

2017 CYCLOVIA



► Cyclovia (also referred to as Open Streets) is based on the Spanish word for "cycle path". Cyclovia is an event that calls for the temporary closing of major city streets to car traffic and converts them into safe and open, car-free environments for families to run, bike and play.

On October 7th from 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. the City will host a Cyclovia event on Grand Boulevard, from Delaware Avenue to Gulf Boulevard. The southbound lane of Grand Boulevard will be open for people to bike, skate, scooter, walk, dance-or just chat with neighbors and friends. This half-mile stretch of scenic roadway is the optimum location to enjoy the beauty of the Pithlachascotee River. Vehicular travel will be limited to northbound, one way travel.

Besides being able to safely travel along this stretch of roadway, you can learn about fixing a flat tire, get your helmet adjusted correctly or take a "Pledge of Safety". You may even get your picture taken with a local City official.

HURRICANE PREPAREDNESS

► The City of New Port Richey Fire Department reminds all residents that June 1st marked the beginning of the 2017 Hurricane Season. The season runs until December 1st. Many areas in the City are flood prone, so we ask that you be aware of your evacuation zone. Please see the link (and instructions below) to find your evacuation zone. Preparing early and knowing your evacuation zone will help protect you and your loved ones.

To determine your evacuation zone, please visit:
<http://pascoview.pascocountyfl.net/pascoview/>

Enter your house number and street name, parcel ID number, or your full name into the search area. When the results return, scroll to the bottom of the information window and click the Parcel Information link.

A "quick information" window will open and show the evacuation zone. If a parcel falls within more than one zone, there will be an additional row of information showing the percentage of your parcel in each zone. By looking at the map you will be able to see exactly where the boundaries are.

Should you decide to evacuate or are under a mandatory evacuation, it is helpful to have an evacuation checklist handy. Please use the following as a guide:

- It is recommended for families to have a minimum of five days' worth of supplies in a storm emergency kit as well as other items for use at a shelter and/or upon return to your home.
- Ensure your vehicle has a full tank of gasoline. Check tire pressures and inspect fluid levels.
- Obtain rolls of quarters and small bills for use in vending machines. Remember that most vendors will not accept checks or credit cards after a hurricane.
- Have on hand ready-to-eat food and disposable utensils.
- Two weeks' worth of clothing, bedding, and toiletries/personal hygiene supplies.
- Medications
- Inspect the interior and exterior of your home.
- Secure or move trash cans and outdoor furniture, decor, recreational equipment/toys.
- Secure antenna or satellite dish.
- Unplug appliances and other electronics.
- Turn off gas and electricity to the house.
- Think about your pets. Check your pet into a pet friendly hotel/motel, kennel, or veterinarian office as most shelters do not accept pets.

PLEASE NOTE:

The nearest hurricane shelter for city residents is the Mike Fasano Regional Hurricane Shelter, located at 11611 Denton Avenue in Hudson.

In the event of an EMERGENCY Dial 911

City of New Port Richey NON-EMERGENCY Contacts

Police Department . . . (727) 841-4550

Fire Department (727) 853-1032

Public Works (727) 841-4536

Resources and information shared in this article were obtained from the following source:
<http://www.pascocountyfl.net/DocumentCenter/View/15452>



CITY OF NEW PORT RICHEY
5919 Main Street | New Port Richey, FL 34652

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Cotee River Clean-up

The Annual Cotee River Clean-up is scheduled for **Saturday, September 16th**. Join your fellow residents at 8:00 a.m. at the Sims Park Boat Ramp and show your pride in our community by helping clean the waste along the banks of the Cotee River!

► Canoes, kayakers, boaters and paddle boarders are needed, so whatever your water craft come join the fun for a great cause. Everyone is encouraged to participate, so for anyone that doesn't have access to a water craft, walkers are also welcome to clean a city park!

After the clean-up is done, the Recreation Department staff invites you to stay for a thank you lunch at Sims Park.



