

## POLICE BEAT

### Officer and Citizen of the Month

#### OFFICER TONY MESA

Officer Tony Mesa saw a suspicious man pushing a shopping cart down the street. The cart contained boxes of soap and laundry detergent. Officer Mesa stopped him and asked about the cart and merchandise. Officer Mesa became suspicious when the subject kept changing his story. The man then confessed that at the loading dock area of Publix, he entered an occupied storage room and stole the merchandise. The Publix manager arrived on the scene and confirmed the stolen property belonged to the store. Security video showed the subject inside the storage room. The merchandise was returned and the man was arrested and charged with occupied burglary, petit theft and possession of a shopping cart. Officer Mesa's alertness and exceptional police work is commended.



#### CSA DANNY SANCHEZ

Community Service Aide (CSA) Danny Sanchez was at Publix Supermarket on his lunch break when he saw the store manager chasing a subject who stole merchandise. CSA Sanchez, who is an unarmed police employee, ordered the subject to stop. The subject fled on foot and CSA Sanchez immediately broadcasted that a theft had occurred and provided a complete description.

Sergeant Jay Matelis heard the call and quickly arrived in the area and found the subject running east on 94th Street. Sgt. Matelis exited his vehicle and confronted the subject, but he continued to flee on foot. Sgt. Matelis chased him down and apprehended him without further incident. The subject was arrested and charged with theft and resisting arrest. CSA Danny Sanchez's actions were quick thinking and effective, ultimately resulting in an arrest of a subject. His professionalism and dedication to the community is commended.

### Click It or Ticket It Campaign

The Surfside Police Department conducted a *Click It or Ticket* Campaign from May 23 to June 5, 2016. The campaign increased traffic education and enforcement in conjunction with community partners – proving that seat belts save lives. The National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) provides national leadership in planning and developing traffic injury control safety programs regarding seat belts, child car seat and automatic occupant protection systems, such as air bags. The statistics from the Surfside campaign are:

- Safety belt citations 108
- Child restraint citations 3
- Reckless driving citations 1
- Speeding citations 50
- Felony arrests 2
- Suspended licenses 16
- Recovered stolen vehicles 1
- Uninsured motorists 7
- Traffic arrests 6
- Total arrests 8
- Total citations 393

### Shred-A-Thon a Success

In an effort to fight identity theft, approximately 60 cars brought their personal paper items to the Multi-Agency Shred-A-Thon on June 11 at Haulover Park. Pictured are Surfside NRO Dianna Hernandez, Indian Creek Police Chief Clarke Maher, Sunny Isles Beach Sgt. Ruben Zamora and Administrative Assistant Sandra Block, Bay Harbor Islands Sgt. Alan Block, Bal Harbour Officer Jeff Hatcher, and, in front, Intracoastal Police Explorers Post 4.



### Fourth of July Information

On Monday, July 4, the Town of Surfside Parks and Recreation Department will host their annual 4th of July Holiday Celebration. This event draws hundreds of families and visitors. Additional police officers have been assigned from 2 to 10 p.m. to ensure safety and security at the Community Center and on the beach. During the fireworks set-up and display, police will escort trucks carrying equipment to the Community Center and on Collins Avenue to assist with pedestrian crossing.

## Sign Up For CodeRed Storm Notifications

With hurricane season underway, this is the time to sign up for CodeRED emergency alert messages issued by the Surfside Police Department. The system enables emergency notifications and/or informational messages to be sent, including hurricane evacuation notices, boil water notices, flood disasters, traffic advisories and more.

The notifications and advisories are sent out as voice messages and text messages to registered telephone, cellphone and email addresses of Town residents and businesses.

Residents can register through the Town website, [www.townofsurfsidefl.gov](http://www.townofsurfsidefl.gov), type in "Code Red" in the search bar and the first entry will display the link to register for the CodeRED System. There is also a CodeRED app available for cell phones. You may register via the app.

You can also sign up on Facebook and LinkedIn. Look for "Emergency Communications Network" [www.facebook.com/Emergency-Communications-Network-172699979514108/?ref=ts](http://www.facebook.com/Emergency-Communications-Network-172699979514108/?ref=ts). Also "Emergency Communications Network" on LinkedIn [www.linkedin.com/company/emergency-communications-network-llc?trk=top\\_nav\\_home](http://www.linkedin.com/company/emergency-communications-network-llc?trk=top_nav_home)

## Disabled Should Register for Evacuation Assistance Prior to an Emergency

Miami-Dade County's Emergency & Evacuation Assistance Program (EEAP) provides evacuation support to those residents that require specialized transportation assistance or who cannot evacuate on their own. Residents who will require evacuation assistance should register for the program prior to an emergency to ensure help will be given when needed. It may also be utilized post-disaster to provide other assistance. Pre-registered residents will receive priority during an emergency.

This program is for individuals who live in their own homes or with their families. Residents in nursing homes or assisted living facilities are not eligible as these facilities will make arrangements for their residents to evacuate to a similar facility.

To register, go to [www.miamidade.gov/fire/library/hurricane/OEM/EEAP-Application-English.pdf](http://www.miamidade.gov/fire/library/hurricane/OEM/EEAP-Application-English.pdf). The form is also available in Spanish and Creole. Information is also available by calling 311.



## Memorial Day Honors Those Who Served the Country

The Town of Surfside's moving Memorial Day ceremony attracted a record number of military veterans and residents to Veterans Park. Vice Mayor Barry Cohen served as emcee, introducing Rabbi Yosef Rice who gave an invocation; guest speaker William Traux, Jr. of the U.S. Marine Corps and former Surfside Commissioner Ted Kopelman. Also participating were Surfside Commissioners Daniel Gielchinsky and Michael Karukin



as well as the Surfside Color Guard, local scouts and the Miami Beach Senior High NJROTC. Several veterans spoke about their service in the military before laying a wreath, the playing of Taps and a three-gun salute by the Second Infantry Division of Florida.

