



BELLAIRE COMMUNITY GROUP

Keeping Quality of Life Our Priority!



September 2025

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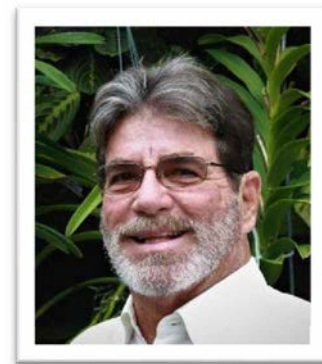
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Greetings, friends and neighbors,

It has been another month in paradise, and as we look forward to the arrival of fall, I find myself grateful for the promise of cooler, more enjoyable temperatures. Like many of you, I'm hoping my steadfast AC unit manages to see me through one more season, a modest goal as we approach the final stretch of summer.



As discussed last month, Nancy, me, and our Newsletter editor Megan will be stepping down from our roles as officers of BCG. Alongside our former chairman and my good friend Steve, the three of us have spent more than two decades guiding the group.

Looking to the future, we sincerely hope the group will continue to thrive. However, this will require new leadership as of January 2026. If you, or perhaps a team of you, are interested in carrying BCG's mission forward, please let us know. The next chapter for BCG is yours to write, and Nancy, Megan, and I are eager to support the transition. Whether it's coordinating monthly guest speakers, handling newsletter advertising and procedures, or any other tasks that arise, we commit to assisting the transition in whatever way possible.

Last month, we had the pleasure of hosting County Councilman Troy Kent. Our conversation ranged across a spectrum of issues: horses on the beach, the ramifications of Senate Bill 180 and its impact on home rule, concerns about overdevelopment, restoration of beach driving, and Councilman Kent's own political future. Throughout the meeting, Councilman Kent was candid and approachable. He addressed every question directly, even when challenged, and demonstrated a thorough command of his positions. Feedback from attendees made clear that his visit was both appreciated and well-received.

In September, we are delighted to welcome back a BCG favorite and our neighbor, Chad Macfie, Director of Volusia County's Marine Science Center at Ponce Inlet. This month, Chad's presentation will focus on native vegetation along our coast—native species that require less water, fertilizer, and pesticides, resulting in reduced runoff and less harm to our coastal waters. Chad's insights promise to guide us toward more sustainable stewardship of our coast.

See you all at the meeting, Paul

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

Dinner

**Shepherd's Pie
(veggie option too!)
Garlic Toast
Apple Spice Cake
Beverages**

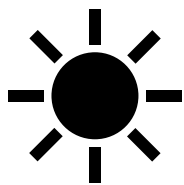
Suggested donation \$5

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In memoriam in aeternum
Steve Koenig

AGENDA

1. Dinner with neighbors
2. Call to Order and Pledge
3. Crime and Safety Report: Captain Trisha Jones
4. Featured Guest: Chad Macfie, Director of Volusia County's Marine Science Center at Ponce Inlet
5. 50/50 drawing
6. Put tables and chairs away
7. Go home with a smile!




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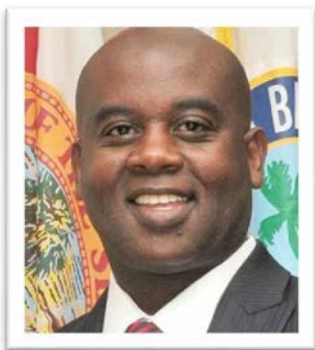
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OUR ELECTED OFFICIALS



Engaged residents play an important role in building a strong, successful community. By serving on city advisory boards, residents can offer valuable input and recommendations to the City Commission on key projects and community issues. There are vacancies on the following boards:

- Beautification/Tree Advisory Board
- Beachside Redevelopment Board
- Board of Adjustment
- Board of Building Codes
- Downtown Redevelopment Board
- Historic Preservation Board
- Midtown Redevelopment Board
- Nuisance Abatement Board
- Peabody Auditorium Advisory Board
- Personnel Board
- Planning Board

If you're interested in making a difference in your community, consider applying for a seat. For more information, contact the City Clerk's Office at (386) 671-8023 or visit www.DaytonaBeach.gov/AdvisoryBoards.



Mike Chitwood
Volusia County Sheriff

Recently, I had the opportunity to welcome a scammer to Volusia County after he was transported from North Carolina. This time, the victim was able to join me.

