

News for Neighborhoods



CITY OF DELRAY BEACH - DECEMBER 2005



CITY DIRECTORY

Delray Beach City Hall
100 NW 1st Avenue
Delray Beach, Florida 33444
General Information
(561) 243-7000

Emergency 9-1-1
Non-Emergency 243-7800
English-Spanish-Creole

City Manager's Office 243-7010
Mayor and City Commission
Oficina del Administrador de la Ciudad
Biwo Manajè Vil-la

Police Department 243-7888
Departamento de la Policía
Depatman Polis

Fire Department 243-7400
Parque de Bomberos
Depatman pou Dife

City Clerk's Office 243-7050
Oficina del Actuario de la Ciudad
Biwo Komì pou Vil-la

Utility Billing 243-7100
Cargos de Utilidades
Depatman Bil Dlo/Elektrik

Water/Sewer Maint. 243-7312
Mantenimiento del Agua y Alcantarilla
Depatman pou Pwòpte Dlo avèk Egou

Animal Control 243-7330
Mando de Animales
Depatman Ki An Chaj Zannimo

Jobline 243-6201
Línea de Trabajos
Liy Telefòn pou Jwenn Travay

Parks & Recreation 243-7250
Parques y Recreación
Depatman Pak & Rekreyasyon

Municipal Golf Course 243-7380
Campo de Golf Municipal
Magazen Golf

City Website: MyDelrayBeach.Com

HOLIDAY HAPPENINGS

Every December day is a holiday at Old School Square in Delray Beach. The 100 foot Christmas Tree is a traditional fixture and features a walk-in wonderland for children of all ages. The **Tree Lighting** has been rescheduled to **December 8th** at Old School Square and will be held in conjunction with Art and Jazz on the Avenue beginning at 6:00 p.m. **Santa Claus will be on hand 6:00-10:00 p.m. daily, December 8th through December 23rd.**

The **ice skating rink** is open through December 31st, Monday through Thursday, 3:00-9:00 p.m.; Fridays, 3:00-10:00 p.m.; Saturdays, Noon-10:00 p.m.; Sundays Noon-9:00 p.m.; with the following adjusted schedule: Open 10:00 a.m. on December 10th; closed at 5:00 p.m. on Christmas Eve; closed Christmas Day; open Noon-10:00 p.m. on December 23rd, 26th-30th; open Noon-Midnight on December 31st. Enjoy a ride on an **Old Fashion Carousel** week days from 5:00-9:00 p.m. and weekends and school holidays from 1:00-9:00 p.m. through January 1st at \$2.00 a ride. See the Calendar of Events for information on Holiday Parades, Kids Day At The Tree, and Breakfast With Santa.

"Dance the Night Away" on December 31st at the First Night 2006 New Year's Eve Celebration. Bring the entire family to enjoy visual and performing acts in non-alcoholic venues at various locations downtown with a kiddy finale at 9:00 p.m. and spectacular finale at midnight at the Tennis Center. Tickets go on sale December 8th. Cost is \$7.00.

For more information on these events call (561) 279-1380, ext. 35



Delray Beach's famous 100' Christmas Tree.

DISASTER HOUSING ASSISTANCE

SHIP funds are available **through January 2006** to assist eligible homeowners who suffered damages as a result of Hurricane Wilma. Funds may be expended on payment of insurance deductibles, non-insured repairs, and tree removal. Applications for assistance may be obtained from Community Development Division at City Hall, 100 NW 1st Avenue. For more information, call at (561) 243-7280.

MESSAGE FROM MAJOR JEFF PERLMAN

It's been said that the two biggest gifts we have to give are our love and our labor.

As we end 2005, I think we should all be grateful for the huge amount of compassion this community continues to exhibit. And we should also be grateful for the hard work of our dedicated staff and citizens whose work makes Delray Beach the jewel of Palm Beach County and the very finest city of our size in the nation.

In good times and bad, we find a way forward and we find a way to work together. That's what makes Delray Beach different from other communities. Sure we debate, but in the end we always collaborate.

