



Surfside Town Gazette

December 2008

Season's Greetings to All!



Mayor's View

*Dear Friends
and Neighbors,*

Now with the election and one subsequent Commission meeting behind us, I would like to spend some time with you so we can assess where we are.

ELECTING COMMISSIONERS

I think that most residents wanted the best opportunity to elect caring and intelligent leaders. I'm hopeful that the passing of this initiative and the associated initiative regarding the election of the Vice-Mayor will provide us with the greatest opportunity to elect the best leaders for our Town.

SWITCHING TO THE MIAMI BEACH FIRE DEPARTMENT

Clearly this one was close, but we got it done! Congratulations are in order for all Surfsiders who endured this very arduous and purposely confused issue. In the end, this matter wasn't so much about using Miami Beach as our Fire Department as it was about our having a choice. This choice was simple – Use Metro Dade forever more and pay what they demanded or a) Use Miami Beach's fire department, b) Start our own fire department, c) Partner up with Indian Creek and put together a rescue team for our residents and use Miami Beach for fire services, d) Contract with some other municipality for service or e) any other combination of other choices and options!

Regardless of the outcome, we surely can always opt back into the Metro Dade Fire District at its very high price, but isn't it nice to be able to potentially obtain a great service and provide a huge tax savings to our residents? The tax savings may fund all our wish-list items including the Community Center and may even decrease our too high property taxes to boot! Our options are many now and the potential rewards are exciting. The voters have given the green light to go negotiate, and negotiate we will.

(On the Community Center)

“Passions have been very high, tempers have been lost, money has been wasted and confusion has been compounded on this subject, but I am now further reassured that we need a reasonable, manageable and affordable plan for going forward.”

THE COMMUNITY CENTER

This is the toughest one. Passions have been very high, tempers have been lost, money has been wasted and confusion has been compounded on this subject, but I am now further reassured that we need a reasonable, manageable and affordable plan for going forward.

I would propose the following seven steps given that the Manager told us at our last Commission meeting that we have \$6.7 million in unrestricted funds available.

- 1) The Town immediately cuts expenses and increases efficiencies (reduces its budget) by 7.5% and saves approximately \$750K per year.
- 2) We build the pool as planned and reduce the building size so the project comes in at no more than \$5M. Given that the project's cost downsizing requires us to forego the LEED certification which

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A Citizen's Advisory



EXPRESS TOLL LANES & BUS RAPID TRANSIT BEGINS

The Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT) is about to launch a new program in South Florida called **95 EXPRESS**. It is an innovative congestion-relief project that will introduce express lanes and bus rapid transit from I-395 in downtown Miami to Broward Boulevard in Fort Lauderdale. Funded in part by a federal Urban Partnership Agreement award of \$62.9 million to the Miami area, this is a multi-phased project:

- **Phase 1A**, northbound between SR 112 and the Golden Glades Interchange will begin soon.
- **Phase 1B**, southbound from Golden Glades to I-395 and northbound to SR 112, is expected to be completed by late 2009.
- **Phase 2**, north and southbound between the Golden Glades and I-595, is expected to open sometime in 2011, subject to bonding authority.

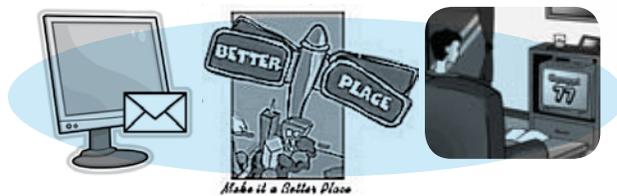
95 Express will operate as High Occupancy Toll /Bus Rapid Transit separated from regular traffic lanes, that drivers can choose to use when their time is more valuable than the toll they might pay. Tolls will fluctuate, the goal being to keep traffic moving at approximately 50 miles per hour or better. Registered vanpools, registered carpools of three or more riders, registered hybrids vehicles, motorcycles and emergency vehicles can use the lanes without paying a toll, as can Miami-Dade and Broward County Transit buses.

Travel time will be reduced by nearly half for users of the 95 Express buses and the frequency of bus service will be increased, in effect putting twice as many buses on the road. 95 Express will benefit the environment by encouraging the use of vanpools and carpools and by reducing congestion. For those drivers who can't take advantage of a ride-sharing program, the express lanes will offer a choice of paying a toll and riding at approximately 50 miles per hour.

To register a vanpool, 3+ carpool or hybrid vehicle or to obtain more information, please visit:

www.95Express.com

TECHNOLOGY REMINDERS FOR RESIDENTS



The Town provides the "BetterPlace" communication tool that gives residents the opportunity to express their viewpoints and enter service requests, **anonymously** if they so choose, to their Town officials and the administrative departments. Easy to follow instructions within the program make it simple to enter and track issues until resolution. "BetterPlace" can be accessed from the Town's Website (www.townofsurfsidefl.gov) 24-7. Look for the BetterPlace logo on the home page.

The Town Commission encourages residents to communicate with them via email. Their addresses are listed on the back page of this issue. Residents can watch live Commission meetings from the comfort of their homes on channel 77. **They can also email their comments or questions to the Mayor, while the meeting is in progress.**

A TASTE OF SURFSIDE CELEBRATE LIKE MADD THIS HOLIDAY SEASON!

Join your friends and neighbors. Sample delicious food and spirits from our fine area restaurants.

The Surfside & Bal Harbour Police Departments will conduct "under the influence" checks. These will not lead to arrest, but will help you learn about the effects of alcohol on the body:

- Have fun taking roadside sobriety tests
- Have your blood alcohol level measured



To ensure your safe travel, buses from Surfside & the Village of Bal Harbour will transport you to & from the event. MADD (Mothers Against Drunk Driving) will offer safe party tips and non-alcoholic mocktail recipes.

Participants may arrive on foot, or via the supplied transportation. Anyone arriving by car must have a designated driver, with a valid driver's license, accompany them. Participants must show proof of legal drinking age.

