

Along the Coast

Recalling an earlier vaccine rollout

Participants' stories of 1964 polio preventive show parallels to COVID-19

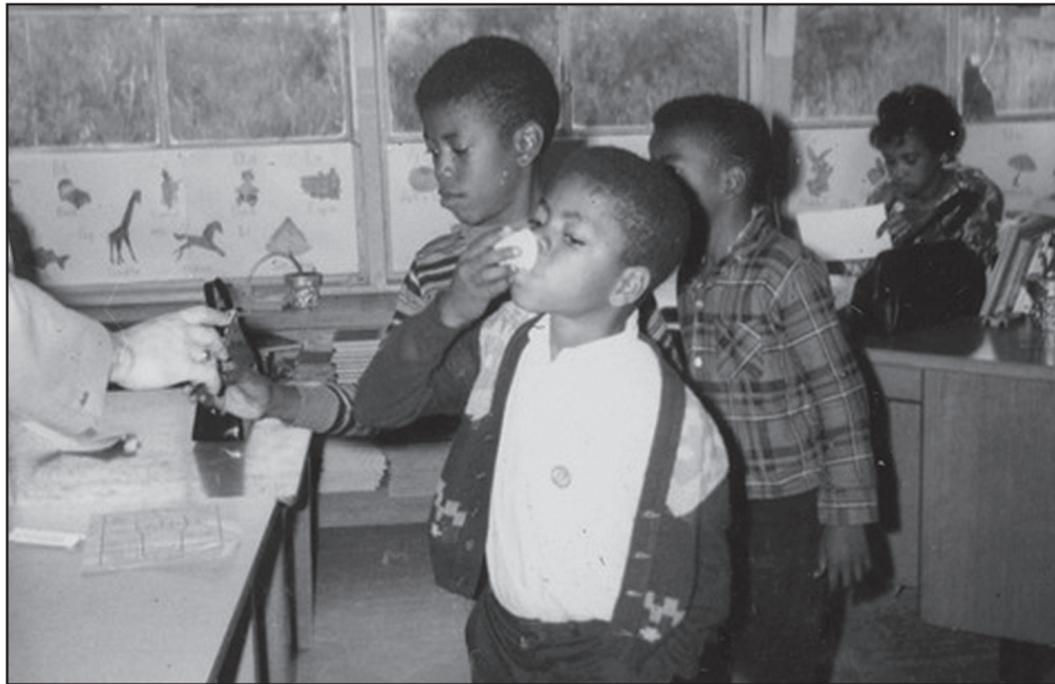
By Joyce Reingold

Walter and Jean Dutch left New York in 1946 to settle in Briny Breezes with their two young children, Karen and Wayne. Karen Dutch Steinke was just 6 months old then, but she would later learn that on the trip south, her parents bypassed an area of the country where they had heard poliomyelitis was present.

In the 1940s, polio outbreaks were becoming more frequent, and millions of parents like the Dutches became fierce sentinels protecting vulnerable children from the highly contagious virus that too often resulted in muscle weakness, paralysis and sometimes death. In summer, when cases of the virus spiked, parents kept children indoors. Families social-distanced, self-isolated and quarantined.

The virus is transmitted through contact with fecal matter or via droplets from coughs or sneezes. But then, there were many theories — perhaps flies, car exhaust or even cats were to blame. In the absence of scientific evidence, fear festered.

See **VACCINE** on page 10



Children receive oral polio vaccinations at the Boynton Beach Jaycees program in 1965. Photos provided by Boynton Beach City Library History Archives



Boynton Beach Jaycees during a 'Let's lick polio!' push that included three Sabin Oral Sunday doses in 1964.



Inside
South County residents scramble for COVID-19 vaccines. Page 12

Boca Raton

Gumbo Limbo short \$900,000

Pandemic cripples fundraising; no reopening date set

By Larry Keller

While other nature-themed attractions that shut their doors to the public last year because of COVID-19 soon reopened, Gumbo Limbo Nature Center remains mostly closed for pandemic reasons, with no scheduled reopening date and its fundraising auxiliary hurting financially.

"Funding is urgently needed," Sheila Reinken, treasurer of the nonprofit Friends of Gumbo Limbo, wrote in a recent newsletter. "The effects of this crisis on Gumbo Limbo Nature Center are becoming more and more challenging each day. For the first time in 36 years, we face a \$900,000 shortfall in funding."

Among other things, the nonprofit runs the nature center's gift shop, collects voluntary admissions, underwrites its website, pays for veterinary care, has picked up the tab for GPS equipment for sea turtle research and provides scholarships to graduate students. It also organizes fundraisers such as a 10K run and Gumbo Fest. The nonprofit had total revenues of \$1.5 million in fiscal 2018 and expenses of

See **GUMBO** on page 26

Thieves targeted unlocked cars that had keys or key fobs left inside.
The Coastal Star



Along the Coast

Thieves drive off in style from coastal homes

By Larry Barszewski

Stealing luxury is easier than you might think when it comes to cars in South Palm Beach County's coastal communities.

While the U.S. top-10 list of stolen vehicles includes a number of Hondas,

Toyotas and pickup trucks, most of the 11 cars ripped off in Gulf Stream last year had more panache: three Porsches, two Land Rovers, two Mercedes-Benzes, two BMWs, an Audi and a Dodge (a rental, of course). Thieves found 10 of them unlocked with the keys or key fobs inside.

The seven cars taken in Ocean Ridge in 2020 were also left unlocked with the key/key fobs inside. It was the same story in Highland Beach, where a Mercedes and a Cadillac were stolen, and for the lone auto theft in

See **THEFTS** on page 16

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Football great Howard Schnellenberger and his wife, Beverlee, share six decades of love letters.
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The Coastal Star is a monthly newspaper with two editions serving Hypoluxo Island, South Palm Beach, Manalapan, Ocean Ridge, Briny Breezes, Gulf Stream and coastal Delray Beach; Highland Beach and coastal Boca Raton. ©2008-2021

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

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Coastal Star



Austin Rigal, 14, an eighth-grader at Saint Andrew's School in Boca Raton, got more than 200 sponsors to fund wreaths for veterans at Palm Beach Memorial Park Cemetery in Lantana, with help from his father, Robert Rigal. **Tim Stepien/The Coastal Star**

Editor's Note

Election season carries costs beyond our paper's size

You may see campaign signs for the March election in front of our office.

They were approved by our landlord, not by us.

We are doing our best to stay away from the toxicity of certain Facebook pages — unless we feel a need to correct a lie concerning our business.

We haven't spoken to one of our original business partners since he filed to run for office. We've built a wall between our journalism and his candidacy.

None of this has been difficult to do. It's who we are. Our readers know that.

Still ... in all of our 11 years of publishing, I've never wanted so badly to do candidate recommendations.

But we don't, we won't and, in fact, we can't afford to.

The economics are simple: We've never had enough staff to sit down with every candidate and ask questions that ferret out his or her platform and purpose for running for office. That takes time and resources far beyond our small-newspaper capabilities.

And this year, as we struggle with the economic fallout of a global pandemic, we find we can no longer afford to give free space to letters drafted by candidates or by anyone endorsing — or criticizing — a candidate for office.

Every inch of newsprint we use must be supported by paid advertising. That's how we are able to keep our distribution free and focused on the readers

in our small communities. It's a business model our advertisers embrace, since we deliver their messages directly into the hands of a highly desirable audience.

We have continued our practice of running candidate profiles for all contested races. We ask each candidate the same questions and hope the side-by-side comparison of their answers is helpful.

But with the fog of politics so thick and nasty this year, I fear voters in our municipalities may get lost and lose confidence in local government — with unintended consequences as a harsh result. A simple majority vote, after all, can decide the character and well-being of our coastal communities.

So, in lieu of recommendations from your trusted local newspaper, you will all need to educate yourselves on the candidates.

It may feel unsavory to step into the miasma of politics in 2021, but be bold. Ask your candidates about their motivations for seeking office, research who supports them (and why), learn what you can about their backgrounds. And, importantly, do your best to sort the truth from the lies and hyperbole.

In other words, know your candidates. And vote.



— Mary Kate Leming, Editor

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Boca Raton teen's latest mission: Getting wreaths for veterans' graves

By Larry Keller

Doing good was never so hard for Austin Rigal. Every year around the holidays, the 14-year-old picks a charity or two to support. In December, he settled on Wreaths Across America, an organization that coordinates annual wreath-laying ceremonies at veterans' graves nationwide, including Arlington National Cemetery.

In doing so, Austin discovered that Palm Beach Memorial Park Cemetery in Lantana had sponsors for only 19 wreaths, although 200 veterans are buried there.

An eighth-grader at Saint Andrew's School in Boca Raton, Austin hoped to persuade friends and others to sponsor wreaths at \$15 each. But he had barely begun when he learned the deadline had passed. So he told his parents, Robert and Ingrid Rigal, that he would like to sponsor the 181 wreaths that the cemetery's general manager needed to reach her goal.

Robert made sure his son understood what that entailed and offered to split the tab. Austin's share was about \$1,350.

It was doable, however, because although Austin doesn't get an allowance, he sets aside money he receives from gifts and so forth. His dad pays him a generous amount of interest to encourage him to save. He does the same for Austin's 10-year-old sister, Lauren, whose most recent charities were Operation Smile and the ASPCA.

After the deadline passed,

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the website at Saint Andrew's posted an item about Austin's efforts. Teachers and parents then sponsored wreaths, and some volunteered at the ceremony. The cemetery not only received 200 wreaths for veterans' graves, but also sponsors for 45 more that will be applied to next year's event.

But first, another hurdle arose. On the eve of the Dec. 23 ceremony, logistical issues prevented all the wreaths from being delivered on time.

"The staff from the funeral home and my family drove around and bought wreaths the night before to fill the gap. Ultimately, we got enough wreaths," Robert Rigal says.

In the end, all turned out well. Some of Austin's friends showed up to volunteer at the ceremony. So did his sister and a few of her friends. A school security guard who is a Marine Corps veteran came. A few wounded veterans were there. There were Boy Scouts, and fire department personnel did a presentation of the colors. A priest spoke.

And something else happened that was unexpected. Cemetery officials presented Austin with a display case containing emblems from all the service branches and the Pledge of Allegiance.

"He really appreciated it and now it holds a prominent place for him in his room," his dad says. "It ended up being a great event."

"It was much better than I thought it would be," Austin says. "I didn't expect that many people to come."

Wreaths Across America wasn't a surprising choice for Austin to support. "I've been interested in military history and the Marine Corps ever since I can remember," he says. "My dad is a former Marine. I've always loved the Marine Corps and interesting battles. I plan on going to the Naval Academy and becoming an officer."

Other charities he has supported include the Wounded Warrior Project, Shriners Hospitals for Children and an organization that builds houses for veterans with disabilities.

Charity work is a pleasure, Austin says. It wasn't the gift from the cemetery or compliments from friends and teachers — even the woman who cuts his hair — that meant the most in the aftermath of his effort at the Lantana cemetery.

"It's an amazing feeling to know that you're helping somebody, and people who sacrificed for their country for people like us," Austin says.

"So being able to give back to them, even after they have passed away, feels great. It doesn't matter if it's a veteran or not, it feels great to help people in need, people who deserve better." ★

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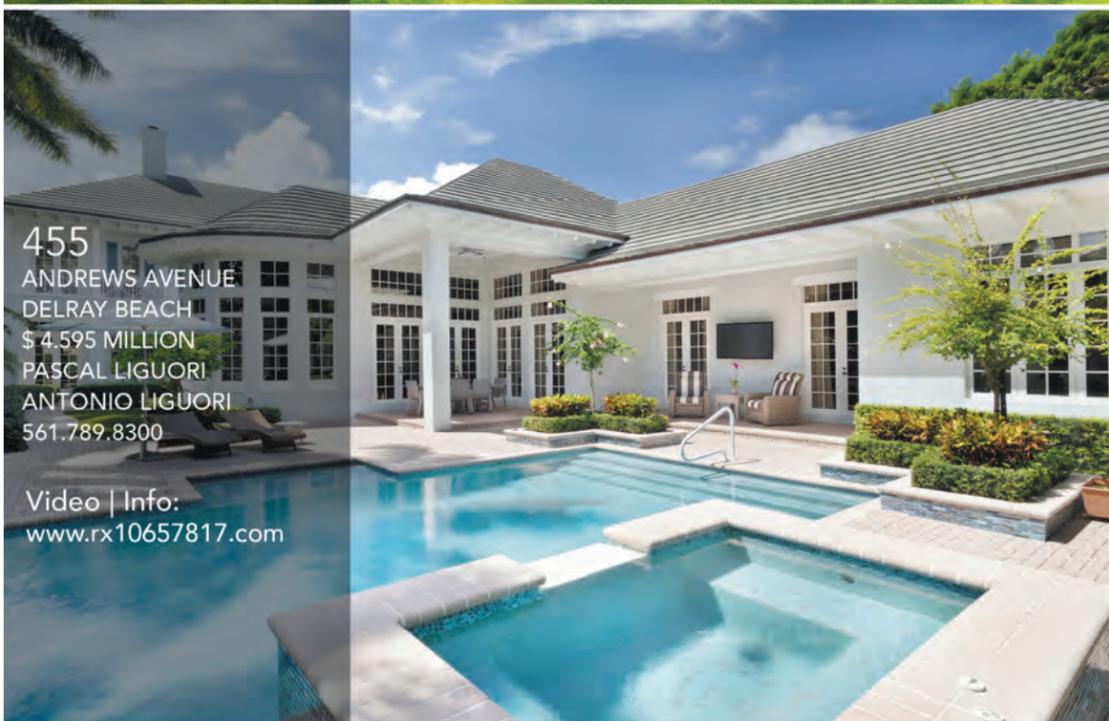
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Boca Raton

Appointed council member faces former member, two others

Boca Raton is governed by a five-member City Council, elected at-large to designated seats on a non-partisan basis for three-year terms. Two of those seats are up for election March 9, with four candidates in the race for Seat C and two for Seat D.

SEAT C



Yvette Drucker

Personal: 45; bachelor's degree in international relations from Florida International University; Boca Raton resident for 13 years; married with

two children.

Professional: Previously did advocacy work for nonprofits as well as 13 years in human resources work for TotalSource, a certified professional employer organization that helps companies manage their human resources, benefits, compliance and payroll.

Political experience: Appointed to the Boca Raton City Council in October, replacing Jeremy Rodgers, who went on leave.

Important issues: Dealing with the ramifications of COVID-19; continuing to support small retail and service-oriented businesses during the pandemic.

How safe is the city's drinking water? "I drink Boca water daily. I think it's extremely safe. I'm really proud of our water quality."

Quote: "I'm the first Latina woman to be on the City Council of Boca Raton and it's important to my people to have representation. Diversity is very important to me. I am not a politician. I am a public servant and looking forward to continuing to serve this community. It's so important for me to preserve our history while we embrace our future. We need to move forward as a community. We're going through a reset right now as we go through this pandemic. We are history in the making. Boca is a very young city. The next 10 years will be very defining for us."



Bernard Korn

Personal: 66; bachelor's degree in business and finance from Brooklyn College; Boca Raton resident for 20 years; separated with two

children.

Professional: A licensed real estate broker and instructor, he is also chairman of Undiscovered Properties, a real estate and education international franchise company, and Travel Lines Express, a travel agency and hospitality franchise firm. Served as a law enforcement officer in the 1980s.

Political experience: None.

Important issues: Concerned with corruption in city government; advocates for accountability, transparency and honesty in political government; questions the validity and costs associated with adding a Brightline train station; wants political finance reform established; wants stricter term limits.

How safe is the city's drinking water? "I strictly drink bottled water, because I'm concerned about water quality."

Quote: "We must stop corruption in Boca Raton. Contributions equal bribes. Endorsements equal favors. I am running ... without any outside financial contributions, with only the help of a press secretary, a few advisers and volunteers. I am going to inspire a new generation of politicians. Not only here in Boca Raton, but throughout the United States."



Josie Machovec

Personal: 35; attended Palm Beach State College; Boca Raton resident for three years; married with three children.

Professional: Currently a stay-at-home mother. Worked about four years in sales and management for Showroom Logic, a company that sold a marketing platform for car dealers.

Political experience: None.

Important issues: Believes longtime local politicians have lost sight of the plights of their constituents; wants to see political decisions made on behalf of the people, many of whom represent a younger demographic; feels council decisions are not being made in concert with the city's comprehensive plan.

How safe is the city's drinking water? "I don't drink the city's water unfiltered. Water quality should be a better focus of the City Council."

Quote: "If the voters decide to elect me as their representative, I will do just that. I will be a representative of the people. I am of the people and for the people, because I am the people. And I will do whatever I can to make a city that is desirable to live in for all people and not just people of a certain level of life."



Constance Scott

Personal: 66; bachelor's degree in economics from the University of Michigan; Boca Raton native and resident for past 26 years; married

with a daughter and granddaughter.

Professional: Currently employed by Florida Atlantic University as director of local relations. Spent 16 combined years as a financial consultant for Smith Barney and a business banker for Citibank. Spent eight-plus combined years in economic development work for the cities of Flint, Michigan, and Fort Lauderdale, as well as for Palm Beach County government.

Political experience: Served on the Boca Raton City Council, 2009-2015.

Important issues: Concerned with recovery from the pandemic, both economically and in providing timely vaccinations; wants to see Boca Raton's economy remain strong in terms of diversity, job creation and corporate recruitment of students coming out of local universities and medical schools; wants to see local hospitals get the support they need.

How safe is the city's drinking water? "I drink Boca Raton water. We spent \$63 million about 35 years ago on a plant to make our water quality high-standard. I feel very strongly about our water quality and the excellence of our entire utilities department."

Quote: "The main reason I'm running is I have the experience, wisdom and knowledge for this job. I have experience both as a banker and in economic development. I've been tested and I've been trusted. I've also been endorsed by the Boca Raton Fire Rescue Services Department. The fact of the matter is, experience is what we need right now. I don't need to be trained. I can hit the ground running on Day One. Boca Raton is at a crossroads, just as it was when I was elected in 2009. I can help this city move forward without having to risk a devastating downturn."

Campaign contributions
How big are the war chests of Boca Raton candidates this election?
Page 13

Candidate profiles compiled by Steven J. Smith

Candidate profiles were compiled via telephone interviews. Candidates were asked to supply personal information regarding their age, education, marital status and number of years residing in their municipalities. They were also asked to provide a brief history of their professional life and experience, if any, in holding public office. Finally, they were asked about their positions on issues facing their communities and to provide an overarching quote detailing the reasons they believe they should be elected (or re-elected) along with a current photograph.

Candidate forum coming Feb. 17

A virtual Boca Raton City Council candidates forum, organized by When We All Vote Palm Beach County, will be held at 6 p.m. Feb. 17.

Those wanting to attend the Zoom event can register at <https://bit.ly/pbcboaca>. More information is available by emailing whenweallvotepalmbeachco@gmail.com.

Questions for the candidates must be submitted by Feb. 12 to FORUMS@LWVPBC.ORG.

Organizers urge voters who want to participate to register quickly.

As of Feb. 1, additional candidate forums had not yet been announced.

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Boca Raton

Newcomer faces incumbent

SEAT D



Monica Mayotte
Incumbent

Personal: 58; bachelor's degree in management

information systems from Florida State University; Boca Raton resident for 25 years; married with two adult children.

Professional: Was a systems analyst, business analyst and project manager for Burger King Corp. in Miami for nine years, followed by another nine-year stretch as a business analyst for JM Family Enterprises in Deerfield Beach. Took time off to be a stay-at-home mother before going back to JM Family Enterprises for eight additional years as a consultant in its environmental services department.

Political experience: Has served on the Boca Raton City Council for the past three years.

Important issues: Dealing with the repercussions of COVID-19, particularly in getting the local economy and small businesses back on track; keeping the community healthy and safe; advocating for timely vaccinations.

How safe is the city's drinking water? "I drink Boca water all the time and have done so ever since I have lived here. We are in the midst of a 10-year water infrastructure project through which the entire city will see safe, healthy, clean water upgrades, neighborhood by neighborhood."

Quote: "After the COVID crisis is resolved, I want to help move our community into a more sustainable, resilient direction. Transparency and integrity in our government is important and I need to make sure everyone knows I've been one of the most transparent members on our council. My goal is to respond when residents email me with issues. I try to get these resolved as quickly as possible. I am here to help and I believe I'm living up to the commitment I made to do that, when I first took my seat on this council."



Brian Stenberg

Personal: 51; bachelor's degree in public relations from University

of Florida; Boca Raton resident for 30 years; married with four children.

Professional: Has served as a partner since 2005 in the Greenfield Group, which develops, oversees property management of and leasing for medical office buildings. Also a Florida-licensed real estate broker.

Political experience: None.

Important issues: Believes small businesses have been hurt by the COVID-19 pandemic and wants to help steer them through recovery.

How safe is the city's drinking water? "I believe the city is a very responsible steward of that resource."

Quote: "I've been endorsed by the chamber of commerce, because I'm very interested in what happens with Boca Raton's businesses. I want to see a smooth permitting process for those wanting to hold meetings and conventions here. Voters should elect me because I am a person who is extremely curious about how our city works and I am interested in serving it. I want to challenge other council members to do a better job. I believe this is my time to serve the city and share my time, talents and treasures with my neighbors. My campaign and outlook on the city are very refreshing, with an eye to the future — not just tomorrow, but decades from now. Decisions we make today have long-lasting impacts on future residents, businesses and councils, and I will listen carefully and act prudently to benefit all the stakeholders of Boca Raton."

Two amendments on ballot

There are two charter amendments on the March 9 ballot. The first calls for changing the residency requirements for mayor and City Council candidates. The city charter currently calls for a candidate to be a city resident for at least 30 days before the first day of the qualifying period.

The proposed amendment lengthens that period to one year, disqualifies persons with a non-city homestead exemption and provides that proof of residency will be established by ordinance.

The second proposed amendment, which if passed would take effect April 1, calls for eliminating a qualifying fee for candidates (currently \$25) and instead requiring they submit a petition with 200 or more registered city voters.

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Letter to the Editor

Hudson Avenue residents unreasonably incensed

I find myself dismayed by the recent argument in Ocean Ridge about the temporary closure of the Anna and Edith streets beach crossovers. Nearby residents, largely from Hudson Avenue, expressed their anger about the closures at the December Town Commission meeting, and it was shocking to witness the utter lack of sympathy for people who are their neighbors and whose properties were deemed to be in imminent danger of collapse.

Rest assured that the residents now constructing seawalls to save their properties from the encroaching Atlantic Ocean would probably prefer their beach to be enormously wide and the ocean to be nothing but calm, which would save them hundreds of thousands of dollars, but such luck has not come their way. Instead, they are spending a fortune to save their homes and benefit the town at the same time by extending the seawall to

protect the crossovers as well.

The neighborliness with which the project is being executed seems exemplary, but there was little shown in return. Those who made public comments are likely to say they support the project but not the closures; despite being a bit contradictory, it is likely a genuine sentiment from some.

But the vitriol from residents claiming the houses looked fine to their eyes, and the project was too much an inconvenience for them, was outrageous.

Consider the four months (now half over) of walking or cycling an extra third of a mile to the still-open Corinne Street beach crossover — a heart healthy choice — and remember to thank your neighbors for footing the bill to protect the Anna and Edith streets crossovers come hurricane season.

*Connor Glendinning
Ocean Ridge*

LETTERS: *The Coastal Star* welcomes letters to the editor about issues of interest in the community. These are subject to editing and must include your name, address and phone number. Preferred length is 200-500 words. Send email to news@thecoastalstar.com.



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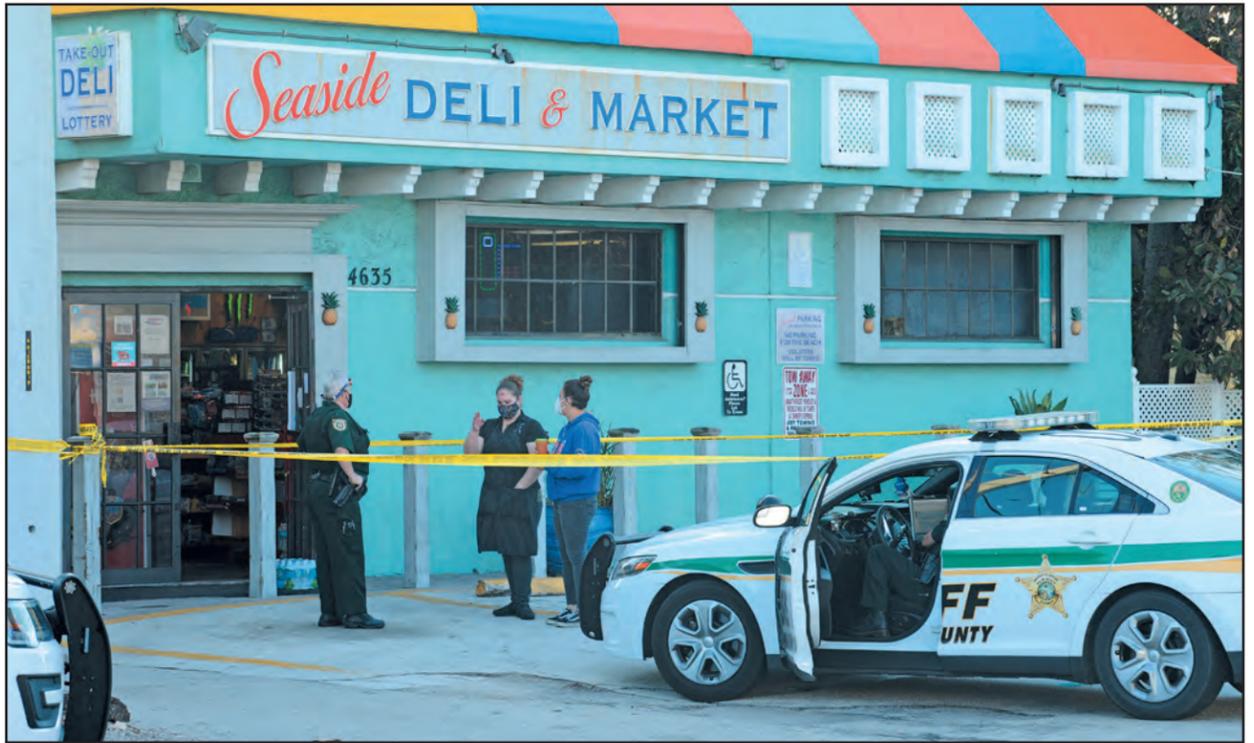
Armed Robbery

Seaside Deli, County Pocket — Jan. 24

Palm Beach County sheriff's deputies said they were looking for the man who held up the popular Seaside Deli & Market in the County Pocket on State Road A1A just south of Briny Breezes.



The suspect, captured on camera wearing a jacket with the word 'Navy' on the front and back, entered the store shortly before 7:30 a.m. on a Sunday and pointed a gun at the employees, according to the Sheriff's Office. Investigators are asking anyone with information about the suspect, who made off with an undisclosed amount of cash, to call 561-688-4717 or to call Crime Stoppers at 800-458-TIPS (8477). Information may also be emailed to GrobT@pbso.org. **Photo above from PBSO and at right by Jerry Lower/The Coastal Star**



Along the Coast

Pandemic restrictions partly credited for decline in crime

By Rich Pollack

The number of crimes in most towns and cities in coastal south Palm Beach County fell during the first six months of 2020, according to state statistics. Coronavirus restrictions early in the pandemic are getting some of the credit.

In Highland Beach, the number of reported crimes dropped by more than 70%, from 28 to eight, according to the Florida Department of Law Enforcement's Uniform Crime Report. In Manalapan the number dropped from 12 to four and in South Palm Beach from six to two, similar to Highland Beach in terms of percentage.

Ocean Ridge, which includes crimes in Briny Breezes, had one fewer reported crime (11) in the first six months of 2020 than it did during the same period the previous year. Of the smaller area coastal towns, only Gulf Stream reported an increase — with the number of crimes doubling due to a rash of auto thefts.

Still, the number of overall crimes in the coastal communities remained low, with Gulf Stream's 14 total ranking as the most in any one small town.

Of the larger cities only Delray Beach experienced an increase — a small one at that — while Boca Raton, Boynton Beach and Lantana all witnessed declines.

The drop in crime locally during the first six months

Crimes reported in the first 6 months of 2020 vs. 2019

City/Town	Total crimes	Murder	Rape	Robbery	Aggravated assault	Burglary	Larceny	Vehicle theft	
Boca Raton	2020	1,051	1	16	34	42	89	774	95
	2019	1,130	0	20	34	38	110	851	77
Boynton Beach	2020	1,295	4	8	55	218	81	834	95
	2019	1,555	3	15	59	176	137	1,055	110
Delray Beach	2020	1,451	0	14	41	166	138	978	114
	2019	1,388	4	15	49	113	118	989	100
Gulf Stream	2020	14	0	0	0	0	2	6	6
	2019	7	0	0	0	2	1	4	0
Highland Beach	2020	8	0	0	0	1	0	7	0
	2019	28	0	1	0	1	5	16	5
Lantana	2020	268	0	5	14	26	19	193	11
	2019	299	0	3	10	28	13	230	15
Manalapan	2020	4	0	0	0	0	1	3	0
	2019	12	0	0	0	0	2	10	0
Ocean Ridge*	2020	11	0	0	0	0	5	5	1
	2019	12	0	0	0	1	3	6	2
South Palm	2020	2	0	0	0	0	0	2	0
	2019	6	0	0	0	0	0	6	0

* Crimes occurring in Briny Breezes were incorporated into Ocean Ridge's overall crime report. Source: Florida Department of Law Enforcement

of 2020 mirrors statewide numbers that show close to a 12% drop, and county numbers that show a drop of close to 5%.

Although there is no way to know for certain, police chiefs in Highland Beach and Ocean Ridge say that restrictions early in the pandemic — which shuttered businesses, parks and beaches — may have kept would-be criminals away.

"During a short period of time when more severe restrictions were in place, the number of certain types of crimes went down a little," said Ocean Ridge Police Chief Hal Hutchins.

Those types — burglaries and thefts from unlocked vehicles, which Hutchins calls opportunity crimes — were

down as more people stayed home during spring lockdowns and fewer people visited the area.

"The fact that we had less people and less traffic, that did help us to a limited extent," he said.

Highland Beach Police Chief Craig Hartmann said that more people at home translates to better vigilance. "There are more eyes and ears out there when people aren't traveling," he said.

For Highland Beach, as well as other towns, a focus on prevention — with the help of enhanced technology — could also have been a factor driving the drop in crime during the first six months of 2020.

Manalapan Police Chief

Carmen Mattox says that the addition of four police officers, bringing the department's staff to 12, has played a role in keeping crime down.

"Increasing our visibility, improving our technology and improving communication has been a big help," he said.

One tool in the technology kit, the installation of license plate readers throughout the area, has played a role in reducing crime, according to Hartmann, especially as their usage continues to increase.

"License plate readers are so important because they give you a level of alert," he said.

He pointed to a recent incident in which a license plate reader picked up a suspected stolen car passing through

Highland Beach. When officers located the vehicle, they discovered that the two people inside were wanted in connection with armed robberies.

Hartmann had a feeling the suspects — who had a loaded gun in the car — planned more crimes, but said there's no way to know for sure.

How much crime was deterred by license plate readers, the increased awareness and vigilance of residents, and actions by law enforcement are not reflected in the statewide crime report, he pointed out.

"There's no statistic for what was prevented," Hartmann said. ★



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VACCINE

Continued from page 1

“Few diseases frightened parents more in the early part of the 20th century than did polio,” the College of Physicians of Philadelphia says. In 1952, said to be the polio epidemic’s most virulent year in America, there were almost 58,000 reported cases; 3,000 of those stricken died. By then, Dr. Jonas Salk was working on an injectable, “killed virus” vaccine. Three years later, on April 12, 1955, the U.S. government gave him the green light. In some cities, church bells rang to celebrate the announcement.

The parallels to today’s COVID-19 pandemic are striking: death and disability, fear and disruption — and hope. COVID vaccines developed at “warp speed” are making their way into eager communities, most of which are also eager for speedier, easier and more equitable distribution. President Joe Biden proposes deploying mobile vaccination units, expanding distribution points to include stadiums and other large venues, and adding more drive-thru options, so people can get vaccinated in their cars.

It’s a convenience modeled here 57 years ago, when the Delray Beach Drive-In served as one of 52 locations for Palm Beach County’s mass polio vaccination effort. The Palm Beach County Medical Society’s goal was to immunize every person in the county — all 280,000 of them — starting on Jan. 19, 1964.

That was the first of three Sabin Oral Sundays, on which residents could receive doses of Albert Sabin’s polio vaccine. It was developed using a live but weakened form of the virus and could be delivered in a sugar cube or small swallow of fruit-flavored syrup. First licensed for use in 1960, it was a successor to Salk’s groundbreaking vaccine.

The Palm Beach County Medical Society and the Jaycees organized the distribution effort, choosing sites from the coast to Canal Point, and from Jupiter to Boca Raton. Nurses, doctors, pharmacists and hundreds of volunteers staffed these locations on Jan. 19 and the remaining Sabin Oral Sundays, Feb. 23 and April 5.

Adults and children 6 weeks and older were eligible to receive vaccines to prevent the three types of the polio virus, one dose for each visit. Each dose cost a quarter, the price of five first-class postage stamps then, but no people were turned away if they couldn’t afford to pay.

The doctor behind drive-in

The Jaycees and medical society selected mostly schools as dosing stations, but the Delray Drive-In theater on Federal Highway just north of where Sande’s Restaurant stands today was a notable and novel exception.

By the end of Jan. 19, 161,400 county residents had taken their medicine. Delray Beach’s



Two-year-old Kari Sanford of West Palm Beach takes her final dose of the Sabin oral vaccine in a photo published April 6, 1964, in *The Palm Beach Post*. She was assisted by Mrs. Arthur Fischer, a West Palm Beach PTA volunteer. **Photo provided**



Dr. Robert Raborn with his wife, Lenore, and their children, Richard and Robin, in the 1950s. It was Dr. Raborn’s idea to use the Delray Drive-In in 1964 as part of the county’s distribution of the Sabin oral polio vaccine. **Photo provided**

tally was 12,100 people, 7,800 of whom had received it at the drive-in, before the evening’s first film, *Secret Passions*, would start to flicker across the screen.

Local historian Tom Warnke remembers getting the vaccine at the Delray Drive-In.

“In 1962, we lived on Northeast 20th Street in Delray Beach, next to Plumosa Elementary School,” Warnke said. “The polio vaccine was being given at the Delray Drive-In theater, so it was the closest location for us. We drove there as a family to get the vaccine. I believe all six of us Warnke kids got it — Bill, Tom, Terry, Randy, Wendy and Ann. It was an oral vaccine so we received it in a small plastic cup. None of us were very concerned, since we didn’t know anyone who had polio, but we were happy not to get a needle in the arm like we did with the chickenpox or measles vaccine.”

The idea of using the drive-in to distribute the vaccine originated with Dr. Robert “Bob” E. Raborn, a cardiologist and public health physician.

He was an innovator whom a friend remembered in his 1999 obituary in *The Palm Beach Post*

as “part of everything that came along.”

Raborn and his wife, Lenore, a medical social worker who died in November 2020, were among the founders of Bethesda Hospital in the 1950s and were deeply woven into the fabric of Boynton Beach civic life. The hospital took root in the 1950s on a mango grove, land given by Mrs. Raborn’s father, Fred Benson.

“Twelve acres of mangoes and two houses,” remembers the Raborns’ daughter, Robin, who lives in Hillsborough, California. “Where the high-rise parking lot is — that’s where we lived.”

“Dad had a way of making things fun and getting them done,” says son Dr. Richard Raborn, of Blairsville, Georgia. “What I remember is, when he came up with the idea of using drive-in movie theaters to distribute the oral polio vaccine, that it was a new idea that nobody else had come up with. The pharmacist would be in the little food distribution building, and they would put the drops of oral vaccine on sugar cubes.”

