

# Ocean Ridge Tidings

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



## Contractor/Business Registration Ends

Companies located outside of Ocean Ridge but conducting work within the town limits are no longer required to pay business registration and vehicle decal fees as of July 1, 2016 per House Bill 535. However, companies that are submitting for building permits and no-fee sub permits are required to include their Florida State contractor's license, Palm Beach County Business Tax Receipt, general liability and worker's compensation or exemption with their permit package.

Residents are encouraged to ask potential contractors for references, licenses and insurance prior to hiring. To make sure that the contractor you choose is licensed, please visit [Department of Business and Professional Regulation](#) and also [Palm Beach County's Tax Collector's](#) websites. Other helpful tips include:

- ◆ Read the contract between you and the contractor very carefully
- ◆ Make sure all appropriate permits have been pulled with the town
- ◆ Consider making a final payment after a final inspection passes

For more helpful tips, please visit [Palm Beach County's Contractor Information](#) site.

## Primary Election

The Primary Election will be held on Tuesday, August 30 from 7AM-7PM in the town's community room. For a sample ballot, vote-by-mail request, early voting sites, and more, please contact the Supervisor of Elections office directly at 561-656-6200 or visit their website [pbcelections.org](http://pbcelections.org).

## Marking Mailboxes

Please make sure that your mailbox is marked with your house number. Doing so helps emergency personnel, building and zoning inspectors, and the Public Works Department identify your address. Using large and reflective numbers is very helpful. For guidelines, please visit the [USPS website](#).



## Crossover Trash Bins

The Public Works Department has seen an increase of personal household trash bags in the public crossover garbage bins. The personal household refuse



clogs up the bins which is meant for trash discarded by walkers, beach-goers, and the like. Regular household trash curbside collection is on Tuesdays and Fridays. Tuesdays collection includes regular trash, vegetation and bulk items. Vegetation piles created by lawn maintenance companies should be removed by the company. Fridays collection includes regular trash and recycling. Should you have any questions about garbage collection, please contact Town Hall at 561-732-2635.



## 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

Richard Lucibella

### Commissioners

Gail Adams Aaskov

James Bonfiglio

Steve Coz

### 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

### August:

- 1: Regular Town Commission Meeting begins at 6PM in the chambers
- 9: FDOT Public Information Meeting regarding Ocean Avenue bridge maintenance project is from 6PM-7PM in the chambers
- 23: Special Town Commission/Executive Session begins at 8:30AM in the chambers with the Special Town Commission Meeting/Budget Workshop beginning immediately after in the chambers
- 27: Sea Angels Beach Cleanup from 8AM-10:30AM at Ocean Inlet Park
- 30: Primary Election from 7AM-7PM in the community room. Questions, sample ballot, vote-by-mail requests, please contact the Supervisor of Elections at 561-656-6200.

### September:

- 3: Sand Sifters Beach Cleanup from 8AM-10:15AM at Oceanfront Park
- 5: Labor Day—Town Hall closed, no contractor work, no inspections
- 6: Code Enforcement Hearing begins at 10AM in the chambers
- 12: Special Town Commission Meeting begins at 5:01PM in the chambers
- 12: Regular Town Commission Meeting begins at 6:00PM in the chambers
- 21: Special Town Commission Meeting begins at 5:01PM in the chambers
- 24: 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.*

**Regular Town Commission meetings in September 2016, and January 2017 have changed from the first Monday of the month to the following due to federal holidays:  
September 12, 2016 and January 9, 2017**

## 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 an excerpt of the Town Manager's report. The full report with back-up attachments can be found in [August's Regular Town Commission meeting agenda packet](#).

### **Stormwater Detention Update**

Staff is making arrangements with our contractor Rockline for probe/camera inspection of the subterranean drainpipe infrastructure located in the bed of the Woolbright Detention area to determine its current condition, function and effectiveness under the SFWMD permitted system. Generator pump systems controls are being upgraded/installed with original brand components for optimal performance. Secondary pumps (portable backup) are updated and being maintained for any emergency situation.

