



BELLAIRE COMMUNITY GROUP

Keeping Quality of Life Our Priority!



October 2025

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Committee openings

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Happy Fall, Friends and Neighbors!

As autumn settles in, I want to extend warm greetings to each of you. Last month, I had the privilege of hosting our monthly Bellaire Community Group (BCG) meeting while Paul enjoyed a well-deserved break. It was a joy to welcome back a BCG favorite and our neighbor, Chad Macfie, Director of Volusia County's Marine Science Center at Ponce Inlet.

Chad's presentation focused on the importance of native vegetation along our coast—plants that naturally thrive in our region. These species require less water, fertilizer, and pesticides, which helps reduce runoff and lowers the risk of harming our precious coastal waters. The health of our local marine life truly depends on the integrity of these natural coastal environments, and it was inspiring to learn more about how each of us can help nurture and protect them.

This month, we are excited to host Jeff Brower, Volusia County Council Chair. Paul and Jeff always deliver an engaging and informative interview, so we look forward to another lively and educational meeting together. Be sure to join us for what promises to be a fantastic evening for our community.

For the past 20 years, it has been my honor to work alongside Steve, Paul, and Megan in leading the Bellaire Community Group, always striving to "Keep Quality of Life Our Priority." As you know, we plan to step down from our leadership roles at the end of 2025. While we will be transitioning away from formal leadership, we remain dedicated to supporting BCG and look forward to seeing new leaders emerge and guide our group into the future.

Our November 2025 meeting will be devoted to you—our friends and neighbors—as we discuss the path forward for BCG. We hope to see the group continue to thrive, strengthen old relationships, and foster new ones. BCG has always been a labor of love for me, and I truly hope to see it continue to flourish for years to come.

Thank you for your continued support, enthusiasm, and commitment to our community. Together, we can ensure that Bellaire remains a wonderful place to live, connect, and grow.

Wishing everyone a wonderful fall season!

Thanks for the journey,

Nancy



*Join us at the
Schnebly Center
1101 N Atlantic Ave
Thursday, October 16th!
Meal at 600 p.m.
Meeting at 630 p.m.*

Dinner

**Beef Stroganoff
(veggie option too!)
Green Bean Almondine
Rolls**

**Danish Dream Cake
Beverages**

Suggested donation \$5

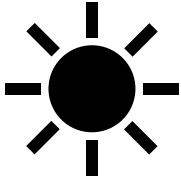
AGENDA

Bellaire Community Group

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Contributors
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Nancy Koenig
Weegie Kuendig
Paul Zimmerman
Jakari Young
Ken Strickland
Derrick Henry

1. Dinner with neighbors
2. Call to Order and Pledge
3. Crime and Safety Report: Captain Trisha Jones
4. Featured Guest: Jeff Brower, Volusia County Council Chair
5. 50/50 drawing
6. Put tables and chairs away
7. Go home with a smile!



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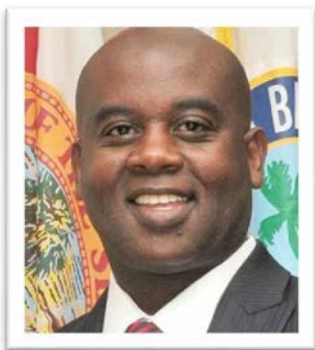


CALL TO SCHEDULE A FREE ESTIMATE

In memoriam in aeternum
Steve Koenig



OUR ELECTED OFFICIALS



Daytona Beach has long been renowned for its natural beauty, from its breathtaking shoreline to its landscaped parks and tree-lined neighborhoods. The city's Beautification and Tree Advisory Board (BTAB) plays a vital role in preserving and promoting beauty, and we invite residents to join us in this important work. The board meets at 4 p.m. on the first Tuesday of each month at the Public Works Department, 950 Bellevue Ave., Suite 500, and the meetings are open to the public.

