Inside Hillcrest

- Connecting Neighbors to Neighbors -



AUGUST 2017

HOLLYWOOD, FLORIDA

VOLUME 11 • ISSUE 8

AUGUST 2017 INSIDE HILLCREST

Inside Hillcrest is still working on building a team to help our elderly residents when they need it. We have added two more businesses to our Hillcrest Help for Hillcresters Team. **Majestic Memory Center** is a godsend for anyone who is showing signs of dementia or Alzheimer's. Dinah and Jillian Pickett, owners of Home Instead, are members of the Hollywood Chamber. We have known them for years and their area of expertise is assisting our residents who need help with everyday tasks and daily routines.

Meet the "Team" and Clip and Save page 19.

Princella Seymour, Complete Elder Care, would be your first phone call if you are worried about one of our elderly residents. She will come by and assess the situation, get in touch with the family and take it from there. You do not have to get involved but at least make the call.

Carlos Rivas of Allegiance Senior Consultants is the one I call when a resident WANTS to move to an Assisted Living Facility but is not sure which one would suit them best and is the most affordable. He has a personal consultation, selects several ALFs and TAKES our resident to see them so they can choose the one they like.

David Treece of Treece Financial Group protects our resident's assets – I personally know two very happy former residents who can tell you what a genuine guy he is and the excellent job he has done for them; not only protecting, but growing their assets so they always have a nest egg to fall back on. Both are in ALF's but know that should they need anything or want to make a change, they have the financial means to do so.

Majestic Memory Care Center is right here in Hollywood and specializes in dementia and Alzheimer's. I have known Saul Chapnick for years and have toured Majestic when it first opened and again recently. It is an absolutely gorgeous facility and has an amazing, caring staff. Their ad is in this issue and Saul's business card is on page 19 also.

Margie Longstreth, Executive Director of Five Star Premier Residences of Hollywood is another dear friend who I admire immensely. Her passion for the care and happiness of our older population is inspiring to everyone who works for her. She has established a culture of respect and attention has made Five Star one of the most sought-after facilities for those who want to be independent in a safe, beautiful environment. We deliver Inside Hillcrest to Five Star for our former residents every month.

Home Instead offers several types of in-home care that can be individualized to meet the needs of your family members. Their compassionate CAREGivers assist elder clients with like showering, cooking, errands, transportation and much more at reasonable prices. Owned and operated by mother/daughter Dinah and Jillian Pickett.

Getting close to age 65? Choosing your first health plan **Medicare** is a big decision; see **Janet Wong of Humana** is our go-to for health insurance.

There is nothing worse than being TOLD you can no longer live alone because you can no longer take care of yourself; but you just aren't ready yet. Anytime one of our elderly residents need to make a change in their living arrangements - whether they need home help care of need to move to an ALF, it is a traumatic time. Brian Gaiefsky and Cindy Abraham (me) with our work as Keller Williams A Team Florida, have come up with a program to help our residents make the transition and get situated during the process of selling their property. We make sure that they have the money to move and that they are happy where they go BEFORE we sell their home or condo. As you know, we also take care of the repairs

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and staging needed to get them top dollar which is paid back at closing. We take care of the timing and the preparation needed with the help of our elderly care partners to help make a challenging time a bit easier.

On PAGE 18 we have our advertisers who serve ALL our residents. Nancy Fowler of LegalShield is not just here for the elderly; her company is your first line of defense to help protect you from identity theft. Seniors especially can be at risk. For a nominal monthly fee, everyone in your household can be covered.

For those who are lucky enough to be able to afford home health care or have a relative that is living with them, we have our in-home team. Dr. Abe Ruttenberg from Oceanfront Acupuncture makes house calls as does Dr. Bert Henkel, our favorite podiatrist- foot specialist (my mom had a crush on him and would dress up for his house calls). And our own Hillcrest resident, Frank Wilson from Hillcrest 22, is our in-home Master Hair Colorist to help us look our best. Look good = feel good or is it vice versa?

The controversial issue of renaming Hollywood Streets named after Confederate Generals, Lee, Hood and Forrest because they had ties to the KKK and segregation efforts was one that I followed and had mixed feelings about. I just didn't think it was a big deal nor did I think it was anyone else's business but the people who lived on those streets. I didn't understand what all the hoopla was about and got to into a heated discussion with Commissioner Dick Blattner who was a proponent of the change. My thoughts were simply that Robert E Lee was doing his job. Forrest, an early member of the Ku Klux Klan lived to fully renounce his involvement with the Klan that he headed and abolished. Hood became a philanthropist assisting in fundraising for orphans, widows, and wounded soldiers. To me, it was "history forgotten can be history repeated". But then I read Beam Furr's article on page 8 and now that I understand the history behind it, I believe it is a case of correcting a terrible mistake. The streets never should have been named after those men in the first place. Read Commissioner Furr's article on page 8.

Five Tips to Keep Phishing from Leaving You on the Hook

The Internet provides us with a sea of information, products and services. But for criminals, the Internet is just another opportunity to take advantage of unsuspecting victims. Computer hackers use a scheme called 'phishing' to lure people into divulging private information, such as passwords and social security numbers, that are then used to commit financial crimes and identity theft.

