



September 2011

SPAGHETTI DINNER RETURNS TO MONTVERDE

Mayor Troy Bennett and Montverde Town Hall staff cordially invite Montverde residents to the annual Spaghetti Dinner on September 24, 2011. Dinner will be held at the Montverde Firehouse at 5:30 pm. For \$5.00, residents can get a spaghetti dinner, complete with salad, dinner rolls and a drink. More importantly, the dinner is a chance to come out, enjoy fellowship with your neighbors, and speak directly with Mayor Troy Bennett, Town Council and Town Hall staff. Town facilities will also be open for residents to tour and see the major improvements that have been made in Montverde over the last three years!

Residents will have the opportunity to see the improvements made to Kirk Park, including the new Skate Park, resurfaced tennis court, improved ball field and additional picnic areas. A majority of these improvements were funded by grant dollars that the Town sought out and secured. Residents can also stop by Town Hall and view the plans for the new downtown Streetscape and plans for the Town Hall Energy renovation.

We hope you all make plans to come out to the annual Spaghetti Dinner, meet your neighbors, spend time with friends and enjoy a great meal!

This will be a great opportunity to talk with the Mayor and Town Council to hear about the plans for the upcoming year.

2011 ELECTION IS UPON US

The annual Caucus was held on August 9, 2011, where residents nominated candidates for vacant elected positions. This year, the mayoral seat is up for election, as well as three Council seats. Mayor Troy Bennett was nominated to run as Mayor for a third term. Dale Heathman was also nominated. Incumbent Councilmen Glenn Burns, Jim Pierce and Billy Bates were nominated to run for Council. A fourth nominee, Arthur Neubaur, was also nominated, but did not wish to qualify.

The election will be held on November 8, 2011. Polls will be open from 7am to 7pm on Election Day. All Town residents are highly encouraged to support your candidate and get out and vote!

Absentee ballots will be available for those residents who will not be able to vote in person on November 8, or for those residents who want to avoid election lines. Residents can request an absentee ballot by calling the Supervisor of Elections Office at 352-343-9734, or by filling out a request form online at <http://elections.lakecountyfl.gov/>. Residents can also pick up an absentee ballot request form from Montverde Town Hall or the Helen Lehmann Memorial Library. Absentee ballots must be received by the Supervisor of Elections' office no later than 7pm on November 8.

Residents are always encouraged to get involved. Come to Council meetings to see the political process, and vote!

32nd ANNUAL MONTVERDE DAY FESTIVAL

The Annual Montverde Day Festival will be held on Saturday, November 12. All residents are encouraged to come out to this free event for community fellowship and fun! There will be a variety of food vendors, all day entertainment at the Kirk Park stage, fun games and a Carnival with great rides. The Montverde Day Festival will be open from 8am to 10pm.

Vendor booths are still available, so if you would like to sell items or promote your business, reserve your booth today! Sponsorship packages are also available. This is a great way to introduce your business to the public while supporting a local community event. To reserve a booth or become a sponsor, please call Montverde Town Hall at 407-469-2681.

Come out, enjoy the fun and show your pride in our Town!

UPCOMING PROJECTS

In the next few months, Montverde residents will notice a very different look to the downtown area. County Road 455 through downtown Montverde is scheduled for a major renovation. This Streetscape Project will include adding a landscaping island at the traffic light on CR 455 to facilitate traffic flow, correcting broken asphalt and concrete along the road, coordinating existing sidewalks, correcting sign structures, removing overgrown vegetation, and adding trees and other landscaping along CR 455 and Porter Avenue. This Streetscape Project will primarily be funded by a generous contribution from Montverde Academy, with secondary funding coming from the Town. A copy of the Streetscape Plan is available at Town Hall for residents who would like to see the proposed changes.

In addition to the Streetscape Project, the Town is expected to begin work on the remodeling of many of the Town's buildings through the Federal Energy Grant. Last year, Mayor Bennett and Town Council instructed Town staff to apply for this grant, which provides funds for municipalities to remodel their buildings to make them more energy efficient. The Town was awarded the grant in the amount of \$152,300 to upgrade and improve Town Hall, the Community Building and the Library. Roof insulation will be added, air conditioning systems will be replaced, old windows will be replaced with low emissivity double paned windows and new energy efficient indoor lighting will be installed. All renovations will maintain the historic look of the Town. Not only does the grant allow our buildings to be fully upgraded, it will also provide decreased electricity costs to the Town!

Be on the lookout for these major improvements and the new look of our Town!

IT'S BUDGET TIME!

The month of September will be busy for the Town of Montverde. In addition to the regular Town Council meeting on the second Tuesday of the month, there will be two Budget Public Hearings to adopt the millage rate and final budget for the upcoming fiscal year:

- ◆ September 15: First Public Hearing on FY 2012 Town Budget, 7 pm
- ◆ September 29: Second Public Hearing on FY 2012 Town Budget, 7 pm

Mayor Bennett implores all residents to come out to these Public Hearings and let your Councilmen hear your thoughts and concerns about the budget for the next fiscal year. Copies of the budget are available at Town Hall, or on the Town's website at www.mymontverde.com. Now is the chance to voice your thoughts to your Councilmen!

ADOPT-A-ROAD

The Visioning Committee was fortunate to have a big group of volunteers on August 6th for their Adopt-a-Road commitment; despite the intense heat! Many thanks to:

- ◆ Sharon and Wayne Gey (for lending their ATVs!)
- ◆ Candi and John Keys
- ◆ Laura and Tracy Eldridge
- ◆ Larry Kontny
- ◆ Sal Serrano
- ◆ Cynthia Schindele
- ◆ Jane and Bob Tomlinson

The next road clean up will be November 5th. Interested volunteers should contact Jane Tomlinson at jane.tomlinson@orlandohealth.com. Let's all strive to keep our roads clean and green!