

# Ocean Ridge Tidings

January 2017

Volume 10, Issue 1

A monthly e-newsletter for the residents of Ocean Ridge, Florida

## Municipal Election Information

The 2017 Municipal Election will be held on Tuesday, March 14, 2017 from 7:00AM-7:00PM in the Town Hall Community Room. Two commission seats (one currently held by Jim Bonfiglio and the other recently vacated) will be open for a three-year term. Interested candidates must file between 12:00PM on Tuesday, January 31, 2017 through Tuesday, February 14, 2017 by 12:00PM. If you have any questions or concerns, please contact Town Hall at 561-732-2635.

La Elección Municipal de 2017 se llevará a cabo el martes 14 de marzo de 2017 de 7:00 AM-7:00PM en la Sala Comunitaria del Ayuntamiento. Dos puestos de comisión (uno actualmente ocupado por Jim Bonfiglio y el otro recientemente vacante) estarán abiertos por un período de tres años. Los candidatos interesados deben presentarse entre las 12:00 pm del martes 31 de enero de 2017 hasta el martes 14 de febrero de 2017 a las 12:00 PM. Si tiene alguna pregunta o inquietud, comuníquese con el Ayuntamiento al 561-732-2635.

## Expiring Building Permits

Every month an expired permit report is generated and letters are sent to the homeowners informing them that an open building permit for their property will expire shortly as per Section 67-52 of the Town of Ocean Ridge Code of Ordinances. This is an informative and beneficial letter letting the homeowner know that every permit requires a final inspection and no positive inspection has been scheduled for a period of six months. The expired building permit will be considered “not completed and open due to the lack of a final inspection” for any reporting purposes and may present delays when attempting to sell or refinance your home.

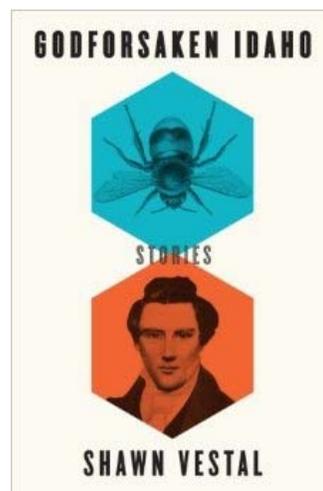
If the permit is ready for a final inspection, please call the contractor listed on the building permit to have them schedule the final inspection with the town. Also, make sure the permit with yellow permit card is posted on the job site. If the permit is not ready for an inspection, you may renew the permit one time within 6 months of expiration, if there are no changes to the original permit, and a \$45.00 renewal fee (cash or check only) must be submitted to the town. If there are changes, a new application with two copies of the back-up material must be submitted to the town and the fee will be based on the new estimated cost of the project.

## Yard Debris Collection

Yard trash shall consist of vegetation only, including, but not limited to grass clippings, bush or tree trimmings, leaves, and weeds, and shall be placed near the street no sooner than 36 hours, or the Sunday prior to the regularly scheduled day of collection.

Yard trash (other than normal weekly vegetation) generated by lawn care companies will not be collected by the Town’s trash collector and should be properly removed by the vendor who generated it. Any questions please call Town Hall at 561-732-2635.

## Book Club Meeting



The Book Club will be meeting on Wednesday, February 1 at 5:45pm in the Town Hall Community Room to discuss *God Forsaken Idaho* by Shawn Vestal. Residents are encouraged to join the discussion.



## General Information

6450 N. Ocean Blvd., Ocean Ridge, FL 33435

[www.oceanridgeflorida.com](http://www.oceanridgeflorida.com)



@OceanRidgeFL

### Town Hall

561-732-2635 (main) ♦ 561-737-8359 (fax)

561-732-ORFL (Citizen Information Line)

General Email: [info@oceanridgeflorida.com](mailto:info@oceanridgeflorida.com)

Town Hall Hours: 8:30AM-3:00PM

### Police

Non-emergency: 561-732-8331

Emergency: 9-1-1

Public Records Hours: 8:30AM-2:30PM

## Town Officials

### Town Manager

James Titcomb

[jtitcomb@oceanridgeflorida.com](mailto:jtitcomb@oceanridgeflorida.com)

### Town Clerk

Tracey Stevens

[tstevens@oceanridgeflorida.com](mailto:tstevens@oceanridgeflorida.com)

