

news for NEIGHBORHOODS

CITY OF DELRAY BEACH — SEPTEMBER 2004



DELRAY BEACH OFFICER SKIP BROWN AND HAITIAN PATROL VOLUNTEER CAPTAIN WILNER ATHOURISTE TO ATTEND DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE CONFERENCE IN NATION'S CAPITOL

Officer Skip Brown, Volunteer Coordinator for the Delray Beach Police Department, and Volunteer Wilner Athouriste of Delray's Haitian Roving Patrol, have been invited by the Department of Justice to participate in *The Language of Justice Conference* next month.

The Civil Rights Division of the DOJ considers this a major event to create initiatives for people with Limited English Proficiency. With a rapidly growing immigrant population and many arriving from the Caribbean region, law enforcement officials, who come in direct contact with citizens and residents most frequently, need to know how to best communicate with diverse cultures and communities. The Language of Justice Conference will be held on Tuesday, September 21, 2004. Presentations will be made by Attorney General John Ashcroft and Assistant Attorney General for Civil Rights, R. Alexander Acosta.

Officer Skip Brown and volunteer Captain Athouriste will be panelists during the conference describing the origins of the Haitian Roving Patrol and Haitian Citizens Police Academy. Athouriste will speak of his personal experiences as a Haitian arriving in Florida with limited English proficiency, the challenges he faced and how he coped with them.

Officer Skip Brown has long been coordinating the Citizen's Police Academy out of which grew the Delray Beach Volunteer Haitian Roving Patrol program and after 9/11 the celebrated Home Front Security team.

These volunteer policing efforts are made up, for the most part, with very active and dedicated senior citizens who provide the Police Department with much needed administrative help and many more eyes and ears throughout the community. The Haitian Roving Patrol is made up of Creole speaking volunteers of middle age.

In the late 1980's and early '90's, the City of Delray Beach realized an unexpected migration of thousands of Haitian refugees, escaping the troubles in their native land, into the City's center. Challenged by the Haitian's sense of fear and mistrust of authority and the victimization crime rates, community leaders and residents joined forces to establish a community-based initiative that would turn the situation around. In 1995, the Haitian Citizen's Police Academy, believed to be the first of its kind in the Nation, was formed. An enthusiastic Haitian community embraced the program and the result was the Haitian Roving Patrol. Uniformed Haitian volunteers, unarmed, but in direct radio contact with regular police, patrol the Haitian community in marked cars; their presence giving those neighborhoods a new sense of security and connection to the City.

CITY OF DELRAY BEACH SENDS SUBSTANTIAL RESOURCES AND STAFF TO AID IN HURRICANE CHARLEY RECOVERY

The City of Delray Beach responded quickly to calls for help immediately following the devastating effects of Hurricane Charley in Southwest Florida. A Delray Beach Fire-Rescue team was the first to go, delivering a fully equipped Paramedic Unit with 2 personnel to the hard hit City of Port Charlotte Sunday, August 15th. The department also has an employee who is a member of the South Florida Disaster Medical Assistance Team working at a hospital in Charlotte County. Quick to follow, the Environmental Services Department dispatched 3 of the City's Public Utilities personnel with two portable generators and fuel to Punta Gorda, Monday, August 16th, to power their water and sewage systems that were completely down.

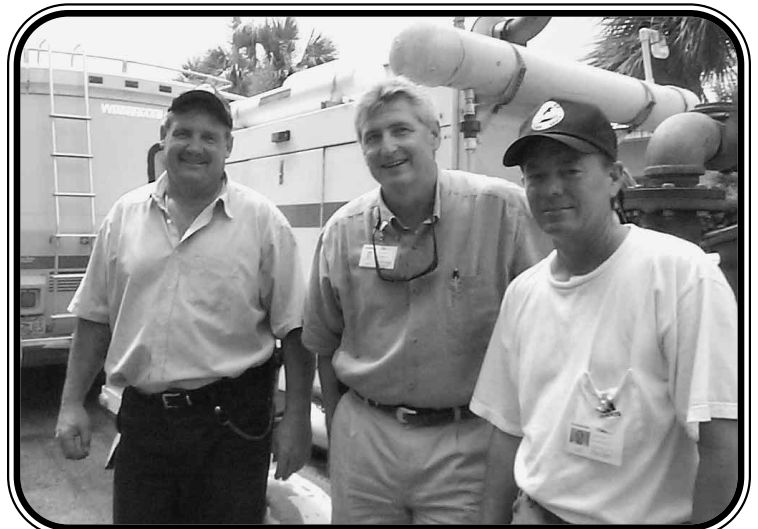
A team of six Delray Beach Police officers are assisting the City of Arcadia to take over patrol duties on the night shift so that local officers can have some time off. Delray Beach officers were expected to stay and provide their services for at least five days.

The Delray Beach Parks and Recreation Department, in coordination with the Florida Recreation and Parks Association, has organized crews to help clear the damage and debris done to Koreshan State Historic Site, located just south of Ft. Myers. A compliment of 10 personnel from Parks & Recreation along with 4 Public Works employees arrived at Koreshan Site Monday, August 23rd. They took 4 dump trucks, a bucket truck, a chipper, chain saws, power prunes, generators and fuel for the gas-powered equipment.

On Tuesday, August 24th, the Police Department sent an additional two dispatchers to relieve dispatchers in the town of Arcadia. They will be on assignment in Arcadia for at least seven days.

Many City of Delray Beach employees have expressed their desire to help with the myriad of details that must be attended in the recovery efforts. The City's Attorney's office has notified the Florida Bar Association, which has a Voluntary Bar component, that they are prepared to assist with issues such as insurance claims, consumer protection, bankruptcy, contractor repair problems and a host of legal quandaries that arise from this kind of disaster.

