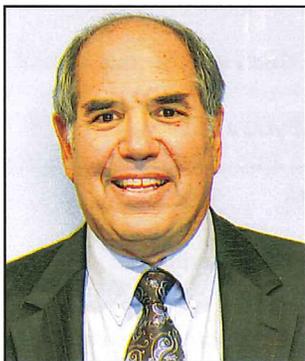


City of Satellite Beach

BEACHCASTER

YOUR OFFICIAL CITY NEWSLETTER • JANUARY - FEBRUARY 2015



Frank Catino,
Satellite Beach Mayor

From the Council Desk... By Mayor Frank Catino

The New Year is a good time to review past accomplishments and look ahead for our City. I'm pleased to report that we have made great progress in moving our City forward and have fully recovered from the unprecedented turbulence that weakened our City government in 2012. Here are some highlights:

■ **Increased Reserves.**

From a dangerously-low balance of only \$49,515 in our City's unrestricted reserves when Councilman Brimer, Councilwoman Gott, and I took office, our reserves today

are approximately \$802,000. Because of policy changes in our financial strategy enacted by ordinance, we expect to meet the Government Finance Officers Association's guidelines of at least two months of operating expenses (approximately \$1.4 million) in 2016, restoring our City's sound financial footing.

■ **Lowered Costs.** By changing insurance carriers, we've realized savings and increased benefits in health and liability insurance. We've saved substantial personnel costs by reorganizing staffing at City Hall, eliminating or combining certain positions, and outsourcing payroll to a private contractor instead of hiring a staff accountant. Our Department Heads have found ways to cut costs in their operations and continually look for further savings.

■ **Redesigned Budget.** To provide easy-to-read, in-depth financial information for our residents, we redesigned our budget and immediately won the prestigious Distinguished Budget Presentation Award from the Government Finance Officers Association. And we continue to receive clean audits each year.

■ **Upgraded Technology.** To increase productivity, we've replaced our antiquated email exchange server, Police Department Records Management System, and Recreation Department software (now allowing online program registration). We can now accept credit cards for permits and recreation charges, and we're in the process

of purchasing software to enable badly-needed integration among departments for code enforcement, business tax receipts, and field permitting.

■ **Streamlined Permitting.** Through the Space Coast Economic Development Commission's SNAP (Simple, Nimble, Accelerated Permitting) certification process, we've greatly streamlined our permitting process for development projects, reducing the time to obtain permits from three months to seven days without compromising building code requirements. This is part of our ongoing efforts to make Satellite Beach more business-friendly.

■ **Resumed Maintenance.** A victim of our recent economic downturn, badly-needed maintenance and upgrades on City facilities, equipment, roadways, and stormwater infrastructure have been resumed. Five aged police vehicles and two 20-year-old fire trucks have been replaced, and inadequate or deteriorated recreation facilities (including the Seahawks home football field) have been or will be upgraded.

■ **Enhanced Communication.** Not only have we resumed regular publication and distribution of our *Beachcaster* to all City residents and businesses, our City is also now using social media (Facebook) to keep our residents better informed of City business and activities. And this year, we will be redesigning our website to make it more attractive and user-friendly.

■ **Rejuvenated Redevelopment.** Eliminating wasteful spending on administrative costs, we have returned the activities of our Community Redevelopment Agency (CRA) to in-house staff. As a result, we have reduced CRA costs; updated our Community Redevelopment Plan to reflect a realistic five-year schedule for our final redevelopment projects; and completed plans to redevelop our A1A corridor, including

CONTINUED ON PAGE 6

Beware of Phone Scams

Our Police Department wants residents to always beware of telephone scams, including an aggressive tax scam currently sweeping the country. To help the public not be fooled by callers posing as IRS agents, the Internal Revenue Service has posted a video on YouTube entitled “**Tax Scams**” which provides some basic tips to avoid this scam.

These con artists can sound convincing when they call. They may demand money or say you have a refund due and try to trick you into sharing private information. They may know a lot about you, and they usually alter the caller ID to make it look like the IRS is calling. They use fake names and bogus IRS identification badge numbers. If you don't answer, they often leave an “urgent” callback request.

