

Ocean Ridge Tidings

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



Light-the-Lights Holiday Celebration—Tonight!

Join us for the annual Light-the-Lights Holiday Celebration,
Friday, December 14 from 5:30pm—8:30pm at Town hall.



Foreclosed Home Registration

As many of you are aware there has been a problem throughout Florida with foreclosed homes and code enforcement. When the banks foreclose they don't always maintain the property in the way we would prefer. It's difficult many times to find out who we need to contact to keep the properties maintained properly. In an effort to assist in keeping up with this problem, the Town Commission has adopted an Ordinance and has contracted with a firm that specializes in keeping up with the banks. This way we can follow up with code enforcement. The banks will now have to register with the Town on foreclosures and we'll know who to contact. The company works for a portion of the registration fee so it won't adversely affect our budget. We hope this will allow us to keep better control of vacant properties. If you notice any properties in disrepair for this reason you may call Town Hall at 561-732-2635 and we will investigate the issue. - Kenneth Schenck, Town Manager


Beach Restoration

As many of you are aware we recently had a visit from Hurricane Sandy. We were a lot more fortunate than some of our neighbors but we did have some damage along the ocean. The Town, as well as many of the residents, had severe damage to the dune crossover structures. We have repaired the Town's crossovers. Many of the residents have also repaired their crossovers. Many homeowners had significant erosion to the sand dunes in front of their homes. Fortunately, the Town didn't have any structural damage like Manalapan and others experienced. However, the dunes need to be repaired to protect from future storms. The residents are responsible for repairing the dunes on their private property. The County toured the area with FEMA in hopes of getting a declaration for federal funds to help in the repairs. Unfortunately FEMA has denied the County's request. The denial is being challenged by the County but there's no guarantee they'll change their mind. Even if they do it doesn't mean we'll get any funding for beach repairs. FEMA has said that they don't repair beaches as it's the Corps of Engineer's responsibility. It's unlikely the Corps will get involved at this stage as they have a beach renourishment project planned for Ocean Ridge in December, 2013. In an effort to speed up repairs the State has issued an emergency order thereby allowing the Town to issue permits for crossover and dune repairs without waiting for the State to approve them. However, some repairs may still require State approval. This order expires December 28, 2012. After that time you'll have to contact FDEP for a permit prior to contacting us for a Town permit. So far, and I don't expect any change soon if at all, if a resident has damage to their dune or crossover structures it'll be their responsibility to repair them with the proper Town permit. The State will allow the residents to repair the dunes but we can't do anything to the beach itself. If anyone has any questions please call Town Hall and we'll do what we can to help you.-Kenneth Schenck, Town Manager

General Information

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

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

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

Kenneth Schenck

kschenck@oceanridgeflorida.com

Town Clerk

Karen Hancsak

khancsak@oceanridgeflorida.com

Police Chief

Christopher T. Yannuzzi

cyannuzzi@oceanridgeflorida.com

Mayor

Geoff Pugh

Vice Mayor

Dr. Lynn Allison

Commissioners

Gail Adams Aaskov

Ed Brookes

Zoanne Hennigan

Mayor & Commissioners email

info@oceanridgeflorida.com

Sign up to receive e-newsletter and news alerts

If you would like to receive the e-newsletter , news alerts, and other information emailed to you from the town please send an email to [Lisa Burns](mailto:Lisa.Burns@oceanridgeflorida.com) at Lburns@oceanridgeflorida.com with your name and email address. [Privacy Policy.](#)

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

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

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

Florida Fish & Wildlife Comm. 888-404-FWCC

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

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 Parks & Recreation 561-966-6600

Palm Beach County Property Appraiser 561-355-3230

Palm Beach County Tax Collector 561-355-2266

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!

