

July 2008

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

Phone: 727-397-5538
Fax: 727-392-9470

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*



Former Town Hall Property Converted to Public Parking Lot

With a brand new Town Hall constructed at the south end of Town, speculation abounded about what would

be done with the former site. A recreation center? A parking garage? More condos? We all watched this valuable piece of land smack dab in the middle of Town lie vacant, waiting for its next assignment. Businesses and residents alike have been begging for more parking in the Town's central business district. Surrounding neighbors provided input and worked with the Commission



to design a plan that was acceptable to all.

The twenty-two space

See **PARKING**, pg. 5



Beach Walkover Project Advances with Breakneck Speed!

It all started with the beach access paver stone project to beautify and clearly identify the Town's beach accesses from the roadside. Well, oftentimes one thing leads to another... In this case the initial beautification led to a small beaten path through protective sea oats. Pinellas County Coastal Coordinator Dr. Nicole Elko also saw these beaten paths and earmarked grant money for our Town to construct pedestrian walkovers to provide safe access for beachgoers and enable the sea oats to expand and grow. Three walkovers at Atoll, Beach, and Coral Avenues were approved in early 2008 and the work began. Between the contractor bid process and permitting, only a few weeks were left before the May 1st turtle nesting



season beach construction moratorium. With breakneck speed, our Town maintenance crew removed all of the existing pilings and obstructions, readying the sites for the new construction. The contractor followed immediately thereafter and the walkovers were completed before the moratorium! A few minor touches, including the installation of paver stones to fill in the void to the



walkover, planting sea oats (see page 3), and the project will be complete!



What Do You Think?

Recently, Bighthouse moved the Town's government access cable channel from Channel 15 to Channel 615. Channel 15 was a well known communication vehicle for Town information and live televised Commission meetings. Has the channel change adversely affected your ability to stay current on Town happenings?

Funding the Rays baseball stadium is a hot topic. The proposed core funding for the new stadium is the 1 cent bed tax that is currently in effect until 2015. This tax is assessed on all hotels and short term rentals. The Rays propose to extend that tax for another 25-30 years. Do you support this funding proposal?

Your input is needed and greatly appreciated!



Inside this issue:

• A New Parking Lot	1
• Beach Walkovers	1
• Commissioners' Reports	2-3
• The Mayor's Corner	3
• Help Plant Sea Oats!	3
• A Master!	3
• Summertime Safety	4
• Gulf Blvd.	4
• Undergrounding	
• R-O-W Regs	5
• Why Permit?	5
• Ergonomically Correct	6
• A Bump in the Road	6

District 1 Vice Mayor - Commissioner— Bert Adams

In the December 2006 newsletter I stated that the Underground project on 174th Ave. and 174th Terrace Dr. were nearing completion. As you know, this was the start of the project; now in June 2008 I can say that the project is complete except for the restoration of the concrete that was cut under the meter boxes, and any open cuts that had to be done on the roads. This is now in the process of being done.

The Town Business District and beach access parking lot at Gulf Blvd. and 178th Ave. W. is now open. The hours are from 7 a.m. to 10 p.m. Residents can park here

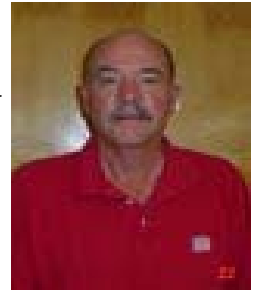
for free with the new hang tags, available at Town Hall for a fee of \$3.00 to cover the cost of the tags. The tag will be valid until December 31, 2008 with a new tag required for 2009. There is one tag issued per address with proof of residency. If you have friends visit you can loan them the tag for their use; however do not lose it since there is only one issued per year. Visitors to our Town can park here for \$ 1.00 per hour, paid by coin or credit card.

A few other projects are complete: the beach walkovers are a great improvement getting to and from the beach; the exercise equipment at Nature Park will

give you quite a workout.

Thanks to Commissioner Branch and Steve Andrews, our Building Official, the residents of District 2 are getting a much needed lift station soon – my hat is off to them.

As always thanks to our staff for all the work they do for the Town. Have a great summer and make sure your hurricane plans are in place.



