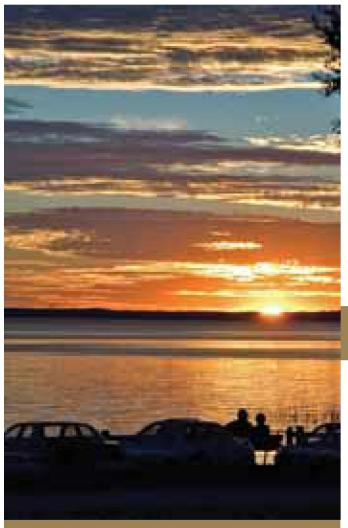

The City of DELTONA

City of Deltona Proud to be part of it...

JANUARY-FEBRUARY 2008
VOLUME 12, ISSUE 1

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Charter Review Committee

The City needs residents to participate as a Committee to review the City's Charter. Apply with the City Clerk's Office by January 31, 2008. Learn more at deltonafl.gov.

Para recibir una copia en Español, favor de llamar al (386) 878-8756.

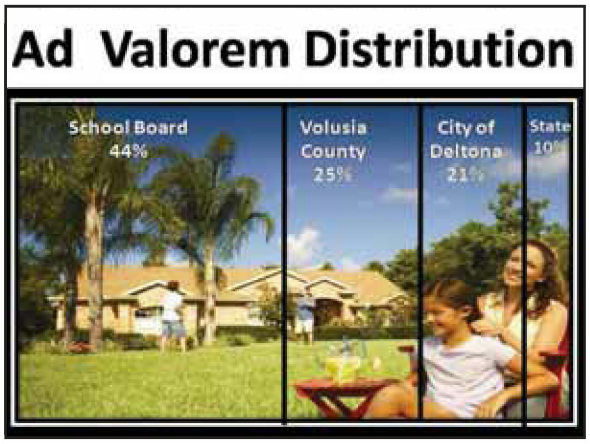
Property Tax Vote on the Horizon

In late October, the Florida Legislature proposed an amendment regarding the way Property Taxes are calculated, and that legislation will be on a state-wide ballot on January 29th. It will be up to the residents whether to accept these changes to homestead exemptions, Save Our Homes, and Tangible Personal Property exemptions.

Briefly, the amendment would provide an additional $25,000 homestead exemption and portability of the Save Our Homes (SOH) assessment differential for homestead property owners. For non-homestead property, the amendment would provide a $25,000 exemption for tangible personal property (TPP) and would create a 10 percent cap on annual assessment increases. If approved by 60% of the voters, these changes will take effect January 1st, 2008. The non-homestead property assessment cap would take effect January 1st, 2009.

To see if your taxes could change, pending the vote outcome, Volusia County has a calculator at its website: www.vcservices.vcgov.org/PAO/PortabilityCalculator.zip.

For residents of Deltona, this diagram shows how your tax dollars are split among the City, County and State.



From the Office of Mayor Dennis Mulder

2007 was a year of firsts for our City. "Destination Deltona" began the ambitious task of planning Deltona's future, laid out by the people who call our City "home." The Public Forum occurred in August, and within the following month, three Task Forces—Sense of Community, Quality of Life, and Economic Development—were in place, setting the goals for the City. The participants are so focused on these projects, that the Economic Development Task Force has already accomplished its mission. A final report on the results from the Task Force efforts will be released soon.

Economic Development has been the buzzword in 2007, with the first of many goals realized. Later this year, DeLand Deltona Nissan will break ground in the Activity Center location, at Interstate 4 and State Road 472. The City also has a dedicated Economic Development Advisory Board, and a full time Economic Development Coordinator. These additions will bring even more energy to attracting the business community, which the City can develop into a vital commercial area in southwest Volusia County.

There are on-going efforts to improve our image, to create a sense of community for Deltona with iconic landmarks that will be unique to our City, and will identify our hometown to residents and visitors alike.

We will continue to move forward with these projects and many more, as 2008 is the year we "keep the momentum going."

January-February Calender of Events

JANUARY

1 New Year's Day. City Hall closed for the Holiday.

19 Deltona Rocks. Festival Park. Call Parks & Recreation at (386) 878-8900 for more information.

25 Overtime Jam Dance, 9:30pm-11:30pm, at Wes Crile Park. Free admission.

FEBRUARY

2 Playstation Tournament, 1:00pm-5:00pm at Harris M. Saxon Community Center. Free admission.

8 Overtime Jam Dance, 9:30pm-11:00pm, at Wes Crile Park. Free Admission.

16 Jr. Olympic Skills Day, 9:00am-1:00pm at Pine Ridge High School.

18 Escape Day, from 8:00am-6:00pm, at Universal Islands of Adventure.

23 Out & About, from 9:00am-5:00pm, baseball camp.

ONGOING EVENTS

City Commission meetings, 6:30pm, 1st & 3rd Mondays. Workshops are scheduled regularly for alternate Mondays. For a list of meetings, visit www.deltonafl.gov.

