

SOUTHWEST RANCHER

The Official Newsletter of Southwest Ranches



MESSAGE FROM THE MAYOR:

The following is my message to the members of the Broward Delegation and was read into the public record on February 15, 2013 regarding the Town's local bill to restore our Farm Designation:

I want to first apologize for not being able to be in attendance for today's meeting. I also want to thank the members of this committee, who took the time recently to talk to me about the concerns I had regarding this issue. I also appreciate the commitment for future follow-up meetings to continue our very constructive dialogue. I have been returning telephone calls and responding to e-mails recently from Southwest Ranches residents regarding false information being disseminated about this farm issue, some as absurd and preposterous as there being a council conspiracy to get rid of horses in our Town.

I do not believe that there is any municipality in Broward County that has a greater respect or affinity for the Right to Farm Act. And having said that, it is also important to understand and remember that we are also a residential community. The current State law, which is the reason for the consideration of this local bill, appears to not have any limitations on the farm exemption and is essentially defined as any property having plants or animals useful to humans. As you can imagine, and in furtherance of some of the conversations I have had with members of this committee, there is significant concern about how someone can interpret those words and use them to the advantage of their personal agenda. Not to mention a municipality's prohibition of having any influence regarding setbacks, the piling and spreading of excessive manure, and the open burning just feet away from single family residences.

Our Town desires to create a harmony between its agricultural and residential uses. The only thing this local bill does is to restore the Town's previous administrative authority, which was working in our Town. Nothing more and nothing less.

If it is determined that this is a statewide issue, and the original legislative intent is being misconstrued or misinterpreted, I would support and promote the elimination of our local bill and address it as a statewide issue. I certainly respect and appreciate the positions being promoted by everyone, and I look forward to meeting with you in the future to see if we can come up with a solution that addresses all concerns.

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\$\$\$ Clean Up While You Clean Up \$\$\$

SOUTHWEST RANCHES TOWN-WIDE ULTIMATE GARAGE SALE!

SATURDAY, MARCH 16, 2013 • 8 AM TO 3 PM

Garage Sale Form on Pg. 4



MAYOR'S MESSAGE

Continued from Front Cover

The Town of Southwest Ranches is very fortunate to have hard-working Town employees that dedicate their time and effort for the betterment of our community. I am sad to report, though, that two of our Town employees have resigned and are both moving on to new things. Lee Rickles, who was the Town's Administrative Services Coordinator, served the Town for twelve years has resigned to explore new ventures. Lee has been a part of our community and has continually been willing to help with many areas in the Town. She will truly be missed. Cheryl Williams, the Assistant to the Town Administrator, has been part of the Town team for many years. She was a tremendous asset to the Town and will be sorely missed by everyone. On behalf of the Town Council and Town, we wish the two all the best and the best of luck!

In other news, the Town will also be going through some changes in the Law Enforcement Department, Commander Wally Haywood will be transferred to the Training Division in BSO at his request. Currently, the Town Council is undergoing interviews with potential BSO candidates and will be making a selection on the next District 9 Town Commander in the next few weeks.

It is an honor and pleasure to serve you!!

Jeff

The Town of Southwest Ranches is very fortunate to have hard-working Town employees...



Vice Mayor Steve Breitkreuz

Out west there is a section of land (At about where 208th would be)

that is within the City of Pembroke Pines. It historically has been owned by the Weekley family however, it has recently been purchased by the City of Pembroke Pines so that they could put in access for their residents to Griffin Road. I applaud this effort as it will give their residents the access they desire without impacting the safety of our residential roads.

The plan originally was to put in residential homes along that through street. However, perhaps they saw that residents might not like that option. (Certainly in the Ranches we learned that through traffic on residential roads is not preferred) The most recent plan now appears to be one where a charter school will be put in that property. Assuming that Pines still leaves the road open to their residents to the south as they have promised, this will greatly increase traffic in those communities. However, that is an issue that Pines will have to settle with their residents out west.

My concern is the additional traffic that will be put on Griffin Road. As I brought up in our last Council meeting, I want to be sure that all the proper traffic studies are performed for this charter school. Frankly, seeing the traffic that is currently on Griffin Road, and the additional traffic that will be dumped on Griffin and the local Pines roads, it is hard to see how this additional facility can be approved. But then, as we have all seen, strange things can sometimes happen. So, just know that we are monitoring this project.

