



Winter 2016

SMOKE SIGNALS

VILLAGE OF TEQUESTA NEWSLETTER

From the Desk of
Vince Arena
Vice-Mayor



Safety First. These are words to live by and we have practiced this phrase many times with our young ones. "Look both ways before crossing the street," "never talk to strangers," and the list goes on. Safety First.

Our police do an outstanding job protecting our Village and in the last several months I have never seen more patrol cars out and about in my almost 30 years of living here.

But, now it's our turn.

Be your Village's best friend. If you see something out of the ordinary, do not judge it, instead call the police. If someone is in your neighbor's yard while they are away, call the police. If a car is parked alongside the street with one person or even several sitting there, call the police.

Living in paradise comes at a price, but this labor of love for our Village is FREE. Be your Village's best friend.

How many situations can we stop? How many neighbors will thank you? Or will you be the one saying "thank you"? It all starts with a watchful eye and then a phone call to our non-emergency police department phone line - 561-768-0500.

Be your Village's best friend.

I hope all of your holidays with friends and family were as rewarding as mine and all my very best to all of you in 2016. Now it's time to DIET!

Tight Lines,
Vince

PS. My family's best Black Friday deal was a \$90 purse for forty cents! Can you beat that? Let me know when you see me.

Vice-Mayor Vince Arena

Think LOCAL!



Think Local! (The Beaches, SBI) is a non-profit organization working to support and preserve locally owned, independent businesses in the northern Palm Beach County area. Their intent is to re-energize the local economy, help maintain local charm, promote collaborative marketing efforts and provide public education and events. The Beaches Small Business Initiative, Inc. was

launched by a trio of concerned citizens who, as local small business owners, saw an unmet need in the communities they live in and love.

The Beaches SBI is dedicated to helping maintain Tequesta's (and other northern Palm Beach County businesses) unique community character, provide continuing opportunities for entrepreneurs, build economic strength, and create an environment where locally owned, independent businesses grow and flourish.



The Beaches SBI is funded entirely by member dues and community contributors. **ThinkLocal's** intent is to strengthen the business competitive advantage by joining a grassroots effort that informs consumers of the importance of spending locally. **ThinkLocal** seeks to preserve our small town charm through resident support of our local independent businesses. As a member, you will receive discounts at various members establishments.

Interested in helping our local economy thrive? Contact The Beaches Small Business Initiative at 561-889-1240, via email at think.local@thebeachessbi.org or via their webpage at www.thebeachessbi.org.

THREE COUNCIL MEMBERS RUN UNOPPOSED



Left to Right: Frank D'Ambra, Steve Okun, Vince Arena

Congratulations to Village Council incumbents Frank D'Ambra, Steve Okun and Vince Arena, who ran unopposed for the upcoming March election. Vince has been a council member since March 2008 and has been the Vice-Mayor since March 2011. Frank and Steve have both served as council members since March 2012, making this their third consecutive term as council members. Each member brings a unique and distinctive voice to the council setting giving us a diverse group of professionals helping to ensure the Village remains the slice of paradise that it is. Again, congratulations and welcome back for another two years.

TEQUESTA CHILI COOK OFF & BEER TASTING EVENT



The Tequesta Firefighters and the Tequesta Brewing Company have joined forces for five years to host The Tequesta Chili Cook-off and Beer Tasting event. Each year has seen more teams, more attendees and more money for charities that benefit our Veterans.

This year's Chili Cook-Off brought twenty-five

Fire Departments or related agencies from the surrounding area. 1,500 people came to enjoy all the chili you can eat and all the beer you can taste. The Martin County Honor Guard started the event out perfectly with the Black Pearl Pipes and Drums. Several bands played while celebrity judges sampled the twenty-five different chili's. The US Coast Guard even did a low and slow helicopter flyover.

The highlight of the afternoon was the presentation of Hero's Medals to thirty WWII Veterans by Major General Wayne Jackson, US Army Ret. There were very few dry eyes as these men enjoyed a standing ovation by 1,500 grateful citizens.

St. Lucie County Fire-Rescue took first place honors for best chili followed closely by Document Storage Systems and bringing in the third place trophy was North Palm Beach Fire-Rescue.

