



Bay Harbor Islands

SEPTEMBER 2021 + VOLUME 67 NUMBER 9

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A Message from Mayor Fuller

In previous messages, I have expressed the view that Bay Harbor Islands is our piece of paradise. The downside of that distinction is the number of visitors wanting to experience the benefits of what we call home. While we warmly welcome seasonal visitors and guests to our Town's hotels, the insatiable demand to spend time in our Town has unfortunately also led to the rapid expansion of vacation rentals. For the most part, these short-term rentals are unregulated, pose a security threat to our residents and are routinely detrimental to our quality of life. Sometimes it is just a single unit in a building that is being utilized as a vacation rental, while other times, it is an entire building. Regardless, while there are certainly a large number of respectful vacation renters, a significant number disregard the rights of full-time residents, speed down our streets, create nuisances and otherwise act with little respect towards unit owners. Further, once a security code for a building is provided to one vacation renter, the benefit of the building's security is nullified for everyone.

The problems created by vacation rentals are well known to the Council and to the Town's administration. We have been, and continue to be, working with every tool at our disposal to reduce or eliminate the negative effects of vacation rentals in our Town. Unfortunately, the vacation rental industry has utilized its extensive financial muscle in Tallahassee, successfully pushing the state legislature to pass laws pre-empting our ability to properly regulate vacation rentals in the Town. This means the Town is legally prevented from enacting almost any regulation of these vacation rentals. While our own representatives, Rep. Joe Geller and Senator Jason Pizzo, have been on your side throughout this fight, representatives from other areas of the state believe they know better than we do how vacation rentals affect Bay Harbor Islands.

I understand your frustration – I share it. Our Town Council will continue to fight for your ability to have home rule over our own Town. It is our hope that our continued efforts will eventually allow us to safeguard your homes. In the meantime, if you live in a condominium and short term rentals are not allowed, please speak with your condo board if you notice a violation. Also, please share with the Town administration any stories of how you have been negatively affected by short term rentals. We will make sure these stories are shared with our state and federal representatives.

At the same time, our thoughts are with those affected by the Hurricane Ida in Louisiana and the earthquake in Haiti. As residents of South Florida, we know all too well the devastation that can be caused by Mother Nature. These tragedies are a reminder to be prepared the next time we are faced with the possibility of a storm.

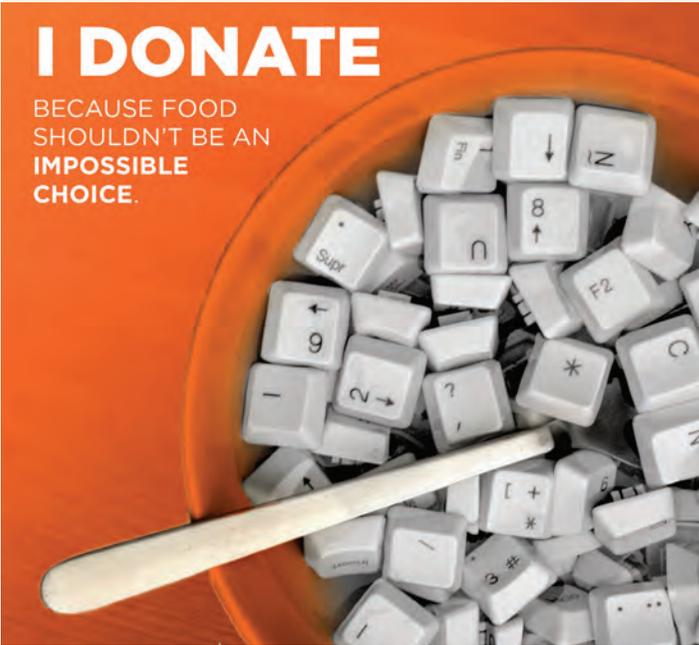
On a much brighter note, although we must remain vigilant in the fight against COVID-19 and the Delta variant (please get vaccinated and wear your mask), the Town is already planning and budgeting for events to return as soon as they can safely occur. If you have suggestions for Town events you would like to see planned in the future, please contact Town Hall. We look forward to the day when we can all celebrate together.



WHAT IS HUNGER ACTION MONTH?

