

Jupiter Town Times

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Digital Only Edition

To our residents: During this unprecedented time, the Town is doing what it can to prevent the spread of COVID-19 to protect the health and well-being of our community. We have cancelled programs and events, and Town Hall and the Community Center are closed to in-person business for the immediate future. This edition of the Town Times is a departure from our usual newsletter, as it will not include our usual offerings due to the cancellation of so many classes and programs.

We will continue to follow recommended safety measures and will adhere to the ongoing policies and orders as they are handed down by our governing officials. We will stay flexible and vigilant in order to respond to the ever-changing landscape of the pandemic. We have created a webpage for resources and Town-specific updates related to COVID-19 (www.jupiter.fl.us/COVID19) and we will keep our residents updated through our website, email and social media sites (Facebook, Instagram and Twitter). We all take a great deal of pride in Jupiter's sense of community and small town feel. In that spirit, let's be good neighbors to each other by staying calm, following safety recommendations and helping others when possible.

Town Council & CRA Corner: Recent Policy Actions

Below is a summary of some of the approvals and decisions made by the Town Council and the Community Redevelopment Agency (CRA) Commission during recent meetings. To see items coming up on agendas for future meetings, visit www.jupiter.fl.us/Agendas. To watch meetings live, or to watch recorded meetings on-demand, visit www.jupiter.fl.us/LIVE.

TOWN COUNCIL

- Green Local Government Certification: Directed staff to pursue an application to upgrade the Town's Green Local Government certification from silver to gold.
- Seagrape Trimming and Exotic Plant Removal Contract: Awarded a contract for \$97,477.50 to K&S Services of South Florida, Inc. for annual Seagrape trimming and exotic plant removal along A1A.
- FY2021 Strategic Plan: Adopted the FY 2020/2021 Strategic Plan (see below for an update on the process and the plan).
- 2019/2020 Jupiter Citizen Survey: Heard a summary provided by the National Research Center of the results of the 2019/2020 Jupiter Citizen Survey. The complete survey results may be downloaded at www.jupiter.fl.us/citizensurvey.
- Street Tree Management Plan: Approved the Street Tree Management Plan and process for homeowner and HOA participation and approval. The plan and process will be available on the Town's website this summer.
- Angelo's Pizza Expansion: Approved applications to expand the existing Angelo's restaurant, located at 155 Toney Penna Drive.
- Beacon Pharmaceutical Ground Lease and Economic Development Incentive: Approved a ground lease between the Town of Jupiter and Beacon Pharmaceutical Jupiter, LLC., and a related economic development agreement to provide incentives based on job creation and project milestones.
- Transportation Planning Agency (TPA) Projects: Passed a resolution in support of two long-range roadway projects in the TPA's 2045 plan. Projects supported include: widening Center Street from two lanes to three, from Loxahatchee River Road to Alternate A1A ; and widening Donald Ross Road from four lanes to six from Ellison Wilson Road to US1. Opposed a project to extend Frederick Small Road from Palmwood Road to west of Tidal Point Boulevard, with a planned new bridge across the Intracoastal Waterway.

- Sawfish Island Passive Park: Approved a Palm Beach County project for a passive park with mangrove and seagrass habitat, an observation deck, a picnic area and a kayak landing on Sawfish Island, a 9.3-acre island in the Intracoastal Waterway just east of Sawfish Bay Park and north of Fullerton Island.

CRA COMMISSION

- Jupiter Beach Road and A1A Intersection: Reviewed the pros and cons of a traffic signal and a roundabout at the intersection of Jupiter Beach Road and A1A, and determined that a project to construct a roundabout would be pursued. As a part of the discussion and decision, the Commission chose not to move forward with a proposal to connect Parkway Street to Dubois Road.
- East Indiantown Road Improvements: Moved forward with a project to improve the portion of East Indiantown Road from US 1 to A1A to include lighting, medians, landscaping, bicycle lanes and pedestrian facilities.

Town of Jupiter Municipal General Election

The Town of Jupiter held its general election on Tuesday, March 17, 2020. Residents cast their ballots for the following seat:

First District Seat – Three-year term
Winner - Cameron May

Hurricane Season is Approaching

Hurricane season kicks-off June 1. As Floridians, we know that we should err on the side of caution by preparing for an active hurricane season regardless of the predictions. Similarly, the Town hopes for the best and prepares for the worst in its storm and severe weather preparations. In the event of a storm, the Town's Emergency Operations Center (EOC) becomes the hub for essential personnel ranging from police officers and Town management to communications and IT staff. That's why the Town ensured that its new police department headquarters and IT data center building currently under construction on the Town Hall campus could also serve as its new EOC. Once finished, the building will be able to withstand hurricane-force winds up to 192 mph, and will provide a safe, centrally-located place for Town personnel who serve our residents during a storm. The Town looks forward to opening the new building during this year's hurricane season.

