

## South Palm Beach



**ABOVE:** Workers position boulders at the base of the Imperial House in an effort to slow erosion. **BELOW:** Bonnie Fischer watches the waves pound on the seawall just outside her condominium. **Photos by Jerry Lower**

# Imperial House's beach work runs into brick wall with neighbors

By Tim O'Meilia

Thirty-three years ago Bonnie Fischer found the dream retirement home — an affordable first-floor oceanfront condominium apartment at Imperial House with a view of a beach several hundred feet wide.

In mid-November, an angry north wind sent churning waves one after another onto that shrinking beach, clawing through a temporary wall of three-ton blocks and undermining a walkway that ran along the seaside building.

"I had ocean spray hitting my sliding glass doors and my bedroom windows," Fischer said. "It's way too close."

The Atlantic Ocean is taking back the beach.

Fearing the waves might undermine the building, Police Chief Roger Crane ordered the residents



of the 18 east-wing apartments to evacuate. Fischer spent two nights away from home. Engineers later found that the 50-year-old building was erected on pilings, rather than a less-ocean-proof concrete foundation more susceptible to surf damage.

The winds decreased, the occupants returned and huge

boulders were deposited over the following three days to reinforce the temporary wall. "The walkway started pulling away from the building but the building was never compromised," said Fischer, a member of the Imperial House board of directors.

See **IMPERIAL** on page 16

## Delray Beach

# Big crowd brainstorms ideas for beach area

By Kelly Wolfe

They'd streamed in throughout the morning: deeply tan folks with knitted brows sporting flip flops, shorts, Hawaiian-print shirts and dozens of palm tree insignias — serious beach denizens.

The sign on the door said the room accommodated no more than 70, but that number had been exceeded long ago. They stood shoulder to shoulder in the pastel room, poised to make a point.

"We're hoping to get input from citizens," said Mary Renaud, president of the Beach Property Owners Association. "This is about having a plan in place so that everyone knows what we want."

The charette, held Nov. 7 at the Delray Beach Marriott, was a massive brainstorming session where residents could get together to daydream about what they want for the beach. There aren't immediate plans to change anything on the beach. But people were obviously interested in putting forth their ideas, since 30 minutes into the meeting organizers were turning people away.

Perry King Neubauer, an architect from Cambridge, Mass., listed suggestions on a big, white pad in the front of the room.

"I'm leading this mother," Neubauer said, by way of introducing himself. "It's important to have a master plan."

Concerns varied, from smoking on the beach, to parking, to lighting, to vegetation, to showers.

One man said he didn't like that joggers plowed passed him on the sidewalk during his morning walk. "There's this woman who runs right up behind me and yells 'Move!'" he said.

A woman said she was concerned

See **DELRAY** on page 3

## Obituary

# In life and death, beach and friendships defined Bill Dunn

By Ron Hayes

Bill Dunn must have had six or seven different addresses during his 25 years in the County Pocket. But mostly he lived on the beach.

He slept at home, but he lived on the beach. And when he died, family and friends brought him back to the beach, to say goodbye the way people in this tiny, unincorporated, unpretentious patch of old



Bill Dunn

said. "Wear shorts, wear flip-flops. Be casual, because that's the way he was."

South Florida do.

More laughter than tears. More stories than sobs.

"Please, don't wear black," his brother, Greg,

At 4 p.m. on Saturday, Nov. 14, they gathered at Don Brown's house on Streamaire Lane — in shorts and flip-flops, Hawaiian shirts and tie-dyed tees — and ambled down toward the ocean.

Some carried beers, some skateboards, some babies.

A bagpiper's mournful rendition of *Going Home* ushered them down the dunes

See **BILL DUNN** on page 30



## Inside:



### House of the Month

Intracoastal townhomes with Mediterranean style. **Page 34**



Christmas comes early in Lantana. **Page 15**

Church marks pastor's quarter century **Page 13**

**The Coastal Star**

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**Coastal Star**

**Ocean Ridge's teen 'attorney' now finds challenge as the real thing**

By Ron Hayes

One day in 2000, a high school freshman from Ocean Ridge decided to volunteer as an "attorney" in the county's Youth Court.

Anthony Arash Arsali would alternately act as both prosecutor and defense "attorney" in determining appropriate sentences for fellow teens who had already pled guilty to minor crimes such as shoplifting and marijuana possession.

A teen who had painted a swastika on a water tower, for example, might be sentenced to watch the film *Schindler's List* and write an essay about the symbol's meaning.

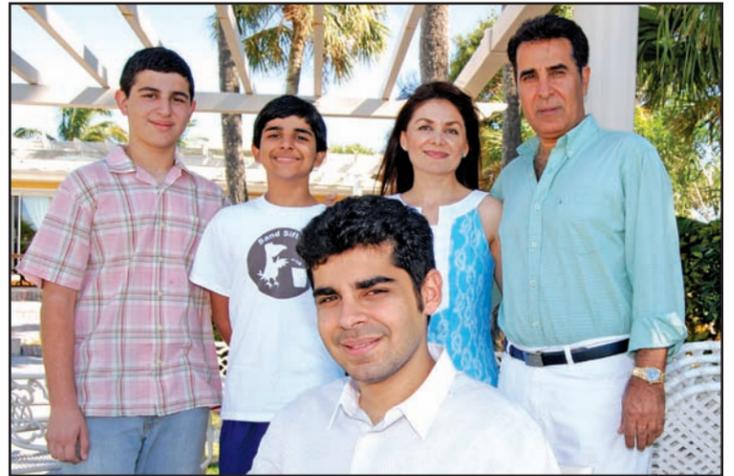
All the defendants were teens, the jury were teens, the prosecutor and defense "attorneys" were teens.

A real judge, Circuit Judge Lucy Chernow Brown, presided.

On Oct. 2, the quotation marks around "attorney" disappeared when Arsali, 22, was sworn in as a full-fledged member of the Florida Bar — by Judge Lucy Chernow Brown.

The young man who went looking for a class credit found a career.

"Every Thursday night I would go to the South County Courthouse for about four hours, and I got so interested that I ended up doing over 700 hours of community service there," he recalls. After Youth



Anthony Arsali, foreground, with his supportive family, (l-r) brothers Christopher, Benjamin, mother Afsoon, and father Nicholas. Photo by Jerry Lower

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Court, Arsali, who moved to Ocean Ridge when he was 12, went on to earn a bachelor's degree with honors from the University of Florida, and was graduated from the University of Virginia School of Law in May.

"He was very serious, very diligent and very talented," remembers Brown.

Now an attorney with the law firm of Boies, Schiller and Flexner in Fort Lauderdale, Arsali is enjoying the hard work.

"It's pretty exciting," he said during a recent weekend home. "We represent big

corporate clients, but also class action suits, so you have to go in-depth about each subject. Right now I'm learning about the credit card system and the shrimp farm industry."

Among his firm's clients are the Oklahoma attorney general, whom Arsali is helping to represent in a price-fixing suit against British Petroleum.

"I've been trying to come back to Ocean Ridge on weekends," he reports, "but it's hectic. The last week and a half I've been working one case 13 or 14 hours a day."

"I'm so proud," says his mother, Afsoon. "I tell him that when I walk I feel like I'm a giant because I'm walking so proud."

Anthony Arash Arsali was nominated to be a Coastal Star by Ocean Ridge resident and Circuit Judge Lucy Chernow Brown.

**Editorial**

**For everything there is a season**

In our household, the word November has a unique usage. To us it means sadness, the blues. As in, "I have a bad case of the Novembers."

It's been that way for about 10 years now, since a series of losses started this annual sense of dread. Through the years, the month's prophetic shadow has continued to prove true.

This past month was no different. Gone are friends, acquaintances, long-time family pets, and still with us are the intractable horrors reported daily in the news. Loss and sadness.

As a Midwesterner, I see November sketching tree branches starkly against a damp, hovering fog on the verge of crystallization — yet still weeks away from the brilliant snow that redeems the frigid winter months ahead.

Promise. That's how I see December. As a resident of our coastal

community for 25 years, I'm reminded of life's seasons by the unexpected warmth of winter sunshine, the bloom of an orchid, the scent of ripening citrus and that breathtaking blue of the Atlantic, crested with impossibly transparent froth and bordered with dancing, speckled shore birds.

Some ancient internal compass directs those migrating sanderlings and gannets to our shore. It's no surprise many of us return as well each season — to rest, to refuel and to relive happy memories.

So in turning the calendar page, my wish to each of you is a December filled with the

promise of tomorrow.

Happy Holidays.

— Mary Kate Leming, Editor



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Perry Kling Neubauer (right) counts hands to determine priorities during a brain-storming session on Delray beachfront planning. Photo by Tim Stepien

**DELRAY:**

Continued from page 1

about people on the beach after dark. "There's a lot of activity by the sailboats," she told Neubauer.

"Under the cover of darkness?" he asked.

"Yes," she said. "Some of it sexual."

One man requested that all the vegetation be removed from the dunes so he could see the water from across the street.

"Boo!" said the group. "Why don't you cross the street, idiot?"

They agreed on one item in particular.

"What about exercise stations?" asked Neubauer. "No!" they shouted in unison.

In essence, it was a lively crowd.

Afterward, they broke up into about a half-dozen groups. Then, each group presented coffee-stained plans that included such ideas as: a social area with disabled access and showers, a smoke-free beach, roving patrols of volunteers, and a better

marking of the visitors center because "no one knows the visitors' center is there — especially the visitors."

Cathy Balestriere, who manages Crane's BeachHouse, said she was glad she invested the time. "It was a very hopeful meeting," she said. "It's just nice to see we had so many good ideas come out of it."

Kari Shipley, who lives two blocks from the beach on Vista Del Mar, said the meeting was very productive.

Albert Richwagen, who owns Delray Beach Bike and Sport, said that Delray Beach has one of the most beautiful beaches in Florida. "The beach is an ever-changing canvas that should be kept natural, natural, natural," he said.

Shipley said even though she didn't agree with everything she heard — "I don't care about all the [public] art. There's a place for that." — she said she liked the exchange of ideas.

**What happens next?**

Mary Renaud, president of the Beach Property Owners Association, said she met with about a dozen Delray Beach

employees Nov. 30. to pinpoint the next step.

For planning purposes, the group divided the beach into three segments — the north side, the south side and the intersection of A1A and Atlantic Avenue. She said they now are awaiting the report

from Neubauer, then they'll create some drawings, and determine what their priorities are and — based on those priorities — what can be done.

For example, the group would like to gussy-up the intersection first, Renaud said, and perhaps make some

changes to the gazebo there. But they have to consider how those changes might affect turtle nesting.

Renaud said this is the beginning of a long journey. The next meeting will happen in about a month, she said.



**Letters to the Editor**

**More to being a patriot than flying the flag**

As an American and veteran, I am very pleased when condo and homeowners fly the flag on Veterans Day.

However, I am very displeased knowing that some of these owners plant impatiens, over-water their grass so that the roots rot and it has to be replaced frequently, and let their sprinklers

overspray onto the road, bicycle lanes and sidewalks.

There is more to being a good American than just flying the flag. Good Americans act responsibly by preserving our valuable resources and showing concern about the safety of others.

*Jim Smith  
Delray Beach*

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Along the Avenues

Blues, food and a beachy retreat

Maria Muldaur, Devon Allman, Cephas & Wiggins, Marcia Ball, John Hammond, John Sebastian. For nearly a decade, appearances by such acts made the **Bamboo Room** in Lake Worth one of the premier live music venues in the Southeast. But when the economy went south two years ago, the performers decided they weren't about to follow, and with much regret **Russ Hibbard** decided to shut down.

"We remain optimistic that the cultural and economic climate will improve," Hibbard wrote in a farewell note on Bamboo's Web site in May 2008.

Well, the climate is improving, and though nothing has been announced yet, Hibbard has told friends that Bamboo Room will reopen soon. The timing has to be right, he said.

Stay tuned.

Delray a dining magnet? Sure looks that way. Of course, **Nick Morfogen** has been a star at **32 East** for years, but now he'll have some noteworthy company with the arrival of **Allen Susser** and **Mark Militello**, two of the seminal forces behind "Floribbean" cuisine. Susser is partnering with **Robert Workman**, a local property developer, to open **Taste**, a gastropub, in the hot little enclave of **Pineapple Grove** early in 2010.

It'll be a dramatic departure from **Chef Alan's**, his legendary restaurant in Aventura, as he'll offer American "pub" fare foods — sliders, sandwiches "with a little South Florida flavor."

"I love Delray," Susser told food blogger and *Coastal Star* writer **Jan Norris**. "It's a quiet little community on the ocean, with nice energy and it has a real sense of that community."



Church members and deal-hunters wait outside The Turnover Shop in Delray Beach in advance of the grand re-opening ribbon cutting on Nov. 21. Photo by Mary Kate Leming

I like that. That's the more important thing about opening a new restaurant to me. It will be a part of a real community instead of a restaurant coming in and saying 'Let's see how much money we can make.'

Sliders also are expected on the menu at a joint effort between Militello and **David Manero** who gave Delray **Sopra, Shore, Gotham** and **Vic and Angelo's**. They hope to open **The Office**, at Atlantic and Northeast Second Avenue formerly occupied by **Louie Louie Too**, by year's end.

Previously a presence in Palm Beach County, Militello was chef/owner of **Mark's CityPlace** and **Mark's Mizner Park**.

"I'm still working on the menu," Militello told Norris, "but it will be eclectic American. Upscale, gastropub, with an emphasis on local products and growers, fresh seafoods."

**Pauline and Tom Smith** (no relation) finally have **Pauline's** (formerly planned

as Marley's Island Time Grill) open at 800 Palm Trail, just off George Bush Boulevard. The Smiths took over what used to be the **Pineapple Grille** and are offering a backbreaking three "Island-style" meals a day.

Breakfast offers Rasta Ital (three egg whites, cheese, two veggies and an English muffin) for \$5.75, or Grandma Muller's Eggs (two eggs fried in a pan of bacon over toast) for \$5.25. At lunch, curried chicken will set you back \$9.75, fresh fish sandwich with a side of greens \$9.75. Oxtail dinner runs \$17, coconut shrimp \$16.50.

"We're working at it," Pauline said. "We've started bringing in Screamin' Jerry Leeman on Friday nights and for Sunday brunch."

Also in full flourish is the **Seagate Hotel**, the swank new hotel that welcomed its first guests on Nov. 1. It has 162 rooms, a spa, two pools and connection to the **Seagate Club** on the beach. The sea-themed decor includes wave-theme motifs on the walls and aquariums populated with eels and anemones.

Locals, however, are more likely to be concerned with the social life. To that end, both the main restaurant, **Atlantic Grille**, and the bar open onto Atlantic Avenue and offer indoor or patio dining and socializing.

Exec Chef **Adam Gottlieb** has worked up an American menu that includes cheddar bacon sirloin burgers for \$13, mahi sandwiches for \$15, bouillabaisse for \$29 and 14-ounce New York strips for \$38.

It remains to be seen if the beach crowd from **Boston's** and the west of Federal gang can find common ground at the Seagate.

Never a dull moment at **Il Bacio**, the new eclectic Italian eatery and night spot just south of Atlantic on Second

See SMITH on page 5

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**SMITH:**

Continued from page 4  
 Avenue in Delray. On the night before Thanksgiving, it hosted a party to introduce the Palm Beaches to the **Miami Caliente** — that's hot en Español — South Florida's entry into, get this, the **Lingerie Football League**.

It's tackle football, just like the Dolphins and the Gators, except they play seven against seven on a 50-yard field. Players wear helmets and shoulder pads, but who needs jerseys! The rest of their uniforms amount to color coordinated bras and panties with numbers embossed on the back.

George Halas and Knute Rockne never had this in mind.

The new league plays a four-game schedule before the playoffs which culminate with the Lingerie Bowl to be played a week before the Super Bowl. The Caliente, which plays at the BankAtlantic Center in Sunrise, already has a 2-1 record. Sadly, none of the 20 players on the roster calls Palm Beach County home, and don't expect to see Tim Tebow offering endorsements, although this wild and crazy group is guided by a former Gator quarterback, **Bob Hewko**, who in one inspired halftime talk, exhorted his charges with, "There's no crying in football."

**St. Paul's Episcopal Church** is just a couple of blocks west of Il Bacio, but needless to say, it serves a different clientele. For 20 years it has ministered to the community through the **Turnover Shop**, a thrift store housed in the 107-year-old Wuepper House at 10 NE Fifth Ave. In recent years, however, the floors were wearing thin, so in September, the church closed it down to replace the floor and spruce it up.

In these tough times, thrift stores are enjoying resurgence and at the Nov. 21 reopening the regulars were joined by some new customers. Not only do they provide low-cost merchandise and clothing, but the proceeds help provide hot meals for dozens of children in the church's after-school program in Delray Beach and daily meals for 200 children at St. Mary Madeleine School in Bondeau, Haiti.

"It was wonderful," store manager **Shelly Seales** said. "We had a lovely time. Once we got all the paper off the wall and cleaned up, we thought, 'Oh it looks really nice.' We're really glad to be open again."



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



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- A dry powdered carpet cleaner (e.g. Carpet One's Capture)**
- A dry, non-oil, non-caustic cleaning solvent**
- Non-bleaching clothing spot remover**

**Chocolate:** First scrape or blot up excess food. Mix 1/2 tsp. of clear dishwashing detergent in 1 cup of warm water and dab on the spot with dampened towel. Continue to blot area. Then dab undiluted white vinegar to the area and blot again. Rinse by dabbing with damp sponge. Blot again and finish with a weighted pad of white paper towels applied to the area overnight.

**After-Dinner Drinks:** Blot up excess and then apply detergent solution with a damp towel. For coffee, mixed drink and red wine stains, leave solution on for 3 to 5 minutes. Blot, don't rub. then apply undiluted white vinegar using damp towel. For all drinks but red wine, apply water with damp sponge. Then for all drinks, including red wine, blot finish with a weighted pad of paper towels.

**Candle Wax:** Start by scraping off excess wax with blunt edge of a butter knife. Cover with brown paper, large enough to cover the affected area; and apply a warm iron until the material is absorbed. Be sure to avoid touching the carpet with the iron because the fiber could melt. Change the paper or rotate to a clean area and repeat until the material is completely absorbed.

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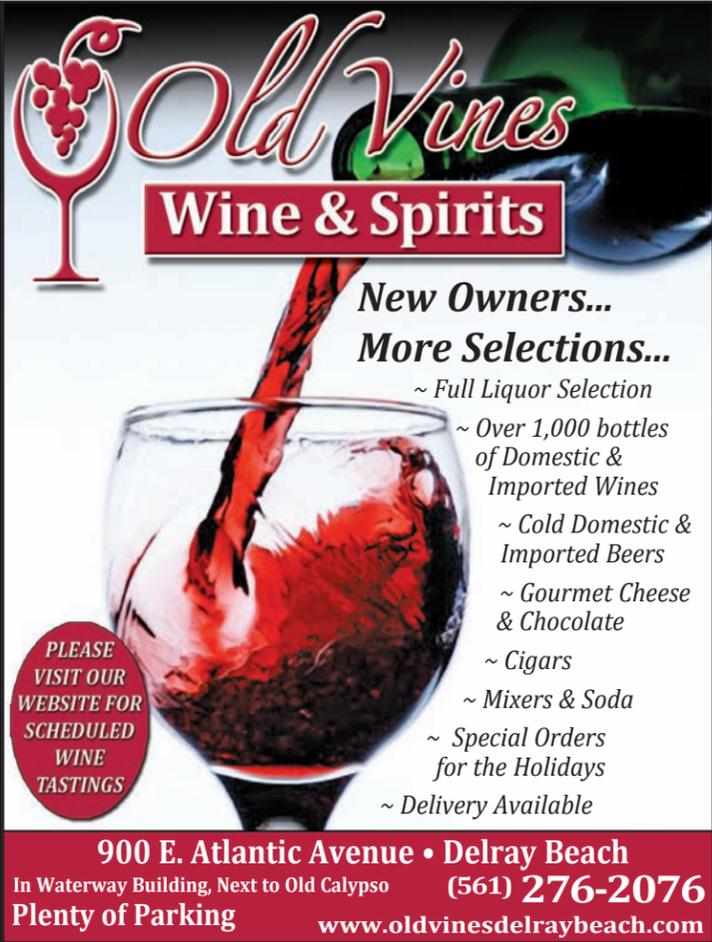
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## Gulf Stream

# New rules for golf carts get first approval

By Margie Plunkett

Golf carts with speeds under 20 mph will be subject to regulations designed to enforce responsible driving, according to a Gulf Stream town ordinance in the works that stops short of requiring operators to have a valid driver's license.

State laws already regulate golf carts with higher speeds — and require a driver's license.

Gulf Stream's regulations would limit the number of people riding in the cart to the number of seats and would prohibit standing, towing and children on the driver's lap.

Golf carts driven at night would be required to have safety equipment including headlights, taillights and turn signals. Commissioners approved the new rules on

first reading in November and will hold a public hearing and final vote at their Dec. 11 meeting.

Commissioners have long wrestled with how to regulate the lower speed golf carts in town, where residents and their children use the vehicles for school drop-off and pickup, errands and general transportation. Safety has been the primary concern as the town receives resident complaints about kids hanging off overloaded golf carts and golf carts towing skateboarders.

