

***BELLEAIR CENTENNIAL OF INCORPORATION 1925-2025***

***WHEREAS, the Town of Belleair celebrates its 100<sup>th</sup> year as an incorporated municipality in 2025; and,***

***WHEREAS, the Town of Belleair traces its origins to 1896 as part of Gilded Age railroad tycoon Henry Bradley Plant's vision for the development of Florida's west coast alongside his Belleview Hotel, named after the "beautiful air" and "beautiful views" of the location; and,***

***WHEREAS, Plant's vision was joined by a string of dreamers and developers who believed in building a better Belleair such as Morton Plant, John McEntee Bowman, Earle Carley, Ernest Hallett, Ed Parker and others; and,***

***WHEREAS, the Town of Belleair first incorporated on May 23, 1923 as Belleair Heights and reincorporated June 8, 1925 as Belleair; and,***

***WHEREAS, the Town of Belleair, through the Belleview Biltmore Hotel, played a pivotal role in the training of tens of thousands of Army soldiers who led the United States to victory in World War II, as well as through the development of Donald Roebling's LVT Alligator; and,***

***WHEREAS, the Town of Belleair wishes to recognize the pioneering efforts of its early citizens, founding fathers, and community leaders throughout its history in building the town as it exists today; and,***

***WHEREAS, the Town of Belleair wishes to inspire the public to be involved with civic and community life through the preservation and promotion of Belleair's history.***

***NOW, THEREFORE, I, MICHAEL WILKINSON, 29<sup>th</sup> Mayor of the Town of Belleair, Florida, do hereby proclaim 2025 as:***

***BELLEAIR'S CENTENNIAL YEAR***

***FURTHER, I urge all citizens to join with their elected officials and fellow neighbors in celebrating this milestone of our community.***

***GIVEN under my hand and the Seal of  
the TOWN OF BELLEAIR, FLORIDA,  
this 15<sup>th</sup> day of JULY, 2025.***

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***MICHAEL WILKINSON, MAYOR***