

The Kings Point Democratic Voice



Volume: July 2021

7620 Nob Hill Rd, Tamarac, FL 33321



President's Notes - Julie Fishman

Kings Point Democratic Club Candidates Forum July 21, 2021



Time is drawing near for our Special Candidates Forum!

At the time of this newsletter, we have 8 of the 10 Democratic candidates running for Congressional District 20 confirmed and 99 people registered to attend the Forum. Because we want to get as much information to our members as possible during this forum, we have sent very strict guidelines to the candidates on the format of the forum and the prepared questions that will be asked.

We are saving the last 15 minutes of the forum for questions from the audience. We will be handing out index cards to the audience to write down questions to be asked. If you have a question for a specific candidate, make sure to include your name, phone number and email address in case your question isn't asked during the forum. This way the candidate can reach out to you afterward to get you the answer.

I will be the moderator and Mr. Cliff Esserman will be the official timekeeper for this event.

Here is the format for the forum:

Introduction by candidates will be 2 minutes for each candidate in the following order (20 minutes):

- o Sheila Cherfilus-McCormick
- o Elvin Dowling
- o Representative Bobby DuBose
- o Representative Omary Hardy
- o Commissioner Dale Holness
- o Dr. Commissioner Barbara Sharief
- o Former Commissioner Priscilla Taylor
- o Senator Perry Thurston

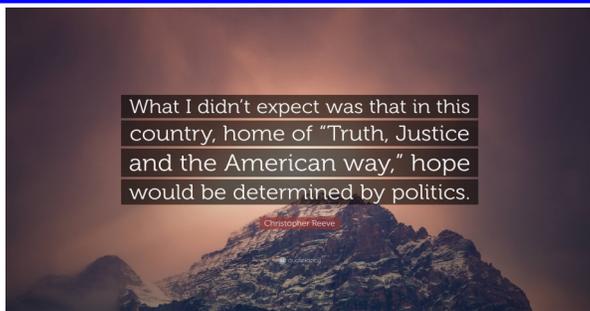


For the prepared questions section the group will be broken into groups with the order to answer a question changed for each question. This allows for each group to get a different question. We have allowed 55 minutes in total for this section.

The final section will be questions from the audience. We will be asking the audience to write down their questions and I will be asking the questions once they have been received. This again helps us control the timing, as we will have 15 minutes for the final section. Questions can be for specific candidates or for all candidates. Any questions for a specific candidate that are not asked will be given to the candidate to answer via phone or email.

If you haven't registered yet, please do so by going to www.kingspointdems.com. You can register through our events page. Nonmembers who are registered Democrats are welcome to attend and can also register through the same page! I hope to see you all on the 21st.

As always, my sincerest wishes for much happiness and great health, *Julie*



RANDOM THOUGHTS by Geoff Grosky, Editor

Perhaps what bothers me most about our world of politics today, is that far too often, “morality” has taken such a distant, backseat to one’s need of holding on to political power. We see this in our city, county, state, and at the federal level!

I have always lived by a belief that each of us must have an inner core value system, that determines how we live, how we make decisions, and how we work with and get along with those around us. It is that “moral compass” that must be the basis for how we reach individual decisions and both consensus and compromise in collective group-settings. For decades, I tried to model and impart this philosophy to Donna’s and my three children at home, as well as to thousands of my middle school kids, as part of helping our nation’s children grow to be good students, good adults, good citizens, good parents, and good people.

Some very interesting things have been said on this topic, over the years. I’d like to share just a few of them, and then look at how they apply or not to some of the people who are elected to represent us, not only in our state and country, but also in dealings at the very highest level on our world stage. They make decisions on our behalf and appoint others who weigh in very heavily regarding issues of finance, commerce, defense, justice, infrastructure, education, as well as on our physical, mental, and emotional well-being - along with countless other issues that could fill every page of this newsletter, were I to list them all.