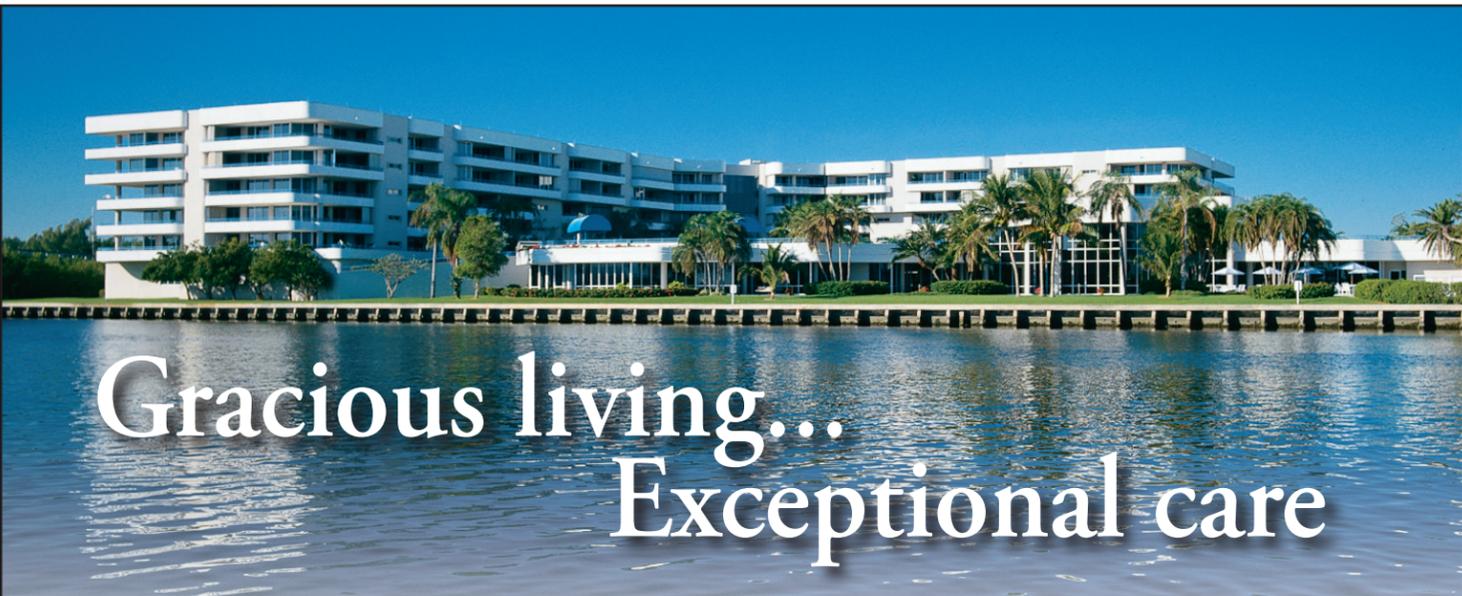
"We're trying to be proactive instead of reactive," Mayor William F. Koch Jr. said after the November vote.

By regulating golf cart operation, the commission gives the Police Department the muscle to enforce against violations, Vice Mayor Joan Orthwein said.

One of the sticking points during commission discussions was whether to require a driver's license. Children can get a learner's permit at age 15 and a license at age 16.

Children under 14 are not allowed by state statute to operate golf carts, the police chief said. Panel members were reluctant to banish younger teens from driving if they acted responsibly.

**In other business,** Gulf Stream authorized Delray Beach to handle its building permit process and gave final approval of ordinances that add a 10 percent utilities tax to electric and gas bills; prohibit discharge of a firearm; and require a \$150 permit fee for use of PODS and other on-property portable storage after 48 hours and limit their stay to seven days. ✨



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## Manalapan

# Town manager to retire

By Margie Plunkett

Help Wanted: Manalapan town manager.

Manalapan is in the market for a new town manager after Gregory Dunham, who has filled the role for most of this decade, told commissioners at their November meeting he is retiring from municipal government and will step down

early next year.



Dunham

"I've been a city manager for 28 years," Dunham said in an interview. "While I enjoyed every part of it, I

would like to try something else. It's a personal choice; I'm not dissatisfied with the profession. I've been in the public sector since high school and I'm looking for a change." He added that he has several possibilities in the works.

Dunham counted among his accomplishments "managing through the problem we had on our well" and fire rescue services secured with Palm Beach.

During the meeting, Commissioners Marilyn Hedberg and Tom Thornton praised Dunham's work and said they were sorry to see him go.

Mayor Tom Gerrard asked if Dunham would join the private sector, Dunham said that remains to be seen.

The commission said it would start a search for candidates to fill the job, but noted that the task would likely be less difficult than when Dunham was hired. Job seekers

See **DUNHAM** on page 7

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# Ocean Ridge / Manalapan

## Towns may fall in line on election dates

By Margie Plunkett

Election Day in Ocean Ridge and Manalapan may find a permanent home on the second Tuesday in March if commissioners in each town follow through on preliminary approvals in November.

Most of the 38 cities in Palm Beach County hold municipal elections on that date, but Ocean Ridge, Manalapan, Palm Beach

and Jupiter Inlet Colony are among those that don't. Ocean Ridge's last elections were the second Tuesday in February; Manalapan's were the first Tuesday in March — just a week earlier than the uniform election date. "If you wish to retain your date, you'll be expected to pay all the costs of [Supervisor of Elections Susan Bucher's] staff," Manalapan Town Attorney Trela White said during that commission's

last meeting. "I'm sure that the money crunch has caused part of this. Everybody's looking for resources."

Bucher gave the mavericks an incentive to come into line and do away with the "helter skelter" system by noting she's considering charging for municipal elections, Ocean Ridge Mayor Ken Kaleel explained during his town's commission meeting. "We've been in negotiations since on

what those fees would be."

If all municipalities had elections on the same day, it would reduce the costs, Kaleel said. "It doesn't look like it would be a huge expense."

Both sets of commissioners voted on the ordinance on first reading, and planned second public hearings and final votes for their December meetings.

### DUNHAM

Continued from page 6  
are much more plentiful now, they noted, as the nation's unemployment rate climbed to 10.2 percent in October in the wake of the recession.

The town manager oversees administration of the town and reports to the commission.

The town attorney and Dunham will complete a transition plan ahead of the Dec. 15 commission meeting.

Dunham joined Manalapan

as town manager in 2002 after a short stint in Wellington. Dunham had previously held the same position in Ocean Ridge for 4 1/2 years and before that, was assistant city manager of Palm Beach Gardens from 1994 to 1999.



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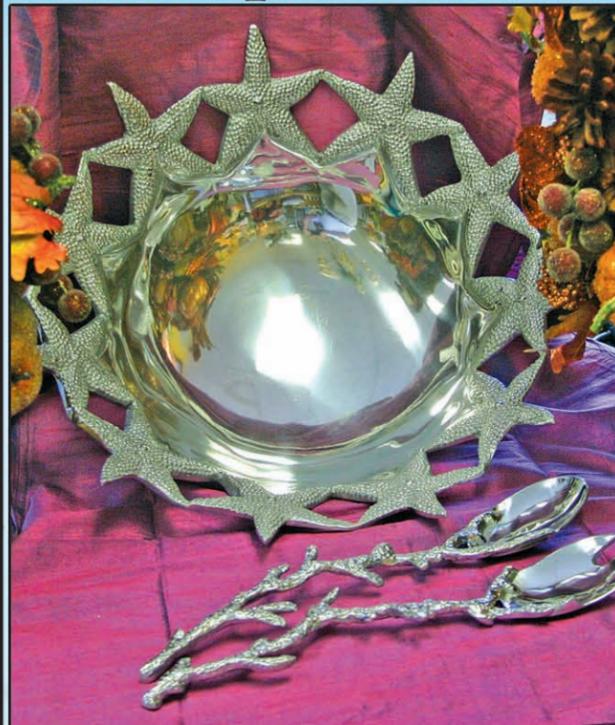
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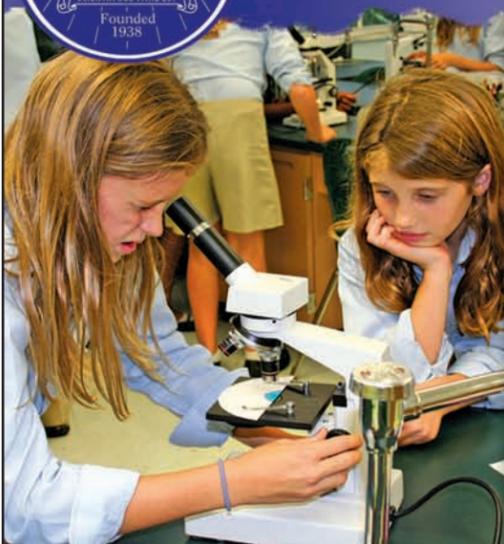
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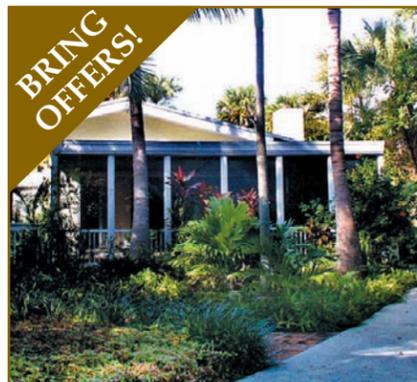
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## Along the Coast

# County lighting survey illuminates turtle hatchling challenge

By Nirvi Shah

A two-year survey of lighting violations along Palm Beach County's coast found just about what sea turtle protectors expected: More than 40 percent of the properties on the beach have lights that could lead hatchlings astray.

The findings have led to questions about the effectiveness of a county law that allows some cities to monitor lighting violations on their own.

The way the 20-year-old law works, the county is responsible for monitoring lights along unincorporated stretches of beach, as well as the coasts of cities that agreed to hand over that duty to the county. That accounts for about 14 percent of the coastline. But those places that make up the remainder of the 45-mile coast opted out of the county's requirements and must keep lighting problems in check on their own.

As a result, there has never been a single, consistent survey of the entire coastline, said Carly DeMaye, who oversees sea turtle protection for the county's Environmental Resources Management Department.

The county secured an \$81,000 grant from the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation to do just such a survey, investing 2,300 after-dark hours over two years to gather information.

"By providing results to local authorities, we can provide assistance to those who may not have the staff or expertise or who may not be able to follow up on these violations," she said. Budget constraints could also be hindering some cities' monitoring efforts.

This survey "takes a little bit of the burden off of them,



Palm Beach County's survey found more than 40 percent of beach properties have lights that could lead hatchlings astray. ERM photo shows beachfront lights at Sommerset Condo in Gulf Stream in April.

just one time," she said.

The municipalities aren't required to do anything with the survey results.

But the large number of properties with violations in towns that should be policing their beaches for lights bothered County Commissioner Karen Marcus.

"If you can't do it, if you don't want to do it, why would you opt out?" she said.

In Gulf Stream, Town Clerk Rita Taylor said her town opted out of county supervision because they felt they didn't need to adopt the county code.

"We've got our own," she said, but the town takes no active role in monitoring the beach for errant lights.

"There's some volunteers that patrol the beach. When they see lighting violations they usually give me a call," Taylor said. "Then we take care of it."

The way the county compiled the data, it's difficult to tell whether the properties cited each year were the same ones. In 2008, county surveyors found 34 homes and buildings with lights that could distract turtle hatchlings in Gulf Stream. In 2009, they found even more.

Darkening beaches during sea turtle nesting season, March 1 to Oct. 31, is key to keeping hatchlings from losing their way.

If they are distracted by light that takes them away from the ocean, they waste precious energy needed when

they hit the water, DeMaye said. "They have a very long swim ahead of them," she said.

In many cases, fixing a lighting problem costs very little. A different kind of light bulb, a topper or special fixtures that shield the light from brightening the beach can solve many problems.

DeMaye said that at face value, the large number of properties with lighting problems found by the survey doesn't mean a cited property hasn't made improvements over the years, or that the problem hasn't already been solved. "One light may have been on the night of the survey. You give them a call and it's off for the rest of the season," she said.

And County Commissioner Steven Abrams took a brighter view of the results than some of his colleagues. "If 40 percent of the properties were not in compliance that means 60 percent are. That's almost two-thirds," Abrams said.

He said county policies don't allow the commission to impose laws on incorporated parts of the area without giving cities the chance to opt out and create their own rules.

"The county still stands ready to offer tech support to any of the municipalities that ask for it," he said. "I'm hoping this report serves as a basis to create more awareness. I don't know of anyone on the coast who doesn't want to try to protect the sea turtles." ✧

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## Protection sought for dwindling loggerheads

By Nirvi Shah

Loggerhead sea turtles nested in smaller numbers this year than they did 20 years ago, says one international research and advocacy group pushing to change loggerheads' status from threatened to endangered.

"The data is disappointing but not surprising," said Kerri Lynn Miller, a marine scientist at Oceana. "The downward trend will only continue unless permanent protections are established."

The group said 90 percent of loggerhead nesting in the United States happens in Florida, which is one of the turtles' two largest nesting spots in the world. But Florida's loggerhead nesting

population has dropped by more than 40 percent over the last decade and 2009 was the state's fourth-lowest nesting season on record.

The other turtles that nest in Palm Beach County or that are found offshore, including leatherbacks, green turtles, hawksbill and Kemp's ridley, are all listed as endangered species. Loggerheads have been listed as threatened since 1978.

There is not a single cause for the decrease in their population, Miller said. Rather, a combination of capture in fishing gear, destruction of habitat, pollution and climate change is leading to their decline, as is disorientation from beachfront lighting.

Meanwhile, ocean foraging and nesting beach conditions for leatherbacks in Florida appear to be improving: 2009 was the largest nesting year on record for the species.

The National Marine Fisheries Service and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service are expected to make a decision about loggerheads' status in February, Miller said.

The Marine Fisheries' own review of the status of loggerheads worldwide found that they are at risk of extinction.

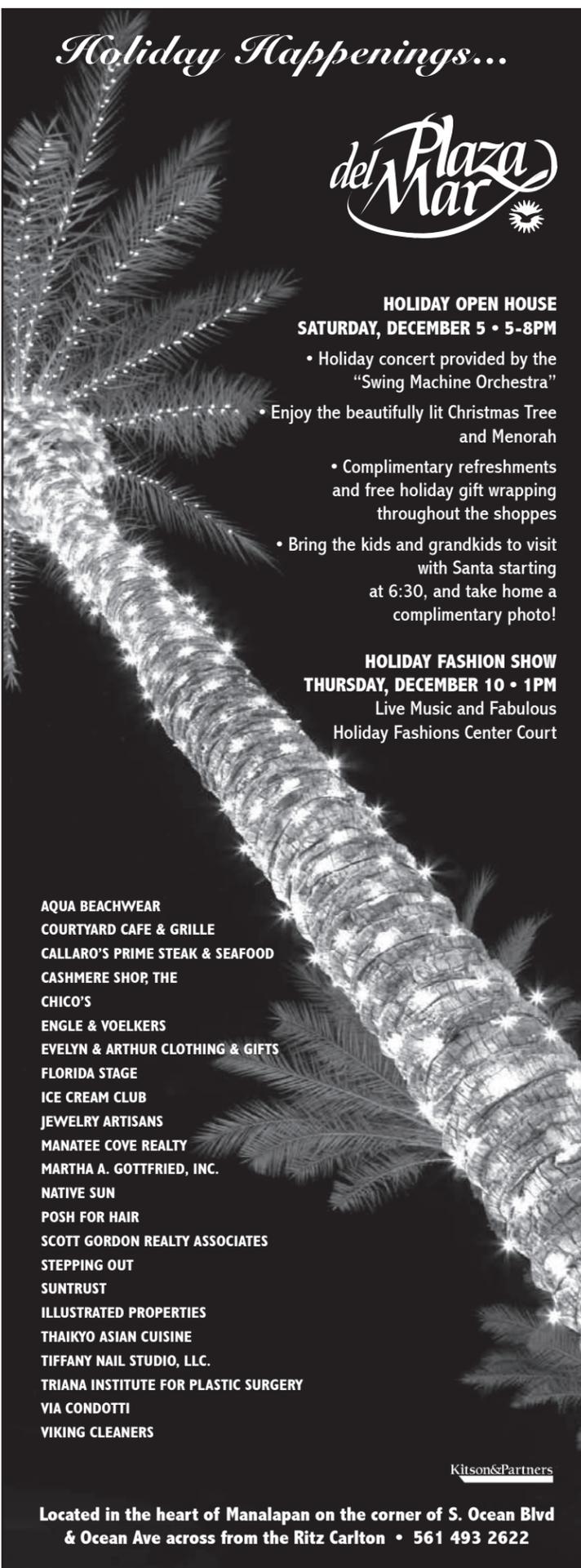
Miller stressed that, "Strong protections must be established as soon as possible if these sea turtle populations are to have any chance of recovery." ✧

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## South Palm Beach

# Small town big on culture and education

By Christine Davis

The town of South Palm Beach may be small — a short stretch of about five-eighths-mile long, and a sliver less than a city block wide — but it stands gloriously high in its salute (and commitment) to art, music and education.

This year, the town's Community Affairs Advisory Board rolls out its 14th cultural program. Its first-of-the-season art exhibit is already up and running and "Spotlight," its music and lecture series, goes into full swing in January.

These programs are just two of a broad spectrum — from health screenings to concerts and casino trips — that is organized and implemented by members of the CAAB.

The board was created to provide improved communication and civic involvement between town residents and the Town Council.

"We have 25 board members and several volunteers," explained Nancy McCrosson, the advisory board's chair. "Our Town Council adopted in its code a purpose to have this board in 1995. We act in an advisory capacity and make recommendations to the Town Council and the town manager involving community and civic events."

"The individuals on this board are extremely dedicated," McCrosson said. "Bigger towns cannot produce what we produce." Nancy and Robert Krell co-chair "Spotlight," the lecture and music series.

For the five music events, the council hired Robert

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Sharon, a Julliard graduate, performer, pianist, conductor and founder of the Robert Sharon Chorale, to line up singers and performers. "We never question who he brings, and every time, we are pleased and surprised," Nancy Krell said.

Sharon offers a variety. "A couple events will have selections from operas, another program will be selections from Broadway, and my chorale will come in to perform. I like to offer a mix," he said. "I'm toying with bringing in an instrumental group. And almost every program will include a what I call 'a star for the future.'"

About the seven lectures, the Krells are very hands-on.

"It's hard to put things together, but these people are willing to come and help us out," Nancy Krell said. "A lot of them do it for a reasonable cost. They love coming to our town. They are challenged by our great questions and love our residents."

Case in point, Walid Phares, a senior fellow and director for the Future of Terrorism Project at the Foundation for the Defense of Democracies in Washington, D.C., who will give a "Middle East and Terrorism" update. "He keeps coming back," Krell said of the former Florida Atlantic University professor. "He's an international player and he

calls us his little village."

Robert Watson, director of Lynn University's American Studies Program, is a popular return lecturer, Krell said. His topic will be "Unforgettable Moments in Campaign History."

And some, like Harry Orf, are speaking for "Spotlight" for the first time. "One of our residents recommended him," Krell said. Orf, vice president of scientific operations and professor of chemistry at Scripps Research Institute, will speak on Florida Scripps' biomedical research.

"Sometimes I feel a little bit like a spy," Krell admits. "I heard Jeffrey Morton give a talk, and asked him if he'd speak for us. Morton, an FAU international law and politics professor, will speak on Russia.

"We have a very good program," she said. "I think seven lectures for \$70 is unbelievable. And we work on ticket sales, so we don't tax our town budget.

"We are a little town, five-eighths of a mile, and what we accomplish with our music and lecture series astounds other towns with more money."

Dorothy Polayes chairs the board's art committee. Beverly Myers of Manalapan currently is the featured artist. "She works in pastels, acrylic, watercolor, collage and mixed media," Polayes, also an artist, said.

That show will run until Jan. 4, 2010. The following exhibit, which opens on Jan. 10 with a reception from 2 to 4 p.m. and runs through March 4, will feature Polayes' pastels.

Following that, the work of North Palm Beach artist Joan Lustig will be featured. Her opening reception will be March 7 from 2 to 4 p.m.

"It's a varied program," Polayes said. "We look for work that people will enjoy who come to our Town Hall. The art is displayed in the same room where we host our lecture series, so the art gets a lot of exposure."

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## Planning board members face ethics review

By Tim O'Meil

The shadow of a proposed 10-story hotel — rejected by a single vote by the South Palm Beach Town Council in October — continues to darken town politics.

Urged by one of the owners of the Palm Beach Oceanfront Inn, the council voted 3-2 on Nov. 18 to seek a review by the state ethics commission of the behavior of three town planning board members. Moments earlier, an attempt to remove two members from the board fell short by a 3-2 vote.

Mayor Martin Millar charged that planning board Chairman Mike Nevard and members Dee Robinson and Pat Festino openly opposed changing the town's comprehensive plan to allow the 99-unit hotel. The board's recommendations are advisory to the council.

Councilman Brian Merbler said Robinson and Festino were named as members of South Palm Beach Preservation, which opposed the hotel, in a letter from the group to state planning officials. "Their behavior was unethical and contrary to the best interests of the town," Merbler said.

Both Robinson and Festino said they are not members of the organization.

Festino said she resigned by letter from the group when she was appointed as an alternate planning board member last year. Later she was named a full member.

"I have no ethics violation," said Festino, who added that she sent a message to the town attorney welcoming any investigation.

