



# SMOKE SIGNALS

VILLAGE OF TEQUESTA  
NEWSLETTER

Fall 2016

*From the Desk of*  
**Frank D'Ambra**  
*Council Member*



Frank D'Ambra

On behalf of all the Village employees and Council, I would like to extend our best wishes for a joyous Thanksgiving, a Happy Chanukah and a Merry Christmas. We are truly blessed to live in a community of caring people. The respect and support we give one to another, even when we have

differing points of view, is a critical component of the fabric that makes the Village of Tequesta a wonderful place to live, raise a family and spend our senior years. On that note welcome back to our seasonal residents, we are glad to see you once again.

I am writing to you in early October, so by the time you read this the election will have been decided. Regardless of the outcome the greatest impact to our daily lives is what goes on within our own Village. Many have mourned the passing of the teaching of civics in our schools and with it the fundamental knowledge of our system of self-governance and the important role that we each play as individuals.

Every resident of our Village has the opportunity to participate in the governing process. In addition to serving on the Council there are numerous committees staffed by resident volunteers who are essential to the work of the Village. Village Council workshops and meetings are open to everyone and citizen input is not only encouraged but is necessary to a sound decision making process. For our young people the Village offers intern opportunities for high school and college students so they can experience first-hand how local government works. While acknowledging the hectic pace of modern life, it is our sincere hope you and your family will avail yourselves to these opportunities.

As we enter the holiday season I would like to share with you a final thought:

"On Christmas, we celebrate the birth of Christ with prayer, feasting, and great merriment. But, most of all, we experience it in our hearts. For, more than just a day, Christmas is a state of mind. It is found throughout the year whenever faith overcomes doubt, hope conquers despair, and love triumphs over hate. It is present when men of any creed bring love and understanding to the hearts of their fellow man... Let us resolve to honor this spirit of Christmas and strive to keep it throughout the year." President Ronald Reagan - 1981

*Frank D'Ambra, III - Council Member*

## HURRICANE MATTHEW

On Wednesday, October 5th, Village Command Staff, the Village Manager, and Mayor met in the Emergency Operations Center (EOC) to participate in a conference call with the National Weather Service. The Village had been slowly preparing all week for the possible effects of Hurricane Matthew, but now it was one day away and the final preparations needed to be put into place.



Under the guidance of the Director of Emergency Management, Fire Chief Joel Medina, a State of Emergency Declaration was issued by Mayor Brennan, and the EOC was manned full-time with plans put into action to up-staff the Police and Fire-Rescue Departments.

Police and Fire-Rescue were staffed, equipped, stocked and ready. Mutual aid agreements with neighboring departments were in place. Public Works was geared up and ready to respond. The EOC was fully staffed and monitoring all information while working in coordination with the Palm Beach County EOC. Staff was updating residents on our social media feeds (Facebook, Twitter and our web site), through direct phone calls and through the local media. Non-essential Village employees were sent home, while those who directly provide for your safety remained on duty. While we only sustained tropical storm force winds, the Village was prepared for worse.

Moving forward the next phase in the process is to evaluate our plans and actions taken, looking at what worked well and where we have opportunities to improve. Now would be a good time for you to look at how well your plan worked. This will not be the last storm we face together. The degree to which you are prepared and have a workable plan greatly affects how you are emotionally affected by the stress of the event. Fine tune your plan now to be ready next time.

## Sign up to Receive Emergency Notifications

**OPTION 2**  
Text ZIP CODE to 888777  
Text MINGOTRICK to 888777 for Meeting Notices  
Text EMERCALLS to 888777 for Emergency Notifications  
Text SMOKE SIGNALS to 888777 for Smoke Signals  
Text WOPD to 888777 for Police Department  
Text WOFIRE to 888777 for Fire Department  
Text PARKSEVENTS to 888777 for Parks & Rec

**OPTION 1**  
Login to [www.Tequesta.org](http://www.Tequesta.org) - Select - Residents - Notifications. Register to receive email and text messages via the widget located under Option 1.

**OPTION 3**  
Register at [Nixle.com](http://Nixle.com) to sign up for:  
Text - Email - Call - Landline

nixle

## Village of Tequesta

For more information, contact the Village Clerk's Office  
561-768-0440    [www.tequesta.org](http://www.tequesta.org)    [lmccwilliams@tequesta.org](mailto:lmccwilliams@tequesta.org)

PUBLISHED BY  
WEST PALM BEACH, FL  
FIND  
U.S. POSTAGE  
PERMIT # 2073

Village of Tequesta  
345 Tequesta Drive  
Tequesta, FL 33469-0273

## Around Town

### PUBLIC WORKS

The Department has continued the regular maintenance of the Village Right of Ways. In addition, we have begun to change out street and regulatory signs with break-away posts and high visibility reflectors and signage. This work will continue in the coming months on Tequesta Drive, Country Club Drive and Seabrook Road.

