



Join the Conversation

Last October, over 400 citizens came together in downtown Tallahassee for the inaugural Longest Table where they enjoyed a transformational dining and dialogue experience. Eight months later, the initiative expanded into 110 homes and public spaces across our community, engaging more than 850 people in smaller dinner conversations.

Join us on **October 9** as we set the table on FAMU Way for residents to share a meal and meaningful conversations about Tallahassee's opportunities and challenges. By connecting people from across Tallahassee, we will establish and strengthen relationships, break down existing silos and truly see each other as one community.

The Longest Table initiative is hosted by the City of Tallahassee, Leon County Government, The Village Square and Leadership Tallahassee. To register, please visit LongestTable.com or call 891-8728. Share this opportunity with your friends on social media using #TheLongestTable.

For more information on your City government,

TALGOV.COM



For all City of Tallahassee utility-related inquiries, including account issues or to report outages, please call Your Own Utilities at 891-4YOU (4968) or visit Talgov.com.



INSIGHT is published monthly by the City of Tallahassee's Department of Communications to inform citizens about City services and related items of interest. For more information, call 850-891-8533 or visit the City's website at Talgov.com. If you require an accommodation because of a disability in order to participate in a program, service or activity, please contact the appropriate City department. For persons using a TDD, please call 711. Requests should be made at least 72 hours in advance. Sign language interpreters require 10 days advance request.



In this issue

Safety tips, details about upcoming events and more



How Old is Your Smoke Alarm?

The Tallahassee Fire Department announces "Don't Wait: Check the Date! Replace Smoke Alarms Every 10 Years" as the official theme for this year's Fire Prevention Week campaign, which runs October 9-15. The focus on smoke alarm replacement comes as the result of a recent survey conducted by the National Fire Protection Association that showed that only a small percentage of people know how old their smoke alarms are or how often they need to be replaced.

Fire codes require smoke alarms be replaced at least every 10 years, but because people are generally unaware of this requirement, many homes likely have smoke alarms past their expiration date. This puts people at increased risk in the event of a home fire.

"Smoke alarms play an essential role in home fire safety, but they have to be working properly in order to protect people," said Jerome Gaines, Chief of the Tallahassee Fire Department. "People tend to assume that simply having smoke alarms in their home ensures adequate protection from fires, but it takes regular testing and maintenance to ensure that that's the case. Part of that effort is making sure you know how old the smoke alarms in your home are and that they're replaced every 10 years."

The age of a smoke alarm can be determined by looking for the date of manufacture on the back or side of the alarm. The unit should be replaced no later than 10 years from that date.

For more fire safety tips and information, visit Talgov.com/fire.





Celebrate Public Power Week

For over a century, local customers have been able to count on the City of Tallahassee's Your Own Utilities for reliable, affordable electricity. Municipal utilities, like ours, annually celebrate Public Power Week during the first week in October to show how public utilities strengthen communities.

Public power utilities are driven by public service, not profit. They involve the local community in decision making. They are accountable to citizens, not distant shareholders, and they invest in the community, helping to provide essential services, such as parks, public safety and roads.

To celebrate Public Power Week and learn more about our commitment to reliable, clean energy, the community is invited to a fun-filled, family friendly event in early October at Tom Brown park. This celebration will include field demonstrations by electric line crews, big trucks, information booths and more.

More information will be posted on Talgov.com closer to the event. To learn more about Your Own Utilities, call 891-4YOU (4968).

Large bulky items need to go?

Cash for Trash returns October 15

The City's twice-yearly **Cash for Trash** event returns **Saturday, October 15, from 8 a.m. to 2 p.m.**, allowing customers to dispose of large bulky items. City residential utility customers with active garbage service participating in *Cash for Trash* will receive a \$5 credit toward their City utility bill.

Continued on next panel >>>

Help Your Pets Avoid Getting Lost

The Animal Service Center (ASC) accepts 5,000 animals annually as the only animal shelter in Leon County.

Roughly 70 percent of the animals that enter the ASC are lost or have strayed from their families. Few have any form of identification and therefore spend many days at the shelter without being reunited with their family. Only 18 percent of the stray animals are ever reclaimed, often because an owner is never found.

Preventing your pet from being a statistic just takes a few simple steps:

- Have your pet microchipped and register the microchip with the manufacturer
- Make sure your pets (cats, too!) wear a properly fitted collar with their rabies tag and an ID tag



If your pet does become lost, please search the area immediately and:



- Visit the ASC to report your lost pet
- Post color fliers with your pet's photo in your area. If you have lost a cat, visit your closest neighbors with a flyer immediately. Lost cats typically don't wander farther than six houses away.

- List your pet missing in the Pets & Lost/Found sections of craigslist.com

and on the Facebook page for Lost & Found Pets in Tallahassee

ASC holds low-cost rabies and microchip clinics on the first Tuesday of every month from 3-5 p.m. For more information, please visit the Animal Service Center at 1125 Easterwood Drive, call 891-2950 or visit Talgov.com/animals (lost animals are not listed on this site).

>>> "Cash-for-Trash" Continued



Items customers may bring include furniture, appliances, large toys and automobile tires (limit of four per customer; no commercial tires/customers). Residents may also bring household hazardous waste items and electronic items (including all computer parts) to *Cash for Trash* for disposal or recycling.

The October 15 event will take place at the City's Community Beautification and Waste Management facility, 2727 Municipal Way (off W. Pensacola St. near the Messer Field softball complex). Visit Talgov.com/YOU for more information.

OCTOBER CALENDAR

- 17** TENTATIVE - Capital Region Transportation Planning Agency retreat at 9 am (location TBD)
- 18** Independent Ethics Board meeting at 4 pm
- 19** City Commission workshop at 1 pm
- 19** City Commission regular meeting at 4 pm
- 26** City Commission regular meeting at 4 pm
- 27** Joint City/County workshop at 9:30 am

All meetings are held in the City Commission Chambers, located on the second floor of City Hall (300 S. Adams St.), unless noted otherwise. Meeting dates, times and locations are subject to change. City Commission meetings are shown live on WCOT, the City's government access channel (Comcast Cable and CenturyLink channel 13). The meetings are rebroadcast the following Thursday at 12:30 pm and 7:30 pm and the following Saturday and Sunday at 12:30 pm. City Commission meetings are also streamed live online and are indexed and posted for viewing on Talgov.com. Call the Department of Communications at 850-891-8533 for more information or view the current City Commission agenda online at Talgov.com. Follow City news on Twitter @COTNews.