



Beachcaster

Your Official City Newsletter October/November 2011

From the Council Desk

by Mayor Joe Ferrante

Greetings. For 54 years, Satellite Beach has been a city sought by many to live in, play in and send children to school. We have preserved our pristine appearance, provided outstanding public services and provided you, the Citizen, with a quality city staff and administration. The City Council has met regularly to discuss regulations, ordinances and issues that benefit the Citizens of Satellite Beach. I am very proud to be your Mayor.

This fiscal year will be very interesting. We all hope property appraisals will begin to turn around, but there is no guarantee. We should have a tentative report from the Property Appraiser around March. This year's property values fell by 10 percent - hopefully next year we will see this turn around. Speaking of revenue and expenditures, the Council discusses budgetary issues at each meeting. Formal budget hearings take place in September, but don't wait until then to offer suggestions and opinions. The budget is an on-going process.

On November 8, 2011, you will elect two Council members. Historically, Satellite Beach has a record turnout for off-year elections. Candidate columns are featured in this issue and I highly recommend you read each of them. You can also meet and listen to each candidate at the political forum later this month. Please vote. And a warm goodbye to Councilman Jeff Fleis as he leaves public service after a three year term. Your leadership, guidance and contributions to Satellite Beach are well known - thanks Jeff.

As I speak to Brevard County, I am always impressed with their high regard for our city. Many suggest it is the best in the state of Florida. I agree. Our dedicated employees are outstanding. Both the Fire and Police Departments are highly recognized throughout the state. Recreation and Public Works keep the city energized and well maintained. The City Manager, City Clerk, Finance, Building and Zoning and entire administrative staff are dedicated employees. This City runs well because it is well run. I applaud each of them.

This is the final edition of the Beachcaster. Due to fiscal constraints, the Beachcaster was taken out of the

budget for this fiscal year. I know many of you keep up with City activities by viewing our website www.satellitebeachfl.org or by attending our quarterly Town Hall meetings and State of the City address. It is the Council's intent to continue mailing a smaller, more concise letter to all residents on a quarterly basis.



Mayor Joe Ferrante

You will not lose your sense of community without the Beachcaster. However, what we will lose is the best investigative column in Florida - Around Town With Scotty Culp. Scotty has been researching, writing, snapping pictures, and reporting her column since the Beachcaster started. Thank you, Scotty, for yet another outstanding contribution to Satellite Beach.

My special thanks go to the dedicated men and women of our city and country, who serve both at home and abroad. Their untiring commitment to keep us safe and free is very much appreciated.

Thank you for being a resident of Satellite Beach. It is a pleasure to serve you.

City Council Meetings

City Council meetings are regularly held the first and third Wednesday of each month at 6:00 p.m. in the Council Chambers, 565 Cassia Boulevard. The agenda for each Council meeting is posted at City Hall and is available on the City Hotline (779-8924) and the City website (www.satellitebeachfl.org).

The complete agenda package for each regular meeting is available in the Reference Section of the Satellite Beach Library beginning the Saturday prior to each regular meeting, at Satellite Beach City Hall during normal business hours (Monday - Friday, 8:00 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.), and on the City website.

The GFWC Satellite Beach Woman's Club

and

The City of Satellite Beach

Founder's Day &

Marketplace Craft Show

Salute To Our Troops



Saturday, November 5, 2011

9am - 3pm

D R S Community Center

1089 S. Patrick Dr. Satellite Beach, FL

Craft Booths Bake Sale Flea Market

Festival Food Farmer's Market

Live Music

Parade Steps Off at 11:00 a.m.

