

news for NEIGHBORHOODS

CITY OF DELRAY BEACH — NOVEMBER 2003

C. SPENCER POMPEY MEMORIALIZED WITH SCULPTURE IN DELRAY BEACH CITY HALL

On Friday, October 17, 2003, in the main lobby of Delray Beach City Hall, a bust of C. Spencer Pompey was unveiled before an audience of nearly 200 friends and admirers of the Delray Beach luminary. City Hall will be the permanent home for the sculpture of a man who helped shape not only the history of Delray Beach, but the many lives he touched as a teacher, a coach, mentor and friend. Mr. Pompey passed away in July of 2001 at the age of 85.

C. Spencer Pompey was an educator, a distinguished principal and a great motivator for over 40 years. He also played a significant role in the civil rights movement when he called upon the NAACP to assign an attorney to help defend their case dealing with equal pay for black teachers and importantly the equalization of facilities which challenged the "separate but equal" concept. The attorney assigned was Thurgood Marshall who later became the first black Supreme Court Justice.

Pompey taught at Seacrest High School and became its Assistant Principal before moving on to Carver Middle School as its principal. In his retirement years, he worked with EPOCH, Inc., gathering information on the history of the black community in Delray Beach.



*Bronze bust of Spencer Pompey
by George Gadson*

County Commissioner Addie Greene has been in the forefront to recognize the legacy Pompey left to the entire community. "In all communities, whether African-American or white, there are people known by the work they do," Greene said. "Anybody from Tallahassee to West Palm Beach knows Spencer Pompey." He also convinced the City of Delray Beach to set aside land for a recreational park that now bears his name: Pompey Park.



(left to right) Mary Lee Keys, mother of Mrs. Ruth Pompey, Hattie Ruth Pompey, Cheryl Howard, daughter of Spencer Pompey, and granddaughter of Spencer Pompey, Ashley Howard

To honor C. Spencer Pompey, a group of citizens commissioned a bust of Pompey funded by private donations. The C. Spencer Pompey committee consists of: Kathy Aguirre of the Greater Delray Chamber of Commerce, Lula Butler, Director of Community Improvement for the City of Delray Beach, William J. Condry, Col. US Army retired, Joe Gillie of Old School Square, Commissioner Alberta McCarthy, Frank and Nilsa McKinney, Mayor Jeff Perlman, Cynthia Ridley, Alfred "Zack" Straghn, Elizabeth Wesley and William and Sharon Wood who chaired the committee that contributed the bronze Pompey bust to the City.

DELRAY BEACH RESIDENTS UTILITY BILLS ARE IN THE MAIL IN ENVELOPES BEGINNING IN NOVEMBER

It's been a long time coming, but beginning in November, City of Delray Beach utility bills will come on new forms and in envelopes. The old post card system has been buried. The new utility bills come on standard stationary size sheets with plenty of room for additional information for the customer and space for customers to send messages back to City Hall. Best of all, return envelopes are included. The City services some 19,700 customers monthly.

The U.S. Postal Service was finding it increasingly difficult handling the small postcards and trouble reading the bar codes that were frequently mangled by sorting machinery. Customers frequently complained about misplacing or losing the postcards and missing payments. Now, that's all past history. Although it will cost the City more in mailing expenses to send out bills in envelopes, the benefit to City Hall is that the bills incorporate space on front and back that can be utilized for information valuable to residents and businesses. Conversely, recipients of these bills have a space dedicated to their messages for Utility Billing or any other department of the City.

The utility forms are being printed by the City's Management Information Systems Division on a new laser printer recently installed. The laser printer will be utilized for other printing purposes including payroll, financial statements, budget documents, municipal forms and public service mailings, saving City Hall the cost of more expensive forms and outsourcing those services. "Over all," says Joe Safford, Director of Finance for the City, "the system should pay for itself in two to three years."



Water Treatment Lab Technician, Rita Taylor, shows Plumosa student Daniel Charlot how her department keeps Delray Beach water pure.