Also, I wanted to give a quick update on the Town wide road repaving project. The Drainage and Infrastructure committee is

continuing their work on this project. We are also working to bring the financial pieces together to map out a plan that is not only affordable to our Town but also matches the expense with the benefits. This is a big project and I am pleased with the progress that we are making.



Council Member Freddy Fisikelli

It has been a short month, so there is not much to report on our

Town. The most important thing that I would like to mention is that we are losing two of our Town employees; the first is Lee Rickles, Administrative Services Coordinator. Lee has been with our Town from the very beginning and she started working for John Canada right after he became our Town Administrator and has done a very good job. We are going to miss her very much and I wish her luck.

The second Town employee who is leaving is our Assistant to the Town Administrator Cheryl Williams. She also has been with the Town for a long time and has done a very good job while she was here and we are sure going to miss her. I know these two ladies have wonderful opportunities ahead and have a chance to better themselves in their careers, so all I can say is that we will miss you both and we hope everything works out well for you both.

Now, for some park news, the Town has almost finished the first phase of the work planned for the Fishing Hole Park. Such projects include the completion of the parking lot. The grass has been planted in the parking area and we hope to get started on the construction of the playground area soon. Thank you.

Around the Town

11TH ANNUAL BROWARD WATER MATTERS DAY

SATURDAY, MARCH 9, 2013 • 9AM - 3PM
Tree Tops Park • 3900 SW 100th Ave., Davie

preserve
protect
conserve

Giveaways

Musical entertainment

Eco-friendly ideas

Landscaping for water savings

Interactive educational displays/booths

Water conservation tips

Park Admission: \$1.50 • Free for Children 5 & Under

Information: 954-519-1270 • broward.org/watermatters

Visit Southwest Ranches Booth at Water Matters Day!



BROWARD SHERIFF'S OFFICE
A FULL SERVICE PUBLIC SAFETY AGENCY - Broward County, FL

REWARD INCREASES TO \$3,000 FOR TIPS ON SLAUGHTER OF RETIRED RACEHORSE

The slaughter of Marco, led to the unprecedented Law initiated by Mayor Jeff Nelson, which was unanimously passed by our Town Council.



BE ALERT: Crime Time!

The final crime statistics for the Town have been presented to the Town Administrator. Great news, we finished 2012, down 4.1% over the previous year. The 4.1% decrease comes after we experienced a 14.4% decrease the year before that. I attribute some of the decrease to the citizen's increase in calling in suspicious activity. With that being said, most of the crimes that have been of serious concern will continue to occur if we let our guard down. I ask all residents to continue to be aware and alert of suspicious activity. We continue to have thefts of boat motor lower units. Unfortunately, there is not a definitive pattern of crime that we can address. If you are a boat owner, please take precautions to secure your boat. As always, please feel free to contact my office with any questions regarding law enforcement activity, crime prevention or traffic issues you may have.

Sincerely,
Lieutenant Wally Haywood

Lieutenant Wallace Haywood
Broward Sheriff's Office

REWARD

\$3,000*

*Reward is subject to revocation or modification at any time without prior notice or approval.

CRIME STOPPERS WILL PAY UP TO \$1,000
AN ADDITIONAL REWARD OF UP TO \$2,000 IS BEING OFFERED BY
ANONYMOUS DONORS. THIS REWARD EXPIRES OCTOBER 5, 2013.

FOR INFORMATION LEADING TO THE ARREST OF
SUSPECT(S) RESPONSIBLE FOR:

ANIMAL CRUELTY



**THAT OCCURRED
SOMETIME BETWEEN
AUGUST 17, 2012 AND
AUGUST 18, 2012 AT
5345 S.W. 210 TERRACE,
S.W. RANCHES, FL.**

**UNKNOWN SUSPECT(S) ENTERED THE VICTIMS BARN
AND REMOVED A HORSE. THE HORSE WAS LATER FOUND
DECEASED AT 5100 S.W. 210 TERRACE IN S.W. RANCHES.**

**ANYONE WITH INFORMATION ABOUT THE IDENTITY OR LOCATION
OF THE SUSPECT(S) IS ASKED TO CALL CRIME STOPPERS.**

WE DO NOT WANT YOUR NAME, JUST YOUR INFORMATION!



CALL (954) 493-TIPS (8477) • 1 (866) 493-TIPS (TOLL FREE)
www.browardcrimestoppers.org

Funded wholly or in part by the Office of the Attorney General, Crime Stoppers Trust Fund.

