



Bay County CURRENTS

...a publication for, about and by county employees

February 2018

- Tommy Hamm
District I
- Robert Carroll
District II
- William Dozier
District III
- Guy M. Tunnell
District IV
- Philip "Griff"
Griffitts
District V

Commission Meetings
February 6th & 20th
Bay County Government Center



Wendi Nation, Purchasing Director for BOCC, mentors with Elevate Bay.

INVEST IN BAY COUNTY'S FUTURE MENTOR A CHILD TODAY

At the beginning of the 2017-18 school year, Bay District Schools launched an exciting new program called "Elevate Bay", a mentoring initiative to support and encourage at-risk children of Bay District Schools. They reached out to community groups and employers for volunteers to bring this program to life.

Immediately upon learning about Elevate Bay, Mr. Majka was fully invested in this endeavor and asked BOCC management to participate in the fall semester to become familiar with the program, and then open it up to the rest of the BOCC staff in the Spring 2018 semester.

These students represent Bay County's future, and your willingness to volunteer as a mentor can help them in many ways. As a steady presence in their lives, your time with them could show them different ways to look at life, believe in themselves and set goals for their futures.

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The new wellness solution for all employees to improve their health in 2018 is now available!

See Page 3 for Details!!!



Why should we volunteer?

- 61.5% of our school population qualifies for free or reduced lunch
- 1,047 homeless students were serviced last year alone by Bay District Schools
- 70% of youths in state run facilities come from a fatherless home
- 1,667 weekend food bags are provided each week to local students



We can make a difference in Bay County's future! Please sign up today to be an Elevate Bay mentor. You can choose to work in a classroom in small groups for academic/behavioral support for the students, be a one-on-one mentor with a student focusing on specific needs, be a lunch or breakfast buddy, joining either a class or just one student to give them extra support outside of the classroom, or you could even help at one of the Bay Base afterschool programs.

Bay District Schools asks that you volunteer at least twice a month for a minimum of 30 minutes each time. You will need to schedule your mentoring during your **regularly scheduled work days**. This will be paid time, so no one will have to use PTO hours to be a part of this wonderful initiative.



In order to participate in this program, you are required to attend a 30 minute mandatory training class by Bay District Schools. We have set up a training session for BOCC employees on Thursday, February 8, 2018, at 9:00 a.m. in the Commission Chambers at the Bay County Government Center. During this training, you will be provided with guidelines and further details about Elevate Bay, and Ms. Legg will also be able to answer any questions you may have. If you are unable to attend this training class, you can contact Stacey Legg, Mentor Initiative Specialist, Bay District Schools at 767-4128 or email her at leggs1@bay.k12.fl.us and she will be able to provide you with alternative training dates.

Let's show the community how much we care by taking this program to new heights. Sign up today to be a mentor in Elevate Bay!

...MENTOR A CHILD TODAY

Registering takes just a few steps.

Florida Blue **MEMBER** Registration Information

From floridablue.com

1. Log in to your Florida Blue online account. Find "Your Guide to Better Health" on the right side of your home page. Click "Get Started."
2. Provide a user name and password in the welcome screen that appears. Click "Create your account." Follow the directions on the screen to create security questions for your Better You Strides personal page.

From the CaféWell mobile app

1. Download the CaféWell mobile app from the Apple App store or Google Play. Click "Register now."
2. Enter the sponsor code: **betteryoustrides**
3. Follow the directions on the screen to create your Better You Strides account.

Florida Blue **NON - MEMBER** Registration Information

From floridablue.com

1. Log in to floridablue.com/betteryoustrides.
2. Click "Register Now." Follow the directions on the screen to create security questions for your Better You Strides personal page.

From the CaféWell mobile app

1. Download the CaféWell mobile app from the Apple App store or Google Play. Click "Register now."
1. Enter the sponsor code: **betteryou**
2. Follow the directions on the screen to create your Better You Strides account.

If you have questions or need help registering for
Better You Strides, call **855-337-8340** or
send an email to betteryoustrides@cafewell.com.

- Over 5,000 people rode on trailers through the wooded trail of 25 sites staffed with employees and family members.
- Approximately 1,500 people joined us in the free Pumpkin Patch (for the kids).
- Over 140 Bay County volunteers setup & staffed the haunted sites. They controlled traffic & parking, provided security, sold tickets and drove ticket holders through the woods until well after mid-night for 2-consecutive-nights.
- The Bay County TPO provided trolley service during the two night event. THANK YOU TPO!

This year we raised \$26,157.33 for Charity.

