Dear El Portal Neighbors:

Happy Spring!! It’s been a busy first quarter in El Portal and together we have already achieved a number of milestones toward beautifying our Village, enhancing our quality of life, and building camaraderie among us while strengthening our financial future!

By working together, here are just a few of our accomplishments from not only the new Council’s First 100 days in Office, but within the first quarter of 2015:

1) The Village hired Officer Elizabeth Pineros, a USMC Veteran, as our Code Enforcement Officer.
2) The “Little Farm” was sold and the new owner’s must properly prepare the property for redevelopment by February 6, 2016.
3) The unveiling of our very own “Little Free Library” to promote literacy.
4) The East-Side marque was beautifully painted and labeled by our very own resident—Jasper Sweet, who also just celebrated his 80th Birthday by the way. Congrats Jasper!
5) The Horace Mann Middle School fence has been fixed, and there is an increased police presence around the school—especially at arrival and dismissal times.
6) Informational workshops were well attended by residents to include the Ygreen workshop in January 2015 and the Code Enforcement workshop in March 2015.
7) The Village’s monthly “Lunch and Learn” events, with featured speakers have been well attended by many residents as well as by our County Commissioner: Audrey Edmonson.
8) We strengthened the Village’s relationship with our local, county, state and national elected representatives/leaders by meeting with them and reviewing El Portal needs and concerns.
9) We traveled to Tallahassee and met with State leaders to lobby for a Sanitary Sewer and Stormwater Improvement Projects, as well to advocate for enhancements to Police-Issued Equipment and a Senior Wellness Program.
10) The “Peacock Express” newsletter is back--so we can be in constant contact with you while also providing a vehicle for you to promote your business, at a reasonable rate.

COMING SOON: A bike rack will be installed by the “Tot Lot”; a number of permanent trash cans will be in-

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Message from Councilperson, Harold Mathis

Dear Residents:

First and foremost, thank you once again for electing me to serve this great Village. I also want to thank the Mayor and Council for making this one of the best administrations I have had the opportunity to work with. The Mayor has appointed me to serve as Chair of Public Safety and we have so much planned for this session.

The El Portal Police Department works hard to establish and maintain a safe and secure community. In spite of these efforts, it is still important to take steps to protect yourself at all times.

EP Police are here to protect and serve you and the surrounding communities at large. All EP police officers are fully certified by FL Dept. of Law Enforcement and are sworn to preserve the public peace, protect life and property and uphold the laws of the of Village of El Portal and the State of Florida. The Police Officers undergo the same academy training as all other Florida accredited law enforcement officers and meet the same functional and skill requirements.

El Portal has 30 sworn officers with police dispatchers operated out of Miami-Dade dispatch center 24/7/365. Any ON DUTY El Portal Police Officer can be reached at any time on the COP cellular phone at 786-278-5439. Police officers patrol El Portal on foot, in vehicles, by segway and on bikes daily. Your police department is under the guidance of Chief Eugene Morales, Corporal Manuel Casias and Sergeant Ronnie Hufnagel.

Police Services: We offer many services to serve you and help keep you safe because we recognize that learning is most efficient in a safe and secure environment. Our crime prevention specialists are always available to answer questions on how to stay safe and to conduct security assessments of your property.

Statistical Report: A quarterly statistical report mandated by the Council is placed on the Village website: www.elportalvillage.com. Also via Police Blotter on www.nextdoor.com reports are made readily available. The report lists crimes within the Village limits. You may also request a copy through the Public Records request process, drop by Village Hall and staff will be more than willing to assist.

In the works:

• The Annual 5K Armed Services Walk/Run
• The “Not On My Block” Crime Watch Event
• The Police of the Year / The Villager of the Year
• Public Safety Workshop

Please remember, you are the eyes and ears of the Village, if you see and/or hear something, please notify the authorities without hesitation.

Thank you for your support.
Harold E. Mathis, Jr.,
Chairman of Public Safety
Village of El Portal, Seat 4

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Police Department, 
Chief Morales

Village Residents – Please remember to always lock your unattended vehicle no matter where it may be. Do not leave purses, wallets, backpacks, laptops, etc., in open view. It is always best to take them with you upon exiting your vehicle, even if for only a short time period. Most car burglaries in residential areas are “crimes of opportunity”. Residents must always be careful to watch for possible danger, suspicious persons and attentive to their surroundings. In the time it takes to leave your unattended vehicle to retrieve a forgotten item, a car burglar can be in and out of your vehicle with your purse/wallet. The aftermath will take you at least a couple of hours to cancel credit/bank cards, replace driver’s license, etc. A simple step to decrease your stress and keep crime away.

Please report immediately any suspicious activities to the El Portal Police Department. For non-emergency or information, please call the community policing cellular phone at (786) 278-5439.

This cellular phone is carried by the on-duty police officer 24 hours / 7 day a week. FOR EMERGENCIES DIAL 911.
Village of El Portal
2015 BULK WASTE SCHEDULE
Service will be provided once each quarter, usually in the first week of the last quarter of each month. See schedule below for exact service days for your area this year.

The Village will be divided into three zones, with each zone scheduled for a specific day of each quarter. Residents MUST have the bulk waste set out no later than 7:00 a.m. on their scheduled service day. It is strongly recommended that residents put the bulk waste out the evening before their scheduled service date.

