

# satellite beach BEACHCASTER



City Hall – 773-4407  
Fire – 773-4405

Police – 773-4400  
Emergency – 911

[www.satellitebeachfl.org](http://www.satellitebeachfl.org)

**September / October 2012**



## THE CITIZEN'S CORNER

By Ayn Marie Samuelson  
Interim City Manager

Issues identified as important to residents and City Council that we've worked on over several weeks are:

**Communication:** Input and involvement by citizens is encouraged. A desired outcome was to create a vehicle, like a new Beachcaster, to connect with residents and to work more effectively with the business community.

**Transparency & Accountability:** All publishable documents are being made available on the City website. Our goal is to promptly address questions and concerns from the residents.

**Budget:** Several options of the FY 12/13 budget have been publicly discussed to reduce the millage rate but maintain essential services, as well as build cash reserves and pay off debt as feasible.

**Personnel:** We are analyzing staffing and revisiting the personnel policy on issues such as sick leave, health insurance and vacation time.

**Best Product for the Cost:** Staff is working to ensure that the City is getting the best product and results with taxpayer dollars by looking for efficiencies within the City and through competitive bidding.

**Technology:** Staff is exploring the wise use of new technology to enhance transparency and to introduce efficiencies within and among departments.

## CITY ELECTION NOVEMBER 6, 2012

The City election will be held on **TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 6, 2012**, for the purpose of electing **ONE** Mayor and **TWO** Council Members. The City's election is non-partisan.

The Council consists of a mayor and four members who are elected at large by the qualified voters of the City. They serve without salary. Those elected will serve a four-year term, ending November 2016.

The following six individuals have qualified as candidates:

**Mayor:** Frank Catino, Trevor Lowing

**Council:** Mark Brimer, Lloyd French, Lorraine Gott, Scott Rhodes.

### Precincts and Polling Places

Polls open 7 a.m. – 7 p.m.

**Precinct 405** (was 64) – Scotty Culp Municipal Complex – 565 Cassia Blvd.

**Precinct 415** (was 114) – David R. Schechter Community Center – 1089 South Patrick Drive

**Precinct 437** (new) – United Methodist Church - 450 Lee Avenue

### Two Referendums will be on the November Ballot

Watch for sample ballots from the Supervisor of Elections in October, which will contain the wording of the referendums. The wording will also be on the City's website: [www.satellitebeachfl.org](http://www.satellitebeachfl.org)

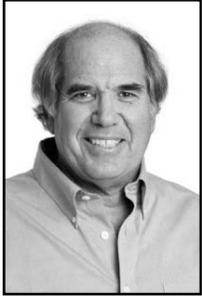
**Tuesday, October 9th** is the last day to register to vote for Nov. 6th election.

### Absentee / Ballots by Mail

You may request an absentee ballot by calling (321) 633-2127 or go to [www.votebrevard.com](http://www.votebrevard.com) (click on absentee ballot) for further information.



## MAYORAL CANDIDATES



**Statement Submitted by FRANK CATINO** - Over fifty years ago, my family moved to Satellite Beach, and I attended Satellite Beach schools. I married here and our three sons also attended our schools. My wife, Linda, and I chose to stay here because of the quality of life our city provides. Over the years, my city involvement has been extensive, with many years of participation with Satellite Beach Little League (President, board member, coach), Satellite HS baseball (assistant coach), and several city boards (including City Council).

My priorities will be to maintain the city services our residents want, find additional sources of revenue to help fund those services, increase our tax base to keep everyone's property taxes as low as possible, create a business-friendly environment to attract new environmentally-clean businesses, make plans for funding and completing infrastructure maintenance and upgrades which cannot be delayed much longer, and pursue grants to cover a large portion of these costs.

*Contact information:* [fcatino@cfl.rr.com](mailto:fcatino@cfl.rr.com) and (321) 223-7700



**Statement Submitted by TREVOR LOWING** - Since 1960 our city population has grown from 800 to over 10,000. We enjoy high quality services and we need to plan and budget as we grow. City finances have not been managed efficiently – underfunded pensions and mismanaged debt. Council has been cleaning up city books and incorporating efficiencies, but much work remains. I will use my knowledge of government and business to lead the next Council to put our city on solid financial ground.

