

Egret

September 2016

VOLUME 59 NUMBER 9



Miami Shores | Biscayne Park | El Portal | North Bay Village | Quayside
Cricket Club | Jockey Club | The Preserves | And 25 other area locations

Welcome

Back to
School



Meet Doctors Charter School's
new Executive Director ...
see page 5!



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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Jonathan Meltz, President, Greater Miami Shores Chamber of Commerce



Parents Rejoice— School Is Back In Session!

August 22 marked the return to school for most area children, including my daughters. Some of us of a certain age can remember when school did not resume until after Labor Day, but those days are gone. Here in South Florida, it doesn't matter much when the kids go back to class, the air conditioning makes that irrelevant.

It marks a return to normalcy for parents, who by summer's end are surely ready for the change. But not so our kids! For them, summer break is far too short and comes to an end before they know it. Whether we have kids or not, it's good to remember to give them a break and watch your speed near schools and athletic fields.

We had many great area options for our kids for summer camp—from the STEM program camp at Montessori School of North Miami, to the acting classes and camp at Miami Theater Center, to Barry University's venerable BucKids camp. If your kids were in camp, I hope it both inspired and entertained them. Now, many area schools (Chamber members all) are competing to educate your children, and we couldn't be happier for all the choices—from our highly rated local public schools to the diverse selection of private options. And, speaking of public schools, a special shout out to the new Executive Director of Doctors Charter School, Dr. Kelly Andrews, who is interviewed in this edition by our own Raquel Reyes.

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COMMUNITY NEWS

Free belly dancing classes will continue throughout the month of September at **Brockway Memorial Library**. Join Kira Kismet, a second generation dancer who has been involved with dance for the past 30 years, as she teaches proper body posture, isolations, strong shimmies, and graceful arm and hand movements. This class will contain all styles of Middle Eastern Dance featuring Turkish, Egyptian, Greek, and New World music. Classes are open to teens and adults. No dance experience is necessary! It all happens Tuesday evenings at 6:30 pm. To register please call 305-758-8107.

Join Nancy Auster from Vitas Healthcare for a free screening and discussion of the PBS FRONTLINE film, Being Mortal. Based on the best-selling book by Atul Gawande, MD, this documentary explores the hopes of patients and families facing terminal illness and their relationships with the physicians who treat them. See the film and be part of a national conversation that brings medical professionals and community members together. Light refreshments and a panel discussion

to follow film. Tuesday, 9/20: 6:00-7:45 pm. RSVP required: 305-758-8107.



A Party at the Pool for our Schools! A new fundraising event will be hosted by the **Miami Shores Community Alliance** benefitting our area's schools.

It's on Saturday, Oct. 15th, 6:30-9 p.m. and called MargaritaVillage, a Jimmy Buffett-

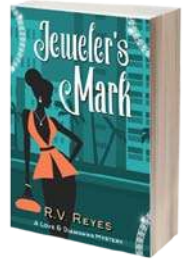
themed party at the Miami Shores Aquatic Center's Shipwreck Cove. Live DJ playing Jimmy's popular tunes, plus dancing. Guests receive 2 drink tickets and a special gift. Advance tickets are \$75 and \$85 at the door. To order tickets, visit www.miamishoresalliance.com. Make checks to: Miami Foundation-MSCA, and mail to P.O. Box 531512, Miami Shores, FL 33153. For more details, call Susan Ackley at 305-439-4509.

The Miami Shores Community Alliance will hold its monthly meeting on Wednesday, September 7, at 8:00 a.m. at the Miami Shores Community Center.

The Heidi Hewes Chapter of the Woman's Cancer Association of the University of Miami, based in Miami Shores, is dedicated to increasing wellness in the community through raising funds for cancer research, support, education, and service. Heidi Hewes will be meeting Wednesday, September 7th at 7 p.m. To attend one of the meetings, mixers, or events, please email heidiheweswca@gmail.com.

Heidi Hewes is collecting donations for the Bargain Box, its resale thrift shop that benefits the Woman's Cancer Association of the University of Miami. Located at 1350 West Flagler, the Bargain Box is open Monday - Saturday, 9:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. Tax-deductible donations are accepted — gently worn clothing, home furnishings, linens, glassware, accessories, art work, luggage, jewelry, etc. Please call Jackie Butler at 305-633-8068, ext. 107 or Bill Tenney at 305-308-4639 for questions and free pick up.