District 2 Commissioner—John Branch

The Undergrounding of utilities is complete in District 2. All cans (green pedestals in front) should be straight by now, and work under the meter cans will be started soon.

We are going out for bids on storm water drains, street paving and curbs in June. This is going to be a long project – over a year. You will encounter street inconveniences, but in the long run you will be proud of your street.

Now Pinellas County Water Department has moved the potable water and reclaim lines in preparation for moving the lift station out of 1st St. and 176th Ave. E. The contract is out and the work on the

lift station will start very soon. You will miss the noise from covers in the middle of 1st St. and 176th Ave.! I have worked hard, and spent many hours on this project; however we must all thank the Mayor and Commissioners, the Building Official and the ladies in the office. Necessary monies were not opposed; paperwork was handled well and Steve Andrews was at my side with proper technical advice. I ask all to please be patient.

Mayor Jim Lawrence of Indian Shores invited Mayor Armstrong and the Town Commission to Memorial Day services and a picnic. Congressman Bill Young told a heart wrenching story of himself

and family caring for a Marine sergeant and his family. The Marine finally passed away with Congressman Young's son holding his hand.

I extend congratulations to former Mayor J. J. Beyrouti, who was appointed by Governor Crist to the Housing Board.

Remember, it is nice to be important, but more important to be nice – love people for what they are. Thank you for allowing me to serve.



District 3 Commissioner—Casey Wojcik

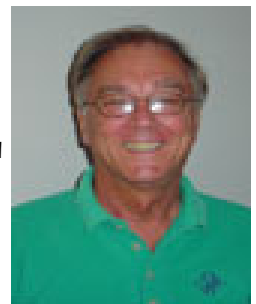
Many people in District Three have acknowledged their satisfaction with the significant changes implemented in the first half of 2008. The new parking lot at the site of the old Town Hall is now completed and is being used by our guests and visitors. I want to thank all of our citizens who participated in the workshops and contributed to the final plans for the parking lot that culminated in the completion of a very attractive and revenue generating facility.

Our thanks go out to Steve Andrews and his team for securing the funding

and managing the construction of the beach walkovers at Coral Avenue, Beach Avenue, and Atoll Avenue. These ADA compliant structures enhance the appearance and increase accessibility to the beach. The use of the synthetic decking material also provides for a low maintenance walkway that will serve us for a long period of time.

Lastly, it is with some relief that we are experiencing the very final stages of the under grounding project. I want to extend a big thank you to all of the citizens for their cooperation and understanding dur-

ing this very ambitious project. Hopefully all of the items needing final attention will be completed soon and we can enjoy the benefits of underground utilities for a long time.



District 4 Commissioner—Robert Holthaus

It has been a very exciting 6 months for our Parks system. Since the last newsletter the renovations at Del Bello Park have been completed with grant monies from FRDAP (Florida Recreation Development Assistance Program); we now have a beautiful kayak/canoe launch that has attracted many kayakers enjoying Boca Ciega Bay; a new fishing pier that always has a few avid fishermen relaxing in the sun; an exercise walkway with repetitive exercise equipment (be sure to read the legend at the north end of the walkway!)

and an educational kiosk. I hope the residents make good use of this lovely location as much as possible.

The Town held its first ice cream social at Del Bello Park May 3, in honor of "Older Americans Month." All who attended thoroughly enjoyed the ice cream and special toppings, along with the camaraderie. This may well become an annual event!

The Parks & Recreation Committee met in May, and there are some additional improvements that are in the works for Thelma Spitzer Park. The Commission recently reappointed the members to the Committee - they continue to do a great job planning ideas for further beautification of our Town's green space.



A Master!

Town Clerk Mary Palmer earned certification as Master Municipal Clerk. This designation places Mary in an elite category of only 576 Master Municipal Clerks worldwide and one of a select few clerks in Pinellas County with the designation! This designation is earned over time through continued education. Congratulations, Mary!