Sims Park Receives **FIRST** Place Award!



Photo by: Images by Tamera

The City of New Port Richey was honored by the Tampa Bay Regional Planning Council (TBRPC) with a first place award for the renovation of Sims Park.

► TBRPC's annual Future of the Region Awards program honors notable achievements in regional planning. Awards are presented to projects and programs that exemplify regionalism and recognize outstanding achievements and contributions that benefit the Tampa Bay regional community.

Sims Park won in the "Built Environment" category, which highlights best industry practices and promotes compact development or redevelopment in existing urban areas. Awards go to innovative infrastructure projects that deliver multiple public benefits, preserve history, beautify public spaces, contribute to a unique regional identity, and improve health and well-being of people and communities.

New Port Richey also received certificates recognizing the City's Coastal Transfer of Development Rights program and the Home Improvement Grant Program, which also have a positive impact on the City and the Tampa Bay area.

COMMUNITY INPUT NEEDED

What will the future
we CREATE look like?

► Five years have passed since the New Port Richey Community Redevelopment Agency (CRA) last updated its redevelopment plan. The plan is updated periodically taking into consideration the community's accomplishments, continuing and emerging needs, and evolving vision for the future.

Public input is a key ingredient in the planning process. That's why there will be multiple opportunities for residents and others with a stake in the city's future to share ideas and opinions about the built environment, economic development, and other topics of importance to our city.

Your first chance to participate in the redevelopment plan update will be to take an opinion survey. If you are interested in taking the survey, you may do so from your computer or smart phone, or from computers in the New Port Richey Public Library. The survey may be taken at the following link <https://newportricheycra.checkboxonline.com/CRA.aspx> or if you prefer a hard copy of the survey questionnaire, they are available at City Hall, the Recreation and Aquatic Center, and the Library. Additional opportunities to participate in the process will be featured in upcoming issues of the city newsletter and will include stakeholder interviews and a visioning workshop. Our top goal is to make it easy for you to be involved in this very important community project!

For the latest information about the project visit the New Port Richey Community Redevelopment Agency website at www.newportricheycra.org or contact Mario Iezzoni, Economic Development Director at 727-853-1019.

MAYOR'S LETTER

Dear Friends,

It is my pleasure to welcome you to the summer issue of the New Port Richey Newsletter. I hope you take the time to read through these articles and become familiar with the improvements and programs happening in our community. Summer is always an exciting time and there are plenty of activities both inside and outside to keep the young ones busy. Head on over to the splash pad in Sims Park for a quick cool off or enjoy a dip in one of the four great pools at the Recreation and Aquatic Center. If the heat is too much, head on over to the Library and join in the activities that are a part of the summer reading program. While you're there, be sure to stop by and say hello to our new library director, Andi Figart, who joined our city team in June.

I am excited to announce that staff is currently working on an event for the fall called Cyclovia. The term is based on the Spanish word for "cycle path" and involves the temporarily closure of major city streets and converts them into safe, open, car-free environments for families to run, bike, play and be well together. Cyclovia will be held on Saturday, October 7th from 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. along Grand Boulevard in between Delaware Avenue and Gulf Drive. Be on the lookout for more details as the date draws closer.

We are currently in our budget season and trying to formalize our priorities and aligning budget expenditures to support priorities. The budget process is never an easy task and I would encourage all to attend the public hearings scheduled for September 5th and September 25th at 6:00 p.m. and provide your thoughts on what you would like to see happen in our community. As a reminder, all City Council meetings and work sessions are open to the public and we welcome you to attend so you can stay connected to the important decisions that affect our quality of life. Together we are committed to enhancing the city for New Port Richey residents and business owners. If there is a way that we can help you, please contact us.

Finally, be sure to slow down and pay particular attention in and around school zones as the kids have headed back to school.

Hope to see you around town!

