

City of Satellite Beach

BEACHCASTER



YOUR OFFICIAL CITY NEWSLETTER

SEPTEMBER-OCTOBER 2015

FROM THE COUNCIL DESK

BY COUNCILWOMAN LORRAINE GOTT

OUR FISCAL YEAR ACCOMPLISHMENTS IN REVIEW

As we approach the end of another fiscal year and adopt a new budget for FY15/16, City Council felt that our taxpayers would appreciate knowing where their money goes. They also wanted to introduce our residents and businesses to our City employees, who work so hard to ensure maximum value for our tax dollars. So this edition of the *Beachcaster* will take a look at the functions of each department, what we've accomplished this year, and where we're headed.

SUPPORT SERVICES DEPARTMENT

The Support Services Department was created two years ago to reduce costs and streamline operations by combining three separate offices into one unified department. This has resulted in more work being accomplished with fewer employees.

Top Accomplishments in FY14/15:

- For the second consecutive year, received the national Distinguished Budget Presentation Award from the Government Finance Officers Association (GFOA) for the layout, detail, and clarity of information in our City budget.
- Increased our unrestricted General Fund reserves to more than \$1 million, helping us approach our goal of \$1.5 million (per GFOA guidelines).
- Improved payroll processing and saved staff time by outsourcing payroll functions.

Goals for FY15/16:

- Increase unrestricted General Fund reserves.
- Streamline accounting processes and increase staff productivity by implementing cloud-based technology.
- Redesign the City website to improve user-friendliness, organization, layout simplicity, and public access to information.
- Include a link on the new website for the public to find up-to-date, clear information about City finances (budget, assets, liabilities, etc.).

Looking further ahead, Support Services intends to pursue additional savings and greater productivity through technology improvements (financial accounting software, servers, and internet backup).



Thomas Albinus, Julie Finch, Adam Schultz, Andy Stewart, Courtney Barker

CITY CLERK'S OFFICE

Our City Clerk's Office is the administrative hub supporting City Council, the Community Redevelopment Agency, and all Departments and boards. It is also the first contact residents have with our City government when they phone or visit City Hall.

Top Accomplishments in FY14/15:

- Established procedures and schedule to ensure that all official City documents (e.g., ordinances, resolutions, minutes, contracts, agreements, deeds, and easements) are scanned for quick retrieval by City staff and the public.
- Compensated for staff shortage with 1,916 hours of work performed by volunteers (City savings of \$30,905).
- Implemented ArchiveSocial software for tracking social media records per Florida law requirements.
- Began installation and staff training of CitizenServe software for shared access to permit and license records with Building & Zoning and Fire Department.

Goals for FY15/16:

- Finish scanning all official City documents to ensure they are properly maintained and preserved.
- Remove all duplicate computer files to increase computer storage and reduce hard-copy storage of official City documents, thereby saving staff time managing and retrieving documents.
- Implement CitizenServe software to facilitate issuing Local Business Tax Receipts.



Diane Niosi, Leonore Olexa, and Grace DeRosa

Looking further ahead, our Clerk's Office will continue its emphasis on prompt assistance to our Departments and residents, improving storage and accessibility of official documents and other public records, and upgrading the audio/video system in Council Chambers to improve recordings of public meetings and ensure full ADA compliance.

BUILDING & ZONING DEPARTMENT

In recognition of our successful efforts to vastly improve our permitting process for development projects (making it much faster and easier), the Space Coast Economic Development Commission last year awarded Building & Zoning their SNAP (Simple, Nimble, Accelerated Permitting) Certification. This emphasis on quality service to our customers has produced significant improvements.

Top Accomplishments in FY14/15:

- For site plans up to five acres, reduced plan and permit approval time from three months to seven days or less.
- Began installation and staff training of CitizenServe software, which has several time- and cost-saving capabilities. For example, it will enable shared access to permit, license, and inspection databases for the City Clerk's Office, the Fire Department, and Building & Zoning; allow staff to generate and access paperless documents in the field (e.g., inspection reports, building and fire codes, code enforcement records, etc.); allow applicants to be emailed immediately with inspection results; and provide online access to the public for record searches.

