September 2022 Volume 15, Issue 9

Ocean Ridge Tidings

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





Please join us in welcoming our new Town Clerk, Kelly Avery as well our Interim Town Manager, Lynne Ladner to the Town of Ocean Ridge!







Porter Street Crossover Closing

Public Works will be working with our contractor to re-furbish the

Porter Street Beach crossover beginning October 3, 2022. The crossover will be closed for approximately 8 weeks while the work is being completed.







Town Hall News



Governor Ron DeSantis Announces SunPass Savings. Click <u>here</u> to view more!

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITY

The Building Department

will soon have an online system to submit documents electronically. This system will be located in the Town Hall Lobby. We are currently looking for a few volunteers to assist applicants when our system is in place. Stay tuned for any updates! For any questions, please call Town Hall, 561-732-2635 and dial ext. 49 to reach the Building Official.

Town Commission Budget Meeting Calendar

<u>Tuesday, Sept. 6:</u> 1st Budget Public Hearing & Regular Meeting @ 6pm

Monday, Sept. 19: Special Meeting – Final Public Hearing & Adoption of Budget @ 6pm

All meetings to be held in the Commission Chambers at Town Hall



In the month of August, we celebrated the employee anniversary of Dispatcher Courtney Hammond, who has served the Town for 8 years. We thank her for her service and dedication to the Town of Ocean Ridge!

OCEAN RIDGE FLORIDA TOWN HALL, 1962

Small building with signs declaring it as the town hall, police station at 802 E. Ocean Avenue. Published in the Boynton Beach Star, 28 June 1962, with the caption: "Smallest town hall in the state."





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

For Volunteer Opportunities in the Town of Ocean Ridge, please click here.

General Information

6450 N. Ocean Blvd., Ocean Ridge, FL 33435 www.oceanridgeflorida.com @OceanRidgeFL - Twitter

@OceanRidgeFL - Twitter OceanRidgeFL—Facebook

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 Administrative Officials

Interim Town Manager

Lynne Ladner

lladner@oceanridgeflorida.com

Town Clerk

Kelly Avery

kavery@oceanridgeflorida.com

Police Chief

Richard Jones

Rjones@oceanridgeflorida.com

Building Official

Durrani Guy

dguy@oceánridgeflorida.com

Town Commission

<u>Mayor</u>

Susan Hurlburt shurlburt@oceanridgeflorida.com

Vice Mayor

Kristine de Haseth kdehaseth@oceanridgeflorida.com

Commissioners

Steve Coz

scoz@oceanridgeflorida.com

Geoff Pugh

gpugh@oceanridgeflorida.com

Martin Wiescholek mwiescholek@oceanridgeflorida.com

Numbers to Know				
EMERGENCY Delice Fire Archidence	044			
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			
<u>OTHERS</u>				
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				
Palm Beach County Property Appraiser	561-355-3230			
Palm Beach County Tax Collector	561-355-2264			
Palm Beach County White Fly	561-276-1260			
Waste Pro USA (trash collection)	561-688-8912			
So. FL Water Management	561-686-8800			
Solid Waste Authority	561-640-4000			
Supervisor of Elections	561-656-6200			
Tides	561-742-6776			
CLID AND SAVEL				
CLIP AND SAVE!				

Calendar of Events

September

- 2 & 3: OneBlood—blood drive at Town Hall. 2nd; from 9:00am—3:00pm; 3rd; 10:00am—4:00pm
- 5: Town Hall closed in observance of Labor Day
- 6: Regular Town Commission Meeting & 1st Budget Public Hearing combined begins at 6pm in the Commission Chambers.
- 19: Planning and Zoning Commission meeting begins at 8am in the Commission Chambers
- 19: Special Meeting Final Public Hearing & Adoption of Budget begins at 6pm in the Commission Chambers
- 21: The Board of Adjustment hearing will begin at 9am in the Commission Chambers

October

- 3: Building Official Forum begins at 5pm in Commission Chambers.
- 3: Regular Town Commission Meeting begins at 6pm in the Commission Chambers.
- 10: Town Hall closed in observance of Columbus Day
- 17: Planning and Zoning Commission meeting begins at 8am in the Commission Chambers

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 Special Magistrate holds hearing on demand on the first Tuesday of the month at 10:00am. Board of Adjustment meets on demand on the third Wednesday of the month at 9:00am and the Planning & Zoning Commission meets on demand on the third Monday of the month at 8:00am. 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 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 - August Commission Meeting

Mayor, Commissioners & Residents of Ocean Ridge:

The Town received its second half of ARPA grant funds in the amount of \$489,835.



Florida Public Utilities has petitioned for a permanent rate increase as well as an interim increase in rates to generate revenue for its natural gas service. The Commission will utilize a test year in 2023 for purposes of setting rates for FPUC. The stated reasons for the rate increase are capital investments to expand service to new customers and underserved areas of the state; technology investments to upgrade reliability of the network and address cybersecurity measures; enhancing safety; and addressing inflation. The PSC will conduct customer service hearings virtually and in-person in August and September to receive comments from customers regarding the Company's quality of service and request for rate increase. If anyone would like to testify before the Public Service Commission, they must sign up in advance. Additional information is available at Town Hall.

As I depart Ocean Ridge, I want to thank the Town Commission and residents for the opportunity to serve as your Town Manager. It has been my pleasure to serve you all over the last six years. I also want to thank the employees for their continued dedication to the Town and remind residents that the employees are your greatest assets. The Town is very fortunate to employ such incredible professionals. I will miss you all!

"Governing is not about finding right answers. It is more accurately described as forging alliances and compromises among advocates of different, of ten times, conflicting, values with the goal of getting things done and building and maintaining a sense of community." ~ John Nalbandian

Respectfully,

Tracey L. Stevens

Town Manager & Finance Director



Mayor's Report - August Commission Meeting

-Message from the Mayor -



Greetings Neighbors,

The September 6th Commission Meeting included the Presentation and Adoption of the Tentative Budget & Proposed Millage Rate for Fiscal Year 2022/23. The rate to be levied is 5.5000. The final hearing on said Budget will be held on Monday, September 19,2022 at 6PM in Chambers. Please consider joining us.

The Commission also discussed building material for new signage along Old Ocean Blvd and future signage throughout the Town. The consensus was to utilize a hybrid meld of wood structure with metal insert. This hybrid would allow us to keep the character of the wooden frame, along with a more durable and visible message, printed on metal. Thank you to Public Works Supervisor, Billy Armstrong, and Chief Jones for all their work on this project.

Although posted on the website, please note that the Porter Street Crossover refurbishment is now delayed until October.

In the month of August, we celebrated the employee anniversary of Dispatcher Courtney Hammond who has served the Town for 8 years. We thank her for her service and dedication to the Town of Ocean Ridge!

Our interim Town Manager, Lynne Ladner, as well as our new Town Clerk, Kelly Avery, were formerly introduced at the Meeting. And, thank you to those who contributed and attended our reception after the last Commission meeting to bid Tracey Stevens a fond farewell. It was wonderful to have this group of old and new residents stay in Chambers to welcome our new additions to staff, as well as wish Mrs. Stevens the very best of luck in her new endeavor.

Susan Hurlburt Mayor

Regular Town Commission Meeting Summary

Town of Ocean Ridge, Florida Office of the Town Clerk Regular Commission Meeting Summary September 6, 2022

The following is a list of actions taken at the September 6, 2022, Regular Town Commission Meeting. We hope this helps keep our residents informed in a timely fashion regarding Town Commission and Staff activities.

1. Presentations & Proclamations:

 a. Town Manager Stevens introduced Town Clerk Kelly Avery and Interim Town Manager Lynne Ladner.

2. Announcements:

- a. All were asked to join us for refreshments after the meeting as we bid farewell to Town Manager Tracey Stevens.
- b. The meeting schedule for the next month is as follows: Regular Town Commission Meeting Monday, October 3rd at 6:00 PM; Planning & Zoning Commission Meeting Monday, September 19th at 8:00 AM; Board of Adjustment Meeting Wednesday, September 21st at 9:00 AM; and Code Enforcement Special Magistrate Hearings Tuesday, October 4th at 10:00 a.m. All meetings are held in the Commission Chambers at Town Hall.
- c. Please join us on Monday, October 3rd at 5:00 p.m. in the Commission Chambers for a presentation by our Building Official on "Navigating the Permit Process".
- d. Refurbishment of the Porter Street Beach crossover that was originally scheduled for September 12th has been delayed due to contractor scheduling conflicts and will now start on October 3rd. The crossover will be closed for approximately 8 weeks while the work is being completed.
- e. The Annual Municipal Election will be held on March 14, 2023. There are two Town Commission seats open for a three-year term. Candidate filing dates run from November 7, 2022 at Noon through November 18, 2022 at Noon in the Town Clerk's Office. / La Elección Municipal Anual se llevará a cabo el 14 de marzo de 2023. Hay dos puestos de la Comisión Municipal abiertos por un período de tres años. Las fechas de presentación de candidatos se extienden desde el 7 de noviembre de 2022 al mediodía hasta el 18 de noviembre de 2022 al mediodía en la Oficina del Secretario municipal.
- f. Town Hall will be closed on Monday, October 10th in observance of Columbus Day.
- g. Residents who wish to sign up to receive important Town notifications and news through Civic Ready should sign up on the Town's website or call Town Hall for assistance.

