

SAILING

Surfside
FLORIDA

INTERNAL EMPLOYEE NEWSLETTER

Fall 2023

Celebrating Our Hardworking Team

Achievements

Birthdays

Work Anniversaries

Pin Ceremonies

New Hires

Town of Surfside



Important Announcements

Corporate Behavior
Management Workshop
Personal Days Reminders
Insurance Cards



Team Building

Staff & Family Appreciation Day
Health & Wellness Fair
New Employee Gym
Pet Picture Corner

A LOOK INSIDE



Important Announcements

Corporate Behavior Management Workshop

Powerhouse Workshops will be conducting a Corporate Behavior Management Workshop on Wednesday, September 6th from 10:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. in the Chambers. Please RSVP by noon Friday, September 1st, 2023.

Workshop: Corporate Behavior Management Workshop

Topic: Proven nonviolence methodology and techniques to control the emotion of anger and how to solve conflicts without resorting to violence

Length: 2 Hours

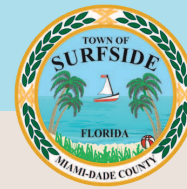
Goals: To learn how to handle the emotion of anger proactively by making lifestyle changes and applying evidence-based methodologies & key techniques that will diffuse this emotion, and consequently, turn hostility into harmony. To learn the evidence-based methodology of how to solve conflicts without resorting to violence by applying the nonviolent communications FORMULA and learn how to effectuate positive change with win-win results.



Reminders

- Personal days must be used by Dec. 31. Unused personal days will be lost as there is no carryover of personal days.
- You can only carry over a maximum of 300 vacation hours from one year to the other i.e. Dec.-Jan.
- Please do not misplace your insurance cards or HRA cards as they are still valid for the next fiscal year. Regardless of open enrollment changes (if any) the card remains the same.

Remembrance Team



The Town extends the sincerest appreciation to each and every team member who came together under the scorching sun to contribute their efforts towards the installation, planning, and execution of the remembrance event and the memorial wall. From meticulously arranging easels to adorning them with flowers and photographs, your dedication was truly commendable.



The success of the Remembrance event for the Town of Surfside would not have been possible without the hard work and unwavering commitment of each team member involved. Your professionalism and genuine care demonstrated during this project touched the hearts of many.

Public Works Appreciation BBQ

Public Works Directors and Administrative staff held a luncheon for Public Works, Solid Waste, and Water & Sewer staff in honor of Public Works Appreciation Week. These divisions are the backbone of the Town, who often go unrecognized. Thank you for improving the quality of life for the Town. Thank you to all the staff:

Rigoberto Chaviano
Donovan Johnson
Martinez Saintilmond
Harry Saintil
Jean Cerene
Jhon Escobar
Kenny Chaviano
Curtan Turner
Wayne Taylor
Frantza Duval
Felix Alvarez
Randy Stokes



Josvani Iglesias
Gustavo Gonzalez
Carlos Duarte
Jose Nodarse
Tamara Capote Guanche
Jose Acevedo
Silace Petitcar
Derick Scott
Bernardo Cordova
Mitch Michel
Albert Noel
Pierre Desamour
Harold Jean Baptiste

*Honorable mention Hector Gomez, Town Manager and former Public Works Director.

Work Anniversaries: September to November

We thank you for your commitment to excellence



New Hires

Let's give a warm welcome to the new talent joining the Surfside family



Fermin Felix
Community Service Aide



Joshua Rosario
Police Officer



Daniel Dominguez, PT
Chief Building Inspector



Carolina Paz, PT
Recreation Leader I



Ileana Lena Hernandez
PT Lifeguard



Cindy Alvarez
Building Permit
Technician I



Fidel Martinez
PT Lifeguard



Heineys Batista-Hernandez
Communications Operator

Celebrating Promotions



Lifeguard Promotions: Elevating Safety on the Water Rescue Team

Anibal Modica rises to Head Lifeguard, leveraging his seasoned expertise, while Ramon Calvo secures the role of FT Lifeguard, both strengthening the lifeguard squad's dedication to waterfront safety.



Join us in extending heartfelt congratulations to our team member, Mayte Gamiotea, on her well-deserved promotion to Finance Manager. We eagerly anticipate her ongoing achievements and valuable contributions to both Surfside and the Finance Department. Cheers to your success, Mayte!



Rony Jean and Marisol Vargas Take the Lead!

With immense pride, we announce the promotions of our esteemed team members, Rony Jean and Marisol Vargas. Rony Jean steps into the role of Building Department Supervisor I-PERMITS, while Marisol Vargas assumes the position of Building Department Supervisor II-ADMINISTRATIVE. Their exceptional dedication propels us towards our mission of elevating professionalism and customer service. Join us in applauding Rony and Marisol for their remarkable achievements!

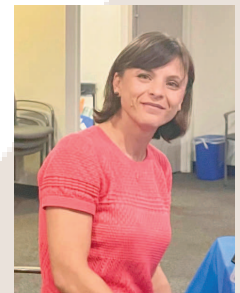


Please join us in congratulating Frantza Duval on her new position as Assistant Public Works Director. We look forward to her continued contributions and success in Surfside and the Public Works Department. Congratulations Fran!