Heidi Hewes thanks donors Barbara Poe, Pat Duffy, Estate of Nancy Strothers, Will and Mary Ellen Skelly, Esther Small, Kim Krause, Marnie Allen, Gaby Henderson, Helen Mendel, Chris O'Neil, Miriam Kulick, Joe Robbin, Catherine "Robby" Stratford, Dawn Huckestein, Nel Kroboth, and Gail Presson.



Miami Shores author **Raquel V. Reyes** has just published *Jeweler's Mark: A Love & Diamonds Mystery*, the first in a new series that interweaves the author's experience as a third generation jewelry designer in her family's jewelry business within the glamour and glitz of her native Miami to create a sparkling new addition to South Florida's mystery scene. R. V. Reyes is an active member of the Florida Chapter of Mystery Writers of America and writes Cozy in Miami, a blog featuring interviews with leading Florida mystery writers. The book is available as an ebook and in paperback on Amazon, at local bookstores, or at the Chamber's Shores Shop.

Charlie Kluck at Preferred Mortgage tells us that BREXIT- the British decision to leave the European Union, has provided home buyers with a great opportunity if they are planning to purchase a new home or refinance. Although Britain's vote to exit the EU sent shock waves through the financial markets, one of the few advantages are the lowest interest rates we have had in some time. While 30-year mortgages have slid to a low 3.5% and 15-year mortgages are a low 2.75%, it

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Raquel V. Reyes, Senior Columnist

DR. ANDREWS LEADS DOCTORS CHARTER SCHOOL IN TO NEW YEAR



Dr. Kelly Andrews is the new Executive Director of Doctors Charter School. Before the chaos of the first weeks of the 2016-2017 school year, I had the opportunity to ask her a few questions.

First off, welcome to Miami Shores and congratulations on your Executive Director's position. I hope you have settled into your new surroundings. Miami is very different from Richmond, Indiana. Please tell us a little about your family's journey to our village.

How did you end up in Miami Shores from Indiana?

My husband was first brought here by Miami Shores community members to lead the Miami Shores Presbyterian Church in 2014. Dennis and I found the Village of Miami Shores to be a family centered community as we were looking to relocate both professionally and personally. While Miami Shores is nestled in the international city of Miami, we find it to be charming, quaint, and culturally diverse with opportunities to connect to families and new friends. We are from a small city in the Midwest with several colleges and universities in the area, so having Barry University and other college campuses nearby was a nice advantage as well to connect to higher education.

Florida is a leader and model for charter schools. In your former position as President of the Indiana Association of School Principals did you experience the charter school model? Do you see any advantages to it?

I have been involved in serving and supporting all principals, public, charter, and private in their quest to educate all students. While there are certainly advantages and disadvantages to all types of school systems, we now live in an era of education where parents are more involved than ever and want the opportunity to choose the educational route for their child. It is not about the boundaries of where you live as that used to determine school attendance, but what type of education parents want their child to receive. All schools, public and private are now in the business of marketing their programs in order to draw students to them. Successful schools define themselves with their mission and vision and charter schools particularly have an advantage in this arena to draw students to their defined program.

In DCS's June newsletter, you share your philosophy of education. Can you please describe to us what "active leadership" looks like?

Active leadership for me is visibility and involvement in the school and greater community and making connections for students, teachers, and families. I hope to participate in community activities/events and learn more about the community to support the many offerings in Miami Shores.

What do you mean by "business-like classrooms"?

Business-like classrooms are defined structures within the classroom that involve routines and procedures allowing for active student engagement and professional student-teacher relationships to grow. DCS has a structured college preparatory program

in place and I look forward to observing all the classes, clubs, and activities beginning this fall to share the journey of education with our students.

You also state that "regular assessments" are an aspect of 21st century educational leadership. Florida has been a battleground for standardized testing, especially the FCAT and its newer version the FSA. Parents, teachers, and students have demanded changes. Are you aware of Florida and Miami-Dade's standardized testing history?

I cannot comment on the history of Florida or Miami-Dade's standardized testing.

How do you plan to make testing less stressful for DCS students and less of a burden on the teachers' ability to teach the subject instead of teach the test?

