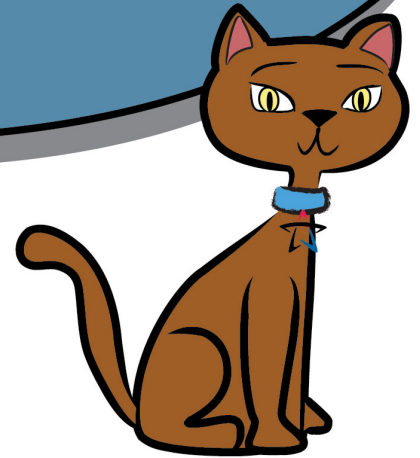


CityScope



CityScope is published by the Department of Communications for City of Tallahassee employees.
Editor: Lizzy Kelley, 891-8059, lizzy.kelley@talgov.com

Letter from the Editor

After a long hibernation, CityScope has emerged a new publication. In an effort to stick with the City Manager's New Year's resolution for our organization to "Live Green," CityScope is now strictly an online publication.

We don't want employees without regular access to a computer to be left out though. So, I am asking one person in every department to take the lead and help your colleagues out; if your department has employees who don't regularly use a computer for their job, please print a copy or two to place in the break room or on a bulletin board. Thanks from me as well as all the trees we'll end up saving.



Another new thing you may notice in this edition is SOCS, the new CityScope mascot. For fun facts about the City, check out the new "Working Our SOCS Off" column. You may not be able to teach an old dog new tricks, but we're sure this feline can fill you in on fascinating feats from around the City.

Is something on your mind? Write in to the "SOCS It to Me" column. Set up like a traditional "Letters to the Editor" column, I want to know what you think about any and everything, but be sure to sign your letter.

As always, we're in need of story ideas, photos and fodder for future editions. If something special is going on in your department or in your life, let us know. Like LT Von Stein, you too could be featured in CityScope.

Thanks for reading,
Lizzy Kelley

Side note: Due to our hiatus, there is an inordinately large number of Well Done's, but we're not about to leave anyone out! Big props to TPD for the most number of Well Done's ever published in one CityScope for one department. You've set the bar high.

Name Calling Welcome!

CityScope is being revamped, and I think the name could be updated, too. If you have an idea for what the new online employee newsletter should be called, write, call or email it to me, Lizzy Kelley, in the Communications Department at 891-8059 or lizzy.kelley@talgov.com.

Inside CityScope

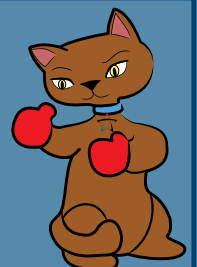
Letter to the Editor	1
Working Our SOCS Off	1
City Gets Ready With Weather Radios	2
Get a Plan and Be Prepared	2
Wanted: Unwanted Cell Phones	2
The Coast Guard in Afghanistan	3
How Toasty is Too Toasty?	4
Anniversaries	4
CityScope Awards and Honors	4
Well Done!	5

Working Our SOCS Off

Exactly one year and three months after performing the first surgery in the Tallahassee-Leon Community Animal Service Center's surgery suite, **Dr. Rachel Reeves** performed the suite's 2,000 surgery. That averages out to around 30 surgeries a week!

SOCS It To Me

Start writing in! I want to hear from you!



City Gets Storm Ready With Weather Radios

As part of the City's drive to become a certified "Storm Ready" organization, 20 weather radios are being distributed to various departments in order to enhance the City's readiness in the case of a natural disaster. Through a coordinated effort with both State and Leon County emergency management divisions, the City's Emergency Management and Safety offices acquired the radios, which will be an integral part of our preparations toward disaster preparedness.

As we can see worldwide from the massive flooding in the Midwest to the catastrophic earthquake in China, natural disasters can occur in any community at any time. The weather radios will be a valuable tool to alert key City service providers of impending danger so they

can prepare and respond to the situation accordingly.

The main goal of the weather radios, and all we do within the City organization, is to aid the citizens of Tallahassee. Preparing City buildings where citizens regularly do business or seek information is key to protecting them in the event of a disaster.

