

THANK YOU AND WELCOME!

IT'S MY PLEASURE TO BE HERE WITH YOU THIS MORNING FOR THE 32ND ANNIVERSARY OF THE BAYNANZA BISCAYNE BAY CLEANUP DAY.

YOU KNOW, MIAMI-DADE COUNTY IS PERHAPS THE ONLY MAJOR METROPOLITAN AREA THAT IS BORDERED BY TWO NATIONAL PARKS.

WE HAVE THE EVERGLADES NATIONAL PARK TO OUR WEST, AND BISCAYNE BAY NATIONAL PARK HERE IN THE EAST.

AND WHEN WE HOST ANY MAJOR EVENT, AND TELEVISION CAMERAS ZOOM IN ON MIAMI...

AND WHEN PEOPLE FROM THROUGHOUT THE WORLD CAN SEE WHERE WE ALL LIVE, WHAT DO THEY ALWAYS SHOW?

OUR DOWNTOWN'S SKYLINE, REFLECTED ON THE WATERS OF BISCAYNE BAY.

THESE WATERS NOT ONLY REFLECT THE BEAUTY OF OUR COMMUNITY...

THEY ALSO PROVIDE AN IMPORTANT ECOLOGICAL HABITAT THAT SUPPORTS ENDLESS OPPORTUNITIES FOR RECREATION THROUGH FISHING, SWIMMING AND BOATING.

BISCAYNE BAY ALSO SUPPORTS OUR LOCAL ECONOMY, BY PROMOTING TOURISM, SUPPORTING THE LOCAL COMMERCIAL FISHING INDUSTRY...

AND BY PROVIDING A BASIS FOR OTHER MARINE RELATED BUSINESSES HERE IN MIAMI-DADE COUNTY.

AS WE STAND HERE TODAY, MORE THAN 7000 REGISTERED VOLUNTEERS SCATTERED ALONG THE SHORELINE OF THE BAY AT 23 SITES THROUGHOUT MIAMI-DADE COUNTY.

THEY ARE ALSO GETTING READY TO DO WHAT YOU HAVE ALL GRACIOUSLY VOLUNTEERED TO DO HERE TODAY, WORK TO CLEAN UP THE SHORELINES OF BISCAYNE BAY.

BISCAYNE BAY IS OUR VALUABLE NATURAL RESOURCE THAT WE ALL SHARE.

THIS IS WHY TAKING CARE OF THE BAY.

AND THIS IS WHY KEEPING IT CLEAN AND HEALTHY IS A RESPONSIBILITY WE ALL SHARE AS CITIZENS OF MIAMI-DADE COUNTY.

YOUR PRESENCE HERE TODAY DEMONSTRATES THE IMPORTANCE OF THE BAY TO OUR COMMUNITY AND YOUR COMMITMENT TO KEEPING THE BAY HEALTHY...

SO I WANT TO THANK ALL OF YOU FOR YOUR HELP IN THIS EFFORT.

FINALLY, IN RECOGNITION OF TODAY BEING THE 32ND ANNIVERSARY OF OUR ANNUAL BAYNANZA BISCAYNE BAY CLEANUP DAY...

I AM PLEASED TO PRESENT THE FOLLOWING PROCLAMATION:

