

## Along the Coast



Beachgoers rinse their feet near the sea grapes that form a canopy along the shore in Delray Beach. Jerry Lower/The Coastal Star

## Delray Beach

### Outside review unearths failures

#### Reclaimed water project lacked 'institutional control'

By Jane Smith

Delray Beach has not had "institutional control" over its reclaimed water program, according to a forensic review released on Oct. 23.

The program has not had the appropriate resources, funding, oversight, policies and internal expertise in place to effectively manage its parts, Fred Bloetscher, president of Public Utility Management & Services Inc., wrote in a report the city hired him to do.

One of the most serious findings was that without city personnel apparently present, water customers had "converted back" to potable water on their own by hiring a plumber to go into the meter box or connect to the city's water main to re-establish potable water service for irrigation.

"It's all or nothing with reclaimed water in residential areas," Bloetscher said. "You can't have residents opting out on their own. It's a criminal act if they tamper with the city's public water system."

Bloetscher's Hollywood-based firm was hired by Delray Beach in late April to review its reclaimed water program. The city agreed to pay \$20,000 for the study. His work experience includes utility department positions in two Broward County coastal cities: Dania Beach and Hollywood.

Delray Beach has relied on consultants to design,

See **REVIEW** on page 24

## The great sea grape debate

### Consensus emerges that trims are better for dunes

By Larry Barszewski

When it comes to managing sea grapes at the beach, what's an environmentalist to do?

Should the growing trees and shrubs be left alone to provide a friendly habitat for birds and small animals and shield the beach from man-made light that can disorient sea turtle hatchlings?

Or should the sea grapes be trimmed to stop them from crowding out other plants and allow for a far more diverse beach ecosystem?

In September, Delray Beach commissioners voted 3-2 to cut away, approving a plan to slash some remaining untouched sea grapes — five arbors up to 20 feet tall — to a height of 4 feet. These sea grapes were spared this summer during an extensive trimming at the beach, where they form canopies that create green tunnel pathways for beachgoers.

Nearby residents, whose views of the ocean have been blocked by the tall sea grapes, complained the tunnels are dangerous, house homeless people and should be cut back.

Others see the beach's sea grape archways as iconic, creating a more natural look that should be preserved.

Leaving the conflicting aesthetics debate aside, many coastal experts say the city is moving in the right direction from an environmental viewpoint.

See **SEA GRAPES** on page 22

## Veterans Day

### Meals on Wheels goes extra mile to serve WWII vet

By Ron Hayes

On June 6, 1944, a U.S. Army paratrooper named Ed Manley jumped into Nazi-occupied France on a D-Day mission to blow up the cannons overlooking Omaha Beach.

He was 22.

On Sept. 11, 1944, he jumped

into Holland during Operation Market Garden, on a mission to capture roads and bridges in the vital communications city of Eindhoven.

On Dec. 17, 1944, he was in Bastogne, Belgium, helping to hold off Hitler's Fifth Panzer Army in the Battle of the Bulge.

See **MEALS** on page 23



Army veteran Ed Manley, 98, receives two ready-made meals, a loaf of bread and container of juice from John Sallee at his home in Briny Breezes. Jerry Lower/The Coastal Star

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## Coastal Star

# Tech savvy makes Boca resident ideal choice to chair Junior League's virtual celebration

By Sallie James

Innovative ideas. An amazing history of volunteerism. A techy background and a winning personality.

Those qualities and more are why Boca Raton resident Robin Deyo was named honorary chairwoman for the Junior League of Boca Raton's 33rd annual Woman Volunteer of the Year awards ceremony, which this year will be virtual.

"I am honored to partake this year — it's such a compliment," said Deyo, a sustaining member of the Junior League and the former co-owner and co-founder of Cendyn, which provides technical assistance to more than 30,000 destinations and hotels in 130 countries.

Instead of honoring a single volunteer, this year's program will celebrate the Junior League's decades of volunteerism. The virtual program, planned for 6:30-8:30 p.m. Nov. 13, will celebrate 100 years of women's voting rights, the Junior League of Boca Raton's 50th anniversary and the contributions of 685 women who have been nominated for their community volunteerism over the years.

"We will ... be sharing stories about people's experience being volunteers in the community. There will be a historical perspective on the 19th Amendment and the 685 women nominated over the last 32 years," Junior League President Cristy Stewart-Harfmann said.

Deyo's background, dedication and years of involvement with the Junior League made her the perfect fit for honorary chair.

"She is amazing. She is level-headed, kind, thoughtful and a past nominee for Woman Volunteer of the Year," Stewart-Harfmann said. "Virtual sounds so simple but it is not — that is one reason it's been so nice she is here to help us. We have been able to really focus on the logistics and how we create the event."

The Junior League's aim is to develop women's potential and better the community through the action and leadership of trained volunteers. And celebrating women is why Deyo has remained involved in the organization for 20 years.

"I have loved being honorary chair this year. I just jumped into the deep end in wanting to solicit sponsorships and ads and helping with the scripts for the presentation," she said. "It's just going to be a wonderful celebration of women."

Deyo, 56, has worked on Junior League projects that addressed hunger, family/child welfare, the community garden and fundraising. The Junior League also provides assistance to Boca Raton's Diaper Bank and Boca Helping Hands.



Robin Deyo has worked on Junior League projects that have touched everything from hunger to family/child welfare and the community garden. **Tim Stepien/The Coastal Star**

### Woman Volunteer of the Year

**What:** Junior League honors 32 years of volunteering.  
**When:** 6:30-8:30 p.m. Nov. 13  
**Where:** Virtual  
**Tickets:** \$50  
**Info:** jlbocaraton.ticketqtego.net/tickets/list

Deyo joined the Junior League while she was working in the hotel business. At the time, the Junior League had hired Cendyn to create a CD-ROM to accompany its annual cookbook. Thanks to Deyo's involvement, the cookbook won a 2001 James Beard Foundation Award for excellence.

Deyo called the project "a turning point" in her life.

"Junior League cookbooks around the world are well-known because they are really good. A lot of people collect them," Deyo said.

Deyo served as vice president of finance, cookbook chair, international PR co-chair, fund development assisting adviser, worked on project development and planning as a board of directors member, and served as assistant chair for the Woman Volunteer of the Year event.

Deyo has continued her involvement as a sustaining member for the past six years, with this year's work especially relevant because programming had to go virtual during the coronavirus pandemic.

"It was a good year for me to participate — it was in my wheelhouse," Deyo said.

Junior Leaguer Dorothy MacDiarmid said Deyo's contributions began the minute she joined and never stopped.

"When she joined we were publishing the first cookbook and she came up with the idea of putting the cookbook on a CD-ROM, which was a high-

tech thing then. We had this beautiful coffee style cookbook on the CD-ROM. We were the only Junior League in the country that had a cookbook like that," said MacDiarmid, a Junior League president in 2005 and 2006 and chair for Woman Volunteer of the Year in 2006.

"She is just amazing. Sometimes it is hard to find someone who has that really awesome technical ability and has so many people skills and such a soft side. This is the perfect year for her."

When Deyo first joined the Junior League, her husband, Charles, jokingly called Tuesdays at work "nonprofit Tuesdays" because so many Cendyn employees were busy with their Junior League obligations that day.

"We gave everybody flexibility to be active and participate in their committee roles," Deyo recalled. She said more than 15 of her employees were Junior League members and the company paid for all their memberships.

Her daughter Ryn, now 19, grew up volunteering at Junior League events. Deyo said she hoped to set an example.

"I always told Ryn my biggest rule is to treat others the way you want to be treated. I think volunteerism is just an extension of that. Give a lot of good and contribute to your community and I am sure it will come back to you," Deyo said.

Stewart-Harfmann said Deyo's lifetime of dedication is part of what makes her contributions so special.

"Robin has done so much for the Junior League and we are so happy we will be able to honor her. ... She really epitomized what we hope all our members will be — women who are able to balance a career and also volunteer in the community." ★

## Publisher's Note

### Deductible donations welcome through new journalism fund

For those of you who know me, you know it is not in my character to ask our readers for anything other than a quote or permission to publish their photo in the paper.

But the challenges of 2020 have taken a toll on local businesses, *The Coastal Star* included. The impact of COVID-19 has been such a shock to our community that we have seen a significant drop in advertising. Most restaurants had to close for months and entertainment venues have had to delay their season's plans till next year.

In our April edition, we asked you to help by paying for advertising to promote those local businesses, and many of you did. Thank you.

But the impact of the virus has been relentless and we were forced to publish in alternate months for the summer to avoid significant losses.

So now we ask again for your help.

The Florida Press Association is partnering with its members, including *The Coastal Star*, to launch the Community News Fund, creating a way for readers like you to make tax-deductible donations to support community journalism.

In many of the small towns that we cover, it has been more than a decade since any reporter, other than ours, has shown up to a

commission meeting or other local events. We are filling that responsibility, and we enjoy it.

By donating to *The Coastal Star*, you will help our journalists keep our residents informed, hold officials accountable and cover the most important topics in our community.

For example, your donations will ensure that we have the space in the paper to report on philanthropy, the arts, the environment and health and medicine.

My friend Jim Fogler, the CEO of the Florida Press Association, put it well: "Local newspapers play a critical role in our communities, making us all stronger and more engaged citizens. Newspapers are dedicated to keeping you informed. Whether it is a local issue or a worldwide pandemic, they are there to provide consistent news coverage that you can trust."

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You can also visit our recently revamped website and click on the banner ad promoting this nonprofit giving opportunity: [www.thecoastalstar.com](http://www.thecoastalstar.com)



— Jerry Lower, Publisher

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If you value the fair and unbiased community news coverage that we provide, donate today.

The Coastal Star

## Letters to the Editor

### Is it a walking path or bike path? It's both

What has happened to the value of sharing? When we are little our parents try to instill this in us, especially if we have a younger sibling.

As residents of Highland Beach, my husband and I truly enjoy biking on the 3.2-mile path that travels along A1A through our community. At each entrance to Highland Beach there is a sign that says, "Cyclist shall give audible warning before passing pedestrians — H.B.P.D." Daily, we are greeted with friendly smiles from walkers and other bikers who, like us, are trying to stay healthy and make the best of these COVID-19 times.

There are, of course, those walkers who tell us to bike in the street on the "bike path," and as I ride by I try to explain that the street, in Highland Beach, has a shoulder, not a bike path.

I know that this is hard to understand, because so many bikers, who are coming from Delray or Boca, where there are clearly marked bike paths in the street, continue their 3.2 miles through Highland Beach, on the shoulder.

A recent incident made me realize that I needed to write this letter, out of concern for my fellow bikers. My husband and I were biking on the path and an irate walker kicked my tire when I stopped to explain that it was a shoulder, not a bike path, in the street. He also threatened to slap my face if I called the police.

The answer to the question is "both." The path is for walkers and for bikers. Let's try harder at sharing in our wonderful Highland Beach community.

Carol Wolf, Highland Beach

### I enjoy *The Coastal Star*

I look forward each month to receiving your wonderful *Coastal Star*! It is by far the best paper in the area, and has much better coverage of Boca events, developments and personal affairs than other publications.

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Dodee Weir, Boca Raton

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## Along the Coast

# Government leaders preparing to meet in person again

By Rich Pollack

After months of meeting virtually, municipal government leaders throughout south Palm Beach County are about to take their seats on a dais — but they won't be getting too close.

Gov. Ron DeSantis' decision to end an order that allowed virtual meetings means that towns and cities that had virtually gathered elected officials are scrambling to come up with safe ways to hold meetings in person again.

Some towns and cities are moving to larger spaces to make social distancing easier during the coronavirus pandemic, while others will require visitors to get temperature checks before they can sit down in the council chambers.

"Everybody is taking a different level of precaution, but everyone is doing something," said attorney Glen Torcivia, whose firm represents several coastal communities, including South Palm Beach, Ocean Ridge and Highland Beach.

With a deadline of Nov. 1, some communities were still finalizing preparations in late October, but one precaution that seems most common is the installation of plexiglass partitions between elected officials. All are also requiring face coverings, and most are providing hand sanitizer for those who attend in person.

Highland Beach officials plan to have commissioners and a limited number of residents attend meetings in person due to CDC guidelines and the capacity of the commission chambers. People wishing to attend will have a chance to register a day in advance and will be admitted on a first-come, first-served basis.

Residents and visitors will still be able to view and participate in meetings virtually, Town Manager Marshall Labadie said.

"We're moving closer to how it used to be, but with CDC guidelines it could be a little tricky," Labadie said.

To help ensure the safety of those attending a meeting in person, the town will conduct temperature checks and require masks and social distancing.

Delray Beach has crafted a detailed protocol for visitors that is explained in a video posted on Facebook. Those wishing to attend a commission meeting will first see a sign outside City Hall with reminders on social distancing and mask wearing. Once inside, they will answer a series of screening questions to determine if they have been exposed to the coronavirus. They will then have their temperatures scanned before entering the commission chambers, where they will find many seats blocked off to ensure social distancing.

To handle an overflow, Delray will let people watch on television in the Civic Center.

### Municipal meetings Full list of upcoming public meetings. Page AT28

Like many communities, Delray Beach will continue to make it possible to view the meetings online.

One exception is Gulf Stream, which recently discontinued online access and now offers only in-person attendance. For several months, the town offered hybrid meetings combining virtual access with in-person attendance.

Ocean Ridge has also been holding in-person meetings all along while still offering virtual access to the public. One commissioner, who has a summer home out of state, was attending remotely but that is likely to change, Town Manager

Tracey Stevens said.

Ocean Ridge will also require actual attendance by residents wishing to comment.

"We will still provide live audio feed for people to listen to the meeting, but no public participation will be available unless it is in person," Stevens said.

Lantana has also offered in-person meetings since the beginning of the pandemic but will now require all elected and appointed officials to be at Town Hall. The town will continue to broadcast meetings live via telephone and, like Ocean Ridge, make audio recordings available the day after the meeting.

Manalapan officials plan to hold in-person meetings and will arrange chairs to be socially distanced. Masks will be required, and hand sanitizer

stations will be set up.

Although the state will require elected officials to attend meetings in person, Torcivia said there are exceptions and he believes commissioners or council members with health issues should be OK attending virtually.

That could be good news for elected officials in South Palm Beach and Briny Breezes who don't want to chance contracting the virus.

In South Palm Beach, which is adapting the small Town Hall auditorium to accommodate social distancing, some council members could be attending the meetings by phone.

In Briny Breezes, where some council members have similar health concerns, virtual meetings have been held since the spring. The town plans to hold in-person meetings but

will move them from the tiny Town Hall auditorium to the corporate community center, where it is much easier to social distance.

Boca Raton City Manager Leif Ahnell invoked home rule authority on Oct. 27 to disregard the governor's order and continue virtual City Council meetings.

In Boynton Beach, where a hybrid system is used with the mayor at a government building but commissioners accessing remotely, an emergency ordinance passed unanimously on Sept. 30 giving commissioners an opportunity to invoke home rule and continue holding virtual meetings until December. City leaders have yet to decide if they will meet in person before the end of the year. ★



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## Ocean Ridge

# Town sets restrictions on storage sheds

By Dan Moffett

After months of debate and deliberation, Ocean Ridge has a new ordinance in place that it hopes will regulate homeowners' installation of storage sheds and quiet disputes among neighbors.

The ordinance, which the Town Commission passed with a 4-1 vote on Oct. 5, distinguishes between two general varieties of sheds: those larger designs that will require building permits to put up; and those often prefabricated models that now will require only an administrative review to install.

Town Manager Tracey Stevens said the new regulations aren't meant to infringe on homeowners' rights or signal a wave of shed policing. They are, however, intended to give officials a way to respond to an increasing number of

complaints from residents, most often unhappy next-door neighbors.

"The town will enforce this ordinance just like any other ordinance on the books," Stevens said. "It isn't the goal of our code enforcement officers to go around looking for code enforcement issues. Most of the code enforcement cases are complaint-based."

To fall into the category that needs no building permit, a shed must have no plumbing or electric and must not exceed 100 square feet or 7 feet in height. The ordinance prohibits sheds from being installed in front yards or waterfront setbacks, and they must maintain a 5-foot rear property line setback and at least 3 feet on the sides. All sheds are required to drain only onto the owner's property.

Only one shed is permitted for each lot and must be

screened from the view of adjoining properties.

For a shed to satisfy the administrative review requirement, a town building official must inspect it to certify it conforms to standards and is property anchored and installed.

"The last thing it is ever intended to do is to be adversarial," Mayor Kristine de Haseth said, arguing that town officials needed the guidelines to help resolve shed disputes among neighbors.

Vice Mayor Steve Coz voted against the ordinance, saying it was likely to penalize homeowners with smaller lots and failed to grandfather-in existing sheds. He argued that if sheds cannot be seen by neighbors, and if there were no complaints, then restrictions are unnecessary.

"If you're really going to get serious about this, then you should wait until there's more people in town," Coz said, noting that seasonal residents should have had the opportunity to weigh in on the issue.

Before commissioners voted, the Planning and Zoning panel considered the restrictions for weeks. The ordinance also provided new definitions and regulations for homeowners' dune crossovers, setting uniform sizes and clarifying placement restrictions. The rules permit only one dune crossover per parcel.

#### In other business:

- Because of COVID-19 restrictions on large gatherings, the town will not hold its annual holiday event at Town Hall in December. Instead, plans are in the works for a parade through town featuring Santa Claus, Stevens said.

- Town Attorney Brian Shutt announced in October he was stepping down to take a job with another law firm. Shutt has done legal work for the town since 2016, after serving nearly 20 years as an attorney for Delray Beach. The West Palm Beach law firm of Torcivia, Donlon, Goddeau & Ansay, which is under contract to represent Ocean Ridge, has not yet named a permanent replacement for Shutt. ★



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Along the Coast

# It's Round 2 for Caruso vs. Bonfiglio

By Steve Plunkett

Talking points from the presidential contest are filtering down into this year's rematch between state Rep. Mike Caruso and challenger Jim Bonfiglio.

The barrier island residents' statehouse race in 2018 was decided by a scant 32 votes. Republican-leaning District 89 stretches along the coast from Boca Raton north to Singer Island.

Caruso, a first-term Republican, warned South County voters in September that Delray Beach was "defunding the police" by cutting \$421,121 from the department's budget.

"Once crime takes hold in Delray Beach, it will spread to all corners of South Palm Beach County," Caruso said.

Democrat Bonfiglio fired back, calling Caruso's email "reckless and irresponsible."

"Representative Caruso, who brags about his Forensic CPA credentials and tenure as a former Delray Beach Police Advisory Committee member, failed to talk to (Police Chief Javaro) Sims and instead fear-mongered for political gain," Bonfiglio said.

Delray Beach Mayor Shelly Petrolia, a Democrat, also weighed in, saying the \$421,121 was "for overtime no longer needed due to canceled events."

"Representative Caruso's misleading statements and unfounded attacks on our City Commission and police chief are greatly disappointing," Petrolia said.

On his campaign website (electmikecaruso.com), Caruso also supports cutting taxes, extending sales tax holidays and helping small businesses cope with the coronavirus pandemic.

Bonfiglio, meanwhile (on jimbonfigliofordistrict89.com),



Caruso



Bonfiglio

lists Medicare for all as an "ultimate goal" and promises to work for a state law requiring a permit to purchase a gun and banning the sale of military-style weapons. He also wants to raise Florida's minimum wage from \$8.65 to \$15.

Caruso, 62, says he wants to safely reopen the state's economy and get people back to work. "It is incumbent on all of us to do our part by following CDC and state guidelines as well as getting tested if you believe you are sick," he said.

Caruso, an accountant in Delray Beach, also has a local legislative office in Boca Raton.

As of Oct. 16, the latest numbers available, Caruso reported collecting \$397,461 in campaign contributions and spending \$319,591.

Bonfiglio, 67, is a lawyer and sat on the Ocean Ridge Town Commission from 2014 to 2018, the final eight months as mayor. He had \$348,914 in campaign contributions through Oct. 16, including \$77,500 in self-loans and \$6,000 in in-kind donations. He had \$285,105 in expenses.

Early voting continues from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. through Nov. 1 in Boca Raton at Sugar Sand Park, Spanish River Library and Florida Atlantic University; in Delray Beach at the Delray Beach Community Center; in Boynton Beach at the Ezell Hester Community Center; and other locations across the county.

Election Day is Nov. 3. ★

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## Along the Coast

# Abrupt end brings grief to shuttered small businesses

By Mary Hladky

When Jody Sorrels closed her Boynton Beach dance studio on March 17 because of the coronavirus pandemic, she expected to eventually reopen.

But she struggled to figure out how she could change her teaching style to keep her students safe. They would have to be socially distanced, with no hugging or holding hands.

Even if she took all precautions, Sorrels still worried about the possibility of a student contracting COVID-19 at the studio.

Her family's health concerns also weighed on her. Her husband, Scott, is a kidney transplant recipient and her son, Joshua, had a kidney transplant on Sept. 6. Reopening could expose them to the virus and jeopardize their lives.

Sorrels finally decided the reopening just could not happen. The studio she owned for 20 years at 1700 Corporate Drive is now permanently closed.

"It is like a death in the family," she said. "I am mourning my studio. It was my dream to open it. This is not the way I wanted to close it."

Miss Jody's Place to Dance is one of many small businesses felled by the pandemic.

Data on business closures is sparse, but it is clear that closures are mounting.

The online review company Yelp said in mid-September that 97,996 businesses across the United States had permanently closed as of the end of August, a 34% increase since its mid-July report.

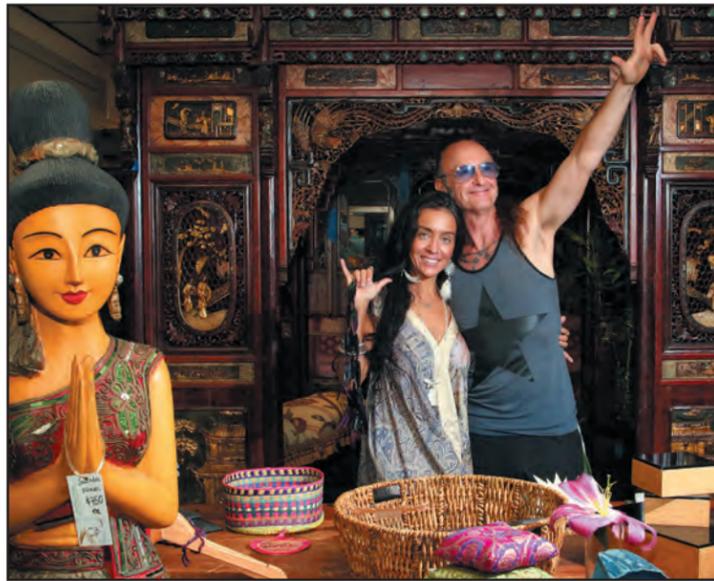
In the Miami-Fort Lauderdale-West Palm Beach metro area, 1,949 permanently closed as of July 10, including 417 restaurants and 285 retail businesses. By the end of August, the number had risen to about 2,600, Yelp's data shows. Not all businesses are listed on its site.

U.S. Census "small business pulse survey" data released on Oct. 1 showed that 1.5% of small businesses in Florida permanently closed in the last week. Data released in early September showed that 0.9% had closed in the last week.

A review of information posted on the websites of some south Palm Beach County businesses shows that closure does not necessarily mean the company is out of business. Some are relocating, possibly to get better rent deals elsewhere or to reduce rent costs by moving into smaller spaces.

A number of businesses operating in multiple locations are scaling back. For example, Le Macaron French Pastries has closed its store on East Atlantic Avenue in Delray Beach, but its store in Boca Raton's Mizner Park is open.

In downtown Delray Beach, a Downtown Development Authority inventory started



**TOP:** Jody Sorrels stands amid dance props at her shuttered studio in Boynton Beach. She hopes to teach somewhere else.

**MIDDLE:** For rent and for lease signs are commonplace in Delray Beach. **ABOVE:** Jen Scoz and Hawk Stillwind closed House of Zen Dali, which they ran for a decade on Atlantic Avenue in Delray Beach. **Photos by Tim Stepien/The Coastal Star**

in early May showed that 55 ground floor spaces were empty along Atlantic Avenue between State Road A1A and Northwest Fifth Avenue and along Northeast Second Avenue as of Oct. 9, said DDA Executive Director Laura Simon.

The number of vacancies is much higher than normal, she said.

She estimated about 15% of those vacancies are related to COVID-19. Reasons varied for the others. Some were vacant before the DDA started its inventory. Some of the others had decided not to renew a lease and moved to another part of the city or to a different city. She didn't know if rent costs were a factor in those decisions.

If non-essential businesses had not been shut down in March, she said the city possibly would have lost only a few of those businesses.

In a second conversation 12 days later, Simon said three businesses had opened downtown, and three more

planned to open. "That is good news," she said.

The turnabout in the downtown's fortunes was completely unexpected since 2020 was expected to be a "stellar year," she said.

"On March 13, we went into full crisis mode," she said. Since then, the DDA has taken steps to help businesses. That includes letting the public know which businesses are open or offering take-out meals, providing information on business assistance programs and generally "being a lifeline for our business community."

The DDA also plans to implement a business recruitment plan.

National business organizations are sounding the alarm that the situation is dire, worsened because federal financial assistance to businesses has run out.

The National Restaurant Association said on Sept. 14 that one in six restaurants, nearly 100,000, are closed either

permanently or long term, with nearly 3 million employees still out of work. The industry is on track to lose \$240 billion in sales by the end of the year.

A U.S. Chamber of Commerce survey in July found that 70% of small businesses were concerned about financial hardship due to prolonged closures and 58% worried about having to permanently close. Two-thirds feared they would have to close again or stay closed if a second COVID-19 wave occurs.

Business groups are intensely lobbying Congress to approve additional economic relief, but as of late October no deal was in sight.

"Unless Congress acts there is no opportunity for these small businesses to access another round of (Paycheck Protection Program) funding or even the employee retention tax credit," U.S. Chamber of Commerce Executive Vice President and chief policy officer Neil Bradley said on Sept. 1.

The need for congressional action is "critical," said Dennis Grady, CEO of the Chamber of Commerce of the Palm Beaches. "It would behoove us if politics could be put aside and a next round of PPP would come out."

Businesses are in a "can we survive another day mentality," said Troy McLellan, president and CEO of the Greater Boca Raton Chamber of Commerce. While he thinks Congress will eventually act, the uncertainty leaves business owners to grapple with "how many weeks and months can I hang on."

But it's too late for Stacy Silvestri, owner of five Calico Corners fabric stores in Florida and whose grandfather started the company in 1948.

She shut down her Jacksonville store in July and was holding liquidation sales for her stores in Vero Beach, Stuart, Orlando and at 170 NW 20th St.

in Boca Raton in October.

The stores were struggling pre-pandemic as her parent company did not allow her to sell online and fewer people are sewing or interested in custom fabrication.

But when Silvestri reopened after a two-month closure in the spring, customers were leery of in-person shopping and her employees in high-risk groups were nervous about returning to work.

"We got to the point where we had to close them," she said. That leaves about 65 employees out of work.

"That has been the hardest part, for the employees and the customers," she said. "It was a very difficult decision to make."

"We had an outpouring from our customers of being very sad," Silvestri said. "We have a lot of customers who have been very loyal for years."

Not all Calico Corners stores are closing, with three on Florida's west coast and others owned by the parent company across the country still in business.

Jewelry designer Jen Scoz also decided it didn't make sense to keep House of Zen Dali in Delray Beach open since profitability had declined after she reopened in May.

She and co-owner Hawk Stillwind closed their store, at 424 E. Atlantic Ave., in August after operating it for 10 years. Five employees lost their jobs.

"I felt OK with it," Scoz said of the decision. "I felt it was the right thing to do. If you are not being supported in what you are creating, it is time to move on."

But her loyal customers "were really, really sad to see us leave," she said. "We were such a stable and beautiful and spiritual part of the community."

Scoz said she will continue to design and create, although "I don't know what that looks like yet," she said in late September.

Sorrels also was deciding next steps in late September. She expected she would teach at another local dance studio.

But launching a new studio once the pandemic is under control is not an option.

"It would be like opening from scratch," she said. "I can't put my family in financial jeopardy to do that." ★

## Along the Coast

# Despite stormy summer, sea turtle nesting produced a good season

By Larry Keller

Navigating the perils of ocean pollution, watercraft, high tides and other hazards, sea turtles are concluding another robust nesting season on South County beaches.

"I think overall it was a good season," said Joseph Scarola, senior scientist at Ecological Associates Inc., which monitors Delray Beach's 3-mile shoreline.

Turtle nest monitors in Highland Beach, Boca Raton and elsewhere along the South County coast said much the same.

Three species deposit tens of thousands of eggs on local beaches — loggerhead, green and leatherback turtles.

Nesting season is March 1 to Oct. 31, although some species may venture ashore before or after those dates in very small numbers. At Highland Beach, for example, two existing nests likely won't produce hatchlings until sometime in November, said Barbara James, who has the marine turtle permit there.

Leatherbacks are the largest sea turtle species and few of them dig nests on South County beaches, preferring oceanfront somewhat to the north. Only 13 leatherback nests were tallied on Boca Raton's 5 miles of beaches, compared to 18 in 2019, said David Anderson, sea turtle conservation coordinator at Gumbo Limbo Nature Center, which keeps tabs on nests there.

That decrease was more than offset elsewhere, however. Last year a record number of 15 leatherback nests were found in Delray Beach. This year saw a new high with 21, Scarola said.

It was a similar story along a 3-mile expanse of beaches in Gulf Stream, Briny Breezes and a portion of Ocean Ridge. Nest monitors from Sea Turtle Adventures located a record-high 19 leatherback nests there. That topped the previous high of 16 nests in 2009, said Jackie Kingston, the nonprofit's president and founder.

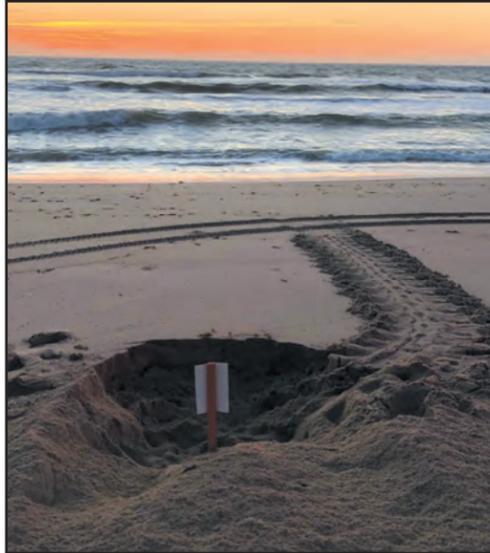
Green turtles are an anomaly in that they nest locally in much greater numbers in odd-numbered years than even-numbered. Last year, a record number of 393 green turtle nests were recorded on Boca's beaches.

This season's 132 nests are more aptly compared to the total in 2018, when only 19 nests were counted, or 2016, when there were 38 nests. In fact, this year's count is a record for an even-numbered year, dating back to 1988 when nest numbers were first tabulated by Gumbo Limbo.

"We jokingly like to say it was a high low," Anderson said.

Maybe there was an influx from Delray Beach. Green turtle nests there dropped from 58 in 2019 to 42 this year, Scarola said.

Kingston's 3 miles of beach saw similar results to those in Boca Raton. She said "it was a



A late green sea turtle laid this nest Sept. 24 on the beach in Gulf Stream. The eggs were expected to hatch in about 60 days from then. Sea turtle season officially ends Oct. 31 and begins again March 1. Photo courtesy of Sea Turtle Adventures

high low year to our surprise ... more greens than we expected for a low year."

Loggerheads are the most prolific nesters on South County beaches. This year's 756 nests fell short of last year's 913 in Boca Raton, but exceeded the 686 nests found in 2018. "It was an

above-average year," Anderson said.

In Delray Beach there were 285 loggerhead nests this year — five shy of last year's record high of 290, Scarola said. Like Anderson, he said numbers are preliminary, but unlikely to change much.

Although South Florida didn't suffer a direct hit from a hurricane this season, Hurricane Isaias still managed to "wipe out a lot of nests," Scarola said. In all, 76 nests were lost to erosion or inundation in Delray Beach this year, compared to 61 last year, he added.

On Boca Raton's beaches, 108 nests were lost. About 80% of that was due to Isaias and high tides, and 20% to foxes and raccoons, Anderson said.

High tides that reached the dunes also adversely affected Highland Beach's nests, James said.

Turtle monitors also assess the number of false crawls — instances where tracks indicate a turtle came ashore and then returned to the sea without nesting. Factors such as people on the beach at night, too many lights nearby and unsuitable sand can cause a turtle to delay

laying eggs.

All three species had similar false crawl rates as last year in Delray Beach, Scarola said.

In Boca Raton, turtles that came ashore to make a nest returned to the sea more than 60% of the time, Anderson said. They almost always return to try again, he added.

It's too soon to know the full impact of this season's temperatures on hatchlings' gender. FAU professor Jeanette Wyneken's ongoing research has found that hotter temperatures during sea turtle incubations result in vastly more female hatchlings. In the past two years, she found no males at all in her samplings on Boca's beaches.

However, a small sampling of hatchlings from two loggerhead nests this season offered encouragement. "We did find some males," Wyneken said. ★

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<b>817 N OCEAN BLVD   DELRAY BEACH</b>	Represented Buyer & Seller
<b>3960 N OCEAN BLVD, 6   GULF STREAM</b>	Under Contract



## TINA SMITH

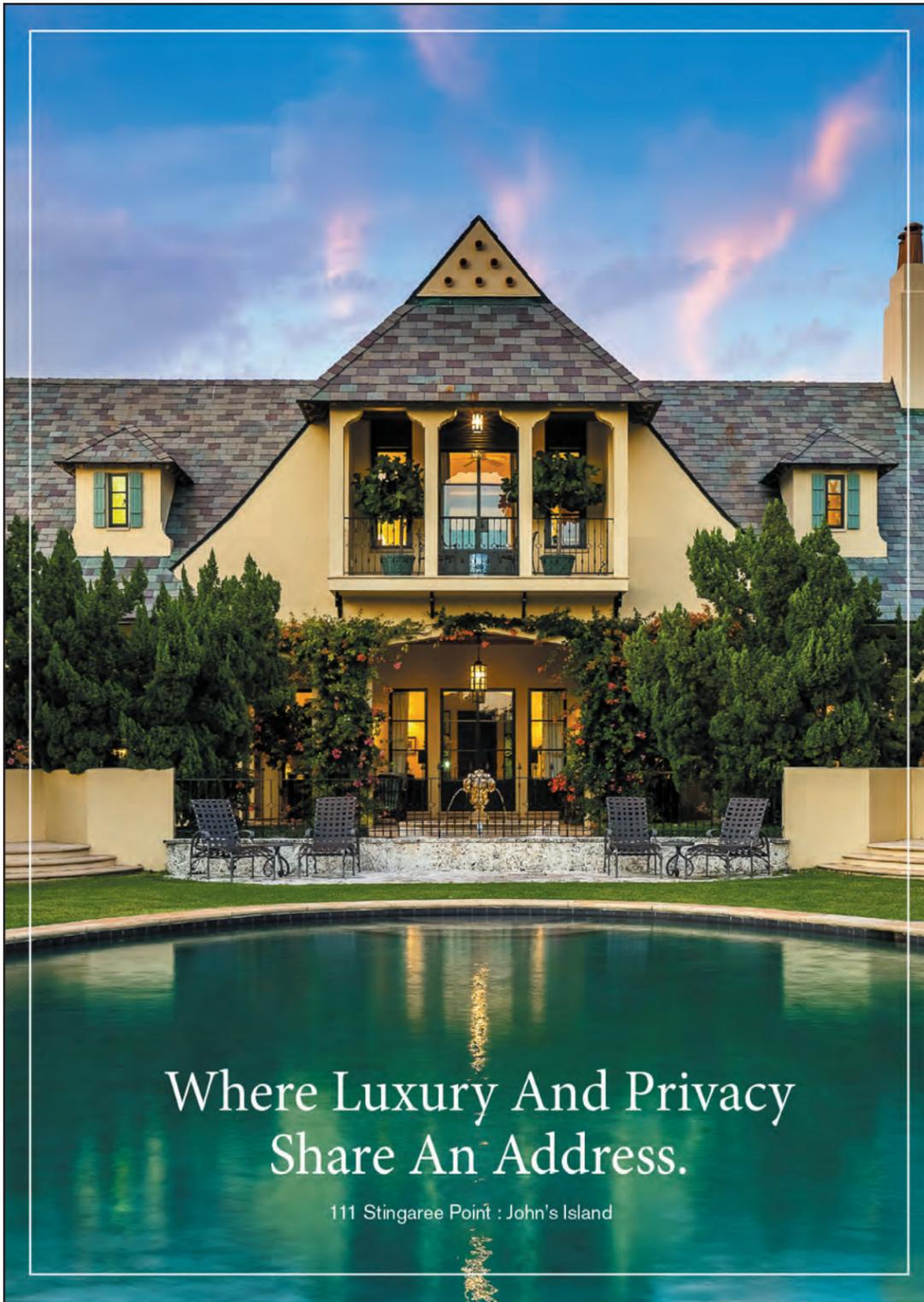
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## Delray Beach

# Gretsas public hearing postponed until Nov. 20

By Jane Smith

The much-anticipated public hearing for suspended City Manager George Gretsas was delayed for another month by a unanimous vote of the Delray Beach City Commission at a special hearing Oct. 21.

Gretsas has hired new attorneys to represent him at his termination hearing, now set for 10 a.m. Nov. 20.

The new attorneys, hired on Oct. 20, are Thomas Ali and Stuart N. Kaplan, of the Stuart N. Kaplan law firm in Palm Beach Gardens.

Ali called and sent an email to Lynn Gelin, city attorney, on the morning of Oct. 21. Gretsas' attorneys requested a two- or three-week postponement to prepare for the hearing. But the earliest time the city's outside labor counsel, Robert Norton of Allen Norton & Blue, had available was Nov. 20.

In early summer, a different attorney at the same Coral Gables law firm had investigated bullying allegations against Gretsas. Suzanne Fisher, who resigned from her assistant city manager position on Sept. 7, made the accusations.

Allen Norton & Blue issued its report July 3, finding that Gretsas' behavior toward Fisher was retaliatory and Fisher's bullying allegations were corroborated by other city employees.

Gelin recommended against pursuing the bullying charges because they would divide the city staff into two camps: for Gretsas or against him.

The new attorneys representing Gretsas agreed that his city manager salary of \$265,000 and benefits package worth more than \$50,000 would end on Oct. 23. Gretsas was receiving that compensation since he was formally suspended June 24.

Commissioners wanted to stop paying Gretsas while also paying an interim city manager. Jennifer Alvarez, purchasing director, was elevated to the interim city manager position on June 24. During her tenure, she will make \$189,500 a year and have a \$500 monthly car allowance and \$100 cellphone allowance.

"The city failed to turn over a significant amount of public records, some of which I requested almost two months ago," Gretsas said in a text message sent on Oct. 21. "The documents that I have requested include public records that the Mayor has been storing on her

private devices."

On Oct. 22, Mayor Shelly Petrolia said she has turned over everything.

She is also seeking an opinion from the county's Ethics Commission. She had called the commission on Oct. 19 to see whether she could participate in the hearing.

Possible conflicts were alleged by Gretsas' attorneys. They said the vote on Gretsas' employment status could benefit Petrolia in her own investigation by an outside agency.

Three of the city commissioners agreed Sept. 22 to have Petrolia investigated on whether she improperly directed the interim city manager, possibly violating the city charter.

Petrolia, though, said the Ethics Commission gave her a verbal OK to participate. "But now that we have more time, I will go back and ask for a deeper review," she said.

City commissioners will act as the judge and jury at the Nov. 20 hearing in commission chambers. The basis for the hearing will be a 38-page report compiled by Julia Davidyan, internal auditor. She interviewed 31 current and former city employees. Davidyan also reviewed numerous emails, the city charter and Florida laws.

In the investigation report given to city commissioners on Oct. 9, Davidyan found Gretsas had "disregarded the city's interests and policies in the areas of personnel, purchasing and information technology."

She also found that Gretsas had possibly violated Florida's Open Records law. His private server did not allow access for the city's Information Technology Department or city clerk, who needs to pull documents to fill public record requests, Davidyan found.

Any questions brought up outside of the report's seven possible violations will be considered irrelevant, Gelin told commissioners on Oct. 20.

In 2019, Davidyan also investigated Mark Lauzier. He was fired as city manager on March 1, 2019.

On April 29, 2019, Lauzier sued the city on two counts. The first count claiming whistleblower status was dismissed and lost on appeal in February to the Fourth District Court of Appeal.

