

November 2009 News Releases

November 03 - TPD Suspicious Incident Raises Awareness

Yesterday, just before 7:00PM, the Tallahassee Police Department received a phone call in reference to a suspicious incident that occurred after a local peewee football practice. The caller, identified as the football coach, indicated that one of his ten-year-old players was leaving practice (Gilcrest Elementary School), when a white male stranger offered the boy a ride home. The boy refused and the stranger fled as the coach neared the vehicle. Accompanying the man inside the vehicle was a white female, who appeared to be approximately 5 years of age. The girl has blue eyes and was wearing a pink dress. Based on information received, the girl did not appear to be distressed.

Investigators are asking anyone with information about the above event to contact the Tallahassee Police Department at (850) 891-4200 or Crime Stoppers at (850) 574-TIPS (8477).

Suspect Description: White male, 25-30 years of age, brown or black "spiked" hair, and wearing reading type glasses.

Vehicle Description: Large white pickup truck, possibly a Ford F-250 type vehicle.

November 04 Senior Center Hosts Early Purchase Sale for Deck the Halls

Preview Event This Friday - The Tallahassee Senior Center is preparing for their annual signature benefit event, Deck the Halls: A Celebration of Wreaths. Before they roll out the red (and green) holiday carpet, however, they're opening their doors for a preview event and sale. This Friday, Nov. 6, from 6-8:30 p.m., the public is invited to the Tallahassee Senior Center, located at 1400 North Monroe, for the Insider's Art Reception and Wreath Celebration. There is no charge to attend.

This event is a buy-it-now sale for many of the items that will be on display at Deck the Halls. Unique, handcrafted wreaths can be purchased depicting a variety of influences, including the seasons, pets, seaside and more. Holiday ornaments crafted by local artists will also be available for purchase.

This is the first of two preview events being held by the Senior Center leading up to Deck the Halls: A Celebration of Wreaths, which will be held Dec. 3. Tickets to Deck the Halls are \$25 and are on sale now. The evening features a silent auction, entertainment by the Debra Lawson Band, wreaths and ornaments on display to view and purchase and lots of good cheer.

The second preview event, Brunch & Boutique, will be held Saturday, Nov. 14, from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the Senior Center. Tickets are \$10 for this event and are currently available for purchase. Additional information will be provided next week.

The Tallahassee Senior Center is operated and maintained by the City of Tallahassee's Department of Parks, Recreation and Neighborhood Affairs. For more information on the Senior Center and all its holiday happenings, please call 891-4000 or visit Talgov.com.

November 04 - TPD Armed Robbery

Today at approximately 2:22PM the Tallahassee Police Department responded to Advance America, 3111 Mahan Drive, in reference to an armed robbery. Upon arrival officers learned that two masked men, one armed with a handgun, entered the business and demanded cash. The employee complied with the suspects' demands. The suspects fled the business by exiting through the rear door of the business. The employee was not injured. Officers and K9 searched the area but the suspects were not located.

Suspect #1- B/M, 5'09, medium build, black mask, black ball cap, and dark clothing

Suspect #2- B/M, tall, black mask, and dark clothing

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). Remember, Crime Stoppers does not want your name, just your information. You could be eligible for a reward up to \$1000.

November 04 - TPD Suspicious Incident Update

On Monday night, at approximately 7:00PM, the Tallahassee Police Department received a phone call from a peewee football coach. The coach explained that one of his players, a ten-year-old boy, informed him about a suspicious incident that occurred after practice that evening at Gilcrest Elementary School. During the initial report the coach stated that a white pickup truck approached the boy and offered him a ride. The boy refused the offer and the vehicle drove away. The boy then contacted the coach and relayed the events.

To ensure our community has accurate information the following provides a synopsis of what the Tallahassee Police Department's investigators have determined to be the actual sequence of events:

After being notified of the incident investigators interviewed the coach, witnesses, and the boy. Based on these interviews investigators believe the boy was alone waiting for a ride, when a white pickup truck pulled up. The driver rolled the passenger window down about half way - never exiting the vehicle - and stated in a normal non-threatening voice, "Do you need a ride?" The boy explained that he did not. The boy noticed that there was a young girl inside the vehicle, who appeared to be approximately 5 years of age. The driver is said to have made a second statement, but the boy could not hear what was said. The boy then began to walk away and the vehicle drove away in a normal manner.

The boy then located his coach, who was nearby, and reported the incident to him. The coach did not observe the vehicle driving away, but did notice a white truck leaving the area. The coach drove over to the white truck, documented the vehicle tag information and phoned police.

Investigators followed up on the tag information provided by the coach, finding that the vehicle belongs to another football coach. Continued investigation eliminated the vehicle and driver as being involved in the incident. Investigators have received numerous tips in reference to the suspected vehicle from the public and continue to follow-up on those leads. At the time of this update, investigators believe the events may have been a concerned parent, but have not ruled out possible criminal intent.

Chief Dennis Jones said, "I am relieved that this child is safe. I commend the child for saying 'no' to a stranger and reporting it to his coach. Additionally, I appreciate the coach's effort reporting the suspicious incident to the Tallahassee Police Department. In today's society I know that sometimes we are reluctant to get involved, but this is an example of how citizens keep citizens safe. I encourage anyone who observes suspicious activity to report it."

Anyone with information about this suspicious incident is asked to contact the Tallahassee Police Department at (850) 891-4200 or Crime Stoppers at (850) 574-TIPS (8477). Parents who wish to obtain additional training or information on child safety may contact the Community Relations Unit at (850) 891-4251. The CRU offers a free child safety course for children between the ages of 7-12.

November 06 - TPD Tallahassee Police and Shred-It Join Forces to Reduce Fraud!

This Saturday, from 9:00AM until Noon, the Tallahassee Police Department and Shred-it, a local document shredding company, will join forces to reduce the potential for identity theft in the Capital City. Identity theft and financial crimes are an ever-increasing issue facing law enforcement and the public. Identity theft is usually perpetrated to facilitate other crimes, such as credit card fraud or check fraud. The thief is cunning and uses a variety of methods to obtain the victim's personal information, such as rummaging through discarded trash that may contain a social security number or other information. The more brazen criminals will commit a home or vehicle burglary to obtain personal information to facilitate a wide variety of fraud.

Chief Dennis Jones said, "One of the best ways to protect yourself from becoming a victim of identity theft is to shred personal documents and to check your credit report regularly. I appreciate Shred-it partnering with us to reduce crime."

This event will be held on Saturday, November 7, 9 am to Noon at the Tallahassee Police Department at 234 East 7th Avenue. There is no charge for the service. Please bring no more than five boxes of material.

November 06 - TPD Alert Female Reports Incident

This morning, at approximately 8:40AM, the Tallahassee Police Department responded to a reported suspicious incident at 1801 Hermitage Boulevard (Hermitage Centre). Upon arrival, officers discovered that a female employee was walking through the parking lot picking up litter. The female walked near a small blue vehicle that was parked near the southeast portion of the office complex. According to the female, the driver of the blue vehicle opened the passenger door and stated, "Get in the car and lay down." The alert female immediately ran back to the office building and reported the incident.

Investigators continue follow up on the case and are asking for the public's assistance in locating a vehicle of interest. Attached is a surveillance photo obtained from building security. Anyone with information about this incident is asked to contact the Tallahassee Police Department at (850) 891-4200 or Crime Stoppers at (850) 574-TIPS (8477).

Suspect Description: White male, 50-60 years of age, with medium length salt/pepper hair.

Suspect Vehicle: Small blue older vehicle, possibly an import such as a Datsun or Toyota. The vehicle's rear bumper has a noticeable dent.



November 09 - TPD TPD Promotes Child Safety Through RADKids Class

Our children are our most valuable assets. In an effort to protect our children, the Tallahassee Police Department provides a variety of child safety programs. In addition to Officer Friendly presentations, where officers build a rapport with children and teach them safety habits, the Community Relations Unit offers RADKids.

RADKids teaches children to react when dangerous situations arise. It is a self-empowerment class that educates children (ages 7-12) to not just react verbally, but to also react physically. The class teaches children what to do and say when a dangerous or uncomfortable situation occurs. RADKids teaches confidence, self-esteem and the power to make good choices. The class covers topics such as: stranger

danger, bullying, dangers of drugs, fire safety, gun safety, assault and abduction recognition and safety. For more information and schedule of classes for 2010, please visit [TPD's RADKids webpage](#). As of this date, we have educated and empowered over 125 children in our community.

