

2011 • 4th Quarter

Edgewood

EXCLUSIVE

Mayor

Raymond Bagshaw

Council Members

Judy Beardslee, Council
President

Dr. Neil Powell, DDS
Dr. Malcolm Henley, DDS
John Dowless

City Clerk

Bea Meeks, MMC, CPM

Administrative Assistant

Cinnamon Wild

Police Chief

Pete Marcus

Code Enforcement Officer

Debbie Wallace

Police Clerk

Shannon Patterson

City Contact Info:

407-851-2920

Fax 407-851-7361

405 LaRue Avenue
Edgewood, FL 32809
www.edgewood-fl.gov

Meeting Times

City Council

3rd Tuesday of the month
6:30 p.m.

Planning & Zoning

2nd Monday of the Month
6:30 p.m.

Calendar of Events:

Toys for Tots,
December 10th

Please refer to our website
for the City's events.

Message from the Mayor Desk

The Staff at City Hall wants to wish all of you a safe and enjoyable time during this holiday season.

Many have asked what happened to the large Laurel Oak tree on the island between Hansel and Orange Avenue. It was hit by lightning and limbs were falling onto Orange Ave. creating a hazard to drivers. FDOT along with the City had two arborist look at the tree and they both determined that the tree was dead in the center and would continue to decline. We are in the process of adding landscape material to the island.

Renovation work has begun on City Hall. There was serious water intrusion on the interior and exterior west wall along with a roof beam that was rotten. The building has been sprayed with a water proof coating. The exterior has been painted and new landscape will be added in the future.

I have met many of our residents and business owners over the last few months and look forward to meeting many more of you. I am available to meet with anyone simply by calling City Hall and they will put it on my calendar.

Did you know that we have 9 restaurants in town and have a new one almost ready to open? I have eaten at all of them and enjoy the variety of food that they offer.

I hope to see lots of you at our Toys for Tots event. I encourage you to check the city website for our calendar of events.

Ray Bagshaw

Ray Bagshaw, Mayor



Presidential Preference Primary - January 31, 2012

By: Bea L. Meeks, City Clerk



Due to recent changes in the State election laws, the Presidential Preference Primary Date Selection Committee was tasked with confirming an election date by October 1, 2011, and the election had to take place between January 3, 2012 and March 6, 2012. The committee scheduled the Presidential Preference Primary for January 31, 2012.

In 2007, Edgewood City Council Members adopted an Ordinance that allows the City to schedule their election to correspond with the Presidential Preference Primary. The adoption of the 2007 Ordinance helps to reduce the costs associated with a municipal election. Council agreed in the October 18, 2011 regular City Council Meeting to hold the City's election with the Presidential Preference Primary.

The Council terms of Council President Judy Beardslee and Council Members Malcolm Henley and Jim Bozeman were up for election. Qualifying began November 8, 2011 and ended November 22, 2011. At the close of qualifying, there were three candidates who qualified: Judy Beardslee, Pamela Henley and Lee Chotas. Once again, the City of Edgewood will not have a municipal election, as all seats are filled with no opposition however, voting in the Presidential Preference Primary will still be held in City Hall Council Chamber on January 31, 2012. ***Everyone is invited to the swearing in of Council Members in the February 21, 2012 City Council Meeting!***

To be eligible to vote in January, you must be a registered voter twenty-nine days prior to the election. The last day to register with the Orange County Supervisor of Election is January 3, 2012.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me at City Hall (407-851-2920) or bmeeks@Edgewood-fl.gov.
DON'T FORGET TO VOTE!

The Academy for Autism

By: Judy Beardslee, Council President

Recently, Mayor Bagshaw and I had the opportunity to tour The Academy of Autism with the director, where we learned about the school's philosophy, low teacher student ratio, and about the great strides being made in the educational area for the students who attend. The school operates mostly on funds generated through McKay Scholarships.

Although the school is small, there is no waste of space. Every inch of the area is utilized to its maximum potential. All students work toward their individual academic potential. Part of the educational process includes independent living skills, which helps the student become as independent as possible. Therapists are on staff to ensure each child has their individual needs met regarding speech, physical, and occupational therapy.

The Academy for Autism is located at 5232 South Orange Avenue, in Edgewood.

Recently, Edgewood donated \$3,000.00, from the funds generated under the Florida Contraband Forfeiture Act, to The Academy for Autism. The Florida Contraband Forfeiture Act provides the Edgewood Police Department the legal basis to seize property used in the commission of a felony. Some of the ways we have utilized the provisions of the law has produced a small amount of funds that can be utilized in a discretionary manner at the direction of the Edgewood City Council.

