

Golden
BEACH
MAGAZINE

Issue 67

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Lock Your Car. Lock Your Home.
Together we can prevent Crime.

The Only Official Magazine for the Town of Golden Beach

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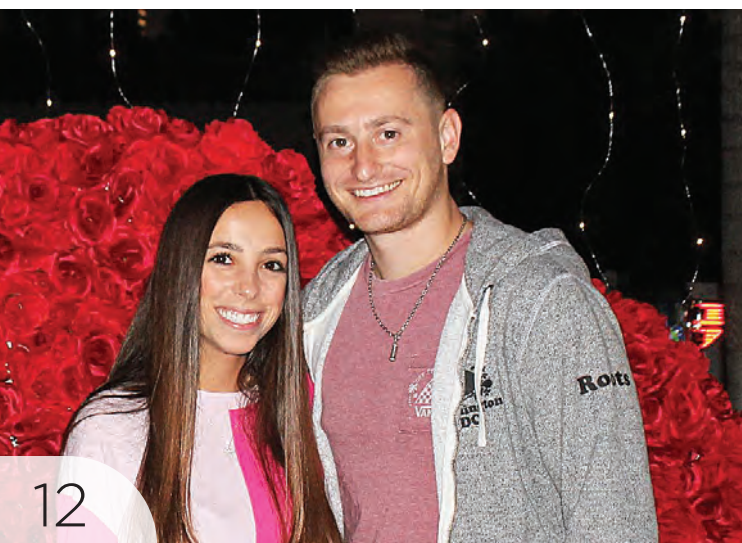
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MESSAGE FROM THE MAYOR

I recognize that safety and security has recently been a concern.

Safety and security are closely interrelated concepts that pertain to protection of lives and assets. While safety is protection against hazards (accidents that are unintentional), security is a state of feeling protected against threats that are deliberate and intentional.

In an effort to make sure Golden Beach is safe, we have added patrol officers during shifts that may be vulnerable and we have joined a task force of neighboring municipalities, which increases our ability to maintain security. However, it is imperative that our residents take responsibility for securing their homes and their property. Security and Safety is our top priority for our residents of Golden Beach.

Thank you to everyone who attended the Swearing-In Ceremony. I want to congratulate Vice Mayor Ken Bernstein and Councilmember Ben Einstein on their re-election and their continued dedication to the residents of Golden Beach. I also look forward to continuing to serve with Councilmembers Judy Lusskin and Jaime Mendal. We are grateful to the Mayors and Councilmembers from our neighbors in Aventura, Sunny Isles Beach and Surfside, who attended in addition to numerous other dignitaries. We would also like to thank the Honorable Mindy Glazer who officiated the ceremony.

We are pleased with the progress we have made as our new Civic Center has taken shape. We are excited about creating a space that will highlight the benefits of living and working in Golden Beach. Most of the exterior work

has been completed and we are focusing on the interior design. We look forward to the day when our new Civic Center will be open for business.

We know that winter is a time of reflection and regeneration. As we "spring forward" into the time of renewal and rebirth, I am excited about the future of the Town of Golden Beach.

And to all of our residents, remember that Town Council Meetings are open to the public and the Town Manager and Staff at Town Hall are always available to address any concerns you might have.

Thank you residents of Golden Beach.

Glenn Singer

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "G. Singer".

Your Mayor



POLICE BEAT



IT'S HARD TO BELIEVE THAT WINTER IS ALREADY GONE AND SPRING HAS OFFICIALLY SPRUNG.

The changing seasons give residents an excellent opportunity to enjoy all of the beauty of Golden Beach and its amenities. It is also worth noting that hurricane season is only two months away and that it is never too early to make plans and prepare for what we might need.

Typically this time of the year, I use my column to encourage residents to prepare for Spring break and enjoy the summer, to start thinking about hurricane season, and to talk about our accomplishments as a police department, which we have had many. However, there is an important pressing matter in Town that needs my undivided attention. I am referring to the Crime Watch Alerts that the Town has been issuing since late last year. The Town has utilized

various forums to update residents on recent crime developments affecting our community, including the town's magazine, flyers, e-blasts, website, news station as well as town council meetings and in-person discussions with residents. On March 28th we even hosted a Public Safety Update Zoom Meeting to update residents in real-time. Though I cannot give details on any open case, I can let you know that there is an active investigation out of Broward County which provides us enough concern to encourage you to do your part in protecting yourself and your family.

The concern stems from experiencing a dramatic uptick in auto theft cases, which have affected not only our community but many neighboring communities in South Florida including Aventura, Sunny Isles Beach, Bal Harbor, Surfside, Miami, Coral Gables and others countywide.

These are crimes of opportunity, not forceful felonies. The perpetrators are not smashing windows or prying open doors. They are just looking for easy access to the cars.



The contributing factor 100% of the time has been vehicle owners leaving their front gates to their houses wide open with an unlocked vehicle and the car keys inside.

