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ELECTION DAY CHANGES ON THE GALT MILE

Political pundits of every stripe agree that dissatisfaction with the Administration's agenda, disgust over the rationale for and/or conduct of the war in Iraq and contempt for Congressional corruption impacted Federal, State, County and Municipal elections. Voters also reaffirmed their aversion to government spending, shelving the vast majority of bond issues, dedicated taxing authority, special projects, etc. Election Day winners will not only be expected to fulfill their promises, they must do so with existing resources. To avoid burdening new constituencies with unfunded mandates, resources stripped from popular programs to support the pursuit of mystical policies or questionable agendas will have to be reallocated. It also appears as if the electorate has lost confidence in politicians espousing the nobility of sacrificing a balanced budget, spendable income, privacy rights, access to health care, a sustainable environment and energy independence for some unidentified patriotic motive, the disclosure of which would undermine national security.

Analysts prescribe survival in this new environment as requiring a wholesale shift to the center. Republicans are learning what Democrats have been experiencing since 1994, when a significant number of "blues" became "undecided" in apprehension of a turn to the left. Twelve years later, a plethora of "reds" followed suit. Given

the broad spectrum of political viewpoints historically nurtured in this country, agendas focused narrowly on the goals of liberals or conservatives will, by definition, abandon the majority of voters. When the Democrats neglected the middle, they tanked. As Republican administrations alienated moderate supporters to pacify ultra-conservative cores, they tanked as well. Ignoring the middle is a recipe for disaster.

Republican strategist Wes Anderson asserted that the tidal wave of middle class voters who thought they installed representation supporting "fiscal conservatism, middle-class economics, a sustainable environment, national security and ethical reform" haven't undergone any ideological catharsis. In view of the outrageous national debt, the failure to achieve national security objectives in Iraq, the scandal boneyard in Congress, the decline of American political and economic international influence and shady corporate giveaways to heavy contributors, they felt victimized by a political "bait and switch". Disenchanted voters simply decided to seek those values elsewhere.

After the committed Republicans and Democrats cast their votes on November 7th, almost every race was decided by these "undecided" former reds and blues. This leaves no room for

Continued on page 5



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Election...Continued

As the only Republican on the Broward Board of County Commissioners, Scott was assigned the responsibility of pressing Broward's agenda in Republican Tallahassee. His fellow Democratic Commissioners relied on Scott to make their case for Land Use Authority, beach restoration, education funds and a litany of other issues controlled in Tallahassee. Consequently, Scott was forced to spend an inordinate amount of time in the Capitol. Combined with his lack of political opposition regularly resulting in low profile automatic re-elections, Scott's visibility to County newcomers was nearly nonexistent. Following Scott's defeat by Ken Keechl, Democratic Statehouse Representative Jack Seiler credited Scott with having delivered unparalleled political benefits to his Broward constituents during the course of a sterling career.

A native Floridian, 42 year-old Attorney Keechl was born in Eglin Air Force Base near Fort Walton Beach. After a successful academic career in Florida State University where he earned a BA followed by a JD (cum laude), Keechl landed an Associate position in the Broward County law firm of Brinkley McNerney in 1987. Rising quickly through the ranks, he became a partner in 1993 and an equity partner in 1996. As Assistant City Attorney for the City of Plantation for 14 years, Keechl protected community interests, preventing developers from turning green spaces into high-end housing. He also represented the City of Wellington.

While a neophyte officeholder, Keechl is no stranger to community service. While serving on the Individual Rights and Responsibilities Committee of the Florida Bar, Keechl targeted Civil Rights issues affecting minorities, the elderly, and the disabled. As a volunteer attorney for Broward Lawyers Care, he contributed his services to clients unable to afford legal counsel. He holds membership in the Oakland Park-Wilton Manors Chamber of Commerce, supports the Boys and Girls Club of Broward County and contributes to workforce housing outfit HOMES, Inc. Keechl worked for Democratic causes throughout his legal career, serving on the Broward Democratic Executive Committee, as precinct leader in his local district, and as a delegate in the Florida Democratic Conventions of 2003 and 2005.

