

April 2007

• Vol. XXIII No. 4

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## BRIEFS

### Administrative Professionals: Shaping the Future

Hundreds of Hillsborough County administrative professionals purchase office equipment and supplies; plan meetings and special events; create presentations and special events; maintain multiple schedules and calendars; and maintain computer files, directories and databases. Their skills play a vital role in shaping the future of Hillsborough County. They must have outstanding interpersonal communication abilities, project management knowledge, mastery of integrated office software applications, exceptional organizational skills, and, of course, exemplary customer service.

Every year, Hillsborough County recognizes the importance of this class of professionals at a special luncheon.

#### Administrative Professional's Luncheon

Thursday, April 19  
Comfort Inn @ 820 E. Busch Blvd.  
Cost is \$15

Purchase your tickets through April 13. They will not be available at the door. All administrative professionals will receive a gift at the door when they present their ticket. For more information, call Erika Brown at **635-8277** or Antoinette Wimbley at **276-8573**.

More BRIEFS on Page 3



## Building Services Staff Surprised With Award From Pat Bean

It's been rough times for the Building Services Division: In the last year, a few staff members were arrested for illegally selling building permits and licenses. Since then, these employees have been terminated or will soon be terminated pending due process, and a follow up investigation is underway. However, remaining Building Services employees have worked hard to pick up the pieces and show they can recover and shine.

The Northwest Building Services Satellite Office, located at Anderson and Gunn



Highway, was particularly affected. The County had even considered closing it down and moving staff to other locations. When this closure was announced to Northwest em-

More EXTRA  
on Page 3

## Team Building Day 2007



The Public Works Team Building Day is where the basketball meets the forklift.

Now in its 6th year, the event--dubbed as the Public Works Rodeo--was held March 14 at Owens Pass Park in Dover.

Nearly 450 employees enjoyed participating in skills competitions. Twenty-two events were held on the grounds in five classes: Heavy Equipment operations, Wheeled Vehicle operations, Public Works Worker competitions, Mosquito Control-related events and competitions for Engineering Technicians and Specialized Services duties.

The Transportation Maintenance Division's East Service Unit won the Division Championship Cup for its superior performance in the competitions. Each year, the service units vie for annual ownership of the Cup as they strive to gain the most points in each competition.

The Clerical/Administrative support competitions were held in an office environment a week prior to Team Building Day. The winners of these

More RODEO on Page 3



## Extra Mile Award Takes Employees by Surprise (Continued from Page 1)

ployees, they asked for another chance. They were serious.

They submitted an improvement plan and, after review, were given a probation period to implement it.

During this time, many employees took on extra work, training or moved from other locations to Northwest to keep the facility operating at full capacity. When their probation period was completed, their hard work paid off and it was agreed the location could remain open.

In a memo about the accomplishment, Jerry Sparks, Building Services Division Director, wrote: "I feel extremely fortunate to be working with this exceptional group of individuals, who when challenged, were prepared to go the 'extra mile' for Hillsborough County government."

News of their accomplishment made it to the desk of County Administrator Pat Bean. Without a doubt, she was impressed.

That's why she decided to surprise Northwest Building Services employees and personally present to them the Extra Mile Award on March 28.

"Thank you for your hard work in allowing us to keep this office open to provide services to our citizens," Bean said.

The Award now is clearly visible at the entrance so customers who walk in can realize the *extra mile* that Hillsborough County employees went to continue to serve them.

## Rodeo Made to Test Skills Like No Other (Continued from Page 1)

competitions were announced at the Team Building Event along with the winners of the outdoor competitions.

The day afforded employees the opportunity to do some business and get updated information from many of the County's service providers, such as Human Resources, Florida Technology Transfer Training Institute, deferred compensation counselors, the Florida West Coast Credit Union and others.

Also, employees were able to perform a community service good deed by donating blood. At the end of the day, 33 pints were collected by Florida Blood Services.

In addition, more than 50 employees participated in an on-site training session conducted by the Occupational Safety and Health Services team. This training session provided guidance on avoiding lower back injuries when lifting large, heavy objects.

The Public Works Department also would like to extend thanks to the Parks, Recreation and Conservation Department for use of Owens Pass Park and tables, chairs and tents.