December Calendar of Events

- 1-Sand Sifters Beach Cleanup from 8-10:15am at Oceanfront Park
- 1-Boynton Beach's Holiday Extravaganza begins at 5pm
- 3-Regular Town Commission Meeting at 6pm in chambers
- 4-Code Enforcement Hearing at 10am in chambers
- 5-Book Club Meeting at 5:45pm in community room
- 7-Boynton & Delray's Annual Boat Parade begins at 6:30pm
- 8-Hanukkah begins at sundown
- 14-Light-the-Lights Holiday Celebration begins at 5:30pm at Town Hall
- 24-Christmas Eve—Town Hall closed
- 25-Christmas Day—Town Hall closed; no contractor work, no inspections. No trash collection. Next trash collection will be on Friday, Dec. 28. However, vegetation will be collected on Jan. 1.
- 26-Kwanzaa begins
- 29-SeaAngels Beach Cleanup from 8:00am to 10:30am at Ocean Inlet Park
- 31-New Year's Eve—Town Hall closed



January Calendar of Events

- 1-New Year's Day—Town Hall closed; no contractor work or inspections; trash will be collected.
- 2-Book Club Meeting at 5:45pm in community room
- 5-Sand Sifters Beach Cleanup from 8-10:15am at Oceanfront Park
- 7-Regular Town Commission Meeting at 6pm in chambers
- 8-Code Enforcement Hearing at 10am in chambers
- 21-Martin Luther King, Jr. Day—Town Hall Closed; no inspections; no contractor work
- 26-SeaAngels Beach Cleanup from 8:00am to 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.



Ocean Ridge Police Department News

By Chief Christopher T. Yannuzzi

Criminal Activity

Here is a listing of the crimes/suspicious activity reported to ORPD in **November 2012** for both Ocean Ridge and Briny Breezes:

<u>Type of Incident</u>	<u>Report Date</u>	<u>Time Frame</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>Synopsis</u>
Fraud	11/06/12	N/A	5800 blk N. Ocean Blvd.	Victim gave a deposit to purchase a vehicle that he never received.
Battery/Domestic	11/22/12	1:30PM	6300 blk N. Ocean Blvd.	Husband/Wife argument became physical. Charges pending.
Burglary/Auto	11/29/12	5:00-6:00PM	6800 blk N. Ocean Blvd.	Vehicle window smashed, nothing taken.

Soliciting on the Rise

As I indicated previously, the annual migration of solicitors has begun. The colder weather in the North has driven these folks to our more temperate climate. As a result, these entrepreneurs have been going door-to-door soliciting funds for magazine subscriptions, bogus sports teams (lacrosse, "Irish" soccer, baseball, etc.), and other causes.

The good news is residents have been calling the Police Department to report these visitors and/or suspicious persons, and these calls are greatly appreciated. Our initial response is to meet with & identify the violators, issue them & their company warnings and, as long as they do not have a warrant, send them on their way. Should it become necessary, a stronger message may be needed in the form of a physical arrest.

Again, it is important to note that our investigation has determined that several of these folks have warrants and/or criminal histories, and their companies have had numerous Better Business Bureau complaints filed against them.

Soliciting without a Permit is a Town Code violation. Please continue to call us when you encounter or observe suspicious persons. Your continued support is greatly appreciated.



The End of Another Hurricane Season

November 30th marked the end of Hurricane Season and “Sandy” has left her mark along the entire Eastern Seaboard. Although properties in Ocean Ridge were spared much of her wrath, our neighbors to the north (Manalapan to the Tri-State area) witnessed the results of the combination of a powerful storm, high tide and a full moon. The outcome should serve as a reminder that such an event can easily occur here.

A timely commentary can be found at www.emergencymgmt.com/disaster/Preparedness-Message-isnt-Reaching-Public.html. The author discusses the fact that the general public is not prepared for such an event and has not been heeding the message from emergency managers. Emphasis is placed on the reality that the majority of folks have no plan to sustain themselves for the first few days following such a disaster. There is an over-reliance on government’s responsibility for rapid response; to include assumed, automatic financial aid. Also lacking is a backup plan to communicate with family members should cell phone service become inoperative.

As we gather with our families for this holiday season, we should reflect upon what happened elsewhere and be thankful that we survived another storm season. It might also be a good time to talk about what you would do if faced with such a weather event and what you plan to do to sustain yourself for the first week and then recover from it.

Local Fallen Soldier Remembered

On Saturday, December 1 at 11:30AM family and friends gathered at the southeast corner of the upper-level of Oceanfront Park to dedicate an area and unveil a plaque in memory of PFC. Michael Metcalf; an Army soldier killed in action on April 22, 2012 in Paktia, Afghanistan. Attached are photos of the peaceful, shaded site known as the “Gathering”.