The wrongful termination count is headed for a jury trial, expected to start in February, Gelin told commissioners. ★

The next edition of *The Coastal Star* will be distributed the weekend of Dec. 5

# Gulf Stream



Wooded property owned by the Gulf Stream Golf Club and cleared land owned by FIND may be reconfigured to allow for a new road and 14 homes between Federal Highway and the Intracoastal. **Staff graphic from provided renderings**

## More homes planned for Place Au Soleil

By Steve Plunkett

Former Delray Beach Mayor Cary Glickstein is cobbling together a deal that would add a new street to Place Au Soleil with 14 homesites, including two on the Intracoastal.

The Gulf Stream Golf Club and the Florida Inland Navigation District (FIND) would swap acres to create the new development, just north of Place Au Soleil. The developers also hope to buy the homesite at 2900 Avenue Au Soleil but are still in negotiations, Town Manager Greg Dunham said.

In a tentative site plan that Gulf Stream's land-use consultant is reviewing, the new street is labeled Water View Lane. That drew an objection from Commissioner Donna White, who lives in Place Au Soleil.

The neighborhood's original developers took inspiration for naming streets from a rainbow they saw while surveying their land purchase, she said. They decided "to name the streets after the colors of the rainbow," White said, listing Cardinal Circle, Tangerine Way, Canary Walk, Emerald Row, Orchid Lane and Indigo Point.

White said the Water View developers should pick a "colorful" name to go with the rest of Place Au Soleil.

Separately, Dunham reported success in having FIND clear some trees and other growth from its large parcel on the south side of Place Au Soleil after he threatened to take the agency to a special magistrate hearing.

"We've been having difficulty with them maintaining the vegetation that comes right up to the fence line," Dunham said.

**In other business in** September and October, the town:

- Approved a property tax rate for 2020-2021 of \$3.76 per \$1,000 of taxable value, the so-called rollback rate that will generate the same revenue that Gulf Stream collected the previous year. Town employees will get a 4% cost-of-living pay raise.

- Promoted police Lt. John Haseley to the rank of captain. Haseley joined Gulf Stream's

Police Department in September 1992, became a sergeant in 2000 and lieutenant in 2016.

- Approved a variance to allow the Little Club to enclose a space on the west side of the

clubhouse for an employee lounge and locker room. The lounge will come up to the property line, but was acceptable to all 10 owners at neighboring Las Casitas. ★

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Delray Beach

City finds cuts, reserves to render a tight \$151.4 million budget

By Jane Smith

Delray Beach commissioners passed a \$151.4 million budget on Sept. 22 by drawing \$5.2 million from reserves and making \$2.76 million in cuts.

The reserves will be used to pay for one-time expenses, including a \$150,000 generator for the information technology department, \$953,605 for the city's share of the Homewood Boulevard reconstruction joint project with the county's Transportation Planning Agency, and a replacement air-conditioning system for the police headquarters at \$400,000.

The major cuts came from stopping the city's free transportation services in the summer months, saving about \$500,000; postponing software improvements in Development Services that would allow online filing of permits, saving about \$1.05 million; transferring \$1 million dedicated to economic development to the general construction fund, and reducing police overtime, saving about \$421,000.

Police Chief Javaro Sims said the overtime cuts will not harm police services. City special events have been reduced because of the coronavirus restrictions against large gatherings. That reduction led to fewer overtime details for city police.

After the commission's Aug. 11 workshop when commissioners had asked

for more cuts, interim City Manager Jennifer Alvarez had suggested layoffs might be needed to balance the budget. But by the final budget meeting it was determined that no employees would be laid off or forced to take furlough days.

The coronavirus impacts have hurt cities nationwide by reducing income from parking meters, street valets, sales tax dollars and bed tax money.

Delray Beach just restarted its meters downtown on Sept. 18. They had been turned off for six months. In addition, the commission granted reprieves to valet operators for the rest of the year.

The budget includes \$39,000 for salary increases for the commission and the mayor. The raises will go into effect after the new commission takes the oaths in late March. The annual commissioner salaries rose to \$24,000 from \$9,000 and the mayor's salary increased to \$30,000 from \$12,000.

That is nearly a 300% increase. The commissioners said they recognized the timing was not ideal when everyone was cutting back because of coronavirus concerns. They also said their salaries are much lower than those of elected officials in nearby Boca Raton and Boynton Beach.

Plus, they agreed that if the economy does not turn around in January, they could always postpone the raises. ★



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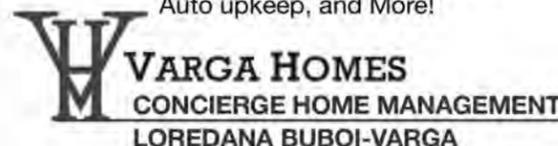
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## Lantana

## An unraveling on Ocean Avenue

Lawsuit against broker reflects tide of adversity businesses have faced

By Mary Thurwachter, Larry Keller and Jan Norris

When news hit the streets of a court case filed against one of the county's foremost restaurant brokers — one who once managed a block of struggling shops on Ocean Avenue — no one in Lantana seemed particularly surprised.

While the broker, Tom Prakas, dutifully collected shop owners' rent each month after he



Prakas

became manager in March 2016, he stopped turning over the money to the property owner 18 months later and used the cash as his personal repository, according to a series of jarring admissions in a sworn deposition.

Prakas spent the money for pricey family vacations and expensive dinners at restaurants, and doled out thousands of dollars to his family, according to a lawsuit filed in Palm Beach County Circuit Court. The allegations stem from an eviction lawsuit over \$343,000 in unpaid rent. A judge evicted Prakas in 2018.

This news was no shocker to Dave Arm.

"This is an old story," the Lantana Chamber of Commerce president said. "We've known about this, but it finally hit the papers."

Prakas, Arm said, "has probably been the most successful restaurant broker in South Florida. He's the go-to guy if you want to buy a restaurant, sell a restaurant, lease property, or buy property and put a restaurant in. He's the guy. For some reason, he decided he wanted to control this property. He went to Burt Handelsman (who then owned the property) and came up with this idea of doing a 99-year lease."

The property — a collection of small, colorful old shops on the north side of the 200 block of Ocean Avenue — became Lantana Village, and Prakas put up a sign so everyone would know. But the sign disappeared a few years ago along with Prakas' dream of turning Ocean Avenue into Lantana's version of Mizner Park, Arm said.

Only three shops are currently occupied: Mario's Ocean Avenue, Oceano Kitchen and Jeannie's Ocean Boutique. The vacancies are a mix of recent closures and buildings that were empty when Prakas arrived.

"There was a hair cutter, but she's gone," Arm said. "Set back in there was a little smoothie café, but that's closed now."

Arm said one of the features of the Handelsmans' real estate



Henry Olmino, who opened Mario's in 2015, says the restaurant has had good relationships with members of the Handelsman family. **Tim Stepien/The Coastal Star**

program "is they really never fix anything up and they never sell anything." The shops between Oceano and Mario's are "really dilapidated," he said.

"They've been empty since I've been in Lantana," said Arm, who arrived in 2006. "Tom (Prakas) came up with the idea of getting a master lease on the whole thing, trying to fix up and lease out those shops in the middle that are empty, and also control the leases for Mario's and Oceano Kitchen and the clothing store," Arm said. "Apparently Prakas had no idea how code works and how parking works and what the story is in Lantana."

### Breaking the lease

Prakas began deviating almost immediately from terms of a 49-year master lease (with a 49-year option) that he signed in March 2016 for the shops known as Lantana Village. The owner of the properties was Love Lantana Point LLC. Real estate magnates Burt and Lucille "Lovey" Handelsman and their son Steven each had a 33% stake in the company.

The lease stipulated that Prakas — via his own company called Lantana Village LLC — would pay \$18,450 a month. The rents he collected from the shops' subtenants were to cover his own monthly rent on the master lease, as well as taxes, insurance, utilities, repairs, maintenance and the like.

Prakas, however, paid only \$15,000 a month from April 2016 through March 2017, and stopped paying any rent at all beginning in October of that year. He purportedly collected \$16,000 to \$20,000 per month from the tenants. Even when he paid his own rent, he sometimes paid late and sometimes bounced checks, according to court records. He also failed to pay other costs such as insurance and property taxes.

Love Lantana Point sued Lantana Village LLC in January 2018 and sought to evict Prakas and recover unpaid rent and taxes. Prakas, his wife, Donna Gibson, and a son, Nicholas, were later added as defendants for alleged fraudulent transfers

and civil conspiracy.

Prakas contends the rent was too high — in part because of insufficient parking — and that he had a verbal agreement with Burt Handelsman, his longtime friend, to pay the lesser amount. The lease, however, stipulated that any amendments had to be in writing.

Meanwhile, the Handelsmans were in the throes of a complex divorce starting in March 2016. Nearly 90 family businesses — including Lantana Village — were among the marital assets contested by the couple. Burt Handelsman, 92, tried to keep the Lantana properties and continue with Prakas as the master lessee.

A judge eventually awarded the properties to his ex-wife and their three children. They are now managed by daughter Marsha Stocker. Prakas said he attempted in vain to reach a settlement with her.

### Tenants weigh in

Word of Prakas' legal problems also came as no surprise to chef Henry Olmino, owner of Mario's. Because of the ongoing lawsuit, Olmino didn't want to comment, but he did say he was happy with the relationship he has maintained with Burt and Lovey Handelsman initially and currently their daughter Marsha.

"By the time Prakas took it over as manager everything was done," said Olmino, who opened Mario's in 2015. "We were at full roll and all I did was write him a check every month. I have a triple net lease, which means if something breaks, I fix it. So all he did was come by and pick up the rent."

Olmino began paying rent directly to Handelsman's wife and children (or Love Lantana Point) after the Handelsmans informed him that Prakas hadn't been turning over the rent to them. And that's just fine with Olmino, who says he has a good working relationship with his landlords.

While Olmino was able to weather the Prakas reign, a former tenant was anything but pleased with the former



Good Vibes Acai Bar was one in a string of businesses in this location. The owner feels she was driven out. **Photo provided**



Huber

manager. "We were driven out against our wishes," said Tara Huber, owner of Good Vibes Acai Bar and smoothie café. "Tom Prakas became our new landlord in April 2016 and by the end of 2017 he succeeded in destroying everything we built and drove us out officially. Due to current litigation, I can't speak of all the particular things Tom did to us at this time, but I feel telling the truth in short about why we left is no secret to many who know us."

Huber said she couldn't understand why Prakas was making it so difficult for her to stay in business. She thought she and her family had created a wonderful community together and brought life to that end of the street. "We assumed we would be his key benefit to helping him build the Lantana Village he often spoke of.

"We soon found out exactly why," Huber continued. "His underlying motive and purpose of driving us out was because he loved our concept and all we had built and wanted it for himself and his children to claim the glory of it."

Prakas nearly tripled Huber's rent only to gift the shop to two of his sons, Alex and Aristotle, for a fraction of what Huber was paying, she said.

The sons opened a vegan shop, the Current Café, that sold acai bowls and smoothies. Prakas reimbursed them for expenses they incurred to spruce up the property, he said in a deposition.

The Current Café closed in January 2019. Huber had moved her business west to 6169 S. Jog Road in Lake Worth in 2018.

Dak Kerprich, creator of Pizzeria Oceano, was on the block before Prakas arrived but sold his restaurant in early 2017 to Jeremy Bearman, who rebranded it as Oceano Kitchen. Prakas brokered the sale.

"We were not there that long with Tom," Kerprich recalled. "I introduced Tom to the town of Lantana. That's when he

kind of figured out what they were doing with that property. I introduced him to Dave Thatcher (Lantana's former director of development). I've known Dave for years.

"I worked with Thatcher when I opened up Oceano, then Burt (Handelsman) actually opened up two (parking) spots for me," Kerprich said. Parking on the avenue has long been an issue.

"I'm probably the only one in the world who can't say anything bad about Burt," Kerprich said. "I've never had a problem with him. I paid my rent. I liked him. I like listening to him: He's very interesting — a pleasure to talk to."

Kerprich also said Prakas was an interesting guy. "You have to take him with a grain of salt. He basically told me what he wanted to do with the block and I told him I was ready to move from Pizzeria Oceano."

Unlike Olmino, Bearman has a regular lease at Oceano Kitchen. If something has to be repaired at the building, landlord Love Lantana Point pays for it.

"What happened between Tom and Burt," Bearman said, "was obviously a lot of scheming. It ended up pretty much a bad situation for everyone that was involved. Definitely cost us money in lawyer fees and all the rest of that."

"We don't have any problems, nobody comes around and asks us anything," Bearman said. "We do OK with what we have. Nobody's told us we have to go find other parking."

### Parking issues

"Basically, the empty shops have no parking," Arm said. "Oceano Kitchen has some parking spots and Mario's has some parking spots. The parking spots are basically given by the landlord to the tenants to control so they can fulfill the code. So, say Mario's needs 40 parking spots, it left no spots for these stores. You can't have a store with no off-street parking. I don't know if he (Prakas) didn't know that going in or didn't research it or thought

he'd be able to get around it."

Prakas, 63, went to the Lantana Town Council on Sept. 26, 2016, to ask for a shared parking agreement that would allow the empty shops to share a town lot on the west side of Dixie Highway on Third Street with Mario's. But that didn't work out.

In May 2019, the town did significantly reduce the parking requirements for downtown businesses, and Mario's, which offers valet parking, no longer needed the town lot. In fact, Olmino said Mario's never once parked a car on the town-owned lot since he signed the lease for the lot in 2015.

While there is an ongoing debate about whether Ocean Avenue has a parking problem, Arm said he doesn't think the code is restrictive anymore.

Mayor Dave Stewart adds: "Of course, on Friday evenings and when there are football games and when people go out to the restaurants, yes, parking is at a premium. But every resident can go purchase a parking permit for one year for \$36 plus tax and they can park at any spot, anywhere without having to pay a meter — anywhere along Ocean Avenue (where there are no meters), or in the kayak park, Bicentennial Park and Sportsman's Park where there are meters. I believe we have provided ample spaces for them."

#### Prakas' side of the story

Being a real estate broker, Prakas was hardly a novice at leases and contracts. He says he sold Handelsman millions of dollars of property over the years. When he was young, he worked in the restaurant and bar industry for his parents. By age 21, he opened his own establishments, accumulating 28 restaurants and nightclubs throughout Ohio, Georgia and South Florida. He shed them all in the 1990s, he says, and switched his focus to commercial real estate.

Yet in a pair of sworn depositions, Prakas was fuzzy on details about his bank accounts, said he failed to put agreements in writing and couldn't explain some of his expenditures.

He contends that Burt Handelsman agreed to the \$15,000 in reduced rent until he resolved the parking issues. "I never could get the parking settled," he said in one deposition.

But he also agreed to the lease even though he said two to four of the structures were so shabby that it would be more economical to tear them down. Prakas said he spent \$30,000 on awnings, decks, landscaping and painting the structures. His lease should have been around \$10,000 a month, he said.

"It was a bad decision," Prakas said. "I made a bad deal."

Handelsman vouched for Prakas' account. "He didn't pay the rent that was stipulated in the lease because I said

he could take an allowance," Handelsman said at a court hearing in July 2018. "I made a management decision, what's best for the company. He was putting back buildings that were falling apart. He was spending far more money than he or I even contemplated that he was going to need."

In the fall of 2018, Circuit Judge Howard Coates Jr. ordered Prakas to deposit almost \$343,000 into a court registry for unpaid rent. Prakas said under oath earlier that he had held onto the subtenants' rents that he received. But none of the money was paid, and interest is accruing.

Instead the Prakas family treated Lantana Village income as though it was "their personal piggybank," attorney Jeffrey Fisher, representing the Handelsman children, said in a court filing.

"All told, the Prakas family has conned Love Lantana out of hundreds of thousands of

dollars," Fisher wrote.

The entire family — Prakas has six sons and two daughters — spent Thanksgiving and Christmas 2016 on visits to Atlanta, staying at a luxury hotel in the city's swanky Buckhead area.

Prakas conceded that his son Nicholas — who he said managed Lantana Village for him — repeatedly spent tenants' rent on personal expenses such as airline tickets, Uber Eats, Starbucks and Domino's Pizza.

He also acknowledged transferring Lantana Village rent to his wife but said it was to repay a loan she made to Lantana Village. There is no promissory note, he said.

And Prakas transferred Lantana Village income in what he said was "a very small amount" to a Delray Beach building on which he held the master lease. The owner: Burt Handelsman.

"You made a conscious choice to pay yourself and your family

members rather than the rent, right?" Fisher asked.

"Well, yeah," Prakas said.

Prakas, who hasn't held leases on Ocean Avenue since 2018, was hesitant to comment on the litigation.

"It was a rent thing," he said.

"It was a negotiation. I was trying to renegotiate the lease and got embroiled in the middle of a family battle with the Handelsman family, with the father. That's all I can say. It's a Greek tragedy. There are three sides to the story — yours, mine and the truth. They only told one side."

A trial date has not been set.

#### How to fill empty shops?

Arm said the Chamber and all of Lantana would like to see something happen and get some businesses into those empty shops.

"I'm not certain how it could be done. It'd be great if something could open up there, if the owners of the property

could make that happen," he said, referring to the Handelsman family.

Alan Ross, whose Shades of Time sunglass shop across the street at 214 E. Ocean has been on Ocean Avenue for 26 years — the first several years in one of the vacant shops the Handelsmans now own — said people have to be realistic about the street's potential.

"I don't know what the intentions are of the people that have that property," Ross said. "In my opinion, 25 years later, this isn't a street that has a lot of walking traffic at all. You have to have the willingness and/or ability to make yourself a destination with a product that works or you're just not going to do business."

"I've seen businesses come and go and the reason they've come and gone is they didn't do the upfront work they should have done to investigate what the street and its potential was or is." ★

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by Barbara Whittaker



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## 10 Questions

## MEET YOUR NEIGHBOR: Max Weinberg

**M**ax Weinberg has spent much of his adult life splitting time between being the drummer for Bruce Springsteen's E Street Band and serving as bandleader on Conan O'Brien's late-night talk show. But through it all, he has retained a keen interest in real estate, architecture and city planning.

So it may not be surprising that, after some urging from friends, Weinberg earlier this year applied for and was appointed to a position on the Planning and Zoning Board of his new hometown, Delray Beach.

"What you try to do as a drummer is keep the conversation going," Weinberg said. "So as a Planning and Zoning Board member I'm trying to keep the municipal planning conversation going. And it's tough."

Weinberg, 69, started drumming when he was 6 and, at 23, was hired by Springsteen after answering an ad in the *Village Voice*. One of the high points of their association, which continues to this day, came in 1984 with the release of *Born in the U.S.A.*, an album that spawned a record-tying seven Top 10 hit singles and prompted Springsteen to later say, "Max was the best thing on the record."

In 1993, a chance meeting with O'Brien resulted in Weinberg's hiring as bandleader on O'Brien's late-night show. Weinberg put together a band — The Max Weinberg 7 — and that relationship lasted until 2009.

Weinberg moved to Palm Beach in 2015 before heading to Delray Beach in March 2017. His first meeting with the Planning and Zoning Commission was Sept. 21, so he's still navigating the territory. So far, he's relying heavily on a 20-year comprehensive plan titled "Always Delay" that came out just last year.

"My interest is to serve the very diverse constituencies who not only are the residents of Delray but who have a vested interest in Delray," he said. "You have to make sure everybody in the city is being served, and I'm not so sure that's being done."

"I'm at a time in my life where enough people asked me to get involved that I finally said yes. My professional activities are curtailed, just like everybody else's," he said of the coronavirus pandemic, "and I don't see that changing much during my (two-year) term as a board member. I hope that's not the case, but I'm not super-optimistic."

Weinberg, an inductee into the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame as a member of the E Street Band, has been married for 39 years to Becky, a former history teacher. The couple has two children: Ali Weinberg Rogin, a senior producer of foreign affairs for *PBS NewsHour* in Washington and wife of *Washington Post* columnist Josh Rogin; and Jay Weinberg, a drummer with the heavy-metal band Slipknot.

Weinberg's other accomplishments include authoring a book, *The Big Beat: Conversations With Rock's Greatest Drummers*, which profiled Ringo Starr, Levon Helm and others; graduating from Seton Hall University at age 38 after a lengthy hiatus due to his band work, and being honored by Big Brothers Big Sisters of America for his work with that organization.

— Brian Biggane

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



Max Weinberg, drummer for Bruce Springsteen, keeps a drum set in the garage of his Delray Beach home. He joined the city's Planning and Zoning Board this year to serve his new community. **Tim Stepien/The Coastal Star**

influenced you?

**A:** I was born in 1951 in Newark, N.J. We moved to the suburb of Maplewood, N.J., and then to South Orange, N.J. Maplewood-South Orange shared a school system and it was top notch.

I graduated from Columbia High School in Maplewood in 1969. In high school I played drums in the marching band, the concert band, stage band and orchestra, so my day was filled with music.

The opportunities back in the '50s and '60s for playing music locally abounded and gave me a chance to grow as a player. As a consequence, I was already in a band when the Beatles broke big in 1964. My teen band was sort of the local "stars," if you will.

**Q:** What professions have you worked in? What professional accomplishments are you most proud of?

**A:** Although I have served as an actor and late-night bandleader for many years, and written a book about my favorite drummers called *The Big Beat*, the professional accomplishment of which I'm most proud is my 46-year association with Bruce Springsteen & the E Street Band.

**Q:** What advice do you have for a young person seeking a career today?

**A:** Recently, I received an honorary doctorate from Lafayette College in Pennsylvania and was asked to speak a

few words to the graduates. They asked for some career advice. Well, any career, especially today, is so tough and likely to change over the course of one's working life. But I do believe that it helps to be the first one to arrive on the job and the last one to leave. You're probably not going to love every working moment, but one should gain a sense of reward from that component of life.

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

**A:** My wife, Becky, and I have lived in New Jersey, Washington, D.C., and Los Angeles. We chose to live in Delray Beach after several years in another Palm Beach County town for the small-town scale and the extremely friendly and diverse population that comprise the city.

As a newly appointed Planning and Zoning Board member I hope to be able to make a difference in helping to maintain this unique human scale ambience, preserve the best of what Delray offers, particularly architecturally, and improve the rest for all the constituencies comprising the city.

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

**A:** My interests are pretty diverse. Most recently I finished *The Age of Eisenhower*, as I have felt a need to fill in the blanks of my childhood, particularly the widespread misconception that the 1950s were such a "placid" decade. That period was anything but.

I'd also recommend *Freedom's Forge*, which tells the story of FDR and America's response to the growing dangers of World War II, a conflict for which in 1937 the United States was ill-equipped and unprepared to wage. This book could be a primer for how we need to face our current challenges and those in the future.

**Q:** What music do you listen to when you want to relax? When you want to be inspired?

**A:** I listen to Sinatra to relax — what else? What music do I find inspiring? Bruce Springsteen's new album, *Letter to You*, is my go-to at the moment. Bruce's stories are real and uplifting and the E Street Band is my musical North Star. Beethoven works well for me as well — and Pavarotti. I'll get into a heavy Beatles marathon from time to time — no one's done rock better except for maybe Chuck Berry.

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

**A:** My father, Bert, was a huge influence, as was my mother, Ruth. They had great values — discipline, strong work ethic, willpower, dignified posture — everything a family needed to get through hard times, and there were certainly a few of those.

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

**A:** Paul Newman, of course, but that would have been unlikely. More likely — Harold Ramis or Eugene Levy.

**Q:** Who/what makes you laugh?

**A:** I'm a latecomer to *Seinfeld* but recently we've started at episode one and I find it hysterical and so true. Conan O'Brien and Robert Smigel taught me so much about comedy when I was on TV all these years. I still find them both hysterical. Conan: Smart guy, smart humor!

**Q:** Do you have a favorite cause? If so, why is it so important to you?

**A:** Save the Chimps in Port St. Lucie is a marvelous sanctuary for these lovely, yet powerful creatures. We support them and also have been longtime patrons of The Gorilla Foundation. I cry when I see the injustices perpetrated on the human species' closest relatives.

The Golden Rule should be extended to all animals, as it's heartbreaking to witness the effects of climate change on defenseless creatures, let alone we humans.

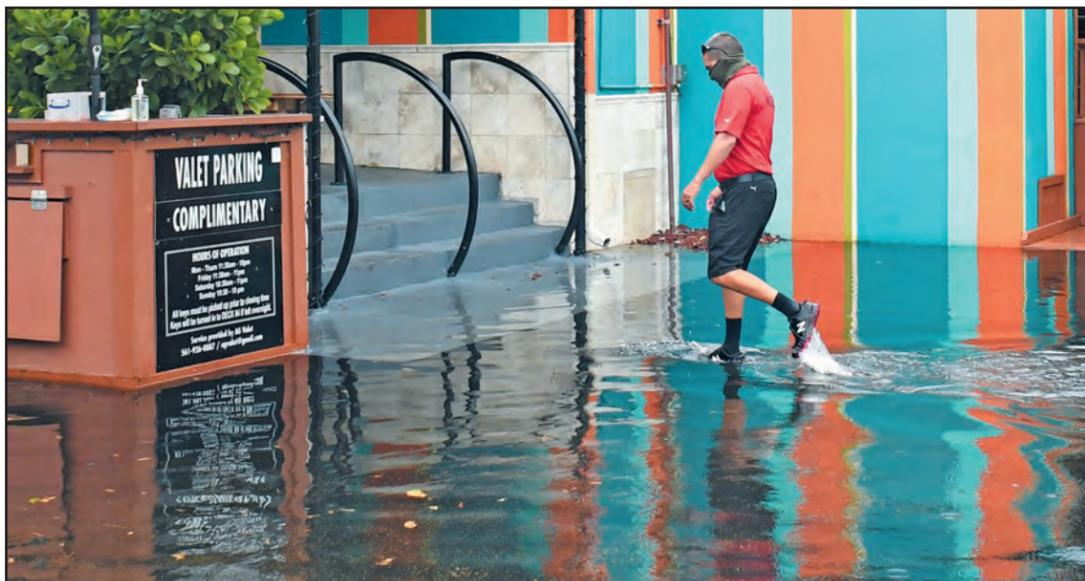
Take a look at the iconic photograph *Earthrise* and embrace the reality that we are killing our unique habitat. One doesn't need to be an astronaut to marvel at what we've been given and are so in danger of losing.

Apart from the preceding I am a strong supporter of preserving our architectural past. Whether public buildings like the destruction of New York City's Pennsylvania Station between 1963 and 1966 or locally and most recently, the misguided demolition of legendary Sarasota School architect Paul Rudolph's historically recognized Biggs House on Seabreeze Avenue is distressing to say the least.

I serve on the board of the Delray Beach Preservation Trust and, whether or not one is a fan of a particular architectural style, once they're gone, they're gone. And our collective physical history suffers the consequences.

**King Tide Flooding**

Along the Coast — September and October



SEPT. 21 King tides and strong swells from tropical weather started the king tide season off with higher-than-expected flooding.

TOP LEFT: A stranded motorist calls for a tow truck after her car stalled out on Ocean Avenue in Ocean Ridge.

OCT. 19 Offshore breezes combined with king tides for more flooding. ABOVE: Alex Granda slogs through flood waters as he works at Deck 84 restaurant in Delray Beach.

LEFT: Lia Schultz prepares to recover the trash can that floats in front of her home in Briny Breezes.

Photos by Jerry Lower/  
The Coastal Star

**Manalapan**

**Town loses Hypoluxo as water customer**

By Dan Moffett

A relationship that has flowed faithfully for 60 years abruptly ended on its anniversary in September.

The long-running water partnership between Manalapan and the Town of Hypoluxo died for the foreseeable future, after Hypoluxo switched to Boynton Beach Utilities for services.

About 2,200 Hypoluxo residents, roughly 550 accounts, are getting their water from Boynton now. The change has been in the works for the last three years, since the Hypoluxo Town Council unanimously voted not to renew the Manalapan contract — originally signed in 1960 — when it expired on Sept. 1.

“We just can’t compete with what they’re offering,” Manalapan Town Manager Linda Stumpf said.

Boynton is promising Hypoluxo users a 25% reduction in their monthly bills and charging them the same preferred rate as in-city residents.

The fast-growing Boynton utility serves close to 120,000 customers and is looking to expand further. Manalapan has about 250 accounts remaining and is searching for a replacement for the roughly \$1.2 million annual revenue stream Hypoluxo brought to the town.

“We’re looking for someone, and there’s been some interest,” Stumpf said.

Meanwhile, both towns are trying to settle on a price for the infrastructure Hypoluxo is taking over. Manalapan still owns the network of pipes west of the Intracoastal Waterway and wants roughly \$1.2 million to give them up. Hypoluxo has submitted an appraisal that puts the value at around \$490,000. An independent appraisal is in the works. “Hypoluxo has put \$1 million in an escrow account for us while the appraisers are

trying to agree on a value,” Stumpf said.

In other business, the Town Commission has unanimously approved two ordinances with provisions that shift review authority for building projects from Manalapan’s appointed boards to commissioners.

The changes give the commissioners the discretion to sign off on dock design plans and other building code issues without waiting

for recommendations from the Planning and Zoning or Architectural commission. Input from the review boards is no longer mandatory.

The intent is “to streamline the review processes for both applicants and the town,” according to language in the ordinance passed to restructure the role of the planning board.

Another purpose is to prevent delays caused when a review panel is unable to meet

because of absences that prevent assembling a quorum.

“It’s because of the way we’re structured and the way people are in or out of town,” Mayor Keith Waters said before the July 28 vote. “We’re trying to expedite to some extent the things that come before the commission. Sometimes it may take two or three months to get everybody together because people are not necessarily here 12 months a year.” ★

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**LEFT:** Some residents were upset in May when sea grapes were trimmed from tree height to waist high. They have since resprouted leaves. **ABOVE:** Clusters of sea grapes dwarf all other vegetation in some areas, creating a monoculture. **BELOW:** George Gann of the Institute for Regional Conservation works with Keith Buttry of Neglected Plants LLC to plant sea lavender in a more diverse stretch of the Delray Beach dune. **Photos by Jerry Lower/The Coastal Star**

## SEA GRAPES

Continued from page 1

### Explosive growth

“You have this one species that is exploding, and it outcompetes and kills everything underneath it,” said George Gann, the chief conservation strategist for the Institute for Regional Conservation based in Delray Beach. “The sea grapes have not only grown up, they’ve also grown out. They’re overwhelming so much of the biodiversity on the dune.”

Gann compliments past dune restoration work at the city’s public beach, saying it is “one of the most biodiverse and successful beaches in Southeast Florida.” But, he cautions, “the sea grapes threaten the good work that has come before.”

In addition, Gann and coastal management consultant Rob Barron said the sea grapes have brittle wood and shallow root systems, increasing the chances they could blow over or become projectiles in a major hurricane. They’re also not great at capturing sand or providing erosion resistance, Gann and Barron said.

At the Florida Department of Environmental Protection, Dave Kieckbusch says you can trim or not trim in environmentally friendly ways depending on your preference. But the sea grapes are invasive, he said. Even though they are native, they can grow prolifically and potentially harmfully.

“You plant the sea grapes, they’re very nice looking, but they’re very fast-growing and they can shade out the [other] native plants,” said Kieckbusch, an environmental specialist who serves as the department’s field inspector for Southeast Florida.

### Sea turtle concerns

One of the main environmental arguments against trimming is that the taller sea grapes shield the beach from artificial light emanating from buildings along State Road A1A, light that could disorient sea turtle hatchlings and discourage female sea turtles from nesting. Kieckbusch said trimming permits require lighting surveys before and



after the work is done to assure light along A1A won’t get to the beach during nesting season.

Even a February consulting report prepared for the city — one that recommended leaving the remaining tall sea grapes untrimmed — said “the ultimate solution is for upland homes and buildings to comply with the city’s lighting ordinance and install turtle-friendly lighting.”

It took until 2017 for the significant light issues immediately north and south of Atlantic Avenue to be resolved to protect sea turtles and hatchlings, making it possible to do the remaining trimming that has now been approved, Barron said. He has been involved with the city’s beach management for decades and was a leading proponent of the trimming.

For Kieckbusch, a big environmental problem along the coast is private property owners who trim illegally and expose the beach to artificial light sources.

“This is starting with the snowbirds coming down. This is our busy time of the year” for permitting and enforcement, Kieckbusch said.

### Shadows on the beach

From a sea turtle’s perspective at the municipal beach, Barron said the taller sea grapes don’t make a difference.

Delray Beach’s sandy dunes themselves block out lighting that’s lower than the tops of telephone poles, he said.

But David Anderson, the sea turtle conservation coordinator at the Gumbo Limbo Nature Center in Boca Raton, doesn’t dismiss the benefits of taller sea grapes — even if direct light sources aren’t an issue.

Tall sea grapes not only shield the beach from light along A1A, but also can help block out the ambient glow created by light from cities to the west, Anderson said. To the extent sea grapes cast a shadow on the beach from the ambient light in the night sky, they provide darker spots that will attract nesting sea turtles, he said.

“Those turtles are just offshore, sticking their head out of the water, looking for a dark beach,” he said.

The narrower strip of beach next to Red Reef Park in Boca Raton, for example, next to high dunes and with shading from tall sea grapes, has made nesting density greater there, Anderson said. In the same way, tall beachfront condos with turtle-friendly lighting actually have a beneficial effect, attracting nesting sea turtles by casting shadows that block the ambient light, he said.

### Delray’s sea grape history

Sea grape plants are native to

Florida, but historically hadn’t been a significant part of the region’s beach dune system, which was full of grasses and saw palmettos, Barron said.

In the early 1970s, beach erosion had ocean water lapping near the edge of A1A, prompting the city to do a beach-widening project, Barron said. When blowing sand from the new beach caused problems of its own, the city initially rejected a proposal to plant sea oats — an idea derided at the time as “hayfields on the beach,” he said.

Sea oats, which conservationists say are one of the most effective beach plants at trapping sand and building up dunes, were eventually planted in the mid-1980s and are now a significant part of the beach’s foredune.

The sea grapes west of the oats, between the foredune and the sidewalk, were planted earlier in the 1980s and started thriving after the sea oats were introduced, Barron said. They doubled their footprint about every nine years and quickly overtook the community of plants in the coastal strand portion of the city’s beach ecosystem, he said.

Gann wants to see numerous plant species returned to the beach’s coastal strand once the sea grapes are trimmed and the exotic vegetation removed. That

will create a habitat for dozens of species of butterflies and birds and rejuvenate the natural ecosystem, he said.

At the end of October, the city began adding new native vegetation following the trimming and the removal of exotics done during the summer. The plantings include bay cedar, golden beach creeper, Walter’s ground cherry and sea lavender.

Some argue the sea grape trees near A1A provide a fertile habitat for small mammals and migratory birds, but Gann said there’s not much place for the mammals to hide and the sea grape fruit is attractive only to larger birds, such as blue jays. Trees are typically part of a maritime hammock to the west of the coastal strand. But that type of hammock, which is in place at the city’s Atlantic Dunes Park, is not present at the municipal beach.

Gann compared the sea grapes at the beach to cattails in the Everglades.

Just as the cattail population explodes as a result of nutrient-rich agricultural runoff flowing into the Everglades, the sea grapes take advantage of excess nutrients near the beach to proliferate out of control, he said.

“In hindsight, it would have been a lot better to plant other things,” he said. ★

## MEALS

Continued from page 1

And on Oct. 9, 2020, Ed Manley was at home on Hibiscus Drive in Briny Breezes, waiting for someone to bring his lunch.

He is 98.

"I was lying in a ditch," he explained, "and John came along and said, 'Can I help you?'"

The ditch is a metaphor, of course, but the help John Sallee brings is real. Like the U.S. Army's 502nd Parachute Infantry Regiment, Meals on Wheels of the Palm Beaches has a mission.

Every Monday, Wednesday and Friday morning, a team of five couriers leaves the organization's kitchen on Old Okeechobee Road in West Palm Beach, bearing both hot and frozen meals to 40 volunteers, who deliver them to about 300 elderly clients living between Tequesta and Lantana.

Here comes John Sallee now. As his 2017 blue Ford Equinox stops on Hibiscus Drive this Friday morning, Manley eases down the steps of his mobile home to greet him.

Sometimes Chef Daniel Laudia prepares meatballs and mashed potatoes, salmon with rice and broccoli, or glazed pork and sweet potatoes. Veggie lasagna. Chicken piccata. Laudia cooked at a country club before coming to Meals on Wheels.

Today, it's quiche, Tater Tots, a side salad, juice or milk and, October being National Cookie Month, extra cookies.

"The food is excellent!" Manley exclaimed. "I wasn't eating enough vegetables and they give you a lot of grass. They give you spinach and carrots and peas and string beans."

He paused.

"The only thing I don't like is the beans, because they give me gas."

Actually, Ed Manley's Friday lunch didn't really begin on Old Okeechobee Road that morning. It began back in September, when his caregiver at the VA Hospital called Debbie Emerick, Meals on Wheels program director.

"Ed was OK cognitively," Emerick recalls, "but she had concerns about his nutrition. He's homebound, his family's in Washington state, and neighbors were bringing him groceries. As soon as I heard he was a World War II vet, I wanted to help."

"I was getting old," Manley said. "It's that simple. I was cutting down to two meals a day."

Now, to make sure this old soldier eats well, Meals on Wheel isn't just going an extra mile. It's going an extra five miles.

Briny Breezes is south of Lantana, the agency's southern boundary, but Ed Manley is being served anyway, thanks to the Quantum Foundation, which gave Meals on Wheels a \$75,000 grant last year to support its Meals For Veterans



outreach. Most of the agency's 95 vets, who had been paying about \$7 a meal or less on a sliding scale, now pay nothing.

The organization's \$1 million annual budget comes primarily from donations and grants. Meals on Wheels of the Palm Beaches receives no government funding.

John Sallee is a courier, but because there's not an official delivery route this far south, he delivers Manley's meals.

"It's very satisfying work," Sallee says. "You get to know people like Ed. I've been doing this 2½ years, and I can only think of one person I didn't like. And he moved into assisted living."

After delivering the quiche, plus a frozen meal for the weekend and a big loaf of bread,

Sallee didn't speed off. He waited, smiling and nodding as Manley talked on. He listened.

"That's our More Than A Meal model," says Pam Calzadilla, the organization's president and CEO. "You're not just getting a UPS truck dropping a bunch of meals off. It's making sure they're well and giving them that social interaction."

"We provide check-in and report back to clients' families. And we call 911 on occasion as well. Too many times."

For clients who have pets, there's Animeals. During hurricane seasons, there's a box of shelf food to last three days. On birthdays, there's a cake.

Before the COVID pandemic struck, meals were delivered five days a week. Now John



ABOVE: The slogan on a volunteer's T-shirt states the organization's goal. LEFT: While recounting his younger years, Ed Manley breaks into dance on his porch steps. Manley says the Meals on Wheels food is 'excellent.' Jerry Lower/The Coastal Star

Sallee and his colleagues arrive on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays only, with frozen meals to tide the clients over.

"We've had trouble getting some foods from vendors," Calzadilla reports, "and we've had to change some of our meals because they had no stock or had furloughed employees."

Manley is Briny Breezes' only Meals On Wheels client, so far.

"Now that we're there, we can accept more seniors who need the service," Emerick says. "This is how we build. We find a need, then another, and establish a volunteer route."

For Manley, old age seemed to come suddenly.

"Two years ago, I was hanging out with 45-year-olds," he told Sallee. "I had a 6-year-old Mini Cooper with 9,000 miles on it. I went to Publix, the bank and the hospital. But I fell asleep twice while I was eating and woke up 45 minutes later, so I quit driving. I was afraid I could hurt somebody."

Born in the Bronx in 1921, Manley grew up in an orphanage called Sheltering Arms at 129th Street and Amsterdam Avenue in Harlem.

"They used to give us two nickels every Wednesday to go down to the YMCA on the trolley," he recalled, "and I'd hang on the back of the trolley to save the nickels."

Before joining the Army, he played trumpet in an 11-piece band. In the Army, he played the afternoon dances for the noncoms.

After the war, he was a New

York State trooper, and 40 years ago he arrived in Briny Breezes on a sailboat from Ocean City, Maryland.

Dorothy Ann died in 1984, after 31 years of marriage. His two sons and a daughter are far away. He lives alone.

"I'm a widower," he said, "so I was cooking for myself."

On Jan. 3, 1945, Ed Manley was wounded in Bastogne, taken prisoner and imprisoned in Stalag 12A for 4½ months, until he escaped.

He has two Bronze Stars, from Normandy and Bastogne, a Purple Heart and two presidential citations.

In 1994, he jumped out of an airplane once more, to mark the 50th anniversary of D-Day.

He was 72.

In 2009, he had a triple heart bypass.

"But I look around and I see other people," he said, "and every time I think I'm hurting, I see how the powers-that-be have taken care of me. How many people live to be in their 90s?"

On Nov. 5, he will turn 99.

"Meals On Wheels was a big surprise," he said, clutching this day's delivery. "They surprise me all the time with this stuff."

And then, turning to go back inside, out of the midday heat, he paused.

"When I was in shape," he added, "you didn't mess with me." ★

To learn more, call 561-802-6979 or visit [www.mealsonwheelspalmbeaches.org](http://www.mealsonwheelspalmbeaches.org).

