

Inside:

Hurricane pantry

What to stock during storm season. **Page 18**

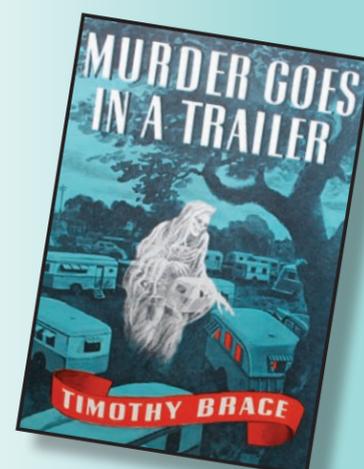


Meet Your Neighbor

Diana Taylor owns Pug At The Beach, but her canine pal is Buddy. **Page 20**



Nomad Surf Shop manager Ryan Heavyside catches the wave of a growing South Florida trend: stand-up paddleboarding. **Story Page 12. Photo by Tim Stepien**



Coastal author

He also wrote *The Barefoot Mailman*. A look at FAU's Theodore Pratt Collection. **Page 21**

Lantana

Embracing commercial, Lantana bucks U.S. 1 trend

By Thomas R. Collins

Mention the condition of U.S. 1 in Boynton Beach and Delray Beach to Lantana Town Manager Michael Bornstein, and it's all he can do not to roll his eyes.

Such tall apartment buildings. So many condos and townhomes. Not enough tenants. Not enough good jobs created.

In that respect, Lantana is preparing to be the anti-Boynton.



Federal Highway
An occasional series

With so much residential space already crammed into the coastal areas, especially along U.S. 1, Lantana is turning in the opposite direction: Its idea for the future along and near the road is for commercial

See **FEDERAL** on page 4



Bishop Gerald M. Barbarito (center) and Monsignor Thomas J. Skindeleski (right) bless the buildings of the school and church grounds at St. Vincent Ferrer Catholic Church in Delray Beach. **Photo by Tim Stepien**

Delray Beach

Parish celebrates 'new beginning'

By Tim O'Meilie

When Roman Catholic Bishop Gerald M. Barbarito flicked a holy water sprinkler to bless the new chapel at St. Vincent Ferrer Catholic Church in Delray Beach, he had some divine assistance.

The skies opened and heaven's own rain christened the Perpetual Adoration Chapel, the new stained glass church doors, a new church roof and renovations at the school, the youth center and the parish's St. Peter, St. Paul and St. Mary

houses.

The bishop joked that he was thankful for the help.

"This is a celebration of these wonderful and beautiful renovations," Barbarito said. "May they truly be a source of new beginnings for St. Vincent."

"New beginnings" was the theme heard several times by the 200 or so people who gathered for the Saturday afternoon Mass and blessing Aug. 15.

Although much of the \$500,000 in remodeling had

See **CHURCH** on page 14

Along the Coast

Towns wrestle with tough budget choices

By Margie Plunkett

Briny Breezes was the poster child of budget uncertainty this season. The only town in the county with increasing property values, Briny Breezes at the last minute more than tripled its

proposed tax rate to cover its bases on rising expenses that were still unknown variables in its budget equation.

While Mayor Roger Bennett expects the town will adopt something much lower than its proposed 10.0 millage rate, it had to play it

safe: There is little leeway in its small budget to deal with unanticipated expenses, he said.

Coastal cities, including Briny Breezes, neared the final round of the budget process, wrestling to complete details in still changing

budgets ahead of this month's public hearings that will finalize next fiscal year's financial plans. Municipal taxes are only one of many that make up county residents' total tax bill.

Sagging property tax rolls this year pinched every

municipality in the county — except for Briny Breezes. Other income sources were squeezed by the economy and expenses such as health insurance were on the rise. That pressured city officials to consider options including

See **TAX** on page 6

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Send letters, opinions and news tips to news@thecoastalstar.com

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Coastal Star

For the love of literacy

By Ron Hayes

Steven Leveen always assumed he'd volunteer at some point with the Palm Beach County Literacy Coalition.

As the co-founder and CEO of Levenger, the Delray Beach-based purveyors of "tools for serious readers," words are both his livelihood and his passion.

Of course, he'd become a literacy volunteer.

Once the kids were out of the house.

"Then my two sons had to fulfill a community service requirement in high school," Leveen remembers.

Cal, his oldest, volunteered at a child-care center for the working poor, Corey at the Boys & Girls Club.

"I was a little suspicious of obligatory volunteerism," Leveen says, "but I was very impressed. I had to change my opinion."

Now Cal's at Yale, Corey's at Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute — and Leveen's been a literacy volunteer for more than a year.

"I call it Tutor Tuesday," he says.

Every week, from 5:30 to 8 p.m., he's at the Village Academy in Delray Beach, helping adults — mostly working, mostly Haitian — learn to read and write English.

"Everybody in this class is here because they want to be," he said before class one recent Tuesday evening. "They're all working at least one job, and then they run home, clean up and come here to work their brains out for a couple of hours. How can you not want to help them?"

Leveen is one of 14 volunteer tutors, says



Steve Leveen, CEO of Levenger, works as a literacy volunteer at the Village Academy in Delray Beach. Photo by Jerry Lower

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Send a note to news@thecoastalstar.com or call 337-1553.

Darlene Kostrub, the coalition's executive director, but rare in that, like his students, he has a day job.

"Most of our volunteers are retirees," Kostrub notes. "So Steve's proof that you don't have to wait until you retire to get involved. Why

postpone the fun?"

Tutor Tuesdays are not Leveen's first volunteer work in Delray Beach. For eight years he served on the board of the Delray Beach Public Library.

Since 1998, Leveen has lived along the Intracoastal Waterway in coastal Delray Beach with Lori, his wife of 27 years. Now the boys are off to college, but the couple is staying put.

"We've lived in Delray Beach for 11 years," he says, "and we absolutely love it. I kayak on the Intracoastal, and there's a natural beauty. We're able to walk to an authentic downtown, and we've got a beach that's fairly uncontaminated by high-rises. It's a wonderful place to have a business, and I sure feel good when I'm driving home from Tutor Tuesdays."

Steven Leveen was nominated to be a Coastal Star by Darlene Kostrub, executive director of the Palm Beach County Literacy Coalition. For information about literacy tutoring, call 800-273-1030.



Editorial

Movin' on up!

The support of our readers and advertisers over the past 10 months has been truly inspiring.

Thank you.

As a result, *The Coastal Star* is taking a leap of faith and cracking open the piggybank for some real office space — finally.

It's not very big, but the office is located in the geographic heart of our community. You'll find us nestled between Colby's Barbershop and Transition-Area Triathlon shop in that tiny commercial space that still exists on A1A in Ocean Ridge.

All are welcome.

By mid-September our advertisers will be able to use the space to collaborate with our sales reps, and our readers will have a place to stop in to share news and opinion.

Many of the amazing, award-winning writers, editors and photographers who help us create *The Coastal Star* and the *Palm Beach ArtsPaper* will bring their laptops by to work from time-to-time. And our local artist friends plan to display their work on a rotating schedule. We're even discussing regular bake sales!

Considering the current economy, it should come as no surprise that starting a new business during this past year has been challenging to say the least.

We've paid close attention

to the struggles of other local newspapers and recently were saddened by the closing of the Boca Raton News: the first South Florida newspaper my husband I both worked at, almost 20 years ago.

As a result, you'll find us pinching pennies and even engaging in a little old-fashioned horse trading as we settle into the new office.

So, if you've got a working window A/C unit, a water cooler, some gently used roll-up window blinds, office supplies, or materials that might help us to build shelves and a front counter, let us know. Maybe we can work something out. There's little doubt our decorating style will be "early garage sale."

Even so, it will beat trudging down the steps to our basement business office, meeting at a Hypoluxo warehouse to load our cars up for delivery and designing the newspaper on the kitchen counter!

More than ever, we believe in our business model and in building a better newspaper. By opening our office, we are making a long-term commitment to this exceptional community.



Please join us. We hope to see you at 5011 N. Ocean Blvd.

— Mary Kate Leming, Editor

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Delray Beach / Gulf Stream

High-volume water users may pay more

By Margie Plunkett

A proposed water rate restructuring intended to encourage conservation would shift more of the cost onto larger water users, Delray Beach commissioners learned during an August workshop.

If people use more water, they should pay for it, Commissioner Adam Frankel said.

Barrier island properties in Delray Beach and Gulf Stream — where lots tend to be bigger, have more landscaping and are more heavily irrigated — could be among those who feel the impact, according to Victor Majternyi, deputy director of public utilities.

The proposal — which would impact only residential users — would not change the base rate or the capacity charge for a three-quarter-inch meter. But it would change the “commodity” charge, or the price of water used.

For instance, users of up to 3,000 gallons currently pay \$1.75 for each 1,000 gallons used. Under the proposal, up to 3,000 gallons of use monthly is included in the base charge. And residents who use 4,000 to 12,000 gallons a month would pay \$1.25 per 1,000 gallons, still lower than the existing fee.

But as usage increases, the price under the proposal exceeds the existing price.

By 26,000 gallons, the user under the restructured rate is paying \$3.50 per 1,000 gallons, compared with \$2.14 under the existing rates. Both schedules top out for 51,000 gallon-plus users, with the proposal at \$4.50 per 1,000 gallons compared with \$2.65 currently.

The irrigation rate rises from \$1.94 per 1,000 gallons to \$2.43 under the proposal.

The proposed price for reclaimed water also rises

with usage, but not near as steeply as regular water. Users of reclaimed water now pay \$1 for 1,000 gallons. The proposal adopts a sliding scale: Retail users of up to 25,000 gallons pay \$1; up to 50,000 gallons, \$2; over 51,000, \$3 per 1,000 gallons. Wholesale users would still pay 28 cents per 1,000 gallons.

Connection fees for water under the proposal double, and sewer connections increase as well. Water

connections now cost \$788, but would rise to \$1,600. Sewer connections would rise from \$1,084 to \$1,200. City Manager David Harden said during the workshop he wasn't satisfied with the connection fees. Richard Hasko, Delray

Beach environmental services director, said he would need more time to review them.

The restructuring, scheduled to go before the commission for a preliminary vote Sept. 10, would take effect Oct. 1 if approved. ✪

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Continued from page 1

and light industrial zones where people will be able to work.

“That’s why you probably haven’t seen a lot of large, flash-in-the-pan things like in other cities,” Bornstein said. “We said we want a sustainable, meaningful business model for our town — and that wasn’t right for us. So we’re on the long, maybe slow, track here.”

“But what will happen, we believe, is going to be something really good for our residents. And not just the residents of our town, but regionally.”

The stretch of U.S. 1 through Lantana and Hypoluxo isn’t lined with empty lots and nearly finished condo projects or, worse, unfinished ones. The towns have stayed, for the most part, out of the way of the housing bust.

In Hypoluxo, just one project has come out of the ground on U.S. 1 in the last five years: Villagio Del Mar, a small collection of 38 townhomes finished in 2006.

Only one project that was planned was stalled by the market free fall: a townhouse and commercial mix called Porter Place at Hypoluxo Road and Overlook Road.

“Everything went south before they went to any actual construction,” Hypoluxo Deputy Town Clerk Deb Fick said. “When things started going bad, they just held off just in case.

And it was a good thing.”

In Lantana, they’ve generally said no to higher densities since the dense, mixed-use project The Moorings was approved in 2002, declaring that the amount of development now allowed in their state-approved comprehensive development plan is all they’ll build.

“Our council wanted to keep Lantana to scale. They genuinely said: We’re not going to overdevelop,” Bornstein said. “You’ll never see anything like The Moorings again.”

There have been some projects to stall along the road, though. A self-storage business on U.S. 1, on land owned by developer Anthony Pugliese, has been approved but not built. And an industrial park approved a year ago near the north border of Lantana along the west side of U.S. 1, land also owned by Pugliese, hasn’t been started either.

At The Moorings, vacancy signs advertise commercial space on the ground floors on the east side of U.S. 1.

Realtor Lorraine Freed, who lives in The Moorings and handles listings there, is reluctant even to talk about sales there because “the market is really bad.”

The units are occupied — “the units have been selling more here than anywhere else,” Freed said — but prices have dropped 30 percent to 40 percent from what they

A



The Moorings: Jorge Perez/Related Group & Stuart Miller/Lennar
376 condos, 19 townhomes, approx. 25,000 sq. ft. commercial
Project status: Completed 2005/2006

B



Train Depot District:
Town of Lantana Proposed Conceptual Plan

C



Cenacle Property: Palm Beach Resort Partners, LLC
Resort & Spa with 300-room hotel
Project status: Proposed. Re-zoning hearing 9/14

D



Villagio Del Mar: Beach Club Partners, LLC
38 townhomes
Project status: Completed 2006

Graphic by: Bonnie Lalky-Seibert and Jerry Lower

once were. What was selling in the \$300,000s might be sold in the low \$200,000s now, or lower, she said. “The upside of it is, I see

this community turning into the diamond in the rough that it was always going to be,” Freed said. “It’s a beautiful community, it has kept its beauty.”

But by and large, the storyline of U.S. 1 in Lantana, has been one of patience and a respect for the town’s history and character.

The town envisions a low-scale commercial area along U.S. 1, between Lantana Road and Pine Street, that it’s calling a “train depot district,” which town officials hope will be anchored by a train station along the FEC railroad tracks. The station would be built as part of the state’s double-tracking project.

It’s simple economics, Bornstein said. A recent study performed for area municipalities found that for every dollar of taxes paid, commercial and industrial properties require just 36 cents in services, while residential properties require \$1.38 in services for each dollar, he said.

Wayne Cordero, owner of the Old Key Lime House not far from U.S. 1, likes the town’s philosophy.

“I think they’re committed to more preserving the

history of Florida rather than monster projects,” he said. “It’s easy to form more concrete and overbuild. It’s difficult to fill them.”

Not every idea along U.S. 1 has been well-received, though.

“What will happen, we believe, is going to be something really good for our residents. And not just the residents of our town, but regionally.”

Michael Bornstein
Lantana Town Manager

Residents crammed into Town Hall this spring to protest a land-use change to commercial to make way for a \$90 million resort and spa with a 300-room hotel planned for between South Dixie Highway and the Intracoastal

Waterway north of Hypouxo Road, which is now a Catholic Cenacle Sisters retreat.

They worried it wouldn’t actually become a high-end resort, leaving open the possibility of a less desirable commercial project. One resident called the land use “totally incompatible.”

A rezoning hearing is scheduled for Sept. 14.

But, at least for now, the town does not show the scars that nearby towns bear.

“It’s a house of cards if you’re not careful,” Bornstein said. “We don’t have the problems that other cities have created chasing a market cycle.”

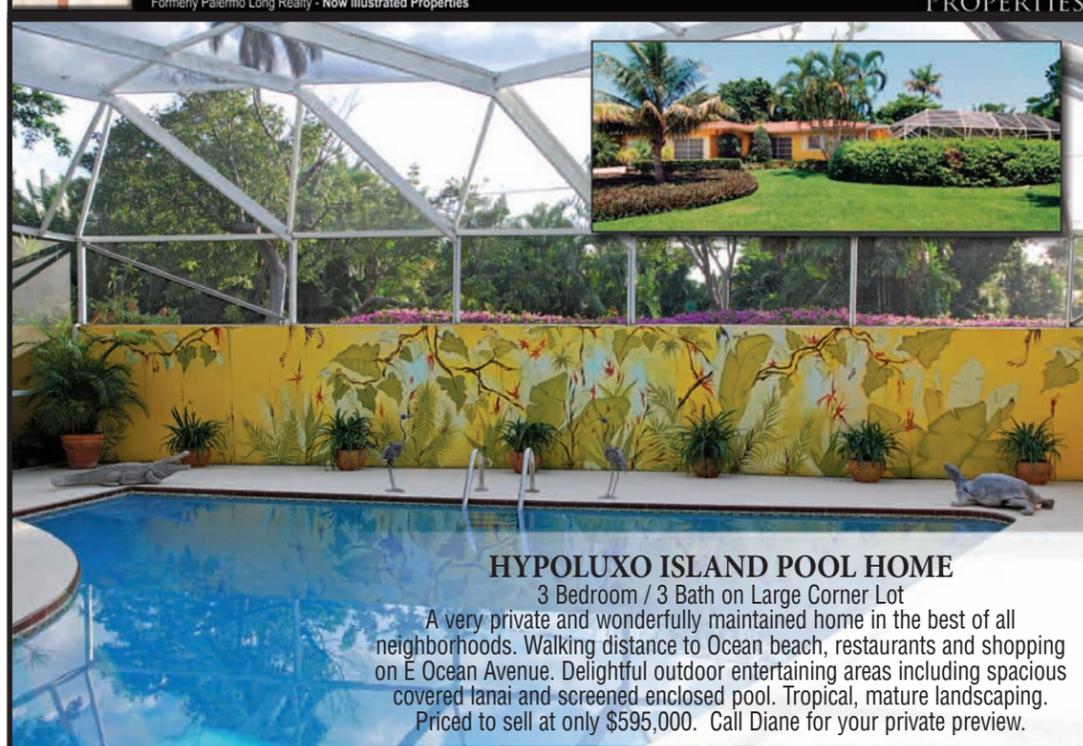
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Along the Coast



First-day school jitters

Ann Lanza of Boynton Beach, reassures her son Alexander on his first day of school at St. Mark Catholic School in Boynton. Opened in 1958, the school has catered to the needs of the coastal communities as the congregation and facilities have grown. Joe Finley of Ocean Ridge is the school's principal. **Photo by Jerry Lower**

League of Cities pushes for state action on beach erosion

A Palm Beach League of Cities resolution wended its way through coastal cities in August requesting Gov. Charlie Crist to address beach erosion with appropriate funding and legislation. It also encourages the state to fund research and infrastructure to solve the problem. Lantana and Gulf Stream were among cities supporting the resolution.