Don't be fooled. This is not how the IRS does business. They have a formal process in place for people with tax issues, and they respect taxpayers' rights. These angry, shake-down calls are clear signs of fraud. So we urge everyone to be careful if they get these threatening phone calls.

The IRS identifies **five things these scammers often do**, but the IRS will not do. Any one of them is a tell-tale sign of a scam. The IRS will never:

1. Call to demand immediate payment, or call about taxes owed without first having mailed you a bill.
2. Demand that you pay taxes without giving you the opportunity to question or appeal the amount they say you owe.
3. Require you to use a specific payment method for your taxes, such as a prepaid debit card.
4. Ask for credit or debit card numbers over the phone.
5. Threaten to bring in local police or other law-enforcement groups to have you arrested for not paying.

If you get a phone call from someone claiming to be from the IRS and asking for money, **here's what you should do:**

- If you know you owe taxes or think you might owe, call the IRS at 1-800-829-1040. IRS workers can help you with a payment issue.
- If you know you don't owe taxes or have no reason to believe that you do, report the incident to the Treasury Inspector General for Tax Administration (TIGTA) at 1-800-366-4484 or at www.tigta.gov.
- Contact the Federal Trade Commission and use their “FTC Complaint Assistant” at FTC.gov. Include “IRS Telephone Scam” in the comments of your complaint.

Remember, too, that the IRS does not use email, text messages, or any social media to discuss your personal tax issue.

For more information on reporting tax scams, go to www.irs.gov and type “scam” in the search box.

Residents can help deter crime

While Satellite Beach continues to be one of the safest communities in Florida, crime still exists. Residents can help our Police Department by removing all valuables from vehicles, locking doors to cars and homes at all times, and closing and locking garage doors.

Recently, several guns have been taken from unlocked cars. PLEASE remove all firearms from your vehicle and secure them safely in your home.

Residential patrols are an everyday part of our officers'

responsibilities and are increased when necessary. In addition, our dedicated Citizens On Patrol volunteers continuously supplement these residential patrols.

“Unfortunately our officers and volunteers cannot be everywhere at once. We depend on our residents to help deter criminal activity through awareness and vigilance,” says Police Chief Jeff M. Pearson.

Residents are asked to report suspicious persons immediately.

City is on Facebook!

Did you know that the City is on Facebook? **Like** one or all of these pages and get regular updates on the City:

City Manager: www.facebook.com/SatBchCM

Fire Department: www.facebook.com/satellitebeachfire

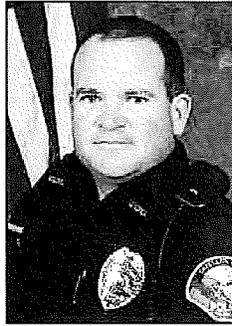
Recreation Department: www.facebook.com/SatelliteBeachRecreation

Police Department: www.facebook.com/satellitebeachpolicedepartment



Satellite Beach teamwork saves a life

In early December 2014, a Satellite Beach resident collapsed in the gymnasium at the **David R. Schechter** Community Center. Taking immediate action, bystanders and our Recreation Department staff began CPR and called 911. Within minutes a Satellite Beach Police Officer Matthew Bennett arrived with an automatic external defibrillator, followed moments later by Satellite Beach Fire Department Paramedics. Officer Bennett applied the defibrillator, which analyzed the patient's heart rhythm and administered an electrical shock, restoring a faint pulse in the victim. With the patient still critically ill, our Paramedics continued



**Officer
Matthew Bennett**

advanced medical care while he was being transported to Holmes Regional Medical Center.

This incident demonstrates how individual City departments work together as a single team to save the life of a resident. This is just one reason why Satellite Beach is such a safe place to live.

Hats off to:

■ **Our Recreation Department:**

- Bill Rycroft, Instructor

■ **Our Police Department:**

- Officer Matthew Bennett
- Dispatcher Kelly Fluty

■ **Our Fire Department:**

- Captain Jay Dragon
- Firefighter/Paramedic Barry Pettengill
- Firefighter/EMT Irvin Corado

Congratulations Sgt. Bell & Communications Supervisor Mari Johnson!

Congratulations to **Sgt. Eric Bell** and **Communications Supervisor Mari Johnson** for their recent graduation from the Florida Leadership Academy of the Florida Criminal Justice Executive Institute.

