

Bulletin

15-1

Date: January 2, 2015

CIVILIAN OF THE MONTH – DECEMBER 2014 – EA DINA GOLDSTEIN

Over the past month, Dina Goldstein managed the Police Department's Holiday Toy Drive as she has the previous five years. This event requires much time and effort and commitment. The collection begins with advertisements for donations of new toys. The needy children are vetted and individually invited to attend the Toy Giveaway Party on December 19, 2014. Hundreds of toys were donated, purchased and stored.

The Miami-Dade Fire Rescue and the Miami-Dade Police Aviation Unit were scheduled to participate. Town personnel were recruited to assist with the set-up, decoration, and cleanup of the Commission Chambers and the training room. Other Town personnel played the parts of Santa, Mrs. Claus, and the elves. Police Officers were needed for an escort, a street closure and traffic direction. Parking Enforcement Officers were necessary for room security. A professional photographer and DJ volunteered their services to make the event even more exciting. Plaques to recognize sponsors were ordered. A pre-event meeting was held to give out assignments, duties and responsibilities. All of the above was handled by Dina.

The event was spectacular and went off without a problem. It was a very special day for the children and all of those who attended. I thank and praise all who helped but Dina certainly deserves the most credit and recognition. This has become another of her events that makes Surfside look great. I can't thank her enough for an amazing job well done!

HIGH ACHIEVERS – DECEMBER 2014

Officer Gabriel
Officer Leonard
Officer Luke
Officer Mesa
Officer Gentile
Officer McGavern
Officer Ruiz/ Officer Hidalgo
Officer Knight
Officer Smith
Officer Lorente
Parking Officer Acosta

Thanks for the good work!

NEW POLICE CHIEF

Surfside Reserve Police Officer Armando Guzman has been selected as the new Police Chief for Miami Springs. Armando will resign from SPD on December 31, 2014 and be sworn in as Chief on January 5, 2015. We thank him for his assistance at SPD and wish him the best of luck at Miami Springs PD.

BUSINESS DISTRICT HOLIDAY BEAT

Patrol Operations has added one uniformed officer assigned to patrol the Business District effective Friday, December 19, 2014, from the hours of 12:00 p.m. to 12:00 a.m. each day. This patrol enhancement is directed primarily toward high visibility and quality of life issues such as double parking during peak hours of customer and visitor activity in the busy Holiday season. The detail is being staffed by adjusting existing officer schedules and will not generate added expenditures.

NEW EQUIPMENT

Police Officers have been issued go bags to carry in the police cars for critical incidents. The go bags contain medical equipment, tourniquets, door stops, window punches, flex cuffs, extra ammunition, and a gas mask. This equipment will be readily available to every officer to always be prepared to respond to medical emergencies, crashes with injuries, active shooters, building searches, and other emergencies.

BYRON AVENUE RESIDENTIAL PARKING PROGRAM

SPD will implement a pilot residential parking program in the 9400 and the 9500 block of Byron Avenue in January 2015. This program was established to prevent construction workers, Bal Harbour Shops employees, and beachgoers from parking all day in front of their homes. A community meeting was held as well as a survey conducted which showed residents are in support. Parking operations Manager Elinor Joseph will oversee this project and design signs and permits.

SPECIAL INFORMATION/ COMMUNITY INITIATIVES/ LAW ENFORCEMENT EVENTS

The Surfside Police Department is implementing a new community initiative. We are collecting cell phones and donating them to a local domestic violence shelter. It is important to delete all your personal information from the cell phones including stored phone numbers, call history and text messages. Make sure that the service is disconnected to avoid any fees. Also be sure that the phone works and that the battery stays charged. A working charger must accompany the cell phone donation. If the phone doesn't work or you don't have the charger, please recycle the phone. The drop off location is at the Communications Unit of the Police Department. For further information please contact Neighborhood Resource Officer Dianna Hernandez.

The Surfside Police Department is hosting a regular Women's Self Defense Classes for residents and police officers from 6:00 to 8:00 pm in the Community Center on Thursdays. Sgt. Julio Torres is the instructor. This class is free of charge. Dina Goldstein will coordinate the dates for the classes.



Some cities have reported their residents becoming victims of fraud or robbery when meeting with customers or sellers to conduct online transactions. The Surfside Police will offer residents a safe place to conduct their transactions at the police station. The premise is to conduct business in a safe environment to deter crime.

The Surfside Police Department is offering free residential and commercial security assessments for residents and business owners. Sgt. Matelis is the contact person to schedule the assessment.

SPD will host a community blood drive on January 8, 1:00 – 3:30pm. The blood mobile will be in the Town Hall lot.

The Police/ Prosecutor meeting is January 21 at 2:00 pm. Sgt. Matelis will assign a detective to attend.

The regional Criminal Investigations Unit intelligence meeting is January 22 at 10:00 am at SPD in the training room.

The Bike with the Chief Ride is January 28, at 5:00 pm. All are welcome to participate.

The monthly Starbucks – Coffee with the Cops is January 31 at 10:00 am. Residents, business persons, and visitors can meet with the Chief and his staff over coffee to discuss community issues or provide feedback on the Police Department.

TRAINING

Senior Leadership Course – Lt. Williams

Public Records – Lt. Williams, Dina Goldstein

Traumas of Law Enforcement – NRO Hernandez

Emotional Survival Law Enforcement Seminar – Sworn Supervisors

THANK YOU

I would like to thank all of you for your excellent work and for your support all year long. Crime has decreased over the past six months and the community is proud of its Police Department. This is due to your daily dedication, effort and taking that extra step to deliver quality police service. In 2014 we also gained new extraordinary personnel with Captain Julio Yero, Detective Kemuel Gambirazio, and Community Service Aide Danny Sanchez. We have a new SPD family member with the birth of Sgt. Jose Pacheco's son and will add another soon with Detective Marian Cruz. We have four nominees for the upcoming LEO Awards. Our Communication Operators and Parking Enforcement Officers are part of the SPD team and not separate entities as in the past. Our volunteer police photographer, Donna Natale Planas will come aboard on January 5, 2015 as a part time administrative aide. Reserve Officer Armando Guzman will be sworn in as Chief of Miami Spring on that same day. We purchased new tactical equipment to be prepared for possible critical issues: M-4 rifles, MP5 submachine guns, and go bags. Training has improved with Sgt. Julio Torres managing and teaching active shooter,

building searches, firearms, less lethal weapons, and self-defense. The Parking Enforcement Officers have generated more revenue than ever with their enforcement efforts and management of the pay stations. Our crime prevention programs and events rival major police departments and Dina Goldstein and new NRO Dianna Hernandez deserve all of the credit. We work closely and support Public Works, Parks and Rec, Code Compliance, Town Clerk's Office, Town Attorney's Office, IT, Building Official, and the Tourist Bureau. We were fortunate to bring John Di Censo back as the Interim Manager. As you know the Town is booming with new developments and construction and will continue to for the next several years. You effectively deal with traffic congestion, MOTs and parking concerns daily. Keep up the great work and I wish all of you and your families a happy, healthy and safe 2015!