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## REVIEW

Continued from page 1

construct and monitor the estimated \$30.59 million reclaimed water system since its beginning in 2003.

Reclaimed water is highly treated wastewater that can be used only for lawn irrigation, but it is not suitable for human or pet consumption.

Public Utility Management said its investigation was hampered by a lack of records available prior to 2018. That's one reason the firm focused its report on the final area where reclaimed water was installed on the barrier island.

The work included the installation of residential reclaimed connections and other utility infrastructure such as potable water mains as well as sewer and storm water mains. The project ran from January 2018 to March 2019. Within this area there were reports of cross connections and contamination between reclaimed water and drinking water and of residents opting out of the program with no city oversight.

The area studied in the report included Lewis Cove south to Del Haven Drive on the west side of State Road A1A and along the east side of A1A from Casuarina Road south to Del Haven.

After reading the review, Mayor Shelly Petrolia agreed that the city needs to strengthen its mandatory reclaimed water ordinance.

New Utilities Director Hassan Hadjimiry concurred.

His department is working closely with staff from the city's Development Services, Code Enforcement and Attorney's Office. That approach will allow for greater oversight of the reclaimed water permitting process and enforcement of the city's ordinance, according to Hadjimiry, who responded via email.

"Customers who chose to disconnect without proper oversight are potentially endangering the safety of the public water provided to other

"Ultimately, the conclusion is this issue could be construed as a 'lack of institutional control,' which is a failure to have the appropriate resources, funding, oversight, policies and internal expertise in place to properly manage the utility system."

*Public Utility Management & Planning Services Inc.*

city customers," he wrote.

In addition, he stated that he already has addressed many of Bloetscher's concerns.

**Culprit not identified**

The report also found that the city allowed backflow prevention devices to be buried, making them difficult to access. The buried devices were cheaper to install and their underground placement meant they were out of sight.

"Esthetics are not important when you are protecting public health," said Bloetscher, associate dean for undergraduate studies and community outreach in environmental engineering at Florida Atlantic University.

The city staffer or consultant who made that decision was not identified in the report.

Bloetscher suggested the city replace its dual-check valves, which cost about \$500, with the more expensive devices, called reduced pressure zone devices, which sit above the ground. The RPZs cost about \$1,800 each.

To help with ongoing costs of the upgrades, Bloetscher suggested the city replace the devices over time as they wear out.

Dual-check valves and RPZs are backflow preventers that protect the drinking water supply from contamination. RPZs are better because they dispose of any backward-flowing water if their valves fail.

The area studied in the report was found to have 21 missing backflow devices out of 136 locations.

The project area just to the north was missing 54 backflow devices out of 150 total. Work in that area began in May 2016 and ended in February 2017. In a separate contract, awarded

to another firm, backflow devices supplied by the city were installed in the adjacent area.

In all, 194 backflow devices were found to be missing on the barrier island.

Most cities in the county, including Delray Beach, use the cheaper dual-check valves because they are allowed under the state's Administrative Code. Dual-check backflow preventers cannot be tested and must be replaced every five years, according to Hadjimiry.

Delray Beach requires larger residential buildings and commercial sites to use RPZs, Hadjimiry wrote.

The American Water Works Association, an international nonprofit aimed at improving water quality, recommends using an RPZ for its superior protection of the public water supply.

One of the most troubling concerns Bloetscher's report found was that Delray Beach does not have a point person in charge of the installation of backflow preventers and inspection at each reclaimed water location.

City documents included in the report state that the city would provide oversight for inspections and that a "cross-connection specialist" was to perform the inspections, but no position within the city was found to exist and there was nothing on file to show the inspections had been done.

Since arriving in early June, Hadjimiry has created a regulatory compliance section within his department to implement the cross-connection control and industrial pretreatment programs. An existing open position is being reclassified to a cross-connection control coordinator

to oversee that program, Hadjimiry wrote.

Bloetscher also noted that city staff added a change order to the construction contract in August 2018, adding backflow preventers at a cost of just over \$26,000. The original contract did not include them for the installation of reclaimed water in the southern portion of the barrier island. Whether the devices were part of the original contracts for the other four barrier island areas of the reclaimed water project is unknown.

Petrolia found the review hard to read and lacking in key information. "Who was responsible for adding the backflow preventers?" she asked. "I thought that was the purpose of spending \$20,000 on the forensic study."

**Director wants to add jobs**

Despite rumors swirling on social media, the City Commission was found to have little involvement with the reclaimed water system, according to the review.

Mark Lauzier, who was city manager in December 2018, updated the commission at its Dec. 11, 2018, meeting. He talked of a cross connection in the final area of the reclaimed water installation, which led to a boil-water order for the southern portion of the barrier island.

Cross connections happen when reclaimed water lines are connected to drinking water pipes.

Lauzier stated "staff will address the communications issues and require maps for these type of things in the future."

In February, then City Manager George Gretsas told commissioners how he shut down the reclaimed water system to avoid a citywide boil water order. That was done to satisfy Florida Department of Health inspectors. They were investigating a complaint from a South Ocean Boulevard resident who did not think she was adequately informed of the December 2018 cross

connection.

In early May, Gretsas rated the reclaimed water program a D-minus in his presentation to the commission.

Delray Beach has another problem with how it tracks the reclaimed water program, Bloetscher found.

The city has two methods to record locations, installation dates, tests and photos for each reclaimed water site. Some staffers use Excel spreadsheets, while others use graphic information system maps. The GIS method is preferable, according to the review.

As part of the cross-connection control program, Delray Beach will use a web-based system for testing, tracking and reporting of backflow preventers, according to Hadjimiry.

At the Nov. 17 City Commission meeting, he will seek commission approval to add four new positions — professional engineer, plan reviewer/engineer and two inspectors — to the department's engineering section. The change will require a budget amendment, Hadjimiry wrote.

Delray Beach also plans to educate its reclaimed water customers, following AWWA guidelines, by providing annual notifications to make sure customers know about the origin, nature and characteristics of reclaimed water, according to Hadjimiry.

"The city's website has been updated to include educational information and videos on reclaimed water and its uses," Hadjimiry wrote.

Barrier island resident Chris Heffernan was not surprised by any of Bloetscher's findings.

"The city manager form of government is clearly not working. Delray Beach has outgrown it," he said of a system in which the commission makes the policies and an appointed manager runs the city. In other places the elected mayor runs the city.

"We are a city run by bureaucrats and part-time politicians," Heffernan said. ★

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**Witches of Delray**

Tim Finnegan's, Delray Beach — Oct. 23

The Witches of Delray hosted a 'Witches Brew' happy hour fundraiser at Tim Finnegan's Irish Pub. Proceeds from the event benefited the Achievement Centers for Children & Families. The ninth Annual Witches of Delray charity bike ride was modified because of COVID-19 concerns. In place of a group bike ride through the city, the witches held various opportunities to 'get wicked' live and virtually throughout downtown Delray Beach. This year's events raised more than \$7,000. **RIGHT:** Lynn Korp shows off the bicycle she decorated and named 'Day of the Dead.' Donated for auction, the bicycle drew a top bid of \$1,195. Korp is an artist who operates Renaissance Restoration Studio on Atlantic Avenue. **Tim Stepien /The Coastal Star**



## Delray Beach

# Cleaning of drinking water tanks set to finish this month

By Rich Pollack

Following through on inquiries from state regulators, Delray Beach's Utilities Department is finishing up efforts to clean water storage tanks that had not been properly maintained in at least five years, while at the same time it takes steps to enhance maintenance procedures and improve drinking water quality and aesthetics.

"Our goal is to assure that people will be happy with their water and we're hoping we can also further improve the color of the water," said Utilities Director Hassan Hadjimiry.

Since September — when the Florida Department of Health began investigating Delray's failure to inspect and, if necessary, clean water storage tanks at required intervals — the city has completed cleaning

of its north water storage tank and last month completed cleaning of its 2-million-gallon south water storage tank.

Cleansing of another south tank, which holds 500,000 gallons, was scheduled to be completed by the end of October and cleaning of the city's clear well — a tank that contains water as it moves through the treatment process — is set to begin in early November. That cleaning will take up to three weeks.

Once that project is completed, Delray Beach will have cleaned all of its water storage tanks and will be in compliance with state regulations that require water storage tanks to be inspected and cleaned at least every five years.

The city is still awaiting results of the state health department's investigation into

the storage tank cleaning, as well as an investigation into an issue Delray Beach had with reclaimed water commingling with drinking water.

Those issues are also the focus of an inquiry by the Palm Beach County Office of Inspector General, which will make recommendations for corrective actions, should they be needed.

Hadjimiry and his team are already a few steps ahead of that investigation, having instituted several new processes and procedures.

In recent weeks Hadjimiry has implemented a new method of tracking tank inspections and cleanings, with the process now becoming the responsibility of the department's regulatory compliance division. Additional maintenance activities are being tracked through a public-asset management program that

tracks projects to completion.

Under Hadjimiry, who came to Delray Beach from Palm Beach County Water Utilities in June, the department also stocks critical parts so they're on hand if needed and the city has vendor contracts in place to provide parts and service on short notice.

The department is also in the process of hiring a new water plant manager, filling a position that has been vacant since May.

"We're going to do the most we can do for the overall quality of water," Hadjimiry said, reinforcing his contention that the city's drinking water is safe and in compliance with state and federal regulations.

One of several projects the Utilities Department has planned going forward is a study of ways to improve the aesthetics of the water coming out of faucets. An often-repeated

complaint from residents is that Delray's water is discolored, frequently with a yellow tint.

Hadjimiry said he hopes to further improve the color through a combination of processes. "I want to see if we can bring up the color of the water," he said.

Also in the works is a study to see if the city can provide an extra level of disinfection into the water treatment process, one that goes beyond regulations and is currently used by the Palm Beach County Water Utilities department.

The city Utilities Department recently completed cleaning of the aerators used in the water treatment process and Hadjimiry is expected to ask the City Commission to approve spending \$900,000 to replace filters that are critical to the treatment process. ★

## Timetable unclear on reclaimed water issues

By Jane Smith

At the end of October, the Florida Department of Health was still waiting for complete information on some barrier island reclaimed water installations in Delray Beach.

More than three months have passed since local DOH environmental leaders met with Delray Beach utilities and legal staff to review 13 possible violations in the city's reclaimed water program.

"The department expects the report to contain a full accounting/inventory and compliance history of all reclaimed water connections," wrote Jorge Patino, water and wastewater administrator at the Florida DOH. "Any omissions may be construed as reporting violations."

That Sept. 21 email to the city Utilities Department director seemed to be about the South Ocean Boulevard customers who were allowed to switch back to potable water for irrigation after having been converted to reclaimed water.

Delray Beach requires its water customers to switch to reclaimed water for irrigation when that service is available in their neighborhood. Reclaimed water is highly treated wastewater that is suitable only for irrigation and not human or pet consumption.

Patino was alerted to the latest issue by Christine Ferrigan, a Delray Beach utilities inspector, who sent a Sept. 15 email to the environmental health director and the local DOH legal director.

Ferrigan was hired in June 2017, six months before the city contracted with Lanzo Construction to install the reclaimed water system in the southeast portion of the barrier island.

Ferrigan had claimed whistleblower status in 2008 after she was fired from Boca Raton's water department. She sued the city over the firing. Ferrigan and her attorneys received a settlement from the city's insurance company the day before the trial started. The city did not admit any wrongdoing.

In her email to the DOH, Ferrigan wrote about a Sept. 11 meeting with city Utilities Director Hassan Hadjimiry and the department's compliance manager, at which she said she was told "to remove all history of several locations that have shown prior reclaimed violations/cross connections."

Ferrigan explained that the properties were located along South Ocean Boulevard and had converted back to potable water for irrigation.

A cross connection discovered there in December 2018 triggered this year's review of the citywide reclaimed water program. A woman who lived in that area called the local office of the Florida DOH on Jan. 2 to say she was not adequately informed of the 2018 cross connection. A cross connection happens when drinking water pipes are mistakenly connected to reclaimed water pipes.

In the fall of 2018, many South Ocean property owners said they and their pets were sickened by drinking tainted water.

Hadjimiry, though, saw the Sept. 11 meeting differently.

"Part of the discussion with Ms. Ferrigan was to clarify what information is to be reported on the cross-connection inspection form," Hadjimiry replied via an Oct. 19 email sent by Gina Carter, city spokeswoman.

Ferrigan was told to list her observations in the field on the day the cross-connection inspections were conducted, including previous inspections, he wrote.

"Any additional information gathered in the field from customers or other sources pertaining to the history of the site's connection — which was not specifically inspected and verified by Ms. Ferrigan on the date of inspection — should be included as an attachment to the inspection form with a note on the form to see the attachment for additional information," Hadjimiry wrote.

He declined to give a time when Ferrigan would complete her inspections and write the reports about the properties no longer connected to the reclaimed water service.

"The Utilities Department is working closely with FDOH on completing the required information," Hadjimiry wrote.

Separately, the South Central Regional Wastewater Treatment plant used the outfall pipe in Delray Beach twice in the first 20 days of October to send treated wastewater into the ocean. Those discharges are allowed under a 2009 administrative order from the Florida Department of Environmental Protection.

When the plant needs to use the outfall pipe, reclaimed water is not available for Delray Beach water customers who live east of the interstate.

The first occurrence happened on Oct. 1 during heavy rainfall in Boynton Beach and Delray Beach. The reclaimed water system shutdown lasted a week.

The second took place on Oct. 20, and reclaimed water service had not been restored before press time. ★



### Old School Square busy

**ABOVE:** Workers prepare a socially distanced, pod seating layout at Old School Square in Delray Beach for the return of its Friday Concert Series on Oct. 23. The first concert featured 'The Long Run: A Journey Through the Music of the Eagles.'

**LEFT:** The 100-foot Christmas Tree was assembled in October. Because of COVID-19 precautions, the city will not have a tree-lighting ceremony and it canceled the holiday parade.

Tim Stepien/The Coastal Star



## Boynton Beach

# Festival, mural, open job occupy Arts Commission

By Jane Smith

As Boynton Beach maintains its role as a public art supporter, the city is juggling three arts-related issues.

In August, city commissioners hired a Boca Raton events firm, Zucker & Lewis Media Group LLC, to produce its fifth International Kinetic Art Festival. The firm will be paid \$40,000. Next year's festival is slated for March 6 and 7, instead of the first weekend in February. The extra month will give the event firm more time to find artists and organize the festival.

Boynton Beach also is on its second search for a public art manager. One candidate, selected in early September, dropped out at the last minute when she received a better offer that the city could not match, Kathryn Matos, assistant city manager, said on Oct. 8.

And in early November, the city will unveil the restored Community Heartbeat mural to be placed on the lobby windows of the new fire station in town. City commissioners and others will be invited to a small ceremony.

The juggling situation was created in early June after Debby Coles-Dobay, the city's public art manager, was fired when she was blamed in the whitewashing of the faces of two Black fire chiefs from the Community Heartbeat mural. The mural is a collage of firefighters in action and at city events with a red heartbeat line running through it.

The change created an uproar in the local Black community at the same time as international racial unrest was growing over the May 25 death of George Floyd. The Black man died while in the custody of Minneapolis police.

The Boynton Beach mural was taken down on June 4, two days after it was installed and one day after the soft opening for the fire station.

From June 4 through 6, City Manager Lori LaVerriere interviewed Coles-Dobay, Fire Marshal Kathy Cline and then-Fire Chief Matthew Petty. "Coles-Dobay admitted that changing the skin color was her idea and decision," according to the draft notes of Human Resources Director Julie Oldbury, who was present during the interviews. The original notes were handwritten and difficult to read.

Coles-Dobay denies the allegations in the HR notes: "I did not want any changes to be made to the mural. Fire Chief Matthew Petty and Fire Marshal Kathy Cline directed changes to be made. Documents were provided and approved by city officials," Coles-Dobay wrote in an Oct. 18 email to *The Coastal Star*.



The revised Community Heartbeat mural commissioned for the windows of Boynton's new fire station returns faces that had previously been removed. **Rendering provided**

In late April, Cline and Petty were involved in last-minute discussions about the mural, according to Oldbury's notes. Both said they wanted to have blurred faces of the 39 firefighters shown in the mural.

Cline, who had not seen the mural, expressed concerns about seeing identifiable firefighters in the station lobby. The mural "would then create a 'why is this person on here, why am I not on here?' issue," she said.

Cline also objected to the mural because as the city's fire marshal she is responsible for fire safety. The mural's placement in the fire station's lobby windows was not letting enough light through to see inside the building or out onto the street, she said.

In addition, Oldbury's notes reflect that Petty said he had concerns about the circumstances under which the two Black chiefs left the city. He asked, "Is that pressure? No, that's me voicing my concerns before I'm being requested to give an approval."

Petty admitted he failed when he replied to an April 23 email from Coles-Dobay about the mural, "Looks good, approved, moving on." He said he had not looked at the latest rendition of the mural before replying.

On June 6, Petty and LaVerriere agreed he would step down as fire chief.

Since then, the city Arts Commission on June 11 decided to try to restore the original mural. Releases were

sent to all 39 people in the mural asking for permission to use their images.

Thirteen responses were received. Twelve approved of having their images in the mural and one did not.

The city's second Black fire chief, Glenn Joseph, who retired in November 2019, asked that his image be removed. Joseph did not want to be in the mural because he had worked only a few years for the city.

Former Deputy Fire Chief Latosha Clemons, who is Black, did not respond to the second request. She sent a text message to *The Coastal Star* on Oct. 5, saying, "I had consented when I issued the photo to be on the mural and also when I stated that little Black girls can pass by and see who they can become."

Clemons, a Boynton Beach native, grew up in the neighborhood adjacent to the fire station. She still lives in that area after retiring in March with nearly 24 years of service.

The reprinting of the mural will cost about \$1,400, Nicole Blanks, public art assistant, told the Arts Commission members on Oct. 8. In addition, Matos told the members they will receive invitations to the mural unveiling.

Also on Oct. 8, Matos received recruiting ideas for the public art manager position from the Arts Commission members. She said the city received about 100 applicants for the opening, but

most were not qualified.

"If you're only getting two serious candidates out of 100 submissions, maybe the wording can be improved," said Martin Klauber, an alternate member.

Member Susan Oyer said, "Our position is so unusual that it requires the person to be knowledgeable about public relations and marketing, along with knowing about art and public art. Maybe advertise in New York City?"

For the kinetic art festival, Valerie Zucker, a principal in the events firm, came to the September meeting of the Arts Commission to hear its ideas. Her firm has an extra month to plan for the event.

Submissions are due Nov. 1. Highlights will include the formal dedication of Ralfonso's kinetic piece, *Reflections*. It sits at the northeast corner of Seacrest Boulevard and Ocean Avenue, serving as the gateway feature to the city's Town Square redevelopment.

Zucker hopes that Ralfonso will attend the VIP reception on March 5. In addition, she wants to have companies sponsor some of the programs, such as the kinetic sculpture kits for kids.

"We're not reinventing the formula for the kinetic festival," said Courtlandt McQuire, Arts Commission chairman. "Art will bring the people."

He said Coles-Dobay made a lot of the decisions, from the artwork displayed to the type of music played. "Now, we will work with Valerie." ★

## Briny Breezes

# Briny voters to consider town charter proposal

By Dan Moffett

The town of Briny Breezes has been running on a largely improvised collection of rules and regulations since its incorporation as a municipality in 1963.

That could change next year after the March election.

Briny voters will get the chance to approve amendments that would give the town a formal charter with detailed guidelines, definitions and procedures for governance.

The Town Council, during its Oct. 22 meeting, unanimously approved an ordinance putting the amendment on the March 9 ballot, culminating six months of review and deliberation, led by Town Attorney Keith Davis.

A citizens charter review committee, chaired by former Alderman Bobby Jurovaty, met multiple times through the summer to put together the proposed charter. Other members of the committee were Jim Phillippi, Karen Wiggins, Susan Atlee, Suzanne Carroll and Jerry Lower, publisher of *The Coastal Star*.

Most of the new document simply restates practices that the town already has in place. Two of the most noteworthy changes are a measure that makes the job of town clerk an appointed position, rather than elected, and a section that defines the role of the town manager, a position the Town Council created three years ago.

The proposed charter also outlines procedures for the recall and removal of elected officials and clarifies the role of the nonvoting mayor position.

### In other business:

- The council unanimously approved during its October meeting a new policy for satisfying large public records requests that require extensive work by town employees. The policy allows 15 minutes of employee work at no charge for requests, but if more time is required, the town now will charge the requesting party a service fee based on the employee's hourly pay.

Town Manager William Thrasher said some recent extensive record requests have forced him and Clerk Sandi DuBose to lose too much time from doing the town's necessary work. They are the only employees in Town Hall and both are part-time.

Thrasher said the new policy is modeled after those used in neighboring communities.

- The Town Council has scheduled its regular monthly meetings for Nov. 19 and Dec. 17 to adjust to the Thanksgiving and Christmas holidays. Both are to begin at 4 p.m. ★

## Boynton Beach

# CRA hesitant to take parking garage in place of cash from developer

By Jane Smith

The Boynton Beach Community Redevelopment Agency board members have expressed reservations about taking parking spaces in exchange for money for the proposed Ocean Avenue Residences and Shoppes along Federal Highway.

The development team for the proposed project on the property that had housed the temporary city library has suggested providing the city with 120 public parking spaces in a multistory garage instead of paying the \$3 million that the CRA spent acquiring the land at 115 N. Federal Highway.

“We’re not getting our \$3 million up front,” Steven Grant, CRA board chairman, said about his concerns at the board’s Oct. 13 meeting. “We don’t need garage parking there.”

He suggested the developer could make scheduled payments over time.

Board member Justin Katz also expressed concerns about the project.

“This board has not approved of anything specific here,” Katz said. “Maybe we should get community input before we put out the request for proposal?”

Grant said he talked with William Morris, one of the developers of the proposed Ocean Avenue Residences, about the project.

Morris also was involved with Worthing Place, a residential development in downtown Delray Beach. When Morris talked at the Aug. 11 Boynton Beach CRA meeting, he touted the success of Worthing Place.

But, when Grant visited the project recently, he did not see it as anything special. “It had two vacant lots next to it,” Grant told his fellow CRA board members.

Grant said he also talked with developer Davis Camalier, who owns the land and building that is rented to the Boardwalk Italian Ice & Creamery at 209 N. Federal. Camalier said he had not talked with Morris, according to Grant.

“These are adjacent properties not involved but affected by the upgrade,” Grant said. “They are street-facing properties.”

Earlier in the meeting during public comment, Kim Kelly, owner of the Hurricane Alley restaurant on Ocean Avenue, said she had collected 4,000 signatures to oppose the project. She suggests building a hotel on

the site to help the CRA’s nearby marina.

Morris and his partners want to turn the alley north of Kelly’s restaurant into a pedestrian walkway. If that happens, Hurricane Alley will lose most of its parking, Kelly said.

The CRA board did not take any action Oct. 13. Even though a 90-day window for the developer to see whether anyone else is interested in the property will not be expired by the Nov. 10 meeting, board members

asked Executive Director Michael Simon to make sure the Ocean Avenue Residences development team attends.

The project would have 229 residential units, 18,000 square feet of commercial space and a parking garage with 544 spaces on 2.6 acres. The estimated cost is about \$65 million. The developers want to include Dewey Park, a city park on Ocean Avenue, as its green space.

On Aug. 11, CRA board

members unanimously accepted the Ocean Avenue Residences’ letter of intent. They gave the development team the 90-day window then. CRA rules require issuing a request for proposals if more than one letter of intent is received. As of the Oct. 13 meeting, no one else had submitted a letter, said Simon.

“By November, we should know more about train transit locations,” Grant said. The property sits next to the Florida East Coast railroad line that the

Brightline express train used before the company suspended service in March because of the coronavirus pandemic.

Two other board members also said they remain flexible and want to see what is proposed.

One of them, Woodrow Hay, said: “We want to have some kind of train station there. Where are the citizens with their plans? I’m not in a hurry, but I would like to have all the cards on the table.” ★



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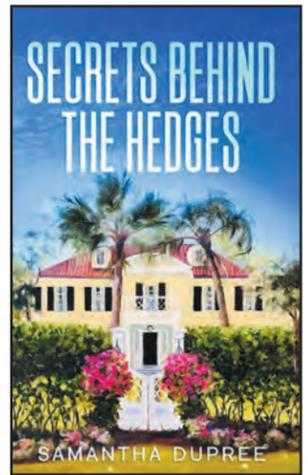
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## Lantana

## Town balances budget with a little help from reserves

By Mary Thurwachter

Despite a robust boost in property values — an increase of \$78 million to \$1.21 billion for the new fiscal year (including \$14.4 million in new construction), Lantana will still need to pull \$37,937 from reserves to balance its \$20 million budget.

“We are not allowed to print money, we are not allowed to not have a balanced budget,” Mayor Dave Stewart said during the final public budget hearing Sept. 23. “So, in layman’s terms, if we didn’t go into reserves, or have them to get that money, we could be losing one in personnel, one police officer or someone like that along the way. So, we’re going into reserves for that amount, which is minimal

in the scope of things.

“It’s nice that our councils for the last 20 years have tried to take a fiscally responsible approach,” Stewart said. “We haven’t had to lay anyone off and we haven’t had to stop services, we haven’t had to do any of that because we’ve been able to keep money in the reserves and act fiscally responsible.”

The money collected from property taxes amounts to about 20% of what it costs to run the town, Stewart said. Other money comes from gas tax revenue, sales tax sharing, revenue sharing from the state and various grants.

The tax rate is the same as last year, \$3.50 per \$1,000 of taxable value — which represents an increase of 5.58% from the rollback rate of \$3.3151

necessary to fund the budget.

Employees will get a 1.5% cost-of-living raise and may be entitled to merit raises up to 5% based on annual evaluations.

The town will add a detective and another dispatcher for the Police Department. And part-time staffing hours will be increased at the town library.

From its share of the 1-cent sales tax, Lantana will spend \$9,000 for a deck at Sportsman’s Park, \$129,000 for improvements at the beach, \$120,000 for a playground at Bicentennial Park and \$453,000 for upgrading roads.

“Next year we will be paying off our debt for all except about \$65,000 and we’re finally paying off our 1998 revenue bond,” Stewart said. “The money we borrowed in the early 2000s for the water plant, the money we refinanced for new water and sewer lines, the money we borrowed for all the road paving we did in the early 2000s, all of that will finally be paid off.” ★

## Police will be getting body cameras

By Mary Thurwachter

The Lantana Town Council voted unanimously to purchase body cameras for the Police Department.

“We are lucky in that we have a very good force,” council member Karen Lythgoe said at the town’s Oct. 26 meeting. “People I have met are very courteous, caring, very professional and I would like to be able to protect them because I know there are people who are out there who will skew the truth.”

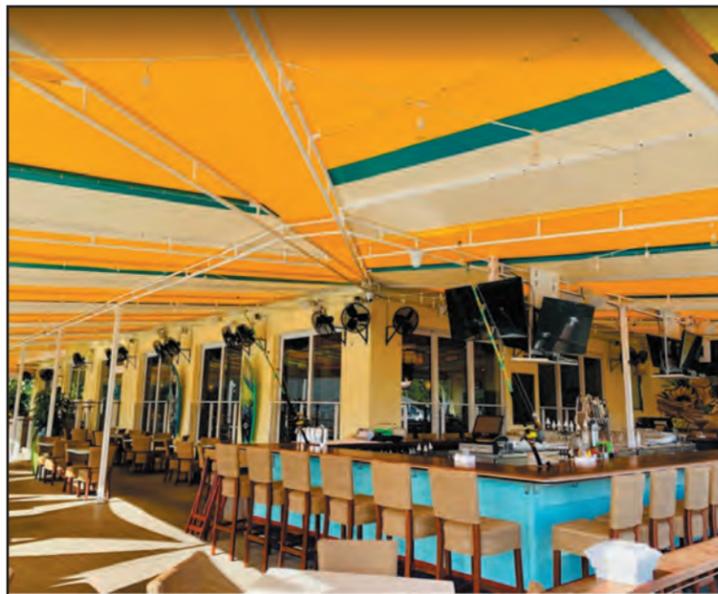
The cost of body cameras for five years is \$364,520, according to Police Chief Sean Scheller. Along with the body camera equipment, Scheller said he would need to hire a civilian employee at an additional cost of \$67,000 (including benefits) to manage what the chief calls a “labor intensive process.”

More than half of the 23 municipalities in Palm Beach County that have their own police departments are already using body cameras, according to a recent Palm Beach County Justice Commission survey.

Lantana has an agreement with Axon Enterprise, Inc. (formerly Tazer), which provides Tasers and supporting software and management. Axon included 35 cameras, docking stations and new Tasers in the \$364,520 quote.

**In other news, the town:**

- Authorized a one-time \$34,240 (\$400 per employee) pandemic pay compensation for its staff.
- Asked Town Attorney Max Lohman to research what it would take to set up a nuisance abatement board to deal with frequent illegal activities (drugs, prostitution and aggravated assaults) at motels on Hypoluxo and Lantana roads. ★



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## Sailboat sculpture is chosen as art centerpiece for centennial

By Mary Thurwachter

Lantana council members considered four proposals for artwork to mark the town’s 100th birthday next spring before settling on a 16-foot sailboat sculpture appropriately called *The Centennial*.

The sculpture, which will light up at night, will be on permanent display in Bicentennial Park, with an unveiling during the town’s centennial party on April 24.

The sculpture was designed by Aphidoidea, a Los Angeles-based creative collaborative led by Jesus “Eddie” Eduardo Magaña and his wife, Paulina Bouyer-Magaña.

It will be constructed by Southern Custom Iron and Art, a Boynton Beach company headed by artist and metal fabricator Joe Hernandez and his wife, Ashleigh, CEO and cofounder, who live in Atlantis.

“With a history of a fishing town, the sailboat is a symbol of tradition, community, livelihood and exploration,” Eddie Magaña said. “The traditional sailboat is composed of two sails, the head sail which provides direction, and the mainsail for power and propulsion. These dual elements break up the horizon and create a constant change in the composition as the artwork can be seen from different directions.

“We believe the concepts of community, character and nautical elements that resemble the history and character of the town provide a wonderful opportunity to create a sculpture that reveals and elevates the town of Lantana,”



*The Centennial*, a 16-foot sailboat, will be installed in Lantana’s Bicentennial Park. **Rendering provided**

Magaña said. “The location at Bicentennial Park is also the ideal scenario for the sculpture as it provides an opportunity for both locals and visitors to engage and admire the commemorative sculpture.”

Ashleigh Hernandez said data from the Lantana Historical Society provided through the library was used for inspiration.

“We started with the 100-year-old history of Lantana, which includes the Lyman family,” she told the council on Sept. 14. “We found Lantana was not navigable with anything other than a sailboat. And so the sailboat represents the very beginnings of Lantana when the Lyman family founded the town.

“We have seven bricks or pavers as part of the artwork that represents the Lantana flower and the colors of Lantana, because the town was named after the lantana flower.”

Benches to accompany the sailboat sculpture will feature old-style compass roses with north, south, east and west

inscribed on them.

The cost of the sculpture — made of either marine grade aluminum or stainless steel and capable of surviving hurricane-force winds — could be as much as \$100,000.

Other proposals with a sailboat design came from Agata Ren and Peter Garaj and Eulises Niebla and Juan Grillo. The fourth design featured a sailfish and was submitted by artist Norman Gitzen.

“We have four fantastic, great proposals here,” Mayor Dave Stewart said before a unanimous vote gave the contract to Southern Custom Iron and Art and Aphidoidea. “Every one of them is that top-shelf type of quality. I don’t know how we can go wrong with any of them.”

**In other action**, the town approved a \$48,750 contract with StarGroup International, based in Lake Park, for the design, production and printing of Lantana’s centennial book. The hardcover books will be given to residents during the town’s 100-year celebration in Bicentennial Park next April. ★

## South Palm Beach

# Hurdles, delays lengthen for sand project

By Dan Moffett

South Palm Beach is facing months of continued delays to beginning its much-anticipated beach restoration project.

The town had hoped to start work on its eroding beachfront this fall. But Mayor Bonnie Fischer now says it's unlikely anything will happen until after the first of the year, at the earliest.

"We're still at ground zero," Fischer said. "We still have issues with easements. We're having a really difficult time."

The plan calls for partnering with neighboring Palm Beach and buying as many as 1,000 truckloads of sand the town is currently dredging as part of a large beach renourishment project to the north. The sand would be hauled south and then used to fortify the South Palm Beach dunes.

The problem is the town still has no way to deliver the sand to its beach. Property owners have been reluctant to allow access for the work.

The project got a huge boost on Oct. 19 when the Palmsea condominium voted unanimously to grant the town an easement and use of the east-west thoroughfare that runs from State Road A1A next to the condo building.

"That's a big one — getting Palmsea's support," Fischer said.

Still other access issues and opposition remain with the owner of a private single-family residence, other condo residents and potentially even the Town of Lantana.

"We're still trying," Fischer said, "but it's a controversial project."

The plan is a substitute for a joint project with Palm Beach County to install groins on the beach. That project fell apart early last year because of skyrocketing costs and objections from neighboring communities to the south that feared the groins would steal sand flowing their way.

The partnership with Palm Beach would cost the town between \$700,000-\$900,000 to buy the sand and install erosion-resistant plants along the dune line. Unlike the groin plan, Fischer says the substitute project has "no long-term value" because, without groins, there is no guarantee the new sand wouldn't be swept out to sea by the first storm surge.

The clock is running on South Palm Beach. Work has to be completed by May to avoid interfering with turtle nesting season. "We hope something can happen," Fischer said.

**In other business:**

• Despite a tough budget year with revenues diminished by the COVID-19 pandemic, South Palm Beach was able to deliver a slight tax break to residents at a time when most Florida municipalities were struggling to make ends meet.

In September, the council voted to drop the town's tax rate for the 2020-2021 budget to \$3.54 per \$1,000 of property valuation — which is below the \$3.55 rollback rate that would hold taxes flat year over year, and below the \$3.59 of last year. Though most taxpayers aren't likely to notice the small reduction, Vice Mayor Robert Gottlieb says it demonstrates the council's commitment to fiscally conservative budgets.

"We've cut the tax rate five years in a row now," Gottlieb said. "That is important."

Taxable values are up 22% in South Palm Beach, the highest increase in the county, thanks to the opening of the \$72 million 3550 South Ocean condo building.

• The council approved a two-year contract renewal for

Town Manager Robert Kellogg, maintaining his annual salary at \$100,000.

Hired in December 2018 after serving as manager in Hillsboro Beach and Sewall's Point, Kellogg has brought stability to a position that went through a period of administrative turmoil. South Palm Beach had three managers come and then go in the three years before Kellogg's arrival.

The council originally agreed to give him a one-year contract but then unanimously approved his request for two years.

"We had five managers in five years," said Councilman Bill LeRoy. "Now we've got a hardworking, responsible manager. I'd be happy to have him signed up for a multiyear contract as opposed to a one-year contract." ★

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## Obituaries

## Lawrence B. Katzen

By Sallie James

LANTANA — He was a gifted surgeon and beloved doctor who used his skills to restore sight to thousands of patients, many who swore he changed their lives forever. Lawrence B.



Katzen, the founder of Katzen Eye Care and Laser Center in Boynton Beach, was also a devoted philanthropist who traveled regularly to developing countries to teach physicians how to operate.

Dr. Katzen died Oct. 20 after a lengthy battle with stomach cancer. He was 71.

“He was an amazing man. An absolutely extraordinary man,” said his wife, Jane, a nurse who worked together with her husband at their eye surgery center for years. “He loved giving back. That was his favorite thing to do.”

A pioneer in the field of laser vision correction, Dr. Katzen founded the Katzen Eye Care and Laser Center in 1981 in Boynton Beach. Since then, more than 50,000 LASIK and cataract surgery and general ophthalmology patients have had their vision surgically improved at the center.

The native Floridian was born on June 11, 1949, to Rose and Harry Katzen, and was raised in Miami Beach. He and his two brothers all became well-respected physicians.

The surgery center’s Facebook page blossomed with condolences from adoring patients and staff.

“So sorry to hear of his passing. I thank Dr. Katzen and his wonderful team for the incredible quality of life I now enjoy. My deepest condolences to his family and the entire Katzen team. May God bless you and comfort you,” wrote Steven C. Traynor.

“One of the best doctors I’ve ever had. He clearly loved what he did and was very compassionate to all his patients,” Wendy Marks said in another post.

Wrote Patricia Érika Germosén, “I’m SO incredibly sad to hear this news. I will be eternally grateful to Dr. Katzen; he literally changed my life when he personally performed my LASIK surgery back in 2013.”

One of his pet projects was to share his eye surgery skills by training physicians in underserved countries through Project Orbis. The organization supports a Flying Eye Hospital that allows leading physicians to train and educate local ophthalmologists, medical students and nurses in underserved countries.

Dr. Katzen made 19 trips abroad, helping to save thousands from blindness and eye diseases that were previously untreatable by local practitioners. His goal was to leave each community with a better-equipped medical staff that could continue with its new skills. He made his first trip overseas in 1982 to Africa.

His son Harrison remembered accompanying his father to Peru at age 13 and seeing the need that his father filled. It was something he could

never forget.

“It had a profound impact on me as a person because I got to see the impact he was having across the world,” his son said. “Just to see the gratitude. He operated on kids for the most part. He did ocular plastic surgery.”

In one particular instance Dr. Katzen rebuilt an eyelid for a child in Malawi who had been run over by an oxcart. Because of the injury, the child’s eye had remained open around the clock.

“He was very deformed,” Jane Katzen recalled. She said when Dr. Katzen returned to the village to check on the child after his surgery, the chief and numerous tribesmen lay across the tarmac to show honor to her husband.

“They felt a miracle had been performed,” Jane Katzen said.

In another instance, Dr. Katzen operated on a Peruvian woman in her 80s who had been blind since age 13 when she was struck by lightning. She saw her family for the first time as an octogenarian.

“We take for granted eye surgery in this country,” Jane Katzen noted.

Dr. Katzen was also one of the founders of the Richard David Kann Melanoma Foundation, created in memory of one of Dr. Katzen’s best friends who had died of skin cancer.

Dr. Katzen and his wife gave countless hours and financial support to build the foundation over the past 25-plus years. Dr. Katzen received the RDK 2020 Vision Award for the vision he had to lead and guide the organization for all its years.

Dr. Katzen met the woman who would become his wife in 1972, when the two were students at Jackson Memorial Hospital. She was studying nursing and he was a medical student. They married in 1976 and worked together at their eye surgery center until Dr. Katzen’s death.

Dr. Katzen attended Miami Beach High School and the University of Miami before graduating from the University of Miami School of Medicine and completing his ophthalmology residency training at the Washington Hospital Center.

“He was respected by the optometric community. He also taught at Bascom Palmer Eye Institute as a visiting professor,” his wife said. “He was a gifted surgeon and loved teaching other physicians.”

Dr. Katzen was also a passionate boater, golfer, diver, fisherman and skier. He instilled the love for the water in his children and grandchildren.

He is survived by his wife, Jane; a daughter, Janine Katzen, and a son, Harrison Katzen; a brother, Barry Katzen; and numerous grandchildren, nieces and nephews. His parents; his stepfather, Al Astor, and his brother Melvyn Katzen preceded him in death.

Services were held virtually on Oct. 20. Donations can be made to the Richard David Kann Melanoma Foundation at <https://melanomafoundation.com/>, or to Orbis at <https://www.orbis.org/en/how-you-can-help>.

## Robert G. Lukens

DELRAY BEACH — Robert G. Lukens, a longtime Delray Beach resident, died Oct. 12 in Birmingham, Alabama, with family by his



side. He was 84 years old.

Mr. Lukens was born on June 10, 1936, to Robert John and Ruth Adele Lukens. He and his younger brother, John, were raised in Lafayette Hill, a suburb of Philadelphia.

Mr. Lukens graduated from Springfield High School in 1954, serving as president of his graduating class. He was an all-conference selection in both basketball and baseball. He attended the University of Pennsylvania on a basketball scholarship, later transferring to Muhlenberg College to continue his studies and play basketball.

After graduating from Muhlenberg College in 1959, Mr. Lukens joined the Navy and spent two years as lieutenant on the USS Saratoga and three years teaching in Newport, Rhode Island, and the Naval Academy.

Mr. Lukens worked in the insurance business and was licensed to practice in Pennsylvania, New York and

Florida.

In addition to enjoying his home in Delray Beach, Mr. Lukens spent time with extended family and friends at homes in Vero Beach and Lake Martin, Alabama.

With the Navy instilling a love of the sea, he created special memories with his family while boating. Everyone loved going on a boat ride with Bubba. He was also very fond of his wonderful pets throughout the years. All who knew him would agree that his smile would light up the room.