Cory Ray Woodall, 56, of Oxford, N.C., was extradited Sept. 2, 2025, to face charges of organized scheme to defraud and grand theft.

The 70-year-old victim in this case unfortunately responded to an email about a wounded military dog. From there, she was convinced she was helping a retired Army general get back to the U.S. She sent about \$60,000, including \$30,000 in cash that the scumbag used to buy a car, a mower and a trailer.

Though I've had the honor to welcome these scammers several times to our county, it was the first time a victim has joined me. The opportunity is presented to all victims, and she was the first to take me up on it. It's not every day we get to coordinate an encounter like this – where a victim is able to directly confront the person who scammed them. Too often, victims are left without closure.

Giving her the chance to look Woodall in the eye felt like a small but powerful step toward the healing she deserves.

Our job is to enforce the law and moments like this help restore trust and a sense of resolution to those who have been wronged.

This case is far from over. To others involved in this scam, we're coming after you next.



Which American composer of the first American opera, Porgy and Bess, was born in September?

Answer on page 5



*Ken Strickland
City Commissioner Zone 2*

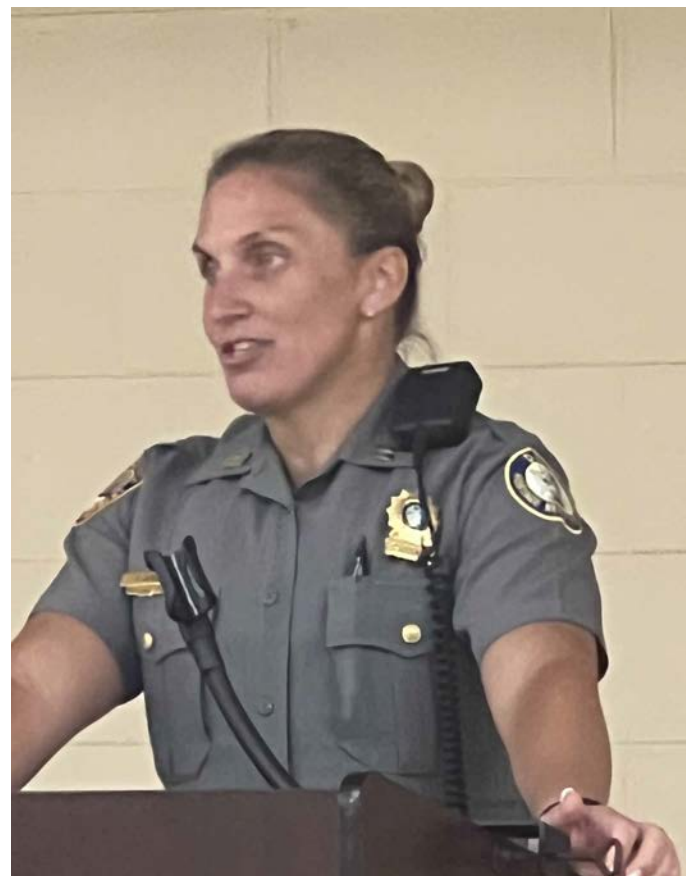
Hello neighbors,

The City Commission is getting closer to finalizing the latest redistricting plan. Hopefully we will be where we can vote on it soon. The southern boundary on the beachside will be Harvey St. when last discussed.

The City Commission agreed a couple of meetings ago to write a letter to our tourist souvenir shops to take down the vulgar T-shirts and the like around their front doors and front windows. We realize that as distasteful as those items are, they are protected under the First Amendment. To pass an ordinance banning them from public view would only bring a lawsuit from the ACLU. However, we can ask them to remove them from view. The hope is most shops will comply if they truly care about our city and it being a family tourism destination. At the last meeting, we passed a resolution to be distributed to the businesses. Now we just must wait and see if we get results.

Until next month,

Ken Strickland
Zone 2 City Commissioner
386-307-4253
jkstrickland53@yahoo.com



A NATIVE REMEMBERS

Paul Zimmerman

Chair, Bellaire Community Group

ENCORE EDITION JANUARY 2025

Sometimes trying to recall details of events of the past is difficult. Oftentimes words fail to adequately capture the emotions of past experiences or memories. I have been writing these articles now for over fifteen years and have to come to realize that what I have been trying to capture is the feelings that permeated those times. Words can identify an attitude or feeling, but they cannot recreate the original experience. Many times I receive comments from BCG readers telling me how they enjoy my attempts to describe what it was like here before, whatever it is that happened to, or is happening to, the town of my childhood. Many of these “memories” include stories of my father’s and his childhood here as well. I enjoy the feedback and hope that perhaps the reader has experienced something that triggered a feeling that related to their own memories.

