

Golden BEACH

MAGAZINE

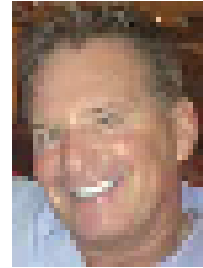
ISSUE 17
APRIL 2016



Photo by Alene Fishbein

 FROM THE MAYOR

Spring is here!



Daylight Savings Time adds an extra hour of daylight and gives all of us an opportunity to enjoy the parks and open spaces here in Golden Beach. Golden Beach has all the amenities beginning with the complete circuit of exercise machines in North and South Parks. The tennis courts, basketball courts, and volleyball area add to the various ways a resident can exercise. Our beach and sidewalks give us access to opportunities to walk, run or ride our bikes. Such activity is not only healthy physically, but also emotionally and socially as it brings people together.

According to a recent New York Times study, South Florida is considered one of the more economically and physically healthy sections of the nation. We, here in Golden Beach, are very fortunate to live in a town where the ocean is our playground and the sights and sounds pull us outside to enjoy the peaceful and serene environment. The Council and I, along with the Administration at Town Hall, the Police Department and Public Works, work together diligently to maintain an atmosphere of community and to care for the investment each resident has made in choosing the Town of Golden Beach as home.

YOUR MAYOR,

Glenn Singer

TOWN OF GOLDEN BEACH

Mayor
Glenn Singer

Town Council
Richard Parks, Rep.

Commissioners
Franklin, Rep.
Jim, Commissioner, Rep.
John, Rep.

Town Manager
Stephanie

Town Clerk
Lynn

Town Attorney
Bobby

Town Engineer
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Community Development
Travis

Community Development
Linda

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COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

Community Development
Michelle

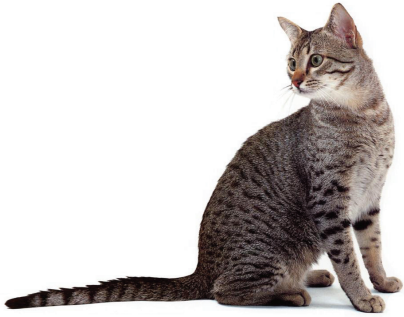
Community Development
Michelle

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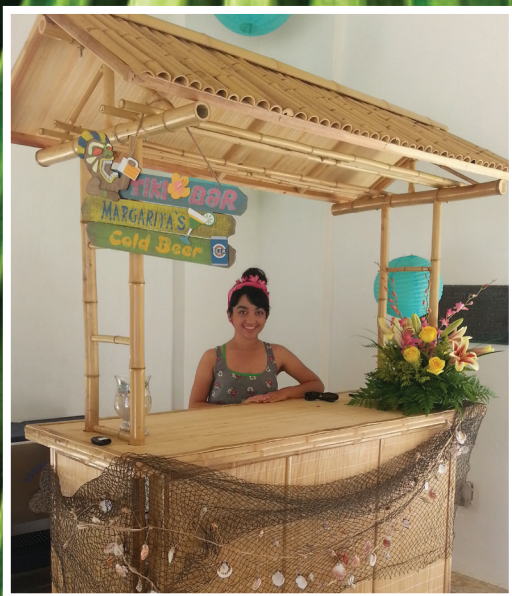
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Potluck Luau Returns on Mother's Day!

BY MICHAEL GLIDDEN

Moms, you officially have the day off. The Potluck Luau, a longstanding Golden Beach tradition, returns on Mother's Day this year!

Have you been binge watching the Food Network? Or maybe you've Tivo'd every episode of "Iron Chef" this season but you still haven't gotten around to watching them yet. Well not to worry, you still have time to brush up on your cooking skills. On Sunday, May 8th 2016 come meet us at the Beach Pavilion, bring your favorite dish, come hungry and be ready to share! We'll have plenty of delicious food and fun for the whole family. **There will be a contest with prizes for the tastiest entries in the following categories:**

Salad // Appetizer // Dessert // Kid's Submission

The event starts at 5pm, with judging occurring soon after. Clip and complete the registration form included here; forms are also available on the Town's website. Please complete and return your registration form as soon as possible and don't be left out of the fun!