The County Employees voted for their favorite charity; and each of the top three (3) charities below received a check in the amount of \$8,719.11. THANK YOU for what you do to help our families and our community!

Without the support of the BOCC this would not have been possible. With your support, we have raised over \$153K for charities since 2010!



SHRINERS



AMERICAN CANCER SOCIETY



LIVE LIKE DREW FOUNDATION



The Parks Department is already at work on creative (and scary!) new plans for the 2018 Hayride. We look forward to continuing to support and be supported by our amazing community. Thank you and great job everyone!



BAY COUNTY BUILDERS SERVICES CODE OFFICIALS

Building Safety Today for a Stronger Tomorrow

Think about the building we're all in right now. It has a foundation, likely built of wood, steel or concrete. Now look around. Do you see a clear pathway to exit the room in the event of an evacuation? What about a fire sprinkler? Electrical outlets or plumbing pipes? Did you know that each of these construction elements, from electrical, plumbing and mechanical pieces, to fire protection and energy efficiency, have a set of corresponding building codes that outline fundamental safety standards? These building codes are essential pieces to the building and construction process – outlining necessary standards related to structural stability, fire and weather hazard protection, electrical wiring safety, evacuation pathways, and more.

Code officials are responsible for ensuring the safety and compliance of these codes and standards. They inspect building plans and construction processes to guarantee every building constructed follows these sets of codes and standards designed to ensure safety for the community. It is code officials that serve as the safety foundation for our buildings. But code officials don't just ensure the safety for this building – rather, a code official is behind the security and stability of every building where you live, work and play, they touch every building that you come in contact with – from small new single family dwellings to high-rise commercial buildings.



Code officials also help our communities weather unforeseen disasters like storms and fire. It is their safety checks that protect your home from emergencies before fire, flood or disaster strike. They ensure firewalls are sealed properly to protect structures in the event of a fire hazard, and check beams and stability features to ensure buildings stand after a natural disaster. When code officials do their jobs to ensure building safety, first responders to these emergencies have less to worry about and can do their jobs more safely. The inspections and reviews code officials conduct are preventative measures, so when a hurricane or tornado hits, or a wildfire spreads through a town, structures constructed in accordance with building codes are more likely to withstand disaster – saving you and the community at large the cost, time and pain of rebuilding.

Code officials are an essential piece in the building and construction puzzle, and are engaged in the building process from the initial building plan to the finished product.

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For an example of how code officials bring building codes to life, when you or a family member is considering a home renovation, you would first hire a contractor or architect to help develop plans for the structural changes of your dreams – whether a new porch, spacious master bathroom or revitalized kitchen. From there, before ground on the renovation project is even broken, a permit is needed to ensure that the plans you envisioned on paper are in-line with building codes that will ensure they meet the minimum requirements to be deemed safe and sturdy. A code

official inspects the drawings and specifications for the planned renovation for code compliance, and then serves as a resource for you and the contractors, architects or engineers on the project team throughout the building and construction process. Their safety checks and ongoing site inspections ensure a stairway’s guard rails are sufficiently constructed to prevent falls, that electric outlets have secure wiring and will not short circuit your home, or that window frames are placed in the right location with appropriate materials to avoid shattered glass.



Their knowledge spans every aspect of the life of a building – from the bottom of the foundation to the top of the roof – and everything in between. Code officials have opportunities to serve as a building safety generalist, but also to become experts in the ins and outs of specific code specialty areas.

Plan reviewers are the first stop in the building evaluation process. They examine the construction documents used to describe a project, which include architectural, structural and construction elements like mechanical and plumbing drawings and calculations. These reviewers spot code compliance issues before construction even begins to ensure safety – and also save the builder time and money.

Building inspectors review drawings and specifications for planned repairs of existing buildings, construction of new building projects and building sites being considered for development.

Fire Inspectors review drawings and specifications for sprinkler systems, fire alarm systems, etc. and make sure the systems are installed to code and properly work from the beginning to the end of a project.

Electrical inspectors check the quality of materials, the installation work and the safeguards in electrical systems. They make sure electrical systems meet city, state or national codes, and electrical codes and standards. Electrical inspectors look closely at new wiring and fixtures in businesses, public buildings and in homes.



Mechanical inspectors focus on heating, ventilating and air-conditioning (HVAC) concerns. The mechanical inspector also checks for air quality and energy conservation measures.

Plumbing inspectors check for proper design and installation of plumbing systems, including sanitary and storm drainage systems, sanitary facilities, water supplies, and storm water and sewage disposal in buildings.