A 2008 study by the

Bureau of Beaches and Coastal Systems for the state of Florida said five coastal counties have 96.8 miles of critically eroded beaches, including 31.1 miles in Palm Beach County, according to the resolution. The \$15 million budgeted by the state last year related to beach projects "does not seem in keeping with the seriousness of the impacts to the state's economy," it said.

Boynton water rates to rise, but less than expected

Boynton Beach city commissioners voted to roll back a recent water rate increase by 7 percent, effective in September. The reduction is across the board — applying to water, wastewater and the base rate and commodity charges, according to Public Affairs Director Wayne Segal.

The resolution on the rate reduction noted that the rate hike approved in April had a significant negative effect on ratepayers. That rate change boosted the base rate from \$4.84 to \$10.77 for residential users in the city.

Under the 7 percent rollback, the base rate for

residential users in the city falls to \$10.02 from \$10.77. Those who use up to 9,000 gallons of water a month, pay \$1.41 per 1,000 gallons monthly. Before the reduction, the usage rate was \$1.52.

For out-of-city residential users, the rate falls to \$12.52 from \$13.46. Those who use up to 9,000 gallons monthly pay \$1.77 for each 1,000 gallons used, down from \$1.90. Towns including Ocean Ridge and Briny Breezes are Boynton Beach water users. Ocean Ridge, which owns its water system, pays as a city resident, while Briny Breezes is an outside user.

Officer's firing upheld by Ocean Ridge commission

Ocean Ridge commissioners upheld the termination of former Police Officer David Cazzolli, which the officer appealed during a special commission meeting Aug. 27.

Cazzolli, 42, was terminated in July after a citizen's complaint prompted an internal investigation by the Ocean Ridge Police Department, Town Manager Kenneth Schenck wrote in a

letter to Cazzolli that noted the file included violations of Police Department policy.

Cazzolli can further appeal the case to circuit court, according to Tara W. Duhy, attorney representing the Police Department. The Florida Department of Law Enforcement also will review the case as a matter of procedure, Ocean Ridge Lt. Chris Yannuzzi said.

— Briefs by Margie Plunkett

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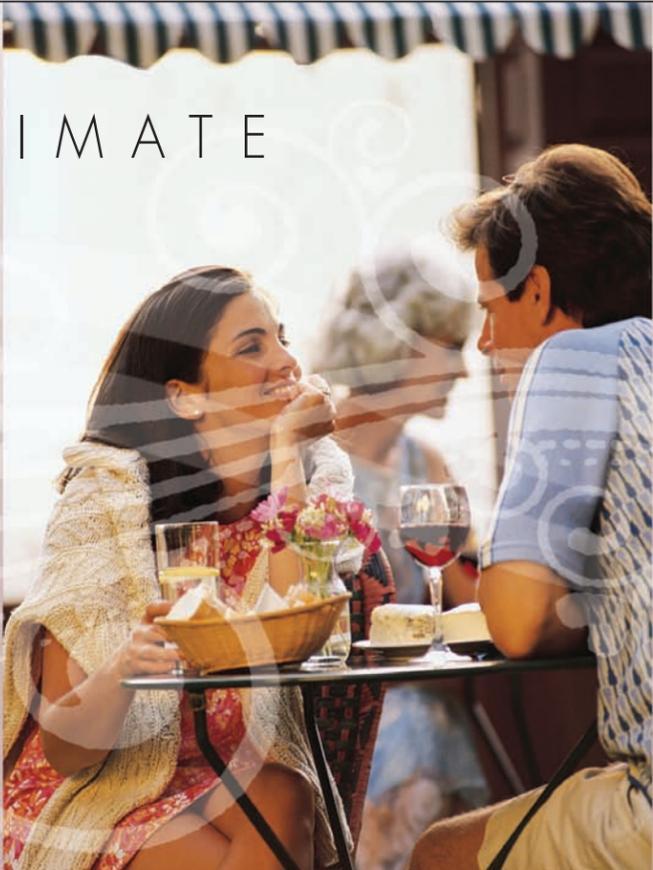
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Along the Coast

Briny Breezes tax rate in limbo due to rising Boynton Beach fees

In Briny Breezes, if the proposed tax rate of \$10.00 per \$1,000 of assessed home value were adopted, a resident with a home valued at \$170,000 would pay municipal taxes of \$1,700 compared with \$510 under a \$3.00 rate. The town initially proposed the lower rate, but boosted it at an impromptu special meeting

late in the month.

Property tax rolls rose 2.3 percent in Briny Breezes – not spectacular unless compared with neighbors like Boynton Beach, where property values sank more than 18 percent. Mayor Roger Bennett attributed the increase to the failed deal to sell Briny Breezes. The publicity raised

the area's profile and led to higher priced home sales and therefore property values, he said.

Starting the budget season on that positive note, however, didn't overcome rising water rates or the possibility of paying more for police protection – both currently services Briny Breezes receives

from Boynton Beach. Briny Breezes calculates it pays more than 60 percent higher water rates since a recent increase because it is classified as a user outside of Boynton Beach. Briny Breezes expects negotiations on the water bill early in September will shed light on what the budget line item will be.

As it stands, Briny Breezes' \$551,498 budget still reflects its initially proposed \$3.00 tax rate. The town wanted to determine its expenses before going through the exercise of revising the budget higher, Bennett said.

— Margie Plunkett

TAX:

Continued from page 1

finding replacement revenue, cutting spending, dipping into reserves and raising taxes. Discussions of salary freezes, layoffs and reduced hours were in the mix as well.

"We're going to be walking a tightrope and it's going to be difficult," said Delray Beach Commissioner Adam Frankel at an August meeting. "No one wants to see cuts. No one wants to see tax increases. There's going to be some on both ends. We're going to have to find a balance."

Discussions on rising taxes and reduced services echoed through governments across the area.

At an August public hearing, resident Sharon Lev-Har told Delray Beach commissioners that at the business she owns, "We're cutting down to the nitty gritty.

We have to do that in

government. I can't afford more taxes. We have to make commitments in this city to lower taxes, not to raise them."

Delray Beach's proposed tax rate was at \$7.38 per \$1,000 of assessed value, about 15.5 percent more than last year's but at the rollback rate — the rate that is needed to bring in the same amount of tax revenue as last year.

In Gulf Stream, which faced challenges to its \$2.7 million budget such as the \$125,000 increase in fire-rescue services supplied by Delray Beach, the discussion turned to private sector vs. government.

Everything is re-pricing in the contracting economy, said Commissioner Chris Wheeler, as he prodded the town manager to view the economic predicament as a permanent state and go through the exercise of looking for cuts in recurring expenses.

Ocean Ridge's \$5.3 million proposed budget drops \$211,160 from the 2008-09 budget, reflecting changes in personnel in the Police Department and employees picking up a portion of the deductible in their health

insurance benefits among other things. The proposed millage rate rises to 5.5, up nearly 7 percent from last year but lower than the rollback rate of 5.9.

In Boynton Beach, raising the millage rate from last year was necessary to avoid layoffs, according to the proposed \$71.6 million budget. The proposed tax rate would rise to \$7.30 per \$1,000 of value from last year's \$6.46 and below the rollback rate. If the city kept the rate the same as last year, it could lay off 37 employees, among other cuts, the budget document said. Lantana voted against changing its existing millage rate in July after hearing from town residents struggling to pay increasing utility bills. Commissioners then charged

the town manager with finding other ways to fill the \$341,000 deficit in its \$14.8 million budget.

The town has since succeeded in balancing its budget in large part through reviewing capital purchases and negotiating liability and worker's compensation insurance, according to Stephen Kaplan, finance and administrative services director.

Manalapan proposes a rate of \$2.80 per \$1,000 and a dip into its reserves to make up for the shortfall in its \$3.6 million budget. "We're reacting as we should to an economic decline," Commissioner Robert Evans said at an August meeting. The town has reduced two employee positions to part time and has frozen salaries, while at the same time picking up a 15 percent increase in employee health benefits.

Commissioners agreed that budget reserves were designed for an emergency such as this year's economy.

"I'm OK with dipping into the reserves — as long as it's not habit forming," said Commissioner William Bernstein.

The budget discussion in Manalapan, like elsewhere, isn't finished, however. The mayor's poll of commissioners revealed division on whether the town should freeze employee salaries, keep the lower proposed tax rate, or the alternative, increase wages, keep the tax rate at \$2.91 per \$1,000 and put money back into reserves.

"Lowering the millage rate to borrow from the reserve is almost a gimmick," said Bernstein. "I'm a little troubled by that."

2009/10 Budget Season

Proposed 2009/10 general fund budgets and related information for coastal communities.

Municipalities can still change budgets and millage rates, which are scheduled for the public hearings shown.

Municipality	2009 Taxable Property Value (estimated, July 1)	% Chg. From 2008	Proposed 2009/10 Budget	\$ Change from 2008/09	Proposed Millage* Rate	Public Hearing Dates 1 st / 2 nd
Boynton Beach	\$4.6 billion	-18.2	\$71.6 million	-\$2.4 million	7.3000	9-14/9-22
Briny Breezes	\$38.9 million	+2.3	\$551,498	-\$29,393	10.0000	9-17/9-24
Delray Beach	\$7.0 billion	-14.4	\$97.4 million	-2.1 million	7.3833	9-10/9-22
Gulf Stream	\$703.0 million	-5.9	\$2.7 million	+\$10,464	3.0437	9-11/9/23
Lantana	\$869.7 million	-13.8	\$14.8 million	-\$4.8 million	3.2395	9-14/9-28
Manalapan	\$920.5 million	-5.3	\$3.6 million	-\$201,396	2.8000	9-10/9-16
Ocean Ridge	\$727.2 million	-13.3	\$5.3 million	-\$211,160	5.5000	9-10/9-17
All PBC Cities	\$96.0 billion	-12.2				

SOURCE: Palm Beach County Property Appraiser; Municipalities

*One mil equals \$1 for every \$1,000 of taxable property value.

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Lantana's post office has been in the same leased building since the 1970s. The office is among 13 in South Florida and 677 across the nation that the U.S. Postal Service potentially may close. **Photo by Jerry Lower**

Lantana / Hypoluxo Island

Residents, neighbors fight to keep Lantana post office open

By Mary Thurwachter

In a small town rich with community spirit, talk of closing the lone post office really rankles residents. That's what's happening in Lantana, where the downtown office faces extinction.

Debbie Fetterly, spokeswoman for the U.S. Postal Service for the South Florida District, said that of the 13 locations in South Florida being considered for closure, there is more local interest in the Lantana office than any other. Nationwide, 677 locations are being studied.

"Overall, South Florida shippers have seen a 16 percent reduction in mail volume compared to the same time last year," Fetterly said.

But decline or not, locals have not lessened their love for the post office in Lantana. "We have a petition at the library (next door to the post office) and a large traffic sign in front of the office asking residents to help save the post office," said Lantana Town Manager Mike Bornstein. "We've already got more than 1,100 signatures."

South Palm Beach resident Daniel Colangelo, a regular customer for 25 years, was collecting signatures, too.

"This is so convenient," he said. "It just doesn't make sense to shut it down." Support is also coming from neighboring communities of Manalapan and Hypoluxo.

Bornstein agrees. "Our goal is to make it as clear as possible that the people here love our post office and want to keep it," he said. "It's the heart of our downtown."

Lantana Post Office

- During the winter, the office averages 2,058 customer visits a week or between 400 to 470 a day. During the off-season, the office averages 1,474 transactions a week or between 300 and 350 a day.

- There are 957 boxes and customers have 24/7 access to them.

- The closest office is 2.5 miles away in Lake Worth at 720 Lucerne Ave. The second closest is 4.3 miles away in Boynton at 217 N. Seacrest Blvd.

- The facility is leased and has served the Lantana community since the mid-1970s and has been occupied by the Postal Service more than 30 years. Three people work the windows.

Mayor David Stewart mailed a letter to U.S. Rep. Ron Klein, D-Boca Raton, urging the post office be saved, and Klein, in turn, sent off a letter of his own to John E. Porter, postmaster general of the U.S. Postal Service.

Despite all the affection surrounding the little brick building at 201 W. Ocean Ave., the fact is that mail

volumes throughout the country have experienced historic declines over the past few years as e-mail edges out snail mail and competition from various other sources, like automated postal centers, click-n-ship online postage and mailing labels, contract postal units and approved shippers.

Fetterly said there will be a study and that community members will have a chance to share their views through a public meeting or with questionnaires. Nothing will happen, not even the feasibility study, she said, until the beginning of the next fiscal year on Oct. 1. And, she stressed, all this examination doesn't necessarily mean closure. "We may move carriers from one unit to another or make other changes."

Bornstein has his fingers crossed.

"The post office is part of our history here," he said. Just like the Barefoot Mailman. And the city manager knows plenty about the Barefoot Mailman, who walked from Palm Beach to Miami barefoot along the hard sand at the ocean's edge from 1885 to 1893. Bornstein recreates the trip periodically to teach children and others about the rich piece of Florida's history. ✧



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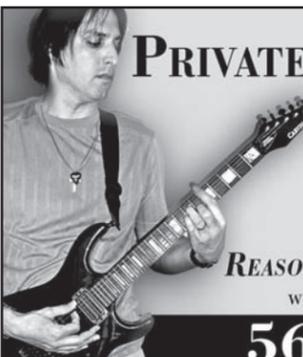


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Delray Beach

Traffic study shows pedestrians, drivers both careless at crosswalks

By Ron Hayes

For two days in May, the Florida Department of Transportation monitored both pedestrians and drivers at six crosswalks along State Road A1A here.

And they found accidents waiting to happen.

Apparently, pedestrians have forgotten their parents' warnings, and drivers have forgotten just who has the right of way.

According to the weekend study, which was conducted on May 9 and 10, at the three crosswalks immediately north and three south of Atlantic Avenue:

- Only 23 percent of pedestrians used the crosswalks correctly, pressing the yellow blinking light then waiting for cars to stop before crossing.

- Another 69 percent didn't press the light at all, and 8 percent used the light but crossed without looking first for traffic.

- And while 71 percent of drivers dutifully stopped for pedestrians at a blinking yellow light, the other 29 percent drove right through it.

"Whatever happened to what your parents taught you?" wonders John Overton, the department's assistant district traffic engineer. "Look left, right, then left again. And when you have drivers ignoring anyone in a crosswalk, that's a dangerous situation."

To address those dangers, the study recommends installing paddle-shaped warning signs on the road's centerline, between 20 and 50 feet before each crosswalk. The signs, which have been used successfully in other areas, are marked **STATE LAW: STOP TO PEDESTRIAN WITHIN CROSSWALK.**

The first of the in-street pedestrian crosswalk signs were installed late last month just north of the Delray Beach Marriott and at the Sandoway House Nature Center.

"My plan is to evaluate them," Overton said, "and compare the numbers before and after. The interesting thing about these signs is that they let the drivers know the law when they need to know it, at the point where they need to know it."

The study also recommends that the pedestrian-activated yellow blinkers be equipped with illuminated push buttons that indicate the light is blinking, as well as a system that beeps or in some other way tells the pedestrian that the flashing light is on.

This may take longer, Overton said, because the county, which operates the traffic light system, must find a compatible device. He'd like to see one installed at the crosswalk south of Atlantic Avenue, Overton said.

"My personal opinion is that some people don't think the buttons work, so why use them anyway," he added. "They're thinking, 'I'm old enough to look out for myself.'"

The study was welcomed by Jim Smith, the chairman and co-founder of SAFE (Safety As Floridians Expect), a citizens group that lobbies for traffic improvements along the ocean highway.

"I'm very pleased that they conducted the study," Smith said. "Those in-street signs will make a big difference. I just hope it's a big enough difference." ✨

Beach project planning moves ahead

Delray Beach authorized Coastal Planning & Engineering Inc. to proceed with preliminary engineering for the 2012 beach renourishment project for up to \$428,412.

The funds are 100 percent

reimbursable from federal, state and county governments, according to a memo from Paul Dorling, director of planning and zoning, delivered at commissioners' Aug. 4 meeting. The work will include analysis to determine

the project size, scope and initial beach fill design, as well as preparation of a beach renourishment design that will be incorporated in the state and federal joint coastal permit application.

— Margie Plunkett

Design ideas sought for beach area

In response to a request by the Beach Property Owners Association for creation of a master plan for the appearance of the beach area, the city of Delray Beach and the Community Redevelopment Agency have agreed to fund a collaborative effort to draft design solutions

for the oceanfront and surrounding areas.

The CRA and the city have both agreed to spend \$1,500 on a planning charrette, or workshop, to be held Nov. 7 at the Delray Beach Marriott.

The charrette will focus on sidewalks, lighting, landscaping and other

streetscape design issues.

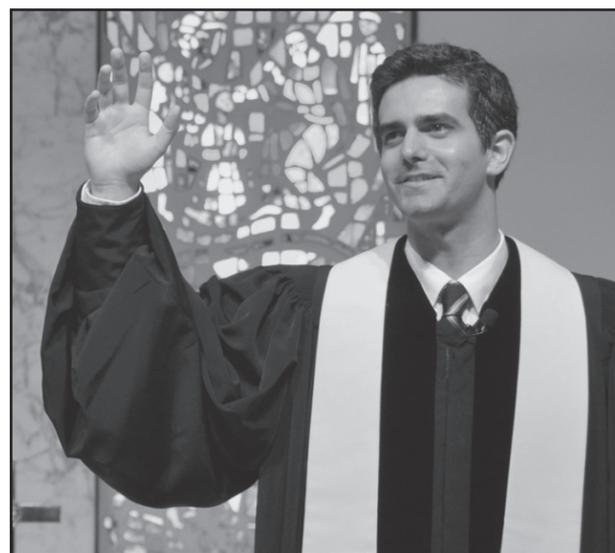
For more information about the Beach Area Master Plan, contact BPOA president Mary Renaud at mprenaud@bellsouth.net or visit the BPOA Web site at www.bpoa-drb.com.

