



# The City News

City of Atlantis  
260 Orange Tree Drive  
Atlantis, FL 33462

The City News  
JANUARY 2008

## THE MAYOR'S CORNER

Dear Residents,

Last January, our Mayor Fred Furtado indicated that there were two major projects that were being started in 2007. Security cameras were installed at all gates, as well as a water feature which was constructed at the Country Club Drive entrance. Both were great successes. As 2007 progressed we were faced with many challenges such as unanticipated tax changes that directly and adversely impacted collected revenues, water restrictions because of drought conditions, and County Commissioner changes that also impacted ancillary revenue sources. Despite these difficulties, and because of the prudent guidance of your City Council and City Manager Mo Thornton, perilous circumstances that overcame other municipalities were averted with no impact to the level of service that we are accustomed in providing. This in and of itself is amazing.

I would love to be in a position where I could state that the outlook on 2008 is much better than the way we ended 2007 but it is not. The reality is that we are confronted with an increasing threat of additional revenue cuts (taxes) being considered by our State lawmakers, continued and potentially expanded water restrictions, as well as a continued state of flux at the County level that may limit or eliminate grants that we routinely received to supplement city initiatives. In spite of these difficulties, and because of continued fiscally responsible

planning, we have delivered a 2008 budget that meets all operational objectives. We will not reduce levels of service but we still tighten our belts, at all levels, to ensure that we can continue to adjust to any changes that we are confronted with as 2008 progresses.

Concerned I am, discouraged I will never be. These aforementioned challenges call for cautious and calculated managerial action of which we will continue to apply in order to ensure our continued success. Our financial situation remains strong. The yearly external audit of our financial statements supports this fact, and I am confident that the City of Atlantis will continue on its path of achievement regardless of the issues it is confronted with.

Finally, I encourage you, as I usually do, to attend your monthly council meetings to remain informed as to how your City is doing. It is not often that many residents attend yet it remains the most vital source of communication we have seeing that all five council members are present at one location. Hope to see you there.

To end on a happier note, I hope that your Holiday Season brought you much happiness and that the New Year brings you and your families great joy and success.

Serving Proudly,  
Mayor Manny Fernandez

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### NOTICE

DECALS AND DIRECTORIES AVAILABLE IN CHAMBERS 8:30-4:30 MONDAY—FRIDAY FOR THE NEXT FEW WEEKS. AFTER THAT, THEY WILL BE AVAILABLE AT THE POLICE DEPARTMENT 24/7.



**CITY COUNCIL FILING:**

Filing for City Council groups (seats) (1,3,5) opens at noon on Tuesday, January 29, 2008 and closes at noon on Tuesday, February 12, 2008. Group 1 is currently held by Fred Furtado, Group 3 by David Cantley and Group 5 by Frank Austino.

Councilmembers are elected for a two-year term..Qualifications to serve include being at least 21 years of age, a registered voter and a resident of Atlantis. Candidate packets are available from the City Clerk, Monday through Friday

8:30am to 4:30 pm, beginning January 29th.

The municipal election is scheduled for Tuesday, March 11, 2008.

**ABSENTEE BALLOTS MUST BE REQUESTED BY MAIL, PHONE OR IN PERSON FROM THE SUPERVISOR OF ELECTIONS, 240 S. MILITARY TRAIL, WEST PALM BEACH, FL 33415. PHONE NUMBER (561) 656-6200.**

**ATTENTION RESIDENTS:**

The City of Atlantis will be celebrating its 50th birthday in June 2009.

We would like to establish a committee to

explore what events and celebrations would be most feasible to mark this momentous anniversary.

If you would be interested in being part of this committee, please contact city hall and let us know. The number is 965-1744.

**THE LITERARY SOCIETY**

of the Atlantis Golf Club meets on the third Wednesday of each month at the Atlantis Golf Club. We invite all to attend and have fun.

We review books, have a fruit and danish continental breakfast, meet interesting authors, get to know each other and generally add to our enjoyment of Atlantis living. The cost is \$5.

All you need to do is to call Pat at 561-966-7600 and let her know you will be there. Remember 9AM on the third Wednesday of each month. For January 16, 2008, we will be reviewing "Her Father's House" by Belva Plain.

We look forward to seeing you there.

**WELCOME NEW RESIDENTS**

Joseph Fernandes, 101 Turnberry Drive

**Deaths:**

David Thompson, 608 Cypress Key Drive

**DIRECTORY CORRECTION:**

Dave & Marilyn Van Vleet, 755 Muirfield Cr. 357-0755

Owen Gassaway (Lantana Airport)

**ATLANTIS CITY COUNCIL NEWS**

The December Council meeting was called to order on December 19, 2007 at 7:30 PM.

