# Inside Hillcrest

- Connecting Neighbors to Neighbors -



SEPTEMBER 2018

HOLLYWOOD, FLORIDA

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### SEPTEMBER INSIDE HILLCREST

Another summer almost over although you wouldn't know it by the heat index. But we would all still rather shovel sunshine than snow. OK, we have gotten a lot of rain, but I look at it as a free car wash.

### SHINGLES PART II

Last issue I told you about my bout with shingles and then directed you to turn to page 12 for the rest of the story...and it wasn't there. It is on page 12 in this issue, I swear!

# Hillcrest Leadership Meeting with the Pulte Group

The Hillcrest Building Leaders and the Compliance Committee met with the Pulte representatives a couple of weeks ago. The meeting recap is on page 2. If you have any issues with anything having to do with the new Parkview at Hillcrest project, please let us know so that they can be addressed. Write us at **inside.hillcrest@comcast.net** or contact one of the Compliance Committee members: Maeve Savage (6), Jeff Ladner (11), Ray Chait (16), John Moore (23), Steve Hurtig (25), or Herman Melotti (27).

### **Voting Results**

The best way to get me to NOT vote for you is to send me mailers bashing your opponent; although they say it works. If you can't stick to the issues, I can't be bothered with you. It did not seem to work in this last election. Greene and Levine were over-the-top nasty and I am glad neither one got in. Hopefully DeSantis won't either. Two of our three favorites got in, but it looks like Ann Murray will have to face her opponent in a runoff. He sent ugly mailers out about her, so I hope he loses. We need competence, honesty AND civility in our elected officials. I like leaders who act like grown-ups.

I had never heard of Andrew Gillum and did not vote for him. But then our IH reporter, Steve Schneider, asked if he could contribute an article that he felt strongly about. This was a first; usually IH assigns the topics. Read what he has to say on page 6. We have all felt inspired at one time or the other in our lives; it is a good feeling. His article comes from the heart and inspired me.

### **Recommended Advertisers**

Quite a few of you call or email IH when you are looking for a vendor or business recommendation. Because we are Hollywood Chamber members, we usually know who in

town is not only the best at what they do, but who are also honest and dependable. They may not always have the lowest price but "you get what you pay for" usually kicks in at some point. Most of us would rather have someone do it right the first time for a few more bucks than have to chase the low bid guy to do it over.

One reader was given four recommendations by IH – three are advertisers; Sandy Briglio, Briglio Insurance, for homeowner/car insurance, Julie at Big Lock and Key for new locks, Mike Balan for a new AC, and Garic Auto Center for an auto paint job. We received the following from Ray Tepper in building 10: "Again 'Thank You' Cindy. Big Lock & Key was great. This is the 4th time the Hillcrest recommendations worked out well."

Remember when you use a Hillcrest advertiser, you can be sure they will do a good job OR – and they know it - our readers will hear about it! In this issue we have included our A Team Florida recommended vendor list. If you need someone who is not on it, call us at 8-HILLCREST or email inside.hillcrest@comcast.net. Remember that all profits after expenses go to our Help for Hillcresters fund. Our editors do not make a dime from the paper.

### **Speaking of Trusted Vendors**

Mike Balan of Mike Balan A/C has been working in Hillcrest for more years than I can remember and for the past few years, he has been assisted by his good-looking son Steven. In that time, I have met about 5 people who don't like him. He is not the most patient guy in the world, but he knows his stuff and will go above and beyond to take care of his customers. Kind of like me... I don't have anything against Total or Pride, but if you have them for your yearly maintenance contract, you know that making an appointment for service is frustrating. It will always be days away and you will get the "between 9AM and 1PM or 1PM and 5PM" treatment and if another problem pops up in the meantime, you need a whole new appointment.



**Building A Better Community** 

With Mike Balan A/C, he or his son is there the next day and can handle almost any appliance or A/C problem. However, if it is a major plumbing problem, even he calls Executive Plumbing another one of our favorite vendors. The smart buildings include the maintenance contract with Mike in their monthly maintenance fee. That way residents take care of leaky sinks and running toilets - if they think they don't have to "pay". In my building, the contract is optional. But for me, \$249.00 per year is CHEAP when I know I can call any time I need a minor plumbing, electric or appliance repair, I get next day service; AND that he considers A/C repairs top priority. Most of us have a second toilet so if one doesn't work, we can wait a day. But when it is 85+ outside, and my A/C is on the fritz, I want Mike! And he is there for me. Too bad he isn't as good-looking as his son... Get to know him better on page 15.

### **FOB REGISTRATION**

FOB registrations for the residents of HILLCREST will continue every Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursdays between 2:30 pm – 4:30 pm at the 4600 Building Clubhouse. Proof of ownership, such as a utility bill, and a government issued ID will be required for fob registration. If you are a renter, a valid lease and a government issued ID must be presented. Please be advised that only one (1) fob will be issued to each unit, free of cost. If you would like to request additional fobs, a \$50 payment will be required in the form of a check or money order. This should be made payable to Parkview at Hillcrest Homeowners Association, Inc.

Should you have any concerns or questions, please contact the Property Manager via email or at mwhitehead@castlegroup.com or 754-263-7426.

### **PARKVIEW AT HILLCREST**

I am going to start doing a better job of keeping you up-to-date with the new home sales, especially since all the new homeowners have gotten a copy of Inside Hillcrest and many are on our email subscriber list. As of today, only 22 townhomes on the North side have not yet closed. We have close to 120 new homeowners and about a dozen investors. Four on Banyan Drive are currently on the market to rent; two 3/2/1 townhomes and two 4/2 homes – all listed for between \$2850 and \$3000 per month. Three have been on the market between 3 and 6 months so if you know anyone who wants to rent a beautiful new home or townhome, call us at **8-HILLCREST**.

## August 2018 Pulte Meeting - By Steve Schneider

On Monday, August 20th, a meeting was held with members of the Hillcrest Leadership Council, four Compliance Committee members – Steve Hurtig, Maeve Savage, Herman Melotti and Raymond Chait - and Pulte representatives Andrew Maxey and Matt Nelson. Also in attendance was Millie Whitehead, representing the Castle Group, the property management company representing the Parkview homeowners.

Topics needing more discussion involve Parkview lakes, parks and gate access for the parks. Hillcrest Leadership Council members expressed their concerns at the newly built Hillcrest Clubhouse. Attendees also offered suggestions on how the matters could be remedied. Representatives from the Parkview at Hillcrest construction project promised to consult with their superiors about issues raised at this meeting.

One area of concern was the access gates behind the buildings to the park area. We were under the impression that each building would have their own access point. However, George Jacobson, a Building 4 unit owner, said he walks the path most days and noticed there are no access points behind buildings 1 through 4. From his early morning walks, Jacobson determined unit owners will have to travel a long distance from buildings 1, 2 and 3 to get to the sole proposed gate behind Building 5. This means people will essentially trespass through Building 5's property to get to the gate. He believes the lack of access gates will create security problems.