Those departments receiving radios will be required to provide a 9-volt battery to operate them as well as program them specifically for Leon County updates. If programmed properly, the Midland WR-100 All Hazards Alert Weather Radio will not make a sound during the weekly system tests like many weather radios do. The siren will only go off in the event of an actual alert. During the scheduled tests, the screen will display a test message and the yellow LED light will flash.

Once the radios have been distributed, all primary City buildings should have at least one department with a functioning



weather radio.

If you have questions concerning the weather radios, their operation or the City's Emergency Evacuation plan, please contact either Robby Powers, Emergency Management Coordinator, at 891-6201 (robby.powers@talgov.com), or Kyle Orth, Safety Manager, at 891-8233 (william.orth@talgov.com).

Get a Plan and Be Prepared

Hurricane season is upon us and we've been tested once by Tropical Storm Fay. Departments should have updated plans, guidelines and policies to stay alert



and ready, if the need to respond again becomes imminent. Employees should be reviewing personal plans for their own families and pets as well.

The National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration is predicting 12-16 named storms, 6-9 hurricanes and 2-5 major hurricanes this year.

The City wants you to be ready for all hazards. The **Get A Plan** website at <http://floridadisaster.org> can give you peace of mind knowing you have thought through the steps to ready your family for all hazards.

You can also conduct a risk analysis for your home by going to the American Red Cross website at <http://redcross.tallytown.com/drn.html> and taking their 30-minute survey.

If your department would like to have a preparedness program presented, contact Robby Powers, Emergency Management Coordinator, at 891-6201 or robby.powers@talgov.com.

Wanted: Unwanted Cell Phones

If you have a cell phone that you no longer need or want, help out the City's Senior Center by donating it. The Senior Center collects unwanted, discarded cell phones and recycles them through a program with the National Institute of Senior Centers. The Senior Center receives a monetary compensation for the various cell phones and BlackBerries, which they put toward events and programs that they host. The Senior Center will also be happy to pick up collected cell phones if needed.



If you, your department or someone you know has a cell phone that they are looking to get rid of, please consider sending them to the Senior Center or call Jesse Starkey at 891-4035, who can provide more information.

The Coast Guard in Afghanistan

By LT Michael Von Stein, USCGR

U.S.C.G. Redeployment Assistance Inspection Detachment (RAID) supports CENTCOM in the S.W. Asia theatre

Why is the Coast Guard in Afghanistan? That's a question I would hear at least three times a day from inquiring soldiers. My usual reply was "I'm here to survey for the new port," which always got a big laugh. However, it's the Coast Guard's accomplishments in CENTCOM that make our soldiers smile rather than my humor.

“This mission plays a vital part of national security by supporting the “War fighters” in making inspections as prescribed in international and domestic laws.”

As the RAID Team VII Supervisor, I was charged with the U.S. Coast Guard's continuing mission that started in 2003. That mission grew from operating from the Port of Embarkation in Kuwait, to working at FOBs (Forward Operating Bases) in Iraq while subsequently extended deployment into Afghanistan. Presently, RAID members are embedded within Army DSBs (Deployment Support Brigades) in conjunction with the mission of the Military Surface Deployment and Distribution Command (SDDC).



We augment the Redeployment Support Teams (RSTs) as hazardous materials (HAZMAT) transportation specialists, container

inspectors, and customs inspection officers.

We work with the JTOs (Joint Transportation Officers) and train the U.S. Army Unit Movement Officers (UMOs) and HAZMAT certifiers to ensure proper container structural integrity, proper stowage, segregation, blocking, bracing, placarding, labeling, packaging and manifestation of containerized cargo.

In addition, by completing the U.S. Border Clearance Agent (CBCA) course, we assist with all U.S. Customs and applicable regulations. These efforts all result in the reduction of frustrated containers and the subsequent personal safety of joint enablers in the redeployment process.

RAID members represent a unique and dedicated breed of active duty and reserve personnel who perform this mission after meeting all U.S.C.G. Marine Safety and combat theatre readiness requirements. This mission plays a vital part of national security by supporting the “War fighters” in making inspections as prescribed in international and domestic laws. Throughout our deployment, RAID VII supported successful redeployment of 15 Brigade Combat Teams and four Combat Aviation Brigades, which were composed of 166 individual Army units plus joint ops with Navy and Air Force units.

