



# Broward Sierra Bulletin



**VOL. XLVI NO. 7**

**July 2024**

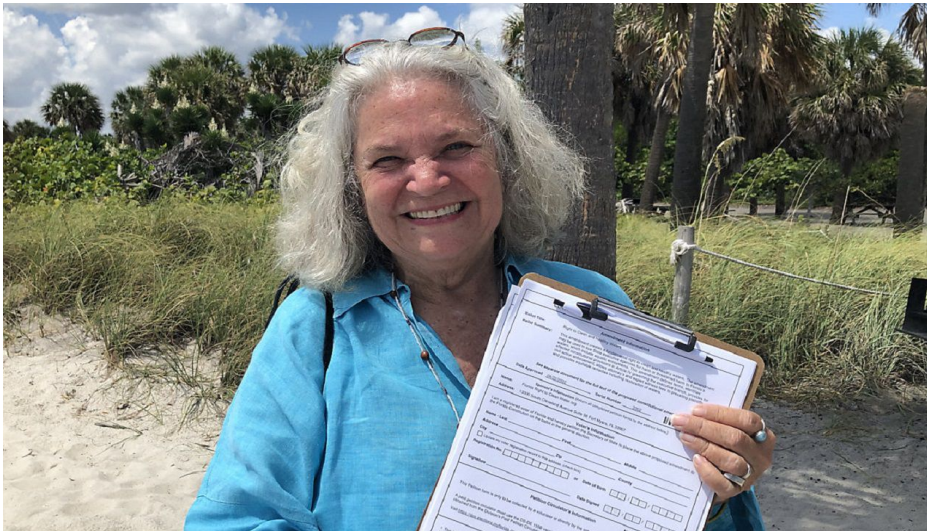
[www.sierraclub.org/florida/broward](http://www.sierraclub.org/florida/broward) • [www.facebook.com/BrowardSierra](https://www.facebook.com/BrowardSierra)

<https://www.meetup.com/Broward-County-Sierra-Club-Group/> • <https://twitter.com/BrowardSierra>

(Yes, we're going back to our old newsletter format)

## **Broward Sierra Group July General Meeting**

**Thursday, July 11 · 7:00 PM EDT**



**Presenter:**

**Tiffany Furr Grantham**

**Topic:**

**The Right to Clean Water  
Petition, and Why to Sign It!**

The right to clean water is a proposed constitutional amendment in Florida that would create a "fundamental right to clean and healthy waters". The amendment would allow lawsuits against state agencies for harm or threatened harm to lakes, rivers, wetlands and other types of water bodies.

The Everglades, Florida Springs, the Indian River Lagoon, the St. Johns River, the Caloosahatchee River, the Suwanee River, the Santa Fe River, Apalachicola Bay, Biscayne Bay, Tampa Bay, Pensacola Bay and all other Florida waters have a right to clean water. The right to clean water is meant to acknowledge that bodies of water in the state of Florida have four fundamental rights: the right to exist, the right to flow, the right to be free of pollution, and the right to maintain a healthy ecosystem.

### **Registration Required:**

<https://act.sierraclub.org/events/details?formcampaignid=7013q0000029MoAAAU>

After registering, you will receive a confirmation email containing information about joining the meeting.

## **Table of Contents**

<b>BSG July General Meeting</b> .....	<b>1</b>
<b>Annual Awards Dinner - Ads</b> .....	<b>2</b>
<b>World Oceans Month</b> .....	<b>3</b>
<b>Broward Sierra Group Endorses Candidates</b> .....	<b>4</b>
<b>You Have Been Purged</b> .....	<b>4</b>

<b>Annual Awards Dinner - Tickets</b> .....	<b>5</b>
<b>We Need a Webmaster</b> .....	<b>6</b>
<b>How to Control Your Emails</b> .....	<b>6</b>
<b>Junior Team News</b> .....	<b>6</b>
<b>Loxahatchee Group – July Meeting</b> .....	<b>9</b>
<b>Save the Date</b> .....	<b>10</b>



**Annual Awards Dinner - Ads**

- Please place an ad in our 2024 awards banquet program book.
- Max would appreciate your indicating the size of your ad with your payment.
- Print ready copy is due on or before August 30, 2024, as indicated below.

