

November 2023

Editors: Linda Sullivan and JJ Butler



Palm Beach Fire-Rescue Chief Donatto

Palm Beach aims to have 500 AEDs in public locations by 2025, fire chief says at beginning of Safeguard Palm Beach Seminar

BY: DIEGO DIAZ LASA- PB DAILY NEWS

By 2025, Palm Beach will have the most publicly available automatic external defibrillators of any town in the U.S. That's according to Fire Rescue Chief Darrel Donatto.

"Imagine this: We already have 200 AEDs in town, but we hope to have 500 AEDs within the next two years," he said. "You will be safer in this town from a heart attack or sudden cardiac arrest than anywhere else in the nation."

The announcement, made during Thursday's South End Safety Forum hosted by Safeguard Palm Beach at Fire Station 3, is one thread in the Town's greater effort to become the safest municipality in the U.S., Donatto said.

Donatto also highlighted the implementation of a new fire and EMS reporting and analytic system, as well as the incorporation of new neuroprotective CPR devices, which, according to recent studies, reduce brain and neurological damage associated with cardiac crisis by increasing blood flow to the brain.

"There may be another 30 or 40 organizations where we are at today with neuroprotective CPR," Donatto said.

He also spoke about the Prepared Live system, which allows emergency dispatchers to video-call and GPS track callers via a text message link.



Palm Beach police Capt. William Rothrock

"Very few places have this. It will become the norm, but we're at the leading edge of this," Donatto said of the Prepared Live system.

Donatto said the system could not have been launched without financial support from the Palm Beach Police and Fire Foundation.

"Police and fire were talking about it like, 'Man we'd love to have this and love to do this, but there is a cost,' " Donatto said. "Right away, Police and Fire Foundation stepped up. ... We have it today thanks to them."



TC Member, Lew Crampton and Co-Chair CAPB, Donald Singer

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The foundation also paid for the neuroprotective CPR devices.

In collaboration with Safeguard Palm Beach, Donatto said his department will be increasing its educational programming, including the incorporation of drowning and fall-prevention programs.

“Fall prevention is one of those things that can really make a difference in people maintaining their ability to live alone without needing assistance,” he said. “So we’re hopeful we can do a lot more of that with this partnership.”

Discussing South End concerns, he reminded residents that many of the area's condominiums are slated for end-of-year inspections under Senate Bill 4-D. Signed into law by Gov. Ron DeSantis in 2022, the legislation mandates all condos or cooperative buildings of three stories or higher to undergo milestones inspections by Dec. 31 for buildings reaching 25 years of age, and every 10 years after that.

Also mentioned was the 2025 deadline for ensuring that buildings meet minimum radio signal strength requirements. Part of Florida’s House Bill 287, the legislation requires buildings of 75 feet or higher to have the minimum radio signal strength needed for the communication equipment used by first responders.

The announcement sparked a conversation between Donatto and Dorchester condominium President Irwin Meisler when Meisler asked if there was any new system or town-led development that could guarantee the appropriate signal strength without costing residents.

Donatto explained that the equipment’s age has little to do with signal strength, which is influenced by the building’s distance from the radio tower, as well as its material and architectural composition.



Police Chief Caristo spoke at the seminar

Caristo announced a crackdown on car carriers, which are prohibited from offloading cars anywhere but Phipps Ocean Park.

Caristo also highlighted the police department's effort to alleviate the anxiety and fear felt by Palm Beach's Jewish community following the eruption of the Israel-Hamas conflict.

"I don't advertise it, but I want to assure you that our police department is extremely proactive in keeping this community safe," he said. "We have so many protocols put in place between undercover cars and active patrols."