The Mayor's Corner

Speaking of the economy, it is budget season once again. Last year, 9% was trimmed from the budget to meet new legislative mandates. Basically, we went into a "hold" mode by cutting all capital expenditures for one year to see what this year's state legislature would do. The addition of the new construction to our tax rolls will keep our town from additional cuts, keeping us equal to last year's ad valorem tax collection. It is my intent to stay in this "hold" mode for another frugal year, while moving forward with the planned capital improvements of storm-water drainage and moving the sewer lift station on 176th. Obviously, expenses will rise in response to fuel costs, but we will continue to keep close tabs and do all possible in order to keep town taxes low.



Volunteers Needed to Help Plant Sea Oat Seedlings!

Soon, the dunes will be smoothed and ready for planting the sea oat seedlings. Those seedlings are available at no cost and will be delivered to the Town in early July.

We are recruiting volunteers to help us plant the sea oat seedlings on Saturday morning July 26th at 8:00am. The rendezvous point is on the beach between Beach and Atoll Avenues. The Town will deliver the seedlings to the beach and provide the supplies needed to plant the seedlings. The planting of the seedlings will complete this walkover project.

If you and your friends are interested in volunteering and making a difference, please let us know by return e-mail or call Town Hall at 727-397-5538 with any questions

Thank you for your help with this.



I always try to find a bright side to challenges. As I watch the exponential rise in gas prices with disbelief, the walkability of our town becomes more valuable. Now, more than ever before, the ability to leave the car in the garage to walk or bike to services can help ease the pain at the pump. Think about it. One can grab a gourmet cup of coffee at Bad Ass Coffee, pick up a newspaper at 7-11 or Circle K, enjoy both at DelBello Park, grab breakfast at Kenny's Corner, fish at The Redington Long Pier, have lunch at Wahoo's Waterside Pub or Beach Pizza Plus, drop off the dry cleaning and mending at Irmis', get a new coif at Bill's Barber Shop or Humanoids, get your nails done at Total Look, and stop by Friendly Tavern or Fort Knox for a cool one while you wait for your laundry at the Laundry Room, or have your palm read at Psychic Crystal while you wait for your car to be serviced at Tiger Auto (That's if you absolutely must take your car out). Check out Kitesville or Looks Boutique for unique gift ideas. All this for less than a two mile roundtrip itinerary! Oh, and the choices for dinner? Well, stop by The Reef at Nachman's Native Seafood to pick up the fresh catch of the day or, if you'd rather skip the dishes, take in The Lobster Pot, Shells, or Thai Talay, to name a few. You can even top off the day with a fine cigar from Cigarista or Havana Cigars! If I sound like an advertisement for our town businesses, I am. Rather than spending your hard earned dollars on the other side of the bridge, keep the money local and help keep this plethora of local jewels afloat. Help keep our locals local!

Summertime Security & Safety Tips ! - Det. Jason Routzahn, ISPD

During warm weather months, we often see an increase in burglary and thefts. Reason why:

Windows at residences are left open for ventilation when residents are not home.

Unattended open garages while residents are working in the yard or have briefly left the home.

Unattended personal belongings while at the beach or other recreational venues.

Unattended personal belongings visible in our vehicles.

Here are some summer-time safety tips to help reduce incidents of burglary and theft.

Close And Lock Windows; Limit How Far They Can Be Opened

When you are away from home, close and lock your doors and windows. While at home, you should only leave windows open enough for ventilation, but not wide enough for someone to gain entry, use a dowel for sliding glass windows cut to allow the window to open no more than 4". For double hung windows, consider sash pins. Some windows have stops installed on the inside track, which will prevent the window from being opened too far.

Lock Your Doors

Some residents go to the store for a short trip and leave their doors open and/or unlocked. They returned to find their home burglarized. Lock your doors and windows anytime you leave home. Do not make it easy for the burglars.

Working In The Yard

When working in the yard in the front of your home, do not leave your back door open and/or unlocked. If you have a garage or storage unit that is out of your line of sight, be mindful of what are you showing in plain view to anyone who may be walking or driving by. Lock all doors.

Do Not Leave Personal Belongings Unattended

Whether they are in a shopping cart or on a beach blanket, always maintain positive control over your belongings. Never leave personal belongings unattended in your vehicle. Florida has an incredibly high rate of theft of personal property from vehicles, particularly at public parking lots.