**2024 ANNUAL AWARDS BANQUET**



BROWARD SIERRA GROUP

**Saturday, September 14, 2024**  
6:00PM - 9:00PM

***Broward County PBA Banquet Hall***  
2901 SW 26th Terrace Fort Lauderdale, 33312

Tickets: \$15 Members \$20 Non-Members  
Honoring Outstanding Leaders  
and Elected Officials

***Program Book (Full Color)***  
All artwork must be print-ready

FULL PAGE AD	\$250
HALF PAGE AD	\$175
1/4 PAGE AD	\$100

Please Send All Payments VIA Zelle to Max Goldstein (954)296-3411  
Email artwork to [bsierramembership@gmail.com](mailto:bsierramembership@gmail.com)  
All ads must be submitted by August 30, 2024

***Evening Attire***

**FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT:**  
LEAH WEISBURD: [Leabird@comcast.net](mailto:Leabird@comcast.net)

SCAN ME



## World Oceans Month

This month, we celebrate the extraordinary beauty and diversity that our oceans hold, from the vibrant coral reefs teeming with life to the mysterious depths inhabited by unique and often unknown species. Thriving oceans are essential to our economy, our health, and our livelihoods. Just as Rotary supports clean water around the globe, billions of people around the globe depend on healthy oceans.

### Ban the Intentional Littering of Balloons

Balloons are the only type of refuse that individuals are expressly permitted to litter legally in Florida. HB 321 passed almost unanimously, so it was a bipartisan effort.

The Florida Legislature passed this bill that would prohibit the intentional release of balloons. It is imperative that Governor DeSantis either signs this bill into law or allows it to become law without taking action. Link to bill info: <https://www.flsenate.gov/Session/Bill/2024/321>

### Can you help us urge Governor DeSantis to sign the bill into law?

Please email Governor DeSantis and his staff in support of HB 321, Release of Balloons at [governorron.desantis@eog.myflorida.com](mailto:governorron.desantis@eog.myflorida.com)

and cc' his staff at:

[chris.spencer@laspbs.state.fl.us](mailto:chris.spencer@laspbs.state.fl.us) and [peter.cuderman@eog.myflorida.com](mailto:peter.cuderman@eog.myflorida.com).

You can alternatively call the Governor's office at 850-717-9238.

### Key talking points:

- Hello, I'm calling to voice my strong support for H.B. 321, Release of Balloons, a bill that overwhelmingly passed in the Florida Legislature.
- I'm respectfully asking Governor DeSantis to protect our environment and businesses by signing this bill into law.

### More talking points on balloon releases:

- Balloons and their ribbons present a threat of entanglement and ingestion to birds and marine wildlife like dolphins and endangered sea turtles as well as farm animals.
  - Studies have found that balloons ranked #3 in the deadliest ocean trash for key wildlife and are the deadliest form of plastic debris for seabirds.
  - Sea turtles & other marine life are known to confuse balloons for jellyfish.
  - When an animal swallows a balloon, it can block its intestinal tract, leading to starvation and death.
- Balloons can travel long distances — some balloons have traveled thousands of miles across state lines — which means that even protected areas and isolated waterways are at risk.
  - Balloons have been found in remote areas in the Florida Everglades.
  - Recently, over 1,500 balloons were recovered in a cleanup in Biscayne National Park.
- Balloons can endanger humans as well as wildlife — they can become entangled in power lines, and metallic foil balloons have caused fires and power outages.
- Balloons released into the environment act just like other plastic waste — they can persist for years, fouling habitats, clogging storm drains, and endangering wildlife.
  - Florida should not allow exemptions for latex balloons marketed as “biodegradable,” as they do not degrade easily in the marine environment and often have dangerous attachments like strings and plastic clips.

**Broward Sierra Group Endorses Candidates**

**Broward Sierra Group Local and Municipal Endorsed Candidates:**

Commissioner Jennifer Andreu - Plantation City Commission

Norby Belz - Candidate Ft Lauderdale City Commission (Dist 1)

Mayor Angelo Castillo - Mayor of Pembroke Pines

Commissioner Melissa P Dunn - Lauderhill City Commission

School Board Representative Debbie Hixon - Broward County School Board

Commissioner Nancy Metayer Bowen - Coral Springs City Commission

Commissioner Letitia Newbold - Oakland Park City Commission

Commissioner Idelma Quintana - Hollywood City Commission (Dist 6)

Commissioner Louis Reinstein - Plantation City Commission

Commissioner Maria Rodriguez - Pembroke Pines City Commission

Mayor Mike Ryan - Mayor of Sunrise

Ben Sorensen - Candidate Ft Lauderdale City Commission (Dist 4)

