

BAL HARBOUR

- VILLAGE -

SEPTEMBER - OCTOBER 2017

VOLUME 3 • ISSUE 5

BAL HARBOUR STANDS TALL IN THE FACE OF IRMA

After more than a decade without a hurricane striking South Florida, the most powerful storm ever to form in the Atlantic Ocean made its landfall in the Florida Keys as a category 4 storm on September 10, 2017. While Bal Harbour and most of Miami-Dade County were spared the direct center of Irma, hurricane force winds and surging ocean water left a wide path of damage throughout the Village. Downed trees, branches and signage, flooded and blocked streets, beach erosion and loss of power were the major results facing the Village once the storm passed.

As soon as it was safe, Village staff assessed the damage and began the massive clean-up effort. More than 800 tons of debris - enough to fill more than 150 trucks - was collected from throughout the Village and beach. On-going repairs and replacements will continue during

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MESSAGE FROM THE VILLAGE

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October marks the start of the fall season and we are still in the midst of a challenging hurricane season for Bal Harbour, our South Florida neighbors, and millions of others from Texas to Puerto Rico. While our Village was bruised by the close call of Irma, the event could have been much worse. Our municipal preparation and emergency planning were tested before, during and after the storm. Overall, Bal Harbour received high grades during Irma thanks to the tireless work of our Mayor and staff, on-going communications with residents and assistance from local businesses. This hurricane season has put a spotlight on the importance of annual hurricane preparation. Remember that hurricane season continues until November 30.

This issue of the newsletter includes an overview of our 2017-18 Fiscal Year Budget, including new capital projects to improve the quality of life in Bal Harbour. As in previous years, the Village will have one of the County's lowest tax millage rates in the coming year; yet we continue to provide high quality services to our residents and businesses (see page 4-5).

We are also very proud to announce that the Village has a new Police Chief - Miguel De La Rosa. He was formerly our second-in-command and served with distinction as our acting chief for more than a year (see page 7).

Welcome back to our many seasonal residents. We encourage everyone to take advantage of the many events and activities planned for the coming months in our community (see page 6).

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.

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AROUND THE VILLAGE

VILLAGE CONTINUES CLEAN-UP AFTER HURRICANE IRMA

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the weeks and months to come, but overall the Village was relatively quick to get back on its feet. Within 48 hours all streets were passable if not completely cleared. The Village resumed street sweeping on Collins Avenue and 96th Street within 72 hours and within four days, the Express Shuttle had resumed operations. Within one week post-storm, the Bal Harbour beach, Bal Harbour Park and the Village Hall were open and operating. While nearly two dozen of the iconic date palms on Collins Avenue were uprooted, many were saved and are again standing tall in the median.

Gratitude goes out to the dedicated Village staff, particularly the Police Department and Parks and Public Spaces Department, who worked long hours before, during and after the Emergency Declaration was declared on September 6 and through the week after the hurricane. Thanks also goes to local businesses for their exceptional efforts and support during and after Irma. The Sea View Hotel and One Bal Harbour provided shelter and food to the Bal Harbour Incident Command Team and the Bal Harbour Shops sheltered up to 1,800 vehicles in their parking garage. The Village also thanks residents who heeded the mandatory evacuation order and sought a safe haven to wait out the storm.

BAL HARBOUR TEAM AND LOCAL BUSINESSES RECEIVE CERTIFICATE OF APPRECIATION

Mayor Gabriel Groisman, the Village Council and Village Manager Jorge M. Gonzalez presented a Certificate of Appreciation to the staff members and department heads who tirelessly went beyond the scope of their duties to keep the Village residents and property safe before, during and after the recent hurricane.



The Mayor and Council presented a Certificate of Appreciation to Village staff including members from the Police, Parks & Public Spaces Departments.



Three Village businesses received Certificates of Appreciation for their outstanding assistance provided to Bal Harbour. Mayor Gabriel Groisman and Village Manager Jorge M. Gonzalez presented the certificates to (L-R) Raj Singh, representing the Sea View Hotel; Russ Smith and Erik Austin representing One Bal Harbour and Randy Whitman accepting on behalf of Bal Harbour Shops.



Tons of debris was removed from Bal Harbour beach after the storm.



Heavy equipment was brought in to remove or raise downed trees.



Beach erosion impacted sea turtle nests. Here, Miami-Dade County specialists insure the hatchlings are safe.

VILLAGE-WIDE CHANGE IN WASTE COLLECTION SCHEDULES

- The Recycling Service for all areas in the Village increases from once weekly to twice weekly on Tuesdays and Thursdays.
- The Bulk Waste pick-up for all areas in the Village will be consolidated from two times weekly to one time weekly on Thursdays.

