

ARCHER NEWSLETTER

August 2010

SHERIFF'S OFFICE OF ALACHUA COUNTY



The Alachua County Sheriff's Office is alerting local residents about a crime trend: home and vehicle burglary. **LOCK IT OR LOSE IT!**

Homes and vehicles are being targeted in Archer. The thieves are looking for open unlocked windows and doors. They will use force if they see valuables through the windows. An ashtray full of change can be enough motivation to commit the crime. An open garage door is also a perfect opportunity for a quick theft.

Crime involves three elements: the *desire* to commit the crime, the *ability* to commit the crime, and the *opportunity* to commit the crime. The only element you can truly alter is opportunity. You can take away opportunity by locking your doors and windows, by having an alarm system, and by joining a **Neighborhood Crime Watch**.

Tips to eliminate crime opportunities:

- *Lock doors and windows every time you leave your residence.
- *Do not leave valuables visible through your windows.
- *Consider purchasing a monitored alarm system for your home.

The Neighborhood Crime Watch Groups are an extension of the eyes and ears of law enforcement. The members are provided with information on what to look for and how to report it. To start your crime watch group, call Deputy Leo Lowe at 352-367-4043. Also, Deputy Lowe will be doing safety checks on houses in Archer on August 25th. Let him know if you are interested.

To report a felon or someone in possession of a gun, call 372-STOP. The non-emergency number for reporting suspicious activity is 955-1818.

R.A.D. (Rape Aggression Defense) classes are also available. This class at the Alachua County Sheriff's Office is free to all women. For more information, contact Sgt. Scott Ulrich, RAD Coordinator, at 352-367-4108, or register online at sulrich@alachuasheriff.org. Please provide your name, email, and phone number.



\$98,000 Community Facilities Grant to Archer



The City of Archer is proud to announce the awarding of a \$98,000 Community Facilities grant from the USDA Rural Development Agency. This grant, along with others and generous private donations, will allow for the completion of the Archer Community Civic Auditorium project. On Thursday July 22nd at 11:00 am Ms. Tammye Trevino the National Administrator for Housing and Community Facilities Programs in USDA's Rural Development agency came to the community center to officially announce the awarding of the grant along with a check for \$98,000 to the City of Archer.

The City of Archer is extremely excited at the awarding of this grant as it represents the culmination of over three years hard work on the part of the city to renovate a historic auditorium which was part of the old Archer High School. This Auditorium was built as part of the WPA projects of the 1930's. The renovation of this building into a viable public building for public and private events will become a point of pride for the community and provide for a number of social and entertainment possibilities for the citizens of Archer and the Surrounding areas. The Community Center is located at 16639 SW 137th Avenue in Archer. **John Glanzer**

The Mayor's Message

Mr. Richard A. Macheck, State Director of the U.S. Dept. of Agriculture, was in Archer on July 22nd to present a Communities Facilities Grant in the amount of \$98,000 to complete the restoration of the old Archer High School Gymnasium, better known as the Archer Community Center Auditorium. These funds will be used to complete the project and make the building usable. The City of Archer is extremely excited at the awarding of this grant as it represents the culmination of seven years of hard work on the part of the city and individuals to renovate a historic auditorium which was part of the old Archer High School. **Mayor Roberta Lopez**

Funds raised: Historic Preservation Special Category Grant: \$320,481.00
Historic Preservation Small Matching Grant: \$50,000.00
Plum Creek Foundation Grant: \$5,000.00
In-kind contributions: \$146,440.25, Brick sale: \$10,050.00
Monetary contributions: \$296,543.66, USDA Community Facilities Grant: \$98,000.00
Total: \$899,541.91

FLORIDA HISTORY CORNER: SIR FRANCIS DRAKE IN FLORIDA



Francis Drake was a pirate; however, the English considered him a hero. When is a pirate not a pirate, but a good guy? When he attacks your enemies! Such a pirate was called a “privateer.” Queen Elizabeth I of England financed Francis’s piracy and shared in his profits. She was so pleased with all the money he brought her that she made him a knight, and from that time on, he was Sir Francis Drake.

