



January 2009

From the Mayor's Office

Greetings and Happy Holidays!

Over the next few months, we will be conducting two Town Council Meetings each month instead of our usual one. The schedule is as follows: January 13th, January 27th, February 10th, February 24th, March 10th and March 24th. The construction of the nature trail and pier in Truskett Park is underway and will be completed soon. The enhancement of the pier will truly add to the beauty of this park, and we hope that everyone will come out and enjoy it! The bids for the renovation of the Town Center parking area were received and reviewed. Our lowest bid of just over \$179,000 was awarded to J. Malever Construction of Groveland. This is a huge project and I believe that everyone will be very proud of the outcome and where some of your tax dollars are being spent. Our ordinances have been codified for our town and will be available on our website very soon. This way, everyone will have access to our town ordinances to refer to at your leisure. Refurbishment of the old Fire House on 7th Avenue is in progress, where we will be installing a Sheriff sub station. We are awaiting architectural approval. The lights have been installed at the baseball field. Come down in the evenings and watch the kids play ball or bring your child down to the batting cages.

Please keep in mind that our website is a wealth of information and we encourage everyone to check it on a regular basis for dates, information, etc. You can also pay your water bill on line as well.

Last, but not least, I want to express my sincere gratitude to the Council for their continued hard work, to our Town Engineer and most of all to the Town staff. I appreciate each and every one of you and couldn't do this without you. We make a great team and I look forward to a wonderful and prosperous 2009!

Sincerely

Troy A. Bennett

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Town Hall Happenings

Town Hall is pleased to announce that Willy's Grill will be opening on the corner of Seventh Street and Park Lane (at the flashing light) on Friday, January 9th. Please stop by, sample some great BBQ and wish Mr. Willy good luck!

Town Hall is pleased to welcome Sean Parks, AICP, QEP & Jeff Schaffer, P.E., of Weaver Boos Consultants as the new town planners. Sean and Jeff will have office hours at Town Hall one day per week. The days for January will be Friday, January 2nd, Monday, January 5th and 12th, Tuesday, January 20th, and Monday, January 26th. Code Enforcement Officer Dave Whitty will be in Town Hall and about town on those days also.

The Visioning Committee is soliciting volunteers for the Adopt-a-Road program. The program requires that trash be picked up along the adopted road, in this case County Road 455/Seventh Street, four times per year. If interested in helping out, please call Town Hall.

Nominations for the 2009 volunteer boards and committees will be presented to Council at the January 13th meeting. If you are interested in serving on any of the following committees or board, please complete an application, available at Town Hall or on the town website under "Downloads" then "Forms", and submit to the mayor by Friday, January 9th.

- Public Safety Committee
- Cemetery Committee
- Parks & Recreation Committee
- Helen Lehmann Library Committee
- Visioning/Montverde Day Committee
- Historic Committee
- Planning & Zoning Board

On the Agenda

- Second Reading – Ordinance 2008-33 regarding the Fire Department patch and emblem
- First Reading – Ordinance 2009-01 regarding management of the town cemetery.
- Nomination and Selection for 2009 Committees and Boards
- Interlocal Agreement with Lake County for Trash Collection

Winter Energy Tips

Just because we live in Florida, winters can cost us as much as our northern neighbors. By making a few lifestyle adjustments, you may be able to keep a few of your hard-earned dollars in your pocket.

This winter, save money and stay warm. Keep your energy bill and your pollution output low this winter by taking a whole-house approach to heating.

- During the heating season, keep the draperies and shades on your south facing windows open during the day to allow the sunlight to enter your home and closed at night to reduce the chill you may feel from cold windows.
- Set your thermostat as low as is comfortable when home.
- By resetting your programmable thermostat from 72 degrees to 65 degrees for eight hours a day (for instance, while no one is home or while everyone is tucked in bed) you can cut your heating bill by up to 10 percent.
- Weatherize your home—caulk and weatherstrip any doors and windows that leak air.
- Properly maintain and clean heating equipment.
- Replace furnace filters regularly.

Popular New Year's Resolutions

Below are some popular New Year's Resolutions that not only require little money, but can also save you money in the long run by having better health—both mentally and physically.

- [Lose Weight](#)
- [Manage Debt](#)
- [Save Money](#)
- [Get a Better Job](#)
- [Eat Right](#)
- [Drink Less Alcohol](#)
- [Quit Smoking Now](#)
- [Reduce Stress Overall](#)
- [Reduce Stress at Work](#)
- [Take a Trip](#)
- [Volunteer to Help Others](#)

To read more on each of these resolutions, please visit www.mymontverde.com and download this newsletter electronically. Each item is a hyperlink to a relative site.

Did you know...

The original homesteaders in Montverde were John W. Harden, W.H. Porter, John Griggs, Lt. Jim Franklin, and Andrew Shaw. John W. Harden, with his wife Aramenta, came from Chester, SC in 1865 and built a house and founded a town that was called West Apopka. Mr. Harden who was a veteran of two wars and for his service in the Seminole Indian War received a bonus of a Federal Land Grant of 200 acres of land by President Chester Arthur.

The town of Montverde was incorporated on May 18th, 1925 with a mayor and five councilmen. These are the same offices the town government has today. The first meeting of the Montverde Town Council was held on June 2nd, 1925 at which time County Judge Hon. E. M. Tally swore into office the following officers: Clerk and Collector J.M. Lowry, Assessor, R.G. Brewster, Treasurer, J.P. Caldwell and Councilmen R.W. Harper, Jr., who upon organization was made President of the Council, J.T. Butler, W.B. Caldwell, J.W. Hunziker and W.R. McQuaig.

January 2009

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
28	29	30	31	1 New Year's Day - Tow ... Old Fogies Meeting	2	3
4	5 Children's Storytime ...	6	7	8 Old Fogies Meeting	9 Community Dinner	10
11	12 Children's Storytime ...	13 Town Council Meeting ...	14	15 Old Fogies Meeting	16	17
18	19 M. L. King Day - Tow ... Children's Storytime ...	20	21	22 Old Fogies Meeting	23	24
25	26 Children's Storytime ...	27 Town Council Meeting ...	28 P & Z Board Meet ...	29 Old Fogies Meeting	30	31

Christmas Tree Recycling Tips

You can make a bird shelter out of your Christmas tree. Keep the Christmas tree in its stand and place it outdoor. The birds will get a safe haven, which will provide them protection from wind and cold.

Trim off the branches from the tree and place them over the garden beds, in order to reduce the frost heaving caused by freezing and thawing. The trunk of the tree can be used for making homemade trellises or tomato stakes.

You can also use the Christmas tree to make sand and soil erosion barriers, especially at a beach or on a riverbed.

You can throw your Christmas tree into a pond or stream; it will make a great habitat for the fish.

The branches of a Christmas tree can be removed, chipped and used as mulch in the garden.

Never ever burn your Christmas tree in a fireplace or wood stove. It may contribute to creosote buildup.