The reward for tips leading to the arrest of the criminals who slaughtered an 8-year-old thoroughbred named Marco has increased to \$3,000.

Crime Stoppers will pay \$1,000 and anonymous donors are chipping in \$2,000.

Taken from the Sun Sentinel

Around the Town

SOUTHWEST RANCHES FIRE DEPARTMENT FUND RAISER BBQ



On Saturday March 16, 2013, the Town of Southwest Ranches will be having their annual garage sale day. The Southwest Ranches Fire Department will be passing out maps at 2 locations. The first location at Town Hall-13400 Griffin Road. The second location at Sawgrass Community Church-17950 Griffin Road. The Southwest Ranches Fire Department will be having a fund raiser cook-out (BBQ) at the Sawgrass Community Church during the Town garage sale. The fire fighters will be selling food and drinks, along with T-shirts and cookbooks. Please come out and support your local fire department. Last year was a great success, thanks to all residents who supported this event.

Thank you,
Chief Lee Bennett

Get Fired Up!

Hot Event!

STAY IN TOUCH WITH TOWN EMAILS

Have you changed your email address? Would you like to be part of the Town Email list? Recent Town-wide emails have resulted in returns and unknown addresses.

Receive up to the minute information on time sensitive issues affecting the Town of Southwest Ranches.

Please take a moment to update our list or add your name to be in the know! Thank you! **(Please Print)**

Name: _____

Email: _____

Signature: _____

Submit to Juanita Romance at Jromance@swranches.org or fax to (954) 434-1490 with your information.

Please note that Florida has a broad public records law. All correspondence via email may be subject to disclosure. Your signature denotes your approval to receive Town Emails.

Free Household Hazardous Waste And Electronic Drop Off Days • One-day drop-off events from 8 am -3 pm

MARK THESE DATES

- **March 24 - Cooper City, Sports Complex, 10300 Stirling Road**
 - **April 7 - Davie, 3801 S. Pine Island Road (Bamford/Pine Island Park)**
 - **April 21 - Sunrise, City Hall, 10770 W. Oakland Park Blvd. (Also a medicine take-back and shredding event)**
 - **May 19 - Weston, Public Works Complex, 2599 S. Post Road**
- * **Proof of Broward County residency such as a driver's license or current utility bill is required**

This event provides a great way to dispose of leftover products that contain corrosive, toxic, ignitable or reactive ingredients like those found in paint, pesticides, cleansers and batteries. You can also get rid of outdated electronics that are just taking up space in your home – all in one easy stop and for free!

Bring the following items for disposal: household hazardous waste, including leftover cooking oil, compact fluorescent lamps, fluorescent tubes, paint, solvents, motor oil, pesticides, household chemicals, lawn and pool chemicals, mercury thermometers, propane tanks and fire extinguishers. Used electronics accepted include TVs, computers, monitors, keyboards, printers, fax machines, cell phones, CD and DVD players, and rechargeable batteries.

Items that cannot be accepted are stereos, microwaves, kitchen appliances, explosives, biohazardous waste and business-generated waste.

Permanent residential drop-off centers at the following locations, which accept household hazardous waste and used electronics and are open Friday and Saturday, 8 a.m. to 4 p.m.:

- **2780 N. Powerline Road, Pompano Beach (north of Copans Road)**
- **5601 W. Hallandale Beach Blvd., West Park (located between Miramar and Pembroke Park)**

These disposal facilities and special household hazardous waste collection events are available to help reduce the potential harm of chemicals to children and pets, and contamination to our environment.

For more information, call 954-765-4999. Hearing- and speech-impaired individuals should call 954-765-4207 (TTY).



Cub Pride



Tiger Cubs
Pack 160 Den 1
Proudly Leads
the Pledge of
Allegiance
to the US Flag

Photo by Bob Hartmann

Around the Town

Code Enforcement and You: THE DEPARTMENT AT A GLANCE

By: Robert C. Solera, Code Enforcement Director / Code Services Inc. President

Mission

The Code Enforcement Department managed by Code Services Inc. continues to apply community oriented enforcement programs. We deliver comprehensive code enforcement programs that incorporate the most current enforcement methods and techniques while maintaining a community service oriented approach in a reactive manner as instructed by Town Council.