Golden Beach Potluck Luau 2016

Registration Form

May 8, 2016 5pm at the Beach Pavilion

Resident Information:

First Name: _____

Last Name: _____

Street Address: _____

Contact Number: _____

Entrée Information:

What will you bring? Please Check off **ONLY ONE item.**

DESSERTS WILL BE PROVIDED BY THE TOWN



Salad



Appetizer



Entrée



Kid Submission

Description of Plate: _____

Note: Please remember that your dish must serve 10-12 people and you must arrive before 5pm to set up. Please return this registration form to Town Hall no later than Thursday, May 5, 2016.



Miami-Dade FIRE RESCUE: SERVING GOLDEN BEACH

BY MICHAEL GLIDDEN

Emergencies can strike unexpectedly whether it’s a slip and fall, a fire in the kitchen or a collision on the road; it’s always good to know that help is close by. Miami-Dade Fire Rescue (MDFR) services Golden Beach and our neighboring municipalities through local stations. MDFR is an Internationally Accredited Agency through the Commission on Fire Accreditation International (CFAI), and is one of only 217 agencies to receive such recognition. The department is the largest accredited fire-rescue department in the Southeast, and the second largest in the United States.

Miami-Dade Fire Rescue has supplied the Town with its latest service statistics for the 2014 and 2015 calendar years. We would like to thank MDFR for their continued efforts and assistance to the Town and its residents.

Table I shows the types of incidents called in to the department and the average response times:

Call Type	2015	MDFR* Average Response Time	2014	MDFR* Average Response Time
Life Threatening	45	9:31	37	8:50
Non-Life Threatening*	11	10:27	15	9:51
Structure & Other Fires	8	8:30	8	10:04
Other Miscellaneous*	4	10:34	3	9:58
TOTAL	68		63	

*Expedited response using lights and sirens is only used in responding to Life-threatening & Structure Fire Incidents.

Table II shows the local stations that respond to emergencies within the Town. Sunny Isles Station 10 responds to the bulk of emergencies within Golden Beach with additional support coming from the Aventura stations.

Responses Provided By:	2015		2014	
	Incidents	%	Incidents	%
Station 10 - Sunny Isles	59	88%	55	87%
Station 8 - Aventura	5	7%	6	10%
Other Stations	3	4%	2	3%
Station 33 - Aventura South	1	1%	N/A	N/A
TOTAL	68	100%	63	100%



ADDITIONAL STATISTICS:

- In 2015 alone, MDFR dispatched 29 firefighters and nine units to structure fire incidents within the Town of Golden Beach.
- In case of medical emergencies, MDFR’s Advance Life Support units average an eight minute lead time from the time an Emergency Medical Service call is placed and arrival.
- MDFR’s closest rescue unit is housed 1.51 miles south of Town in Sunny Isles Beach at 175th Street.



Police BEAT

With spring officially upon us, it's important to remember that the summer months are not far behind. Along with warmer temperatures comes many warnings, specifically with sun protection. Sunlight has a profound effect on the skin.

It can cause premature skin aging, skin cancer and various other skin issues. Many changes in the skin that were commonly believed to be due to aging, such as bruising easily, are actually a result of prolonged exposure to UV radiation. Exposure to ultraviolet light - UVA or UVB – from the sun's rays accounts for 90 percent of premature skin aging symptoms. So remember to use the proper clothing to protect yourself from the sun, stay hydrated and use sunscreen.



Along with summer sun also comes the possibility of seasonal storms, which can lead to a host of problems in their aftermath. Natural disasters such as hurricanes and tropical storms, tsunamis, floods, and landslides that impact U.S. coasts can be an overwhelming source of waterway debris. High winds, storm surge and heavy rains can uproot household products, lawn furniture, and in the most extreme cases, even

entire homes and other structures can be sent into the surrounding waters. Immediate action is needed to assess and remove the debris in order to maintain navigation routes, ensure safe boating and recreational activities and protect sensitive ecosystems.