Popular opposition to any governmental requests for funding was universally anticipated prior to the election. Not surprisingly, bond issues suffered wholesale defeats and requests for special taxing authority for almost anything left voters cold. The anti-tax and anti-spending sentiment that has proliferated nationally for years received unqualified support. Two Broward County financial ballot questions met with disaster. A request to fund a Broward Transportation plan was opposed by a majority of county voters. Another big ticket request to rehabilitate the dilapidated courthouse was soundly defeated. Political pundits expressed confusion over Broward's decision to place these items on the ballot, given the clear public opposition to questionable spending. Only desperately needed high-visibility projects received the nod, such as repairs to some dangerously decimated Margate roads. The adverse reaction to rehabilitating the courthouse was a clear statement by Broward residents that they were largely unconcerned for the comfort of those that use the facilities. Citizens serving Jury Duty every 5 or 6 years would tolerate the inconvenience. Broward residents struggling to complete repairs to their homes weren't about to spend \$450 Million to rebuild an edifice used primarily by lawyers, judges, criminals and bureaucrats.

At the end of the day, the Galt Mile lost two honorable, productive and proven representatives. Their seats were filled by two young, competent, talented replacements. Depending on their adherence to recent promises, we will soon ascertain whether November 7th heralded a positive seed change or an emotional overreaction. Our neighborhood mirrors the country in reflecting a wide range of ideological perspectives for state, national and international issues. However, our interest in maintaining and improving our community is largely unilateral.

We are counting on Mr. Klein to help align support for the development of a federal catastrophe fund to alleviate the debilitating insurance crisis burdening property owners. Local expectations for Mr. Keechl include the expeditious and environmentally sound furtherance of beach renourishment, promoting portability of the Save our Homes tax limits (as overwhelmingly advocated by the recent non-binding Broward ballot question), keeping development commensurate with supportive public services and infusing Broward's budget process with improved input and accountability. While untested in their newly won offices, if they navigate these and other issues with the strategic balance and patient tenacity demonstrated during their respective races, our political representation will be settled for years to come. As always, time will tell.

The Galt Mile News

The Galt Mile News is the official newsletter of the Galt Mile Community. Published 12 times a year, this publication is designed to educate the Galt residents of neighborhood-oriented current events and issues, and to offer residents Galt-specific discounts from various local merchants.



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10 Wartime Propoganda Exhibit Main Library Info.: 954-357-8692 Urban Outdoor Gourmet Market 1201 E. Las Olas Blvd. 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.	11	12 Panthers vs ANA Bank Atlantic Center 7:30 p.m. Tix.: ticketmaster.com	13	14	15 Chanukah Jazz on the Square The Village Grille Commercial Blvd. & A1A 7 p.m. Info.: 954-776-5092	16 Y100 Jingle Ball Bank Atlantic Center Tix.: ticketmaster.com WinterFest Boat Parade Intracoastal Waterway 6:30 p.m.
17	18 Vice Mayor Teel Pre-Agenda Meeting Beach Community Center 6 p.m. Info.: 954-828-5033	19 Ft. Lauderdale City Commission Meeting City Hall 6 p.m.	20	21 GMCA Advisory Board Meeting Pa DeGennaro's 11 a.m. George Balanchine's The Nutcracker Broward Center (Through 12/24) Tix.: 954-462-0222	22 Santa on the Beach Jazz on the Square The Village Grille Commercial Blvd. & A1A 7 p.m. Info.: 954-776-5092	23 Panthers vs CAR B.A.C. 7:30 p.m. Tix.: ticketmaster.com Maroone Moonlight Movie: Pocketful of Miracles Huizenga Plaza Film Starts @ Sunset
24 Fiesta Ft Lauderdale Las Olas Riverfront 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. Info.: 954-527-0627	25	26 Kwanzaa	27 Panthers vs PHL Bank Atlantic Center 7:30 p.m. Tix.: ticketmaster.com	28	29 Jazz on the Square The Village Grille Commercial Blvd. & A1A 7 p.m. Info.: 954-776-5092	30
31 Downtown Countdown Resolution 5K Run/Walk	1	2 Vice Mayor Teel Pre-Agenda Meeting Beach Community Center 6 p.m. FEDEX Orange Bowl Dolphins Stadium. 8 p.m. Tix.: www.orangebowl.org	3 Ft. Lauderdale City Commission Meeting City Hall 6 p.m.	4	5 Jazz on the Square The Village Grille Commercial Blvd. & A1A 7 p.m. Info.: 954-776-5092	6 Las Olas Art Fest I Las Olas Blvd. (Through 1/7) Info.: www.artfestival.com
7 Sunday Jazz Brunch Riverwalk, Downtown FL 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. Info.: 954-828-5985	8	9 Monty Python's Spamalot Broward Center (Through 1/21) Tix.: 954-462-0222	10 Panthers vs PITT Bank Atlantic Center 7:30 p.m. Tix.: ticketmaster.com	11	12 Jazz on the Square The Village Grille Commercial Blvd. & A1A 7 p.m. Info.: 954-776-5092	13 Panthers vs WSH Bank Atlantic Center 7:30 p.m. Tix.: ticketmaster.com

