

# Inside Hillcrest

– Connecting Neighbors to Neighbors –



NOVEMBER 2018

HOLLYWOOD, FLORIDA

VOLUME 12 • ISSUE 11

## NOVEMBER INSIDE HILLCREST

### HILLCREST LEADERSHIP COUNCIL MEETING

The HLC had a meeting on November 5th with Alberto Jimenez, Utilities Customer Service Manager with the City of Hollywood, met with your building leaders to discuss our rising water bills. Many buildings have had to tighten their belts over the past few years. Having a building-wide maintenance contract was one of the cuts – and, no pun intended – turned out to be a double-edged sword. On the one hand, it knocked a few bucks off the monthly maintenance; on the other, owners are less likely to address water waste issues. Old toilets and running toilets cost our buildings lots of money. Those with a maintenance contract in place are more likely to get them fixed or replaced. See page 2 for details of what was discussed.

### WATER, WATER. EVERYWHERE...

Water leak problems in condos can be devastating and VERY costly. Many times, they flood several units below or an entire floor. The smart buildings have issued leak detectors which are placed in EVERY A/C-water heater closet. These things are GREAT! I know from experience, that at the first sign of dampness, that thing goes off and they are, shall we say, very easy to hear. Obviously, it is better to have to shut off the water valve and mop up a small puddle than to replace carpets and baseboards.

Brian and I have sold hundreds of Hillcrest condos over the years as Keller Williams A Team Florida. One of our closing gifts for buyers was three leak detectors, one to go under each sink (kitchen and two baths). We would also give the buyers upstairs neighbor (whether they were our clients or not) 3 leak detectors! Sounds funny but the upstairs neighbor liked the idea also. I am not sure why we got away from doing that. But hear this: If you bought a condo from one of our sellers, whether you were our client or not, give us a call and we will give you 3 leak detectors for your unit. If you have an upstairs neighbor, we will give them three also.

We cannot afford to have water leaks in our buildings. At the November 5 meeting, your

building leaders were given the contact info to buy leak detectors for all your A/C closets if you don't have them already. And if you like the idea of keeping them under all your sinks, call us at 8-HILLCREST and we will tell you where you can buy some for your own unit.

### MAKE AMERICA HATE AGAIN

Am I missing something? I too am very unhappy about the mess Broward County made of the last election, but I wanted whomever got the most votes to win whether he/she was my choice or not. That is what democracy is all about. This “win at any cost fair or not” attitude with the screaming and yelling at each other hurts to watch. In my opinion, the more we see outrageous behavior, the chances are most of us will become desensitized to it. And the weak-minded will emulate it. I am talking about hate crimes, school shootings and the other acts of violence that has become all too common.

When reality shows like Jerry Springer and Maury came out, I did not let my daughter watch them. I was aware that those types of people were out there, but I didn't want her to think they were the norm. When she ran into uneducated, loud-mouthed people who seemed to be prone-to-violence, I wanted her to be appalled, not blasé. It is now OK to share the worst side of ourselves – complete with ugly thoughts and actions – anywhere and everywhere. We all knew Freedom of Speech had a downside, but there was a time when people tended to keep vile rhetoric to themselves or at most, secretly share those thoughts with like-minded individuals. Now I find myself in the position of distancing myself from acquaintances who I have

been friendly with for years because until now, I never knew they were racists, bigots, misogynists, homophobes, fanatics and/or any of the other words that denote mindless intolerance. The filters of decency have been removed.

### SCARY TIME FOR YOUNG MEN

I heard someone say that this is a scary time for young men when it comes to being accused of sexual assault of any kind. This is true. Young women today are so aware of the consequences that now, unlike in the past, they will speak up immediately. Because of stricter laws over the years, a young man today is liable to be arrested and jailed for something that their father and grandfather got away with in the past.

I remember the eighties. I also remember that “smart girls” NEVER got drunk around boys they did not know very well. Fair or not, it was a given that something sexual would happen to them. I had friends who were molested and/or raped because they got too drunk to resist and I also remember that our attitude was, “you should have known better...”. Shame on us.

The kind of boys who did things like that were not always bad guys. The culture was different and if they were in a group, peer pressure played a big part. Some of the greatest guys I know did some very shameful things when they were young. So, what is the message here? Touching someone without their consent IS unacceptable and always WAS unacceptable; but not always penalized. However, in this new climate, those who do not raise their boys to respect girls – and boundaries – are setting them up to face grave consequences. Because you can be sure that those of us who are raising girls are teaching them to respect themselves.

