



Winter 2015

SMOKE SIGNALS

VILLAGE OF TEQUESTA NEWSLETTER

From the Desk of
Frank D'Ambra
Councilman



I am writing this column on December 12th. By the time you read this you will have already received a letter from the Mayor outlining one of the most important initiatives our Village has considered in the last 15 years, the opportunity for our community to remake US 1. Until the late 1980's, the Village of Tequesta and The Town of Jupiter were small communities and I-95 through the Treasure Coast was an unrealized plan. By 1990, I-95 was complete providing residents, visitors and commuters with a fast North-South travel route and an alternative to US 1.

The process of gathering resident input, analyzing various scenarios and developing a proposal for submission to Florida's Department of Transportation (FDOT) will be done in partnership with Palm Beach County, Treasure Coast Regional Planning Council and the Town of Jupiter. The inputs, work products and deliverables will consist of the following:

1. The selection by the Village of a "Project Host Committee" to assist in the identification of key issues and logistics.
2. Interviews with local residents, businesses, property owners and relevant public agency staff to identify key issues and concerns.
3. A public workshop to garner public input regarding issues, concerns, opportunities and desired physical improvements.
4. Provide a fully detailed, fully illustrated, scaled master plan for the US 1- corridor addressing street design options, including, travel and turn lane configurations, bicycle routes, sidewalk, lighting and landscape improvements.
5. Methods and opportunities to improve multi-modal connections between US 1 and the adjoining properties and neighborhoods.

The goal is to improve the ambiance and function of US 1 so it best reflects and serves the residents of Tequesta and is consistent with the character of the Village. For this endeavor to succeed and deliver the results that reflect the interests of our community, we are asking you to take the time to provide us with your input be it through the scheduled events or directly to council members or Village staff.

In closing, I would like to leave you with a couple of thoughts. The first is a quote from Leonardo da Vinci. "I have been impressed with the urgency of doing. Knowing is not enough; we must apply. Being willing is not enough; we must do."

The second is from the invocation at our December council meeting. "Help us to keep our eyes constantly open to the serious issues that our Village government can and should solve or improve. To look forward to what all of us can accomplish by applying our collective talents and experience to the challenges that confront us. As we work together on behalf of all who live in this Village, may we gain strength and sustenance from one another through reason and compassion."

The Council looks forward to hearing from you on this important initiative. On a personal note, thank you all for granting me the privilege of representing and working for you.

Council Member Frank D'Ambra III

ALL ABOARD FLORIDA

An update from Mayor Abby Brennan

So now we wait....

The Federal Railway Administration's (FRA) deadline for responses to the Draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS) concerning All Aboard Florida expired last month. Many Village of Tequesta residents and business owners contributed to over 8,000 pieces of correspondence received by the FRA. Several independent organizations produced detailed reports compiled by experts in the marine, legal, financial, economic and environmental fields that challenged nearly every assertion made in the DEIS.



Village Council has always maintained that the negative impacts to our community, on both land and on water, will not be limited to the passage of thirty-two All Aboard Florida passenger trains. What may turn out to be equally disruptive, and perhaps more dangerous, is the expected increase to the current sixteen freight trains a day to twenty-two or more. These trains are projected to be even longer in length and include double-stacked intermodal train cars. We all know that freight trains routinely take five minutes or more to clear a crossing...and that's when they're moving at all.



Many of us have first-hand knowledge of what happens when the train trestle bridge malfunctions and all three grade crossings at County Line Road, Tequesta Drive and Riverside Drive are blocked by just one freight train. Not to mention when freight train cars are being connected or disconnected at the CEMEX plant on Old Dixie Highway. We sit at the lowered gates on Tequesta Drive watching a locomotive creep in one direction, stop, and then move back even slower the other way. Frustrating at best!