Remember as we approach June 1 that the best way to prepare for a storm is by having a plan. For tips on how to put a plan together for your family, please visit www.jupiter.fl.us/STORM. You'll also find the latest Hurricane and Flood Guide, information on drainage maintenance, evacuation routes and safety measures, important emergency numbers, and valuable resources from Palm Beach County and the National Flood Insurance Program, among others.

Make Jupiter Count

Starting in March, Jupiter residents began to see census forms arriving in the mail. Please do your part to fill them out. Census numbers help determine how more than \$675 billion in federal funding is distributed to communities like ours for things like schools, roads and infrastructure, and community development. If you need assistance filling out your census form, call 844-330-2020. Para español, por favor llame 844-468-2020. For more information related to the 2020 Census, including what questions are asked and the safety and security of your information, check our website (www.jupiter.fl.us/Census).

Town of Jupiter Fiscal Year 2021 Budget Process

Every year, the Town Council holds a series of public workshops and meetings on the Town's budget process. In February, Council voted to adopt its new strategic plan for Fiscal Year 2020 - 2021, and made necessary updates to the vision, strategic results, and strategic initiatives. The adopted strategic initiatives will be incorporated into the annual budget, capital spending plan, resourcing plan, and staff action plans. These plans will ensure that the resources of the Town are focused on the areas that are most important to the Town Council and representative of the feedback received

from residents and businesses. Workshops for the annual operating budget and 5-year Community Investment Program (CIP) are scheduled to begin in June and lead up to the review and approval of the millage rate, budget and CIP in September through two public hearings. The operating budget covers the upcoming fiscal year, which begins on October 1 and ends September 30. The CIP covers the 5 fiscal years from 2021 to 2025. Dates for the workshops and budget hearings will be announced on the Town's website at www.jupiter.fl.us/Budget. Also, meetings and workshops are broadcast live from the Town's website at www.jupiter.fl.us/LIVE

Strategic Plan for Fiscal Year 2020 through 2021

In February, the Town Council adopted its strategic plan for Fiscal Year 2020 - 2021. The plan's adoption was based on a series of public workshops and meetings during which Council reviewed citizen surveys and feedback received from residents, current economic and environmental conditions, and other inputs in order to adjust the direction of the Town's strategies. The resulting 26 strategic initiatives have been communicated to Town staff, and serve as clear direction on what projects and efforts they should undertake in the current fiscal year. As always, the strategic initiatives fall into one of the nine strategic results categories:

- Fiscal Responsibility
- Organizational Excellence
- Strong Local Economy
- Town Communication
- Mobility
- Manage Growth
- Safety
- Unique Small Town Feel
- Green, Blue and Open Spaces

To see a list of all of the adopted strategic initiatives, visit www.jupiter.fl.us/StrategicPlan. The Town will be working hard over the next year to accomplish these goals, ensuring that Jupiter maintains the exceptional standards of excellence its residents have come to know and expect.

2019 Town of Jupiter Annual Report and 2020 Preview

Each year, the Town publishes its annual report to give residents and businesses a summary of the year's accomplishments, an overview of the Town's finances, and a look-ahead at what's to come in the next year. The 2019 Annual Report and 2020 Preview is now available in either printed or electronic form. Visit Town Hall to pick up a copy, or visit www.jupiter.fl.us/AnnualReport to view it electronically.

Ask the Expert: JILONA

The Jupiter Inlet Lighthouse Outstanding Natural Area (ONA) is the 120-acre area of land surrounding the Jupiter Inlet Lighthouse and includes Jupiter Lighthouse Park. Its maritime and military history played a role in shaping the region and our local communities. The land, which is part of the National Conservation Lands, is managed by the Federal Bureau of Land Management (BLM). The Town, which manages Jupiter Lighthouse Park, is a partner to the BLM in preserving and maintaining the ONA. We discussed this local treasure with Peter DeWitt, BLM Program Manager for the Jupiter Inlet Lighthouse Outstanding Natural Area.

Question: Why was the ONA federally designated?

Answer: The area was designated by Congress in 2008 to be part of the National Conservation Lands after a grassroots community-led effort. The designation focuses on protection, preservation and enhancement of seven core resources and values belonging to the site: its natural, historic, and cultural resources; and the values of the site to provide education, allow for recreation, and facilitate scientific study. The final value recognized by the designation was the site's scenic qualities, identified as the iconic lighthouse and the surrounding green space.

The designation of the ONA is unique – Jupiter is the only one on the East Coast. In fact, Jupiter is the only unit of the National Conservation Lands east of the Mississippi River.

Question: How do visitors enjoy the ONA?