### SALUTE TO VETERANS

Thanks to John Moore (23), Katarina Lynne (our Karaoke Queen from the Hillcrest Country Club days), Toni Soldano (Director of Enrollment at Union Institute and University, and Dinah Pickett



Building A Better Community

Continued from Pg. 10

## HILLCREST LEADERSHIP COUNCIL METING, NOVEMBER 5, 2018

*By Steve Schneider*

A Hillcrest Leadership Council meeting was held on Nov. 5 at the new Clubhouse AT 4500 Hillcrest Drive. It was called to order by Cindy Abraham, the founder and secretary of HLC. Presenters were Alberto Jimenez, City of Hollywood Utilities Department Customer Service Manager and Officer Tomas Hernandez, Hollywood Police Department Liaison to the Hillcrest Community.

Attendees included representatives from Buildings 1,3,5,7, 10,15,16,18,19,21,22,24,25, and 27 as well as a representative from Beverly Hills community, Millie Whitehouse of Castlegroup, the Property Manager for Parkview at Hillcrest and Matt Nelson, from Pulte.

**Alberto Jimenez** addressed issues raised by Hillcrest unit owners. Some residents have expressed concerns about the high monthly bills some buildings receive for water and sewer usage.

Jimenez explained that buildings are charged for water/sewer usage based on a tiered rate structure intended to “promote water conservation.” In other words, he said, “As water consumption increases, the rate increases.” He added the city charges a lower rate for single family homes, but Hillcrest is charged at a higher rate because the buildings are considered “Multifamily Residential” structures.

After the meeting, Jimenez emailed Inside Hillcrest a detailed explanation of the tiered rate system. The document explains the rates Hollywood charged from 2009 to 2013. Jimenez said the last rate increase occurred on November 1, 2013 and is in effect now. Contact Inside Hillcrest if you want to have a copy of the document emailed to you.

Jimenez also said a consultant is studying the rate structure with an eye on increasing rates starting in October 2019. In an email to Inside Hillcrest, he said, “The information related to the new amounts, tiers and the length of time (until the next increase) is still too premature and I would prefer to wait until the study is completed to provide you with details.”

Understanding how the tiered water/sewage rate system works is one way to control costs, Jimenez said. He also offered suggestions building leaders can follow to make sure problems in units aren’t driving up costs. Jimenez made the following suggestions:

- Check toilets and faucets for leaks.
- Replace broken or damaged flappers/valves.
- Monitor the monthly water usage by reviewing the billed usage graph indicated in the monthly bill.
- Visit our website [www.hollywoodfl.org](http://www.hollywoodfl.org) to track your daily water usage for the past 60 days (you have to register the utility account).
- Large water meters (3” and up) are inspected and tested by our Underground technicians on a yearly basis according to a schedule. If you want to know if the meter

for a particular building was tested, you can contact Customer Service at [PayUtility@hollywoodfl.org](mailto:PayUtility@hollywoodfl.org)

- If you want to request a meeting to discuss your high utility bill or any other concerns, you can email me at [ajimenez@hollywoodfl.org](mailto:ajimenez@hollywoodfl.org) or call (954) 921-3933.

**Officer Tomas Hernandez**, from the Hollywood Police Department, also addressed the meeting. He asked Hillcrest residents to serve as his eyes and ears and contact him if they see something that concerns them. Hernandez can be reached at [thernandez@hollywoodfl.org](mailto:thernandez@hollywoodfl.org). Hernandez said he typically responds to emails within 24 hours.

He said he takes tips seriously, as does the HPD. According to Hernandez, he can get help from all parts of the department, including arranging for undercover officers, if needed.

Among other things, Hernandez warned people to be careful about solicitations that may be fraudulent. Never provide someone you don’t know with personal information, he said. Hernandez also advised people who receive questionable phone calls to ask for a name and phone number to call back before continuing any conversation.

One big problem in Hillcrest involves people breaking into cars, Hernandez said. He called this situation a crime of opportunity and asked residents to keep their cars locked and not leave valuable items inside vehicles.

Hernandez also announced that Parkview at Hillcrest will create space for a police sub-station on their property.

### NEW FOB SCHEDULE

Millie Whitehouse advised those who have a FOB that does not work for our Parkview at Hillcrest Clubhouse (4500 Hillcrest Drive) to meet her at the large Clubhouse at 4600 Hillcrest Drive, on Wednesdays from 2 p.m. to 5 p.m. You can also go there if you have not yet gotten your FOB, which will also get you access to the walking and bike paths that will eventually be fenced in and locked; and for the Tennis Courts.



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### **Broward County Mails the 2018 Property Tax Bills**

The Broward County Tax Collector's Office recently mailed the 2018 tax bills to all property owners. While my office does not set or collect these taxes, I wanted to share important information about the payment options available to property owners. If you have any questions about your tax bill or payment, please contact their office directly at 954-831-4000. Tax bills are also available to view, print, and submission of online payment at [www.broward.county-taxes.com](http://www.broward.county-taxes.com) starting November 1. For taxpayers whose bills are paid by escrow arrangement, a courtesy tax bill copy will be mailed in mid-November.