A look ahead

- January 14 Glenn Miller Orchestra Parker Playhouse, 7 p.m., Tix.: 954-462-0222
- January 25 Turandot Broward Center, Tix.: 954-462-0222
- January 26 - 28 Miami City Ballet Broward Center, Tix.: 954-462-0222
- January 29 Hungarian Symphony Orchestra Broward Center, Tix.: 954-462-0222
- January 31 Red Hot Chili Peppers BankAtlantic Center, 7:30 p.m., Tix.: www.ticketmaster.com



Election...Continued

arrogance on the part of any politician (or party) with a functional survival instinct. Politicians married to unsuccessful policies can no longer rely on scare tactics or cloudy ideology to buy another term. Winston Churchill admonished that people will only ignore their own deteriorating lifestyle for so long before they hold those in power accountable. Policies that shower core constituencies with benefits and everyone else with promises aren't sustainable.

Voter loyalty should depend more on what officeholders do rather than Party affiliation. When disgruntled moderates decide to – in Churchill's words – "throw the rascals out", it is often done indiscriminately. Many politicians undeservedly skate into office on the tail of some popular ideological shift. Similarly, many are tossed out "with the bathwater" when the shift changes. The nation's two major parties have now made and paid for the same mistake. Unfortunately, there is little chance that the mistake won't be repeated. Success at the polls seems to carry some self-destructive arrogance that infects the victors with the belief that the same behavior will result in a different outcome. This is commonly characterized as a definition of insanity.

Following the election, groups of delightfully surprised or morosely disappointed Broward voters celebrated or mourned anticipated results. Affiliations aside, they were in full agreement that Broward Supervisor of Elections Dr. Brenda Snipes avoided the recent Florida tradition of injecting Grand Canyon sized credibility gaps into the outcomes. Although 75 Deerfield Beach residents were disenfranchised after local poll workers botched activating the portable electronic voting machines, the overall election was well organized and managed. Predictions of another disaster resulting from ineffectively trained poll workers, malfunctioning machines and unfamiliar electronic ballots remained unfulfilled. Media broadcasters and analysts desperately scrounging for titillating indications of suspicious irregularities seemed disappointed with their conspicuous absence. In her first gubernatorial election, Supervisor Snipes ran a show relatively free of glitches. Her well publicized "Early Voting" program effectively thinned voting lines and poll overcrowding.

In addition to an overall political shift back to the center, the Galt Mile saw two major local changes on Election Day. Longtime District 22 Congressman E. Clay Shaw was defeated by Democratic opponent Florida Senator Ron Klein. Broward Commissioner Jim Scott also relinquished his District 4 seat to a political newcomer, attorney Ken Keechl. The outcome of both races was affected more by the political climate than the strengths, policies or weaknesses of the candidates. Despite the negative electioneering that plagued the Shaw – Klein race as November approached, both aspirants were capable and viable candidates. Campaign allegations that Klein's lobbying activities were ethically questionable or that Shaw colluded with the Administration to undermine Social Security were nothing more than unsubstantiated propaganda pot shots. Mudslinging for the sake of political survival aside, both candidates have admitted mutual respect.

While serving Fort Lauderdale for decades as Mayor and Congressman, E. Clay Shaw stepped into Claude Pepper's shoes as a spokesperson for "senior rights". When the Administration sent out high-visibility House and Senate Republicans to promote using Social Security funds for private stock market accounts, Shaw refused, offering instead an incremental private accounts program funded by general revenues, not Social Security resources. Shaw's concept served as a voluntary "Add-On" to currently mandated benefits, layering a personal retirement account over the existing Social Security plan. During his 26-year, 13-term congressional career, Shaw consistently received bi-partisan support while delivering bucketloads of federal funds for port security, Everglades restoration and other local projects. His seniority in the Congress positioned Shaw to head the powerful Ways and Means Committee should he have won.