To register, please contact Crime Prevention Officer Susan Newhouse via [email](#), or by phone at 891-4418. Your child must attend all five days to complete the class and receive a certificate. Please visit the website to register. The class is limited to 20 students!

The next session of RADKids is being held on December 7-11, 3:30 - 5 pm, at Premier Health and Fitness Center located at 3521 Maclay Blvd.

Please view [this video](#) for more further information on child protection.

November 09 City Monitoring Tropical Storm Ida

Crews Ready to Respond - City Manager Anita Favors Thompson has placed the City of Tallahassee's Emergency Management Team on alert and has advised City departments to be prepared to respond to any weather-related problems that may occur due to Tropical Storm Ida, with impacts expected locally within the next 24 hours.

The City of Tallahassee will be open for business as usual Tuesday. City crews from Police, Fire, Utilities and Public Works are on standby, and ready to respond to problems that may develop. These crews are working in cooperation with Leon County employees to coordinate response efforts, as needed. Following are key actions the City has taken:

- Electric Utility response crews are on standby and ready to be deployed, with extra staffing on call as needed overnight Monday and on Tuesday - CITY utility customers are reminded to call 891-4YOU (4968) to report power outages
- For emergency situations, please call 911
- Road clearing/tree-removal and drainage crews are on standby and ready to be deployed as needed, with extra staffing on call as needed overnight and Tuesday
- The Electric Utility is lowering the level of Lake Talquin 3-6" in anticipation of heavy rains, but should be able to keep downstream river levels south of the the dam below flood stage
- Vehicles and equipment have been fueled and checked for essential supplies
- The Tallahassee Regional Airport is operating as normal; passengers are reminded to contact airlines directly regarding the status of individual flights.
- StarMetro will operate its normal schedule tonight and Tuesday
- Solid Waste Services will maintain normal collection schedules Tuesday
- Programs administered by Parks, Recreation & Neighborhood Affairs will be held as scheduled tonight and Tuesday - citizens may call the PRNA event hotline at 891-3800 for updates regarding outside activities
- The Tallahassee-Leon Community Animal Service Center will maintain normal hours Tuesday

A word of caution to motorists who must be on the road during heavy rain - do not drive on streets where water covers the surface. There could be deep water or potholes caused by the flooding. Police officers will issue citations to drivers ignoring road barricades.

Future updates regarding City response efforts will be posted on the City's Talgov.com website. Citizens may receive City updates from News Releases via the City's email subscription service, accessible on Talgov.com's home page or on Twitter at @COTNews.

November 10 Idle Free Tallahassee-Leon Campaign Kicks Off

Media Event Highlights Adverse Impacts of Vehicle Idling - If you presently idle your vehicle unnecessarily, get ready to kick the habit by turning the engine off. The region's beautiful natural environment will thank

you, and you'll also improve your own physical health. That's the message the Idle Free Tallahassee-Leon Campaign wants to send to residents. This morning, the City of Tallahassee, Leon County, Leon County Schools and a number of other community partners launched the campaign, which aims to educate residents about the adverse impacts of unnecessary idling of motor vehicles and equipment and to urge residents to reduce or eliminate unnecessary idling.

As part of the campaign, residents are being asked to make a pledge to reduce idling, including such things as turning off your vehicle if you are stopped for more than five minutes unless you are in traffic, not to idle to warm up or to cool the inside of your vehicles, and to turn off your engine if you are waiting at a drive-through facility for five minutes or more. Businesses are being asked to also come on board by designating idle free zones with appropriate signs, helping to spread the campaign's message by implementing idle free educational programs at their place of business, and adopting procedures and policies discouraging idling practices.

The campaign's unnecessary idling message has its genesis in the City of Tallahassee Carbon Reduction Plan, which was adopted by the City Commission in April 2009. The Plan identifies strategies to reduce carbon emissions and other greenhouse gases, including an educational campaign targeting the reduction in emissions from motor vehicles due to unnecessary idling.

According to the City's greenhouse gas inventory, emissions from mobile sources, such as personal and commercial vehicles, contribute close to 40 percent of the carbon dioxide emissions for the Tallahassee area. Earlier this year, both the City of Tallahassee and Leon County passed resolutions calling for a campaign to educate residents about the adverse impacts of unnecessary idling of motor vehicles and equipment and to urge residents to reduce or eliminate said practices. The City has an internal policy now in place that prohibits idling beyond five minutes and provides exceptions based on job functions and safety issues. At the state level, the Florida Department of Environmental Protection adopted a law prohibiting high-powered trucks from idling for more than five minutes.

"The City of Tallahassee has been a leader in the State of Florida on many environmental initiatives," said Mayor John Marks. "If citizens will join with government, schools and businesses in finding ways to eliminate unnecessary idling, we can continue to help reduce our carbon footprint which helps preserve our natural environment."

Leon County, one of the government members in the Partnership, is currently developing an anti-idling policy for its fleet and has installed tracking devices to measure the idling time of certain vehicles within its fleet. Commissioner Bryan Desloge, Chair of the County Commission, expressed Leon County's support of efforts to educate Leon County residents about the impacts of unnecessary idling.

Leon County Schools, also a member of the Partnership, is at the forefront of this issue. The School District has received approximately \$347,000 in grant funding from the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency to assist with the purchase of eight school buses, which will be fueled by natural gas. These new buses are set to be delivered in April 2010, and as a result, eight regular diesel fuel school buses will be retired from the school bus fleet. According to Manny Joanos, Director of Energy for Leon County Schools, the school system has also established an anti-idling educational program for school bus drivers and by December 2010, approximately 300 of the District's personnel will have been trained on how to reduce unnecessary idling.

Others who have been engaged to participate in the Partnership include the Leon County Sheriff's Office, Florida A & M University, Tallahassee Community College, the State of Florida, Yellow Cab, and American Lung Association. Over the coming months, the Idle Free Tallahassee-Leon Campaign will unveil other initiatives, including the designation of idle-free zones at certain facilities and areas in town. The Campaign is asking individuals to take a pledge to reduce or eliminate unnecessary idling. To take the pledge and to learn more about unnecessary idling, please visit the City's website at Talgov.com.

November 10
Trio of Events Keeps Senior Center Buzzing

Brunch & Boutique, CarFit and Techno-Mania Showcase Variety of Offerings - The Tallahassee Senior Center is gearing up for a busy week. It will host and take part in three events, which together show the wide variety of services and activities the Senior Center provides on a regular basis.

For those looking to get a jump on their holiday shopping, this Saturday, November 14, the Senior Center, located at 1400 North Monroe Street, will host a Brunch & Boutique, leading up to its annual Deck the Halls: A Celebration of Wreaths. Brunch & Boutique will take place from 10 a.m. to noon. The cost is \$10, and tickets are available for purchase in advance or at the door.

Attendees will be able to browse and shop for a variety of holiday goodies including handcrafted wreaths, locally made ornaments, jewelry and more. This unique event also includes brunch by Connie's Hams and entertainment by Leon High School Guitar. Jenny Craig, the event's sponsor, will hold healthy cooking demonstrations. As if that weren't enough, there will also be "How to Tie a Bow" lessons to show you how to wrap up gifts with pizzazz.

Monday, November 16, from 9 a.m. to 2:30 p.m., the Senior Center is co-hosting Techno-Mania in conjunction with Florida State University Libraries and Westcott Lakes. A presentation, "Technology Overview: What It Is and Why You Should Care," will be held from 9 - 11 a.m. From 11 a.m. to 12:30 p.m., "Lunch with the Experts" Roundtables will be held, and from 12:30 - 2:30 p.m., exhibits will be on display for attendees to peruse. The event will be held at the Senior Center.

Some topics that will be discussed include social networking websites, online shopping, mobile technologies, gaming, multimedia and more. There is a suggested donation of \$2 for this event. While participants are encouraged to attend the entire event, it has been designed so those who can only participate in a portion are able to do so. There is a \$5 optional lunch available. Those wanting lunch must RSVP by Thursday, November 12.

Finally, the annual CarFit check-ups for drivers 50 and older will be held Tuesday, November 17, from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. at Thomasville Road Baptist Church (TRBC), located at 3131 Thomasville Road. This free program is designed to help mature drivers explore how the "fit" of their personal vehicle affects their driving. There are a limited number of appointments available. Call 891-4008 to reserve a spot. Appointments are allotted on a first come, first served basis.

