

# News for Neighborhoods



CITY OF DELRAY BEACH - January 2008



## 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 Manadjè Vil-la*

**Police Department 243-7888**  
*Departamento de la Policía*  
*Depatmin Polis*

**Fire Department 243-7400**  
*Parque de Bomberos*  
*Depatman pou Dife*

**City Clerk's Office 243-7050**  
*Oficina del Actuario de la Ciudad*  
*Biwo Komi 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**  
*Linea 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](http://MyDelrayBeach.Com)

## HAPPY NEW PARKING YEAR IN DELRAY BEACH

After several years of planning, negotiating and acquiring property, considering over a dozen design submissions and finally selecting a contractor for construction, the Old School Square Parking Garage has been completed and is ready for public use. Located adjacent to the Old School Square Cultural Complex and Outdoor Pavilion, the five level structure provides retail and office space on the ground floor with four levels of parking above the street with a total of 528 parking spaces. **Entrances to the Old School Square Garage are on NE 1st Avenue.**



Old School Square Parking Garage

The advent of the Old School Square Garage will ease downtown parking for residents, shoppers and visitors in addition to the **Federspiel Garage on SE 1st Avenue** which was opened in September and has 200 parking spaces. For the time being, both the Federspiel Garage and Old School Square Garage will be open and free to public use most daytime hours. Paid parking at both the Federspiel and Old School Square garages will be in force during selected Special Events, such as Art & Jazz on the Avenue, First Night on New Year's Eve, the International Tennis Championships and major weekend festivals.

Both garages are conveniently located in the central downtown area within walking distance to popular boutiques and restaurants.

Negotiations are being held with King's Gourmet Market, which has a location in Boca Raton, to open a new and much anticipated market at the Old School Square Garage site. Their goal is to be open for business by the Fall of 2008. There is no doubt King's Gourmet Market will become a major factor for the continuing progress along Pineapple Grove Way and attract many out-of-town customers as well as the growing downtown residential population.

The Federspiel and Old School Square Garages will provide both residents and visitors with convenient parking. The South County Courthouse Garage would be made available during major weekend events at Old School Square or the Delray Beach Stadium and Tennis Center.

Paid parking will continue along A1A and the beach municipal parking lots for patrons of the businesses in the area and beach goers. New meters that accept coins and smart cards will be installed along A1A and multi-space meters which will accept credit cards in addition to coins and smart cards will be installed in parking lots.

## ANNUAL CITIZEN'S ROUNDTABLE JANUARY 30, 2008 AT OLD SCHOOL SQUARE



The Annual Citizen's Roundtable will be at Old School Square, 51 N Swinton Ave, on January 30, 2008 at 7:00 pm. Residents are encouraged to attend and participate in discussions on issues and concerns involving the City of Delray Beach and its local government.

Mayor Rita Ellis will provide opening remarks in the Crest Theatre followed by presentations from Delray Beach Planning and Zoning, the Community Redevelopment Agency and City Manager David T. Harden. At the conclusion of the presentations, the audience will be invited to

adjourn to the Old School Square Gymnasium and join in roundtable discussions facilitated by City officials and staff. The goal is to promote constructive dialogue between the City and the community in an effort to better understand and address the needs of Delray Beach residents.

The Annual Report Edition of Hometown Connection will be distributed at the Citizen's Roundtable summarizing the City's accomplishments in 2007 and goals for 2008 and beyond.

For more information, contact the Public Information Office at (561) 243-7190.

*City of Character Trait of the Month: **RESPONSIBILITY** (Duty, Accountability, Pursue Excellence, Self-Control) Do what you are supposed to do. Persevere: Keep on trying! Always do your best. Use self-control. Be self-disciplined. Think before you act. Consider the consequences. Be accountable for your choices.*



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## EVENTS & ACTIVITIES

### JAN. – FEB. 2008

#### January 10

Mayor's Interfaith Prayer Breakfast  
Delray Beach Golf Club  
7:15 AM  
Info: (561) 279-1380 ext 22

#### January 15

City Commission Meeting  
Commission Chambers  
City Hall 6:00 PM  
Info: (561) 243-7000

