



Neighborhood Notes

BRACE **Trudy O'Brien**

BRACE **Be Ready Alliance** **Coordinating for** **Emergencies**

Vision: Pensacola is the most disaster resilient community in America.

Immediately after Hurricane Ivan, the Escambia County Long Term Recovery Committee (LTRC), a civic group consisting of leadership from 38 organizations, came together and assumed responsibility for addressing the unmet needs of families impacted by Hurricanes Ivan and Dennis. In early 2006, the LTRC conducted a "lessons learned" process. The primary lesson learned was that preparing for and protecting ourselves against disaster must be community based – government should not and cannot do it alone. Further, no one organization or sector of the community can bear the burden alone. Everyone can and must help. On April 24, 2006, BRACE was formed as a nonprofit corporation and partnership organization. Its core purpose is to get every individual, business, non-profit, civic and church or other faith based organization involved in ensuring our community is fully prepared for and protected against any type of emer-

gency. BRACE Partners serve as a force multiplier of human and material resources in **all four phases** of emergency management: Preparedness, Response, Recovery and Mitigation. Our Partners represent 12 different sectors of the community including Business & Industry, Community-based, Construction, Education, Faith-based, Government, Health Care, Insurance, Media, Military, Non-profits and Utilities.

Leadership Teams are addressing 15 priorities. (A complete list is in the BRACE 2006/2007 Annual Report.) The primary elements of the Program of Work for Fiscal Year 2007-2008 are summarized as follows:

- Enhance **self-sufficiency** and the taking of personal responsibility for emergencies
- Ensure **child care** is available for first-early responders and employees
- Provide continuity of services for the vulnerable **homebound**
- Engage the **faith-based community** for emergencies

- Support the implementation/creation and implementation of a locally based **disaster curriculum** in cooperation with Escambia County Department of Public Safety and other local partners
- Continue **temporary housing** for disaster victims to protect against homelessness

Every sector of the community is being invited to be an active member of the **Third Priority – The Homebound Committee**. Its mission grew out of the fact that after Ivan, there was a lack of mobility by many residents, eliminating their access to essential life sustaining services such as meals, water, ice, health care, transportation, generators for electrically dependent (to produce oxygen), etc. The work of the Homebound Committee is the "response" phase of emergency management.

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News and Information for neighborhoods...

The building blocks of a successful City of Pensacola.



This newsletter is a service of the City of Pensacola. Please share this information with your neighbors.

BRACE

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Our charge is to:

- determine **who** is homebound
- develop a **data base** of homebound individuals that is secure and confidentiality compliant which can be shared among responders
- develop **policies and procedures** for sharing confidential client information
- secure **statements of understanding** to affirm a spirit of cooperation between BRACE and service providers
- maintain **continuity of care** and service delivery
- assess alternatives for acquiring

fuel, food, water, medicine, medical supplies

- identify and recruit additional organizations as **"partners"** that serve the homebound

Local neighborhood associations will be a vital link in the success of The Homebound Committee. There are many people in our community who are homebound that do not receive services from a nonprofit, home health care organization or church – they are the "unidentified homebound". As a neighborhood association, you are the eyes and ears of your neighborhood.

Your charge is to support neighbor-

hood self-reliance and improving the physical health of neighborhoods – you watch out for each other. You can help us to help others by (1) becoming a member of BRACE, (2) joining and actively participating in the Homebound Committee and (3) assuring any Homebound individuals in your neighborhood are identified.

To obtain a copy of the annual report or to discover additional information about this or any other BRACE program please contact Priscilla Smith, Professional Assistant for BRACE at (850) 444 – 7136 or by email at priscilla@unitedwayescambia.org

The Deep South Horticulture Course

Carrie Stevenson, Florida Yards & Neighborhoods

Have you ever wanted to dig a little deeper into the world of gardening and landscaping, but didn't really want to learn from a book? If so, the Deep South

"sHort" (Horticulture) Course planned for August 17, 2007, may be just the thing for you. The West Florida Research and Education Center (WFREC) at the campus of UF Milton hosts this annual workshop with separate educational tracks for homeowners, landscapers, and nursery plant growers. Each year the subject matter changes but includes the latest information on landscape management, nursery issues, and what's new in plants for your area! Many of the talks include hands-on demonstrations and informative handouts.

