

October 2009 News Releases

October 05

City Receives Federal Energy Efficiency Grant

\$1.7 million to be used for efficiency/conservation programs - The Tallahassee City Commission will review the awarding of a grant from the U.S. Department of Energy at the Commission's regular meeting on Wednesday, Oct. 7. If approved by the Commission, funds from the grant will be used to enhance the City's existing energy efficiency and conservation programs.

Staff from the City's Energy Services Department applied for the federal Energy Efficiency and Conservation Block Grant in June and was recently notified by the Department of Energy of the grant being awarded. The primary goal of the grant funding is to accelerate progress toward achieving the City's long-term Demand Side Management (DSM) initiative that seeks an overall decrease in energy usage by customers. Proposed uses of grant funds include:

- Enhancing the City's energy audit program, available at no charge to both residential and commercial customers;
- Implementing new financial incentives for energy efficiency, demand/energy reduction and renewable energy;
- Developing new innovative rate options supported by the City's emerging smart grid system; and
- Accelerating the adoption of clean and efficient transportation opportunities, highlighted by programs geared to electric-powered vehicles.

"This federal support, coupled with the City's extensive portfolio of energy efficiency programs and last week's announcement of natural gas prices lowering, is wonderful news for all City utility customers," said David Byrne, director of Energy Services. Natural gas is used to produce more than 95 percent of the City's electricity, and combined with an earlier electric rate decrease, customers will begin seeing lower electric utility rates this month. The rate reductions result in an overall 18 percent decrease over the last six months.

Energy Services staff will begin to implement the grant activities in the near future, which will not require additional staffing or other resources to administer. They also form a natural alliance with the City's existing Energy Smart Plus (e+) initiative, which encourages customers to save energy and thus money by taking energy efficient measures throughout the home.

Financial incentives for demand and energy reduction may include pilot initiatives such as rebates to commercial customers who reduce their energy demand and to residential customer for evaluation/repair of leaky HVAC ducts in their homes. Other incentives may be developed for builders who incorporate energy efficient green technologies when building new homes or renovating older ones.

Through the grant application process, the City listed short-term goals of reducing electric peak demand by up to two megawatts, reducing annual energy consumption by no less than 3,000 megawatt-hours, reducing annual greenhouse gas emissions by no less than 1,400 tons and promoting local economic development strategies by creating or retaining up to 19 jobs.

City Commission meetings are aired live on WCOT, the City's government access channel (Comcast channel 13), and [streamed live on the City's Talgov.com website](#). Wednesday's meeting begins at 4 p.m.

For more information on energy audit appointments, energy saving tips and other e+ programs, visit [Talgov.com/YOU](#) or call Your Own Utilities at 891-4YOU (4968).

October 12 - TPD

Police Capture Burglary Suspect

Last night, at approximately 11:20PM, the Tallahassee Police Department responded to the 900 Block of Pine Street in reference to a suspicious person. Upon arrival, a citizen told officers that a man dressed in all black, later identified as 54 year-old John Marshall, attempted to open nearby vehicle doors. Officer Ray Roa responded to the area and began looking for the would-be thief. A short time later, Officer Roa observed Marshall emerge from a darkened area near two homes riding a bicycle across yards and carrying a white plastic bag.

Officer Roa activated his vehicle's emergency lighting in an attempt to stop Marshall. Marshall ignored Officer Roa's attempt and fled a short distance before jumping off the bicycle. In an attempt to apprehend Marshall, Officer Roa chased Marshall on foot. Marshall ignored repeated commands to stop, continuing to run from Officer Roa. Officer Roa grabbed Marshall by the shirt in an attempt to arrest him. Marshall attempted to strike, trip, and flee from Officer Roa during a physical confrontation. Officer Roa finally apprehended Marshall after a brief struggle and deployment of a Taser.

After subduing Marshall, officers discovered 6 outstanding warrants for his arrest and items contained in the white plastic bag stolen during 4 separate auto burglaries along the 600 Block of Ingleside Drive. The outstanding warrants stem from a September 10, 2009 auto burglary located in the 200 Block of Westminster Drive. Tallahassee Police Investigator Roger Phenix obtained warrants for Marshall's arrest after Marshall crashed and abandoned his 1995 BMW while fleeing from a Florida Department of Transportation officer on September 22, 2009. Investigator Phenix located several credit cards belonging to burglary victims inside the BMW.

Arrested



John Marshall, B/M, 54 yoa. Charges: Burglary (warrant), Grand Theft (warrant), Possession of Another Person's ID (warrant), Resisting Arrest Without Violence (warrant), Fleeing/Eluding Police (warrant), Use of False ID (warrant), Battery on a Law Enforcement Officer, Resisting Arrest Without Violence, Burglary of a Conveyance (4 counts), Possession of Burglary Tools, Petit Theft, and Possession of a Stolen Driver License (3 counts).

October 13 City Commission Meets in Executive Session

The Tallahassee City Commission will meet in an executive session on Wednesday, October 14 at 2:30 p.m., to discuss fire contract negotiations. As allowed by state law, the session is closed to the public, but media representatives are being notified per the City's desire to keep local media notified of such meetings. The session will be held in the Tallahassee Room on the second floor of City Hall.

October 19 Whose Animal Is This?

Low-Cost Microchip Clinic to be Held This Sunday - City of Tallahassee Animal Services, in cooperation with the Tallahassee Animal Shelter Foundation, will hold a low-cost microchip clinic at the Tallahassee-Leon Community Animal Service Center (ASC), located at 1125 Easterwood Drive next to the entrance to Tom Brown Park, on Sunday, October 25, from noon to 3:30 p.m.

