

### BELLAIRE COMMUNITY GROUP

Keeping Quality of Life Our Priority



### <u>May 2023</u>

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Join us at the Schnebly Center 1101 N Atlantic Ave Thursday, May 18th! Meal at 600 p.m. Meeting at 630 p.m.

\$5 donation suggested

Dinner: Gnocchi with Spinach & Chicken Sausage Garlic Bread Desserts and Beverages Unfortunately, we start with sad news. Ken Strickland (Zone 2 City Commissioner) lost his wife Deborah on April 29th (see page 4). This is a terrible loss to all that had the pleasure of interacting with her. I've heard her referred to as a kind person, a real sweetheart, and a joy to be around. She exemplified the qualities of a kind, giving person.



As I am still unable to attend our monthly meetings, this month I again share with you the recaps from Jeff Boyle, Nancy Koenig, and Paul Zimmerman.

Jeff Boyle --- April 20 was another great night for the Bellaire Community Group. Nancy and friends prepared another five-star meal, baked ziti and meatballs, salad, garlic bread and carrot cake. John Mann, from the Ponce Inlet Lighthouse, presented a fascinating power point presentation celebrating a hundred years of U.S. history and culture, the 'greatest generation' and generations that followed. Hundreds of images, with Mr. Mann's running commentary both informative and entertaining.

If you are not a regular attendee, come join us on May 18th. Optional dinner served at 6 PM, meeting called to order promptly at 6:30, 50/50 drawing and adjournment at 7:30.

**Nancy Koenig** --- Baked Ziti is one of our family favorites. I found this new recipe when I was preparing meals for my niece and her family during her 2<sup>nd</sup> pregnancy. She requests it regularly now! Again, desiring to spend as much time as I can with my hubby (Steve) I opted to prepare last month's meal at our home and head to Schnebly Center later in the afternoon to keep things warm in the oven and tend to finishing touches with the BCG kitchen staff. I was joined by Connie, Beth and Ellen who made the salad and garlic bread and sliced the carrot cake. Reba joined to help the ladies serve. One of the difficult tasks I have each month is making sure we have enough to serve everyone, but not have too much leftover. We always offer to go meals when we do have leftovers.

#### **Bellaire Community Group**

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> **Treasurer and** Marketing Manager Nancy Koenig 386.679.3363 nancy@koenigrealty.com



### **Contributors**

**Derrick Henry** Mike Chitwood Ken Strickland Paul Zimmerman Weegie Keundig Jakari Young Steve Koenig

### **AGEIDA**

- 1. 6 p.m. dinner
- 2. Call to Order and Pledge
- 3. Crime and safety report-Captain Jeremy Nikolow
- 4. Featured guest: Sheriff Mike Chitwood
- 5. Adjourn
- 6. Put tables and chairs away and
- 7. Go home with a smile!

### (con't from first page)

*After the meeting, I felt such a spirit of friendship and* community as I visited with many of our members. It's hard to explain how seeing most of you only once a month has become such a huge part of my life. Many of you continue to ask about Steve and offer prayers for healing and we very much appreciate that. I love my BCG Family! ALL OF YOU.

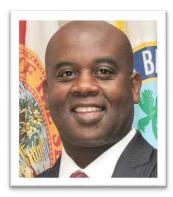
**Paul Zimmerman** --- Last month we had the pleasure of listening to and viewing a historical presentation by John Mann, Ed D, of the Ponce Inlet Light house and Museum. John is the Lead Docent of the museum. He narrated a slide presentation capturing much of the life experiences of the "greatest generation." John captured political, cultural, economic, and social aspects of life in America from the 1920s, through World War II, up until the present day. John's narration was sprinkled with his sense of humor, making it a most enjoyable evening. This month we will have Sheriff Mike Chitwood, always a BCG favorite.

I hope you enjoyed the feedback from Jeff, Nancy, and Paul again this month.

Congratulations! We have reached our Annual Fundraiser goal of \$6,000 and even exceeded it, raising \$6,235. This is the earliest we have ever reached our goal, and an anonymous donation of \$500 really helped. We have decided to keep our Annual Fundraiser active and will be publishing our donors' names one last time next month in the hopes of reaching \$6,500. This is the perfect opportunity to show your support for our Community Group by donating any amount you are comfortable with. Every Dollar Counts!