I DONATE

BECAUSE FOOD
SHOULDN'T BE AN
IMPOSSIBLE
CHOICE.



The Bay Harbor Islands newsletter is draped with orange this month in support of Hunger Action Month®, a nationwide initiative created by Feeding America®. Hunger Action Month® takes place throughout September and is designed to raise awareness about the issue of hunger in America.

Food shouldn't be an impossible choice. But for people facing hunger, it's often an impossible choice between food or other crucial needs, such as electricity, childcare or medicine. In South Florida, over one million individuals don't know from where they will get their next meal – nearly 300,000 of whom are children. Join Hunger Action Month® and help make a difference.

Volunteer, donate directly or create a virtual food drive page with a unique link to share with your co-workers, friends, and family. Every \$1 donated provides 9 meals! Learn more ways to get involved in this month-long initiative at www.feedingsouthflorida.org. Together we can eliminate hunger.

Through innovative direct-service programs and a network of nonprofit partner agencies, Feeding South Florida distributed nearly 119 million pounds (99.3 million meals) of food last fiscal year to over 706,000 individuals – 236,000 of whom are children and 100,000 are older adults. More than 98% of all donations are put back into the community.

OUR SUNPASS TOLL TURNS 7

On September 26, 2014, the Town of Bay Harbor Islands officially became a SunPass Toll Agency and the Broad Causeway became an open-road toll. Gone were the toll booths, the toll collectors and the long lines of traffic.

“Hold on a second,” you might be saying. “I liked the old system? Why fix something that wasn't broken?” Because it was broken. Plus, the Town really had no choice.

Congress passed a 2012 law mandating toll agencies across the U.S. be able to accept a universal electronic transponder by 2016 or accept other transponders in use. The problem was, our system could barely read its own.



The system we had in place was literally held together by wire and duct tape. The manufacturer had simply stopped making the parts needed to keep it running. Greg Panos, master of jury-rigging from our IT department, was the only reason the system worked as long as it did. You could almost hear it sigh, that morning it was finally switched off.

Now, we are able to accept transponders from 19 states and the list is growing. That means less toll-by-plate transactions from tourists and greater revenue for the Town. SunPass users can also use the new SunPass Pro portable transponder to pay for tolls in those same 19 states, including New York.

And the old annual “BayPass Plan?” We offer a comparable Annual and a 6-month Pass Plan. Like the previous plan, it requires a transponder but now it is a SunPass transponder. And like before, **we do not exempt by plate.**

There have been a few growing pains. We had to get used to a more strict set of rules and we have had a glitch or two as we've transitioned to accepting non-SunPass transponders. And now, if your transponder doesn't read, you can't just beep your horn. You get charged. But Town staff are still here for you. If you have questions about the Pass Plan or you feel you were charged erroneously, we will investigate it on your behalf.

WE HAVE AN APP FOR THAT!

If you wish to renew or purchase a new Pass Plan or you have a question, go to tinyurl.com/BHI-APP. To purchase the new SunPass Pro go to www.sunpass.com/en/about/pro.shtml.



NEWS FROM THE BAY HARBOR ISLANDS POLICE DEPARTMENT

Our Bay Harbor Islands Police Department conducted an active shooter training exercise during the summer break, on August 10th, at the Ruth K. Broad K-8 campus. In addition to the Bay Harbor Islands PD, this multi-agency exercise included the participation of several other local agencies including Surfside PD, Bal Harbour PD, North Miami PD and Biscayne Park PD. This training is invaluable in preparing our officers for an active shooter incident, with effective tactics and techniques meant to save lives, and the kind of training we hope we never have to utilize.

Ruth K. Broad Bay Harbor K-8 began the new school year on Monday, August 23rd. Your BHI Police, working in collaboration with our partners at Ruth K. Broad, were there to welcome new and returning students and their parents. The first day of school drop-offs and pick-ups were very successful and lauded by both students and their parents. Our School Resource Officer, Paul Brilliant,

and the rest of the BHI Police Department team look forward to another productive and successful school year.

Our police officers have continued stepped-up traffic enforcement on the Broad Causeway. The goal is to safeguard our roads and streets from unsafe and distracted driving. Officers are out there ensuring motorists are abiding by the posted speed limits and traffic ordinances. In addition, we are hoping to increase our traffic unit in the next several months with additional officers.