Dianne Brodie, Branch Sales Leader at BankUnited says, "As a federally insured financial institution, BankUnited is required to have rigorous security protocols in place to protect our customers. But there are steps that customers can and should take to prevent themselves from becoming victims of fraud."

Dianne passes along these tips from the FDIC on how to guard against phishing and other online scams. We know who you are: Be suspicious of any e-mail or phone requests to update or verify your personal information. Financial institutions already have their customers' sensitive information such as social security number and account number and will never solicit updates to such information in an unsecure manner.

Be discreet: Cyber criminals search social media sites to learn information about you like pet name, place of birth, mother's maiden name, or schools you attended that would allow them to guess or reset your passwords. Routinely check your security settings on these sites to make sure people who you do not want seeing your pages are blocked.

Don't take the bait: Phishing e-mails and webpages are designed to look legitimate, in hopes of catching an unsuspecting victim off guard. Be wary of an incoming e-mail or text message that asks you to click on a link or download an attachment,

because the link or attachment may install malware that allows thieves to spy on your computer and gain access to your information. If you want to confirm a message, contact the sender using a published e-mail address or telephone number instead of the contact information in the message.

Be careful where and how you connect to the Internet: Public Wi-Fi spots such as coffee shops, airports, or hotel business centers could be prime phishing holes if they don't have up-to-date security software.

Install and keep security products updated: Equip your own computers with anti-virus software that prevents, detects and removes malicious programs. Set the software to install updates automatically. Consider also using a firewall to prevent unauthorized access. In simple terms, a firewall acts as a gatekeeper that helps screens out malware and other intruders who try to access your computer from the Internet. Be sure to use security products from reputable companies.

Be vigilant: Cyber criminals are always updating their bag of tricks, so be on guard and assume that any offer that seems too good to be true, is probably a fraud.

For more information about how you can protect yourself from cyber-related threats, please visit the FDIC cybersecurity website at www.fdic.gov/consumers/assistance/protection/IDtheft.html.

To learn more about BankUnited's products and services, contact Dianne Brodie at 954-322-4800 or visit BankUnited.com.

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FROM SPOUSE TO SPOUSE

Your spouse has been diagnosed with a lifelong debilitating disease. You took a vow years ago "in sickness and in health" As the disease progresses, you find yourself less and less a spouse and more of a nurse.

I see and speak to caregivers in crises daily about this new role they assumed. Many do not realize their roles have been changed. Yet, for many, there is exhaustion, fatigue and even resentment. What to do?

The first thing is to realize that your loved one needs a spouse. You took that vow to be a spouse. You are not trained to be a nurse. There are resources in the community that could take that role.

There are assisted living facilities, such as mine, that specialize in memory care. I entertain calls daily from spouses in crises. I listen and provide them with options. Many spouses who move their wives to assisted living communities say to me after weeks, "You're right Saul, I can be a husband/wife again."

There are also home health agencies that can care for your spouse and even escort them to the local adult day care center to give you some free time you deserve and need.

Call for advice or just talk to someone. Attend a caregiver support group. Realize the limitations of your role that you are not a nurse. Most of all, take care of yourself. Your spouse needs you. your friends and neighbors need you.

Saul Chapnick - Majestic Memory Care Center 1200 Arthur Street, Hollywood, FL 33009 - 954-926-5600



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Regulating Drones in Condominium Associations

Issue

Whether condominium associations should regulate drone use in their communities.

Discussion

In 2015, the Florida legislature passed the Freedom from Unwanted Surveillance Act, Section 934.50, Florida Statutes ("Act"). The Act states the following in relevant part:

A person, a state agency, or a political subdivision as defined in s. 11.45 may not use a drone equipped with an imaging device to record an image of privately owned real property or of the owner, tenant, occupant, invitee, or licensee of such property with the intent to conduct surveillance on the individual or property captured in the image in violation of such person's reasonable expectation of privacy without his or her written consent.

See § 934.50(3)(b), Florida Statutes

Drone operators in Florida are required to comply with the Act as well as with FAA regulations and local ordinances.

Community association legal experts and technology experts from around the country have advised community associations to seriously consider amending their governing documents to regulate the use of unmanned aerial vehicles ("drones") in their communities. Associations may wish to consider the following among other things:

- Amending their governing documents to limit drone use and delivery to common areas specifically designated for that purpose. Time of delivery should also be controlled. The purpose of these regulations is to establish an orderly process for receiving drone deliveries while minimizing potential harm to persons or property. It should be understood that there are many possibilities for consideration with each solution being influenced by characteristics unique to each condominium such as location, building design and common area space availiablity.
- Condominium associations may also want to consider requiring drone operators in their community to agree to defend and indemnify the association for any injury caused by the operation of the drone. The association may wish to extend the requirement to defend and indemnify beyond drone operators to anyone receiving drone deliveries on condominium property.