> Thanks for being a part of this journey, Steve and Nancy Koenig

### OUR ELECTED OFFICIALS



### Derrick Henry Mayor of Daytona Beach

To begin, I would like to offer my sincere condolences to fellow City Commission member Ken Strickland on the loss of his beloved wife, Deborah. For those who know Ken, you most certainly knew his better half. Ken and his family will remain in my prayers.

As we approach summer, I want to let parents with infants and toddlers know about the city's Baby and Me swim program. Learning to swim is a critical, potentially life-saving, skill. One of the first things I did as a parent with a pool was enroll my children in this program. They may not be able to walk yet, but youngsters can learn to swim and keep from drowning in the event they fall into a pool. The program, which is sponsored in part by AdventHealth, Humana and the Kiwanis Club, is for children ages 6 months to 3 years old. Sessions are 11 to 11:45 a.m. every Saturday at Cypress Aquatic Center, <u>981 George W. Engram</u> Blvd. Please take advantage of this opportunity. The sessions are \$30 per month and financial scholarships are available.



### Mike Chitwood Volusia County Sheriff

The third and newest class of the Volusia Sheriff's Office Training Academy has officially graduated, and I'm proud to say they kept an important streak alive.

Every recruit in Class 03 passed their state exam on the first try, just like every member of the two classes that came before them.

I bring this to your attention because it's a clear reflection of two things:

First, the high quality of recruits joining the Sheriff's Office today.

And second, the skill of our training staff in transforming these men and women from raw recruits into knowledgeable professionals.

The quality of these new deputies is not just something we measure by their scores on paper. After receiving months of training from seasoned deputies who serve as instructors in the Academy, our graduates head out into the field phase, where they spend more time learning from deputies on the road.

With each graduation, as we've sent a new class of deputies out for their field training phase, the feedback we've heard from our experienced sergeants and deputies has been even more positive than we expected.

In fact, I've heard that the eager attitude and energy shown by these new faces has even brought an extra spark of inspiration and motivation for their shift mates.

I have to say they've done the same for me. I've been at this for 35 years, six years as Sheriff.

As I said at Class 03's packed graduation ceremony in Deltona: Sheriffs will come and go, and as leaders we try and steer the organization toward success. But the men and women who spend their careers wearing the uniform and badge of the Volusia Sheriff's Office are the ones who turn that vision into a reality.

My hope for each recruit class is that every new deputy embarks on a long, rewarding career that ends with a VSO retirement ceremony and a well-deserved pension. If I can be remembered as the Sheriff who helped make that possible for the next generation of law enforcement, that is a legacy I'll be proud to leave behind.

If you're reading this and realizing you know someone who could make an outstanding deputy recruit, I hope you'll reach out to them and let them know we're investing in the next generation. The next Training Academy class starts July 17, and applications are due June 2. Tell them to check us out at volusiasheriff.gov/careers

Thank you as always for your support, Sheriff Chitwood







Deborah Ann Jarnagin Strickland, 62, passed away unexpectedly on Saturday, April 29th surrounded by her family. Deborah was born on December 17th, 1960 at Halifax Hospital. She was a proud and active member of the Mainland High School Class of 1978. Deborah was a Doctor of Physical Therapy and treated each of her patients like family. The brightest lights in her life were her 5 children and 10 grandchildren. Deborah was married for 10 years and was so proud to stand alongside of her husband in their civic engagements. Deborah is preceded in death by her father, Fred Raymond Jarnagin, and sisters, Catherine Jarnagin and Lori Rankin. She is survived by her Husband, Kenneth Strickland, mother, Naomi Eloise Cartwright, sister, Angela Jarnagin, brother, Matthew Jarnagin, daughters, Rebekah McCaskill and Amanda Richardson, sons, Jared, Matthew, and Benjamin Sutton, stepdaughters Jessica Strickland and Leslie Strickland Neri, grandchildren Marin, Dillon, Ashlyn, Aisek, Brayden, Fallon, Luke, Gracen, and Jolene, and many nieces and nephews. Services were held on Thursday, May 11th at 11am at Our Lady of Lourdes Catholic Church, 1014 N. Halifax Ave., Davtona Beach, Fl 32118. In lieu of flowers and in honor of Deborah's passion for helping others regardless of circumstance, the family asks that donations be made to any charitable organization of choice. in her name.