Trained volunteer professionals meet one-on-one with driver; lead them through a 30-minute, 12-point checklist of the vehicle and recommend adjustments and adaptations that could make the vehicle safer and more comfortable to operate.

Mature drivers can expect to find out, among other things, if they are correctly positioned in the driver's seat, if the mirrors need adjusting and if the floor pedals are easily reachable. Additionally, the event provides motorists with community traffic safety resources that can help keep them driving safely longer.

After reviewing the vehicle checklist, participants can consult with an occupational therapist who, if needed, will discuss ways drivers can maintain and strengthen driving health. The therapists will also provide information regarding local resources on exercise, nutrition and other programs to help keep mature drivers safe on the roads.

A training session for volunteer technicians will be held on November 16, from 1 to 4:30 p.m. at the Senior Center. Volunteers from TRBC and others will take part in this important learning session. For more information on training, please call 891-4008.

This program is sponsored locally by the Tallahassee Senior Center, Area Agency on Aging of North Florida, Florida Department of Transportation, AAA, Tallahassee Memorial Hospital and Thomasville Road Baptist Church. Senior drivers can also check with their local AAA club and AARP chapter, which provide driver refresher courses for older road users.

The [Tallahassee Senior Center](#) is operated and maintained by the City of Tallahassee's Parks, Recreation and Neighborhood Affairs Department. For more information on the Senior Center and all its happenings, please call 891-4000 or visit [Talgov.com](#).

November 11 - TPD Suspicious Incident

Last night at approximately 10:07PM, the Tallahassee Police Department responded to the Walgreens at 100 E. Magnolia Drive in reference to a suspicious incident. Upon arrival the officer learned that a middle-aged white male attempted to talk customers, and later an employee, into his vehicle to "listen to music." The male was not successful and was last seen driving northbound on South Monroe Street. Tallahassee Police Department investigators are actively investigating the incident.

Suspect: W/M, middle-aged, gray hair, and wearing a black t-shirt, black shorts, black socks, and tennis shoes.

Vehicle: Gray 2-door Honda sedan

Anyone with information concerning this suspicious incident is asked to call the Tallahassee Police Department at 891-4200 or Crime Stoppers at 574-TIPS (8477) or toll free at 1-888-876-TIPS (477).

November 12 City Proposes Enhancements to Pet Care / Protection Initiatives

Animal Services to Host Open House on Potential Ordinance Revisions - City of Tallahassee Animal Services is currently in the process of revising ordinances related to animal care and protection. The proposed revisions aim to clarify the ordinances so they are more clear, concise and thorough. The purpose and intent of the ordinances is and has been to protect public health and safety and promote the general welfare of citizens and animals residing within the City. These revisions are necessary for the City to remain current with today's humane standards for the welfare, care and health of the community's pet population.

In an effort to keep the public informed, Animal Services will host an open house for citizens to receive information on the proposed revisions. The open house event will be held on Monday, Nov. 16, from 6 to 8 p.m. at the Sue Herndon McCollum Community Center in Lafayette Park, located at 403 Ingleside Avenue. Tables will be set up around the room for different subject area categories affected by the changes, including public health and safety, humane care and treatment, responsible pet ownership and other animal issues. This format will allow attendees to have an a la carte option for the information they are seeking. Animal Services staff will be available at each station to answer questions. In addition, representatives from the Animal Shelter Foundation, Humane Society of the United States and Pets Ad Litem will be in attendance and available to respond to citizen inquiries.

"Public input, support and understanding of the proposed changes is vital if Tallahassee is to move toward becoming a more humane, responsible and pet friendly community," said Animal Control Supervisor Lt. Jeff Doyle. "We look forward to receiving input from citizens as we work in tandem with local pet owners to enhance the quality of life for both our human citizens and their pets."

The draft ordinance is available for viewing online at Talgov.com/Animals. A comment section is also available on the web page.

No major changes to the City's animal ordinances have been made for over a decade. These proposed revisions will impact the health and safety of everyone in Tallahassee, not strictly our pet population. It is anticipated that the revisions will be presented to the City Commission for their review after the first of the year.

Pet ownership is encouraged and welcomed when it is accompanied by responsible, caring, humane and legal treatment of the animal. Animal Services is operated by the City's Parks, Recreation and Neighborhood Affairs Department. For more information, please visit Talgov.com/animals.

November 12 It's a Puppy Pool Party This Weekend at Trousdell

Dogs' Days Mark End of Swimming Season - It is time once again for you to get out of the pool while your canine companion jumps on in! The fourth annual Puppies in the Pool event is back at the Trousdell Aquatics Center (activity pool only), located at 298 John Knox Road. It will be held this Saturday and Sunday, Nov. 14 -15, from 10 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. The Puppies in the Pool event is sponsored by the City's Parks, Recreation and Neighborhood Affairs Department.

- Dogs will be divided into two groups and allotted certain swim times. Times are the same both days.
- Dogs under 40 pounds: 1 - 2 p.m.
- Dogs over 40 pounds: 10 - 11 a.m.; 11:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.; 2:30 - 3:30 p.m.

Since space is limited; pre-registration is encouraged. Entry fees are \$3.50 per person and \$3.50 per dog. Express Puppy Passes are now on sale at Trousdell. From 11:30 a.m. - 7 p.m. today and tomorrow (Thursday and Friday, Nov. 12 -13), citizens wanting to attend Puppies in the Pool can bring their pet's paperwork, prepay the entrance fee and select the time slot that works best for them and their pooch(es). They will then be given an Express Puppy Pass, which allows them to bypass lines on Saturday and Sunday and head straight for the pool. Only cash and checks are accepted.

All dogs 6 months or older are welcome to come show off their best doggie paddle. All dog owners must bring current health information on each animal, as dogs without these materials will not be permitted in the pool. Vaccinations must be current for rabies, bordetella and one of the following: DAPP, DA2PP or DHPP. Dogs must also have had a negative fecal test within the past year and be spayed or neutered. Also, this is the dog's time to swim, thus no humans will be allowed into the activity pool with their canine friend(s) due to regulations set by the Leon County Public Health Department.

For more information about Puppies in the Pool, please contact the Trousdell Aquatics Center at 891-3991.

November 13

Citizen Forum Planned to Discuss Community Center with Focus on Teens

A partnership of area leaders will host a community forum to discuss creating a center for teens that would be located at the site of the former Palmer Munroe Community Center. The goal is to develop a center that would provide productive and enriching activities, and positive social options for area youth. The forum, free and open to the public, will be held on Thursday, Nov. 19 beginning at 6:30 p.m., at Palmer Munroe, 1900 Jackson Bluff Road.

Due to citywide budget reductions, the Palmer Munroe Community Center was closed on September 30, 2009. Commissioner Andrew Gillum was appointed by the City Commission to explore the concept of bringing together a partnership to address the financial, programmatic and policy level issues related to a teen center. City staff members have worked closely with Commissioner Gillum, Leon County Commission Chair Bryan Desloge, Public Defender Nancy Daniels, Leon County Schools and Superintendent Jackie Pons, the State Department of Juvenile Justice and other agencies on the proposed youth facility. The group will present concepts related to a potential Youth Center and hear ideas and suggestions from the community.

"I've been working aggressively with other community leaders to explore ways to better serve our teens, even in this tight economy," said Commissioner Gillum. "We've put a great deal of time and effort into the proposed structure and programming the facility could offer to area youth. Now it's time for our citizens to join us and provide their input on what I believe is an essential element in helping our community's young people develop life skills as they mature into adulthood."

For more information on the Nov. 19 community forum please contact the office of City Commissioner Andrew Gillum at 891-8181.

November 13 - TPD

Attempted Sexual Battery

This morning at approximately 5:25AM the Tallahassee Police Department responded to the Tallahassee Memorial Hospital in reference to an attempted sexual battery. Upon arrival officers learned that sometime prior to 5:00AM the victim had been attempting to walk home when she was attacked somewhere along West Tennessee Street. Two males exited a light or cream-colored newer model van, one armed with a knife, and attempted to sexually batter the victim. The victim fought off the suspects and received non-life threatening injuries.

Suspects:

1. W/M, early to mid twenties, 5'08 to 5'09", close cut thin beard that outlined jaw, and wearing white t-shirt and blue jeans
2. W/M, early to mid twenties, clean shaven, and wearing a black t-shirt and blue jeans

There were several other white males in the newer model light or cream-colored van at the time of the incident.