My qualifications include an MBA and Project Management experience. In council meetings I have demonstrated how technology makes government more open, efficient and accessible. I will put my 25 years in the U.S. Navy and corporate world to work for Satellite Beach.

My wife of 21 years and three talented kids provide me the motivation to ensure our city is fiscally healthy for years to come. I promise a commitment to ethical leadership and teamwork – where residents are encouraged to share their vision and business owners feel welcome.

*Contact information:* (321) 345-6752 and [www.TrevorLowing.com](http://www.TrevorLowing.com)

## COUNCIL CANDIDATES



**Statement Submitted by MARK BRIMER**— I am grateful for all that Satellite Beach has become in its short 50 years. For the past several months, I have spoken with residents regarding their vision for the future and what they believe the goal of City government should be. My focus on Council will be:

- Restoring a sense of community with a focus upon conservation, preservation, recreation, and public safety. City government must encourage citizen participation in order to ensure a promising heritage for future generations.
- Ensuring City services remain viable and effective and that we have the essential resources to meet resident needs. We have the best resident-focused services in Brevard County and clearly retaining those are priority for you.

-Establishing a smart economic growth plan for the City. The only way to lessen resident tax burden is to restore economic viability to the City. We must implement a plan to address the vacant land and store front that is paralyzing our City economy.

## COUNCIL CANDIDATES

*continued*



**Statement Submitted by LLOYD FRENCH** - I believe in the value of community unity, teamwork, and the contributions of volunteers. My contributions started by creating an email group of people who wanted to be kept abreast of city business that led to our current transparency level. I led the Citizen Advisory Panel for Efficient government that produced a score of spending efficiency recommendations. In just 4 months as interim City Councilman, I helped usher in a lower millage rate with no impact on jobs or services, increased our strategic reserves by 2,700%, helped solve the CRA issue, and helped introduce technology to efficiently get information to our residents. I want to sustain our level of services by conserving the resources that fund the intensity of those services. I will examine additional revenue opportunities, but will weigh the benefits and the impact to the city in the long-term. I know the value of tax dollars and ways to conserve them. My wife (Michelle Rostosky from 201 Norwood) and I have a vested interest in our city's success!

*Contact information:* Lloyd.S.French@gmail.com, 321-426-0324, www.LloydFrench.net



**Statement submitted by LORRAINE GOTT** - The importance of November's City Council elections cannot be overstated, because the fundamental nature of our City is at stake. Voters will decide whether to restore the progressive Satellite Beach which brought us all here or continue along the path started by Council majority this year to change who we are. While some changes are necessary to deal with economic realities caused by the struggling economy, I believe that tearing the place apart is not the solution. Looking forward, we need to resolve our fiscal challenges, encourage business growth in our City's north end, plan for needed capital projects, and ensure that City employees have the resources and training to ably perform their jobs. We must rebuild our City's reputation, honor City agreements with other agencies, respect our employees,

welcome experienced volunteers, and preserve our quality of life. More than ever, Satellite Beach needs forward-thinking, knowledgeable, City-friendly leadership. Through two decades of City leadership positions (including City Council), I believe I've demonstrated the ability needed to help restore our City.



**Statement Submitted by SCOTT RHODES** - I have had the honor of being one of your elected representatives the past three years. I take my responsibility seriously to make decisions for our City that will affect all of us in the short and long terms. Economic times are tough and all the members of the sitting City Council work very hard every day to insure the stability of our City. Great strides have been made by the current council to implement efficiencies, streamline costs, and encourage new ideas and faces to participate in our city's governance. Due to these efforts, next year's budget will include a reduced tax rate, increased debt pay down, and a large amount of cash being added to the dangerously dwindled reserve fund. We are moving forward to insure the long-term growth and sustainability of Satellite Beach. Rest assured, YOUR City is in good hands and I hope to continue on this path of stability and prosperity for our community.

## SATELLITE BEACH POLITICAL FORUMS

### October 16th, 7 p.m. Brevard Conservative Coalition Forum

The Brevard Conservative Coalition is pleased to announce their inaugural non-partisan political forum for the citizens of Satellite Beach, **October 16, 2012 at 7p.m. at the Scotty Culp Municipal Complex**. All candidates for Mayor and Council are invited to participate. We look forward to the opportunity to provide residents another opportunity to meet their candidates and have their questions and concerns addressed. A non-partisan moderator will host the event. The public is invited to attend, submit questions, and mingle with the candidates.