Pets of all species, breeds and ages can be microchipped. Small pets must be in a pet carrier, and dogs must be on a leash. The cost is \$10 per pet, which includes the microchip and registration with AVID's PETrac Recovery Network.

Getting a microchip for your pets helps protect them should they go missing. Pet ID tags can fall off or be removed. Microchips provide your pet with a simple and permanent form of identification. The microchip (about the size of a grain of rice) is inserted by a trained professional below the pet's skin, generally between the shoulder blades. The process takes only a few seconds and is relatively painless for your pet. Each microchip is encoded with a unique number that will be kept on file with AVID's PETrac Recovery Network. Once a lost pet arrives at an animal shelter or veterinary clinic, a handheld scanner is used to identify the unique number on the implanted microchip and the owner is identified and contacted.

"This is an easy way to help ensure your pets' safety," said Stephanie Sikorski, humane educator for Animal Services. "Unfortunately, less than 9 percent of the 11,000 animals that enter our facility each year are ever reclaimed. Our goal is to reunite pets and their owners and eliminate the 'lost pet' signs you see in parks, newspapers and around the Tallahassee community."

The Tallahassee Animal Shelter Foundation is a non-profit organization that provides support to the homeless animals in the care of the ASC. The ASC is operated and maintained by the City's Parks, Recreation and Neighborhood Affairs Department. For more information on the Animal Service Center, call the 891-2950 or visit Talgov.com/animals

October 19 - TPD Tallahassee Police Honor Red Ribbon Campaign

The Tallahassee Police Department will join law enforcement agencies across the nation to honor fallen Agent Enrique "Kiki" Camarena. Drug dealers murdered Agent Camarena in 1985 while working undercover in Mexico City. Agent Camarena's death was a shock to law enforcement serving to underscore the violent nature of those involved in the illegal drug world and reinforcing law enforcement's commitment in keeping our communities safe. In an effort to honor the memory of Agent Camarena and others, the Tallahassee Police Department will observe Red Ribbon Week beginning October 23, 2009.

During Red Ribbon Week officers from the Tallahassee Police Department will affix a red ribbon to their patrol vehicles. The ribbon is not just a reminder of Agent Camarena, but is also a drug awareness and prevention campaign. Red Ribbon Week is the largest drug prevention program in the nation, reaching millions of people annually. The Red Ribbon represents a unified and visible commitment toward the creation of a Drug-Free America.

October 21**Delays on North Gadsden Street**

One block segment between East Brevard St. and McDaniel St. - Motorists will experience temporary delays along North Gadsden Street between East Brevard Street and McDaniel Street beginning Thursday, October 22, as construction continues on stormwater / flood relief improvements in the area. Work will take place weekdays between 7 a.m. and 7 p.m. Traffic on North Gadsden Street will be reduced to one lane in the construction zone, and motorists are urged to use caution in the area.

Motorists should expect slight delays along North Gadsden Street in this area, particularly during the afternoon commute. Weather permitting, work on North Gadsden Street should be completed and the road reopened to normal use by Friday, November 20.

October 22**Lane Closures On Capital Circle SE to Begin Again**

Sanitary Sewer Line Repair Work Continues - Next week, the City of Tallahassee Underground Utilities will establish partial lane closures along Capital Circle Southeast between approximately Dick Wilson Boulevard and Connor Boulevard for sanitary sewer work. The contractor, Sandco, will be given the notice to proceed on Monday.

The innermost northbound and southbound lanes, as well as the median turn lanes along this stretch of Capital Circle Southeast, (beginning north of Dick Wilson Boulevard and south of Connor Boulevard) will be closed. The two remaining northbound and southbound lanes of Capital Circle SE will remain open during this portion of construction.

The intersection of Capital Circle Southeast and Dick Wilson Boulevard will also experience temporary closures during nighttime hours.

Construction will take place 24 hours a day until the work is completed. Work will halt on Thursday night on weekends when either Florida A&M University or Florida State University has a home football game. Work is anticipated to be completed by the last week in January 2010.

Motorists are urged to exercise extreme caution in this area, as there will be crews and heavy machinery present.

Crews will be completing sanitary sewer work as part of continuing construction on the Capital Circle Sewer Upgrade Project. The Capital Circle Sewer Upgrade Project includes a replacement of the sewer main underneath Capital Circle that was damaged during Tropical Storm Fay. The damage caused by Tropical Storm Fay has the potential to cause sewage spills. Although the work may at times disrupt traffic, it is required to protect the environment by installing the new sewer line.

For more information, please visit Talgov.com or contact Underground Utilities at 891-6156.

October 27**Black Cats to Cross Your Path at Furry Howl-o-Ween!**

Animal Service Center Hosts Halloween Event Saturday Evening - It Howl-o-Ween! The public is invited to a family-friendly trick-or-treating event on Saturday, October 31, from 5:30 to 8 p.m. at the Tallahassee-Leon Community Animal Service Center, 1125 Easterwood Drive, next to Tom Brown Park. Don't be a scaredy cat; those howls are just the dogs asking for you to join them for some old-fashioned Halloween fun.

Ghouls and boys alike will have a monster good time with face painting, hayrides, a spooky walk, photos and lots of trick-or-treating fun with the adoptable animals. Visitors can also pick up a free pet adoption coupon to be used on their next visit (valid through December 31, 2009).

The ASC is operated and maintained by the City's Parks, Recreation and Neighborhood Affairs Department. For more information, contact the Animal Service Center at 891-2950 or visit Talgov.com/animals.

