

Ocean Ridge Tidings

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

Municipal Election Information

The 2018 Municipal General Election will be held on Tuesday, March 13, 2018 from 7am-7pm in the Town Hall Community Room. Two commission seats are open for a three-year term. Candidates are Gail Adams Aaskov, Philip Besler, and Kristine de Haseth. For vote-by-mail ballots and other inquiries, please call the Supervisor of Elections at 561-656-6200. / La Elección General Municipal de 2018 se llevará a cabo el martes 14 de marzo de 2018 de 7am-7pm en la Sala Comunitaria del Ayuntamiento. Dos puestos de comisión están abiertos por un periodo de tres años. Los candidatos son

Gail Adams Aaskov, Philip Besler y Kristine de Haseth. Para boletas de votación por correo y otras consultas, llame al Supervisor de Elecciones al 561-656-6200.




**Ocean Ridge Town Commissioner
Candidates Forum**
Wednesday, February 21, 2018
6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.

OCEAN RIDGE TOWN HALL

Sponsored by the League of Women Voters & the Town of Ocean Ridge

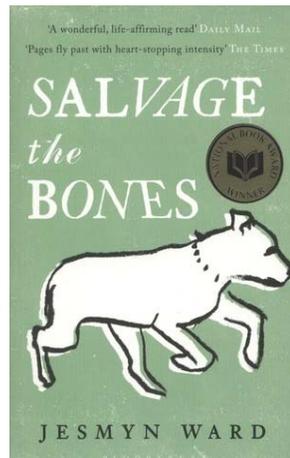
Moderated by the League of Women Voters Open to All Ocean Ridge Residents	Candidates: Gail Adams Aaskov Philip Besler Kristine de Haseth
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Book Club Meeting

The Book Club will be meeting on Wednesday, March 7 from 5:45pm to 7pm in the Town Hall Community Room to discuss *Salvage the Bones* by Jesmyn Ward. Residents are encouraged to join the lively and interesting discussion with your fellow neighbors.



Town's New SeeClickFix App!

Want to report a non-emergency issue such as solid waste collection issues, potholes, overgrown lots, and more? Report it by using the Town's SeeClickFix app! Staff will respond during regular business hours and you should expect an update to the issue within 72 hours. To download the app and more, please visit oceanridgeflorida.com/seeclickfix.htm.



General Information

6450 N. Ocean Blvd.,
Ocean Ridge, FL 33435
www.oceanridgeflorida.com



Town Hall

561-732-2635 (main) ♦ 561-737-8359 (fax)
561-732-ORFL (Citizen Information Line)
General Email: 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

Town Clerk

Tracey Stevens
tstevens@oceanridgeflorida.com

Police Chief

Hal Hutchins
hhutchins@oceanridgeflorida.com

Mayor

Geoffrey Pugh
gpugh@oceanridgeflorida.com

Vice Mayor

James Bonfiglio
jbonfiglio@oceanridgeflorida.com

Commissioners

Gail Adams Aaskov
gaaskov@oceanridgeflorida.com

Steve Coz
scoz@oceanridgeflorida.com

Don MaGruder
dmagruder@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

February:

- 3: Sand Sifters Beach Cleanup begins at 8am at Oceanfront Park
- 6: Code Enforcement Hearing begins at 10am in the chambers (tentative)
- 7: Book Club meeting begins at 5:45pm in the community room
- 7: ORPD's Public Presentation from 7pm-8:30pm in the chambers
- 8: Infrastructure Surtax Committee meeting begins at 8:30am in the chambers
- 12: Planning & Zoning Commission meeting begins at 8:30am in the chambers
- 12: Regular Town Commission meeting begins at 6pm in the chambers ***note date change***
- 19: President's Day – Town Hall closed—no inspections but contractors may work
- 21: Candidate's Forum hosted by League of Women Voters will be from 6pm-8pm in the chambers
- 24: Sea Angels Beach Cleanup from 8am-10:30am at Ocean Inlet Park
- 28: Sea Level & Home Rule 101 begins at 6pm in chambers/community room

March

- 3: Sand Sifters Beach Cleanup begins at 8am at Oceanfront Park
- 5: Regular Town Commission meeting begins at 6pm in the chambers
- 6: Code Enforcement Hearing begins at 10am in the chambers (tentative)
- 7: Book Club meeting begins at 5:30pm in the community room
- 13: Municipal Election in Community room from 7am– 7pm
- 14: Coffee with a coffee begins at 7:30am in chambers/community room
- 19: Garden Club Public meeting at 6pm in chambers
- 24: Garden Club Art Show (tentative)
- 31: 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 on the second Monday of the month at 8:30am. 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 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—February's Commission Meeting:



Town Drain Systems Projects

I've had the Town Engineer survey to scale an inline catch basin drainage solution for the NE corner of the Beachway Drive and Osprey Court intersection. There is a drain catchment system in place there, but it fails to redirect all the standing water that accumulates around the street's hardscape. We will ask the Town Engineer to submit a design/build quote to add to this in-ground upgrade. Similarly, the Town's ROW between 101 Dolphin Bend and adjacent 111 Dolphin Bend is in need of vegetative/earth clearing, a redesign solution/swale and removal of resident-planted landscaping for proper drainage flow and function, I will ask the Town Engineer to survey and propose a solution to this area's water issues and quote a design/build installation in the Town's ROW to improve function.

Tropical Pumping Station

Our "hurricane-zapped" equipment at the Tropical Drive Pump Station is in process for receiving upgraded controller and electronic components with the system manufacturer contractor. A claim is being reviewed under eligible insurance coverages for partial cost reimbursement. Interim steps stabilizing the system have worked well. Fortunately, we are also in dry season giving us extra time to finish controller upgrades and test all systems attached before in this year's wet season arrives.

Certified Building Official

On February 8, 2018 we had an in-person interview with our top candidate for the proposed in-house CBO (Certified Building Official) position. My plan is to present an offer and bring the selection to the March 5th (RTCM) Commission meeting to ratify hire. Based upon the process timeline and the applicant(s) in consideration, we needed a bit extra time to run background checks and negotiate a final hire.

Town Contract Updates

Administration is working closely with the Town Attorney and Clerk staff to expand a contracts database to track all Town agreements and Interlocals. As we identify service agreements in need of update for compliance and compatibility with Town Code and purchasing policies, we will bring any recommended modifications forward as necessary to assure town agreements are properly executed for services.

LSV Parking

Two LSV (Low Speed Vehicle) pervious paving block parking spaces, approved by the Commission last year, have now been constructed at the Porter Street public ROW - a donated project. A Town Permit is required to use them. We seek direction to modify the Code and set a resident/non-resident rate to utilize these limited spaces. A directional sign is ordered for the location in the Town's sign motif.

January's Regular Town Commission Meeting Summary

The following is a list of actions taken at the February 12, 2018 Special & Regular Town Commission Meetings:

1. Held an Executive Session "Shade Meeting" to Discuss the Cooksey Lawsuit.
2. Adopted the Regular Town Commission Meeting Minutes of January 8, 2018.
3. Approved the Following Poll Workers for the March 13, 2018 Municipal Election: Virginia McGinty, Harold Joseph, Terry Kline, Doris Robin, and Marcia Werby.
4. Approved Chris Wayne & Associates Special Projects as Outlined by the Town Manager.
5. Approved Agreement with Urban Design Kilday for Town Comp Plan Amendments.
6. Announced that Town Hall will be Closed on Monday, February 19, 2018 in Observance of President's Day.
7. Announced that the League of Women Voters and the Town of Ocean Ridge are Sponsoring a Town Commissioner Candidates Forum on Wednesday, February 21, 2018 from 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. at Town Hall. Residents of Ocean Ridge are Welcome to Attend and are Encouraged to Bring a Question to Submit to the Moderator.
8. Announced that The Town of Ocean Ridge Will Host a Community Lecture Series for the Public on February 28th from 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. Regarding "Sea Level Rise Ready Communities" by Alec Bogdanoff, Ph.D., and "Understanding Home Rule and Legislation Impacting Our Community" by Lynn Tipton, Florida League of Cities University Director.
9. Proclaimed that the Municipal Election will be held on March 13, 2018. There are two Town Commission Seats Open for a Three Year Term. Qualified Candidates Are: Gail Aaskov, Philip Besler, and Kristine de Haseth. / La eleccion municipal se celebrará el 13 de Marzo del 2018. Hay dos asientos disponible, con un period de tres años, para la Comisión de la Cuidad. Los candidatos calificados son: Gail Aaskov, Philip Besler y Kristine de Haseth.
10. Gave Consensus for the Town Attorney to Draft an Amendment to the Purchasing Code and Purchasing Policy & Procedures.
11. Gave Consensus for the Town Attorney to Draft an Amendment to Town Code Regarding a Town Fee Schedule to Include Resident and Non-Resident Low Speed Vehicle Parking Permits.
12. Gave Consensus to Hold a Reception for Mayor Pugh at the Conclusion of the March 5, 2018 Town Commission Meeting. Light Refreshments Will Be Served for the Public.
13. Confirmed the Hiring of Police Dispatcher/Clerk Brittney Good and Police Officers Lequandra Beckford and Aaron Choban.
14. Discussed the Inlet Cay Engineering Drainage Study Report Provided by Higgins Engineering.
15. Reduced the Building Permit Penalty Fee for 31 Harbour Drive South to \$200.
16. Consented to the Proposed Insurance Carrier Settlement for the Cooksey Lawsuit.
17. Adopted Resolution No. 2018-01: A Resolution of the Town of Ocean Ridge, Florida, Urging the State Legislature to Resist Pre-Empting Local Governments on Matters of Home Rule and Local Control
18. Designated Don MaGruder as the Town Representative for Beach Re-Nourishment Issues and Projects.

