



The City News

www.atlantisfla.org

City of Atlantis
260 Orange Tree Drive
Atlantis, FL 33462

The City News

MARCH 2008

THE MAYOR'S CORNER

Dear Residents,

Last month I discussed the value in communicating with the City when you have questions or concerns. Well, many of you took me up on that offer and I would like to **Thank You** for doing so. The following are several recent topics that really stood out in my mind as perfect reasons for communicating-

Some residents had experienced that the bathrooms at Kintz Park, as well as the recreation room, were not being maintained to standards that exemplified the Atlantis image. Apparently, and for an extended period of time, there had been much dialogue among certain residents that the City could be doing a better job at maintaining these areas. As a result of the communication I received on Sunday (Feb 10th) I, along with our city manager, visited the park that next morning and both of us agreed on a better maintenance procedure that would specifically address the concerns communicated and provide a better recreational experience for our residents. Simply put, the communication worked and if done earlier, may have alleviated some of the opportunities for residents to feel as if the city was not appropriately addressing park maintenance issues.

Next, despite my constant appeal to residents to attend their council meetings, a resident communicated that she felt the city did not adequately inform residents regarding issues that impact the city in a timely fashion. Specifically, meeting agendas and regulatory issues were discussed. After hearing this, and despite this information being public record, the city manager agreed that we could modify our city website to include more direct links to this information. These modifications have been completed and can be viewed by visiting www.atlantisfla.org.

Finally, and quite disturbingly, several calls were received indicating that certain individuals were circulating rumors stating that the City was knowingly re-directing your tax dollars to special interest groups such as businesses that have ties to the city. As you can imagine, I was quite upset with this information since we, as your City Council, have worked tirelessly to gain your confidence and ensure the financial security of the City. I explained that the city would never knowingly place itself in a position where it compromises the confidence placed in it by the residents and **I invite any individual(s) that may state, or think otherwise, to immediately approach the city staff, attend the council meetings, and raise their voices so that they could be heard. Making such statements without factual support leads to unsubstantiated banter that only harms the unity that we have worked so hard to create.**

We value everyone's opinion regardless of who he or she is and whether we agree with the articulated position or not. Because of the circumstances stated above, I will continue our tradition of governmental transparency that ensures we place our residents interests above all else.

I never forget that we work for you and as long as you allow us to serve as your representatives, I can assure you that special interests will never have a place above the needs of the residents we are elected to serve.

As you can see, these are a few examples of how communication provides opportunities for the City to address your concerns. In no way do I want to imply that everyone always gets their way when they complain or raise concerns, but it is this vital communication that allows us to engage in dialogue that can provide clarity

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For the latest info:

www.atlantisfla.org

EASTER EGG HUNT NEW TIME

11AM - MARCH 22

**DON'T FORGET TO
COME OUT AND
VOTE IN THE
MUNICIPAL ELEC-
TION ON TUESDAY,
MARCH 11TH**

HAPPY ST. PATRICK'S DAY



ELECTION:

The Municipal Election will be held on Tuesday, March 11th in Council Chambers. The polls are open from 7 am to 7 pm.

David D. Cantley currently holds seat #3 and is opposed by David Kintz

Frank A. Austino currently holds seat #5 and is opposed by Catherine Higgins.

Let us all get out and exercise our American right to vote. See you at the polls!

Congratulations to Councilmember Fred Furtado who will be on Council another two years.

POLITICAL SIGNS:

Now that election time is near, both municipal and presidential elections, it is important to remember the City code when it comes to placement of campaign signs.

Code Section 11.6-4(2) states that "Political signs, with a maximum height of four (4) feet from ground level, must be removed within (48) forty-eight hours of the election day or political event for which they were placed.

This means that political signs may be placed in

the city that are no more than four feet off the ground and they must be removed within 48 hours of the election—whether it is the municipal or any other election.

Signs may be placed on private property with the owners permission. Signs may not be placed on public property or rights-of-way.

Keep in mind that Atlantis relies heavily on its natural surroundings and beautification efforts to retain its unique character. This concern is reflected by the active and objective regulations of the appearance and design of signs.

SPLASH PAD HOURS

FRIDAY FROM 4 PM TO DARK

SATURDAY FROM NOON TO 4 PM

SUNDAY FROM NOON TO 4 PM

KINTZ PARK FACILITIES

CLOSE AT DUSK

ONLY THE TENNIS COURTS

REMAIN OPEN UNTIL 9:00 PM

Mayor's Corner (Continued from page 1):

to any misconception and remedies to actual problems.

Working together, we will continue to succeed. It is important for me to communicate the fact that the City Council exists because you made the decision to place us in positions of authority. If ever there were a time that I felt that my interests were above those of the greater good of our City, I would step aside. If ever I felt that the greater good of the community was in jeopardy as a result of the misguided actions of a few, I can assure you that I would not be silent.