### October 23rd, 7 p.m. GFWC Satellite Beach Woman's Club Forum

The GFWC Satellite Beach Woman's Club, a local non-profit service organization has sponsored a political forum for the residents of Satellite Beach for many years. Keeping with that tradition, we will be hosting this year's forum on

## SATELLITE BEACH POLITICAL FORUMS

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**October 23, 2012 at the Scotty Culp Civic Center starting at 7 p.m.** All candidates that will appear on the Brevard County, State of Florida, National and Satellite Beach municipal election ballot will be invited to attend. All questions must be written on a 3 x 5 card, and no questions will be taken from the floor. A non-partisan moderator has been selected for this event. The public is encouraged to attend. On that night the SBWC will be collecting non-perishable food items for World Food Day.

### COUNCIL COMMENTS



#### **MAYOR JOE FERRANTE -**

Greetings. While teaching government, it became evident the root of all government lies in the saying: "Power to the People". And this power is most exercised in the way you vote. You do control your destiny. Your vote matters. This year, there are elections for all levels of government. Why do we spend so much time worrying about a national election when we know "All politics is local"? On November 6th, you can show that power belongs to the people. Make good decisions, attend the political forums, and get involved. Exercise your right to vote. Vote for the individuals you believe will do the best job for our city. Your vote counts!

I leave office confident the City is in good hands with a great staff. Most of all, I know the Council will continue to fight to save you every tax dollar while continuing to provide high levels of service. May God bless you and the City of Satellite Beach. E-mail: [jferrante@satellitebeach.org](mailto:jferrante@satellitebeach.org)



#### **VICE-MAYOR SCOTT RHODES -**

Satellite Beach, I love this place! The Beachcaster returns after a 9 month interruption. I have always voiced my opposition to ending this long running publication, as it is the only form of reliable communication we have within our City, especially for residents that are not web connected. The current City Council is very passionate, capable and diligent in the efforts to set good policies and vision. We are currently reviewing the proposed City budget for fiscal year 2012/13. Due to efficiency opportunities uncovered by the CAPEG committee, the budget under review for 2012/13 will result in a lower tax rate, while still supplying our reserve fund.

I encourage you to get involved in your City's future, attend meetings, and join a committee. Let's make our City's future viable and prevent the financial woes facing other small municipalities such as, bankruptcy, overburdened commitments and unneeded expenditures. Now is the time

to make adjustments. E-mail: [srhodes@satellitebeach.org](mailto:srhodes@satellitebeach.org)



#### **COUNCILMAN GREGG BILLMAN -**

Transparency drives knowledge (e.g. "Transparent SB" & "Speak-up SB" webpages, & Facebook pages [including mine]). Knowledge allows our community - together - to find solutions for our fiscal problems. See past audits ([www.satellitebeach.org](http://www.satellitebeach.org)) if you doubt our fiscal situation - don't take my/anyone else's word for it.

Long-term debt, unfunded retirement liabilities, debt-service costs and other-post-employment-benefit liabilities are major issues. Council is protecting our city's future by teaming with city staff and many citizens to make tough cost-cutting decisions, while maintaining service levels. It means looking for the art-of-the-possible while compromising on the actually do-able.

These collective efficiency efforts are already paying off. Example: our next budget maintains services at a reduced tax rate (real, not "roll-back"), pays down debt and substantially increases our dangerously depleted reserve fund! Current council has increased transparency, accountability and efficiency, while encouraging involvement of new people and ideas. Our future is bright if we honestly approach our issues together. I welcome feedback/solutions at [www.greggbillman.com](http://www.greggbillman.com) and on Facebook at [councilmangregg-billman](https://www.facebook.com/councilmangregg-billman). E-mail: [gbillman@satellitebeach.org](mailto:gbillman@satellitebeach.org)

## COUNCIL COMMENTS

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### COUNCILWOMAN SHERYL DENAN -

It's hard to believe it's been almost a year since I was elected to Council. My family and I truly appreciate your support. It's a pleasure to serve you. Council has worked diligently on many issues in 2012. Highlights include:

- Updating our community redevelopment plan and restructuring the Community Redevelopment Agency to operate independently from the City.
- Setting the milage rate at the roll back rate -.5%.
- Establishing a citizen committee to assist with the new City Manager search.
- A November referendum requiring a super majority council vote to increase taxes
- Budgeting for the Beachcaster!