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). Remember, Crime Stoppers does not want your name, just your information. You could be eligible for a reward of up to \$1000.

**November 13
Upcoming Road Closures**

City of Tallahassee Underground Utilities will be closing Old St. Augustine Road between Capital Circle SE and Hill Court for the installation of a new 12-inch water main. Construction activity will take place between 7 a.m. and 7 p.m. on Saturday and Sunday, Nov. 14 - 15.

The detour route for Old St. Augustine Road eastbound traffic is north on Capital Circle SE, east on Apalachee Parkway and south on Southwood Plantation Road. The detour route for Old St. Augustine Road westbound traffic is north on Southwood Plantation Road, west on Apalachee Parkway and south on Capital Circle SE. All detours will be clearly marked.

Additional sewer repair work affecting roadways will take place next week on West Jefferson and Stuckey streets. Detours will be clearly marked around all closures.

On Sunday, Nov. 15, crews will close West Jefferson Street between Lorene Street and South Woodward Avenue between 9 a.m. and 4 p.m.

Tuesday and Wednesday, Nov. 17 - 18, crews will close Stuckey Street between Indian River Street and Holmes Street. On Thursday and Friday, Nov. 19 - 20, Stuckey Street will be closed between Indian River Street and Lake Bradford Road. Both closures will take place from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Motorists are advised to exercise in all construction areas.

**November 13 - TPD
Aggravated Child Abuse**

Yesterday at approximately 12:55PM a Special Victims Unit (SVU) investigator from the Tallahassee Police Department responded to the Tallahassee Memorial Hospital (TMH) after the Leon County Child Protection Team (CPT) reported a possible child abuse case. The CPT reported a 22-month-old female who was unresponsive. The injuries occurred under the supervision of the mother's boyfriend. The investigation revealed that the child's injuries were consistent with child abuse. SVU investigators, accompanied by the Leon County Sheriff's Office, located the suspect at a residence outside of the city limits. The suspect was taken into custody today without incident. The Tallahassee Police Department SVU will continue to investigate the incident, while working in conjunction with the Department of Children and Families (DCF). The child remains in critical condition at TMH.

Arrested: Malcolm Hall Jr, B/M, 24YOA

Charge: Aggravated Child Abuse

November 16

CRTPA Meetings to be Broadcast Live on WCOT

Starting with this afternoon's meeting, all Capital Region Transportation Planning Agency (CRTPA) Board meetings will now be broadcast live on WCOT, the City of Tallahassee's government access channel (Comcast Cable channel 13). Today's CRTPA Board meeting begins at 1 p.m. and will be held in the City Commission Chambers on the second floor of City Hall, 300 S. Adams St. The meeting will also be streamed live on the City of Tallahassee's Talgov.com website.

The CRTPA coordinates transportation planning activities for Tallahassee, Leon County and the urbanized portions of Gadsden and Wakulla counties. Planning activities include all forms of transit, including roads/highways, bicycle/pedestrian, mass transit and aviation. CRTPA Board membership is comprised of elected representatives from the City of Tallahassee, Leon County, Gadsden County, Wakulla County, the Town of Havana, the City of Midway and the City of Quincy, as well as a representative from the Leon County School Board. The agency also works closely with related organizations on transportation planning initiatives, including Blueprint 2000, the Florida Department of Transportation and the Federal Highway Administration.

CRTPA staff is also working with its member governments to see if other cable television providers can air the broadcast in the future, in order to reach more citizens in the region.

"By having our meetings now broadcast and streamed live, our goal is to create more citizen involvement in important regional transportation planning issues," said Harry Reed, executive director of the CRTPA. Today's CRPTA meeting agenda includes a discussion of the Regional Mobility Plan, a multi-modal comprehensive analysis and plan for travel in and around the capital region, and an update on a proposed interactive Transportation Improvement Program that would provide citizens with online access to proposed transportation initiatives in our area.

CRTPA meetings are typically held on the third Monday of each month (no meeting in December). WCOT will rebroadcast today's meeting on the following dates:

- Wednesday, Nov. 18 at 1 p.m.
- Saturday, Nov. 21 at 5 p.m.
- Sunday, Nov. 22 at 5 p.m.

For more information on the CRTPA, please call 891-6800 or visit CRTPA.org.

November 16 - TPD

TPD Announces 47th Citizens' Police Academy

The Tallahassee Police Department announces the 47th Citizens' Police Academy (CPA) that is scheduled to begin January 5, 2010. The CPA is an information process where students learn more about the inner-workings of TPD while participating in several police-related activities. The deadline for applications is November 30, 2009 and there is no cost to our citizens.

CPA class members receive information, instruction and demonstrations in areas such as police use of force, narcotics enforcement, the Tactical Apprehension and Control (TAC) Team, the Special Response Team, K-9, special operations, criminal investigations, crime laboratory and evidence processing and much more. Class members will also visit Pat Thomas Law Enforcement Academy for TAC Team and weapons demonstrations, and will participate in a ride-along with a TPD officer on a regular patrol shift.

Applicants must meet the following criteria:

- 21 years of age or older.
- Pass a criminal history check.
- Work or live in Tallahassee/Leon County.
- Be able to commit to attending all classes during the 8-week class period.

Citizens may apply online at Talgov.com/tpd/cpa.cfm.

For more information, you may contact Officer Michele Yown via [email](#).

November 16 - TPD Shooting Incident

Today at approximately 4:07PM the Tallahassee Police Department responded to the 2700 block of Lake Palm Drive in reference to a shooting incident. Upon arrival officers learned that the victim (B/M, 23YOA) was walking from a local store when a "smoke gray" four-door sedan drove up. A male then exited the vehicle from a back door and shot the victim in the torso. The suspect re-entered the vehicle and fled the scene. It was reported that there were three other males in the suspect vehicle. The victim was transported to the Tallahassee Memorial Hospital (TMH) for medical treatment. The motive for the shooting is still under investigation.

Suspect: B/M, 5'11, heavy set, short haircut, gold upper teeth, and wearing a red ball cap and a white t-shirt

Vehicle: The vehicle is described as a "smoke gray" four-door sedan. (Possibly a Toyota)

Anyone with information concerning this crime is asked to call the Tallahassee Police Department at 891-4200 or Crime Stoppers at 574-TIPS (8477) or toll free at 1-888-876-TIPS (8477).

November 17 City Hosts International Students' Reception

Annual Event Helps Acclimate Students to Tallahassee - The City of Tallahassee will host the 10th annual Charles Billings International Students' Reception on Monday, Nov. 23, from 6 to 8 p.m. at the Mary Brogan Museum of Art and Science. The event is designed to familiarize international college students with the downtown area, City services, local vendors and community organizations. The reception is free to the public.

Participating institutions include Florida A & M University, Florida State University, Tallahassee Community College, Lively Technical Center, the Mary Brogan Museum of Art and Science, and the TLH-SXM Foundation. As in previous years the atmosphere promises to be festive, with the event including refreshments, live entertainment, and door prizes.

Hosting the event downtown exposes this client base to the many activities, facilities, and venues in Tallahassee's city center. Students also learn about the variety of services offered by City government, ranging from mass transit on StarMetro to utility services, and they also are able to access information on Tallahassee's local businesses and cultural organizations. The event also links the City with the large university student community present in Tallahassee.

The event traces its origin to 2000, when the late City Commissioner Charles Billings suggested the City host a special day to recognize international students attending local universities and colleges. With the success of the first reception, Commissioner Billings and City Manager Anita Favors Thompson supported creating an annual event to honor international students. The event is sponsored by the City's Economic and Community Development Department, as an outreach of both economic development and sister city/international affairs efforts.

For more information regarding this event, students should contact their school's International Center or Student Service Department, or the City of Tallahassee's [Economic and Community Development Department](#) at 891-6500 or online at Talgov.com.

**November 20 - TPD
Police Investigate Overnight Robberies**

Last night, at approximately 10:35PM, the Tallahassee Police Department responded to a reported robbery located near the 1500 Block of Atkamire Drive. Upon arrival, the 19-year-old victim told officers that two suspects approached him as he was walking down the street. One of the suspects brandished a handgun and demanded cash. The victim was shot during an altercation that ensued after refusing the demand. The victim was transported to Tallahassee Memorial Hospital for a non-life threatening gunshot wound. The victim was treated and released.