“Cowboy Mike” grew up in unincorporated Boynton Beach and attended Park Vista High School with my son. They played hockey together. As a representative of the Town and on behalf of my family, I participated in the event along with approximately 75 others.

After the service, I spoke with Michael’s Mom & Dad and, on behalf of everyone in ORPD, expressed our commitment to safeguard this spot.

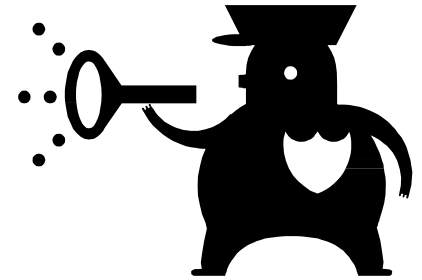
Please feel free to visit this location to help honor this brave man who gave the ultimate sacrifice to protect his Country.



Ocean Inlet Park Added Security and Parking Restriction

As a result of the documented increased criminal activity and loitering that has been occurring after dark, a meeting with Palm Beach County Parks officials, PBSO, Manalapan PD and Ocean Ridge PD took place on November 29, 2012. Among the actions taken were the housing of a Parks employee at the Inlet and the closure of the main parking lot from dusk to dawn. Both of these responses have already been implemented; the latter on a temporary basis via barricades with permanent gates being installed soon. This joint effort is an excellent example of the cooperation that exists among these government entities.

These measures allow for the continuation of the required 24/7 access for those fishing or using the marina; while prohibiting others from gathering to create problems.



**We wish you a healthy and safe
Holiday Season and a Happy
New Year!**

**Remember,
“Over the Limit, Under Arrest!”
and “Buzzed” Driving is
“Drunk” Driving.**

Please don't drink and drive!

December's Regular Town Commission Meeting Action Summary

The following list is actions taken at the Dec. 3, 2012 meeting:

1. Approved the Regular Town Commission Meeting minutes of Nov. 5, 2012 with a couple of minor revisions that are now clarified in the beginning of the Dec. 3, 2012 minutes
2. Approved Resolution No. 2012-17; Designating the Supervisor of Elections and the Town Clerk as the Canvassing Board, to be in Attendance for the Tabulating Equipment Testing and to Canvass Returns of the March 12, 2013 Election Including Absentee Ballots, and Assigning the Supervisor of Elections to Handle the Absentee Ballots
3. Approved Resolution No. 2012-18; Approved the Agreement for Vote Processing Equipment Use and Election Services with the Supervisor of Elections
4. Approved Resolution No. 2012-19; Renewal of the Multi-Agency Law Enforcement Mutual Aid Agreement for Combined Operational Assistance and Voluntary Cooperation
5. Approved Resolution No. 2012-20; Pertaining to Ocean Ridge Vacant Property Registration Fees (Set at \$200)
6. Directed staff to research comparable municipalities regarding rental property fees and enforcement of same
7. Directed staff to prepare a Letter of Informed Consent for prior Mayor Kenneth Kaleel to represent Ocean Breeze, LLC with their upcoming major site plan submittal pursuant to Florida State Statutes
8. Approved the temporary hiring of dispatcher/clerks to be confirmed at the January 7th meeting with email notification prior to that date
9. Authorized closing the administrative offices on Monday, Dec. 24, 2012 and Monday, Dec. 31, 2012 to allow for two four day weekends with staff utilizing vacation days
10. Authorized Palm Beach County DERM to work 24/7 during Phase 1 to hydraulic dredge the area east and west of the Boynton Inlet commencing in early 2013 and ending prior to April 30, 2013 and also Phase II to consist of mechanical dredging mainly offshore seven days a week from sunup to sundown
11. Approved a Retirement Bonus of \$2,200 to Dispatcher Marcia Martin for her 22 years of service but agreed to discuss a possible cap at the January Meeting
12. Accepted a donation of \$30,000 from the Support Group (through anonymous donors) for the purchase of a 2013 police vehicle (Ford Explorer) and an amount not to exceed \$5,000 from the Contingency Account to cover the remaining balance

Light-the-Lights

Friday, December 14th, 2012

5:30pm—8:30pm

*Beverages & Light snacks

*Bounce House
& Face Painter

*Santa

*and more!