Drones have the potential to dramatically change the way individuals live their everyday lives. Condominium associations should expect the use of drones to increase as the technology and functionality of these vehicles improve. Amendment of governing documents, the alteration of common areas, and the effective implementation of rules and regulations is often a time consuming and difficult process. Moreover, any well-designed rules and regulations will also require the assistance of legal counsel in consultation with experts in drone advancements. The solutions for proper community drone use and regulation will prove to be as unique and complex as the individual communities involved. Accordingly, the real message here is that any association attempting to get out in front of this rapidly evolving technology should consider the implication of drone use and regulation sooner than later.

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JP'S BAGEL BAGEL - NOT NY BUT CLOSE

by michael killeen

GREAT BREAKFAST

GREAT BAGELS





Reminiscent of a fast paced and crowded New York deli, JP's delivers the same comfort food that bagel lovers crave. They have been in business since the 1060's. The current owner Casey acquired it 2008.

My Jewish brother in law Eric always wakes up early on the weekends and goes out for bagels. On the other hand, while I was living in New Jersey, I stayed up weekends all night partying and was at the bagel shop when they opened to get bagels warm and chewy. As you know, everybody loves fresh bagels and most people have a bagel story.

When I moved to Hollywood many years ago I found JP's bagels. The place was good and if I went alone before work it had a counter to dine at. And when I walked in I felt comfortable.



Many years and many bagels later I realize this place has great bagels great service at a great price. The staff is warm and friendly and the owner Casey works daily as hard as any employee that will serve, cook or fill your coffee cup.

Upon arriving you may not find a parking spot on the weekends. Don't worry, there is plenty of free parking just behind the storefront that faces Hollywood Boulevard. Also, be prepared to wait for a table. Almost every weekend there is a line out the door. A good friend once told me if a restaurant is busy it is because of one of two things. either there is good food or the prices are low. In this case I tend to think it is both.



Although I have never had a bad meal here, most of the time I order eggs with the everything bagel and grits. The breakfast comes with either grits, home fried potatoes that are great, or oatmeal. Once I went late and they offered french fries with breakfast. I jumped on that opportunity and with catsup I ate them up. Coffee here is great and there is never ending refills although I don't linger here sipping hot coffee because there are usually many hungry people waiting for my table. The wait staff will never rush you and the service is swift.

JP's bagels delivers great food at a great price. Their bagels are fresh every day. Likewise, daily specials for breakfast are great and there is lunch specials daily such as burgers, sandwiches and homemade soups. Furthermore, they DO DELIVER large orders and will deliver to Hillcrest residents for a small fee. JP's bagels is truly a hidden gem in Hollywood. If you haven't eaten here please try it for breakfast or just a great bagel and coffee. JP's will satisfy your bagel craving, your food craving to start your day, or for lunch. You can get them delivered, dine in or drive through. They are located right on Hollywood boulevard at 2649 Hollywood Boulevard and are open daily from 7AM-2 and 7AM-1 on weekends.

Carver Ranches Library celebrates Literacy all year long! Thank you to all who participated in our Summer Learning Program that ends on Sunday August 20th. September is Library Card sign up month so come to the library to receive your free Library card and begin your reading adventure! For more information or to register for programs, please call 954-357-6305.

September:

Tuesdays: Story Time for ages 3-5. 11-11:30 a.m.

Wednesday: Crafternoons! Ages 6-12. 4-5pm. Join us for stories, crafts and more!

Thursday September 7th: Yoga for Seniors - 10:30-11:30 a.m. Take control of your health at any age! Presented by Certified Yoga Instructor, Roberto Portocarrero. All welcome! 10:30-11:30. Co-sponsored by the City of West Park.

Saturday September 9th: Create Zen Stones – 2:00-3:30 p.m. Teens ages 13-19. Create unique patterns on stones using sharpies and bring a little zen-like calm into your life. Ages 13+. Call to register

Wednesday September 13th: Creation Station Presents Maker Month. - 6:00-7:30 pm. Celebrate Maker Month at Carver Ranches! Learn about the resources available at The Creation Station. Registration required.

Saturday September 16th: Create Zen Stones. - 2:00-3:00pm. Adult Program. Create unique patterns on stones using sharpies and bring a little zen-like calm into your life.

connections

Don't Use Public Wifi Until You Read This

We're all guilty of it: connecting to free public WiFi. Whether it's at the coffee shop, hotel or airport, the temptation to check e-mail and surf the web is just too strong to resist. So, BEFORE you connect to any free, public WiFi, make sure the connection is legitimate.

It's not uncommon for hackers to set up fake clones of public WiFi access points to try and get you to connect to THEIR WiFi over the legitimate, safe public one being made available to you. Before connecting, check with an employee of the store or location to verify the name of the WiFi they are providing. Next, NEVER access financial, medical or other sensitive data while on public WiFi. Also, don't shop online and enter your credit card information unless you're absolutely certain the connection point you're on is safe and secure.

The safest WiFi connection to use when you are out an about is the built in WiFi hotspot on your smartphone. Yes, you'll use your phone's data plan, but you won't risk your important data.

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Greetings Hillcrest,

What's in a name? The importance of the City of Hollywood's decision to change three street names.

