

## **June 2010 News Releases**

### **June 01**

#### **Reception Held for Palmer Munroe Executive Director Candidate**

A reception for key stakeholders will take place this evening, June 1, to welcome the leading candidate for the position of Executive Director of the Palmer Munroe Teen & Restorative Justice Center. Tallahassee City Commissioner Andrew Gillum and Leon County Commissioner Bryan Desloge may attend the event, which will take place between 5 and 7 p.m. at the Palmer Munroe facility, 1900 Jackson Bluff Road.

Commissioners Gillum and Desloge have led efforts to create a facility at the City's former Palmer Munroe Community Center that would serve local teenagers with a variety of programs. Current plans call for the center to be operating by August.

### **June 02 - TPD**

#### **Two-Year-Old Child Accidently Shot**

Last night, at approximately 6:30PM, the Tallahassee Police Department responded to a reported shooting at 1817 West Call Street (Forest Hills Apartments). Upon arrival, officers discovered that a two-year-old male child had been shot in the arm. The child was transported to Tallahassee Memorial Hospital for evaluation. The child was later transferred to Shands Hospital in Gainesville, FL due to his age. At last report the child's injury is not life threatening and he is expected to make a full recovery.

Investigator Scott Beck from the Tallahassee Police Department's Violent Crimes Unit responded and began an investigation into the cause of the shooting. Upon completion of witness statements and evaluation of physical evidence, the shooting appears to have been an accident. Based on the known facts, the child's mother had a male visitor in her apartment. The male is an out of town guest and his occupation is that of an armed security officer.

The male explained to investigators that he brought his loaded handgun into the apartment and placed it on a bed, along with clothing he was carrying. The male left the handgun unattended as he walked toward the bathroom. The two-year-old found the unattended handgun and is believed to have accidentally shot himself in the arm.

The investigation is ongoing and after seeking the opinion of the Leon County State Attorney's Office, no charges will be filed at this time.

### **June 04**

#### **Celebrate Adopt-a-Cat Month**

*Giving a Feline a Forever Home Just Became More Affordable!* - The Tallahassee-Leon Community Animal Service Center (ASC) is celebrating the American Humane Association's national Adopt-A-Cat Month® this month. Each year, thousands of kittens are born during spring and summer, and 4 million cats end up in the nations' animal shelters, waiting for loving homes. Come visit the fabulous felines at the ASC, located at 1125 Easterwood Drive by Tom Brown Park, and take home your new best friend!

To help encourage adoptions during the month of June, the Animal Service Center is reducing the cat adoption fee to \$25 from \$50. Sterilization fees will still apply. All cats adopted through the ASC are micro-chipped, vaccinated and many are already spayed or neutered.

Cats make wonderful companions. They are playful, affectionate, independent, self-cleaning animals that can reduce your blood pressure and keep you smiling with their antics. They also don't need to be housebroken, as using the litter box comes naturally to them. Cats are good indoor pets that don't need a lot of space to thrive, making them perfect for apartments and smaller homes. Taking care of a cat is also a great way to help teach children humane values and responsibility.

Of course, pet ownership is a commitment and responsibility. Here are some things to consider when adopting a new furry family member.

- Age - While kittens are hard to resist, adult cats are often better suited to families with young children. Mature cats respond better to being handled by inquisitive toddlers.
- Number - It can be beneficial to adopt more than one cat or kitten, especially if the pets will be left alone for long periods. Not all cats enjoy companionship, but many are very social with members of their own species.
- Coat - The longer the cat's fur, the more brushing will be needed to prevent painful matting.
- Prepare your home - Adult cats and kittens love to climb and explore, so beware of possible hazards. Check for loose

cords/wires. Cover any floor heating and air vents, and check with your veterinarian about potentially toxic houseplants.

- Dogs - Cats and dogs often enjoy each other's company, but great care must be taken when introducing the animals. Some dogs may not be suited to sharing their home with cats.

The ASC is operated and maintained by the City's Parks, Recreation and Neighborhood Affairs Department. It is open Tuesday through Friday from 10:30 a.m. to 6:30 p.m., Saturday from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. and Sunday from 1 to 5 p.m. Check out its online kennel and more information about adopting through the ASC at [Talgov.com/animals](http://Talgov.com/animals).

Remember, don't buy; opt to adopt!

#### **June 04 - TPD TPD Investigates Stabbing**

This morning, at approximately 12:30AM, the Tallahassee Police Department responded to a reported stabbing near 666 West Tennessee Street (Big Daddy's Bar). Upon arrival, officers discovered that a 22-year-old male victim had been stabbed. The victim was transported to Tallahassee Memorial Hospital and is expected to recover.

Investigators continue to review witness statements and physical evidence in an effort to identify a suspect. The preliminary investigation indicates that the stabbing may have been the result of a verbal altercation between the suspect and victim.

Anyone with information about this crime or 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). Remember, Crime Stoppers does not want your name, just your information. You could be eligible for a cash reward.

Suspect Description:

White Male, 5'8"-5'10", thin build, short dark hair, last seen wearing a white baggie t-shirt, and dark jean shorts.

#### **June 07 Fun in the Sun Returns for the Summer at City Pools**

Activity Pool at Trousdell Temporarily Closed

School has ended, and the hot summer months have descended upon Tallahassee. If you're looking to cool off this summer, take a trip to one of the City pools for some fun in the sun.

Unfortunately, some of the fun at the Trousdell Aquatics Center will be on hold for a short while. The activity pool will be closed due to a failing pump. It is anticipated that the pump will be fixed and the activity pool will again be operational by Thursday, June 10. Check [Talgov.com](http://Talgov.com) for updates. The reader board in front of Trousdell will also be updated with closure/reopening information.

While the activity pool is out for a bit, the lap pool at Trousdell is open, as is the activity pool at Jack McLean Aquatics Center and all other City pools. Pool fees, rules and hours of operation are all available on [Talgov.com](http://Talgov.com). City pools include the Trousdell Aquatics Center, Forestmeadows Pool, Jack McLean Aquatics Center, Walker Ford Pool, Robinson Trueblood Pool at Dade Street, Levy Pool and Wade Wehunt Pool at Myers Park.

The only cost to swimmers is the pool entrance fee. The fees vary depending on pool, swimmer age and pool activity. Pool patrons can also save money by purchasing multi-visit passes or an annual pass. Lifejackets will be provided upon request at no charge.

In addition, daily admission to Walker Ford Pool is free thanks to a generous donation. However, all groups and camps are still required to pay and reserve space at the pool in advance.

The most important thing for parents and caregivers to remember when in or around water with children is to have a designated watcher. All City of Tallahassee aquatics facilities have well trained lifeguards on duty, but they are watching multiple people and cannot watch every person all of the time. Parents and guardians are the first line of prevention - even in a guarded pool. The City highly encourages people of all ages to enroll in swimming lessons. Learning to swim is a lifesaving skill and provides lifelong recreation and fitness opportunities.

All City pools are run by the City's Parks, Recreation and Neighborhood Affairs Department (PRNA). For more information, please visit [Talgov.com](http://Talgov.com). You can also find out more information about current parks and recreation events by "liking" PRNA on Facebook.

## **June 08 City Seeks to Expedite Development Review Process**

Fast-Tracking' Initiative Reduces Permitting Time - The Tallahassee City Commission will discuss proposed development review improvements at its regular meeting tomorrow, June 9. The proposed improvements are a key component of an overall customer service initiative crafted by the City's Development Review Team to expedite the private sector review and permitting process. The meeting begins at 4 p.m. and will take place in the Commission Chambers on the second floor of City Hall, 300 S. Adams Street.asse

In early 2009, the City Commission approved similar 'fast tracking' permitting procedures for public projects, to create jobs and help stimulate the local economy. After that program was initiated, the Commission then directed staff to research the potential for similar process improvements for private sector development, while ensuring compliance with the City's stringent environmental regulations.