**THE NEXT REGULAR TOWN COMMISSION MEETING WILL BE HELD ON
MONDAY, MARCH 5, 2018 AT 6:00 P.M. AT TOWN HALL**



Ocean Ridge Community Lecture Series

Presents:

“Sea Level Rise Ready Communities”

Understanding the basics of future coastal sea-level impacts and what we can do to be ready?

*with **Alec Bogdanoff, Ph.D.***

President & Co-Founder Brizaga, Inc. & Sea Level Rise Ready

-And-

“Understanding Home Rule & Legislation Impacting Our Community”

What does “Home Rule” mean and what is the Legislature “up to” with recent efforts to preempt local government?

*with **Lynn Tipton***

Florida League of Cities University, Director

Wednesday, February 28th - 6:00 – 8:00 PM

Town Commission Chambers / Community Room

6450 North Ocean Boulevard

Come join us to learn from topic experts about various community challenges, Q&A will follow each topic presentation.



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 **January 2018** for Ocean Ridge:

<u>Type of Incident</u>	<u>Report Date</u>	<u>Time Frame</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>Synopsis</u>
Stolen Vehicle	01/01/2018	01/01/2018 Between 7:25pm and 7:35pm	6880 N. Ocean Blvd.	Vehicle stolen while being unloaded. Located in Ma- nalapan/Arrest made.
Suspicious Incident	01/04/2018	01/04/2018	6600 N. Ocean Blvd.	Person attempting to rent out apartment online without own- ers knowledge or permission.
Computer Fraud	01/08/2018	01/05/2018	5900 Old Ocean	Telephone service call to re- pair computer results in theft of personal information.
Burglary to Occupied Home	01/09/2018	01/09/2018 @ 12:30am	Coconut Lane	Subject breaks window of home and takes proper- ty/Arrest of suspect made along with property recovery.
Domestic Battery	01/19/2018	01/19/2018 @ 4:00am	Sailfish Lane	Battered subject located in Boynton Beach. Investigation lead to arrest of suspect for battery that occurred in Ocean Ridge.
Aggravated Assault	01/26/2018	01/26/2018 @ 8:30am	6500 N. Ocean Blvd.	Report of assault using vehi- cle as weapon. Warrant re- quest presented to State At- torney.
Town Code/ Commence Work Without Permits	01/28/2018	01/28/2018	Harbour Dr. South	Owner cited for working with- out proper permits/Permits obtained.
Vandalism	01/30/2018	01/29/2018	6500 Blk. N. Ocean Blvd.	Multiple cars key scratched over several day period in parking lot. Investigation con- tinues.

In addition to the above activity, officers assisted other agencies in the arrest of 2 individual with out-
standing arrest warrants, initiated 14 narcotics related arrests, 2 traffic related arrests and conducted
normal traffic, security and code enforcement activities.

Please note: The above listed activity is just a snapshot and not a total accounting of the activity of-
ficers of your police department engage in on a monthly basis. This snapshot is to help raise aware-
ness and prevent crime thorough information sharing and proactive involvement with security, such
as locking vehicle doors, closing garage doors and using alarms.



Crime Prevention Information

By Lieutenant Richard Jones



How Safe is Your Purse, Wallet and Credit Card Data?

Pickpocket related crimes are on the rise across the country and Palm Beach County is no different. These crimes can involve the actual removal of property from a person's pocket, purse or even the theft of digital data. As society continues to modernize, the majority of citizens rely on the use of credit and or debit cards to make their lives easier and more convenient. This provides criminals with opportunity.