In the long-term this is a more effective approach that focuses on gaining voluntary compliance. This does not mean that our citizens are immune from notices of violations and civil penalties, but it means that warnings and fines are merely tools or a means to obtain compliance with the Town of Southwest Ranches Codes.

Our goal is to educate and assist our present and future residents through the effective and fair application of our Town Codes and Ordinances. We are committed to the delivery of quality service to our community. As a whole our mission statement is as follows:

"The Code Enforcement Department is dedicated to the education and assistance of our citizens through the effective application of modern Code Enforcement programs; applied to protect the community's health, safety and welfare so that, in cooperation, we may improve the quality of life within our Town."

What is Code Enforcement?

This is an advanced professional public service work involving the protection of the health, safety, and welfare of the community through the implementation, application, and administration

of effective investigation and enforcement of a variety of Town of Southwest Ranches' Code Regulations & Ordinances. We focus on the effective application of current code enforcement methodologies including the effective delivery of services to the public and the development of appropriate strategies to resolve related community issues. Among the things that we do include:

- Enforcement of all applicable Town of Southwest Ranches Ordinances and Broward County Codes as adopted and/or amended.
- Recommendation and drafting of legislation designed to enhance service delivery.
- Issuance of Civil Violation Notices and collection of associated penalties.
- Lien Search Requests.

The Code Enforcement Department routinely interacts with all other Town Departments as we administer our enforcement methods in dealing with: Zoning issues, Building Code issues, Public Safety and nuisance's issues, Minimum Housing, Property Maintenance issues and a host of other enforcement disciplines and administrative issues.

There are several methods used to identify and enforce against code violations. The Town of Southwest Ranches uses a community-oriented method, complaint generated and non pro-active in nature, that it is focused on gaining compliance. There are other methods that are not so user friendly including the revenue method and the bureaucratic method and a combination thereof.

Florida Statute 162 (overview)

The Code Enforcement Department follows Florida Statute 162. This Statute is entitled "County or Municipal Code Enforcement" and authorizes the creation of local administrative boards with the authority to impose administrative fines and other non-criminal penalties to provide an equitable, expeditious, effective, and inexpensive method of enforcing any codes and ordinances in force in counties and municipalities. It is the intent of the legislature to promote and protect and improve the health, safety, and welfare of the citizens of counties and municipalities through the creation and implementation of these local boards.

The promulgation of State Statute 162 was driven by the need for home rule in conjunction with the need to alleviate the burden placed on the local court system due to the administration of these primarily civil infractions. The intent of the legislature was to "decriminalize" these infractions and to compel and hold local authorities accountable for the fair and equitable resolution code violations. Therefore the purpose of any code enforcement agency should be to provide non-judicial solutions for their citizens for any violations of the local code.

The Department has a Code Enforcement Director with over 16 years of Code Enforcement and Community Development combined experience, one Code Enforcement Officer, and it is provided by the Town of Southwest Ranches with an Administrative Coordinator. We have been certified by the Florida Association of Code Enforcement Officers and are required to maintain these credentials via continued education classes as well as annual code enforcement conferences.

Town of Southwest Ranches Waste Collection Map and Schedule

See Waste Collection Map and schedule below to find your solid waste collection days and bulk collection service dates.



Weekly SOLID (GARBAGE) Waste Days

Area 3	Area 2	Area 1
Wednesday & Saturday	Tuesday & Friday	Monday & Thursday

BULK Collection Service Dates by Area

Month	Area 3 (Wednesday Only)	Area 2 (Tuesday Only)	Area 1 (Monday Only)
Mar-13	3/6/13 & 3/20/13	3/5/13 & 3/19/13	3/4/13 & 3/18/13
Mar-13	4/3/13 & 4/17/13	4/2/13, 4/16/13 & 4/30/13	4/1/13, 4/15/13 & 4/29/13

RECYCLE collection occurs once per week:

- Area 1 every Monday
- Area 2 every Tuesday
- Area 3 every Wednesday

ATTENTION RESIDENTS ON CITY OF SUNRISE WATER

From 2/18/13 to 3/11/13, the Sunrise Utilities Department will "free" chlorinate its drinking water treatment system to provide additional protection against bacteria. This periodic program is mandated by the Broward County Health Department.

The procedure does not cause any adverse health effects. However, some individuals may notice a slight change in the taste, odor or color of the water during this time.

