

# SOUTHWEST RANCHER

*The Official Newsletter of Southwest Ranches*

**APRIL 2021**

## HIGHLIGHTS



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Spring is in the air...

Cover photo by:  
Tracey Egert





Mayor  
Steve Breitreuz

I want to highlight an item that has been brought up in our Council meetings, but I know that not everyone is able to join in. Since we are still a young Town, we have many areas that need work and attention. Mostly they are public safety, park, drainage, or road related.

However, our resources are limited, and so as a part of our overall plan, we actively seek funding from other sources so we can accomplish our goals and still keep our taxes as low as possible. Generally, this is done through a number of ways such as our lobbyists, our staff seeking grants as well as funding through municipal partners such as recovering our Town's fair share of the new one-cent penny transportation surtax. This is a team effort from our Engineering, Finance & Budget, Legal and Administrative staff to research potential grants and then coordinate the application and recovery process through to a successful conclusion.

Obtaining funding through each of these sources is important to our Town and frankly to the Town portion of your tax bill. Most every year when the budget is reviewed, lobbyist costs are questioned. I am glad that

they are questioned. This is called accountability, which is always a good thing. However, through these efforts, the Town benefits every year. Recently we have received funding totaling more than \$3.6 million from a variety of sources (\$1,086,000 for multiple drainage projects, \$217,133 for various public safety projects, and \$2,335,210 for multiple roadway projects).

How does this translate toward our local property tax savings? If these projects were to be performed with regular funding via your 2020 ad valorem taxes, it would add 2.4483 to your Town millage rate representing a 58% increase! That is over \$612.00 per every \$250,000 of taxable value to your home. So, if your house is assessed at \$500,000, that would be an amount over \$1,200. You can do the math for your home. But clearly, that is saving each of us a tremendous amount of money.

I want to call this out because generally this goes on behind the scenes and gets very little attention. But we have a dedicated staff that is constantly looking for new opportunities and more importantly executing to actually bring home those funds. So thanks to all in our Engineering, Finance & Budget, Legal, and Administrative staff that make this happen!

It is my sincere honor to serve you and to enjoy this beautiful Town of Southwest Ranches alongside you.

Steve (954) 296-6018



Council  
Member  
David S.  
Kuczenski

Howdy Folks,

We all know about hurricanes and the beginning of hurricane season. Well, the National Hurricane Center has announced that as of May 15, as opposed to June 1, they will begin issuing Atlantic Tropical Weather Outlook reports and graphical Tropical Weather Outlook reports. This announcement pushes the beginning 2 weeks sooner than previous years. Our Town will, of course, keep everyone updated to any tropical activity that affects us. In addition, June 1 traditionally begins our rainy season, including the frequent storms coming off the Everglades. Along with those storms comes lightning. The other day while I was walking my pups, I glanced at the utility pole in front of my home and noticed a thick wire that was hanging loose. I called FPL and after sending them pictures, a couple of days later they came out and ran a new grounding wire for the fuse. I reasoned that if lightning had struck the pole, absent the properly connected ground wire, the closest place to a ground was through the electronics in my home. It probably would not be a bad idea to take a look to make cer-

continued on page 3



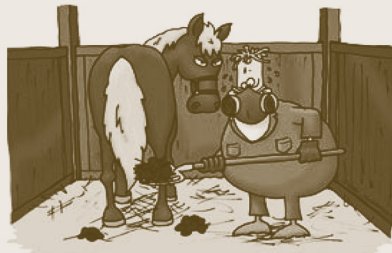
tain your utility pole is properly protected.

An on-going problem in our town is theft from mailboxes and property. Nearly at every meeting of any of the HOAs, we hear from Davie Police that somewhere in our Town a vehicle or golf cart was stolen simply because the key was left in it. This type of theft can be easily averted simply by locking your vehicle and bringing the key into your home.

Every four years the Town undergoes a Charter Review and it's that time again. If someone has any questions, concerns or comments about the Charter please let me know. The goal is to determine whether any changes are necessary to facilitate a smoother functioning government.

We have one Town of Southwest Ranches. It is our rural equestrian Town to protect. If we do not diligently protect it, we give it up. We have the best location in South Florida. I am honored with being entrusted this office. I thank those of you who call me to discuss the many concerns we share. If I can be of help, feel free to reach out. If I do not answer immediately, please leave a call back number.

I remain, very truly yours,  
David S. Kuczenski, Esq.



## STAY IN TOUCH WITH ENGINEERING

Fill for horse stalls does not require a fill permit. In addition, a permit may not be required if a small amount of sand is required to replenish a horse arena. However the Town recommends that a property owner or leasee contact our office to assure that the type of work being performed falls under this criteria prior to performing the work. A phone call to us will help prevent a possible warning from Code Enforcement and double fees when it comes to acquiring the required permit.

Please call: (954) 434-0008 or email Philip at [pchorath@swranches.org](mailto:pchorath@swranches.org)

## REFLECTIVE ADDRESS MARKERS

HIGHLY VISIBLE DAY OR NIGHT

Order today...

