

Golden BEACH MAGAZINE

Issue 57

October 2021

**Halloween Returns
to Golden Beach:**
Details Inside!

The Only Official Magazine for the Town of Golden Beach

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TOWN OF GOLDEN BEACH

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LETTER FROM YOUR MAYOR

I AM HAPPY TO ANNOUNCE that in September, the Town Council and I approved a \$19,418,869 budget for 2021-2022.

I'd like to thank the Town Manager Alexander Diaz, Finance Director Maria Camacho, and all of the Department Directors for their hard work in helping to put this budget together. In preparing this budget, we were able to hold the Town's millage rate at a combined 8.4 mills while seeing an increase in the Town's assessed property values. We are proud of the fact that the Town Council and Town Administration has kept the Town's millage rate the same for the past seven (7) years.

Fall is here. Although we do not benefit from the beauty of the leaves changing, it does mean hurricane season is almost over. We have been fortunate to have avoided the impact of any major storms this year.

What a year this has been! We anticipate steady progress on our new Civic Center project and all of the other projects currently underway. As the holidays and year's end draw near, I am excited about what will take place in the upcoming months.

Your Mayor,

Glenn Singer



Mayor Singer (as Captain America) and Chief Herbello at a past Town Halloween celebration.



MANY PEOPLE LOOK FORWARD TO Halloween's yummy treats, sneaky tricks and creative costumes.

While it can be a delightful celebration, there is always a risk of things going awry. Statistics show that crime rates can be up to 50% higher on Halloween. But don't fret — follow our 15 tips for Halloween safety to keep your home and guests happy.

Halloween General Home Safety Tips

• #1 Turn off your alarm before trick-or-treaters arrive.

We encourage consistent arming of your home security system. However, preventing false security system alarms is also important. Halloween calls for your door to be open and closed often, so disarm your home security system before Captain America or Queen Elsa rings your doorbell.

• #2 Put your pets in a closed room.

Furry friends can bring joy and love to any home, but not all your visitors will feel the same way.

Confine your pet in a room away from the front door. You'll keep them less stressed, prevent unwanted harm and protect them from getting loose.

• #3 Turn on outside lights.

A dark house can tell people you're not accepting visitors and could also be an accident (or break-in) waiting to happen.

Keep the pathway from the street to your door well-lit to prevent any accidents. Install motion-sensor lights to add even more lighting for trick-or-treaters walking toward your door.

• #4 Sweep your driveway and walkway.

Prevent scraped knees and other accidents by sweeping away dirt, leaves or branches from your driveway or sidewalk.



GBPD Officers greet students during the Town's Back to School event in September.

Halloween Decorating Safety Tips

• #5 Don't place decorations on sidewalks.

Skip placing pumpkins, webs or skeletons on your sidewalk. Instead, place them off to the side. Your guests should look at your decorations, not walk on them.

• #6 Use LED-lit candles instead of real candles.

Try swapping real candles out for LED ones instead. Your jack-o'-lanterns will have the same effect without the added risk.

If you light jack-o'-lanterns or candles with real flame, ensure your smoke detectors have a fresh battery and are in working order.

• #7 Tone down the scary decorations.

Scary decorations could invite people to react in a way that you might not have wanted and deter younger visitors. To prevent people from attacking your decorations and to welcome more visitors, tone down the scary and opt for playfulness.

Halloween Safety Tips for Homeowners

• #8 Finish your home improvements.

Don't forget Halloween safety for toddlers and other young children since it's a night for fun, not injury.

Loose bricks and broken railings can be dangerous for overly excited kids. Go ahead and get around to your home improvements — the less risk at your home, the better.

• #9 Park your car in the garage.

Instead of risking accidental dents, scratches or pranks, park your car in your garage. If you don't have a garage, park your vehicle in a place with low traffic.

Lock your car doors to set the internal alarm system, giving you an added security boost.

• #10 Take pictures of your property before festivities begin.

Take pictures of your property before trick-or-treaters start to arrive and call your home insurance agent to check up on your plan's coverage.