Andrew Maxey, Pulte director of land acquisition, southeast Florida division, said he would check with his bosses to see if Pulte could add more access gates to the approximately three mile walking path. The path will eventually be secured with a five-foot high fence. People will enter the parks and walking paths at a limited number of gate entrances as outlined in the site plan. Maxey also suggested creating a map to show Hillcrest residents exactly where the proposed gates may be installed.

A Building 3 unit board member, Richard Chewning, offered a possible solution in an email he sent Maxey after the meeting. Chewning suggested, "there is an open space that extends from Pool #1 behind Building 1 all the way to Hillcrest Court" that residents could use for access. Therefore, Chewning said, "It would be nice to have the gate at the end of the blacktop walk. That would allow people from the three buildings...to access the walkway thru common property," and not have to trespass through private yards.

According to Pulte officials, plans call for the access gates to contain a lock with punch code access. However, Hillcrest unit owners said a punch code system is bad for security because people can pass around the code, which means people who don't live here can easily get access. Therefore, Jacobson and Raymond Chait (who is also the president of building 16) suggested installing fob-operated locks on the access gates. Fobs are issued to each unit so if someone who did not live in Hillcrest was using the park area, it would be easy to trace who gave them access.

Jacobson also pointed out that it is his understanding the park areas will not be lit after dark which means that if people are in the park at night, it could be upsetting to Hillcrest residents whose patios face the parks and walking paths.

Maxey said locks with fobs would cost a lot of money because Pulte would have to run electrical wiring under the ground to every access gate. But Jacobson said the Hillcrest President's Council pool areas use fob-operated locks on the gates to their pool areas. He said the locks are battery-operated. Maxey said he would find out if Pulte would install battery-operated locks with fobs instead of locks with punch codes. It would make a lot of sense if the same fobs that access the Clubhouse and Tennis Courts could also work on the access gates.

Matt Nelson, Pulte land development manager, discussed other park-related topics. He said grading will start around the time this issue of Inside Hillcrest is published. And work on planting trees and landscaping will continue. The middle part of the development will be addressed first, then the west side, with work on the east end occurring last, Nelson said.

Pulte representatives also said the security gates for the parks will be placed near the property line dividing Hillcrest and the Parkview community so that both communities will be able to take care of their own irrigation and landscaping responsibilities.

It was stated by Andrew that the Land Swap between Tobin And Pulte should be completed around Labor day and that the playground equipment will be dismantled shortly thereafter. Followed by the transfer of the right of way between building 15 and 16 to the respective buildings as mandated by the agreement filed with the county .

Maxey and Millie Whitehead, the Parkview property manager, announced expanded lake maintenance will start in early September to get rid of algae and mosquitos caused by the stagnant water.

Hillcrest residents also pushed for installation of fountains to move the stagnant water around. Maxey said he would discuss this suggestion with his superiors.

People attending the meeting also learned:

- Hillcrest irrigation pipes that were broken during construction and were being repaired
- Whitehead said a new Security company has been hired. Therefore, the fobs that many of us have for the new Hillcrest clubhouse are currently not working but are being reprogrammed. They should be working by mid-September at which time, fobs will once again be issued to those who have not yet received them. Inside Hillcrest and building presidents will get out the word about when and where the fobs can be obtained.
- Lights not working will be fixed at the monument areas to Hillcrest entrances, Whitehead said.

# STATE OF THE COUNTY - County Commissioner Beam Furr - District 6



Greetings Hillcrest Residents,

The residents of Hillcrest have an abundance of wisdom and life experience, ready to be shared. You have so much to offer our community, and the community would love to hear from you! Volunteering is an opportunity to share this knowledge with people who need it. Whether it is becoming a leader in a local organization, or spending just a few hours a week helping out in the library, there is no limit to the good you can

do when you volunteer. Volunteering gives a little joy to someone who needs it. I am glad to live in a county with so many residents who are willing to dedicate themselves to others. When we give our time to a cause, or an organization, or a person in need, we show people how good our community is – as individuals, as Broward residents, and as Americans. And while it is important that we all make time to care for ourselves, we should all be proud to give a little bit of time when we can to make our community better. I want to help you do that.

When I gave my acceptance speech on my first day as Mayor, I said that one of my top priorities was teaming up within the community. And one of the main things I wanted to team up on was working with volunteers. A lot has happened in the past year that none of us could anticipate. From heartbreaking tragedy to unprecedented economic growth, it has been Broward's busiest year ever. But I have never abandoned that core idea: that when Broward County teams up, we are at our very best. I can't think of a better group to team up with than Hillcrest residents like you. That's why I want to continue to encourage community activism, and help you become more involved as a volunteer. There are many ways to volunteer in Broward County. Within Hillcrest alone, there are clubs and organizations that are dedicated to helping the community. I have seen first-hand how great these organizations are. And throughout your city, organizations like United Way and the Boys and Girls Club of Broward County are making their mark. I encourage you to check these options out as well.

But if you are looking for a more broad and accessible way to volunteer, the best way to get involved is through Hands On Broward. Hands On Broward is an organization dedicated to connecting you to places to volunteer in Broward County that fit what you can do and what you want to do. By logging on to https://www.handsonbroward.org/, you can fill out a volunteer profile, and the site will match you to volunteer opportunities that meet your interests. You can also search their large database for organizations yourself. If you just want to see what kind of opportunities are coming up, they have an extensive volunteer calendar that shows you exactly when, where, and how you can get involved in Broward County. You can also call 954-233-1300 for the same options and information. Opportunities include:

- Volunteering at a Broward County library, helping to check out books for patrons.
- Providing mentorship and tutoring to students in need.
- Helping create a garden with the Broward Health Planning Council.
- Doing a beach sweep with the Kids Ecology Corps.
- Working the front desk at a fabulous local museum.

I have been thrilled over the past year by how so many Broward residents have stepped up and become true advocates for their community. The entire nation has watched as a generation of young people have stepped up and found a calling that they can be involved in. But it doesn't stop there. Broward residents have helped clean up beaches, promote clean water, build new homes, feed the homeless, staff hurricane shelters, and much, much more. If you have been involved, thank you. And if you haven't, it's never too late! Now is the perfect time to start. There is always a need, if you have the desire. Our community would benefit greatly from your knowledge and talent.

If you ever have any questions about how to get involved, please do not hesitate to reach out to my office. We are always on-hand to help point you in the right direction. I hope to see you out there very soon!

Beam Fun

Continued from Pg. 2

 Nelson also provided information about construction causing the ground to vibrate. He said the shaking is caused by construction workers using machines to compact the ground before asphalt is put down to make new roads at Parkview.

His comment came in response to a question from a board member from the nearby Beverly Hills condominium, off 52 Avenue and Washington Street who attended the meeting. Nelson said asphalt for roads are already down in the middle of Phase II, which is the central part of the Parkview development. Andrew Maxey added the road work for Phase II will end soon and the vibrations should stop.

