

March 1, 2009



March Email Newsletter

Ocean Ridge Town Hall & Police Complex

Volume 2, Issue 3



Calendar of Events: March

2	<u>Regular Town Commission Meeting</u> at 6pm
3	<u>Code Enforcement Hearing</u> at 10am
7	<u>Sand Sifters Beach Cleanup</u> "Be Green, Spring Clean!" Event Sea Turtle Season is about to Begin. Volunteer with the Sand Sifters and Keep our Beaches Litter-Free so that Birds, Turtles and other Life Do not Die by Ingesting our Trash. Oceanfront Park 8-10:30am
17	St. Patrick's Day 
21	Garden Club Rummage Sale from 8am to 12pm See below for more details.
TBA	Planning & Zoning Commission Meeting at 8am

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Garden Club Rummage Sale

The Ocean Ridge Garden Club will be holding a Rummage Sale at Ocean Ridge Town Hall on Saturday, March 21 from 8am to noon. Proceeds of the sale support scholarships and students going to horticulture camp as well as projects to help beautify the community. Come on out and support this worthy effort.



Any donations for the sale will be accepted at Town Hall on Friday, March 20 from 3pm to 5pm. If you have any questions, please contact Barbara Cook at 738-5193 or cook236@bellsouth.net.

2009 Municipal Election Results

The results from the Ocean Ridge Municipal Election held on February 10, 2009 are as follows: Nancy Hogan with 8% votes, Kenneth Kaleel with 48% votes, Geoff Pugh with 44% votes. On February 13th there was a special meeting held to certify the election results and administer new oaths. On March 2, a new mayor and vice-mayor will be chosen by the commission during the Regular Town Commission meeting.



It's Turtle Season!



Turtle season starts March 1st and runs through October 31st in Palm Beach County. Below is the Town's Code Chapter 66, Sec. 66-2 in regards to the protection of sea turtles.

(a) **Purpose.** The purpose of this section is to protect the threatened and endangered sea turtles which nest along the beaches of the town, by safeguarding the sea turtles and hatchlings. For the purposes of this article the area comprised of the dry sandy beach and the dunes is a protected area.

(b) **Lighting restrictions along beach.** All oceanfront property owners must ensure that no artificial light illuminates any part of the protected area which may be used for turtle nesting and hatchlings. In order to accomplish this, all lighting must be positioned or shielded so that the light is not a visible source from the beach or is not a source that indirectly illuminates areas seaward of the crest of dune or seawall during the night period from March 1 to October 31 of each year. The night period is defined for purposes of this section as being that time after sunset through sunrise.

(c) **Site plan review.** For future oceanfront development the administrative official shall proposed site plans to ensure that artificial light sources are positioned or shielded so as to not illuminate any area of the beach which may be used for sea turtle nesting and hatchlings. Site plan review and approval are required prior to the issuance of a building permit. The site plan shall include and illustrate all exterior lights and windows within line of sight of the beach. Light and window tinting information shall include:

- (1) The location, number, wattage, elevation, orientation, fixture cut sheets, photometric illustrations and all type(s) of proposed artificial light sources. Artificial light sources shall include, but are not limited to, floodlights, spotlights, temporary security lights, those used on balconies, walkways, recreation areas, roadways, parking lots, dune crossovers, decks, boardwalks and signs.
- (2) Protective/mitigative measures to minimize lighting impacts on sea turtles, including measures to prevent direct and indirect illumination of areas seaward of the crest of the dune.
- (3) Window tinting specifications for all windows and doors within line of sight of the beach including percentage of visible light transmittance, which must be 45 percent or less.
- (4) Streetlights shall be located so that their illumination will travel away from the protected area. Such lights shall be equipped with shades or shields that will, to the extent practical, prevent back-lighting and render such lights not visible from the beach. Notwithstanding the provisions of this subsection, the town manager may authorize an exception where documented criminal activity has occurred within one year of its administration, or where public safety requires.
- (5) Lights at parks or other public beach access points shall be properly positioned or shielded, or, to the extent the lights are determined by the town not to be necessary for public safety purposes, shall not be utilized during the period from March 1 to October 31 of each year.
- (6) Artificial lighting for decorative or accent purposes and uplights shall not be permitted within the protected area.

(d) **Damage to sea turtles.** In addition to any other requirements of federal, state or countywide laws or ordinances, it shall be a violation of this land development code to damage, or disturb sea turtle nests, or to damage, disturb or destroy sea turtles or hatchlings. The director of public safety shall assure that the state department of environmental protection is notified of any and all violations of this section.