**Date, Time, Location & Cost:
To Be Announced in December**
** For further information, please check:
www.townofsurfsidefl.gov or call
MADD: 305.273.3744**

November 4th Official Election Results: **BALLOT INITIATIVES**

1. WITHDRAWAL FROM THE MIAMI-DADE FIRE RESCUE DISTRICT

Shall the Town of Surfside opt out of the Miami-Dade Fire Rescue District and re-establish its own Fire Department by contracting with the City of Miami Beach which will provide the fire and rescue services?

YES 1,031 votes NO 1,002 votes

2. PRESIDING OFFICERS

The Town Charter currently provides for the Mayor and Commission to be elected from groups. It is proposed that except for the Mayor, who shall continue to run from a separate group, the candidate receiving the highest number of votes shall become Vice-Mayor and that the remaining three highest vote getters become Commissioners. Shall the above-described amendment be adopted?

YES 1,340 votes NO 760 votes

3. GENERAL AND SPECIAL ELECTIONS OF COMMISSION MEMBERS

It is being proposed that if the Town elects its Commission from those who receive the highest number of votes and in the event of a tie between two or more commissioners for the fifth commission seat, a runoff election will be held on the first Tuesday in April following the regular March election. Shall the above-described amendment be adopted?

YES 1,540 votes NO 559 votes

4. COMMUNITY CENTER COMPLEX

Shall the Town of Surfside, Florida issue bonds to finance or refinance the construction of a new community center complex, in one or more series not exceeding in the aggregate \$16,500,000, bearing interest rates not exceeding the maximum legal rate, maturing not to exceed 30 years from issuance of each series, pledging the Town's full faith and credit and ad valorem tax revenues?

YES 1,011 votes NO 1,204 votes

Mayor's View

(Continued from front page)

would have kept annual cooling and operating costs significantly lower, we reposition the building to the southern portion of the lot which is permanently in the shade from the shadow of the 12-story building to the south.

This perma-shade location keeps the significantly all glass building much cooler, provides panoramic views to the east, north and west and keeps operating costs way down. By relocating the building into the southern perma-shaded area of the lot, the benefits for the pool deck are unrestricted flows of Ocean breezes, unobstructed views including sunrises and sunsets to the east and west, and more sunshine on the pool deck until much later in the afternoons. The final bonus for the relocation of the building is that we would not be contributing to the wall of mostly 12-story buildings all up and down Collins Avenue that block Surfside's amazing Ocean breezes and views that all should be able to enjoy!

3) We set aside an additional \$1M for unforeseen contingencies. This should not have to be utilized, but

I believe it is a responsible step to insure a "stop free" project once it begins.

4) We, at least temporarily, have to set aside all other proposed projects in order to fund, start and finish the Community Center. This includes the idea of some Commissioners to buy a waterfront home and lot on Bay Drive and 95th Street with approximately \$1.7M of our savings to expand the park. Hopefully, with the future revenue savings possible from the "fire switch" many of our wish-list items can be quickly revisited.

5) The Center is built over the next year and a half during which about \$1M is accumulated as a result of our cost cuts and added to the \$1.7M remaining in our savings account.

6) This gives the Town a reasonable safety cushion of \$2.7M for unforeseen emergencies.

7) The Center opens, residents' taxes are not raised and there is no need for a bond issue.

Certainly, this is just my recommendation for proceeding.

There are others, but less realistic in my opinion. I'm hopeful that our other elected officials recognize that our residents want their pool back and I'm convinced there's not much debate about that.

With respect to the building, we need to provide what we can afford and that's probably the bathrooms, lockers, gym, and café located on the first floor, along with a large, high ceiling, all windowed, hardwood floored, multipurpose second floor. The second floor can be used for parties, banquets, community meetings, voting, daily adult and children's programs, and whatever else you can do with 7K to 10K square feet of wide opened, air-conditioned, floor to ceiling windowed space, that has incredible views!

Please let me hear from you as I've said all along; it keeps me grounded and on the right track. I would also ask that you please call, write or email the other elected officials and give them your thoughts too!

*All the best,
Charlie*

COMMISSIONER'S CORNER



Commissioner
Elizabeth Calderon

"Only Thing We Have to Fear Is Fear Itself":

FDR's 1st Inaugural Address

It would do well for residents of Surfside to remember President Franklin D. Roosevelt's caution about fear because it appears that many residents believed the fear mongering that took place in Surfside prior to the ballot referendum for the community center bond. There was plenty of fear to go around during those weeks, fears, rumors, and misinformation sent to residents by unsigned faxes, unsigned notes tucked under your door, meetings with other residents who helped to spread rumors and fear. Meetings with the Mayor who unfortunately helped spread the fear. The fear felt by many doomed the community center.

The facts are available to every resident in Surfside. Any Surfside resident may

speak directly to your elected officials or to the Town Manager and ask whatever question you need answered.

There are a group of residents in Surfside who search for issues to stir up the community against the elected officials on any issue or non issue they can create. They have a political agenda, not a Surfside agenda. Unfortunately, the Mayor appears to have a political agenda that may not be in the best interests of Surfside.

Some residents mistakenly believed that if they voted against the community center it would force the commissioners to fund a community center using surplus town funds. The fact is that surplus town funds are spread into dedicated enterprise funds and cannot be used for anything except what they are dedicated to (which is a good thing). The General Fund has very little surplus in it except for the money required for a disaster. The Town Attorney has informed us that the only way to fund a community center is with another bond referendum. She also clarified

another point of misinformation: with a bond, each homeowner is assessed based upon the taxable value (minus homestead and other exemptions), and that assessments cannot be equal for everyone because Surfside homes are not of equal value.

The community center has been discussed in Surfside at public meetings for at least three years. Many of you have attended these meetings. Experts have spoken at length at these meetings. For those who chose not to attend, complained about lack of communication and then criticized commission decisions, I urge you to participate and become knowledgeable about the facts.