The City of Hollywood recently took on the issue of considering a name change for three streets – Lee Street, Forrest Street and Hood Street. General Robert E. Lee, General Nathan Bedford Forrest and General John Bell Hood were high ranking officers in the Confederate States of America, who fought against the Union during the Civil War.

It is unclear when these streets were named after these Confederate generals, though Sheridan Street, Sherman Street, McClellan Street and Farragut Street were among the streets named for high ranking Union officers. According to the original 1924 plans for Hollywood, founder Joseph Young had intended to name the streets in the neighborhood he called Liberia after American Cities with large African American populations.

I used to represent Liberia on the Hollywood City Commission, and I have developed a deep appreciation for the history of an area that was planned during the Jim Crow Era. Joseph Young had employed several black surveyors and as the City first grew into the late 20's and early 30's it was settled by the employees of the Hollywood Beach Casino and other large businesses of the era. According to local historians, Joseph Young envisioned Liberia as an upscale suburb for black residents.

However, this vision would not square with the realities of segregated cities in the pre-Civil Rights South.

At some point during this period, the City of Hollywood chose to rename Joseph Young's Louisville Street, Savannah Street and Macon Street as Lee Street, Forrest Street and Hood Street. It is impossible to miss the contrast between three cities where African Americans developed a distinct culture and economy with three men who fought a war to preserve the legal institution of slavery.

On the July 3rd meeting of the Hollywood City Commission, after a lengthy debate, the Commission voted to change the three streets back to their original names.

To me, this move represents a significant step in the move towards rectifying a historical wrong. Yet, it pales in comparison to the much larger fights that must be waged on behalf of Civil Rights throughout our society. For example, the State of Florida is one of four states whose constitution permanently disenfranchises citizens with past felony convictions. This policy bars more than 1.6 million Floridians from voting, serving on a jury, running for office or owning a gun. Florida has the highest disenfranchisement rate in the country, affecting more than one in five African Americans in our state.

What does this have to do with street names? During the Post Civil War period of Reconstruction, the former Confederate states had to write new constitutions and ratify the 14th Amendment as a condition to be readmitted into the Union. This Reconstruction Amendment prohibited states from denying the "equal protection of law" to all citizens, including former slaves. Until the states were readmitted, the former confederate citizens lost their voting privileges and the Federal Government kept order through a military occupation.

For a brief time, this system worked as intended, with a large number of black Senators and Representatives being sent to Washington from former slave states to advocate for the rights of these new citizens. However, once the military occupation ended, and the former Confederate citizens regained the power to vote, former Confederate leaders, such as Nathan Bedford Forrest and his Ku Klux Klan, made it their mission to disenfranchise black voters throughout the South. Using a combination of poll taxes, literacy tests, intimidation, and outright violence, this campaign of hate created a second-class citizenship, with black citizens not gaining real voting rights access in the South until 1965, when Lyndon Johnson signed the Voting Rights Act.

When I was a teacher, most of my students were shocked to learn the depth of this sad chapter in American history. Restoring civil rights for our future is not possible without the lessons of the past, and a democracy isn't truly representative if all of its citizens can't vote. That is why the debate over these street names and who we elevate as the heroes in the story of our democracy, remains critical in the important fight for the full equality of all of our citizens.

-Beam

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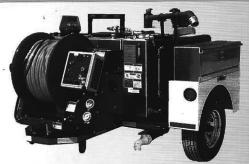
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A Note About Cahoots

Cahoots is a local newspaper owned and published by my good friend Jeff Hansen. I routinely deliver it to the Hillcrest buildings because it is intelligent and funny. It is 90% spoof.

There is no Edible Marijuana business in Hollywood, Charlie Sheen is not running a "Get Clean with Sheen" rehab center and "Huggies for Thuggies" is not a real company that makes diapers that hang down around baby's hips. There is no plan to allow horses on Hollywood beach as reported in Cahoots nor is the city going to hire Dennis Rodman as our spokesperson – another Cahoots article.

We ran a "tongue-in-cheek" ad in Cahoots (see below) and received 4 phone calls: Two from actual criminals who wanted to move out of Hollywood, one from an angry lady who works with ex-cons - she thought we were being mean - and one from someone who was offended that we would not make the same offer for non-criminals.

We are very proud that none of the phone calls or the letter below are from Hillcresters. Let's keep it that way.

Dear Mayor Levy, Commissioner Case and all our or respective Commissioners,

I was shocked to see the article in Cahoots (Summer Volume 8, Issue 5) regarding allowing horses on our beach. Please tell

me that was a joke, a misprint, something. I can't believe that we are even having this discussion as we all know the volume of piss and excrement that horse relieve from their body. Sure, you can clean up the poop, but gallons of piss would never be able to be retrieved. That is a serious health risk for us and for our marine life. I urge you to not allow horses on the beach.

