



# THE LEON COUNTY LINK

Connecting Citizens with Leon County Services

The Link is published the first Wednesday of each month in the local section of the Tallahassee Democrat.

PEOPLE FOCUSED. PERFORMANCE DRIVEN.

## CONA, County, City to Kick Off Neighborhood of the Year Program

The Council of Neighborhood Associations (CONA), Leon County and the City of Tallahassee will launch the annual Neighborhood Recognition Program on **Tuesday, March 12**, at **10 a.m.** at the Leon County Eastside Branch Library, 1583 Pedrick Road.

The library will serve as the kick-off site for the 2013 program season honoring the accomplishments and successes of great neighborhoods.

Applications and nomination forms for Neighborhood of the Year, Neighbor of the Year, Public Servant of the Year and Business Neighbor of the Year are available online at [www.LeonCountyFL.gov](http://www.LeonCountyFL.gov) for the County, at [www.Tal.gov](http://www.Tal.gov) for the City and at [www.econa.org](http://www.econa.org) for CONA. Neighborhood representatives are asked to complete and submit applications on or before the deadline: **Thursday, May 2**, at **5 p.m.**

Winners will be announced on **Monday, June 10**, at CONA's 2013 Awards Reception.

For more information, please contact Leon County Community and Media Relations at **(850) 606-5300** or [CMR@LeonCountyFL.gov](mailto:CMR@LeonCountyFL.gov).



## NOW OPEN

### Lake Jackson Community Center

Leon County celebrated the grand opening of its new Lake Jackson Community Center, located at 3840 N. Monroe Street, Suite 301, on Thursday, February 21.

The new state-of-the-art center is housed in the Lake Jackson Town Center at Huntington where it boasts two different meeting rooms complete with combined seating for more than 100, a large-52-inch television wired for multimedia purposes, built-in projector with multimedia hookups and a warming kitchen perfect for catered events.

Heralded as an anchor for the Lake Jackson area, the center further enhances the site as a true sense of place initiative - meaning a desirable destination for Northwest Leon County.

To reserve the community center, call Leon County Parks and Recreation at **(850) 606-1470**.



## Leon County Division of Housing Services Spring Home Expo

"Homeowners learning to do it themselves..."

Saturday, March 16, 2013 • 9 a.m. - 1 p.m.

Leon County Community Room  
Historic Amtrak Railroad Station, 918 Railroad Avenue

### Come out, learn and have fun:

- Property Maintenance & Repair: How To!
- Gain Access to Home Improvement Loans, Up to \$30K
- Gardening & Landscaping
- Foreclosure Prevention Assistance, Up to \$42,000
- Down Payment Assistance & Closing Cost for First Time Homebuyers & Veterans, Up to \$6,000
- Fair Housing Education



The Expo takes place Biannually, on the third Saturdays of October and March discussing seasonal topics.

Next Expo: October 19, 2013!!!!

Refreshments will be served!! Come win door prizes!!

To register, call **(850) 606-1916**

## Leon County to Provide Tax Relief for Seniors

As adopted by the Leon County Board of County Commissioners, Leon County Government will offer an additional tax relief exemption to seniors in need throughout the community. Who is eligible? Low-income seniors over 65 years of age who have lived more than twenty-five years at the same property valued under \$250,000. The new exemption, for those qualified, is equivalent to the assessed value of their property up to \$249,999.

For more than 10 years, Leon County Government has granted a \$25,000 local option homestead exemption for low-income senior citizens. This additional exemption remains unchanged.

The decision to grant tax relief to low-income seniors aligns with the Leon County Board of County Commissioners' strategic priority to exercise responsible stewardship of County resources, sound financial management, and ensure that the provision of services and community enhancements are done in a fair and equitable manner.

For more information, contact the Leon County Property Appraiser's office at **(850) 606-6200** or visit [www.leonpa.org](http://www.leonpa.org).



## DESIGNWORKS

Grand Opening Ceremony  
**March 7, 4 - 7 p.m.**

435 N. Macomb Street, Renaissance Center, 3rd Floor

DESIGNWORKS, a new urban design studio housed within the Tallahassee-Leon County Planning Department, will hold its Grand Opening Ceremony on **Thursday, March 7**.

While the Planning Department has provided design assistance for many years, the department recently reorganized to formalize this role and redesigned office space to provide a more inviting, collaborative space.

The DESIGNWORKS team handles special projects, such as the downtown Wayfinding signage system and the Placemaking district plans. Additionally, the new team is set up to build upon the ideas which are launched from public involvement and are brought to fruition through collaborations with associated professionals in the private and public sectors.

The team also provides customer service to citizens, professional designers and engineers in the form of conceptual site plan designs and sketches.



## Fabulous Foods Winter Cooking Classes

Presented by **Leon County Cooperative Extension**

Come cook with us! Learn together and leave with valuable information and tested recipes.

All Classes 6 - 8 p.m. • 615 Paul Russell Road

Cost: \$15/Person. Pre-registration required.

Contact Kendra Zamojski at **(850) 606-5200** or [hughson@ufl.edu](mailto:hughson@ufl.edu).

**March 21: 5 Ingredient Recipes**  
**April 25: April Herbs**



## March 2013

### Board of County Commissioners Schedule

**12 Board of County Commissioners Regular Meeting\***  
3 p.m., County Courthouse, 301 S. Monroe St.,  
5th Floor, Commission Chambers

**Board of County Commissioners Public Hearings\***  
6 p.m., County Courthouse, 301 S. Monroe St.,  
5th Floor, Commission Chambers

**25 Community Redevelopment Agency (CRA)**  
11 a.m., City Hall, 300 S. Adams,  
2nd Floor, Commission Chambers

**Capital Region Transportation Planning (CRTPA)**  
1 p.m., City Hall, 300 S. Adams,  
2nd Floor, Commission Chambers

**26 NO MEETING**

\*Live television broadcast available on Comcast Channel 16; webcast available anytime at [www.LeonCountyFL.gov](http://www.LeonCountyFL.gov).

## Principles of Pressure Canning

Presented by **Leon County Cooperative Extension**

Learn How to Preserve Food Safely

**Thursday, March 7 • 8:30 am - 12:30 pm**

Cost: \$10/Person

Leon County Extension Office  
615 Paul Russell Road

Call **(850) 606-5200** for more information.