Recommendations Regarding Sliding Windows & Doors:

The design of some sliding doors and windows allow the slider to be removed from the track at the ¾ to fully opened position. They should not be able to be removed from a partially opened position. Installing flat head screws in the upper track of the window can help. Install the screws high enough for the window or door to slide freely, but low enough to prevent the window from being lifted up and out of the track from a partially opened position.

Use dowels for sliding windows and doors. You can use two sizes of dowels, one for when the window is in the closed position and one to allow the window to be opened enough for ventilation (no more than 4") but not allow someone to force the window open further to gain entry. I still advise that you close and lock all windows and doors for any time you are away from your home.

Where you have single pane glass windows, consider replacing them with thermal insulated, double pane windows. They are better for security as well as the energy efficiency of the home. Yes, this is a high cost fix, but it is worth it.

"I'll Be Right Back..." Don't Leave Children in Cars!

Since 1998, over 330 children have died as a result of being left in a vehicle. Florida is the 2nd highest state with 35 fatalities. Every year, hundreds of children die of heatstroke after being left in parked cars. Even in mild weather, the interior of a parked car can rise to dangerous temperatures in just a few minutes, and a small child's body temperature can increase three to five times as fast as an adult's. The resulting heat-related illness can cause permanent organ damage or death. Remember if your keys are left in the vehicle, or the vehicle is left unlocked, someone could steal the vehicle with your child in it or just kidnap your child. Just remember what you think may only be a quick trip... only a second...could easily turn into much longer. **Never leave your child alone!**

Let's Not Forget Our Pets

Never leave your pet unattended in a parked car for any period of time. On a warm day, the temperature in a parked car can reach 120 degrees in a matter of minutes-even with the windows partially open. Your pet can quickly suffer brain damage or die from heatstroke or suffoca-

tion when trapped in high temperatures. Remember you don't just expose your pets to the dangers of heat stress when you leave them in a car, you also expose them to pet theft. Thousands of pets are stolen each year from unattended cars.

For More Information Call: Detective Jason Routzahn, ISPD @ 727-595-5414 or Jroutzahn@myindianshores.com

Gulf Blvd. Undergrounding Update

There has been a lot of talk for a lot of years, specifically seven years and 48 meetings with Pinellas County Commissioners about Gulf Blvd. beautification. In 2007, voters supported the extension of the "Penny for Pinellas" one cent sales tax, in part due to the promise of county funding support for this project. Thanks to the efforts of Indian Shores Mayor Jim Lawrence, N. Redington Beach Bill Queen, and former Mayor JJ Beyrouti, this promise is now moving towards a formal agreement. With a strong showing of support from the BIG-C at the June 10th, 2008 County Commission meeting, the commissioners unanimously passed a motion committing \$35 million of "Penny for Pinellas" money to the Gulf Blvd. Beautification Partnership project.

The allocation will become available beginning in 2011, \$7 million each year, through 2016. Each municipality's allocation is based on lineal road frontage of Gulf Blvd. Redington Shores funding allocation is \$1,722,651 based on 1.25 miles.

The next step is to enter into an Interlocal Agreement with the County agreeing to this partnership. Real time cost estimates will then be obtained to ascertain financial feasibility for different levels of improvements. Once a plan is devised, it must be reviewed and approved by the BIG-C prior to submittal to the County for final approval.

Undergrounding along Gulf Blvd. is still a way off, but the necessary groundwork is now in place enabling us to move forward. Stay tuned!

Town Right of Way Regulations

The spirit and intent of these Town Codes is to regulate the use of all public right-of-ways before, during and after the staging of all building construction, maintenance and right-of-way use by the public. These rules shall apply to all town right-of-ways, with particular emphasis on the approved uses and management of public beach access right-of ways. These rules apply to all activities in the Town right-of-ways including, but not limited to all adjacent commercial and residential land uses and in addition to State Road regulations as applicable.

Planting on the right-of-way of shrubs, trees or other growth other than lawn grass is prohibited without Town approval and permit. Chapter 129-2 (A) Town Codes.

Parking of private or commercial vehicles associated with the loading and/or unloading of business, building materials and/or building equipment shall be limited to a period not to exceed two hours, unless otherwise approved. Chapter 140 Town Code of Redington Shores.