### **PBA Contract Update**

The PBA reopener on "third year" wages increases through merit based evaluations was conceptually accepted by both the PBA bargaining unit and administration. The PBA submitted an evaluation table for merit raises that town administration has tweaked into simplified tiers and is returning to the bargaining unit for acceptance. A final proposal, along with any issues that may arise will be brought forward to Commission attention in the near future. The funding of the program is already contemplated in the FY17 Budget development process to be workshopped in August and on to Public Hearings in September. We do not anticipate any significant issues with this matter for the final year.

### **Barrier Island Fire District Services Study Final**

I've attached a final copy of the multi-community Barrier Island Fire District Feasibility Study commissioned and paid for by the towns of Highland Beach, Gulf Stream, Briny Breezes, Ocean Ridge, Manalapan and South Palm Beach. It appears through staff level meetings commentary that the coalition of communities are not unanimous in collaboration to pursue the establishment of a new Barrier Island Fire District for the exclusive staging and services along the linear barrier island model. With any one or more of the partners removed, the cost metrics and feasibility probability goes from apparent "at par" costs plus infrastructure costs, to unjustifiable altogether without some compelling motivation other than cost for service savings. Town administration thanks and appreciates the due diligence and hard dedicated work from all the participating municipal partners and agencies. The value of the study is evident in codifying the size, scope, costs and considerations as well as current figures for all the aggregated service delivery models in place today as well as to replicate or replace with a new model. It is apparent that the communities involved are getting pretty good value presently. (Attachment)

### **Traffic Calming Infrastructure Costing**

Town Engineers have taken a look at the request for costs associated with design, engineering and construction of various traffic calming infrastructure that might work well for the Town of Ocean Ridge to help create the atmosphere and brand of slower and leisurely traffic movement within the Town. Actual costs are still site and condition specific. The election of multiple structures implemented at the same time will impact (possibly lower) costs as well, such as shared engineering of multiple designs along the same street. The time off year and the availability of contractors and paving initiatives may also impact costs favorably. (Attachments)

### **Budget Workbook V2 Update**

The Town budget workbook document was re-released (FY17 Budget Workbook FULL-V2-071516) since the Special Meeting held on July 13th to set maximum millage. The updated version of the complete FY17 workbook was released for correcting minor edits and catching scrivener's errors brought to light since first released. Changes are corrective to the formatting and typographical errors, but not budget calculations as shown in version 1. A new replacement workbook will be printed and distributed prior to any subsequent official budget meeting(s). This corrected PDF is mounted to the Town's website under the "Budgets" link, while the previous book and its addendum sheets remain linked under the meeting agenda/minutes link for that meeting on the website.

## August's Regular Town Commission Meeting Summary

The following is a list of actions taken at the August 1, 2016 Regular Town Commission meeting:

1. Approved the Regular Town Commission Meeting Minutes of July 11, 2016.
2. Approved the Special Town Commission Meeting Minutes of July 13, 2016.
3. Announced that Town Administrative Offices will be closed on Monday, September 5, 2016 in observance of the Labor Day holiday.
4. Announced that the Regular Town Commission meeting in September has been moved to Monday, September 12, 2016 due to the Labor Day holiday.
5. Announced that the first public hearing on the FY16/17 Budget will be held at 5:01 p.m. on Monday, September 12, 2016.
6. Announced that the second/final public hearing on the FY16/17 Budget will be held at 5:01 p.m. on Wednesday, September 21, 2016.
7. Directed the Town Manager to work with Ted Ritota on the beach seaweed issue and report back to the Commission.
8. Instructed the Town Attorney to look at the sections of Town Code that need to be amended and bring information back to the Town Commission.
9. Set a Special Town Commission Meeting & Budget Workshop for Tuesday, August 23, 2016 beginning at 9:00 a.m. **\*NOTE: The time has changed to 8:30AM in order for the Commission to have an Executive Session between 8:30AM-9:00AM.\***
10. Announced that FDOT will be holding a public information meeting on August 9, 2016 from 6:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. regarding Ocean Avenue Bridge Maintenance.
11. Directed Town Staff to continue research on a new health insurance plan and payroll services and bring a recommendation to the Commission at the August 23, 2016 Special Meeting.