The **Florida Leadership Academy** prepares first-line supervisors in criminal justice agencies to exemplify the character and integrity expected of criminal justice professionals; to understand the components and responsibilities of leadership, as well as the importance of leaders as coaches, teachers, and mentors to other members of their agency; and to acquire the skills necessary to support the technical and administrative needs of their agency.

The **Florida Criminal Justice Executive Institute**, established within the Florida Department of Law Enforcement and affiliated with the State University System, was established in 1990 by the Florida Legislature to provide an innovative and multi-faceted approach to the education and training of criminal justice professionals.

Taught by some of the top instructors brought in from around the State, the 33 graduates met one week a month for four months at the **Eastern Florida State College Institute of Public Safety** in Melbourne. They represented 27 different criminal justice agencies from across the State, each serving in a leadership role within their agency.

Satellite Beach PAL NEWS

Need a little extra help with your schoolwork? Satellite Beach PAL is happy to help with **after-school tutoring on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 3:30pm-5:30pm at the Teen Zone**. Call ahead to schedule a tutor for your subject. Are you a student needing community service hours and interested in tutoring? Please give us a call.

Students K-6th grade looking for a safe place to hang out? Join us for **Teeny Bopper Night at the Teen Zone!** We are open just for you **every 1st and 3rd Saturday from 6:30pm-9:30pm**, and the cost is \$5. Come and join us for an evening of fun with our bounce house, dance contest, game, and prizes. The concession stand will be

open with pizza and snacks available.

Our **adult-only BUNKO fundraiser** to benefit our youth programs will be held on **January 30 at the Teen Zone**, beginning with **dinner at 6pm** and **dice rolling at 7pm**. Tickets are \$15 in advance and \$20 at the door and include dinner, home-made desserts, and beverages. Tickets can be purchased at the Recreation Department or the Teen Zone. You can also call and reserve your tickets in advance. We hope to see you for an evening of fun!

For information regarding any of our programs, please feel free to contact us at pal@satellitebeach.org or at **777-8336**.

City receives SNAP certification

The Satellite Beach Building Department has recently received Simplified, Nimble, Accelerated Permitting (SNAP) certification through the Economic Development Commission (EDC). Created by the EDC to challenge local governments within Brevard County to reduce their permitting bureaucracy, SNAP certifies local governments that have completed major steps to reduce their permitting time and process. This certification accomplishes our City Council's goal of providing an expedited, user-friendly, permitting process.

Through a series of code changes, we have substantially reduced permit turn-around time by limiting the time for in-house site-plan reviews and allowing staff approval for small projects to replace formal City Council approval. Even though the review process has been streamlined, building code requirements will still be met.

While general permits are often issued while you wait or within a day, site plans for major construction typically took 90 days to work



Building Official John Stone, City Manager Courtney Barker, Mayor Frank Catino, and Commander David Abernathy accept the SNAP Certification from Economic Development Council Chairman Luke Miorelli,

through the advisory-board review process. With our SNAP certification, permits for most site plans will now take less than a week. The message to site-plan applicants is now clearer

than ever that our professional staff is here to help make their project a success by removing road blocks and bringing their vision to fruition in a timely, cost-effective effort.

Shell Street redevelopment to begin in early 2015

In a series of public meetings, our **Community Redevelopment Agency (CRA)** has gathered ideas from residents and advisory boards on the redevelopment of **Shell Street from Palmetto Avenue to Volunteer Way**. As a result of their input, this beachfront project will include sidewalks, landscaping, additional parking, unisex bathroom and shower facility, pavilions, additional exfiltration pipes for improved drainage, and road resurfacing.

The east side of Shell Street is the last area in Satellite Beach that remains on septic systems. We look forward to finally closing that chapter and installing sewer pipes which will benefit the affected residents, the environment, and the beach system. Our City has always prided itself on being good stewards of the environment, as evidenced by

preserving over 40% of our oceanfront from development, treating stormwater runoff into the lagoon, and preserving our 52-acre Samsons Island habitat. The removal of these last remaining septic systems furthers our efforts to be a friend of the environment.

Shell Street plans are now in their final permitting stages. The project will soon go out for bid, with an **anticipated contract award by March 2015**. Plans call for the sewer line to be installed in the early phase of the project. The entire project is expected to take approximately four months, with a **projected completion date in July 2015**.