— Mary Kate Leming

Celebrations

New associate pastor joins First Presbyterian of Delray Beach

The Rev. Aaron Philip Janklow was installed as the new associate pastor of First Presbyterian Church of Delray Beach on Aug. 16. Janklow is the 10th associate pastor in the church's 85-year history. 'He really will be a tremendous blessing to us as a congregation,' the church's senior pastor, Theodore Bush, wrote in the church's newsletter. Photo provided



Along the Avenues

Tastemakers draws more than 2,000 on soggy Delray evening

By Thom Smith

A few umbrellas popped up as an early evening shower gave the street a steamy luster, but boulevardiers along Atlantic Avenue were oblivious as they sought out queues and listened for that familiar invitation: "Passport, please!"

More than 2,000 hardy souls took part in the first "Tastemakers of Delray," handing over \$20 for a "passport" that entitled them to food and wine tastings at 18 of the city's top restaurants. From the beach to Swinton, they sampled the likes of piña colada conch and lobster salad and Villa Solis wine from Sardinia at **Sundy House**, grilled sirloin (Brazilian style) and an Argentine Malbec at **Gol!** and baked shrimp and scallops with saffron and fresh herb butter and a Chilean sauvignon blanc at **Boston's on the Beach**.

Those who ventured north into Pineapple Grove were delighted to discover — even if it is 2 years old — **Brulé**, a gourmet market and bistro that offered zucchini blossoms and Oregon truffle risotto, washed down with Newton Claret from Napa.

Vic & Angelo's pear tortellini with white truffle cream sauce was so popular that the restaurant ran out just after 9 p.m., almost an hour before closing.

Other participants included Ziree, 32 East, Olio Bistro, Cabana El Rey, House of Siam, Tryst, The Blue Fish, Cugini, Crepes by the Sea, Lemongrass Asian Bistro, Boheme Bistro, City Oyster and Cut 432.

Restaurant tastings usually are staged in hotel banquet rooms, and guests stroll leisurely from station to station. "We decided we wanted to get them into the actual restaurants," Marjorie Ferrer, executive director of Delray's Downtown Marketing Cooperative, said. "They have so much to offer, but you really can't see that unless you go in them."

"We were really happy with it."

Tastemakers took place Aug. 14 and 15, and wrapped up with a "Passport Party" and two-for-one drinks at Boston's on the Beach.

But the party really isn't over. Throughout September, the passport will entitle the holder's party to special offers at the participating restaurants: free wine or beer with your meal at **Tryst**, free dessert and other specials at **Blue Fish**, \$10 off lunch and \$15 off dinner at **Cut 432**.

Among the restaurants not participating were **Pineapple Grille** and Delray's two Intracoastal-fronting eateries,



Joanna Marsh (left), Aron Croft and his mother, Joyce, sample the sushi and pinot grigio at Lemongrass Asian Bistro during Tastemakers of Delray. **Photo by Thom Smith**

Busch's and Old Calypso.

"Absolutely not," Old Calypso principal Tom Blum said to address rumors of its demise. He added he doesn't intend to sell it or his other restaurant, 5th Avenue Grill on South Federal.

Across the bridge, however, Busch's is history. The original Busch's was located on A1A in Ocean Ridge and was founded by descendants of the beer family, who still run a century-old seafood house on the Jersey Shore. The building is one of many in Delray Beach and Palm Beach owned by Burt Handelsman, who, Marjorie Ferrer said, has never sold a building. Among those interested in leasing the property is **J. Alexander's**, which has restaurants in Boca Raton, Palm Beach Gardens and Fort Lauderdale.

Pineapple Grille, a nifty little eatery featuring Caribbean cuisine in the Palm Trail Plaza off George Bush Boulevard, has closed. However, a sign out front offers promise: coming soon, **Marley's Island Time**. Stay tuned.

Keep Delray clean — no ifs, ands or BUTTS!

Because they're ugly, unsanitary, expensive to clean up, harmful to the environment and are the "most littered item in America," the city will soon implement a program to eliminate cigarette butts. Financed with a grant from Keep America Beautiful, the program includes public service messages and the placement of receptacles where individuals must put out their cigarettes: building entrances, bus stops and gas stations.

The program apparently works: In 2008, nearly 200 participating communities reported 46 percent fewer butts. For more info, call Jennifer Buce, Litter Prevention Coordinator, at 243-7138.

First it was the noise, now it's sidewalk space in Lake Worth. The City Commission held a public hearing Sept. 1

to discuss a revised sidewalk cafe ordinance. It doesn't look like too big a deal, except that cafe owners will have to move their tables and chairs a foot farther from the curb. The existing ordinance requires only five feet, but state standards call for six.

Sleepy Lantana? Not on Ocean Avenue. Not even in summer. **The Old Key Lime House** is a great evening and after-boating hangout. Sushi lovers can get their kicks at **Suite 225** and **Sushi Bon**. Those who don't want to raise Helsinki but would like a taste of the old country stop for pastry and a chat, probably in Finnish, at **Palm Beach Bakery & Cafe**. Recent arrivals, already noted, include **Pizzeria Oceana**, just east of Walgreens, and now for the latest: Directly across from the pizza shop, in the space formerly occupied by Il Cioppino and Sara's Kitchen, entrepreneur and building owner Tara Pearl has opened **R-Kitchen**. That's R, as in "our," as in a cooperative effort of Pearl and her staff.

"We have three four-star chefs, and they've all helped put it together," Pearl said. "It's only going to be top quality. Everyone in the kitchen must have culinary school credentials. We'll serve gourmet food at family prices. Customers can get it simple or with a twist."

Such as the "Three eggs A.K.A. Boring" breakfast; or international omelettes — Ecuadorean (corn, chorizo, manchego and cilantro), Eastern Europe (imported Italian goat cheese, tomato, chives) and Mediterranean (roasted red peppers, olives, manchego). Lunches run from sandwiches of tuna salad or seared and spiced tuna loin to platters of mahi mahi with jicama orange arugula salad or wild mushroom meatloaf.

Coming soon: dinner.

The mile-wide smile, the robust laugh, the outstretched hand, the twinkle in his eye. It didn't matter to **Wolfgang Baere** if he was running

one of the nation's most prestigious resorts or his down-to-earth beachfront hotel and bar — everyone was worth a million bucks and more so was a friend.

Baere, the first general manager at the **Ritz-Carlton Palm Beach**, died Aug. 12 after a brief battle with brain cancer. He was 67.

Born in Hanover, Germany, he came to the United States in 1963 and took a job as a waiter at the Waldorf Astoria in New York. He arrived in Palm Beach in 1991 to oversee the opening of the Ritz-Carlton and built it into a top U.S. resort.

Then in 2001, he left the glitz and glamour of Palm Beach for a little bit of old Florida, teaming with his son, Wolfgang, to buy the Island Beach Resort and the adjoining Shuckers Ocean Bar and Grill in Jensen Beach.

"What am I doing here?" Baere joked as he oversaw the conversion of his new venture

from 120 rooms to 60 suites. Three years later, his good humor still intact, he again asked the question as he stood in the rubble left by Hurricane Frances. He wasn't about to quit, and eventually rebuilt, shucking the Shuckers name for High Tide Beach Grill.

"He was the most extraordinary general manager I have ever worked for," former Ritz public relations director Deb Hurd once told *The Palm Beach Post*. "He's inspiring."

Baere requested a small, family-only service. In a brief e-mail to friends, son Wolfgang added, "He would also have wanted all of you to raise a glass and say 'Prost!' to celebrate life."

Prost!



Thom Smith is a freelance writer. He can be reached at thomsmith@ymail.com.

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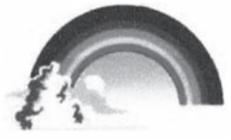
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Delray Beach / Gulf Stream

City boosts fees, takes on permitting to raise money

By Margie Plunkett

Delray Beach commissioners signed on to an agreement to provide building permit and inspection services to Gulf Stream, a deal that could bring in \$100,000 in permit fees at a time when municipalities are scouring every nook and cranny for new revenues.

The pact still must be reviewed and approved by Gulf Stream, which since 1985 has relied on Palm Beach County for the services. Gulf Stream wouldn't pay for the services, but Delray Beach would keep all money collected from building fees.

Municipalities throughout South Florida, in the final stages of the 2010 budget process, have seen income from property taxes shrink radically following the collapse of the housing market. The drop in property taxes has left gaping holes in budgets that have driven governments to scrutinize finances, searching for opportunities to boost revenue or slash spending.

Palm Beach County cutbacks pushed Gulf Stream to look for another permitting and inspections provider, Gulf Stream Clerk Rita Taylor said. The county conducted less and less of the work at their South County offices, forcing contractors and the town on an inconvenient trek to Jog Road in West Palm Beach. County cutbacks also claimed the plan reviewer who handled Gulf Stream, she said.

Delray Beach staff recommended approval, noting the city had the capacity to take on the work. Gulf Stream is not built out, with permitting conducted for new single-family homes

and additions or renovations to existing homes, a staff memo said. Gulf Stream reviews all permits before the contractor applies to Delray Beach, looking at zoning, landscaping and architectural issues. The staff estimated the take from permits at about \$100,000, based on results over the last two years.

In addition to the lure of permitting at Delray Beach's nearby offices, the city offers Gulf Stream some inspection services the county did not. One example, the county issues permits for fences, but doesn't inspect them because it's overloaded, Taylor said, adding, "We would very much like to have that done."

Recreation facility fees

Separately, Delray Beach could pull in an additional \$46,730 in revenue for the coming fiscal year by changing rental fees for Park and Recreation facilities, a move commissioners also approved at the Aug. 18 meeting. Rental fees were charged for facilities, pavilions and fields, but not always consistently, according to Linda Karch, director of Parks and Recreation.

Under the new fee schedule, homeowners and community/civic groups — which were not previously charged for facility use — are charged \$30 per meeting. New facility rental fees include, for example, \$90 for the first three hours at the "505" Teen Center and \$20 for additional hours. Skate Park is \$100 for the first three hours and \$40 per additional hour. Renters who charge admission would pay \$250 for the first three hours plus 50 percent of ticket sales.

Pavilion fees are increased and made uniform, regardless of the facility's size: \$50 for four hours and \$90 all day, not including tax. Prices previously ranged from \$30 to \$35 for four hours and \$60 to \$70 for the day. Veterans Park Gazebo and Atlantic Dunes Park Pavilion, both popular for weddings, increased to \$110 for two hours and to \$200 for four hours. Veterans Park previously charged \$85 for two hours and \$170 for four hours, and Atlantic Dunes, \$85 for four hours and \$170 all day.

New field rental rates are \$50 for two hours, compared with \$35 previously, and the light fee will be \$30 an hour, up from \$10.

Beach parking fee up

Beach parking permit fees will also rise Oct. 1. Annual permits will increase to \$80 plus tax from \$60, according to Scott Aronson, Delray Beach parking management specialist.

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Manalapan

Water worries dampen town budget workshop

By Margie Plunkett

Water was a standout issue at Manalapan's budget workshop in August, with the \$5.4 million utility budget rising \$1.3 million over 2008 as a result of recommended improvements to meet fire safety standards.

The bulk of the increase was because of capital improvements, including \$2.6 million in water main upgrades. In light of the expense, Mayor Tom Gerrard told administrators, water rates should be reviewed quickly for a possible rate increase. But even if the price goes up, he said, Manalapan residents will still have among the least expensive water.

Commissioners voiced incredulity at the debt the water utility was creating in a small town and called for it to be operated like a business, noting the water system was a problem they inherited and that hadn't been sufficiently upgraded in a long, long time. They wondered if joining another town's system would make water delivery more efficient, although it didn't appear immediately that was an option.

"There's a lot of mass inefficiency down here as everyone has their own plant,"

said Commissioner Tom Thornton.

A June report by Mock Roos recommended improvements, including sizing selected water mains to raise water pressure that in some areas of Manalapan and Hypoluxo is too low by fire safety standards. It

also recommended adding a booster pump at the water plant and installing more fire hydrants, work that could necessitate increasing water rates for Manalapan residents as well as Hypoluxo, which is served by the water system.

The town also would benefit from interconnecting with

Boynton Beach's water supply for emergency purposes. The two towns would have to strike an agreement before an interconnection was possible. About \$2 million in the fiscal 2009-10 utility budget carries over from last year to cover the Boynton Beach interconnection, work on the

well started in 2008, legal matters related to the well, and water main upgrades.

Meanwhile, the water utility runs at capacity in the morning when irrigation is allowed. Town Manager Greg Dunham reported that varied irrigation times would be set to ease the operation. ✧

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Along the Coast

Great view, great exercise on a stand-up paddleboard

By Mary Katherine Stump

Don't let the barefoot, strapping 20-somethings with the sideways caps at Nomad Surf and Sport fool you — they've got a sport for the non-risk takers on the beach: stand-up paddleboarding.

"The great thing about stand-up paddling is that you don't have to be pro to do it," says Ryan Heavyside, manager of Nomad Surf Shop. "You can be a young kid all the way to a grandfather and it's something you can pick up pretty easily."

Similar to a surfboard, but longer and wider, the stand-up paddleboard is made to

use in calm water. As long as you have the upper body strength to paddle and the ability to balance yourself, it's something you'll be able to pick up in a week, if not a day.

"Tourists love it because they can pick it up their first time out on the water," said Cheryl Peters, manager of East Coast Surf and Sport in Boca. "I do a lot of lessons for the Boca Hotel. The guests love it because they can see the fish. One lady even decided to pay for board rentals instead of day camp for her kids."

The most popular time to get out on the ocean, or the Intracoastal Waterway, is

early in the morning before the winds and the mid-afternoon storms kick up. It's a great way to get your day started and a fun way to spend time with your family.

Joey and Emma Coz of Ocean Ridge consider themselves surfers, but have transitioned to stand-up paddle boarding during the summer months because of the smaller waves. "We've been doing it since Father's Day," says Joey, which was when the teenagers gave their father the family's first board.

The sport provides a good workout and helps to strengthen the abs, lower back, shoulders and arm

muscles. It's a great alternative to the gym, where there's not much to distract you from the work you're putting in. On the water it's easier to forget that you're exercising, especially when you're spending time with loved ones, or getting a close-up view of wildlife.

"Some people are paddleboarding for weight loss, others are doing it for strength and endurance," said Peters. "My husband has lost over 30 pounds since he started paddling regularly."

John Parton of Fox Surfboards has been custom manufacturing boards in Lake Worth for 40 years, and in the last two years has started building paddleboards. He says he enjoys paddleboarding "because the standing up is easier than rubbing your ribs raw on a surfboard. And the view is better. It's like being on a boat — you can look down at the bottom of the ocean and it allows you to see a swell coming far in advance."

Local sales and rentals have picked up during the summer and Peters expects sales will continue to grow during the winter months. Boards range in price from \$1,000 to \$1,600 and at most locations rentals

Where to rent or purchase stand-up paddleboards:

Nomad Surf Shop
4655 N. Ocean Blvd.
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(561) 272-2882

East Coast Surf and Sport
831 E. Palmetto Park Road
Boca Raton, FL 33432
(561) 367-1917

Lani Kai Mana
280 NE Second Ave.
Delray Beach, FL 33444
(727) 771-3194

Boca Surf and Sail
3501 N. Federal Highway
Boca Raton, FL 33431-5945
(561) 394-8818

John Parton, Fox Custom Surfboards
(561) 236-0435

average \$25 for half a day, \$40 for the full day.

"Let's face it. Even in the winter in South Florida, the waves aren't huge. I expect sales are going to continue to go up, especially as folks start shopping for presents during the holidays." Adds Parton, "It's not going to be as big as, say, bicycling, but the potential for this sport is great because it is a sport the whole family can do."

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Along the Coast

Optimism, skepticism greet record leatherback nesting numbers

By Nirvi Shah

More leatherback turtles have made their way onto Palm Beach County beaches this nesting season than in the last five years — to the cautious delight of sea turtle protectors.

Early totals show there were at least 457 leatherback nests along the beaches tracked by the county since the season began, said Carly DeMaye, who oversees sea turtle protection for the county. The previous record was 429 nests in 2007.

“We hope we will continue seeing an exponential increase in leatherback nesting,” DeMaye said. In 1996, the county recorded just 94 leatherback nests along its coast.

She said there is no one reason for the surge. Leatherbacks have been listed as an endangered species for nearly 40 years by the federal government, and the increase in nests could be the culmination of decades of conservation efforts. Or, a new nesting colony may have settled in the area, or more turtles could be making their way here because they find other regions less suitable for laying eggs.

But Florida International University Professor John Fletemeyer is more skeptical about whether the increase in sea turtle nests actually means an increase in the sea turtle population. He works at the university's Laboratory for Coastal Research in Fort Lauderdale and monitors about three miles of Palm Beach County's coastline in Delray Beach.

“To be excited about a good year vs. a bad year is kind of overly optimistic,” Fletemeyer said. “In all



One of 277 recorded nests, a mother leatherback turtle arrives to lay her eggs on Juno Beach earlier this summer. Photo provided by Loggerhead Marinelife Center/Chris Johnson

animal populations, everything is cyclical.”

