

Police Department Gets Technology Upgrade:

In early 2013, the Satellite Beach City Council voted unanimously to approve a budget to fund a long awaited, major overhaul of the Police Department's aging computer systems, which was originally purchased in 1999.

The Police Department was one of only two agencies in east Central Florida that did not have access to mobile computer terminals in their patrol cars.

Police Department supervisors met with nearly a dozen companies to identify the best options and make recommendations to Chief Jeff Pearson and City Council. The project was finally awarded to New World Systems, a Michigan based company that has

completed projects with over 1,500 police and fire departments around the United States. Over the last year, members of each division within the department have been working closely with New World Systems to tailor the technology to the needs of our Police and Fire Departments.

Beginning in March, the Satellite Beach Police Department will have the newest technology available in Law Enforcement. The new equipment and information management systems will be installed in every patrol car and available to every officer. This will allow officers immediate access to up to the minute crime information,

bulletins from neighboring agencies, and driver's license and vehicle registration checks. More importantly, these in-car computer systems allow officers to write nearly 100% of their crime reports in the field, significantly decreasing down time in the station.

In addition to the mobile systems, new Records Management and Computer Dispatch Systems have been installed, allowing all three to communicate, therefore improving the overall efficiency of every division. All members of the department are excited to put this long awaited, new technology to use to better serve the community.

Unlocked cars continue to be easy target for thieves:

Whether it's Satellite Beach, Melbourne, Orlando or Tallahassee, burglaries to unlocked cars in residential areas continue to be one of the most reoccurring, yet preventable crimes. In one central Florida community, 79 unlocked cars were burglarized in January alone; two of those cars were stolen because keys were left inside. While these numbers in Satellite Beach are significantly lower, we still have several vehicle burglaries each month that can easily be prevented

by removing valuables and locking your car. Criminals may wander the residential areas during the late night hours, walking from house to house checking car door handles. Rarely will they break a window of a locked car for fear of being detected. Many times they will take spare change or small electronics but have also been known to take computers, briefcases and car stereos. Leaving your car unlocked also gives thieves easy access to your garage door opener and personal information

you may keep in your car. The beach accesses are another area where vehicle burglaries often occur. Many times individuals from outside the area travel along the coast stopping at random beach accesses. They target valuables left in plain sight and will break windows if they see something worth the risk, like purses, wallets, cameras or other expensive items. These thefts can often be prevented by leaving expensive or valuable items at home or locking them away in the trunk.



Captain James Keating retires

Satellite Beach Fire Department celebrated the retirement of Captain James Keating, who retired after 37 years of service with the City. Jim is a natural leader, and during his tenure with the department he was instrumental in cultivating new leaders to follow in his steps. Jim was not only a great Captain on emergency incidents; he continually gave back to the community. Jim's handiwork was noted every year when "Twilight Santa" spreads cheer through the City. The citizens of Satellite Beach were served well by Captain Keating. Though we are sad that he is leaving the department, we celebrate his retirement and say — Thank You!

Officer of the Year, 2013



At the Satellite Beach City Council Meeting on February 19, 2014, Mayor Frank Catino and Police Chief Jeff Pearson (pictured from Left to Right) recognized the Police Department's Officer(s) of the Year 2013.

Ofc. Aaron Yuergens was selected as our Officer of the Year; Shaun Warburton was recognized because of his knowledge and assistance to New World in building a Records Management System (RMS); Ofc. Don Triebell was selected as our Hartmann/Flagg DUI Officer of the Year and Communications Supervisor Mari Johnson was selected as our Communications Officer of the Year.

Join us in congratulating them for their accomplishments in 2013. We are very proud of these dedicated employees and this recognition is well deserved.

Stop By & Say "Hi" Program

The goal of our Stop By & Say Hi Program is to let our residents know that we care about them and they are not forgotten. That's why we offer this innovative program where our Satellite Beach Police Department Volunteers literally do just that.

There are no requirements to participate. Our residents can be any age or background. They could simply be in need of companionship, be lonely, be a caregiver, a shut in, a cancer patient, or just lost a loved one or

have no immediate family living close by. Through this program, we "Pay It Forward". We believe in doing random acts of kindness and we want our residents to know that we care.

They stay as long as the resident wants and reminisce about the good ole days. They share laughter, funny stories, and let the resident know that they are not forgotten.