Suspect Descriptions:

1. Black male, 6'0", 180 lbs, a beard with a twist in the middle, last seen wearing camouflage cargo pants and a black hooded sweatshirt. The suspect is said to have a "southern country accent" and noticeably rotten teeth.
2. Black male, 5'10", 170 lbs, wearing a black hooded sweatshirt and black jogging type pants.

In a separate incident, officers responded to a second robbery at approximately 11:00PM at 1010 Basin Street (Griffin Heights Apartments). According to the 20-year-old victim, he was attempting to make a food delivery when 4-5 suspects approached him demanding cash at gunpoint. The victim complied with the demand and the suspects fled on foot.

Suspect Description: 4-5 black males, no further information.

**November 20 - TFD
House Fire in the 1200 Block of Lucy Street**

Last night at 10:35, Tallahassee Firefighters responded to a reported house fire in the 1200 block of Lucy Street. Upon arrival, they found heavy fire and smoke coming from the residence. The fire started in the enclosed garage that was converted into a music room. The resident stated that he was in the room and finished smoking a cigarette, which he discarded in an ashtray. He left the room briefly and when he returned he found a small fire in the area of the ashtray. He then left the room to alert the rest of his family to evacuate the house and to call 911. The resident stated that he attempted to extinguish the fire with a pan of water and was unable to prevent the fire from spreading. Firefighters were able to contain most of the fire damage to the music room. Smoke traveled through a door that opened into the kitchen and living room causing minor damage to those rooms. The fire was determined to be caused by the discarded smoking material.

A 1998 Ford Explorer and a 1992 Toyota Camry parked near the converted music room were damaged during the fire.

No injuries were reported during the incident. Damages estimated at \$100,000.

**November 20 - TPD
Suspicious Incident**

This afternoon, at approximately 4:30PM, the Tallahassee Police Department responded to a reported suspicious incident located at 1940 North Monroe Street. Upon arrival, officers were met by the mother of two boys, ages 10 and 13. The boys explained they were walking to their mother's office located at the above address after leaving Raa Middle School. While walking through the parking lot a white male approached the two boys and asked several questions. The boys ignored the white male and continued to walk. According to the boys, the male appeared aggressive and walked toward them as if he were going to grab them. Three female adults were nearby in a vehicle and reportedly yelled at the male. The boys then entered their mother's office and relayed the events to her. Officers conducted a search of the area, but the suspect could not be located. Neither boy was harmed during the suspicious event.

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

Suspect Description:

White male, early 20's, dark "spiked" hair, wearing a blue shirt and dark jeans.

**November 22 - TPD
TPD Investigates Criminal Mischief**

Yesterday, at approximately 3:00PM, the Tallahassee Police Department responded to the 600 Block of East Sixth Avenue in reference to a reported criminal mischief case involving a vehicle window. Upon arrival, the owner (victim) of a white 2007 Honda explained he parked his vehicle on the side of the road around 11:00PM Friday night. The victim discovered his rear side window shattered Saturday afternoon at approximately 1:00PM. While on scene, officers discovered a second vehicle window of a green 1996 Ford F-150 and a third vehicle window of a red 2008 Mercury SUV shattered. Based on physical evidence officers believe the damage was possibly caused by an unknown suspect with a BB gun. The combined damage to the vehicles is approximately \$1000. No one was injured during the crimes.

The Tallahassee Police Department is asking for assistance in identifying the person or persons responsible for the above crime. If you have information about this crime, call the Tallahassee Police Department at (850) 891-4200 or Crime Stoppers at (850) 574-TIPS (8477). You do not have to provide your name, just your information.

**November 22 - TPD
Police Investigate Two Robberies**

Last night, at approximately 9:00PM, officers responded to a reported robbery at 1600 Old Bainbridge Road (Down Under Apartments). Upon arrival, the victim told officers two suspects had robbed him. The victim explained he met one of the suspects recently and agreed to sell an electronic device to the suspect. The victim agreed to meet the suspect at Down Under Apartments last night to complete the transaction. According to the victim, when he arrived the suspect and another person demanded cash and personal property at gunpoint. The victim complied and was not injured. The suspects fled on foot after the robbery.

Suspect Description:

1. Black male, 5'6"-5'7", 120-130 lbs, 20-25 years of age, thin mustache, and short hair. The suspect was last seen wearing a Miami Dolphins jacket.

2 Black male, 6'3"-6'4", 290-300 lbs, unknown age, shoulder length dreads, and wearing all black clothing.

In a separate incident early this morning, officers responded to a reported home invasion robbery in the 600 Block of West Saint Augustine Road at approximately 2:45AM. According to the victim, two suspects entered his home and demanded cash at gunpoint. The victim complied and the suspects fled with an undisclosed amount of cash and property. Officers located several items of physical evidence at the scene and believe the motive for the robbery is drug related. No one was seriously injured during the robbery.

Suspect Description:

1 Black male, 5'8", 150 lbs, 18-24 years of age. Last seen wearing a white shirt.

2 Black male, 18-24 years of age. No other information is available.

The Tallahassee Police Department continues to investigate the above crimes. If you have information about these crimes, call the Tallahassee Police Department at (850) 891-4200 or Crime Stoppers at (850) 574-TIPS (8477). You do not have to provide your name, just your information about the crime.

November 23

Animal Service Center Celebrates Surgery Success

5,000th Surgery to be Performed - Tomorrow, November 24, marks a milestone for the Tallahassee-Leon Community Animal Service Center. Its veterinary team will perform its 5,000th surgery. The milestone surgery will be the sterilization of a cat at 10 a.m.

The Veterinary Suite first opened in conjunction with National Spay Day on February 27, 2007, with a spay procedure performed on a cat named Bridgett, who has since been adopted from the ASC. The veterinary team has performed a variety of surgeries, including spay and neuter procedures, eye surgeries, wound treatments, limb amputations, fluid and oxygen therapies and other procedures that enhance the lives of the animals housed at the facility.

Before the surgery suite opened, very few animals adopted from the ASC were spayed/neutered at the time of adoption. Currently, 86 percent of the animals adopted from the ASC are spayed/neutered at the time of adoption. On average, 51 percent of the spay/neuter surgeries are performed on dogs, 47 percent on cats and 1 percent on rabbits.

The Veterinary Suite is one of only a limited number of shelter-based care facilities in the nation. In addition to providing best-in-class animal care, the in-house facility provides numerous cost savings. Procedures and treatments that in the past required animals to be transported to an outside provider are now handled more quickly by on-site staff.

"The local veterinary community and animal lovers have really helped our facility succeed," said Animal Services veterinarian Dr. Rachel Reeves. "We have been able to expand the capacity of our facility by partnering with local veterinarians who may volunteer their time to assist with surgeries and medical treatment for the animals housed here. In addition, we have started on-site training programs for local pre-veterinary students and senior veterinary students from across the country."

Donations needed

While marking monumental successes, the Veterinary Suite has an ongoing need for supplies, many of which can be purchased from any neighborhood pharmacy. Donations may be brought to the Animal Service Center, located at 1125 Easterwood Drive.

- Alcohol Isopropyl (rubbing alcohol) - Any size bottle
- Detergent, liquid laundry, Tide Free for Front-Loaders - Any size
- Fabric Softener Sheets, Unscented (no dyes or perfumes) - Any brand or size
- Flea Combs - metal - All sizes and styles
- Gauze Sponges 12-ply - Sizes 3"x3"
- Gloves - Latex, Powdered, Exam - Sizes Small, Medium and Large
- Gloves - Nitrile (Latex Free) Exam - Sizes Small and Medium
- Hair Clipper Blades, Oster Cryogen-X or Elite Cryogen-X - Size 40 or Size 50
- Hair Clipper Disinfectant/Lubricating Spray Multipurpose (Clippicide, Cool Care Plus, Kool-Lube, etc.) - Any size spray can
- Hydrogen Peroxide - Any size bottle
- Nail Trimmers - Cat or Dog - All sizes and styles
- Nebulizers - Gently used
- Pads for Kennels, Disposable - Size 23"x36", Any brand
- Rice, dry, white or brown (1 lb size bags only)
- Rubber Gloves, household-cleaning gloves - Any brand or size
- Socks - Tube socks
- Spray Bottles with trigger spray (empty) - 32 oz. Size
- Tape Standard Porous (Any Brand) - 1" Rolls and .5" Rolls
- Towels Paper - White Roll - Any brand
- Water, distilled - 1-gallon jugs

The ASC is operated and maintained by the City's Parks, Recreation and Neighborhood Affairs Department. For more information, including how citizens may pick up a current "Wish List" or to find out about pets available for adoption, please visit the City's website at Talgov.com.