All Aboard Florida claims its passenger trains will take less than a minute to clear a grade crossing. That claim is suspect considering the fact that trains must slow down well before crossing the Loxahatchee River bridge and when navigating the sharp curve just south of the CEMEX plant. They also state that the decrepit bridge will be "improved." Unfortunately, numerous requests for specifics to verify the "less than a minute" claim and the exact nature of the bridge repairs have been ignored.

All of this information, as well as data provided by other towns and cities along the coastal route between West Palm Beach and Cocoa, has been sent to the FRA. I've been told that the amount of time it will take them to read, categorize and evaluate these comments will be, at the very least, four to five months. That's good.

So now we wait....then round two!



Village of Tequesta's Citizen Access Portal "CAP"

The Village of Tequesta now provides the public with online access to building permits, building plan reviews, fire prevention permits, and development review applications. The online building permit application information is available from the date of August 1, 2014 to present.



You must be a registered contractor in the Village of Tequesta to apply for a permit or schedule an inspection over the internet.

A limited type of building "trade" permit applications is accepted online. The list of available permit applications will be displayed after you log in and select "Apply for a Permit". Currently, Owner Builder, New Constructions, Interior Build Outs, Additions, and Cell Towers, must be submitted in person to the Building Department located at 345 Tequesta Drive, Tequesta FL 33469. To obtain a username and password and an online application manual, please call (561)768-0450.

Website hours are 6 a.m. to 10 p.m.

To Schedule an Inspection Online:

You must be a registered contractor using a valid username and password to schedule an inspection over the internet. Inspections can be scheduled daily from 6:00 a.m. to 10:00 p.m. using the online permitting system. This system not only allows you to schedule inspections, but view inspection results.

All inspection results will be updated by 4:00 p.m. Please do not call the office inquiring about results prior to that time.

Required Fire Inspections are indicated on your Fire Permit and must be scheduled by 4:30 p.m. prior to the requested inspection date. Fire inspections are performed by the Fire Inspector between the hours of 1:30 p.m. - 3:30 p.m. and are separate and apart from the Building Department Inspections.

To register and receive your login and password, contact the office at: (561)768-0450.

If you are not a contractor or do not wish to apply online, you may still obtain a permit by applying at the Building Department, located at Village Hall, 345 Tequesta Drive, Tequesta, FL. You may download and print applicable forms from our website under building department forms. To find out if you need a permit or if you may have other questions, call us (561) 768-0450.

Traffic Saturations

Over the past few months, the Tequesta Police Department has received complaints of drivers not following the rules of the road. Residents have complained of vehicles speeding, driving aggressively, failing to stop at stop signs and disregarding red lights. This can create stressful situations for drivers as well as being very dangerous. To address this problem, the Tequesta Police Department has partnered with Town of Jupiter, City of Palm Beach Gardens, Village of North Palm Beach and Town of Juno Beach to create traffic enforcement events to address these problems.



These events are referred to as "Traffic Saturations," whereby through a mutual aid agreement between the municipalities and Palm Beach County, officers can enforce laws in another's jurisdiction. In basic terms, a Juno Beach police officer can conduct a traffic stop in a participating municipality (for example, Tequesta) during the event. Even though we are capable of handling our own traffic enforcement initiatives we have been conducting these traffic saturations regularly as well. This allows us to bring in extra police officers from neighboring jurisdictions to enforce more areas within the Village to address pressing issues.

The Tequesta Police Department takes aggressive driving seriously and actively encourages safe driving. We would like to remind you what to do in case you are pulled over by a police officer.