**Rodeo participants receive training on workplace safety.**

## Taste of Hillsborough's Tap Water Rates Best



Bag the bottled stuff. Put away the Perrier.

Hillsborough County snagged top honors March 9 for the best tap water in a regional contest sponsored by the Florida Section of the American Water

Works Association (AWWA).

With samples of high-quality water produced by the Lithia Water Treatment Plant, Hillsborough County Water Resource Services emerged tops over seven other competitors--including Pasco County, which won the statewide taste-testing contest last year.

Judges included representatives of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency,

## BRIEFS (Continued from Page 1)

### Third Annual Bilingual Town Hall Meeting

"Hablando Con El Pueblo" is this year's theme for the 3rd Annual Bilingual Town Hall Meeting, coordinated by the Office of Hispanic Affairs.

**Bilingual Town Hall Meeting  
Thursday, April 12  
Incarnation Catholic Church in  
Town 'N Country  
Exhibits @ 5:30 p.m.  
Meeting @ 6:30 p.m.**

For more information, call **274-6730**.



### More Than 50 Employers @ Career Connections

The Hillsborough County Employment Opportunity Program is hosting its annual Career Connections Job Fair.

**Career Connections Job Fair  
Thursday, May 24  
10 a.m. - 2 p.m.  
University Area Community Center  
14013 N. 22nd St. in Tampa**

More than 50 employers and 300 participants are expected. For more information, call **272-5074x222**.

the Department of Environmental Protection and the University of South Florida chapter of the AWWA. They scrutinized each entry for taste, smell, color and clarity.

The Lithia plant provides an average of more than 29 million gallons of water a day to approximately 248,000 people in south and central Hillsborough County.

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## GOOD NEWS

### LETTERS

▶ Health & Social Services **Sunshine Line** received the following kudos from various customers:

· "**Olga Roberts** is the nicest human being I have met. She helps me with my transportation needs and whenever I call in, she listens and is very caring about my feelings."

· "I was not finished with my dialysis treatment and could not leave without finishing it, as my life depends on it. The driver **Michelle Calonge** was not supposed to wait on me, but she did and got in trouble for it. I thank her from the bottom of my heart."

· "**Debora Griffen** and **Fred Gilbert** both did an excellent job transporting me to my appointment, and I would like to thank them."

▶ **Corporal Michele Perez** of Animal Services received the following accolades from the Twelve Oaks Civic Association: "Thank you for being a guest speaker at our General Membership Meeting held Feb. 27. We especially enjoyed your stories about some of your personal experiences with animals. Your support of our civic association demonstrates your dedication to Hillsborough County."

▶ **Philip Bethell** of Public Works received the following compliments from the Sun City Center Community Association after following through on a promise made at a Town Hall Meeting: "The SCCCA is extremely appreciative of Mr. Bethell's efforts and that of the Hillsborough County Public Works Department in restoring these sidewalks to an acceptable condition."

▶ **Luisa Rodriguez-Zmoda** of Health & Social Services received the following positive letter from landlord Caroline Ure: "I found her to be professional, accessible and very knowledgeable about her subject. But most of all she did what she said she would do and always returned calls in a timely fashion."

▶ **Mike Scaglione** of Planning & Growth Management received the following kudos from resident Tom Lee: "I want to express my gratitude for your assistance on our Westchase Village Park. Although I did not always agree with the internal decision-making process or procedures or the timing, the professional, polite and systematic manner in which you assisted us was appreciated."

▶ **LJ Sosa, Lyn Butler** and **Roy Bean** of the Citizen Action Center received the following letter from Mary Ann Brennan-Casale: "I can never thank you enough for the help you gave our people here at the North Grove Lane. I really appreciate all your kindness to a real bad problem."

▶ **Charlene Sammons** and **Charles Holland** of Public Works received the following accolades from the Sundance Association: "I wanted to send a note of thanks to folks I kindly refer to as *our guardian angels*."

▶ **Cindy Brown** of Fire Rescue received the following compliments from Jennifer Berger: "I would like to thank and acknowledge Cindy Brown for her care and thoughtfulness during my family's recent trip to the Florida Strawberry Festival. Although both my children were fine after an incident at the festival, I was considerably rattled emotionally and Cindy remained very reassuring."

