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City of Belleview Proclaims February 16-23 as Engineers Week

BELLEVIEW, FL – At its February 18, 2025, meeting, the Belleview City Commission officially proclaimed February 16-23 as “Engineers Week” in Belleview, recognizing the crucial role engineers play in shaping and improving the city’s infrastructure, public safety, and overall quality of life. This designation aligns with National Engineers Week, established in 1951 by the National Society of Professional Engineers, and is celebrated annually during the week of George Washington’s birthday in honor of his legacy as a military engineer.

The proclamation acknowledges the invaluable contributions of engineers in addressing global challenges, driving technological advancements, and fostering innovation. It further highlights the importance of inspiring the next generation of problem-solvers by encouraging students to pursue careers in science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM).

In attendance at the meeting was Alan Garri from the Forest Chapter of the Florida Engineering Society (FES), who provided insight into engineering-related events in the region.

- **February 1:** FES partnered with Marion County Public Schools to host the MATHCOUNTS competition at Liberty Middle School, featuring participation from eight middle schools. The winning team will advance to regional and state competitions, with the potential to compete at the national level.
- **March 15:** FES will host **Engineering Day at the Discovery Science Center** from 9:30 AM – 2:30 PM. Open to children ages 5-15, this free event will feature hands-on engineering experiments, including bridge building, water treatment activities, and egg drop competitions. Registration closes on March 13. More information is available at: [Discovery Science Center Engineering Day](#)
- **April 5:** FES is partnering with the **Institute for Human & Machine Cognition (IHMC)** for a Science Saturday event focused on water and erosion. Designed for children ages 3-7, the event will feature interactive experiments led by local engineers. More details can be found at: [IHMC Science Saturdays](#)

Alan Garri expressed his gratitude, stating, *“We appreciate the City of Belleview for recognizing the engineering profession and the impact it has on our daily lives. Engineers work behind the scenes to design, build, and maintain the critical infrastructure that supports our communities, ensuring safety, efficiency, and innovation. It’s rewarding to see this acknowledgment from local leaders, as it underscores the importance of engineering in everyday life. We hope this recognition will inspire more young minds to explore careers in engineering and contribute to shaping the future.”*

Belleview Public Works Director Bob Titterington also emphasized the importance of engineering in city operations. *“From roads and bridges to water treatment and stormwater management, engineers play an essential role in ensuring the safety and efficiency of our city’s infrastructure. Their expertise and dedication are vital to Belleview’s continued growth and success. Without engineers, we wouldn’t have the modern conveniences and reliable infrastructure that make our city a great place to live and work. We commend their hard work and encourage young people to consider the rewarding opportunities in this field.”*

Mayor Christine Dobkowski echoed these sentiments, adding, *“Engineers are the backbone of progress. Their innovative solutions and problem-solving skills shape the way we live, work, and interact with our environment. We are proud to recognize their contributions and support efforts to inspire the next generation of engineers. Engineering is more than just building structures—it’s about improving lives, making our cities better, and preparing for the challenges of the future. We are grateful for the dedication and expertise of engineers in Belleview and beyond.”*

For more information about National Engineers Week and local engineering events, please visit the websites linked above or contact the Florida Engineering Society's Forest Chapter.