Catherine (Cat) Uden - Candidate for Mayor of Hollywood

**Broward Sierra Group State Level Endorsed Candidates Form 1's Sent to FL Chapter:**

State Representative Robin Bartleman - District 103

State Representative Daryl Campbell - District 94

State Representative Hillary Cassel - District 101

State Representative Dan Daley - District 97

State Representative Michael Gottlieb - District 102

State Representative Christine Hunschofsky - District 95

State Representative Felicia Robinson - District 104

State Representative Marie Woodson - District 105

**Broward Sierra Group Endorsed Candidates Members of Broward U.S. Congressional Delegation - Form 1's Sent to FL Chapter:**

U.S. Congresswoman Sheila Cherfilus McCormick - FL District 20

U.S. Congressman Jared Moscovitz - FL District 23

U.S. Congresswoman Debbie Wasserman-Shultz - FL District 25

U.S. Congresswoman Federica Wilson - FL District 24

**You Have Been Purged from the Broward Vote-By-Mail List by the Florida Legislature**

***But You Can Fix It! (And the Broward Supervisor of Elections will help)***

Just do one of the following:

- Go to [www.BrowardVotes.gov](http://www.BrowardVotes.gov)
- Call (954) 357-8683
- Scan this QR Code





**Annual Awards Dinner - Tickets**

*Please help us celebrate our well deserving honorees!*

Please indicate how many guests will be joining you, and the name of the guest(s), when you send your payment to Max Goldstein before September 10, 2024.



*Broward Sierra Group*  
**AWARDS**  
*Banquet*

Saturday, September 14, 2024 at 6pm

Members	\$15
Non Members	\$20

Honoring Outstanding Leaders  
and Elected Officials

*Dinner-Entertainment*

Zelle payments: Send to Max Goldstein (954) 296-3411 By September 10, 2024  
Checks: Make Payable To Broward Sierra Group & Mail To: Max Goldstein, Treasurer  
220 Lakeview Drive, APT 305, WESTON, FL 33326-1040

**Evening Attire**

**FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT:**  
LEAH WEISBURD [leabird@comcast.net](mailto:leabird@comcast.net)

**Broward County PBA Banquet Hall**  
2901 SW 26th Terrace  
Fort Lauderdale, 33312



## We Need a Webmaster!



## WE ARE LOOKING FOR AN INDIVIDUAL TO VOLUNTEER TO BE OUR WEBMASTER

Volunteer time about two times a month  
for a couple of hours!

Is that you? Are you up to date with the  
latest IT technology?

Training will be provided.

Please contact me for further information:  
Leah Weisburd, [leabird@comcast.net](mailto:leabird@comcast.net)

### How to Control your Emails

If you scroll down to the bottom of all mailings from the Sierra Club, it allows you to change some, or all, of the mailings you receive.

**If you tire of the number of emails you get from the Sierra Club, please DO NOT hit unsubscribe!**

That will cut you off from our newsletter, The Bulletin that shares issues we are working on, presenters scheduled for our General Meetings that you will want to attend, Outings that you will want to go on with our Outing Leaders, and so much more.

For emails you don't want you can control that by clicking on the **MANAGE PREFERENCES** option at the bottom of every email. Once there, be sure to keep on subscribing to **MY CHAPTER**, the first option. The rest of the options? Decide for yourself.



## JUNIOR TEAM NEWS

This year, five of our extraordinarily dedicated active Broward Sierra Group-Junior Team members have graduated from high school and are off to further their education in college.

Our Broward Sierra Group has unanimously passed the motion to congratulate our high school graduates of the Junior Team with a Grant of \$500.00. This Grant will enable them to purchase the books and supplies that they will need. In addition to this Grant, they have received a beautiful Sierra Club backpack to carry those heavy books.

As long as our graduates' home addresses remain in Broward County, they will be able to participate with the Broward Sierra Group continuing advocating for environmental sustainability and sharing the Sierra Club's mission.

Congratulations to the following high school graduates of our Junior Team!

**Leila Murray Angelina Garcia Amber Sarch Hanna Neugaard Hyatt Talpur**

### **Outings Trip to the Bonnet House - Saturday April 20, 2024**

*– Anagha Iyer, Broward Sierra Group - Junior Team's Chair*

The purpose of the Broward Sierra Group's outings is to educate both members and non-members of the importance of natural preserves. Up to this point, many outings were extremely far away, and inaccessible to younger members who can't drive; however, youth are a critical audience for such outings as they will be the ones protecting our earth in the future.