On September 11th, we will be presenting a virtual 9/11 Remembrance Program. This year marks the 20th Anniversary of the September 11, 2001 attack on America, an event that changed the way we live our lives forever. We hope you'll join us in remembering that fateful day; the victims, the survivors and its many heroes. The program will be streamed beginning at 8:46 am on September 11th via the Town's Facebook page at Facebook.com/BayHarborIslands. We Will Never Forget.

Protect your every day.
If you **see** something,
say something

REPORT SUSPICIOUS ACTIVITY TO LOCAL AUTHORITIES

if you SEE something say something

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

*If You See Something, Say Something™ used with permission of the NY Metropolitan Transportation Authority.

NATIONAL AWARENESS DAY

September 25 is national "If you see something, say something®" Awareness Day.

If you see something, say something. We all have something or someone worth protecting. Report suspicious activity to local law enforcement. Call 305-866-6242 and tell your Bay Harbor Islands Police.

Protect yourself every day.



WHEN CROSSING THE STREET, ALWAYS LOOK BOTH WAYS.

fdotmiamidade.com/alerttodayflorida

ALERT TODAY
FDOT
ALIVE TOMORROW

RESIDENTS MUST STAY AWAY FROM IGUANAS AND TRAPS



A resident was recently observed trespassing on a closed Town-owned property and feeding iguanas on the property. Various traps at this location were also found to have been tampered with.

The Town has contracted with Redline Iguana removal to mitigate the non-native iguana infestation throughout our Town. Please do not feed the iguanas as in doing so you are interfering with the Town's efforts on its residents behalf. If you wish to have an iguana as a pet so that you can feed it, feel free to bring one home. If you should observe anyone interfering with the Redline traps or feeding the iguanas, contact Douglas Armstrong at darmstrong@bayharborislands-fl.gov or call (305) 866-6241.

UPDATE FROM PUBLIC WORKS & TOWN ENGINEER



FIRE STATION SIDEWALK & ROADWAY REPAIRS

The concrete repairs in front of the Miami Dade Fire Rescue 76 were completed just in time for the new school year. The repair included reinforcing the concrete sidewalk, curb and the section of the road in front of the station using high strength concrete capable of withstanding the loads of the fire trucks. The concrete slab section in front of the fire station doors must remain closed to all vehicles for 28 days to allow the concrete to cure and reach its maximum strength capacity. The concrete was poured on August 16 so the cones will remain in place until September 13, 2021.

We would like to remind everyone that even with the cones in place, you may not park in front of the Fire Station - even for a few minutes. Never block or obstruct the Fire Station doors as that can delay the departure of an emergency vehicle on its way to a call for service. Park in the Municipal Garage while visiting the Community Center, picking up/dropping-off a child at school or while getting tested or vaccinated.



SPEED BUMPS INSTALLED

Speed bumps have been installed in front of Officer Scott Winters Park and the 98th Street Dog Park to help slow traffic and prevent vehicle and pedestrian accidents.

The Town plans to place more speed bumps around town in the coming weeks in our school zones and in the roadways near other active parks.

INDIAN CREEK BRIDGE PROJECT



Work on the supporting structure of the Indian Creek Bridge is expected to commence on Sunday, September 12th. The project involves repairing snapped tendons in a pre-stressed, U-channel section of the bridge and should take 4-6 weeks. Due to the need to close the northernmost westbound lane while workers are present, the work is to be performed from 8 PM to 4 AM, Sunday-Thursday. One westbound lane will be closed to traffic each evening and the north sidewalk will be closed for the duration of the project.

MILLING & PAVING OF EAST ISLAND SOUTH OF KANE CONCOURSE

This month, All County Paving, Inc. will begin the milling and paving of the East Island's interior streets, south of Kane Concourse. Approved by the Council this past June, the work also includes the repair of damaged valley gutters and curbs within the project limits. The Contractor is projected to start with the curb and gutter repairs on September 13th, after which they will perform the milling and paving. Below is a map and schedule for the work. The project should



PHASE	START	FINISH
RED CONCRETE	9/13/2021	9/17/2021
RED PAVING	9/20/2021	9/20/2021
GREEN CONCRETE	9/13/2021	9/17/2021
GREEN PAVING	9/21/2021	9/21/2021
YELLOW CONCRETE	9/13/2021	9/17/2021
YELLOW PAVING	9/22/2021	9/22/2021
BLUE CONCRETE	9/13/2021	9/17/2021
BLUE PAVING	9/23/2021	9/23/2021

be completed by September 30th, weather permitting.