Through the Regional Response Planning Project, the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Association's (NOAA) Marine Debris Program is partnering with federal, state and local agencies to improve preparedness for response to and recovery from acute waterway debris incidents resulting from natural or technological disasters. For additional information go to www.MarineDebris.noaa.gov

I would like to remind all residents to register and/or update their existing emergency contact information with the Town. In order to do so, visit the Town's website (www.goldenbeach.us) and click the Code Red link at the bottom of the page. Current emergency contact information is critical during unforeseen events, emergency evacuations and unusual occurrences.

The Department is also continuously striving to provide better service to our residents. In hopes of easing traffic concerns, Police Chiefs from neighboring municipalities have joined forces to share information between departments regarding significant traffic incidents, events or issues that could cause delays or traffic congestion. This information will also be passed along to residents through the Code Red system. One such event includes an upcoming construction project that is scheduled to begin in August 2016 on I-95 between I-595 and Broward Boulevard. There are three phases to this project and the contract duration is scheduled to last 1400 calendar days (approximately 4 years). For more information please contact the Florida Department of Transportation at (954) 826-2359, and reference the subject matter E4Q64, I-95 Express Lane and Ramp Signals-Phase 3A-2.

In March, the Golden Beach Police Department along with the Florida Department of Motor Vehicles hosted a one-day driver's license renewal service at the Beach Pavilion. Residents



were excited to see the Town sponsoring this type of event and over 20 of them showed up to take advantage of this unique opportunity.

The Golden Beach Police Department recently received a major accolade for two of its officers. The Department would like to publicly recognize Officer Julio Fernandez and Officer Joseph Bautista who won the 2016 Law Enforcement Officer (LEO) of the Year Award at a ceremony held at Miami's Jungle Island. This marks the first time that officers from the Golden Beach Police Department have won the Dade County Chief's Association Officer of the Year award. In 2011, Sheila Pirrone, the Executive Assistant to the Chief of Police, won a LEO award in the "Support Services" category. We are extremely proud of the accomplishments of our entire department over the last year, and it is a tremendous honor to have not one but two of our officers recognized by such a prestigious organization. The LEO Awards are given by The Law Enforcement Charitable Foundation and are considered the barometer of success and accomplishments in the law enforcement field. Lieutenant Yovany Diaz and I were proud to have accompanied both officers as they received their awards.



Thank you,

YOUR CHIEF OF POLICE,

Rudy Herbello

GBPD Teams Up with Florida DMV



Having your license renewed was never this easy. Savvy residents saved themselves a trip to the Department of Motor Vehicles office recently by taking advantage of a special event which partnered the Golden Beach Police Department with the Florida DMV. Police Chief Rudy Herbello organized the March 18th event, saying it was a way of offering convenience and specialized service to our residents. With portable mobile stations set up at the Beach Pavilion, residents were able to update their documents virtually in their own back yard. The Town hopes to offer the service again, possibly making it an annual event.



A background of pink orchids with white and pink variegated petals, set against a dark green background. The flowers are in various stages of bloom, with some showing the intricate vein patterns on the petals.

Golden **BEACH**

APRIL & MAY 2016

COMMUNITY CALENDAR

April 19 *Regular Town Council Meeting | Town Hall 6:30 PM*

April 22 *Best Buddies Charity Walk (Details on page 14)*

May 8 *Happy Mothers' Day*

May 8 *Potluck Luau | Beach Pavilion 5:00 PM*

May 10 *Building Regulatory Advisory Board Meeting 6:00 PM*

May 30 *Memorial Day Event | Beach Pavilion 5:00 PM*



Resident NEWS

BY MICHAEL GLIDDEN

Sea Grapes & Sea Turtles in Golden Beach:

When a little landscaping can get you in a lot of trouble

We must admit life in Golden Beach is luxurious. With our picturesque beaches and waterways, beautiful surroundings and weather, what's not to love?