Thus, Jordan Holaday, Broward Sierra Group's Outing Chair, decided to host an outing at Ft. Lauderdale's Bonnet House, a historic museum and garden reminiscent of Florida's wildlife before urban sprawl. This joint outing between the Broward Sierra Group members and its Junior Team counterparts allowed both groups to experience a wonderful tour around the property.

The Bonnet House tour guide first showed us around the actual house itself. Home to prominent artist Frederic Clay Bartlett, the Bonnet House contained many of his paintings and artworks. One amazing sight was the walls themselves which were built of seashells and natural materials. The Group then walked around the garden and lake and got the chance to observe the beautiful nature preserve that the Bonnet House contains.

The Group made their way across the street to Hugh Taylor Birch State Park for lunch. Adrienne Barmann, Outings Leader gave an in-depth analysis of the importance of outings like this one. She also discussed the Right to Clean Water, inspiring the Junior Team to act in their own communities.



Left to right: Zofia Chmielewska, Abigail Kohl, Elizabeth Shenker, Anagha Iyer, Sasha-Kay Lindo



The **Broward Sierra Group - Junior Team** was founded nearly a year ago and since then they have made incredible progress in environmental advocacy, outreach, and education.

To acknowledge their efforts, Broward County Vice Mayor Beam Furr granted the Team a proclamation naming June 4, 2024, as Broward Sierra Group-Junior Team Day.

At the Broward County Government Building, the Team was awarded the proclamation which was then read by Vice Mayor Furr. The Chair, Anagha Iyer, then delivered a few remarks thanking the Commissioners and the Team for making this work possible.

“It is students on the Junior Team that are making waves in the environmentalist movement and truly making a difference” Iyer said. The Broward Sierra Group’s Junior Team is extremely grateful to have received this recognition and is excited to continue doing amazing things in Broward County.



Vice Mayor Beam Furr, Zofia Chmielewska, Audrey Duenas, Elizabeth Shenker, Leah Weisburd, and Anagha Iyer speaking.

Standing above the Team with Vice Mayor Beam Furr are all the Broward County Commissioners with Mayor Nan Rich.



## Loxahatchee Group - July Meeting



Go to Sierra Club Loxahatchee Website for all our events

Join us for a Zoom discussing a powerful documentary.

**Gopher Games: The Fight to Save the Heart of Florida**



Brent Fannin

**Thursday, July 18, 2024, 7:30 PM, Zoom Room opens at 7:15**

**Program:** Discussion on the plight of the gopher tortoise.

As developers squeeze every ounce of profit, they can out of the Florida landscape, animals like the gopher tortoise, and more than 365 creatures that rely on them, are being driven to extinction. There is still time to save this species and ultimately ourselves.

This documentary is an entirely volunteer-made film with dozens of people donating their time, equipment, and expertise to make it happen. It's a project reflecting the collective heart of millions of people who love these animals and believe their story must be told.

**Speaker:** Brent Fannin has a background in environmental education and communication. Brent's passion as a documentary filmmaker is telling stories of conservation and social justice. He believes that an effective story is well said and has stunning visuals. He makes his documentaries professional, eye-catching, and educational with a statement.

He has spent time in Hollywood but prefers to keep his projects set in nature.

Feel free to watch the documentary on your own: Gopher Games: [Gopher Games: The Fight to Save the Heart of Florida \(youtube.com\)](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=...)

**[Register Here:](#)**

***To receive the Zoom, Meeting ID and Call in Number.***

**Signup Instructions:** Upon registration Zoom link will be sent to you via email. Please check your junk/spam folder where it might wind up.

## Save the Date

### MAXIMILLANO "MAXI K" GOLDSTEIN-THE BETTER STREETS ORGANIZATION

**Thursday August 1, 2024, 7pm-8:30pm Virtually**



**REGISTRATION REQUIRED**

<https://act.sierraclub.org/events/details?formcampaignid=7013q0000029aNTAAY>

Maxi K was born and raised in Broward County and grew up used to the way of life here, which necessitated driving for almost everything. He then lived in Atlanta for five years car-free and enjoyed life more, which led him to advocate for better urbanism, walkability, and transit upon his return to Broward. He then joined his group, Better Streets Broward, which was founded by some of his neighbors to advocate for all these things and more.