The Tequesta Firefighters and the Tequesta Brewing Company raised \$36,000 this year. Checks for \$9,000 each were presented to Honor Flight, Operation 300, Renewal Coalition and Friends of Public Safety at the Village Council Meeting on December 10th in the Village Council Chambers. This brings our 5-year contribution to Veterans charities to a total of \$130,000.



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

Pathway Lighting Project Underway

The Public Works Department started working on a Pathway Lighting Project on the south side of Tequesta Drive this past mid-December. Decorative LED bollard fixtures are being installed on the pedestrian path beginning just east of Bayview Estates heading west to the end of the path. The project is expected to be completed at the end of January pending fixture lead time and delivery.



Don't Get Scammed

There has been a big increase in "scam" calls in the last few years in regards to thieves trying to steal law abiding citizen's hard earned money by presenting themselves as authority figures (police departments, IRS, Social Security Office and utility companies). These thieves will use scare tactics and force you to pay a disclosed amount (usually in the thousands). If the victim falls for the scam and makes a payment, that transaction is not reversible. The scammer will continue to call and ask for more money until the victim realizes something is not right. The Treasury Inspector General for Tax Administration has received reports of about 736,000 scam contacts since October 2013. Nearly 4,550 victims have collectively paid over \$23 million as a result of the scam. Phone scams first tried to sting retired citizens, new immigrants to the U.S. and those who speak English as a second language. Now the crooks try to swindle just about anyone. And they've ripped-off people in every state in the nation.



It is usually very easy to recognize this spam and not become a victim. Here are some tips:

- The scammer might know your name and address; this is not an indication the call is an official message (You can search your phone number on the internet and will see that your name might be associated with it. This is how they get that information).
- They might use caller ID spoofing to trick your caller ID to show another number (sometimes official phone numbers). Do not think because you see an official name on caller ID that the caller is an official of that entity.
- IRS, Social Security Services or a public safety department (fire rescue, police or sheriff) will never demand immediate payment, especially over the phone.
- These entities will not use an automated, robotic sounding message to contact you with an urgent matter requiring call back.
- Scammers might threaten to bring police into the matter or say you will be arrested. Do not fall for this.

If you are ever in doubt, please hang up immediately. If it is an official request you will often receive correspondence in the mail which you can verify in a few different ways including calling a local office (IRS, Social Security, your bank, etc.). If you would like to report a scammer call, you can do so online by going to <https://www.ftccomplain-assistant.gov/> and filling out their form. You can alternatively call Tequesta Police at (561)768-0500 and an officer will assist you with the complaint process. The Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) has some good information regarding scams and how to better protect yourself. You can access this information at <https://www.fbi.gov/scams-safety>.



Village of Tequesta PARKS & RECREATION

TEQUESTA
FOOD TRUCK
POW WOW
Constitution Park
5:00-9:00 pm.
Jan 22 • Feb 4 • Mar 4 • Apr 1 • Apr 22

COMMUNITY
YARD SALE
PARADISE PARK
8:00-11:00 AM
Jan 16 • Mar 12

MOVIE
IN THE PARK
January 9 • February 20
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 4:00 PM

KIDZ NITE AT THE REC
TEQUESTA REC CENTER
Ages 7-12
(Minimum of 7 Maximum 15)
\$5 per person
January 29 • February 26

Bunny Hop & Egg Hunt
March 26
Constitution Park

SUMMER CAMP
APRIL 4
Resident Registration

Van Clans
Sponsored by The Village of Tequesta Parks & Recreation
Wednesday, January 20, 2016
The Tin Muffin Café BOCA
Fees: Lunch + \$12 museum admission
Wednesday, February 29, 2016
Port Salerno
Open to Tequesta residents and non residents
Tequesta residents: register NOW!
Non residents: registration begins on September 10.
Registrants are responsible for paying for food and admission
Space is limited • Trips subject to change

VISIT THE PARKS & REC PAGE ON THE WEBSITE FOR MORE INFORMATION OR CALL US AT 561-768-0470



Most Common Code Violations



Living in paradise has its benefits and these include strong and effective codes. Over the years, the Village Council has created a number of laws (via ordinances) to ensure the safety of our residents is a priority and to ensure the character of our Village remains intact. Sometimes these codes are difficult for residents and businesses to follow or adhere to. Therefore, our Code Enforcement Officer has put together a list of the most common code violations along with the Code that pertains to that violation. If you have questions regarding violations, please contact Code Officer Joe Petrick at 561-768-0519.