November 23 Tallahassee Regional Airport Issues Holiday Travel Advisory

Tallahassee Regional Airport is advising travelers flying during the Thanksgiving holiday period to arrive at the airport at least 90 minutes prior to their scheduled departure time.

For passengers needing someone to accompany them to the airport, 30 minutes of free parking is available in both the hourly and daily parking areas. Additionally, Skycap services are available for those passengers requiring special assistance. If passenger traffic fills the hourly and daily parking lots, airport staff will open overflow lots and provide personnel and signs directing travelers to these lots.

The following tips are offered to help make your holiday trip more enjoyable.

- Arrive at least 90 minutes prior to your scheduled departure time.
- Expect heavy passenger traffic.
- Do not wrap gifts or packages.
- Bring a boarding pass; ticket or ticket confirmation, such as a printed itinerary; and a government-issued photo ID.
- Travelers should carry all film in their carry-on baggage, as equipment used to screen checked baggage will damage undeveloped film.
- Do not pack fragile or valuable items in checked baggage. Ship or take them in your carry-on baggage.
- Travelers should pack light and check with their airline regarding checked baggage fees as some airlines have recently implemented new fees and/or updated their rates.
- Do not lock your checked baggage unless you use a Transportation Security Administration approved lock.
- Passengers selected for additional security checkpoint screening have the right to request it be done in a private location.
- Make your trip better by using 3-1-1 for carry-on baggage. 3-1-1 = 3 ounce bottle or less (by volume); 1 quart-sized, clear, plastic, zip-top bag; 1 bag per passenger placed in the carry-on baggage screening bin at the security checkpoint. If in doubt, put your liquids in your checked luggage. Declare larger liquids. Medications, baby formula and food, breast milk and juice are allowed in reasonable quantities exceeding three ounces and are not required to be in the zip-top bag. Declare these items for inspection at the security checkpoint. By practicing 3-1-1, you will ensure a faster and easier security checkpoint experience for you and your family.

For the most up to date aviation security travel information, contact the Transportation Security Administration at www.tsa.gov.

The holiday season is the busiest time of the year at airports. Travelers are asked to arrive early and be patient. Airport food and beverage concessionaires will be available throughout the entire holiday season.

The Tallahassee Regional Airport thanks all its passengers and visitors for their continued patronage of their hometown airport. Additional Airport information, including commercial flight status information, can be found at www.flytallahassee.com.

November 24 - TPD Man Wanted in Shooting

On Tuesday, November 17th, at approximately 10:00PM, the Tallahassee Police Department responded to a reported shooting in the 2700 Block of Cypress Lake Street. Upon arrival, officers discovered that a 20-year-old man had been shot while visiting a friend. According to information obtained by investigators, the victim was approached by a "drug dealer" who told the victim and his friends to quiet down. According to the

victim, the "drug dealer" was concerned that police would respond to the area and interfere with his drug transactions. The "drug dealer" then brandished a handgun at which time a brief altercation between the victim and suspect occurred. The victim fled on foot but was chased by the suspect. While running away the victim fell and the suspect fired several times at the victim while standing directly over the victim. The suspect then fled.

After the shooting, the victim was able to return to his vehicle and attempted to drive himself to the hospital. The victim crashed his white Chevrolet Tahoe at the intersection of South Adams Street and Orange Avenue. The victim received minor injuries as a result of the crash and was transported by ambulance to Tallahassee Memorial Hospital. The victim was treated for a non-life threatening gunshot wound and later released.

Investigator Angie Booth, with the Tallahassee Police Department's Violent Crimes Unit, conducted a follow up investigation in an effort to identify the suspect who shot the victim. Investigator Booth received information from Officer Jody Fruchtnicht that 22-year-old Willie Ponder was the possible shooting suspect. Investigator Booth conducted a photo lineup and the victim positively identified Ponder. Investigator Booth obtained a warrant for the arrest of Willie Ponder on November 23, 2009 for Attempted First Degree Murder.

Ponder remains at large and the Tallahassee Police Department is asking for assistance from the public in locating him. Ponder is considered armed and dangerous. Anyone with information is asked to contact the Tallahassee Police Department at (850) 891-4200 or Crime Stoppers at (850) 574-TIPS (8477). Remember, Crime Stoppers does not want your name, just your information. You could be eligible for a cash reward.



**November 25 - TPD
Murder Suspect Arrested**

On Tuesday, November 17th, the Tallahassee Police Department responded to 2425 West Mission Road (Mission Hills Apartments) in reference to a shooting. Upon arrival, officers located two men who had been shot, later identified as 28 year-old Andre Adkins and 22 year-old Curtis Dixon. Both men were transported to Tallahassee Memorial Hospital for treatment, but Dixon succumbed to his injuries.

Investigators from the Tallahassee Police Department's Violent Crimes Unit responded to the scene and began an investigation into the events that lead to the shooting. Investigators located physical evidence on scene, including a handgun and marijuana. After examining physical evidence and reviewing witness statements, investigators determined that the shooting was the result of a drug deal "gone bad."

Investigators believe that Adkins went to the apartment complex to meet Dixon in an attempt to sell approximately 8 ounces of marijuana. Adkins' friend, Terrance Cunningham, drove Adkins to the Mission Hills Apartments in Cunningham's 1990 burgundy 4 door Toyota. Once at the complex, Dixon met the two men near Building #500. Adkins sat in the front passenger seat and Dixon sat in the rear passenger seat. Adkins then attempted to exchange the marijuana for money from Dixon, when Dixon reportedly brandished

a handgun. Several gunshots were exchanged inside the vehicle, as Adkins was shot in the leg and fled from the vehicle. Cunningham retrieved a handgun from the center console area and shot Dixon.

Based on the information obtained during the investigation, Investigator Jeff Mahoney reviewed the case with the State Attorney's Office and obtained a warrant for the arrest of Adkins. After recovering from his gunshot wound, Adkins was arrested and taken to jail on Monday, November 23rd.

Arrested:



Andre Adkins, B/M, 28 yoa. Charges: 3rd Degree Murder with a Firearm and Possession of Cannabis With Intent to Sell.

**November 30 - TPD
Police Searching for Burglary Suspect**

On Friday, November 26th, the Tallahassee Police Department responded to 2707 North Monroe Street (Sonny's) in reference to a reported burglary. Upon arrival, the manager informed officers that the office door was damaged and that someone entered the business while they were closed on Thursday. Investigators reviewed the Sonny's security video and verified that a white male suspect attempted to enter the locked office area after business hours. Investigators believe the suspect may be involved in other recent burglaries.

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 Description: White male, approximately 30 years of age, brown hair, wearing a white long sleeve shirt, and white painters type pants.

**November 30 - TPD
TPD Announces Fall TAC Students Graduation**

The Tallahassee Police Department is proud to announce the fall 2009 T.A.C. Students graduation at City Hall on Wednesday, December 2nd at 6:30PM. This program is designed to prepare high school students to be leaders in every phase of their lives. It is a program that was inspired by the Tallahassee Police Department's tactical team: T.A.C.

The 13 students who successfully completed the T.A.C. Students program experienced four challenging classes led by police officers and other professionals:

- Decision Making
- Defining Relationships
- Planning for the Future
- Becoming a Leader

The T.A.C. Students program originated in the Tallahassee Police Department because officers saw a need to reach-out to our community to help mold the leaders of tomorrow. The idea is not to recruit future law enforcement officers, but rather to have a positive influence on students who will work in all areas of our community.

Police department tactical teams, like T.A.C. and S.W.A.T., are specialized groups of officers highly trained in the control of volatile situations. When the Tallahassee Police Department's T.A.C. Team receives a call-out, the officers never know exactly what they are going to face. It is through training, skill, and teamwork that they have the confidence to overcome any situation. These men and women are the best at what they do because they prepare.

The acronym in T.A.C. Students represents: Training, Achievement, and Confidence. The goal of the program is to prepare students to have the skills and knowledge to be leaders now and in the future. As students never know exactly what they are going to face in life, it is through training and achievements that students will have the confidence to overcome any situation. Becoming a part of this team is challenging, but the experience students receive is one of a kind.

