



## MAY 2020 NEWSLETTER

Dear Community Members,

As I compose this in mid-May I am struck with the fact of the uncertainty that we have experienced and will continue in the foreseeable future. My hope is that we will all be fine, and we will be in our “new” normal and enjoying our summer months like we always do in South Florida. Truly that is my hope and if we work together, we will reach a “new” normal sooner than later. The County was able to enter phase 1 of reopening on May 18<sup>th</sup> and our expectation is that we can continue this path to reopen, if we all continue to follow all the CDC guidelines that have been provided. Everyone has a responsibility to continue to implement these guidelines to make sure we can move forward.

Before I can go any further, I would like to take this opportunity to thank each and every one in the community that followed the stay at home orders, and a BIG thank you to the essential workers that cared for the sick, stocked the grocery shelves, delivered our parcels, kept our utilities humming, transported our supplies in and everyone else that had our backs when we needed it. To the volunteers that stepped in and continue to assist us, thank you! I greatly appreciate everyone’s services to our communities. We would not be here today if it was not for everyone doing their part!

Let’s keep monitoring COVID 19 as we progress through the summer and into the Fall. Broward County has a coronavirus link for all up to date pertinent information. It includes links to the Florida Department of Health, the Center for the Disease Control, assistance information for businesses and individuals and so much more. Please visit [www.Broward.org/coronavirus](http://www.Broward.org/coronavirus) for more information.

As residents of South Florida, we are all too aware of the time of year it is for us.... Hurricane Season. June 1st is the start of hurricane season and it is the perfect time to make sure you are prepared! Please make sure you check out [www.Broward.org/hurricane](http://www.Broward.org/hurricane) for important safety information for before, during and after a tropical event including readiness tips, boil water alerts, curfews, transportation updates, trash pickups, recovery assistance and much more! I also encourage everyone to sign up to ALERTBROWARD. You can find the link to ALERTBROWARD at the County’s hurricane webpage mentioned above and it will provide you with notifications of important information in critical countywide situations such as a hurricane, including evacuations, curfews, and open shelters.

And while we were dealing COVID 19 this Spring, we were busy with other County business such as:

### **County Allocates funding for COVID response**

At the very start of the COVID pandemic in our community, we understood that in order to respond to this crisis we would have to make some budgetary decision to make sure our community can get through this. Some of the most recent actions include:

- The Board of County Commissioners allocated \$4 million towards COVID 19 related expenses in early April.
- The Board also approved additional funding for the Human Service Department to partner with the Taskforce for Ending Homelessness and Hope South Florida to mitigate the spread of COVID-19 by increasing the availability of sanitation equipment for individuals who are experiencing street homelessness.
- Additionally, the Board approved a supplemental grant program to provide financial assistance to Broward-based non-profit cultural organizations impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic.

### **Voting**

Broward County has been working with our Supervisor of Elections this year on the upcoming election, especially amid the COVID19 pandemic to make sure that a safe and fair election is held this year. The County has provided supplemental funding support to the SOE, at their request, to be used to address anticipated impacts due to the pandemic.

Florida's Primary Election is August 18, 2020 and the General Election is November 3, 2020. If you have concerns about COVID-19 and being able to safely vote in-person, you should request a vote-by-mail ballot. The legal deadline for requesting vote-by-mail ballots for the August 18, 2020 Primary Election is August 8, 2020. Vote-by-mail ballots can be mailed or dropped off at the Supervisor of Elections office and at any of Broward's 22 early voting locations. For more information and further details please visit, [www.BrowardSOE.org](http://www.BrowardSOE.org).

### **Census 2020**

Your response is very important! Only 53% of Broward County residents have completed the Census! Among many other things, Census data helps first responders identify the resources necessary to protect our community in a crisis like COVID-19. If you have not already done so, please visit [www.my2020census.gov](http://www.my2020census.gov) or call 844-330-2020 to get counted!

### **Stay Local Campaign**

The Greater Fort Lauderdale Alliance in connection with the Greater Fort Lauderdale Convention and Visitors Bureau are in the process of implementing a Stay Local Campaign for our residents to be able to enjoy all the amazing amenities we have right here in our own backyard. While we enjoy the summer months, lets BE LOCAL! Just a few months ago we were missing our favorite locales, let's make a point to enjoy that park, tourist spot,

restaurant, and local destination. It is another way of giving to our community. You can visit [www.sunny.org](http://www.sunny.org) to find out about all the incredible local spots in Broward County.

It is an honor to serve each and everyone one of you, especially these last few months. If I can be of any assistance to you, please contact me at 954-357-7004 or [LFisher@broward.org](mailto:LFisher@broward.org). You can also follow me on [Twitter](#) and like my [Facebook](#) page.

Please enjoy the summer and be mindful of the continued CDC guidelines that are in place to keep us safe and well!

Best regards,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'L. Fisher', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Lamar P. Fisher  
Broward County Commissioner  
District 4