• #11 Give your home a security badge.

Send the message to parents that your home is safe and warn unwanted guests that your home is protected. Place your home security yard sign and window stickers strategically for easy spotting.

• #12 Keep an eye on your front door.

Since you'll have trick-or-treaters knocking at your door fairly often, you'll want to be near your door. However, it's a good idea to lock your door after every visit.

Install a doorbell camera so you know who's at your door before you open it.

• #13 Turn your alarm back on before you go to bed.

Don't forget to set your alarm to stay or night mode at the end of the night. Having an armed and monitored home can give you the comfort needed to rest after an active evening.

Halloween COVID-19 Safety Tips

• #14 Avoid homemade treats.

Skip your famous candy corn mix and stick with the fun-size candies you can buy in bulk from the store. Store-bought candy labels have allergy warnings that can help prevent life-threatening reactions. Plus, the sweet treat inside is guaranteed to be up to sanitation standards.

• #15 Keep a safe distance between yourself and trick-or-treaters.

Use a candy chute, clothesline or even a large cauldron with an extra-long ladle to pass out candy at a safe distance.

Please note, on October 31st, the "spookiest day of the year," the Golden Beach Police Department will have plenty of police officers on-duty during the 2021 Halloween Party in North Park. There will be checkpoints and we will be checking all bags, backpacks and purses. Please talk to children and tell them that if they get lost, to look for a police officer or to go straight to our information/police booth.

As usual, traffic congestion and parking limitations will be an area of concern. No one is to park or leave a vehicle unattended on Golden Beach Drive. Parking will only be allowed in designated parking areas.

Thank You,

Rudy Herbello
Chief of Police
Golden Beach Police Department

“Florida City Government Week” Goes Virtual!

Join us as we celebrate Golden Beach virtually! Florida City Government Week is October 18-24, 2021. Florida City Government Week is a time for municipalities to provide and foster civic education, collaboration, volunteerism, and more. Since we will be celebrating virtually this year, we will be posting your Golden Beach Pride submissions on our Town website. Send us a video or a photo sharing what you LOVE about Golden Beach. Whether it is our Town events, recognizing the Town Council or Town Staff, or appreciation of aspects of the Town’s natural beauty; get creative. Send your photo or video to jkrepp@goldenbeach.us.



Calendar of Events

OCTOBER 2021

Tuesday, October 26 - Bulky Waste Pickup

Thursday, October 28 - Hotwire Groundbreaking Event, South Park - 11:00AM-1:00PM

Thursday, October 28 - Hotwire Launch Meet & Greet Event, South Park - 4:00PM-8:00PM

Saturday, October 30 - Drivers License Renewal Event, Town Hall - 10:00AM-2:00PM**

Sunday, October 31 - Halloween Event, North Park - 5PM-8PM

***Limited Availability RSVP only event, contact Town Hall for details*



PHOTO BY ROBIN WEINER

Need your Driver's License Renewed?

The Department of Motor Vehicles will have their Florida Licensing On Wheels (FLOW) truck at Town Hall on Saturday, October 30, 2021 from 10:00AM to 2:00PM.

- Appointments are REQUIRED and space is limited. Contact Sheila Staiger at 305-936-2444 for more information and to reserve your spot.
- Proof of Identification is REQUIRED. For a full list of necessary documents please visit: <https://www.flhsmv.gov/driver-licenses-id-cards/what-to-bring/>
- For Fee Information please visit <https://www.flhsmv.gov/fees/>
- For Health Safety Purposes:
 - ✓ Temperatures may be taken for anyone participating in the event
 - ✓ Be prepared to answer COVID-19 exposure/status questions
 - ✓ Masks will be required at all times

Heading to the

BEACH?



To protect the Quality-of-Life experience for all Residents, the Town would like to remind Residents of key rules of using the Beach and Beach Pavilion area of Town.

Keep in Mind....

- All users of the Beach Park must be Residents of the Town and must have identification (driver's license or Town ID) in order to verify proof of residence. Going forward, the Town will be strictly enforcing proof of residence with valid ID. Anyone without ID may be asked to leave.