October 27 - TPD**Area Citizen Leads to Arrest of Burglary Suspect**

This morning, at approximately 2:00AM, the Tallahassee Police Department responded to a reported auto burglary at 2305 Killearn Center Boulevard (Plantations at Killearn). A resident of the apartment complex observed a person, later identified as 20 year old Donta Smith, attempting to open several vehicle doors. Officer Richard Pulido arrived on scene and observed Smith attempt to enter 5 additional vehicles. Officer Pulido attempted to arrest Smith, but Smith fled on foot in an effort to avoid apprehension.

Officer Sean Wyman and his canine partner Baron responded to the scene in an attempt to locate Smith. A short time later, Baron located Smith and he again fled on foot. Smith jumped into a retention pond in an attempt to elude capture, but was forced to give up as officers surrounded the area. Smith was taken into custody without further incident.

Arrested:



Donta L. Smith, B/M, 20 yoa. Charges: Burglary of an Unoccupied Conveyance (17 counts), Resisting Arrest without Violence, and Violation of Probation (Armed Burglary).

October 27 - TPD TPD Gears Up for Halloween

With Halloween taking place on Saturday, the Tallahassee Police Department issues the following "Halloween Safety Tips" in an effort to keep our children safe. Additionally, the Tallahassee Fire Department will provide candy for trick or treaters at local fire stations.

The following are some Halloween Safety tips offered by TPD's Community Relations Unit:

- Never allow your children to Trick-or-Treat alone. It is always better to have an adult accompany a child or group of children.
- The safest time to Trick-or-Treat is before dark or at dusk.
- Make sure costumes will not cause children to trip. Wear comfortable shoes.
- Make sure costumes are fire retardant.
- Use make-up instead of a mask. If a mask is used, remove it while walking due to restricted visibility.
- Use light colored clothing or reflective material on costumes.
- Limit Trick-or-Treating to your own neighborhood or other familiar areas.
- Never allow your children to enter into another person's house for any reason, especially those you don't know.
- Only stop at houses that have outside lights on. When outside lights are off, the occupants usually don't want to be disturbed.
- Advise children not to eat any candy or goodies they receive until they return home. Parents should inspect all candy before it's eaten! Only eat unopened treats that are in their original wrappers.
- Carry a flashlight or other light source and be very careful of moving vehicles.
- **MOTORISTS ARE URGED TO BE ESPECIALLY CAREFUL WHEN TRAVELING HALLOWEEN NIGHT. DRIVE SLOWER THAN THE POSTED SPEED LIMIT AND WATCH FOR ANY CHILDREN THAT MAY DART ACROSS YOUR PATH UNEXPECTEDLY.**

The Tallahassee Police Department takes the safety of children very seriously. If you have any questions, feel free to contact TPD's Community Relations Unit at 891-4251.

October 27 Road Closures

East Randolph Circle Closures Begin Week of November 2 - Sanitary Sewer Upgrade Project

The City of Tallahassee will begin closures of East Randolph Circle between Betton Road and Argonne Road the week of Nov. 2 for a sanitary sewer construction project. Work on the sewer upgrade will require that a portion of East Randolph Circle be closed to through traffic Monday through Friday between 7:30 a.m. and 5 p.m. East Randolph Circle will reopen to the public each afternoon by 5 p.m., barring any unforeseeable problems that might occur during construction, and remain open until the next weekday morning when it will be closed again to through traffic.

The project is necessary to replace an older sewer line that runs under East Randolph Circle. The exact closure area on any given day will depend on where construction is taking place along the roadway.

Betton Road Closed on November 7

As part of the East Randolph Circle sewer replacement project, Betton Road will be closed between Centerville Road and Lee Avenue on Saturday, Nov. 7 from 7 a.m. to 1 p.m., barring any unforeseeable problems that might occur during construction. Detour route signage will be posted for this one-time temporary closure on Betton Road. No other weekend closures will take place as part of the project.

Given that East Randolph Circle is a residential street, residents and their contractors/visitors will be allowed access to and from their homes, but through traffic will be detoured around the project. East Randolph Circle residents have been advised of the project, and

signage will be in place to alert motorists of the work zone. Weather permitting, the project should be completed and East Randolph Circle completely reopened to traffic by April 2010.

October 14 Cash For Trash Program Expands Savings Choices

Energy-Saving Light Bulbs Offered Saturday! - With an option to receive up to \$150 in energy savings, customers may once again take part in the City's biannual 'Cash for Trash' event this Saturday, October 17, from 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. Cash for Trash allows City residential utility customers to bring large trash items too large to fit in their 96-gallon garbage container.

At Saturday's event, customers will have the option to receive two 20-watt (75-watt equivalent) Energy Star compact fluorescent light bulbs (CFL), allowing them to save even more money on their electric costs. The two bulbs have a retail value of around \$4, and customers will see an additional energy savings of around \$180 over the life of the two CFL bulbs. The City has expanded the program as part of its commitment to our environment, sustainability, and energy efficiency. In lieu of the light bulbs, customers may choose to receive a coupon worth \$5 off their City utility bill.

Though the City encourages residential customers to use their every-other-week bulky item collection service for disposing large items at curbside, the Cash for Trash program provides an alternative system - especially important for apartment dwellers or anyone with a number of large items to dispose. Items customers may bring include old furniture, large and small household appliances, large toys, and tires (limit of four per customer).

Residents may also bring household hazardous waste items and electronic items (including all computer parts) to Cash for Trash for disposal/recycling by Leon County's Solid Waste Division. However, no household garbage, construction/demolition debris or yard waste will be accepted!

To receive the CFL light bulbs or utility bill coupon, residential customers utilizing the program must present a City utility bill before unloading material. Customers can make multiple trips, however only one set of two CFL bulbs or one coupon per utility bill will be distributed. This allows customers disposing items for their neighbors to do so and assist them in reaping the benefits of the Cash for Trash program.

