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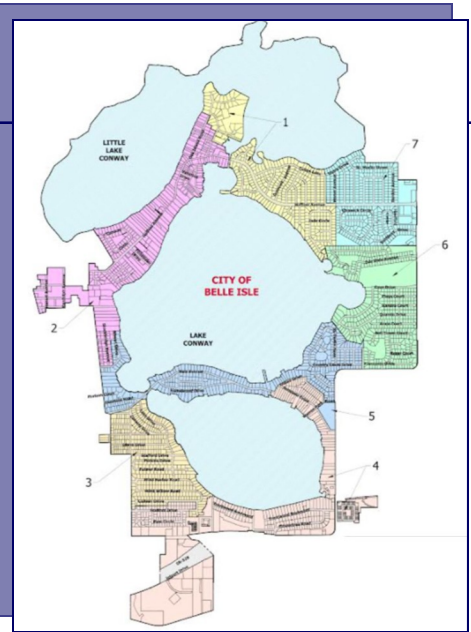


Redistricting Belle Isle 2021

Draw the lines for fair & equal representation

The City of Belle Isle will review and redraw its districts boundaries

At a Glance: The Florida Constitution and the Belle Isle Charter (6.06) calls for a reconfiguration of political boundaries every ten years. As the U.S. Census Bureau completed the latest census in 2020, Belle Isle and Orange County must complete their decennial redistricting process by March 2022.



In 2021, Belle Isle will review and, if necessary, redraw its district boundaries. Since the 2010 Census, areas such as Brighton Park and Royal Palm Condominiums, Belle Vista, have been added to the City of Belle Isle; therefore, it may be necessary to adjust the District boundaries.

The Mission: The goal of redistricting is to readjust the population between commission districts so that no Belle Isle Commissioner represents substantially more individual residents than the other commissioners. Redistricting is accomplished by adjusting the boundaries of the City's seven commission districts to account for population growth. Decennial redistricting occurs every ten years and is based on the population data collected by the U.S. Census Bureau's most recent decennial census (2020). *(Continued on Page 3)*

City of Belle Isle Newsletter

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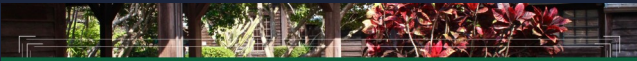


CITY ORDINANCES — 2020-2021

Belle Isle Code of Ordinance



https://library.municode.com/fl/belle_isle/codes/code_of_ordinances



BUSINESS TAX RECEIPTS

Formerly known as "Occupational Licenses"

ORDINANCE 21-08—Update BIMC regarding Business Tax Receipt—Adopted

The Legislature passed a bill effective as of July 1st that will change how the City issues occupational licenses and business tax receipts and other changes related to these licenses to conform to the new laws enacted in Florida Statute 205. The City currently has two classifications (residential and commercial) and the rate of \$30 for residential and \$50(+parking) for commercial licenses. There are now 81 commercial and 125 residential licenses issued by the City. These licenses renew on October 1 of each year.

As part of this ordinance, under F.S. 205, if the City may, by ordinance, reclassify businesses, professions, and occupations and may establish new rate structures. To do so, the City would need to develop an Equity Study Commission. The Council asked if the Budget Committee could be appointed as the Equity Study Commission. In reading F.S.205.0535, each study commission member must represent the business community within the City's jurisdiction. The equity study commission shall recommend to the City a classification system and rate structure for business taxes. ■

ORDINANCE 21-09—Amend Comprehensive Plan to include Private Property Rights Element —Adopted

The Legislature passed a bill that is effective as of July 1st that requires all cities and counties to have a Private Property Rights Element in their Comprehensive Plans. We will not be able to process any more Comprehensive Plan Amendments through DEO without first having adopted the required Private Property Rights Element. The City Attorney's Office drafted the ordinance and the Planning & Zoning Commission held a public hearing on this ordinance recommended approval. ■



Derreck Adkins, Public Works Manager

"He likes working for the City because he is eager to work on achievable challenges, and the City staff is like a family."

Please join the City of Belle Isle in welcoming our new Public Works Manager, Derreck Adkins.

Derreck comes to us with extensive experience in stormwater, debris removal, streets and drainage, and homeowners association management. He knows construction, forestry, heavy equipment—operations, and the administrative side of public works fiscal management.

Derreck recently became engaged to his long-time girlfriend, Jessica. He spends his free time hiking the Appalachian Trail, cooking, air boating, fishing and hunting. Most importantly, Derreck enjoys spending time with his three children.

Visit the City's website for a copy of the Ordinances.