Having Guests?

- A maximum of eight (8) guests are allowed per household.
- Residents MUST accompany their guests at the Beach Pavilion on weekends (Friday through Sunday). Unaccompanied guests will be asked to leave the beach.
- Residents' unaccompanied guests are allowed to use the beach and Beach Pavilion Monday through Thursday, however Beach Attendants will utilize the Resident database to contact residents and confirm the status of unaccompanied persons using the beach area daily. You may also call the Police Substation at (305) 935-0940 to announce your guests in advance and have them placed on the daily list.

Using the Beach Area....

- Use of the Town's equipment or furniture, including chairs, lounges, and chickee huts are on a first come, first serve basis only. Residents and their guests are allowed to use one lounge/sit up chair per person for a maximum of 8 chairs per household. The Town does not allow reserving of beach chairs or any beach lounge areas. Items left behind on unattended chairs are subject to removal.
- Maximum two (2) umbrellas per household.
- Each resident household may only use one (1) chickee hut at any given time to allow others access to huts.
- Animals are not allowed on the Town's beach.*
**unless the Town is hosting a pet-friendly event*
- No smoking or vaping on the beach or surrounding recreational areas.
- Alcoholic beverages and glass bottles are not allowed at the beach.
- No littering is permitted at the beach area. Please pick up after yourself.

IMPORTANT INFO ABOUT OUR HALLOWEEN EVENT:

The Town wants you to have a Spooky-yet-Safe Halloween. Here are some initiatives the Town is taking to keep you safe.

- Golden Beach will host a physical Halloween Event this year in North Park, on 10/31 from 5PM-8PM. This will be a smaller-scale **Golden Beach Residents Only event**. This is an event for YOU, and we want to make your experience as pleasurable as possible!
- **Expect Road Closures:** On October 31st, The Strand entrance of Town will close to visitors starting at 4PM and will remain closed to visitors for the duration of the event. Only Resident vehicles with Golden Beach decals/transponders or Residents with valid proof of Golden Beach

Residency (Driver's License, Town ID) will be allowed to enter Town during the restricted hours. Normal access through The Strand will resume after 8PM. This is an effort to deter non-residents from crowding an event that is meant for the enjoyment of Golden Beach residents. This policy will be strictly enforced; deliveries like "UberEats" and other services will not be permitted to enter Town; Residents will need to collect deliveries at The Strand gatehouse during the restricted hours.

- **Food and Dining:** To help prevent gathering and ease service, all food will be boxed in a "Grab and

Go" style. Our typical dining room setting will be spread out to accommodate a more socially distanced experience. We are also excited to be offering beer for Residents who are 21 and over, ID required.

- **Masks are Strongly Encouraged.** When choosing your costume, consider a mask that fully covers your nose and mouth. Help minimize risk of transmission of COVID-19.

- **Social Distancing is an important tool to prevent COVID-19 spread.** Respect physical distance measures whenever possible.

- **Watch for notices from the Town** on www.goldenbeach.us, changes or additions to protocols may occur. For questions, please contact Town Hall at (305) 932-0744.

THE TOWN OF GOLDEN BEACH WISHES YOU A SAFE AND HAPPY HALLOWEEN!





PHOTO BY LEIGH BENAYOUN

Surfs up for the Two-Month Old Harris Twins!

Proud Golden Beach Grandma Toti Fleischman sent in this adorable shot of her trip to the beach with her new grandbabies.

IMPORTANT NOTICE RE: Tennis Reservations

WEEKEND TENNIS RESERVATIONS MUST BE MADE BY **12:00 NOON ON FRIDAY** IN ORDER TO BE APPROVED. RESERVATIONS MADE AFTER THIS TIME WILL NOT BE HONORED AND COURT AVAILABILITY WILL BE ON A FIRST COME FIRST SERVE BASIS.

Please be aware, in the coming weeks the Civic Center project will require additional excavation in Tweddle Park. The Town will have only one tennis court available for use until further notice.