**Call 773-6458
For more information**

Founder's Day "Salute to Our Troops"

The GFWC Satellite Beach Woman's Club and the City's Recreation Department have finalized plans to honor active duty military personnel at the Marketplace and Founder's Day celebration on Saturday, November 5. During October, family and friends may post one photo (4" x 6" maximum size) on the "Our Heroes" tri-fold display boards in the David R. Schechter (DRS) Community Center lobby. Posting photos will also be permitted on November 5 when the boards will be relocated in the gymnasium for viewing by persons attending the Marketplace and Founder's Day activities. Families and organizations are also encouraged to participate in the annual parade. Contact Sadie Baker at 777-0996 regarding "Our Heroes" display and Louise Stevenson at 773-6458, extension 204, regarding parade entries.

This year's theme, "Salute to Our Troops," will surely bring out the red, white and blue in you during this annual city event. Attendees can expect a spectacular parade, live music, festival food, plant sale, farmer's market, and superior crafters. The parade will step off at 11:00 a.m. from DeLaura Middle School. Call Suzanne Higginson at 777-5947 for arts/crafts rental spaces. The DRS Comm. Ctr. is located at 1089 S. Patrick Drive, near the Post Office in Satellite Beach.

**CANDIDATES FOR CITY COUNCIL
(Vote for No More Than Two)**

Statement submitted by Gregg Billman:



My family and I love this city. We've lived here for nine years, retiring after a 24-year Air Force career, ending as Patrick's Vice Wing Commander. I am currently employed by InDyne, managing the contract that operates and maintains Cape Canaveral AFS' medium-city-sized infrastructure. I have led at many levels in various professional capacities, ranging from organizations with thousands of members and multi-million dollar budgets to commanding 40-airplane combat attack missions in Iraq.

Now, I want to put my leadership and management experience to work as one of your City Council members. Daily, I deal with the challenges of keeping the Cape's infrastructure running in austere

(continued on page 4)

Statement submitted by Mark Brimer:



For 11 years, I had the privilege of serving as your Mayor and Councilmember. During that period, Council introduced a variety of very positive initiatives, many of which remain in place and benefit our City today.

If elected to Council, I would initially like to focus on three areas that will help improve our financial future and enhance our long-term quality of life:

- City's Economy - In order to "hold the line on taxes" (but retain existing services) we must have an improved source of revenue. Fostering development of the vacant 100 acres of land located at the

(continued on page 4)

Statement submitted by Mike Chase:



Thank you for the opportunity to represent you as your City Councilman over the past three years. Even through difficult economic challenges, we have made strides in improving our City:

- Stormwater drainage projects to upgrade our deteriorated system;
- Continuing efforts to revitalize properties along A1A and South Patrick Drive, increase property values, and pave the way for significant development in our City's north end;
- Cost-saving energy upgrades and soon-to-be-installed solar panels for City buildings;
- Resolving the Pelican Coast property tax issue so that all residents now contribute fairly;

(continued on page 4)

Statement submitted by Sheryl Denan:



I am honored to be your candidate for City Council. As a Brevard County residents for 17 years, my husband and I were drawn to our City after the birth of our second son in 2000. The proximity to good schools, a close knit community, a sense of security and excellent services such as police and fire were essential to our relocation.

I am a Landscape Architect and a Land Use Planner and I have been working with local government agencies for 27 years. I have designed numerous parks and streetscapes including New Haven Avenue in downtown Melbourne. I was also a Municipal City Planner. I had the opportunity to head the Board of

(continued on page 5)

Statement submitted by Pat Gibbons:



Hello, I am Pat Gibbons. I am a candidate for Satellite Beach City Council. It is my desire to become a member of the Satellite Beach City Council so that I can serve and give back to the citizens of this great community. The City of Satellite Beach is my home, my children's and grandchildren's home and the place where we work and reside.

As a longtime resident (1962), I know the history and understand the affairs of this community. Looking back and understanding the past is important, but more important, is that we look at where we are today and what the path is for the future.

(continued on page 5)

CANDIDATES FOR CITY COUNCIL

(Continued From Page 4)

Statement submitted by Gregg Billman *(continued)*

financial times. I know - and appreciate - the value efficiency brings to maintaining services when facing rising costs and dwindling funds.