In 2006, we will continue to see more of what our citizens have asked for: responsible growth, a new library, a new senior center, new parks, more affordable housing, more jobs and economic development, improved communication and better hurricane preparedness; all with a continued focus on building consensus and community unity.

It remains a great pleasure to serve as your mayor. Delray Beach is a great city because of your efforts and passion.



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Delray Beach Calendar of Events & Activities

December 2005 & January 2006

December 6, January 3 & 17
Regular City Commission Meeting
6:00 PM/ City Hall

December 5-14
Light Up Delray
City-wide Neighborhood &
Business Holiday Décor
Winners will be posted at City Hall
Info: 276-1715

December 8
Art & Jazz on the Avenue
Atlantic Avenue 6:00 p.m.-10:00 p.m.

Tree Lighting
Old School Square 6:00 p.m.-9:00 p.m.
Info: (561) 279-1380, ext. 35

December 9
Holiday Boat Parade
Intracoastal Waterway 6:30 p.m.
Info: (561) 278-0200

December 10
Holiday Parade
Atlantic Avenue 6:00 p.m.
Info: (561) 243-7277

Kids Day at the Tree
Old School Square 10:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m.
Info: (561) 279-1380, ext. 35

December 17
Breakfast With Santa
Delray Beach Marriott
8:00 a.m. & 10:00 a.m. seatings
Info: 279-1380, ext. 35

December 31
First Night 2006 New Year's Celebration
"Dance the Night Away" Cost: \$7.00
Tickets and Info: Call 279-1380, ext 35

January 6
New Delray Beach Public Library
Opening Premier Event 7:00 p.m.
100 West Atlantic Avenue
Info: 266-0799

January 14
Lupus Foundation 5K Walk
Anchor Park along A1A Registration:
7:00 a.m. Info: 279-8606

January 16
Martin Luther King Jr. Parade & Breakfast
Info: 279-8883

January 17-21
Fotofusion-Palm Beach Photographic Centre.
Info: (561) 276-9797 or www.workshop.org

January 19
Art & Jazz on the Avenue
Atlantic Avenue, Pineapple Grove
6-10:00 p.m.

January 21-22
Howard Allen Art Show
Atlantic Avenue Beachside
10:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m.
Over 100 art and craft booths.
Info: (954) 472-3755

January 30-February 5
International Tennis Championships
Delray Beach Tennis Stadium
Info and tickets: (561) 330-6000 or
www.yellowtennisball.com

January 31
Annual Town Hall Meeting
Crest Theatre at Old School Square 7:00 p.m.
Info: (561) 243-7050

MyDelrayBeach.com

CARVER ESTATES YOUTH PROGRAM BECOMES AUBURN AVENUE YOUTH PROGRAM

Due to the extensive damage to Carver Estates caused by hurricane Wilma, and the subsequent exodus of 190 families, the Carver Estates Youth Program is also moving. This program has provided out-of-school activities for K-12 students since 1991. Services are still needed because many of the youth are staying with relatives near by. In January 2006, the Youth Program will relocate to the Auburn Trace Community Center, thanks to the generosity of the management, and begin operating as the Auburn Avenue Youth Program. Renovations and supplies are needed in order to make this move possible. If you are interested in helping the organization make this transition, please contact Kathy Fryer at: 561-266-0191 or email: fryup2001@adelphia.net.

HURRICANE RECOVERY AIDED BY QUICK RESPONSE

While Hurricane Wilma pounded Palm Beach and neighboring counties, the City was ready to mobilize staff to respond to the needs of our residents. Additional firefighters and police officers were on shift to address critical needs in the aftermath of the storm. The City's Emergency Operations Center handled over 4,500 calls for information and Fire-Rescue personnel responded to approximately 300 emergency incidents (twice the normal level) from the time the storm arrived and the three days that followed. The Police Department responded to calls for service, maintained curfews, and directed traffic at major intersections.

