



# Bay Harbor Islands

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**NewsWaves**

## A Message from the Mayor

The Bay Harbor Islands local government during 2008, made significant inroads in updating and improving our community's quality of life. Due to space restraints in the NewsWaves, reporting on all activities that occurred last year is not possible. I thought it would be helpful to provide an overview of some of the issues that have been completed or are underway in assessing your government's performance.

Thirty-five (35) of our fellow citizens volunteered their time and energy to work on community projects and programs to improve our Town. That is just part of our programs in maintaining our objective of transparency in government. There is, in addition, our own TV Channel (77) providing special messages and the most recently recorded Town meetings. We have a dedicated website and a staff that is always available to answer questions. Notices and public interest articles also appear in our local newspapers.

Our Community Enhancement Program is being actively pursued to bring upgrades to our storm water drainage system, asphalt paving, concrete light poles, new street lights and sidewalks for Kane Concourse and benches, just to name a few improvements.

The new parking garage is under construction. It will improve parking for the business community, school and offices in the downtown area. The garage is designed to allow for expansion on site, should the 450 parking spaces not be sufficient. The garage will also be the home to our 8000 sq ft Town Community Center and a Miami Dade Fire Department Rescue Unit that will be operational 24 hours a day should their services be needed.

The Reverse 911 Emergency Telephone Notification System has been tested and is operational. The system has become a valuable addition to our Disaster Preparedness Program. In addition, the Disaster Preparedness Manual is updated annually and has been sent to all residents. Additional copies are available at Town Hall. Additionally, an instructional video is being produced pro bono, and when completed, will be shown on our TV Channel. This should keep citizens that are unable to come to the symposium informed. Desk Top Exercises on emergency procedures are also being provided to staff prior to the hurricane season each year.

As more grant money becomes available, the two park sites on the East Island will be receiving exercise equipment, walking paths, benches and landscaping. The dog run now available will be enhanced and playing fields for organized athletics will come on line. In January 2009, the outdoor movies began at no cost to the attendees. Storytime in the park will also continue. This program will also not impact our Town budget and started in January.

Free shuttle bus services for all our citizens will continue using grant money secured by our staff to support these programs.

Police services will continue without the loss of responsiveness and protection to our community. The Police Department has recruited two female officers who are completing their field training at this time.

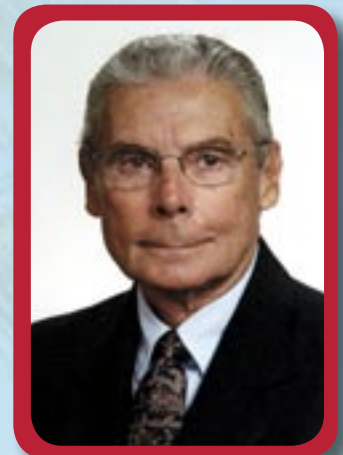
We have acquired a full-time Building Official to improve construction oversight and responsiveness to homeowners building and remodeling their properties. Development continues within the boundaries established by our Charter. Controlled development will be assumed by an all civilian newly formed Planning and Zoning Board and with the continued oversight by our Town Council.

The Town's investment program remains secure even in these unstable financial times. Details of our program have been previously reported in a NewsWaves Bulletin.

Charter and Ordinance updates are part of a continuous program to ensure we modernize the Charter and ensure laws are applicable to the needs of our current life style, something not done for years.

I have barely scratched the surface of what has been done this past year. In my opinion, it could only

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## Employees Grateful to Holiday Fund Donors

Town residents and businesses again showed their appreciation to Town employees by contributing to the Bay Harbor Civic Association's Holiday Fund. For over four decades, the Civic Association has sponsored the Fund as a means of recognizing the efforts of the Town's loyal employees in providing services to our residents.

## Community Picnic Set for Sunday, March 22

Mark your calendar for the 2009 Town of Bay Harbor Islands Community Picnic on Sunday, March 22, from 1 p.m. - 5 p.m. This exciting community event will include delicious food, refreshments and entertainment. The Environmental Impact Committee will also be hosting an Earth Day Celebration featuring community organizations offering resources and education on the importance of conservation and preserving our environment. There will also be a container to collect batteries and electronic equipment. For more information call Town Hall at (305) 866-6241.

## OLLI and Bay Harbor Islands Join Forces to Offer Courses

The Osher Lifelong Learning Institute (OLLI) at Florida International University (FIU) in partnership with the Town of Bay Harbor Islands will be offering non-credit courses held at the Bay Harbor Islands Town Council Chambers.