Hey Sharpshooter!

Golden Beach Resident Leigh Benayoun snapped this peaceful vista at the Beach Pavilion. Who doesn't love a relaxing day at the beach?! Are you a sharpshooter too? Let's see your Golden Beach snapshots and you too could be featured in Golden Beach Magazine. Send your photos to mglidden@goldenbeach.us.



PHOTO BY TOTI FLEISCHMAN

Hotwire Fiber Internet is Coming:

The Town's Fiber Internet project is speeding along. Here are some answers to the Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs) that we've heard from you.

"What service is the Town providing?"

The Town has entered into an agreement with Hotwire Communication to provide Fiber Internet Service AND the option of a Managed In-Home Wi-Fi System to every home in Golden Beach.

"What does the service include?"

Through this Capital Improvement Project, Residents will receive 1 Gigabit-per-second upload and 1 Gigabit-per-second download capabilities, and customer support for connectivity to their home. Residents who opt to receive Hotwire's Managed In-Home Wi-Fi System will also receive customer support for that equipment. Hotwire will be direct-mailing residents with information about their system specifications.

"What if I decide to keep my own existing in-home system instead of using Hotwire's system?"

Hotwire can only troubleshoot systems that they supply. If you have issues with service, Hotwire will still be able to troubleshoot and assure connectivity up to your home, but they will not be able to service the system within your home. Homeowners with non-Hotwire systems would have to contact their own IT manager.

"I'm undecided. What if I wait to swap out my in-home system until after the Town completes installation?"

Homeowners who elect to have their in-home systems installed at a later time will be subject to an additional fee.

"What additional services will be available from Hotwire as part of the project?"

Hotwire will offer services including cable, phone service, alarm service and additional equipment options. The Town of Golden Beach does not recommend, endorse or sponsor any services outside of its explicit contract agreement with Hotwire, so additional services would be at the homeowners' discretion and would be subject to direct billing from Hotwire.

"What does the overall anticipated project timeline look like?"

Hotwire has provided the following project timeline. All future dates are subject to change as they are moving targets.

- **Aug 2021** | Hotwire Bulk Agreement signed.
- **Aug 2021-Oct 2021** | Fiber layout design phase
- **Sept 2021** | Project Manager intro meeting with Town.
- **Oct 2021-Feb 2022** | Town construction backbone fiber install and fiber to each home.
- **Oct 2021-Jan 2022** | One on one consultations with residents.
- **Jan 2022-Feb 2022** | In unit install activations.
- **Jan 2022-Feb 2022** | Commercial services to be deployed.
- **THRU Feb 2022** | FisionLaunch Overbuild to be complete; system activation.

Got additional questions? Hotwire will be hosting a Groundbreaking Ceremony and Meet & Greet Q&A Event on Thursday, October 28th at South Park, event details can be found in the "Calendar of Events" section on Page 6 of this issue.

RECYCLING HAS BECOME WASTE-TO-ENERGY: A CLEAN, GREEN & EFFICIENT WAY TO ADDRESS RECYCLABLE MATERIALS

The Town's waste management initiative has moved away from conventional recycling to Waste-to-Energy (WTE) production. Residents will no longer need to sort (or even separate) recyclables from their other household garbage.

How does Waste-To-Energy work?

Garbage is collected and the trucks bring it directly to the Waste-to-Energy (WTE) plants. The trucks are weighed, and the contents are tipped into a concrete

storage pit. The entire process takes place indoors to control dust from entering the atmosphere, and to ensure that odors are not apparent to the surrounding community. Giant cranes move and mix the waste, and extract bulky items that are too large for the furnace. The cranes then feed the waste into the furnace, which burns at over 1800 degrees Fahrenheit.

The waste moves along a conveyor system of metal grates. Gas produced from the combustion are carried up from the grates through boiler tubes to produce steam. The gas goes from the boiler to a scrubber where they are mixed with a mist of water and lime. As it cools, the gas undergoes a chemical reaction which neutralizes acids and produces particles that can be collected by a "baghouse" filtering system. Finally, the cleaned gas is vented through a stack that rises 200 feet above the ground.

