

December 2007

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

Phone: 727-397-5538  
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Mayor: *Jody Armstrong*

District 1 Vice-Mayor—Commissioner : *Bert Adams*

District 2 Commissioner: *John Branch*

District 3 Commissioner: *Casey Wojcik*

District 4 Commissioner : *Robert Holthaus*



## Save the July 4th Fireworks!

For the last few years, Redington Shores, N. Redington Beach, and Indian Shores combined forces and funds to host spectacular July 4th fireworks displays off the beach at the County Park. Recent budget cuts forced all three towns to cut funding for this event.

Mayor Jody Armstrong feels strongly about this event and has formed a committee to raise the \$16,000.00 needed to continue this tradition. It is not just about the fireworks,



but the symbolism behind the event. "It's about patriotism and remembering those who gave their lives for the freedom we enjoy" she told residents at the town picnic in October. "The minute we stop celebrating is the minute we begin to forget."

So, how can we make this happen? There are more than 2000 households in Redington Shores. We are asking each household contribute \$10. That's less than the cost of a pack of bottle rockets. Benefits of having fireworks display in our own backyard... convenient, no driving hassles, and it's a great excuse to throw a party.

Donations are now being accepted at Town Hall to be placed in a special account. If the full amount is not raised by April 1, 2008, all funds will be returned. We are also seeking corporate sponsorships. Please contact Town Hall if you would like to become involved in this fund-raising effort.

Looking toward 2009 funding, Pinellas County has agreed to allow the Town to retain parking funds collected on July 4th at the County Park. It is our intent at this time to collect \$10 per vehicle on that day at the park, as well as in all town owned parking lots to begin the following year's fund.

at the Madeira Beach bridge, Sunday, December 16th. This is an exciting annual event, with many participants showing off their beautifully decorated boats. The parade will travel north through the intracoastal waterway, around Shell's Basin, and ending at the Pub in Indian Shores. Grab a chair and a spot along the water and enjoy!

## 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. Monday through Friday.

Without internet access? See the bulletin boards through Town or tune in to Bright-house Cable Channel 15 for Town information. Commission meetings are televised live.

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## Join Us for Holiday Celebrations!

Please come and celebrate the joy of the Holiday season on Sunday, December 2, 2007 at Del Bello Park. Our annual tree lighting event will be held from 5 p.m. to 7 p.m., with the beautiful voices of the Blessed Sacrament Church Choir, a visit from Santa and Mrs. Claus, and plenty of hot coffee and the famous Salt Rock Grill clam chowder.

The annual house and commercial Christmas decorating contest will begin at dusk on Thursday, December 13th. Good luck to all homes and businesses that participate!

The Santa Parade through North Redington Beach and Redington Shores will begin at 3 p.m. on Saturday, December 15th.

The Christmas Boat Parade will begin around 6:00 p.m.

## District 1 Vice Mayor - Commissioner— Bert Adams

Yes, for those of you in District 1 the undergrounding construction is complete in our area. I would like to thank you, the residents, for your patience during this construction period. The results, however, were worth the wait.

With budget cuts we were able to keep our employees with a wage freeze; however we lost the July 4<sup>th</sup> fireworks for

2008. Mayor Armstrong is looking for contributions from businesses and individuals so we can have our 4<sup>th</sup> of July celebration. Please give her your support.

As your Maintenance and Human Resource Commissioner I would like to thank our employees and volunteers for their help at our Town Picnic.

Happy Holidays and have a great New Year!

Bert



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## District 2 Commissioner—John Branch

First I want to thank our Mayor for keeping the Town Picnic in the budget. A lot of work was done by volunteers and our Town Staff – it was great!

The Wall Street area block party was held on the 27<sup>th</sup> of October. It was great to see such a neighborly function – everyone had a great time.

Well, in District 2 all of the birds are walking! Most poles are out. We will have a walk through before March 2008 to be

sure that all boxes are straight.

We are in the permitting phase for the Lift Station at 1<sup>st</sup> Street and 176<sup>th</sup> Ave. Hopefully it will be out by the first of next year.