- ◆ *“There can be no compromise on moral issues. There can be no compromise on matters of knowledge, of truth, of rational conviction. It is only in regard to concretes or particulars, implementing a mutually accepted basic principle, that one may compromise.” Ayn Rand, Russian-American writer, Philosopher*
- ◆ *“A man does what he must - in spite of personal consequences, in spite of obstacles and dangers and pressures - and that is the basis of all human morality.” - John F. Kennedy*
- ◆ *“The most important human endeavor is the striving for morality in our actions. Our inner balance and even our very existence depend on it. Only morality in our actions can give beauty and dignity to life.” - Albert Einstein*
- ◆ *“Integrity is telling myself the truth. And honesty is telling the truth to other people.” - Spencer Johnson, American Author*
- ◆ *“It is curious - curious that physical courage should be so common in the world, and moral courage so rare.” - Mark Twain, American Novelist and Journalist*

In the first Senate, Trump Impeachment trial - Democrats sought to have witnesses called to bring forth additional evidence, which had not been presented by the House. Republicans (holding the Senate’s majority) blocked those efforts - instead wanting just an up and down “political” vote on guilt or innocence.



(continued on next page)



(continued) In the second Senate, Trump Impeachment trial - Democrats presented more than enough evidence to convince most of the nation of Trump's guilt, but only 7 of 50 Republican Senators would choose to vote their conscience, falling far short of the 2/3 majority needed. The other 43 Republicans chose to ignore January 6th's "INSURRECTION" as just another typical Washington D.C. day with "visitors at the Capitol," and politically voted to acquit the President of wrongdoing in his call to blind disciples to "March to Congress."

In President Obama's final year in office, there was a Supreme Court Justice vacancy. Senate Republicans under the leadership of Majority Leader, Mitch McConnell blocked any vote from even taking place during the "lame duck" year, claiming it was more "just or fair-minded" to give the "American people" a voice, by allowing a new President to make such an appointment. This was in March of 2020; It would be seven and a half months until the election, and ten full months before a new President would be sworn in. Four years later, McConnell, along with Lindsey Graham and other "in-power" Senate Republicans did a complete 180 degree flip flop, ignoring their previous words about giving the people a "say" - by voting in a new Justice, barely a week before the 2020 Presidential election.

In numerous "red states," Republican-controlled state legislatures are trying to suppress voting rights, that will adversely affect areas, where Democrats and/or people of color are in the significant majority. The reason: simply to make it easier for Republican to stay in power at ALL levels - local, state, and national. Florida, Texas, Georgia, and dozens of others are currently debating AND approving these draconian measures.

In a number of states, reactionary-level Republicans are carrying a truly unethical banner, in challenging the 2020 vote in certain racially sensitive precincts... all based on "THE BIG LIE" - propagated by Trump and his legion of lackeys. Not only are the challenges, absolutely baseless in both their numbers and facts, but the firms being hired to do the accounting, are in a number of areas, actually connected to the challenging entities, an incredible conflict of interest. Just as bad, or even worse, these states are trying to create a system where local or state entities can OVERTURN election results if they suspect (even without verifying) fraud. Our court system will have quite the field days, in hearing challenges to such morally despicable proposals - should they become law. Again... all are socially unconscionable; all are designed to "hold onto POWER."

Our own KPIT Democratic Club, may fall victim to Governor DeSantis's "keeping-power" initiatives in challenging political entities from helping their constituents correctly filling out ballots/envelopes... and delivering them to the Election Supervisors. Our Governor is making baseless claims that Democrats are engaged in nefarious actions in "harvesting ballots" to fraudulently tip the election scales. Florida politics as usual!

This Governor has also unfairly and unethically, deprived us right here in Tamarac and Broward County of our Congressional representation, by long-delaying the election to fill the seat of our deceased Alcee Hastings.... Again, for no other reason than helping Republicans in the US House, narrow the gap of power.

Florida State's Congress has taken a huge, unprincipled step in their refusal to enact laws passed by the state's voters as regards convicted felons having the right to vote.