In order to participate in the Stop By & Say Hi Program, a Referral form must be submitted to us. These Referral forms

are located in various city departments and are also on line. Anyone who cares about a family member, neighbor, loved one or even if they want to recommend themselves, all they have to do is complete the form and our visits start. This Stop By & Say Hi Program is so simple and very rewarding because our residents benefit from these friendly social visits.

Why don't you do a random act of kindness and recommend someone you know to the Stop By & Say Hi Program today.

School Zones

Satellite Beach has four (4) schools in our area, 6 School Crossing Guards and over 2,700 children that attend our schools.

Recently a School Crossing Guard was barely missed while standing at her post during school zones. The School Crossing Guard saw a vehicle heading right towards her and because she was aware of her surroundings she quickly jumped out of the way sustaining no injuries in the process. This could have been a deadly situation if our School Crossing Guard wasn't paying attention or if children had been present.

Our school zone times vary from 30 minutes up to 2 hours a shift depending on the location. Speeding fines are doubled during this time. The School Crossing Guards are there for

the safety of your children. We have heard about fatalities in other counties when children were going or coming from school and we don't want that to happen here.

When you see School Crossing Guards posted throughout the streets in Satellite Beach, we ask that you obey the school zone speed of 15 miles per hour on the interior streets and 20 miles per hour on South Patrick Drive when entering the posted school zone area. We ask that you obey the School Crossing Guard when they motion for you to slow down (it's for your benefit). We also recommend that you slow down during school zone times, pay attention to your surroundings, be patient, courteous, and responsible and do not talk on your cellular phone.

Improving the City's Drainage System... How you can help!

The accumulation of debris in the City's drainage system contributes to the system not working up to its designed capacity. Debris entering the system restricts the water flow resulting in back-ups in the streets. What can you do to help?

Please place your yard waste in the green carts instead of piling it up on the ground and blow all grass clippings onto your lawn instead of into the street. These precautions reduce the amount of debris that gets washed into the storm drains and helps keep the drains flowing at their very best. Sometimes there is just too much yard waste to fit in your two carts. When that is the case, please call Waste Management at 723-4455 and have them schedule a pickup.

The City Code addresses this issue and prohibits any deposit of debris on the ground anywhere in the city. The purpose of this section is to prevent the debris from becoming a nuisance, such as contamination of the storm drain system or an environmental hazard. The appropriate sections of the code are:

Sec. 26-30. Deposits in streets or on property.

No person shall deposit or cause to be deposited on any land, public square, street, alley, vacant lot or unoccupied lot, water of the Banana River or Atlantic Ocean or any other watercourse or ditch within the city any garbage, trash, building waste materials and debris or land clearing debris.

Sec. 30-611. Trash, debris, and waste. Disposal.

All trash and waste shall be deposited in dumpsters or waste cans, which shall have lids closed at all times except when trash or waste is being deposited. No trash, debris, or waste of any kind shall be buried or burned within the city limits. It shall be prohibited to deposit any refuse, waste material, or other noxious or malodorous material onto or into any property, street, Indian River Lagoon system, canal, or ditch within the city.

As a community effort in following these guidelines our neighborhoods will be more flood resistant during hurricane season, in addition to the overall beautification it provides.

Redevelopment

continued from page 1

meetings. Then the A1A Redevelopment Conceptual Plan, carefully designed with resident input, will be presented to the CRA Board for final approval on May 8, 2014 at 7pm.

Beach-Access Projects

Planning is currently underway for two beach-access projects to be completed within the next two to three years: Crotty Park and Shell Street. Both will include parking, bike racks, showers, pavilions, and landscaping. The Shell Street project will also include installation of a sewer-line, drainage improvements, and restrooms. These projects will continue our successful beach-access improvement efforts which have been completed at Grant, DeSoto, Hightower and Pelican Beach Parks. Final plans for Crotty Park were approved by the CRA Board on March 13, 2014, and plans for Shell Street are ongoing to address concerns of nearby residents. Future beach-access projects are expected to include small parks at Magellan and across from Gemini.

The latest plans for A1A, Crotty Park, and Shell Street are available for viewing on our website. In addition, the public can provide their ideas at our CRA Advisory Committee meetings (scheduled for the third Thursday of every month at 7pm) and at CRA Board meetings (scheduled for the second Thursday of each month), where finalized redevelopment plans are approved.