NEWS FROM THE HUMAN RESOURCES DEPARTMENT

IN MEMORIAM

It is with great sadness that we announce the loss of retired Town employee, Bobby Chieves. Bobby passed away this summer at his home, at the age of 79.

Bobby retired several years ago after being employed by the Town for close to 40 years. Always with a ready smile, he never lost touch with his friends and co-workers and stopped in to visit often. We will miss those visits. May you rest in peace, Bobby.



CURRENT JOB OPENINGS

- Attendant/Counselor, After School Program, full time
- Certified Police Officer, full time
- Crossing Guard, part time
- Park Attendant, full-time
- Police Dispatcher, part time

Learn how to join our team today. Go to tinyurl.com/bhi-jobs for more information.

The Town of Bay Harbor Islands provides equal employment opportunities through recruitment, selection, retention, and advancement in all job classifications, without regard to race, color, religion, sex, age, national origin, or disability, and to ensure that all matters affecting employees' terms and conditions of employment are administered in a manner consistent with applicable federal, state, and local law. We value and encourage diversity in our workforce.

CORPORAL FIERRO RETIRES

Bay Harbor Islands Police Corporal James "Jim" Fierro hung up his uniform and gun belt for the final time, on September 1, 2021, retiring after 20 years with our department. Jim has plans to move north and spend time with his wife and family. Congratulations, Corporal. Thank you for your many years of service to the Town and its residents.



At left: Officers Fierro & Munschy in 2010. At far left, former Manager Ron Wasson swearing in Corporal Fierro at his promotion ceremony.



EIGHT CROSSING GUARDS JOIN TOWN

Eight new crossing guards are now helping children and parents as they come and go to Ruth K. Broad Bay Harbor K-8 Center. Wave a welcome to these new crossing guards who are keeping us safe!

Town Seeks Volunteers to Serve on Committees and Board

The Town of Bay Harbor Islands is looking for volunteers to serve on the following Committees and Board:

PLANNING & ZONING BOARD

The Planning & Zoning Board is responsible for the review of new construction, exterior renovations, additions, plan revisions, etc. The Board meets on the first and third Tuesday of the month. Professionals need not be residents of Bay Harbor Islands, but must be presently employed full time or were employed full time in the field of engineering, architecture, land use and zoning law, city planning, construction, or any other field which substantially relates to the planning and development of real estate.

SUSTAINABILITY AND RESILIENCY COMMITTEE

This is a newly formed committee that will address topics related to sustainability, resiliency and environmental impacts to the Town.

CHARTER AND ORDINANCE COMMITTEE

The Charter and Ordinance Committee serves in an advisory capacity to the town council and recommend, any amendments necessary to reform or update the Town Charter and Code. Providing, however, that any member of the Charter Review Committee may present an alternative recommendation regarding any specific amendment. Committee Members shall be residents and electors of the Town. Each member shall have an interest in, or experience relating to, the Town Charter, Town Code or governmental procedures and processes.

If you are interested in volunteering to serve on a committee and / or Planning & Zoning Board, please submit a letter of interest and resume to the Town Clerk Alba L. Chang at achang@bayharborislands-fl.gov.





BAY HARBOR ISLANDS COMMUNITY SERVICES

REGISTER ONLINE at tinyurl.com/bhi-cc-register

For more information call the Morris N. Broad Community Center at (786) 646-9970

JOIN THE BOOK CLUB ON SEPTEMBER 14

Join the Book Club at the Morris N. Broad Community Center on Tuesday, September 14, 2021, at 7 p.m. The book for discussion will be "The Midnight Library" by Matt Haig. The zoom link for the Book Club is <https://zoom.us/j/99028457247>.



SHOPPING SHUTTLE DATES FOR RESIDENTS

Pick-up will be at 9:30 am at the Morris N. Broad Community Center on scheduled dates. Afterwards, residents will be dropped off at their homes.