Someone with whom I seldom agreed with politically, the late Republican Senator, John McCain was a man who put morality, fairness, & ethics ahead of power, ahead of party, ahead of political winds of fortune. A man of conscience, of honor. Mitch, Lindsey, Marco, Rick Scott, Jim Jordan, Ernst, Hawley, Grassley, Ron Johnson, Cornyn, Kevin McCarthy, Scalise, Mo Brooks, all need to stop thumping your bibles & instead actually follow them, along with the Constitution, to lead and govern from a moral high-ground, and not from a power-hungry getreelected at all costs manner of doing business in today's unprincipled, unscrupulous Republican party.



Kings Point Democratic Club in Tamarac
2021 General Meetings Schedule



July 21 (note change) (6 - 9pm) SPECIAL CANDIDATES FORUM -See/hear the candidates vying to fill Alcee Hastings' US House of Representatives seat!

August 18, 2021 (6:30 - 9:30) - special topics: "redistricting, gerrymandering, and how to take action" – Abeni Davies

September No Meeting

October 20, 2021 (12:00 - 3:00)

November 17, 2021 (6:30 - 9:30)

December 15, 2021 (12:00 - 3pm)

***Membership Drive December 3, 2021 (5:30-8:00)**

**General
Membership
Meeting**



MEETINGS

MEETINGS

MEETINGS

**OUR KPIT DEMOCRATIC CLUB
MEETINGS REALLY DO HAVE A
NUMBER OF GOOD PURPOSES:**

SOCIAL INTERACTION, SEEING OLD FRIENDS,
MAKING NEW FRIENDS.

A CHANCE TO MAKE THE WORLD BETTER
FOR OUR KIDS & GRANDKIDS.

TO KEEP US (AS SENIORS) INFORMED, IN-
VOLVED, AND INTELLECTUALLY STIMULATED.

TO CAUSE A LITTLE (OR SOMETIMES, A LOT)
OF GOOD "DEMOCRATIC" TROUBLE!

Kings Point Democratic Club in Tamarac

2021 Board of Directors Meeting Schedule

**Board Meetings are scheduled for the first Thursday of each month,
from 1:00PM to 3:30 PM, in the KPIT Islamorada Room as follows:**

July 1, 2021

August 5, 2021

September 2, 2021

October 7, 2021

November 4, 2021

December 2, 2021

NEWSLETTER COLUMN by:

Dr. Barbara Sharief, Broward County Commissioner



The Most Important Issues Facing Our Seniors

In this climate of financial harm related to COVID-19 the struggles and difficulties of one population of our community have truly been overlooked. That is our seniors. For years senior residents of Florida have struggled with the cost of prescription drugs as well as Medicare not covering long term care. What are the things that seniors need the most? Healthcare, decreased prescription drug costs, long-term care and housing that's affordable.

Thankfully, in Broward County we have focused on affordable housing initiatives and allocations of funds to help our seniors survive COVID-19 and beyond. However our funding is not enough and funding from the federal government can help us to do even better.

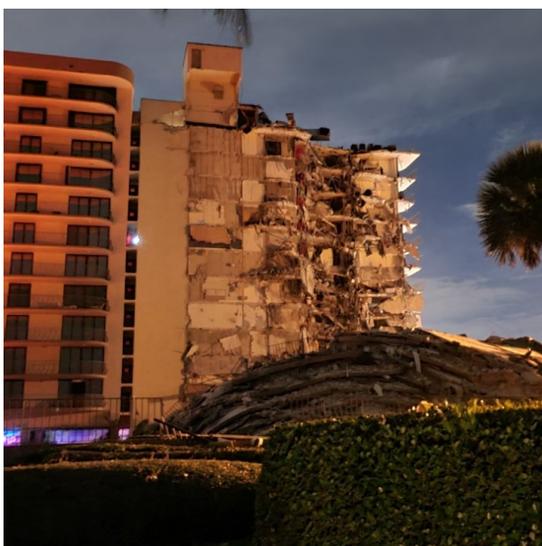
Additionally, we can do better for seniors by expanding Medicare to cover long term care and renegotiating the prices of high prescription drug costs which includes international buying of prescription drugs and negotiating with other countries that make the same drugs for cheaper in safe factories.

We need to take a look at social security payments because social security has not changed with inflation it has not kept pace with Seniors on fixed incomes and retirement. Seniors receiving social security benefits receive benefits at the same level from the time they start collecting and for many years after, this program needs to be re-evaluated to provide adjustments for the increase in cost of living.