Customers taking part in Cash for Trash should bring items to the City's Solid Waste Services facility, located at 2727 Municipal Way (just off West Pensacola Street near the Messer Field softball complex). For more information please visit the City's website at Talgov.com/YOU or call Your Own Utilities at 891-4YOU (4968).

October 19 Community Open House on Greenwood Stormwater Management Facility

Part of the Frenchtown Watershed Stormwater Master Plan - City of Tallahassee Stormwater Management staff will host an open house event to provide citizens with information on a capital improvement project proposed to alleviate flooding in the Frenchtown Community. The free public event will take place on Thursday, October 22, from 4:00 to 7:00 p.m. at the New Mount Zion AME Church, 1401 Old Bainbridge Road.

The proposed project will involve the enlargement of the existing stormwater management facility (holding pond) behind the New Mount Zion AME Church and the Leon County Roberts and Stevens Medical Center located on Old Bainbridge Road. The project is part of the City's Frenchtown Watershed Stormwater Master Plan and will alleviate flooding in the Frenchtown Community. The new stormwater facility will be several times larger than the current pond. The larger facility will be able to hold a much larger volume of stormwater and release it slowly, thereby reducing downstream flooding. The larger facility will also manage stormwater from older neighborhoods that were constructed without stormwater management systems and will provide much needed flood relief to those areas as well.

The October 22 event will be held in an 'open house' format, with no formal presentation, so citizens may come by at their convenience to view displays, ask questions, and provide input on the proposed flood relief project. Staff from Stormwater Management will be present to discuss the project and answer questions. For more information, contact Stormwater Management at 891-6860 (please refer to Greenwood Stormwater Management Facility Project) or visit Talgov.com/YOU.

October 28 StarMetro to hold Final Listening Sessions on nova2010

Public Input Sought on Route Decentralization Project - During the month of November, StarMetro will hold two final Listening Sessions to garner customer input on its route decentralization project titled Innovation in Transit or nova2010 for short.

Listening Sessions will take place on:

1. November 6 at City Hall in the Tallahassee Room, located at 300 South Adams Street, from 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m.
2. November 10 at City Hall in the Tallahassee Room, located at 300 South Adams Street, from 5:30 to 7 p.m.

The nova2010 project aims to take the current downtown oriented route structure and break apart the structure to create a more grid-like system with routes running on main roads from north to south and east to west with many routes bypassing downtown's C.K. Steele Plaza.

This new structure would create many transfer points scattered throughout the city.

By traveling on major roads and eliminating route redundancies, a decentralized StarMetro route structure would offer customers:

- Reductions in downtown transfers.
- Reductions in travel time.
- Reductions in carbon footprint.
- Increases in on-time performance.
- Increases in frequency (bus comes more often).
- Increases in regional travel opportunities.

"The ultimate goal of nova2010 is to create a transit system that better meets the needs of customers direct, fast, forward," said Ron Garrison, executive director of StarMetro.

StarMetro plans to launch the new, grid-like system in fall 2010.

For more information, please call StarMetro's main office at (850) 891-5200 or visit Talgov.com/starmetro. For additional project updates, please call the nova2010 hotline at (850) 891-5283 or email nova2010project@talgov.com. Citizens may also follow updates on Facebook at www.facebook.com/nova2010project and Twitter at www.twitter.com/nova2010project.

October 28

City of Tallahassee Receives \$8.9 Million Federal Smart Grid Grant

President Barack Obama yesterday announced the award of Smart Grid investment grants to modernize the nation's energy grid, spur development of renewable energy sources, stimulate the economy and create new jobs. The City of Tallahassee Utilities was selected to receive \$8.9 million to further city efforts to use technology to help customers manage their power use and save money.

The federal smart grid grant will be used to build upon the major commitment by the Tallahassee City Commission to implement a Smart Grid system. The system includes the installation of 220,000 smart meters and the associated communications infrastructure, software for data collection to better manage power use by customers and the system overall, and smart grid devices for customers including smart thermostats, in home displays and other tools that allow customers to manage their power use.

In 2005 the City Commission directed staff to evaluate the potential for a smart grid system in Tallahassee. At that time, the concept was being discussed in the industry, but across the nation little movement was taking place. In March 2007, desiring to be on the cutting edge, the Commission directed staff to move ahead with development of the system. By the end of 2009, the city will have installed 220,000 smart meters as the backbone of the system. By the summer / fall of 2010, customers will be able to utilize the system to manage their power use through such options as:

- Changing your home or business thermostat via the web from any location.
- Choosing an electric rate that fits your lifestyle - for example, the option of a lower rate for using power in off peak times such as evenings or weekends.
- Evaluating your energy fitness, including how your home or business energy use compares to others.

Tallahassee will be one of the first communities in the nation to offer Smart Grid services to its utility customers. Upon completion of the metering and communications infrastructure this year, the City will operate the first electric, gas and water Smart Metering network in the nation.

"We started the investment in smart grid technology before it took off as a smart concept nationally," said Mayor John Marks. "With the receipt of this federal grant, we will be able to do even more to give our customers greater control, flexibility and cost-saving options with their utilities.

"With the support of the Tallahassee City Commission, I've had the opportunity to meet personally with agency officials in Washington D.C., and they understand Tallahassee's work as a leader in the Smart Grid technology," added Marks. "That's important for our customers as the bottom line is that they will be able to save energy, save water and save money."

