

The Coastal Star

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January 2021

Serving Highland Beach and Coastal Boca Raton

Volume 14 Issue 1

Boca Raton



The team at Gumbo Limbo Nature Center treats a rescued Kemp's ridley flown in from Massachusetts. Jerry Lower/The Coastal Star

Sea turtles come out of the cold

Stunned reptiles arrive for treatment at Gumbo Limbo

By Larry Keller

Quarterback Tom Brady isn't the only New Englander who moved to Florida in 2020. The latest expats are 20 sea turtles from Cape Cod, Massachusetts.

Seventeen Kemp's ridley turtles and three loggerheads were flown from the Bay State to Boca Raton Airport on Dec. 13 after volunteers found them and many others stranded and cold-stunned on beaches there. They then were transported to Gumbo Limbo Nature Center for treatment.

Turtles Fly Too, a nonprofit that provides air transportation when endangered or threatened species are injured, provided the free flight.

The New England Aquarium, working with the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, arranged for the chilly 20 and others to be transported to Gumbo Limbo and to other rehab facilities around the country.

"The cold stun makes them very lethargic. Some of them are almost catatonic,"

See TURTLES on page 29

Along the Coast

2021: Health, freedom top wish lists

By Ron Hayes

And so 2021 has arrived, still dragging some of 2020's tragedies, absurdities and challenges with it, but full of hope for better days ahead.

Bright and early on Dec. 17, we set out

down State Road A1A, asking folks in the 10 *Coastal Star* communities from South Palm Beach to Boca Raton about their hopes and expectations for this new year.

A sampling of what people are saying, Pages 8-9



Ocean Ridge: Lisa Alix moved from Virginia and is looking forward to buying her first home in 2021. Photos by Tim Stepien/The Coastal Star



Gulf Stream: Bob and Sally Burns wish for good health.



Lantana: Maria Wells, with Teddy and Buddy, wishes for peace.



Jeffrey, Zoe, 2, and Jude Simon enjoy the holiday tunes played by Nicholas Laramie on a Saturday afternoon at Mizner Park in Boca Raton. The mixed-use venue opened 30 years ago this month. Tim Stepien/The Coastal Star

Boca Raton

Mizner Park turns 30, fulfills vision as downtown catalyst

By Mary Hladky

Mizner Park, launched as a visionary redevelopment project that transformed downtown Boca Raton, is about to turn 30 years old.

Its Jan. 11 birthday is a significant milestone for the 30-acre Mizner Park, one of the first mixed-use developments in the country that included

INSIDE
IPIC theater owes \$635,000 in back rent, Mizner landlord says.
Page 11

shops, restaurants, offices and apartments when it opened in 1991.

The concept developed after See MIZNER on page 10

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Presidential pardons
Mary McCarty, James Batmasian get nods from Trump.
Page 22



Secret Garden
Meet the natives at the Norton.
Page AT1

The Arts Paper
Breaking ballet barriers.
Page AT9

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

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Coastal Star



Rebecca Scott has joined the board of directors of Impact 100 Palm Beach County as the group considers 25 semifinalists for \$100,000 grants in 2021. Tim Stepien/The Coastal Star

Editor's Note

Challenges of 2020 have us looking forward to 2021

Most years at this time we'd be planning our annual *Coastal Star* holiday party. We like to kick off the new year by getting everyone who works for the newspaper together for an afternoon of socializing.

Many have worked together in years past at other publications, but now seldom see each other in our distributed work environment.

Missing this annual gathering is difficult. Zoom is good for many things, but can't replace chatting one-on-one with people you like and respect.

And 2020 was a difficult year for everyone at *The Coastal Star*.

Beyond basic COVID-19 fears have come cancer and hospitalizations and loss. Siblings, parents, children and grandchildren are far away. The additional freelance work on which our employees depend has dwindled, leaving those not on pensions struggling with finances.

When people miss deadlines, or file lifeless stories or break down in tears during the editing process, I reach into my management toolkit for extra patience. I realize everyone is struggling.

The process of reporting — never easy — became far more difficult in 2020.

None of us is immune from the stress we lived through this past year. And now, covering remote meetings is proving to be a new, difficult challenge. Reporters are often stuck streaming bad audio or relying on town hall recordings acquired days after an in-person meeting; I can't safely require anyone who works for me to attend an indoor gathering.

So instead of a holiday party (at least until much later in the year), I'd like to use this space to recognize everyone who works to pull together this newspaper each month: You are an amazing and talented team. Thank you for your commitment to providing the best news and information to our coastal communities, both in print and online.

And thank you to our readers for your words of encouragement, and our advertisers for financially supporting the paper this past year.

Here's to better times in 2021. Happy New Year!

If you'd like to support our journalism efforts with a tax-free donation, please visit <https://fpf.column.us/the-coastal-star>.

— Mary Kate Leming, Editor



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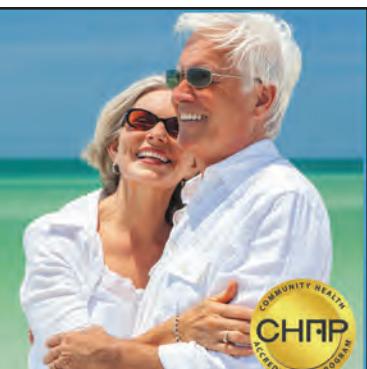


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than 500 members, a number Scott is hoping to raise to 600. Expanding membership is key to the group's ability to award large grants.

Here's why: Each member donates \$1,000 annually to the grant pool, which is then divided up among top applicants. Five hundred members translates into \$500,000 in grant money. And so on.

"It makes a smaller gift become so much more transformative," Scott, who is in her 60s, explained. "I enjoy it very much. That is why I continued to be involved. My husband and I have always been interested in philanthropy."

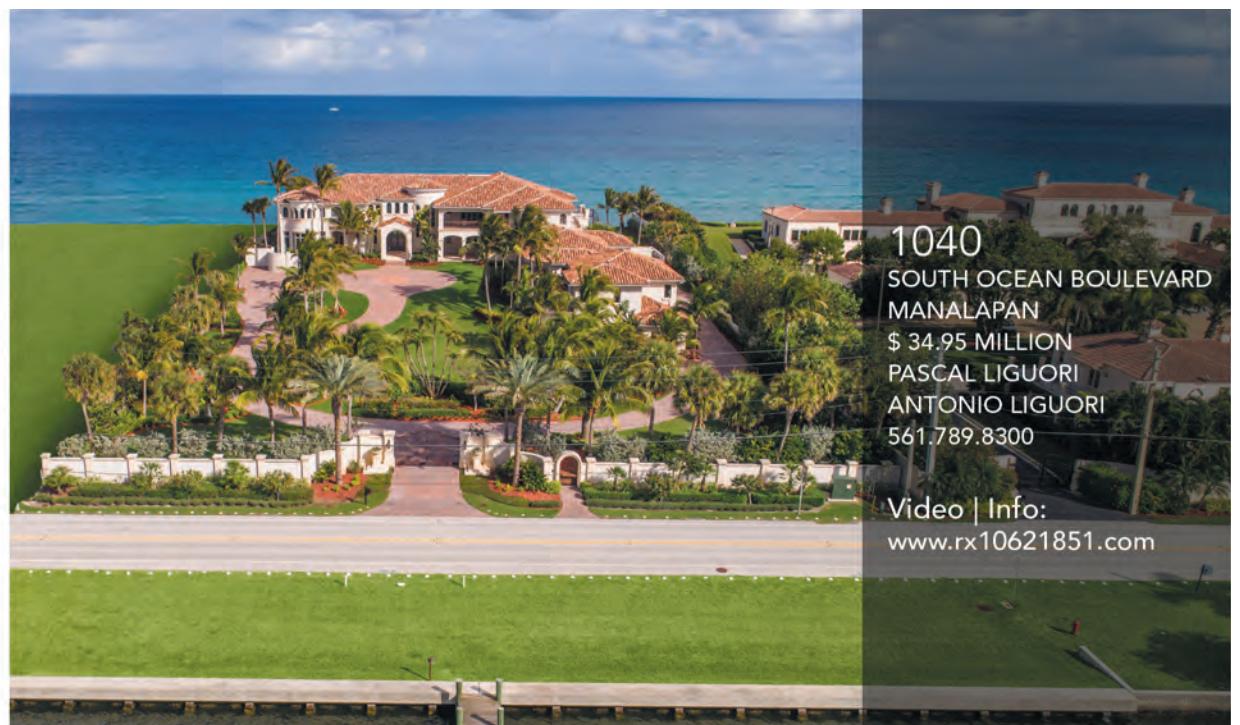
Kathy Adkins said it's enthusiasm like Scott's that has ensured Impact 100's success.

"We are so thrilled to have Becky join our board of directors," said Adkins, president of Impact 100 PBC. "She has been a dedicated Impact 100 PBC member for many years and brings a wealth of experience and insight from her previous volunteer roles. Becky is a tremendous asset to our organization and we are grateful for her commitment to furthering our mission."

Scott noted that many are responsible for the organization's success: "The engine behind the success of this chapter has been the founding members and the fact that they have continued to stay involved for all of these years," Scott said. "It is completely driven by volunteers." ★

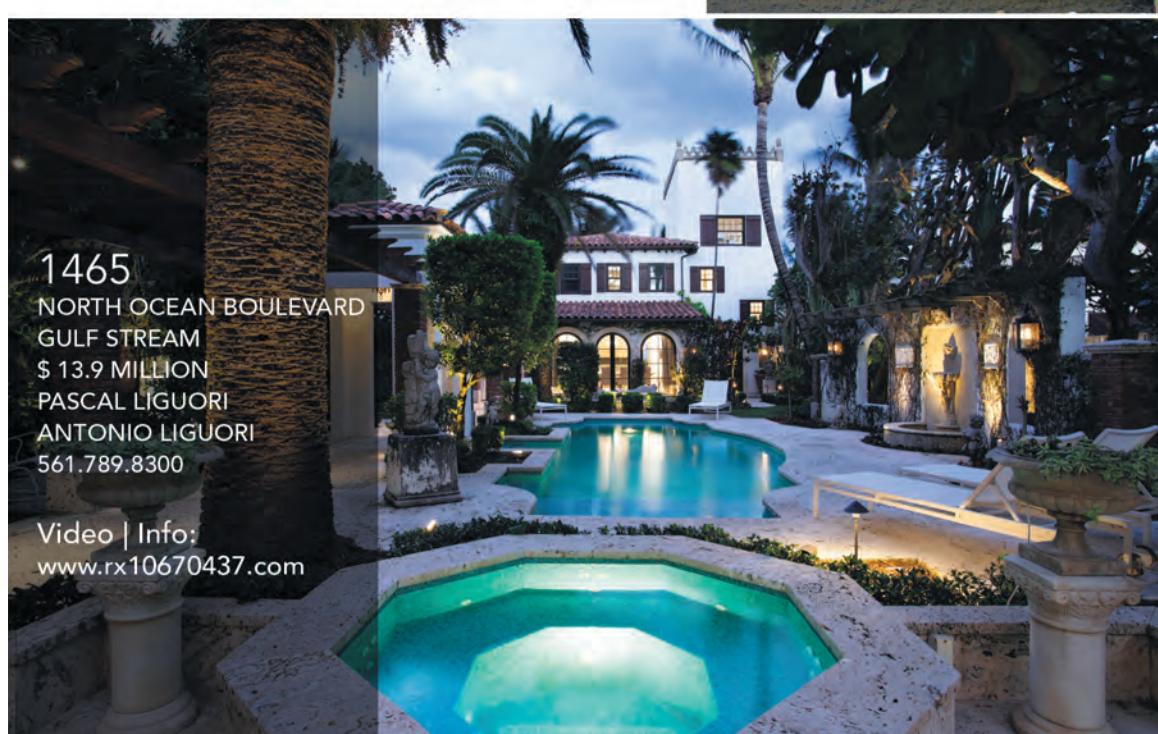
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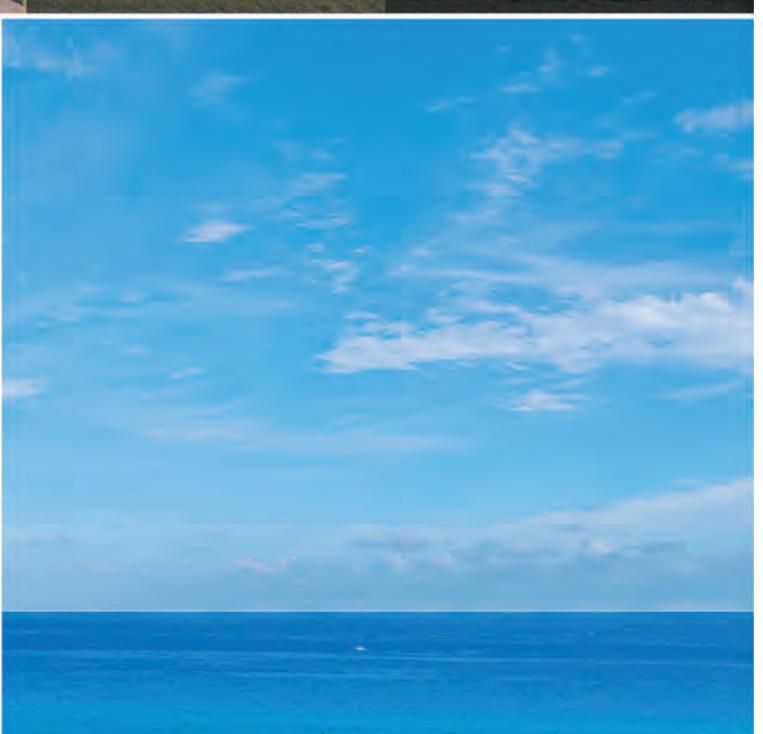
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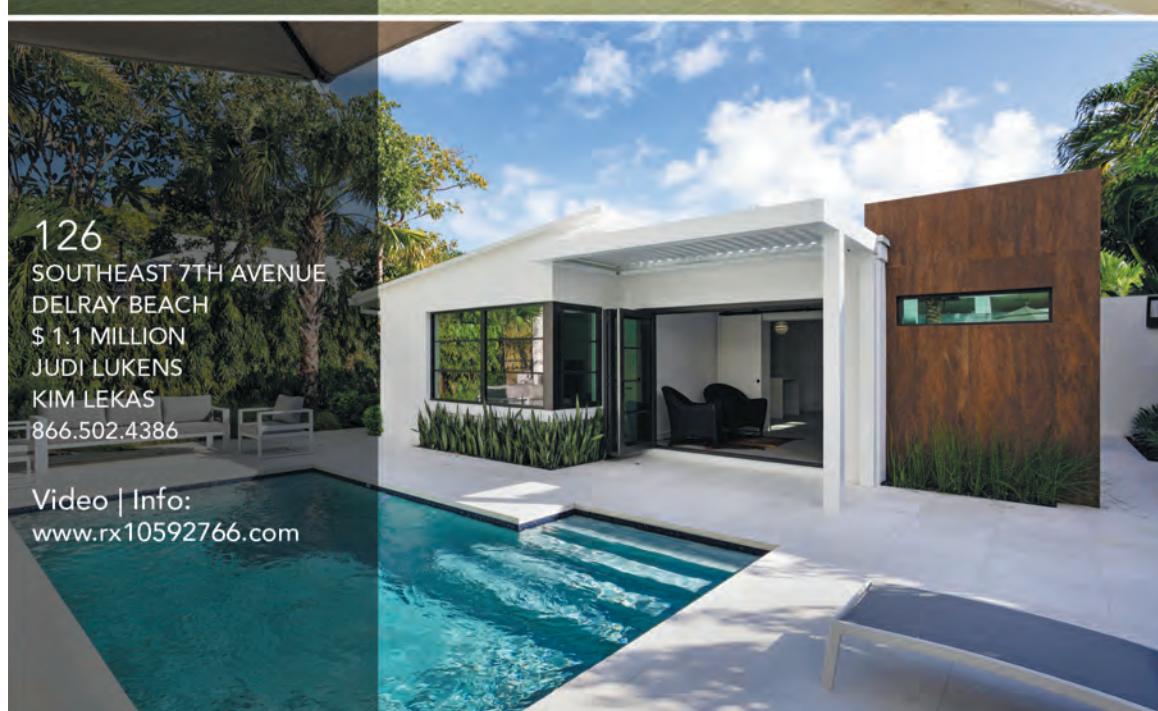
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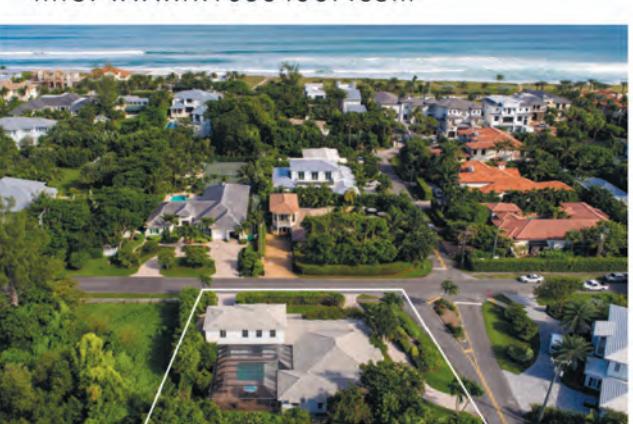


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The Coastal Star

Along the Coast

Coastal Star recognized with 13 press club awards

By Larry Barszewski

The Coastal Star captured five first-place awards and eight other commendations in the annual Florida Press Club competition.

The press club held the annual awards ceremony online Dec. 19. *The Coastal Star* won top awards in its class in five categories:

- Breaking news writing: the team of Ron Hayes, Jerry Lower, Tim Stepien and Rachel O'Hara and staff for their 2019 coverage of Hurricane Dorian.
- Commentary writing: Mary Kate Leming for columns about helping the Bahamas following its Hurricane Dorian devastation, gratitude in the time of COVID-19, and a Palm Beach Sheriff's Office "snowstorm" in South Palm Beach over providing police services.
- Environmental news writing: Larry Keller for his story about Gumbo Limbo Nature Center's sea turtle crew.
- Government news writing: Steve Plunkett for a compilation of stories he wrote out of Boca Raton and Gulf Stream.
- Religion news writing:

Hayes for his story about two Sisters Elizabeth — "Happy" and "Kind" — who came from Poland and teach at St. Vincent Ferrer Church and School.

In addition, the press club awarded second-place awards to Lower for sports feature photography and Joyce Reingold for health writing.

Third-place awards went to O'Hara and Lower for feature photo essay; to Rich Pollack for in-depth reporting; to Jan Engoren, Hap Erstein, Greg Stepanich and Sandra Schulman for arts news writing; to Mary Thurwachter for community news writing; to Mary Hladky for COVID-19 reporting; and to Brian Biggane for sports features writing.

The awards marked the first state journalism competition to honor coverage of the deadly COVID-19 pandemic in Florida.

For nearly 70 years, the Florida Press Club, originally called the Florida Women's Press Club, has honored the best in Florida journalism. Honorees have expanded into digital-only publications, but officials say what draws the judges' eyes has remained consistent over the years: engaging storytelling. ★

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Boca Raton**Two City Council contests to be on March ballot**

By Mary Hladky

City Council member Monica Mayotte has drawn a challenger as she seeks a second three-year term in the March 9 city election.

Brian Stenberg, vice president of the Boca Raton medical office real estate management firm the Greenfield Group, will also try to win Seat D. He is well known for his leadership roles in the Federation of Boca Raton Homeowner Associations, Rotary Club and Boca Square Civic Association.

He was among 31 unsuccessful applicants to replace Jeremy Rodgers on the City Council until Rodgers' term of office ends on March 31 or he returns from overseas military deployment.

On his website, Stenberg said the most pressing issues facing the region are clean water, including eliminating fertilizer and pesticide runoff, traffic congestion, education, recreation and open space.

The City Council appointed longtime volunteer Yvette Drucker to temporarily fill Rodgers' seat on Oct. 27. She is seeking election to that position in March, and her



Mayotte



Stenberg

appointment potentially gives her an advantage over three other candidates for Seat C — Constance Scott, Bernard Korn and a newcomer to the race, Josie Machovec.

Machovec drew attention last summer as one of four plaintiffs who filed a lawsuit in an attempt to overturn Palm Beach County's mandate that masks be worn in public places. She has said she can't wear a mask because she has asthma.

The lawsuit, filed June 30, describes masks as "harmful medical devices" and states, "The absurdity of the mask mandate is revealed by overwhelming scientific evidence showing masks can't stop the spread of COVID-19."

Palm Beach County Circuit Judge John Kastrenakes tossed the lawsuit in July, saying the plaintiffs had failed to show their constitutional rights were violated.

"The right to be 'free from

governmental intrusion' does not automatically or completely shield an individual's conduct from regulation," he wrote in his order. The case is now on appeal.

Mayotte, a strong proponent of environmental protections and sustainability, was first elected in 2018. She also serves as chair of the city's Community Redevelopment Agency.

Mayotte loaned her campaign \$50,000 as of Nov. 30. She listed no contributors.

Stenberg has not yet filed a campaign finance report.

In the race for Rodgers' seat, Scott is director of local relations at Florida Atlantic University. She served two terms on the council from 2009 to 2015 and was deputy mayor during her final year in office.

Scott raised \$42,093 as of Nov. 30 from a long list of contributors, including many well-known names such as architects Derek Vander Ploeg and Juan Caycedo and political consultant Rick Asnani.

Perennial candidate Korn is a real estate broker who has twice lost elections to Mayor Scott Singer.

Questions about where



Drucker



Korn



Machovec



Scott

Korn lives cropped up in the 2018 and 2020 city elections. If he does not live in the city, he is not eligible to run.

The uncertainty prompted the City Council later in 2020 to require that all candidates provide proof that they live in the city.

Korn complied by submitting a driver's license and voter registration card showing he lives at 720 Marble Way on the barrier island just west of State Road A1A.

Both those documents don't completely clear up the mystery about his domicile. The home at that address continues to be owned by real estate broker Richard Vecchio, county property records show.

The records also show that Korn and his wife still own a home and claim a homestead exemption for 19078 Skyridge Circle, which is outside the city limits.

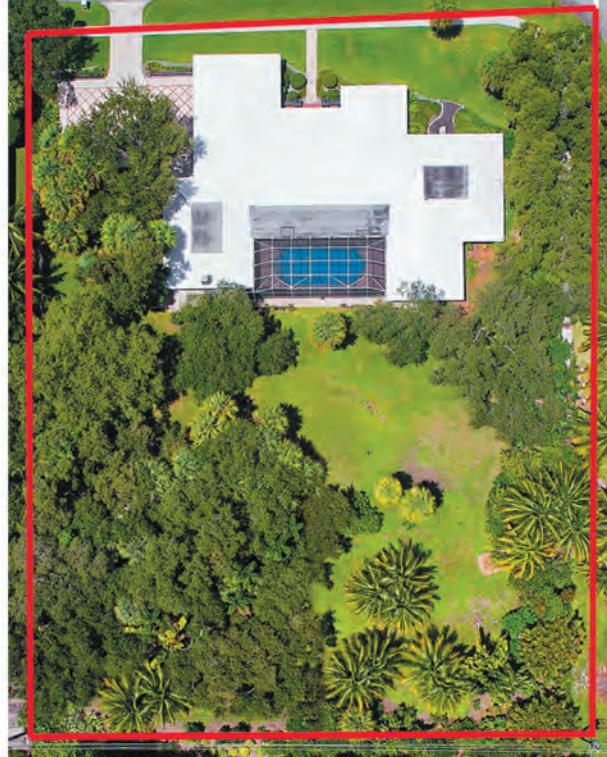
And as was the case with the last election, Korn lists his address as a P.O. box in the city's downtown post office on his campaign financial reports.

Korn lent his campaign \$11,500 and donated \$100 as of Nov. 30 and listed no contributors.

Drucker is chair of the Boca Raton Education Task Force and previously served as vice chair of the Boca Raton Historic Preservation Board. She has been active with the Boca Raton Historical Society and Junior League of Boca Raton.

She raised \$27,718 as of Nov. 30, including a \$5,000 contribution she made to her campaign.

Candidate qualifying for the March election ended on Dec. 10. ★


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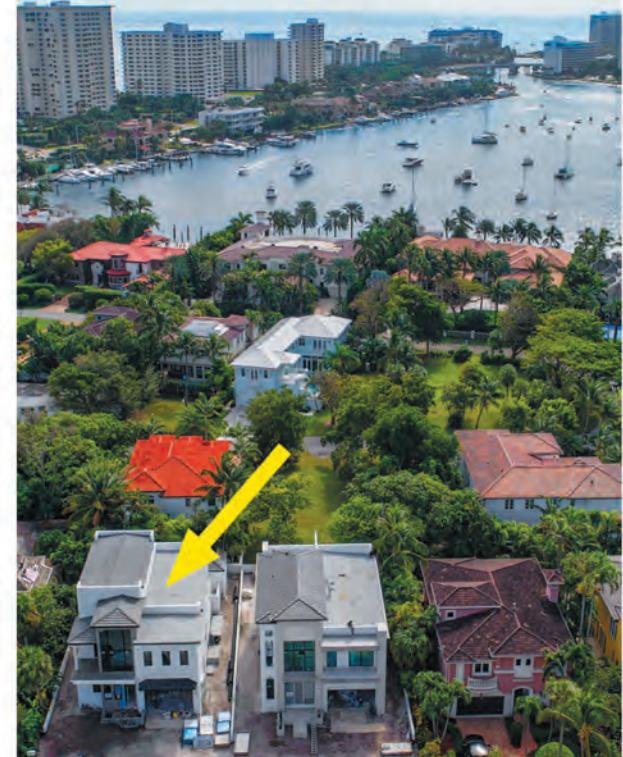
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**Boca Raton**

"I miss people being able to go outside. I was hiking the Appalachian Trail around Rangeley, Maine, this year, and it was pretty much empty. I've hiked about 1,200 of the 2,200 miles of the trail, and this year all the hostels were closed."

"You can't shut the world down. Locking yourself inside and throwing away the key has never been the solution to anything." — **William Riddle**, with his skateboard at the beach pavilion by Palmetto Park Road

**South Palm Beach**

"I'm hoping for health to everybody and for the vaccine to work well, because I lost my grandfather to COVID in April, on Good Friday. And I'm looking forward to going back to my boarding school in New Jersey. They closed early, so I've been away since November." — **Lisa Patalano**, jogging down South Ocean Boulevard

**Boynton Beach**

"Things will probably continue on the same as 2020. The vaccine is kind of wait-and-see for effectiveness. They've had test trials, but I think all the experts have been baffled. It's still unproven."

"I'm looking forward to the sunrise. That's a certainty." — **Ronald Wong**, fishing off Boynton Inlet pier, where the fish weren't biting

2021: Health, freedom top wish lists

**Manalapan**

"I'm hoping the media will develop a positive mental attitude and stop feeding us all that garbage. And the consumers stop buying it."

"If it's a negative news story, don't click on it. I don't even watch the local news anymore. I'm afraid to turn it on." — **Tom Sparks**, finishing breakfast with his wife, **Linda**, at John G's in Plaza Del Mar

**Briny Breezes**

"I'm hoping to be a bit more calm than I've been in 2020 — for so many reasons."

"The absence of the tension I felt about everything COVID, I really feel hopeful to be able to survive another year and travel again. My partner and I had cruises scheduled." — **Bob Smith**, strolling the town

**Delray Beach**

"For 2021 I'm hoping that the government doesn't tell me what to do. I want to eat in a restaurant, sit at a bar, work out at a gym, have some normal social interaction."

"It's about finding the balance between being safe and acting crazy." — **Morgan Toner**, from her lounge chair on the sand

**Highland Beach**

"I want more travel freedom next year, but it's going to be like this at least until September. It's going to take a long time to get enough people vaccinated. What's the population, about 320 million? Think about vaccinating 1 million a day, and that isn't happening. It's going to take time." — **Jeff Cohen**, walking Cleo and Ollie, his Bouvier des Flandres dogs, on Highland Beach Drive

**Gulf Stream**

"Oh, my God, I'm hoping for so many things. Probably first, we get our arms around the COVID, and the political turmoil gets put behind us, and we find some semblance of cooperation."

"Personally, I just want continued good health for my wife and kids and grandkids. You know, you can always get a job, but if you've got one foot in the grave and the other on a banana peel, nothing else matters." — **Bob Burns**, with his wife, Sally, on their morning walk along Gulfstream Road

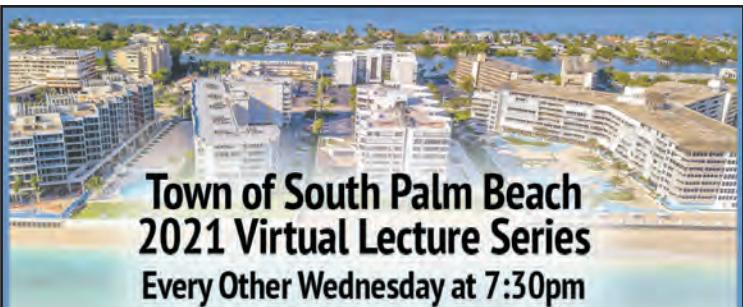
**Alix****Ocean Ridge**

"I'm looking forward to an end to the whole coronavirus pandemic, but I expect it will last a few years, even though the vaccine has come out. And I'm curious to know what Biden is going to do next. What difference is he going to make?"

"But personally, I just moved here from Virginia, so I'm looking forward to purchasing our first home." — **Lisa Alix**, on her regular morning bike ride along Old Ocean Boulevard

**Wells****Lantana**

"I'm just hoping for peace. My friend's a sheriff's deputy in West Palm Beach and my daughter's a 911 dispatch operator. I just want everyone to work together and get along. We're all in this together." — **Maria Wells**, with Teddy, a Yorkie, and Buddy, a poodle mix, at the Dune Deck



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Max's Grille, an original tenant of Mizner Park, draws a crowd to its outdoor bar and seating areas on a Sunday afternoon. Tim Stepien/The Coastal Star

MIZNER

Continued from page 1

city officials recognized they had a problem. The Boca Raton Mall on what is now Mizner Park land was a nearly empty eyesore shunned by residents.

The problem was not unique to Boca Raton. Across the country, stores were fleeing downtowns for the suburbs. The Town Center mall on Glades Road, opened in 1980, had siphoned customers away from downtown businesses.

The city, through its Community Redevelopment Agency, launched a years-long effort to replace the decaying mall and then revitalize the rest of downtown.

Developer Tom Crocker, architect Richard Heapes and the late land use attorney Charles Siemon and his law partner Wendy Larsen were among key players in the effort.

As plans firmed up, Boca Raton residents backed a new vision of what the Boca Raton Mall site could be by agreeing in a referendum to spend \$50 million on infrastructure improvements and \$68 million in bond financing to start the project.

On the day of Mizner Park's grand opening, then-CRA chair Jamie Snyder proclaimed, "Our downtown now has a heart."

Even so, Mizner Park got off to a rocky start, with City Council members second-guessing whether they had made the right decision to build it, according to media reports at the time.

But as early tenants such as Liberties Fine Books, Music and Cafe and Max's Grille drew enthusiastic customers, Mizner



ABOVE: A worker changes the marquee at the Boca Raton Mall's AMC 6 Theatres before the mall was demolished to make way for the construction of Mizner Park.

RIGHT: Shoppers stroll the newly built Mizner Park in 1991. Photos provided by Boca Raton Historical Society

Park achieved city leaders' goal: It gave people a reason to go downtown.

It also helped spur other hoped-for redevelopment.

Over the last 10 years, the downtown has gained new condominiums, apartments and the Hyatt Place hotel. The Mandarin Oriental hotel and residences are now rising from the ground.

"Mizner Park was very visionary for the city to do," Larsen said. "It certainly acted as the catalyst it was intended to be."

As a mixed-use project, "it was a trailblazer," she said.

Today's city leaders say Mizner Park remains as important now as when it opened.

Deputy Mayor Andrea O'Rourke, a longtime downtown resident and former chair of the CRA, said she always was a big supporter of Mizner Park.

"It was a great contribution to the community," she said.

"It was an upgrade that was the beginning of downtown redevelopment.

"I think it is a definite attraction and creates a sense of place for the downtown."

Mayor Scott Singer agrees. "Mizner Park set the stage for the thriving business, residential and cultural district that downtown Boca has become," he said. "It remains a key part of the fabric of our city today."

Mizner Park now has 39 businesses, including 14 restaurants, five women's and three men's clothing stores, and two shoe stores.

Two of its major tenants are Lord & Taylor, which in 2020 filed for bankruptcy court protection and announced that it was closing all its stores nationwide, and IPIC theater, which has fallen behind on its rent, according to court filings.

The city owns the land on which businesses sit, and leases it to Brookfield Property Partners.



The city also owns the land north of the shopping and dining area that is leased to the Boca Raton Museum of Art and owns and operates the next door Mizner Park Amphitheater.

Because of the coronavirus pandemic, Brookfield plans no celebratory events to mark Mizner Park's birthday.

"Brookfield Properties is committed to Mizner Park remaining a cornerstone to Boca Raton as a premier shopping, dining and lifestyle destination," Brookfield Senior General Manager Michael Cook said in a statement. "As we celebrate this milestone anniversary, we remain focused on delivering a high-caliber tenant mix...."

New tenants coming to Mizner Park in 2021, Cook said, are Calaveras Cantina, serving Mexican cuisine; Anna Zuckerman jewelry; Hotworx

fitness studio; Strike 10 bowling center and sports bar; and Egg New York, a children's fashion store.

Bigger changes could be on the horizon.

Brookfield has not yet announced how it will redevelop the significant amount of land now occupied by the Lord & Taylor building and parking garage.

But Larsen, who represents the leaseholder, said that "what is planned is not retail."

Mizner Park originally was envisioned as including a strong cultural component, a goal that has been only partially realized.

That could change if an ambitious proposal by a cultural arts group becomes reality.

The Boca Raton Arts District Exploratory Corp. hopes to build a cultural complex across from the Museum of Art.

The group proposes completely renovating the existing 3,500-seat amphitheater and adding a new theater building, additional indoor and outdoor performing arts spaces, a rooftop terrace and more parking.

The City Council and the arts group are in negotiations to reach a deal that would allow the \$121 million project to launch. Brookfield supports the project.

Another important matter is unresolved.

Brookfield is considering exercising its option to buy much of the land underneath Mizner Park from the city.

But the CRA and Brookfield are at odds on how to calculate the fair market value of the land. That issue is being litigated in Palm Beach County Circuit Court. ★

Boca Raton



IPIC's Mizner Park theater reopened in the fall with social distancing and other precautions in place but now is facing an eviction proceeding in circuit court. **Tim Stepien/The Coastal Star**

IPIC theater owes \$635,000 in back rent, Mizner Park landlord says

By Mary Hladky

IPIC theater's landlord in Mizner Park is seeking eviction of its tenant for non-payment of rent.

The theater has not paid its rent for eight months and owed \$635,510 as of November, according to the eviction case filed in Palm Beach County Circuit Court on Nov. 25 by Crocker Downtown Development Associates. That amount would increase by \$79,489 for each additional month that rent is not paid.

IPIC, a chain of 14 luxury theaters across the country, filed for Chapter 11 bankruptcy protection on Aug. 5, 2019, as theater patronage decreased nationwide and larger theater chains copied IPIC's dine-in option and reclining seats.

It emerged from the legal process less than three months later when its assets were sold to an affiliate of the Retirement Systems of Alabama, the chain's largest creditor.

Like theaters across the country, IPIC was forced to halt operations in the spring as the coronavirus pandemic prompted government orders to close all non-essential businesses. They began reopening in May.