Let's Talk Redistricting

City Manager Bob Francis

Why do we need to look at redistricting? Redistricting is essential in ensuring that each City Councilmember represents about the same number of constituents. This is based on the United States Constitutional doctrine as "one person – one vote." This equal protection clause of the United States Constitution requires that where electoral districts are used, they must be substantially equal in population. Each person's vote counts the same.

The City Charter requires that the city council shall appoint eight (8) city electors to comprise the districting Commission. ***It is important to note that the City Council does NOT get involved in this process, and the City Manager and City Staff only provide the support necessary to the Redistricting Commission. The Commission alone has the responsibility to keep or redraw the Districts.***

The Commission comprised the following Belle Isle Residents: David Evertsen, Chair, Emily DeLozier, Vice-Chair, Brandon Shaw, Secretary, Jackie Hoevenour, Carolyn Holihan, Meg Sharf, Alexa Dowlin, and Charlotte Brown. This group of citizens worked tirelessly on this project and did an outstanding job researching and coming up with District counts. Through their diligence and teamwork, new boundaries will be drawn.

The district boundaries were drawn without regard for advantage or disadvantage to incumbents or challengers, and they were drawn without



regard for advantage or disadvantage to any political party.

On October 8, 2021, the Committee will meet to verify the counts and boundaries. If they are close to being equal, then the Committee will present their findings to the City Council. The Council will then adopt an ordinance to redraw the new boundaries. Once completed, the City

will notify residents of what district they may now be in if a new boundary is created.

So the question arises: What is the effect on Current Elected Officials? The Charter allows that no change in the boundary of any district shall exclude any Commissioner from office before the expiration of the term for which the incumbent was elected or appointed. Again, many thanks to the Redistricting Commission for their outstanding work. ■

When adjusting the district boundaries, the Committee looked at these criteria:

- (1) Each district shall be formed of compact, contiguous territory, and its boundary lines shall follow the centerlines of streets whenever possible. Still, boundaries may also follow visible natural and man-made features, not necessarily street lines and City boundary lines, whenever possible.
- (2) The districts shall be based upon the principle of equal and effective representation as required by the United States Constitution and as represented in the mathematical preciseness reached in the legislative apportionment of the state.

Important Numbers

City Hall (407) 851-7730
Bob Francis
City Manager
bfrancis@belleislefl.gov

Belle Isle Police Department
Office: Mon-Fri (407) 240-2473
Non-Emergency (407) 836-4357
Police Emergencies 9-1-1

Universal Engineering
Building Permits
(407) 581-8161

Zoning Permit Review
April Fisher, Planner
aprilfisher73@gmail.com

Nicholas Fouraker
mayor@belleislefl.gov
407-717-7868

Council Members

District 1
Ed Gold
egold@belleislefl.gov
407-717-6772

District 2
Anthony Carugno
acarugno@belleislefl.gov
407-717-6947

District 3
Karl Shuck
district3@belleislefl.gov
407-717-7846

District 4
Randy Holihan
district4@belleislefl.gov
407-717-7855

District 5
OPEN
district5@belleislefl.gov
407-457-2427

District 6
Jim Partin
district6@belleislefl.gov
407-717-6545

District 7
Sue Nielsen
snielsen@belleislefl.gov
407-717-8017

FLORIDA SENATE BILL 90

An Election Administration Bill Revising Florida Election Code

City Clerk

CS/CS/CS/SB 90 (Baxley) revises multiple provisions of the Florida Elections Code relating to voter registration, third-party voter registration, county commission terms, ballots, voting systems, vote-by-mail ballots, canvassing boards, voter signatures and secure drop boxes.

In late April, the Florida Legislature passed SB 90, an election administration bill revising certain sections of the Florida Election Code. On May 6, Governor DeSantis signed the bill into law, with immediate effect. A brief explanation of changes that may affect voters is provided below.

**For ALL questions,
please contact the
Supervisor of Elections
at 407.836.2070
or visit
www.ocfelections.com**

Voter Registration Updates: The new law does not change the process for new voter registration application. However, applications to update an existing voter registration record will now require additional information, necessary to establish an applicant's identity and eligibility.

Name and Party Changes: Name and party changes must be submitted on a Florida Voter Registration Application and must include voter's Florida Driver License number or Florida ID Card number or the last four digits of his/her Social Security number.

Address Changes: Address changes within the state may be submitted to the Supervisor of Elections by phone or email and must include voter's Florida Driver License number or Florida ID Card number or the last four digits of his/her Social Security number, whichever may be verified in the supervisor's records. Address changes may also be submitted on a Voter Registration Application or other written notice.

Vote-by-Mail (Absentee) Requests will cover all elections through the end of the calendar year of the next scheduled general election. All requests currently on file will be good through the end of 2022. Note: The Notice of Elections, that is mailed prior to an election cycle, will state the status of your Vote-by-Mail request.

