

Ocean Ridge Tidings



Calendar of Events: September

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| 1 | Code Enforcement Hearing at 10:00am. |
| 5 | Sand Sifters Beach Cleanup 8-10:30am National Public Lands Day |
| 7 | Labor Day—Town Hall Closed |
| 10 | Special Town Commission Meeting: Tentative Budget Adoption begins at 5:01pm with Regular Town Commission Meeting to immediately follow. |
| 17 | Special Town Commission Meeting: Final Adoption of Budget at 5:01pm. |

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2009/10 Fiscal Year Budget

The Town Commission and staff have been working hard to reduce our budget and limit taxes as much as possible without reducing the needed services to the residents. It's been exceptionally difficult this year because of the drastic reductions in property values. The property values in the Town have been reduced by \$111,594,321 which equates to a revenue loss of \$307,084 from the 2008 year based on the present proposed millage rate of 5.5. Although this is a 6.8% increase over last year's rate of 5.15 it is well below the rollback rate of 5.9. (The rollback rate is the millage rate that will provide the same income as the 2008 year.) The general fund operating budget has been reduced by \$211,160 from last year in an effort to keep the tax rate down. If there are no more reductions we will use \$96,248 from reserves to balance the budget. Details of the budget can be found on the Town's website. The tentative budget adoption will be on Sept. 10th at 5:01pm and the final adoption will be on Sept. 17th at 5:01pm. — Ken Schenck, Town Manager

Garbage/Trash Service Changes

The Town recently accepted bids for the collection of trash, garbage, vegetation, and recycling with the Town. The low bidder was Republic Services of Palm Beach. The Town will be contracting with them for these services effective October 1, 2009.

Republic Services will be contacting our residents, as necessary, to make the transfer from our present hauler as seamless as possible. We appreciate your cooperation with them.

Island Drive Bridge Construction

On August 17 the construction on the Island Drive bridge began. For at least the next six months Island Drive will be down to one lane. Please exercise caution when driving in this area.

US Census Bureau ♦ Census 2010

Source: census.gov

Within the next few weeks you will be receiving the census questionnaire for the 2010 Census. The census is a count of everyone living in the US every 10 years. The census is mandated by the US Constitution. The next census is in 2010. Your participation is required by law. It takes less than 10 minutes to complete. Federal law protects the personal information you share during the census. Census data are used to distribute Congressional seats to states, to make decisions about what community services to provide, and distribute \$300 billion in federal funds to local, state, and tribal governments each year. All residents need to complete and mail back the questionnaire.

We encourage you to assist any census personnel that you may come into contact with. Each temporary census employee will have an official ID card that includes the employee's signature and an expiration date. ID cards for temporary employees do not include a photograph. Each regional level employee's ID cards will have the bearer's photograph and expiration date. In addition, field office managers will have the bearer's photograph and expiration date.

SAMPLE: Temporary decennial field/office employees



SAMPLE: Permanent/temporary regional level staff and temporary field office managers



If you have any questions please call the Regional Census Center in Atlanta at 1-877-591-3755.

Police Department News from Lt. Yannuzzi

Criminal Activity

Although we have not experienced a major problem in this area, Identity Theft remains an item that is constantly in the news. Everyone is reminded that they should make every effort to keep their credit card and bank information secure at home, in your vehicle and on your person. No matter how “official” the contact appears, never respond to unsolicited requests for personal information received via email or telephone. Hacking into your personal page on Facebook, MySpace, or other social network is becoming an ever-increasing problem so monitoring your account is critical.

Continue to report any and all suspicious activity – when it is happening – to your Police Department by calling 911 or the non-emergency number: 561-732-8331.

Water Violations

This time of year the weather is unpredictable. During the rainy season, watering your lawn may not be necessary at all and too much water can actually damage your lawn. Regardless, the Water Restrictions remain in full force and effect. Therefore, everyone is reminded that automatic lawn sprinkling is limited to the following:

- * Odd Number Addresses – Wednesdays and Saturdays – 12 AM – 10 AM and/or 4 PM – 11:59 PM
- * Even Number Addresses – Thursdays and Sundays – 12 AM – 10 AM and/or 4 PM – 11:59 PM

(Further information: South Florida Water Management District – www.sfwmd.gov or 800-432-2045)

Portable Generator Safety

To prevent the loss of life and property resulting from improper use of portable generators, the EMR-ISAC provides the following tips from the USFA “Portable Generator Hazards” ([PDF, 159 Kb](#)) factsheet:

To Avoid Monoxide Hazards:

- Use generators outdoors and away from windows, doors, and vents.
- Follow manufacturer’s instructions.
- Install carbon monoxide (CO) alarms indoors.

To Avoid Electrical Hazards:

- Keep the generator dry by operating on a dry surface under an open, canopy-like structure.
- Touch the generator only with dry hands.
- Plug appliances directly into generator or use a heavy-duty outdoor-rated extension cord.
- Connect generator to building wiring only by a qualified electrician or utility company.

- Prevent plugging a generator into a wall outlet, which may cause an electrocution risk to utility workers and others.

To Avoid Fire Hazards:

- Turn off generator and let it cool before refueling.
- Store fuel outside of main area in a properly labeled and non-glass container.
- Store fuel away from any fuel-burning appliance.

Before the next storm, check the manufacturer’s instructions and ensure the generator works properly. The USFA maintains that following these simple tips can increase survival rates dramatically.

Source: EMR ISAC INFOGRAM 33-09

Volunteer Opportunities

Sand Sifters Beach Cleanup: National Public Lands Day

What: Join the Sand Sifters for beach cleanup.



When: First Saturday of every month. Next cleanup: September 5th

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

Recipe: Beautiful Butterfly Cake

Source: kraftfoods.com

Ingredients

1pkg (2-layer size) yellow cake mix

1/3cup raspberry jam

12 OREO cookies

1 tub of COOL WHIP (8oz), thawed, divided

Food coloring

1cup fruit-flavored sweetened rice cereal

Decorations: assorted ring-shaped hard candies and mino-OREO cookies



Directions

Prepare cake batter and bake in two 9-inch round baking pans as directed on package. Cool 10 mins; remove wire racks. Cool completely.

Cut cakes crosswise in half. Spread two of the cake halves with jam; top with remaining two cake halves to form two stacks. To assemble, arrange cookies in center of large board or tray with edges slightly overlapping to form the butterfly's body, securing cookies to each other with with small amount of the whipped topping. Arrange cake stacks around body to resemble the butterfly's wings.

Tint remaining whipped topping with food coloring as desired. Spread onto cakes. Decorate with whipped topping, cereal, candies, and cookies. Store in refrigerator. Serves 16 slices.