Storm sewers are in the permitting phase; Phase 2 includes 176<sup>th</sup> Avenue and 176<sup>th</sup> Terrace, Long Point Drive scheduled for 2008, followed by the curbs and paving. Phase 3 includes Wall Street and Wall Circle in 2009, followed by paving and

curbing. Phase 4 will include 180<sup>th</sup> Ave. and 182<sup>nd</sup> Ave. E. This project is a SWFWMD 50-50 funded project, so we must meet their guidelines which are very strict. We are doing our best – thanks for your patience.



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## District 3 Commissioner—Casey Wojcik

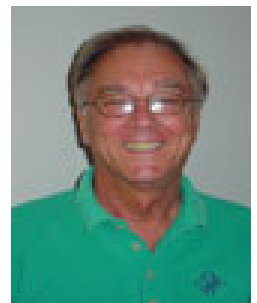
We are one of five towns who have built a partnership to support the Gulf Beaches Public Library. The agreement was renewed for three more years. Most significantly, over 900 residents of Redington Shores carry a membership card from the Gulf Beaches Public Library. This membership card provides access to all of the 13 libraries in the Pinellas County Cooperative.

Please visit our library and become familiar with all that is offered. There is a wide assortment of books available to check out, planned activities for people of all ages, public computers and free wireless connectivity on premise. It is definitely one of the best bargains on the beaches.

The undergrounding project is now in District 3. The process includes laying the PVC conduit underground, running all of the utility cables, installing the above ground pedestals, connecting the utilities to your houses, and then removing the old telephone polls. Your letters approving connecting the underground utilities to your houses are required before connections can be made. Please make sure you have signed your consent letter.

I want to extend a great big thank you to all of you who prepared for this year's hurricane season. As this note is written, we only have four weeks left in this year's hurricane season and my wishes are that

they pass as peacefully as the earlier part of the year, without incident. All of the planning and preparing do have value, this year and in future years. Your emergency management team works year round to plan and build infrastructure to mitigate the effects of a hurricane and to restore life back to normal as rapidly as can be done after the storm.



## District 4 Commissioner—Robert Holthaus

Thanks to our Town Hall staff and many citizen volunteers, our Annual Picnic at Constitution Park was again the best event of the year in our Town. Improvements to Constitution Park have been completed – the old brick grill converted into a serving area, and the individual grills have been replaced with new ones. Ceiling openings were

closed, and some roof tiles replaced.

Equipment is now on site for the exercise trail at Del Bello Park, and should be installed within the month. The water fountains have been installed and are in operation.

In reference to the many inquiries I have received about our beach buoys, I

am informed that our buoys may be set in place at the end of hurricane and stone crab season.



### Administrative Assistant Resigns

Redington Shore's loss is Belleair Beach's gain. Part time Administrative Assistant Pam Nightingale resigned effective November 7th to take a full time position at Belleair Beach.

Pam came aboard in 2006 to help alleviate the heavy workload generated by town projects and a hyperactive building department. With an ebb in local construction, Pam's position will not be back-filled at this time.

We wish Pam well in her new endeavor.

### Town Meeting Night Changed

Over the years, Commission meeting and workshop times have varied. For the first time in history, meetings are now held on Wednesdays instead of Tuesdays. The Commission meeting is now held on the second Wednesday of the month at 7pm and the workshop is now held on the last Wednesday of each month at 7pm.

Commission meetings will continue to be televised. Both meetings and workshops are open to the public.

The catalyst for change originated with a request from Town Attorney Jim Denhardt. Since Mr. Denhardt is also the attorney for Pinellas Park, scheduling conflicts became the norm rather than the exception. The change enables better media coverage as well because most towns along the beaches hold their meetings on Tuesdays.

This year marked the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Florida Shore & Beach Preservation Association's (FSBPA) incorporation. Fifty years ago, a group of visionaries recognized the need to take affirmative action in order to protect our beautiful shoreline in a balance with modern development.