Our police, fire, public works and recreation departments are second to none. We need these vital services. However, to maintain them we must be able to afford them. To afford them, we must control costs. To control costs, we must ensure each department is operating at maximum efficiency, which may mean differently -- *but better* -- than today.

Raising millage rates to maintain service is NOT the answer, as it means eventual insolvency as we close on the state-mandated-maximum 10 mills. A review of Council actions over the past five years is concerning, as our millage rate has increased a staggering 43%. This trend must be stopped if we want to grow our tax base by attracting new businesses and families to our City.

Let's tackle our City's problems together, with fresh ideas and new leadership, to ensure our City remains the Best Little City in Brevard! To learn more about my ideas, please visit www.greggbillman.com or call me at 777-3371. I welcome the opportunity to hear your thoughts and earn your vote.

Statement submitted by Mark Brimer *(continued)*

north end of the City and enhancing the A1A corridor are a must. Strengthening those two areas will undoubtedly help lessen the tax burden for all residents and begin to reverse our declining revenues.

- Community Health - As the recent City survey demonstrated, residents are very pleased with current City services. However, 1 in 5 of our residents are over 65 years of age. We can enhance residents safety, control costs, and improve quality of life by utilizing strategies that enable all residents to "age in place." Partnering with local healthcare organizations is essential for ensuring long-term residential living for our seniors.
- Volunteerism - When my parents first moved to the City in the late 1960s, the City was known for having a spirit of volunteerism. As a result of tough economic times, it appears we've lost some of the enthusiasm that helped shape our City culture. I believe there are opportunities to rejuvenate that volunteer spirit and realize savings for our City. As a Satellite Beach elected official, my objective was always to consistently provide you with conscientious and reliable performance on your behalf. If allowed to serve you again, I will not change that approach.

Please visit vote4markbrimer.com for more information.

Statement submitted by Mike Chase *(continued)*

- Trash collection improvements (recycle/trash carts) and a citizens' online communication system with Waste Management.
- Enhanced City website and town hall meetings that provide timely communication with residents.

Meanwhile, declining revenues have forced severe budget reductions, cutting staff and services. This year's budget makes additional cuts in every area except police and fire protection. We have reached the bottom line: staffing is now at bare-bones level, and any further budget cuts will begin to dismantle the safety of our City. Anyone who tells you otherwise is dealing with myth and ignoring the facts.

When employment brought my family to Brevard County 16 years ago, we chose Satellite Beach as "our home" because we loved its quality of life. To preserve this, we need leaders with experience who will make informed decisions based on the best interests of our residents, rather than careless decisions based on rigid ideology. Six years ago, I became an active City volunteer, and I understand how our City government functions. If re-elected, I will work to prevent actions that jeopardize the safety of our residents and change the character of our City. I ask for your vote so that together we can preserve the Satellite Beach we treasure. Learn more at www.vote4mikechase.com.

Polling Places for Satellite Beach 2011 Election

Precinct 64 *(Temporary Relocation for 11/8/11)*
David R. Schechter Community Center
1089 South Patrick Drive

Precinct 114
United Methodist Church of Satellite Beach
450 Lee Avenue

CANDIDATES FOR CITY COUNCIL
(Continued From Page 4)

Statement submitted by Sheryl Denan *(continued)*

Adjustment, the Planning Board and the Community Redevelopment Agency. I know from past professional experience and per standard growth management principals that being business friendly and providing fair, consistent and reasonable code enforcement (in order to protect the safety and welfare of the citizens) is the best method to ensure responsible development or redevelopment within any City.

I am asking for your vote on November 8, because I believe that everyone’s voice is important. Residents and tax payers are people, not subjects. I will be an advocate for you, your opinions and your ideas. I am “Running for You.” Your families’ quality of life is the most important thing during these times where most have seen a decrease in pay and an increase in cost of living. Our City is comprised of hard working citizens who have made tremendous sacrifices in order to survive these tough economic times. My family is no different than yours. Together we can achieve the most from our local government, in both good times and bad. Together we can make a great City better!