Vote-by-Mail Ballot: A voter requesting a Vote-by-mail ballot for himself/herself in writing, in person or by phone must provide: Voter's name Voter's address Voter's date of birth Voter's Florida Driver License or Florida ID Card number, or the last four digits of his/her Social Security number Voter's signature (written requests only).

- An immediate family member or legal guardian requesting a ballot on behalf of a voter must provide, in addition to the voter's information above: Requestor's name Requestor's address Requestor's date of birth Requestor's Florida Driver License or Florida ID Card number or last four of his/her Social Security number Requestor's relationship to the voter Requestor's signature (written requests only)
- A designee who is picking up or returning Vote-by-Mail ballots for another voter, may lawfully possess only his or her own ballot and those of immediate family members, in addition to two other ballots. Immediate family includes spouse or parent, child, grandparent, grandchild, or sibling of the designee or designee's spouse.
- Return of Vote-by-Mail (Absentee) Ballot Secure drop boxes will be provided and monitored by election personnel at all early voting sites during posted hours of operation. The location of Vote-by-Mail drop boxes will be published on their website at least 30 days prior to each election. ■



It's Fall Y'all, Pumpkin Muffins

Perfect for breakfast, after school snacks, or an evening treat

(By Admin Assistant, Heidi Peacock)

3 cups all-purpose flour
Two tablespoons pumpkin pie spice
Two teaspoons baking soda
1 ½ teaspoons salt
3 cups granulated sugar
One can (15 ounces) 100% pure pumpkin (Not Pumpkin pie mix, it's too thin)
Four large eggs
½ cup vegetable oil
½ cup water or orange juice

Preheat oven to 350° F. Paper-line or grease 30 muffin cups.

Combine flour, pumpkin pie spice, baking soda, and salt in a large bowl. Combine sugar, pumpkin, eggs, oil, and juice in a large mixer bowl; beat until blended. Add flour mixture to pumpkin mixture; stir just until moistened.

Spoon batter into prepared muffin cups, filling ¾ full. Bake for 25 to 30 minutes or until wooden pick inserted in centers comes out clean. Cool in pans on wire racks for 10 minutes; remove to wire racks to cool completely. Store muffins in a covered container or resealable plastic bags. Make a couple of batches and freeze. Toss in some walnuts or mini chocolate chips and make them your own! ■

IMPORTANT DEADLINES:

Rental License renewals: Due July 31, 2021

Occupational Licenses: Due September 30, 2021

Boat Ramp Decals expired May 31, 2021



Black Tupelo

Nyssa sylvatica

Called "one of the best and most consistent native trees for fall color" by horticulture expert Michael Dirr, the black tupelo — also known as the black gum — is a terrific landscaping choice. This tree is one of the first to turn at the start of autumn. Displaying vibrant hues of yellow, orange, bright red, and purple, passersby are sure to stop and admire its breathtaking beauty.

LEAVES: Dark green and waxy, 3-6 inches long and half as wide, with a smooth margin and tapered at both ends. Noted for fall coloration that is often bright scarlet, but sometimes brilliant yellow or orange.

FLOWERS: Small, white, and easily missed as leaves unfurl in the spring.

FRUIT: oval berries grow to be a half-inch long and mature to a shade of dark blue in autumn. Often grow in clusters of two or three.

BARK: Dark gray or black in thick, blocky ridges resembling alligator hide.

FORM: Pyramid-shaped while young, becoming more rounded with age. Horizontal limbs give off a layered appearance. About 30-50 feet tall at maturity with a 20-30 foot spread.

WILDLIFE VALUE: The tree's bluish-black berries attract birds and small mammals and remain on the tree long into winter.

PLANTING: Prefers full sun or partial shade and deep, moist, acidic soil (pH of six or lower). Tolerates a wide range of soil textures and drought conditions. Suitable for hardiness zones 4-9.



To purchase or learn more about this tree or others, visit arborday.org/tupelo or scan this QR code.

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 **Arbor Day Foundation**
arborday.org



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© 2021 Arbor Day Foundation. The Foundation sometimes exchanges mailing lists with selected organizations with offers of interest to our members. If you do not want your name included, just write, email, or call Member Services and tell us not to exchange your name.

Native plants are those that occur naturally within a geographic region or area. **Non-native/exotic plants** have been introduced to a geographic region (Florida) either intentionally or accidentally. **Non-native invasive plants** are species that grow so profusely that it takes over. Not all non-native plants are invasive.

Other benefits of trees in general:

- Trees clean the air
- Trees absorb water and can reduce stormwater runoff and erosion
- Trees cool the air through the shade they provide and transpiration (water evaporating from the leaves, similar to sweat)

While Belle Isle has many grand and beautiful oak trees, not everyone has the space to plant one.