Though we live in idyllic environs we must remember that there is a degree of responsibility on our part to preserve that beauty. Care should be taken not to disrupt the plants and animals that also make our Town their home. Certain plants are protected by laws created by the Florida Department of Environmental Protection. One of these protected plants is the *Coccoloba uvifera* or the sea grape. These plants are native to Florida and are often found on the coastline. Sea grape plants are remarkably beneficial to the natural environment, and for that reason they are given protected status. With its waxy leaves and grape-like clusters of fruit, it provides a habitat and sustenance for various native species, including song birds and gopher tortoises. It also serves as a natural stabilizer to our beaches, preventing erosion, all while providing a lush, shady canopy.

The sea grapes also play a major role in the nesting habits of the endangered sea turtles. In Miami-Dade County, sea turtles begin laying eggs around the 1st of April and the last of the hatchlings head out to sea around Halloween. Sea turtles spend most of their life out in the open ocean, but in order to lay their eggs they must return to the shore. Under the shroud of darkness a female sea turtle will crawl from the ocean, dig a shallow nest, deposit around 100 eggs in the sand, bury them, and return to the ocean. After approximately 60 days the turtles will hatch, work their way to the surface, and paddle out



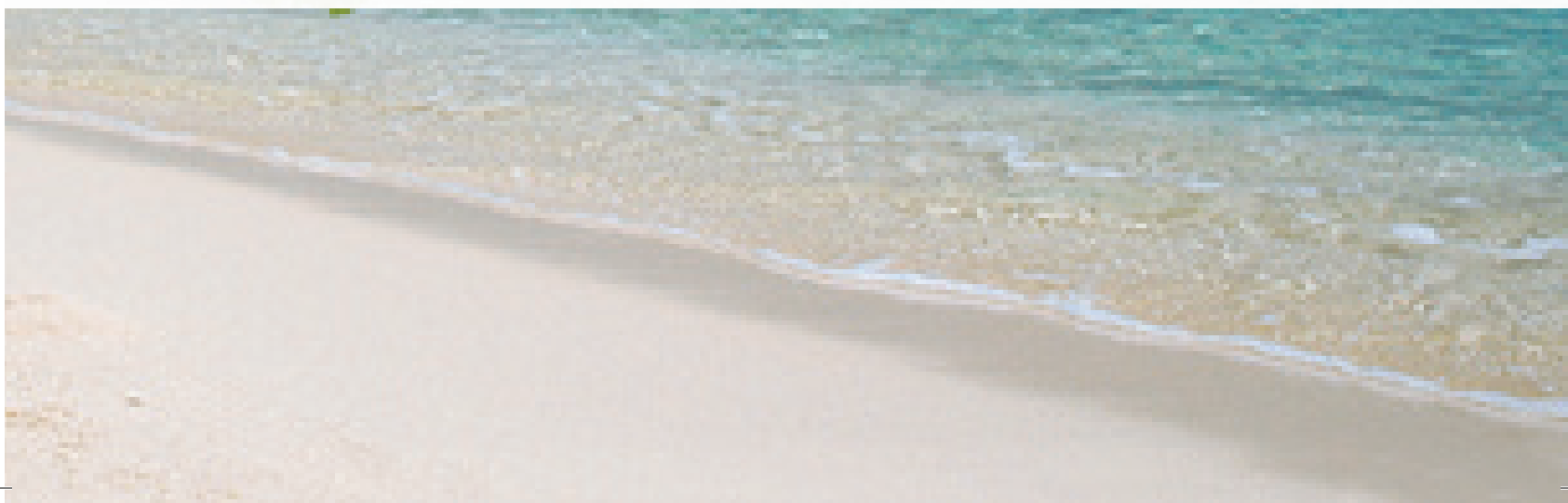


to the rolling waves. If you are lucky you may spot on one of these little hatchlings as they begin their journey. Last year, residents were excited to have spotted multiple hatchlings traversing the sands of Golden Beach.