For example he said, the majority of loggerhead turtles nest every two years, and a large group nests every three.

“When you see a spike in loggerhead nesting, it's more likely a convergence of the two- and three-year nesters every six years” than an actual increase in the turtle's population, he said.

Delray has been home to 14 leatherback nests this year so far, 70 loggerhead nests and two green sea turtle nests — increases over last year, although he could not say just how much of an increase.

The county's numbers include beaches in Boca Raton, Juno Beach, Jupiter, Ocean Ridge, Palm Beach and Singer Island. Final numbers that include the entire county coastline won't be tallied until December.

Although sea turtle nesting season stretches from March to October, most leatherbacks would have

already laid eggs by now, said Chris Johnson, a biologist at Loggerhead Marinelife Center in Juno Beach. They typically nest from late February through July.

Juno Beach alone has recorded 277 nests so far this year, he said, compared to a previous record of 158. He was more encouraged by the increase than Fletemeyer.

“We are excited and encouraged by the uptick in nesting numbers, but leatherbacks face many threats here on the nesting beach and in the open ocean,” Johnson said.

Although they are among the largest of the turtles that nest along Florida's coastline

and can easily grow to 2,000 pounds, their size doesn't make them particularly hardy, DeMaye said. The species has been devastated by commercial fishing and leatherbacks continue to be affected by longline fishing.

Leatherbacks don't have a hard shell the way most sea turtles do, she said, because they are designed to dive deeply for food. Their shell of small rubbery plates allows them to dive deep without being affected by the water pressure.

While the leatherbacks appear to be increasing their presence in the Atlantic Ocean, Johnson said in the Pacific, the numbers have

declined dramatically and he blames commercial fisheries for their decline in that ocean.

Along with leatherbacks, loggerheads and green sea turtle nests in Palm Beach County, hawksbill and rare Kemp's ridley turtles are found offshore. All but loggerheads are endangered species, although there are petitions to push loggerheads from the threatened to endangered designation, said David Anderson, a marine turtle specialist at Gumbo Limbo Nature Center in Boca Raton.

Their status is under review by the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service, which labeled them threatened in 1978. Reclassifying the reptile seems especially important now, he said, because loggerheads aren't having a good nesting season. Loggerheads will continue to nest through August, but their numbers so far are on pace with a record low season set in 2007.

Gumbo Limbo, which monitors about five miles of beach at the southern end of the county, typically counts about 500 loggerhead nests each season. So far, they have recorded fewer than 360, which puts them off track to meet last year's total.

“As each day passes it's going to be tough to catch up,” Anderson said.

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A Renewal of Faith



The bishop's blessing

Parish celebrates 'new beginning' after renovations

CHURCH

Continued from page 1

been completed months ago, the blessing wasn't scheduled until after the church's past two pastors had been in prison for five months, ending three years of faith-challenging turmoil, ridicule and embarrassment for the parish's 2,900 families.

The priests, both Irish-born, were accused of looting St. Vincent collection plates of several million dollars and spending much of it on travel, real estate, gambling, rare coins and friends. The Rev. John Skehan, 83, the beloved pastor of 40 years, pleaded guilty to grand theft of more than \$100,000. The Rev. John Guinan, 67, was convicted by a jury of theft of less than \$100,000. Skehan is serving 14 months and Guinan four years.

The scandal resulted in Barbarito enforcing rigorous financial controls, including biennial audits of the books of each parish. The two convicted priests created their own slush funds to hide the true amount of collection plate donations from the diocese.

"We've put an end to these things. It's all new beginnings," said Monsignor Thomas Skindeleski, assigned to St. Vincent in 2006 to patch up the parish's spiritual wounds. "That's not to say all the issues have been resolved."

Some parishioners left the church, although those who stayed continued to give generously. Enrollment at the



parish school dropped.

The charming Skehan continues to have a loyal cadre of supporters. Some mumbled at converting the glassed-in pews behind the altar into a separate chapel.

"Our parish is not sitting and moldering any longer," Skindeleski said of the building projects. "These are a symbol of our fresh, new approach."

"We're putting the past behind us," said Angela Belmonte, an art teacher at the school. "Priests are human and humans make mistakes. You can't lose sight of your faith because of one person."

New principal Vikki Delgado has energized the school and faculty,

Skindeleski said, and enrollment is up although he does not want it to exceed 300 students as it has in the past. "Ideally we want to have about 275 students so we can have a maximum class size of about 30," he said.

Barbarito has visited the parish several times to speak to church members about the financial scandal, but he would not link the blessing ceremony to bringing closure to the parish's woes.

"Whenever we have a renovation, we have a new beginning," Barbarito said as he greeted churchgoers shortly after the blessing of the chapel. "Christ is the beginning and the end. This is a renewal of that faith."

Parishioner Donna

Deschino waited until after the ceremony to get her own blessing from the bishop. "There was wrongdoing but the media blew it out of proportion to make the big story," she said.

Barbarito credited Skindeleski with knitting the parish back together. "Father Tom," as he's called, cleaned house by encouraging those unhappy to leave, recruited the nuns, hired a new principal and encouraged the remodeling projects.

"The first thing you do is try to re-center the church after all its difficulties," Skindeleski said. "Faith is what you bank upon. We're doing that."





Renovations completed in the last 18 months and blessed Aug. 15

Perpetual Adoration Chapel — One hundred pews were removed and placed into the main church and along the walls for use by those who have difficulty in standard pews. Forty-four upholstered chairs were installed in the chapel and its direct entry from behind the main altar was sealed. Skindeleski said he preferred parishioners not attend Mass from behind the previously glassed-in pews. The chapel is always open, but only those who register are issued key cards for entry after 8 p.m.

New church roof, crucifix overlooking the altar and stained-glass side doors.

Old Convent — The two-story first convent in South Florida has been converted for use as a youth center for middle and high school students on the first floor. The second floor is for the diocese's counseling center and homeless program.

St. Peter, St. Paul and St. Mary houses — All three were previously single-family homes donated to or acquired by the parish. All have been renovated. St. Peter houses the parish family life and religious education offices. St. Paul is a guesthouse for visiting clergy. St. Mary is a convent for two Little Servant Sisters of the Immaculate Conception of Cherry Hill, N.J., who teach at the school, a rarity in South Florida in recent years. One nun teaches kindergarten and the other handles sacramental preparation.

School improvements in the gym, cafeteria and science center, include new carpeting, flooring and paint.



TOP LEFT: Parishioners pray as Bishop Barbarito blesses the Perpetual Adoration Chapel of the Immaculate Conception.
BOTTOM LEFT: Members of the Knights of Columbus enter the church to lead the procession and begin the rededication mass.
CENTER: Bishop Barbarito blesses the Perpetual Adoration Chapel of the Immaculate Conception.
RIGHT: A statue of the church's patron saint graces the South side of the church and faces George Bush Blvd., in Delray Beach.
Photos by Tim Stepien

Along the Coast

Effort brings out Old-Florida charm in cottages

By Christine Davis

Cottages are one place where “cute” and “old” are often used in the same sentence. And who knows why?

They certainly have their share of ailments and complaints, but they are so darned adorable, we just get out the hammer or call the handyman and remedy the problems.

Key West in Delray

Consider this cute, old, Key West-style cottage belonging to Viki and Al O'Donnell on Nassau Street in Delray Beach, although Viki will argue the “old” part.

“This is not old,” she said. Originally from Norwalk, Conn., she grew up in a 150-year-old historical home. “If you want old, go to New England.”

When she bought her cottage, she surprised herself.

“I said I was going to buy a new house when I could afford a home. But,” she sighs, “I like the charm and the warmth of old homes. And, after all, you can remodel.”

She painted the exterior lime green with sky blue trim.

Every room in the interior is ablaze with splendiferous color, too. And then there are her two patios, her lawn, the gardens and the orchid house — the koi ponds, birdhouses and garden ornaments.

Inside features include lots of Dade County pine, a fireplace, black and white tile in the dining room and kitchen, Mexican tile in the living room, and terrazzo in the bedrooms.

“I love this property,” she said. “I’m a visual person. Even though the house was painted a mushroom green, I could see it had good bones and potential.”

And how does Al feel about it? “Al lived in an apartment in Chicago,” she



Former Gulf Stream School headmistress Anne Gibb has fond memories of living in the Pink House on the school’s campus. **Photo by Jerry Lower**

said. “Whenever something goes wrong, he says, ‘Call the janitor,’ and I’m the janitor.”

The Pink House

Farther north on A1A in Gulf Stream, one can see polo cottages on the grounds of the Gulf Stream School, which used to be the site of Gulf Stream Polo Club’s practice field, stables and barn. An especially striking one, the Pink House, offers views of the school’s athletic field.

“It’s very pretty,” Anne Gibb said, reminiscing. Gibb worked for the school for more than 32 years, became headmistress in 1990, and retired in 2004. She was the cottage’s first resident after it was moved to the Gulf Stream campus, and she lived in the Pink House for 15 years.

“The Pultes (Mark and Noreen) donated the cottage to the school,” she said. “A lot of people were very kind, helped pay for the move, donated a washer and dryer. The school and the school family are dear to my heart.”

The cottage was moved from the southeast corner of Banyan Road and A1A to its present location on the school grounds in 1989. “It was very exciting. We all were up watching the move in the middle of the night,” she said.

At first, the house was set up on metal grids while the foundation was being built. “One of the children asked me when my house was going to be planted.

“The children voted on what color it should be,” she said. “Of course, it should be

pink,” said one of the children. And so it stayed pink. It’s always been known as the Pink House.”

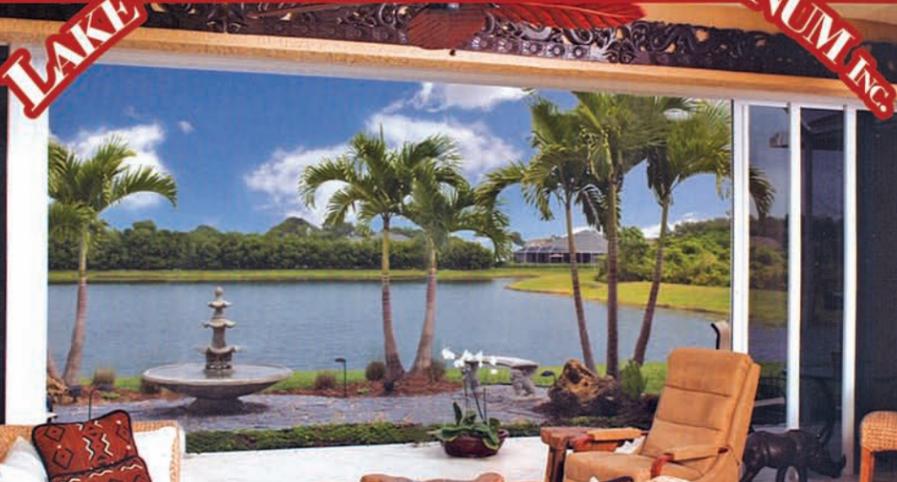
Built circa 1930s, the cottage is one of a number that were constructed for the polo club’s players, their families and personnel by the Phipps Family’s Bessemer Properties. Henry Pope and Henry Harding are believed to be the architects for the polo homes.

The cottage is one of three remaining on school property (the others, however, are not pink), and features several adorable attributes: bay windows, a window seat and hardwood floors.

“The Pink House gave me many years of joy and memories that will last forever,” Gibb said.



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Naussau Street in Delray

Shabby chic by the beach

Claudia Lewis bought 2 Kenmore Lane, in the “county pocket” just south of Briny Breezes, in 1976.

It was built in 1945, she said of her shuttered wood and cement cottage. “I’ve heard that this area was all nursery property, and according to an old title search, it was one of the old properties that started out with the Perrys and the Jennings, families here from days past.”

A retired registered nurse, she raised her son, Terry, in this home. “When he was a little boy, he used to go down to the beach and say, ‘This is my beach.’”

When she first saw it, she thought it would make a good investment.

“It was a shabby cottage, a handyman’s special, and now, all my money is tied up in it, but I thought it would be a neat little place for my son to have someday.”



2 Kenmore Lane

Not enough room and staying insured are, of course, challenges, but the home has lots of charm. It’s peaceful and the neighbors are nice, she said.

The cottage also provided a side benefit.

“I discovered lots of things I didn’t know. I never thought I’d be out in my yard doing construction work,” she said. “I’ve learned how to use cement. I put the tiles in the front, laid the cobblestone path, fixed rotted wood, and have kept my cottage together.”

And how did she choose to add plum to her color scheme of yellow, with white and green trim?

“I found a paint sale: \$1.50 a quart, and they had lots of plum.”

A cabinet has been rescued, painted teal, and sits next to the cottage. “My son wanted to know why I hadn’t thrown it out,” she said. “But I need



Hypoluxo Island Cracker

the storage space. I’m doing the shabby-chic thing.”

An island cracker home

On Hypoluxo Island is another cute old cottage owned by Jan Parry, who bought it in 1997. This one is painted two tones of green, with a touch of a color called Sun-Dried Tomato.

And, although a “moving experience,” it was not so cute when she first saw it, Parry recalled.

“It was just a little old house in a very nice neighborhood,” she said. “I fell in love with Hypoluxo Island, and I could afford this house. I thought I could make it whatever I wanted.”

Originally owned by the Lewis family, it was built in 1947, she said.

Steve Lewis, who bought it from Babe Thomas and lived in it about 20 years ago, calls Parry’s cottage an “old cracker house.”

“It’s the oldest remaining house on the island. It didn’t have air conditioning when we moved in. It had an attic fan, and was definitely an Old Florida-style house.”

The house sat in the middle of a lot that was being divided, and whoever bought one of the lots could either tear the cottage down or move it. “So, I had it dug up and moved,” she said.

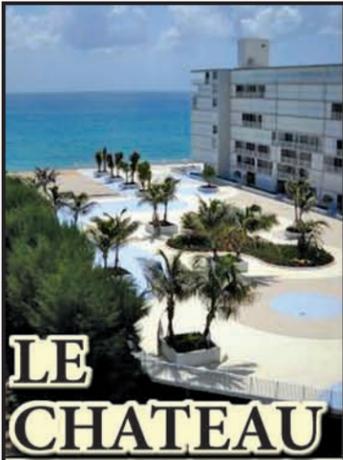
The original front porch, Parry said, was ugly, so she added a new porch, reminiscent of Craftsman-style, which gives the cottage character.

Parry remodeled the kitchen, added tile floors and built-in cabinetry, and her back yard is large and private.

But the home has had its share of challenges.

“When I moved in, the house had to be raised to comply with new heights for the flood zone. I had given up my rental, and moved in the day the electric was hooked up. I didn’t realize that the house would be five feet higher. I had to lift my dog to get her in the house, and I had to put some five-gallon drums at the door so that I could get in myself.”

The new heights, though, worked perfectly for the movers. “They put the platform into the door, and just moved things in,” she said.



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Along the Coast

Clean out freezer, stock pantry for heart of hurricane season

By Jan Norris

The dog days of summer inevitably signal hurricane season in earnest. We've been lucky so far, but it's definitely time to get your house ready for a storm, and that includes your kitchen.

Now's the time to clean out the freezer and whittle down the meats and fish that you really hate to lose. Cook them up, and then start buying only what you need for a few weeks at a time. Resist "bargain buys" that could leave you out money if the power goes out and you lose the freezer contents. Note that while most homeowner policies cover freezer content loss, unless you have other significant damage, it's likely not equal to your deductible.

A better plan is to start

making ice blocks — stock the freezer shelves with well-cleaned milk and juice jugs filled with water. These can be used in coolers after the storm, and provide drinking water. You also can buy frozen vegetables. Plain peas, broccoli, green beans, spinach and carrots will keep for a few days in the cooler once thawed (and kept cold.) They're pre-cooked and taste OK thawed. Remember: Plain only, no



Don't forget to take stock of the pantry and photograph everything in your kitchen, opening drawers and doors so you can prove loss in case of flood or wind damage.

Emergency kitchen kit
Have a "kitchen emergency equipment" kit on hand — a 30-gallon sealable tub is good for this. In it, consider packing these things:

- Manual can-opener
- Bottle opener
- Large box of matches, sealed in a plastic bag
- Portable cookstove (or 1-burner electric hot plate)
- Cans of propane gas and a propane-powered camping light
- Bottle of waterless hand-sanitizer
- Trash bags
- Disposable wipe cloths
- Liquid dish soap
- Paper plates, plastic drinkware and plastic serving ware
- Medium skillet
- Medium pot that can go on a grill (cast iron is recommended)
- Tea kettle
- Press-style coffee pot
- Extension cord, in case you have a power source

nearby

- Charcoal for a grill
- Two large coolers

Emergency food stash

Here are staples we recommend for an emergency food stash:

- Dry cereal — individual servings packed in a cup are a smart choice
- Instant oatmeal
- Dried fruits in individual bags
- Canned pudding (good calcium, and it's a creamy treat)
- Ready-to-eat soups — potato soup is good cold, as is tomato
- Canned beans — choose a variety
- Tuna, salmon or chicken in foil pouches (better flavor than canned)
- Sardines or anchovies, for flavoring other dishes
- Shelf-stable bacon and smoked fish (for flavor in other dishes)
- Hard salami, jerky, pepperoni and other commercially hard-cured meats that are stable until opened
- Salsa
- Jarred pasta sauce
- Jars of roasted peppers and sun-dried tomatoes
- Peanut butter
- Canned chili, spaghetti and noodle-Os
- Ground coffee
- Couscous or angel-hair pasta — these starches require very little water to prepare
- Ready-to-eat rice in foil packages
- Flavored flatbreads or bagel chips
- Jugs of fruit juices and vegetable juices
- Canned fruits and vegetables
- Bottled vinaigrettes
- American cheese slices, other processed cheeses (these are all shelf stable)
- Shelf-stable milk (cow's milk, soy, rice and goats' milk are all available)
- Individual packets of

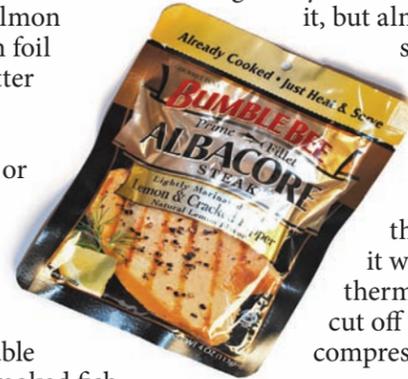
mayonnaise

- Infant formula, baby food
- Extra pet foods
- Fresh lemons. They'll last a long while and make plain water much more refreshing — and you can use the rinds to scrub dishes and kill smells in trash cans.



