



Newsletter – October 2008

E-Mail: townhall@mymontverde.com

Town Hall Happenings

Please join Town Hall in welcoming our new student intern Shannon Stone. Shannon has been a resident of Montverde for eight years, five of which she was a student at Montverde Academy. Shannon is now pursuing her education through the home school program and can usually be found at Town Hall from 11 AM to 2 PM week days.

As of September 9th there are two new ordinances in effect within Montverde. Ordinance 2008-18 relates to yard and public auction sales. In brief, it allows residents to have four yard sales per year with three signs in the town right-of-way. A free permit number must be obtained from Town Hall and must be displayed on the signs. The second new ordinance is Ordinance 2008-20 relating to property maintenance. This ordinance requires a property owner to maintain the general cleanliness of the property. Height of grass and weeds is limited to 18 inches and property must be kept free of unsightly junk and other debris. Both of these ordinances can be obtained by visiting, phoning or emailing Town Hall or can be viewed online at www.mymontverde.com under "Downloads".

The lease for the new US Post Office has been signed and the Postal Service will be relocating to the current Public Works area adjacent to the fire station next spring. The building will be renovated over the winter and will hopefully open by May 1, 2009. The dirt parking lot adjacent to the building will be paved and the area between the new post office, Town Hall and the library will be landscaped including brick walks and draught-resistant plants. Starting on Montverde Day, Town Hall will be selling engraved bricks to help finance the project. The cost of each brick is projected to be \$25 and they will be installed in the walkways between the buildings.

Within a few weeks there will be an addition to Kirk Park. A new, permanent stage will be constructed at the intersection of the ball field and tennis court fences.

Starting on Montverde Day, Town Hall will be selling a limited number of T-shirts, polo shirts, ball caps, visors and fleece blankets embroidered with the Town of

Montverde logo. Proceeds from the sales will benefit parks and recreation programs for the town.

Please remember that your utility payments are due by the 20th of each month. If you are paying via a bank online bill pay site, please remember that the bank must prepare and mail the check to us, and allow for that processing time. On the 21st of each month any account with an unpaid balance will be charged a 10% late fee. This fee will still be due EVEN IF we received your payment in the mail shortly after the due date on the 20th. Any account not paid by the 30th will be disconnected and charged a \$35 disconnect fee. A \$35 connection fee will also be charged to reconnect your service! Please do not be angry at Town Hall for sending you a notice if your bill has not been paid by the 20th. We are only making you aware of the situation so you have time to fix it by the 30th!

As some of you are aware, the online eBill and ePay service is up and running. Unfortunately there has been a little bit of a learning curve but we believe we have most of the bugs worked out. If you go to eBill Pay on www.mymontverde.com, you will be required to register first, before you can use the site to make a payment. The registration process requires Town Hall to accept the registration before you can proceed. As we are not here evenings and weekends, it can sometimes take a few days for us to process the approval. Once your registration is approved, you will receive an email notifying you and you can return to the town website and add your account(s). From that time on you will receive an email notification each time a new bill is uploaded by the town. Town Hall is also able to take credit card payments on site or over the phone.

Be a Good Neighbor

No one wants an unexpectedly high water bill! Several residents in the past few months have had this unhappy experience due to leaks, irrigation system malfunctions and other problems. Please be a good neighbor and notify the property owner or Town Hall if you notice a problem on a neighbor's property, particularly if you know or suspect the resident is out of town.

October 2008

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
28	29	30	1 Historical Committee ... Montverde Day Planni ...	2 Old Fogies Meeting	3	4
5	6 Children's Storytime ...	7	8 P&Z Meeting	9 Old Fogies Meeting	10 Community Dinner	11
12	13 Children's Storytime ... Relay for Life Plann ...	14 Town Council Meeting ...	15	16 Old Fogies Meeting	17	18
19	20 Children's Storytime ...	21	22	23 Old Fogies Meeting	24	25
26	27 Children's Storytime ...	28	29	30 Old Fogies Meeting	31	1

- You have prepared a Disaster Survival Kit that includes cash, two weeks supply of food, water and one month's supply of prescription medicines.
- You have identified a Safe Room within your home.
- You have a battery powered radio and/or TV with extra batteries.

Plan to GO If:

- An evacuation order has been issued.
- You live in a structure that is not built to code.
- Your home is vulnerable to storm surge or inland flooding.
- You can leave early enough to meet estimated regional clearance times.
- It is very dangerous to be on the highway during a storm.

On the Agenda

- Retirement System Resolution
- Relay for Life Update
- Willie's BBQ Site Plan & Conditional Use Permit
- First Baptist Church Amended Site Plan
- Montverde Town Hall & US Post Office Parking Lot Site Plan

Montverde Day Booth Registration

Please contact Town hall if you previously held a booth at Montverde Day and are expecting the same booth this year. Booths have changed so please call us at 407-469-2681 to make sure you get the booth you want.

Hurricane Preparedness

As part of our hurricane preparedness plan, we must not forget that hurricane season does extend into November. In the event that a hurricane does head toward Florida, we are often faced with the question of what to do.

If you are not sure if you should stay or go - read below to help you decide.

Plan to STAY If:

- You live in a structure that is built after 1973 when Florida adopted a standard building code.
- You do not live in a manufactured or mobile home.
- Your home is not vulnerable to storm surge or inland flooding.
- You have reduced the threat of falling trees by trimming and / or removing dead, dying or diseased trees.
- You have mitigated the effects of severe winds on your home by installing hurricane shutters on windows and bracing your garage door.
- You have prepared a multi-hazard Disaster Response Plan for yourself, your family and your pets.

Heating and Cooling Tips

The cause and effect relationship with the rise in fuel costs have many of us seeking other ways to save money. The following tips can help you keep some of your hard earned money in your pocket:

- Set your thermostat as low as is comfortable in the winter and as high as is comfortable in the summer.
- Clean or replace filters on furnaces once a month or as needed.
- Clean warm-air registers, baseboard heaters, and radiators as needed; make sure they're not blocked by furniture, carpeting, or drapes.
- Bleed trapped air from hot-water radiators once or twice a season; if in doubt about how to perform this task, call a professional.
- Place heat-resistant radiator reflectors between exterior walls and the radiators.
- Turn off kitchen, bath, and other exhaust fans within 20 minutes after you are done cooking or bathing; when replacing exhaust fans, consider installing high-efficiency, low-noise models.
- During the heating season, keep the draperies and shades on your southfacing 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.
- During the cooling season, keep the window coverings closed during the day to prevent solar gain.

