

SEPTEMBER 2001 CITY CHARTER REVISIONS PROPOSED

After several months of meetings and much discussion, the Charter Review Committee is proposing the following changes to the City's Charter:

Term Limits-Eliminate term limits or keep the six-year term limit but provide that partial terms served as a result of an election also do not count towards term limits.

Vacancy in Office of Mayor-Provides that an election be held to fill an anticipated vacancy in the office of Mayor that results because the sixth year of elected office is reached before the Mayor's two year term expires.

Votes Necessary to Remove City Manager-Permits removal upon three affirmative votes.

Extraordinary Vacancies-In the event a majority of the Commissioners are unable to serve, an election will be held within 90 days of the appointment of the temporary Commissioners by the Governor.

Power to Appoint-Eliminates the power of the City Commission to ratify the employment of a former City Commissioner to a City position within the first year after serving on the Commission.

Initiative Process-Provides that in an Initiative Petition election, not only may a new ordinance be proposed, but an ordinance repealing existing ordinances may also be proposed, and there is no 60 day limitation on starting the process.

Readability-Simplifies the language in the City Charter and provides for maps of City boundaries and Planning areas, and by reorganizing.

The Charter Review Committee is expected to present its proposals to the City Commission at the workshop on September 11th. The City Commission will then review the proposed changes and decide whether or not to put one or all these items on the ballot. If the City Commission decides to move forward with the proposals, the public will have an opportunity to speak to the Commission at the Second Reading. Voters will then be given the opportunity to vote on the proposed changes in the March election.

MEETINGS RESCHEDULED

Due to holidays in September, several meetings have been rescheduled.

The City Commission's regular meetings will be held on Tuesday, September 4th and Wednesday, September 19th.

The **Education Board** will meet on Monday, September 10th and Monday, September 24th at 5:30 p.m.

The **Planning & Zoning Board** will meet on Monday, September 24th at 6:00

NEW PROJECTS LISTED ON PLANNING WEBSITE

The Planning and Zoning Department has recently added a new feature to its website. This feature provides information on upcoming projects which will be considered by the Planning and Zoning Board, Site Plan Review and Appearance Board, Historic Preservation Board and the City Commission. This information includes a brief description of the project, the meeting dates before the Board and the name of the assigned planner.

You can access this information by visiting the Planning and Zoning Department's website at www.delrayplanning.org and click on the "Upcoming Projects" hyperlink. Comments on any of the projects listed may be e-mailed to the assigned planner by clicking on the name of the project

MAJOR SCHROEDER NAMED CITY'S NEW POLICE CHIEF

Joseph L. (Larry) Schroeder, a 22 year veteran of the Delray Beach Police Department, has been sworn in as the City's new Police Chief. He replaces Richard Overman who retired after serving as Chief in Delray Beach for ten years.

Chief Schroeder is a third generation resident of Delray Beach who joined the Delray Beach Police Department in 1978, after completing 4 years in the United States Marine Corps. Most of his police career has been with Patrol Operations. He has also served in Training, Internal Affairs and in Investigations.

Married for 26 years, Chief Schroeder and his wife, Terri, have a daughter Melissa (22) and son, Chris (17).

OCEANOGRAPHIC BOAT AND WILDLIFE TOUR

Join the Parks & Recreation Department on the Harbor Branch Oceanographic Boat and Campus Wildlife Tour on **Saturday, October 20, 2001**. Tour the 600-acre campus by tram. You will see and learn about Oceanographic Research at Harbor Branch, Wildlife Sanctuary, and Aquaculture Pavilion with live displays of freshwater marine animals. Also, tour the Indian River Lagoon on a pontoon boat while learning about the history and ecology of the Indian River Lagoon. Bus will depart Veterans Park at 8:00 a.m. and will return at approximately 4:00 p.m. The cost is \$48 per person, which includes bus transportation to and from the campus, tour admission and boat tour. Please bring a brown bag lunch.

For more information, call 243-7350.

HELPFUL TIPS FOR SURVIVING A STORM

By Fire Lt. Joe Liguori

Knowing what to do when a storm approaches will increase your chances of protecting your property and surviving the storm. Delray Beach Fire Rescue has this advice for citizens when a storm warning is in place:

- Shutter your house immediately.
- Gather family members and have enough provisions for at least three days.
- Use the "Buddy System." Never go anywhere alone. Stay in pairs for your own safety.
- Children may become extremely frightened during a storm. Keep calm and assure them constantly that they are safe because you have taken the necessary precautions.

Finally, remain calm, and monitor weather reports for hurricane watches and warnings, and follow your own emergency plan for your home.

The City has an emergency plan in case a major storm strikes our area. In the aftermath, the City will mobilize the Community Emergency Response Teams (C.E.R.T.) to assist our public safety officers. Initial Assessment Teams will be sent out to survey the damage and notify the Emergency Operations Center so the proper services can be provided. The City has contracted with a private firm to respond after the storm to deal with debris removal, which is usually the bulk of the work needed to be done at that time.

If necessary, the County can ask the Governor to declare the region a disaster area, which triggers automatic aid from the Federal Government.

Statewide, there exists a mutual aid plan among its cities and counties to transfer assets to the stricken areas. In addition to the aforementioned private contractor, all the City's resources will have been mobilized to provide food for emergency workers who would have been on recall status at the various fire stations around the city.

