

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 YOUTUBE: Town of Southwest Ranches Official Channel • FACEBOOK: facebook@SWRGOV

ELECTED OFFICIALS	(05.4) 7.47 7460		
Mayor Steve Breitkreuz	(954) 343-7462	sbreitkreuz@southwestranches.org	
Vice Mayor Bob Hartmann Council Member Jim Allbritton	(954) 343-7447 (954) 343-7461	bhartmann@southwestranches.org jallbritton@southwestranches.org	
Council Member Gary Jablonski	(954) 343-7456	gjablonski@southwestranches.org	
Council Member David S. Kuczenski, Esq.	(954) 343-7472	dkuczenski@southwestranches.org	
·	(334) 343 7472	akaczenskiasoutnwestranenes.org	
TOWN STAFF Russell Muñiz, Town Administrator	(954) 434-0008	rmuniz@southwestranches.org	
Kathryn Sims, <i>Deputy Town Administrator</i>	(954) 343-7454	ksims@southwestranches.org	
Danielle Caban, Executive Assistant to the Town Administrator	(954) 343-7474	dcaban@southwestranches.org	
Debra M. Ruesga, <i>Town Clerk</i>	(954) 343-7451	druesga@southwestranches.org	
Dan Stewart, <i>Deputy Town Clerk</i>	(954) 343-7443	dstewart@southwestranches.org	
Jennifer McCarty, Records and Administrative Coordinator	(954) 343-7469	jmccarty@southwestranches.org	
Tom Holste, <i>General Services Manager</i>	(954) 343-7476	tholste@southwestranches.org	
Hector Rodriguez, Administrative Assistant	(954) 434-0008	hrodriguez@southwestranches.org	
Emil C. Lopez, <i>Town Financial Administrator</i>	(954) 343-7473	elopez@southwestranches.org	
Christina Semeraro, <i>Town Procurement Officer</i>	(954) 343-7467	csemeraro@southwestranches.org	
Rich Strum, <i>Deputy Financial Administrator</i>	(954) 343-7442	rstrum@southwestranches.org	
Arianna Durbeej, Senior Accountant	(954) 343-7477	adurbeej@southwestranches.org	
Keith Poliakoff, <i>Town Attorney</i>	(954) 909-0580	keith@govlawgroup.com	
Rod Ley, Public Works Director	(954) 343-7444	rley@southwestranches.org	
Emily McCord Aceti, Community Services Manager	(954) 343-7453	eaceti@southwestranches.org	
Susan Kutz, Administrative Specialist, Newsletter Editor & Graphic Designer		skutz@southwestranches.org jmarques@southwestranches.org	
Joyce Marques, Engineering Inspector December Lauretano-Haines, Parks, Recreation & Open Space Director	(954) 343-7441 (954) 343-7452	dlauretano@southwestranches.org	
Gilbert Ceballos, Parks and Recreation Program Facilitator	(954) 343-7468	gceballos@southwestranches.org	
Mayuli Betancourt, Administrative Assistant	(954) 343-7465	mbetancourt@southwestranches.org	
•		`	
TOWN SERVICES / BUILDING DEPARTMENT PERMITTING - (CAP GOVERNME Simo Mansor, Building Official	(954) 343-7448	M-F 8:30 am - 4:00 pm swrinspections@southwestranches.org	
Derlin Guevara, <i>Permit Technician</i>	(954) 343-7446 (954) 343-7446	swrinspections@southwestranches.org	
Maria Perez, <i>Permit Technician</i>	(954) 343-7445	swrinspections@southwestranches.org	
PLANNING	(331)3137113	Swimspeedions@southwestianenes.org	
Jeff Katims	(954) 554-8894	jeff@completecities.net	
	(934) 334-0094	jen (@completecities.net	
ZONING/PERMITTING Julio Medina, Community Development/Code Compliance Director	(954) 343-7458	zoninginfo@southwastranshas arg	
CODE COMPLIANCE	(954) 545-7456	zoninginfo@southwestranches.org	
Julio Medina, Community Development/Code Compliance Director	(954) 343-7458	jmedina@southwestranches.org	
Manfred Velette, Assistant Code Compliance Director	(954) 343-7440	mvelette@southwestranches.org	
Code Compliance Hotline	(954) 343-7449	mverette (@30 danwestranenesiong	
Concepcion Campos, <i>Code Compliance Officer</i>	(954) 343-7457	ccampos@southwestranches.org	
Yirglhis Hernandez, Code Compliance Administrative Officer	(954) 343-7459	yhernandez@southwestranches.org	
Ismail Rashid		irashid@southwestranches.org	
WASTE/BULK/RECYCLING SERVICES			
WM (Waste Management)	(954) 974-7500		
REFLECTIVE ADDRESS MARKERS – Chief Bennett	(954) 868-2057	lbennett@southwestranches.org	
MOSQUITO CONTROL	(954) 765-4062		
LOST AND FOUND ANIMALS	(754) 224-0877	Facebook@SWRLostandFoundAnimals	
PUBLIC SAFETY		•	
EMERGENCY	911		
Non-Emergency	(954) 764-4357 (HELP)		
Davie Police Department	(954) 693-8200		
Eddy Velazquez, <i>Detective</i>	(954) 693-8290	evelazquez@davie-fl.gov	
Cheryl Danner, <i>Police Services Coordinator</i>	(954) 693-8352	cdanner@southwestranches.org	
Davie Fire Rescue Station 112	(954) 952-4608		
Volunteer Fire Rescue - Chief Bennett	(954) 868-2057		
TRAFFIC AND ROADWAY SERVICES			
Potholes and Signs Down - Public Works	(954) 343-7441	publicworks@southwestranches.org	
Illicit Discharge - Environmental Response Line:	(954) 519-1499	online complaint form at:	
•		http://www.broward.org/Environment/	
		Resources / Pages / Enviro Complaint.aspx	
OTHER			
WATER DISTRICTS - CANALS			
Central Broward Water Control District	(954) 432-5110	www.centralbrowardwcd.org	
East of SW 148 Avenue (Volunteer)	(337) 732-3110	www.centralbrowardwcd.org	
South Broward Drainage District	(954) 680-3337	www.sbdd.org	
West of SW 148 Avenue (Volunteer)	(,	9	
1 /			