• Zone 1 includes all homes west of North Miami Avenue. **Zone 1 will be serviced on Tuesday of each quarterly service week.**

• Zone 2 includes all homes east of North Miami Avenue from NE 88th St. to NE 90th St. **Zone 2 will be serviced on Wednesday of each quarterly service week.**

• Zone 3 includes all homes east of North Miami Avenue from NE 87th St. south to the southern end of Village limits (Little River). **Zone 3 will be serviced on Thursday of each quarterly service week.**

Service days for 2015 will be as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Quarter</th>
<th>Zone 1 Day &amp; Date</th>
<th>Zone 2 Day &amp; Date</th>
<th>Zone 3 Day &amp; Date</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>3rd Quarter/2015</td>
<td>Tuesday 9/1/15</td>
<td>Wednesday 9/2/15</td>
<td>Thursday 9/3/15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4th Quarter/2015</td>
<td>Tuesday 12/1/15</td>
<td>Wednesday 12/2/15</td>
<td>Thursday 12/3/15</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The regular bulk collection schedule above is for approved bulky wastes that cannot fit within the carts. Acceptable bulky items include yard trash with pieces no larger than 6 feet, vegetative and wood matter that is part of normal yard maintenance, household furniture, and household trash. Please place appropriate bulk waste items away from trees, cars, and other objects in order to provide access by the crane trucks. Waste generated by contractors or subcontractors is NOT considered household trash, and should NOT be placed out for collection.

Residents requiring special bulk waste collections (at times other than the regular schedule) should contact Village Hall BEFORE placing bulk waste out. Additional fees will apply for special bulk collections. Please visit www.elportalvillage.com for up-to-date information.
2015 Council & Committee Meetings

***PLEASE NOTE HOLIDAY SCHEDULE***

REGULAR COUNCIL MEETINGS
(4th Tuesday of each Month at 7:00 PM)
January 27th, February 24th, March 24th, April 28th, May 26th,
June 23rd, July 28th, AUGUST RECESS, September 29th,
October 27th, November 24th and December 22nd
*Date change due to holiday

COMMITTEE MEETINGS
(2nd Week of every other Month except AUGUST)
Public Affairs
(2nd Monday of Every other Month at 6:30PM):
January 12th, March 9th, May 11th, July 13th, September 14th
and November 17th

Public Works
(2nd Monday of Every other Month at 6:45PM):
January 12th, February 10th*, March 9th, May 11th, July 13th,
September 14th and November 17th

Public Safety
(2nd Tuesday of Every other Month at 6:30PM):
January 13th, March 10th, May 12th, July 14th, September 15th
and November 18th

Code Enforcement
(2nd Tuesday of Every other Month at 6:45PM):
January 13th, February 10th*, March 10th, May 12th, July 14th,
September 15th and November 18th

Planning & Zoning
(2nd Wednesday of Every other Month at 6:30PM):
January 14th, February 10th*, March 11th, May 13th, July 15th,
September 16th and November 19th

Administration & Finance
(2nd Wednesday of Every other Month at 6:45PM):
January 14th, March 11th, May 13th, July 15th, September 16th
and November 19th

**Special meeting dates

HOLIDAYS
Village Hall will be closed the following Holidays:
New Year’s Day, Thursday, January 1st
Martin Luther King Jr. Birthday, Monday, January 19th
President’s Day, Monday, February 16th
Memorial Day, Monday, May 25th
Labor Day, Monday, September 7th
Columbus Day, Monday, October 12th
Veterans Day Observance, Wednesday, November 11th
Thanksgiving Day, Thursday, November 26th
Friday Following Thanksgiving Day, Friday, November 27th
Christmas Day, Friday, December 25th
Day Following Christmas Day, Friday, December 26th

Shark Tank’s Barbara Corcoran says:
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Message from Leon P. Maycock  
Principal, Horace Mann Middle

My role as Principal of Horace Mann Middle School is to cultivate a school environment in which everyone shares a vision of focusing on bridging the achievement gap amongst learners. The passion I have for improving education for all children in South Florida is rooted in my own childhood experience when a teacher inspired me to pursue a college degree. I carried this memory throughout my career as a teacher, assistant principal and principal. My accomplishments as an educator started in public schools. I am a proud graduate of Miami Edison Senior School, class of 1994 which gave me the opportunity to serve my community in a leadership capacity.

As a calculated risk-taker, I choose to embark on my higher education at Idaho State University where I earned a bachelor degree and played four years of college football. The experiences I yield from attending college 2800 miles away from South Florida assisted me in exposing my students to life outside of their three mile radius neighborhood.

My goal for Horace Mann Middle School is beyond what is expected from the stakeholders and the student body. In my short time at Horace Mann, I increased the school-wide achievement goals by 25 points, increased student attendance by 6%, and reduced school incidents by 30%. Understanding the belief in a child-first improvement approach is orchestrated by increasing efficiency, performance and knowing my students’ culture plays a major part in my success. I was born and raised in the inner-city of Miami, Florida in an area called Little Haiti/Liberty City, and truly understands what it takes to improve lives of students I serve.
FEBRUARY
On the 14th “For the love of Children and Literacy!” The Unveiling of Our Little Free Library” in front of the Village Hall.

MARCH
Little River Clean Up

APRIL
Annual Egg Hunt Extravaganza

January – April 2015 Community Events

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George Zein
Since 1988
Hallandale Beach
The Mayor’s “Citizen Spotlight of the Quarter”

Goes to 9-year-old El Portal, FL resident, LUNA BALZANO.

Luna founded the organization “Think Petpositive—Promoting Responsible Pet Ownership and Pet Adoptions.” Their mission is to raise community-awareness on the importance of pet adoption, and to help teach responsible pet ownership. I encourage you to “like” their Facebook Page at: Facebook.com/thinkpetpositive.

As a result of her outstanding efforts, Luna has earned the Mayor’s new “Citizen Spotlight of the Quarter Award”!

Your Code Enforcement Team

Detective David Adlet & Officer Elizabeth Pineros