OFFICE OF THE VILLAGE MANAGER

LETTER TO COUNCIL

NO. 204-2017

To: Mayor Gabriel Groisman and Members of the Village Council

From: Jorge M. Gonzalez, Village Manager

Date: December 8, 2017

Subject: Bal Harbour Village November/December Newsletter

The purpose of this Letter to Council (LTC) is to inform you that the November/December 2017 Bal Harbour Village Newsletter was mailed earlier this week and should begin to arrive in mailboxes over the next few days. As always, the newsletter was mailed to all Village residents.

Attached is a copy of the Newsletter.

Should you have any questions or need any additional information, please feel free to contact me or, Assistant Village Manager, Ramiro Inganzo.

JMG/RI
ENHANCED VILLAGE RECYCLING PROGRAM UNDERWAY

As part of the amended Solid Waste agreement with Waste Connections, Bal Harbour Village is implementing a recycling program in accordance with the single stream guidelines established by Miami-Dade County. The single stream program uses optical scanners to process all the recycled materials, requiring fewer containers, less trucks and no sorting for the residents. This system enables materials to be collected in one container or cart as opposed to the multi-stream program that requires residents to separate different materials into separate containers for collections.

Recycling collection in the Village has been increased from one day per week to two days per week (Tuesdays and Thursdays). The chart at right includes all permitted items. Please do not put garbage in your recycling bin. Contamination impedes the processing of recycling materials and can cause the entire truckload of collected material to be rejected by the processor because of unacceptable percentages of garbage comingled with the recyclable materials.

For more information contact the Parks and Public Spaces Department at (305) 866-4633. Additional information can also be found at: www.balharbourfl.gov/residents/trash-recycling and at www.miamidade.gov/solidwaste/residential-recycling.asp
MESSAGE FROM THE VILLAGE

On behalf of the Village, we wish our residents and families a happy and safe holiday season. May the year ahead be one of good health and prosperity for all. On November 27, Bal Harbour held its annual lighting ceremony. More than just marking the beginning of the holiday season, the cheerful event is a heart-warming gathering of residents of all ages to enjoy music, refreshments and the company of friends and neighbors (see Page 5).

During this busy time of year, we take time to both look back and plan ahead. To begin 2017, we celebrated the Village’s 70th anniversary by hosting a memorable anniversary concert on the beach. Also in the new year, we launched the new Village website and several new platforms that continue to improve the Village’s technology and communications. Our Unscripted art program continued to grow with the addition of several new museums including the Phillip & Patricia Frost Museum of Science and others (see Page 4 for our recent events). Our special VIP events during Art Basel/Miami Beach afforded our residents and guests access to many of the best events at the world-famous art week.

For the first time in over a decade, our community faced the real threat of a powerful hurricane in 2017. Our preparations prior, during and after Hurricane Irma ensured that the Village was well prepared to deal with impacts from the storm and our recovery efforts proved to be timely, efficient and effective.

If you have not already done so, please install the My Bal Harbour mobile app on your phone by going to the App Store or Google Play Store and search for “My Bal Harbour.” You can sign up on our website or via the mobile app to receive important information about Bal Harbour Village via text and email. You can also sign up for social media platforms such as Facebook@balharbourgov and Twitter@balharbourgov. If you need any information, please feel free to visit or call Village Hall at 305-866-4633, Monday – Friday, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Again, best wishes for happy holidays and a great new year!

VILLAGE COUNCIL

DAVID ALBAUM  
COUNCILMAN  
District 4  
dalbaum@balharbourfl.gov

PATRICIA COHEN  
COUNCILWOMAN  
District 3  
pcohen@balharbourfl.gov

GABRIEL GROISMAN  
MAYOR  
District 5  
mayor@balharbourfl.gov

JEFFREY P. FREIMARK  
COUNCILMAN  
District 2  
jfreimark@balharbourfl.gov

SETH E. SALVER  
ASSISTANT MAYOR  
District 1  
ssalver@balharbourfl.gov

VILLAGE OFFICIALS

JORGE M. GONZALEZ  
VILLAGE MANAGER  
manager@balharbourfl.gov

DWIGHT S. DANIE  
VILLAGE CLERK  
ddanie@balharbourfl.gov

SUSAN TREVARTHEN, FAIPC  
VILLAGE ATTORNEY  
Weiss Serota Helfman Cole & Bierman  
strevarthen@wsh-law.com
AROUND THE VILLAGE

BAL HARBOUR RECEIVES FINANCIAL AWARD FOR THREE YEARS RUNNING

For a third year in a row, Bal Harbour Village received the Government Finance Officers Association (GFOA) certificate for excellence in financial reporting for our budget process, year-end close-out, external audit, and our Comprehensive Annual Financial Report (CAFR). This recognition is the highest accolade in the area of governmental accounting and financial reporting. This achievement represents a proud accomplishment for the Village and our staff.