#DONE

On Thursday, August 3, the Surfside Police Department promoted Captain Antonio Marciante to Assistant Chief of Police and Sergeant Jose "Jay" Matelis to Captain in front of a packed, standing-room only audience.

Elected Officials, family members, staff and friends all came together to celebrate the occasion. Congratulations!



Extending warm congratulations to Irina Mocanu on her well-earned promotion to the role of Chief of Staff! This accomplishment reflects her dedication and expertise. She will excel in this new position. Best wishes to her as she embarks on this important journey!

Pin Ceremony



Officer Loxley Arch, Police, 30 years



Darlene Martinat, Finance, 25 years



Priscilla Krutules, Town Clerk, 20 years



Gustavo Gonzalez, Public Works, 10 years



Ulises Fernandez, Building, 5 years



Antonio Marciante, Police, 5 years



Celebrating Accomplishments



A big congratulations to Frank, Luiza, and Cindy from the Tourism & Communications team for their exceptional work in organizing and executing a fantastic lineup of Tourist Board events. Their efforts brought to life unforgettable experiences like the Music on the Beach and Summer Sundays monthly series. Notably, they introduced the exciting Surfcastle Royale, Surfsides' inaugural sandcastle competition, adding an extra layer of enjoyment to the summer festivities. Their dedication and creativity truly made this past summer a remarkable and memorable one.



The Public Works Department's dedicated Staff plays a direct supporting role in the accomplishments of the Town of Surfside's major projects.



Wayne Taylor and Curtan Turner installing a water box for a Resident.



Maintenance Supervisor Josvani Iglesias and Carlos Duarte assembling the new ice machine in the Public Works Garage.



Randy Stokes, Public Works Director operating the combination load assisting the Utilities Division replace a sewer line connection on Biscaya Drive. Pictured: Randy Stokes, Wayne Taylor, Utilities Supervisor Kenny Chaviano and Curtan Turner.



The Solid Waste Team lead by Driver Albert Noel, Rigoberto Chaviano and Martinez Saintilmond.



Wayne Taylor and Curtan Turner from the Utilities Division capping a waterline.



Josvani Iglesias, Gustavo Gonzalez and Carlos Duarte performing landscaping operations in the Town Parking lot.

SURFSIDE WISHES HAPPY BIRTHDAY

To all of our Fall Season birthdays



Ramon Calvo Marcelo
Jean Cerene
Rigoberto Chaviano
Javier Collazo
Marian Cruz
Pierre Desamour
Robert Hernandez Blanco
Katarzyna Jagielska
Harold Jean Baptiste
Magalvs Quintero
Marlon Revolva
Cindy Reyes
Lesmes Ruiz

September

Carlos Agon
Gilberto Almeneiro
Felix Fermin
Bobby Gabriel
Dina Goldstein
Gustavo Gonzalez
Donovan Johnson
Priscilla Krutules
Donovan Saffo
Marisol Vargas
Joshua Rosario
Silace Petitar
Jose Nodarse
Sandra McCreedy
Marie Martinat
Marianella Luces Marcano

October

Alain Acosta
Frantza Duval
Jhon Escobar
Judith Frankel
Kemuel Gambirazio
Luiza Garcia
John Healy
Elinor Joseph
Ariol Lage
Joseph Matthews
Pierre Prophete
Kimberly Ruvin
Randy Stokes

November

Active Shooter / Hurricane Training

The Town's Police Department hosted an Active Shooter, How to Respond, and Hurricane Season Presentation training for all civilian employees led by Captain Jay Matelis in June.



Customer Service Training

Rick Caldwell from RCultures conducted a Customer Service Training on Thursday, July 6, from 9 a.m. to 12 p.m. in the Chambers.



Celebrating Accomplishments



The lifeguard team of the Town of Surfside stands as an unwavering sentinel of safety along its picturesque shores. With vigilant eyes and unwavering dedication, this exceptional team embodies the spirit of guardianship, ensuring the well-being of beachgoers and water enthusiasts. Their seamless coordination, swift responses, and comprehensive training underscore their commitment to preventing and addressing water-related emergencies. Whether through routine surveillance, rapid intervention, or educating the public about water safety, the Surfside water rescue team exudes professionalism and a deep sense of responsibility, making them an integral part of the Town's vibrant coastal community.

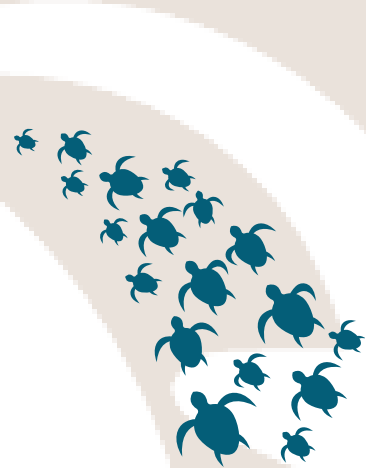


Pictured is the swearing-in of Evelyn Herbello as the South District Director for the Florida Association of City Clerks—a remarkable achievement that deserves recognition. Join in the applause for Evelyn's accomplishment. Congratulations!