Continued on page 9

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Flu.Continued

long-term aspirin therapy (children given aspirin while they have influenza are at risk of Reye syndrome), people living in nursing homes and other long-term care facilities; health-care workers; household contacts of people at high risk of flu complications (such as those mentioned); household contacts and people outside the home who take care of children younger than 6 months.

However, not everyone is automatically a viable candidate for a preventive vaccination. People who shouldn't be vaccinated without first consulting a physician include those who are severely allergic to chicken eggs, who had a severe reaction to flu vaccination in the past, who developed Guillain-Barré syndrome (GBS) within 6 weeks of getting an influenza vaccine previously and children younger than 6 months old. Those suffering a moderate or severe illness with fever would do well to postpone vaccination until the symptoms abate.

In addition to Sanofi Pasteur, Inc. making Fluzone Inactivated injectables for children, Novartis Vaccine (formerly Chiron Corporation) makes Fluvirin, GlaxoSmithKline, Inc. manufactures Fluarix and MedImmune Vaccines, Inc makes FluMist, the nasal-spray vaccine. Now that the Food and Drug Administration approved GlaxoSmithKline's FluLaval in early October, the fifth seasonal vaccination entry, manufacturers project making available 115 million doses of flu vaccine. Some local doctors hadn't received flu vaccine for private distribution until late November. Despite the federal Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's prediction of adequate, perhaps abundant, vaccine availability, physicians were universally skeptical about the timely arrival of promised doses. Having experienced dispiriting flu vaccine delays in the past, some doctors stopped ordering it. Those patients whose physicians fall into that category will have to investigate alternative sources for the shots. As such, check with your physician before assuming that your check-up will include a flu shot.

In what many would consider an unusual coupling, the Florida Department of Health (DOH) partnered with the Florida Board of Elections, and individual counties and county Supervisors of Elections to implement a "Vote and Vaccinate" campaign held in conjunction with the November general election. The objective of this campaign was to target adults for voluntary influenza and pneumococcal vaccinations at the time they visited their polling place (two services in one location). Programs like this lend credibility to the prospect that Department of Health marketers have too much time on their hands.

The Broward County Health Department has placed the majority of its influenza eggs into Maxim Health Systems' basket. Despite Dr. Santoli's claims of unprecedented dose adequacy, as of October the Health Department web site stated, "Please be advised that the Broward County Health Department has exhausted all of our flu vaccine and apologize for any inconvenience that this may have caused you." Whoops! Not to worry. They have a plan "B". Their web site further admonishes, "Broward County Health Department supports Maxim Health Systems Flu Clinics. Maxim conducts its flu clinics

Continued on page 15

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Keechl..Continued

local to his Coral Ridge home, he discovered that he wasn't alone in opposing what he considered an inequitable sacrifice of an important local asset. Keechl served the city of Plantation as Assistant City Attorney for 14 years, managing land use cases that prevented developers from gobbling up dwindling municipal green space. His neighbors, aware of his sterling credentials as a land use attorney, looked to Keechl to help thwart a developer's plan to build 61 homes on the 18-hole American Golfers Club. As news of the issue spread, so did Keechl's reputation as a local organizer, environmental defender and civic leader. Given the overwhelming local interest in beach preservation and controlled shoreline development, Keechl's platform serendipitously coalesced around his predisposition to protect local natural resources.

A native Floridian, 44 year-old Attorney Keechl was born in Eglin Air Force Base near Fort Walton Beach in the Florida Panhandle. Traveling with a military family brought Keechl to Texas, California, and New Jersey before moving to South Florida in the late 1970s. Keechl graduated from South Dade High School near Homestead in 1980, spent a year at Miami-Dade Community College and then transferred to Florida State University where he earned a BA followed by a JD (cum laude). He served as an editor of the Law Review in FSU. Keechl landed an Associate position in the Broward County Law Firm of Brinkley McNerney in 1987. Rising quickly through the ranks, he became a partner in 1993 and an equity partner in 1996. During his 14 years as Assistant City Attorney for the City of Plantation (his firm served as primary outside counsel), Keechl's land use legal skills prevented developers from turning

green spaces into high-end housing. He also represented the City of Wellington.