We are currently discussing a special events coordinator to assist with hosting community events as well as looking at incentives to attract businesses into the city.

I encourage you to attend city meetings. Your voice is important and I represent you! Feel free to contact me any time, (321) 779-8086, E-mail: [sdenan@satellitebeach.org](mailto:sdenan@satellitebeach.org)



### COUNCILMAN LLOYD FRENCH -

I sat in my Adirondack chair this afternoon and contemplated Satellite Beach. The last few weeks have been quiet—happily quiet. People are coming to City Council meetings in substantial numbers and voicing their opinions. New faces, ideas, and government transparency surface every day. Our millage rate is going down. City Department Heads joined the Citizen Advisory Panel for Efficient Government (CAPEG) and suggested areas to reduce their budgets and those savings will be passed to residents. Thanks to the people who support our city behind the scenes and for those who do it for free. Thanks to the City employees who sacrifice in altruistic ways. Thanks to our residents who care for their neighbors. Politics can be nebulous, confusing, and perhaps maddening at times, but it is the citizenship, the caring, and our fellowship that forms the bond of a community and brings

unity to Satellite Beach. E-mail: [lfrench@satellitebeach.org](mailto:lfrench@satellitebeach.org)

## COMMUNITY REDEVELOPMENT AGENCY/BOARD (CRA)

Did you know Council wears “two hats”? The five members represent you as both councilmembers and CRA board members. Two additional appointed members also serve - Dave Allison (2 year term) & Ed Kinberg (4 year term). The board has been busy with exciting developments in the works:

- CGA was hired to rewrite community redevelopment plan: completion slated for fall.
- GIS map completed: allowing staff/developers to identify CRA boundaries & target redevelopment efforts.
- Request for Information developed: assists search for best way to deal with “Peg Legs Property”.
- By-laws adopted.
- Executive Director hiring process begun.

CRA/City budgets are independent and can't be co-mingled. The past issue involving CRA funds used to pay for City police, fire and electricity (against FL Statue) has been resolved. The City will repay a portion over 16 years. An informational slideshow (City Website) explains CRAs-- what they do, what's allowed, and laws that govern them. CRA meetings are held the second Thursday of the month at 6 p.m. at City Hall.

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**Speak Up Satellite Beach** The City wants to hear from citizens regarding efficiencies, improvements, and creative ideas. Drop your suggestions at City Hall or go to: [www.satellitebeachfl.org](http://www.satellitebeachfl.org)

## POLICE DEPARTMENT

### Police Receive “Near Flawless” Review.

Assessors examined all policies and procedures of the Police Department in July and found the agency eligible to receive its third re-accreditation. Accreditation Manager June Esposito was told at the conclusion of the three-day on-site inspection the department’s compliance reflected an agency dedicated to adherence to the highest professional standards.

### Motorcycle Unit Best in State receives \$12,000 of Equipment.

The team of Sgt. Eric Fuller & Cpl. Rob Mench placed first ahead of 106 other agencies around the state to receive the Motor Unit Challenge Award. Some competing agencies have motor units as large as 30 officers. The award recognizes driver education, Selective Traffic Enforcement Program, increased seatbelt usage, and crash reduction efforts. The Police Department will receive traffic safety equipment, netting substantial cost savings for the city.

**Looking for Found Property** - Go to [www.satellitebeachfl.org](http://www.satellitebeachfl.org) and click on “Police Dept Found Property” for a current list.

**School Crossing Guard Needed:** Satellite Beach Police Department is looking for a responsible adult to participate in our school crossing guard program. If interested, contact Lori Cribb, at 773-4400.

## FIRE DEPARTMENT

Did you know that adults, 65 & older, within a year as a result of the injury that fall & break their hip, have a 20% chance of dying? Did you know that the Satellite Beach Fire Department has developed a regionally awarded and nationally recognized **Fall Prevention Program**? Keep yourself and your loved ones safer by calling us at 773-4405 to schedule a free in-home assessment.