At this time these are the things that I advocate for at the National Association of Counties and on a state level on behalf of the seniors in our Broward community. These are the issues that I've heard are most important to our senior community. If you have more concerns and feel that there are other things that need to be addressed please reach out to me at 954-357-7008

Sincerely,

Your Broward County Commissioner Dr. Barbara Sharief



Today, and for the coming tomorrows, our prayers, thoughts, and love go out to our brothers and sisters whose lives were affected by the recent Surfside, Florida tragedy. We mourn with you, and offer you, all of our support in any possible way we can. God bless you all.



#SURFSIDESTRONG



JULY 2021 QUIZ - IDENTIFY THESE FAMOUS FOLKS BY THEIR PICTURES



1.) Mid 1900s First Lady _____



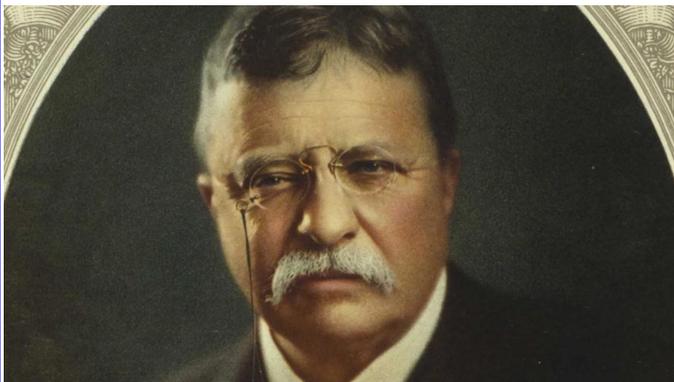
2.) _____ was an unelected Vice President who happened to serve under a President, who was also unelected.



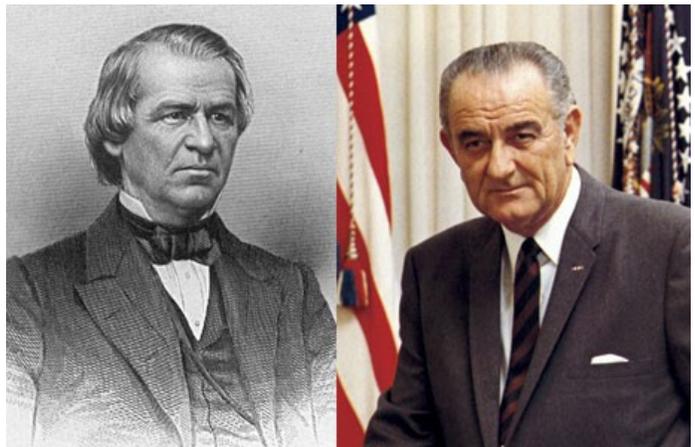
3.) Our 1st African American Congresswoman, also sought Dem Presidential nomination: _____



4.) Current US Senator, who lost both legs in combat in Iraq: _____.



5.) Youngest President ever, took office after assassination of William McKinley: _____



Two Presidents who shared a common surname (last name) but were NOT related: _____ & _____

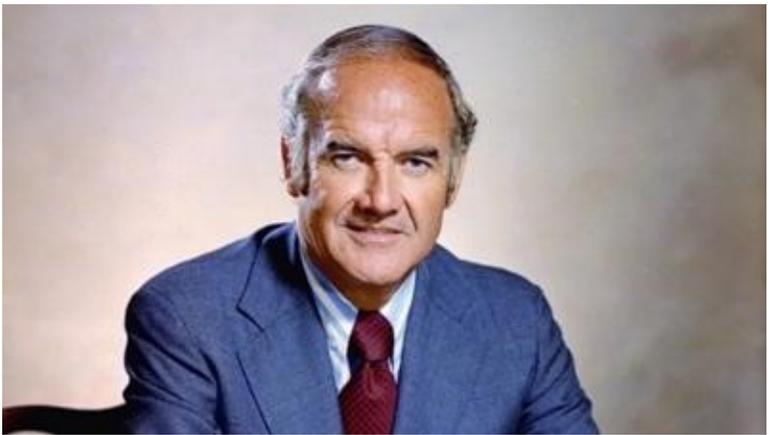
QUIZ CONTINUES ON NEXT PAGE. - QUIZ ANSWERS ON PAGE 9.