It is unclear if the pandemic has caused IPIC's problems, but many moviegoers are shunning theaters nationwide.

Paul Safran, IPIC's CEO and legal counsel, did not return a call and email requesting comment. A public relations representative of the company did not answer an email query.

Attorney David W. Black of Plantation, who represents the landlord, said in an email that he does not discuss pending

litigation.

As of Dec. 16, IPIC had not responded in court to the eviction lawsuit.

Court records show no similar eviction proceeding involving IPIC's theater in Delray Beach.

Crocker Downtown Development Associates, which is tied to Mizner Park owner Brookfield Property Partners, has in recent months sought evictions of other tenants.

They include the Blue Fish restaurant, which owed \$123,105 as of September, Planet Blue women's clothing store, which owed \$185,744 as of November, and Les Bijoux jewelry store, which was behind \$457,298 as of May. The Les Bijoux case settled in September, with the company agreeing to pay the amount owed over time.

But Planet Blue is fighting the eviction, saying the city ordered the closures of non-essential businesses on March 25. After the store reopened, business was stagnant because of customer fears during a resurgence of COVID-19.

As a result, it was impossible for the company to pay its rent through no fault of its own, Planet Blue said in a lawsuit filed against Crocker on Dec. 3.

The company asserts that an article in its lease provides that its rent obligation can be modified in the event of a problem such as a pandemic.

While the pandemic may have made it especially difficult for businesses to pay rent, eviction cases are not uncommon. Crocker filed three lawsuits against tenants in 2017, one in 2016 and three in 2015, court records show.★

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Boca Raton

Praise showered on water department

By Rich Pollack

Boca Raton's innovative use of wastewater, its creative billing of reclaimed water customers, and its use of state-of-the-art monitoring technology are gaining national attention.

The city's Utilities Department was recently named one of 65 departments nationally to be designated a Utility of the Future Today by the Water Environment Federation and several partner organizations.

The award, according to Boca's Director of Utility Services Chris Helfrich, focused on the city's reclaimed water program, which offers highly treated wastewater effluent to golf courses, other organizations and homes for irrigation.

"This award recognizes our use of cutting-edge technology to determine what we can do to make our system better," Helfrich said.

The award recognizes Boca Raton's designation as a 100% water-reuse facility, meaning that all treated effluent is used for irrigation, except in unusual circumstances.

That results in several environmental benefits, including a recharging of the aquifer as the reclaimed water percolates through the ground.

By repurposing wastewater effluent for irrigation, the utility can avoid discharging the treated water into the ocean or going through the costly process of deep-well injection. At the same time, Boca Raton is able to conserve potable drinking water that might be otherwise used for irrigation.

The city estimates that it saves about 4.1 million gallons of water every year as a result of the reuse program.

Helfrich says that about 13 million gallons a day of reclaimed water goes to seven golf courses in the Boca Raton area, and is used for irrigation for the courses and some landscaping at the Boca Raton Resort & Club and the Royal Palm Yacht and Country Club. Reclaimed water helps irrigate lawns and landscaping at about 1,600 homes, including most east of the Intracoastal Waterway and south of Camino Real.

To oversee the water flow, Boca Raton uses a high-tech telemetry system that can monitor pressure in water pipes remotely and can ensure that water levels in golf course storage ponds aren't too high or too low.

Boca Raton's utility was also recognized for its innovative billing system for reclaimed water. Rather than charge its largest users a per gallon rate, the utility enters into a 10-year contract with the user where it charges a fixed monthly rate and in exchange, the user receives a 40% discount.

"This was something we brainstormed internally," Helfrich says, adding that he isn't aware of any other utility using a similar billing system.

With the billing system in place, customers know what their monthly bills will be and the utility knows how much revenue to expect from those users on a monthly and annual basis.

Helfrich said city leaders have been supportive of the initiatives and have been forward thinking when it comes to the water and wastewater treatment needs in the community.

Since 2016, the Utilities of the Future Today program has celebrated the achievements of water utilities that transform from the traditional wastewater treatment system to a resource recovery center. It also recognizes utilities that serve as leaders in the overall sustainability and resilience of the communities they serve.★

Gulf Stream

Engineers recommend upgrades to town drainage system

By Dan Moffett

Gulf Stream should make upgrades and repairs today to prepare for rising seas that will strain the town's stormwater infrastructure in years to come.

That's the conclusion of West Palm Beach-based engineering consultants from Baxter & Woodman, who presented a King Tide Resiliency Assessment report to the Town Commission on Dec. 11.

The report examined recent problems during king tides, which included a breach of a sea wall along the Intracoastal Waterway and several low-lying areas of street flooding.

The consultants made these recommendations for action to the commission:

- Four existing duck bill-style drainage valves along the Intracoastal north of Golfview Drive should be replaced with more advanced inline check valves. Three additional inline valves should be installed. The cost of each valve is estimated to range from \$5,000 to \$10,000.

- The town should work with the property owner at 3550 Polo Drive to regrade a side lot that is vulnerable to breach.

- The west ends of Banyan Road and Palm Way need to be regraded to prevent flooding.

- The town should advise owners of The Little Club golf course that its lakes are vulnerable to flooding and could cause problems with the town's roads and drainage system.

The report relied on a South Florida Water Management District study that found the average high tide has risen approximately 6 inches since 1985, and projections that expect that rate to more than

double over the next 50 years.

Commissioner Paul Lyons suggested that responding to the engineering report might require changes to the town's 10-year, \$10 million capital improvement plan for streets and water pipes.

Town Manager Greg Dunham agreed. "The rise of sea levels is not contemplated in the CIP," he said. "We definitely have roads with dips in them and water just stands there."

In other business, the commission unanimously approved a raise of about \$15,000 for Dunham, bringing his annual salary to \$135,000.

Mayor Scott Morgan said the increase was based on a survey of town manager salaries in nearby coastal communities. Morgan said the Ocean Ridge manager — with salary, insurance, car allowance and other benefits — has a \$192,000 package. Giving Dunham the salary boost puts him near that, the mayor said, and gets Gulf Stream to "a competitive level."

Dunham, who came to Gulf Stream from Kenly, North Carolina, nearly four years ago, said he was "humbled by the gesture." Commissioners praised his handling of public work projects that are ongoing.

"He's here on weekends, he's here at nights, but more than that, he is creative, thoughtful and has foresight," Morgan said. "He has a rapport with our residents. We're blessed to have him as town manager."

The raise edges Dunham past Police Chief Edward Allen, whose pay and benefits total \$186,534, but he is still behind longtime Town Clerk Rita Taylor, whose compensation package is \$196,216. ★

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Ocean Ridge

Beach access closures for sea wall project roil some residents

By Dan Moffett

In February, Ocean Ridge commissioners declared a state of emergency after a series of fierce winter storms damaged 1,700 feet of the town's coastline, tearing up dune lines and crumbling sea walls.

It turns out relations between neighbors may also have been damaged.

The Town Commission, during its November meeting, approved a plan that would allow a half-dozen oceanfront homeowners to build protective sea walls along their eroded dunes, with three of those homeowners agreeing to spend \$70,000 of their own money to build a 20-foot section of sea wall for the town along the Anna Street crossover.

To bring in the equipment for the sea wall project, the town closed the crossover access at Edith Street and Anna Street.

Town officials thought they had a solution in place that suited the neighborhood. But a group of unhappy residents came forward en masse at the Dec. 7 commission meeting, complaining about losing their beach access and questioning why officials didn't do a better job of informing the public about the project.

"Isn't it a little odd that



A shovel moves sand brought in to reinforce a sea wall being installed along beachfronts of three properties just south of Ocean Ridge's Anna Street beach crossover. **Jerry Lower/The Coastal Star**

most of the people here had no warning and no idea that the beach access is going to be closed?" Hudson Avenue resident Theodore Ritota asked the commission. Ritota said he wasn't opposed to building the sea walls but objected to closing "simultaneous beach access" points.

"It's really disappointing to residents like us who buy properties here for the assets

then find out an asset like beach access is being pulled out from under us," said Sharon Monson, a Hudson Avenue resident.

Mayor Kristine de Haseth said the town faced an emergency situation in which the state Department of Environmental Protection made most of the decisions about how repairs would proceed. Commissioners had actually favored a more expansive

sea wall project, but state environmental officials wouldn't approve it.

"All property owners' desires and needs were taken into account," de Haseth said. The beachfront homeowners and their dunes, she said, "are the first line of defense for the entire barrier island."

The commission discussed the project during its November meeting and posted diagrams,

descriptions and aerial photos of the plan on the town website, before voting unanimously to approve construction. The work has to be done between December and March to avoid interfering with turtle nesting season.

"I think what's fueling a lot of this concern is mostly our fault on the communication effort," said Vice Mayor Steve Coz. But he said the sea walls were urgently needed. "Those houses are on the brink of falling in."

Commissioner Susan Hurlburt said that although opponents may be "getting an inconvenience for four months," the homeowners have no choice but to make repairs and the whole town benefits over the long term by "getting a little bit of sea wall out of it." She said the town was committed to completing the work expeditiously.

The oceanfront homeowners have told the town they are committed to minimizing annoyances for neighbors — for example, the contractors are trying to reduce noise by pressing piles into place, rather than driving them.

"I'm delighted so many people came to the meeting and spoke out publicly," de Haseth said. "I'd welcome them to come out again and stay involved." ★

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Along the Coast

Bethesda nurse grateful to get vaccine at end of 'brutal year'

By Charles Elmore

The struggle against COVID-19 is far from over, but the prick of a vaccine needle in her arm delivered a dose of relief and hope for registered nurse Christine Cummings.

"It feels good to be reaching this milestone," said Cummings, who works with coronavirus patients at Bethesda East Hospital in Boynton Beach. "It was a brutal year."

Her shot on Dec. 28 put her among the first of about 1,600 vaccinations expected over the course of a week for employees at Boca Raton Regional and Bethesda hospitals, both part of the Baptist Health system.

For nearly a year, such workers have lived with the risk they might get sick, and infect others around them, as they provide frontline care.

More than 1,700 U.S. health care workers have died from the coronavirus, according to a nurses union's report in September. Polls show close to half of Americans express reluctance to stand at the front of the line to receive vaccines, but Cummings said she was ready for a chance to help bring the virus under control.

Think about what that would mean, she said.

"We can all hug our grandparents again," she said.

Senior facilities next up

Residents in long-term care centers are getting priority attention too. As the shots become available to more people, health officials are grappling with public apprehension about vaccines that arrived in the fast lane by historical standards.



Take the fear that the vaccine itself can spread the virus.

"The vaccine cannot give you COVID-19," said Sara Hamm

Elizabeth Hamm, who lives in Highland Beach and is chief clinical and public health officer for Lifespace Communities. She has been talking to residents in several of the company's communities, including Harbour's Edge in Delray Beach.

Both the Pfizer and Moderna vaccines give "our cells instructions for how to make a harmless protein that is unique to the virus," according to the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. That is designed to spur the body to make antibodies to fight the virus. Trials found both vaccines effective 94% to 95% of the time.

In the meantime, measures such as masks, distancing and hand-washing will still be needed for months to come, until enough people get vaccinated, Hamm said.

She acknowledges some "vaccine hesitation" out there as the fast-tracked program rolls



Christine Cummings, a registered nurse who works at Bethesda East, was the among the first local frontline workers to receive the COVID-19 vaccine, from Katie Van Lennep, director of professional development at Boca Raton Regional Hospital. Jerry Lower/The Coastal Star

out in a bid to stop the worst pandemic in a century and end the loneliness of protective isolation for many seniors.

About 44% of Americans responding to an ABC News/Ipsos poll in December said they would prefer not to get the shot until more is known about safety and effectiveness; 15% said they'd refuse it entirely.

Ron Schwartz, president of the resident council at Harbour's Edge, said he believes most of his neighbors are ready to embrace the shots.

"Most of us wish there had been more testing and experience with the vaccines," Schwartz said. "But we think the benefits will outweigh the risks."

The rollout has been hampered by delivery delays, but at least a portion of the more than 300 residents at Harbour's Edge are expected to be offered shots in January.

At Abbey Delray, a senior community of 245 residents, shots were initially scheduled to begin Dec. 22 for some residents receiving care in health centers, administrators said. That was pushed back by more than a week.

More than 850 people in

Palm Beach County received at least the first of two vaccination shots by Dec. 21, joining more than 43,000 across Florida, state records show.

Trials showed side effects common to many vaccines, including fatigue, headache, chills, fever and pain and redness in the injection area, Hamm said. But they tend to last only a day or two, she said.

"Side effects mean the vaccine is doing its job, and the body is making antibodies," she said in a presentation based on information from the Society for Post-Acute Care and Long-Term Care Medicine. She called such effects "normal, common and expected."

She directly addressed worries that the first people receiving vaccinations are "guinea pigs" and the process was "rushed."

She said "emergency use authorization" did speed up the usual timetable to make vaccines available the same year the pandemic started, but "no steps were skipped" in developing and testing.

More than 335,000 deaths nationally have been attributed to COVID-19, including more

than 1,800 in Palm Beach County. About 42% of the county's deaths have occurred among residents and staff at long-term care facilities. That is why such residents are so high on the priority list for shots now.

Many of those residents have lived through some of the toughest challenges the world can throw at them, said Schwartz from Harbour's Edge.

"Our residents have been through wars, personal tragedies and many stressful events," he said. "The result is that they have learned to roll with the punches."

Some are in their 70s, 80s or 90s, with a few older than 100, he said. The virus has been "scary and upsetting" to many,

he said, and his sense is most are prepared to do what it takes for a chance to end the pandemic.

"I think most residents are anxiously awaiting the vaccine," Schwartz said. "I would be surprised if many of our residents will pass on the chance to be vaccinated."

One frustration seniors have aired is that even with the virus surging, many people still seem to have no urgency about wearing masks or practicing social distancing to control the spread until vaccines have a chance to work.

"Quite a few residents expressed concern about the lack of enforcement regarding wearing masks," Schwartz said. "I know of no resident here who would leave their apartment unmasked, so we are shocked and frightened when we have to leave our community for necessary appointments."

That threatens to prolong the suffering for everybody, he said.

"We are looking forward to once again meeting our friends and family without restrictions," Schwartz said.

Hamm said, "The more people we vaccinate, the less likely we are to continue this vicious cycle and finally begin to establish our 'new normal' in the United States." ★

To learn more about COVID-19 vaccines: <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/vaccines/different-vaccines/how-they-work.html>.

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By Mary Hladky

Boca Raton and Palm Beach County are pushing back against a federal appellate court ruling by a three-judge panel that struck down their bans on the controversial practice of conversion therapy.

The city and county filed a petition on Dec. 11 that seeks a rehearing of the case by the entire 11th Circuit Court of Appeals.

Cities and counties across Florida and in other states rushed to support Boca Raton's and the county's effort by signing on to a friend-of-the-court brief written by the city of Miami that had to be filed by Dec. 18. They include Delray Beach, Boynton Beach, West Palm Beach, Wilton Manors and Miami Beach.

"We are definitely expecting

more from around the country and Palm Beach County," said Rand Hoch, president and founder of the Palm Beach County Human Rights Council, which drafted a model ordinance that cities in Palm Beach County have used to enact their own conversion therapy bans.

Conversion therapy seeks to change a person's gender identity or sexual orientation. The American Psychological Association and American Academy of Pediatrics, among others, have found it causes anger, anxiety, depression, guilt, hopelessness and self-harm.

Two marriage and family therapists — Robert W. Otto of Boca Raton and Julie Hamilton of Palm Beach Gardens — sued Boca Raton and the county in 2018, arguing that the bans violated their free speech rights.

U.S. District Judge Robin Rosenberg did not grant their request for an injunction that would have allowed them to continue providing conversion therapy while the court case was pending. They appealed to the 11th Circuit.

That court's panel agreed that the bans violate the therapists' free speech rights and directed Rosenberg to issue the injunction.

"People have intense moral, religious and spiritual views about these matters — on all sides," Judge Britt Grant wrote for the majority. "And that is exactly why the First Amendment does not allow communities to determine how their neighbors may be counseled about matters of sexual orientation or gender."

In her dissent, Judge Beverly Martin cited many medical organizations that had warned conversion therapy causes harm, and that it was reasonable to enact bans. She noted that the city and county bans were narrowly written to apply only to counseling children.

In their petition for rehearing, the city and county argued that the ruling suggested it was a final decision in the case, even though the panel was simply reviewing the denial of a preliminary injunction.

They also contended the ruling did not give proper deference to Rosenberg's factual finding that damage done by conversion therapy to LGBTQ youth "comes from well-known research organizations and subject matter experts."

"The panel of the court purports to say we have decided the case without trial. That is the problem," Hoch said.

"We want our day in court," he said.

The 11th Circuit has long been viewed by lawyers as a conservative court. In recent years, it has become more so. Six of its 12 judges were appointed by President Donald Trump. Two judges who struck down the bans as unconstitutional are Trump appointees.

Even so, Hoch doesn't think this case is doomed.

The issue before the 11th Circuit is not conversion therapy, he said. Rather, it is whether Rosenberg ruled correctly in denying the injunction. That is a non-ideological matter for which the court has plenty of precedent.

Twenty states and more than 80 counties and cities have enacted laws prohibiting conversion therapy on minors.

Hoch said the bans in Palm Beach County have not been enforced because no children have come forward to say they have undergone the therapy and suffered because of it.

Even so, Hoch said, "it has been a deterrent." ★

Jane Smith contributed to this story.

Along the Coast**Cities back new 'day in court' on conversion therapy ruling****JANUARY LISTINGS**

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Jane Smith contributed to this story.

Along the Coast

Overtime pay piles up in Delray, Boca with workers exposed to virus

By Jane Smith

Delray Beach is asking residents to avoid coming into City Hall to pay bills, fees or fines to prevent the spread of COVID-19.

The widespread effects of COVID-19 illnesses have resulted in slower city services, such as the time it takes to get a building permit, according to Mayor Shelly Petrolia.

"Since March 30, approximately 55 city employees have tested positive and there have been approximately 500 incidents of quarantine" among city personnel such as Fire Rescue and Police departments, Gina Carter, the Delray Beach spokeswoman, said in a Dec. 14 email. The city employs about 800 workers.

"One infection can have a ripple effect. For every person that contracts the virus, their co-workers have to quarantine for days and test negative before they can return to work."

Delray Beach has paid \$108,064 in overtime to Fire Rescue employees since Oct. 1 because of the pandemic, according to Dani Moschella, department spokeswoman. The

employees hold the ranks of firefighter, driver-engineer or captain, she said.

Delray Beach is not alone. Boca Raton is paying more overtime for its "essential employees who cover shifts for colleagues out sick or are in quarantine due to exposure," Chrissy Gibson, city spokeswoman, said in a Dec. 18 email. The city also offers online bill-paying.

Delray Beach firefighters have responded to about 500 COVID-related calls since the end of March.

"It has become the new normal for us," Assistant Chief Greg Giaccone wrote on Dec. 15. "We would be concerned if there were a surge of cases or exposures within the department that would put pressure on our staffing ability, but we've been adjusting well."

For the Delray Beach Police Department with 166 employees, the cost of overtime since the beginning of the pandemic is \$619,836.48, Ted White, department spokesman, said in a Dec. 16 email.

The ranks of employees that received the pandemic overtime were officers, sergeants,

lieutenants and captains, White wrote.

"Despite 30 sworn employees testing positive and 10 civilians testing positive since March, we have not reduced our services," Chief Javaro Sims told the Beach Property Owners' Association members on Dec. 16.

"We're actually working smarter in providing the necessary services to our residents, as well as keeping officers safe in the process," he wrote in a Dec. 16 email to *The Coastal Star*.

Delray Beach firefighters began receiving COVID-19 vaccines on Dec. 22. The Police Department was expected to receive vaccines after Christmas, Petrolia posted Dec. 18 on her Facebook page. ★

Mary Hladky contributed to this story.

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A BOLD AN ICONIC R

Just one short year removed from its 50th anniversary milestone, the club will embark in 2021 on an ambitious makeover that will revamp and modernize its clubhouse, according to JoAnne Greiser Nyhan, chair of the Master Planning Committee. "We needed to make some essential repairs to the infrastructure," she said. "This allows us to retain and respect our legacy and to plan for a future that will enhance the experience of our diverse membership."

Board President Tom Tanton added the renovation is the biggest project the club has undertaken in its history. "When completed, it will cost between \$6-8 million and could take between eight and 18 months to complete," he said. "We anticipate it will be inclusive of families,

The Delray Beach





STEP ENOVATION

the dining will be significantly improved and it will allow for a really engaging social environment." The overall effect will be both light and airy and beachy, but elegant.

"When it's done, the clubhouse will look more modern, taking advantage of newer materials and beautiful glass," Ms. Greiser Nyhan said. "Our clubhouse will be attractive to our members not just now, but well into the future."

The Delray Beach Club, located at 2001 South Ocean Blvd. in Delray Beach, has remained family oriented since its inception in 1969 with unlimited social and sporting activities for clans, couples and singles of all ages. **For more information about joining the club, call 561-278-6226 or visit www.delraybeachclub.com.**

ach Club 2021



10 Questions**MEET YOUR NEIGHBOR:** Kristin Alexandre

When Gulf Stream resident Kristin Alexandre decided to turn her novel *Gem City Gypsy* into a movie, she had no idea of what she would be up against.

"I found out that no novelist goes out and gets a movie made," said Alexandre. "It's just impossible. It's ridiculous. But I refused to give up ... just persevered. But it was so hard."

The fruits of her labor, titled *Dead Reckoning*, stars up-and-coming actors K.J. Apa and India Eisley and is available on several streaming websites, including Amazon Prime, YouTube and Vudu.

Alexandre, who has authored several novels, took film writing courses online, worked up a script and then headed to Hollywood to pitch it at the annual Film Festival.

"I learned that it basically was a \$30 million project, and nobody was going to trust a newcomer to do it. So I decided to do another script, and had an idea of having a boy and girl fall in love, and the boy is related to terrorists. So that's when I wrote *Dead Reckoning*."

The movie is set in Nantucket, a small island off Cape Cod, and Alexandre's original title was *Altar Rock* — an actual location featured in the movie where, as she puts it, "kids like to go to smoke pot and drink and get away from their parents."

Shout!, the company that bought and distributed the film, "decided they had to change the name because it took so long to make it."

Alexandre said the complications in getting the film made are similar to those of building a house.

"You've got all these parts: the architect, the builder, the landscaper, and it's a very, very difficult process. ... It's much better to write a book and have somebody buy the rights to your book."

Alexandre, 72, is married to DeWitt Alexandre and is a member of the New Jersey State Board of the Humane Society of the United States. She works out daily, counts cycling and golf among her interests and is working on a made-for-TV series to be titled *Dark Safari*.

— Brian Biggane

Q: Where did you grow up and go to school?

A: I grew up in the small suburb of Oakwood, several miles south of Dayton, Ohio. It's the same suburb where the Wright Brothers lived. I went to the local high school there and first wrote for the school paper, later contributing a weekly column to a local paper there while living in Europe. One of my favorite columns featured my bizarre interview with Ray Charles while I was visiting the French Riviera. He was on drugs and refused to appear before the audience; the people were screaming in protest.

Q: How do you think that has influenced you?

A: Living in Dayton in the '60s influenced me, as those surrounding me

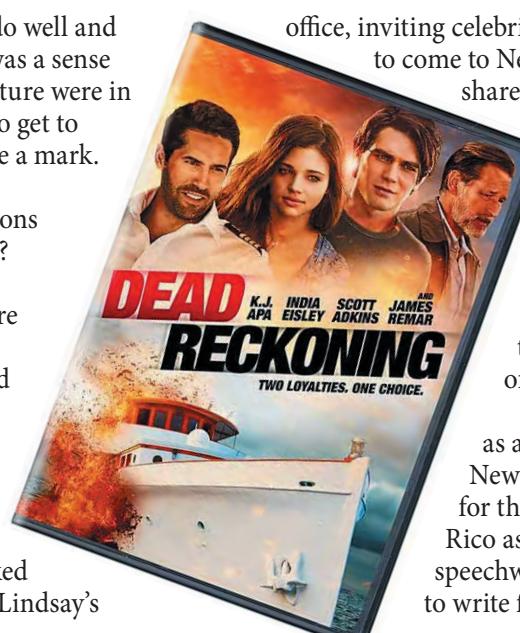


Kristin Alexandre of Gulf Stream wrote a novel, *Gem City Gypsy*, that led her to produce a story for a movie, *Dead Reckoning*. Photo provided

were motivated to do well and move away. There was a sense that jobs and the future were in the East. I wanted to get to New York and make a mark.

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

A: I'm very proud to be an Earth Day founder with my former husband. I was the speaker coordinator for this event and worked with Mayor (John) Lindsay's



office, inviting celebrities and authors to come to New York City and share their thoughts. It proved to me that action can bring about change. I learned that the Earth and all creatures are in trouble as a result of man's impact.

Later, I worked as a newscaster in New York City, and for the island of Puerto Rico as a publicist and speechwriter. I continued to write for newspapers

and magazines and eventually hosted a talk show that was syndicated and aired on Public Broadcasting.

I'm proud of publishing my first novel and getting involved in film. I'm in the Actors Guild and the Writers Guild and I've been involved with producing five films. I wrote, raised the production funds and even helped cast my current film, *Dead Reckoning*, that just launched on demand and which stars K.J. Apa, India Eisley, Scott Adkins and James Remar.

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

A: My suggestion is to look around, see whose career makes you envious. That's the key. When someone is doing something that makes you excited in a jealous way, that's where you should be.

Q: How did you choose to make your home in Gulf Stream?

A: My husband and I visited the area by boat 20 years ago. We loved the vibe, the way the town of Delray Beach felt and the whole feeling of the area. We bought an apartment first and just loved it.

Q: What is your favorite part about living in Gulf Stream?

A: The people are so friendly and it really is a village.

Q: What book are you reading now?

A: I'm reading *Nemesis*, by Peter Evans, about the relationship between Jackie O, Aristotle Onassis and Bobby Kennedy.

Q: What music do you listen to when you want to relax?

A: Bruce Springsteen, Bob Dylan. My playlist is mostly from the '70s so that's the kind of music I love. Springsteen gets me very worked up. I love him. When I want to be inspired, I listen to the Beatles. Paul McCartney's music just does it for me.

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

A: My mother. She believed a person could do anything if they just tried. She was orphaned at 10 but was very driven. She was a terrific mom.

I'm in awe of Jane Goodall and David Attenborough. They are so articulate about the importance of saving our planet and respecting other creatures. We worship God and then destroy all he has given us. It makes no sense whatsoever.

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

A: Christine Baranski. I just love her. She's funny, she's assertive. ... But she has a great sense of humor. She'd be great to play me.



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Boca Raton

Boca Resort saying goodbye to 995 workers

By Mary Hladky

In yet more fallout from the coronavirus pandemic, the Boca Raton Resort & Club will terminate 995 employees effective Feb. 6.

The resort furloughed the employees in March as the first COVID-19 cases were reported in Florida and businesses closed.

In July, the resort allowed employees who wanted to return to work to remain on furlough status. The resort continued to provide health insurance coverage for employees who could pay their portion of the coverage cost.

But as is the case for all other hotels in the county, the demand for rooms has remained far below normal.

"Unfortunately, demand remains devastated and business is uncertain," General Manager John Carns said in a Dec. 14 letter to the Florida Department of Economic Opportunity.

Saying "we do not believe it is fair to keep (employees) on leave indefinitely," the decision was made to terminate them, Carns wrote.

The resort will provide severance pay to full-time and longer-term part-time employees, the letter said.

The terminations include the furloughed employees and a small group of currently employed landscapers. The employees work at the resort, Boca Beach Club and Boca Country Club. The resort recently decided to donate the Boca Country Club to the city.

MSD Partners, formed by billionaire Michael S. Dell's private investment firm, and Northview Hotel Group bought the resort in 2019 for \$875 million in Palm Beach County's biggest ever real estate deal.

The resort is now in the midst of a \$150 million renovation that includes demolition of the nearly 42,000-square-foot Great Hall, construction of a 10,000-square-foot Mizner Ballroom, and revisions that make better use of the resort's location on the Intracoastal Waterway. ★

Flashing lights installed to boost crosswalk safety

As part of its continuing effort to improve walkability in the downtown, the city is installing rapid flashing beacons at four locations along East Palmetto Park Road.

The beacons draw attention to approaching vehicles as pedestrians look before crossing the street.

They are being installed at crosswalks at Southeast Third Avenue and between Southeast Fourth and Fifth Avenues.

The work, which began in mid-November, is intended to improve pedestrian safety at key crosswalks.

— Mary Hladky

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Along the Coast

McCarty, Batmasian receive Trump pardons

By Mary Hladky
and Rich Pollack

President Donald Trump's rush to grant clemencies before leaving office reached into Palm Beach County last month when he issued full pardons to former County Commissioner Mary McCarty and Boca Raton real estate mogul James Batmasian.

McCarty, a Republican who lives in coastal Delray Beach and launched her political career on the City Commission, pleaded guilty in 2009 to a federal charge of honest services fraud for steering bond-underwriting business to her husband and for accepting free or discounted hotel rooms from a company she backed to build a hotel at the Palm Beach County Convention Center.

She served 21 months of a 3½-year sentence in a federal prison.

In announcing the pardons, the White House said the U.S. Supreme Court has since interpreted the honest service fraud statute more narrowly, "meaning that Ms. McCarty's conduct might not be criminally prosecuted today."

Her late husband, Kevin, pleaded guilty to failing to report his wife's crime and was sentenced to eight months in federal prison. The couple paid \$250,000 in restitution.

"This is very good news," McCarty said shortly after the pardon was announced on Dec. 23. "I'm honored that the president thought enough of my case to pardon me."

The pardon, she said, is "a vindication of sort."

Former Delray Beach Mayor Jay Alperin, a friend of Mary McCarty's, said he respects her for not complaining about the time she spent in prison when the Supreme Court issued its ruling.

"She deserved the pardon, although she can never retrieve what she lost," he said.

Batmasian, a Republican donor, served eight months in federal prison in 2008 for failing to pay the IRS \$253,513 in payroll taxes for employees of his real estate company, Investments Ltd.

He reimbursed the government the full amount owed from 2001 to 2003.

"I am so grateful for President Trump's benevolence, as are all the members of my family," Batmasian said in a statement reported by The Real Deal.

Batmasian, a Harvard-educated lawyer, and his wife, Marta, moved to coastal Boca Raton in 1983 with the intention of retiring. But they changed their minds within days and began buying properties, according to Investments Ltd.'s website.

They are now Boca Raton's largest downtown commercial



McCarty



Batmasian

on the County Commission as Trump was making plans for a Palm Beach County golf course.

"I always had a good relationship with the president when he was establishing a golf course here," she said.

McCarty believes that Trump was personally involved in the decision to pardon her. "I think it was all him," she said.

The White House said Batmasian's pardon was supported by U.S. Rep. Brian Mast, R-Palm City, criminal justice reform advocate Alice Johnson, and golfer Bernhard Langer, a reported friend of Trump.

"Mr. Batmasian accepted full responsibility for his actions, fully repaid the IRS the money he owed, and served his 8-month sentence," the release said. It also cited Batmasian's charitable works.

The Batmasians' philanthropy includes the James H & Marta T Batmasian Family Foundation, which they have said supports more than 65 organizations.

James Batmasian also invests in opportunity zones, an initiative created as part of the tax overhaul Congress passed and Trump supported in 2017. They offer investors big savings in capital gains tax if they invest in poor neighborhoods. Critics fault the zones for gentrifying neighborhoods rather than helping Black communities.

Trump has touted the program in speeches as an example of how he is helping struggling African-Americans. Batmasian attended a ribbon cutting for a Charlotte, North Carolina, opportunity zone in September, according to an Investments Ltd. news release. In the release, Batmasian praised the zones, saying "the ability to make a direct local impact is truly powerful."

Among those supporting Batmasian's pardon was Doug Mummaw, a Boca Raton architect who frequently works with Investments Ltd. on new projects and renovations.

Mummaw said that Batmasian's company asked him to write a letter of recommendation for a pardon.

"I fully support it," he said. "Since I have come to know Jim and served on nonprofit boards with him, I have seen him help so many. ... Jim is a very kind man, very giving."

A presidential pardon restores rights lost as a result of being convicted of a federal crime, such as the right to vote, hold state or local office or serve as a juror. It may lessen the stigma of a conviction, but does not erase or expunge the record of the conviction. It may also be helpful in obtaining licenses, bonding or employment and could make it easier to get financing from a bank. ★

Lantana

By Mary Thurwachter

Lantana's longtime Mayor David J. Stewart faces two challengers in the March 9 election — Joe Ferrell and Robert Hagerty.

Ferrell, 58, a flooring distributor and 20-year resident, is an alternate on the town's Planning and Zoning Commission and made an unsuccessful run against current council member Malcolm Balfour in 2013.

Hagerty, 56, is a retired police officer who has been a Lantana resident for 24 years.

Stewart, 67, an air conditioning consultant, has been mayor for 21 years.

"I want to continue what I've done in being fiscally responsible and making improvements for Lantana residents," he says. "I've kept taxes low and services high, built our reserves to almost \$10 million and erased the town's debt."

He cites his relationship-building skills with elected officials, locally and at the state level, among the strengths he brings to office. Beyond that,



Ferrell



Hagerty



Stewart

Stewart says he has institutional knowledge both from having been mayor for two decades and having served as president and an active member of the Palm Beach County League of Cities. He says he has made many contacts through his work with both the county and the state.

Another strength, he says, is his ability to explain things "in layman's terms" so people can better understand Town Council proceedings.

"The biggest issue in Lantana, and all municipalities, is the pandemic," Stewart says. "Because of COVID-19, residents have not been able to provide for their families as they have in past."

"COVID put some people out of work, some in physical constraints so people haven't been able to do what they did for their families. Sometimes

when you are in a crisis, it's better to have that continuity and institutional knowledge."

Ferrell says he decided to run because of "the lack of response to issues such as the flooding in Sea Pines. There is also a feeling of disrespect by the citizenry of Lantana of the current mayor and Town Council."

The biggest issue, says Ferrell, is "the lack of meaningful spending on the infrastructure — the roads have needed paving and striping for years, Sea Pines drainage system, Maddock Park play field needs to be resodded and city landscaping is tired."

Another concern, Ferrell says, is "the lack of a central town hall that could house all the towns' offices, except for the Police Department, in one place. The Police Department has a modern office."

The strengths he would bring to office, Ferrell says, are his 30-plus years in the construction industry. "That has given me valuable experience

in empathizing with people of differing ideas, contract negotiation, following through on promises and maintaining an ethical morality as the basis of my personality."

Hagerty, who retired as a commander for the Lantana Police Department after working for the town for more than two decades, said he has the long-term experience and results-oriented approach needed to deal with the challenges the town faces.

"I feel a change in the mayor's office is needed for the residents of this town to bring more effective and compassionate leadership, a stronger focus on public safety, realistic visioning, and appropriate beautification efforts," Hagerty says. "As the former emergency management director for Lantana, I have the proven skills to proactively keep us safe from coronavirus, and responsibly get our economy moving again."

Like Stewart, Hagerty says the major problem the town faces today has to do with the pandemic.

"The biggest issue in Lantana is how we keep our town

safe from coronavirus while responsibly getting our economy moving again, and that requires the kind of effective, results-oriented leadership I will provide," Hagerty says.

"I have a broad skill set of experience, dedication and understanding of how Lantana works from 30 years of service to the citizens of Lantana."

"Having been involved in various aspects of local government, including emergency management, budgeting and staffing responsibility, I would bring a more effective and common-sense approach to the office of mayor."