Tequesta Drive was milled, paved, striped and reflectors applied to the road between Point Drive and Country Club Drive, and between Cypress Drive and Seabrook Road. Thermoplastic Striping and road reflectors were applied to the road between Cypress and Seabrook in early October 2016. The intersection at Seabrook and Tequesta Drive was milled, paved and striped in late October 2016.

The intersection at Tequesta Drive and Country Club Drive was enhanced with a cross walk, curb and sidewalk. Overgrown landscaping was cut back and the over-all look improved with new grass, irrigation, red-tipped Cocoplum hedges and a small oak tree.

A newly landscaped curbed median was added on Tequesta Drive between Cypress Drive and Fiesta Avenue and energy efficient low landscape lighting to enhance the median will be added in November 2016. We also continued updating the landscaping on Tequesta Drive just east of the rail road tracks and will continue improving the overall landscaping in the medians on Tequesta Drive and US1. Our plan is to plant low maintenance, drought tolerant, colorful plants.

The sidewalks were repaired on Country Club Drive, Tequesta Drive, Intracoastal, Seabrook and other areas within the Village. As the heavy growing season winds down, we will begin sidewalk repairs throughout the Village, replacing damaged asphalt sidewalk with concrete. We purchased a concrete grinding machine to focus on raised sidewalks and started grinding raised sidewalks east of US1 on Intracoastal Circle last September.

In October and November, the oaks trees on Seabrook will be trimmed and the landscaping at Linear Park cut back and thinned out along the heavily used path. On Tequesta Bridge The Coconut Palms and Clusea will be trimmed. Staff will add colorful low maintenance plants in the lower four quadrants. New LED lighting will be installed on the columns of the bridge for the safety of the boaters in the community.

*We appreciate your positive feedback, suggestions and your patience during these projects.*

## HOW TO BECOME A COUNCIL MEMBER

Many have wondered what it takes to be a Village Council Member; how much time does each member spend on Village business; what are they paid; what are their duties; and how can I become a Council Member and serve my community?

The next municipal election is scheduled for March 14, 2017. The Qualifying Period begins at Noon, Tuesday, January 31, 2017 and runs through Noon, Tuesday, February 14, 2017. These dates and times are strictly enforced and are not flexible. The Village Clerk's phone clock is the official clock for compliance purposes.

### ★ The following seats are scheduled for the next election:

Seat 2 - current incumbent - Abby Brennan

Seat 4 - current incumbent - Tom Paterno

### ★ Form of Government

The Village of Tequesta utilizes the Council/Manager form of government and is subject only to the limitations imposed by the constitution and laws of the State of Florida and by the Village Charter. The job of the elective Council is to:

- Enact local legislation through ordinance
- Establish policy through resolution
- Adopt the village budget, and
- Appoint the village manager and attorney

The village manager in turn is tasked with executing the policies and laws and administers the day-to-day operations.

### ★ Meetings

The Village Council meets on the 2nd Thursday of each month to conduct its regular business and encourages residents to attend and provide input. Additionally, special meetings and workshops are held, as needed, to address specific issues relating to Village matters.

### ★ Salary

Starting this past April (2016), Council salary rates increased to \$600.00 per month with an annual 2% increase to be applied each year thereafter. The salary increase in excess of the current \$250.00 monthly salary, as well as the 2% annual increase, is not effective for any particular council member until after the expiration of the council member's current term, pursuant to Section 2.01 of the Village Charter.

### ★ Election

The Council consists of five (5) members who are elected at large to five Seats. Seats 1, 3 and 5 are elected in the even years with Seats 2 and 4 elected in the odd years. Council Members serve the residents of the Village for two-year terms and there are no term limits. Council Members must be registered voters and residents of the incorporated Village; and upon being elected to office, must take and subscribe to the Oath of Office as outlined in the Village Charter and in State Statute.

