



VENICE CITY SCENE

April 2011

A Publication for the Employees of the City of Venice, Florida

Venice City Scene is published by e-mail. Please address questions, concerns and news items to Marketing and Communications Officer Pam Johnson at pjohnso@ci.venice.fl.us.

Those on the city's computer system may access newsletters on the S drive or on the city's Web site: www.venice.gov.com, click on Employees, then Employee Corner, then Employee Newsletter.

Save the Date For a Healthy Feast

Created by Our Grill-Master Johnnie Poole

April 28, 2011 in Community Hall

FREE

For City of Venice Employees Only



**Gifts will be available from the
Wellness Committee to help you
pursue a Healthy Lifestyle!**

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COMING UP

Farmer's Market,
every Saturday in
Centennial Park, 8
a.m. - noon.



Check the city's Web site: www.venicegov.com
for the next special event.

Sunday, April 3, Kimal Lumber's 9th Annual Building a Cure Classic Car Show, Centennial Park, 9 a.m. - 2 p.m.

Wednesday, April 6, Give the gift of life, **Blood Drive in the Big Red Bus** in the west parking lot at City Hall, 401 W. Venice Ave., 9 a.m. - noon.

Friday, April 8, Friday Night Live Concert, Centennial Park, 7 p.m.

Sharks Tooth Festival, Venice Municipal Airport Festival Grounds, 5 -9 p.m.

Saturday, April 9, Sharks Tooth Festival, Venice Municipal Airport Festival Grounds, 10 a.m. - 9 p.m.

Venice Area Garden Club presents **Earth's Garden Fest**, Kimal Event Center, 11184 Hughey-Kimal Drive, between Jackson and Center roads, 10 a.m. - 4 p.m. Admission is free; parking is \$3.

Sunday, April 10, Sharks Tooth Festival, Venice Municipal Airport Festival Grounds, 10 a.m. - 5 p.m.

Venice Joy of Jazz, Centennial Park, 1 p.m.

Friday, April 15 Venice MainStreet free **Friday Night Live Concert**, Centennial Park Gazebo, 7 p.m.

Saturday, April 16, Suncoast BBQ Bash, Venice Municipal Airport Festival Grounds, 1 - 3 p.m.

Thursday, April 21, Island Nights, downtown, music, food and shopping 5:30 - 8 p.m.

Saturday, April 23, Eggstravaganza, Centennial Park Gazebo, sponsored by the Lions Club and Venice MainStreet, 9 a.m.

Thursday, April 28, Wellness Barbecue, in the community room at City Hall, served between 11:30 a.m. - 1:30 p.m.



Friday, May 13, Friday Night Live free concert, Centennial Park, sponsored by Venice MainStreet, 7 p.m.

American Cancer Society **Relay for Life**, Venice Municipal Airport Festival Grounds, east end of Airport Avenue, 5 p.m. until 10 a.m. on Saturday.

Friday, May 27, Friday Night Live free concert, Centennial Park, sponsored by Venice MainStreet, 7 p.m.

Monday, May 30, Memorial Day
City Hall closed; garbage, recycling and yard waste collected as usual.

Service Anniversaries



Mayor John Holic presents a pin and certificate to Finance Director Jeff Snyder for 5 years of service to the city.

The following employees celebrate a 5-year milestone of their employment with the city:

30 years, Airport Maintenance Technician **Aaron Turner**, Public Works Department, Airport, April 27.

10 years, Firemedic **Mark Devine**, Fire Department, April 16.

10 years, Firemedic **Rich Lanigan**, Fire Department, April 16.

10 years, Municipal Service Worker II **Carey Patterson**, Public Works Department, Maintenance Division, April 16.

5 years, Firemedic **Kyle Hartley**, Fire Department, April 6.

5 years, Firemedic **Josh Hunter**, Fire Department, April 6.

5 years, Field Operations Supervisor **Danny Kirkendall**, Utilities Department, Field Operations Division, April 10.

5 years, Field Operations Technician II **Valerie Marquez**, Utilities Department, Field Operations Division, April 10.