Building permits. Sec. 14-152.

- (a) On all buildings, structures or alterations requiring a building permit as set forth in the village building code, a fee shall be paid to the building official as required at the time of filing application in accordance with the fee schedule established by resolution of the village council and set out in Appendix C.
- (b) Requests for refunds of permit fees paid must be submitted to the department of community development within 30 days of the date of issuance of the permit. There shall be no refunds of the plan submittal and review fee paid at the time of application for permit.
- (c) If a permit expires, renewal of the expired permit shall require the payment of the full permit fee in effect at the time of renewal. Subject to the approval of the building official, one or more, not to exceed four, requests for permit extensions can be made prior to the expiration of a permit. However, in no event shall extensions be granted by the building official on projects which have received variances, special exceptions, and site plan reviews which have otherwise lapsed pursuant to the chapter 78. A fee as set by resolution of the village council and set out in Appendix C shall be required for each approved permit extension.
- (d) There shall be a fee for each reinspection made due to condemnation (red-tag or failed inspection) of work or work not ready at the time specified in the application for inspection, or for failure to call for final or other inspection, as set by resolution of the village council and set out in Appendix C. (Code 1977, § 6-142)

Prohibited conditions. Sec. 30-33.

- (a) It shall be unlawful for the owner of any lot, parcel or tract of land with or without improvements constructed thereon within the village to permit grass, weeds, or undergrowth to grow thereon to a height of eight inches or more from the ground.
- (b) It shall be unlawful for the owner of any lot, parcel or tract of land whether with or without improvements constructed thereon within the village to permit rubbish, trash, debris, dead trees or other unsanitary or unsightly conditions to remain on the premises.
- (c) It shall be unlawful for the owner of any lot, parcel or tract of land with improvements constructed thereon within the village to permit the existence of depressions or excavations or any other condition on such premises thereon in which water may accumulate in such a manner or fashion to make possible the propagation of mosquitoes therein.
- (d) It shall be unlawful for the owner of any lot, parcel or tract of land whether there are improvements and construction thereon or not to permit rubbish, trash, debris, dead trees or other unsanitary or unsightly conditions to remain on the premises.
- (e) If properties are protected under chapter 50, article II, pertaining to environmentally sensitive lands, they shall be exempted from those provisions of this section which require the removal of weeds, grass and undergrowth where it is determined by the village that to remove such weeds, grass and undergrowth will be in violation of chapter 50, article II. (Ord. No. 19-13, § 1, 8-8-2013)

Parking of certain commercial vehicles & trucks prohibited in residential areas. Sec. 46-72.

- (a) No commercial vehicles or trucks over three-quarters ton rated capacity may be parked on any property or right-of-way within a residential area, subject to the exceptions listed below.
- (b) For purposes of this division, residential areas include all areas within the village other than C-1, C-2, C-3, and R/OP.
- (c) This restriction shall not apply to the temporary, daytime parking of such vehicles on private property in residential districts upon which construction is underway and for which a current and valid building permit has been issued by the village and such permit is properly displayed on the premises.
- (d) This restriction shall not apply to routine deliveries by tradesmen or the use of commercial vehicles or trucks in making service calls, providing that such time period is actually in the course of business deliveries or servicing, as the case may be.
- (e) This restriction shall not apply to the parking of emergency vehicles, provided that the time parked is actually necessary for the emergency. Further, the restriction shall not apply to volunteer emergency vehicles driven by residents of the village and parked on their property.
- (f) This restriction shall not apply to a situation where such vehicle becomes disabled and, as a result of such emergency, is required to be parked within a residential district for longer than the time allowed in this section. However, any such vehicle shall be removed from the residential district within 24 hours by wrecker towing, if necessary, regardless of the nature of the emergency, and the cost of such towing shall be at the expense of the owner of the vehicle. (Ord. No. 41-13, § 1, 6-12-2014)

Engaging in business without valid receipt; renewal of receipt; penalty for failure to obtain receipt or pay tax. Sec. 70-44.