A MESSAGE FROM

Mayor Steve Breitkreuz

FARMERS' MARKET

One of the goals that I had when I was first elected Mayor over 4 years ago was the creation of a Farmers' Market for our Town and surrounding residents. This was a vision that was also communicated to be by other residents in Town as

well. It was a proud moment when the Farmers' Market opened for limited hours, for only a portion of the year. It was a success and really brought our community together.

Over the past 2 plus years, there has been many improvements. It is now year-round, and we recently added Sundays as well as Saturdays, which has been well received. So many residents have contributed to its success but I want to call out Tracy Swait who also had this vision as well and has been a consistent participant over the years. I appreciate all that Tracy has done.

"...So, I am excited as we move into these coming years that that more and more residents will take advantage of the opportunity to enjoy this market, meet the vendors, both local and outside, and just enjoy spending time with your neighbors..."

To make this a success, we contracted with an outside group to ensure that the Market was run consistently, professionally, and with accountability. And I have been very pleased that that is exactly what they have provided. Recently the Florida Department of Business and Professional Regulation (DBPR) performed inspections of all the vendors and everyone passed. That was what we were counting on.

Recently we renewed the contract with our Market Organizer for 3 more years. With this renewal there was additional interest from residents regarding the contract, which, honestly, I welcome. Through genuine questions and a positive dialog, things only get better. So, we are taking this information and improving. Along with this, other improvements have been implemented such as working to increase the footprint of the fresh produce section of the market, improving traffic control, increased shaded picnic areas, as well as discouraging the use of single use plastics. And with all of these services, the Town also takes in a modest contribution that helps offset other Town expenses.

By the way, if you are a resident of the Ranches and would like to have a booth at the market, please either contact me or Town Hall and we would be happy to provide all the details. The good news is that as a resident, you can have the booth at a discounted rate.

So, please come out and enjoy! This is yet another way that we all can get together and share our rural lifestyle together.

As always, thank-you for your trust and support in allowing me to serve as your Mayor. It is truly an honor that I never take for granted.

Mayor Steve Breitkreuz 954-296-6018; sbreitkreuz@southwestranches.org;



A MESSAGE FROM

Council Member Jim Allbritton

GOOD DAY SOUTHWEST RANCHES.

Each month I take a moment and reflect on all the Great Town Events that took place. The Youth Equestrian Horse Show – (thank you Ms. December and Ms. Hollingsworth), The Chile Cook Off/Car Show (thank you Aster Knight Park Foundation), The Barn Dance (thank you School and Education Advisory Board), Earth Day (thank you Ms. December), and The Monthly Open Chess Play (thank you Mayor and Ms. December). There are several more Great Events being planned so check the Town Calander and come enjoy.

District #3 is currently undergoing a huge drainage project that, when finished, will tie all the previous projects together, and District #3 will be a lot less prone to flooding in the future. Please be patient with the mess. When all is done, all the yards and driveways will be repaired.

...The Safety and Traffic Advisory Committee has been reinstated, and I am looking forward to seeing what recommendations the committee will bring to the Town Council...

There has been talk in Tallahassee of a bill that would increase the homestead exemption from twenty-five thousand to seventy-five thousand. This sounds good for the homeowners, but the revenues that the Town would lose, would have to be made up in other ways. We will be following this.

Remember, we have a mobile speed trailer that can be placed anywhere

you feel is needed to remind drivers to slow down. Contact Tom Holste at Town Hall, 954-343-7476 or at his email; tholste@southwestranches.org

The Town's 25th Birthday Party (June 7th) is right around the corner. Ms. Susan Kutz, our Town's Administrative Specialist, has been given the task of putting this party together. From the information that I have been able to put together this is going to be a party that will be remembered for a long time. Thank You Ms. Kutz.

