

Week Ending: June 21, 2019

Witte Thoughts for the Commission

I found a great #HomeRule quote this week...

"Local governments exist, not only to provide basic services like public safety, water and sewer, but to reflect the values of community residents into how a community looks and feels."

Dr. Scott Paine

Upcoming Meetings & Events

Tuesday, June 25, 2019 at 8:00am
Historic Preservation Board

Tuesday, June 25, 2019 at 7:00pm
Special Meeting and Budget Workshop

Saturday, June 29, 2019 at 7:00pm
NAACP Banquet at Center at Deltona

Thursday, July 4, 2019
4th of July Celebration

- Parade at 10:00am (set up at 9am)
- Presentation of Awards at Eq Center (after parade)
- Food Trucks and Music at Royal Park at 6pm
- Fireworks at 9pm

Sunday, July 7, 2019 at 2:00pm
**Celebration of Life for Nan Roberts
American Legion, Lake Helen**

Thursday, July 11, 2019 at 7:00pm
City Commission Regular Meeting

Lake Helen Saves Cat in a Tree

On Tuesday, Officer Scott Owen, Officer Caleb Bruder and Jason Hood (Public Works) saved a young cat stuck in a very high tree.

A local Lake Helen resident stopped by the Police Department to report a young cat way up in a tree tangled in vines. Officer Scott Owen and Officer Caleb Bruder went to the tree. The cat was very high in tree, so they called Public works for a ladder and a tool to cut the vines. The team managed to get the cat cut out of tree. After the rescue, the cat quickly ran away. Good job guys!!



Election Update:

Candidates are:

Commissioner Zone 1:

Kelly Frasca and Tom Wilson

Commissioner Zone 3: Rick Basso

Elected without opposition

Mayor: Vernon Burton and Daisy Raisler

General Election: 11/5/2019

Another great citizen passes on...

Arthur Kruchas from 168 Harlan Avenue passed away this morning.

Tropical Update: The tropics remain quiet this week. No tropical cyclone development is expected over the Atlantic or eastern North Pacific basins during the next five days.

Washout Fix

Thank you to Vice Mayor Burton's morning walks and letting me know of the washout area on the I-4 overpass. DOT fixed the washout on Wednesday morning.



Cassadaga Water System Meeting

The meeting with Cassadaga Water Customers on Monday went well. The County staff did great! Mayor and Vice Mayor were in attendance – also did a great job! I think there is a future partnership with Cassadaga -- what a great group of citizens!



Blake Playground Update

The Playground Equipment arrived on Saturday. Thank you Rick for taking your Saturday to accept it!!

The City of Lake Helen will be accepting applications for a member on the Historic Preservation Board

Applications will be accepted through close of business on Monday, June 24, 2019. Applications will be presented to the City Commission on July 11, 2019. The only specific requirement for membership on City boards is that a board member be a resident of the City.

If you are interested, or know of anyone who might be interested, please contact
Katie Holmes at City Hall
386-228-2531
to request an application for membership.

Hurricane Matthew Housing Program

The Hurricane Matthew Housing Program that will assist residents with damaged single-family homes or pre-1994 mobile/manufactured homes has been launched. The county has been awarded Community Development Block Grant - Disaster Recovery (CDBG-DR) funds through the Florida Department of Economic Opportunity (DEO).

The news release and program website link:
www.volusia.org/hurricane-matthew-housing

If any of you have specific questions about the program feel free to reach out to CDBG Office at Volusia County, but here are some highlights:

- Applicant must be able to prove damage from Hurricane Matthew, but there are a few different ways to do this depending on the situation
- Applicant must be income-eligible
- Applicant must own the home or pre-1994 mobile/manufactured home. If they are in a pre-1994 mobile/manufactured home they can either own or rent the lot
- This funding cannot reimburse for repairs or payments already made
- Funds will not be issued directly to clients. If the client is eligible and awarded a grant, payments will be made to contractors on behalf of the client
- This is a great program for those in need, assistance is being offered as a grant with no repayment. The process, however, may not be quick or easy. Applicants will submit a detailed application packet, several backup documents, staff will review eligibility, duplication of benefits, damage assessment, environmental assessment, a contractor or vendor will be selected by the county, an agreement will be signed with the county and the contractor, and if necessary the homeowner will need to temporarily relocate while work is completed. That process will result in the client having a new or repaired home!

Lake Helen Lakes

The Committee to Save Lake Helen Lakes will be on Lake Helen Lake again this weekend. They also have a contractor that will be working on the Lake Friday through Monday to remove the foliage mechanically (as permitted through FWC).

Weekly Update from City Administrator, Becky Witte. Want more information or have ideas or suggestions on updates. Contact City Hall. Email: bwitte@lakehelen.com / Office: 386.228.2358