Given the Commission direction, the lingering economic downturn and the desire to encourage local private sector development to help during difficult economic times, the City Manager initiated a project to include representatives from all City departments involved in the development review process. The subsequent team was asked to outline immediate, short-term and long-term improvements in the following areas:

- Reduce development review time for private sector projects;
- Change the staff role in the development review process from one of regulating to that of facilitating;
- Balance local environmental and community standards with economic development objectives; and,
- Improve customer service.

That effort, which also included input from those with local development experience, resulted in a list of 25 proposed enhancements in the development review process. The 25 proposals were eventually categorized into four categories, including process improvements, code improvements and ordinance changes, information improvements and organizational improvements.

The proposed enhancements, if adopted by the City Commission later this year, have the potential to reduce the time for standard environmental permit review by up to 50 percent. In addition, review timelines for Type A and B site plans could potentially be reduced by up to 25 percent.

At tomorrow's meeting, staff will present an overview of the administrative improvements that are being made as part of this program along with the timeline required for implementation. It is staff's intent to follow up with an analysis of potential minor policy changes through the Target Issue Committee process. Staff estimates that 24 of the 25 enhancements, if approved by the Commission when they review related policy issues in August, could be implemented by year's end. Any changes to existing Land Development Regulations would take longer to complete due to City Code and Ordinance revisions that would be required. Growth Management has also proposed outreach efforts to the local business and development community, to occur later this summer, to garner their input before bringing final recommendations to the City Commission.

For more information on City initiatives, visit [Talgov.com](http://Talgov.com).

## **June 08 - TPD Police Searching for Robbery Suspects**

Last night, at approximately 11:45PM, the Tallahassee Police Department responded to a reported robbery at 3398 Capital Circle Northeast (McDonalds). Upon arrival, officers discovered that two armed suspects entered the McDonalds demanding cash. Several employees were inside the restaurant at the time of the robbery and complied with the suspects' demands. The suspects fled the scene with an undisclosed amount of cash.

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 cash reward.

Suspect Descriptions:

#1 Black Male, 20-25 years of age, approximately 5'7", 160 lbs, with short hair, last seen wearing a black shirt and blue shorts.

#2 Black Male, 20-25 years of age, approximately 5'7", 160 lbs, last seen wearing a white shirt, blue shorts, and white athletic type shoes.

#### **June 08 - TPD**

##### **Police Investigate String of Burglaries**

The Tallahassee Police Department is investigating a string of commercial burglaries that occurred early this morning. The first burglary (attempt) occurred at approximately 3:50AM at 2836 South Adams Street (Stewardship Drycleaners). The second crime occurred at approximately 4:52AM at 1457-2 Old Saint Augustine Road (Winnie Li Alterations). A third burglary occurred at approximately 5:00AM at 1457-6 Old Saint Augustine Road (Grabels Drycleaners), and a fourth at approximately 5:15AM at 1413 South Monroe Street (Concord Custom Cleaners).

In all the crimes the suspect(s) gained entry into the businesses by breaking a glass door. The Tallahassee Police Department continues the investigation in an effort to identify the suspect(s) involved. Anyone with information about these crimes 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.

Suspect Description: Black Male, 5'8", thin build, last seen wearing a white sweatshirt, gray sweatpants, and a black baseball cap. Driving a 1990's model 2-door, gray or silver colored vehicle, possibly having damage to the front bumper area.

Contact: David McCranie, Public Information Office, (850) 891-4255

#### **June 08**

##### **Jake Gaither Community Center Grand Reopening this Thursday**

This Thursday, June 10, the City of Tallahassee will host the formal reopening ceremony for the Jake Gaither Community Center at 11 a.m. The center, located at 801 Tanner Drive, has been closed for nearly a year while undergoing renovations. During that time, the City of Tallahassee has added more space and decreased the center's carbon footprint.

The reopening ceremonies will include remarks from Mayor John Marks and neighborhood leaders. Other City Commissioners and City officials will also be in attendance. There will be a ribbon cutting, followed by a tour of the new facility. Light refreshments will be served.

Named in honor of FAMU's beloved Football coach, the Jake Gaither Community Center originally opened in 1964. The 12,000 square foot center hosts a myriad of events, from senior exercise classes, to after school activities, to volleyball games.

"We really focused on updating the center's energy efficiency," Project Manager Tim Lefstead said.

Enhancements to the center include improved ADA accessibility, and the addition of sustainable features such as waterless urinals designed to save the city over 40,000 gallons of water a year and a new metal roof. A state-of-the-art voice actuated safety system was installed, and walls were "hurricane hardened" throughout the entire building.

This is part of the City Commission's ongoing commitment to renovate and revitalize city community centers, with renovations completed at 6 centers thus far.

The City of Tallahassee's Parks, Recreation and Neighborhood Affairs Department operates the Jake Gaither Community Center. For more information, please visit [Talgov.com](http://Talgov.com). You can also get more information about current PRNA happenings by "liking" them on Facebook.

#### **June 09**

##### **Spin Right Round into the Tallahassee Open 2010**

###### *PRNA Hosts Disc Golf Tournament*

Join the City of Tallahassee Parks, Recreation and Neighborhood Affairs Department (PRNA) **June 12-13** for the *Tallahassee Open Disc Golf Tournament 2010*. The tournament is open to players at all skill levels, from those who haven't thrown a disc since P.E. class to those who have their snaps, drives and putts down pat. The last day for registration is Friday, June 11, from 2-7 p.m. at Jack McLean Park (700 Paul Russell Road). No Saturday signups will be allowed. Fees vary depending on skill

level.

While the weekend officially kicks off on Saturday, the event begins with a bonus doubles tournament on Friday, June 11, at 3 p.m. at Jack McLean Park. The cost for the bonus doubles event is \$5. Participants will meet at the top of the hill, and directional signs will be posted. Dinner will be provided for participants.

For the official Open event, check-in begins at 8 a.m. each day, and lunch is provided for players.

On Saturday, June 12, the tournament will take place at Jack McLean Park. The mandatory player meeting begins at 8:45 a.m., and play begins at 9:30 a.m. On Sunday, June 7, the tournament moves to Tom Brown Park. The mandatory player meeting begins at 8:30 a.m., and play begins at 9 a.m.

Each division must have a minimum of three players to start.

For more information on the tournament, please call Bob McCormick, tournament director, at 668-4062 or visit [Talgov.com/parks/discgolf.cfm](http://Talgov.com/parks/discgolf.cfm).

## **June 09**

### **Activity Pool at Trousdell Remains Temporarily Closed**

The activity pool at the Trousdell Aquatics Center is still closed due to a failing pump. It is anticipated that the activity pool will again be operational by Saturday, June 12. Check [Talgov.com](http://Talgov.com) for updates. The reader board in front of Trousdell, located at 298 John Knox Road, will also be updated with closure/reopening information.

While the activity pool at Trousdell is temporarily unavailable, the activity pool at Jack McLean Aquatics Center is open, as are all other City pools. Pool fees, rules, locations and hours of operation are available on [Talgov.com](http://Talgov.com).

## **June 10**

### **StarMetro Reuses Discarded Bus Parts to Create Art**

This week, StarMetro will unveil an eleven-foot four-inch, aluminum sculpture created by local sculptor Mark Dickson in front of its offices on Appleyard Drive. The sculpture was paid for with federal funding designated for art enhancement.

Dickson built the sculpture mostly of old StarMetro bus parts, such as discarded bus rims and exterior bus panels. The sculpture took nearly three months to complete and weighs 500-700 pounds.

"[The sculpture] is inspired by our love of movement and machines," said Dickson. "It represents the power of the wind in a sail, the forward motion of wheels on the road and the feeling of momentum moving us forward."

The sculpture, titled 'Transit,' falls into the Federal Transit Administrations' (FTA) art enhancement program and was commissioned for \$14,783. FTA's art enhancement program provides full grant monies to local transit agencies, like StarMetro, in order to incorporate local art into their transit facilities.

"We are very excited to integrate art from local artists in our transit facilities," said Ron Garrison, Executive Director of StarMetro. "Good design and art in various forms and media can enhance the appearance of a facility, give vibrancy to a community's public spaces and make the public feel more welcome."