- (a) It shall be unlawful for any person to engage in any trade, business, profession, or occupation within the village without a business tax receipt or upon a receipt issued upon false statements made by any person, or in their behalf. All receipts shall be sold by the village beginning August 1 of each year and business taxes shall be due and payable on or before September 30 of each year and receipts shall expire on September 30 of the succeeding year. If September 30 falls on a weekend or holiday, the tax is due and payable on or before the first working day following September 30.
- (b) Business tax receipts not renewed by October 1 shall be considered delinquent and shall be subject to a delinquency penalty of ten percent for the month of October plus an additional five percent penalty for each subsequent month, or portion thereof, of delinquency until paid; however, the total delinquency penalty may not exceed 25 percent of the business tax or fee for the delinquent business, profession, or occupation.
- (c) Any person who engages in or manages any business, profession, or occupation without first obtaining a local business tax receipt, if required under this article, is subject to a penalty of 25 percent of the business tax fee, in addition to any other penalty provided by law or ordinance.
- (d) Any person who engages in any business, occupation, or profession covered by this article who does not pay the required business tax within 150 days after the initial notice of tax due, and who does not obtain the required business tax receipt, is subject to civil actions and penalties, including court costs, reasonable attorneys' fees, additional administrative costs incurred as a result of collection efforts, and a penalty of up to \$250.00. (Ord. No. 614, § 1, 6-14-2007) Note— Formerly, § 70-43.

Other uses. Sec. 78-612.

- (a) The intermittent or continual placement, parking, standing or utilization of any trailer, travel trailer or temporary structure; or vehicle used for storage purposes shall be prohibited in all zoning districts, except where the placement, parking, standing or utilization of such trailer, travel trailer, temporary structure or vehicle used for storage purposes is specifically allowed by Code.
- (b) Portable storage units (PSUs) shall be allowed in all residential zoning districts and in residential areas in mixed use zoning districts so long as the following conditions are met:
 - (1) PSUs must be placed on driveways or approved parking areas; and
 - (2) PSUs are allowed at a location for no more than 14 calendar days per placement with no more than two placements per year.
- (c) PSUs shall be allowed in nonresidential zoning districts so long as the following conditions are met:
 - (1) PSUs are only allowed in conjunction with and during the duration of a valid building permit; and must be removed prior to the issuance of a certificate of occupancy; and
 - (2) PSUs shall be placed in an area approved by the building official but are not allowed to be located in a right-of-way, easement, landscape buffer or drainage area; and
 - (3) PSUs shall be located in such a manner so as not to create a pedestrian or vehicular traffic hazard.
- (d) A permit must be secured prior to the placement of a PSU. The permit fee shall be in the amount of the minimum permit fee as set forth in appendix C of the Village Code of Ordinances, as may be amended from time to time. (Code 1977, app. A, § X(K)(2); Ord. No. 11-08, § 1, 6-12-2008)

Prohibitions in all zoning districts. Sec. 78-745.