For example, in the Homeowner Track this year, speakers will cover

a variety of topics including: Palms for North Florida, Making and Using Compost, Container Gardening, and Greenhouse Use & Maintenance. The Landscape Track will include a talk on Native Plants for Gulf Coast Landscapes, a "hands-on" Creative Landscape Design exercise, and information on fire ant control. Presenters range from University of Florida professors to Extension Agents from Florida and Alabama, along with Master Gardeners with years of experience.

The day starts at 8:00 am and runs to 3:30 pm. The cost is \$30 and includes lunch and handouts, and Continuing Education Units (CEU's) are available for horticulture professionals.

For more information on the sHort Course, online registration, and contact information, visit <http://wfrec.ifas.ufl.edu/>

[sHort_Course/2007_Deep_South_sHort_Course.htm](http://escambia.ifas.ufl.edu/sHort_Course/2007_Deep_South_sHort_Course.htm) . For questions on the Florida Yards & Neighborhoods program, contact me, Carrie Stevenson, FYN Agent, at 475-5230, ctsteven@ufl.edu or visit my website, http://escambia.ifas.ufl.edu/FYN_Index.htm



UF UNIVERSITY of Florida
IFAS Extension Florida Yards & Neighborhoods

NATIONAL NIGHT OUT

Sgt. Mike Simmons, Police Department

Come out and participate in Pensacola's NATIONAL NIGHT OUT co-hosted by the Pensacola Police Department and the Escambia County Sheriff's Office, Tuesday August 7, 2007! National Night Out is an event designed to:

- Generate support for, and participation in, local anti-crime programs;
- Strengthen neighborhood spirit and police-community partnerships;
- Send a message to criminals letting them know that neighborhoods are organized and fighting back

Last year's National Night Out campaign involved citizens, law enforcement agencies, civic groups, businesses, neighborhood organizations and local officials from over 10,000 communities from all 50 states, U.S. territories, Canadian cities and military bases worldwide. In all, over 34 million

people participated in NNO 2006. The official NATIONAL NIGHT OUT website states that, "NATIONAL NIGHT OUT has proven to be an effective, inexpensive and enjoyable program to promote neighborhood spirit and police-community partnerships in our fight for a safer nation."

Sponsored by Target, Pensacola's NATIONAL NIGHT OUT will provide tons of fun for the whole family! Hot dogs, chips and drinks will be provided along with music, door prizes, moon walks, the Pensacola Police Explorers' presentation of the Colors, a vast array of non-profit organizations and civic groups equipped with useful information, and a chance to see the Sheriff's Office's helicopter, "Air One". Last Year, Pensacola won first place for our NATIONAL NIGHT OUT event. Please come support the 2007 NATIONAL NIGHT OUT so we can win for the second year in a row!

Neighborhood Associations should feel free to set up a table or booth of their own to recruit members, spread

important information, or organize a fundraising event or neighborhood watch! The 2007 NATIONAL NIGHT OUT in Pensacola will be held at Hollice-Williams Park which is North of the Hunter Scott Pool, underneath Interstate I-110. The event will begin at 4:30 and last until dark, where each person will be able to participate in a special glow-stick picture taken by the Sheriff's Office's "Air One". Please come out for a night of fun and learning and support Pensacola while we play our part in NATIONAL NIGHT OUT 2007! For more information you may contact **Sgt. Mike Simmons** at 435-1905 or visit www.nationalnightout.org



Parks and Recreation Update

John Ewing

Parks and Recreation has several projects either completed or in the planning stages in Pensacola neighborhoods. In recent months, most of the work in Ferry Pass Park has been completed. 49 trees have been planted in the park to provide shade and color near the perimeter sidewalk along with benches for residents to rest in the evening or during daily walks. There are some remaining flowering trees that are to be planted when

temperatures cool off along with a water fountain purchased with the Pensacola Community Initiatives Program (PCIP) grant.