Answer: In 2019 alone, there were over 115,000 visitors, and most come to climb the lighthouse or participate in the educational programs provided by the Loxahatchee River Historical Society. Aside from cultural appreciation, visitors can enjoy walking trails with access to the Indian River Lagoon, and water access for swimming, snorkeling and fishing. The BLM also partners with other agencies to offer a variety of guided programs throughout the year, with subjects ranging from paleo botany to fly fishing.

Question: The BLM has been asking for public input recently – why?

Answer: Over the past year, the BLM held listening sessions and conducted an online survey. While it's just good sense to ask for public input on the area's management, it's also required by certain laws that oversee the ONA's designation. The BLM is a steward of this public land, and its role is to balance the use of the site for the public's enjoyment while also protecting its valuable resources. Engaging the public helps the BLM understand the interest in the site and the community perspectives, and informs decisions as to the appropriate types and levels of use.

Question: What are possible future plans for the area?

Answer: Aside from housekeeping updates like upgrading sewer and electrical systems, plans include development of a living shoreline along the Loxahatchee River to enhance habitat and protect the southern portion of the site from erosion. Plans also include an additional mile of trail in the northern portion, a pedestrian crosswalk between the two trailheads, and new kiosks and interpretive signs at key locations.

The BLM will be reaching out to the public again in the near future for input on future planning, but Jupiter can rest assured that the ONA's designation, and the plans already in place, will ensure the long-term protection of the Jupiter Inlet Lighthouse and the natural area surrounding it.

Congratulations to the 2020 Drop Savers Poster Contest Winners

The Drop Savers Poster Contest, offered by the Florida Section of American Water Works Association (FSAWWA) and Town of Jupiter Utilities, encourages students to promote water conservation through fun, creative works of art. Below are the 2020 Drop Saver winners by division.

- **Division 1: Kindergarten and First Grade**
 - 1st Place - Charlotte Bolanos – Lighthouse Elementary
 - 2nd Place - Bella Ceresa – Lighthouse Elementary
 - 3rd Place - Mikayla Gavrillov – Lighthouse Elementary
- **Division 2: Second and Third Grade**
 - 1st Place - Violet Rogers - Beacon Cove
 - 2nd Place - Kingsly O'Connor - Beacon Cove
 - 3rd Place - Ryleah Sotala - Limestone Creek
- **Division 3: Fourth and Fifth Grade**
 - 1st Place - Madeline Miller - Beacon Cove
 - 2nd Place - Gianna Mazzota - Limestone Creek
 - 3rd Place - Lila Mackenzie - Beacon Cove
- **Division 4: Grades Six, Seven and Eight**
 - 1st Place - Annalise Mauceri - Jupiter Middle
 - 2nd Place - Lindsey Lathrop - Jupiter Middle
 - 3rd Place - Saydee Sixberry - Jupiter Middle
- **Division 5: Grades Nine, Ten, Eleven and Twelve**
 - 1st Place - Maria Domingo - Jupiter High

Resident Reminder: No Fertilizer Use During Rainy Season

In October 2018, the Jupiter Town Council passed an ordinance prohibiting the use of fertilizers during Jupiter's rainy season, which runs from June 1 through September 30. The Town continues its efforts to work with landscape and lawn care businesses operating in Jupiter to ensure compliance. Prohibited use of fertilizers during this timeframe also applies to residential properties. Many commercial fertilizers contain nutrients, like nitrogen and phosphorus, which can become harmful runoff affecting water quality. Common fertilizers available at home improvement and lawn care stores most likely contain the harmful ingredients and are subject to the ban. There are alternative fertilizers that do not present harmful runoff. Visit www.befloridiannow.org for a list of acceptable fertilizers. Contact the Stormwater Department at 561-741-2705 if you have any questions.

Jupiter's Award-Winning Water Remains Among the Lowest-Cost in the Region

Even though Jupiter Utilities now uses the most advanced water treatment technologies to process up to 30 million gallons of water per day, its rates are 22.5% lower than the average in the region spanning from St. Lucie County to Palm Beach County. Of the utilities using reverse osmosis treatment, Jupiter's rates are the lowest, over 29% below the average of what others charge.

A typical customer in Jupiter uses about 10,000 gallons per month. The tables below illustrate typical residential water utility charges for a standard service.

Table 1 - Regional Water Rate Comparison - 10,000 Gallons Used (March 2020)

Rank	Utility	Monthly Rate
1	Boca Raton	\$18.99
2	Delray Beach	\$24.47
3	Boynton Beach	\$31.47
4	Jupiter	\$37.19
5	Lantana	\$38.42
6	South Martin Regional Utility	\$39.62
7	Martin County Utilities	\$40.21
8	Palm Beach County Utilities	\$40.56
9	Highland Beach	\$40.90
10	Seacoast Utility Authority	\$45.71
11	Wellington	\$47.05
12	Riviera Beach	\$49.03
13	Tequesta	\$50.87
14	Fort Pierce Utilities Authority	\$52.14
15	Stuart	\$55.91
16	West Palm Beach	\$62.43
17	Port St. Lucie	\$64.23
18	Manalapan	\$66.25
19	Lake Worth Beach	\$70.00
20	St. Lucie County	\$73.48

Average rate of other utilities: \$47.99

Jupiter Rate vs Average Rate of Other Utilities: (-22.5%)

Monthly rate includes charges for garbage, recycling, yard waste collection and stormwater fees.

