on display in the new Cornell Museum Sculpture Garden through March 31st.

Feb. 15-Tour the new pavilion and enjoy hot dogs and beverages, 11 a.m.-2 p.m.

Feb. 15- Roots Classical Series: A Celebration of Youth in the Arts. 7 p.m.

Feb. 15, 16, 17-A Gathering of Kuumba (Creativity), an artist showcase and sale featuring multi-media works. Crest Theatre. Fri. 7-10pm, Sat. noon-10pm, Sun. noon-5pm. FREE admission.

Feb. 16-Celebrate the Soul of Delray, a food, culture and entertainment festival along Atlantic Avenue from 10am-10pm. Headlining the evening will be the '70s soul group The Spinners in concert at the Pavilion, 9pm. FREE.

Feb. 17-The Youth Orchestra of Palm Beach County will present a FREE concert at the pavilion at 4pm.

SENIOR GAMES

The Parks & Recreation Department will host the 13th Annual Senior Games **February 8-15, 2002** at various locations throughout the city. The Senior Games gives people who are 50 years young or more the chance to revel in the spirit of goodwill, good sportsmanship and good health, win medals and advance to the State Games. Seniors can enter any of the exciting social, recreational and competitive events from basketball to track & field.

For more information, call Danielle Gallo at 243-7277.

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RESIDENTS ACADEMY ACCEPTING APPLICATIONS

The City will hold a Delray Beach Residents Academy to acquaint residents with the structure of City government. The 6-week program will provide residents with the information, resources, and tools to become knowledgeable community members and effective neighborhood leaders. City staff with expertise in their respective departments will conduct the weekly sessions.

The Academy will be held Thursday evenings from 6:00-9:00 P.M., April 4-May 9, 2002. Applicants must be a city resident and must be 18 years or older. There is no charge for this program. **For more information, call Janet Meeks, Education Coordinator at 243-7231.**

POLICE HONOR VOLUNTEER

Congratulations to **Jack Gesten** on being selected the Police Department's **Volunteer of the Month** for November. Mr. Gesten has contributed many hours training new recruits, riding along on patrol to acquaint them with the 20 condo areas and with the procedures of the C.O.P. Program. In addition to contributing 60 hours a month helping in the Volunteer Lobby Attendant Office, Mr. Gesten schedules patrols, keeps record of volunteer hours and recruits new volunteers.

ANNUAL REPORT DISTRIBUTED

The City of Delray Beach Annual Report for Fiscal Year 2000/2001 was distributed with the Sun-Sentinel newspaper and mailed to non-subscribers this month. The 24-page report provides descriptive information about the major services, programs and achievements of each City department as well as an overview of the City's funding structure and the resources that finance those services and programs. Also included in the publication is a City Directory, a map of City parks and recreation centers, and information on Advisory Boards & Committees.

Additional copies of the Annual Report are available at City Hall, the Community Center, Veterans Park, Pompey Park and the Public Library.

DISCOVER THE LIBRARY

Here are some of the events coming to the Delray Beach Public Library in February.

Feb. 4-**Sedentary Thespians**. New Club. Meets weekly, 10:00 a.m.-noon.

Feb. 4-**Florida Wills & Living Trusts** with Jeff Steiner. 2:00 p.m.

Feb. 5-**The 2nd Attack on Pearl Harbor** presented by Peter Azzole. 6:30 p.m.

Feb. 6-**Pillow Decorating, New Craft Club**. 10:00 a.m.-noon.

Feb. 6-**Soulful Love, Authors Series** with Deri Joy Ronis. 2:00 p.m.

Feb. 7-**Lunch with Liz, Developing Healthy Relationships in Life & Love**, based on insights of John Gray. 12:00-1:30 p.m.

Feb. 10-**Make It Big! 49 Secrets for Building a Life of Extreme Success** presented by Frank McKinney 2:00 p.m.

Feb. 11-**Public Speaking-Fundamentals of Speech Communication**. 2:00 p.m.

Feb. 12-**Stress Reduction: Setting Goals for a Healthy New Year**. 2 p.m.

Feb. 12-**Evening Book Group: The Blind Assassin**. 6:30 p.m.

Feb. 13-**The Principles of Chinese Medicine**. 2:00 p.m.

Feb. 13-**Healing the Mind, Healing the Body**. 6:30 p.m.

Feb. 14-**Current Events Group**, meets 2nd & 4th Thursdays, 10:30 a.m.-noon.

Feb. 14-**NEW Book Discussion Group**. Meets 2nd Thursday of month at 2 p.m.

Feb. 19-**A Glimpse of Life & Gardens of Japan** presented by Morikami Museum & Sister Cities Exchange Students. 6:30 p.m.

Feb. 20-**Recharging Your Inner Battery** presented by Jill Schneider. 6:30 p.m.

Feb. 21-**Trash or Treasures-Free Antique Appraisal Show** with auctioneer Bill Hood. 2:00-4:00 p.m.

Feb. 24-**Gospel Musical Matinee** featuring Ed Pierson. 2:00 p.m.

Feb. 25-**Oprah Book Club, The Blind Assassin** by Margaret Atwood. 1:00 p.m.

Feb. 26-**Stress Reduction Through Communication**. 6:30 p.m.

Feb. 27-**Benefits of Straight Talk** with Dr. Stacey J. Nelson. 6:30 p.m.

Feb. 28-**Authors Series, The Event** presented by Donald Silverman. 2:00 p.m.