Robinson said she and Festino were mistakenly included in the letter to state officials and their names were later removed. "I ask and welcome a full review by the ethics commission. I don't believe I've done anything wrong or anything unethical," Robinson said.

Both said they listened to the arguments carefully, considered the comprehensive plan and voted in the best interest of the town.

Peter Paloka, one of the owners of the inn, urged the filing of a complaint. "If there is a personal conflict, shouldn't we all know that so we can have a pure board?" he said. The Palokas had filed several letters of complaint to the town about the planning board members.

Millar and Councilmen Charles McCrosson and Joseph Flagello voted to seek the review. Merbler and Councilman Don Clayman opposed.

Although Merbler earlier had voted to remove Robinson and Festino, he said he didn't know enough about Nevard's actions to include him in an ethics investigation. McCrosson and Flagello also

opposed removing any board members.

The vote for an investigation came despite Town Attorney Trela White's written opinion that the actions of the board members would likely be judged as advisory and too remote from the council's

decision-making to be considered benefitting any board member financially and thereby not an ethics violation.

Nonetheless, the town attorney's office is fashioning a request for an informal review of the circumstances by the ethics commission. ✧

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## Boynton Beach

# City buildings' future prompts tense exchange

**Editor's note:** At press time (Dec. 1), Boynton Beach commissioners voted 3-2 to drop a March referendum item for a new Police Department building and to expedite plans for a the approved Renaissance Commons location. The following story reports the results of the Nov. 17 Boynton Beach commission meeting.

**By Thomas R. Collins**

A debate over east vs. west — and where the City Hall and police station belong — has erupted in Boynton Beach, fraught with questions over the identity of the city, biting exchanges between city commissioners and impassioned pleas from residents that the city's headquarters stay near the coast.

City commissioners voted 3-2 to ask voters whether they want to pay for a new police station in the Renaissance Commons complex on Congress Avenue, turning aside three proposals for other locations, including one at Ocean Avenue and Federal Highway.

Developer James Comparato's Renaissance Commons proposal would cost the city \$12 million — not including the millions needed to outfit the raw space.

But the question that drew the most interest — where City Hall should be — was left unanswered. Commissioners never settled on a location for a new City Hall, or even on whether to build a new one at all or try to refurbish the existing building on Boynton Beach Boulevard.

The tide appeared to be heading toward keeping City Hall in the eastern part of town, with three commissioners saying they preferred that.

"Mark my words," said Rodriguez, whose district includes the current City Hall. "If we take City Hall and the police station out of here, this whole eastern part of town will collapse, will totally collapse. There is no question in my mind."

Commissioner Weiland had a similar opinion.

"Moving everything out of downtown, you're sending a notice to the business owners who have really taken a stake

in Boynton Beach over many years that you're giving up on downtown," he said.

Weiland favored moving only the Police Department to Renaissance Commons, which according to Comparato's proposal did not include space for the City Hall.

Commissioner Hay, whose district includes eastern sections of town, wanted to move City Hall and the police station to city-owned High Ridge Road property, as one of the proposals called for. That would allow the sale of the existing City Hall site.

Mayor Taylor, drawn to the Renaissance Commons proposal because of the low cost, said he was concerned only with finding a spot for a new Police Department and was comfortable putting off the decision on City Hall.

In the end, there was no proposal for the police station or City Hall east of I-95. The only eastern option was tossed out because no cost estimates were given before the deadline.

That led to a bitter exchange between Commissioners Hay and Rodriguez.

"I still have a problem with you not submitting your figures like the others did," Hay told that presenter, Owen Duke of the Patrinely Group.

"I don't know why that's become an issue now," Rodriguez said. "This commission already said we were going to hear them out."

"You be quiet for right now," Hay told him.

"You don't tell me to be quiet, sir. You can ask me to be quiet. You don't tell me to be quiet."

And so it went on a night of strong opinions.

Residents mostly shared the same view: Keep City Hall in the eastern part of town.

Joyce Baker said a City Hall along Congress Avenue would be "a nightmare."

"The traffic on that road is horrible for people to get in and out of," she said. "This is the heart of Boynton right here (east of I-95)."

Resident Barbara Ready, saying keeping the City Hall and police station in the east was crucial for the downtown's success, told commissioners, "Having a vibrant downtown would add to the quality of life for all citizens in Boynton Beach. It would just make Boynton Beach a better place to be."

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Delray Beach

# Church marks pastor's quarter century

By C.B. Hanif

How typical of Dr. Theodore "Ted" Bush: His church congregation was celebrating him. But he was celebrating them.

That would be the First Presbyterian Church of Delray Beach, whose members assemble at a historic site a block from the ocean, and whose letterhead proclaims it "The Community Church by the Sea."

Two Nov. 8 services marked their senior pastor's 25 years. Yet during those services, which featured classical trumpet, vocal and organ solos, his sermons were an ode to his church:

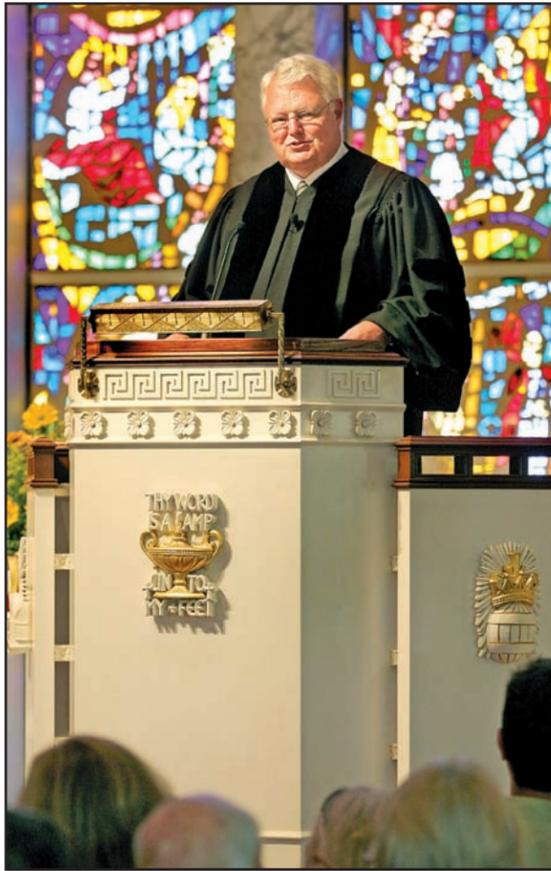
"Over the years that I have been blessed to know you as a congregation and as friends, I've learned a good deal from you," he said.

"It is obvious that you are compassionate and friendly, caring and generous. You have the unique ability to look beyond yourselves, to look to the people outside the walls of this church. Often these people are on the very edge of society, or living in distant parts of the world. The more that I think of how I would actually describe you, the more that I am inclined to use two words: quiet courage."

The scene was much the same Nov. 3 when the Delray Beach City Commission proclaimed Nov. 8, 2009, "Dr. Theodore A. Bush Day." The commission already had recognized, posthumously, the charity work of Dan Bernheim. It had honored Elizabeth Wesley as the "2009 Woman of Courage and Achievement." Bush said he was humbled.

"What you have done for this community, no one can thank you enough," he told Wesley. "Whatever we have been able to do is very small in that regard. But it comes from a congregation of people in the community that really care about Delray Beach and about the surrounding community."

This man of stout stature



'I've learned a good deal from you,' Dr. Theodore 'Ted' Bush told his congregation during a service in which he marked his 25th anniversary behind the pulpit at First Presbyterian Church of Delray Beach.

Photo by Tim Stepien

and warm wit arrived with his wife, Mary, and their young children from their native Chicago, after serving seven years each at churches in Iowa and Barrington, Ill. He remains such a fan of the baseball Cubs and football Bears that it is a font of church humor.

"I keep telling people I'm really living in a southeast suburb," he said. "It's just 1,325 miles southeast."

He speaks with love and admiration for his wife, his adult daughters, and son, Ted, who in his early 20s died from a brain tumor.

Yet for all that the city's proclamation recognized him, he credited his congregation.

"You have changed the lives of countless people in this church, in our community and around the world," he told them. "Most of their names you do not know. Most of their faces you have never seen. Make no mistake about it. Without you, in all likelihood there would be no Caridad Clinic in Boynton Beach. No Achievement Child Care Center, Carver Youth Program, Caring Kitchen in Delray Beach.

No art program for severely challenged children in Boca Raton.

"You have helped to significantly change and heal some small pieces of a very fractured world, through your support of agencies like C.R.O.S. (Ministries), Adopt-A-Family, and the Community Caring Center in Boynton Beach."

The next day, he still was lauding his congregation, for example for supporting members who felt called into the ministry. One, the Rev. Katie Fellows Christie, had returned to participate in the Sunday services. Between those programs, she said, "I told him that they're honoring him, and he's honoring them. And isn't that what fellowship is all about?"

He'll continue to take it all a day at a time, he said. But it is hard to conceive First Presbyterian's biggest fan not eventually returning to Chicago.

"I do hope sometime in my lifetime to cheer the Cubs on to a World Series victory," he says. "But I'm not going to hold my breath."



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## Delray Beach

### Book now to celebrate library's past, future

By Margie Plunkett

The Delray Beach Library is commemorating its 96<sup>th</sup> year at a December meeting and celebrating four years at the current location in January with its annual Laugh with the Library fundraiser.

"The library is older than the town of Delray Beach," said Library Director Alan Kornblau. The nonprofit library, the only one in Florida except for a Winter Park library, was founded in 1913 by the Ladies Improvement Association, he said — 10 years before the town of Delray Beach was incorporated.

The library will honor the anniversary at a Dec. 16 business meeting, featuring guest speaker *Palm Beach Post* columnist Eliot Kleinberg and refreshments. Library Board President Dan Murtaugh will give a state-of-the-library address and an election of new and returning board members will be held.

Laugh with the Library, Chapter 4, is a comedy night fundraiser set for the Delray Beach Marriott on Jan. 29 that marks the fourth year at the current library location, 100 W. Atlantic Ave. It's an opportunity to see "top-notch comedy" in a New York-style comedy club, Kornblau said. "The Delray Marriott venue is awesome, the comedy, wonderful. It's really special, laugh-out-loud comedy."

The event is the biggest fundraiser for the library, which was built primarily with private donations and which operates with the assistance of a grant from Delray Beach,



Photo courtesy of the Delray Beach Public Library

#### Annual Library Association Meeting

**What:** The Delray Beach Public Library Association will hold a business meeting to celebrate its 96th anniversary  
**Where:** Delray Beach Public Library, 100 W. Atlantic Ave.  
**When:** 5:30 p.m. Wednesday, Dec. 16.

#### Laugh with the Library, Chapter 4



**What:** A comedy-night fundraiser with comedian Rocky LaPorte to celebrate the library's fourth year at its current location. The event features food, drink, casual attire. Attendance limited to about 500 people.  
**Where:** Delray Beach Marriott, A1A and Atlantic Avenue  
**When:** Jan. 29. 7:30 p.m.  
**Cost:** \$125 per ticket.  
**For more info:** Call 561-266-0799.

Kornblau explained.

The city reduced funding this year, but the Community Redevelopment Agency is contributing more and has enabled the library to stay open on Sunday, he said. The difficult economy has prompted more people to come to the library to check out books and other materials, but it has also squeezed funding and threatened some library operations.

In addition to the core services of lending books and other material, the library offers classes and entertainment, including the Sunday Musical Matinee 2010 Series, held once a month from January to April.

The library also launched its new Life-Long Learning Center in November, which offers continuing education for adults on topics that include art, political science and humor. Life-Long Learning features three-, four- and five-week courses on continuing education topics.

"It gives folks the opportunity to learn a little more," Kornblau said. The library is trying to fill the void created when Palm Beach Community College dropped its continuing education program. The cost of the sessions, \$35 to \$45 per course plus a \$15 fee per semester, are added revenue for the library. ✧

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### Dessert shop duo melt away

Both employees forced to hand over free ice cream to an insistent Delray Beach police officer last April have since moved on to other professions, a co-owner of the shop said.

One employee is now in the medical profession and the other — in an ironic twist — works at the Broward County State Attorney's office, said Randy Schmidt, a co-owner

of the Ben & Jerry's on East Atlantic Avenue in Delray Beach. Schmidt said he wasn't in the shop the night his employees were held up for two scoops.

When asked if his employees got out of the ice cream game because it was too fraught with corruption and danger, Schmidt just laughed. "That was really something,"

he said.

Michael Brown was fired from the Delray Beach Police Department Nov. 20 after an internal investigation showed he demanded free ice cream from the Ben & Jerry's and that he also had failed to pay for a meal at a local IHOP. Brown had been with the department since 2007.

— Kelly Wolfe

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# Lantana / South Palm Beach / Manalapan Postal service delivers good news to residents

By Mary Thurwachter

Christmas came early in Lantana, where officials received word on Nov. 20 that the town's post office will stay in business after all. The branch at 201 W. Ocean Ave. was taken off the list of 241 post offices facing possible closure by the U. S. Postal Service in an effort to save money.

Town Manager Mike Bornstein, also known as the Barefoot Mailman for his portrayal of the local legend, was pleased as punch when the news arrived. He helped lead a crusade to save the branch, which averages 2,058 customer visits a week during the winter season.

"We really pulled together on this," he said, "and when I say we I mean Lantana and the surrounding communities that use the post office, too, like Hypoluxo, Atlantis, Manalapan and South Palm Beach."

Officials from all of those towns turned out at an old-fashioned grass-roots rally at the post office on Oct. 21. A few county commissioners were on hand, too, as were school children and a not so jolly Ol' St. Nick, dressed in fluffy white fur-cuffed shorts and lamenting about not being able to get "Dear Santa" letters from area children. That day, Bornstein, shoeless and clad in his Barefoot Mailman costume, and Mayor David Stewart gave stirring



Sheila Stark greets a customer hours after learning the Lantana Post Office would not be closing. Photo by Jerry Lower

speeches and led the crowd in a publicity stunt that captured national attention. They encouraged fans of the local branch to write notes on coconuts and mail them to Postmaster General John E. Potter. Stewart and Bornstein got the ball rolling by donating a few hundred bucks of their own money to the cause. One by one, others addressed coconuts and took them into the branch to pay the \$4-\$17 postage needed to mail them to Washington, D.C.

More than 1,000 coconuts were sent to Potter, who donated them to a homeless shelter.

Residents also collected more than 5,000 signatures on petitions and sent hundreds of letters of support to keep the branch open. At the rally, Stewart acknowledged that the numbers did not look good. "We know the postal service is trying to run a profitable service," he said. "But they've got to look at this from a service point of view. We've got a group of elderly people who use the post office. Not everyone pays bills on the Internet."

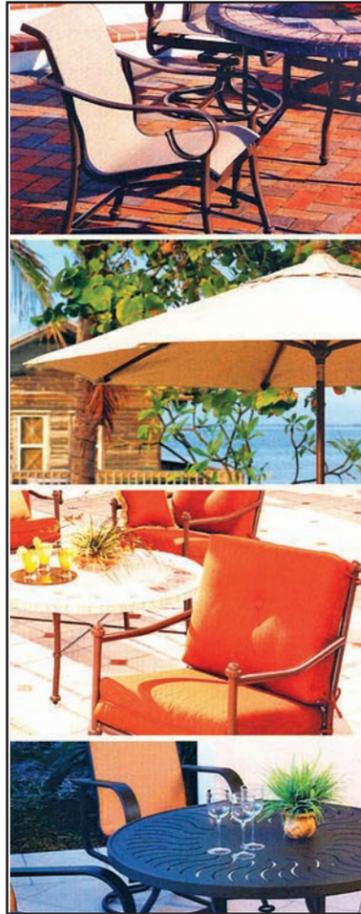
USPS spokeswoman Debra Fetterly said there was a study to look at the branch's customer access, service standards, cost savings, impact on employees, environmental impact, real estate values and long-term post office needs.

"It was determined that it was in the best interest of the Postal Service and its customers that the Lantana Post Office remain open," she said. "We appreciate our customers, and our employees look forward to continue providing outstanding service to customers in Lantana and surrounding communities."

This happy-ending story will not quickly be forgotten, Bornstein said.

"The mayor and I will be going to the schools to talk about this. It's a good civics lesson that shows that people can make a difference."

Two other local branches — the Southboro station in West Palm Beach and one in Boca Raton — are among 11 Florida post offices that remain on the list of stations considered for closure.



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**IMPERIAL HOUSE:**  
 Continued from page 1

Now the six-story, 58-unit Imperial House faces a more imposing task: erecting a \$500,000 permanent sea wall before the turtle-nesting season begins April 1 or before the next winter nor'easter threatens the co-op.

"The issue is we're at the eleventh hour," said resident Anthony Carella, former secretary of the co-op's board of directors. "The erosion of the coastline is not slowing up."

The Imperial House has assessed its shareholders for the cost and has state permits in hand to begin the work in mid-December, but needs a path to get construction equipment and materials on to the beach.

That is proving to be more difficult than erecting the sea wall. The closest and most logical access is through the town of Lantana's beach, immediately south of the Imperial House.

But, Lantana wants the co-op to pay \$213,500 for access, the extra cost the town incurred in 2008 when it erected a sea wall to protect its beach and then wasn't able to connect to the co-op's

planned sea wall.

The town had to re-engineer the sea wall plans, change its permit and build an additional section to the wall and doesn't want to stick its taxpayers with the extra cost.

The Mayfair House, a 223-unit condominium five buildings north of the Imperial House, also wants to use the Lantana access to move a construction crane off the beach when its \$1.6 million sea wall is finished. Work has yet to begin.

Lantana town commissioners want a \$75,000 fee for access over its dune. Lantana commissioners gave both condos until Dec. 14 to work out an arrangement.

Neither building says it can afford the cost.

"\$75,000 for interrupting their beach?" said Mayfair House President John Vivenzio. "Clearly, we're not going to do that."

"We can't afford to do that and we can't afford not to," said Imperial House's Fischer. "They have us over a barrel."

Vivenzio said the Mayfair may have to devise a method of building the sea wall from the western side. He was critical of the town of South Palm Beach for not offering support for the condos. No South Palm Beach town

commissioner attended a Nov. 23 meeting with Lantana commissioners and condo representatives.

"Their attitude is 'We have no dog in this fight,'" Vivenzio said. "We're the lowest point on A1A. If the Mayfair House goes, A1A goes. It's a beach town. Without a beach, you have no town."

Imperial House has already assessed its residents to the max — for the sea wall, hurricane windows, new paint and other improvements.

"If we don't do it, the building is going to be permanently damaged and we don't have the money to do it," Carella said.

The Imperial House applied for a state permit in 2008 but disagreements among its board and with its engineers delayed the project.

"We had no contract or handshake agreement with Lantana" to install its sea wall last year when Lantana did, he said.

Fischer and Carella said the building is investigating whether Lantana can legally prevent the Imperial House from using an old state right of way to reach the beach and move its equipment.

"All it takes is one northeastern storm to make its way down here and cause havoc," Fischer said. "The sound of the ocean waves is not soothing to me anymore."

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**Manalapan**  
 Landscape workshop set for Dec. 15

Manalapan will hold a workshop on landscaping in swales at 10 a.m. Dec. 15 at Town Hall. Town Attorney Trela White drafted a proposed ordinance after discussions on what vegetation should be allowed in swales. The workshop continues the discussion that has focused on protecting infrastructure in swales including electric lines.

The regular commission meeting will be held at 1 p.m. on that day.

— Margie Plunkett

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## Lantana

### Town stands firm on beach access costs

By Margie Plunkett

Lantana council members took a hard stand against helping the neighboring Imperial House condominium building at taxpayers' expense and said it would charge \$213,500 to allow the co-op to stage equipment to fix its rapidly deteriorating temporary sea wall.

The figure equals the added expense Lantana has incurred to rebuild its weather-damaged sea wall because the Imperial House had not made repairs on its sea wall at the time of construction, according to Lantana officials. Lantana has completed the \$1.6 million sea wall, but still must build a wall that will connect with the Imperial House's.

"It would be a tragedy to lose their building, but I don't want to do it at our taxpayers' expense," Mayor David Stewart said at the council meeting early in November. "I don't want to see their building go into the water. But I don't want to set a precedent."

Imperial House residents made a plea to Lantana at the town's Nov. 9 and Nov. 23 council meetings, asking for permission for beach access to stage the equipment at a less costly sum than the initial \$253,500 price tag the town initially set. The building is in peril of falling into the sea: The ocean is lapping at the base of the building and the temporary sea wall has sunk four feet in the last two months, residents said Nov. 9.

Lantana council members reduced the price by \$40,000 because the park facilities and parking lot wouldn't be impacted as much as initially thought. But they stuck to their guns on the balance, even as Imperial

House countered that it would be willing to pay \$35,000 over the course of a year, and listing projected savings for Lantana in memos between Imperial House Board President Art Pile and Town Manager Mike Bornstein.

Mayfair House, a neighbor to Imperial House, also attended the Nov. 23 meeting because it is preparing to start its own sea wall repairs Dec. 1. Lantana had estimated a \$75,000 access fee for Mayfair, which will be able to get a crane onto the beach from its property, but not off. The Mayfair House suggested the crane could be used for all three sea wall projects — at Mayfair House, Imperial House and Lantana.

But Lantana council said it would accept a total \$213,500 from Imperial House and Mayfair House, and instructed the two to get together to work it out.

Vice Mayor Cindy Austino pointed out that Lantana was actually granting access for free, but recouping the taxpayer money that had to be spent unnecessarily because of the condition of Imperial House's sea wall.