Robin and Richard, both now



A cartoon in *The Palm Beach Post* on April 5, 1964, referred to the last dose of the Sabin Oral Sunday effort.

in their 60s, remember racing trays of squat-bottomed cups of sugar cubes to waiting drivers and passengers.

“We would just run them out to the window of the car,” Richard says, “and then they would just grab the number of Dixie cups that they needed for everybody in the car. And everybody had their sugar cube and moved on.”

The Post detailed this efficiency the next day: “Dr. Raborn said that 7,800 people were handled there on a speedy mass production basis. Once inside the theater, cars were divided into 10 lanes, one down each aisle. A Jaycee volunteer on the left of the car registered its occupants as a volunteer on the right side of the car gave out the doses. More than 3,000 were given the vaccine there in the first hour and Dr. Raborn said that 30,000 dosages could have been given out there, so efficient was the system. Each car was processed in a matter of 30 seconds.”

Raborn told the *Fort Lauderdale News* he was “delighted” by this “successful public health program at a drive-in theater.”

An ‘ingenious’ idea

Janet DeVries Naughton, who chronicled Palm Beach County’s vaccine campaign in an article on the Boynton Beach Historical Society website, called Raborn’s idea “ingenious.”

“How else to give mass immunity in such a short period of time? Today they could use the South Florida Fairgrounds, the Boynton Beach Mall, the FAU parking lot, etc.,” says Naughton, a historian, author and Palm Beach State College librarian and history professor.

Dr. Nicholas S. Petkas, co-chair of the county effort, deemed it “fairly successful” in an interview with the *News*. Bill Plum, then chairman of the Boynton Beach Jaycees, told

the newspaper his city had “a fine showing,” with 8,000 doses distributed.

Although the campaign’s goal remained elusive throughout the Sabin Oral Sundays — 161,285 total doses in February and 149,308 in April — the Delray Drive-In operation continued to be popular and effective. “Delray Leads Dosing,” read a headline in the *News* after the Feb. 23 SOS.

“The city’s drive-in Sabin vaccine dosing center was apparently a contributing factor in the success of the program here,” the story read. “Delray Beach led the county percentage-wise in doses. Nearly 12,000 persons showed ... most of these stopping at the center located in the drive-in theater.”

With Feb. 23 numbers lower in Boynton Beach than on the first SOS, Plum posited that many residents may have drifted to Delray for the drive-thru convenience. In Boca Raton, 4,534 doses were termed a “disappointing” result, according to the *News* article.

Patricia Fiorillo, assistant curator for the Boca Raton Historical Society & Museum, said Boca and the surrounding areas were still “pretty rural” well into the 1950s, and the town didn’t get its own hospital until the mid- to late 1960s. “Most people traveled to Delray Beach or Fort Lauderdale for medical care,” she says.

The drive-in registered its highest dosing numbers on April 5, distributing the final dose of vaccine to 8,150 people. According to the *News*, Boynton’s Plum motored down to Delray to observe the operation, which he termed “fantastic.” In 90 minutes, he said, the dosing station served approximately 4,000 people.

After the final SOS tally, Petkas told the *Post* he was disappointed that less than 60% of the county’s population had turned up for the final dose. But, the county Health Department still had 8,000 doses available that needed to be used within a week, since they’d already been thawed and would spoil.

“Isn’t it ironic that just a few years ago we were crying for a polio vaccine and now we are throwing it away because the people don’t want it?” Petkas told the *Post*. “They are flying vaccine to Nassau on an emergency basis, but those who can get it here just can’t seem to be bothered.”

Some people shunned the doses out of fear or suspicion. During the first Sabin Oral Sunday, police arrested a West Palm Beach man outside a dosing station for distributing anti-vaccine leaflets without a required permit.

A miracle for some

But for parents who fearfully kept their children indoors; for people who’d been paralyzed, required leg braces, or relied on iron lungs to breathe; and for those who’d lost loved ones to polio, the vaccines were a miracle.

“When my mother was

young, her father, at 27, had polio from the neck down. Iron lungs had not been invented. My Grandpa Bill lived to 80 and walked with a cane all the days I knew and loved him," says Karen Dutch Steinke, who now lives in Roseland, Florida.

She was in the third grade at Boynton Beach Elementary in 1954-55 when she became a Polio Pioneer. This meant she was one of the more than 1.3 million U.S. children who participated in a Salk vaccine clinical trial in which neither the children, parents nor health officials knew who had received the vaccine or a placebo, according to the College of Physicians of Philadelphia.

A Polio Pioneer card and metal pin were her rewards for taking part, yet millions owe their escape from polio to Steinke and all the other children whose participation helped bring the Salk vaccine to the marketplace.

Optimism for COVID vaccine

Today, Palm Beach County has almost 1.5 million year-round residents, an untold number of whom are anxiously awaiting their chances for a COVID-19 vaccine. In news stories, Facebook posts,

telephone calls, texts and socially distanced conversations, people are talking: Who can get it? How'd you get it? Where can I get it? Pfizer or Moderna? How is the Johnson & Johnson vaccine coming along?

Dr. Michael Dennis, founding chair of the advisory board for the Schmidt College of Medicine at Florida Atlantic University, is optimistic about the efficacy of the COVID-19 vaccines and thinks with a ramped-up vaccination effort, it's possible "we'll be back to a relatively normal social environment again" by fall. But, he said, measures such as mask-wearing and hand-washing will continue to be important.

"Politics has really had more of a voice in how people should handle themselves than has the CDC or other medical influences, which is really disappointing because the medical advice is something that's solid," Dennis says.

Robin Raborn says that is one of the lessons she learned from her father: "Throughout my life, my father always stressed that disease was not political, and it should be treated as public health. So, I know that he would be very upset with the political nature of how this virus

has been treated, both in the prevention and distribution of all the vaccine and everything. It shouldn't be political. It should be all about health and prevention."

The United States has been "polio-free" since 1979, according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. Today, children get four doses of polio vaccine at prescribed intervals. Since 2000, the U.S. has used only inactivated polio, given as a shot in the leg or arm.

Gone are the sugar cubes and sweet elixirs.

But in December 2020, Jeffrey Sherman, a writer, producer and director living in Los Angeles, revealed in a tweet that those old vaccines live on in a familiar song written by his father, the late Robert B. Sherman, and his uncle Richard Sherman:

"When I was a kid we got the polio vaccine. My dad, working on *Mary Poppins*, asked how my day was. I told him about the

vaccine. 'Didn't it hurt?' I said they put it on a sugar cube and you ate it. He called my uncle Dick and the next day they wrote *A Spoonful of Sugar*."

He continues: "My little corner of film music history. When the COVID vaccine arrives, get it. We're codependent in this small world. Trust science and doctors. We will beat this enemy if we listen to those who know. Be safe. Wear a mask. Be considerate to your fellow man." ★



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Lang Realty's Ira Merritt recently closed on a gorgeous estate home in the Polo Club of Boca Raton that was listed by fellow agent, Tripta Chawla. The home was offered at \$2,250,000 in the Hidden Cove Community. This is the highest sale in the community for the past eight years.

Tripta Chawla has sold over 1,000 homes in the Polo Club and she is a Diamond Star Award recipient. Ira Merritt and his partner, Ken Reichle, are also Diamond Team Award recipients.

For more information, contact Tripta at tripta@thepoloclub.com or 561-703-7733 or Ira at bocaira@aol.com or 561-487-3800.

Along the Coast

Health agencies getting more vaccines after complaints to governor

By Charles Elmore

Health agencies in Palm Beach County will receive 9,000 COVID-19 vaccine doses during the first week of February, an agency chief said, a sign of change after outcry about overwhelming reliance on Publix to distribute doses locally.

If the vaccine supply keeps growing, that could open the door to inoculating the general public by late spring or summer, said Alina Alonso, director of the Florida Department of Health in Palm Beach County.

“We need to keep those expectations realistic and continue to realize that it’s a matter of supply and demand,” Alonso said.

Her comments Feb. 2 to the County Commission came after state officials said they expected an increase of about 40,000 weekly doses from the federal government, up from around 266,000 arriving in the state each week. That allows more vaccine to flow to counties.

By Feb. 1, nearly 11% of Palm Beach County’s residents, or more than 160,000, had received at least one shot, with more than 20,000 receiving both shots. That vaccination percentage topped peer counties including Broward and Miami-Dade.

Still, there remains a considerable way to go in a county of 1.5 million people, including more than 360,000 people 65 or older, according to census data. And exactly how doses get distributed has remained a hot topic.

For week after week, scarce supplies have made a vaccine jab seem like a long shot.

“I feel like I won the lottery,” said Debbie Miglis, 65, one of 50 people to get shots in Highland Beach in January after appointments through town government there filled up in 97 seconds.

For others, the quest has involved rising before dawn on selected days when Publix offers appointments online, only to find spots quickly taken in most cases. That has meant starting over the next available day.

County Commissioner Melissa McKinlay, who raised concerns about vaccine access for residents in the Glades and other communities not near a Publix pharmacy, also pressed Alonso about creating better ways for people to sign up for appointments.

On Jan. 29, the state launched myvaccine.fl.gov, a website that was supposed to let people 65 and older and other eligible individuals get preregistered so they can be contacted later when appointments are available.

But within hours, Alonso said her agency would discourage residents from using the new system because no appointments were available. She said the focus would be on clearing a backlog of appointment requests on her department’s own system



TOP: During a Jan. 15 vaccination event at St. Lucy Catholic Church in Highland Beach, police direct traffic and answer questions. **ABOVE:** Resident Debbie Miglis receives a shot. **LEFT:** A Delray Beach paramedic gets ready to give a shot to one of the 50 people who received first doses. **Photos by Jerry Lower/The Coastal Star**

that previously led local health agencies to stop accepting new inquiries.

Palm Beach County residents can still use the new state site, Alonso’s agency said, “but at this time, appointments are not available in Palm Beach County for those registering in this system.”

At the Feb. 2 meeting, McKinlay said Alonso’s position on the new system’s use “is pushing people to other counties.”

Alonso said she did not like waiting lists, which can leave people “frustrated” if they don’t deliver quickly.

Palm Beach County Vice Mayor Robert Weinroth, whose district covers portions of the county’s southeastern

communities, has noted the county’s Health Care District released a preregistration website at vaccine.hcdpbc.org.

The health district “advised they are still working with the existing state reservation list with the Florida Department of Health,” Weinroth told constituents by email. “New sign-ups will go into a virtual waiting room until they complete the list and begin accepting new reservations.”

Boca Raton Mayor Scott Singer said he has advocated for a more integrated and accessible system to register for vaccines.

“Like many of you, I’ve been frustrated at the many different places to sign up,” Singer told residents by email. “For weeks, I’ve called upon the state to

centralize sign-ups.”

He said he made repeated requests to the governor’s office and state agencies for “equitable access,” such as offering telephone as well as web options, which the state’s new system does include.

The flow of new doses to local health agencies as well as to Publix signals a change of course for Gov. Ron DeSantis, who earlier defended making the supermarket chain the primary conduit for vaccine distribution in Palm Beach County.

County Mayor Dave Kerner said he received a call from the governor after commissioners and others made their concerns clear: “He said message received.”

Signing up for COVID-19 vaccinations

To see when Publix is next offering vaccination appointments at 67 Palm Beach County locations (online only): publix.com/covid-vaccine/florida

The Health Care District of Palm Beach County has released a preregistration website at <http://vaccine.hcdpbc.org>

The state of Florida has offered a new option to preregister to be contacted later for a vaccine appointment, though health officials in Palm Beach County are urging residents not to use it for now. It’s available at <https://myvaccine.fl.gov> Palm Beach County residents can also call 866-201-6754.

Currently eligible for vaccinations in Florida are state residents 65 and older, residents of long-term care facilities, health workers with direct patient contact and others deemed “extremely vulnerable” to COVID-19.

Controversy has attended the distribution of vaccines since they began arriving more than a month ago.

“It’s the hottest subject for all,” Highland Beach Mayor Doug Hillman said.

Highland Beach Town Manager Marshall Labadie noted in a Jan. 5 meeting: The town of Palm Beach “miraculously pulled a rabbit out and came up with some vaccines” when they were not widely available across Palm Beach County.

After an initial explanation that Palm Beach was uniquely prepared to start delivering 1,000 doses, Alonso later blamed “miscommunication.” ★

Staff writers Rich Pollack, Jane Smith and Mary Hladky contributed to this story.

Boca Raton

Council candidates swell war chests, gather endorsements

By Mary Hladky

As the City Council races enter their final stretch ahead of the March 9 election, incumbent Monica Mayotte and challenger Brian Stenberg lead in campaign cash totaling just under \$55,000 each.

But both are largely financing their own campaigns for Seat D so far. Mayotte, a proponent of environmental protections who seeks a second three-year term on the council, has loaned her campaign \$50,000.

Stenberg, vice president of the Boca Raton medical office real estate management firm the Greenfield Group, who has taken leadership roles in the Federation of Boca Raton Homeowner Associations, Rotary Club and Boca Square Civic Association, has lent his campaign \$52,000.

In the race to fill Seat C being vacated by Jeremy Rodgers, former Deputy Mayor

Constance Scott has raised just under \$50,000 from some of the best-known names in the city, including lawyers, architects and political figures. She has made no self-loans.

Her chief competitor is Yvette Drucker, a longtime volunteer who has raised nearly \$39,000, including a \$5,000 contribution from herself. She was appointed by City Council members in October to temporarily replace Rodgers after he began a military deployment overseas.

That appointment gave her far greater visibility and potentially an advantage over her competitors. Adding to that, Drucker is endorsed by Mayor Scott Singer and Deputy Mayor Andrea O'Rourke.

Two other candidates for Seat C are barely visible in the race and have raised little money.

Perennial candidate Bernard Korn, a real estate broker, has twice lost mayoral elections to

Singer. He has raised \$11,600, mostly though a loan to his campaign.

It is unclear if he is eligible to hold office in the city. Candidates must be city residents.

While Korn has submitted documents to the city showing he lives at 720 Marble Way on the barrier island, he and his wife also own a house, which is homesteaded, outside the city limits.

The city has accepted his residency proof, but if charter amendments on the March 9 ballot are passed by voters, stricter residency rules will go into place.

Korn is simultaneously running for the U.S. Senate seat held by Republican Rick Scott.

A latecomer to the race, Josie Machovec, has raised \$706. She is one of four plaintiffs who filed a lawsuit attempting to overturn Palm Beach County's mandate

that masks be worn in public places.

The 4th District Court of Appeal ruled on Jan. 27 that it would not temporarily stop enforcement until a trial decides the mandate's legality.

The campaign contributions are as of Dec. 31, the most recent reported by the city as of the end of January.

Candidate endorsements are rolling in.

As of Jan. 28, Mayotte had won endorsements from Singer, O'Rourke, the city's firefighters and police unions, Palm Beach County Commissioner and past Boca Raton Deputy Mayor Robert Weinroth, Palm Beach County School Board Chairman Frank Barbieri, state Sen. Tina Polsky (D-Boca Raton), LGBTQ+ Democratic Caucus of Palm Beach County, the Palm Beach County Human Rights Caucus, and SEIU Florida Public Services Union.

Stenberg has support

from the Greater Boca Raton Chamber of Commerce; Broward, Palm Beaches & St. Lucie Realtors; and Wellington Vice Mayor Michael Napoleone.

In the Seat C contest, Scott has the endorsement of the Chamber of Commerce, the city's firefighter and police unions, and the Palm Beach County Realtors Association.

In addition to Singer and O'Rourke, Drucker is endorsed by state Sens. Lori Berman (D-Delray Beach) and Polsky, Palm Beach County Commissioners Melissa McKinlay and Weinroth, LGBTQ+ Democratic Caucus of Palm Beach County, Ruth's List of Florida, Boca Raton/Delray Democrats, and the Palm Beach County chapter of the Democratic Environmental Caucus.

The deadline to register to vote in the municipal election is Feb. 8. ★

Boca High teams with nonprofits to widen water quality tests

By Larry Keller

If it's Monday morning in Boca Raton, you may notice somebody standing in the surf or at a boat ramp collecting water in sterile polyethylene bags. They're not gathering small fish but searching for something unseen — Enterococcus bacteria from sources such as fertilizers, faulty septic systems and polluted stormwater runoff.

These bacteria can indicate fecal pollution and other pathogens that in high concentrations may make people sick.

Volunteers from the nonprofit Boca Save our Beaches began collecting water samples in January from the ocean at Spanish River Park and South Inlet Park, and from the Silver Palm Park boat ramp and Spanish River Park's kayak launch on the Intracoastal. Its partners are the Surfrider Foundation and Boca Raton Community High School.

"You go in about knee deep, fill the [bag] up, put it in a cooler ... and drop them off to Boca Raton High by 11 o'clock in the morning," said Jessica Gray, founder of Boca Save our Beaches.

The samples are incubated in a lab at the high school at nearly 106 degrees for 24 hours. Students in Rachel Wellman's advanced environmental management class are helping in small ways until she can devise means to work within COVID-19 restrictions that will enable them to do more. For now, she is doing most of the work.

The testing protocol includes adding a reagent to the water samples, swirling the mixtures and examining them under ultraviolet light in a darkened room. A yellow color indicates a negative result, but if it glows fluorescent blue — "it's kind of pretty," Wellman says — this indicates the presence of bacteria. Another step follows to determine precisely how much.

The project gives students "real-life data that can be shared. It's a good work experience," said Wellman, an ecologist with a PhD in ecosystems science and



Johnny Finn, a Boca Save our Beaches volunteer, seals a sample at Silver Palm Park's boat ramp. Samples are tested at a Boca High lab funded by the Surfrider Foundation. **Tim Stepien/The Coastal Star**

management who teaches about water pollution.

Surfrider paid for lab equipment, including glass laboratory bottles and an autoclave to sanitize them after each use. REI Co-op, the outdoors clothing and gear retailer, supplied coolers and

backpacks.

Surfrider has a national network it calls Blue Water Task Force of citizen scientists providing water quality information to more than 50 labs. The goal, the foundation says, is to fill in gaps and complement local and state

water quality programs, while raising public awareness of pollution issues.

The foundation already had similar water monitoring programs from Jupiter Inlet to Boynton Inlet, so with the addition of the Boca Raton program, most of the county's coast is covered. Jupiter High School and Forest Hill High School in West Palm Beach preceded Boca Raton High in setting up labs to assess water quality.

What makes Boca's lab different is that "we decided to spend the initial money on doing a glassware lab versus doing a plastic lab," said Aaron Barnes, who runs Surfrider's Blue Water initiative in Palm Beach County.

"Our other labs have only plastic items, which unfortunately are only able to be used once. We're not for plastic pollution, so ... we decided to get the glassware and an autoclave unit which sanitizes the glassware after each time so we are able to reuse it, and therefore create less waste."

Wellman also favored using glassware. She created a spreadsheet with the test results that Gray and Barnes can access. Barnes uses it to post data on Surfrider's website. Initial test results at the Boca sites showed safe levels of bacteria. Surfrider also tracks weather conditions like temperature and wind speed to try to determine what conditions are most likely to contribute to high bacteria counts, Barnes said.

"Whenever we get high readings, we report them to the county officials and whatever city they happen to be in," he said.

The Florida Department of Health already conducts coastal water quality testing through its Healthy Beaches Program, including at several Palm Beach County locations, but Barnes believes there is value in what Surfrider, Wellman and Boca Save our Beaches are doing.

"We sample more locations than they do," Barnes said, and sometimes more frequently. "Bacteria levels can differ from place to place. I feel the more locations, the better." ★

Boca Raton

Another luxury hotel appears headed for downtown

By Mary Hladky

Investments Limited is moving forward with plans for an extended-stay hotel on a prime piece of downtown property in Royal Palm Place.

The largest commercial property owner in the downtown notified the city of its intentions in early 2019. Now, the nearly 2-acre project has begun to move through the city's approval process, with members of the Community Appearance Board giving it a first look on Jan. 19.

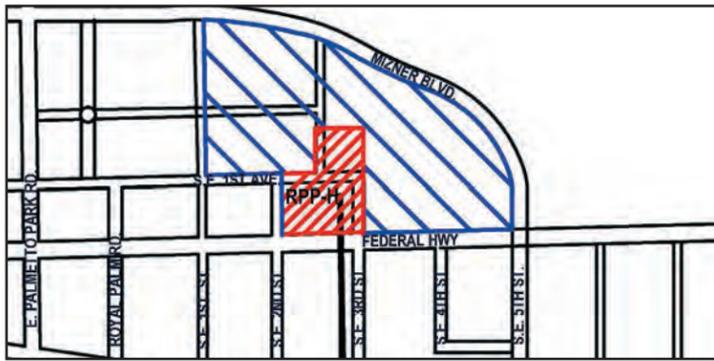
Investments Limited, founded by James Batmasian and his wife, Marta, plans a luxury hotel with 144 guest suites, two featured restaurants and a fast-casual restaurant, and 1,443 square feet of retail space.

The hotel's 401-space parking garage is intended to help resolve Royal Palm Place's parking shortage.

Addressing the CAB, architect Doug Mummaw described the project as the "next dynamic, exciting phase of Royal Palm Place" that would include large walking paths, interactive art, sculptural features and a living green wall.

"We intend to create a landmark building," he said.

The existing Garden of Humanity would be expanded and include large shade trees, water features and space for public exhibitions and special cultural events.



The hotel's main entrance would be on Federal Highway at Southeast Third Street. The hotel would be located about midway between the 200-room Hyatt Place at 100 E. Palmetto

Park Road and the 164-room Mandarin Oriental now under construction on Federal Highway just north of Camino Real. The project would take up

Investments Limited is seeking approval for a 144-room hotel at Royal Palm Place. It would be located on Federal Highway between Southeast Second and Southeast Third streets on property now occupied by a one-story strip mall. **Renderings provided**

land now occupied by the Black Rose Irish Pub and 4th Generation Organic Market & Cafe.

Community Appearance Board members generally liked

the plans, saying the building is "tastefully done" with "beautiful elements."

"I think this would be a place we would love to go," said board member Chris Capellini.

But as is usual in CAB project reviews, board members critiqued aspects of the building's design, saying that it used too many precedents from Spanish, Italian and Moorish architecture.

If CAB members sounded critical, one board member said, it is because the project sits in such an important location.

"We look forward to resolving some of these concerns you have," Mummaw said.

The board will review the project again in February.

While the coronavirus pandemic has reduced hotel occupancy, hotel companies are forging ahead to build new ones in South Florida in anticipation of the day when people will feel safe traveling again.

Hotels that opened in 2020 in Palm Beach County include the Residence Inn in Palm Beach Gardens and Canopy by Hilton, The Ben and Home2 Suites in West Palm Beach, according to the hotel development research company Lodging Development Group.

Six are under construction, including the Mandarin Oriental in Boca Raton, and two more are in the planning stages. ★

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Boca Raton

Council approves plan for villas with rooftop grills, lounge areas

By Mary Hladky

Despite a concerted effort by neighbors to derail a proposed four-building development near the downtown, they were unable to persuade Boca Raton City Council members to vote against it.

Developer Fabio Pereira has proposed Pine Circle Villas, which would include four duplexes with eight total units at 101 Pine Circle, located just north of West Palmetto Park Road and two blocks west of City Hall.

Neighboring property owners turned out in force at the virtual meetings of the Planning and Zoning Board on Dec. 3 and the City Council on Jan. 26 to oppose the project.

They said it is too large to fit well in their largely single-family home neighborhood and would increase traffic and lead to more accidents on narrow Pine Circle.

But their biggest concerns about the 1.14-acre project are rooftop amenities that they contend create a fourth floor, such as barbecue and lounge areas and jacuzzis.

They fear the villa owners will be able to look down onto their houses and yards, taking away their privacy. Another worry is that the rooftop features will blow off during hurricanes or strong storms.

"I am not looking forward to

having grills and flower pots on my roof," resident Kathleen Spaulding told the City Council.

City staffers said they were aware of privacy concerns and told Pereira to provide screening on the rooftops and glazed or frosted windows that face the neighbors. The rooftops, Pereira said, face the interior of the property so neighbors need not be concerned about prying eyes.

Staff also said the rooftop amenities meet the building code and will be secure.

Despite the neighbors' pleas to at least disallow the rooftop features, the planning board and City Council voted unanimously to approve the project.

It is the latest one proposed for the vacant land.

In 2015, James Batmasian, the city's largest downtown commercial landowner, wanted to build eight townhomes.

Neighbors objected to that project as well, and then-Mayor Susan Haynie proposed as a condition of approval a requirement for speed reduction devices or signage on Pine Circle. Other council members supported that change.

The planning board and City Council unanimously approved the project, allowing Batmasian to build 9.5 units per acre rather than the previous limit of five units per acre.

Except for neighbor objections, the project generated no controversy at the time.

But Batmasian, who bought the property for \$737,000 in 2012, never built the townhomes. He sold the property for \$1.5 million in 2016.

Haynie was arrested in 2018 on public corruption charges. She has pleaded not guilty. A trial date has not been set.

A state prosecutor in 2019 introduced as evidence in the case city records about the Batmasian project approval. It was the fifth instance cited by the state of Haynie voting on a matter before the City Council that benefited Batmasian. But since the City Council unanimously approved the project, Haynie's vote was not pivotal.

Batmasian has not been charged.

His project featured Mediterranean-style architecture and no rooftop amenities. Pereira's project is a streamlined contemporary style.

It differs from Batmasian's in other ways. It has 69% open space, 8% more than Batmasian's, and increased rear building and side building setbacks. At 34 feet, the buildings will be one foot shorter. It also has more landscaping.

Traffic studies showed that both projects would generate very little increased traffic, despite residents' concerns. ★

Still no trial date set for Haynie

By Mary Hladky

Nearly three years after her arrest on public corruption charges, former Boca Raton Mayor Susan Haynie still does not have a trial date.



Haynie

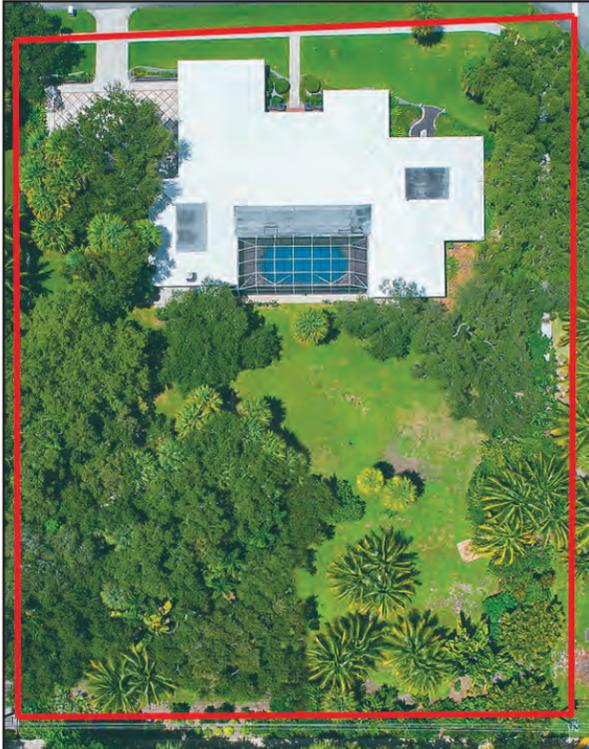
Both the prosecution and defense agreed last month to delay a hearing on the status of her case from Jan. 11 until April 16. Both cited disruptions caused by the COVID-19 pandemic.

While Palm Beach County jury trials have resumed, only a limited number are being held.

Haynie, 66, was arrested on April 24, 2018, on charges of official misconduct, perjury, misuse of public office and failure to disclose voting conflicts. She faces more than 20 years in prison if convicted. Haynie has pleaded not guilty to the charges.

Prosecutors contend that Haynie used her position on the City Council to vote on six matters that financially benefited James Batmasian, the city's largest downtown commercial landowner, and failed to disclose income she received from him.

In the waning days of his presidency, Donald Trump issued a full pardon to Batmasian. The Republican donor served eight months in prison in 2008 for failing to pay the IRS \$253,513 in payroll taxes for employees of his real estate company, Investments Limited. He reimbursed the government the full amount owed. ★



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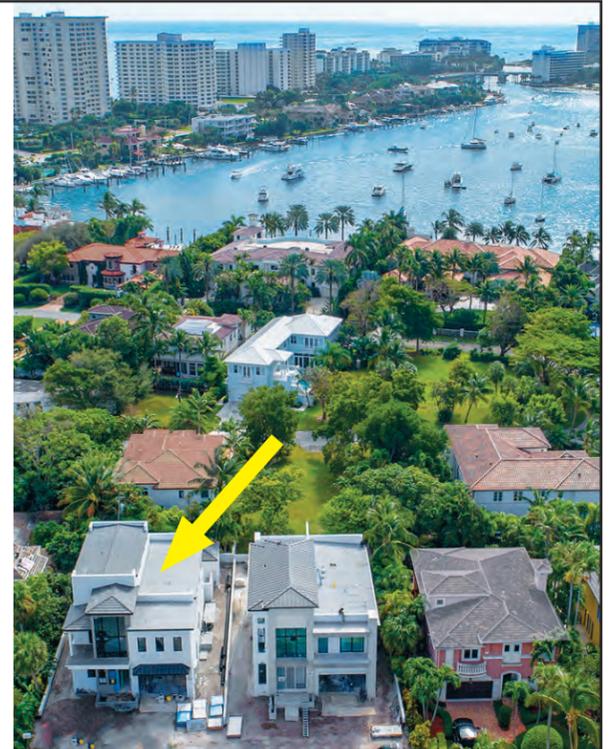
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THEFTS

Continued from page 1

Manalapan — a Rolls-Royce.

Despite years of police messages advising people to do more to keep their cars secure, the warnings often fail to register with residents who have been lulled into a false sense of complacency by the barrier island's low crime rates and small-town ambience.

"I think that sense of security and well-being in where you live, that's why

we have to hammer away at 'please lock your car; don't leave valuables inside your car; take your keys with you,'" Ocean Ridge Police Chief Hal Hutchins said. "I don't want you to build a fortress around yourself, but take simple precautions and avoid giving someone else the opportunity."

Car thefts are a problem nationwide and the keyless ignition systems haven't helped as careless owners like the convenience of leaving their key fobs in center console cupholders. Still, there's no

denying the barrier island's upscale reputation is a magnet for thieves looking for pricier models.

The good news? Many of the automobiles are recovered, generally very quickly, with little or no damage done. They're often found abandoned in Broward County or northern Miami-Dade County, possibly taken by teens out for joyrides or used in other crimes.

But some of the priciest autos are still missing. The two Land Rovers and two of three Porsches stolen in Gulf

Stream remain missing, raising concern that organized crime may play a role in at least some of the thefts. One of the Land Rovers, valued at \$217,000, was taken from a billionaire's gated estate that has its own security team.

Police won't get a better idea of what's happening until they're able to nab more thieves.

"I firmly believe that it is organized crime that is doing this," Manalapan Police Chief Carmen Mattox said of the auto thefts in his town and other coastal communities over the past year. "Our investigations have not concluded anything other than recovery of the vehicle. We have yet to make an arrest for anything."

No hour of day is safe

The thefts happen both at night and in broad daylight — even when a driver steps away from a car for just a few minutes. Videos from license-plate reading cameras have recorded stolen vehicles heading to the mainland before anyone knew they'd been taken. Sometimes they are followed by another vehicle stolen from somewhere else, likely driven by an accomplice who brought the car thief into town.

"It's been very unpredictable," Gulf Stream Police Chief Ed Allen said. "It's not like a lot of crimes, where they develop a pattern. Here it's been all hours of the day or night."

After Gulf Stream police responded to the report of a late-afternoon theft of a Mercedes on Polo Drive a year ago, they found an Infiniti stolen from Boca Raton parked in a driveway just a few doors away, probably driven by a thief who switched rides to the Mercedes.

There was more to the story that day. A rented Dodge Charger parked next door disappeared the next morning.

The people renting the Charger were going out to dinner at around the same time the Mercedes was stolen. They couldn't find the Charger's keys, which they thought had been left in the vehicle, so they took another car instead and planned to look for the missing keys later. The Charger was still there when they came home that night, but was gone by morning.

Police recovered the Dodge the next day in Sunrise and the Mercedes a week after that in North Miami.

At a Gulf Stream home on Ocean Boulevard in June, a Porsche owner left the car unlocked with the keys inside and proceeded to get dinner through a food delivery service that night. The car was gone the following morning, apparently stolen by thieves who knew it was unlocked with the keys inside.

Ocean Ridge license-plate reading cameras showed a stolen Lexus coming onto the island at 6:40 that morning and heading back over the bridge — following the now-stolen Porsche — five minutes later. The Porsche has not been recovered.

Why fancy cars are marks

Police say all the fancy doodads cars have these days can make a thief's job easier.

"The invention of keyless start technology reduces vehicle security when the key fob is left inside an unattended vehicle. Groups of juveniles are targeting these vehicles to steal or burglarize," Mattox said in a memo to Manalapan commissioners in January.

Some newer model cars have telltale exterior signs that show they are unlocked, making them an easier mark for would-be thieves, he said. The thieves will either search the car for valuables, or if they're luckier and a key fob has been left inside, they'll just drive off with the car and its contents, he said.

Highland Beach Police Chief Craig Hartmann says residents shouldn't let their guard down — no matter what kind of car they own — when it comes to these thieves.

"They're not fussy. Obviously, they'll take any car that has the keys in it, so it doesn't have to be the top-echelon cars," Hartmann said.

Additional police staffing, more patrols, camera surveillance and other measures have been an increased deterrent against auto thefts and other crimes, but it's hard to protect against owners who leave an open invitation to would-be thieves, police said.

"I remember one of the folks where the car was stolen, said, 'Where I grew up, we never locked our doors,'" Hutchins said. "That's not a prudent thing to do in this day and age, no matter where you are." ★

Gulf Stream

Town begins 'planning year' for drainage upgrades

By Dan Moffett

Gulf Stream commissioners are poised to begin a year of planning and deliberation to prepare for some significant construction projects aimed at improving the town's defenses against king tides and storm surges.

The work ahead comes in response to an engineers' report in December that identified a half-dozen upgrades needed to address vulnerabilities in the town's stormwater drainage system.

"I think the rest of this calendar year is a planning year," Town Manager Greg Dunham told the commission during its meeting on Jan. 11. "A year for planning, design, risk assessment and bidding out the projects."

Dunham said construction should begin in 2022. It is likely to take months to complete.

In December, consultants from West Palm Beach-based engineering firm Baxter & Woodman recommended replacing and adding more Intracoastal drainage valves, regrading stretches of low-lying streets — in particular, the west ends of Banyan Road and Palm Way — and working with owners of The Little Club

to upgrade areas at the golf course.

Dunham said the town is already shopping for the valves and estimates put their cost at about \$68,000. Installation is expected to begin this year. Other improvements will be more complicated.

Jeff Hiscock, one of engineering consultants who wrote the report, put it simply to Dunham: "You guys need a pond."

The idea is to construct a retention/detention pond that would help collect stormwater in low-lying areas before discharging it into the town's drainage system.

Dunham knows something about these ponds. "I've done that in Ocean Ridge," he told the commission. Dunham was the town manager there from 1998 to 2002 and implemented a stormwater study that led to the winning of several grants and loans to build the town's detention pond at Woolbright Road and State Road A1A. The pond remains an important piece of Ocean Ridge's drainage network today.

One thing Gulf Stream doesn't have to worry about is ready cash. The town has about \$5.6 million in unrestricted reserves that can be put to work

on upgrades.

"It's great to be able to make these improvements and still be in good financial condition," said Commissioner Paul Lyons.

Also during the January meeting, the commission unanimously approved the first reading of an ordinance that

updates coastal management policies in the town's comprehensive plan. The amendments go hand in hand with the proposed drainage improvements and satisfy the state Legislature's order that municipalities adjust to rising seas.

