STAR Award Program

Tequesta residents, businesses, customers and Council members have a unique opportunity to help identify and recognize the Village's STAR employees via our new Service Recognition program. Village Manager, Jeremy Allen, spearheaded this customer service initiative as one of his first duties. He defines a Service Star as any employee who “raises the bar above and beyond the Village’s customary high performance standards.”

S - Service with a smile (courtesy)
T - Teamwork (cooperative spirit)
A - Amazing (can-do attitude)
R - Responsiveness (commitment to communicate)

If you would like to nominate an employee to receive this award, please complete the STAR Nomination Form and return it to Human Resources. The form can be found on the Village’s website under Human Resources or at http://bit.ly/STAR_Nomination.

NEW COUNCIL MEMBERS

Two new Council Members will be sworn in on April 9, 2020

Bruce Prince, replacing Council Member Kristi Johnson, was born and raised in Waycross, GA and is a newcomer to the dais. He moved to Florida in 1981 and started working with Prince Contracting, Inc., a heavy civil contractor and family business.

Before starting his own company, he worked on numerous construction projects where he gained experience in heavy site work, which included project coordination and management, bidding, and estimating. Utilizing the skills and experiences he acquired in his professional career, he established Prince Land Services, Inc. in 1989 in Central Florida. Since then, the company has continued to grow and is owned and managed by his son. Moving to South Florida in 2013 to develop the site for the Aldi Food Distribution Center in Royal Palm Beach, FL. He soon realized he loved the area and founded Prince Land, Inc., in 2014, in Tequesta, FL.

Bruce enjoys hunting, fishing, golfing, and traveling. He is thankful that he was lucky enough to have found a hidden gem called the Village of Tequesta. He is a member of the Palm Beach North Chamber and the Tequesta Country Club and is excited and honored to be serving the residents and businesses of our community.

Frank D’Ambra III, replacing long time Council Member Vince Arena, is a familiar face to the Village. He was born in Rhode Island and has since lived in virtually every corner of the United States. Frank met his wife Lisa while attending law school at the University of Miami. He has over 30 years of experience in the retirement and financial services industry having held senior executive positions for GE Financial Assurance, Swiss Re and Conning Investors. In 2010, he had the opportunity to move into the medical device industry where he served as the Chief Operating Officer for a medical business located in Tequesta.

Mr. D’Ambra has been active in Village affairs having served as Council Member for six years, Vice-Mayor for a year, Chairman of the Recreation Center Committee, Chairman of the Tequesta Public Safety Pension Board and member of the Village of Tequesta Audit Committee.

Frank is a graduate of the University of Miami – “Go Canes!”. He and his wife have resided in Tequesta since 2003 and are the proud parents of three grown children and have been blessed with two grandchildren.

Favorite Quote: “He who would trade his freedom for security shall have neither.” Benjamin Franklin
**FIRE RESCUE**

**Fire Rescue Truck Pre-Build Underway**

Tequesta Fire Rescue had the opportunity to visit the Horton Factory in Ohio in December to finish all the pre-build work on our new rescue truck. Chief Trube, Firefighter Fawcett, and Firefighter Wilhelm were able to tour the facilities and get a close up look at the many options available. Stay tuned for delivery of our new rescue truck in mid to late 2020!

**Fire Rescue Training Training Drill**

Tequesta Firefighters continue to improve skills through training and education. This training drill was conducted at the Tequesta Police Station and involved search and rescue with the use of our Thermal Imaging Cameras. Our firefighters always enjoy hands on training and look forward to our next training opportunity. Thank you to Police Chief Medina and the Tequesta Police Department for allowing us to use their facility.

**Promotion at the Village of Tequesta Police Department**

Sergeant Kurt Blanc began his career with the Tequesta Police Department in 2010. During his tenure, he has made countless arrests, and served in the Detective Bureau and the Citizens on Patrol Unit. In 2014, Sgt. Blanc was promoted to Corporal and Field Training Officer (FTO), which heightened his interest in leadership within the department. Sgt. Blanc is always willing to assist his fellow officers or volunteer to help in any way he can. He now serves the department with many certifications such as Crisis Intervention Training, Active Shooter Training, and Domestic Violence Training. Additionally, he is attending the FBI Law Enforcement Executive Development Association (LEEDA) training, which will help further develop his leadership skills, benefiting both the Police Department and the residents of the Village of Tequesta.