Surfside needs a Community Center for now and for our future. As the Mayor stated, "we are an oceanfront community" but we need more than "a great pool, a great gym, a great locker room and a snack shack". I look forward to working with my fellow commissioners to make that happen.

SURFSIDE COMMISSION HIGHLIGHTS

At the Commission meeting held on November 10, 2008 the following Ordinances were passed and adopted:

1. An Ordinance of the Town Commission of the Town of Surfside, Florida, amending the "Table of Uses" in Section 90.41.3 to create a new zoning district entitled "Community Facilities" (CF); amending various sections of the Code of Ordinances including but not limited to Section 90.43 entitled "Maximum Building Heights," Section 90.45.1 entitled "Required Setbacks-Tables"; Section 90.48.1 concerning modification of side and rear yard regulations, Section 90.49 entitled "Lot Standards"; to provide for regulations and performance standards for uses in the CF zoning district; providing for adoption; providing for severability; providing for repeal of conflicts; providing for inclusion in the Code of Ordinances; and providing for an effective date. **VOTE: UNANIMOUS**

2. An Ordinance of the Town Commission of the Town of Surfside, Florida, amending its official Zoning Map to re-zone the property for the Town of Surfside's proposed community center complex located on 1) property located at 9301 Collins Avenue, Surfside, Florida, legally described as lot 1, block 1 of "Surfside Center," according to the plat thereof, as recorded in plat book 70, page 31, together with lot A, lying at the foot of 93rd Street, formerly known as Rose Street, facing on the Atlantic ocean as shown on "Altos Del Mar No. 5," according to the plat thereof in plat book 8, page 92, all of the public records of Miami-Dade County, Florida, from Public Recreational to Community Facilities; and 2) property located at 9281 Collins Avenue, Surfside, Florida, legally described as lot 11, block 1 "Altos Del Mar No. 5," according to the plat thereof, as recorded in plat book 8, at page 92 of the public records of Miami-Dade County, Florida, from MU and H120 to CF, said properties both

lying in Section 35, Township 52 South, Range 42 East, Town of Surfside, Miami-Dade County, Florida, and containing a total net area of 80,326 square feet (1.844 acres, more or less); providing for adoption; providing for severability; providing for repeal of conflicts; providing for inclusion in the official Zoning Map and Code; and providing for an effective date. **VOTE: UNANIMOUS**

3. An Ordinance of the Town Commission of the Town of Surfside, Florida, amending the future Land Use Map designation for the Town of Surfside's proposed community center complex located on 1) property located at 9301 Collins Avenue, Surfside, Florida, legally described as lot 1, block 1 of "Surfside Center," according to the plat thereof, as recorded in plat book 70, page 31, together with lot A, lying at the foot of 93rd Street, formerly known as Rose Street, facing on the

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Commission Highlights

(Continued from p. 4)

Atlantic ocean as shown on "Altos Del Mar No. 5," according to the plat thereof in plat book 8, page 92, all of the public records of Miami Dade County, Florida, from Public Recreational to Community Facilities; and 2) property located at 9281 Collins Avenue, Surfside, Florida, legally described as lot 11, block 1 "Altos Del Mar No. 5," according to the plat thereof, as recorded in plat book 8, at page 92 of the public records of Miami-Dade County, Florida, from High Density Residential to Community Facilities, said properties both lying in Section 35, Township 52 South, Range 42 East, Town of Surfside, Miami-Dade County, Florida, and containing a total net area of 80,326 square feet (1.844 acres, more or less); providing for adoption; providing for severability; providing for repeal of conflicts; providing for inclusion in the Comprehensive Plan; and providing for an effective date. **VOTE: UNANIMOUS**

The following Ordinances were introduced for First Reading. Second Reading will be held on December 9, 2008:

4. An Ordinance of the Town Commission of the Town of Surfside, Florida amending Article IV "District Regulations," Section 90.41 "Regulated Uses" of the Town of Surfside Code of Ordinances to include new paragraph 23 under Section 90.41.4 "Use Tables Notes" prohibiting the sale of live animals as a retail and general commercial use; providing for severability; providing for inclusion in the Code; and providing for an effective date. **VOTE: 4-1** (Commissioner Calderon dissenting)

5. An Ordinance of the Town Commission of the Town of Surfside, Florida, adopting the annual update to the Capital Improvements Element with the Town's Comprehensive Plan in accordance with Section 163.3177 of the Florida Statutes; providing for severability, conflict, inclusion in the Comprehensive Plan and an effective date. **VOTE: UNANIMOUS**

The following Resolutions were approved:

6. A Resolution of the Town Commission of the Town of Surfside, Florida providing for the Fiscal Year 2008/2009 police confiscation fund expenditure in the amount of forty-three thousand five hundred dollars (\$43,500) to be funded by proceeds of the confiscation fund. **VOTE: UNANIMOUS**

7. A Resolution of the Town Commission of the Town of Surfside, Florida, ratifying after the fact the Town Manager's purchase for the Recreation Department of the Saturn VUE Hybrid Sports Utility Vehicle in lieu of the Ford Escape Hybrid Sport Utility Vehicle; and providing for an effective date. **VOTE: UNANIMOUS**

8. A Resolution of the Town Commission of the Town of Surfside, Florida, waiving enforcement of sign ordinance during the third Thursday events on Harding Avenue in the business district to allow for sandwich board signs and providing for an effective date. **VOTE: UNANIMOUS**

9. A Resolution of the Town Commission of the Town of Surfside, Florida, ratifying after the fact the Town Manager's purchase of marketing and consulting services from Marketing Magic, Inc.; and providing for an effective date. **VOTE: 4-1** (Mayor Burkett dissenting)

10. A Resolution of the Town Commission of the Town of Surfside, Florida certifying and declaring the results of the special election held on November 4, 2008 to vote on four municipal questions concerning withdrawal from the Miami-Dade County Fire Rescue District, Charter Amendment regarding presiding officers, Charter Amendment regarding general and special election of commission members and general obligation bonds and providing for an effective date. **VOTE: UNANIMOUS**

11. A Resolution of the Town Commission of the Town of Surfside, Florida, approving an intergovernmental agency agreement

and addendum to perform traffic engineering functions to empower the Town, among other things, to install and maintain approved traffic control devices on its municipal streets; providing for an effective date. **VOTE: UNANIMOUS**

12. A Resolution of the Town Commission of the Town of Surfside, Florida approving a grant contract and confidentiality agreement with the Florida Communities Trust ("FCT") for a grant of funds for acquisition of the Surfside Waterfront Expansion ("Project Site"). **VOTE: (3-1)** (Mayor Burkett dissenting & Commissioner Calderon: Absent).