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More Highlights Of

The Safeguard Palm Beach Seminar

The Town of Palm Beach has a new tool to improve public safety, an issue that has always been a priority in Palm Beach. Branded as “Prepared Live”, this new, cutting-edge technology will improve the emergency response for both police and fire/rescue by giving the town’s emergency dispatchers the ability to see and hear live video images from the scene using 911 callers’ phones. With assistance from the Palm Beach Police and Fire Foundation, the town has implemented the “Prepared Live” technology so that emergency dispatchers can text a link to 911 callers that will allow the dispatcher to see and hear the scene through the caller’s smartphone camera. The new system blends seamlessly into the current dispatch protocols and gives the trained dispatchers a far greater ability to see and understand exactly what is happening in real time at an emergency scene - even before the first responders have arrived. When a caller reaches the Palm Beach emergency dispatcher from a smartphone they will be asked if they would like to use the Prepared Live system. If they agree, the dispatcher will send a text message to the caller’s phone with a link and the caller need only click on the link to grant the dispatcher access to their camera feed. The dispatcher will be able to communicate with the caller over the phone and provide critical safety and medical assistance in real time. The Prepared Live system also allows the dispatcher to better relay critical details about scene safety, patient condition, and other important response details to the first responders as they are in route to the scene. Because the Town appreciates its residents’ privacy, participation in the Prepared Live program is voluntary for callers and is limited to the duration of the time the link is active. No connection is maintained with the caller’s phone after the call has been resolved or terminated by the caller.

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Decision on free ride-share service deferred?

By: Jodie Wagner - Palm Beach Daily News

After concerns were raised about advertising and commercialization, the Palm Beach Town Council agreed to postpone until December a decision on bringing a free ride-share service to the town.

During their meeting Tuesday at Town Hall, council members said they needed more information about the app-based micro-mobility company Rove and how it would operate on the island.

The council also requested a legal opinion from Town Attorney John Randolph about whether the town is permitted to restrict advertising on cars.

Rove, which is led by Jack Brinkley-Cook, the son of model Christie Brinkley, and Gianpaolo de Felice, the son-in-law of fashion designer Donna Karan, makes its money by covering its vehicles in advertising.

“Before we rush to judgment here, we need to have these issues answered,” Council President Maggie Zeidman said.

Advertising has been a sticking point with council members.

Rove initially planned to display ads for Casa del Sol Tequila, a ‘luxury sipping tequila’ co-founded by actress Eva Longoria.

But council members pushed back on that plan at their September meeting, with some expressing concern about the company advertising alcohol on its vehicles.

At Tuesday’s meeting, Rove co-founder Brinkley-Cook said the company has not committed to an advertising partner in Palm Beach, but it is considering working with NetJets, a business jet charter and aircraft management company.

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A photo of a Rove vehicle displaying an ad for NetJets was presented to council members, but no other photos were provided.

Council members said they wanted to see more photos of what the cars would look with the advertisements displayed on them, and they also wanted to see ads with smaller lettering. Some council members also objected to what they consider the “Hamptonsification” of Palm Beach if Rove begins service on the island. The company currently operates in the communities of Montauk, East Hampton and Sag Harbor on New York’s Long Island, but would shift to Aspen, Colorado, and Palm Beach for the winter season if approved by the council.

Council member Bobbie Lindsay noted that the three Long Island towns cover a much larger area than Palm Beach and have a significantly larger population during the summer tourist season, while council member Julie Araskog said the Hamptons were “wild” compared to the island. “We don’t like attention,” Araskog said. Zeidman agreed with her.

“We’re not interested in alcohol, we’re not interested in NetJets, and we’re not the Hamptons,” Zeidman said. “We need to make this extremely clear. This is a town that wants to be quiet. It doesn’t want a lot going on. We’ve got a lot going on anyway.”

If approved by the town, Rove will use a fleet of 10 electric Tesla vehicles to shuttle customers to locations between Wells Road and the southern town limits. The North End would not be included in the coverage area, council member Lew Crampton said, as residents there have expressed concerns about encroachment on the area’s beaches.

The service would operate seven days per week, from 10 a.m. to 10 p.m. Ride requests must be made through the company’s app. Customers cannot flag down a Rove vehicle on the street for a ride, Brinkley-Cook said.

Staging locations for the vehicles have not been identified, Brinkley-Cook said, but the company is looking into public and private options.

Rove has been endorsed by the Citizens’ Association of Palm Beach, which sent a letter to Mayor Danielle Moore and the Town Council advocating for the service.