For more information regarding the City of Sunrise's treatment system, please contact the Sunrise Utilities Department at (954) 888-6000.

* Scheduled meetings at time of publication. Items subject to change.

CALENDARS

	S	M	T	W	T	F	S
March						1	2
	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
		Aster Knight Parks Foundation Town Hall 7 - 8 pm Country Estates Homeowners Mtg. Town Hall 7 pm AREA 1 BULK	Recreation, Forestry, Natural Resources Advisory Board Town Hall 7 pm SWRVFD Meeting Town Hall 7 - 9 pm AREA 2 BULK	Drainage & Infrastructure Advisory Board Town Hall 7 - 9 pm AREA 3 BULK	Town Council Meeting Council Chambers Town Hall 7 pm	Code Hearing Town Hall 9 am	Water Matters Day Tree Tops Park 9 am - 3 pm
	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
		Schools & Education Advisory Board Town Hall 7 - 9 pm		Fire Advisory Board Town Hall 7 pm			Town-Wide Garage Sale 8 am - 3 pm
17	18	19	20	21	22	23	
	AREA 1 BULK	Rural Public Arts & Design Advisory Board Meeting Town Hall 7 pm AREA 2 BULK	AREA 3 BULK	Comprehensive Plan Advisory Board Town Hall 7 - 9 pm			
24	25	26	27	28	29	30	
31		Rolling Oaks Civic Assn. Town Hall 7 pm	Sunshine Ranches Homeowners Assn. Town Hall 6:30 pm	Town Council Meeting Council Chambers Town Hall 7 pm			
April		1	2	3	4	5	6
		Aster Knight Parks Foundation Town Hall 7 - 8 pm Country Estates Homeowners Mtg. Town Hall 7 pm AREA 1 BULK	Recreation, Forestry, Natural Resources Advisory Board Town Hall 7 pm AREA 2 BULK	Drainage & Infrastructure Advisory Board Town Hall 7 - 9 pm AREA 3 BULK		Code Hearing Town Hall 9 am	
	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
		Schools & Education Advisory Board Town Hall 7 - 9 pm		Fire Advisory Board Town Hall 7 pm	Town Council Meeting Council Chambers Town Hall 7 pm		
	14	15	16	17	18	19	20
		AREA 1 BULK	Rural Public Arts & Design Advisory Board Meeting Town Hall 7 pm AREA 2 BULK	AREA 3 BULK	Comprehensive Plan Advisory Board Town Hall 7 - 9 pm		
	21	22	23	24	25	26	27
			Rolling Oaks Civic Assn. Town Hall 7 pm	Sunshine Ranches Homeowners Assn. Town Hall 6:30 pm	Town Council Meeting Council Chambers Town Hall 7 pm		
28	29	30					
	AREA 1 BULK	AREA 2 BULK					

RESIDENTIAL BULK MAY BE PLACED IN THE SWALE THE SATURDAY BEFORE YOUR SCHEDULED BULK COLLECTION DAY. (ORD 2008-07)

Town Hall: 13400 Griffin Road / Southwest Ranches, FL 33330 • **Phone:** (954) 434-0008 • **Fax:** (954) 434-1490
Town Hall Office Hours: Monday - Friday / 8:30 am - 5:00 pm • **Town Website:** www.southwestranches.org
Town Council Group E-mail Address: town_council@swranches.org

Phone / E-Mail List:

Elected Officials

Mayor Jeff Nelson	(954) 343-7472	jnelson@swranches.org
Vice Mayor Steve Breitkreuz	(954) 343-7447	sbreitkreuz@swranches.org
Council Member Freddy Fisikelli	(954) 343-7461	ffisikelli@swranches.org
Council Member Gary Jablonski	(954) 343-7456	gjablonski@swranches.org
Council Member Doug McKay	(954) 343-7462	dmckay@swranches.org