It cannot be stressed enough, we need your help to stop these completely preventable crimes. Believe it or not, you are the solution and the key component to help us neutralize these thefts. You wouldn't leave your car unlocked with the keys inside when you visit the mall or doctor's office, we need you to use that same common sense when you get home.

- ★ **Take your car keys or key fobs inside your house with you**
- ★ **Lock your cars**
- ★ **Do not leave valuables inside your cars**
- ★ **Do not leave the front gate or garage doors open, even if you are at home**

Please note, the GBPD has been taking the following active steps to stop these criminals:

- Enhanced our police staffing
- Recalled our detached detectives
- Assembled a multi-agency Auto Theft Task Force
- Continuously checking all vehicles coming into the interior of the town between 10pm and 6am
- Adding additional cameras, and enhancing the ones we already have

Even with all the steps we have taken, we still need your help. Do your part, take safety precautions and always report suspicious activities immediately at (305) 935-0940.

Thank You,

Rudy Herbello, Chief of Police

Committees: Be Heard, Be Involved

Town Committees give Residents an outlet to meet and discuss the direction of the Town. With the pandemic waning and the return to in-person meetings, under the direction of the Town Council, Golden Beach is looking to bring back its committees, but we need you. Committees are dependent on Resident commitment and involvement.

Do you have a hands-on approach? Are you committed and interested in volunteering your time? Consider joining the Town Committees. Below is a list of the Committees with a description of duties:

Beach Committee: This committee deals with all things beach. Whether it be the beautification, usage, safety or maintenance of the beach, this committee discusses all important actions related to the Town's beach.

Building Regulatory Advisory Board (BRAB):

This Board meets once a month, quorum permitting, for approval of all Resident's building projects including new construction, additions and exterior alterations to existing homes, pools, pool decking, gazebos and pergolas, boat lifts, and docks and ensuring that these projects adhere to the aesthetics and code of the Town.

Security & Public Safety Committee: Working directly with the Golden Beach Police

Department, this committee deals with the safety of the Town, making sure the voices of Residents are heard.

Employee Pension Board: The Town invites Residents to participate in shaping the Pension services and benefits for Town Employees. The Board meets quarterly, unless there is an urgent matter to be discussed.

Golden Beach Youth Leadership Group

(GBYLG): Are you a Golden Beach resident between the ages of 10 and 18 years old? Are you looking for a way to get involved and help the community around you, all while meeting other kids with similar interests? If so consider joining the Golden Beach Youth Leadership Group. The group meets several times a year at Town Hall to discuss and plan events. As a group, members participate in community service activities including Beach Clean Ups and Food Drives. It is an excellent way to earn Community Service hours for school as well as have a great time and make friends. Town Councilmember and Golden Beach Youth Group Advisor Judy Lusskin is available to answer questions regarding the Group at (305) 986-4377.

Any Residents interested in joining a Town committee should send their NAME, ADDRESS, PHONE NUMBER, EMAIL and COMMITTEE(S) they are interested in joining to Resident Services Department.

Please note that committees typically meet on a quarterly schedule and may adjust schedules on an "as-needed basis," meaning should special circumstances arise members can petition for special meetings and committee members will be notified of any special sessions in advance. Should there not be sufficient interest in a committee, the committee will be disbanded until further notice. Please contact Town Hall for more information on which committees are currently active.

See Something Suspicious? Call the Gatehouse

Day or night, if you see something suspicious, call the Gatehouse at The Strand. The Gatehouse is an outpost of the Police Department and is able to dispatch police officers to investigate, 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. The Gatehouse can be reached at (305)935-0940.



GBPD/Resident Soccer

Golden Beach Police Department is looking to host an all-ages soccer event for Residents. The event would bring together Residents and officers from the Golden Beach Police Department to play in a friendly and fun community event.

Depending on interest, events may be held on an on-going basis. Anyone interested in playing should contact Golden Beach Police Officer Daniel Llarea at dllarea@goldenbeach.us.

An Unlikely Rescue



Lifeguards typically keep an eye on our shoreline looking for swimmers in need of help, but there was a recent rescue that wasn't your typical "day at the beach." Golden Beach Lifeguard Chad Turnipseed, Beach Attendant Amber Schwabenbauer, and Golden Beach Resident Dr. Stanley Feinman were able to delicately rescue an injured Gannet on the beach.

Gannets are one of the largest sea birds that inhabit our coast, they can have a wingspan of up to almost 40 inches. The injured bird was hand delivered to the Pelican Harbor Bird Sanctuary in Miami for treatment. Stay tuned for updates on his progress.

A Special Visitor

State Representative Fabian Basabe (District 106) recently visited Town Hall. He met with Mayor Glenn Singer and Town Manager Alexander Diaz to discuss Golden Beach and how to best meet our community's needs.



In the Community

In celebration of the 25th Anniversary of the Golden Beach Chabad, Rabbi Chay Amar (center) was joined by Vice Mayor Kenneth Bernstein (left) and Mayor Glenn Singer (right).