If you share a passion for preserving Daytona Beach's charm and want to help shape how our city grows, consider serving on the BTAB. Together, we can inspire beautification efforts, promote tree planting and enhance the look of "World-Famous Daytona Beach." For more information, please call (386) 671-8554.

Let's work together to keep Daytona Beach beautiful.



Mike Chitwood
Volusia County Sheriff

You've likely seen them on the roads. It seems they're everywhere these days. E-bikes have become increasingly popular, particularly among kids and young adults.

Pedestrian and bicycle safety has long been a priority for the Volusia Sheriff's Office, and a recent incident involving a 14-year-old boy hit by a car while riding an e-bike on the first day of school has only reinforced the importance of continued awareness and education. The car dragged the victim about 15 feet and stopped with the victim trapped under the vehicle. Good Samaritans lifted the vehicle and moved the victim to safety.

In fact, on Sept. 24, 2025, several agencies in Volusia County came together for a training exercise on responding to e-bike crashes, involving both adults and children.

Since the boy was hit, I have had a chance to connect with his mother, who is passionate about e-bike safety. She tells me, miraculously, her son is on the mend and thanked the responding deputies for their "extraordinary coordination and support" along with the Good Samaritans.

At the training event, she spoke to the media about her family's commitment to bike safety, noting she believes the helmet saved her son's life. She shared tools that I would like to share with you if you or someone in your life uses an e-bike as transportation.

Did you know there are apps available to enhance e-bike safety? These apps can offer incident detection, location services, hazard alerts, instant alerts, crowd-sourced safety data, such as Waze for bikes, safe route routing, anti-theft features, and much more. I



How many bones are in the average human skeleton?

Answer on page 5

encourage you to find the app that works best for your needs, but here are some examples: Specialized Mission Control, Bosch eBike Flow, Giant RideControl, VanMoof App, PowUnity with BikeTrax, Strava and Komoot.

Aside from apps, let's remember these tips to safely share the road as drivers and riders:

For Riders:

- Wear a helmet! Helmets can significantly reduce the risk of head injuries.
- Parents, talk with your kids about the rules of the road. (Use hand signals and follow traffic rules.)
- Discuss safe riding habits with your child. (Avoid using phones or earbuds while riding an e-bike and keep both hands on the handlebars.)
- Education is key. Since many e-bike riders are under 18, encourage supervised riding and seek formal training if possible.

For Drivers:

- Don't drive distracted (always stay focused on the road).
- Use special caution in school zones, residential areas, and around intersections.
- Understand e-bikes can travel faster than traditional bicycles. That's why it's crucial to be extra vigilant.



*Ken Strickland
City Commissioner Zone 2*

Hello neighbors,

On Friday October 3 the City held a ribbon-cutting ceremony for the completion of the work that was done on the Main Street Arch. The cost of the work was just short of a million dollars. This goes a long way toward preserving our history in the Main Street area of the beachside and is more welcoming to our visitors. The speakers for the ribbon-cutting ceremony were Mayor Derrick Henry, Commissioners Ken Strickland and Quanita May, and Senator Tom Wright.

There is a Boardwalk extension planned in the future from Breakers Park south to Harvey Avenue.

Biktoberfest is coming; October 16-19.

The work along Atlantic Avenue will be halted during the event to create a safer environment for our guests.

The East International Speedway streetscape has been completed and the CRA contributed \$2.5 million to the project.

Until next month,

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

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A NATIVE REMEMBERS

Paul Zimmerman

Chair, Bellaire Community Group

I don't remember much these days..LOL. You know, now when I think back at some of my life's experiences, I say, dang, I wish I had a video of that....then there are some I thank God there were no cameras around. Living now for more than three quarters of a century, I think back and say to myself, Wow, I really danced well enough around those life situations to avoid catastrophe or worse. But there are too many near collisions with a fate I deserved to think that I could dance that well...no, it was the music of life that was compatible with my two left-footed dancing that allowed me to so often avoid disaster. I am thankful for the Composer.