The statewide focus on king tide response comes in the wake of a South Florida Water Management District study that found the average high tide has risen about 6 inches over the last 35 years and could rise more than twice that by 2070. ★

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Lantana

Election law tweaks born out of litigation

By Mary Thurwachter

When it comes to election law, or any law for that matter, the more precise the language, the better. Crystal clear is best.

So says Max Lohman, Lantana's town attorney, who ought to know.

"I have the dubious distinction of probably litigating more election lawsuits in the last two or three years than nearly any other attorney in Palm Beach County," Lohman told the Town Council on Jan. 11. He advised the city to tweak its election law to avoid lawsuits or runoff elections, which could cost tens of thousands of dollars.

The Town Council approved these two tweaks: adding a subsection related to the regulation of invalid votes cast for a candidate who has died, withdrawn or is ineligible for having been arrested for or charged with a felony; changing the word "petition" to "petitions."

The second change came about because of a Lantana litigation last year after one candidate failed to file all his petitions. Candidates need to obtain signatures via the petition process to have their names on the ballot.

"During the lead-up to last year's council election we had an issue with petitions and qualifications, and we ended up in litigation because our code used to say petition instead of petitions," Lohman said. "We needed to change that to make it crystal clear what paperwork is required for the candidates."

The other change stemmed from a lawsuit in Palm Beach Gardens, a municipality Lohman also represents. The suit was precipitated because of a withdrawn candidate, he explained.

"Back then, Palm Beach Gardens required a majority of votes to win, just like we do here still. After the ballot was printed, one of the three candidates withdrew and said he didn't want to be elected."

"We posted signs at polling locations, we tried to inform people that this person was not running, they cannot take office if someone votes for him, yet miraculously 1,100 people still cast their votes" for that person, Lohman said. "This precipitated a lawsuit over whether those votes should be counted in the total. If the votes were counted, nobody got a majority and so then you have to have a runoff," which the city avoided. ★



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Lantana

Two citizens speak out about Facebook group's 'ugly remarks'

By Mary Thurwachter

Two prominent Lantana citizens called for a halt in cyberbullying by a group of residents on a private Facebook page.

Kem Mason, a retired firefighter and Lantana's Santa Claus for holiday events, and Dave Arm, president of the Chamber of Commerce and the owner of a local gym, took advantage of the public comments portion of the Jan. 25 Town Council meeting to air concerns about what Mason called "the venomous words of individuals who only seek to promote themselves and their own agenda."

"There's been some talk around town, ugly remarks that are being made," Mason said from a prepared statement. "My name has finally come to the forefront so I've written these words. We need to bring back civility."

The ugly remarks are coming from a private group on Facebook, Arm said. He described the group as being "closed off in their own little cocoon." He said members have attacked the mayor, town manager, Town Council, the entire town staff, the Chamber of Commerce, Arm himself, his business and others.

People have the right to free speech, but there is a better way to go about airing criticism, Mason said.

"While we do have a First Amendment, we must each use restraint and respect when making statements that others will read," Mason said. "This is also true within our own town, when people use corrosive words on websites to denigrate and manipulate the truth."

He said if someone is going to express discontent, he or she should do it "in a form which is respectful and dignified."

"Respect for one another, even when we disagree, is of the utmost importance within our society, otherwise chaos ensues," Mason said. "While I am sure these words are falling on the deaf ears of those who feel justified in their ugly remarks and rumors, I ask those who read their words not to empower them by attending their website of abuse. We must use restraint when we voice our opinions and consider the consequences of our words. We must overcome the passion of our hearts with the reason of our minds."

Although Mason did not name the Facebook group during his remarks, after the meeting he confirmed he was referring to Lantana Raw. The group describes itself as "a friendly neighborhood group for all past and present residents of Lantana and people who work in Lantana."

Arm said when he and his wife moved to Lantana 15 years ago, they were impressed by how friendly everybody was. "Back then, Facebook was just a venue for Harvard students to get to know each other," he said. "Obviously that's changed. Now you've got a cancer on the town. They can yak all they want, but they've got this group that really believes this."

Neither Mason nor Arm is a member of Lantana Raw but learned of the attacks after seeing printed copies of posts from the group that have been circulating around town.

Members of the Facebook group who are suspected of being disloyal, or of leaking information, are tossed out, former members of the group have said.

One major target of the attacks has been Mayor David Stewart, who is up for re-election in March. The mayor says he doesn't belong to Facebook, but is aware of the rebukes aimed at him, courtesy of friends who share printed copies of posts. He declined to comment on the matter. ★

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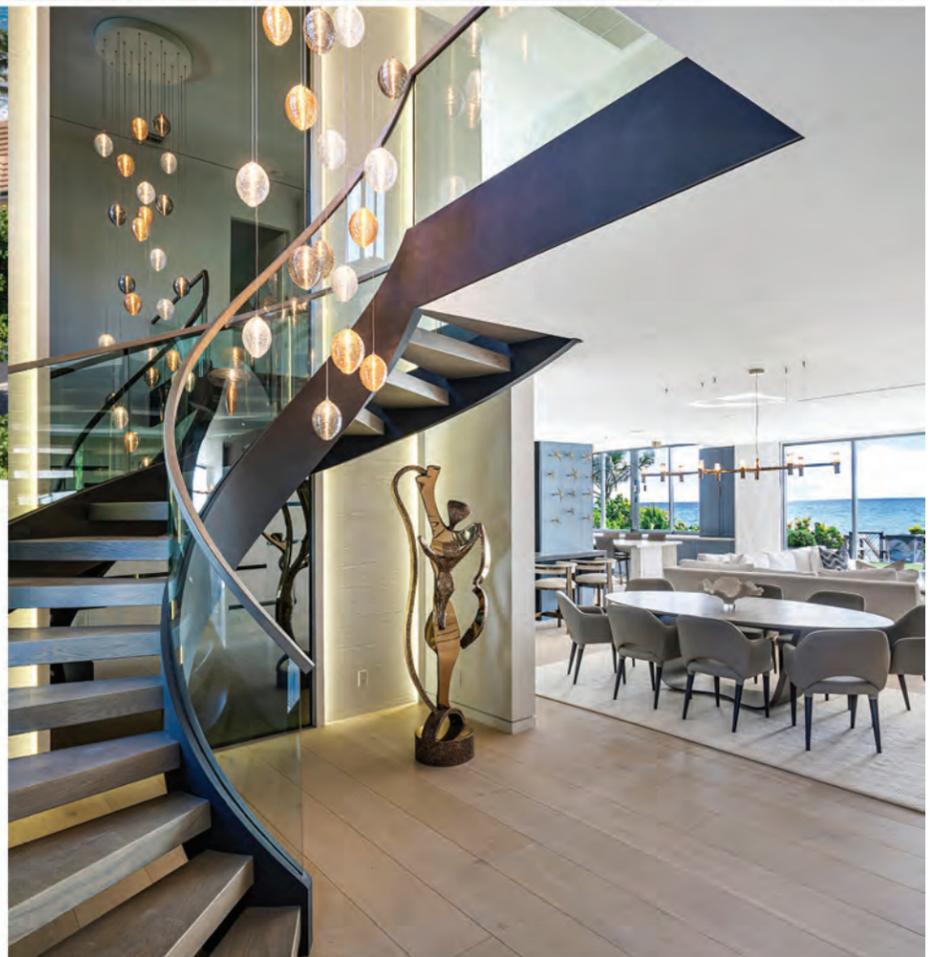
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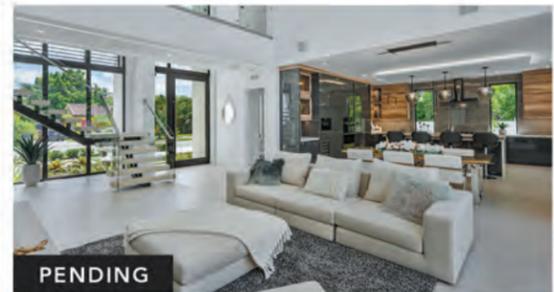
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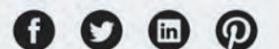
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Delray Beach

Mayoral race attracts outside money, mainly to challenger's campaign

By Jane Smith

The Delray Beach mayor's race is turning into a battle between the locals and the outsiders.

Shelly Petrolia, the incumbent, raised \$91,697 as of Dec. 31. That amount includes \$53,715.90 in self-loans. In December, 87% of her contributors had Delray Beach addresses.

In addition, Alan Mindel and his sister, Marlene, who built the Aloft Hotel in downtown Delray Beach, each donated \$1,000 to Petrolia's campaign.

Political newcomer Tracy Caruso raised \$101,275 as of Dec. 31. That amount includes a \$51,000 self-loan. In December, about 48% of her contributors had Delray Beach addresses.

Caruso, who is married to state Rep. Michael Caruso, received four \$1,000 donations from political action committees that were not based in Delray Beach. The donors include Ethics and Honesty in Government of Coral Gables and the Palm Beach County Police Political Benevolent Association PC & Issues Fund in West Palm Beach.

For the two other commission races, none had the obvious difference in the Delray Beach addresses of donors as the mayoral candidates did in the December report.

Vice Mayor Ryan Boylston is facing a former commissioner he beat in 2018, Mitch Katz, for Seat 3.

Boylston raised \$40,439 as of Dec. 31, including a \$10,000 self-loan. His December donors gave a range of money from \$3 to \$1,000. Ten of his 139 donors gave \$3 each, while 17 donated \$1,000 each.

His big donors include five tied to the Opal Grand Resort, formerly the Marriott hotel, which faces the beach. In 2020, Boylston played a key role in getting the sea grapes trimmed to improve the views of the beach and the habitat of the dune.

Friend Lee Cohen, a personal injury attorney, donated \$1,000 to Boylston in December. Boylston also received \$1,000 from the county police political action committee.

Match Point, which runs the Delray Beach Open, gave his campaign \$1,000. Boylston boasted of his negotiating prowess in ending the city's lawsuit against Match Point. The city had sued to end a no-bid contract. The 2019 settlement resulted in Match Point's continuing to run the tennis tournament.

His challenger, Katz, just entered the race in December. He raised \$6,036, including a \$500 self-loan.

His biggest donor was Ken MacNamee, who contributed \$1,000. MacNamee is a retired bank executive and a prolific public records requester who is focused on how the city spends taxpayer dollars.

JoAnn Mower, retired health industry executive and wife of Sandy Zeller, who sits on the city's Planning & Zoning Board, donated \$500, as did Benita Goldstein, who runs a bed and breakfast in Delray Beach.

Price Patton, a veteran journalist, is running against incumbent Adam Frankel in the Seat 1 race.

Patton worked for more than two decades at *The Palm Beach Post*. He was a founding partner of *The Coastal Star* in 2008. He has taken a leave of absence.

In November, he started his campaign with a \$10,000 personal loan.

Patton's December contributors mirror those who donated to the Katz campaign, including MacNamee and Goldstein. Patton also received \$1,000 from his wife, Carolyn.

Jestena Boughton, whose family owns the Colony Hotel in downtown Delray Beach, donated \$1,000 to the Patton campaign.

Sandy Zeller donated \$500 in November.

Incumbent Frankel raised \$22,500 in December to bring his year-end total to \$34,500. He did not lend his campaign any money.

Frankel's contributors mirror those of Boylston. Five \$1,000 contributors have ties to the Opal Grand Resort. Frankel also received \$1,000 contributions from Match Point and the county police political action committee.

In addition, four firms tied

to the O.G. bar on Southeast Second Avenue donated \$1,000 each to Frankel's campaign.

He also received \$1,000 from Neil Schiller's law firm. In the past year, Schiller has come before the commission or the city's CRA for two Delray Beach property owners: the Doc's Place owner and BH3 Management, which is trying to redevelop three blocks of West Atlantic Avenue and owns the Pour &

Famous bar, which wanted to add an outside restaurant on West Atlantic.

The municipal election is set for March 9.

Commissioners decided on Jan. 12 not to hold early voting for city races. Because the county or state is not holding an election in March, it would have cost the city about \$125,000 to host seven days of early voting, the city clerk said. ★



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10 Questions

MEET YOUR NEIGHBOR: Keith Rowling

If you cruise the A1A corridor in south Palm Beach County it's a familiar sight: A buyer purchases a multimillion-dollar mansion on the beach, then has it torn to the ground and starts over with his own design.

Not Keith Rowling. Already one of the most successful wealth advisers in the nation at age 39, Rowling has moved into four residences in Delray Beach and Gulf Stream since coming from Michigan in 2016 and chosen to renovate each one.

The latest is a five-bedroom house on a one-acre lot in Gulf Stream built in 1948 that he purchased last August.

"Many people would have looked at it as a tear-down," said Rowling, whose family includes a fiancée and an 11-year-old daughter. "Instead of tearing it down we gutted it, and it's kind of a bohemian beach house now. It's really cool, actually."

"I love renovating houses. We modernized this one effectively: new floors, new kitchen, new bathroom, put a lot of light into it. Took out all the old crown moldings, all the heaviness of the old house. So now it's very airy, very white. It's kind of a really cool beach-house look now."

Rowling launched his investment career as a teenager, using his lawn-mowing money to buy five shares of Boeing stock after reading in *U.S. News and World Report* that the company was about to launch the 777. He became a vice president at UBS Paine Webber and moved on to become managing director and financial adviser at Morgan Stanley in Michigan for nine years.

He's been managing director at Merrill Lynch in Palm Beach since 2017. Forbes ranked him No. 4 on its list of Next Gen Best in State Wealth Advisors in 2019 and No. 5 in America's Next Gen Advisors in 2020.

He first moved to coastal Delray Beach, then to a townhouse in Gulf Stream before he "kind of stumbled across" his recent purchase.

"Walking down the beach in the middle of COVID, I kind of realized if I didn't do it now



Keith Rowling, shown beside his renovated Gulf Stream home, says South Florida is like New York was in the '60s. 'It's definitely growing but there's a lot more runway.' His five-bedroom home was built in 1948. **Tim Stepien/The Coastal Star**

I never would be able to," he said. "And since then the real estate numbers have just been amazing. I found this place pre-COVID, then decided to buy it during COVID."

To say he's bullish on the future of the area is putting it mildly.

"South Florida is like New York was in the '60s," he said. "It's definitely growing but there's a lot more runway. The financial capital has always been attracted here, but the intellectual capital that's coming is going to change this place."

"Florida booms and busts, but you've never seen intellectual capital flood a very small place."

— Brian Biggane

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

A: I was born in Farmington Hills, Michigan, and went

to Brother Rice High School in Bloomfield Hills. I then attended Notre Dame University, meaning I went to Catholic schools all the way through. I liked it a lot. Most of the time you're there with mostly middle-class kids, and the work ethic and Midwest values that instilled were very beneficial in my growth. I had one sister, Jennifer, who also went to Notre Dame.

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

A: Only one profession. I started in wealth management at the age of 17 as the protégé of a top female adviser, Martha Adam. I worked for her all through my time at Notre Dame and then joined her as a partner in 2004. I'm on the Barron's and Forbes top financial adviser lists, and crossed \$1 billion in

asset-funded management in 2020.

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

A: Start early, you can pay now or pay later. Don't be afraid to take chances. Adjust your sails often, and when you find your spot, be 110% committed to make it succeed.

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

A: My 11-year-old daughter, Charlotte, is extremely asthmatic and the Midwest winters were torture for her. The salt air of South Florida is an incredible therapeutic. Gulf Stream is an ideal locale, a small town situated in the middle of what is rapidly becoming the "new world."

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

A: The combination of incredible beauty, low-key lifestyle and a group of neighbors who are equally accomplished and genuine. For me it's the best-kept secret in South Florida.

Q: What book are you reading now?

A: I'm rereading *Abundance*, by Peter Diamandis. It reminds us how the technological revolution is creating incredible opportunities and advancements in all areas of our lives. In these times we must remember there are always reasons to be optimistic; even the vaccine and how

quickly it came about is revolutionary. Humanity finds a way.

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

A: It's all pretty much the same to me. My fiancée does the playlist, so whatever she's listening to. I wish I had a better answer, but that's it.

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

A: Starting in high school working for Martha Adam. She was my mentor and one of my best friends from 16 until she passed several years ago. She was one of the top female brokers at Paine Webber in Michigan when she started in the late '60s. She gave me my start in the business and taught me everything from stocks and bonds to clothing and wine.

Q: Who/what makes you laugh?

A: My daughter, Charlotte Rowling, and my fiancée, Kristy Rao. The combination of the wit of my 11-year-old and that of a lifetime New Yorker, neither of whom hold much back!

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

A: I love being a father; my daughter is my life. We spend an inordinate amount of time together. Whether it's on the boat, in the backyard or struggling through Singapore math, we celebrate life together.



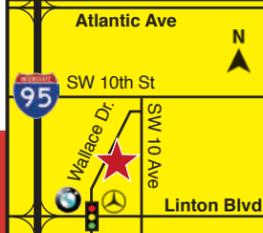
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South Palm Beach

Town Council approves rules for hybrid virtual meetings

By Dan Moffett

Like other municipalities across the state, South Palm Beach is struggling to strike a balance that prevents government meetings from spreading COVID-19 while also ensuring they allow public access and transparency.

Shortly after the virus outbreak began last year, Gov. Ron DeSantis issued an executive order that allowed governments to meet virtually, using technology, and suspending the statutory requirement for in-house quorums. But that order expired in October, and what followed was a hodgepodge of meeting strategies throughout the state as cities, towns and counties strived to maintain both access and safety.

South Palm Beach essentially went to a hybrid formula with a quorum of council members present in Town Hall and other council members, officials and the public participating by phone.

During the town's Jan. 12 meeting, the council unanimously passed new rules and procedures for meetings going forward.

Specifically, the resolution gives the mayor the power and responsibility to authorize hybrid virtual meetings and restrict public participation in the Town Hall chambers to eight people, so social distancing is maintained. Upon the mayor's order, the town manager becomes responsible for setting up the internet or telephone access. The rules still require a quorum of at least three council members to be physically present.

Mayor Bonnie Fischer said it's important to guarantee that meetings are accessible to the public and that people understand how they will operate. But she's not in favor of going exclusively to in-person meetings until the pandemic subsides.

"I'd like to have some semblance of integrity in the town, some continuity that, yes, we're meeting again," Fischer said. "No matter what we do, it's important we have public participation."

Town Attorney Glen Torcivia told the council that any changes to meeting formats come with legal perils and raise the prospect of clashes between Tallahassee control and principles of home-rule governance.

"There's a risk for this," Torcivia said, "because it has not been tested" in the courts.

The council is in unanimous agreement that the town must improve its audio system and technological equipment. Callers participating in meetings have complained about muddled sound and dropped transmissions.

Vice Mayor Robert Gottlieb said the town has about \$40,000 set aside in the budget for technology upgrades and should use it to fix the problems.

In other business

• The council expects work to begin this month on the town's dune restoration project, a joint venture with the town of Palm Beach.

Fischer said Palm Beach officials believe they have solutions to access problems, enabling them to move the sand to South Palm beaches. The plan, estimated to cost the town between \$700,000 and \$900,000, calls for buying as much as 1,000 truckloads of sand from an ongoing Palm Beach dredging project and using it to repair the erosion damage done by recent storms.

The work must be completed before turtle nesting season in May.

- The town has begun

handing out thousands of COVID-19 face masks to residents. The council used grant money to cover the

\$10,000 cost of the masks, and the plan is for each resident to receive five of them. ★



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GUMBO

Continued from page 1

more than \$1 million.

“It’s a pretty serious situation for us because it means we are having to rely on our reserves to maintain the budget and the strategic planning the organization is committed to. We did not pull back from any of our funding commitments,” said John Holloway, Friends’ executive director.

While the city holds the deed to the nature center, the Greater Boca Raton Beach and Park District pays for operating expenses such as staff salaries and maintenance of buildings, pavilions and aquariums. That funding source has remained unchanged since the pandemic and there have been no layoffs or furloughs of city staff, said Leanne Welch, Gumbo Limbo’s manager.

Gumbo Limbo accounts for more than half of the \$5.2 million allocated this year to Red Reef Park, where it is located, said Briann Harms, the district’s executive director. Separately, the district is spending \$6.5 million on capital improvements that include a new pump station and pipes to bring seawater to the nature center’s tanks.

The Friends shortfall is



The gates to Gumbo Limbo have been locked and revenues have dropped significantly in the past year during the coronavirus pandemic. Tim Stepien/The Coastal Star

due in part to a loss of more than a half-million dollars in gift shop income, where eight part-time employees of the nonprofit lost their jobs. A 2017 Friends of Gumbo Limbo annual report showed the gift shop and donations together accounted for 75% of its revenues. Most of that comes from the \$5 voluntary donations collected from walk-up traffic.

Last year began well at Gumbo Limbo.

“January and February of 2020, the numbers we were seeing, the visitors ... the retail, the amount of

donations that were coming in, they were significant,” Holloway said. “It was some of the largest numbers we had ever seen. When everything went quiet in March, that really started to take a toll.”

More than 200,000 people annually visited the 20-acre center in Red Reef Park pre-pandemic. While there are aquariums with about 1,500 fish, a butterfly garden and a boardwalk, Gumbo Limbo is best known for sea turtle conservation. Its staff treats injured and sick sea turtles that are on view in tanks at the nature center, and, when

possible, returns them to the sea once they heal. That work continues. The nature center also monitors sea turtle nesting on 5 miles of beaches and provides lab space to FAU for sea turtle and other research.

Since closing last March, Gumbo Limbo has reopened its boardwalk through a coastal hammock forest and installed exhibit signage and a self-guided tour. Everything else remains closed to visitors. Its education team has worked with local schools to provide virtual programs and experiences, and virtual

programming for all ages on its social media channels and website.

In normal times, the nature center relies on 250 volunteers to welcome visitors and help prepare food for its animals, clean tanks and enclosures and more. “Until we are able to bring our volunteers back and guarantee their safety during the pandemic, it will be difficult to open to the public with a level of service that our loyal residents, members and visitors have come to expect,” Welch said.

Staff has taken up volunteers’ tasks in addition to its regular duties.

The closure to the public has enabled Gumbo Limbo to more easily proceed with previously budgeted upgrades and renovations such as installing a new roof on the main building, Welch said. Other work slated to begin soon: a new HVAC system and hurricane impact windows, and replacement of the wooden deck and railings around it.

“The construction and upgrades should be completed by late spring or early summer,” Welch said.

Other nature centers opened fully many months ago. Loggerhead Marinelife Center in Juno Beach closed for two months, beginning last March. Ditto for

Continued on the next page

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Ocean Breeze golf course property to get cleanup, maintenance

By Mary Hladky

Now that the former Ocean Breeze golf course is no longer slated to become the Boca National course, Greater Boca Raton Beach and Park District commissioners have decided to clean up and better maintain the 212 acres as they decide what to do with it.

Commissioners voted to request bids for the project at their Jan. 4 meeting. Bids are due by Feb. 12.

The project includes demolishing buildings and parking lots and planting sod on the cleared land. Trees will be trimmed or removed if they are unhealthy, and underbrush, vines and non-native plants removed. Split rail fencing will be installed in six locations.

Existing cart paths will be connected to create a walking trail.

"We need to clean up the property," Commissioner Robert Rollins said.

Commissioners also want to improve the entrance to the property. "It definitely needs work," said Executive Director Briann Harms.

They can't do that immediately because the land is owned by the San Remo Homeowners Association.

Commissioners directed Harms and the district's attorney to attempt to reach an agreement with the association that would allow the district to use public money to pay for the work.

District officials have spoken with the association in the past about possible lease or acquisition of the property, but Commissioner Susan Vogelgesang said those talks broke down.

District commissioners and City Council members intended to build the new Boca National golf course on the Ocean Breeze property, but the project bogged down because of disagreements about the cost and whether the city or the district would be in charge of the project.

The back-and-forth ended abruptly in October when the Boca Raton Resort & Club donated the 167-acre Boca Golf and Tennis Country Club to the city, eliminating the need for a new golf course.

Commissioners are now eager to create a new plan for the Ocean Breeze land. But once again, the district believes the city has thrown up a roadblock that so far is keeping commissioners from hiring a consultant to create a master plan,

while the city denies it is causing delays.

Deputy Mayor Andrea O'Rourke said at a Jan. 11 council workshop meeting that it would be a good idea to schedule a joint city-district meeting to "make sure we are on the same page."

Council member Monica Mayotte agreed.

"There are great things that can happen in that space. We should put our heads together and get a joint meeting on the calendar," O'Rourke said.

In other beach and park district business on Jan. 4, commissioners unanimously agreed to keep their current leadership lineup.

Vogelgesang will remain as chairwoman, Erin Wright as vice chairwoman and Craig Ehrnst as secretary-treasurer.

"I think we have a great group in place and I wanted to keep them together," Rollins said. ★

Sandoway Discovery Center in Delray Beach.

Like Gumbo Limbo, Loggerhead Marinelife provides medical care to imperiled sea turtles and monitors their nests on that area's beaches. The facility has 320 volunteers reporting on a weekly basis while observing safe practices, and is undergoing a huge expansion to its campus while remaining open to the public.

Sandoway House displays exhibits on coastal and marine ecosystems and includes daily shark and stingray feedings. With total revenue of \$496,000 in 2019, it is much smaller than Gumbo Limbo. Its three full-time and two part-time employees remained at their jobs during the closure, said Executive Director Danica Sanborn.

Even so, Sandoway took a financial hit in lost revenues from admissions, birthday parties and field trips. Generous grantors and reserve funds helped make up the difference, as did receipt of a \$29,700 Paycheck Protection Program loan, Sanborn said. (Friends of Gumbo Limbo also obtained a PPP loan of \$74,000.)

Sandoway soon will proceed with a number of upgrades that include a new stingray and small shark touch tank. Money for those projects was in place before the pandemic, Sanborn said.

Sandoway and Loggerhead Marinelife, however, are nonprofit organizations. The city of Boca Raton is responsible for Gumbo Limbo and must evaluate risks differently, said spokeswoman Chrissy Gibson. "We have not decided the level of risk that is acceptable to the public and employees and volunteers," she said.

With the uncertainties surrounding the pandemic and vaccines, there's no telling when that might change.

"I cannot offer a tentative date for reopening to the public," Welch said. ★



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An exhibit of images detailing the history of Boca Raton's Gumbo Limbo Nature Center was displayed throughout the nature walk during the 90th birthday celebration for Gordon Gilbert in January. Named for the native gumbo limbo trees that are found all over the property, the nature center was founded in part in 1984 by Gilbert, a former Boca Raton High School science teacher. Photos by Tim Stepien/The Coastal Star

Happy 90th birthday to man behind nature center's founding

By Mary Hladky

As Gordon Gilbert's 90th birthday on Jan. 27 drew near, the Greater Boca Raton Beach and Park District asked for ideas on how to honor the beloved environmentalist who was instrumental in founding the Gumbo Limbo Nature Center.

Dozens of district and city residents immediately threw their support behind creating a fitting tribute.

The result was a proclamation issued on Jan. 19, saying Gilbert "has devoted over 46 years to our community and has led efforts to preserve over 1,000 acres of green space."

"His life and his advocacy for environmental education will transcend generations to come."

That proclamation was presented to Gilbert at a gathering of family and friends at Sugar Sand Park on Jan. 23.

"Gordon is sort of like a north star and someone you could sail your ship by," Commissioner Robert Rollins said as commissioners considered a tribute.

Mayor Scott Singer, joined by Deputy Mayor Andrea O'Rourke and council members Monica Mayotte and Yvette Drucker at the Walk of Fame at Royal Palm Place, issued another proclamation that declared Jan. 27 as Gordon



Gumbo Limbo founder Gordon Gilbert walks with family and friends at the nature center during his 90th birthday celebration. He is accompanied by his daughter Sandi Stafford and her husband, Ronnie Stafford, left, and Friends of Gumbo Limbo board member Robyn Morigerato, right.

Gilbert Day in Boca Raton.

"As the founder and longtime director of Gumbo Limbo Nature Center, his work has led to the creation of one of the finest marine conservation sites anywhere," Singer said. "His incredible 46 years as a city board member are only part of a life well lived as an

educator, environmentalist and outstanding person."

Other accolades poured forth, among them from Michele Peel, former president of the Friends of Gumbo Limbo, and Jim Miller, the current president.

Peel noted that while Gilbert is best known for his work on behalf of Gumbo Limbo, his impact on the Boca Raton community "is actually much deeper and longer lasting" because he advocated for acquiring land for public parks and nature preserves.

That is a key reason Boca Raton became known as a "city within a park."

Miller also cited Gilbert's years as a biology teacher at Boca Raton High School. He later taught environmental and marine science to third-, fifth- and seventh-graders at Spanish River Park.

"It always amazes me that people talk about how they took classes or took tours with Gordon, his involvement with their education," Miller said.

Gilbert served as a Beach and Park District

commissioner from 1978 to 2008 and was reappointed in 2018 to the city's Parks and Recreation Board for his 23rd two-year term.

Beach and Park District commissioners originally considered renaming Ocean Strand Park for Gilbert, an idea supported by at least 50 people who sent emails to the district or spoke up at its Jan. 4 meeting. O'Rourke was among them.

Commissioners backed off that idea over concerns that they were acting too quickly and that Gilbert has stronger connections to Gumbo Limbo.

"I was obviously disappointed," Peel said, but she realized commissioners didn't have much time to consider the idea ahead of Gilbert's birthday.

Miller also favored the renaming but said he understood the commission's reluctance to jump into that decision quickly.

There will be more opportunities to add to Gilbert's honors, he said, including the possibility of additional recognition of his advocacy for Gumbo Limbo, where he served as the nature center's first director.

A plaque honoring him already exists at Gumbo Limbo, which notes his teaching, evening tours that let people observe sea turtles nesting on the beach, and his "vision and initiative" in the acquisition of park land and nature preserves. ★

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Boynton Beach

Commission OKs Legacy project despite opposition to street closure

By Charles Elmore

An eight-story residential and retail project has won a green light from city commissioners, despite a planning board's earlier rejection and objections from some neighbors that it will sever part of a downtown street and worsen congestion.

With 5-0 votes Jan. 19, Boynton Beach's commission set the stage for developers to proceed with Legacy at Boynton Beach. The plan includes 274 apartments, 12,422 square feet of retail space on the ground floor and 530 parking spaces, mostly in an enclosed garage.

It marks the latest step in a redevelopment surge downtown.

The 2.76-acre site at the northeast corner of Southeast Second Avenue and Federal Highway encompasses parcels of land obtained by an affiliate of Beachwood, Ohio-based Goldberg Cos. Inc.

One source of friction in public meetings since last fall has been that the plan permanently would close a portion of Southeast First Avenue, ending its connection to Federal Highway.

Property owners near the project, including Tony Mauro, told commissioners in a Jan. 6 meeting the closure would be a "calamity" that crimps access to neighboring businesses. Periodic traffic backups and flooding on East Ocean Avenue would make the loss of alternatives worse, while also limiting access by ambulances or other emergency vehicles, he argued.

"It's irresponsible," Mauro said.

Mayor Steven Grant said alternate routes are available that he has driven himself, and he dismissed the inconvenience as "negligible."

The partial closure "was something we were asked to do," said developer representative Bonnie Miskel.

Consulting with traffic agencies, city staff members said that for reasons of safety and traffic flow they favored closure of an outlet that puts turning vehicles close to the busy intersection of Federal Highway and Ocean Avenue.

Developers have pledged to enhance sidewalks along the remaining portion of Southeast First Avenue and improve areas where trucks can unload to support businesses.

Other owners of properties in the area voiced support for the partial road closure, saying the span was often used for parking in a way that hindered traffic moving through.

At the Jan. 19 meeting, attorney Jason Evans, representing property owners concerned about the plan,



Some nearby business owners are upset the project will sever Southeast First Avenue from Federal Highway. **Map provided**



A retouched photo shows what the development might look like in the midst of existing buildings. **Rendering provided**

renewed what he called "vehement" objections as his clients consider options for legal challenges. He said he requested but never received traffic studies to back up the claims of developers and city staff.

"This is a taking," Evans said. "This is something that's not going to be taken lightly."

Miskel disputed that, saying developers had consulted with multiple experts and met all regulatory burdens.

Grant maintained the net effect would be good for all involved.

"I believe the adjacent property owners will receive higher property values because of this development and improvements in the area," the mayor said.

The city's planning and development board voted 4-3 against one component of the plan in September, and 6-1 against two other pieces. Among the concerns expressed was a "rushed" timetable while

many seasonal residents were not present to weigh in on traffic and density issues.

At the same time, board members acknowledged the City Commission has final say.

The project will feature a modern coastal architectural style, according to city staff reports.

"The project's materials include simulated weathered wood planks, clear glass at the retail level, black window frames, vertically oriented windows and subtle tan tones that create a warmth to the building while maintaining clean lines," staffers wrote.

At least 20 smaller apartments are planned to be "attainable," Miskel said Jan. 6, meaning affordable to workers with limited incomes under rules that allow developers to put more residential units than usual in the same space. Further details of those plans were expected to be discussed at future meetings. ★

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Lantana

Officer commended for saving newborn

By Mary Thurwachter

Officer Peter Cummings was given a lifesaving award — and a standing ovation— for saving the life of an infant last fall.

Police Chief Sean Scheller, who made the presentation during the Jan. 11 Lantana Town Council meeting, said that on Oct. 22 police were dispatched to a woman who called saying she was delivering her own baby in her car. Since she was not familiar with the area, she wasn't able to tell dispatchers exactly where she was. They were, however, able to track her location — at Lantana Road and North Broadway — through her phone.

The baby's father had been driving the woman to the hospital, but the birth couldn't wait and the mother, Daydra Parker, delivered her son, Mateo, herself in the car.

"Officer Peter Cummings was the first to arrive and found the woman holding the infant in the passenger seat," Scheller said. "The infant was not breathing and beginning to lose color."

Cummings, 30, had a suction bulb in his equipment bag and used it to remove mucous from the baby's nose and mouth until the baby began to cry. Palm Beach County Fire Rescue transported both



Police Officer Peter Cummings received a lifesaving award for giving emergency aid to Mateo Parker, who had just been delivered by his mom, Daydra Parker, in a car and was not breathing. *Mary Thurwachter/The Coastal Star*

mother and baby to JFK Medical Center, where the baby made a full recovery.

Daydra Parker brought her baby to the award presentation and expressed her gratitude to Cummings and all first responders who were there for her.

"It was a very exciting moment in my life, but I was very scared," she said, attempting to hold back her tears.

Cummings has since been

promoted to investigator at the Lantana Police Department, where he has worked for 8½ years.

"I was glad I was able to help her," he said.

This wasn't the first time he saved a newborn, Cummings said. While the first child also survived, Cummings did not have a suction bulb then and bought one shortly after so he was better prepared the next time. ★



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Ocean Ridge

State approves extension to seawall project in town

By Dan Moffett

The large seawall project in Ocean Ridge has grown larger, but town officials remain confident work will be completed by the end of March to avoid interfering with turtle nesting season.

Town Manager Tracey Stevens said the state Department of Environmental Protection has approved the construction of three more seawalls in order to close the protection gap near Anna Street.

The walls will go behind the properties at 6059, 6057 and 6029 Old Ocean Blvd. No other seawall extensions are likely to be considered by the DEP, Stevens told the Town Commission during its Feb. 1 meeting.

The project has forced the closure of two public crossovers to the beach at Anna and Edith streets, and some residents in the neighborhood have objected. Last month, residents complained that the contractor was moving heavy construction equipment along the beach instead of using the crossover access points as some believed the town intended.

Stevens said closing the crossovers didn't mean the contractor would keep heavy equipment off the beach.

"One of the reasons we closed both crossovers was to give the contractor the ability to complete both projects simultaneously while keeping beachgoers as safe as possible during construction," Stevens said. "The movement of equipment along the beach was never precluded."

She said the crossover access allows



Three more properties (above) were added to the scope of the seawall project in Ocean Ridge after approval from the Florida Department of Environmental Protection. **Mary Kate Leming/The Coastal Star**

the contractor to keep busy even during high tides and ensures the project will be completed on a tight schedule.