Tallahassee was one of the 100 entities selected for the grant from 400 applicants. According to Reese Goad, Utility Business and Customer Services Director, additional benefits from the federal funding and the city's investment in Smart Grid technology and the city's Energy smart Plus (e+) initiative include:

- Energy-saving pricing programs
- Greater customer choices
- Access to up-to-date customer account information
- In-home energy usage and information displays
- More efficient field operations - less staff and trucks in the field and less interruptions for customers
- Automated leak detection for water meters
- Improved theft prevention
- Access to billing and usage information via the web

- Interactive web-based tools such as online energy audits and much more
- More efficient power outage restoration - we'll be able to identify the locations of outages for faster repair

For more information on energy audit appointments, energy-saving tips and other e+ programs visit Talgov.com/YOU or call Your Own Utilities at 891-4YOU (4968).

October 29
Airport Expands Intrastate Service

Tallahassee Regional Airport (TLH) announced late this afternoon that Continental Connection, operated by Gulfstream International Airlines, will expand non-stop service between Tallahassee Regional Airport and Orlando (MCO) and Tampa (TPA) beginning on November 1, 2009. The weekday service between Orlando and Tallahassee will increase from 3 to 4 round trips, while weekday service between Tampa and Tallahassee will increase from 4 to 6 round trips. Gulfstream will also resume seasonal non-stop service between Tallahassee and West Palm Beach (PBI) in February 2010 in time for the legislative session. Service will be provided on Beech 1900 aircraft.

"It is great to see Gulfstream's continued commitment to serving the Tallahassee area. We are excited to offer area residents convenient access between the Capitol City and these priority intrastate destinations," said Tallahassee Mayor Marks. "We are committed to expanding service to meet the needs of our community, thus every opportunity for additional or new flights is a reason to celebrate."

The complete schedule for Tallahassee/Orlando service is as follows (all times local):

MCO to TLH				TLH to MCO			
Flight #	Departs	Arrives	Days	Flight #	Departs	Arrives	Days
9199	7:00a	8:15a	Except Sat & Sun	9242	8:30a	9:45a	Except Sat & Sun
9200	11:15a	12:30p	Except Sat	9200	12:55p	2:10p	Except Sat
9193	2:40p	3:55p	Except Sat	9132	2:20p	3:35p	Except Sat
9140	4:00p	5:15p	Except Sat	9189	4:20p	5:35p	Sun Only
				9189	6:20p	7:35p	Except Sat & Sun

The complete schedule for Tallahassee/Tampa service is as follows (all times local):

TPA to TLH				TLH to TPA			
Flight #	Departs	Arrives	Days	Flight #	Departs	Arrives	Days
9131	7:00a	8:05a	Except Sat & Sun	9131	8:40a	9:40a	Except Sat & Sun
9174	10:00a	11:03a	Sun Only	9135	11:30a	12:32p	Sun Only
9174	10:30a	11:40a	Except Sat & Sun	9142	12:05p	1:15p	Except Sat & Sun
9266	12:50p	1:55p	Except Sat	9275	3:15p	4:20p	Except Sat & Sun
9142	1:45p	2:50p	Except Sat & Sun	9155	4:20p	5:20p	Except Sat & Sun
9214	2:41p	3:42p	Except Sat & Sun	9269	5:40p	6:45p	Except Sat
9129	4:45p	5:50p	Except Sat & Sun	9139	6:15p	7:20p	Except Sat & Sun
9129	4:55p	5:59p	Sun Only	9155	6:25p	7:25p	Sun Only

Continental is one of five major commercial air carriers servicing the Tallahassee market, including American Airlines, Delta Airlines, Northwest AirlinK, and US Airways Express. Tickets can be purchased online at www.continental.com, by calling Continental Airlines or through your local travel agent.

The Tallahassee Regional Airport is operated and maintained by the City of Tallahassee. For more information on the Tallahassee Regional Airport, please visit the Airport's website at flytallahassee.com.

October 30
Deck the Halls with Holiday Trimmings Big and Small

Annual Senior Center Event Brimming with Goodies for All

You've decked the halls with boughs of holly,
 but what about the bells and tinsel and other things jolly?
 Did you remember a creative touch for your door?
 Or a locally crafted ornament? Save the trip to the store!
 Join the Senior Center for Deck the Halls: A Celebration of Wreaths.
 You'll be filled to the brim with good tidings and peace.

From 6:30 to 9 p.m., the evening of December 3,
 you're sure to find something for you or me.

Wreaths will be hung on the walls to buy and view,
or check out the silent auction for something shiny and new.
Deck the Halls is the perfect place to holiday shop.
This year our sponsors have gone over the top!

The joy of the season can be felt while you browse and mingle,
and who knows? Maybe you'll even run into Chris Kringle.
All who come to share this most special night
will hear the Deborah Lawson Band, guaranteed to delight.
On November 2, tickets begin to be sold,
\$25 a ticket is cheap, so don't get left out in the cold.

If December 3 is too long for you to wait,
two preview events are coming on two separate dates.
Information will follow soon on both of those gatherings,
and the Senior Center will be host to all of the happenings.

Call 891-4000 or visit Talgov.com for more information.
We're sure you'll give this event a standing ovation!

October 30 - TPD Serial Bank Robber Linked to Tallahassee Crime

On Friday, October 16, 2009 just before 11:00AM, the Tallahassee Police Department responded to a reported bank robbery at 3430 Thomasville Road (Bank of America). Upon arrival officers discovered that a white male suspect entered the bank demanding cash. The teller complied with the demand and the suspect fled with an undisclosed sum of cash. There were several customers inside the bank during the robbery, but no one was injured.

Investigators with the Tallahassee Police Department's Violent Crimes Unit responded to the scene and obtained bank surveillance photos of the suspect. The Federal Bureau of Investigation and the Tallahassee Police Department routinely share information involving robberies of banking institutions. The FBI compared the Bank of America photo to other open investigations and believes the suspect is a serial bank robber connected to at least 9 other bank robberies throughout the southeastern United States. Because of the suspect's age and polite demeanor he has been dubbed the "Grandad Bank Robber." Investigators believe the spree of robberies began in April of this year. So far no one has been injured during the robberies, but it is likely the robberies will continue unless the suspect is captured.

