

Ocean Ridge Tidings



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



Budget Meeting Information

The Budget Presentation/Proposed Millage meeting will be held following a Public Hearing on Tuesday, July 21 at 8:30AM. The agenda and proposed budget for FY 2015/16 will be posted on the town's website oceanridgeflorida.com when available. Any additions or changes to the town's calendar will be noted on the town's website.

Upcoming Planning & Zoning Commission Meeting

The Planning & Zoning Commission are scheduled to meet on Monday, August 10, 2015 at 8:00AM. In addition to an unrelated noticed public hearing, the Commission directed them to review several sections of the zoning and building code as it pertains to exotic vegetation, setbacks, floor area ratio, and addressing abandoned properties and the blighting of construction sites.

Lecture Series for 2015-2016

Bob Weisblut is working on another Town Hall Lecture Series for next year. If you would like to suggest a topic that you and others may be interested in, please contact Bob at rweisblut@yahoo.com.

Further, if you or someone you know would like to be considered as a lecturer, please send Bob your information. Remember that there is no budget and so all speakers will have to speak for free.

Finally, Bob can consider other types of entertainment including comedians, singers, or magicians.

Seven Years Ago...

On July 22, 2008 at 12:58pm a twin engine Cessna N3990C struck the Ocean Ridge Town Hall and Police Complex which was still under construction at the time. After the impact with the building, the plane fell to the ground and struck the cement light pole knocking out FPL power, AT & T phone lines, and Comcast cable utilities. Damage to the building was limited to a small portion of the roof and front gable structure. The pilot was injured but has since recovered. Miraculously, no one else was hurt in the accident.





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

Hal Hutchins

hhutchins@oceanridgeflorida.com

Mayor

Geoffrey Pugh

Vice Mayor

Dr. Lynn Allison

Commissioners

Gail Adams Aaskov

James Bonfiglio

Richard Lucibella

Mayor & Commissioners email

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



July

- 3: Independence Day Celebration—Town Hall Closed, no inspections, contractors may work, garbage/trash/recycle will be collected
- 4: Independence Day—Town Hall closed, no contractor work
- 6: Regular Town Commission Meeting at 6:00PM in Chambers
- 8: Board of Adjustment meeting at 8:30AM in chambers
- 21: Special Town Commission/Budget Meeting at 8:30AM in chambers
- 25: Sea Angels Beach Cleanup from 8:00AM-10:30AM at Ocean Inlet Park

August:

- 3: Regular Town Commission Meeting at 6PM in chambers
- 4: Code Enforcement Hearing at 10AM in chambers (tentative)
- 10: Planning & Zoning Meeting at 8:00AM in chambers
- 12: Board of Adjustment Meeting at 8:30AM in chambers
- 29: Sea Angels Beach Cleanup from 8:00AM-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 8:00AM and the Planning & Zoning Commission meets on. 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."

July's Regular Town Commission Meeting Action Summary

The following list is actions taken at the July 6, 2015 meeting/s:

1. Approved the Regular Town Commission Meeting Minutes for June 1, 2015
2. Confirmed the Hiring of Two Police Officers contingent on satisfactory final segment of background check
3. Approved a Land Development Permit for 6125 North Ocean Blvd. (single family residence, 4 car garage, pool/deck and amenities) contingent on DEP approval and zoning and building permit approval
4. Approved partial lien reductions (\$50,874.25) for 40 Hibiscus Way to a revised total of \$128,678.41
5. Authorized the an amount not to exceed \$25,000 from the Contingency Account to Fund the Demolition of 110 Bonito Drive, authorized the Town Manager to seek demolition bid proposals and approved the lowest bid, and schedule a public hearing to adopt a non-ad valorem assessment roll
6. Approved Ordinance No. 611; Providing for the date of the March 2016 Municipal Election to coincide with the Presidential Primary (3/15/16) and establish the proposed qualifying period for candidates (11/24-12/8/15)
7. Directed staff to review the suggestion of one way signs for Douglas/Oceanview Drive
8. Directed staff to research other municipalities' codes re: to required temporary fencing for construction sites and draft a proposed ordinance
9. Deferred the adoption of Resolution No. 2015-04; Amending the FY 14/15 Budget to transfer funds for the reimbursement of the Commissioner's legal fees so that Atty Spillias can revise the resolution
10. Consensus for the P & Z Commission to review or revise the method of dealing with abandoned property and blighting on construction sites as part of their meeting on August 10th.
11. Adopted Ordinance #611; Providing for the date of the annual Town Election in March, 2016, to coincide with the Presidential Primary; establishing the proposed qualifying period for candidates; providing for supremacy of this ordinance over all ordinances inconsistent with or in conflict with this ordinance; and providing for an effective date on second reading