Goals for FY15/16:

- Complete implementation of CitizenServe software and accompanying hardware (tablet computers).
- With paperless inspections, reduce inspection times by 25%.
- Increase customer satisfaction by providing online access to a database for record searches.
- Reduce requests for building permit records by 20%, thereby reducing staff time on record searches and file management.



Karl Baumann, Kelly Porter, John Stone

Looking further ahead, Building & Zoning intends to maintain its emphasis on providing user-friendly services and creating a business-friendly environment. And when development resumes in Pelican Coast at the north end of our City, Building & Zoning intends to pursue cost savings by using technology to the greatest extent feasible before hiring additional staff for a greatly-increased workload.

RECREATION DEPARTMENT

Always seeking new ways to meet the social and recreational needs expressed by our residents, our diverse recreation programs are continually improving. In addition to providing recreation activities, our Recreation Department also serves as a clearinghouse for volunteer opportunities with other entities to ensure that there’s always something available that our residents would enjoy doing.

Top Accomplishments in FY14/15:

- Increased weekend rentals of the DRS Community Center.
- Increased the number and quality of programs at Pelican Beach Park, DRS Community Center, and Samsons Island; increased program revenue from these facilities by \$45,800 over the same period last year (January through April, our slowest season).
- Partnering with other entities (Brevard Zoo, Long Doggers, Surf Riders, Anglers for Conservation, Running Zone, and Up and Running Fitness) to augment our staff, increased the number and quality of special events.
- Negotiated a lease with PAFB to allow our City to use the Pelican Coast athletic field for our youth sports leagues.
- Because of their extensive interaction with the public, provided Automatic External Defibrillator/CPR training to Recreation and other City staff.
- To maximize facility usage and revenue:

Goals for FY15/16:

- Create a brochure describing all facility rentals, and increase rentals at DRS Community Center and the Civic Center Auditorium.
- Add six new programs/special events at DRS Community Center and the Civic Center Auditorium in response to customer survey results.
- Explore outsourcing Skate Park management to increase the number and quality of Skate Park activities and events.
- Increase volunteer placements within Satellite Beach to assist with community activities, recreation programs, and special events. This benefits the community, residents seeking ways to get involved, and students looking to perform required community service hours.
- Use Facebook and our redesigned website to increase public awareness of recreation opportunities in our City and attract the broadest base of customers.

Looking further ahead, our Recreation Department intends to continue providing top-quality facilities and activities based on the desires of our residents. They believe there is always something we can do to make our lives more joyful and fulfilled, and they’re determined to help us find it.



Kerry Stoms, Jeff Pearson, and Mayor Frank Catino at the City’s Annual Flag Run.



Donna Painter, Cassie Warthen, Jackie Gilcher, Kerry Stoms

FIRE DEPARTMENT

New and innovative programs are underway in our Fire Department to promote greater health and safety for our residents. At the heart of this is our **Communities for a Lifetime (CFAL)** program, which enables senior residents to remain and thrive in their homes as they age. With the urging of Councilman Mark Brimer, Satellite Beach has emerged as the CFAL leader throughout the State of Florida. CFAL has three components:

[1] Community Paramedic. One of only a few such programs in the nation, our Fire Department's Community Paramedic program is growing rapidly and attracting the attention of community health officials at local, state, and federal levels. With technology at its core, the program allows the Paramedic to wirelessly monitor all participants' vital signs each day, in addition to making a weekly home visit to each participant. When budgets allow us to staff our vacant EMS position, we will be able to designate one paramedic on each shift to serve also as a Community Paramedic who can respond alone to less serious 9-1-1 calls that don't require a full EMS team response.

Now being added to the program is a telemedicine project that will enable local primary-care and hospital physicians in their office to see Satellite Beach patients in their home via video link, thereby reducing healthcare costs and providing convenience and time savings for doctors and patients. In addition, to help reduce hospital readmissions, the Community Paramedic will temporarily provide home healthcare services to just-discharged hospital patients until a home-health agency is assigned to them. The hospitals or health insurance companies will reimburse our City for associated costs. The Department is now establishing program partnerships with health insurance companies and with local doctors, home-health and hospice agencies, and hospitals, all eager to participate in this new venture.