### Police Chief

Hal Hutchins

[hhutchins@oceanridgeflorida.com](mailto:hhutchins@oceanridgeflorida.com)

### Mayor

Geoffrey Pugh

### Vice Mayor

James Bonfiglio

### Commissioners

Gail Adams Aaskov

Steve Coz

Vacant

### Mayor & Commissioners email

[info@oceanridgeflorida.com](mailto:info@oceanridgeflorida.com)

## Numbers to Know

### EMERGENCY

Police, Fire, Ambulance 911

### NON-EMERGENCY

Ocean Ridge Police Dept. 561-732-8331

Boynton Beach Fire Dept. 561-742-6600

### TOWN HALL

Building Dept., Town Clerk, Town Mgr. 561-732-2635

Fax 561-737-8359

### OTHERS

Abuse Hotline 800-962-2873

Animal Control 561-233-1200

Army Corp of Engineers 561-683-1577

Beach Conditions 561-966-6600

Boynton Beach City Hall 561-742-6000

Boynton Beach Water Dept. 561-742-6300

Clarke Environmental Services 800-203-6485

Comcast 800-266-2278

Declare Domicile 561-355-2962

Dept. of Environmental Protection (DEP) 561-245-2118

DEP—Christian Lambert 561-313-9007

Dept. of Motor Vehicles (DMV) 561-681-6333

Elder Affairs 866-882-2991

FEMA 800-621-3362

FL Dept. of Transportation (DOT) 866-374-3368

FL Dept. of Transportation Traffic Line 511

Florida Fish & Wildlife Comm. 888-404-FWCC

Florida Power & Light (FPL) 561-697-8000

Florida Power & Light (report outage) 800-4-OUTAGE

Marriage Licenses & Ceremonies 561-355-2986

Oceanfront Park Beach Conditions 561-742-6775

Oceanfront Park Events/Weddings 561-742-6240

Palm Beach County Building Dept. 561-233-5100

Palm Beach County EOC 561-712-6400

Palm Beach County Health Dept 561-840-4500

Palm Beach County Inspector General 877-283-7068

Palm Beach County Mosquito Control 561-642-8775

Palm Beach County Parks & Recreation 561-966-6600

Palm Beach County Property Appraiser 561-355-3230

Palm Beach County Tax Collector 561-355-2266

Palm Beach County White Fly 561-276-1260

Republic Services (trash collection) 561-478-9590

So. FL Water Management 561-686-8800

Solid Waste Authority 561-640-4000

Supervisor of Elections 561-656-6200

Tides 561-742-6776

**CLIP AND SAVE!**

## Calendar of Events

### **January:**

- 2: New Year's Day Observed—Town Hall closed, no inspections but contractors may work
- 4: Book Club Meeting begins at 5:45PM in the community room
- 7: Sand Sifters Beach Cleanup from 8AM-10:15AM at Oceanfront Park
- 9: Regular Town Commission begins at 6PM in the chambers
- 16: Martin Luther King, Jr. Day—Town Hall closed, no inspections but contractors may work
- 17: Identify Theft Prevention Presentation begins at 7PM in the chambers
- 28: Sea Angels Beach Cleanup from 8AM-10:30AM at Ocean Inlet Park
- 31: Municipal Election candidate qualifying period begins at 12PM and ends February 14 at 12PM

### **February:**

- 1: Book Club Meeting begins at 5:45PM in the community room
- 4: Sand Sifters Beach Cleanup from 8AM-10:15AM at Oceanfront Park
- 6: Regular Town Commission begins at 6PM in the chambers
- 7: Code Enforcement Hearing begins at 10AM in the chambers (tentative)
- 14: Municipal Election candidate qualifying period ends at 12PM
- 20: President's Day—Town Hall closed, no inspections but contractors may work
- 25: Sea Angels Beach Cleanup from 8AM-10:30AM at Ocean Inlet Park

*Agendas, minutes, and updates to the calendar are available on the town's website and will be posted as they become available.*

## Meeting Information

Regular Town Commission meetings are generally held on the first Monday of every month at 6:00PM. Code Enforcement Hearings meet on demand on the first Tuesday of the month at 10:00AM. Board of Adjustment meets on demand on the second Wednesday of the month at 8:30AM and the Planning & Zoning Commission meets on demand. Any special meetings added to the calendar, date and time changes, as well as agendas and minutes will be updated on the Town's website at [www.oceanridgeflorida.com](http://www.oceanridgeflorida.com) and on Twitter @OceanRidgeFL as they occur.