In June of 1586, Drake was returning from raiding several small Spanish ports in the Caribbean. He had not seized as much loot as he had hoped for, and he had lost many of his men to yellow fever. He was hoping for a chance to make a little extra money on the way home, so he was pleased when he saw a little Spanish watchtower at the entrance to the harbor of St. Augustine.

At that time, St. Augustine was governed by Pedro Menéndez Marquez. When he saw Drake’s ship, he sent all the women and children to a friendly Indian village. During the night, the Spanish kept shooting at Drake’s men. Finally they slipped out the back way and went to join the women and children.

Nicolas Bourgignon, a French musician, was a prisoner in a cell in the

fort. He had been at the French settlement of Fort Caroline when it was destroyed by the Spanish, who slaughtered all the Frenchmen, except for Bourgignon, who played a Catholic hymn on his fife. The Spaniards did not kill him because they thought he was Catholic. However, they did imprison him.

When Bourgignon heard Drake’s men shooting at the fort, he knew he might be killed, and he wanted to let them know the fort was empty, so he played a Protestant hymn on his fife. Once again, his musical ability saved his life! When Drake’s men heard the hymn, they knew the Catholic Spaniards must have left the fort. The invaders rescued Bourgignon and joyfully discovered that the Spanish had left behind a trunk full of gold!

One of Drake’s men, Anthony Powell, caught a stray horse. He didn’t know the horse’s owner was hiding in the bushes watching. As Powell rode by on the horse, the Spaniard shot and killed him. Drake was so upset by his friend’s death that he burned every building in St. Augustine and had all the orange trees chopped down.

Eventually, Drake’s men took Bourgignon back home to France.

M. Zander

TRAFFIC SIGNAL L.E.D. CONVERSIONS

When the City of Gainesville performed their yearly maintenance on Archer's traffic lights, they replaced the old incandescent light bulbs with LED's (Light Emitting Diodes). The LED's were approved by the Florida Department of Transportation and were given the City of Gainesville, so there was no cost to Archer for this conversion. There should be a substantial electric savings in our monthly signal electric bills. The reduction in cost should be about 80 %. Thanks so much to the City of Gainesville!

RECREATION

The City of Archer welcomes our new Football Commissioner, Doug Jones. We are currently taking applications for all fall sports. Please apply at Archer City Hall or call our new Football Commissioner, Doug Jones @ 352-225-6883. We are still in need of volunteers and we are currently taking applications for our recreation board.

We had an excellent turn out for the Cornelius Ingram youth event at the Davis Center. Over 50 Archer area youth and residents heard C.I. talk about his journey from Hawthorne Jr. Recreation League sports to the NFL. He also discussed his decision to stay at UF and the injuries he has worked through. On Saturday, Archer football coaches helped with the free C.I. Foundation Youth Football camp in Hawthorne. Archer's Kelvin Berk won the Camp Hustle Award, congratulations to Kelvin!

Conditioning for all sports will be Monday, Tuesday and Thursday at the old Fire Station field on SR45/US41 starting August 2nd @ 6pm. All participants MUST have their application submitted with an approved physical prior to participation.

We need Coaches!!!! Soccer & Football. All levels of experience are encouraged to apply at City Hall.

You can follow Archer Recreation Activities online via Facebook and Twitter: we are ArcherRec

Archer clinic is offering sports physicals for \$25.00 on August 5th, 12th and 19th from 4-7pm. Appointment REQUIRED call 352-495-2550.

Plays to be Performed in our New Community Center

We hope to perform the same plays that were performed in the building when it was the Archer High School gymnasium. Anyone who attended Archer High School and participated in any of these plays, please let us know if you have any copies of the original scripts. In April 1947, a play called "A Ready-Made Family" by Jay Tobias was performed. In 1948 the play "Gallopig Ghosts" by Dora George Thomas and William Ellis Jones was performed. We are trying to find the scripts so that the first plays performed in our new Community Center will be the same as the last plays performed there!