Standardized testing is part of the landscape of education and while there has been a lot of controversy in the 21st century with No Child Left Behind and Race to the Top as well as the new re-authorization Every Student Succeeds Act, it may continue to be something that will continue in some form. The emphasis in the past two decades has created more accountability for schools, good or bad, and perhaps a more focused effort to assist students to succeed, however, the over-reach is something states have pushed back on because we know a "one size fits all" approach does not work. ESSA is working to create more autonomy for states to serve their districts and families and it will take some time for each state to determine how they will implement new accountability measures and what fits for each state. However, we must know how our students are reacting to curriculum in order to personalize learning for every student. Our goal is for every student, every day, to engage in a successful learning experience so when we are taking assessments, the students will have confidence in their knowledge. Whether

Continued on page 10 ...



GREATER MIAMI SHORES SCHOOLS REPORT

The Greater Miami Shores Chamber of Commerce welcomes submissions for this column by all schools that are members of the Chamber, whether public or private. To find out about submitting information on behalf of your favorite school, please contact Jesse Walters at the Chamber at 305-754-5466.

Students at **Miami Shores Presbyterian Church School (MSPCS)** are excited to be back to school for the 2016-2017 academic year. MSPCS offers a Christ inspired educational experience that empowers students to reach their full potential in life, where academic excellence is nurtured and students are treasured and respected. Students 18 months to 5th grade are encouraged to learn independently and creatively within small class settings. If you have questions regarding registration, please contact 305-759-2548 or schools@mspcs.net.

MSPCS is proud to host their Second Annual Arts Festival, ART CRAFT LOVE on November 12, 2016. This year the event will be under the covered courtyard and will make use of MSPC Fellowship Hall. This free community event was inspired and organized by our Parent Association, and will bring together local artisans and vendors for a fun event for everyone. There will be a Kids' Zone, Art Gallery, Student Art Contest, and Food Trucks. For more information, please visit www.mspcs.net/artfest or contact Liangy Calli at lcalli@mspcs.net.

Miami Country Day School welcomes all new and returning students for the 2016-2017 school year. To the Class of 2017, best wishes as you begin your senior year. Save the date for the annual "Walk the Walk" for Cancer – Saturday, October 15. Registration will begin at 8 am followed by the walk at 9 am. After the walk, join



the MCDS community for a family BBQ, hosted by the MCDS Parents' Association.

Doctors Charter School (DCS) is welcoming a new school year with a week-long Back to School opportunity for students and parents to visit the school. New students to DCS met on August 1st to hear all about the services and expectations that DCS provides. The week of August 15-18 from 5:30 - 7 pm offered students and parents the chance to receive schedules, locker information, to learn about the parent portal, take a parent survey, and fill out vital information to prepare for the school year. Please go to www.doctorscharterschool.org for specific information for each grade level. School began August 22nd with a complement of returning staff as well as new staff, all of which are eager to meet the students and launch into the 16-17 school year. The students will see some updates to the

facility as the cafeteria has received a new coat of paint to brighten the room. Other enhancements are underway to create a welcoming family atmosphere to the school site.

A new uniform company, Chai-Tees, is providing uniforms this school year. Students and parents can go to the store to purchase uniforms and also purchase on-line for home delivery. The store is located at 20725 NE 16th Avenue, Suite A-10, North Miami Beach, FL 33179 and their website can be accessed at www.chai-tees.com .

DCS is also looking for Substitute Teachers for 2016-17. Anyone with at least 60 hours of graduate credit may take the Substitute Teacher course with Miami-Dade College (a 2 day course) and complete the background checks required by MDCPS in order to be considered for DCS this year.

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Turn to this page each month for a photo collage of area residents, community events, and Chamber activities. You can wait for our roving photographer to take some snaps or you can send us a selfie!

AROUND THE VILLAGES

MIAMI SHORES VILLAGE PEOPLE MEET & GREET WITH CANDIDATES AT ANTICA MARE



TROOP 900 GIRL SCOUTS GO EXPLORING



Members of Miami Shores LGBT community and allies recently enjoyed a complimentary happy hour thanks to Antica Mare owner Mario Betti and got to hear from candidates for Florida's Senate Kevin Burns, Michael Gongora, and Jason Pizzo as well as State Representative candidate Francesca Menes. Top Right: Miami Shores Village People Organizer John D'Alessandro, Georgeé Kluck of Georgeé & Company Keller Williams Realty, and Merry & Nate Bodner. Top Left: Michael Otocky, Yates Fulbright, Dave Pal, and Kevin Burns. Bottom Left: John Callari with Jason Pizzo and his wife.