My eight-month military deployment is now complete, and I have settled back into my role with the Tallahassee Police Department. The experience of performing my military duties in Kuwait, Iraq and Afghanistan has been enlightening and rewarding. I want to thank the City of Tallahassee and the members of the police department for all the support that I received. I am most grateful for the support you provided for my family and me during this tour. Knowing that people like you were behind me made it possible for me to focus on the needs of



Lt. Von Stein at the Bagram AFB in Afghanistan

my 14-member detachment and assist those soldiers returning home.



President Bush shakes hands with LT Von Stein. Inset: President Bush speaking to the troops at Camp Arifjan, Kuwait.

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LT Von Stein is a member of the Tallahassee Police Department's Criminal Investigations Division – Burglary. He joined the USCG in 1998 for the opportunity to perform a noble duty for his country and utilize his command talents and abilities.

He has previously been called to duty as a Port Authority Specialist working for eight months in New Orleans following 9/11 and as an Ensign in 2003 to Kuwait working with the Naval Coastal Warfare Group performing force protection.

For his tour contributions and accomplishments, his team members are nominating him for the Reserve Officer of the Year Award.

How Toasty is Too Toasty?

Walking to work this morning, I felt the tiniest nip of cool in the air; a sure sign another summer has come and gone. While summer energy bills are often the highest, it is just as important in the winter months to conserve, saving you money for extra holiday goodies. Below are some tips on taking control of your winter heating costs.

- Set your thermostat to 68 degrees.
- Make sure the thermostat is NOT set to EMERGENCY HEAT. This can double or triple your heating costs.
- Change your air filter and make sure not to block registers with furniture, pictures, shelving, etc.
- Have proper ceiling insulation. Heat rises. Without proper ceiling insulation, that heat will rise right out of your house.
- Check for and repair all duct leaks.

For more information on money-saving energy tips, visit Talgov.com/You.



Anniversaries

The list was far too long, so we'd like to wish every employee a Happy Anniversary! Whether you're celebrating your first year or your last, we hope it's been a wonderful journey.

CityScope Awards and Honors

In March, **Kim Nicholson** and **John Sauls** from the Electric Utility both earned the designation of Certified Arborist/Utility Specialist through the International Society of Arboriculture (ISA). The purpose of the ISA certification program is to improve the level of knowledge and standard of practice within the tree care profession. The certification is valid for three years. Becoming a Certified Arborist is no small feat, and the City congratulates Nicholson and Sauls on their accomplishments and dedication to their profession. As a city known for its trees, being named both a Tree City USA and a Tree Line USA Utility, we understand the vital role arborists play in keeping Tallahassee safe and beautiful. Congrats again!

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Congratulations to Daniel Copelin for receiving the Tallahassee Citizen's Police Academy Alumni Association's Officer of the Year.

Congratulations to **Derek Friend**, **Maria Mercurio** and all the other nominees as well. Capital City Bank appreciates "the dedication and professionalism of all the

TPD officers," writes one of the bank's security officers.

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Officer Jason Laursen, a 10-year veteran of TPD, was named the Law Enforcement Officer of the Year. Congratulations on this hard-earned honor!

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Charles Hubbard in the Real Estate Division has been elected president of the local International Right of Way Association chapter. Charles is a senior ROW agent responsible for acquiring property for roadway construction and other City projects. Congratulations on your new position!

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The City of Tallahassee's Solid Waste Services administration building has received the **Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) Silver certification** from the United States Green Building Council (USGBC). It is the second municipal building in Florida and

the first in North Florida to earn the distinction.

LEED certification is the nationally accepted benchmark for the design, construction and operation of green buildings. It promotes sustainability by recognizing performance in five areas:

- Sustainable Sites
- Water Efficiency
- Energy and Atmosphere
- Materials and Resources
- Indoor Environmental Quality

The new building boasts a myriad of new, eco-smart features such as occupancy sensors on lights, programmable thermostats and low-mercury fluorescent lamps. Thanks to waterless urinals, drought tolerant native landscaping and low-flow toilets that use only 0.8 gallons of water per flush, the building's water usage was reduced by 69 percent in 5 months compared to that same time frame in the old building two years ago.