The images that remain in my mind's eye are saturated in nostalgia and fondness, some so clear as to be almost tangible: Here are a few:

It's a fall, windy day. I'm 7 or 8, walking down the dirt road to get my friends Jimmy and Bobby to see if they want to go out into the woods and climb up the black gum trees and ride them as the wind sways them back and forth.

8 yrs old or so and going with my dad to his office on the corner of Live Oak and Beach Street on Saturday morning. Stopping by the Post Office on Beach Street and walking up the decorative railing and sidewalk at the entrance. Dad giving me the keys and letting me open Box 407. We would always go by and say good morning to the blind fellow that had a concession stand inside at the south end of the main hall. When he went back to his office, I climbed the Live Oak trees that were the street's namesake.

10 or 11 now, and me and my best friend Danny are camping out in the wooded lot next to my family home. It's late and chilly so we have a fire, and we are laughing and singing "The Lion Sleeps Tonight" at the top of our lungs, oblivious to everything, *aweema wep, aweema wep*, when I hear my dad from the window



yelling at us to shut the H up. We laughed about that episode for years.

13 now, and working summers on the pool deck of the original Castaway Beach Motel. Introducing myself to complete strangers and being amazed that they would buy suntan lotion and oil from me. In the winters after school and on weekends, I worked on Main Street at Humphrey's Men's store when Main Street was thriving and a mecca for tourists.

Years later, early 20s, married and moved to Flagler Beach when there may have been 1000 people living at the beach and around 5000 in the whole county. It was only 25 miles up A1A but it may as well have been to another planet. Everybody knew everybody. Everybody waved and said hi. There was one traffic light and that was in Bunnell. US #1 was the only 4 lane road in the county. There was no Palm Coast yet, only wilderness.

Many of the memories are of places that no longer exist, or have changed so much as not to be recognizable. Some places that didn't exist are now a metropolis. That is what time does and it seems to be picking up speed. Enjoy the blessings that we have been given while you can, because once they are gone, they are gone for good.

'til next time,
Paul

Trivia answer: Most humans have 206 bones, although the body has 270 at birth that subsequently fuse to become 206.

Did you know?

NEIGHBORHOOD ACTIVIST

Dear Bellaire Friends and Neighbors:

As I think about topics for a column, I have to remind myself that I keep bringing up the same concerns and might sound like a broken record. But the issues don't seem to get resolved, and I believe that is because they aren't priorities for government entities and officials. As you know, I don't fall for the excuse that government works slowly, because if the "right" people request that something gets done, government hops to it.

Now let's look at the A1A FDOT disaster. The street has deep construction holes with only rubber cones to warn people that these holes exist. I also note that FDOT keeps their own equipment behind huge barrels with lights. The sidewalks are torn up (a pedestrian safety issue) and all the tax money that was spent on beautification pavers (even on the sidewalks) are half gone with some asphalt splashed down to cover it up. On top of that, Biketoberfest is around the corner. Will FDOT be able to finish it up and make it safe for pedestrians and bikers? Keep in mind that the weather and their schedule aren't mixing well this week.

Another issue I write about regularly is the degradation creep on our Beachside. It is creeping into your neighborhood and getting worse. Used to be mostly a Main Street Area to University Avenue issue, but I definitely am seeing more vacant commercial buildings and houses in your neighborhood - some buildings that have been allowed to be so open to the elements for so long that they should be torn down but at the very least are an open invitation to crime and squatting, as well as a huge safety issue. It is truly a sad sight to me. Imagine what tourists think.

And the flooding on North Beach Street is hardly a priority. Sure, it's going to take money to fix, but we have a big budget and are choosing to spend it elsewhere. Which leads me to a new topic....