In Other Matters...

Officer Ted Arboleda was recognized as Officer of the Month for October 2008.

Executive Director, Janet Mondshein, of Mother Against Drunk Driving (MADD) thanked the Commission and the community for participating in the recent Moonlight MADDness event. She encouraged continued support for upcoming events being planned for the community.

Resident Ricardo Mualin was acknowledged for volunteering to provide assistance with grant writing for the Town.

The Commission approved the minutes of the first Budget Hearing of September 9, 2008, the Regular Commission Meeting of September 9, 2008 and the Special Commission Meeting of September 16, 2008 by a unanimous vote of the Commission.

The Town Commission approved the expenditure of \$30,595 to pay for emergency repairs to the Sewer Lateral Line at 9510 Harding Avenue.

Calvin Giordano Proposal No. 08-1789 was approved. The scope of work includes traffic analysis required to develop and implement a comprehensive traffic management program and the installation of speed tables.

SURFSIDE LIBRARY

Storytime will be held on Tuesday, December 9, 2008 at 10:00 a.m. until 11:00 a.m.
The library is closed Tuesday mornings, so please knock on the door for admittance.
Storytime is open to children age 4 and under.

The Surfside Library will be **CLOSED: Dec. 25 & Dec. 27, 2008 • Jan. 1 & Jan. 3, 2009**

For your reading pleasure...

Adult Books

Fiction:

- **Divine Justice** by David Baldacci
- **Arctic Drift** by Clive Cussler
- **A Good Woman** by Danielle Steel

Non-Fiction:

- **Against Medical Advice** by James Patterson
- **Cuisine a Latina** by Michelle Bernstein
- **How Not To Die** by Jan Garavaglia

DVDs

- **Snow Days** (Children's, not rated)
- **This Christmas (PG-13)**
- **Elmo's Christmas Countdown** (Children's, not rated)
- **Shrek the Halls** (Children's, not rated)
- **Truman Capote's A Christmas Memory** (not rated)
- **It's a Wonderful Life** (not rated)
- **Chanuka & Passover at Bubbe's** (Children's, not rated)



Children's Books

Fiction:

- **Beni's First Chanukah**
by Jane Breskin Zalben (Easy Reader)
- **Olivia Helps with Christmas**
by Ian Falconer (Easy Reader)
- **Merry Christmas, Merry Crow**
by Kathi Appelt (Easy Reader)

Non-Fiction:

- **The Little Star** by Ute Blaich (Easy Reader)
- **Chanukah Lights Everywhere**
by Michael J. Rosen (Easy Reader)
- **Letter on the Wind: A Chanukah Tale**
by Sarah Marwil Lamstein (Easy Reader)

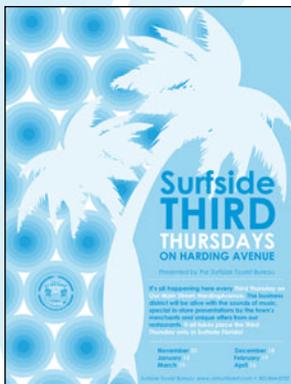
The **Tourist Bureau** presents

a special

Holiday Themed

3RD THURSDAY
on Harding Avenue

To Be Held
December 18th from
6:00 pm – 9:00 pm



The Surfside Book Club

Enjoy pot luck dinners based on the theme of the book • Meet your neighbors • Join the fun and have a few laughs • The discussion is entertaining and always lively

The Surfside Book Club welcomes all residents.
It will meet on December 16 at 7:00 p.m.

The book selection is "**A Pigeon and a Boy**"
by **Meir Shalev**. Please be sure to confirm date,
time, and place by contacting Kim at:

kimjo614@the-beach.net

Living in a Flood Hazard Area

In the November issue of the Gazette, residents were advised that the substantial improvement rule applies to all work done to an existing structure, including additions, since September 1972. The Town realizes this is extremely onerous and to the extent FEMA will agree, we are currently re-

visiting the interpretation of FEMA's definition of Substantial Improvement as it relates to the fifty-percent rule. By the time this appears in print, the Town will have made a definitive decision regarding the time frame within which improvements are to be considered cumulatively.

If you are in the process of planning improvements to your building, and the elevation of your first floor is below FEMA's Base Flood Elevation, please check with the Town Building Department prior to submitting for permit.

BUSINESS DISTRICT NEWS

THE YEAR IN REVIEW

The Business District managed to thrive despite the challenging economic times and it continued to evolve with the support of our elected officials, the Surfside Tourist Bureau and the management of the Town. Two new restaurants and a cafe have been added to the present culinary delights, offering eclectic and casual fare. From family cooking to exotic, you will find it in Town.

Long time residents and merchants were sorry to see two of Surfside's most enduring commercial institutions go. First, the proprietors of "Normans", retired. It had offered everything except water in swimwear. Then Surf Florist relocated to mid-Miami Beach. The second year success of the Surfside Art Festival which featured new vendors and new works of art, also attracted a fresh audience to the downtown district. Once again, the now famous "Parents Hunt for Art" was held in cooperation with Ruth K. Broad Bay

Harbor Elementary School. The art students and parents were awarded many prizes donated by the Business District.

Dining al-fresco remained a favorite pastime for residents & visitors. The sidewalks were given a new life with a major cleaning and overhaul that included the difficult task of removing chewing gum. The area around the Greek Place featured an ever-changing garden of plants and flowers, highlighting the improvements in the downtown landscaping.