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact me at; 954-343-7461 or 305-903-7043, jallbritton@southwestranches.org









Front Cover Happy Passover,

Happy Easter

Page 2 In-Touch Town Contact Info

Page 3 Mayor's Message, Farmer's Market

Page 4 C.M. Jim Allbritton

Page 5 C.M. David S. Kuczenski,

Happy Birthdays

Page 6 Robin Bartleman, Prototype Barn, Stay in Touch with Engineering

Page 7 Show your Town Spirit, Zero Waste: Trash Talk, Calendar Drawing Contest

Page 8-9 Upcoming Events

Page 10 Butterflies in the News Page 11 Word Search, i-9 Sports, In Loving Memory - Aster Knight

Page 12 IFill, Excavation & Site

Grading Permits, Recylce Right

Page 13 Photo Contest, Did You

Know - Code Compliance, In Loving Memory - Leo Robert Vezina

Page 14 Marty Kiar, Clerk's Corner,

In Loving Memory - Marie Nix

Page 15 April Town Calendar, April School Calendar, Comedy Corner, Photo Contest Application

Back Cover Council and Districts, 25th Anniversary Celebration Parade Entry Form, Household Hazardous Waste Event



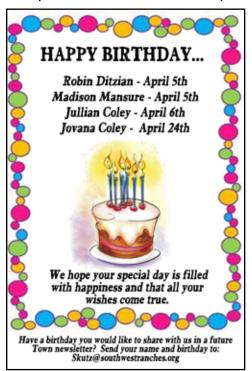


A MESSAGE FROM

Council Member David S. Kuczenski, Esq.

Howdy Ranchers,

I hope everyone is doing well. April is named after the Greek goddess of love, Aphrodite. As we get closer to the 2025 Atlantic Hurricane season, this is a good time to begin trimming trees, especially on larger parcels. Since our contract with WM limits residential bulk pick to 12 cubic yards, some folks will need to break up the amount of bulk to set out for multiple days. This will avoid additional charges. If your bulk pile exceeds 12 cubic yards, additional charges may for exceeding apply maximum amount of bulk. While I am on the topic of solid waste, keep in mind that WM will only





"...As we get closer to the 2025 Atlantic Hurricane season, this is a good time to begin trimming trees, especially on larger parcels."

pick up garbage and recycling from the bins provided by the Town. WM will not pick up waste from receptacles not issued from the Town. This policy was adopted to make sure everyone pays their fair share for the solid waste they create. Folks who attempt to use non-Town issued receptacles are not paying their fair share and are forcing additional expenses upon those who use only the Town issued receptacles.

The most frequent complaint I receive concerns speeding. Most Southwest Ranches roads, with a few exceptions, limit speed to 25 mph. This is important for the safety of our Equestrians riding alongside our roads, our domestic animals and our wildlife.

While walking my dogs last month, I came upon a raccoon that was lying dead in the middle of Holatee Trail. The only cause for this terrible death was from carelessly speeding. If given

sufficient time, raccoons, unlike the Egyptian geese, will run off from the roads. We are in the process of installing more lighted speed signs with radar tracking. To a degree, these devices have calmed traffic; however, everyone cares about protecting the lives of our animals. In addition to displaying the speed of oncoming traffic, these signs further collect data such as speed and the times of the most frequent offenses. The signs transmit the data obtained to Davie Police. which uses the data to prioritize times to increase law enforcement. Based upon previous reports from Davie Police, most of the offenders are our own residents.

As your Council Member from District 4, my goal is to preserve Southwest Ranches' unique rural lifestyle and minimize any changes to it. Together, let's protect and maintain what makes our community special. I also strive to return all phone calls within 24 to 48 hours. My cell phone is 305-815-0990. If you have questions or concerns, do not hesitate to

Very Truly Yours, David S Kuczenski, Esq. Council Member District 4



AUTISM AWARENESS MONTH

April is Autism Awareness Month, a time to raise awareness and support individuals with autism and their families. As a former special education teacher, I know how imperative it is that we work towards inclusion and access to resources. I am proud to sponsor bills this session

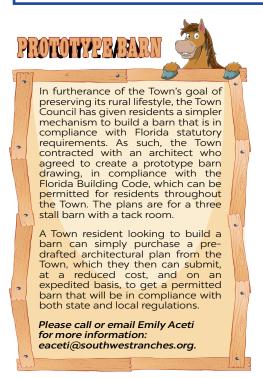
aimed at improving educational opportunities for children with disabilities.

I am sponsoring HB 423 - Family Empowerment Scholarship Program - this bill ensures that parents will have all of the information needed to make an informed decision before using a voucher to enroll their child in a private school. When a parent uses a voucher for a private school, they must waive their right to a Free and Appropriate Public Education (FAPE). FAPE is a legal right that ensures students with disabilities receive free public education, including special education, related services like speech therapy, accommodations, and access to school activities. By using a voucher for a private school, parents give up these protections. The private school has no legal obligation to follow the child's Individualized Education Plan (IEP) or provide related services. This bill is simply a consumer protection for parents. Many leave the public-school system and don't find out until after they've enrolled in the private school that their child may not receive the same level of service, accommodations, or therapies outlined in the IEP. If passed, this bill will ensure that private schools will be required to provide details in writing about their academic programs, policies, and what accommodations and related services they will provide based on the child's IEP, 504 Plan, EP, or English Language Learner Plan. This will help families make informed choices about their child's education.

