



The Insider

The Official Newsletter of the
City of South Daytona



A Message from the Mayor

As we approach the end of another year, I wanted to take this time to discuss the improvements we were able to achieve throughout the City now that we are debt-free.

First, let me start with some of our more visible improvements. We have completely renovated **Magnolia Park** with a fishing theme. The dock and walkways were replaced. The pond was stocked with fish, and a QR code was

developed so you can scan it with your phone and identify what has been caught. You can even use the code to identify which turtles you are feeding. The playground has a large fish and boat for children to climb on and play.

Next, we installed a new monument at **Riverfront Veterans Memorial Park**, dedicated to veterans who served or continue to serve our country. The beauty of the monument is the perfect complement to our extraordinary view of the Halifax River. The pavilions have new picnic tables and the boat ramp approach has been made wider. Please visit Riverfront Veterans Memorial Park and pay respect to those that have served and sacrificed.

At **James Street Park**, there is a new splashpad with a baseball theme to celebrate our national pastime which has been played at this park for decades. Truckloads of new infield clay were brought in to restore our fields along with new sod, on-deck circles and working irrigation. The concession stand was remodeled and is ready for members of our Citizen Alert Council to serve hot dogs, hamburgers and other snacks. Stop by, catch a baseball game and say hello to our much-appreciated volunteers in the concession stand.

Renovations of the **Piggotte Community Center**, included re-striping of the parking lot, installing decorative white vinyl fencing, and new poles with signage. Inside there are new televisions to enhance the visitor's experience and lastly, a new informational electronic sign designed to keep you informed of important dates and happenings in our City.

continued on next page...

Mayor

William "Bill" Hall
(386) 295-6636

Councilman Seat 1

Brandon Young
(386) 453-5645

Councilman Seat 2

Doug Quartier
(386) 299-6511

Councilwoman Seat 3

Lisa O'Neal
(386) 322-3014

Vice-Mayor Seat 4

Eric Sander
(386) 852-8588

City Manager

James L. Gillis, Jr.
(386) 322-3014

Community Development:

Permits, Licenses:
(386) 322-3020

Code Compliance Office:

(386) 322-3025

Fire Dept. Non-Emergency:

(386) 322-3033

Parks & Recreation:

(386) 322-3070

Police Department:

(386) 322-3030

Police Dispatch

Non-Emergency:

(386) 323-3568

Public Works Department:

Water/Sewer Emergency

Trash & Recycling:

M-F (8 to 4:30) (386) 322-3080

All other times: (386) 323-3568

Utility Department:

New Service, Service Shut-offs:

(386) 322-3002

Now for some of the non-visible improvements. All of our ageing water meters have been replaced with new instant read technology. An online portal is being finalized where you can log on and see water usage in real time, set alarms for maximum usage or review usage history. Once the portal is complete, we will assist residents in registering for this service along with a short tutorial on how it works.

There is a new in-ground stormwater pump to assist the drainage inside the Harborside Village subdivision. This permanent pump replaces a portable pump previously used. A new ditch excavator and small tracked vehicle were purchased to assist in the maintenance of stormwater swales, canals and ditches. We have also applied for over \$31 million in grants with the goal of using federal and state funds to improve our stormwater system.

By redesignating funds that were previously used for debt reduction, the City has begun a major emphasis on the resurfacing of our roadways. This past year we were able to resurface Western Road, Eastern Road, Northern Road, Garfield Drive, Carey Drive, Wells Drive and Palm Grove Court. It costs about \$75,000 to resurface just one roadway and we are excited to be able to pave so many roadways in a single year. We have a long way to go but our ambition and dedication will not stop until every road is updated.

Sewer pipes crack as they age, especially those made out of clay which was popular in the 1960s and 70s. Groundwater infiltrates the cracks in these pipes which, during heavy rain events, overwhelm our lift stations. To address this problem, we completed \$1.5 million in sewer system rehabilitation this past year. This project called for the installation of a liner in our old pipes. The liner is designed to prevent groundwater from infiltrating our sewer lines. As a result, we have already begun to see improved performance in our lift stations throughout the City. This money was used to address about a quarter of our sewer system.