I truly appreciate your support. (www.sherylden.com 321-779-8086).

Statement submitted by Pat Gibbons *(continued)*

Over the past few decades, I have been involved with all aspects of city activities. I have been a member of recreation/city boards and most recently I am a member of the Blue Ribbon Budget and Finance Committee.

Committed to:

- Promoting economic growth while preserving our beachside community. Controlled economic growth together with protecting the environment is extremely important to me. I understand the dynamics of how the business and residential community working together can achieve positive results.
- Maintaining safety and security. I will continue to work diligently to promote wise utilization of our public safety personnel and monetary resources to maintain proper efficient levels of service.
- Preservation of natural resources. Our beaches, waterways and natural environment are important to our community. We need to be conscientious of long term effects while creating novel and common sense approaches for solutions to environmental issues affecting our community.

I am asking for your vote on November 8th. As your Councilman, I will be committed to work for the people of this great community and ensure that our City government is performing to the highest standards.

City Election

November 8, 2011

On **TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 8, 2011**, a City election will be held to elect two Council members. The City’s election is non partisan.

The Council consists of a mayor and four members who are elected at large by the qualified voters of the City. They serve without salary. Those elected will serve a three-year term, ending November 2014.

The following five individuals have qualified as candidates for Council:

- **Gregg Billman**
- **Sheryl Denan**
- **Mark Brimer**
- **Pat Gibbons**
- **Michael Chase**

POLITICAL FORUM

*Submitted by Dee Anderson
 Satellite Beach Woman’s Club*

The GFWC Satellite Beach Woman’s Club will sponsor a political forum on Tuesday, October 18, 2011. It will be held at the Scotty Culp Municipal Complex, 565 Cassia Boulevard, starting at 7:00 p.m. All candidates for the Satellite Beach City Council will be invited to participate. The forum will be moderated by Ayn Samuelson, representing The League of Women Voters. The public is invited.

In recognition of World Food Day, a receptacle will be available for those who wish to donate non perishable food items.

Conserving is Saving: An International Perspective

By: Helmut Kohler, Jr.

For ten weeks this summer, I had the privilege of experiencing an international study abroad journey that consisted of five countries, four different class courses and an internship. This exposure to different cultures and practices was truly enlightening because it offered a thorough perspective as to what other countries on different continents are doing with regard to the energy challenges that the entire world is faced with at present. My travels began with a month-long internship for a construction company in Dubai, United Arab Emirates (UAE). After that, I travelled to Madrid, Spain, for a week-long course in international business management. I then headed to Oxford, England, for five weeks and two course programs in critical approaches and marketing. Whilst on a long weekend, some colleagues and I sojourned to explore Paris, France. The last leg of my trip took me from London, England, to Budapest, Hungary. I then travelled to the town of Kaposvar, where I participated in a two-week comprehensive sustainability course. I just recently returned home to enter my final year of studies prior to graduation from Florida Institute of Technology. The following is a summation of the energy efficiency-related sustainability elements that I encountered during my trans-continental trek.

My internship in Dubai, UAE was a great opportunity to work with people from around the Arab region and other parts of the world. Within my work team were members from the United States, the Philippines, India, Pakistan, and Afghanistan. During my time there, I was also able to participate in projects with folks from UAE, Saudi Arabia, and Iraq. Dubai, UAE was a very hospitable place to visit. The City of Dubai, which is also the capital of the Emirate - their version of a state - of the same name, is a cosmopolitan and diverse city with every amenity you would find in a modern metropolis in the U.S. or any other developed country in the world. One of the highlights (no pun intended) was the world's tallest building, the Burj Khalifa.



The world's tallest building, the Burj Khalifa in Dubai, United Arab Emirates.