Ordinance No. 401-An Ordinance Amending Chapter 4, Minimum Property Standards, passed 5-0 after discussion and fine tuning, on 2nd reading. This clearly spells out what is required for minimum property standards, so as to reflect the pride of ownership that we all value here in Atlantis.

Representative Shelley Vana appeared to ask everyone to please take time to understand the new proposed tax amendment up for vote on January 29th. An educated decision is most important in this crucial matter. It was reported by City Manager that the Florida League of Cities has come out against the proposed tax amendment.

Atlantis is all about golf and it is important that both of the clubs in Atlantis continue to do well. Council passed 4-1 to encourage both clubs, the City Manager and Mayor to meet on a regular basis.

It was reported that in approximately 18 months Atlantis will be celebrating its 50th year anniversary. A committee is being formed to coordinate the events. Anyone interested is asked to contact City Hall.

The Golf Cart parade was again a successful event with over 850 meals served. Mo Thornton, Steve Mazuk and Sean Mahoney were thanked for their hard work, along with all the other city workers. Council thanked Atlantis Enterprises for the use of their property for the various events held during the year. Steve Mazuk and his crew put up over 38,000 holiday lights, no wonder Atlantis looks so beautiful!

After January 1st, remember to pick up your new decal stickers at Council Chambers. Please understand how important this is for the security and safety of our citizens. Thank you!

Treasurer Dahlgren reported that Atlantis is in fine financial shape and Council wishes everyone a happy and prosperous new year.

William Mitchell

**POLICE DEPARTMENT NEWS by CHIEF ROBERT G. MANGOLD**

**Happy New Year!**

**2008 Decals:** Resident decals are now available at the City Council Chambers during regular business hours, and at the police department 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. The resident decal program is an integral part of our security measures, and I encourage all of our citizens to participate. Decals should be placed in the lower corner of the front windshield and the rear window, on left side of the car (driver's side). For those residents that prefer not to place the decals on their vehicles, please carry a decal above your visor and show it to the guard when you enter the city.

**Crime Prevention:** The police department encourages Atlantis residents to assist us in our efforts to protect your property and safety. Please don't hesitate to call in any suspicious persons, vehicles, or activities. Officers are happy to investigate these calls and would rather respond to unfounded calls than have a crime committed because citizens were hesitant to notify us about their suspicions.

Crime prevention and detection works best when the community and the police department act as partners to achieve and insure community security. Officers cannot be everywhere at once. An observant and concerned citizenry is our best ally in our efforts to prevent crime.

**TRAFFIC ENFORCEMENT  
DECEMBER 2007**

<b>Total Enforcement:</b>	<b>132</b>	<b>Total Parking:</b>	<b>7</b>
<b>Citations:</b>	<b>121</b>	<b>Citations:</b>	<b>7</b>
<b>Written Warnings:</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>Written Warning:</b>	<b>0</b>

**CRIME STATISTICS  
NOVEMBER 2007**

<u>Major Crimes</u>	<u>Residential</u>	<u>Commercial</u>
<b>Battery</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>
<b>Burglary (Structure &amp; Vehicle)</b>		<b>1</b>
<b>Theft (Grand &amp; Petit)</b>		<b>3</b>
<b>Vehicle theft</b>		<b>1</b>

## HERE'S THE NEWS ON THE 15th ANNUAL HOLIDAY ON WHEELS PARADE

The 15th Annual Holiday on Wheels Parade held on Monday, December 10th, was an overwhelming success and the rain did not dampen anyone's spirits. Approximately 850 meals were served and everyone had a wonderful time.

There were a total of 20 official entries and a few joiners for the parade. As usual, the judges had a very difficult time making their decision, but they came up with the following winners:

### **Most Creative (It was a tie!)**

LaCoursiere Family  
Patrick Rizk

### **Most Unusual**

Lanahan Family

### **Best Use of Lighting**

Eberly Family

### **Best of Show**

Jason Kane

### **Most Festive**

Srinath Family



The judges were: Claire Rose, Roger Rose, Prudie Anderson, Robin Ackerman and Doug Cameron. We thank them for their time and we know they had a very difficult task choosing winners since there were so many wonderful entries.

We congratulate the winners and we thank all who participated. We appreciate the efforts of the Golf Cart Parade Committee for organizing this event and we thank the many volunteers who worked so tirelessly planning, setting up, tearing down and making this wonderful event come together.