7.) 1ST Muslim Congressperson, Part of "The Squad" _____

8.) 2nd US House Rep in the "Squad" is Minnesota Congresswoman, Ilhan _____

9.) Massachusetts Rep. Ayanna _____ is Squad member 3



10) Often known best by her 3 distinct initials, this feisty Rep from the Bronx is The 4th of Congress's "Squad" elected in 2018: _____

South Dakota liberal who was the 1972 Democratic Party nominee for President : _____

QUOTE OF THE MONTH

"We learned about honesty and integrity - that the truth matters... that you don't take shortcuts or play by your own set of rules... and success doesn't count unless you earn it fair and square."

Michelle Obama

former First Lady



Our New 2021/2022 Kings Point in Tamarac Democratic Club Officers and Board

Officers

President Julie Fishman
1st Vice President John Donnelly
2nd Vice President Lurow Hall
Secretary Annie Latimer-Beeks
Treasurer Sid Prine/Joe Kientzy*
Past President Mona M Malbranche

* Upon Sid Prine's recent resignation, and already with the Board's unanimous approval, Joe Kientzy will become our new Treasurer, after the Club's July 2021 ratification.



Board of Directors

Norman Bykofsky
Judy Camel
Geoffrey Grosky
Gerald Heller
Helen Stoddard
Burt Scholl
Dyanna Skolnick
Monique Sajous
Gerry Streete

KPIT Democratic Club Committees and Chairpersons - 2021

COMMITTEE



ASSIGNMENTS

Marketing & Communications – Work on branding and communication for the Club.

Julie Fishman – Committee Chair
Annie Latimer-Beeks Norman Bykofsky
Jack Donnelly Geoffrey Grosky

Budget/Finance – All things financial
Sid Prine – Committee Chair
Joe Kientzy Mona Malbranche

Bylaws – Go over current Bylaws and come back with any needed changes.
Mona Malbranche – Committee Chair
Gerald Heller Joe Kientzy
Burt Scholl

Candidate/Legislative – Work on candidate forums and put together information on candidates to share with the Club. Also, look at issues impacting us at the local state and national level.

Julie Fishman – Committee Chair
Gerald Heller Geoffrey Grosky
Mona Malbranche Burt Scholl

It is with deep regret, that we accept Sid Prine's resignation as Democratic Club Treasurer. We sincerely appreciate everything that Sid has done in keeping our books accurate, and our house in good financial order. We are very happy that Sid has agreed to stay with us in an advisory capacity in helping Joe Kientzy take on this important position.

THANK YOU SO MUCH SID!

Newsletter – Create, publish, & distribute monthly Democratic Voice Newsletter.

Geoffrey Grosky – Committee Chair
Lurow Hall Gerald Heller
Gerry Streete

Phone Banking – Work to get out the vote.

Monique Sajous – Committee Chair

Food and Greeting – Set up, clean up and pass out food at monthly meeting.

Greeting members in the meeting.

Judy Camel – Committee Chair
Jack Donnelly Monique Sajous
Dyanna Skolnick

Cruise – Plan annual cruise

Geoffrey Grosky – Committee Chair
Roberta Kranz Norman Bykofsy

Fundraising – Work on annual fundraising events and 50/50 ticket sales during monthly meetings. Create new opportunities to Fundraise.

Julie Fishman – Committee Chair

Membership – Help increase the membership of the Club.

Gerry Streete – Committee Chair
Annie Latimer-Beeks Norman Bykofsky
Lurow Hall Monique Sajous

If you would like to volunteer to serve on one of these committees, please contact the Committee Chairperson, or let Julie Fishman know, or even send an email or text to Geoff. These are important committees; your joining one of them is not only an act of service to the Democratic community, but should be a fun endeavor. LET'S ALL STEP UP! We really want an active club membership!