Are you aware of the sidewalk issues in Mosaic? That was a hot topic at the last Commission meeting for at least Commissioner Stacey Cantu, who did some homework when her residents there complained about the slip and fall conditions. Some procedural things stood out to me. For example, when any Commissioner requests records, those records should come quickly and



be unaltered. As far as inspections go, I can tell you that I can't ever recall a time a Code Officer came in front of the Code Board and testified that a case involving a permit should be dismissed because it was "mostly" in compliance. And yet, that seems to be what happened in the sidewalk case. The bond for the developer was dropped to almost nothing because it "mostly" passed inspection. And therein lies the rub for me. Are residents treated differently from developers?

And a quick take on a different subject: during these times of environmental uncertainty, why does the Commission and the Planning Board allow big developers and law firms to become the last word on flooding and other environmental impacts - especially when we know what the end game is for them? Hoping that doesn't need to be spelled out for you. Well, we made it through another month without a hurricane. Fingers crossed we make it through, even though we have suffered great beach erosion and flooding, especially downtown, so far.

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

Weegie Kuendig

dkuendig@aol.com

FROM THE CHIEF OF POLICE

*Jakari Young,
Chief of Police of Daytona Beach*

As we welcome the month of October, the Daytona Beach Police Department remains dedicated to strengthening community partnerships and ensuring safety for all who live, work, and visit in our city. This month is full of opportunities to connect with our community, promote safety, and continue the collaborative efforts that make Daytona Beach stronger together.

This month, our Police Department will take part in the annual Drug Abuse Response Team (D.A.R.T.) Walk, an initiative designed to raise awareness about substance abuse and connect individuals struggling with addiction to vital resources. This event represents an important part of our continued efforts to engage directly with our community and support those in need. We are grateful for the partnerships that make this work possible and for the shared commitment to improving the lives of those affected by addiction.

Our officers will participate in White Cane Day, a pedestrian safety initiative that highlights the rights and safety of individuals who are blind or visually impaired. This event serves as an important reminder for all motorists to remain alert and yield to pedestrians using white canes or guide dogs. Together, we can make Daytona Beach's roadways safer for everyone.

One of our city's most anticipated events, Biketoberfest, returns this month! With thousands of visitors expected to enjoy Daytona Beach's roads, beaches, and local businesses, residents can anticipate increased traffic throughout the event weekend. The Daytona Beach Police Department will have additional officers and traffic resources deployed to ensure a safe and enjoyable experience for both visitors and residents. We encourage everyone to celebrate responsibly and ride safely.



Later this month, we will join Bethune-Cookman University to celebrate its proud history and vibrant spirit for their Homecoming parade and football game. Our department will be out in full support, ensuring a safe and festive atmosphere for all alumni, students, and visitors participating in the weekend's events.

