



July 30, 2013

### PROPOSED WESTON BUDGETS

### Millage Rate to Remain the Same

The Fiscal Year 2014 City Manager Proposed Budgets for the City of Weston, the Bonaventure Development District, and the Indian Trace Development District are available for viewing on the City website.

### Leveraging our Discipline... The theme for Fiscal Year 2014

The recommended budget is based on an ad valorem millage rate of 2.0000 mils for the fourth consecutive year.

### Residents of the City may look forward to the following in Fiscal Year 2014:

- No increase in the ad valorem millage rate
- Public Safety and Fire services maintained at the current levels
- Arts, cultural and recreation programs maintained at the current levels
- Significantly reduced solid waste costs for residential and commercial customers
- Implementation of automated curbside recycling collection for single family homes
- Construction of a new building to house emergency operations, code services, and information technologies
- Renovations of restrooms at City parks
- Conversion of Regional Park roller hockey rinks to soccer rinks
- Culvert improvements in Bonaventure Development District
- Water main improvements in Country Isles
- Fifth year of the traffic signage rehabilitation program

Through our successful contract style of management and our conservative approach to fiscal affairs, we have proven that local government can thrive even during the most challenging of times. Through this vision, deliberate planning and strength to continue investing in our City during difficult times, this year we are leveraging our discipline and seeing the rewards of our efforts.

### To view the 2014 Proposed Budgets:

http://www.westonfl.org/media/docs/budget/FY2014\_CM\_Proposed\_Budget.pdf.





July 30, 2013

### TAX FREE WEEKEND

### GET READY FOR BACK TO SCHOOL Friday, August 2<sup>nd</sup> – Sunday, August 4<sup>th</sup>



Florida's tax free weekend has been reinstated for 2013 and is scheduled to take place from August  $2th - 4^{th}$ , which is perfect for parents who need to pick up school supplies, clothing, shoes, and other back-to-school shopping items.

### Florida's Tax Free Weekend Applies to:

- Clothing and footwear (\$75 or less)
- School supplies (\$15 or less)
- \* NEW FOR 2013\* Personal computers and certain related accessories for personal use (\$750 or less)
- Books are <u>not</u> tax exempt

### **Smart Shopping Strategies:**

Being a sensible shopper is the best way to save even more during tax free weekend. For example, compare prices ahead of time at several stores, which you can do online, and plan on using coupons when you can.

In addition, don't buy anything you don't really need. Since the regular sales tax rate in Broward County is 6% that is the amount of money you'll save by shopping during the sales tax holiday. You might find that you can actually save more money by shopping at competitive sales either before or after the tax free weekend, along with using coupons or taking advantage of special promotions.

Keep in mind, too, that some items will still be taxed during Florida's tax free weekend. For example, many sporting goods are not tax exempt in Florida, such as football pads and protective helmets, but cleats and spiked shoes are. If you have any questions about what counts and what doesn't, refer to Florida's Department of Revenue website for a list of tax exempt items at <a href="http://dor.myflorida.com/dor/">http://dor.myflorida.com/dor/</a>.



Don't miss this great tax free weekend and get shopping and ready for school!





News Release July 30, 2013

## WESTON'S WONDERFUL YOUNG ARTISTS AND PHOTOGRAPHERS

### Don't miss Weston Branch Library's exhibit now through August

Weston Library is showcasing the student artwork from 4 schools over the summer. 55 paintings and 28 photographs are on display as part of the exhibit, Weston's Wonderful Young Artists and Photographers.



Alysa Johnson, 3<sup>rd</sup> grade, abstract emotional portrait with a smile



Pablo Samiento, 5<sup>th</sup> grade, abstract portrait with Klee/Picasso influence.



Cypress Bay High School's Photography Club - "Girl"



Juliette Drokalovich, 3<sup>rd</sup> grade, pastel painting, "Buildings"



Cristina Nieto, age 9, acrylic painting "Ballerina"

### **Weston Branch Library**

4205 Bonaventure Boulevard (954) 357-5420 www.broward.org/library





July 30, 2013

## BROWARD COUNTY MOSQUITO CONTROL TIPS TO HELP KEEP THE PESTS AWAY

So far this summer, Broward County has seen twice the amount of rainfall as normal and experts warn that this will bring an overabundance of mosquitoes to the area. To control the problem, <a href="Mosquito Control Section">Broward County Mosquito Control Section</a> sprays areas of the County by truck and plane based upon the volume of requests received from residents.

To request a neighborhood spray online, visit <u>broward.org</u> and click MOSQUITO SERVICES under Online Services, complete an <u>Online</u> Mosquito Spraying Request Form or call 954-765-4062.