Mayor Kristine de Haseth has urged residents to be patient and consider the importance of the project.

"Those seawalls are the first line of defense for the entire town," she said.

In other business, commissioners gave Stevens high marks during her evaluation as she begins her third year as manager. She worked two years as town clerk before rising to her current position.

"Tracey's transition to town manager has been seamless," de Haseth wrote in

the evaluation. "Our town is lucky to have her leadership and dedication."

Vice Mayor Steve Coz advised Stevens to "work on the talent of motivating others in a team mentality versus a boss mentality."

Coz said: "She is on a learning curve that so far is working out reasonably for Tracey, the commission and the town. I only expect Tracey to continue to improve. ... Great managers aren't made overnight."

Commissioners Susan Hurlburt and Martin Wiescholek commended Stevens for her performance during the COVID-19 outbreak.

Hurlburt said: "Tracey has steered Ocean Ridge through these arduous times with strong leadership, perseverance, dedication and good cheer."

Wiescholek said he "could not be happier" with her performance and said she showed "exceptional skills" in coping with "some complex problems."

Commissioner Phil Besler, who is stepping down from the commission next month, worried about the town's finances down the road.

"You need to work harder to get the budget back to a surplus," Besler told the manager. "The future is going to be tougher than the past as there are major infrastructure issues coming."

Besler also said the town's evaluation forms tend to be skewed toward unreasonably high ratings and encouraged the commission to consider changing the format. ★

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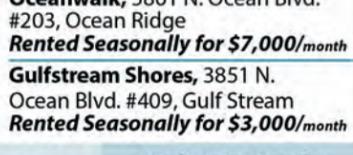


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Boynton Beach

New fire chief takes helm

By Jane Smith

James Stables became chief of the Boynton Beach Fire Department on Jan. 4.

“It’s been a whirlwind for the first two days I’ve been here,” Stables said at the Jan. 5 City Commission meeting. “I’m looking forward to getting busy in this great community.”

Stables

Stables, 54, has more than 30 years of fire service experience. He most recently was the fire chief in Johnson City, Tennessee. He started as a fire inspector/volunteer firefighter in Wilton Manors in 1985.

Before leaving for the Johnson City position, Stables was the fire chief in Palm Bay. He holds a bachelor’s degree in public administration from the Melbourne branch campus of Barry University.

In Boynton Beach, he will make \$144,000 annually and receive 12 vacation days, plus

32 additional vacation hours during his first year.

Boynton Beach provides fire-rescue services to the barrier island towns of Ocean Ridge and Briny Breezes.

Since early June, retired Chief Ray Carter had been the interim Boynton Beach fire chief. That’s when the city manager and former Fire Chief Matt Petty agreed Petty should resign because of his role in the altered mural at the new fire station in Town Square.

“I can’t end the night without thanking Ray Carter for bailing me out and helping us through a difficult time,” City Manager Lori LaVerriere said at the Jan. 5 meeting.

Carter, who retired in 2016, responded, “My pleasure to come back to help during a difficult situation. ... But I’m happy to be retiring again.”

He received a standing ovation from commissioners and city staff in the chambers and from the other commissioners and LaVerriere appearing online in the virtual meeting. ★

The next edition of *The Coastal Star* will be delivered the weekend of March 6

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Highland Beach

Residents rush for email alerts after missing vaccine announcement

By Rich Pollack

For years, the town has been offering Highland Beach residents the chance to sign up for email alerts on everything from boil-water notifications and traffic interruptions to news about day-to-day workings in the town.

As of the middle of last month there were few takers, with only about 338 names on the list — in a town with as many as 3,500 year-round residents.

But after hundreds who were not on the list discovered that it might have cost them the opportunity to get a COVID-19 vaccine, the number changed quickly.

Within a week, 211 new subscribers joined the email alert list — a 62% increase — and that number should grow as the town continues a full-court press to get people to sign up.

“A lot of folks have now reached out to us,” Town Manager Marshall Labadie said. “They finally saw the value of receiving communications from the town.”

A town email late on the evening of Jan. 13 first notified residents they could sign up at 2 p.m. the following day for COVID-19 vaccines given in the town.

Reminders were sent out by email the following day.

Within less than two minutes, all the reservations were taken but the town soon heard from residents who said they were never notified that shots were available.

One of the reasons, they were told, was that they hadn’t signed up for town emails.

Although the town has several other means of communication, including a recently redesigned website, a cable television channel, a portable billboard and even a Code RED telephone alert system, Labadie believes the email list is the best way to get the word out.

“You can put it on the website, you can put it on TV, but nothing is going to be as quick as emailing residents directly,” he said. “Most people check their emails daily.”

Labadie said the town avoided using the Code RED alerts for the vaccine notification because it reserves that system for immediate public safety issues.

“We don’t want to overuse it,” he said.

With a renewed focus on ensuring it gets the word out, the town is in the middle of a campaign to mail to residents a card with information on how to sign up for the emails.

“It’s about the only way we can reach every household in town,” said Mayor Doug

Hillman.

Hillman said the town is exploring other options to reach residents, possibly including the use of text messaging.

For now, however, the postcard and other constant reminders are the focus.

“Everything we send out will cover getting our residents to sign up,” he said.

Hillman and Labadie acknowledge that one stumbling block in getting more residents to sign up is that the list of email addresses is a public record and accessible to anyone on request. They point out, however, that residents could opt out of the alerts at any time.

In addition to providing

alerts, the email system lets residents know about special events and meetings. A Manager’s Minute from Labadie is also sent out via email, and residents even received a notice at the end of the year about interruptions in trash pickup due to truck issues.

“It’s the quickest source for town-related news and information,” Labadie said. “If you want to know the latest and greatest about your town, this is it.” ★

To sign up for email alerts, visit www.highlandbeach.us and click on Town Alert Center in the upper left corner of the home page.

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Highland Beach

Big water users will pay premium price under latest proposed rates

By Rich Pollack

After months of discussion and number-crunching, the Highland Beach Town Commission has all but finalized a proposed five-year water and sewer rate structure

designed to be more equitable while also making utilities operations self-sufficient.

In developing the structure, town commissioners have come up with a simplified plan that keeps upcoming water rates pennies lower for the lowest

water users but encourages conservation by charging those who use lots of water a significantly higher rate.

"If you're using a lot of water, you're definitely going to be paying more than you are now," Town Manager Marshall Labadie said.

Under the new rates, which could become effective by June, a customer who uses 5,000 gallons during a two-month billing cycle likely would see the water and sewer bill drop by a dime, from \$92.35 to a projected \$92.25.

At the other end of the spectrum, customers who use 500,000 gallons every two months would see the water and sewage bill jump from an estimated \$2,646 to a projected \$4,058.

Most customers whose usage lies in the middle, at 13,000 gallons every two months, for example, would see a projected increase of about \$37.27 in the bi-monthly water bill.

In coming years those water bills will almost certainly increase as the town moves to have money collected from customers cover the total cost of providing water and sewer services.

"The goal is to have an independent utility no longer funded by property taxes,"

Labadie said.

For the past several years, the town's general fund has been subsidizing the utilities to cover the cost of operation, maintenance and debt service.

The new proposed rate structure is designed to change that in five years so that while the water and sewer rate will increase, fewer dollars will be coming out of the operating budget.

That means the town most likely will be able to decrease its tax rate, which in turn could translate into slight drops in municipal taxes over the five-year period for many residents.

For town leaders, developing a plan that would generate the revenue needed to make water and sewer service independent while at the same time making it equitable turned out to be a complex and arduous task.

After months of discussion with consultants, a plan devised by Natasha Moore — a member of the town's Financial Advisory Board and soon to be the town's vice mayor — drew full commission support.

"It was definitely a balancing act," said Moore, a former senior actuary and practice leader at NCCI in Boca Raton and now the owner, along with her husband, of Live South Florida Realty.

Under the plan presented by Moore, all utility customers will pay the same "ready to serve" \$40 per billing cycle flat fee for water service and \$29.55 for sewer service. That's a slight increase from the \$33.59 current fixed cost for water and a decrease from the \$44 fixed cost for wastewater treatment.

The plan, which does not differentiate users based on whether they live in a single-family home or condominium, includes a five-tier system that lowered the per-gallon rate for people using under 10,000 gallons every two months. That group makes up the bulk of users in the system.

On the wastewater side, while the fixed fee was reduced, the plan now includes a usage charge of \$2.41 per 1,000 gallons of water usage up to 20,000 gallons.

Moore said that the plan is designed to accomplish three goals: to simplify the rate structure, to make that structure more equitable and to ensure utilities are self-sufficient in five years.

"I felt I could develop something that balanced all those goals," she said, explaining why she volunteered to help commissioners come up with a palatable rate structure.★

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Obituaries

Jan McArt

By Mary Thurwachter

BOCA RATON — Jan McArt, Florida's first lady of musical theater, died at her home in Boca Raton on Jan. 31.

The show business legend helped steer South Florida theater from its beginnings with verve and sparkle. As word of her passing spread, tributes flooded social media.

"She was one of those bigger-than-life people that you're lucky just to see from afar once in a lifetime, let alone get to know and worship close-up," wrote Gary Schweikhart, a friend and publicist.



"What a shining star in our world that will never diminish," Marilyn Wick of The Wick Theatre & Costume Museum wrote on Facebook. "Thank you for brightening our lives with your joy."

Arts writer Bill Hirschman said Ms. McArt "was never a vain diva still living in the heyday of musical theater circa 1959. Instead, in 2013, she created the Jan McArt New Play Reading Series at Lynn University in Boca to host dozens of new plays in development. Through six days of workshop rehearsals, playwrights interacted with paid Equity actors and then she saw them perform the work at a reading before a paying audience."

Ms. McArt's age was a closely guarded secret, according to Palm Beach ArtsPaper theater critic Hap Erstein, who, in his tribute to the legend, recalled a conversation he had with her in 1997:

"My age? You want to know my age?," she responded with mock incredulity. With a dramatic flourish, she sidled up to me, lowered her voice and whispered, 'I'm 23. See, I think age is a state of mind. And in my mind, I'm 23.' So, OK, without agreeing with her math, let's just say that she was and will always be ageless, even if she passed away in her late 80s or so."

Ms. McArt was born in Ohio and raised in Indiana. She set her sights on a stage career when she was a teenager. Her first big break came in Los Angeles where Rodgers and Hammerstein were casting a national tour of *Oklahoma!* The dark-haired actress with a striking resemblance to Elizabeth Taylor and a clear soprano voice, scored the leading role of Laurey. Word of her standout performance made its way to Broadway, where Ms. McArt appeared from the 1950s to the late 1970s.

She came to Palm Beach County in the late 1970s to visit her ailing mother and ended up founding the Royal Palm Dinner Theatre, which she ran for more than 25 years. Her business included three companies — the main dinner theater, the Rooftop Cabaret Theatre, and the Little Palm Children's Theatre.

Ms. McArt also started theaters in Fort Lauderdale, Delray Beach, Key West and Miami Beach, and produced many shows through her not-for-profit wing, Jan McArt's American Festival Series. She simultaneously produced three national touring companies of *The Pirates of Penzance*.

In 1989, she brought an original musical, *The Prince of Central Park*, to the Belasco Theatre on Broadway.

More recently, she was producer and director of theater arts program development at Lynn University, where she oversaw several theatrical series, including Libby Dodson's Live at Lynn theater series, Jan McArt's New Play Readings, and the Mabel Mercer Foundation's Cabaret at Lincoln Center Comes to Live at Lynn.

Her numerous awards included Carbonell Awards (the George Abbott Award in 1984, the Ruth Foreman Award in 2001), as well as 278 Carbonell Award nominations for her dinner theater, and a Carbonell Best Actress Award for her performance in *Nightclub Confidential*.

Ms. McArt is survived by her daughter, Debbi Lahr Lawlor, son-in-law, John Lawlor, grandson, Evan, and granddaughter, Katharine.

"She did not want a funeral, but there will be a celebration of her life planned when it is safe to reopen the theater," said Desiree McKim, her assistant at Lynn University.

Those who wish to make a donation in her honor may consider one of her favorite charities — Jan McArt's Theatre Arts Guild to support Live at Lynn or Jan McArt's Endowed Scholarship at Lynn University (<https://give.lynn.edu/theatrearts>); The Lois Pope Life Foundation (<https://www.life-edu.org/about/life/>); or Tri-County Animal Rescue (<https://tricityanimalrescue.com/>).

Mary Elizabeth Glover Bastin

By Sallie James

BOCA RATON — Mary Elizabeth Glover Bastin, an elegant world traveler and beloved mother who found true love twice in a lifetime, died on Jan. 8, two days after her 94th



birthday. She embraced life and lived well until her last moments, her daughter said. Those who knew Mrs.

Bastin said she epitomized grace and kindness, was always perfectly dressed, with polished nails, impeccable hair and makeup in place.

"She would vacuum in high heels," her daughter Martha Perry recalled, chuckling. "She would come down in the morning all dressed for the day, and that was that."

Mrs. Bastin was a Hoosier by birth, born on Jan. 6, 1927, in Vincennes, Indiana, to Thomas Maxwell Shircliff and Martha Bayard Somes. She graduated from the Ladywood School in Indianapolis, graduated from Marymount College in Tarrytown, New York, and attended the Sorbonne in Paris as one of the first students immediately after World War II.

While at Marymount, Mrs. Bastin learned of the Sorbonne opportunity. She was prepared to live with the sisters at the Marymount Paris when her mother received a letter from the nuns, Martha recalled. The nuns were welcoming, but warned that they had little food on hand.

"We want you to know nothing is normal here, and we don't have a lot of food but the sisters will always make sure you are fed first," the letter said.

Mrs. Bastin was undeterred. She traveled abroad and had the time of her life.

Following her college graduation, she accepted an executive position with Macy's and moved to Greenwich Village in New York. She enjoyed business and believed she needed to earn an MBA in order to achieve her career goals as a woman in that era. She applied to and was accepted into the business program at St. Louis University.

But before starting school, she went home to Vincennes, where she met William Ebner

Glover, who had also returned home to Vincennes to run a family business. The couple married in 1953 and moved to South Florida in 1959, where they had five children.

The family of seven lived in Palmetto Park Terrace in Boca Raton, one of the communities Bill developed. In 1968, the family moved to their home in Royal Palm Yacht & Country Club, which Mrs. Bastin still owned at the time of her death.

After her husband's death, Mrs. Bastin traveled extensively, exploring the continents of Asia, Europe and Africa. Her most memorable trip was to South Africa with her daughter Martha and family, where they toured Cape Town, the wine country and game reserves.

Her life changed again when she returned to Vincennes for her 50th high school reunion and reconnected with her recently widowed high school sweetheart, Armand Joseph Bastin. The two were married in 1997 and divided their time between his home on Lake Barklay in Kentucky and Mrs. Bastin's home in Boca Raton.

Martha recalled Joe removed a cache of old photos from a drawer in a closet. Inside were images of her mother when she was a young woman. He had saved them for decades.

"They were pinned in high school and even in college they were a little bit going out," Martha said. "He said, 'I always loved your mother. I can't believe I have a second chance.'"

The couple was together 13 years until Joe died in 2010.

Martha remembered her mother to be an adventurer who always advised her children to live life to the fullest instead of watching it pass by.

"She always took advantage of whatever happened. She would say if you are invited to do something or have the opportunity to do something,

you should do it because you never know when the opportunity will present itself again," her daughter said.

"As sad as we are to have her gone, we are so grateful to have her all the years we had her, and she was healthy to the end," Martha added.

Mrs. Bastin was a staunch supporter of her community and was a member of numerous organizations during her life, including St. Joan of Arc Catholic Church & School, Saint Andrew's School, Morikami Museum and Japanese Gardens, Boca Raton Historical Society, The Antique Club, The Garden Club, The Order of Malta, and the Daughters of the American Revolution. She was also once nominated for Boca Raton's Woman of the Year.

The Glovers were among the early supporters of Lynn University and Boca Raton Regional Hospital. Mary was a member of the Royal Palm Yacht & Country Club for more than 50 years.

Mrs. Bastin is survived by her five children, Martha Perry (Dennis) of Ocean Ridge, Gregory Glover (Lori) of Boca Raton, Thomas Glover (Karen) of Palm Beach, John Glover (Louise) of Delray Beach, and David Glover (Stephanie) of Hoboken, New Jersey. She is also survived by six grandchildren: Tyler, Ross and Katherine Perry, and Thomas, Gigi and Slane Glover.

Services were held on Jan. 17.

Donations can be made in her memory to The William and Mary Glover Scholarship Fund at Saint Andrew's School in Boca Raton online at https://www2.heart.org/site/SPageNavigator/donatenow_legacy.html?giftFirstName=Mary&giftLastName=Bastin&s_src=leg or to the American Heart Association or the Palm Beach County Food Bank.

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Obituaries

Marguerite 'Margie' Malandro Plunkett

By Sallie James

POMPANO BEACH — She was a beloved newspaper editor and devoted mother and wife whose legacy of caring will long be remembered by people who loved her. Four years after being diagnosed with ovarian cancer, Marguerite "Margie"



Malandro Plunkett died on Jan. 20, at home surrounded by family. She was 65.

As news of her death trickled out, her former colleagues

expressed shock and grief on social media, remembering Margie for her good nature, media savvy and overwhelming kindness.

"Margie was such a nice person, the kind you instantly liked upon meeting. And a fine professional who did great work. She will be missed," said Gail Bulfin, a former *Sun Sentinel* colleague.

"Always with a smile and a kind word," wrote former *Sun Sentinel* colleague Bonnie DiPacio on Facebook. "Just heartbreaking," added Willie Fernandez, also a former *Sun Sentinel* colleague. "One of the nicest people in the newsroom."

Jaclyn Giovis Wolff called her "kind, patient, meticulous and cool under pressure." *Sun Sentinel* alumna Ann Carter described Margie as "quiet, kind and capable, with a wicked sense of humor."

"Sorry to hear this. She maintained a pleasant disposition amid all the chaos of putting out those fat business sections in the '80s. ... Margie was too young to go," former colleague Jim McNair posted on Facebook.

Margie was born on Oct. 23, 1955, in Vineland, New Jersey, to Eugene Malandro and Gloria Passino Malandro.

From a young age she was always interested in facts. She earned a bachelor's degree in communications from Rowan University in Glassboro, New Jersey, then landed a job on the *Vineland Times Journal*, her hometown paper. It was there she

befriended Malinda Elek, another young reporter who became a lifelong friend. The two worked together years later on the *Sun Sentinel* in Fort Lauderdale.

Margie was always committed to her career in journalism, and took pride in her research and writing. Shortly after starting her job at the *Vineland Times Journal*, she was selected winner of the 1981 Times Graphics Property Award for her four-part series on "Nursing Homes."

"She was a good listener. When she came into the room you just felt like smiling," Elek said. "We were both pretty serious about writing and journalism. Outside of work, she was just there for you, always there to listen. One of those people you are not afraid to tell anything to. I am going to miss her forever."

Her sister Jeannie Malandro said Margie had a passion for learning and never wavered when she set her mind to something. As a child, she taught herself to play piano.

When she decided to learn French, she excelled at it, Jeannie Malandro recalled.

Margie and her husband, Steve Plunkett, met at the *Sun Sentinel* in 1985. Their first date was at a French restaurant, in line with Margie's interest in the French language. Five years later they married, on March 31, 1990, in Washington, D.C., where Margie was working on the *Washington Times*. They honeymooned in Paris.

Jeannie's most vivid memory of her sister was Margie's determination to make others feel special. She was an amazing hostess, who always watched out for others' well-being.

"She wanted to let everyone know she cared about you and wanted to take care of you," Jeannie said. She never forgot birthdays, made sure everyone on her Christmas list was taken care of, and would remember special facts that made you feel special, she recalled.

Mary Kate Leming, editor of *The Coastal Star*, where Margie worked for several years, said Margie's capable presence was unforgettable.

"On top of being an excellent

journalist, Margie was kind and a genuinely lovely person," Leming said. "Town officials often confused us in the early days of the newspaper. We'd share a laugh at that. I was happy to be mistaken for someone as capable and kind as Margie."

When Margie fell ill with cancer, she researched the disease instead of panicking, her sister said. Margie remained hopeful that medical innovations would help improve her life.

"She was a lifelong learner and fascinated with learning about new topics, which is what I think led her to journalism," her sister said. "She would do research on that disease and it helped her to dispel a lot of her fear. She was always hopeful. She had such a good attitude I couldn't believe it."

She was close with her daughter, Kerianne, and was comforted by the one-on-one time she had with her in her last days, her sister said.

Margie's career included stints at an array of newspapers: She worked at *The Coastal Star* as a reporter and editor on and off from 2011 to 2020; as communications director at Global Response from 2015-2020; business editor at the *Tampa Tribune* from 2013 to 2015; assistant business editor at the *Sun Sentinel* from 1999 to 2008; was business writer at the *Palm Beach Post* from 1993 to 1999; and business editor at the *Washington Times* from 1988 to 1993.

Margie will be remembered for her love of life, her charm and personality, devotion to family and friends, and her warm heart.

She is survived by her husband, Steven Plunkett; her daughter, Kerianne Plunkett, and her grandson, Judah Plunkett Gamble, of Pompano Beach; sisters Marilyn Shreckhise of Virginia, Jeannie Malandro of New Mexico, Gloria Malandro of New Jersey, Dianne Kobayashi of Vineland, and Trish Solomon of Colorado; along with many loving nieces, nephews, cousins and in-laws.

Margie's family and friends will hold a celebration of her life at a later date.

Eileen Ryan Pettus

OCEAN RIDGE — Eileen Ryan Pettus died on Jan. 17 at the Health First's Holmes Medical Center in Melbourne, the result of an automobile accident. She was 74 years old.

Born Eileen Ryan in New York City on Oct. 28, 1946, she was an alumna of Convent of the Sacred Heart in New York City; Sacred Heart Greenwich (Connecticut); and the Convent of the Sacred Heart Kenwood, in



Albany, New York, from which she graduated in 1964. She attended Briarcliff, Briarcliff Manor, New York, and in 1968 she graduated from Maryville University, St. Louis, with a degree in English literature.

During her early years in New York she was a runway and magazine model, and in St. Louis worked for the old Southwest Bank and Commerce banks.

Her marriages to John B. Mitchell Jr., of St. Louis, and Theodore T. Pettus, of New York, ended in divorce. She returned from St. Louis to New York City in 1985, and worked as a client representative in the private banking group at JP Morgan.

In 2004 she relocated to South Florida, close to where her family had a longtime second home.

In Florida, Eileen was active in several charities and nonprofits, including the Boys and Girls Clubs of Palm Beach County. She was supportive of Paul's Place in Delray Beach, an after-school program that provides mentoring and nourishment to underprivileged children.

She was alternately known by nicknames such as Leendog and Rosebud, but by whatever name she was also described as a brilliant and beautiful force, a woman who had a significant and profound impact on scores of people she encountered on her sometimes bumpy journey.

Eileen was charismatic, they agree: quick-witted, well-read, outspoken, charming, magnetic, sophisticated, exceptionally generous, captivating, creative and artistic, dazzling, optimistic, possessed of an extraordinary sense of humor; and indelibly fashionable.

She was an avid angler, an occasional golfer, a fanatical baseball devotee and sports fan; she was a dedicated philanthropist, an impassioned theater and music lover, a gifted artist, a dog lover extraordinaire. She enjoyed the best that life had to offer, and had a thirst for mischief. She always threw the best party.

Eileen was a devoted mother and grandmother, sister and friend. She had a close and joyful relationship with her only grandchild, Blake Jr., who received her undivided attention and affection. Coincidentally, they also celebrated the same birthday.

She is survived by her children, John Blanton Mitchell III (wife, Anita) of San Francisco, and Mariah Mitchell Davis of New York City; by her grandson, Blake Tamblin Davis Jr.; and by her brothers John Ryan (wife, Virginia) of Chevy Chase, Maryland, Kevin Ryan (wife, Lynde) of Beaufort, South Carolina, and Michael Ryan of Bradenton, along with numerous nieces, nephews, grandnieces and grandnephews.

Eileen was preceded in death by her siblings Charles Patrick Ryan Jr. (wife, Cissy) of Garden City, New York, and Cathleen Ann Ryan of New York; and her parents, Charles Patrick Ryan and Mary Dwyer Ryan of New York.

Plans for a memorial service will be announced later. The family thanks the caregivers at Holmes Medical Center in Melbourne for their extraordinary dedication. In lieu of flowers, donations may go to Big Dog Ranch Rescue animal rescue service, 14444 Okeechobee Blvd., Loxahatchee Groves, FL 33470.

— Obituary submitted by the family



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A look, then and now, at the Delray Beach hotel site at the northwest corner of State Road A1A and Atlantic Avenue. **LEFT:** The Seacrest Hotel, circa 1925, which stood for 57 years. **RIGHT:** The newly refurbished Opal Grand Oceanfront Resort & Spa. **Images provided**

Delray Beach

New Opal Grand luxury resort built on foundation of history

By Rich Pollack

After 57 years as a steady landmark at the corner of State Road A1A and Atlantic Avenue, the Seacrest Hotel found its time had run out in the early 1980s.

Once a luxurious gathering place for wealthy Northerners who shunned the glitz of Palm Beach for the more relaxed ambience of Delray Beach, the 1925 hotel suffered from old age. By 1982 its decrepit condition was unreparable and the Seacrest succumbed to the bite of the bulldozers.

Yet as Delray Beach evolved, a series of hotels would rise from the rubble, first as a Holiday Inn, then as a Marriott and now as the new Opal Grand Oceanfront Resort & Spa — each reflecting the community of its time and each taking the quality of the hotel up a notch.

With finishing touches being added to the multimillion-dollar transformation of the former Delray Beach Marriott into a 277-room, full-service luxury resort, one of the oldest and most sought-after hospitality corners — on both the beach and Atlantic Avenue — has come full circle.

“For almost 100 years there has been a hotel on this corner and it has played a significant role in this city,” says Mark Walsh, vice president of Delray Beach Ocean Properties Hotels & Resorts, which has owned a hotel on the Opal Grand site since the late 1970s.

Delray Beach’s renaissance from “Dull Ray” in the 1980s to the vital community of today influenced the evolution of the hotel.

But the influence was mutual. “They go hand and hand,” Walsh says. “This location is Main and Main, it’s where you want something significant to the community.”

The Opal Grand certainly fills that role as Delray strives to remain a magnet for leisure and business travelers from around the world.

“We’ve become a world-class destination and the Opal Grand has been a reflection of that,” says Stephanie Immelman, president and CEO of the Greater Delray Beach Chamber of Commerce. “The hotel is a destination.”

As Delray lures more visitors and more hotels spring up to meet the demand, the Opal Grand stands out: It’s part location and part event capacity. The 8,000-square-foot ballroom,



which can accommodate more than 500 people, received a significant upgrade during the transformation.

The Opal Grand, one of about 20 eclectic luxury resorts in Ocean Properties’ Opal Collection, has a concept that was in the works for several years, according to Walsh, although work on the complete renovation didn’t start until last year.

The vision, he says, was “to make it the best hotel on the beach you’ll find in South Florida.”

“This new look, this new feel — it’s what people are looking for now,” he said. “It’s casual elegance. You feel comfortable walking in wearing shorts and a T-shirt and you feel comfortable all dressed up.”

Visitors returning to the Opal Grand will notice changes before they even set foot in the door. The Mediterranean style of the Marriott has made way for what architect Gary Eliopoulos calls a Floribbean look.

“You want something that says Florida,” he says. “This is a coastal look.”

Inside, the lobby is bright and unusual — with swinging chairs, fountains, a water wall and check-in “pods,” rather than a long desk.

“It’s going to give you that wow,” says General Manager Julia Phillips, who is focused on ensuring guests — and even their pets — get the highest-quality service. “We want them to feel like they’re the only guests in the resort.”



Adjacent to the lobby is the Monkey Bar, an airy gathering spot, featuring a living wall with natural plants.

An Atlantic Avenue-facing restaurant, Drift, will be accessible from the street and the hotel, and is expected to be completed by late spring. The resort also includes two pools and a spa.

With the renovations has come an expected increase in room rates that reflects the product.

‘A bet on Delray’

To better understand how far the property has come, just look at the challenges that faced Tom Walsh, the founder of the company now run by his children, when he sought financing in the early 1980s.

Walsh had purchased the 2.26-acre Seacrest Hotel site in 1978 after the hotel had been shuttered. But starting almost from scratch, he was able to reopen it in 1983 as the Holiday Inn Camino Real.

Lenders who were familiar with the growth of the hospitality industry in nearby Boca Raton were skeptical.

“There was no history of a new significant hotel in Delray,” Mark Walsh says. “It was a bet on Delray, that it would grow and expand.”

For the Walshes, the bet paid off.

The Holiday Inn, says longtime resident and former City Commissioner Bill Bathurst, helped Delray once again attract Northern tourists.

“It was the beginning of the



TOP: The Monkey Bar at the Opal Grand Oceanfront Resort & Spa features a living wall and four chimps serving as light fixtures.

ABOVE: Circular ceiling lights grace a flex room that serves both the Monkey Bar and the convention space.

LEFT: Many rooms have views of a hotel pool and the Atlantic Ocean.

Photos by Jerry Lower/The Coastal Star

tourism renaissance because people had a place to stay on the beach,” he says.

Ocean Properties expanded the hotel in the late 1990s and switched to the Marriott brand. It was during that expansion that the hotel added meeting space, becoming a destination for larger community events, local weddings and other celebrations, as well as meetings and conferences for out-of-town visitors.

Now, the Opal Grand is the next step in the evolution that began with the 1925 opening of the Seacrest Hotel.

“Delray has come a long way and so has this hotel,” Mark Walsh says. ★

Business Spotlight

Commissioner sells new Manalapan estate for record \$38.875 million

Ronald and Cindy McMackin of Pan-Pacific Mechanical have purchased the new six-bedroom, Intracoastal-to-ocean estate — with approximately 21,000 total square feet — at **1660 S. Ocean Blvd., Manalapan**.

The purchase price was recorded at \$38.875 million, making it the highest-priced sale in Manalapan in 2020, and the highest price ever recorded for an Intracoastal-to-ocean property in Manalapan.

The seller was 1660 S. Ocean LLC, which is managed by **Stewart A. Satter**, a Manalapan town commissioner.

Tom Benedict of the Benedict Group was the architect and Robert Burrage of RWB Construction was the general contractor. The estate spans 150 feet along the Intracoastal and the ocean, with amenities such as a lakeside pool, 10-car garage, private beach tunnel under State Road A1A, loggia with a summer kitchen, and lower level spa and exercise room.

It is fully furnished by Marc-Michaels Interior Design.

Pascal Liguori listed the contemporary-style estate at \$44.85 million on Nov. 10. It went under contract eight days later, and closed Dec. 30.

The transaction was recorded on Jan. 5.

Broker **Lawrence Moens** of Lawrence A. Moens Associates represented the McMackins.

Ronald McMackin is chairman/CEO and Cindy McMackin is president of Pan-Pacific Mechanical, a leading full mechanical design/build subcontractor for large-scale construction projects.

In mid-December, the McMackins sold their Palm Beach estate to a trust affiliated with actor Sylvester Stallone.

Satter developed the estate through his Carnegie Hill Development. This is one of four estates he has developed and



The new estate is one of four Stewart Satter's firm has developed and sold in town, for over \$100 million total. Photo provided

sold in Manalapan, totaling over \$100 million in sales.

Satter is the former chief executive officer of Consumer Testing Laboratories — a leader in quality assurance services for the retail industry. Underwriters Laboratories acquired CTL in 2016 in a transaction handled by Citibank. Satter is also the founding partner of NYU/Stern Endless Frontier Labs, a tech startup accelerator in New York City.

In another recent transaction, Pascal and **Antonio Liguori** of Premier Estate Properties report that they represented both the buyer and seller in the \$25.75 million sale of an ocean-to-Intracoastal compound at **1040 South Ocean Boulevard, Manalapan**.

On 2.14 acres with 200 feet of Atlantic Ocean and Intracoastal frontage, the 23,795-total-square-foot estate and guest house, designed by Yates Rainho Architects, was completed in 2018. Its features include two

elevators, three laundry rooms, and five garage bays.

Premier Estate Properties surpassed \$1.55 billion in 2020 sales of properties priced at more than \$1 million. The company was founded in 1993 by brokers/owners **Gerard P. Liguori, Carmen N. D'Angelo Jr., and Joseph G. Liguori**.

Chicago-based real estate investment firm **CA Ventures** paid \$80 million for the 159-unit student housing complex **University Park** at 135 NW 20th St., Boca Raton, near Florida Atlantic University, on Jan. 8.

The 228,000-square-foot complex, built in 2015, is on 10.5 acres.

The seller is an affiliate of **Investcorp**, a Bahrain-based private equity firm led by **Hazem Ben-Gacem** and **Rishi Kapoor**. Investcorp bought the student housing community in 2016 for \$70 million.

Members of the **Greater Delray Beach Chamber of Commerce** have stepped up to support other members experiencing financial difficulties during the coronavirus pandemic, through an initiative called the Giving Tree.

The donations are intended to allow businesses to keep their chamber memberships, providing each about three months of payment, or \$100 worth, into their renewal years.

All About Florida Homes/Lang Realty was among the first to step up to make a donation.

Other contributors included Stephanie Immelman; Lorraine Plakstis; Lynn Van Lenten; All About Florida Homes, Noreen Payne; BSA Construction; Casa Mannabliss; Caler, Donten, Levine, Cohen, Porter & Veil PA; Festival Management Group; Plastridge Insurance Agency; Susan S. Weinblatt, Evershore Financial Group; UBS Financial Services; and Young

Dentistry.

Christel Silver, owner of **Silver International Realty** in Delray Beach, was selected president of the International Real Estate Federation's Miami and Caribbean Council for 2021 and was voted in to represent all councils in the country at the federation's USA board of directors meeting.



Desjaddon



Adkins



Olbers



Murphy

Roger L. Desjaddon, co-founder and CEO of **Florida Peninsula Insurance Company**, plans to retire soon. In the first quarter of 2021, he is transitioning from his role as CEO but remaining as a consultant and member of the board of directors, as well as continuing to lead legislative affairs for the company.

Paul M. Adkins will assume the responsibilities of CEO.

Also, the company hired **Gard Olbers** as its chief risk officer. Olbers previously worked as senior managing director at Aon Reinsurance Solutions.

Cindy Murphy was promoted to vice president of finance and will join the company's executive management team. She previously served as the corporate controller.

The chamber's leads group, **Delray Business Partners**, chaired by **Jan Kinder**, has set a record for collaboration with one another.



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During 2020, the 31 members generated more than \$297,000 of gross sales by doing business with one another as well as by referring their colleagues in the group to other potential clients.

For information about the Greater Delray Beach Chamber of Commerce, contact Carolina Rush at 561-278-0424 or visit www.delraybeach.com.

For information on Delray Business Partners, visit <https://delraybusinesspartners.com>.

In January, **Margaret Moraskie** was appointed CEO of Delray Beach-based



Moraskie **Levenger**, which sells reading, writing and lighting materials. Previously, she was the company's chief marketing officer. Before joining Levenger, Moraskie was senior vice president of consumer analytics and intelligence for Chico's FAS. Moraskie is an active board member of the Women in Retail Leadership Circle. She has a bachelor's degree with honors in marketing from Boston College.

The **Delray Beach Downtown Development Authority** has welcomed new businesses to downtown as well as supported the relocation of others throughout the district during the past six months.

