

## FEBRUARY 2003

### CITY AWARDS 150th HOUSING GRANT TO LOCAL FAMILY

On January 23, 1996, the City Commission inaugurated the Delray Beach Renaissance Program in partnership with the Delray Beach Community Development Corporation, TED Center, the Community Redevelopment Agency, the Community Financing Consortium, the Federal Home Loan Bank of Atlanta and the Delray Beach Housing Authority. At a recent Commission Meeting, the 150<sup>th</sup> housing grant was awarded providing home ownership to a local family that might not have otherwise realized their dream.

Each potential homebuyer is required to attend a homebuyer's seminar sponsored by the Community Financing Corporation, Inc., the Renaissance Program's partner and first mortgage lender. The grant is secured by a Promissory Note/Second Mortgage approved by the City Attorney and requires the applicant to maintain ownership/residence for a specified period according to the amount of the Grant.

This year's recipient is the Angel Reyes family who moved to Florida from Puerto Rico about three years ago. Mrs. Reyes is employed at Marshall's and has two sons, Carlos, 12, and Joshua, 11. The property at 207 SW 9<sup>th</sup> Court in Delray Beach was appraised at \$99,500 and the holder of the first Mortgage is Republic Bank. The subsidy amount is \$22,500 from the City of Delray Beach.

### EDUCATION PROGRAM HONORED

The School District of Palm Beach County recognized Shelly Weil, Chairman of the Delray Beach Education Board, and Janet Meeks, the City's Education Coordinator for their outstanding program, PENCIL (Public Education Needs Civic Involvement in Learning), Principal For A Day Program.

The program has been a proven way to connect the private and public sectors creating partnerships that last long after the event itself. Mr. Weil has long been a civic activist for the benefit of Delray Beach. Janet Meeks pioneered the residents Academy to connect the community to the City. Mrs. Meeks is currently preparing this year's Neighborhood Summit, February 22nd, to be held at Old School Square.

### SPEAKERS ANNOUNCED FOR NEIGHBORHOOD SUMMIT

The City will hold its 3<sup>rd</sup> annual Neighborhood Summit, Saturday, February 22<sup>nd</sup>, from 8:00 a.m. through noon at Old School Square. The public is encouraged to attend these meetings for their own benefit and to stay current with those issues that affect not only Delray Beach, but all surrounding communities as well.

The morning will begin with registration and breakfast from 8:00-8:55 a.m.

The first session of workshops starting at 9:00 a.m. include :

- Homeowner's Association & Condo Law. Speaker: Keith Backer, Attorney.
- Refinancing Your Mortgage and Repairing Your Credit. Speaker: Derrick Lee, Consumer Credit Counseling Services, and Jerry Thaw, Citibank.
- Downtown Master Plan Overview. Presenters: Diane Colonna (CRA Director) and Vice-Mayor, Jeff Perlman.
- Help Boost Your Paycheck Through Earned Income Credit. Speaker: Charris Harrell, Tax Specialist: Wage and Investment, IRS.

The second round of workshops, starting at 10:00 a.m. include:

- Neighborhood Landscaping, "A Great Yard Is Not That Hard." Speaker: Nancy Davila, City Horticulturist.
- Downtown Master Plan Overview (Repeat)
- Refinancing Your Mortgage and Repairing Your Credit (Repeat)

The final round of workshops, beginning at 11:00 a.m., include:

- Making Strategic Task Team Work in Your Neighborhood. Speakers: Lula Butler, Community Improvement Director and Tom Meeteer, Code Enforcement Supervisor.
- Delray Beach Public Arts Program. Presenter: Glenn Weiss, Director Pineapple Grove Mainstreet & Artwalk
- Neighborhood Landscaping (Repeat)

Attendees may select from all three sessions and come away with a new commitment to the Neighborhood Summit's theme: "A look at what makes great neighborhoods."

Advanced reservations are welcome at a fee of \$10 and entry at the door will be \$15.