Commissioner Ken Green resigns Commission seat

At the Archer City Commission meeting on the 26th of July the Commission was saddened to hear of the resignation of Commissioner Ken Green from his position as City Commissioner. Mr. Green stating health reasons informed the Commission of his decision to resign effective August 1st. Commissioner Green elected last summer has served the city admirably in his service to the city serving as the Commissioner over Recreation. The Commission expressed their thanks for his service and their prayers for his speedy recovery.

Vandalism and robberies in Archer

The city has recently experienced a rash of incidences of vandalism and home robberies. The cities Wilson Robinson Recreation Park was the site of vandalism two weeks ago. Vandals pried the locks off of the electrical control boxes and turned on all of the lights at the park while leaving obscene graffiti scrawled all over the pavilion. In other instances we have had several reports of homes being broken into and cars being vandalized and items being stolen from porches and garages. It is up to all of us to be vigilant of our own property and that of our neighbors. If you see any unusual activities or strangers who seem out of place in your neighborhood please contact the Sheriffs office at 955-1818 and report it.

Do you have junk or abandoned cars on your Property?

If you do you need to consider removing them. City ordinances require that any car in a non operating junked, wrecked or dismantled condition must be removed from the property within 30 days. The cities code department will be focusing on the removal of abandoned vehicles in the near future. If you have such a vehicle on your property there are individuals who may remove them for you. Their phone numbers are (352) 843-0620, (352) 771-6191 or (352) 317-5393. These phone numbers will put you in contact with these individuals but the city does not warrant nor represent any of these firms. Any arrangements made with them are private and your responsibility.

Tools for Schools bus to be in Archer Aug. 10th at 2:00pm

The Alachua County Tools for Schools Bus will be at Archer City Hall on August 10th at 2:00pm. This bus is for the benefit of teachers only. All of our teachers are burdened with the reduction of funding for basic classroom tools, pencils, paper, crayons etc. As a result teachers often have to spend their own money to supply these items for their classrooms. The Tools for School program takes items donated by businesses and individuals and distributes them to teachers around the county to help offset those costs. If you or your business would like to donate to this worthwhile project the City of Archer is accepting donations at City Hall.

County Planning Commission to consider permits for sludge operation west of town

After three years of studies GRU will be coming before the Alachua County Planning Commission for a Public hearing on the permit status of the GRU sludge operation on Sept. 15th at 6:00pm. On April 21st a meeting was held between GRU and Alachua County Environmental Protection Department. The summary of that meeting appear below:

Background

- Planning Board (2007) – Recommended approval. Staff conditions: groundwater monitoring and 75' setback.
- **Environmental Sampling**
- **Soil and Groundwater Sampling (2007)** – Onsite and offsite wells sampled for bacteria, nutrients, Volatile Organic Compounds, Semi-Volatile Organic Compounds, pesticides and metals. Elevated nitrate concentrations at some wells. Soil sampling for lead, no MCL detected.
- **Micro constituents Sampling (2008)** – Biosolids, onsite soil and groundwater sampling. Fluoxetine (Prozac) was detected at a concentration of 110 ng/L in the biosolids leachate sample (no regulatory standards).
- **Aerosol Sampling (2009)** – Sludge, biosolids, soil and dust sampled for pathogens. HPC and Clostridium Perfringes were detected in all air samples, including the background sample. HPC is not an indicator of fecal pollution; it was used as a recovery control for the sampling study. Clostridium Perfringes is not recognized by the EPA as an indicator of fecal pollution in wastewater; however it is

recognized by some researchers as an indicator of bacterial survival and potential exposure to biosolids.

- **Groundwater Sampling (2009)** – Offsite sampling for nitrate. Elevated nitrate concentrations at some wells.
- **Dispersion Modeling Study (2010)** – In progress, to be completed within 4 months.

Proposed Conditions

- Groundwater monitoring – Plan under development
- Setbacks: 300' around the perimeter of the property and a 40' wide vegetative strip within the 300' set-aside.

