



# City of Clermont

## Gem of the Hills

### ONE AMAZING DAY LATER, A NEW PLAYGROUND FOR CLERMONT'S KIDS



Local businesses and restaurants donated food and beverages for breakfast and lunch. Radio Disney provided music and inspiration as the day progressed. Clermont Police and Fire personnel were on site to support the effort.

The ribbon-cutting was scheduled for 2:30pm, but the teams finished an hour early, just as the gray skies were clearing. Mayor Hal Turville, Council Member Timothy Bates, and City Manager Darren Gray joined in thanking everyone for being part of the event.

"The playground and outdoor classroom at West Beach are a unique addition to the City of Clermont's parks system," said City Manager Darren Gray. "The City is proud to be a partner in this exciting community project that gives our children a new place to play."

Downpours throughout the day could not dampen the spirits of 350 volunteers who came together May 4 to build a new playground at West Beach Park at Lake Minneola.

The project, made possible by KaBOOM! of Washington DC, teamed up with the City of Clermont, the Boys and Girls Clubs of Lake and Sumter County, funding partner Disney, and Nature Explore of Lincoln, Nebraska in creating a 5,000-square-foot playground

with outdoor nature classrooms.

The "build captains" began arriving before 6:30am to get the day started. At 8:00am, the volunteers converged at the site, grabbed breakfast and learned what their assignments for the day would be. A children's area, staffed by volunteers from Montverde Academy, kept younger kids occupied with games and crafts while parents went to work on the playground.

#### CLERMONT CITY COUNCIL

Mayor

Harold Turville

(Seat 3)

Council Member

Timothy Bates

(Seat 1)

Council Member

Ray Goodgame

(Seat 2)

Council Member

Keith Mullins

(Seat 4)

Council Member

Rick VanWagner

(Seat 5)

#### ELECTION QUALIFYING

The Clermont City Council election qualifying period will open on Monday, June 3, 2013 at 12:00-noon for Seats 2 and 4. Interested candidates must live within the city limits of Clermont, file all required documents with City Clerk Ackroyd and pay the Election

Assessment Fee. The City Council serves two year terms. The General Election date is November 5, 2013. If more than two candidates qualify for one seat, there will be a Primary Election held on August 13, 2013. For more information, please contact the City

Clerk's office at:

(352) 241-7330

or

TAckroyd@ClermontFL.org



### HURRICANE SEASON PREPARATIONS

Residents are always encouraged to be prepared during hurricane season by updating their family's disaster plan and restocking their family disaster kit.

Supplies should include a gallon of water per person for five days, enough non-perishable food items for five days, a manual can opener, flashlight and batteries, a battery-operated NOAA weather radio, AM/FM radio, infant and senior citizen necessities, one month's supply of medication, basic toilet-

ries, blankets, pillows, sleeping bags, garbage bags, resealable plastic bags, extra clothing, rain gear, a list of important phone numbers including the family's local pharmacy, doctors, and designated contacts the family can call in case of an emergency.

Included in your supplies should be a disposable camera to record property damage, a waterproof bag of important papers such as insurance, bank account and social security card, and a first

aid kit.

If you have pets, it is recommended to keep pet supplies on hand, including food, water, registration records, medications, proof of vaccination, leash and collar.

As a reminder, remember to include pets in evacuation plans should the need arise. Know where the Pet Friendly Shelters are and remember they will not allow pets in without proof of all vaccinations.

In the event of a hurricane,

sandbags will be available to city residents at the City of Clermont Public Services facility located at 400 12th Street. Shovels and assistance will be available. For more information, contact City of Clermont Public Services at 352.394.3350.



*During these events, we were able to make contact with hundreds of residents and educate well over 500 young people.*

### SANITATION DEPARTMENT



The first quarter of 2013 was very busy for the Sanitation Department as many residents began their spring cleaning. Even with the extra pickups, Sanitation staff members found several opportunities to educate the public about how our department operates on a daily basis.

At Pig on the Pond, numerous residents stopped by the City

of Clermont booth to discuss many of the City 's services; including Solid Waste pickup, Recycling, Stormwater, and Recreation. In addition, we provided educational presentations and literature to several local schools; teaching the students about recycling and conservation.

### FIRE DEPARTMENT NEWS

The City of Clermont has been awarded funding to purchase equipment to provide an Automated External Defibrillator for the new Community Center, Adult and Child Advanced Life Support Airway training manikins, and an EKG rhythm generator for cardiac -based training sce-

narios.