We are very proud to have The Academy of Autism in Edgewood, and are very happy we had the ability to utilize some of the Seizure funds to assist their efforts.

“Your Tax Dollars at Work”

By: Dr. Neil Powell, D.D.S., Council Member

Many of you have probably heard by now that our city was hit earlier this year with some unexpected major expense, so funds for projects have been scarce. Therefore, we've had to call on others to help us. One such case was the repair of the sidewalks on Holden Avenue, from Jessamine Lane east. Power line trucks doing repairs had broken several places as a result of parking on it during line repair. Fortunately, my contacts at the County Public Works office got right on it and made repairs at their expense.

The Rail Road crossing at Stratemeyer is another example. Technically and legally the maintenance of that crossing belongs to the City, but CSX improved the quality of the crossing at their expense. How the Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT) will do such maintenance in the future is unknown.

CSX has promised to do one more cleaning of its right-of-way before FDOT takes possession. I'll probably have to do a lot of “sweet talking” to get that done!

The repairs of the street and curbing on Mandalay Road are now complete. There is damage to the sidewalk on the north side of Gatlin Avenue. The city will have to pay for the repair, so it is on our “to-do” list. There are plans for improvement for the sidewalks at Harbour Island Road and Windsong Road; it is a work in progress.

Our traffic lights have now been switched over to LED systems, and soon our red-light cameras will be installed at Mary Jess Road and Orange Avenue intersection and Holden-Orange-Gatlin intersection, thereby making our Orange Avenue much safer.

I hope you all will have a safe and Happy Holiday Season.

A Word from the Chief

By: Pete Marcus - Chief of Police

The long, hot summer is finally over. The weather is cooling off and with the reduction in humidity it has become much nicer to spend more time outside. While you are enjoying this wonderful time of the year, please remember that there are still people out there who will take advantage of any opportunity to enrich themselves at your expense. If you are outside close your garage door if you are not in a position to see the garage. Crooks can steal lawn or sports equipment from open garages in just a few seconds. Also leaving your home unlocked is an invitation for a thief to slip inside and steal items. If you park your car outside please remove your garage door opener, and either place your valuables (i.e. GPS, MP3, etc.) out of sight, or take them inside your house and lock your car. This reduces your chance of being a victim of a crime of opportunity.

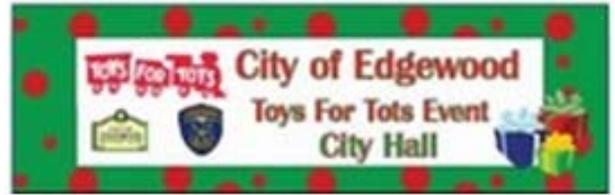
While our officers do a great job of patrolling the neighborhoods of the city they can't be everywhere. If you see something suspicious give us a call. You can talk directly to an officer by calling the officer cell phone at (407)-467-2435.

Finally, the men and women of the Edgewood Police Department would like to wish you a most joyous and SAFE holiday season.

City of Edgewood Toys for Tots Event

By: Chief Pete Marcus

Toys for Tots is a program run by the United States Marine Corps Reserve, which donates toys to children whose parents cannot afford to buy them gifts for Christmas. The program was founded in 1947 by reservist, Major William L. Hendricks. The mission of the program is to collect new, unwrapped toys during October, November and December each year. The collected toys are distributed to needy children in the community. This program is to "deliver, a message of hope through a new toy at Christmas, to less fortunate youngsters that will assist them in becoming responsible and patriotic citizens."



The Edgewood Police Department will hold its annual Toys for Tots event on Saturday, December 10th from 11:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. As in years past we will have a free cook-out featuring hamburgers, hot dogs, chips, cookies, and drinks. We will also have a bounce house, horseback rides, a face painter, and a D.J. for the kids. Also the Orange County Fire Rescue will have equipment on display. There will be food and fun for everyone! Please bring an unwrapped gift with you for placement in the collection containers that will be onsite and picked up by the US Marines.

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On behalf of the men and women of your police department please consider this to be your personal invitation, to come join us, have some fun and make the holiday season brighter for a child. The location of the event is the vacant lot immediately to the east of City Hall, on LaRue Avenue. Our goal is to make this year's event the best yet with a record number of toys collected. We hope to see you there! For more information please contact City Hall at 407-851-2920, or refer to the City's website at www.edgewood-fl.gov.

If you are unable to attend the event, a collection box will be located at City Hall where items can be dropped off.