Details of this project and others within our Redevelopment District are posted on the CRA's website www.satellitebeachcra.org under projects.

Recreation News

New Activity Brochure for Satellite Beach Recreation Department programs and activities for January through April 2015 is now available. You may stop by the **Recreation Office** to pick up a copy or view it online at www.satellitebeach.org. We are pleased to offer online registration with credit card payment for many programs. For assistance with the online system, call the office M-F 8:30am-5pm at 773-6458.

January 25: Rhythm in Motion Dance Showcase

There will be two exciting performances by the Rhythm in Motion competition dancers, **one at 1pm and another at 3:30pm**, both in the **DRS Community Center GYMNASIUM**. Tickets are \$6 and can be purchased from a dance team member, the Recreation Department, or at the door. The dancers will host a small reception between performances, with desserts available for purchase. The fundraiser will assist dancers with competition fees.

January 31: Mini-Bunko Night

This "adult only" game of dice (learn as you go) is sponsored by the Satellite Beach Police Athletic League to benefit their youth programs. Doors open at the **DRS Community Center TEEN ZONE** at **6pm** (dinner included!) and dice roll is at **7pm**. Advance tickets are \$15 from the Recreation Department or \$20 at the PAL door. Questions? Call PAL at 777-8336.

February 5-7: Friends of the Satellite Beach Library Book Sale

The annual book sale at the **Satellite Beach Public Library** will be open to the public on **Thursday, Feb. 5 from 12-7pm; Friday Feb. 6 and Saturday Feb. 7 from 9am-3pm**. (Saturday 12-3pm Bag Sale!). **Preview sale will be held on Wednesday, Feb. 4 from 6-8pm**.

February 7: The Haley Hodge Memorial Car Show

The show will be held **9am-2pm** at **Trinity Wellsprings Church**, 638 South Patrick Dr. next to the Tortoise Island entrance. Family-friendly event for all! Questions? Contact Luke Barnes at LBarnes@trinitywellsprings.com

PAL Youth Teeny Bopper Dances

Open to kindergarten-6th graders. Cost is \$5/night! Held at the **DRS Community Center TEEN ZONE**, located in the DRS Community Center.

■ **1st & 3rd Saturdays** each month from **6:30-9:30pm**

■ **Dec. 20**, Teeny Bopper Santa Party **6:30-9:30pm**

Questions? Call 777-8336 or visit PAL website:

www.satellitebeachpal.org

February 14: Cinderella's Wedding

Cinderella will be getting married, and you can be part of the guest list! Belle, Sleeping Beauty, Snow White and Ariel will be at the **DRS Community Center from 2pm-4pm**. The event includes having your nails done, adding a touch of makeup and a hair clip. Enjoy a keepsake craft, dancing in the ballroom, and a delectable reception. Sign up by February 11. Paying adult must accompany child. Cost for ages 2-10 years is \$15, and accompanying adults are \$7 each.

March 1: Lions Club Car Show

The Satellite Beach Lions Club will be sponsoring their 4th Annual Car Show on **March 1 from 9am-4pm** at the **DRS Community Center**. There will be fun for the whole family! Call Lance Smith (321) 403-3971 or email lalink84@aol.com to register your car (cost is \$20/car). First 75 entries will receive a dash plaque.

March 7: Little League Opening Day

Beachside Little League Opening Day will be held at Satellite Beach Desoto Ballfield from **10am to 4pm**. There will be food, music, entertainment, and our 1st juniors' game of the season! Come out to meet the local athletes and professional players during our Opening Day Event.

March 7: Citywide Rummage Sale

■ **Sell at the DRS Community Center 8am-12noon!**

Individuals or organizations can rent a 10'x10' space for \$15 in the DRS parking lot to sell their rummage sale items. Contact the Recreation Office at 773-6458, register online at www.satellitebeach.org, or download the registration form from the Recreation Department website: <http://satellitebeachrecreation.org/Pages/Forms.aspx>

■ **Sell from your own home!** Satellite Beach residents can call 773-6458 and provide your garage-sale location for inclusion in a master "City Rummage Sale" flyer listing all sale locations (flyer to be available for distribution on Friday, March 6th).