For more information, please contact Clara Barman at 305-919-5910. Membership into OLLI is required and is \$50 a year or \$80 for two members.

### Winter A Term

Course: More Jazz Greats

Instructor: Joe Donato

Monday from 11:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

January 12, 26 and February 2, 9, 23 and March 2

Fee: \$90. Register by calling 305-919-5910

### Winter B Term

Course: Broadway: The American Musical

Instructor: Hersh Adlerstein

Wednesday from 1:30 - 3:30 p.m.

February 18, 25 and March 4, 11, 18, 25

Fee: \$90. Register by calling 305-919-5910

## Mayor's Message - *Continued from Page 1*

have been done by a Council, Staff and Volunteers dedicated to serving our community and making it a better place to live. I say without qualification that "You ain't seen nothing yet, wait till next year."

Have a Healthy and Happy New Year.

*Ken*

## Town Election Set For April 7

The Town's annual municipal election will take place on **Tuesday, April 7th**. If you are not already registered to vote with a residential address in Bay Harbor Islands, you may obtain a registration form at Town Hall or at any Driver's License office. Under state law, the books close to new registrations 30 days prior to the election (or March 9th). If you already have a current Miami-Dade County voter's registration card with the proper address, you need not re-register. If you are not sure your registration is current, call Miami-Dade County Elections Department at 305-499-8683.

For new voter registration, a resident must be at least 18 years of age and be a citizen of the U.S. There is no minimum residency requirement for registration. If you will be unable to go to the polls on the day of the Town election, absentee ballots may be requested by calling the Elections Department at (305) 499-8444. Absentee ballots must be returned no later than 7 p.m. on election day.

**Three seats on the Town Council will come up for vote in the April 7 election.** Two of the seats are currently held by Stephanie Bruder and Alberto Ruder and are four-year terms. The third seat became open with the passing of the late Mayor Peter Lynch. This seat is currently held by Jordan W. Leonard and, according to Town Charter, Section 24, if there is an election in which seats for full and unexpired terms need to be filled, then the successful candidate with the lowest number of votes will fill the shortest unexpired term of office. Therefore, the successful candidate with the lowest number of votes will complete Mayor Lynch's term, which ends in April 2010.

If you wish to become a candidate for a Town Council seat, file with the Town Clerk during regular business hours at Town Hall after 9 a.m. on Friday, February 13 and before 5 p.m. on Friday, March 6.

Under normal circumstances, each Town Council member is elected by the voters of the Town for a 4-year term of office. These terms of office are staggered so that only two Council members run for office each year (with only one seat open each fourth year). This system provides for stability and continuity in our Town Government. Each Council member receives a salary of \$1 per year, which is traditionally donated to a charitable cause. The Town Council meets on a regular basis, on the second Monday evening of each month.

## Driving Miss Daisy Featured at February Outdoor Movie

The Town of Bay Harbor Islands will be presenting the classic and popular film *Driving Miss Daisy* as part of the Town's Outdoor Movie Night on **Saturday, February 21 at 7 p.m.**

The movie is about an elderly widow living in Atlanta in the 1950s and Hoke, her driver. The story covers more than 20 years of the pair's life together as they slowly build a relationship that transcends their differences.

Enjoy an evening under the stars with your neighbors. Admission is free and open to the public. The films are shown at the open lot at 1177 Kane Concourse. Free parking is available. Here is the 2009 schedule:

- March 28 - *Indiana Jones, Kingdom of the Crystal Skull*
- April 18 - *Arctic Tale*
- May 16 - *Grease*

For information throughout the season, contact Town Hall at 305-866-6241 or visit [www.bayharborislands.org](http://www.bayharborislands.org).

## Storytime at the Park

Storytime at the Park continues in February to entertain children and families at the Bay Harbor Islands' Tot Lot at West Broadview Drive and 96th Street. Admission is free and the event will be held on the first and third Fridays through May of 2009. For more information, contact Town Hall at 305-866-6241 or visit [www.bayharborislands.org](http://www.bayharborislands.org).

- **Friday, Feb. 6 at 4 p.m.** – *Carol's Puppets*
- **Friday, Feb. 20 at 4 p.m.** – *Tales that Tickle Your Funny Bone*

## Students Lead Pledge



Mayor Kenneth Weinstein presents certificates to Kimberly Hyde (L) and Jessica Castillo for leading the Pledge of Allegiance at the January Council meeting. Both students are members of the Future Educators of America Club at Ruth K. Broad Bay Harbor K-8 Center.

