

## **Wishing You a Happy Holiday Season!**

***By Commissioner Sue Gunzburger***

*Broward County Commission, District 6*

Regardless of your religious traditions and heritage, the holidays are a very special time of year for all of us. The decorating of homes, the exchanging of gifts, the quality time spent with family and friends, and resolving to accomplish even more in the coming year. These are among the holiday customs of that date back for centuries. Many of these customs are symbolic of the continuance of life and perpetual revitalization.

The tradition of making New Year's resolutions dates back to ancient times. The earliest evidence of this practice began with the Babylonians in 153 BCE. The early Babylonian's most popular resolution was to return borrowed farm equipment. This practice was continued by the early Romans. A mythical king of early Rome, Janus, was placed at the head of the calendar, after whom the month of January is named. With two faces, Janus could look back on past events and forward to the future. Janus became the ancient symbol for resolutions and many Romans looked for forgiveness from their enemies -- and also exchanged gifts before the beginning of each year. The fall of the Roman Empire saw some of these more popular practices incorporated into the emerging Judeo-Christian world -- but with new meaning and symbolism attached.

In modern times, people continue to resolve to make improvements to themselves and their relationships with others. As always, I resolve to continue working hard to represent all the residents of District 6 and Broward County ... and to continue fighting for reform and good government.

I hope this holiday season represents our community's desire for peace, friendship and good will among all people. On behalf of my family and my two aides -- Dee Platt and Nancy Fear -- I wish you and your loved ones much happiness and health in the coming year.

I invite you to check out my website – [www.broward.org/sue](http://www.broward.org/sue) - for updates and pictures of events in our community. And, as always, if I can ever be of assistance, please do not hesitate to contact me. I can be reached at my downtown office at 954-357-7006 or by e-mail at [sgunzburger@broward.org](mailto:sgunzburger@broward.org). I'm always happy to meet with you, either at the Governmental Center downtown Fort Lauderdale or by appointment at my district office in the new Hollywood Branch Library.