3. Approved the Consent Agenda including:

- 1. a. Acceptance of the Revenue & Expenditure Reports for July 2022
 - **b.** Sign Engagement Letters for the FY22 Annal Financial Statement Audit with Nowlen, Holt & Miner, PA
- Adoption of the Minutes of the July 5, 2022, Special Meeting, the July 5, 2022, Regular Meeting, and the August 25, 2022, Special Meeting

Regular Town Commission Meeting Summary—Page 2

(Continued from previous page)

- **3.** Approval of Updated Job Descriptions for the Deputy Town Clerk and Administrative Assistant
- **4.** Approval of a Memorandum of Understanding Between the Town and the Palm Beach County Police Benevolent Association in Reference to Off-Duty Detail Pay
- **5.** Approval of the budgeted expenditure in the amount of \$12,025 to Kilbourne & Sons Asphalt for the installation of the Crown Colony Crosswalk
- **6.** Approval of the payment of \$351 per week to Cayco Landscaping for the Removal of Garbage Along Old Ocean Blvd and the Natural Area Until a Part-Time Maintenance Employee is Hired
- **7.** Approval of the Allocation of FY22 Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grant funding to Palm Beach County in the amount of \$304,703
- **8.** Approval of the payment in the amount of \$25,754.45 to MCCI for Laserfiche Records Management Software
- Approval of the General Liability and Workers' Comp Insurance Renewals with PGIT for FY23
- **10.** Approval of Mileage Reimbursement to Daniel Kleman of the Senior Advisor Program in Reference to the Town Manager Search
- 4. Presented the Tentative Budget for FY23 and Held a Public Hearing.
- 5. Announced the Town of Ocean Ridge Computed Millage Rate is Higher Than the Rolled Back Rate of 4.7698 by 15.31%. The millage to be levied is 5.5000.
- 6. Adopted Resolution 2022-11: Adoption of Tentative Millage Rate for Fiscal Year 2022/2023.
- 7. Adopted Resolution 2022-12: Adoption of Tentative Budget for Fiscal Year 2022/2023.
- 8. Announced the second/final hearing on the FY 2022/2023 Budget will be held at 6:00 p.m. on Monday, September 19, 2022.
- Chief Jones presented an update on the signage for the Old Ocean Boulevard Corridor, including Fayette Drive and side streets intersecting Old Ocean Boulevard. The Commission approved the wood sign with the metal sign inlay.
- 10. Chief Jones discussed the need for replacing the generator for Town Hall at a lower cost than previously agreed upon. The Commission approved the ordering and down payment of 70% for the proposed generator from the contingency fund of our current budget.

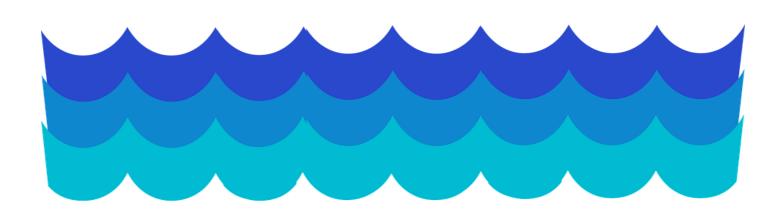


Regular Town Commission Meeting Summary—Page 3

(Continued from previous page)

- 11. Town Manager Stevens presented the monthly Town Manager's Report. Important information in the Town Manager's Report may be found on the Town's website by <u>clicking here</u>.
- 12. The following additional Staff & Committee Reports were presented: Planning & Zoning, Engineering, Police Department and Building Department.
- 13. Mayor Hurlburt presented Town Manager Stevens with a farewell gift and thanked her for her service to the Town of Ocean Ridge.
- 14. Vice Mayor de Haseth asked for an update on the Crown Colony Crossover costs to date to which Town Manager Stevens provided.

THE SECOND/FINAL HEARING ON THE FY 2022/2023 BUDGET WILL BE HELD AT 6:00 PM ON MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 19, 2022 AT TOWN HALL. THE NEXT REGULAR TOWN COMMISSION MEETING WILL BE HELD ON MONDAY, OCTOBER 3, 2022 AT 6:00 P.M. AT TOWN HALL.