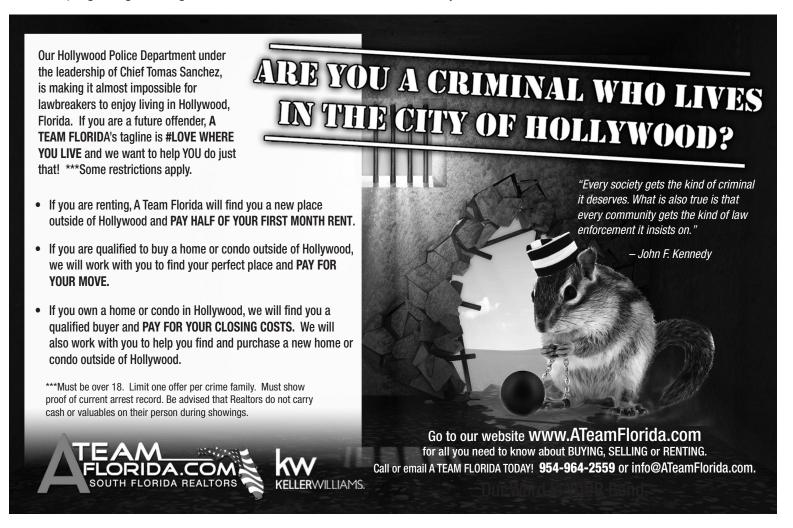


The other issue I would like to address is please tell me what experience Dennis Rodman has that would lend him as an expert for the city to pay a salary for his advice on the subject of the beach and our residents. I am under the impression that our city has very serious financial problems, including sea

level rise, so why in the world would we need to put him on as staff and at what expense? The residents have a right to know what type of salary our taxes are providing.

Thank you for taking the time to read this and please "reply all" so that we all are informed.

Sincerely, S.M.



August 2017 State of The Market

Last year Hillcrest had 168 closed sales through the MLS, an average of 14 sales per month. So far, this year through July 31, only 65 units, an average of 10.8 per month. We had three go under contract in the last month. Remodeled units are hands down are still the most desired properties. Because the price point is relatively low (Hillcrest is UNDERVALUED in my opinion). However, now that condos can get conventional financing (only with 20%-25% down), we are getting qualified buyers who want to take advantage of the lower interest rate.

At A Team Florida, part of our strategy is to sell properties that are move-in ready. When we list a property, if our seller does not have the funds to properly prepare the property for sale, we may be able to assist them with that. When we sell homes, we pay for an inspection up front to find out if there are any repair issues that may derail the sale and we highly recommend that the home be staged. EVERY home we sold this year set a new high for the neighborhood. We recently sold a Hillcrest low-rise 2/2 for \$12,000 OVER market value, so we decided to adapt this strategy for our condo sales as well.

This is the year to #LOVE WHERE YOU LIVE. How can Keller William's A Team Florida help you? Want to know what your condo is worth? Call us at 8-HILLCREST



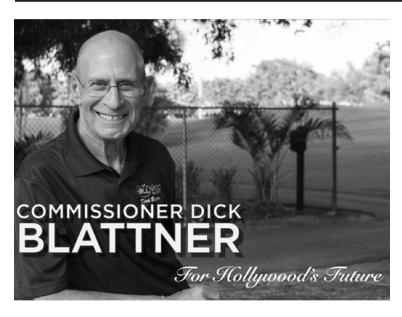
Whether you are buying or selling, we know that there are many moving parts to every contract and getting the job done.

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Call us at 8-HILLCREST



JULY 2017 REPORT - by Commissioner Dick Blattner



Yes; even Commissioners get some time off. Monday was our last meeting before vacation. We resume August 30. While we're out of their hair, the staff will work on crafting the 2018 fiscal year budget, which takes effect October 1. Public hearings will be held in September.

JUNE BUSINESS

The whole month, up to and including July 3, was loaded with interesting events and discussions.

Remember the Hollywood Playhouse?

It had fallen on really bad times, and while the city does not own it, there was a condition attached to the land upon which it was built restricting use to entertainment. There were no takers, so a religious institution stepped up and did a spectacular restoration. A June 9 open house was held and the entire commission attended. I can't tell you how impressed I was with the warm welcome we received from the congregation. The renovated auditorium will now be available to the City, and others, for performances whenever the schedule has open dates.

Septic to Sewer

A workshop held on the June 21 presented options for moving forward with converting our city's septic system to sewers, an environmental necessity with nearly half the City on septic. It's hugely expensive and complicated. The Commission was confronted with four financing options. It was amazing we decided to go all out and work to get this accomplished in 20 years, enabling economic development zones to be accomplished faster. It will also mean higher rates over time. We also began to discuss the cost to residents what financing options we can develop. This is a work in progress but I am very proud of my colleagues for choosing a more aggressive approach.

Neighborhood Traffic

This workshop explored options for creating safer neighborhood traffic. A scatter map showed us how many

speed bumps we have. Staff talked about other options such as traffic circles and roundabouts. While still a work in progress, this issue is at least on the table now. (P.S. We also need more motorcycle cops and motorcycles.)

Starting Complete Streets

The Complete Streets project from City Hall east to the railroad tracks is now underway. A two year, \$12 million remake will include medians, landscaping, lighting, wider sidewalks, parallel parking (vs angled) and more. I have always seen this project in the context of a total makeover of that stretch of the boulevard.