*this could help save your life or someone you love.*

IF WE CAN'T FIND YOU...  
WE CAN'T HELP YOU.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City/State/Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

MOUNTING PREFERENCE:

vertical (up/down) \_\_\_\_\_ horizontal (left/right)

COLOR PREFERENCE:

\_\_\_\_\_ green w/white letters \_\_\_\_\_ blue w/white letters

Make Checks payable to:

Southwest Ranches Fire Rescue

17220 Griffin Rd, Southwest Ranches, Fl. 33331

For additional information contact Chief Bennett at 954.868.2057



## Clerk's Corner

by Russell Muñiz



### Brief legislation from the February 11, 2021 Town Council Regular Meeting:

- **Adopted Ordinance 2021-006** amending the Town Comprehensive Plan, pertaining to the US Highway 27 Business Land Use Category.
- **Adopted Ordinance 2021-007** amending the Town Unified Land Development Code ("ULDC") to create a new zoning classification entitled, "US Highway 27 Planned Business District".
- **Adopted Ordinance 2021-008** amending the text of the public school facilities and capital improvements elements of the Town's Comprehensive Plan.
- **Adopted Resolution 2021-026** approving Waiver of Plat Application No. WP-26-20 to subdivide 4.78 net acres of property into two lots of 2.0 and 2.78 acres.
- **Adopted Resolution 2021-027** authorizing a purchase order to American Pride Mechanical to replace five air-conditioner units servicing Town Council Chambers and Town Hall Administrative offices.

### Brief legislation from the February 25, 2021 Town Council Regular Meeting:

- **Adopted Resolution 2021-028** approving Waiver of Plat Application No. WP-27-20 to subdivide 4.42 net acres of property into two lots of 2.0 and 2.42.
- **Adopted Resolution 2021-029** approving Application No. PL-55-20, the Asad Residence Plat, comprising 1 single-family dwelling lot on 4.59 acres.
- **Adopted Resolution 2021-030** approving a purchase order with E-Sciences Incorporated for environmental permitting services.

To view these approved items in their entirety please visit the Town Clerk's Department page on the Town website and click on the Resolutions and/or Ordinances link.

# AROUND THE TOWN


## MEET YOU at the PARK... by December Lauretano Haines

Spring has arrived! A great way to celebrate safely is to check out the great parks Southwest Ranches has to offer.

There are park properties located close to each neighborhood, meant to serve the entire Town. This was planned so that every neighborhood will have a recreational space that is uniquely its own.

During the COVID-19 pandemic, the Town was able to keep parks open for use, though restrooms and playgrounds have remained closed. As soon as the pandemic is a bit further behind us, these will be opening.


Here's a guide of our parks from East to West:

 **Founders' Trailside Park** 4 acres at Griffin Road just west of Flamingo Road, this passive open space park features a wetland with native plantings, a picnic shelter and several seating areas. Continued development will include a public art feature and possibly a walking trail.

 **Sunshine Ranches Equestrian Park** Currently open to the public, this 20-acre facility


includes horse trails and riding rings, a shade pavilion, restroom facility, two public art features, native landscaping and ponds that attract and foster native wildlife. This park is located just north of Stirling Road on Volunteer Road in Sunshine Ranches.


 **Southwest Meadows Sanctuary/ Calusa Corners** This 11-acre gem on the south side of Griffin Road, nestled in the I-75 entrance corridor is a passive green space and a focal point for our Town's rural nature in the midst of the booming development which surrounds us on all sides. Development to date includes picnic shelter, playground, an award-winning wetland, native landscaping and a lovely open green space.

 **Southwest Meadows Sanctuary** Situated on the southwest corner of Dykes and Griffin Roads, this 21-acre property will be developed in phases and will include playground, restroom, open space play fields, trailhead facilities, fishing pier, multi-use trail, historical and environmental education amenities, wetlands, parking, landscaping and neighborhood park facilities.

 **Rolling Oaks Open Space Park** This 46-acre open space is located on Mather Boulevard (SW 178 Avenue) at SW

56 Street. This park is passive in nature and includes fitness and multi-use trails, wetlands, an archeological site, as well as the renovated Barn which serves as a community facility for meetings and events.

 **Country Estates Fishing Hole** Fishing hole park encompasses 16 acres, located at Griffin Road at the intersection of SW 190 Avenue. This park site includes parking, restrooms, a playground, multi-use trails, practice areas for various ball sports, wetlands with native plants, and fishing access along the canal.

 **Frontier Trails** is a 30-acre parcel with a small picnic area and user-made trails. Future developments includes improved wetlands with native plantings to foster native wildlife, and preservation of another existing archeological site.

As you can see, there are many parks to explore with lots of projects planned. Almost all parks were acquired and developed with grant funding, which means the amenities planned to be developed are commitments the Town has made to our granting agency partners.

If you would like information about Southwest Ranches' parks, contact the Town by email at [Dlauretano@southwestranches.org](mailto:Dlauretano@southwestranches.org) or by dialing **954-434-0008**.