If approved by the council next month, Rove will be the only free rideshare service operating on the island. Circuit, which provides rides around town and into downtown West Palm Beach, began charging a fee Nov. 6 for any ride booked through the Ride Circuit app and beginning or ending outside the West Palm Beach city limits.

man Lew Crampton, who has been a proponent of the service for some time now, says he’s eager to see the positive impact it can potentially provide to residents in Palm Beach.

“It basically allows people on the South end or the North end of town,” Crampton added.

The company makes its money by advertising local businesses right on its vehicles, so the Town of Palm Beach won’t have to put forth any funds for the service to launch.

Each ad on each car would also have to be pre-approved by council members.

Councilman Crampton says, more importantly, he believes allowing the service to come into Palm Beach can tackle some parking issues.

“We had to work together to put a 7-point parking program together, which includes paid parking, free stickers for residents in certain areas, valet parking, and some other things, but one of the key elements of that 7-point plan is this rideshare program,” added Crampton.

If passed, Rove would launch each year from December through April and run seven days a week.

At the November 14th meeting Town Council meeting, there was a review of the Rove program. Co-chair of CAPB, Donald Singer reviewed the letter of support for the program from the Citizens Association of Palm Beach Board of Directors. CAPB Secretary, Ronald Matzner indicated that his buildings’ Board, 3120 Oasis, is also in support.

The Town Council will continue the discussion at the December meeting.



State attorney general: Some Floridians are scared, but 'we're doing everything' to assure them

By: MICHAEL MOLINE - floridaphoenix.com

Florida Attorney General Ashley Moody appeared in South Florida to reassure the public that the state's law enforcement establishment is on the guard against any political or religious violence that might spill over from the Israel-Hamas war.

"We know that we have Floridians that are scared," Moody, flanked by high-ranking state police and uniformed local police officials, said during a news conference in Boynton Beach in Palm Beach County. "We know that there have been situations throughout the United States that are placing people on edge. They are fearful for their safety. I have personally met with members of the Jewish community and heard about experiences on college campuses and with the community, and it is certainly disturbing to hear that this is happening in the United States and that people do not feel safe," Moody said.

"We're doing everything that we can to assure them and to use the law and tools that the Florida Legislature has given us to do so."

Moody said "it is no coincidence" that she staged her event in South Florida, with its large Jewish population. The atmosphere has rekindled religious convictions within the Jewish community, said Rabbi Mark Rosenberg of Dade County, who serves as chaplain to the FHP, Miami-Dade Police Department, and North Miami Beach Police Department.

"We saw more people coming out to synagogue. More people that want to perform missions and do good deeds and take on something upon themselves. So, we're happy that the scare factor did not work and we're thankful to the law enforcement that provided that comfort," he said at Moody's news conference.

Moody met with top law enforcement officials, including Mark Glass, head of the Florida Department of Law Enforcement, and Dave Kerner, who runs the Florida Department Highway Safety and Motor Vehicles, which includes the Florida Highway Patrol. The attorney general has ordered the FHP to guard Jewish day schools and synagogues.

Law enforcement coordination

Moody said that the state's Fusion Center, which coordinates anti-terrorism and violent crime investigations between local, state, and federal agencies, is monitoring the situation. She urged people who see anything suspicious to call (855) FLA-SAFE or (855)352-7233, or file an anonymous report by dialing **TIPS. She also recommended calling local agencies through the 911 system.

The U.S. Attorney's Office for the Southern District of Florida issued a public notice on Oct. 19 saying that it was on the watch for hate crimes and urging people to report concerns to (800) CALL-FBI or (800) 225-5324 or through tips.fbi.gov.



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TIPS FROM TONY

November 2024

Golfontheocean.com



By: Tony Chateauvert
Head Pro

Myth Busters-Ball Position

Many of the lessons we give at the Par 3, is to dispel incorrect and just plain wrong myths about the golf swing.

Like “keeping your head down”, a real killer or “keep your left arm stiff”, a swing wrecker. Today’s focus is “Ball Position”.