### ★ Mayor and Vice-Mayor

Each year during the Reorganization Meeting following the annual election, council appoints one of its members to serve as Mayor and another member to serve as Vice-Mayor. The Mayor and Vice-Mayor serve at the pleasure of the Council for one (1) year and/or until a successor shall be appointed and qualified. The Mayor presides at all meetings and executes all instruments to which the Village is a party, as approved by vote of the Village Council, unless otherwise provided hereby or by ordinance. Per the Charter, the Mayor has no administrative duties.

### ★ How to Run for Office

When a resident decides to seek office, they should schedule an appointment with the Village Clerk to review the "Candidate Election Handbook." During this meeting, a comprehensive explanation of the process is provided, required forms and election laws reviewed, and important dates and deadlines are discussed.

For additional election information, contact Lori McWilliams, MMC, the Village Clerk at 561-768-0443 or via email at [lmwilliams@tequesta.org](mailto:lmwilliams@tequesta.org).

Lori McWilliams, MMC - Village Clerk



## Village Employees Awarded for Excellence

### Village Manager's Award - Mark McClintock



*For exemplary commitment and dedication to the Village*

Mark is a model employee who displays an exemplary commitment to the Village with a positive attitude. He is willing to jump in and assist others when needed. He has a contagious smile and laughter, which is needed more in today's workplace. Mark is someone I rely upon and reach out to for assistance. He represents the Village well and always has the best interests of the residents and staff in mind.

### Leadership Award - Joe Petrick



*For his knowledgeable, helpful and professional attitude.*

Joe was nominated by several staff members for his dedication. He not only works as the Union Representative, but he works hard for the Village as a Code Enforcement Officer. He is always willing to help out where he can, and goes out of his way to make time for you. He is a good listener and provides accurate and meaningful advice.

### Initiative Award - Doug Chambers



*For his professionalism, prompt service, follow-through, and take-charge attitude.*

Doug received numerous nominations due to his pro-active attitude and dedication to excellent service. He has done a tremendous job addressing maintenance issues and is constantly striving to improve the service provided by his staff. His efforts to make Tequesta even more pristine and beautiful have not gone unnoticed. Doug is the

consummate team-player, always offering solutions to identified problems. He is expeditious with great attention to detail.

For example, an email was sent to Doug on a Saturday by dispatch and within minutes they received a response back. When addressing the initial issue, another issue was identified and immediately resolved.

### Excellence - Kelley Bonneau



*For her responsible, professional, courteous, and knowledgeable demeanor*

Kelley was nominated by numerous staff members for her positive attitude and her willingness to always lend a helping hand. Kelley works hard dealing with random questions and situations, and no matter what the issue, she works diligently to acquire an answer as quickly and efficiently as possible. "No" is not part of her vocabulary.

One example is when she was called upon to assist another staff member with dissecting and re-assembling the cantankerous copy machine. She stopped what she was doing and jumped in to help fix the problem, which took 20 minutes away from her work schedule.

*Kelley is always courteous, helpful, responsible and knowledgeable.*

SMOKE SIGNALS is published by the Village of Tequesta Manager's Office

Editors: Lori McWilliams, Debra Telfin

Produced by: GLENN GRAPHICS - P.O. Box 1621 • Jupiter, FL 33468

Printed by: SOUTHEASTERN PRINTING - 3601 Southeast Dixie Highway, Stuart, FL 34997

# Fiscal Year 2016 Budget



The Village's Fiscal Year 2017 Budget Process came to an end on September 15, 2016 when the Village Council adopted the final millage rate and final budget for Fiscal Year 2017. Fiscal Year 2017 highlights include:

- The final millage rate remained at 6.292 mills for the third year in a row.
- The adopted budget for Fiscal Year 2017 is \$19,127,050
- The operating budget of the Village of Tequesta is 2.4% less than the previous year's operating budget.
- Projected Unassigned Fund Balance exceeds the Village Council's policy of a minimum of 17% of General Fund operating expenditures by approximately \$900,000
- Capital equipment and improvement purchases for all funds are approximately \$600,000
- Infrastructure replacement and improvement purchases for all funds are approximately \$1,900,000

## General Fund

At the request of the Village Council, the Village Manager developed the Fiscal Year 2017 General Fund Budget within the following parameters:

1. Increase operating revenues by at least 4.62%
2. Increase operating expenditures by no more than 3.62%
3. Use the difference (1%) to fund roadway resurfacing

Actual operating revenues increased by 6.07% and actual operating expenditures increased by 3.57%. This resulted in an additional \$164,600, not including the 1% designated for road resurfacing, which was used for capital purchases.