CERTIFIED WILDLIFE  
**HABITAT**

## FACTS ABOUT OWLS

Owls are truly amazing animals, and belong to the group of birds known as raptors. Owls possess asymmetrical ears which allow them to zero-in on prey. Their tube-shaped, immovable eyes provide both binocular vision and depth perception. They can also rotate their heads 270 degrees...wow! The tiniest owls in the world are the Elf Owls (about the size of a soda can), and the largest are the Blackiston's Fish Owl (about the size of a fire hydrant). By the way, not all owls "hoot"...Barn Owls make a hissing sound, Eastern Screech Owls mimic a horse's whinny, and Saw-whet Owls sound like saws.

Take the quiz below to test your knowledge of owls:

- 1. Circle the correct answer:** There are around \_\_\_\_\_ species of owls. 100    200    300
- 2. Unscramble the answer:** Owls are lanrutcon.
- 3. True or False:**  
A group of owls is called a parliament.
- 4. Multiple Choice:** Owls catch and kill prey with their powerful  
a) eyes    b) ears    c) talons    d) wings
- 5. Draw a line to the proper definition:**  
Owls are zygodactyl. Zygodactyl means  
2 forward-facing toes OR 3 forward-facing toes and  
and 2 backward-facing toes    1 backward-facing toe



ANSWER KEY: 2. Nocturnal 4. Talons 1. 200 3. True 5. 2 forward-facing and 2 backward-facing toes



# AROUND THE TOWN

## DID YOU KNOW?

Our new monthly Town Department Corner that will feature an article from each particular department.

Did you know that even though Town Hall is closed to the public, we are having meetings to address Town business that are open to the public?

To "virtually attend" our Town Council Regular Meetings and Advisory Board Meetings please visit

- The Calendar on the Town website ([www.southwestranches.org](http://www.southwestranches.org)).
- Once there, review the upcoming meetings schedule and click on the meeting that you are interested in "attending."
- Information for the meeting will open, as well as a clickable link that will allow you to register for the meeting.



One of our original Davie Police Officers assigned to Southwest Ranches has retired. We wish all the best to OFFICER CHERYL DANNER in her retirement.

Pictured L to R, Lt. Patricia Ravine, Officer Cheryl Danner, Officer Andres Rodriguez, Officer Mike Van Belle, Officer Cherie Wastenev and Detective Jeff Hobales.



SIKH YOUTH ASSOCIATION IN PARTNERSHIP WITH THE TOWN OF SOUTHWEST RANCHES PRESENTS



3RD ANNUAL "A RACE FOR UNITY IN DIVERSITY" VIRTUAL 5K RUN/WALK



FUNDS TO BENEFIT THE TOWN COLLEGE SCHOLARSHIP FUND



Leap into Diversity With Us from April 24th to May 9th!

<https://runsignup.com/Race/FL/SouthwestRanches/UnityinDiversity>

## HOUSEHOLD HAZARDOUS WASTE, ELECTRONICS & BULK DROP OFF EVENT

Saturday, May 8th, 2021 . 8:00am to 2:00pm  
Location: Waste Pro of Florida - 17302 Pines Blvd., Pembroke Pines 33029

Drug drop off 8:00am to 2:00pm  
No shredding at this location

This service is provided for Town residents only. Proof of residency is required.  
NOTE: Event may be cancelled due to rain, excessive winds or other hazardous conditions as determined by the Town.

### ACCEPTABLE HHW ITEMS

Aerosol Cans Antifreeze/Coolant/Paint  
Batteries & Auto Batteries  
BBQ & Camp Size Propane  
Cleaners  
Fluorescent Tubes/Bulbs  
Garden Chemicals  
Latex/Oil-Based Paint  
Pesticides  
Pool Chlorine  
Tires (Up to 4 tires per household no rims)  
Used Oil & Filters

### ELECTRONICS RECYCLING

Computers, Cables DVD Players,  
Key Boards, Mice, Adapters,  
Monitors, Printers/Scanners,  
Radios, Stereo Components, TVs,  
Tape Players, VCRs

### UNACCEPTABLE ITEMS

Appliances  
Asbestos  
Explosives or Ammunition  
Medical/Infectious Waste  
Non-Residential Waste

For more information call Town Hall (954) 434-0008



SHOW YOUR TOWN SPIRIT

SWR stickers are made for residents by the Country Estates Homeowners Association. Sticker's are \$1 each and are available at Town Hall, 13400 Griffin Rd.

# AROUND THE TOWN

## COVID-19 IMPORTANT RESOURCES AND CONTACTS

### **BROWARD COUNTY**

[www.broward.org/coronavirus](http://www.broward.org/coronavirus)  
954-831-3900  
954-357-9500 (Broward County Call Center)  
954-743-9779 (Senior Citizen's Elder Hotline)

### **BROWARD COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOLS**

[www.browardschools.com/coronavirus](http://www.browardschools.com/coronavirus)  
[www.browardschools.com](http://www.browardschools.com)  
754-321-0000 (Main Switchboard)  
754-321-0911 (Emergency Hotline—Live Person)  
754-321-0321 (BCPS & Rumor Control Hotline)

### **STATE OF FLORIDA**

#### **FOOD PROGRAMS**

[www.myflorida.com/accessflorida](http://www.myflorida.com/accessflorida) (SNAP)  
[www.feedingsouthflorida.org](http://www.feedingsouthflorida.org)  
Text: FLKIDSMEALS to PH# 211-211