Beyond knowing the intricacies of buildings, specifically, code officials also enjoy visibility to a wide array of different community projects and sectors of the built environment, from traditional construction projects to emerging and innovative disciplines in technology and energy efficiency.

Lonney C. Johnson	Stephen F. Churchwell
Vincent M. Martin	Kristi K. Gordon
Mitchell G. Harris	Benjamin M. Collier
Joslyn W. Connor	Gary E. Thrift
Rayford C. Jones	Janet M. Tipton
David A. Tharp	David K. Hagans
Jonathan L. Miller	Darren J. Robinson
Nathan N. West	Dane D. Matchkus
Jeffery L. Grindle	Candace N. Pate
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Timothy W. Howard	David C. Ross
Susan C. Shallenberger	Brandi B. Tew
Gayle M. Rogers	Joseph B. Flanagan
Jesse C. Jones	Curtis A. Williams
Sandra G. Pierce	

FEBRUARY Birthdays

NEW HIRES

William Gaylord - Bay County Library
 Jeremy Jernigan - Human Resources
 Rachel Fillingame - Bay County Library
 Christopher Dillard - Water Systems
 Jeffery Gibson - Emergency Services

Anniversaries

10 Bolding, Billy G Roads & Bridges



The smallest deed is better than the grandest good intention.

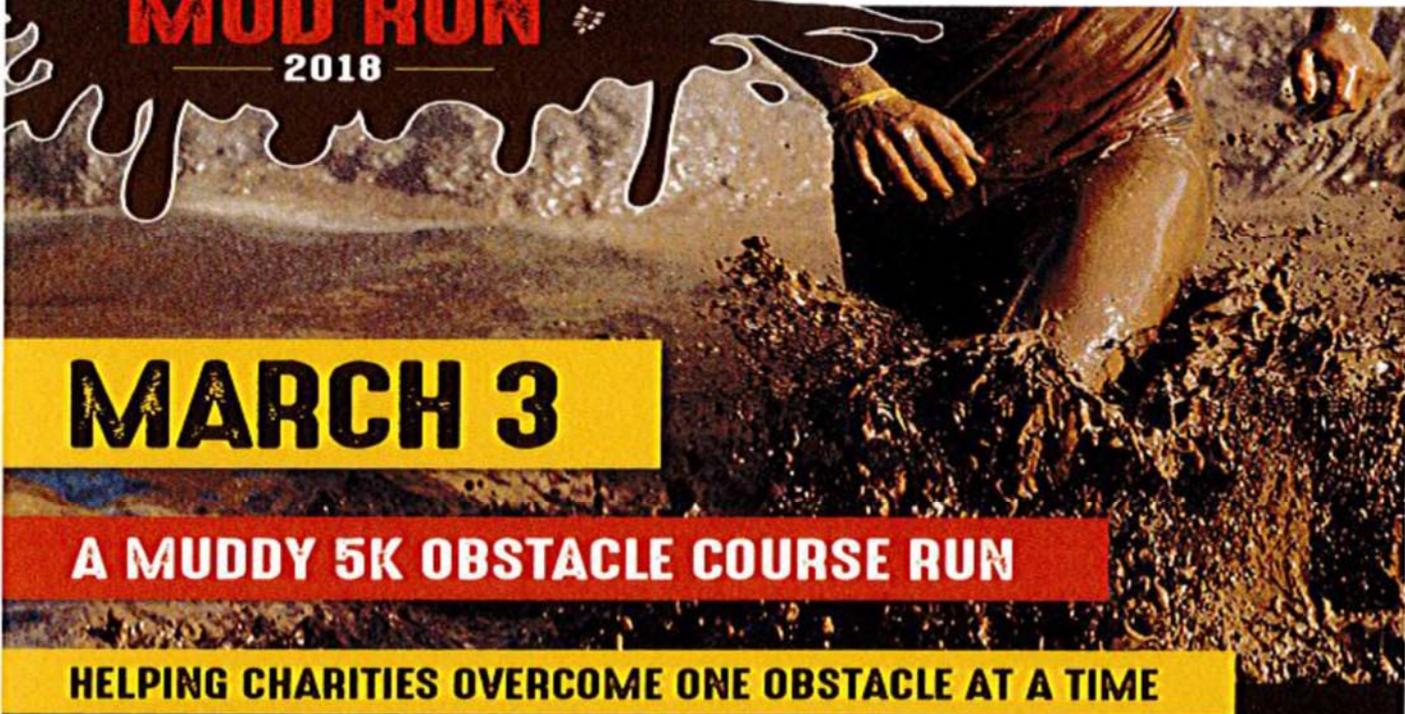


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