New stores include: Jean-Pierre Klifa, a clothing store at 401 E. Atlantic Ave.; Frankie Beans Coffee House at 190 SE Fifth Ave.; Amar Mediterranean Bistro at 522 E. Atlantic Ave.; Serenity & Tea by the Sea Café at 424 E. Atlantic Ave.; Prime IV Hydration & Wellness at 2 SE Sixth Ave.; Nine Line clothing store at 530 E. Atlantic Ave.; Jamie's Convenience Store at 1155 E. Atlantic Ave. #103; Deke's in Delray coffee house at 6 NE Fifth Ave.; Shoes N More at 417 E. Atlantic Ave.; Vicki Soble Couture & Bridal at 200 NE Second Ave. #102; Dereal Mystical clothing store at 200 NE Second Ave. #113; Caesar's Famous Ribs at 37 SW Fifth Ave.; Stark's Barber Co. at 317 NE Second Ave.; Smoke N Glass retail store at 1155 E. Atlantic Ave., and That Phone Fix Place at 84 SE Fourth Ave.

Relocated businesses include: Biba clothing at 404 E. Atlantic Ave.; Mare Blu Paris-Milan clothing store at 1130 E. Atlantic Ave.; Delray Camera Shop at 217 NE Fourth Ave.; Huber Health Mart at 321 E. Atlantic Ave.; Wings beachwear at 512/514/516 E. Atlantic Ave.; Mare Blu Swim at 1122 E. Atlantic Ave.; Aqua beachwear at 426 E. Atlantic Ave.; Casa L'acqua Italian restaurant at 9 SE Seventh Ave.; A Blast from the Past clothing store at 812 E. Atlantic Ave., and Lanzetta's Classic Barbershop at 900 E. Atlantic Ave.

Avalon, a restaurant at 110 E. Atlantic Ave., is scheduled to open by the end of February.



Lang Realty and Lang Management collected 7,413 pounds of food in December to benefit Move for Hunger, a charity that provided 6,177 meals to people during the holiday season.

'We are grateful for the support from all of our agents, support staff and clients who helped make our 22nd annual food drive our most successful yet,' said Scott Agran, president of Lang Realty. 'Unfortunately this year, given the impact of the pandemic, the need is greater than ever.'

ABOVE: (l-r) Lang Management's Maddy Feingold, Rhonda Kranick, Steven Plonka,

Shanika Houser and Cindy Saunders. **LEFT:** Lang Realty's Frank Tipton donated 200 cans of vegetables in support of the company's Move for Hunger drive. **Photos provided**

The **League of Women Voters of Palm Beach County** has partnered with **Solar United Neighbors** to launch the **Palm Beach County Solar Co-op**, which works to help county residents go solar. Other partners on the co-op include the cities of Boca Raton, Delray Beach and Boynton Beach, Climate Reality Project Boca Raton Chapter, Elders Climate Action, Sierra Club, Southeast Alliance for Clean Energy, and South Florida Regional Planning Council Clean Cities Coalition. The co-op is free to join and open to homeowners and business owners.

After a competitive bidding process, co-op members will select a single solar company to complete installations. Joining the co-op does not obligate

members to purchase solar. Instead, members will have the option to individually purchase panels and electric vehicle chargers based on the installer's group rate.

Solar United Neighbors will host several free information sessions to educate community members about solar energy and the co-op. If you are interested in attending, visit <https://coops.solarunitedneighbors.org/coops/palm-beach-county-solar-co-op/>.

Virtual information meetings are planned for 6 p.m. March 16 and April 7.



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



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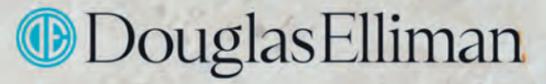
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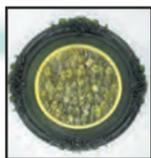


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Around Town

February 2021

The Coastal  Star

Inside



Dining
Ambassador Grill reopens in Palm Beach. Page AT6



Secret Garden
Couple's love for roses leads to new business. Page AT17



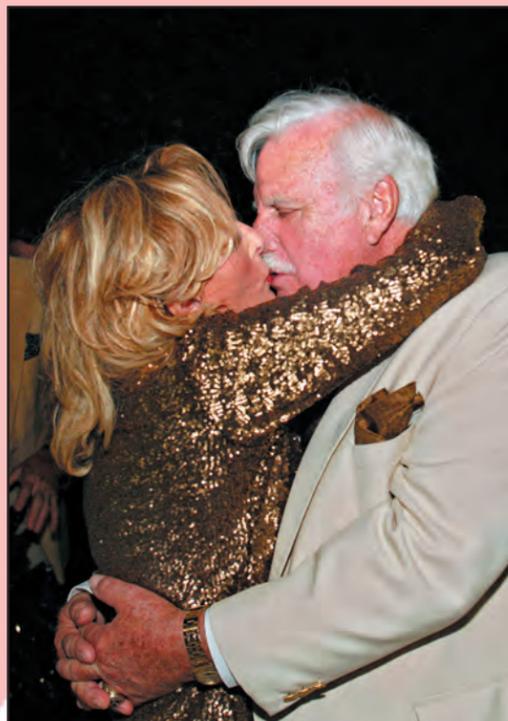
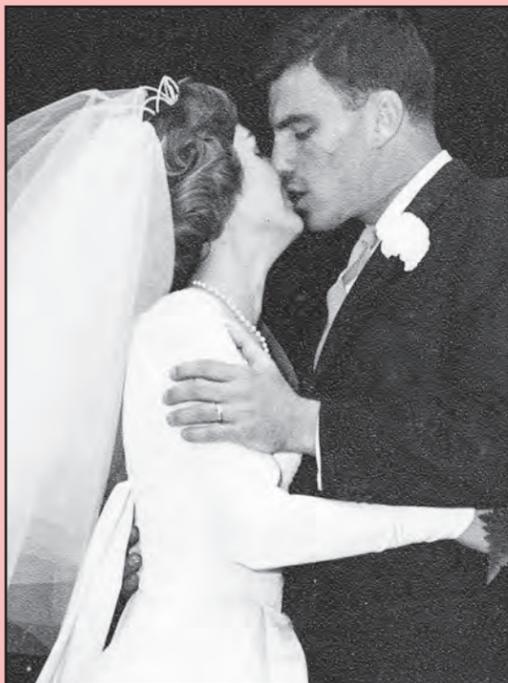
On the Water
Team lays new artificial reef off Delray Beach. Page AT22



House of the Month
An oceanfront rebuild in Ocean Ridge. Page AT31

*My dearest Beverlee
I missed the last 10, 950 days...
I grow to love you more...
Love from you...*

*The dearest friend one could ever
have is her husband*



Love & Football

Coach Schnellenberger's wife shares stories, letters that show the couple's enduring affection

By Brian Biggane

He played end on one Canadian Football League team; she was a majorette in the band of another. Their chance meeting in August 1958 led to a marriage that is still going strong more than 61 years later.

"It's a love story — we have a beautiful love story," said Beverlee Schnellenberger, sitting in her east Boynton Beach home as she reflected on her life with Howard, the most iconic football coach in South Florida other than the late Don Shula.

"I'm so happy I asked him to marry me."

Every marriage has its highs and lows. For the Schnellenbergers, the highs include Howard's three national championships as an assistant at Alabama, the "perfect season" as offensive coordinator with the Miami Dolphins in 1972, and his national title as head coach at the University of Miami in 1983.

The most difficult times have

come more recently. Howard, 86, hit his head in a fall last July and suffered a subdural hematoma. After two surgeries, he is living in a Boca Raton rehab center, where he is working to regain his cognitive abilities.

Howard, who first came to Boca Raton to start the Florida Atlantic University football program more than 20 years ago, expressed his feelings about Beverlee when he dedicated his 2014 autobiography, *Passing the Torch*, to her:

"Beverlee has been mother and father, counselor, accountant, banker, mechanic, cook and housekeeper, and she has done it all in a loving way that allowed me to be free to do my thing in football without feeling bad about spending time on the job."

Longtime friend and FAU supporter Dick Schmidt said the pair's enduring love is something to behold.

"I've seen a couple that is as

See LOVE on page AT4

TOP: Beverlee and Howard Schnellenberger married in 1959. She proposed to him, and at first he said no. BOTTOM: The couple in 2014. Photos provided

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Philanthropy Notes

Students get backpacks, supplies via Delray Housing Authority

An annual initiative called Book Bag Bash recently took place to benefit children from low- and moderate-income families living within the Delray Beach Housing Authority's jurisdiction.

The initiative, in partnership with GoSection8.com President Richard Cupelli, provided more than 600 backpacks filled with school supplies, hand sanitizer, face masks and snacks to local students.

"By providing our children brand new backpacks filled with grade-appropriate school supplies, we can ensure that our children will have some sense of normalcy during this pandemic," said Shirley Erazo, president and CEO of the authority.

"Whether in person or virtually, they will have the supplies needed to start the new school year on the same level as their peers and excited



Shirley Erazo, president/CEO of the housing authority, and Rose Clay, housing specialist, show donated backpacks with GoSection8.com representatives (l-r in back) Elizabeth Wrenn, Jennifer McMahon and Michael Lazdowsky. Photo provided

to learn."

For more information, call 561-272-6766 or visit www.dbha.org.

Quantum gives \$2.7 million to provide food, health care

Hit with an especially large demand because of COVID-19, an organization whose mission is to fund initiatives that improve the health of Palm Beach County residents approved 17 grants totaling \$2.7 million.

Quantum Foundation's board of trustees OK'd the allocations, which include \$1.25 million to Feeding South Florida.

"This grant means everything to our organization," said Paco Vélez, president and CEO of Feeding South Florida. "It is critical to have such an investment from an organization like Quantum Foundation. Both of our missions align as we look to break the cycle of hunger and poverty, and the first step is providing access to the programs that we can provide thanks to this grant."

The pandemic has been catastrophic for families, Vélez said, noting that since March 2020, his organization has doubled its output of food — to 120 million pounds compared with 62 million pounds — in one year.

"A little boy came through our drive-thru distribution recently and asked if we knew of any jobs for his family so they will not turn off the lights," Vélez said. "The coronavirus pandemic has highlighted the need for better long-term solutions for families."

Other grants include \$300,000 to Genesis Community Health, \$250,000 to the Community Health Center of West Palm Beach and \$200,000 to CROS Ministries.

"Your zip code is more of a marker to health than your genetic code," foundation President Eric Kelly said. "Health equity is our way forward, and these vulnerable communities need their basic needs met now more than ever."

For more information, call 561-832-7497 or visit www.quantumfnd.org.

Adopt-A-Family earns award, \$200,000 grant
Bank of America has

named a local nonprofit as a 2020 Neighborhood Builders recipient for its work in preventing homelessness.

Adopt-A-Family of the Palm Beaches — one of two charities selected in Palm Beach County among 142 across the country — also was awarded a \$200,000 grant and one year of leadership training.

"It is a tremendous honor for Adopt-A-Family to be recognized as a 2020 Bank of America Neighborhood Builders awardee," CEO Matthew Constantine said. "This award will allow us to continue our efforts in providing one of the most fundamental and basic needs — stable housing."

Added Fabiola Brumley, Bank of America's Palm Beach County market president, "Nonprofits are the backbone of our community, and now more than ever they need our support to ensure that those they serve have the tools and resources to meet their evolving needs."

For more information, call 561-253-1361 or visit www.adoptfamilypbc.org.

Malvern Foundation awards grants to local nonprofits

The charitable arm of Malvern Bank has awarded 16 grants, totaling \$100,000, to charitable groups in its local markets. Among the recipients are two Palm Beach County-based organizations: Quantum House and Vita Nova.

"These organizations provide vital services each year to hundreds of people in Palm Beach County," said Anthony Weagley, president of Malvern Federal Charitable Foundation. "Our grants are intended to assist these organizations in fulfilling their missions of helping our neighbors."

For information about Quantum House, call 561-494-0515 or visit <https://quantumhouse.org>. For information about Vita Nova, call 561-689-0035 or visit www.vitanovainc.org.

Trio appointed to board of Mounts' Friends group

William Bittner, Mary-Therese Delate and Karen Marcus have joined the Friends of Mounts Botanical Garden as board members supporting Palm Beach County's oldest and largest public garden.

Paton White, incoming president of the Friends, announced the new positions, noting that Bittner is an insurance broker, Delate is a 30-plus-year Gold Coast resident, and Marcus is a former county commissioner.

"All three of these extraordinary, talented, insightful community-service professionals will be invaluable assets for Mounts Botanical Garden as we continue to grow and attract new visitors," White said.

For more information, call 561-233-1757 or visit www.mounts.org.

mounts.org.

Three named to board governing Spady Museum

Kim Ardila-Morgan, Elizabeth Burrows and Christopher Redding have joined the board of Expanding and Preserving Our Cultural Heritage, which governs operations at the Spady Cultural Heritage Museum.

Ardila-Morgan is a retired director of the Center for Applied Ethics at Palm Beach State College. Burrows has spent most of her career working in Delray Beach's public and nonprofit sectors. Redding owns and operates a small business called Let's Talk Innovation, which offers resources and funding to small businesses.

"Each of our new members brings a wealth of experience from different sectors to our board," President Bill Whigham said. "We have a cross-section of skill sets from education, government, nonprofit and small business represented by Kim, Elizabeth and Christopher, which I believe will benefit museum operations in meaningful ways."

For more information, call 561-279-8883 or visit www.spadymuseum.com.

Lighthouse for the Blind announces fresh start

The nonprofit that has served blind and visually impaired people in South Florida since 1946 is separating from Gulfstream Goodwill Industries and transitioning to a new location.

Plans include moving to offices adjacent to the JFK Medical Center North Campus in West Palm Beach.

"We are appreciative of the support and guidance GGI provided over the years, However, it's time that the organization does as we encourage each of our clients to do, and that's to develop our capabilities to the fullest and return to being a fully independent organization once again," said Donté Mickens, board chairman of Lighthouse for the Blind of the Palm Beaches.

Mary Allen, longtime director of vision services, will remain at the helm of the organization as interim executive director.

Meantime, it is unveiling a fresh corporate logo and tagline focused on its 75th anniversary. The marquee event of the celebration is the Eye Ball on April 15.

"These changes are an exciting new chapter in our 75-year legacy," Mickens said. "These changes, however, will not deter from our mission, as Lighthouse will always remain focused on providing essential services for those with visual impairments."

For more information, call 561-586-5600 or visit www.lhpb.org.



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Department of Immunology and Microbiology

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Assistant Professor,
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Pay it Forward

Wayside House Spring Boutique to offer virtual market this year

COVID-19 has affected nearly every aspect of business, personal and social life in South County and beyond, including the cherished charitable community.

Of the nonprofits whose work enhances and improves the lives of people in need, Wayside House in Delray Beach is among the oldest and best. The 46-year-old women's addiction-treatment center has 23 residential beds and aids about 300 clients each year; others receive help through intensive outpatient systems and, because of the pandemic, telehealth medicine.

"With people not being able to connect and not being able to have the facilities they've had in the past, opioids, alcohol — it's all really escalated," said Martha Grimm, co-chairwoman of the organization's Spring Boutique, an annual affair that will take place online Feb. 16 through 18. "I think more than ever programs like this are needed."

This year marks the first in the Spring Boutique's history that loyal followers will not be able to enjoy three days of in-person mixing and mingling while browsing for that special something. Yet the new — and necessary — format has not ebbed the enthusiasm of the more than two dozen vendors from around the country who



Co-Chairwomen Martha Grimm and Lisa Jankowski

If You Go

What: Spring Boutique
Dates: Feb. 16, 17 and 18
Where: Links to merchants at www.waysidehouse.net
Information: 561-666-5919 or the website

via links to merchants' websites set up on the Wayside House homepage. Twenty percent of sales will go to the cause.

"The vendors have been just wonderful," said Marlene Passell, the center's marketing and communications director. "We're very optimistic and hope that the people who have been attending the event in the past will continue to support us online."

ordinarily would make the trek to Florida for the fundraiser.

"I think this year we're just happy to put something online," Co-Chairwoman Lisa Jankowski said. "We're just happy to have this opportunity to move our event forward. We don't want to be forgotten."

Everything from classy clothing to home décor to stunning jewelry will be offered



Send news and notes to Amy Woods at flamywoods@bellsouth.net.

Pay it Forward

FEBRUARY

Thursday - 2/11 - Ruth & Norman Rales Jewish Family Services' Reflections of Hope Virtual Event. Join in online to support the "Breaking the Stigma of Mental Illness" theme featuring seven-time Academy Award-nominated actress Glenn Close as keynote speaker. 11:30 am-1 pm. \$118. 852-5013 or ralesjfs.org.

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 cover; donations suggested. 7-8 pm. 684-1991 or alpertjfs.org.

Tuesday-Thursday - 2/16-2/18 - Wayside House's Spring Boutique, a virtual event. Shop online at the signature fundraising event that features more than two dozen vendors from throughout the country. 666-5919 or waysidehouse.net.

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.

Friday - 2/19 - Boys & Girls Clubs of Palm Beach County's Youth of the Year Dinner at Eau Palm Beach Resort & Spa, 100 S. Ocean Blvd., Manalapan. Hear the inspiring stories of local teens vying for the title — the highest honor a club member can receive. 6-9:30 pm. \$200. 683-3287 or bgcpbc.org.

Sunday - 2/28 - American Cancer Society's Raise a Glass To Kick Cancer's A** at The Addison, Two E. Camino Real, Boca Raton. Indulge in a special wine-pairing brunch to benefit the ResearchHERS initiative. 11 am-2 pm. \$95. 372-0568 or thepinkfightclub.com.

MARCH

Wednesday - 3/3 - Boys & Girls Club of Boca Raton's Securing Our Future: A Night in Monte Carlo at The Addison, Two E. Camino Real, Boca Raton. Be transported to a vintage night in the resort of Monaco with casino games, live entertainment, tasty bites and cocktails. 6-9 pm. \$250. 683-3287 or bgcpbc.org.



A PALM BEACH Love Story

Henry Flagler, one of modern Florida's founding fathers, married Mary Lily Kenan in 1901. As a wedding present, Henry built Whitehall for his wife, where they spent winters together with friends and family until his death in 1913 ...

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LOVE

Continued from page AT1

much in love as they were when they first met," Schmidt said. "They're just a terrific couple. And both very unique."

"I've never seen a couple more committed to each other," said Don Bailey, who was Howard's first Dade County recruit to UM in 1979 and has been the analyst on Hurricanes radio broadcasts for 19 years. "Both of them always set the example of how you're supposed to be."

Love at first sight

A star end in high school in Louisville who played for the incomparable Paul "Bear" Bryant at Kentucky, Howard was in his second year with the BC Lions when a teammate, Joe Poirier, arranged for some players to meet a few young ladies at the Berkeley Hotel after a preseason game in Montreal in 1958. Poirier and Beverlee both grew up in the area.

The meeting was brief, but Beverlee, now 83, was impressed.

A month later she and two friends drove cross-country to Vancouver, where she had been asked to be a caretaker to a friend of her parents. Beverlee and Howard met again and something clicked.

"I fell in love with him immediately," she said. "I knew he was the one. I was 21, and from the boys I'd dated I knew he was the one."

They started dating, and before long it was time to pop the question. So she did.

"I fell in love with him so much that I said, 'Will you marry me?' And he said no. But he said I could go visit him in Kentucky for Christmas."

When Beverlee arrived in Louisville she anticipated a return proposal, but when Christmas came he presented her with a box holding two cashmere sweaters.

"I was so disappointed and so ungrateful I went to his sister's room, where I was staying, and cried. I said, 'Your brother doesn't love me like I love him.'"

A week later they went out for pizza and when he went to pay, he asked for her help finding the right change.

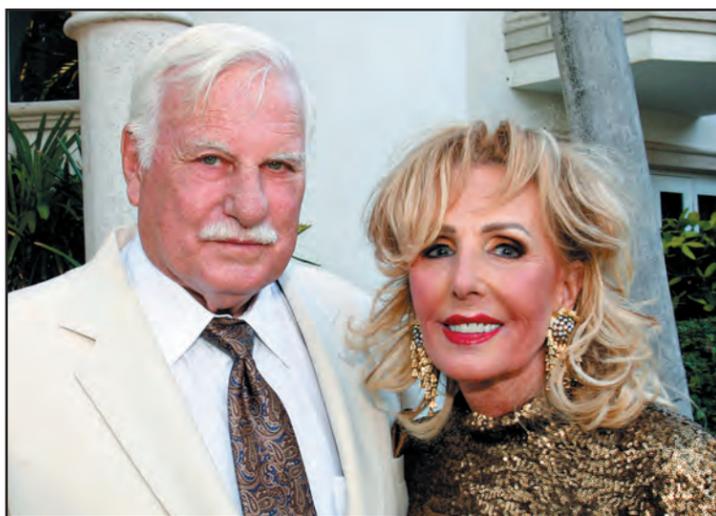
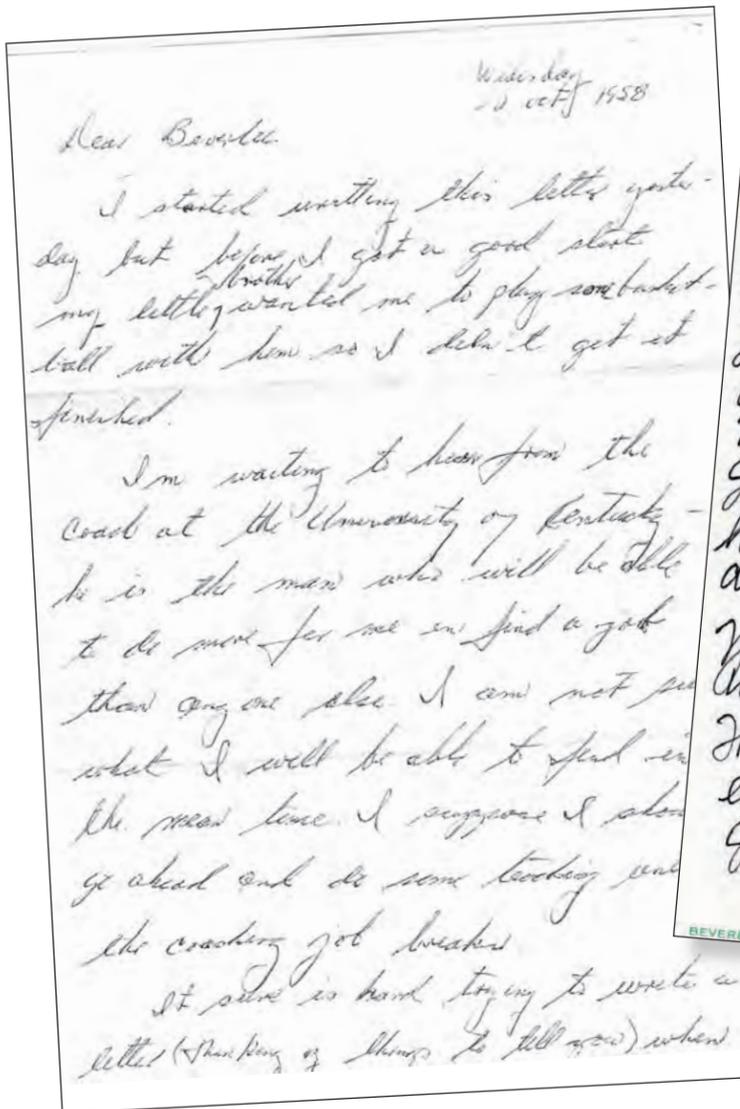
"So I looked in his hand and there was a diamond ring. I was so excited I started to cry."

Soon they set off for Montreal to ask her father's permission. He gave it and they began planning the wedding, but a few days later, Howard got an offer from Blanton Collier to become an assistant coach at Kentucky. He left immediately, meaning in the 10 months between their meeting and the wedding they were together only a handful of days.

Love letters

They filled those days apart with some phone calls but mostly letters — dozens and dozens of letters.

"I would write a letter and he would respond," Beverlee



TOP: A letter from Howard Schnellenberger to Beverlee Donnelly in 1958, before they married. ABOVE: Howard and Beverlee in 2014. Tim Stepien/The Coastal Star

said. "I've kept the ones he sent to me, but most of the ones I wrote he threw away. I kept those I had all these years."

Some are informative, some more romantic; they fill a thick red scrapbook Beverlee keeps close and, especially now, leafs through on occasion as a way of remembering that special time in her life.

When time came to set a wedding date, they chose the first Saturday in May, when Montreal is finally getting around to spring. That also happens to be the biggest day of the year in Howard's native Louisville.

"Being a Canadian girl I had no idea the Kentucky Derby was a big deal, and he didn't say anything," Beverlee remembered. "So it was sad that none of his friends came to Montreal."

Poirier, by then Howard's former teammate, was persuaded to be best man. "To this day we say we had to rent a best man," she said.

Family ups and downs

Soon Beverlee was settling into the role of football wife, one she would play for most of the next 50-plus years.

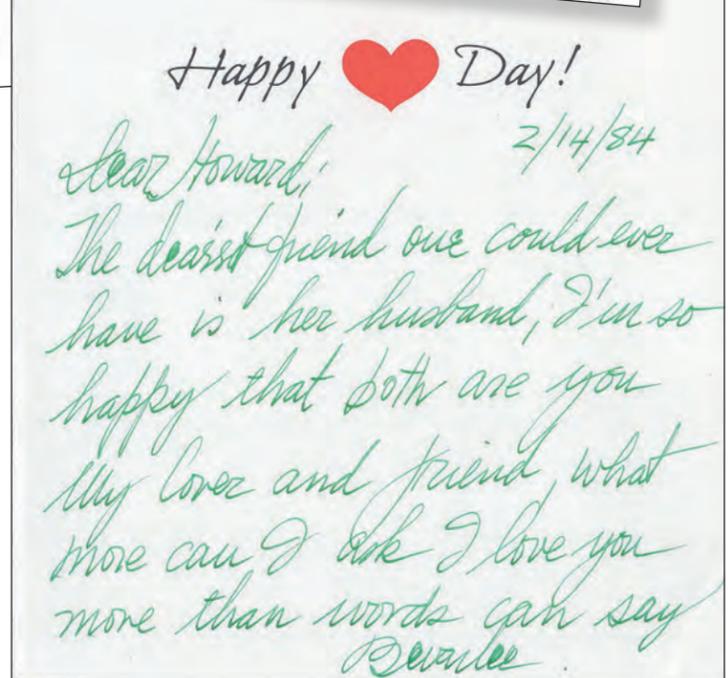
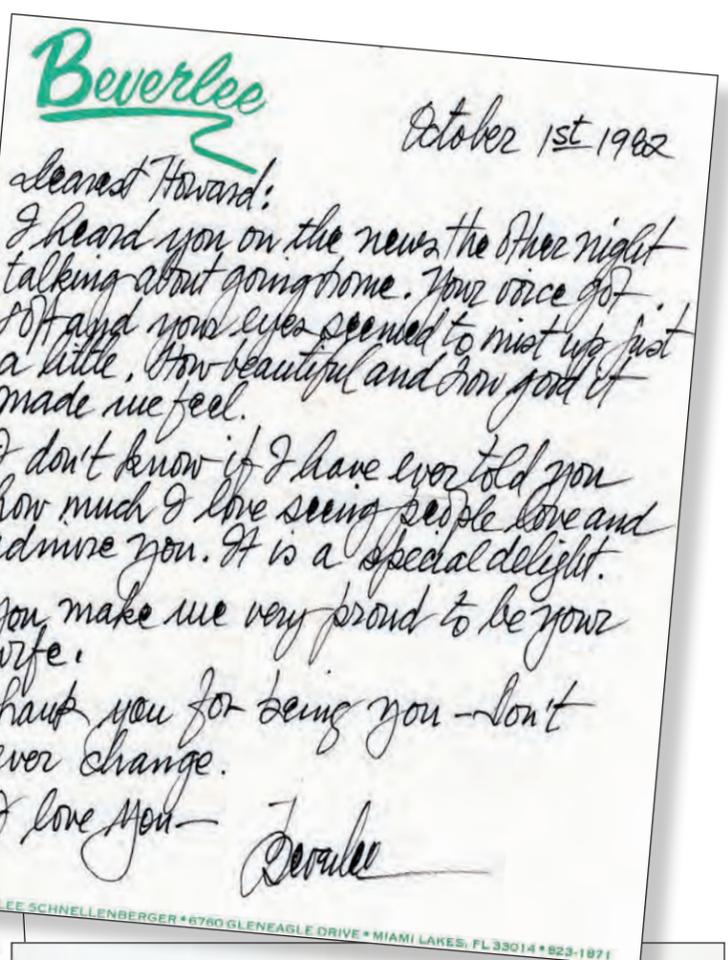
"Our family life and our love life was one great big football season," she said. "It was all football. Thank goodness I had three sons. It was a love affair with football, and your husband, and the family, and it was a beautiful experience."

That family grew when Beverlee gave birth to their first son, Stephen, in 1960 while Howard was at Kentucky. Stuart came a year later and Tim in 1967.

The family has also had its ups and downs. Tim became a successful international model, becoming the spokesman and lead model for the Calvin Klein Obsession fragrance. But he and Stephen also battled drug abuse as teenagers, prompting intervention from their parents in both cases.

Stuart, who is in the concrete business, graduated with a finance degree from Miami when his father was coaching there.

"But we always worked it out together," Beverlee said of the family problems. "We didn't fight about it. Got through it with counseling, meetings, understanding the disease, working as a family. Because it is a family disease; it's not just



ABOVE: Beverlee Schnellenberger frequently tucked notes into her husband's coat pocket — sometimes even a Valentine's card.

the person who has it."

Tim used his own experiences to start a rehab center, Healing Properties in Delray Beach, in 2002. "That's why Tim got so involved in rehab, because he's been there, done that and didn't want anyone to go through what he went through," Beverlee said.

Stephen was diagnosed with cancer in his mid-40s and died in 2008 at the age of 48.

"When our son died, when he was real sick, that's what brings a family close, and that's what brings a husband and wife close," Beverlee said. "Because they work it out."

Magical years

After two years at Kentucky, Howard got an offer to reunite with Bear Bryant at Alabama. He wasn't there long when Bryant needed someone to travel to Beaver Falls, Pennsylvania, to recruit a hotshot quarterback named Joe Namath. Because Howard had played at Kentucky with Namath's brother Frank, Bryant picked Howard to go.

"Coach Bryant said don't come back until you have him," Beverlee said. "He was supposed to be there for

one day but stayed three or four, ran out of money, out of clothes, he was writing bad checks ... but he got him."

Howard held a special place for Bryant throughout his life, and in January he was presented with the Paul "Bear" Bryant Lifetime Achievement Award by the American Heart Association.

After Schnellenberger spent five seasons and won three national championships at Alabama, George Allen offered him a coaching position with the NFL's Los Angeles Rams. Beverlee said the next four years were a magical time.

"We loved it," she said. "We were invited to all the parties, and at the games I'm sitting next to Yvonne De Carlo with Bob Hope right in front of me."

"We lived a couple miles from the training camp so Howard would ride his bicycle, and on his way home there's flowers everywhere. So he would pick flowers from the yards, one from here, one there, then come home every night with a bouquet for me."

Howard had planned to stick with Allen, but that changed after four seasons when, at 4 o'clock one morning, the

phone rang. On the other end was Shula, who had worked alongside Howard at Kentucky and had just been hired to coach the Dolphins. Shula wanted Howard as his offensive coordinator.

The perfect season

Two years later came the perfect season, as the Dolphins became the only team in NFL history to finish undefeated. As for pressure, Beverlee said they never felt any.

"We all lived pretty much on the same street in Miami Lakes and we all got along so well, it felt like family," she said. "It was business. It was always, 'We're going to play a game now.' It was never, 'We're going to win or else.'"

Dick Anderson, a safety on that team, built a close relationship with Howard.

"It was Howard, and it was Howard and Beverlee," Anderson said. "To this day it seems the same way."

After the '72 season another opportunity arose. The Dolphins' director of player personnel, Joe Thomas, moved to the Baltimore Colts as general manager. He hired Howard in 1973 as head coach only to see owner Robert Irsay fire Schnellenberger early in the 1974 season because he wouldn't play the quarterback Irsay wanted.

The coach wasn't unemployed for long. Shula created an opening on his Dolphins staff and invited Howard to return, which he did until 1979. Then Beverlee described an opportunity that would change the Schnellenbergers' lives forever.

"He called me and said, 'I just got a call from somebody with the Miami Hurricanes and they want me to coach. And I told them no,'" she recalled. "Seven coaches had turned down the job, it was so bad.

"So I said, 'We should go; it would be fun.' I said, 'Call them back, call them back.' So he called them back and that was it."

Short of money to recruit, Howard drew an imaginary line across the state at Orlando and called the territory south of it the State of Miami, then targeted the kind of talent that had always left to play at places like Michigan, Notre Dame and Penn State.

"He'd go to Overtown, Liberty City, smoking his pipe, and it got to where the kids were waiting for him," Beverlee said. "They'd say, 'Let the scholarship man in.' So he'd 'accidentally' leave his pipe there. So, he would have to go back and get the pipe, and get another visit. That's how it started. Kids from that time came to him."

He promised to take Miami, which had posted only two winning seasons in the previous decade, to a national championship in five years, then met his goal.

"Everybody laughed when he kept saying that," Beverlee said. "It would be, 'We're on



ABOVE: University of Miami players carried coach Howard Schnellenberger off the field after a 1981 victory over Notre Dame gave them a 9-2 finish with a six-game winning streak. Two years later Miami won the national championship. **Photo provided by Robert Mayer**
BELOW: A bust in the Schnellenberger home holds many of the former coach's championship medals. **Coastal Star file photo**



a collision course with the national championship,' or 'The only variable is time.' He would post these slogans around the locker room. And the players believed."

Ill-fated choice

Schnellenberger's players carried him off the field after UM's 31-30 win over No. 1 Nebraska on Jan. 2, 1984, in the Orange Bowl, and his future never looked brighter. But he made an ill-fated decision to leave the Hurricanes to coach a new Florida franchise in the upstart United States Football League. When the job fell through, Schnellenberger was idle until 1985, when he was lured to the University of Louisville, another program

that needed a jump-start.

"He knew everybody in Louisville," Beverlee said. "We said we weren't interested, but they kept calling. The governor, John Y. Brown, got involved, and they put together a group that would subsidize him."

Howard once again resuscitated a moribund program. A 10-1-1 finish in 1990 capped by a 34-7 win over Alabama in the Fiesta Bowl was the high point of his 1985-94 tenure, and in 1995 Oklahoma came calling.

Intrigued by a chance at taking over a big-time program as opposed to resuscitating one, Schnellenberger arrived and promised a fast return to success.

It didn't happen and things

got ugly quickly, particularly toward the end of the season when the Sooners lost four of their last five games to finish a disappointing 5-5-1. Recognizing the animus on both sides, Howard resigned, leaving millions on the table.

"They didn't like us and we didn't like them," Beverlee said. "So we left."

Launching FAU program

The Schnellenbergers returned to Miami, where they had kept the house they bought when Howard first joined the Dolphins, and waited to see if an opportunity would materialize. A couple of years went by before he got a call from FAU President Anthony Catanese, saying the university had decided to start a football program and wanted him to be the point man.

"Howard said, 'Sure,' then told me FAU had called," Beverlee said. "And I said, 'Where is that? Never heard of it.'"

Schnellenberger struggled when he tried to find a coach, prompting Catanese to suggest he take the job. He agreed.

Starting in 2001, he would go 58-74 in 11 seasons before retiring from coaching in 2011. He finished 158-151-3 over his 27 years at the college level.

After living 25 years in Ocean Ridge, the couple moved to Boynton Beach in 2015 while Howard continued to serve as an FAU ambassador. Then came the evening of last July 16. Howard tripped on a carpet and fell headfirst into a metal statue of an eagle that Burt Reynolds had given the couple.

Beverlee said Howard underwent surgery to remove blood from the brain.

"Then he was in a rehab place, fell out of bed, and he had to go back to the hospital for more surgery," she said. He had four surgeries in all.

COVID-19 protocols

prevented Beverlee from visiting for four months. The Schnellenbergers had occasional FaceTime calls via nurses' cellphones until family was allowed access in late November. Now Beverlee and Tim visit a few times a week.

One of those visits offered a promising development.