1. When you see the overhead lights and/or hear the siren, remain calm and safely pull over parallel to the right side of the road when it is safe to do so.
2. Remain in your vehicle unless the officer advises otherwise.
3. Keep your hands on the steering wheel so the officer can see them.
4. Avoid any sudden movements, especially toward the floorboard, rear seat or passenger side of the vehicle.
5. Do not immediately reach for your license or other documents until the officer requests them. Florida Law requires drivers to show their license, registration and insurance card upon request.
6. If your documents are out of reach, tell the officer where they are before you reach for them.
7. If the stop occurs during darkness, put on your dome or interior lights so the officer can easily see that all is in order.
8. If there are passengers in your vehicle, encourage them to remain quiet and cooperate with instructions. You, as the operator, are solely responsible for your vehicle and its occupants.
9. The officer may issue you a ticket. Avoid becoming argumentative. Arguing will not change the officer's mind. If you contest the violation, you will have an opportunity to address the matter in court.
10. Be honest with the officer. If you really didn't see the stop sign, or were unaware of the speed limit, let the officer know. Being honest about any situation never hurts. Officers do issue warnings.
11. It is normal, from time to time, to see two or three other police officers on a routine traffic stop. This is for the safety of everyone involved since we often do not know who we are stopping.
12. If you receive a ticket, accept it calmly. Again, if you disagree with it, you have the right to contest it in court.
13. Lastly, if you feel your traffic stop experience was not handled in a respectful and professional manner, then we would like to hear about it. We have forms on the Village website where you can compliment an officer as well as make a complaint or suggestion. As with any service organization we always welcome feedback.



Village of Tequesta

PARKS & RECREATION



TEQUESTA
FOOD TRUCK
POP! WOW!

First Friday of Every Month Through April
Constitution Park from 5:00-9:00 pm.



Tequesta Marketplace

9AM- 2PM
CONSTITUTION PARK

Third Saturday of each month

JANUARY 17, 2015 • FEBRUARY 21, 2015
MARCH 21, 2015 • APRIL 18, 2015

www.tequesta.org



MOVIE IN THE PARK

January 31 • February 28

ADMISSION
Village of Tequesta Residents FREE*
*bring proof of residency

Non Resident \$5 • Age 62 & Up \$1
Children under 3 FREE

Constitution Park: Enter at Dover Road gate
Movie starts at dusk/gate opens at 4:30 PM

Around Town



FIRE-RESCUE Spotlight on Services

The Fire Department's Mission Statement begins with the words, "The primary function of Tequesta Fire-Rescue is to prevent and mitigate..." It is our responsibility to care for the sick and injured but it is our mission to prevent and mitigate these injuries whenever possible. To this end the Fire-Rescue department provides a variety of services to our residents. The following are two of those services.

Blood Pressure Screenings

The American Heart Association estimates that one in three adults in the United States is affected by High Blood Pressure, or Hypertension. Hypertension is a medical condition characterized by chronically elevated blood pressure. An elevation of the blood pressure increases the risk of developing heart disease, kidney disease, hardening of the arteries, eye damage, and stroke. Tequesta Fire-Rescue offers free blood pressure screenings to anyone who stops into the Fire Station. No appointment is necessary. Your physician may desire a number of blood pressure tests to determine whether you are chronically elevated and Tequesta Fire-Rescue is happy to assist you with these tests. If you experience any symptoms such as severe headache, blurred vision, ringing in the ears, weakness or dizziness, chest pain or difficulty breathing immediately call 911 and we will come to you. However, for routine checks please stop in and let Tequesta Fire-Rescue assist you.

CPR Training

Would you be surprised to learn that bystander CPR is done in less than half of all out-of-hospital cardiac arrests? National statistics have shown that only 15 to 30 percent of people who experience sudden cardiac arrests outside of hospitals receive bystander CPR. When people are asked why they would not give CPR, a very common answer is that they never received training. Tequesta Fire-Rescue provides CPR Training to our residents on the 2nd Saturday of every month at 10am in the Fire Station. The cost is \$25 for residents and \$35 for non-residents. Call the station at 561-768-0550 to sign up. Please come by and take advantage of this opportunity. You may save the life of someone who is very dear to you!