FISCAL YEAR 2017/18 BUDGET REVIEW

BUDGET FOCUSES ON IMPROVEMENTS AND EFFICIENCY



The Bal Harbour Village Council recently adopted the 2017-2018 Fiscal Year (FY) budget with the goal of providing the highest level of quality service for the lowest possible cost to residents. The four Village Funds include many enhancements and special projects to improve the quality of life as well as efficiencies that will provide more effective operations within all Village departments. Below is the allocation adopted for each fund:

- General Fund \$16,106,600
- Water and Wastewater Fund \$6,013,500
- Resort Tax Fund \$3,442,900
- Security & Landscape Fund \$570,000

The total of all four funds is \$26,133,000, slightly less than last year.

The 2017/18 budget addresses five target goals to improve service while maintaining conservative financial practices:

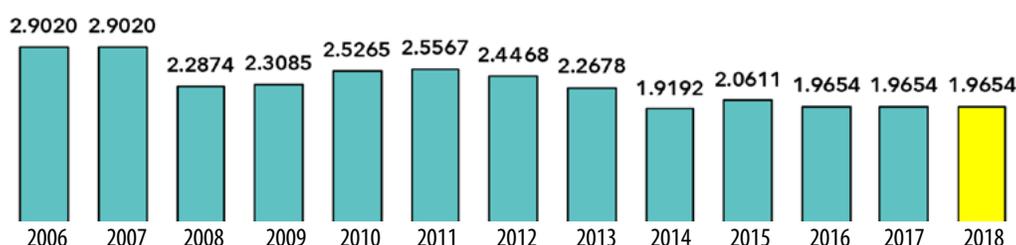
- Enhancing community policing strategies and accountability
- Improving and beautifying our public spaces
- Investing in the Village's Information Technology
- Enhancing community engagement through public events and expanded communication with residents and visitors
- Establishing sustainable fiscal policies and planning for future capital investments.

MILLAGE RATE UNCHANGED, AMONG THE LOWEST IN MIAMI-DADE COUNTY

The FY 2017-18 Proposed Budget includes a recommended millage rate of 1.9654, a historical low level that is unchanged for the third consecutive year. Since 2004, the Village has had a remarkable cumulative millage rate decrease of 32.27%. Bal Harbour is the only long-established municipality among the communities with the lowest millage rates in the County.

This year, our assessed property values grew substantially as a result of the completion of the Oceana Bal Harbour condominium. Another significant accomplishment affecting the budget is this year's approval of the Development Agreement between the Village and the Bal Harbour Shops. This Development Agreement includes various elements of public and financial benefits to the Village which will come on line over the next several years. This Budget also limits growth in the recurring expenses of the Village to standard inflationary costs and/or personnel expenses.

BAL HARBOUR VILLAGE MILLAGE RATES, 2006-2018



IMPROVEMENTS TO PARKS AND PUBLIC SPACES

The FY 2017-18 Proposed Budget continues important investment in our public spaces. The existing Jogging Path along Bal Harbour beach will receive funding for concrete edge repairs and re-installation of the material will restore the walking surface to the original design (\$100,000). Replacement of trash receptacles and all furniture with new wood and stone materials will reduce future maintenance, while adding four to five seating areas under the existing Sea Grape Canopy (\$75,000). The end of the 96th Street entrance to Bal Harbour Beach will soon be a focal point of our community. Funding to design and construct a pedestrian plaza at this location will be matched by our neighbors in Surfside (\$100,000). Other projects include restoration of the south jetty at Haulover Inlet (\$332,000) and participation in the Regional Skate Park at Haulover Park (\$50,000).

HIGHLIGHTS AND ACCOMPLISHMENTS

ENHANCING COMMUNITY POLICING AND ACCOUNTABILITY

The Bal Harbour Police Department has continued to move toward a community policing model, centered on increasing police visibility through innovative directed patrol activities, and improved readiness for extreme events.

IMPROVING AND BEAUTIFYING OUR PUBLIC SPACES

The Parks and Public Spaces Department has consistently improved the appearance of the Village for residents and visitors through increased routine maintenance of our public areas.

- The linear park along the beach includes all new directional and informational signage and rotating art installations adding visual appeal for our residents and guests.
- Our Village Hall presents a professional appearance with updates to our conference and chamber areas with our new brand while paying homage to Bal Harbour's past.