#### **FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF ELDER AFFAIRS**

800-963-5337  
<http://elderaffairs.state.fl.us/index.php> (SHINE)

#### **SMALL BUSINESS & NON-PROFIT ASSISTANCE**

[www.floridadisaster.org](http://www.floridadisaster.org) [www.floridadisaster.biz](http://www.floridadisaster.biz)

#### **FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF VETERAN'S AFFAIRS**

877-741-3400 (Veteran Clinical Contact Center)

#### **CENTER FOR DISEASE CONTROL (CDC)**

Call: 800-CDC-INFO (800-232-4636), TTY: 888-232-6348.  
<https://www.cdc.gov/DCS/ContactUs/Form>



## FOLLOW US ON THE TOWN'S OFFICIAL SOCIAL MEDIA

- **Facebook page:** @SWRGOV
- **Twitter account:** @SWR\_gov
- **YouTube:** Town of Southwest Ranches Official Channel



- Watch Town Council meetings
- Get updated information on Town events
- Quick notification to followers on emergency management issues

get certified **Be Prepared. Get Certified.**

## PRO AGRICULTURAL Community outreach for our nurseries

### **PENNY FOR TRANSPORTATION** → **SURTAX Projects:**

WHERE LOCAL CHANGE HAPPENS

The County is actively recruiting firms for certification and wants to increase the number of certified firms available to provide services in an array of projects funded by the Penny for Transportation. Does your business provide:

- Drainage
- Flexible Paving
- Grading
- Guardrail
- Intelligent Transportation System
- Landscaping
- Pavement Marking
- Roadway Signing
- Traffic Signal
- Sidewalk

If yes, the Town of Southwest Ranches encourages you to get certified in anticipation of projects needing these services both within our Town and throughout all Broward County. Visit the website to learn more about **certification programs** and **upcoming Surtax Projects**. Visit the **Florida Department of Transportation** at: <https://www.fdot.gov>, **Broward County** website at: <http://www.broward.org/EconDev/SmallBusiness/Pages/Certification.aspx>.

Office of Economic and Small Business Development  
Address: 115 S. Andrews Avenue, A-680, Fort Lauderdale, FL 33301  
Email: [EconDevInfo@broward.org](mailto:EconDevInfo@broward.org)



## Youth Council

of Southwest Ranches

The Town of Southwest Ranches is excited to announce the creation of its first youth council group. Youth councils help groom students to be the leaders of tomorrow. These councils offer local students an opportunity to be involved and advise on school, town, and government issues. Our Town is blessed with many wonderful and active teens. This council, which could serve in similar capacity to Town advisory boards, would ensure our young people have an active voice in their community, understand the value of public service, and advance scholarship application through evidence of community service. Youth Council Members may also compete in the annual Florida Conference, Legislative Days, video competitions, and community service contests.

Updated information to follow.



# AROUND THE TOWN

## FLOCK YOUR FRIENDS TO BENEFIT THE SWR SCHOLARSHIP

call Debra @ Town Hall to surprise your friends with a flock!

THE COST IS A DONATION TO THE SCHOLARSHIP FUND SO DON'T FORGET TO DONATE!

For more info, call 954-434-0008

### FLOCKING A FRIEND ORDER FORM

Name of Friend "Victim" to be flocked: \_\_\_\_\_

Friend's Physical Address: \_\_\_\_\_

NOTE: Flamingos are not allowed to flock on public property or apartment complexes

SPECIAL INSTRUCTIONS: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ Flocking a friend donation. (Please make checks payable to the "Town of Southwest Ranches". In the comments please write, "Flocking Fundraiser – Scholarship".)

Do you want your friend to know it was you who ordered the flamingo flocking?

Your Name \_\_\_\_\_ Your Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Other Info \_\_\_\_\_

THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT!

Sold By \_\_\_\_\_

\*\*Your flamingo should be removed within 24 hours. Please secure your donation and your friend to be flocked request inside the plastic sheet protector tied to a flamingo.\*\*



Keeping Citizens Informed

SIGN UP FOR CODERED EMERGENCY NOTIFICATION SYSTEM TO RECEIVE NOTIFICATIONS FROM THE TOWN OF SOUTHWEST RANCHES.

You will receive CodeRED alerts for emergency updates such as evacuation notices, weather warnings, hazardous traffic or road conditions, and other Town events.

You can self-register on the Town's website: [www.southwestranches.org](http://www.southwestranches.org) to receive notifications by either phone call, text or email.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Choice #1 - Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Choice #2 - Cell: \_\_\_\_\_

Choice #3 - Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Or all the above.

Any questions contact Town Hall:  
(954) 434-0008.



Recently, residents have expressed concern about certain Town Council agenda items that seek to subdivide land into smaller parcels. Such concern is understandable given the loss of open (albeit privately owned) land and the additional homes that result from creating more lots.

Land subdivision in the Town has been going on for decades. There are scores of properties remaining throughout the Town that are

at least double the lot size requirement of the applicable zoning district, and therefore large enough to be subdivided. Note that the Town has "two-acre" and "one-acre" zoning districts, with the two-acre districts comprising most of the Town.