The ash that is a by-product of the WTE process is trolled for metals that can be recycled. The remaining ash is landfilled in special areas called monofills. Like other landfills, monofills have liners to prevent groundwater contamination, and the liquid captured is either used inside the WTE plant or sent for sewage treatment.

What does it mean for you?

- You do not need to separate recyclables from other household waste.
- You may use any color bin to dispose of combined household waste and recyclables.
- Your combined household waste and recyclables will be collected on garbage days (Mondays & Thursdays).

For Information on the Waste-To-Energy process, please visit:<https://www.eia.gov/energyexplained/biomass/waste-to-energy.php>

Lock it Before You Leave it

Don't make yourself a target for crimes of opportunity. The Golden Beach Police Department has increased its presence as a preemptive measure, but we need your help.

Don't be a victim of crime. Stay safe.

- Secure any valuables before parking, or take them with you.
- Do not leave valuables in plain sight.
- Lock your car.
- Park in a high-visibility area.
- Never leave your keys in your vehicle.

Do not leave garage doors open, even if you are home. Open garages can be an invitation for theft. Garage doors can also give easy access to the interior of your home and its contents.

Consider installing motion detecting lighting around your home. Potential criminals tend to avoid areas where they can be seen. Doorbell viewers and other cameras can also give you a view of your property from the comfort of your home or when on the go.

**Always report suspicious activities to
The Strand Gatehouse (305)935-0940**

King Tides Continue

Autumn months bring tides that are higher than normal and can cause localized flooding. Areas prone to flooding will see increased standing water during these days.

Projected upcoming King Tide dates are, November 3 - 9, 2021 and December 2-7, 2021. Expect possible temporary flood conditions particularly during these dates.

Keep in Mind....

- Road closures may occur as a result of flooding.
- Avoid driving through flooded streets as it may cause your car to stall, or unseen objects below the surface may cause damage to your car.
- Wash your car thoroughly if it does come into contact with flood waters as they are high in salt deposits which could cause damage.

Keep Things Clean: Illegal Disposal

It is unlawful to deposit garbage, plant wastes, garden trash, rubbish and other materials on any vacant lots, or Town property, streets, storm drains, canals, and beach areas, and to deposit, sweep or blow grass onto Town streets or pile trash over storm drains. If you see an individual dumping on a vacant lot, or any other illegal dumping, call the Police Department immediately.

It is also unlawful to randomly dispose of used motor oil, paint, batteries, gas tanks, and other combustible or potentially hazardous material. Public Works **WILL NOT** pick up this kind of waste. Miami-Dade County has a facility located at 140 NW 160th Street that will accept these items for disposal. This center is open daily from 7 am to 5:30 pm.

If at any time items cannot be picked up during regular garbage/trash runs, a Public Works employee may leave an orange-colored door hanger to notify you of any violations. Please follow the directives outlined on the hanger.

Play Ball! Pickleball, that is!

In October, the Town hosted a Pickleball clinic in Tweddle Park. Pickleball is an exciting, fast-paced sport that unites elements of traditional tennis, badminton and ping-pong. Needless to say, everyone attending had a lot of fun!



Civic Center Building

The construction of the civic center building is continuing on schedule. The structural foundations and underground storm water systems are in place. We anticipate that the building will begin ‘going vertical’ by the mid of November. Currently, the team is finalizing low-voltage requirements and specifying details.

Center Island Pump Station

Currently, we are installing all electrical components and coordinating efforts with FPL to expedite this phase. The site is in final grading and the installation of landscaping is set to be complete by the mid of November. The existing town feature will be rehabilitated with the addition of a new Veterans Memorial.

Fiber Optic Technology

The town has issued an approval for Hotwire to begin construction. Crews will start marking locations and begin the installation of the ‘backbone’ for the fiber-optic system. We should expect to see Hotwire crews in town by the end of October.