Dickson, who is a member of the Council on Culture and Art (COCA), attended Florida State University studying courses in metal fabrication and sculpture. He has studied with respected sculptors, such as late professor Charles Hook, professor Jim Devore and the late metal smith Jerry Grice. Dickson's other notable works around Tallahassee include a sculpture in The 621 Gallery's Charles Hook Sculpture Garden in Railroad Square. Dickson also helped install Hugh Nicolson's 'Storm Song' sculpture, which is the iconic 'dolphin' sculpture on the back steps of the Capitol building. The artist owns his own working studio in Tallahassee.

"It is an exciting and progressive step for our local public transportation to include the arts as it moves into a bright future," said Dickson. "Tallahassee's cultural attraction will continue to grow with the advancement of public art."

For more information, please call 850-891-5200 or visit [Talgov.com/starmetro](http://Talgov.com/starmetro).

## **June 11 - TPD**

## **TPD Reminds You to Lock Before You Leave**

In an effort to stop crime before it happens, the Tallahassee Police Department reminds everyone to lock doors and windows and to avoid leaving valuable items in plain view. Historical trends indicate summer months bring an increase in burglaries, both residential and auto. By following a few precautions and by being proactive, citizens can help prevent theft.

TPD reminds everyone:

- When at home, make sure all exterior doors and windows are properly closed and locked.
- If you are leaving your home for an extended period of time, stop your mail or paper, and make sure interior lights and electronics are on timers.
- Park your vehicle in a well-lit area.
- **Valuables left in plain view only entice burglars.**

Contact the Tallahassee Police Department and request extra protection for your home while you are out of town. The request can be taken over the phone by calling 891-4200 or by e-mail via [www.talgov.com](http://www.talgov.com).

Citizens can request a free residential security survey by contacting the Tallahassee Police Department Community Relations Unit at 850-891-4251 or by [email](#).

## **June 11**

### **City Names New Executive Director of the Palmer Munroe Restorative Justice and Youth Activity Center**

The City of Tallahassee today announced that Tomica Archie Smith has been hired as the Executive Director of the Palmer Munroe Restorative Justice and Youth Activity Center. Smith received her Bachelor of Science in Business Administration from the University of West Florida in 1999 and went on to complete a Master of Science in Education at Florida A&M University. Along with a strong educational background, Smith brings over 10 years of experience to the job, most recently serving as the Quality Assurance Director for the Capital Area Healthy Start Coalition.

"We are extremely excited to be moving forward with the Palmer Munroe Center with Ms. Smith as its director," said Dee Crumpler, director of the City's Parks, Recreation and Neighborhood Affairs Department. "She is a dynamic leader."

As the director of the Palmer Munroe Center, Smith will have the responsibilities of developing and overseeing new and creative programs and activities, such as classes in modeling, interview skills, business and computers, as well as leading fundraising for the center and heading the restorative justice program. Smith's starting salary will be \$61,776.

"As evidenced by her strong history of performance and achievements, we are really looking forward to Mrs. Smith's leadership and we are confident that she is going to be an invaluable addition to our efforts of making a difference in the lives of youth throughout the community," said City Manager Anita Favors Thompson.

Smith begins work on July 1, and will report directly to Crumpler. The center will include a staff of two full time employees and six to 12 part-time employees. The current budget for the center, as proposed for year one of this project, would be \$432,766. Revenue sources for the budget are: \$300,000 from the City and Leon County (\$150,000 each), \$100,000 from the Florida Department of Juvenile Justice, \$30,000 from the Leon County Juvenile Justice Coordinating Council, and \$75,000 from the City from the Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grant. The Palmer Munroe Restorative Justice and Youth Activity Center, located at 1900 Jackson Bluff Road, is a joint venture between the City of Tallahassee, Leon County and the Leon County School Board. The center is expected to open in late summer when school begins.

## **June 14**

### **StarMetro To Participate in National Dump The Pump Day**

StarMetro announced today that it would join other public transportation systems nationwide to participate in the Fifth Annual National Dump the Pump Day on **Thursday, June 17**. The slogan of this year's National Dump the Pump Day is "*Dump the Pump. Save Money. Ride Transit.*"

Sponsored by the American Public Transportation Association (APTA), the 2010 National Dump the Pump Day is a day that encourages people to ride public transportation and save money, instead of driving a car. Started in June 2006 when gas prices were \$3 per gallon, this national day emphasizes that public transportation is a great travel option that also helps people save money.

In this economic climate, saving money is on everyone's minds, and public transportation is the quickest way to beat high gas prices. According to the latest [APTA Transit Savings Report](#), individuals in a two-person household can save an average of more than \$9,000 annually by downsizing to one car.

StarMetro offers 25 day routes, one express route, six night routes and ten university routes that serve Florida State University and Florida Agricultural and Mechanical University. Last year, StarMetro provided 4.2 million trips to Tallahassee citizens.

For more information, please call 850-891-5200 or visit [Talgov.com/starmetro](http://Talgov.com/starmetro).

### **June 15 - TPD Awards Ceremony**

The Tallahassee Police Department will host an awards ceremony this Friday, June 18th at 3:00PM. The ceremony will be held at 1115 Easterwood Drive (American Red Cross). The purpose of the ceremony is to recognize the outstanding accomplishments of officers and citizens who "go beyond the call" to make our community safe. Please take a moment and join us as we recognize and applaud these individuals for outstanding performances and jobs well done.

Anyone needing additional information is asked to contact Sgt. Rhonda Scott at (850) 891-4339.

### **June 16 - TFD Mobile Home Fire in the 4700 Block of Lyons Boulevard**

Last night around 7:30, Tallahassee Firefighters responded to a reported mobile home fire. Firefighters arrived to heavy smoke coming from the home, but were able to quickly bring the fire under control. The cause of the fire is being listed as electrical in nature and was mostly confined to the attic of the home.

Damage is estimated at \$10,000. No injuries were reported during the incident.

### **June 16 - TPD Shooting Suspect Arrested**

On April 24, 2010 at approximately 11:00PM, the Tallahassee Police Department responded to a report of gunshots near the area of Putnam and Country Club Drive. Upon arrival, officers discovered that an 18 year-old male victim had been shot one time in the torso. The victim was taken to Tallahassee Memorial Hospital for treatment of a life threatening gunshot injury. The suspect fled before officers arrived on scene.

Investigator Mark Lewis from the Tallahassee Police Department's Violent Crimes Unit responded to the scene and began an investigation into the facts surrounding the shooting. Initially, the motive for the shooting was not known; however, as investigators interviewed the victim and witnesses, the motive became more evident.

Based on facts of the investigation, it appears that the victim was walking along Bates Drive with a friend. The victim told investigators he observed the suspect talking to a female on a porch. The victim believed the suspect was a friend named "Vince". The victim yelled to "Vince" and the suspect is said to have yelled back profanities. The victim and suspect then began to argue while standing in the street, when the suspect brandished a handgun. The suspect is believed to have shot at the victim twice, striking the victim once.

Witnesses later identified the suspect as 21 year-old Travis Clemons. On April 29th Investigator Lewis obtained a warrant for the arrest of Travis Clemons. Since the issuance of the warrant, Clemons evaded capture.

Last night, at approximately 6:00PM, members of the Tallahassee Police Department's Career Criminal Unit and the U.S. Marshal's Regional Task Force located and arrested Clemons in the 1400 Block of Nashville Drive.

As a result of the shooting, the victim is now paralyzed.

ARRESTED:



Travis M. Clemons, Black Male, 21 yoa. Charges: Attempted Murder, and Possession of a Firearm by a Convicted Felon.

### **June 16 Airport Begins Non-Stop Service to DC in 2010**

US Airways to begin service between TLH and DCA in October - Tallahassee Regional Airport (TLH) announced today that US Airways will begin non-stop service between TLH and Ronald Reagan Washington National Airport (DCA) on October 3, 2010. The flights will be operated by US Airways Express partner Air Wisconsin, using their 50-seat Bombardier CRJ-200 aircraft.

"This is very exciting news as service to Washington D.C. has been a top priority for many years," said Mayor John Marks. "This new direct service will provide a boost to the local economy by making it easier and more convenient for both business and leisure travelers to fly between these capital cities."