INVESTING IN INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

Implementation of the Information Technology Master Plan, adopted in September 2014 is now substantially complete. Bal Harbour Village now has advanced system-wide security and backups, new server hardware and has launched new Village and Tourism websites. A number of other improvements were undertaken and include:

- Provided project management for the new Smart Gov building and permitting system design, planning and implementation
- Upgraded audio-visual technology in Council Chamber to include cameras, mixers, and transmitters
- Developed and operationalized a technology-based Emergency Back-up Plan to ensure continuity of information system services during and after an emergency or disaster; and
- Implemented various business continuity and redundancy protocols to ensure reliable access to e-mail, internet, VoIP phone system and network resources during unexpected emergencies and outages.

ENHANCING COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT WITH PUBLIC EVENTS & COMMUNICATIONS

The Village continues to expand communications with residents, businesses and visitors through special events, publications and new technologies. The primary methods of communication with our residents includes the regularly distributed Village newsletter and mailing of custom postcard invitations for upcoming events, such as our Movies on the Beach and the popular *Unscripted* Bal Harbour Art Access Program. Earlier this year, the Village completed its milestone 70th Anniversary events. From the historical exhibit of the Bal Harbour's founding and growth to the final reception, concert, and fireworks display on the beach, the series of events reconnected the Village to its rich history while reinforcing the pride we have for Bal Harbour.

Our electronic communication efforts includes the My Bal Harbour mobile Application (App) which enables users to make service requests and access Village information anywhere and at any time. The Wireless Emergency Notification System (WENS), provides a fast and reliable web-based system to send emergency notices as well as provide public interest and awareness notifications to the nearly 700 subscribers who are currently enrolled. The Village is also increasing its e-mail list, from which notifications of meetings and events are sent. Bal Harbour has strengthened its brand, improved communications and improved information dissemination through a new municipal website and another focused on tourism, positioning Bal Harbour Village as a premier luxury and lifestyle destination worldwide.

BUDGET ADVISORY COMMITTEE ASSISTS IN BUDGET PROCESS

Volunteer members of the Bal Harbour Village's Budget Advisory Committee (BAC) play an important role in the budget process. Through collaboration and recommendations, the BAC provides critical input to the proposed annual budget.



RECENT EVENTS



POST HASTE ON THE BAL HARBOUR BEACH WALK

Bal Harbour residents and visitors enjoyed an afternoon on a beach walk exhibition and a poetry reception in the Emerald Room of the Sea View Hotel. The event included members of O, Miami's creative team who created the beach exhibit *Post Haste*. The unusual exhibit includes four poems each divided into six vibrantly colored panels. The exhibition will be on view until October 31, 2017.



UNSCRIPTED BAL HARBOUR TOURS MAGICAL VIZCAYA MUSEUM AND GARDENS

More than 50 residents and visitors enjoyed a light brunch and private tour of the iconic bay side attraction Vizcaya Museum and Gardens on October 8. Curators presented the *Lost Spaces and Stories of Vizcaya*, focusing on the history of lesser known eclectic art pieces inside the century-old Italian Villa and throughout the stunning formal gardens.



UPCOMING EVENTS



PHILLIP AND PATRICIA FROST MUSEUM OF SCIENCE

Enjoy a private tour of the Phillip and Patricia Frost Museum of Science in Downtown Miami's Museum Park on Sunday, October 29 at 11 am. Art & Collection Manager Kevin Arrow will provide an inside look at the museum's Curious Vault collection and a curated visit to The Mechanicals exhibition. The program includes a self-guided visit to the science exhibitions, aquarium and one Frost Planetarium show. Meet outside of the store entrance.



BAL HARBOUR SHOPS COLLECTORS WEEKEND NOVEMBER 2-5

The exciting Bal Harbour Shops Collectors Weekend brings together watch and car enthusiasts from all over the globe on November 2 - 5. A private viewing of rare and exceptional timepieces will take place in the Shops Center Courtyard on Thursday, Nov, 2 from 6-8 pm. The newest exotic cars, coveted vintage automobiles and the rarest high-performance supercars will be on display November 4 & 5. For more details on The Collectors Weekend, please visit balharbourshops.com/collectors



Carrie Schneider

Kendra Paitz

UNSCRIPTED BAL HARBOUR ART TOUR AND TALK ON "READING WOMEN"

On Sunday, November 19 at the Ritz-Carlton Bal Harbour at 4 pm, *Unscripted* Bal Harbour will host a cocktail reception, tour, talk and book signing for "Reading Women," a series of photographic portraits of women writers, musicians and artists, and details of the books they are reading. Join artist Carrie Schneider and curator Kendra Paitz as they talk about the advocacy of the project. Reading Women is also on view at the Bal Harbour beach walk until Feb. 28, 2018.

