



NEWSLETTER

July 2015

FIRE ASSESSMENT

Mayor

Troy Bennett
(407) 580-6142
mayor@mymontverde.com

Town Council

Glenn Burns, President
(407) 719-1787
gburns@mymontverde.com

Arthur Nix
(407) 421-7002
anix@mymontverde.com

Billy Bates
(407) 448-5390
bbates@mymontverde.com

Jim Pierce, Vice President
(407) 947-0235
jpierce@mymontverde.com

Joe Wynkoop,
(407) 496-1673
jwynkoop@mymontverde.com

Staff

Town Clerk
Graham Wells
(407) 469-2681
gwells@mymontverde.com

Finance Director
Mary Gillis
(407) 469-2681
mgillis@mymontverde.com

Utility Billing Clerk
Stephanie Kernan
(407) 469-2681
skernan@mymontverde.com

Public Works Director
Terry Burden
(407) 470-6400
tburden@mymontverde.com

Library
Kathleen Gifford, Librarian
(407) 469-3838
kgifford@mymontverde.com

Fire Department
Kevin Rausch, Fire Chief
(407) 312-2106
Firechief85@mymontverde.com

Following an extensive study conducted by Government Service Group, Inc, several meetings and a workshop, the Town Council voted unanimously to set the upcoming fire assessment for fiscal year 2015-16 at \$80.00 at the Special Council meeting which took place on June 23, 2015.

There have been two Public Hearings where residents of the Town were able to voice their opinions and make suggestions to Council. The maximum amount that could be assessed was \$160 as indicated on the notice sent out to residents in May. The assessment agreed upon is half that figure and will be transferred to the tax roll. It will appear on this years tax bill as a separate line item.

In addition to reducing the level of the new assessment, the Town will not be billing the \$40.00 assessment which normally goes out in May. This means that effectively there is no increase this year.

The Council also adopted a Hardship Exemption Program which will allow those residents on very low income to apply to the Town for relief of the assessment amount over the first \$40. For more details please contact Town Hall on (407) 469-2681.

ELECTION CAUCUS 2015

MAYOR'S PROCLAMATION

TOWN OF MONTVERDE ELECTION

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that pursuant to lawful authority, the Town of Montverde, Florida, shall hold a general Town Election on:

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 3, 2015

During the legal hours of voting 7:00 AM – 7:00 PM

First Baptist Church

17409 8th Street, Montverde, Florida 34756

Said election voting shall be for the following four seats:

Mayor	Council member
Council member	Council member

CAUCUS for the Election shall be held

TUESDAY, AUGUST 11, 2015 - 6:45 PM

Town Hall Auditorium 17404 6th Street, Montverde, Florida 34756

Registered Voters may also **EARLY VOTE**

Monday (10/19/2015) through Saturday (10/24/2015)

9:00 AM to 5:00 PM

Sunday (10/25/2015) through Saturday (10/31/2015)

10:00 AM to 6:00 PM

Clermont - Cooper Memorial Library

2525 Oakley Seaver Drive, Clermont 34711

Minneola City Hall

800 N. U.S. Highway. 27, Minneola 34715

Additional early voting sites can be found at http://elections.lakecountyfl.gov/early_voting

DATED: June 9, 2015

Troy A. Bennett, Mayor

Pursuant to Town of Montverde Code Section 8-4, this notice shall be published at least twice in the 30 days preceding the date of the Caucus.

HILLS OF MINNEOLA CONCEPTUAL PLAN

The Town Council of Minneola voted 4 to 1 to approve the conceptual plan for the Hills of Minneola at their meeting on June 16. This new development covers over 1,800 acres and includes almost 4,000 new homes, retail, commercial, office, industrial and schools surrounding the new Turnpike interchange. The development is split into pods and the industrial section of 112 acres was designated to border the back of the Trails of Montverde and also the Vinola Drive/Place area of the Town with a buffer between the existing residences of only 25 feet. The industrial section is set to be built on the Upland Preserve, a wild-life and bird habitat spanning 283 acres.

Fighting the development was a group of residents led by Sandy Smith, Nancy Fishinger, Shirley Hetterly and Nathan Brown who attended the three public hearings along with a large group concerned about the environmental impact on the Upland Preserve. They were not able to convince the developer to retain the Upland Preserve however their efforts did get them to change the use in that pod and also to significantly increase the buffer between the properties affected and the new development to 75 feet. The industrial element was also cut in half, the heavy element was eliminated and the half that is immediately adjacent to the existing homes in the Trails and Vinola area has been changed from industrial to residential. A great achievement for the voice of the people.

The Mayor, Council and other concerned residents would like to sincerely thank Sandy, Nancy and their team for their sterling efforts to retain and protect the natural habitat of the Upland Preserve and for achieving an infinitely better use for the pod which will greatly benefit the residents in this part of our Town.

NEWS FROM THE FIRE DEPARTMENT

The Fire Department will be conducting the Annual Flushing of the Fire Hydrants. This testing is required to flush the hydrants and water system of any sediment build up and it also allows the Fire Department the semiannual opportunity to ensure the hydrants are properly working in the event of a fire in the Town Limits. *We will be conducting the Flushing during the last two weeks of July.* The flushing should only take approximately 2 to 3 minutes per hydrant and we will be flushing every hydrant on the system with exception for the 4 fire hydrants on the Montverde Academy grounds. The hydrants on the Academy grounds will be actually Flow tested to verify the output of water from those hydrants.

We conduct the Flow testing of the Town Hydrants in December Annually and will flush the Academy hydrants then. We would like to assure those residents with concerns that we will do what we can to direct the water flow away from your driveways, yards, and will take other precautions as requested. If you have a special request when we flush the system please contact Fire Chief Kevin Rausch at 407-312-2106. Thank you for your understanding. We hope everyone has a safe and enjoyable summer.

LIBRARY NEWS

The 4-H club and the summer reading program have both seen good turnouts. The 4-H club meets every 2nd and 4th Tuesday of the month at 4 pm at the Library. The South Lake Animal League and six therapy dogs will be at the Library on July 7 at 4 pm to give a presentation on rescuing animals. On July 21 we are having a Firehouse Fun Day at 4 pm which will include a presentation on fire safety and a tour of the fire house. The Fire Chief is going to let the kids shoot water from the fire hose on the Attack Truck. The summer reading program meets at the library every Wednesday thru July 22 between 11 am and 12 pm. At the last meeting all the kids got their reading logs to keep track of the books they read for prizes and also the AR points for school. After reading time we do crafts, play games and have a little snack. Kathleen and Carl invite you to come enjoy the fun.

NEXT COUNCIL MEETING

The next Council meeting will be on July 14, 2015 at 7pm. Some of the key issues set for discussion are:

- Approval of Resolution 2015-18 for the Minor Site Plan application by the F & M Gas Station and Food Market
- Request for additional funding for the off duty patrols carried out by the Florida Highway Patrol
- Approval for installation of lighting on part of the bike trail
- Approval for Assignment of Interlocal Agreement pertaining to Lake County Animal Control Services
- Second Reading of Ordinance 2015-17, regarding the Lake County Taxing Unit for Ambulance and EMS

All residents are encouraged to attend the Council meeting; public comment is permitted at the beginning of every meeting.

OTHER TOWN NEWS AND INFORMATION

- The Friends of Montverde bingo game will take place on Friday July 17, 2015 at 7 pm. The regular monthly meeting will be on Tuesday July 21, 2015 at 6:30 pm. Both take place in the Kirk Park Community Building. Everyone is welcome.