Ferrell and Hagerty have attended some town meetings during the past year, although neither gave an exact number.

"Very few, due to social distancing," Ferrell says. "The town of Lantana has a nice website that lets you attend meetings online and read the minutes."

Stewart says he has missed only one council meeting in 21 years, because he was out of town on town business. ★

Centennial celebration pushed from April to July 4

By Mary Thurwachter

With availability of vaccines for many in the area not expected until spring, Lantana has changed the date of its Centennial Celebration from April 24 to July Fourth.

The decision came during the Dec. 14 Town Council meeting at the suggestion of Manager Deborah Manzo.

"Why not combine our big celebration with our traditional Fourth of July celebration with fireworks and everything?" she suggested.

The council agreed.

"Ms. Manzo and I talked about this before the meeting," Mayor Dave Stewart said. "I said that in April we're not going to be able to put 1,500 people over there (Bicentennial Park) and keep 6-foot distance, so why not combine it with our July Fourth celebration?"

With money set aside for fireworks for both the centennial and the Fourth, Stewart said the town could have "a Macy's level" pyrotechnics show.

"This is a once-in-100-year event, why not make it really special?" Stewart said.

Residents will each receive a copy of a new book on Lantana's history, free food and music, and get to see the

unveiling of a 16-foot sailboat sculpture in the park.

The event will be between 3 and 9:30 p.m. in Bicentennial Park at 321 E. Ocean Ave.

Fireworks, which had to be canceled in 2020 due to health safety concerns with the COVID-19 pandemic, will begin at 9:05 p.m.

In other business, the council:

- Learned that it had spent \$247,000 to combat flooding problems in the Sea Pines neighborhood in 2020. The money will be taken from the town's undesignated reserves. Tackling the issue required action by the state, county and town.
- Approved a 1.5% annual raise for Manzo, from \$157,000 to \$159,000. "Everybody thinks the world of her," said council member Karen Lythgoe. "Wish we could give her more." Town employees were also given 1.5% cost-of-living increases.
- Agreed to spend up to \$20,000 to rebuild a retaining wall at the Lantana Nature Preserve. The old wall is damaged and beyond repair. Money for the project will be borrowed from reserves.
- Authorized a box lunch holiday party for town employees. The cost may exceed \$1,000. ★



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Gulf Stream

Fleeing car brushes resident; police ask for caution but not cameras

By Rich Pollack

As he dodged a fleeing car that had suspiciously parked in his circular driveway, 85-year-old Bob Ganger instinctively recalled tumbling lessons he learned during his school years decades ago.

"I did a couple of somersaults," said Ganger, who lives in Gulf Stream and is a former Gulf Stream vice mayor and longtime community leader.

Bruised and suffering from cuts and scrapes on his knees and elbows, Ganger managed to get to his feet and call for help. Paramedics from Delray Beach Fire Rescue responded quickly, as did two Gulf Stream police officers, but the car that



Ganger

Ganger believes was a red Ford Thunderbird was long gone.

Police, using license plate readers in both Delray Beach to the south and Ocean Ridge to the north, identified one Thunderbird traveling soon after the incident but it turned out to belong to a 77-year-old Delray woman who was returning from Publix.

Ganger said the car brushed him as he tumbled out of the way, and he spent one night in the hospital. He said the incident highlights the need for cameras along State Road A1A in Gulf Stream, especially in light of a rash of auto thefts.

Several town leaders, including Mayor Scott Morgan and Police Chief Ed Allen, don't believe the cameras are needed.

As of mid-December, the town had 11 stolen vehicles reported in 2020, all of

which were high-end vehicles unlocked and with keys left inside.

While Ganger believes additional cameras could serve as a deterrent to law breakers, Morgan says a review by the Police Department presented to town leaders demonstrated that the cameras in Delray Beach and Ocean Ridge are sufficient and that resources would be better used elsewhere.

"Since Gulf Stream is already well covered for camera identification of suspect vehicles, our commission concluded that additional funding should be directed toward trying to prevent crimes from occurring, rather than just photographing after-the-fact activity," Morgan said.

With that in mind, the town authorized adding another officer and another vehicle to patrol the community.

"We believe this is a better deterrent to crime than redundant camera equipment," Morgan said.

Allen agrees and says he suspects the car thefts are the

work of professional criminals who won't be stopped by additional surveillance.

The car thieves, he says, are fairly sophisticated and know where cameras are and how to work around them. In most cases, the crooks usually travel by pairs in rental or stolen cars that are hard to track.

That was likely the case in the incident that occurred in Ganger's driveway late on a Sunday afternoon.

It was about 5:30 p.m. on Nov. 22 and halftime of the Miami Dolphins game when Ganger stepped outside and found a car with dark tinted windows in his driveway. He could tell two people were inside and one appeared to be on the phone.

Thinking the occupants might need directions or other assistance, Ganger approached the car from the driver's side and asked — through the closed window — if he could help.

That's when the car bolted, brushing Ganger.

"It didn't occur to me to

connect this with the car thefts," he said.

In what he believes could be more than a coincidence, Ganger saw another car pull into his driveway on a Sunday afternoon a couple of weeks later.

"Two weeks later to the day, damned if another car didn't come and park in my driveway in the exact same spot," he said.

This time the occupants saw Ganger, who was in a tree and doing yard work, and took off on their own.

Although Ganger hopes town leaders will revisit the idea of cameras to augment those in neighboring towns, the police chief is continuing to encourage residents to lock their cars and not leave valuables — or keys — inside.

Police also recommend that residents call them immediately if they see a suspicious incident and try to avoid any confrontations.

"That's what we're here for," Allen said. ★

Correction

The December edition of *The Coastal Star* incorrectly reported the name of Gulf Stream's newest police officer. He is Justin Menard.



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Boca Raton

Next public art mural to grace amphitheater stage

By Mary Hladky

The Mizner Park Amphitheater stage doors soon will feature a large mural intended to be a focal point for downtown visitors.

West Palm Beach artist Eduardo Mendieta's mural, titled "On Stage" and featuring a musician and a dancer, was selected by City Council members on Dec. 8 from 29 submissions.

The stage doors, consisting of six panels, are about 30 feet high and 60 feet wide. After reviewing the submissions, council members quickly settled on two finalists before unanimously selecting Mendieta's mural.

"It is a compelling piece of art," said Deputy Mayor Andrea

O'Rourke.

Council members thanked all the artists who submitted entries. "We appreciated your creativity, your vision and your desire to participate," said Mayor Scott Singer.

Mendieta will get a stipend for expenses such as supplies, preparation and installation. The mural is expected to be completed by March 31.

The stage doors project is the latest effort by the city to feature art in public places, an initiative championed by O'Rourke.

Past projects by Mendieta, a well-known Florida artist, have included murals in West Palm Beach, Lake Worth Beach, Delray Beach, Riviera Beach, Hallandale Beach, Ocala and Bradenton as well as in other states. ★



The winning proposal for the Mizner Park Amphitheater stage door mural depicts a musician on cello and a dancer. Boca Raton City Council members selected the work by artist Eduardo Mendieta from 29 submissions. Rendering provided by City of Boca Raton

Highland Beach

Town considers allowing 'quiet' construction work on Saturdays

By Rich Pollack

Highland Beach town commissioners appear to be modifying a ban on Saturday construction work, a move highlighting the divide between many single-family homeowners and some condo associations.

Two years ago, in a move championed by residents of the Bel Lido Isle neighborhood, the Town Commission enacted an ordinance that prohibited "construction, demolition, alteration or repair of any building" on Saturdays, Sundays and holidays, with few exceptions.

That same ordinance also prohibited construction work before 8 a.m. and after 5 p.m.

Now, however, a new commission led by Mayor Doug Hillman appears to be focused on allowing "quiet work" on Saturdays and expanding the work hours during the week to 7:30 a.m. to 6 p.m.; Sunday work would still be prohibited.

Hillman contends that the current ordinance is too restrictive and, in many cases, adds time and costs to construction projects.

"The net effect on large projects is that it took an 18-month project and made it a 24-month project," Hillman said.

Hillman said he and other commissioners want to be fair to all residents and are focused on "the needs of the entire town."

That, he says, is the rationale behind limiting construction to "quiet work."

"We're not going to let loud noise and major construction take place on Saturdays," he said. "It's not going to happen. If it does, we're going to stop it immediately."

Some residents of Bel Lido, however, aren't buying it.

"This is about peace and quiet and enjoyment of our homes," says Mayde Weiner, one of the community's residents speaking out against changing the ordinance. "We get bombarded five days a week and we just want peace and enjoyment on Saturdays."

Weiner says that Bel Lido is different from most of the rest of the town because it has narrow streets and many of the homes are on the water, where noise carries. She also points out that the community does not have a homeowners association, which can enact rules against noisy work.

Condominium communities, she says, can pass rules to ensure peace and quiet on weekends, while Bel Lido cannot.

Another issue for Bel Lido, she says, is that it is a very desirable community, with construction of new homes seemingly always taking place.

"It's a constant cycle," she says. "It rolls over from one project to another."

She also contends that changing the hours won't dramatically shorten the time to complete projects.

When it comes to enforcing the proposed quiet work on Saturdays, Weiner disagrees with Hillman on how effective enforcement can be.

The town has only one code enforcement officer and although Weiner says the Police Department is responsive on weekends, there are still times when work is done on Saturdays.

For example, she says, workers have cut tile inside a garage and people have put debris into a dumpster on a construction site on Saturdays.

Town Manager Marshall Labadie says that the code enforcement officer will work at least four consecutive Saturdays

to ensure compliance if the ordinance is modified.

In a draft of the proposed ordinance, the town specifically mentions what work is not permissible and town officials have made it clear that the ordinance pertains only to work that requires a permit. The ordinance, for example, would not apply to painting a house since that does not require a permit.

Among the work that would be prohibited:

- Use of dump trucks, backhoes, bulldozers, cranes or similar equipment.
- Large-scale delivery or removal of construction material such that it requires unloading by a forklift or other machinery, or otherwise creates a noise disturbance.
- Use of compressors, nail guns and generators.

Commissioners last month delayed passing a revised ordinance on first reading after asking Labadie to draft a provision that would allow for some projects to proceed even if they did not comply with the

quiet provision.

That request was prompted in part by a request from a condominium undergoing a large construction project that asked to allow work on Saturday before the bulk of residents return for the season.

"Our parking deck is torn up and we have nowhere to put our residents when they return for the season," wrote Steve Sassone of Penthouse Towers.

While no formal vote has been taken on the ordinance, the commission appears split 4-1. Commissioner Peggy Gossett-Seidman, who lives in Bel Lido, is against revisions

while Vice Mayor Greg Babij, also a Bel Lido resident, supports the changes, as do some other residents of Bel Lido.

Hillman and Commissioners Evalyn David and John Shoemaker, who live in condominium communities, also support the changes.

Hillman says he hopes the commission will enact the changes to the ordinance and give it a chance to have an impact.

"If we're wrong, we'll change it," he said. ★

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Highland Beach

Incumbent, newcomer win seats on commission unopposed

By Rich Pollack

For the second year in a row, Highland Beach will get at least one new member on the Town Commission without having an election.

At the end of the qualifying period last month only one candidate, newcomer Natasha Moore, had filed to run for the vice mayor seat being vacated by Greg Babij, who chose not to seek re-election.

Also running without opposition was Commissioner Peggy Gossett-Seidman, who will begin her second three-year term in the spring.

Last year Babij, Mayor Doug



Moore

Hillman and Commissioner John Shoemaker ran without opposition, a year after the town went through a contentious referendum for a \$45 million bond issue that was overwhelmingly defeated.

Although no one can say for sure why few residents choose to run for commission seats, after several years of contested elections, Hillman says it could be because calm has been restored to the commission dais.

"I suspect it's a good sign," Hillman said. "I suspect people are pleased with their representation and the way the town is being managed."

Others say it could be a combination of the time commitment involved or just plain apathy that keeps people from running. The pandemic

could also be a factor this year, Hillman said.

During a recent meeting, Shoemaker questioned whether raising the commission stipend, which is \$1,000 a month, would help attract candidates.

As a result, the town will conduct a study of compensation for elected officials in neighboring communities.

For his part, Babij says his decision not to seek re-election stemmed from his need to devote more time to his role as CEO of an asset management company.

"I didn't know how I could keep giving two Tuesdays a month," Babij said, referring to the scheduled two commission meetings a month.

He said he will remain involved in the town but "on a much lower level."

The time commitment also

prevented Moore from running for office years earlier while she worked full time as a senior actuary and practice leader at NCCI in Boca Raton.

Moore, who now operates a real estate business with her husband and lives in Bel Lido Isle, says she has more time to get involved in the community.

She says the bond referendum in 2018 triggered her decision to get involved.

"It opened my eyes that I really needed to be more knowledgeable," she said.

Moore applied for an open position on the town's Financial Advisory Board and has been serving for a little more than a year. She is currently vice chairwoman.

"It worked out well being on an advisory board," she said. "It forced me to get involved in the issues."

A self-proclaimed numbers person, Moore believes her analytical skills, especially in the finance arena, and her knowledge of the real estate

industry will be a plus for the Town Commission.

Moore says that she makes it a point to watch commission meetings to help her prepare for issues that might come before the Financial Advisory Board.

"Another important factor about being a commissioner is you have to be prepared," she said. "I intend to be as prepared as possible."

Gossett-Seidman also has put a premium on being prepared for commission meetings and doing all the needed homework.

She said her decision to seek reelection came after encouragement from residents and because she feels much remains to be accomplished.

"I feel my work isn't done," she said. "We're partway there and we have a good team to carry it through."

Moore and Gossett-Seidman will be sworn in during a March commission meeting. ★

PUBLIC NOTICE HIGHLAND BEACH ADVISORY BOARDS VACANCIES



YOU ARE HEREBY NOTIFIED that the Town Commission of the Town of Highland Beach is accepting Applications for the following boards/committees.

BOARDS/COMMITTEES

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The board provides constructive advice to counsel to the Town Commission with regards to budget, capital improvement programs and provide recommendations about practices and procedures related to benefiting the financial condition of the town.

VACANCIES / TERMS

One vacancy and Three upcoming reappointments for a three-year term

Natural Resources Preservation Advisory Board

The board provides constructive advice and counsel to town departments and boards, and to the Town Commission with a broad outlook toward environmental and natural resources preservation, protection, and conservation.

VACANCIES / TERMS

One upcoming vacancy and Four upcoming reappointments for a three-year term

Planning Board

The board acts in a decision-making capacity reviewing all matters of community planning, site plan reviews, plat reviews for subdivisions and any other division of land; and shall act in an advisory capacity making recommendations to the Town Commission pertaining to approval or denial of an application for development approval. It also serves as the local planning agency, pursuant to F.S. § 163.3161.

VACANCIES / TERMS

One vacancy for an unexpired term ending April 30, 2022, and One upcoming reappointment for a three-year term

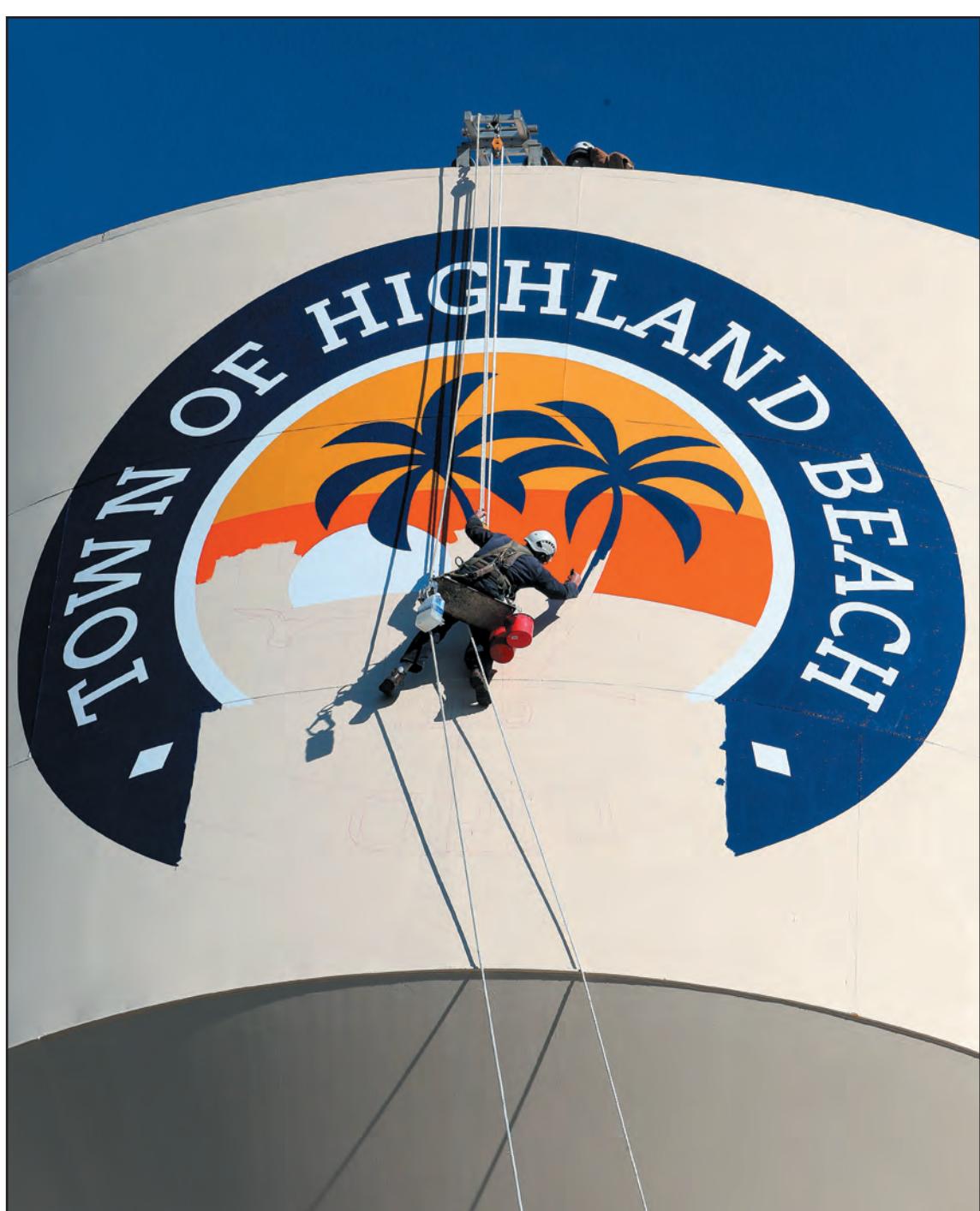
Town Commission appoints all members. Members shall serve a three-year term and no more than six consecutive years. A member absent from three consecutive meetings will be considered a resignation subject to automatic acceptance.

Residents interested in serving on an Advisory Board or Committee can submit a Board Application to the Highland Beach Town Clerk's Office. All Board Applications are due no later than 4:30 p.m. on Friday, January 29, 2021. Board Applications are available online at www.hIGHLANDBEACH.us under Government, Our Commission, and Town Boards or in the Town Clerk's Office at 3614 South Ocean Boulevard, Highland Beach, Florida 33487.

For additional information, please contact Beverly Wright, Deputy Town Clerk at 561-278-4548 or bwright@highlandbeach.us, Monday through Friday from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

New Logo

Town Hall, Highland Beach — Dec. 8



Ralph 'Buddy' Butler from Suez Utility Service Corp., of Perry, Georgia, puts the finishing touches on Highland Beach's new logo on the west side of the town's water tower. The seal updates the one that was first introduced almost 20 years ago and is now more modern and slightly less cluttered in appearance. Highland Beach resident Rodrigo Greise designed the update and donated his services. Tim Stepien/The Coastal Star

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Boynton Beach

Commissioners review 'good problem' of ideas galore for downtown

By Larry Barszewski

Developers interested in a high-profile downtown Boynton Beach site have plenty of ideas for what to put there.

They say a supermarket or hotel could be built on the city-owned property, or maybe apartment buildings up to 10 stories tall — including ground-level shops or a rooftop community garden — and amenities such as a parking garage, train station and outdoor gathering spots.

Boynton Beach commissioners aren't sure what to do with the 2.6-acre property at 115 N. Federal Highway, which the city's Community Redevelopment Agency purchased two years ago for \$3 million. But they're thrilled to see the interest the site is generating. Six unsolicited proposals had been submitted by the commission's Dec. 8 CRA board meeting.

"What a good problem to have, right? A typical concern is that not enough people are interested," Vice Mayor Ty Penserga said. "I could not be happier with the amount of interest that's coming out."

The property, between Federal Highway and Northeast Fourth Street, is north of Ocean Avenue and the Hurricane Alley Raw Bar and Restaurant. It currently is used as surface level parking and had included the now-demolished Congregational United Church of Christ building that recently served as the city's temporary library.

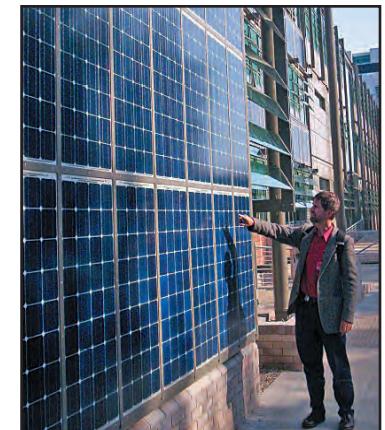
"This is kind of like our Main and Main, as the saying goes. This is a strategic intersection," Penserga said of Ocean Avenue at Federal Highway. "It is a prime real estate key for downtown. And having realized that, this is not something I want to get wrong."

Rather than rush into a decision, commissioners voted to reject all the proposals. They want the CRA to establish its own priorities first for development there. They requested that staff meet with city and Palm Beach County officials — and with neighboring businesses and residents — to come up with suggested priorities for the board to consider in February. The commission then plans to issue a formal request for proposals, which would invite anyone interested to submit a proposal based on the CRA's priorities.

Mayor Steven Grant thanked the firms that submitted letters of interest on their own regarding the site.

"We really appreciate the time and effort that you put in this and we're looking to get the best project possible — and to work with our community for the sustainability and resiliency of our city," Grant said. "We will be speaking with you in the future."

The CRA received the first



Blackonyx Capital LLC's proposal for 115 N. Federal Highway has environmental elements such as a rooftop community garden and an exterior wall of vertical solar panels. Renderings provided by City of Boynton Beach

elements of combining them," Oyer said.

"We do have a food desert, so maybe that grocery store idea is worth incorporating in some way. E2L has a wonderful pathway kind of system that is really impressive, very reminiscent of something you would see in Europe," Oyer said. "I actually was just blown away by Blackonyx and their level of sustainability and their level of moving forward and the attraction that would bring to our city. I think in a perfect world, I would mash them all together and create perfection."

Commissioners have said they would like to see additional parcels included in the final product to create a more cohesive development on Federal between Ocean Avenue and Boynton Beach Boulevard.

The

commission also views the property as a critical link in the city's overall redevelopment, forming connections from the Town Square project on Seacrest Boulevard to the Boynton Beach Marina District on the Intracoastal Waterway.

Susan Oyer, whose family owns the property where Hurricane Alley is situated and two other adjacent parcels, said the submitted proposals are a good starting point for future discussions.

"I would tend to think that maybe you want to look at

"I really like where this is going. I think this is a great decision," Kelly told commissioners. "It's going to be worth the wait. It's going to make it better." ★

letter of interest in August from a group led by William Morris of Southcoast Partners and Harold and Max Van Arnem of Van Arnem Properties.

Commissioners at the time said they planned to wait 90 days before considering the proposal in case anyone else was interested. Five additional proposals had been submitted by the commission's Dec. 8 CRA board meeting.

The proposals, rejected by commissioners without review, could come back in some form during the RFP process. The following is a synopsis of those proposals.

- Ocean Avenue Residences and Shoppes, LLC: The Morris and Van Arnem proposal offered to build 229 apartments, 18,000 square feet of commercial space and a privately financed 544-space garage, including 120 public spaces. Its tallest building would be eight stories. It proposed incorporating the city's Dewey Park into its overall design, an idea that has been picked up by other proposers.

- Banyan Oasis: E2L Real Estate Solutions LLC, under its president, Mark Hefferin, proposed building a hotel and two apartment buildings — all with ground-level commercial and restaurant space. The company is also the lead developer on the Boynton Beach Town Square project. Its plan called for 220 apartments, 34,000 square feet of retail space, a 130-room hotel and a 686-space publicly financed parking garage, including 150 public parking spaces. Its tallest building would be eight stories.

- Green115: The Blackonyx Capital LLC plan is focused on an environmentally friendly mixed-use development, including 21,000 square feet of commercial and retail space. It also proposed having a rooftop community garden, and 2,300 square feet of "co-work" office space for people who can't work from home and can't get to a main office. Its design included two 10-story buildings with a total of 243 residential units, with one building having a 408-space, six-level parking garage. There would be another

119 surface parking spaces on the site.

- Supermarket: B&H Fine Foods II Inc., which operates Howard's Market on Southwest 18th Street in Boca Raton, proposed a 20,000-square-foot grocery store on the site with 120 parking spaces. The supermarket would include an "urban greenhouse" selling farm-to-table produce grown on site and in the region.

B&H Director Barry Adkin said the site could also have a commercial kitchen to give local entrepreneurs a place to produce and sell their products.

- Residential/commercial use: Affiliated Development founder Jeff Burns said his company is interested in building 220 luxury rental housing units with ground-level commercial space, while revitalizing Dewey Park and making other improvements that create pedestrian connectivity to a future Brightline passenger train station.

- Adjacent property owner proposal: Davis Camalier, owner of the adjacent Federal Highway property rented out to Boardwalk Italian Ice & Creamery, said he would

like to form a public-private partnership with the CRA to develop the combined properties. His letter had few specifics, other than saying he wanted to create "a development that would maximize the improvement of the site and its impact to the City and its residents"— or for him to purchase the CRA property outright.

Commissioners have said they would like to see additional parcels included in the final product to create a more cohesive development on Federal between Ocean Avenue and Boynton Beach Boulevard.

The commission also views the property as a critical link in the city's overall redevelopment, forming connections from the Town Square project on Seacrest Boulevard to the Boynton Beach Marina District on the Intracoastal Waterway.

Susan Oyer, whose family owns the property where Hurricane Alley is situated and two other adjacent parcels, said the submitted proposals are a good starting point for future discussions.

"I would tend to think that maybe you want to look at

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Manalapan

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South end of Manalapan — Dec. 18
A truck driver died Dec. 18 after his vehicle veered off State Road A1A at the south end of Manalapan, the Palm Beach County Sheriff's Office reported. The box truck hit multiple trees, a power utility box and a gas line before catching fire with the driver trapped inside. The impact ejected a passenger through the windshield and onto the road, with the passenger sustaining unknown injuries, deputies said.

The Sheriff's Office identified the driver as Felix Ramos Jr., 54, of Margate, and the passenger as Jesus Lazaro Safront Rodriguez, 52, of Hialeah. Ramos died at the scene. Rodriguez was taken to St. Mary's Hospital by Palm Beach Fire Rescue. Deputies said Ramos was traveling north in the 3000 block of South Ocean Boulevard at about 10:30 a.m. For unknown reasons, he veered over the southbound lane and continued onto the landscaped shoulder on the road's west side. Because of a gas leak and electrical short related to the accident, hazmat crews from Delray Beach, West Palm Beach and Boca Raton also responded to the scene.

RIGHT: Firefighters work the scene where a private estate straddles both sides of A1A at the south end of town. Jerry Lower/The Coastal Star



Three retain commission seats with no opposition

Three incumbents will return to the Manalapan Town Commission in 2021 after no other candidates came forward to challenge them in the March election during last month's qualifying period.

Keith Waters returns as mayor, Stewart Satter is back in an at-large position and Hank Siemon will have another term representing Point Manalapan.

Jack Doyle did not qualify for an ocean seat and was unopposed. The commission will appoint a replacement in March.

Waters has been on the commission since 2016 and has served as mayor since 2017. He has said that the most important issue on the commission's agenda going forward is setting up the conversion the town must make from septic tanks to municipal sewers.

That planning was put on hold last year because of the COVID-19 outbreak.

Siemon has served on the commission since 2017, and Satter came aboard in 2019. ★

— Dan Moffett

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TURTLES

Continued from page 1

said Leanne Welch, Gumbo Limbo's manager. "Many of them ... when they take a breath, they're weak and lethargic and they can't lift their heads all the way out of the water. They do end up ... breathing in sea water. That usually results in pneumonia."

"We treat them just like you would treat your kid, with a nebulizer," Welch said. "We're continuing to give them fluids and antibiotics."

They also were weighed, had blood drawn and X-rays taken. They were kept in dry bins until a staff veterinarian determined it was safe for them to be placed in water at Gumbo Limbo's tanks.

Eight days after arriving, all 20 turtles were alive and swimming in tanks, although still sick. "Some are eating. Some are not," Welch said.

Many of the tanks had dividers placed in them, creating four-plexes for smaller groupings, Welch said. That makes it easier to keep tabs on individuals. Not that the turtles object. "Sea turtles aren't very social," Welch said.

In addition to the Cape Cod refugees, turtles that already were undergoing treatment are in tanks.

"It's definitely tight," Welch said. "Very few of our turtles have their own room."

Kemp's ridleys are the smallest and rarest of the seven sea turtle species. All seven are endangered or threatened. At 85 to 100 pounds, Kemp's ridley adults are practically pipsqueaks. By contrast, the largest species — leatherbacks — can weigh up to 2,000 pounds. That's more than some automobiles, or the combined weight of the Miami Dolphins' offensive line.

Many of the turtles that checked into Gumbo Limbo are juveniles. "The biggest one was a loggerhead at 120 pounds. I'd say most of them are in the 10- to 20-pound range," Welch said.

Kemp's ridley turtles are seen in Florida, but seldom nest here. Most prefer a particular beach on Mexico's Gulf Coast. They are seasonal visitors to the North.

"They spend their summers up there because loggerheads and Kemp's ridleys love to eat crustaceans," Welch said. "If you've been to New England, you know there are a lot of crabs and lobsters in the water."

"When the water starts cooling off, they turn around and head south. But ... Cape Cod sticks out in the middle of the ocean."

The curved hook shape of the cape forces turtles to swim north before they can go south. Some don't figure that out. "So they end up stranded in Cape Cod Bay," Welch said.

It's not always geography that stymies the turtles. Some get blown back to shore by strong winds. Others start



Three of the cold-stunned sea turtles from Cape Cod getting treatment at Gumbo Limbo Nature Center are loggerheads. The turtles' arrival drew local TV coverage. The Massachusetts rehab sites ran out of room and sent them. Photos by Jerry Lower/The Coastal Star



Kristin Child, environmental program coordinator at Gumbo Limbo, rushes one of the stunned Kemp's ridley turtles to an exam room at the rehab center. The Kemp's ridleys, the smallest sea turtles, flew to Boca Raton in banana crates.

to head north, find the water is colder and turn back, said Connie Merigo, director of the sea turtle rescue and rehabilitation department at the New England Aquarium.

Sea turtles depend on external heat sources to maintain their body temperature. When they're exposed to colder temperatures for a sustained period, their heart rate and circulation may drop.

Cold stunning can also cause shock, frostbite and death. Well-organized and trained volunteers on Cape Cod brave frigid conditions to check beaches for distressed turtles, day and night.

Sea turtles on Cape Cod are stranded each year from late October through December or early January. "Sometimes they're so cold you can't detect if they're alive or dead," Merigo said of the initial encounters. More than 80% of those brought to the aquarium survive — this season the success rate is better than 90%, she added.

When the New England Aquarium and a second turtle rehab site on Cape Cod get overwhelmed, they send some of their cold-stunned patients to other qualified facilities around the country, such as Gumbo Limbo. The aquarium sent out only a little more than 100 turtles last year to rehab

partners, Merigo said.

This year it's been around 500, she said, and will probably end up being the busiest season ever by the time it ends.

Gumbo Limbo has treated cold-stunned sea turtles in the past. In 2014, 11 Kemp's ridley turtles were transported there from Cape Cod after a sudden drop in water temperature.

The nature center had a larger crisis originating closer to home in January 2010, when an unusually bitter winter left thousands of mostly juvenile green sea turtles stunned in North Florida bays and estuaries. By month's end, 177 turtles had been admitted to Gumbo Limbo. Most were released within days after warming up, but the last patient was there for about five months.

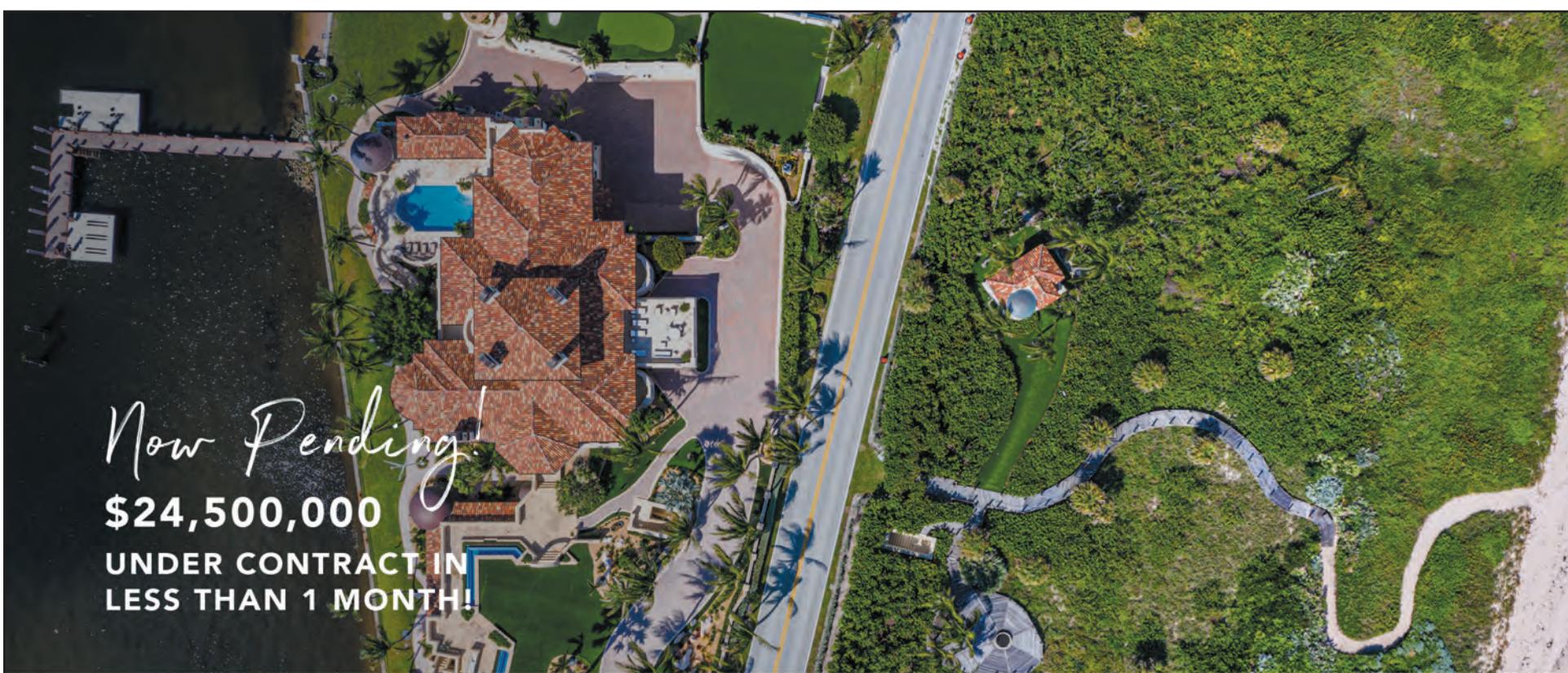
Gumbo Limbo's veterinarian will determine when the current patients are strong enough to return to the ocean.