There are several resources in Florida that support families with children with Autism:

- Call 2-1-1 for a free and confidential 24-hour helpline. A caseworker will connect you with resources.
- Florida Department of Children and Families (DCF) provides resources and assistance to families of children with autism. Visit their website at www.myflfamilies.com.
- The Center for Autism and Related Disabilities (CARD) helps individuals, families, schools, and communities by facilitating access to evidence-based education and treatment services, assisting with individualized consultative support, and providing support after graduation to promote workforce or higher education and adult living success. You can contact them at (954) 262-7111.

Our office is dedicated to assisting constituents in every possible way. If you or someone you know needs help with a state issue, such as Medicaid and unemployment, please reach out to my office at (954)872-1757, email us at Robin.Bartleman@myfloridahouse.gov, or call my cell at (954) 668-3662.



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:				
MOUNTING PREFERENCE: vertical (up/down) horizontal (left/right) COLOR PREFERENCE: blue w/white letters				
Make Checks payable to: Southwest Basches Fize Rescue. 17220 Griffin Road. Southwest Basches, PL 33331 For additional information contact Chief Bennett at 954.868.2057				
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				



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: jmarques@southwestranches.org

TOWN TALK

Want to stay in touch and receive information on TOWN EVENTS?

Send your email address to: druesga@southwestranches.org





TRASH TALK:

ZERO WASTE ADVISORY BOARD EDITION

- Planning to set up creative, educational, and engaging events in Town
- Southwest Ranches received kudo's from Waste Management for leading by example in promoting recycle right education.
- The board will get more information about possibly implementing the Florida Beverage Association's "Every Bottle Back Program" in Town
- Continuing to look at grant opportunities and partnering with other municipalities.
- Explore Zero Waste Programs to incorporate in our area schools



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.



CALLING ALL TOWN OF SOUTHWEST RANCHES YOUNG ARTISTS ...

If your child enjoys drawing, we invite them to create a picture of their favorite part of the TOWN'S BIRTHDAY PARTY (June 7th)

Paper and crayons will be available on the tables under the tent. Submitted drawings may even be selected for a chance to be featured in the 2025-26 Town Calendar or Town Newsletter.

UPCOMING EVENTS







Join Us at the 23rd Annual Southeast Florida NIGP Reverse Trade Show!

The annual Reverse Trade Show, hosted by the NIGP Southeast Florida Chapter, is a premier opportunity for vendors and businesses to connect with government procurement professionals and department buyers. This year's event is scheduled for Thursday, April 10, 2025, at the Coral Springs Gymnasium, located at 2501 Coral Springs Drive, Coral Springs, Florida 33065, from 9:00 AM to 1:00 PM.

This unique event flips the traditional trade show format: Vendors have the chance to visit booths staffed by government agencies, providing direct access to decision-makers and insight into procurement processes. Attendees will gain valuable information about upcoming projects, bidding opportunities, and how to establish successful partnerships with public agencies. Early bird registration ends April 4th. Visit https://www.nigpsefl.org for registration and sponsorship details.

Celebrating Public Procurement Month in March

March is Public Procurement Month, a time to recognize the critical role public procurement professionals play in ensuring public funds are spent wisely, ethically, and transparently. From acquiring essential goods and services to managing contracts and fostering fair competition, their work supports efficient and accountable government operations.

Nationwide, public procurement impacts community life by funding infrastructure, equipping first responders, and supporting schools. In Southwest Ranches, these efforts ensure responsible stewardship of public resources. This month, we honor the profession's contributions to building thriving, well-served communities across America.

UPCOMING EVENTS



Email Susan for additional information Skutz@southwestranches.org

Butterflies were in the news across the nation, ...and the news was not good.

(Adapted from the North American Butterfly Association)

1 in 5 butterflies in the U.S. have disappeared in the last 20 years

Researchers identified over 100 species that have dropped by more than 50 percent in the last two decades: "This is a wake-up call."



BUTTERFLY POPULATIONS IN AMERICA ARE DECLINING AT A STAGGERING RATE

Scientists are seeing the decline of butterfly populations as a five-alarm fire. America's butterflies are dissapearing at a "catastrophic" rate

story by the Associated Press published Fri, March 7, 2025



How US butterfly populations changed by region, 2000-2020

A review of more than 76,000 surveys from across the contiguous U.S. found butterfly populations fell in almost every region from 2000 to 2020, and in almost every species.



Chart: The Conversation, CC-BY-ND - Source: Colin Edwards, et al., Science 2025 - Created with Datawrapper

A study in the journal Science found that butterfly populations across America plummeted by 22% in just 20 years.