POLICE BEAT

MIGUEL DE LA ROSA APPOINTED POLICE CHIEF OF BAL HARBOUR

Miguel De La Rosa has been named Chief of the Bal Harbour Police Department. His swearing in ceremony was held on October 10 at the Sea View Hotel before a room full of fellow Police Chiefs, law enforcement professionals, long-time friends, family and Village staff. Chief De La Rosa had served as Acting Chief since August 2016, when the former Chief Mark Overton fell ill and later passed away. The late Chief Overton had appointed Chief De La Rosa as his second-in-command. "Chief De La Rosa has demonstrated all the qualities and characteristics of a leader," said Village Manager Jorge M. Gonzalez. "He has garnered the respect and trust from the community and fostered a high level of cohesiveness within the police department." Chief De La Rosa has nearly 30 years of distinguished service as a law enforcement professional. He is a native of Miami and earned both a Bachelor's degree and Graduate degree from Florida International University. He is also a graduate of the University of Louisville, Southern Police Institute, Command Officer Development Course. Before coming to Bal Harbour he worked for the Village of Key Biscayne and the City of Hialeah Police Departments.



With wife Jenine at his side, Police Chief Miguel De La Rosa is sworn in by his twin brother Marcos, the Fire Chief for Coral Gables.



(L-R) Sgt. Christopher DeStefano, Lt. Jack Young, Mayor Gabriel Groisman, Captain Raleigh Flowers, Chief Miguel De La Rosa and Village Manager Jorge M. Gonzalez.

NEW CHIEF PROMOTES OFFICERS TO RANKS OF CAPTAIN, LIEUTENANT AND SERGEANT

Chief De La Rosa has promoted **Raleigh Flowers** to the second in command rank of Captain. Captain Flowers joined the Bal Harbour Police Department in January 2015 as a member of the command staff managing the daily patrol operations and administrative functions. He is a Miami native and earned a Bachelor's degree from St. Thomas University (Cum Laude) and a Master of Science degree in Human Resource Management from Florida International University. Captain Flowers is a graduate of the prestigious FBI National Academy and currently serves as President of the Miami-Dade County Association of Police Chiefs. He began his police career with the Hialeah Police Department.

Lieutenant Jack Young began his career with the Bal Harbour Police Department in 2003. He was promoted to Sergeant in 2009. In addition to his supervision responsibilities, he has specialized in training, accountability audits and professional compliance. In 2016, Lt. Young was assigned to the FBI as an Anti-Terrorism Officer. He was sworn in as deputy U.S. Marshal assigned to the Miami division. He is a Miami native and graduate of the University of Louisville, Southern Police Institute Command Officer Development Course and International Association of Chiefs of Police, Leadership in Police Organizations.

Chris DeStefano, a native Floridian with a long history in Bal Harbour, has been promoted to Sergeant. As a teenager, his first job was a valet at the Bal Harbour Beach Club. His father has worked for the Bal Harbour Marina for over three decades and Chris often assisted him in the summer time as a young child. He earned a Bachelor degree in International Relations from Florida International University. After working for Broward County Schools, Chris joined the Bal Harbour Police Department in 2006 as a dispatcher and graduated from the police academy in 2008. Chris was promoted to corporal in 2016.



Captain Raleigh Flowers with his wife Ramona.



Lieutenant Jack Young and family.



Sgt. Christopher DeStefano and wife Donna and daughters.

BAL HARBOUR

- VILLAGE -

Bal Harbour Village Hall
655 96th Street
Bal Harbour, Florida 33154

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UPCOMING EVENTS & MEETINGS

Tuesday, October 24
Council Meeting
Village Hall 7 p.m.

Saturday, October 28
Shred-A-Thon & Drug Drop Off
Haulover Park Marina, 10 am-2 pm

Sunday, October 29
Unscripted Tour
Frost Science Museum, 11 am

Saturday, November 18
Movie on the Beach
96th Street & beach, 7 pm

Sunday, November 19
Unscripted Reception & Talk
Ritz-Carlton Bal Harbour, 4 p.m.

Tuesday, November 21
Council Meeting
Village Hall 7 p.m.

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

VILLAGE CONTACTS

Normal operating hours for
Village Hall are Monday-Friday,
9 a.m. - 5 p.m.

VILLAGE HALL
(305) 866-4633

BUILDING DEPARTMENT
(305) 865-7525

POLICE DEPARTMENT
(305) 866-5000

PARKS AND PUBLIC SPACES
DEPARTMENT
(305) 866-4633, Ext. 368

TOURISM MARKETING
(305) 866-4633, Ext. 337

FINANCE
(305) 866-4633

WEBSITES

BALHARBOURFL.GOV (Village)
BALHARBOURFLORIDA.COM (Tourism)



@BALHARBOURGOV
@BALHARBOURPD



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