(e) **Prohibition against removal of beach and sand dunes from coastal area.** No person or property owner shall remove any part of the beach or sand dunes from the protected area.

For more information, visit myfwc.com/seaturtle

Nonnative Amnesty Day

Source: [Palm Beach Post 2/25/09](#)

Looking to get rid of a supersize snake, lethargic lizard or a burdensome bird? On March 21, the state Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission is holding a Nonnative Amnesty Day at the Miami Metrozoo where owners can turn in their unwanted exotic pets—a much more environmentally friendly alternative to dumping them in the wild. Just do not show up with your dogs and cats as they are not considered exotic.



The commission is also looking for volunteers to give the pets a new home. Potential adopters must have experience caring for exotic animals and in some cases must have a special license. Information and application are available at www.myfwc.com. Click on “Be a nonnative pet adopter.”

Police Department News from Lt. Yannuzzi

Power Failure! Now What?

Certain sections of Town experienced power failures recently. Immediately afterward, the Police Department’s Dispatchers become inundated with phone calls from residents reporting the outage, asking what caused the problem and wanting to know when the power would be restored. Please keep in mind that the Dispatcher is probably engaged in multiple outgoing calls as well in an effort to notify & update FPL, AT&T, Comcast, etc. The situation is heightened if a fire is involved. We ask for your patience during these times as we may not have all the answers yet. Brevity is the key in being able to process as many incoming calls as possible. In the meantime, you may contact FPL directly to report the problem or to obtain info at: 1-800-4OUTAGE (1-800-468-8243).



“Bad Deeds”

From: [AARP Bulletin Dec 2008](#)

Have you been solicited or seen the ads warning you that you should have a certified copy of your deed to provide evidence that the property was properly transferred to you. For a fee, certain companies will provide the document. Of course, their fee represents a price that is a tremendous mark up. The same documents that you can obtain directly from officials such as the Tax Collector or Property Appraiser for a few dollars can easily cost \$100.00 each. In fact, the companies providing the service will contact these same officials to obtain the same public records.



“Purse Thefts on the rise at S. Florida Gas Pumps”

Headline: [Palm Beach Post 01/25/09](#)

Law enforcement authorities throughout Palm Beach County are warning citizens to be extra cautious as they fill their tanks. There has been an increase in purse thefts occurring while the driver is pumping gas. The crime usually involves a vehicle pulling up to the passenger side of the victim’s vehicle and a criminal reaching into the car, grabbing the purse, and fleeing; sometime without the victim even being aware. It is suggested that you lock your doors while gassing up. In addition, pay attention to what’s going on around you.

The theft of the purse is only the beginning of the trauma for the victim. The process of canceling the credit cards and ordering new ones can be very stressful. In addition, depending on the types of identification carried in your purse, the very real risk of Identity Theft can be a nightmare with long term ramifications.

For more information about what you can do to “Deter-Detect-Defend” against Identity Theft visit the Federal Trade Commission website: www.ftc.gov/idtheft

Volunteer Opportunities



Sand Sifters Beach Cleanup: “Be Green, Spring Clean” Event!

Sea Turtle Season is about to Begin. Volunteer with the Sand Sifters and keep our beaches litter-free so that birds, turtles and other life do not die by ingesting our trash.

What: Join the Sand Sifters for beach cleanup.

When: First Saturday of every month, March 7th

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: Gary Solomon at 561-734-9128

Congratulations!

Gary Solomon was named one of National Public Lands Day Volunteers of the Year.

Recipe: Irish Soda Bread

Ingredients

3-1/4 cups flour

1/3 cup plus 1tbsp sugar, divided

1tspn baking powder

1tspn salt

1/2 cup (1 stick) cold butter

1-1/3 cups buttermilk

1/2 cup currants or raisins



Directions

Preheat oven to 350F. Mix flour, 1/3 cup of the sugar, baking powder, baking soda, and salt in large bowl. Cut in butter with pastry blender or 2 knives until mixture resembles coarse crumbs. Add buttermilk and currants; mix just until moistened.

Place dough on floured surface; knead 10 times. Shape into round loaf, 2-1/2 inches thick.

Place on greased baking sheet. Cut deep 1/2-inch “X” in top of dough. Sprinkle with remaining 1 tbsp sugar.

Bake 1 hour or until golden brown. Cool completely on wire rack. Cut into 16 wedges to serve.

Source: Kraft Foods