Keechl tackled Civil Rights issues affecting minorities, the elderly, and the disabled while serving on the Individual Rights and Responsibilities Committee of the Florida Bar. He contributed his services "pro bono" to indigent clients as a Broward Lawyers Care volunteer attorney. Keechl worked for Democratic causes throughout his legal career, serving on the Broward Democratic Executive Committee, as a precinct leader in his local district, and as a delegate in the Florida Democratic Conventions of 2003 and 2005.

Hampered by a gaping experiential vacuum in County government operations, Commissioner Keechl faces the Herculean task of learning about complicated county mechanics and their fiscal fuel. Analyzing the County's convoluted budgetary idiosyncrasies is prerequisite to fulfilling his stated intention of cutting taxes. However, supporters familiar with Keechl's capabilities have implied that he thrives on such challenges. If the strategic balance and unrelenting perseverance behind his campaign success is an accurate reflection of those capabilities, their confidence appears to be justified.

Along with Stacy Ritter, Ken Keechl will be sworn in on November 21st. The nine County Commissioners will then elect a mayor and vice mayor to spearhead next year's newly reconstituted Broward Board. The County Commission meets at 10 AM in Room 422 of the Broward County Governmental Center, 115 S. Andrews Ave., Fort Lauderdale. [editor]

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Election...Continued

In an effort to explain the wide-spread local political ambivalence felt by many of Shaw's historical supporters, Democrat County Commissioner Kristin Jacobs stated, "Clay Shaw is a most beloved representative, not just for Broward but for the interests for the state. He's really been fabulous. But I draw this line between what's been great for Broward and what's been great for this country... I really feel like I had to support a Democrat."

Born in Cleveland, 49 year old Delray Beach Senator Ron Klein graduated from Case Western Reserve University Law School and moved to Boca Raton in 1985. A partner in the law firm of Sachs Sax Klein in Boca Raton, Klein was first elected to the Florida House in 1992 and the Senate in 1996. Considered one of the most effective legislators in Tallahassee, Klein served as the state Senate Democratic leader (minority whip) for the past two years. A prodigious lawmaker, Klein sponsored an act mandating education about the Holocaust in all Florida schools, initiatives for trade between Florida and foreign countries, passage of the Jimmy Ryce Act to extend detention of sexual predators, laws regulating living wills and organ donation, and passage of bills that encourage high-tech and software industries in the state. Klein was involved early in the effort to lure Scripps to Palm Beach County, creating the legislation that granted the Bio-tech giant attractive state subsidies. Calling himself "a moderate, pro-business Democrat," he led local efforts at getting a heart unit for the Boca Raton Community Hospital and coordinated a joint medical school program between Florida Atlantic University and University of Miami. Klein surmised that the war in Iraq had become the dominant issue for voters in the Broward-Palm Beach county district. Klein also conceded that despite not having any specific solutions, he felt confident that the resulting loss of trust in Washington would create an opportunity to overturn Shaw's 26-year legacy. Klein counted on benefiting from Shaw's perceived Administration ties to overcome what Palm Beach Congressman Robert Wexler (Democrat) described as "the impossible task of beating Clay Shaw in Broward County."

Having expressed his intention to "hit the ground running", Klein anticipates levying his considerable networking skills to set up a "National Catastrophic Pool" to which all states would contribute. Although Florida would make higher experience-rated contributions than other states, Florida residents would have access to affordable hurricane, mudslide, tornado and other catastrophe insurance. (Shaw also co-sponsored a bill to create a federal reinsurance fund designed to back up state catastrophic insurance pools, bolstering private homeowner policies in the event of a natural disaster.)

Following the 2004 serial storms, Klein anticipated a post-Andrew style insurance industry reaction. He warned that insurers would seek to further hike rates and decline renewal for thousands of policies, not only for coastal property owners, but across the state. Klein predicted, "They are going to take the position that all of Florida is a high-probability risk." Subsequently proven correct, Klein has since held that the creation of a Federal Windstorm or general catastrophe entity similar to National Flood Insurance would palliate the State's insurance crisis.

A comparable situation played out in Broward County's District 4. Commissioner Jim Scott was upset by newcomer Ken Keechl. Scott nurtured a 30 year history of service to Broward County. When elected to the Florida Senate, he rose to the Senate Presidency on a reputation for even-handed bi-partisan access. Upon leaving Tallahassee, he was appointed by Governor Jeb Bush in 2000 to the District 4 Commission seat vacated by predecessor Scott Cowan following his guilty plea to election law violations. Despite Republican credentials, Scott thrived in what is largely considered a Democratic stronghold and was subsequently re-elected in 2002. In addition to facing waves of anti-Republican sentiment, Scott's party affiliation ultimately presented him with a secondary whammy on November 7th.