In addition to his beloved wife of 34 years, Judith Ann Lukens, Mr. Lukens is survived by his daughter, Kristen Hay, his son, Robert Lukens, three stepdaughters, Jennifer Moore, Leslie Kury, and Carrie Lay, and 12 grandchildren, as well as his brother, John. He is also survived by his former wife, Elizabeth Smith, and countless other friends. Should you wish to honor him with a memorial donation, the family suggests contributions be made to the Bethesda Hospital Foundation or a charity of your choice. A celebration of life will occur at a later time.

— Obituary submitted by the family

## Robert Thomas Langford

BOCA RATON — Robert Thomas Langford died at his Boca Raton home on Aug. 2. He was 74.



Known as Bob to many, Mr. Langford was the first executive director of the Greater Boca Raton Beach and Park

District, joining the agency, then known as the Beach Tax District, in the mid-1970s as its accountant. He retired in 2012.

Commissioner Bob Rollins, who served with him for nearly 20 years, likened Mr. Langford to the leader of an orchestra.

“He was a conductor orchestrating the

commissioners to ultimately come up with the programming that met the needs of the community,” Rollins said in a statement.

During Mr. Langford’s tenure, the district bought the land that became Red Reef Park and the Gumbo Limbo Nature Center, Patch Reef Park, Sugar Sand Park and soon-to-open Ocean Strand Park.

He also was an active member of the Scottish Rite for more than 43 years, according to a notice in the *Sun-Sentinel*.

Mr. Langford is survived by his sons — Neilson, Thomas, Scott and John — and eight grandchildren.

— Staff report

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## Obituaries

### Prudence 'Prue' Sanford Regan

OCEAN RIDGE — Prudence "Prue" Sanford Regan, beloved wife of the late John M. "Jack" Regan Jr., and matriarch of the Regan family that grew to include six children, nine grandchildren and six great-grandchildren, died peacefully at her home in Westerly, Rhode Island, on Sept. 11. She was 97.

Raised in Cranford, New Jersey, Mrs. Regan was the daughter of Harold Crooker and Prudence Rindell Sanford and sister to the late Jane S. Ziegler. The two sisters grew up as best friends; their parents placed them in the same class at the Kent Place School in Summit, New Jersey, so that they could experience high school together.

A few years after graduating from Bradford Junior College, Prue met Jack Regan on a blind date in January 1949. They soon married and began a 62-year magic carpet ride together that took them to places at home and abroad and exposed them to experiences they scarcely imagined when first they met.

As the family expanded and moved to Morristown, New Jersey, Wellesley, Massachusetts, Bedford, New York, and

Manhattan in support of Jack's flourishing career, Mrs. Regan provided the unifying force at home. She juggled with ease and grace the duties of spouse and mother. She thrived in her role as the guiding light for the family. Mrs. Regan shepherded her six children gently through life while providing a wonderful example in how to select the right life partner and build a strong marriage.

She was consistently warm, engaging, gracious and elegant.

Mrs. Regan delighted in painting and working in her gardens at her homes up North and in Ocean Ridge.

She was an award-winning member of the Bedford Garden Club and the Garden Club of America. In 1984 and 1985, she served as gala chair of the Friends of the Inner-City Scholarship Fund, a foundation that supports students in the schools of the Archdiocese of New York City. She was particularly proud that art, education and philanthropy have played a central role in all of her children's lives.

The Misquamicut Club, the Watch Hill Yacht Club, the River Club, the Gulf Stream Golf Club, the Ocean Club and the Bedford Golf and Tennis Club provided her with years of enjoyment.

Mrs. Regan is survived by her children — John M. "Mac" Regan III (Tracy) of Watch Hill, Rhode Island, Deborah R. Edwards (Douglas) of Hartsdale, New York, Peter M. Regan (Aviva) of Cooperstown, New York, R. Christopher Regan (Leslie) of Katonah, New York, Prudence R. "Rindy" Hallarman (Peter) of Lincolnshire, Illinois, and William M. Regan of New York City; eight grandchildren; and six great-grandchildren. She was predeceased by her husband, Jack (2011), and her grandson Parker M. Regan (2012).

The family extends its heartfelt thanks to the nursing teams from St. Elizabeth at Home and Hope Health and to Grace Brown, Mrs. Regan's home manager, all of whom cared for her in a devoted, loving manner for several years.

A private funeral service will be held by the family. A celebration of Prue's life is planned for July in Watch Hill. For online condolences visit [www.gaffneydolanfuneralhome.com](http://www.gaffneydolanfuneralhome.com). The family requests any donations be made to the Inner-City Scholarship Fund, 1011 First Ave. #1400, New York, NY 10022-4112, in memory of Prue and Jack.

— *Obituary submitted by the family*

### Virginia P. Brown

BRINY BREEZES — Virginia P. Brown, 91, died on Aug. 23. She was born in Detroit and started coming to Florida as a little girl.

She and her husband, Ralph, owned a home in Cape Coral before moving to Briny Breezes in 1983 as snowbirds. They were active in the Briny community and formed wonderful friendships and memories. They would travel with the travel club and looked forward to the monthly parties, especially the Michigan party.

Every month she looked forward to reading *The Coastal Star*, even when she was up North.



Mrs. Brown was married to Ralph Brown for 58 years before his death in 2010. They had four children plus grandchildren and great-grandchildren.

Florida held a special place in her heart and the hearts of her children. She and her husband loved boating and would cruise the Intracoastal Waterway as well as the waters in Michigan.

They traveled throughout the United States and Europe.

Besides their home in Briny Breezes, the Browns had a home in Livonia, Michigan, waterfront property in Omena, Michigan, and waterfront property in Sugar Springs, Michigan.

She was preceded in death by her husband and her son, Tom, as well as her brothers and sisters, mother and father, and many friends.

She would say that getting old is not for the weak.

She is survived by her children Ralph and Jon of Livonia, her daughter, Jackie (Roger) of Casper, Wyoming, as well as her grandchildren and great-grandchildren in Michigan.

— *Obituary submitted by the family*

### Iris Matthews Kern

OCEAN RIDGE — Iris Matthews Kern of Ocean Ridge died Oct. 7. She was 87.

Mrs. Kern will be sadly missed and fondly remembered by her loving husband of 61



years, Alfred "Al" R. Kern. She was the loving mother of Roy (Lori) of Peters Township, Pennsylvania;

Dr. Tara (Pete) Rose of Peters Township, Pennsylvania; and a son, Dennis (Lorraine) of Mesa, Arizona, who preceded her in death.

Mrs. Kern is also survived by her six grandchildren: Rod and Dr. Darby Kern; Nolan and Brea Kern; Jake and Ryan Rose.

Mrs. Kern was born to Herman and Velma Matthews in Philadelphia, on Sept. 22, 1933.

She attended Penn State

Ogontz, then moved with her family to Atlantic Beach and met the love of her life, Al, at an officers dance at the nearby Jacksonville Naval Air Station. Iris and Al would spend three years at Naval Station Mayport and then another three years stationed in Honolulu, where they started their family.

In 1962, the couple moved to Moon Township, Pennsylvania, where she raised their children. They moved to Florida in 2000.

Mrs. Kern was an active lifelong member of the United Methodist Church, an avid reader and golfer and a member of Montour Heights Country Club, Moon Township, Williams Country Club, Weirton, West Virginia, and the Lost City Golf Club in Lantana.

Her hobbies included arranging flowers, and she loved to raise and tend orchids in her house and outside

garden. Mrs. Kern held memberships in the Moon Township and Ocean Ridge garden clubs. She also enjoyed arts and crafts, including her much sought-after needlepoint Christmas stockings and pillows.

Mrs. Kern enjoyed a well-lived life and was a beautiful, soft-spoken, kind and gentle soul who will be sorely missed.

A celebration of life service will be planned after the coronavirus pandemic has eased.

The family requests that in lieu of flowers, memorial donations can be made to the First United Methodist Church, 101 N. Seacrest Blvd., Boynton Beach, FL 33435, or the Breast Cancer Research Foundation, 28 W. 44th St., Suite 609, New York, NY 10036.

— *Obituary submitted by the family*



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Business Spotlight

# Travel magazine dubs Eau Palm Beach a top Florida resort

Manalapan's Eau Palm Beach Resort & Spa came in No. 3 of 30 properties that earned spots in *Condé Nast Traveler's* Readers' Choice Awards in the category of "Top Florida Resorts."

The Four Seasons Resort Palm Beach, which is temporarily closed, came in at No. 24. The awards rank the best hotels, resorts, destination spas, countries, cities, islands, trains, airlines, airports, cruise lines, tour operators and villa companies in the world, according to *Condé Nast Traveler*.

The Boca Raton Resort & Club has begun to offer an oceanside education remote-learning program for children, which can range from a weeklong family vacation to a long-term stay. The resort's custom-designed education suites, located at the Boca Beach Club, connect to adjoining guest rooms. Also offered are curated hands-on extracurricular activities that include ocean-related experiences, athletics, nature excursions and field trips.

The suites also are available as an add-on to a two-night stay at the resort, starting from \$199 per day.

Enrichment activities are priced a la carte. For information, visit [www.bocaresort.com](http://www.bocaresort.com)



Eau Palm Beach in Manalapan boasts a 3,000-square-foot oceanfront terrace, two pools, a large fitness center and a deluxe spa. Room amenities include marble baths and inviting balconies, most with ocean views. Photo provided by Eau Palm Beach

or call 561-447-3000.

CEOs of hotel brands that include Hilton, Hyatt, Marriott, IHG and Best Western wrote a letter dated Oct. 15 to President Donald Trump asking him to take action to provide the hotel industry with relief by utilizing funds from the Main Street Lending Program. According to a recent survey of hotel owners, more than two-thirds

of hotels report they will be able to last only six more months at current projected revenue and occupancy levels without further relief.

The letter notes that the Main Street Lending Program was established to provide up to \$600 billion in financing for small and medium-sized businesses that were in sound financial condition prior to the pandemic. To date, only a small fraction of available loans has been utilized.

Jeff Dash, chief experience officer of Delray Beach Experience, has introduced a new app (both iOS and Android) that presents a guide of places to eat and drink and things to see and do in Delray Beach and beyond.

Users can search for businesses, view business details, offers, directions and safety protocols for COVID-19. There is also a hotel program in which guests can receive a 10-day complimentary VIP membership that offers savings around the city. For information, visit [DelrayBeachExperience.com](http://DelrayBeachExperience.com).

Delray Beach resident Sugar McCauley has begun selling her line of bra-free "sugarshirts" online. Prices for her nautical sweatshirts and her classic oxford shirts range from \$143-\$148, with 10% of profits donated to the Caridad Center, a provider of free health care services. For details, visit [sugarshirtsbysugar.com](http://sugarshirtsbysugar.com).

Incapital, an underwriter and distributor of fixed-income securities and risk-management investment solutions, is moving its Florida-based operations from Boca Raton to The Offices at 4th & 5th, at 25 SE Fourth Ave., Delray Beach. Incapital will occupy the 18,066-square-foot fourth floor by mid-summer 2021.

"We are thrilled to not only be moving to Delray Beach, but to be moving into an extraordinary new property," said John DesPrez III, CEO of Incapital. "The community offers our team many rich quality-of-life benefits, with the dynamic environment of Atlantic Avenue steps from our front door. ... We'd like to thank Mayor Shelly Petrolia, the City Commission and the Delray Beach Community Redevelopment Agency for engaging with us and for their ongoing commitment to making

Delray a destination of choice for employers. We are especially grateful to our partners in this transaction, Peter Sougarides of Samuels & Associates and Stanley Iezman of American Realty Advisors."

Recorded on Oct. 14, a residential 1.26-acre lot with 130 feet on the ocean located at 611 S. Ocean Blvd., Delray Beach, sold for \$15.5 million.

The seller, Sea to Seaside Development, a Deerfield Beach-based homebuilder led by Randal Perkins, was represented by Chris Lowry with Chris Lowry Realty Services. Fried Business Holdings, a Delaware limited liability company with a New York City address, was the buyer. The property last sold for \$14,693,200 in 2018.

"Based on all MLS land sales in Delray Beach since January 2000, this \$15.5 million sale is the highest sale," said Steve Fisher of Fisher Appraisal Group, Boynton Beach.

701 South Ocean LLC, managed by Mark Timothy Inc., bought the lot at 701 S. Ocean Blvd., Delray Beach, from Michael J. and Judith F. Rothberg for \$11.375 million in September. Mark Timothy is led by Mark Pulte, son of the late founder of Atlanta-based PulteGroup, Bill Pulte. Pascal Liguori and Antonio Liguori of Premier Estate Properties represented both the buyer and sellers. The Rothbergs bought the 1.19-acre oceanfront property in 2017 for \$13.4 million.

The Boca Chamber of Commerce hosted its annual business awards celebration virtually on Oct. 23. Recognized for their commitment to economic growth and dedication to the mission of the Boca Raton Chamber, honorees included Pastor Bill Mitchell of Boca Raton Community Church, business leader of the year;



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at \$179,000



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**3851 N. Ocean Blvd. #409 Gulf Stream**  
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and private deeded  
beach access  
**Sold for \$950,000**

**1014 Lewis Cove Delray Beach**  
**Seasonal Rental \$15,000 / month**

**Crown Colony 5505 N Ocean Blvd. #107**  
2 Bed / 2 Bath  
**Seasonal Rental \$3,000 / Month**

**High Point Condo 275 S. Boulevard B Boynton Beach**  
1 Bed / 1.5 Bath  
Lakefront Villa  
**Annual Rental \$1,200 / Month**

**Ahnic Khalid** of Maggiano's Little Italy, small business leader of the year; and **TherapeuticsMD**, business of the year. The chamber announced that **Michael Daszkal** will remain as chairman for another year.

The Boca Chamber's **Boynton Beach First Responders Awards Program**, which was held virtually in September, recognized police officer **Agent Shaun James**, firefighter/paramedic **Roxanne Girardi** and firefighter **Capt. Jeff Powers**.

"Since our merger with the Boynton Beach Chamber of Commerce almost two years ago, this program was a priority for us to bring back," said **Troy McLellan**, president and CEO of the Boca Chamber. "This program showcases the passion for service, dedication to a higher cause, and personal sacrifices that are at the core of being a first responder."

Program sponsors included **Baptist Health**, **Get Dry, Inc.**, **ADT**, **All Dry USA** and **Florida Power and Light**.

The **Florida League of Cities** announced in September that **Boca Raton Deputy City Manager George Brown** was appointed to serve on its 2020-2021 municipal administration legislative policy committee. **Brown** will help develop the

league's legislative action agenda and will help league staff understand implications of proposed legislation.

**Brown** has served **Boca Raton** in administrative and management roles for 37 out of the past 43 years as a city employee, and he has been deputy city manager since 1999. He has been involved in the **Florida League of Cities** legislative policy process since 2007 and was recognized by the league as a "Home Rule Hero" in 2012.

The board of **Florida Peninsula Insurance Co.**, a homeowners insurance company headquartered in **Boca Raton**, promoted **Virginia Austin** to the position of director of special investigations. **Austin**, who began her career with the company as a claims examiner, has managed its special investigations unit for the last seven years. In her new role, she will represent the company regarding claims suspected of fraud in conjunction with the **Department of Financial Services** and associated **Florida law enforcement agencies**.

With the launch of an inaugural holiday ornament, **Downtown Delray Beach** encourages shopping locally this holiday season as well as

celebrating **Small Business Saturday** on **Nov. 27-28**.

To participate, customers are asked to save receipts of \$200 or more at venues within the **Downtown Development Authority** district, after which they can receive a limited-supply fused-glass-mosaic ornament.

It can be picked up from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. **Nov. 28** at a location to be announced.

The offer is one ornament per customer, limited to the first 200 people on a first-come, first-served basis.

Exclusions include food or beverage purchases, hotel accommodation receipts, parking or transportation receipts, as well as any retailer

that does not fall within the **DDA** district.

The **Boca Real Estate Investment Club** will present "Deal of the Year" on **Nov. 12**, a competition featuring deals closed in 2020. **Ben Sens** of **Boss Construction Group** will speak on permitting during the pandemic. Social distancing will be followed and wearing masks is required.

The meeting, which starts at 7 p.m., will be at the **DoubleTree Hilton**, 100 Fairway Drive, **Deerfield Beach**. The cost is \$20 and free to members.

For information, call 561-391-7325 or visit [bocarealestateclub.com](http://bocarealestateclub.com).

**Lang Realty** agent **Brian Battaglia** of **Boca Raton**, a native of **Lake Charles, Louisiana**, helped organize aid for the **Lake Charles** community, which was hit by **Hurricane Laura**.

**Lang Realty** and its agents made a donation of \$4,600 and collected supplies. **Battaglia** then rented a truck to transport the donated goods to **Lake Charles**.

Send business news to **Christine**



Davis at [cdavis9797@gmail.com](mailto:cdavis9797@gmail.com).



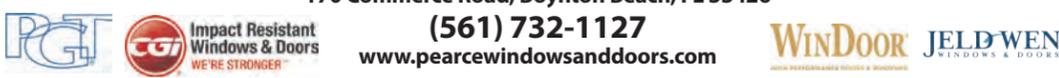
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## Boynton Beach/Delray Beach

### Virus concerns sink holiday boat parade

By Jane Smith

The coronavirus pandemic has forced the cancellation of the Boynton Beach & Delray Beach Holiday Boat Parade.

“How would we allow people to come out and safely watch the boat parade?” asked Michael Simon, executive director of the Boynton Beach Community Redevelopment Agency, at its Oct. 13 board meeting.

Since COVID-19 arrived on the scene in mid-March, no large events have been held in Palm Beach County.

The Boynton Beach CRA had allocated \$14,750 to host the event, with holiday-decorated boats traveling down the Intracoastal Waterway into neighboring Delray Beach.

But on Sept. 30, Boynton Beach CRA staff received an email from the Delray Beach Parks and Recreation staff saying that the Delray Beach

City Commission was not allocating any money to share in the costs of the 49th annual Boynton Beach & Delray Beach Holiday Boat Parade.

Delray Beach has reimbursed the Boynton Beach CRA for 50% of the shared expenses related to event marketing, including T-shirts, participant prizes and the awards dinners in 2017, 2018 and 2019.

“I’m leaning toward not continuing this for now,” said CRA Vice Chairman Ty Penserga. “It’s hard to proceed without our partner.”

The holiday boat parade is something the Boynton Beach CRA does well, Grant said.

“But we don’t want to be part of a super-spreading event.”

CRA Board Chairman Steven Grant asked whether the agency had money allocated to light up Ocean Avenue.

Simon said the CRA has

about \$6,000 to spend this year on installing lighting along the avenue. Unlike last year, there will be no holiday lighting ceremony at Dewey Park.

The city of Boynton Beach has already canceled its holiday parade.

Delray Beach also will not hold a holiday parade this December. It is putting up the 100-foot Christmas tree to put some life into the holiday season. But the city will not host a tree-lighting ceremony. The city may have a menorah-lighting ceremony on the first night of Hanukkah, Dec. 10.

Parks staff is look at the city’s Tennis Center, according to Mayor Shelly Petrolia.

The location was selected because it is large enough to allow residents to gather in small, socially distanced groups. Then the menorah would be walked to the Old School Square grounds. ★

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## Boynton settles on \$200 pass for boaters

By Jane Smith

Boynton Beach boaters were able to persuade the City Commission to reduce the annual parking pass from \$350 to \$200 at Harvey E. Oyer Jr. Park on the Intracoastal Waterway.

The Sept. 22 decision was made at the city’s final budget hearing. The new rate of \$200 for Florida residents took effect on Oct. 1.

“The \$350 rate is causing quite an uproar,” Boynton Beach resident Sven Mautner told *The Coastal Star* on Sept. 9. “They are basing it on \$1 a day.”

But he said the annual parking pass cost just \$50 in the financial year that ended Sept. 30.

“I have a 21-foot boat with a single motor,” Mautner said. “I use it to go snorkeling with my wife. We bring along some sandwiches.”

He first read about the proposed \$300 increase in *The*

*Coastal Star*.

Resident Clifton J. Bell sent an email on Sept. 9 to Commissioner Christina Romelus and Public Works Director Andrew Mack with this subject line: “City Resident Boat Decal 700% Increase is EXTREME.”

He objected to Boynton Beach residents’ having to pay the increased cost of the annual permit when the city has installed metered kiosks that operate 24 hours a day, seven days a week. “Our taxes already go towards funding of city parks,” he wrote.

The city now charges any vehicle that uses the long boat spaces \$1.50 per hour, payable at the two parking kiosks.

The maximum daily charge is \$10 weekdays and \$25 on weekends.

Boynton Beach offers boat owners an annual parking pass at \$200 for Florida residents and \$350 for nonresidents.

### Ramp replacement in the works

At the Sept. 22 final budget hearing, Mack explained that the city is using penny sales tax money and a Florida Inland Navigation District grant to replace the boat ramp. Requests for proposals will go out in the first quarter of the new financial year, he said. Actual construction will start in late spring or early summer, Mack said.

Because of the boat ramp construction, Commissioner Justin Katz proposed a \$100 annual parking pass. “Boaters might not be able to use the ramp,” he said.

But Mayor Steven Grant wanted to keep the parking pass at \$200.

“If you use the boat ramp eight times during the weekends or 20 times during the week, the pass will pay for itself,” he said. “People abuse the boat ramp and leave their trailers there.”

The idea of charging for parking is to allow more boaters to use the park, said Colin Groff, assistant city manager. “Ten shorter spots will be free. But if you park in the longer spaces, you will have to pay,” he said.

Reducing the pass cost by \$150 would mean about \$50,000 in reduced revenue to the city, Groff said. “But the city could sell more passes at the lower rate. We just don’t know where the numbers will be,” he said.

City commissioners narrowly approved the \$200 annual parking pass rate, with Vice Mayor Ty Penserga and Katz voting no. Penserga had said at the first budget hearing that the pandemic was not the time to be raising rates. ★

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# Around Town

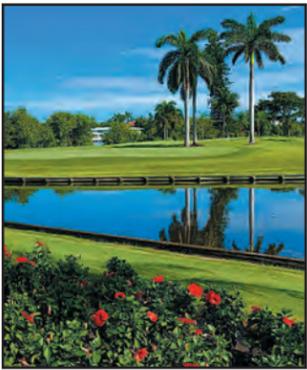
November 2020

The Coastal  Star

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# A Season Like No Other

Our annual cultural preview guide, Page 9



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Philanthropy Notes

# Pandemic brings out best in supporters of Boca Regional

**B**oca Raton Regional Hospital has received a seven-figure gift from Malcolm and Sandra Berman toward the “Keeping the Promise — The Campaign for Boca Raton Regional Hospital” initiative.

In recognition of the couple’s generosity, the elevator lobby on the first floor of the new patient tower will be named in their honor.

“Sandra and Malcolm represent the best of Boca Raton Regional Hospital,” CEO Lincoln Mendez said. “They have been active philanthropically with us for nearly 20 years and understand the value of their partnership with the hospital and how it benefits the people of our community.”

“Our health care in Boca Raton and that of our family and friends is a significant motivation in our giving to this extraordinary organization,” Malcolm Berman added. “Sandra and I care about this community and want to be part of this next generation of groundbreaking innovation and care.”

In other news, the hospital received its 2,000th-and-counting meal from the Boca Rio Golf Club and Stanley and Marilyn Barry. Knowing the

stress that frontline medical workers have been under since the start of the COVID-19 pandemic, the club and the Barrys wanted to show their support by delivering 250 meals twice a week for six weeks.

“This is such a generous initiative and is so welcomed by the staff,” said Mark Larkin, president of the hospital’s foundation. “Working long shifts, often 12 hours apiece, the nurses, physicians and technologists have little time to take for breaks. Knowing that a nice meal is coming gives them one less thing to worry about.”

“Being able to support the hospital staff during such trying times has been a pleasure,” added Luciano Farias, general manager of the club. “The hospital and its clinicians play such an important role in the health and well-being of our community. To thank them with this gift of fine food is an honor.”

For information, call 561-955-4142 or visit <https://donate.brhh.com>.

### Feeding America receives local funding

Boca Raton-based Office Depot has announced a \$1.5 million donation to Feeding America in support of the nonprofit’s COVID-19

Response Fund to help food banks across the country distribute more than 1.3 billion pounds of sustenance to communities in need.

Feeding America is the largest domestic hunger-relief organization in the country with a network of 200-plus member food banks.

“Now more than ever, we are committed to strengthening local communities and hope that this donation will help to provide relief for families that are struggling to put food on the table,” Office Depot CEO Gerry Smith said.

For information, call 561-438-6027 or visit [www.feedingamerica.org](http://www.feedingamerica.org).

### 7 arts organizations to benefit from PNC grants

As the arts adapt to a new normal of fewer social interactions, South Florida organizations are faced with the challenge of safely offering music and theater to local communities.

With that in mind, the PNC Foundation has awarded \$100,000 to seven arts organizations in Palm Beach and Broward counties.

“With the unexpected impacts of the pandemic on live performances and

art exhibits, we felt it was more important than ever to renew our commitment to the local arts community with much-needed grants,” said Cressman Bronson, the bank’s regional president for southeast Florida.

“Through PNC Arts Alive, arts organizations will be able to provide a variety of creative solutions that will take our shared vision of a more dynamic, artistic community to the next level in South Florida.”

For information, call 407-271-2694 or visit [www.pnc.com](http://www.pnc.com).

### Philanthropy Tank concludes fifth season

Seven student-led charity programs earned more than \$89,000 in funding after business pitches were made to a group of philanthropist investors.

Finalists of Philanthropy Tank presented their causes on a virtual stage in front of hundreds of audience members as this year’s “finals” event turned into a “recorded live finals event” because of the coronavirus.

The grants mark Philanthropy Tank’s fifth season of supporting programs in the areas of

music / art education, female empowerment, child welfare, pediatric cancer and more. In all, it has awarded more than \$500,000 — in addition to hundreds of hours of mentorship — to teens who have started nearly three dozen local charities.

For information, call 561-910-3893 or visit [www.philanthropytank.org](http://www.philanthropytank.org).

### Boca West Children’s Foundation expands

The Children’s Foundation of Palm Beach County has been established in conjunction with the Boca West Children’s Foundation, an organization that has made grants exceeding \$10 million in the last decade.

Founded in 2010 and supporting 25 local children’s charities, the Boca West Children’s Foundation has expanded its reach beyond South County by adding new board members and fresh charity partners.

“The foundation’s impact on local kids has been tremendous as we’ve been able to provide essentials for 5,000 children each day, providing cribs, diapers, after-school care, tutoring, summer camps, sports and music programs, meals, school



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supplies, college scholarships and more,” Executive Director Pamela Weinroth said. “We are grateful that we can expand these efforts to reach even more kids thanks to the efforts of our new board members and all of our supporters.”

For information, call 561-488-6980 or visit [www.childrensfoundationpbc.org](http://www.childrensfoundationpbc.org).

In other news, The Boca West Children’s Foundation has presented the YMCA of South Palm Beach County with a \$20,000 grant.

Half will pay for day camp for children of first responders during the pandemic; the other \$10,000 will go toward the organization’s drowning-prevention program for children with special needs.

“With funds raised from our gala in early March, we were able to provide this grant to the YMCA,” said Pamela Weinroth, the foundation’s executive director.

For information, call 561-488-6980 or visit [www.bocawestfoundation.org](http://www.bocawestfoundation.org).

**Virus emergency fund aids women, girls**

The Jewish Women’s Foundation of the Greater Palm Beaches, a South Florida nonprofit focused on raising the status of women and girls, has created an emergency fund in response to COVID-19.

For charities here and abroad, the pandemic has affected the events and fundraisers upon which they rely. The situation exacerbates the challenges women and girls already face.

“COVID-19 is already disrupting nonprofits and challenging them in unprecedented ways, making it harder for them to provide even basic services,” foundation CEO Jennifer Kryshka said.

“JWF wants to ensure that women and girls are still able to depend on the resources from our grantee organizations. Working together, we can achieve more than we can do alone.”

For information, call 561-275-2200 or visit [www.jwfpalmbeach.org](http://www.jwfpalmbeach.org).

**New programs debut at Boca Helping Hands**

Boca Helping Hands has expanded its feeding program with the opening of a pantry-bag distribution site in Lantana.

The site offers underserved people food supplies every Saturday afternoon, with the goal of helping 1,500 families.

“Thanks to Advent Lantana, we have expanded our Pantry Bag program further north, bringing hope to even more families in need,” said Greg Hazle, Boca Helping Hands’ executive director. “This is a service we intend to continue for the long term.”

Congregants from Advent Ministries will volunteer.

“Advent Church Boca has been partners with Boca Helping Hands from the

very beginning, and we are thrilled to be able to extend their reach at our new satellite church, Advent Lantana,” said the Rev. Andrew Hagen, church pastor and a member of the nonprofit’s board.

In other news, Boca Helping Hands has established an online Conversation Café to help clients with employment and has begun offering structured ESOL classes virtually. Both programs previously took place in person.

Approximately 30 students participate in the Conversation Café. As for the ESOL classes, they afford people who do not speak English the opportunity to acquire the language and culture skills necessary to function and succeed in America.

“The new Zoom format has actually improved the flexibility of the program so that we can continue to serve students who have returned to their native countries,” Hazle said. “They can continue to participate in the café via teleconference.”

For information, call 561-417-0913, Ext. 202 or visit [www.bocahelpinghands.org](http://www.bocahelpinghands.org).

**Chapter supports kosher food pantry**

The Valencia Shores community chapter of the National Council of Jewish Women in Boynton Beach has raised funds to support the kosher food pantry and meal-delivery services at the Ferd & Gladys Alpert Jewish Family Service in West Palm Beach as well as the Ruth & Norman Rales Jewish Family Service in Boca Raton.

Leading the effort is volunteer LeeAnn Hoffman.

“In this time of crisis, some people don’t know where their next meal is coming from,” Hoffman said. “We wanted to be able to help get food on the table, giving them one less thing to worry about.”

Ferd & Gladys Alpert Jewish Family Service CEO Marc Hopin added that “we are grateful to the volunteers and advocates of the NCJW of Valencia Shores for their generous contribution.”

For information, call 561-713-1893 or visit [www.alpertjfs.org](http://www.alpertjfs.org).

**Florida native joins wildlife refuge board**

Delray Beach resident Elaine Meier has been named to the board of the National Wildlife Refuge Association in Washington, D.C.



The NWRA is the nonprofit voice for wildlife conservation on the 568 swaths of land that comprise the National Wildlife Refuge System.

“I grew up going to the

Everglades and Florida Keys, where I learned the importance of clean water and the birds and mammals it supported plus the danger of the encroachment of development,” said Meier, a Florida native and public-relations professional. “Nationwide, it is critical to teach the next generation how valuable these natural resources and habitats are to our well-being.”

For information, call 202-577-3200 or visit [www.refugeassociation.org](http://www.refugeassociation.org).

**Boynton Beach volunteer receives service award**

Boynton Beach volunteer Todd Finklestone has been recognized by the humanitarian organization ShelterBox USA via its President’s Volunteer Service Award.

Finklestone was lauded for his efforts in helping the nonprofit provide emergency shelter and supplies to people who lost their homes to natural disasters or who fled because of civil unrest in their native lands. He enabled the organization to help more than 145,000 individuals in 11 countries.

“The lifesaving work of ShelterBox is only possible because of our inspiring volunteers like Todd Finklestone, whose service in their communities is ensuring families made homeless by disaster and conflict situations have access to essential shelter and supplies,” President Kerri Murray said. “This distinction truly sets him apart as someone committed to serving others and making the world a better place.”

For information, call 805-608-2400 or visit [www.shelterboxusa.org](http://www.shelterboxusa.org).

**Leadership change announced at YWCA**

The YWCA of Palm Beach County has hired a new CEO.

Shea Spencer comes to the organization with more than 15 years of nonprofit experience, including fundraising and community engagement, and most recently led the Homeless Coalition of Palm Beach County.

“I am so proud of the work we do and the impact we make in our local community,” Spencer said. “It truly is a tremendous honor to join the board of directors, funders, staff and volunteers in advancing the mission of YWCA, Palm Beach County

and building out our legacy.” For information, call 561-640-0050 or visit [www.ywcapbc.org](http://www.ywcapbc.org).

Send news and notes to Amy Woods at [flamywoods@bellsouth.net](mailto:flamywoods@bellsouth.net)

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Professor, Department of Chemistry

DECEMBER 16, 2020 | 4PM

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Susana Valente, PhD  
Associate Professor, Department of Immunology and Microbiology

The Front Row COVID-19 Lecture Series is now available online. Watch any time at [scripps.edu/covid-videos](http://scripps.edu/covid-videos)

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## Celebrations

### Thanking Our Health Care Heroes

Virtual event — Sept. 16

The Bethesda Hospital Foundation brought in nearly \$215,000 during its first online fundraiser, with more than 185 community members honoring health care staffers for their work, perseverance and devotion throughout the coronavirus pandemic. The event's honorary chairwoman, Renee Block, was thanked and honored as well. All ticket holders and sponsors received a 'Party in a Box' that each contained items to create a cocktail, a brass pineapple tumbler, a recipe book, a Bethesda Hospital Foundation face mask, hand sanitizer and a program.

**RIGHT:** Health care workers wave to the camera at Bethesda Hospital East. Photo provided



### 100th birthday celebration

The Carlisle Palm Beach, Lantana — Sept. 22



Theresa Gevurtz welcomes great-granddaughters, Kendall Gevurtz, 7, and Saylor Gevurtz, 5, to her 100th birthday gathering on Sept. 22. Theresa's family chartered a plane and flew from Pennsylvania to Florida to celebrate the occasion. Theresa's actual birthday was Sept. 23. Born in Philadelphia, the centurion has traveled extensively, but her favorite place is Haifa, Israel. Also on hand to mark the occasion was Lantana Mayor Dave Stewart, who read a proclamation in her honor. Photo by Tim Stepien /The Coastal Star

### Ballroom Battle

WPTV-TV, West Palm Beach — Sept. 26



More than 22,000 supporters viewed the 13th annual George Snow Scholarship Fund event on WPTV-TV to cheer for their favorite community dancer — or livestreamed it from the station's or the organization's website. Fundraising champions were Steven Bernstein and Kirsten Stanley, who brought in \$262,000 and \$102,000, respectively. Both received the coveted Mirror Ball trophy. More than \$660,000 was raised, exceeding 2019's record-breaking year by \$23,000. **TOP:** Bernstein with professional dancer Sayra Vazquez Brann. **ABOVE:** Stanley with professional dancer James Brann. Photos provided

## Pay it Forward

### NOVEMBER

**Friday - 11/13 - Junior League of Boca Raton's Woman Volunteer of the Year Luncheon**, a virtual event "Honoring the History of Women Volunteers." Look back at and celebrate the 685 nominees and winners from the past 32 years and honor their dedication to making the world a better place. 6:30-8:30 pm. \$50. 620-2553 or jlbr.org.

### DECEMBER

**Friday - 12/4 - Palm Beach Zoo & Conservation Society's "Do At The Zoo: A Culinary Evening Under the Stars"** at 1301 Summit Blvd, West Palm Beach. Join guests for an al-fresco evening under the stars with animal encounters, holiday lights, classic cocktails and delightful bites from local restaurants. 6:30 pm. \$185. 533-0887, Ext. 222 or palmbeachzoo.org

**Saturday - 12/5 - Palm Beach County Food Bank's 5th Annual Empty Bowls Delray Beach** at Trinity Lutheran School, 400 N. Swinton Ave. Join a national grassroots event that raises money for hunger relief in the community for a special drive-through soup pickup. 11 am-3 pm. \$30. 670-2518, Ext. 309 or pbcfoodbank.org/emptybowlsdelray.

### 5th Annual Empty Bowls Delray Beach

Trinity Lutheran School



**Dec. 5:** The benefit for the Palm Beach County Food Bank, part of a national grassroots event that raises money for hunger relief, will feature a special drive-thru soup pickup to ensure attendee safety. Time is 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. Cost is \$30. Call 561-670-2518, Ext. 309 or visit pbcfoodbank.org/emptybowlsdelray. **ABOVE:** Event Chairwoman Stephanie Dodge. Photo provided by CAPEHART



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## Dining



Lionfish, at 307 E. Atlantic Ave., Delray Beach, serves seafood, wagyu beef for meat eaters and vegetarian offerings. Photo provided by Eric George

## Lionfish: New restaurant debuts on Atlantic Avenue

**L**ionfish, the coronavirus-delayed seafood restaurant on Atlantic Avenue, has opened to what appears to be capacity, now with restaurant restrictions lifted.

The restaurant, spawned in San Diego, serves up its namesake catch — whole lionfish fried and in ceviche —

along with other sustainable seafood choices. Its menu is approachable for all who come, according to Scott Diel, marketing director for the restaurant's parent company, Clique Hospitality.

"We have wagyu beef for those who want meat, and vegetarian offerings, too. Salads, and small plates to

share," he said.

It's trendy, leaning toward West Coast U.S. preparations, with Asian flavors mixed in. The thin beef slices are cooked at the table on heated lava rocks.

Catch as catch can, however: The lionfish, a sweet, flaky, non-oily fish, often sells out. "It only has about a 20% yield" — all

the chef can get off each bony carcass, says Diel, so it takes a lot of fish to cover the orders.

The invasive fish decimating Florida reefs are easy to catch — spear-fishermen simply swim right up to the slow swimmers — but they are difficult to handle and clean because of their poisonous spines. The market for them is still sparse.

Originally set to open in spring, the restaurant was locked down while the virus rules were in place. While on the four-month delay, the principals redesigned the food and decor of Johnny Brown's, the bar and grill popular with locals that they acquired next door to Lionfish.

During the lockdown, chef **Johnny Demartini**, a Delray veteran of Max's Harvest and Death or Glory, worked with managing partner **Craig O'Keefe** and general manager **Sean Fundiller** to fine-tune menus, the wine list and staffing to be ready once restrictions were lifted, Diel said.

"We made the decision not to open with a limited menu or takeout — we wanted the guests to get the full experience. We think it was worth waiting."

The build-out of the former Luigi's pizzeria transformed the room from a dark, red brick-lined space into a sleek open room with white brick and painted ceiling — one that hides a treasure, Diel said. It's a vintage Tiffany stained glass semi-dome, covered up, but still intact behind the new decorated ceiling.

Crowds have surprised them, and extra staff was hired to handle diners.

"We didn't know what to expect," Diel said. "We were expecting maybe 50 or 60%, but we were packed when we

opened."

People were ready to get out at last, he said, and eager to try the new spot. "Imagine what it's going to be like once we're back to more normal circumstances."

Lionfish, 307 E. Atlantic Ave., Delray Beach. Phone 561-639-8700; [www.lionfishdelray.com](http://www.lionfishdelray.com). Open for dinner daily at 4 p.m.; brunch at 10 a.m. Saturday and Sunday by reservation.

**Thanksgiving** is still iffy for people who choose not to hold big family affairs indoors. Some are planning to move their traditional meals outside — an easy move in South Florida.

Some ideas for holding dinner outdoors:

Don't fuss. All the fancy linens, china and glassware — use only if you have stable tables, a lot of help to carry it in and out, and trusted hands to do it. Don't use family heirlooms that are more easily broken in a picnic or poolside setting.

This really is the year to use pretty plastic plates and serving ware (the dollar stores and party stores are great for these) and natural decorations and to keep preparations simple. Do use real flatware. Plastic forks and knives just aren't adequate.

Have a potluck: An outdoor dine-around is convivial by nature, and most guests like to participate. The host provides the main dish. Consider buying a smoked turkey, or cooking your turkey on the grill. Spatchcock it first (go to YouTube for instructions) to have it done in time. For only a few guests, consider making Cornish hens or a turkey breast. Either way, carve meats at the last minute so they stay warm.

Have help to serve the food individually if a buffet setup is



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Prepare for South Florida bugs and have a Plan B for weather: Have covers for your foods to protect them from insects, citronella candles for mosquitoes, and borrow a canopy or big umbrellas to set up under if rain is a threat.

The golden rule: If you're an invited guest, RSVP and commit as soon as possible. It's rude to keep a host guessing — especially this year.

Thanksgiving is also a big day for restaurants in South Florida, but changes in 2020 may affect how many will serve traditionally.

Some eateries are doing away with the usual buffets, but going for multicourse served meals, set up with outdoor seating.

**The Farmer's Table** in Boca Raton is planning a patio feast, a three-course traditional Thanksgiving meal, inside and outdoors in its courtyard Thanksgiving Day. Choices include those for vegetarians and vegans; cost is \$59.95 for adults, \$29.95 kids 10 and under. Reservations are required. A takeout dinner for people who want their food at home also is available; visit [www.dinefarmerstable.com](http://www.dinefarmerstable.com) for details.

**Taru** at the **Sundy House** in Delray Beach also plans Thanksgiving outdoors in its acclaimed garden. Chef **James Strine** will prepare a Thanksgiving Day "buffet" — served from 11 a.m. to 7 p.m. Turkey, ham, salmon and prime rib are among the entrees; traditional sides and starters are featured. Cost is \$75 for adults; children under 12 are half price. Reservations are suggested through [www.sundyhouse.com](http://www.sundyhouse.com).