In other matters: John Moore said it's important for Hillcrest to start planning for the day Parkview is completely built and fully occupied. At that time, he said, Parkview will have 645 owners comprising a single association. This association will meet with Hillcrest leaders to discuss matters affecting both communities, with the 645 Parkview owners forming a strong block to push their agenda.

Therefore Moore, who is also on the Hillcrest Compliance Committee, said it is important for people who live in Hillcrest to get involved. Moore also asked Hillcrest building presidents to compile questions residents have in connection with ongoing construction issues. We hear a lot of "what people are saying" but the only way to address issues with the Pulte representatives is if the Compliance Committee knows what the concerns are. You can email your questions/concerns to hillcrestleadershipcouncil@comcast.net and they will be forwarded to the Compliance Committee members.

Cindy Abraham, the founder and Secretary of the Hillcrest Leadership Council, which sponsored this meeting, encouraged everyone to get out and vote in the upcoming elections. She stated that politicians can now track voter turnout with computer-supported precision. To date, she said, tracking shows voter participation in Hillcrest is down from previous levels. Therefore, Abraham said, it is important for Hillcrest residents to increase their participation in elections. It only makes sense that elected officials pay attention to the areas that have a large voter turnout.



### 'Dateline NBC' Series 'My Kid Would Never Do That' - by Cindy Abraham



My kids are grown but I do have a 9-year-old granddaughter, so I still keep up with what today's kids face in this rapidly changing world. I happened to tune in to the above Dateline series that aired the first week in September. Entitled "My Kid Would Never Do That", the premise was to put a few kids and a couple of child actors together to see what peer pressure can do in the cases of bullying, cheating and bigotry. And then there was a powerful Stranger Danger segment.

Parents predicted how their kid would handle the situation and watched off camera. It was a real eye-opener and something ALL parents and grandparents should watch with the children in their lives. Peer pressure is powerful and can overcome very strong

convictions about right and wrong as well as common sense. I believe that children who watch this series (with a trusted adult) will come away stronger when it comes to speaking up and doing the right thing. Adults could learn a few things too about how to handle grown-up mean girls and bigots.

The most interesting fact in the Stranger Danger episode was that it is rarely a true stranger that lures our children into dangerous situations. Dateline used an actor to pose as a "contractor" who came to the house for an estimate. He was pleasant with the parents and complimentary to the children, and they knew his name was Joe. Later, when he "coincidentally" ran into them on the street and he needed help getting something into his van, few hesitated. It was scary.

If you are a parent or grandparent, these could be some of the most productive hours you spend with the most precious people in your life.





### THE FIRST AMENDMENT: EVEN FREE SPEECH CAN HAVE CONSEQUENCES

Author: Deb McAlister-Holland (Deb McAlister-Holland is a Dallas-based marketing consultant who specializes in helping start-up technology companies grow. Her personal blog addresses the odd places where technology and marketing intersect people's everyday lives.)

While the First Amendment protects some kinds of speech (that is, you can say or do it), there's no requirement that other people (such as employers, fraternal organizations, or schools) have to associate with you once you do. You can be fired, lose a professional license, or face a range of litigation for doing or saying things that, while they may be protected speech, violate other laws or contracts.

Also, the First Amendment does not protect all kinds of speech. Justice Oliver Wendell Holmes wrote that "the most stringent protection of free speech would not protect a man in falsely shouting fire in a theatre and causing a panic." Other areas that are not protected include solicitation, child pornography, and obscenity.

People need to remember that the First Amendment can't protect Internet and social media users who forget that the free speech guarantee isn't a free pass to saying whatever you want without facing consequences.

In addition, there are seven broad categories of speech (which includes things written or published online or in social media) that may not be protected by the First Amendment. Knowing what they are, so that you can decide what risks you are willing to take, is just good sense.

#### **Hate Speech**

OK, it protects it sometimes — and sometimes it doesn't. For example, the Supreme Court ruled that Westboro Baptist Church's hateful protests at military funerals are legal — while most "fighting words" are not. A Jehovah's Witness went to prison for calling a police officer a "God damned racketeer", a teenager was jailed for burning a cross, and Hustler paid damages to a preacher over a parody labelled as such in the magazine.

#### **Inciting Violence**

Speech that incites violence or encourages the audience to commit illegal or dangerous acts. This is a gray area that has resulted in many kinds of litigation. A radio station tried to claim First Amendment protection when two cars chasing a station car carrying prizes forced a third car off the road, killing the driver. But the courts said that reckless driving was the foreseeable result of the station's broadcasts. In another case, chat room conversations that encouraged suicide were also denied First Amendment protection.

### **Supporting Terrorism**

The Patriot Act outlawed "material support" to domestic or foreign terrorist groups, even if that "support" intends to offer peaceful alternatives to conflict through humanitarian aid. For more information on this sensitive and rapidly changing topic, check websites such as The Center for Constitutional Rights or Wikipedia.

### **Public Employee Speech**

Public speech made in the conduct of their duties by public employees may not be protected.

## Politically speaking, I've found my fountain of youth.

- by Steve Schneider

This realization began when I sent a letter to the editor to the Sun Sentinel. The letter, published on April 11, supported the underdog candidacy of Andrew Gillum. He is the Tallahassee mayor who was taking on a millionaire, a billionaire and the daughter of a former Democratic star in the Sunshine state. Here is what I wrote:

I did something radical as I approach my 60th birthday: I made my first contribution to a politician. I used the computer to donate money to Andrew Gillum, a Tallahassee Democrat who wants to become governor. I did this after seeing him on TV and checking him out on Google.

Gillum is articulate and real and speaks like an old-school Democrat. His platform includes calls for jobs, justice and investment in public education. I don't expect him to don bell bottoms and tie dye shirts, but he may be the kind of Democrat I can believe in again.

On Aug. 28, Democratic voters surprised educated and sophisticated prognosticators by nominating Gillum to challenge a Trump worshiper for the governorship of our state.

Boy, does this 60-year-old guy from South Florida feel young again.

Even listening to MSNBC -- the anti-Trump, "progressive" political voice on cable tv -- I was essentially warned that Bernie Sanders had endorsed Gillum. Some of these wise tv voices correctly cited conventional political wisdom. They noted that Democratic candidates with such apparent "extreme" political views may struggle in the November election.

I agree to some extent. After all, we've been conditioned to make this type of knee-jerk political assumption for years. I even heeded this belief when I voted for Bill Clinton in the 1992 Democratic presidential primary in New York, where I lived at the time. I voted for Clinton because I believed he would make it safe for Democrats to be Democrats again.

I also voted for Barack Obama while living here. I thought he was our best chance to start moving the country in a more "progressive" direction. I've used the word progressive a couple of times because that his how difficult it has been for many Democrats to utter the word liberal the past 30 years.

Truth be told, I consider myself an old-fashioned, liberal Democrat. I get excited when politicians talk about jobs, justice, education and other kitchen table issues. Gillum has embraced these concepts boldly.

Is he a politician? Yes. Will he be constrained by political reality if voters elect him on Nov. 6? Of course.