## BUDGET SUMMARY VILLAGE OF TEQUESTA - FISCAL YEAR 2015-2016

**\*THE PROPOSED OPERATING BUDGET EXPENDITURES OF THE VILLAGE OF TEQUESTA ARE 2.4% LESS THAN LAST YEARS TOTAL OPERATING EXPENDITURES.**

General fund									6.2920
ESTIMATED REVENUES	GENERAL FUND	CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT	CAPITAL PROJECTS	WATER UTILITY	REFUSE & RECYCLING	STORMWATER UTILITY	SPECIAL LAW ENFORCEMENT	TOTAL ALL FUNDS	
Taxes:	Millage Per \$1000								
Ad Valorem Taxes	6.2920	6,104,400						6,104,400	
Sales and Use Taxes		1,180,100						1,180,100	
Franchise Fees		462,000						462,000	
Licenses and Permits		502,000						502,000	
Intergovernmental Revenues		874,100						874,100	
Charges for Services		1,136,150		4,776,200	484,000	341,250		6,737,600	
Miscellaneous Revenues		299,800		12,000				311,800	
Intragovernmental Services		561,350						561,350	
Unrestricted Investment Earnings		5,000		7,800				12,800	
Other Financing Sources		0		44,500				44,500	
<b>TOTAL SOURCES</b>		<b>\$11,124,900</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$4,840,500</b>	<b>\$484,400</b>	<b>\$341,250</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$16,790,650</b>	
Transfers In								106,000	
Fund Balances/Reserves/Net Assets		\$250,650		\$1,714,750		\$265,000		2,230,400	
<b>TOTAL REVENUES, TRANSFERS &amp; BALANCES</b>		<b>\$11,124,900</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$6,393,450</b>	<b>\$484,400</b>	<b>\$606,250</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$19,021,050</b>	
<b>EXPENDITURES</b>									
General Government		2,047,500						2,047,500	
Public Safety		6,705,150						6,705,150	
Physical Environment				6,005,650	484,000	606,250		7,095,900	
Transportation		1,271,700						1,377,700	
Leisure Services		696,500						696,500	
Debt Service		534,900		527,600				1,062,500	
Other Financing Uses		13,600		22,000				850,600	
<b>TOTAL EXPENDITURES</b>		<b>\$11,269,550</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$6,555,250</b>	<b>\$484,400</b>	<b>\$606,250</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$19,021,050</b>	
Transfers Out		\$106,000						106,000	
Fund Balances/Reserves/Net Assets								0	
<b>TOTAL APPROPRIATED EXPENDITURES</b>		<b>\$11,375,550</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$6,555,250</b>	<b>\$484,400</b>	<b>\$606,250</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$19,127,050</b>	
<b>TRANSFERS, RESERVES &amp; BALANCES</b>			<b>\$0</b>						

The tentative, adopted, and/or final budgets are on file in the office of the above referenced taxing authority as a public record.



## CRIME PREVENTION

In thinking of what might be the best topic to discuss for this edition of Smoke Signals, we quickly decided it would be one related to some of the most frequent calls we get here in the Village. We are often visited at the Police Department by someone who "won" a contest, was threatened with jail by the IRS or purchased some item at a price that was too good to believe. The reality is, they have not won a huge sum of money, they owe no back taxes to the IRS and the item they have paid for at such a great discount will never arrive on their doorstep.

I personally handled one of these calls in our lobby just last week and another just the week before that one. We encourage residents to be very skeptical when the deal seems too good to be true. Never provide personal information over the phone or internet when that request for information is initiated by anyone besides yourself. Legitimate businesses (banks, retail stores and the IRS) do not conduct business that way. If it doesn't seem right, please trust your instincts, it probably is not right.

Identity theft was the number one fraud complaint over the past several years in the United States. It's in the newspapers every day and on the news every night. People worry that someone will run up charges on their credit card or fleece their bank account while their back is turned. There is reason to worry. All a thief needs is your Social Security number to commit identity theft. This crime is relatively easy to commit, and investigating and prosecuting it is complex and time-consuming; but once you know the facts and some preventive measures you can take, you can win the fight against identity theft!

### Identity thieves commit their crime in several ways:

- They steal credit card payments and other outgoing mail from private, curbside mailboxes.
- They dig through garbage cans or communal dumpsters in search of cancelled checks, credit card and bank statements, and preapproved credit card offers.
- They hack into computers that contain personal records and steal the data.
- They file a change of address form in the victim's name to divert mail and gather personal and financial data.