The Abrams Agenda



Palm Beach County Commissioner Steven Abrams

301 S. Olive Avenue, 12th Floor
West Palm Beach, FL 33401
345 N. Congress Avenue, Delray Beach, FL 33445
561-355-2204 (WPB)
561-276-1220 (DRB)

sabrams@pbcgov.org
www.pbcgov.org/abrams
Facebook: Steven L. Abrams



Hurricane Season: Preparation is Key

It's been a full decade since a hurricane has struck our area. This 10-year streak of luck tends to create complacency for some people, which is dangerous when living in a hurricane-prone area. That is why I strongly urge everyone to visit the county's [Hurricane Preparedness](#) site, so that you know what to do before, during and after a storm. Remember, supplies sell out fast once a storm has been forecasted, so it's important to do what you can now. Some questions to consider:

- Do you have enough canned goods and water stocked? How much do you need?
- Do you have a plan for your pet? Do you know about the county's pet shelter that requires registration?

- If you have a generator, do you know how to operate it safely?

Remember, it's everybody's responsibility to be prepared in case a storm hits. Government alone cannot begin to handle all of the adverse impacts. Everyone needs to have an evacuation plan in place and make sure their homes are secure.

Don't wait until a hurricane is bearing down to make these important decisions. Together we can make it a safer and less worrisome hurricane season for everyone. If you have questions, or need us to mail you information, please call my office at 561-355-2204 or Palm Beach County Emergency Management at 561-712-6400.

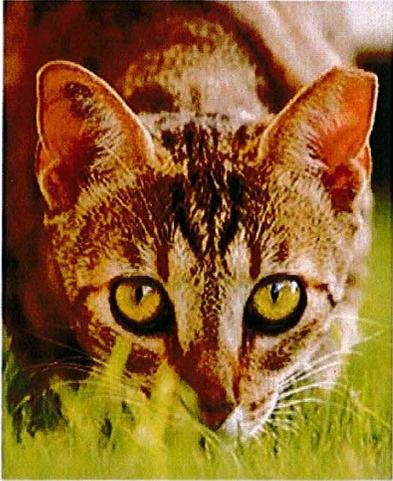


Hurricane trivia

- *The word hurricane is derived from the Taino Native American word, "hurucane," meaning evil spirit of the wind.*
- *A tropical storm is classified as a hurricane once its winds reach 74 miles per hour.*
- *Every second, a large hurricane releases the energy of 10 atomic bombs.*
- *The most violent winds and heaviest rains take place in the eye wall, the ring of clouds and thunderstorms closely surrounding the eye.*

Connect with Emergency Officials Online

Emergency officials will be communicating with residents using [Facebook](#) and [Twitter](#). You can download the county's free emergency app, [PBC DART](#), which will provided you with vital information such as your storm surge evacuation areas, flood zones, shelter locations, grocery and building supply stores with emergency generators, and gas stations that remain open. The app also lets individuals and businesses send damage reports, in real time, to the Emergency Operations Center, which will enable emergency workers to access and respond to areas needing attention during and after a storm.



www.countdown2zero.org

**Project CatSnip—Palm Beach County
A Better Life For Our Community Cats**

3100/3200 North Military Trail
West Palm Beach, FL 33409
www.peggyadams.org
561-686-3663

Project CatSnip is a spay neuter program for free-roaming community cats in Palm Beach County using the Trap-Neuter-Vaccinate-Return method to control their population in a humane and effective manner.

Free-roaming community cats will be spayed/neutered, vaccinated against rabies and distemper, microchipped, and their left ear will be tipped for visual confirmation that the cats have been "fixed". TNVR surgeries are performed Monday through Friday—no appointment necessary. Cats must be in traps like the one shown here. One cat per trap please.

Domestic (pet) cats are also free in select zip codes by appointment—visit www.peggyadams.org for more info.



Community cats must be in traps. If you need help trapping please contact Peggy Adams by emailing info@peggyadams.org or call 561-686-3663. Traps are available for sale or rent.

Cats must live in one of these zip codes to qualify for free surgery:
33401, 33404, 33405, 33406, 33407, 33409, 33411, 33414, 33415,
33435, 33460, 33461, 33462, 33463, 33467, 33470.

Cats living in all other Palm Beach County zip codes are eligible for name your price TNVR every Monday at Peggy Adams Animal Rescue League.