## Privacy Policy

The following is the Town's privacy policy that is noted in Town email signatures and a variation is on the Town's website.

"Florida has a very broad public records law. Most written communications to or from the Town of Ocean Ridge officials and employees regarding public business are public records available to the public and media upon request. Your e-mail communications may be subject to public disclosure. Under Florida law, e-mail addresses are public records. If you do not want your e-mail address released in response to a public records request, do not send electronic mail to this entity. Instead, contact this office by phone or in writing. The views expressed in this message may not necessarily reflect those of the Town of Ocean Ridge. If you have received this message in error, please notify us immediately by replying to this message, and please delete it from your computer. Thank you."

## Town Manager's Report...

Below is Town Manager's Report—January's Commission Meeting—Newsletter Edited Version:



Town Paving Assessment: Moving forward on preparations developing a Town-wide paving replacement RFP, we are deploying the Town Engineer to do a street assessment study to assist for bid documents and prioritization schedule for our paving RFP issuance. Study cost will be absorbed under normal engineering budgeted, additional costs may be necessary for third party services for borings, surveys and specification detail plans necessary to bid road paving phases.

Woolbright Detention Area Maintenance: The overhaul project began on January 9. A resident pre-meeting was held to communicate process and impacts prior to work commencing. Spraying and hand-removal of significant portions of exotic and invasive plant materials in the basin will be followed by replanting with suitable native species for best filtering and bio compatibility of the system.

Police Department: long time Sergeant Bill Hallahan officially retired in December. We wish him a happy, healthy and fun retirement!

PD Internal Affairs: Our Police Department Internal Affairs investigation into matters involved around the October 22<sup>nd</sup> "Shots Fired 911" event has been concluded. The report finds our on-duty officers acted properly in performing their duties under Town and Police Department policies. The Police Chief recommended dismissal of our off-duty police Lieutenant involved in the incident and I upheld that finding. The employee has appealed the decision to the Commission under our Town Code.

Ocean Ridge CRS: This is to acknowledge that we received the 2016 Community Rating System (CRS) Recertification for the Town of Ocean Ridge. I reviewed the CC-213 and enclosed documentation and everything appeared to be in order. This completes the Recertification process for 2016 and your community remains in good standing in the CRS Program for the next year. Thank you for your cooperation in completing annual CRS Recertification form. Thank you to Lisa Burns for her diligent work on this project.

Wishing everyone in the Town a happy, healthy and safe new year!

Respectfully,

Town Manager

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Jamie Titus".

## January's Regular Town Commission Meeting Summary

The following is a list of actions taken at the January 9, 2017 Regular Town Commission Meeting:

1. Consensus of the Commission to keep the open Town Commission seat open until the March 14, 2017 election.
2. Approved the Regular Town Commission Meeting Minutes of December 5, 2016.
3. Announced that Town Hall will be closed on Monday, January 16, 2017 in observance of Martin Luther King, Jr. Day.
4. Announced that the Municipal Election will be held on March 14, 2017. There are two Town Commission Seats Open for a Three Year Term. Candidate Filing Dates run from Noon on January 31, 2017 through Noon on February 14, 2017 / Las elecciones municipales se celebrará el 14 de marzo de 2017. Hay dos ciudad Comisión asientos abierto por tres años. Fechas de presentación de candidatos se ejecute desde el mediodía del 31 de enero de 2017 a mediodía del 14 de febrero de 2017.
5. Consensus of the Commission to deploy the Town Engineer to do a street assessment study for preparation of bid documents and prioritization schedule to utilize for our paving RFP issuance.
6. Directed the Deputy Town Clerk to poll the Commission and Lt. Wohlfiel's Attorney to schedule a date for the termination appeal of Lt. Wohlfiel.
7. Confirmed the hiring of Dispatcher/Clerk Zoie Arnold.
8. Donated \$2,500 to the Garden Club.
9. Consensus of the Commission for the Town Manager to write a conditional zoning approval letter to DEP for the construction of a seawall at 6155 N. Ocean Blvd pending formal hearing at the February 6, 2017 Town Commission meeting.
10. Elected James Bonfiglio as Vice-Mayor.
11. Congratulated Commissioner Bonfiglio's nephew, TaKye Branch, on his win at the NFL Punt, Pass & Kick Competition.