Ocean Ridge Garden Club News



Next Page

ORGC's Wekiva Youth Camp Scholars return home with smiles and memories to last a lifetime!!

The Ocean Ridge Garden Club is pleased to announce that we awarded scholarships to

six girls and three boys to spend a week at Florida Federation of Garden Club's Camp Wekiva. On the way home, we asked these children about some of their favorite things and here is a sampling of what they said: "Seeing a deer... skit night... morning walks... tacos in a bag... the food was good and it was cooked there... s'mores... swimming... scavenger hunt... looking for wolf spiders" and... "going to camp"! They all had an unforgettable experience enjoying nature, crafts, and the beauty of the natural world in a magical, pristine setting. When we asked if they would like to go back again next summer, they all answered with an emphatic "YES"! How did we manage to send so many children to the camp? At our 2021 December Holiday party, Ocean Ridge Garden Club members challenged each other to donate to the newly instituted Ann Cody Wekiva Youth Camp Scholarships, named in honor of a beloved member who was a champion of the camp during her tenure at ORGC. We were thrilled to collect enough money to support such a large group of young people so they could learn about the environment and grow through experiences in nature. But we didn't stop there. From past experience, we realized that this would be a first-time overnight stay away from home for many if not all of the campers. ORGC members stepped up to serve as a mentor for each camper and their parents to build trust. We invited the children and their parents to an award ceremony and began an orientation process to build their confidence and allow their children to go across the state to the camp. In addition to raising the money to cover the camp fees, members solicited donations of camp supplies and clothing, which many of the recipients would otherwise have struggled to obtain. We also were aware that some past recipients had not been able to go to camp because the families did not have reliable transportation for the trip. So this time our members stepped up and provided transportation to and from the camp. Thanks to Britt Flanagan, the Scholarship Committee and all our members who so generously donated to accomplish this goal. We look forward to continuing this program in the years to

come!

Ocean Ridge Garden Club News

(Continued from previous page)













Ocean Ridge Garden Club News

(Continued from previous page)



Ocean Ridge Garden Club Tree Planting

In May, the Ocean Ridge Garden Club in partnership with the Town of Ocean Ridge planted a beautiful Jatropha tree on the Town's site island on Sabal Island. This event was in celebration of Arbor Day. The tree an initial planting to kick off the Garden Club's participation in Tree City USA, a designation sponsored by the Arbor Day Foundation. The purpose is to maintain and grow tree canopies as a commitment to our environment. Ocean Ridge will join the 3,600 + communities from all 50 states that take part in this environmental program. The Mayor, Vice Mayor, and 10 other members of the Garden Club and neighborhood took part in the planting ceremony.





L-R: Susan Lissner, Deidre Neil, MaryAnn Emmanual, Cynthia Archibald, Susan Hurlburt, MaryAnn Cody, Kristine deHaseth, Anita & Bruce Hinden, Mayor Susan Hurlburt with Montenegro Bros

Ocean Ridge Police Department News By Richard Jones, Chief of Police



HONOR COMMITMENT INTEGRITY **PROFESSIONALISM** LOYALTY

ORPD Vision Statement:

The Ocean Ridge Police Department will exemplify leadership in police innovation, professionalism and customer service. Enhancing the quality of life for our citizens and adherence to the belief that all citizens deserve to be treated with dignity and respect, which guides the operation of our agency.





Next Page

Police Activity:

Here is a listing of significant crime/code enforcement/suspicious activity reported to ORPD in August 2022 for both Ocean Ridge and Briny Breezes:

Type of Incident	Report	<u>Time Frame</u>	Location	Synopsis
	<u>Date</u>			
Battery	08/01/2022	08/01/2022 @	5000 Blk N	Neighbor trouble resulting in
		7:50 am	Ocean Blvd	Criminal Battery
Fleeing & Eluding	08/06/2022	08/06/2022 @	6400 Blk N	Proactive arrest resulting from a
		9:49 am	Ocean Blvd	traffic stop on stolen vehicle
Drug Law Violation	08/08/2022	08/08/2022 @	Ocean Avenue	Proactive arrest resulting from a
		7:45 pm		traffic stop
Death Investigation	08/12/2022	08/12/2022 @	Ocean Avenue	Criminal Investigation Pending
		7:09 pm		
Fraud	08/16/2022	08/16/2022 @	6500 Blk N	Paypal Fraud through computer
		9:23 pm	Ocean Blvd	takeover
Habitual Traffic	08/24/2022	08/24/2022 @	6400 Blk N	Proactive arrest resulting from a
Offender/Felony		9:45 am	<u>Ocean Blvd</u>	traffic stop
Drug Law Violation	08/24/2022	08/24/2022 @	6400 Blk N	Proactive arrest resulting from a
		4:30 pm	<u>Ocean Blvd</u>	traffic stop
Drug Law Violation	08/30/2022	08/30/2022 @	6400 Blk N	Proactive arrest resulting from a
		4:21 pm	Ocean Blvd	traffic stop
Burglary Convey-	08/31/2022	08/31/2022 @	Midlane Area	Multiple unlocked vehicles bur-
ance (Vehicle)		3:30am		glarized; suspect identified