PLUMOSA SCHOOL STUDENTS SHADOW CITY STAFF TO EXPERIENCE CITY GOVERNMENT AT WORK

For the eleventh (11th) year in a row, the City of Delray Beach invited middle school students to spend a morning at City Hall and City facilities, shadowing members of the City staff in their workplace. On Monday, October 20, 2003, 23 fifth grade students from Plumosa School of Delray Beach arrived at City Hall first thing in the morning and met their adult partners to learn just how municipal government employees do their jobs.

The youngsters apply by writing an essay for the departments they think they would like to visit most. City staff participants read the essays that pertain to their particular department and the students are selected by way of their submissions.

ITALIAN ROSES'S 5TH ANNUAL GARLIC FEST MEANS DOLLARS AND SCENTS FOR DELRAY BEACH

The popular Delray Beach Garlic Festival debuts on Friday, November 7th at 5:00 pm on the grounds of Old School Square filling the air with music and the aroma of gourmet garlic cookery. The Garlic Fest, a non-profit organization, is a community event celebrating the "Art of

Garlic" and an opportunity for volunteer organizations that participate in the event to raise funds for their groups. Over 61 thousand dollars have been contributed to the volunteers who help during the Garlic Fest and some of those groups are Atlantic High Unity Club, Delray Beach Police Explorers, Banyan Creek Elementary School, the "505" Teen Center, and Youth Council.

Italian Rose is the title sponsor of the Delray Beach Garlic Fest which is a three day event starting Friday afternoon, November 7th, and continuing through the weekend; Saturday, November 8th, from 10:00 am to 11:00 pm and Sunday, November 9th, from 10:00 am to 6:00 pm.

The children's area will have face painting, singers, dancers, Sergeant Weatherspoon's K-9 demonstration, and even a Karate show. The main stage at the Old Square Pavilion will feature Bad Company on Friday night, the Little River Band Saturday evening, and Three Dog Night Sunday afternoon. Other musical groups will provide continuous entertainment throughout the festival. Admission to the festival is \$15.00 on Friday and \$10.00 on Saturday and Sunday. Children under 10 are free.

For more detailed information on the Garlic Fest and a map of where activities are located, check their web site at dbgarlicfest.com or call Nancy Stewart, (561) 274-4663.

DELRAY BEACH ESTABLISHES THE NEIGHBORHOOD ADVISORY COUNCIL TO IMPROVE COMMUNICATIONS BETWEEN CITY HALL AND RESIDENTS

During the "Decade of Excellence" that began in 1993, the City of Delray Beach took pride in all the efforts that were made involving its many diverse communities that propelled Delray Beach in becoming an All America City twice in those ten years. Recognizing that there is still much

to be done to realize the original Vision / 2010 strategies and the City's Master Plan, the City Commission has established a Neighborhood Advisory Council.

There are over 160 neighborhood associations within the City limits of Delray Beach. These include condominium associations, the intracostal and beach residents, and communities with a wide variety of needs from Lake Ida to Rosemont Park to Fairlawn to Andover. To consolidate the City's efforts to keep in touch with all the divergent interests of these communities, the Neighborhood Advisory Council has established 6 Appointment Zones from which volunteer members to the Council will be selected.

According to Lula Butler, Director of the Community Improvement Department, the purpose is to help maintain a broad-based community involvement with the residents, create neighborhood outreach initiatives, enhance communication on a regular basis, identify any potential threat to the stability of neighborhoods and enhance the quality of life in all communities.

Meetings of the Council will occur the third Monday of each month. The time of the first meeting will be announced when the Neighborhood Advisory Council has been selected. Two (2) members will come from each of the six zones and three (3) at large representatives may be selected from a community civic organization or business owner located within a neighborhood zone. Also, two (2) student representatives that reside in the City of Delray Beach or attend a Delray Beach school will join the council. This total of seventeen (17) community volunteers would make up the Neighborhood Advisory Council.

Interested individuals are encouraged to forward an application to the City Clerk's Office in City Hall. For further information, contact Karen Schell at (561) 243-7056 or check our web-site at mydelraybeach.com. Click on City Clerk under Departments and then Advisory Boards which will lead to an on-line application.

visit our website
www.mydelraybeach.com

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