The free Shopping Shuttle is exclusively for Town of Bay Harbor residents. Masks and social distancing are encouraged. Registration is preferred but not required. Email to saugustin@bayharborislands-fl.gov to register for your selection of the following trips:

- **Wednesday, Sept. 8, 2021 to Costco**
- **Wednesday, Sept. 22, 2021 to Whole Foods**

AFTERCARE PROGRAMS

RETURN ON SEPTEMBER 7, 2021 AT THE MORRIS N. BROAD COMMUNITY CENTER

Visit our **Community Services Page** at www.bayharborislands-fl.gov/154/Community-Services

PROGRAMS

REGISTER ONLINE AT tinyurl.com/bhi-cc-register

Masks and social distancing are recommended for adults and children over the age of two

TOT & YOUTH

Story Time in the Park - At the Tot Lot on the first and third Friday of the month at 4 p.m. and at the 98th Street Park on the second and third Friday of the month at 4 p.m.

Pee-Wee Soccer - At the 98th Street Park on Sundays for children, ages 12 months to five years. Times vary by age. Classes are August 3 to September 23, 2021. The 8-week session is \$95 for residents.

Kids Piano - Ongoing for 8-weeks, one-hour sessions are on Wednesdays from 2:15 p.m. for ages 6 to 14, \$150. Six students maximum. Classes are September 8 to October 27, 2021.

ADULTS & SENIORS

Tai Chi - At the Morris N. Broad Community Center Tuesdays and Thursdays at 9 a.m. \$40 for 8 weeks.

Gentle Yoga - At the Morris N. Broad Community Center on Mondays and Wednesdays at 10 a.m. \$40 for 8 weeks.

STORY TIME AT THE LIBRARY

Join us for family Story Time each Thursday from 11–11:30 a.m. at the Bay Harbor Islands branch of the Miami-Dade County Library inside the Morris N. Broad Community Center. For more information, call the library at (786) 646-9961.



Do you want to stay up to date with what's happening at the Morris N. Broad Community Center?

Then be sure to like & follow us on Facebook! You can find us at [@BHICommunityServices!](https://www.facebook.com/BHICommunityServices)

Calling All Tennis Players!
We want to hear from YOU.



Fill out the BHI Tennis Survey today at tiny.one/BHI-Tennis

FLHSMV
 FLORIDA HIGHWAY SAFETY AND MOTOR VEHICLES

Driver License Services at Community Center

Florida Highway Safety and Motor Vehicles is now providing driver license services to Bay Harbor Islands residents on the second Friday of each month from 10 a.m.– 2 p.m. at the Morris N. Broad Community Center (1175 95th Street). **Appointments are required.**

The next Mini-FLOW event is on Friday, September 10th. Go to tinyurl.com/bhi-cc-register and click on “Town Events” to make an appointment. You will first need to create an account in order to register, if you have not already done so.

The Mini-FLOW is a convenient method to renew a driver license, obtain a replacement driver license, change your name or address on a driver license, get an identification card, renew a vehicle registration, obtain a disabled parking placard or purchase a specialty license plate.

Florida has new documentation requirements so please visit flhsmv.gov or call (850) 617-2000 for a complete listing of documents needed and other information related to obtaining a driver license or photo ID card. Fees vary based on service.



THE MORRIS N. BROAD COMMUNITY CENTER PROGRAMS ARE BACK!

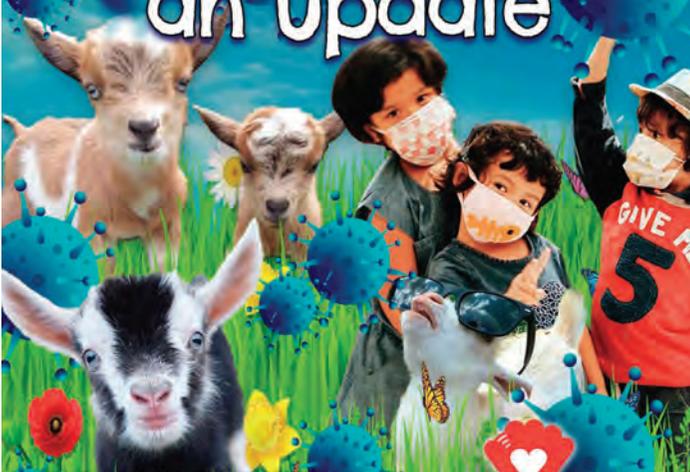
Visit our Community Services Department page at <https://tinyurl.com/BHI-CSD> to learn more.