Obtaining Flood Zone Information

If you need information about the flood zone of your property, Satellite Beach Building and Zoning Department staff can give you a determination of your flood zone based on the Flood Insurance Rate Maps (FIRM). Flood Insurance Rate Maps are available at the Satellite Beach Library. Copies of FEMA elevation certificates on all buildings constructed in the flood plain since 1990 are available for public review at the Building and Zoning Department.

Documents on building protection measures and design guidelines for flood damage reduction, floodplain management or hazard mitigation, and the national program for floodplain management are available in the Building and Zoning Department, 565 Cassia Boulevard, or the Satellite Beach Library.

The following agencies can provide information about flood management:

LOCAL:

- Satellite Beach Building & Zoning
(321) 773-4409
- Brevard County Flood Zone Determination
(321) 617-7340

FEDERAL:

- Federal Flood Insurance Hot Line
(800) 638-6620

From the Rumor Mill

THE RUMOR: Have you heard that the City decreased its general liability insurance coverage from \$5 million to \$2 million and that this is “dangerous” and “puts our City at risk”?

THE FACTS: In order to reduce our insurance costs, our City re-bid all of our liability insurance coverage. This resulted in overall annual savings of \$73,000, additional areas of coverage, and a decrease in our general liability coverage from \$5 million to \$2 million. Contrary to the rumor, this decrease actually benefits our City by reducing our cost, risk, and exposure.

HERE'S HOW: Florida Statute 768.28 provides sovereign immunity limitations for State and local governments. This places limits on the amount of money a person could obtain by suing the City for a general liability incident (for example, tripping on a sidewalk) if the City were found negligent. These statutory limitations are \$200,000 per person and \$300,000 per incident.

If a litigant sought more money than that, the request would have to be approved by the Florida Legislature, which could approve up to the amount of the City's liability coverage. For this reason, most cities have general liability insurance coverage of \$1 million or \$2 million.

By reducing our coverage, we have reduced the amount the City could be sued for, while saving \$3,092 each year on the general liability premium for insurance we do not need. That savings alone will pay one-third of the Beachcaster cost for this year!

Upcoming Recreational Events

Restore Oyster Reefs in the Indian River Lagoon

Oyster mat-making workshops will be held at the David R. Schechter Community Center, 1089 S. Patrick Dr., Satellite Beach, overseen by the Brevard Zoo.

Please join us on any of these dates April 26, May 24, June 28, July 26, Aug. 23 from 10–11:30 am to work with Brevard Zoo staff to learn more about this keystone species, help our Indian River Lagoon and make oyster restoration mats.

Oysters need help due to the number of threats they face including over harvesting, habitat degradation, poor water quality, disease, and boat wakes. Oysters are filter feeders that improve water quality and clarity by filtering water — one oyster can filter up to 50 gallons of water a day! Oyster reefs also stabilize shorelines and provide food and habitat for many species of fish, birds, and invertebrates.

The Oyster Reef Restoration Project was started in 2005 by Dr. Linda Walters of the University of Central Florida and has been joined by Brevard Zoo. The oyster mats,

constructed from mesh and oyster shells, are placed in the Indian River Lagoon to provide a natural substrate for oyster larvae to settle. Results show that the oyster mat restoration technique has been very successful — after one year in the water, an average of 97 new oysters settled on each mat! But we can't do it without your help! No need to RSVP, just come ready to get a bit dusty!

May 31 • Mini-Bunko Night

This is an “Adults Only” game of dice. Don't worry if you don't know how to play, you'll learn as you go! The Teen Zone doors open at 6:00pm for dinner and dice roll begins at 7:00pm. The cost is \$15 advanced tickets available at the Recreation Dept. or \$20 at the door. The event is sponsored by the Police Athletic League (PAL) and benefits their youth programs. For more information, call PAL 777-8336.

Satellite Beach Farmers Market

is held on Thursday from 3pm-dusk, weather permitting at the Pelican Beach Park, 1525 Hwy A1A.

CITY COUNCIL MEETING HIGHLIGHTS

FEBRUARY 5, 2014

- Approved the contract for the Fraternal Order of Police Union
- Approved contract for City's new International Association of Firefighters Union
- Authorized the replacement of the roof for the Pelican Beach Park restroom facility at a cost of \$10,300 with a 25 year warranty

FEBRUARY 19, 2014

- Approved the purchase of one fire truck apparatus in amount of \$407,825 to replace the City's two older fire trucks.
- Recognized the Beachside Little League for their contribution of \$11,800 for field improvements at Hedgecock and Olsen Fields.