Peggy Adams
ANIMAL RESCUE LEAGUE



Ocean Ridge Police Department News

By Hal C. Hutchins, Chief of Police

Criminal Activity

Below is a listing of the crime/code enforcement/suspicious activity reported to ORPD in **June 2015** for both Ocean Ridge and Briny Breezes:

Type of Incident	Report Date	Time Frame	Location	Synopsis
Fraud Internet /Telephone Scam	6/3/2015	Between 7/30/2014 and 6/3/2015	5000 Ocean Blvd.	Unknown suspect engaged in theft by offering false prizes in return for finder's fee.
Identity Theft	6/3/2015	Between 1/29/2015 and 6/3/2015	Waterway Dr.	Victim's identity compromised. Credit issued using stolen identity.
Theft	6/3/2015	Between 5/19/2015 and 5/21/2015	Tropical Dr.	Theft and use of debit card by acquaintance.
Attempted Burglary to Residence	6/8/2015	6/8/2015 @ 9:00 am	Ridge Blvd.	Suspect attempted to enter residence by breaking rear window. Alarm alerted Police. No entry was made.
Drug Arrest	6/9/2015	6/9/2015 @ 6:35 pm	Tropical Dr.	Drug arrest for possession of Ecstasy.
Burglary Residence	6/12/2015	6/12/2015 @ 10:00 pm	Oceanview Dr.	Theft of I-phone from unsecured residence no forced entry.
Theft of Bicycle	6/13/2015	Between 6/12/2015 and 6/13/2015	Tropical Dr.	Bicycle stolen from front of apartment.
Theft	6/13/2015	Between 6/5/2015 and 6/12/2015	Tropical Dr.	Theft of personal items by acquaintance.
Domestic Violence	6/15/2015	6/15/2015 @ 5:20 pm	6200 North Ocean Blvd.	Woman reported domestic incident on roadway.
Theft	6/17/2015	Between 4/15/2015 and 6/17/2015	6300 Blk. North Ocean Blvd.	Theft of handgun from under mattress.
Theft from Garage	6/20/2015	Between 6/18/2015 and 6/20/2015	5600 Blk. North Ocean Blvd.	Bicycle taken from open garage.

Enjoy The Beach, But Watch The Weather

Now that warmer weather is here, you may be planning some fun in the sun with a beach getaway. But before you hit the sand, check out the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration's (NOAA) safety tips for *Nine Dangers at the Beach*, including lightning.

According to NOAA, lightning strikes the United States about 25 million times a year and an average of 33 lightning deaths occurred in the United States each year from 2006-2013. Although most lightning occurs in the summer, people can be struck any time there is a thunderstorm. Remember, if you hear thunder, lightning is close enough to strike you!

There is no safe place outside when thunderstorms are in the area. **When thunder roars, go indoors!** Move **immediately** to a safe shelter: a substantial building with electricity or plumbing, or an enclosed, metal-topped vehicle with the windows up.

As you plan your beach vacation, follow [these NOAA tips](#) to reduce the risk of being struck by lightning:

- Plan ahead and know where to go for safety;
- Monitor weather conditions;
- Cancel or postpone activities if thunderstorms are in the forecast;
- Take action early so you have time to get to a safe place; and

Stay in the safe shelter at least 30 minutes after you hear the last sound of thunder.

July Crime Prevention Information From Investigator 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 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. (continued on page 9)

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.

Trees In Wires Update

Officers of the Police Department are continuing to patrol, observe, and have corrected the areas where there are trees encroaching into the utility lines. We are attempting to work with the utility companies to clear the most serious violations, and clear the lines prior to the peak of Hurricane Season.

Staff would like to remind everyone, that in accordance with the Town Code of Ordinances (66-151 (b) (7)), it is the property owner's responsibility to ensure that vegetation does not encroach into the utility lines on their property, and that vegetation emanating from their property does not encroach into lines in the rights of way.

Unfortunately we have had very little positive response from the utility companies to date. Therefore; I ask that everyone take the time to inspect their individual property and correct any violations that exist as soon as possible. For safety sake, should you find trees in the FPL lines, please make sure to use a licensed tree company to remove the vegetation.

For information on licensed tree contractors for FPL lines please visit: <https://www.fpl.com/reliability/trees/contractors.html>.

Protect Yourself From Fraud

Courtesy of the Palm Beach County Clerk and Comptroller

Property Fraud Alert

What is Property Fraud?

Fraud can be committed in a number of ways by recording documents in the Clerk's Official Records. For example, someone can create a fraudulent document that will deed your home to them and then record that document in the Official Records. According to the FBI, property and mortgage fraud is the fastest growing white-collar crime.