**For reservations and more information, please contact Winston Hudson at City Hall, (561) 243-7246.**

### DELRAY FIRE-RESCUE AWARDED GRANT

The City of Delray Beach was recently awarded a \$140,525 matching grant from the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA), U.S. Fire Administration, Assistance to Fire Fighters Grant Program. The City Commission officially accepted the grant at its regular Commission Meeting last month.

The grant allows the Fire-Rescue Department to upgrade its entire system of cardiac defibrillation equipment from "monophasic" units, to a new technology which is less damaging to the heart muscle when defibrillation is required. The Federal funding, combined with the City's contributory portion will support the purchase of ten (10) additional defibrillators with "biphasic" technology replacing the older units presently in service.

The 2000 census indicates 36% of the City's residents are over the age of 55. Persons in this age group are generally more susceptible to ventricular fibrillation; an irregular heart rhythm that disrupts the normal heartbeat and stops circulation. Ventricular fibrillation is the most common cause of sudden cardiac arrest. Defibrillation is the process of stopping ventricular fibrillation by sending a lifesaving pulse of electrical current to the heart.

While the Fire-Rescue Department has had defibrillators on all of its Advanced Life Support apparatus since 1978, biphasic technology is relatively new in the emergency, pre-hospital setting and was recommended by the Departmental Medical Director, Dr. Randall Wolff, as well as the Department's Emergency Medical Service Standards Committee. Clinical studies have shown that biphasic shocks have greater "first shock success" than monophasic applications and they normally use lower energy levels, thereby reducing the potential for damage to the heart caused by excessive energy delivered. Considering the high percentage of the community's senior population, these new defibrillators should benefit heart attack victims by reducing potential harm and increasing the survival rate.

All of the new defibrillators are expected to be in place by the end of March, 2003.



## MAYOR ACCEPTS CHILDREN'S HOME SOCIETY GRANT

The Children's Home Society of Florida, South Coastal Division, will receive a \$100,000 grant from the 3Com Corporation's Urban Challenge to encourage the application of new technologies to the educational process. The Urban Challenge program is modeled on 3Com's 1996 collaboration with the city of Boston, which transformed its 130 public schools into the nation's first fully-networked urban school system. Since then, the Urban Challenge program has awarded more than \$2 million in grants to other U.S. cities.

On Thursday, January 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2003, Mayor David Schmidt of Delray Beach, attended the U.S. Conference of Mayors in Washington, D.C., representing the Children Home Society for Palm Beach County to accept the \$100,000 grant.

The South Coastal Division of Florida's Children Home Society has a campus currently under construction in Palm Beach County which will serve as the cornerstone for the development, education, and family-strengthening programs serving over 25,000 children, youth, and families each year.

The 3Com Urban Challenge Grant will be used to provide the network infrastructure and telephone system, and also providing a high-speed wireless or fiber link between two buildings. **For further information, please call: Larry Geller / 3Com (508) 323-1415 or Lisa Mier / Children Home Society (561) 844-9785 xt.127.**

## MARCH COMMISSION MEETINGS RESCHEDULED

The City Commission have rescheduled their March, 2003, City Commission Meeting accordingly:

Thursday, March 13 at 6:00 p.m. / Ratification of the Municipal Election and Regular City Commission business. City Commission Chambers.

Tuesday, March 18<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 p.m. Regular City Commission Meeting in the City Commission Chambers.

Thursday, March 27<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 p.m. Annual Organizational meeting (Swearing in of new commission) in the City Commission Chambers, City Hall.

The public is invited and encouraged to attend all City Commission meetings.

## RENOVATIONS WILL CLOSE GOLF COURSE

The Delray Beach Municipal Golf Course will be closed from **May 5, 2003 to mid-September, 2003**, for a major upgrade of the course. Greens will be brought up to USGA standards, 12 new tee boxes will be installed, new putting and pitching greens to be added as well as a new irrigation system and pump station. The sand traps will be replenished with new sand. The course lake will be renovated to process reclaimed water in the future. The result will be an even better and more beautiful golf course for the enjoyment of residents and visitors.