Property taxes must be paid no later than March 31, 2019 to avoid delinquency interest, fees, and penalties, but may be paid as early as November 1, 2018 to take advantage of early-payment discounts. Early-payment discounts for payments made in full are as follows: a 4-percent discount if paid in November; a 3-percent discount applies in December; a 2-percent discount in January; and a 1-percent discount in February. The discounted amounts that apply to each month between November and February are already reflected on property tax bill coupons. These discounts apply only to full tax payments. Making a partial payment of property taxes forfeits any applicable discount otherwise available for full tax payments.

2018 tax payments can be made by the following methods:

Credit/Debit Card, or eCheck Online Payments at [www.broward.county-taxes.com](http://www.broward.county-taxes.com) - use the search function to locate the correct tax account then follow instructions for payment by credit/debit card or eCheck. There is a non-refundable 2.55% convenience fee for credit/debit card payments. eCheck payments have no additional fee.

By Mailing a Check: use the green return-envelope enclosed with the tax bill or mail payment to Broward County Tax Collector, Processing Center, and P.O. Box 849375, Hollywood, FL 33084-9375. Always include the tax coupon with the check and write the tax account on the check to prevent processing delays. All check payments must be in US funds issued from a US bank account. The payment envelope's postmark date is used to determine the applicable early-payment discount. If check payments are rejected or returned by your bank, the payment will be canceled, a return check fee will be charged, and discount deadlines will not be extended for substitute payments.

At any Wells Fargo Bank Branch located in Broward County: all 2018 tax bills (no delinquent tax payments) may be paid at any Wells Fargo Bank Branch in Broward County until March 31, 2019. Tax payments made at Wells Fargo must be paid in full only (no partial payments). Taxpayers must have their original 2018 tax bill to present to the bank at time of the payment. No credit, debit, or cash payments can be accepted by the banks for tax payment.

Partial Payments: 2018 taxes may be paid in up to five partial payments. Partial payments must be for a minimum of \$100 and include a \$10 processing fee. Partial payments forfeit all early-payment tax discounts that would otherwise apply to full payments. The final partial payment must be for the full remaining balance and paid by March 31, 2019 to avoid delinquency interest and fees on any remaining balance as of April 1, 2019. Partial payments cannot be made online or at Wells Fargo banks.

For additional information, please contact the Broward County Tax Collector's Office at 954-831-4000 or visit [www.broward.org/RecordsTaxesTreasury](http://www.broward.org/RecordsTaxesTreasury).



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**WILL DO – by Cindy Abraham**

If you do not have a will, WHY NOT?! Not having a will is a really crappy thing to do to your heirs and loved ones. I do know a guy who deliberately does not have a will because he wants his daughter to have to go through a lot of work and heartache after he is gone. I don't know him well enough to know if he is an ass or his daughter is, but that is the reason he told me for not having a will.


If you DO have a will, make sure it is up to date. If you have sold off assets or accrued more assets, you need to update your will. Review it every year on your birthday. Why on your birthday? Because that way you will start a habit you won't forget.

If you DO like the people you will be leaving behind, a little work on your part can go a long way to make a tough time easier on them. Be sure you have a living will also, so medical decisions are made according to what YOU want. And you may want to discuss funeral plans, so they know it is OK not to go the most expensive route.

Here are some things to do on a rainy day that should cover most of us middle class folks:

1. Have all your important papers in one place – will, deeds, stock info, insurance info, financial statements, etc. This is an easy one. Get a fireproof box and make sure they know where it is.
2. Make sure all your insurance policies, brokerage accounts, deeds, pensions, IRA's etc. have a designated beneficiary. That is easier than making a list in your will. You may want to check who your beneficiaries are if it's been awhile.

3. Keep a master list of passwords so your spouse/heirs can still have access.
4. Keep a master list of the professionals you deal with – accountant, financial planner, insurance agents, attorney – anyone who can help your heirs find the information they need should there be questions.
5. Make a list of bills that must be paid – and those that DON'T. Credit cards and car payments that are in your name only, may fall into the “don't pay” category. Your heirs are not responsible for credit cards in your name only UNLESS they use the card after your death (if they don't pay, they can be charged with fraud). As far as your vehicle goes, if it is a lease or not paid off, your heirs may just want to notify the car company to come pick it up. And don't forget to cancel the insurance AFTER it is no longer in your possession.



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# November Kitchen Korner - by Cindy Abraham



## DINNER FOR TWO WITH LEFTOVERS FOR LESS THAN \$10.00

Aldi's has become one of my favorite grocery stores. Most items are about half of what you would pay anywhere else. They don't have everything but what they do have is high quality. The trouble is when you find something unique and wonderful, once they sell out of it, it is gone. I bought 5 jars of pineapple jalapeno jelly because of just that. However, you can buy your favorite flavor jelly and just add a minced jalapeno to it to get the same effect. Their meat/fish department is small, but everything is fresh and priced right so get the pork loin there also.