We look forward to seeing you at the Toys for Tots event, and wish you and yours a safe and joyous Holiday season!

Burn the Mortgage Event

By: Cinnamon Wild, Administrative Assistant

Did you hear? The City of Edgewood is now Debt Free, the City made its final payment in September on a 10-year mortgage for a land purchase and the police station, totaling just under \$500,000. On Tuesday, October 11, 2011 there was a celebration to mark this event. City Hall sent out mailer notices and conducted a phone tree to notify residents and local businesses, to invite them to come celebrate with us for this momentous occasion.

In celebration of this event Channel News 13 came to record a short segment on this great achievement, you can find the article and video provided courtesy of Channel News 13 on our website at www.edgewood-fl.gov. We had a great turn out, approximately fifty (50) came out to our "Burning the Mortgage" event, where Mayor Ray Bagshaw and City Council President Judy Beardslee burned the Mortgage. Everyone enjoyed "debt-free cake" with the City Logo, and refreshments.



If You Fertilize This Fall, Do It Responsibly (It's the law)

By: Nancy Rodlun, Orange County Environmental Protection Division

Orange County, FL - Early fall is often a time when we think about fertilizing our lawns. Practicing responsible fertilizing will not only make your lawn green and keep local lakes healthy, it is now the law! In October 2009, Orange County Board of County Commissioners passed a lawn fertilizer ordinance. The law became effective March 1, 2010.

The purpose of the ordinance is to help protect Orange County surface waters. "Good water quality is critical to our environmental, economic, and recreational prosperity, as well as the health, safety, and welfare of Orange County residents," states Lori Cunniff, Environment Protection Division (EPD) Manager.

Homeowners are required to follow the practices outlined in the new ordinance:

- Use zero phosphorus lawn fertilizers
- Use lawn fertilizers with 50% or more slow-release nitrogen
- Apply no more than one (1) lb total nitrogen per 1000 square feet per application
- Do not fertilize before heavy rains or between June 1st – September 30th *
- Keep 10 feet away from any lake, stream, canal, wetland, and stormwater pond
- Broadcast spreaders must be equipped with a deflector shield
- Sweep up fertilizer that falls on driveways, streets, and sidewalks
- Never blow lawn clippings or leaves into streets or down storm drains
- Be sure your landscape professional has completed Green Industries Best Management Practices training

** Fertilizing during these months is only permitted by applicators that have completed approved training. Training is available for professionals as well as homeowners. Go to www.ocfl.net/epd for more information.*

Homeowners, HOAs, and businesses who wish to learn more about installing, designing, and caring for their turf and other landscape plants are encouraged to seek information from Orange County's Florida Yards and Neighborhoods Program (FYNP), <http://cfyn.ifas.ufl.edu>. For a list of free FYNP and Florida-Friendly Landscaping™ classes contact the Orange County Cooperative Extension Education Center at (407) 254-9200.

For more information on how to fertilize responsibly or to view the lawn fertilizer ordinance, contact EPD at (407) 836-1400 or orangetogreen@ocfl.net.

Keeping Pollutants Out of Our Lakes

By: Justin Prince, Orange County Environmental Protection Division

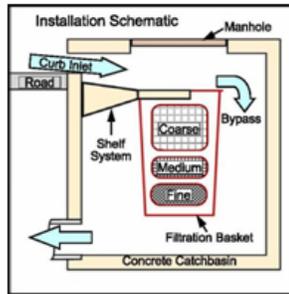
Every year thousands of pounds of sediments, leaves and other nutrient rich debris wash directly into many of our neighborhood lakes from streets and driveways. These pollutants negatively affect the water quality, personal use and enjoyment. That is why Stormwater Catch Basin Insert Filter Baskets (CBI's) have become a useful option in Orange County's Lake Management Program. CBI's provide a cost effective method of protecting our water quality. To date, the Orange County Environmental Protection Division (EPD) has worked with lake communities to install over 400 of these devices.

The filter baskets fit into the existing stormwater curb or grate inlets and capture debris such as sand, leaves, and trash while allowing the water to drain into the stormwater system. However, as with any filter system, the CBI's do require periodic cleaning to maximize their effectiveness. That is why the EPD has a monthly

Continued on Page 6

Keeping Pollutants Out of Our Lakes, *continued from page 5*

cleaning program for all the devices installed. During each cleaning, the filters are weighed and recorded to provide useful data in calculating the effectiveness of the devices. Around Lake Jessamine alone, over 14 tons of debris was collected last year. CBI's help to ensure that our lakes stay clean, healthy, and safe for recreational use.