VILLAGE COUNCIL SETS STANDARD BY ADOPTING ANTI-SEMITISM ORDINANCE

At the November 21 Council meeting, the Bal Harbour Council adopted an ordinance that will assist the Village Police Department in considering potential anti-Semitic motivations behind criminal activity. The ordinance was proposed by Mayor Gabriel Groisman and was prepared by Village staff and Police Department administrators. The ordinance defines anti-Semitism when investigating violations of the law and is consistent with both state and federal hate crime statutes. Bal Harbour is the first municipality to adopt an anti-Semitism law.

“We can do things more efficiently and faster than a state or federal bureaucracy,” Mayor Groisman said. “Anti-Semitism in our country is growing at an alarming rate. I hope other towns and cities will follow our lead.” The second reading of this ordinance is scheduled for the December 13 Council meeting.

NEW LAW TO PREVENT DECEPTIVE TIPPING PRACTICES

The Bal Harbour Council recently adopted an ordinance to regulate the practice of automatically calculating tips and adding them to bills at food establishments. Beginning February 1, 2018, restaurants in Bal Harbour must disclose an automatic tip on the bill in a manner that distinguishes it from the rest of the bill. Businesses must make the automatic tip clearly larger than the rest of the bill, in a different color or with a decal or stamp. New establishments must submit their bills to the Village along with their application for certificate of use and initial business tax receipt. The law also specifies enforcement and penalties for violations.

VILLAGE STAFF NEWS

- Village Manager Jorge M. Gonzalez continues to serve on the International City/County Management Association (ICMA) Strategic Planning Task Force and also received the ICMA Credentialed Manager Certification – a designation which recognizes professional local government managers qualified by education, experience and adherence to high standards of integrity. Mr. Gonzalez was also elected as the District V Representative of the Florida City/County Management Association (FCCMA), a professional organization of practicing public administrators from throughout Florida.

- Police Department Captain Raleigh Flowers continues his position as the President of the Miami-Dade Police Chiefs Association, which promotes law enforcement services through the cooperation and coordination of all law enforcement agencies in Miami-Dade County.

- Assistant Village Manager Ramiro Inguanzo was elected as Treasurer of the Miami-Dade City/County Management Association (MDCCMA). The MDCCMA participates in community problem solving, advocates the principles, standards and Code of Ethics of the International City/County Management Association (ICMA) and to actively influence and participate in the Florida City/County Management Association (FCCMA).
RECENT EVENTS & ACTIVITIES

UNSCRIPTED TOUR TO FROST MUSEUM OF SCIENCE INSPIRES WONDER

From the curated tour of fascinating exhibits to the incredible aquariums to the impressive planetarium, the recently opened Phillip and Patricia Frost Museum of Science fulfilled all expectations during an October 29 Unscripted Bal Harbour Art Tour. Frost Art & Collections Manager Kevin Arrow led the private tour of rare art from the museum’s Curious Vault collections, including pieces within exhibits that both delighted and educated. The tour included a lunch on the patio, self guided tour of the science exhibits and a show in the Frost Planetarium.

RESIDENTS SING ON THE SAND AT MOVIE ON THE BEACH

The November 18 Movie on the Beach attracted Bal Harbour families and visitors to an enjoyable and relaxing evening under perfect tropical weather. Pre-movie activities included games and face-painting, while children and adults partook in make-your-own donuts, gourmet coffee, caramel corn and jellybean ‘microphones.’ With stars overhead, the audience settled in to watch the popular film Sing.

UNSCRIPTED ART TOUR & TALK FEATURES ‘READING WOMEN’

The November 19 Art Tour and Talk featured Reading Women, a series of photographic portraits of women writers, musicians and artists, and the books they are reading by women authors. Artist Carrie Schneider and curator Kendra Paitz led the reception, talk and book signing at the Ritz Carlton Bal Harbour and the tour of the exhibit on the Bal Harbour beach walk. Reading Women is on view on the beach walk until February 28, 2018. It is presented in collaboration with University Galleries of Illinois State University and The Miami Book Fair.

Assistant Mayor Seth Salver, Mayor Gabriel Groisman, Councilman David Albaum.