### Tips

- To guard against identity theft, never give out your Social Security number. Treat it as confidential information (because it is).
- Commit all passwords to memory. Never write them down or carry them with you.
- When using an ATM machine, make sure no one is hovering over you and can see you enter your password.
- Tell your children never to give out their address, telephone number, password, school name or any other personal information.
- Make sure your children know to never agree to meet face-to-face with someone they've met online without discussing it with you. Only if you decide that it's okay to meet their "cyber-friend" should they arrange to meet this person, and then the meeting should be in a familiar public place in the presence of a trusted adult.
- Tell your children never to respond to messages that have bad words, are scary, or just seem weird.
- Tell your children never to enter an area that charges for services without asking you first.
- Tell children never send a picture of themselves to anyone without your permission.
- Make sure that access to the Internet at your children's school is monitored by adults.

Identity theft and online fraud is often very difficult and expensive to investigate. There are many factors that go into whether an investigation can even be conducted let alone lead to an eventual prosecution of any individual involved in these crimes. The best defense is to be on the defensive. You would not leave your home unlocked while away on vacations and you would not let your young children go unsupervised because of the potential of what might happen. In the same light don't let your guard down when it comes to the security of your identity and the money you have worked so hard to earn.

As always when in doubt we are here to assist. It is always better to seek this assistance before you become a victim. Should you unknowingly become a victim please don't hesitate to contact us then as well. We should be able to help get you in touch with those who are best suited to limit the potential damage to your identity and your life savings.

**For more information on crime prevention tips,** contact Chief Christopher L. Elg.

# Tequesta Business Association



The Village of Tequesta and the Palm Beach North Chamber recognized the need for a local organization that would be dedicated to providing local Tequesta businesses a formal coalition for local outreach, political advocacy and networking opportunities.

Tequesta Business Association (TBA) is a grass roots non-profit membership-driven organization, dedicated to providing local Tequesta businesses a platform to promote quality business development through business to business networking and marketing efforts to local residents; to inform members on issues impacting the Village of Tequesta; to take positions on pertinent issues impacting businesses in Tequesta which will allow businesses to have a formal and unified voice, making real and sustainable improvements on a local level; build economic strength in Tequesta by educating business owners and residents in the community on a variety of issues and to create an environment to drive consumers to Tequesta to support local businesses & entrepreneurs.

The Tequesta Business Association is the culmination of numerous work group meetings that were held with the Village of Tequesta Mayor, Vice-Mayor, and staff, the Palm Beach North Chamber and local business professionals. On Thursday, September 22, 2016 the Tequesta Business Association was officially launched and presented to the local business community of which there were 29 representatives in attendance.

The charter board members include Matt Mitchell, Chair; Hazel Raigue, Vice-Chair; Chris Rice, Secretary; and Aphrodite Moulis, Treasurer. The local partnerships include Mayor Abby Brennan, Village Clerk McWilliams and Mary Ann Grieser representing the Village of Tequesta; Rick Sartory representing the Palm Beach North Chamber; Amy Angelo representing Think Local; and Peter Bonneau representing Tequesta Rotary.

The Tequesta Business Association's commitment is to provide members value-added services to promote their business in the local community through events such as Tequesta-Fest, Chili Cook-Off and the Holiday Parade. Members will also have access to educational events, leadership roles, and networking events held at different Tequesta locations to spotlight the variety of businesses located in our community. We will also be publishing a calendar of events for all members through our Facebook page and website. The calendar will provide dates and times for any event or function offered by a local business or non-profit – the calendar will be available to TBA members and all Tequesta residents.

Setting up a formal organization like the TBA allows local business owners to influence the landscape of Tequesta and its surrounding communities over the next twenty years and into the future. People and businesses are flocking to Northern Palm Beach County and the TBA will have a direct voice driven by a collective opinion to weigh in on public and private sector issues affecting the local business environment. We want to create a business community and culture that drive success to all. The Tequesta Business Association is a mechanism to generate positive change and develop long lasting relationships with like-minded people.