But I've listened to him enough to get a gut sense that he is offering us an authentic voice, even though it may be tempered by the need to compromise with competing factions in Florida.

I believe him because he has talked about growing up in a struggling working-class family. Gillum also let people know his mother sometimes answered a knock on the door when the police arrived to discuss a problem a sibling was having.

So it is easy for me to believe Gillum when he offers a voice that is not heard enough in mainstream circles: the need for practical criminal-justice reform. Among other things, he wants to keep non-violent young people out of our revolving system of imprisonment. His support for marijuana legalization is one possible solution. This proposed change can also bring in tax money to fund needed programs.

Gillum campaign literature also notes he is the first person in his family to graduate college. This accomplishment makes it easy for

me to believe him when he talks about making a major investment in Florida's public education system.

And I believe Gillum when he discusses the need for more and betterpaying jobs in our state. Is this an easy thing to accomplish? Of course not. But I believe him when he advocates spending more money on public education and less money on locking up people. He sees this as one way our state can afford to build a foundation that supports higher wage jobs in Florida.

I know he is not perfect. I don't expect perfection from anyone, especially people running for political office.

But I am not scared away from backing Gillum because Bernie Sanders supports him. In fact, I'm old enough to smile when I listen to some of our cliched political discussions about far-left, liberal Democratic candidates.

Here's why: In 1968, I attended Sabal Palm Elementary School in North Miami Beach. Liberal Democratic lions such as Robert Kennedy and Hubert Humphrey sought the Democratic nomination for president that year. Folks knocking Sanders and Elizabeth Warren probably don't remember the issues Kennedy raised during his short-lived campaign. What he discussed is important because in many ways it echoes topics Gillum is raising now.

According to Wikipedia, "Kennedy's political platform emphasized racial equality, economic justice...and social improvement. A crucial element of his campaign was youth engagement. Kennedy identified America's youth with the future of a reinvigorated American society based on partnership and social equality."

Listening to Gillum, I feel young again.



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### THE ONGOING FIGHT TO SAVE ORANGEBROOK GOLF COURSE

by Claire Garrett, Chair - Orangebrook Revitalization Committee



The Friends of Orangebrook Golf have been busy all summer gathering signed Petition Cards asking the City Commission to "Please Add Orangebrook Renovations to the G.O. Bond Referendum." Every couple of weeks signed Petition Cards are hand delivered to City Hall for the Mayor with an equal number divided between the six different commissioners according to the petitioners districts. By the end of September we expect to approach the target goal of 1,000 signed Petition Cards! We are connecting with friends and neighbors by word of mouth, and with other Hollywood residents at monthly Civic Association meetings and other events around town such as the Classic Car Show. We are finding that people are overwhelmingly in favor of saving Orangebrook even if it means paying a little more in taxes in the form of the General Obligation Bond.

The concept plan that the Orangebrook Revitalization Committee developed for a re-imagined Orangebrook provides for a significantly upgraded Championship golf course and another 18 hole golf course (Executive or Par 3) with 9 holes lighted for night use, enhanced practice areas and a new multi-use clubhouse building. Highly respected National Golf Foundation Consulting recently analyzed this plan and they found it to be not only economically sustainable, but also *transformative* for the operation in terms of quality, golfer experience, market position and net operating income. Their Report states that this plan can position Orangebrook as a *"must play"* destination in the local public golf marketplace.

These Petition Cards seem to be getting the City's attention as evidenced by the Orangebrook Revitalization Committee being invited to meet this summer with representatives of the City Manager office and Parks and Recreation to discuss options for Orangebrook renovation as it relates to the G.O. Bond. As of this writing, we are pleased to report that funds for renovating Orangebrook will now be included on the next version of the G.O. Bond project list that City Staff will present to Commissioners at a Workshop in October. While this is indeed very welcome

news, it is still vitally important to keep the signed Petition Cards and personal letters and emails coming so that our Mayor and Commissioners will support full facility funding for Orangebrook when it comes time for them to vote on the final G.O. Bond referendum language for the March 2019 ballot.

So while it is looking more promising that Orangebrook may be renovated with G.O. Bond funding, various developers are nevertheless persevering with their schemes to take part of Orangebrook for their own private gain. Pulte Homes, the developer that bought the Hillcrest Golf Course and replaced it with housing, has been meeting with the City to propose a way to get a piece of Orangebrook to

develop. The builder of the enormous Silver Lakes development in southwest Broward County will be presenting its own proposal for hundreds of homes in the middle of Orangebrook at the Park East Civic Association meeting on Thursday, September 20. We are urging everyone who cares about the survival of Orangebrook and open green spaces to be sure to attend this meeting, which will be held at David Park Community Center starting at 7 pm.

And you don't have to be a golfer to care about saving Orangebrook! Open green space such as this is needed for stormwater storage to protect neighborhoods from flooding (remember Houston last year!). Reconfiguring the land to provide increased wetlands acreage for stormwater storage will help keep the City's bond rating stable since proactive steps to address climate change will be a factor in calculating future bond ratings. More wetlands on this site will also help keep local property owners flood insurance rates from skyrocketing. And as if this is not enough reason to care about saving Orangebrook, full facility renovation will free up some land for a Nature Preserve path similar to the one that folks enjoy at Plantation Preserve. Such a path will allow for walking, jogging, biking and birdwatching. A fitness component can also be included along the path with the support of a partner such as Memorial Healthcare. And we must not forget to mention that a renovated Orangebrook will support tourism, which is an important economic engine for the City.

As Mayor Josh Levy has often stated, Orangebrook is Hollywood's "Treasure" that should be preserved for future generations. Please help us save Orangebrook by clipping and filling out the Petition Cards included in this issue. Send one to your Hollywood City Commissioner (Linda Sherwood represents District 6) and the other to Mayor Josh Levy, or feel free to contact us (saveorangebrook@gmail.com) and we will arrange to pick up your Petition Cards to include in the batches that we hand deliver to City Hall.

# Dear Comm. Linda Sherwood,

Voters in 2000 chose to put a deed restriction on Orangebrook to protect it from development and require that it remain a 36-hole golf course. It is currently in need of renovation to return it to economic sustainability. The GO Bond is the best way to fund needed renovations.

- Orangebrook is the last large green space left in Hollywood, a "Treasure" that should be preserved intact for future generations
- Orangebrook provides drainage for surrounding areas and protects homes from flooding
- Orangebrook is a potential economic engine for our tourism industry
- Orangebrook is a popular amenity providing recreational opportunities for local residents and community space for events

### PLEASE ADD ORANGEBROOK RENOVATIONS TO THE G.O. BOND REFERENDUM

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Street Address	
City	
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Signature	

# Dear Mayor Josh Levy,

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### PLEASE ADD ORANGEBROOK RENOVATIONS TO THE G.O. BOND REFERENDUM

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# September Kitchen Korner - by Cindy Abraham \*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*

Hike Matlaw's stuffed clams and scallops (especially when they are BOGO), but I prefer more clam meat than bread crumbs. Because I throw nothing away, I kept the shells and ended up with 18 of them. You can prepare, cover and freeze them for later use. If you don't have shells, add a beaten egg to the recipe to hold them together and form them into small patties to bake.