Subdividing a property always requires Town Council approval. The application appears on a Council agenda as either a Plat (usually when splitting a property into three or more lots) or a Waiver of Plat (for splitting a lot in two). Note that a Waiver of Plat does not waive any of the Town's zoning requirements, so it's not akin to a variance or lowering of standards. The name simply reflects that it is an alternative to Platting for small subdivisions.

The purpose of requiring Town

Council approval is to ensure that each new lot meets minimum dimensional, area and access requirements, while giving notice to property owners within 1,500 feet, as is the case for any land use application that comes before the Town Council. The Town Council's purview on these applications is to determine whether an application complies with Town code requirements. If an application meets these requirements, the Town is obligated to approve the subdivision.

I hope this brief article is helpful to residents in deciphering what these applications mean and the scope of the Town Council's authority when acting on them.



# AROUND THE TOWN

TOWN OF SOUTHWEST RANCHES

**PUBLIC WORKS AND**



## ILLEGAL DUMPING

Dear Residents,

We are seeing an increase in **ILLEGAL DUMPING** across the Town. Please keep your eyes open and camera ready and contact Town Hall if you see any suspicious activity related to **ILLEGAL DUMPING**.



Broward County Public Schools  
**APRIL SCHOOL CALENDAR**

APRIL				
M	T	W	T	F
			1	2
5	6	7	8	9
12	13	14	15	16
19	20	21	22	23
26	27	28	29	30



Friday, April 2nd - Schools are closed  
Thursday, April 8th - Early release day  
Wednesday, April 14th - Report cards  
Thursday, April 29th - Interim reports issued

## PROTOTYPE BARN

In furtherance of the Town's goal of preserving its rural lifestyle, the Town Council has given residents a simpler mechanism to build a barn that is in compliance with Florida statutory requirements. As such, the Town contracted with an architect who agreed to create a prototype barn drawing, in compliance with the Florida Building Code, which can be permitted for residents throughout the Town. The plans are for a three stall barn with a tack room.



A Town resident looking to build a barn can simply purchase a pre-drafted architectural plan from the Town, which they then can submit, at a reduced cost, and on an expedited basis, to get a permitted barn that will be in compliance with both state and local regulations.

Please call or email Emily Aceti for more information: [eaceti@swranches.org](mailto:eaceti@swranches.org).

**CODE ENFORCEMENT  
HOT-LINE  
954-343-7449**

## DID YOU KNOW THAT THE TOWN OF SOUTHWEST RANCHES HAS A HISTORICAL SOCIETY?

Did you know that the Town was officially incorporated on June 4, 2000? However, that was not the beginning of our story, as there is a rich history of pioneer residents joining together long before we were incorporated, all who had a part in making this dream a reality.

If you have interest in learning about and preserving the history of our Town, we are look-

ing for you! Volunteers are being sought to build on the efforts of past Board members.

The Southwest Ranches Historical Society is a stand-alone nonprofit, not a Town advisory board. The Town provides meeting space, storage for historical items and a staff liaison. If you are interested in joining the group, please send an email to Danielle Caban at [DCaban@SouthwestRanches.org](mailto:DCaban@SouthwestRanches.org) or call 954 343-7474.





# AROUND THE TOWN

We would like to wish the following Southwest Ranches resident a **HAPPY BIRTHDAY...**

~  
Dillan Jace Rodriguez - April 5th

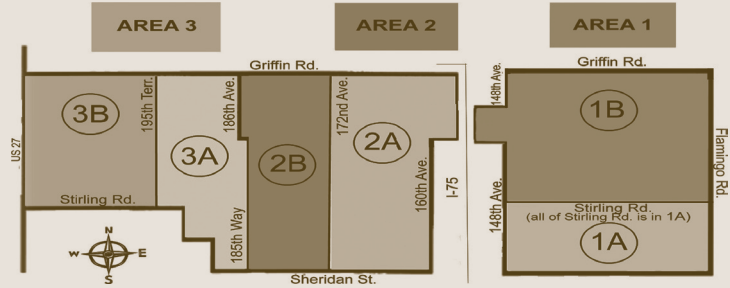


Have a birthday you would like to share with us in a future Town newsletter? Send your name and birthday to: [Skutz@southwestranches.org](mailto:Skutz@southwestranches.org)

## Waste Collection

**MAKE SURE YOUR GARBAGE, BULK AND RECYCLE ARE OUT BEFORE 7 AM**

**TOWN OF SOUTHWEST RANCHES - Waste Collection Map & Schedule**



TO ALL OUR RESIDENTS ON STIRLING ROAD...Please remember you are in AREA 1A for your bulk schedule.