"It could be anywhere from a few weeks to upwards of six months," Welch said. Exactly where is up to the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission.

Wherever it is, the New England visitors won't be racking up frequent flier miles. "Most, if not all, will be released in Florida," Welch said. ★



Kemp's ridley turtles, each with its own tub and medical file, await their turn to be examined by Kirt Rusenko and Emily Mirowski in the rehab facility at Gumbo Limbo. The turtles are likely to stay for at least a few more weeks.



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South Palm Beach residents give each other space as they await COVID-19 tests from the county outside Town Hall last month. Jerry Lower/The Coastal Star

South Palm Beach

Town Hall reopens, reports no more virus cases after worker tests positive

By Dan Moffett

South Palm Beach is resuming some activities at Town Hall after concerns about coronavirus exposure prompted a partial shutdown of the building last month.

The town canceled its December council meeting when an employee tested positive for the virus after leaving work with symptoms.

Mayor Bonnie Fischer said the employee has recovered, tested negative and was expected to return to work soon. Fischer said no other confirmed COVID-19 cases have been identified in the town since.

She said the building was sanitized and the town's staff is following public health protocols and limiting public access.

"I think we handled it well," Fischer said. "Now we have to move on from here."

The next regular Town

Council meeting is scheduled for Jan. 12 beginning at 4 p.m. in Town Hall. Access to the meeting will be limited, however.

South Palm Beach has taken proactive steps to mitigate the effects of the pandemic.

On Dec. 11, more than 150 people came for COVID-19 testing administered by the Palm Beach County Health Department's mobile unit outside Town Hall. It was the department's fourth testing visit in 2020.

The council received a \$17,500 grant from the Florida Department of Law Enforcement and used it to buy 10,000 face masks for the town. They are expected to arrive by the middle of January and will be distributed three or four to each household.

Last spring officials handed out 3,000 masks. ★

The next regular Town

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Obituaries

Frederick Carl Horenburger

DELRAY BEACH — Frederick Carl Horenburger of Delray Beach died on Dec. 12. He was 83.

Mr. Horenburger was the owner of Fred's Tennis Classics Inc. and well-known for providing customers with his expert advice and knowledge in the tennis world.

He was a star athlete in basketball and other sports in his youth, but by his late 20s tennis became his overwhelming sport of choice. His career in tennis spanned over 45 years in the Delray Beach area, including 17 years as the tennis pro at the Gulf Stream Bath and Tennis Club.

Known for his excellent stringing capabilities, he strung rackets for weekend tennis warriors, world-class players and one president of the United States, George H.W. Bush.

Born on Feb. 22, 1937, in New York City, Mr.



Horenburger spent much of his youth on Staten Island and Long Island. He attended Northfield Mount Hermon and Tufts University prior to joining the Marines, where he played on the basketball team during his tour of duty.

Mr. Horenburger is survived by his devoted wife of 29 years, Leslie B. Horenburger, his son Fred Horenburger Jr., daughter, Dana Schweitzer, granddaughter, Emily Mosher (Shawn), grandson, Jack Scarton, great-granddaughter, Amelia Annabelle Mosher, sisters, Julie Tarelton and Anne Lahr, and brother, James Horenburger.

A celebration of life will be held at a later date when it is safe to gather the many people whose lives were touched by this gentle man.

For those who would like to make a donation in Mr. Horenburger's memory, consider a contribution to the Bladder Cancer Advocacy Network, 4520 East West Highway, Suite 610, Bethesda, MD 20814.

Obituary submitted by the family

Craig R. Henne

By Dan Moffett

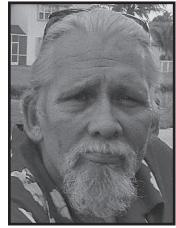
SOUTH PALM BEACH — Craig Henne had no shortage of job descriptions in his life. He was an arborist, an actor, a stand-up comedian, tattoo artist, semipro poker player, car salesman, repo man, truck driver, moving company owner, Tesla and motorcycle advocate, political analyst, podcaster and radio talk show host.

Around South Palm Beach, he was known as the guy who rose during the Town Council's public comment period to call out officials. He commented frequently on what he called excess government spending and questionable judgment of elected leaders. He also expressed support for law enforcement.

Often, he got loud and he got angry. "Because he was larger than life, sometimes maybe some people didn't always appreciate it," said his partner, Phyllis Febraro. "He was a renaissance man with many gifts."

Craig R. Henne died on Dec. 2 at the age of 72. Plans to hold a service to celebrate his life are incomplete.

Mr. Henne and Ms. Febraro were high school sweethearts in Long Island in the 1960s, and they reconnected 12 years ago. "He looked for me for



38 years," she said.

They enjoyed traveling together throughout the country and were committed to participating in their local government during the last decade.

"He was interested in maintaining the small, quaint seaside community with wonderful people," she said of his activism.

"Craig's bark was often worse than his bite," said Mayor Bonnie Fischer. "But in his heart of hearts, he cared about the town. I wish more people cared as much."

Mr. Henne, originally from Bayville, New York, was a U.S. Air Force veteran. As an actor he had brushes with some of Hollywood's brightest stars. He had a small role in Robert De Niro's 1991 movie *Cape Fear*, an appearance in television's *Miami Vice* with Don Johnson and a bit part in the Burt Reynolds TV series *B.L. Stryker* in 1990.

As a talk show host, he relied on his storytelling talent to make the case for conservative politics.

"For 90 percent of my life I have been fortunate to live the way I wanted," he told visitors to his Facebook page. "I have no expensive habits but live the life of a Jack London character."

Besides Ms. Febraro, Mr. Henne is survived by his daughter Tara; son Jason and his wife, Carman; daughter Nicole and her husband, Michael; son Brant and his wife, Jade, and three grandchildren.

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Dorothy 'Dottie' A. Sylvester

LANTANA — Dorothy "Dottie" A. Sylvester died Oct. 18 at her home in the Carlisle in Lantana. She was 92.

Mrs. Sylvester was born in Pittsburgh on July 9, 1928, to Catherine A. Freeman and Joseph F. Smith. One of nine children, she is survived by sister Marlene Dawson and

brother Thomas Smith. Her siblings Joseph Smith, Helen Kazlausky, Scott Smith, Greg Smith, Ella Mae Weightman and William Smith predeceased her.

Mrs. Sylvester is survived by three daughters, Laura Finn (Jack), Renee Sprague (Scott), Gail McMillan (Steve), and one son, Raymond Sylvester (Pam). In addition, she is survived by five grandchildren: Dean Sprague (Diana), Katie Sprague, Raymond Sylvester, Carly Sylvester and Ava Sylvester.

Raised on a farm in Manor, Pennsylvania, Mrs. Sylvester loved sharing stories of milking the cow, Blackie, feeding the chickens and the love the family had for all the animals on the farm. The family enjoyed fun-filled days swimming in the creek and during winter ice skating on the pond.

In 1949 she met the man who would become her beloved husband, Raymond L. Sylvester. They were married for 48 years until his death in 1997. As a young couple they embarked on an unforgettable three-month journey traveling throughout Italy and other parts of Europe with their closest friends.

A few years later, they moved to Mount Lebanon, Pennsylvania, where they lived for 30 years and raised their family. Besides being a devoted mother, Mrs. Sylvester loved cooking, gardening and decorating. In addition, she enjoyed jobs such as fashion modeling, working in the cosmetics industry and selling insurance before retiring to Delray Beach.

Ballroom dancing was a passion during her later years and won her many friends.

To all who knew her, Mrs. Sylvester was a caring person with a big heart and beautiful smile. She loved nature and saw the good in things.

A true humanitarian and a friend to all, she was the first to lend a helping hand to anyone in need.

She filled her home with warmth, beauty and love and nothing meant more to her than spending time with her children and grandchildren. Her family was the center of her life, and to them she is remembered as an amazing woman full of grace, wisdom, courage and style.

Family and friends are blessed to share decades of wonderful memories and adventurous stories that she experienced throughout her life. She will be greatly missed but never forgotten. Dorothy's essence will live on in all who knew and loved her.

There was a private service at the Carlisle on Nov. 6. A celebration of her life will be held at a later date. Donations in her memory may be given to Big Dog Ranch Rescue in Loxahatchee or the charity of your choice.

Obituary submitted by the family

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Business Spotlight

Renovated Boca history museum to feature new permanent exhibits

The Boca Raton Historical Society & Museum has undergone a total of \$3.9 million in redesign and renovation, with an official reopening date to be announced in early 2021.

"The historic Town Hall has been our home since the mid-1980s," said the museum's executive director, **Mary Csar**. "But, due to space limitations, our exhibitions have been temporary and largely two-dimensional."

"Not any longer. The dynamic redesign of the new Boca Raton Historical Society & Museum will allow for both permanent and changing exhibitions that will appeal to families, students and research buffs of all ages — all under the concept of 'History Alive!'"

The new permanent galleries will include a historic timeline starting with the earliest pre-Columbian inhabitants up to

the 21st century, and exhibits such as Pioneer Days, focused on the local heritage of a small farming community; Addison Mizner, featuring the museum's collection of Mizner Industries' and Mizner's architectural drawings and images; World War II, when the Boca Raton Army Airfield served as the Air Corps' top secret radar training facility; and IBM, featuring a collection of functioning vintage personal computers.

The Historical Society & Museum is still raising money for this renovation, and naming opportunities are available. For information, call Csar at 561-395-6766, email her at director@bocahistory.org or visit www.BocaHistory.org.

The museum is located in Historic Town Hall at 71 N. Federal Highway.

Boca Beach House Luxury Residences & Marina, at 725

S. Ocean Blvd., Boca Raton, a waterfront development of Key International and Integra Investments, recently celebrated its groundbreaking. The property has secured \$42.6 million in construction financing from Bank OZK.

Slated for completion in the third quarter of 2022, the 3.2-acre, four-story condominium development will offer 32 condominiums, concierge services, and a private 18-slip marina. Boca Beach House launched sales in May 2019 and is almost 80% sold, with nearly half of the condo buyers from out of state. Remaining residences range from two- to four-bedroom units with 3,855 to 5,041 square feet featuring flow-through floor plans, 10-foot ceilings and semi-private elevator access.

Design is by Sieger Suárez Architects, with contemporary interiors by Linda Ruderman Interiors. The grounds were designed by Raymond Jungles. Key International Sales is the brokerage of record. For more information, visit www.bbresidences.com or call 561-453-1400.

Understanding the need to offer a health-focused environment, the condominium development **3550 South Ocean** in South Palm Beach has expanded its partnership with the **Eau Palm Beach Resort & Spa** to offer private and group fitness classes. Eau Spa personal trainers' exercise programs have been designed to help residents achieve their fitness goals. The classes are available virtually and on-site at 3550 South Ocean with residents' Eau Palm Beach developer gift certificates. In addition to fitness classes, residents have access to Eau's spa experiences at 3550 South Ocean, from massages to facial treatments and more.

The Seagate Resort's managing company, Long Weekend Hospitality, announced that it will spearhead the Delray Beach resort's renovation and rebranding, with New York-based Studio Robert McKinley leading the redesign projects.

Collaborators will include food and beverage developer McGuire Moorman Hospitality, consultant Liz Lambert, landscaper Raymond Jungles and architect Leo A. Daly. The hotel and beach club refurbishments are set to begin in June and be completed by the end of 2021. The club will be renovated, 154 hotel guest rooms will be remodeled and public spaces — including new restaurants and lounge concepts — will be redesigned.

Upon completion of this work, renovations of the country club at 3600 Hamlet Drive in Delray Beach will begin.

An ocean-to-Intracoastal 2-acre parcel at **980 S. Ocean**,



Long before it housed the Historical Society and Museum, Boca's old Town Hall included a fire station. **Photo provided**

Manalapan, sold for \$17,258,175 on Dec. 16. The seller was Monica Sound Ltd., a British Virgin Islands company with a Boynton Beach address, and the buyer was 980 S. Ocean LLC, a Florida limited liability company with a West Palm Beach address. According to Realtor.com, Sotheby's agent **Andrew Thomka-Gazdik** represented the seller, and **Vince Spadea Jr.**, an agent with Douglas Elliman, represented the buyer.

Recorded on Nov. 19, two waterfront lots in Boca Raton were purchased for a combined \$14.8 million. A 1.32-acre lot with a 3,369-square-foot home, at **690 NE Fifth Ave.**, sold for \$10 million, and the neighboring vacant lot of 0.83 of an acre, at **720 NE Fifth Ave.**, sold for \$4.795 million.

The seller was 690 5th Avenue Associates LLC, managed by Fort Lauderdale auto dealer Stuart Hayim, and the buyer was 690/720 NE 5th Avenue Boca LLC, managed by a Hillsboro Beach couple, Thomas and Michelle Murphy. Combined, the properties have 220 feet of frontage on the Intracoastal Waterway.

The D'Angelo Ligouri team, **Premier Estate Properties**, represented the buyer and seller for both parcels.

Billionaire Boris Jordan paid \$14 million for an 8,303-square-foot Intracoastal Waterway home at **1175 Spanish River Road**, Boca Raton, on Nov. 30. Seller Richard Tarlow was represented by **Gerard Liguori, Joseph Liguori** and **Carmen D'Angelo Jr.** of Premier Estate Properties. The five-bedroom mid-century modern-style home was constructed on the .78-acre lot in the Estates neighborhood in 2015 by J.H. Norman.

A resident of New York,

Jordan has run businesses both in the United States and in Russia. As executive chairman, he helped build his company, Curaleaf, into the largest cannabis company in the United States. Forbes recently estimated his net worth at \$1.9 billion.

In spite of COVID-19 challenges, **Florida Atlantic University** achieved a record-breaking milestone in sponsored research funding for the first quarter of fiscal year 2020-2021.

The first quarter, which began on July 1, saw a 92% increase in research funding compared to the first three months of fiscal 2019-2020. Federal, state and private agencies awarded FAU faculty \$38.9 million for the first quarter, 2020. That number was \$20.2 million during the same time frame in 2019.

"Securing research funding is no easy feat, especially during these exceptionally challenging times," said **Daniel C. Flynn**, Ph.D., FAU's vice president for research. "This monumental milestone for Florida Atlantic University is a testament to our talented, dedicated and passionate researchers who are making great contributions in science, technology, health and the humanities at a pivotal time in Florida's and our nation's history."

Among the largest grants in that time frame:

- An \$11,179,001, four-year contract from the United States Office of Naval Research to develop a next-generation, high-intake, compact, defined excitation bathyphotometer sensor. Bathyphotometer measurements of bioluminescence are used to study light emissions from luminescent marine organisms, including phytoplankton and zooplankton.

- A five-year, \$5.3 million R01 grant from the National Institute on Aging of the



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National Institutes of Health for a project that will enable researchers to test and evaluate an in-vehicle sensing system that could provide early warnings of cognitive change for older U.S. drivers.

- A five-year, \$2.4 million grant from the National Science Foundation to train graduate students in data science technologies and applications.

- A \$2.2 million grant for the "Harmful Algal Bloom Assessment of Lake Okeechobee" project.

Dr. Bernadette Russell, Palm Beach State College's vice president of e-learning and instructional technology and Boca Raton campus provost, retired in December. She had led the campus for 13 years, and she assumed leadership for e-learning collegewide five years ago.

A national search is underway for her replacement.

The college recognized Russell for her service at a district board of trustees meeting.

"For over a decade Dr. Russell has been a tremendous asset to the college, our students, and the community. She has been a strong advocate for the college in the Boca Raton community, and she has created a caring family atmosphere on the Boca Raton campus. Her commitment to academic excellence has been a common thread throughout her service to the college," said the college's president, **Ava L. Parker**, J.D. "As we prepared to respond to the pandemic, her leadership on the e-learning and instructional technology front really helped us through an unprecedented transition from in-person to remote learning this summer.

"I wish her well in her retirement. She will be missed."

Christel Silver, owner of Silver International Realty in Delray Beach, was appointed to the National Association of Realtors' 2021 Certified International Property Specialist advisory board.

"Global home buying activity is happening all around us," Silver said. "The ability to close a transaction with an international buyer may depend upon the Realtor's ability to get along with a person culturally. There are cultural nuances that Realtors need to be aware of in working with individuals of a different culture. The CIPS curriculum reviews many cultural customs."

Boys & Girls Clubs of Palm Beach County members received at least one gift and enjoyed an extra-special holiday party held at their club, thanks to the annual Boys & Girls Clubs of Palm Beach County gift drive.



Russell
instructional technology and Boca Raton campus provost, retired in December. She had led the campus for 13 years, and she assumed leadership for e-learning collegewide five years ago.

A national search is underway for her replacement.

The college recognized Russell for her service at a district board of trustees meeting.

"For over a decade Dr. Russell has been a tremendous asset to the college, our students, and the community. She has been a strong advocate for the college in the Boca Raton community, and she has created a caring family atmosphere on the Boca Raton campus. Her commitment to academic excellence has been a common thread throughout her service to the college," said the college's president, **Ava L. Parker**, J.D. "As we prepared to respond to the pandemic, her leadership on the e-learning and instructional technology front really helped us through an unprecedented transition from in-person to remote learning this summer.

"I wish her well in her retirement. She will be missed."



Elyse Duff and Billy Cunningham of Park View Realty with toys collected for the Boys & Girls Clubs. **Photo provided**

"There was real concern that our club members were going to be disappointed this holiday season, with not enough toys and gifts to go around. Thanks to overwhelming community support, our area's most disadvantaged children will have a happy holiday after all," said **Eric Roby**, the organization's marketing, PR and holiday gift drive director.

Traditional corporate sponsors included **The Breakers Palm Beach** and **Office Depot**, and newer partners included **GL Homes**. Another new partner, **Park View Realty**, helped get more than a dozen Delray Beach businesses involved with the gift drive. Boca West Children's Foundation, Spirit of Giving and Rocking Horse Foundation also offered help.

The pandemic affected **Project Holiday**, which sends care packages to military members and is run by Delores Rangel, executive secretary to the Delray Beach City Commission.

For the 15th annual event, the call went out in mid-November for monetary donations, not the usual granola bars and personal

care items, Rangel said. The money went to buy big boxes of peanut butter crackers and granola bars, large cans of coffee and "a lot of beef jerky," she said.

Project volunteers, wearing face masks and standing about 6 feet apart, put together 65 boxes on Dec. 12. They worked in the City Hall lobby and up and down its halls, Rangel said.

She started the program after her daughter joined the Air Force right after 9/11 and began sending weekly care packages overseas through her daughter's five tours in Iraq.

Her co-workers soon began leaving candy bars, toiletries and paperbacks on Rangel's desk. For Christmas 2006, Rangel joined two established programs, You Are Not Alone and One Soldier at a Time, creating Project Holiday.

With Florida food banks reporting as much as a 300% to 400% increase in demand and more than 2.7 million people struggling with hunger, **Publix** began a six-week program in mid-December to support six **Feeding America** food banks — including Feeding

South Florida, which serves the Miami-Dade, Broward, Palm Beach and Monroe areas. The donations include pasta, canned vegetables, canned beans, cereal and boxed potatoes.

"When we heard from food banks that they were facing a critical food shortage, we knew that, as a food retailer, we had another opportunity to help," said Publix CEO **Todd Jones**.

"As federally funded food deliveries decrease, food banks need help to serve our communities," said **Paco Vélez**, president and CEO of Feeding South Florida. "For decades, Publix has consistently looked for creative ways to support those in need. Their leadership in 2020 has played a vital role in sustaining our clients throughout this most challenging and unusual year."

This new initiative is in addition to the program Publix launched in April to purchase surplus produce and milk from farmers affected by the pandemic and deliver it directly to food banks. Through that program, Publix expected to purchase and deliver more than 7 million pounds of produce and more than 250,000 gallons of milk to the six Florida food banks that received additional support for the 2020 holiday season.

The Gold Coast PR Council Inc., a South Florida independent group of public relations, marketing and communications professionals, has announced its 2021 board of directors. The newly elected president is **Melissa Perlman**, president and founder of BlueIvy Communications, a Delray Beach-based public relations and communications agency.

Founded in 2011, BlueIvy Communications has been recognized twice by *PRNews* as one of the Top 15 PR professionals to watch. Perlman was also named in 2017 by *South*

Florida Business & Wealth magazine as an Up & Comer in the public relations category; by *Boca Life* magazine as one of the publication's 2014 "40 Under 40"; and by the *South Florida Sun-Sentinel* as part of the publication's inaugural 2012 Top Workplaces awards.

The Gold Coast PR Council's other 2021 directors are: Vice President Amy Murphy, constitutional tax collector, Palm Beach County; Secretary Gary Schweikhart, PR-BS; Treasurer Michael Turnbull, Food for the Poor; Immediate Past President Debbie Abrams, the Buzz Agency.

Scott Benarde has joined Oxbridge Academy, a West Palm Beach college preparatory school, as its assistant director of communications. Previously, Benarde was director of

communications for the Norton Museum of Art, and he served as the communications manager for the Jewish Community Center of the Greater Palm Beaches.

Benarde's career in the communications field included jobs as a journalist for *The Palm Beach Post* and *Sun-Sentinel*, and as a freelance writer. His articles have been published in *The New York Times*, *Washington Post* and *Rolling Stone*.

Jane Smith contributed to this column.

Send business news to Christine Davis at cdavis9797@gmail.com



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Teen ballerina, FAU dance director hope to inspire other Black artists. Page AT9

Around Town

The Coastal Star

January 2021

Inside**Dining**

A look ahead at Delray's new food hall. Page AT6

**Tots & Teens**

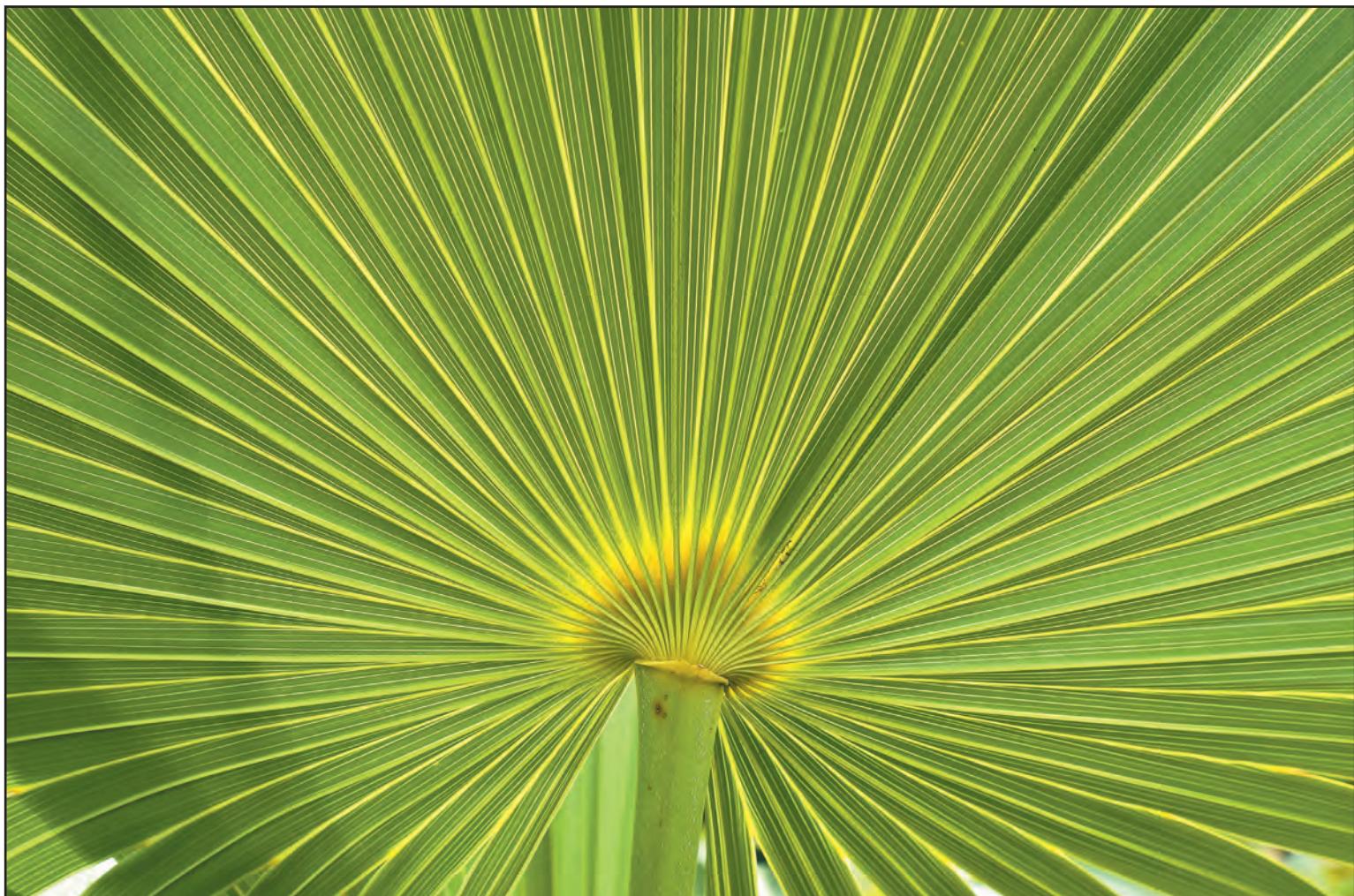
Mom writes the book on wearing masks. Page AT20

**Paws Up for Pets**

Our critters are good medicine. Page AT23

**House of the Month**

An oceanfront Highland Beach estate. Page AT27



Meet the Natives

Florida's landscape is flush with palms, but only 11 are indigenous to the state. You can view them all at the Norton's Sculpture Garden

By Deborah S. Hartz-Seeley

Although many people think of the coconut palm as the quintessential South Florida palm tree, it's not a native. In fact, the state has 11 native palm trees but not a coconut among them.

To explore these indigenous palms, visit the newly reopened and socially distanced Norton Museum of Art in West Palm Beach.

Here, the permanent installation of the Florida 11 is on display throughout the museum's Sculpture Garden.

The planting was funded by a \$20,000 grant awarded in 2019.

It came from the Stanley Smith Horticultural Trust, which supports "organizations working to advance research and/or education in ornamental horticulture."

For details on these natural works of art, see Pages AT18-19



TOP: The backlight frond of a green thatch palm glows in the late-day sun. ABOVE: The trunks of (l-r) cabbage, buccaneer, silver and royal palms show the wide variety of color and textures of Florida's native palms. Photos by Jerry Lower/The Coastal Star

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Philanthropy Notes

Chamber award recognizes Literacy Coalition's impact

The Literacy Coalition of Palm Beach County won the 2020 Health & Human Services Organization of the Year award given by the Chamber of Commerce of the Palm Beaches.

Kristin Calder, the coalition's CEO,



accepted the honor during a virtual ceremony.

"This recognition allows us to raise awareness about the families that struggle each day and the ways we are helping to provide literacy and life skills to help them be successful in school and in life," Calder said. "Our programs and initiatives have an impact countywide, and even in challenging times when we can't meet in person we have adapted to deliver our

programs virtually to continue educating and engaging our students so they continue to reach milestones and make important gains."

In other coalition news, the Grand Bee, which spelling participants experienced virtually this season because of the pandemic, raised \$20,000. The theme was "A Year of Mystery," and more than 60 competitors helped make it a success.

The coalition's mission is to improve the quality of life through literacy by serving 29,000 adults, children and families annually.



Goodwin



Pinsky



Bell



Kitsopoulos

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Chair and Professor
Department of Neuroscience

Hollis Cline, PhD
Chair and Professor
Department of Neuroscience



MARCH 25, 2021 | 4:00 PM ET
Cracking the Code of Chronic Inflammation

Mark Sundrud, PhD
Associate Professor, Department of Immunology and Microbiology



APRIL 21, 2021 | 4:00 PM ET
Mapping the Secret Complexity of Tumors to Defeat Aggressive Cancers

Michalina Janiszewska, PhD
Assistant Professor, Department of Molecular Medicine

The Front Row COVID-19 Lecture Series is now available online. Watch any time at scripps.edu/covid-videos. To learn more about Scripps Research or get involved, contact (561) 228-2084 or philanthropy-florida@scripps.edu



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Brands, added: "My parents set a wonderful philanthropic example and instilled in us the importance of giving back to support your community. It is a tradition that as a company and as individuals we continue to uphold. I hope our contribution inspires other philanthropic gifts to Boca Regional in this fundraising effort."

United Way benefits from NCCI's giving campaign

The National Council on Compensation Insurance raised \$255,000 during its annual giving campaign for the United Way of Palm Beach County.

The campaign took place virtually and featured one drive that procured 304 books for the Achievement Centers for Children & Families and another that procured 1,410 pounds of food for CROS Ministries.

"Education and nutrition are so essential for building healthy minds and bodies," said Freddie July-Johnson, NCCI's campaign chairwoman, who noted the campaign's theme, "Nourishing the Minds and Bodies in Our Community."

"Our team is proud that the pandemic didn't hold us back from making a lasting impact on the lives of families in need in Palm Beach County."

For information about the United Way of Palm Beach County, call 561-375-6600 or visit <https://unitedwaypbc.org>.

Junior League event haul: \$160K and 40,000 diapers

The Junior League of Boca Raton had its 33rd annual Woman Volunteer of the Year event — virtually, of course — and raised more than \$160,000 to help South County.

The event also brought in nearly 40,000 diapers for the Diaper Bank.

"Yvette Drucker and Nancy Walsh made the virtual Woman Volunteer of the Year a night to remember," President Cristy Stewart-Harfmann said.

"Most importantly, thanks to attendees and our generous donors, the event raised significant funds to help women and children in our community."

The theme was "Honoring the History of Women Volunteers" and highlighted the 685 past nominees.

Doris Kearns Goodwin joins virtual gala in Boca

Festival of the Arts Boca has raised more than \$33,000 to benefit music education in South County, including the new Festival of the Arts Boca Music Competition.

Proceeds were generated during a virtual gala.

"We are very grateful to all those who tuned in and pledged their support for our ongoing mission to expand our community music-education programs," said Joanna Marie Kaye, the festival's executive director.

"The gala captured 632 views — many that included watch parties.

"This number exceeded our expectations and surpassed the reach a live gala would have garnered."

Among the guests to the virtual gala were presidential historian Doris Kearns Goodwin, former U.S. poet laureate Robert Pinsky and superstar violinist Joshua Bell, in addition to the festival's music director, Constantine Kitsopoulos.

Funding targets small, emerging cultural groups

The Cultural Council for Palm Beach County is administering funds totaling \$212,500 to 24 select organizations.

A motion approved by the council's board designates dollars from the Cultural Development Fund for Small or Emerging Cultural Organizations to go to nonprofits with operating revenues of at least \$25,000.

"This annual funding program supports diverse arts programming focused on education and cultural heritage in Palm Beach County," President and CEO Dave Lawrence said. "These programs provide opportunities to children and youth and create opportunities for residents to experience innovative cultural programs. We're grateful to the Palm Beach County Board of Commissioners for their support and are honored to help these organizations grow through this grant."

Grant amounts are based not only on organizations' budgets but also on application scores and the county-approved funding pool.

For a list of 2020-21 winners, visit [www.palmbeachculture.com/our-impact/grant-programs/small-or-emerging-organizations-and-look-under-the-grantee-toolkit](http://palmbeachculture.com/our-impact/grant-programs/small-or-emerging-organizations-and-look-under-the-grantee-toolkit).

Boca Regional campaign receives another big gift

Another \$1 million gift has been made to "Keeping the Promise — the Campaign for Boca Raton Regional Hospital."

The donation is one of nearly two dozen seven- and eight-figure amounts received by the campaign, which is steadily pushing toward its \$250 million goal.

"The Sands Family Foundation and Constellation Brands only recently joined our family at Boca Raton Regional Hospital," CEO Lincoln Mendez said. "They immediately embraced our culture of health care and philanthropy as well as our vision for the future. We look forward to a long and healthy relationship with the Sands family, and we are deeply grateful for their support."

Rob Sands, executive chairman of Constellation

Pay it Forward

Pay it Forward

Events are current as of 12/27. Please check with organizers for any changes.

JANUARY

Monday - 1/18 - Spady Cultural Heritage Museum's Martin Luther King Jr. Brunch, a virtual event. Begin the new year by celebrating the historical figure and ringing in the organization's 20th anniversary. 10 am. \$25. 279-8883 or spadmuseum.com.

Tuesday - 1/26 - JARC Florida's "A Fashion Show With Heart: A Hybrid Event," at The Addison, Two E. Camino Real, Boca Raton. Watch in person or on Zoom as 15 JARC clients, along with their families and friends, walk the runway during the fun-filled and heartwarming affair. 11 am. \$50-\$75. 558-2572 or jarcfl.org.

FEBRUARY

Tuesday - 2/16 - Ferd & Gladys Alpert Jewish Family Service's "No Excuse for Abuse," a virtual event. Join abduction survivor, women's advocate and successful author Elizabeth Smart at what would have been the 17th-annual fundraiser for the nationally accredited service provider for children, adults, seniors and Holocaust survivors. No couvert; donations suggested. 7-8 pm. 684-1991 or alpertjfs.org.

Friday - 2/19 - LIFE's "Lady in Red" Gala, a virtual event. Celebrate with soul singer Gladys Knight and crack comedian Dana Carvey at the 27th-annual affair benefiting a program that trains shelter dogs so they can be partnered with disabled veterans as companions as well as the Palm Beach County Food Bank. 6 pm. \$500. 582-8083 or life-edu.org.

From A to Y: 25 nonprofits vie for \$100,000 grants

Impact 100 Palm Beach County has selected the 25 semifinalists that will have the opportunity to submit full applications for one of several \$100,000 high-impact grants benefiting the nonprofit community.

The female-led organization used the virtual platform of Facebook Live to announce the charities in the 2021 competition.

"We received 84 grant applications this year, which means there are \$8.4 million in funding requests from local nonprofits in need," President Kathy Adkins said. "Impact 100 PBC acts as a lifeline to these vital organizations but more so than ever this grant-giving year."

The charities are: Alzheimer's Community Care; American Association of Caregiving Youth; Boca Raton Museum of Art; Boys & Girls Clubs of Palm Beach County; Coastal Conservation Association Florida; Connect

to Greatness; Digital Vibez; First Serve USA; Florence Fuller Child Development Centers; Florida Atlantic University Foundation; Help Our Wounded Foundation; Junior Achievement of the Palm Beaches & Treasure Coast; Love Serving Autism; Milagro Center; Nova Southeastern University; Palm Beach State College; Pathways to Prosperity; Peggy Adams Animal Rescue League; PROPEL; Schoolhouse Children's Museum & Learning Center; Spady Cultural Heritage Museum; Sweet Dream Makers; Tri-County Animal Rescue; Unicorn Children's Foundation; and Young Singers of the Palm Beaches.

For information, call 561-336-4623 or visit www.impact100pbc.org.