We are extremely excited about the Tequesta Business Association as the success of the group relies on the interest of our local business community and the value we provide. We welcome any ideas/suggestions/recommendations to make it easier for you to make difference. If you would like to join, please stop by the Village Town Center; call Matt Mitchell at 561-746-4514 or send an email to mmitchell@ventureinsurancepartners.com

## EMPLOYEE MOVEMENTS July 2016 - October 2016

### JOINING US

Name	Department	Position	Start Date
Tara Chattergoon	Water Plant	Water Plant Trainee	8/1/16
Michael Filipkowski	Public Works	Maintenance Worker I	10/13/16
Joel Medina	Fire Department	Fiore Chief	7/5/16
Carl Soranno	Village of Tequesta	PT Recreation Specialist I	10/13/16

### LEAVING US

Name	Department	Position	Departure Date
James Hojecki	Police Department	PT Police Officer	7/21/16
Don Magleby	Parks & Rec.	PT Park Attendant	8/12/16
Carlos Morales	Public Works	Maintenance Worker I	7/20/16
Ariel Ramirez	Police Department	Police Officer	8/10/16
Angela Soto	Village of Tequesta	PT Communication Officer	8/1/16

Spotlight on

**BUSINESS**

**Massage by Kathy**

357 Cypress Dr., Suite 8 • 561-768-3100

**Kathleen Mack** is a licensed massage therapist, yoga instructor and a reiki practitioner, and she is excited to serve in such a wonderful tight knit community. Having hands with heart, her healing massages



are customized to your body's therapeutic needs. She is located in the Cypress Plaza with Colon Care and Rising Sun Acupuncture and offers treatments to help relieve stress, eliminate aches and pains, and provide a much needed relaxation at the end of a tough day. Please call for rates and to set up your appointment at her office or in your home. Mention this ad and receive \$10.00 off your initial treatment. Gift certificates and package rates also available upon request.

## Water Meter Change Out Program

### Dear Water Customer,

The Village of Tequesta Utilities Department has embarked on a water meter replacement program that will take approximately 4-5 years to complete. Our utility department will have changed out most of the 5,000 meters within our utility water system upon the completion of the program. Outlined below are a few questions and answers to help explain the program and how it may impact the customer and the utility.

### What is the purpose of a water meter?

To measure and track the amount of water delivered through a distribution system. More importantly, a water meter registers the amount of water delivered to a customer so an appropriate bill for that water can be charged. That charge determines the amount of revenue a system receives.

### Why does the accuracy of a water meter diminish?

Accuracy depends on many factors, such as the quality of the water being passed through the meter, the rate of flow and the total quantity of water that has been measured. A water meter like any mechanical device can over register but this rarely occurs because wear on internal meter parts generally cause lower measurements. It can be anticipated that after a certain age and volume of water, the inaccuracy of the meter becomes an economical liability for both the utility and customer.

### Why has my monthly bill changed?

Major differences in meter accuracy translates to unequal customer billing. The accuracy of a utilities water meter is a high priority and efforts are made to maintain all meters at a high and uniform level of precision and efficiency.

Due to the age and accuracy of your old meter, the meter may have allowed water to pass through without capturing the quantity. The new meters are more sensitive to low flow conditions. So, the usage that did not register before in the old meter will be captured in the new meter.

### What type of program does Tequesta have?

It is important that all water systems establish a meter program to insure the system is able to track water production and distribution.

The Village of Tequesta is beginning a comprehensive meter replacement program, which is generally the best and most cost effective method for smaller systems. An initial service period of 15-20 years must first be established. Once the service period is reached the meters are replaced with new meters creating a reasonable economic balance. It is clearly economical if the cost of replacing a meter is less than the loss of revenue that would occur if the meters were to be used longer than their established service period. Essentially the meter program would more than pay for itself.

For more information, contact Sam Heady, Deputy Director of Utilities.



# Village of Tequesta

FALL 2016

## PARKS & RECREATION

### Van Clans

Sponsored by The Village of Tequesta Parks & Recreation

Wednesday, October 6, 2016



Fees: Lunch + cost of ceramic

Wednesday, November 9, 2016



Fees: Lunch + museum admission

Thursday, December 15, 2016



Shopping at  
Downtown Stuart

+ more trips in January, February & March

Open to Tequesta residents and non residents  
Pre registration is required (in person) at Tequesta Parks & Rec  
**Space is limited**  
For more information and details on the trips you can come into the rec center and get a flyer or call 561-768-0470



Saturday, February 25, 2017  
Saturday, March 11, 2017  
**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

### Run 4 the Pies

Thursday, November 24



The 16th Annual Run 4 The Pies, four-mile race, begins at Constitution Park on Thanksgiving Day. Race is presented by the Palm Beach Roadrunners.

**Starts at 7:15 am**

Various race start-times during the morning.  
Please see palmbeachroadrunners.com for more information.