Water and ice

You'll need at least 1 gallon of water a day per person — one week's supply minimum. (Remember how hot it is without AC and how much you'll need to drink.) And be prepared to shop for dry ice if a hurricane watch is issued. Many grocery stores now provide it, but almost all ship stores carry it. Use care in handling and do NOT put it into a freezer that's working; it will trick the thermostat and cut off the freezer's compressor.



Items to avoid

These foods will dehydrate you — a bad move when water is scarce: Potato chips, salty crackers, pretzels, candy, sodas and excess beer and wine. (You need your wits; more people die from accidents after storms than during one).

Powerless cooking

We won't kid you — it's challenging to try to cook a real meal under no-power circumstances, even if you have a gas stove. Lighting is bad, and washing pots and pans is tough, especially if you must boil water to do it. But after a week of grilled hot dogs or peanut butter or tuna sandwiches, you'll welcome these fast-fix ideas for "real" food:

Almost jambalaya: Tear open a pack of ready-to-eat Spanish rice; add some roasted red peppers, hard sausage slices and a can of drained kidney beans.

See PANTRY on page 19

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Hurricane Season

Have special needs? Plan ahead

By Mary Thurwachter

People with physical, medical or other disabilities, as well as the elderly, need to plan for their safety during a storm like anyone else. But their needs may call for more detailed planning and entail friends, family, neighbors and health-care attendants.

"You can go online and sign up if you need help with transportation, or to reserve a bed," said Manalapan Police Chief Clay Walker. "Our residents are gone during hurricane season and we deal with property managers. We have no one on our list (asking for special needs help)." Occupancy is only 15 percent this time of year.

In Gulf Stream, Police

Chief Garrett Ward said his department maintains a list of people with special needs.

"We check with them to make sure they have arrangements." But there aren't many on the list.

In Ocean Ridge, Lt. Chris Yannuzzi said his department doesn't make arrangements for those with special needs other than to tell residents to make plans early.

"It's up to residents to make plans," he said.

If there are evacuations, some shelters will be available for people with special needs. To reserve, call (561) 712-6400.

Residents with special needs should assemble a disaster kit with a collection of necessary items ranging

from extra batteries for hearing aids and wheelchairs to medicines and medical devices. If they have a service animal, they should keep it on a leash or harness because it may become frightened or disoriented.

The American Red Cross pamphlet "Disaster Preparedness for People with Disabilities" can be found online at www.prepare.org/disabilities/disabilities.htm.

An ADA guide for local governments, Making Community Emergency Preparedness and Response Programs Accessible to People with Disabilities, is available at www.usdoj.gov/crt/ada/emergencyprep.htm.

Hurricane season runs from June 1 through Nov. 30.



PANTRY

Continued from page 18

Salad Nicoise: Packet of foil-wrapped tuna filets, broken over a can of sliced potatoes, a can of green beans, some black olives and a few capers. Dress with bottled vinaigrette (a Greek vinaigrette with oregano makes this sing).

Asian peanut noodles: Boil angel-hair pasta (add hot water to a pot and let stand, or use Ramen noodles and pour off all but 1 tablespoon

of the broth). Add a generous tablespoon of peanut butter, a teaspoon of sesame oil and some dried chives. Add thawed frozen chopped spinach or broccoli (the plain stuff, no sauce). Stir well.

Mexican night: Layer broken tortilla chips, canned vegetarian refried beans or canned chili mixed with a little cumin, canned green chilies and salsa in a square glass dish.

Crunchy parfait dessert: Layer dark chocolate canned

pudding in a fancy glass with crushed chocolate or almond biscotti and canned (drained) dark cherries. Sprinkle cocoa powder on top.

Tropical tiramisu: Layer vanilla pudding or canned dulce de leche pudding mixed with frozen whipped topping, with: crushed pineapple, flaked coconut and rum-soaked ladyfingers. Top with a rum-soaked sugar cube, lit with a match, and serve immediately.



WATERFRONT CONDOS

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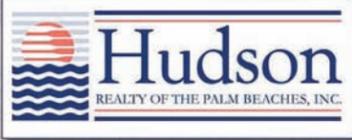

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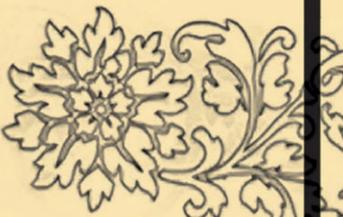
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10 Questions

MEET YOUR NEIGHBOR: Diana Taylor

Diana Taylor of Delray Beach writes inspirational stories and mentors people in pursuit of joyful living. She couldn't do this without the help of playful Pug, her island philosopher dog, who strolls the beach in fashionable surfing shorts while offering snippets of advice to his loyal followers.

She and Pug are fairly new residents of Florida. July 2008, Diana moved to Delray Beach while chasing her dreams, the only goal in life worth pursuing, she believes.

"When I lived in New Hampshire, I'd drive a hundred miles to get to a beach. I need to live in a place where it is summer everyday."

This has aided her writing. "When I live on the beach, I am creative," she said. "Most of my really good stories start out with the words, 'I was on this beach ...'"

But most importantly, it has aided the quality of her life. Was she afraid to start over?

"I'm not afraid to start new," she said. "I'm more afraid to stay in the old where I know exactly what the endless stream of homogenous days blended into one another would look like for the years for the rest of my life."

— Christine Davis

Q. Where did you grow up and go to school? How do you think that has influenced you?

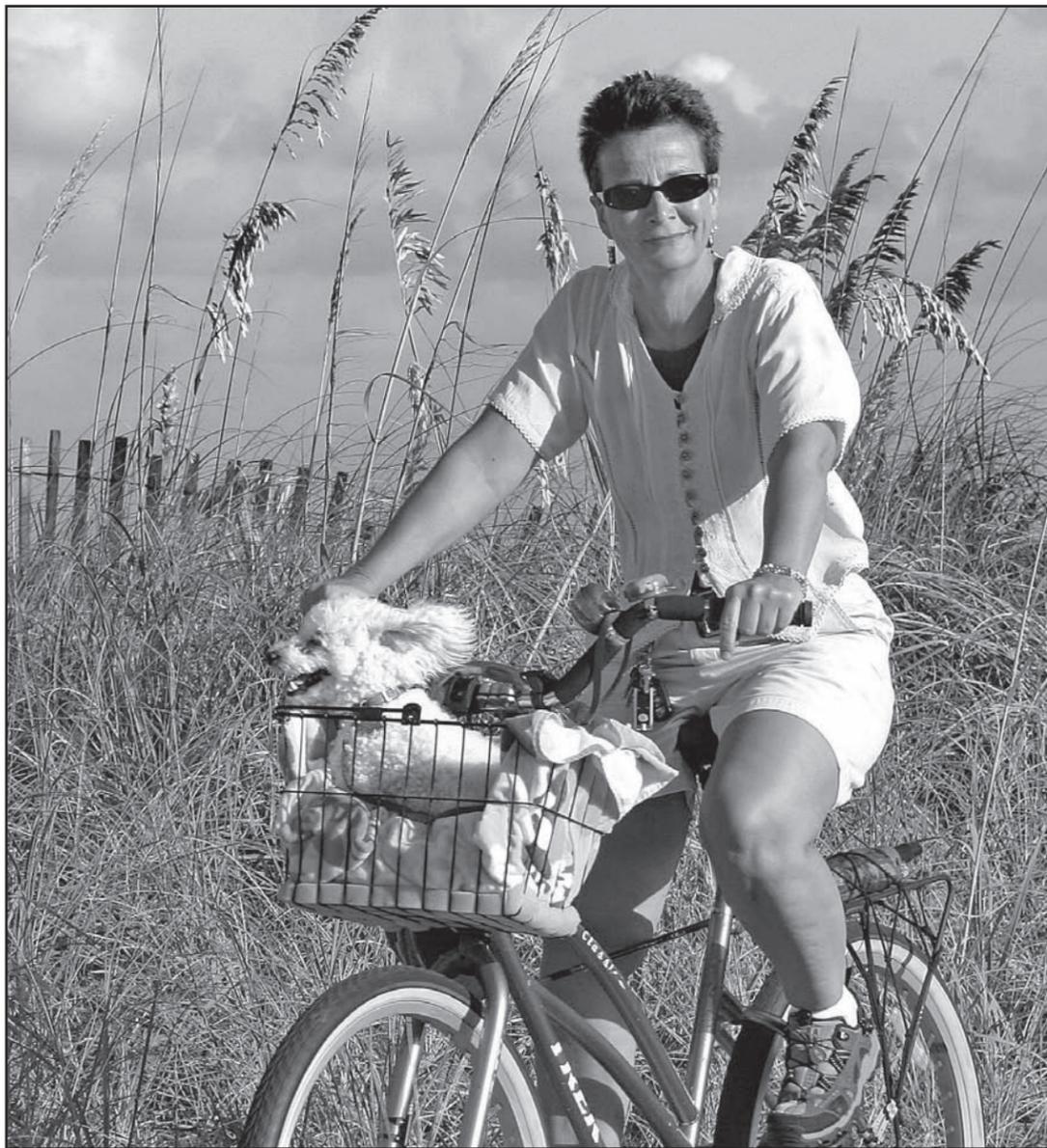
A. I grew up on the south shore of Long Island in New York and got my degree from Dowling College, a small, private school on the Connetquot River in Oakdale, N.Y.

I lived just 3 miles from the ocean but it wasn't until I moved to New Hampshire that my love affair with the beach began. On a family vacation to the Outer Banks of North Carolina, I realized fully the magical power of the sea. That year and each year thereafter, driving 900 miles to Cape Hatteras and Ocracoke Island were to shape my work. So I'd have to say that it wasn't the home of my childhood that influenced me as much as the years I spent in New Hampshire raising my daughters and creating what was to become *Pug At The Beach*.

Q. What is your current occupation?

A. I'm a writer but I like to say that I'm also a talisman for people who would like to make their dreams come true but think it's not possible. I've made my own dreams come true and it's through my work that I teach people they can do the same.

Q. What other careers have you had, what were the



Diana Taylor and her adopted rescue dog, Buddy, bicycle along Delray Beach. Her multimedia company, Pug At The Beach — which she says is part Dalai Lama and part Jimmy Buffett — can be seen at: www.Pugatthebeach.com. Photo by Tim Stepien

highlights?

A. I've been an arts promoter, a stay-at-home mom, and a phlebotomist (a person who takes your blood). Each offered an array of opportunities for personal and professional growth, but it was my time spent as a phlebotomist that truly shaped my work as a writer of inspirational material. I lost that job due to an error on the hospital's part. They misdiagnosed me with terminal cancer and gave me six months to live. Once the mistake was discovered, I was no longer welcomed there and chose to leave that job.

As I watched my hopes of a career in the health care industry fade, my daughter suggested I pursue writing as a career. She said, "Mom, you're really good. People are motivated to change their lives for the better when they read your work. Take all the Pug adventures that are set on the beach and published them in a book. Throw it out there. If people bite, you'll know you're onto something. If not, we figure something else out."

Q. What advice do you have for a young person selecting a career today?

A. Don't fret about work. Gone are the days of careers and jobs lasting 30, 40 years. These days people change careers an average of four to



Pug is the main character of Diana Taylor's books.

six times throughout their lifetime. You can change your mind about your work at any time.

Secondly, do what you love. There's very little long-term benefit in doing a job you hate. If you were given six months to live, what work would you choose to engage in? And don't think your dreams can't come true. I'm here to tell you they can. I now live in a little latitude climate in a house by the sea doing the work I love. That was something I dreamed of and then worked to make it a reality. You can make your dreams come true, too. The key is to never give up! Say that over and over again everyday. Never give up!

like to get a road bike and try that.

Q. What is your favorite part about living in Delray?

A. Well, if I had to choose only one thing, I'd say it was the beach. It reminds me of Ocracoke Island in North Carolina. With a gorgeous ocean, big, wide beach, and that wide expanse of dunes, it just looks so natural and wild. There is magic in walking down the paths through the dunes to get to the ocean. I do it everyday and I never get tired of it.

Q. What music do you listen to when you need inspiration? When you want to relax?

A. My tastes in music are vast so it depends on why I need inspiration, whether it's writing or chilling. Lately I've been listening to Bruce Cockburn's *Breakfast In New Orleans*. Bach is good for creativity. I love Ruben Gonzalez and that genre of music. And if I need to clean the house, I listen to Dymin, a local singer.

Q. Have you had mentors in your life, individuals who have inspired your life decisions?

A. I've had a number of powerful women in my life who've personally guided me through their advice, suggestions or sometimes simply by example. They tend to be businesswomen who've made an impact on the lives of others through their work.

Then I have mentors like Guy de Maupassant, the 19th-century French writer whose concise writing style I appreciate, or Richard Branson, whose business savvy deserves my respect, or Richard Fineman, the physicist whose discovery of the fatal flaw in the space shuttle Challenger's O-rings and subsequent explosion came in a roundabout way through his inherent sense of play in his field of science.

Q. Who or what makes you laugh?

A. I have a new toy poodle. He's a rescue dog that I got a few months ago. He's so appreciative and full of life and he's mastered the art of shooting a racquetball at me by holding it toward the end of his mouth and biting down on it.

There's nothing more delightful as being totally immersed in work only to have a blue ball whiz by me then to look up and see this happy little dog smiling at me while wagging his tail.

He rides in the basket on the front of my bicycle as we both discover the back roads and quiet paths of Delray Beach.



Q. Tell us about *Pug At The Beach*.

A. Pug is the name of a small dog who lives on an island. Walking the beach everyday, he learns much about life from the things he discovers and it's through Pug's adventures that we ourselves learn how to slow down, calm down, and maintain a positive frame of mind.

The creation of Pug, the character, happened one winter in Key West. As I doodled on my sketchpad, a little dog just magically appeared. I decided his name should be Pug. The accompanying stories were a writing exercise gone wild. It started with one simple writing task and evolved into what is now *Pug At The Beach*.

Q. How did you choose to make your home in Delray Beach?

A. I was actually choosing between Delray Beach and Stuart. I liked Delray's close proximity to major transportation. And I love downtown, with the shops along Atlantic Avenue, the historic district, and, of course, I love the beach. I adore the sidewalk on A1A. It's a hubbub of activity including everything from people doing Tai Chi to the road bike club that rides by every Tuesday night. I'd really

Celebrating our history

Hard-working writer Pratt put Briny on Big Apple map

By Ron Hayes

Seventy-two years ago, you could park a trailer in Briny Breezes for \$2.75 a week.

You could do your laundry in a reasonably clean clapboard building and cleanse your face in washbowls open to those briny breezes. You could attend to nature's more private needs in 12 toilets that once served the servants' quarters of the recently demolished Royal Poinciana Hotel in Palm Beach.

And you could purchase ice cream, sandwiches and soft drinks in the Quonset hut community hall.

But you couldn't buy a beer anywhere in the park, lest "rowdiness" erupt.

We know all this thanks to that enduring chronicle of urbanity, *The New Yorker* magazine of March 13, 1937, where "Our Footloose Correspondent" is revealed at the end of the three-page report.

Theodore Pratt.

Ted Pratt knew about trailers. In October 1936, six months before the *New Yorker* article was published, he and his wife, Jackie, began building a travel trailer in the Athens, Ohio, workshop of their friend, Arthur Boyles Jr. They finished in December and set off for Florida, where Pratt let the Big Apple know about tiny Briny Breezes.

In his day, Theodore Pratt (1901-1969) was one hardworking writer, a columnist for the *New York Sun*, a journalist and short story writer and the author of more than 30 novels, five of them made into movies.

His 1941 *Saturday Evening Post* article, "Land of the Jook," was filmed as *Juke Girl*, starring Ronald Reagan.