Speaking of lift stations, we are in the process of replacing Lift Stations, inside Lantern Park, on Anastasia Drive, Valencia Road and Aspen Drive. These lift station replacements will ensure a more efficient performance especially during severe weather events. By updating these lift stations our goal is to increase the flow and reduce the likelihood of a backup. Lift station replacement will continue to be a priority as we improve our system. We even purchased a crane truck designed to remove the pumps from these stations when they get plugged so they can be cleared of blockages containing items which should not be flushed such as wipes.

We have coined the phrase "Investing in Us". What that means is investing in improvements to make the lives of our residents, business owners and visitors better while keeping the small-town charm that is South Daytona. We have spent about \$8 million on improvements over the last three years, and we were able to allocate an additional \$4 million in next year's budget alone.

Our City Staff does an incredible job, and I couldn't be prouder of the hard work they all do. The holiday season will be here before we know it and there are some exciting plans in the works.

As we approach 2025, I wish you all the best. Stay safe.

Light the Night

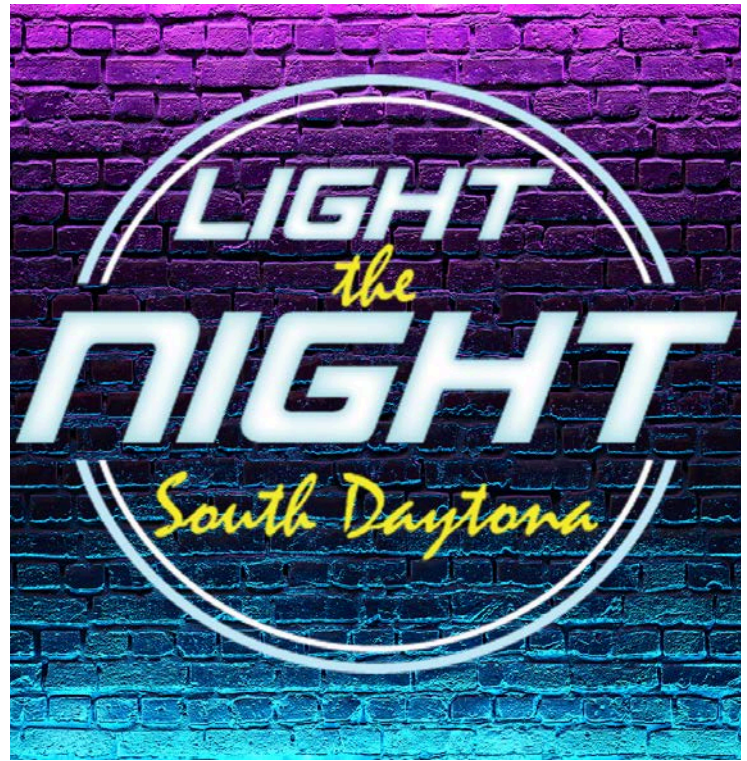
We've been lighting up South Daytona on October 31st for over twenty years with a festival that brings the whole community together. It's a safe and fun event for families that grows better and better every year! This event is held in the 2000 block of Kenilworth Avenue (just off Big Tree Road).

Come enjoy the Toddler Zone, Petting Zoo, Inflatables, Carnival Games, Hot Dogs, Chips, Popcorn, Music, and Costume Contests for all ages - including a Group Category! The best part is that Light the Night is our gift to you - so it's ALL FREE!

See you there!

Schedule of Costume Contests

- 6:15 Ages 3 and under
- 6:30 Ages 4 to 8
- 6:45 Ages 9 to 12
- 7:00 Theme Groups
- 7:15 Ages 13 to 17
- 7:30 Adults



**THURSDAY, OCTOBER 31, 2024
6:00 - 8:00 PM**

Gary Wandelt



Gary Wandelt, a 34-year veteran of the local law enforcement community, was more than just a policeman. He was best known for introducing our school children to McGruff, the Crime Fighting Dog, and playing Santa Claus for community Christmas events.

His 26 years at the South Daytona Police Department were marked by his active involvement in numerous community organizations and activities.

Gary Wandelt passed away on August 1, 2024, at the age of 73, leaving behind a legacy of service and dedication.

Coyotes in Florida

Coyotes are found throughout Florida. According to FWC, the presence of coyotes has been documented in all 67 Florida counties. Coyotes arrived in Florida as part of natural range expansion from western states; they now live in every state but Hawaii. This medium-sized canine, a close relative of the domestic dog, is extremely adaptable and can be found in rural, suburban and urban landscapes. They are typically shy and elusive but encounters between people and coyotes in Florida are occurring more often.

