



June 15, 2011

# CITY OF COCOA BEACH "NEWS & VIEWS"

~ A publication for Cocoa Beach Citizens produced by the Cocoa Beach Public Information Office and inserted in *The Press-Tribune* as a public service ~



## COMMISSIONER'S CORNER by KEVIN PRUETT

There are many topics to discuss this month, so let me just jump right in and share as many of them as I can considering our 500 word limit.

We are in negotiations with Florida Power & Light (FPL) on the City's franchise agreement. We have made progress but still have some areas to resolve such as the length of the franchise agreement. Currently, FPL is requesting a fixed 30-year term and the City has offered a 15-year term with a 15-year option that can be exercised based on pre-negotiated terms. I remain optimistic that we can reach an agreement.

We are discussing the subject of mixed-use and the downtown vision plan. I encourage you to visit the City's web-site and review the plan. Your comments are greatly appreciated. While we do not have complete agreement across the commission at this time on how to proceed forward, I am optimistic with your involvement we will continue to move the ball forward.

An Economic and Market Assessment was conducted as part of the downtown plan. One of the recommendations was to establish an effective Merchants' Association. The new Cocoa Beach Merchants' Association is in the process of being formed. If you are interested in joining as a business, commercial property owner or resident, please contact Patti Drake at (321) 652-2155 for more information. I'm optimistic this organization will be a great asset to our businesses and residents.

I have been working with many residents, businesses, industry leaders, city staff and the city attorney to come up with a management plan and strategy for the end of Minutemen Causeway during our busy spring and summer weekends. We are targeting one of the commission meetings in July to present this plan for discussion and adoption. Smart implementation of the plan will help us to better control the crowds and associated impacts to our downtown beach area. I'm optimistic we can make our beach better.

Our annual fireworks show is approaching. This year central Brevard will be treated to three firework shows. Our show will be held on July 3<sup>rd</sup>. Special thanks to our headline sponsors Ron Jon

Surf Shop and the Kennedy Space Center Visitor Complex along with our local Hotel Association and the City of Cape Canaveral for helping make this year's show possible. I would also like to thank the Port Cove Association for coordinating with us as they will be hosting a fireworks show on July 2<sup>nd</sup>. The City of Cocoa will be hosting a fireworks show on July 4<sup>th</sup>. I'm optimistic we will enjoy a great July 4<sup>th</sup> weekend.

So you may ask why is he so optimistic after each one of his paragraphs above? Well, we can either decide to look backwards and wonder...or we can choose to look forward and pursue a vision of how can we make things better. I'm optimistic about our future and choose to look forward, and with your help, we'll make Cocoa Beach a little better each passing day. All the best. Kevin

## JULY FIREWORKS

In the interest of public safety, citizens and visitors alike who plan to attend this year's fireworks display at Alan Shepard Park on Sunday, July 3<sup>rd</sup>, are asked to not bring or set off any personal fireworks on any of our public beaches.



It is illegal to discharge fireworks within the Cocoa Beach city limits and law enforcement officers will be issuing citations to those who violate the law.

Also please keep in mind that the trash left behind on our beaches costs the taxpayers to have it cleaned up. Let's plan to have some good ol' safe and "clean" family-fun over the July 4<sup>th</sup> weekend!



## JUNE 2011

LEON "SKIP" BEELER—MAYOR  
KEN GRIFFIN—VICE MAYOR  
SKIP WILLIAMS—COMMISSIONER  
KEVIN PRUETT—COMMISSIONER  
DAVE NETTERSTROM—COMMISSIONER  
CHUCK BILLIAS—CITY MANAGER



## LONG-TIME RESIDENT AND 26 YEAR "VOLUNTEER" ON CITY'S PLANNING BOARD REMEMBERED

William S. Brosier, 86, passed away on May 24, 2011, in Tuscaloosa, Alabama. Bill served in the U.S. Army during WWII and

fought in the battles for Leyte and Okinawa. After the war, he obtained a Mechanical Design Engineering Degree from the University of Alabama and was employed for several years at Langley's Aeronautical Research Center in Virginia. He was transferred to the Kennedy Space Center and later retired from NASA. After NASA, Bill worked for an additional 10 years for the Boeing Company.

Mr. Brosier served as a member and secretary of the City's Planning Board for an amazing 26 years! He was a key participant in the preparation and publication of the City's first Comprehensive Plan which served as a baseline for establishing guidelines for the City's future planning efforts.

Bill will be missed by his friends and members of the City Staff who worked with him on a continual basis throughout his many years of service.

## UTILITY BILL CHANGES COMING IN JULY

Effective in July 2011, the City of Cocoa will be billing and collecting for all utility services provided to Cocoa Beach residences and businesses.

See [www.cityofcocoa beach.com](http://www.cityofcocoa beach.com) for details.

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## HURRICANE SEASON IS HERE!

Remember Floyd? Remember Charley? Remember Jeanne? Remember Frances? Remember Fay? We are quite vulnerable to hurricane damage and ocean surges on our barrier island. Do you have a good hurricane evacuation plan in place? Information about what you can do to protect yourself and others can be found at <http://www.nhc.noaa.gov/HAW2/english/basics.shtml> and <http://www.floridadisaster.org/>. Get ready now!