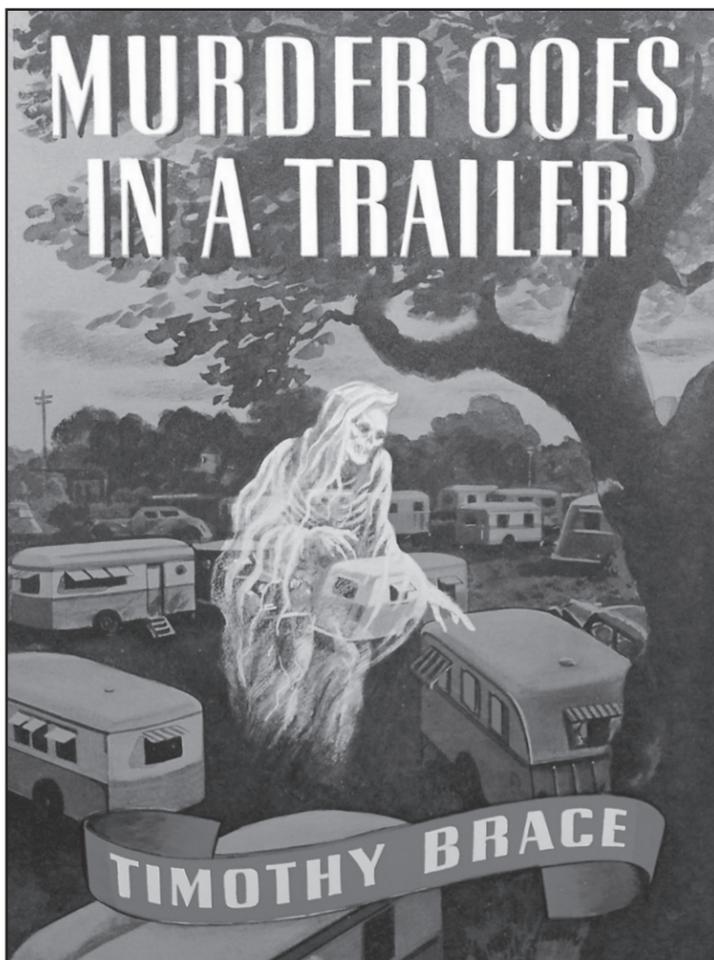
In 1964, Pratt's comic novel, *Mr. Limpet*, became *The Incredible Mr. Limpet* starring Don Knotts, 22 years after he wrote it.

Now, Pratt is remembered — when he's remembered — only as the author of *The Barefoot Mailman*, a 1943 novel that fictionalized the adventures of pioneer postman James Hamilton, who carried the mail along the beach from Lake Worth to Miami in the 1890s.

The book is part of a Florida trilogy, followed by *The Flame Tree* (1950) and *The Big Bubble* (1951), but all are now out of print.

After arriving in Florida, Pratt lived in Lake Worth, Boca Raton and Delray Beach, where he died. The Spanish River Boulevard Bridge in Boca Raton is officially the Theodore Pratt Memorial Bridge, but few who drive it daily know that.

In other words, Pratt is not the sort of dead writer the



people who take dead writers seriously take seriously.

"No, and there's a reason for that," says Dee Cael. "He was a spotty writer. His research was phenomenal, but he'll carry you for a couple of pages and then he drops the ball. He loses the momentum. You know you're reading and you don't get lost in it."

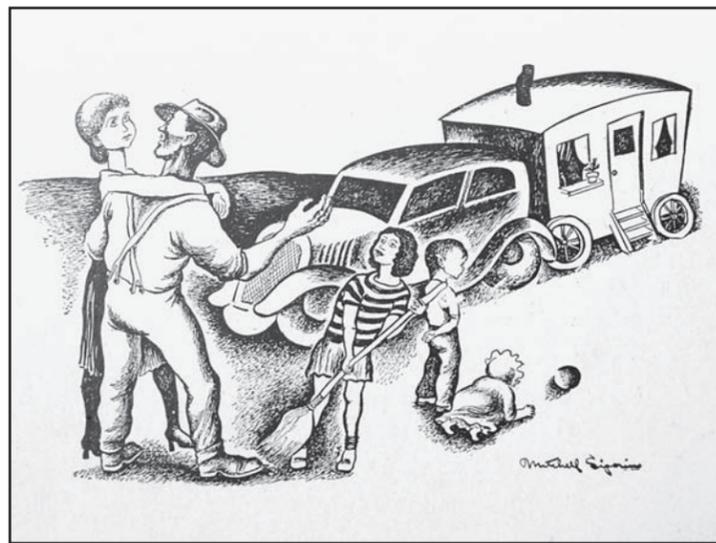
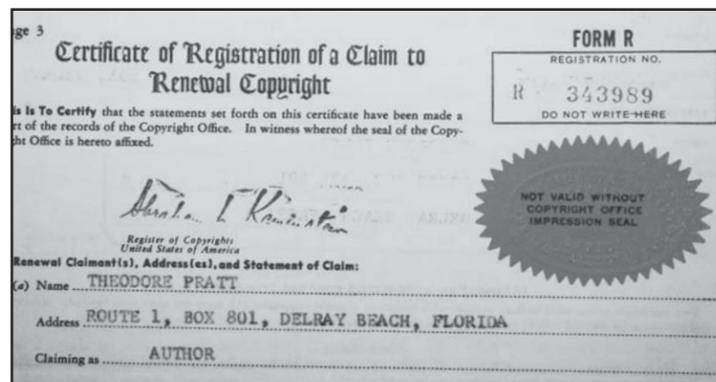
If Pratt has an official champion today, Cael is it. As the head of special collections and archives at Florida Atlantic University, she is custodian of the Pratt Collection, four file cabinets full of manuscripts, letters, contracts, scrapbooks and the library's first donation after the university was

chartered in 1961.

"In the '90s, we decided to shift things around," she says, "and when we took the drawers out, more papers had fallen behind. He would do a phenomenal amount of writing to make sure he got it right. He really struggled."

Now his writing life lives in The Pratt Room, a humble, 8-by-8-foot office on the second floor of FAU's Wimberly Library.

Here's the desk he bought from the old Boca Airfield after World War II, and the cracked office chair. Here's a lampshade adorned with scenes from his novels, a 1946 gift from the cartoonist Herb Roth. The walls are home to original cover



The novels' artwork is modestly sultry, with square-jawed heroes who look like James Bond and heroines with skintight dresses and heaving bosoms.

In one scrapbook is a fading black-and-white snapshot of Ted and Jackie Pratt outside their homemade trailer. Pines and palm trees are clearly visible in the background, but is it Briny Breezes? Given the timing of their arrival in Florida, and the *New Yorker* article, it certainly seems likely, but the site is unidentified.

Looking through those scrapbooks one day, Cael found a yellowed newspaper clipping about the 1960 funeral of Zora Neale Hurston, another Florida writer whose reputation had all but vanished before a phenomenal resurgence in the 1970s.

Now Hurston is revered, all her books are back in print. She is a classic American writer.

But not Pratt.

"When they were restoring the old Palm Beach County Courthouse, I got a call asking if there was anything in his papers that would tell us where the original columns went," Cael remembers.

There wasn't.

"It will be years before anyone asks about him," she says. "But then as soon as I think we can store it all, we get an e-mail or phone call."

Theodore Pratt's research notes for his Florida trilogy are available online and can be downloaded at <http://palmm.fcla.edu/fh/>. Click on the Author List and scroll alphabetically to Pratt.

Materials from the Theodore Pratt Collection at Florida Atlantic University include photographs and papers of the local author, who often wrote such novels as *Murder Goes in a Trailer* under pseudonyms. He renewed the copyright on the book (upper right) when he lived in Delray Beach; an illustration from *The New Yorker* article he wrote about building a trailer and traveling to Briny Breezes and other places with his wife, Jackie.

Photos courtesy of FAU.

art, and here, in two full bookcases, are the books on which that artwork appeared.

Hardcover and paperback, they are vintage potboilers of the 1940s, '50s and '60s.

Lovers of Pompeii, Escape To Eden, Mercy Island, Handsome and Handsome's Seven Women.

They say Pratt's nymphomania novel, *The Tormented* (1950), was so steamy 34 publishers turned it down before it sold a million copies.

There's also a copy of *Murder Goes In A Trailer*, written the same year as the *New Yorker* article, under his pseudonym, Timothy Brace — which happened to be his cat's name.

Community Calendar

Note: Events are current as of Aug. 28. Please check with organizers for any changes.

SEPTEMBER 5-12

Saturday - 9/5 - Sand Sifters Beach Cleanup - Join the beach cleanup at Oceanfront Park, 6415 N. Ocean Blvd., just north of Ocean Avenue in Ocean Ridge. Meet at the pavilion in the lower parking lot. 8-10:30 am. Free. 734-9128.

9/5 - Piano begins for ages 6-12 at the Boynton Beach Civic Center, 128 E. Ocean Ave. 11 am-1:15 pm. 742-6240.

9/5 - Poetry Workshop: A Labor of Love will be held at Old School Square, 51 N. Swinton, Ave. Delray Beach. Poet Richard Ryal will teach workshop on creativity as a natural process of expression for those who live their loves with passion and precision. 1 pm. \$10. 756-4298.

9/5-8 - USTA Summer Smash Regional Tennis Championships are held at the Delray Beach Tennis Center, 301 W. Atlantic Ave. Free. For times: 330-6000.

Sunday - 9/6 - Sayonara, Sea Turtles is held every Sunday in September at Gumbo Limbo Nature Center, 1801 N. Ocean Blvd., Boca Raton. Learn about sea turtle nesting season and loggerhead turtles. For all ages, but children must be accompanied by an adult. 12:30-1 pm. Free. 338-1473.

Monday - 9/7 - Labor Day 9/7 - 23rd Annual Labor Day Police Challenge will be held at Delray's Municipal Beach at Atlantic Avenue and Ocean Blvd. (A1A). Police Departments from Delray Beach, Boca Raton and Boynton Beach will compete for trophies, cash prizes and bragging rights. Games begin at noon. Awards ceremony at 3 pm at Boston's on the Beach, 40 S. Ocean Blvd. 441-2400.

9/7 - U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary Flotilla 54 meets the first Monday of each month at Boynton Beach Boat Park, 2010 N. Federal Hwy. Boaters and non-boaters welcome. 8 pm. 901-0703.

Tuesday - 9/8 - Karate begins with master instructor Gary Horner at the Boynton Beach Civic Center, 128 E. Ocean Ave. Each session runs for 6-weeks. Little Dragons, ages 3-5: 3-3:30 pm; Youth, ages 6-10: 3:45-4:30 pm; Pre-teens/Teens, ages 11-18: 5-5:45 pm. Resident/\$115, Non-Resident/\$144. Registration at Intracoastal Park Clubhouse. 742-6240.

9/8 - Sahaja Yoga Meditation is presented by Louisa Upadhy at the Delray Beach Public Library, 100 W. Atlantic Ave. 6:30 pm. 266-9490 or 266-0194

9/8 - Spanish for Adults begins at the Boynton Beach Civic Center, 128 E. Ocean Ave. 7-8:30 pm. 742-6240.

Wednesday - 9/9 - Small World for children ages 3-4 begins at the Carolyn Sims Center, 225 NW 12th Ave., Boynton Beach. Kids will be introduced to arts and crafts projects, playground activities, circle time, show and tell, storytelling and field trips. All children must be potty trained. Class is held on Monday, Wednesday and Friday from 9 am - noon, monthly throughout the school year. Registration required. Residents/\$64, Non-residents/\$80. Pre-register at Intracoastal Park Clubhouse, 2240 N. Federal hwy. 742-6644.

9/9 - Tot Tumbling is held for ages 1 1/2-5 at the Boynton Beach Civic Center, 128 E. Ocean Ave. 9:30-11:30 am. 742-6249.

9/9 - Babysitting Safety 101 - Stephen Lewis from the Boynton Beach Fire Rescue will be at the Boynton Beach City Library, 208 S. Seacrest Blvd., to teach basic babysitting safety for teens. Grades 6-12. Limited to 25 participants. Registration required. 4-5:30 pm. Free. 742-6390.

9/9 - Teen Gaming - Students in grades 6-12 are invited to attend a fun evening of video games at the Boynton Beach City Library, 208 S. Seacrest Blvd. 6-7:30 pm. Free. 742-6390.

Thursday - 9/10 - Boynton Beach Library Quilters meet every Thursday from 9-11:30 am at the Boynton Beach City Library, 208 S. Seacrest Blvd. Share quilting information and education and perpetuate quilting as a cultural and artistic form. Free. 742-6390.

9/10 - Knit 'N Purl - twice monthly class presented by rotating facilitators at the Delray Beach Public Library, 100 W. Atlantic Ave. Class is offered again on 9/24. 10:30 am. Free. 266-9490 or 266-0194.

9/10 - Briny Breezes Town Council: Special Budget Meeting is held at 3 pm at Briny Breezes Town Hall, 4802 N. Ocean Blvd. Agenda available at www.townofbrinybreezes-fl.com.

9/10 - Manalapan Town Commission: First Public Budget Hearing will be held at Manalapan Town Hall, 600 S. Ocean Blvd. 5:01 pm. 585-9477 or www.manalapan.org.

9/10 - Ocean Ridge Town Commission: First Public Budget Hearing with Regular Town Commission meeting to follow at Ocean Ridge Town Hall, 6450 N. Ocean Blvd. 5:01 pm. Agenda available at www.oceanridgeflorida.com.

9/10 - Artist Reception at PBI is hosted by Palm Beach County's Art in Public Places in the airport's concession mall, level 2 Palm Beach International Airport Main Terminal. 5:30-7 pm. Mingle with Palm Beach County artists whose photography, paintings, and mixed-media feature the blooms of local summery scenes. Exhibit runs through 9/17. Parking is available in Short Term levels 4-7. www.pbcgov.com/fdo/art/exhibitions.htm

9/10 - Delray Beach City Commission: First Public Budget Hearing will be held in Delray Beach City Hall Commission Chambers, 100 N.W. 1st Ave., 6 pm. 243-7000.

9/10 - Writers' Corner - Free manuscript critiquing by published authors at the Boynton Beach City Library, 208 S. Seacrest Blvd. Monthly program gives writers a helping hand to get their work published. 6:30-8 pm. Free. 742-6390.

Friday - 9/11 - Remembrance Day Ceremony will be held at the Mizner Park Amphitheater, 433 Plaza Real, Boca Raton. The service pays tribute to the heroes who died on that fateful day in 2001 as they responded to their final call. Event is hosted by the Palm Beach County Fire Chiefs' Association and Boca Raton Fire Rescue Services. Several cities will be participating. 9 am. 982-4012.

9/11 - Gulf Stream Town Commission: First Public Budget Hearing will be held at Gulf Stream Town Hall, 100 Sea Road. Regular meeting begins at 4 pm. Budget meeting follows at 5:01 pm. Agenda available in the clerk's office.

9/11 - Sushi and Stroll Summer Walk is held at The Morikami Japanese Museum and Gardens, 4000 Morikami Park Rd., Delray



Boynton Beach Pioneers

Blowing out the candles at the Palm Beach County 100th birthday celebration at the Boynton Beach Historical Society are Dr. N. Marion Weems Jr. (left), C. Stanley Weaver, Helen Adams Bonomini and Harvey Oyer Jr. Photo provided

Beach. Experience the gardens in all their beauty, enjoy taiko drumming, a cold drink and a breathtaking sunset. 5:30-8:30 pm. Free/members, \$5/non-members. 495-0233 or www.morikami.org.

9/11 - 2009 South Florida Cultural Consortium Media and Visual Artists Fellowship Exhibit opening reception is held in both the Schmidt Center Gallery and the Ritter Art Gallery of FAU's Boca Raton campus, 777 Glades Road. 7-9:30 pm. Free. Exhibit runs 9/12 - 10/31. 297-2661 or www.fau.edu/galleries.

9/11 - Sharon Potts will speak and sign her book, *In Their Blood* at Murder on the Beach Bookstore, 273 NE 2nd Ave., Delray Beach. 7 pm. Free. 279-7790 or www.murderonthebeach.com.

9/11 - Yearbook Memories is the theme of the Schoolhouse Children's Museum's 3rd Annual Dinner Dance. The fundraiser will be held at Benvenuto's, 1730 N. Federal Hwy., Boynton Beach. Cocktails, 7 pm; dinner/dancing, 8 pm. For more information, contact Kelsey Harris at 742-6785.

Saturday - 9/12 - Child Safety Prenatal Class is offered as a one-day weekend class at Bethesda Memorial Hospital, 2815 S. Seacrest Blvd., Boynton Beach. Learn infant CPR for children up to eight years old and how you can assist in an emergency. There are no discounts or certification given for this class. 10 am - Noon. \$40 per couple or \$25 per person. Payment must be made before class date. Early registration recommended. 369-2229.

9/12 - Family Fun Program: Kirigami - Paper Cutting is presented at The Morikami Japanese Museum and Gardens, 4000 Morikami Park Rd., Delray Beach. Explore the culture through hands-on arts and crafts. 11 am - 4 pm. Free with paid admission to the museum. 495-0233 Ext. 237 or www.morikami.org.

9/12-13 - Everything Orchids: A Shady Affair will be held at Mounts Botanical Garden, 531 N. Military Trail, West Palm Beach. Event features top orchid growers, artists, and craftspeople — all with a love of orchids. Lectures and demonstrations concerning the care and implementation of shade loving plants will also be offered. 10 am - 4 pm. Free/Members, \$5/Non-members. 233-1757 or www.mounts.org.

SEPTEMBER 13-19

Sunday - 9/13 - Grandparent's Day is celebrated at the Flagler Museum, 1 Whitehall Way, Palm Beach. Special family-friendly activities are included with museum admission. Noon-5 pm. \$15/adults, \$8/youth ages 13-18, \$3/children 6-12, free for children under six. 655-2833 or www.flaglERMuseum.us.

9/13 - Tea with Barbie is held at the Cornell Museum at Old School Square, 51 N. Swinton, Delray Beach. Celebrate National

Grandparents Day with Barbie Boutique, craft activities, refreshments and special guests. Bring your Barbie. 2-4 pm. Tea at 3 pm. \$20. Pre-registration required. Ages 8-adult. 243-7922, Ext. 317.

9/13 - Jeff Nall speaks and signs his book *Perpetual Revolt: Essays on Peace & Justice and the Shared Values of Secular, Spiritual and Religious Progressives* at Church of our Savior, 2011 S. Federal Hwy., Boynton Beach. 3 pm. 395-1402.