"It's really helped him to see us," Beverlee said. "One Sunday Tim was there and they were watching a Dolphins game when Howard turned to Tim and said, 'They need offense.' He's aware of everything; he knows what's going on. It's just going to take time to get it working again."

Former Buffalo Bills star Jim Kelly, who was Howard's first quarterback at UM in 1979, has remained close to the pair. He said Beverlee "has always been there from start to finish" with Howard.

"Especially now, when Coach is not doing very well," said Kelly, who has endured multiple bouts with cancer. "She's almost been like a mother to me. She's always looking out for everybody. It's always awesome to see."

More love letters

During the UM days, Beverlee would take time the Thursday of every game week to write a letter to Howard.

"I would think about it all week, write it, and on Friday I would pick out his clothes for the game and stick it on the inside pocket of his coat.

"How much we loved each other, something motivational, and each week was different.

"With Valentine's Day coming, I'd like to say to the ladies: Be kind, understanding, and grateful you have each other. When times are tough, get tougher, work it out, it's worth it. Being sweet to your husband takes less energy and stress. It's no fun not having them around." ★



The beer-braised pork shank is a chef's specialty at the recently reopened Ambassador Grill in The Ambassador hotel in Palm Beach. Photo provided

Dining

Reopened Ambassador makes good use of outdoor patio

Welcome news for fans of The Ambassador in Palm Beach's south end: The hotel reopened with a signature restaurant, the Ambassador Grill, featuring a large outdoor seating area to accommodate the protocols



Pareja

for COVID-19.

It's billed as a "neighborhood" eatery with all-American fare. The team behind the 1947 hotel's redo is the same one that brought the Brazilian Court around decades ago.

The executive chef, Juan Xavier Pareja, has a pedigree with noted restaurateurs Alain Ducasse at Benoit, and Andrew Carmellini at A Voce, which earned a Michelin star.

Both restaurants are in New York.

Pareja has designed a menu around regional U.S. favorites, such as cornbread-crusted oysters with a creamy remoulade from New Orleans, and hot, buttered Maine lobster on a brioche roll reminiscent of New England.

A California red oak

grilled salmon with caper brown butter is from the wine country.

Salads and starters include a watermelon gazpacho with fried peanuts, and a barbecue mushroom flatbread.

A few casual items are on the list, including citrus-mojito chicken wings, and the "AAA Burger," a double smash 6-ounce patty with cheese that aims to compete with other famous burgers made on the island.

Another of the chef's specialties is the beer-braised pork shank, slow cooked, served with a polenta and bacon gremolata.

Chicken under a brick with a twice-cooked potato, and eggplant parmigiana with smoked mozzarella are among other choices on the dinner-only menu.

Bobby Schlesinger, CEO of the Ambassador group, said the group wanted to capitalize on the existing restaurant facilities, and make good use of the outdoor patio seating that will accommodate diners in the age of COVID-19.

Thus, the seating is socially distanced and safe, he said. Diners sit around an

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8,000-square-foot covered pool deck that overlooks the Intracoastal Waterway.

Sunset is prime time, as the restaurant is open only for dinner, 5-10 p.m., Wednesday through Sunday.

The hotel is open to non-guests.

The Ambassador Grill at The Ambassador is at 2730 S. Ocean Blvd., Palm Beach. Reservations are suggested; takeout orders are welcome.

Phone 561-473-9799 or visit www.ambassadorpb.com.

Back in the saddle

Welcome back to chef Bruce Feingold, formerly the longtime chef-daddy of Delray's Dada. He's now in charge of the stoves as executive chef at Farmer's Table in Boca Raton after months of hiatus.

The restaurant in the Wyndham hotel co-owned by Joe Giannuzzi has the tagline: Feel Good Food.

"It was a perfect opportunity for me," Feingold said. "I've known Joey for ages. We've both been around. Farmer's Table is known for the quality of food, creativity and its healthy lifestyle. It's just perfect for me."

He said he'll have things to learn, as well as things to add to an already healthy menu. The support he says he's received will help him acclimate to the new environment and methods.

"The mantra here is 'fresh, healthy, delicious,'" Feingold said. "It's a vegan-style menu — no dairy, gluten-free, everything from scratch. It's a good thing to learn for our own personal health. We evolve."

Diners have returned to restaurants that have outdoor dining, and Farmer's Table has a large courtyard that provides social distancing.

"People are getting out again," Feingold said. "You can see them smiling — or at least their eyes glistening over their masks. They're happy to be out."

The restaurant does a good takeout business, and it has the adjoining Farmer's Table Express, where customers can come in to the small market and pick up prepared foods or ingredients and whole meals that have cooking instructions on them. They're popular, Feingold said, and provide a safe outlet for restaurant food in the coronavirus era.

He's happy to be back behind a stove. "I'm excited. A new adventure for me, so it's exciting. I got to be honest with you: There's a phenomenal atmosphere here, and the food is great. I'm very happy."

M.E.A.T. moves

George Patti is as busy as ever, with the big move of his M.E.A.T. Eatery a few streets south in Boca Raton, and his venture into the meal delivery service.

M.E.A.T. moved out of the office building at Yamato Road on Federal Highway into the strip mall at 2831 N.

Federal. It has the same menu as before with award-winning burgers the star, but pulled pork from the smoker and other sandwiches and craft brews are available as well. All condiments and sides are made in-house here.

Patti is also involved in Mealtago, a chef-driven venture that features several days of meals delivered to homes Sunday night for the following week. The partners currently deliver to Delray Beach, Boca Raton, Deerfield Beach and Parkland.

"We saw a need, and decided to offer quality meals since there are people who are still not comfortable eating out. It's grown from six to 20 households per week," Patti said.

The meals cover diet plans such as keto, gluten-free, vegetarian and vegan, as well as traditional dinners.

Each box is enough for two meals, or one with leftovers; most orders are for five meals

per week per person, he said.

The price varies, depending on the foods chosen, and the menus change weekly. They are listed at mealtago.com on Mondays, and orders are taken until 2 p.m. Friday.

Catering (delivery only at this point) is also offered, as well as bulk food items.

More information about Mealtago is available on the website.

In brief

Newcomer to the Avenue in Delray is **Avalon Delray**, a New York transplant. Slated to open on the corner of Northeast First Street and Atlantic Avenue by the end of February, the restaurant will feature a menu with a coastal spin on the modern steak and seafood house. It's part of the Host Restaurants group. ... The popular **Elisabetta's** in Delray now has a sister restaurant open in downtown West Palm Beach on Flagler Drive at Banyan Boulevard.

They share the same menu.

... A new chef has taken the stoves at **Cafe Boulud** in Palm Beach. Chef **Dieter Samijn**, former chef at Bar Boulud in New York City, is originally from Belgium, and he's noted for his flair for charcuterie. His first menu is expected at Cafe Boulud in mid-February. Former chef **Rick Mace** moved over

the bridge to open **Tropical Smokehouse** in West Palm Beach with another Boulud alum, **Jason Lakow**.



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

The Coastal Star

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<p>Advertising Manager Chris Bellard sales@thecoastalstar.com</p>	<p>Managing Editors Steve Plunkett steve@thecoastalstar.com Mary Thurwachter maryt@thecoastalstar.com</p>	<p>Send letters, opinions and news tips to news@thecoastalstar.com</p>
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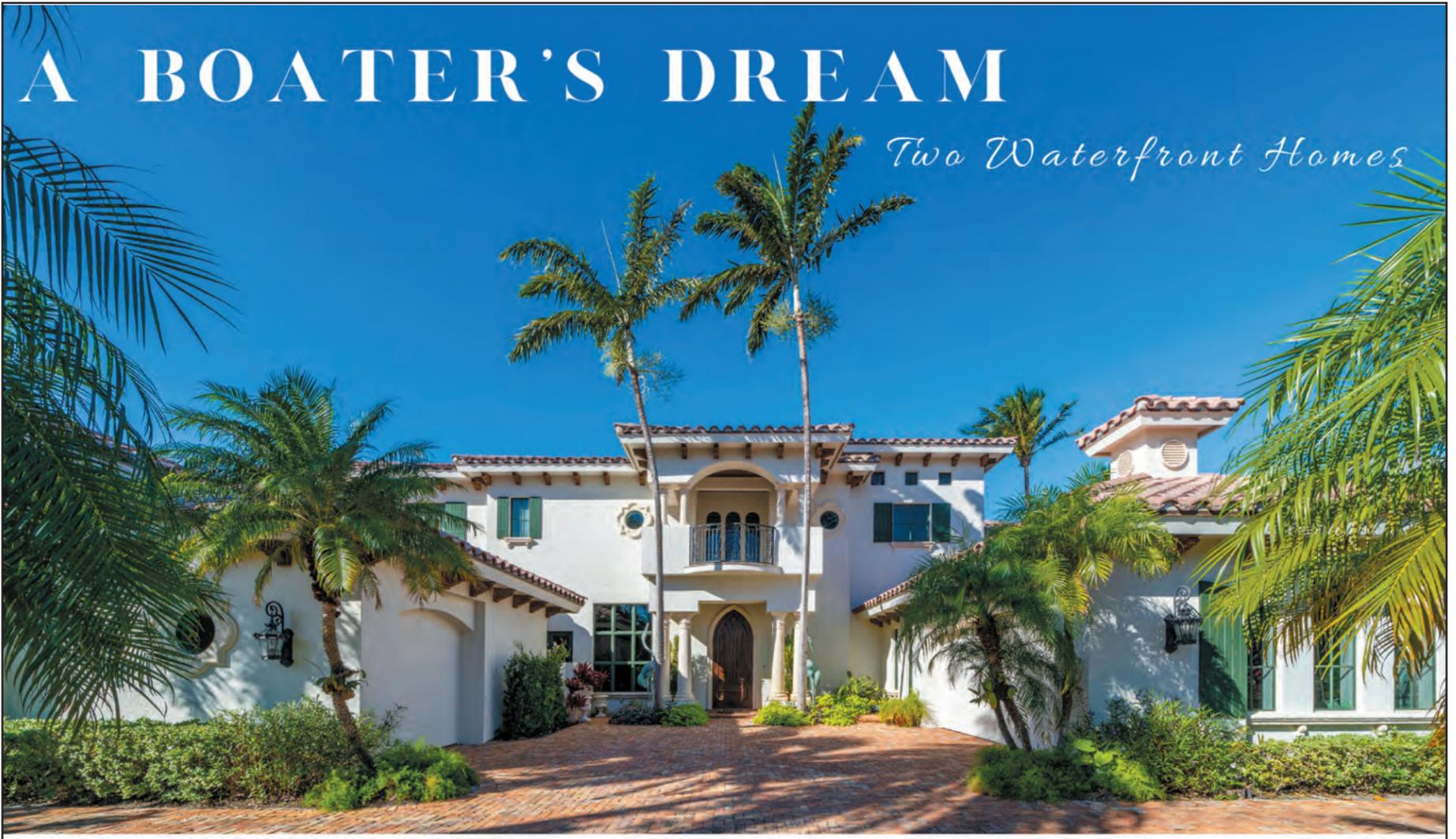
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Blossom Chandelier (2017), by the Chinese artist Ai Weiwei, is part of the 2021 *Glasstress* exhibit at the Boca Museum. **Photos by Francesco Allegretto**

Art

Shattered expectations

'Glasstress' at the Boca Raton Museum of Art explores a fragile medium in a fragile time

By Jan Engoren
ArtsPaper Contributing Writer

In a major coup for the Boca Raton Museum of Art, *Glasstress Boca Raton 2021*, an exhibit of 30 international artists who have created new works in glass at the Berengo Studio in Murano, Italy, has returned to the museum and will run through Sept. 5.

The exhibit, which opened Jan. 27, is a sequel to the museum's 2016 *Glasstress* exhibition featuring new artists and new works. Boca Raton is one of only two U.S. cities, along with New York, to have ever presented one of these *Glasstress* exhibitions.

Renowned artists, including Chinese dissident artist Ai Weiwei, Indian artist Sudarshan Shetty, and American artists Fred Wilson, Tim Tate and Joyce J. Scott (among others), worked in collaboration with Adriano Berengo and Berengo Studio, and other master glass artisans in Murano.

Originally scheduled to arrive by boat, the sculptures, disassembled piece by piece to be reassembled in Boca Raton

by two accompanying Italian master craftsmen, arrived by air, says Irvin Lippman, the Boca Raton museum's executive director.

"These artists have taken an old cherished medium of working in decorative glass and elevated it to a fine

art form — something unique, different and more exciting," Lippman said.

"Thanks to Adriano Berengo and Berengo Studio, we've begun to see a more creative use of glass," he says. "There's a juxtaposition between glass's inherent fragility and the drama of the finished pieces."

Kathleen Goncharov, senior curator at the Boca Raton Museum of Art, has worked with the Venice Biennale and went to Venice last year to hand-pick most of the artworks

in this new show.

"The mission of *Glasstress* is to restore the visibility and reputation of Murano glass," she writes in the introduction to the exhibition catalog. "Instead of the luxurious and functional objects for which the island has been known, artists invited to the Berengo



A detail of Yin Xiuzhen's *The Container of Thinking*.

See **GLASSTRESS** on page AT11

Music

Live music a main ingredient at Lake Worth Beach brewery

By Bill Meredith
ArtsPaper Music Writer

A surprising thing happened as the COVID-19 crisis ran roughshod over the local live music industry throughout 2020. You know, the year in which many performance venues — especially indoor-only ones — closed down temporarily or permanently.

The year in which venues able to stay open downsized their calendars from full bands to solo artists, ranging from DJs to omnipresent white male singers with acoustic guitars. And the year in which some that incurred lost revenue took license to realize a long-held goal of not having to pay performers, causing musicians to be compensated only through tip jars ranging from actual to virtual.

But while other area venues sought such ways to save money during the forgettable past year, owner David Mathews of the Lake Worth Beach-based Mathews Brewing Company (mathewsbrewingcompany.com) decided to roll the dice and splurge in a big way on his large, fenced-in outdoor patio adjacent to the smaller indoor brewery (the former site of newspaper the *Lake Worth Herald*).

Mathews upgraded with a large, SunFest-worthy stage, complete with house PA and lighting systems; a massive chickee hut roof and large umbrellas to protect from weather; and artisan concrete tables and seats that are anchored to the patio.

"The hut was installed in November of 2020 and the stage in December of 2020," Mathews says. "I'd rented the stage

previously for bigger shows, but was able to buy it when the company got put out of business due to COVID-19. The concrete seating goes back to 2018. An artist I know is a stone collector. The combined cost was close to \$70,000."

Previous to the new stage, which faces west from the extreme eastern section of the patio, bands set up on the raised concrete slab near its western edge. In case of rain, performers once had to move under the small covered area that joins the patio to the brewery. And the seating then involved mostly long wooden picnic tables, a half-dozen of which remain, now joined by their more stylish and distanced counterparts on the outskirts.

For Lake Worth Beach-based vocalist/guitarist Mike Hill of the West Palm Beach rock



Customers enjoy some craft beers and live tunes at tables outside Mathews Brewing Company in Lake Worth Beach. **Photo by Regina Campbell**

covers act the Rosario Craig Band, the new setup came as a most pleasant surprise when the group played at the brewery on New Year's Eve.

"I was shocked, because no one had even told me about all

that," Hill says. "We'd played at Mathews before on the concrete stage, so that's where I went and set my stuff when I arrived that night. Then I turned and saw the

See **BREWERY** on page AT10

News Briefs

ArtsPaper staff reports

SunFest cancels festival for 2021, reschedules for 2022

WEST PALM BEACH — Just like in 2020, SunFest 2021's unofficial theme song will be "The Sound of Silence."

Following a near-40-year uninterrupted run by the nonprofit waterfront festival, 2020 was canceled because it would've occurred just as the COVID-19 pandemic was peaking and becoming a major health threat. This year's event, scheduled for April 30-May 2, was canceled on Jan. 27.

"While we knew that hosting a traditional SunFest would be challenging, we believed that the possible reward for our fans was worth the attempt," said SunFest executive director Paul Jamieson. "We were driven by the idea that our fans needed something to look forward to."

They can now look forward to April 28-May 1 of 2022,



Cake plays SunFest in 2018. Organizers have canceled the 2021 festival due to the pandemic. Photo by Regina Campbell

with a bonus — anyone with a SunFest 2020 ticket will be allowed to bring someone else free of charge with that rollover ticket.

Jamieson says the main reason for the 2021 cancellation is more musical than medical.

"We have seen a growing uncertainty from artists about putting their fans into a large music festival setting," he said.

"Unfortunately, this is the current state of the touring industry. Given this feedback, we have determined that we

cannot go forward for 2021. SunFest without enough notable musical artists simply is not SunFest, and we believe we owe our fans more than that."

For more information about SunFest, or to inquire about ticket rollovers, visit SunFest.com or call 561-659-5980.

Ballet Palm Beach gets \$15K to create dances

PALM BEACH GARDENS — Ballet Palm Beach has received a \$15,000 grant from PNC Bank to launch Ballet

by the Book, a program that will create short dance works from children's literature and perform them in libraries, theaters and Title I schools.

Ballet by the Book's goal is to bring the arts to youths from underserved communities and promote literacy. The Palm Beach Gardens dance school plans to perform the ballets this fall.

"Having new ways to bring stories to life through short ballets at Palm Beach libraries and schools will allow children to learn about and enjoy cultural entertainment this year," said Cressman Bronson, South Florida regional president for PNC Bank.

During the programs, Ballet Palm Beach will also present a new ballet, *Peter Pan and Tinker Bell*.

The ballet is based on the children's novels by J.M. Barrie about a perpetually youthful boy, his fairy friend, and their adventures with a London family.

Symphonia conductor launches video series

BOCA RATON — Alastair Willis, conductor of The Symphonia, has started a weekly video series on the orchestra's Facebook page featuring music from his personal playlist.

The series, "Quarantune Tuesdays," features Willis telling a story and sharing a song from his playlist, which includes Cuban jazz and R&B along with classical selections.

"Social distancing can make us all feel disconnected, but it's important to do what we can to stay in touch with one another," Willis said. "This series is my way of sharing a few of my personal stories relating to some of my all-time favorite music, in hopes of connecting with our Symphonia patrons and fans."

The series debuted last month at facebook.com/symphoniaboca. Viewers are encouraged to share their stories about the music in the comments section.

GLASSTRESS

BOCA RATON 2021



BOCA RATON MUSEUM OF ART

In Mizner Park | 501 Plaza Real, Boca Raton
BOCAMUSEUM.ORG

Vik Muniz, *Quantum Leap*, 2017, Glass. Courtesy Berengo Studio
Photo: Francesco Allegretto

Glasstress Boca Raton 2021 presented by Fondazione Berengo, Venice, Italy with additional support provided by the Museum's Leadership Donors.



BREWERY

Continued from page 9

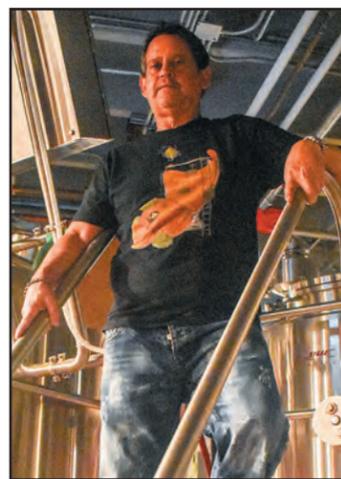
new stage and thought, 'Well, this is awesome.' And it was. The sound levels were great, perhaps because the sound waves had more room to breathe on such a spacious stage. And we didn't get paid full scale, but we did get paid. We understand that everyone has taken a financial hit over the past year, and we have to work with each other to recover."

The reaction to the new and improved Mathews Brewing Company has likewise been universally, and predictably, positive. New Year's Eve drew a capacity crowd, and a week later, West Palm Beach-based rock covers act 56 Ace likewise packed the patio, where patrons have the option of ordering drinks from the wait staff outside or from the indoor bar before adjourning to the patio to the north.

The following weekend, Delray Beach-based original and covers rock trio The Flyers also filled the patio while all three band members alternated between playing guitar, bass, or drums. The brewery also features a variety of available cuisine outdoors from rotating food trucks, which park near the stage under the hut, and it's a dog-friendly venue (although canines' sensitive hearing isn't meant for the decibels too close to live musical stages).

Mathews lives in West Palm Beach, having moved to South Florida after graduating from the University of South Florida in Tampa with a degree in civil engineering in 1991. He was previously a home brewer, and spent considerably more to initially renovate the site than on the recent upgrades when he incorporated the Mathews Brewing Company in 2016.

Its location, in the non-residential warehouse district slightly southwest of Lake



The brewery is owned and operated by David Mathews. Photo by Regina Campbell

Worth Beach's downtown, was his calculated take on its pluses over its minuses.

"One of the pluses was that I was able to have an awesome outside beer garden," he says. "In a commercial area, that probably would've been another building. We can also have food trucks and live music with no restrictions or noise ordinance problems, and I own two parking lots close to the brewery, so it's free parking. The main minus is that we don't get walk-in traffic. We're more of a destination."

That destination is becoming increasingly popular despite the setbacks of 2020. Its outdoor patio, with tribute murals on a north wall to late rock idols including Freddie Mercury, Tom Petty and Chris Cornell, repeatedly draws large crowds ranging in age from 20-to-60-somethings, with most feeling comfortable enough to go maskless. Still, Mathews has felt a considerable COVID-19 pinch, both in attendance and in the distribution of his popular craft beers to restaurants and nightclubs from Broward County north through the Treasure Coast.

"Most customers still want to be outside in our beer garden and not inside the taproom,

If You Go

Where: Mathews Brewing Company, 130 S. H St., Lake Worth Beach

What: Tasty Vibrations, Feb. 5; Project X, Feb. 6; Spider Cherry, Feb. 12; Still Alive, 8:30 p.m. Feb. 13; Switch N' Whisky, Feb. 19; The Flyers, Feb. 20; Krazy Train Duo, 7 p.m. Feb. 25; Sons of a Tradesman, Feb. 26; Completely Unchained, 9 p.m. Feb. 27 (\$10); and Jose Almonte, 3 p.m. Feb. 28.

When: All concerts are free and at 8 p.m. unless otherwise noted.

Info: 561-812-3738

where they're required to wear a mask," he says. "We're down about 30 percent for in-house sales, and 40 percent in distribution. Being shut down for two-and-a-half months last year was brutal. If that happens again, I won't shut down. Constitutionally, they can't force me to. If they fine me, I'll just pay the fines."

The brewery's new stage, and sound and lighting systems, give it all the earmarks of a venue for touring acts. Mathews plans to work toward that end, albeit slowly.

"We're booking a lot of tribute bands this year," he says, "including Pearl Jam, Van Halen, Red Hot Chili Peppers, Tool, and Rage Against the Machine. We will be looking to book national acts in 2022, when COVID-19 is completely over, we hope."

Only a few blocks east of Mathews' location, the Bamboo Room once led the Lake Worth Beach live music scene, but has become more of a dance club since changing hands several years ago.

"They were an indoor venue anyway," Mathews says. "I prefer live music outdoors. Especially now. And I want to be the musical destination for all of Palm Beach County."

Opera

Met-caliber voices set to soar at PB Opera's outdoor festival

By Robert Croan
Contributing Writer

"And then the pandemic punched us in the face." That's how it felt to David Walker, in his first season as Palm Beach Opera's general director.

"It was going so well," says Walker, 54. "Puccini's *Turandot* was our highest-grossing show in 12 years. Rossini's *The Barber of Seville* did well too, and we were in rehearsals for the company's first-ever production of Tchaikovsky's *Eugene Onegin*."



Walker

That was looking like another hit."

The lockdown came in March. Walker coped as best he could. But with *Onegin* canceled, the 2021 season also was in jeopardy.

"Ticket sales took a hit, of course," the director explains. "We had to give some refunds, but a lot of people turned in their tickets as a donation. ... Virtually every individual and corporation was able to keep their previous commitments."

"No salary has been reduced, and only one position has been eliminated. There have been no pay raises, of course."

Moreover, the company's two resident artist programs for young performers are going on.

Walker credits Opera America, a service organization for the opera community, for helping him get through the pandemic crisis.

"They had Zoom sessions," he says, "group therapy for



The Palm Beach Opera Festival will run Feb. 19-27 at iThink Financial Amphitheater west of West Palm Beach. Poster illustration by Richard C. Trebus Jr.

administrators. All of us were going through it, sharing what was working."

Some companies were already going virtual.

The biggest lesson: "It was a mistake to do nothing. The challenge was to keep connection with the patrons, continuity with the patron base. The mistake of many companies was not to do anything."

As it was impossible to go forward with PBO's original 2021 plans, Walker decided to turn the season into a live outdoor festival in the 6,000-seat iThink Financial Amphitheater at the South Florida Fairgrounds. From Feb 19-27, the company will present two performances each of Puccini's *La Bohème*, Mozart's *The Magic Flute* and Leoncavallo's *Pagliacci*.

"We're taking safety extremely seriously," Walker stresses. "We're only using 22 percent of the amphitheater's seating capacity, to allow

for social distancing. We're requiring masks, and we've developed three separate protocols, using CDC guidelines and a medical advisory team: one for audiences, another for the artists, and one for our staff."

Walker's musical and business acumen, along with the lack of performance opportunities, helped him assemble A-list casts for the festival productions.

"I called in all my favors," Walker quips, adding "opera-goers are never going to see such an incredible lineup in this area."

The cast lists read more like the Met than a regional company: Latonia Moore, Isabel Leonard, Michael Fabiano, Quinn Kelsey and Samuel Ramey in *La Bohème*; Janai Brugger, Kathryn Lewek, Matthew Polenzani, Joshua Hopkins, Morris Robinson and Ryan Speedo Green in *The Magic Flute*; Michael

Chioldi and Hopkins joined by Ana Maria Martinez in *Pagliacci*, with Patrick Summers conducting.

It hasn't been easy, especially for singers who've seen most of their engagements withdrawn. Chioldi, 51, who was preparing for his role debut in the title part of *Onegin*, recalls that it was Friday the 13th of March, when he learned that the show was canceled.

"My life completely changed," he states. "I had a full schedule. I was singing 10 months of the year. I had a *Rigoletto* coming up in Spain. Canceled. And then there was nothing."

The baritone is happy to be doing his fourth *Pagliacci* production. "I love playing villains," he admits. "I love to chew the scenery. And the Prologue is one of the greatest arias in all opera."

The singer describes with horror riding his bike in New York and "seeing refrigerator



Chioldi

trucks [with dead bodies] going by — we were all scared." As a diversion from the gloom, he started a cocktail series on Instagram.

He also devoted more time to cooking for himself and husband Scott Hill. The soprano Moore, speaking from her home in Coral Gables, has had a different sort of experience. "When you called," she says, "I was printing out my divorce papers." Married since 2014, with two children 6 and 4 years old, she feels that she and

her ex-husband get along better now: "This is what needed to happen in my life."

In March 2020 the singer was in France singing *Tosca*. "My tenor was ill," she says, "but he refused to consider that he might have COVID. When I got home, he called to tell



Moore

me he'd been diagnosed with the virus. Luckily, I tested negative. But I lost 13 jobs. Everything shut down."

There was an upside, however: "For many years, I was typecast as *Aida*. Once you get into doing *Aidas* it's hard to get out of the mold. I want to shine in different ways."

La Bohème's Mimi is a role Moore performed often between 2000-07, and she's happy to be returning to it here. "Mimi is vocal therapy," the singer, 41, believes.

Moore's understudy as Mimi is soprano Shannon Jennings, 32, a Benenson Young Artist Program participant, who will also sing First Lady in *The Magic Flute*. The Orlando native calls the pandemic "devastating," but feels

"grateful for the creativity and resourcefulness of the people that I've been able to work with."

"Collaboration is essential. It's where I believe the magic exists." Perhaps Walker sums it up best: "We have to be resilient; we have to be creative. We're trying to take this as an opportunistic and optimistic season."

GLASSTRESS

Continued from page 9

Studio create unique artworks and installations, often on a massive scale, that are shown in museums and galleries around the world."

Most of these artists have little or no experience working with glass, but instead worked with the Berengo artisans to create and collaborate on a new vision using innovative ideas and techniques.

As Berengo writes: "As the name *Glasstress* suggests, glass exists in a state of constant tension. As it morphs from molten liquid to defined solid shapes, glass reinvents itself."

In the era of COVID-19, glass acts as a perfect medium and metaphor for our time.

After Italy's initial lockdown — Italy was one of the countries hardest-hit by the virus last March — Italian artist Federica Marangoni became the first to participate in this collaboration with Berengo Studio.

"Life is fragile, just as glass is fragile, yet in this fragility there is also a strength," writes Berengo.

"Despite the pain, despite our fragility, humans continue to



thrive," he writes. "Glass, too, despite its fragility, endures, even when broken, its power as a medium remains."

Berengo points to certain works in the exhibit that reflect the pandemic.

"Meditative works such as Koen Vanmechelen's *Collective Memory*, Yin Xiuzhen's *Container of Thinking*, Joyce J. Scott's *Buddha* or Marya Kazoun's *The Solitary One*, ask us to pause again," he writes. "Time is something many of us became more aware of in lockdown, how much we had, or how little."

In addition, Tim Tate, co-founder of the Washington Glass School and Studio,

provides commentary on the pandemic with his sculpture, *The Pandemic Oculus*, which sheds a haunting eye on the faces of those souls lost to COVID-19.

Also on display is the museum's latest commission and acquisition — a large-scale glass chandelier, titled *Glass Big Brother*, by contemporary Chinese artist Song Dong. The piece, with glass-blown surveillance cameras, is both poetic and poignant, and will permanently hang in the museum's front window facing Mizner Park, as if surveilling the passers-by.

Similarly, Ai Weiwei's *Blossom Chandelier* contrasts

If You Go

Glasstress is on display at the Boca Raton Museum of Art, 501 Plaza Real in Boca Raton. Also showing: *An Irresistible Urge to Create: The Monore Family Collection of Florida Outsider Art* (both run through Sept. 5).
Info: bocamuseum.org or 561-392-2500

LEFT: *Rosemarie's Divorce* (2019), by Renate Bertlmann. Photo by Francesco Allegretto

glass floral petals alongside Twitter birds, CCTV cameras and a raised middle finger, a universal gesture and his response to the Chinese Communist government that imprisoned him for 81 days in 2011.

Not to be excluded, there are works by 14 women sculptors in the exhibit, including Renate Bertlmann, Austria's representative to the Venice Biennale, known for challenging stereotypes about women and gender relationships.

Her giant glass pacifier and glass flowers, titled *Rosemarie's Divorce*, is a continuation of images she has used since the mid-1970s expressing her

feelings about sexuality and motherhood. The pacifier lies on a purple bier flanked by two knife roses in black glass representing the refusal to accept assigned gender roles.

"It is a liberating step out of the unbearable situation, which at the same time means painful sacrifice," writes Bertlmann.

Also confronting society's definition of womanhood is African-American artist and MacArthur Fellow Joyce J. Scott, whose sculpture *Buddha (Wind)* features a glass avatar of Buddha, magnified by colored glass beads in the artist's signature peyote-stitch method.

In her sculpture, the wind moves between figures, and social change metaphorically moves like the wind.

Through her art, Scott confronts social themes including race, misogyny, sexuality, stereotypes, gender inequality, economic disparity, politics and discrimination.

Best known for her figurative sculpture and jewelry using bead-weaving techniques, blown glass, and found objects, Scott in this work conveys the story of a woman surmounting life's obstacles, guided by the hand of Buddha.

CHARLES AND JACKSON POLLOCK



Charles Pollock, *Red*, 1964, oil on canvas, 127 by 127 cm. Courtesy of American Contemporary Art Gallery, Munich. © Charles Pollock Archives, Paris.



Jackson Pollock, *Number 23*, 1949, 1949, oil and enamel on canvas mounted on pressed board, 26 1/2 by 12 1/2 in. Private collection.

January 30 – March 28, 2021

Hours: 10-5 p.m. Monday, Wednesday, Thursday, Friday, Saturday; 1 to 5 p.m. Sunday. Four Arts members only – 1 to 5 p.m. Tuesday.

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Charles and Jackson Pollock is curated by Philip Rylands, President of The Society of The Four Arts, and Otto Hübner, and is organized by The Four Arts.

Arts Calendar

Editor's note: Events are listed through March 3, and were current as of Jan. 23. Please check with the presenting agency for any changes. Ticket prices are single sales unless otherwise specified. Those attending live events must adhere to CDC regulations for coronavirus prevention.

ART EXHIBITS

Ann Norton Sculpture Gardens: Through June 30: *Artists at Home*, images of artists in their studios; *War and Peace*, sculpture by Edwina Sandys; *The Ostrich*, sculpture by Bjorn Skaarup. 10 am-4 pm W-Sun. Members free, adults, \$12; seniors, \$8; children/student, \$5. 561-832-5328. Info@ansg.org.

Armory Art Center: From Feb. 6-19: *Ceramics, Sculpture and Jewelry Instructor Showcase*, in East Gallery. Facial covering and temperature check required for admission. \$5, non-members. 9 am-4 pm M-F, 9 am-2 pm Sat. 832-1776 or armoryart.org.

Boca Raton Museum of Art: Through May 30: *Paul Gervais: Face and Forms*, works by the American artist and writer. Through Sept. 5: *Glasstress Boca Raton; An Irresistible Urge to Create: The Monroe Family Collection of Florida Outsider Art*. \$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: \$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 of Palm Beach County: Through March 13: *Karibu: A Celebration of Black Artists in Palm Beach County*, at the council's headquarters in downtown Lake Worth Beach. Noon-5 pm T-Th. 471-2901 or palmbeachculture.com.

Norton Museum of Art: Through Feb. 6, *Stephania Conrad: A Retrospective*; through Feb. 28, *Divine Beings*. Through March 28, *The Feldman Collection*. Through May 9, *Jose Alvarez: The Krome Drawings*. Through May 16, *George Cohen: Artist of the Chicago Avant-Garde*. Through May 30, *Art Finds a Way*. Noon-7 pm F, 11 am-5 pm Sat & Sun. 832-5196 or www.norton.org.

Society of the Four Arts: Through March 28: *Charles and Jackson Pollock*; through Feb. 28, *In God We Trust*: Early Bible printings from the David M. Rubenstein Americana Collection. Esther B. O'Keeffe Gallery. \$10, free for members. 10 am-5 pm M-Sat, 1-5 pm Sun. 655-7226 or fourarts.org.

Flagler Museum: \$18. 10 am-5 pm T-Sat, noon-5 pm Sun. 655-2833 or flaglERMuseum.us.

Florida Atlantic University: Through March 6: *Expanding Printmaking: South Florida Artist Run Presses*. The exhibition celebrates the work of six regional independent artist press operations and two state university printmaking and book arts operations. Open house noon to 7 pm Feb. 12. Ritter Art Gallery; visitors must wear masks, and attendance will be limited due to COVID-19 restrictions. 1-4 pm T-F and 1-5 pm Sat. 561-297-2661, email.galleries@fau.edu, or visit fau.edu/galleries.

Lighthouse ArtCenter: Through March 10. *Soul on Art: Ghosts of Africa*, artworks showcasing the personal experience and cultural heritage of artists that include Leonardo Drew, Adam Pendleton, William Kwamena-Poh, Ransome, Kara Walker, and Purvis Young. \$10, free for members and ages 11 and younger. 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*, more than 100 works drawn from the museum's permanent collection gathered over 40 years. Follow CDC guidelines. \$15, \$13 seniors, \$9 children and students. 10

am-5 pm. W (during the holiday season). 495-0233 or morikami.org.

South Florida Science Center and Aquarium: Through April 11: *Real Bodies: The Exhibition*, an examination of mysteries of human anatomy, exploring the body through physiology, culture and emotion. Admission during exhibition: \$17.95 for adults, \$13.95 for ages 3 to 12, \$15.95 for ages 60 and older. sfsciencecenter.org.