Bring your child to work on April 28

“Take your Child to Work Day” is a national event observed by many employers across the country. Employees may bring their children into the workplace for a day or part of a day to shadow the parent or guardian on the job. Visiting the workplace enables young people to envision what a day at work is like, learn what type of work they might enjoy, and gain a better understanding what their parents or guardians do all day. This year, the city will participate in “Take your Child to Work Day” on April 28.

Children must be 8 years old or older. They are not allowed in hazardous areas and may not participate in dangerous activities. Requests will be reviewed to ensure the safety of all children attending this event.

To bring your child to work, sign and submit a waiver and request form available in the Administrative Services Department and return it to your supervisor for your department director to approve. Once the director approves the form, it should be submitted to ASD no later than 4 p.m. on Wednesday, April 20. You should receive confirmation by April 26.

The following is different from last year:

- If the child is not the employee's child, the child's parent or guardian must also sign the form.
- If the child is 18 years or older, the child must sign the form.
- Children are encouraged to attend the Wellness BBQ with their parents or guardians for lunch between 11.30 AM and 1.30 PM in Community Hall at City Hall.

For more information, call ASD Administrative Assistant Jeanette Bartek, (941) 486-2626 ext. 21002.

Take a Bow

City Employees participate in Smoking Cessation Program

City of Venice employees trying to 'kick the tobacco habit' recently participated in a smoking cessation program. The program is sponsored by the city's Wellness Program and Blue Cross Blue Shield of Florida Inc. Employees participated in an eight-week program designed to provide educational resources and support to those interested in ending their use of tobacco products. The program was held after business hours at City Hall.

Congratulations to the seven employees who completed the program!

Utilities Department

Even though a resident was disgruntled about utility work being done outside his home, he still had a compliment for Field Operations Supervisor **Danny Kirkendall**.

"Danny has been a prince among men in taking care of us," the resident wrote.

Get on Board: BUS Tokens

The following employees received BUS tokens in March:

Public Works Department Employees:



**Jeff Krause,
John Parrish,
James Williamson,
Dave Krupa,
Rich Kollmar,
Scott Lott**

Five bus tokens equals \$25. Turn them in to Administrative Services Department to receive the award.

Public Works Department

A resident recently called the Public Works Department to say how happy he is with the **solid waste service**.

Fire Battalion Chief Joe Silva expressed gratitude for support from the Parks Maintenance Division of Public Works.

"They brought the training grounds up to the expected level and then surpassed it," he wrote of the work crew: Heavy Equipment Operators **Jeff Krause, John Parrish and James Williamson**; and Municipal Service Workers II **Dave Krupa, Rich Kollmar and Scott Lott**.

Police Department

Officer **Betty Camp** has been reaping praise for her work. A letter to the editor in the local newspaper expressed appreciation for the positive manner in which she is doing parking enforcement. The writer called her "wonderful ambassador for Venice as are all of our dedicated officers".

Many citizens, especially downtown merchants have commented to city council members how much they appreciate friendly officers patrolling on foot.

A former police chief from another community who has retired in Venice was impressed with Officer **Pete Sorrentino's** "professional investigation" of an attempted break in.

"I truly appreciate the interest you have shown and the effort you have expended..." the resident wrote.

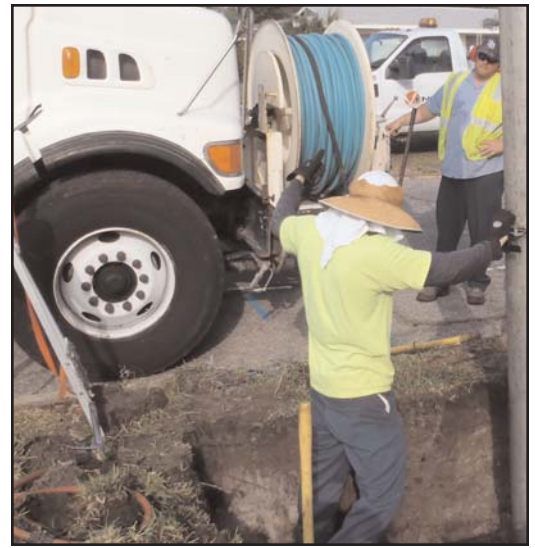
Welcome to the City Team

Vince LaPorta joined the city team as building and code enforcement director on Feb. 28.