The business district joined the residential area in a recycling program. Now that the beach walking path and hard pack area has been restored with fresh sand, the walkers and joggers are back and spilling over into the business district for refreshments. Moonlight MADDness, a program offered by Mothers Against Drunk Driving in conjunction with the Surf-Bal-Bay Police Departments and Ruth K. Broad Bay Harbor Elementary,

brought over 1,000 people to our area. The Farmers Market, presented by the Tourist Bureau, is now a reality and offers organic and fresh produce every Sunday on 95th Street and Collins Avenue.

In an effort to promote Surfside, the great shops and restaurants in the downtown district are participating in "3rd Thursdays in Surfside" a monthly evening program featuring music, special menus, networking and fun for the entire town. If you have not yet joined our 3rd Thursday gatherings, get your family members together and "experience" the Surfside Business District.

*Skip the shopping mall crush.
Save on your gas.*



The Surfside Business District is a unique mix of stores and services that offer a variety of products to satisfy all of your shopping needs.

SURFSIDE WELCOMES...



Nite Cap is a marvelous weigh station that attracts a fashionable crowd for happy hour cocktails, dinner, live music and night caps. The classically-prepared menu, blends International Eclectic dishes with a taste of the tropics.

To start, the Escargot and Capellini with Caviar are both superb. As an entrée, the chef's specialties include Herb Crusted Rack of Lamb with apple-pear-mint chutney, Chilean Sea Bass over a bed of leeks, thyme and artichoke hearts and Seafood Linguine

tossed with fresh mussels, clams, scallops and shrimp. The mixologists here prepare top-shelf martinis with a subtle but profound kick. The wine list offers an interesting collection of well-established and newly-emerging labels. **Nite Cap is located at 9555 Harding Ave.** For reservations call 305.865.6441.



"2 for 1" pizza place is located at **233 95th Street** across the street from the Post Office. Master Pizza Chef, Yaniv comes to us straight from Israel. "2 for 1 Pizzas all the time" is a family run pizzeria. All pizzas are made with the freshest ingredients, the flavor of Israel

and a touch of New York. Only Kosher ingredients are used in preparation.

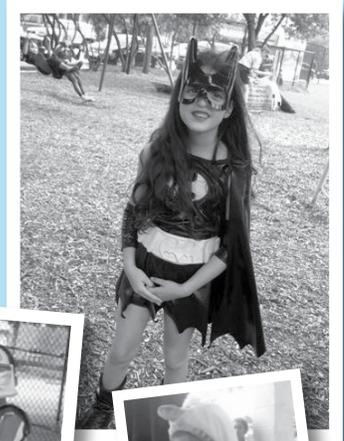
"2 for 1" Pizzeria is a mouth watering experience, and also offers Mediterranean dishes. They are open 6 days a week from 11 a.m. to Midnight and delivery is **free**. (786.245.5557)

Stop by the town's brand new "**Serendipity Yogurt Cafe**" for nonfat, frozen yogurt treats, grab-n-go breakfast items, coffee, espresso drinks and coffee chillers. Serendipity

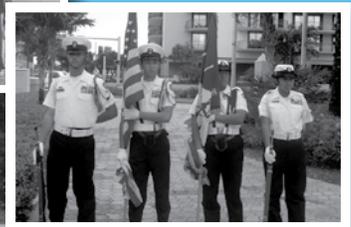


is a KOSHER yogurt cafe located at **9457 Harding Avenue**. The Café (305.865.1506) is open 7 days a week from 8:00 am to 10:00 pm.

HALLOWEEN SPOOKTACULAR



VETERAN'S DAY



PARKS & RECREATION DEPARTMENT



**THE MIAMI SHORES
AQUATIC CENTER**
(10200 Biscayne Blvd.,
305.795.2241)
will be CLOSED on
Dec. 25 & 31, 2008
and Jan. 1, 2009.



**SURFSIDE
BEACH CLUB**
(December)

Sunday - Saturday:
9:00 am - 5:00 pm

Residents & Non-
Residents Please Note:
Rental fees apply for
umbrellas & chairs

2008 Surfside Winter Camp: Dec. 22, 2008 - Fri. Jan. 2, 2009
Registration is in progress!!

SENIOR SOCIAL TIME

New- Bridge Group Forming!

Every Wednesday, from 10:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m. in the Parks and Recreation modular unit behind Town Hall, seniors are invited to drop in for free activities which include dominoes, cards, chess, Scrabble and Mah Jong. Coffee and light refreshments are served.

Yoga for Active Adults: Ages 55 & over

Residents \$24 / Non-Resident \$40 (per person = 8 classes).

Note: Please bring a yoga mat.

Wednesday **January 7 – February 25** 9:00 - 10:00 am

Senior Performing Arts Trips

Gutenberg! The Musical! • Wed., Dec. 10, 2008

Bombshells • Wed., Jan. 28, 2009

(Non-refundable) Fee Includes Transportation to Playhouse
\$15 for Residents / \$30 Non-Residents

Registration is in progress & on a first come, first serve basis
Call (305) 866-3635



Senior Trip to Hard Rock Casino

Thursday, December 18, 2008 • Time: 9:00 am-4:00 pm

Transportation Fees: Residents \$10.00 Non-Residents \$15.00

Participant vouchers: \$10 for game play & \$5 toward lunch



"It Starts In Parks" Town of Surfside Parks and Recreation Department

Family Funday

Sunday,
January 25, 2009
96th Street Park
1:00 - 4:00 pm



The Parks and Recreation Department is proud to announce the annual Family Fun Day. Come out and join us at 96th Street Park with your family for a day filled with Fun, Food, Entertainment and more. All Residents should come prepared to show either a Surfside ID or a picture ID with your Surfside Address.



