

## DECEMBER 2020 CIVILIAN OF THE MONTH

### Dina Goldstein Keeps Kids Smiling With Toy Giveaway



The Surfside Police Department traditionally hosts an annual Holiday Toy Giveaway party for children and families. Because of the COVID-19 pandemic, the event was revamped. Executive Assistant to the Chief Dina Goldstein created an online toy registry for donations and festive collection boxes. She arranged several toy drop off locations and established a system to distribute the toys to the children. Each family was contacted and provided a date and time for delivery. Dina arranged 50 bags of toys specified for each child. Police personnel and Town Manager Andrew Hyatt delivered toys to the children and 26 families at the Miami-Dade County Safespace (Domestic Violence) North Shelter.

The Holiday Toy Drive embodied the spirit of giving – especially with many families affected by the pandemic. Seeing the smiles on the children’s faces was priceless and the reason we do this every year. Dina is commended for her tireless dedication in developing a safe way to continue this long-standing charitable and very rewarding tradition. Congratulations as the recipient of the December Civilian of the Month award!

### Despite COVID-19, Police Department Delivers Holiday Toys

The Surfside Police Department collected toys for our 12th Annual Holiday Toy Drive. Due to COVID-19, the Annual Toy Giveaway party was canceled, but the children and their families still enjoyed the spirit of our holiday tradition. The donated toys were personally delivered by Police Department personnel to 26 families in need (over 45 children) as well as to the Miami-Dade County Community Action and Human Services Department, Violence Prevention and Intervention Division, Advocates for Victims/Safespace North Shelter.

A special thank you to the Surfside residents who donated toys to a worthy cause and made the holiday season special for many families. Also contributing to the event was local business owner Alon Dahan of Sunny Toys & Gifts. He not only provided toys, but created an online registry that made donations easier and more efficient.

## POLICE DEPARTMENT: LOCK YOUR CAR AND KEEP YOUR KEY



- DO NOT leave a vehicle key inside your vehicle, even if it is locked.
- DO NOT leave items of value in your vehicle or in plain sight.
- Immediately report any suspicious persons or vehicles in your neighborhood, including solicitors knocking on doors.
- If you leave on vacation, call the police department to place your house on a watch order and we will check your property daily.
- The Police Department offers free residential security assessments and encourages residents to take advantage of this service.

Report any suspicious activity to the Surfside Police Department at (305) 861-4862.

## BLOOD DRIVES AT TOWN HALL ON FEBRUARY 14 & 24, 2021

The Surfside Police Department is hosting two blood drives in conjunction with the One Blood organization. The blood drives will take place on **Sunday, February 14, 2021 and Wednesday, February 24, 2021**. Both will be from **11 am - 4:30 pm**. The blood mobile will be located in the Town Hall parking lot. For further information please contact Dina Goldstein at (305) 861-4862 or [dgoldstein@townofsurfsidefl.gov](mailto:dgoldstein@townofsurfsidefl.gov).