While spraying can help keep these pesky insects away, officials are asking residents to practice the following tips to help reduce the local mosquito population:

- Destroy or dispose of cans, old tires, buckets, unused plastic swimming pools or other containers that can collect and hold standing water, which promotes breeding
- Repair leaky pipes
- Install screens on rain barrels and opening to water tanks or cisterns
- Empty water from boats
- Scrub and change water in vases holding flowers or cuttings twice each week, or grow cutting in sand
- Clean clogged roof gutters and drain flat roofs
- Fill holes in trees with sand or mortar, or drain or spray them as required
- Stock fish pools or lily ponds with minnows, which devour mosquito larvae

### Also, the best protection from mosquitoes is to practice the following simple tasks:

- Keep doors and windows closed.
- Stay indoors at dusk and dawn.
- Dress in long-sleeved/light-colored clothing when in a mosquito infested area.
- Apply insect repellent containing DEET sparingly to clothing and skin.





Online News Article

July 30, 2013

### BSO OFFERS FREE HOME WATCH PROGRAM REGISTER ONLINE TODAY

Planning a vacation or business trip? The Broward Sheriff's Office offers a **FREE Home Watch Program** in all of its patrol areas in Weston. A BSO deputy, CSA (Community Service Aid) or COP (Citizens on Patrol volunteer) will check on your home daily for signs of break-in or suspicious activity while you are out of town.

To sign up for this FREE service visit please complete the Home Watch Request Form. Download the form by clicking on:

http://www.westonfl.org/Departments/Police/CommunityServices.aspx

Once you complete the form, return it to your BSO district office in Weston at 17350 Royal Palm Boulevard or send in by fax at 954-659-3541.

For more information, please visit www.sheriff.org.

### When you are away be sure to take the following precautions:

- Let trusted friends and neighbors know that you'll be away.
- Make your home appears occupied. Attach timers to lights and television sets and set them to turn on and off at different times.
- Have your newspaper and mail held, or picked up by a friend or neighbor.
- Disconnect automatic garage door openers.



 Open some of the drapes or blinds on your windows. During daytime hours, it gives the appearance that someone is home, and during the evening, lights inside the house are more visible.

Please call the Broward Sheriff's Office Weston District with any questions at 954-389-2010.





July 30, 2013

### **BOATING SAFFTY TIPS**

Below you will find everything you need to know about boating safety. With almost 100 different kinds of boats – from kayaks to canoes to motorboats – there's a good chance most of us will be having a great time on the water at some point. So when you do, please remember these simple safety tips for the entire family.

#### The Hard Facts

In 2011, 70% of all fatal boating accident victims drowned, and of those who drowned, 84% were not wearing a life jacket.

Always have your children wear a life jacket that fits properly.

### **Top Tips**

Always have your children wear a life jacket approved by the U.S. Coast Guard while on boats, around open bodies of water or when participating in water sports. Make sure the life jacket fits snugly. Have the child make a "touchdown" signal by raising both arms straight up; if the life jacket hits the child's chin or ears, it may be too big or the straps may be too loose.

A large portion of boating accidents each year involve alcohol consumption by both boat operators and passengers. To keep you and your loved ones safe, it is strongly recommended not to drink alcoholic beverages while boating.

Infants and young kids are at a higher risk for hypothermia, so if you are taking a baby on a boat, just take a few extra precautions to keep your baby warm. If your children seem cold or are shivering, wrap them tightly in a dry blanket or towel.

We all have a million things to do, but learning CPR should be on the top of the list. It will give you tremendous peace of mind – and the more peace of mind you have as a parent, the better. Local hospitals, fire departments and recreation departments offer CPR training.

Teach children that swimming in open water is not the same as swimming in a pool: They need to be aware of uneven surfaces, river currents, ocean undertow and changing weather.

#### Learn More

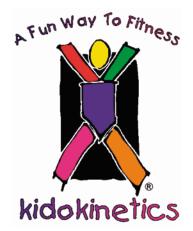
Get on board with more boating safety tips.





July 30, 2013

## AUGUST KIDOKINETICS CLASSES AT THE WESTON COMMUNITY CENTER



### The fun way to inspire kids to get up, get moving and get in shape!

These diverse sport fitness programs helps babies and children to learn discipline, confidence, coordination, fine and gross motor skills, and fitness. Babies will interact with soccer balls, footballs, bouncy balls, bean bags, cones, hula hoops, tunnels and much more, all with their parents proudly standing by. The older children will participate in activities such as: soccer, hockey, tennis, basketball, football, volleyball, golf, lacrosse, hula-hoops, obstacle courses, hurdles and more.

### Next Session for all classes begins in early August

#### Kidokinetics Jr. Ages 15 months-4 years

• The youngest children will develop important building blocks for life with a variety of different activities each class.

### Kidokinetics Ages 3-5 years

• The "Fun Way to Fitness" – your child will learn a new sport each week.

### **Monthly Sport Clinics Ages 3-5**

• The Sports Clinics will combine games, drills, and exercises to aid in the development of strong basic skills, proper technique, and knowledge of the sport.

### **Sportkinetics Ages 5-10 years**

 Sportkinetics focuses on teaching boys and girls ages 5-12 years old the basic concepts of various sports.

### Sportkinetics for girls only Kindergarten, 1st, and 2nd Graders

• Ideal for girls who are not really into "sports" or the ones who can't get enough. Classes include a variety of sports and fun activities.

For more information on the classes, please call 954-385-8511 or visit www.kidokinetics.com.