Deltona Family Bike Ride Hits the Road!

Riddle: "What has more than 300 wheels, more than 150 heads and travels at 4 miles an hour?" The 1st Annual Deltona Family Bike Ride and Safety Day! In mid-November, the Parks & Recreation Department and the Fire Department organized the 2 mile long ride, that started at 8:30am at Deltona Alliance Church on Deltona Blvd. Mayor Dennis Mulder led the pack of almost 175 riders of every age and bike-riding skill. In addition to the Ride, kids and adults were invited to participate in the Bike Skills Rodeo.

The Fire Dept. sponsored the Safety side of the event, providing a "Smoke House" for kids to explore, as well as fire equipment and the opportunity to"knock down" a house fire. The same event is being considered next year.

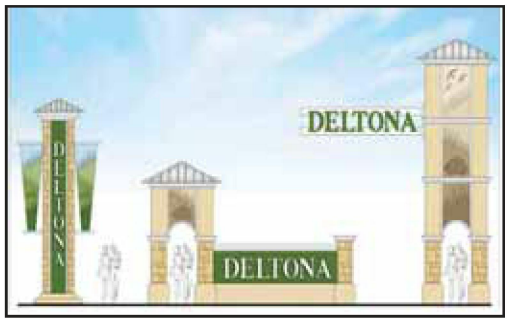
Urban Decay: Fight the "Blight!"

As a City gets older, some buildings or properties are not maintained and become run down, abandoned or condemned. Urban Decay is a process by which a city, or part of a city, falls into a state of disrepair. Property values decrease, property abandonment and crime increases. Deltona Enforcement Services needs your help to combat "Blight."

Telephone (386) 878-8700 to report inoperable vehicles, fences in disrepair, grass over 12 inches, green pool water, and any public safety issue.

Creating Our "Sense of Community"

One of the goals for the "Destination Deltona" Task Forces, is to help establish a "Sense of Community" for our residents. HHI, a company that specializes in planning and urban design, has presented a concept that uses distinct signage and structures to help create that image. Three different themes were submitted—Nature, RetroModern, and Classic.



Each theme incorporated wayfinder signs, banners and gateways as part of the overall design.

Additionally, landscaping, roadway beautification and streetside amenities are part of the overall project. This proposal was unveiled at the December 1st Task Force Meeting, and the responses were reviewed by the City Commission at the following Workshop. The Commissioners approved the Nature theme in concept, as a prototype for the roadway beautification part of the Howland/Elkcam intersection project.

Use the Automated Inspection System

Happy 2008! Do you have a home improvement or renovation project planned for this year? The City of Deltona is making it easier for you to get started, by providing an automated Inspection Schedule.

When calling in an inspection dial (**386) 575-6900** or (**407) 936-9999.** The recording will ask you for a permit number, confirmation number and inspection code number. These numbers are all located on your permit card. When all these numbers are entered, the inspection will automatically be scheduled for the following business day.

Note: All permit cards and attachments must be posted in a location where it can be seen from the street (example: front door, front window, garage door) and accessible to the inspector doing the inspection. A **permit** will **expire** if the required inspections are not called in within six months or **180** days.

Call (386) 575-6900 0r (407) 936-9999.

Economic Development: Steady Progress

One of the primary goals for Deltona in 2007 has been economic development. "Many of our residents travel to Daytona Beach, Orlando and other cities to work," said Assistant City Manager and Economic Development Director Sally Sherman. "However, when we are able to attract more business and industry to our City, surely many of them will be happy to work closer to home," she added.

One early marketing effort included an advertisement touting Deltona as a prime location for business and industry that recently appeared in Florida Trend's Business Florida magazine. The ad already has yielded several responses, an encouraging sign for City officials. "The hope is to generate interest from companies wishing to expand or relocate to Deltona" said Nick Conte, Chairman of the Deltona Economic Development Advisory Board.

The City is backing up its marketing efforts with the kind of investment that will appeal to economic development prospects. Foremost among these efforts is the area known as the 472 Activity Center located at State Route 472 and Interstate 4. This area is a designated workplace district, a portion of which is designated for light industrial use and a portion of which is designated for retail, office and hotel use. Among Deltona's most effective economic development initiatives is its partnership with the Volusia County Department of Economic Development, which has helped Deltona develop its economic development plan.