From the Council Desk... *continued from page 1*

having the Florida Department of Transportation pay a portion of the cost when they repave A1A in 2016. In addition, plans have been completed to greatly improve Shell Street's beachfront park and Michael P. Crotty Park.

■ **Restored Employee Morale.** Equally important, we have restored high morale among our City employees, who have made all of our other achievements possible.

In the New Year, City Council and staff will continue efforts to find cost savings, build our reserves to cement a sound financial footing, deliver the highest-quality services, enhance our Communities for a Lifetime program to enable our residents to remain in their homes as they age, attract and retain businesses, appropriately develop the vacant 100 acres in our City's north end, improve the appearance of our City, help improve water quality in the Indian River Lagoon, regularly communicate with our residents and address their concerns, increase our steadily-rising property values, and recruit and train new volunteers to become our next generation of leaders.

We wish all of our residents and their families a New Year filled with prosperity and wellbeing.

CITY COUNCIL MEETING HIGHLIGHTS

NOVEMBER 5, 2014

- Approved **Resolution No. 953** opposing seismic airgun testing in the Atlantic Ocean.
- Approved **Ordinance No. 1098** amending the City Code by adding clubhouses to accessory structures and uses, and amending maximum structure lengths, in the RM-4 multi-family zoning district.
- Approved an **amendment to the development agreement** between Oceana Beach Club, LLC and the City of Satellite Beach.

NOVEMBER 19, 2014

- Approved **Ordinance No. 1099** amending fund appropriations for the FY 2013/14 budget.
- **Steve Osmer** and **Dominick Montanaro** were sworn in as Councilmembers.

DECEMBER 3, 2014

- Appointed Cassie Warthen (Hansen) to serve on the **Brevard County Library Impact Fee Committee**.
- Authorized submittal of the **2014 Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grant** application in the amount of \$1,282 to purchase and install wireless capabilities for police patrol cars, with no City match.
- Approved a **Request for Proposal** for the procurement of **municipal community development software** to upgrade antiquated software, streamline electronic communication between City Departments, and improve their delivery of services.
- Approved a **holiday bonus** of \$350 for full-time and \$175 for part-time City employees, totaling \$33,425.
- Appointed **Councilman Montanaro** as **Vice-Mayor**.
- Appointed Councilmembers as **liaisons to City boards**.

55+ Club

The 55+ Club is for folks 55 years and older. Members stay active in the community by participating in the Club's many events. In addition to those highlighted below, there are gatherings for lunch, movie nights, mahjonn, and chess. Many members enjoy our various day trips and even an occasional extended trip. For more information about the 55+ Club, please contact Marty Hindsley at 777-8313 or mhindsley@yahoo.com. Activities are also listed on the Club website at www.55plusclubofsb.com

- **BINGO MONDAYS**, 11am-1:30pm (doors open at 9:30am) at the Satellite Beach Civic Center, 565 Cassia Blvd. Members only and bingo card fees apply. Contact Louise T. at 773-3160.
- **CARDS & GAMES**, Thursdays, 9am-3pm, at the DRS Community Center, 1089 So. Patrick Drive.
- **COUPON GROUP**, 3rd Wednesday each month, 2-3pm, at the Satellite Beach Public Library. Contact Terry at 773-7705.
- **THE DINNER GANG**, 1st Tuesday every other month, 5:30pm. Locations vary. Contact Floss at 773-6073.
- **EARLY BIRD DINING & DANCING**, 2nd Wednesday, 5pm, at Neptune Grill. Contact Joan at 777-0238.
- **FISHING CLUB**, 2nd Thursday each month, 1pm. Contact Gene at 773-4647.
- **INDOOR WALKING GROUP**, Tues, Wed, & Thurs, 8-10am, in the DRS Community Center Gym. Free! No walking on certain holidays; times vary in summer.
- **TRAVEL GROUP: for Day Trips**, contact Terry at 773-7705; for **Extended Trips** (overnight), contact Jill at 773-2080.

About the Library

ADULTS

■ **Friday, January 2 at 1pm – Friends Book Sorting.** Volunteers needed to help sort donations for the **annual book sale on February 4-7.**

■ **Tuesday, January 6 at 2pm – Writing a Memoir or Family History.** Keep your memories alive for future generations. A local author will share her tips and knowledge.