Criminals are among us and are always looking for an easy target to take advantage of Ocean Ridge residents and they can easily become the target of these types of crimes. I want you to think for a moment about the last time you were in Wal-Mart, Publix, or at the Mall. How many unattended purses did you observe? How many shoppers were so focused on what they were shopping for that they did not notice what was going on in their surroundings?

Most shoppers and citizens alike have the belief that this kind of crime will not happen to them, but the reality is that everyone of us can easily become a victim unless we choose to make changes in our normal behaviors.

Suspects have been known to follow potential victims for extended periods of time just waiting for that perfect moment when the potential victim turns away from his/her shopping cart. Criminals have and will follow potential victims into restrooms, food courts, restaurants, parking lots and various other locations.

Several recent victims have simply placed their purse on a coat hook to use the bathroom or placed their phone, wallet or other valuable items on the counter to wash their hands. These are all perfect opportunities for criminals.

Several victims have simply been bumped into while shopping and then minutes or hours later find that their belongings were stolen from their purse or pockets. This can happen to you.

Let's talk about digital data theft now. Digital data theft takes place when a person in close proximity to a potential victim is able to scan the data from the victim's debit or credit card using an RFID Scanner. This scan is done without any knowledge to the victim.

So let's talk about what you can do to prevent yourself from becoming a victim. First and foremost, pay attention to your surroundings. Always maintain physical control of your purse, wallet, check book, phone or other valuable items. The safest placement for a purse while being worn is across the chest and not to one side or the other. If your purse has a zipper or button for securing, keep them fastened at all times. Do not ever place or leave your valuables or purse in your shopping cart. Store your wallet in your front pockets rather than your rear pockets as they are much deeper and a lot harder for a criminal to access.

As far as data theft prevention, you can purchase a variety of new "Anti-theft Wallets" or "Anti-RFID Wallets" that are designed to be anti-theft devices. These wallets are typically constructed of aluminum or metal and come in a variety of designs and colors. These types of wallets prohibit the scanning of your credit/debit card data due to their construction and are very effective.

Crime prevention is everyone's business.



Ocean Ridge Police Department News

By Hal C. Hutchins, Chief of Police



Thanks to All Who Were Able to Attend the Presentation on Scams and Fraud

Thanks to all who were able to attend the evening event on fraud trends February 7th. We look forward to more of these type events in the future as we enjoy meeting and being able to answer your questions.

We will be holding another coffee with a cop on the morning of March 14th. Please mark your calendars and plan to stop in for a visit. This is an informal meeting where we try to let you know who we are and answer any questions you may have.

Welcome to Our Newest Employees

Please help us welcome Brittney Good, Aaron Choban and Lequandra Beckford to the Town. Brittney is the newest member of our Dispatch team and will be a new voice and face should you call or stop in for assistance.

Aaron and Lequandra join us as sworn police officers and you will be seeing them on patrol upon completion of their field training and orientation.



Left to Right- Lequandra Beckford, Brittney Good, Aaron Choban

Tax and Refund Scams

Now is the season. Watch your accounts for persons filing false returns using your personal information. If you suspect any suspicious activity or compromise please contact the IRS at www.irs.gov. or call the IRS at the numbers on your tax forms. THE IRS DOES NOT CALL PEOPLE AND DEMAND PAYMENT, nor will they call and ask for personal information such as date of birth or social security numbers (they already have your information). If you receive a call from someone claiming to be an IRS representative hang up and report the call to the IRS.

Ordinances

Please remember, the Town of Ocean Ridge requires that properties be maintained in good order. This includes keeping your home and property clean and void of weeds and grass in excess of 12 inches high as well as other nuisances. (Section 34 of Code of Ordinances)

For more information please check the Towns website (oceanridgeflorida.com) for a full listing and link to all of the Towns Codes and Ordinances.

If you have questions, please do not hesitate contact Town Hall for more information.

Recent Events

As I sit and compose this version of my portion of the Town newsletter; I am preparing to enter a briefing on the horrific events of February 14, 2018 in Parkland Florida, the shooting of 17 people, most innocent children at a school.

As it is difficult to prepare for everything and every situation, I feel it is imperative to repeat some information from prior newsletters, as the information is of extreme importance. Your safety and well-being is our number one priority and our true mission as your police officers!

We urge you to be extra cautious, vigilant of your surroundings, and aware of those around you during at all times to avoid becoming a crime victim.

As for your personal safety, should you find yourself in a location where an incident happens; please have a personal safety plan.