For detailed dates and prices, contact the Weston Community Center at 954-389-4321 or visit <a href="http://www.westonfl.org/media/docs/misc/Class\_Schedule.pdf">http://www.westonfl.org/media/docs/misc/Class\_Schedule.pdf</a>.





July 30, 2013

# WESTON BRANCH LIBRARY AUGUST ADULT AND YOUTH PROGRAMS

#### **ADULT SERVICES PROGRAMS**

<u>Literacy Programs</u> Janine Rodrigues (954-357-5307)

Monday English Café 10:30a - 12:30p 6:00p - 7:30p Tuesday Citizenship Studies Wednesday English Café 6:00p - 7:30p 10:30a - 12:00p Spanish Café, Intermediate Thursday Friday English Café 10:30a - 12:30p Spanish Café, Advanced 10:30a - 12:00p

Book Club in a Bag Ongoing Linda Abraham (954-357-5306)

Library Book Club Not meeting in August

For more information, call Priya Anand (954-357-5308)

Writers Circle Saturday 10:30a - 12:00p

Jumpstart, Structure and Share Your Gems

For more information, call Astrid (954-389-2245)

### YOUTH SERVICES PROGRAMS For more information, call 954-357-5430

Thursdays Family Story Time Ages 0-5 11:00a - 11:30a

August 12 Anime Club Ages 13-18 3:30p - 5:30p

TBD Wags & Tales Ages 5–12 (pre-register) 3:00p - 4:00p

For more information and additional classes and events, please call the Weston Branch Library at 954-357-5420 or visit <a href="http://www.broward.org/Library/EventsClasses/Pages/ProgramsWE.aspx">http://www.broward.org/Library/EventsClasses/Pages/ProgramsWE.aspx</a>.





News Release
July 30, 2013

**HURRICANE PREPAREDNESS – A Continuing Series** 

### PET SURVIAL KIT

# Prepare Your Hurricane Supplies For Your Pet(s) Now!

As you make your hurricane plans for your family this season, remember to plan for your pet too. Preparing a Pet Survival Kit is key to ensuring that you have enough food and important pet information on hand in case you lose power or must evacuate.

The kit or container should be waterproof with a secure plastic lid and include the following:

- A crate or carrier large enough for your pet to stand and turn.
- Leashes and collars.
- Two-week supply of moist or dry food with manual can opener.
- Two-week supply of bottled water (or more if using dry food.)
- Water and food dishes.
- Extra cat litter, litter pan and puppy training pads (consider the fact that your dog may not be able to "potty" outside during or after a storm.)
- Pet Emergency Supplies Programme ALENT
- Emergency phone numbers for veterinarian, animal shelters, friends or relatives.
- Veterinary clinic address and phone number.
- Veterinary records with rabies certificate and current Broward County Pet Registration Tag number.
- Medications with instructions (ensure you have enough medication on hand before the storm hits as vet offices may be closed and mail will not be delivered.)
- Cleaning supplies (newspaper, plastic bags with ties, paper towels, disinfectant.)
- A photo of you and your pet together (to help prove the pet is yours), and a photo of the pet by itself, showing any distinguishing marks that will help with identification.



For more information on Pet Preparedness please visit <a href="http://www.weather.com/weather/hurricanecentral/article/pet-preparedness\_2011-08-24?page=3">http://www.weather.com/weather/hurricanecentral/article/pet-preparedness\_2011-08-24?page=3</a>.





July 30, 2013

### **UPCOMING EVENTS & PROGRAMS**



### TAX FREE WEEKEND - AUGUST 2<sup>nd</sup> - AUGUST 4<sup>th</sup> Don't Miss Florida's Tax Free Weekend

Florida's tax free weekend has been reinstated for 2013 and is scheduled to take place from August  $2th - 4^{th}$ , which is perfect for parents who need to pick up school supplies, clothing, shoes, and other back-to-school shopping items.



### CPR SAFE COMMUNITY INITIATIVE

BSO Weston Fire Rescue - This program offers FREE CPR classes to residents, organizations and businesses and their employees. Convenient weeknight and weekend CPR classes are offered as well as training right at your own location at a time convenient for you (min. 8 persons). Call 954-389-2015 today.



### SMOKE ALARM AND BATTERY REPLACEMENT PROGRAM

BSO Weston Fire Rescue - This program is designed to reach resident seniors or the disabled who are unable to safely install smoke alarms and/or replace the batteries in existing alarms. Please call 954-389-2015 to schedule this FREE service for our Weston residents.



### WESTON DELIVERS THE LATEST NEWS

Select from two options (we recommend BOTH):

- Newsday Tuesday: A collection of city news articles, information and events.
- General Notifications: Updates on construction projects; media releases; sports registrations and events. Subscribe at www.westonfl.org/EmailSubsciptions.aspx.



#### REGISTER **FOR CodeRED TODAY**

Hurricane Season began June 1<sup>st</sup> – be prepared! All residents and businesses should register with the City's CodeRED Emergency Notification System.

City will only send out a message on CodeRED in an emergency situation or to update residents after emergency. To register, please an visit http://www.westonfl.org/Residents/Hurricane/CodeRed.aspx.