INSTRUCTORS NEEDED

Instructors are needed at Pompey Park and Veterans Park for the fall, winter and spring seasons. Fill your spare hours and earn while teaching your special talent. Instructors are needed in aerobics, cooking, arts and crafts, children's activities, call and various dance styles. **For more information call Pompey Park (243-7359) or Veterans**

HOLISTIC SUPPORT GROUP FOR SENIORS

The Parks & Recreation Department is offering a new class for seniors at the Veterans Park facility. The Basic Chi Gong/Energy Work Holistic Support Group for seniors will be held every Wednesday and Friday morning from 11:00 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. The cost is \$7 per class.

Participants will learn to view health problems as opportunities for personal growth using everyday language and a Body-Mind-Spirit approach found in healing practices of all cultures or religions. They will learn how to identify how stress, negative emotions, belief systems and patterns block or limit us, eventually manifesting in our body as disease.

Advice will be given on how to make lifestyle changes that foster health, increased vitality, balance and spiritual connectedness. **For more information,**

NEED TO STORE A BOAT?

Parks & Recreation has room to store 60 sailboats on the north end of the beach.



Existing permit holders will have until September 14, 2001 to renew their permits at the Community Center, 50 NW 1st Avenue, between 8:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m., Monday-Friday. Any remaining permits will be sold to Delray Beach residents beginning September 17, 2001.

The total cost of the permit is \$212. Applicants must show proof of boat ownership by showing a bill of sale. One permit per person, per family. Registrants must provide proof of City residency by a valid residency card. No other documentation will be accepted. Residency cards may be obtained at the City Clerk's office in City Hall at a cost of \$10.

All boats must exhibit a properly attached valid permit by Friday, October 5, 2001 or the boat will be removed from the beach. The boat owner shall pay all costs of towing and storage before the boat will be released. **For more information, call Gail Vanhove at 243-7257.**

PROSTATE CANCER AWARENESS MONTH

September is Prostate Cancer Awareness Month – a national event promoted by Mayors across the country through their organization, The United States Conference of Mayors. Mayor David W. Schmidt and his fellow mayors recognize that prostate cancer is the most commonly diagnosed nonskin cancer among men in America.

The Mayors are urging men to take responsibility for their prostate health by talking to their health care providers to learn more about the disease and, when appropriate, to get screened.

The statistics support the Mayors' concern. Nationally, more than 198,100 men will learn they have the disease in 2001, and over 31,500 men will lose their lives to it. One-quarter of prostate cancer cases are found in men under 65 during their prime years at work. And African American men are disproportionately affected by prostate cancer.

During Prostate Cancer Awareness Month, men should talk with their health care providers about this disease so that they can make informed decisions about maintaining their prostate health. Remember, early detection can save lives.

WATERCOLOR ARTISTS TO EXHIBIT AT CORNELL

The Florida Watercolor Society will present its 30th Annual Exhibition at the Cornell Museum of Art and History at Old School Square from **September 14-November 11, 2001**. The Opening Reception will be held Friday evening, **September 21** from 5:30 to 8:00 P.M.

The juried exhibition will be held in conjunction with the organization's annual convention and meeting of its members. The exhibition is considered one of the top watercolor exhibits in the country and attracts several thousand visitors.

The Florida Watercolor Society is a non-profit corporation whose purpose is to contribute to the cultural atmosphere of the state through the promotion of the art of watercolor. The 1,100 plus members are located throughout the state of Florida.

DISCOVER THE LIBRARY

Here are some events that will take place at the library during September.

Sept. 10-**"Skin Care & Make-up Techniques for Women of Color"** presented by Lorna Myers. 2:00 p.m.

Sept. 11-**"Sexuality for the Golden Years"** presented by educator Marilyn Brand. 2:00 p.m.

Sept. 11-**Evening Book Group, "Two Lives"** by William Trevor. 6:30 p.m.

Sept. 12-**"A Glimpse into Japanese Gardens"** presented by Fran Nolan of the Morikami Museum. 2:00 p.m.

Sept. 12-**"How to Create a Balanced Life"** presented by Joy Moates-Homan. 6:30 p.m.

Sept. 15-**"How to Start or Improve a Small Business, Franchise or Home Based Business"** presented by SCORE. 9:30-11:30 a.m. For more information call 278-0277.

Sept. 22-**"Small Business Seminar"** presented by James Gamble of IRS. 9:30 a.m.-3:30 p.m.

Sept. 24-**Oprah Book Club, "House of Sand and Fog"** by Andre Dubus III. 1:00 p.m.

LIVE IN A FLOOD ZONE?

If you are planning to purchase a home and are not sure whether the structure is located in an area of special flood hazard, help is available at City Hall. The Building Division has information available to assist new and existing homeowners to determine if a particular parcel appears to be within a flood zone.

Information on flood insurance panels and elevations, flood zones, maps and mitigation can be reviewed in the Building Division at City Hall weekdays from 8:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m.

The City is continuing to take steps to reduce flood insurance premiums and reduce the risk of flooding by maintaining all of the habitable space at the 100 year flood plan; maintaining certificates of elevations on all structures and habitable; maintaining a stormwater management program; and improving the infrastructure. **For more information, call 243-7200.**

PUBLICATIONS EDITOR
CITY OF DELRAY BEACH
100 N.W. FIRST AVENUE
DELRAY BEACH, FLORIDA 33444

Delray Beach
All-America City
Winner
2001