



Commissioner Sarah Reece

My name is Sarah Reece, and I have served the residents of Altamonte Springs since 1999. During my term as commissioner, we have maintained exceptional services with one of the lowest tax rates of any City in Seminole County. We have paid off all of the debt. In fact, we are one of very few cities in the region with no debt at all.

Altamonte Springs is a great place to live and raise your family. Recently, the City was ranked #1 by CNN/Money Magazine as one of the most affordable places in the U.S. to live, and where "citizens get the most bang for their buck." Our police force was recently recognized as an Excelsior agency, which is the highest level of accreditation for police departments. We are the only city in Seminole County to have this ranking. In September 2013, we were also ranked #1 in the state of Florida as the safest city in Florida for motorists!



During my tenure on the City Commission, we have progressed farther than any city in the state and are ranked as the best city in some state and national rankings. We have become a model for how to deliver first class services at a very low tax rate without going into debt to do it. Your municipal tax rate this year, which I voted for, is only 2.89 mills—the fourth year in a row in which we have not raised the millage.

In 2012, Altamonte Springs started a STEM education program called Altamonte Springs Science Incubator (AS₂I) with the help of the Seminole County School Board and corporate sponsors. We educated more than 2,500 Seminole County students in advanced science and math over the past school year. This year, we are progressing even farther by partnering with the private sector to create 18 paid summer internships with local businesses for Incubator students. For more information on AS₂I, visit www.AltamonteIncubator.org.

Seminole State College is expanding in our city to offer four-year degrees. When completed, SSC's Altamonte campus will be the focal point of education in Seminole County—right in your backyard.

Our parks and recreation and events programs are community based. We just had our National Night Out this past August. We have more than 80 different events in Uptown Altamonte each year, both big and small. Our overall events calendar is filled with hundreds

of community events, activities and programs. There is something for everyone here in Altamonte Springs. I encourage you to visit our website at www.UptownAltamonte.com and sign up for Notify Me to be notified about all of our events!

I would like you to know more about me. I am your neighbor, and have been for decades here in Altamonte Springs. I am a true Southerner, born and raised in Lake Wales, Florida. I moved to Orlando in 1968 after high school and continued my education by attending Orange Memorial's School of Nursing. I graduated cum laude in 1986 from Florida Southern College with a Bachelor of Science in Nursing. I began my nursing career with Orange Memorial Hospital, now Orlando Health, and I have been with them since 1972.

During my nursing career, I was the Head Nurse of the Progressive Care Unit for 10 years, worked with dialysis and burn patients and am currently a Programmer Analyst III in the IS Department.

As a single mother of three boys, Steven, Sean and Seth, I realized the importance of bonding with my children. Fortunately, I found baseball to be that common bond and set out to learn everything I could about the sport. Since that time, I've served for more than 15 years on volunteer boards for youth baseball and was Altamonte Springs Babe Ruth Baseball League President for six years. In 1995, I led the way as the Babe Ruth Baseball League and the City hosted the Bambino World Series in Altamonte Springs. I was honored to be named "Volunteer of the Year" by the City's Leisure Services Department.

Even with my career, my family and my Babe Ruth duties, I found the time to be active in the Spring Lake Elementary and Lake Brantley High School PTAs for over 10 years and was a member of the Seminole County Council of PTAs for six years. In 1990, I received the Gold Apple Award from the Superintendent of Seminole County Public Schools, the Humanitarian Award from the Seminole County Council of PTAs and a special scholarship was awarded in my name by the Seminole County Council of PTAs at Lake Brantley. The scholarship allows a select group of students to travel to Tallahassee for a Legislative Session and government tour. I have a passion for helping people and shaping my community.

Thank you for your years of support to me and to the City Commission, as well as our staff who work tirelessly to support our community.

Public Service:

Altamonte Springs City Commissioner - 1999 – present, currently Vice Mayor
Chairman, Community Services Block Grant Advisory Board
Member of Altamonte Springs Health Facilities Board - 1998 - 1999
Past Member of the Tri-County League of Cities Board

Affiliations:

Assistant State Commissioner - Florida Babe Ruth Baseball
Founder- Florida Babe Ruth Baseball in Altamonte Springs
President and Co-Founder - Central Florida Bambino Buddy Ball
Past President and Treasurer - Altamonte Springs Youth Baseball
Member - South Seminole Hospital's Women's Advisory Board
Former President - Wayne Densch Performing Arts Center, Sanford
Board Member - Seminole County Regional Chamber of Commerce
Junior Achievement Teacher Since 1996
Past Member- Advisory Council American Red Cross Seminole County

Education:

Orange Memorial School of Nursing – Graduated 1972
Florida Southern College, Cum Laude, Bachelor of Science Nursing - 1986

Personal:

Born in Lake Wales, Florida
Moved to Orlando in 1968 to attend Orange Memorial School of Nursing
Resident of Altamonte Springs since 1977
Single mother with three sons, two grandsons and one granddaughter
Employed by Orlando Health since 1972; Programmer Analyst III in the IS Department

Interests:

Serving my community as a City Commissioner as well as volunteering in youth sports, Buddy Ball and the arts.