- (a) Blinking or reflective illuminated signs. No blinking, flashing, intermittent, animated or reflective type sign illumination shall be permitted. Rather, sign illumination must be constant in intensity with a soft and muted effect.
- (b) Signs extending above roof height. No sign shall extend above the roof height unless backed by a parapet wall extending the entire length of the building and with the same or greater height than the sign.
- (c) Outline lighting. No neon tubing or other linear use of lighting in outlining either the sign or the building or structure shall be permitted.
- (d) Painted wall signs. No painted wall signs shall be permitted. Lettering on walls must be of raised design.
- (e) Signs on vehicles. Any sign attached to or placed on a vehicle (including trailers) that is not being regularly used in the conduct of the business being advertised shall be prohibited. A vehicle shall not be considered "regularly used in the conduct of the business" if the vehicle is used primarily (i) for advertising, or (ii) for the purpose of advertising. This provision is not to be construed as prohibiting the identification of a firm or its principal products on a vehicle or truck with no more than three-quarters ton rated capacity, which is currently licensed, insured and operable, operating during the normal hours of business, and which is not parked in any parking space, parking area, or the portion of a parking lot located adjacent to any right-of-way, provided, however, that no such vehicle shall be parked on public or private property with signs attached or placed on such vehicle primarily for the purpose of advertising a business or firm or calling attention to the location of a business or firm. All such vehicles shall be parked so they are not visible from any street or right-of-way after normal hours of business. All such vehicles shall also comply with the parking regulations at chapter 46, article III, division 2.
- (f) Reserved.
- (g) Signs on windows or doors. Signs on shop windows, display windows, or doors or other windows shall be subject to the following: Permanent signs shall be permitted to be erected or painted upon any window or door as provided for in this article. Any such sign permitted shall be part of the overall sign area permitted and shall not exceed 30 percent of the window or door area.
- (h) Outdoor merchandising displays. No outdoor merchandising displays, outdoor placement of sample goods or merchandising material, banners, feather or flutter flags, or outdoor portable signs or advertising displays shall be permitted, except for sandwich boards which are permitted pursuant to [subsection] 78-742(n), signs that are approved in conjunction with a special event permit, or signs that are approved by the village manager for up to 45 days in conjunction with new business openings, upon a determination that the proposed display will be in the best interests of the health, safety and welfare of the citizens of the village. Nothing in this part shall be construed to prohibit the placement of decorations or accessories along a storefront or other adjacent area for the purpose of aesthetics and appearance, so long as such pieces do not interfere with sidewalk access by pedestrians or violate building code accessibility requirements.
- (i) Reserved parking space signs. No signs identifying or designating parking spaces as reserved for individual tenants, businesses and/or property owners shall be allowed. Signs identifying handicapped parking spaces per state, county and municipal requirements are exempt from this article.
- (j) Off-premises or billboard signs. No off-premises or billboard signs shall be permitted except as set forth at subsection 78-740(a).
- (k) Signs placed on public property. No signs placed, attached, posted, or located, on or to any tree, utility pole, street light, sidewalk, curb, fire hydrant, bridge or any other public property shall be permitted; except that public utility, convenience, and warning signs are permitted if approved and erected by governmental agencies having jurisdiction over the applicable property.
- (l) Moving or animated signs. No signs in motion, including swinging, rotating or revolving signs, or signs containing video type imagery shall be permitted.
- (m) Official signs. No signs which copy or imitate official signs or which purport to have official status shall be permitted.
- (n) Signs with illegal messages. No signs which display any obscene or illegal written or graphic message shall be permitted.
- (o) Signs interfering with buildings. No signs which obstruct or interfere with any door, fire exit, stairway, ladder or opening intended to provide light, air, ingress or egress for any building shall be permitted.
- (p) Signs creating traffic safety or fire hazards. No signs which constitute a traffic safety or fire hazard, by reason of size, location, coloring or method of illumination, which obstruct the vision of motorists or pedestrians; or which obstruct or detract from any official traffic control devices or utilize the words "stop", "look", "danger", or any other word or phrase, symbol or character in such a manner as to interfere with, mislead or confuse traffic shall be permitted.
- (q) Cube signs. No cube sign or advertising structure comprised of four faces, with copy on three or more faces shall be permitted.
- (r) Aircraft search lights. No aircraft search lights promoting, advertising, or bringing attention to a business, enterprise, or event shall be permitted, unless approved in conjunction with a special events permit.
- (s) Smoke, noise and odor. No sign which emits any noise, or any odor, or any visible smoke or vapor particles shall be permitted. (Ord. No. 34-13, § 1, 6-12-2014)

Temporary signs. Sec. 78-748.

- (a) Temporary signs are those signs that are not intended or not constructed for permanent placement pursuant to the technical requirements of this article, as well as the village's building and other technical codes, including electrical codes. Temporary signs are exempt from the permitting process required of permanent signs pursuant to this article; however, temporary signs shall comply with the requirements of this section and those other sections referenced herein. Temporary signs allowed in the village are those that advertise the sale, lease or rental of the lot or the improvements thereon, or that advertise a permitted garage sale, or that advertise an open house, all as more particularly described in subsection 78-740(b)(1); signs otherwise permitted as part of a special event; temporary commercial signs as more particularly described in subsections 78-742(k) and (m); political, religious or personal (free-speech) signs; and holiday displays. Outdoor merchandising displays shall comply with the requirements of subsection 78-745(h). Political, religious and personal (free-speech) temporary signs shall be permitted with an exposed area of not more than six square feet. Such signs that refer to a particular election, event or other specific matter shall be removed within seven days after said election, event or other specific matter. Holiday displays shall likewise be removed within seven days from the conclusion of the holiday. No temporary sign shall be placed in any public right-of-way or on any public property. No temporary sign shall be placed in a location, as determined by the village manager or his designee, in such a manner as to constitute a safety hazard, or hindrance to pedestrian or vehicular traffic.
- (b) Notwithstanding the foregoing, the village manager may authorize the placement within a right-of-way of temporary signs identifying by name open businesses adjacent to ongoing road construction. Any such sign shall comply with FDOT or other applicable standards regarding lettering, size, material and placement.
- (c) The failure to remove a temporary sign pursuant to the provisions of this section shall subject the property owner upon whose property the sign is located to code enforcement proceedings pursuant to article IV of chapter 2. Each day that a temporary sign remains in violation of this section shall be deemed to be a separate offense. (Ord. No. 34-13, § 1, 6-12-2014)

Animals creating nuisance. Sec. 10-8.