At its Nov. 9 meeting, council had mentioned additional reasons it was reluctant to grant access, including that it wanted to protect the beach for residents, who find solace there come season. But they also said they believed the Imperial House was a South Palm Beach problem that that municipality wasn't addressing.

"South Palm Beach is going to be facing this over and over again," said council member Elizabeth Tennyson. "We want to be a good neighbor, but we can't give our assets away because your town is not taking care of you." ✨

### 'Wacky' water needs volunteers

Lantana's Nature Preserve is preparing for thirsty runners at the Dec. 6 Palm Beaches Marathon, putting together the only "wacky" water station in Lantana, according to Ilona Balfour, a director for the preserve. The station will be on Ocean Avenue at Bicentennial Park at the western foot of the bridge.

The water station plans a mariachi theme, with bright, Mexican-style clothing and lively music, Balfour said, adding that the race's water stations vie for the two top prizes of \$1,000 and \$500.

The Old Key Lime House

won't operate a water station, as originally expected, and Balfour welcomes anyone interested in volunteering at the Nature Preserve station.

This is the first time the marathon will wind its way through Lantana.

Manalapan is warning residents about the traffic problems the race will cause that Sunday morning. While residents will be able to get off the island, they'll have to choose another option to the Lantana bridge. The intersection of Ocean Avenue and A1A, as well as the bridge, will be closed.

— Margie Plunkett

## Manalapan

### Florida Stage heading to Kravis

Beginning in July 2010, Florida's largest professional theater company dedicated exclusively to new and emerging plays will leave Manalapan and take up residence in the Marshall E. Rinker Sr. Playhouse at the Kravis Center in West Palm Beach, the company said Nov. 30.

"The Kravis Center is one of the most visible and prestigious performing arts centers in the country," said Louis Tyrrell, producing director of Florida Stage. "We are thrilled at the

opportunity to make our home there."

The existing 310-seat Rinker Playhouse will be reconfigured to a more intimate 275 seats, with new risers, theater seats, lighting and sound. The existing Manalapan space has 258 seats.

The 23-year-old Florida Stage will continue to operate as a separate and autonomous company, with independent staff and Board of Trustees and its own box office.

— Palm Beach ArtsPaper

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Holiday Gifts

# A dozen December delights

*Twelve tiny treasures  
I was challenged to find.  
In shops and boutiques  
— even online.*

*So I hunted and searched  
Our coastal communities.  
From Delray to Lake Worth.*

*I sought with impunity  
Objects diminutive,  
Either in price or in size,  
Perfect for stuffing in stockings  
— oh my!*

*In this season of giving,  
May the spirit burn bright  
With these 12 little items  
Of Coastal delight.*

— Scott Simmons



**1. Vera Bradley Stockings**, \$22 Pink Hibiscus, 223 E. Ocean Ave., Lantana. Phone: 202-0092  
You'll hang these stockings by the chimney with care, and Santa won't believe that you have such flair. Everything is perfect in paisley with Vera Bradley's Symphony in Hue and Blue Rhapsody stockings. You can stuff them with Bradley's pretty paisley pens (\$19) and purse hooks (\$12), all popular sellers, according to Pink Hibiscus owner Donna Keil.

Photos by Tim Stepien



**2. Shell purse**, \$75  
Beachcomber Fine Arts, 112 S. Federal Highway, Boynton Beach. Phone: 315-5717

Debbie Brookes wants you to keep the style of the beach within easy reach. Her shell clutch purse is perfect for evenings out. It's

just the right size for lipstick, a compact and credit cards. And it will fit comfortably on any restaurant table, from the Banana Boat to The Breakers.

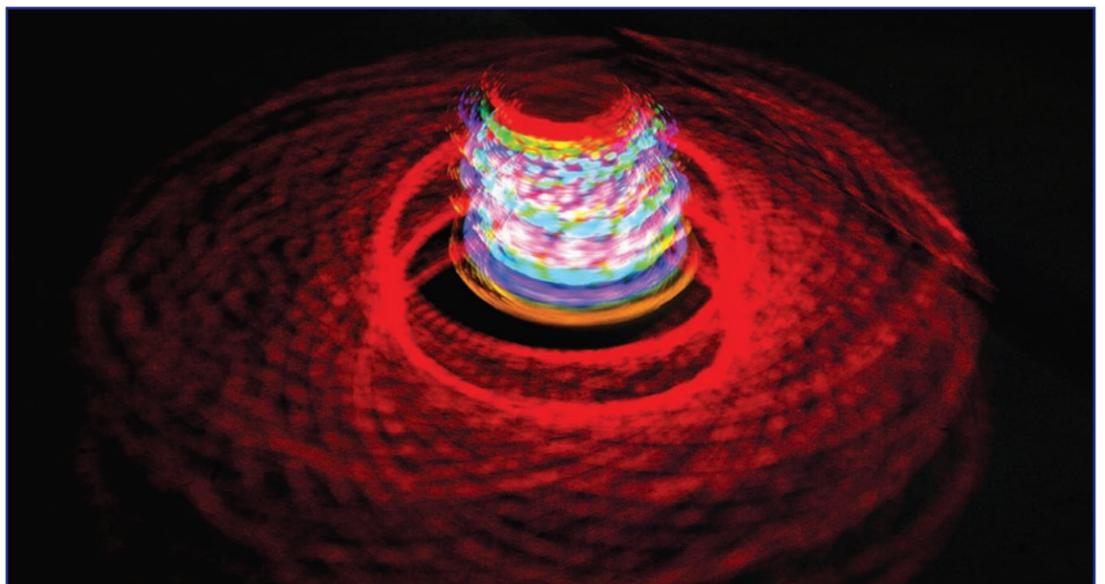
Also worth checking: Debbie's shell-encrusted votives (\$10) are a perfect hostess gift.



**3. Silvie Goldmark Design Butterfly and Flower salt and pepper shakers**, \$85

Maryanne Webber Gallery, 709 Lucerne Ave., Lake Worth. Phone: 585-0003 Their sparkle and glitter had us all atwitter. But these Silvie Goldmark salt and pepper shakers lend the right bit of whimsy to any décor. German-born artist Thomas Leiblein designs the molds for each of these figures, and each piece is carved in clay, then cast in pewter and plated in either silver-color or 24k gold.

Perfect as a hostess gift, or for yourself.



**4. Laser Top**, \$4  
Mercer Wenzel, 401 E. Atlantic Ave., Delray Beach. Phone: 278-2885

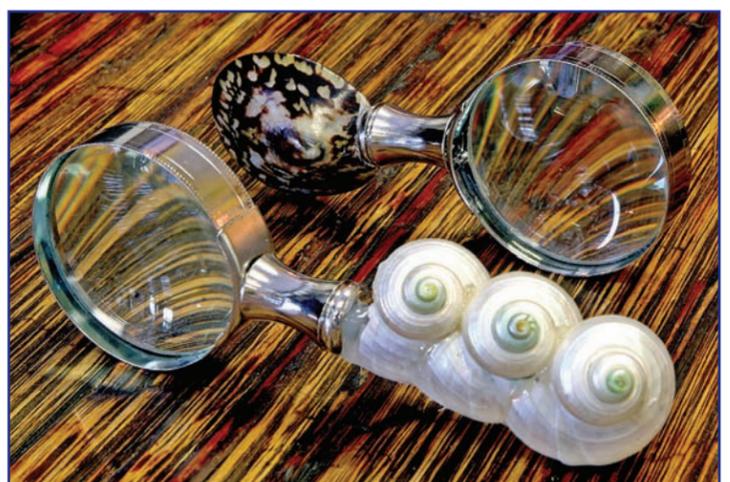
It tweets and it twirls, and it lights with profusion. But if you need a quick gift,

there'll be no confusion.

This friction-driven top is a hit with boys and girls of all ages, and Mercer Wenzel no doubt will need to order more before Christmas. Give it a whirl.

**5. Shell-handled magnifier**, \$22  
Boynton Beach Postal Center, 562 E. Woolbright Road, Boynton Beach. Phone: 738-6002

Here's a tropical twist on a household necessity. These shell-handled magnifiers are perfect for reading the fine print with style. And they're popular with men, the store says. Also magnified: the giant wristwatch alarm clocks (\$85), which look like vintage timepieces on steroids.



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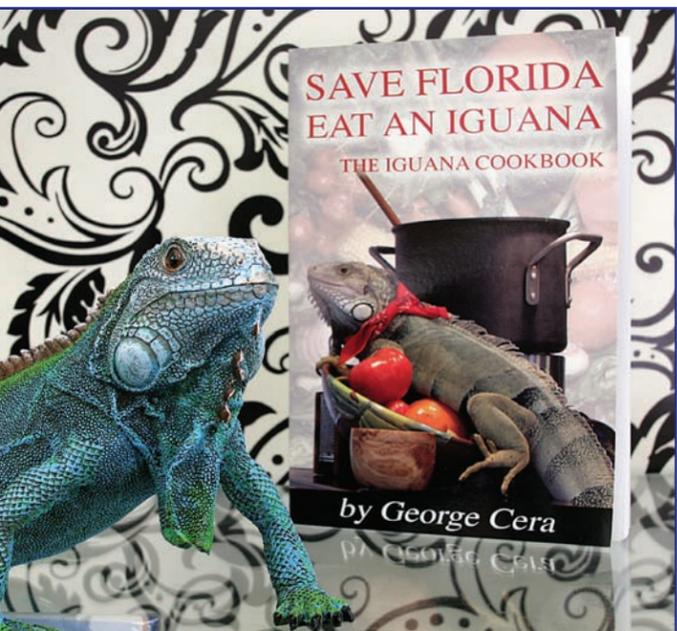


Murphy's 46664 bangle bracelet honors the legacy of Nelson Mandela, and proceeds provide jobs in South Africa.

**Mandela Bracelets,** \$19.99-\$12,900 Available at www.theBangle.com or at 984-6664 If Stream resident Murphy has a mission. Nelson Mandela 46664 lets raise money for HIV/ prevention worldwide. What's with the number? It was Mandela's prison number, now used as an icon for his humanitarian efforts. The bracelets, which bear the number, as well as a digital print of Mandela's hands, are made of copper, silver, gold or platinum, and have a serial



number that allows owners to see how their bangle purchase helps others. They're made in South Africa and provide jobs there. And, with the range of materials, from basic to deluxe, almost anyone can afford one.



**Save Florida: Eat an Iguana, by George Cera,** \$8.95 Hand's, 325 E. Atlantic Ave., Delray Beach. Phone: 276-4194 Leaping lizards! Iguana hunter George Cera has the recipe for ridding our region of an invasive visitor. Buy this book for the chef in your life; better yet, buy it for a friend. That has to be at least as good as iguana soup any day.



**8. Geodesis candles and sprays,** \$47 Excentricities, 301 NE Second Ave., Delray Beach. Phone: 278-0886 These scents make the most sense, if you're looking for something elegant but practical.

Nothing holds a candle to Geodesis. Made in France, the candles last about 60 hours. And the fragrances? They're intoxicating without overwhelming a room. Pink Grapefruit evokes Florida with a citrus zest. Tuberoses offer an old-world touch.



**9. Bit o' Blue blueberry dog treats,** \$8 Golden Bone, 14 S. Swinton Ave., Delray Beach. Phone: 274-7666.

These dog treats are baked in Maine with wind-generated electricity, store owner Marcy Albin says. They're loaded with antioxidants and are a treat your dog could share with you, Albin says. After all, they're made with human-grade ingredients. While we don't recommend them for humans, they are reason enough for that pooch in your life to "Sit! Stay! Enjoy!"



**10. Laughing animals and talking figures,** \$20 and up Evelyn & Arthur, Plaza del Mar, 277 S. Ocean Blvd., Manalapan. Phone: 585-1122 The stockings are hung, but you need a laugh. So what do you do? You head over to Evelyn & Arthur

for one of these figures. We were partial to the Chuckle Buddies — one of them was a monkey that rolled around on the floor. "They're a bona fide pain in the neck," laughed a store staffer, who said they're popular with kids from ages 9 months to 90.

**11. Wooden belt, \$26.95 and up** The Trouser Shop, 439 E. Atlantic Ave., Delray Beach. Phone: 278-5626 A waist is a terrible thing to mind. But you won't mind showing yours off when you're wearing a cool belt like this. It's made of tropical hardwoods and is fully adjustable. Good style, good fit. That notion doesn't go against the grain at The Trouser Shop. "The biggest thing is making things fit," says shop owner Bruce Gimmy. Also a great buy: Gimmy's cloth belts, priced at around \$20.



**12. Christmas baby booties,** \$8 Snappy Turtle, 1100 E. Atlantic Ave., #A, Delray Beach. Phone: 276-8088

"Bring home holiday bootie," my editor cried, and suddenly it was upon me she relied to find something to treasure, that rare object of pleasure. But, alas, I hunted both low and

high for something exotic, something wondrous to buy. And when I unearthed these booties of red, it was then I remembered what often is said, that there's no finer treasure than a wee, tiny babe. So with a smile in my heart, these booties I gave to our newspaper's own sweet baby Jade (soon-to-arrive daughter of photographer Tim Stepien).

Holiday Gifts

Selecting the right gift wine for the holidays

By Jan Norris

It can be confusing to choose a bottle of wine to take to someone else's home — there's the unknown menus and the host's taste to consider. We went to three area wine

experts to get their opinions on wines that are suitable for taking along to holiday festivities.

"My safest bet is something with bubbles — always this time of year. You know it's going to be used, whether in

general or for an occasion," said Bob Leone, manager and wine director of Crown Wines and Spirits in Boynton Beach. "After that, it's a matter of what number you attach to it. If money's no object, then

**Dom Perignon, Krug, Cristal,**

**Bollinger** or one of the tête de cuvée from the French houses. For those, you're looking at \$100 and up."

But for drinkable bargains, he says to look for "entry level French Champagnes. He likes **Billecart-Salmon Brui Reserve** — "about \$43 a bottle," he said. Others on his list: **Piper-Heidsieck, Louis Roederer, Veuve Cliquot's yellow label.** These will be between \$35 and \$60 a bottle.

Dave Spitzer, owner of Delray Beach's Old Vines and Spirits, would likely take something "that's maybe not the normal fare. I'd go with something a little more unusual. He likes blends, like "a **La Storia Cuvee 32.** It's a 2005 from Sonoma's Alexander Valley. It's a nice combination of Italian with domestic California grapes. I like doing that. It's something nobody else might bring," and costs around \$24 a bottle.

He also likes the more recent pinot grigios from California. The producers are coming around, he said, after a lackluster start with these wines. "Oregon's **Duck Pond, or King Estate's Pinot Gris** from Willamette Valley are both good choices."

As for a meal wine, "Again, for something unusual, there's a small producer from Willamette Valley, **Z'ivo**, that makes a wonderful pinot noir. It's \$26 to \$35. They also have a wonderful white blend, **Z'ivo Quartet**, for \$21."

He also recommends sparkling wines as the safe bet. "Nothing says the holidays like popping a cork." Some drinkers don't like bone-dry sparklings, so choosing one with a slight sweetness is OK, he said, especially with different types of hors d'oeuvres and foods.

"One I like to serve before telling them where it's from is **Gruet.** They have a blanc du noir and a brut. It's from New Mexico, it's bottle-fermented and made in the true Champagne method. And for \$16, you can't beat the price."

His general tips: Take sparkling wines to the party already chilled if you'd like them served. Don't buy a bottle for the price just to impress. "Take something you're happy to share, or that you think they'd like that you found; your host will likely appreciate that gesture," he said. And, "Remember to take off the price tag!"

Jake Card is the "wine guy"



at Lantana Fine Wines and Spirits. He also says go with quality that you can afford. There's a great deal out there under \$30, so you shouldn't have to break the bank to impress someone.

"You can find Sonoma's **Bear Boat** pinot noir for less than \$20. For their price range, they're a consistent pinot producer. I like their style; it's not over heavy, but not wimpy, either."

He recommends the French producer **Jean-Luc Colombo.** "They make a few different Côtes du Rhône and most can be had for \$15 to \$16 a bottle." France's Rhone region has had a lot of good vintages lately, and, he said, "Jean-Luc Colombo puts as much emphasis on their **Côtes du Rhône** as their \$80 **Chateauf-neuf-du-Pape.** It's always good." These reds have body enough to stand up to heavier hors d'oeuvres, he said.

As for whites, "I picked out a **Calera**, a California chardonnay. It's very consistent. They make bottles from \$15 to \$50, and their **Central Coast** chard, from \$15 to \$17 is not too oaky, but not too soft, either. I love it because of the price point. You can't beat it."

And if you don't know if your host is a red- or white-wine drinker, he agrees that champagne is the safe bet as a gift. "I have been partial to **Nicolas Feuillatte** — his regular brut, which you can get for around \$30. Far and away better than most of the **Moët**, and to my thinking, **Veuve Clicquot**, which everyone seems to like, but I don't care for." For a red wine as a gift, he likes **Patz and Hall Sonoma Coast** pinot noir, at \$40 or so. "It's a fantastic bottle of wine for the price."

And a **Rombauer Chardonnay**, for under \$40, is his white-wine choice. "It's not stretching the imagination or finding anything new, but even in a not-so-good vintage year, they manage consistency."

Jan Norris blogs about food (and more) at [www.jannorris.com](http://www.jannorris.com).

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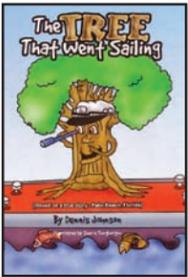
Laura Gallagher and her daughter Morgan of Delray Beach enjoy a book reading recently by Dennis Johnson and Sherrie Tengbergen at the Boynton Beach City Library. Photo by Jerry Lower

### Holiday Gifts

## Some books for kids are home-grown

There's a world of titles to choose from when deciding which children's books to give this holiday season — and some of them were written close to home.

Here's a sampling set in Palm Beach County and written by local authors:



**The Tree That Went Sailing**  
**Author:** Dennis Johnson, West Palm Beach  
**Illustrator:** Sherrie Tengbergen  
**For ages:** Kindergarten to 9 years  
**What's it about?** A Palm Beach family looking for the perfect tree to grace its garden finds a green buttonwood on Ibis Isle in the Intracoastal Waterway and has it moved by crane and barge.  
**Where can I get it?** Main Street News, Classic Bookshop and Green's Pharmacy, all in Palm Beach  
**Price:** \$21.99; coloring book version, \$4.99

**Author's Web site:** [www.thetreethatwentsailing.com](http://www.thetreethatwentsailing.com)



**Dead Fred, Flying Lunchboxes and The Good Luck Circle**  
**Author:** Frank McKinney, Delray Beach  
**For ages:** 9 and up  
**What's it about?** Inspired by the author's walks to school with his daughter, this fantasy adventure features a 50-foot prehistoric Megalodon shark who lives under a drawbridge, a dead fish that talks and flying lunchboxes escorted by flying fish.  
**Where can I get it?** Barnes & Noble, Borders  
**Price:** \$18.95

**Author's Web site:** [www.dead-fred.com](http://www.dead-fred.com)



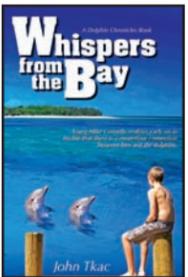
**The American Jungle: The Adventures of Charlie Pierce**  
**Author:** Harvey Oyer III, West Palm Beach  
**Illustrator:** James Balkovek  
**For ages:** 7 to 12

**What's it about?** Based on the diaries of Charlie Pierce, the author's great-grand-uncle, this fictionalized account dramatizes pioneer life in South Florida during the 1870s.

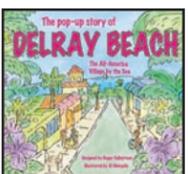
**Where can I get it?** The Richard & Pat Johnson Palm Beach County History Museum; Jupiter Lighthouse gift shop; Hand's bookstore, 325 E. Atlantic Ave., Delray Beach

**Price:** \$19.95

**Author's Web site:** [www.theamericanjungle.com](http://www.theamericanjungle.com)



**Whispers from the Bay**  
**Author:** John Tkac, Delray Beach  
**For ages:** Fifth-graders and up  
**What's it about?** Winner of the 2008 Florida Book Award for young adult literature, *Whispers from the Bay* is the story of a young boy living on Key Biscayne in the 1950s who learns how to telepathically talk to dolphins.  
**Where can I get it?** Barnes & Noble (or online)  
**Price:** \$22.95 in stores, \$13.77 online  
**Author's Web site:** [www.whispersfromthebay.com](http://www.whispersfromthebay.com)



**The Popup Story of Delray Beach: The All-American Village by the Sea**  
**Author:** Roger Culbertson, Lake Worth  
**Illustrator:** Al Margolis  
**For ages:** 5 and up  
**What's it about?** A historically accurate account of the city and all it has to offer, with each popup page highlighting an aspect, from history to arts and culture, parks and recreation. Proceeds support Delray Beach public and private schools.