Issues

- Pending / proposed legislation banning / limiting land application of biosolids
- Alternative management options – Anaerobic digestion treatment to Class "AA" standards, not regulated. GRU staff will meet with County staff to share information on alternatives to land application (sludge spreading) that GRU considered.
- Vested Rights claim
- Setback Implications: 5 year useful life for site, ~ 2/3 M to set up buffer.
- GRU's attorney requested the County to provide interpretations:
 - Of whether a vested rights petition may be filed in response to a development approval with an objectionable condition (versus only a denial); and
 - Of what is required in the way of a buffer for biosolids land application sites (particularly whether the entire 300', or just 40', must be high density).

If you have concerns please plan to attend this meeting and voice them.

Election News

Two seats up for grabs in November Election

Two City of Archer Commission seats are opening up for the upcoming election this November 2nd. Seats 4 and 5 are open, Seat 4 is the seat formerly held by Commissioner Ken Greene and Seat 5 is currently held by Commissioner Laurie Costello. Qualification for these seats will open at noon on August 9th and extend thru noon on August 13th. Qualifying packets will be available to interested individuals starting on Monday at 8:00am August 2nd. The fee for qualifying is \$24.00. The last day to Qualify to vote in the general election in November is October 4th.

If no candidate for a specific seat wins by a majority of votes cast in the general election a run-off election will be held November 16th between the two candidates who receive the highest vote in the regular election.

Absentee ballots may be obtained on the web at <http://elections.alachua.fl.us> . the last day to request an absentee ballot to be mailed to you is October 27th. Absentee ballots may be picked up at the Supervisor of Elections office in Gainesville up to and including Election Day. All absentee ballots MUST be in the hands of the Supervisor of Elections prior to 7:00 pm election day (November 2nd)

Commissioner Green Resigns, Seat to be filled by Appointment

Effective August 1st Commissioner Ken Green resigned his position as Commissioner. The City Commission will be considering qualified individuals to appoint to fill this seat until November The vacancy of his position will require the City Commission to appoint a replacement for the seat within 30 days. The person appointed will serve out the term of the seat, which in this case expires this November. Any one appointed to the seat may, if they desire, qualify to run in the regular election for that seat. Anyone interested in being considered for the appointment to the seat should come by City Hall after August 1st and sign an affidavit of residency and provide a resume. The Commission intends to address the appointment at the regular Commission meeting on the 9th at 7:00pm

City wide Sewer meeting August 31st at 7:00 pm

All citizens and business owners are invited to attend the first of two meetings to take comment on the proposed sewer project in the City of Archer. At the meeting on the 31st Representatives from Baskerville – Donovan will present ideas and take comment from any interested citizens and the Sewer Committee on the feasibility of establishing a sewer system in Archer. Please attend and bring your questions, concerns and comments and share them with all involved. There will also be a meeting the Sewer Committee on August 11th at 7:00pm



POLITICAL RALLY

The Archer Historical Society and the Archer Chamber of Commerce invite you or your church group or choir to join us for a day of singing and fellowship. Please call Curt Powers at 352-208-8523 to book your group's time slot. Please reserve your time slot by July 31st. The singing will be from about 2 to 4 PM. Dinner will be at 4 PM and will consist of: BBQ chicken, cole slaw, baked beans, bread, dessert, and tea. Meal tickets will be on sale for \$6.00 at Perkins State Bank, Maddox Foundry, and the Rail House Grill. The candidates will speak at 5 PM.

MEETINGS

Recreation Committee Meetings:
August 3, 6:00 PM at City Hall

Archer City Commission

Meetings:

August 9th, 7:00pm City Hall
August 23rd, 7:00pm City Hall

Budget Workshops,

August 5th, 6 PM, City Hall
August 9th, 6 PM, City Hall
August 24th, 6 PM, City Hall

**Florida Rural Water Assoc.
Annual Conference, August 30-
September 1, Jacksonville Hyatt**

Archer Historical Society:

The third Thursday of every month, 6:30, SFCC (Archer campus).

Archer Chamber of Commerce:

2nd Thursday of every month,
5:30, Rail House

Zumba and Zumba Gold:

exercise classes, 6PM (Zumba),
4:30 (Zumba Gold), Mondays,
SFCC (Archer campus).