The City thanks Gloriann and Corbin Lutz along with their helpers Liz Mattson & Rene Smolczynski enough for their face painting. It was a big hit with everyone.

We wish to acknowledge the generosity of our sponsors:

Atlantis Country Club  
Atlantis Golf Club

J. Shelhamer Landscape  
Waste Management

## NEW WATERING RESTRICTIONS

Beginning January 15th, residents in Palm Beach county, may irrigate one day a week. Residents may choose from one of two "watering windows" on their designated irrigation day. You may **NOT** water during both time periods.

On properties less than 5 acres, residents with an **odd** numbered address (ending in 1,3,5,7,9) lawn watering is permitted on **Mondays** from 4-8 am **OR** from 4-8 pm.

On properties less than 5 acres, residents with an **even** numbered address (ending in 2,4,6,8\*) lawn watering is permitted on **Thursdays** from 4-8 am **OR** from 4-8 pm

On properties more than 5 acres, residents with an **odd** numbered address, lawn watering is permitted on **Mondays** from 12 am to 8 am **OR** from 4 pm to 11:59 pm.

On properties more than 5 acres, residents with an **even** numbered address lawn watering is permitted on **Thursdays** from 12 am to 8 am **OR** from 4 pm to 11:59 pm.

\*Residents without a numbered street address, and those that irrigate, both odd and even addresses, should follow the Thursday schedule.

**When can I water my newly planted landscaping and sod?** For Palm Beach County, new plantings, sod or landscaping in place for 30 days or less can be watered:

- From 2 am to 8 am, Mondays, Tuesdays, Wednesdays, Thursdays, Saturdays and Sundays, on properties less than 5 acres. Irrigation is not permitted on Fridays.

- From 12:01 am to 8 am on Mondays, Tuesdays, Wednesdays, Thursdays, Saturdays and Sundays on properties more than 5 acres in size. Irrigation is not permitted on Fridays.

New plantings, sod or landscaping in place for 31 to 60 days can be watered:

- From 2 am to 8 am on Mondays, Wednesdays, Thursdays and Saturdays, on properties less than 5 acres.

- From 12:01am to 8 am on Mondays, Wednesdays, Thursdays and Saturdays on properties more than 5 acres.

These rules permit new landscape watering only. Homeowners should keep documentation on any new landscaping, such as a dated receipt of purchase, in case they are required to prove the date of installation.

Notify the Police Department in Atlantis if you have new plantings.

**Can I hand-water my lawn?** Yes. You can hand water stressed plants for 10 minutes per day using a single hose with an attached automatic shut off nozzle.

**What other low-volume watering methods are allowed?** Drip, bubble and micro-jet systems that apply water directly to root plant zones may be used any time. However, a voluntary reduction in use is encouraged and any low volume system should not produce water runoff. Watering cans are also low volume and can be used anytime.

**When can I wash my car or boat?** Anytime. Vehicle washing is not restricted. When washing a car, park it over a non paved or porous surface to limit water runoff, and always attach an automatic shut off nozzle to your hose. Limit boat rinsing to 15 minutes after it has been in salt water.

**When can I use a pressure washer?** Anytime. Pressure washing is not restricted. Use low-volume equipment that produces water pressure of 1,000 pounds per square inch to 4,000 pounds per square inch. Channel runoff water onto the grass or another non-paved surface.

**Is there a way I can get permission to change my watering day or time?** Yes. You may apply for a variance from water restrictions. The application form is online at: [Variance Application](#), and the instruction form is on line at: [Variance Instructions](#). Your application will be reviewed by South Florida Water Management District staff, and approval or denial is based on criteria listed in the [Water Shortage Plan Rule](#). For more information, visit [www.sfwmd.gov](http://www.sfwmd.gov) or call 800-432-2045.

**Continued .....**

## Property Tax Amendment:

On January 29, the voters in Florida will go to the polls to vote on two important issues. The first is the Presidential Preference Primary. The second is the vote on the proposed Constitutional Amendment for Property Tax Exemptions. Much has been written about the property tax amendment. At the last City Council meeting, the council took no position on the proposed amendment. We believe the amendment, if passed, will affect property owners in different ways. It will also impact the city in the way we raise revenue. The proposed amendment will do the following:

Increases the homestead exemption by exempting the assessed value between \$50,000 and \$75,000. This exemption does not apply to school district taxes.