LEGAL NOTICE OF MUNICIPAL ELECTION

Notice is hereby given that the Village of Tequesta, Florida, will hold its Municipal Election on Tuesday, March 10, 2015, between the hours of 7:00 a.m. and 7:00 p.m. for the purpose of electing council members to the following Seats:

- ✓ Seat 2
- ✓ Seat 4

Candidates must be incorporated Village of Tequesta residents and registered voters of Palm Beach County.

The qualifying period begins at Noon, January 27, 2015 and runs through Noon, February 10, 2015. Interested candidates must file in person with the Village Clerk at Village Hall, 345 Tequesta Drive, Tequesta, FL 33469, during regular office hours (Monday through Friday - 8:30 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.) until said date and time. Each candidate shall be voted upon by the electorate at large.

Registered voters of Precincts 1078, 1088, 1094, 1112, 1116, 1118 and 1120 are qualified to vote in this election. To qualify as a registered voter for the Municipal Election, you must register with the Palm Beach County Supervisor of Elections by Monday, February 9, 2015.

The candidate for each Seat receiving the highest number of votes cast for such office shall be deemed elected to such office regardless of whether or not such candidate shall have received a majority of votes cast. In the event of a tie vote between the candidates receiving the highest number of votes cast for any office, the names of all tied candidates shall be placed on the ballot and shall be voted upon at an ensuing runoff election to be held on March 24, 2015. Such election shall be held in the same manner and by the same election officials holding the previous election.

VILLAGE OF TEQUESTA
LORI MCWILLIAMS, MMC
VILLAGE CLERK / SUPERVISOR OF ELECTIONS



FOR THE RECORD Now On-Line



The Village maintains all records corresponding with the Council agenda in the Document Center. To access the Document Center, visit the Village's website homepage tequesta.org. Click on the green Document Center icon, where you will be directed to the imaging center. From here you can view, save, and print the agenda, minutes, agenda backup, approved ordinances, resolutions and agreements. You can also listen to the meeting audio. Still have questions; please contact the Village Clerk at 561-768-0440 or lmewilliams@tequesta.org.



US 1 Corridor Plan

There is an opportunity to change the face of the Village of Tequesta... one that is unlikely to present itself for another fifteen years.



The Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT) is finalizing its 2018 engineering plans to resurface all six lanes of US 1. The Village recognizes this as an opportunity to redefine the US 1 corridor in a way that would reflect the beauty, tranquility and wellbeing we enjoy throughout our Village. Council is contemplating the transformation of US 1 into a "Main Street Boulevard" by returning it to four lanes, reducing the speed limit, creating bicycle lanes and wider medians, and installing enhanced landscaping and street lighting. The intent is to give the US 1 corridor a greater feeling of community, with enhanced aesthetics, and more pedestrian accessibility and safety features.

Council, in coordination with the Treasure Coast Regional Planning Council, have appointed a "Host Committee" comprised of long time Village residents, retirees, families with children, and business owners. The committee will gather public input and identify key issues and logistical hurdles that will need to be addressed in order to move the project forward.

The Village invites you to attend the following public meetings in order to stay informed on the status of the project:

- Presentation of Work-in-Progress to Village of Tequesta February 2, 2015
- Regular Council Meeting – Adopt Tentative Resolution February 12, 2015

Should you have any questions or input regarding the project, we encourage you to contact the Village Manager's Office at 561-768-0465.

New emergency notification system, Nixle, is LIVE!

The Village of Tequesta is using a new emergency communications service - Nixle. Nixle will allow us to send important, valuable community information directly to you using the latest electronic technology. The Village prides itself on its approach in communicating with our residents and we have diligently worked to stay abreast of technological advances and social media trends. With the safety of our residents always being a priority, staff reassessed our communication software and implemented this new all-in-one approach to distribution of mass alerts and communications. Subscribers will be able to choose the way in which alerts are received, whether it is by email, text message, or over the web.