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Celebrations

President's Project

Private home, Atlantis — Dec. 3



Members of the Boynton Woman's Club assembled 150 bags of candy for distribution to clients of the Palm Beach Habilitation Center in Lake Worth. The club chose the center as its 2020/2021 President's Project. It offers vocational training, employment and community job placement as well as recreational activities and residential services to people with disabilities. **Photo provided**

Gifts for Abuse Victims

Crown Colony, Ocean Ridge — Dec. 21



Crown Colony Club residents and the Ocean Ridge Police Department teamed up to provide dozens of toys and packages to Aid to Victims of Domestic Abuse for use at its shelter in Delray Beach. The packages included clothing, makeup, diapers and other essentials. The facility is one of only two shelters in the county that provide this kind of service. **Photo provided**

Enrichment Center unveiling

First Haitian Baptist Church, Belle Glade — Dec. 9



Grammy-nominated songwriter Ali Tamposi and former NFL wide receiver Pierre Garçon attended the First Haitian Baptist Church Children's Christmas Gift Giveaway and the unveiling of its new Enrichment Center in Belle Glade. The 4,500-square-foot center replaces a 1940s building that housed the after-school program for children for the past 25 years. Donations of \$600,000 have been raised for the center, but an equal amount is still needed. **ABOVE:** Morana St. Hilaire, Garçon, Candace Tamposi and Ali Tamposi. **Photo provided**

Prosecco with the President

Virtual event — Nov. 12



Impact 100 Palm Beach County and the Boca Raton Resort & Club sponsored a Zoom gathering led by organization President Kathy Adkins, membership Co-Chairwomen Kathryn Gillespie, Lisa Warren and Nicole Mugavero and grants Co-Chairwoman Renee Layman. The speakers provided background on the nonprofit and its plans for the 2021 grant cycle. 'The key component of this organization is that women can make a tremendous impact in their own backyard,' Adkins said. 'As we enter our 10th year of grants in Palm Beach County, we are incredibly proud of the good our members are doing right here at home.' **ABOVE:** Adkins and Layman are caught on camera by videographer Jack Schulman. **Photo provided**

Retirement announcement

Boca Raton — Oct. 30

Eric Shaw, Boca Helping Hands' longest-serving board member, stepped down after 18 years of service, 14 as vice president. Shaw, described by staffers as 'the perfect gentleman,' personified the nonprofit's mission of providing food, medical and financial assistance to people in need. 'I stayed so long because it has been a phenomenal trip,' he said. 'It has been my personal pleasure and a professional privilege to be a small part of this great organization doing so much good for so many in our caring and compassionate community.' **RIGHT:** Shaw with board President Gary Peters in 2006. **Photo provided**



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Celebrations

Parade of Lights

Seagate neighborhood, Delray Beach — Dec. 19
 Dozens of residents decorated themselves, their cars and golf carts, and even their pets as they took part in the neighborhood's annual Holiday Festival of Lights Parade.

Tim Stepien/The Coastal Star



Mike and Deidre Neal (l-r) and their neighbors, Nick, Katherine and Mazie Malinoski, greet Mrs. Claus. Photos by Jerry Lower/The Coastal Star

In Ocean Ridge and Briny, Santa trades in sleigh for golf cart

The Reiter family — (l-r) Josh, Russell, Sam, Anya, Susan and Lily — is dressed for the occasion as Santa draws near on Old Ocean Boulevard.



Cathy Allen as Mrs. Claus, wife of Gulf Stream Police Chief Edward Allen, drops her mask for a moment to smile for a group of children.

The coronavirus changed how municipalities celebrated the holidays, with the traditional large public gatherings canceled. In Ocean Ridge, the town spread Christmas cheer with a parade featuring Santa Claus, replacing the usual indoor event.

ABOVE LEFT: Golf carts loaded with Santa and his wife, and with town commissioners and the mayor dressed as elves, dispensed candy canes and dog treats. They received a police escort as they ventured down every street in Ocean Ridge and Briny Breezes.

Dining

Delray food hall to sell everything from sushi to surfboards

With completion only a few calendar pages away, the **Delray Beach Market** is in the final stretch of signing on vendors. But like other businesses opening just now, 2020 problems are bleeding into 2021 plans for what is billed as the state's largest food hall.

The \$60 million, four-story project on Southeast Third Avenue, created by Menin Development of Delray Beach, has been years in planning. With 150,000 square feet — roughly three times the size of New York's famed **Eataly** — it's slated to have more than 30 independent vendors selling everything from sushi to surfboards starting sometime in March.

"Obviously, COVID has thrown us for a loop," said Jordana Jarjura, Menin's president and special counsel. "So what we've done is cut the permanent stalls from 32 to 25 and spaced them out. To make up for the stalls we removed, we'll be reaching out to vendors using carts, such as **Guaca Go**," she said.

Craig O'Keefe, managing partner of Clique Hospitality, the group responsible for managing the food hall, said



The 150,000-square-foot Delray Beach Market will have more than 30 vendors of food and other products. It is scheduled to open in March. **Rendering provided**

that "one of the cool parts of having to eliminate stalls" is the creation of "an awesome opportunity for more startups, small mom-and-pops who wouldn't otherwise have a chance to get the exposure they'll get here."

"This will give people an opportunity to experiment and do some cool stuff."

These vendors will rotate, depending on their success.

The goal of each is to become a regular vendor, and Jarjura said "we will be happy" to lose anyone to a brick and mortar space. "That will mean they were successful. We'd love to see that."

The development group has tried to attract food makers who aren't represented along the busy Atlantic Avenue and surrounds.

"We were looking for

authentic ethnic, local when possible, healthy and memorable," Jarjura said. "We have Indian, Lebanese, Pan-Asian, healthy quick breakfasts and many more that will be unique."

Vendors will include vegan, Mexican traditional, Italian pastries and a Caribbean stall with conch salad, conch fritters and Kalik beer.

They will come from around

the county with a few outside of the area, Jarjura said. Some local chefs and food providers are on board. For example, **Jimmy Everett** of **Driftwood** in Boynton Beach will pay homage to Mexican sisters with **Sorella's**, a fresh pasta stall.

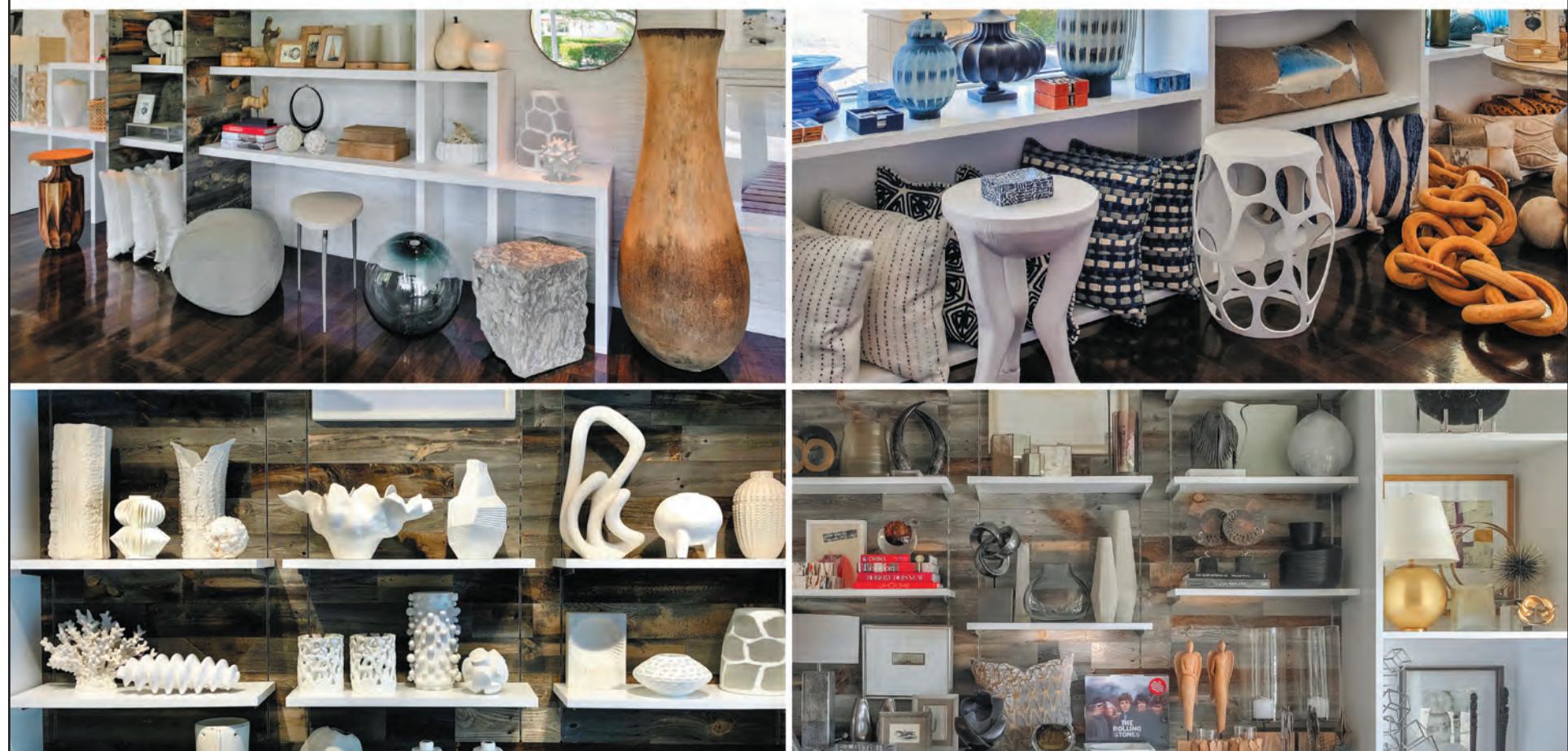
Everett

"I was trained by these two Mexican sisters in New York who learned how to make pasta from this little Italian woman. Back in the day they really were the ones doing fresh pasta shapes for all the top restaurants," he said. One of the pair died from cancer and with her went the dream of opening their own pasta shop.

"So Sorella's means sister in Italian, and the shop is in honor of them," Everett said. The tiny stall — roughly 250 square feet — will offer fresh pastas made on the spot, and sauces with some other components for a pasta dish.

He'll manage in the little booth, he said. "Oh, I'm definitely used to working in tiny spaces: I had a kitchen in L.A. that was 75 or 100 square foot."

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A display case will have pastas by the pound, along with sauces to take home for a DIY dinner.

The retail is a bonus for Everett, and even though it won't bear the Driftwood name, it's up to his standards. Retail, he said, is a growing aspect in the restaurant industry as COVID-19 still keeps diners at bay.

The developers have taken the virus into consideration, with a cashless business model, touchless bathrooms, collapsible nano walls for open-air spaces, and outdoor seating as well as spaced-out interior tables.

The stalls are minimalist in decor by design.

"We wanted stripped-down stalls so the public can see the vendors in action. They can watch the pasta being made, and the sushi chef making sushi," Jarjura said.

The money for decor was spent instead on murals, and a variety of artwork by local and national artists in a mix of media will be displayed, and rotated in and out.

"We want it to be a feast for the eyes and the soul," Jarjura said.

A great deal of interaction will be involved in keeping the sprawling space lively. The mezzanine features a show kitchen and play area for kids, as well as a community gathering space where meetings or social events could be staged. While parents get some computer work

done on the free Wi-Fi, kids can engage in gaming nearby. Balconies provide more open-air spaces on this level.

Jarjura believes the market will become a new social gathering space. "The Greenmarket is the green outdoor community space; we're going to be the indoor community hub."

The projected number of visitors is large, 2,000 a day, but the team said that has to do with the large hall, long hours of 7 a.m. to 11 p.m. every day, and the chance for visitors to come and go or to stay awhile.

"It seems like a really large number, but over the course of an entire day, people will come and go throughout, and different spaces will be utilized. With so much flex space it offers a lot of freedom to move around," O'Keefe said.

The vendors have signed on for one year, minimum. And not all are for food, despite the description of the market.

Briny Breezes' surf shop **Nomad** is slated to set up shop indoors. It will offer beachwear and supplies for a day at the shore.

"We have some retail spaces in the market. They were a local favorite. I went to school with Ronnie Heavyside," Jarjura said. "His father started it in the '80s. And I know his brother Ryan through Ronnie. I just thought Delray was such a large part of their history."

One example of the market's

authentic ethnic flavor is the **Tiffin Box**, a fast, fresh Indian takeout.

"We wanted traditional Indian," Jarjura said. "The way he presents his cuisine, it's more approachable. Even if you're not familiar with Indian, it's very easy to approach it."

Bona Bona is an extravagant ice cream shop that has adult "boozy" mixtures along with family favorites. **Tekka Bar** is the sushi stall, coming from operators who are from Las Vegas.

O'Keefe said cocktails and beers will play a role in the market. A lounge area in the flex space on the mezzanine can host special or private events and turn into a more club-like atmosphere at night.

"Several vendors have their beer and wine license," he said. "Sake at the sushi stall. There is a central bar on the ground floor; it's the main focus for beverages on the ground floor. There will be the coolest craft beer bar in Palm Beach County among the retail components. The mezzanine bar is the only other bar with hard liquor."

The lounge area is a potential community hot spot in the daytime, O'Keefe said. "Maybe Mommy and Me cooking classes, or how to play the ukulele, or yoga people can do. It will be real community engagement."

Plenty of outdoor seating will be available on the oversized sidewalks.

"There is so much advanced technology throughout," O'Keefe said. "You can order as a group on your phone with an app, from individual stalls, and pay as one ticket. And you will get a text message once your food is ready for pickup."

As for parking, the four-story structure includes 220 spaces in an enclosed garage.

The market is scheduled to open in March at 33 SE Third Ave., Delray Beach, and be open daily, 7 a.m. to 11 p.m.

Co-owner **John Calomiris** of **Dune Deck Cafe** in Lantana said he was embarrassed after decades in business to have to discuss a rodent problem at the oceanfront restaurant.

"We know, the city knows and the exterminator knows about it," he said. "They live under the wooden sidewalk and in the brush all around the restaurant. That is their home. They are out of control. The city came to clear out the brush at the back of the restaurant, but you can't control them."

Inspectors shut down the popular eatery when rats were found in the kitchen, and other violations, including a dirty ice dispenser, were discovered.

Overnight the restaurant was cleaned, reinspected and reopened within a day, Calomiris said. Crews come in early daily to clean, and a second crew comes at night, he said. Exterminators come sometimes three times a week as

needed.

Without a sealed walkway next to the restaurant on the ocean side, he doesn't foresee an end to the problem.

"It's embarrassing," Calomiris said. "I've been here for 40 years, and haven't been shut down except for COVID for 90 days."

In brief: A makeover is in the works this year for the former **Rum Bar and Grill** at the Waterstone Resort and Marina in Boca Raton. It's planned to become a premier outdoor waterfront dining experience, according to publicist Michelle Soudry of the Gab Group. ... A high-end steakhouse will open in Delray Beach in 2021, brought to South Florida by the owners of **Scarpetta** and **Campagna** in New York City. Details will come as plans are released. ... At the end of December, longtime restaurateur Henry Olmino moved **Mario's**, his popular Italian eatery at 225 Ocean Avenue in Lantana, to 707 Lake Ave., Lake Worth. In September, Olmino opened Fire and Ice at the Lake Worth location. The restaurant is now known as Mario's on Lake Avenue. Mario's had been in Lantana since 2015.



Jan Norris is a food writer who can be reached at nativefla@gmail.com

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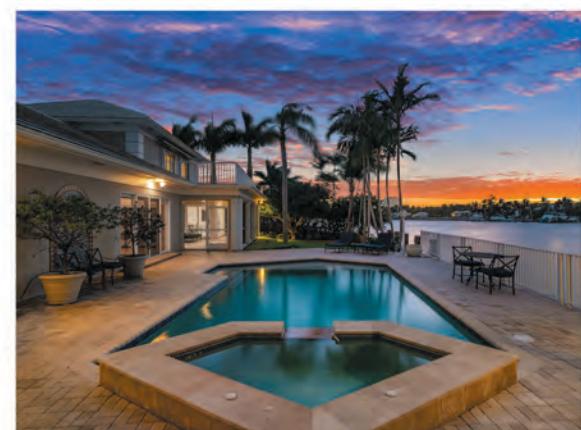
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Dance

Breaking barriers

Teen ballerina from Wellington, dance veteran at FAU hope their success will help other Black artists

By Tara Mitton Catao
ArtsPaper Dance Writer

Clarence Brooks still remembers the day in the 1980s that he first saw the posters that had a photo of him dancing.

"Someone (or several people) ... had plastered the N-word all over the posters," he said.

Brooks, who was only in his second year of studying dance, had felt so honored to have been selected to perform a solo at an important fundraiser to be held at the Civic Center in Oklahoma City, but he was unaware that the poster advertising the event, which had been circulated all over the city, prominently featured a photo of him in the solo.

"My recollection is that the chair [of the dance department] and the choreographer witnessed me holding a poster and my tear-stained face and pulled me into the office to console me. The surprise and honor [I felt] was stifled by the shock of seeing that vitriolic word hurriedly scrawled across my face. ... It hurt to know that someone I studied with and knew would do this."

"But the all-white faculty held me up ... they had my back. The gist of their pep talk was 'cry in private, but smile in public.' They wanted me to be strong and above it all," he said.

Staying motivated through tough times

Now take a moment and imagine you have been training as a dancer for the last 13 years, and now it is your chance to perform at Lincoln Center in New York but, because of COVID-19, it doesn't happen. All of New York City is shut down.

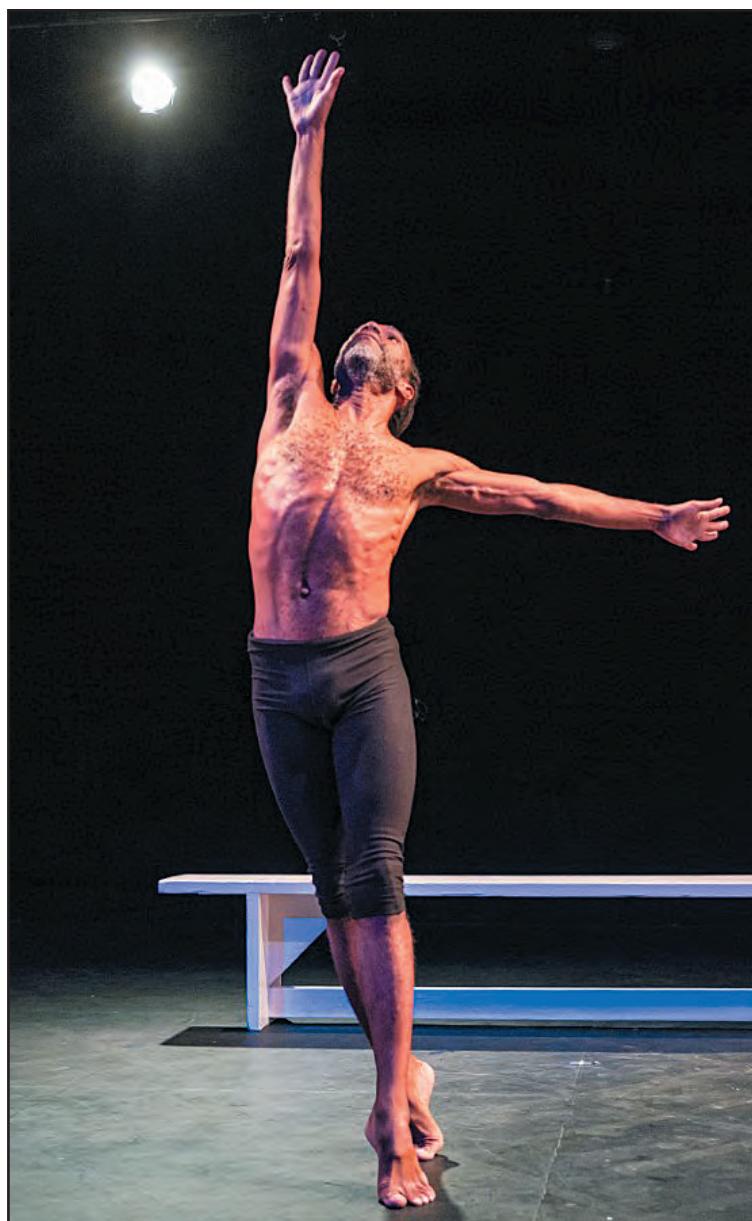
Madison Brown, 16, said it was more than disappointing, it was "heartbreaking. ... I was just so shocked and disappointed. It was all I could think about ... and then it was gone," she said, speaking from her home in Wellington.

Maddie, as she is known, is a talented young dancer who was a strong contender for winning her division at the coveted New York City Finals of the most prestigious international competition for young dancers, Youth America Grand Prix, which is held each year in April at the David H. Koch Theater in Lincoln Center. Just before the pandemic hit, Maddie had won first place in both the classical ballet and contemporary dance divisions at Youth America Grand Prix's regional competition in Tampa.

Her dream is to dance with American Ballet Theatre, following in the steps of Misty Copeland, who has become the groundbreaking role model for many aspiring ballet dancers, particularly for those who are Black.

Copeland broke an important racial barrier in classical ballet by becoming the first Black ballerina at ABT to perform the lead roles in *Swan Lake* and *Romeo and Juliet*. Now Madison, too, aspires to perform these iconic roles.

"She opened the doors. ... [Now] there's no reason to hesitate if this is what you want," Madison said. "You can go get it. You can strive



TOP: Madison Brown dances the "Queen of the Dryads Variation" from the ballet *Don Quixote* at the Youth America Grand Prix. **Photo by Visual Arts Masters.** **ABOVE:** Clarence Brooks performing *Mourner's Bench* by Talley Beatty at The Tank in New York City. **Photo by Melissa Sobel/Meems Images**

See DANCERS on page AT11

Theater

New Kravis CEO 'planting seeds' for reopening

By Hap Erstein
ArtsPaper Theater Writer

A viral pandemic and an economic downturn have made for a tight job market, yet Terrence W. Dwyer, former chief executive officer of southern California's Segerstrom Center for the Arts, has landed a plum position during these challenging times.

Last month he was named the new CEO of West Palm Beach's Kravis Center, taking over for the retiring Judy Mitchell, who has held the post since the center opened almost 30 years ago.

"As you can imagine, it's a difficult time to be looking for work," Dwyer said recently by telephone. "People were staying in jobs and organizations were hesitant to fill empty jobs. So when the Kravis opening came up, and it's pretty much a dream job for me, I was thrilled that the board had the confidence to bring me on board as the next CEO. Particularly following such an exceptional tenure as Judy Mitchell's."

Dwyer was at the helm of the Segerstrom Center from 2006 to 2019, a time of significant growth for the Costa Mesa organization's programs and budget, including the raising of \$140 million for that center's capital campaign during his tenure. Following his departure from the center, he briefly headed the McCallum Theatre in Palm Desert, California.

Asked about his achievements at the Segerstrom, Dwyer is quick to say, "The Segerstrom Center was very accomplished when I arrived." He adds, "We continued to enhance the artistic programs and we created and built a very strong community engagement department that really helped to transform the center's relationship with its community. We were very proud of that."

Even from thousands of miles away, Dwyer was well aware of the Kravis Center. "The Kravis Center is one of a small number of very large and prominent performing arts centers in the country. So anyone who has worked at one tends to know a fair amount about the other ones. You share reports and you share information," he says. "And so the Kravis Center is really one of the exceptional performing arts centers in the country and I couldn't believe how lucky I was that there was an opening that I could throw my hat in the ring and see what happens."

Despite his knowledge of the Kravis and an acquaintance with Mitchell from various industry conferences, Dwyer still did additional research on the center. "You talk to friends that know the organization well, you talk to colleagues in the funding community. You get as much information as you can, but



Terrence Dwyer takes the helm of the Kravis Center for the Performing Arts at a most challenging time.
Photo provided

See DWYER on page AT10

Film

Delray actress breaks through in Hollywood with roles in major films

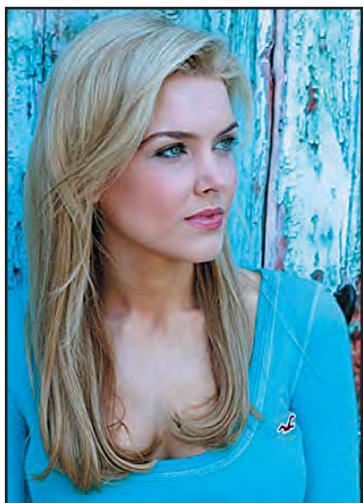
By Hap Erstein
ArtsPaper Film Writer

Palm Beach County has an emerging movie star in its midst. Making it official, Kate Katzman of Delray Beach was anointed with the Star on the Horizon Award at November's Fort Lauderdale International Film Festival, where her latest big-screen feature, *The Comeback Trail*, was the opening night attraction.

"To be recognized like that is thrilling enough," she says by phone, "but to receive it at a prestige festival like Fort Lauderdale makes it even more special."

A movie fan from an early age, Katzman, 37, says she would allow herself to dream of an acting career, but never thought it could become a reality.

A strikingly attractive blonde, Katzman had little trouble gaining a modeling career in



Actress Kate Katzman stars with DeNiro, Freeman and Jones in *The Comeback Trail*.
Photo provided

Miami. Then, following a fluke introduction to Hollywood legend Burt Reynolds, she took acting lessons under his encouragement and mentorship.

"I really do owe my career to Mr. Reynolds," says Katzman.

"He helped give me confidence as an actress and opened so many doors for me in the industry. He always emphasized being truthful in my acting choices, which I try to do. Even though he is no longer with us, I feel like he sits on my shoulder, spurring me on."

Reynolds died in 2018.

Katzman made her film debut in 2015's *Walt Before Mickey*, playing Walt Disney's wife, Lillian. While it got her foot in the door in Hollywood, afterward she returned to Florida to take master classes in acting at Reynolds' Jupiter institute.

Now, in *The Comeback Trail*, she is in heady company, performing alongside a trio of Oscar winners — Robert De Niro, Morgan Freeman and Tommy Lee Jones. Katzman concedes that appearing opposite such veteran actors did initially make her nervous, but

they could not be nicer or more encouraging to her.

De Niro, she says, is "so soft-spoken and low-key. I sensed that he, and the others in the cast, were really rooting for me to do well."

The Comeback Trail is actually a remake, based on a little-seen tongue-in-cheek Western from 1974 that featured Chuck McCann and Buster Crabbe. In both versions, a down-on-his-luck, desperate producer (De Niro in the new film) takes out a large insurance policy on his has-been star (Jones), planning to knock him off during the making of the movie, allowing the producer to pay back what he owes an impatient mob boss (Freeman).

Katzman auditioned for a minor role, but she so impressed director-screenwriter George Gallo that he cast her as the director of the film-within-the-film and reconceived the

part for her. "Being on that set was like attending more master classes," she said. "I should have paid them for letting me be there."

Regardless of how *The Comeback Trail* fares — it is scheduled to arrive in theaters sometime early this year — Katzman's career is on the rise. Also expected to be released next year is *Adverse*, a crime thriller with Mickey Rourke, Penelope Ann Miller, and Lou Diamond Phillips. More recently, she signed to appear in *Panama*, an action picture slated to star Mel Gibson.

Katzman intends for South Florida to remain home base for herself, her husband and her two young children.

"I feel very fortunate the way my movie career is headed," she says. "I will go anywhere if a role is good, but nothing is better than coming home to Delray Beach."

Dwyer

Continued from page 9

you never really get any of the inside information until you actually get further along in the interview process."

New Jersey native Dwyer, 64, has two master's degrees — one in directing from the University of Missouri and the other in theater management from the Yale School of Drama. Prior to his time at the Segerstrom, he served as managing director at three prestigious regional theaters: Circle Repertory Company, La Jolla Playhouse and The Alley Theatre. He and his wife, Amy, a booking rep for classical music artists, have a daughter in graduate school.

The Kravis Center held a national search for its next CEO, which Dwyer described as "very thorough." After months of communication with the center's outside search firm, Dwyer was among those referred to the Kravis's search committee. Before being offered the job, he had two interviews with the committee, one by Zoom and the other in person.

Although Dwyer concedes that he has not spent much time in Palm Beach County, he has

the impression that it has much in common with California's Orange County, home to the Segerstrom Center.

"There are similarities. It's a vibrant and diverse county, as was Orange County," he says, "but it's a different mix of ethnicities. You don't go in and have a magic solution to anything. You have to listen and learn and build relationships and get to know the community where you are — its strengths and its uniqueness."

"As you build really authentic and meaningful relationships with different kinds of organizations and constituencies and communities throughout Palm Beach County, you listen and you learn what their needs are and you develop ways to respond to their needs."

The Segerstrom was known for having three resident companies attached to it, something the Kravis has not succeeded at, with the notably short-lived hosting of Florida Stage in the early 2010's. Dwyer is wary of trying that again here.

"Having a resident theater company is a great idea, it's a great thing, but it's not the right fit for everywhere," he says.

"A large part of my career has been with theater companies.

I am sure there will be opportunities to collaborate with theater companies that are either touring around or are producing almost anywhere in the country. ... We'll be taking a look at those opportunities as they come along, but again, we'll always make sure that it's aligned with the mission of the Kravis Center."

Of course, all such efforts are initially on hold as the Kravis grapples with the realities of these COVID-crippled times. Commenting on his anticipated reactions to the situation, Dwyer says, "I'm naturally going to continue the efforts that are already happening, which is to manage expenses extremely carefully, to build up resources to sustain the heart and soul of the organization and to prepare the organization for its re-emergence from this pandemic-related hiatus it is in."

"And then we'll have conversations and plant the seeds of planning for what's to come after the pandemic."

Is he able to project now when the Kravis Center is likely to reopen its doors and begin with performances again?

"It's probably a little too early to say," he responds. "Call me at the end of January."

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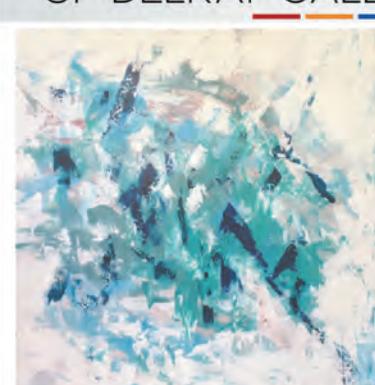
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DANCERS

Continued from page 9

for it because she has changed the way people look at ballet ... the skin color doesn't matter ... it's all about what comes from within and how you portray yourself on that stage. ... [She] has inspired me and reassured me that there is no reason for me to be scared that they may not want me for what I look like. All that matters is the person I am and the way that I dance."

Keeping at it

Brooks, 60, now an associate professor and director of the dance program at Florida Atlantic University in Boca Raton, has come to the same conclusion. His professional life has spanned four decades.

Beginning his training in the 1980s at the Oklahoma Ballet and Oklahoma City University at an age that is considered to be very late for a dancer, Brooks refused to let this be a limitation. Instead, he used his late start to drive him as he pursued every opportunity he could uncover that would expand his knowledge in dance, cramming in as many classes and summer courses as he could into those early years of training.

Summers have always been a highlight in a dancer's training because of the plethora of intensive programs where young dancers have the opportunity to work with master teachers from all over. Brooks, who tried to fit in as many as two or three each summer, knew that dancers needed to audition in order to get financial assistance. Brooks remembers showing up one year to audition for the famous Jacob's Pillow summer program.

"I walked up to the desk and said, 'I'm here to sign up for the audition,' and the snarky young girl there — with the New York attitude — said, 'Well, which one?' I said, 'What do you mean?' She said, 'Well, there's the ballet, the modern and the jazz [auditions].' And I thought, 'Well, I have the capability to do all [of them] so I'll hedge my bets,' and I said, 'I'll do all three.'"

To his complete surprise, Brooks was accepted into all three programs on scholarships.

Jacob's Pillow, which brought in two dance companies a week during its 14-week session, was a mecca for dancers, allowing Brooks to meet numerous artistic directors, company members and other fellow dance students. In fact, it was the Ohio Ballet that came to perform at the end of the season and offered Brooks his first professional contract. Consequently, he once again found himself as poster boy but this time, Jacob's Pillow used his photo to illustrate his success story — scholarship to contract — in its advertising for the program.

Dealing with racism

Brooks, who was lithe, limber and had good legs and feet necessary for the classical lines of ballet, was cast in many roles,



Madison Brown competes at the Youth America Grand Prix to choreography by Duncan Cooper.

Photo by Visual Arts Masters



ABOVE LEFT: Clarence Brooks instructs students in the studio at FAU. **Photo by Mark Santillano**
ABOVE RIGHT: Madison Brown in the studio with coach and ballet teacher Magaly Suarez at The Art of Classical Ballet in Pompano Beach. **Photo by Belinda Carhartt**

but there were times during his career that he encountered clear racism. While under contract with the now-defunct Charleston Ballet Theatre, he showed up for the casting call for the Cavalier in *The Nutcracker*.

And even though he was the highest-paid dancer in the company, he was asked to leave because it would never cast a black man as the Cavalier knowing that the audience would never accept it. Brooks suggested that he perform the role at the matinee school performances where more than 80 percent of the audience was African-American children, but the directors still wouldn't budge, so he quit.

Brooks did return to Charleston, a year later, to perform the contemporary ballet *L'Histoire du Soldat*, a sensual biracial *pas de deux*. "So here it was. I am in the same city that racially discriminated against me because they did not want to put a Black man in a lead role and here I am — in the same Black body ... and in a lead role and dancing with a white female," Brooks said. "There was no public outcry. There wasn't a hint of backlash. In fact, it was just the opposite. It was very well-received."

Focusing on the future

This past summer, Madison was scheduled to return for her

fourth summer as a National Training Scholar at the famous 890 Broadway studios at ABT. She knew she wanted to devote her life to dance during her second ABT summer when, during lunch break, she happened to see two company members rehearsing in a studio.

"I stood there, just watching them through the little window in the door, and I thought, 'This is what I need to do for the rest of my life. ... I can't do anything else. This is what I need and it's what I want.'"

Madison has won a bevy of top awards at a wide range of competitions as well as appearing on TV as the youngest finalist on NBC's series *World of Dance*. Articulate, thoughtful and aware, Maddie is likely to follow Copeland as a role model for dancers of color. She is cognizant of the pitfalls of social media, and together with her parents' guidance and support, she is able to stay focused and dedicated to achieving her dream even during this difficult stay-at-home period.

Her whole family is helping. The living room furniture has been pushed back, carpets removed, and a Marley dance floor rolled out. Her father got the hammer and saw out and made a ballet barre so Maddie could continue her twice-a-day daily ballet classes on Zoom, which she intersperses with even

more online classes in other dance forms.

She has been doing virtual schooling for a few years now, so the transition to online dance classes by herself at home was easier in one way, but on a day-to-day basis, Maddie said, "It's definitely been harder for me — not to be motivated, but to have as much joyful emotion for it [dancing] ... so, it's just that it has been a little more sad, but I know that eventually, I will be able to get back out there, and that's what is keeping me motivated and striving for it [my goal]."

Choosing career moves

For his part, Brooks has learned to navigate his career opportunities. He made calculated decisions about what places he could not just survive but thrive in as a Black dancer.

He looked for directors who were willing to see him for who he was and cast him for his talent and not the color of his skin. Some years later, Brooks had the opportunity to dance the Cavalier in Loyce Houlton's *Nutcracker Fantasy* for the Minnesota Dance Theatre in Minneapolis, the same town that sparked a movement for racial justice for George Floyd.

Brooks has danced for 65 companies performing works by 135 choreographers in an extensive range of dance styles. He has toured throughout the

USA, Europe, and Asia with Nikolais & Murray Louis, Bill Evans, Marcus Schulkind, Loyce Houlton, Laura Dean, Robin Becker, Deborah Carr and Anna Sokolow, among others.

He returned to school, earning a master's in fine arts from the University of Washington in Seattle and in 1998, he came to Palm Beach County to teach at the Bak Middle School for the Arts. Six years later and after choreographing musicals and plays for FAU, he was hired as a visiting artist to develop the dance department at the university.

"I realized that I had started dancing at a university as an adult and I know what that is like ... so I thought, 'Let's try it and see.'"