■ **Tuesdays at 4:30 – Yoga with Nancy.** Start that new resolution here. Wear comfortable clothing, and bring a mat or towel. \$5 fee per class. Contact Nancy at 777-7167.

■ **Monday, January 12 at 2pm – Friends Board Meeting.** Open to the public. This will be the final planning meeting before the annual book sale. Volunteers needed for the book sale. Contact Polly at 426-9027 or poljor@aol.com.

■ **Tuesday, January 13 at 6pm – Library Board Meeting.** Open to the public.

■ **Wednesday, January 14 at 2pm – Financial Planning Seminar “How To Build a Lifetime Income”** by Leonard Financial Group. Call 259-6239 or contact@leonardfinancialgroup.com for information.

■ **Wednesday, January 21 at 2pm – Coupon Club.** Exchange coupons and share information on where to shop. Contact Theresa at 773-7705 for information.

■ **Friday, January 23 at 10am – Really Living with Low Vision.** Learn ways to make your life easier and your home safer. Contact Cindy Paterakis at 544-8647.

■ **Friday, January 23 at 1pm – Design and make beaded jewelry** in a 2-hour workshop. Cost is \$10-15 which includes all materials, tools, and instruction. Contact Normandie & Nancy at 321-225-1394.

■ **Saturday, January 24 at 2pm – Book Talk.** *America: A Cultural Enigma* by Donald L. Gilleland. Books will be available for purchase and signing. Call 684-9757 or jaimiengle@gmail.com to RSVP by January 21st.

■ **Monday, January 26 at 1pm – Barbara’s Book Chats.** *The Round House* by Louise Erdrich.

■ **Book display in the library** in conjunction with the Foosaner Art Museum’s exhibit, lectures, and programs about Frida Kahlo.

TEENS (Ages 12-18)

■ **Saturday, January 3 at 2pm – Teen Advisory Group.** Help get ready for Teen Tech Week 2015.

■ **Tuesday, January 6 at 6pm – Teen Book Club.** What’s your favorite manga? Make your own anime cubeecraft.

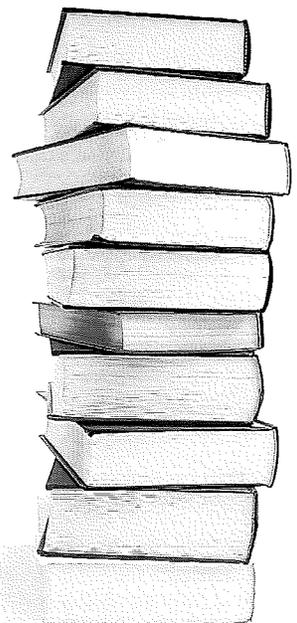
CHILDREN

■ **Thursdays at 11am and 3:30pm – Alphabet Adventures.** Stories, video, and a craft about a different letter of the alphabet. Ages 3 and up.

■ **Wednesdays at 3:30pm – Junior Builders Club.** School-age children (thru Grade 6) are welcome for building challenges featuring LEGO toys.

■ **Saturday, January 17 at 1pm – Read to a Dog** with the Space Coast Therapy Dogs. Ages 5 and up. Sign-up required.

■ **Monday, January 26 at 3pm – Rave About Your Fave.** Sunshine State Book Club (Grades 3-6). Discuss your favorite SSSYRA books over snacks.



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Satellite Beach Woman's Club awards teacher grants

Each year, the **GFWC Satellite Beach Woman's Club (SBWC)** provides three \$500 grants to teachers from DeLaura Middle School or Satellite High School (SHS) to purchase items needed in their classrooms. Congratulations to the December 2014 winners, who are all from **Satellite High School**:

- **Joanna DiPeppe**, Advanced Placement Language Composition and English 3,
- **Sarah Aloise**, Media Specialist, and
- **Lu Balch**, Advanced Placement Physics and Physics 1.

From left to right:
SBWC Education Chair **Margaret Brugman**,
Joanna DiPeppe, **Sarah Aloise**,
SHS Principal **Mark Elliot**,
SBWC President **Rebecca Castillo**,
and **Lu Balch**