Parking of private or commercial vehicles associated with commercial/business use, building construction or repair shall be prohibited in public right-of-ways. Chapter 140.

Storage of building materials of any type, debris, including soil, sand, dust and spent or scrap materials shall not be left on sidewalks, public access ways and shall be prohibited in public right-of-ways. Chapter 127-8 and Chapter 129.

Overnight parking of any type of vehicle or equipment shall be prohibited in public right-of-ways. Chapter 140.

Damaging, altering or removal of approved landscaping and/or irrigation systems and/or appurtenances shall be replaced and restored. Chapter 90-154.

Damaged Town sidewalks, driveways, curbs, gutters, surfaces or any other public infrastructure shall be replaced prior to issuance of a certificate of occupancy. Chapter 90 and Chapter 129.

Prior to the issuance of a certificate of occupancy, the Town shall inspect and make final determination for landscaping and irrigation system compliance. Chapter 90 and Chapter 129.

Violations to any of the above listed items may result in fines per each occurrence and/or daily as applicable per each

Code Chapter or Town Code Chapter 70 "Code Enforcement" if not remedied by the violator or adjacent property owner as applicable.



Why Permit?

Permits and inspections are required for work on properties that exceeds \$750.00 for electric, plumbing, air conditioning and/or structural work. See the Town web pages for listings of more specific types of work requiring or not requiring permits. Even some non-structural and non-building work may require permits and/or inspections because of Town Code requirements, total cost, and/or documentation purposes as follows;

Initial insurance coverage, changes to coverage and/or losses can cause the insurance companies to research the records for permits and inspections. Home appraisals, refinancing, re-sales and subsequent home inspections for the same also involve checking permit and inspection records. Accidents, lawsuits and housing complaints also trigger permit and inspection research which may also involve some of the above institutions looking in to the property, and verifying information.

If it cannot be documented that certain improvements were permitted and inspected, insurance may refuse to pay claims, the sale of property may be lost or lawsuit may be not be resolved favorably for the property owner.

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. Every properly licensed contractor should have no

PARKING, from page 1

fenced in lot is paved with recycled asphalt and landscaped with Florida friendly shrubs. It opened just in time for the long Memorial Day weekend. The lot is open daily from 7am to 10pm.

The fee of \$1.00 per hour (up to a \$10.00 per day maximum) is paid at the solar powered collection box for all who do not have a Resident Hang Tag. The new Resident Hang Tag costs residents \$3.00 per year and replaces the old red and white sticker. Resident Hang Tags may be purchased at Town Hall with proof of residency.

problem registering or acquiring a permit, and it is usually suspect if they refuse, or try to talk you out of applying to the Town. 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 which is always checked when a permit application is made.

As residents, board members, homeowners **you are responsible** for ascertaining if the companies or individuals you hire are properly permitted, licensed and registered with the Town. With compliance by all, the regulation of property maintenance work will be one step closer to efficient enforcement and documentation.

Building Official, Steve Andrews, Please call or visit the following for more information:

- Town information — 397-5538 or <http://www.townofredingtonshores.com>
- County Licensing 536-4720 or <http://www.pcclb.com>
- State Licensing 1-850-487-1395 or <http://www.dbpr.com>
- Florida Building Code <http://www.floridabuilding.org>



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

Phone: 727-397-5538
Fax: 727-392-9470

Town Staff

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

Ergonomically Correct



Did you know that the exercise equipment added at DelBello Park is designed for the mature adult? It is easy on the joints and resistance comes only from your own body. Give it a try. You'll be pleasantly surprised!



A Bump in the Road

Anyone who has driven down 1st Street from 176th Avenue is familiar with the raised metal sewer lift station cover. In the near future, the cha-chick, cha-chink with each set of tires rolling over the noisy plate will be a distant memory.

After a lengthy design process, the engineering is finally complete and a contractor selected to enable the Town to move forward with plans to move the lift station from its current location in the middle of the roadway to the right of way on the southeast side of the road.



Pictured here are Commissioner John Branch and Building Official Steve Andrews holding a sign, "You're gonna miss me when I'm gone" at the current lift station location.

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

Gary, Brad, Steve, and Tex Working To Keep Our Town Beautiful!