- (a) The owner of any animal which habitually barks, whines, howls or causes other objectionable noise, or which destroys or damages any property of another person or which causes serious annoyance to a neighboring residence and interferes with the reasonable use and enjoyment of his property, or which is otherwise offensive so as to create a nuisance, shall be deemed to be committing an act in violation of this section.
- (b) A upon receipt of one affidavit of complaint, signed by one resident of the village, made under oath before an individual authorized by law to take acknowledgments, setting forth the nature and the date of the act, the owner of the animal, the address of the owner and a description of the animal doing such act, the police officer, animal control officer or other authorized agent of the village agent shall investigate the complaint to determine whether the act complained of violates this section. (Code 1977, § 4-7; Ord. No. 6-13, § 1, 5-9-2013)

Dogs running at large. Sec. 10-34.

No dog shall run at large within the village or upon the property other than that of its owner unless the dog is running on property other than that of its owner with the express or implied consent of the owner of the property. Any person allowing any dog to run at large contrary to this section shall be guilty of a violation of this section. (Code 1977, § 4-13; Ord. No. 6-13, § 1, 5-9-2013)

Fees. Sec. 34-63.

- (a) A fee shall be imposed by the village for each fire inspection performed by the fire-rescue department according to the fire inspection fee schedule established by resolution of the village council and on file in the village clerk's office. Any fee imposed under this subsection shall be paid within 30 days after receipt of an itemized bill for such service.
- (b) A fee shall be imposed for review of fire-rescue plans and for inspections for all new construction within the village according to the fee schedule established by resolution of the village council and on file in the village clerk's office. Any fee imposed under this subsection shall be paid within 30 days after receipt of an itemized bill for such service.
- (c) Any fee imposed as established by the village council for any other service provided in this article shall be paid within 30 days after receipt of an itemized bill for such service.
- (d) Failure to pay any fee imposed under this section within the required time may subject the party responsible for payment to review before the special magistrate of the village pursuant to the terms of chapter 2, article IV. (Code 1977, § 9-7; Ord. No. 16-12, § 2, 11-8-2012; Ord. No. 12-13, § 1, 7-11-2013) -----

VILLAGE FLOODPLAIN MANAGER SAYS "GET READY FOR EL NIÑO"



Trends over the last several decades show that weather-related disasters and other extreme events are happening more frequently and resulting in greater losses and damages. The number one weather related event in Florida occurred during the 1928 hurricane; killing more than 1,842 people near Lake Okeechobee.

Looking back to February 1998, the middle of El Niño saw the strongest and most damaging tornadoes in Florida's history. During the late night

and early morning hours of February 22 and 23rd three super-cell thunderstorms moved ashore from the Gulf of Mexico producing seven tornadoes across central Florida. The worst of these, an F3 on the Fujita scale, had maximum wind speeds of 206 miles per hour and traveled approximately 28 miles. This event ranks as the ninth greatest loss of life, weather related event ever recorded in Florida, with tornadoes touching down in Volusia, Lake County, Seminole County, Osceola, and Brevard; killing 42 people and injuring more than 260 others.

El Niño is a weather pattern characterized by unusually warm temperatures along the equator in the Pacific Ocean, but, recently it has been creating consequences for weather and climate across the United States; and change continues to add uncertainties to future flood risk estimates. Particularly common during the winter, El Niño in general acts to tilt the odds toward wetter and cooler than average conditions across much of the south, and drier, much warmer conditions in many of the northern regions.

It's now 2016, and nearly 18 years since the last severe El Niño event and we are experiencing the largest El Niño ever recorded. Information suggests this year's winter weather could be heavily affected by El Niño. The NOAA is projecting wetter than average conditions across the southern United States causing an increase in precipitation by as much as 50 to 75% above normal; severe storms, heavy downpours, localized flooding, and possibly more tornadoes than usual.