Brooks's passion for dance and learning is evident. In his current role as educator, he takes the role of mentoring students seriously. Drawing from his experiences, he works with them to help define "safe spaces," knowing that this kind of environment is where dancers can grow, expand and believe in their futures. He also imparts to his dance students that it is their responsibility to be more aware of social injustices.

"This is definitely a topic that is on the radar right now because of what has just happened here because of the two pandemics — the racist pandemic and the COVID. People are really starting to look at what is going on around them." Later he added, "The changing of cultural images needs to be redone. It can be done, it is being done, and we just need to get the word out."

Staying true to self

Madison's advice for other aspiring young dancers?

"Even though you do perform for other people, you do it for yourself; otherwise there is no reason to do it. Stay in tune with yourself. Focus on who you are and stay true to yourself and that's not always easy on social media. ... You may think you need to change who you are to get the hype and love from people ... but if that doesn't make you happy, it's going to make something you love, something you *used* to love."

Madison has sage advice, as well, on the present state of society.

"Looking into the future... with everything that has happened in this matter of months with racial inequality and all this illness ... it's been a lot and I think it was America's wakeup call. We really need to do something here. We can't just hear about it. ... You actually need to make a move in order to see a change."

To that end, Madison's eyes remain fixed on the future.

"I really hope that in the next few years we can see a difference," she says. "I'd love to see a greener earth. ... [I hope] this world can really see what we could miss out on if we continue to live the way we do. I think we could make the changes and really make a brighter place."

Film

At 40, 'Popeye' still has wacky charm

By ArtsPaper Staff

It's been 40 years since *Popeye* paddled its way onto cinemas, but instead of making a splash, it is generally believed to have sunk upon impact.

Not every prominent critic ragged on Robert Altman's adaptation of the iconic E.C. Segar comic character. Siskel and Ebert both pointed their

thumbs skyward. But Los Angeles' snarky Stinkers Bad Movie Awards named *Popeye* the Worst Picture of 1980.

Today, it's the detractors who seem out of touch; yesterday's bombs are today's cult classics. As with *Xanadu*, *Heaven's Gate*, *Showgirls* and so many others, history has been kinder to *Popeye*, whose low-grade SFX, outsized performances and

deliberate sense of artifice have endeared it to new generations of cineastes. It's a film that has been well overdue for a Blu-ray treatment, and Paramount's new edition (\$10.69) remains visually gorgeous.

There were at the time, and still are, numerous points of entry to *Popeye*. There are followers of the comic-strip character, of course, and fans of Robin Williams, for whom *Popeye* was his first starring role in a motion picture. There's the music, written and composed by baroque pop iconoclast Harry Nilsson, which stands the test of time (Paul Thomas Anderson used Shelley Duvall's lovely "He Needs Me" to poignant effect in *Punch-Drunk Love*). There's the Jules Feiffer script, with its creative, English-butchered dialogue, and there is the movie's Sweethaven set, built on Malta and still standing today, a world of whimsy that must have had some influence on a young Wes Anderson.

It's here that the title sailor arrives at the movie's outset. He alights, one eye in perpetual squint and pipe angled from his lips like a fifth appendage, seeking his estranged father in the storybook shantytown. He ends up finding both himself and a family by discovering the abandoned Swee'Pea in a basket, and rescuing willowy Olive Oyl (Duvall) from her fiancé, Bluto (Paul L. Smith), a heavy of



Shelley Duvall and Robin Williams square off in 1980's *Popeye*.

Paramount photo

spaghetti Western fame).

Popeye remains a showcase for the Robin Williams persona. Even at this inchoate stage in his filmography, he was a dervish of manic inspiration, muttering quippy retorts under his breath like a madman, his improvis indistinguishable from the scripted words.

It's a performance fully of a piece with Altman's galumphing vision for a live-action cartoon. In an archival interview in one of the Blu-ray's extras, he reveals that he directed everybody to be "two-dimensional." He hired circus performers in his ensemble, and they helped to create an atmosphere rich in farcical business and gag-a-second slapstick.

In this sense, *Popeye* can be remembered as both outlier and encapsulation of Altman's style. Surely, it is his silliest, broadest comedy, a movie with an intended audience far different from the art-house meanderings of then-recently completed works like *3 Women* and *Quintet*.

But like *M.A.S.H.*, it is episodically structured, and like *Nashville*, it's filled with earthy music and unexpected passion. When *Popeye* settles down from its chaotic early scenes, it becomes arrestingly sweet and tender, thanks in large part to the winsome pathos of Duvall.

At nearly two hours, it does manage to overstay its welcome — but it's all in good fun.

The Blu-ray's special features include a brief montage of images from the film's Hollywood premiere, a medley of the musical sequences, and two short making-of docs. The Altman interviews that shed the most light on *Popeye*'s production are from a 1999 sit-down, while the director's son Stephen Altman, who handled the props, shares the most recent insights; he was interviewed this past summer.

Most bittersweet are Robin Williams' reflections: He was interviewed in 2014, the year he took his life, his high spirits betraying none of his depression.

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Ubuhle Women: Beadwork and the Art of Independence was developed by the Smithsonian Anacostia Community Museum, Washington, DC in cooperation with Curators Bev Gibson, Ubuhle Beads, and James Green, and is organized for tour by International Arts & Artists, Washington, DC

In God We Trust has been organized by the New-York Historical Society in collaboration with the David M. Rubenstein Americana Collection.

Arts Calendar

Note: Events are listed through Feb. 3 and were current as of Dec. 26. Ticket prices are single sales unless otherwise specified. Those attending live events must follow CDC coronavirus regulations.

ART EXHIBITS

Armory Art Center: Opens Jan. 5: *Young Artist Exhibition*, through Jan. 22, with opening reception Jan. 8, 5:30-7:30 p.m., \$5 at the door. Jan. 22: Casino Night, in-person and virtual attendance available. \$5, non-members. 9 am-4 pm M-F, 9 am-2 pm Sat. 832-1776 or armoryart.org.

Boca Raton Museum of Art: Opens Jan. 27: *Paul Gervais: Face and Forms*, through May 30; *Glassstress*, through Sept. 5; *An Irresistible Urge to Create: The Monroe Family Collection of Florida Outsider Art*, through Sept. 5. \$12, seniors \$10, children 12 and under, free. 10 am-5 pm T/W/F; 10 am-8 pm Th; noon-5 pm Sat & Sun. 392-2500, or bocamuseum.org.

Cornell Art Museum: Through Jan. 31: *Season's Celebrations*. \$8; \$5 seniors and students; free for veterans, children under 12 and members. 10 am-4:30 pm T-Sat; 1-4:30 pm Sun. 243-7922 or oldschoolsquare.org.

Cultural Council for Palm Beach County: Opens Jan. 18: *Karibu*, an exhibit of works by Black Palm Beach County artists. Through March 13. Guests limited to 30 at hour at the council galleries in Lake Worth Beach. Noon-5 pm T-F. 471-2901 or palmbeachculture.com.

Norton Museum of Art: Through Jan. 24: *Rudin Prize for Emerging Photographers: Photo +: Mixed Media and the Photographic Image*; through Jan. 31: *Divine Beings*; through Feb. 28: *George Cohen: Artist of the Chicago Avant-Garde*; through March 28: *The Collection of Esther M. and Sumner L. Feldberg*. Noon-7 pm F, 11 am-5 pm Sat & Sun. 832-5196 or www.norton.org.

Lighthouse ArtCenter: Opens Jan. 26: *Soul on Art: Ghosts of Africa*, \$10 adults, free for members and kids 12 and under. 10 am-4 pm. M-F, 10 am-2 pm Sat & Sun. 746-3101 or lighthousearts.org.

Morikami Museum and Japanese Gardens: Through April 3: *Collecting Stories*. \$15, \$13 seniors, \$9 children and students. 10 am-5 pm W (during the holiday season). 495-0233 or morikami.org.

Society of the Four Arts: Through Jan.

17: *Ubuhle Women: Beadwork and the Art of Independence*. \$10, free for members. 10 am-5 pm M-Sat, 1-5 pm Sun. 655-7226 or fourarts.org.

CLASSICAL

Wednesday, Jan. 13

Philippe Quint: The Russian violinist presents "Charlie Chaplin's Smile," with pianist Vanessa Perez. 7:30 pm. \$40. 655-7226 or fourarts.org.

THEATER

Opens Thursday, Jan. 7

Always, Patsy Cline: More than a tribute to the country singer who died at age 30 in a plane crash in 1963, the show is based on a true story about Cline's friendship with a fan from Houston. The musical includes 27 Cline hits such as "Crazy," "I Fall to Pieces," "Sweet Dreams" and "Walking After Midnight." Through Jan. 24 at Lake Worth Playhouse, downtown Lake Worth. 586-6410 or lakeworthplayhouse.org.

The Boys Next Door: This Tom Griffin play is set in a communal residence in a New England city where four mentally handicapped men live under the supervision of an earnest, but increasingly "burned out" social worker named Jack. Mingled with scenes from the daily lives of these men are moments of great poignancy when we are reminded that the handicapped, like the rest of us, want only to love and laugh and find some meaning and purpose in life. Through Jan. 17. At Lake Worth Playhouse's Stonzek Black Box Theater. 561-586-6410.

Mamma Mia!: This Broadway hit incorporates the songs of ABBA with a comic story of a young bride-to-be whose quest to discover the identity of her father brings three men from her mother's past back to the Greek island where she and her mother live. Through Feb. 14 at the Wick Theatre, Boca Raton. 995-2333 or thewick.org.

Opens Friday, Jan. 22

Take me Back to Manhattan: Join the Delray Playhouse for a nostalgic trip back the Broadway season of 1990-91. It was the year Keith Carradine recreated the Golden Age of The Musical Revue in *The Will Rogers Follies*; the year Tyne Daly revived *Gypsy*, Cathy Rigby took to the air in *Peter Pan* and Topol brought *Fiddler on the Roof* back to Broadway. At the Delray Beach Playhouse, through Feb. 7. 272-1281, ext. 5, or delraybeachplayhouse.com.

In God We Trust: Join the Delray Playhouse for a nostalgic trip back the Broadway season of 1990-91. It was the year Keith Carradine recreated the Golden Age of The Musical Revue in *The Will Rogers Follies*; the year Tyne Daly revived *Gypsy*, Cathy Rigby took to the air in *Peter Pan* and Topol brought *Fiddler on the Roof* back to Broadway. At the Delray Beach Playhouse, through Feb. 7. 272-1281, ext. 5, or delraybeachplayhouse.com.

Health Notes

Clinical trial available for coronavirus patients at Boca hospital

Patients admitted with COVID-19 at Boca Raton Regional Hospital may enroll in a clinical trial to test a new treatment for the disease. The trial is named Prevent, reflecting the hope that it will rapidly reverse the damages of pneumonia associated with COVID-19.

Researchers at Eugene M. & Christine E. Lynn Cancer Institute are enrolling patients for the trial, which uses a single, low dose of thoracic radiation to reduce the inflammatory process in the lungs. Very low doses have been effective in treating benign inflammatory diseases.

Experts say the treatment may prevent deaths and avoid the need for intubation.

Patients diagnosed within nine days of hospital admission with pulmonary pneumonia symptoms and 50 years of age or older are eligible for the trial. The Prevent multicenter clinical trial is jointly led by principal investigators from Lynn Cancer Institute and the Ohio State University. The trial is one of several investigational treatments for COVID-19 being researched at Boca Raton Regional Hospital.

Certified clinical research coordinator **David Scott**, president and CEO of **Palm Beach Research** in West Palm Beach, announced that Palm Beach Research is enrolling people for two phase 3 trials regarding COVID-19.

The Janssen's study, of an adenovirus type 26 vector vaccine, is a two-year project for which Palm Beach Research will provide access to COVID-19 testing and related medical care. Participants will be compensated for every visit, up to a total of \$775. Half of the patients will get the vaccine and the other half a placebo.

"Janssen's vaccine is constructed to encode the COVID-19 spike protein. It is like a genetically engineered cold virus meant to look like the COVID-19 virus outer shell. So, your body will produce antibodies to remove that protein shell whenever it sees it. Thus, it trains your body's immune system," Scott explained.

To take part, visit <https://palmbeachresearch.com/2020/03/02/covid-19-vaccine-study/>

AstraZeneca's convalescent study is of a prophylaxis, an infusion of antibodies intended to provide immediate protection from COVID-19. It is a one-year study, and during that time Palm Beach Research will provide access to COVID-19 testing and related medical care to participants. Patients will be compensated for every visit, up to a total of \$850.

About one-third of the patients will get the placebo and the remaining two-thirds the convalescent plasma.

"AstraZeneca's convalescent plasma study is providing patients with an infusion of antibodies that should provide protection against COVID-19, as the antibody (formula) came from hospitalized patients who recovered from a bad COVID-19 infection. This is not training your body's immune system: It is providing immediate immunity," Scott explained.

To take part, visit <https://palmbeachresearch.com/2019/12/09/convalescentplasma/>

Asked when patients receiving placebos would get an actual vaccine or plasma, Scott said: "Patients receiving placebo are enrolled in the clinical trial and the sponsors have been providing active product or vaccine after reaching important study milestones. The short answer is the protocol does not need a patient on placebo after a certain point, and the sponsors grant access to active product to those patients, at that point. Every sponsor is different."

An optimistic time line for public access to vaccines may be the summer or fall of 2021, he thinks, adding: "If the FDA rescinds emergency use authorization, then the general public will have to wait until the clinical trials are concluded. The earliest would be October 2022.

"Vaccination through a clinical trial is the fastest path for most. Additionally, medical care is provided and ongoing

in a clinical trial setting. Also patients are compensated for their time. And anyone receiving a placebo can expect to receive the actual product in due course.

"As an example, the Moderna vaccine trial will be distributing active vaccine to the 15,000 that received placebo in their clinical trial, and that is expected to occur possibly January 2021. Every sponsor is expected to follow a similar path."

A related note: To see the current COVID hospital capacities, check out <https://data.tallahassee.com/covid-19-hospital-capacity/>.

Hilary Shapiro-Wright, D.O., has joined Christine E. Lynn Women's Health & Wellness Institute and Eugene

M. & Christine E. Lynn Cancer Institute at Boca Regional. She specializes in breast cancer surgery, high-risk breast pathology, benign breast disease, oncoplastic surgery and hidden scar surgery.

Previously, Shapiro-Wright was with the Kettering Health Network and Kettering Cancer Care. She was named the Cincinnati Top Doctor in Breast Surgery/Breast Cancer in Cincinnati magazine from 2013 to 2020.

She earned her medical degree from the Lake Erie College of Osteopathic Medicine and completed her general surgery residency at Botsford Hospital at Michigan State University and her surgical breast oncology and diseases of the breast fellowship at Allegheny General Hospital.

She sees patients at Lynn Women's Health & Wellness Institute, 690 Meadows Road, Boca Raton.

In December, palliative care physician **Patricia Jacobs, M.D.**, joined the Eugene M. & Christine E. Lynn Cancer Institute. Jacobs provides care that addresses a cancer patient's physical symptoms as well as the emotional, psychological and social stress of undergoing cancer treatment.

Previously, Jacobs was at UCLA Medical Center, where she completed a hospice and palliative medicine fellowship. She is board-certified in internal medicine and worked in internal medicine before pursuing a subspecialty in palliative care.

Jacobs serves as an affiliate faculty member at the Charles E. Schmidt College of Medicine at Florida Atlantic University. She earned her medical degree from the David Geffen School of Medicine at UCLA. She completed an internal medicine residency and a hospice and palliative care fellowship at UCLA Medical Center.

She sees patients at the Lynn Cancer Institute, Harvey & Phyllis Sandler Pavilion, 701 NW 13th St., Boca Raton.

Joseph J. Ricotta MD, MS, DFSVS, FACS, was recognized as a 2020 TCAR clinical operator of experience for improving carotid artery disease treatment using the transcarotid artery revascularization procedure.

Ricotta is the national medical director of vascular surgery and endovascular therapy for Tenet Healthcare, chairman of the vascular surgery

department at Delray Medical Center, and professor of surgery and program director of the vascular surgery fellowship at the Charles E. Schmidt College of Medicine at FAU.

TCAR is a proven, minimally invasive approach to reduce incidence of stroke in patients who face high risk in surgery. For more information, visit www.delraymedicalctr.com.

Dr. Eric Rudnick, MD FAAD, recently received his board certification in dermatopathology. As both a board-certified dermatologist and dermatopathologist, he has the training to analyze skin samples both clinically as well as under a microscope. Rudnick's Dazzling Dermatology office is at 22029 State Road 7, Boca Raton, Florida. He is offering at-home general dermatology and cosmetic services. For information or to book a house call, visit <https://dazzlingderm.com> or call 561-923-0905.

Delray Medical Center's trauma research department earned awards at the 2020 Florida Atlantic University College of Medicine Research Day event. **Sarah Rabinowitz** was awarded both first and second places in the Research Poster competition for her work related to the transfer of patients with abdominal injuries.

With the goal of promoting lifelong learning opportunities for its registered nurses, the **Health Care District of Palm Beach County** signed a memorandum of understanding with **Palm Beach State College** to support Health Care District RNs in obtaining Palm Beach State's bachelor of science in nursing degrees.

This "RN to BSN" bridge program, sanctioned by the Accreditation Commission for Education in Nursing, is offered online and open exclusively to licensed registered nurses who have earned an associate's degree or diploma. The Health Care District nurses will add to the more than 400 RNs from the state who have earned the college's BSN degree to date.

— Christine Davis

Health Calendar

Note: Events are current as of 12/23. Please check with organizers for any changes.

JANUARY 2

Saturday - 1/2 - Online Lamaze Birth Education presented by Bethesda Heart Hospital, 2815 S Seacrest Blvd, Boynton Beach. 2-week series taught online by Lamaze certified instructor; supports/educates parents about birth, comfort techniques, pain control options, medical interventions. Held again 1/9. 3-5:30 pm. Free. Meeting ID/password provided on registration: 369-2229; publicrelations@bhinc.org

JANUARY 3-9

Sunday - 1/3 - Loss of Spouse Grief Support at St. Vincent Ferrer Catholic Church Kellaghan Hall, 840 George Bush Blvd, Delray Beach.

In-person & virtual. Recommended book free at church office. 1-3 pm. Free. Register: 921-5693; stvincentferrer.com/griefministry

Tuesday - 1/5 - Baby Basics Zoom Class

presented by Bethesda Heart Hospital, 2815 S

Seacrest Blvd, Boynton Beach. Diapering,

feeding, bathing, soothing baby. Held again

1/12, 19 & 26. 5-6:30 pm. Free/both parents

encouraged to attend. Registration required for

class link: 369-2229; publicrelations@BHInc.org

1/5 - 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. Call for Zoom ID/password/register: 483-

5300; faulkcenterforcounseling.org

Wednesday - 1/6 - Breastfeeding Zoom

Class presented by Bethesda Heart Hospital,

2815 S Seacrest Blvd, Boynton Beach. Certified

lactation consultant teaches expectant parents

about benefits of breastfeeding. Held again

1/13, 20 & 27. 5-6:30 pm. Free/both parents

encouraged to attend. Registration required for class link: 369-2229; publicrelations@bhinc.org

Saturday - 1/9 - Griefshare Support Group

at St. Vincent Ferrer Catholic Church Guadalupe

Hall, 840 George Bush Blvd, Delray Beach.

Biblically based grief support. In-person &

virtual. Every Sat through 4/24 10 am-noon.

Free/to attend; \$20/recommended book,

scholarships available. Register: 921-5693;

stvincentferrer.com/griefministry

JANUARY 17-23

1/23 - Online Lamaze Birth Education

presented by Bethesda Heart Hospital, 2815 S

Seacrest Blvd, Boynton Beach. 2-week series

taught online by Lamaze certified instructor;

supports/educates parents about birth, comfort

techniques, pain control options, medical

interventions. Held again 1/30. 3-5:30 pm. Free.

Meeting ID/password provided on registration:

369-2229; publicrelations@bhinc.org

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Finding Faith

Despite improved virtual services, some folks glad to be back in church

On Jan. 2, 1921, radio station KDKA became the first to broadcast a Christian church service, from Calvary Episcopal Church in Pittsburgh. Today, thousands of churches make their services available to people who can't attend in person, but few church leaders expected virtual church to become such a vital part of serving their congregations.

So some churches were more prepared than others.

At First United Methodist Church of Boca Raton, Danny Davis has been helping improve the quality of the live-streamed services since the coronavirus pandemic forced a shutdown last March. The church was already broadcasting its services on Facebook and YouTube, but that wasn't anything on which it spent a lot of time.

"Our congregation was aware of our online presence, but we didn't market it," said Davis, a lay leader for the church, which now has resumed a Sunday in-person service outdoors, with reservations required. "Mostly it was watched by people who were home sick and couldn't get to church, about 10 views per week."

But when COVID-19 hit, "we realized early on things weren't going to change," Davis said.

Job one was to improve the quality of programming. He said it felt "like someone outside looking in" and the church wanted viewers to feel like they were right there, a part of the service.

"We planned it out and filmed the parts and music separately," Davis said. "We found a person in the congregation who produced videos and he volunteered to help. We used the United Methodist Church of the Resurrection in Leawood, Kansas, as a model."

The largest Methodist church in the U.S. has 20,000 members and a professional TV production crew.

"My wife and I watch and I love that you can watch it on the big screen at home or on your phone from anywhere and it looks and feels like you're a part of it. It feels good," Davis said.

Penny Johnson has been attending some virtual and some in-person church at First Presbyterian in Delray Beach. Because she lives alone, interacting with others at church is important.

COVID-19 also curtailed two other church ministries in which Johnson was heavily involved — the choir and Holly House, a crafting group. That left a huge void in Johnson's life.

"There are four or five of us who have no family here, and those relationships have become stronger," Johnson said. People's reticence to travel has kept families apart, adding to the isolation, Johnson said. Her pod alleviates some of her loneliness until her family can resume visiting.

She laughed as she said that "for the first time ever," Pastor Doug Hood "emphasized that it was perfectly fine if you wanted to stay home."

For Stephanie Hernandez, "as soon as I could get back to in-person church, I was there. Just walking through the doors into the house of God gave me a sense of relief, of inner peace."

The Hernandez family attends St. Vincent Ferrer Catholic Church in Delray Beach and their two daughters, 9 and 6, attend school there.

Hernandez said her younger daughter found it hard to focus on virtual church.

"There were a lot of distractions," Hernandez said with a laugh. "The dishwasher buzzer would go off; my daughter would wander away."

Hernandez tried taking her computer on the patio to watch Mass alone, but said people at the door would interrupt too often. The

biggest void, though, wasn't spiritual, it was emotional.

"I'm a very social person and mentally it wasn't good for me," she said. "I want to stay home when I want to, not when I am told I have to."

Hernandez calls herself "faith-driven. I was born and raised in the church and Catholic school, and the church feels like family."

At First United Methodist, Davis has found a new calling in working on the Facebook and YouTube live-streams.

"The joy of it for us as we perfected this was getting notices from as far away as the Philippines from people watching," Davis said.

The church has even attracted a handful of virtual-only members, that is, folks who don't plan to set foot in church. "But most of our membership longs for in-person church," Davis said.

Davis said virtual church has expanded to Bible studies, book clubs, women's group meetings and other ministries.

"These are just as important to the church as worship," Davis said. "These are the folks actually doing the work of the church. And through Zoom or GoToMeeting, they can actually see each other."

And in-person church isn't what it was. Seating is restricted, so "you can smile and wave," Johnson said, "but don't really interact." There are no Bibles or hymnals, just the printed bulletin. "A lot of people still don't want to come back because they're afraid. Being with people is important to me. I want to live my life."

Davis agrees. "I like it, but it's not as good as being together."

Janis Fontaine writes about people of faith, their congregations, causes and community events. Contact her at janisfontaine@outlook.com.



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Religion News

Rabbi's 2020 Hanukkah message: Even a little light can go a long way

It was a Hanukkah unlike any other.

The jubilant holiday of lights was dampened by COVID-19, but nothing could douse the spirit of local leaders.

"Our message is light," Rabbi Shmuel Biston said. "It only takes a small light to make a difference."

Biston is co-director with his wife, Sari, of Chabad of East Delray. With support from the city of Delray Beach, the chabad lit the menorah at Old School Square for the previous decade.

In 2019, more than 1,000 people came out for the first night of the holiday. In 2020, Biston and Mayor Shelly Petrolia worked to come up with a safe way to hold the traditional public menorah lighting, but finally decided the risk to public health was too great.

On Dec. 10, the City Commission produced a virtual version of the Delray Beach 11th annual Hanukkah Menorah Lighting and posted it on the city's Facebook page.

Biston told the Hanukkah story: When a poorly equipped group of Jewish rebels defeated an army of thousands of well-trained soldiers, the first thing the rebels wanted to do was

light the menorah, an act that had been forbidden. But there was only one tiny jug of oil left unspoiled by the soldiers, oil that would last hours, maybe a day at most. They lit the menorah anyway, and the jug's worth of oil lasted eight days.

The Hanukkah message was especially appropriate in 2020, Biston said, because "in times of darkness and in times of challenges, there is a new opportunity to discover what is inside of us and every single one of us has our own crucible of oil inside of us. All we have to do is find it. It takes just a little bit of light to dispel a ton of darkness."

Hanukkah celebrates faith but it is also a social holiday — with the exchange of gifts and lots of food and fun. Last year

cast a dark spell over that, like so much else.

Biston says not to lose heart. "2020 has been a year defined by differences," he said. "But we have to have hope and we're stronger together."

In Judaism, one tenet says each person is a "guarantor" for his fellow man. A person has a responsibility to be "the most-healthy version of himself," but he also has a responsibility for the health of those around him.

But you don't have to go out and cure cancer. Just wear a mask, or social distance, or stay home.

"Everyone has to do their part," Biston said. "Any little positive thing you do helps. You don't have to hit a home run."

— Janis Fontaine

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Religion Calendar

Events are current as of 12/23. Please check with organizers for any changes.

JANUARY 2

Saturday - 1/2 - Worship and The Word Fellowship at Barwick Road Baptist Church Family Life Center, 500 Barwick Rd, Delray Beach. Non-denominational, multicultural church founded on biblical principles. Every Sat 5 pm. Free. 248-660-4036; thebasels@comcast.net

JANUARY 3-27

Sunday - 1/3 - St. Vincent Ferrer Live-Stream Mass. 840 George Bush Blvd, Delray Beach. Every Sun 9 am. Free. 276-6892; stvincenferrer.com

1/3 - First United Methodist Church Boca Raton Online & In-Person Services at 625 NE Mizner Blvd. Every Sun 9:30 am/in-person

(reservations required); 10 am/online. Free. 395-1244; fumcbocaraton.org

1/3 - First Presbyterian Church of Delray Beach Live-Stream Service. 33 Gleason St. 10 am. Free. 276-6338; firstdelray.com

Wednesday - 1/6 - Think God! The Bible and the Virgin Mary - Journey Through Scripture presented by St. Vincent Ferrer Catholic Church. Virtual study from Formed.org. Every W through 3/24 7-8:30 pm or every Th 1/7 through 3/25 9:30-11 am. Free. Register: 276-6892; global.gotomeeting.com/join/445769437

1/6 - Just Over Yonder? Job Opening: You! What Am I Here For? at Chabad of East Boca Raton, 120 NE 1st Ave. Monthly Zoom course for women from Rosh Chodesh Society. 7 pm. \$20/class. RSVP: 394-9770; bocabeachchabad.org

Thursday - 1/27 - Just Over Yonder? Journey from Oy to Yay! at Chabad of East Boca Raton, 120 NE 1st Ave. Monthly Zoom course for women from Rosh Chodesh Society. 7 pm. \$20/class. RSVP: 394-9770; bocabeachchabad.org

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Secret Garden

Subtropical paradise a delightful part of Norton Museum's revamp

Those looking for a unique cultural experience or just a nice day in the great outdoors might visit the Norton Museum of Art in West Palm Beach. Here they'll discover a 37,000-square-foot subtropical Sculpture Garden for socially distanced enjoyment.

The garden was part of a major museum revamp overseen by award-winning architect Lord Norman Foster, the founder and executive chairman of Foster + Partners. He was behind the expansion of the museum and the creation of the garden, which opened in February 2019.

That's when visitors were welcomed to what once was the museum's 20,000-square-foot parking lot but now transformed into a verdant sculpture gallery.

"This lush outdoor space has now become the protagonist for the museum and is quintessentially Floridian," Foster said in an email from his London headquarters.

He felt the garden space was so integral to the museum experience that he wanted it to flow seamlessly from the naturally lit indoor galleries. To ensure success, he worked on the garden himself, making this the first public garden he designed.

From the beginning, the garden was imagined as a subtropical paradise with shape, scale, color, texture

If You Go

Where: The Sculpture Garden at the Norton Museum of Art, 1450 S. Dixie Highway, West Palm Beach

Information: Norton.org; 561-832-5196

Hours: 11 a.m. to 7 p.m. Friday; 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Saturday and Sunday. The first hour of each day is reserved for Norton members and their guests.

COVID-19: The museum requires you to wear a mask and have your temperature taken. For more information, visit the museum's website.

Admission: Advance, timed-ticket reservations are required and can be scheduled on the museum's website. Free for residents on Saturdays; always free for members; general admission \$18; seniors 60 and older, \$15.

Parking: Museum lot, 1501 S. Dixie Highway, \$5 per car per day, with revenue funding museum programs. Free for members.

and movement as focal points, explains Amber Mathis, the Norton's former director of horticulture who oversaw the garden's planting.

But this gallery also displays



Austrian artist Franz West's 2006 epoxy resin work *Gorgo* is one piece featured in the Sculpture Garden, which opened in February 2019. Jerry Lower/The Coastal Star

more temperate elements.

Sweeping lawns are used as gathering places, especially when schoolchildren can visit. Hedges block the view of the surrounding cityscape, enabling visitors to focus on the artwork. And the garden's axis runs east/west along a path that ushers people past works of art set in natural alcoves and rooms.

"When you look into these alcoves and rooms, you may see a sculpture, but your perception

is you don't know what's behind its backdrops of foliage. It could be more jungle or it could be a house," Mathis explains.

This adds an air of mystery and wonder to the garden.

Working with Foster, Mathis understood his desire to immerse the viewer in his design philosophy. It went so far as his creating the benches. They look like they are made from teak but are Sipo Mahogany, or utile, a sustainably sourced wood.

As the garden matured, Mathis discovered that although most of the plantings had flourished, some did not.

To replace them, she selected more natives, so that today about 40% of the species used in the garden are native.

During the creation of the garden, some specimens were moved into new settings on the property — such as the gumbo limbos that came from the parking lot. Other plants were hand-picked from native nurseries or, like the mahoganies, moved from people's yards on flatbed trucks.

For a good example of how this sculpture garden enhances your experience of the art, take a look at the stainless-steel sculpture titled *Six Random Lines Eccentric II*, by George Rickey.

Wait for a breeze to propel the steep arms of the statue into a kinetic frenzy. Then look beyond the statue where wind rustles through the thick background foliage to mimic the shape and movement of the

sculpture, suggests Mathis.

This effect is created by a wall of plants that not only sways in the breeze but also focuses your attention on the artwork.

In this moving backdrop, there's an Everglades palm that was already on site but moved to this spot under a stately live oak. The oak along with a nearby mango are older trees originally on the property and never moved.

"The native Everglades palm has extremely slender trunks that move in the wind. When the wind comes through, the sculpture moves and all the trunks move, so the whole space moves. That's this palm's contribution to the garden," says Mathis.

There also are the yellow flowers on the giant leopard japonica, its oversized leaves reminiscent of lily pads. Peperomia provides its dark green leaves as do the lady and needle palms. Meanwhile, the native silver saw palm contributes a silvery shimmer to the moving phalanx.

"Contrasting the art against the lush organic forms of the garden invites contemplation and allows you to experience the art in a whole new context, at your own pace," architect Foster says.



You can reach Deborah S. Hartz-Seeley at debhart@att.net.



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Let's Get Back to Our Senses

Two new, weekly, outdoor program series begin in late January. *Gentle Invigorating Body Flex* and *Get Back to Our Senses Guided Walks*. Registrations are limited; details at mounts.org/sensory-series.

Dogs' Day in the Garden

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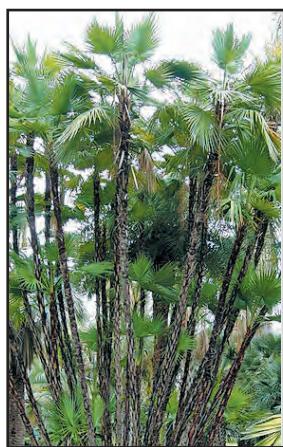
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Meet the Natives



Everglades palm, paurotis palm (*Acoelorrhaphis wrightii*) — threatened

Description: A clustering palm that can reach 30 feet tall. Slow growing, this palm is cold tolerant. Big thorns on leaf stems curve in both directions, so whether you move your hand in or out of the plant, you will get stabbed.

Growing conditions: Can be grown from extreme South Florida north to Orlando. These much-used palms are a wetland species requiring full sun and more moisture than irrigation systems can deliver.

Available: At native nurseries.



Key thatch palm, brittle thatch palm (*Leucothrinax morrisii*) — threatened

Description: Resembles the *Thrinax radiata* (green thatch palm), but this palm has silver underleaves and stiffer foliage. Small and slow growing with a thick trunk and open crown that reaches 5 to 7 feet wide. Older specimens reach 15 to 20 feet tall, well proportioned to backyards.

Growing conditions: Found in dry, deciduous forests and coastal areas. Requires sun to partial shade with little water once established in the landscape. Likes alkaline soil; in nature it grows on lime rock. Drought tolerant. Well adapted to heat, drought, storms and salt spray.

Available: At native nurseries where they tend to be pricey.



Florida royal palm (*Roystonea elata* — endangered)

Note: Often confused with the Cuban royal palm (*Roystonea regia*), and it is difficult to tell them apart. But the Florida palms have been distinct for 1,000 years so that they are a slightly different adaptation found only in Florida. The only natural stands of these palms existing today are in the Fakahatchee swamp and in the royal palm hammock of Everglades National Park.

Description: With a concrete-like trunk, this fast-growing palm often reaches 20 inches in diameter and 40 feet tall. Hurricane tolerant. Drops its large fronds. That's fine in the wild but in the home landscape, the fronds can damage nearby trees and buildings, so they are often removed before they drop.

Growing conditions: Does well in swamps but, once it's established, can resist drought. Although you often see them growing along streets or as singular trees, in nature they grow in dense hardwood or cypress forests where they push their crowns above the other trees to get light.

Available: If it is available from native growers, the true native variety will have been grown from legally collected seeds.



Cabbage palm, also called palmetto, Carolina palmetto, swamp cabbage (*Sabal palmetto*)

Description: Our state tree comes booted (leaf bases remain on tree after leaves fall) or slick (leaf bases fall off with leaves or are trimmed for a smoother trunk). No need to trim these trees, as they provide habitat for animals, nectar for pollinators, and berries for birds and other animals. Bats that roost in the hanging brown leaves eat mosquitoes. Requires about 15 years' growth before developing a trunk and then grows 6 inches in a good year.

Growing conditions: Grows in just about any soil as well as in swamps and beach areas. Hurricane resistant and salt tolerant.

Available: A common species grown from seeds in native nurseries. Or they are harvested fully grown from cattle grazing land. These full-size specimens are expensive to purchase in small quantities, cheaper by the trailer truckload.



Needle palm, porcupine palm (*Rhipidophyllum hystrix*)

Description: This clumping fan palm has dark green foliage with a small trunk that slowly grows to only about 3 feet tall. Has needlelike spines between the leaves.