▶ **Martin Montalvo** of Public Works received the following positive letter

from George Martin of the Dana Shores Civic Association: "Martin shows the best attitudes in our County employees."

▶ **Ira Pyles** of Information & Technology Services received the following kudos from the National Emergency Number association: "We very much appreciate Ira's continuous willingness to provide knowledge, objectivity and time to NENA's efforts."

▶ **Jimmie B. Keel Library staff members** received the following accolades from Sheila Bush of the Brandeis University Women's Committee: "I want to thank you for all of the kindnesses and caring they have showed to us this past year."

▶ **Corporal Ken Vetzal** received the following letter from resident Karen Austin: "What started as something cruel and heartless, ended with compassion, dedication (and a feeling of gratitude) thanks to officer Vetzal and the countless others who have one of the most difficult jobs imaginable."

▶ **Human Resources** received the following letter from the Management & Budget Department: "I completed a review of the Human Resources mission pages submitted as part of your proposed budget. They are the most comprehensive performance measures of any department or other organization in the county. Thank you for so aggressively supporting performance management."



### The Heat is On

**Harry Niles (L) dishes up his entry in the Water Resource Services' 5th Annual Chili Smackdown to a brave Greg Lynn of Public Works. Held on Feb. 19 on the plaza outside the WRS Twiggs Street administration building, the event raised more than \$1,000 for the United Way. The coveted trophy went to Rich Cummings and Dale Royals for their Alafia River Swamp Chili.**

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Time to toss out bad habits and *spring* into a new, healthy lifestyle. Start by taking an honest look at your overall health.

To help, the Wellness Program--through Humana--is providing employees and their adult dependents who are enrolled in the Employee Group Health Plan a chance to assess their current health, understand how their behavior may impact their health, and identify potential health risks. The "Humana Health Assessment" will provide members an individualized action plan to better understand their health and offer links to resources.

The Humana Health Assessment is an online self-assessment tool that is based on individual responses, and provides employees immediate steps to take to improve their health. It identifies which employees may benefit from Humana's clinical guidance programs, whether it is a nurse from one of the disease management programs, the prenatal program, or Personal Nurse program. These programs offer interaction with medical professionals who provide tailored guidance and support. These programs are completely confidential and voluntary on the part of the member.

The Wellness Program is conducting a campaign through May 5 to introduce the online assessment and encourage participation. During this time, there will be weekly PRIZES, grand PRIZES, and group PRIZES to the department or agency with the highest participation. To access the Humana Health Assessment, go to [www.humana.com](http://www.humana.com) and log into MyHumana. If you haven't registered, you'll need to do that first.

Spring has arrived. So go ahead and take the Health Assessment and make changes for a healthier lifestyle. You could become richer in health and in your wallet.

For more information, call Rathanak San at 272-7126.

## Hillsborough County Promotes 1st Woman to Become County Engineer

Hillsborough County has hired Leigh Ann Pyron to serve in the dual role of County Engineer and Director of the Engineering Division for the Public Works Department.



In her position, Pyron is responsible for a staff of 211 employees and an annual operating budget of \$22 million.

The Engineering Division has four sections that manage the County's transportation and stormwater construction projects, which assist with projects related to road and intersection improvements; sidewalk installations; and stormwater projects that enhance water quality in our lakes, streams and bays and provide flooding relief. The Division will oversee more than 350 capital projects this year, costing more than \$956 million.

### Employee Members of the County Administrator's Communication Councils (Includes members of the General, African American and Hispanic Councils)

• **Administrative Services, County Administrator, Quality Services, Public Affairs:**

Jean Morgan, Yorlanda Williams, Rosalinda Rodriguez.

• **Affordable Housing Office:** Joy Blackmon, Sarah Matalon.

• **Aging Services:** Percy Everett, Deniece James, Lorie Radice, Amy Williams, Jacqueline Burgess, Amy McKinney, Catherine Rivera.

• **Animal Services:** Terrie Disalvo, Shirley Herbert, Rosalyn Coy, Jose Calderon.