**Where can I get it?** Delray Beach Chamber of Commerce; Hand's

**Price:** \$25

**Author's Web site:** [www.delraypopupbook.com](http://www.delraypopupbook.com)

Compiled by Ron Hayes

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Celebrations

Boynton Woman's Club celebrates 100

After a brief skit depicting the past century, Lillian Ostiguy (l-r), Donna Artes, Patti Owen, Terry Markey, Michelle Walter, Kay Baker and Barbara Grimes show off their costumes. They were celebrating the 100th birthday of the historic Boynton Beach Woman's club with a party and dance. Photos by Tim Stepien



Bringing the crowd to its feet

It takes an inspirational award winner to bring a crowd of 600 to its feet, and that's just what Gayle Martin did at the Tenth Annual Women of Grace Awards hosted by the Bethesda Hospital Foundation at the Ritz-Carlton in Manalapan. Also honored Oct. 29 were Eileen Augustyn, Robin Bresky, Cindy Kresbach and Susan Mullin. Photo by Jerry Lower



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- Capt. Red Beard Hot Sauces
- The Orchid Doctor
- Healthy Gourmet Granola
- Anita's Guacamole
- Seeley's Gourmet Hummus
- Couture Cakes
- Organic Juice Booth
- Amazing Creations Cut Flowers
- Maxwell's Landscape Plants
- Serenity Flow's Handmade Soaps
- Vito's Fresh Italian Cheeses
- The Happy Pickle
- Organic Olive Oils
- Wilson's Barbecue
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The Delray GreenMarket is a Saturday morning destination as an open air market place offering everything from off-the-vine produce to just picked citrus and fragrant baked goods to fresh cut flowers, blooming plants and gourmet taste treats.

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### Veterans Day events honors sacrifice, valor

**TOP:** Still able to fit into his uniform, A. Edward Wilen is helped back to his seat by Boy Scoutmaster Tom Sutterfield after Wilen was decorated with the French Legion of Honor Award for his help in liberating France in 1944. He was one of 24 local veterans celebrated in Boynton Beach on Veterans Day.

**RIGHT:** Austin Parker was one of the 75 members of the Carlisle Veterans Club who were honored with a program that included speeches, music, baton twirlers and a raffle. **BOTTOM:** Dorothy Abbate wore her patriotism on her chest while waiting for raffle numbers to be called. The Carlisle is an independant and assisted living facility located at Ocean Avenue and State Road A1A in Lantana. Photos by Jerry Lower



### Celebrations



### Founders' Day at Gulf Stream School

Each fall, a number of students are chosen to read an essay that reflects on the history of Gulf Stream School. **ABOVE:** Headmaster Joseph J. Zaluski helps pre-K students Stella Forman and Dorthea Zarcadoolas on stage. **LEFT:** Teacher David Winans, who joined the faculty in 1982, talks about the school's founding in 1938. He is wearing a plaid jacket from the 1989 program. Photos by Jerry Lower



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Celebrating our History

# Tabloid's tree twinkles and shines in memory

By Ron Hayes

O Tannenbaum! O Tannenbaum! We miss you, Tabloid Tannenbaum!

Has it really been 20 years since all those lights went dark for the last time on 'The World's Tallest Christmas Tree'?

Those 16,000 twinkling lights?

Or was it 20,000 lights? Or 36,000?

Quibble about the lights if you want.

No one doubts that for 17 years, Generoso Pope Jr., owner of *The National Enquirer*, gave Lantana the world's tallest tannenbaum.

Why, thousands came each year to marvel at it!

Or were there millions?

What began in 1972 as a modest tree outside the newspaper's headquarters at 600 S. East Coast Ave., peaked in 1985 at 126 feet, a towering Douglas fir topped by a 6-foot silver star, set amid a glittering Christmas village filled with toy trains and reindeer, parachuting elves and a baby Jesus.

And then, on Aug. 29, 1989, the tabloid's new owners made the sad but unsurprising announcement. The *National Enquirer* Christmas tree would rise above the railroad tracks no more. When Generoso

Pope died on Oct. 2, 1988, the world's tallest Christmas tree died with him.

"We contacted all the big local companies and offered to pay 50 percent," remembers Iain Calder, the *Enquirer's* former chairman and CEO. "But we didn't get one response."

The only thing more dazzling than the tree itself was the story behind it.

In 1971, Pope had moved the *Enquirer's* office and staff from New York City — home of that pitiful little shrub, the Rockefeller Center tree — to Lantana. And Pope missed Christmas.

"Even Generoso Pope couldn't bring snowstorms to South Florida," Calder explained.

So he put up a little 60-foot tree on the *Enquirer* grounds, to give himself and his fellow transplants a touch of Christmas just like the ones they used to know.

Or was it 86 feet?

"All I know is, it was two feet shorter than the Rockefeller Center tree," says Malcolm Balfour, a former reporter at the paper.

Pope was upset until Balfour, thinking quickly, added: "But the Rockefeller Center tree is on a platform."

And Pope was assuaged.

According to Balfour, Pope then ordered him to get Bing Crosby down to Lantana, to sing *White Christmas* at the lighting ceremony.

Crosby was already booked, and Perry Como was in Ireland, filming a television special.

They settled on the West Point Glee Club, all 40 members, flown to Florida and put up at Pope's expense.

The next year, he brought Burl Ives.

Balfour says he's the man Pope sent to buy lawn decorations.

"How much did you spend?" he asked when the reporter returned with toy trains, elves, a baby Jesus, etc.

"It was \$46,000, Mr. Pope' ... He didn't even blink an eye."

Other *Enquirer* insiders smile and say, "Yes, well, Malcolm tells a great story." But on one point, they all agree: The world's tallest Christmas tree was also the world's most expensive.

Pope spent about \$1 million each year on the whole display.

Two trees were chosen in Oregon, the branches numbered, sawed off, then brought by flatbed railcar to Lantana.

Pope persuaded the FEC railroad to stop by his office so the tree could be unloaded — and slow down to keep from

blowing the bulbs off once it was up.

Next, a dozen bikers were hired to bolt the branches back on. If the branches didn't form a perfect cone, they were rearranged, or more added.

"They put on more branches than God had in the first place," Calder boasts.

Kevin Long and his mother, Dorice, came up from Pompano Beach to spray the surrounding trees green, deck them with lights and set up the animated displays.

"I've got memories of being there from early in the morning until late at night," recalls Long, who is today the president of Christmas Designers Inc. "There must have been 300,000 or more mini light bulbs."

But the biggest expense was not the tree, or the lights, or the reindeer. It was security.

"I remember Generoso Pope telling me once that we had more cops on duty at the tree each evening than West Palm Beach had to cover the whole city," Calder says.

Each night, Pope would choose a small child in the crowd to push the button and light the tree.

The child would push the button while Pope, off to the side with a walkie-talkie, whispered, "Now" — and a grown-up flipped the real



The bikers who assembled the Christmas tree each year even decorated their bodies with tattoos to celebrate the tree. 1986 photo courtesy of The Palm Beach Post

switch. And for the next eight weeks, the crowds came, and came, and came. Everyone gasped, everyone marveled, everyone was filled with delight. Well, almost everyone.

"We had a big glass window in the office, and it was distracting, trying to work when you had 100,000 people in your garden," remembers Balfour.

A hundred thousand people! Really? "Oh, did I say a hundred thousand? I meant to say 10,000.

"Tabloid!" he chuckled. "Tabloid!"



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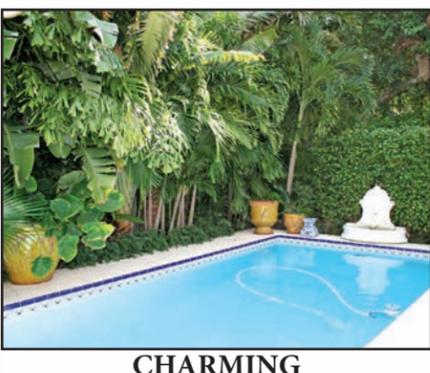
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## 10 Questions

## MEET YOUR NEIGHBOR: Bev Myers

Blame it on her genes, said Manalapan resident Bev Myers, whose artwork is featured at the town of South Palm Beach's first art show of the season. It's because of her father that she's an artist.

"My father was a very creative individual. He was a belt and pocketbook designer in New York at the end of the Depression," she said. "I was only 2 when he died."

Her daughter is creative also, she said. "Jane is a licensed architect. She and my son-in-law, Michael Marques, a general contractor, designed the 2,000-square-foot addition over my loggia."

Concerning her own creativity, Myers works in a variety of media. For inspiration, she studies her favorite artists — including Joan Mitchell, Richard Diebenkorn, Frank Auerbach and Lucien Freud — and then uses that knowledge as a fertile ground to grow her own style.

"I like painting landscapes and portraits with energy. I don't like still-life — that's boring," she said.

Her garden is another source of inspiration. "I look at the garden like a painting. I see how colors, sizes, shapes and textures relate to each other."

This Jan. 10, she plans to open her beautiful garden for a Daubach Foundation charity tour that will benefit Florida Amyotrophic Lateral Sclerosis (ALS) patients.

Myers is a docent at the Norton Museum of Fine Art, and she especially enjoys sharing her love of art with children.

She also plays a little golf, and yes, there is an artistic connection.

"In golf, you have to trust the swing. In art, it's the same," she said. "You have to trust that the body and arm will coordinate and something will come out. With both golf and painting, you have to let go with the stroke."

— Christine Davis



Artist Bev Myers lives in Manalapan with her husband, Herbert. They have two children and three grandchildren. Myers works in a variety of media, including pastels (left). Photos by Jerry Lower

to see this house. We loved it, bought it, and this 'lucky' broker did well also.

**Q:** What is your favorite part about living in Manalapan?

**A:** We enjoy small-town living, which Manalapan affords us. It has approximately 500 residents, lovely people, including our town employees and police (as evidenced by my last speeding ticket).

**Q:** What book are you reading now?

**A:** I just finished an excellent historical novel by my dermatologist in Boston, Vivian Loh. It's about the capture of Singapore by the Japanese in World War II. It's called *Breaking the Tongue* and is about the coming of age of a Chinese boy who revered the British and redefined his culture and himself.

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

**A:** I like to listen to classical

music when I paint. However, because of my grandson, I'm getting to like rock also.

**Q:** Do you have a favorite quote that inspires your decisions?

**A:** "Everyone wants to understand art. Why not try to understand the song of a bird?" — Pablo Picasso

**Q:** Have you had mentors in your life? Individuals who have inspired your life decisions?

**A:** My idol is my husband. I'm the balloon and he is the string.

**Q:** If your life story were made into a movie, whom would you want to play you?

**A:** I think Katharine Hepburn would have been great. She was an individualist who did her own thing and was her own person. She also had a tremor (in her voice) and accomplished so much.

For information on the Daubach Foundation charity garden tour, call 407-733-3741.

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

**A:** I grew up in Newton, Mass. (a suburb of Boston), went to the Newton Schools and then to Wheaton College in Norton, Mass. I was married in my junior year and finished at Boston University with a degree in fine arts. Boston is a cosmopolitan city with great museums and lots of culture.

**Q:** Tell us about your art.

**A:** My art is expressionistic. I dream with my eyes open. People tell me that they like my style because it is loose. I use my whole arm for my energy as I have essential tremor in my hands and am not great with details,

although I can do it when I have to.

**Q:** What other careers have you had, and what were the highlights?

**A:** In 1964, my husband opened an executive recruiting firm and I went in to help him get started, and then I stayed in it for 22 years even though my heart was always in art.

**Q:** How did you choose to make your home in Manalapan?

**A:** We bought the house in Manalapan due to an error by the real estate broker. He called the wrong Myers! My husband had just sold his company and we were looking for a larger house, so I went with this broker anyway just

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# Community Calendar

Note: Events are current as of 11/27. Please check with organizers for any changes.

## DECEMBER 5

**Saturday - 12/5 - Sand Sifters Beach Cleanup & Toy Drive** - Join the monthly beach cleanup at Oceanfront Park, 6415 N. Ocean Blvd., just north of Ocean Avenue in Ocean Ridge. Meet at pavilion in the lower parking lot. Bring new unwrapped toys for the Community Caring Center of Boynton Beach. 8-10:30 am. Free. 734-9128.

**12/5 - Boynton Green Market** - now at two locations: Schoolhouse Children's Museum, 129 E. Ocean Ave. and Boynton Beach Mall, 801 N. Congress. 8 am-1 pm. 752-8598.

**12/5 - Delray Greenmarket** - new downtown location on SE 4th Ave. just south of Atlantic Ave. Every Saturday. 8 am-1 pm. 276-7511.

**12/5 - Lake Worth Holiday Bazaar** - Home-made items by local crafters. No. J St. & Lucerne Ave., Lake Worth. Free. 8 am-1 pm. 547-3100.

**12/5 - Oceanside Farmers Market** is held on J Street, between Lake and Lucerne Aves.,

downtown Lake Worth. Open Saturdays year-round. 8 am-1 pm. 547-3100.

**12/5 - Briny Breezes Christmas Bazaar** is held in front of the Hobby Club Quonset just west of A1A at the stoplight. Handicrafts and gently-used holiday items. All proceeds benefit local charities. 9 am-noon. 276-7405.

**12/5 - Going Nuts for the Holidays** - A collection of more than 400 nutcrackers will be on display inside and outside the Delray Beach Public Library, 100 W. Atlantic Ave. through 1/25. Library hours. Free. 266-9490.

**12/5 - "He Said, She Said" Photography Exhibit** - Boynton Beach photographers Carole

# Holiday Parades and Lightings

**Saturday - 12/5 - Boynton Beach Holiday Extravaganza** begins with the city's 39th annual Holiday Parade at 5 pm (travels north on Federal Hwy from SE 12 Ave to Ocean Ave.), Tree lighting ceremony at 6:30 pm (Schoolhouse Children's museum), and free concert on Ocean Ave. with Grammy Award winning "Queen of Disco", Gloria Gaynor at 7 pm. Food and beverages available. No pets. 742-6246.

**Sunday - 12/6 - Annual Tree Lighting Event** - Join the tradition of Henry Flagler's youngest descendants lighting the Museum's Christmas Tree at Flagler Museum, 1 Whitehall Way, Palm Beach. 3-5 pm. Free with museum admission. 655-2833.

**Friday - 12/11 - Boynton/Delray Holiday Boat Parade** - Festivities begin in the Boynton Beach Inlet as decorated boats leave on parade down the Intracoastal Waterway to the C-15 Canal in Delray Beach. Viewing areas located along parade route. 6:30 pm. 735-7955.

**Saturday - 12/12 - 44th Annual City of Lake Worth Holiday Parade** begins with a Holiday Winter Workshop at noon

at the Downtown Cultural Plaza, 414 Lake Ave., presented by the Lake Worth Kiwanis. "Light Up the Night" Holiday Parade begins at 6 pm at the corner of Lucerne and Federal Highway, west to "J" Street and then back east on Lake Ave. ending at Golfview. Christmas tree lighting at 9 pm. 533-7363.

**Saturday - 12/12 - Delray Beach Holiday Parade** begins at Venetian Drive in downtown Delray Beach, and continues west along Atlantic Ave. to NW 1st

Ave. (Delray Beach Tennis Center). This year's "Old Fashioned Holiday" includes over 70 entries. Delray Fire Dept. will have Santa riding

along on their fire truck. 4 pm. 243-7277. **Sunday - 12/13 - Light up the Night Chanukah Celebration** sponsored by Chabad of South Palm Beach is held at the Lantana Beach Park on South Ocean Blvd, just North of the Ritz Carlton. 4 pm. Menorah Lighting, Music, Fire Dancer, Chanukah Donuts and Latkes. Open to the Public. 351-1633.



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and Dennis Usdan's work are displayed through 1/19 at the Delray Beach Public Library, 100 W. Atlantic Ave. Library Hours. Free. 266-9490.

**12/5 - 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 situation. 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 is recommended. 369-2229.

**12/5 - Surfs Up!** - Beginner surf lessons for all ages are held at Oceanfront Park, 6415 N Ocean Blvd., Ocean Ridge. 8:30-10 am/ages 6-10, 10:30 am-noon/ages 11 and over. \$25/residents, \$31/non-residents. Includes equipment. Pre-registration required. 742-6650.

**12/5 - Book Signing with Executive Chef Thomas Buckley of Nobu Miami Beach** will be held at Morikami Museum and Japanese Gardens, 4000 Morikami Park Road, Delray Beach. Learn about his personal road to success. 1:30 pm. Free with purchase of *Nobu Miami: The Party Cookbook* (available in the museum store). Advance registration suggested. 495-0233 or www.morikami.org.

**12/5 - Grandma Moses, the American Folk Artist** - presented by Jane Oliver at the Delray Beach Public Library, 100 W. Atlantic Ave. 2 pm. Free. 266-9490 or 266-0194.

**12/5 - Holiday Open House at Plaza del Mar**, corner of S. Ocean Blvd. and Ocean Ave. across from the Ritz-Carlton in Manalapan. Live

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## Municipal Meetings

- 12/7 - Ocean Ridge** - first Monday at Ocean Ridge Town Hall, 6450 N. Ocean Blvd., Ocean Ridge. 6 pm. Agenda at [www.oceanridgeflorida.com](http://www.oceanridgeflorida.com)
- 12/8 - Delray Beach** - first & third Tuesdays at Delray Beach City Hall, 100 N.W. 1st Ave. 6 pm. Agenda at [www.mydelraybeach.com](http://www.mydelraybeach.com).
- 12/11 - Gulf Stream** - second Friday at Gulf Stream Town Hall, 100 Sea Rd. 9 am. Agenda in clerk's office.
- 12/14 - Lantana** - second & fourth Mondays at Lantana Town Hall, 500 Greynolds Circle. 7 pm. 2nd meeting cancelled for holidays. Agenda at [www.lantana.org](http://www.lantana.org).
- 12/15 - Manalapan** - fourth Tuesday (moved up for Christmas) at Manalapan Town Hall, 600 S. Ocean Blvd., Manalapan. 9:30 am. Agenda at [www.manalapan.org](http://www.manalapan.org).
- 12/15 - South Palm Beach** - fourth Tuesday (moved up for Christmas) in the South Palm Beach Town Hall Council Chambers, 3577 S. Ocean Blvd. 7:30 pm. Agenda at town hall.
- 12/17 - Briny Breezes** - fourth Thursday (moved up for Christmas) at Briny Breezes Town Hall, 4802 N. Ocean Blvd. 4 pm. Agenda at [www.townofbrinybreezes-fl.com](http://www.townofbrinybreezes-fl.com)

music, complementary refreshments, Santa, and free gift wrapping. 5-8 pm. Visits with Santa begin at 6:30 pm. 493-2622.

**12/5&6 - Festival of Trees and Holiday House** at the Ann Norton Sculpture Gardens, 253 Barcelona Rd., West Palm Beach, opens with unique gifts, antiques, arts and over 25 decorated trees. 10 am-4 pm. \$5. Opens again 12/9-13. 832-5328.

**12/5&6 - Lake Worth Art League Outdoor Show** - See and purchase works of art by local artists at Cultural Plaza, 414 Lake Ave., Lake Worth. Free. 9:30 am-4 pm. 586-8666.

### DECEMBER 6-12

**Sunday - 12/6 - Palm Beaches Marathon** - Start/Finish line is at the corner of Evernia St. and Flagler Drive in downtown West Palm Beach. At mile six the course enters Lake Worth; at mile nine Lantana and continues down E. Ocean Ave. past Bicentennial Park and over the Intracoastal Waterway and turns around at mile 11 at the Lantana Public Beach. The course continues back through Lantana and Lake Worth and re-enters West Palm Beach at mile 16. Must pre-register before race day. 6:30 am. \$190 entry fee. 833-3711 ext. 225.

**12/6 - Yoga with Live Music** is held every Sunday at the Colony Hotel, 525 E. Atlantic Ave., Delray Beach. 9:30-11 am. \$20. 703-1236.

**12/6 - The Way of Taiko: The Heartbeat of Japan** - An introduction to taiko history, the movements and how to drum at The Morikami Museum and Japanese Gardens, 4000 Morikami Park Rd., Delray Beach. Wear comfortable clothes and shoes; no jewelry. \$50. Three sessions: 10:15 am-12:15 pm; 12:45 pm-2:45 pm; 3-5 pm. 495-0233 or [www.morikami.org](http://www.morikami.org).

**12/6 - Israel Cancer Association USA** membership brunch at the Four Seasons Resort, 2800 S. Ocean Blvd., Palm Beach. Dr. Robert J. Jacobson and Dr. Neil E. Rothschild honored for furthering the cause of cancer research in Israel. 10:45 am-2 pm. \$200. 832-9277.

**12/6 - Wonderful Wizard of Oz Children's Holiday Party** is presented by the Norton Museum of Art Children and Families Fund at the museum, 1451 S. Olive, West Palm Beach. Screening of "The Wizard of Oz" interactive, arts-and-crafts projects, petting zoo and bounce house. 1-4 pm. \$35-200. 832-5196.

**12/6 - Irving Berlin's I Love a Piano** at the Crest Theatre, Old School Square, 51 N. Swinton Ave., Delray Beach. \$42. 2 pm. 243-7922 ext. 1.

**12/6 - Marcia Slow-Sandler** will speak and sign her new book, *A Murder 2 Die 4* at Murder on the Beach Bookstore, 273 NE 2nd Ave., Delray Beach. 2 pm. Free. 279-7790.

**12/6 - "An American Christmas" by Philip B. Kunhardt III** - The historian and film producer presents an illustrated lecture on the evolution of Christmas in 19th and early 20th century American culture at the Flagler Museum, 1 Whitehall Way, Palm Beach. 2-3 pm. \$25 includes lecture, museum admission and tree lighting (3-5 pm.) 655-2833.