CLASSICAL MUSIC

Sunday, Feb. 14

Symphonia Boca Raton: A special Valentine's Day concert at the Boca Raton Marriott, led by principal conductor Alastair Willis, will include a 60-minute performance, without intermission, featuring harpist Deborah Fleisher. The all-string, reduced-sized orchestra will perform. Guest seating will be spatially distanced, and masks will be required for both musicians and guests. 376-3848 or thesymphonia.org. Friday, Feb. 19-Saturday, Feb. 27

Palm Beach Opera: The company's first-ever outdoor festival features a star-studded cast in live performances of *La Bohème*, *Pagliacci*, and *Die Zauberflöte* (The Magic Flute) at the South Florida Fairgrounds' iThink Financial Amphitheatre. Headliners include Latonia Moore, Janai Brugger, Kathryn Lewek, Ana Maria Martínez, Isabel Leonard, Matthew Polenzani, Michael Fabiano, Robert Watson, Quinn Kelsey, Joshua Hopkins, Michael Chiodi, Ryan Speedo Green, Morris Robinson, and Samuel Ramey. Tickets available by calling 561-833-7888 or at pbopera.org.

DANCE

Friday, Feb. 5-Saturday, Feb. 6

Palm Beach State College: The TL Collective performs at Duncan Theater on Lake Worth campus of Palm Beach State College. Founded by choreographer/dancer Micaela Taylor, The TL Collective is considered one of Los Angeles' emerging dance companies. All seats, \$45. n561-868-3309 or echeverh@palmbeachstate.edu.

POPULAR MUSIC

Monday, Feb. 8

Jorma Kaukonen: The legendary guitarist and songwriter of Jefferson Airplane and Hot Tuna performs a solo show at Old School Square. 7 pm. Tickets are sold by four-person spatially distanced "pod" at \$180 apiece. For tickets, visit oldschoolsquare.org.

THEATER

Thursday, Feb. 18-Sunday, March 7

Deathtrap: The Ira Levin thriller. Sidney Bruhl, a successful writer of Broadway mysteries, is struggling to overcome a serious case of writer's block. A possible break in his fortunes occurs when he receives a script from a student in the seminar he has been conducting at a nearby college — a thriller that Sidney recognizes immediately as potential Broadway material. Sidney's place is to offer collaboration to the student for co-credit. Or is it? At Lake Worth Playhouse, downtown Lake Worth. Limited seating; social distancing. 586-6410 or lakeworthplayhouse.org. Through Sunday, Feb. 7

Take me Back to Manhattan: If you have missed your annual visit to New York to see a Broadway show, you can now enjoy a nostalgic trip back the Broadway season of 1990-91. At Delray Beach Playhouse, Delray Beach. (Limited seating; social distancing). 272-1281, ext. 5, or delraybeachplayhouse.com.

Through Sunday, Feb. 14
Mamma Mia! This Broadway hit incorporates the songs of ABBA with a story of a young bride whose quest to discover the identity of her father brings three men from her mother's past back to the island they last visited 20 years ago. At the Wick Theatre, Boca Raton. Limited seating, social distance. 995-2333 or thewick.org.

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A PLAY BY LUCAS HNATH

2020-2021 SEASON SNEAK

TAKE ME BACK TO MANHATTAN: THE BROADWAY MUSICALS OF 1990-91	JAN. 22 – FEB. 7, 2021
STAGE STRUCK: A PLAY BY SIMON GRAY	MARCH 12 – 28, 2021
STEEL MAGNOLIAS: A PLAY BY ROBERT HARLING	APR. 20 – MAY 16, 2021
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Book Review

Journalist debuts Florida-based mystery series on solid ‘Grounds’

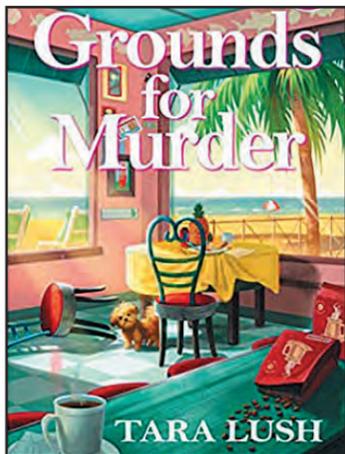
By Sharon Geltner
Contributing Writer

Grounds for Murder, by Tara Lush. Crooked Lane Books, 320 pp., \$26.99

It was witnessing 13 executions at Florida State Prison that persuaded Tampa Associated Press reporter Tamara Lush to write romances and cozy mysteries in her free time.

“At first I considered dark police procedurals, but I get a mental break from daily crime reporting by writing something happy,” she said. Writing as “Tara Lush,” she has launched the first book in what promises to be a delightful Florida mystery series, *Grounds for Murder*.

The plot: Café owner Lana Lewis’ best — though temperamental — staffer quits without notice and goes to work for her rival, just before a statewide barista contest. Her chances of winning are creamed. Lana boils over at her ex-employee in front of a crowd. When that same java genius is found dead the next morning behind Lana’s café, she’s the prime suspect. Lana is in a latte trouble. Can she clear her name and win the championship? Or



will she come to a bitter end?

As the author writes, “Who knows? I mean, it’s Florida. Who isn’t hiding something?”

This cozy, set on the fictional Gulf Coast island of Devil’s Beach, evokes the laid-back and quirky feel of a small, beachside town. There are characters such as her hippie dad, a shrimp boat captain, former sorority girls, a surfer with Mafia ties, an Italian playboy, swingers, spurned husband, jilted lovers and Stanley the puppy. Readers may enjoy the love interest, with “musclad, bronze forearms,” who is also the chief of police.

Lush “espressos” the funny situations with tons of puns.

When a stranger, dressed all in black, enters the shop, Lana thinks, “Next to the soft, blue-

and-white décor of my café, this woman stuck out like a goth in a Precious Moments shop.”

By the way, Lana serves “artisan coffee” with ingredients such as flax milk and sprigs of rosemary. No K-cups.

During Lush’s first year as a reporter, she got a tip that a murder suspect (who hadn’t yet been arrested for that crime) was being held at the county jail on a misdemeanor. She visited him and he admitted that he had been robbing the victim at the time. That made it a premeditated, capital crime.

“He had taken a lot of PCP. I got the feeling he was extraordinarily troubled. Kind of terrifying actually,” she said. That inmate is now serving life.

Today, Lush is one of about 300 English-language writers worldwide whom the fiction website Wattpad pays to publish.

Almost everyone else contributes stories for free. The site has more than 80 million readers globally, most of them teens and young women.

Lush, who has dual citizenship in Canada, grew up in Santa Rosa, Calif., and Vermont. In 2000, she began work for the *St. Petersburg Times* and within four years was covering the state. Lush

also reported for *Miami New Times* and has won awards for journalism and fiction.

She plotted *Grounds for Murder* at a coffee shop in Quebec City. *Cold Brew Corpse*, the next book in the series, will

appear within a year.

A second helping would certainly be welcomed.

Sharon Geltner is the author of *Charity Bashed*, available on Amazon and at area libraries and bookstores.

DEATH TRAP

February 19 - March 7 2021

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Health & Harmony

Marcus Institute holistic care poised to grow as new home awaits

The timing was not fortuitous. Just as Florida Atlantic University was poised to open its Marcus Institute of Integrated Health at FAU Medicine in Boca Raton last spring, the coronavirus began spreading through South Florida, triggering stay-at-home orders and shifting many health care services to virtual platforms.

And yet the idea couldn't have been timelier. Through a grant from the Marcus Institute, FAU Medicine could now include integrative health services under its primary care umbrella, offering patients additional paths to wellness through options like mind-body practices, nutrition consultations, acupuncture and osteopathy.

The center proceeded with its pre-coronavirus planned launch by offering telehealth visits and online wellness classes. As 2020 progressed, the doctors began to see a limited number of patients on-site and continue to do so.

"Once we received this grant, we were able to hire an integrative medicine specialist, Dr. Anton Borja, who joined us earlier this past year, and we launched the institute," says Dr. Joanna Drowos, D.O., associate



Drowos

dean for faculty affairs at FAU's college of medicine, associate professor of family medicine and a member of the integrated medical science department. "And so, what that means is that we're offering integrative health, which is really about a more holistic approach to patient care. It's not to say that we only look at things that are considered alternative or complementary, or only things that are traditional. We sort of merge everything together, go where the evidence is and make more holistic

recommendations to our patients that include a variety of different modalities."

These modalities include:
• Osteopathic manipulative medicine and treatment: "I went to osteopathic medical school and I spent an extra year in school, working on my skills in osteopathic manipulation," Drowos says.

"So that is something extra that I love to offer to my patients. It's an alternative to help them, if they have discomfort. It's great for a lot of different conditions. ... We can use manipulation to alleviate symptoms. Dr. Borja is also a D.O. and does manipulation, but he's also trained in traditional Chinese medicine."

• Acupuncture: Borja, the institute's director, practiced Chinese medicine and acupuncture before attending medical school. He wanted to combine conventional and integrative medicine, taking a holistic approach he says is "more ingrained" in Europe and Asia.

"Acupuncture is fundamentally just working on the physiology of the body, talking about the circulatory system and the nervous system," he says. "We know that by stimulating different areas of the body, you're stimulating the nervous system and it creates a cascade of responses that have been well-documented in the research. At its most fundamental, you're triggering the nervous system and it creates a change in the brain that creates sort of a stress reduction. That's just one piece of the multiple components that have been found in the research into what acupuncture does."

The institute also offers nutrition consultations, mind-body practices, and micronutrient, vitamin and supplement infusions as tools for patients exploring ways to manage chronic pain or other ongoing conditions, improve

their health, change lifestyles or reduce stress.

"With chronic illness and complex illnesses ... it tends to be multiple factors, including the diet that patients have eaten most of their lives, the stress levels that they're dealing with, the amount of exercise, their socioeconomic condition, their genetics," Borja says. "And all of these factors play a part in how disease manifests. And so that's where integrative health can really make inroads and can complement and accentuate conventional medicine, because we're able to look at a bigger picture and take these things into consideration."

Drowos says the goal is to develop a partnership between the patient and practitioner, using evidence-based treatments to address their concerns.

"I think of integrative medicine as just good medicine. It's about how everything fits together," she says. "We're sort of bridging the traditional and the nontraditional. It has to be evidence-based. We're not looking for therapies that are experimental or anecdotal. It's really about making recommendations that have strong evidence and that are beneficial. ... So, I think that we're physicians with just a little bit of a broader focus and we can look at evidence that may not come to all family medicine physicians or all internal medicine physicians."

When pandemic conditions have waned and a new normalcy sets in, the institute will be ready to fully blossom.

"The amazing news is that part of the grant covered renting the space adjacent to the primary care practice and we are actually finishing construction on a very large space that's going to be dedicated to integrative health," Drowos says.

"There's a community room for mindfulness activities, a demo kitchen, a room for micronutrient therapy, lots of treatment rooms. ... The idea is that once it's safe to do so, we'll use our space again and invite people in for all kinds of different classes — yoga, meditation, cooking demonstrations, you know, anything that we can do to sort of promote health because that's a part of it."

The Marcus Institute of Integrated Health at FAU Medicine is in the Galen Medical Building at 880 NW 13th St., Boca Raton. For more information call 561-566-5328.



Joyce Reingold writes about health and healthy living. Send column ideas to joyce.reingold@yahoo.com.

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Health Notes

Delray chamber honors nurses with Hometown Heroes Award

The Delray Medical Center nursing team was awarded the Hometown Heroes Award for 2020 from the Greater Delray Beach Chamber of Commerce, as it honored local health care professionals.

“This year more than ever, it means so much to our team to have our community recognize our nursing staff for their hard work, heroism and amazing dedication during this unprecedented pandemic,” said Maggie Gill, CEO of Delray Medical Center. “We are thankful for all of the support we have received, and we want to remind our community that our hospital is safe, and they should not delay care for a new or urgent condition.”



Members of the Delray Medical Center nursing team gather for a photo as they celebrate receiving the 2020 Hometown Heroes Award from the Greater Delray Beach Chamber of Commerce in December. Photo provided

In January, Michael Nordness became Delray Medical Center’s new chief administrative officer as well as the group chief operating officer for the Palm Beach Health Network. Previously, Nordness served as the chief operating officer at Orange Park Medical Center in Jacksonville. Before his time there, Nordness was the assistant administrator at Haywood Regional Medical Center in Clyde, North Carolina.

Jonathan Price is the new chief executive officer of the Faulk Center for Counseling in Boca Raton. Previously, he served as the vice president of grants and fund development for Alzheimer’s Community Care.

After serving as vice president of the Faulk Center’s board of directors, Gwensia S. Collins, PharmD, has been appointed president of the

board. She is currently the assistant vice president of acute care pharmacy for the north region at Boca Raton Regional Hospital.

The Faulk Center is at 22455 Boca Rio Road.

Kelly Skidmore is the new chief executive officer of Palm Beach Medical Society and Palm Beach County Medical Society Services.

Skidmore, who was recently elected to the Florida House of Representatives, District 81, also served as public relations specialist for the Marine Industries Association of South Florida since 2016. She replaces Tenna Wiles, who is retiring after 22 years.

A research team from Florida Atlantic University’s Schmidt College of Medicine

has developed a simplified COVID-19 testing protocol, which can detect minimal quantities of SARS-CoV-2 using samples from nasal and throat swabs as well as saliva, and can be easily used in research laboratories. Results, published in PLOS ONE, have shown that this protocol is efficient.

Study co-authors are Sean Paz, Christopher Mauer and Anastasia Richtie, graduate students in the college of medicine. This work was supported by a Florida Blue Foundation grant.

Palm Health Foundation invested \$2,316,345 in solutions to health challenges during 2020, including funding toward COVID-19 relief. The foundation’s Healthier Together initiative grant-making strategy became the platform for rapid deployment of resources and funds in vulnerable communities and inspired organizations across the county to form new alliances during the crisis.

For information about Palm Health Foundation, call 561-833-6333 or visit www.palmhealthfoundation.org.

— Christine Davis

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Health Calendar

Events are current as of 1/27. Please check with organizers for any changes.

FEBRUARY 6

Saturday - 2/6 - Griefshare Support Group at St. Vincent Ferrer Catholic Church Guadalupe Hall, 840 George Bush

Bldv, 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. Registration: 921-5693; stvincentferrer.com/griefministry
2/6 - Safe Baby: Prepare, Prevent &

Respond Prenatal Class at Bethesda Memorial Hospital Parent Education Resource Center, 2815 S Seacrest Blvd, Boynton Beach. Increase awareness of safe practices, what to do in the event of an emergency. Held again 6 pm 2/13, 20 & 27. Noon-1:30 pm. \$10/couple. Registration: 369-2229; publicrelations@BHInc.org

FEBRUARY 7-13

Monday - 2/8 - Men's Issues Support Group at Faulk Center for Counseling, 22455 Boca Rio Rd, Boca Raton. Zoom meeting. Every M 6-7 pm. \$10/ suggested monthly donation. 483-5300; faulkcenterforcounseling.org
Tuesday - 2/9 - Women's Issues Support Group at Faulk Center for Counseling, 22455 Boca Rio Rd, Boca Raton. Zoom meeting. Every T 10-11 am. \$10/ suggested monthly donation. 483-5300; faulkcenterforcounseling.org
2/9 - Mommy Matters Virtual Series presented by Bethesda Heart Hospital, 2815 S Seacrest Blvd, Boynton Beach. Special emphasis on personal care, baby basics & safety, breastfeeding, pre- and post-natal Exercises. Every T 10:30-11:30 am. Free. Registration: 369-2229; publicrelations@bhinc.org

2/9 - Hand Drumming for Fun, Meditation, Healing at Creative Arts School, 51 N Swinton Ave, Delray Beach. Every T through 3/9. Virtual class 1:30-3 pm; in-person class 7-8:30 pm. \$135. Registration required: 846-2349; oldschoosquare.org
2/9 - Virtual Yoga at the Library presented by Delray Beach Public Library, 100 W Atlantic Ave. Join Facebook Group for Live Chat. 2 pm. Free. 266-0194; delraylibrary.org
2/9 - Baby Basics Zoom Class presented by Bethesda Heart Hospital, 2815 S Seacrest Blvd, Boynton Beach. Diapering, feeding, bathing, soothing baby. Held again 2/16 & 23. 5-6:30 pm. Free/both parents encouraged to attend. Registration: 369-2229; publicrelations@BHInc.org
2/9 - LGBTQ+ Support Group at Faulk Center for Counseling, 22455 Boca Rio Rd, Boca Raton. Joint program w/ Ruth & Norman Rales Jewish Family Services. Separate groups held simultaneously: Adults, Friends & Family. Zoom meeting. Every T 6-7 pm. \$10/ suggested monthly donation. 483-5300; faulkcenterforcounseling.org
Wednesday - 2/10 - 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 2/17 & 24. 5-6:30 pm. Free/both parents encouraged to attend. Registration: 369-2229; publicrelations@bhinc.org
2/10 - Divorced and Separated Support Group at Faulk Center for Counseling, 22455 Boca Rio Rd, Boca Raton. Zoom meeting. Every W 6-7 pm. \$10/ suggested monthly donation. 483-5300; faulkcenterforcounseling.org
2/10 - Life Issues: A Support Group for Adults at Faulk Center for Counseling, 22455 Boca Rio Rd, Boca Raton. Zoom meeting. Every W 6-7 pm. \$10/ suggested monthly donation. 483-5300; faulkcenterforcounseling.org
Thursday - 2/11 - Invigorating Body Flex at Mounts Botanical Garden, 531 N Military Tr, West Palm Beach. Held in a different part of the garden each week; led by certified fitness/yoga instructor. Held again 2/18 & 25. 9 am-9:45 am. \$15/ class includes full Garden admission. Registration: 233-1757; mounts.org
2/11 - Moving Forward for Widows & Widowers: Support and Discussion Group at Faulk Center for Counseling, 22455 Boca Rio Rd, Boca Raton. Zoom meeting. Every Th 1-2 pm. \$10/ suggested monthly donation. 483-5300; faulkcenterforcounseling.org



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FEBRUARY 14-20

2/20 - 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 2/27. 3-5:30 pm. Free. Registration: 369-2229; publicrelations@bhinc.org

FEB 28-MARCH 6

2/28 - Friends Speaker Series: Jill Ayn Schneider - How to Boost Your Immune System Using Natural Healing presented by Boca Raton Public Library, 400 NW 2nd Ave. Adults. 3-4 pm. Free. Zoom info emailed upon enrollment: 393-7968; bocalibrary.org



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Secret Garden

Couple takes time to smell roses — then makes flowers their livelihood

Many give or receive roses only on Valentine's Day. But for Debbie Coolidge, they are an everyday affair. "I like going outside each morning to see what roses are blooming and enjoy my coffee," she says.

Debbie and her husband, Geoff, are owners of Cool Roses, a nursery on 1 acre in West Palm Beach. They offer about 3,000 potted rose bushes each year that they graft, root and grow. These include more than 1,000 varieties known to do well in Florida's climate and soil.

Think red antique roses, pink Louis-Phillippe blooms as well as hybrid tea and English roses. And don't forget the climbing varieties perfect on a trellis.

They also recently planted about 50 in-ground rose bushes to use for cutting flowers that clients have requested.

Though they appreciate roses, the couple discovered them only later in life.

In the late 1980s, Debbie was a professional hairstylist and Geoff did construction work. On weekends, they would travel to Sarasota to see Geoff's family.

For about 10 years, the trip took them past Giles Ramblin' Roses — a popular rose nursery in Okeechobee. In a hurry to arrive in Sarasota or back home, the couple says the flowers piqued their interest but they never checked them out.

That's until a long weekend meant they were in less of a rush and Debbie finally convinced Geoff they had time to, well, stop and smell the roses.

Debbie couldn't resist buying fragrant Double Delights featuring strawberry red, white and yellow blooms. And she picked up a few Just Joeys that produce an apricot confection.

At home, Geoff planted some of the roses they'd bought in the shady circle in front of their house. Then he headed to his mother-in-law's home near the Intracoastal Waterway in Lake Worth to plant some there, too.

In time, Debbie's roses died but her mom's thrived.

To discover why, the couple joined the Greater Palm Beach Rose Society and later the American Rose Society, where they gained a horticulture education including the fact that roses need lots of sun.

Soon they were having success growing the colorful blooms.

"I'd work construction and then come home to relax by trimming and grafting the bushes," says Geoff.

Roses can be tricky to grow in South Florida unless the plant itself is grafted onto rootstock that makes it easier for the roses to cull water and nutrients from the soil.

In a busy year, Geoff has been known to have made about 3,000 grafts of



ABOVE: The fist-sized bloom of the Hot Princess lives up to its name.



RIGHT: One of the heirloom varieties at the nursery is the Mrs. Dudley Cross, a Key West thornless rose.

Photos by Jerry Lower/The Coastal Star

INSET: Geoff and Debbie Coolidge. **Photo provided**



100 varieties of roses onto Fortuniana rootstock.

In the meantime, Debbie was in charge of the misting house where antique rose cuttings were given a spritz of water every 10 minutes until they sprang white thread-like roots.

"Eventually, we had enough roses in the front yard that we were both able to quit our jobs and do this full time," says

Debbie.

But in 2004, the hurricane season brought Charley, Frances and Jeanne to visit. These storms wreaked havoc on the Cool Roses nursery as well as roses being grown in home gardens throughout the county.

So when rose gardeners called to ask Geoff and Debbie for help restoring their wind- and salt-blighted roses, the couple found a new

opportunity.

Today they not only graft, grow and sell roses, but also plant and/or maintain rose gardens for 65 clients on the barrier islands from Jupiter Island through Boca Raton.

At the same time, Debbie is raising and selling salvia, rosemary and other butterfly-attracting plants.

"I like to grow different rose varieties and plants that

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Deborah S. Hartz-Seeley can be reached at debhartz@att.net.



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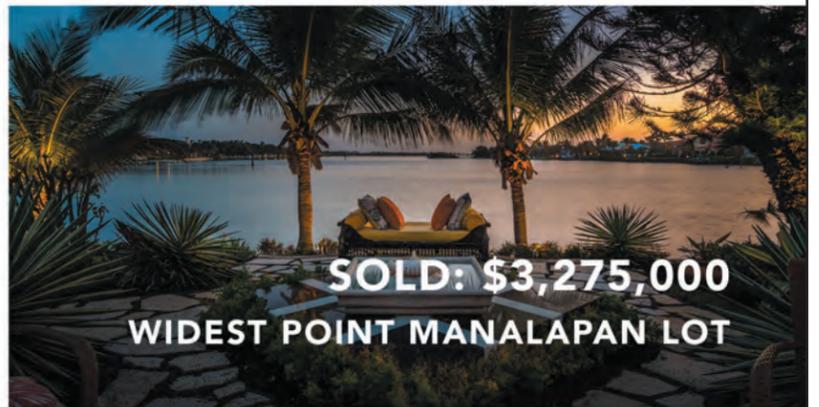
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Finding Faith

Clergy's message of love and hope aims to bridge political differences

Churches might have the legal right to discuss politics from the pulpit, but should they?

"Our particular tradition is not to use the pulpit for politics, even though we might like to," said Pastor Andy Hagen of Advent Church in Boca Raton. "The role we have is to present the values of our faith and keep speaking them."

Those values? "Love and hope."

Father Marty Zlatic of St. Joseph's Episcopal Church of Boynton Beach agrees: Making any sort of political statement from the pulpit is "a delicate dance."

"We have to remember that 50% of our congregation is red and 50% is blue. We don't have a political preference," he says of the church. "It's a morality preference. It's how we treat people and that we respect the dignity of every human being."

From pure seeds, positive things bloom, he says.

"I preached on Sunday on the gospel John 1:47," Zlatic said recently. "I didn't mention any names. The goal is to prepare the message in a way that even someone who opposes it might hear it."

The passage: "Here truly is an Israelite in whom there is no guile." In biblical translations, guile means "deceit" or "fraud."

Most of the time his message is one of hope and healing, Zlatic said, but people need the promise of truth to hope and the knowledge of truth to heal. "People always need to talk about hope."

"My healing word is 'understanding,'" Hagen said. "I don't believe we're divided."



A pantry in front of Advent Church in Boca Raton provides free dry and canned foods to people in need. Photo provided

I believe we want the same things, but we're not convinced we can all get them. Someone has convinced us there's not enough of the pie to be shared."

COVID-19 has divided people, emotionally, spiritually and physically. Even though online church service viewership is consistent and more popular than anyone expected, others aren't so happy to worship from home.

"People are yearning for a human connection," Zlatic said. "We're a very huggy church. Praying on the phone, rather than being able to hold someone's hand, it's certainly harder. I've learned to smile with my eyes."

To strengthen those connections, Zlatic gave the congregation "homework." He

asked people to take out their church member directory and call someone they didn't know, just to say hello. He laughs when he says, "I told them to be sure to say we're not asking for money!"

So far, it's working out well.

Some kindnesses sprouted organically. The St. Joe congregation spontaneously started the In Touch ministry, where volunteers regularly call homebound congregants to check in on them.

At Advent, Hagen said the church started a small food pantry outside, where people can drive up to drop off (or pick up) food. As the sun was setting, he watched a little girl jump out of a car to put a few cans in the box. It's been more popular and successful than anyone imagined, he said.

"I think when you focus on love, great things happen."

Janis Fontaine writes about people of faith, their congregations, causes and events. Contact her at janisfontaine@outlook.com.



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Religion News

St. Joseph's Nativity story scenes attract drive-by crowds

St. Joseph's Episcopal Church in Boynton Beach is known for its delightfully chaotic Spontaneous Christmas Pageant, a church tradition that recruits mostly kids from the audience to act out the Nativity story. But COVID-19 forced church leaders to cancel the event, which packs the church to SRO every Christmas Eve.

Not wanting to disappoint the congregation, Dee Zlatic, who leads the children's ministry, and her team came up with a new idea: six tableaux depicting scenes from the glorious birth story frozen in time so that folks could drive past.

"We had the costumes and props and we had lots of families volunteer to act out the scenes," Zlatic said. Each vignette allowed families to stay in their respective bubbles in keeping with COVID-19 precautions.

Zlatic was thrilled when, at the last minute, a local petting zoo delivered goats and ponies to round out the final tableau, a re-creation of the Nativity scene.

Charles Milling, with his wife, Julie, and their baby boy, Ellis, just a few months old, took on the role of the Holy Family. Milling, who leads the Christian band Live Hymnal, which performs at the church, also prepared and recorded the Christmas music and the



This was one of six tableaux that depicted scenes from the Nativity story at St. Joseph's Episcopal Church. Photo provided

Scripture readings people played in their cars.

More than 300 cars drove through, said Father Marty Zlatic, who was pleased and proud of the turnout and of Dee, his wife.

As people left, John Flynn played the bagpipes and everyone received a keepsake: a clear Christmas ornament

handmade by Kyle May that contains the parish's catchphrase — "Keep Jesus in your bubble."

St. Joseph's remembers victims of COVID-19

On Jan. 20, almost a year after it was first reported that a strange, potentially deadly virus was spreading around

the world, St. Joseph's held a special service to commemorate the 400,000-plus lives lost to COVID-19.

"We knew we were going to do something, but when we saw the luminaries on the National Mall in Washington, we wanted to replicate it," Father Marty said. "We can't have 400,000 luminaries, but we can have 40."

St. Joseph's parishioners showed up for the outdoor socially distanced event. Since the outbreak, St. Joseph's has followed stringent protocols, including fogging the church after every service, requiring masks and reserved seating in 6-foot family bubbles, and touchless Communion.

In-person services by reservation take place at 10 a.m. Sundays, and outside services on the lawn begin at 7 p.m. Wednesdays. The church is at 3300 S. Seacrest Blvd., Boynton Beach. 561-732-3060; www.stjoesweb.org.

Bethesda-by-the-Sea to host Empty Bowls event

The Church of Bethesda-by-the-Sea will host a reimagined eighth annual Palm Beach Empty Bowls, a fundraiser for the Palm Beach County Food Bank, from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. Feb. 26. Guests will be served from a drive-thru to ensure safety amid the pandemic. Delivery is available for large

orders.

One in six of Palm Beach County's 1.5 million residents has trouble getting good meals. Many are children. Because of COVID-19, the demand on local food banks nearly tripled in 2020.

The mantra of this annual fundraiser is "eat simply so others may simply eat," and it asks each person to substitute one lavish meal for a solemn, simple feast of soup and bread and bottled water. The soup will come from the area's best restaurants and bread from Old School Bakery.

Tickets are \$30, which includes one pint of soup and bread. All proceeds from Palm Beach Empty Bowls benefit the Palm Beach County Food Bank to fight hunger in our community. The church is at 141 S. County Road, Palm Beach. www.pbcfoodbank.org; 561-670-2518.

Diocese's Mass gets new time slot on TV

The Diocese of Palm Beach's Sunday morning Mass for the homebound no longer airs at 9:00-9:30 a.m. It airs on CW34 WTVX from 10:30 to 11:30 a.m. The time change is due to a programming revision by CW34.

Visit www.diocesepb.org/ videos to hear the weekly homilies.

— Janis Fontaine

Religion Calendar

Events are current as of 1/27. Please check with organizers for any changes.

FEBRUARY 6

Saturday - 2/6 - Mass for Anointing of the Sick at St. Vincent Ferrer, 840 George Bush Blvd, Delray Beach. Masks & social distancing required. 11 am. Free. 276-6892; stvincentferrer.com

2/6 - 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

FEBRUARY 7-13

Sunday - 2/7 - St. Vincent Ferrer Live-Stream Mass. 840 George Bush Blvd, Delray Beach. Every Sun 9 am. Free. 276-6892; stvincentferrer.com

2/7 - 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; fumcocaraton.org

2/7 - First Presbyterian Church of Delray Beach Live-Stream Service. 33 Gleason St. 10 am. Free. 276-6338; firstdelray.com

Tuesday - 2/9 - Journey of the Soul at Chabad of East Boca Raton, 120 NE 1st Ave. Monthly course from Jewish Learning Institute. Virtual. Every T through 3/9 7:30-9 pm. \$79/series. RSVP: 394-9770; bocabeachchabad.org

Wednesday - 2/10 - Shalom Hartman iEngage Video Lecture Series: Together & Apart: The Future of Jewish Peoplehood at Temple Israel of West Palm Beach, 1901 N Flagler Dr. Held again 2/17 & 24. 7 pm. Free. Registration: 833-8421; temple-israel.com

Friday - 2/12 - Virtual Erev Shabbat Service presented by Temple Israel of West Palm Beach, 1901 N Flagler Dr. Every F 6:30 pm. Free. 833-8421; temple-israel.com

FEBRUARY 21-27

Wednesday - 2/24 - Just Over Yonder? Judging Ourselves? Yes! at Chabad of East Boca Raton, 120 NE 1st Ave. New monthly zoom course for women from Rosh Chodesh Society. 7 pm. \$20/per class.

RSVP: 394-9770; bocabeachchabad.org
Friday - 2/26 - Virtual Family Shabbat Celebrating Purim presented by Temple Israel of West Palm Beach, 1901 N Flagler Dr. For families with children ages 4-6. Songs and music, prayers and story time. Service will be posted and saved to Facebook page (Temple Israel, West Palm Beach). 4:30 pm. RSVP: 833-8421; temple-israel.com

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Global Sub Dive's Go America vessel sank 10,000-pound, 7-by-6-foot reef balls Jan. 9 in the Delray Dredge Hole, a permitted artificial reef site roughly .35 mile long by .13 mile wide. CCA/Florida's South Palm Beach County chapter and No Shoes Reefs Foundation are behind the effort to create a 32-acre reef park.

On the Water

13 concrete balls lowered as part of artificial reef off Delray Beach

Before dawn on the cool morning of Jan. 9, Rodrigo Vera of Delray Beach and the reef construction team from Global Sub Dive loaded 13 concrete reef balls onto a ship named Go America and headed out Port Everglades Inlet, bound for Delray Beach.

By 9:30 a.m., the Go America captain was maneuvering the ship over an artificial reef site in about 65 feet of water off the south end of Delray's public beach.

After a cable from the ship's crane was attached, the first of the 5-ton reef balls was lifted into the air, then carefully lowered into the water.

A diver followed to make sure the beehive-shaped structure landed upright on the bottom as intended. Palm Beach County environmental officials observed from a boat nearby.

The process was repeated a dozen times, each with a slight change in position to place each of the reef balls in predetermined spots at the northeast corner of the artificial reef site — a rectangular depression created when sand was removed for beach restoration.

The new reef balls are located

at these coordinates: 26/27.179N and 80/02.941.

Boaters should avoid anchoring over the reef balls because anchors could become stuck in the holes of the structures, said Jena McNeal, Palm Beach County's artificial reef coordinator.

Anglers can fish over the reef balls by starting generally south and east of them and drifting over them.

Divers can explore the new artificial reef structures — and the fish they attract — by drifting with a support boat displaying a dive flag on the surface drifting with them.

Vera pulled the reef ball project together, working as president of CCA/Florida's South Palm Beach County chapter and as a board member of the Sandoway Discovery Center.

Country singer Kenny Chesney's No Shoes Reefs Foundation (www.noshoesreefs.org) paid for the reef balls.

CCA/Florida's South Palm Beach County chapter used a \$13,000 grant from Impact 100 Palm Beach County and another \$10,000 raised at a CCA banquet to pay for transporting and placing the reef balls on the bottom.



A scuba diver from Industrial Divers enters the water to make sure the ship sank the reef balls in the correct area of the ocean floor. Photos by Tim Stepien/The Coastal Star

Vera hopes the 13 reef balls will be the first part of a more elaborate artificial reef at the 32-acre site that will become an educational and recreational "marine park." He is applying for permits for a buoy that would hold cameras

transmitting live underwater video from the reefs to the Sandoway Discovery Center and is looking for a sponsor to pay for maintenance of the camera system.

Working through CCA/Florida, Vera also hopes to raise

\$100,000 to buy, clean and sink a freighter that he said would fit perfectly in the rest of the Delray Beach artificial reef site.

Details about plans for the Sandoway Marine Park can be found at www.delrayreef.org.

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Miss Texas wins Silver Sailfish Derby

Capt. Matt Bierley and his team aboard Miss Texas released 12 sailfish in two days of fishing Jan. 7-8 to win top boat in the West Palm Beach Fishing Club's 84th annual Silver Sailfish Derby.

After finishing the first day with four releases, the Miss Texas anglers picked away at the sailfish using live bait under fishing kites south of Palm Beach Inlet.

They finished the second day with eight releases to beat 46 other boats in the derby.

Capt. Nick Carullo and his team on Priceless almost beat the Miss Texas team, but wound up finishing second with 11 releases because one of the team's sailfish could not be identified on video. Rules in modern sailfish tournaments require each sailfish to be shown on video, along with a member of the crew touching the leader to score the release.

Capt. Mike Simko of North Palm Beach was this year's top derby angler with a two-day total of nine releases scored on his boat KiteKeeper. The KiteKeeper team also won top small boat, for boats under 35 feet.

York Pottratz of Jupiter finished second in the angler category, with six releases scored aboard Miss Texas.

Capt. Chip Sheehan, who operates Chips Ahoy Charters at Boynton Harbor Marina, finished sixth overall with his team on Reel Synergy, posting



Capt. Matt Bierley and his team on Miss Texas celebrate with champagne at Sailfish Marina in Palm Beach Shores after winning top boat in the 84th annual Silver Sailfish Derby. The team scored a two-day total of 12 sailfish releases. Photo provided

eight releases over two days. Sheehan said he found his sailfish off Delray Beach.

Forty-seven boats released a total of 196 sailfish in two days of fishing.

Temporary bag limit increased for kingfish

The daily bag limit for king mackerel, better known as kingfish, is four per angler, up from two — at least until March 16. The minimum size remains the same at 24 inches to the fork of the tail.

The former two-kingfish bag limit will apply again after March 16, according to

the Florida Fish & Wildlife Conservation Commission.

Tip of the month

Want to learn more about tagging and releasing small dolphinfish (mahi mahi) to benefit research about the species? Visit www.dolphintagging.com.