### PINEAPPLE-JALAPENO PORK LOIN

- 2 TBS oil
- Tajin Clasico Seasoning
- 16-22 oz. pork loin
- Glaze:
- 2 tbs butter
- ½ cup packed light brown sugar
- 2 TBS dark rum
- 2 tbs Dijon mustard
- Zest and juice of 1 lemon
- 4 oz. Pineapple jalapeno jelly
- 2 TBS pineapple or orange juice
- 2 slices bacon



Preheat oven to 350. In a small saucepan add butter, brown sugar and bring to a simmer stirring constantly. Cook until bubbling about 8 minutes. Remove from heat and add 4 oz. pineapple-jalapeno jelly and let melt. Let cool. Slowly add rum, mustard, lemon zest and juice. Blend and reserve.

Pat pork loin dry and season liberally with Tajin. Wrap with bacon slices. Sear all sides in skillet. Pour glaze over pork and place fat side up in the oven. Bake for one hour, basting at least once. Remove from oven and set pork loin on cutting board to rest for 30 minutes. Add juice to pan and stir to thin a bit. Slice pork loin in ½ inch slices and top with glaze.

The leftovers make GREAT sandwiches using Aldi's Brioche buns. And here are a couple of ideas for side dishes:

Roasted broccoli makes a nice contrasting side dish and has a beautifully caramelized color. Once it's been roasted, you won't believe that this broccoli is the same as that earthy, crunchy raw stuff! It becomes super sweet, rich, and almost creamy. The texture from the crispy edges are addictive, and they'll have you going back in, bite after bite. How to make it: Preheat your oven to 425 degrees F. Cut the broccoli into small florets and toss them with olive oil, salt, and pepper. Roast away in that hot oven for 15 minutes, until the edges are golden brown and delicious.

### ASPARAGUS OR GARLIC CHEESE RISOTTO

If you get to Aldi's soon after reading this, buy up as many boxes of Priano Risotto as you can. I love the asparagus and garlic cheese flavors. They also have butternut squash risotto. The Tajin Clasico seasoning is available there also. The risotto makes a great side dish. When I use the asparagus risotto, I add a can of asparagus tips.

### SOME ALDI'S FINDS AT THE BEST PRICES I HAVE FOUND:

Italian meats: (prosciutto, pancetta, salamis, etc.) Sliced

mozzarella & mozzarella balls, smoked salmon, frozen fish fillets (including sushi grade tuna and Alaskan Copper River Sockeye Salmon, fresh fish (usually salmon and tilapia), fresh beef, chicken and pork, fruits and vegetables, dairy (eggs, half and half, cream cheese, sour cream, sliced cheeses), cold cuts, condiments, breads, cakes, bagels, bottled water and juices. Baking items, all kinds of chips and crackers, gluten free products, and a very nice brand of wine called Whispering Owl for less than three dollars a bottle!

Go through each aisle slowly for all kinds of surprises and must-haves that you didn't know you needed!

*Continued from Pg. 1*

(Home Instead Senior Care) for putting together a memorable afternoon at the American Legion Post 304. Food, fun and karaoke were the order of the day and ALL proceeds went to help our local Veterans complete their adult education classes at Union University right here on Sheridan Street. Although the GI Bill provides educational assistance to service members and veterans, the funds can run out. Thanks to all of you who bought tickets (and many donated them back to deserving Veterans), Union University can now help some of our Vets stay in school instead of dropping out due to lack of funds. And it was a treat hearing Ray Tepper from building 10 sing again...

### THE SOUND OF MUSIC

There is no better way to open the holiday season than the Nova Singers Holiday Concert. Listen to the energetic underlying melodies of the string orchestra as the 120 member choir sings the traditional Latin Gloria by Antonio Vivaldi. The soaring choral voices rival the angels singing over the stable on that Christmas night. The second half of the concert is full of your favorite Christmas and Hanukkah carols arranged in ways that make the familiar carols fresh and exciting. Invite your family and friends. Don't drive at night - it is worth an Uber trip. Advance tickets are \$15 and \$20 at the door. Tickets are good for any of the 4 concert venues. Please see/text/call Meredith at 954-249-5285 or buy tickets online at: novasingers@nova.edu.

### WHAT'S ELSE IS NEW?

We have a Golf Tournament and Christmas on the Beach coming up in the next few weeks. We also have Condo Certification Class right up the street at Bank United for those board members who want to learn as much as possible about the 718 statute that govern condominiums. They say that "Knowledge is Power" and we all know what happens to power when the knowledge isn't there...