Town Staff

Andy Berns, Town Administrator	(954) 434-0008	aberns@swranches.org
Town Financial Administrator, Martin Sherwood, CPA, CGFO	(954) 434-0008	msherwood@swranches.org
Town Attorney, Keith Poliakoff	(954) 434-0008	
Town Engineer, Willie Nabong, PE	(954) 343-7444	wnabong@swranches.org
Town Clerk, Erika Gonzalez – Santamaria, CMC	(954) 343-7450	esantamaria@swranches.org
Deputy Town Clerk, Juanita Romance	(954) 343-7477	jromance@swranches.org
Assistant Town Financial Administrator, Peter Brill	(954) 343-7442	pbrill@swranches.org
Community Services Liaison, Emily McCord	(954) 343-7453	emccord@swranches.org
Parks, Recreation, Open Space Coordinator, December Lauretano-Haines, CPRP	(954) 343-7452	dlauretano@swranches.org
Administrative Specialist, Susan Kutz	(954) 434-0008	skutz@swranches.org
Administrative Specialist, Danielle Miller	(954) 343-7474	dmiller@swranches.org
Records Clerk, Rosangela Rodriguez	(954) 434-0008	rrodriguez@swranches.org
Accounting Clerk, Mara Semper	(954) 434-0008	msemper@swranches.org

Planning, Zoning, Permitting & Occupational Licenses

Building Department/Permitting	M-F 8:00 am - 4:00 pm	
Lisa Reices	(954) 888-9882/Fax: (954) 888-9860	lreices@capfla.com
Building Director, Dave Tringo	(954) 888-9882/Cell: (954) 605-0127	dtringo@swranches.org
Planning and Zoning M-F	M-F 9:00 am - 5:00 pm	
The Mellgren Planning Group	(954) 475-3070 ext 803	

Code Compliance:

Code Enforcement Director, Robert Solera	(954) 343-7440	rsolera@swranches.org
Code Enforcement Officer, Julio Medina	(954) 343-7440	jmedina@swranches.org
Administrative Specialist/ Code Enforcement, Jane Feary	(954) 343-7440	jfeary@swranches.org

Police/Fire/Rescue Services

Emergency	911
Broward Sheriff's Office (BSO)	
Law Enforcement District 9	(954) 680-0010
Davie Fire Rescue Station 112	(954) 680-0020
Southwest Ranches Volunteer Fire Rescue	(954) 343-7466

Traffic and Roadway Services (To Report Signs Down - Pot Holes)

Pot Holes and Signs: Emily McCord	(954) 343-7453	emccord@swranches.org
Paving: Willie Nabong, PE	(954) 343-7444	wnabong@swranches.org

Waste/Bulk/Recycling Services (Residential & Commercial)

Southern Waste Systems, (SWS) LLC	(888) 800-7732
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Water Districts - Canals (Permits)

Central Broward Water Control District	(954) 432-5110	www.centralbrowardwcd.org
East of SW 148 (Volunteer) Avenue		
South Broward Drainage District	(954) 680-3337	www.sbddd.org
West of SW 148 (Volunteer) Avenue		

Well and Septic

Broward County Health Department	(954) 467-4700 ext 4233
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Town of Southwest Ranches

13400 Griffin Road

Southwest Ranches, FL 33330

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TIME SENSITIVE MATERIAL!!!

SOUTHWEST RANCHER *The Official Newsletter of Southwest Ranches*

Town of Southwest Ranches Procurement REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS (RFP)

BID NUMBER	ITEM/DESCRIPTION	MANDATORY PRE BID DATE	DUE DATE	CONTACT
Invitation for Bid (IFB) No. 13-001	Continuing Contract for the Installation, Testing and Repair of Fire Protection Water Wells	March 28, 2013	April 12, 2013 11:00 am @ SWR Town Hall	Juanita Romance Deputy Town Clerk (954) 343-7477 jromance@swranches.org
Request for Quote (RFQ) No. 13-101	Special Purpose Rights-of-Way and Limited Topo Survey at SW 210th Terrace		March 14, 2013	Juanita Romance Deputy Town Clerk (954) 343-7477 jromance@swranches.org

The Town publishes this monthly solicitation of bids as a service to our residents. These are current at the time of newsletter publication.

For additional information or to Request Bid Package contact Juanita Romance at: 954-434-0008 or jromance@southwestranches.org.

Check the Town of Southwest Ranches website www.southwestranches.org for additional information or updates.

Instructional Strategy from the Schools and Educational Advisory Board of Southwest Ranches

Students should be taught how to use dictionaries to look up the meaning of unknown words. Small pocket dictionaries are inexpensive and can provide a wealth of information, provided that students

know how to use them. Dictionary skills, such as using guide words, understanding parts of speech, and deciphering phonetic spelling, should be explicitly taught and practiced. Dictionaries are also

helpful in introducing multiple meanings of words. Students can practice working out which of several defined meanings of a word is relevant in a given passage.