Now is the time to make your plan and choose the appropriate evacuation routes in case an event should happen. Take pictures and document your property and belongings for future reference. Contact your insurance agent regarding flood insurance for your home, your business, and contents.

Municipal workers keep water flowing during Holiday cheer

Early Christmas morning, Michael Sudell prepared his lunch and drove along starlit streets to his job as an operator at the Tequesta Water Treatment Department.

He worked an eight-hour shift while many of his utility's 15,500 customers opened presents and feasted with friends and family. It's a trade-off. Sudell earned holiday pay, but gave up making holiday memories with his close relatives and family.

Sudell is among the thousands of water treatment operators across North America deemed "essential personnel" who worked on Christmas Eve, Christmas Day, New Year's Eve and New Year's Day to make sure their customers had safe and reliable drinking water.

Like police officers, firefighters and hospital workers, they can't simply close up shop.

Sudell has been at the Village for 15 years and is used to working the holidays," Sudell said. "We have to provide quality drinking water 24 hours a day seven days a week. No holiday for the people needing clean water." Sam Heady the Deputy Director of Utilities agrees that operators and distribution staff go above and beyond. "While they have to leave their families, they understand the significance of what they are doing. Water doesn't stop running and water mains don't stop breaking just because it's a holiday."

In fact, studies show between 700 and 850 water main breaks occur every day in North America, a fact that compels our utility to schedule on-call distribution workers 7 days a week, 24 hours a day, 365 days a year someone in the Village of Tequesta's Utility's Department is watching your system.

Here in Tequesta, un-incorporated Palm Beach, and Martin County our residents and customers can rest assured that the distribution system, the water plant, and the utility will be on the job ensuring safe reliable drinking water for their holiday cheer and enjoyment.

Please remember those employees who work tirelessly for the Village of Tequesta and the Utility.

EMPLOYEE MOVEMENTS August - December 2015

JOINING US

Name	Department	Position	Start Date
Evan Solensky	Fire Rescue	Interim Fire Fighter	12/1/2015
Tana Donadio	Police	PT Police Officer	11/18/2015
Zachary Wichert	Fire Rescue	Interim Fire Fighter	11/14/2015
Patrick Madsen	Public Works	Maintenance Worker I	10/27/2015
Dennis Rick	Public Works	Maintenance Worker I	10/27/2015
Patrick Sargent	Public Works	Maintenance Worker I	10/27/2015
Mary Ann Griesser	Village Clerk	PT Clerical Assistant	10/13/2015
Sean Johnson	Fire Rescue	Interim Fire Fighter	10/13/2015

LEAVING US

Name	Department	Position	Departure Date
Juan Diaz	Building Dept.	P/T Building Inspector	11/12/2015
Joshua Kitzi	Fire Rescue	Interim Fire Fighter	11/4/2015
Tyler Topping	Fire Rescue	Interim Fire Fighter	11/3/2015
James Humpage	Building Dept.	P/T Code Enfort. Officer	1 0/26/2015
Michael Gallagher	Fire Rescue	Interim Fire Fighter	9/25/2015



SPOTLIGHT ON LOCAL BUSINESSES Celtic Home Gallery



FROM INSPIRATION TO CREATION...Our motto and our mission. From casual coastal living to classic elegance, Celtic Home Gallery creates the kitchen, bath or living space you've always imagined... coupling extraordinary details and inspired style. DESIGN, CONSULTATION AND INSTALLATION...At Celtic, we are the licensed General Contractor, so we can offer our clients the ease and convenience of true one-stop shopping. Our team will assist you with material choices based upon your design strategy and your budget, and help throughout the process until your project is complete. You can feel confident that with Celtic's experience and expertise, your vision will become a reality! We invite you to call or visit our beautiful 5,000 sq. ft. showroom soon - 521 Old Dixie Highway, Tequesta FL 33469 (north of Tequesta Drive, just north of the Post Office and Library, on the east side), 561-745-5650, deborah@celticmt.com, celticmt.com, Facebook: Celtic Home Gallery/ Celtic Construction and Development.

Stop & Save Food Store



We are your neighborhood store, family owned and operated for the past 25 years. Our store is open 365 days a year for your convenience.

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