Don't Miss Out on Important Town News:



Stay in the Loop with our eBlast Alerts

For important updates in between issues of the Town Magazine be sure to sign up for the Town's e-mail blast. We'll keep you updated on information including:

- Town Project Updates/Requests for Feedback
- Crime Watch Notices
- Hurricane/Hazardous Weather Updates
- Town Meeting Notifications

We know you're busy and don't always have time to read up on everything going on in Town, so we'll keep it simple, straightforward and useful, and your information will not be shared with outside parties. Don't miss another notice, sign up today! For inquiries, e-mail Michael Glidden, Director of Resident Services at mglidden@goldenbeach.us.

HURRICANE SEASON IS COMING. Conditions can change fast. Be informed, Stay informed.

The CodeRED service informs Residents during emergencies, including evacuations, road closures and other important notices. Notifications can be received via cell phone, land line, text messages, or email. The notices can be seen as a "Reverse 911," where instead of you calling emergency services, emergency services call you to warn of a critical situation.

Please contact Jisel Krepp at (305) 932-0744, between the hours of 8:00AM and 4:00PM, Monday to Friday, or by email at jkrepp@goldenbeach.us.

Playground Design Discussion

As we continue to move forward with the Civic Center complex, the Town has gotten residents involved in the various upcoming stages of the project. In March, the Town hosted two playground discussion meetings to hear ideas from the community at large.

Amenities for the re-imagined Tweddle Park will be launched in phases as approved by the town council. The first delivery of the project will be (3) Tennis Courts (two conventional courts and one turf court), and (2) new pickleball courts. A large part the project will include raising the elevations of these areas to alleviate water pooling or potential flooding concerns. The budget for the project is expected to be between \$1.2 - 1.5 million, with a bulk of the financing being dedicated to earth work, grading and drainage.

As another measure to address ground saturation in the new Civic Center complex, at the February 2023 Town Council Meeting the Town Council awarded a contract for upgrades to the Tweddle Park Pump Station.

A considerable amount of thought has been applied towards the phasing of this project. In an effort to create an opportunity that allows our residents continuous use of the existing playground amenity, we have restructured the approach. The existing tot lot and pavilion will remain operational through the construction of the new Youth Playground allowing for uninterrupted use.

The new "Youth Area" (formerly known as the Tot Lot)

will consist of zoned facilities, arranged by approximate age demographics. There will be areas for toddlers and small children, "bigger kids" (elementary school aged children), and even amenities that can be enjoyed by tweens, teens and young adults. The new Youth Area will grow 2,000 square feet larger than the existing Tot Lot.

Safety is always paramount, and the Town will consult with professional playground designers to be sure that installation and surfaces comply with industry safety standards.

Sun and heat are also a point of discussion for the park area. The Town Council and resident committee have discussed novel ideas for how to protect park users from harmful UV rays and soaring temperatures. The project will consider aesthetics and functionality to bring a solution that is both visually appealing and problem solving. There will also be a small water feature that will allow for refreshing fun during warmer months.

The Youth Area is expected to be part of a later delivery in the project. The site of the future Youth Area will serve as a staging area for the Wellness Center and other park amenities. Upon completion of those projects, the Youth Area will be next in line to take shape. Once complete, the 'old' tot lot and pavilion will be demolished to make way for a new junior basketball court and dog park.

As the project progresses, the Town will continue to host workshops where residents can contribute their feedback on an ongoing basis.



Town Garners Major Financial Accolade



Prestigious Investor Service Moody's has assigned an Aa2 Issuer Rating to the Town of Golden Beach. This is the 16th year the Town has received this distinguished recognition.

Congrats to the Mayor, Town Council and Town Staff for their efforts to make this achievement possible.

AROUND TOWN



Swearing-In Ceremony

The Town of Golden Beach gathered to celebrate the re-election of Mayor Glenn Singer, Vice Mayor Kenneth Bernstein and Councilmember Bernard Einstein. Local officials joined Residents and invited guests to recognize the momentous occasion.

Mayor Singer begins his tenth term with the Town, Vice Mayor Bernstein enters his fifth term and Councilmember Einstein enters his seventh term of office.

The re-elected Mayor and Councilmembers, along with current Councilmembers Judy Lusskin and Jaime Mendal will continue their work to best serve the community. Projects include overseeing the completion of the Town's brand new Civic Center Complex. This multi-million dollar project will mark a major turning point in Golden Beach, providing the community with a state-of-the-art government hub and community center. Future projects include the redevelopment of the Town's park spaces, additional amenities and a new Wellness Center.

Congratulations Mayor Singer, Vice Mayor Bernstein and Councilmember Einstein!



AROUND TOWN

Valentine's Day

Residents showed some love in South Park this past Valentine's Day. Mixing and mingling surrounded by the sounds of live music, residents made this event another well attended winter highlight.