**12/6 - Amahl and the Night Vistors** is performed in the church sanctuary at St. Vincent Ferrer Catholic Church, 840 George Bush Blvd., Delray Beach. Rare holiday performance features a cast of six with the parish choir serving as shepherds. 2:30 pm. \$10 offering suggested. 276-6892.

**12/6 - The Church of the Palms Cantata Choir** presents "The Promise of Light" in the Church of the Palms Sanctuary, 1960 N. Swinton Ave., Delray Beach. Christmas carols blended with original music tell the story of Christ's birth. 4 pm. Free-will offering. 276-6347.

**12/6 - Delray String Quartet 6th Season Opening Concert** at the Colony Hotel, 525 E. Atlantic Ave., Delray Beach. 4 pm. Arrive 30 minutes early and enjoy amusing anecdotes, secret scandals of the composers and friendly discussion of the music to be performed. \$35. 213-4138 or [www.delraystringquartet.com](http://www.delraystringquartet.com).

**12/6 - Kravis Center Gala, 2009-2010** is held in the Cohen Pavilion, Kravis Center, 701 Okeechobee Blvd, West Palm Beach. Billy

Crystal performs in "700 Sundays." 5 pm Followed by black-tie dinner dance. \$750/gala patron & \$375/young patron. 651-4320.

**12/6 - Autism Project of Palm Beach County** holds their 7th Annual Renaissance Dinner for Autism at the Mar-A-Lago Club, 1100 S. Ocean Blvd., Palm Beach. Black tie. 6:30 pm. \$1,000. 748-3299.

**12/6 - Handel's Messiah** is performed by the FAU Chamber Singers in the University Theatre on FAU's Boca Raton Campus, 777 Glades Rd. 7:30 pm. \$15. Tickets: 800-564-9539 or [www.fauvents.com](http://www.fauvents.com). Information: 297-3820.

**Monday - 12/7 - Quilting Bee** - twice monthly quilting class presented at the Delray Beach Public Library, 100 W. Atlantic Ave. Class offered again on 12/21. 10 am. Free. 266-9490.

**12/7 - Pearl Harbor Day Monument Unveiling and Ceremony** is held at Bicentennial Park, 411 N. Federal Hwy., Boynton Beach. 12:30 pm. 276-1796 or 499-6277.

**12/7 - Great Documentaries Film Series - Salesman** by Albert & David Maysles - commentary by Assistant Director Mykal Banta at the Delray Beach Public Library, 100 W. Atlantic Ave. 1 pm. Free. 266-9490 or 266-0194.

**12/7 - Your Camera and Composition** - presented by photographer Stuart Freedman at the Delray Beach Public Library, 100 W. Atlantic Ave. 2 pm. Free. 266-9490 or 266-0194.

**12/7 - AmeriCorps Volunteer** - A literacy AmeriCorps member is available Mon.-Thur. during December at the Boynton Beach City Library, 208 S. Seacrest Blvd. Tutoring and homework help is offered for children and teens. Free. 2:30-6:30 pm. 742-6396.

**12/7 - 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, plus car seat safety, childcare, coping skills and more. Early registration recommended. 5-8 pm. \$35. Payment must be made before class date. 369-2229.

**12/7 - U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary, Flotilla 54, Boynton Beach, Delray Beach** meets the first Monday of each month at Boynton Beach Boat Park, 2010 N. Federal Hwy. 8 pm. Boaters and non-boaters welcome. 703-3844.

**12/7-18 - Light Up Delray** judges hit the streets in the evening hours in pursuit of the season's best displays. Awards given for various categories. City is divided into eight sections and a grand winner is chosen from each. All judges are residents of Delray Beach. 276-1715.

**Tuesday - 12/8 - Family Storytime** is held at the Boynton Beach City Library, 208 S. Seacrest Blvd. Listen to stories, sing songs and learn fingerplays. Infants-Age 5. Held again 12/15, 12/22, 12/29. 10-10:45 am. 742-6380.

**12/8 - Busy Fingers Crafts for Adults** - Share ideas and techniques at the Boynton Beach Civic Center, 128 E. Ocean Ave. every Tuesday from 10 am-noon. Free. 742-6240.

**12/8 - Sandoway's Holiday House Celebration** continues through 1/3. Enjoy festive nature decor provided by the Poinciana Garden Club. 142 S. Ocean Blvd., Delray Beach. T-Sat.: 10 am-4 pm, Sun: noon-4 pm. 628-2538.

**12/8 - Coral Reef Shark Feedings** are held Tues.-Sat., at Sandoway House Nature Center, 142 S. Ocean Blvd. Delray Beach. Discover what Atlantic Ocean reef fish, nurse sharks, and spiny lobsters eat for breakfast. 10:30 am. Free with \$4 admission. 274-7263.

**12/8 - Pinball Palooza: The Art, the History, the Game** exhibit continues at the Cornell Museum, Old School Square, 51 N. Swinton, Delray Beach. Museum hours. \$6/general, \$4/seniors. Under 13, free. 243-7922.

**12/8 - The Making of Art Deco of the Palm Beaches** - presented by local Delray Beach artist and deco-metric muralist Sharon Koskoff at the Delray Beach Public Library, 100 W. Atlantic Ave. 2 pm. Free. 266-9490 or 266-0194.

**12/8 - Games @ Your Library** is held at the Boynton Beach City Library, 508 S. Seacrest Blvd. Grades k-5 play favorite video games. Held again 12/22 & 12/29. 4-5 pm. 742-6380.

**12/8 - Evening Book Group** - *Seven Lies* by James Lasdun is presented at the Delray Beach Public Library, 100 W. Atlantic Ave. 6 pm. Free. 266-9490 or 266-0194.

**12/8 - Pajama Storytime** is held at the Boynton Beach City Library, 208 S. Seacrest Blvd. Ages 3-6 (plus siblings) listen to stories, sing, dance and make a special craft while in their pajamas. Free. 7-8 pm. 742-6380.

**Wednesday - 12/9 - Bird Walk** is held at Gumbo Limbo Nature Center, 1801 N. Ocean Blvd., Boca Raton. Comfortable shoes, hat and drinking water recommended. Binoculars available. 9-11 am. \$12/member, \$18/non-member. Held again 12/19. Registration required: 391-8110.

**12/9 - Holiday Shopping at Dolphin Mall** bus trip leaves from Veterans Park, 802 NE 1st St., Delray Beach at 9 am. \$17/residents, \$22/non-residents. Bus transportation and mall coupon book included. Lunch on your own. Bus returns at 5 pm. Limited space. Advanced reservations and payment required. 243-7350.

**12/9 - The Night Before Christmas at Cason Cottage** continues at 3 NE 1st St., Delray Beach. The Woman's Club of Delray Beach joins with the Delray Beach Historical Society to authentically furnish the Cason Cottage in the period 1915-1930. Handmade Christmas gifts are sold on the cottage porch and next door in the 1926 Florida Bungalow's "Porch Gift Shop." Exhibit open Wed.-Sat. 10 am-4 pm, Cason Cottage open 11 am-3 pm. \$4/tours of exhibit, Free/gift shop on porch and 1926 Bungalow. Group and school tours available. 274-9578.

**12/9 - YMCA of Palm Beach County** presents the Harmony House Signature Annual Luncheon, "The Warmth of Home at the Holidays" at The Breakers, 1 S. County Rd., Palm Beach. 11 am. \$250. 640-0050, Ext. 134.

**12/9 - Do You Have Poor Balance? - Helping to Prevent Falls** - presented by Boynton Beach physiatrist Dr. Stuart Rubin at the Delray Beach Public Library, 100 W. Atlantic Ave. 2 pm. Free. 266-9490 or 266-0194.

**12/9 - World History & the Arts: Exploring the Museums** - Home-schooled and after-school students ages 8-12 travel in time and around the world every Wed. afternoon in this 10-week course at the Schoolhouse Children's Museum, 129 E. Ocean Ave., Boynton Beach. Students visit the Boca Raton Museum of Art, Norton Museum of Art, Ann Norton Sculpture Gardens & Museum, Morikami Museum and the Boca Raton Historical Society while learning about world history and the arts. Limited to 12 students. Pre-requisite: 3rd-5th grade level in language arts, mathematics, and social studies. \$40/10 sessions. 2-4 pm. 742-6782.

**12/9 - Teen Drawing and Origami Afternoon** - presented at the Boynton Beach City Library, 208 S. Seacrest Blvd. Grades 6-12. Supplies provided. Free. 4-5 pm. 742-6393.

**12/9 - R.A.C.E Relations Community Forum** is held at Old School Square's Crest Theatre, 51 N. Swinton Ave., Delray Beach. Meeting held by the City of Delray Beach to complete the discussion and development of priorities on the City's R.A.C.E initiative. 6 pm. 243-7203.

**12/9 - Teen Gaming** is held each Wed. in December at the Boynton Beach City Library, 208 S. Seacrest Blvd. Grades 6-12 play video games. Free. 6-7:30 pm. 742-6380.

**12/9 - Historical Society of Palm Beach County 8th Annual Archival Evening** will be held at Club Colette, 215 Peruvian Ave., Palm Beach. Dinner-dance evening honors Celia Lipton Farris. 7 pm. \$550. 832-4164, Ext. 106.

**Thursday - 12/10 - Boynton Beach Library Quilters** meet every Thursday (except holidays) from 9-11:30 am at the Boynton Beach City Library, 208 S Seacrest Blvd. Free. 742-6390.

**12/10 - Two by Two Storytime** is held for little ones 24-35 months at the Boynton Beach City Library, 208 S. Seacrest Blvd. Held again 12/17. 10-10:45 am. 742-6380.

**12/10 - Peaceful Holiday Season: Holiday Peace Tree** - Museum guests are invited to create origami doves for The Morikami's Holiday Peace Tree or to take home for family and friends. Daily through 1/6 at The Morikami Museum and Japanese Gardens, 4000 Morikami Park Rd., Delray Beach. Free with paid museum admission. Museum hours. 495-0233.

**12/10 - Knit 'N Purl** - twice monthly class presented at the Delray Beach Public Library, 100 W. Atlantic Ave. Offered again 12/24. 10:30 am. Free. 266-9490 or 266-0194.

**12/10 - Holiday Fashion Show** at Plaza del Mar, corner of S. Ocean Blvd. and Ocean Ave. across from the Ritz-Carlton in Manalapan. Live music and holiday fashions. 1 pm. 493-2622.

**12/10 - Public Speaking Boot Camp** at the Schoolhouse Children's Museum, 129 E. Ocean Ave., Boynton Beach. A youth leadership workshop designed to develop the speaking and leadership skill of young people. \$59 for six session course. 3:15-5 pm. Pre-registration required. 818-9556.

**12/10 - Read with Hogan the Reading Dog** at the Boynton Beach City Library, 208 S. Seacrest Blvd. Each young reader gets 10 minutes with Hogan. All ages. 4-5 pm. Also held 12/17. 742-6380.

**12/10 - Memory and Alzheimer's Disease** - presented by Mark L. Brody, M.D., neurologist, at Bethesda Memorial Hospital, Clayton Conference Center, 2815 S. Seacrest Blvd., Boynton Beach. 4:30 pm. Free. 731-2273.

**12/10 - "When are you Coming to Visit?"** sculpture dedication ceremony is held at Boynton Beach City Hall (facing Boynton Beach Blvd.) Meet artist Melissa Markowitz. Refreshments served. 5-7 pm. 742-6026.

**12/10 - Palm Beach Food and Wine Festival** is presented by the Daily Bread Food Bank at 150 Worth, Palm Beach. 6-9 pm. \$50. 366-1226.

**12/10 - Writers Corner** is a free manuscript critiquing by published authors held at the Boynton Beach City Library, 208 S. Seacrest Blvd. Free. 6:30-8 pm. 742-6380.

**Friday - 12/11 - Hanukkah** begins at sundown.

**12/11 - Pre-K Make & Take: Dreidel Day** - Kids and families celebrate Hanukkah by making their own dreidel 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.

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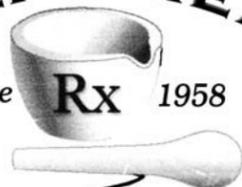
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**12/11 - Bob Roberts Society Orchestra** - Dance to music from the '20's, '30's and '40s at the Boynton Beach Civic Center, 128 E. Ocean Ave. Held every Fri. through 12/18/2009. 1:30-3:30 pm. \$4. 742-6240.

**Saturday - 12/12 - Oyster Reef Restoration Project at the Lantana Nature Preserve.** Volunteers fill mesh bags with fossilized shells at Bicentennial Park, 321 E. Ocean Ave., Lantana. Bags are then be trucked to the Nature Preserve for placement under the mangroves. Festivities include music and refreshments. 8 am. Volunteers must pre-register. 233-2448.

**12/12 - Skate Clinic** is held at "505" Teen Center & Hobbit Skate Park, 505 SE 5th Ave., Delray Beach. One-on-one instruction covers all aspects of skateboarding. Includes drinks, snacks and contests. Provide own skateboard, helmet and pads. 9 am-1 pm. \$20. 243-7158.

**12/12 - Ornaments Naturally** is held at Gumbo Limbo Nature Center, 1801 N. Ocean Blvd., Boca Raton. Create holiday ornaments and decorations using shells, sea beans, pine cones and unusual natural items. Materials provided. Ages 7 & up. 10 am-noon. \$15/members, \$22/non-members. Registration required. 391-8110.

**12/12 - Kid's Day at the Tree** is held at Old School Square, 51 S. Swinton Ave., Delray Beach. Visit with Santa, play in the snow, participate in the Jingle Bell Run and more at the Famous 100-Foot Christmas Tree. 10 am-4 pm. 279-1280.

**12/12 - The Art of Thinking** - presented by Delray Beach resident Paul Barber at the Delray Beach Public Library, 100 W. Atlantic Ave. 2 pm. Free. 266-9490 or 266-0194.

**12/12 - Church-Neighborhood Christmas Caroling** will be held by strolling youths and adults of Church of the Palms, 1960 N. Swinton Ave., Delray Beach. 6 pm. 276-6347.

**12/12 - Singing in the Holidays** is presented at the Duncan Theater on PBCC's Lake Worth Campus, 4200 Congress Ave., Lake Worth. The Symphonic Band of the Palm Beaches with special guests. 7:30 pm. \$15. 832-3115.

**12/12 - March of Dimes "Glitz Nightclub Open for One Night Only"** is held at Mar-a-Lago Club, 1100 S. Ocean Blvd., Palm Beach. Gov. Charlie Crist presents the 2009 March of Dimes Champions Awards. \$600/benefactors dinner and nightclub, \$350/nightclub only. 7-8:30 pm/reception, 8:30 pm-midnight/dinner, dancing and live auction. 684-0102.

**12/12 & 13 - Youth Basketball of America Boys & Girls Fall Freeway Series Tournaments** - hosted at Pompey Park, 1101 N.W. 2nd Street, Delray Beach. Open to all teams ages 8-17 years old divided into age divisions. \$195 per team. Each team guaranteed three official games with certified referees. Tournament play begins at 8 am each day. Boys' tournament Sat., girls' tournament Sun., \$8/daily pass; \$10/weekend pass. 305-8571.

**DECEMBER 13-19**

**Sunday - 12/13 - Childbirth Education Prenatal Class** is offered as a one-day weekend refresher class at Bethesda Memorial Hospital, 2815 S. Seacrest Blvd., Boynton Beach. Review the signs of labor, breathing techniques and more. Bring two pillows and a blanket. Wear comfortable stretchy clothes; no dresses or skirts. Early registration recommended. \$5 discount if you are delivering at Bethesda. 9 am-4 pm. \$75. Payment must be made before class date. 369-2229.

**12/13 - "The Dueling Divas - Renata Tebaldi & Maria Callas"** - Join Boca Raton performer, lecturer and teacher Hazel Phillips for her operatic tribute to the divas at the Delray Beach Public Library, 100 W. Atlantic Ave. 2 pm. \$2 suggested donation. 266-9490.

**12/13 - From Classics to Christmas** is presented at Ascension Lutheran Church, 2929 Seacrest Blvd., Boynton Beach featuring the Chancel Choir and Orchestra with special guests. Tea served during intermission. 4 pm. \$20/at door, \$15/advance. 732-2929.

**12/13 - Gingerbread Holiday Concert** is presented by Lynn University's Conservatory of Music in the Great Hall, Boca Raton Resort & Club, 501 E. Camino Real, Performance features holiday favorites performed by Lynn's Philharmonia Orchestra. Includes a visit from Santa and a sing-along. 3 pm. \$25. 237-9000.

**12/13 - Happy Holidays!** - A musical concert featuring Rishi Rane, tenor and Dr. Adela Peeva, piano will be held in the sanctuary of Unity of Delray Beach Church, on the corner of Swinton Ave. and NW 22nd St. 4 pm. 276-5796.

**12/13 - A Musical Celebration** presented by the Delray Beach Chorale will be held at First Presbyterian Church of Delray Beach, 33 Gleason St. 65-member chorus performs a mix of the serious, joyous and whimsical. Including a sing-along with orchestra. 4 pm. Reception follows. \$20/general, \$5/students. 800-984-7282 or www.delraybeachchorale.org.

**Monday - 12/14 - Great Books** readings and discussions meets the 2nd and 4th Mondays of each month at the Boynton Beach City Library, 208 S. Seacrest Blvd. Held again 12/28. 10 am-noon. 742-6380.

**12/14 - Gala Christmas Luncheon** is held by The Church of the Palms Women's Fellowship at Quail Ridge Country Club on Golf Rd in Boynton Beach. 11:30 am. \$25/luncheon plus entertainment featuring the Boynton Beach High School Chorus. Reservations required: 276-6347.

**12/14 - Musical Luncheon** is presented by the School of the Arts Foundation Guild at Club Colette, 215 Peruvian Ave., Palm Beach. Performances by students from the Alexander W. Dreyfoos School of the Arts. 11:30 am. \$100/members, \$125/non-members. 805-6293.

**12/14 - Burt! A Conversation with Burt Reynolds** is held as part of the Culture & Cocktails series at Cafe Boulud, 301 Australian Ave., Palm Beach. 5-5:45 pm/registration and cocktails, 5:45-7 pm/the "Conversation" including audience Q&A. Complimentary open bar and hors' d' oeuvres. \$35. Proceeds benefit the Palm Beach County Cultural Council. Limited seating. RSVP: 472-3330.

**12/14 - From the Mixed-Up Files of Mrs. Basil E. Frankweiler by Author E.L. Konigsburg** - Book Gabbers book discussion at the Boynton Beach City Library, 208 S. Seacrest Blvd. 6:30-7:30 pm. Free. 742-6380.

**12/14 & 15 - Santa's Calling** - Mrs. Claus, the Elves and Santa will call directly from the North Pole to surprise children. Calls placed from 6-8 pm to children ages 3-9. To register, download a form at: www.MyDelrayBeach.com or contact Danielle Beardsley at 243-7277.

**Tuesday - 12/15 - Ayurveda's Intelligence of Nutrition and Digestion** - presented by Chaya Sharon Heller at the Delray Beach Public Library, 100 W. Atlantic Ave. 2 pm. Free. 266-9490 or 266-0194.

**12/15 - Lifestyles of Butterflies in the Garden** is presented as part of the monthly Audubon Society of the Everglades discussions at Gumbo Limbo Nature Center, 1801 N. Ocean Blvd., Boca Raton. Learn about the life cycle, interesting behaviors and garden attractors for butterflies. All ages. Free. 391-8110.

**12/15 - "Great American Broadway Musicals"** - presented by Boynton Beach lecturer and musical historian, George Feinstein at the Delray Beach Public Library, 100 W. Atlantic Ave. 6:30 pm. \$2 suggested donation. 266-9490 or 266-0194.

**12/15 - Family Holiday Open House** at the Boynton Beach City Library, 208 S. Seacrest Blvd. Food, fun and entertainment. Grades 6-12. Free. 6:30-8 pm. 742-6390.

**Wednesday - 12/16 - Homestead Exemption Outreach** is held by a representative from the Palm Beach County Property Appraiser's Office at the Boynton Beach City Library, 208 S. Seacrest Blvd. A copy of your deed and proof of residency is required. 11 am-noon. 742-6380.

**12/16 - 2009, A Year to Remember, Your Memoir** - will be presented by Delray Beach resident, Roberta Handel at the Delray Beach Public Library, 100 W. Atlantic Ave. 2 pm. Free. 266-9490 or 266-0194.

**12/16 - Manalapan Library Book Club** meeting is held at the Manalapan Library, 1330 Lands End Road. *Netherland*, by Joseph O'Neill will be discussed. 3 pm. 588-7577.

**12/16 - Tertulias en Espanol** - Spanish Conversation Club at the Delray Beach Public Library, 100 W. Atlantic Ave. 6:30 pm. Free. 266-9490 or 266-0194.

**12/16 - Christmas Candlelighting Service** is held in the sanctuary at Unity of Delray Beach, on the corner of Swinton Ave. and NW 22nd St. Early arrival suggested. 7-8 pm. Held again on 12/24 at 6, 8, and 11 pm (late service for adults only). Free-will offering. 276-5796.

**12/16-19 - The Four Freshmen** perform at The Colony Hotel, 155 Hammon Ave., Palm Beach. 6:30 pm. \$100/dinner and show, \$55/show only. 659-8100.

**Thursday - 12/17 - Understanding Other Cultures - The Muslim Next Door** - *The Qur'an, the Media & That Veil Thing* by Sumbul ali-Karamali will be presented at the Delray Beach Public Library, 100 W. Atlantic Ave. 10:30 am. Free. 266-9490 or 266-0194.