MARCH 5, 2014

- Approved Ordinance #1088 updating flood management regulations as required to participate in the National Flood Insurance Program.
- Authorized the purchase of a new virtual server solution for the City's email system through Artemis IT for an initial setup cost of \$3,000 and \$1,999 per month.
- Authorized the replacement of the Code Enforcement Board with a Special Magistrate as provided by Chapter 162, Florida Statutes.

MARCH 19, 2014

- Recognized the Surfside Elementary students and the Beautification Board for the installation and signs for the Cassia Boulevard dog waste stations.
- Adopted Ordinance #1089 updating the City's Capital Assets Fund definition of a capital asset and updated the name of the fund.

55+ Club

The 55+ Club is for folks 55 years and older. You do not have to live in Satellite Beach. For more information, call Chairperson Marty Hindsley 777-8313 or Martinhindsley@yahoo.com Unless otherwise noted, 55+ programs meet in the David R. Schechter Community Center, 1089 S. Patrick Drive, Satellite Beach

■ **Bingo Mondays, 11:00am-1:30pm** (doors open at 9:30am) at the Satellite Beach Civic Center, 565 Cassia Blvd. Members only and card fees apply. Contact Louise T. 773-3160

■ **Bunko 2" Friday each month, 10:00am-1:00pm.** \$5/members & \$7/guests. Location may vary. Contact Barbara 773-3050

■ **Cards & Games Thursdays, 9:00am-3:00pm** at the DRS Community Center.

■ **Cards & Games (also Billiards & Table Tennis) Wednesdays, 6:00-9:00pm.**

■ **Chess Opportunities/Lessons** Brush up, improve or learn. Locations vary. Contact Dick 777-0255

■ **Community Volunteer Opportunities** Stay active, get involved! Contact Marty 777-8313

■ **Coupon Group 3rd Wednesday each month, 2-3pm,** SB Library Contact Terry 773-7705

■ **Craft & Book Club 1st Wednesday each month, 12:00-2:30pm.** Alternating craft and book, some craft fees may apply. Contact Joyce 961-6408

■ **Cribbage Wednesdays 6:00pm and Thursdays 9:00am.** New or experienced players welcome. Contact Jerry 777-3460

■ **The Dinner Gang 1st Tuesday every other month, 5:30pm.** Locations vary. Contact Floss 773-6073 (May 6th next dinner)

■ **Early Bird Dining & Dancing, 2nd Wednesday of every month, 5:00pm** at Neptune Grill. Contact Joan 777-0238

■ **Education Seminars 1st Thursday each month, September-May, 12:30pm.** Light lunch served, please RSVP 773-6458.

■ **Fishing Club 2nd Thursday each month, 1:00pm.** Contact Gene 773-4647

■ **Indoor Walking Group Tues, Wed, & Thurs 8-10am** in the DRS Gym-Free! No walking on certain holidays, times vary in summer... call for date & time exclusions

■ **Line Dancing Tuesdays 1-2pm.** \$2/session (55+ members only). Contact Candy 779-2941

■ **Lunch Bunch 3rd Wednesday each month 12:30pm.** Locations vary. Contact Laverne 725-6610

■ **Mahjongg Wednesdays, 9:00-11:30am** April & May. Off for the summer, resumes in September. Lessons also available. Contact Barbara 773-3050

■ **Movie Group Last Friday monthly.** Contact Carol 604-0143.

■ **Party Bridge Thursdays, 11:00am-3:00pm.** Foursomes appreciated. Contact Connie 777-3603.

■ **Travel Group Day Trips,** Contact Terry 773-7705. Extended Trips (overnight) Contact Jill 773-2080

■ **Social Seasonal parties & events** planned by the 55+ Club.

■ **Sugar & Blood Pressure Checks** 1st Thursday each month, 9:11am. www.55plusclubofsb.com



Turtle Season Regulations

- Lights out on the beach regulations for turtle season continue through October 31. Beachfront property owners are required to turn off outside lights facing the ocean.
- Please, no flash cameras or flashlights on the beach during this time period. Take precautions so nesting turtles or hatching turtles are not disturbed with lights or noise. Lighting scares away would-be nesting sea turtles, and attracts hatchlings toward the road instead of the surf.