"This service has been long anticipated and has been realized through the hard work and dedication of City and Airport staff," said Kenneth M. Austin, Director of Aviation.

The schedule is as follows:

TLH to DCA  
Flight 3986  
Departure - 7:15 a.m.  
Arrival - 9:15 a.m.  
*\*Service begins on October 4 for Flight 3986*

DCA to TLH  
Flight 3985  
Departure 6:59 p.m.  
Arrival 9:12 p.m.

US Airways currently provides nonstop jet service between Tallahassee and Charlotte. US Airways, along with subsidiaries US Airways Shuttle and US Airways Express, operates more than 3,200 flights per day world-wide and serves more than 200 communities in the U.S., Canada, Europe, the Middle East, the Caribbean and Latin America. Tickets can be purchased online at [www.usairways.com](http://www.usairways.com) or by calling US Airways at (800) 428-4322 or through your local travel agent.

US Airways is one of four major commercial air carriers servicing the Tallahassee market, including American, Continental and Delta. The Tallahassee Regional Airport is operated and maintained by the City of Tallahassee. For more information on the Tallahassee Regional Airport, please visit [www.flytallahassee.com](http://www.flytallahassee.com).

### **June 10 - TPD TPD Investigates Sexual Battery**

The Tallahassee Police Department responded to a report of a sexual battery in the 1800 block of Jackson Bluff Road this morning at approximately 12:45AM. The victim described the suspect as a black male, who was approximately 6'0 - 6'2, slender build, and wearing dark colored clothes. The suspect was armed with a small, dark colored handgun during the

incident. The investigation is ongoing.

The Tallahassee Police Department reminds everyone to keep their doors and windows locked, even when they are home. Be mindful of those persons who are not recognized to live in the area and whose actions may appear to be suspicious.

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

### **June 11 - TPD Ways to Avoid Financial Scams**

to remind the public of the problems concerning counterfeit check cashing scams. These criminal solicitations are meant to lure unsuspecting people into cashing fraudulent checks and then sending funds back to the solicitor. The methods used to convince the public are often heart wrenching stories, promises of lucrative financial opportunities, or even a winning lottery check.

The Tallahassee Police Department's Financial Crimes Unit has some tips to help avoid these and other scams:

- If you receive a call from someone (often someone posing as a law enforcement official) informing you that your family member or friend is in jail (or some other kind of trouble) and needs money, verify this claim with independent sources before sending money.
- If you receive an unexpected "Winning Lottery Check" in the mail, do not cash it.
- If you receive an e-mail directing you to cash a check and wire the money elsewhere, do not cash the check or wire any money.
- Do not answer any job advertisements instructing you to cash a check, keep a percentage of the money, and then wire the remaining money elsewhere.
- Please be aware when utilizing an ATM that imitation card readers can be installed on top of authentic ATM card readers. This is a criminal means to fraudulently capture credit or debit card information. If an ATM appears to have been tampered with or you are unsure, please use another ATM.
- Avoid giving any of your personal information to anyone over the phone or the Internet.

Here is a good rule of thumb when a representative from a financial institution calls inquiring about a financial account. Ask for the name, identification number, and telephone number of the caller and tell them you will verify the information and call them back. These scams are usually based in other countries, and once the money is wired outside of the United States it will likely never be recovered. Please remember, if you cash a fraudulent check you may be held responsible to the financial institution for repayment of the money.

### **June 15 - TPD Tallahassee Police Department Cadet Program**

The Tallahassee Police Department Cadet Program is looking for the leaders of tomorrow. The Cadet Program provides an opportunity for males and females between the ages of 14 and 21 to take part in a "hands on" law enforcement learning opportunity.

Cadets receive training in areas such as crime scene investigation, crisis intervention, firearms, first aid, investigations, traffic accidents, traffic stops, use of force, and even ride along with a uniformed police officer. The program is designed for youth who have an interest in a career in law enforcement.

The Cadet Program does not provide certification as a police officer, but does provide an excellent opportunity for a young adult to make a career decision. If you or someone you know is interested in the Tallahassee Police Department's Cadet Program, please join us for a weeklong preview.

This preview begins Monday, June 21st and lasts through Friday, June 25th, from 8:00am to 5:00pm daily at the Tallahassee Police Department on locate at 234 East Seventh Avenue. There is a \$61.00 fee which includes a lunch each day.

For more information about the Tallahassee Police Department's Cadet Program, please contact Officer Evan Alwine at (850) 891-4582, Extension #90299, or by [e-mail](#).

### **June 17 City Hall Telephone Service Restored**

Incoming phone lines to 150 to 200 telephones in City Hall have now been restored following an outage due to a problem experienced by the City's telephone service provider. All incoming telephone lines are now fully operational, and the City apologizes for any inconvenience to customers.

**June 17 - TPD  
Drug Deal Turned Deadly**

Last night at approximately 8:30PM, the Tallahassee Police Department responded to a reported vehicle crash in the 1600 Block of McCaskill Avenue. Upon arrival, officers discovered that a 1995 Lexus, driven by 31 year-old Robert L. Moore, crashed head on into a 2003 Nissan. As officers provided medical assistance to Mr. Moore they discovered he was the victim of a gunshot wound.

Investigator James Besse from the Tallahassee Police Department's Violent Crimes Unit responded to the scene. A short time later, officers located physical evidence indicating that the shooting occurred in the parking lot of 1616 McCaskill Avenue (Colonnade Apartments). Further investigation revealed that Moore was involved in a drug deal when a man, later identified as 18 year-old Briston B. Davis, attempted to rob Moore at gunpoint.

The preliminary investigation indicates that Moore ignored Davis and began to drive away. As Moore drove away, Davis is believed to have fired several times striking Moore. Moore succumbed to his gunshot wound at Tallahassee Memorial Hospital.

Investigator Besse obtained a murder warrant for the arrest of Davis this morning. Members of the Tallahassee Police Department's Career Criminal Unit located Davis at 2301 Old Bainbridge Road and arrested him without incident.

**Arrested:**



**Bernard Briston Davis**, Black Male, 18 yoa. Charges: First Degree Murder, Use of a Firearm During a Felony, and Attempted Robbery with a Firearm.

**June 18 - TPD  
Police Link Suspect to Sexual Battery**

On Thursday, June 10th, the Tallahassee Police Department responded to the 1800 Block of Jackson Bluff Road, in reference to a reported sexual battery. Responding officers located physical evidence related to the crime and utilized the Tallahassee Police Department's Forensic Unit to recover additional DNA evidence linked to the crime.

Investigator Josh Lowery from the Tallahassee Police Department's Special Victims Unit continued the investigation in an attempt to identify the suspect. With the assistance of the Florida Department of Law Enforcement, a suspect was linked to the sexual battery using the DNA evidence collected. Investigator Lowery obtained a warrant for the arrest of 25 year-old Robert H. Anderson. The Tallahassee Police Department's Career Criminal Unit arrested Anderson late yesterday afternoon without incident.

**Arrested:**



**Robert H. Anderson**, B/M, 1/9/85. Charges: Sexual Battery, Kidnapping, and Burglary.

**June 19 - TPD  
Police Investigate Robbery**

This morning, at approximately 11:15AM, the Tallahassee Police Department responded to a reported robbery at 416 East Tennessee Street, The Quick and Save Convenience Store. Upon arrival, officers discovered a suspect entered the convenience store and demanded cash. The clerk complied and the suspect fled on foot. No one was injured during the robbery.

Anyone with information about this crime is asked to call 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.

**Suspect:** White Male, 40-50's, unknown hair color, unshaven salt and pepper goatee/mustache, dark colored shirt with writing on the front, blue jeans, possibly homeless.

**June 22 - TPD  
Police Investigate Robbery**

This morning, at approximately 12:15AM, the Tallahassee Police Department responded to 2037 Thomasville Road (Circle K) in reference to a reported robbery. Upon arrival, the clerk explained that a black male (suspect) entered the business brandishing a handgun and demanded cash. The clerk complied with the demand and the suspect fled the store with an undisclosed amount of cash. No one was injured during the robbery and no customers were in the store at the time of the incident.