During FSBPA's annual conference (and again at the October BIG-C meeting), Dr. Nicole Elko presented a timeline of Pinellas County's beach preservation efforts. The first note of importance is to recognize that our string of barrier islands naturally shifts over time. Once permanent structures inhibited this natural shift, our beaches suffered. This became evident in the 1960's and 1970's as our beaches suffered from serious erosion and the waterline slapped against seawalls. The concept of beach renourishment had to be sold to our legislators to enable project funding. U.S. Congressman Bill Young and State Senator Dennis Jones (aka "The Sandman") not only grasped the concept, but embraced it. Through their continued promotion and tireless efforts, Florida now has \$30 million in dedicated funding (partially from state doc stamp revenue) for beach renourishment projects. FSBPA recognized both statesmen with awards for their efforts during the 50<sup>th</sup> celebration gala.

The science of beach renourishment has also evolved over time. Sand for initial renourishments came from near shore borrow areas and in some instances, brought in be the truckload. My first experience with beach renourishment came shortly after I moved to Redington Shores. Like many of you who were here in 2000, I was unhappy

### The Mayor's Corner

with the rocks that made it a pain rather than a joy to have sand between my toes. The tedious remedy to remove those rocks was likewise unsettling. Thankfully, lessons were learned and the science of renourishment improved exponentially. Today, shoreline profiles are carefully engineered right down to the size and color of the sand grains that are to be placed on our beaches. A sign that renourishment is working in Pinellas County is the greater spans of time between the need for renourishment. This is a good thing not only economically, but also because borrow areas are finite.

I am confident our beaches are in good hands for the near term. What concerns me is that our strongest advocates are entering their golden years. Who in legislature will fight for dedicated funding in the future?

Finally, I would be remiss if I did not acknowledge Redington Shores Estates Development Company for being the only sponsor from Pinellas County who helped make FSBPA's Golden Anniversary a special and memorable event. Everyone in Pinellas County has benefited from our world renowned beaches that have been made possible by those initial visionaries who formed FSBPA. Let's not forget that vision.

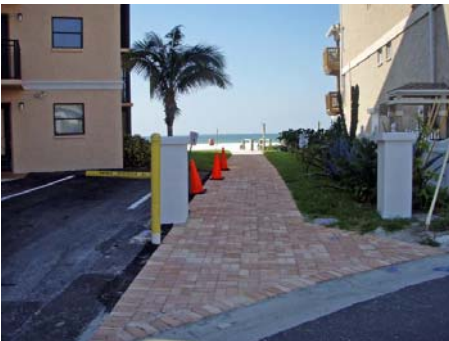


## Our Newest Renovations!

Two beach access points were recently renovated to match the three accesses completed in 2006. The two newest are located on Lee Avenue at the west end of 176th Ave W and 176th Terr W.



Renovations included addition of paver stones to the seawall and entrance columns roadside.



The north half of DelBello Park was also upgraded with paver stones, thus completing the full length of the park's walkway.



The final step in the DelBello Park renovation will be the installation of exercise equipment. The equipment installation will fulfill our state grant obligations.

## Pedestrian Crosswalks, Good Idea or Bad Idea? - Sgt. Doug Pasley, ISPD

When talking to the citizens of Redington Shores, one of the favorite topics has to do with the new cross walks. Opinions about the cross walks are as varied as the people you talk with. It seems that everybody has an opinion. Some are for the cross walks. Some are against the cross walks and some don't care.

The amazing thing about the conversations is that it seems like everyone has had a near death experience crossing Gulf Blvd. Some have seen their lives flash before their eyes. Others tell stories about making a ballerina type movements to keep from being hit by a semi truck or bus. Some even say the driver of the vehicle drove up onto the sidewalk to get to them.

I have come to this conclusion. It is impossible for an adult pedestrian to get run over while crossing Gulf Blvd. unless, the pedestrian is blind and when he gets to the center of the street his dog spooks and runs off leaving him standing in the middle of the street. I will explain why I came to that conclusion.