### **Baked Stuffed Clams**

18 clean clam shells

- 2 10-oz. cans of whole baby clams drained (save broth for other recipes)
- 1 6-oz can of crab meat drained save broth for this recipe
- 1 ¾ cup bread crumbs
- 1/4 cup grated cheese (parmesan, romano, etc.)
- 1/4 cup minced sweet onion
- 2 cloves garlic minced
- 1 TBS chopped parsley
- 4 TBS butter
- 2 TBS olive oil

Lemon pepper to taste

Paprika to taste

2 quartered lemons



Preheatovento400degreeswhenyouarereadytostufftheshells - that will give it plenty of time to warm up.

In a large frying pan, melt butter with oil over medium heat. Stir in onion and cook until translucent. Stir in clams, crab meat, garlic, parsley, lemon pepper, bread crumbs and grated cheese. Reduce heat to low and slowly stir in the drained crab meat broth. Mixture will be slightly sticky.

Now turn on the oven while you stuff each shell with the mixture, pressing tightly. Arrange on a baking sheet and sprinkle lightly with paprika.

Bake in the preheated oven for 20 minutes or until golden brown and sizzling. If frozen, bake at 350 degrees for 30 minutes. Serve warm on a platter with lemon wedges.



FishTacosareagreatgo-tomeal. The toughpart is getting decent fish. Fresh is best but if you properly thaw store-bought cod, it works. You just have to take extra time to get all the water out of the fish which is a pain. I went through a lot of paper towels.

I had two recipes and tried them both to see which one was best and honestly, they are both good although the second one uses battered fried fish. I will say that the batter is really good and would probably work well on onion rings and other fried foods. The only thing I would change is that I just don't like corn tortillas and much prefer flour tortillas but that is up to you. They can be heated in a skillet if you like them a little firmer or in the microwave if you like them soft.

### **FISH TACOS**

#### **INGREDIENTS**

3 tbsp. EVOO

Juice of 1 lime

2 tsp. chili powder

1/2 tsp. ground cumin

1/2 tsp. cayenne pepper

1 1/2 lb. cod (or other flaky white fish)

1/2 tbsp. vegetable oil

Kosher salt

Freshly ground black pepper

8 corn or flour tortillas



1 avocado diced Lime wedges, for serving Sour cream, for serving

### FOR THE CORN SLAW:

1/4 c. mayonnaise

Juice of 1 lime

2 tbsp. freshly chopped cilantro

1 tbsp. honey

2 c. shredded purple cabbage

1 c. corn kernels

1 jalapeño minced

### **DIRECTIONS**

- 1. In a medium shallow bowl, whisk together olive oil, lime juice, chili powder, cumin, and cayenne.
- Add cod, tossing until evenly coated. Let marinate 15 minutes.
- Meanwhile, make slaw: In a large bowl, whisk together mayonnaise, lime juice, cilantro, and honey. Stir in cabbage, corn, and jalapeño. Season with salt and pepper.
- In a large nonstick skillet over medium-high heat, heat vegetable oil. Remove cod from marinade and season both sides of each filet with salt and pepper. Add fish flesh side-down. Cook until opaque and cooked through, 3 to 5 minutes per side. Let rest 5 minutes before flaking with a fork.
- Assemble tacos: Serve fish over grilled tortillas with corn slaw and avocado. Squeeze lime juice on top and garnish with sour cream.

### **FISH TACOS TAKE TWO**

### **INGREDIENTS**

- 1 cup all-purpose flour
- 2 tablespoons cornstarch
- 1 teaspoon baking powder
- 1/2 teaspoon salt
- 1 egg
- 1 cup beer
- 1/2 cup plain yogurt
- 1/2 cup mayonnaise
- Juice of one lime (1/8 cup)
- 1 minced jalapeno pepper
- 1 teaspoon minced capers
- 1/2 teaspoon dried oregano
- 1/2 teaspoon ground cumin
- 1/2 teaspoon dried dill weed
- 1 teaspoon ground cayenne pepper
- 1 quart oil for frying
- 1 pound cod fillets cut into 2 to 3 ounce portions
- 1 (12 ounce) package corn or flour tortillas
  - 1/2 medium head cabbage, finely shredded (green or purple)

### **DIRECTIONS**

- 1. To make beer batter: In a large bowl, combine flour, cornstarch, baking powder, and salt. Blend egg and beer, then quickly stir into the flour mixture (don't worry about a few lumps).
- To make white sauce: In a medium bowl, mix together yogurt and mayonnaise. Gradually stir in fresh lime juice until consistency is slightly runny. Season with jalapeno, capers, oregano, cumin, dill, and cayenne.
- Heat 1 inch canola oil in deep skillet to 375 degrees
- Dust fish pieces lightly with flour. Dip into beer batter, and fry until crisp and golden brown. Drain on paper towels. Lightly fry tortillas; not too crisp. To serve, place fried fish in a tortilla, and top with shredded cabbage and white sauce.





## 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.

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### **September State of the Market**

- by Cindy Abraham, Keller Williams Realty Professionals A Team Florida

# How is the A Team different from other Real Estate agents?

We educate our sellers, buyers and renters BEFORE we start the process. We do nothing without an in-depth personal consultation to learn exactly what they want and then we work as partners with our clients to get it.

### **WORKING WITH SELLERS**

We know that the biggest mistake sellers make is not investing in the repairs and staging that can make their property sell for top dollar. AS IS means nothing. Buyers can walk away after the inspection if the seller refuses make or help pay for repairs.

Today's buyers have good credit and income but not a lot of cash to make improvements, so it is well worth it for our sellers to make the property move in ready. For homes, we pay for a professional inspection. For Hillcrest condos, we know what to look for that can derail a deal, so we want to either fix what needs to be fixed or disclose it to the buyers so that it does not become an issue later. Preparing a home or condo to be shown in its best light takes time. It may be as simple as painting, a good cleaning and adding some colorful plants to the front yard or porch/balcony. AS-IS properties

do not fare as well in this market place. Today's buyers need a property that is move-in ready. They are willing to pay a little more up front with a mortgage rather than have to come up with cash to make expensive repairs.

Curb appeal goes further than just the front yard. Staging is more than furniture placement and decorations; smart staging also directs the buyer's eyes toward the most positive features in the property and minimizes the negatives. Staging is one of the cheapest ways to get a good return on investment.

That can be a problem for some sellers. They just don't have the money. If they don't have the money, that's where we come in. We will loan our clients the money to do the repairs to beautify

and stage their home/condo, so we can get the highest price possible. We get reimbursed at closing. Of course, we know which expenses are worth incurring to sell at a higher price. Many times, we are setting new comps for the area which makes us VERY popular with the neighbors who may be planning on selling in the future.



### **SHINGLES SUCK!** by Cindy Abraham

Before I continue, if you are age 50 or over and you have a brain in your head, you will be getting the new Shingles vaccine. Yes, they lowered the age to 50 for the new vaccine, Shingrix.