Frantza Duval, Public Works Assitant Director, takes charge of leading essential training sessions for the Public Works staff. With expertise and dedication, Frantza ensures that the team has the necessary skills and knowledge. A commendable effort towards skill enhancement and operational excellence.

Turtle Town



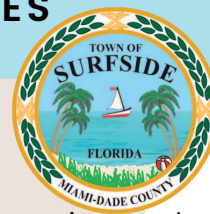
Record-breaking Year for Turtle Nests in Surfside: 57 and Counting!

Surfside is witnessing a remarkable surge in turtle nesting this year, with an impressive count of 57 nests reported so far. The Town's Parks & Recreation Director, Tim Milian, expressed his astonishment, stating, "We have been keeping numbers for more than 20 years and this is by far the most nests we have seen in one season."

While the increasing number of nests is an exciting development, it is crucial for beachgoers to be aware of their impact on turtle wildlife. To ensure the safety and well-being of the turtles and their hatchlings, it is important to avoid intruding on the nests. Visitors are advised to stay clear of marked nesting areas, as even the slightest disturbance can disrupt the incubation process and pose a threat to the survival of the eggs.



TEAM BUILDING AND EMPLOYEE ACTIVITIES



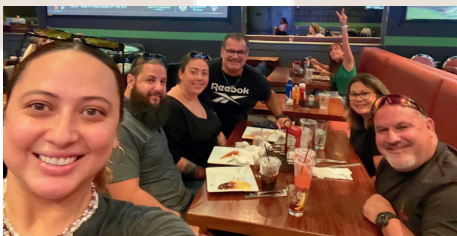
Health & Wellness Fair

On June 8, attendees had the opportunity to win door prizes, undergo biometric screenings, and enjoy samples of wholesome foods and invigorating smoothies. The fair featured an assortment of health and wellness vendors and activities, including the presence of representatives from insurance carriers. It was a wonderful occasion that encouraged participants to prioritize their health and embrace a comprehensive sense of well-being.



Staff & Family Appreciation Day at Dave & Busters

On June 11, the event brought together employees and their loved ones for a day of fun and gratitude. Attendees relished in a range of entertaining activities while strengthening the bond between colleagues and their families. From thrilling games to delectable treats, the event provided a memorable experience that celebrated the value of both employees and their cherished families.

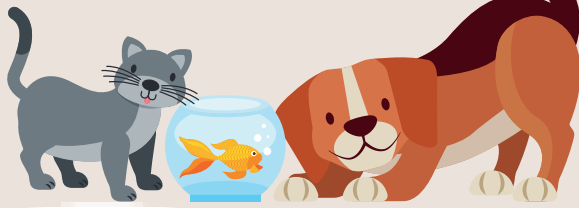


New Employee Gym Grand Opening

The gym showcases state-of-the-art fitness equipment and modern facilities designed to promote employee well-being. Attendees eagerly explored the gym's offerings, marking a positive step toward fostering a healthier and more vibrant workplace community.

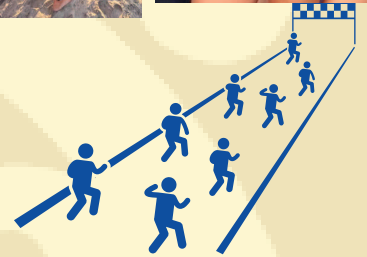


Koko's Pet Corner



Crossing The Finish Line

Congratulations to Parks & Rec.'s Marianella L. Marcano, for her successful participation in the Mack Cycle Key Biscayne Sprint Triathlon 2023 in August. She came in 1st place in the swimming category.



Surfside Kitties

Dina Goldstein, Executive Assistant to the Chief of Police, has not only demonstrated her dedication to her profession but also to her feline companions. Sharing her life with her beloved cats, Tango and Forrest, Dina's devotion shines through their remarkable stories. Tango, now at the dignified age of 13, came into her life in a unique way, discovered by construction workers during the building of the Surfside Community Center when he was a mere 3 days old. Dina's unwavering commitment led her to nurse Tango with her own hands, visiting him daily during lunch breaks until he gained the strength to feed independently. Forrest, on the other hand, found his forever home after being rescued from the Surfside police parking lot. Adopted around the age of a month, he quickly became an integral part of her life. These two feline companions, intertwined with Dina's life and work, are not just cats; they represent the heart of Surfside, embodying the love and compassion that defines the community.



Stay tuned

SAILING SURFSIDE

Sailing Surfside, the internal employee newsletter for The Town of Surfside is published quarterly on the first week of the season.

- Winter Edition - December 1st
- Spring Edition - March 1st
- Summer Edition - June 1st
- Fall Edition - September 1st

If you wish to acknowledge a fellow team member, extend commendation to a colleague, or include any pertinent details in our forthcoming publication, kindly get in touch with Cindy Reyes at creyes@townofsurfsidefl.gov

Thank you