

SAILING

Surfside  
FLORIDA

# INTERNAL EMPLOYEE NEWSLETTER

Spring 2023

## Celebrating Our Hardworking Team

Achievements

Birthdays

Work Anniversaries

Pin Ceremonies

New Hires

Town of Surfside



### Important Announcements

Beneficiary Designation Form  
Retirement Seminar  
& More!



### Team Building

Holiday Luncheon  
Officer Mike's 5th Birthday Party!  
Staff Feb. Appreciation Lunch  
Mental Health Lecture  
Pet Picture Corner

## A LOOK INSIDE



# Important Announcements

## Retirement Plan Presentation

Our retirement plan attorney, Adam Levinson, will conduct a Retirement Plan Presentation on **Thursday, March 16** at 1 p.m. in the Chambers. The presentation will cover:

- Background information about the plan
- When can I retire?
- How is my pension benefit calculated?
- What are my pension benefit payment options?
- Deferred Retirement Option Plan (DROP)
- How else can I prepare for retirement?
- Questions?

The presentation should last approximately one hour.



## Statutory Accidental Death and Dismemberment Beneficiary Designation Form

Reminder – If you have not submitted your beneficiary designation form to HR, please submit it ASAP.

This is an additional accidental dental death and dismemberment insurance that the Town purchased for ALL employees for the current fiscal year.

The policy covers all Town staff (while working within the scope of their duties). It is 100% paid by the Town and it does not replace any other coverage.



# Work Anniversaries: March to May

We thank you for your commitment to excellence



## New Hires

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



Fernando Conde  
PT Lifeguard



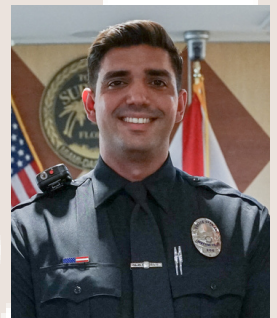
Jose Dardon  
Communications Operator



Jorge Galdo  
Recreation Leader II



Darold Howell  
Maintenance Worker II WS



Robert Hernandez Blanco  
Police Officer



David McTaggart  
Communications Operator



Lucio Portillo  
PT Lifeguard



Marlon Revolva  
PT Lifeguard



Misael Rodriguez  
Structural / Plans Examiner



Ethan Simon  
PT Recreation Leader I



Randy Stokes  
Acting Public Works Director



# Celebrating Accomplishments



Congratulations to Gretel Alpizar and Andres Sassi for being promoted from Part Time Lifeguards to Full Time Lifeguards. Hard work pays off!



Sgt. Marian Cruz has been selected to attend the University of Louisville Southern Police Institute Command Officers Development Course (CODC). The CODC is SPI's 400-hour flagship educational program for law enforcement supervisors. The course provides a solid foundation for law enforcement managers. The training is offered in five, two-week sessions over a period of five months. Sgt. Cruz will be graduating on June 23, 2023.



Kim Ruvin recently attended and passed the "Officer Safety and Field Applications" class and test. This is her second level (out of four) that certifies her Statewide as a Code Compliance officer. Congratulations on this big accomplishment!



Carlos Valdivia earned his Florida Association of Code Enforcement (FACE) certificate. He recently attended a certification class to attain one of four levels; he successfully passed the test and attained the Statewide certification as a Code Enforcement Officer. Congratulations on this big accomplishment!

#DONE

The Public Works Department recently procured new maintenance vehicles. Here is a picture of the convoy of vehicles in Fort Meyers on their way back to the Town of Surfside.



Town Hall Remodeling Project Complete! On Monday, Jan. 22, the Town Staff held a ribbon-cutting ceremony to mark the completion of the beautiful Town Hall first-floor remodeling project.



# Pin Ceremony



Elinor Joseph, Parking Operations, 20 Years  
Frank Trigueros, Tourism & Comms, 5 years



Frantza Duval, Public Works, 10 years



Harry Saintil, Solid Waste, 20 years



Alain Acosta, Parking Enforcement, 15 years  
Kenny Chaviano, Public Works, 10 years



Mayte Gamiotea, Finance, 15 years

## Team Work Makes the Dream Work!



The Utilities Division and Maintenance Division worked together to install traffic-calming speed tables on Byron Ave.



Public Works Operations Manager Felix Alvarez performing underwater repairs at the 94th Street Pump Station