### FOOD TRUCK POW WOW

Enjoy live Music in the Park at the Food Truck Events.



- December 2
- January 6
- January 20
- February 3
- February 17
- March 3
- April 7

THE FOOD TRUCK EVENTS  
RUN FROM  
SEPTEMBER 2016 - APRIL 2017  
AT CONSTITUTION PARK  
FROM 5:00-9:00 PM

Vendor Space Available for \$20.00  
Please contact the Parks and Recreation Department for any questions at 561-768-0470.

### HOLIDAY GYMNASTICS CAMP

with  
Twin Lakes Gymnastics,  
Coach Larry



DECEMBER 26-30 & JANUARY 2-6

Fees:  
Weekly Resident: \$125  
Weekly Non Resident: \$155  
Daily resident: \$30  
Daily Non Resident: \$35  
9:00 am-1:00 pm

Call Larry at 561-315-6018 for more information

### Holiday In The Park

Holiday event with rides, games and a surprise visitor from the North Pole!



December 2, 2016 • 5:00 PM-9:00 PM

Residents- Free, Non-Residents \$5, No Resident Seniors (62+) \$1 Non Resident Kids under 3 - Free

# THE FLOOD IS COMING! *We just don't know when.*

## Purchase National Flood Insurance. Don't be caught unprepared.

**Living close to water** has its benefits, and flood hazards often accompany those benefits. Although today, we realize much better information about floods and construction engineering than just a few decades ago, floods still take a heavy toll on society; costing lives, damaging buildings and property, disrupting livelihoods, and often necessitating federal disaster relief, which has risen to record levels in recent years.

**Weather-related disasters** over the last several decades, and extreme events have been happening more frequently resulting in greater losses, costs and damages. Additionally, climate variability and change adds many uncertainties to future flood risk estimates, and costs for the engineering of projects to withstand flooding are rising. Communities across the country are now looking ahead and making decisions that will hopefully increase their economic and ecological resilience and minimize their risks. Many are attempting to determine how climate change may affect them in the future, and how officials will incorporate best available data into short-term and long-term decision-making.

**Floodplain Ordinances** are changing and some cities are in the process of increasing the freeboard requirements in light of recent climate change and the amount of flooding that is expected to occur over the next several years. The conceptual idea implementing 2.5 feet of freeboard is currently under scrutiny in Florida as it seems to be recommended throughout recent Climate Compact Group meetings.

**Flood Insurance Rate Maps (FIRMs)**, also known as flood hazard maps, are important tools in the effort to protect lives and properties in communities across the nation. By showing the extent to which areas of the Village and individual properties are at risk for flooding, these flood maps help residents and business owners make better financial decisions about protecting their property. But, flood risks are dynamic, and can change over time. Water flow and drainage patterns can be altered dramatically due to surface erosion, land use, and natural forces. As a result, flood maps for some areas may no longer accurately portray the current flood risks. Consequently, the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) has been updating the nation's flood maps using the latest data gathering and mapping technology.

**There are three types of Special Flood Hazard Areas (SFHA)**, present in the Village of Tequesta; the floodway (river), the flood fringe (river banks), and Coastal Storm Surge velocity flooding. We are affected by two forks of the Loxahatchee River in the Village (the North and Northwest), as well as the Inter-Coastal Waterway/Jupiter Sound, and the Atlantic Ocean. Areas lying east of Federal Highway are particularly vulnerable to flooding from hurricane storm surges, while people to the west may be vulnerable to riverine flooding. Historically, the Village of Tequesta has mainly been subjected to flooding caused by tropical storms or heavy downpours during afternoon thunderstorms. It just takes one storm to cause a flood, and just a few inches of water can cause tens of thousands of dollars in damage often necessitating federal disaster relief.

The Village of Tequesta has been a participant in the **National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP)** since 1992, which makes it possible for Village property owners to obtain federally backed flood insurance. National Flood Insurance is the best hope to keep residents from paying for the damage out of pocket since homeowners, renters and business policies typically don't cover flood damage.

**National Flood Insurance** is available to any owner of insurable property for a building or its contents. Tenants may also insure their personal property against flood loss. The actual costs will vary depending upon the amount of coverage and the degree of flood hazard. Contact your insurance carrier regarding flood insurance availability, rates and coverage for your property.