Also new at Sundy House is an omakase pop-up called **Kojin**. It is available for only 10 diners per meal, two seatings per night, Thursday, Friday and Saturday with reservations a must. The chef prepares a dinner with the menu "left up to the chef," as it is translated from Japanese. The Asian-profile meal is prepared in one of the guest suites on the property. Cost for the dinner is \$100 per person, with a \$25 deposit required.

**Caffe Luna Rosa** in Delray Beach will prepare Thanksgiving at its alfresco restaurant on the beach. Chef **Ernie DeBlasi** will have organic roast turkey and all the trimmings as a menu choice for \$29, along with other special entrees as well as the regular menu on Thanksgiving Day. Reservations are strongly suggested; [www.caffelunaros.com](http://www.caffelunaros.com).

It's greenmarket time, but COVID-19 has interrupted their schedules and canceled at least one.

Protocols set by the Centers for Disease Control and



**ABOVE:** A traditional Thanksgiving meal, turkey with all the trimmings, will be served at The Farmer's Table in Boca Raton. **LEFT:** Diners will find a three-course patio feast at the Boca Raton eatery Nov. 26. **Photos provided by The Farmer's Table**

Prevention and cities will affect how goods are presented, as well. Expect individual sealed samples rather than tastes from communal dishes, if they are offered, and sealed foods will be more prevalent. Market vendors will pack fresh produce for shoppers rather than offering open bins, in some cases.

**The Delray Beach GreenMarket**, now open, celebrates its 25th season. It's in Old School Square Park, and the 60-plus vendors are set up to follow all the protocols in place for outdoor gatherings. Masks are encouraged for shopping,

as is social distancing. This market is known for its gluten-free offerings among its fresh produce and prepared foods.

The newly named **Lake Worth Beach Waterside Farmers Market** will reopen Nov. 14. This is its 15th season beside the Lake Avenue bridge at A1A, northeast side. A variety of produce, fresh flowers, baked goods, plants and handcrafted goods are at this dog-friendly market. Breakfast is available on site, and there's live music, as well.

Emily Lily, coordinator for **Boca Raton's Greenmarket**, said this year has proven too

iffy to do a market in the fall, and by spring, it's too late. "It takes a lot of planning," she said. Organizers decided to suspend the market altogether this season.

While its farm stores will be open, **Bedner's Farm Market** in Boynton Beach decided to cancel its fall activities on the farm. "A difficult decision," its website says, made to protect customers and staff.

**In brief:** Old dogs, new tricks: That's the move from longtime restaurateur **Henry Olmino** of **Mario's** on Ocean Avenue in Lantana. He recently took the plunge in the middle of the pandemic to open **Fire and Ice**, a casual spot serving pizza, wings, pastas and other comfort

foods at 707 Lake Ave., Lake Worth Beach. Open for dinner daily, and Sunday brunch. ... **Meals on Wheels** is selling Thanksgiving pies made by area chefs for its annual **Pie It Forward** fundraiser and has added Delray Beach as a pickup point. Pies are on sale now for \$30 and \$35. Pickup is Nov. 24 at **Duffy's**, 1750 S. Federal Highway, Delray Beach. To order, visit [www.mealsonwheelspalmbeaches.org](http://www.mealsonwheelspalmbeaches.org).



Jan Norris is a food writer who can be reached at [nativefla@gmail.com](mailto:nativefla@gmail.com)



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## Season Preview: Palm Beach Art

### Galleries will reflect realities, requirements of the pandemic

By Sandra Schulman  
ArtsPaper Art Writer

Palm Beach is counting on the arts and art lovers to rebound this season, with ambitious shows planned, and plenty of outdoor art viewing available. Among other things, the Norton Museum of Art plans to reopen in 2021, and the Boca Museum has been renovated and is offering several new exhibits. Meanwhile, Palm Beach's Worth Avenue emerges as a new gallery hotspot.

#### Boca Raton Museum of Art

Three new exhibits kick off the Boca's season, with more to follow in January.

*Trine Lise Nedreaas: The Entertainers*, curated by senior curator Kathleen Goncharov, is an unusual one in that it is video-based, with eight installations by the Norwegian filmmaker. Prepare to see large screens filling an entire gallery with clowns, a bizarre contortionist, a hit-at-parties sword swallower, a hula-hoop champion, a ventriloquist dummy, a show-stopping dwarf maestro of smoke-filled bubbles, and an elderly woman singing off-key to Frank Sinatra's *My Way*.

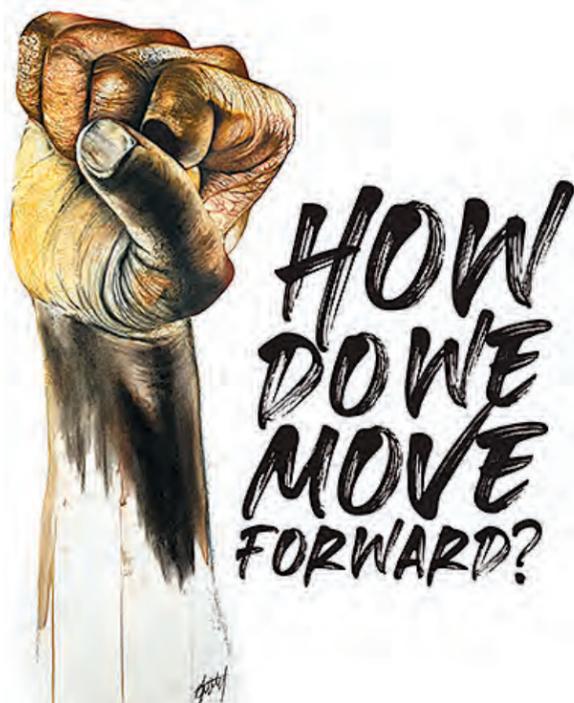
Reflecting the empty audience current reality, performers are filmed while they are removed from any spectators. When there is no one to watch what does that mean to the performer and the performance? Benches provide seating to take in the whole show. Through Jan. 3.

#### *My Presidents and Other Recent Acquisitions*

This new exhibition on the ground floor features works by seven artists from current additions to the museum's collection. These works explore Ben Patterson's graphic-illustration astrological analysis of 13 presidents, and Jeanne Silverthorne's amusing rather than alarming sculptures of fire extinguishers. Patterson is a founding member of the Fluxus art movement, and its only Black member. Through Jan. 3.

*The Signing*, a 15-foot-long photograph that places people of color in various eras of clothing where the Founding Fathers stood is on special loan from the artist, Renee Cox — a photographer, artist, lecturer, and political activist. Here, she creates a revisionist look at the founding of the nation, re-interpreting Howard Chandler Christy's iconic painting *Scene at The Signing of the Constitution of the United States*.

See PB ART on page AT14



LEFT: A pair of 1870s button boots, from the Flagler Museum's held-over exhibit. Photo by Glenn Castellano

TOP: Artist Anthony Burks and others explore 'How Do We Move Forward?' in an exhibit at the Cultural Council starting Nov. 17. MIDDLE: *Intergalactic*, by ceramicist Jeff Whyman, who creates his pieces live at the Boca Museum of Art. Photos provided

## From the Editor

### Dire numbers but also hope for arts community

The United States has been for much of its history a remarkably artistic nation. The American arts of the 20th century in particular have been the driver of the country's immense global cultural influence, a kind of soft power that often muffles other native arts but at the same time seeds fresh creation, from rock to Bollywood, Swedish TV noir to Arabic hip-hop.

But there has been nothing like the calamity this country, and the South Florida arts community, have endured under the COVID-19 pandemic. It has robbed performers and presenting organizations of their livelihoods, and kept audiences at bay who otherwise desperately wish to take in a live show.

A look at some fresh national numbers spells out the problem:

Arts organizations nationwide have lost \$14 billion in the pandemic, with 96 percent of organizations canceling events, according to an Oct. 20 survey from Americans for the Arts, the Washington, D.C.-based nonprofit advocacy group. That has meant 478 million tickets unsold and a loss of \$15.1 billion in arts-related spending at ancillary businesses such as restaurants and hotels.

Some 63 percent of artists nationally have become fully unemployed, the survey showed, with 95 percent reporting some loss of income, and 78 percent with no post-pandemic recovery plan. Government revenue has taken a \$4.9 billion hit, and some 845,000 jobs in the arts are no longer being supported.

In total, the 26,200 artists responding to the survey have lost an average of \$22,000

annually; the national figure for loss of arts income is \$50.6 billion, Americans for the Arts said.

That is a staggering amount of money, even in a country with trillion-dollar deficits.

And the picture in Palm Beach County is just as dire. According to a preliminary survey (released Oct. 8) by the Cultural Council for Palm Beach County, the arts sector here, which has an annual economic impact of \$633 million, has suffered a \$48.3 million loss as 1,641 events have been canceled and nearly 600 full-time and part-time jobs have been subject to furloughs (underlining the immense importance of the freelance labor that staffs the majority of local arts performances in the county).

Annual attendance of arts events in Palm Beach County is about 3.9 million people, the council says. In the pandemic, nearly a fourth — some 888,277 people — of that attendance has disappeared.

Our country's long history of anti-intellectualism and disdain of the arts professions as somehow not being real jobs is familiar to all of us who work in or around the creative professions. And yet the arts have been a vital lifeline in this, our time of misery.

For an immediate example we need only look to television: When people talk about bingeing on Netflix, they're bingeing on the arts. When they fall into a YouTube wormhole and call up favorite performers from the past or find exciting new ones, they are bingeing on the arts. And every broadcast

See EDITOR on page AT11

## MORE INSIDE



#### Music

Pop, jazz, classical and opera concerts will be fewer and farther between. Pages AT10-14



#### Theater

Local stages will see a dearth of new productions as schedules are severely curtailed. Page AT13

# Our favorite arts venues & groups are struggling to survive

## We all should help

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Guitarist Martin Barre of Jethro Tull fame hits Boca Raton's Funky Biscuit on March 26 and 27. Photo provided

## Season Preview: Pop Music

# Aging veterans come out for abbreviated pop season

By Bill Meredith  
ArtsPaper Music Writer

*Traveler*, as well as jam with Guy.

An abbreviated yet guardedly optimistic 2020-21 South Florida pop concert season surges forward, featuring mostly veteran performers among folk, blues and other roots music styles.

8 p.m. Nov. 13 at the Broward Center's Au-Rene Theater, 201 SW 5th Ave., Fort Lauderdale (954-462-0222, \$39.50-\$125.50).

The Culture Room in Fort Lauderdale kicks off the season with a rescheduled date by singing guitarist **Tab Benoit**, whose Whiskey Bayou Revue includes special guests in singing guitarists Alastair Greene and Josh Garrett. A genuine article, the Houma, Louisiana-born Benoit cut his teeth at the Blues Box nightclub in Baton Rouge, before embarking on a recording and touring career. His CD releases since 1993 reflect his Delta blues authenticity: *Standing on the Bank* (1995), *Wetlands* (2002), *Fever for the Bayou* (2005), and *Power of the Ponchartrain* (2007).

The name of 74-year-old, Oklahoma-born **Jimmy Webb** doesn't resonate with listeners as much as the titles of hit songs he's written for other artists: like "Up, Up and Away" by the Fifth Dimension, "MacArthur Park" by Richard Harris, and "By the Time I Get To Phoenix" and "Galveston" by Glen Campbell. A singer and pianist, Webb has earned multiple Grammy Awards and induction into both the Songwriters and Nashville Songwriters halls of fame. His gospel-infused, storytelling singing and playing styles have also been featured in a lengthy career of solo releases, from his 1968 debut *Jim Webb Sings Jim Webb* through last year's *SlipCover*.

8 p.m. Nov. 7 at the Culture Room, 3045 N. Federal Highway, Fort Lauderdale (800-745-3000, \$34.50).

7:30 p.m. Jan. 21 at the Kravis Center's Rinker Playhouse (\$220 for four-top).

Louisiana-born singer/guitarist **Buddy Guy**, 84, has influenced a legion of British



Guy

and American blues and rock artists — from Eric Clapton, Jimmy Page and Jeff Beck to Jimi Hendrix, Stevie Ray Vaughan and John Mayer. After moving to Chicago in the late 1950s, Guy helped to define the Windy City's muscular blues sound along with Muddy Waters. With several notable releases among his 50-plus-year recording career, Guy has his best live performances by sticking to his original material. Fellow guitarist, singer and Louisianan **Kenny Wayne Shepherd's** influences include Guy and Vaughan. With five Grammy nominations, Shepherd, 43, is likely to play material from his latest release, last year's *The*

It'll be an evening of dissimilar yet occasionally intertwining styles when singer/songwriters **Mary Chapin Carpenter** and **Shawn Colvin** take the stage at the newly renovated Parker Playhouse in Fort Lauderdale. Carpenter, 62, is an anomaly as a country music star, hailing from Princeton, New Jersey, but she won Grammy Awards for Best Female Country Vocal Performance from 1992 to 1995. She's likely to perform material from her 1987 debut *Hometown Girl* through her new 2020 release, *The Dirt and the Stars*. Colvin, 64, emerged as a contemporary folk and Americana star with her 1989 debut, *Steady On* (a Grammy winner for Best Contemporary Folk Album). She's earned multiple Grammys since, and is likely to perform *Steady On* material because of last year's acoustic edition follow-up.

8 p.m. Feb. 27 at Parker Playhouse, 707 NE 8th St., Fort Lauderdale (954-462-0222,

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## POP

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\$37.50-\$87.50).

Too jazzy to become a pop star, and vice versa, 68-year-old Canadian singer, composer and keyboardist **Gino Vannelli** has had one of the all-time star-crossed musical careers. Born in Montreal, he attended McGill University there before relocating to New York City as a teenager, then to Los Angeles in his early 20s. It was there that he waited all day outside the A&M Records office for co-owner and star trumpeter Herb Alpert to listen to his demo

tape. Vannelli's early recording catalog was released by A&M, culminating in his 1978 release *Brother To Brother* and his subsequent biggest hit single, the ballad "I Just Wanna Stop." The versatile Vannelli has since ventured into realms including classical and soul music, and authored a 2009 book titled *Stardust in the Sand*.

7:30 p.m. March 7 at Parker Playhouse (\$37.50-\$87.50).

The pandemic caused not only a slew of postponed shows at the Funky Biscuit in Boca Raton, like guitarist **Martin Barre's** scheduled dates in April, but also necessitated the venue's closure in September.

Thankfully, one of South Florida's best live music spots reopened shortly after. Barre, who'll turn 73 on Nov. 17, teamed with Jethro Tull frontman Ian Anderson to catapult that group to the top echelon of progressive rock after he replaced original guitarist Mick Abrahams in 1968. Barre will play tracks from his latest release, 2018's *Roads Less Travelled*, with singing guitarist Dan Crisp, bassist Alan Thomson and drummer Darby Todd.

9 p.m. March 26 and 8 p.m. March 27 at the Funky Biscuit, 303 SE Mizner Blvd., Boca Raton (561-395-2929, \$55-\$75).

rock with King Crimson members Bill Bruford and Tony Levin, plus pop with artists like Sting and Paul Simon.

8 p.m. March 16 at Dreyfoos Hall (\$29 and up).

Part jazz, classical, pop, and world music, **Pink Martini** creates its own unique musical synthesis. The 10- to 12-member orchestral group was formed in Portland, Oregon, in 1994 by pianist Thomas Lauderdale. It includes multi-lingual female vocalists Storm Large and China Forbes, plus strings, horns and percussion. From the 1997 debut CD *Sympathique* to collaborations with a plethora of artists, Lauderdale and his self-described "little orchestra" have proven capable of nothing less than the sound of surprise.

8 p.m. March 27 at Dreyfoos Hall (\$29 and up).

Born in Caracas, Venezuela, to Spanish parents, saxophonist **Ed Calle**, 61, has earned the reputation as the ultimate sideman within the Miami music scene via his associations with artists like trumpeter Arturo Sandoval and vocalist Gloria Estefan. Calle has a handful of solo releases as well as touring credits with Carlos Santana, Chick Corea, the Bee Gees, and K.C. and the Sunshine Band.

8 p.m. May 1 at the Arts Garage (\$35-\$45).

One of the all-time great jazz vocal groups, the **Manhattan Transfer** has encountered triumph and tragedy since forming in New York City in 1969. Tim Hauser was the group's catalyst and anchor through the 1970s, when longtime current members Alan Paul, Janis Siegel and Cheryl Bentley joined. The quartet would enjoy a rise to fame during the 1980s, winning 10 Grammy Awards, including performance and arrangement nods for its cover of "Birdland."

8 p.m. May 14 at Parker Playhouse, 707 NE 8th St., Fort Lauderdale (954-462-0222, \$43-\$73).

## Season Preview: Jazz Music

## Female stars dot 2021 jazz landscape

By **Bill Meredith**  
ArtsPaper Art Writer

Jazz takes a measured approach to the 2020-2021 South Florida concert season, eschewing the current, COVID-19-ravaged year in favor of optimism starting in early 2021.

Following its creative, virtual "Music at Home: Live From Arts Garage" series, the Delray Beach venue has cautiously reopened for in-person shows with reduced seating and other safety precautions. Initially scheduled to appear in March, pianist **Yoko Miwa** was likened to both Oscar Peterson and Bill Evans by *Down Beat* magazine in its four-star review of her latest CD, last year's *Keep Talkin'* (with bassist Will Slater and Brad Barrett and drummer Scott Goulding).

8 p.m. Jan. 9 at the Arts Garage, 94 NE 2nd Ave., Delray Beach (561-450-6357, \$35-\$45).

The Kravis Center for the Performing Arts has eased back into live shows via a new format in its intimate Rinker Playhouse. For Canada-born trumpeter/vocalist **Bria Skonberg's** Jan. 14 appearance, there will be two shows; limited cabaret-style seating, and temperature checks prior to entry. If temperatures are taken after Skonberg's performance, they might be considerably higher. She is now based in New York City, and her latest CD is last year's *Nothing Ever Happens*.

6:30 and 9 p.m. Jan. 14 at Rinker Playhouse, 701 Okeechobee Blvd., West Palm Beach (561-832-7469, \$196 for table of four).

A true Renaissance woman of jazz, the vocalist, songwriter, arranger, producer, actress and playwright **Nnenna Freelon**, 66, has garnered six Grammy Award nominations since her self-titled 1992 debut. She has also toured and recorded with the likes of Ray Charles, Al Jarreau, George Benson, Aretha Franklin, Diana Krall, Ramsey Lewis, and Herbie Hancock;



Nnenna Freelon performs Feb. 13 and 14 at the Kravis Center. Photo provided

and premiered her own multimedia theatrical presentation, "The Clothesline Muse," in Philadelphia in 2013.

7:30 p.m. Feb. 13 and 14 at the Kravis Center's Persson Hall (\$45 and up).

Seattle native jazz singer **Sara Gazarek** remains one of the genre's artists deserving of wider recognition. Still in her 30s, and with a catalog that started with her 2005 debut *Yours*, she may find that recognition forthcoming. Her latest offering, last year's *Thirsty Ghost*, was Grammy-nominated. The singer's range and musicality were nurtured by studies with vocalist Tierney Sutton and bassist John Clayton at the Thornton School of Music at USC, where she later joined the faculty.

7 and 9 p.m. March 13 at the South Miami-Dade Cultural Arts Center, 10950 SW 211th St., Cutler Bay (786-573-5316, \$32.50).

The Kravis Center's largest room, Dreyfoos Hall, is reopening with enhanced air filtration and additional cleaning and hand-sanitization stations. Trumpeter **Chris Botti**, an annual regular during normal years, should reap the rewards and award his fans accordingly. The 57-year-old Botti's latest CD, *Impressions*, won a 2013 Grammy for Best Pop Instrumental Album. The versatile trumpeter has also collaborated on instrumental

## EDITOR

Continued from page 9

news program, to say nothing of government-presented events, is filtered through the theater arts.

It is because of this that if a vaccine for the virus were to be discovered and distributed next week, much of the arts activity that is on hiatus here would spring back quickly — if there is enough money to go around and there are enough people still able to return to the field of artistic endeavor.

The Cultural Council last month launched its Restart with the Arts fundraising campaign, in which donors can give to the council's fund by visiting [palmbeachculture.com/restart](http://palmbeachculture.com/restart). It's something the state government should be doing, too, but Florida will need a substantial political realignment for that to happen. In the meantime, if we can, it's a good idea to give to our favorite arts organizations or to the council's fund. After all,

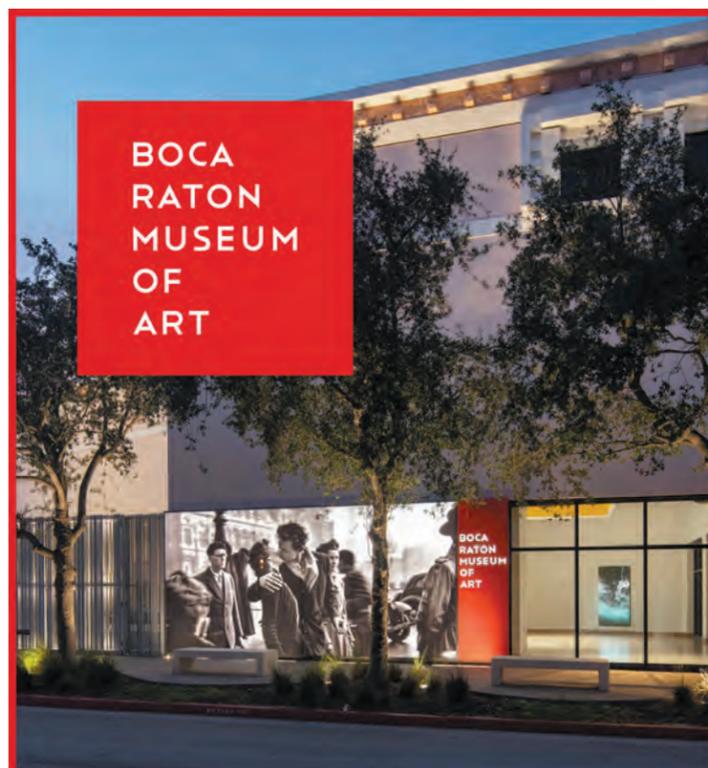
we want our artists to be there when the all-clear is sounded and we can return to our pre-virus lives, changed though they may be.

Americans love the arts, and artists, much more than they know. The arts are basic to humanity, something we've been wired with for millennia. I have no doubt that the county's art scene will come roaring back when it's safe to do so. The question will be: How many of the pre-virus members of the arts sector will still be there?

Here's hoping they all are, bringing their gifts back to us and reminding us why this part of the country is such an exciting, joyful place to live. At the very least, we should try to help them. It will only be when the arts come back in full flower that we will be able

to say: Yes, we have recovered.

— Greg Stepanich, editor



**Edward Steichen: In Exaltation of Flowers**  
(Through Jan. 03, 2021)

**Works on Paper: Drawn from the Collection**  
(Through Jan. 03, 2021)

**Trine Lise Nedreaas: The Entertainers**  
(Through Jan. 03, 2021)

**Jeff Whyman: Out of Nature**  
(Through Jan. 03, 2021)

**Our Presidents and Other Recent Acquisitions**  
(Through Jan. 03, 2021)

**Paul Gervais: Faces and Forms**  
(Jan. 26, 2021 - May 30, 2021)

**Glasstress Boca Raton II**  
(Jan. 26, 2021 - Sep. 05, 2021)

**An Irresistible Urge to Create: The Monroe Family Collection**  
(Jan. 26, 2021 - Sep. 05, 2021)

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Photo by Robin Hill



## Season Preview: Dance

# Dance programs stifled by COVID may revive in the new year

By Dale King  
Contributing Writer

Performance stages throughout South Florida that would normally host all sorts of dance programs this time of year are silent, dark and vacant. Producers have dismissed dancers and sent staff home.

While most dance companies have replaced live shows with online performances and programs, nearly all hope to fill those stages with terpsichore of all sorts in the new year.

Many venues have generally canceled all before-your-eyes productions through the end of the year. As a result, the **Miami City Ballet** has turned what would be its 35th anniversary season into “a love letter to the community,” said public relations director Amber Dorsky. “We are looking forward to sharing, in the coming months, a reimagined season of new digital works, outdoor performances and online premieres of some of the company’s most memorable performances.”

Dorsky said 14 live performances of *The Nutcracker* will be presented at a park in downtown Doral starting Dec. 18. “Baptist Health will conduct daily COVID testing to ensure safety.” Seating will be arranged in 150 “pods” with room for up to four people in each. All must wear masks.

She said the shows will be largely live, but larger ensembles will be pre-recorded and shown on LED screens.



The Spanish dance from *The Nutcracker*, as staged by Miami City Ballet in 2019. Photo by Alexander Iziliaev

The cast includes more than 100 performers.

Mark Alexander, executive director of theaters at **Palm Beach State College**, said the 2021 season will offer the following at the Duncan Theatre on the Lake Worth Beach campus:

**Parsons Dance**, 8 p.m. Jan. 15 and 16. This contemporary American group, renowned for its athletic ensemble work, has toured more than 445 cities and 30 countries on five continents.

**The TL Collective**, 8 p.m. Feb. 5 and 6. It was founded by choreographer/dancer Micaela Taylor.

**Pilobolus**, 8 p.m. Feb. 26 and 27. To celebrate its 50 years in the dance business, the *Big Five-Oh!* tour will bring to audiences a mix of its shape-shifting signature piece.

**Dimensions Dance Theatre of**

**Miami**, 8 p.m. March 5 and 6. Founded in 2016 by former Miami City Ballet principal dancers and founding artistic directors Carlos Guerra and Jennifer Kronenberg, the company offers audiences a fresh view of contemporary ballet.

Post-performance “talk-backs” follow each presentation. Tickets are \$45, the entire series is \$150. (561-868-3309)

**Boca Ballet Theatre** in Boca Raton will celebrate the holiday season this year with a professional video production of *The Nutcracker*. The show is scheduled to be recorded Dec. 12 and an encore presentation is set to stream Dec. 13. Details on how to reserve a digital seat will be announced.

BBT expects to go live in May when its dance troupe presents *Swan Lake* on Mother’s Day weekend.

The ballet theatre plans to cap off its 2021 summer intensive program with a repertory concert called *Resurgence*. This mixed-dance show includes classical, neoclassical and contemporary works and will feature international guest artists. (561-995-0709)

**Ballet Palm Beach**, Colleen Smith’s school and troupe in Palm Beach Gardens, has scheduled only classes for its young dancers, and no performances as of late October.

“COVID-19 has really impacted all of us, in the most difficult ways,” Smith said in a July Facebook video. “Ballet Palm Beach, as your local ballet company, has had tremendous success in the past year. But we got stopped in our tracks,” Smith said in the video, which introduced the Ballet 25 Challenge, which calls on dance fans to contribute \$25 to keep the company going. (balletpalmbeach.org; 561-630-8325)

The **Harid Conservatory** in Boca Raton has canceled its winter program. Next on the list is a spring performance at 7:30 p.m. May 21 and at 3 p.m. May 22 and 23 at the Countess de Hoernle Theatre, 5100 Jog Road in Boca Raton. It will be a collection of classical and contemporary ballets showcasing members of the 2020 graduating class. (561-999-8038, or visit the box office at 2285 Potomac Road, Boca Raton)

## Season Preview: Classical Music

# Classical presenters soldier on, plan some concerts

By Greg Stepanich

South Florida’s classical music community is surely one of the nation’s most vibrant, with at least seven regularly appearing orchestras playing from Key West to Fort Pierce, two opera companies, three chamber music series, a nationally known concert choir, and a season that in the winter months sees many of the touring stars of the Northeast come down to shake off the cold.

This season, of course, it would be hard to draw a greater contrast. Though there has been a steady diet of virtual programs, this has been a time to tighten budgets as the vast freelance activity that sustains so many musicians in this area dried up overnight.

And yet some programming is on schedule for the season ahead, with hopes of a turnaround in the health crisis. Palm Beach’s Society of the Four Arts announced a normal-looking season, but has lost several concerts since then, including appearances by Branford Marsalis and Jeremy Denk, to cancellations.

The Kravis Center, too, had a robust season release, but now is down to about a dozen classical concerts, with all of the usual touring orchestras, such as the Chicago Symphony,



The Russian pianist Daniil Trifonov plays a recital at the Society of the Four Arts in Palm Beach on Dec. 13. Photo by Dario Acosta

deciding not to come.

Seraphic Fire, the exceptional Miami-based concert choir, has scheduled an all-virtual season of six concerts called “Season S”; two concerts, one of Renaissance music on Nov. 8 and of Christmas music on Dec. 20, have been announced. The Master Chorale of South Florida is offering several virtual performances as well, with the now-familiar sight of people with headphones on an immense Zoom call skillfully done, and the performances,

such as Rachmaninov’s All-Night Vigil, lovingly sung and presented. The group is presenting a world premiere Nov. 20 on YouTube and Facebook Live of *As Long as We Are Here*, a work written for the group by the young American composer Jake Runestad.

Performing organizations not mentioned here had not released program information as of late October. Cancellations are still being announced regularly for those who have, so check with the

host venue to see whether the concert is still on.

**November:** The Chamber Music Society of Palm Beach will present a program Nov. 21 at the Eau Palm Beach resort featuring five stellar players: violinists Arnaud Sussmann and Jennifer Frautschi, violist Paul Neubauer, cellist Nicholas Canellakis and pianist Inon Barnatan.

**December:** The Symphonia Boca Raton opens its programs on the afternoon of Dec. 6 with a reduced all-string concert in the Grand Oasis Ballroom of

the Boca Marriott featuring holiday music led by conductor Alastair Willis. The program includes two Baroque staples, the Christmas Concerto of Arcangelo Corelli, the Winter concerto from Vivaldi’s *Four Seasons*, as well as Mozart’s *Eine Kleine Nachtmusik* and the *Lyric for Strings* of the American composer George Walker.

The sensational Russian pianist Daniil Trifonov opens the Four Arts season with a sold-out recital at 3 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 13. On Dec. 14, the Chamber Music Society of Palm Beach presents another concert at Eau Palm Beach, this time with pianist and composer Michael Brown joining Sussmann (artistic director of the CMSPB), Neubauer and Canellakis.

**January:** The Omer Quartet kicks off the Classical Café series at the Duncan Theatre’s Stage West on Jan. 6, while conductor Alexander Platt and guitarist Jason Vieaux return to the Symphonia Boca Raton stage Jan. 10 for Rodrigo’s *Concierto de Aranjuez* and the Bizet Symphony in C at the Roberts Theater on the campus of St. Andrew’s School in west Boca. Pianist Wynona Wang makes her South Florida debut Jan. 12 with a recital

See **CLASSICAL** on page AT13

## Season Preview: Theater

# Stages mostly to stay dark in 2020-21

By Hap Erstein  
ArtsPaper Theater Writer

Although Gov. Ron DeSantis has declared the state's playhouses safe to reopen, the area's theater companies are less than comfortable with the notion of getting up and running again.

Most have canceled their 2020-2021 seasons, some in favor of a presence online with streaming options.

A few have pushed their openings to next year with a shortened season of offerings. And there is a general concern over how many theaters will be able to survive and in what diminished form once the coronavirus plague is in the rearview mirror.

The **Kravis Center** is hoping to salvage some of its current season, but it is highly dependent on the personalities and shows continuing to tour. So far the West Palm Beach performing arts center has announced two waves of canceled acts.

In September, it scrubbed such popular attractions as the Salute to Vienna New Year's Concert, originally scheduled for Jan. 1, 2021, Michael Bolton (Jan. 26) and the Riverdance 25th Anniversary Show (April 13-15).

Then in mid-October, it was forced to cancel such single-night appearances by Judy Collins and Arlo Guthrie (Jan. 18), Jay Leno (Feb. 13) and Kristin Chenoweth (March 3), all of whom have halted their tours.

COVID-19 has also taken its toll on the Kravis on Broadway series. It was slated to open with a stage musical of the popular film *An Officer and a Gentleman* in November and Jimmy Buffett's short-lived



Jimmy Buffett's *Escape to Margaritaville* is scheduled for Jan. 5-10 at the Kravis Center.  
Photo by Matthew Murphy

Broadway jukebox show *Escape to Margaritaville* in December. Both have been pushed into 2021, with the Buffett musical now scheduled for Jan. 5-10 and *An Officer and a Gentleman* slotted for April 21-25.

Others have not fared as well, with the road company of the recent revival of *My Fair Lady* canceled and the ever-popular *Wicked* and the Tony-winning *Dear Evan Hansen* postponed indefinitely.

At the moment, *Anastasia* (March 30-April 4) and *Mean Girls* (May 11-16) are still on the Kravis schedule for their originally announced dates.

Ticket holders of canceled shows can request refunds or non-expiring gift certificates, though the Kravis would love them to convert their purchases into tax-deductible donations to the center.

Boca Raton's **Wick Theatre** has had some activity this fall. While its mainstage remains dark, it has been producing supper club performances in its spacious lobby, like *Motown to Broadway* in October, with area favorite Avery Sommers heading a cast of four, emceed by Clay Cartland.

If all goes according to plan, the Wick will also be the first company in Palm Beach County to resume its subscription season. It expects to open a full production of the popular ABBA musical, *Mamma Mia!* (Jan. 7-Feb. 14), followed — theoretically, at least — by the show that played one weekend before the Wick shut it down in March over “an abundance of caution,” *A Chorus Line* (set to return March 4-April 4). The Wick's shortened season would then conclude with *Nunsense* (April

15-May 9), with *Laverne and Shirley*'s Cindy Williams still expected to appear as one of the Little Sisters of Hoboken.

Speaking of firsts, the **Maltz Jupiter Theatre** was the first stage company in the county to call off its 2020-2021 season. It did so to concentrate on its previously announced \$30 million expansion project, which will make its onstage and backstage facilities large enough to accommodate pre-Broadway tryouts and national tours. The 15-month-long project is slated for completion by October 2021, in time to be unveiled for the opening of the 2021-22 season.

No shows have been announced for then, but the Maltz will likely remount *How to Succeed in Business Without Really Trying*, which was about to open as the final entry of last

season when theaters all shut down.

**MNM Theater Company**, which normally performs at the Kravis Center's Rinker Playhouse, has announced plans to produce the musical revue *Closer Than Ever* and stream it into homes from Nov. 27 to Dec. 31. The show, “a nonstop exploration of everyday struggles in the modern world,” features songs by Richard Maltby Jr., and David Shire, and a cast of MNM veterans including Shelley Keellor, Elijah Word, Aaron Bower and John Barry Green.

Rehearsals will be held at the company's Boca Raton studio, where the performance will be filmed, all under strict COVID-19 guidelines. Tickets will be \$20, and following payment, each patron will be emailed a link to view the production. This might be the new normal.

**Palm Beach Dramaworks**, which was about to celebrate its 20th anniversary with a season of revivals from its past as well new works, has canceled its 2020-2021 season. But it has kept in touch with its audience through Zoom with free Contemporary Voices play readings, like Lynn Nottage's *Sweat*, and Dramalogue interviews with members of the PBD family, from director J. Barry Lewis to designer Michael Amico to actor Estelle Parsons.

Dramaworks still has its canceled 1920-21 show schedule on its website, but with the caution, in all capital letters, “DATES SUBJECT TO CHANGE.” And that aptly sums up the state of theater in South Florida at the moment.

## CLASSICAL

Continued from page 12

at the Kravis Center's Rinker Playhouse, and violinist Paul Huang and cellist Edward Arron perform Jan. 14 at The Breakers for the CMSPB.

The Lysander Trio is heard on the Classical Café series Jan. 27, and the month ends with the excellent Russian pianist Olga Kern joined by the Dali Quartet for a concert at the Four Arts on Jan. 31.

**February:** Kern sticks around until Feb. 3 for a performance with the Palm Beach Symphony at the Four Arts, with Gerard Schwarz leading the forces in the Shostakovich Piano Concerto No. 1 and Dvořák's popular *Serenade for Strings*. The Montrose Piano Trio (Jon Kimura Parker, Martin Beaver and Clive Greensmith) stops by Holy Trinity Episcopal on Feb. 4 for the CMSPB, and over at the Four Arts, Dvořák

remains in the spotlight for another weeklong residency by cellist David Finckel and pianist Wu Han. They are planning three concerts in hand with guest musicians called “Around Dvořák,” which will include major chamber works by the composer but also pieces by Brahms, Josef Suk, and Dvořák's American pupil Harry Burleigh, a Black composer whose arrangements of spirituals remain classics (Feb. 7, 10 and 14, all sold out).

Also on Feb. 7, the Cuban-born violinist Andrés Cárdenes leads the Boca Symphonia at the Roberts Theater in music for strings by Rossini, Vivaldi and Schubert (his *Death and the Maiden* quartet as arranged by Gustav Mahler). Soprano Susanna Phillips is joined by violist Neubauer and Canadian pianist Anne-Marie McDermott at The Breakers on Feb. 16, and the British vocal ensemble Voces8 is back at the Four Arts on Feb. 18, followed

by the great Danish String Quartet in music of Mozart and Shostakovich on Feb. 21.

The Allwood-Chriss piano-and-organ duo appears in the Kravis's Young Artist Classical Series on Feb. 22, while the Verona Quartet, the foursome in residence at Oberlin, comes to the Duncan on Feb. 24. At Holy Trinity Episcopal on Feb. 25, Sussmann joins the St. Lawrence String Quartet for a concert, and the Four Arts ends the month with a return appearance by the eminent American pianist Garrick Ohlsson in music by Beethoven, Prokofiev and, of course, Chopin.

**March:** The month opens on March 1 with a familiar sight, that of violinist Itzhak Perlman and pianist Rohan De Silva, who have been returning to the Kravis each season for decades. The excellent Calidore String Quartet is at the Duncan on March 3, and the terrific Dutch cellist Johannes Moser

joins London's Academy of St. Martin in the Fields on March 7 at the Kravis for pieces by Schubert, Schumann, Tchaikovsky and the Finnish modernist Aulis Sallinen.

The exciting young American pianist Drew Petersen arrives at the Four Arts on March 14 for a finger-twisting recital featuring Ravel's *Gaspard de la Nuit* and the complete 24 Preludes of Chopin, while the brilliant young cellist Zlatomir Fung returns to the CMSPB on March 16 in a concert at Eau Palm Beach. Touring string students from Philadelphia's Curtis Institute of Music are at the Four Arts on March 21 for music by Schubert and a new string quartet by West Palm Beach's own Richard Danielpour.

On March 24, the Rolston String Quartet, a youthful Canadian foursome, appears at the Duncan, and later that night at the Four Arts, guitarist

Sharon Isbin and Indian sarod master Amjad Ali Khan, joined by his two sons, perform a crossover program called “Strings for Peace.” The young American violinist Randall Goosby, 24, signed last month to a recording contract with Decca Classics, is scheduled to give a recital March 29 at the Rinker Playhouse; here's a chance to catch a real rising star. The wonderful two-piano team of Anderson and Roe, who have become local favorites, close out the month at the Four Arts on March 31.

**April:** The CMSPB's Sussmann and Canellakis are joined by four other string players — violinist Chad Hoopes, violists Hsin-Yun Huang and Matt Lipman, and cellist Colin Carr — for a sextet concert April 1 at The Breakers, and on April 4 at the Four Arts, George Hinchcliffe's Ukelele Orchestra of Great Britain is back for a return appearance.

## Season Preview: Opera

## Area companies downscale, move outdoors for the season

By Greg Stepanich  
ArtsPaper Editor

New York's Metropolitan Opera announced in September that it would be canceling its 2020-21 season, but plans to reopen in September 2021 with American composer and jazz trumpeter Terence Blanchard's *Fire Shut Up in My Bones*, the first opera by a Black composer the Met has presented in its 140-year history.

The area's opera companies face the same performance obstacles, including long preparation and rehearsal times in close quarters and large audiences sitting close together. So they, too, will be doing things nothing like the usual way this season, but plan to hold on and aim for better days ahead.

**Palm Beach Opera:** This summer, new General Director David Walker was hoping for good news in virus containment while also expressing dismay over the season that had been cut short by COVID-19 after a very successful opening with Puccini's *Turandot* in January and Rossini's *The Barber of Seville* in February.

The season was set to close in March with the troupe's first-ever presentation of Tchaikovsky's most popular opera, *Eugene Onegin*.

"Our season was going so incredibly well for my first season as general

director, pretty much textbook how to do it great," he said. "And then the pandemic punched us in the face."

In place of a season of three mainstage operas — Puccini's *La Bohème*, Bizet's *Les Pêcheurs de Perles*, and Mozart's *The Magic Flute* (*Die Zauberflöte*) — and a one-night-only "discovery" opera, Bellini's *I Capuleti e I Montecchi* at the Eisse Campus Theatre in Palm Beach Gardens, the opera is instead holding an outdoor opera festival in February at the IThink Financial Amphitheatre (i.e. Coral Sky) in suburban West Palm Beach.