From the Pipeline



Field Operations team members repair a 1-inch service line in the 700 block of White Pine Tree Road. From left are Tony Ramirez, Marc Richard, Phil Carnell and Jeremy Petrosky operating the Vactor truck.



Brandon Dilmore, left, and Jimmy Bennett prepare to replace and repair a 2-inch water service line in the 600 block of South Harbor Drive. Bennett is using the Vactor truck to vacuum the spoil out of the work area, while Dilmore guides it safely around the work area. Lower left, the broken wheel valve and tapping saddle that was leaking through the valve packing. Lower right, the new tapping saddle and corporation stop that replaced the damaged parts. Other employees who assisted are Vadim Bugayev, Marc Richard, Phil Carnell, Jeremy Petrosky, Tony Ramirez, Sal Denato, Marko Tucak, Lee Krauss, Dennis Rodriguez, Carolyn Hart and Stacy Mckenzie.



Vadim Bugayev and Marc Richard prepare to install a new 6-inch insta-valve in the water distribution system. This technology allows the installation without any disruptions to customers or the water distribution system. Assistant Utilities Director Tim Hochuli and Data Input Technician Damien Stillings are being briefed on the valve insertions process. The valve insertion took place at the corner of Harbor Drive South and Sorrento Street.



Tony Ramirez repairs a 1-inch water service line that a landscaping business accidentally damaged while planting a palm tree on Dante Street.

Happy Birthday!

The following employees celebrate birthdays during the month of **April**:

- 2, Lt. **Tony Grisanti**, Fire Department
- 2, Municipal Service Worker II **Andy Spafford**, Public Works Department, Parks Division
- 3, Firemedic **Tim Tramel**, Fire Department
- 4, Municipal Service Worker II **Jerry Manchester**, Airport
- 4, Inventory Control Technician **Mike Sellers**, Utilities Department, Field Operations Division
- 5, Officer **Bill Long**, Police Department
- 7, Senior Accountant **Mike Tanski**, Finance Department
- 7, Airport Administrator **Chris Rozansky**, Airport
- 9, Solid Waste Equipment Operator **Junior Roberts**, Public Works Department, Solid Waste Division
- 9, Finance Director **Jeff Snyder**, Finance Department
- 9, Airport Maintenance Technician **Aaron Turner**, Airport
- 12, Heavy Equipment Operator **Rob Bondurant**, Public Works Department, Maintenance Division
- 12, Environmental Technician **Rocky Reid**, Utilities Department, Water Reclamation Division
- 14, Administrative Coordinator **Carolyn Hart**, Utilities Department, Field Operations Division
- 16, Historic Resources Director **James Hagler**, City Manager's Office
- 16, Field Operations Technician II **Val Marquez**, Utilities Department, Field Operations Division
- 18, Dispatcher **Pat Karaffa**, Police Department
- 19, Plant Operator C **Kurt Krug**, Utilities Department, Water Reclamation Division
- 21, Maintenance Technician **Rich Najm**, Public Works Department, Maintenance Division
- 22, Maintenance Superintendent **Bobby Hirter**, Public Works Department
- 23, Firemedic **Gerry Stause**, Fire Department
- 24, Officer **Mat Sauchinitz**, Police Department
- 25, Officer **Phil Phillips**, Police Department
- 28, Plant Operator C **Travis Hardwick**, Utilities Department, Water Reclamation Division
- 28, Procurement Manager **Jon Mayes**, Finance Department

For Sale: Late 1960s to early 1970s Cavalier Coca Cola machine. Works, keeps cold, rust on bottom. \$50 for pick up only. Call Val at ext. 25006 or email valmal0208@verizon.net for questions or more pictures.