## Upcoming Town Meetings

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

- Planning and Zoning - Tuesday, Feb. 3 at 7 p.m.
- Regular Council Meeting - Monday, Feb. 9 at 7 p.m.
- Planning and Zoning - Tuesday, Feb. 17 at 7 p.m.

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The following meeting dates are scheduled for various Committees and are open to the public. **Dates are subject to change**, therefore, please contact the Town Clerk's Office at 305-866-6241 for confirmation of the meeting date and time.

- Environmental Impact - Monday, Feb. 2 at 6:45 p.m.
- Parks & Recreation - Tuesday, Feb. 10 at 7 p.m.
- Education - No meeting in February
- Charter & Ordinance Review - Monday Feb. 23 at 7 p.m.

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The following future meeting dates are subject to change. Closer to the date, please contact the Town Clerk's Office or check the Town's website [www.bayharborislands.org](http://www.bayharborislands.org).

- Regular Council Meetings: Mar. 9, April 13, May 11
- Planning and Zoning Board Meetings: March 3 & 17, April. 8 (Wed.) and Apr. 21 and May 5 & 19.
- Environmental Impact Committee - 1st Monday
- Parks & Recreation Committee - 2nd Tuesday
- Education Committee - 3rd Wednesday
- Charter & Ordinance Review Committee - 4th Monday
- Disaster Preparedness Committee - TBA

### MEETING DATES SUBJECT TO CHANGE

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At the time of printing of this newsletter, the topics listed below are anticipated for discussion or possible action at the Regular Council Meeting on **Monday, February 9, 2009**. All items are subject to change.

- Second reading of the six ordinances finalizing the Charter amendments.
- Second reading of the Comprehensive Plan amendment incorporating the Bay Harbor Islands Water Supply Facilities Work Plan.
- Award of Community Enhancements Phase II bid.
- Discussion regarding lighting at the Tot Lot.

# Willie “Butch” Hardy, 1949-2009

All of Bay Harbor Islands mourns the recent loss of Willie Hardy, the longest serving Town employee with more than four decades of service. Willie joined the Town as a young man in 1967, and his first job was cutting grass. Over the years, he worked his way up the ladder to Assistant Director of Public Works. In July of 2007, he was honored by the Town Council for 40 years of dedicated service.

In addition to keeping the department running like a well-oiled machine, Willie was well-loved by residents and staff. He will always be remembered for his warm smile and cheerful disposition. A compassionate leader and excellent manager, Willie was a great asset to the Town. Our deepest condolences are extended to his family. Willie was a wonderful person and we all feel privileged to have known him and called him our friend.



## Miami-Dade County Increases Water Rates

Miami-Dade County has increased the rate for the water distributed to Town residents by 33.2 percent. The Town does not have its own wells and must buy the water for distribution. The County has faced significantly higher costs due to federally-mandated requirements in the areas of security and environmental impacts, and has announced further cost increases in the future.

The current increase is much more than was anticipated during the budget process when the rate charged to residents was increased by 5 percent in anticipation of a County price increase. The cost of water is by far the largest single expense item in the total cost of the Town's water distribution operation and it will be necessary to increase the charges to our residents because of the County increase. However, the Town's efforts to control its other costs allow us to recommend an increase of 19.5 percent in response to the County's increase of 33.2 percent. Including the 5 percent adjustment this past October, the Town has held its total increase well below that of the County.

The proposed new rate, to be effective for billings after April 1, will be \$3.49 per thousand gallons (up from \$2.92). The impact on individual households will vary by the amount of water used. Typical impacts on single family homes would be about \$3.06 per month for "low-usage" accounts (5,000 gallons per month) or \$8.57 for a home using 14,000 gallons a month. For condominiums, typical increases will be in the

range of \$2-\$4 per month per unit. The adjustment to the Town's water rates will be discussed by the Town Council at its regular meetings on February 9 (first reading) and March 9 (second reading).

### SAVE WATER - SAVE DOLLARS

*Did you know the most common cause of high water bills is a leaky toilet? Take a quick survey of your home faucets and toilets to ensure you are not wasting water and driving up your water bills.*

### Seniors on the Go Upcoming Events

- **Wednesday, February 25, 2009, at 8 p.m.**  
Chorus Line at the Broward Center, \$49.50
- **Thursday, March 26, 2009, at 8 p.m.**  
Dame Edna at the Parker Play House, \$56.50  
Reservations must be paid by Feb. 26
- **Wednesday, April 15, 2009, at 8 p.m.**  
Jersey Boys at the Broward Center \$78

For reservations or more information, please contact Ruth Woods, 305-864-9580; Martha Astrella, 305-864-2086 or Bernice McKenney, 305-864- 5854.

