



The Leon County

# LINK

## Connecting Citizens with Leon County Services

### Leon County EMS Marks One Year Anniversary

It has been one year since Leon County government launched a new County-run Emergency Medical Services (EMS) department. Since its inception, Leon County EMS has responded to more than 22,000 emergencies and impacted thousands of lives. Leon County EMS is providing the highest quality EMS care available, featuring highly skilled and trained medics with state-of-the-art equipment and technology. In addition, through a County-City partnership, medics and firefighters are better coordinated in emergency response than ever before.



One of the most significant improvements under the new system is the rapid response time. Since Leon County took over this service, the amount of time it takes for an ambulance to get to you in an emergency has been significantly reduced, and the quality of the care you receive is better. Leon County has expanded coverage with ambulances posted throughout the County, and LCEMS operates under a model that moves ambulances where and when they're needed most.

LCEMS is being pro-active in becoming an integral part of the community by providing emergency care response services, special services, and educational opportunities to Leon County schools, churches and civic groups. LCEMS continues to provide more than 100 hours per month of special services and ambulance stand-by.

Congratulations to Leon County EMS for preserving life, improving health, and promoting safety for Leon County citizens. For more information, please visit [www.leoncountyfl.gov](http://www.leoncountyfl.gov), click on *Departments*, then *Emergency Medical Services*.

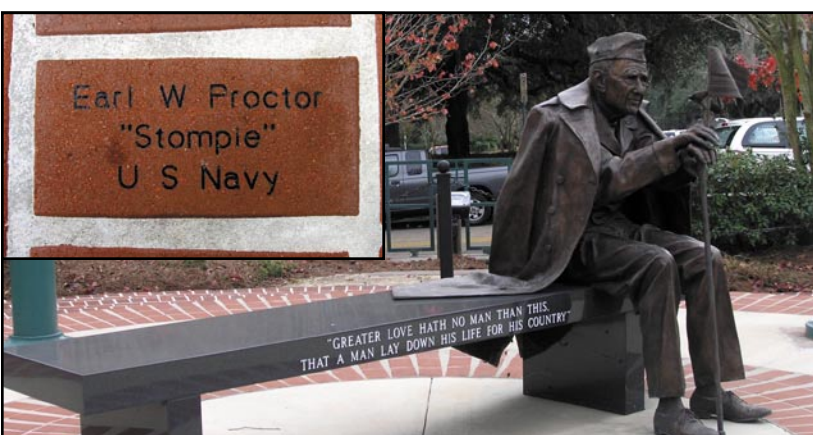
### Recycle Your Electronics, Christmas Trees, and More at E-Day, Saturday, Jan. 8



Many people are wondering what to do with their old electronics after receiving new ones as gifts over the holidays. Leon County has the answer. Recycle it! Leon County Recycling, in conjunction with other local agencies, is sponsoring E-Day, a recycling event being held on Saturday, Jan. 8, from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. in the Governor's Square Eastside parking lot, next to Blair Stone Road. Citizens can bring their old computers, TV's, VCR's, Cell Phones, Telephone Equipment, Audio/Stereo Equipment, Printers, FAX's, and other computer peripherals to be recycled. The event will also have collection sites for Christmas trees, books, cardboard, and mixed paper. Please limit TV's and monitors to three per participant. For more information, please call Leon County Recycling at 414-9346.

### Honor a World War II Veteran by Purchasing a Memorial Brick

It is important to recognize the sacrifices made by the soldiers who protect our country. If you have a loved one who served in World War II, honor them with their own brick as part of the County's World War II Memorial in front of the Courthouse. The bricks cost \$100, which covers both engraving and installation. The memorial was dedicated in 2001, and was the work of local artist Sandy Proctor. For more information, please call Facilities Management at 488-1948 or visit [www.leoncountyfl.gov/bricks](http://www.leoncountyfl.gov/bricks).



### Board of County Commissioners Selects 2004/05 Priorities

The Board of County Commissioners held its annual retreat on Dec. 13 to determine its 2004/05 Priorities. The commissioners decided to continue many of their priorities from 2003/04, but also brought three new issues to the forefront.

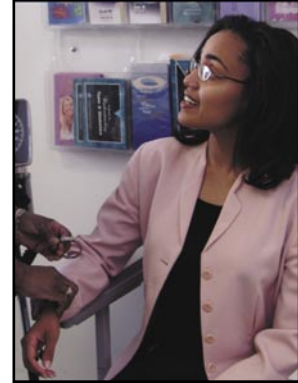
The top priorities for Leon County this year are:

**1. Enhance Economic Development** - Work with the Economic Development Council and local Chambers of Commerce to address job creation, loss of state jobs, and acquisition of state buildings to enhance private sector development.

**2. Address Leon County Jail Issues** - Address inmate overcrowding, inmate health care and medical issues, including availability of prescription drugs, mental health issues, vocational training for inmates, and assess adequate staffing levels of correctional officers.

**3. Improve Health Care Insurance** - Address accessibility and affordability of health care for Leon County citizens.

For more information about the Top Priorities and the continuing priorities established for 2003/04, please visit [www.leoncountyfl.gov/bcc](http://www.leoncountyfl.gov/bcc).



### 4-H Holds Speaking Contest for Local Students



Leon County 4-H invites the public to the annual district-wide 4-H/Tropicana Public Speaking Contest on Saturday, Jan. 22, at Swift Creek Middle School, 2100 Pedrick Road. The program starts at 8:30 a.m. and will feature the fourth, fifth, and sixth-grade winners from 44 schools across the County.

The students have researched, written and prepared two to three minute speeches on a topic of interest. More than 7,000 Leon County students have participated in the 4-H/Tropicana Public Speaking Education Program over the past 20 years. For more information, please contact Jeanette Gaskins at the 4-H Office at 487-3009.

## January 2005

Board of County Commissioners Schedule

**10 Capital Region Transportation Planning Agency Meeting** 3:00 p.m., City Hall, Commission Chambers

**11 Commission Meeting** 5 p.m.  
**Public Hearings** 6 p.m.  
Leon County Courthouse, Commission Chambers

**17 Martin Luther King, Jr. Holiday**  
County Offices Closed

**25 Commission Meeting** 5 p.m.  
**Public Hearings** 6 p.m.  
Leon County Courthouse, Commission Chambers

*The Link is produced by Leon County Public Information, 488-9962.*