**October is Breast Cancer Awareness month**, and your city’s fire department will be wearing a new pink shirt designed by Fire fighter/Paramedic Eric Tippins, his co-workers and Space Coast Uniforms. Firefighter Tippins’ wife, Linda, was diagnosed with breast cancer, further solidifying the department’s long commitment to Breast Cancer Awareness. The shirts, available at the fire department, may be purchased for \$15 (short sleeve) and \$20 (long sleeve). ALL proceeds are donated to the local 501(c) 3 organizations, “Breast Friends”.

## CITY HALL

Applications for the position of **Human Resources & Benefits Coordinator** are being sought – \$18.75 per hour for 35 - 39 hours per week with no benefits.

### Alarm Permit Updates Needed

A permit is required for all alarm systems within the City. For public safety and a prompt response to alarms, information must be updated each year. Please complete the form mailed in August, and return it to City Hall, even if there are no changes. There is no charge to renew this permit if the updated information is received before Sept. 30, 2012.

### Local Business Tax Receipt Renewal Notices

All business owners will need to renew their local business tax receipt for FY 12/13. Please make necessary changes and return the renewal form with the appropriate fees. Renewals are due on or before September 30, 2012.

**Watch Council meetings** on:

<http://www.youtube.com/user/CityofSatelliteBeach>

## RECREATION DEPARTMENT

### Bring us your fresh ideas!

You may have been to events that you wish could be sponsored in Satellite Beach. The Recreation Department is always searching for new and exciting programs and special events. Send your ideas to the Recreation Office with a brief description of the event, and if possible, let us know where you experienced the program. You can reach us at [kstoms@satellitebeach.org](mailto:kstoms@satellitebeach.org).

The Recreation Department has wrapped up an awesome summer of activities and students are now signing up for fall programs. Check out our **NEW** fall programs and line-up for special events on-line at [www.satellitebeachrecreation.org](http://www.satellitebeachrecreation.org).

The Recreation Department now offers Tai Chi, a Parenting Workshop, Babysitting Boot Camp, Intermediate Tennis Clinics for Middle and High School players, and pickleball. Please be advised that the Recreation Office hours have changed. The office is now open 8:30 a.m.-5:30 p.m. We look forward to an exciting fall!

**Pontoon boat needed** to continue taking visitors to Samsons Island Nature Park and to perform work duties. It would be great if a pontoon boat could be donated that was at least 15-20’ long and came with a working motor! Individuals wishing to donate or sell such a boat should contact [kstoms@satellitebeach.org](mailto:kstoms@satellitebeach.org) or Kerry Stoms 773-6458.

UPDATE! City Council meeting videos are now available on our new YouTube Channel.

You can access the videos at <http://www.youtube.com/user/CityofSatelliteBeach>

## RECREATION DEPARTMENT

*continued*

**First Ocean, Reef and Beach Festival  
December 1st  
Satellite Beach's Pelican Park**

Music, food, live entertainment, vendor displays, artwork, free professional training and educational activities, as well as programs for kids and adults that will focus on the ocean, reef, and beach. Primary Sponsors are: Anglers for Conservation, Pure Ocean TV and the Surfrider Foundation. To learn how to become a vendor, contact Rodney Smith (321)750-3374 or via e-mail [irl-coast@gmail.com](mailto:irl-coast@gmail.com). Plan to come out, learn and enjoy this event.

## PUBLIC WORKS

**Cassia Phase III drainage project:** New pipes have been installed from the church to Kale, and will continue the length of open ditch to Temple. Most construction has been completed in front of Surfside, a priority to insure safety and less confusion. During construction, children will be detoured to Cinnamon or Ocean Spray before and after school. Drainage swale/inlet structures will be incorporated into open ditch area. Swales will provide retention during rain events and allow storm water runoff collected to percolate into the soil, reducing runoff amounts transferred to Indian River Lagoon. Structures in swales allow overflow from heavier rains to be collected/conveyed downstream. 40% of the project's costs are funded by the City, with the remainder funded by a section 319-h storm water grant. Brevard County contributed \$100,000 of the 40% match.

A new 8' ped-way is being installed and will provide a safer travel route for children and "bike-path" users. This project is funded by County Transportation Impact Fees.

Flagmen continue to assist with traffic control during construction. All attempts are made to minimize vehicular delays. These projects are another example of cooperative funding efforts between State, County and local agencies to benefit the City and environment.

## BUILDING AND ZONING

Permits Issued: The Building Department issued 839 permits from January-July 2012. This represents a 9% increase over the 763 permits issued for the same time period in 2011.