Anyone who knows me, knows I have boundless energy. I have to be moving all the time – and at a high rate of speed. Shingles is the cure for that. I stayed in bed for hours, felt lethargic most of the time and my brain was working very slow. The earache was sporadic, more like pain pangs every so often. The dull headache and the sore throat were the worst. The "rash" stopped itching and started hurting. The skin on my head hurt – if that makes any sense. The next time I am at a cocktail party when people start vying for who had the worst pain – usually ended when some woman loudly proclaims, "What can you men possible know about pain? You have never been through child birth!" to which some guy replies, "Oh yeah, lady? Ever been kicked in the balls?!" (No, I never did lose my sense of humor.) I am pretty sure I can win the pain debate.

After suffering for about a week, on a regimen of aspirin, throat lozenges and hydrogen peroxide/Neosporin, I went to Dr. Nelson Charlie – the best dermatologist I have found in Broward County. He broke the news over my loud protests that it was not possible since I had been vaccinated plus I had self-diagnosed leprosy; and informed me that the vaccine only prevents Shingles 95% of the time and for the unlucky 5%, only ensures a milder case. He gave me medication called Valocyclovar, told me to continue with the Neosporin and said it would take about another week for it to start to go away. He also told me about Shingrix, a new vaccine that is so popular, it can be in short supply. My guess is that I will be ready for the vaccine BEFORE you get this issue of Inside Hillcrest so the run on Shingrix won't affect me. As for you? Good Luck!

Here is the info on Shingrix right off the Interweb...

# What Everyone Should Know about Shingles Vaccine (Shingrix)

A Shingles vaccination is the only way to protect against shingles and postherpetic neuralgia (PHN), the most common complication from shingles. CDC recommends that healthy adults 50 years and older get two doses of the shingles vaccine called Shingrix (recombinant zoster vaccine), separated by 2 to 6 months, to prevent shingles and the complications from the disease. Your doctor or pharmacist can give you Shingrix as a shot in your upper arm.

Shingrix provides strong protection against shingles and PHN. Two doses of Shingrix is more than 90% effective at preventing shingles and PHN. Protection stays above 85% for at least the first four years after you get vaccinated. Shingrix is the preferred vaccine, over Zostavax® (zoster vaccine live), a shingles vaccine in use since 2006. Zostavax may still be used to prevent shingles in healthy adults 60 years and older. For example, you could use Zostavax if a person is allergic to Shingrix, prefers Zostavax, or requests immediate vaccination and Shingrix is unavailable.

### **Who Should Get Shingrix?**

Healthy adults 50 years and older should get two doses of Shingrix, separated by 2 to 6 months. You should get Shingrix even if in the past you

- · had shingles
- received Zostavax
- are not sure if you had chickenpox

### Vaccine for those 50 and Over

Shingrix reduces the risk of shingles and PHN by more than 90% in people 50 and older. CDC recommends the vaccine for healthy adults 50 and older. There is no maximum age for getting Shingrix. If you had shingles in the past, you can get Shingrix to help prevent future occurrences of the disease. There is no specific length of time that you need to wait after having shingles before you can receive Shingrix, but generally you should make sure the shingles rash has gone away before getting vaccinated. You can get Shingrix whether or not you remember having had chickenpox in the past. Studies show that more than 99% of Americans 40 years and older have had chickenpox, even if they don't remember having the disease. Chickenpox and shingles are related because they are caused by the same virus (varicella zoster virus). After a person recovers from chickenpox, the virus stays dormant (inactive) in the body. It can reactivate years later and cause shingles.



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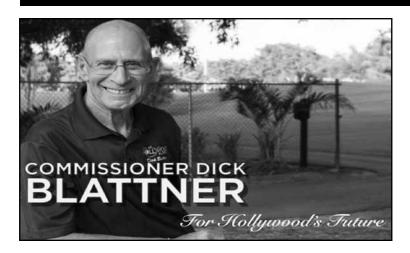
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# **SEPTEMBER 2018 COMMISSIONER'S REPORT**

by Commissioner Dick Blattner



Everyone loves fire and police, and why not? They are always there when we need them, and they do a great job.

The CRA issue firefighters are raising is really a red flag for the real purpose. The first paragraph of their well-crafted letter (sent to me and other Commissioners) implies all of our issues could be addressed by shutting down the beach CRA. But, their real objective is very different. So, what is it?

Several years ago, Hollywood went through Financial Urgency. All employees suffered salary cuts and changes to their pensions. We lost a lot of good people.

Eventually we worked our way out of our financial difficulties, salaries were restored and today we are competitive with other cities, right in the middle of the pack, which is where we should be for now.

Pensions, however, have not been restored and I don't think the city will be required to do so. I do believe some sort of restoration is possible. We should be able to find a way-- in the long term-- to do just that. It will happen through the collective bargaining process, which is now underway.

What our five unions are suggesting is to prematurely sunset the CRA and use the extra money for pension issues. The question is, would an early sunset of the CRA yield enough money for that purpose? The answer is no. Here's why.

- The CRA uses its funds on debt service, maintenance, salaries, enhanced services and other items. When the CRA sunsets, those obligations will be transferred back to the City.
- 2. I have seen the CRA report that shows the "zero sum" transition; meaning, there would be no extra money available.
- 3. This is important. We would also lose \$14 million annually from Broward County. Multiply that amount by nine years and the total loss is \$126 million!
- Anyone who believes the Broward County Commission would give that money to us out of the goodness of their hearts is delusional.
- 5. Putting this in perspective: we have an issue to deal with, but we also have an opportunity to address the pension situation while retaining valuable employees. It won't be easy. There will be many different points of view on the subject; but let's not throw the baby out with the bath water.

Klink

Continued from Pg. 5

Richard Ceballos was a LA County Sheriff's Deputy whose grievance went all the way to the U.S. Supreme Court to clarify a key point that many social media users should know by heart: the law (usually) distinguishes between what an employee says as a private citizen, and statements made as part of the person's job responsibilities.

Your employer, however, may not have to make any such distinction. In many states, you can get fired for making statements as a private citizen that your employer finds objectionable. And if you work in a regulated industry such as insurance, financial services, banking, health care, pharmaceuticals, or education, you must be aware of an alphabet-soup of regulations such as FINRA, HIPAA, FERPA, MIPPA, NAIC, plus SEC, FTC, and FCC rules.

Some regulations, notably FINRA and FERPA make no distinction between what a person says as a private citizen and what they say as part of their job. So, this is an area that each social media user should understand as it relates to their own profession.

### **Defamation**

Slander, libel or defamation. There are many, many nuances here — and the rules are different depending on whether or not the injured person is a public or private figure. Context matters, too, and so does whether the words used are an opinion (usually, but not always, protected) or factual statement (not protected unless the facts are provable — and proving the truth is often far costlier and

more difficult than you might think). Defamation can be a criminal offense in some countries.