The City congratulates Solid Waste and all those who worked to make this certification possible.

Well Done!

From helping people's children to solving robberies, the Tallahassee Police Department shines in its service to our community. The following Tallahassee Police Department officers received commendations for their exemplary service from citizens.

- **Sergeant Greg Adams**
- **Officer David Alford**
- **Investigator Joanna Baldwin**
- **Officer Mike Cockerham**
- **Officer Patrick Coney**
- **Officer Dan Copelin**
- **Investigator George Creamer**
- **Officer Jeff Cruise**
- **Officer Steve Damm**
- **Officer Bill Faust**
- **Officer Heather Fox**
- **Officer Laura Gehreg**
- **Officer Chris Haley**
- **Officer Eric Halvorsen**
- **Investigator Annie Johnson**
- **Officer Zealy Jones**
- **Investigator Jason Laursen**
- **Investigator Mark Lewis**
- **Officer Holly Lofland**
- **Officer Zach Lyne**
- **Officer Jamie Martinez**
- **Officer Maria Mercurio**
- **Officer Robert Newberry**
- **Officer Paul Osborne**
- **Officer Mark Peavy**
- **Officer Chuck Perry**
- **Officer Nick Roberts**
- **Officer Roger Salmonsens**
- **Officer Frederick Sapiera**
- **Officer Mike Scandone**
- **Officer Joe Sims**
- **Officer Bob Todd**
- **Lieutenant Mark Wheeler**
- **Motorcycle police officers and full-size traffic units who aided with Welcome Home celebrations for our returning troops**



The following are just a few of the kind words people shared about this outstanding department.

“People sleep peaceably in their beds at night only because rough men stand ready to do violence on their behalf,” wrote George Orwell. “Thank you TPD for all that you do to keep crime off our streets.”

“I’m sure she felt she was just ‘doing her job,’ but to me it was much more than that. I am so grateful to her for her help in a time when I felt a little helpless.”

“He responded quickly to my emergency and afterward...stayed and answered a multitude of questions about my new city, safety, etc. Capturing a suspect then courteously informing me of my new town – now that’s community service!”

“Although I was very unpleasant with him, [the officer] was extremely pleasant and respectful of me throughout our entire conversation. As an employee of the City of Tallahassee, it’s great knowing that other employees strive to provide excellent customer service and represent our City well!”

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Beyond TPD, the following City employees have received compliments from citizens.

Mr. **Timothy Powell** and Mr. **Warren Brown** helped a local woman on their yard waste pick-up route carry tree limbs that were too large for her to their truck for disposal. “Their attitudes were kind, caring, helpful, courteous and friendly. They are the perfect example of why Tallahassee is different from other cities,” she wrote.

Sam Geiger and **Rudy Bailey** from Streets and Drainage and **Mack Rush** from Economic and Community Development were “highly responsive” to a citizen’s questions, comments and concerns. “In addition, they were knowledgeable and very courteous during our interaction and provided excellent follow-up in an effort to ensure that my needs were met,” she wrote.

Code Officer **JoAnn McInerney** was thanked for doing her job diligently but with heart by an elderly couple. “She has a tough job to do, because she has to enforce the law, but she does it in a kind, friendly and compassionate way,” the wife wrote.

Michael Peacock went out of his way to ensure that one local plumbing company employee had the answers she needed. “I want you to know how refreshing it is to have that kind of customer service these days,” she wrote.

Jimmy Hamrick and **Cory Dupree** with Underground Utilities helped a local man who was having plumbing problems neither he nor the plumbers he hired could fix. “Both gentlemen were professional, efficient and courteous. It reassures me that there are men like this on the job,” the man wrote.

Assistant City Manager Tom Coe would like to recognize the following employees in the Traffic Engineering Division for being responsive to customers by demonstrating leadership, personal responsibility and teamwork:

Sonia Douglas assisted a citizen in locating a talking clock.

Eddie Justice secured an easement with the National Guard Armory, which according to **Ken Rajabi**, Engineering Division, will be utilized for the Weems Road project. This easement saved the City over \$120,000 of the current market value.