

July 2006

Town of Redington Shores
17425 Gulf Blvd.
Redington Shores, FL 33708

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Mayor: *Jody Armstrong*

District 1 Commissioner: *Bert Adams*

District 2 Commissioner: *John Branch*

District 3 Commissioner: *Casey Wojcik*

District 4 Commissioner & Vice-Mayor: *Lee Holmes*



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A New Mayor's First 100 Days in Office

While I do not intend to put myself in the same category as the President, everyone is familiar with the "First 100 Days in Office" benchmark that serves as a first performance evaluation of our highest office. Likewise, I'd like to take this opportunity to share with you my experiences during my first 100 days as your mayor.

Overall, this first few months has been a whirlwind as I dive into every aspect of town business. My primary focus has been on the Stormwater Drainage Improvement and Utility Undergrounding projects. I attend weekly meetings with all the key people involved in the day to day construction progress. Items discussed include progress, impediments to pro-

gress, safety concerns, and damage. This venue has proved very successful in establishing a positive rapport and clear lines of communication. Coupled with the hands-on approach by our public works employees Steve Jordan and Brad Kelley and Commissioners Bert Adams and John Branch, we are off to a successful start to this tremendous undertaking.

The next item of focus continues to be an ongoing effort to better prepare for hurricane season. The Governor's Hurricane Conference last month provided me the insight to ask necessary questions to better position the Town to respond to a disaster. I am very interested in developing a volunteer citizen group who could assist



in the recovery phase because many more hands will be needed than our staff of 8 can handle. I will present a preclearance re-entry plan at the next BIG-C meeting whereby participating barrier island town residents could obtain a re-entry pass upon presentation of proof of residency. The Sheriff Department, who has jurisdiction over re-entry, must approve any proposed changes.

See **MAYOR**, page 6

Commissioner Resigns

District 4 Commissioner Lee Holmes submitted his resignation effective July 31, 2006. Anyone interested in being appointed to fill the seat until March 2007 election should submit a resume to Town Hall no later than July 18th.

Town Services and Hours

Redington Shores Town Hall provides a fax and copy machines for your convenience as well as notary services.

Town Hall is open 8:30 A.M. to 4:00 P.M. Mon-

July 4th Fireworks Celebration

The Town of Indian Shores joins N. Redington Beach and Redington Shores for a three town firework display celebration starting at 9:00 P.M. on July 4th. The display will be at the Pinellas County Park

at Redington Shores located at 18200 Gulf Blvd. At 7:00 A.M. on the 4th, crews will restrict access in the launch area. North-South beach access will be available until 8:00 P.M., at which time the

entire area will be closed off as the safety zone.



District 1 Commissioner— Bert Adams

I was born and raised near Ashville, NC, moving to Tampa in 1966, and to Redington Shores 11 years ago. I am the proud father of two daughters and grandfather to six. I retired last year after 42 years as a pilot flying both for the airlines and corporations. During the early 1970's, I was employed by the Tampa Police Department.

Although I have been busy since retirement, I still enjoy a weekly golf game. I attend Church by the Sea in Madeira Beach.

As a new commissioner to District 1, I have found the job to be challenging but rewarding with the many projects happening in our town. The undergrounding of the utilities was started in District 1 and there are many hurdles that we as

residents face as this project moves forward. My thanks go out to you, the resident for you cooperation in this endeavor. My duties as commissioner include maintenance, human resources, police and fire.

I look forward to serving the residents of Redington Shores for the next two years.



District 2 Commissioner—John Branch

Lil and I are natives of Tampa, Florida. We are blessed to have 4 children, 4 grandchildren and 2 great-granddaughters. In our family we have a grandson who is a Tampa firefighter, another who is a Hillsborough County Sheriff's Deputy, a daughter who works for a pediatric oncology clinic in Ft. Myers and who is going for her Master's degree with a 4.0, a daughter who works for the U.S. Post Office and one who has gone back to college after 30 years and is on the Dean's list. Also, we had 2 sons-in-

law on the Tampa Police Force – one retired and one killed in the line of duty.

I have been Mayor of Masaryktown, Florida; I was in the USAF with pararescue for 13 ½ years, where I taught rescue and survival, escape and evasion and made 96 parachute jumps. I also have a State of Florida teaching certificate, and a building contractor's license. I retired from Tampa Fire Department as a paramedic.

Lil and I love Redington Shores and our

neighbors. I will strive to keep my job as Commissioner in the voice of the residents.

I attended the Governor's Hurricane Conference recently, and they stressed to be prepared to leave if ordered. Don't be foolish – we'll miss you!



District 3 Commissioner—Casey Wojcik

I was born in New Jersey, graduated from Georgia Tech and spent 35 years in the field of Information Technology. Currently, I am working with several states to improve their preparations and emergency response to disasters.