Members of Girl Scout Council of Tropical Florida Troop 900, which meets at Phyllis Ruth Miller Elementary School under the leadership of Ernestine McKnight, recently hiked to El Portal's Tequesta Indian Mound and cave to learn more about our local history.

JULY CHAMBER MIXER AT EL PORTAL VILLAGE HALL



Over 60 Chamber members and area residents took a break from the summer heat and enjoyed the hospitality of El Portal Village and event sponsors at the Chamber's July networking event. Photos L-R: Incoming Biscayne Park Village Manager Sharon Ragoonan and Mayor David Coviello with El Portal Mayor Claudia Cubillos; Medi-Station Urgent Care Center's Kathy Sanchez and Sandra Otis, El Portal Councilperson Harold E. Mathis and guest Alan Rifkin.



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990 NE 72 Ter \$749,000

Gorgeous, totally remodeled 2 BR / 2 BA plus den and resort style pool. This gem has 2 master suites, large closets & large new master bathrooms.



7901 Hispaniola Ave #1702 \$579,000

Amazing corner unit with 270° panoramic views in the Lexi's best & most desired "02" line. Huge & deep wrap-around balcony, 10 ft ceilings and more.



8101 Biscayne Blvd #R601 \$275,000

Large 850 sf loft with great views and 14 ft ceilings in The Bank Condo. Zoned to work and live. Rare open kitchen, full bath & more.



420 NE 52 Ter \$1,195,000

Exquisite totally remodeled modern Morningside masterpiece! One of gated Morningside's largest homes. 3,205 sf, 4 BR / 4 BA + garage.



7400 NE 8 Ave \$729,000

Dripping in charm! This large 2,020 sf pre-war Belle Meade home has 3 BR / 2 BA, a separate 1 car garage. Sits on a large 7,629 sf corner lot.



780 NE 69 St #1606 \$199,000

Best value in Palm Bay! Breathtaking views of the bay and beaches from this 1BR/1.5BA condo in the popular Palm Bay Yacht Club.



1125 Belle Meade Island Dr \$1,750,000

Located on prestigious Belle Meade Island off of Belle Meade, this 75 ft waterfront lot is 12,375 sf total, deep water, no bridges, 200 ft to bay.



8943 Carlyle Ave \$714,500

One of the most beautiful Surfside homes ever! Totally remodeled, this MIMO ranch has 3 BR / 2 BA + garage. Open gourmet kitchen w/ granite counter + S.S. appliances.



865 NE 71 St \$749,000

Beautifully remodeled Bayside home w/ pool & separate guest cottage. This home has rich wood floors & updated white shaker kitchen.



6301 Collins Ave #1605 \$775,000

Floor-to-ceiling glass allows you to enjoy beautiful 270 degree panoramic views from this SW 2 BR / 2 BA corner unit.



8810 Abbott Ave \$775,000

One of the largest homes in Surfside, this 2,043 sf home has 3 BR / 2.5 BA plus an attached garage. Large rooms, formal dining room and spacious kitchen.



877 NE 73 St \$760,000

Beautifully remodeled, large 2,340 sf Belle Meade pool home. 3 BR / 2 full BA, large family room, garage plus bonus room (currently set up as office)!

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SPOTLIGHT ON ...

VILLAGE OF BISCAIYNE PARK VICE MAYOR ROXANNA ROSS

The Greater Miami Shores Chamber of Commerce serves four local communities, and each month we will shine the spotlight on one of your town's Council Members or Commissioners!



Commissioner Roxanna Ross and her husband Chuck bought their first home in Biscayne Park in 1987. She has been on the commission for several terms, including serving as Mayor from 2009-2011. Professionally she is a Para Legal. She is the child of Cuban immigrant parents. Her current term expires in December of 2018. She is a pleasure to work with and very interested in building the relationship with the Chamber of Commerce.

