Town of Haverhill Newsletter, January 2010

Town Hall

4585 Charlotte Street

Haverhill, FL 33417-5911

Phone: (561) 689-0370

Fax: (561) 689-4317

Town Council

James E. Woods, Mayor

Jay G. Foy, Vice Mayor

Jerry E. Beavers

Henry "Butch" Lynch

Mark C. Uptegraph

Town Administrator

Janice C. Rutan, CMC

Office Assistant

Marie Couture

Permitting and Licensing Coordinator

Dorothy C. Gravelin

Code Enforcement Officer & Public Works Director

Joseph M. Roche

TOWN OF HAVERHILL
MUNICIPAL ELECTION
TUESDAY, MARCH 9, 2010

Town Council Seats 1 and 2 (2 year term) will be open for challenge in the Tuesday, March 9, 2010 Municipal Election. Seat 1 is currently occupied by Jerry Beavers and Seat 2 is currently occupied by James E. Woods.

The Qualifying Period for candidacy for Town Council Seats 1 and 2 will open promptly at 12:00 noon on Tuesday, January 26, 2010 and will close promptly at noon on Tuesday, February 9, 2010. Contact the Town Administrator for more information.

Any person wishing to become a registered voter can complete an application form that can be obtained at the Haverhill Town Hall and mailed to the Palm Beach County Supervisor of Elections before the voter registration books close, (Monday, February 8, 2010). Once registered, Voter Registration Cards are mailed to you from the Supervisor of Elections and reflect each voter's precinct and polling location for all elections.

To obtain a Candidate Information Packet or obtain more information about filing for Town Council Seats 1 or 2, please contact Janice C. Rutan, CMC, Town Administrator at 689-0370, ext. 24

TOWN OF HAVERHILL

HOMETOWN GARAGE SALE

Saturday, January 23, 2010

7:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

Location: Town Hall Ball Field

4585 Charlotte Street

Haverhill, FL 33417

It's not too late to reserve your 12' x 12' spot. Please contact the Town Hall at 561-689-0370 for registration information. Join your neighbors for a town sponsored "Hometown Garage Sale". The Town of Haverhill has taken care of the advertising – you just need to bring your wares and sell your goods!!

Town of Haverhill Residents $10.00 Registration Fee extended to January 15th!!

***pre registration required**

RED LIGHT CAMERAS WILL KEEP HAVERHILL STREETS SAFER

Red light running is a dangerous and costly problem on the two intersections with traffic signals within Haverhill. The soon to be implemented camera enforcement program is designed to reduce the number of violations, crashes and injuries caused by red light runners. The objective is to change drivers' behavior, making the community safe as more and more drivers obey the traffic signals and **STOP** on red.

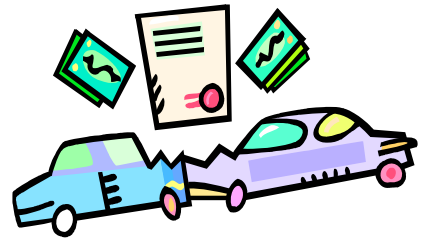
The Town of Haverhill will be locating cameras at the northbound, southbound and westbound approaches of Haverhill Road and Belvedere Road. The project is still in the permitting phase and should be operational in February.

Additional cameras will be located at the eastbound and southbound approaches of Military Trail and Belvedere Road.

For up to date information, please visit the Town's website at www.townofhaverhill-fl.gov .

WHAT IS A RED LIGHT VIOLATION?

A red-light violation occurs when a motorist enters an intersection after the traffic signal has turned red. Motorists already in the intersection when the signal changes to red are not considered red-light violators. For example, a driver who enters on a green light will not receive a citation even if that motorists must wait until the light turns red to complete a left-hand turn after oncoming traffic clears. Florida law requires drivers to come to a full and complete stop before making a right-hand turn.



A violation under this program shall be deemed a non-criminal, non-moving violation for which a civil penalty is assessed. No points shall be recorded on the driving record of the vehicle owner or responsible party.

HOW DOES THE RED-LIGHT CAMERA PROGRAM WORK?

The camera is activated when motion is detected indicating a vehicle is entering the intersection **AFTER** the traffic signal has turned red. The camera captures two images of the offending vehicle—one showing the vehicle before entering the intersection on a red light and one showing the vehicle proceeding through intersection on red. A video is also made of the violation. The images are reviewed and the violation is confirmed by the Code Enforcement Officer before a violation notice is issued.

Owners of vehicles photographed running red lights receive a Notice of Violation and are subject to a **minimum** fine of $125.00. Those who receive a Notice of Violation can obtain additional information or view their violations and video online at www.violationinfo.com. Citizens can also call toll free 1-866-790-4111 with any questions.

DOES THE RED LIGHT CAMERA PROGRAM REALLY ENHANCE SAFETY?

Studies from around the nation show that in cities where red light cameras are used, red light violations and traffic collisions have dropped significantly. When red-light cameras are in operation, deaths and injuries related to red-light running are significantly reduced. Here are some impressive statistics from red-light camera intersections:

- In Philadelphia, PA signal violations at intersections with red-light cameras were reduced 96 percent after one year of operation.
- In Apopka, FL the number of violations dropped 88 percent from 289 in July 2007 to 35 in October 2008, and crashes at one intersection decreased 72 percent.
- Houston, Texas reported a 30 percent reduction in crashes overall during the first six months of operation of that city's intersection safety program.