I had the pleasure of meeting Rosa Cruz, who has worked for several Hillcresters over the past 20 years as a top-notch nurse's aide. As luck would have it, between the time that Rosa submitted her info and this month's publication, I had two friends who recently had been hospitalized and needed some help. I can't say enough about Rosa's responsiveness, efficiency and care. She does it all; nursing care, driving, preparing meals - and more importantly, she is one of the BEST! See page 2.

My friend Elizabeth Rios has sold Avon for years and we finally decided that it would be nice if Hillcrest had their own representative. Learn more about Elizabeth on page 17.

## HILLCREST'S OWN: KELLER WILLIAMS A TEAM FLORIDA



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Right now, are still in somewhat of a Seller's Market; for homes as well as condos. When our sellers heed our advice, homes sell within 32 days and our condos in less than 47 days. Yes, the market can shift at any time due to economic changes; but when you hire the A Team, you are hiring strategists, not sale people. We are successful because we stay AHEAD of the market fluctuations, we don't chase them.

Today's buyers have very different challenges, so our sales strategies have changed dramatically. Our goal is always to top the last highest comparable sale, and our sellers who listen and take our advice will tell you that we hit our goal every time!

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## Upgrades to Help Boost Home/Condo Values

*– by Cindy Abraham, Keller Williams Realty Professionals A Team Florida*

**You may have heard that investing in upgrading your kitchen may yield a return when it comes time to sell.** Here are three easy updates you can make that can boost the value of your home/condo and that you will enjoy yourself.

1. Give your cabinets a facelift. Instead of gutting your cabinets and starting from scratch, keep everything but the cabinet doors. New cabinet faces are an inexpensive way to give your kitchen an updated look. Go for a classic Shaker finish for a timeless appeal, and don't forget new hardware for a finishing touch.
2. Opt for accessibility. This is a biggie for over-55 condos but also, because there are more multigenerational families sharing homes. Consider upgrades that could improve ease of use for everyone, like side-opening ovens placed at counter height or touch-activated kitchen faucets.
3. Get creative with storage. Lazy Susans can transform a pantry into a storage goldmine. Swapping cabinets for deep

drawers creates easier access to small appliance storage, dishes and cookware, or trade one of your lower cabinets for a popular amenity like a wine or beverage fridge which buyers love.

### **Bathroom Upgrades**

We are often asked if it is wise to swap out a tub/shower combo with a step-in shower. Again, it depends on the buyer pool. Young families want a tub for the children. However, if your tub is just pitted or out of date consider having it professionally spray-painted. It costs about \$250, looks great and lasts for years.

One of the biggest drawbacks to some of our high-rises are the Roman tubs – very difficult to climb in and out. Older buyers look for step-in showers for obvious reasons.

A new counter-high sink/vanity and a chair-height toilet are also welcome upgrades not only for your comfort, but both are attractive to buyers.



In My Humble Opinion - By Michael North - [mike@myhumbleopinion.net](mailto:mike@myhumbleopinion.net)  
**The Difference Between Statesmen and Politicians**

*Always stand on principle even if you stand alone. – John Adams*

According to the World Book Dictionary, a politician is “A person who gives much time to political affairs; a person who is experienced in politics.” A statesman is defined as “A person who is skilled in the management of public or national affairs.” The difference in definitions is subtle, but the difference in practice is enormous.

To use a football analogy, both Marion Campbell (former coach of the Atlanta Falcons) and Tom Landry (former coach of the Dallas Cowboys) were experienced coaches, and they devoted a great deal of time to their profession. Using the criteria for a politician, Campbell and Landry were equals. But while a politician is described as “experienced,” a statesman is described as “skilled.” Using that definition, Campbell was not in the same league as Landry.

We are suffering from a drought of statesmen and a flood of politicians. It’s like a diet full of calories with almost no nutrition. Statesmen are like vegetables. Many people don’t like them, but they’re good for you. Politicians are like too much ice cream. Yummy. I’ll worry about the stomach ache later.

The founders of this nation were not politicians. Many, like John Adams and James Madison had almost no political experience when they were elected to serve in the Continental Congress. Experience, no. But they had education, ideas, and conviction. Madison’s silent labor and Adams’ brilliant oratory did what all of the “experience” in the world could not. They gave us liberty and the most brilliantly devised system of self-government in history.

Simple definitions aside, what is the difference between a statesman and a politician? A politician works with details. A statesman works with

ideas. A politician debates over whether to raise the minimum wage by 50 cents instead of by 40 cents. A statesman, on the other hand, asks “If the government has the power to dictate the least I can make, don’t they also have the power to dictate the most I can make?”

A politician debates the cost of a plan. The statesmen questions the wisdom of the plan. A politician tells his constituents what he did for them. A statesman doesn’t worry about what he can do for his constituents, because he’s too busy trying to guarantee a future for his constituent’s grandchildren.