So what are some of the words we attach to events or experiences that are nothing more than titles on the tabs of our memory files? For me **belonging** is one: belonging to a family, a faith, a community. Looking back, I see my parents, cookouts, vacations, nuns and priests, little league, grandparents, other caring adults, and my friends. All those things provided a myriad of events that were the basis of the feeling of belonging and being valued. Because that happened in my youth, I think they were the most powerful of all memories--the originals. Those are good feelings indeed.

Another file has the identifying tab of **security**. Under that tab I see common and accepted values and standards expressed in the experiences of school, sports, work, and community....coloring within the lines, so to speak. The nuns were bound and determined to make me learn something and behave in an appropriate manner. I



learned three strikes and you’re out, pay day is on Friday for the work you put in during the week. Following the rules didn’t guarantee success, but breaking them almost always resulted in difficulty. A pathway was available for success that was clearly laid out and accepted. The message was, you could make it if you tried, which led to accomplishment...a hard feeling to beat.

I think there are probably countless other tabs that categorize feelings that have their bases in thousands of life experiences--some good experiences, some bad. Like tabs in file cabinets, we can pick the ones we look at. I like the good ones, and I have been blessed with a good supply of them and try to share them here.

Google describes nostalgia as a sentimental or wistful affection for the past, typically for a period or place with happy personal associations...and that is it! That is what I try to capture and what I guess some of you experience in reading these screeds. Again words, even though the Googles description, seemed to hit the nail on the head, words fall just short...close, but no cigar. Time only goes in one direction, objects in the mirror of my memory may appear real, but they are just memories. Reality has left them behind. I seem to be chasing the unobtainable. I guess it is time to make some new memories. Hard to find any originals anymore, but it is definitely worth a try.

‘til next time,
Paul

Trivia answer: George Gershwin
Did you know?

NEIGHBORHOOD ACTIVIST

Dear Bellaire Friends and Neighbors:

There are many items I could write about for the newsletter this month. Most of them are ongoing issues that haven't been resolved. For instance, A1A is still a mess and that includes the parking garage walkway over A1A which desperately needs attention; Clyde Morris Landings are still a mess with excessive calls for police (they can be fined for that, and in my opinion should be); Ballough Road CRA issues and avoidance thereof - at least Monica Paris asked questions; North Beach Street issues between Fairview and Mason - obviously not a priority and an insult to Uptown and Kingston neighborhoods; tax increases showing that development indeed does not pay for itself; but I want to focus on SB 180.

I hope most of you are at least familiar with it. If you are not, please see <http://www.flsenate.gov>. This bill affects every resident in the state. It basically takes away local government rule in regard to development. Local governments are no longer allowed to change comp plans or even make changes that would help alleviate flooding caused by overdevelopment. How did this happen? The State Senate claimed that the bill was intended to help you when your property flooded and that the rest was unintended consequences. In my opinion, they knew full well what they were doing, and if they didn't, all of them should be voted out of office just for incompetence. We pay for them, aides, and staff to read the bills before they vote on them. Even the Governor said he didn't know there was opposition to it. That's just an outright falsehood. I know that hundreds of people have written emails to him about it. I really dislike being treated as though I was "behind the barn door when the brains were passed out." I suppose another more modern term for that is being "gaslighted."

Many local governments across the state (at least 10, some in our own county) are willing to sue the State to reverse this travesty. Many residents are behind them, but what does our county government do? In my opinion, they doubled down on giving rights to their developer handlers and took away resident rights to speak on many development issues by letting staff alone decide the outcomes. They



must see writing on the wall because SB 180 is being challenged legally.

Our own City Commission doesn't seem to want to address this issue. Nary a peep from them. And it certainly affects us in Daytona Beach. Flooding issues, anyone? After Sunday night's gully washer (not even close to a hurricane), I would like to see some discussion of SB 180. In fact, I'd like to see them join the lawsuit as some of our neighboring cities have done. Why there is no discussion is debatable, but I have a few ideas. Maybe enjoining the lawsuit wouldn't pass. Not much gets on the agendas that won't pass. I see a couple of votes that may like SB180. I see others who may be afraid to "rock the boat" and keep the focus from the state and even the federal government off us. Who knows? But not even talking about this issue is not a way to solve the problems it causes. I think that is true of too many things in this city.