Artist Carrie Schneider (L) and curator Kendra Paitz.
CELEBRATING THE HOLIDAYS IN BAL HARBOUR

BAL HARBOUR EMPLOYEES FOOD DRIVE BRIGHTENS THE HOLIDAY FOR FAMILIES

At the September 2017 Council meeting, Councilwoman Patricia Cohen asked the Village to explore ways to help victims of Hurricane Irma, particularly those impacted in agricultural areas of South Florida. Bal Harbour Village partnered with the Homestead Farmworkers Association to provide Thanksgiving food baskets to families of migrant farmworkers financially impacted by the storm. The Village collected food donations from residents and staff, resulting in 38 Thanksgiving baskets that included a frozen turkey, cranberry sauce, fresh fruits and vegetables, canned goods and dessert. The baskets were distributed on November 21 to insure the families would have a delicious Thanksgiving dinner. A special thank you to our Police and Recreation Departments staff who spearheaded the collections, assembly of baskets and distribution and to Publix Supermarket for their generous donations.

LIGHTING CEREMONY SHINES ON BAL HARBOUR VILLAGE

Bal Harbour Village ushered in the 2017 holiday season with a festive lighting ceremony at Founders Circle on November 27. Entertainment was provided by the talented singers from the Hebrew Academy and Ruth K. Broad K-8 Center, a champagne sabering and delicious hors d’oeuvres set the tone for the evening. Emcee and resident Lisa Patrillo from CBS4 Miami introduced Village officials who made comments before the dramatic lighting of the Christmas tree, Hanukkah menorah and lights all along Collins Avenue.
One of South Florida’s most prominent events, the Food Network and Cooking Channel South Beach Wine & Food Festival, is coming to Bal Harbour on February 22-24, 2018 for three exciting events. To purchase tickets, go to www.sobewff.org. For access to the special Bal Harbour resident and hotel guest code, email your name, phone number and Bal Harbour address to promos@balharbourfl.gov.

Thursday, Feb 22
Dinner with Alex Guarnaschelli and Matthew Jennings at the Artisan Beach House Patio at the Ritz Carlton Bal Harbour, 10295 Collins Avenue. Ticket Price: $250

Friday, Feb 23

Saturday, Feb 24
Rao’s Homemade Family-Style Dinner. At the Atlantikos Patio at the St. Regis Bal Harbour Resort, 9703 Collins Avenue. Ticket Price: $250.

BAL HARBOUR - VILLAGE -

HOLIDAY TOY DRIVE!
Join in the Village’s Holiday Toy Drive by bringing new unwrapped toys for children ages 4-13 to the Village Hall reception Monday-Friday, 9 am-5 pm. The last day to donate is Wednesday, Dec. 20. Your gifts will benefit a local nonprofit supporting disadvantaged children.

LOOKING BACK...

FLYING HIGH AT BAL HARBOUR’S SEA VIEW HOTEL
By the time this promotional photo was taken in 1953, the art deco-styled Sea View Hotel had already become an icon along the Bal Harbour coastline. While it has been refurbished and updated, it remains the Village’s oldest original resort. Next year it will celebrate its 70th year.

USE CAUTION DURING THE HOLIDAY SEASON
Bal Harbour residents should be aware of their surroundings during the holiday season, a time when thieves are on the prowl for easy targets. Follow these tips from the Bal Harbour Police Department:
• Do not leave newly purchased items inside your car. Thieves will follow shoppers to see if the valuables are left behind in the vehicle.
• Do not leave empty boxes from expensive purchases outside your home or easily in plain view through doors and windows.
• Residents who are leaving the Village should contact the Police Department and add your residence to a watch list.
• When on vacation, do not post your vacation photos until you return home.

REPORT SHOWS DECREASES IN BAL HARBOUR CRIMES
Unified Crime report (UCR) rates showed a decrease in crime in the last two years and an increase in arrests and closures rates in Bal Harbour. Arrests and closure rates are two good indicators of police performance and effectiveness. Increases in these indicators are positive, but does not necessarily mean there is an increase in crime, and reflects the efforts of our command staff, supervisors and officers. The BHPD continues to proactively fight crime, instituting crime prevention strategies while utilizing all available resources through a community oriented policing philosophy.
COPS & KIDS DAY
BAL HARBOUR POLICE DEPARTMENT
SUNDAY, DECEMBER 10TH
2:00–5:00PM
VILLAGE HALL PARKING LOT

• K-9 DEMONSTRATION
• EMERGENCY VEHICLE DISPLAY
  POLICE BOAT, CAR, & ATVS
• DUNK-AN-OFFICER
• CHILD ID FINGERPRINTING
• FACE PAINTING
• MUSIC, FOOD &
  GIVEAWAYS

Live musical performances by

Dunk-an-Officer! Bring an unwrapped gift for our
annual toy drive and receive three (3) dunk tank tokens.
UPCOMING EVENTS & MEETINGS

December 7-10
Art Basel/Miami Beach
Multiple locations

Sunday, December 10
Cops & Kids Day
Village Hall Parking Lot, 2-5 pm

Wednesday, December 13
Council Meeting
Village Hall, 7:30 p.m.