The Downtown CRA has let contracts for new lighting, landscaping, and security systems.

Same day as the ribbon cutting for the Complete Streets project, we held an important workshop dedicated to new zoning on 441. This will help the City and potential investors know what they can build and where. The 441 corridor is defined as extending a quarter-mile on either side of the roadway, which means all the way to the Turnpike going west.

Other Important Discussions

Vacation rentals continue to be a concern for residents and neighbors. As is often the case, a few bad apples spoil the whole bushel and this discussion focuses on registration, inspections, and fees. AirBNB (and its competitors) and realtors all have a point of view and we are listening. FYI: AirBNB has made its first tax payment to Broward County in the amount of well over \$100,000. I think that money will be shared but not sure what the formula will be. Most, probably, will go to tourism.

Re-naming Controversial Streets. This has been a very polarizing issue. On Monday we approved moving forward without taking on the three streets in question, without taking a poll of the property owners. That means the Commission will make the decision to change the names of Lee, Hood and Forest to their original names: Louisville, Macon and Savannah. The final decision will be August 30 if all goes well. I am proud to have made the motion to not poll because the more than 1,500 plus property owners would, most likely, not want to change the names. We determined the Post Office will honor and recognize dual names. The only cost to residents will be a driver's license change. All other changes can be made online or on paper as the affected residents receive bills and invoices. Residents will receive all this information and more.

The Hollywood Brand. The city will soon be rolling out a new logo and a new brand. We liked its fresh, clean and unique look. First time in 20 years we are consciously changing our image.

CRA and COMMISSION MEETING NOTES

Approved a \$50,000 grant to Hyde Park Towers on Ocean Drive as part of a \$1.1 makeover.



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The August Kitchen Korner by Cindy Abraham

EVERYTHING IS JUST PEACHY AND LIFE IS A BOWL OF BOURON CHERRIES

I hope you all know that there are recipes I try and they don't make it to these pages. Nothing is ever bad; but sometimes they are good but not something I would want to make again. We call them One-Hit Wonders. I make it one time and then wonder why I thought they were worth trying.

As you saw in this month's STATE OF THE MARKET, Hillcrest has been slow lately so I have had some time to try a whole bunch of recipes. These are the keepers.

PEACHES have never been one of my favorite fruits. I just don't buy them but then I saw this recipe and made it one night. Boodro (our Ragin' Cajun master chef) was VERY IMPRESSED and that SELDOM happens. Pancetta is an Italian bacon that comes in round slices. To save money, go to Penn Dutch and buy their package of thin sliced pancetta for \$3.99, their pre-sliced mozzarella log and the peaches. I am printing the recipe for the balsamic glaze topping but honestly, it is easier to buy a bottle. Easy, cheap and this one will WOW dinner guests!

CANDIED PANCETTA STACKS

For the Candied Pancetta

1 TBS brown sugar 1/4 tsp ground fennel seeds 4 round pancetta slices

For the Balsamic Glaze

1/4 cup balsamic vinegar

- 1 tsp honey
- 1 tsp fresh lemon juice
- 2 nice sized peaches
- 4 mozzarella slices (at least 1/4" thick)

Fresh basil leaves



Pre-heat oven to 300. Line a baking sheet with parchment paper. Combine sugar and fennel seeds and rub the mixture on both sides of the pancetta. The easiest way is to place the pancetta on the parchment and rub it on one side, turn over, and rub on the other side. Bake for 25 minutes or until crisp.

Combine vinegar, honey and juice in a small saucepan; bring to a boil over medium-high heat and cook, stirring often for about 5 minutes or until syrupy.

Slice off the top of the peach to get rid of the stem part. Cut each peach in half horizontally and twist to remove pit from one side. Cut pitted side in half again horizontally and the pit should come out. Cut the other side in half again so you have four peach rings out of each peach – for 8 total slices.

Now for the good part!

Place a peach slice on a small plate, top with the mozzarella slice, another peach slice and top with pancetta. Drizzle with balsamic glaze and garnish with basil leaves. SO GOOD.

And as long as I had peaches in the house and balsamic glaze, I found this one in the Sun Sentinel and tried it. It didn't knock our socks off but it was good enough to make again. Because nuts can be frozen, I always have sliced almonds and pecans on hand should I need them. I toast a batch whenever a recipe calls for them and then use them in salads which just entails putting them in a small dry skillet on the stove, medium heat, and tossing them until they are...well...toasted. Again, instead of the balsamic vinegar/honey mixture, just buy balsamic glaze if you want.

BALSAMIC PEACHES with sweet ricotta cream and toasted almonds

1 cup ricotta cheese

1/4 cup honey (divided use)

1/4 tsp vanilla extract or 1/8 tsp almond extract

1/4 cup balsamic vinegar

1/4 cup sliced almonds (toasted)

3 large, ripe peaches, pitted and cut in ½ inch wedges

1 tsp chopped fresh thyme

Whip together ricotta, 2 TBS of the honey and extract (if you have a food processor, use it). Just be sure it is smooth and refrigerate it for a few hours.

Combine vinegar and 2 TBS honey in a small saucepan on medium heat and stir until it thickens a bit; it will thicken more as it cools.