Anyone with information about this crime is asked to contact the Tallahassee Police Department at 891-4200 or Crime Stoppers at 574-TIPS (8477). You could be eligible for a cash reward. Crime Stoppers does not want your name, just your information.

**Suspect description:** Black Male, 6'-0", 250-270 lbs, last seen wearing a short sleeve black shirt, dark blue or black jeans, and white shoes.

**June 23  
Tallahassee to Host Dizzy Dean State Tournament**

*Five Days of Fun and Friendly Competition Begin Friday* - The City of Tallahassee's Tallahassee Parks, Recreation and Neighborhood Affairs Department (PRNA) will host the Dizzy Dean State Tournament from Friday, June 25, through Tuesday, June 29, at the James Messer Sports Complex, 2730 Jackson Bluff Road. This is the first time this tournament has been held in Tallahassee. Six age divisions, 9U to 14U, will compete.

Opening events take place on Friday, June 25. Team check-in will last from noon to 2:30 p.m. Individual and relay competitions, including hitting, base running, longest throw, around-the-horn and a throwing relay, will be held from 4:15 to 5:45 p.m. Mayor John Marks will welcome the teams and their supporters with remarks at 6 p.m.

Tournament games begin Saturday, June 26, and run through Tuesday, June 29. Each team will play a guaranteed minimum of three games.

For more information, including how to become a tournament sponsor, please call the tournament director, Tim Leiwig, at 891-3878. You can also get more information on this and other PRNA events by "liking" PRNA on Facebook.

### **June 23 - TFD Firefighters Battle Arson Fire at Osceola Ridge Apartments**

This morning around 6:30, Tallahassee Firefighters found heavy smoke and fire coming from the administration building at Osceola Ridge Apartments. The fire started at the rear of the structure and was determined to be intentionally set according to Tallahassee Fire Investigator Tonnie Rollins. Investigators from the State Fire Marshal's Office have been called in to assist in the investigation. Firefighters were called to the same apartment complex last Friday, but the fires do not seem to be related.

No injuries were reported during the incident. Damages are estimated at \$10,000.

### **June 23 - TPD Police Search For Shooting Suspect**

This morning, at approximately 10:45AM, the Tallahassee Police Department responded to a reported shooting in the 2800 Block of Southwood Drive. Upon arrival, officers discovered that 30 year-old Johnny Banks had been shot. Banks was taken to Tallahassee Memorial Hospital, where he succumbed to his injuries.

Investigator Mark Lewis from the Tallahassee Police Department's Violent Crime Unit responded to the scene, along with a team of investigators. Investigators located physical evidence and witnesses to the shooting. Based on the preliminary investigation, Banks was arguing with another man when he was shot. Investigators have identified 26 year-old Angelo Hardison as a person of interest in the shooting death of Banks.

Anyone with information about this crime or the whereabouts of Angelo Hardison 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.

#### **Person of Interest:**



**Angelo Hardison**, B/M, 9/10/83. Possibly Driving a silver 1997 4 door Cadillac, bearing Florida Tag L261YU.

### **June 24 Good Homes Needed for Good Dogs and Cats**

*Half-Priced Adoptions for Remainder of June at Animal Service Center*

If you've been thinking of adding a four-legged member to your family, now is the time! For the remainder of the month, the Tallahassee-Leon Community Animal Service Center (ASC) is offering **half-priced adoptions on all cats and dogs**. In honor of the American Humane Association's national *Adopt-a-Cat Month*, cat adoption fees were already half-price in June. However, dog lovers can now take advantage of the reduced fee for a week and bring home a furry forever friend for less as

well.

The pet adoption fee will now be only **\$25**, down from \$50, **until July 1**. Sterilization fees will still apply. All cats and dogs adopted through the ASC are micro-chipped and vaccinated. The majority of the animals are also already spayed or neutered, making them ready for the loving arms of a new owner.

"During the summer months, we see a dramatic increase in the number of homeless animals brought to our facility," said Erika Leckington, Interim Director of the ASC. "Unfortunately this month, we are on track to have a record number of intakes for any single month in the past 10 years. We hope the reduced adoption fee will help move some of these wonderful animals from our facility into forever homes."

The ASC has already taken in 1,035 animals this month. The record intake for any single month in the past 10 years was 1,339 animals in June 2005. Each year, the ASC takes in around 11,000 animals.

The ASC, located at 1125 Easterwood Drive, near Tom Brown Park, is operated and maintained by the City's Parks, Recreation and Neighborhood Affairs Department. It is open Tuesday through Friday from 10:30 a.m. to 6:30 p.m., Saturday from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. and Sunday from 1 to 5 p.m. Kennels close 30 minutes before the ASC closes. For more information, please call 891-2950, or visit the City's website at [Talgov.com/animals](http://Talgov.com/animals). Most animals available for adoption have photos included on the website, and prospective owners may download adoption applications.

Remember, don't buy; opt to adopt!

#### **June 25 - TPD Police Arrest Miami Murder Suspect**

Last night, at approximately 9:00PM, the Tallahassee Police Department responded to 1001 Ocala Road (Osceola Ridge Apartments) in reference to a reported theft. Upon arrival, officers made contact with a 20 year-old male victim. The victim explained that as he was walking to his apartment when a man, later identified as 20 year-old Khiry Harrell, punched him in the face and fled with the victim's Xbox 360.

Officers located Harrell in an apartment in the Osceola Ridge complex and arrested him. Harrell later told officers that he did in fact punch the victim, but did not steal an Xbox. Harrell explained to officers that he knew the victim and actually stole a small amount of marijuana during the altercation.

A routine background check revealed Harrell was wanted for 1st Degree Murder related to a case in Miami, FL. Harrell was taken to jail without incident.

#### **Arrested:**



**Khiry Harrell**, B/M, 1/6/90. Charges: 1st Degree Murder (warrant), and battery.

\*Anyone needing additional information related to the murder warrant is asked to contact the Miami-Dade Police Department.

#### **June 25 City Commission Candidate Orientation Workshop**

The City of Tallahassee will hold an orientation workshop for City Commission candidates on Monday, June 28. The workshop will take place from 1 to 3 p.m. in the Tallahassee Room on the second floor of City Hall, 300 S. Adams St.

The Office of the City Manager stages the workshop during election years to provide qualified City Commission candidates with a general overview of City government. Each candidate will receive a Candidate Orientation Handbook that includes a description of the City's current Target Issues and priorities along with a brief summary of the responsibilities maintained by each City department. City appointed officials (City Manager, City Attorney, City Treasurer-Clerk and City Auditor) and other key City staff will be present at the workshop to review current issues and respond to questions from the candidates.

### **June 26 - TPD Robbery at ATM**

Last night at approximately 8:17PM, the Tallahassee Police Department responded to Premier Bank, 1953 Thomasville Road, in reference to a robbery at the ATM drive-through. Upon arrival, officers learned the adult male victim drove up to the ATM and during the transaction, a male suspect walked up to the driver's side of the victim's car. The suspect implied that he had a weapon and demanded the dispensed cash. A second suspect could be seen at a distance. The victim complied and was forced to withdrawal additional money from the ATM. The two suspects then fled the area with an undisclosed amount of cash. The victim was alone in the car at the time of the robbery, and he was not injured.

#### **Suspects:**

#1 - B/M, 18-20YOA, approximately 6'01", 160-180 LBS, and he was wearing a tan shirt, tan pants, and a black hat

#2 - B/M, 18-20YOA, approximately 6'02", 160-180 LBS, and he was wearing all lack 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 of up to \$1000.

### **June 27 - TPD Armed Robbery**

Yesterday morning the Tallahassee Police Department responded to the Buck Saver, 2720 South Blairstone Road, in reference to an armed robbery. Upon arrival, officers learned that at approximately 10:00AM a masked male, armed with a handgun and pepper spray, entered the business and demanded cash from the adult male store employee. During the incident the suspect sprayed the employee in the face with pepper spray. The suspect fled the scene with an undisclosed amount of cash. Medical personnel treated the store employee at the scene. One customer was in the store at the time of the robbery, but she was not injured.