Diagrams of Stormwater Catch Basin Insert Filter Baskets

Garden News

By: Earline Crossley

Wasn't the week of cooler weather heavenly? Everyone was out in the yard cleaning up debris, planting new things, dividing plants and trimming. Speaking of trimming, I noticed some of you have started to prune your Crape Myrtles already. The best time to do this is January or early February. If you do a little tip trimming after the bloom it will rebloom, but the major pruning should be in the winter. **PLEASE DON'T BUTCHER YOUR CRAPE MYRTLES.** Start with deciding if you want a bush or a beautiful tree. If you want a tree, prune all of the spindly sucker stems off the bottom, stand back and look. Thin out the top by taking off the smaller branches that cross or are in the inside. Finish by pruning the ends of the larger branches so the end result will look like a vase when you are through.

There are a lot of varieties to choose from and the mistake most people make is to buy one the color they want and hope for the best. But if your crape does not fit your space, move it in January to a nice sunny location that will be the right place. Velma's Royal Delight, a deep purple is a compact bushy variety that stays about 3' to 5', for varieties that go from 5' to 10' chose Globose, a semi-dwarf, which is a bright maroon. Zuni is lavender and Acoma is a spreading white, Acoma's bark is really a nice red in winter. Sioux is an intense pink that grows more upright. Tuskegee, a bright coral, Natchez is a beautiful white, Muskogee is a light lavender that grows about 20'-30'. Miami is a coral upright as is Byers Hardy Lavender that grows to about 20'. When buying consider the space you are trying to fill and enjoy the beautiful blooms. We had Natchez & Muskogee in front of our parking area at the nursery and when they were in bloom it looked like snow on the ground, it was just spectacular!! If you want more info go to the website of IFAS Extension at University of Florida.



Fall gardens should be ready to plant with collards, peppers, broccoli, tomatoes, cabbage and don't forget to sprinkle some wildflower seeds around the edges for color. Enjoy the garden and the Season.

Art for Clean Air Contest

By: Laura Lord, Orange County Environmental Protection Division

The Environmental Protection Division (EPD) is providing the opportunity for Orange County high school students to assist them in communicating the importance of preventing pollution through the "Art 4 Clean Air" calendar contest. "Art 4 Clean Air" is open to all Orange County 9th -12th grade high school students. The new deadline is December 14, 2011 at 5 PM. Please assist us in spreading the word to all of your Orange County High School students.

This contest connects Arts to Science when students create art to communicate actions that help keep our air clean and reduce negative climate change impacts. 2-D and 3-D art forms will be accepted. The winning entries will appear in a sixteen month 2013 Calendar to be distributed during P2 Week next year (2012). In addition, students also have the opportunity to win fabulous a hot air balloon ride for two, donated by Orlando Balloon Rides as the grand prize. Other fabulous prizes include SeaWorld tickets, Florida State Park passes, and Adventures Outpost guided river tours. An art exhibit for all entries will be scheduled early in the new year (2012).

The schools of winning entries will be awarded gift cards to Art Systems or Sam Flax for the purposes of purchasing art supplies. For more information, contest rules, entry form and where to submit entries, visit www.ocfl.net/epd.

Continued on Page 8



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Art 4 Clean Air

Call for Art!

Enter the Orange County Environmental Protection Division Pollution Prevention 'Art 4 Clean Air' Calendar Art Contest

Contest is open to ALL Orange County high school students in grades 9-12 for the 2011-12 school year.

Winning entries will be featured in the 16-month 2013 Pollution Prevention (P2) Art 4 Clean Air Calendar.



Deadline Extended:
Wednesday, December 14, 2011
at 5:00 pm!

Win Fabulous Prizes

Hot Air Balloon Ride
from



Tickets to



Florida State Park Passes
from



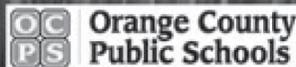
Guided River Tours
from



Schools of students whose artwork is selected for Calendar will be awarded gift cards for art supplies.

Please visit www.ocfl.net/epd for details and entry form.

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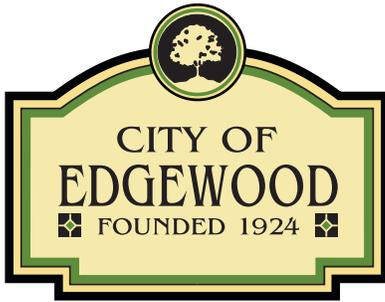
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