The sea grape's role is vital in the nesting process of these endangered animals. Just like the sea grape plant provides shade from the glaring midday Florida sunshine, it also provides protection from artificial lighting at night, a time where the sea turtles are most active. Artificial light refers to anything from porch lights, security lights and even indoor lighting that spill out of open windows and glass doors. The large leaves and bushy branches of the sea grape help keep our light where it belongs and out of nesting areas where it can do harm. This light can be considered a form of pollution, as it can have extremely detrimental effects on the nesting environment. Bright lights deter female turtles from coming ashore to nest. Artificial light also disorients the turtles; turtles use instinctive visual cues from natural light to orient themselves to the land and the ocean. When these natural cues are overridden the animals can become lost and the effects are often fatal. The Florida Fish and Wildlife Commission reports that nearly 20,000 to 30,000 hatchlings disorient due to artificial light infiltration every year. The hatchlings lose their way and become victims of exhaustion, dehydration, predation, or sadly being hit by cars as they try to find their way back to the open waters. For an endangered species it is especially critical that we do our best to encourage a safe habitat for reproduction. The sea grapes along with turtle-safe lighting help to minimize the potential damage to the nesting process caused by human presence.

The handling of sea grapes is a serious matter. If you have sea grape bushes on your property and you wish to trim or alter them in any way, you must apply for a permit to do so. Unpermitted trimming or alteration is considered interference with the normal nesting behavior of an endangered species and can result in fines and/or imprisonment under the Endangered Species Act (1973) and Florida Statutes 161 and 370.12. For additional reading please visit the website for the Florida Department of Environmental Protection at <http://www.dep.state.fl.us>. You may also contact the Building & Zoning Department in Town Hall with any questions (305) 932-0744.

**For all the specifics of how to handle sea grapes legally please visit:
<http://www.dep.state.fl.us/beaches/publications/pdf/trim-gdl.pdf>**



BY MICHAEL GLIDDEN

Feral Cats Initiative Continues



Feral cats are an essential part of beach communities as they are natural hunters who serve to control populations of rodents and other vermin. If feral cats' natural inclination to hunt for their food is altered by human intervention through feeding they can become a nuisance. Feral cats' numbers can skyrocket along with numbers of the pests they would typically prey upon if they were still hunting instead of being fed. As we are looking to treat and control the population we ask for cooperation from residents to please refrain from feeding these animals, keep in mind that setting up feeding areas outside of your own property is strictly prohibited. Please be aware that the Golden Beach Police Department will fine anyone caught feeding feral cats \$250.00 without issuing a warning. **PLEASE NOTE:** Residents who have been approved through Town Hall as participating hosts for catch and release sites are exempt from citations for feeding. Please contact Michael Glidden at Town Hall (mglidden@goldenbeach.us) if you would like your home to be added to the list of approved feeding sites.

It is wise not to approach feral cats; their lack of domestication can make them aggressive and unpredictable especially if they feel cornered or threatened.

The Town's ongoing initiative is to humanely trap, treat, neuter and return the cats, as long as they are healthy. This initiative will help to create a cat population that is appropriate for a community our size. We are looking for homeowners who have noticed feral cats congregating on their properties and who would be willing to have live traps set up around the outside of their homes. Please contact Town Hall if you are interested.

The Town is sensitive to the concerns of residents that these animals be treated in a humane manner and we assure you that the intention is to help all of the animals that are healthy and not to euthanize unless completely necessary. The Town is also open to suggestions and recommendations as we look to humanely control the Town's cat population. We ask for your cooperation during this process.

Register Your Furry Friends

Unloading those groceries from the car, running back from the pool when you hear your cell phone ringing inside, or wheeling out the recycling bin. To you these may seem like mundane daily moments. However, to your pets these are golden opportunities to scramble out into the world and explore around the neighborhood.

Unfortunately pets' curiosity can get them into trouble because sometimes they wander far from home and can't find their way back. Often times we are contacted at Town Hall by homeowners who have found a wayward pooch wandering in their backyard, a furry friend who looks confused and just wants to find her way home. If animals do not have their owner's information, name, address, phone number displayed on their collars, or any kind of active microchip identifier we are left to wait to see if their owners call for them.