One in five butterflies has vanished.

A co-author of the study noted fellow scientists were 'brought to tears' by the findings. The numbers are staggering:

- 107 species sustained losses of more than 50%
- 22 species declined by more than 90% including four that dropped 99%
- Only nine species showed any gains

Butterfly populations declined across every region of the country. The primary drivers of the decline are habitat loss, pesticide use and climate change.

Build a Butterfly Garden: habitat loss can be countered with habitat creation!



Whether you plant native wildflowers in your yard, grow milkweed in a planter on your apartment balcony, or organize a garden project at your local library, workplace, or neighborhood school, you can support caterpillars and butterflies to increase their numbers. And while we're at it, we can all reduce or eliminate pesticide use on our lawns and gardens.

"Individuals can take steps to help butterfly populations recover," said Dr.

Eliza Grames, assistant professor of biological sciences at Binghamton University and a co-author of the study. "One of the really positive messages about insect conservation is that the things we do in our own backyards actually make a difference."

Butterflies need you!

We can all make a positive impact on butterflies regardless of where we live. Local butterfly gardens of all shapes and sizes are critical to creating habitat that supports these crucial pollinators. Add native nectar and caterpillar food plants to your garden to help butterflies survive and thrive!

3 critical items for every Butterfly garden

1. At least three different caterpillar food plants must be grown, preferably at least three of each selected species so caterpillars can find adequate food. One milkweed plant, if the only milkweed around, may be targeted by an egg-laying Monarch because she can find no other food. She may return many times to lay

her eggs on that one plant. Butterfly Gardeners never want caterpillars to go hungry, so plant for abundant egg-laying! Use of plant species native to your area is strongly encouraged but not required.

- 2. At least three different native butterfly nectar sources must be grown, preferably more than one plant of each selected species.
- 3. Because butterflies and many other beneficial pollinators are insects, insecticides and pesticides should not be used in your butterfly gardens, including Organic pesticides (they kill too).

A caterpillar's diet is completely different from that of its adult form. With a few exceptions, caterpillars typically feed on the leaves, flowers, or buds of a limited number of closely related plants. You may know that Monarch caterpillars depend on milkweeds as their only food plants, but it's less well known that



most butterfly and moth caterpillars, and even some bees and other insects, are similarly restricted in the food plants they can eat. A butterfly species can't survive in an area where its required caterpillar food plants are not available. These food specializations develop over thousands of years as the animals and plants in an area evolve together. A caterpillar depends on

its native food plant not only for nutrition, but for an array of specialized chemicals that it (and/or the adult butterfly) may use for defense, and other critical life functions. As a result, using plants that are indigenous (native) to your area, whether they serve as caterpillar food, nectar plants, or both, will

have the most benefit for the butterflies, moths, bees, even birds and other animals you hope to attract.

To learn more about plants that are native to your region, contact your local native plant society. The North American Native Plant Society has compiled a list for most states and

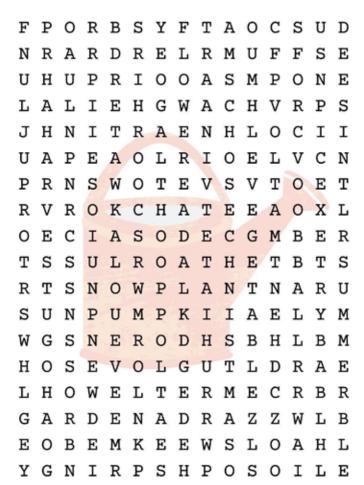


Canadian provinces: www.nanps.org/native-plant-societies/. To find a nursery near you that sells native plants, check this list for the United States from the Meadow Project: www.themeadowproject.com/resources/find-native-plants/.

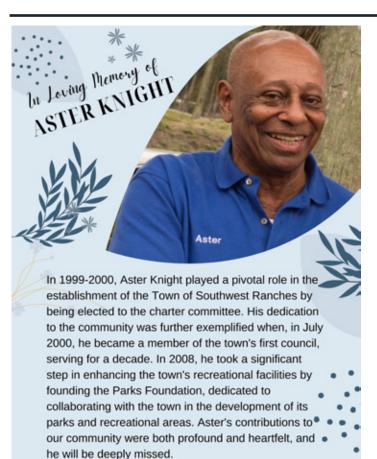


GARDEN
PLANT
SEED
FRUIT
SOIL
GLOVES

SHOVEL
FLOWER
SOW
HARVEST
SPRING
SUMMER
VEGETABLE









FILL, EXCAVATION AND SITE GRADING PERMITS

Any activity or project involving fill, excavation, dredging, or grading will change the topography of a property. The changes in elevation warrant the need for a Fill, Excavation and Site Grading Permit. This requirement is in accordance with Chapter 4, Code of Ordinance of the Town of Southwest Ranches. Elevation change can affect the conveyance of stormwater as well as altering drainage patterns inside and adjacent to the property. As a result, it is essential for the Town of Southwest Ranches and the respective Drainage District to be able to review and monitor such activities.