### A NATIVE REMEMBERS

### Paul Zimmerman Vice Chair, Bellaire Community Group

What a difference a month can make. Last month I wrote about a fishing trip to the West coast around St. Petersburg. I shared some of the harrowing experiences of driving the I-4 corridor. I reminisced about how orange groves used to cover the rolling hills west of Orlando, and sadly now that land is all strip malls and developments. I have to admit that the article was kinda depressing and I apologize for that. We all know change is constant, and time waits for no man, but I sure do miss a lot of what is no longer. I am sure that folks like my father, who was born here over a hundred years ago, could more than understand the sentiment.

This past week I went on another fishing trip, and parts of it were like a trip back in time. We traveled over to Eustis to fish a lake near there. We took highway 40 west out of Ormond to highway 19 through the Ocala National Forest and then further west of 452 to the lake. Wow, two lane roads all the way, next to no traffic, mostly wilderness, with lakes lined with oak trees, heavy with Spanish moss, blowing in the morning breeze...old Florida, my heart was happy.

We stopped at Owen's Bait and Tackle to pick up some bait. The old place was so poorly lit, we almost missed it--it was 6 AM, and still pretty dark. The shop looked like it had been there since bait was invented. I am sure Owen's clientele was made up of folks that have been using Owens for decades and didn't really need any elaborate signage to find it. Owen's was one of those places that had everything--not in particular order though, and it looked like if a new product came in they just shoehorned it into any unoccupied spot on the wall. No signs of any Big Box Sporting Goods store crowding out Owen's Bait and Tackle. We bought



some live shiners. Owen's are proud of their Shiners, at \$30 a dozen. We headed to the lake.

The lake was a big one, about 3 miles across. The boat ramp was on the south end and my buddy who had fished this lake before knew a spot on the north end. One of the first things I noticed as we crossed the lake was that the majority of the lakes coast line was undeveloped wilderness. The west edge had houses and docks along the bank, but most of the bank was lined with woods. The water was clear; you could see the grass on the bottom in 4 feet of water. The fishing was good--it was the catching that was difficult. We were there right after a full moon so the fish probably had been feeding all night, and their bite was not aggressive. The bass were doing what fisherman call mouthing the bait, not really swallowing. I was able to boat two fish. One was a very nice 7.6 pounds and the other 3.6 pounds. I was happy.

This place is only about 55 miles north of Orlando. It was both surprising and pleasing to experience so much of the Florida I remember of years gone by. Thankfully, there are pockets of old Florida that still exist. Places that you can go to that don't put your nerves on end. Places that allow your soul to connect with the natural beauty that we are so blessed in which to live. Yep, more trips to places like this lake and fewer trips across I-4 are now the plan.

> 'til next time, Paul

### SAVE OUR NEIGHBORHOODS

Weegie Keundig Past Chair, Save Our Neighborhoods

Dear Bellaire Friends and Neighbors:

Here we are almost at the beginning of another hurricane season. I am probably not the only one not looking forward to this. There are many properties that haven't recovered from last year--whether from flooding, wind damage or erosion. Many have been left uninsured or facing exorbitant increases in premiums. Yet, I see very little significant action, or even discussion, at the city, county, and state level--although the state takes the cake on this. They continue to legislate power away from the local level with regard to unhinged, blind development and environmental safeguarding along our coast and inland areas (wetlands) that would offer some protection to the citizens if local government and residents were free to act. And therein lies the issue - action!

At the last Sons of the Beach wellattended General Meeting held at Schnebly some months ago, we had the opportunity to hear from Dr. Wendy Anderson, a well-respected environmental professor from Stetson. One of the big takeaways from her presentation is that the County of Volusia is far behind other Florida counties in their Coastal Resiliency Action Plan-about twenty or thirty years behind. She believes in sand dune preservation and restoration as part of the solution called soft engineering.

In April, the City of Daytona Beach provided an opportunity for residents to hear from Dr. Robert Young, a recognized expert in the field of coastal erosion due to rising sea levels. Again, well-attended by residents, but not by many elected officials. He also stressed the need for action now. He is in favor of building sea walls, as part of a hard engineering solution to this undeniably complicated process.