**Village of Tequesta Receives Award for Excellence in Financial Reporting**

The Government Finance Officers Association awarded a Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting to the Village of Tequesta for its Comprehensive Annual Financial Report (CAFR) for the fiscal year ended September 30, 2018. The Certificate of Achievement is the highest form of recognition in the area of governmental accounting and financial reporting, and its attainment represents a significant accomplishment by a government and its management. This is the 36th (thirty-six) consecutive year that the Village has received this prestigious award.

The preparation of the CAFR would not have been possible without the professionalism, support and dedicated service of the entire staff of the Finance Department as well as the support of the other Village departments. Special appreciation is also extended to Ms. Tatiana Rakanati, Assistant Finance Director, whose dedicated service made the preparation of this extremely comprehensive report all the more possible.

We also would like to acknowledge the Village Manager, Mayor and Village Council for their unfailing support for maintaining the highest standards of professionalism in the management of the Village’s finances.

**Manatee Season Proceed with Caution**

The Village of Tequesta would like to remind residents that Manatee Season begins every year on November 15th and continues through March 31st. Although the protective Manatee zones within the Village of Tequesta are year-round zones, Manatee activity is heavily increased during these months due to the colder water up north and the manatees moving south to our area to stay warm. The Tequesta Police Department diligently patrols our waterways to protect these gentle creatures. Please stay attentive when enjoying the local waters. If you have any questions regarding the Manatee and Safety zones within the Village of Tequesta, please contact Lt. Pike at 561-768-0512 or JPike@Tequesta.org.

**Manatee zones within the Village of Tequesta:**
- Intracoastal Waterway (ICW) – 25mph speed zone within Channel and Slow Speed/Minimum Wake out of Channel
- Loxahatchee Rivers – Slow Speed/Minimum Wake with a marked channel exemption
- Safety Zones – Slow Speed/Minimum Wake (Flat in the water with no white-water in front of our behind):
  - All Bridges have a 100-yard safety zone
  - Blind curves (like the Banyan Tree)
  - Area between Jupiter Inlet and Indiantown Road Bridge – Train Trestle Bridge – CR707 “Catos” Bridge

The Tequesta Police Department’s next “Bike Rodeo” will be held at the First Baptist Church on Saturday, February 8, 2020 from 9:00 a.m. to noon for children ages 4-16. The Bike Rodeo will focus on two important bicycling topics:
- Promotion of safe bicycling practices, and
- Educating children on how to safely bike in public roadways and the rules of the road

Additionally, a bicycle raffle, free helmet fitting and more will be offered! Jupiter Inlet Colony, TriBikeRun, Tequesta Fire-Rescue, and more have helped to bring this great event to the Village.

**Promote your event on your website**

- **Tequesta Police Department**
  - [Village of Tequesta Police Department](https://www.tequestapd.org)
- **Fire Rescue**
  - [Tequesta Fire Rescue](https://www.tequestafire.org)
- **Tequesta Fire Rescue Truck Pre-Build Underway**
  - [Fire Rescue Training Training Drill](https://www.tequestafire.org/training)
- **Village of Tequesta Receives Award for Excellence in Financial Reporting**
  - [Certificate of Achievement](https://www.tequesta.org/certificate-of-achievement)
- **Manatee Season Proceed with Caution**
  - [Manatee Zones](https://www.tequesta.org/manatee-zones)
- **Manatee zones within the Village of Tequesta**
  - [Safety Zones](https://www.tequesta.org/safety-zones)
- **Bike Rodeo**
  - [Bike Rodeo](https://www.tequesta.org/bike-rodeo)