• **Children's Services:** Sara Bower, Felicia Brown-Vickers, Eugene Domenici, Michelle Hernandez, Mary Towler, Donna Everett, Mildred Lopez, Barbara Valles.

• **Communications:** Francesco Alessi, Jasmine Stephens, Marcia Mejia.

• **Consumer Protection & Professional Responsibility:** Lois Taylor.

• **Cooperative Extension:** JoAnn Hoffman.

• **Economic Development:** Felix Bratslavsky, Kewannie Watson, Liliana Barranco.

• **Fire Rescue:** Rodney Castro, James Chastain, Fred Freet, Ragon Frost, Frank Fernandez, Donald

Glass, Susan Harvey, Sean Irvin, Christopher Stark, Richard Suarez, Reggie Windham.

• **Health & Social Services:** Wilma Genter, Kristi Menendez, Laura Gonzalez, Scot Hutchinson, Bill Falcone, Arthur Jacobs, Jean Gaylord, Sally Lopez, Blanca Alvarez, Bill Falcone.

• **Code Enforcement:** Dan Green, Libia Gooch, Tiese Scott, Ramon Hernandez.

• **Human Resources:** Becky Buehrle, Robert Williams, Edith Montes.

• **Information & Technology Services:** Barbara Reed, Jacky Brown, Delphine Morales.

• **Library Services:** Eloise Hurst, Diane Perry, Clarence Bird, Beverly Hladky, Joseph O'Sullivan, Cynthia Cann, Nilda Miller.

• **Medical Examiner:** Timothy Kelly.

• **Parks, Recreation & Conservation:** Billy Graham, Brian Pinson, James Knight, Megan Sommers, James Reed, John Casteel, Hilario Martinez, Charles Sites, Joseph Troupe, Jackie Brown, Carol Shepherd, Alexander Martinez, Lucy Romero.

• **Planning & Growth Management:** Althia Harper, John Heisler, Tom Hiznay, Linda Mandell,

Shirley Vereen, Tamara Carswell, Eli Alvarado.

• **Public Works:** Debbie Andrews, Susan Baxter, Richard Cook, Robert Dixon, Lindy Griffin, Laura Martinez, LeaAnna Mayhew, Gary O'Neal, Verneka Rhodes, Gail Rosenblum, Steve Schwartz, Robert Boyd, Diedre Clark, Bernadette Cooper, Ralph Kellman, Shawtel Lawton, James Lagrand, John Miller, Maize Monroe, Johnny Moore, Walter Shaw, Eduardo Garcia, Ozvaldo Gonzalez, Martin Montalvo, Martin Solano, Damaris Tejada, Frances Valdes, Giraldo Valle, Fulton Valenzuela.

• **Procurement:** Joe Ann Adler, Helenenor Baker.

• **Real Estate:** Theresa Avery.

• **Solid Waste:** Lina Martinez, Cindy Jones, Sue Slingbaum, Samuel Johnson, Crystal Pruneda.

• **Water Resource Services:** John Richards, Manny Fernandez, Cynthia Atkins, George Diaz, Sheryl Zaffarese, Patricia Moore, Cynthia Lester, Lori Pettit, Ebrahim Maidani, Walter Zdziebloski, David Carson, Henry Gyden, LaShonda Singleton, Sylvia Rosario, Edith Ramirez.

**For more information on these communication councils, contact your department's representatives or Gloria Grady of Human Resources at 276-2752.**

## CLASSIFIED

### AUTOMOBILE

'89 Ford Bronco. V6 Automatic, cold AC, aluminum wheels, runs well. \$2,000 OBO. Call (813)926-0188.

'96 Dodge 2500 Ram Conversion Van. Lots of bells & whistles! Low mileage, new tires, heavy duty battery, leather interior. Must sell because of moving. \$7,200 OBO. Call (727)643-0056.

'99 Jeep Cherokee. 4x4, power windows & locks, 167,000 miles, AC not working. \$2,500 OBO. Call (813)870-1049.