[2] Satellite Beach Senior Care Network. This is a coalition of community partners which address a variety of needs for senior residents with insufficient local support. Partners include a home-health agency, hospice, Space Coast Area Transit, Aging Matters, Satellite Beach United Methodist Church, Satellite Beach Police (Stop By & Say Hi program) and Recreation Departments, Neighbor Helping Neighbor program, and 55+ Club. Meeting monthly, the Network identifies participating seniors' challenges and arranges services to resolve them (e.g., home repairs, transportation, medical care, etc.).

[3] Senior Adult Fall Prevention. This long-established program sends Department personnel into seniors' homes to identify and eliminate trip and fall hazards.

Top Accomplishments in FY14/15:

- **Saved three lives** (rescued an elderly Indianalantic resident from a burning home, and rescued two teenagers drowning in ocean riptide at Hightower Beach).
- **Exceeded professional response-time** standards (within 4 minutes: 59 seconds for 90% of Fire and EMS calls), by responding to 91.63% of our emergency calls within 4 minutes. (Longer response times are due to longer distances from the fire station.)
- Responded to over 1,300 **9-1-1 emergencies**.
- Enhanced our **CFAL** program:
- Converted a vacant administrative position to a full-time **Community Paramedic**, and increased program participants and services.
- Created the **Satellite Beach Senior Care Network**.

Major Goals for FY15/16:

- Provide excellent emergency services to our residents by maintaining above-standard response times and providing continual firefighter/EMS training.
- Pursue the multi-year process for accreditation by the Center for Public Safety Excellence to ensure adherence to the highest professional standards.
- Enhance our Community Paramedic program as funding and staffing allow, by expanding the program's week-day availability for home visits and wireless monitoring to include an additional 24-hour Paramedic for responding solo to less-serious 9-1-1 emergencies.

Looking further ahead, our Fire Department intends to further enhance our community health programs; provide prompt response; deliver superior emergency medical care and fire suppression; provide Department personnel with the most advanced training as firefighting and rescue techniques evolve; upgrade the Department's aging heart monitors; and upgrade other paramedic equipment (advanced airway and diagnostic equipment) as technology advances.

POLICE DEPARTMENT

As the first accredited police agency in Brevard County, our Police Department first received this recognition for professional excellence from the Commission for Florida Accreditation in 2000. Since then, it has been reaccredited every three years, including its fifth one just last month. With this latest accreditation, Commission inspectors are recommending that our Department receive the prestigious Excelsior Award for perfect accreditation performance.

Top Accomplishments in FY14/15:

- In conjunction with the Indian Harbour Beach Police Department, implemented Operation A.P.P.S. (Alternative Policing and Parenting Strategies). In this project, which resulted from a recent large community meeting, detectives monitor unsecured social-media pages readily available to the public to help parents become aware of their children’s online activities.
- Decreased our City’s crime rate by 22.7% (according to FBI crime statistics) with a combination of visible residential patrols, alert residents willing to report suspicious activity, and fast response times.
- Acquired officer training and necessary equipment, and initiated DNA-evidence collection from crime scenes for possible future testing.
- Increased Citizens on Patrol (COP) volunteer hours and crime-prevention activities.
- Increased use of social media (Facebook) to communicate with our residents.

Goals for FY15/16:

- Complete officer training for DNA-evidence collection and testing; provide each officer with collection supplies.
- Offer a Citizens’ Police Academy for residents if there is sufficient demand.
- Provide training to expand Project Lifesaver (which uses GPS to help locate missing persons with special needs) to all beachside police agencies.
- Raise awareness of our need for volunteers and increase their participation in our Department’s community services.

Looking further ahead, our Police Department hopes to return staffing to pre-recession levels. In the meantime, they will continue their emphasis on keeping our community safe by providing fast response by highly-trained, compassionate officers and dispatchers with the skills needed to handle the situation.

They will continue monthly officer training in high-liability areas such as driving, updates on the law, use of force, prohibition against discriminatory profiling, and other critical law-enforcement skills. And with their community-oriented policing, they will continue to pursue excellent community relations, residents’ safety, and open communication with our business community.