The Town would like to make reuniting residents with their pets as easy as possible. We are asking residents to consider submitting photos of their pets along with owner contact information (name, address, cell phone) to Town Hall, so that we may compile a database to help pets find their way back home if they get lost.

To register your pets please email mglidden@goldenbeach.us with the following information:

- Your Name**
- Your Address**
- Your Phone Number**
- A Clear Photo of Your Pet**
- Your Pet's Name**
- Any characteristics, markings that might be helpful in identifying your pet**

Please be as thorough as possible as adequate information is essential for reuniting lost pets with their owners.

Ongoing Iguana Treatment throughout Town

Due to multiple requests from residents, the Town is continuing its iguana control initiative. The Town has representatives from Trutech Wildlife Control exploring areas of concern. Technicians will be surveying parts of Town where iguanas are likely to gather most or have been spotted congregating, particularly along sea walls. Please be aware that technicians may be armed with air rifles during the eradication process. We ask for your cooperation in granting access to your yards for these authorized technicians during this process. **PLEASE NOTE that the iguana control process will thin the number of iguanas over time and should not be considered an immediate extermination of all iguanas in Town.**

If you are having issues with iguanas and would like the Town to dispatch the iguana service to your home on the next scheduled visit please email mglidden@goldenbeach.us with your name, address, and contact number to be added to list. **ALSO NOTE** that the Town is currently enrolled in a once-a-month iguana service contract and cannot add isolated spot visits in between scheduled service dates. Should residents feel their iguana problem needs immediate attention they are encouraged to hire their own iguana services at their own expense.

Resident NEWS

BY MICHAEL GLIDDEN



Changes at Tweddle Park: What to Expect

As you may have noticed construction is underway at Tweddle Park. We ask for residents to bear with us as we help bring updates and improvements to various areas of the park over the next coming months. During construction certain areas will not be available for use. The tennis courts and dog park will be affected most.

Upon completion of the renovations, new regulations will be applied to use of the park and its facilities. These regulations are specifically intended to give residents better access to the Town's amenities. The Town wants to eliminate past issues including non-residents using the tennis courts without being accompanied by a Golden Beach resident. Tennis courts will only be available for residents and their accompanied guests & instructors. Use of courts by unaccompanied non-residents will be strictly prohibited at all times. Instructors or guests of residents will not be allowed to use the tennis courts without the resident being present. New signs which clearly explain the policy will be installed throughout the park. This restriction is to give residents exclusive access and to alleviate congestion at the courts.

The new policy along with changes to the Town's pedestrian gate codes will help to offer residents a better park experience.

If you have any questions or concerns please contact Town Hall.



GBYLG Puts on their Walking Shoes for a Good Cause

Golden Beach Youth Leadership Group will participate in the annual Best Buddies walk on Saturday, April 23rd. Best Buddies International is a nonprofit 501(c)(3) organization dedicated to establishing a global volunteer movement that creates opportunities for one-to-one friendships, integrated employment and leadership development for people with intellectual and developmental disabilities (IDD).

The event is being held in Downtown Miami at Museum Park (1075 Biscayne Boulevard, Miami, FL 33132), on Saturday, April 23rd at 8:45 AM. For full event information, how to register and more on who Best Buddies are please visit bestbuddiesfriendshipwalk.org. To join the Golden Beach Youth Leadership Group, email mglidden@goldenbeach.us or contact Golden Beach Youth Leadership Group Advisor Councilmember Judy Lusskin at (305) 986-4377.

Pedestrian Gates Codes Change

The Town has changed the access codes to its pedestrian gates. Going forward, the code will be given through calling Town Hall. In order to provide maximum effectiveness for this security feature, the Town asks that residents NOT casually share the gate code. Please use discretion in giving out the code to household staff and ask that they not share the code with others. The pedestrian gates are in place to preserve the security and integrity of the Town and its facilities; offering the code to strangers undercuts the Town's efforts to protect the community.