**THE NEXT REGULAR TOWN COMMISSION MEETING WILL BE HELD ON MONDAY, FEBRUARY 6, 2017 AT 6:00 P.M. AT TOWN HALL.**



# Ocean Ridge Police Department News

Hal C. Hutchins, Chief of Police

## Criminal Activity

Below is a listing of the crime/code enforcement/suspicious activity reported to ORPD in **December 2016** for both Ocean Ridge and Briny Breezes:

Type of Incident	Report Date	Time Frame	Location	Synopsis
Theft of Bicycle	12/7/2016	12/7/2016	6849 N. Ocean Blvd.	Bicycle stolen /Suspect arrested after investigation 12/14.
Assault	12/8/2016	12/8/2016 @ 9:30 pm	6665 N. Ocean Blvd.	Assault reported Victim declined to press charges.
Identity Theft	12/9/2016	Between 11/29/2016 and 12/9/2016	Harbour Dr. North	Personal Information used to open credit account.
Domestic Violence	12/16/2016	12/16/2016 @1:00 am	Spanish River Dr.	Subject arrested for aggravated battery with a knife during domestic call.
Theft from Vehicle	12/21/2013	Between 12/19/2016 and 12/20/2016	Adams Rd.	Items taken form unlocked car overnight.
Identity Theft	12/27/2016	12/07/2016	6711 North Ocean Blvd.	Accounts opened under false pretense using victim's personal information.

In addition to the above listed activity and arrests: During the month of December, personnel of the Police Department continued to enforce the Codes of the Town and engaged in the arrest of 4 individuals for charges ranging from possession of illegal drugs, battery and falsely impersonating a police officer.

## Welcome To Our Newest Employee

The Police Department would like to welcome our newest Clerk/Dispatcher Zoie Arnold. Zoie Arnold joins us in the Dispatch Center and is currently undergoing her training and certification as a 911 Public Safety Telecommunicator while preparing for her State Examination. Zoie joins us after graduating from Southern Mississippi University to begin her career in policing. If you call or stop by, you will surely be as pleased to meet her as she is to meet you. (Photo: Town Manager James Titcomb welcomes Ms. Zoie Arnold)





## January's Crime Prevention Information From Lieutenant Richard Jones

### Protecting Your Personal Information

As you are all aware, Fraud is the leading crime, both Domestic and Foreign. Fraud is a crime that affects every one of us, whether we become a victim or not. We all become financially responsible through increased interest costs, increases in item prices due to the increased cost of doing business and even an increase in taxes due to additional government expenses associated with Fraud investigations.

First and foremost, you must safeguard your personal information. Do not give out your Social Security number unless it is absolutely required. For instance, medical providers cannot force a patient to provide them with a social security number. Your medical insurance provider has that information on file and it is not required for billing purposes. These providers may require you to provide identification, which is expected. Your Name, Address, Date of Birth and Driver's License or Identification Number is all that is required to identify you.

Do not randomly complete or fill out applications for credit unless you truly intend on making a purchase. For instance, if you do a test drive for a new vehicle, do not complete a credit application until you have decided that you are serious about the purchase.

The fewer times that your personal data is shared will reduce the probability and risk of Identity Theft. If you fear your personal information may be compromised, do not use a private credit monitoring company, but instead contact Experian, Transunion and Equifax directly at;

<http://www.transunion.com>

<http://www.equifax.com>

<http://www.experian.com>

I would also suggest that you check your credit report for accuracy at least annually. This can be done for free at [www.annualcreditreport.com](http://www.annualcreditreport.com).

If you use online bill pay, banking, social media, email or any other form of web based software, follow these steps;

1. Install Anti-Virus and Malware software on your computer and keep it up to date.
2. Keep all operating systems up to date.
3. Set your browser and your email spam/junk filter to Medium or High.
4. If you see something suspicious in email, do not open it. DELETE it.
5. Avoid using unfamiliar computers or hot spots, this includes airports, hotels, café's, etc.
6. Make sure your personal wireless network WI-FI is secured using a password, see [onguardonline.org](http://onguardonline.org) for more information.