**THE TOWN COMMISSION WILL HOLD A SPECIAL MEETING & BUDGET WORKSHOP ON TUESDAY, AUGUST 23, 2016 BEGINNING AT 9:00 A.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 **July 2016** 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>
Theft From Vehicle	7/2/2016	Between 7/1/2016 and 7/2/2016	6230 North Ocean Blvd.	Unlocked vehicle entered and rummaged through, nothing taken.
Drug Arrest	7/3/2016	7/2/2016 @ 3:20pm	6415 North Ocean Blvd.	Traffic stop results in arrest for possession of drugs.
Domestic Battery	7/4/2016	7/4/2016 @ 8:15pm	6711 North Ocean Blvd.	Domestic resulting in arrest.
Identity Theft	7/5/2016	4/1/2016	6520 North Ocean Blvd.	Resident tax return filed fraudulently and credit obtained using false information.
Violation Of Town Code	7/6/2016	7/6/2016	5015 Old Ocean Blvd.	Violation of Town Code for Maintenance and Appearance.
Violation Of Town Code	7/7/2016	7/7/2016	Harbour Dr. South	Begin work prior to issuance of proper permit.
Warrant Arrest	7/13/2016	7/13/2016 @ 10:00am	Woolbright Rd.	Traffic stop results in arrest for outstanding warrant.
Burglary to Residence	7/16/2016	Between 7/6/2016 and 7/16/2016	Island Dr. South	Reported burglary to home on Island dr. South
Theft from Vehicle	7/17/2016	7/17/2016 between 8:00am and 11:00am	Midlane Rd.	Firearm stolen from unlocked vehicle in driveway.
Drug Arrest	7/21/2016	7/21/2016 @ 1:28am	River Dr.	Suspicious vehicle investigation results in arrest for possession of drugs.
Drug Arrest	7/26/2016	7/26/2016 @ 1:00pm	5900 North Ocean Blvd.	Traffic stop results in arrest for possession of drugs.



## **August's Crime Prevention Information From Lieutenant Richard Jones**

### **Close The Door To Crime**

An old crime trend continues to pose problems. Criminals posing as utility workers, pest control providers, tree trimmers and any other service provider will simply knock on your door and give you one excuse after another in an effort to convince you to let them enter your home. Once inside your home, you become the victim of theft, assault and even more serious crimes. The majority of these criminals may wear work related clothing, so at first sight you may think that everything is legitimate even though it is not.

Some of the previous cases involve one criminal requesting that you exit the home to point out an issue or show you something relating to your home or property. Once you exit your home, another criminal you do not even know is present will enter your home and begin taking your hard earned property. Many times, you are unaware of this theft until hours or even days later.

Although we cannot prevent someone from knocking on our door, we do have the ability to choose the outcome. I don't have all the answers for every scenario, but I will give you several thoughts to consider.

What about requiring identification prior to opening the door? Or looking out a window for a clearly marked and familiar vehicle before opening the door? You can even ask the person "What number can I call to verify your identity?" as most criminals will not know the local utility company number by memory. Common sense should also be employed. If your power is out and you see several FPL trucks in the neighborhood, it may be likely that someone from FPL may need to enter your property. On the other hand, if someone shows up stating that they are from Comcast and you have not requested their appearance, you should become alert and aware and contact the Police immediately.

Take a moment to verify the person's true identity before giving them access to your property, home and all your personal belongings. If this seems like too much of an inconvenience to the person knocking, they are probably true criminals with bad intentions. As always, feel free to call the Police Department and request an officer regarding an unknown visitor. We will gladly respond and identify the visitor's true identity.

If your home is armed with an alarm that has a panic feature, use it. We will respond promptly. Your safety is our business and our main concern.

As discussed in previous crime prevention tips, opportunity is what criminals thrive on. If we take away the opportunity, they will be powerless.

# Some Reminders from The Federal Emergency Management Agency

## During the Storm

### Keep Your Cool in Hot Weather

Summer is in full swing and temperatures are heating up across the nation. According to the [National Weather Service](#) (NWS), heat is one of the leading causes of weather-related deaths in the United States, resulting in hundreds of fatalities each year and even more heat-related illnesses such as heat stroke, heat cramps, and heat exhaustion.

The best line of defense against these illnesses is prevention. The [Ready](#) Campaign offers the following tips to stay safe when the mercury rises:

- Stay indoors as much as possible and limit exposure to the sun;
- Stay on the lowest level out of the sun if air conditioning is unavailable;
- Eat well-balanced, light, and regular meals;
- Dress in loose-fitting, lightweight, and light-colored clothes that cover as much skin as possible; and
- Avoid doing strenuous work outside during the warmest part of the day.