The public-at-large can also help by making a donation through the Red Cross at www.redcross-pbc.org or calling (561) 650-9132 between 9:00 am and 4:30 pm weekdays. Checks can be made out to Red Cross Greater Palm Beach Area Chapter and mailed to Red Cross – Palm Beach Area Chapter, 825 Fern Street, West Palm Beach, FL 33401. Everyone agrees that this will be a long time recovery.



Environmental Services Department Technicians Brian Jones, Deputy Director of Public Utilities, Dan Beatty and Technician Gary Harper went to Punta Gorda carrying generators to that hard hit community.

THE COUNCIL'S CORNER FROM THE NEIGHBORHOOD ADVISORY COUNCIL (NAC)

Improving Delray Beach Neighborhood by Neighborhood

The NAC is still scheduling reps from neighborhoods throughout the city to speak at our monthly meetings. Don't be left out, tell us about your community at an NAC monthly meeting. Call Janet Meeks, Education Coordinator, at 243-7231 to be placed on the schedule. Also, NAC members will even take a tour of your neighborhood or attend one of your meetings to learn about your livability issues if you call in a request. In our August 9th meeting we heard from board members of the Crosswinds and Eastwinds condo associations on landscaping issues and from the Beach Property Owners Association on their proposed architectural design guidelines.

Top three issues already expressed by neighborhood reps are: beautification, code enforcement and crime. The NAC will be offering open neighborhood workshops to address these issues starting in January for three consecutive weeks. Stay tuned for dates.

Our first neighborhood potluck dinner will be held in October at Old School Square for two dissimilar communities. They will be selected based on interest in participating and unfamiliarity with each other. The NAC is striving to introduce neighborhoods to each other that would not normally meet and discuss their issues and problem-solving successes. Other NAC plans are in the works and will be announced next month.

The NAC mission: *"Enhancing the quality of life in Delray Beach by educating, assisting and communicating with community associations and residents to improve their neighborhoods with the aid of available city services and resources."*

Karen Lustgarten – www.mydelraybeach.com

DELRAY BEACH STADIUM AND TENNIS CENTER SITE FOR 12TH ANNUAL INTERNATIONAL TENNIS CHAMPIONSHIPS



Big crowds expected for exceptional week of tennis at Millennium International Tennis Championships.

Mardy Fish, Olympic Silver Medalist, James Blake, Vince Spadea and Jan-Michael Gambill lead a group of world class tennis professionals who are scheduled to play in the 12th Annual International Tennis Championships at the Delray Beach Stadium and Tennis Center beginning on Monday, September 13, 2004.

They will be joined by fast rising stars on the pro tour including Mario Ancic who won an Olympic Bronze in doubles play, Ivo Karlovic from Croatia and Max Mirnyi of Belarus; all three among the tallest players and biggest servers in pro tennis. Greg Rusedski, last year's U.S. Open runner-up is also scheduled to play.

The International Tennis Championships in Delray Beach will immediately follow the 2004 U.S. Open in New York City and is the only ATP (Association of Tennis Professionals) tournament in the United States that week. Tournament play starts with opening ceremonies Monday, September 13th at 5:45 pm with the premier match starting at 7:30 pm.

Matches will be played through that week culminating with the finals on Sunday, September 19th at 2:00 pm. The total purse for this event is \$380,000.00. The schedule of matches is as follows:

Monday, September 13, 2004 / Opening ceremonies: 5:45 pm / Premiere match: 7:30 pm / Serving the Mayor to Serve Delray Beach charity event to follow the match.

Tuesday, Sept. 14th : Play begins at 5:30 pm

Wednesday, Sept. 15th : Play begins at 12:30 pm day session and at 5:30 pm for the evening session.

Thursday, Sept. 16th : Play begins at 12:30 pm day session and at 5:30 pm, evening session.

Friday, Sept. 17th : Play begins at 12:30 pm day session and at

5:30 pm, evening session.

Saturday, Sept. 18th : Play begins at 12:30 pm day session and at 7:30 pm, evening session.

Sunday, Sept. 19th : Finals begin at 2:00 pm

On the first evening, Monday, September 13th, following the premiere match, Mayor Jeff Perlman will be challenged to return service from one of the International Tennis Champion marquee players. Five balls will be served to the Mayor and as many of those hot serves he can return to any portion of his challenger's side of the court, local donors will make a contribution to the City of Delray Beach non-profit and charitable agencies.

Mark Baron, President of Match Point, Inc. and tournament director is very enthused about the quality of the players attracted to the Delray Beach event. "We are continuing to put together the best tournament in ITC history and we'll be able to offer our wild card slots to top-ranked players coming off the U.S. Open first rounds. The possibilities are really exciting."

Fans and visitors can see these marquee professionals by purchasing a tournament ticket package or reserved series packages for selected matches as well as tickets for each session. For more information on the 2004 tournament, including sponsorship and volunteering opportunities, please call (561) 330-6000 or check the Internet at www.matchpointinc.com.

**PUBLIC INFORMATION OFFICER
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DELRAY BEACH, FLORIDA 33444**

visit our website
www.mydelraybeach.com

The City shall furnish appropriate auxiliary aids and services where necessary to afford an individual with a disability an equal opportunity to participate in and enjoy the benefits of a service, program, or activity conducted by the City. Contact Doug Randolph, at (561) 234-7127, at least (24) hours prior to the program or activity in order for the City to reasonably accommodate your request.