I moved to Florida in 1990 and became a

full time resident of Redington Shores in 1997.

I am motivated by the eminent domain ruling in Kelo v. City of New London to work for the preservation of private property rights.

I look forward to assisting the Town of

Redington Shores with emergency management and increase our involvement with the public libraries.



District 4 Vice Mayor / Commissioner—Lee Holmes

I have been a resident of Redington Shores since October 1975. I served 21 years in the United States Army and 17 years in the Department of the Treasury. I served the Town of Reding-

ton Shores on the Board of Adjustments, Planning & Zoning Board, and as a Commissioner for District Four. I am married with two daughters and two grandchildren.



WHAT EVERY TOWN RESIDENT SHOULD KNOW REGARDING FLOOD SAFETY, FLOOD INSURANCE RATES, FLOOD INSURANCE, AND FIRE SAFETY

FLOOD SAFETY:

Local flooding that occurred in the area as a result of Hurricane Opal happened within a short period of time. This flooding can be dangerous. Even though it appears to be moving slowly, a flood 6" deep moving at 3 ft./second can knock people off their feet; a flood 2 feet deep moving at the same velocity can float a car off the road. The message is clear: do not attempt to walk or drive in flood conditions.

BE ALERT FOR GAS LEAKS:

Use a flashlight to inspect for damage. Don't smoke or use candles, lanterns, or open flames unless you know the gas has been turned off and the area has been ventilated. Before evacuating, make sure the gas has been turned off.

FLOOD INSURANCE RATE MAP (FIRM):

The FIRM is a map published by the Federal Emergency Management Agency that is used by the Town Building Department, Realtors, lending institutions, architects, engineers, and surveyors to determine in which Flood Zone a particular property is located and the base flood elevation (BFE). This information is useful to engineers and architects in building design and insurance underwriters in rating flood insurance policies. Lending institutions are now legally required to mandate that property owners with mortgages must carry flood insurance on properties located in the flood zone. Since Redington Shores is a barrier island, the entire Town is designated a Special Flood Hazard Area and is located in either A-10, A-11, A-12, V-12, V-13, V-14 and V-16 Zone, with construction allowed only on A-10, A-11 and A-12, V-12 and V-13 rated properties. The town has several Base Flood Elevation (BFE) heights. The BFE is the height above mean sea level to which the lowest structural member/floor support of a new structure must be elevated to survive flooding so severe that its height is expected no more often than once in a hundred years. Information on the flood zone or the base flood elevation for your property can be obtained by calling the

Redington Shores Building Department at (727) 397-5538.

FLOOD INSURANCE:

The Town of Redington Shores participates in the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP) and the Community Rating System (CRS) and currently has a rating of 8 with 10 being the lowest and 1 being the highest rating. Each rating below 10 gains property owners in Redington Shores a 5% reduction in their flood insurance premiums. Since Redington Shores is currently rated at 8, we enjoy a 10% reduction. If you haven't already done so, you need to advise your insurance agent that Redington Shores has a NFIP/CRS rating of 8 at this time, so you receive the proper discount. Insurance writers should know this now, but it is best to check. Remember normal homeowners insurance does not cover flood damage.

WHAT YOU CAN DO:

The town is graded by NFIP/CRS and awarded points for various activities ranging from adopting flood and storm drainage ordinances, educational projects such as this newsletter, state programs such as the recently enacted Dam Safety Program for which we are allowed points. Unfortunately, your elected officials and town staff can't do it all! To a large extent, it depends on the cooperation and assistance of residents and property owners to make it work. Here are some ways you can help:

As a participant in the NFIP, the town has adopted ordinances on building construction, Stormwater drainage, filling, grading, and excavation. If you see any construction or excavating done without a permit posted, contact the building department.

There are numerous Stormwater inlets on public and private properties in town. The Public Works Department inspects these inlets on a biannual basis to determine if they are being maintained. If you see anyone dumping trash, lawn clip-

pings, etc. into these inlets, contact the building department. If seen at night or weekends contact the police department at 595-5414.

THE TOWN'S PART:

Your elected officials, in an ongoing effort to keep the town safe from the dangers of flooding, have authorized or implemented the following:

The Building Department stands ready to advise property owners, architects and contractors regarding acceptable methods of flood proofing of proposed new construction or existing structures. It also has an extensive library on these subjects free of charge. In the event of a storm, flood proofing can be accomplished by sandbagging door openings, etc. (not hydrostatic relief) or building a berm around your property to protect it from flooding.

The Town Commission has named Commissioner Casey Wojcik as the town's Emergency Management Coordinator and has adopted the Pinellas County Hurricane Evacuation Implementation Guide. In the event of a storm, citizens are advised to stay tuned to WARM FM 94.9 as a primary source of storm data and WRBO FM 104.7 as a secondary source. In the event of a hurricane, the Police Department receives regular updates from Pinellas County Emergency Management.