Continued on page 18

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Flu..Continued

Each vaccine contains three influenza viruses—one A (H3N2) virus, one A (H1N1) virus, and one B virus. The viruses in the vaccine change each year based on international surveillance and scientists' estimations about which types and strains of viruses will circulate in a given year – a sort of annual flu popularity contest. The selected strains must be grown individually before the three are combined late in the production process. They are usually chosen in February and the vaccine production and preparation process takes about six to eight months. Distribution of influenza vaccine begins as early as August and typically continues throughout November and December. The viruses in the 2006-07 influenza vaccine are:

- an A/New Caledonia/20/99 (H1N1)-like virus;
- an A/Wisconsin/67/2005 (H3N2)-like virus (A/Wisconsin/67/2005 and A/Hiroshima/52/2005 strains);
- a B/Malaysia/2506/2004-like virus (B/Malaysia/2506/2004 and B/Ohio/1/2005 strains)

Although influenza vaccine development is the only realistic defense against potential flu pandemics, it is – by nature – an unreliable variable. Annual worldwide vaccine usage of over 300 million doses requires more than six months and 350 million chicken eggs to meet that demand. These constraints and other extraneous factors, such as the microbial contamination of vaccines manufactured last year in the UK, leaves influenza vaccine technology currently in a state of disconnect with imminent pandemic threats as well as ordinary health demands. During the 2005 – 2006 flu season, British vaccine manufacturer Chiron Corporation was precluded from delivering 50 million contaminated doses of the vaccine to the United States market. The CDC scrambled to fill the shortage with vaccine not licensed for the U.S. market. To mollify the effects of the unanticipated shortage, high-risk groups were given immunization priority. This year's snafu isn't quite as dramatic.

Sanofi Pasteur, the only maker of injectable flu vaccine for children ages 3 and younger, stated in mid-October that while there will be an adequate amount of the vaccine; pediatricians will have to wait until November or December to receive the bulk of their supply. Following understandable concerns expressed by the American Academy of Pediatrics, deputy director Dr. Jeanne Santoli of Immunization Services Division at the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention said during a teleconference to update the nation on this season's flu vaccine supply, "We are absolutely not calling this a shortage."

According to Santoli, 40 million doses had already been distributed as of the second week of October. "By the end of October, a total of 75 million doses were distributed. That's 15 million more doses than were shipped out by the end of last October," she said. "In fact, we've never really used more than 80 to 83 million doses in a season," Santoli said. "So to have 75 million by the end of the first full month of vaccination season to us feels like it's timing that will get the vaccine out there when it's needed." With this many doses in the pipeline, "we are not making any recommendations about serving one group before others," Santoli said. This is in contrast to last year's policy, when shortages required prioritization for high-risk groups. Santoli curiously characterized this year's delivery delays as functional ramifications of "phased process", intimating that doctors needn't stockpile or ration received doses.

Continued on page 13




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FLU SEASON HIJINX

Eric Berkowitz



It's BAACK! The flu is a contagious respiratory illness caused by influenza viruses. In a typical year, according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, it is contracted by 5 to 20 % of the United States' population. More than 200,000 victims require hospitalization from flu complications. About 36,000 die.

Since the influenza virus is a "meta-morph" – a shape shifter, every year new strategies must be devised to design a vaccine against the predicted flu strain for that year. Due to the uncertainty surrounding which influenza strain will actually emerge, this has evolved into an annual guessing game. Frequently, these vaccines are based on the previous year's strains. Ultimately, researchers are trying to design a vaccine that could confer immunity to all influenza strains. However, as of yet, this medical "Holy Grail" has not been discovered. The prospects for a DNA-based vaccine are also being explored, as well as RNA interference, and new antiviral candidates.

There are two vaccination vehicles currently available, the infamous "flu shot" and the less well known nasal-spray flu vaccine. The shot is an inactivated vaccine (containing killed virus) that is given with a needle, usually in the arm. The nasal-spray flu vaccine is made with live, weakened flu viruses that do not cause the flu (sometimes called LAIV for "Live Attenuated Influenza Vaccine"). LAIV is approved for use in healthy people 5 years to 49 years of age who are not pregnant. The one exception is healthy persons who care for persons with severely weakened immune systems who require a protected environment; these healthy persons should get the inactivated vaccine.

