



Hometown News

Honor Your Military; Cherish Your Freedom

I know we covered the Fourth of July in my June Hometown News, but this is July! It is the date of our Independence! So if you don't mind, let's continue to remember, recognize, honor, and cherish who and what keeps this country the Greatest!

My father served this country until he was wounded. So I grew up understanding the sacrifice a military family endures. Not only is the man or woman in uniform sacrificing luxuries of home, but the spouse, children, and parents of that service also forego the luxuries of having that loved one around to talk to, cry to, laugh with, and share experiences with as well as peace of mind.

Our military families are to be recognized and honored every day. We must try to see things through their eyes to have a better understanding of their sacrifices to each of us. I know I am a very lucky lady to be able to work and live hand-in-hand with my husband. He is there for me and I for him. I can't even imagine how different my life

would be if he wasn't next to me day in and day out.

We have all heard the phrase "Freedom is NOT free." Yes, we are free; but the charge to remain free is never ending. Those who pay are our military and the widows, widowers, children and parents that stand in salute and tears. We must never forget and must always cherish this gift.

Our City puts on one heck of a celebration for people of all ages. I want to thank my friends at the Homestead-Miami Speedway (Matt & Al) once again for hosting the biggest event next to NASCAR! We at the City work closely with the track to ensure everyone has a safe and happy Independence Day.

Those purchasing tickets for the Champions Club party will witness a special ceremony that brings tears to the packed house as we recognize our military heroes from then to now. Senator Dwight Bullard will be co-chairing this special VIP bash. I have had numerous

people tell me they have saved money since last year to be able to purchase tickets to the Champions Club! They truly love this party as much as I do.

We end with an explosion of fireworks from 9 to 9:30 p.m. It is just a beautiful way to show appreciation to our forefathers and our recruits! A special shout of gratitude to our 2014 sponsors who help make this event affordable to our residents and guests. Thank you to: Homestead Hospital; 360 Builders, LLC; Homestead Trading Post; Weiss, Serota, Helfman, Pastoriza, Cole & Boniske, P.L.; Berry's Paint, Hardware & Flooring; CharterSchools USA; Di-Mare Homestead, Inc.; Keys Gate Realty; South Dade Toyota; ValleyCrest; Aressco Technologies, Inc.; Atala Montessori School; Alton Madison Property Management; Homestead Air Conditioning & Heating; Lowe's; Temptrol; Dony Electric; and Value Place. We hope you enjoy the show and come back again next year—Saturday, July 4, 2015.

★ Friday, July 4, 2014 ★ 6 p.m.—10 p.m. ★ Homestead-Miami Speedway ★



"It is easy to take liberty for granted, when you have never had it taken from you." ~Author unknown

CITY OF HOMESTEAD—News and Events!

Homestead is COOL! With **Community Cool Ties**. Here is another reason to love this community. Suzanne Moe and Marcella Noriega Del Valle with **SUMA Design & Tie Works, LLC** reached out to me after “meeting” me through my interview with Josh Padgett during the Bond Referendum outreach. These ladies recently relocated to Homestead and have good tidings they are sharing with everyone in the community on every level! I initially met with these ladies and our Parks & Recreation Department to learn, absorb, and incorporate their exciting vision. After sharing stories, tears, and laughs, I was hooked, supporting and endorsing their beautiful gift! SUMA works to join our community together with a bonding of various levels. Ordinary people of every age, profession, creed, gender, and nationality, no matter what your artistic ability (no judging and you can’t mess up), can participate and unite together or even apart to fashion a community art drawing design on a blank canvas that Suzanne & Marcella will then transfer to fabric that will be cut and sewed to make ties! Cool Ties at that! If you know me at all, you know I am hot 99% of the time—yes I know it is South Florida—but even in air conditioning! I am purchasing several of these ties—they really work and are easy and convenient. SUMA’s goal is to use our creations to give, YES DONATE—FREE, the cool ties to 7,000 regional farm and nursery workers in our community. This is a huge giving back to our community that so many will have a hand in—literally!

What makes the **Community Cool Ties cool** besides the fact that they bind together the people in our community and we make a contribution

to the local agriculture distribution by helping



Councilwoman Judy Waldman

“Freedom has its life in the hearts, the actions, the spirit of men and so it must be daily earned and refreshed - else like a flower cut from its life-giving roots, it will wither and die.”~Dwight D. Eisenhower

the workers stay cool and thus safe from heat exhaustion and dehydration?

These handmade gender-neutral, one size fits all Cool ties are 100% cotton and filled with non-toxic polymer granules that absorb more than 200% their weight in water. Once soaked, they become cool. When tied around the neck, forehead, or wrist, and as long as the tie is wet, they will keep you cool. In addition to assisting in exhaustion and dehydration prevention, they also reduce heart rate and blood pressure as they provide a personal cooling system for the major vascular network.

In our soaring temperatures and humidity, these are great for recreation enthusiasts (bicyclists, runners, golfers, campers, and gardeners), military men and women, police and fire rescue, postal and delivery carriers, crossing guards, and traffic and construction workers. They work the same for our children playing sports and our pets too! Molliesue will be sporting one during her walks outside to keep her cool! The ties also provide relief to those who suffer from migraines and hot flashes, as well as benefitting Multiple Sclerosis and Lupus patients.

Now I am sure you can understand why I adore these ladies and their vision. We can all be a part of this community-based project!



Learn more at
www.communityartcoolties.com/

Judy’s Closet: I just want to thank everyone who has donated to Judy’s Closet. We have clothes of all sizes for babies, men, and women. If you are in need, please call my office to make an appointment to pick out some clothes—no questions asked—305-224-4454. I am so happy and proud to be a part of this community!

EVENTS

National Parks Month	JULY
City of Homestead’s Race to the 4th celebration; Homestead-Miami Speedway; Main event—free;	Jul. 4 6-10 p.m.

VOTE—Countywide Elections: Primary—August 26; General—November 4. Visit www.miamidade.gov/elections.

SAVE THE DATE: Champions for Start Off Smart (SOS) Masquerade Ball with a Phantom of the Opera Twist: Saturday, **September 27, 2014**, 7 p.m.—12 a.m., at Miami Marriott Dadeland Grand Ballroom, 9090 S. Dadeland Blvd., Miami, Florida 33156. Tickets \$75/person through July 31; \$100/person beginning August 1. **For more information, to purchase tickets, sponsor, or donate to the silent auction, contact 305-224-5585.**

SAVE THE DATE: Councilwoman Waldman’s Health Fair: Saturday, **October 18, 2014** at the William F. Dickinson Community Center, 1601 N. Krome Avenue, Homestead, Florida 33030. More details to come!

SAVE THE DATE: Councilwoman Waldman’s Veterans Day Service: **Tuesday, November 11, 2014;** times to be determined at the Palms Woodlawn Cemetery, 27100 Old Dixie Highway, Homestead, Florida 33032, by the flagpole. Please join me in a beautiful service ending with everyone present placing a flag on each of the military graves. It is amazing how many flags are flying at the end of the ceremony.

SAVE THE DATE: City of Homestead Holiday Party: Thursday, **December 11, 2014**, 6—9 p.m. Audubon Clubhouse, 1851 S. Canal Drive, Homestead, Florida 33035. Everyone had such a wonderful experience at our 2013 Holiday Party, we are bringing it back! Mayor Porter will be co-chairing this event with me!

July 2014