**Contact Information**

- Tequesta Fire Rescue
  - [Welcome to Tequesta Fire Rescue](https://www.tequestafire.org)
- Tequesta Police Department
  - [Tequesta Police Department](https://www.tequestapd.org)
- Village of Tequesta
  - [Village of Tequesta](https://www.tequesta.org)
Water Meter Change-Outs Coming in March

**WHAT IS IT?**

**Overview**
The Village of Tequesta will be starting to replace customers’ water meters that are nearing the end of their useful life beginning in March 2020. The new meters will have better capabilities compared to the last series of meters and promote timely and accurate monthly bills for customers. This project supports the implementation of the Village’s Automated Meter Infrastructure (AMI) system, which uses radio transmitters wired to water meters to convey data to a network of radio receivers. There is no charge to the customers for this program as it is a normal cost associated with operating the water system.

**What are the advantages of the new meters?**
The combination of new radio-read meters and monthly billing means faster leak detection in your home. Toilets and other fixtures can run excessively without a homeowner knowing, resulting in a frustratingly higher bill than expected. The new meters are easy for customers to read and understand their own usage from home. The meter change-out program helps to increase the efficiency of reading meters by reducing the number of resources needed.

**Am I required to participate?**
Yes. Eventually, every home in the Village of Tequesta Utility Service Area will be equipped with a new radio-read meter. Water meters and reading devices are necessary for the fair and accurate billing of utility services. Your cooperation is greatly appreciated and will aid in the smooth completion of this important project.

**WHAT CAN I EXPECT?**

- Residential customers will receive a postcard approximately 1-week ahead of the replacement of the meter. Non-residential customers with larger meters will be contacted directly by Village staff to schedule a replacement time.
- Prior to your meter change out, it is helpful to clear a path to your water meter, removing any boxes or clutter that might crowd the area.
- Village staff and the contractor completing the work will have photo identification and uniforms identifying them as a Village of Tequesta employee or contractor.
- Most meter replacements take less than 30 minutes to complete! Larger and more complex installations may take longer.

**LEARN MORE ABOUT THE PROJECT AT**
www.tequesta.org

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**REMINDER:**
HURRICANE SEASON MAY BE OVER – BUT IT'S STILL IMPORTANT TO PURCHASE FLOOD INSURANCE AND REMAIN PREPARED

You can be the victim of flooding anytime, even though hurricane season is over. Everyone who lives in Florida is in a flood zone, and therefore is eligible for flood insurance coverage. Events such as torrential rain, storm surges and rainfall can cause a lot of damage to your property and personal belongings and is typically not covered by homeowner’s insurance. If you live in a high-risk flood zone, you may be required to purchase flood insurance, and if you live in a low-risk flood zone, you may qualify for a Preferred Risk Policy.

Insurance rates vary according to your flood zone area, elevation, and the value of your property. For more information, please contact your insurance agent, or call the Village of Tequesta Building Department at (561) 768-0450.

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**For The Record**

The Village maintains all records corresponding with the Council agenda in the Document Center. To access the Document Center, visit the Village’s website tequesta.org. Click on the green Document Center icon, where you will be directed to the imaging center. From here you can view, save, and print the agenda, minutes, agenda backup, ordinances, resolutions and agreements. You can also listen to the meeting audio. Still have questions? Please contact the Village Clerk at 561-768-0440 or lmcwilliams@tequesta.org.

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NEW TEQUESTA BUSINESSES

Two new businesses opened in Tequesta that accepted our invitation to be featured in this issue.

Vintage Wine & Charcuterie

Vintage Wine & Charcuterie is a locally owned space that offers a relaxed and intimate vibe. Patrons can gather with friends and family for conversation (or card/board game or book club) over a good glass (or bottle) of wine and charcuterie platters (variety of meat and cheeses plated with all the extras – olives, toast, jam, etc.). A selection of locally crafted beers is also available. Wednesdays are happy hour and open mic night. During the weekends (Friday & Saturday) a variety of flatbreads is served from Chef David’s Italian inspired food truck. Live music from local artists is featured on certain days (follow us on social media for the live music schedule). Vintage is open 4-11 p.m. Wednesday to Saturday.