For more information, visit the Florida Fish and Wildlife website.



OCTOBER IS FIRE SAFETY MONTH

Six Tips for Fire Safety

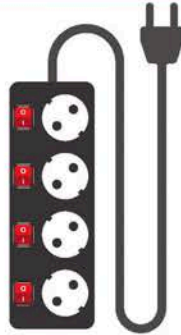


1

Test your smoke alarm monthly and **DO NOT** cover or remove.

Regularly check electrical cords for any fraying or damage and do not overload electrical outlets.

2



3

Keep matches and lighters out of children's reach.

Keep **ALL** flammable materials away from heat sources.

4



5

Never leave cooking food unattended on the stove.

Have an escape plan and call 911

6



Fire Department

The South Daytona Fire Department wants to remind all our residents that October is National Fire Prevention Month, with October 8 thru October 14 being Fire Prevention Week. We welcome local schools, daycares, churches, and all other groups or individuals to contact us at 322-3033 to schedule a tour of our station or to schedule an event with us.

Don't forget about the Movie Night in Central Park (corner of Magnolia Avenue and Big Tree Road) sponsored by the Fire Department. We will be showing Inside Out 2 on October 11th at 6:30 p.m. We will have free candy and popcorn. The Citizen Alert Hot Dog Wagon will be onsite to sell food and drinks.

Make sure to check your smoke detectors to ensure they operate correctly. We recommend changing your batteries every six months. A helpful reminder is to change the batteries when Daylight Saving Time changes. Check and test your smoke and fire detectors when you change your clocks.

The Fire Department also urges all our residents to remember to even be more vigilant than usual in practicing fire safety during the upcoming holidays, so that everyone can have a safe holiday season.

From our Fire House to yours we wish everyone a very Happy Holiday Season!

Fire Department Movie Night

Free Entry

Disney Pixar **INSIDE OUT 2**

October 10, 2024 at 6:30pm at Central Park

Central Park is located at 1991 Magnolia Avenue, South Daytona. Enjoy free movie, popcorn and candy. Concession will be available from South Daytona's Citizens Alert (cash only).



SOUTH DAYTONA
COMMUNITY TRUST 19TH ANNUAL
MAYOR BLAINE O'NEAL
MEMORIAL GOLF
TOURNAMENT

NOVEMBER 2, 2024 AT 8:30AM
 CYPRESS HEAD | 6231 PALM VISTA STREET | PORT ORANGE

\$125 per player includes Breakfast, Cart and Green Fees,
 Range Balls, Lunch, and Cooler Bag

Call (386) 322-3070 for more information
 to sign up Visit
www.Cypressheadgolf.com/Blaine



Holiday Lighting Awards 2024!

Each year, the City of South Daytona recognizes and awards the best holiday decorated homes and businesses in South Daytona.

Homes and businesses are nominated by calling the Parks and Recreation office at (386) 322-3070. Please make sure to complete your decorating by Sunday, December 8th. We need all nominations by December 11th.

2024 Christmas Tree Lighting


Merry Christmas

Please join the South Daytona City Council for an Inaugural
 Christmas Tree Lighting Ceremony at Central Park on

Wednesday, December 4, 2024
at 6:00pm at Central Park
 1991 Magnolia Avenue, South Daytona

Enjoy performances by South Daytona Elementary School
 and Warner Christian Academy.
 Light refreshments will be served.

Believe in the magic of the season.



2024 Christmas Tree Lighting

Christmas is around the corner. Mark your calendar for an inaugural event, Christmas in Central Park. The City will be decorating our beloved Central Park, located at the corner of Magnolia Avenue and Big Tree Road.

Join your City Council on Wednesday, December 4th at 6:00pm for our Christmas Tree Lighting Ceremony. We will enjoy performances from South Daytona Elementary School and Warner Christian Academy. Light refreshments will be served.



Santa's Magic Mailbox

From Wednesday, November 27th until Thursday, December 19th, Santa's Magic Mailbox will be at Central Park. Leave your letter for Santa in the mailbox and Santa will write back.

Don't forget to include your South Daytona address!