I believe we must act now to mitigate damage using whatever solutions are out there. The resolutions to reducing the risk factors and vulnerability also include protecting wetlands, reinforcing infrastructure, emergency management, debris removal and recycling, wildlife recovery, building off- shore reef systems, land use planning, restrictions on types of structures, and retrofitting of existing structures, as well as what was mentioned above. It all seems mind- boggling but shouldn't be paralyzing or ignored because it is complicated. You can view both of the scientific presentations (they were livestreamed) on the Sons of the Beach Facebook page. I can only hope enough of us stay involved and speak out to demand action.

On a personal note, speaking for many, our hearts go out to Ken Strickland, our Zone 2 Commissioner, on the sudden loss of his wife, Deb. She will be missed.

And again, thanks for the opportunity to express my opinions.

Weegie Kuendig <u>dkuendig@aol.com</u> 386-451-6470

### LEAVING LOCKDOWN

(encore edition from 2020, in honor of the CDC declaring an end to the public health emergency!)

Welp, folks, I don't know about you, but I've been in lockdown since March 18. That's 13 weeks! 91 days! In 2020, I've spent more time in lockdown than NOT in lockdown. I'm really hoping this isn't the new forever normal.

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention have demonstrated conclusively that wearing masks has helped limit the spread of the COVID infection. My heart is so happy that we have something we can actually do to keep each other safe. In uncertain times, that's a nice certainty to have, so I'm wearing the mask when I have to be around other people, and I'm glad to do it. The only exception is very early in the morning, when I take a very brisk walk with my friend Rachel north through the neighborhood. Got to get my steps in, right? But I can't be both brisk and masked for four miles without practically suffocating. I have no regrets.

Even though restrictions have begun to lift, the neighborhood streets are pretty quiet. And Rachel and I are middle-aged scofflaws, so we walk right in the middle of the road. Most of the folks we encounter on these walks aren't wearing their masks either, probably because the dogs they're walking would laugh at them. I've had a blast getting to pet the regular puppers and exchanging a few friendly words with their parents. Everyone is smiling, including the dogs. It feels normal and happy to interact with people like the world isn't on fire.

So that's the thing, really. I had not truly understood how much facial expressions matter until I was unable to see them. As the song says, you don't know what you've got until it's gone.

I've worn my mask to Publix about four times, maybe five, breathing heavily and fogging

up my glasses. And I admit to grumbling to myself 7 about the tourists (thanks for coming!!) who get too close and go the wrong way and make me feel like shouting "Get off my lawn!" because they aren't wearing masks.

But in general, I am finding myself being extra specially nice to people. When someone comes too close with their cart and apologizes, I respond with "oh, no problem at *all*!" and I add an unmistakable side order of cheerfulness.

I wasn't even aware I was doing that until my cheeks started to hurt and I realized I had been overcompensating. Because I wasn't able to signal "I'm friendly, hi, fellow human!" with a smile, I was smiling harder, wider, and bigger....under my mask.

You know, this is really a time when seeing someone's casual smile is essential. A smile can tell us whether someone is genuinely happy or just faking it, whether they're distracted, and whether they're finding exactly what they want in the produce section. Someone with no smile at all could be annoyed, concentrating on something else, flat out rude, determined on a task, or just too busy to interact. Depending on what I see, I react accordingly...and with the mask on, it is often very difficult to know how to react. I'm missing at least half my data input and all I can do is send my "hi, I'm friendly!" vibes out there. I try to do that anyway, I guess, but this mask is not helping.

Don't take off those masks yet, folks. We're not in the clear. I know, I know, I feel the same way about masks! But they're helping us all stay alive and healthy. I can smile about that. So should we all. Just make sure it's a BIG smile.



## **ANNUAL FUND RAISER UPDATE**

### Thank you! So far, as of May 8, you've given us **\$6,235.00** We know what the donation means: you support our efforts and our goals.

Our goal is \$6,500. If we make our goal this year, we can refurbish our BCG marketing materials. If you can help, thank you!