The Delray Beach Golf Club dining rooms, pro-shop, bar, and driving range will remain open to the public throughout that period. Breakfast and lunch will continue to be served. All facilities for meetings, wedding receptions, clubs and public gatherings will be available as usual. **To arrange for any affair at the Delray Beach Golf Club, contact Beth Mullen at (561) 243-7385.**

## CHECK GIVEN TO KEITH STRAGHN FOUNDATION

The Parks & Recreation Department presented a check for \$1,500 to the Keith Straghn Foundation on January 28<sup>th</sup>, 2003. The presentation was held at Pompey Park.

The Parks & Recreation Department helped raise the money from the Annual Turkey Trot 5K Run and Healthwalk held in November at Anchor Park. The 5K run/walk along A1A, which is a certified course by the United States Track and Field Association, attracted over 260 people from all over South Florida.

The Keith Straghn Foundation was started 19 years ago by a vision Keith Straghn (1959-1995) had to make sure that a hot meal was available for anyone in the community on Thanksgiving Day. In the past 19 years, the foundation has served from 300 to over 6,500 plates in Delray Beach, Boca Raton, and Boynton Beach.

## DISCOVER THE LIBRARY

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

- Feb. 5-**Book Group:** *Understanding the Middle East, The Fortune Catcher.* 10:30 a.m.
- Feb. 5-**Authors Series,** *When Poetry Marries Art.* 2:00 p.m.
- Feb. 5-**Seminar:** *Sex, Lies & Rabis: Breaking A Sacred Trust.* 6:30 p.m.
- Feb. 6-**Lunch with Liz,** *Your #1 Relationship...You!* 12:-1:30 p.m.
- Feb. 7, 14, 21, 28-**Great Books Discussion.** 10:00 a.m.-Noon.
- Feb. 10-**Healthy Living Series:** *Striking a Balance for Good Health.* 2:00 p.m.
- Feb. 10-**Seminar:** *Hypnotherapy 101: The Power of the Mind.* 6:30 p.m.
- Feb. 10-**Healthy Living Series,** *Migraines Don't Need to Rule Your Life.* 2:00 p.m.
- Feb. 11-**Evening Book Group,** *A Fine Balance.* 6:30 p.m.
- Feb. 12-**Exploring the Delray Beach Cultural Loop,** *Digital Photography as Art.* 2:00 p.m.
- Feb. 12- **Seminar:** *Managing the Turbulence in Our Lives: A 21st Century View of Chaos.* 6:30 p.m.
- Feb. 13-**Mystery Book Group,** *Flesh and Blood.* 10:30 a.m.
- Feb. 16-**Valentine's Day Musical Matinee** featuring The Silver Nightingale, Laura Sue Wilansky. 2:00 p.m.
- Feb. 18-**Seminar:** *Blackbeard, Bluebeard & The Barefoot Mailman...History of South Florida* with Sandy Simon. 6:30 p.m.
- Feb. 19-**Seminar:** *Between the Lines-A Handwriting Analysis Program.* 2:00 p.m.
- Feb. 19-**Authors Series:** *Authors of Color.* 6:30 p.m.
- Feb. 20-**Seminar:** *Trash or Treasures-Free Antique Appraisal Show.* 2-4:00 p.m.
- Feb. 24-**Afternoon Book Group,** *A Fine Balance.* 1:00 p.m.
- Feb. 24-**Seminar,** *I would Rather Be Audited by the IRS Than Give a Speech.* 6:30 p.m.
- Feb. 25-**Seminar:** *A Journaling Workshop.* 10:30 a.m.
- Feb. 25-**Seminar:** *Building Relationships for Business & Personal Success.* 6:30 p.m.
- Feb. 26-**Authors Series,** *Florida Inns & B & B's,* 2:00 p.m.
- Feb. 27-**Seminar:** *Dream Power: Use Your Dreams to Change Your Life.* 2:00 p.m.

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