Toss the peaches with the thyme and balsamic syrup. Divide the ricotta mixture among 4 small dessert bowls, top with the peach mixture and sprinkle with the toasted almonds.

And then there is alcohol. Yes, I made mango-rum jam, mango jalapeno jam and mango liqueur again this year. I also made mango butter. I am mango-ed out but I still have a few 8 oz. canning jars left. And then I found this GREAT Bing cherry bourbon recipe. It called for pitted Bing cherries with the stems still attached. How the 'ell?! Good old Google. Just take a large paper clip and open it. Dig the rounded end into the bottom of the cherry and twist the pit right out. Amazing. This is makes a unique hostess gift. I even made labels

BING CHERRY BOURBON

1 ½ cups refrigerated Pomegranate juice (Publix carries POM)

1 cup sugar

1 lb. pitted Bing cherries, stem on

1 ½ cups bourbon

Mix juice and sugar and bring to a simmer in a small sauce pan over medium-high heat and whisk constantly for about 10 minutes until syrupy. Remove from heat and cool completely. Whisk bourbon into juice mixture.

Fill each jar with the pitted, stem-on Bing cherries and pour bourbon syrup into the jars up to $\frac{1}{4}$ from the top. Cover tightly and refrigerate. You may have some of the bourbon syrup left over. It makes a kick-a** Manhattan – enjoy!





Continued from Pg.12

Approved designs for new lifeguard towers. A fresh look for the 20 towers.

Passed a resolution advocating for installation of solar powered "End of School Zone" signs. Something nice for drivers.

Passed a resolution supporting the Paris Agreement, joining dozens, perhaps even hundreds of other cities and many major companies.

Recognized Jose Cabrera, Samuel Rivera and Ryan Seilkop for saving the life of a driver whose car went into the lake at TY Park. The three young men were on their senior picnic with Chaminade classmates. Modest, thoughtful young men. We are so proud of them for their quick action.

Participated in several public workshops to explore a consultant's report on improving traffic conditions around Young Circle. Very innovative and challenging, and even the skeptics loved it. More to come. Work not done.

Approved construction contract for the Nebraska-Nevada parking garage, on the beach, for \$13,110,000.

Approved construction contracts for new landscaping, lighting and security cameras for Downtown Hollywood Blvd for \$1,119,000. These will be significant improvements to the aesthetics downtown.

BUDGET

State law requires cities to have a balanced budget, and we are on target.

The millage rate will remain unchanged from previous years, at 7.4479. WE cannot go higher than that. Public Budget hearings scheduled for September 13 and 23, 5:30 at City Hall. All welcome, and welcome to speak.

THIS & THAT

Congratulations to Hispanic Unity, recipient of a \$100,000 grant from Humana. Funds will be used to address the health needs of clients.

Movie. I REALLY <u>REALLY</u> liked Wonder Woman. 3D glasses not necessary.

Books. Finished *Testimony*, by Scott Turow...eh. Currently reading Eviction, a very interesting story of what happens to a city when it's de-industrialized; in this case, Milwaukee. Stories of displaced workers unable to find comparable employment and spiraling into poverty. Several other books on the wish list to be read during the break and vacation.

Many of you will be vacationing, or staycationing. Enjoy the opportunity to rejuvenate yourselves.

Klink

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

From time to time we get Letters to the Editor. Most are asking questions about advertisers or wanting back copies of the newspaper for a specific article. The following letter prompted a response and is worth sharing with our readers:

To the Editor:

It is not always fun to read condo docs. But page 33, section 22.2, contains interesting wording in the condo docs for Building 8, where I live and serve again on the Board. In short, **our Interpretation Clause** says Board members have the power to interpret the condo docs, providing their interpretation is <u>not wholly unreasonable</u>.

I will quote the exact wording from this passage at the end of my letter. But first let me tell you why I think the Interpretation Clause is potentially powerful and even liberating.

For starters, all Board members are volunteers. And many, if not all, are lay people. I most certainly qualify as a lay person. Additionally, life has taught me that not everything in life is black and white, even rules and laws sometimes. So, in a nutshell, it is possible that sections of condo docs are vague or inconsistent. It also is possible that our documents and state and federal law may create situations where one rule or law comes in conflict with another rule or law. In such circumstances, I believe, it is important for Board members to act reasonably when sorting through these grey areas.

What follows is the **Interpretation Clause** in the Building 8 condo docs: "The Board of Directors of the Association **shall** be responsible for interpreting the provisions hereof and of any of the Exhibits attached hereto. Such interpretation shall be binding upon all parties unless wholly unreasonable. An opinion of counsel that any interpretation adopted by the Association is not unreasonable shall conclusively establish the validity of such interpretation."

Sincerely, Steve Schneider Building 8 Board Member

Cindy Abraham, Editor, Inside Hillcrest wrote:

Hi Steve.

Thank you for your letter. I will print it but what I have found is that "counsel" works at the pleasure of the board and if they do not agree with what the board wants to do, they are no longer employed. I have condo attorneys litigate lost causes for profit.