**12/17 - Teen Craft Day** at the Boynton Beach City Library, 208 S. Seacrest Blvd. Make an ear bud holder. Materials provided. Grades 6-12. 4-5 pm. 742-6393.

**12/17 - Chanukah on Worth** is presented by the Palm Beach Jewish Center on Worth Ave., Palm Beach. Meet Judah the Macabee, hear the Children's Choir, enjoy doughnuts, latkes, salads and hors' d'oeuvres. Live entertainment for dancing and singing. 5:30 pm. Free. 659-3884.

**12/17 - James E. Buffan Gold Coast Band Concert** at the Boynton Beach Civic Center, 128 E. Ocean Ave. 7:30 pm. \$5 at the door. 742-6240.

**12/17 - Avenue Pilates' Holiday Fundraiser** includes a toy drive for families assisted by Aid to Victims of Domestic Abuse (AVDA).

Event features live music, belly dancers, food samplings from local restaurants as well as a special appearance by North Pole visitors. Bring an unwrapped new toy. Event held at 430 NE 5th Ave., Delray Beach. 7 pm. 330-7117.

**Friday - 12/18 - Pre-K Make & Take: Paper Airplanes** - Kids and families will celebrate the anniversary of the first manned flight at the Schoolhouse Children's Museum, 129 E. Ocean Ave., Boynton Beach. Pre-k ages 2-5. 10:30 am-noon. \$2.50 plus museum admission. 742-6782.

**12/18 - Dr. Robert Sharon's Holiday Spectacular Show** at the South Palm Beach Town Hall, 3577 S. Ocean Blvd., South Palm Beach. 7:30 pm. \$10. Advance purchase recommended. 588-8889.

**12/18 - Winter Wonderland on Ice** is held at the Crest Theatre at Old School Square, 51 N. Swinton Ave., Delray Beach. Skating by international champions set to the sounds of the season. Real ice! 8 pm. Held again Sat., 2 & 8 pm, and Sun., 2 pm. \$42. 243-7922, Ext. 1.

**Saturday - 12/19 - Breakfast with Santa** is held in the festively decorated Delray Beach Marriott, 10 N. Ocean Blvd. Join Santa for a special breakfast. 8, 9, & 10 am seatings. \$10. Advanced reservations required. 279-1380.

**12/19 - Breastfeeding Prenatal Class** is taught by lactation consultants at Bethesda Memorial Hospital, 2815 S. Seacrest Blvd. 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 encouraged to attend. 10 am-noon. \$25. Payment required before class date. 369-2229.

**12/19 - Narrated Bus tour of Historic Delray Beach** is conducted by the Museum of Lifestyle & Fashion History. Tour visits 10 historic sites. Departs from the Delray Beach Public Library, 100 W. Atlantic Ave., at 11 am. \$10/adults & seniors, Free/teens and children under 18. Held again 12/26. 243-2662.

**12/19&20 - Holidays in Bloom** at American Orchid Society, 16700 AOS Lane, Delray Beach. Guest speakers and demonstrators show how to incorporate beautiful flowers into the holidays. Orchid supplies, books, art and jewelry for sale. 10 am-4:30 pm. \$10/adults, Free/children under 12. 404-200 or www.aos.org.

**12/19&20 - Once Upon a Holiday with a Twist!** is performed at the Lake Worth Playhouse, 713 Lake Ave. A family-friendly holiday extravaganza with music and dance for all ages. Photos with Santa after the show. 7 pm/Sat., 2 pm/Sun. \$15 & \$10. 586-6410.

**12/19-23 - Holiday Evening Tours of the Flagler Museum** at 1 Whitehall Way, Palm Beach. A choral group sings carols and holiday refreshments are served. 7:05, 7:15 and 7:25 pm. \$15/adults, \$15/ages 6-18. 655-2833.

**DECEMBER 20-26**

**Sunday - 12/20 - Children's Special Christmas Program** is held in the Sanctuary of Unity of Delray Beach, at the corner of Swinton Ave. and NW 22nd St. *The Christmas Story according to St. Luke* is followed by Santa's visit to the Sunday School. 9:25 am. 276-5796.

**12/20 - Lessons & Carols** are performed by the St. Paul's choir in their annual celebration of the holiday at St. Paul's Episcopal Church, 188 S. Swinton Ave., Delray Beach. 3 pm. Free-will offering. 278-6003.

**Monday - 12/21 - Holiday Nature Craft Workshop** is held at Gumbo Limbo Nature Center, 1801 N. Ocean Blvd., Boca Raton. Join in a walk to collect ideas for a nature craft. Supplies provided. Ages 7-12. 10:30-noon. \$12/member, \$18/non-member. Reservations required: 391-8110.

**12/21 - Afternoon Book Group - Cutting Stone** by Abraham Verghese at the Delray Beach Public Library, 100 W. Atlantic Ave. 1 pm. Free. 266-9490 or 266-0194.

**12/21 - Young Artists Celebration & Exhibit** - See results of the city's young artist incubator program and meet the artists. Held in the Boynton Beach City Library Program Room, 208 S. Seacrest Blvd. 6-8 pm. 742-6221.

**12/21-23 - Winter Skate Camp** is held at Hobbit Skate Park at the 505 Teen Center, 505 SE 5th Ave., Delray Beach. Clinics include drinks, snacks, contests and give-a-ways. Must provide own skateboard and wear a strapped helmet. Knee/elbow pads recommended. 9 am - noon. \$60 per person. Beginner and advanced skaters ages 5-15. 243-7158.

**12/21-23 - Winter Break Specials** are held at the Hester Center, 1901 N. Seacrest Blvd., Boynton Beach. Ages 5-12 enjoy crafts, games, outdoor play and field trips. 9 am-4 pm. \$20/residents, \$25/non-residents per day. Held again 12/28-31. 742-6650.

**12/21-25 - Florida Marlins pitcher Chris Volstad** will be a guest instructor at Bucky



## Beach Cleanup

Participants in International Beach Cleanup Day look for trash Nov. 21 along the Lantana Public Beach. The event was held in partnership with the Ritz-Carlton's Palm Beach Community Footprints program, St. Mark's School, Freedom Shores Elementary School and Keep Palm Beach County Beautiful. About 175 volunteers removed more than 500 pounds of trash and recyclables from the beach between South Palm Beach and the Boynton Inlet. **Photo by Mary Kate Leming**

Dent's Baseball School, 490 Dotterel Rd., Delray Beach. Camp open to ages 5-18. \$235/Students ages 7-18: 9 am-3 pm. \$155/Rookie Camp (ages 5-7): 9 am-noon. 265-0280.

**Tuesday - 12/22 - Gyotaku (fish printing) Class** is held at Gumbo Limbo Nature Center, 1801 N. Ocean Blvd., Boca Raton. Recreate this traditional art with your own t-shirt, pillowcase or pre-washed cotton bag. 10 am-noon. Adult must accompany children. \$9/members, \$14/non-members. Each additional project is \$4. Reservations required: 391-8110.

**12/22 - New Exhibition Opening** at the Morikami Museum and Japanese Gardens, 4000 Morikami Park Rd., Delray Beach. Works include large scale ceramic sculptures and seven-foot-tall, half-ton monoliths. Museum hours. Exhibit runs until 3/7. 495-0233.

**12/22 - New Year's Calendar Making** is held in the lobby of the Morikami Museum, 4000 Morikami Park Rd., Delray Beach. 10 am-5 pm. All ages. Free with museum admission. Continues through 1/5. 495-0233.

**12/22 - Movie Day at Your Library** - Watch *The Polar Express* (rated G) at the Boynton Beach City Library. All ages. 2-3:30 pm. Free. 742-6393.

**Wednesday - 12/23 - Astronomy Night** - Look at our galaxy through telescopes (weather permitting) or view a slide show on the birth and death of stars at Sandoway House Nature Center, 142 S. Ocean Blvd., Delray Beach. 6 pm. \$3, reservations required. 274-7263.

**Thursday - 12/24 - Christmas Eve Worship and Candlelight Service** is held at First Presbyterian Church of Delray Beach, 33 Gleason St. 7-8 pm & 9:30-10:30 pm. Nursery care available. 276-6338.

**Friday - 12/25 - Christmas Day**

**Saturday - 12/26 - Kwanzaa begins.**

**12/26-27 - Downtown Delray Beach New Year's Weekend Craft Festival** returns to the Delray Beach Tennis Center parking lot, 201 W. Atlantic Ave. Over 100 craft booths featuring folk art, pottery, jewelry, paintings, clothes and crafts. 10 am-5 pm. Free. 954-472-3755.

### DECEMBER 26- JANUARY 2

**Monday - 12/28-31 & 1/2 - Winter Skate Camp** will be held at Hobbit Skate Park at the 505 Teen Center, 505 SE 5th Ave., Delray Beach. 9 am-noon. Clinics include drinks, snacks, contests and give-a-ways. Must provide own skateboard and wear a strapped helmet. Knee/elbow pads are recommended. \$100. Beginner and advanced skaters ages 5-15. 243-7158.

**Tuesday - 12/29 - Boca Beachcombing** is held at Gumbo Limbo Nature Center, 1801 N. Ocean Blvd., Boca Raton. Meet for a talk about seashells and caravan over to Red Reef Park to walk the beach in search of ocean treasures. 2-3:30 pm. An adult must participate with children. \$5/members, \$8/non-members. Reservations required: 391-8110.

**Wednesday - 12/30 - Seining the Lagoon** is held at Gumbo Limbo Nature Center, 1801 N. Ocean Blvd., Boca Raton. Explore the grasses and flats of the Intracoastal. Wear clothes and shoes that can get wet (no flip-flops) and bring a change of clothes. Ages 10 & up. An adult must participate. 2 pm. \$5/members, \$8/non-members. Registration required: 391-8110.

**12/30 - Drop-in Craft Day** at the Boynton Beach City Library, 208 S. Seacrest Blvd. Make an original art project. Materials provided. Grades K-5. 4-5 pm. 742-6393.

**12/30 - American Red Cross Palm Beach Area Chapter Young Friends Beach Bash** is held at The Beach Club, 755 North County Rd., Palm Beach. Cocktails, hors d'oeuvres and a raffle of luxury items. 8 pm. \$150. 650-9131.

**Thursday - 12/31 - Life on the Rocks** is held at Gumbo Limbo Nature Center, 1801 N. Ocean Blvd., Boca Raton. Explore the rocks at Red Reef Park at low tide. Bring beachwear. Ages 10-adult. Adults must participate with

child. 2 pm. \$5/members, \$8/non-members. Registration required: 391-8110.

**12/31 - First Night 2010 New Year's Eve Celebration** - The entire family enjoys visual and performing arts in non-alcoholic venues at various Downtown Delray Beach locations. 4 pm-midnight. 279-1380, Ext. 3.

**12/31 - New Year's Eve Meditation Service with Laurie Durgan** is held in the sanctuary of Unity of Delray Beach, at the corner of Swinton Ave. and NW 22nd St. 7 pm. Free-will offering. 276-5796.

**Friday - 1/1 - New Year's Day**

**Saturday - 1/2 - Boynton Green Market** - now at two locations: Schoolhouse Children's Museum, 129 E. Ocean Ave. and Boynton Beach Mall, 801 N. Congress. 8 am - 1 pm. Every Saturday. 752-8598.

**1/2 - Delray Greenmarket** - new downtown location in the street on SE 4th Ave. just south of Atlantic Ave. Every Saturday. 8 am - 1 pm. 276-7511.

**1/2 - Oceanside Farmers Market** is held on J Street, between Lake and Lucerne Aves., downtown Lake Worth. Open Saturdays year-round. 8 am - 1 pm.

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**BILL DUNN:**

Continued from page 1

and onto the sand, but the mood was strikingly upbeat for the memorial service of someone who has died so suddenly, and so young.

On Friday evening, Nov. 6, Dunn grilled a steak at his home on Surf Road, popped a beer, carried his meal across the street to eat with friends — and choked to death. He was 48.

“He just swallowed a piece of meat that got lodged way down and there was nothing anyone could do,” his brother said. “The official cause was aspiration by food. They didn’t even do an autopsy.”

One hundred twenty programs for A Celebration of

the Life of Bill Dunn had been printed, but that wasn’t nearly enough. When the final notes of *America the Beautiful* faded under the rising tide, about 250 men, women and children stood in the sand before a makeshift altar.

On a table set against the dunes was Dunn’s little Laughing Buddha statue, his conch shell, and coconuts like those he planted throughout the neighborhood. And, of course, the hardwood pineapples.

For years, Dunn had jig-sawed driftwood into pineapple shapes, cross-hatched them, painted them and given them away to

friends and neighbors.

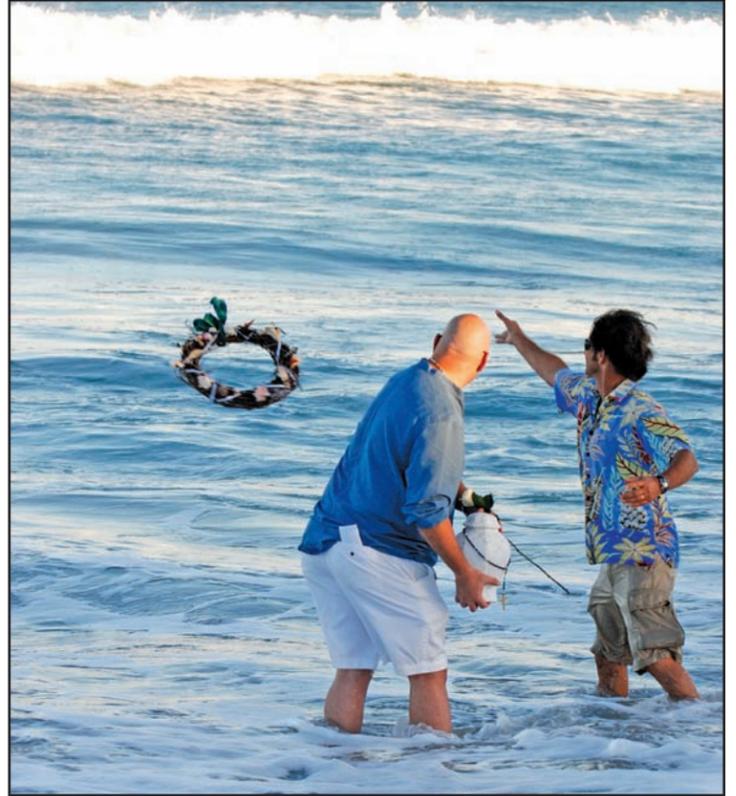
A pineapple by the door is an ancient symbol of welcome, after all, and Dunn was always welcoming.

“Hi, I’m Bill Dunn,” he would say with a smile and an outstretched hand. “Surfer, diver, photographer. Damn glad to meet you!”

Sometimes he even said it to little kids.

Now, as the sun slid behind the seagrape trees, friends and family stood by the altar and talked about “Pineapple Man,” or “Tropical Man” or “Billy Coconut.”

If you knew him, you marveled that one man could fill such a short life with so



**ABOVE:** Hundreds of friends gather to remember Bill Dunn. **RIGHT:** Dunn’s brother Greg and friend Gene Fortugno commit his ashes to the sea. **Photos by Jerry Lower**

many varied interests. If you didn’t know him, you wished you had.

**Generous and affable**

William Charles Dunn was born on Christmas Eve 1960 in Indianapolis. His family moved to Boca Raton when he was 13, and he attended St. Andrew’s School, where he and Gene Fortugno first met. “He chose his lifestyle, and it wasn’t about money,” Fortugno said. “It was about taking a walk at sunset, or taking the right picture, or barbecuing with his friends. And yet he read history and literature. He liked to talk about politics. He was a simple man, but he wasn’t simple.”

After graduating from the University of Florida with a degree in fine arts, Dunn moved to the pocket in 1984, and never really left.

“He’ll always be here,” his brother told the crowd, “because when was he ever not here?”

Through the years Dunn made a living shooting society photographs for Davidoff Studios in Palm Beach, or doing construction work, but mostly he worked at making friends.

“He always showed up on our doorstep with a bottle of champagne on New Year’s Eve,” remembers Barbara Bennett, wife of Briny Breezes mayor Roger Bennett, “and at Christmas his gift was always a special calendar.”

He surfed, he kayaked, he taught children how to swim.

He planted herb gardens in neighbors’ yards, invited them by for bratwurst and opened

the door with a cold Michelob in hand.

“He helped me redo my roof after Hurricane Wilma,” said Boyd Boggess, a friend of 20 years. “He was the most generous and affable man I think I’ve ever met.”

**Now only the stories**

Finally, as the setting sun tinged the white breakers with gold, his mother watched from a golf cart on the beach as Greg Dunn and Gene Fortugno waded into the surf. His brother carried Dunn’s ashes in a soluble urn; his oldest friend, a wreath.

The piper played *Amazing Grace* as Greg gave the urn to the waves his brother had watched each morning for most of his life.

Fortugno added the wreath.

The conch shell was blown, and 250 friends and relatives stood in silence for a moment, until a large wave rolled in and suddenly someone let out a rowdy, rock concert scream — “Bill Dunn!” — and the whole crowd broke into cheers and applause.

“We all had our Bill Dunn stories,” his friend, Jeff Johnson, said, “and we’ll always have our Bill Dunn stories. But the sad thing is, we won’t have any more Bill Dunn stories.”

And so, if you want to see Bill Dunn’s monument, stroll around his neighborhood and count, if you can, all the houses with a hardwood pineapple by the door.

According to tradition, they are saying, “Welcome.”

But here in the County Pocket, they say, “Damn glad to meet you!”

In addition to his mother, Gail, and brother Greg, Bill Dunn is survived by his nephew, Gregory Dunn Jr.; four nieces, Alisha Dunn, Kyla Moore, Chelsea Moore and Cassidy Moore; and his beloved cat, Karma.

The family asks that donations be made in his name to [www.surfriderpbc.org](http://www.surfriderpbc.org), an organization working to protect the beaches, wildlife and ocean.



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Obituaries

# Ruth E. Littlefield

By Emily J. Minor

BRINY BREEZES — Ruth Littlefield, a longtime Briny Breezes resident who moved here in the



1950s and nurtured a reputation for her generosity, artistic talent and getting herself in and out of mostly hilarious jams, has died at age 95.

“She was feisty,” said Edith Behm, a family friend who spent a lot of her growing years with the

Littlefield family.

A woman who loved a good piece of gossip and a cocktail, Mrs. Littlefield moved here with her husband, Frederick, in 1955. She was a beautician; he worked for a builder.

The couple spent about half their time in Florida, and the other half of the year at their beloved spot on Cape Cod. There, Mrs. Littlefield ran a beauty parlor and for a long while did the hair of President Kennedy’s sister, Rosemary, until a fancier salon opened on the island, said her son, Dana Littlefield.

Dana Littlefield remembers his childhood as wholesome and fun. And with his mother, it was always an adventure, he said.

The Littlefields had two other sons, Nelson and Lee, who also survive their mother.

Mrs. Littlefield died on Oct. 25. Dana Littlefield said his father also died on Oct. 25 — in 1985. And Mrs. Littlefield’s second husband, Robert Dumas, died on Oct. 25, 1995.

Ruth Littlefield attended high school on Cape Cod and did not take kindly to gender limitations put on her by

society, her son said.

She opened a weight-loss salon, worked with oils and acrylics on canvas and also did wood carvings with leaded glass. In Florida, she was president of the Briny Breezes Hobby Club, and a member of the Art League and the Red Hat Society.

Dana Littlefield said his mother’s ashes will be taken to Cape Cod this spring and buried in the family plot.

The remains of Frederick, her husband of 50 years, are buried there as well — in one of his well-used tackle boxes.

# Fredrick ‘Pete’ Schoeni

By Mary Katherine Stump

BRINY BREEZES — Frederick “Pete” Schoeni, a resident of Beloit, Ohio, and Briny Breezes died on Nov. 11 in Ohio. He was 85 years old.



“His motto in life was, whatever you do, you have a responsibility to do your best,” said his daughter

Bonnie Pinkerton.

Mr. Schoeni was a lifelong farmer in Ohio, raising cattle, chickens and potatoes. During the farming off-season, he and Violet, his wife of 65 years, spent their time traveling in Florida in their motor home, stopping every season in Delray Beach where each of their parents had retired. In 1986, Mr. Schoeni and his wife bought a place in Briny Breezes. He was actively involved in the Square Dance Club, which his wife’s parents founded, and enjoyed swimming and golfing.

“He and my mother were wonderful dancers,” said Ms.

Pinkerton. “He was always whistling and singing. He was a very happy person.”

Said John Legrow, a fellow square dancer and swimmer, “He often talked in swim classes about how much he enjoyed working on the farm.”

“He was a grand gentleman,” said another square dancer, Kay Hall.

Mr. Schoeni was a paratrooper in the Army during WWII, but was never sent overseas. “He played on the Army baseball team, and before he was sent over he got pulled out because they needed a catcher for some sort of base playoff game. As soon as the games were over, so was the war,” said Ms. Pinkerton. “He was a huge sports fan, particularly baseball and Ohio State football.”

He held memberships in the West Branch Future Farmers of America, the Columbiana County 4-H Club, the Sebring Masonic Lodge No. 626, and Bethel United Church of Christ in Ohio.