The case of blogger Nik Richie, who is facing millions in damages for defamation over what readers said in the comments section of his gossip blog, points out just how serious the consequences may be in this arena.

There are two kinds of lawsuits that sound similar to defamation when you try to describe them in layman's terms, but they are based on different legal principals and apply to companies and products. These are product disparagement and tortious interference. Once rare, defamation, product disparagement and tortious interference lawsuits are becoming increasingly common.

### **Intellectual Property**

Publishing confidential, trade secret, or copyright material may be a civil or criminal offense, depending on the nature of the intellectual property that is being published without permission, and the jurisdiction in which the offense occurs. I'm not going to even attempt to discuss this in any detail, because the rules are just too complex.

But remember that non-disclosure agreements, employee policy agreements, and contracts apply online and off.



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# SPOTLIGHT ON MIKE BALAN A/C - By Steve Schneider



Until about 20 years ago, Mike Balan managed a grocery store in Hollywood. But something told him to go to school at night to learn a trade. So Balan studied and got a license allowing him to install and repair residential air conditioning units

Learning these skills came in handy; the grocery store closed. After managing the store for 10 years, he founded Balan Air Conditioning, Inc., in 1999. His business serves clients

from Aventura to Ft. Lauderdale, with an emphasis on Hillcrest.

In addition to providing same-day service during the week, Balan also signs up Hillcrest unit owners who want to purchase a yearly service contract. The contract cost ranges from \$190 to \$350, depending on the extent of the coverage provided. The contract can cover everything from repairs to replacements.

The service contract covers most parts and labor costs during weekday hours, between 9 a.m. and 5 p.m. For example, Balan said a Hillcrest resident with a service contract would pay nothing to replace a compressor. Without the contract, the part and labor costs would run from \$1,300 to \$1,800, he said.

Balan can afford to offer Hillcresters the service contract because about 500 people here sign up with him. This lets him make money and spread the cost for the mostly no-charge service that comes with the contract. An exception: contract owners pay for work that occurs during the weekend and evening hours. Customers also pay to replace three parts: evaporator coil; drain pan and condenser coil.

Balan has customers in all but two of the hi-rise buildings in Hillcrest. He does not repair the water towers on the roofs of those buildings, saying someone with commercial air conditioning experience deals with that issue.

His company also makes repairs and installations in the midrise and low-rise buildings at Hillcrest, which include buildings that rely on a system that pumps well water up into individual air conditioning units. Balan said customer service is important to him. "This is my business, so if someone is not happy, I want to take care of it." He added, customers are promised same-day service, with one exception. Balan said he sometimes must order a part, which means the repair will be made the next day.

A long-time Hillcrest customer agrees that Balan does a good job promptly and at a fair price. Mark Roth, president of Hillcrest East 26 for about 10 years, said he has a yearly service contract with Balan that covers his unit. Roth added Building 26 leaders also call Balan to repair the air conditioning units on the floors of the building that cool the common areas. The condo association pays for this service per event, according to Roth.

Stressing the good customer service he gets, Roth said Balan even gave him information about an LG refrigerator he was planning to buy for his apartment. "I don't like them," he quoted Balan as saying, adding, "Mike told me I should purchase a warranty if I buy the LG refrigerator."

That advice came in handy. Roth said the refrigerator stopped

working three weeks before the warranty he purchased expired. LG tried fixing it three times, Roth said, but wound up paying him for the cost of a replacement.

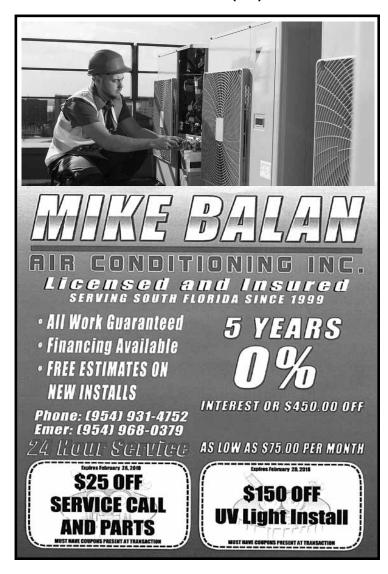
Cindy Rock, the vice president of Building 25, also has good things to say about Balan, who comes to her building every weekday to check on the building unit owners who have service contracts. Rock, in charge of building maintenance, also calls Balan when the air conditioners in the common areas need attention.

Servicing so many clients, including a major development such as Hillcrest, means Balan is a busy guy. But he does not do all the work for his company. His son Steven has pitched in for about seven

years. In a sense, Steven has followed in his father's footsteps in more than one way.



In his spare time, he went to school to become a paramedic/firefighter. Steven got his license six months ago and started working as a paramedic at Memorial Regional Hospital, in Hollywood, in August. He is also looking for a job with a fire department, although he continues to work for his dad parttime. For more information, call (954) 931-4752.



## Success And Its Right Essence - Submitted by BK Etta Stevens



We all live our lives in the pursuit of many goals and achievements. Although life presents us different situations and life in its every moment has something to be achieved, it is in living every moment of our lives in happiness and contentment that true success is attained. On the other hand, reaching important goals and achieving important milestones in life in different spheres is very important. Yet while reaching these goals and milestones, and on our journey towards reaching them, we find true success if we remain light and keep our actions positive and correct and as a result we remain happy.

Very often, when we try and move too fast to our goals, there can be some success achieved. But while reaching that goal if you perform actions that give sorrow to others or you are not honest, or you lose hope and confidence or even for that matter your relationships or health are affected because of that, then that is not true success. Success means experiencing a sense of achievement at every step and not just when the destination is reached. Also, success means sharing good wishes with each other and giving love to each other, giving blessings and taking blessings from each other, serving and sustaining everyone with

good qualities and powers and being a good person. Materialistic success in wealth or role but not experiencing success in these different emotional and spiritual terms is not complete success and not 100% success.

To be free from the identification with negativity is to be always light.

Expression: The one who identifies with his negative traits is always thinking about it. There is a trace of this negativity that is seen in everything he does or talks. He is not able to be free from this negativity because with each passing day the identification with it becomes stronger. Slowly others too start perceiving him in the same way.

Experience: When I am able to be free from the identification with my negativity, I am able to be constantly light. There might be situations or people who might provoke my negativity, but I am able to maintain my inner positivity. This is because I have managed to finish my identification with the negativity.

Sometimes our internal state of mind is very good, but we lack positive skills and maybe a good physical personality suited for a task, and yet we do well in the task. This is because your inner state influences the task much more, even if you have not worked very hard or used too many skills. On the other hand, when our internal state of mind is sometimes not so positive, clear and powerful, our mind is full of unnecessary and negative thoughts, but we are extremely talented and possess good intellectual skills, we don't perform well in a particular task in life. In this case, the skills are not enough to achieve the required purpose. So, long-term success is attained more by what we think and positivity in character than by the different positive skills and talents we possess externally.

In the process of learning MEDITATION, we learn to decrease our negative thoughts and work on keeping the positive thoughts uppermost in our mind.