The Town adopted a Flood Protection Ordinance, including requirements for the FEMA 50% Rule. This states that, if a property is damaged more than 50% or if an owner wants to make substantial improvements, which exceed 50% of the fair market value of the structure only (not including the land), the owner will be required to bring the building into compliance with the NFIP regulations and town ordinance requirements for new construction. Literature on this is free of charge from the Building Department.

NATIONAL POLLUTANT DISCHARGE ELIMINATION SYSTEM – (NPDES)

POINTLESS PERSONAL POLLUTION

WHEREVER YOU LIVE, YOUR DAILY ACTIVITIES COULD END UP POLLUTING FLORIDA'S

WATER

Pollutants from our homes, businesses and farms are major contributors to the pollution of Florida's surface and ground waters. This pollution is washed into the state's waters by rain or irrigation water and is known as POINTLESS PERSONAL POLLUTION. Unlike many other types of pollution, WE cause this pollution and WE can stop it!

WHAT IS POINTLESS PERSONAL POLLUTION?

The blame for water pollution often is aimed at "point sources," such as industrial or sewage treatment facilities. Discharges from these sources flow through pipes and can be readily identified and treated. But **Pointless Personal Pollution** is difficult to identify and treat. This is because many of our daily activities can cause this pollution and it can travel by many different routes into the ground and surface waters. Take a look around your home and property. You can find many sources of **Pointless Personal Pollution** that could end up in the state's waters. Some examples of these pollutants are:

- 1 - Sediments from soil erosion caused by unvegetated soils and by uncontrolled construction activities.
- 2 - Automotive and lawn equipment oil and grease leaking on paved areas or improper disposal of used oil and other products into storm drains.
- 3 - Runoff of pesticides, herbicides and fertilizers from lawns, gardens,

farms and golf courses.

4 - Organic contaminants from litter, yard trash, sludge, garbage from dumpsters and garbage cans and pet and livestock wastes.

5 - Pathogens and excessive nutrients from sewer leaks and septic tanks overflowing or located in areas with high water tables.

HOW DOES POINTLESS PERSONAL POLLUTION IMPACT OUR WATERS?

Pointless Personal Pollution contains many kinds of pollutants which contaminate our waters in many ways, such as:

- A) Nutrients from fertilizers, septic tanks and animal wastes enter our waters causing excessive growth of algae and aquatic weeds.
- B) Heavy metals and pesticides that can kill aquatic organisms and contaminate sediments.
- C) Sewage, garbage and litter reduce oxygen in the water to levels that can kill aquatic life.
- D) Sediments from soil erosion clog fish gills and shellfish filter systems cutting off their oxygen supply.
- E) Pathogens from septic tanks and animal wastes contaminate shellfish and lead to the closing of swimming areas.

WHAT YOU CAN DO TO REDUCE POINTLESS PERSONAL POLLUTION?

HOME & HOUSEHOLD MAINTENANCE

SHOP WISELY. Buy products labeled biodegradable, non-toxic, non-phosphorus, or water soluble. WHY...they readily decompose and will not pollute surface or ground wa-

ter.

STORE PRODUCTS SAFELY. Keep toxic products in original containers, closed and clearly marked in safe storage places. WHY...to prevent spillage or accidents to children or pets.

PROPERLY MAINTAIN SEPTIC SYSTEM. Inspect systems annually and pump out as needed.

Avoid caustic cleaners, chemicals or solvents. WHY...they might destroy waste reducing bacteria or clog absorption fields, which could cause runoff of inadequately treated wastes during rainstorms.

LAWN AND GARDEN

USE GARDEN AND LAWN CHEMICALS WISELY. Follow package directions carefully and only use pesticides, herbicides and fertilizers when other methods fail. Do not apply if rain is in the forecast. WHY...excessive fertilizers and chemicals wash off the property and into surface and ground waters.

KEEP IRRIGATION WATER ON THE LAWN AND GARDEN (NOT ON PAVED SURFACES).

Divert rainspouts onto unpaved areas or swales and wash vehicles on vegetated areas.

WHY...this allows runoff to soak into the soil and not wash over paved surfaces into nearby water bodies.

COMPOST LEAVES, GRASS AND SCRUB CLIPPINGS. Use as mulch for fertilizer and do not rake into roadways. WHY...these materials will decompose and return nutrients to

See NPDES, page 5

NPDES from page 4

the soil and avoid the necessity of applying fertilizers.

AUTOMOTIVE

DON'T DRAIN USED MOTOR OIL INTO STORM DRAINS. Take used motor oil and antifreeze to service stations to recycle them.

WHY...these products are toxic and add pollutants to surface waters if placed or washed into storm drains.