When it comes to fundamentals, consistency is paramount. If you can repeat the same positions, moves, and methods over and over you will simplify your technique and ingrain better habits.

The old adage was to move the ball back in your stance (closer to back foot) for shorter clubs and move the ball forward (to your front foot) for longer clubs and driver.

Adapting one position, just inside your left angle, for right handed golfers will make you more consistent. Below are some pictures of getting set up with a 9 iron a driver.

Notice how everything starts the same but clubs are longer and because of the ball position will appear different. Once the club is set behind the ball, ball position is correct!

If you need more help, check out our lesson and clinic programs at: Golfontheocean.com



2023 HOLIDAY TREE LIGHTINGS

BRADLEY PARK
Monday November 27, 2023

Tree will be lit by staff at 6:00 p.m. with no planned activities

MEMORIAL PARK 6:00
Tuesday November 28, 2023 at 5:29 p.m.

WORTH AVENUE & HIBISCUS AVENUE
Tuesday November 28, 2023
Parade and arrival of Santa at 6:10 p.m.
Tree Lighting count down at 6:25 p.m.

WHAT IS BDA/DAS (aka Bi-Directional Amplifier) ?

By: BizJournals Jacksonville News

Florida buildings now required to install signal-boosting public safety systems
Commercial buildings, apartments and condos must have two-way radio communication enhancement/signal booster system, testing, and installation

It is crucial that first responders have clear, effective two-way communication in commercial buildings. Unfortunately, most buildings block and absorb radio frequency signals, presenting complex challenges to the ever-increasing demand for coverage.

Will your building require a DAS or ERCES?

The state of Florida is requiring commercial buildings, apartments and condos over 75 feet that test below minimum-required coverage levels to have a two-way radio communication signal booster called an Emergency Radio Communication Enhancement System (ERCES) designed and installed.

This system, also known as a Distributed Antenna System (DAS) is installed into a facility to enhance radio frequency bands used by first responders and safety professionals. This law aims to reduce communication loss between emergency crews during responses (i.e., fires, tornados, workplace violence, health emergencies, etc.).

Building owners and operators must act soon to comply with the state's code. A recent state law, [Florida Statute 633.202](#), requires that commercial and residential buildings be tested, designed, and permitted by Dec. 31, 2022, with installation by Dec. 31, 2024.

An introduction to DAS

A Distributed Antenna System (DAS) uses a network of antennas and amplifiers to boost radio signals and rebroadcast them through the entire building.

- DAS enhances coverage in areas of a building where signals are often weak or unavailable and where coverage is required, such as stairwells, areas of refuge, and fire command rooms.
- This flexible solution serves as a backbone for robust and uninterrupted wireless communication, thus enhancing public safety.

BDA/DAS is crucial for public safety

Having weak cell service or Wi-Fi signal is frustrating, right? While an inconvenience for the average person, it presents dangerous and potentially deadly communications interruptions for first responders in emergencies. Two-way radio frequency is critical for saving lives. Here is how DAS ensures public safety:

- Those tasked with saving lives can perform their duties effectively due to stable radio channels between emergency personnel.
- An ERCES is on par with a properly functioning sprinkler, smoke detection, and security system.

Additional benefits of DAS/BDA

Apart from meeting legal obligations, most authorities having jurisdiction (AHJs) allow for the overlay of a commercial cellular signal in conjunction with the ERCES. This approach allows for strong and continuous signal and cellular reception providing the convenience and utility that occupants have come to expect. Below are listed some of the benefits available to building owners and operators:

- Compliance with public safety requirements.
- Improved cost-effectiveness.
- Improved coverage and signal quality.
- Increased capacity.
- Reduced interference.
- Data throughout the entire facility.
- Wireless multi-media.
- Future scalability and adaptability.

Installing a DAS

To find out whether your building needs a DAS, experienced professionals you will need a company familiar with Florida state requirements to perform the required testing and determine your building's needs. From there, they can engineer and install a system that ensures public safety and legal compliance as well as cell carrier requirements.

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