He is survived by his

wife, Violet (Myers) Schoeni; daughters Barbara (Gary) Peters of Alliance, Bonnie Pinkerton of Alliance, Patty (Bob) Brogan of Beloit, JoAnne (Bill) Meier of Beloit; eight grandchildren, Curt (Melissa) Brogan of Canal Winchester, Ohio, Jeff Brogan of Beloit, Brad (Marci) Brogan of Nashville, Tenn., Angela (Brad) Martin of Wichita, Kansas, Matthew Meier of Beloit, Michelle (Eric) Gibbons of Alliance, Trisha (Aaron) Dillon of Alliance, Dr. Christopher (Jennifer) Peters of Perrysburgh, Ohio and six great-grandchildren. He is also survived by two brothers, Dale Schoeni of Beloit and Kenny Schoeni of Bowling Green, Ohio.

Memorial contributions can be made the West Branch Alumni Association 14277 Main St., Beloit, Ohio 44609 or Alzheimer’s Assistance and Referral Network, P.O. Box 3383, Youngstown, OH 44513. Friends may send condolences and sign the guest register online at [www.grfuneralhome.com](http://www.grfuneralhome.com).

# Mary Howard Hudgins

By Emily J. Minor

GULF STREAM — Mary Howard Hudgins, a longtime Gulf Stream resident who, in her younger years, competed in many sports long before that



was considered mainstream for women, has died. She was 91.

For many years, Mrs. Hudgins and her husband, Edward, spent winters in Delray Beach and were longtime members of the Gulf Stream Bath & Tennis Club and the Gulf Stream Golf Club. When Edward Hudgins died in 2005, they had been married 60 years.

Their son, Dr. Wren Hudgins, said his mother’s lifelong athleticism stemmed from the healthy competition of growing up with three brothers and a sister. In her early years, she moved from hockey to gymnastics to basketball to tennis to skiing, eventually also taking up golf.

She attended Kent Place School and Smith College.

Mrs. Hudgins met her future husband when he was on military leave and she

was teaching snow skiing in Vermont. They married in 1945 and she began working for the War Department. But she continued to teach skiing during the winters in Vermont and was a master of the slopes in the days before mechanized chair lifts.

The Hudginses moved to Richmond, Va., after the war and she found herself without good snow skiing. That’s when she picked up the golf clubs. In 1948, she won the ladies title for the state of Virginia, her son said.

After the birth of their children, Mrs. Hudgins focused more on homemaking and her hobbies, but was always involved in the Red Cross and the Junior League, among other service organizations. Through her life, she gained a lovely reputation for her friendly and giving nature.

Mrs. Hudgins is survived by her two sons and their families. Dr. Hudgins lives in Seattle; his brother, Frank Howard Hudgins, lives with his family in Arlington, Va.

In January, the family will have a memorial service for Mrs. Hudgins in Richmond, Va.

# Matilda Miller Young

By Mary Katherine Stump

DELRAY BEACH — Matilda Miller Young, a resident of Delray Beach, died on Oct. 19 at the age of 103.

“She was determined to live ‘til 100,” said her son-in-law, Oswald “Os” Peters.

Mrs. Young was born and raised in Brooklyn, N.Y., and later lived in Detroit, Philadelphia and Boston before her move to South Florida in 1965 with her husband of 60 years, Willard “Bill” V. Young. Mr. Young served as mayor of Delray Beach from 1982 to 1984. He died in 1987.

“They were an extremely interesting couple,” said Peters. “He was a grand raconteur and she was a great hostess during his time as mayor. A very appropriate first lady. She never earned 10 cents a day in her life! She was a kept woman.”

With her husband, Mrs. Young traveled the globe



Matilda Miller Young with her husband, Willard, near the Seagate Condominium in 1970.

extensively, and visited 63 countries and all 50 states.

“They were curious. He took his 16 mm camera with him and she took her 35 mm,” said Peters. The two kept a diary to remember the details of their trips — the names of the lakes and the mountains. Once they returned they would put on slideshows to raise money for charitable organizations in the area.

“She photographed people,” said Peters. “Willard took the wildlife and scenic

shots, and she took the pictures of the people. They had a character, a personality that she was attracted to about a place. She liked people, and by virtue of her involvement in her many different clubs, she was incredibly outgoing.”

Ms. Young was involved in the Delray Beach Garden Club and the Republican Women’s Club. She also was a member of Daughters of the American Revolution and the Huguenot Society. She was an avid golfer and bridge player and a skilled needlewoman.

She is survived by four grandchildren; five great-grandchildren; and son in law, C. Oswald Peters of Palm Beach Gardens. She was preceded in death by her daughters, Audrey Y. Dunlop and Marjorie Y. Peters.

Private family services will be held at Church of the Palms Congregational Church, Delray Beach.

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InterFaith21

# Choices abound for celebrating winter's holy days

That hint to humanity in the annual convergence of winter holidays? It keeps getting louder and louder. This year is no exception. With Thanksgiving and Christmas, Hanukkah and the Hajj, Kwanzaa, New Year's, Three Kings Day and others in such proximity, conditions are great for all kinds of good.

The Delray Beach Interfaith Clergy Association set the tone Nov. 8 with the First Interfaith Friendship

Festival in which I was fortunate to take part. It united nearly 100 folks from Jewish, Christian, Muslim, Buddhist, Unitarian Universalist, Baha'i and other traditions to share dialogue and a dinner that Abbey Delray North deserves a bow for hosting.

That followed Yom Kippur in September, and Eid al-Fitr marking the end of Ramadan. Oct. 17 began India's largest and best-known holiday,

Diwali, the "festival of inner light" observed by Hindus, Sikhs and Jains. Baha'is celebrated the birth of founder Baha'u'llah Nov. 11 and 12.

Since then, the New York-based Foundation for Ethnic Understanding wrapped up its second annual weekend of "Twinning" of mosques and synagogues across North America and Europe, Nov. 13-15, with 100 of each reporting improved communication, reconciliation and cooperation, including some in South Florida.

Meanwhile, the success of the Hajj to the holy city Mecca, an obligation for every able Muslim at least once in life, was celebrated with Eid al-Adha on Nov. 27. That means the climax of the Hajj — the day of prayer to the Almighty by several million pilgrims in the barren desert outside Mecca — actually coincided with Thanksgiving Day.

Another item in the winter-convergence roll call is the gathering in churches in many African-American and other



Nearly 100 people gathered for the Interfaith Friendship Festival at Abbey Delray North. Photo by Waymon Dixon

communities for services on New Year's Eve. It's a tradition at which I balked as a sleepy-eyed youth. As I look forward to participating in that and a multitude of other local celebrations now, my only burden is having enough time and deciding which congregation with which to share it.

Speaking of tradition, our media organizations have done a poor job of educating their publics about "the other." They continue missing the stories of people who, increasingly, are getting together for learning and sharing, while respecting each others' different spiritual and/

or philosophical beliefs. Yes, "if it bleeds," it still leads. But the unmistakable trend, again this season, is spiritual communities and individuals of faith — or no particular faith — fulfilling their mission as engines for transmuting destructive trends, setting higher examples and seeking common ground.



C.B. Hanif is a writer, editor and media and inter-religious affairs consultant. Find him at [www.interfaith21.com](http://www.interfaith21.com).

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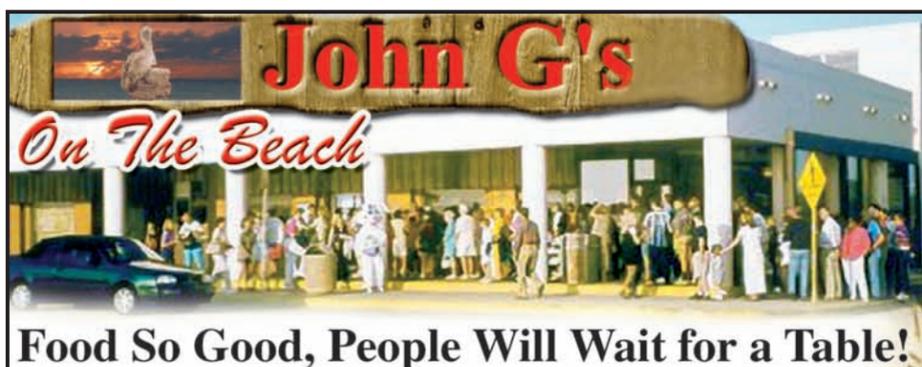
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**Paws up for Pets!**

**Hidden talents can appear when pets find secure homes**

As a reporter covering Palm Beach County for the *Sun-Sentinel* years ago, I quickly learned to expect the unexpected. I reported on lottery winners who died penniless and hospice patients who delivered messages of hope for the living. I also discovered surprising skills in headline-makers — like a former university president who was a whiz at fixing up vintage trucks.

So, why am I “me-wowed” by a cat who plays the piano? On a recent trip to New York City, I attended the annual ASPCA ceremony that honored top people and pets in 2009. Cat of the Year honors went to a former shelter cat named Nora, who is drawn to the piano keyboard like most cats are to organic catnip.

Five years ago, when Betsy Alexander and Burnell Yow spotted this cute gray tabby at an animal shelter, they were startled by the one-word declaration posted on the kitten’s cage.

“Most of the info about adoptable cats says things like, ‘Good with other cats,’ or ‘likes to cuddle,’ but Nora’s chart had only one word: ‘Bossy,’” says Alexander, a music teacher from Philadelphia. “Apparently, Nora would attack her other siblings when placed in the same cage. Even today with our other five adult cats, she prefers to keep to herself or hang around us.”

Or play the piano. Today, Nora answers to a new nickname: Piano Cat. Her keyboard pawing of chords has turned her into a YouTube sensation as more than 17 million people — and counting — have clicked on her various online postings to see and hear her musical talents. Her live appearances



Nora the pianist cat. Photo courtesy of Burnell Yow!

**Learn more about Piano Cat**

**Watch Nora on YouTube:** [www.youtube.com/watch?v=TZ860P4iTaM](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=TZ860P4iTaM)  
**Visit Nora’s Web site:** [www.ravenswingstudio.com/NoraWeb/docs/theVideos.html](http://www.ravenswingstudio.com/NoraWeb/docs/theVideos.html)  
**Listen to Nora and her proud owners** on Arden’s *Oh Behave!*: [www.markiac.addr.com/PET\\_LIFE\\_RADIO/behave.html](http://www.markiac.addr.com/PET_LIFE_RADIO/behave.html). Nora is Episode No. 91



Cleo the surfing dog. Photo by Arden Moore

on such shows as NBC’s *The Today Show* proved her music-playing abilities are real.

Her rescue-to-celebrity story has been captured in books and on CDs and dozens of television appearances. Why, Billy Joel sent her a package containing his latest CD, a letter declaring he was a fan and a signed photo of himself at the keyboard with the words, “To the Piano Cat from the Piano Man.”

“When we adopted Nora, we knew she was feisty, but we had no idea she loved to play music,” says Alexander. “It makes you wonder how many shelter cats and dogs are out there who never get the chance to express themselves, to showcase their special talents.”

Good point. When I rescued Cleo, my 12-pound poodle-terrier mix, from the streets, she did a lot of cowering and shaking. I made

it my mission to make her feel safe. I slowly built up her confidence, doling out praise and treats for mastering simple doggy commands like sit, stay and leave it. Once our bond was solidified, we enrolled in a dog-people workout class together called Leash Your Fitness. Little Cleo leaps over hurdles, pops into a sit on cue and joins me in yoga stretches; her favorite is, naturally, downward facing dog.

But Cleo truly wowed me recently during a surfing lesson. Turns out, Cleo is a natural at catching waves. Wearing a yellow safety vest and under the supervision of a surf instructor, Cleo spilled off the board a few times, but managed to ride three waves all the way to shore by standing confidently on all four paws. Hang 20, Cleo!

Nora, the former shelter cat, and Cleo, the former

stray, are just two examples of companion animals possessing talents just waiting to be unleashed.

What surprising skills does your dog or cat sport? I’ve loved to know and share with our *Coastal Star* readers. Zip off e-mails to [arden@ardenmoore.com](mailto:arden@ardenmoore.com).

Who knows? Your pet may become even more famous than Nora.



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

with two dogs, a cat and one overworked vacuum cleaner. Tune in to her *Oh Behave!* show on *Pet Life Radio.com* and contact her at [arden@ardenmoore.com](mailto:arden@ardenmoore.com).

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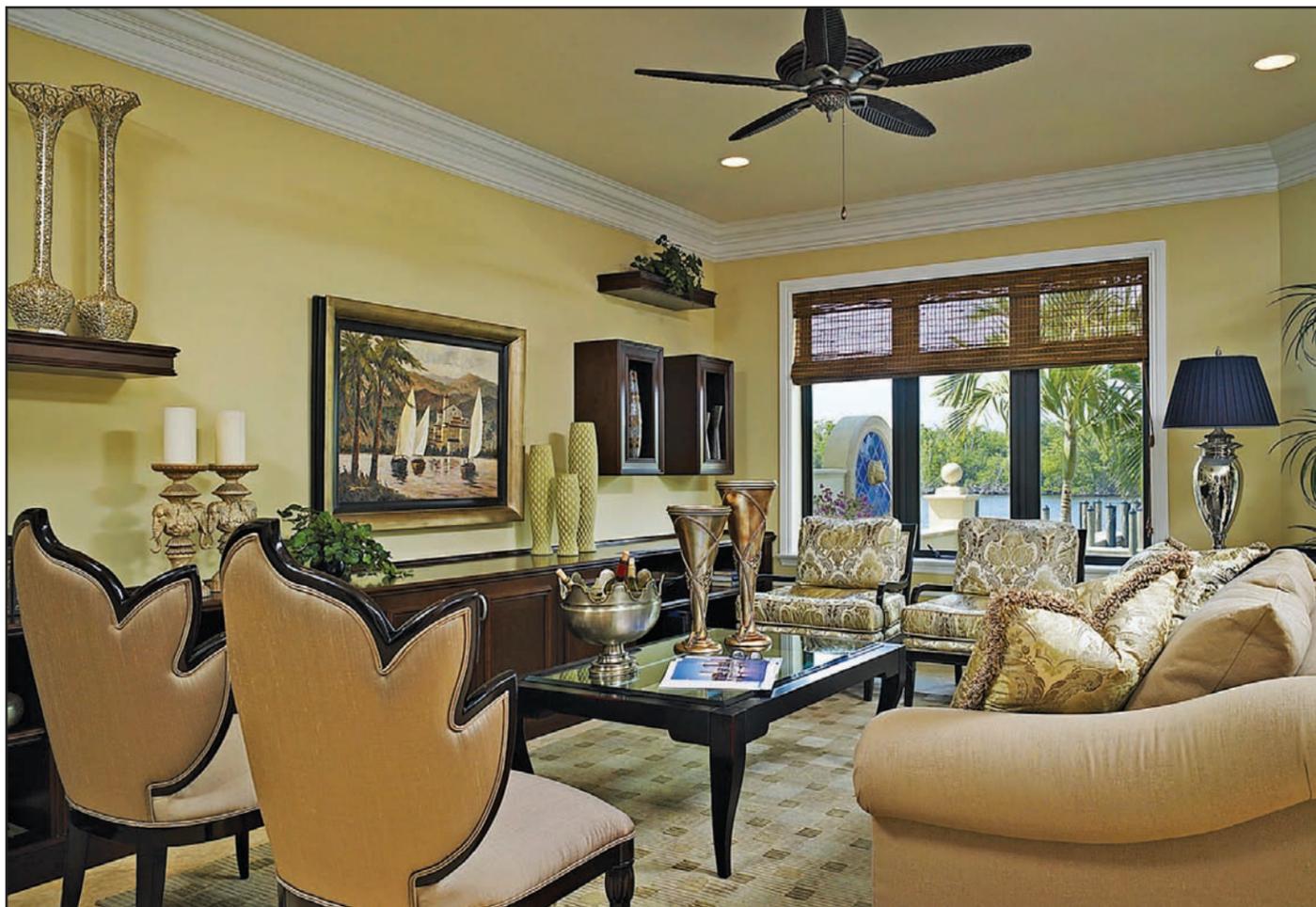
## House of the Month

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.



Nestled on the Intracoastal Waterway in the prestigious, gated community of Ocean Ridge Yacht Club, brick paver driveways lead to the Romanesque-facaded townhomes built by V & O Island Properties LLC.

## Intracoastal townhomes with Mediterranean style



Elegant and transitional interiors, such as this living area, blend comfort and timeless design features. The spaces offer luxurious surfaces and premium material selections to create a sanctuary overlooking the water.

These three-story, new construction townhomes in the Ocean Ridge Yacht Club possess more than 5,000 total square feet of sumptuous living. With four bedrooms, 4 1/2 baths, elevator, two car garages, en suite baths, custom closets and balconies for each of the bedrooms; the homes have details that accent the attention to detail infused by the architect, Ernie Varvarikos, and builder, Matthew O'Conner of V & O Island Properties LLC.

A magnificent gourmet kitchen with furniture-grade cabinetry, granite countertops, built-in Sub-Zero and Wolf appliances, including double wall ovens, will warm the heart of any chef. Upstairs, on the third floor, is a pub room or den, which leads to a balcony complete with outdoor fireplace and glorious views of the water.

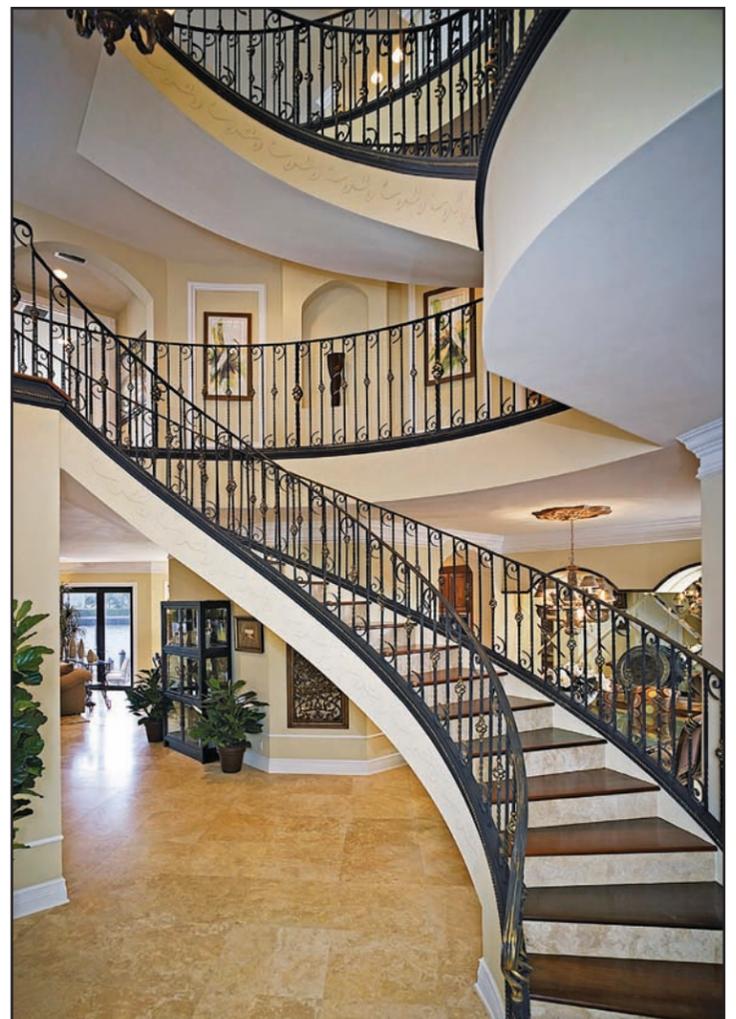
Only two of the original six units remain and are priced at \$1,699,000 and \$2,149,000 respectively. Ernie Varvarikos, Realtor, Realty Associates, 561-704-8136. varikos@bellsouth.net

Open house daily: A1A, just south of Woolbright Road, entrance on the right.



**ABOVE:** With a prime east side of the Intracoastal location, there is incredible water views from the marble terrace. It features a European-style fountain and dipping pool for entertaining and relaxing. Deep water access and moorage for up to a 45-foot yacht.

**RIGHT:** The rotunda features a grand spiral staircase, creating the dramatic three-story entrance. Chiseled from marble, fine woods and iron, the impressive foyer sets the tone for the property.






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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**



**5 STAR LUXURY - SINGER ISLAND**  
Stunning views from this 17th floor condo in the Resort at Singer Island. Designer furnished with all the amenities. Terrace views north with wide vistas to the ocean and the Intracoastal. Two master suites complete the package. Available weekly or monthly. Call for details.



**CORNER LOT - WALK TO BEACH**  
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**



**ADORABLE OCEAN RIDGE**  
Great Ocean Ridge property, east of A1A, 3/2 with heated pool, updated kitchen & baths, upstairs master with loft, lovely covered loggia-- all just steps to the sand. Move in and head to the beach! **\$ 815,000**



**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**



**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**



**DREAM HOUSE**  
This is THE Best of Everything! 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**



**LUXURY WATERFRONT CONDO**  
Turnkey luxury in Highland Beach. Absolutely stunning 11th floor 3 bedroom, 2.5 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**



**LIVE AT THE BEACH-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**



**DIRECT OCEANFRONT DELRAY**  
This luxurious fully furnished 5 bedroom 5 bath home sits on 1 acre of direct oceanfront and has just received a full makeover and is ready for vacationers. New furnishings and finishes throughout, designer decorated with pool on the beach. Available monthly at \$20,000 - call for weekly rates.



**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.** Also available for rent- furnished or unfurnished at \$2,000/month.

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