There are three levels of Fill Permits - Level One, Level Two, and Level Three. The level is determined by the amount of fill being brought in and the size of the property the fill is being brought to. Please note that one large truck of fill is approximately 18 cubic yards.

Some examples of activities that require a permit include the construction of a berm or retaining wall, excavation to create a pond, site grading, impacting wetlands, and filling in low areas. Please note that fill will not be allowed in any surface water management areas or within the swales in the Town's right of way.

Fill material brought in shall not contain any pollutants or toxic chemicals as they will contaminate the land and ground water. Fill material that is not sufficiently permeable is also not recommended.

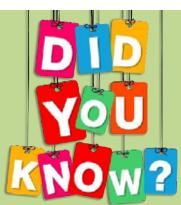
There are exceptional cases where it will not be necessary to obtain a Fill, Excavation and Site Grading Permit. Projects with an active development permit such

as the construction of a new home, residential addition, pool and deck, etc., will not require a Fill, Excavation and Site Grading Permit. Routine maintenance activities such as fill for an existing horse arena or stall, tree planting or removal, and water well repair will also not require a Fill, Excavation and Site Grading Permit. Please note that properties that have Agricultural Exemption are not exempt from the requirements of a Fill, Excavation and Site Grading Permit for material brought in.

For more information please view the application for a Fill, Excavation and Site Grading Permit at http://www.southwestranches.org/departments/town-engineering/development-permits-2/ or call Joyce Marques at 954-343-7441.

Amount of Fill (CY)	Property Size (Acres)				
Cubic Yards (CY)	Up to 2 Acres Over 2 but more than Acres		Over 5 but not more than 10 Acres	Over 10 Acres	
Up to 36 CY (2 trucks)	Level 1	Level 1	Level 1	Level 1	
>36 CY up to 72 CY	Level 2	Level 1	Level 1	Level 1	
>72 CY up to 144 CY	Level 3	Level 2	Level 1	Level 1	
>144 CY up to 288 CY	Level 3	Level 3	Level 2	Level 1	
>288 CY up to 360 CY	Level 3	Level 3	Level 3	Level 2	
Over 360 CY	Level 3	Level 3	Level 3	Level 3	





Undertaking construction work without the neccessary permits might seem like a minor shortcut, but it conceals a significant danger to the public and the community at large.

These permits exist not to hinder progress. but to ensure that construction adheres to safety regulations and building codes. When individuals or developers bypass this crucial step, they jeopardize the well-being of everyone who interacts with the structure. Construction permits are a safeguard against potential hazards. Permits ensure that projects are under professional exucuted guidance, following established standards. A structure built without proper oversight might lack critical safety measures, leading to risks such as faulty electric wiring, inadequate structural integrity, and fire hazards. Moreover, unauthorized construction could encroach on utility lines, disrupt drainage systems, or violate zoning regulations. This not only endangers the immediate inhabitants but also impacts the broader community by straining resources and infrastructure. By obtaining permits, we collectively prioritize safety, contributing to neighborhoods that thrive securely and sustainably.

The Town of Southwest Ranches
Rural Public Arts & Design Advisory Board presents...

13th Annual Photo Contest



Get your cameras ready!
The theme this year is...
ENJOYING OUR TOWN"

Here are some photo ideas...

DOES YOUR CHILD ENJOY DRAWING?

At the Town's 25th Birthday Party, we will provide paper and crayons under the tent for your child to create a drawing that captures a memorable moment from the celebration. This artwork can be submitted for the 2025-26 Photo Contest for a chance to be featured on the Town Calendar.

In addition, there will be many photo opportunities throughout the event. Families are encouraged to capture unforgettable moments—whether it's your child getting their face painted, enjoying the wet slides, riding the merry-go-round, visiting the petting zoo, or engaging in any other activity they love at the party.

- Photos must be at least 300 DPI resolution.
- . One photo per person in household.
- . Provide a caption for your photo (limit 74 characters).
- . Photos must be at least 8 x 10 (landscape).
- . To be considered, all entries must be submitted with Town Entry Form.
- . No previous photos will be accepted.

Email your favorite drawing or photo by September 9th to Skutz@southwestranches.org

IN LOVING MEMORY

LEO ROBERT VEZINA, 83, OF SOUTHWEST RANCHES, FLORIDA, PASSED AWAY ON FEBRUARY 12, 2025. A DEVOTED HUSBAND TO HIS WIFE YVETTE, FATHER, GRANDFATHER AND GREAT-GRANDFATHER HE EXEMPLIFIED UNWAVERING DEDICATION TO FAMILY AND WORK. A LEADER IN THE CONSTRUCTION INDUSTRY FOR OVER 60 YEARS, HE PLAYED A KEY ROLE IN BUILDING COMMUNITIES ACROSS BROWARD COUNTY AND ESTABLISHED VEZINA AND SONS CONSTRUCTION, INC. WITH HIS FIVE SONS, SHAPING SOUTH FLORIDA'S RESIDENTIAL AND COMMERCIAL LANDSCAPE. LEO FOUND JOY IN LIFE'S SIMPLE PLEASURES—GARDENING, BIKING, GOLF CART RIDES AND CHERISHED FAMILY TIME.