When it was safe to go outside, employees from Parks & Recreation, Environmental Services and Public Works were deployed to cut down trees, clear roadways, and maintain our water supply. Major thoroughfares were passable within 24 hours after the storm. Water pressure was lost due to the number of system leaks created by trees falling and breaking mains and service lines. As leaks were isolated and repaired, pressure was restored. A fleet of generators was fueled, deployed, and rotated as necessary to minimize sewer overflows. However, water pressure was maintained at reduced levels until power was restored.

City staff and volunteers distributed ice, water and some food items for nine days at Pompey Park. Over 10,000 bags of ice and water were given out or delivered to various senior adults communities each day. At the request of FEMA, the City established a Temporary Housing Operating Center to help storm victims register for temporary housing benefits.

The second debris collection pass is underway, which includes collection of construction debris. Debris collection should be completed in January. Residents are reminded to separate vegetation debris and construction debris (fences, roof materials, etc.) into separate piles and to keep debris piles in the yard and not on the road. Residents are also reminded to not place debris piles over fire hydrants or storm drains and to keep intersection corners free from debris. **Check the City's website at mydelraybeach.com under the Hurricane Wilma page for regular updates on the progress of the debris pickup.**

While the response to Hurricane Wilma was successful, improvements can always be made. The City Commission has authorized staff to proceed with acquiring an emergency radio broadcast system to enable the broadcast of emergency information specific to the City. Look for more information on this program in 2006.

SAFELY STORING YOUR GENERATOR AND FUEL

Be sure to follow the manufacturer's recommendations when preparing your portable generator for storage. The fuel tank should be emptied by running the generator until all fuel is consumed; remember to distance your gas powered generator at least 5 feet away from your house, as a minimum. Winds often change and therefore, the further away the better. In addition, make sure the exhaust fumes are projected away from your home. Exhaust fumes can spread and enter through any opening. Do not run generators indoors, under the eaves, near windows, doors, or in the garage. Remember to let the unit cool before putting it away. **If you have large amounts of stored gasoline (non-oil mixed), consider using it in your vehicle rather than storing it for a long time.**

Spilled gasoline or even the escaped vapors could cause a flashback to the pilot light of any appliance. Store gasoline away from any appliances that have a pilot light. This is a common issue in garage areas where gas water heaters are often located. While there are approved plastic containers, these often have caps or seals that can get lost. The best way to safely store gasoline is in a heavy duty, self-closing approved metal gasoline safety can marked with letters UL (approved by Underwriters Laboratory). Unapproved plastics could leak, and glass containers could ignite if dropped and start a fire. Gasoline should never be stored inside your home. **For more information on Generator and Fuel Storage and Generator Safety, click on Safety Tips on the Fire-Rescue Section of the City's website at MyDelrayBeach.com or call Fire-Rescue at 243-7425. Also visit the following websites for additional information: www.nfpa.org www.api.org and www.pei.org**

15TH ANNUAL DELRAY BEACH HOLIDAY TOY DRIVE NEEDS YOUR HELP

It's never too late to bring a lot of joy to a local child who may not otherwise receive gifts from Santa. Please help by providing a new, unwrapped toy for boys and girls, ages 3 to 12 (gift cards may also be donated for children 12 & up) and drop them off at: Delray Beach Police Department, 300 West Atlantic Avenue; any Delray Beach Fire Station; Chamber of Commerce, 64 SE Fifth Avenue; Cornell Museum of Art at Old School Square, 51 N. Swinton Avenue; or Delray Beach Community Center, 50 NW First Avenue next to City Hall. Drop off locations are also available at a number of area businesses. Checks can be made payable to Delray Citizens for Delray Police and sent to Boston's on the Beach, 40 South Ocean Boulevard, Delray Beach, FL 33483. December 19 is the final day to donate gifts. Volunteers are needed to wrap and deliver gifts. For more information, call Office Jeff Messer at 243-7841 or Jennifer Buce at 243-7138. The Toy Drive is presented by Delray Citizens for Delray Police and Delray Beach Fire Rescue.