The Police Department will begin a new class next spring. There will be a limited number of openings on the next T.A.C. Students team, and the process is highly competitive. Any high school aged students or parents of students who wish to apply should call Inspector Danny Jeter at 891-4208 or visit the T.A.C. Students web page at: <http://www.talgov.com/tpd/tac-students.cfm>.

November 04 City Service Changes for Veterans Day Holiday

The City of Tallahassee's administrative offices will be closed for the Veterans Day holiday on Wednesday, Nov. 11. Following are schedule changes for the week of Nov. 9 for solid waste customers living inside the Tallahassee city limits, StarMetro and the Tallahassee-Leon Community Animal Service Center.

Solid Waste Schedule Changes

Garbage/Recycling/Yard Waste & Bulky Items (blue week) - there will be no changes in service during the holiday week. As a reminder, garbage and recycling containers should both be rolled to the curb by 6:30 am, with both containers returned to the home by nightfall. Customers are also reminded to separate yard waste piles from any bulky items set out for pickup. Customers needing more information may view solid waste schedules at Talgov.com/YOU, or may contact City of Tallahassee Utilities at 891-4YOU (4968).

StarMetro Schedule Changes

StarMetro, the City's mass transit system, will change its operations for the Veterans Day holiday, as follows:

- Fixed Route Services - On Wednesday, Nov. 11, StarMetro will operate on a Saturday schedule.
- Dial-A-Ride Services - Also available on Wednesday, Nov. 11, operating within the standard Saturday coverage area (rides must be confirmed by Tuesday, Nov. 10).

For more information, visit Talgov.com/StarMetro or call StarMetro at 891-5200.

Animal Service Center Closed Wednesday

The Tallahassee-Leon Community Animal Service Center will be closed on Wednesday, Nov. 11, in honor of the Veterans Day holiday. Normal hours will resume on Thursday, Nov. 12, with the Center opening at 10:30 am. Customers needing more information, including photos of animals available for adoption, may visit Talgov.com/animals, or contact the Animal Service Center at 891-2950.

November 10 Tallahassee Regional Airport Celebrates 80th Anniversary

Community Leaders Join to Recognize Distinguished Organization - The Tallahassee Regional Airport celebrated 80 years of serving the Florida Big Bend, Southwest Georgia and Southeast Alabama with a special anniversary celebration today. As a vital component of the region's economic development efforts, today's celebration was shared with Tallahassee Mayor John Marks, local government officials and

community and business leaders. Tallahassee Regional Airport also received a proclamation from the City to honor 80 years of achievement and unveiled its landmark anniversary timeline.

Joining Mayor Marks this morning to celebrate this milestone were Tallahassee Regional Airport Director of Aviation Kenneth M. Austin, Flightline Group, Inc. Chief Operating Officer C. Daniel Langston and Theo Proctor Jr., co-owner of the first locally owned airplane in Tallahassee, jointly owned by Ivan B. Munroe and Dr. J.K. Johnson.

"We are thrilled to share this occasion with the support of the Tallahassee community," said Austin. "This anniversary is the culmination of the vision of the original founders of the airport, as well as the dedication of the men and women who work hard every day to offer our travelers the very best in safety, comfort and convenience."

Tallahassee Regional Airport has shared numerous milestones with the community over the past 80 years, beginning with the opening of the first airport to serve the area, Dale Mabry Field in November 1929. Fast forward to 2009, and the Tallahassee Regional Airport now serves more than 1 million visitors a year, in its role as the premier hub for the area's business and leisure travelers.

"I am honored to celebrate this occasion with the Tallahassee Regional Airport," said Betty Ann Skelton, Ivan B. Munroe's daughter. "My father had a genuine passion for aviation and took great pride in this airport. He would be honored to see the Tallahassee Regional Airport's many accomplishments and contributions to our community."

During the past 80 years, Tallahassee Regional Airport's achievements have included purchasing the first locally-owned airplane in Tallahassee, housing the nation's first black pilot squadron training facility during World War II and celebrating their busiest year in history in 2002, when the facility served 1,081,995 passengers. The Tallahassee Regional Airport has also won numerous national awards including the Airport Training and Safety Institute 2005 Hall of Fame, and earned first place in the Excellence in Marketing and Communications contest for its education and tour program from the Airports Council International-North America.

The Tallahassee Regional Airport is operated and maintained by the City of Tallahassee, and is currently served by four major commercial air carriers including American Eagle, Continental Airlines, Delta Air Lines, and US Airways Express. For more information on the Tallahassee Regional Airport, please visit the [Airport's website](#).

November 24 Save or Recycle Cooking Grease

Prevent Pollution and Don't Put it Down the Drain this Holiday Season - When cooking during the holidays, especially if you're frying a turkey, the City of Tallahassee Utilities reminds you to save, recycle or dispose of oil and grease properly.

When poured down drains or toilets, oil and grease can clog wastewater lines to the point of causing costly backups and overflows. Fat, roots, oil and grease (or F.R.O.G.) are the leading causes of sewer backups in homes and restaurants.

Here are some suggestions for properly disposing of unwanted kitchen grease, oil and fats.

- Pour leftover grease and oil into a sealed container.
- Wipe greasy pans with a paper towel.
- Absorb leftover grease and oil with kitty litter.
- After using any of these disposal methods and the grease, oil or fat has cooled, the sealed container, paper towel or kitty litter should be discarded with the household trash, not flushed or washed down the drain.

"We're reminding everyone that when they are cooking their favorite recipes during the holidays to keep in mind that greasy liquids or fatty food scraps should not be put down the drain or into garbage disposals," said Underground Utilities General Manager Mike Tadros. "Wipe greasy pans with a paper towel and pour excess cooking oil in containers for later use. Or recycle it at the City's Fleet Management used cooking oil collection sites."

The contributions of used cooking oil will be reused to produce clean-burning biodiesel for the City's diesel vehicles. Customers who cannot take advantage of the recycled cooking oil program should use the disposal methods outlined above.

Used Cooking Oil Recycling Sites:

- City of Tallahassee Fleet Management, 400 Dupree St. (customer service entrance)
- City of Tallahassee Solid Waste Services, 2727 Municipal Way
- Fort Braden Solid Waste entrance at 2485 E. Joe Thomas Rd.
- Miccosukee Solid Waste entrance at 13051 Miccosukee Rd.
- Woodville Solid Waste entrance at 549 Henry Jones Rd.

For more information on this program, call City of Tallahassee Utilities at 891-4YOU (4968) or visit Talgov.com/YOU.

November 24 Lane Closures On Capital Circle SE

Sanitary Sewer Line Repair Work Continues - Next week, the City of Tallahassee Underground Utilities will re-establish partial lane closures along Capital Circle Southeast between approximately Dick Wilson Boulevard and Connor Boulevard for sanitary sewer work. The contractor has temporarily stopped construction due to the Thanksgiving holidays and will resume on Monday, November 30.

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.

Construction will take place 24 hours a day until the work is completed. Work will temporarily halt during the holidays in December. 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.

November 05 Utility Payment Drive-Through Closing on Fridays

Customers may use 13 remote payment locations or SmartBill - Effective tomorrow, Nov. 6, the City of Tallahassee's utility payment drive-through facility at 600 N. Monroe St. will be closed on Fridays. The City has worked to communicate the Friday closures through flyers to all drive-through facility customers over the last month, information in the utility bills, stories by the local news media, information on the City's Talgov.com website and through public service announcements on WCOT Channel 13 and local cable and tv stations. Although the drive-through facility will be closed on Friday, as a courtesy to customers who may

forget about the closure, City staff will be on-site from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. to advise customers of other utility bill payment options available to them.