The Nixle Service allows us to create and publish messages for delivery to subscribed residents instantly via cell phone text message and/or email. Nixle has obtained the necessary landline numbers for all residents thereby allowing us to contact residents via their home phones. Messages may include parks and recreation events, meeting notices, Smoke Signals as well as other relevant emergency, safety and community event information.



Several options are available to receive these important communications and are listed on the Village's website under RESIDENTS – ELECTRONIC NOTIFICATIONS.

For more information, contact Lori McWilliams, MMC, Village Clerk/PIO at 561-768-0443

Historical Archives



For some time the Village Clerk's office has been cataloging historical data and donations provided by residents. Our archives contain interesting items,

including information about the Indians who originally occupied the area, early settlers, incorporation of the Village in 1957, its 25-year and 50-year birthday celebrations, and many events and accomplishments up to the present day. There are photos, newspaper articles, artwork, souvenirs from events, the key to the first Village jail cell, and many other unique items. The Village's Historical Committee has been instrumental in providing display areas in Village Hall to showcase historical items which have been donated. These displays are rotated periodically so that more items can be viewed.

Village residents are invited to call Lori McWilliams, Village Clerk, at 561-768-0443, for an appointment to come in and view the archives. Betty Laur, who has been cataloging the historical items, is available for appointments on Friday mornings.

Paint a Police Car

On November 22nd, the Tequesta Police Department held their 1st Paint a Police Car event at Tequesta Fest! Police vehicle #728 was brought to Paradise Park during Tequesta Fest along with numerous bottles of washable paint that kids and even some adults splashed on our police car. By the end of the event, the police vehicle barely had any area left that was paint free. It seemed to be a huge success and we look forward to bringing one of our police cars to the event next year.

As you can see from the pictures, the once black and white vehicle turned into a real work of art!



Open NEW TEQUESTA BUSINESSES

Several new businesses opened in Tequesta since our last newsletter. Four new businesses accepted our invitation to be featured.

Boston Chowda Outlet Store



Authentic New England Seafood Outlet. Lots of other good stuff too, including lobster rolls, a variety of soups, including award winning clam chowda. Take out or limited seating. Don't be confused by the rest - come in and have the best! Tues - Fri 10 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. 150 N US HWY 1, Unit 6, Tequesta, FL. Ph 781-760-5153.

Premier Properties of South Florida, Inc. and First Premier Builders, Inc.



Premier Properties of South Florida, Inc. and First Premier Builders, Inc. has relocated from Jupiter to Tequesta and are excited to announce their new office location at 150 North US Hwy One, in the Fashion Mall of Tequesta. With over 17 years in the local real estate and construction business, owners Traci and Ty Chivers offer many exciting services to their clients that are uncommon in the industry. Additionally, Premier Properties of South Florida, proudly earned the 2014 "Best of Tequesta" award and accomplished over 55 Million in sales for 2014. Call today for all of your Real Estate and Construction needs at 561-747-6600.

Runnels House of Texas



Welcome to the Runnels House of Texas dry rub style BBQ. We are located in the County Line Plaza at 560 North Hwy US 1 here in Tequesta. All of our meats are a true cut of Angus Beef and pork of the highest quality available. Seafood is as fresh as it gets, and steaks are heavenly! Meats are smoked 4-12 hours, depending on the cut, to a tantalizing tenderness and taste that melts in your mouth. We smoke with mesquite wood from South Texas and Mexico creating an unmistakable flavor without the heavy smoke taste. Come visit our cozy full bar for a great happy hour.

Helix Urgent Care



Helix Urgent Care is a Walk-In medical facility located at 225 S. US Hwy 1 in the Tequesta Village Shops. The clinic is open 7 days a week to serve you and handles a wide variety of minor and urgent medical complaints such as cold / flu, cuts, sprains, broken bones, UTI / bladder infections, asthma treatments, and more. They treat workplace and auto injuries, have X-ray and Lab equipment on site, and also offer a range of medical services for local businesses. No appointment is required, but you may schedule one online at HelixCares.com.