SERVICE YOUR CAR REGULARLY. Have your car inspected and maintained regularly.

WHY...to prevent leakage of motor oil, antifreeze and other fluids which can end up in the nearest waterbody. Well-maintained vehicles reduce air emissions, which can contaminate surface waters.

Town's Responsibility:

As a co-permittee of the NPDES program the Town participates with other neighboring cities in the Gulf Beaches Household Chemical Collection Day. The Town keeps the residents informed of this activity through our Town access channel (Channel 15) and through literature placed in the Town library. All residents may call the Town Hall with any concerns of illicit discharge into the storm drains. Town staff will respond to these calls and take appropriate action.

IF YOU WANT TO BE PART OF THE SOLUTION AND WANT MORE INFORMATION,

CONTACT THE FOLLOWING:

FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION

Stormwater/Nonpoint Source Man-

Updated Website

If you haven't visited the Town's website recently, you will be in for a pleasant surprise. The address is:

www.townofredingtonshores.com

The webmasters at Digitaleel designed the refreshing new look and layout, while retaining ease of use. Two new areas include an event calendar and weekly construction updates.

The event calendar includes all Town meetings, including Planning & Zoning and Board of Adjustment hearings, as well as Town meetings and special events.

The construction calendar contains the utility undergrounding construction location and activities for the upcoming two week period.

The intent of these two pages is simply to add another means of communicating with our residents and to keep you informed of what's going on in the neighborhoods.

Volunteer Opportunities

The Town operates with a staff of 8 employees. From time to time, we need assistance to accomplish our endeavors. Please consider giving back to your community with the gift of your time. Call Town Hall at 397-5538 to sign up for the following:

Sat., October 14th: Annual Town Picnic at Constitution Park 1-6 P.M. Volunteers needed for two-hour shifts including: set-up, cooking, food service line, Pepsi and beer service, and clean-up.

Sat., October 21st: Florida Coastal Cleanup 8 A.M.— 12 noon. Volunteers needed to pick up trash and debris along the coastline and in out parks.

Sun., December 3rd: Annual Tree Lighting Ceremony at Del Bello Park 5-6:30 P.M. Volunteers needed in advance for

Del Bello Park decorating and on event day for set-up, Santa photographer, beverage service, and clean-up.

Ongoing:

Administrative assistance at Town Hall to answer telephones, make copies, and other general light office duties.

Newletter assistance to provide articles, ideas for articles, and data compilation.

Post-disaster recovery assistance in all imaginable ways, including general office duties, should we be required to operate at a remote location for an extended period of time.

If you have a talent not outlined above, please contact Town Hall with your ideas. Thank you in advance!

A Grand Opening!



Mayor Jody Armstrong cuts the ribbon to mark the grand opening of Redington Shores Yacht & Tennis Club on June 22nd, 2006 as owner Evelyn Page looks on.

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Town Staff

Town Clerk: Mary Palmer
Town Secretary: Patti Herr
Administrative Assistant: Pam Nightingale
Building Official: Steve Andrews
Public Works Director: Steve Jordan
Public Works Staff: Tex Loy, Brad Kelley, Gary Windon

MAYOR from page 1

May 10th was the deadline for submitting grant requests to the Florida Community Trust. With technical assistance from Building Official Steve Andrews, I completed two applications for submission. The first grant is for 3 beach crossovers (the two accesses located to the south and north of the Pier and the small access just north of the Towers). The second grant is for the acquisition of the parcel adjoining Spitzer Park and improvements to incorporate the parcel into the park. It will be a few months before any response is received on these applications.

As I am writing this, Phase 1 & 5 of the Stormwater Drainage improvement project is wrapping up. SWFWMD authorized an additional \$100,000. in the next fiscal year's

budget for engineering fees for Phase 4. This additional money will allow us to apply economies of scale as Phase 2 & 3 engineering monies and construction costs have already been approved. Phase 2 & 3 is the final area in District 2 (Wall St., Long Point Dr., etc.) that has not been reconfigured with the new drains, curbing, and paving. Phase 4 is the 180th—182nd Ave. E. area.



Newly paved 175th Ave. E.

After several meetings with FDOT, a solar

powered pedestrian controlled flashing yellow light will be installed at the 175th Ave. and Gulf Blvd. intersection within the next few months to help our efforts to improve pedestrian safety. I am working with the county and FDOT to add a crosswalk in the vicinity of the county beach access park and 7-11.

Externally, I am taking an active role in the BIG-C (Barrier Islands Government Council), the Mayor's Council, and the Suncoast League of Cities. I have accepted appointments to the board of directors for the Pinellas County Tourist Development Council and the Florida Shore and Beach Preservation Association.

In conclusion, I must thank my Commissioners, staff, and volunteers for their dedication and support. Working together, we can accomplish great things!