

Mayor's Report, 22 October 2024

As we end October, we welcome the cooler temperatures and drier air after a harrowing experience with Hurricane Milton. The Town was spared major impact as the eye of the storm went just north of us. No flooding or structural damage was reported, and the debris piles will eventually be removed by Waste Pro. Let us count our blessings as we support those who are reeling from the effects of Hurricane Helene and Milton. One more month to go.

By now I hope all the residents have received the October edition of The Cardinal. Hurricane Milton put a crimp in our mailing plans, so it went out later than expected. Among the many informative articles, I remind everyone yet again, about the Town Charter referendum on the last page of your ballot. As always with referendum questions, I find them cumbersome and confusing, but a yes vote is a vote to accept the updated Charter. A simple majority of the electors voting yes is all that's needed. As with every election race – every vote matters. Perhaps we'll even beat our voter participation rate this year?!

Our Town, like all other municipalities in Brevard County is a member of the SCLOCs. SCLOCs and FLCs both send representatives to Tallahassee to ensure the state legislature is aware of issues that are important to us and will act in the best interests of their constituents. Tonight, for the first time, the Commission will briefly review and discuss some of the legislative priorities that we feel are important and can impact our municipality and our residents, such as Protection of Home Rule, Insurance Reform, IRL funding/water quality, Form 6, Short Term Rentals and more. The discussion must start at the local level, but with agreement and support from larger entities, our voice has power. We are tiny, but we now have a seat at the table.

On a lighter note – another reminder about upcoming events – Come one! Come all!

- The Town's Open House this Thursday from 1:00-3:00 pm. Please stop in to say hello and let the staff know how much we appreciate their hard work.
- Personally, I'm most looking forward to eating candy and seeing the creative costumes and decorations at our Trunk-n-Treat event in the AHF parking lot on Thursday, Oct 31st. One hint at my costume - - don't bring your Dalmatian puppy or they may disappear.
- Election Day, November 5th. Our voting precinct is in the AHF Hall, so no excuses. Just be ready for LOTS of activity and LOTS of signs. Drive safely and vote!
- Even though the Town Office is closed, we will have our Veteran's Recognition ceremony at 11:00 am Monday Nov. 11th at the AHF Hall, where we honor those who served to preserve our freedoms and our Country.

Let's enjoy our what we have and be grateful for OUR Town and our friends as we enter this Holiday season. Thank you and let's keep the conversation going!

Sue Ditty, Mayor