- Games
- Face Painting
- Rides
- Arts & Crafts

Cost: Free of charge for Surfside Residents and their guests. Proof of residency is required. Guests must be accompanied by a town resident for admission. Hotel guests are also welcome free of charge, but must present hotel ID.

For more information:

Phone: (305) 866-3635



Website: www.townofsurfsidefl.gov



Town of Surfside
Beach 5K Run / Walk
Sunday, February 15th, 2009



Join Surfside for its 3rd Annual Beach 5K Run. The Run/Walk will take place on the beach hard pack and beach walkway.

Race Day registration and Packet pick-up will be from
6:30 am—7:15 am at the Start line behind the Best Western.
(No packet pick up after 7:15 am on Race Day)

Race Start time is 8:00 am

Start will be behind the Best Western Hotel (on the beach hard pack)
94th Street Collins Ave, Surfside Florida 33154

Course:

The course will start on the beach hard pack at 94th St and run south to 87th Terr. and turn back north for a second loop and finish at the beach hard pack at 95th St. The course will be on the hard pack sand and gravel road way and beach walk. The race will start and finish on the beach hardpack in Surfside.

Online Registration Entry Fees:

Online: \$20.00 / Race Day on site: \$25.00
Registrations online at www.multirace.com

The first 150 registrants will receive a race T-Shirt.
All participants will receive a goody bag.



Post Race:

Light food and refreshments will be served and the award ceremony will be held post race .

For more information contact the Town of Surfside Parks and Recreation Department at (305) 866-3635 or visit www.townofsurfsidefl.gov or Multirace: www.multirace.com

PARKS & RECREATION DEPARTMENT

ADULT PROGRAMS

Please bring a yoga mat to the following adult programs:

Zumba:

Resident \$40 / Non-Resident \$80
(per person = 8 classes)

Monday **January 5 - February 23** 7:00 - 8:00 pm
Tuesday **January 6 - February 24** 9:30 - 10:30 am

Pilates:

Resident \$40 / Non-Resident \$80
(per person = 8 classes)

Tuesday **January 6 - February 24** 7:00 - 8:00 pm

Yoga:

Resident \$40 / Non-Resident \$80
(per person = 8 classes)

Wednesday **January 7 - February 25** 7:00 - 8:00 pm
Thursday **January 8 - February 26** 9:30 - 10:30 am

Yogalates:

Resident \$40 / Non-Resident \$80
(per person = 8 classes)

Thursday **January 8 - February 26** 7:00 - 8:00 pm



YOUTH PROGRAMS

Registration begins: **Surfside Residents December 8th / Non-Residents December 29th**
Note: Space is Limited.



Arts and Crafts:

Residents \$48 / Non-Residents \$80
(per person = 8 classes)

Saturday **January 10 - February 28**
Ages 3 - 5 10:00 - 11:00 am
Ages 3 - 5 11:15 - 12:15 pm

Kidokinetics "Tot" Program:

Ages 2 - 4
Resident \$64 / Non-Resident \$80
(per person = 8 classes). Classes will be held at the 96th St. Park.

Tuesday **January 6 - February 24**
9:30 - 10:15 am

Kidokinetics: Ages 3 - 5

Resident \$64 / Non-Resident \$80
(per person = 8 classes). Classes will be held at the 96th St. Park.

Thursday **January 8 - February 26**
4:30 - 5:15 pm

Pre-School Ballet: Ages 3 - 5

Resident \$48 / Non-Resident \$96
(per person = 8 classes)

Monday **January 5 - February 23**
4:00 - 4:45 pm

Tuesday **January 6 - February 24**
4:00 - 4:45 pm



Ballet:

Resident \$48 / Non-Resident \$96
(per person = 8 classes)

Monday **January 5 - February 23**
Ages 5 - 7 5:00 - 5:45 pm
Tuesday **January 6 - February 24**
Ages 8 - 10 5:00 - 5:45 pm

Note: Instructor's approval required for 5 year olds wishing to participate.

Hip Hop Jazz Dance:

Residents \$48 / Non-Residents \$96
(per person = 8 classes)

Thursday **January 8 - February 26**
Ages 6 - 13 6:00 - 6:55 pm

Youth Instructional Soccer Program:

Residents \$70 / Non-Residents \$200
(per person 9 weeks = 18 classes)
AYSO Membership additional \$10 per person.



Tuesday & Thursday
January 20 - March 19

Ages 4 - 6 (coed) 4:00 - 5:00 pm
Ages 6 - 9 (coed) 5:00 - 6:00 pm
Ages 10 - 13 (girls) 6:00 - 7:00 pm
Ages 10 - 13 (boys) 7:00 - 8:00 pm

Fees include 1 shirt & 1 pair of shorts.
Program will be held at the 96th St. Park (9572 Bay Drive).



Gymnastics:

Resident \$48 / Non-Resident \$96
(per person = 8 classes)

Wednesday **January 7 - February 25**
Ages 3 - 5 4:00 - 4:45 pm
Ages 6 - 13 5:00 - 5:55 pm

Thursday **January 8 - February 26**
Ages 3 - 5 4:00 - 4:45 pm
Ages 6 - 13 5:00 - 5:55 pm



Acrobatics and Tumbling:

Residents \$48 / Non-Residents \$96
(per person = 8 classes)

Wednesday **January 7 - February 25**
Ages 8 - 15 6:00 - 6:55 pm

Chess Program:

Residents \$48 / Non-Residents \$80
(per person = 8 classes)

Saturday **January 10 - February 28**
Beginner Class 12:30 - 1:30 pm
Advanced Class 1:30 - 3:30 pm

Note: Instructor's approval is required for individuals wishing to participate in the advanced class.

Surf's Up Program:

Classes will resume in the spring.