Bollards were installed to prevent unwanted vehicles from entering the park. As the trees mature, this park will become a wonderful addition to the neighborhood. If you have not seen Ferry Pass recently, take a drive over to Parker Circle and Chapel Streets. Parks and Recreation also has on the planning board for the

Belmont DeVilliers community a much needed new playground to replace a much used and worn out wooden structure in Henry Wyer Park. The old structure has been removed for safety reasons and Parks and Recreation is working with the Community Redevelopment Agency (CRA) for funding of the new multi-use playground. Henry Wyer Park is a very active neighborhood park for this historic community.



< Ferry Pass Park, pictured at left

Henry Wyer Park, pictured at right >



Recreation Department Offers Fun Stuff!

Vicki Lawley



The Pensacola Parks and Recreation Department is wrapping up 10 weeks of fun filled summer camp at five different community centers. The programs were held at Bayview, Cobb, Fricker, Gull Point and Vickrey Community Centers and provided games and activities to children ages 6-13 years of age. In addition to everyday fun at

the center, the participants in the program had the opportunity to take part in department-wide special events, theme days, and to go on field trips. The summer camp program is offered every summer at a minimal cost. It is much appreciated both by working parents as well as those who stay at home. The summer camp program is just one of the many recreational

and/or educational programs that are available through the Parks and Recreation Department. Look for exciting fall programming to begin in September at each of the above mentioned community centers. Classes and programs are offered to children, adults and seniors. For more information, contact Vicki Lawley @ 436-5677 or email: vlawley@ci.pensacola.fl.us

Hurricane Preparation



Did you know strengthening your home against hurricanes can help...

- Reduce the amount and extent of hurricane damage to your home. A Category 1 Hurricane with winds of 75 miles per hour can inflict as much as \$20,000 in damage to a home without opening protections.

Improve your overall recovery time from a hurricane. On average,

homeowners without hurricane protection on their windows and doors took nearly one year to fully recover from a catastrophic hurricane.

- Save money on your hurricane insurance premium. Protecting your windows and doors, including garage doors, may help you save more than 10 percent on your hurricane insurance.

The My Safe Florida Home program was created by the Florida Legislature in 2006 to help Floridians strengthen their homes against hurricanes. You may be eligible for a free wind inspection, which will tell

you how you can best protect your home. Additionally, if you receive an inspection and meet certain requirements, you may be eligible to apply for a matching grant of up to \$5,000. To learn more or to apply for a free wind inspection, log on to www.mysafefloridahome.com or call the My Safe Florida Home program toll-free at 1-866-513-6734.



Knowledge Is Power **CDAC**

Are you worried about your children or grandchildren on the Internet? Do you wish you were more knowledgeable about the current drug trends? If so, the Community Drug and Alcohol Council, Inc. (CDAC) will come to your Neighborhood Watch meeting to provide FREE, educational

presentations. The *Savvy Parent Series* is customized to meet your group's individual needs. For example, we can provide a short, ten minute presentation on bullying or an hour-long presentation on methamphetamines. We also offer handouts such as fact sheets and brochures to take

home with you! To request a presentation or for more information contact CDAC at 850-434-2724 or www.cdac.info.



National Neighborhood Day **Helen Gibson, Community Development**

Join people all over America as they gather with their neighbors to foster caring and concern for each other and promote stronger and more effective communities! National Neighborhood Day inspires, builds, and sustains the neighborhood relationships that provide the foundation for civic action and the building of stronger, more caring and intimate communities. National Neighborhood Day was established as an annual day to recognize and reinforce the relationships that are the fabric of our communities. It is a day of simple gatherings of neighbors to rekindle friendships; welcome new neighbors; catch up on each others' families, interests and needs; and share food, fellowship and fun.