(continued on next page)

7. Establish a stronger password which includes; upper case letters, lower case letters, numbers and symbols.
8. Change your password every 60 to 90 days.
9. Never share your usernames, passwords, or personal information via email. Companies will not request this information via email.
10. Never use personal information as part of your password. Things such as your name, child's name, pets name, birthdays, address or social security number should not be used.
11. Simple passwords such as "121212" are not safe.
12. Never use any portion of the phrase "Password" as the actual password.
13. Do not allow your computer or mobile device to save or auto store your password.

Social media is very popular in today's times. Please follow the steps listed below to safeguard your personal information and your social media accounts.

1. Make sure you close any social media accounts that you do not regularly use.
2. Set your private settings to "friends only".
3. Never post that you are going to be away from home or on vacation.
4. When using a mobile device, ensure that the "Tag Location" setting is disabled.
5. Keep your friend list short and easy to manage.
6. Don't forward another individual's post or email.
7. Never share your email or contacts list.

If you do receive an email that you believe is suspicious in nature and you wish to report it to the FTC, you may forward it to [spam@uce.gov](mailto:spam@uce.gov) where it is entered into a database used to find and prosecute cybercriminals.

## Now Is A Great Time To Update Your Records

**A**s many of our residents are seasonal, now is a good time to remind everyone to update your records with us.

Please feel free to call or stop by to update any emergency contact and out of state contact information you have on file with us. We only use the information provided to make contact if something is wrong, something is out of place and in an emergency to keep you apprised of things related to your residence.

Having up to date information is a great help to us, especially if you are away and we need to reach you in an emergency.



# Ocean Ridge Police Department News

By Hal C. Hutchins, Chief of Police



## OCEAN RIDGE RESIDENTS

Please Join Us.....

**WHEN:** Tuesday January 17, 2017 @ 7:00 PM

**WHERE:** Ocean Ridge Town Hall

**WHAT:** A chance to meet and a brief program on **Avoiding Identity Theft**

Light refreshments will be served.

Let us know if you are able to attend

Please RSVP to: [dispatch@oceanridgeflorida.com](mailto:dispatch@oceanridgeflorida.com) or call (561) 732-8331

We would love to see you!

## Watch out For Traveling Criminals

**A**s we enter the winter season and see the normal influx of seasonal residents, we will also see the return of those wishing to exploit our residents. Please keep your guard up and be aware of your surroundings.

We urge you not to let strangers posing as workers, or as individuals in need, distract you, allowing their accomplices the ability to enter your home and take your valuables. Now more than ever, it is important to lock your doors, secure your valuables, and set your alarm. Remember if you do not know the person who is at your door, and if you did not request them to come to your home, caution and concern should exist. If you feel unsure please do not open your door; answer through the door and if you are still uncertain contact us and we will send someone to assist you in verification of the persons true purpose.

As we enter the winter season, we often see an influx of travelling door to door sales forces. These individuals are required to be licensed through the Town, and in general, a call to the police department is appropriate to report this type of activity. If the business is one of the licensed few we will inform you, if not or there is any uncertainty we will immediately respond to investigate the activity.

As always, should you have questions or concerns, I and every member of your Police Department are available and you are welcome to call or stop in anytime and visit.

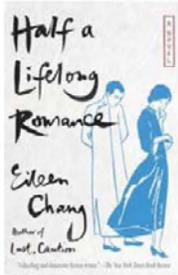
The Information You Provide Could Make A Difference.  
Do Your Part. Report Suspicious Activity.

**If you see something, say something**  
If something does not look right, let us know.

**Report Suspicious Activity or Persons to the Ocean Ridge Police Department at 561-732-8331**

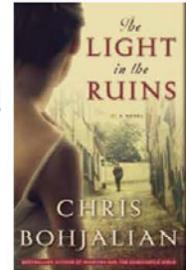
# Ocean Ridge Book Club

## Book Selections



October 5, 2016  
Half a Lifelong Romance  
By Eileen Chang

November 2, 2016  
The Light in the Ruins  
By Chris Bohjalian



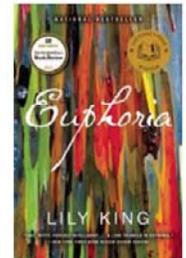
December 7, 2016  
The God of Small Things  
By Arundhati Roy

January 4, 2017  
The Painting and the Piano  
By Lipscomb & Lugo



February 1, 2017  
God Forsaken Idaho  
By Shawn Vestal

March 1, 2017  
Euphoria  
By Lily King



The Book Club meets in the Community Room at Ocean Ridge Town Hall on the first Wednesday of each month beginning at 5:45pm.