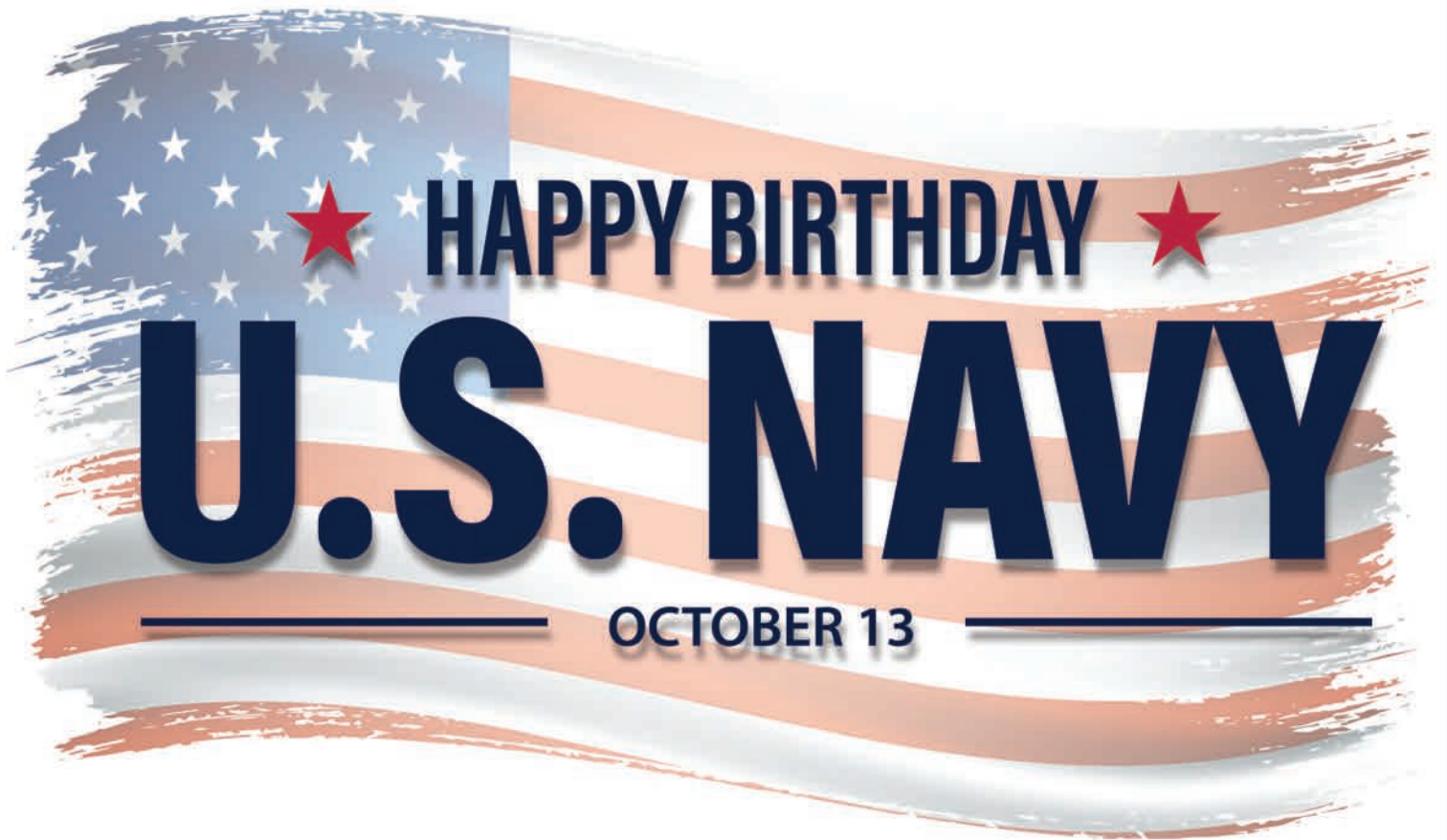
The Daytona Beach Police Department, in partnership with community agencies, will participate in a Safe Surrender event on Tuesday, October 28, from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. at 511 Fremont Avenue. This initiative offers individuals with outstanding warrants or driver's license suspensions a chance to resolve their legal matters peacefully and responsibly. We encourage anyone eligible to take advantage of this opportunity to clear up pending issues and move forward on a positive path.

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. The Daytona Beach Police Department encourages all residents to review local ordinances and visit the city's official website for information on regulations, safety tips, and event guidelines.

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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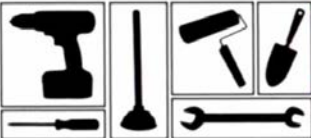
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Street Captains Needed to deliver newsletters...

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

Nautilus: Jake and Gracie Bodine

Pelican: MaryAnn and Danny Langton

Plaza: Stacy Prestwood

Seabreeze High School Area: Paul Zimmerman

Seaview: Suzy Lamoureux

Stanford: Netta Weiner

Williams: James 'Mac' McConnell

Waverly: Margaret Fathi and Jules Lemos

Woodland: Don Hietala

Zelda: Elly and Rachael Petersen

Special thanks to all our volunteers!