**RESIDENTIAL BULK MAY BE PLACED IN THE SWALE THE SATURDAY BEFORE YOUR SCHEDULED BULK COLLECTION DAY. (ORD 2008-07) PAGE 6**

### 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	WEDNESDAY Only	Area	TUESDAY Only	Area	MONDAY Only
APRIL 2021	3-A	4/07 - 4/21	2-A	4/06 - 4/20	1-A	4/05 - 4/19
	3-B	4/14 - 4/28	2-B	4/13 - 4/27	1-B	4/12 - 4/26
MAY 2021	3-A	5/05 - 5/19	2-A	5/04 - 5/18	1-A	5/03 - 5/17 - 5/31
	3-B	5/12 - 5/26	2-B	5/11 - 5/25	1-B	5/10 - 5/24

**RECYCLE** collection occurs once per week: Area 1 every Monday • Area 2 every Tuesday • Area 3 every Wednesday



## Southwest Ranches FIRE RESCUE

There was a total of 65 emergency calls in (January) located within Southwest Ranches. 60.0% of the calls were located out west where we respond from one station. To ensure a fast response when an emergency comes in, I have the Southwest Ranches Engine-82 and personnel stay in the west zone for coverage while other units are out of zone.

### Fire Safety for people with Disabilities - Some safety tips.

There are many Americans that live with physical and mental disabilities.

- . Test your alarms monthly.
- . Have smoke alarms on every level of your home, inside bedrooms and outside sleeping areas. Interconnect your alarms when one is activated, they all activate.
- . When one is deaf or hard of hearing, use smoke alarms with a vibrating pad, flashing light or strobe light. All accessories start when your alarm sounds.
- . Know how to exit your rooms quickly and safely.

- . If possible, pick a room near an exit.
- . If you live in a multistory house, and there is a room on the first floor, sleep on the first floor.

### Also, we have been working on Command Structure/System (ICS).

The purpose of the Incident Command System (ICS) is to provide for a systematic development of a complete, functional command organization designed to allow for single or multi-agency use, which increases the effectiveness of command and firefighter safety. The National Incident Management System (NIMS) identifies concepts and principles that answer how to manage emergencies from preparedness to recovery regardless of their cause, size, location, or complexity.

**“Your Southwest Ranches Firefighters take it seriously when it comes to protecting our residents.”**

Stay safe,  
Fire Chief Lee Bennett



**PHOTO BY:**  
**Matthew Morris**  
 (From the 2021 Photo Contest Calendar)

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
				1 Happy April Fools Day	2 Good FRIDAY	3
4 HAPPY EASTER Passover ends at nightfall	5 • SWR Parks Foundation Meeting Town Hall - 7 pm • Country Estates Grace Baptist Church 19200 Griffin Road - 7 pm <b>AREA 1A BULK</b>	6 • Code Hearing Town Hall 9 am <b>AREA 2A BULK</b>	7 • Drainage Infrastructure Advisory Board Meeting - Town Hall 7 pm <b>AREA 3A BULK</b>	8 • TOWN COUNCIL MEETING - 7 pm	9	10
11	12 • Schools & Education Advisory Board Meeting - Town Hall 7 pm <b>AREA 1B BULK</b>	13 • Recreation, Forestry & Natural Resources Advisory Board - Town Hall 7 pm <b>AREA 2B BULK</b>	14 <b>AREA 3B BULK</b>	15 • Comprehensive Planning Advisory Board Meeting Town Hall 7 pm	16	17
April	18 • Rural Public Arts & Design Advisory Board - Town Hall 7 pm <b>AREA 1A BULK</b>	19 <b>AREA 2A BULK</b>	20 • Fire Advisory Board Meeting Town Hall 7 pm <b>AREA 3A BULK</b>	21 earthday • TOWN COUNCIL MEETING - 7 pm	22	23
	24	25 <b>AREA 1B BULK</b>	26 • Rolling Oaks Civic Association Meeting Rolling Oaks Barn 17630 SW 56 Street, 7 pm <b>AREA 2B BULK</b>	27 • Sunshine Ranches Homeowners Association Town Hall - 7:30 pm <b>AREA 3B BULK</b>	28	29
					30 Arbor Day	31

**Due to the COVID-19 (Coronavirus) we reserve the right to cancel or postpone meetings in order to protect the safety of our residents and staff. Updates will be posted on our website [www.southwestranches.org](http://www.southwestranches.org) and all Town social media, or call Town Hall (954) 434-0008 for updates.**

**All Town Council and Advisory Board meetings will be held virtually until further notice. Thank you.**

## TOWN HALL CLOSED TO PUBLIC

Following the direction of Governor DeSantis, Town Hall is taking numerous proactive steps to reduce the potential spread of COVID-19. Town Council Meetings will be virtual until further notice.

Please go to the Town's website [www.southwestranches.org](http://www.southwestranches.org) to get information on how to attend meetings. Town Hall is closed to the public until further notice and events are postponed until further notice. However, most Town services will continue remotely unless circumstances have changed. For more information please call or contact the Town as follows:

**TOWN HALL** (8:30 AM - 5:00 PM) **954-434-0008**  
**TOWN EMERGENCY HOTLINE** **954-343-7455**

**TOWN EMAIL: [webmaster@southwestranches.org](mailto:webmaster@southwestranches.org)**

We thank you for your patience and understanding while we take proactive steps to ensure the safety of the public and staff.

## GOT DRUGS?



Do you have a medicine cabinet full of old pills?

