

## McKinlay Memo - District 6 Update

Commissioner Melissa McKinlay <district6+pbcgov.org@ccsend.com>

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To: Updates <updates@gladesinitiative.org>



October 7, 2022



### Hurricane Ian Relief Efforts

Hurricane Ian recovery is a massive effort. I'm thankful for the volunteer groups swiftly organizing relief operations. This weekend I will join 25 United in Southwest Florida to deliver and distribute blue tarps, hammers, and roofing nails.

[25 United Disaster Relief](#) is a non-profit organization dedicated to providing world-wide relief to areas impacted by a disaster, be it natural or man-made.

I want to thank Stephen Leighton for helping organize this trip and for the County's support in supplying blue tarps so quickly to help our fellow Floridians in their time of need.

Please also say a prayer for our farmers and agricultural workers who have been affected by this storm. Loss assessments are ongoing but the storm took aim at approximately 375,000 acres of citrus, over 200,000 acres of vegetables,

over 180,000 acres of hay, and at least 95,000 acres of field crops ranging from sugarcane and cotton to peanuts. The widespread effects of a category four hurricane will undoubtedly have challenging impacts, but our farmers have never lacked for resiliency!



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## Reentry Summit

On October 5th, I welcomed the Palm Beach County Reentry Summit. This summit brought participants from around the country to discuss best practices and identify opportunities for reentry solutions and programs. Topics discussed included funding, integration of peer specialists, behavioral health care, housing, employment, and racial and gender inclusivity.

*L-R: Commissioner McKinlay, FL Dept. of Corrections Secretary Ricky Dixon, Jayne Malfitano, Public Defender Carey Haughwout*



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### **4-H Proclamation**

At the Board of County Commissioners meeting on Oct. 4, 2022, Commissioner McKinlay presented a proclamation declaring Oct. 2-8, 2022 as National 4-H Week in Palm Beach County.

4-H is the nation's largest youth development and empowerment organization and reaches more than six million young people with more than 25,000 youth ages 5-18 participating in Palm Beach County. Youth in 4-H develop life skills alongside adult mentors through hands-on learning, service learning, competitive events, and leadership programs in the areas of science, technology, healthy living and citizenship, contributing to their development as responsible, productive citizens.



## Place of Hope

On Monday, October 3rd, I attended Place of Hope's Chairman's Leadership Breakfast and heard about this wonderful organization's ongoing expansion efforts, particularly its new campus located in the heart of District 6. This accomplishment continues Place of Hope's incredible mission to change lives by supporting vulnerable youth in the foster care system. A big thank you to Charles Bender for his vision and leadership!



*Mayor Weinroth, Commissioner Marino, Charles Bender, Commissioner McKinlay*

## **Remembering Deputy Chief Mark Anderson**

Our community recently lost a wonderful person and leader, retired Palm Beach County Fire Rescue Deputy Chief Mark Anderson. Mark was a true friend and respected by all. Please say a prayer for his family.

His funeral service will be held at Christ Fellowship in Royal Palm Beach, 9905 Southern Blvd, RPB, FL 33411, on Saturday, October 8 at 11 am.

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## **Gold Star Dedication**

On September 22nd, I joined Glades officials for the dedication of the Gold Star Families Memorial at Torry Island in Belle Glade. This memorial honors the families of fallen military services members for their strength and acknowledges their grief.



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### **Last 16 County Coalition Meeting**

I recently attended my final 16-County Coalition Meeting. It has been an honor to participate in the coalition to help guide and protect water policy in Lake Okeechobee and throughout the region. I was also excited to hear the great update that the ribbon cutting for the completed Herbert Hoover Dike restoration is expected in January 2023! This project has been years in the making, and I'm so appreciative of the Army Corps' efforts to restore the Dike and protect our Glades residents!



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