How did we find some of these tree suggestions?

Visit the websites below and filter for native plants.

<https://fl.ifas.ufl.edu/plants/>

<http://floridayards.org/fyplants/>



TREE CITY USA

4 years
Tree City USA

<https://www.arborday.org/>

Orange County Adopt-A-Tree 2021

8:00am-12:00pm (while supplies last)

July 17	Fort Christmas
August 21	South Econ Community Park
October 2	Dr. P. Phillips Community Park
November 6	Magnolia Park
December 11	Barnett Park

Trees available only to Orange County residents on a first come, first served basis. You must provide proof of Orange County residency, such as a driver's license, photo I.D. or utility bill.

Two trees per household.

Trees may only be planted on private property of Orange County residents. They may not be planted in right-of-ways, retention pond areas, or used to enhance common area property of HOA's or developments.

Questions? Call the UF/IFAS Extension Orange County
407.254.9200



An Equal Opportunity Institution



CROSSING GUARDS JOB OPPORTUNITY

The City of Belle Isle still needs Crossing Guards at Cornerstone Charter Academy. Guards are responsible for safely crossing children who walk and bicycle to school. Duties include stopping traffic, managing traffic control devices, and assisting students and their families.

The morning shift hours are 7 am - 9 am. The afternoon shift is 2 pm - 4 pm, except for early dismissal Wednesday when the hours are 1 pm - 3 pm. Applications available on our website www.belleislefl.gov or call the Belle Isle Police Department at 407-240-2473 for more information.

Please join us and help us
keep our students safe!



SERVANT'S HEART MINISTRY
Feeding Communities, Empowering Lives.

September is Hunger Action Month, set aside as a time when people all over America stand against hunger. (Sharing, volunteering, advocating, fundraising, and donating are just a few ideas for taking action this month.) Servant's Heart Ministry has been working for decades to help locals dealing with food insecurity.

To see more of the specifics of the organization that provides food each week for hundreds of hungry local citizens of all ages, please visit www.Servantsheartministry.org. A synopsis listed below highlights the impact of this small but dedicated organization.

Servant's Heart Ministry Impact:
January – July 10, 2021

- Boxes/ Bags total this year – January through July, we have given out 4,640 full grocery
- boxes delivered directly to families. Each package provides food for a week and contains 6 pounds of meat, 5 pounds of produce, eggs, and dairy, plus a brown bag full of nonperishable items.
- 4500 kids served
- 5600 adults served
- 2700 seniors served

Volunteer

There are many different ways you can volunteer with Servants Heart Ministry. There is a place for you at Servant's Heart, from sorting vegetables and fruits to counting coins from our Penny Parade campaigns.

The City of Belle Isle
1600 Nela Avenue
Belle Isle, FL 32809
407-851-7730
www.belleislefl.gov

Robyn Winters
Code Enforcement Officer
rwinters@belleislefl.gov

MORE DETAILS

“One of the great things about our region is the number of beautiful lakes our residents can enjoy, but it’s important to remember lake safety at all times, especially in the event of a hurricane,” said Jane Gregory, public information officer and program supervisor at Orange County Environmental Protection Division.

“When you know a hurricane is approaching, stay off of lakes, and even after a storm leaves the area, it’s important to understand that storm dangers still exist, especially from high water levels, floating debris and possible flooding.”



Code Enforcement Update



Practice Lake Safety During Hurricane Season

With the hurricane season officially underway, it is important residents have the information they need before, during and after any severe tropical system that affects the community. Hurricanes can bring hazards in many forms, and while Orange County is located inland, it is home to many lakes, which can also become hazardous before, during or after a storm. With so many lakes in the Central Florida region, lake safety is particularly important during a hurricane. The runoff from heavy rains can carry pollutants and debris into the water, and may also cause temporary flooding. Lakes are also unprotected from flying debris.

Here are some lake safety tips to keep you and your family safe:

- Before heading out on the water, check the local weather report so you are aware of any severe storm warnings. If a hurricane is threatening, save your lake plans for when the weather is more conducive to safe fun.
- It is safest not to swim, fish or boat in a lake when water levels are high, which will most likely be the case both during and after a hurricane. Structures such as docks that used to be visible could be hidden just beneath the surface, and destroyed structures can become submerged floating hazards, both being a danger to boaters, skiers and wake boarders. Also, boating when water levels are high may cause waves that damage property by eroding shoreline soils and possibly flood homes along the lakefront. Wildlife may also be pushed out of their natural habitats due to high waters, increasing chances for unexpected encounters.
- Do not touch debris blocking a drainage structure, storm drain or retention pond.



Are You READY!

Electricity lights up our world!