Bob Grant , John Duba, Eric Tippins, Kevin Duclos, Josh Motta, Gregory Chilcott-



Steve Owens, Darren Frost, Patti Noe, Chief Jeff Pearson, Joe Simonides, Bob Becker, Sam Attard, Sherry Driggers, Rob Mench, Beverly Ryan, Don Triebell, Bert Berrios, Valerie Balloue, Gretta Valiente-Smith, Linda Harlow.

PUBLIC WORKS

With “adapt and overcome” as their motto, Public Works successfully toils (often in the hot sun and with minimal staffing) to beautify our public spaces; maintain City streets, buildings, and other facilities; and keep City vehicles and equipment running. More than any other department, Public Works is our jack-of-all-trades, called upon to fix problems from the routine to the highly unusual. They always meet the challenge.

Top Accomplishments in FY14/15:

- With our City Engineer, designed a 5-year plan to correct our most-significant infrastructure deficiencies (streets—including Roosevelt Avenue reconstruction—and stormwater drainage); as part of that plan, identified our most-damaged streets to begin our milling and repaving project.
- Repaired/replaced approximately 1500 ft. of sidewalk/gutters and 1000 ft. of stormwater pipe throughout the City.
- Monitored construction of Shell Street improvements to ensure maximum property enhancements in that area.
- Replaced the Pelican Clubhouse sanitary sewer line to eliminate chronic back-up problems.
- Obtained a building to garage our Vac-truck (used to clean out our stormwater drainage system) to protect it from the elements and extend its serviceable life.
- Installed landscaping on nine residential streets where they intersect A1A.

Goals for FY15/16:

- Reconstruct Roosevelt Avenue (remove concrete, mill, and repave; add sidewalks and gutters).
- Remove roots from 3,700 linear feet of Glenwood stormwater pipe (located along the back yards between Glenwood and Hamlin Avenues) and slipline the pipe to strengthen and seal it to eliminate flooding from most storm events.
- As funds and workload allow, repair or replace damaged or dilapidated stormwater pipes on Thyme Street and Sherwood Avenue.
- Continue to repair/replace sidewalks and gutters for pedestrian safety.
- To reduce fuel consumption, purchase electric golf carts for ballfield and parks maintenance, and purchase fuel-efficient cars to replace three City cars past their serviceable life.
- To reduce electric consumption, continue replacing old lighting fixtures in City buildings with energy-efficient ones.

Looking further ahead, Public Works hopes for sufficient funding to add three badly-needed employees. Although our addition of several recreational facilities and infrastructure projects since 2000 has greatly increased their workload, Public Works is currently staffed at a pre-2000 level, forcing them to work reactively on facility and infrastructure maintenance. Even so, Public Works remains committed to providing quality work at the lowest cost as quickly as possible.



Tracy Hodge and John Cashman with the City's Vac-truck



Jestina Roché, Scott Arnold, Ramden Shell, John Heer IV, James “Jim” Day, Jay Verbrick, Danny Peters, Tracy Hodge, John Cashman, Curtis “Mike” Harris, Lee LeBarron, Allen Potter, Phillip Cline, Brad Elam



GFWC Satellite Beach Woman's Club &
The City of Satellite Beach Present



FOUNDERS' DAY & Marketplace

SURF'S UP!



SATURDAY
Nov. 7
2015
9AM-3PM

PARADE
BAKE SALE
FLEA MARKET
CRAFT BOOTHS
KIDS ACTIVITIES

David R. Schechter
Community Center
1089 S. Patrick Dr.
Satellite 32937

call 773.6458
for more info.

Thank you from the Vukovich Family

To our amazing community of Satellite Beach,

We would like to express our heartfelt gratitude for your support during our family's recent crisis involving our son, Daniel Vukovich. We would like you to know that your thoughts and prayers for Daniel's recovery were heard, felt and meant the world, as did your cards, flowers and financial contributions. We would like to express our extraordinary appreciation to Satellite Beach Fire Department, Satellite Beach Police Department, Brevard County Fire Rescue, Brevard County Sheriff Department, and the amazing trauma team at Holmes Regional Medical Center, including the incredible nursing staff in the 4th Floor Intensive Care Unit. Our First Responders are tremendous and we will forever be grateful for the emergency care they provided our son. We have a few more hurdles, but we have been blessed beyond words.