Provides for the transfer of accumulated Save Our Homes benefits (Portability). Homestead property owners will be able to transfer their Save Our Homes benefit to a new homestead within 1 year and not more than two years after relinquishing their previous homestead; except, if this revision is approved by the electors in January 2008 and if the new homestead is established on January 1, 2008, the previous homestead must have been relinquished in 2007. If the new homestead has a higher just value than the previous one, the accumulated benefit can be transferred; if the new homestead has a lower just value, the amount of benefit transferred will be reduced. The transferred benefit may not exceed \$500,000. This provision applies to all taxes.

Authorizes an exemption from property taxes of \$25,000 of assessed value of tangible personal property. This provision applies to all taxes.

Limits the assessment increases for specified non-homestead real property to 10 percent each year. This exemption does not apply to school district taxes.

The increase in the homestead exemption is a straightforward calculation. The taxable value of the home will be reduced by \$25,000 before county and local taxes are applied. The school district taxes will apply to the same tax base as they do currently.

The Portability of the Save Our Homes benefit essentially gives each person their own tax basis for their homesteaded property. The portability option allows those with homestead exemption to "port" their tax base to their new home. If the new home is of greater value, the entire difference will be transferred. If the value is lower, then the proportionate share is transferred.

The amendment needs 60% of the electorate in order to pass. If passed, the amendment will change the tax base upon which we calculate our millage rate. The exact fiscal impact is unknown at this time. Regardless, of the outcome, local services will not be impacted.

This election will be held on January 29, 2008. We encourage all voters to educate themselves on the issue and to come out and vote. Our municipal election for our local Council seats will be held on March 11, 2008.

## WATER RESTRICTIONS CONTINUED:

### What happens if I don't follow these restrictions?

Residential and commercial water restrictions are mandatory and will be enforced by the Police Department. A warning will be issued for the first violation. A \$25.00 fine will be levied once a warning has been issued. Failure to cure the violation will result in progressive fines of \$75, \$125 and \$250 thereafter.

### WHEN WILL THE SPLASH PAD RUN?

FRIDAY FROM 4PM TO DARK

SATURDAY FROM NOON TO 4 PM

SUNDAY FROM NOON TO 4 PM



## AARP DRIVER SAFETY PROGRAM

The City of Atlantis has made arrangements for an “AARP Driver Safety Program” course to be given on two consecutive days - February 7 and February 8, 2008 in Council Chambers. The class is **only** open to drivers over the age of 55. The course will be 4 hours each day and you should plan to be present for the **entire** 8 hours. It will start at 9 am and end at 1 pm on both days. The class is limited to the first 25 people who sign up by presenting a photocopy of their driver’s license and a check payable to AARP for \$10.00 per person. The check should be dated **February 7, 2008** and will **not** be cashed until **after** the class. You can sign up at City Hall. The AARP requires a minimum of 15 people for the program to be presented. We have about 20 now.

### PAINTING CLASSES

WEDNESDAYS 1-4 PM

FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT:

JOAN TABARI 561-547-5123

### GREAT BOOKS CLUB

MEETINGS ARE JANUARY 11, 25,

FEBRUARY 15, MARCH 7 & 21—  
FROM 2-4 PM

IN COUNCIL CHAMBERS— CALL:

SIMMA SULZER AT 561-968-7399 OR  
DR. BENNETT MILLER AT: 561-968-2675.

### AFTER SCHOOL TENNIS

JANUARY TO JUNE - FOR FURTHER INFO

OR TO SIGN UP, CALL: TENNIS PRO

SHERWIN ANDERSON AT 561-588-4557

### ADULT TENNIS

MONDAYS AND FRIDAYS

FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT:

TOM JOHNSON AT 966-6782

### LADIES TENNIS CLINIC

TUESDAYS 10:30-11:30AM—

BEGINNING TO INTERMEDIATE

THURSDAYS 7-9PM—ADULT ROUND

ROBIN AND CLINIC.

FOR MORE INFORMATION CALL:

SHERWIN ANDERSON AT 561-588-4557

### JEWELRY CLASSES

1st & 3rd TUESDAYS (**except Feb**) —6-8 PM

CALL MARIE CLAUDE AT 561-736-5609 or  
561-271-8967 EMAIL: CLVERT@AOL.COM

### CREATIVE WRITING CLASSES

BEGINS IN JANUARY—ALL PAST, PRESENT  
AND FUTURE WRITERS WELCOME.

**Bob Murphy To Speak at Centurion Cocktail Reception:**

The Centurions, formed in 1994 by a group of Atlantis residents to provide funds for capital improvements at Palm Beach Habilitation Center, are thrilled to announce that Bob Murphy, PGA Senior Touring Pro and ESPN Golf Broadcaster, will be the featured speaker at the Annual cocktail reception on Thursday, January 17th at the Atlantis Golf Club.