Think of all the ways we rely on electricity: keeping food fresh, cooking meals, and getting information through the internet or TV. It keeps us warm in the winter, cool in the summer, and connected with each other year round. Oftentimes, we use electricity to play and have fun! Are you and your family ready if disaster strikes and your home is without power?



How would we see at night without power?

Help your family build an emergency kit! Collect these items and keep them together in a safe place that you can find easily. Make sure you have enough supplies to last for at least **three days**.

Emergency Supplies List

- 3-day supply of non-perishable food (dried fruit, canned tuna fish, peanut butter, etc.)
- Can opener
- First aid kit
- Sleeping bag or warm blanket for everyone in your family
- Change of clothes to last 3 days, including sturdy shoes; consider the weather where you live
- Matches in a waterproof container (let a grown up handle these)
- Toothbrush, toothpaste, soap
- Paper plates, plastic cups and utensils, paper towels
- Water – at least a gallon per person, per day
- Battery-powered or hand-cranked radio with extra batteries
- Flashlights with extra batteries
- Cell phone with charger, extra battery and solar charger
- Whistle to signal for help
- Local maps
- Pet supplies
- Baby supplies
- Books, games or puzzles
- A favorite stuffed animal or blanket

Remember, traffic lights will not work!

Go on a quest with your family!
Create a scavenger hunt!
Make planning fun!



<http://www.ready.gov/kids>

New smartphone app that allows users to photograph, pinpoint and report problems from Orange County



OC ALERT is an alert system that allows Orange County Government to contact you via email or cell phone text message during an emergency affecting Orange County. Register Free Of Charge.
<https://member.everbridge.net/892807736724792/login>

A message from

Police Advisory Board

COMMUNICATION LINK TO THE COMMUNITY



CITY OF BELLE ISLE, FL

POLICE ADVISORY BOARD

The Belle Isle Police Advisory Board is tasked with being a communications link between the Police Department and our community. The board members learn about the challenges the police face and discuss solutions with Chief Houston. Conversely, the board listens to their neighbors to hear about the community concerns and brings these discussion topics to the Chief. Last May, the Advisory Board organized a very successful public forum with the police department to educate the public on issues of concern and hear public feedback. The board will be organizing another forum sometime this Fall.

Our Belle Isle community supports and appreciates the commitment of our police to our community. All our officers go above and beyond their call of duty to help our community. They organize events that provide food and necessities to those in our community, assist disabled and struggling residents needing help, and have even been known to help change a flat tire for people stranded on the road. Even on social media, where people typically vent and complain about everything, references to the Belle Isle Police Department are incredibly positive. To show this appreciation, dozens of our citizens provide the department with all sorts of food, drinks (Gatorades are especially popular), and gift cards. After hearing about a traumatic homicide of a child in Belle Isle, one resident provided the entire police department with complete meals from Olive Garden.



In addition, to the extra work the police do to help our community, each of our officers must pay an even more tremendous toll. They deal with situations like the child homicide mentioned earlier that tears their hearts out. They may face a situation like the one Officer Gargano recently encountered. Officer Gargano pulled over a car full of people who had multiple loaded guns and bags of drugs with them. Another vehicle arrived and pinned Officer Gargano in to make it worse, claiming the other vehicle occupants just robbed him at gunpoint. This was a life-or-death situation. Fortunately, backup arrived, and this dire situation didn't get any worse. All our officers have families – and they would like to return home to them after their days work. These events take a toll on the officers, but they do it out of their sense of duty. As City Manager Bob Francis said, *"Their sense of duty is matched only by their courageousness and a desire to keep the peace, no matter the cost."* ■



**Belle Isle Police Department
Office: Mon-Fri (407) 240-2473
Non-Emergency (407) 836-4357
Police Emergencies 9-1-1**

"17 Inches"

By Chris Sperry

Twenty years ago, in Nashville, Tennessee, during the first week of January 1996, more than 4,000 baseball coaches descended upon the Opryland Hotel for the 52nd annual American Baseball Coaches Association (ABCA) convention. While registering, one name kept resurfacing, always with the same sentiment — "John Scolinos is here? Oh, man, worth every penny of my airfare."

Who is John Scolinos? In 1996, Coach Scolinos was 78 years old and five years retired from a college coaching career that began in 1948. He shuffled to the stage to an impressive standing ovation, wearing a string around his neck from which home plate hung — a full-sized, stark-white home plate.

After speaking for twenty-five minutes, not once mentioning the plate hanging around his neck, Then, finally, "You're probably all wondering why I'm wearing home plate around my neck," he said. "I may be old, but I'm not crazy. The reason I stand before you today is to share with you baseball people what I've learned in my life, what I've learned about home plate in my 78 years."