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SURFSIDE TENNIS CENTER



The regularly scheduled Hours of Operation are listed below:

Monday - Thursday 8:30 am to 10:00 pm • Friday - Sunday 8:30 am to 5:30 pm

CLASS NAME	AGE GROUP	DAY	HOURS	FEE (per person)
Meet, Greet & Play Tennis	Adult	Mondays & Thursdays	8:00 pm – 10:30 pm	Resident \$9 Non-Resident \$10
Sign Up Doubles (Reservation Required)	Adult & Juniors	Wednesdays	7:30 pm – 9:30 pm	Resident \$6 Non-Resident \$8
Junior Clinic	9 – 11 yrs. old	Wednesdays	5:00 pm – 6:00 pm	Resident \$17 Non-Resident \$19

For more information, please contact the Tennis Center at (305) 866-5176.

PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT

PUBLIC WORKS PROGRESS REPORT

STREET REPAIRS:

- A structured signs and sign post repair program was implemented and resulted in the completion of a thorough inspection and repair cycle throughout Town streets. Over 20 locations were addressed.
- Storm drain inlets were repaired in five locations.
- The storm drain outfall pipes at the 92nd Street pump station were repainted; the structure will follow in the coming weeks.
- The 96th Street parking lot was re-sealed, with particular emphasis on the two handicap spaces on the southeast corner.
- The FDOT pump station project on 94th Street is in progress. The 88th Street phase is anticipated to begin in early spring.
- The Beach Walk and hardpack access road were completed.

LANDSCAPING:

- Landscaping improvements have been done in the 92nd Street pump station area (street end) and the Beautification Committee was supplied with sea oat plants for improving the 93rd Street/Harding Avenue lot.

INFRASTRUCTURE MAINTENANCE/REPAIR:

- A structured maintenance/repair program is being prepared. Storm sewer and water supply atlases have been developed which will be used by the Public Works department to identify the locations of highest priority and to schedule this multi-phased project.

A FRIENDLY REMINDER TO SURFSIDERS

The Sanitation Department reminds residents that there will ***not*** be garbage or trash pick-up on Thursday, Dec. 25, 2008 (Christmas Day). Service will resume on Friday, Dec. 26, 2008.

Regular service will also be provided on Thursday, January 1, 2009 (New Year's Day).



CHRISTMAS TREE DISPOSAL

Following the holidays, Christmas trees may be placed curbside, ***on resident property***, for collection. Residents must not leave Christmas trees on the street or right of way.



FREE METERED PARKING PERMIT REMINDER

Residents are reminded to re-register their vehicle(s) at Town Hall to obtain a valid parking pass. (Red colored passes expired on Sept. 30, 2008)

POLICE DEPARTMENT

A MESSAGE FROM POLICE CHIEF, DAVID ALLEN: The Year in Review



Over the past year there continued to be powerful changes and improvements within the Police Department. We have hired new sworn and civilian members who are well educated,

community oriented, and believe in our departmental values of professionalism, respect, integrity, dedication to duty, and excellence in policing. Standards and expectations have been raised to meet our goals of providing the highest level of service to Surfside and being the best police department. We are well trained, well equipped, and well respected among law enforcement agencies. We have kept the community safe and increased traffic enforcement and patrol in the residential areas and the business district.

The Police Department is currently undergoing an in-depth review of every aspect of the agency's organization, management, operations, and administration through the accreditation process. By next year we hope to be rewarded with full accreditation from the Florida Commission on Accreditation for Law Enforcement Agencies. Achieving accreditation will increase our ability to prevent and control crime, increase efficiency of delivery of police services and programs to the community, and raise citizen confidence in the policies and practices of the agency. We have also created and distributed a new

comprehensive set of administrative directives to our personnel.

We are now fully electronic with mobile laptops in each patrol car. The officers can produce electronic reports and citations, conduct criminal backgrounds, distribute criminal intelligence, receive subpoenas, and supervisors can review and approve reports electronically. The electronic advances have also improved the computer aided dispatch and records management system. The cost for this technology came from forfeiture funds. What is most amazing is that only two years ago the Police Department did not even have an email system.

The Police Department was also given the responsibility to oversee the Town's emergency management services. With the assistance of Town staff we instituted new procedures, trained all Town employees with mandatory federal courses, expanded liaisons with the County and regional operation centers' managers, conducted mock emergency exercises, developed debris monitoring and debris management plans, and implemented a Town Emergency Operations Center. We also purchased from forfeiture funds satellite telephones, back up radios, a generator for traffic signals, and the Code Red Emergency Notification System to ensure the safety of our residents.

We have built strong relationships with local, state, and federal law enforcement agencies who now

assist and support us with community events; marine, traffic, and tactical operations; crime scene and evidence processing; and identity theft, mortgage fraud, money laundering, and narcotic investigations. We have also partnered with Kiwanis, Mothers Against Drunk Driving, Citizens Crime Watch of Miami-Dade County, the Chamber of Commerce, the Bankers Forum, Publix, and the business district to enhance services to the community.

The Police Department works closely with the Commission, Town Manager, and Town staff to make Surfside a great place to live and work. We will continue to take the lead by offering a wide variety of events and seminars to our citizens such as the Citizens Police Academy, monthly crime prevention workshops, child safety, career days, health fairs, emergency preparedness, back to school safety, drug and alcohol awareness, police explorer program, and classes on crime awareness for women and the elderly.

It has been two years since I came to Surfside. It is an honor to serve as your Police Chief. I am most proud of the positive transformation of the police department and of the quality men and women who come to work each day to help and serve you, and who keep Surfside safe.

Have a great holiday!

TED ARBOLEDA, NAMED OFFICER OF THE MONTH

The Police Department recognized Ted Arboleda, as Officer of the Month at the Commission meeting held on November 10, 2008. Officer Ted Arboleda, while shopping off duty, witnessed a man removing a large TV from the display rack and saw another subject acting as a lookout. He notified

the store's loss prevention personnel. Officer Arboleda then approached one of the subjects and immediately identified himself as a police officer by displaying his badge and identification. He attempted to detain both subjects. When one subject resisted with violence, the subject was redirected to

the ground. Officer Arboleda observed a pocketknife protruding from the subject's front left pocket. He reacted in fear for his safety with a forearm strike to the back of the subject's head. Due to Officer Arboleda's effort he was able to apprehend two subjects and prevent the theft of property valued

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POLICE DEPARTMENT

WHERE'S FIDO?