I have been blessed because I have lived on the beach in Redington Shores for the past 16 years. I have crossed Gulf Blvd. hundreds of times. I have never come anywhere close to getting run over. Maybe I am a coward because I will not walk out in front of a vehicle. The other day I was crossing the street and when I got to the street and looked both ways there were no cars in sight. For some reason, I just stood there I

guess waiting for a car to come. Finally, I came to my senses and said to myself "idiot what are you waiting on GO,GO,GO."

Please understand that safely crossing the street is a very serious subject. Pedestrians and motorist alike have an obligation for cross walk safety. Do vehicles disobey the cross walk caution light? Yes they do. Do pedestrians wait for cars to come before they enter the cross walk? Yes they do. Do cars speed on Gulf Blvd.? Yes they do. Keep this in mind when using the cross walks. Your police department monitors our two cross walks. Your police department continually writes traffic citations for traffic infractions. A Deputy working a cross walk assignment in the town south of us watched as two pedestrians were struck by a vehicle. This proves an accident can happen even with police presence.

I feel that the secret to cross walk safety is education. That education is for both the motorist and the pedestrian. Many pedestrians will say, "But I have the right of way." That is a true statement. However, the pedestrian could be DEAD RIGHT. I trust my attempt with a little humor at the beginning of this article does not insult anyone. I was only trying to make a dull subject interesting for the reader.

Are PEDESTRIAN CROSS WALKS good? Yes they are. Properly maintained and properly used provides safety for the pedestrian and the motorist.

## Beach Walkover Grant Monies Sought

Building Official Steve Andrews has been diligently seeking beach walkover grant money from Pinellas County Coastal Management. In order to qualify for dune walkover funding, four criteria must exist:

1. a dune shall exist,
2. the public access shall be clearly marked on the east side, shall provide access to a public beach, and shall have sufficient public use;
3. evidence of disturbance by pedestrian traffic shall exist; and

4. construction of a dune walkover shall not eliminate a vehicle access to the beach.

Steve has been in contact with Coastal Coordinator Dr. Nicole Elko and as of September 28th and, advises we have been approved for a walkover at Coral Ave. The other sites did not qualify, but Steve is in the process of sending more pictures and proposals to get other sites approved.

We can expect construction during this fiscal year.

## A Picture Perfect Picnic!



Saturday, October 13th proved to be a picture perfect day for our Town's annual picnic at Constitution Park. Every year, residents take the opportunity to mingle with neighbors old and new, boogie to tunes, and enjoy the culinary talent of Nachman's Seafood.

Pictured below are Mounir elBeyrouty and Mayor Jody Armstrong, followed by Vice Mayor Bert Adams and Tony D'Angelo, Deputy Clerk Patti Herr and Town Clerk Mary Palmer, and finally Mayor Armstrong with Robert Hughes.



Tim Nachman carves a pig for serving.



At 102, the Town's eldest resident Dorothy Gurley poses with Town Clerk Mary Palmer.



## Who Is Responsible?

Renters in the Town of Redington Shores, did you know your Landlord must maintain their property just like any other?

There are specific State Statutes, Town Codes and Standard Housing Codes as to how they must maintain a rental dwelling, as well as certain rules that renters must follow. These include property owner and tenant duties and responsibilities.

Who's responsible? Town Code Chapter 90-4; Florida Building and Fire Codes; as locally amended, all say that YOU, as property owners are RESPONSIBLE.

Under State and County laws many persons hired to work on, or provide services to real property, require competency licenses in essence to screen, track and regulate these individuals and companies. The Town also has codes that require licensing taxes, insurance and registration of information of these persons.

As residents, board members, homeowners you are responsible for ascertaining if the companies or individuals you hire are

## A Voice from the Town Maintenance Department

**DOWN THE DRAIN-** Please try your best not to put paint, grease, old rags, etc., into your drains. This causes all kinds of **expensive and time consuming** problems with the Town's sewer system.

**PET OWNERS-** Town ordinances require that all animal litter be removed and disposed of and all animals must be on a leash. Please adhere to these ordinances and do not hesitate to report violators. No one appreciates land mines on their properties, especially if they don't own pets.