Sincerely,

Rob Marlowe



The New Port Richey RECREATION & AQUATIC CENTER

The New Port Richey Recreation and Aquatic Center is currently under construction. The project when complete will include a relocated and expanded fitness center with state-of-the-art fitness equipment and free weights, an indoor playground and additional multi-purpose rooms. The entryway and membership check-in will be streamlined and a reception area will complete the renovation and expansion project slated for completion in December 2017. The Recreation and Aquatic Center will remain open with regular business hours during the renovation process.

The Recreation Center is open Monday through Friday from 6:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. and on weekends from 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Hours may vary on holidays.

The Recreation Department has launched a new website, nprrec.org.

The website allows you full access to park pavilion reservations, payments for classes and membership online payments. Descriptions of the park facilities, use agreements and site photographs make your user experience both easy and informative. With this new website and related software, the Recreation Department will be able to expedite your requests, facilitate your check in and communicate faster with you! We look forward to presenting you with a faster and better online experience.

For more information please call 727-841-4560

Meet our NEW Library Director

On June 19, 2017 the City welcomed its new library director, **Andrea "Andi" Figart**. Ms. Figart brings over sixteen years of experience to your New Port Richey Public Library. Previous to joining our city team, Ms. Figart was the library director for the Zephyrhills Public Library. "I am honored to join the City of New Port Richey's team. I am thrilled for the opportunity to serve the residents of this wonderfully vibrant and diverse community," Ms. Figart stated about her new position. Ms. Figart received her Bachelor of Arts Degree from Guilford College in 1995 and her Master of Library and Information Science Degree from Kent State University in 2006. In addition to her list of many accomplishments, Ms. Figart is also a member of the American Library Association and Florida Library Association.



Madison Street Streetscape Improvements

A streetscape improvement project along Madison Street between Main Street and Massachusetts Avenue will begin soon. The project will introduce environmentally sustainable upgrades such as new irrigation that will connect to reclaimed water and installation of Florida friendly landscaping. The scope of work includes a new 10' wide concrete multi-use trail on the east side and upgrades to the existing sidewalk on the west side of Madison Street. Installation of

pedestrian crosswalks, select intersection upgrades as well as new curbing and decorative paving. Incorporated into the upgrades will be decorative path lighting and benches along the multi use trail. The goal of this plan is to provide a safer more pedestrian friendly walkable community as well as offer a new sense of visual interest to this high traffic area.

CITY MANAGER'S LETTER



Dear Neighbors,

I am pleased to present to you another issue of the city newsletter. I hope that you find the information provided both helpful and informative.

Since you received your last newsletter, I am happy to report that the City was honored by the Tampa Bay Regional Planning Council with a first place award for the renovation of Sims Park. Our Home Improvement Grant Program also received recognition along with other projects which highlighted our efforts to bring growth and prosperity to our community.

The City has increased the income eligibility requirements and the amount of grant funding available to homeowners to implement home improvements. I encourage you to contact Erica in our Development Department at (727) 853-1050 to see if you qualify for a grant to subsidize your next project. I am also pleased to announce that on August 30th our Parks and Recreation Department will be receiving the 2017 Agency Excellence Award in the Economic Impact Category from the Florida Recreation and Park Association. These awards are a great example of why our city is such a great place to live, work and play in.

If you have been to the Recreation and Aquatic Center lately you can't help but notice the expansion project that is under construction. A relocated and expanded fitness center with state of the art fitness equipment and free weights, indoor playground complete with child watch area and additional multi-purpose rooms are a few of the improvements that are coming soon.

As a reminder, hurricane season began on June 1st. This edition of the newsletter contains a hurricane preparedness article which provides important and potentially life-saving information. Please take a moment to read the article and make sure that you and your family are prepared in the event of an emergency. If you have not had a chance to pick up the 2017 Disaster Planning Guide, a copy is available on the city's website at www.citynpr.org.

Looking ahead to the fall, we are expecting another great turnout for the Annual Cotee River Clean-Up on Saturday, September 16th. This event is a wonderful opportunity to get involved in our community and meet other community-minded citizens for a really great cause. All ages are encouraged to participate and a volunteer lunch will be provided after the event.