As a precautionary measure, the Surfside Police encourages all dog owners in Town, to provide a color photo of their canine pets and register them with the department. If your dog is ever found wandering on Surfside streets, the police could check the registration documents on file, would quite likely find a match, and know who the dog should be returned to.

Even if an owner is careful, a dog can easily bolt from a house when a door is opened, or it can slip its' collar to chase something; your pet could be gone in mere seconds.

To assist the department in the safe retrieval & return of lost dogs, registration forms are available at the Dispatch Center of the Surfside Police Department. Residents should provide their contact information, include a sharp, preferably color, current photo of their dog, and indicate if the canine has a microchip or is tattooed. If a resident has more than one dog a separate form should be completed for each pet.

For further information, please contact Crime Prevention Specialist, Wanda Flores at (305) 861-4862 ext. 283.



HOLIDAY PATROL ENHANCEMENT PROGRAM

The Police Department will be conducting a "Patrol Enhancement Program" as a holiday protective measure to ensure the safety of Surfside residents. The service will begin on Saturday, December 13th and will be available through Wednesday December 24th.

- Any resident of the Town of Surfside, who is returning home from holiday shopping between the hours of 8:00 p.m. and 10:00 p.m., may request to have police present upon their arrival to their home. Residents should contact the Surfside Police Department at (305) 861-4862 before they expect to arrive home.

What information do you need to provide?

- When calling the Surfside Police Department, residents should give their name, address, the type and color of the vehicle they are driving, and the approximate time of arrival to their home. A uniformed officer will be dispatched to meet the resident at their home.

OFFICER OF THE MONTH

(Continued from p. 12)

at \$949.99. Further investigation revealed the subjects were responsible for a previous theft of property valued at \$649.00 from the same location. Congratulations Ted!



(L-R) Ted's father, Diego Arboleda, brother-in-law, Alex Heckler, Ted's mother, Michele Arboleda, Ted's wife Jacqueline, Honoree, Ted Arboleda, Mayor Charles Burkett, Police Chief Dave Allen, Ted's mother-in-law & father-in-law, Leslie & Franklin Sands.

POLICE DEPARTMENT HOSTS IMPORTANT SEMINAR:

"SURVIVAL MINDSET FOR WOMEN"

This 2-hour seminar is offered to Surfside's female residents for **free**. The course is designed exclusively for women. It is **not** a self defense class; its purpose is to develop awareness skills. Certified law enforcement trainer, **Major Donna Kinsey, M.P.A. of the North Miami Beach Police Department** will teach you how to avoid attack and how to think like a cop.

Join your friends & neighbors...

Thursday, January 8, 2009, 6:30 pm - 9:00 pm
9293 Harding Avenue, 2nd floor,
Commission Chambers

Class size is limited to 25 female Surfside residents.
Advance registration is required.

To register for this seminar, contact Dina Goldstein at (305) 861-4862 or via email at: dgoldstein@townofsurfsidefl.gov

Light refreshments will be served.

December 2008 Calendar

REGULAR COMMISSION MEETING IS TUESDAY, DECEMBER 9, AT 7:00 PM

Beautification Committee 2nd Monday of the Month at 7:15 pm (12/08/08)
Charter Review Committee To Be Announced.
Education Committee 1st Thursday of the Month at 8:00 pm (12/04/08)
Green Committee Status as of this publication: Inactive
Parks & Recreation Committee..... 3rd Thursday of the Month, at 7:00 pm (12/18/08)

Planning & Zoning Board Dec. 25th meeting is re-scheduled to Dec. 18th at 6:30 pm
Tourist Bureau Dec. 1st and Dec. 15th at 6:00 pm

HOLIDAY HOURS:

Town Hall, Parks & Rec. Office & Tennis Center will be CLOSED: DEC. 25 • JAN. 1, '09
Library will be CLOSED: DEC. 25 • DEC. 27 • JAN. 1, '09 • JAN. 3, '09

Beach Club & Lifeguard Stand will be STAFFED until 5:00 pm.

UPCOMING:

Family Fun Day Jan. 25, 2009

Martin Luther King Day Jan. 19, 2009
Town Hall & Library will be CLOSED

Winter 5K Run/Walk Feb. 15, 2009

Please note that all times & dates listed, except Town Commission meetings, are tentative and subject to change.

To verify the information, contact Town Hall at (305) 861-4863, visit the Website www.townofsurfsidefl.gov or tune in to cable channel 77.



100% of the electricity used to manufacture LOE Dull Text 100lb/148gsm is from Sappi generated renewable energy sources. LOE contains fiber from well-managed, independently certified forests and contains 30% post consumer recycled fiber.

TOWN COMMISSION

Charles W. Burkett Mayor
Marc Imberman Vice Mayor
Howard S. Weinberg ... Commissioner
Steven Levine Commissioner
Elizabeth Calderon Commissioner

TOWN E-MAIL

Barguelles@townofsurfsidefl.gov

TOWN OFFICIALS

Gary L. Word Town Manager
Beatris Arguelles Town Clerk
Lynn M. Dannheisser .. Town Attorney
David E. Allen Police Chief

TOWN COMMISSION/MANAGER E-MAILS

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mimberman@townofsurfsidefl.gov
slevine@townofsurfsidefl.gov
ecalderon@townofsurfsidefl.gov
gword@townofsurfsidefl.gov

BUSINESS NUMBERS

Town Hall (305) 861-4863
Community Center (305) 866-3635
Tennis Courts (305) 866-5176
Tourist Bureau (305) 864-0722
Library (305) 865-2409
Surfside Police Department.. (305) 861-4862

EMERGENCY ONLY

Fire/Police..... (305) 861-1115
All Other:..... (305) 861-4862

Town of Surfside
9293 Harding Avenue
Surfside, Florida 33154
www.townofsurfsidefl.gov

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