



## Town of Shalimar

# *Tidbits*

Winter 2016

### **NOTES FROM THE MAYOR**

The Shalimar Library is now truly IN the Town of Shalimar. The new building is located across from the hotel on Richbourg Avenue; please visit them soon. As I draft this message, the building is near completion and, hopefully, the all-volunteer library will be open by the time you receive your water bill. The library is primarily supported through monetary donations and items donated for sale in their thrift shop, so think of them the next time you are purging your stuff.

We recently hired a second full-time Maintenance Person, Jeff Adams, and the Maintenance Staff is working to maintain a clean and attractive town. Tina Smith, a former Shalimar Town Clerk and military wife, was also hired part-time to tackle a major recordkeeping task and is also assisting with daily administrative duties. Commissioner Brad Gable and Town Administrator Tom Burns are updating our National Flood Insurance Program Community Rating System in an effort to increase the town's rating thus getting you a larger discount on your flood insurance. Commissioner Wilton and Chief John Cash are drafting and updating nearly 100 Police Department directives according to Florida Department of Law Enforcement initiatives to eventually gain accreditation for our great Police Department. Former Commissioner, Jerry McCallister, is now back on the Commission filling a vacant position until the next election. We are extremely fortunate to have a great Town Commission as well as many dedicated employees.

We continue to enjoy our really safe neighborhoods, so don't forget to thank each of our officers. If you think our officers have been gaining a few pounds, I want to let you know it is not true. Just this month, they all received new ballistic armor and they are now wearing them with all uniforms.

As always, please email me ([mayor@shalimarflorida.org](mailto:mayor@shalimarflorida.org)) with any suggestions or complaints. Be healthy, happy and safe this holiday season. And yes Santa will be in the area once again in December. Check other articles of this Tidbits for the schedule.

### **CHRISTMAS FESTIVITIES**

**The Annual Christmas Parade and Pot Luck Party will be on Thursday, December 8, 2016 and is open to everyone. The parade will start at 5:30 and will take about 45 minutes to get through the Town. The Christmas Party will start at Town Hall immediately after the parade ends. Please bring a dish to share.**

### **NOTES FROM THE POLICE DEPARTMENT**

Family members and snow birds will be arriving to enjoy the holiday season in Florida. Never leave vehicles unlocked once arriving at your destination. This easy access is what thieves look for first. They also look for valuables in the vehicles, even if it is locked. If you're not carrying your purse, wallet, or other valuable item(s), place them in your trunk. Never leave a set of keys in your vehicle. This will allow thieves to steal your vehicle along with items inside. Shop in pairs to deter thieves. If shopping at night, park in well-lit areas. At home, install flood lights to allow your vehicle to be more visible. At any time, if you observe suspicious activity, please contact your Shalimar Police Department. We can work together to prevent crimes and continue to have a safe community. To avoid identity theft and credit card fraud, use your bank cards as credit without inputting your PIN, or just pay for your items using cash. Contact the Town of Shalimar or visit our web site at [www.shalimarflorida.org](http://www.shalimarflorida.org) to complete a house watch form if you plan to leave the area for the holidays.

If you have any questions or concerns about the Police Department, please do not hesitate to call Town Hall (651-5723) or the Police Department (651-1115). Refer to (850) 428-0148 to speak to an officer directly.

Please remember to abide by the "No Parking on Right-of-Way" Ordinance. If you have guests and need to utilize the right-of-way, please contact Town Hall or the Police Department. The Police Department needs to approve this and, if we are not notified, a citation may be written.

Reminder of Shalimar's **leash law** - please be a responsible pet owner.

Ordinance Sec. 10-82. - Restraint and confinement to property:

(a) **Restraints on owner's or custodian's property.** Owners and custodians of dogs and cats will exercise diligence and reasonable care to prevent their animals from leaving their premises. Restraint exists when the animal is:

- (1) Enclosed within a house, building, fence, pen or other enclosure where the animal cannot climb, dig, jump or otherwise escape. Such enclosure must be securely fastened any time the animal is left unattended.
- (2) On a leash held by a competent person.
- (3) Off a leash but under voice control and obedient to such person's commands and such person is present with the animal at all times.

(b) **Restraint while off owner's or custodian's property.** Owners and custodians of dogs and cats will exercise diligence and reasonable care to keep their animals under restraint while off the owner's or custodian's premises. The only acceptable methods of restraint are:

- (1) Inside a vehicle, parked or in motion.
- (2) Confined within a secure enclosure with permission of the occupant of the property where the animal is temporarily located.
- (3) On a leash held by a competent person.
- (4) In a securely fastened cage or animal carrier with adequate ventilation and room for the animal.

Reminder: Shalimar Ordinances state that no person shall throw or place any debris in any drainage ditches, drainage easements, catch basins, or any part of the storm water management system. It is also illegal to dispose of any pollutants that may end up in any of these areas. These include yard trash, earthen fill, and all trash/litter. Please notify Town Hall if you observe any illegal dumping in our storm water drainage systems – *let's stay high and dry and help keep coastal waters clean!*

### **NATIONAL FLOOD INSURANCE PROGRAM**

The National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP) provides Standard Flood Insurance Policies (SFIPs) which are designed for properties lying within special flood zones (usually zones AE and VE on the Flood Rate Map). Those of you who may have one of these policies on property that is outside the special flood zones (in areas designated zone X -the old zone C) may well be eligible for what FEMA calls a Preferred Risk Policy (PRP). Premiums for a PRP policy are less than for the Standard Policy, and policies may now be changed anytime during a policy's term. In addition, there is a new V-Zone Risk Factor Rating Form that may provide maximum insurance discounts for properties that are built (or modified) according to best construction practices as outlined in the updated Coastal Construction Manual. Contact your flood insurance provider or Town Hall for additional details.

### **LOCALIZED FLOODING**

If you are concerned about localized flooding on your property, please contact the Town Manager. He can provide mitigation assistance based on many successful projects and also can provide guidance from the Town's engineering firm.

\*\*\* visit [www.shalimarflorida.org](http://www.shalimarflorida.org) for upcoming meeting agendas \*\*\*