TOGETHER, WE CAN BEAT COVID-19!



GET TESTED & VACCINATED
MONDAY-SATURDAY • 8 AM • 5 PM
1185 95 STREET
 MIAMI-DADE COUNTY Nomi Health

COVID and Kids: an Update



by Dr. Christopher Chang and Handays Ale from pediatric immunology
 Joe DiMaggio Children's Hospital

Wednesday September 15th at noon on Zoom.
bayharborislands-fl.gov/289/Fun-Things-to-do-at-Home

Joshua D. Fuller
Mayor
Elizabeth Tricoche
Vice Mayor
Stephanie Bruder
Council Member
Molly Diallo
Council Member
Jordan W. Leonard
Council Member
Isaac Salver
Council Member
Robert Yaffe
Council Member

Maria D. Lasday
Town Manager
Alba L. Chang
Town Clerk
Joseph Geller
Town Attorney
Raul M. Diaz
Chief of Police
Peter V. Kajokas
Finance Director



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33154

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For information or emergencies:

Town Hall: (305) 866-6241

Building Department: (305) 993-1786

Police: (305) 866-6242

Emergency: 911

www.bayharborislands-fl.gov

Upcoming Town Meetings

The Town Council welcomes your attendance and participation at meetings. All meetings, unless regarding topics specifically exempt by state law, are open to the public. To confirm all meeting dates and times, please contact the **Office of the Town Clerk at (305) 866-6241**.

- Public Hearing, Thursday, Sept. 9, at 6:30 pm
- Regular Council Meeting, Thur, Sept. 9 at 7 pm
- Public Input Meeting, Monday, Sept. 13 at 11 am
- First Budget Hearing, Monday, Sept. 13 at 6 pm
- Second Budget Hearing, Wed, Sept. 29 at 6 pm

The following future tentative meeting dates are subject to change, therefore, close to the date, contact the Office of the Town Clerk or visit the Town's website at **www.bayharborislands-fl.gov**

Future Tentative Meetings

Regular Council: Wednesday, October 13, 2021

Planning & Zoning Board: Tuesday, Oct. 5

Tuesday, Oct. 19

COMMITTEE MEETINGS TBA

ALL MEETINGS ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE

Highlights of the Aug.10, 2021 Regular Council Meeting

- Approval of a resolution requested by Council Member Leonard urging President Joseph Biden and the United States Congress to condemn the Cuban Government's handling of the protests and to take any and all actions necessary to support the Cuban people in their call for freedom and relief from Cuba's socialist and communist regime.
- Approval and Ratification of an Agreement between the Town of Bay Harbor Islands and Calvin, Giordano & Associates, Inc. and BCC Engineering, LLC (Lakes Engineering) to perform visual inspections on multiple high and low rise buildings to identify any visible spalling and/or deterioration of the concrete structures.
- Contract award to A. West Enterprise, LLC in the amount of \$172,808 for project BC157 to replace the medium voltage FP&L cable, conduit and brackets for Bridge 875101.
- Approval to piggyback off the Polk County Sheriff's Office contract with Flock Safety in the amount of \$143,500 to procure a new License Plate Reader (LPR) Camera System, pursuant to Section 21.2(6) of the Town Code.
- Approval of an agreement with Weiss, Serota, Helfman, Cole & Bierman, P.L. regarding Labor and Employment Law matters.

Topics anticipated for discussion or possible action at the September 9 Council meeting

- Discussion and Possible Action with regards to the Planning and Zoning Board's scope and review process.
- Consideration and approval of an ordinance on second reading amending Chapter 7 of the Town Code to require Knox Boxes at all new and existing residential buildings.
- Consideration and approval of an ordinance for First Reading requested by Council Member Yaffe and co-sponsored by Council Member Leonard regarding condominiums, cooperatives and other community associations, requiring them to deliver to the Town "Building Engineering Reports" reflecting the conditions of buildings, including structural and life safety components.