Growing conditions: The needle is a north Florida species, with Palm Beach County just outside the historic growing range.

Likes shady, moist areas and average-to-rich organic soil, but will tolerate drought. Best planted in the understory of trees such as live oaks, cypress trees and slash pines.

Available: A commercially exploited palm that has been over-harvested in its native locations because it is one of the few palms that can grow in temperate climates. Grows very slowly from seed in native nurseries.



Saw palmetto, silver saw palm (*Serenoa repens*)

Note: The seeds are used as a holistic treatment for prostate problems. Cattle ranchers have been known to sell the berries from these palms growing on their property. The berries can earn them more than do the cattle they raise.

Jonathan Dickinson, a shipwrecked merchant from the late 1600s, was fed saw palmetto berries by the native population and described the fruit as tasting like "rotten cheese steeped in tobacco juice."

Description: Leaf stems have sharp spines that give the species its common name. It is a slow-growing fan palm with trunk that usually hugs the ground to protect it from fire. Branches radiate from central spot. Many have dark green leaves but coastal varieties often are silvery white.

Clusters of small flowers smell like coconut and attract bees, producing what some consider to be the best honey available. Provides food and habitat to more than 10 bird species, 27 mammals, 25 amphibians, 61 reptiles and countless insects and butterflies.

Growing conditions: Grows in clumps or dense thickets in sandy coastal areas, and as undergrowth in elevated areas with acidic yet organic-rich soil. Adapts well to salt spray. Use to fill a corner or create a screen.

Available: At native nurseries where they are grown from seeds legally collected from the wild (seeds are not grown commercially for harvest).



Scrub palmetto (*Sabal etonia*)

Description: Resembles a *Sabal* palm without a trunk because the trunk spirals underground for 10 to 20 feet and then grows skyward so that leaves reach 6 feet above ground. When they appear, the fans have curling mid-rib leaves.

The underground trunk was a survival mechanism for this plant, which originally grew in scrubland prone to wildfires. And it was probably sought after by ancient animals such as grazing mastodons and ground sloths.

Growing conditions: Found naturally nowhere else in the world but Florida, where it thrives from Broward County to Ocala. Full sun and well-drained soil; withstands fire.

Available: At native nurseries where they are raised from seeds in small quantities.



Silver palm, silver thatch palm (*Coccothrinax argentata* — threatened)

Description: Seeds have been spread by birds using the East Coast flyway for more than 1,000 years, so this palm grows in the Florida Keys up through Miami-Dade, Broward and Palm Beach counties. In Palm Beach it was first reported in the 1920s.

It is a single-stemmed or non-clustering palm with small, fan-shaped dark green leaves attached to a thin stem. The leaves twist in the wind, exposing their silvery undersides.

It grows about ½ to 1 inch a year, reaching 8 to 10 feet at maturity with some living over 100 years. Good for backyard planting as the trees remain in scale to one- and two-story homes.

Growing conditions: Requires full sun and alkaline soil that can be created by amending with lime rock pea gravel. Hurricane resistant. Very low maintenance.

Available: At native nurseries.



Buccaneer palm, hog palm, cherry palm (*Pseudophoenix sargentii* — endangered)

Description: Leaves resemble feathers; the slow-growing silver-blue trunk is smooth. Large clusters of yellowish-white flowers become big red seeds and then fruits that in the past were fed to hogs. This stopped reproduction of these palms, resulting in a dying out of the species.

Growing conditions: Thrives in the home garden in full sun; very drought tolerant.

Available: Often at high prices from native nurseries that cultivate these palms.



Green thatch palm, buffalo-top palm (*Thrinax radiata* — endangered)

Description: Fast growing with a delicate trunk and green leaves that have a pleasant "plastic" feel. Best planted in groupings, not as a hedge. Perfect for a dooryard or by a backyard pool.

Growing conditions: Shade or sun, wet or dry.

Available: Endangered due to habitat loss but grown commercially.

Available: At native nurseries.



Dwarf palmetto, little blue-stem (*Sabal minor*)

Description: Its usual southern growing limit is around Lake Placid, northwest of Lake Okeechobee. Resembles a *Sabal* palm without a trunk. A small bushy palm with a bluish green cast; good filler among native plantings.

In the landscape, it resembles a bunch of leaves that grow 5 feet high and 5 feet wide. Has absolutely flat fan leaves with slits halfway up the middle. Very cold tolerant.

Growing conditions: Shady, moist habitat (needs more water than can be achieved with irrigation). Prefers the shady understory of a wet forest or cypress swamp.

Available: At native nurseries.

Information sources:
Amber Mathis, former director of horticulture at the Norton Museum of Art in West Palm Beach, and Richard Moyroud, Lake Worth native nursery owner and conservationist.

Photos by Jerry Lower/The Coastal Star and provided by the Institute for Regional Conservation, Wikipedia and the Florida Native Plant Society

Florida's landscape is flush with palm trees, but only 11 of them are indigenous to the state. You can view them all at the Norton

Tots & Teens

Delray mom's book shows young kids that masks are fun

By Janis Fontaine

When COVID-19 became a part of our lives last spring, Delray Beach mom Shannon Q. McDonald reasoned that mask-wearing likely would be required of children at some point. She knew her daughter Sloane, 6, would adapt easily but that Sean, then 2, likely wouldn't.

She was right on both counts.

The first thing McDonald, an in-house corporate attorney for a global tech company, did was research masks and kids. She knew the key to a smooth transition was in the presentation, and she was disappointed when she couldn't find much to help her explain wearing masks to her kids.

McDonald had recently read a funny book on potty training, called *Vegetables in Underwear*,



ABOVE: Author Shannon Q. McDonald also sold mask-making kits with holiday themes. **RIGHT:** McDonald's *Remember to Smile* is full of rhymes and illustrations. **Photos provided**

by Jared Chapman. McDonald decided to write her own children's book about masks.

McDonald wrote the text and tested it on her daughter

(her best and most honest critic), licensed beautiful illustrations from Etsy (yes, you can do that), self-published the book, printed 600 copies and hired a national publicist to help promote it.

Remember to Smile is 20 pages of bouncy rhymes, a little bit like Dr. Seuss, and colorful illustrations featuring mermaids, superheroes and astronauts, plus kids visiting ice cream trucks and swinging in trees, all while wearing masks. But the star of the book may be Rudy, the McDonalds' 8-year-old dachshund who is featured throughout.

McDonald, a Michigan native, brings a positive Midwestern perspective to everything she does, and credits her husband, Chris, for his support. "We thought, let's make the best of it. Germs can be scary, so I focused on the fun of wearing a mask. I kept away from the words 'should' and 'must.' Although I did mention why we wear masks, it's at the end on purpose. I didn't want to make it at all political."

McDonald has also put together mask-decorating kits for sale, including a Rudolph



kit and a snowman kit for the holidays. Kids take pride in their creations and showing them off, so they want to wear their masks, McDonald said.

One reason McDonald suspected Sean wouldn't like wearing a mask is sensory processing disorder, a neurological condition "in which the sensory information that the individual perceives results in abnormal responses," according to the STAR Institute for Sensory Processing (see www.spdstar.org).

This means Sean may overreact to certain stimuli. Noise, lights, clothing, smells, touch, certain foods, and other things that seem innocuous or tolerable to most others can cause anxiety, irritability and discomfort to people with SPD. Being asked to wear a piece of cloth over your mouth and elastic bands around your ears seems tailor-made to upset someone with SPD.

Sean is adjusting — he prefers a plastic shield

decorated with car stickers — and the book has made the family local celebrities. McDonald has appeared on television and in newspapers, but when her daughter told her, "Mom, I'm a cool kid because you wrote a book," that was the highlight of her newfound fame.

Of course, with fame comes a dark side.

"I did have a couple of haters," she said. "They argued COVID isn't real. One said masks cause a build-up of CO₂ in the body and that's child abuse."

McDonald is using proceeds from the book to help kids through the COVID-19 Relief Fund for Teachers and Students, a program of the nonprofit AdoptAClassroom.org. The money will help cover budget shortfalls that rising expenses for technology and PPE are creating during the pandemic.

Sloane McDonald attends St. Vincent Ferrer School in Delray Beach and has seen the challenges faced firsthand. She's happy to be part of the COVID-19 solution.

Shannon McDonald says having a creative outlet was a blessing as she coped with her own fears and stress about COVID-19, and that seeing her book at Barnes & Noble fulfilled a dream.

McDonald continues to share her message through virtual visits and outdoor readings for small groups. To schedule an event, which can include a mask-making craft, or to buy the book or mask kits online, visit www.remembertosmile.org.

Books are \$14 in hardcover at www.remembertosmile.org.

At amazon.com, the hardcover is \$17, plus there's a paperback (\$12) and Kindle version (\$7.99). ★

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Tots & Teens Calendar

Events are current as of 12/23. Please check with organizers for any changes.

JANUARY 2

Saturday - 1/2 - 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. 1st Sat 9-10 am. \$7.50/adult; \$6.50/senior; \$5.50/child 3-12; free/member & child under 3. 832-1988; sfsciencecenter.org

1/2 - 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. Registration: 742-6780; schoolhousemuseum.org

JANUARY 3-9

Monday - 1/4 - Zoom Kindergarten Readiness Story Time with Ms. Tea presented by Delray Beach Public Library, 100 W Atlantic Ave. Age 3-5. Every M 10 am. Free. Registration: 266-0194; delraylibrary.org

1/4 - Homework Help at Boynton Beach City Library, 100 E Ocean Ave. Provided by Literacy AmeriCorps. Grades K-12. Every M-Th 2:30-7 pm. Free. Registration: 742-6884; boyntonlibrary.org

Tuesday - 1/5 - Zoom BeTeen the Lines Readers Club presented by Delray Beach Public Library, 100 W Atlantic Ave. Age 13+. 3:30 pm. Free. Registration: 266-0194; delraylibrary.org

Wednesday - 1/6 - Zoom Oh, Baby! 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

Thursday - 1/7 - 2021 Discovery Series at Sandoway Discovery Center, 142 S Ocean Blvd, Delray Beach. Different topics from bugs to pythons, plants to butterflies. Outdoors, limited to 5 families per class. Age 3-6. Every Th 9:30-10 am & 10:15-10:45 am. \$30/4 classes; \$8/class + \$6 admission. RSVP: 274-7264; sandowayhouse.org

1/7 - Game Day at Boynton Beach City Library Teen Room, 100 E Ocean Ave. Socially distanced video games, board games; hand sanitizer available. Every Th 4-6 pm. Free. 742-6390; boyntonlibrary.org

1/7 - Virtual Mori Stories: Kamishibai Folktales: How the Years Were Named presented by Morikami Museum and Japanese Gardens, 4000 Morikami Park Rd, Delray Beach. Live-stream on Facebook. 1 pm. Free. 495-0233; morikami.org

Friday - 1/8 - Fishing Fun at Daggerwing Nature Center, 11435 Park Access Rd, Boca Raton. Basics of freshwater fishing, practice learned skills. Includes fishing pole basics, casting tips, freshwater fish identification. All supplies provided. Bring water bottle, sun protection, closed-toed shoes that can get wet/muddy. Age 8+. 10 am. \$10/person. RSVP: 629-8760; pbcnature.com

Saturday - 1/9 - Teen Workshop: Bullet Journaling at The Society of the Four Arts King Library, 101 Four Arts Plaza, Palm Beach. Age 12-18. 10:30 am. Free. Reservations: 655-7226; fourarts.org

1/9 - 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

JANUARY 10-16

Sunday - 1/10 - Audition Prep Virtual Class with Kat Kenny presented by Bob Carter's Actor's Workshop & Repertory Company, 1000 N Dixie Hwy. 1-day intensive designed for students who would like to brush up their skills before the audition. Online via Zoom. Bak Theatre 11 am-1 pm; DSOA Theatre 2-4 pm. \$75/class. 833-7529; actorsrep.org

Monday - 1/11 - Zoom Story Chasers Book Club presented by Delray Beach Public Library, 100 W Atlantic Ave. Grades 1-3. 2nd M 3:30-4:15 pm. Free. Registration: 266-0194; delraylibrary.org

1/11 - 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

1/11 - Virtual Tour of Palm Beach State College presented by Delray Beach Public Library, 100 W Atlantic Ave. Age 13+. 4 pm. Free. Registration: 266-0194; delraylibrary.org

Wednesday - 1/13 - Musical Theatre Performance for Kids at Lake Worth Playhouse, 713 Lake Ave. 8-week course concentrates on musical theatre performance. Age 8-14. Every W through 3/10 5:15-6:45 pm. \$212/session. 586-6410; lakeworthplayhouse.org

Thursday - 1/14 - 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

Saturday - 1/16 - Radical Reptiles at Daggerwing Nature Center, 11435 Park Access Rd, Boca Raton. Learn about snakes from a naturalist, how to identify the most common snakes found in southern Florida. Meet some of the nature center's slithering residents up close! Age 5+. 10:30 am. \$3. Reservations: 629-8760; pbcnature.com

1/16 - Youth & Teen Acting Virtual Classes with Kat Kenny presented by Bob Carter's Actor's Workshop & Repertory Company, 1000 N Dixie Hwy. Online via Zoom. Every Sat through 2/28 Age 7-11 1 am-12:30 pm; Age 12+ 1-2:30 pm. \$125/class. 833-7529; actorsrep.org

JANUARY 17-23

Monday - 1/18 - One-Day School Break Camp: Arctic Adventures at South Florida Science Center and Aquarium, 4801 Dreher Tr N, West Palm Beach. Age 7-12. 9 am-4 pm. \$45/member; \$50/non-member; before/after care 7:30-9 am & 4-5:30 pm \$10/day. RSVP: 370-7707; sfsciencecenter.org

1/18 - Advanced Acting for Kids at Lake Worth Playhouse, 713 Lake Ave. 8-week course concentrates on advanced acting. Age 8-14. Every M through 3/8 4:30-5:30 pm. \$160/session. 586-6410; lakeworthplayhouse.org

1/18 - Improv Class for Kids at Lake Worth Playhouse, 713 Lake Ave. 8-week course concentrates on improvisation. Age 10-14. Every M through 3/8 5:45-6:45 pm. \$160/session. 586-6410; lakeworthplayhouse.org

Tuesday - 1/19 - Daggerwing Visits the Library Virtually: Frogs & Toads presented by Glades Road Branch Library, 20701 95th Ave S, Boca Raton. Special program, live animal ambassadors. Age 8+. 3:30 pm. Free. Registration: 482-4554; pbcnature.com

1/19 - Fundamentals of Acting for Kids at Lake Worth Playhouse, 713 Lake Ave. 8-week course concentrates on the fundamentals of acting. Age 8-13. Every T

through 3/9 4:30-5:30 pm. \$160/session. 586-6410; lakeworthplayhouse.org

Saturday - 1/23 - Archery 101 at Green Cay Nature Center, 12800 Hagen Ranch Rd, Boynton Beach. USA Archery certified instructor. Learn basics of archery, indoor demonstration followed by outdoor target practice. Equipment provided, wear closed-toe shoes, bring water & sunscreen. Age 9+. 10-11:30 am. \$10/payment required at registration. RSVP: 966-7000; pbcnature.com

1/23 - Florida Animals at Daggerwing Nature Center, 11435 Park Access Rd, Boca Raton. Meet live animals that can be found in Florida! Learn how these native creatures adapted to survive in the many habitats found in our home state. Age 5+. 10:30 am. \$3. Reservations: 629-8760; pbcnature.com

JANUARY 24-30

Monday - 1/25 - Zoom Teen Digital Citizenship Group presented by Delray Beach Public Library, 100 W Atlantic Ave. Age 13-17. 4 pm. Free. Registration: 266-0197; delraylibrary.org

Tuesday - 1/26 - Virtual GEMS Club: Building the Blocks 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; sfsciencecenter.org/gem

Wednesday - 1/27 - Zoom Vamos A Cantar: Songs & Spanish with Mr. Lilo presented by Delray Beach Public Library, 100 W Atlantic Ave. Children's musician and former teacher Mr. Lilo uses bilingual songs to teach Spanish to children. Age 3-6. Every 4th W 10 am. Free. Registration: 266-0194; delraylibrary.org

Saturday - 1/30 - St. Vincent Ferrer Catholic School Open House at 810 George Bush Blvd, Delray Beach. PK-8th Grade. 12:30 pm registration; 12:45 pm message from the Principal; 1 pm tour/ meet teachers; 3 pm Drama Production of *The Jungle Book*. Free. RSVP: 278-3868 x340; svfschool.org

JAN 31-FEB 6

Monday - 2/1 - One-Day School Break Camp: Robot Races at South Florida Science Center and Aquarium, 4801 Dreher Tr N, West Palm Beach. Age 7-12. 9 am-4 pm. \$55/member; \$60/non-member; before/after care 7:30-9 am & 4-5:30 pm \$10/day. RSVP: 370-7707; sfsciencecenter.org

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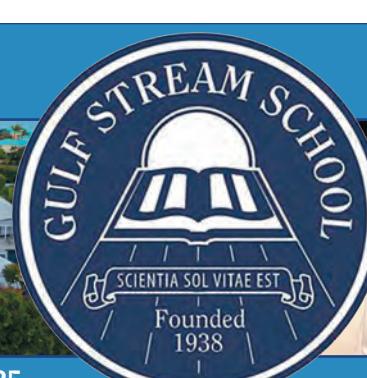


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Capt. Art Sapp (center) and his Native Son team based in Pompano Beach stand for photos after beating 39 other boats to win the Hope Town United Sailfish Tournament with 13 live-bait releases posted in two days of fishing last month. The team won \$79,180. Photo provided by Hope Town

On the Water

Pompano team is tops in Hope Town United sailfish event

Sailfish tournament veteran Art Sapp of Pompano Beach ran his 39-foot Sea Vee Native Son to the waters off Martin and St. Lucie counties to win the inaugural Hope Town United Sailfish Tournament with 13 sailfish releases scored in two days of fishing.

Often a top contender in South Florida's winter sailfish tournaments, Sapp and his Native Son team won \$79,180 along with a trophy depicting the Hope Town Lighthouse in the Bahamas.

Sapp said most of his team's sailfish — along with a few mahi mahi and a blackfin tuna — were caught using the standard South Florida tournament bait presentation: live goggle-eyes and threadfin herrings dangled under fishing kites.

The Native Son team fished off Hobe Sound on the first day of the tournament, held Dec. 11-12, and farther north off Port St. Lucie on the second day.

Team Wrapped Up, led by Capt. Dave Dalfo and fishing aboard a 61-foot Spencer, scored seven released using dead bait to win the dead-bait division and \$23,290.

Capt. Chris Agardy, who operates Fish Envy Charters based at Boynton Harbor Marina, fished on the No Regrets team that finished second overall in the live-bait division, with a two-day total of 10 releases.

Agardy said the No Regrets captain, Garrett Graue, chose to run his 38-foot boat north to

the waters off Stuart, which paid off. No Regrets won top boat on the first day of fishing, with seven releases, and squeezed out another three releases on the second day, despite stormy weather.

An aggressive bull shark almost changed the score for the No Regrets crew. Agardy said the shark chased the team's last sailfish of the tournament, forcing a quick run to the fish and release before the shark could reach it.

Team No Choos, a Bahama 41 skippered by George Brittain of Palm Beach, finished third overall. Brittain's team also posted 10 sailfish releases over two days but placed behind No Regrets based on the time of the releases.

As is common practice in modern sailfish tournaments, each sailfish release was documented on video and uploaded for the tournament committee to review, eliminating the need to put human observers on boats.

"The majority of teams definitely follow gentleman's rules," tournament director Courtney Bowden said. "However, when you add prize money to the mix, you can never be too careful. Team transparency is key. Video validation ensures this."

The Hope Town United tournament offered live scoring and team information through its own app, developed by Reel Time Apps.

The tournament was a

fundraiser for Hope Town United, a nonprofit organization that is raising money for restoration work on Elbow Cay on Great Abaco Island in the Bahamas.

Elbow Cay was hit hard by Hurricane Dorian in 2019. More than 70% of the area's homes were destroyed or badly damaged, according to Hope Town United. For details, visit www.hopetownunited.org.

More sailfish tournaments scheduled in January

Popular catch-and-release sailfish tournaments set for January in Palm Beach County include:

Jan. 7-8: The West Palm Beach Fishing Club's 84th annual Silver Sailfish Derby. Started in 1935, the Derby is considered the longest-running billfish tournament anywhere. Entry fee: \$1,300 for fishing club members or \$1,800 for nonmembers. The Derby begins with a captain's meeting Jan. 6. Register at www.westpalmbeachfishingclub.org.

Jan. 15-16: Operation Sailfish, part of the Quest for the Crest sailfish series organized by Bluewater Movements. Tournament begins with a kickoff party Jan. 13 at Sailfish Marina in Palm Beach Shores. Entry fee \$1,700. Register at www.bluewatermovements.com.

Jan. 21-23: The 58th annual Buccaneer Cup. Teams fish any two of the three tournament days. Kickoff party Jan. 20 at Viking Yacht Service Center in



The Miss Mae team, on a 38-foot Jupiter captained by Brion Weinberg (in background), shows off the 19.3-pound wahoo caught by Luc Croteau (front center) on Dec. 11, the first day of the sailfish tournament. Anglers released all sailfish but brought fish such as kingfish, dolphin and wahoo to the scales at Sailfish Marina in Palm Beach Shores. Willie Howard/The Coastal Star

Dust 'em Off

Sailfish warm-up tournament, Riviera Beach — Dec. 3



Anglers on the Southern Ground, based in Delray Beach, won nearly \$50,000 in prize money after catching nine sailfish in this early season tournament. In the tower are (l-r) Blake Johnson, Colin Page and Steven Rivero. Below are (l-r) Christian Mignano, David Beaumont, David Elliott, Callum Parrott and Evan Halberg. Photo provided

Riviera Beach. Entry fee \$2,000. Register at www.buccaneercup.com.

When they come to the surface and exhale, right whales shoot up a V-shaped spout of water.

Report sightings to the Marine Resources Council at 888-979-4253.

Tip of the month

Fifty-five new artificial reef structures were installed in 40 feet of water off Palm Beach in November as part of the Reef Hope Project. They can be found southeast of Palm Beach Inlet (aka Lake Worth Inlet) at these coordinates: 26°45.321 N and 80°01.566 W.



Willie Howard is a freelance writer and licensed boat captain. Email tiowillie@bellsouth.net.

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Paws Up for Pets

Pets are good medicine, author says

We can agree that COVID-19 has made 2020 a year we all wish to forget. But it's never been a better time to be a cat or dog.

It's indisputable: Pets are steadily making direct and indirect impacts in all aspects of our lives nowadays.

"About 25 years ago, pets were not that visible, but today, they are our social glue," says



Mark Cushing, author of a new book called *Pet Nation: The Love Affair That Changed America*. "Pets have become this living fabric that connects people from all backgrounds."

Cushing, who is an attorney and chief executive officer of the Animal Policy Group, shared some of his insights into pet life today versus a quarter-century ago as a recent guest on my *Oh Behave* show on Pet Life Radio (https://www.petliferadio.com/behave_player393.htm).

In the mid-1990s, few referred to themselves as pet parents. The pronoun *it* was common in mentions of dogs and cats in veterinary journals and magazine articles. Most family cats spent much of their days outside and rarely received annual medical examinations by veterinarians. Dogs napped in backyards inside wooden dog houses or attached to long chains to keep them from roaming the neighborhood.

You went to a local pound to adopt a mongrel in places now called animal shelters, and where staffers offer an array of pet education and training classes.

People relied on neighborhood kids to care for their at-home pets when they traveled because the professional pet industry was just getting started.

The beagle was the nation's most popular dog breed, but in 2020, the most popular pick was the mixed breed, followed by the Labrador retriever, with the beagle not even in the top 10.

The Global Pet Expo in Orlando, the pet industry's

largest annual trade show, wasn't even on the pet world radar. It began in 2005.

And, think of how the landscape has changed in Palm Beach County. Back in 1995, I was a reporter for the *Sun-Sentinel*, based out of its large building overlooking I-95 in Delray Beach.

People would flock to the 391st Bomb Squadron next to the Palm Beach International Airport to enjoy beer cheese soup. Every St. Patrick's Day, people would celebrate with cans of beer in hand to cheer parades organized by Maury Power, owner of Power's Lounge on Atlantic Avenue. Today, this newspaper office, this airport restaurant and this lounge are mere memories.

Somehow, pets seem to weather any societal or economic change or challenge, and their popularity continues to climb.

"Pets are not a fad," Cushing says. "Pets are good medicine. They are emotionally nourishing. That's why I wanted to write 'Pet Nation' to identify what happened, how it happened, where it happened and why."

In his book, Cushing points out these examples of pet power and influence:

- Pets create new vocabulary. Case in point: *furternity* now exists. In some workplaces, employees are eligible for paid leave — known as *furternity* — so they can care for a newly adopted kitten or puppy. Millennials lead all generations in the desire to work at pet-friendly offices.

- Americans spend more than \$30 billion a year on pet food — an amount tripled from 2000. The days of kibble and canned food have given way to a new generation of pet foods made with freeze-dried single proteins and frozen ready-to-eat meals. And, some companies are going a step further. Wild Earth is producing high-tech meatless dog and cat food made from fungi and lab-grown meat from mouse cells.

- More dogs are working and expanding their job duties. Dogs have been trained to assist people with visual or physical limitations and to serve on K-9

police units. Some can detect and issue alerts on everything from cancers and pending epileptic seizures in people to the presence of bedbugs in hotel bedding and the presence of peanuts in foods about to be served to people with peanut allergies.

- Pets have taken social media by storm. Jiff Pom, a small Pomeranian, is the most-followed animal on social media. Check out his ever-expanding follower stats: 10.6 million on Instagram, 21.2 million on TikTok and 1.3 million on Facebook.

Nala Cat, a crossed-eye Siamese-tabby mix, rules the feline following world with 4.2 million on Instagram.

In Chapter 1, Cushing illustrates that pets have indeed come a long way in a short time by sharing his observations of a chihuahua named Suzette that was in business class on his flight in 2019:

"Three years old, this long-haired Chihuahua was accustomed to the comforts of business class. From time to time, she took a sip of Tasmanian Rain bottled water. I learned that Suzette has a busy social calendar, a passport of her own, more Instagram followers than I will ever have and a full, pampered week ahead of her in Boca Raton."

Although it has never been a better time for pets, Cushing says it also has never been a better time to have a pet or pets in your life.

"Why do we love pets? Because they listen to us," he says. "They don't argue or interrupt. They help us feel better and want to do better."

You won't get any arguments from me, Mark. Life during this persistent pandemic has been made far more tolerable thanks to my four-leggers, who answer to the names of Kona, Casey, Bujeau, Mikey, Rusty and Emma.

Arden Moore is an animal behavior consultant and master certified pet first aid instructor. Learn more at [www.ardenmoore.com](http://ardenmoore.com).



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Community Calendar

Events are current as of 12/23. Please check with organizers for any changes.

JANUARY 2

Saturday - 1/2 - Lake Worth Farmers Market every Saturday under the overpass at A1A and Lake Ave, Lake Worth Beach. 9 am-1 pm. Free. 547-3100; lakeworthfarmersmarket.com

1/2 - Delray Beach GreenMarket every Saturday at 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 Mon, Dec 28 at 9:52 AM

1/2 - Exhibition: In God We Trust, Early Bible Printings and Founding Documents from the David M. Rubenstein Americana Collection at Society of of The Four Arts, 102 Four Arts Plaza, Palm Beach. Regular museum hours. Free/member; \$10/non-member.

Reserve tickets/review season policies & procedures: fourarts.org

1/2 - Reverend Barry & The Funk at The Funky Biscuit, 303 SE Mizner Blvd, Boca Raton. 5 pm doors open, 6 pm show or 8 pm doors open, 9 pm show. \$25-\$210. 465-3946; funkybiscuit.com

1/2 - Lauren Mitchell at Arts Garage, 94 NE 2nd Ave, Delray Beach. In person or virtual. 8-10 pm. \$14/virtual ticket; \$40-\$45/advance purchase reserved seat. 450-6357; artsgarage.org

1/2-3 - Virtual Show: Salute to Vienna and Budapest presented by and benefits Kravis Center, 701 Okeechobee Blvd, West Palm Beach. Household ticket includes access to one of 3 premiere streams on 12/27 + access on demand 12/28/1-3. 5:30 pm, 8 pm & 10 pm. Tickets start at \$20. 832-7469; kravis.org

1/2-3 - Zappa (NR) at Lake Worth Playhouse Stonzek Studio, 713 Lake Ave. Sat 5 & 7:30 pm; Sun 3 & 5:30 pm. \$9/general admission; \$6/film society members. lakeworthplayhouse.org

1/2-10 - Maltby & Shire's Closer Than Ever presented by MNN Theatre Company. Streaming on demand through 1/10. Receive link when ticket purchased; link active for 48 hours from first click. \$20. 725-7025; mnmtheatre.org

JANUARY 3-9

Sunday - 1/3 - Joey Gilmore & The TCB Express Band at Arts Garage, 94 NE 2nd Ave, Delray Beach. In person or virtual. 7-9:30 pm. \$6/virtual ticket; \$10-\$15/advance purchase reserved seat. 450-6357; artsgarage.org

Monday - 1/4 - Watercolor 102 Online Class presented by Creative Arts School, 51 N Swinton Ave, Delray Beach. Drawing skills necessary. Every M through 1/25 9 am-noon. \$207. Registration: 846-2349; oldschoolsquare.org

1/4 - Origins of Modernism in Art Master Class with Philip Rylands, Ph.D.: Cubism at The Society of the Four Arts Gubelmann

Auditorium, 100 Four Arts Plaza, Palm Beach. 11:30 am. Reservations: 805-8562; fourarts.org

1/4 - Discover Your Personal Painting

Style Online Class presented by Creative Arts School, 51 N Swinton Ave, Delray Beach. Every M through 1/25 1-3 pm. \$143. Registration: 846-2349; oldschoolsquare.org

1/4 - Nature and Wildlife Photography

Class presented by Creative Arts School, 51 N Swinton Ave, Delray Beach. On-location field trips, lectures, in-depth critiques on how to capture landscapes & wildlife images; all outdoors, socially distanced. Face coverings required. Every M through 1/25 2-5 pm. \$207. Registration: 846-2349; oldschoolsquare.org

1/4-13 - Delray Beach Open

at Delray Beach Tennis Center, 201 W Atlantic Ave. Check website for events/times/tickets: yellowtennisball.com

Tuesday - 1/5 - Advanced Watercolor

Online Class presented by Creative Arts School, 51 N Swinton Ave, Delray Beach. Previous watercolor painting experience required. Every T through 2/2 9 am-noon. \$255. Registration: 846-2349; oldschoolsquare.org

1/5 - Get Some Perspective! Beginner Pencil/Marker/Watercolor Online Class

presented by Creative Arts School, 51 N Swinton Ave, Delray Beach. Every T through 2/2 10 am-12:30 pm. \$215. Registration: 846-2349; oldschoolsquare.org

1/5 - 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 1/26. Beginners 11 am-1 pm; Intermediate 1-3 pm. \$70/member; \$80/non-member; + \$80/flower fee. Registration: 495-0233; morikami.org

1/5 - Collage and Mixed Media Online

Class presented by Creative Arts School, 51 N Swinton Ave, Delray Beach. Every T through 2/2 1-4 pm. \$255. Registration required: 846-2349; oldschoolsquare.org

1/5 - Hand Drumming for Fun, Meditation, Healing Class

at Creative Arts School, 51 N Swinton Ave, Delray Beach. Every T through 2/2. Virtual class 1:30-3 pm; in-person class 7-8:30 pm. \$135. Registration: 846-2349; oldschoolsquare.org

1/5 - Pathway to Drawing: Beginner/Advanced Beginner Pencil & Charcoal

Online Class presented by Creative Arts School, 51 N Swinton Ave, Delray Beach. Every T through 2/2 1:30-4 pm. \$215. Registration: 846-2349; oldschoolsquare.org

1/5 - Beginning Saxophone Class

presented by Creative Arts School, 51 N Swinton Ave, Delray Beach. Every T through 2/2. Virtual class 2-4 pm. \$175. Registration: 846-2349; oldschoolsquare.org

1/5 - Bad Blood: Secrets And Lies In A Silicon Valley Startup by John Carreyrou

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 at the King

1/5 - 10 - Jimmy Buffet's Escape to Margaritaville

at Kravis Center Dreyfoos Concert Hall, 701 Okeechobee Blvd, West Palm Beach. Part of Kravis On Broadway series. W/Sat/Sun 2 pm; T-Sat 8 pm. Call box office for ticket pricing/availability. 832-7469; kravis.org

Wednesday - 1/6 - Watercolor Basics 101 Online Class

presented by Creative Arts School, 51 N Swinton Ave, Delray Beach. Drawing skills necessary. Every W through 2/3 9 am-noon. \$255. Registration: 846-2349; oldschoolsquare.org

1/6 - Advanced Watercolor Online Class

presented by Creative Arts School, 51 N Swinton Ave, Delray Beach. Previous watercolor painting experience required. Every W through 2/3 9 am-noon. \$255. Registration: 846-2349; oldschoolsquare.org

1/6 - Different Strokes for Online Folks: Acrylic Class

presented by Creative Arts School, 51 N Swinton Ave, Delray Beach. Every W through 2/3 10 am-noon or 1-3 pm. \$175. Registration: 846-2349; oldschoolsquare.org

Municipal Meetings

1/4 & 2/1 - Ocean Ridge

- First Monday at Ocean Ridge Town Hall, 6450 N Ocean Blvd. 6 pm. Agenda: oceanridgeflorida.com

1/5, 19 & 2/2 - Highland Beach

- First Tuesday at Highland Beach Town Hall, 3614 S Ocean Blvd. 1:30 pm. Agenda: highlandbeach.us

1/5, 19 & 2/2 - Delray Beach

- First & third Tuesdays at Delray Beach City Hall, 100 NW 1st Ave. 4 pm. Agenda: delraybeachfl.gov

1/5, 19 & 2/2 - Boynton Beach

- First and third Tuesday at Boynton Beach City Hall, 100 E Ocean Ave. 5:30 pm. Agenda: boynton-beach.org

1/8 - Gulf Stream

- Second Friday at Gulf Stream Town Hall, 100 Sea Rd. 9 am. Agenda: gulfstream.org.

1/11 & 25 - Lantana

- Second & fourth Mondays at Lantana Town Hall, 500 Greynolds Cir. 5:30 pm. 7 pm. Agenda: lantana.org.

1/12 - South Palm Beach

- Second Tuesday at South Palm Beach Town Hall, 3577 S Ocean Blvd. 4 pm. Agenda: southpalmbeach.com

1/12 & 26 - Boca Raton

- Second & fourth Tuesday at Boca Raton City Hall, 201 W Palmetto Park Rd. 6 pm. Agenda: myboca.us

1/26 - Manalapan

- Fourth Tuesday at Manalapan Town Hall, 600 S Ocean Blvd. 10 am. Agenda: manalapan.org.