Serving Proudly,
Mayor Manny Fernandez

WELCOME NEW RESIDENTS

Doug Fuller and Margaret Williamson,
577 N. Country Club Drive

Gwen McLernon, 442 Pine Villa Drive

Deaths:

Barbara Kintz, 169 Palm Circle

Charles Shepherd, 400 N. Country Club Drive

ATLANTIS CITY COUNCIL NEWS

The City Council meeting was held on March 20, 2008, at 7:30 PM.

Resolution 08-05, a resolution responding to an invitation from City of Greenacres to join in negotiations for the creation of an amiable interlocal service boundary agreement. Greenacres desires to annex property west of Military Trail within the Palm Beach County Urban Services Area Boundary. This passed 5-0 and will allow Atlantis to have some leverage toward deciding what will go on west of our city.

City Manager Thornton reported that Atlantis will be featured in the *Palm Beach Post's* Neighborhoods section sometime in March.

Atlantis resident Richard Brown was awarded for his outstanding volunteer service by the *Sun Sentinel* newspaper.

Comments came from members of the public, and after a lengthy discussion of the working group's meetings, it was explained by City Attorney White that these meetings are 100% legal and not out of the norm. Municipalities routinely have their managers

and/or the Mayor or Council Member, (only one, obviously, due to the Sunshine Law) meet with businesses located in their corporate boundaries for fact finding purposes and to foster good relationships. No action can be taken by the Manager or Mayor alone. All issues must be presented to the City Council at a public council meeting where all final and legally binding decisions are made publicly.

Other discussions involved the viability of our two golf clubs. They meet once a month to discuss personal issues so they can foster a better understanding of each other. It was revealed that the Atlantis Golf Club is doing fine, with many new members and the hiring of a membership director to continue the positive trend. The Atlantis Country Club has many new members. This is what makes Atlantis so attractive, two golf country clubs that you can attend if you so desire.

All our candidates for council were present and we wish them all the best, no matter who wins. This is what Atlantis is about and we would not want it any other way.

William Mitchell

(Official Minutes at: www.atlantisfla.org)

POLICE DEPARTMENT NEWS BY CHIEF ROBERT G. MANGOLD

Reminder, Golf Carts-Traffic Statutes & City Ordinance: Florida Statute 316.003 defines golf carts as motor vehicles, and as such, golf carts are subject to the same laws that govern any other motor vehicle, i.e., a car. For example, golf carts must stop for traffic control devices and must drive in the appropriate lane. Golf cart drivers that fail to comply with applicable traffic laws may receive a moving traffic citation for violating state traffic statutes.

In addition to state statutes, City Ordinance #374 stipulates that golf cart operators must be a minimum of 16 years of age, and possess either a valid Florida Driver's License or a valid Florida Identification Card. This ordinance also limits the number of occupants in any golf cart to the number of seats on the cart. The ordinance permits a child under the age of seven to ride on the lap of an adult passenger (18 years or older) who is not operating the golf cart.

Atlantis Police Officers routinely enforce all Florida Traffic Statutes and City of Atlantis Ordinances.

TRAFFIC ENFORCEMENT

Due to early publication of the newsletter, traffic statistics for February will be reported in April.

**CRIME STATISTICS
January 2008**

<u>Major Crimes</u>	<u>Residential</u>	<u>Commercial</u>
Battery	2	1
Burglary (Structure & Vehicle)		4
Theft (Grand & Petit)	1	4
Vehicle Theft		1

(Continued on Page 4)

CHIEF MANGOLD'S COLUMN (CONTINUED):**CYBER—CRIME TIPS FOR YOUR CHILDREN**

Note to Parents:

Parental and adult supervision is tantamount to a child's protection and safety. Children cannot be criticized or blamed for making wrong choices if they are not old enough or skilled enough to make them to begin with. The responsibility for a young child's safety rests directly on the trusted adults in that child's life. Parents and guardians need to do their due diligence and check out adults who have access to their children, and children are never too old for a parent's or trusted adult's supervision.

The more involvement a parent takes in his or her child's life, the less likely it is that the child will seek that attention from a less savory and possibly dangerous source. There are no quick fixes or gimmicks that take the place of adult supervision and concern. It's up to all of us to ensure our children's safety and protection.

Please read over the following internet safety tips with your children and discuss the seriousness of internet crimes against children.

Safety Tips for Children While Online

There are some very important things that you need to keep in mind when you're on your computer at home or at your school, library, friend's home, etc.

- First, remember never to give out personal information such as your name, home address, school name, or telephone number in a chat room or on bulletin boards. Also, never send a picture of yourself to someone you chat with on the computer without your parent's permission.
- Never write to someone who has made you feel uncomfortable or scared.
- Do not meet someone or have him or her visit you without the permission of your parents.
- Tell your parents right away if you read anything on the Internet that makes you feel uncomfortable.

Remember that people online may not be who they say they are. Someone who says that "she" is a "12-year-old girl" could really be an older man.