Please also note that attempting to deactivate or manipulate the locking mechanism on the gate is considered vandalism and destruction of Town property, and is also an arrestable offense. Alert household staff that the Town will be enforcing a zero-tolerance policy with anyone found to be damaging the gates. We appreciate your understanding and cooperation in this matter.

Employee & Officer of the Quarter

At the March 15th Town Council Meeting, the Mayor & Town Council recognized the Employee and Officer of the first quarter of 2016.



KEN JONES

BY LISSETTE PEREZ

Ken Jones has been with the Town for almost 13 years. He is a staple of the public works department and an essential part of the Golden Beach team. Through his role as Facilities and Maintenance Director of Public Works, he is in charge of the parks, roads and streets. He oversees that our parks are safe for our children to play and that our roads are clean. On-call night and day, Ken is always available when a resident needs assistance and is a truly valuable member of our Town staff.



DAN ROSENBERG

BY CHIEF RUDY HERBELLO

Dan Rosenberg is a 12-year veteran of the Golden Beach Police Department and has actively been investigating cases for the past six years. Detective Rosenberg has cleared over 550 open cases dating back to 2010. Currently he has only 20 open cases, five of which he is ready to close. Presently, Det. Rosenberg is spearheading a tri-county criminal investigation comprised of four law enforcement agencies working jointly in the investigation of up to five suspects and a few businesses. Some of the suspects are career criminals who face many years of imprisonment if convicted. The Department would like to recognize Det. Rosenberg's self-motivation and outstanding performance.

The Town would like to thank these employees for their continued contributions to the Golden Beach community.



JUST LISTED IN GOLDEN BEACH



Waterfront Estate - 6 bedrooms, 6.5 baths, over 7,000 sq.ft. of living area

This spectacular, waterfront estate is situated on an oversized corner lot. Elegantly appointed, this designer showplace features volume ceilings, water views, and a spacious family floor plan. With 6 bedrooms and 6.5 baths, this smart home is perfect for a growing family. It boasts service quarters, office, two media rooms, and generous formal living and dining areas. Huge gourmet kitchen with spacious family room make this a wonderful home for entertaining. Crestron multi media provides remote monitoring, advanced sound throughout and remote access. All of the bedrooms are ensuite and feature custom closets. The luxurious master suite features a gym and sun deck overlooking the lushly landscaped pool, spa area and the intracoastal waterway.

Call Jodi Macken for further information or for private viewing 305-525-3515. Price available upon request.



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You did this.

For the past two years, the Town of Golden Beach has helped support the nearly 200 Teach For America teachers working in 40 of Miami-Dade's highest-need schools. From all of our teachers and the 20,000+ students they impact every day... **thank you.**



Help us make an even greater impact right here, in our own backyard, by sponsoring a Teach For America teacher in Miami-Dade. **For more information on how to get involved, call (305) 432-1158 or visit us at miamidade.teachforamerica.org.**

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IMPORTANT NUMBERS

POLICE-FIRE-EMERGENCY: **911**

REPORT CRIME – SUSPICIOUS ACTIVITY: **305.935.0940**

FIRE (NON-EMERGENCY): **786.331.5000**

TOWN HALL: **305.932.0744**

TOWN MANAGER ALEXANDER DIAZ: **305.932.0744** ext. 224

GATE HOUSE: **305.935.0940**

POLICE ADMINISTRATION: **305.936.2444**

PUBLIC WORKS: **305.932.0744** ext. 235

NORTH MIAMI BEACH WATER DEPARTMENT
(WATER SERVICES PROVIDER FOR GOLDEN BEACH): **305.948.2960**

NORTH MIAMI BEACH AFTER HOURS/
EMERGENCY WATER SERVICE: **305.652.6460**

MIAMI-DADE WATER & SEWER (EMERGENCY): **305.274.9272**

FLORIDA POWER & LIGHT (FPL): **305.442.8770**

CALL BEFORE YOU DIG: **811**

TECO GAS: **305.940.0139**



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