Anyone with information about the identity of the suspect is asked to contact the Tallahassee Police Department at (850) 891-4200 or Crime Stoppers at (850) 574-TIPS (8477).

Suspect



October 02

Tallahassee ASC Receives Grant for Spay and Neuter Vouchers

Vouchers Will Assist Disadvantaged Areas of the Community - The Tallahassee-Leon Community Animal Service Center (ASC), in partnership with the Animal Shelter Foundation (ASF), today announced the city is the recipient of a \$15,000 grant from the Florida Animal Friend Spay and Neuter License Plate program. The grant will fund 200 spay/neuter surgery vouchers for pets of low-income residents in the Tallahassee community and will assist in combating pet overpopulation and decreasing the euthanasia of homeless animals.

The vouchers will be distributed primarily through city and county animal control officers who will identify unaltered animals in low-income areas of the community and contact owners to provide them with the vouchers and other educational information about spay/neuter. Vouchers will also be available at the low cost rabies vaccination clinic scheduled for Saturday, October 3, from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the LaVerne Payne Community Center, located at 450 West Fourth Avenue. The spay and neuter surgeries will be performed by participating area vets who have agreed to discount their services in order to help decrease unwanted animal births.

Florida Animal Friend grant program is funded through the sale of spay/neuter specialty license plates, and dollars are used exclusively to fight cat and dog overpopulation. The ASC, which took in 10,989 animals last year, is one of only 24 organizations selected to receive 2009 funding. The Florida Animal Friend license plate can be purchased at www.floridaanimalfriend.org or through a local tax collector's office or tag agency.

The ASF is a 501(c)3 that strives to make a positive difference in the lives of homeless animals by reducing pet overpopulation, educating the community and providing veterinary assistance and other resources to the animals in the care of the ASC.

Members of the community may have dogs, cats and ferrets vaccinated at the Saturday rabies clinic. Pets must be at least three months old. Cats and ferrets must be in a pet carrier, and dogs must be on a leash. A \$5 donation is suggested. This is the sixth clinic the ASC has held to date, and more than 1,350 rabies vaccines have been successfully administered to protect domestic animals in the community.

For more information on the [Animal Service Center](#), located at 1125 Easterwood Drive next to Tom Brown Park, and the importance of protecting your pets and yourself against rabies, call the ASC at 891-2950 or visit Talgov.com/animals. For more information about the Animal Shelter Foundation, visit www.TallyASF.org or call 894-6PET.

October 01

City Electric Rates Decrease Again

Smart energy use can help customers save even more - City of Tallahassee electric utility customers will see lower utility bills starting this month. Customers can expect a cost reduction of about eight percent, resulting in an overall 18 percent decrease over the last six months, due to the decreased cost of natural gas. With this reduction, Tallahassee's electric rates will drop below the average for all Florida electric utility providers.

Natural gas is the cleanest-burning fossil fuel, and the City uses gas to produce more than 95 percent of its electricity. When the price of natural gas declines, the City passes that savings along to its customers. The total 18 percent reduction will result in a combined savings of more than \$65 million for our community and \$335 in savings per year for an average household. The City also has established contracts for lower natural gas prices over the next 24 months to keep costs low.

To lower utility bills even more, Your Own Utilities encourages residents to conserve energy and take advantage of the City's comprehensive Energy Smart Plus (e+) initiative. Programs designed to improve residential energy efficiency include:

- free home energy audits
- rebates for new natural gas appliances and Energy Star electric appliances
- ceiling insulation grants
- low-interest energy conservation loans
- solar water heater rebates and photovoltaic net-metering

Fall is a great time for homeowners to make energy-efficiency improvements as contractors typically can work with customers on installations faster than during summer months. With cooler weather on the horizon, this is also a good time for residents to have their home heating systems examined for efficient use.

For more information on utility rates, energy audit appointments, energy saving tips and other e+ programs, visit Talgov.com/YOU or call Your Own Utilities at 891-4YOU (4968).

October 22 - TPD

Distracted Driving

The Tallahassee Police Department recognizes that distracted driving is an increasing danger to the motoring public, more specifically to our young adults. In an effort to save lives and reduce injuries the Tallahassee Police Department applied for and received a Florida Department of Transportation grant. The \$20,000 grant was used to motivate and educate our local teens about the dangers of distracted driving. Using the funding provided, the Tallahassee Police Department challenged local high schools to develop their own public service

announcement raising awareness about the dangers of "Distracted Driving." Eight local high schools (Community Christian, Godby, Florida High, Leon, Lincoln, Maclay, North Florida Christian, and Rickards) submitted PSA's. The grant funding allowed the Tallahassee Police Department to purchase handheld HD camcorders for the participating schools. The hope is that the students will continue to recognize issues affecting young drivers and utilize the camcorders to continue presenting safety messages in the future. Some of the completed PSA's will be featured on local government access channels in an ongoing effort to keep our young adults safe.

According to the latest Florida Department of Highway Safety and Motor Vehicles data for 2008, 46% of 16-17 year old drivers say they text message while driving and 48% of 18-24 year old drivers text message while driving. Texting while driving is not the only concern for the Tallahassee Police Department, other distractions create danger as well. Examples include eating or drinking, passengers, animals in the vehicle, activities outside the vehicle (crash scene, or road construction), and adjusting the radio. With the use of technology increasing each year, we want to bring attention to our youth the importance of paying attention while driving.