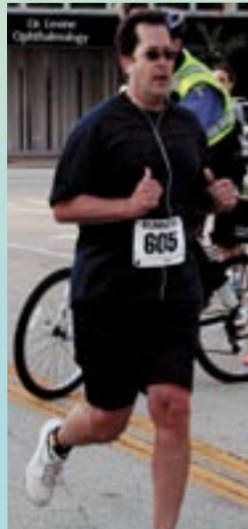
# Sun and Fun at 3rd Annual BHI 5K Run/Walk

Sunshine and cool temperatures greeted the more than 150 excited residents and visitors who participated in the 3rd Annual Bay Harbor Islands 5K Run/Walk. Youth was served this year as two-time winner Jon Williams was overtaken by 14-year-old Jeffrey Tait at the finish, winning by eight seconds with a time of 17:22. The first place female was Tiffany Enos, who finished in 22:13 and tenth overall.

Participants received t-shirts, food and refreshments. The top finishers received plaques. Much thanks to the many volunteers and sponsors who made the event a great success!



*Off and running!*



*Councilman Robert Yaffe at the finish.*



*Above: BHI Vice Mayor Ileene Wallace shows off her plaque for placing second in her age group and, at left, overall male and female winners Tiffany Enos and Jeff Tait.*



*(L-R) Councilman Alberto Ruder, Vice Mayor Ileene Wallace, Mayor Kenneth Weinstein and Councilman Jordan Leonard.*

*Thank You!*  
Race  
Sponsors  
2009

Ann B. Bussel and John & Laura Alonso Bussel & Family  
Ocean Cadillac  
Bilzin, Sumberg, Baena, Price & Axelrod, LLP  
Sunshine Gasoline Distributors, Inc.  
Tremont Towing, Inc.  
Law Office of Sulzberger & Sulzberger  
Mike's Cigars  
Michael Miller Planning Associates, Inc.

RX Home Health Services, Inc.  
ACR Windows, LLC  
Coldwell Banker Residential Real Estate  
World Waste Services  
Jackie Abraham Jewelers  
LJ Services Group, Property Management  
Kane Concourse Plaza  
Publix

### Town Council

Kenneth Weinstein  
*Mayor*

Ileene S. Wallace  
*Vice Mayor*

Stephanie Bruder  
*Councilwoman*

Jordan W. Leonard  
*Councilman*

Alberto Ruder  
*Councilman*

Isaac Salver  
*Councilman*

Robert H. Yaffe  
*Councilman*

### Town Officials

Ronald J. Wasson  
*Town Manager*

Marlene Marante  
*Town Clerk*

Craig B. Sherman  
*Town Attorney*

Duncan W. Young  
*Chief of Police*

Alan Short  
*Finance Director*



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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.org](http://www.bayharborislands.org)

## Highlights of the January 12 Council Meeting

- Approval of a Mutual Aid Agreement with the North Bay Village Police Department and the Town's Police Department.
- Approval of a Mutual Aid Agreement with the Indian Creek Village Public Safety Department and the Town's Police Department.
- Approval of a Mutual Aid Agreement with the Miami-Dade Schools Police Department and the Town's Police Department.
- Approval of the purchase of a parking enforcement vehicle in the amount of \$13,413 to replace the existing golf cart which is not repairable.
- Approved on first reading an Ordinance amending Section 59 of the Town Charter to delete obsolete language referring to the Town's Municipal Court.
- Approved on first reading an Ordinance amending Section 18 of the Town Charter modifying the period of time at which a councilperson is appointed to office and requiring a residency of at least six months prior to the election.
- Approved on first reading an Ordinance amending Section 64 of the Town Charter providing for a correction to the date of the formation of the Town.
- Approved on first reading an Ordinance amending Section 67 of the Town Charter to delete obsolete language identifying the Council as the entity administering municipal elections.
- Approved on first reading an Ordinance amending Section 68 of the Town Charter modifying the Canvassing Board composition and the meeting date.
- Approved on first reading an Ordinance amending Section 26 of the Town Charter to modify the date for induction of newly elected Council members.
- Approved the Calvin, Giordano & Associates, Inc. final design concept for the new 92nd Street park, which will be funded by two State of Florida grants, at an amount not to exceed \$400,000.