The ties that unite a neighborhood help us better tackle and enjoy the array of challenges and

opportunities we face. The simple goal of National Neighborhood Day is to bring neighbors together and to help strengthen neighborhood connections. "Neighbors knowing neighbors improves neighborhood connections; connected neighborhoods lead to more effective communities; effective communities strengthen our nation as a whole. This ripple effect from our own neighborhoods to the larger world outside is what Neighborhood Day promotes," explains the website. National Neighborhood Day is celebrated in neighborhoods across the country each year on the third Sunday in September. This year's National

Neighborhood Day will be on Sunday, September 16, 2007. The Florida Neighborhood Conference Planning Team is encouraging all neighbors to get together and celebrate this day. Need ideas to get your neighbors together? Try one or all of the following:

- Block Party
- Sports Events/Games
- Service Projects
- Cook Out
- Progressive Dinner
- Tree Planting
- Yard Sale
- Neighborhood Clean-Up

For more information, please visit www.neighborhoodday.org

"Communities work better when neighbors know one another better. Knowing your neighbor on a first-name basis, as National Neighborhood Day suggests, is a surprisingly effective first step toward a better America."

-Robert Putnam



Frequently Used Numbers

Housing (HUD)	453-7500	Airport	436-5000	Bill Payment– Gas/Sanitation	435-1800
Inspections	436-5600	City Attorney's Office	435-1615	Library-West Florida Regional	436-5060
Treasury	435-1800	City Clerk's Office	435-1606	Parks and Recreation	436-5511
		City Manager's Office	435-1626	Trees, blocked streets	436-5511
		Civil Service	435-1660	Park services, sports programs and community centers	436-5670
		Code Enforcement	436-5500	Pensacola Police Department	435-1900
		Community Development	436-5655	Dispatch	435-1845
		Community Redevelopment	435-1695	Port of Pensacola	436-5070
		Emergencies	911	Public Works	435-1755
		Employee Services	435-1720	Sanitation	435-1890
		Engineering	435-1645		
		ESP Natural Gas	474-5300		

City Council Contacts

John Fogg, Mayor	479-9962	Marty Donovan, District 4	432-6104	Ronald Townsend, District 7	433-0174
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P.C. Wu, District 1	477-5279	John Jerrals, District 5	433-1749	Jack Nobles, At Large	434-0174
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Sam Hall, District 2	444-4784	Jewel Cannada-Wynn, District 6	434-0819	Mike Wiggins, At Large	477-9303
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Mike DeSorbo, District 3	433-1120				
mdesorbo@ci.pensacola.fl.us					

Calendar of Events

City Council- Committees will meet Monday, August 6 & August 20, 2007 at 3:15 p.m. in the Hagler/Mason Conference Room, 2nd floor of City Hall. City Council will meet Thursday, August 9 & August 23, 2007 at 7 p.m. in the Council Chambers, 1st floor of City Hall.

Architectural Review Board- will meet on Thursday, August 16, 2007 at 2 p.m. in the Hagler/Mason Conference Room, 2nd floor of City Hall.

Code Enforcement Board- will meet on Tuesday, August 7, 2007 at 5 p.m. in the Hagler/Mason Conference Room, 2nd floor of City Hall.

Environmental Advisory Board—will meet Wednesday, August 29, 2007 at 3 p.m. in the Hagler/Mason Conference Room, 2nd floor of City Hall.

Gateway Review Board- will meet on Tuesday, August 14, 2007 at 10 a.m. in the Hagler/Mason Conference Room,

2nd floor of City Hall.

Planning Board- will meet Tuesday, August 21, 2007 at 3:30 p.m. in the Hagler/Mason Conference Room, 2nd floor of City Hall.

Zoning Board of Adjustment- will meet on Wednesday, August 15, 2007 at 3 p.m. in the Hagler/Mason Conference Room, 2nd floor of City Hall.

City of Pensacola

If you have any questions or comments about this newsletter please contact Ashley Matteson.

Phone: 850-436-5653
Fax: 850-595-1143
Email:
amatteson@ci.pensacola.fl.us

▶ **Community Development
Department**

We're on the Web!
www.ci.pensacola.fl.us

Is your Neighborhood Association registered and up-to-date with the City of Pensacola? Your up-to-date contact information will make sure that your Association is kept informed of all upcoming activities and issues affecting your neighborhood. Call Ashley Matteson (436-5653) to register or provide an update. It's a quick and easy way to keep your neighborhood connected.



Resource Guides are still available! Call for your copy today! 436-5653

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