Help get rid of them safely

### FREE COLLECTION

FOR SAFE DISPOSAL ~ NO QUESTIONS ASKED

**SATURDAY, MAY 8TH, 2021 8AM - 2PM at WASTE PRO FACILITY 17302 Pines Blvd., Pembroke Pines, 33029**

#### WE ACCEPT:

Prescription and over-the-counter meds, vitamins, and pet meds

**YES**

#### WE DO NOT ACCEPT:

Needles/sharps, liquids, gels, aerosols or radioactive chemotherapy meds

**NO**



Drug Collection Event is held in conjunction with the Town of Southwest Ranches Hazardous Household/Electronics Recycling event and is offered free of charge by the Davie Police Department.

## FRAUDULENT ACTIVITY IS RISING...

**A TIP TO HELP PROTECT YOUR MAIL!**

- Pick up your mail regularly.
- Don't leave letters in the mailbox for several days, over the weekend or even overnight.
- If possible make checking your mailbox part of your daily routine.
- Look into purchasing a mailbox with a lock.



# IN TOUCH

**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 HALL TWITTER ACCOUNT:** @SWR\_Gov • **YOUTUBE:** Town of Southwest Ranches Official Channel • **FACEBOOK:** facebook@SWRGOV

## ELECTED OFFICIALS

Mayor Steve Breitkreuz	(954) 343-7462	sbreitkreuz@southwestranches.org
Vice Mayor Bob Hartmann	(954) 343-7447	bhartmann@southwestranches.org
Council Member Gary Jablonski	(954) 343-7456	gjablonski@southwestranches.org
Council Member Jim Allbritton	(954) 343-7461	jallbritton@southwestranches.org
Council Member David S. Kuczenski	(954) 343-7472	dkuczenski@southwestranches.org

## TOWN STAFF

Andy Berns, <i>Town Administrator</i>	(954) 434-0008	aberns@southwestranches.org
Danielle Caban, <i>Executive Assistant to the Town Administrator</i> ,	(954) 343-7474	dcaban@southwestranches.org
Russell Muñiz, <i>Assistant Town Administrator/Town Clerk</i>	(954) 343-7450	rmuniz@southwestranches.org
Debra M. Ruesga, <i>Deputy Town Clerk</i>	(954) 343-7451	druesga@southwestranches.org
Sandy Luongo, <i>General Services Manager</i>	(954) 343-7476	sluongo@southwestranches.org
Susan Kutz, <i>Administrative Specialist</i>	(954) 343-7460	skutz@southwestranches.org
Martin Sherwood, <i>Town Financial Administrator</i>	(954) 343-7473	msherwood@southwestranches.org
Rich Strum, <i>Town Controller</i>	(954) 343-7442	rstrum@southwestranches.org
Venessa Redman, <i>Senior Procurement &amp; Budget Officer</i>	(954) 343-7467	vrredman@southwestranches.org
Gina Lawrence, <i>Town Accountant</i>	(954) 343-7477	glawrence@southwestranches.org
Keith Poliakoff, <i>Town Attorney</i>	(954) 713-7600	kpoliakoff@southwestranches.org
Rod Ley, <i>Public Works Director</i>	(954) 343-7444	rley@southwestranches.org
Philip Chorath, <i>Engineer I</i>	(954) 343-7441	pchorath@southwestranches.org
Emily McCord Aceti, <i>Community Services Manager</i>	(954) 343-7453	eaceti@southwestranches.org
December Lauretano-Haines, <i>Parks, Recreation &amp; Open Space Manager</i>	(954) 343-7452	dlauretano@southwestranches.org
Melinda Stringer, <i>Administrative Assistant</i>	(954) 343-7454	mstringer@southwestranches.org

## TOWN SERVICES

### **BUILDING DEPARTMENT PERMITTING – (CAP GOVERNMENT)** M-F 8:30 am - 4:00 pm

Lisa Reices Nicasio, <i>Broward Operations Office Manager</i>	(954) 655-3721	lreices@capfla.com
Brian Dillon, <i>Building Official</i>	(954) 343-7446	bdillon@capfla.com
Joyce Marques, <i>Permit Technician</i>	(954) 343-7446	jmarques@capfla.com
Derlin Guevara, <i>Permit Technician</i>	(954) 343-7445	dguevara@capfla.com
<b>PLANNING – (MELGREN PLANNING GROUP)</b>	(954) 475-3070	michele@tmpgplanning.com
Jeff Katims	(954) 435-3070	jeff@floridaplanning.net

### **CODE, ZONING, and PERMITTING**

Code Enforcement Hotline	(954) 343-7440	zoninginfo@southwestranches.org
Julio Medina, <i>Code Enforcement Director</i>	(954) 343-7449	jmedina@southwestranches.org
Blair Bubley, <i>Code Enforcement Officer</i>	(954) 343-7458	bbubley@swranches.org
Marlon Gonzalez, <i>Code Enforcement Officer</i>	(954) 343-7457	mgonzalez@swranches.org
Jenna Anderson, <i>Administrative Coordinator</i>	(954) 343-7440	janderson@southwestranches.org
	(954) 343-7459	