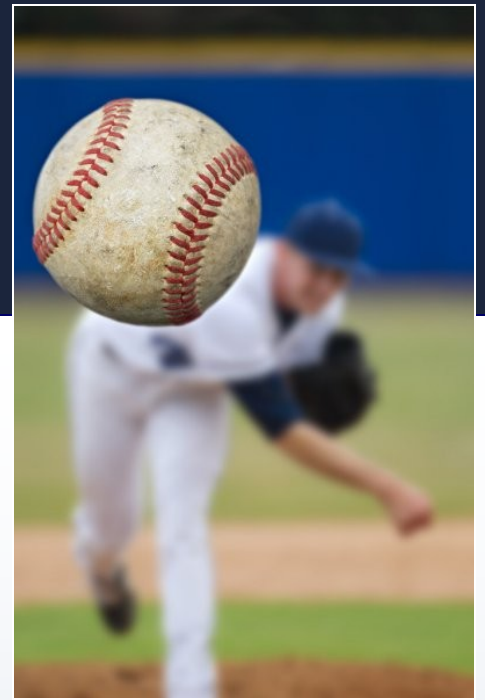
Coach Scolinos asked, "Do you know how wide home plate is in Little League?" After a pause, someone offered, "Seventeen inches?" more of a question than answer. "That's right," he said. He asked this same question of all coaches, from Little League Coaches to Major League Coaches. "How wide is home plate in the major leagues? "Seventeen inches?"

"SEV-EN-TEEN INCHES!" he confirmed, his voice bellowing off the walls. "And what do they do with a Big League pitcher who can't throw the ball over seventeen inches?" Pause. "They send him to the minors in Pocatello!" he hollered. "What they **don't do** is this: they don't say, 'Ah, that's okay, Jimmy. If you can't hit a seventeen-inch target, we'll make it eighteen inches or nineteen inches. We'll make it twenty inches, so you have a better chance of hitting it. If you can't hit that, let us know so we can make it wider still, say twenty-five inches.'"

"Coaches...what do we do when your best player shows up late to practice? Or when he breaks the rules? Do we hold him accountable? Or do we change the rules to fit him? **Do we widen the home plate?**"

The old coach's message began to unfold. Using a Sharpie, I began to draw something. When he turned it toward the crowd, point up, a house was revealed. "This is the problem in our homes today. With our marriages, with the way we parent our kids with our discipline. **We don't teach accountability** to our kids, and there is no consequence for failing to meet standards. **We just widen the plate!**"

Then, to the point at the top of the house, he added a small American flag. "This is the problem in our schools today. The quality of our education is going downhill fast, and teachers have been stripped of the tools they need to be successful and educate and discipline our young people. We are allowing others to **widen home plate!** Where is that getting us?"



"And the same is true with our government. Our so-called "representatives" make rules for us that don't apply to them. They no longer serve us. And **we allow them to widen home plate!** We see our country falling into a dark abyss while we just watch."

The audience was amazed. At a baseball convention where we're expected to learn something about curveballs and bunting and how to run better practices, we learned something far more valuable. From an old man with a home plate strung around his neck, we learned something about life, about ourselves, our weaknesses, and our responsibilities as a leader. We have to hold ourselves and others accountable to what we know to be right, lest our families, faith, and society continue down an undesirable path.

"If I am lucky," Coach Scolinos concluded, "you will remember one thing from this old coach today. It is this: ***"If we fail to hold ourselves to a higher standard, a standard of what we know to be right; if we fail to hold our spouses and our children to the same standards if we are unwilling or unable to provide a consequence when they do not meet the standard; and if our schools & our government fail to hold themselves accountable to those they serve, there is but one thing to look forward to"***

With that, he held the home plate in front of his chest, turned it around, and revealed its dark black backside, "... ***We have dark days ahead!***"

Coach Scolinos died in 2009 at the age of 91, but not before touching the lives of hundreds of players and coaches. His message was clear: ***"Coaches, keep your players—no matter how good they are—your children, your churches, your government, and most of all, keep yourself at seventeen inches. "Don't widen the plate."***

And this, my friends, is what our country has become and what is wrong with it today. Now go out there and fix it! ■

Contribution from Commissioner Carugno—District 2

For the complete message, please go to the City's website www.belleislefl.gov and click on Commissioner's Corner.

CITY STAFF

City Hall (Mon-Fri: 8:00 am—5:00 pm)
1600 Nela Avenue
Belle Isle, FL 32809
Facebook: cityofbelleisleflorida
Website: www.belleislefl.gov
Phone: 407-851-7730 / Fax 407-240-2222

POLICE DEPARTMENT

Administrative Office (Mon-Fri: 8:00 am—4:00 pm)
1521 Nela Avenue
Belle Isle, FL 32809
Facebook: belleisleflpolicedepartment
Administrative Offices: 407-240-2473
Non-Emergency Number: 407-836-4357

Best Management Practices

DOCKS, RAMPS & SEAWALLS



You will need a permit to construct or repair a boat dock, boat ramp or seawall. In unincorporated Orange County, all new boat docks require a permit from EPD and the Orange County Division of Building Safety. The Division of Building Safety will only accept plans that have been approved by EPD. Building Safety Division fees are based on structure specifications.