ADULTS

■ **Mondays & Wednesdays, 9:00am – 2:00pm - AARP Tax Aide Assistance.** Sign-up is a must upon arrival. Bring a government issued photo ID, social security card for each person on the tax return, 2012 tax return and all paperwork required for the 2013 tax return. All returns are e-filed only.

■ **Tuesdays, 12:30-3:30 pm, SHINE** counselors will assist seniors and the disabled with Medicare and Medicaid questions. Free one-on-one confidential counseling. Contact SHINE at 426-0261 or Shinespubliclibrary@gmail.com.

■ **Tuesday, April 1 at 6:30pm - Sick & Tired of Being Sick & Tired?** Let Us Help You Find a Better Way. Presented by Eplett Chiropractic Center. Call 733-4434 for more information.

■ **Tuesday, April 8 at 1:00pm - Great Decisions - China's Foreign Policy.** Programs are presented by the International Relations Group/League of Women Voters of the Space Coast. Call Joyce Calese at 610-7930 for information.

■ **Monday, April 21 at 2:00pm - Estate Planning, Probate and VA Benefits** by the Law Office of Amy Jackson. Call 345-5945 or chris @ amybjackson.com for information.

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■ **Tuesday, April 22 at 1:00pm – Great Decisions-Islamic Terrorism.** Programs are presented by the International Relations Group/League of Women Voters of the Space Coast. Call Joyce Calese at 610-7930 for information.

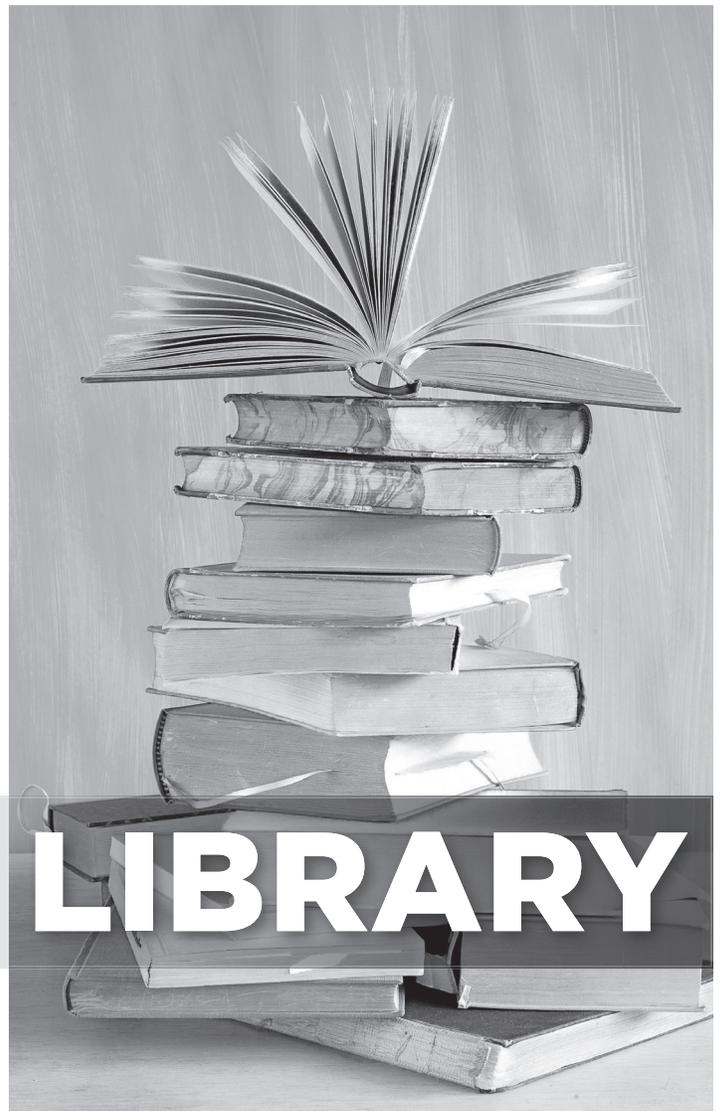
■ **Friday, April 25 at 1:00pm – The Bead Ladies are Here!** Design and make 2 memory wire bracelets in this 2-hour workshop. Cost is \$13 which includes all materials, tools and instruction. Contact Normandie & Nancy at 321-225-1394 or thebeadladiesarehere@gmail.com.