Because of the extremely hot and humid climate in the UAE - the country is located on the Arabian Gulf - air

conditioners are effectively in constant operation 365 days per year, 24 hours per day. Therefore, energy efficiency is a critical aspect of the UAE's long-term energy policy, along with reduction of carbon emissions. To that end, the UAE has established the Emirates Green Building Council (EGBC), which is a partner of the U.S. Green Building Council, and promotes sustainable building practices and sanctions LEED (Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design) building certifications in the UAE. The EGBC is also sponsoring the 2011 Future Cities Conference in Dubai; this international event has been established to promote sustainable urban development strategies.

Even though the UAE possesses the sixth largest proven oil reserves and fifth largest natural gas reserves in the world, they are not relying on those alone for their future energy supply. Instead, they are taking portions of their oil and gas royalty revenues and putting them toward infrastructure developments and the establishment of renewable energy programs. The Emirates have completed several solar and wind energy test stations, and last year they began construction of a 100 megawatt solar thermal power plant that will be completed in 2012. Abu Dhabi, the largest of the Emirates, also hosts the annual World Future Energy Summit. Contrary to popular belief, oil companies are also investing heavily in renewable and alternative fuels; this is evidenced by Exxon Mobil and Total Petroleum being two of the primary sponsors of the this event.

From Dubai, I flew to Madrid, Spain, which is a completely different culture and environment. I went from a hot desert coastal environment with a young, ultra-modern city to the temperate climate of Central Iberia and an ancient, historically-rich city. Spain was a particularly important stop on my voyage because it is a leader in renewable energies and at the cutting edge, not only of development, but equally as important, implementation of these energy sources into viable parts of its economy. Spain is a relatively small country, but last year they surpassed the United States to become the world's largest producer of solar energy; they are also the third largest producer of wind energy on the planet. Spanish renewable energy companies are working hard to combat unemployment and create jobs in Spain, with many solar and wind projects in the development and construction phases. Spanish companies are also undertaking projects with other renewable energy sources, such as biomass farming and hydro-power. A week in Spain was not nearly enough. Just as soon as I felt like I was beginning to scratch the surface, I was back at an airport and on my way to London to begin my five weeks at Oxford.

continued on page 7

After my arrival in Oxford, England, I was greeted by a hot plate of English fish and chips and the pleasant surprise to see the dorm facilities for Jesus College at the University of Oxford being fitted with solar arrays as part of the university's ongoing and proactive sustainability projects. The University of Oxford is at the forefront of carbon emissions reduction; in addition to their energy usage reduction strategies, they have purchased 100% green, renewable electricity since 2004. The solar panels the university is currently installing will allow them to purchase less, and sell any additional electricity they produce back to their power supplier. The University of Oxford employs an Environmental Sustainability Team that develops and oversees their comprehensive sustainability program, which encompasses energy, water, travel, purchasing, greenhouse gases, buildings, waste, and biodiversity. This innovative, full-circle approach can set an example for other organizations and universities.



The dorms I was housed in at Jesus College, University of Oxford, England being equipped with photovoltaic solar panels.

The United Kingdom (UK) is also home to many renewable energy breakthroughs. British companies are designing and building some of the largest and most complex hydro-kinetic wave and tidal power stations in the world. Hydro-kinetic energy is derived from harnessing the power contained within the flow of water, without necessitating the building of dams, which drastically alter and cause great harm to the ecosystems where they are built. As opposed to traditional hydropower, hydro-kinetic power is based on capturing the vast energy contained within fast flowing bodies of water and/or the regularly occurring wave and tidal flows of the oceans by-way-of impellers or flapper devices. The UK has also developed on-shore and off-shore wind power, along with biomass and biogas as part of their renewable energy portfolio.