Feb. 19 to 26, the company will present two performances each of *Bohème* (Feb. 19 and 24), Leoncavallo's *Pagliacci* (Feb. 23 and 27) and *Magic Flute* (Feb. 21 and 26). All performances will be at 7:30 p.m. except for Feb. 21, when *Magic Flute* will be presented at 2 p.m.

The amphitheatre can hold 6,000 people, but audiences will be restricted to 2,500 for these performances.

Masks and social distancing will be mandatory, there will be enhanced sanitation, and large video screens will be deployed.

The Bellini opera, which is another telling of the Romeo and Juliet story, will be performed outdoors as well in March, when it will be mounted at the Old School Square Pavilion in Delray

Beach on March 21.

Tickets for the festival operas begin at \$20, and went on sale in mid-October. The casts will be announced this month on pbopera.org.

Walker, a highly respected countertenor before turning to arts management, said it's hard to replace live theater with virtual presentations, no matter how skillful.

"That feeling of opera live, there's nothing like it. I mean, you can do very great digital virtual productions, but it's not the same as being in the physical presence of that music making that sound and how it moves through your body. That we have to keep, we can't lose the focus on that," Walker said.

After all, pandemics are familiar to the art form.

"Opera's not going to die, because it's been around since 1597, and it's gone through a lot of plagues. It's gone through a lot of wars. It's the power and beauty, the transformative power of opera, that keeps it alive," he said. "People, it just feeds their souls." (pbopera.org; 561-833-7888)

**Florida Grand Opera:** The Doral-based company planned a season that included Verdi's *La Traviata*, Gioachino Rossini's *Otello*, Gounod's *Faust*, and Gregory Spears' *Fellow Travelers*.

As of late October, those plans

were on hiatus, and the company was mounting the first of three concerts of operatic selections by five members of the troupe's Studio Artist Program: Soprano Shaina Martinez, mezzo-soprano Stephanie Doche, tenor Dylan Elza, baritone Michael Miller and bass-baritone Andrew Simpson.

The first concert, called "First Sing," was presented in late October at FGO's Doral Center, and was sold out. It will be followed this month by "Opera's Greatest Hits," Nov. 14 at the Doral Center and Nov. 22 at Coral Ridge Presbyterian Church in Fort Lauderdale. A "Holiday Pops" concert at the Doral Center is scheduled for Dec. 5.

Chief Marketing Officer Nicholas Svorinich said the company will arrive at its "go-no go" decision date early this month, and then will announce its plans for the season.

"We're kind of like everyone right now. We're still waiting for a little more openness from (Miami-Dade) county, but basically we're toeing the county line (of half-capacity)," he said.

The current focus of the company is on the fall concerts, but Svorinich said FGO is also looking ahead to 2021 in any case.

"We'll also, as things develop, be announcing some exciting pivots for the spring with our talented Studio Artists," he said. (fgo.org; 800-741-1010)

## PB ART

Continued from page 9

Through June 1

**Jeff Whyman: Out of Nature:** The ceramicist makes pieces in one session, using the potter's wheel to throw his creations while adding sea glass, Chinese crystals, mineral oxides, and other objects to create forms that resemble ocean floor corals or volcanic gem studded rocks.

**Glasstress Boca Raton 2021:** headlines three new shows that open Jan. 26. A sequel to the 2016 Glasstress exhibition, the 2021 edition features new artists and 33 new works by leading contemporary artists, who paired with master glass artisans at Berengo Studio on the island of Murano. Featured art includes Ai Weiwei's spectacular *Blossom Chandelier* sculpture. Also Jan. 26, the museum debuts two more exhibitions with *An Irresistible Urge to Create: The Monroe Family Collection of Florida Outsider Art* and *Paul Gervais: Faces and Forms*. (bocamuseum.org, 561-392-2500)

## The Norton Museum of Art

Reopening in 2021 and marking its 80th anniversary year, the Norton presents its eighth iteration of its Recognition of Art by Women (RAW) series along with María Berrío's first solo museum exhibition *Esperando mientras la noche florece* (*Waiting for the Night to Bloom*) featuring 20 works from 2013 to today, that confront complex issues of immigration and vulnerability through lifelike depictions and magical realism. Jan. 2-May 9

Jose Alvarez (D.O.P.A.):

**Krome.** These 30 ink portraits were created by South Florida-based Venezuelan artist Jose Alvarez when he was jailed in Miami's Krome detention center in 2011 for identity fraud. He began drawing other inmates as a creative outlet, amassing a moving portrait of men behind bars. Jan. 2-May 9

**Art Finds a Way,** a curated exhibit from the Norton's collection featuring work by Nina Chanel Abney, Hank Willis Thomas, Faith Ringgold, Njideka Akunyili Crosby, and Jaye Rhee that examines persistent issues of racial injustice during the wake of the COVID-19 pandemic. Jan. 2-May 9

**Celebrating the Norton: Eighty Years,** presents never-before-seen documents, photographs, and highlights from the collection. Feb. 5-June 13 (Norton.org)

## Society of the Four Arts

The venerable Palm Beach institution plans a regular season of art exhibits, with reduced occupancy, reconfigured auditorium and classrooms, and a mask mandate. The Society notes that this could change at any time. But as of now, these are the planned art exhibits:

**In God We Trust: Early Bible Printings and Founding Documents from the David M. Rubenstein Americana Collection:** An exhibit of rare American Bibles and religious texts featuring 18 books from the philanthropist's collection. The exhibition's centerpiece is the *Bay Psalm Book*, America's first book. Music from one of the hymnbooks has been



A work by Hank Willis Thomas is part of a Norton exhibit that debuts Jan. 2. Photo provided

recorded by students from Palm Beach Atlantic University and will be played throughout. Nov. 14-Feb. 28

**Ubhle Women: Beadwork and the Art of Independence** features paintings in beads by six women of a rural South African community. Called ndwangos, the paintings consist of stretched black cloth that is colored with Czech glass beads. Nov. 14-Jan. 17

**Charles and Jackson Pollock:** A Four Arts-curated exhibition of works by Jackson Pollock's elder brother Charles, who studied with Thomas Hart Benton, paired with a series of little-known works by the enfant terrible of abstract expressionism, including his only known sculpture. Jan. 30-March 28

Also, the Society hosts painted fiberglass sculptures by Philip Haas in the Sculpture Garden through the end of this year, and from Jan. 11-16, features an outdoor re-creation of Gen. George Washington's battlefield tent during his days as the chief military commander

in the Revolutionary War. (fourarts.org, 561-655-7226)

## Flagler Museum

The winter exhibition at Henry Flagler's mansion on Palm Beach has been extended and will be on view until further notice, museum officials say. *Walk This Way: Historic Footwear from the Stuart Weitzman Collection* explores how shoes have transcended their basic purpose to become representations of culture. (flaglermuseum.us, 561-665-2833)

## Morikami Museum and Japanese Gardens

*Collecting Stories* focuses on works drawn from the Morikami's permanent collection, to be featured in a series of mini-exhibitions.

For the upcoming season, the museum presents *Stroll for Well-Being*, a free garden-walking initiative. Strollers also enjoy a one-year dual membership they can enjoy with another guest.

"Through this pandemic, we have realized an even greater need to make our programming more accessible to members of our community dealing with anxiety, stress and mental exhaustion," Wendy Lo, curator of education at the museum west of Delray Beach, said in a news release. (morikami.org, 561-495-0233)

## Cultural Council

**Keren Schwindt: Abstracta:** Schwindt is an emerging, self-taught South Florida artist. The council says her work "marries a touch of whimsy to surrealism, impressionism, and cubism in

abstraction." Through Nov. 7

**How Do We Move Forward?** Ten visual and spoken word Black artists will provide multimedia content that covers four centuries of racial turmoil and social and civil injustice. Participating visual artists are Dariel Donovan, Anthony Burks Sr., Tracy Guiteau, Kianga Jinaki, and Turgo Bastien. Nov. 17-Dec. 12.

**Reflections:** For this enlightening show, the art depends on light to complete it. Works include objects captured on film by a pinhole camera lens and a stained-glass piece casting rainbows on the walls. Through Jan. 2.

Also in January, the Cultural Council will partner with the ATB Group in a Harlem Renaissance-style exhibition, *Karibu: A Celebration of Black Artists in Palm Beach County*. Karibu means "Welcome, come in" in Swahili and will feature work in various media. (PalmBeachCulture.com; 561-471-2901)

## Ann Norton Sculpture Gardens

The Ann Norton Sculpture Gardens building will be undergoing renovations during the 2020-21 season. Outdoor events and programs include the *4th Annual Sculpture in Motion*, honoring Gold Star families of Palm Beach County and veterans, on Nov. 14. The Gardens' 2-acre campus plans to fully reopen April 17 with the exhibition *Artists At Home: Photography of Historic Artists' Homes & Studios Program of the National Trust for Historic Preservation*. (www.ansg.org, 561-832-5328)

## Season Preview: Film

## A movie season that likely will be edited

By Hap Erstein  
ArtsPaper Film Writer

Few things are as changeable as film release schedules in a coronavirus pandemic. Major movies like Steven Spielberg's *West Side Story* and Daniel Craig's final James Bond flick, *No Time to Die*, have delayed their openings into 2021.

Others — *The Glorias*, *Mulan*, *Antebellum* — have given up on theatrical showings in favor of home video streaming.

The good news for the streamed films is that the Motion Picture Academy has bent its rules to make them eligible for the next Oscars — also postponed to April 25.

So, with the understanding that the following slate of films is likely to change, here is what the upcoming season could look like at the movies and on your home screen.

## Nov. 6

**Let Him Go** — A retired sheriff and his wife (Kevin Costner and Diane Lane), grieving over the death of their son, set out to find their only grandson.

**Last Looks** — A disgraced ex-cop goes off the grid in the remote woods, but his quiet life is soon ended when a private eye (Mel Gibson) recruits him to investigate a murder.

## Nov. 13

**Freaky** — With a nod to *Freaky Friday*, this body-swapping drama involves a young girl in high school (Kathryn Newton), a deranged serial killer (Vince Vaughn) and a race against time before the changes become permanent.

**Ammonite** — In 1840s England, fossil hunter Mary Anning (Kate Winslet) and a young woman convalescing by the sea (Saoirse Ronan) develop an intense attraction to each other. Sounds steamy.

## Nov. 25

**The Croods: A New Age** — The popular animated prehistoric family, the Croods, are challenged by a rival clan, the Bettermans, who claim to be more evolved. Featuring such voice talent as Ryan Reynolds, Emma Stone and Nicolas Cage.

## Dec. 4

**Nomadland** — Following big wins at the Toronto and Venice film festivals, this tale of a woman (Frances McDormand) who embarks on a journey through the American West, after losing everything in the Great Recession of 2008, has considerable Oscar buzz.

## Dec. 18

**Death on the Nile** — Following his success with *Murder on the Orient Express*, Kenneth Branagh directs and plays Agatha Christie's Belgian sleuth Hercule Poirot. His star-studded ensemble cast includes



Frances McDormand is garnering Oscar buzz for her performance in *Nomadland*, scheduled for release on Dec. 4. Searchlight Pictures photo

Gal Gadot, Armie Hammer and Annette Bening.

**The Father** — Anthony Hopkins plays an aging senior drifting into dementia in this screen adaptation of Florian Zeller's stage play, who makes his debut as a film director.

## Dec. 25

**Wonder Woman 1984** — Director Patty Jenkins and star Gal Gadot return for another big-screen adventure of the Amazonian superheroine, with Kristin Wiig as her nemesis.

**News of the World** — A scruffy Tom Hanks plays a widowed Civil War veteran who agrees to deliver a girl, taken by a Native American tribe years ago, to her aunt and uncle, against her will.

**One Night in Miami** — Oscar winner Regina King makes her feature directing debut with this fictional meeting of Muhammad Ali, Malcolm X, Jim Brown and Sam Cooke, discussing the civil rights movement. *Hamilton* Tony winner Leslie Odom Jr. is said to be a standout as Cooke.

## Dec. 30

**Monster Hunter** — Yes, this one is based on a video game, but this battle royal between a futuristic army lieutenant (Milla Jovovich) and oversized enemies with superpowers sounds like it is a cut above the usual fantasy shoot-'em-up.

## Jan. 15, 2021

**The 355** — Jessica Chastain stars as a CIA agent action heroine, on the run in search of a top-secret weapon that has fallen into mercenary — as in bad guys' — hands.

**Respect** — Oscar-winner Jennifer Hudson stars as legendary rhythm-and-blues singer Aretha Franklin in this biopic that also features Forest Whitaker and Audra McDonald.

## Jan. 29

**The Little Things** — Denzel Washington and Rami Malek play cops on the trail of a serial killer (Jared Leto).

## Feb. 19

**Blithe Spirit** — A writer's dead wife is conjured back from the dead by a dotty medium (Dame Judi Dench) in a remake based on the Noel Coward play. With Dan Stevens, Leslie Mann and Isla Fisher as the squabbling Condomines.

## March 12

**The Many Saints of Newark** — A look back at the

formative years of New Jersey gangster Tony Soprano, with Michael Gandolfini — yep, James's son — in the role. With Corey Stoll, Vera Farmiga and Ray Liotta in flavorful support.

## March 19

**The Unbearable Weight of Massive Talent** — Nicolas Cage plays himself, a cash-strapped B-list movie star who agrees to make a paid appearance at a billionaire super fan's birthday party, but Cage is really an informant for the CIA and the fan is a drug kingpin.

## April 12

**No Time to Die** — The much-delayed James Bond saga — the last to star Daniel Craig as 007 — sees him reeled back from retirement by CIA buddy Felix Leiter to catch a mysterious villain (Rami Malik) armed with lethal new technology.

## April 23

**A Quiet Place Part II** — A sequel to the 2017 hit written and directed by John Krasinski, again starring his wife, Emily Blunt, who ventures beyond the safety of her home and encounters more dangers than the sound-sensitive creatures.

## April 30

**The Eyes of Tammy Faye** — A puckish look at the rise, fall and redemption of televangelist Tammy Faye Bakker (Jessica Chastain), with Andrew Garfield as Jim Bakker and Vincent D'Onofrio as Jerry Falwell.

## May 7

**Black Widow** — Scarlett Johansson gets her own spinoff from the Avengers superheroes series, as Natasha Romanoff, a/k/a Black Widow, flexing her war-waging muscles.

## June 18

**In the Heights** — Anthony Ramos (of Broadway's *Hamilton*) steps into the role created by Lin Manuel Miranda as a bodega owner in Washington Heights, in the slice-of-neighborhood-life musical, based on Miranda's Tony Award-winning show.

## July 2

**Top Gun: Maverick** — Thirty-five years older but seemingly ageless, former Navy pilot James Mitchell, a/k/a Maverick (Tom Cruise) is now a test pilot, trying to avoid being grounded for an old-age home.

Could this be the longest time between an original movie and its sequel?

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Seymour Weitzman (1910-65), designer, Mr. Seymour (founded 1950s), maker. Pointed-toe lace-up pumps, ca. 1964. Suede, grosgrain ribbon. Stuart Weitzman Collection. Photo by Glenn Castellano, New-York Historical Society.

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Finding Faith

# First Presbyterian donations help Bahamas town rebuild after Dorian

The monster storm formed in the Atlantic at the end of August 2019, gaining strength until Sept. 1, when the most intense tropical cyclone on record struck the Bahamas with wind and water and an unbridled fury.

Hurricane Dorian is believed to be the worst natural disaster in the Bahamas' short history. The Category 5 storm had maximum sustained winds of 185 mph and gusts recorded up to 220 mph. The deadly storm surge — more than 20 feet of water — flooded the islands. Across the Bahamas, more than 70,000 people were left homeless and economists estimated the damage at more than \$3.4 billion (a quarter of the Bahamas' GDP).

Marsh Harbour, the largest town on Great Abaco Island and a commercial hub for many smaller islands, lost 95% of its buildings, but one church, Kirk of the Pines, was left standing.

Soon after, members of First Presbyterian Church of Delray Beach donated money for a water purification system and solar generators for the pastor's cellphones. Life returned to rudimentary homesteading: water, shelter, food, communication.

Now the two churches have a mini-supply chain going.

It took about a year, but in October, First Presbyterian shipped a barely used box truck filled with tools and building supplies to Pastor Gabe Swing, who lives with his wife, Jan, in a camper next to the church.

Delray Beach resident Kari Shipley, who suggested Marsh Harbour and Kirk of the Pines as recipients for First Presbyterian's Christmas charity project, estimates the church raised more than \$50,000.

First Presbyterian also got a deal on the truck through a parishioner with connections to the auto industry, for about \$30,000, plus \$5,000 to ship it, said Shipley, a longtime deacon and elder at the church who has ties to Marsh Harbour.

The truck is crucial for logistics — just about every car on the island was destroyed — to get the tools and supplies where they are needed.

"It will serve as a roving workshop," Pastor Swing said, "readily accessible, that we can also use to move supplies."

When he's not swinging a hammer, the pastor is working with the Bahamas Youth Network, a community-based Christian organization that connects adult mentors and coaches with local teenagers and young adults.

"We want to grow these young people into tomorrow's leaders. Programs focus on teaching participants to make good life decisions and building leadership skills," he said. The BYN gets support from the U.S. organization, the Caribbean Youth Network.

Some things are getting better in Marsh Harbour. Small planes can land at the international airport. Two grocery stores are open. But the challenges continue: Jobs, except in construction, are scarce. School hasn't resumed.

Pastor Swing, who has made his home in the Bahamas for about 10 years, five of them in Marsh Harbour, says his biggest concern is food insecurity. People are hungry, and few have enough work or money.

Many left for the United States or parts of the Bahamas that sustained less damage. Swing lost track of some of his parishioners.

Some people who remained live in tents and without tap water or electricity. The lucky ones live in campers and have generators.

Jan Swing coordinates the mission trips that bring hundreds of people to the islands to provide the labor force for the construction. She says in just six months she's



Among the donations is a truck loaded with building supplies. Kari Shipley recruited artists to paint it with the names of Delray Beach and Marsh Harbour. On the back are symbols for the two churches involved and the Bahamas Youth Network. 'These are our neighbors, too,' Shipley says. 'They're barely 90 miles away.' Photo provided

had to cancel 12 trips because of COVID-19 restrictions. Those are finally starting to lift, another good sign. But so much is still needed.

For more information, visit [firstdelray.com](http://firstdelray.com) or call 561-276-6338.

Want to travel to Marsh Harbour? Although each island and community may have different rules, effective Nov. 1 the Bahamas removed the 14-day quarantine requirement that had been in place. But all visitors must complete an electronic Bahamas Health Travel Visa application before departure, upload the results of a negative COVID-19 swab test

taken within seven days of arrival and provide contact information.

Visitors must also take a rapid test on day five of the visit, which is included in the cost of the Bahamas Health Travel Visa. All entry requirements can be viewed at [www.bahamas.com/travelupdates](http://www.bahamas.com/travelupdates).

Janis Fontaine writes about people of faith, their congregations, causes and community events. Contact her at [janisfontaine@outlook.com](mailto:janisfontaine@outlook.com).



## OPEN THANKSGIVING DAY

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## Religion Calendar

Note: Events are current as of 10/21. Please check with organizers for any changes.

### OCTOBER 31

**Saturday - 10/31 - Blessing of the Trick or Treaters** at St. Paul's Episcopal Church, 188 S Swinton Ave, Delray Beach. 10 am. Free. 276-4541; [stpaulsdelray.org](http://stpaulsdelray.org)

### NOVEMBER 1-7

**Sunday - 11/1 - First Presbyterian Church of Delray Beach Live-Stream Service.** 33 Gleason St. Every Sun 10 am. Free. 276-6338; [firstdelray.com](http://firstdelray.com)

**11/1 - First United Methodist Church Boca Raton Facebook Live.** 625 NE Mizner Blvd. Via the church's Facebook page. Every Sun 10 am. Free. 395-1244; [fumcboacaraton.org](http://fumcboacaraton.org)

**Monday - 11/2 - Mass of Remembrance** at St. Lucy Catholic Church, 3510 S Ocean Blvd, Highland Beach. 6 pm. Free. 278-1280; [stlucycommunity.com](http://stlucycommunity.com)

**11/2 - Mass of Remembrance** at St. Vincent Ferrer, 840 George Bush Blvd, Delray Beach. Facemasks and social distancing required. 7 pm. Free. 276-6892; [stvincentferrer.com](http://stvincentferrer.com)

**Tuesday - 11/3 - Day of Prayer** at St. Lucy Catholic Church, 3510 S Ocean Blvd, Highland Beach. 7:30 am-12 noon adoration of the Blessed Sacrament, 8:30 am Mass, 12 noon patriotic rosary. Free. 278-1280; [stlucycommunity.com](http://stlucycommunity.com)

**Friday - 11/6 - Night of Praise Under the Stars** at St. Vincent Ferrer School Field, 840 George Bush Blvd, Delray Beach. SVF Band DASH plays contemporary covers. Facemasks & social distancing required; bring lawn chair or blanket. All ages. 7-8:30 pm. Free. 276-6892; [stvincentferrer.com](http://stvincentferrer.com)

**Saturday - 11/7 - Virtual Temple Beth El: Sabbath Morning Torah Study with Rabbi Dan Levin** at 333 SW 4th Ave, Boca Raton. Held again 11/14 & 21. 9:30 am. Free. Zoom, Livestream: 391-8900; [tbecoca.shulcloud.com/virtual](http://tbecoca.shulcloud.com/virtual)

### NOVEMBER 8-14

**Friday - 11/13 - Virtual Temple Beth El: Sabbath Evening Services - In commemoration of Kristallnacht and Veterans Day** at 333 SW 4th Ave, Boca Raton. 7:30-9 pm. Free. Facebook Live, Livestream, You Tube: 391-8900; [tbecoca.shulcloud.com/virtual](http://tbecoca.shulcloud.com/virtual)

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## Religion News

# Parishioners celebrate newest member with drive-by shower

First Presbyterian Church of Delray Beach added a new member to its church family in September and staged a baby shower the hard way.

The Community Church by the Sea, as it is also known, welcomed Pierre Isaac Rapier, son of the Rev. Greg Rapier and his wife, Lissette. It's the first baby the church has added to its worship family in many years, so the congregation was excited.

Even the coronavirus pandemic wasn't going to stop the parishioners from commemorating such a blessed event, so they did what lots of people have done: They staged a drive-by celebration.

On a sweltering Saturday in September, dozens of guests gathered — even Marie Buss, age 94, who had made a special baby blanket for Pierre. People decorated their cars and more than 50 vehicles led by a bagpiper made an orderly parade past the happy couple.

Linda Prior, who helped organize the event, thought busy Gleason Street might get clogged with traffic, but guests seemed to trickle in, which was just perfect, she said.

For a few minutes, it looked like the mother-to-be might not show: Lissette was having contractions but her doctor cleared her to make a quick visit to the church.

"She's been fantastic," Greg Rapier said. "It wasn't exactly what she signed up for."

Greg said the events surrounding the late September birth were "exhausting and joyful," and for the first time he was almost grateful for the pandemic restrictions because the new family enjoyed a little solitude.

But the Rapiers also faced the challenge of being on their own with no help to fall back on in caring for the baby.

"I always knew this," Greg said, "but it's even clearer now: Love is a lot of hard work and sacrifice."

### St. Paul's music director

St. Paul's Episcopal Church in Delray Beach is welcoming a new director of music ministries to replace Dr. Paul Cienniwa, who took a position as the orchestra director for the Binghamton Philharmonic in New York.



Macfarlane



LEFT: Dozens of people brought gifts to the First Presbyterian parking lot. RIGHT: The Rev. Greg and Lissette Rapier welcomed Pierre Isaac Rapier. He weighed 8 pounds, 12 ounces and was 22 inches long. Photos by Tim Stepien / The Coastal Star (left) and provided



Dr. David S. Macfarlane, from First Presbyterian Church of Englewood, New Jersey, will join the church's highly regarded music ministries. An accomplished musician, experienced church organist and choir director, Macfarlane also taught as an adjunct professor of music at Bergen Community College and was the assistant conductor/choirmaster for the Amore Opera of New York.

Although the church resumed limited in-person Sunday services in September, the Music at St. Paul's program has not resumed. Macfarlane won't begin his work until January.

St. Paul's Episcopal Church is at 188 S. Swinton Ave.; www.stpaulsdelray.org; 561-276-4541.

### Rector named bishop

St. Vincent de Paul Regional Seminary in Boynton Beach announced that Pope Francis appointed SVDP's rector and president, Msgr. David Toups, as the new bishop of the Diocese of Beaumont, Texas.



Toups

Toups, who was ordained in 1997, served SVDP as rector and president from 2012 to 2020 and as assistant dean from 2004 to 2006. During the past eight years he oversaw major renovations and expansion at the seminary.

### A massive mitzvah

Thanks to kindhearted people, many Jews were able to celebrate the most important Jewish holidays of the year even in the midst of a pandemic.

Ferd & Gladys Alpert Jewish Family Service worked

to distribute Rosh Hashanah meals throughout Palm Beach County with help from the Jewish Volunteer Center of the Jewish Federation of Palm Beach County and the Kind Kitchen of Palm Beach.

JFS's kosher food pantry also undertook its annual distribution of 35 Rosh Hashanah holiday food baskets.

The three nonprofits, with more than 150 volunteers, packaged 230 holiday meals, loaded them into cars and delivered them to 173 households in Boynton Beach, Lake Worth Beach, Palm Beach Gardens, Royal Palm Beach, Wellington and West Palm Beach.

The Alpert JFS is a nationally

accredited service provider for children, adults, seniors and Holocaust survivors.

To learn more, visit www.AlpertJFS.org or call 561-684-1991.

### Holly House goes virtual

For the first time in more than 50 years, the ladies of Holly House at First Presbyterian Church of Delray Beach won't host their large, annual sale of handcrafted holiday items at the church. But that doesn't mean the ladies have been idle.

The crafters have been busy making holiday items, but they've moved sales mostly online to the Facebook Marketplace. You can find all

the adorable decorations and gifts you love there.

Available are craft supplies, fabric, sewing notions, and handmade products ready to sell.

Shoppers are welcome to make an appointment to visit in-person Tuesday, Thursday, and possibly Saturday mornings to make purchases.

It is cash and carry. Masks are required. By making appointments, the church can limit the numbers of shoppers at one time.

For more information, contact Linda Prior, 561-702-0245, Linda\_Prior@hotmail.

— Janis Fontaine

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Golf

# Two local par-3 courses hailed among world's best

By Brian Biggane

Two par-3 golf courses along the A1A corridor in South Palm Beach County have been identified as being “among the world’s best” in a feature story in the September/October issue of *Golf Magazine*.

St. Andrews, a private club featuring three holes along the Intracoastal Waterway near Gulf Stream, and the Palm Beach Par-3, between the ocean and Intracoastal in the town of Palm Beach, were among 25 “exemplary” courses on a list that included Augusta National, Pine Valley in New Jersey and Bandon Dunes in Oregon.

“Even to be on the same page with those kind of courses, it’s quite a compliment,” St. Andrews head pro Amy Carver said.

“We’re a municipal course,” Palm Beach head pro Tony Chateauvert said, “so we’re accessible to anyone who wants to play. Augusta National, Pine Valley, you can’t get on those courses.”

Recognition is nothing new for the Palm Beach Par-3, which has been ranked both among the best and “most fun to play” by *Golf Digest*.

Designed by Dick Wilson and Joe Lee, the course opened in 1961 but fell into disrepair before four-time major champion Raymond Floyd oversaw a redesign in 2009.

“The town of Palm Beach recognized what we had and put a lot of money into it,” Chateauvert said. “Then six years ago we redid the clubhouse with a great al fresco restaurant. So now we’re a destination golf course. People come from all over the world to play it.”

Former Gulf Stream resident Alice Dye, with help from design partner and husband Pete Dye, built the St. Andrews course in 1973 and renovated it



**ABOVE:** Palm Beach Par-3's location on the ocean provides a captivating golf setting.

**LEFT:** Tropical landscaping at St. Andrews includes beds of red hibiscus and royal palm trees. Photos provided

it didn’t beat them up too much, and that’s what golf is supposed to be. Too many golf courses are just too difficult for the average golfer. Par-3 courses, be it the Palm Beach Par-3, or St. Andrews, are much more fun for the average golfer.”

Not to mention, Carver said, a test for even the best.

“At any level it’s a challenge,” she said. “I don’t care if you’re a new golfer, a scratch handicap. And sometimes for the better golfer it’s even more of a challenge, because you’re thinking, ‘How many birdies can I make?’”

“Then they come out here and it’s like, ‘Wow.’ Any golfer can improve their game out here.”

St. Andrews has also recently been recognized as a “Certified Audubon Cooperative Sanctuary” by Audubon International. The program “provides information and guidance to help golf courses preserve and enhance wildlife habitat, and protect natural resources,” according to the announcement. ★

in 2013.

“It’s like a little hidden gem,” Carver said. “There are people who drive up and down A1A every day who have no idea we’re even here.”

“Most people who come out here are surprised. It’s under 2,000 yards, and they go, ‘Eh, this is going to be easy,’ and it’s

not. It’s a challenge. You have to know how to score.

“Most people can’t hit 18 greens, and on the short shots the wind makes an even bigger difference, because you’re hitting a lofted club, and with more loft it’s going to go higher and be even more subject to the wind.”

The Palm Beach Par-3 plays at more than 2,000 yards from the back tees, with No. 4 at 196 yards and No. 5 at 212.

Still, Chateauvert said, the course lives up to its motto: Friendly, Fast and Fun.

“People come off the 18th hole and they’re always in a good mood, they’re having fun,

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## Along the Coast

# Plant sales aim to return native species, diversity to barrier islands

By Deborah S. Hartz-Seeley

George Gann's goal is to restore biodiversity to Palm Beach County's barrier islands, one patch of land at a time.

To aid the process, interested landowners can purchase biodiversity starter kits created by the Institute for Regional Conservation under the



Gann

auspices of its Restoring the Gold Coast program. A recent \$100,000 grant from Impact 100 Palm Beach County helped

fund the effort and educational campaign.

"These kits can be planted on virtually any piece of island property, including private residences and condo associations as well as office complexes, parks and medians. Every bit helps the area's biodiversity," says Gann, founder of the Delray Beach-based IRC.

Gann says evidence exists that during their history the barrier islands from Boca Raton to Lake Worth Beach have been home to more than 200 plant species.

These are native species that originated on the barrier islands without the help of humans. Those that didn't originate here migrated naturally on the wind, the waves or on birds' feet.

"We are not looking at species that people purposefully



**TOP:** Kimberlee Pompeo sparked the starter kit idea as she took out invasive *Scaevola taccada* and vines from her Ocean Ridge property and put in natives. **FAR LEFT:** Sea lavender. **LEFT:** Marlberry in bloom. **Photos by Jerry Lower/The Coastal Star**

brought with them or that attached themselves to airplane wheels," says Gann — thinking of all the bougainvillea, hibiscus and other showy exotics that have been imported from the Caribbean and Asia.

But over the years, much of our native diversity has been destroyed or lost as man developed the islands and beach erosion led to destruction of

habitat.

Today, scientists know that these native plants remain important because, like art, they have intrinsic beauty, says Gann. They also can bind the soil with their roots, making the landscape more stable. And they make it more resilient in the face of hurricanes, plant diseases and insect pests.

Plus, as these native plants produce seeds, nectar, pollen and fruits, they create habitat for native birds, butterflies, insects and other animals on the islands.

The idea behind the starter kits is to return the native species and the resulting biodiversity to our barrier islands. Each of the four kits that are now offered includes five native species in small to medium pots.

One of these will be a "rare plant surprise," an "oddball" species that might become available. And each kit is designed for a different coastal zone where wind, sun, water and sand uniquely interact.

The value of planting natives is visible on a 50-by-50-foot patch of beachfront property in Ocean Ridge owned by Kimberlee Pompeo, Florida Federation of Garden Clubs' District X vice chair for the barrier islands.

Since 2013, she has been removing the invasive *Scaevola taccada* and vines that were crowding out the sea grapes and saw palmettos originally on the property. She has continued to add natives, and today her landscape boasts more than 40 species.

As she worked with Gann last spring, Pompeo's interest in restoring her own property helped spark the creation of the biodiversity starter kits.

"They are a good way to return native species to the land in the way that nature intended," she says.

On her foredune, she has planted the Beach Dune/Coastal Grassland kit (\$75), including sea lavender that can survive the salty wind, cresting water and moving sand

### To purchase plants

Visit <https://donorbox.org/restoring-the-gold-coast>. Use one form for each type of kit you want. If you want multiples of the same kit, mark it on the form, then figure the multiple amount you will donate and write this in the comments area along with the number of kits you want. You will be contacted about picking up your purchase.

### To learn more

Visit the Institute for Regional Conservation's biodiversity starter program website at [www.regionalconservation.org/DonationRGC.html](http://www.regionalconservation.org/DonationRGC.html). Or contact Cara Abbott at [abbott@regionalconservation.org](mailto:abbott@regionalconservation.org) or 305-304-6610.

that energize this part of the dunescape.

Gann explains that this is the only kit you need for oceanfront property. The others are more versatile.

For example, the Coastal Strand/Shrubland kit (\$85) includes saw palmetto and yellow joyweed, which are typically found just behind the dune front where there's less wind and salt spray. But Gann says the kit can be used just about any place on the barrier island where there is full sun.

Also versatile, the Tropical Hammock/Coastal Garden Kit (\$90) can be planted along a road or in a formal or informal garden. It fits any place on the island away from direct wind, says Gann. This kit includes the Jamaica caper-tree and marlberry.

There's even a butterfly-attracting kit (\$60) for people who enjoy these fluttery charmers. It too can be used any place on the barrier island protected from the wind. Gann hopes to soon have this kit available with plants that will do well on the mainland.

"The idea is to put together a few plants that deliver a lot of bang for the buck and efficiently return biodiversity to the barrier islands," says Gann. ★

## Gardening Calendar

Note: Events are current as of 10/21. Please check with organizers for any changes.

### NOVEMBER 1-7

**Saturday - 11/7-8 - Plant-A-Palooza** at Mounts Botanical Garden, 559 N Military Tr, West Palm Beach. Annual event; more than 80 vendors; assortment of plants/accessories. Entrance/Exit at Gate 2 only (in the DMV parking lot). Sat 9 am-4 pm; Sun 9 am-3 pm. Advance: \$10/non-member, \$5/child age 5-12; Gate admission credit card only: \$12 & \$5. 233-1757; [mounts.org](http://mounts.org)

### NOVEMBER 8-14

**Sunday - 11/8 - The Art of Bonsai** at Morikami Japanese Museum and Gardens, 4000 Morikami Park Rd, Delray Beach. Explore new techniques to artfully train/trim trees. Bring your own tree, pruning tools, bonsai pots, soil, wire as needed. Every Sun through 12/20. Intermediate 9 am-noon; Beginner 1-4 pm. \$45 materials fee (beginners) + \$81/member; \$91/non-member. Registration: 495-0233; [morikami.org](http://morikami.org)

**Friday - 11/13 - Free Native Plant Lunchtime Webinar: Great Native Groundcovers, Wildflowers, and Grasses** presented by Mounts Botanical Garden, 531 N Military Tr, West Palm Beach. Discover the beauty and benefits of South Florida's native plants; speaker Laurie Albrecht, Palm Beach County Horticulture Agent. Noon-1 pm. Free. Registration: 233-1757; [mounts.org](http://mounts.org)

### NOVEMBER 15-21

**Tuesday - 11/17 - Virtual Into the Gardens Series: Thanksgiving Bounty - The Importance of Produce** presented

by Scientist in Every Florida School in partnership with the Thompson Earth Systems Institute, The Florida Museum, and Mounts Garden. Discover all of the ways produce benefits the planet as well as ways to source your own food; speaker Danielle Treadwell, Associate Professor UF/IFAS Horticultural Sciences. All ages. 10 am. Registration: 233-1757; [mounts.org](http://mounts.org)

**11/17 - Free Native Plant Lunchtime Webinar: Designing with Native Plants - Recreating Native Ecosystems in the Backyard** presented by Mounts Botanical Garden, 531 N Military Tr, West Palm Beach. Discover the beauty and benefits of South Florida's native plants; speaker Laurie Albrecht, Palm Beach County Horticulture Agent. Noon-1 pm. Free. Registration: 233-1757; [mounts.org](http://mounts.org)

**Friday - 11/20 - Free Native Plant Lunchtime Webinar: If You Plant It, They Will Come - Attracting Birds and Butterflies with Native Plants** presented by Mounts Botanical Garden, 531 N Military Tr, West Palm Beach. Discover the beauty and benefits of South Florida's native plants; speaker Laurie Albrecht, Palm Beach County Horticulture Agent. Noon-1 pm. Free. Registration: 233-1757; [mounts.org](http://mounts.org)

### NOV 29-DEC 5

**Saturday - 12/5 - Adult Workshop: The Art of Kokedama** at Morikami Museum and Japanese Gardens, 4000 Morikami Park Rd, Delray Beach. The Japanese art of growing plants in a moss-covered ball of soil. 10 am-12:30 pm or 2-4:30 pm. \$60 + \$15/materials fee. Registration: 495-0233 x237; [morikami.org](http://morikami.org)

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## Health Notes

# JFK offers mental health education course for students in middle, high schools

**J**FK Medical Center main and north campuses and **Palms West Hospital** collaborated with the technology company **EverFi** to launch a mental health and wellness digital education course for middle and high school students in Palm Beach County.

Called **Mental Wellness Basics**, the course provides learners with accurate information about mental health disorders, the sharing of peer experiences with mental illness and messaging that treatment is effective and available. For information, email [CommunityEngagement@HCAhealthcare.com](mailto:CommunityEngagement@HCAhealthcare.com).

For information, or to schedule an appointment, call 561-637-5303.

Road, Boca Raton.

In September, Delray Medical Center's surgical weight loss program received national accreditation as a **Center of Excellence in Bariatrics** from **Optum Health**. For information, visit [www.delraymedicalctr.com](http://www.delraymedicalctr.com). Also of note, Tenet Healthcare's Palm Beach Health Network hospitals, which include Delray Medical Center, are allowing most patients admitted through the Emergency Department to have a visitor.

An article that appeared in the *ACS Central Science* journal in September reported the findings of **Scripps Research** chemist **Matthew Disney**, Ph.D., and colleagues, who have created druglike compounds that, in human cell studies, bind and destroy a COVID element to stop the coronavirus from replicating.

"This is a proof-of-concept study," Disney says. "We put the frame-shifting element into cells and showed that our compound binds the element and degrades it. The next step will be to do this with the whole COVID virus, and then optimize the compound. We wanted to publish (the report) as soon as possible to show the scientific community that the COVID RNA genome is a drug-able target."

In our last issue, we reported about **Palm Beach Research Center's** Moderna COVID vaccine phase three clinical trial, which began July 31. As of mid-October, the study is nearly over, having almost met the enrollment goal nationwide, said David Scott, president and CEO of the research center.

"Moderna has been very pleased with the study's progress. We all look forward to the study gathering meaningful data for Moderna to analyze and share with the FDA."

Clinical studies for Regeneron, the COVID antibody cocktail that President Donald Trump received under a compassionate-use request, are underway in Boca Raton.

For information on Regeneron studies as well as others, visit <https://clinicaltrials.gov>.

Physicians at the **Marcus Neuroscience Institute** at Boca Raton Regional Hospital have begun and are part of a multi-institutional randomized study on the use of umbilical cord stem cells to treat patients with acute respiratory distress syndrome due to COVID-19 infection. The treatment involves an infusion of mesenchymal stem cells, known for their ability to reduce inflammation and regenerate damaged lung tissue.

Send health news to Christine Davis at [cdavis9797@gmail.com](mailto:cdavis9797@gmail.com).

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JFK Medical Center announced in October that the **American Association of Cardiovascular and Pulmonary Rehabilitation** certified its cardiovascular rehabilitation program. The program includes exercise, education, counseling and support for patients and their families.

**Delray Medical Center** was certified by DNV GL Healthcare in August for its stroke care based on standards set by the **Brain Attack Coalition** and the **American Stroke Association**.

Comprehensive stroke centers treat any kind of stroke or stroke complication, and a stroke center certification determines which facility a patient is taken to for the most appropriate care when a stroke occurs.

As of August, Delray Medical Center offers **GE Discovery IQ PET/CT**. Physicians use this tool to determine whether a patient has cancer even before it shows up on other imaging exams. Scans are available on Tuesdays.

**Khalid A. Hanafy, MD, Ph.D.**, has joined **Marcus Neuroscience Institute at Boca Raton Regional Hospital**



Hanafy

as medical director of neurocritical care and director of research. He specializes in the care of subarachnoid hemorrhage patients and the study of neuroinflammation.

He is associate professor of neurology at Florida Atlantic University Charles E. Schmidt College of Medicine in Boca Raton. Previously, he was the director of the neurological intensive care unit and an assistant professor of neurology at Harvard Medical School.