Our She Shed

Phyllis Witt opened a sweet boutique gift shop in Tequesta named Our She Shed. The boutique features the talents of local artists, crafters, jewelry, floral arrangers and designers, soap makers, furniture painters, and more. From vintage tea pots to the latest in home trends, we have it all. If you love anything coastal, or the beauty of hand painted mermaids, and stunning girly girl bling, you will love our shop. Classes and craft projects are on the calendar each month so stop by to take a class, learn how to make something new, or just come in to watch. We would love to meet you.

Address: 656 N. US Hwy. 1 in County Line Plaza, Tequesta, Florida 33469

Phone: 561-972-7768 • E-mail: phyllis@ourshedshop.com • Website: ourshedshop.com
Facebook and Instagram: OurSheShed

For a comprehensive list of all Parks and Recreation programming and classes, please visit the Parks and Recreation webpage at www.tequesta.org.

Tequesta Branch Library

On September 25, the Tequesta Branch Library celebrated its Golden Anniversary in a big way. Tequesta was the first branch of the Palm Beach County Library System to open, which made this a very special celebration, not only for the staff, but also for the community. September 25, 1969, the Tri-Community Library in Tequesta opened to the public in a 1,691 sq. ft. space. In 1970, the branch was re-named the North County Branch Library. In December 1995, the Tequesta Branch opened at our current location, more than doubling the size to 4000 sq. ft.

The celebration opened with much excitement as the Maltz Jupiter Theatre presented the large and lovable Drama Dragon. The lovable dragon was a big hit, bringing enjoyment to both children and adults alike. Miss Monica then led the children in the making of their very own dragon. In the afternoon, we were treated to the Latin American classic music of violist David Pedraza, accompanied by pianist Sergei Skobin, as they performed to a packed audience. We were thrilled to have Mr. Pedraza and Mr. Skobin perform a fantastic concert on our 50th anniversary celebration. We are truly appreciative of all who took their time to attend the event, including Douglas Crane, Library Director, Aurora Artay, Assistant Library Director, and Jeremy Allen, Tequesta Village Manager.

The history of the library system was told through our informative timeline, booklet and decorated cart. After the performances, scrumptious cupcakes and refreshments were enjoyed by all.

Please visit www.pbclibrary.org for events and activities, or call Tequesta Branch Library at 561-746-5970.

EMPLOYEE MOVEMENTS October- December 2019

Congratulations on 20 and 25 Years of Service!

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Department</th>
<th>Position</th>
<th>Years of Service</th>
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<tr>
<td>Andre Dodd</td>
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<td>Firefighter</td>
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<tr>
<td>William Newberg</td>
<td>Fire Rescue</td>
<td>Firefighter</td>
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Joining Us

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<th>Department</th>
<th>Position</th>
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<td>Alkardi, Nour</td>
<td>Fire Rescue</td>
<td>Firefighter I</td>
<td>11/20/2019</td>
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<tr>
<td>Max Cooper</td>
<td>Information Tech</td>
<td>I.T. &amp; Security Analyst</td>
<td>12/30/2019</td>
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<tr>
<td>Rajeev Jagannan</td>
<td>Water Plant</td>
<td>Water Plant Trainee</td>
<td>11/18/2019</td>
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<tr>
<td>Michael McDonough</td>
<td>Village</td>
<td>Service Technician Trainee</td>
<td>10/28/2019</td>
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Leaving Us

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<tr>
<td>Neil Corra</td>
<td>Public Works</td>
<td>Maintenance Worker II</td>
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<tr>
<td>Bill Davis</td>
<td>Information Tech</td>
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<td>12/6/2019</td>
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<tr>
<td>Willie Moreno</td>
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<td>Police Officer</td>
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<tr>
<td>Calvin Robinson Jr.</td>
<td>Police Department</td>
<td>Police Officer</td>
<td>10/15/2019</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jimmy Sanchez</td>
<td>Fire Rescue</td>
<td>Firefighter II/Paramedic</td>
<td>12/11/2019</td>
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SMOKE SIGNALS

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