The Tallahassee Police Department is committed to keeping our roadways safe. The goal of every motorist should be to resist the temptation to text while driving. Together we can make our roadways safer, reduce accidents, and save lives.

October 22

Survey Shows Residents TAPPING into Water Quality

Tallahassee area residents may have seen humorous TV ads and billboards in recent months that promoted picking up dog waste and properly using fertilizer. The ads, part of the 2009 TAPP - or "Think About Personal Pollution" - campaign were designed to promote education about Tallahassee's water quality and how to protect it. The City of Tallahassee today announced the results of a survey that shows the campaign had an enormous impact on public awareness and behavior.

Waterways throughout the City's jurisdiction are under federal mandate to reach applied water quality standards. Options for addressing nonpoint source (NPS) pollution, also known as personal pollution, are limited and expensive. As a result, the City has chosen to educate residents through the TAPP program in an attempt to reduce such pollution at its source.

"Just as each of us relies on water every day, each of us also contributes to water pollution daily, often without realizing it," said Nancy Miller, TAPP project coordinator. "The ongoing TAPP initiative is, and has always been, to help our residents understand personal pollution sources and encourage preventive solutions."

The 2009 survey results reveal that the TAPP campaign was successful in educating Tallahassee residents on the damaging effects of NPS water pollution and what individuals can do to prevent personal pollution. The results show that 90 percent of those surveyed recognized that personal habits contribute to water pollution, 30 percent of dog owners have begun to pick up their pet waste and that residents' overall use of fertilizer decreased by 14 percent.

The TAPP campaign is funded in part by a Section 319 Nonpoint Source Management Program Implementation grant to the City of Tallahassee from the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency through an agreement with the Nonpoint Source Management Section of the Florida Department of Environmental Protection. In addition, an array of local advertising, public relations and research consultants, as well as media partners, provided extensive free and in-kind matching services, TV airtime and billboard space. Through this public-private partnership, the City of Tallahassee was successful in educating residents of their personal effects on water quality, according to the survey.

"There's no question that utilizing educational outreach aimed toward achieving prevention is significantly less expensive than remediation, or structural solutions, to clean up our waterways to meet federal standards," said Miller.

The 30 percent increase in residents picking up their pets' waste translates to a minimum cost savings of \$2.5 million per year to the City and taxpayers. The campaign costs totaled \$459,000 per year, including grant funding and in-kind donations. Since acquiring the project just over three years ago, the City's total contribution to the cost of the TAPP program has been \$161,858 over three years (the vast majority is staff time implementing the program), approximately 11 percent of the total campaign value. The \$2.5 million is the estimated amount that would be required to provide equivalent stormwater pollution treatment methods, as opposed to the \$459,000 used to educate residents on their daily pollution habits.

The 2009 media campaign, managed by the City of Tallahassee's Department of Environmental Policy and Energy Resources (EPER) and the Stormwater Management Division, included TV ads and billboards which informed residents on the effects their behaviors can potentially have on the local lakes and streams from stormwater runoff pollution. Audiences are directed to the program's Web site, www.TAPPwater.org, which provides educational materials to help individuals change personal habits to improve Tallahassee's waterways.

"Government cannot solve these problems alone," said Cynthia S. Barber, director of EPER, referring to the Department's commitment to ensuring that Tallahassee's water remains the best in the state. "Properly limiting and containing contaminants, such as pet waste, fertilizers and household chemicals, are practices the entire Tallahassee community can adopt to ensure runoff from their yards is as clean as possible."

"Having clean water is of primary importance for public health and our local economy," said Barber. "Educating the community with pollution-prevention tactics is the best way to preserve water quality and the beauty of the landscape. Simple changes in behavior can have immediate and lasting benefits on our water resources."

"It's never too early for Tallahassee to think about and then act upon personal pollution prevention. The stakes are high. Our water quality is both an economic and an environmental asset," said Miller.

To learn more about the TAPP Program and campaign, please visit www.TAPPwater.org or call 850-224-TAPP (8277).

October 22

Fact Sheet: Agreement with Southwest Airlines and Panama City Airport

Following the announcement of Southwest Airlines to begin providing service to Panama City International Airport next year, The City of Tallahassee has received inquiries about the city's work to secure airlines, incentive agreements, etc. The following fact sheet is designed to answer these questions.

Southwest Airlines announced on October 21, 2009 its intent on beginning service to Northwest Florida – Panama City International Airport in May 2010 when the new airport is scheduled to open. Southwest announced its intent is to capture some of the 16,000,000 tourists that visit the Panhandle by car each year.

This service is a result of five years of negotiations between Southwest and the St. Joe Company, who is developing 71,000 acres in the vicinity of the new Airport. It includes St. Joe covering losses up to \$26 million over the first two years of service. The new service is also tied to \$42.5 million in marketing assistance and free room nights

It is anticipated that Southwest will provide two daily flights each to four destinations. Most likely the destinations will include Nashville, Baltimore/Washington D.C., Houston and Chicago Midway.