Still hoping we will get away with just a few rainstorms this hurricane season.

As always, thanks again for allowing me the opportunity to express my opinions.

Weegie Kuendig

dkuendig@aol.com

FROM THE CHIEF OF POLICE

*Jakari Young,
Chief of Police of Daytona Beach*

September is an important month for our community as we continue building strong partnerships with the people we proudly serve. The Daytona Beach Police Department is grateful for the trust and support of our residents, businesses, and visitors, and we remain committed to working together to keep our city safe.

This Labor Day, the Daytona Beach Police Department extends our gratitude to the hardworking men and women who keep our city moving forward. From educators and healthcare professionals to hospitality workers, business owners, and first responders, each member of our workforce adds to the strength, growth, and spirit of Daytona Beach. Your dedication makes our city a vibrant place to live, work, and visit, and we are honored to serve such a committed and diverse community.

On Saturday, September 20, the Daytona Beach Police Department is proud to be a part of the Team Daytona Golf Tournament at 1000 Champions Drive in Daytona Beach. This special event has been made possible through the generosity of local businesses and sponsors whose support strengthens our connection with the community. The tournament is more than just a day on the course, it is a celebration of fellowship, teamwork, and the partnerships that make Daytona Beach a stronger city.

With the new school year now in full swing, the Daytona Beach Police Department reminds everyone to remain alert and cautious on the roads. Drivers are asked to obey posted school zone speed limits, watch carefully for children crossing streets, and never pass a stopped school bus. Families are encouraged to review safe walking and biking routes with their children, while students are reminded to stay alert and avoid distractions like cell phones when traveling to and from school. By working together and prioritizing safety, we can ensure



this school year is not only successful but safe for all our students, families, and educators. On September 25, we are participating in National “See Something, Say Something” Awareness Day. This campaign reminds all of us to remain alert to suspicious activity and report concerns to law enforcement. Whether it’s in your neighborhood, workplace, or public spaces, speaking up can prevent crimes and save lives. Safety is a shared responsibility, and together we can keep Daytona Beach secure by remaining vigilant and proactive.

As September continues, we encourage residents to stay involved, stay connected, and continue working alongside us in building a safer community. As always, we encourage residents to report any suspicious activity. Following our social media or attending your local neighborhood watch meetings are great ways to stay informed about the safety within the community. Our officers are proud to serve the residents of Daytona Beach, and we thank you for being a vital part of our community.

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NEVER FORGET 9/11/2001

On September 11, 2001, nearly 3,000 people were killed, 400 were police officers and firefighters, in the terrorist attacks at the World Trade Center in NYC, at the Pentagon building in Washington, D.C., and in a plane crash near Shanksville, PA.





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HELLO
September



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THANKS FOR THE JOURNEY!

Street Captains Needed to deliver newsletters...

The following street does not have someone assigned to deliver newsletters to:

Bellaire, Driftwood & N. Peninsula (North End)

We also need people who can fill-in when our regular volunteers are not available.

You can deliver to a street other than the street on which you live.

If you could help deliver newsletters once a month please contact Nancy at 386-257-6700 or Nancy@KoenigRealty.com

The time investment is less than 1 hour monthly.
Please volunteer to help our community group.
Many hands make light work!

Thank You!

Boylston (east end): Frank Stein
Boylston (west end): Patty Interto
Brookline: Donna Hiatt
Chaffee Place: Sherry Phillips
Columbus, N Peninsula: Shree Gobin
Cobblestone Village: John McGuinness
Euclid: Janice and Mike Felisko
Flagstone: Ellen Gerard
Flushing: Jake and Gracie Bodine
Golf: Lisa Gall
N. Grandview: Connie Lambert
Hartford: Kassi Mercy
Manhattan, Jacaranda, and Chipeway:
 Robert Sabol and Angela Asemota
Morningside: Ted and Cindy Beers
N. Oleander, Auburn, Cornell, Bucknell: Dan Stockman

N. Halifax: Nancy Koenig and Nikolai Hargreaves
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Seabreeze High School Area: Paul Zimmerman
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Stanford: Netta Weiner
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Waverly: Margaret Fathi and Jules Lemos
Woodland: Don Hietala
Zelda: Elly and Rachael Petersen

Special thanks to all our volunteers!