These items are awarded by the State of Florida Department of Health EMS Grant provided to counties across Florida.

The Clermont Fire Department applies each year and has been successful in secur-

ing equipment and services to improve the ability to provide pre-hospital Advanced Life Support to the citizens of Clermont.





Many thanks to all the team members who worked so hard to make this project happen!

## CITY OF CLERMONT METER RETROFIT PROJECT

The City of Clermont Utilities Department has completed the conversion of over 18,000 water meters in our system to the new Neptune R450 radio read smart meter. Utilities Department staff considered bidding out the meter installation project but chose to perform the work themselves in an effort to save money.

The two year project was completed in a timely fashion with an estimated savings of over \$600,000. Terry Gullet, Territory Manager for Neptune, stated "other cities your size usually

outsource such a large project. It is exceptional that Utilities Staff chose such a challenge.". By keeping the work in-house, not only were savings realized, but quality control was able to be kept at the highest level.

Another immediate benefit was the reduction of personnel hours required to read meters each month. Staff is able to monitor and read meters from a desk top rather than sending a person to read each meter every month.

## HISTORIC VILLAGE SPOTLIGHT THE KERN HOUSE

In the mid-1880s Alexander and Eleonora Kern moved to the new settlement of Clermont, FL. They traveled by steamboat bringing two horses and a wagon. Over the years, this team served for transporting many people and their belongings from the steamboat landing in Yalaha over the sand hills to Clermont. The Kerns purchased eight vacant

lots on Montrose Street and built their two-story frame house. Alexander was one of the 31 pioneers who signed the original legal notice of organization of the Town of Clermont. He built and operated the first public water system in Clermont. In 1897 he purchased the Wilson General Merchandise Store at Montrose and 8th Street.

The Kern home was the second renovation project for the Historical Society and opened the Kern House to the public in 2008.



*The Kern home was the first on Montrose Street to have running water.*

## TASTE OF THE CARIBBEAN & JERK FESTIVAL

The Caribbean American Association of Lake County will hold a Caribbean American Heritage Month celebration on Saturday, June 15, 2013 from 12:00-noon until 10:00pm at Waterfront Park.

Come and enjoy family entertainment, Jerk Cook-off Competition, live reggae band, gospel, jazz, country, chutney, Latin calypso, face painting,

Kid's Zone, dominoes, cricket, food and vendors, free health screenings, holistic products, and more.

For more information, please contact the Caribbean American Association at

352.978.0813

or

CAALC@live.com





**City Officials**

- City Manager**  
Darren Gray
- Assistant City Manager**  
Scott Blankenship
- Fire Chief**  
Carle Bishop
- Finance Director**  
Joseph VanZile
- City Clerk**  
Tracy Ackroyd
- Planning & Zoning Director**  
Barbara Hollerand
- Environmental Services Director**  
James Kinzler
- Police Chief**  
Charles Broadway
- Economic Development Director**  
Jim Hitt
- Parks and Recreation Director**  
Dave Teske
- Information Technology Director**  
Don Dennis

The following meetings are held in the Council Chambers of City Hall at 685 West Montrose Street each month:

- Council meetings are held the 2nd and 4th Tuesdays at 7:00pm
- Planning and Zoning Commission meets on the 1st Tuesday at 7:00pm
- Code Enforcement meets on the 3rd Tuesday at 6:00pm

- City Hall**  
352.394.4081
- Fire Department**  
352.394.7662
- Police Department**  
352.394.5588
- Public Services**  
352.394.7177
- Water, Wastewater, Sanitation, Stormwater**  
352.241.0178

**H O L I D A Y  
G A R B A G E  
C O L L E C T I O N**

Independence Day

Thursday, July 4, 2013,  
moved to  
Friday, July 5, 2013  
and  
Friday, July 5, 2013,  
moved to  
Saturday, July 6, 2013

Labor Day

Monday, September 2, 2013,  
moved to  
Tuesday, September 3, 2013  
and  
Tuesday, September 3, 2013,  
moved to  
Wednesday, September 4, 2013



**C I T Y   H A L L  
H O L I D A Y  
C L O S I N G S**

City Hall will be closed on:

Thursday, July 4, 2013  
in observance of  
Independence Day

Monday, September 2, 2013  
In observance of  
Labor Day