- **Don't fill out any "fun" questionnaires that are forwarded to you, even if they're from your friends.** Remember, you're in a world where everything can get forwarded. All those personal things about you could land in the hands of someone who could use them to harm you.
- **There's no such thing as "private" on the Internet.** You may think so, but it's not true. People can find anything they want — and keep what you post — forever.

Be careful about posting pictures of yourself (if you must, don't post sexy ones or ones showing behavior you wouldn't want your mom, teacher, boss, or potential college advisor to see). Just because an older sibling has posted snaps on a site doesn't make it a smart or a safe idea. Pictures with identifiers like where you go to school can be shopping lists for online predators and other creeps.

Keep in Mind to:

ALWAYS CHECK FIRST with your parents, guardians, or other trusted adults before going anywhere, doing anything, helping anyone, accepting anything, getting into a vehicle, or leaving with anyone.

ALWAYS TAKE A FRIEND with you when going places or playing outside.

ALWAYS TELL someone **NO** if they try to touch you or do things in ways that make me feel scared, uncomfortable, or confused, because it's **OK** for you to stand up for yourself.

ALWAYS TELL your parents, guardians, or other trusted adults if anything happens to you.

If you suspect online "stalking" or sexual exploitation of a child, report it to your parents or someone you trust and call the Atlantis Police Department. Should any Atlantis residents and their children wish to talk to Officer Ferrara, have any questions or concerns about internet safety, or if anyone has contacted you in the past online that made you feel uncomfortable in any way, please email me at mlfapd@comcast.net or you can call the police department at 561-965-1700.

Atlantis Easter Egg Hunt



DATE: Saturday, March 22, 2008

Time: At 11:00 AM

**Place: Kintz Park
301 Glenbrook Drive**

Bring your own picnic lunch, blanket and/or lawn chairs.

An Easter basket is needed to collect eggs.

Ages from 1 - 12 years old.

Age groups will be divided for egg hunt.

Volunteers are needed, please call Leslie Leckrone 969-1590
or Jennifer Kintz, 357-9390.

Name of child (children):

Ages: _____

Address: _____

NEWS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

LANTANA AIRPORT NEWS:

There is still time to provide comment for the Helicopter Study at the Lantana Airport. Comments are due by March 7, 2008. If you would like to make comments to the consultant performing the study, they can be mailed to:
LPA Group, Inc. 4503 Woodland Corporate

Blvd., Suite 400, Tampa, FL 33614, or emailed to: pjufko@lpagroup.com or cdavis@pbia.org

For more information on the Helicopter Study, contact Cassandra Davis at the Department of Airports, 561-471-7467.

GARBAGE:

One of the amenities of Atlantis is backdoor garbage service. The City pays a premium to provide this service to our residents. Underground containers are required by city code. Pickup is:

MONDAY

Garbage
Yard Waste
Bulk Items

THURSDAY

Garbage
Recycling

Only vegetation and bulk items should be placed at the curb for collection. Place 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.

Bulk and vegetation may be placed at the curb

no earlier than 5 pm on Sunday for Monday pickup.

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.

Landscapers are required to haul the debris when they have finished their work.

The first Sunday of every month, residents are permitted 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 the lid, add sand, cat litter or sawdust and leave uncovered. Aerosol spray cans can be sprayed until empty, then placed in the garbage. All hazardous waste is to be transported to a Solid Waste Authority facility.

ATLANTIS 50TH YEAR ANNIVERSARY

Several residents have already signed up and we are looking for a lot more. Let's all get together to make our 50th year one that we will remember for many years to come. Call City Hall to join the committee now. Atlantis will be 50 in June 2009.

THANK YOU

The City is very thankful for all the people who came out and donated blood on February 22nd.

Remember the life you save with your generous donation could be that of a friend or relative.

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

*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 12:01 am 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 instruction and application forms are online at: www.sfwmd.gov. 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 or call 800-432-2045.

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.

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 9 AM on the third Wednesday of each month

We look forward to seeing you there.

PAINTING CLASSES

WEDNESDAYS 1-4 PM

FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT:

JOAN TABARI 561-547-5123

GREAT BOOKS CLUB

MEETINGS MARCH 7 & 21— 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 10:30-11:30 AM—

BEGINNING TO INTERMEDIATE

THURSDAYS 7-9 PM—ADULT ROUND

ROBIN AND CLINIC.

FOR MORE INFORMATION CALL:

SHERWIN ANDERSON AT 561-588-4557

JEWELRY CLASSES

1st & 3rd TUESDAYS — 6-8 PM

CALL MARIE CLAUDE AT 561-736-5609 or

561-271-8967 EMAIL: CLVERT@AOL.COM

CREATIVE WRITING CLASSES

PAST, PRESENT, FUTURE WRITERS WELCOME

CALL SUZI LYNCH AT 968-8649

CLASSES ARE WEDNESDAY MORNING



(by Sandy Thompson 313-1060)

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561-965-1744

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