Water Production:



The water plant operations staff recently welcomed new employee, Alexandre Canali, to the team. Alex brings with him to the Village nearly four years of operational experience and he is transitioning into the position well. Upcoming projects at the water plant include a raw water main cleaning and restoration, which will improve incoming flow and water quality to the plant.

Additionally, the plant continues its repairs with the recent installation of two high service pumps scheduled for replacement. These two projects will ensure we meet future infrastructure and water service needs for our community's growth, development and expansion.

EMPLOYEE MOVEMENTS September - December 2014

NEW HIRES

Name	Position	Start Date
Alexandre Canali	Operator I	12/14/2014
Jarrett Monde	Interim Firefighter	11/18/2014
Abbey Bonea	P/T Permit Technician Trainee	10/20/2014
Alan Chertok	P/T Police Administration Specialist	10/20/2014
Juan Diaz	P/T Building Inspector/Plans Examiner	10/20/2014
Gina Lawrence	P/T Permit Technician	9/3/2014
Timothy English	Building Director	9/2/2014

LEAVING US

Name	Position	Departure Date
Cameron May	Interim Firefighter	11/1/2014
Lisa D'Ambra	P/T Communications Officer	10/17/14

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Good Shepherd Spring Sprint 5K



Registration is now open for the 5th annual Spring Sprint. It will take place on Saturday, March 7, 2015. Prizes and awards will be giving for the top male and female runners, and signature water bottles to the top athletes and medals to the 1st, 2nd, and 3rd in each age category. There will be music, food and fun for the entire family.

Visit www.springssprint5k.org for information



4th Annual Chili Cook-off
a SUCCESS!



Four years ago, the Tequesta Fire-Rescue Firefighters teamed up with the Tequesta Brewing Company, a local craft brewery, to raise money for Honor Flight. Honor Flight is a national organization that takes WWII Veterans to Washington DC to see the WWII Memorial, Arlington National Cemetery and other related sites. Firefighters and the Military have always shared a common bond of service in the face of danger, but the events of 9-11 have brought us closer together than ever, and the Tequesta Firefighters wished to show their respect and to honor those who have fought for our freedoms.



After tossing around a few different ideas, the Firefighters decided to host a Chili Cook-off and Beer Tasting event. Each year the event has grown, as have the contributions made to Honor Flight. This year's Chili Cook-Off brought twenty fire departments or related agencies from the surrounding area. Sixteen-hundred (1,600) people came to enjoy all the chili one could eat and all the beer they could taste. The Honor Guard started the event out perfectly with their Pipes and Drums and several bands played while celebrity judges sampled the twenty different chilis. Both the U.S. Coast Guard and Pratt-Whitney performed helicopter flyovers.

The International Association of Fire Fighters (IAFF) Local 2928 took first place honors for best Chili followed closely by Martin County Fire-Rescue and bringing in the third place trophy was Hollywood Fire-Rescue.

This year the Firefighters added something different. A Toyota Scion was raffled off and the winner was Lori Tamburri, who chose the cash option instead of the car and then generously donated \$1,000 back to the Veterans!

The Tequesta Firefighters, in conjunction with the Tequesta Brewing Company, presented a check for \$30,000 to Honor Flight at the Village Council Meeting on Dec 11th in the Village Council Chambers. This brings our 4-year contribution to Honor Flight to a total of \$70,000.

Plans are already underway for next year's event which should be bigger and better than ever!!

VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT WANTED: HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMITTEE MEMBER

The Historic Preservation Committee meets on an as needed basis to provide for the recognition and promotion of historic artifacts through educational and cultural events, and to enhance the cultural significance of the Village's historical objects.

The committee position is open to all incorporated Tequesta year round residents and must be a registered voter within the Village of Tequesta. To complete and submit an application, visit the Village Clerk's Office on our website at tequesta.org.