Millage Rate Set At 3.9912

The first reading of the 2012/2013 fiscal year budget was approved by the Belleview City Commissioners during the September 4, meeting. Belleview’s budget for the up coming year is $6,567,885 and the millage rate is 3.9912.

Millage is per thousand dollars of taxable value and remains the same as last year. The rollback rate is 4.2839 which is the amount needed to generate the same revenue of ad valorem taxes.

Belleview will receive $55,627 less in ad valorem tax this year by not raising the millage.

Belleview is able to do this because they have a bare bones budget this year. It’s mainly operating expenses but also includes up to a 2% cost of living increase adjustment for employees, merit increase that will be awarded April 1st that go up to 3%.

Some capital improvement projects will be funded from fund balance which is moneys the city set a side for many years.

Paving projects that are scheduled for next year will be funded from gas tax. Other budgeted items are an integrated financial package, bathrooms at Lake Lillian, a new telephone system, and the start up funds for Belleview’s Economic Development Council.

There is also a small increase to water and sewer this year.

God And Country Revival

Remembering 9/11 and Focusing on what we are fighting for this year to bring God Back To this Country One Nation Under God.

Saturday, September 8th, 9:00 am - 8 pm.
Sunday, September 9th, 9:30 am - Noon.

Open Door Community Church, 5200 S.E. 145th St., Summerfield, Fl, 34491

Featuring special patriotic and inspirational music and singers, informative videos and dynamic speakers.

Speakers include Trevor Loudon, Carl Gallups, Bill Warner, Ken Scrubbs, Gerald Bustin, Jonathan Cahn, Sounds of Joy Singers.

Free coffee and sweet roll breakfast at 8:00 am. Lunch and dinner available at reasonable prices. Snacks served all day long.

Young Women Program

Sister Copeland, Jessica Brantley, Sue Hunter, Cassie O’Day, Daphne Riddle, Barbara Holmes, and Sandra Lowe participate in the Young Women’s program at The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints. The church held an open house for Interfaith who travels to different churches to learn about other religions. The Young Women Program is for girls 12 to 18 years old and they meet on Wednesday nights.

Annual 9-11 Freedom Walk

The City of Belleview will be holding its annual Freedom Walk Memorial on September 11, 2012 at 6:00 PM. Honored will be our first responders, those who put their lives on the line every day to keep all of us safe.

The Belleview High School ROTC will be posting the colors, followed by the National Anthem and the Pledge of Allegiance. Belleview Police Chief Lee Strickland, Marion County Undersheriff Dan Kuhn, Marion County Fire Rescue Chief Stuart McElhaney will say a few words.

Mr. Robert Kane, a retired New York Fireman who was at the World Trade Center on that horrible day in 2001 will share his memories and experiences.

Afterwards, a solemn walk around several city blocks will commence. There will not be T-shirts, food or entertainment. Water will be provided to walkers.

Everyone is invited to participate in this memorial walk.

The Boy With The Golden Arm

In 1958 Lake Weir High’s Loren Abshier started down a road to an outstanding baseball career. (SEE More Inside this Week’s Voice)
Loren Abshier
The Day the Squirrel Lost To A Hit Pitch

When Loren was asked how high all of this he explained, "I am just one guy on a team of great players", which Loren says was a line by Tim Tebow, quarterback for the Florida Gators, and he completely agreed.

After graduating from Lake Weir High School, Loren had over 20 scholarships and offers from colleges including Florida State University, Miami University and the University of Florida. There were offers from 5 major league teams including the Houston Astros, New York Yankee, Pittsburgh Pirates, Chicago Cubs and the scout for the Cincinnati Reds-Red-Hooks Freeman offered Loren $55,000 to sign right out of high school.

By advice of pro scouts, Loren turned down all major league offers and signed with Manatee Jr. College, which had a great minor league program. Loren made All State and pitched two years in a row and set a new Manatee Jr. College strike out record, which was 17. Loren struck out 66 in the 1956 World Series.

In 1956, Loren pitched for the Central Florida Community College, struck out 18 in a regional tournament and pitched in the college world series striking out the first 11 batters in the semi-final game.

After the season was over Loren finally signed with the Houston Astros Cub 43's which was a Cocks Rookie League. Loren batted .355 and 3 home runs in 1959, with an on base average of .408. Loren says "Probaly is a very humbling experience and pitch is 80% of the game. You can be a star in high school but if you don't win or lose, you're just a cog in the machine."

Loren was pitching an average of 120 mph in high school and 100 mph in Pro Ball. He says he was throwing that fast without energy drink or lime water, or lifting anything. And they believe he is either with or without adrenaline, you can make the man do it or don't do it. "Loren was pitching that fast without energy drink or lime water, or lifting anything."

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Loren Abshier
Loren's Parents
They stuck by his side through it all. Lee and Edith Abshier

The Budweiser's

The Budweiser's A hot shot/semi pro team that Loren played on out of Ocala that received all the same all expense paid trip to the Wichita World Series. If they did make it that far, they did it. Mr. Abshier and his wife lived up to his part of the deal and flew 18 players on his private plane to Wichita and paid for everything for three whole weeks.

The Ocala Budweisers won the championship of 1963 and Loren struck out 12 in a row. It was a very special time for them.

Those were the times that Pee Wee Herman and Loren Abshier called "The Glory Days 1963 and 1964, Loren married his high school sweetheart, Anne Hahn. They married in 1964, they moved to Ocala and opened a bar called "The Day the Squirrel lost to a Hit Pitch."

Loren went on to be a very successful businessman and owner of "Mojo’s to prove that no matter who you are or where you come from, you can prove yourself."

To the Little League Players
This is a paid advertisement by myself and Moojis to prove that no matter who you are or where you come from, you can prove yourself. The reason for this is that I know how hard it is to do anything you want as long as you put your heart in it and give your all.....Loren Abshier