QUIZ ANSWERS

- | | |
|-----------------------|------------------------------|
| 1. Mamie Eisenhower | 6. Andrew and Lyndon Johnson |
| 2. Nelson Rockefeller | 7. Rashida Tlaib |
| 3. Shirley Chisholm | 8. Omar |
| 4. Tammy Duckworth | 9. Pressley |
| 5. Teddy Roosevelt | 10. Alexanria Ocassio-Cortez |
| 11. George Mc Govern | |



*** The opinions expressed in this newsletter are solely those of the individual authors. They do not necessarily express those of Kings Point in Tamarac Democratic Club, or its membership, officers, or directors. Please address any concerns to the editor, Geoff Grosky @ cruznclass@aol.com***



POLITICAL UNITY FOR TEAM BLUE



Let's get ALL Florida Democrats to pledge to ONLY have positive things to say about their fellow Democrats in the coming months and into 2022, as we head into a multitudes of critical elections in our own "Sunshine State."

Turning Florida, **BLUE** is a formidable task, and it can only be accomplished if EVERYONE works as a team, with the ultimate goal being, electing Democrats in the final elections.

Let's start this process with the race to vote in a Democrat to replace the late, great, Alcee Hastings - as our newest Congressman or Congresswoman in the United States House of Representatives. That primary will include the participants who will be featured in our July 21st forum!

Let's continue it with November 2022's races for Congress, and let's especially hold our candidates to a pledge of NOT attacking other Democrats in the coming Senate races. We desperately need to replace Marco Rubio, Rick Scott, and in the Gubernatorial race, we must do whatever we can, to "kick" Republican, Ron DeSantis to the proverbial "curb."



WE NEED FOR DEMOCRATS BE A TEAM TO REALLY SUCCEED!

IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS, CONCERNS, OR COMMENTS REGARDING THE NEWSLETTER, PLEASE ADDRESS THEM TO GEOFFREY GROSKY, DEMOCRATIC VOICE NEWSLETTER EDITOR, EITHER THROUGH THE KPIT DEMOCRATIC CLUB, OR DIRECTLY TO GEOFF VIA EMAIL: CRUZNCLASS@AOL.COM, OR BY PHONE: (954) 366-1791, OR BY TEXT: (508) 284-2561. WE'D LOVE TO HAVE ARTICLES OR LETTERS TO THE EDITOR FROM OUR MEMBERSHIP. ANY MATERIAL SUBMITTED MUST INCLUDE YOUR NAME AND CONTACT NUMBER FOR EDITORIAL PURPOSES. SHOULD YOU THEN WISH TO NOT HAVE YOUR NAME INCLUDED, WE CAN ACCOMODATE YOUR REQUEST.



Who will replace the late Congressman Alcee Hastings in District 20's - U.S, House of Representatives seat? That is the question voters will answer in the upcoming Special Election. Get to know the candidates by attending the Special Candidates Forum Wednesday, July 21st at 6pm Kings Point Clubhouse, Cabaret Room!

Registration is required so please send an email to: info@kingspointdems.com or call Julie at 954-461-1311

Come visit us in the KPIT Cabaret Room at our Democratic Club Tables every Tuesday morning, from 9:00 - 11:00. Stop by and chat with our Club Officers and the Board. Give us your thoughts on today's world of local, state, and national politics and the direction, you'd like to see our Democratic Club and Party go. Bring a friend and sign them up with our KPIT Democratic Club! Take advantage of our special, low Democratic Club membership rate, of just \$7.50 for the remainder of calendar year, 2021!





BROWARD COUNTY COMMISSION JULY 2021 NOTES

Michael Udine - City Commissioner, Vice Mayor- Summer is in full swing, and Broward County has many activities that will help you cool off. From camps for the kids, beach days, and travel options out of the Fort Lauderdale-Hollywood International Airport, Broward has it all. Speaking of meeting your travel needs—cruising is back at Port Everglades! Cruising is a major industry for our region and supports many jobs directly and indirectly. From food service, engineering, and everything in between, Broward County needs a strong cruise line industry. In July, Celebrity and Royal Caribbean will resume sailings along with additional lines starting again soon. Broward is also looking to add new partners such as Disney Cruise Line. Our port is looking forward to welcoming back tourists and locals alike!