1/28 - Briny Breezes

- Fourth Thursday at Briny Breezes Town Hall, 4802 N Ocean Blvd. 4 pm. Agenda: townofbrinyybreezes-fl.com

Thursday - 1/7 - Quilters meet at Boynton Beach City Library, 100 E Ocean Ave. Share quilting information, perpetuate quilting as a cultural & artistic form. Limit 10 quilters at a time. Every Th 9 am-noon. \$1/lifetime membership. 742-6886; boyntonlibrary.org

1/7 - Virtual Travel Sketchbook Class presented by Creative Arts School, 51 N Swinton Ave, Delray Beach. Every Th through 2/4 10 am-12:30 pm. \$215. Registration: 846-2349; oldschoolsquare.org

1/7 - Sado: Tea Ceremony Beginners 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 Th 1/7 & 21. 10:15 am-12:15 pm. \$50/member; \$55/non-member. Registration: 495-0233 x210; morikami.org

1/7 - Sumi-e Ink Painting Class: Beginners

Floral Session 4 at Morikami Museum and Japanese Gardens, 4000 Morikami Park Rd, Delray Beach. Every Th through 1/28 10:30 am-12:30 pm. \$55/member; \$60/non-member. Registration: 495-0233; morikami.org

1/7 - Abstract Painting: Acrylic Online

Class presented by Creative Arts School, 51 N Swinton Ave, Delray Beach. Every Th through 2/4 11 am-1 pm or 3-5 pm. \$175. Registration: 846-2349; oldschoolsquare.org

1/7 - Virtual Art About You Class presented by Creative Arts School, 51 N Swinton Ave, Delray Beach. Every Th through 2/4 1-4 pm. \$255. Registration: 846-2349; oldschoolsquare.org

1/7 - The Writers' Academy at the Kravis Center: Kickstart Your Writing Ability

presented by Kravis Center. 90-minute Zoom session. 1:30 pm. \$25. 833-8300; kravis.org

1/7 - Virtual Distinguished Lecture Series

- Tom Warnke: 100 Years of Surfing 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

1/7 - American Foreign Policy: A Master Class with Jeffrey S. Morton, Ph.D.

at The Society of the Four Arts, 100 Four Arts Plaza, Palm Beach. Held again 1/28, 2/11 & 25, 3/4 & 25. 2:30-4 pm. \$150/6-part series; \$35/lecture. Registrations: 805-8562; fourarts.org

1/7 - Ukulele Magic Online Class presented by Creative Arts School, 51 N Swinton Ave, Delray Beach. Every Th through 2/4 6-7:30 pm. \$135. Registration: 846-2349; oldschoolsquare.org

1/7 - Watercolor Basics 101 Online Class

presented by Creative Arts School, 51 N Swinton Ave, Delray Beach. Drawing skills necessary.

Every Th through 2/4 6-8:30 pm. \$215. Registration: 846-2349; oldschoolsquare.org

Friday - 1/8 - Great Books Discussion Group

at Delray Beach Public Library, 100 W Atlantic Ave. Live on Zoom. Every F 10-11:30 am. Free. Registration: 266-0194; delraylibrary.org

1/8 - Creating a Fold Book Online Class

presented by Creative Arts School, 51 N Swinton Ave, Delray Beach. Every Th through 2/4 6-7:30 pm. \$135. Registration: 846-2349; oldschoolsquare.org

Delray Beach GreenMarket

Anniversary

EVERY SATURDAY

OLD SCHOOL SQUARE PARK

9AM-2PM

CDC guidelines will be followed to ensure a safe market experience.

Shop with 60 of South Florida's premier farmers, bakers, and culinary artisans.

NE 2ND AVENUE | PINEAPPLE GROVE | FREE PARKING

For more information & vendor opportunities call (561) 276-7511

COMMUNITY REDEVELOPMENT AGENCY
DELRAY BEACH CRA

CITY OF DELRAY BEACH

Ave, Delray Beach. Every F through 2/5 1-3 pm. \$175. Registration: 846-2349; oldschoolsquare.org

1/8 - What They Had (2019 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

1/8 - Color Create Craft Program at The Society of the Four Arts King Library, 101 Four Arts Plaza, Palm Beach. Every F 2-4 pm. Free. 655-7226; fourarts.org

1/8 - 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 Palm Beach County History Museum, 300 N Dixie Hwy, end by the Banyan Tree at 101 N Clematis St. 4-5:30 am. \$10/person. Registration: 832-4164 x100; hspbc.org

1/8 - First Friday Art Walk at Downtown Development Authority, 85 SE 4th Ave, Delray Beach. Self-guided tour through myriad styles in art, photography, furnishings, live entertainment. Includes Atlantic Avenue Galleries, Pineapple Grove, Artists Alley Studios & Galleries. Available in-person or virtual. 6-9 pm. Free. 243-1077; downtowndelraybeach.com

1/8 - Bonfire on the Beach at Lake Worth Casino and Beach Complex, 10 S Ocean Blvd. Bring beach chairs. 2nd & 4th F 6-10 pm. Free; metered parking. 533-7395; lakeworth.org

1/8 - The Wildfire Band at Old School Square Pavilion, 51 N Swinton Ave, Delray Beach. 6 pm gates open; 7:30-10:30 pm music. \$30-\$150. 243-7922; oldschoolsquare.org

1/8-9 - John Kdecik Solo Acousti'lectric at The Funky Biscuit, 303 SE Mizner Blvd, Boca Raton. F 7 pm doors open, 8 pm show; Sat 5 pm doors open, 8 pm show. \$35-\$270. 465-3946; funkybiscuit.com

1/8-10 - Some Kind of Heaven (NR) at Lake Worth Playhouse Stonzek Studio, 713 Lake Ave. F 6 pm; Sat 5 & 7:30 pm; Sun 3 & 5:30 pm. \$9/ general admission; \$6/film society member. lakeworthplayhouse.org

Saturday - 1/9 - AVDA's 21st Annual Race for Hope at John Prince Park, 2700 6th Ave S, Lake Worth. Benefits Aid to Victims of Domestic Abuse. USATF-certified course. Virtual 5K run/bike/swim; 5K run; 10K run; kid's dash free/age 6 & under; hometown hero 5K; 5K run/walk w/pet. 7:30 am. \$20-\$40; free/active Palm Beach County police & firefighters. Register: 265-3797; avdaonline.org

1/9 - 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; ends at Palm Beach County History Museum. 10-11:30 am. \$10/person. Registration: 832-4164 x100; hspbc.org

1/9 - Nihongo: Japanese Language Intensive Virtual Workshops 1-B presented by Morikami Japanese Museum and Gardens, 4000 Morikami Park Rd, Delray Beach. Introduction of the Japanese language & culture. Each level/3 parts should be taken sequentially moving to next level. Zoom conference; dedicated internet connection, use of a computer or tablet needed. 2-day course held again 1/30. Noon-4 pm. \$100/session. Registration: 495-0233; morikami.org

1/9 - Documentary: Anne Frank Parallel Stories at The Society of the Four Arts, 100 Four Arts Plaza, Palm Beach. 2 pm. \$25/adult; \$15/student. Reservations: 805-8562; fourarts.org

1/9 - Intimate Landscape Photography Class presented by Creative Arts School, 51 N Swinton Ave, Delray Beach. On-location outdoors, socially distanced. Face coverings required. Every Sat through 2/6 2-5 pm. \$255. Registration: 846-2349; oldschoolsquare.org

JANUARY 10-16

Sunday - 1/10 - Dogs' Day in the Garden at Mounts Botanical Garden, 531 N Military Tr, West Palm Beach. Held throughout the garden; bring water/treats for pets. 2nd Sun through 5/9 9 am-3 pm. Regular admission \$10/general; \$5/child age 5-12. 233-1757; mounts.org

1/10 - Hillsboro Lighthouse Tour at the Hillsboro Club, 901 Hillsboro Mile (just over the bridge on A1A), Hillsboro Beach. Due to the Hillsboro Club being closed, only drive-up visits to the lighthouse allowed; no boat running for this tour. HPLS volunteers at the gate collect membership fees, guide participants to the entrance of the lighthouse. Due to parking limitations visits limited to 1 hour. Masks not provided but required to climb the lighthouse. 9 am-3 pm. 954-942-2102; hillsborolighthouse.org/tours

1/10 - Discover Your Personal Painting Style Online Class presented by Creative Arts School, 51 N Swinton Ave, Delray Beach. Every Sun through 2/7 1-3 pm. \$175. Registration:

846-2349; oldschoolsquare.org

1/10 - Story Central Virtual Storytelling Slam presented by Boca Raton Public Library, 400 NW 2nd Ave. Adults. 5-6:30 pm. Free. Enrollment required; Zoom info emailed upon enrollment: 393-7906; bocalibrary.org

1/10 - The Pettybreakers: Tom Petty & The Heartbreakers Tribute at The Funky Biscuit, 303 SE Mizner Blvd, Boca Raton. 4 pm doors open, 5 pm show & 7 pm doors open, 8 pm show. \$40-\$300. 465-3946; funkybiscuit.com

Monday - 1/11 - Virtual Jazz & Java with Dick Lowenthal presented by Arts Garage, 94 NE 2nd Ave, Delray Beach. 6-week program engages students in discussion, listening to Jazz greats from 1945-1965. Class includes Bop, Cool, Hard Bop, Free Jazz. Via Zoom meetings. Every M through 2/15 10-11:30 am. \$120/person. 450-6357; artsgarage.org

1/11 - Virtual Robert Welstein Quest for Knowledge Series presented by Town of South Palm Beach. Dr. Alina Alonso, Palm Beach Health Department. Online or by phone. 10:30 am. Free. Access link/code: 588-8889; southpalmbeach.com

1/11 - Lunch and Learn: Fascinating Lives of America's First Ladies: Little Known Stories of Triumph, Tragedy and Intrigue with Dr. Robert Watson at Kravis Center Gimelstob Ballroom, 701 Okeechobee Blvd, West Palm Beach. In-person or virtual. In-person Lunch & Learns include lunch prepared by Catering by The Breakers. Table number/seating assignments emailed in advance of the event. 11:30 am. \$95. 833-8300; kravis.org

1/11 - Virtual Lunch with Dr. Sara Tweedy, Clinical Operations Head for Vaccines, Pfizer presented by Forum Club of the Palm Beaches. Noon. \$15/member; \$40/non-member. Registration: 881-9977; forumclubpalmbeach.org

1/11 - The Writers' Academy at Kravis Center: Writers' Launch presented by Kravis Center. Focus/goal toward a fictional story.

90-minute Zoom sessions. Every M through 2/15 1:30 pm. \$325. 833-8300; kravis.org

1/11 - Among His Troops: Washington's War Tent with R. Scott Stephenson, Ph.D.

at The Society of the Four Arts Gubelmann Auditorium, 100 Four Arts Plaza, Palm Beach. Part of Campus on the Lake Lecture Series. 5 pm. \$20/non-member. Reservations: 805-8562; fourarts.org

1/11 - African-American Film Festival: Lean On Me at Kravis Center Rinker Playhouse, 701 Okeechobee Blvd, West Palm Beach. Film preceded by introduction; Q&A moderated by William "Bill" Nix follows. 7 pm. \$12. 832-7469; kravis.org

Tuesday - 1/12 - Virtual Coffee Chat

presented by Boynton Beach City Library, 100 E Ocean Ave. Join Maddie the Library Barista: different aspects of coffee culture. Follow on social media or visit our YouTube channel. 2nd T noon. 742-6886; boyntonlibrary.org

1/12 - 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

1/12 - Virtual Great Decisions Lectures 2021 with Jeffrey S. Morton Ph.D.

presented by Florida Atlantic University, 777 Glades Rd, Boca Raton. Every T through 3/2 4 pm. \$125/8-lecture series; \$25/single lecture. 297-6124; fauevents.com

1/12 - All Arts Open Mic Night at Arts Garage, 94 NE 2nd Ave, Delray Beach. In person or virtual. 2nd T 8-10 pm. \$6/virtual ticket; \$8/advance purchase reserved seat. 450-6357; artsgarage.org

Wednesday - 1/13 - Nature Journaling & Sketching at Green Cay Nature Center, 12800 Hagen Ranch Rd, Boynton Beach. Observe, experience, record nature; learn basics of nature journaling. Bring your own journal or notebook, writing utensils of your choice. Materials provided to all who need them. All ages. 10 am. \$3/payment required at registration. Reservations: 966-7000; pbcnature.com

1/13 - Lassoing The Sun with Mark Woods

part of Florida Voices series at The Society of the Four Arts Dixon Education Building, 240 Cocoanut Row, Palm Beach. Attend at King Library or via Zoom. 1:30 pm. Free. Registration: 655-2766; fourarts.org

1/13 - Virtual ArtSmart Lecture Series: All That Glitters Is Not Gold with Richard Rene Silvin presented by Kravis Center.

90-minute Zoom session. 1:30 pm. \$25. 832-7469; kravis.org

1/13 - Author Lori Nelson Spielman: The Star-Crossed Sisters of Tuscany presented by Delray Beach Public Library, 100 W Atlantic Ave. Live on Zoom. 6:30 pm. Free. Registration: 266-9490; delraylibrary.org

1/13 - Delray Beach Orchid Society Virtual Meeting, 2nd W 7 pm. Free. 573-2422; delraybeorchidsociety.com

1/13 - Town of South Palm Beach 2021 Virtual Lecture Series, 3577 S Ocean Blvd. Speaker Dr. Frank Alcock: Trade Wars:

The COASTAL STAR

Background of US Trade System in Wake of WWII; The Value of the Trade System. Virtual access provided via email upon receipt of payment [checks only]. 7:30 pm. \$15/event. 588-8889; southpalmbeach.com

Thursday - 1/14 - The Society of the Four Arts at 85 with Michel Witmer at The Society of the Four Arts Dixon Education Building, 240 Cocoanut Row, Palm Beach. Part of Campus on the Lake Lecture Series. 11 am. \$20/non-member. Reservations: 805-8562; fourarts.org

1/14 - Virtual Podcasting with Adobe Audition Class presented by Delray Beach Public Library, 100 W Atlantic Ave. Live Zoom presentation. 2 pm. Free. Registration: 266-0196; delraylibrary.org

1/14 - How Art and Motherhood Won the Vote for Women with Bridge Quinn

at The Society of the Four Arts Gubelmann Auditorium, 100 Four Arts Plaza, Palm Beach. Part of Campus on the Lake Lecture Series. Book signing follows. 2:30 pm. \$20/non-member. 805-8562; fourarts.org

1/14 - Thirsty Thursdays featuring Brock Butler of Perpetual Groove at The Funky Biscuit, 303 SE Mizner Blvd, Boca Raton. Held again 1/28. 5 pm doors open; 7 pm show. Free. 465-3946; funkybiscuit.com

1/14 - Arshile Gorky: Art, Life and Legacy

at Norton Museum of Art, 1450 S Dixie Hwy, West Palm Beach. Live stream via YouTube & Facebook. 6-7 pm. Free. Registration: 832-5196; norton.org

1/14 - Chamber Music Society of Palm Beach: Paul Huang, violin and Edward Arron, cello at The Breakers Palm Beach, 11 S County Rd, Palm Beach. Virtual single concerts tickets available to live stream. 6 pm reception; 7 pm concert. Season subscriptions \$1,750/person. 379-6773; cmspb.org

1/14 - Muse Awards Virtual Ceremony

presented by The Cultural Council for Palm Beach County. Recorded performances by some of the county's most talented artists, streamed on The Cultural Council's website. Enter for a chance to win a 2-night stay for 2 at The Breakers Palm Beach. 6 pm. Free. 472-3330; palmbeachculture.com/muse

Friday - 1/15 - An Hour to Kill Virtual Mystery Book Club: Warlight by Michael Ondaatje presented by Boca Raton Public Library, 400 NW 2nd Ave. Adults. 10:30-11:30 am. Enrollment required; Zoom info emailed upon enrollment: 393-7906; bocalibrary.org

1/15 - The Peanut Butter Falcon (2019 PG-13) at The Society of the Four Arts Gubelmann Auditorium, 100 Four Arts Plaza, Palm Beach. 2 & 5:30 pm. \$10/non-member. Reservations: 805-8562; fourarts.org

1/15 - Albert Castiglia at The Funky Biscuit, 303 SE Mizner Blvd, Boca Raton. 5 pm doors open, 9 pm show. \$20-\$180. 465-3946; funkybiscuit.com

1/15-16 - Parsons Dance at Palm Beach State College Duncan Theatre, 4200 Congress Ave, Lake Worth. 8 pm. \$45. 868-3309; duncantheatre.org

1/15-31 - South Florida Mini Fair at 9067 Southern Blvd, West Palm Beach. Check website for times/events/tickets. 793-0333; southfloridafair.com

Saturday - 1/16 - Beginners Calligraphy Workshop for Adults at Morikami Museum and Japanese Gardens Theater, 4000 Morikami Park Rd, Delray Beach. Learn brush strokes, some Japanese characters w/ ink & brush, traditional calligraphy writing implements. 11:30 am-1 pm or 2-3:30 pm. \$35/person + museum admission. Registration: 495-0233; morikami.org

1/16 - The Magic Flute part of Met Opera Live in HD Series at The Society of the Four Arts Gubelmann Auditorium, 100 Four Arts Plaza, Palm Beach. Previously recorded. 1 pm. \$25/adult; \$15/student. Reservations: 805-8562; fourarts.org

1/16 - Omotesenke School Sado Tea Ceremony Workshop at Morikami Museum and Japanese Gardens Oki Education Center, 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

1/16 - Screenwriting 101 Virtual Class with Suki Lanh presented by Bob Carter's Actor's Workshop & Repertory Company, 1000 N Dixie Hwy. Online via Zoom. Adults. Every Sat through 2/20 3-5 pm. \$200. 833-7529; actorsrep.org

1/16 - Josh Gracin at Old School Square Pavilion, 51 N Swinton Ave, Delray Beach. 7 pm gates open; 8 pm music. \$50-\$200. 243-7922; oldschoolsquare.org

1/16 - Virtual Masterworks III: Shostakovich & Mendelssohn presented by South Florida Symphony Orchestra. 8 pm. \$45. 954-522-8445; southfloridasymphony.org

1/16 - The Jose Ramirez Band at Arts Garage, 94 NE 2nd Ave, Delray Beach. In person or

virtual. 8-10 pm. \$14/virtual ticket; \$40-\$45/advance purchase reserved seat. 450-6357; artsgarage.org

JANUARY 17-23

Monday - 1/18 - Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Day

1/18 - 21st Annual Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Virtual Brunch: I Have A Dream presented by Spady Cultural Heritage Museum, 170 NW 5th Ave, Delray Beach. 10 am. \$25/person. 279-8883; spadymuseum.com

1/18 - Art Of The Inner Eye with Alexander Newley at The Society of the Four Arts, 240 Cocoanut Row, Palm Beach. Held again 1/20, 22, 25, 27 & 29. 10 am-noon class; 1-4 pm open studio. \$425/6 classes. Reservations: 805-8562; fourarts.org

1/18 - Back to the Databasics at Boynton Beach City Library, 100 E Ocean Ave. Inside look at free databases available w/your library card. Different database covered each month. Adults. 3rd M 11 am. Free. 742-6886; boyntonlibrary.org

1/18-23 - 17th Annual Virtual Palm Beach Poetry Festival features readings, lectures, poetry workshops, craft talks, more. Check website for events/times/tickets: palmbeachpoetryfestival.org

Tuesday - 1/19 - Jews of Florida by Marcia Jo Zerivitz, L.H.D. presented by Delray Beach Public Library, 100 W Atlantic Ave. Live on Zoom. 2 pm. Free.

1/25 - Removing Barriers, Unleashing Potential with Rick Hansen

Potential with Rick Hansen at The Society of the Four Arts Dixon Education Building, 240 Cocoanut Row, Palm Beach. Part of Campus on the Lake Lecture Series. 2:30 pm. \$20/non-member. Reservations: 805-8562; fourarts.org

1/25 - La Belle Epoque: The Glory Of Paris with Taylor Hagoon, Ph.D.

At The Society of the Four Arts, 240 Cocoanut Row, Palm Beach. Held again 2/22, 3/29 & 4/19. 5:30-7 pm. \$95/series. Reservations: 655-7226; fourarts.org

1/25 - African-American Film Festival:

Akeelah and The Bee at Kravis Center Rinker Playhouse, 701 Okeechobee Blvd, West Palm Beach. Film preceded by introduction; Q&A moderated by William "Bill" Nix follows. 7 pm. \$12. 832-7469; kravis.org

Tuesday - 1/26 - Photography On The Move Online Class

presented by Creative Arts School, 51 N Swinton Ave, Delray Beach. Class 1 photoshoot at Lion Country Safari; Class 2 via Zoom. Held again 2/2. 9:30-11:30 am. \$79 + admission to Lion Country Safari. Registration: 846-2349; oldschooldsquare.org

1/26 - Friends Book Club: Cutting for Stone by Abraham Verghese

at Boca Raton Public Library, 400 NW 2nd Ave. Adults. 10:30-11:30 am. Free. 393-7968; bocalibrary.org

1/26 - 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

1/26 - Sam Houston And The Alamo

Avengers by Brian Kilmeade 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 at the King Library or remotely via Zoom. 5:30 pm. Free. Registration:

655-2766; fourarts.org**1/26-27 - Voices of Women of the 60s: Joan, Joni, Judy, Janis, Carly, and Carole**

at Delray Beach Playhouse, 950 NW 9th St. 2 pm. \$25. 272-1281; delraybeachplayhouse.com

Wednesday - 1/27 - Solar United Neighbors

Palm Beach County Co-op Virtual meeting presented by League of Women Voters & Solar United Neighbors. Free to join, open to homeowners & business owners in Palm Beach County. Learn about solar energy, leverage bulk purchasing to ensure competitive pricing/quality solar installations. 6 pm. Free. solarunitedneighbors.org/palmbeach

1/27 - Town of South Palm Beach 2021

Virtual Lecture Series, 3577 S Ocean Blvd. Speaker Dr. Kevin Wagner: Election Review: Going Forward, Looking Back. Virtual access provided via email upon receipt of payment [checks only]. 7:30 pm. \$15/event. 588-8889; southpalmbeach.com

Thursday - 1/28 - Virtual Video Editing with Adobe Premiere Pro Class

presented by Delray Beach Public Library, 100 W Atlantic Ave. Live Zoom presentation. 2 pm. Free. Registration: 266-0196; delraylibrary.org

1/28 - Oldenburg and Van Bruggen: The Typewriter Eraser, A Favored Form

at Norton Museum of Art, 1450 S Dixie Hwy, West Palm Beach. Live stream via YouTube & Facebook. 6-7 pm. Free. Registration: 832-5196; norton.org

1/28 - December '63: A Tribute to Frankie Valli & The Four Seasons

at Mizner Park Cultural Center, 201 Plaza Real, Boca Raton. 7:30 pm. \$35-\$45. 844-672-2849; miznerparkculturalcenter.com

Friday - 1/29 - Ana Popovic

at The Funky Biscuit, 303 SE Mizner Blvd, Boca Raton. 5 pm

doors open, 6 pm show & 8 pm doors open, 9 pm show. \$40-\$300. 465-3946; funkybiscuit.com

1/29 - Zoom Author Event: K.D. Alen

speaks about her book A Mother's Promise presented by Murder on the Beach Mystery Bookstore. 7 pm. Admission w/purchase of the book \$9.99. 279-7790; murderonthebeach.com

Saturday - 1/30 - Half Price for Heroes Day

at South Florida Science Center and Aquarium, 4801 Dreher Tr N, West Palm Beach. To thank our frontline workers & first responders doors open 1 hour early; last Sat 9 am-6 pm. 1/2-price admission up to 4 guests; must show ID. 832-1988; sfssciencecenter.org

1/30 - Aaron Goodvin at Old School Square

Pavilion, 51 N Swinton Ave, Delray Beach. 7 pm gates open; 8 pm music. \$50-\$200. 243-7922; oldschooldsquare.org

1/30/2021 - Met Stars Live In Concert:

Renee Fleming & Jonas Kaufmann part of Met Opera Live in HD Series at The Society of the Four Arts Gubelmann Auditorium, 100 Four Arts Plaza, Palm Beach. 1 pm. \$25/adult; \$15/student w/ID. 655-7226; fourarts.org

JAN 31-FEB 6**Sunday - 1/31 - Joyann Parker presents the Music of Patsy Cline**

at Arts Garage, 94 NE 2nd Ave, Delray Beach. In person or virtual. 7-8:30 pm. \$14/virtual ticket; \$30-\$35/advance purchase reserved seat. 450-6357; artsgarage.org

Monday - 2/1 - UP! And Away to Angel Falls with Karen Angel

at The Society of the Four Arts Gubelmann Auditorium, 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

2/2 - The Library Book by Susan Orlean

part of The Talk of Kings Book Discussion Group at The Society of the Four Arts King Library, 101 Four Arts Plaza, Palm Beach. In person or via Zoom. 5:30 pm. Free. Registration: 655-2766; fourarts.org

2/2 - Virtual Art Salon

presented by Armory Art Center, 811 Park Place, West Palm Beach. 7-9 pm. Free. Registration: 832-1776; armoryart.org

Wednesday - 2/3 - Women and Literature with Shahine Shams

at The Society of the Four Arts Dixon Education Building, 240 Cocoanut Row, Palm Beach. Held again 2/17, 3/3, 17 & 31. 10-11:30 am. \$125/series. Reservations: 655-7226; fourarts.org

2/1 - Virtual Culture & Cocktails: Cultural Dynamos

presented by Cultural Council for Palm Beach County. Featuring Douglas C. Evans, Executive Director of The Chamber Music Society of Palm Beach and Marjorie Waldo, President & CEO of Arts Garage, interviewed by Dave Lawrence, President & CEO of Cultural Council. Streamed live online. 6-7 pm. Free. RSVP: 472-3330; palmbeachculture.com

2/1-4 - The Music of Jerome Kern: All the Things You Are

at The Delray Beach Playhouse, 950 NW 9th St. Runs through 2/10. M-Th 2 pm; M-W 7:30 pm. \$38. 272-1281; delraybeachplayhouse.com

Tuesday - 2/2 - 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 2/23. Beginners 11 am-1 pm; Intermediate 1-3 pm. \$70/member; \$80/non-member; + \$80/flower fee. Registration: 495-0233; morikami.org

2/2 - The Library Book by Susan Orlean

part of The Talk of Kings Book Discussion Group at The Society of the Four Arts King Library, 101 Four Arts Plaza, Palm Beach. In person or via Zoom. 5:30 pm. \$55/member; \$60/non-member. Registration: 495-0233; morikami.org

2/4 - Sumi-e Ink Painting Class: Beginners

Floral Session 5 at Morikami Museum and Japanese Gardens, 4000 Morikami Park Rd, Delray Beach. Every Th through 2/25 10:30 am-12:30 pm. \$55/member; \$60/non-member. Registration: 495-0233; morikami.org

2/4 - Virtual ArtSmart Lecture Series: Mothers/Daughters/Grandmothers An Ongoing Bond

presented by Kravis Center. 75-minute Zoom session. 1:30 pm. \$25. 832-7469; kravis.org

2/4 - Virtual Distinguished Lecture Series - Arlo Haskell: The Jews of Key West: Smugglers, Cigar Makers, and Revolutionaries

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

2/4 - Dirty, Nasty Politics in Early America with Joanne Freeman, Ph.D.

at The Society of the Four Arts Gubelmann Auditorium, 100 Four Arts Plaza, Palm Beach. Part of Campus on the Lake Lecture Series. 5 pm. \$20/non-member. Reservations: 805-8562; fourarts.org

2/4 - Celebrating the Norton: Eighty Years

at Norton Museum of Art, 1450 S Dixie Hwy, West Palm Beach. Live stream via YouTube & Facebook. 6-7 pm. Free. Registration: 832-5196; norton.org

2/4 - Chamber Music Society of Palm Beach: Montrose Piano Trio

at Holy Trinity Episcopal Church, 211 Trinity Pl, West Palm Beach. Virtual single concerts tickets available to live stream. 6 pm reception; 7 pm concert. Season subscriptions \$1,750/person. 379-6773; cmspb.org

Friday - 2/5 - Pavarotti (2019 PG-13)

at The Society of the Four Arts Gubelmann Auditorium, 100 Four Arts Plaza, Palm Beach. 2 & 5:30 pm. \$10/non-member. Reservations: 805-8562; fourarts.org

2/5 - 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 Palm Beach County History Museum, 300 N Dixie Hwy, end by the Banyan Tree at 101 N Clematis St. 4-5:30 am. \$10/person. Registration: 832-4164 x100; hspbc.org

2/5 - 40th Annual Gala: The 'No Show' Winter Ball - Stand Up for the Children.

Benefits Boys & Girls Club. 6:45-7:45 pm. Tickets start at \$1,000. 683-3287; bgcbc.org

2/5 - Laugh with the Library Chapter 15

at Opal Grand Oceanfront, 10 N Ocean Blvd, Delray Beach. Benefits Delray Beach Public Library's Community Outreach Programs. Adults age 21 & over. 7:30 pm doors open; 9 pm show. \$225. 266-0798; delraylibrary.org/laugh

2/5 - Johnny Rawls

at Arts Garage, 94 NE 2nd Ave, Delray Beach. 8-10 pm. \$40-\$45. 450-6357; artsgarage.org

2/5-6 - TL Collective Dance Company

at Palm Beach State College Duncan Theatre, 4200 Congress Ave, Lake Worth. 8 pm. \$45. 868-3309; duncantheatre.org

2/5-28 - Intimate Apparel by Lynn Nottage

at Palm Beach Dramaworks, 201 Clematis St, West Palm Beach. Call box office for times/prices: 514-4042; palmbeachdramaworks.org

Saturday - 2/6 - 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 the West Palm Beach GreenMarket between the huge Banyan Tree and Visitor Information Center, 100 N Clematis St, ends at Palm Beach County History Museum. 10-11:30 am. \$10/person. Registration: 832-4164 x100; hspbc.org

2/6 - The Brandon Goldberg Trio

at Arts Garage, 94 NE 2nd Ave, Delray Beach. 8-10 pm. \$40-\$45. 450-6357; artsgarage.org

2/6 - Norton Museum 80th Anniversary.

Virtual celebration features art, music, an auction. Benefits the Museum Collection. Call for time/tickets/info: 832-5196 x1121; norton.org

4 Prestigious Gulf Stream Properties Recently Sold

by Barbara Whittaker

**OCEANFRONT CONDOMINIUM
4001 N OCEAN BLVD, 406, GULF STREAM**

Spectacular 4th floor apartment in a unique enclave of 34 luxury apartments directly on the ocean with southeast exposure. Listed at \$3,695,000.

**BALLANTRAE APARTMENT
4333 N OCEAN BLVD, DN2 GULF STREAM**

Sold first day on the market! Stunning direct oceanfront 3 bedroom apartment with 3,400 Sq ft of living space. Ballantrae is a highly sought-after complex with only 2 residences per floor. Listed at \$2,500,000.

**POLO RIDGE
3960 N OCEAN BLVD, GULF STREAM**

Sold first day on the market! Perfectly appointed by a well-known designer. This sunny 4 bedroom townhouse offers a private pool, elevator and extras galore! Listed at \$2,295,000.

**Barbara Whittaker**

Broker Associate

561.271.3317

barbara.whittaker@corcoran.com

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House of the Month



This Highland Beach property offers 100 feet of direct ocean frontage on a 400-foot-deep lot in the Byrd Beach section of town.

Highland Beach oceanfront estate

This custom-built, 12,201-total-square-foot oceanfront Highland Beach estate offers 100 feet of direct ocean frontage with grand views of the Atlantic. The grounds have a pool with spa and tiki hut with seating directly on the beach. The home's footprint is deep and features a private pathway to the mature ocean dune facing the water.

The luxurious estate offers five bedrooms; five full and three half baths; gated entry to the property; four-car garage; basketball court, and large bonus area above garage that can be converted to extra bedrooms, recreation area or theater.

You enter the home on the first floor via a formal foyer and reception area with access to the grand stairway and elevator. The floor has a formal living area, a morning room and a family room, all of which open to a covered loggia. The floor also features a study, den, VIP suite with bath and a bedroom with en suite bath.

Upstairs, the oceanfront master wing has a balcony, two separate master baths, dual walk-in closets and an office overlooking the ocean. Although the sumptuous master wing dominates the second floor, it has an additional bedroom with en suite bath.

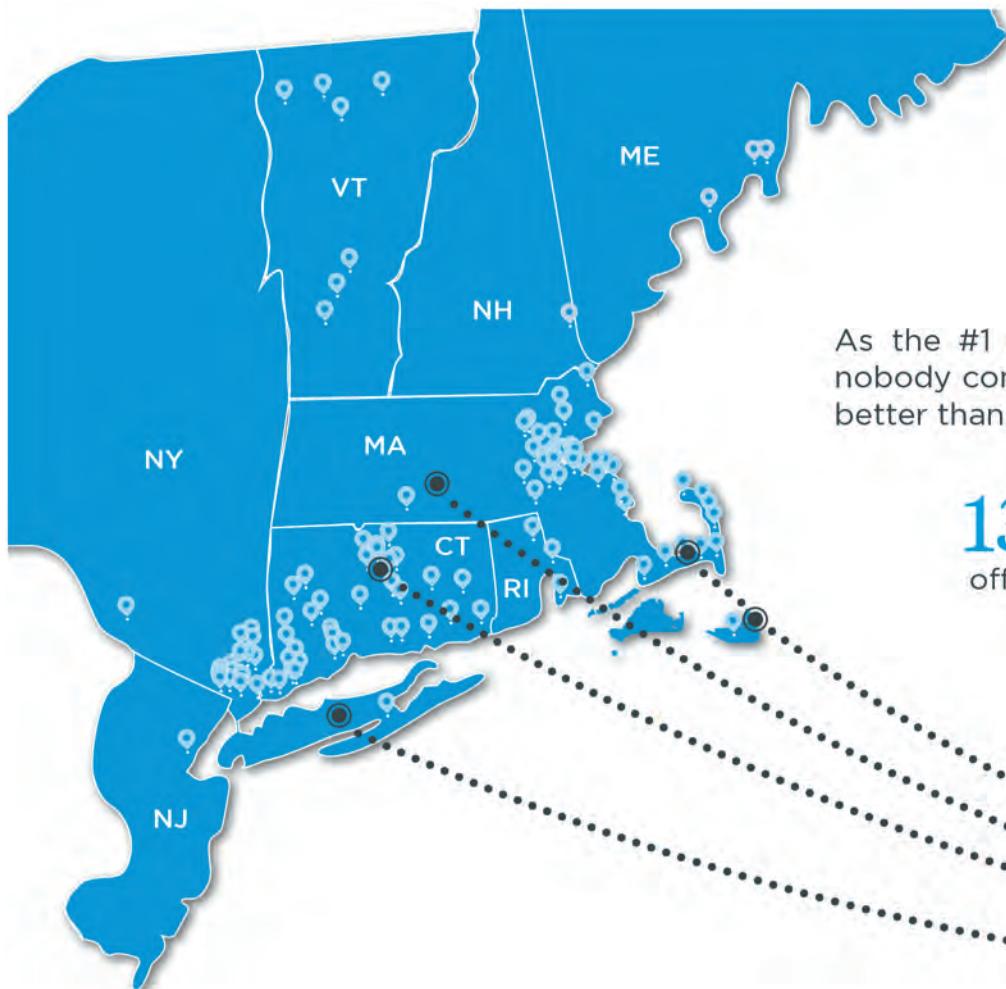
Offered at \$17,950,000. Call Nick Malinosky and Randy Ely, Douglas Elliman, 561-306-4597. 900 E. Atlantic Ave., Delray Beach, FL 33483. Nick.malinosky@elliman.com



ABOVE: In addition to a seaside pool, outdoor entertainment space includes a summer kitchen, loggia and a tiki hut with seating directly on the beach.

FAR LEFT: The kitchen was designed with custom finishes and top-of-the-line appliances.

LEFT: Ocean views exist throughout the home, including from the billiards room.



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280 NE 6th Avenue | \$1,095,000
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Terri Berman | 561.445.2929
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