Monday - 9/14 - Great Books group discusses Poetry by T.S. Eliot at the Boynton Beach City Library, 203 S. Seacrest Blvd. 10 am-noon. Free. 742-6380.

9/14 - Films from the Atomic Age Series with commentary by Assistant Director Mykal Banta will be shown at the Delray Beach Public Library, 100 W. Atlantic Ave. 1 pm. Free. 266-9490 or 266-0194.

9/14 - Protecting and Preserving Your Joints - presented by Lesly A. Saketkoo, M.D., Rheumatologist, as part of the Community Lecture Series at Bethesda Memorial Hospital, Clayton Conference Center, 2815 S. Seacrest Blvd., Boynton Beach. 4:30 pm. Free. 731-2273.

9/14 - Baby Care Prenatal Class at Bethesda Memorial Hospital, 2815 S. Seacrest Blvd., Boynton Beach. Three-hour class includes topics such as ensuring your newborn's health, safety and well-being. Also covers car seat safety, childcare, coping skills and more. Early registration recommended. 5-8 pm. \$35. Payment must be made before class date. 369-2229.

9/14 - Lantana Council: First Public Budget Hearing followed by regular council meeting at the Lantana Town Hall, 500 Greynolds Circle. 6 pm. Agenda available at www.lantana.org.

9/14 - History of the Island of Palm Beach will be presented by Debi Murray and Tony Marconi of the Historical Society of Palm Beach. This will be part of the Boynton Beach Historical Society meeting at the Boynton Women's Club, 1010 S. Federal Hwy. 6:30 pm. 742-6397 or www.boyntonbeachhistoricalsociety.org.

9/14 - Feng Shui & Prosperity class will be taught at Unity of Delray Beach, 101 NW 22nd St. This nine week course is taught by a certified Fen Sui consultant. Monday evenings 7-8:30 pm. Class runs through Nov. 9. Free will offering. 276-5796 or www.corporatecreatives.com.

Tuesday - 9/15 - Ronald McDonald Magic Show visits the Boynton Beach City Library, 208 S. Seacrest Blvd. Preschool-Grade 5. 4:30-5:30 pm. 742-6390.

Wednesday - 9/16 - Homestead Exemption Outreach - A representative from the Palm Beach County Property Appraiser's Office will be at the Boynton Beach City Library, 208 S. Seacrest Blvd., to assist homeowners in registering for a homestead exemption. A copy of your deed

and proof of residency is required. 11 am-noon. Free. 742-6390.

9/16 - Manalapan Town Commission: Final Budget Hearing will be held at Manalapan Town Hall, 600 S. Ocean Blvd. 5:01 pm. 585-9477 or www.manalapan.org.

9/16 - Eliot Kleinberg will speak and sign his book, *Wicked Palm Beach* at Murder on the Beach Bookstore, 273 NE 2nd Ave., Delray Beach. 7:30 pm. Free. 279-7790 or www.murderonthebeach.com.

Thursday - 9/17 - Briny Breezes Town Council: First Public Budget Hearing is held at 5:01 pm at Briny Breezes Town Hall, 4802 N. Ocean Blvd. Agenda available at www.townofbrinybreezes-fl.com.

9/17 - Ocean Ridge Town Commission: Final Public Budget Hearing at Ocean Ridge Town Hall, 6450 N. Ocean Blvd. 5:01pm. Agenda available at www.oceanridgeflorida.com.

9/17 - 18th Annual Great Grown-Up Spelling Bee is presented by the Literacy Coalition of Palm Beach County at the Harriet Himmel Theater, CityPlace, 700 S. Rosemary Ave., West Palm Beach. \$1,000 per team. 6 pm. 279-9103.

Friday - 9/18 - Pre-K Make & Take: Native American Day - Kids and their families will learn how Native Americans protect their children from nightmares by making their very own dreamcatchers at the Schoolhouse Children's Museum, 129 E. Ocean Ave., Boynton Beach. Pre-k ages 2-5. 10:30 am-Noon. \$2.50 plus admission to the museum. 742-6782.

Saturday - 9/19 - International Coastal Clean Up - Worldwide campaign enlists volunteers to collect trash and debris from shorelines, rivers and lakes. This year's event will be held at the Sandoway House Nature Center, 142 S. Ocean Blvd., Delray Beach. Community service hours given. Supplies provided. 8-10 am. 243-7138.

9/19 - Skate Clinic will be held for beginner and advanced skaters ages 5-15 at the 505 Teen Center & Hobbit Skate Park, 505 SE 5th Ave., Delray Beach. 9 am - 1 pm. Clinics held again on 10/24, 11/14, and 12/12. \$20 per skater, per day. Skater must provide own boards, helmets and pads. 243-7158.

9/19 - Nourishing Communities: One Vegetable Garden at a Time will be held at Mounts Botanical Garden, 531 N. Military Trail, West Palm Beach. Everything you need to know about planting community and home vegetable gardens in Southeast Florida. 9 am - 4 pm. Lunch provided. Free. Advance registration required. 233-1725.

9/19 - Breastfeeding Prenatal Class is taught by lactation consultants at Bethesda Memorial Hospital, 2815 S. Seacrest Blvd., Boynton Beach. This is an opportunity for expectant parents to learn the benefits of breastfeeding, keys to success, supply and demand, positioning, breast pumps, returning to work and weaning. Both parents are encouraged to attend. 10 am - Noon. \$25. Payment must be made before class date. 369-2229.

9/19 - Rosh Hashana begins at sundown.

SEPTEMBER 20-26

Sunday - 9/20 - Bereavement Support Group begins at Unity of Delray Beach, 101 NW 22nd St. at Swinton Ave. Group meets for 12 weeks from 1:30-3:30 pm in the Prayer Room. Free. Register by calling 276-5796.

9/20 - Music at St. Paul's concert series kicks off its 22nd season at St. Paul's Episcopal Church, 188 S. Swinton Ave., Delray Beach. The Vitali Quartet performs. 4 pm. \$15 donation is requested, preferred front center seating available at \$18. Students/\$5 contribution. 276-4541.

Tuesday - 9/22 - Delray Beach City Commission: Final Public Budget Hearing will be held in Delray Beach City Hall Commission Chambers, 100 N.W. 1st Ave. 6 pm. 243-7000.

Wednesday - 9/23 - Photo Preservation Workshop - Learn about preserving, displaying and storing your family photos

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at the Boynton Beach City Library, 208 S. Seacrest Blvd., Space is limited. Registration required. 3-4:30 pm. Free. 742-3697.

9/23 - Gulf Stream Town Commission Meeting: Final Public Budget Hearing will be held at Gulf Stream Town Hall, 100 Sea Road. 5:01 pm. Agenda available in the clerk's office.

9/23 - Evening Garden Walk is held at the Mounts Botanical Garden, 531 N. Military Trail, West Palm Beach. Garden Director will narrate the tour. Experience evening fragrances and resident nocturnal creatures. 6 pm. Free/members, \$5/non-members. 233-1757 or www.mounts.org.

9/23 - Teen Gaming - Students in grades 6-12 are invited to attend an evening of video games at the Boynton Beach City Library, 208 S. Seacrest Blvd. 6-7:30 pm. Free. 742-6390.

9/23 - Lisa Black will speak and sign her book, *Evidence of Murder* at Murder on the Beach Bookstore, 273 NE 2nd Ave., Delray Beach. 7 pm. Free. 279-7790 or www.murderonthebeach.com.

Thursday - 9/24 - Teen Advisory Board (TAB) meeting - Let your voice be heard at the Boynton Beach City Library, 208 S. Seacrest Blvd. Teens will earn one hour of community service. 6-7 pm. Free. 742-6390.

9/24 - Briny Breezes Town Council: Final Budget Hearing is held at 5:01 pm at Briny Breezes Town Hall, 4802 N Ocean Blvd. Agenda available at www.townofbrinybreezes-fl.com.

9/24 - Artist Talks with Miami-based Jim Drain at the University Galleries at FAU's Boca Raton campus, 777 Glades Rd. 7 pm. Free. 297-2661 or www.fau.edu/galleries.

Friday - 9/25 - Pre-K Make & Take: Talk Like a Pirate Day - Kids and their families will enjoy making their own spyglasses at

the Schoolhouse Children's Museum, 129 E. Ocean Ave., Boynton Beach. Pre-k ages 2-5. 10:30 am-Noon. \$2.50 plus admission to the museum. 742-6782.

9/25 - Free Family Night at the Schoolhouse Children's Museum, 129 E. Ocean Ave., Boynton Beach. Discover Florida's pioneer past by milking the cow, riding the train, delivering the mail, exploring the mangroves and more. Event held again 10/2. 5-8 pm. Free. 742-6785.

Saturday - 9/26 - Mounting & Repotting Orchids is held at the Mounts Botanical Garden, 531 N. Military Trail, West Palm Beach. Learn what orchids need — water, light, fertilizer, temperature. Bring an orchid to be repotted or mounted. supplies available for purchase. 9 am - noon. Members/\$30, Non-members/\$40. To register: 233-1757 or www.mounts.org.

9/26 - Instant Guitar workshop will be held at the Art Center, 125 SE 2nd Ave., Boynton Beach. Bring your acoustic guitar. 9:30 am-noon. Ages 13 and older. Limited to 15 students. \$25/residents, \$32/non-residents plus \$28 materials fee payable to the instructor. 742-6237.

9/26 - Fire-Rescue Open House, Station #3, 651 Linton Blvd., Delray Beach. 10 am-1 pm. 243-7400.

9/26 - Smithsonian Museum Day at Cason Cottage House Museum, 5 N.E. 1st Street, Delray Beach. A Celebration of culture, learning and the dissemination of knowledge. 10 am - 4 pm. Download your Museum Day Admission Card at: www.smithsonian.com/museumday. 243-2577.

9/26 - Narrated Bus Tour of Historic Delray Beach is conducted by the Museum of Lifestyle & Fashion History. Tour visits 10 historic sites. Leaves from the Delray Beach Public Library, 100 W. Atlantic Ave. at 11 am.

\$10/adult & seniors, Free/children and teens under 18. 243-2662.

9/26 - Family Fun Program: Florida Alligator is presented at The Morikami Japanese Museum and Gardens, 4000 Morikami Park Rd., Delray Beach. Explore the culture through hands-on arts and crafts. 11 am-4 pm. Free with paid museum admission. 495-0233 Ext. 237 or www.morikami.org.

9/26 - Delray Beach Chamber of Commerce Luminary Gala will be held at the Delray Beach Marriott Hotel, 10 N. Ocean Blvd., Delray Beach. 7-11 pm. Evening attire event recognizing outstanding business and community leaders. \$150. 279-0907.

SEPT. 27-OCTOBER 3

Sunday - 9/27 - Yom Kipper begins at sundown.

Monday - 9/28 - Great Books group discusses *Questions for Emma* by Jane Austen at the Boynton Beach City Library, 208 S. Seacrest Blvd. Group meets the second and fourth Mondays of each month. 10 am-noon. Free. 742-6380.

9/28 - Lantana Council: Final Public Budget Hearing followed by regular council meeting at the Lantana Town Hall, 500 Greynolds Circle. 7:15 pm. Agenda available at www.lantana.org.

Tuesday - 9/29 - Elegance in Iron: The Art of the Japanese Tetsubin - New exhibit of more than 90 tetsubin (Japanese cast-iron tea kettle) at The Morikami Museum and Japanese Gardens, 4000 Morikami Park Rd., Delray Beach. Exhibit runs through Dec. 6, 2009. Museum hours. 561-495-0233 or www.morikami.org.

9/29 - Games @ Your Library invites children to play some of their favorite video games in the Youth Program Room at the

Boynton Beach City Library, 208 S. Seacrest Blvd. Grades K-5. 4-5 pm. 742-6390.

9/29 - Pajama Storytime is held at the Boynton Beach City Library, 208 S. Seacrest Blvd. Don't forget to bring your teddy bear. Ages 3-6 plus siblings. 7-8 pm. 742-6390

Wednesday - 9/30 - Sailing into Health and Wellness is an expo-style event presented by the Greater Boynton Beach Chamber of Commerce at the YMCA of Boynton Beach, 9600 S. Military Trail. 1-5 pm. 732-9501.

9/30 - Drop In Craft Day - Grades K-5 are invited to "drop in" to make an original art project at the Boynton Beach City Library, 208 S. Seacrest Blvd. All materials provided. Space limited. Registration required. 4-5 pm. Free. 742-6380.

9/30 - Heart Symposium - How to Avoid Heart Failure - presented by Adel M. Sidky, M.D., Cardiologist, as part of the Community Lecture Series at Bethesda Memorial Hospital, Clayton Conference Center, 2815 S. Seacrest Blvd., Boynton Beach. 4:30 pm. Free. 731-2273.

Thursday - 10/1 - Lunch with Liz @ the Library brown-bag lunchtime program for women, features *Life Makeovers*, based on the insights of Cheryl Richardson. Noon-1:30 pm. Delray Beach Public Library, 100 W. Atlantic Ave. 266-9490.

10/1 - Delray Beach Residents Academy begins at the Environmental Services Administration Building, 434 S. Swinton Ave. Academy meets from 6-9 pm on Thursday evenings for six consecutive weeks. This program educates the public on city government operations, facilities and responsibilities. All city residents, 18 years of age and older are eligible to attend. Free. Pre-registration required. Applications available at: www.mydelraybeach.com.

10/1 - Surgical Weight Reduction Symposium

- presented by Miguel Lopez-Viego, M.D., Medical Director of the Bethesda Center for Surgical Weight Reduction at Bethesda Memorial Hospital, Clayton Conference Center, 2815 S. Seacrest Blvd., Boynton Beach. 6:30 pm. Free. 737-7733 Ext. 4688.

Friday - 10/2 - Pre-K Make & Take: World Smile Day - Kids and their families enjoy making crafts at the Schoolhouse Children's Museum, 129 E. Ocean Ave., Boynton Beach. Ages 2-5. 10:30 am-Noon. \$2.50 plus admission to the museum. 742-6782.

10/2 - Entertaining Your Spirit Movie Nights resume with a showing of *Eldra* at Unity of Delray Beach, 101 NW 22nd St. 5:30-7 pm. 276-5796 or www.unityofdelraybeach.org.

Saturday - 10/3 - Vegetable Gardening in South Florida is offered at the Mounts Botanical Garden, 531 N. Military Trail, West Palm Beach. Learn to grow your own vegetables: everything from seed to germination to harvest. 9 am-noon. Register early. \$35/members, \$45/non-members. 233-1757 or www.mounts.org

10/3 - Blessing of the Animals will be held in the gazebo on the Unity of Delray Beach lawn, 101 NW 22nd St. Bring your pets to be blessed by the Reverend Nancy Norman. 10 am - noon. 276-5796.

10/3 - Child Safety Prenatal Class is offered as a one-day weekend class at Bethesda Memorial Hospital, 2815 S. Seacrest Blvd., Boynton Beach. Learn infant CPR for children up to eight years old and how you can assist in an emergency. There are no discounts or certification given for this class. 10 am - Noon. \$40 per couple or \$25 per person. Pre-payment and early registration is recommended. 369-2229.

Obituaries

Barbara Latham Keresey

By Ron Hayes

DELRAY BEACH — Several years ago, Barbara Keresey shot a hole-in-one on the ninth hole of the St. Andrew's Club.

She went north for the summer, returned in the fall, and shot a consecutive hole-in-one at the same ninth hole during her first round of the season.

On July 26, Mrs. Keresey died peacefully at home, in a bedroom overlooking the scene of her two-in-a-million golfing triumph.

She was 89, and had lived at the club since 1994.

Golf was only one of Bobbie Keresey's passions. She was also a skier, a paddle tennis player, a talented artist whose floral acrylics were recently displayed at The Little Club, and an amateur actress whose portrayal of the witch in *Hansel and Gretel* was an annual tradition at the children's theater in Montclair, N.J. "She always knew exactly what the appropriate thing was to wear, and to say," recalls her son, Jim Keresey. "She had a sense of style and color that people appreciated, and she had a smile for everybody."

Mrs. Keresey also founded a Meals On Wheels service to feed the elderly in Montclair,

and saw it grow to encompass most of Essex County.

"I became one of her delivery boys when I was home for the summer," her son remembers.

Barbara Latham was born in New York City on Dec. 23, 1919, but moved to Montclair when she was 3. A graduate of Montclair High School and Pine Manor College in Wellesley, Mass., she

met her future husband, Dick Keresey, at a country club Christmas dance in 1939. The couple was married in 1944, following Mr. Keresey's service as a PT-boat skipper in the Solomon Islands.

"A lady stopped me the other day and said they were an example of what a marriage should be," Jim Keresey said. "They were totally committed to each other, and when they said for better or worse, they meant it. My father kind of doted on her."

In addition to her husband of 65 years, she is survived by four children, Richard of New York City; James, of Oak Harbor, Wash.; Mary, of Denville, N.J.; and Barbara, of West Chicago, Ill.; nine grandchildren and five great-grandchildren.

In lieu of flowers, donations can be made to Covenant House, 733 Breakers Ave., Fort Lauderdale, FL 33304.



Kathleen A. 'Kay' Cunningham

BOYNTON BEACH — Kathleen A. "Kay" Cunningham, formerly of Ocean Ridge and Cotuit, Mass., died at home on Aug. 27, after a long illness while being cared for by family and friends.

She was born Feb. 23, 1938, in New York City to Joseph and Josephine Mozes.

Mrs. Cunningham attended New York schools and went on to graduate

from Newton High School, Newton, Mass., in 1956.

She resided in Florida since 1989 but leaves many close friends on Cape Cod.