When necessary, NWS issues heat-related alerts to help you prepare for extreme weather conditions. To learn more about these alerts and how they impact you, visit: [www.nws.noaa.gov/om/heat/ww.shtml](http://www.nws.noaa.gov/om/heat/ww.shtml)

### Know Your Alerts & Warnings

Receiving timely information about emergencies can make all the difference in knowing when to take action to protect yourself and your family. Local police and fire departments, emergency managers, the National Weather Service, the Federal Emergency Management Agency, the Federal Communications Commission, and the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration work together to make sure you can receive alerts and warnings quickly through several different technologies no matter where you are.

If you've ever noticed a unique sound and vibration coming from your cell phone, you probably just received a [Wireless Emergency Alert](#) (WEA) - a nationwide emergency alert system notifying you of a pending emergency in your area. These messages provide information about extreme weather, local emergencies, AMBER Alerts™, and Presidential Alerts during a national emergency.

WEAs look like a text message and show the type and time of the alert, any action you should take, and the agency issuing the alert. If you receive a WEA, follow the directions advised by the message and seek additional information from local media or authorities.

### Carbon Monoxide Safety during Power Outages

According to the [National Weather Service](#), carbon monoxide poisoning is a leading cause of death after storms in areas experiencing power outages. Using alternative sources of power can cause carbon monoxide to build up in your home and poison your family. Carbon monoxide is a colorless, odorless gas created by burning fuel when using portable generators, gas ranges, burning wood, or by running your car.

While deaths occur each year in the U.S. from accidental carbon monoxide poisoning, this tragedy is preventable. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention offers these [tips for staying safe](#) when the power goes out:

- Never use a generator inside your home or garage, even if the doors and windows are open;
- Keep generators at least 20 feet from your home;
- Install battery-operated or battery back-up carbon monoxide detectors near every sleeping area in your home; and
- Check detectors every six months to be sure they are working properly.

The most common symptoms of carbon monoxide poisoning are headache, dizziness, nausea, and confusion. If you think you are experiencing carbon monoxide poisoning, get fresh air and seek immediate medical attention!



# Ocean Ridge Police Department News

By Hal C. Hutchins, Chief of Police



## Allow Us To Help You Remain Safe

Please remember to lock your doors and use your alarm system. The best defense against crime is a good offense. Please take the initiative to make sure you do not become the victim.

Though using your intuition and being aware of your surroundings is a great start, to reinforce the information provided by Investigator Jones, using other tools available is often necessary to assure you remain safe and do not become a victim.

During recent Town Commission meetings security and safety have been a topic of discussion. As part of the discussions, those present in the audience were reminded that the Town of Ocean Ridge has an excellent safety record, and through its Police Department, Town Hall, Maintenance Department, and code compliance/enforcement efforts, strives to maintain a safe and pleasant small town environment for our residents to enjoy.

That being said, I would like to remind everyone of some of the services that are available to help maintain the safe environment we all enjoy and desire.

1. The Town, through your Police Department, offers direct monitoring services for your burglar alarm system to enhance our response time in the event of an emergency. Stop by or call Town Hall for details!
2. The Town offers resident vehicle decals to help officers identify those vehicles that belong to our residents so we may better serve you. Stop by the Police Department lobby with your vehicle registration information and the on-duty dispatcher will be very happy to assist you!
3. The Police Department will be more than happy to meet with you and discuss or perform a security survey of your property to help you better protect yourself from becoming a crime victim. This may be done by appointment and at a time convenient for you!
4. The Police Department offers vacation watch for your home. We are more than happy to keep an eye on your home while you are away. To arrange for this service please call the desk at (561) 732-8331 any time of the day or night. **WE ARE OPEN 24 HOURS EVERY DAY OF THE YEAR/ RAIN OR SHINE!**
5. Finally, we are here to assist you! We will always try to help. If we do not have the answer to your question, we will try to assist you in locating the person or agency that does.  
Your well-being is our primary concern.

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**

## Volunteer Opportunities

### Sand Sifters Beach Cleanup

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

**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:** 8-10:30AM

**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: **August 27**

**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