# Garden Club Rummage Sale

Proceeds of the sale support scholarships and students going to horticulture camp as well as projects to help beautify the community.

When: Saturday, February 18, 2017

Time: 8:00AM-12:00PM

Donations for the rummage sale will be accepted at Town Hall from February 16-17 between 8:30AM-3:00PM

Questions? Contact Stella at 561-752-1630





The **International Kinetic Art Exhibit and Symposium, February 3-5**, is a **FREE** biennial event in Boynton Beach, FL. Art and technology collide to create kinetic art, which is fine art powered by solar, wind, light, sound, robotics, water, gravity and other elements. This one-of-a-kind visual art event includes more than 75 kinetic artworks, interactive installations, community projects, meet-and-greets with kinetic artists and a lecture series.

**WHEN:** February 3 - 5, 2017

**HOURS:** Fri., Feb. 3 opening reception 6-8pm

Sat., Feb. 4, 9 am - 6 pm

Sun., Feb. 5, 10 am - 6 pm

**WHERE:** Boynton Beach • FL • USA

For more information visit [www.IntlKineticArtEvent.org](http://www.IntlKineticArtEvent.org)  
Event site map [http://intlkineticartevent.org/?page\\_id=1641](http://intlkineticartevent.org/?page_id=1641)

[www.BoyntonBeachArts.org](http://www.BoyntonBeachArts.org)

Facebook: [Boynton Beach Art in Public Places](#)

Twitter: [@BoyntonArts](#)

[#KineticArt](#)

## Volunteer Opportunities

### Sand Sifters Beach Cleanup

**What:** Join the Sand Sifters for beach cleanup!

**When:** First Saturday of every month. Next cleanup: **February 4**

**Where:** Oceanfront Park, 6451 N. Ocean Blvd. On A1A, just north of the Ocean Ave. bridge in Ocean Ridge. Meet at the pavilion in the lower parking lot.

**Time:** 8-10:30AM

**Who:** Individuals, schools, churches, clubs, businesses, organizations, and families are all encouraged to participate. All ages.

**What's provided:** Free parking, bags, gloves, and refreshments available to participants only. School and community service volunteer credit forms available.

**What to bring:** Please bring water, sunscreen and a hat.

**Contact:** Jeff at [JeffLev02@gmail.com](mailto:JeffLev02@gmail.com) / **Social Media:** [facebook.com/SWATJIL](https://www.facebook.com/SWATJIL)

### Sea Angels Beach Cleanup

**What:** Join the Sea Angels for beach cleanup!

**When:** Last Saturday of every month. Next cleanup: **January 28**

**Where:** Ocean Inlet Park, 6990 N. Ocean Blvd. Check in is at the picnic tables next to the snack bar.

**Time:** 8-10:30AM

**Who:** Individuals, schools, churches, clubs, businesses, organizations, and families are all encouraged to participate. All ages. Volunteer hours awarded for students.

**What to bring:** Please bring water, sunscreen and a hat.

**Contact:** [info@seaangels.org](mailto:info@seaangels.org) / **Website:** [seaangels.org](http://seaangels.org)

### Anthrax Committee

**What:** Should Ocean Ridge be exposed to an aerosolized airborne anthrax event, Ocean Ridge and FL Dept. of Health will provide needed antibiotics at no cost as part of a program under the auspices of the CDC. Residents are encouraged to become dispensing volunteers.

**When:** Attend two hours of meetings per year.

**Where/Time:** TBD.

**Who:** Ocean Ridge Residents—no experience necessary

**Contact:** Terri Vinas at [vinasfam@aol.com](mailto:vinasfam@aol.com) / [Volunteer Form](#)

### Town Hall Library

**What:** Shelve and organize books in the Town Library.

**When:** Ongoing

**Where:** 6450 N. Ocean Blvd. at Town Hall.

**Time:** Any time between 8:30AM—3PM, Monday—Friday.

**Who:** Residents of all ages welcome. Those with library experience are encouraged to volunteer.

**What's provided:** School and community service volunteer credit available.

**Contact:** Town Hall 561-732-2635