In the last 30 years, Jupiter Utilities has won over 50 awards for outstanding service and quality. Jupiter customers can be proud of their utility's award winning reliability and exceptional quality water. If you have any questions regarding water quality and services, or would like to tour the water plant, please contact customer service at 561-741-2300 or the water plant laboratory staff at 561-741-2606.

Jupiter's Utilities Department Receives Operations Excellence Award from FDEP

On January 29, 2020, the Florida Department of Environmental Protection (FDEP) presented the Town of Jupiter Utilities Department with the 2019 Drinking Water Plant Operations Excellence Award. The award is in recognition of

outstanding plant operation, maintenance and compliance. This is the sixth time in the last 11 years the Town's utility has received this honor.

Resident Reminder: Water Meter and Fire Hydrant Clearances - Utilities

In order for Town employees to perform checks and routine maintenance, residents are responsible for the upkeep of the area(s) around any fire hydrant or water meter that may be on their property. This means that residents must provide complete and safe access to water meters for monthly meter reading and occasional maintenance, and must maintain at least a 5-foot clear radius around a fire hydrant.

If either a water meter or a fire hydrant is obstructed (and immediate access is not required), the Town will notify the resident with a door hanger requesting clearance of the area within 10 days of the notice date. If the area is not cleared within 10 days, the Town is obligated to trim the area in order to provide proper access. Any restoration is the responsibility of the property owner. Residents may contact Utilities Customer Service at 561-741-2300 with questions or concerns.

Historic Preservation Month

Each year, May is recognized as Historic Preservation Month. The Town believes in the importance of preserving significant historic structures in our community, and prioritizes these efforts in its Strategic Plan. Over the past year, the Town Council approved new additions proposed by the Historic Resources Board to an ongoing incentive grant program to assist property owners in preserving and maintaining their houses or buildings under a local historic designation. The financial burden of applying for a historic designation can be a barrier to property owners, so the Town expanded its grant program to cover application fees and costs for required reports associated with local historic designation applications. The Town is pleased that a number of eligible properties are now being considered for a local historic designation with help from the incentive program. For more information on the Town's historic resources and preservation efforts, please visit www.jupiter.fl.us/HistoricResources.

Jupiter Police Department Annual Awards

The Jupiter Police Department held its annual awards ceremony on February 27. The Department recognized and celebrated the accomplishments and successes of Jupiter's police officers, civilian staff, and community members for their outstanding service to the agency and the community. Congratulations to all of the award recipients!

Pedestrian and Bike High Visibility Enforcement /Traffic Safety Enforcement Campaign

Through May 2020

For the fifth year in a row, the Jupiter Police Department will be participating in the Pedestrian and Bike Safety High Visibility Enforcement campaign. Through this campaign, JPD is providing education and awareness to pedestrians, bicyclists, and motorists to ensure the safety of everyone who utilizes our roadways. This campaign is a grant partnership with the Florida Department of Transportation, Institute of Police Technology and Management, and the University of North Florida, and will run through May. For more information about pedestrian and bike safety and community programs and resources, please visit www.jupiter.fl.us/BikePedSafety.

Jupiter Business Owners:

Did you forget to renew your business license? Don't wait! Renew (or register for the first time) anytime at: www.jupiter.fl.us/btr. For more information, please contact the Business Tax Receipt office at 561-741-2318 or tojbr@jupiter.fl.us.

Town of Jupiter Employee Awards

Each year, the Town of Jupiter holds an employee awards ceremony to recognize individuals and teams who have been nominated by their peers in the categories of Employee of the Year, Team of the Year and Leader of the Year for the extraordinary job they have done. These were the nominees for this year's awards:

- **Employee of the Year:**
 - Chuck Jones
 - Lacey Kerfoot
 - Paul Ashenfelter
 - Sarah Booker
- **Leader of the Year:**
 - Agent Michael Nicholson
 - Kellie Doherty
 - Elizabeth Ojea
 - Mark Ellis
 - Thomas Hernandez
- **Team of the Year:**
 - Fleet Repair Team
 - Hurricane Shutter Installation Team
 - Information Systems Team
 - JCDS Customer Portal Team
 - Planning Front Counter Team
 - Police Marine Unit
 - Police Records
 - Recreation Summer Camp Team
 - Forensic Dig Research Team
 - Town Hall Renovation & Events Support Team

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