In addition to the above listed activity and regular patrols of the beaches and roadways; officers conducted traffic enforcement activities and completed numerous code enforcement investigations.

Please note: The above listed activity is just a snapshot and not a total accounting of the activity officers of your police department engage in on a monthly basis. This snapshot is to help raise awareness and prevent crime through information sharing and proactive involvement with security, such as locking vehicle doors and closing garage doors when away from these areas.

Ocean Ridge Police Department News By Richard Jones, Chief of Police

(Continued from previous page)



MESSAGES AND REMINDERS FROM YOUR POLICE DEPARTMENT From Richard Jones, Chief of Police:

KEY FOB SECURITY

North Miami Police have recently reported several isolated incidents involving vehicle burglaries and vehicle thefts using new technology, known as a Key Fob Scanner. This new criminal device is used to scan signals from nearby Key Fobs and is then able to replicate the Key Fob signal. Once the signal is replicated, the vehicle can be unlocked and, in some cases, the vehicle's ignition can even be started.

We have not seen this type of technology used in our area as of this date, but the trends normally start to work north into our area. We ask residents to keep their Key Fobs inside their home and away from windows to prevent these types of criminal behavior from taking place in Ocean Ridge.

SAFETY TIPS FROM THE ACE TEAM

Safety Tips from ACE Team

The ACE Team and all Police Department members take your safety very serious. We conduct traffic stops throughout the Town to send a message to criminals that our Police Department and residents fight against crime.



- Always look inside your vehicle before entering it.
- Lock all doors immediately after entering your vehicle.
- If a stranger approaches you while you are in the vehicle, do not roll down your windows.
- If you need to attract attention, use your horn.
- Don't leave anything of value inside your vehicle.
- ALWAYS LOCK YOUR DOORS AND TAKE YOUR KEYS WHEN PARKED AT HOME.
- AS ALWAYS PLEASE STAY SAFE!!!



Ocean Ridge Police Department News By Richard Jones, Chief of Police

(Continued from previous page)



SIGNAL JAMMERS AND SECURITY SYSTEMS

Our agency has also read some recent articles relating to crime trends that involve the use of signal jammers. Signal jammers have been around for many years and are commonly used to maintain security in specific areas of Airports and Correctional Facilities by jamming cell phone and other radio-based signals.

Now this same type of technology is being used to block cellular signals, Wi-Fi signals, and other radio-based signals that are commonly used by security components. Once these types of signals are blocked, the security device is unable to communicate with the internet, preventing video from being stored and alerts from being sent or received.

There are pros and cons to using wireless surveillance components. We are not suggesting or recommending wired systems over wireless systems, but rather making you aware of the newest crime trends.

CRIME PREVENTION & SAFETY SEMINAR

Officer Nubia Savino is now working on a Crime Prevention Seminar that will be held at Town Hall for residents of Ocean Ridge. The theory behind this seminar is to offer education, tips, and ideas on how to keep you and your family safe and secure. We will have a select number of vendors present to offer new technology that integrates with the police department so that we can all work together to achieve crime prevention. Additionally, other public safety organizations, including Fire Rescue will be present also to discuss safety related programs and equipment

We are working towards establishing a date in November or December, dependent upon expressed interest from the community. We will keep you updated as we progress with these efforts.

CRIMINAL ACTIVITY AND YOUR ASSISTANCE

Please lock your cars and take the keys inside. Please do not leave valuables in your car when not necessary and you are not in the car.

LEAVE IT, LOCK IT, KEEP IT!

As always, I and every member of your Police Department welcome you to call or stop in anytime and visit with us. Bring your four-legged friend with you so we can share a treat with them.

As always, "See Something-Say Something"
Report all suspicious behavior to the Police Department at 561-732-8331 or 911