Parks and Recreation

Join us for one of our classes at the
Piggotte Community Center
(unless otherwise noted)

Monday's:

Cards & Games from 11am-3pm (Free)

Tuesday's:

Silver Sneakers at 11am (Weekly Fee)
Tai Chi at 6pm (\$10 Weekly)

Wednesday's:

Cards & Games from 11am-3pm (Free)
Karate at 6:30pm (Weekly Fee) **

Thursday's:

Silver Sneakers at 11am (Weekly Fee)
Palette & Brush Club at 1pm (1st & 3rd Thursday)
Cheerleading at 6pm (\$10 Weekly) **

Friday's:

Sewing Group from 10am-12pm (Free)

** Classes Karate and Cheerleading are held at the Youth Activity Building, 1700 James Street, South Daytona



Flag Football

Registration is now open for Flag Football! This is a coed recreational league with an emphasis on developing the ideals of good sportsmanship, honesty, courage and a sense of belonging.

Children new to the sport are welcome. Every child will be encouraged to play and have fun doing it! Practices & Games will be twice a week Monday-Friday at either 5:30pm or 6:30pm. Practices run 11/4-11/30. Games run 12/2-1/31/2025.

Register online by going to www.southdaytona.org.

Contact (386) 322-3070 for more information.



Veterans Memorial

There are limited spaces left if you want to place your relative's name and military designation on the newly constructed monument, please contact the City at 322-3070 to make the arrangements. The personalized etched placard costs \$50 to produce.



BBQ and Bluegrass Fest

Our annual BBQ and Bluegrass Fest will be on Saturday, November 16th from 10:00am to 5:30pm. BBQ teams will be competing in a Florida BBQ Association sanctioned competition. Come enjoy food from many different food vendors, beer from the beer garden, and listen to several Bluegrass bands that will play from 11:00am to 5:00pm. There will be artisan vendors for you to browse and activities for the whole family.

2024 WastePro Holiday Schedule

Thanksgiving
No Collection on Thursday, November 28.
Thursday's collection will occur on Friday, November 29

Christmas New Year
Week of Christmas and New Years:
No change in collection dates.
Garbage Collection Schedule will run as normal.



16th Annual Kailynne Quartier Memorial Ride



Saturday, September 14, 2024



The 16th Annual Kailynne Quartier Memorial Ride was held on Saturday, September 14, 2024. Over 125 participants, enjoyed the beautiful weather followed by a lunch filled with comradery and fellowship.

The Memorial Ride, hosted by the South Daytona Citizens Alert Council, South Daytona Lions Club, and South Daytona Police Department, is a fundraising event, with the proceeds benefitting numerous local charities, programs, and foundations.



Lantern Park Fire Hydrants



After the City's former hydrant testing contractor made the egregious error of painting over the wonderfully decorated fire hydrants inside Lantern Park, the City promised to restore the hydrants to their former glory. Finding a dedicated artist to recreate the hydrant's charm proved a difficult task. That is until an amazing girl, Jasmine Palmer, who is in the 7th grade volunteered to recreate the delightful characters using a free-hand technique. Her dedication to restoring these hydrants for the residents of Lantern Park, even though she doesn't even live in South Daytona, was something to behold. She tirelessly worked through the heat of summer and the frequent afternoon rainstorms to complete the task. Her drive and enthusiasm to succeed assures us that our future is in good hands. The City of South Daytona and the residents of Lantern Park recognize your hard work and say thank you for a job well done.

This newsletter is scheduled to be delivered quarterly. Extra copies are available in City Hall.
 1672 S. Ridgewood, South Daytona, FL 32119



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City Calendar

October **10**

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31		

- 10/8 6:00 PM **City Council Meeting**
Council Chambers
- 10/10 9:00 AM **Special Master Hearing**
Council Chambers
- 10/16 6:00 PM **Parks, Recreation & ADA Advisory Board Meeting**
Piggotte Center
- 10/16 6:00 PM **Planning & Appeals Board Meeting**
Piggotte Center

November **11**

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30

- 11/12 6:00 PM **City Council Meeting**
Council Chambers
- 11/20 6:00 PM **Planning & Appeals Board Meeting**
Piggotte Center
- 11/21 9:00 AM **Special Master Hearing**
Council Chambers

December **12**

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				

- 12/10 6:00 PM **City Council Meeting**
Council Chambers
- 12/12 9:00 AM **Special Master Hearing**
Council Chambers
- 12/18 6:00 PM **Planning & Appeals Board Meeting**
Piggotte Center