Ocean Ridge Residents only

Did You Know...?

The following items are available online at www.oceanridgeflorida.com

- * Town Manager's Monthly Town Update
- * ORPD's Monthly Activity Report for Ocean Ridge and Briny Breezes
 - * Town Budget FY 12/13
- * Current/Past Agendas and Minutes
 - * Event flyers
 - * Lost & Found pets
- * Street, FIRM & Zoning maps
- * Flood & Hurricane Information
- * Link to Town's Code of Ordinances
- * Building Permitting Information & Forms
 - * ...and much more!

Ask the Town Manager!

The Town Manager would like to answer your questions pertaining to the Town. This column will be added to the newsletter each month or as often as there are questions submitted. Just send your question to kschenck@oceanridgeflorida.com or leave note in drop-box in the Police Department lobby.



Recycling Information

Place These Items In Your Blue Bin

Plastic Containers #1-#7
Steel Cans
Aluminum Cans
Aluminum Foil
Aluminum Pie Pans
Drink Boxes
Milk & Juice Cartons
Glass Bottles & Jars

Recycling is collected on Fridays!

Place These Items In Your Yellow Bin

Beverage Cartons
Tissue Boxes
Dry Food Boxes NO: Styrofoam
Newspapers NO: Plastic Bags
Magazines/Catalogs
Unwanted Mail
School/Office Paper
Phone Books/paperback books only
Paper Bags
All Cardboard Boxes (flattened & cut to 3x3max or next to yellow bin)

Sand Sifters Beach Cleanup



Join the Sand Sifters for their monthly beach cleanup!

When: First Saturday of each month

Time: Beach Cleanup sign-in at 8am ; Event ends at 10:15am

Where: Oceanfront Park, 6415 N Ocean Blvd (A1A)
Just north of the Ocean Avenue bridge.
Meet at the pavilion in the lower parking lot.

Community Service Hours Awarded

Pre-Registration:

therecipeexchange@comcast.net
or 561-734-9128

Website:

www.SandSifters.us



Sponsors:

Sand Sifters Volunteers
Town of Ocean Ridge
City of Boynton Beach
Palm Beach County Board of County Commissioners
Palm Beach County Parks & Recreation Department
Dave Wagner Realty, Coldwell Banker
RecipeExchange.com

Sea Angels



SeaAngels are dedicated to help in cleaning up our beaches, waters and parks from the continual litter that threatens our wildlife and natural environment.

Come join the SeaAngels for a beach cleanup. We do give volunteer hours for students.

WHEN: Every last Saturday of the month

TIME: 8:00-10:30am

WHERE: 6990 N. Ocean Boulevard, Ocean Ridge

(Check in is at the picnic tables next to the snack bar)

For more information go to www.seaangels.org

or e-mail us at info@seaangels.org

Please join us so we can make a difference one piece of litter at a time.

Volunteer Opportunities

Sand Sifters Beach Cleanup

What: Join the Sand Sifters for beach cleanup!

When: First Saturday of every month. Next cleanup **January 5**

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: 8-10:15am

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: Gary Solomon at 561-734-9128

Website: www.SandSifters.us

Sea Angels Beach Cleanup

What: Join the Sea Angels for beach cleanup!

When: Last Saturday of every month. Next cleanup: **December 29**

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: www.seaangels.org



Town Hall Library

What: Shelve and organize books in the Town Library.

When: Ongoing

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

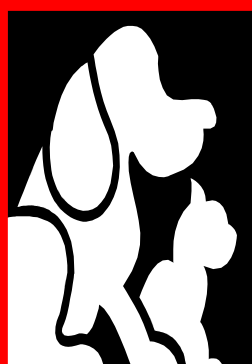
Time: Any time between 8:30am—3pm.

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

Book Club Meeting



Lost or Found A Pet?
Call 561-732-8331 to
report a
lost or found pet.

The Book Club will be meeting on Wednesday, January 2 at 5:45pm in the Town Hall Community Room to discuss *Mudbound* by Hillary Jordan. Residents are encouraged to join the discussion.