Unfortunately, there are building board members who use the building money to persecute unit owners for personal reasons and condo attorneys are more than willing to go along with it because they get paid whether they win or lose. Many times, the unit owner is helpless because they don't have the funds to fight back.

It is not hard to find an attorney with no integrity who is willing to persecute people for the almighty dollar. In a case like that, this clause isn't worth a dang.

BTW, there is also a "hardship" clause in most condo by-laws and while I have heard wonderful stories about how a board used the clause to help a unit owner, there are an equal number of stories where they cruelly refused and got the building attorney to "agree" with their reasoning. Boards have a lot of power and it is tough when they can use unit owner's own money against them.

Hi Cindy,

I agree with you to this extent: What I wrote **only works** well if Board members and attorneys are honest and reasonable. However, I like the provision because, in my experience, Board members sometimes interpret docs inconsistently.

The cases you told me about are compelling. But so are my experiences where more flexibility permits independent Board members to at least begin questioning the prevailing wisdom. In short, the Interpretation Clause cuts both ways.

And yes, the hardship exemption clause in some condo docs is another example of a provision that can generate more than one outcome. From my perspective, though, people fork over hard-earned money to live here. Some even move to Hillcrest hoping to find a sense of belonging and neighborliness.

As a Board member, I keep this in mind and strive to be fair and restrained and neighborly when voting on a request for a hardship exemption. Of course, I understand other Board members may view the hardship clause in a more narrow or strict manner.

Best, Steve Schneider

WHAT IF?

By Aruna Ladva BK Publications, London, England - submitted by Etta Stevens

We worry over so many things, when more often than not our worries are not justified. Have you noticed that children don't seem to worry a lot? When did we lose our innocence, that carefree attitude? Over-worrying can become a sickness if we don't take care. It is one thing to be a good planner, to manage risks and be meticulous, but quite another to be a worrier about every tiny detail of life.

The main reason most of us worry is out of insecurity: we worry we may lose our job; our children may get out of our control; we may put on more weight; we might have an accident; the list is endless! How many of our worries really come to pass? Very few!

If you can do something about the thing you are worrying about, then do it! If you can't, then no point worrying is there?

Worrying is in fact a waste of our powerful thought energy, as well as a bunch of other valuable resources such as our time and physical energy. When our mind is actively engaged in worrying then our whole physical body is stressed also. Our breathing becomes faster. Heart starts to pump more blood. Muscles begin to tense up. The fight or flight syndrome can kick in very easily; one thought of worry is enough!

As the mind gets caught in myriad of scenarios of 'what if...', this opens the door to many evils. There is no end to the number of things that we could be worrying about all day.

Let's take the example of flying. When you are about to board a flight, you might think of a million things that can go wrong. The movie Castaway may come to your mind. Your mind may entertain the possibility of a terrorist attack for a few minutes, or the pilot having a heart attack and dying, and then, Oh No! What if something happens to the co-pilot! ...Maybe the engineers didn't do a thorough check of the plane and one of its engines is faulty and going to fail...! As I mentioned the reasons to worry are plenty if we allow our mind to go there!

And while we were worrying, we missed the NOW moment! We missed meeting the lovely people and perhaps even the drinks that went by, the smile of the stewardesses, the beautiful view down below and catching the sight of those pure cotton-like clouds! It has been said that fear is an acronym for False Evidence Appearing Real. Most of our worries are futile and there is probably a one in a million (or even a billion, depending on our imagination!) chance of them happening. It's not real! If we worry, it is mostly because we are insecure inside and not necessarily because the outside circumstances are unsafe or insecure! All worry begins in the mind with the misuse of our imagination. Mostly it is out of habit too! The ego likes to believe it has everything figured out. So, to cover all grounds of possible failure, it begins to worry in order to protect itself.

Let us look at a case of a genuine worry or concern, such as worrying about your kids going drugs. Instead of worrying, having extra thoughts and panicking, ask yourself the question, what can I do about it? And then take the necessary action. Protect your kids. Educate them. Do your best in the chapter of prevention.

You will find that, as you occupy your mind with practical solutions instead of nightmare scenarios you will worry less. Of course, you are much more likely to find a solution, or even avert a situation when you have prepared as much as you could. For example, taking a driving test or exam, or preparing a cooking demo! It is those that are lazy and careless who tend to worry more, and you can see why!

In the same way, if we have prepared ourselves to manage our mind through meditation, we worry less. When we worry, we are trying to control our exterior. We are not controlling our interior. When we regain composure, we will find we do not need to manage anything 'out there'. We accept all that happens and we stay happy and carefree.

It's time... to have a day that is free from worry. Know that there is a solution to every problem. There is no lock that does not have a key to it!

Meditation is a way to calm your mind and rest your soul from unnecessary worrying. It is a way to go within and find the "peace of mind we so desire". When you meditate you leave your troubles at the door and give your mind and body a place to put worry aside and concentrate on solutions to problems.

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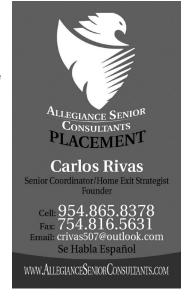


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