#### January 15-19

FOTOFusion  
55 NE 2nd Ave  
Info: (561) 276-9797

#### January 17

Art and Jazz on the Avenue  
Atlantic Ave  
6:00 pm – 10:00 pm  
Info: (561) 279-1380

#### January 19 - 20

19th Annual Downtown Delray  
Beach Festival of the Arts  
Atlantic Ave and A1A  
10:00 AM – 5:00 PM  
Info: (954) 472-3755

#### January 21 - 26

Palm Beach Poetry Festival 2008  
Old School Square  
Info: (561) 868-2063

#### January 30

Annual Citizen's Roundtable  
Old School Square  
7:00 pm  
Info: (561) 243-7000

#### February 5

City Commission Meeting  
Commission Chambers  
City Hall 6:00 PM  
Info: (561) 243-7000

#### February 8-10

Garlic Fest  
Old School Square  
Info: (561) 279-0907

#### February 9

Fire Rescue Open House  
Fire Rescue Headquarters  
501 W Atlantic Ave  
10:30 AM – 1:30 PM  
Info: (561) 243-7456

#### GreenMarket in the Park

Worthing Park, 150 E Atlantic Ave  
Saturdays, 8:00 AM – 1:00 PM  
Info: (561) 276-7511

**MyDelrayBeach.com**

## PROPOSED TAX REFORM AMENDMENT COMES WITH PROS AND CONS



When Delray Beach residents go to the polls on January 29th to vote for or against a proposed constitutional amendment on tax reform, they will be casting ballots on a complicated issue that could benefit some property owners and negatively impact others.

City leaders are hoping residents will fully understand the impact of the amendment before casting their votes.

Under the proposal, the current \$25,000 homestead exemption on assessed property value would increase to \$50,000. In Delray Beach, there are close to 17,000 properties that currently receive a homestead exemption. An increase in the exemption would likely result in a tax reduction on many of those properties, although an estimated 2,412 parcels with an assessed value below \$50,000 will not qualify for the exemption. Another 2,496 parcels with values between \$50,000 and \$75,000 will only qualify for a portion of the exemption.

Under the current proposed structure of the amendment, an estimated 4,900 homes will not see the full exemption. Also, the additional exemption would not apply to the portion of taxes paid to the school district which is approximately 40% of Delray Beach property tax bills.

The amendment would also provide for portability of the Save Our Homes provision, which could benefit those planning to move.

At the same time the amendment could have a negative impact on property owners who do not have a homestead exemption. In Delray, about 45 percent of properties, some 14,000, do not have a homestead exemption.

"Our City Commission and many other cities agree that tax reform is badly needed because there are inequities," City Manager David Harden said. "We don't feel that what's on the ballot addresses that."

Among the concern of City leaders is that the amendment could create greater inequities and shift even more of the tax burden to new homebuyers, part time residents and owners of businesses and commercial properties.

While it is still unknown what impact the amendment could have on the city's overall revenue, Harden said the City Commission could decide to increase the tax rate, if needed, to ensure revenue in the next fiscal year is the same as the current year. That could further increase the tax burden on those properties without a homestead exemption.

For now, Delray Beach is waiting to see what voters decide and City leaders urge that residents consider both sides of the issue before making their choice.

## PRESIDENTIAL PREFERENCE PRIMARY JANUARY 29, 2008



The Presidential Preference Primary is Tuesday, January 29, 2008. Polling locations in the City of Delray Beach will be open from 7:00 am to 7:00 pm. Where you vote depends on your Precinct Number, which is located on your Voter Identification Card. If you are unable to locate your Precinct Number, it is available on the Supervisor of Elections web site at [www.pbcelections.org](http://www.pbcelections.org) or by contacting their office at (561) 656-6200.

Please check the current list as provided by the Palm Beach County Supervisor of Elections. For a complete list of all polling locations in Delray Beach, visit [www.pbcelection.org](http://www.pbcelection.org).

