



## Town of Shalimar

# *Tidbits*

Winter 2020

### NOTES FROM THE MAYOR

The Town of Shalimar's second annual tree lighting was a huge success. A while back the commission discussed whether to move forward with the event this year and it was unanimously decided to have it. Why? Because we needed this. 2020 has reminded us how important community is and how much we need one another. This year we had the Shalimar United Methodist Choir join us and they provided beautiful Christmas Music throughout the evening. Dr. Brad Bradford lead the group and one of my favorite moments is when we all held candles and sang Silent Night Together.

The American Heritage Girls started off the evening by leading us in our pledge of allegiance and we also had Miss Okaloosa and her court join us. Penelope Brady (Miss Spirit of Christmas) was chosen to hit the magical Christmas button after the crowd counted down from ten. The push of this button by the right person starts the Christmas season in Shalimar by turning on the Christmas tree lights as well as all the lights in Marquee Park. Penelope, Miss Okaloosa, and the entire court is an amazing group of generous young ladies who collected 629 jars of peanut butter for local food banks. That is 806 pounds of peanut butter and with the Florida Peanut Producer's Association and the Florida Peanut Federation match, this group is responsible for 2,418 pounds of food being given to hungry people in Okaloosa County.

Santa decided to pay us a visit this year and he arrived with his elves on his Christmas train. We also had Paddyprints Marketplace putting Christmas stamps on the kids and of course we ended the night with fluffy snow falling which is always a big hit. I want to thank everyone who had a part in helping make it a success. It was a special night, and we hope to grow this community event even more in the years ahead.

I hope you all have a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!

Mark Franks Mayor, Town of Shalimar







**BUILDING PERMITS** – Most building projects require a building permit from the Town. This Town building permit is very inexpensive and allows us to review projects for zoning requirements that might exist, and also creates a record of the project that is stored in the Town's records. Those projects that require inspection from a State certified building inspector also require a permit from Okaloosa County as the County provides inspection services for the Town. The County also verifies various building material requirements such as fire ratings and wind load ratings that are required by State building codes. Property owners can pull permits themselves at the Town Hall (especially for self-help projects), but it is recommended that contractors pull these permits as they are most familiar with permit requirements. A quick call to the Town Administrator or the Town Clerk at 651-5723 will get you all the info on a specific project or answer any questions you may have.

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!*

**Reminder of Shalimar's leash law - please be a responsible pet owner.  
Ordinance 5.07.02. - 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.

**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.