A politician follows the crowd. He lives and dies with his finger in the wind. Politicians maintain the image of leadership, but in reality, they wait to declare a position until they see which is the most likely to get them re-elected. But as Woodrow Wilson once said, “If you think too much about being re-elected, it is very difficult to be worth re-electing.”

A statesman leads. A statesman doesn’t bow to the screeching and wailing that often passes for opposition. The statesman follows the path blazed by John Adams, who said, “Always stand on principle even if you stand alone,” and by Congressman David Crockett, who lived by one rule: “Be sure you are right & then go ahead.” That rule eventually cost Crockett his life.

I suppose that politicians are like hornets and mosquitoes. We may never understand why we have to endure them, but they, like the poor, will always be with us. Statesmen are almost like dinosaurs though, doomed for extinction if not already extinct. The small (and small minded) survive and thrive, while the great and noble go by the wayside.

Our amazing nation was founded by statesmen. Men of noble, though not perfect character. Men who held principle and ideology in

*Continued on Pg. 17*

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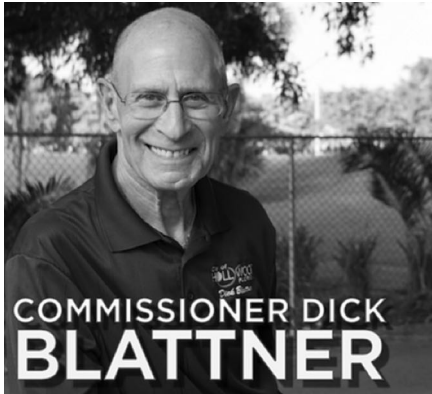
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# NOVEMBER 2018 COMMISSIONER'S REPORT

by Commissioner Dick Blattner



## THERE IS GOOD NEWS TODAY! (Always a good way to start.)

The City applied for and was awarded a \$450,000 grant from the Florida Department of Environmental Protection for Resilient Coastlines. Those funds, plus \$170,000 from the City will be used to improve and enhance the Polk Street Marina. Included in the project are:

- Raising the top of the boat ramp and associated sea walls.
- Seawalls will be extended south by 18 ft
- Shifting the boat ramp south by 22 ft.
- Removing existing asphalt and raising the elevation

There is more to come while we wait to see if our grant request has been approved to study creation of mooring fields in North and South Lake.

Additionally, I intend to ask for funds for a study of the Marina itself. The Marina and our golf courses are underperforming assets to the City. Marina slips are too narrow for newer yachts; we do not offer 50amp service, which is required, as well as the ability to meter the utilities we provide.

### AND MORE

Permitting has been addressed. We now allow electronic permitting for small projects, such as a fence. Now we are introducing Digital Friday; designed for larger projects. These can be submitted digitally on Friday, and staff will be working and able to respond promptly. Beta testing was successful.

### AND ONE MORE

The FPL LED lighting program is 70% complete. Remember, this applies to 5,788 FPL poles. The City owned poles will follow, after which there will be an assessment to see if there are dark places that need a new installation or poles.

### AND A LITTLE MORE.

There are now three residential projects in the pipeline for south Federal Highway. Very encouraging to see investors waking up to our potential.

### OCTOBER MEETING REPORT OF ACTION

- **Authorized** \$408,344 for replacement water meters. There will be more to follow.
- **Passed an Ordinance and Resolution** considering design and site plan for 433 residential units, 21,000 sq ft of retail and 786 parking places for project known as Part Place, along south east quadrant of Young Circle.
- **Applied for \$1,500,00 Grant** from Homeland Security for additional fire equipment and training equipment. If awarded, City match is \$150,000.

- **Passed a Resolution** endorsing Pooches and Kitties, a small animal rescue and placement program proposed by some amazing volunteers and supported by Police and Public Works. We got more supportive emails on this than I have ever received. The site will be the old concession stand in Stan Goldman Park. Tremendous community asset.

We also had two important workshops:

### Sanitation

All our contracts have been extended while our consultant completes his work. We heard a report and provided some direction. This will come back to us pretty soon.

The new sanitation program will address automation, recycling and the possibility that some services might come back to the City. There is a ton of money involved here (which you and I will wind up paying), so we need to be attentive and try to understand this when it comes back.

### NOVEMBER CALENDAR

**11/19** 1:30 p.m. Technical Advisory Board, and PACO. Open to public, these are meetings where developers present their ideas/projects to technical and professional staff.

**11/20** 1:00 p.m. Commission meeting. (Tuesday, not Wednesday because of Thanksgiving).

**11/26** 7:30 am. Seawall workshop sponsored by Broward County. IF the seawall issue affects you, please attend. County Bldg. Room 430.

### Thank you, Debra

November 7 was Vice Mayor Case's final meeting. Debra has chosen to retire after two years. I have always loved Debra and will miss her. She has done a fine job in a short time.