**GARBAGE CANS –** Remember, the Town has a nearly new (one year old) ordinance that requires residents to place trash cans out no sooner than 6:00 p.m. the night before pick-up, and to replace the cans by 7:00 p.m. the day of pick-up to a concealed area next to or behind the house.

Your cooperation helps keep our Town beautiful and residents happy.

properly licensed and registered with the Town. With compliance by all, the regulation of property maintenance work will be one step closer to efficient enforcement.

In response to increasing complaints, the Town's Code Enforcement efforts may have to concentrate in certain areas that are assigned as a priority by Commission. This response could include increased patrols by State, County and/or Town officials; Notices to comply or to appear in court issued to businesses, owners or individuals found not in compliance with the codes of the Town, County or State.

Please call or visit the following for more information:

County Licensing 536-4720 or <http://www.pclcb.com>

State Licensing 1-800- or <http://www.dbpr.com>

Florida Building Code <http://www.floridabuilding.org>



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## Town Staff

Town Clerk: Mary Palmer  
Deputy Clerk: Patti Herr  
Building Official: Steve Andrews  
Public Works Director: Steve Jordan  
Public Works Staff: Tex Loy, Brad Kelley, Gary Windon

## Special Municipal Election

On January 29, 2008, voters will be asked to vote on a referendum question:

### AN AMENDMENT TO THE CHARTER TO MAKE ELECTION PROCEDURES IN ACCORDANCE WITH STATE LAW

Shall Ordinance No. 07-04 of the Board of Commissioners of the Town of Redington Shores, as enacted 10/10/07, be ratified to amend provisions of the Charter of the Town of Redington Shores pertaining to candidates, election dates, election procedures, the canvassing board and the commencement terms of office in order to make the provisions of the Charter of the Town of Redington Shores be in accordance with the provision of state law?

The purpose of this referendum is to bring the Town Charter into compliance with state election laws. Any changes to the Charter requires voter approval. Your Commission supports this ordinance and requests that you vote "yes."

## Regularly Scheduled Municipal Election

The Town of Redington Shores regularly scheduled municipal election will be held on Tuesday, March 11, 2008.

Voters will elect Commissioners for District One and District Three. Current Commissioners are Bert Adams, representing District One and Casey Wojcik, representing District Three.

Candidates must qualify between December 7, 2007 and 12 noon on December 21, 2007.

You must be registered to vote no later than February 11, 2008 to be able to cast your vote for your favorite candidate.

## Visible Progress

It is a case of what you don't see that is at the heart of visible progress in the utility undergrounding project. The \$5 million project, which began in March 2006 is, according to Project Manager Jim Guzman, on schedule to be completed in March 2008.

Pictured below is the way 175th Ave looked before the lines and poles were removed.



Now look at the same street after! Visual litter is gone! It seemed that this



gateway road took forever to complete, but the painful memory quickly fades with clear skies above! A huge thanks to the Commissioners and staff who continue to keep this train rolling!!

## Handy Telephone Numbers

Residents may find the following list of telephone numbers handy:

Indian Shores Police Department  
595-5414

Seminole Fire Department  
393-8711

Progress Energy Customer Service  
443-2641

Bright House Networks  
562-5015

Verizon  
800-483-4000

Pinellas County Utilities  
464-4000

Waste Services  
572-6800

Pinellas County Information  
464-3000

Madeira Beach Post Office  
394-2736

Suncoast Seabird Sanctuary  
391-6211

Clearwater Marine Aquarium (dolphin & sea turtle) Stranding Line  
441-1790 x234

## WANTED! Old Cell Phone & Empty Ink Cartridges

The Indian Shores Police Department is collecting old cell phones and printer cartridges to benefit the Battered Women's Shelter. The cell phones are refurbished for use only to call 911. The cartridges are turned in and money collected goes toward the shelter. If you would like to donate these items please drop them off to Redington Shores Town Hall. Thanks!