For information on the fees, visit the Division of Building Safety or call 407-836-5550. Repairs, additions, or other modifications of docks, including the addition of a floating dock or personal water craft platform, generally require a permit. To determine if repairs or modifications require authorization, contact EPD at 407-836-1400.

Boat ramps have very specific requirements depending on the size, location and who will be utilizing the boat ramp facility. For example, a public or commercial ramp will have more requirements than a private ramp. Boat ramp permit applications require approval by the Board of County Commissioners at a public hearing. Because of the time required to review, schedule a public hearing and send out notices, these permits take longer to issue.

Seawalls & Shoreline Stabilization Structures that stabilize the shoreline, like seawalls and rip rap, require a shoreline alteration permit. Non-vertical methods, such as rip rap combined with native aquatic plants, are preferred over vertical seawalls because they have less environmental impact. If a new seawall is proposed along a shoreline where the adjoining parcels do not have one, a professional engineer (PE) must demonstrate that a vertical seawall is the only method of stabilizing the shoreline. If you want to repair or replace an existing seawall, a permit is required.

Riprap and plantings must be utilized to offset any negative environmental effects of a seawall. A shoreline alteration permit is also needed for dredging, filling, pumping of sand, or other alterations to the shoreline or lake bottom of our lakes or canals.

Contact EPD at 407-836-1400 if you need assistance.

Virtual Connections

The City is going entirely virtual with the newsletter. Due to the City's continued commitment to the environment and with cost-effectiveness in mind, the City will no longer be mailing out hard copies of the quarterly newsletter. We are particularly mindful of creating Connections with our residents and their families and are happy to present you with the following electronic format that provides news, updates, articles, and upcoming events. Please do not hesitate to reach out if we can help in any way. Contact information for the Mayor, City Council, Staff, and Boards are included in this edition.

Feel free to share this newsletter with your friends and neighbors and encourage them to sign up for Belle Isle e-lets by visiting our website at www.belleislefl.gov.

South Florida Water Management District 407-858-6100 (Orlando Service Center) www.sfwmd.gov

St. Johns River Water Management District 407-659-4800 (Maitland Service Center) www.sjrwmd.com



SHORELINE VEGETATION AND PERMITTING

Before beginning any work on your shorelines, it is important to find out if you need a permit. Permits may be required to remove plants, use herbicides or do any work within a wetland. In addition, permits may be required from one or more agencies such as Orange County Environmental Protection Division (EPD), Florida Fish & Wildlife Conservation Commission, and St. Johns River or South Florida Water Management Districts.

Shoreline Vegetation and Permitting...the fine print.

Vegetated shorelines protect water quality, prevent erosion, offer fish and wildlife habitat, and provide a pleasant place for relaxation and enjoyment. In Orange County, a lakeshore homeowner is entitled to a vegetation-free access corridor of 20% or 30 feet of total linear shoreline, whichever is greater, without a permit. Boat docks are to be placed in the access corridor. If you want to remove vegetation outside of this area, a Lakeshore Protection (LSP) permit is required. This permit will allow you to remove nuisance

and exotic vegetation; however, replanting of beneficial native species may be required to meet 80% coverage of native vegetation. The LSP permit will allow you to maintain the shoreline clear of nuisance and exotic vegetation as long as you sustain 80% native plant coverage. Note that certain trees and endangered plants cannot be removed from the shoreline.

In addition, many lots have wetland areas above the normal high water elevation (NHWE). These areas are protected by state and local ordinances. If your property is in unincorporated Orange County, you will need approval from Orange County EPD

before starting any work in these areas. If you live within a city or town, check with their environmental compliance section before starting any work.

Occasionally, conservation areas may become filled with nuisance and exotic vegetation. A free Conservation Area Authorization (CAA), may be obtained from EPD to selectively clear nuisance vegetation within the conservation area, while replanting with beneficial native vegetation. Contact EPD at 407-836-1400 for specific permitting requirements.

Orange County's 3-1-1 has been overloaded with calls. In order to best serve citizens, we are encouraging residents to download the 3-1-1 app.

OCFL 311 assists Orange County, Florida residents in reporting local non-emergency community issues conveniently and efficiently by submitting reports regarding animals, traffic signs, potholes, graffiti, sidewalk repair, and many other common issues. Many of these reports can be submitted quickly and anonymously. Residents who provide their contact information can view the status of their reports to ensure proper resolution.