The nationally recommended response to a violent incident is provided below:

Run

- When confronted with violence or an active shooter is in your vicinity, run.
- If there is an escape path, attempt to evacuate.
- Evacuate whether others agree to or not.
- Leave your belongings behind.
- Help others escape if possible.
- Prevent others from entering the area.
- Call 9-1-1 when you are safe.

Hide

- If evacuation is not possible, find a place to hide.
- Lock and/or barricade the door.
- Silence your cell phone.
- Turn out the lights.
- Hide behind large objects.
- Remain very quiet.
- Your hiding place should be out of the aggressor's view, provide protection if shots are fired in your direction and not trap or restrict your options for movement.

Fight

- As a last resort, if your life is in danger, fight back.
- Attempt to incapacitate the aggressor.
- Act with physical aggression.
- Improvise weapons, such as using a chair or fire extinguisher to strike the aggressor.
- Commit to your actions.

Finally, when law enforcement arrives, remain calm and follow directions; keep your hands visible at all times; avoid pointing or yelling; and know that help for the injured is on the way. The first responders on the scene are not there to evacuate or tend the injured. They are well trained and are there to stop the violence.

We hope you are never confronted with such an event, but we wanted to prepare you with some important information should you ever find yourself in this situation.

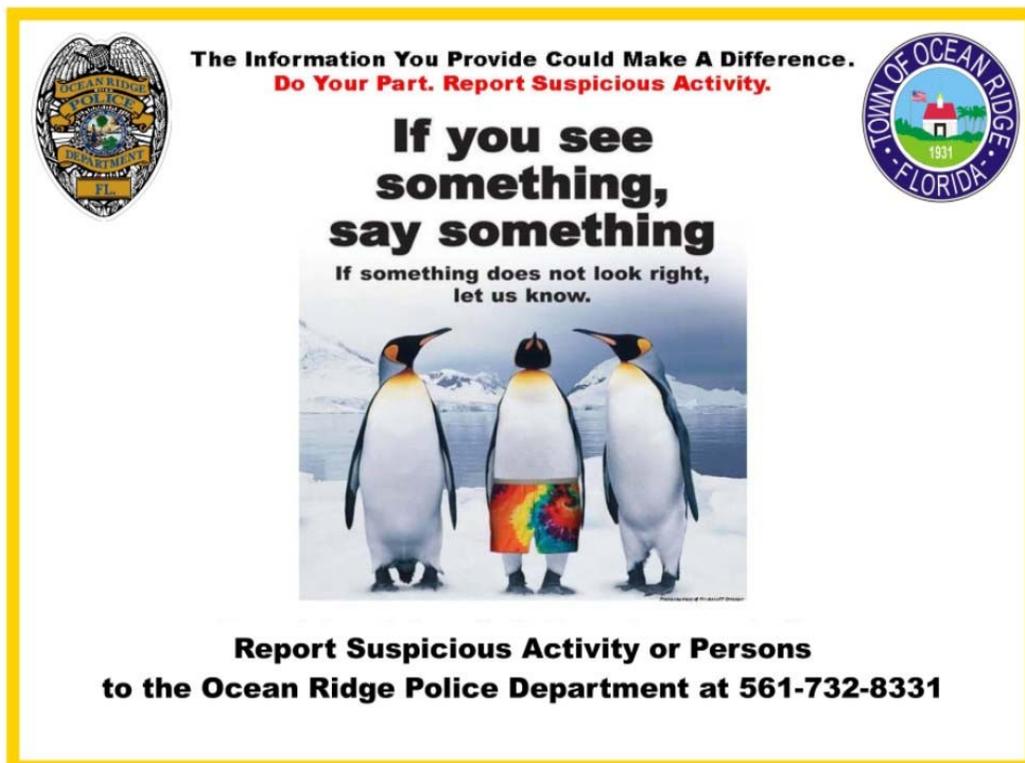
**PLEASE JOIN US WEDNESDAY MORNING, MARCH 14, 2018 FROM 7:30am
until 10:00am AT TOWN HALL FOR OUR NEXT COFFEE WITH A COP**

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.

And finally,

Please report any suspicious person or activity as soon as possible.

REMEMBER



Volunteer Opportunities

Sand Sifters Beach Cleanup

What: Join the Sand Sifters for beach cleanup!

When: First Saturday of every month. Next cleanup: **March 3**

Where: Oceanfront Park, 6415 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 / **Social Media:** facebook.com/SWATJIL

Sea Angels Beach Cleanup

What: Join the Sea Angels for beach cleanup!

When: Last Saturday of every month. Next cleanup: **February 24**

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 / **Website:** 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 / [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