



The Leon County

LINK

Connecting Citizens
with Leon County
Services

The Link is published the first Wednesday of each month in the local section of the Tallahassee Democrat.

County Nixes Business Tax

After hours of productive discussion last month, the Board of County Commissioners approved the proposed budget for the 2009/10 fiscal year that will reduce government spending by approximately \$19 million or 7.1% from the current year's budget.

Recognizing the economic downturn facing local industry, the Board eliminated the local business licensing tax. This \$25 County Occupational License is no longer required.

The County continues to maintain the lowest net budget, net budget per resident, the lowest number of employees, and the lowest number of employees per capita than other like-sized counties in Florida.

For detailed information on the budget workshop, visit the Leon County website at www.leoncountyfl.gov or contact the Office of Management & Budget at (850) 606-5100. For more information regarding the business licensing tax, contact the Leon County Tax Collector at (850) 488-4735.

A Waste Stewardship Model

Leon County's Solid Waste Management Division has developed a solid waste stewardship model in an attempt to stimulate thinking over purchasing decisions that result in waste creation.

For more information, tips and ideas on ways to reduce waste, contact Carole Gentry, Leon County Community Education Coordinator, at (850) 606-1827.



\$1.5M Awarded to Leon County for Housing Assistance

Leon County Health and Human Services received a \$1.5 million grant for two housing programs: a Foreclosure-Prevention Assistance Program and a First-Time Homebuyer Down-Payment Assistance Program.

Residents who live in or are moving to unincorporated areas of the County (not within the City limits) are eligible for assistance.

For eligibility determination, visit the Leon County Housing Division, 918 Railroad Ave., at www.LeonHousing.org or (850) 606-1900.

GIS Assists In Award Win

The Council of Neighborhood Associations (CONA), with the support of Tallahassee-Leon County Geographic Information Systems (GIS), has received the Sustainable Florida Best Practice award for their creative efforts in the 2009 Tallahassee Neighborhood Energy Challenge.

The award honors businesses, organizations and individuals whose work demonstrates that a healthy environment and healthy economy are mutually supportive.

For more information, call Tallahassee-Leon County GIS at (850) 606-5504.

Summer Reading at the Library

The library and branches offer free educational fun with summer activity sheets for children and teens (and one for adults) that encourage reading and activities centered on "Being Creative."

The grand finale at the Main Library and each branch is an art show and reception on Saturday, Aug. 1, at 1-3 p.m., when creations by our young readers will be displayed. Art will remain on display for the month of August.

Such regular programs as BabyTime (for ages birth - 3 years) and Preschool StoryTime continue throughout the summer. See special guest performers at the Main Library on Fridays at 10:30 a.m. and 2:30 p.m. Pick up a calendar of children's activities at any library location or see the library's online calendar at www.leoncountylibrary.org.

July 2009

Board of County Commissioners Schedule

- 8 Community Redevelopment Agency Meeting (CRA)**, 3 p.m., City Hall, 2nd Floor, Commission Chambers, 300 S. Adams
- 14 Board of County Commissioners Regular Meeting**, 3 p.m., County Courthouse, 5th Floor, Chambers
- Board of County Commissioners Public Hearing**, 6 p.m., County Courthouse, 5th Floor, Chambers
- 24 NACo Annual Conference**, Davidson County, Nashville, Tennessee

County Hosts All-Star Little League Exhibition

Youth Take on Parents, County Officials



Leon County kicked off the 2009 Little League All-Star Tournament on June 22 with an exhibition game that pitted Little Leaguers against their parents and County leaders.

The District 20 All-Star Tournament season began June 26 with games at Canopy Oaks Park. Sectional competition begins Saturday, July 18, at Chaires-Capitola Park for the winners from Districts 1 and 20.

The tournament is hosted by the Leon County Division of Parks and Recreation.

For more information regarding the 2009 Little League All-Star Tournament schedule, please contact Pat Plocek at (850) 606-1470 or visit www.eteamz.com/FL20/.

VolunteerLEON Hosts 2nd Annual Summer Camp for Civic-Minded Youth

VolunteerLEON's 'Camp Activate' summer camp, will be held July 20-24 and 27-30, from noon to 5 p.m., for current and rising high school students.

Students will receive HIPP (Help Increase the Peace Program) training and complete a service project at a non-profit agency to earn 18 hours of community service.

The camp will be held in the Leon County Community Room at 918 Railroad Ave. There will be a fee of \$25, but scholarships are available to assist students who would like to participate.

Applicants are required to turn in registration forms by Monday, July 13. Forms are available at VolunteerLEON, 918 Railroad Ave., or online at www.volunteerleon.org. Once completed forms can be faxed to (850) 606-1970.

For more information, please visit www.volunteerleon.org or contact camp coordinator Patrice Lyons at (850) 606-1970.