IT TAKES A VILLAGE

Continued from page 5...

determine how they will implement new accountability measures and what fits for each state. However, we must know how our students are reacting to curriculum in order to personalize learning for every student. Our goal is for every student, every day, to engage in a successful learning experience so when we are taking assessments, the students will have confidence in their knowledge. Whether in later years, a student is taking college entrance exams, teacher licensure exams, the law bar or medical bar exams, DCS students will be prepared in life to take assessments to prepare for their next steps. Assessing students is a part of teaching and learning and we hope that the stress and anxiety over standardized tests will lessen as our state and district develops more opportunities to monitor student achievement in a way that is meaningful to the student and their families as well as the school.

Many families choose DCS not only for the academics but for the athletic programs. In recent years, the sport options have been fewer. Do you plan to revitalize that component of the school's mission?

I understand that varsity baseball has been added to the sports line-up at DCS. I am looking forward to being a Hawk's fan in the stands at the many sporting events that DCS offers this year.

I have one last question. What has been the most surprising thing you have discovered about your new home, South Florida?

The July heat of South Florida is not as intolerable as was forewarned! I enjoy the breezes from the ocean that seem to waft inland all the time. I am enjoying the beauty of the flora, but most of all the kindness of all who have welcomed me here.

Do you know an area resident that needs to be recognized for their community contributions? Have a column idea? Please email rreyes@miamishores.com.

Raquel Reyes is a writer living in Miami Shores. Check out www.rvreyes.com for more information about her.

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COMMUNITY NEWS

Continued from page 4...

has created the perfect storm for low interest rates.

If you're a first-time buyer or buying a larger dream house, now is the time to purchase. If you're holding a mortgage over 4.5%, you should look into refinancing. A 1% drop in interest can save you hundreds of dollars depending on the size of your mortgage. If you are looking to pay off your home faster, moving from a 30-year to a 15-year mortgage could save you over 2% and thousands of dollars in interest. How long will the rates stay down? That's a good question, but probably not too long and likely not past the end of this year according to the economists. Charlie Kluck can be reached at 305-588-2693.

The Miami Shores Friendly Villagers will hold their luncheon meeting on Tuesday, September 6, at 11:30 a.m. at the Miami Shores Country Club. Tickets are \$23 and RSVP is a must. Call Denise at 305-754-9980.

The Miami Shores Woman's Club will meet on Tuesday, September 13, 11:00 a.m. at the Miami Shores Country Club. Michelle Brown, Head Librarian at Brockway Memorial Library, will speak on the library's programming. Luncheon tickets are \$24, and RSVP is requested by calling Helen Mendel at 305-751-6885.

PAWS, CLAWS & JAWS!



Each month we highlight a photo of an area resident's pet—dog, cat, bird, or hamster—send them in! We just need the photo, the pet's name, and the name of the pet's family and town. Email it to "Pet of the Month" at jessewalters@miamishores.com.



Residents Sage and Sudhir Chamarthi adopted Basil after he was orphaned in October last year. He was born in the front yard and rescued in the back. He likes to lounge on the enclosed porch at a safe distance from the wild creatures who took his mom. His hobbies include tormenting his adopted cat parents by biting their ears when they are sticking out of the lid on the litter box and chasing mice under the dishwasher.



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CHAMBER SEPTEMBER EVENTS & NEWS

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS!

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corey@precisionartdesign.com
www.precisionartdesign.com

Retail
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John Oliver, President
9905 NW 7th Avenue
Miami, FL 33150
305-759-3688
ekonotires@gmail.com

THANKS TO RENEWING MEMBERS:

- Bayside Adjusters
- Village of Biscayne Park
- Calli Law
- EWM Realty Mario Pacheco
- GG Salon & Spa
- M Power Project Fitness
- Miami Shores Animal Clinic
- Minuteman Press
- Mount Sinai Medical Center

TUESDAY, SEPT. 13
4:30 P.M.

Executive Committee meets at the Chamber of Commerce office

WEDNESDAY, SEPT. 14
MONTHLY MEMBER

EVENT: Free Mixer & Downtown Miami Shores Panel Discussion
Sand Box Theater @ MTC
9806 NE 2nd Ave., 5:30-7:30



Chamber members and area residents are invited to network during a wine and hors d'oeuvres reception and then stay for a panel discussion on the latest redevelopment efforts in downtown Miami Shores. Advance RSVP online at www.miamishores.com.



