



NOTES FROM THE MAYOR

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By the time you read this article, the Town's FY 2012 budget should be formalized and the 2.0 millage rate locked in for another year – I hope! We are still working on updating the nuisance ordinance and Town policy manuals, but progress has been made. In the area of nuisances, there are already many laws within our code that many of you are being made aware of. For example, you must maintain a valid license tag on any externally stored vehicles on your property. This includes automobiles, recreational items and trailers. Sorry, but this licensing requirement has been in the Code of Ordinance for many years, and it's there to protect Town property values. Accordingly, the Town's Police Department has been instructed to enforce it.

In the 2012 Budget, the Town will continue to repair and pave more streets. There is also a plan to purchase an emergency natural gas power generator for the Town Hall facility. I hope we never need this generator, but it is better to be safe than sorry. Purchased from this year's Budget, you will soon notice two new police Dodge Charger cruisers with unique Town of Shalimar markings. Yes, the 55 Chevy is no longer a Town asset.

One new business may be open by the time you read this article. The locally owned, Eglin Grill and Tavern plans to open a family type restaurant in the vacant Giuseppe's property. The property owners are now obtaining the necessary licenses and permits for their new enterprise

As before, I continue to encourage everyone to be aware of what is happening on the local level. You can influence the direction of Town government. My personal cell phone is 217-5180. If you need my work number, call Townhall and I've instructed them to provide it to any Shalimar resident.

NOTES FROM THE POLICE DEPARTMENT

The summer break for schools is winding down. Starting August 22, 2011 Okaloosa County Schools will be in session. You will begin to see our presence more in school zone areas. For those who have children in band or that you just drop off or pick up, please do not utilize Erwin Fleet near the rear entrance of the school for this. All drop offs and pick-ups need to be done in the horseshoe off of Richbourg Avenue. The rear school entrance on Erwin fleet is used by the school buses and is a hazard for other vehicles and it is also against Town Ordinances to park on the right-away.

The Police Department placed third in the State out of 47 agencies for our dedication to traffic enforcement. The department received 11,500 points which converts to dollars. This is the second year in a row for achieving this goal.

As you are driving or taking a stroll around town you may notice two new 2011 Dodge Chargers. They replaced two ten year old vehicles. The vehicles are white with POLICE on both sides with a black and orange strip on the rear doors and rear quarter panels. The Town of Shalimar seal and vehicle numbers (11-01 and 11-02) are also on the rear doors.

If you have any questions or concerns about the Police Department, please do not hesitate to call Town Hall (651-5723) or the Police Department (651-1115). Refer to 225-1272 to speak to an officer directly.

FROM THE STAFF

We continue to develop the Town's web site into the premiere "go-to" place for both historical archives and information on upcoming meetings and events. The main page lists items of current interest as well as many informative links. The approved minutes and the to-be approved minutes (draft) are posted by fiscal year (Oct 1 - Sept 30) for both the Town Commission and the Planning and Zoning Board. Links to upcoming agendas for both of these are available on the main page. Accesses to past copies of the Town's quarterly newsletter (Tidbits) are also available. Some of the other main page links include:

"FAQ" - contains answers to frequently asked questions on waste pickup, town boundaries, utilities, permits, sports, etc.

"Issues of Interest" - contains background information on recent and upcoming issues such as ordinance changes, storage lot issue, etc.

"Contractors" - lists contractors currently licensed with the Town (Contractor Tracking Certificate) and up to date on all insurance and Workers Compensation requirements. This link also has access to the forms required to be licensed in the Town (CTC) as well as Building Permit forms.

"Marquee" - contains info on requesting postings on the Town electronic marquee as well as a request form that can be filled out and submitted online.

"House Watch" - contains a form you can fill out and submit to add your residence to a list of residences that get special "watch" status from the Shalimar Police Dept. for periods of owner absence or any other described reason.

"Businesses" - lists all businesses that operate within the Town and have paid the town's annual business tax.

"Links" - contains links to Okaloosa county web sites such as the property appraiser and tax collector as well as all the other cities within the county.

The link on the main page that is arguably the most important is "Complaints or Suggestions". ***This link contains a form to identify issues of concern to you or to suggest town improvements such as improvements to the web site!*** Please visit often: <http://www.shalimarflorida.org/>

FLOOD AND HURRICANE INFORMATION

The National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP) provides Standard Flood Insurance Policies (SFIPs) which are designed for properties lying within special flood zones (usually zones AE and VE on the Flood Rate Map). Those of you who may have one of these policies on property that is *outside the special flood zones* (in areas designated zone X -the old zone C) may well be eligible for what FEMA calls a Preferred Risk Policy (PRP). Premiums for a PRP policy are less than for the Standard Policy, and policies may now be changed anytime during a policy's term. In addition, there is a new V-Zone Risk Factor Rating Form that may provide maximum insurance discounts for properties that are built (or modified) according to best construction practices as outlined in the updated Coastal Construction Manual. Contact your flood insurance provider or Town Hall for additional details.

FEMA Flood Insurance Reminders

Residents can stop by the town hall and check out flood maps for specific flood zone determinations. A library of information about the Federal Flood Insurance Program as well as flood mitigation materials is kept at the Town Hall. The Town CRS coordinator is also available for mitigation inspecting of property. Copies of elevation certificates for structures located in special flood zones should be on file at Town Hall and applications and instructions for elevation certification are available.