Mrs. Cunningham was a member of Page Turners Book Club, the Ocean Ridge Garden Club, and P.E.O. Sisterhood Chapter D.W.

She was the beloved wife of Robert J. Cunningham for 54 years; mother of Robert W. Cunningham; and grandmother to Robbie

and Alexis Cunningham of Tacoma, Wash.

Mrs. Cunningham is survived by a sister, Regina Iacopelli and her husband, Charles of Oceanside, N.Y., and her brother, Lawrence Mozes and his wife, Margaret, of Lake Worth. Services were held Sept. 2, at the Boynton Memorial Chapel, 800 West Boynton Beach Blvd., Boynton Beach.

— Family-submitted obituary

Eugene A. Cericola

BOYNTON BEACH — Eugene A. "Gene" Cericola, died Aug. 27, following a brief illness, at the age of 69.

A resident of the Boynton Beach area for over twenty years, he was a member of Grace Community Church where he served as a deacon and supervised the church's soup kitchen.

Mr. Cericola attended Niagara University and graduated from Brockport State Teachers College of New York, Class of 1960.

Mr. Cericola served as the president of the Community

Caring Center of Boynton Beach, a community outreach and benevolence

association sponsored by the churches and fraternal organizations of the area since 1992, and was involved with several other community organizations.

He is survived by his sister Mary Grace Henry, Leesburg, Va.; his brother, Alexander Cericola, Boynton Beach; two children, Marc P. Cericola, Sparta, N.J., and Michelle A. Kawash of Flemington, N.J.; and one grandchild, Michael

Patrick Cericola, and a large extended family within the community.

Services were celebrated Sept. 1 at Grace Community Church, Boynton Beach, with interment following at Boynton Beach Mausoleum and Cemetery.

In lieu of flowers, contributions may be made in Mr. Cericola's memory to Community Caring Center, 145 NE Fourth Ave., Boynton Beach, FL 33435 and Grace Community Church 715 S. Federal Highway, Boynton Beach, FL 33435.

— Family-submitted obituary



E-mail obituary information to news@thecoastalstar.com

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InterFaith21



Sister Lorraine Ryan is the coordinator of the Women's Circle of Boynton Beach. Photo by Jerry Lower

Women's Circle works on literacy with Boynton library

By C.B. Hanif

Some are shy and simply seeking a better life. Others seek no attention unless it helps them to better help.

They are flip sides of the same coin: the served and the servants who can be found most days at The Women's Circle of Boynton Beach.

"Anywhere in our world where there is poverty, women tend to be impacted even more than men," said the circle's coordinator, Sister Lorraine Ryan.

"We can't do everything, so we focus on the women."

The Women's Circle shares a small house on a barely paved Fourth Avenue with the Community Caring Center.

That's one reason why high on the circle's wish list is a facility with greater space for classrooms, job searching, coaching and offices.

To walk through the cramped quarters is to meet a young woman who is studying to become a pediatrician to serve the area. Or see close to a dozen women squeezed into a small former bedroom for a morning ESOL class that converts to a sewing class in the afternoon.

Who are the women?

One-third are Creole-speaking, said Sister Lorraine. One-third are African-American. A sixth are Hispanic, another sixth low-income Caucasian.

And the servants?

Sister Lorraine is typical. At 19 she joined Medical Mission Sisters, an international religious community focused on medicine.

"Healing is our charism," she said. "Right now the largest membership is from India." She went there in 1969 and left in 1985. In between she earned a master's degree in public health from Johns Hopkins University.

Back here, she recruited other Medical Mission Sisters. "The perks are mostly in heaven," she said with a smile. "I did this for five years out of St. Louis, Mo. Covered 185,000 miles in a little red Ford Escort. Even got myself up to Alaska; that was great."

Upon coming to Boynton

in 1990 to care for her ailing parents, she got involved in various nonprofit organizations. That helped her even better learn the needs of women who are single parents. She also is a qualified chemical dependency counselor, and did a stint as a schoolhouse nurse. "That taught me a lot, unfortunately, about the violence that still exists in our schools."

Aside from shared space and programs with the Community Caring Center, there are myriad other examples of partnering, such as with Boynton's library.

For example, Sister Lorraine said that more than a year ago, Anne Watts, Boynton's assistant library director, got a grant related to literacy with which many of the circle's books were purchased. Watts would meet with the students, take them to the library, give them a tour, get them library cards, let them choose one book they would like purchased to keep, as well as a magazine to receive regularly — and also bring their children with them to get a card, depending on their age, and a book.

Such service helps explain why the circle is seeking \$100,000 from the Community Redevelopment Authority, with which to purchase and move to a property at 912-914 SE Fourth St.

"It's comparable to this," Sister Lorraine said, "but we'd have the whole thing" — 1,200 square feet, rather than the current 620-square-foot portion. "That's the advantage."

The service advantage is Boynton's, whose citizens hardly can find a better investment.



C.B. Hanif is a freelance writer, editor and media and interreligious affairs consultant. He visits or speaks

at synagogues, churches and mosques, seeking folks who are making the Golden Rule real, not just an ideal. www.Interfaith21.



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Paws up for Pets!

Is yours a tidy cat household?

By Arden Moore

Leave it to a litter company to launch a national campaign to put a positive spin on being catty. The "Tidy Cats Campaign to End Cattiness" has been unleashed to debunk misperceptions and to celebrate millions of people who happily share their homes — and hearts — with cats.

In fact, 71 percent of all domestic cats in the United States live in multiple-cat households. Despite the fact that two or more cats share a common home, unflattering stereotypes still exist about feline ownership.

Among Americans polled in a national survey sponsored by Tidy Cats:

- 75 percent describe a person with more than one cat as being a homebody.
- 69 percent describe people with more than one cat as lonely.
- 58 percent regard people with more than one cat as "crazy cat ladies."

A second part of the survey polled non-cat owners. Their responses:

- 75 percent of them say multiple cat owners' homes are smelly.
- 85 percent of them report these cat owners' beds and furniture are fur-covered.
- 66 percent of them

describe these cat owners' homes as being cluttered.

Talk about being catty! I'll wager a year's supply of cat food (and litter) that most cat-occupied homes in south Palm Beach County are clean, tidy and welcoming.

"Cats have always been misunderstood and it's high time to change misperceptions about these amazing animals and the people who share their homes with them," says Pia Salk, Ph.D., a psychologist, animal welfare advocate and spokesperson for this Tidy Cats campaign. "The reason there are millions of people who have multiple cats is because our feline friends enrich our lives and reward us in countless meaningful ways."

In a poll aimed at people who have more than one cat, the results reveal:

- 96 percent view themselves as being caring and loving.
- 90 percent see themselves as being generous.
- 87 percent see themselves as being well-adjusted and fulfilled.
- 87 percent report that their cats do not prevent them from keeping their home clean and odor-free.

Nearly a quarter of people with multiple cats surveyed admitted that they would like to eliminate the "crazy cat

lady" stereotype and prefer terms such as "cat lover" and "animal lover." According to Salk, now is their chance to be heard.

Multiple cat households can enter the Tidy Cats Campaign to End Cattiness contest between now and Sept. 11. Cat owners are invited to share their personal stories of how they enjoy more life and less worry at home with their multiple cats. Salk and cat lovers across America



The multi-cat Boggess household in Boynton Beach includes Roy 'Moo' (left), Schneeflocke Friedman and Mr. Phipps. Photo provided

will select the winning entry in the national photo/essay contest.

The grand prize winner will receive \$5,000, a one-year supply of Tidy Cats® Scoop brand cat litter, and the

opportunity to be featured in a Tidy Cats Cribs Webisode that will appear on the cat litter brand's Web site and other social networking sites.

For complete contest rules, visit www.tidycats.com.

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OCEAN RIDGE LOT
Build your beach home. 2nd lot from the Ocean. 90 x 115. Deeded beach access in Ocean Ridge on Dolphin Dr. East of A1A. Call for survey. Price: \$698,000 Call Liana Verkaden 561-309-1975



BEAUVOIS-PALM BEACH
Watch the boats go by from this large corner unit. wrap-around balcony, 2/2, travertine flrs, eat-in kitchen, deeded beach access, gorgeous views. \$399,900 Call Ada Verkaden 561-762-8625



GULFSTREAM CONDO
Enjoy quiet, relaxing views of the golf course and pond from living, dining area or balcony. Spacious 3 bedrooms, 2 baths. Small complex, only 7 units. Garage parking under building. Beach access, pet OK. \$399,000. Call Pam Shudlick 561-716-7261.

Cats can bring out the best in us

Here are five lessons cats teach us — if we're paying attention:

Live in the now. Cats do not fret the "should haves" or "what ifs" in life. They take things as they come.

Be candid. Cats ask for what they want. *More tuna, please.* Like your feline friend, be persistent in pursuing your goals.

Value solitude. Unlike dogs, cats don't stick to us like Velcro. They use time alone to recharge. Treat yourself to at least five minutes of me-time each day.

Embrace power naps. Cats rank only behind bats and opossums in the amount of sleep and nap times. A cat fan, Thomas Edison, relied on taking 20-minute afternoon naps to recharge, relax and revive — and look at all the cool inventions he

created.

Don't get caught up in material goods. Cats aren't into designer labels. They can be just as happy swatting a soda pop top or plowing into a tent of newspaper than high-priced and high-tech pet toys.



Arden Moore, an animal behavior consultant, editor, author and professional speaker, happily shares her home

with two cats, two dogs and one overworked vacuum cleaner. Tune in to her *Oh Behave!* show on PetLifeRadio.com and contact her at arden@ardenmoore.com.




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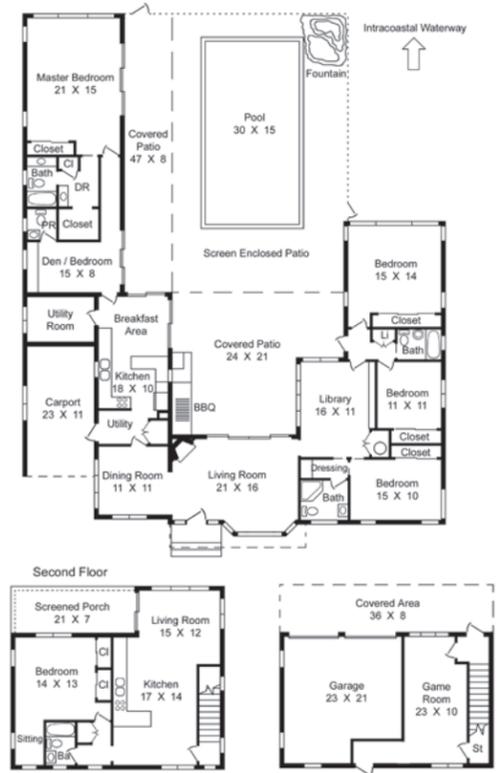
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House of the Month



Classic, vintage waterfront estate

Originally built in the early 1950s by Herbert Lewis and Ebersol Brothers Builders, this vintage Hypoluxo Island's Eastern waterfront home was one of the first "Estate Homes" built on the barrier island. It had bragging rights as the first home to have a summer kitchen. The original mother-of-pearl terrazzo flooring remains throughout the house. A gorgeous rose granite fireplace graces the living room. In the early 1960s, the house was expanded to add a second master suite. The main house is a five-bedroom, four-bath pool home with more than 4,000 square feet under air. The two-story Guest House with two-car garage is 2,250 square feet. This Old Florida property has great bones and good elevation for a renovation, but it also is the perfect waterfront location, in a very special neighborhood, to build a grand, new estate home. The property's layout takes full advantage of a panoramic east vista, inviting ocean breezes year-round. The lanai and covered pool area overlook the Intracoastal and deep-water dockage. This most private setting is priced at \$1.4 million, and is a tremendous waterfront value.

Call Diane Duffy, Realtor, P.A. (formerly with Palermo-Long Realty) for your private preview: 561-767-0860 (cellular) or email dianeduffy@comcast.net. Illustrated Properties, 230 S. Ocean Boulevard, Manalapan, FL 33462 561-582-5338 office. www.ipre.com

A detached guest house and two-car garage on the west side of the property were originally conceived to include a bridgeway to connect with the main house. These drawings are still available.

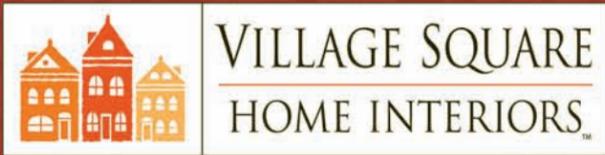


ABOVE: Eat-in kitchen with breakfast area and all-wood cabinetry features new, stainless steel appliances.



RIGHT: The 'Lewis Estate' is sited on a .73 acre lot with 100 feet of water frontage and is 337 feet deep. You'll arrive via the inviting, stately driveway entrance that is lined with mature palms and tropical foliage.

Each month, *The Coastal Star* features a home for sale in our community. The House of the Month is presented as a service to our advertisers, and provides readers with a peek inside one of our very special homes.



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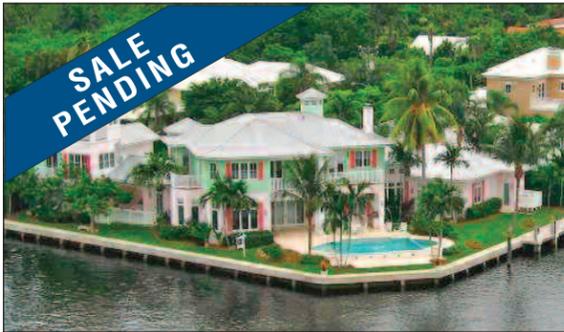
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Your Window
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DELRAY BEACH—Intracoastal Point Lot
Wide water views from every room in this magnificent Key West style home. Surrounded by 258 ft of water, this 8200 sq ft home features 5 bedrooms in the main house, plus a delightful 1 bedroom guest suite with crow's nest. Protected deepwater dockage, enormous 1st floor master suite with sitting room & his/hers baths, all within walking distance to beach and Atlantic Ave. **\$4,950,000**



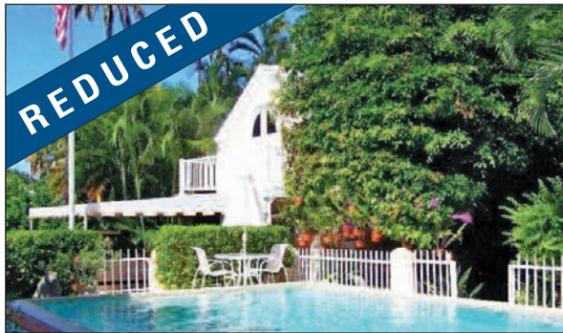
THE BEST OF EVERYTHING
This is THE dream house! 17,000 sq ft lot, 8,000 sq ft of luxury living and relaxing space, 4 bedroom main house, 2 bedroom guest house, 6 car state-of-the-art garage with hydraulic lifts for the car collector, game room, office, gourmet kitchen with true butler's pantry and wine room. New construction with the style and design everyone desires. **\$2,950,000**



FOX CHASE — DELRAY BEACH
Located in the prestigious gated community of Foxe Chase this home offers 9,000+ sq ft of living and entertaining spaces. Features include: 6 bedrooms including master suite with his & hers baths, gourmet kitchen, 3 fireplaces, stunning vaulted /beamed ceilings, heated pool & spa, plus 4 car garage, all set on a wooded 1+ acre lot. **\$2,895,000**



TOSCANA SOUTH
Turnkey Luxury in Highland Beach. Absolutely stunning 11th floor, 3 bedroom, 2.5 bath designer decorated condo. 180 degree views of Intracoastal to the ocean from 3 balconies. Hardwood floors, office, beautiful moldings & window treatments, ready to move in. **\$1,595,000**



SECRET GARDEN BY THE SEA
East of A1A in Ocean Ridge's best beachside neighborhood, this authentic Bermuda home has been meticulously maintained. 4 bedrooms, 3 baths, fireplace, vaulted cypress ceilings, covered loggia. Private deeded beach access, 3 homes from the sand. **\$1,299,000**



STEPS TO THE SAND - OCEAN RIDGE
100 feet of deeded beach access steps from your front door. Totally updated 4/3/1 pool home on oversize lot. Two master suites - one on 1st floor, one on 2nd; great updated open kitchen, beautiful modern baths, move right in! **\$1,350,000**



TURN KEY LUXURY IN OCEAN RIDGE
This ocean block one story 3/3/2 with den and heated pool has been completely updated from the inside out. Situated on a private, oversize corner lot, features include: impact glass throughout, saturnia floors, granite/stainless kitchen, volume ceilings, more. **\$1,300,000**



OCEAN RIDGE - FOR SALE OR RENT
A barefoot stroll to the sand from this 1950's beach cottage east of A1A. 2/1/1 on a 10,000 square foot lot. Enjoy as is or build new, ocean views possible. For sale at \$895,000 Available rental - furnished or unfurnished at \$2,000/month.



BEACHSIDE BEAUTY
Recently updated, this, light, bright beach cottage is sure to charm. Updated granite/stainless galley kitchen, large Florida room, wainscoting and brand new baths, all on a 10,000 sq. foot lot and steps to deeded beach access on one of Ocean Ridge's prettiest streets. **\$550,000**



BEACHSIDE LOT
Build your dream house and walk to the beach from this 13,000+ square foot lot, east of A1A with deeded beach access in great Ocean Ridge neighborhood **\$700,000**



SOUTH PALM BEACH CHARMER
Lovely 2/2 with screened & covered patio, this 1st floor charmer at the intracoastal complex of Palm Beach Villas features tile floors, new plantation shutters, small pets ok, and no age restrictions. **REDUCED to \$199,000**

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