Trash & Recycling: Keep Deltona Clean!

Trash and garbage… two of the by-products of modern society. And to ensure our good health and safety, municipalities provide for the collection and disposal of this waste.

Our objectives are: 1) Achieve solid waste code compliance by assisting customers in finding alternatives to achieve compliance with City codes and ordinances. 2) To provide services to facilitate voluntary citizen involvement and cooperation in maintaining the quality of life in the City and eliminating nuisances. 3) To obtain compliance with City Codes and Ordinances through formal enforcement action. 4) To provide the public with a timely response to complaints and adequate follow-up to ensure complaint resolution.

Solid Waste is collected Tuesday through Friday of each week, and your pick-up day is determined by where you live in the City. The map shows the collection routes by day for the different areas of Deltona.

Recycling is collected once a week in Deltona, on either Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, or Friday. To find your specific day, you can visit the City website-- www.deltonafl.gov. Yard Waste is picked-up on one of two days, Monday or Tuesday, and information regarding your pick-up days is also on the City website. Go to "Departments" on the home page, and then select "Solid Waste."

Solid waste collection services are provided by Waste Services, Inc. For information, and to request recycling bins, call (386) 574-0778 or (386) 574-0723.

Important City Phone Numbers

City Hall, 2345 Providence Blvd., (386) 878-8100
Mayor and City Commission, (386) 878-8860
City Clerk's Office, (386) 878-8500
Communication and Public Information, (386) 878-8755
City Manager's Office, (386) 878-8850
Human Resources, (386) 878-8750
Building & Zoning Services, (inspections and permitting), (386) 878-8650
Automated inspection information, (386) 575-6900
Development Services, (386) 878-8600
Zoning Division, (386) 878-8615
Animal Control, (386) 860-7177
Code and Solid Waste Compliance, (386) 878-8700
Public Works, 201 Howland Blvd., (386) 878-8950
Water and Sewer, 255 Enterprise Road, (386) 575-6800 (customer service) (407) 936-9283 (customer service)
Parks & Recreation, 2345 Providence Blvd. (386) 878-8900 (programs and facilities)
Fire Department Administration, 1685 Providence Blvd., (386) 860-7177
Waste Services Inc., (Recycling bins, garbage pick-up and special pick-ups), (386) 574-0778
Volusia County Sheriff's Office, 1200 Deltona Blvd., (386) 860-7030 or after 4:30 p.m. Monday-Friday, (386) 736-5999
Emergencies, 911

Catch "Your City Today" on WROD-AM

The residents of Deltona now have another way to find out about the City. WROD 1340AM broadcasts "Your City Today", working with the Communications Office to feature Deltona in a once every eight week schedule . Topics can range from Economic Development to Fire Safety. The program airs 10:00am-10:30am. The next broadcast is scheduled for early February.

DTV Moves on BrightHouse Cable

Deltona TV is moving on the BrightHouse Cable system. The City of Deltona's TV station, which began broadcasting in February of 2007, will be seen on Digital Channel 199, effective January 19th. For residents who do not have a TV set with a digital tuner, it will be necessary to rent a digital converter box from Bright House for $1 a month.

DTV broadcasts the City Commission meetings live from City Hall, and replays the meetings four times a week.

The schedule can be found on the City's website, www.deltonafl. gov.

Keeping Warm and Safe in Cold Weather

With winter rapidly approaching, the cooler weather presents some challenges in keeping our homes warm and comfortable.

Space heaters or portable heaters are available in both electric and fuel driven models. Placing these units too close to combustible materials, like curtains or furniture, can lead to a catastrophic fire.

Keep at least a three foot space clear around your space heater to prevent this. Any space heater should have an emergency tip-over shutoff which will automatically turn the unit off if it is knocked over. Before adding fuel to a heater, ensure that it is turned off and cool. Otherwise, spilled fuel could easily ignite. In addition, fueling should take place outside the house.

Carbon monoxide is a colorless, odorless, and toxic gas which is produced by fireplaces, wood burning stoves, motor vehicles, charcoal grills and gas-fired appliances. Proper ventilation is vital when using these items within your home. Any home should have working, laboratory rated carbon monoxide detectors with an audible warning near the sleeping areas and outside of each bedroom.

These detectors are designed to activate when low levels of carbon monoxide are detected and residents may not notice any ill effects. Some of the signs of carbon monoxide poisoning include flu-like symptoms, headache, dizziness, and nausea. Symptoms can vary greatly depending on the age and health of the victim. If you notice any of these symptoms, call 9-1-1. If you have any further questions or concerns, call (386) 860-7177.

City of Deltona
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www.deltonafl.gov

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