In September, board-certified urologist **Blake Evans, MD, FACS**, joined **BocaCare Physician Network**, a part of **Baptist Health South Florida**. Evans has experience in



Evans

robotic and laparoscopic surgery. Previously, he served as the interim chair of the Department of Surgery

at Cape Coral Hospital in southwest Florida.

He is a fellow of the American College of Surgeons and a member of the Alpha Omega Alpha Honor Medical Society. Evans earned his medical degree from the University of Cincinnati College of Medicine. He completed his urologic training at Shands Hospital at the University of Florida in Gainesville. He sees patients at 10 E. Palmetto Park



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Health and Harmony

Especially this year, doctor says, flu shot worth a quick jab in arm

As the influenza season converges with the COVID-19 pandemic, the message from medical professionals this year is more emphatic than ever: Get your darn flu shot already.

Dr. Andrew Savin, an internal medicine physician with the Bethesda Health Physician Group, a part of Baptist Health South Florida, is of a like mind.



Savin

"I'm trying to tell patients, and I'm sure every physician is, to get the flu vaccine to decrease the risk that people are going to have to deal with two different infections — not necessarily at the same time, but making things very confusing for the patients, the health care providers, the family members. So, if any year is good to get a flu shot, it's going to be this year and probably next year as well."

During the 2018-19 flu season, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention estimates the vaccine prevented 4.4 million cases of the flu, 2.3 million doctor visits, 58,000 hospitalizations and 3,500 deaths. But, getting the vaccine doesn't mean you won't get the flu — the CDC says vaccines

Flu symptoms

- Fever or feeling feverish/chills \*
- Cough
- Sore throat
- Runny or stuffy nose
- Muscle or body aches
- Headaches
- Fatigue

Some people may have vomiting and diarrhea, though this is more common in children than adults. \* It's important to note that not everyone with the flu will get a fever. Source: CDC

have been 40%-60% effective in prior years.

"Every year, the flu virus is almost like something made out of Legos, and you replace one red piece with a yellow piece, or you may have one part sticking out that looks different than the other part," Savin explained. "And what happens is every year it changes. Some years it might repeat, and some years it'll be different for 10 years."

"And what we do is early in the flu season, across the world, we start figuring out what seems to be going across all the different countries. And we try to make it (the vaccine) in anticipation of what it's going to be like the next season."

Since flu season typically peaks between December and March, it's still too early to know the efficacy of this year's vaccine. But Savin said there's no question it's well worth the quick jab in the arm.

"Every once in a while, they'll miss the right virus. And most of the time they get it and there's some level of protection. And what I have found is that even if they don't get it exactly right, the people who do get flu, even if they've had the vaccine, don't get as sick. The people who I typically see who are the sickest are the ones who didn't get any vaccine and it happens to be a pretty virulent year," he said.

Savin said over the years, he's heard a variety of reasons why people are still wary of the vaccine, most of which are "complete urban myths."

One, for example, is that the vaccine gives you the flu.

"You're not injecting people with the flu virus. You're injecting them with little pieces of the flu virus, the parts that your immune system needs to attack. So, your body's sort of making a little copy of that and making immunity to it, but it's actually not reproducing in your body as a virus," he said.

Others believe the vaccine is dangerous. "The number of problems with it, in terms of side effects and issues with

patients, is I would say minimal compared to what I see when patients get the flu," Savin said. "I have seen people get a sore arm. I've seen people sometimes get some aches and pains or low-grade fevers with it. Other than that, the number of patients who've ever really have had problems with the flu shot is almost minuscule. ... So, I really don't get too concerned about it."

Given the presence of COVID-19, Savin said, this flu season finds us in "uncharted waters." Still, he is optimistic, largely because of what we've learned during the pandemic.

"I'm seeing people are pretty much keeping themselves very protected, which I think means that people are probably going to get the flu less this year ... they're not going out and getting exposed to flu, which is pretty easy to catch in the environment," he said. "Wearing a mask and going to Publix to pick up some things and leaving — the chances of getting influenza from that are really pretty low."

Because the flu and the coronavirus, both highly contagious respiratory illnesses, may present with similar symptoms, Savin said testing, via nasal swabs, will be especially important this year.

"We just have to be really careful, use common sense

and test people that we think need to be tested — and get everybody that flu shot."

Getting a flu shot

If you haven't had yours yet, the CDC says it's not too late: "Vaccination can still be beneficial as long as flu viruses are circulating. If you have not been vaccinated by Thanksgiving (or the end of November), it can still be protective to get vaccinated in December or later. Flu is unpredictable and seasons can vary."

You can get vaccinated at Publix, CVS and Walgreens — usually at no charge and sometimes with the bonus of a gift card — as well as at physicians' offices and urgent care centers. Baptist Health offers free flu shots at its multiple urgent care locations. Or, plug your address into the nationwide VaccineFinder.org to see more options.

As always, check with your doctor first if you have any questions about getting a flu shot.

Joyce Reingold writes about



health and healthy living. Send column ideas to joyce.reingold@yahoo.com.

Health Calendar

Note: Events are current as of 10/21. Please check with organizers for any changes.

OCTOBER 31

**Saturday - 10/31 - Fitness Saturday** @ Sanborn at Sanborn Square, 72 N Federal Hwy, Boca Raton. Every Sat. Yoga 9-10 am; Tai Chi 10:30-11:30 am. Free. 367-7081; jshelton@myboca.us  
**10/31 - Adult Zumba Class** at South Beach Park Pavilion, 400 N State Rd A1A, Boca Raton. Every Sat 10:30-11:30 am. Free. 367-7040; ngasparri@myboca.us

NOVEMBER 1-7

**Saturday - 11/7 - Online Lamaze Birth Education** presented by Bethesda Heart Hospital, 2815 S Seacrest Blvd, Boynton Beach. 2-week series, taught by certified instructor, supports/educates parents about birth, comfort techniques, pain control options, medical interventions. Held again 11/14, 21, & 28. 3-5:30 pm. Free. Registration: 369-2229; publicrelations@bhinc.org

NOVEMBER 8-14

**Tuesday - 11/10 - Virtual LGBTQ Teen Support Group** at Faulk Center for Counseling, 22455 Boca Rio Rd, Boca Raton. Joint program w/Ruth & Norman Rales Jewish Family Services. Every T 6-7 pm. Free. Registration: 483-5300; faulkcenterforcounseling.org  
**Thursday - 11/12 - Virtual Lecture Series: Can Medicines that Alter the Microbiome Prevent Cardiovascular Disease?** Presented by Scripps Research. Professor Reza Ghadiri presents research on molecules that can alter bacterial population of intestines to a healthier state; how they have shown through experiments in mice that this reduces cholesterol levels, strongly inhibits the thickened-artery condition known as atherosclerosis. 4-5 pm. Free. Reservations: frontrow.scripps.edu  
**Saturday - 11/14 - Virtual Goal Setting for Diabetes presented by Nova Southeastern University** and Boca Raton Public Library, 400 NW 2nd Ave. Prevent/manage diabetes the S.M.A.R.T. way. Adults. Held again 11/21. 10-11 am. Free. Registration: 393-7906; bocalibrary.org

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## Paws Up for Pets

# Virtual and drive-by events keep alive tradition of blessing animals

How have you adapted this year to this never-ending pandemic? Perhaps you have groceries delivered to your front porch. Or you host weekly happy hours not in bars, but via Zoom. Maybe you've converted your spare bedroom into your office.

As the months pass, we pine for things we took for granted, like munching on buttered popcorn inside a crowded movie theater or tailgating before a big football game.

But if you look closely, you can notice acts of creativity and resiliency that COVID-19 has been powerless to prevent.

Case in point: For the first time since launching the blessing of the animals service 21 years ago, the Rev. Laurie Durgan, of the Unity of Delray Beach church, got the opportunity to bless an unprecedented variety that included Dinky the donkey, Harvey the squirrel, a homebody cat named Miss Puma and a pair of black swans.

In years past, Durgan looked forward to petting, giving treats and saying prayers directly to well-mannered dogs, cats and the occasional turtle or bearded dragon present at this special blessing held every October in honor of St. Francis of Assisi, the patron saint of animals.

Rather than cancel the blessing due to the heightened health precautions during the



Harvey the baby squirrel and Dinky the donkey were two of the stars of Unity of Delray's blessing. Photos provided

pandemic, Unity of Delray Beach opted to make it a virtual event and open it to any and all critters anywhere.

Places of worship all over Palm Beach County and beyond got creative to bless animals. Some elected to celebrate by staging drive-up prayer blessings. At St. Joseph's Episcopal Church in Boynton Beach, the Revs. Martin Zlatic and Mary Naughton delivered blessings to pets in vehicles.

"When we decided to go virtual, I knew I would miss all the kisses from the animals and the way I smelled after the blessing of all the animals, but this time, I am able to open up the avenue to bless far more than before," says Durgan.

Indeed. Instead of blessing 30 to 50 pets who showed up at the church, Durgan blessed more than 140 who walk, swim and fly, from all over, during a recorded ceremony now posted on YouTube.

They included:

- A rescued baby squirrel named Harvey. In late August, Terry Capuano and her grandson, Jayce, of Delray Beach, found a newborn squirrel who was barely alive. She contacted a nurse friend who gave her a formula recipe and instructed her to keep the squirrel on a heating pad for warmth.

"Even though we thought of keeping Harvey as a pet, we knew the most humane thing to do was to nurse him back to health and bring him to the Busch Wildlife Rehabilitation Center in Jupiter where he could live and socialize with other squirrels," says Capuano. "As he began to eat and grow stronger, he became very lovable and would burrow into my neck to cuddle."

They found this squirrel in need on Aug. 28, the 19-year anniversary of the death of Capuano's brother, Marc.

"This virtual event was

### Watch the virtual blessings

As a special tribute to the virtual blessings of all animals, living and deceased, here are two videos from the Unity of Delray Beach church provided by Brenda Robinson, of Boynton Beach. A preview of the variety of pets, wild animals, birds and more who were blessed: [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=I38Tp\\_h72Xw&feature=youtu.be](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=I38Tp_h72Xw&feature=youtu.be).

The link to the virtual blessing ceremony performed by the Rev. Laurie Durgan: [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=3\\_JqGWzdnm4&feature=youtu.be](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=3_JqGWzdnm4&feature=youtu.be).

a blessing in disguise," says Capuano. "I miss my brother every day and I think he had a part in this squirrel showing up and needing us to keep us from being sad on the date of his passing."

- Dinky the donkey plus about 30 goats, birds, swans, horses and more who reside at Toby's Legacy Critter Creek Ranch in Palm City.

Tim Morell, president of the ranch, heard about Durgan's virtual blessing and sent photos of many ranch residents. They included Dinky, a protective sort who alerted him about a mini horse that fell off a bridge into a creek and was rescued. Morell also asked to include in the blessing a special dog named Sparky, who passed away in July at age 12.

"Spark was a Doberman and a service dog who would often go to the library for kids to read to him," recalls Morell. "When I suffered a broken neck in a vehicle in 2013 and had to wear a medical halo, Spark would never leave my side during my recovery. It feels so great to include Sparky in the blessing."

- A senior cat named Miss Puma. "There is no way I would have even tried to take her to the blessing of the animals because she definitely does not want to leave the house," says Judy Somers, of Boynton Beach, who has attended Unity of Delray Beach for 25 years. "I mean, my veterinarian does house calls

to care for her because I cannot get her into the car. Miss Puma comforts me and has been a blessing for me during this pandemic. I am grateful she got to participate in this year's virtual event."

Brenda Robinson, of Boynton Beach, again coordinated all of the requests for blessings of pets, wildlife, birds and more this year. She initiated the animal blessing at the church in 1999 with Lidia Leith, who now lives in Tampa.

"Because we had to go virtual due to the pandemic, there were unexpected blessings," says Robinson. "Rev. Laurie was able to bless many more animals of all types from everywhere. And because we posted the blessing on YouTube, many more pet owners were able to see what a blessing of the animals is all about."

Never underestimate the power of the pets, especially during these challenging times. Every day, I count my blessings who happen to answer to the names of Bujau, Kona, Emma, Casey, Rusty and Mikey.

Arden Moore, founder of [fourleggedlife.com](http://fourleggedlife.com), is an animal behavior expert and host of the



*Oh Behave!* show on [petliferadio.com](http://petliferadio.com). Learn more at [www.ardenmoore.com](http://www.ardenmoore.com).



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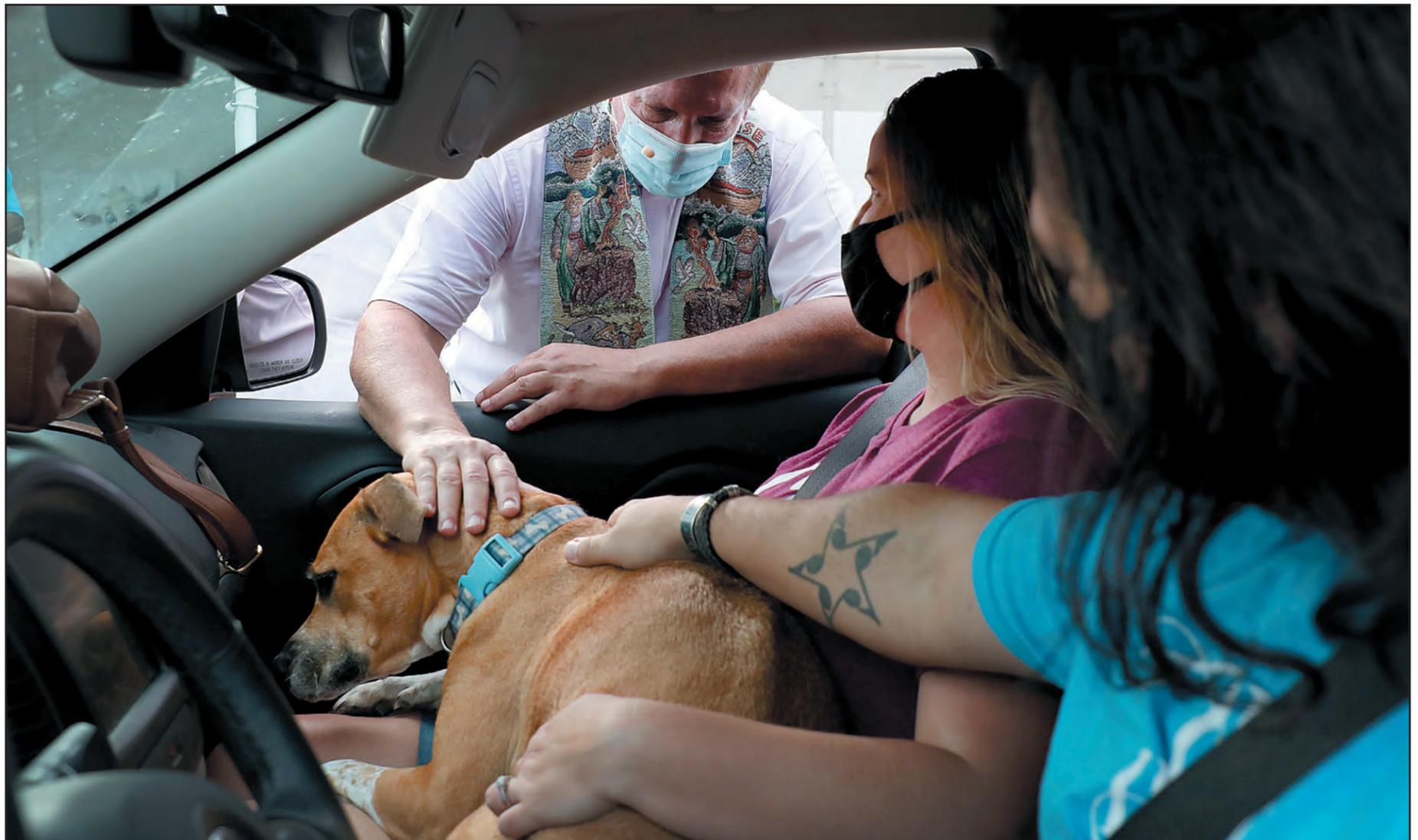
## Paws Up for Pets

### St. Joseph's serves 100 pets and their owners with drive-up blessings

Because of COVID-19 precautions, St. Joseph's Episcopal Church's 25th annual blessing of the animals was a drive-up with the Revs. Martin Zlatic and Mary Naughton blessing each animal that arrived at the Boynton Beach church.

**RIGHT:** Naughton blesses Beatrix Kiddo, 1.

**BELOW:** Zlatic blesses Abbey, a 6-year-old dog who belongs to St. Joseph's youth minister Shannon Zalewski.



**LEFT:** Christina Wood and Loki, 12, attended St. Joseph's blessing of the animals for the first time this year. Wood says that Loki does not play well with others, so the drive-thru was perfect for them.

**CENTER:** Sugar, 34, was blessed by Naughton.

**RIGHT:** Athena Grace, 4, waits to be blessed.

**FAR RIGHT:** Zlatic gets his own blessing in return from 1-year-old Bella.

More than \$500 was raised to be donated to the K9 units for the Boynton Beach and Delray Beach police departments. The church donated an extra \$400 to the departments. Zlatic and Naughton blessed six K9 units and about 100 animals in all, including a mouse. The drive-up format made it easier to participate than usual.

Photos by Rachel S. O'Hara/The Coastal Star

# On the Water



A feisty winter sailfish jumps during this year's West Palm Beach Fishing Club Silver Sailfish Derby. The 2021 derby is set for Jan. 7-8. **Photos by Willie Howard/The Coastal Star**

## Fight's over, now what? Tips on releasing a sailfish

November's northerly winds bring sailfish to South Florida waters, creating an opportunity for anglers who enjoy catching and releasing billfish — but also a responsibility for those who don't intend to catch a sailfish but suddenly find one stripping line from a reel and leaping from the waves.

Almost all sailfish are released. Anglers must have a federal HMS angling permit to keep one, and the sailfish must be at least 63 inches long (measured from the tip of the lower jaw to the fork of the tail) to be legal to keep.

That means ocean anglers must be prepared to release sailfish in good condition. Sailfish, Florida's official saltwater fish, are prone to acrobatic jumps and head shaking at the surface in attempts to throw the hook.

After the fish settles down and can be held alongside the boat, remove the hook, if possible, or cut the line as close to the hook as possible.

Wear gloves before trying to grab the bill. Hold the fish in the water, gripping the bill a few inches above the



mouth with two hands, thumb touching thumb. After the sailfish is stabilized on the surface, keep the boat moving slowly forward so the sailfish can extract oxygen from the water and regain strength. When the sailfish begins to kick with its tail, set it free.

The reviving process might take five minutes. A caught sailfish is like a boxer winded after a long bout. Generally, the longer the fight, the more exhausted the sailfish will be and the longer it should be revived.

The resuscitation process creates time for photographs and short videos. Show the angler holding the sailfish



**LEFT:** Non-offset circle hooks such as these 7/0 Mustads are commonly used by anglers targeting sailfish with live bait. The backswept point of a circle hook is less likely to snag soft tissue inside a fish than a traditional J hook. **ABOVE:** James Swanwick revives his first sailfish, taken on a live pilchard in 100 feet of water straight outside Palm Beach Inlet, in January. The boat is moving slowly forward, pushing water over the sailfish's gills so it can regain strength.

in the water while it's being revived. Have the captain move the boat so the sun illuminates the fish and the person holding it. Don't forget to maintain a good grip on your cellphone or use the strap on your camera to avoid losing it overboard.

Avoid the temptation to haul a sailfish into the boat for photos.

Federal fisheries laws require anglers to release sailfish and other billfish "in a manner that will ensure maximum probability of survival, but without removing fish from the water."

It's acceptable to lift the fish's head out of the water, briefly,

for a photo while leaving most of the fish in the water.

Catching and releasing sailfish is not overly difficult during the cool months, November through April. No need to bother with fishing kites, though kite fishing is a popular and effective method for catching sailfish.

Live goggle-eyes, pilchards or threadfin herring attached to a 7/0 non-offset circle hook will catch sailfish. Smaller hooks can be used for smaller baits. Try using a live bait rod fitted with a conventional reel holding 20- to 30-pound main line and 30- to 40-pound leader.

Non-offset circle hooks (mandatory in sailfish tournaments) are recommended for sailfish because they're designed to slide over soft tissue inside the fish's mouth and lodge in the corner of the jaw, minimizing damage.

If you're setting up your boat to drift over a reef for kingfish and snapper, put the live bait intended for sailfish out first and let it move 150 feet or so behind the boat before stopping. That should keep the bait from swimming back under the boat and wrapping around the other lines, but check the bait periodically just in case it has a case of wanderlust.

When a sailfish hits and feels the hook, it's likely to jump. If it's connected to your rod, have an angler gradually tighten the drag on the reel and fight the fish. Bring in the other lines and prepare to move the boat slowly toward the fish to regain line.

Have someone on the boat shoot photos or videos during the fight. Sailfish often make spectacular jumps, sometimes close to the boat. Photos of the angler battling a sailfish can be just as exciting.

### Ft. Lauderdale boat show is on despite pandemic

The 61st annual Fort Lauderdale International Boat Show was scheduled for Oct. 28 to Nov. 1 at seven locations along the waterfront despite challenges posed by the coronavirus pandemic.

Producer Informa U.S. Boat Shows says extra cleaning, hand-sanitizing,



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touch-free ticketing and social distancing are part of the show. Extra entrance points aim to minimize lines, and docks are wider — up to 30 feet.

All exhibitors and attendees must wear face coverings.

The Fort Lauderdale boat show is the largest in-water boat show in the world, with more than 80% of the show taking place in open-air spaces, according to the Marine Industries Association of South Florida, which owns the show.

Show hours are 10 a.m. to 7 p.m. (except on Nov. 1, when the show closes at 6 p.m.) Adult admission is \$35. Call 954-463-6762 or visit [www.flibs.com](http://www.flibs.com).

**Nautical flea market set for Nov. 14-15**

The 12th annual Palm Beach Marine Flea Market and West Palm Beach Seafood Festival is set for Nov. 14-15 at the South Florida Fairgrounds, 9067 Southern Blvd.

The market, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. each day, will feature new and used boats for sale along with boating and fishing gear and marine accessories.

Adult admission is \$10. Youths 12 and under will be admitted free. For details, visit [www.flnauticalfleamarket.com](http://www.flnauticalfleamarket.com).

**Manatee zones take effect Nov. 15**

Seasonal speed zones that require boaters to slow down to avoid striking manatees begin Nov. 15 and continue through March 31 in Palm Beach County.

The area around Florida Power & Light Co.'s Riviera Beach power plant (south of Peanut Island) is one of the most manatee-sensitive areas in Palm Beach County.

Manatees are attracted to warm-water discharges from the power plant during cold weather.

Boat operators should wear polarized sunglasses and avoid boating over shallow sea grass beds to reduce the chance of hitting manatees.

Boaters who encounter a sick, dead or injured manatee should call the state's Wildlife Alert Hotline at 888-404-3922.

**Bahamas updates COVID guidelines**

Boaters headed to the Bahamas still must present a negative COVID-19 swab test (less than seven days before arrival), but the requirement that visitors "vacation in place" expires Nov. 1, meaning they can move around beyond the confines of their accommodations.

To enter the Bahamas, visitors must obtain a negative COVID swab test and apply for a Bahamas Health Travel Visa at [www.travel.gov.bs](http://www.travel.gov.bs). Click on the international tab to upload the test results.

In addition, Bahamas visitors will be subject to a rapid antigen test upon arrival and four days (96 hours) after arrival. Details: [www.bahamasmarinas.com/procedures-and-protocols](http://www.bahamasmarinas.com/procedures-and-protocols).

**Tip of the month**

Want to better understand all the notes and symbols on nautical charts? Download NOAA's free U.S. Chart No. 1 at [www.nauticalcharts.noaa.gov/publications/us-chart-1.html](http://www.nauticalcharts.noaa.gov/publications/us-chart-1.html).



Willie Howard is a freelance writer and licensed boat captain. Reach him at [tiowillie@bellsouth.net](mailto:tiowillie@bellsouth.net).

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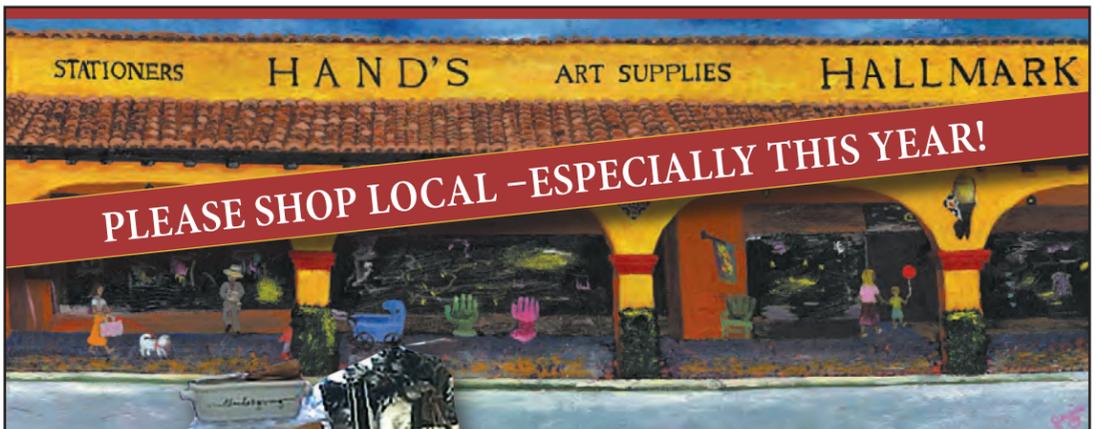


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Tots & Teens

# Retiring principal focused on building relationships

By Rich Pollack

Vikki Delgado never intended to become principal at St. Vincent Ferrer School in Delray Beach. But sometimes the Lord works in mysterious ways.

A former preschool teacher at the Catholic school who had left four years earlier to help with family obligations, Delgado was at the YMCA in Boynton Beach when she was approached by a then teacher who brought up the idea of her becoming principal.

“She said, ‘Do you hear God calling you?’” Delgado recalls.

A short time later — on a Tuesday in May 2008 when she was scheduled to interview for the job — Delgado was at morning Mass and saw signs pointing to her future in the reading of the day, the psalm, and then the gospel that contains Jesus’ phrase “Let the little children come to me.”

The messages from above, she said, were hard to miss.

“My blessing has always been, ‘OK, God, what do you want me to do next,’ and every time he has shown me the way.”

Now, 12 years after getting a job that felt like it was meant to be, Delgado is stepping down and has handed the reins to her former assistant principal, Denise O’Loughlin.

“I think it’s time,” Delgado said, adding that her Oct. 30 departure was bittersweet. “I feel like I’ve done the best work of my life here. All of the gifts that the Lord has given me, I feel like this is where they’ve best



Delgado



O’Loughlin

been used.”

Delgado will miss the children she has greeted every morning for the last 12 years, the parents she has gotten to know and the staff that has become like family. But she says she’s happy to have O’Loughlin step in.

As she takes over, the new principal is inheriting a school that has grown both physically and in enrollment under Delgado’s watch. Yet it has retained the closeness and high quality of education that first brought Delgado there as a parent looking for a school for her daughter.

Delgado recalls finding the school almost by accident and knowing right away that it was the place for her children. “I felt at home,” she said. “It reminded me of the Catholic school that I went to.”

Delgado, O’Loughlin says, had a knack for making sure people who came to the school always felt welcome.

“She makes everyone feel loved and accepted,” O’Loughlin said. “She has a kind, helping spirit that is infectious to everyone. She is just dearly, dearly loved by the students, parents and everyone she meets.”



Retiring principal Vikki Delgado’s kindergarten class this year included three students who are children of former students at St. Vincent Ferrer School. **Jerry Lower/The Coastal Star**

O’Loughlin believes the strong religious beliefs that guide Delgado were key to her success as principal.

“She is a true light for what our Catholic faith is all about,” O’Loughlin said.

As principal, Delgado oversaw the multimillion-dollar expansion of the school, which was completed in August 2019. It includes a two-story building with 13 classrooms — many for the middle school students — and a new main office.

The expansion has enabled the school to reduce classroom size and provide improved facilities, including an expanded and modernized science lab.

Delgado, who was born in Cuba, has also focused on diversity and making the school more accessible. Since she took over as principal, the number of scholarships awarded through grants and donations has doubled.

Throughout her years at St. Vincent Ferrer School, Delgado has always focused on building relationships with students and with families and helping children grow educationally as well as in character.

In her final months she was out front greeting children and

doing temperature checks while learning to recognize masked students by their eyes.

“Kids here discover their God-given gift and in turn give it back as a gift to the world,” she said.

For Delgado, a knack for teaching and working with children could well be a gift — one that she exhibited at an early age while leading her three younger siblings, but also a gift she fought.

The daughter of a kindergarten teacher, Delgado earned degrees in music and education at the University of Miami and spent several years working in music therapy with special needs children.

While earning her master’s degree in educational leadership she was introduced to a teaching job at Miami Dade’s Jan Mann Opportunity School, an alternative school for challenging students who may have been disruptive and disinterested at other schools.

“That was my turning point,” she said. “I could see how I could make a difference.”

All the while, she said, she kept thinking that teachers could do more if they could just reach children earlier.

After her two daughters enrolled at St. Vincent, Delgado was asked to fill in for the preschool teacher, who was out on maternity leave. She did that for eight years before leaving to take care of an ailing mother.

She was about ready to return to education, and in fact had a job lined up with Palm Beach County schools, when she got the call from St. Vincent’s to be principal.

While her job for most of the past 12 years has been as an administrator, Delgado has also made it a point to visit classrooms and go back to teaching. Last year, in fact, she spent much of the school year teaching a sixth-grade writing and English literature class.

Delgado, 59, says that she had originally planned to leave at the end of last school year but stayed to help with the transition brought on by the coronavirus pandemic.

She says she will spend her time “getting off the bus,” enjoying things like gardening and just being a grandmother, relaxing until whatever is supposed to come her way arrives.

“We’ll see what God has for me next,” she said. ★

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Before

After

# Tots & Teens Calendar

Note: Events are current as of 10/21. Please check with organizers for any changes.

## OCTOBER 31

**Saturday - 10/31 - Virtual Creative Drama: Online** presented by Florida Children's Theatre and Old School Square. Zoom classroom. Age 4-1st grade. Every Sat through 12/12. 9:30-10:15 am. \$150. 243-7922; oldschoollsquare.org  
**10/31 - Daily Feedings and Touchless Animal Encounters** at Sandoway Discovery Center, 142 S Ocean Blvd, Delray Beach. Several small feedings throughout the day. T-Sat 10 am-4 pm. Free w/\$6 admission. 274-7263; sandowayhouse.org  
**10/31 - Drive-Thru Boo** presented by City of Delray Beach at 4 parks: Pompey Park, 1101 NW 2nd St; Barwick Park, 735 Barwick Rd; Catherine Strong Park, 1500 SW 6th St; 505 Teen Center, 505 SE 5th Ave. Children must be in car. Masks required. First-come-first-serve. 1-3 pm. Free. 243-7000; delraybeachfl.gov

## NOVEMBER 1-7

**Sunday - 11/1 - Hebrew School for the Arts** at Chabad of East Boca Raton, 120 NE 1st Ave. Age 4-13. Every Sun 10 am-noon. 394-9770; bocabeachchabad.com/bbchebrewschool  
**11/1 - St John Paul II Academy Virtual Open House.** 4001 N Military Tr, Boca Raton. 1 pm. Free. Registration: 314-2100; pjpii.net  
**Monday - 11/2 - Kindergarten Readiness Zoom Story Time with Ms. Tea** presented by Delray Beach Public Library, 100 W Atlantic Ave. Age 3-5. Every F 10 am. Free. Registration: 266-0194; delraylibrary.org  
**Wednesday - 11/4 - Oh, Baby! Zoom Story Time** presented by Delray Beach Public Library, 100 W Atlantic Ave. Age 3 months to 2 years. Every W 10 am. Free. Registration: 266-0194; delraylibrary.org  
**11/4 - Zoom BeTeen the Lines Readers Club** presented by Delray Beach Public Library, 100 W Atlantic Ave. Age 13+. 1st & 3rd T 3 pm. Free. Registration: 266-0194; delraylibrary.org  
**Thursday - 11/5 - 2020 Discovery Series: Physics** at Sandoway Discovery Center, 142 S Ocean Blvd, Delray Beach. Outdoor program; limited to 5 families per class. Ages 3-5. Every Th through 11/19 9:30 & 10:15 am. \$8/class child; \$6/accompanying adult. RSVP: 274-7263; sandowayhouse.org  
**Saturday - 11/7 - Sensory Saturdays: Special Exploration Hours** at South Florida Science Center and Aquarium, 4801 Dreher Tr N, West Palm Beach. For families affected by autism spectrum disorder. No heavy crowds; softened general lighting, decreased noise level/visual stimulation on interactive exhibits wherever possible. Held again 12/5. 1st Sat 9-10 am. \$7.50/adult; \$6.50/senior; \$5.50/child 3-12; free/child under 3. 832-1988; sfsiencecenter.org  
**11/7 - Drop-in Craft** at Schoolhouse Children's Museum & Learning Center, 129 E Ocean Ave, Boynton Beach. All ages. Every Sat. 10:30-11:30 am. Free w/paid admission. Register: 742-6780; schoolhousemuseum.org

## NOVEMBER 8-14

**Monday - 11/9 - Virtual Early Afternoon Explorers: Seeds and Flowers** at Children's Science Explorium, 300 S Military Tr, Boca Raton. Age 6-9 1-2 pm; age 10-12 2-3 pm. \$10/resident; \$12.50/non-resident. 347-3912;

scienceexplorium.org

**Tuesday - 11/10 - Sensational Story 'n More** at Schoolhouse Children's Museum & Learning Center, 129 E Ocean Ave, Boynton Beach. Children's books come to life through interactive performance, singing, movement, props. Age 2-5. Every T&F 10 am. Free w/paid admission. 742-6780; schoolhousemuseum.org  
**11/10 - Tots in Tutus with Dance Trends** at Schoolhouse Children's Museum & Learning Center, 129 E Ocean Ave, Boynton Beach. Preschoolers ballet. Age 2-5. Every T through 12/8. 10:45-11:15 am & 11. Drop-in \$12/non-member + admission. RSVP: 742-6782; schoolhousemuseum.org  
**11/10 - The Art of the Story** at Schoolhouse Children's Museum & Learning Center, 129 E Ocean Ave, Boynton Beach. Children create their own art in the style of the featured book. Age 3-7 yrs. Every T through 12/8. 3-3:45 pm. Free w/paid admission. 742-6780; schoolhousemuseum.org  
**11/10 - Zoom TAB (Teen Advisory Board) Meeting** presented by Delray Beach Public Library, 100 W Atlantic Ave. Age 13-17. 3:30 pm. Free. Registration: 266-0197; delraylibrary.org  
**11/10 - Zoom Roblox Group Gamers** presented by Delray Beach Public Library, 100 W Atlantic Ave. Ages 7-11. 3:30 pm. Free. Registration: 266-0194; delraylibrary.org  
**Wednesday - 11/11 - Art Explorations** at Schoolhouse Children's Museum & Learning Center, 129 E Ocean Ave, Boynton Beach. Open art exploration in a specific medium. Age 2-5. Every W through 12/9. 10-10:45 am. Drop-in \$10/museum member; \$12/non-member + admission. Registration: 742-6780; schoolhousemuseum.org  
**11/11 - Tumble Tots with First Steps Dance & Tumbling** at Schoolhouse Children's Museum & Learning Center, 129 E Ocean Ave, Boynton Beach. Age 2-5 yrs. Every W through 12/9. 1:45-2:15 pm. Drop-in: \$12 w/paid admission. 742-6780; schoolhousemuseum.org  
**Thursday - 11/12 - Preschool Science: Science Through the Season** at Schoolhouse Children's Museum & Learning Center, 129 E Ocean Ave, Boynton Beach. Age 3-5 yrs. Every Th through 12/10. 10-10:45 am. Drop-in \$12 w/paid admission. 742-6780; schoolhousemuseum.org  
**11/12 - Zoom Tween Time** presented by Delray Beach Public Library, 100 W Atlantic Ave. Age 7-12. 2nd Th 3:30 pm. Free. Registration: 266-0194; delraylibrary.org  
**Friday - 11/13 - Story Time Live!** presented by at Schoolhouse Children's Museum & Learning Center, 129 E Ocean Ave, Boynton Beach. Join Miss Jacki live on Facebook. Parents provide crayons, markers, glue/glue sticks, tap, additional supplies as posted weekly. Supply list posted on Mondays. Age 2-5. Every F through 11/27 11-11:30 am. 742-6780; schoolhousemuseum.org  
**Saturday - 11/14 - Annual Fall Eco-Family Fun Day** at South Florida Science Center and Aquarium, 4801 Dreher Tr N, West Palm Beach. Fall-themed crafts, live science demonstrations, carnival-style games, petting zoo, more. Family fare. 10 am-3 pm. \$17.95/adult; \$15.95/senior; \$13.95/child age 3-12; free/child under age 3. 832-1988; sfsiencecenter.org  
**11/14 - Virtual Family Fun Day: Pocky Day** at Morikami Museum and Japanese Gardens, 4000 Morikami Park Rd, Delray Beach. Make your own personalized box set of wooden Pocky, learn how this popular

Japanese snack has its own holiday. Noon-3 pm. Craft templates & instructions via social media. 495-0233; morikami.org

## NOVEMBER 15-21

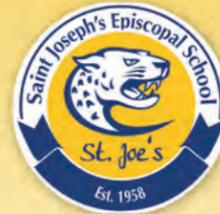
**Monday - 11/16 - Zoom Story Chasers Book Club** presented by Delray Beach Public Library, 100 W Atlantic Ave. Grades 1-3. 3rd M 3:30-4:15 pm. Free. Registration: 266-0194; delraylibrary.org  
**Saturday - 11/21 - Story Time at the Beach** presented by Delray Beach Public Library, 100 W Atlantic Ave. Join Ms. Tea and Ms. Sarah for social-distanced outdoor story time at the beach across from Sandoway Center. All ages. 10:30 am. Free. Registration: 266-0194; delraylibrary.org

## NOVEMBER 22-28

**Monday - 11/23 - Zoom Tween Book Club** presented by Delray Beach Public Library, 100 W Atlantic Ave. Grade 4-8. 4th M 3:30-4:15 pm. Free. Registration: 266-0194; delraylibrary.org  
**11/23-25 - Thanksgiving Mini Camp: The Feast Before Time** at South Florida Science Center and Aquarium, 4801 Dreher Tr N, West Palm Beach. Age 7-12. 9 am-4 pm. \$140/member; \$155/non-member; before/after care 7:30-9 am & 4-5:30 pm \$10/day. RSVP: 370-7707; sfsiencecenter.org  
**Tuesday - 11/24 - Virtual GEMS Club: Galactic Getaway** presented by South Florida Science Center and Aquarium, 4801 Dreher Tr N, West Palm Beach. Empower young girls to explore STEM fields. Girls grades 3-8. High school girls can volunteer to be mentors. 5:30-6:30 pm. \$5/virtual class. Registration: 370-7710; sfsiencecenter.org/gem  
**Wednesday - 11/25 - Make a Thanksgiving Turkey Craft/Centerpiece** at Schoolhouse Children's Museum & Learning Center, 129 E Ocean Ave, Boynton Beach. All ages. 10-10:30 am. \$5/member; \$6/non-member w/paid admission. 742-6780; schoolhousemuseum.org

## NOV 29-DEC 5

**Monday - 11/30 - Virtual Teen/Tween Trivia** presented by Delray Beach Public Library, 100 W Atlantic Ave. Ages 10-17. Noon. Free. Registration: 266-0197; delraylibrary.org  
**Thursday - 12/3 - 2020 Discovery Series: Reptiles** at Sandoway Discovery Center, 142 S Ocean Blvd, Delray Beach. Program takes place outdoors, limited to 5 families per class. Geared for age 3-6. Every Th through 12/24. 9:30 or 10:15 am. \$8/class child; \$6/accompanying adult. RSVP: 274-7263; sandowayhouse.org



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# Community Calendar

Note: Events are current as of 10/21. Please check with organizers for any changes.