The Town Council of the Town of Haverhill is committed to maintain the residential character of Haverhill and this is just one more way to protect the safety of residents.

IN CASE OF EMERGENCY

How will they know whom to call?

ICE can help save your life in time of emergency. If the injured person is unable to communicate, ICE allows first responders to quickly identify an injured person's emergency contacts and/or critical medical information.

The easily recognizable symbol and the fact that it is available for customization online makes this a unique concept—

- Put ICE numbers in a cellular phone
- Put ICE cards in your wallet
- ICE stickers can be used to help find the location of the ICE cards

How to program ICE into your cell phone:

- Add a new contact to the phone book
- First, enter the letters "ICE" then type contact's name, followed by their phone number (Examples: ICEEMERGENCY; ICE1DRSMITH; ICE2HOME; ICE3MOTHER)
- Use a symbol(*) in front of the contact name to ensure it is the first on your display

Visit the ICE website at www.ice4safety.com

COLLECTING RAINWATER FOR HOMEOWNERS:

A UNIQUE SOLUTION

Search the web for rain barrels and you'll find a number of attractive designs, ranging from simple painted containers to barrels or holding tanks with vegetation growing on top. With so many options, lack of space or unattractiveness are no longer barriers for use. Harvesting rainwater allows the homeowner to supplement other irrigation sources at a minimal cost. It also aids in the reduction of stormwater runoff, which leads to reduced pesticides and fertilizers in our ponds, streams and lakes.

Collecting rainwater, whether the water is used to water one houseplant or an entire garden is always beneficial and is an inspiration to find other ways to conserve water around your home.

When designing your rain barrel, you want it to be as large as your budget and location will allow. Many homeowners are making rain barrels out of recycled 50-55 gallon food-grade drums. These type containers can be found at most drum and barrel suppliers.

Although a small rain barrel may not be all the water needed to sustain all your plant material, it will supplement your current watering schedule. The water savings from using stored rainwater rather than from a public source or well water can be substantial over a period of time. It will also reduce the amount of water that may settle around the foundation of your home. Rain barrels have been around for thousand of years and the time has come for more homeowners to enjoy the benefits of harvesting rain water!!

Additional information can be found at:
www.sfwmd.state.fl.us/publications/files/rain_barrels_guide.pdf
and at www.raingardens.org/docs/rainbarrel.pdf

HOMESTEAD EXEMPTION

Property owners have until March 1, 2010 to apply for a 2010 homestead exemption from the Property Appraiser. You must be a permanent resident of Florida and have owned and lived in your home before January 1st to receive the $50,000. exemption. If you had already received your exemption in 2009, and have not moved from your homestead, you do not need to re-file. Applications can be filed online at www.pbcgov.com/papa.

ACCESSORY DWELLING UNITS

On December 10, 2009, the Town Council adopted Ordinance No. 383 which allows Accessory Dwelling Units as a Special Exception in the Residential Zoning Districts of the Town of Haverhill. An Accessory Dwelling Unit is an ancillary or secondary dwelling unit located either within the same principal dwelling unit, or on the same lot as a principal single family dwelling unit and contains a complete, independent living facility equipped with a separate kitchen, bathroom and sleeping area. Only individuals that are related by blood or marriage to the owners of the property are eligible to reside in an Accessory Dwelling Unit. To determine eligibility, or for additional information on Accessory Dwelling Units or the Special Exception requirement, please contact the Town Hall at 561-689-0370, ext. 21.

CENSUS 2010: 5 Key Steps every person should know

Step 1: The Census is underway. Census workers canvassed the country between April 2009 and July 2009 to update addresses from the previous census.

Step 2: The form arrives. More than 130 million addresses throughout the nation will receive a census form in March 2010. You should complete and return your census form immediately.

Step 3: Census Day is April 1, 2010: Responses to the Census should include everyone living at your address. By law, the Census Bureau CANNOT share an individual's personal information with anyone—including other federal agencies and law enforcement entities.

Step 4: Follow up, because every person matters. Addresses that have not responded are visited in person by Census workers beginning in late April through July.

Step 5: The results are in!! The Census Bureau will provide the 2010 apportionment counts to the President by December 31, 2010 which will include the total population counts and the number of representatives for each state.

Town of Haverhill
4585 Charlotte Street
Haverhill, FL 33417

PRESORTED STANDARD US POSTAGE
PAID
WEST PALM BEACH, FL
PERMIT NO. 4600

RESIDENT
788 PALO VERDE CT
HAVERHILL, FL 33415

Winter Calendar of Events

January

14	Regular Town Council Meeting
18	Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Day Town Hall Closed
23	**Hometown Garage Sale**
28	Regular Town Council Meeting

Census Day is April 1, 2010

SAVE THE DATE
March 20, 2010
TOWN OF HAVERILL
ANNUAL PICNIC

February

2	Council Workshop—Noon
11	Council Meeting—7:00 p.m.
15	President's Day—Town Hall Closed
25	Regular Meeting—7:00 p.m.

March

2	Council Workshop—Noon
11	Council Meeting—7:00 p.m.
20	**Annual Town Picnic**
25	Regular Meeting—7:00 p.m.

Census Forms arrive in March

H1N1 Vaccination Clinic
Free of Charge
Town Hall, 4585 Charlotte Street
Date & Time
(check web site for updates)