Continued on page 10

Flu..Continued



Influenza A Strain

Actually, the previous high was 83.1 million doses in 2003. Last year, 81.2 million doses were distributed. In her annual understatement, CDC director Dr. Julie Gerberding confirmed, "As we've learned in the past few years, there is always some uncertainty regarding influenza vaccine supplies and distribution. It's often very difficult to predict how much vaccine will be distributed and when, or exactly when influenza vaccine will be available for those who provide it. However, if the manufacturers' estimates hold, more people than ever before will be able to protect themselves and their loved ones from influenza this year."

Almost everyone who wants to reduce their risk should consider receiving a vaccination against the flu. Some people should immunize themselves annually. Among them are children 6 months old through 59 months; pregnant women; people 50 years old and older; people any age with various chronic medical conditions that put them at more risk (asthmatics and others suffering from compromised respiratory function, diabetics, those afflicted by chronic kidney disease or weakened immune systems, etc.), children 6 months to 18 years of age who are on

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Keechl...Continued

indebted to the voters for placing their trust in me. And for those who supported my opponent, my goal over the next four years is to earn your trust and support. I want to be a Commissioner who does the right thing for all residents, regardless of your political leanings.

The 2006 election brought many issues to the forefront. There has been much analysis over why the winners won, what the voters were trying to say, and how we move forward. Here's what I know: the residents of District 4 want accountability. It's true that I spent a good part of my campaign laying out the differences between how the Commission was acting and how I would approach the same problems. My challenge now is to move beyond campaigning and into governing, and finding common ground with my colleagues on the Commission so we can serve the public. Call me an optimist, but I believe this will not be a major obstacle to achieving victories for the residents of Broward.

The overwhelming local issue of the 2006 campaign season was property taxes. They are too high – period. This may be the only point each and every one of us can agree on. And that's a good thing – it means we will find a solution. We also talked a lot about preserving Broward's shrinking green spaces. As an environmentalist and a land-use attorney, I know we can find a way to hold on to what's left of this precious commodity. Once we pave over parks or beaches, we never get them back. Preservation is a cornerstone of smart growth – we cannot stop development, but we can grow in a way that meets the needs of our increasing population and at the same time fosters a distinct and inviting environment in the County. Once again, we can find common ground.

I also pledged that I would be your neighborhood commissioner, attending your neighborhood meetings and holding office days in the community. Over the coming weeks I will build my staff, move into my office in Fort Lauderdale and locate additional offices within the district. In the meantime, my new office phone number is 954/357-7004 and email is kkechl@broward.org. I hope you'll reach out to me, just as I expect to reach out to you.

I ran for this office because I love Broward County, and want it to be the best it can be. There's much to be done – in addition to the issues I mentioned above, we must deal with workforce housing, traffic and transportation, and a whole host of items big and small. But one thing we all want is to be proud of our hometown. If working toward this goal is our bottom line – our common ground – there's no way we will fail. I look forward to the next four years working together with you.

Until Next Time...Ken Keechl

F.Y.I – Some Perspective...

During his campaign, Commissioner Keechl touched base with a broad spectrum of Broward residents. While attending a meeting of the Galt Mile Community Association Advisory Board, Keechl took the opportunity to review one of the issues upon which his campaign was founded. When Keechl learned about intentions to build upscale housing on a golf course

Continued on page 12

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Flu...Continued

at convenient retail locations, including Publix, Costco, Winn Dixie, CVS, Walgreen's, Navarro and Sedano's. Finding the nearest location is as simple as visiting the web site www.FindAFluShot.com and typing in your zip code or call toll free 1-877-962-9358." A quick trip to the recommended Maxim web site revealed 20 flu clinics held at various times from October 26th to November 30th within 5 miles of the Galt Mile neighborhood. For those of you committed to receiving immunizations from private practitioners who either neglected to stock doses or ran out, Galt Mile activist and local physician Dr. Alex Leeds has informed us that he is prepared to accommodate any additional patients requesting flu vaccinations in a private practice setting. Dr. Alex Leeds office, The Galt Ocean Village Medical Center, is located at 3298 NE 33rd Street in Fort Lauderdale - across from the Beach Community Center. Their telephone number is 954-568-6789.