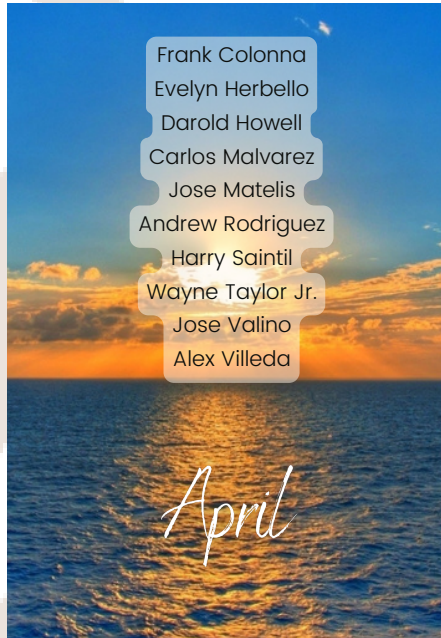


# SURFSIDE WISHES HAPPY BIRTHDAY

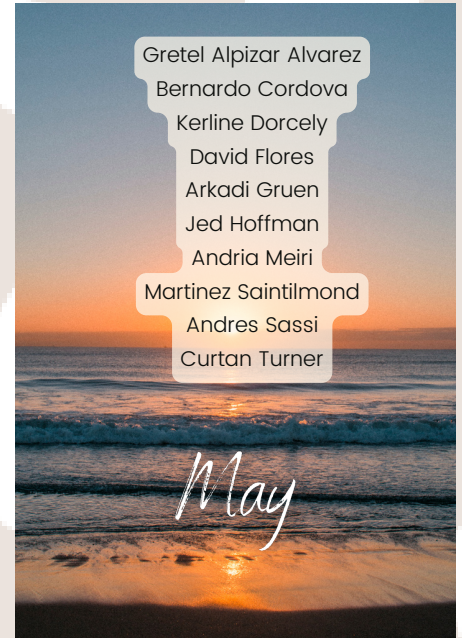
To all of our spring birthdays



Rory Alberto  
Jorge Galdo  
Hector Gomez  
Adrian Hernandez  
Craig Lovellette  
Antonio Marciante  
Rodny Napoles  
John Nelson  
Jose Pacheco Jr.  
Lucio Portillo



Frank Colonna  
Evelyn Herbello  
Darold Howell  
Carlos Malvarez  
Jose Matelis  
Andrew Rodriguez  
Harry Saintil  
Wayne Taylor Jr.  
Jose Valino  
Alex Villeda



Gretel Alpizar Alvarez  
Bernardo Cordova  
Kerline Dorcely  
David Flores  
Arkadi Gruen  
Jed Hoffman  
Andria Meiri  
Martinez Saintilmond  
Andres Sassi  
Curtan Turner

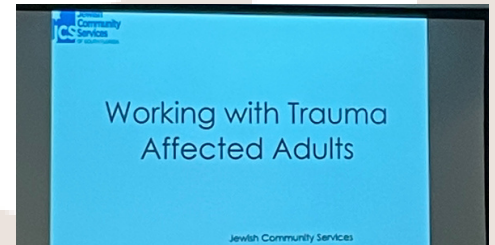


## There's a New Chief in Town

The Town of Surfside announced the appointment of its new Chief of Police John Healy effective Thursday, Jan. 26, 2023.

Chief Healy has over 32 years of law enforcement and leadership experience. He joined the Surfside Police Department on August 2018 as a Police Lieutenant over Support Operations. He was promoted to Administrative Captain on Oct. 2020 and served as Interim Chief of Police in late 2021 and in late 2022.

"I am honored to be entrusted with this amazing opportunity. I look forward to continuing to serve our community alongside the dedicated women and men of the Surfside Police Department," said Healy. "I am thrilled to be working jointly to enhance the culture of proactive community policing and exceptional service provided to our residents, visitors and tourists," he added.



On Feb. 23, The Jewish Community Services' mental health group offered sessions to discuss:

- Self-care and mental health
- Continuing the process of healing





# TEAM BUILDING AND EMPLOYEE ACTIVITIES



## Staff Appreciation Lunch

The team gathered on Tuesday, Feb. 14 for a Staff appreciation lunch. Chick-Fil-A sandwiches, fries and refreshments were shared and enjoyed by all.



## Happy Holidays

The team enjoyed a Holiday Luncheon on Dec. 16, 2022. The delicious food was catered by Olive Garden. The staff came together to close out a successful year and celebrated with food, refreshments, sweets and some dancing!



## Officer Mike's 5th Birthday Party!

Congratulations to Surfside's cuddliest cop: Officer Mike! Different departments came together to organize the pooch's birthday party at the Dec. 11, 2022 Sunday Farmer's Market.

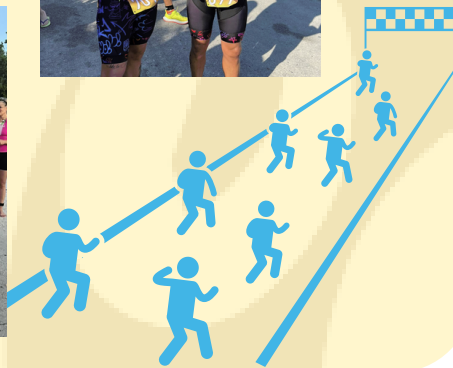




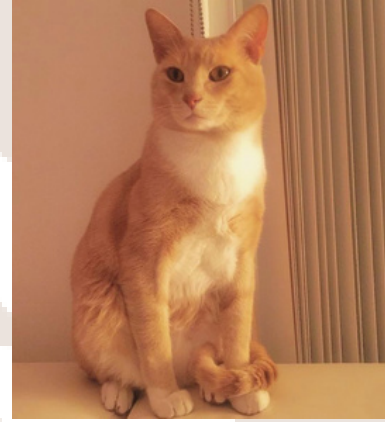
# Crossing The Finish Line

Congratulations to Parks & Rec.'s Marianella L. Marcano, Carlos Agon and Michel Hernandez for their successful participation in the Key Largo Triathlon at John Pennekamp Coral Reef State Park.

The triathlon featured an Olympic and Sprint distance Triathlon, Duathlon, and an Olympic distance Aquabike.



# Koko's Pet Corner



## Brotherly Love

Sushi and Zimba are two adopted cats that bring joy to Communications Manager Cindy Reyes.

Sushi is cool, calm and collected. While Zimba is spicy, screwy and squirrely.

Although the six-year-old bonded pair are not from the same clowder, they love each other as real brothers and their human mom so much!

Both kittens are part of the family and a great example that cats are amazing pets and adopting is always the way to go.

# 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.

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

**ICE CREAM SOCIAL**

Join us for a refreshing treat!

FRIDAY MARCH 3RD AT 1 PM IN THE TRAINING ROOM

Surfside FLORIDA

If you'd like to recognize a team member, shout out a colleague, or feature any other relevant information in our next publication please contact Cindy Reyes at [creyes@townofsurfsidefl.gov](mailto:creyes@townofsurfsidefl.gov)

Thank you