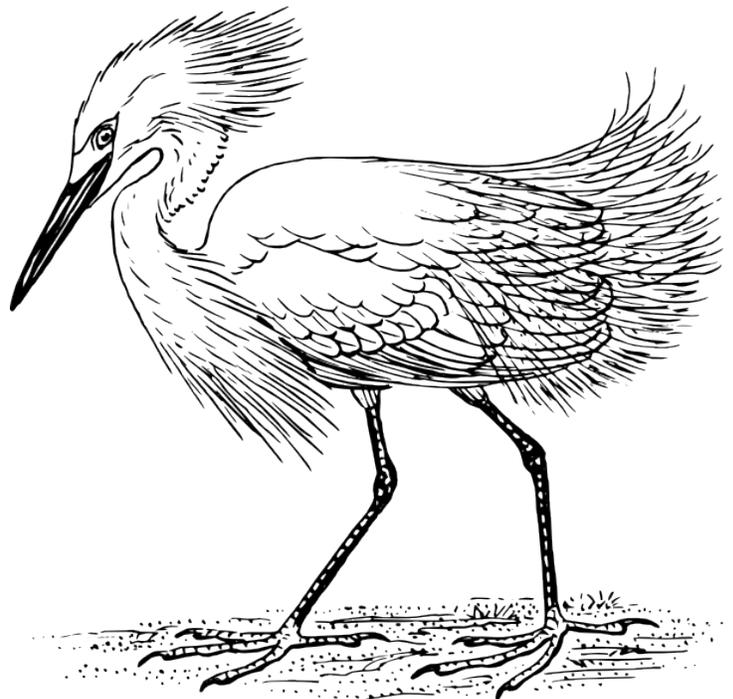
## FLOOD INSURANCE INFORMATION

If you need information about the flood zone of your property, staff in the Satellite Beach Building and Zoning Department can give you a determination of your flood zone based on the Flood Insurance Rate Map. Also, the Satellite Beach Library has copies of the Flood Insurance Rate Map.

Satellite Beach B & Z - 773-4409  
Brevard County Flood Zone Determination (321) 617-7340  
Federal Flood Insurance Hot Line (800) 638-6620

## CODE CORNER

**Grass Clippings are a particular problem.** Dumping clippings in any watercourse, channels, ditches, canals, or storm drains is a violation of the Satellite Beach City Code, and the house you flood may be your own! Many lawn maintenance companies dump or blow grass clippings into the street and/or storm drains. The accumulation of these clippings can plug the system and contribute to the level of chemicals (fertilizers) within the City's storm water discharge. A plugged waterway cannot carry water, and when it rains, the water has to go somewhere. Every piece of trash contributes to flooding. If your property is next to a waterway, please do your part and keep the banks clear of brush and debris. Report all dumping to the Satellite Beach Police Department at 773-4400 or Code Enforcement at 773-4409.



**Satellite Beach City Hall**  
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# satellite beach BEACHCASTER



## Satellite Beach Goes Country Founder's Day and Craft Show

Saturday, November 3rd  
9 a.m. – 3 p.m.

As for the past 39 years, The GFWC Satellite Beach Woman's Club and the City of Satellite Beach will be presenting the Founder's Day and Marketplace event at the David R. Schechter Community Center on November 3, 2012 from 9 a.m. until 3 p.m. There will be numerous vendors, live music, a bake sale, PAL rummage sale, Trash & Treasures and a Farmer's Market. The local Lion's Club will be selling refreshments. Beef O'Brady's, Domino's Pizza, Slow & Low Bar-B-Q and Long Doggers will be participating in our Food Court along with many other vendors. From amusements for the whole family, great food, crafts and much more, there is something for everyone. The Parade will start at 11a.m. from DeLaura Middle School, and finish at the DRS Community Center. Please mark your calendars, and join the fun!

## BEACHCASTER VIA E-MAIL

If you would like to help save the city money and receive the Beachcaster by e-mail, please fill out and return the form below to City Hall or e-mail to [beachcaster@satellitebeach.org](mailto:beachcaster@satellitebeach.org)

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

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

e-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

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

## LIBRARY

Friends of the Library will sponsor a Garage / Bake Sale on October 13th from 7 a.m. until noon in the Library Community Room.

The Beachcaster can be found on-line  
<http://www.satellitebeachfl.org>