## OCTOBER 31

**Saturday - 10/31 - Boardwalk Tour** at Green Cay Nature Center, 12800 Hagen Ranch Rd, Boynton Beach. Self-guided tour of wetlands. All ages. Daily sunrise to sunset. Free. 966-7000; pbcnature.com

**10/31 - Delray Beach GreenMarket** every Saturday beginning 10/31, Old School Square Park, 50 NE 2nd Ave, one block north of Atlantic Ave. Fresh local produce, baked goods, gourmet food items, plants, live music, children's activities. 9am-2pm. 276-7511; delraycra.org/green-market

**10/31 - Boo 2020: Not-So-Scary Halloween Party at the Zoo** at Palm Beach Zoo, 1301 Summit Blvd, West Palm Beach. Due to CDC recommendations, Boo 2020 will not include candy trick or treating. Costume contests 11 am, 1 pm & 3 pm. Last admission 4:15 pm. 9 am-5 pm. \$24.95/age 13 & up; \$22.95/senior age 60+; \$18.95/child age 3-12; free/toddler. Masks required. 533-0887 x285; palmbeachzoo.org

**10/31 - Music at Home & Live from Arts Garage: An Instrumental Tribute to The Beatles** at Arts Garage, 94 NE 2nd Ave, Delray Beach. In person or virtual. 7-9 pm. \$15-\$90. 450-6357; artsgarage.org

**10/31-11/1 - Holiday House Craft Bazaar and Plant Sale** at Boca Raton Garden Club, 4281 NW 3rd Ave, Boca Raton. 9 am-3 pm. Parts of event held outdoors. Masks & social distancing required. 395-9376; bocaratongardenclub.org

**10/31-12/19 - Pandemic Craft and Holiday Sale** at First Presbyterian Church of Delray Beach, 33 Gleason St. Craft supplies, sewing notions, fabric, handmade gifts. Cash and carry/masks required. By appointment only T, Th, Sat. Free admission. Call/email for appointment: 702-0245; linda\_prior@hotmail.com

## NOVEMBER 1-7

**Sunday - 11/1 - Daylight Saving Time ends**

**11/1 - Sado: Tea Ceremony Class** at Morikami Museum and Japanese Gardens, 4000 Morikami Park Rd, Delray Beach. Unique opportunity to study traditional art of Sado, The Way of Tea. Tea Ceremony Workshop required for those who have never taken a Tea Ceremony Class but wish to start studying Sado. 2 lessons/month: Beginner 10:15 am-12:15 pm Sun 11/1 & 15 or Th 11/5 & 19; Intermediate 1:15-4 pm Sun 11/1 & 15. \$50/

member; \$55/non-member. Registration: 495-0233 x210; morikami.org

**11/1-2 - Call to Audition: Always ... Patsy Cline** at Lake Worth Playhouse, 713 Lake Ave. Prepare 16 bars of a song in the style of the show or from the show. Bring sheet music, accompanist provided. Performance 1/7-24. Sun 3 pm; M 7 pm. Free. lakeworthplayhouse.org

**Tuesday - 11/3 - Ikebana Flower Arrangement: Ikenobo Class** at Morikami Museum and Japanese Gardens, 4000 Morikami Park Rd, Delray Beach. Traditional flower arranging using fresh flowers. Every T through 11/17. Beginner 11 am-1 pm; Intermediate 1-3 pm. \$52.50/member; \$60/non-member; + \$60/flower fee. Registration: 495-0233; morikami.org

**11/3 - Live Music: Organ & Piano Demonstration** at Flagler Museum, One Whitehall Way, Palm Beach. Listen to live music, take a socially-distanced, self-guided tour through Flagler's Gilded Age-era mansion. Musicians use instruments original to the home, including the J.H. & C.S. Odell Co. organ in the Music Room and Mary Lily Flagler's custom Steinway aModel B grand piano in the Drawing Room. Held again 11/10. 1:30 pm. Free w/museum admission. 655-2833; flaglermuseum.us

**11/3 - Virtual Password Managers Class** presented by Delray Beach Public Library, 100 W Atlantic Ave. Live presentation or video at your convenience. Teens & Adults. 2-3 pm. Free. Registration: 266-0196; delraylibrary.org

**11/3 - Buzz: The Nature and Necessity of Bees** by Thor Hanson part of The Talk of Kings Book Discussion Group at The Society of the Four Arts King Library, 101 Four Arts Plaza, Palm Beach. Attend in person or remotely via Zoom. 5:30 pm. Free. Registration: 655-2766; fourarts.org

**Wednesday - 11/4 - Alliance of Delray Zoomcast Meeting.** Topic: protecting the community during emergency calls through the COVID pandemic. 10 am. Free. allianceofdelray.com

**Wednesday - 11/4 - Boca Raton Historical Society & Museum's Walk of Recognition** at Royal Palm Place, 201-299 Via De Palmas, Boca Raton. Celebrate community leaders; Teresa Fidele, the late Jay H. Van Vechten, and Boca Ballet Theatre. The 24<sup>th</sup>-annual event will feature an induction ceremony. 4 pm. Free. 395-6766 or bocahistory.org.

**Thursday - 11/5 - Virtual Online Portfolios with Wix Class** presented by

# Municipal Meetings

**11/2 - Ocean Ridge** - First Monday at Ocean Ridge Town Hall, 6450 N Ocean Blvd. 6 pm.

Agenda: oceanridgeflorida.com

**11/5 & 12/1 - Highland Beach** - First Tuesday at Highland Beach Town Hall, 3614 S Ocean Blvd. 1:30 pm. Agenda: highlandbeach.us

**11/9 - Lantana** - Second & fourth Mondays at Lantana Town Hall, 500 Greynolds Cir. 5:30 pm. 7 pm. Agenda: lantana.org

**11/10 - South Palm Beach** - Second Tuesday at the South Palm Beach Town Hall, 3577 S Ocean Blvd. 4 pm. Agenda: southpalmbeach.com

**11/10 & 17 & 12/1 - Delray Beach** - First & third Tuesdays at Delray Beach City Hall, 100 NW 1st Ave. 4 pm. Agenda: delraybeachfl.gov

**11/10 & 24 - Boca Raton** - Second & fourth Tuesday at Boca Raton City Hall, 201 W Palmetto Park Rd. 6 pm. Agenda: myboca.us

**11/13 - Gulf Stream** - Second Friday at Gulf Stream Town Hall, 100 Sea Rd. 4-5 pm. 9 am. Agenda: gulf-stream.org

**11/17 - Manalapan** - Fourth Tuesday at Manalapan Town Hall, 600 S Ocean Blvd. 3 pm. 10 am. Agenda: manalapan.org.

**11/17 & 12/1 - Boynton Beach** - First and third Tuesday at Boynton Beach City Hall, 100 E Ocean Ave. 5:30 pm. Agenda: boynton-beach.org

**11/19 - Briny Breezes** - Fourth Thursday at Briny Breezes Town Hall, 4802 N Ocean Blvd. 4 pm. Agenda: townofbrinybreezes-fl.com

Delray Beach Public Library, 100 W Atlantic Ave. Live presentation or video at your convenience. 2 pm. Free. Registration: 266-0196; delraylibrary.org

**Thursday - 11/5 - South Florida Science Center and Aquarium's "The Science of Espionage," a virtual event.** Listen as American hero Eric O'Neil discusses the undercover world of counterintelligence and the remarkable events that are the inspiration behind the dramatic cinematic thriller *Breach*. 7:30 pm. \$60. 370-7738 or sfsciencecenter.org/gala.

**Friday - 11/6 - The Invisible Guest (2016 NR)** at The Society of the Four Arts, 100 Four Arts Plaza, Palm Beach. Spanish w/English subtitles. 2 & 5:30 pm. \$10/non-member; Reservations: 805-8562; fourarts.org

**11/6 - Color Create Craft Program** at The Society of the Four Arts King Library, 101 Four Arts Plaza, Palm Beach. Held again 12/4. 2-4 pm. Free. 655-7226; fourarts.org

**11/6 - Opening Reception: Art of the BraveHeARTS** at Armory Art Center East & Greenfield Galleries, 811 Park Place, West Palm Beach. Runs through 11/21. 5:30-7:30 pm. Free/masks required. RSVP: 832-1776; armoryart.org

**11/6 - Speaker Series - The Yamato Colony: A Japanese Settlement In Florida** at Morikami Museum and Japanese Gardens, 4000 Morikami Park Rd, Delray Beach. Talk/book signing by Tom Gregersen. 7 pm. \$7-\$10. 495-0233; morikami.org

**11/6 - Harrison Greenbaum: What Just Happened? A Comedy+Magic Show** at Mizner Park Cultural Arts Center, 201 Plaza

Real, Boca Raton. 7:30 pm. \$29-\$39. 844-672-2849; miznerparkculturalcenter.com

**11/6-7 - Send in The Queens** at Lake Worth Playhouse, 713 Lake Ave. Annual Drag Show Fundraiser. 8 pm. Tickets assigned/assigned based on social distancing guidelines. \$35. 586-6410; lakeworthplayhouse.org

**Saturday - 11/7 - 38th Annual Swing for Kids Charity Golf Classic** at Westchester Country Club, 12250 Westchester Club Dr, Boynton Beach. Benefits Achievement Centers for Children & Families. Golf, BBQ lunch buffet, goody bag, range balls, Zoom awards presentation. 7 am registration; 8 am tee times. \$100/golfer; \$360/team. 386-5237; kiwanis-swingforkids.com

**11/7 - NAMI Walks Your Way Palm Beach County.** Virtual walk/fundraiser benefits National Alliance on Mental Illness Palm Beach County. 5k, or Your Day, Your Way. Participate through social media/live feeds. 8 am check-in; 9:30 am start. Register: namiwalks.org

**11/7 - FL Authors Academy Zoom Writers Workshop - Editors Panel: What Goes on Behind Closed Doors** presented by Murder on the Beach Bookstore, 104 W Atlantic Ave, Delray Beach. 10 am-noon. \$35. Registration: 279-7790; murderonthebeach.com

**11/7 - Tosca** part of Met Opera Live in HD Series at The Society of the Four Arts, 100 Four Arts Plaza, Palm Beach. Previously recorded. 1 pm. \$25/adult; \$15/student. Registration: 805-8562; fourarts.org

**11/7 - Omotesenke School Sado Tea Ceremony Workshop** at Morikami

Museum and Japanese Gardens Seishin-an Teahouse, 4000 Morikami Park Rd, Delray Beach. Learn basics of sado Tea Ceremony necessary to know in order to learn more about the aesthetics of sado or better understand, fully enjoy the tea ceremony itself. Workshop is a prerequisite to study sado at Morikami. 1:30-3:30 pm. \$40. Registration: 495-0233 x237; morikami.org

**11/7 - League of Women Voters Honors 100th Anniversary: Celebrating Empowering Voters, Defending Democracy.** Online celebration honors the 100th Anniversary of the passage of the 19th Amendment granting women the right to vote & the founding of the League; guest speaker Palm Beach Post columnist Frank Cerabino. 5-6 pm. Free. Zoom registration: 276-4898; lwvpubc.org

**11/7 - Giving Thanks Together Virtual Family Dinner presented by Gary Peters Family Foundation.** Hosted on Florence Fuller Center's Facebook page. Participate in a meaningful moment that will create a sense of belonging and ignite the spark of family bonds. Special dinner package includes activities to share with hundreds of others in the community. 7 pm. \$150/family of 4. 391-7274; ffdc.org

**11/7 - Music at Home & Live from Arts Garage: a Singer-Songwriter Showcase** at Arts Garage, 94 NE 2nd Ave, Delray Beach. Features Emmanuelle Sasson, Cale Charney, Destiny Lopez. Enjoy from home or in person. 7 pm. \$10/live stream; \$53/advance purchase table of 6. 450-6357; artsgarage.org

**11/7-12/25 - Judy Levis Markhoff Virtual Boca Raton Jewish Film Festival** at multiple locations. Jewish-themed films from around the globe; guest speakers, filmmakers, actors; special events; more. Check website for schedule. One film daily through 12/25. Per household \$10/documentary film; \$12/feature film. Films available for 72 hours beginning at indicated date/time. 961-8002; brjff2020.eventive.org/welcome

## NOVEMBER 8-14

**Sunday - 11/8 - Boca Walk to End Alzheimer's** in Boca Raton. Alzheimer's Association is encouraging participants to walk as individuals or in small groups on sidewalks, tracks & trails around Boca Raton. New features are added to the Walk to End Alzheimer's mobile app to create an opportunity for the community to connect. The app and new Walk Mainstage track steps and distance, follow a virtual Walk path, manage Facebook fundraisers, access information/resources from Association

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and Walk sponsors to help individuals and families affected by the disease. New audio track available to encourage participants along the way and congratulate them upon completion of their Walk. Opening Ceremony on Walk Day features local speakers & presentation of Promise Flowers. 2-mile walk. 9 am Opening Ceremony broadcast. alz.org/walk

**11/8 - Zooming Sundays at Sinai: The Best of Times (Magazine Covers)** presented by Temple Sinai of Palm Beach County, 2475 W Atlantic Ave, Delray Beach. 3 pm. Free/donations accepted. Request Zoom information: 276-6161; adulated@templesinaipbc.org

**11/8 - Story Central Virtual Storytelling Slam** presented by Boca Raton Public Library, 400 NW 2nd Ave. Adults. 5-6:30 pm. Free. Zoom info emailed upon enrollment. Registration: 393-7906; bocalibrary.org

**11/8 - Music at Home & Live from Arts Garage: Tony Holiday and the Soul Service** at Arts Garage, 94 NE 2nd Ave, Delray Beach. In person or virtual. 7-9 pm. \$5-\$90. 450-6357; artsgarage.org

**11/8-9 - Boca West Children's Foundation's 8th Annual Golf Challenge** at Boca West Country Club, 20583 Boca West Drive, Boca Raton. Help raise funds for each of the foundation's 31 participating charity partners. 8 am-1 pm both days. \$650. 488-6980 or bocawestfoundation.org.

**Monday - 11/9 - The Wedding Thief with Mary Simses** part of Florida Voices series at The Society of the Four Arts, 240 Coconut Row, Palm Beach. Attend in person or remotely via Zoom. 1:30 pm. Free. Registration: 655-2766; fourarts.org

**11/9 - Virtual Culture & Cocktails: Hollywood Historian Scott Eyman** presented by Cultural Council for Palm Beach County. Streamed live online. 6 pm. Free. RSVP: 472-3330; palmbeachculture.com

**11/9 - The Real Story Behind Colson Whitehead's The Nickel Boys** presented by Mandel Public Library. Live Zoom discussion of the story behind the Pulitzer-prize-winning novel. 6-7 pm. Free. Registration: 866-7701; wpbcitylibrary.org

**Tuesday - 11/10 - Virtual e-Books, e-Magazines, & Audio Books Class** presented by Delray Beach Public Library, 100 W Atlantic Ave. Live presentation or video at your convenience. Teens & Adults. 2-3 pm. Free. Registration: 266-0196; delraylibrary.org

**11/10 - The 2020 Elections: Implications for U.S. Foreign Policy with Dr. Jeffrey Morton** presented by Florida Atlantic University. Lecture delivered live via Zoom. 4 pm. \$10/online viewing. 297-3171; fauevents.universitytickets.com

**11/10 - Musical Theatre Audition Class for Adults** at Lake Worth Playhouse, 713 Lake Ave. Age 18+. Every T through 12/16 (final class includes final audition/callback) 5-6 pm. \$150/6-weeks. 586-6410; lakeworthplayhouse.org

**11/10 - All Arts Open Mic Night** at Arts Garage, 94 NE 2nd Ave, Delray Beach. In person or virtual. 2nd T 8-10 pm. \$5-\$25. 450-6357; artsgarage.org

**Wednesday - 11/11 - The Best of Times (Magazine Covers) with Dr. Margery Marcus** presented by Delray Beach Public Library, 100 W Atlantic Ave. Part of Lifelong Learning Institute. Lectures live on Zoom. 2 pm. \$5. Registration: 266-9490; delraylibrary.org

**11/11 - League of Women Voters: Conversations with the League.** Interactive ZOOM video session hosted by LWVPBC President Ken Thomas and LWVPBC Healthcare Committee. Learn first-hand how the Coronavirus is affecting our local community along with other topics of interest. Focus on keeping you, our community safe, informed, engaged. Held again 11/25. Join Zoom meeting no sooner than 5:50 pm via link; 6-7 pm. Free. 276-4898; lwvpbc.org

**Thursday - 11/12 - Read Together Palm Beach County Book Virtual Discussion** presented by Boca Raton Public Library. Live on Zoom discussion of Colson Whitehead's *The Nickel Boys*. 6:30 pm. Free. Registration: 393-7852; bocalibrary.org

**Friday - 11/13 - Literacy Links Golf Tournament** at Palm Beach Par 3, 2345 S

## Veterans Day

*Note: Due to the pandemic, many observances have been canceled. These events are current as of 10/21. Please check with organizers for any changes.*

### NOVEMBER 8-11

**Sunday - 11/8 - Palm Beach County Veterans Day Parade** at West Palm Beach Waterfront, 101 N Clematis St. Free. 2 pm. pbcveteranscommittee.org

**Wednesday - 11/11 - Virtual Veterans Day Ceremony** presented by City of Boca Raton. Features speeches by veterans groups, music by The American Bombshells, the Ft. Lauderdale Highlanders, Coastmen Chorus, and Boca Raton Community High School Band, plus drills by Boca Raton Community High School NJROTC and Boca Raton Police and Fire Honor Guards. Online via Boca Raton Recreation Facebook and City of Boca Raton YouTube. 10-11 am. Free. 393-7807; myboca.us/specialevents

**11/11 - Veterans Day** at Boca Raton

Ocean Blvd, Palm Beach. Benefits Literacy Coalition of Palm Beach County. 7:30 am check-in; 8:30 am shotgun start; awards luncheon follows at al Fresco. \$200/player; \$700/foursome. 767-3370; literacycypbc.org

**11/13 - Music at Home & Live from Arts Garage: The VAM Band** at Arts Garage, 94 NE 2nd Ave, Delray Beach. In person or virtual. 7-9 pm. \$20-\$120. 450-6357; artsgarage.org

**11/13-14 - Back Home Again: A Tribute to John Denver** at The Wick Theatre and Costume Museum, 7901 N Federal Hwy, Boca Raton. 8 pm. \$68-\$100. 995-2333; thewick.org

**11/13-22 - 20th Annual Sun Capital Virtual Half Marathon & 5K** at Spanish River Park, 3001 N Ocean Blvd, Boca Raton. Benefits Boca Raton Police Athletic League. \$33/5k; \$38/half marathon. runsignup.com/Race/FL/BocaRaton/BocaPALHalfMarathon5K

**Saturday - 11/14 - Lake Worth Farmers Market** every Saturday beginning 11/14. Under the overpass at A1A and Lake Ave, Lake Worth Beach. 9 am-1 pm. Free. 547-3100; lakeworthfarmersmarket.com

**11/14 - FL Authors Academy Zoom Writers Workshop: Writing Your Life Story with Marcia Rosen** presented by Murder on the Beach Bookstore, 104 W Atlantic Ave, Delray Beach. 10 am-noon. \$25. Registration: 279-7790; murderonthebeach.com

**11/14 - Present Laughter** part of National Theatre Live Series at The Society of the Four Arts, 100 Four Arts Plaza, Palm Beach. Previously recorded. 2 pm. \$25/adult; \$15/student. 655-7226; fourarts.org

**11/14 - Nite at the Races** at St. Vincent Ferrer Catholic Church, 840 George Bush Blvd, Delray Beach. Hosted by Knights of Columbus. 6-11 pm. \$12/person includes meal, beverage, dessert. 276-6892; stvincentferrer.com

**11/14 - Virtual Concert - Live from The West Side: Women of Broadway featuring Laura Benanti** presented by Kravis Center. Broadway show tunes, pop hits, personal stories in special livestream concert. 8 pm. \$30. 833-8300; kravis.org

**11/14-17 - Delray Beach Open Wildcard ATP Survivor by Vitacost.com** at Delray Swim & Tennis Club, 2350 Jaeger Dr, Delray Beach. Winner of Singles event receives Qualifying Wildcard into the 2021 Delray Beach Open by Vitacost.com on 2/15-21/2021 at Delray Beach Tennis Center. 8 am daily matches begin. Limit one guest per player. 330-6003; yellowtennisball.com/Survivor

### NOVEMBER 15-21

**Sunday - 11/15 - Chris Pinnella: Sinatra at The Sands** at Mizner Park Cultural Arts Center, 201 Plaza Real, Boca Raton. 2 pm. \$35-\$45. 844-672-2849; miznerparkculturalcenter.com

**11/15 - Bolshoi Ballet: Giselle** at The Society of the Four Arts, 100 Four Arts Plaza, Palm Beach. Previously recorded. 2 pm. \$25/adult; \$15/student w/ID. 655-7226; fourarts.org

**11/15 - Music at Home & Live from Arts Garage: Hector Anchondo** at Arts Garage, 94 NE 2nd Ave, Delray Beach. In person or virtual. 7-9 pm. \$15-\$90. 450-6357; artsgarage.org



Community Center, 150 Crawford Blvd. The city distributes courtesy Veterans Day swag bags curbside. Goodies include a commemorative medallion, special coupons/discounts from area businesses/restaurants, informational brochures/pamphlets from veteran assistance organizations, more. 2-6 pm. Free. 393-7807; myboca.us/specialevents

**Tuesday - 11/17 - Virtual Instagram App Class** at Delray Beach Public Library, 100 W Atlantic Ave. Live presentation or video at your convenience. Teens & Adults. 2-3 pm. Free. Registration: 266-0196; delraylibrary.org

**11/17 - Historical Fiction for Today** hosted by South Florida Women's National Book Association with Moderator Ann Bocco. Mamta Chaudhy's *Haunting Paris* and Kristin Harmel's *The Book of Lost Names* both feature inspiring stories of World War II. 6:30 pm. Zoom link: southflorida.wnba-books.org/events

**11/17 - Poetry Open Mic Night** at Arts Garage, 94 NE 2nd Ave, Delray Beach. In person or virtual. 3rd T 8-10 pm. \$5-\$25. 450-6357; artsgarage.org

**Wednesday - 11/18 - Shell Chic Designs with Robin Grubman: Mirrors** at The Society of the Four Arts, 240 Coconut Row, Palm Beach. 10 am-noon. \$150. Reservations: 655-7226; fourarts.org

**11/18 - League of Women Voters Hot**

**Topic: Veteran Matters.** Interactive Zoom video session. Noon-1 pm. Registration: 276-4898; lwvpbc.org

**11/18 - Dear Edward by Ann Napolitano** part of Page Turners Book Discussion Group at The Society of the Four Arts King Library, 101 Four Arts Plaza, Palm Beach. Online virtual (in-person sold out). 1:30 pm. Free. 805-8562; fourarts.org

**11/18 - The Wounded Knee Massacre with Stephen J. Singer, Esq.** presented by Delray Beach Public Library, 100 W Atlantic Ave. Part of Lifelong Learning Institute. Lectures live on Zoom. 2 pm. \$5. Registration: 266-9490; delraylibrary.org

**11/18 - Read Together Palm Beach County Virtual Finale** hosted by Literacy Coalition of Palm Beach County. Join the Literacy Coalition and the Read Together committee for an interview with author Ben Montgomery. 6 pm. Donation suggested. Registration: 279-9103; literacycypbc.org

**11/18 - Friends Virtual Book Club: Read Any Book That Makes You Laugh** presented by Boca Raton Public Library, 400 NW 2nd Ave. Adults. 7-8:30 pm. Free. Email spanriverbookclub@yahoo.com for Zoom link information: 393-7968; bocalibrary.org

**Thursday - 11/19 - Meet the Writer - Women's Book Series: Mary Simses - The Wedding Thief** presented by Kravis Center. 75-minute Zoom session. 2 pm. \$25. 833-8300; kravis.org

**11/19 - Virtual Distinguished Lecture Series - John T. Foster Jr.: At the Dawn of Tourism in Florida: Abolitionists, Print Media, and Images for Early Vacationers** at Palm Beach County History Museum, 300 N Dixie Hwy, West Palm Beach. 2 pm. Free/\$10 suggested donation. 832-4164 x 100; hspbc.org

**11/19 - Virtual Podcasting with Adobe Audition Class** presented by Delray Beach Public Library, 100 W Atlantic Ave. Live presentation or video at your convenience. 2 pm. Free. Registration: 266-0196; delraylibrary.org

**11/19 - Legendary Film Directors: Richard Brooks with Bill David** at The Society of the Four Arts, 240 Coconut Row, Palm Beach. 2:30-4:30 pm. \$35. Reservations: 805-8562; fourarts.org

**Friday - 11/20 - An Hour to Kill Virtual Mystery Book Club: All The Colors of Darkness by Peter Robinson** presented by Boca Raton Public Library, 400 NW 2nd Ave. Join Neil Schulhoff for virtual discussion. Adults. 10:30-11:30 am. Zoom info emailed upon enrollment. Registration: 393-7906; bocalibrary.org

**11/20 - King Fling 2020** at The Society of the Four Arts King Library, 101 Four Arts Plaza, Palm Beach. Wine tasting, food stations, live music, prizes, gently used fiction & nonfiction books; contribution ensures first access to browsing/buying before the first public book sale of 2019-2020 season. 5-6 pm or 6:30-7:30 pm. \$50/person. 655-2766; fourarts.org

**11/20 - Music at Home & Live from Arts Garage: The Denny Artache Band** at Arts Garage, 94 NE 2nd Ave, Delray Beach. In person or virtual. 7-9 pm. \$10-\$50. 450-6357; artsgarage.org

**Saturday - 11/21 - FL Authors Academy Zoom Writers Workshop: Creating an Exciting Setting Where Anything Can Happen with Mary Anna Evans** presented by Murder on the Beach Bookstore, 104 W Atlantic Ave, Delray Beach. 10 am-noon. \$25. Registration: 279-7790; murderonthebeach.com

**11/21 - Exhibition Opening: Collecting Stories** at Morikami Museum and Japanese Gardens, 4000 Morikami Park Rd, Delray Beach. Runs through 4/3 regular hours. Free w/admission. 495-0233; morikami.org

**11/21 - The Way of Tea: Sado Demonstration** at Morikami Japanese Museum and Gardens Seishin-an Teahouse, 4000 Morikami Park Rd, Delray Beach. Observe Japanese sado by the OmoteSenke tea group, an ever-changing tea ceremony demonstration rich in sensational subtleties. Noon, 1:30 pm & 3 pm. \$5 w/paid museum admission. 495-0233 x210; morikami.org

**11/21 - Il Trovatore** part of Met Opera Live in HD Series at The Society of the Four Arts, 100 Four Arts Plaza, Palm Beach. Previously recorded. 1 pm. \$25/adult; \$15/student w/ID. 655-7226; fourarts.org

**11/21 - Chamber Music Society of Palm Beach: Inon Barnatan, piano; Arnaud Sussmann, violin; Jennifer Frautschi,**

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violin; Paul Neubauer, viola; and Nicholas Canellaskis, cello at Eau Palm Beach, 100 S Ocean Blvd, Manalapan. 6 pm reception; 7 pm concert. Season subscriptions \$1,750/person 379-6773; cmspb.org

**11/21-22 - 10th Annual Downtown West Palm Beach Arts Festival** at Rosemary Square, 700 S Rosemary Ave, West Palm Beach. 10 am-5 pm. Free. 746-6615; artfestival.com

**11/21-26 - 34th Annual Virtual Turkey Trot 5K Run and Walk.** Participants receive traditional race package: custom race bib, event shirt, finisher medal, personalized race completion certificate. 5k event app to track time & distance, provide access to event leaderboard & photos, stay connected with messaging from the event director. Active on social media. 243-7277; victorysportsmgmt.com/event/dbtt5k

**NOVEMBER 22-28**

**Sunday - 11/22 - The Ultimate Neil Diamond Tribute Experience** starring Neil Zirconia at Mizner Park Cultural Arts Center, 201 Plaza Real, Boca Raton. 2 pm. \$29-\$39. 844-672-2849; miznerparkculturalcenter.com

**Monday - 11/23 - Sing Unburied Sing** by Jasmyn West part of Virtual Afternoon Book Group at Delray Beach Public Library, 100 W Atlantic Ave. 1 pm. Free. 266-0196; delraylibrary.org

**11/23 - The Mayflower And Plimoth Plantation with Quentin Snediker and Richard Pickering** at The Society of The Four Arts, 100 Four Arts Plaza, Palm Beach. Part of Campus on the Lake Lecture Series. 2:30 pm. \$20/non-member. Reservations: 805-8562; fourarts.org

**Tuesday - 11/24 - Virtual Streaming Music Class** presented by Delray Beach Public Library, 100 W Atlantic Ave. Live presentation or video at your convenience. Teens & Adults. 2-3 pm. Free. Registration: 266-0196; delraylibrary.org

**11/24 - 37th Annual Feed the Community Pickup** with Congregation B'nai Israel at Ebenezer Missionary Baptist Church, 200 NE 12th St, Boca Raton. No CBI volunteers due to COVID-19 restrictions; community neighbors invited to walk up or drive by to pick up everything needed for a Thanksgiving feast: frozen turkey, bag of groceries traditional for Thanksgiving, fresh fruit/vegetables, boxed Subway lunches, drinks, desserts provided for approximately 300 individuals & families. 3-5 pm. Free. 241-8118; cbiboca.org

**Thursday - 11/26 - Thanksgiving Day 11/26 - Levis JCC 12th Annual Turkey Trot 5K Race/Walk in Person or Virtual** at South County Regional Park, 12551 Glades Rd. In person 7-8:20 am 5K run/walk (timed waves every 10 minutes) \$35-\$40/adult, \$20-\$25/child age 10 & under; Youth virtual 1-mile Fun Run \$12-\$18. 852-3257; levisjcc.org/wellness/turkeytrot

**Friday - 11/27 - Virtual Production: Maltby & Shire's Closer Than Ever** presented by MNM Theatre. Streaming available through 12/31. Ticket purchase provides link to view the production; link remains active for 48 hours from first click. \$20. 725-7025; mnmtheatre.org

**11/27-29 - Zoo Lights!** at Palm Beach Zoo, 1301 Summit Blvd, West Palm Beach. Presented by Florida Power & Light Company; zoo illuminated for the holidays with over one million eco-friendly lights. Unique themed displays from the entrance through the Florida Wetlands and Tropics of the Americas. Photos w/Santa until 12/23, special animal encounters, more. Held again 12/5-6, 11-13, 18-23, 26-29, 1/1-3 & 1/8-9 6-9 pm. Admission includes zoo lights tickets: \$14.95/adult, \$12.95/child 12 & under, free/child under 2. 547-9453; palmbeachzoo.org

**NOV 29-DEC 5**

**Sunday - 11/27-29 - Wiesenthal** at Mizner Park Cultural Arts Center, 201 W Plaza Real, Boca Raton. F/Sat 7:30 pm; Sat/Sun 2 pm. \$35-\$45. 844-672-2849; miznerparkculturalcenter.com

**Saturday - 11/28 - Half Price for Heroes Day** at South Florida Science Center and Aquarium, 4801 Dreher Tr N, West Palm Beach. Thank our frontline workers & first responders, doors open 1 hour early for half-price admission for up to 4 guests. Must show ID badge. 9 am-6 pm. 832-1988; sfsciencecenter.org

**11/28-29 - 21st Annual Downtown Delray Beach Thanksgiving Weekend Art Festival** at 401 E Atlantic Ave. 10 am-5 pm. Free. 746-6615; artfestival.com

**Sunday - 11/29 - Music at Home & Live from Arts Garage - The Petty Hearts Present: The National Tom Petty Tribute Show** at Arts Garage, 94 NE 2nd Ave, Delray Beach. In person or virtual. 7-9 pm. \$20-\$120. 450-6357; artsgarage.org

**Monday - 11/30 - A Passion for Opera: Session I with Ariane Csonka Comstock** at The Society of the Four Arts, 240 Coconut Row, Palm Beach. Every M through 2/1. Noon-1:30 pm. \$175/series. Reservations: 655-7226; fourarts.org

**11/30 - Do Great Artists Have An 'Old-Age Style?' with Philip Rylands, Ph.D.** at The Society of The Four Arts, 100 Four Arts Plaza, Palm Beach. Part of Campus on the Lake Lecture Series. 2:30 pm. \$20/non-member. Reservations: 805-8562; fourarts.org

**11/30 - Jam Session** at Arts Garage, 94 NE 2nd Ave, Delray Beach. In person or virtual. Last M 8-10 pm. Free/performer; \$5-\$25/patron. 450-6357; artsgarage.org

**Tuesday - 12/1 - Virtual Delray Beach Home Tour** presented by Northern Trust. Benefits Achievement Centers for Children and Families. Wide variety of architectural styles/designs. Weekly emails feature videos starring community leaders, current & future Home Tour Hosts, ACCF staff, families, Home Tour committee members. Participants entered in a drawing to win a Home Tour Auction Basket, an in-person catered Home Tour Committee Cocktail Party, or 2 Home Tour Tickets for a future Home Tour event. \$20. 276-0520; achievementcentersfl.org

**12/1 - Ikebana Flower Arrangement: Ikenobo Class** at Morikami Museum and Japanese Gardens, 4000 Morikami Park Rd, Delray Beach. Traditional flower arranging using fresh flowers. Every T through 12/15. Beginner 11 am-1 pm; Intermediate 1-3 pm. \$52.50/member; \$60/non-member; + \$60/flower fee. Registration: 495-0233; morikami.org

**12/1 - Virtual Editing Photos and Videos Class** at Delray Beach Public Library, 100 W Atlantic Ave. Live presentation or video at your convenience. Teens & Adults. 2-3 pm. Free. Registration: 266-0196; delraylibrary.org

**12/1 - The Mayflower: The Families, the Voyage, and the Founding of America** by Rebecca Fraser part of The Talk of Kings Book Discussion Group at The Society of the Four Arts King Library, 101 Four Arts Plaza, Palm Beach. Online virtual (in person sold out). 5:30 pm. Free. Registration: 655-2766; fourarts.org

**12/1 - Virtual Art Salon with Rod Faulds** presented by Armory Art Center, 811 Park Place, West Palm Beach. 7-9 pm. Free. Registration: 832-1776; armoryart.org

**12/1 - Comedy Night** at Arts Garage, 94 NE 2nd Ave, Delray Beach. In person or virtual. 1st T 8-10 pm. \$5-\$25. 450-6357; artsgarage.org

**12/1-2 - Pop Music's Best Protest Songs of the '60s And '70s** at The Delray Beach Playhouse, 950 NW 9th St. 2 pm. \$25. 272-1281; delraybeachplayhouse.com

**Wednesday - 12/2 - Caz Frear in Zoom Conversation with CJ Tudor** about her book *Shed No Tears* presented by Murder on the Beach Mystery Bookstore. Noon. Admission w/purchase of the book \$26.99 or \$5 ticket creditable towards book. 279-7790; murderonthebeach.com

**12/2 - Say "Good Buy" Money with Andy Greenberg** at Delray Beach Public Library, 100 W Atlantic Ave. Lectures live on Zoom. 2 pm. \$5. Registration: 266-9490; delraylibrary.org

**12/2 - Conversations on Style with Steven Stolman** at The Society of The Four Arts, 100 Four Arts Plaza, Palm Beach. Part of Campus on the Lake Lecture Series. 2:30 pm. Reservations: 805-8562; fourarts.org

**12/2 - Boca Raton Chamber's 39th Virtual Annual Holiday Auction.** Fun competition for exciting silent auction items. Supports the programs at Boca Chamber; helps ensure development of future programs. 5-9 pm. Info: 395-4433; bocaratonchamber.com

**Thursday - 12/3 - Virtual Distinguished Lecture Series: Doris Weatherford, Author** at Palm Beach County History Museum, 300 N Dixie Hwy, West Palm Beach. 2 pm. Free/\$10 suggested donation. 832-4164 x 100; hspbc.org

**Friday - 12/4 - 20 Events, Ideas and Discoveries Of The 1600s with Juliette de Marcellus: Session I** at The Society of the Four Arts, 240 Coconut Row, Palm Beach. Every F through 2/5/2021. 11 am-12:30 pm. \$175/series. Reservations: 655-7226; fourarts.org

**Friday - 12/4 - Delray Beach Public Library's Nine, Wine, & Dine!** at Westchester Country Club, 12250 Westchester Club Drive, Boynton Beach. Have fun on the links during a nine-hole, four-player tournament that includes food and drinks. 1 pm registration, 3 pm shotgun start. \$100. 266-0194 or delraylibrary.org.

**12/4 - Film Stars Don't Die in Liverpool (2017 R)** at The Society of the Four Arts, 100 Four Arts Plaza, Palm Beach. 2 & 5:30 pm. \$10/non-member. Reservations: 805-8562; fourarts.org

**12/4 - Exhibition on Screen: Raphael Revealed** at The Society of the Four Arts, 100 Four Arts Plaza, Palm Beach. 2 pm. \$15. Reservations: 655-7227; fourarts.org

**12/4 - Historical Walking Tour** meets at Palm Beach County History Museum, 300 N Dixie Hwy, West Palm Beach. 90-minute tour showcases the evolution of downtown West Palm Beach buildings/landmarks. Begins at Palm Beach County History Museum, 300 N Dixie Hwy; ends by the Banyan Tree at 101 N Clematis St. 4-5:30 pm. \$10/person. Registration: 832-4164 x100; hspbc.org

**12/4-6 - Lost in Yonkers: A Play by Neil Simon** at The Delray Beach Playhouse, 950 NW 9th St. Runs through 12/20. Sat/Sun 2 pm; W-Sat 8 pm. \$35. 272-1281; delraybeachplayhouse.com

**12/4-27 - The People Downstairs** by Michael McKeever at Palm Beach Dramaworks, 201 Clematis St, West Palm Beach. Th 7:30 pm; F/Sat 8 pm; Sat/Sun 2 pm. \$25. 514-4042; palmbeachdramaworks.org

**Saturday - 12/5 - FL Authors Academy Zoom Writers Workshop: Panel of Agents** presented by Murder on the Beach Bookstore, 104 W Atlantic Ave, Delray Beach. 10 am-noon. \$35. Registration: 279-7790; murderonthebeach.com

**12/5 - Historical Walking Tour** meets at Palm Beach County History Museum, 300 N Dixie Hwy, West Palm Beach. 90-minute guided tour showcases the evolution of downtown West Palm Beach buildings/landmarks. Tours begin at NW edge of West Palm Beach GreenMarket between the huge Banyan Tree and Visitor Information Center, 100 N Clematis St; end at Palm Beach County History Museum, 300 N Dixie Hwy. 10-11:30 am. \$10/person. Registration: 832-4164 x100; hspbc.org

**12/5 - Winterfest Drive-through** at Lantana Sports Park, 903 N 8th St. 6-7:30 pm. Free. 540-5754; lantana.org

**12/5 - Virtual Concert - Live from The West Side: Women of Broadway** featuring Vanessa Williams presented by Kravis Center. Broadway show tunes, pop hits, personal stories; livestream concert. 8 pm. \$30. 833-8300; kravis.org

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## House of the Month



With the kitchen (left), dining room (right) and balconies beyond, the house has ample space for gracious entertaining.



It's all about the views at this Delray Beach oceanview estate, which has walls of windows along balconies that invite the outside in.

## Contemporary oceanview estate in Delray Beach

Artfully designed by Rick Brautigam Inc., this ultra-contemporary five-bedroom, 4.5-bath residence is a study in contrasts.

Built on a deep quarter-acre lot, its 5,817 square feet of living space has hard industrial-style elements such as a metal roof, steel spiral staircases and built-in metal bookcases; and sleek urban design, with its stunning master bath and gourmet chef's kitchen. It's all juxtaposed against interior architectural curves, exterior water elements and a lush tropical setting.

This fenced property has a gray brick motor court lined with fiber-optic night lighting and rimmed by specimen palms and manicured hedges.

Reflecting its beachy locale, it boasts custom-designed water elements, including a covered heated lap pool with spa and spillover waterfall as well as an outdoor shower.

There are covered and uncovered patios in this home,

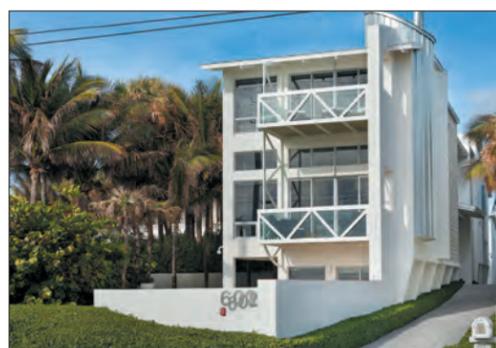
which has ample space and privacy for elegant as well as casual entertaining, grilling and alfresco dining.

Important special features to the property include CBS construction, impact windows, volume ceilings, designer fireplaces, industrial style elevator, glass and steel stairs, porcelain flooring, a wet bar, four-zone AC and security system.

The split plan that separates guest rooms and secludes the master suite has nearly uninterrupted windows that show views of the Atlantic.

This house is offered partly furnished.

*Offered at \$5,995,000. Call Pascal Liguori, Broker Associate, 561-278-0100, or Antonio Liguori, Broker Associate, 561-414-4849, at Premier Estate Properties, Waterway East, 900 E. Atlantic Ave., Suite 4, Delray Beach, FL 33483.*



**ABOVE:** The spacious family room offers a perfect spot to unwind or entertain.

**LEFT:** The east side of the home is virtually all windows to maximize views of the ocean.

*Each month, The Coastal Star features a house 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 houses.*

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