## In Pursuit of Happiness, from a Political Junkie-07-18-2016 by Harry Zirkelbach Stars and Sun date 34486

In the sweltering Philadelphia rooms where Rebels met to consider the document that would separate them from England, one of the most contested lines was the phrase "And among these are life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness". As that followed "We hold these truths to be self-evident. That all men are created equal, endowed by their creator certain rights ..." it was mandatory that the phrase be acceptable to the gathering.

The first two, "Life and Liberty", were unassailable; with the third, disagreement. After exhaustive comment the phrase was adopted as the best of alternatives. This in spite of the implication that happiness was unattainable; life a constant pursuit of that goal. These men understood the significance of what they were doing, wanted every word to carry their meaning, not just to their subjects, but to their mentor, the English, and forever to all privileged to read their thoughts. They signed, committed their sacred honor.

Buried in the Declaration is the right to vote, the wise exercise of which is part of each citizens' pursuit of happiness. Today that immediate result, even for those selecting winners, is indefinite, the wisdom disclosed only over time. Who could imagine that in voting for Clinton over President Bush in 1992, that today they had elected a President who in three consecutive years of his Presidency, would become the only President any ever knew to produce and operate, a balanced budget? Pay down some of the National Debt. Yes, voting can be a "crap shoot", akin to the pursuit of happiness.

Obama's education and natural gifts have given these United States a great communicator. That skill and his blackness has been a constant irritant to a segment of society. Immediately and repeatedly his opponents vowed to oppose anything he proposed. From them, everywhere, this chorus. "He will not succeed",

Still, today the country prospers. Every States is better positioned for the future than when Obama was inaugurated eight years ago. No chorus from the grateful galleries, "Well done, good and faithful servant", from the liberal, conservative or unaffiliated voter.

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All are left to challenge his successor "How can you do better for me?"

Today some of the finest linguists in these United States are the comedians who play with words and ideas on TV, after nightly news, to keep all levels of the educated laughing, in their pursuit of happiness. We credit them for this, even when they step on our toes, or insist on the vulgar.

On yet another matter. Weather featuring, cyclone, storm, rain, flood, fire, hurricane, among others, tend to be mis-described in media report of their intensity, thusly, "Last night central Denver was the victim of a devastating fire, destroying a whole city block. Hours later the Fire Department controlled the burning." Then details of the ruins.

A realist it might seem that this was one great fire; to all, the consequences were devastating. Fire is supposed to burn things. So Gentle reader give thought to your pursuit of happiness. In no language is it implied that your goal may infringe on another's pursuit, as each strives to reach that obstinate goal.

Windsor Gardens offers fifty plus venues by which its guests are offered time to pursue happiness, and it is a great day for mankind when as many as five percent of the community use any.

Here's everyone's chance to pursue happiness; compete in one more activity this month. Keep a record. You have the right to hope that your action reflects well in your the pursuit of happiness.