**In certain instances, such as the purchase of a home with a federally backed mortgage, flood insurance is required. Residents need to be advised of the following:**

- There is a 30-day waiting period for flood insurance policies.
- New flood insurance policies will not be written once a storm is approaching.
- Premiums for flood insurance policy holders provide the financial recovery for insured flood losses – not tax funds.
- With insurance proceeds, policyholders can repair or rebuild damaged homes, clear away debris, and replace business inventories and personal belongings.
- Flood insurance policyholders don't need to rely solely on federal disaster loans that must be repaid with interest.
- Flood insurance claims are usually handled quickly, helping flood victims rebuild homes and businesses.

**The Village of Tequesta joined the Community Rating System (CRS)** which provides for reductions in flood insurance premiums within participating communities. To acquire and maintain CRS discounts, the Village of Tequesta continues to implement flood awareness and mitigation programs in an effort to provide better information and assistance to its homeowners and businesses. The Village provides a status report to the NFIP each year.



### And It's Official ...

The Village of Tequesta recently received written confirmation dated July 25, 2016 from the Department of Homeland Security, Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA), that the Federal Insurance and Mitigation Administration (FIMA), has determined that the Village of Tequesta community will increase to a Class 7 in the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP) Community Rating System (CRS).

**The community qualifies for a 15 (%) percent discount** off the premium cost of flood insurance for NFIP policies issued or renewed in Special Flood Hazard Areas (SFHA) on or after May 1, 2016. This increase in CRS class is based on a field verification of the Village's 5-year cycle CRS application. Please note that Preferred Risk Policies are not eligible for the CRS discount.

**Reduce the financial impact** of flooding by taking steps yourself before disaster strikes. Many residents and business owners in Tequesta are unaware that they qualify for flood insurance. Even more may be unaware they may qualify for Federal financial assistance both pre-disaster and post-disaster. Everyone should review their current home owner policy and become familiar with what is and is not covered, as damage due to flooding is typically not covered.

**Contact the Building Department** for information as to whether or not your home is in danger. Our staff can help you determine your flood zone and elevation. Just call 561-768-0450, check us out on the web at [www.tequesta.org](http://www.tequesta.org), or stop by Village Hall during business hours.

**Flood Watch = "Be Aware."** Conditions are right for flooding to occur in your area.

### Steps to Take

- Turn on your TV/radio. You will receive the latest weather updates and emergency instructions.
- Know where to go. You may need to reach higher ground quickly and on foot.
- Build or restock your emergency preparedness kit. Include a flashlight, batteries, cash, and first aid supplies.

### Prepare Your Home

- Bring in outdoor furniture and move important indoor items to the highest possible floor. This will help protect them from flood damage.
- Disconnect electrical appliances and do not touch electrical equipment if you are wet or standing in water. You could be electrocuted.
- If instructed, turn off your gas and electricity at the main switch or valve. This helps prevent fires and explosions.

**Flood Warning = "Take Action!"** Flooding is either happening or will happen shortly.

### Steps to Take

- Move immediately to higher ground or stay on high ground.
- Evacuate if directed.
- Avoid walking or driving through flood waters. Turn Around, Don't Drown! Just 6 inches of moving water can knock you down and 2 feet of water can sweep your vehicle away.

### After the Flood

- Return home only when authorities say it is safe.
- Be aware of areas where floodwaters have receded and watch out for debris. Floodwaters often clog roads and walkways.
- Do not attempt to drive through areas that are still flooded.
- Avoid standing water as it may be electrically charged from underground or downed power lines.
- Photograph damage to your property for insurance purposes.



## How Public Safety is Supposed to Work

The residents of Tequesta have come to rely on their police and fire-rescue departments and expect a high level of service. We try to never disappoint. One recent call pointed out how effective a well-trained public safety system can be. On September 25th, Tequesta Dispatch received a call that stated an individual had been electrocuted. Police officers were immediately dispatched and arrived within minutes. They found a mid-twenties tree trimmer who had been working on a ladder trimming trees and came into contact with power lines. When the individual was electrocuted he fell 20ft to the ground and was in cardiac arrest when police officers

arrived. Our officers began CPR and kept others back as well as relayed information to the paramedics arriving on scene. Tequesta Fire-Rescue, who arrived shortly after the police, found police officers effectively performing CPR. Paramedics shocked the patient's heart once, and his pulses came back. The patient was flown to St. Mary's Trauma Center and made a full recovery. We are pleased that this individual survived and grateful to the Police Officers and Firefighter /Paramedics that performed so well for the system that we have here in Tequesta.