According to St. Joe's Security and Exchange Commission Form 8-K Filing, a few of the conditions of the agreement are:

1. the term of agreement extends for a period of three years after the commencement of Southwest's air service at the new airport. The agreement provides St. Joe any Southwest losses up to \$14 million in the first year of service, or \$12 million in the second year of air service. The third year is subject to negotiation. Southwest may terminate the agreement if its actual annual revenues attributable to the air service at the new airport are less than certain minimum annual amounts established in the agreement.
2. the execution of satisfactory agreements between Southwest and the Airport Authority authorizing Southwest to use and lease space at the new airport and to receive any cost mitigation measures that may be available from the Airport Authority;
3. the execution of an agreement between Southwest, the Bay County Tourist Development Council, the Panama City Beach Convention and Visitors Bureau and a the Beaches of South Walton Tourist Development Council, no later than 30 days from the date of the agreement, regarding the coordination of marketing resources and efforts for the new air service;
4. the execution of an agreement between Southwest and Coastal Vision 3000, no later than 60 days from the date of the agreement, regarding the establishment of a program through which Southwest would receive available room nights free of charge at various rental properties in Northwest Florida for use in the marketing efforts for the new air service;

According to the October 22, 2009, *Pensacola News Journal*, the Panama City area also offered millions of dollars in community support that includes \$22.5 million in bed tax revenue to pay for marketing, advertising and vacation packages; and a minimum of \$20 million for free hotel rooms from Coastal Vision 3000 a regional membership group of businesses, hospitality operations and tourism and civic organizations. Hotel owner and developer Julian MacQueen has pledged 45,000 free room nights to Southwest.

David Beckerman, Vice President, Market Intelligence, OAG Aviation Solutions, the Airport's Air Service Consultant, believes the new service is expected to have very little negative impact on Tallahassee and in fact may be beneficial to Tallahassee. He cites Panama City being a leisure market versus Tallahassee being a business market, with the two entities competing for different passengers. He believes that if Southwest stimulates the tourist market in the region, it will stimulate other economic growth in the region, which will spill over to Tallahassee.

The alliance between Southwest and St. Joe Company, two private entities is similar to other airline deals that bring tourists to gambling and casino destinations. The magnitude of the alliance, however, may be unprecedented.

City of Tallahassee Background Information

The City of Tallahassee in October 2001 provided AirTran, a low-cost carrier, a guarantee of \$3,700,000 that spanned over two years. Unfortunately, AirTran was not able to secure sufficient market share and withdrew after the third year. Currently, the City, County and State are providing Delta Air Lines a \$1,500,000 guarantee for Intra Florida service to Fort Lauderdale, Tampa and Orlando. An insufficient volume of passenger traffic for the Orlando and Tampa services has resulted in this service being terminated, after six months of operation. The service continues to Fort Lauderdale.

Over the last decade, city elected and appointed leaders, business representatives and representatives of the governor's office have met with Southwest Airlines to attempt to bring this airline to the Tallahassee Regional Airport. The consistent feedback from Southwest has been the Tallahassee market size did not fit the airline's business model.

The Tallahassee Regional Airport provides air service to nine destinations – Miami, Fort Lauderdale, Palm Beach, Tampa, Orlando, Dallas,

Memphis, Charlotte, and Atlanta, with service provided by American Airlines, Delta, USAir and Continental / Gulfstream.

October 23 - TPD

Suspected Robbery Duo Arrested

Yesterday, just before 6:00PM, the Tallahassee Police Department responded to a reported robbery that occurred in the parking lot of 2415 North Monroe Street (Burlington Coat Factory). Upon arrival, officers interviewed the 18-year-old victim, who explained two suspects robbed him, taking jewelry. According to the victim, he was walking across the parking lot when a person later identified as 21-year-old Allan Bradwell approached him. The victim said Bradwell offered to sell some jewelry, but he declined the offer. The victim continued to walk to his vehicle and was again approached by Bradwell, along with a second man who was driving a silver Dodge Charger. The second man, later identified as 25-year-old Gary Laurent is said to have handed a handgun to Bradwell. The victim explained to officers that Bradwell then pointed the handgun at him, demanding his necklace and bracelet. The victim complied with the demand as Bradwell and Laurent fled in the silver Dodge Charger. After the robbery, the victim used his cell phone to call police, providing the vehicle description and tag information.

Approximately fifteen minutes later, Officer David Donato located the Dodge Charger near the intersection of Mahan and Magnolia Drive. Laurent was driving the vehicle and turned onto the dead end of Alachua Street. Officer Donato conducted a traffic stop, detaining Bradwell and Laurent. The victim was transported to the scene of the traffic stop and positively identified the two men as the suspect who robbed him. Several items of jewelry were located inside the vehicle and officers continue to search for the handgun used during the crime.

Anyone with information about this crime is asked to contact the Tallahassee Police Department at (850) 891-4200 or Crime Stoppers at (850) 574-TIPS (8477).

Arrested:



Gary Laurent, B/M, 25 yoa. Charge: Robbery with a Firearm.



Allen M. Bradwell, B/M, 21yoa. Charges: Robbery with a Firearm and Violation of Probation (related to a Reckless Driving case out of Miami-Dade County).

October 23 - TPD

Road Closure for FAMU Homecoming Parade

In an effort to keep participants safe during the Florida A&M University Homecoming parade, the Tallahassee Police Department will limit vehicle traffic along West Tennessee Street and Monroe Street. Beginning at 6:30AM this Saturday, Macomb Street from Tennessee Street to Brevard Street will be closed as parade participants begin staging for the parade. At 7:30AM, the remainder of the parade route will be closed, which includes West Tennessee Street from Macomb Street to North Monroe Street and south on Monroe Street to Gaines Street. The road closures will affect the immediate side streets as well. Motorists not attending the parade are encouraged to seek alternate routes in an effort to avoid delays. The following detours have been established in an effort to accommodate motorists:

- Eastbound: West Tennessee Street will be diverted at Stadium Drive.
- Westbound: West Tennessee Street traffic will be diverted at Gadsden Street and Calhoun Street, Apalachee Parkway traffic will be diverted onto Franklin Avenue.
- Southbound: North Monroe Street traffic will be diverted onto Sixth Avenue.
- Northbound: South Monroe Street traffic will be diverted onto Gaines Street.

The parade is scheduled to begin at 8:00AM, with the roadways returning to normal traffic flow at approximately 12 Noon.