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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

City of Belleview Recognizes Outstanding Citizens for Their Contributions

Belleview, FL – At the February 4, 2025, Belleview City Commission meeting, Chief Terry Holland of the Belleview Police Department presented awards recognizing individuals who have gone above and beyond in service to the community.

Jennifer and Jim Amidei were honored with an Award of Gratitude for their continued dedication to the Belleview Police Department's "Shop with a Cop" program. Each year, the Amideis, who both work for The Villages—Jennifer in the sales department and Jim as a realtor—coordinate a fundraising drive to support the program, which allows Belleview police officers to take children on a special holiday shopping trip. Their tireless efforts have helped enhance the program year after year, and in 2024, their fundraising success even provided excess funds that were used to sponsor the Toys for Tots program as well.

"The generosity and dedication shown by Jill and Jim Amidei truly embody the spirit of community service," said Mayor Christine Dobkowski. "Their efforts bring joy to children in need during the holiday season and strengthen the bond between our officers and the people they serve. Their passion and commitment to making a difference in the lives of local families do not go unnoticed, and we are incredibly grateful to have such selfless individuals as part of our Belleview community. It is through actions like theirs that we create a city where compassion and goodwill thrive."

In addition to recognizing the Amideis, Chief Holland also presented an Award for Heroism to Jessica Kidd, whose quick thinking and decisive actions saved a child's life. Kidd was at the Winn-Dixie parking lot when she noticed a child in distress. She immediately sprang into action, administering aid and keeping the child stable until paramedics arrived on the scene.

"Jessica Kidd's bravery and composure in a moment of crisis made all the difference," said Chief Terry Holland. "When faced with an emergency, she didn't hesitate—she acted, and because of her swift response, a young life was saved. Her courage and willingness to step in without a second thought serve as a powerful reminder of the incredible impact one person can have. It is a true honor to recognize Jessica for her heroism, and we are deeply thankful for her selfless actions."

The City of Belleview extends its heartfelt gratitude to these exceptional individuals for their unwavering commitment to the well-being of others. Their selfless actions continue to make Belleview a better, stronger community.