Why Register for Property Fraud Alert?

- Property Fraud Alert is a free service offered by the Clerk & Comptroller, Palm Beach County
- Helps you protect your property from fraud by monitoring the documents being recorded in the Official Records of the Clerk's office such as deeds, mortgages and liens
- Receive an e-mail or phone alert within 48 business hours whenever any document is recorded in Palm Beach County matching the name(s) you chose to monitor

Register at:

[www.mypalmbeachclerk.com/
property-fraud-alert](http://www.mypalmbeachclerk.com/property-fraud-alert)

or call:

1-800-728-3858

06012015

Property Fraud Alert

PROTECT
your most valuable
INVESTMENT!



Register for
Property Fraud Alert TODAY!

[www.mypalmbeachclerk.com/
property-fraud-alert](http://www.mypalmbeachclerk.com/property-fraud-alert)

or call:

1-800-728-3858



SHARON R. BOCK
Clerk & Comptroller
Palm Beach County

Let Us Help You Remain Safe

If you feel unsafe or feel that you are being followed by someone while on your way home, please remember to call us. Should you be near the Police Station, feel free to call us and drive to the parking lot. We will be happy to meet you and determine that you are safe, as well as assist you in making a safe arrival at your residence. Do not confront the person following you!

It is always best to follow your instincts. If you feel you are in an unsafe situation, drive to a well-lit area (like the police station parking lot), and use your cell phone to call us. If you do not have the ability to call, please park directly in front and enter the lobby for assistance. We are here 24 hours a day, every day of the year.

If you are not in Ocean Ridge, try to find the nearest police station. All Law Enforcement Officers will be glad to assist you and see that you are safe in your travels.

And finally; As Always,

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

REMEMBER

“IF YOU SEE SOMETHING, SAY SOMETHING”



**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**

Volunteers Needed

Your Anthrax Committee needs volunteers to distribute antibiotics on the remote chance that the Town of Ocean Ridge is exposed to an aerosolized airborne anthrax event. No special knowledge is required. All that is required is attendance at about two hours of meetings per year.

Aerosolized Airborne Anthrax is a bioterrorist weapon. Unfortunately, there have been several anthrax episodes in the United States, including one fatal attack in Palm Beach County in 2001. While death occurs in 50% to virtually all exposed individuals, the disease can be prevented by rapid administration of appropriate antibiotics. It is strongly recommended that everyone be provided and take these antibiotics for his/her protection against exposure.

The Town of Ocean Ridge has signed an Agreement with the Florida Department of Health in Palm Beach County who will provide the needed antibiotics at no cost, as part of a program under the auspices of the Center for Disease and Prevention. We will be a dispensing site for our community. Our own trained and credentialed resident-volunteers will perform the necessary dispensing duties. (In absence of this Agreement other will have to line up at large public dispersal centers.)

You are urgently requested to sign up as a volunteer to assist with this challenge. We plan to have a Training Update very soon and would like to get as many of our residents as possible to share in this important program.

Should you have any questions, do not hesitate to contact Terri Vinas at vinasfam@aol.com or Ken Schenck at kschenck@oceanridgeflorida.com. Or, you may drop off this Form at the Town Hall, addressed to Anthrax Committee c/o Terri Vinas.

Thank you.

I, _____ wish to be a volunteer

My Address is: _____

My Email address is: _____

My Phone number is: _____

Best Time to Call: [] Morning [] Evening

Volunteer Opportunities

Sand Sifters Beach Cleanup

What: Join the Sand Sifters for beach clean-up!

When: First Saturday of every month. Next cleanup: **None July or August**

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: Jeff at JeffLev02@gmail.com

Website: www.SandSifters.us

Sea Angels Beach Cleanup

What: Join the Sea Angels for beach cleanup!

When: Last Saturday of every month. Next cleanup: **July 25**

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

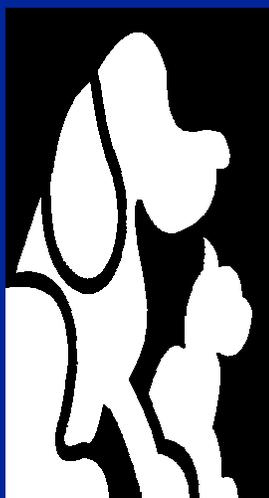
Where: 6450 N. Ocean Blvd. at Town Hall.

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



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

Pet Owners:

For your animal's safety and the safety of your neighbors, please remember to secure your pets by a collar and leash as you walk them around the town and especially on Old Ocean Blvd. where pedestrian traffic is heavy.

Thank you.