**Suspect:** B/M, 20-25 YOA, 6'01", 145-150LBS, short dreadlocks, and wearing a dark hooded sweatshirt.

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.

### **June 27 - TPD Shooting Incident**

Today at approximately 12:30PM, the Tallahassee Police Department responded to the 800 block of Floral Street in reference to a shooting incident. Upon arrival, officers learned that an adult male (B/M 25YOA) was walking in the neighborhood when a black Chevrolet sedan with four male occupants drove into the area. One of the male occupants, who was armed with a handgun, exited the car. The armed male began to yell and shoot at the victim who fled to avoid the gunfire. The suspect re-entered the vehicle, followed the victim, and exited the car to chase the wounded male. The victim ran to safety by crashing through a sliding glass door at a stranger's home. The suspect and the other occupants fled the area in the Chevrolet.

The victim was transported to a local hospital where he was treated for a non-life threatening gunshot wound to his back. He was also treated for hand and arm lacerations caused by running through the sliding glass door to escape his attacker. The motive for the shooting is still under investigation.

**Suspect:** B/M, 22-25YOA, 5'06"- 5'08", muscular, and wearing a white shirt and jeans

**Vehicle:** Newer model black Chevrolet, possibly Impala, with four black male occupants

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.

### **June 29 - TPD Couple Robbed at Local ATM**

Last night, at approximately 11:15PM, the Tallahassee Police Department responded to a reported robbery at 3400 South Monroe Street (Wachovia Bank). Upon arrival, officers discovered that a male and female were in the process of using the bank's automated teller machine, when a suspect approached. The suspect brandished a firearm and demanded cash. The two victims complied with the demand and were forced to drive the suspect to a nearby location. The suspect then fled with an undisclosed amount of cash without harming the victims.

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 cash reward.

**Suspect Description:** Black Male, thin build, 5'0"-5'7", with a goatee, last seen wearing a dark colored knit (skull) cap, white t-shirt, and black jeans.

### **June 15 City Releases Proposed FY2011 Budget**

**No increase proposed for millage rate and electric/gas rates.** [View the proposed budget here.](#)

City Manager Anita Favors Thompson today released her recommended \$714.2 million fiscal year 2011 budget for review by the Tallahassee City Commission. The proposed amount is \$4.5 million less than the current year budget. Her proposed FY11 budget calls for no increase in the City's millage rate, currently set at 3.7 mills, and no increase in current electric or natural gas rates.

The City Commission will hold a budget workshop this Thursday, June 17, beginning at 9 a.m. The first public hearing to receive citizen input on the proposed FY 2011 budget will take place Wednesday, June 23, at 6 p.m. The workshop and public hearing will both take place in the City Commission Chambers on the second floor of City Hall, 300 South Adams St., and will be broadcast live on **WCOT** (Comcast Cable channel 13) and also streamed live on **Talgov.com**.

The proposed budget reflects the ongoing direction of the City Commission and the Commission's Financial Viability Target Issue Committee to maintain quality services, while limiting the financial burden on citizens during the economic downturn. Difficult budgetary decisions since 2007 have resulted in the elimination of 172.6 positions, or a 5.7 percent workforce reduction. Other measures have been enacted to help balance the City's budget, including programs being eliminated, service reorganization efforts, initiatives resulting in saving human resource costs and privatizing certain functions.

Favors Thompson emphasized that a focus on creative cost-efficiency will continue in FY11, and beyond, using both a blend of internal innovation and technology. "I'm continuing my challenge to the City's Leadership Team to be vigilant in their ongoing search for ways to streamline operations that result in more efficiency throughout the organization. I want to be clear that we will not compromise our commitment to offer our citizens the finest in municipal services. The City Commission has repeatedly indicated a continued focus on customer service must be a top priority, no matter what any given year's budget situation may be."

In referring to her ongoing challenge to City administrators to develop innovative practices designed to both be more cost-efficient and maintain or increase service delivery, the City Manager pointed to several initiatives crafted by departments and recommended for inclusion in the proposed budget:

- In-house maintenance of 800MHz radios (saved nearly \$270,000 in FY10)
- Parks, Recreation & Neighborhood Affairs teaming with other local agencies to recruit athletic tournaments and special events (potential to host over 40 tournaments and events, providing a community economic impact of over \$15 million)
- Marketing City employee training programs to public/private sectors (over 200 participants from outside agencies have taken City-sponsored training)
- Special event traffic assistance - TPD developed a program to use trained, non-sworn individuals to provide traffic control assistance during local special events (initial savings of over \$50,000 in officer overtime salaries)

- Wastewater treatment upgrades - as significant improvements continue at the Thomas P. Smith (TPS) Wastewater Treatment Facility, Underground Utilities is proposing shifting some treatment from the Lake Bradford Road Treatment Facility to the expanded TPS facility (potential savings of approximately \$200,000)
- Use of existing trained and certified staff to conduct Commercial Driver's License (CDL) testing in-house

Favors Thompson also pointed to recent and additional proposed improvements in the City's development review process as another indicator the local economy is in recovery mode. The first six months of FY10 showed a 27 percent increase in building permitting over the same period a year ago. Proposed additional enhancements to the permitting process could shave additional review time by up to 50 percent, allowing for construction of private-sector projects to begin sooner without sacrificing environmental considerations.

The City Manager's proposed budget for FY11 holds the current millage rate at 3.7 mills, still one of the lowest for any large city in Florida. In addition, no rate increases are proposed for either electric or natural gas. Rate studies will be performed early in the new fiscal year for both water and sewer rates, as the City continues work on significant upgrades to the wastewater treatment system. The \$4.5 million reduction from FY 2010 is primarily due to reduced fuel costs.

The FY11 budget also proposes the elimination of 26 positions and the addition of 16 for a net decrease of 10 positions. Eight of the added positions are firefighters for Tallahassee Fire Department stations located in unincorporated Leon County as provided by the interlocal agreement with the County, and three are analyst positions for smart grid technology with the City's utility systems (allowing individual utility customers to make more energy efficiency decisions on their own). The 26 positions eliminated include 14 recommended for FY11 and 12 positions already eliminated following a Voluntary Separation Incentive offered to eligible employees last year.

Following this week's budget workshop and the initial public hearing on June 23, the City Commission will hold a final budget workshop on June 24. Two additional public hearings will take place on September 15 and 29. The new fiscal year begins October 1. The FY 2011 proposed budget is available on the City's [Talgov.com](http://Talgov.com) website. City Commission meetings are broadcast live on **WCOT** (Comcast Cable channel 13) and also streamed live on [Talgov.com](http://Talgov.com).

## **June 18 Red Light Safety Cameras To Be Installed Today**

### *Equipment Testing to Begin June 21*

A contractor will be installing red light safety cameras and associated equipment today at the intersections of Tennessee Street and Monroe Street and Killearn Center Boulevard and Capital Circle Northeast. The preliminary work is in preparation for the eventual launch of the City's Red Light Camera Safety Program. The program is designed to encourage motorists to stop at all red lights thereby reducing violations and the potential for traffic collisions.

On Monday, June 21, the process in which the cameras are tested and calibrated will begin. No traffic delays are expected, but motorists may notice the camera flash as they pass through the intersections. During this phase, the camera's flash is not an indication that a violation has occurred. Equipment testing is expected to continue until June 30, at which point the City will be able to determine when the 30-day warning period can begin. Following the 30-day warning period, citations will be issued in the amount of \$158.

Of the six intersections that the City has identified for installation of red light safety cameras, the Tennessee Street/Monroe Street and Killearn Center Boulevard/Capital Circle NE intersections will be the first two to have cameras activated. All of the intersections with planned camera installations were selected based on the number of violations and the number and severity of traffic collisions. A recent count of violations confirmed that Tallahassee has a serious red light running problem when more than 450 red light violations were recorded at the Tennessee Street and Monroe Street intersection and more than 200 at the Killearn Center Boulevard and Capital Circle Northeast intersection in a sixteen-hour period.

As part of the program, the City will initiate an extensive public information and education outreach program to help ensure citizens are aware of the program, including where the cameras are installed. Signage will also be placed at each intersection alerting motorists to the program. To receive updates on the program follow [@COTTraffic](https://twitter.com/COTTraffic) on Twitter.