As always, if there is something that I or city staff can do for you, please do not hesitate to give me a call as we are here to serve you!

Sincerely,

Debbie L. Manns



DOWNTOWN DINING

There's much to discover about our downtown these days. Have you ever tried a Boulevard Beef & Ale Cheesesteak? Or sipped at Sips while digging into a delectable liver pâté? How about counting the number of napkins destroyed while eating chicken wings at Beef O'Brady's or how nice the table settings are at the White Heron? Debated what to eat at Dulcet or Johnny Grits?

Jimmy's menu is always good, especially the daily special. And let's not forget Christina's and Fitzgerald's, just up the street, both long-time local favorites.

If you like spicy, try Estella's Mexican on Main Street, or El Cerrito tucked-in at the corner of Congress Street and Massachusetts Avenue. Go take a listen to the floor boards creak in the historical building that houses Rose's Bistro and enjoy healthy, fresh food. Cross the river and enjoy Thai Bistro or take a break for a shaved ice at the Sno Shack.

Try Sugardarlings Cupcakes, so sweet you can't resist eating just one. Ottaways Ice Cream just next door is always a lot of fun.

You'll always find a warm welcome and a friendly "hello" when you step into any one of our city's great eateries. So, patronize our downtown businesses, it's good for your soul.



Expanded Home Improvement Grant Program (You may be eligible!)

The eligibility requirement for the Home Improvement Grant have been expanded. The grant can be used for improvements such as:

- Landscaping
- Façade changes (i.e., painting, shutters, awning, porches)
- Windows

The maximum grant amount is \$10,000 with the property owner paying half the costs. The grant program is funded through use of Community Development Block Grant funds so you must qualify as low to moderate income to participate as shown below.



Persons In Household	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
EXPANDED Income Limits (120% AMI)	\$49,750	\$56,850	\$64,000	\$71,050	\$76,750	\$82,450	\$88,150

For more information, contact Erica Lindquist at 727-853-1050 or LindquistE@cityofnewportrichey.org

Pavement Management Plan UPDATE

On June 20th, City Council held a work session on the proposed Pavement Management Plan. The plan was subsequent to many meetings with the Citizens Advisory Committee and staff. The plan proposed to Council was based on a 20 year roadway design criteria. The proposed plan is intended to create a fair and equitable assessment method in order to preserve an improved transportation network and provide a better quality of life.



Hacienda Hotel Receives Historic Grant Award Funding.

The city was recently awarded a Small Matching Grant and Special Category Grant from Florida's Division of Historical Resources to continue the restoration of the Hacienda Hotel. The Small Matching Grant will focus upon making the property more approachable by restoring the original Sims Park Patio and Matador Room. Work will also include reconstruction of the Bank Street historic, five-foot wall often seen in older photos. The Special Category Grant will be used to install windows and doors that replicate the original designs. All planned work will be reviewed by the Division of Historical Resources in the coming months, so expect to see things happening this fall.

GOLFCARTS



All golf carts operating on city streets must be inspected and registered by the City's Police Department on an annual basis. The registration and inspection fee is \$25.00. Registered carts are to be equipped with functioning brakes, turn signals, brake lights, and other safety parameters. Carts must park in a manner within a space to allow for another cart to park side by side or in another fashion that allows for two carts in one spot.

Complete details may be obtained on the City's Website or by calling New Port Richey Police Department at (727) 841-4550.



Your City Council from left to right

- Councilperson, Bill Phillips
PhillipsB@cityofnewportrichey.org
- Deputy Mayor, Jeff Starkey (seated)
StarkeyJ@cityofnewportrichey.org
- Mayor, Rob Marlowe
MarloweR@cityofnewportrichey.org
- Councilperson, Chopper Davis (seated)
DavisC@cityofnewportrichey.org
- Councilperson, Judy Debella Thomas
DebellaThomas@cityofnewportrichey.org