### BOOK CORNER

Appears I am in my sociology period. "*Just Mercy*" is a true story of a young black lawyer; a Harvard grad who goes to Alabama in the '70's to work with prisoners 'wrongly convicted' and on death row. This is a compelling true story. It's frightening to think the justice system was so complicit in convicting "convenient" suspects. I highly recommend this.

"*Slavery by Another Name*" continues the story in a way. It tells how during and post-Civil War, slaves were "leased" to companies to work in the mills and mines, in circumstances that were worse than the cotton fields. Again, and coincidentally, mostly in Alabama. Friends, we have a lot to learn from history!

### OBVIOUSLY

We are now winding down the year. Some very good things continue happening in Hollywood!

Be well and enjoy Thanksgiving with your family and friends.



# November 2018 IT Security Tips

## Snail Mail Privacy Tips

Do you think it's necessary to destroy every single piece of mail or piece of paper that has your name on it? Probably not. My advice though, use your common sense. If there's confidential information on paper, it should be locked away safe or it should be shredded and destroyed. Below is a list of documents that shouldn't be kept laying around for identity thieves to get their hands on;

- Social Security Number
- Birth Date Information
- Credit Card Numbers
- Account Numbers from Financial Institutions
- Medical Insurance Numbers

**True Story:** A close friend of mine had her identity stolen. After a few weeks of investigating, she came to find out the medical records at the hospital where she had surgery 6 weeks earlier had been compromised. Hackers got her information and that is how she became a victim of identity theft. The part that's hard to swallow is that you can only work hard to protect yourself by taking precautions. You can't really control the institutions that have your information. You just have to hope they're keeping your records safe under lock and key. Find out if your creditors need your voice permission for certain purchases once they exceed a certain dollar amount. this could be a great guard.

Here are some quick tips to consider when it comes to SNAIL MAIL:

- **Shut off the flow of Credit Card offers:** Eliminate the risk of interception by a hacker by telling the credit card companies to stop sending you credit card offers in the mail.
- **Receive Less Mail:** Go to DMAchoice.org (look for their Email Opt-Out link) to remove your information from any mailing lists if you don't want the offers
- **Return to Sender:** If you happen to receive unwanted direct marketing envelopes with common phrases like "Address Correction Requested" or "Return Postage Guaranteed," you can use the following trick; simply write "Refused/Return to Sender" and mail it back—no postage required. Here you'll kill two birds with one stone. You will eliminate yourself as a target from this marketer and you will make this marketer pay the return-trip postage. Win-win, for you!

### Unbreakable Passwords

It will likely take some time and effort, but you can create passwords that are difficult for hackers to crack, unfortunately the problem is not enough people actually take the time to put in the effort. This puzzles me...

According to reddit.com, an experienced hacker was able to crack 173 million passwords in less than a week. The hacker admitted that the biggest problem is that passwords are just too predictable.

**Strong passwords have two things in common:** They avoid patterns and they're just too darned long for hackers to run their special attack script—in which a computer runs through every possible combination of characters—to succeed. Follow these rules to keep your passwords safe!

**Stop Making Sense:** One way to make a great password is to string together unrelated words. Diceware is a low-tech way to pick passwords that was developed in the 1990s. You roll dice to pick from a list of 7,776 words. But you don't have to actually roll dice. Just pick five long, random words and string them together into a nonsense sentence that you can remember.

**Use a Password Manager:** We all have a lot of passwords, and it's tough to remember long strings of random characters. Password managers can generate a complex, unique password for each account. Got a Great One? Okay, Write It Down. Everyone tells you not to commit your passwords to paper. Ignore that. "As long as you're not leaving Post-it notes under keyboards, it's totally cool to write passwords down. That way, your loved ones can access your online accounts to pay bills and take care of other business if needed.

**Be Password Loyal:** People also tell you to change passwords regularly. Don't, unless there's a good reason, such as responding to a data breach. Switch often and you'll probably end up using weak options.

I really hope you found some value in this IT Security Tip! Please let me know if there's anything that I can do for you!

Sincerely,

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# 7 Positive Thinking Rules That Can Improve Your Life

- Submitted by BK Etta Stevens

**IN THE LIGHT OF THE PAST HATE-FILLED MONTH, THESE SUGGESTIONS ARE EVEN MORE PREVELANT TODAY.**

In times of crisis, there are always people who tell us that we should think positively. This is advice that sounds good and quite logical, but to think positive isn't always easy or helpful, usually because we simply don't know how to do so properly. This may seem a little puzzling - how can someone mess up thinking positively? However, after you finish reading this article you'll understand that there are definitely a few mistakes that can be made, some of which you may have even made in the past...