## **June 23 - TFD TFD Receives Grant for Fire Prevention and Education**

\$8,000 for Smoke Alarms and Public Fire Safety Education Materials - For over 30 years, the Tallahassee Fire Department has carried out a successful program of providing fire safety education and free smoke alarms for local residents. In this time of stretched resources and limited budgets, the department has sought out grants to help in maintaining this valuable program.

Papa John's Risk Services Corporation is partnering with Fireman's Fund Insurance Company to donate \$8,000 to the Tallahassee Fire Department so it can continue its efforts of educating the community around fire safety and prevention.

"For years, the department has believed in the value of early fire detection through the use of smoke detectors and alarms," said Chief of Fire Prevention Dennis Vickers. "The installation of smoke detectors provides homeowners with an early warning of smoke within the home and alerts them to the need for evacuation. Providing education in fire prevention practices helps to stop fires before they start. We are grateful for the donation so that we may continue to provide education in fire prevention and smoke alarms to help protect our community."

The department currently has a request for over 150 smoke detector installations. With this donation, it plans to continue promoting the free smoke detector program and educate the community on the importance of having working smoke detectors. The remainder of the donation will go to purchasing public fire safety educational materials.

Fire officials, Tallahassee firefighters, and executives from Papa John's Risk Services and Fireman's Fund will come together for a special public event where the grant package will be presented on June 23 at 11:00AM at Fire Station #4.

"Papa John's Risk Services is pleased to be able to help the people of this community in such a tangible way," said Susan Humphrey of Papa John's Risk Services. "Helping our local fire departments with the purchase of important new equipment provides Papa John's with another opportunity to tell local residents we care about them."

The grant is part of a nationwide philanthropic program funded by Fireman's Fund Insurance Company. The program is designed to provide needed equipment, training and educational tools to local fire departments. Since 2004, Fireman's Fund has issued grants to more than 1,500 different departments totaling more than \$25 million. Through this initiative, insurance agencies, like Papa John's Risk Services Corporation, are able to direct grants to assist and support local communities. Tim Post, of the local Papa John's franchise, Papa South, helped identify this community need.

About Papa John's Risk Services Corp - Risk Services Corporation, a wholly-owned subsidiary of Papa John's International, serves as an insurance agency and resource to hundreds of Papa John's Pizza franchises across the country. Headquartered in Louisville, Kentucky, Papa John's is the world's third-largest pizza company. For seven years running, consumers have rated Papa John's number one in customer satisfaction among all national Quick Service Restaurant (QSR) chains in the highly-regarded American Customer Satisfaction Index (ACSI). For more information about the company or to order pizza online, visit Papa John's at [www.papajohns.com](http://www.papajohns.com).

About Fireman's Fund Insurance Company - Fireman's Fund Insurance Company is a premier property and casualty insurance company providing personal and commercial insurance products nationwide. It is rated 'AA-' by Standard & Poor's Rating Services. Fireman's Fund is a member of the Allianz Group, one of the world's largest providers of insurance and financial services. For additional information, visit [www.firemansfund.com](http://www.firemansfund.com).

#### **June 18 - TFD**

##### **Tallahassee Firefighters Battle a Two-Alarm Fire at Osceola Ridge Apartments**

Around 8am this morning, Tallahassee Firefighters responded to a reported apartment fire at 1001 Ocala Road. Firefighters found heavy smoke and fire coming from the second and third floor apartments. The fire appears to have started on a second floor balcony and spread to the third floor and into the attic. A second alarm was called, which added extra firefighters and more equipment to battle the blaze. The cause of the fire is under investigation.

One person suffered minor burns to the hand and was treated and released on scene. Damage is estimated at \$250,000.

#### **June 18 - TPD**

##### **Police Warn Users of Automated Teller Machines**

The Tallahassee Police Department received information that local automated teller machines (ATM) have been the target of fraud. Because the investigation is on going, details cannot be released. The suspects are believed to have installed a false front on the ATM's card reader that captures the victim's account number. The thieves also utilize a hidden video camera in an effort to obtain the victim's personal identification number.

So what can you do to protect yourself?

- If you experience a malfunction with an ATM, report the malfunction to the financial institution immediately and utilize an alternative ATM.
- Conceal your PIN when entering it. Don't be embarrassed, it is a good way to avoid being victimized

- Look for and report suspicious activity near ATM's.
- Review your bank transactions regularly using on-line services available through your bank.
- Report thefts as soon as possible! These thieves usually strike fast and leave town. Prompt reporting provides law enforcement a better chance of catching the thieves.

It is important to remember that all ATM's can be the target of thieves. So, no matter what your banking institution or where you are... be alert!

### **June 03**

#### **Tallahassee's Award-Winning Innovations for Clean Air!**

City Wins Federal EPA Award - Out of 124 applicants, the City of Tallahassee's Environmental Policy and Energy Resources Department (EPER), was honored as one of 14 recipients of The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA) 10th annual Clean Air Excellence Award. The City was one of two honorees in the Regulatory/Policy Innovations category.

According to the EPA, the winning applicants "...represent achievements in the following categories: clean air technology, education/outreach, regulatory policy, innovation and transportation efficiency."

Tallahassee's "Go Green Tallahassee" initiative impressed the EPA, as it combined most of the aforementioned categories into one comprehensive, energy saving and environmentally sustainable initiative. Some of the programs and achievements that led to EPER's recognition include:

- Achieving Silver and Gold Certification as a Green City by the Florida Green Building Coalition (the first city in Florida to receive the Gold Certification);
- Re-powering the Hopkins Electric Plant;
- Increasing bio-diesel and electric vehicle production in the City's fleet;
- Developing citizen-involvement programs, including Think About Personal Pollution (TAPP) and the Neighborhood Energy Challenge;
- Implementing an environmental management system through the City's Underground Utilities; and
- Improving the StarMetro mass transit program.

Tallahassee's ability to include all departments in the orchestration of alternative energy solutions and its continual focus on decreasing the City's carbon emissions set an example, not only in numbers, but in community attitude toward eco-friendly living.

The 10th Annual EPA Clean Air Excellence Award Ceremony was held on May 26 in Washington, D.C.

For more information on EPER and the City's Go Green Tallahassee initiative, please visit [Talgov.com](http://Talgov.com). You can also get information and tips for living a greener life by "liking" Go Green Tallahassee on Facebook.

### **June 28**

#### **Senior Center to Host Music For America Concert**

The Tallahassee Senior Center and Foundation are pleased to announce the upcoming Music For America concert, featuring explosive patriotic themed jazz and concert band music in celebration of our nation's 234th birthday. This red, white and blue themed event begins at 7 p.m. on Friday, July 2, at the Tallahassee Senior Center, 1400 North Monroe Street

The Music of America concert will feature spectacular performances by the Capital City Concert Band and the Tallahassee Community College Jazz Band. Both bands are composed of Tallahassee Community College (TCC) students and members of the local community who enjoy playing music in their free time. The group has regular performances at TCC, as well as venues and events around the Tallahassee area

"This concert will stir everything 'Americana' in your heart. We pack the house with toe tappers, aisle dancers and seat conductors who just have a great time listening to music that celebrates America. The center is so proud to host this event for the community, and we are grateful to TCC for their presentation," said Rosetta Land, Communications Coordinator at the Senior Center.

This is a family-friendly event that is sure to set off your Fourth of July weekend with a bang. All proceeds from the Music for America event go to support the Tallahassee Senior Center and Foundation. The suggested admission is \$5.

For more information on the concert event, please contact the Tallahassee Senior Center at 891-4000.

The [Tallahassee Senior Center](#) is operated and maintained by the City of Tallahassee's Parks, Recreation and Neighborhood Affairs Department. For more information on this and other happenings sponsored by the Senior Center, visit the City's website at [Tal.gov.com](#). You can also keep up-to-date on happenings at the [Senior Center by "liking" its page on Facebook](#).

