



*Commissioner Sandy Murman proclaims August 9<sup>th</sup> as “Smokey Bear Day” in Hillsborough County, celebrating Smokey’s 70<sup>th</sup> birthday, and encouraging citizens to be careful when using fire in rural areas. From left are: Commissioner Murman, John Dewolf of the Florida Forest Service, Smokey Bear, Pat Keogh of the Florida Forest Service, and Mike Facente, Forest Ranger for the Florida Forest Service.*

#### **Hillsborough off the hook on repaying HUD, official says**

Hillsborough County’s affordable housing director said Wednesday the county will not have to repay more than \$1 million in grant money that federal investigators said was misspent. Housing director Paula Harvey told county commissioners she had been assured by Gary Causey, an official with the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development’s Jacksonville office, that the county will not have to pay back money spent on code enforcement in blighted neighborhoods.

#### **Hillsborough Consumer Protections: How to avoid Credit Repair Scams**

Credit repair scams are alive and well. Consumers are being inundated with telemarketing calls and social media posts claiming they can reduce interest rates on outstanding credit cards and loans and repair bad credit records.

#### **Commissioners approve next step in Housing First for homeless**

The BOCC authorized County Staff to work with the City of Tampa to seek proposals to accomplish a 'Housing First' Homelessness Multi-Family rehabilitation project to support homeless individuals and families. Commissioners directed Affordable Housing Services to provide the proposed Joint Project Activity with an anticipated \$250,000 contribution from the available Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) funds.

#### **Hillsborough County to extend paint recycling programs**

Commissioners were told Wednesday that County solid waste staff is currently working with the Florida Department of Environmental Protection (FDEP) to modify the operation permits at the County’s Community Collection Centers to allow for paint disposal at these locations. The permit modification is expected to be received by November 2014. Once received, citizens will be able to dispose of paint, electronics, and batteries at the CCC’s six days a week.

#### **Commissioners consolidate sponsorship policy**

Hillsborough County Commissioners approved a new Board Policy entitled 'Sponsorship'. The new policy establishes the framework for the County to provide sponsorships for third party activities, and updates and clarifies standards by which the County will solicit and accept sponsorships from third parties.

### **UPCOMING EVENTS IN THE COUNTY**

Thursday, August 14, 1:00 p.m. – EDI2 One-Year Anniversary at Tampa Bay WaVE, 400 N. Ashley Drive, Tampa

Monday, August 18, 6:30 p.m. – Hazards and Flood Plan Update at SouthShore Regional Service Center, Ruskin

Wednesday, August 20, 9:00 a.m. – BOCC Meeting at County Center

### **STAY CONNECTED**