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Find details on all members at www.miamishores.com

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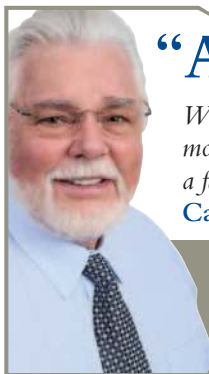
305.751.2446

THURSDAY, SEPT. 15
4:30 P.M.

Green Day Committee meets at the Chamber of Commerce office

TUESDAY, SEPT. 20
4:30 P.M.

Board of Directors meets at Doctors Charter School



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Each month a Chamber member realtor is given the opportunity to submit a photo of a great home they have for sale. This month's home is an ultra-spacious 2-story, 4/4, 3,150 SF home that offers timeless design with modern amenities! The dramatic living room features a coral rock fireplace & cathedral ceiling that leads to a renovated open kitchen and huge family room that is ideal for parties! Located on a quiet cul-de-sac just a block from the bay. For more information on this home, please visit www.georgeekluck.com or call Georgeé at 305-333-7857.



Welcome to our new neighbors! These homes were recently sold ...

Biscayne Park:

11820 Griffing Blvd	\$580,000
11149 NE 8th Ave	\$460,000
926 NE 109th St	\$367,500
1020 NE 120th St	\$325,000
11130 NE 10th Ave	\$250,500

El Portal:

60 NE 89th St	\$525,000
64 NE 88 ST	\$355,000
12 NW 86th St	\$352,000
185 NW 86th St	\$219,000

Miami Shores:

1177 NE 100th St	\$1,450,000
680 NE 97th St	\$929,000

251 NE 98th St	\$630,000
112 NE 111th St	\$520,000
10626 NE 11th Ct	\$435,000
922 NE 91st Ter	\$430,000
9313 NW 2nd Ct	\$410,000
45 NW 93rd St	\$367,000
77 NE 95th St	\$340,000
1200 NE 105th St, #21	\$195,000

North Bay Village:

7623 Beachview Dr	\$1,850,000
1550 S Treasure Dr	\$1,450,000
Blue Bay Tower, 7929 West Dr, #903	\$435,000
Bridgewater Condo, 1881 79 St Cswy, #1201	\$434,500
Eloquence on the Bay, 7930 E Drive, #1101	\$395,000

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? HISTORY CORNER



Each month, we feature a question or a photograph here from our Archives. The randomly drawn winner receives a \$25 gift certificate to an area Chamber member restaurant or retail establishment. The winner is drawn on the 15th of the month.

Last month, we asked if anyone could identify the gentleman pictured below, who appeared in a 1979 edition of this publication.

He just celebrated his 90th birthday and still lives in Miami Shores. In fact, he was President of the Chamber of Commerce in 1984.



He is fondly remembered and still quite well known. We had an astounding 48 correct responses. Our randomly drawn winner is Sheryl Piper, who knew it was none other than Paul May. Mr. May had a moving and storage business and would go on to become an auctioneer and real estate professional. Sheryl wins a \$25 gift certificate to Proper Sausage in downtown Miami Shores.

For September, no question, just a bunch of lovely old photos. They were supplied to us by reader Yolanda Zelinski of Austin, TX She said that they were given to her by her father, Raymond Sprague who died in 1997. Mr. Sprague lived in Miami Shores for many years before moving to Miami, and finally joining his daughter in Austin. It's not clear that these were actually photographed in Miami Shores, as much as that they contain billboards that may have touted the new homes being built in our community. Enjoy!



John Hornbuckle

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“” LAST WORD

Quote of the Month:

“There is only one redeeming thing about this whole election. It will be over at sundown, and let everybody pray that it's not a tie, for we couldn't go through with this thing again.”

Will Rogers

To Wit:

Joe: Is it true that you're addicted to brake fluid?

John: No. I can stop at any time.

Courtesy AARP Bulletin

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The Summer Olympics in Rio may be over, but Miami Shores resident Marianne Schmidhofer of NE 91st Street in Miami Shores has a lifetime of memories after spending nearly three weeks there supervising a cruise ship that was turned into a floating hotel for celebrities. Marianne is a professional meeting planner and also serves on the Chamber's Green Day Committee. She is pictured here with NBC Nightly News host Lester Holt. They flew on the same flight from Miami to Rio!



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