### **WASTE/BULK/RECYCLING SERVICES (Residential & Commercial)**

Waste Pro	(954) 967-4200	
<b>REFLECTIVE ADDRESS MARKERS – Chief Bennett</b>	(954) 868-2057	lbennett@southwestranches.org
<b>MOSQUITO CONTROL</b>	(954) 765-4062	
LOST AND FOUND ANIMALS	(754) 224-0877	Facebook@SWRLostandFoundAnimals

## PUBLIC SAFETY

### **EMERGENCY**

<i>Non-Emergency</i>	<b>911</b>	
<i>Davie Police Department</i>	(954) 764-4357 (HELP)	
Jeff Hobales, <i>Detective</i>	(954) 693-8200	
Tim Weimann, <i>Police Services Coordinator</i>	(954) 693-8293	jeffrey_hobales@davie-fl.gov
<i>Davie Fire Rescue Station 112</i>	(954) 693-8352	tweimann@southwestranches.org
<i>Volunteer Fire Rescue - Chief Bennett</i>	(954) 680-0020	
	(954) 868-2057	

### **TRAFFIC AND ROADWAY SERVICES**

Potholes and Signs Down - Philip Chorath	(954) 343-7441	pchorath@southwestranches.org
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## OTHER

### **WATER DISTRICTS - CANALS**

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



Town of Southwest Ranches

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Southwest Ranches, FL 33330

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## NEWS RELEASE



The Town of Southwest Ranches has been awarded the Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting for its Comprehensive Annual Financial Report (CAFR) by the Government Finance Officers Association of the United States and Canada (GFOA). The award is for the preparation of the Town's CAFR for the fiscal year ended September 30, 2019.

This is the highest form of recognition in governmental accounting and financial reporting, and its attainment represents a significant accomplishment by a government. *This marks the thirteenth consecutive year the Town has received this award.*

The CAFR has been judged by an impartial panel that ensures the highest standards of the program are met and the certificate standards, include the demonstration of a "spirit of full disclosure" to clearly communicate the Town's financial story. The complete financial report can be viewed on our web site: [www.southwestranches.org](http://www.southwestranches.org).

*"This award clearly illustrates the Town's commitment to sound fiscal management and transparency. Town residents can have confidence the Town's finances are handled with the highest level of professionalism. The Finance and Budget Department staff works day in and day out to maintain the highest standards and their work is greatly appreciated" said Town Administrator, Andy Berns.*



## FINANCE PROFESSIONALS WEEK WORD SEARCH

S E T T E O W Q H D T E N S S V N W N F A C S G K L U Q Q G  
E V S B F D F G X G D Y E R A P G G O D E G D E L W O N K C A  
G I O Y T K V G Y U E A T M E K E A I D W N J J O B T F N N  
E T H B P Z W Q C I V P W A F S K C E T O E P O Y O G S X O  
L A W K B O N E L H N E L O Z T G O V I I A R B X U L U D C I  
L L I L N W I Y O M L H R V C H A U T A O I W I A E W E Z T  
O S N E D U C A T I O N K D H R T I R F L R C C F N O M W Q A  
C I Y A H L U S C L P A I D M J N F E C W E E F A M U E M  
L G R E D A E L W J M X N L P G P S V O E V J C R I R C X A  
B E A Z E F X T S P E X G W O A S E G K E S O N P P N R S L  
K L A B M W Z E R K N J Q C A I A A C I A D R W O E P L Z C  
N Q T D N A E S P Q T C E F O J S G Y N E U Y K R G A P O  
S O G F E R B G I X S R O N F N S I T K E N K E C N V U P R  
M E I P I R S C I H T E A J V M O T I A T R F C O U N T Y P  
A L O T G O S R N B Z L A G F T C R C N W N E I G F D L P O  
W D E N A E H E H Z S T E C H N I C A L O U J F N P W G I P  
X R A A P M Q Y I B M P R O G R A M Y C N U J F N P W G I P  
S A Z D D W R C G P M U K D K Y T K U E T Q O W Z O M V I R  
L A Y A V E U O D T N E S M I Y E E R I L A Y W K F C F Y X  
F A K M K S R H F I A V M V D P X E T T Y C R G I V M K J P  
Q A M Z M H V S V N R P D J A J F S C Q A H F M U T R Z T  
V X M T O U Q E H H I I I W M N N K F O B J Q B A P M W C O  
V W R G P X R K V I L U S Q O O E C E G V P D S I D U T A J  
B C R L T S E G J J P N T C C B H E T A T S A V G C K U I W  
T Y Q O I N O P P X S K R K E D O D X U L H T F G H A L M P  
J C K T P R Z D E V D V I I J J O F F A A E C T E H T N R U  
P Q I V Z W L J K V X B C Q Q O G J B L F Z S C C A Z P V  
O E V X K C S N G N C Z T F E I J F O T I E P Q Z T T J I Z G  
S T C U D N O C Q E E X S S M Q J D G Z B F V F N Q V C J H  
L J L P K A H R P J Q B E B V I I E B L Y Q L C G D K X F

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Conference  
County  
Education  
Host  
Leadership  
Members  
Professionals  
Resources  
Special  
Universities

Appreciation  
City  
Conduct  
Conference  
Development  
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Information  
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Networking  
Program  
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