The Centurion Committee, chaired by Otis Brown, includes Charles Wenrich, Luther Woods, Sandy Beach, William Benton, John Farmer, Harry Kennedy, Roy Spence, Carl Palmisano, Bryan Meumann and Bobby Pastorius.

The Centurions, which is comprised of 167 members from all over the county, have raised over \$1 million dollars for the PB Hab Center. Last year's funding was used to purchase an air conditioner, repair sidewalks and ramps, replace a defective fire alarm board, renovate bathrooms at JB's Ranch and in the Warehouse, repair a lift station and secure an emergency generator to run a lift station.

Palm Beach Habilitation Center provides programs for men and women in Palm Beach County who are developmentally, physically and emotionally disabled. For more information about the Palm Beach Habilitation Center or to become a Centurion, please call Roxanne Jacobs, at 561-965-8500.

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**Prudie Anderson & Pat Schweikart to Chair 17th Annual Hab-a-Hearts Luncheon:**

The Hab-a-Hearts, an auxiliary benefiting the Palm Beach Habilitation Center, have named Prudie Anderson as Chair and Pat Schweikart as Co-Chair of the 17<sup>th</sup> Annual Hab-a-Hearts Luncheon. The event will be held on Monday, February 11<sup>th</sup> at Mar-a-Lago, Palm Beach. With a theme of "Open Your Heart" it will feature a silent auction of over 200 items during a complimentary wine reception. Informal modeling by the Shoppes of Plaza del Mar in Manalapan and a live auction by Jim Accursio will be featured during lunch.

Committee members include: Jim Accursio, Janet Austino, Cathy Bedard, Dee Behnke, Donna Brown, Nancy Cashman, Madelyn Christopher, Laura Cianci, Ann Coulson, Joanne Driscoll, Lin Evans, Judy Farmer, Allison Rogers Haft, Bev Keller, Helen Logothetis, Barb Madison, Beverlee Miller, Craig Mitchell, Ann Oppert Hauser, Linda Reichenstein, Sheila Rinker, Dr. Marianna Toroyan, Marie Tynan, Marianne Vellis, Sue Wagner, Adrienne Weissman, Barbara Whitford, Babbette Wolf, Barbara Wymer and Marge Zimmerman.

The Palm Beach Habilitation Center, a United Way Agency, is a private non-profit organization that provides employment, job placement, residential and retirement services for men and women with mental, emotional and physical disabilities. Since opening in 1959, over 8,000 men and women have been employed in this community due to training received in the Work Center program. Each year, more than 600 individuals receive services from the Palm Beach Hab Center.

To receive an invitation, purchase a ticket or for more information, please call Roxanne at 965-8500, ext. 212.

## NEWS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

### HOMEOWNER, VILLA AND CONDO ASSOCIATIONS:

Please provide City Hall with an updated list or your new officers and their telephone numbers.

This information is VERY important when residents or contractors bring in permits, need to have association approval, but do not know who to contact.

You can call City Hall at 965-1744, FAX the information to 642-1806, or drop the new list by at City Hall.

We thank you in advance for your cooperation.

### GARBAGE:

Please use your underground containers. Backdoor service is provided in Atlantis.

#### MONDAY

Garbage  
Yard Waste  
Bulk Items

#### THURSDAY

Garbage  
Recycling

Please place garbage in underground cans by 7 am. Place yard waste and bulk items at the curb no earlier than 5 pm Sunday for Monday pick-up. Items should be at the curb by 7am to insure pickup.

Please recycle material in the black bins; place the black bin near the underground cans by 7 am

Thursday. Separate newspapers and corrugated cardboard into one container. Glass, plastic and aluminum cans are to be commingled in the second container.

If your items are missed, please call City Hall as soon as possible. The route supervisor is in the city on pick up days and the day after to insure that all the garbage, trash and recycling is picked up.

If your landscaper does some cutting, tree trimming, etc., please instruct them that they are to haul away the debris when they are finished. They are not to leave it for the garbage collection. On the first Sunday of every month, residents are allowed to place vegetation and bulk items out at noon on Sunday for Monday morning pickup.

Water based paint cans can be dried out & thrown in the garbage. Remove lid, add sand, cat litter or sawdust and leave uncovered. Aerosol spray cans can be sprayed until empty, then placed in garbage.



(by Sandy Thompson 313-1060)

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561-965-1744  
[www.atlantisfla.org](http://www.atlantisfla.org)

PRST STD  
US POSTAGE  
PAID  
WEST PALM BCH FL  
Permit No. 1754