Town-wide Security Upgrade

The police department has been working with the Manager and staff to expand upon the security assessment report recently submitted by the Chief of police. We have identified locations where we will add cameras and new technology. We are excited to include this project into the fiber optic upgrades that the town will receive over the course of this year. With the proposed upgrades, the town of Golden Beach is set to be one of the securest towns in the country.

Bus Shelters on A1A at Ravenna & Palermo Avenues

The project is pending installation of the final landscape which we anticipate will be complete in the next two weeks. The construction of the bus shelters is complete. The installation of the new water connection to provide irrigation to the proposed landscape is complete. The installation of the new aluminum fencing and pedestrian gate is complete.

Miami-Dade Water & Sewer Force Main Replacement on Golden Beach Drive

The Town negotiated with the Miami-Dade Water and Sewer Department (WASD) for the Town’s Forcemain Replacement on Golden Beach Drive. Not only is WASD covering the costs of the force-main replacement, they are also installing brand new asphalt, pavers and geo-grid on Golden Beach Drive from Navona Avenue to Terracina Drive – a savings to the Town of an estimated \$1.2-million.

We have been coordinating closely with the town’s engineers and the project engineers to ensure that the materials and methods used to complete this project are in line with the town’s standards of infrastructure construction. The town recently attended a design update meeting with the project engineers to confirm that we are all on the same page. The project is in review with Miami-Dade. We do not have a completion date for the project.



Beach Shower Repair

The newly installed shower tower is ADA compliant and accessible to all our residents. It includes (2) shower heads and a foot spray.

Beach Pavilion Fan Replacement

The new fans have been installed and are operating better than before.

Tweddle Park Outfall

The work entails the replacement of existing fittings near 147 Golden Beach Drive with new fittings to improve the hydraulics of the existing storm water gravity outfall and includes the adjustment of the manhole opposite of this location with a new top slab with sealed lids to keep lids from surcharging. The town council approved the contract with Southeastern Engineering Contractors at the June 15th meeting. The project schedule has not been set however, we anticipate that the repair should be complete by the end of 2021.

Resilience Team Update

In mid-June, the town held a workshop with all consulting engineers to initiate the creation of the Town Resilience Team. The team has been tasked with identifying problems relating to sea level rise and tidal flooding. In addition, propose solutions and prioritization of items by level of threat to the town. We hope that with the support of our town engineers, we will create a holistic approach to the environmental challenges we have now, and are set to face in the future.

The town has submitted an application for FDEP grant funding to support the restoration of infrastructure at Tweddle Park that is currently performing far below the design standard. Looking towards the future, we believe this location is at the top of our list in terms of the level of flood threat to the town. It is our hope that in the future, this gravity system can be replaced with a mechanical pump system.



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Golden BEACH IMPORTANT NUMBERS

POLICE-FIRE-EMERGENCY: 911

REPORT CRIME – SUSPICIOUS ACTIVITY: 305.935.0940

FIRE (NON-EMERGENCY): 786.331.5000

TOWN HALL: 305.932.0744

MAYOR GLENN SINGER: 305.932.0744 GSINGER@GOLDENBEACH.US

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RESIDENT SERVICES DIRECTOR MICHAEL GLIDDEN 305.932.0744 ext. 245 MGLIDDEN@GOLDENBEACH.US

HOME CHEMICAL COLLECTION CENTER: WEST MIAMI-DADE LOCATION: 305.468.5900

POLICE ADMINISTRATION: 305.936.2444

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

GATE HOUSE: 305.935.0940 TECO GAS: 305.940.0139

COVID-19 Resources

Find a COVID-19 vaccination site near you at:

<https://www.miamidade.gov/global/initiatives/coronavirus/vaccine/vaccine-locator.page>

Find a COVID-19 testing site near you at:

<https://floridahealthcovid19.gov/testing-sites>

or

https://mdc.nomihealth.com/easy_registration/12/onsite



ONE GOLDEN BEACH DRIVE | GOLDEN BEACH, FLORIDA 33160