For those who will be staying in town, summer break is the perfect time to explore all that our region has to offer. The Greater Fort Lauderdale Convention and Visitors Bureau is running their “LauderDeals” summer savings program for hotels, restaurants, local attractions, spa services, and more. There is something for everyone, so you can enjoy a “staycation” here in Broward County while also supporting our local businesses. To check out all the options follow @VisitLauderdale on social media or visit sunny.org!

Looking to stay busy during the summer? Check out the many virtual and in-person programs going on through your local library. From arts and crafts, seminars, and book clubs, Broward County libraries have programs for all ages to participate in! Be sure to check out the health and wellness offerings such as yoga classes. All these options can be found in the Broward County Library magazine, and you can see more details at Broward.org/library.

Broward County’s Cultural Division is hosting courses throughout the summer to assist those in the arts with growing their business. On Saturdays throughout July, free seminars will be presented on topics including applying for grant funding, financial strategies, and how to negotiate. These seminars will teach you how to work with Broward County to further your art business for a strong future. The Cultural Division also continues to share opportunities for artists and art events happening throughout the community. Check out more information at broward.org/Arts.

July 4TH is here, and the festivities are back! Throughout District 3, cities will be hosting celebrations to honor our nation’s independence. I urge you to enjoy and celebrate responsibly. Check out one of the many professional fireworks displays and events throughout the community. Happy Independence Day!

The top priority for my staff and I is staying connected with the residents of District 3. We are available by phone, email, and social media. Reach me at MUdine@Broward.org or at my office at (954) 357-7003. Follow on social media @CommissionerMichaelUdine on Facebook and @MichaelUdine on Twitter or Instagram to receive important updates and see what is happening in our community. Let’s connect!

Sincerely, *Michael Udine*, City Commissioner, Vice-Mayor



“The Star-Spangled Banner” Sir Francis Scott Key

HAPPY 4th of JULY, UNITED STATES OF AMERICA!

HOW MANY OF YOU HAD ANY IDEA THERE WERE THIS MANY VERSES TO OUR NATIONAL ANTHEM?

O say can you see by the dawn's early light,
What so proudly we hailed at the twilight's last gleaming,
Whose broad stripes and bright stars through the perilous
fight,
O'er the ramparts we watched, were so gallantly stream-
ing?
And the rockets' red glare, the bombs bursting in air,
Gave proof through the night that our flag was still there;
O say does that star-spangled banner yet wave,
O'er the land of the free and the home of the brave?

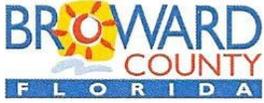
On the shore dimly seen through the mists of the deep,
Where the foe's haughty host in dread silence reposes,
What is that which the breeze, o'er the towering steep,
As it fitfully blows, half conceals, half discloses?
Now it catches the gleam of the morning's first beam,
In full glory reflected now shines in the stream:
'Tis the star-spangled banner, O! long may it wave
O'er the land of the free and the home of the brave.

And where is that band who so vauntingly swore
That the havoc of war and the battle's confusion,
A home and a country, should leave us no more?
Their blood has washed out their foul footsteps' pollution.
No refuge could save the hireling and slave
From the terror of flight, or the gloom of the grave:
And the star-spangled banner in triumph doth wave,
O'er the land of the free and the home of the brave.

O thus be it ever, when freemen shall stand
Between their loved home and the war's desolation.
Blest with vict'ry and peace, may the Heav'n rescued land
Praise the Power that hath made and preserved us a na-
tion!
Then conquer we must, when our cause it is just,
And this be our motto: "In God is our trust."
And the star-spangled banner in triumph shall wave
O'er the land of the free and the home of the brave!



Important



Beth Talabisco
Director of Community Outreach

Michael Udine
County Commissioner

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District 3

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Have your personal or professional information or greeting in our

Democratic Club Newsletter.

Please contact **Geoff Grosky,**
Gerry Streete or

Lurow Hall for details.