### CITY OF DELRAY BEACH PRECINCTS BY LOCATION

|                                  |                          |                                |                        |
|----------------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------------|------------------------|
| 3184 Church Of The Palms         | 1960 N Swinton Ave       | 4084 St Pauls Episcopal Church | 188 S Swinton Ave      |
| 4010 West Park Baptist Church    | 4004 Lake Ida Rd         | 4166 Abbey Delray South        | 1717 Homewood Blvd     |
| 4012 Banyan Creek Elem School    | 4243 Sabal Lakes Rd      | 4094 Orchard View Elem School  | 4050 Old Germantown Rd |
| 4013 Barwick Road Baptist Church | 500 Barwick Rd           | 5062 Delray Beach Golf Club    | 2200 Highland Ave      |
| 4014 Pines Of Delray N Clubhse   | 1641 NW 18th Ave         | 7142 Church Of The Palms       | 1960 N Swinton Ave     |
| 4016 Banyan Creek Elem School    | 4243 Sabal Lakes Rd      | 7144 Delray Beach Library      | 100 W Atlantic Ave     |
| 4018 Veterans Park Rec Center    | 802 NE 1st St            | 7146 Lakeview Baptist Church   | 2599 N Swinton Ave     |
| 4048 Veterans Park Rec Center    | 802 NE 1st St            | 7148 Church Of The Palms       | 1960 N Swinton Ave     |
| 4050 Country Manors Clubhse      | 4900 Country Manors Blvd | 7150 Temple Sinai              | 2475 W Atlantic Ave    |
| 4052 Lakeview Baptist Church     | 2599 N Swinton Ave       | 7152 West Park Baptist Church  | 4004 Lake Ida Rd       |
| 4054 Lakeview Baptist Church     | 2599 N Swinton Ave       | 7154 Pompey Park Rec Center    | 1101 NW 2nd St         |
| 4056 West Park Baptist Church    | 4004 Lake Ida Rd         | 7156 Delray Beach Library      | 100 W Atlantic Ave     |
| 4058 Delray Beach Golf Club      | 2200 Highland Ave        | 7158 Delray Beach Library      | 100 W Atlantic Ave     |
| 4059 Delray Beach Golf Club      | 2200 Highland Ave        | 7160 Veterans Park Rec Center  | 802 NE 1st St          |
| 4060 505 Club                    | 505 SE 5th Ave           | 7162 Temple Sinai              | 2475 W Atlantic Ave    |
| 4062 Emmanuel Catholic Church    | 15700 S Military Trl     | 7164 Temple Sinai              | 2475 W Atlantic Ave    |
| 4064 Orchard View Elem School    | 4050 Old Germantown Rd   | 7166 Village Academy           | 400 SW 12th Ave        |
| 4066 Pines Of Delray East        | 2451 Black Olive Blvd    | 7168 Delray Beach Comm Center  | 50 NW 1st Ave          |
| 4068 Pines Of Delray East        | 2451 Black Olive Blvd    | 7170 Delray Beach Library      | 100 W Atlantic Ave     |
| 4070 505 Club                    | 505 SE 5th Ave           | 7172 Veterans Park Rec Center  | 802 NE 1st St          |
| 4072 Delray Bch First Baptist    | 16333 S Military Trl     | 7174 Temple Sinai              | 2475 W Atlantic Ave    |
| 4076 Delray Bch First Baptist    | 16333 S Military Trl     | 7176 St Pauls Episcopal Church | 188 S Swinton Ave      |
| 4080 Lake Delray Apartments      | 700 Lindell Blvd         | 7178 Boca-Delray Ch Of Christ  | 620 Bluebird Dr        |
| 4082 Boca-Delray Ch Of Christ    | 620 Bluebird Dr          |                                |                        |

## EARLY VOTING INFORMATION

**DATES:** January 14-27, 2008

**TIMES:** Monday – Friday 10:00 am – 6:00 pm, Saturday/Sunday 10:00 am – 2:00 pm

**LOCATIONS:**

Palm Beach County Library, West Atlantic Avenue Branch, 7777 W Atlantic Ave  
Supervisor of Elections Office South County, 345 S Congress Ave