For additional information, go to the Galt Mile Community Association web site (www.galtmile.com) and click on the article "2006 – 2007 Flu Season Hijinx" and scroll to the bottom of the text. A list of useful links to medical data, historical information and flu clinic locators are available.



Dr. Julie Gerberding

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Keechl Keeps a Promise

With the passing of Election Day, we can safely return to our mailboxes without having to face explosively stuffed volumes of campaign paraphernalia. Also gone are candidates nervously popping in and out of popular neighborhood hotspots, community meetings and other electioneering opportunities.

Bereft of the prior media focus enjoyed by their opponents, non-incumbent candidates desperately attempted to overcome visibility deficits by frenetically appearing at dozens of community venues to heighten their profiles and boost name recognition. These flash appearances were accompanied by promises of post-election accessibility. Most veteran voters understandably take these commitments with a grain of salt. In defeating popular incumbent Jim Scott - 28,111 to 25,155 votes - for the District 4 County Commission seat, Fort Lauderdale attorney Ken Keechl demonstrated relentless tenacity and the capacity to remain focused in the face of intense distraction - qualities that should serve to help further his political agenda. Mr. Keechl intends to make good on his campaign promises.

Although new to the responsibilities inherent in his Election Day victory, Keechl is anxious to get to work. His initial challenges include fully familiarizing himself with constituent and county issues, assigning priorities and achieving consensus - with both his constituents and his peers. Following a week of recovery, Keechl wants his supporters to know that he has already hit the ground running. To those that consider Keechl an unknown quantity, he is extending an olive branch and a welcome mat. While Keechl understands that he can't satisfy every constituent vis-à-vis every issue, his first public newsletter affirms that contention will never arise from a lack of communication or underestimating the importance of finding common ground. Read On: [editor]

Finding Common Ground
 By Broward County Commissioner Ken Keechl

Thank you for giving me the opportunity to serve Broward County. As your newly-elected County Commissioner, I am

Continued on page 6

JUST SOLD

Information provided by Eastside Properties, 954-565-7644

Twelve more properties were sold in the Galt Ocean Mile Community:

Regency South #1010 (2/2) \$435,000 - closed 10/19/2006	The Galleon #302 (1/1.5) \$350,000 - closed 9/29/2006
Playa Del Mar #708 (1/1.5) \$448,000 - closed 9/29/2006	Plaza South #19K (2/2) \$600,000 - closed 10/27/2006
Coral Ridge Towers South #302 (1/1) \$132,500 - closed 10/31/2006	South Point #PH15 (2/2.5) \$590,000 - closed 10/05/2006
Ocean Riviera #1110 (2/2) \$330,000 - closed 10/04/2006	Playa Del Mar #112 (2/2.5) \$455,000 - closed 10/10/2006
L'Hermitage #1007 (3/2.5) \$1,475,000 - closed 9/12/2006	Plaza South #10G (1/1.5) \$315,000 - closed 11/06/2006
Ocean Club #203 (2/2) \$375,000 - closed 9/11/2006	Regency Tower #2004 (1/1.5) \$300,000 - closed 9/20/2006



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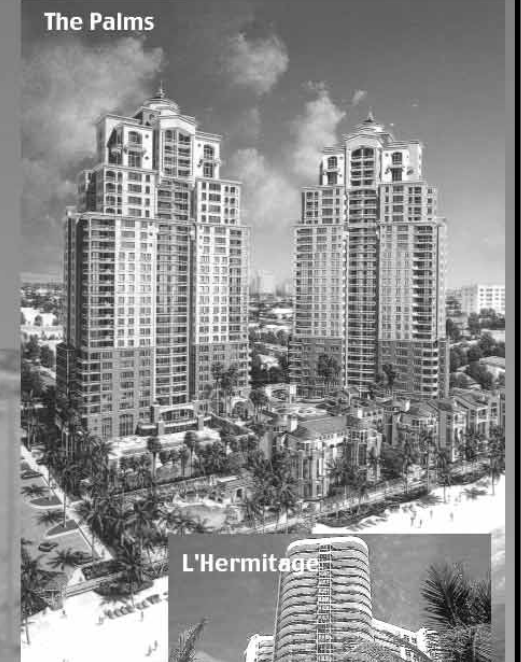
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