Try this quick trick:

"PAY ATTENTION TO YOUR BREATH

CONCENTRATE ON THE IN BREATH AND THE OUT BREATH. IF THOUGHTS COME TO YOU, HEAR THEM AND LET THEM GO. LIKE THE OCEAN WAVES, concentrate on in and out of your breath and continue to learn the positives of MEDITATION and what it can do for your life.

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## **September 2018 IT Security Tips**

# MAKE THIS PASSWORD DIFFERENT FROM ALL OF YOUR OTHER PASSWORDS

If I had to guess, chances are you're guilty of using the same password for almost all your logins. Believe me, I understand how hard it is to remember all those passwords; and if you're using the same password for sites that don't share sensitive information, like a login to a news feed you like to read, then it's generally okay.

However, please think about taking my advice when I tell you this. The "one" password you want to keep unique is your email password. If an e-commerce site you've registered at or bought from gets hacked – and you've used the same password, you usually use for everything to register at the site – you can pretty much bet hackers are going to gain access to your inbox. They'll have your email and your password to the e-commerce site and will use that to hack in. From there, they'll have fertile ground for getting all your data and other passwords.

#### WHO IS SHARING YOUR PRIVATE DATA?

It happens more often than you think. You registered for a website, only to find out they've been sharing your personal information with other marketers! In a nutshell, these marketers are invading your personal space. Stick around because here's a really neat trick for finding out who's sharing your personal information just in case you want to do something about it.

If you have a Gmail account, type "+" before the "@" symbol and add the websites name. If you add a "+" sign and then any words into your Gmail address, it still works.

For example, if you were to subscribe to a shopping site and your email address is JohnDoe @Gmail.com, you could use this email: JohnDoe+Shopping @Gmail.com to sign up.

You'll still get your emails and you'll be able to filter them more easily by which address emails are sent to. Plus, if you get any emails from another site to JohnDoe+Shopping@Gmail.com, you'll know who gave your email address out.

#### **DON'T FALL FOR POP-UPS**

You're working at your computer when all of the sudden – BAM! You get a pop-up notification that your PC is infected with a virus and you must "click here" to run a scan or install antivirus software. This is a common scareware tactic used by hackers to get you to click and download a virus. (You should know we would NEVER deliver that type of pop-up to you!)

Often it will appear to be a system alert or a Microsoft operating system alert. Regardless of how legitimate it looks, NEVER click on the site or the pop-up. The safest thing to do is close your browser; do not click on the "Close" or "Cancel" button in the pop-up or on the site because clicking on anything on the page or pop-up will trigger a virus download. If that doesn't work, bring up your task manager (hold Control + Alt + Delete on a PC and Command + Option + Esc to "Force Quit" on a Mac) and close the web browser or application where it appeared. Next, notify your IT department (us!) that this has happened,

so we can double-check with a legitimate scan if your computer was infected.

Are you wondering if there are any holes in your Security Blanket? Let us help you. Request a Cybersecurity Risk Assessment today. Our assessment will let you know where the gaps are and offer strategic recommendations to help mitigate risk and protect your data from cyberattacks.

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Continued from Pg. 13

Yes, there are whistle blower statues in some states that will protect an employee who goes public with otherwise protected information because of a threat to public health or illegal activity. But there is no absolute protection for whistle blowers — and it doesn't exist everywhere.

#### **True Threats**

True threats are like many other areas of First Amendment protection: context, target, and intent matter in determining what is or is not a true threat. Some threats are always illegal — any threat to the President of the U.S., for example. Any online comment that could be construed as a terrorist threat, for instance, is likely to be treated as a true threat.

For example, in 2010, Deer Park Middle School in the Round Rock Independent School District, near Austin, Texas was evacuated, and the FBI called in after a teenage Facebook user in Saudi Arabia made a bomb threat after a girl at the middle school "unfriended" him. The teenager — whose identity is protected because he is less

than 17, and a minor under Saudi law, is facing tough questions from Saudi and U.S. officials under the "true threat" doctrine.

### **In Other Cases**

Courts have ruled that in order to be a true threat, very specific circumstances must exist. Check out Stanford University's The *Nuremberg Files* for a detailed account of the case in which over 200 doctors sued a website which published "Wanted: Dead or Alive" posters with the photos and home addresses of doctors who performed abortions, with details about the doctor's families (such as the school their children attended, where their spouses worked, and what kinds of cars they drove).

The doctors said that the wanted posters constituted a true threat — and two murders were attributed to the campaign. (One doctor was murdered at church, another at home.) In this case, the Supreme Court ruled that the First Amendment protected the website and its wanted posters.

### A CLEAN HOME IS A HAPPY HOME

- by "Howard Hughes"

That's what my mom used to call me because I (Cindy Abraham) was such a germaphobe.

When I was in my 20's my perfect roommate was Nikki Lawrence; she was a neat freak and I was a clean compulsive. She could look at a glass cocktail table that had drink rings and schmutz on it and rearrange the chachkis attractively - without a swipe of a cleaning rag. I would look at a perfectly arranged table and clean it to a sparkling shine and leave all the chachkis pushed to one side.

(Ed Note: Chachki – not being Jewish; I still know a lot of Yiddish words - like most of us- but I did not know that the correct spelling is tchotchke which means trinket or a bauble of little value. Thank you, Google.)

With all the rain lately, sometimes I just want to putter around the house. And cleaning is one thing I don't hate. It is the perfect mindless task that keeps me moving but frees up my brain to ponder more important issues; like what I SHOULD be doing with my time...

If you have those pop-up disinfecting cloths, there is a lot of places that can use a swipe now and then and I think I got them all...

- Under the rim of the kitchen and bathroom countertops
- Phones and computer keys
- · Light switches and door knobs
- · Cabinet and appliance knobs and handles
- Refrigerator top
- Tops of fan blades
- Window sills (and underneath the rim)
- Inside of the sink where the rubber screener for the garbage disposal is
- Cabinet surfaces including top and bottom rims
- Any condiment holders salt and pepper shakers, oil and vinegar cruets, etc. ESPECIALLY if you keep them by the stove when you are cooking

Then get out your white vinegar and add an ounce to a coffee pot full of water and run it through. Then rinse by running a pot of clear water through. You will taste the difference in your next cup of coffee. You can throw a cup of white vinegar into your dishwasher too. Doesn't hurt the dishes either.

For major jobs like pulling out the stove and/or fridge to clean behind them, you probably need to call Sandra Rodriguez. Her ad is on this page. As you can imagine, a GREAT GIFT for a Hillcrester who can't get around as well as he/she used to, or for someone under the weather or just out of the hospital, is a one-time THOROUGH cleaning. Sandy can give you a quote, but of course she needs to see the unit first. What a great relief when someone is just getting home from the hospital or even someone who has been homebound for a while to walk in to "clean and fresh". Sandy and her sister will even launder the sheets.

It is amazing how long one can maintain a thoroughly clean home or condo. It is a gift that is not soon forgotten.

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\*Jeff Messett is a licensed insurance agent and not connected to the Federal Medicare program.



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