After my five weeks in Oxford were up, I was off again to my last program of the summer in Hungary. After arriving in the picturesque City of Budapest, I travelled to my home for the last two weeks of my journey in Kaposvar and their delightful eponymous university. This was the first year of their new Sustainability Summer

Program, which covered the full spectrum of important sustainability issues, including renewable energy, sustainable agriculture, ecosystems, cities, politics and cultural challenges. Some of the highlights of this portion of my trip were visits to Kaposvar University's natural wildlife preserve, and the nuclear power plant near the City of Paks. The university's wildlife preserve is home to many species of game, including some endangered deer species that they are helping to repopulate. The Paks nuclear power plant is a beacon for the safety and effectiveness of nuclear power for satisfying electrical power needs. This plant began operation in the early nineteen eighties and after several expansions, to a total of four reactors, now produces some 40% of Hungary's domestic electricity generation. The plant is currently in the final stages of completing a twenty year extension to its commission, which will see it operate until at least 2032. The Paks team is also planning to expand the facility using new, cleaner and safer next-generation type reactors that will increase the plant's output and serve as a way to phase out the older reactors as their life cycles end.

So, as can be seen from my diverse international experiences this summer, there are a variety of approaches to the energy dilemma we currently face. But a common theme became apparent to me during my travels: in each place I visited, the country's government and their private sector have employed programs and strategies to take advantage of their own unique circumstances in an attempt to capitalize on their strengths.

The United States, being the most resourceful and productive country in the world, needs a comprehensive, all-of-the-above energy solutions strategy that combines sound utilization of our domestic natural resources, continued development of renewable and alternative energy technologies, and the promotion of efficiency and conservation practices to keep us at the forefront, and aid in our economic recovery and future growth. We can all play a part in this by making ourselves aware, getting involved, being proactive, and conserving and being energy efficient.

A local team of interested individuals from multiple backgrounds share a vision for driving energy-related economic development in the Space Coast and Central Florida. Their Space Coast Energy Consortium (<http://www.spacecoastenergy.org/>) is working to build a clean, high-growth and sustainable energy economy with global impact. Satellite Beach is making inroads to that end as well. While I was away, the City took the step of signing up for 100 kilowatts of rooftop photovoltaic distributed electricity production for only the modest cost of insuring the equipment for 5 years. What is happening worldwide is also occurring in Satellite Beach.

Satellite Beach City Hall
565 Cassia Boulevard
Satellite Beach, FL 32937
www.satellitebeachfl.org
(321) 773-4407

PRSRT STD
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
MELBOURNE, FL
PERMIT No. 495



Beachcaster

Your Official City Newsletter

October / November 2011

8

Council Highlights

August 17, 2011, Regular Council Meeting

- Adopted Resolution No. 912, vacating a portion of the public utilities and drainage easement at 680 Bimini Road.
- Authorized the sole source acquisition of a new security door system for the sally port in the Police Department in the amount of \$8,600, as proposed by Sena-Tech.
- Authorized lease agreement with DCS Energy for up to six rooftop photovoltaic (PV) systems, with no upfront cost to the City, with the option for the City to accept ownership at the end of the five-year lease. Total aggregate peak generating capacity of the systems is 102 kilowatts, with net annual power production worth approximately \$20,000.
- Authorized the execution of an interlocal agreement with Brevard County and Brevard County municipalities to initiate a cooperative Indian River Lagoon TMDL revision study, with a maximum cost of \$7,758 to the City.

Holiday Schedule For Waste Collection

There will be NO Household Garbage or Yard Waste collected on Veteran's Day, Friday, November 11.

Pick up a copy of the Recreation News brochure at the DRS Community Center or City Hall. Also, view it online at the Recreation Department's website at www.satellitebeachrecreation.org.

GFWC Satellite Beach Woman's Club

The GFWC Satellite Beach Woman's Club has had to cancel the December Project with Angel Ministries because unfortunately Angel Ministries has had to cease operations.

The Women's Center in Melbourne will be the recipient of the December Project. The Women's Center for abused women and children is always in need. Monies raised will be given to Second Harvest for a food credit which will aid the Women's Center in feeding those in need.