Utility customers needing to make in-person payments tomorrow and on Fridays through the end of the year may do so at any of 13 remote payment locations listed below, or by converting to the free SmartBill payment option via the City's Talgov.com/YOU website. The drive-through facility will close permanently in January. Customers may pay their City of Tallahassee utility bill at the following locations:

- FSU Credit Union - 2806 Sharer Rd.
- FSU Credit Union - 832 W. St. Augustine St.
- FSU Credit Union - 3534 Thomasville Rd.
- FSU Credit Union - 2655-C Crawfordville Hwy.
- FSU Credit Union - 1612 Capital Circle NE
- Woodville IGA - 9019 Woodville Hwy.
- Magic Save - 2017 N. Monroe St.
- Quick N Save - 416 E. Tennessee St.
- Don's Food Mart - 720 W. Orange Ave.
- UPS Store - 400 Capital Circle SE
- Pak Mail - 3539 Apalachee Pkwy.
- Tallahassee-Leon Federal Credit Union - 2020 W. Pensacola St.
- Tallahassee-Leon Federal Credit Union - 1827 Capital Circle NE

For hours of operation at the remote pay locations, please visit Talgov.com/YOU. Customers paying their utility bill at these locations are reminded to bring a copy of their current utility bill with them. Payments made before 4 p.m. Monday through Friday (excluding holidays) will be credited to accounts the same day. All other payments will be credited to your account the next business day.

Meanwhile, over 15,000 City of Tallahassee utility customers have converted to the free online SmartBill option that can be delivered to your email inbox. The SmartBill contains an exact copy of the entire bill and provides links to important City information. In addition, SmartBill customers set their own payment date and there are no online fees. For more information on utility payment options, visit Talgov.com/YOU or call Your Own Utilities at 891-4YOU (4968).

November 19 - TPD Suspicious Incident at Bus Stop

This morning, at approximately 8:30AM, the Tallahassee Police Department responded to a reported suspicious incident located at Devra and Scenic Drive. Upon arrival, a 12-year-old female informed officers that the driver of a blue pickup truck scared her. According to the female, she was waiting for her school bus when the driver of the pickup stopped and asked her what she was doing. After a brief conversation the driver pulled into a nearby driveway and began to drive back toward the female. The female became frightened and ran back to her home and contacted the Tallahassee Police Department. The female was not injured during the incident.

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

Suspect Vehicle Description: Navy blue, older model pickup truck (possibly an extended cab). Described as being very dirty.

Suspect Description: Driver - Black male, early to mid 30's, average build, wearing a black or dark blue sweatshirt, and a knit hat.

The vehicle is said to have been occupied by 2-3 other black males (no physical description available).

November 19 Temporary Delays Due to Resurfacing Projects

Motorists will experience temporary delays along Roberts Avenue, Iamonia Street and Blountstown Street beginning this Friday, Nov. 20, for street resurfacing. Crews will maintain two-way traffic on all streets while work is occurring, but motorists are urged to exercise caution in work zones and obey flag signals from construction personnel.

Milling and resurfacing work will take place as follows, weather permitting:

- Fri., Nov. 20 (9 am - 4 pm) - Roberts Ave between Mabry St. and Iamonia St.
- Fri., Nov. 20 (9 am - 4 pm) - Iamonia St. between Roberts Ave. and Levy Ave.
- Sat., Nov. 21 (8 am - 5 pm) - Blountstown St. between W. Tennessee St. and W. Tharpe St.
- Sun., Nov. 22 (8 am - 5 pm) - Blountstown St. between W. Tennessee St. and W. Tharpe St.
- Mon., Nov. 23 (9 am - 4 pm) - Roberts Ave. between Mabry St. and Iamonia St.
- Tue., Nov. 24 (9 am - 4 pm) - Roberts Ave. between Mabry St. and Iamonia St.

November 19 Nov. 24 City Commission Meeting Cancelled

The Tallahassee City Commission meeting scheduled for Tuesday, Nov. 24 at 4 p.m. has been cancelled. Items originally placed on the Nov. 24 agenda will be rescheduled for the regular City Commission meeting on Wednesday, Dec. 2, beginning at 4 p.m.

In addition to the regular meeting cancellation, the Economic Development Target Issue Committee meeting scheduled for Tuesday, Nov. 24 at 1:30 p.m. has also been cancelled.

All City Commission meetings are broadcast live on WCOT, the City's government access channel (Comcast Cable channel 13), and are streamed live on the City's Talgov.com website. City Commission agendas are available online the Friday prior to each meeting, and citizens may receive advance copies of the agenda via the Talgov.com email subscription service.

November 17 StarMetro and Second Harvest Call on You to Stuff-The-Bus!

This Friday, Nov. 20, StarMetro will hold the eighth annual Stuff-The-Bus food drive from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. at the Winn-Dixie shopping center, located at Park Avenue and Magnolia Street. This event challenges citizens to donate canned and non-perishable food items to 'stuff-the-bus' for America's Second Harvest of the Big Bend. The Second Harvest Food Bank will then dispense the food donations to needy families in the Big Bend area for the upcoming holiday season.

"This year, more than ever before, we need the support of the community to help Stuff-The-Bus," said Cheryl Phoenix, director of the Second Harvest Food Bank. "The number of people coming to the food pantries in our area has skyrocketed, and we want to make sure everyone has food for the holiday season."

Citizens may also drop off food donations at any Farmers and Merchants Bank between 11 a.m. and 4 p.m. on Friday, as well.

"We strive to support the community in any and every way we possibly can," said Ron Garrison, director of StarMetro. "Last year, we collected nearly 1,100 pounds of food that valued over \$1,600. This year, we hope to take in more pounds of food than ever before."

For more information, please contact StarMetro at 891-5200 or visit Talgov.com/starmetro.

November 17 - TPD Police Investigating Attempted Abduction

Today, at approximately 4:15PM, the Tallahassee Police Department responded to a reported attempted abduction near Preston Street and Old Bainbridge Road. Upon arrival, officers discovered that a fourteen-year-old female was walking home from school along Preston Street. The female explained that two men in a white and tan Cadillac began to follow her. One of the men began to talk to the female as she continued walking. According to the female, both men exited the vehicle and began to approach her. The female became scared and ran to her home, eluding the men as they ran after her.

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). You could be eligible for a cash reward.

Suspect Vehicle: Late model Cadillac, with a white top and tan body. The driver side door has an obvious dent, as well as the front bumper. The driver side rear window displayed what appeared to be a piece of white cardboard with a distinct red circle.

Suspect Descriptions:

1. Black male, 6'1", 20-30 years of age, slim build, short hair, last seen wearing a black baseball style cap, black t-shirt, and a gold watch that appeared tarnished.
2. Black male, 6'1", 20-30 years of age, slim build, short hair, and a red and white t-shirt.

November 18

City Service Changes for Thanksgiving Holidays

Solid Waste/ StarMetro/Animal Service Center - The City of Tallahassee's administrative offices will be closed in observance of the Thanksgiving holidays on Thursday and Friday, Nov. 26-27. Following are schedule changes for the week of Nov. 23-28 for solid waste customers living inside the Tallahassee city limits, StarMetro and the Tallahassee-Leon Community Animal Service Center.

Solid Waste Schedule Changes

Garbage / Recycling / Yard Waste (blue week) / **Bulky Items** (blue week) - during the holiday week, customers will receive service as follows:

- Monday customers ? no change in service
- Tuesday customers ? no change in service
- Wednesday customers ? no change in service
- Thursday customers ? Friday, Nov. 27
- Friday customers ? Saturday, Nov. 28

Note: Saturday bulky item (blue week) customers will remain on Saturday.

Garbage and recycling containers should both be rolled to the curb for pickup by 6:30 am, with both containers returned to the home by nightfall. Customers are reminded to separate yard waste piles from any bulky items set out for pickup. Customers needing more information may view solid waste schedules at Talgov.com/YOU, or contact City of Tallahassee Utilities at 891-4YOU (4968).

StarMetro Schedule Changes - StarMetro, the City's mass transit system, will change its operations for the Thanksgiving holidays, as follows:

Fixed Route Services

- Thursday, Nov. 26 - no StarMetro service.
- Friday, Nov. 27 - StarMetro will operate on a Saturday schedule, including night service.

Dial-A-Ride Services

- Thursday, Nov. 26 - no Dial-A-Ride service.
- Friday, Nov. 27 - Dial-A-Ride will operate on a Saturday schedule (rides must be confirmed by Wednesday, Nov. 25).

For more information, visit Talgov.com/StarMetro or call StarMetro at 891-5200.

Animal Service Center Closed Thursday and Friday - The Tallahassee-Leon Community Animal Service Center will be closed for the Thanksgiving holidays on Thursday and Friday, Nov. 26-27. Normal hours resume on Saturday, Nov. 28, with the Center opening at 10 a.m. Customers needing more information, including photos of animals available for adoption, may visit Talgov.com/animals, or contact the Animal Service Center at 891-2950.