## 1. Explore yourself

Every time we get upset or sink into depression because of something someone else has told us, we are projecting the negativity that lies in our thoughts about it. To change this situation and to adopt truly positive thinking, we must not ignore the little voice in our heads that makes us feel bad, but rather try to understand the reason for it. Just ask yourself why you're upset and which side of your personality or lifestyle makes these actions or words difficult for you. Once you find the answer, you can tell yourself that now you know the reason for the negativity that surrounds your thoughts, and you can "fight" it with positive thoughts and actions that target the source of the problem.

## 2. Don't resist negative thoughts

As you may already have understood from the previous section, positive thinking doesn't always come at the expense of negative thinking, both of which can certainly coexist, however, the positive side should be given greater importance. One of the most important rules that help to do this, and which many do not follow, is that we shouldn't suppress negative thinking altogether. Whenever there is anger, frustration, or sadness in our lives, we must accept these feelings and understand that they are created because of the reaction of our inner selves to the world. These feelings are there, but they do not define us. Just tell yourself in your head: "I'm angry/ frustrated/negative and these feelings are part of me, but they are not me." You are not sad or depressed, you feel sad or depressed - it is a small difference that may seem silly to some, but it has tremendous meaning and it makes it much easier to overcome negative thinking and adopt a better attitude.

## 3. Remember who you are and be realistic

Like a battery with a positive and negative side and like the eternal cycle of light and darkness in the world, we also have to have positive and negative sides. Positive thinking doesn't ignore this fact, and therefore, in order to apply it effectively, we must accept ourselves as we are and not try to eliminate significant aspects of our personality. The father of psychoanalysis Sigmund Freud put it simply: "Out of your vulnerabilities will come your strength." So, don't let your positive thinking "run over" who you really are. If for example you want a job promotion, but you know that your professional knowledge is lacking, don't tell yourself that you'll definitely get it if you want enough and think

positively. Instead, tell yourself that your chances of getting promoted will increase considerably if you spend an hour each day completing gaps in knowledge related to your work.

## 4. Forgive yourself

Positive thinking can't make you happy if while having positive thoughts about the future you are still angry with yourself because of the past. The problem that many of you may be thinking right now is that forgiving yourself is good advice, but it can be as difficult to implement as positive thinking.

## 5. Visualize the fulfillment of your positive thoughts

When we are stuck in a negative mood, our imagination always creates terrible scenarios that make us postpone decisions, act hesitantly and feel general misery. In addition, when your mind is filled with imaginary events related to rejection, degradation, disappointment, or sadness, it harms our quality of life and prevents us from moving forward in our lives. We don't actively try to think about this possible negative future; these thoughts simply appear because of our imagination. To adopt positive thinking, we must harness its mighty power in the opposite direction and imagine positive scenarios frequently. It is important to remember that just as in the case of imagining negative thoughts, not everything we think about will actually happen in real life, but thanks to this tool we won't fall into the trap of negative thinking and feel, as a result, stuck in place.

## 6. Use positive reinforcement from yourself and the environment

How many times in the past have you received compliments from other people and treated them with disdain and disbelief? And how many times have you consciously reinforced your positive thinking and trained it just as athletes train their muscles in the gym? If your answers are a lot and a little, respectively, then it's no surprise that you have a hard time enjoying the benefits of positive thinking and harnessing it to improve your quality of life. These two things are closely related to our ability to apply positive thinking in a way that really makes us happier

## 7. Remember that the journey is more important than the destination

If you want positive thinking to become a real way of life for you, you must remind yourself that it's not only a tool for achieving goals - it is a way of life. If, for example, you wanted to buy a new apartment, you thought only positive thoughts throughout the search but were still unable to find the right place - you still deserve a pat on the back. You don't really control the supply of real estate in your area, what other people think, or anything else that isn't directly related to your inner world. So, if you were really positive during your search and didn't feel stress, fear or other negative emotions, you were able to implement positive thinking in the best way possible - positive thinking doesn't really guarantee us success, love, or progress; it only improves our chances and makes our journey towards these goals more pleasant.

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Elizabeth Rios

*Continued from Pg.12*

such great esteem that no threat of pain or death could deter them from their dream of a constitutional republic guaranteeing liberty and justice for all. Such leaders are necessary to preserve that dream. But we don't seem interested in liberty and justice for all. We seem more interested in prescriptions and paychecks for all, regardless of who might have to foot the bill.

Like many in the arts, the Greek playwright Euripides addressed social and political issues in his work. He theorized that people get the government that they deserve. Euripides was right. We don't want leaders, we want nannies. We may gripe, moan and complain about politicians, but we continue to ensure their survival. All they have to do is tell us what we want to hear, promise to "bring the money home" from Washington or Atlanta, and remember our names the next time they see us.

We think we strike a hard bargain for our votes. But what's a few billion in entitlements and pork projects to an ambitious candidate? Statesmen earn votes, politicians buy them. After all, John Randolph said it best: "That most delicious of all privileges -- spending other people's money."

*Vivaldi's*

# Gloria


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