OCFL 311 conveniently maps locations of important community issues so residents can be aware of events that may impact their neighborhood.

Contacts to know:

Florida Department of Environmental Protection
407-897-4100
www.floridadep.gov/water-topics

Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission Office of Invasive Plant Management
407-858-6170
www.myfwc.com/wildlifehabitats/invasive-plants

Orange County Environmental Protection Division 407-836-1400 | epd@ocfl.net
www.orangecountyfl.net/Environment

Best Management Practices



GET INVOLVED IN CITY BOARDS & COMMITTEES

Meetings are open to the public. Need more information? Contact the City Clerk at yquiceno@belleislefl.gov.

A connected and involved community makes a stronger and happier place to live.

CITY OF BELLE ISLE, FL

Questions to any Board or Committee can be forwarded to the City Clerk at yquiceno@belleislefl.gov

CITY COUNCIL (Seven Districts—Elected At Large)

Meet on the first and third Tuesday every month @ 6:30 pm at City Hall Chambers 1600 Nela Avenue

Mayor—Nicholas Fouraker:
mayor@belleislefl.gov / 407-717-7868

District 1—Comm Ed Gold: egold@belleislefl.gov / 407-717-6772

District 2—Comm Anthony Carugno
acarugno@belleislefl.gov / 407-717 6947

District 3—Comm Karl Shuck:
district3@belleislefl.gov / 407-717-7846

District 4—Comm Randy Holihan
district4@belleislefl.gov / 407-717 7855

District 5—Comm OPEN:
district5@belleislefl.gov / 407-457-2427

District 6—Comm Jim Partin:
district6@belleislefl.gov / 407-717-6545

District 7—Comm Sue Nielsen:
sn Nielsen@belleislefl.gov / 407-717-8017



PLANNING & ZONING BOARD: Appointed by District by City Council

The Board is responsible for overseeing the compliance of the city ordinances.

Meet on the fourth Tuesday every month @ 6:30 pm at City Hall Chambers 1600 Nela Avenue

Attorney: Dan Langley
District 1—David Woods
District 2—Christopher Shenefelt

District 3—Michael Stratham
District 4—Vinton Squires
District 5—Rainey Lane

District 6—Andrew Thompson
District 7—Leonard Hobbs

TREE BOARD (Seven Members: Appointed At-large by City Council)

The Tree Board protects our tree canopy, offer educational and informational speaking events on environmental issues.

Meet on the second Monday every month @ 6:30 pm at City Hall Chambers 1600 Nela Avenue

Board member—Doug DeYoung
Board member—Holly Bobrowski
Board member—George Travis

Board member—Richard Weinsier
Board member—Emily Wakely

Board member—Betty DeJarnette
Board member—Christopher Stalder

POLICE ADVISORY BOARD: Appointed by District by City Council

Meet on the fourth Tuesday every month @ 6:30 pm at City Hall Chambers 1600 Nela Avenue

The Advisory Board assist our Police Department with communication throughout the community.

District 1—Horton Johnson
District 2—Andrew Dunigan
District 3—Allen Haskins

District 4—OPEN
District 6—Alexa Dowlen

District 5—Joshua Brown
District 7—Charlotte Hobbs

SOLID WASTE COMMITTEE: Appointed At-large by City Council

Meet Quarterly on the second Thursday @ 6:00 pm at City Hall Chambers 1600 Nela Avenue

The Committee assists Staff to compare service proposals from various solid waste companies and present a recommendation to Council.

Board Member—Steve Jackson
Board Member—OPEN
Board Member—Richard Weinsier

Board Member—OPEN
Board Member—Frank Noge

Board Member—OPEN
Board Member—OPEN

SPECIAL EVENTS COMMITTEE: Appointed At-large by City Council

Meet on the third Wednesday every month @ 6:00 pm at City Hall Chambers 1600 Nela Avenue

The Committee plans and executes special events (I.e., Holiday Tree Lighting Event) for our citizens.

Board Member—Maggie Burdette
Board Member—Holly Bobrowski
Board Member—Nicholas Fouraker

Board Member—Betty DeJarnette
Board Member—Kathy McCoy

Board Member—Lora Brannan
Board Member—Craig Huff

BUDGET COMMITTEE: Appointed by District by City Council

Meet on the Friday before the 2nd CC Tuesday meeting every month @ 3:00 pm at City Hall Chambers 1600 Nela Avenue

The purpose of the Audit Committee is to serve in an advisory capacity to the City Council in the selection of an auditor to conduct the City's annual financial audit and for other purposes as directed by City Council

District 1—OPEN
District 2—OPEN
District 3—OPEN

District 4—OPEN
District 5—Katherine Stinton

District 6—Nash Shook
District 7—OPEN