■ **Monday, April 28 at 1:00pm – Barbara's Book Chats.** Orphan Train by Christina Baker Kline. Contact Barbara in the reference department or call 779-4004 for information.

CHILDREN

■ **Wednesdays at 4:00pm – Yoga for Kids.** Ms. Eden returns for her weekly yoga class; includes games and music. Wear comfortable clothes and bring a towel or mat. \$5 fee per class per child. Ages 5 and up.

■ **Thursdays at 11:00am and 3:30pm – Alphabet Adventures.** Our weekly story time features stories, music, a video and a craft about a different letter of the alphabet. Ages 3 and up.



LIBRARY

■ **Saturday, April 19 at 1:00pm – Read to a Dog.** Read your favorite book to the Space Coast Therapy Dogs. Spots fill fast, please call to register. Ages 5 & up.

■ **Monday, April 21 at 3:00pm – Rave About Your Fave** Sunshine State Book Club (Grades 3-6). Discuss your favorite SSYRA books over snacks.

TEENS (Ages 12-18)

■ **Tuesday, April 1 at 6:00pm – Teen Book Club.** Books that make you LOL.

■ **Saturday, April 5 at 2:00pm – Teen Advisory Group.** Plan events, write book reviews, create displays. Bring a couple of old t-shirts for our T-shirt Upcycle Workshop.

■ **Florida Teens Read Voting** – Vote for your favorite from the 2013-2014 Florida Teens Read list between April 1-30 at www.floridamedia.org.

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Recreation News

March 29 ■ Big Truck Day

So many BIG trucks — so little time! Come check out the dump trucks, cement trucks, garbage trucks, fire trucks, and much more! Bring the whole family. An adult must accompany kids. The free event is held at the DRS Community Center from 10am-2pm. Refreshments will be available at a nominal fee from the Satellite Beach Lions Club.

April 5 ■ Super Hero Tykes Olympics

The ever popular SB instructors John Leep (Tae Kwon Do Little Dragons) and Coach Reed Tompkins (Li' Sports) are sponsoring the Annual Super Hero Tykes Olympics. Youth 2½-5½ years old will participate in a variety of fun Olympic style events which promote fitness and choosing a healthy life style. Everybody is a winner and each competitor receives a ribbon and goody bag. The event will begin at 1pm in the DRS Gymnasium & kids are encouraged to wear their favorite super hero costume. The cost per entry is \$5/"competitor" and registration should be accomplished at the SB Recreation Center by April 4th.

April 5 & 6 ■ Relay for Life of South Brevard Beaches

Satellite High School is proud to host the 9th annual American Cancer Society's Relay for Life at SHS Stadium. The Relay is the signature fundraiser for the American Cancer Society and raises money for cancer research along with free programs and services offered locally. For information call Tina Leighty (321) 253-0361 ext. 5757 or www.relayforlife.org/southbrevardbeachesfl

April 12 ■ Annual Fish Earth Day ■ Free!

The 3rd Annual Fish Earth Day is coming to Satellite Beach! Youth will meet at the SB Library ponds from 9am-11am. There will be instruction on casting, fishing techniques, habitat restoration, conservation, knot tying and more! The event is free for 6-16 year olds, however, you must pre-register by April 8 by calling SB Recreation, 773-6458. Parents are required to stay with children.

April 12 ■ Skateboard Contest

The Skateboard contest will be held at the Satellite Beach Skate/BMX park beginning at 10am. Registration begins at 9am for ages 10 years and older. The entry fee is \$15. A waiver must be on file and helmets are mandatory.

April 17 ■ Flashlight Egg Hunt

Children in 1st-6th grades hunt unassisted at this night time event. Bags will be provided for your eggs, but bring your own flashlight. Arrive at DeSoto Soccer Field by 8:45 pm. (hunt begins at 9:00pm) \$7/child & purchase tickets by 4/16.

April 19 ■ Breakfast w/the Easter Bunny

Infants through 1st grade will enjoy donuts and juice, hunt for eggs, and watch the Bunny arrive on the Fire Truck. The event is held at 10am at Pelican Beach Park. \$7/child, purchase tickets in advance at the Recreation office. Don't wait, this event sells out!

The ever popular Satellite Beach Summer Recreation Activity Brochure will be available April 1st. It can be viewed on line, satellitebeachrecreation.org or a printed copy can be picked up at any Satellite Beach City Facility.