Thank you all again,
Tim & Kerry Henderson



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RECREATION NEWS

Satellite Beach Farmers Market - Every Thursday from 10am-4pm Offering certified organic and non-organic produce, herbs, fresh bread, honey, hand crafted jewelry, wood artwork, tiki carvings, plants and much more.

Florida Coastal Cleanup - Sept. 19 8am-12pm. at Pelican Beach Park Sponsored by the Ocean Conservancy and Keep Brevard Beautiful supplies will be provided. Volunteers should bring water.

Electric Car Event- Sept 19 from 10am-4pm in the DRS Community Center Parking Lot. This FREE event will be a celebration to heighten awareness of the availability of electric vehicles. Enjoy this unique car show, EV Tailgate, product demonstrations and food for purchase. Visit Driveelectricweek.org for more info.

Help Restore the Indian River Lagoon - Sept 26 from 10am-1pm This FREE 2-part program to help restore the Indian River Lagoon at the DRS Community Center. Brevard Zoo and the Marine Resources Council present programs that will educate and provide hands-on opportunities to be a part of ongoing programs to help restore the Lagoon. Brevard Zoo presents Oyster Mat Making at 10am and the Marine Resources Council offers a Mangrove Potting Program at 12noon. Attend either or both sessions, just please bring your own sack lunch. No RSVP needed, all ages and groups welcome. Plan to get a little bit dirty!

SB Lions Tri-Tip Dinner - Sept 29 at 6:30 The Lions Club is sponsoring a community dinner at Pelican Beach Park. The cost is \$10/pp. Come and learn about events the Lions Club are doing this fall.

Long Doggers Kids' Marathon & Half Marathon - Oct 3 This is a great event for kids 12years and under! Parents run for free! Medals to all finishers and a special award to the Double Dog Dare finishers. Largest school participation receives \$250 for their school! Register for the Marathon (2.62 miles) and Half Marathon (1.31 miles) for \$15 each or the Double

Dog Dare run for \$25 online at www.runningzone.com/series/kidsrun/.

National Costume Swap Day- Bring a clean, gently used Halloween costume to the SB Recreation Dept during office hours between Sept 28th - Oct 9th and receive one swap voucher for each costume dropped off. Return Oct 10th from 9-11am with your voucher (s). Costumes are only for swap. Come early to get first choice! *No dressing rooms will be available.*

School Holiday Grom's Skate Party- Oct 16 & Nov 11 are school holidays so let the kids skate! Skate time from 12pm-4pm, pizza, drink, and instruction are included in the \$10/skater program fee. Contests for best tricks and giveaways to those who sign up. Open to skaters ages 6-12.

Space Coast VW Fest- Oct 18 from 8am -4pm The 2nd Annual Vintage Volkswagen Show will be held at the DRS Community Center. Enjoy art vendors, Live Entertainment, and Children's Natural Resource Information with a hands-on information booth and Food Trucks! Over \$3,000 in auction and raffle prizes, including a 4 family multi pack to SeaWorld! FREE to spectators. For information contact Phil or Brenda Cline (321) 508-4332 or visit metalsouls.bc@gmail.com or www.spacecoastvwfest.com.

Food Trucks & Movie on the Green - Oct 24 . The 2nd Annual Food Trucks & Movie on the Green! Purchase dinner from local food trucks, serving from 5pm-8pm in the DRS parking lot. Music and fun kids' activities at dusk. Bring your own blankets or lawn chairs and enjoy *Malificent!*

Halloween Howl- Oct. 31 at 10am at the Satellite Beach Dog Park, 750 Jamaica Blvd. Promoting fitness and fun for your pet. Judges will award prizes for dogs in costume! Goodie bags go to the first 100 registered. Bring a 5lb bag of pet food to WIN a raffle prize. Benefiting Brevard Aiding Shelter Animals Project and S.C. Kibble Kitchen. All dogs must be current with rabies shots and county tags. Cost is \$20 in advance, \$25 day of. Register unsignup.com/Race/FL/SatelliteBeach/HalloweenHowl.

Exciting programs and classes continue to be offered such as tennis, creative toddlers, Lil sports, yoga, exercise programs, bone walkers, etc. For a complete listing of activities, please visit www.satellitebeachrecreation.org or stop by the recreation office to pick up a Fall Activity Brochure!