## **June 28 Celebrate America on July 4!**

*Event Accents "Homegrown" Entertainment This Year* - Once again this year the City of Tallahassee will "Celebrate America" with the annual July 4 festival this Sunday at Tom Brown Park. The event will begin at 3:50 p.m. with a naturalization ceremony for new American citizens. This year's musical focus is on 'homegrown' entertainment with a variety of local musical and cultural performers. As always, the highlight of the evening will be the spectacular fireworks display, sponsored by City of Tallahassee Your Own Utilities.

This year's free music festival, sponsored by Miller Lite/Coors Light, will feature local musical groups, with performances on two stages. Artists scheduled to appear include Tobacco Road featuring Eric Durrance, the Billy Rigsby Band, JB's Zydeco Zoo, King Cotton, local dance teams and even the Capital Chordsmen barbershop quartet. Arts and crafts vendors and treats from local food vendors will be available throughout the event area.

StarMetro, the City's mass transit system, will offer free shuttles to Tom Brown Park from the Koger Office Center beginning at 5 p.m. Passengers are reminded to park at the Koger complex on Capital Circle Southeast, just south of Old St. Augustine Road. Buses will ferry passengers back to Koger once the fireworks show is over later in the evening. The Tallahassee Police Department will close all vehicular access to Tom Brown Park, except for the StarMetro shuttles, at 8:30 p.m. or earlier according to parking availability.

Basic rules for the Celebrate America event include:

- no personal fireworks (including sparklers), grills or personal alcoholic beverages are allowed;
- patrons using the StarMetro shuttle are advised that coolers larger than 12 quarts will not be permitted on buses;
- no animals are permitted on the StarMetro shuttle or at the Celebrate America event;
- both the dog park and disc golf course at Tom Brown Park will be closed throughout the day, beginning at sunrise, on Sunday, July 4

[Celebrate America](#) is presented by the City of Tallahassee and Cone Distributing and is coordinated by the City's Parks, Recreation and Neighborhood Affairs Department. For more information, please contact Parks, Recreation and Neighborhood Affairs at 891-3866 or visit the City's website at [Tal.gov.com](#).

## **June 30 City Launches Red Light Camera Safety Program**

Warning Notices to Begin July 1

Ready. Set. STOP! The City of Tallahassee today announced the activation of red light safety cameras at two city intersections beginning at 12 a.m. on July 1. The Red Light Camera Safety Program is designed to deter drivers from running red lights and reduce serious traffic collisions. July will serve as a 30-day warning period in which violators will receive warning notices, with actual Notices of Violation issued in the amount of \$158 beginning August 1.

The City is planning to install six safety cameras by year-end. The Monroe/Tennessee Street and Killearn Center Boulevard/Capital Circle Northeast intersections will be the first two intersections to be monitored. They were selected after a recommendation from the Tallahassee Police Department based on the increasing number of violations and severity of collisions. Video validation further confirmed these intersections to be high-risk. Not including right turns on red, more than 450 red light violations were recorded at Monroe/Tennessee Street and more than 200 at the Killearn Center Boulevard/Capital Circle Northeast intersections in a sixteen-hour period.

A violation occurs when a motorist enters an intersection and crosses the stop line after the light has turned red. When a moving vehicle is detected during a red signal phase, the safety camera initiates the capture of two digital images and a video clip. Potential violations will be reviewed twice by the City's vendor and then by a Tallahassee Police officer. If approved, a Notice of Violation will be mailed to the vehicle's registered owner. Notices are non-criminal and will not result in points being assessed to drivers' licenses. The registered owner will have 30 days from the mail date to pay the \$158 fine or file an affidavit denying commission of the violation, which may require providing necessary documentation. If the notice is not paid within 30

days, the Tallahassee Police Department will escalate the notice to a Uniform Traffic Citation and transfer it to the Leon County Clerk of Courts. While still a non-criminal violation with no points assessed, the cost will increase to a minimum of \$271.

The Tallahassee Police Department's goal is that every motorist will voluntarily comply with traffic laws. "Because traffic safety is a primary goal of the Tallahassee Police Department, we consistently focus on engineering, education and enforcement as the tools to keep our roadways safe for the citizens of Tallahassee," said Police Chief Dennis Jones. "Traffic related issues have repeatedly been identified as a top priority by our citizens. The City of Tallahassee is leveraging the use of red light camera technology in an effort to reduce vehicle crashes and ultimately save lives."

A study by the Federal Highway Administration shows red light cameras had a significant effect in reducing dangerous crashes, including serious right-angle collisions. Vehicles running red lights typically increase speed and can cause high-speed, side-door collisions resulting in serious injury and death. The Insurance Institute for Highway Safety reports that half of the people killed in red-light running crashes are not the signal violators. They are drivers and pedestrians hit by red-light runners. Making the decision to stop at monitored intersections and all intersections will help keep motorists safe and free from costly fines.

This program, which the state Legislature authorized earlier this year, aims to reestablish respect for traffic signals and encourage drivers to be more careful. All camera-monitored intersections will have signage in place to help remind drivers that red light cameras are in use. In addition, the City will coordinate extensive community outreach efforts to help ensure that citizens are aware of the program.

For more information and to view a sample warning notice, visit [Talgov.com](http://Talgov.com). To receive updates on the program, follow [@COTTraffic](https://twitter.com/COTTraffic) on Twitter and /or sign up for the City's Email Subscription Service to receive General News Releases at [Talgov.com](http://Talgov.com).

### **June 30 No City Service Changes During Holiday Week**

City Remains Open on July 5 - The City of Tallahassee's administrative offices will remain open during the Independence Day holiday week, including on Monday, July 5. As such, there will be no City service changes throughout the week of July 5-9, including the City's Solid Waste Services, as customers will receive collection services per their normal schedule.

The decision to remain open on July 5 was one of the ways the City helped to balance the current year's budget. Since the July 4 holiday fell on a Sunday, having normal operating hours on Monday saved the City approximately \$53,400 in overtime costs.

StarMetro, the City's mass transit system, will run its normal Sunday schedule on July 4 and its normal schedule throughout the week. As part of the Celebrate America event on July 4, StarMetro will offer shuttle service to and from Tom Brown Park from the Koger Office Center via the free Liberty Express service, beginning at 5 p.m. Passengers may park at the Koger facility on Capital Circle Southeast, just south of Old St. Augustine Road. Return service to Koger begins after the fireworks display has been completed.

The Tallahassee-Leon Community Animal Service Center will be open to the public on Sunday, July 4, with the normal Sunday operating hours of 1-5 p.m. The shelter, which is normally closed on Mondays, will be closed Monday, July 5. Customers needing more information, including photos of animals available for adoption, may visit [Talgov.com/animals](http://Talgov.com/animals), or contact the Animal Service Center at 891-2950.

**Making July 4 Safe For Your Pets** The day after July 4 can be one of the busiest days of the year for animal control officers and animal shelters due to pets that have gotten loose when frightened by the fireworks and noisy festivities. Animal control officers pick up panicked pets on the streets, and people find frightened pets and bring them to the animal shelter. To avoid the situation, keep your pets safe indoors at home during holiday fireworks celebrations. If you lose your pet during the holidays, make sure you check for it at the animal shelter immediately. Here are some other July 4 pet safety tips:

- Never take your pets to fireworks displays. What's fun for you isn't necessarily fun for pets. Large crowds and unfamiliar sights and sounds can frighten pets.
- Never leave pets in a car while you enjoy summer activities. With only hot air to breathe inside the car, your pet can suffer serious health problems, even death, within minutes. (Partially opened windows don't provide sufficient air, but do offer the opportunity for your pet to be stolen.)
- Keep your pet at home inside a sheltered, quiet area during holiday festivities. Leave a TV or radio playing for company if you have to leave the pet alone.
- Never leave animals chained outside. A frightened animal can become entangled in a chain and get injured--or break

the chain and flee.

- Make sure your pet is wearing an ID tag and rabies tag (which is required by law). Having your animal microchipped is also an extremely effective means by which to identify them.

For more information on other holiday safety tips for pets, please visit the City's website at [Talgov.com/animals](http://Talgov.com/animals) or call the Animal Service Center at 891-2950.