'99 Mazda 626 LX. Clean, low mileage, loaded, 4-door, leather, sunroof, 18" chrome rims with new tires. Must sell. \$6,500 OBO. Call (813)932-7376. E-mail [gonzo33612@yahoo.com](mailto:gonzo33612@yahoo.com)

'00 Mitsubishi Eclipse GT. Silver with sunroof & spoiler, good condition. 90,000 miles. Asking \$6,200. Call (813)326-1597.

'06 Honda TRX450R. Fast, less than 40 hours of use, never wrecked. Must sell. \$5,500 OBO. Call (813)240-4422.

### FURNITURE

**Bedroom Set.** Includes mattress, box spring, large headboard with mirrors, tall dresser, long dresser with mirror. Nice.

Heavy. 10 years old. \$700. Call (813)505-2152.

**Computer Desk.** With nice hutch, good condition. \$95. Call (813)964-0922.

**Dining Table.** Hardwood, 44"x66" Queen Anne style. Inherited & don't need it. \$200. Call (813)653-7342.

**Sleeper Sofa.** Queen, tan "suede-like" cloth, great condition, very comfortable. \$300 OBO. Call (813)994-3862.

### MISC

**Aquarium.** 90-gallon, complete with fish & wet/dry filtration system. \$375 OBO. Call (813)333-2518.

**Basketball Stand & Hoop.** Portable, Spalding. \$45. Call (813)663-0753.

**Cell Phone for Sale.** Sprint. Call (813)495-7665.

**Gym System.** Nautilus, multi-use, commercial-grade quality. Asking \$350. Call (813)672-9102.

**Plazma Flatscreen LCD HD-TV.** Magnavox, 5-disc CD/DVD player, Sony 5 speaker+sub-woofer surround sound system, all cables, all remotes, all instruction manuals. Only 3 months old. Must sell. \$1,000. Call (727)514-6646.

**Wedding Gown.** White, satin, off the shoulders, size 5/6, detachable train, buttons down the back. Pictures available. \$100. Call (813)679-1791.

### PETS

**Solid Black House Cat.** Mario is 1 year old, litter-trained, very affectionate. Moving & cannot take him with me. Needs good, caring, attentive owner. Call (813)623-3904.

### REAL ESTATE

**Apartment for Rent.** 1/1 @ 3132 W. Lambright St. in Tampa. Call (813)935-8953.

**Condo for Sale in Gainesville.** 2/2.5, 1,172 square feet, Jacuzzi tub upstairs, swimming pool, all major appliances, high ceilings, end unit, sprinkler system, home warranty. Near UF & on two major bus routes. Call (813)961-5244.

**Condo for Sale in Westchase & Citrus Park Mall.** \$165,000, 2/1.5, stainless steel appliances, laminate flooring, custom cabinets, screened patio. Call (813)920-0487.

**Townhouse for Sale.** 3/2.5 in Meadowood Condos/Temple Terrace. Screened front & back porch, new carpet downstairs, appliances included, wood floor in dining area. Across the

street from 2 pools & club house. Not available until December 2007, but will work out rent/lease deal. \$173,900. Call (813)505-2152.

### WANTED

**Babysitter for Weekends.** Looking for someone with good morals & values to baby sit 2 year old daughter on occasion. Call (954)608-1846.

**Female Toy Poodle.** Tan or white. Want to cross a Chihuahua to make Pochahua puppies. Will pay all costs & buy all puppies. Call (813)476-0965.

**Party Decorations.** Hollywood-themed & disco ball for upcoming party. Call (813)431-4975.

### YARD SALES

**04/13-15.** Lots of children's items: toys, clothes, bedding, bike, etc. Furniture, designer purses, sewing machine, printer, household items & more. Everything must go! 11138 Hannaway Drive in Riverview. Call (813)917-1320.

**04/21-22** 7 a.m. - 3 p.m. Including antique items, kitchenware, wood entertainment center, stereo, bedroom & living room furniture, lamps, stove, tables, yard trinkets & more. 2707 W. Arch St. in Tampa. Call (813)872-6119.



#### NEWSLINE

A monthly newsletter published by the Communications Department for Hillsborough County employees.

Communications Department  
County Center, 1st floor  
Call 272-5314 and tell us your news.

Hillsborough County Board  
of County Commissioners  
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