

1 Introduced by Council Members Bowman, Diamond, Salem, Boylan,  
2 Carlucci, DeFoor, and Newby & Co-Sponsored by Council Members  
3 Morgan, Dennis, Pittman and Hazouri:  
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6 **RESOLUTION 2021-93-A**

7 A RESOLUTION HONORING AND COMMENDING MIKE  
8 CLARK ON THE OCCASION OF HIS RETIREMENT FROM  
9 THE FLORIDA TIMES-UNION AS ITS EDITORIAL PAGE  
10 EDITOR; PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.  
11

12 **WHEREAS**, Mike Clark has spent just shy of half a century as a  
13 professional journalist, and 46 of those 49 years have been spent  
14 in Jacksonville; and

15 **WHEREAS**, following his graduation from Michigan State  
16 University in 1971 Mr. Clark took his first job in journalism in  
17 Springfield, Illinois and in 1974 moved with his wife to  
18 Jacksonville to take up a career with the *Florida Times-Union* that  
19 has made him one of the most experienced, valuable and respected  
20 media members in the city; and

21 **WHEREAS**, in 1990 Mike Clark was appointed the Reader Advocate  
22 for the *Times-Union*, a position that enabled him to engage readers  
23 directly, listen to their concerns, advocate on their behalf to the  
24 paper's management, and to explain to readers in many formats and  
25 venues how newspapers function, choose what stories to cover, and  
26 take editorial stances on issues of the day; and

27 **WHEREAS**, the thousands of contacts he made with individual  
28 readers, citizens, organizations and leaders and the tremendous  
29 body of detailed knowledge about the community that he developed in  
30 his 15 years as the Reader Advocate were great preparation for his  
31 advancement to the position of Editorial Page Editor which he has

1 held for the last 15 years, expressing the paper's considered  
2 opinion on the issues of the day and advocating for policies,  
3 practices, events, organizations, and changes that would improve  
4 the quality of life for citizens in Northeast Florida; and

5 **WHEREAS,** Mike Clark has made indelible changes for the better  
6 at the newspaper that have made it a truer voice reflective of the  
7 full diversity of people and ideas that populate our city, and his  
8 calm and friendly demeanor and encyclopedic knowledge of local  
9 affairs will be greatly missed with his recent retirement from the  
10 *Times-Union*; now therefore

11 **BE IT RESOLVED** by the Council of the City of Jacksonville:

12 **Section 1.** The City of Jacksonville hereby honors and  
13 commends Mike Clark for his half-century career in print  
14 journalism, 46 of those years in Jacksonville, and wishes him the  
15 very best of health and happiness as he retires from the *Florida*  
16 *Times-Union* to take up new challenges. His contributions to civic  
17 discourse in Jacksonville and Northeast Florida have been  
18 monumental and will be long and gratefully remembered.

19 **Section 2. Effective Date.** This Resolution shall become  
20 effective upon signature by the Mayor or upon becoming effective  
21 without the Mayor's signature.

22  
23 Form Approved:

24  
25 /s/ Paige H. Johnston

26 Office of General Counsel

27 Legislation Prepared By: Jeff Clements, City Council Research

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