

1 Introduced by Council Members Bowman, Diamond, Salem, Boylan,
2 Carlucci, DeFoor, and Newby:

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5 **RESOLUTION 2021-93**

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

10
11 **WHEREAS**, Mike Clark has spent just shy of half a century as a
12 professional journalist, and 46 of those 49 years have been spent in
13 Jacksonville; and

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

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

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

1 on the issues of the day and advocating for policies, practices,
2 events, organizations, and changes that would improve the quality of
3 life for citizens in Northeast Florida; and

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

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

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

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

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22 Form Approved:

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24 /s/ Paige H. Johnston

25 Office of General Counsel

26 Legislation Prepared By: Jeff Clements, City Council Research

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