LEO'S LEGACY LIVES ON IN THE MEMORIES HE LEAVES BEHIND.





BRIEF LEGISLATION FROM THE FEBRUARY 13, 2025 TOWN COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING:

- Adopted Resolution 2025-039 opposing aspects of the Broward MAP Sheridan Street Project.
- Adopted Resolution 2025-040 adopting the Town's Investment Policy.
- Adopted Resolution 2025-041 approving the Toshiba Lease Agreement.

BRIEF LEGISLATION FROM THE FEBRUARY 27, 2025 TOWN COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING:

Adopted Resolution 2025-042
 Supporting the Public Records
 Exemption for Municipal Clerks
 and Code Administration.

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.



Qualifying for the Limited-Income Senior Exemption –
Does Your Social Security Count?

To qualify for the 2025 Limited-Income Senior Exemption, an applicant must be at least 65 years old as of January 1, 2025 and have a combined household adjusted gross income not exceeding \$37,694 for 2024. Many seniors believe they do not qualify for this exemption because their social security payments exceed this amount; *however*, applicants who file income taxes should look at their adjusted gross income amount (*line 11 on the IRS 1040 form*) to see if they do qualify for this additional savings. If you are not required to file an income tax return based on your age and income, you would qualify for this exemption. To apply for the additional Limited-Income Senior Exemption, please visit our website at: https://web.bcpa.net/bcpaclient/#/SeniorExemption.

If you are already receiving the Senior Exemption and have not moved to a new home, your exemption will automatically renew for the 2025 tax year unless you notify our office that you have exceeded the income threshold for the current year.

BCPA's Tax Estimator - An Online Tool to Help You Plan for Your New Home

While the Property Appraiser's Office does not set or collect taxes, we know the importance of understanding what the property taxes will be on a new home. Before purchasing your new home, you can estimate what the property taxes will be using your purchase price and the current tax rates available. It is important to understand that this tool is simply an estimate and does not include any non-ad valorem fees associated with the property. The non-ad valorem (city) fees are shown on the property's previous tax bill or TRIM Notice also available online. Here is the link to the online Tax Estimator: https://web.bcpa.net/bcpaclient/#/Tax-Estimator.

If you currently own a home with Homestead Exemption, you can also estimate the taxes on a new home using any portability you may have on your current home. To use our Portability Estimator, please visit: https://web.bcpa.net/bcpaclient/#/Portability-Estimator

If my office can ever be of assistance to you, please do not hesitate to contact me directly at martykiar@bcpa.net.

Take care,

Marty Kiar, JD, CFA



In Loving Memory $oldsymbol{\eta}$

Marie passed away surrounded by family and friends on February 11, 2025. She and Vern made their home on Thoroughbred Lane over 20 years ago, warmly welcoming friends, campaigns, and organizations. She supported numerous charities and deeply loved Southwest Ranches, embracing its open spaces and animals. Her passion led her to the Parks Board, where she worked alongside Aster Knight. Her lasting legacy is the Southwest Ranches Women's Group, which she brought neighbors together in friendship and service.

Marie will be forever remembered.





April. 2025

	Tomm, another roar					
SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
		CODE Special Magistrate Hearing Town Hall 9am Broward County Property Appraiser's Office - Town Hall 10:30am - 12:30pm Zero Waste Advisory Board Meeting Town Hall Tom	2	• Public Safety & Traffic Committee - Town Hall 7pm	4	• Farmers' Market 16290 Griffin Rd. 10am - 3:00pm
		BULK ZONE 2	BULK ZONE 3	BULK ZONE 4	BULK ZONE 5	BULK ZONE 6
• Farmers' Market 16290 Griffin Rd. 10am - 3:00pm	• Country Estates HOA Meeting - Grace Baptist Church 19200 Griffin Rd. 7pm • SWR Parks Foundation Meeting-Town Hall 7pm	• Parks, Recreation Forestry & Natural Resources Advisory Board Meeting - Town Hall 7pm	• Zero Waste Broward Task Force Meeting - Town Hall 7pm	• TOWN COUNCIL MEETING - Town Hall 7pm	11	PASSOVER BEGINS - AT SUNDOWN • Farmers' Market 16290 Griffin Rd. 10am - 3:00pm
	BULK ZONE 7	BULK ZONE 8	BULK ZONE 9	BULK ZONE 10	BULK ZONE 11	BULK ZONE 12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
• Farmers' Market 16290 Griffin Rd. 10am - 3:00pm	Schools & Education Advisory Board - Town Hall 7pm	Drainage & Infrastructure Advisory Board Meeting Town Hall 7pm	• Fire Advisory Board Meeting - Town Hall 7pm	Comprehensive Plan Advisory Board Meeting Town Hall 7pm	GOOD FRIDAY	• Farmers' Market 16290 Griffin Rd. 10am - 3:00pm
	BULK ZONE 1	BULK ZONE 2	BULK ZONE 3	BULK ZONE 4	BULK ZONE 5	BULK ZONE 6
20 EASTER SUNDAY PASSOVER ENDS - AT SUNDOWN • Farmers' Market 16290 Griffin Rd. 10am - 3:00pm	Rural Public Arts & Design Advisory Board Meeting Town Hall 7pm	EARTH DAY • Rolling Oaks Civic Association Meeting - Rolling Oaks Barn 17630 SW 56th St. 7pm		• TOWN COUNCIL MEETING - Town Hall 7pm	25 ARBOR DAY	• Farmers' Market 16290 Griffin Rd. 10am - 3:00pm
	BULK ZONE 7	BULK ZONE 8	BULK ZONE 9	BULK ZONE 10	BULK ZONE 11	BULK ZONE 12
• Farmers' Market 16290 Griffin Rd. 10am - 3:00pm	28	29	• Sunshine Ranches HOA ZOOM 7 - 9pm	1		
	BULK ZONE 1	BULK ZONE 2	BULK ZONE 3			





TOWN OF SOUTHWEST RANCHES Annual PHOTO CONTEST entry form

Rural Public Arts & Design Advisory Board - 13400 Griffin Road Southwest Ranches, Florida 33330

ADDRESS:

PHONE:

EMAIL ADDRESS:

CAPTION FOR PHOTO:

CAPTION FOR PHOTO:

I UNDERSTAND, ACKNOWLEDGE, AND AGREE THAT THE
SUBMISSION OF PHOTOGRAPHS TO THE TOWN CONSTITUTES
A "WORK MADE FOR HIRE," AND I HEREBY WAIVE ANY AND
ALL RIGHTS TO THE WORK AND THE WORK PRODUCT,
INCLUDING MORAL OR OTHERWISE. THIS STATEMENT SHALL
CONTROL OVER THE PROVISIONS OF 17 U.S.C. SECTION 106A(a)
AND SHALL CONSTITUTE A WAIVER BY ME OF ANY RIGHTS IN THE WORK SET OUT IN OR OTHERWISE GRANTED BY 17 U.S.C. SECTION 106A(A), VISUAL ARTISTS RIGHTS ACT OF 1990. All other rights in and to the Work, including but not limited to all rights in the nature of "Droit Moral" relating to any continuiwsang interest I may have in the maintenance or modification of the Work, are expressly waived and, insofar as such rights are transferable, are assigned to the TOWN. MY work IS ORIGINAL AND IT complies with all applicable patent, trademark and copyright laws, rules, regulations and codes. I UNDERSTAND, ACKNOWLEDGE, AND AGREE THAT THROUGH THE CONVEYANCE OF MY SUBMISSION THE WORK WILL REMAIN THE PROPERTY OF THE TOWN AND MAY BE USED, REPRODUCED, SOLD, OR MODIFIED BY THE TOWN IN THE TOWN'S SOLE DISCRETION.

SIGNATURE:

SIGNATURE OF GUARDIAN FOR CHILDREN UNDER 18:



Town of Southwest Ranches 13400 Griffin Road Southwest Ranches, FL 33330

PRSRT STD US POSTAGE PAID MIAMI, FL **PERMIT** #622



TIME SENSITIVE MATERIAL!!!



YouTube **YouTube:** Town of Southwest Ranches Official Channel

CLICK ON QR CODE TO VISIT US AT WWW.SOUTHWESTRANCHES.ORG





If you would like to participate in the parade email:

Lauriemorse63@gmail.com



Line-Up: 9:00 AM at Mather Blvd. & Avocado Manor

Parade Begins: 10:00 AM sharp, heading to Rolling Oaks Barn Party Time: 11:00 AM - 3:00 PM

Please be environmentally conscience when decorating your cart, vehicle, or float and refrain from using balloons or other materials that could harm our animals and environment.

PLEASE NOTE THE APRIL HOUSEHOLD HAZARDOUS WASTE EVENT DATE HAS CHANGED TO ... SATURDAY MAY 3rd, 8:00am -2:00pm (SAME TIME) SHREDDING 8:00am -2:00pm (SAME TIME) DRUG DROP OFF - 10:00am -2:00pm (SAME TIME)

This service is provided for Town residents only. Proof of residency is required.

itors, Printers/Scann

Aerosol Cans Antifreeze/Cool Batteries & Auto Batteries BBQ & Camp Size Prope

Cleaners Fluorescent Tubes Bulbs Garden Chemicals Latex/Oil-Based Paint

Pool Chlorin

ore information call Town Hall (954) 434-0008

Town Council

Legend Council Districts District 1 District 2 District 3 District 4 Town Boundary





VICE MAYOR BOB HARTMANN District 1



Council Member GARY JABLONSKI District 2



MAYOR STEVE BREITKREUZ



Council Member District 3



Council Member JIM ALLBRITTON DAVID S. KUCZENSKI, Esq.



District 4



PE Florida Technical Consu