#### Residents (\$1 and up)

Anonymous (4) David Brown Ron Cammarata

#### Neighbors (\$25 and up)

Anonymous (7) Will Arsenault K. & C. Carey Pat & Larry Carrico Laurie & Jim Clark Pat Crowley

#### Friends (\$50 and up)

Anonymous (2) Lee Apperson Jeff Boyle Ron & Otilia Donovan John & Debbie Druzbick Christine Franczek Judy "Mac" Larry & Clara Keller

#### Patrons (\$100 and up)

Anonymous (2) The Alfords Beach Buns—Russ and Cyndee Klauss Clint and Mary Brooks Random & Deborah Burnett Rose Marie Candler

#### Sponsors (\$200 and up)

Anonymous (1) Chris & Julie Brown Don Kane & Associates Don & Hannah King Steve & Nancy Koenig Nancy & Bodhi Lewandowskyj Bob & Dot Ducharme Lisa Gall Joe Farrell

Jim & Beth Fox Rick Holmes Kit Martin Bo Nickell Pierce Family Russell Rhodes

Steve & Connie Lambert Suzanne & Mark Lamoureux Bill & Ally Leigh-Manuell Larry & Lucile McDermott Barbara Miller Michael & Lisa Miller Wendell Powell Ron Rabenoid

Lawrie Davidson & Shirley Newbill Weegie Kuendig Stu & Elaine Marvin Sandra F Morris Bill & Sherry Phillips Zbig & Zofia Rek

John McGuinness & Sean Doyle Rice Law Firm Paul & Trudie Skinner Chris Wickersham & Lloyd Bowers Paul Zimmerman It's not too late to send your donation! Mail it to Bellaire Community Group 2000 N Halifax Daytona Beach, FL 32118 Brian & Geri Mitchell

Steve & Kim Schlossberg Pat Thomason R. Lawrence Vandenberg Lou Ann Ward

Frank Stein Terre & Frank Tumminello Sue & Don VanEssendelft John Wagner Larry & Jane Weiner Tim & Holly Zvolanek

Tom & Betsy Russell Denny Snyder & Chuck Ellenwood Tracy Woodward

#### Angels (\$500 and up)

Anonymous (1)

### FROM THE CHIEF OF POLICE

Jakari Young, Chief of Police of Daytona Beach

Police Week is an annual event held in the United States to honor the service and sacrifice of law enforcement officers. The event takes place every year during the week of May 15th, which is National Peace Officers Memorial Day. This week is dedicated to remembering those officers who have lost their lives in the line of duty, as well as recognizing the contributions of all law enforcement officers.

During Police Week, various events are held across the country to honor the service and sacrifice of law enforcement officers. One of the most significant events is the National Police Week Memorial Service, which takes place in Washington, D.C. where the Daytona Beach Police Department's Honor Guard will participate in honoring those from our department who have lost their lives in the line of duty.

Police Week is also a time to raise awareness about the dangers faced by law enforcement officers. The Daytona

Нарру



Beach Police Department is no stranger to the impact that losing a fellow officer has on its members. Since the department was consolidated in 1926 our department has lost 10 officers to line-of-duty deaths. By honoring the sacrifice of these officers, Police Week serves as a reminder of the risks faced by law enforcement officers every day.

As we recognize Police Week this year, let us take a moment to honor the courage and dedication of our local professional public servants and law enforcement agencies across the nation, and to thank them for the sacrifices they make each day to keep our communities safe.



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### THANKS FOR THE JOURNEY!



A1A Condos: Steve and Nancy Koenig Bel Aire & Driftwood: Jamie Love & David Hermann Boylston (east end): Frank Stein Boylston (west end): Marc Reside Brookline: Donna Hiatt Chaffee Place: Sherry & Bill Phillips Cobblestone Village: John McGuinness Columbus: Terre Tumminello Euclid: Janice & Mike Felisko Flagstone: Ellen Gerard Flushing and Manhattan: Ed Labonbille Golf: Lisa Gall N. Grandview: Connie Lambert Hartford: Kassi Mercy Jacaranda, Chipeway: George Burden Morningside: Ted & Cindy Beers N. Oleander, Auburn, Cornell, Bucknell: Dan Stockman

Pelican:MaryAnn and Danny LangtonN. Halifax:Nancy Koenig & Nikolai HargreavesN. Peninsula (North end):Judy SchroederN. Peninsula (South end):Lawrie DavidsonNautilus:Susan McDonaldPlaza:Stacy PrestwoodSeabreeze High School Area:Paul ZimmermanSeaview:Suzy LamoureuxStanford:Netta WeinerWilliams:Megan O'Neill and Rachel OwensWaverly:Margaret Fathi and Jules LemosWoodland:Don Hietala and Kim MedinaZelda:Elly & Rachael Petersen

Special thanks to our other volunteers: Frank Stein and Reba Peters. A special thanks to Hannah King for her clerical expertise!