Willie Howard is a freelance writer and licensed boat captain. Email tiowillie@bellsouth.net.

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Paws Up for Pets

Boynton company helps pet parents handle end-of-life care

Now, perhaps more than ever, pets are stepping up their A-game when it comes to unleashing compassion, laughter and safe companionship for many of us during this relentless pandemic.

In my home, I am enjoying a full circle of life with dogs and cats of all ages, from young Emma and Rusty to middle-aged Kona and Casey to our stately senior cat, Mikey.

I never take for granted a single day I get to spend with them. And, when it is time to say goodbye to them due to fading health, the farewells will take on added meaning. My memories with them will never disappear.

Last December, my former canine surfing star, Cleo, died at age 17. She was a terrier mix, about 12 pounds soaking wet, but fearless when it came to riding waves. Her surfboard now hangs above the door of my backyard office as a lasting way to celebrate her life.

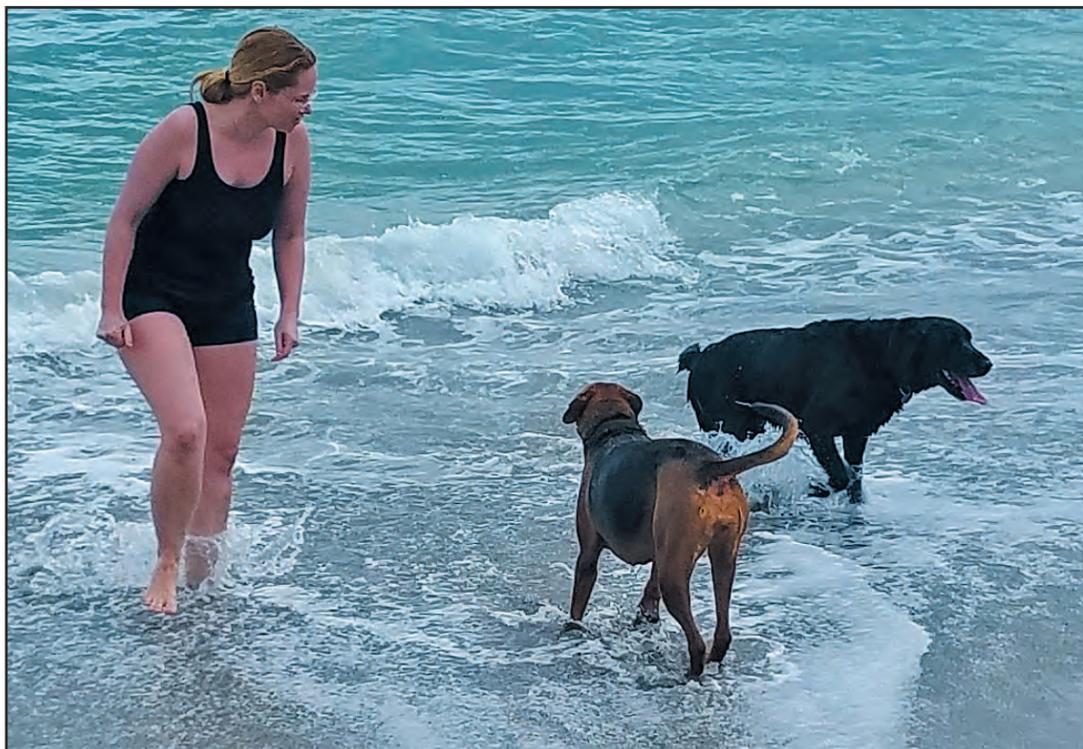
With all the COVID-19 health restrictions, the safety protocol in veterinary clinics here and all over the country requires pet parents to pull into the parking lots, call the clinics and, with face masks on, hand over their pets to clinic staffers who usher them into exam rooms. You know the drill.

We wait in our vehicles for veterinarians to call us with the results and then wait for our pets to be returned to our vehicles.

That's why I am glad to see a new field of veterinary medicine being recognized and embraced: pet hospice care and, yes, at-home euthanasia services. Credit a pair of University of Florida veterinary school graduates, Dr. Mary Gardner and Dr. Dani McVety, for leading this effort.

They co-founded Lap of Love in 2009 with one practice in Tampa and now have Lap of Love veterinary centers all over the United States, including one in Boynton Beach that serves all of Palm Beach County.

"Veterinary hospice provides pets comfort, pain relief, anxiety relief and the love they need during the final stage of their life," says Gardner. "Hospice provides owners the



Kimberly Moen, a veterinarian at Lap of Love, with Morena (right), who died last year. During the pandemic Lap of Love does phone consultations and at-home euthanasia. Photo provided

tools to manage their pets not only medically and physically, but also emotionally. Most importantly, we help owners plan for the goodbye."

The Lap of Love center that serves Palm Beach County is headed by veterinarians Tiffany Matheson, Blaine Brennock and Kimberly Moen. Due to the pandemic, they are exclusively doing at-home euthanasia because hospice appointments require longer periods of contact. So, they now offer formal phone consultations.

"We have a higher volume of calls now than before COVID," says Moen. "We now need to take added safety precautions in homes, from wearing masks, checking temperatures, spraying down everything we use, disinfecting every square inch to washing our hands multiple times."

"I miss that extra human touch, like shaking hands or sharing hugs at the end. I miss that touch support, but I know we are here to support people and to make sure their pets are as comfortable as possible and that they transition with dignity."

Moen knows this experience firsthand. She adopted her "heart" dog, Morena, as a pup and together they lived in Arizona, Colorado, California,

St. Kitt and Florida for 14 years.

Her black Labrador retriever could "stand up to sassy dogs" and sported a contagious happy nature, but her body was weakening to the tolls of time.

"In February, I knew she was terminal, but I waited for a good day for her to make the transition," says Moen, who also has a retriever mix named Boca. "I got her a rotisserie chicken and she ate all of it — including fat, seasoning and cartilage. She loved every minute. I gave her a sedative about halfway through the meal. It takes a few minutes to kick in."

She continues, "Then I gave her a super comfortable overdose of anesthesia and hugged her. She was my heart dog."

As Moen recommends to other pet parents, she created paw prints of Morena in clay that are displayed on her bookshelf. She plans one day to take Morena's ashes out to the ocean, a place she loved.

"Morena would squeal with high-pitched delight in pools and in rivers and she would fetch balls in the ocean," she says. "She was a very cool dog."

Moen has done zoo internships, was a veterinary technician before becoming a veterinarian and practiced at small animal clinics before she

joined Lap of Love three years ago to focus on pet hospice care and euthanasia.

"People don't have to drive back from a clinic upset, because we come to them," she says. "They get to mourn in the privacy of their homes. I get to be of service to people facing one of the hardest times of their lives and I am honored to be able to do so."

Arden Moore, founder of *FourLeggedLife.com*, is an animal behavior consultant, author, speaker and master certified pet first aid instructor.



She hosts *Oh Behave!* weekly on *PetLifeRadio.com*. Learn more at www.ardenmoore.com.

How will I know it's the right time?

Lap of Love veterinarians say end of life depends on the pet. They offer this checklist to help pet parents know when it is the right time for euthanasia. The pet:

- Is no longer interested in food or water.
- Has chronic incontinence (accidents in the house) or is unable to go to the bathroom without falling down.
- Is no longer greeting you when you come home.
- Is no longer patrolling the yard or protecting his territory the way he used to.
- Is no longer grooming himself.
- No longer wags her tail or holds it down constantly.
- Isolates herself from the people or other pets in the home, particularly in places she usually does not go.
- Shows a decreased interest in playing.
- Is unable to stand or walk on his own.
- Shows a change in attitude (depression, aggression, confusion).
- Doesn't want to do the things he loves.
- Has fewer good days than bad.

To learn more about Lap of Love's services, visit www.lapoflove.com.

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Kennel Club's Mutt Derby is back

The Mutt Derby, which returned to Palm Beach Kennel Club in January, invites people to enter their dogs in a fun race series. The dogs run 300 feet on the track without starting boxes or lures and are called by their owners to the finish line.

Mutt Derby's upcoming dates include Feb. 13 and Feb. 27, and on March 20, weight-division winners will return for the finals. At stake will be cash prizes, including \$1,000 to the overall champion.

To participate, dogs must be spayed or neutered, up to

date with vaccines, on a flea and tick prevention program, and not aggressive toward people or other dogs. Races will be organized by three weight classes. Greyhounds are welcome to observe but cannot race.

The fee is \$20 for pre-registration and \$25 on the day of the event. To register, visit runsignup.com/race/fl/westpalmbeach/pbkcmuttderby. All proceeds from the event will be donated to local greyhound pet adoption groups.

— Staff report



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Tots & Teens

Students work to protect turtles, assist adults with disabilities

By Janis Fontaine

Learning the value and joy of public service is an important component of a student's education at St. Vincent Ferrer Catholic School in Delray Beach.

Maura Evans, 14, of Ocean Ridge, and Katie Rose Brisson, 13, of Boynton Beach, chose to help Sea Turtle Adventures, a nonprofit tasked with protecting turtle nests along a 3-mile stretch of beach reaching from Gulf Stream to Ocean Ridge, as their service project.

Students at St. Vincent Ferrer are separated into "houses," and each house chooses a service project, Maura explained. Their house, Équité, chose to work with STA.

If you've strolled that beach between May and October, you've seen the vibrant orange stakes and the netting that protect the sea turtle nests. Maura and Katie Rose joined forces with about 20 other students to paint hundreds of stakes so they could be reused.

It seemed fitting their house should champion sea turtles



Maura Evans and Katie Rose Brisson paint stakes used to mark sea turtle nests. Photo provided

because "équité" means justice, Katie Rose said. "Sea turtles are harmless creatures, so we want to protect them."

Painting hundreds of 2-foot wooden stakes was hot, sweaty work, complicated by social distancing and other COVID requirements, but it taught the kids that public service is

sometimes difficult.

It's a lesson STA's founder learned firsthand.

Delray Beach native Jacquelyn Kingston launched the nonprofit Sea Turtle Adventures in 2016, but she and her mother, Joan Lorne of Delray Beach, have been permitted by the Florida Fish

& Wildlife Conservation Commission to monitor nests along a 3-mile stretch of beach in southern Palm Beach County for almost 20 years.

Now a marine biologist, Kingston started her association with sea turtles at about the same age as the kids at St. Vincent Ferrer — as a 12-year-old volunteer at Loggerhead Marinelife Center in Juno Beach (then called the MarineLife Center of Juno Beach).

STA has a three-pronged mission: "to conserve local populations of sea turtles, educate the public about the marine environment, and provide nature-based programs and life-skills training to adults with disabilities."

After working with several adults with special needs, Kingston knew conservation awareness could enrich the lives of these adults and promote sea turtle conservation and education. STA added the iCARE WAVE program (Work And Volunteer Experience), which offers adults with special needs the opportunity to work for STA in partnership with approved

vocational rehabilitation work programs.

Katie Rose and Maura's Équité house volunteered with the WAVE program, where they learned about the joy of service.

Last year, the group put native plants on the beach to improve the turtle habitats, which had taken a beating during hurricane season. "It's super-fun to do stuff with friends, but I like helping people, too," Maura said.

"I really liked it," Katie Rose said of her beach day interacting with the adults. She is worried the coronavirus will prevent the event from taking place this year.

And there's one more factor at play here, Maura explained. The St. Vincent Ferrer house with the most points at the end of the school year wins a trophy (and bragging rights).

Of course, every house wants to win, but Maura says that some people put too much emphasis on winning. "I feel like it's more important to have fun."

Whatever happens, Katie Rose said, "I'm proud of our house." ★

Tots & Teens Calendar

Note: Events are current as of 1/27. Please check with organizers for any changes.

FEBRUARY 6

Saturday - 2/6 - 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/child under 3. 832-1988; sfsiencecenter.org

2/6 - Daily Feedings & Touchless Animal Encounters at Sandoway Discovery Center, 142 S Ocean Blvd, Delray Beach. All ages. T-Sat 10 am-4 pm. Free w/\$6 admission. 274-7263; sandowayhouse.org

2/6 - Delray Beach Children's Garden Weekend Garden Play at 137 SW 2nd Ave. Collaborative mural painting, educational garden topic, more. Every Sat/Sun through 2/28 10 am-1 pm. \$5/child age 1+; \$4/DBC member child age 1+. delraybeachchildrensgarden.org

2/6 - Shark Feedings at Sandoway Discovery Center, 142 S Ocean Blvd, Delray Beach. T-Sat 10:30 am, 11:30 am & 1:30 pm. Free w/\$6 admission. 274-7263; sandowayhouse.org

2/6 - Hearts & Crafts Bestie Bash Celebration presented by Boynton Beach Mall's KidX Club in front of JCPenney, 801 N Congress Ave. Children/families create meaningful gifts/Valentines for loved ones, best friends. Noon-2 pm. Free. 736-7902; boyntonbeachmall.com

FEBRUARY 7-13

Monday - 2/8 - Kindergarten Readiness Zoom 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

2/8 - 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

2/8 - 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

Tuesday - 2/9 - Sensational Story 'n More at Schoolhouse Children's Museum & Learning Center, 129 E Ocean Ave, Boynton Beach. Children's books come to life through interactive performance, singing, movement, props. Age 2-5. Every T & F 10-10:45 am. Free w/paid admission. Registration: 742-6780; schoolhousemuseum.org

2/9 - The Fairy Tales of Grimm at Lake Worth Playhouse, 713 Lake Ave. Grades K-5. 11 am. Call for pricing: 586-6410; lakeworthplayhouse.org

2/9 - Tots in Tutus with Dance Trends at Schoolhouse Children's Museum & Learning Center, 129 E Ocean Ave, Boynton Beach. Preschoolers ballet. Age 2-5. Held again 2/16.10:45-11:15 am or 11:15-11:45 am. Per class \$12 + admission. Registration: 742-6782; schoolhousemuseum.org

2/9 - The Art of the Story at Schoolhouse Children's Museum & Learning Center, 129 E Ocean Ave, Boynton Beach. Children create their own art in the style of the featured book. Age 3-7 yrs. Every T through 2/16 3-3:45 pm. Free w/paid admission. Registration: 742-6780; schoolhousemuseum.org

Wednesday - 2/10 - Art Explorations at Schoolhouse Children's Museum & Learning Center, 129 E Ocean Ave, Boynton Beach. Open art exploration in a specific medium. Age 2-5. Held again 2/17. 10-10:45 am. Drop-in \$10/museum member; \$12/non-member + admission. Registration: 742-6780; schoolhousemuseum.org

2/10 - Zoom Oh, Baby! Zoom Story Time presented by Delray Beach Public Library, 100 W Atlantic Ave. Age 3 months to 2 years. Every W 10 am. Free. Registration: 266-0194; delraylibrary.org

2/10 - NeuroExplorers Virtual Program presented by Florida Atlantic University Brain Institute and Stile-Nicholson Foundation. Led by professional neuroscientists, students learn about neuroscience using cutting-edge educational tools, hands-on virtual/

augmented reality applications. Monthly Brain Box filled with hands-on activities geared toward topics covered that month. Students join a virtual science classroom 2 Wednesdays each month to complete hands-on activities w/opportunity to ask questions live. Grades 6-8. Held again 2/24, 3/10 & 24, 4/7 & 21 and 5/5 & 19. 4:30-5:30 pm. \$100/semester. Registration 832-1988; sfsiencecenter.org/ascend

Thursday - 2/11 - 2021 Discovery Series at Sandoway Discovery Center, 142 S Ocean Blvd, Delray Beach. Each program explores a different topic, from bugs to pythons, plants to butterflies. Outdoors, limited to 5 families per class. Age 3-6. Every Th 9:30-10 am or 10:15-10:45 am. \$30/4 classes; \$8/class + \$6 admission. RSVP: 274-7264; sandowayhouse.org

2/11 - Mother Nature & Me at Delray Beach Children's Garden, 137 SW 2nd Ave. Nature craft, garden exploration, storytime. Held again 2/18 7 25. 10 am-noon. \$10; \$8/DBC member child. delraybeachchildrensgarden.org

2/11 - Tumble Tots with First Steps Dance and Tumbling at Schoolhouse Children's Museum & Learning Center, 129 E Ocean Ave, Boynton Beach. Age 2-5. Held again 2/18. 10-10:30 am. Per class \$12 + paid admission. Registration: 742-6780; schoolhousemuseum.org

2/11 - Environmental Explorations by Mandy the Manatee & Miss Marti at Schoolhouse Children's Museum & Learning Center, 129 E Ocean Ave, Boynton Beach. Age 3-7. Held again 2/19. 11-11:45 am. Free w/ paid admission. Registration: 742-6780; schoolhousemuseum.org

2/11 - 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 - 2/13 - Teen Workshop: The Art of Weaving 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

2/13 - Birding 101 at Daggerwing Nature Center, 11435 Park Access Rd, Boca Raton. Learn about the exciting hobby of bird watching. Age 5+ w/guardian. 10:30 am. \$3/person. Reservations: 629-8760; pbcnature.com

2/13 - 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

2/13 - Virtual Dungeons & Dragons for Teens & Young Adults presented by Boca Raton Public Library, 400 NW 2nd Ave. Age 13+. Every Sat through 3/20 2-4 pm. Free. Zoom info emailed upon enrollment: 393-7968; bocalibrary.org

2/13 - Arts & Hearts presented by Boynton Beach Mall's KidX Club in front of JCPenney. Afternoon painting session. 3-5 pm. Free. Registration: 736-7902; boyntonbeachmall.com

FEBRUARY 14-20

Monday - 2/15 - 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

Thursday - 2/18 - Teen Virtual Graphic Novel Club: Silver Surfer Vol. 1 by Dan Slott presented by Boca Raton Public Library, 400 NW 2nd Ave. Age 13-17. 5:30-6:30 pm. Free. Zoom info emailed upon enrollment: 393-7968; bocalibrary.org

Saturday - 2/20 - 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 am. \$10. RSVP: 966-7000; pbcnature.com

2/20 - Virtual Family Fun Day: Honmei Chocoo at Morikami Japanese Museum and Gardens Classroom A, 4000 Morikami Park Rd, Delray Beach. Make your own box of clay chocolate, or chocolate decora; learn about the Japanese tradition/customs for giving chocolate on Valentine's and White Day. Craft templates & instructions via social media. Noon-3 pm. Free. 495-0233; morikami.org

2/20 - Code Palm Beach Beginner Workshop at South Florida Science Center and Aquarium, 4801 Dreher Tr N, West Palm Beach. Learn further how to code in the world of technology. Age 7-17. 2-3:30 pm. Free. Registration: 425-8918; sfsiencecenter.org/code-palm-beach

FEBRUARY 21-27

Tuesday - 2/23 - Stroller Daze at South Florida Science Center and Aquarium, 4801 Dreher Tr N, West Palm Beach. Age-appropriate science crafts, Splash Pad fun, planetarium, live entertainment, more. Food available for purchase. Age 5 & under w/parent or guardian. 9 am-1 pm. 50% admission/adult; free/child. 832-1988; sfsiencecenter.org

2/23 - Virtual GEMS Club: keystones of the Sea presented by South Florida Science Center and Aquarium, 4801 Dreher Tr N, West Palm Beach. Empower young girls to explore STEM fields. Girls grades 3-8. High school girls can volunteer to be mentors. 5:30-6:30 pm. \$5/virtual class. Registration: 370-7710; sfsiencecenter.org/gem

Wednesday - 2/24 - 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 - 2/27 - Climate Kids presented by Delray Beach Public Library, 100 W Atlantic Ave. Help clean the beach, protect/conservate our valuable coastal areas. Supplies provided. Meet at the beach across from Sandoway Center. Ages 6-13. 9 am. Free. Registration: 266-0194; delraylibrary.org

2/27 - Intro to Archery at Daggerwing Nature Center, 11435 Park Access Rd, Boca Raton. USA Archery & N.F.A.A. certified instructor. Bow/arrow safety, how to properly use equipment, practice on the range. Age 8+. 10:30 am. \$10. Reservations: 629-8760; pbcnature.com

FEBRUARY 28-MARCH 6

Saturday - 3/6 - Virtual Family Fun Day: Hinamatsuri DIY Kokeshi at Morikami Japanese Museum and Gardens Classroom A, 4000 Morikami Park Rd, Delray Beach. Make a customized kokeshi, a Japanese wooden figurine, to celebrate Hinamatsuri, Doll's Day. Craft templates/instructions via social media. Noon-3 pm. Free. 495-0233; morikami.org

Community Calendar

Events are current as of 1/27. Please check with organizers for any changes.

FEBRUARY 6

Saturday - 2/6 - 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

2/6 - 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

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. Tours begin at NW edge of West Palm Beach GreenMarket, between the huge Banyan Tree and Visitor Information Center, 100 N Clematis St, end at Palm Beach County History Museum. 10-11:30 am. \$10/person. Registration: 832-4164 x100; hspbc.org

2/6 - Norton Museum 80th Anniversary. Virtual celebration features art, music, auction. Benefits the Museum Collection. Call for time/tickets/info: 832-5196 x1121; norton.org

2/6 - 42nd Street - The Musical at The Society of the Four Arts Gubelmann Auditorium, 100 Four Arts Plaza, Palm Beach. 2 pm. \$25/adult; \$15/student. Reservations: 805-8562; fourarts.org

2/6 - Electric Kif at The Funky Biscuit, 303 SE Mizner Blvd, Boca Raton. 5 pm doors open, 6 pm show. \$15-\$150. 465-3946; funkybiscuit.com

2/6 - David Morin Dinner Show at The Pavilion Grille, 301 Yamato Rd, Boca Raton. Held again 2/13. 6 pm dinner; 8 pm show. \$32/3 course dinner; \$25/menu selections; +tax/gratuity. Reservations: 912-0000; paviliongrille.com

2/6 - Napa Tasting at Gourmetphile, 501 SE Mizner Blvd #80, Boca Raton. 7 pm. \$75/person w/\$25 credited to purchase of wines tasted. 757-6208; gourmetphile.com

2/6 - 2021 Virtual Judy Levis Krug Boca Raton Jewish Film Festival presented by Adolph & Rose Levis Jewish Community Center. More than 50 Jewish-themed films to watch at home. Runs through 5/16. Individual tickets \$4.99-\$12; film pass packages \$59-\$299. Check website for schedule/tickets. 961-8002; bocajff.org

2/6-7 - Plant-A-Palooza Winter Plant Sale at Mounts Botanical Garden, 559 N Military Tr, West Palm Beach. Annual event; more than 80 vendors; assortment of quality plants/accessories. Entrance/Exit at Gate 2 only in the DMV parking lot. Sat 9 am-4 pm; Sun 9 am-3 pm. Free/member; advance \$10/non-member, \$5/child age 5-12; gate admission credit card only \$12 & \$. 233-1757; mounts.org

2/6-7 - Free Museum Admission at Boca Raton Museum of Art, 501 Plaza Real. W-Sun 11 am-7 pm. 392-2500; bocamuseum.org

2/6-7 - Black Box Series: The Twentieth Century at Lake Worth Playhouse Stonzek Studio, 713 Lake Ave. Sat/Sun 6 pm; Sat 8 pm; Sun 4 pm. \$6-\$9. 586-6410; lakeworthplayhouse.org

FEBRUARY 7-13

Sunday - 2/7 - Palm Sundays: Jazz & Gospel in the Gardens with Troy Anderson at Ann Norton Sculpture Gardens, 253 Barcelona Rd, West Palm Beach. 1-3 pm. \$15/adult; \$10/age 65+; \$7/student; free/child under 5. 832-5328; ansq.org

2/7 - 31st Annual Donald M. Ephraim Virtual Palm Beach Jewish Film Festival features 30 Films and 11 Q&A discussions. All screenings/Q&A events take place on Eventive. Runs through 4/2. Full schedule: 877-318-0071; pbjff.org

Monday - 2/8 - Watercolor 102 Online Class presented by Creative Arts School, 51 N Swinton Ave, Delray Beach. Drawing skills necessary. Every M through 3/1 9 am-noon. \$207. Registration: 846-2349; oldschoosquare.org

2/8 - Origins of Modernism in Art Master Class with Philip Rylands, Ph.D. - Futurism at The Society of The Four Arts Gubelmann Auditorium, 100 Four Arts Plaza, Palm Beach. 11:30 am. \$25/lecture. Reservations: 805-8562; fourarts.org

2/8 - Discover Your Personal Painting Style Online Class presented by Creative Arts School, 51 N Swinton Ave, Delray Beach. Every M through 3/1 1-3 pm. \$143. Registration: 846-2349; oldschoosquare.org

2/8 - 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.

Municipal Meetings

2/8 & 22 - Lantana - Second & fourth Mondays at Lantana Town Hall, 500 Greynolds Cir. 7 pm. Agenda: lantana.org

2/9 - South Palm Beach - Second Tuesday at the South Palm Beach Town Hall, 3577 S Ocean Blvd. 4 pm. Agenda: southpalmbeach.com

2/9 & 23 - Boca Raton - Second & fourth Tuesday at Boca Raton City Hall, 201 W Palmetto Park Rd. 6 pm. Agenda: myboca.us

2/9 & 3/2 - Delray Beach - First & third Tuesdays at Delray Beach City Hall, 100 NW 1st Ave. 4 pm. Agenda: delraybeachfl.gov

2/12 - Gulf Stream - Second Friday at Gulf Stream Town Hall, 100 Sea Rd. 9 am. Agenda: gulf-stream.org.

2/16 & 3/2 - Boynton Beach - First and third Tuesday at Boynton Beach City Hall, 100 E Ocean Ave. 5:30 pm. Agenda: boynton-beach.org

2/23 - Manalapan - Fourth Tuesday at Manalapan Town Hall, 600 S Ocean Blvd. 10 am. Agenda: manalapan.org

2/25 - Briny Breezes - Fourth Thursday at Briny Breezes Town Hall, 4802 N Ocean Blvd. 4 pm. Agenda: townofbrinybreezes-fl.com

3/1 - Ocean Ridge - First Monday at Ocean Ridge Town Hall, 6450 N Ocean Blvd. 6 pm. Agenda: oceanridgeflorida.com

3/2 - Highland Beach - First Tuesday at Highland Beach Town Hall, 3614 S Ocean Blvd. 1:30 pm. Agenda: highlandbeach.us

Face coverings required. Every M through 3/1 2-5 pm. \$207. Registration: 846-2349; oldschoosquare.org

2/8 - The Funky Biscuit All Stars with Special Guest Tom Craig at The Funky Biscuit, 303 SE Mizner Blvd, Boca Raton. 5 pm doors open; 7 pm show. \$10-\$60. 465-3946; funkybiscuit.com

2/8-9 - The Music of Jerome Kern: All the Things You Are at The Delray Beach Playhouse, 950 NW 9th St. Virtual show 2/8-15 2 pm; in person M-T 2 pm & 7:30 pm. \$38. 272-1281; delraybeachplayhouse.com

Tuesday - 2/9 - Drawing & Painting Alla Prima Online Class presented by Creative Arts School, 51 N Swinton Ave, Delray Beach. Drawing skills necessary. Every T through 3/9 9-11:30 am. \$215. Registration: 846-2349; oldschoosquare.org

2/9 - Advanced Watercolor Online Class presented by Creative Arts School, 51 N Swinton Ave, Delray Beach. Previous watercolor painting experience required. Every T or W through 3/10 9 am-noon. \$255. Registration: 846-2349; oldschoosquare.org

2/9 - Get Some Perspective! Beginner Pencil/Marker/Watercolor Online Class presented by Creative Arts School, 51 N Swinton Ave, Delray Beach. Every T through 3/9 10 am-12:30 pm. \$215. Registration: 846-2349; oldschoosquare.org

2/9 - Pathway to Drawing; Beginner/Advanced Beginner Pencil & Charcoal Online Class presented by Creative Arts School, 51 N Swinton Ave, Delray Beach. Every T through 3/9 1:30-4 pm. \$215.

Registration: 846-2349; oldschoosquare.org

2/9 - Collage and Mixed Media Online Class at Creative Arts School, 51 N Swinton Ave, Delray Beach. Every T 1-4 pm. \$255. Registration: 846-2349; oldschoosquare.org

2/9 - Beginning Saxophone at Creative Arts School, 51 N Swinton Ave, Delray Beach. Virtual class. Every T 2-4 pm. \$175. Registration: 846-2349; oldschoosquare.org

2/9 - Guitar Fundamentals Online Class at Creative Arts School, 51 N Swinton Ave, Delray Beach. Every T 6-7:30 pm. \$135. Registration: 846-2349; oldschoosquare.org

2/9 - 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; \$5/advanced purchase general admission. 450-6357; artsgarage.org

2/9-10 - The Allman Betts Band 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. \$75-\$660. 465-3946; funkybiscuit.com

Wednesday - 2/10 - Watercolor Basics 101 Online Class at Creative Arts School, 51 N Swinton Ave, Delray Beach. Drawing skills necessary. Every W 9 am-noon. \$255. Registration: 846-2349; oldschoosquare.org

2/10 - Nature Journaling at Green Cay Nature Center, 12800 Hagen Ranch Rd, Boynton Beach. Observe, experience, record nature. Bring your own journal or notebook, writing utensils. Materials provided to all who need them. All ages.

10 am. \$3/. Reservations: 966-7000; pbcnature.com

2/10 - Different Strokes for Online Folks: Acrylic Class at Creative Arts School, 51 N Swinton Ave, Delray Beach. Every W 10 am-noon or 1-3 pm. \$175. Registration: 846-2349; oldschoosquare.org

2/10 - Resume Coaching at Delray Beach Public Library, 100 W Atlantic Ave. Every W 1-4 pm. Free. By appointment: 266-0196; delraylibrary.org

2/10 - Explore Painting: Intermediate/Advanced Oil/Acrylic Online Class at Creative Arts School, 51 N Swinton Ave, Delray Beach. Every W 1-4 pm. \$255. Registration: 846-2349; oldschoosquare.org

2/10 - Picturesque Pastels: Beginners/Intermediate Online Class at Creative Arts School, 51 N Swinton Ave, Delray Beach. Every W 1-4 pm. \$255. Registration: 846-2349; oldschoosquare.org

2/10 - Explore Painting: Intermediate/Advanced Oil/Acrylic Online Class at Creative Arts School, 51 N Swinton Ave, Delray Beach. Every W through 3/10 1-4 pm. \$255. Registration: 846-2349; oldschoosquare.org

2/10 - Zoom Photoshoot for Photographers at Creative Arts School, 51 N Swinton Ave, Delray Beach. Every W through 3/3 1:30-4 pm. \$175. Registration: 846-2349; oldschoosquare.org

2/10 - The Trojan War Museum by Ayse Papatya Bucak part of Florida Voices series at The Society of the Four Arts, 101 Four Arts Plaza, Palm Beach. Attend at the King Library or via Zoom. 1:30 pm. Free. Registration: 655-2766; fourarts.org

2/10 - Zoom Author Event: John Hart in Conversation with C.J. Box about his book *The Unwilling* presented by Murder on the Beach Mystery Bookstore. 5:30 pm. Admission w/purchase of book. 279-7790; murderonthebeach.com

2/10 - Euphoria Band Dinner Show at The Pavilion Grille, 301 Yamato Rd, Boca Raton. Held again 2/17 & 20. 6 pm dinner; 7:30 pm show. \$32/3 course dinner; \$25/menu selections; +tax/gratuity. Reservations: 912-0000; paviliongrille.com

2/10 - Intermediate Guitar Online Class at Creative Arts School, 51 N Swinton Ave, Delray Beach. Every W through 3/10 6-8 pm. \$175. Registration: 846-2349; oldschoosquare.org

2/10 - Delray Beach Virtual Candidate Forum streamed live from Arts Garage stage to Delray Beach Chamber of Commerce Facebook page. Candidates choose Chamber Advocacy Committee

Delray Beach GreenMarket

25th 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

questions randomly. 6-9 pm. Free.
facebook.com/delraybeach

2/10 - Delray Beach Orchid Society Virtual Meeting. 2nd W 7 pm. Free. 573-2422; delraybeachorchidsociety.com

2/10 - Virtual Lecture - Art Deco Celebrates France: Paris & Perpignan with Sharon Koskoff presented by The Art Deco Society of the Palm Beaches in collaboration with Armory Art Center, 811 Park Place, West Palm Beach. See website for Zoom link. 7 pm. Free. 276-9925; artdecopb.org

2/10-12 - Palm Beach Watercolor Society Virtual Watercolor Workshop with David Daniels. 9:30 am-3:30 pm. \$300/member; \$375/non-member. mrwatercolor.com

Thursday - 2/11 - 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

2/11 - Virtual Travel Sketchbook Class at Creative Arts School, 51 N Swinton Ave, Delray Beach. Every Th 10 am-12:30 pm. \$215. Registration: 846-2349; oldschoosquare.org

2/11 - Abstract Painting: Acrylic Online Class at Creative Arts School, 51 N Swinton Ave, Delray Beach. Every Th 11 am-1 pm or 3-5 pm. \$175. Registration: 846-2349; oldschoosquare.org

2/11 - Virtual Art About You Class at Creative Arts School, 51 N Swinton Ave, Delray Beach. Every Th. 1-4 pm. \$255. Registration: 846-2349; oldschoosquare.org

2/11 - Virtual 3D Printing and Design with TinkerCAD Class presented by Delray Beach Public Library, 100 W Atlantic Ave. Zoom live. 2 pm. Free. Registration: 266-0196; delraylibrary.org

2/11 - Ukulele Magic Online Class at Creative Arts School, 51 N Swinton Ave, Delray Beach. Every Th 6-7:30 pm. \$135. Registration: 846-2349; oldschoosquare.org

2/11 - Ocean Ridge Virtual Town Commissioner Candidate Forum via Zoom. Open to Ocean Ridge residents. Sponsored by Town of Ocean Ridge; moderated by League of Women Voters. 6-8 pm. Free. Visit oceanridgeflorida.com for Zoom link; Meeting ID 99394405913; Passcode 219479. Submit questions for consideration to mjranger@comcast.net.

2/11 - Watercolor Basics 101 Online Class presented by Creative Arts School, 51 N Swinton Ave, Delray Beach. Drawing skills necessary. Every Th through 3/11 6-8:30 pm. \$215. Registration: 846-2349; oldschoosquare.org

2/11 - Historical Fictionados Virtual Book Club: The Night Watchman by Louise Erdrich presented by Boca Raton Public Library, 400 NW 2nd Ave. Adults. 7-8 pm. Free. Registration: 393-7906; bocalibrary.org

2/11 - Improv Drop In Virtual Class with Rosalind Neilen & Stephon Duncan presented by Bob Carter's Actor's Workshop & Repertory Company, 1000 N

Dixie Hwy, West Palm Beach. Online via Zoom. Adults. Held again 2/18 & 25. 7-8:15 pm. Free. 833-7529; actorsrep.org

2/11 - Boca Raton Orchid Society Virtual Meeting. 2nd Th 7:30 pm. Free/member & 1st-time guest. 810-6547; brosonline.org

2/11 - Dirty Dozen Brass Band at The Funky Biscuit, 303 SE Mizner Blvd, Boca Raton. 8 pm doors open, 9 pm show. \$30-\$270. 465-3946; funkybiscuit.com

2/11 - Club Vibes: The Off the Ave Nightclub Experience for the Culture at Arts Garage, 94 NE 2nd Ave, Delray Beach. DJ's, great music, full bar. New DJ. In person or virtual. Age 21+. Every Th 9 pm-1 am. \$5/cover charge; ladies/free. 450-6357; artsgarage.org

Friday - 2/12 - Botanical Cyanotypes with Sammi McLean at The Society of the Four Arts Dixon Education Building, 240 Cocoanut Row, Palm Beach. Bring lunch. Held again 3/5. 10 am-2 pm. \$125/class. Reservations: 805-8562; fourarts.org

2/12 - 20 Events, Ideas And Discoveries Of The 1600s: Session 2 with Juliette de Marcellus at The Society of the Four Arts Dixon Education Building, 240 Cocoanut Row, Palm Beach. Every F through 4/2 11 am-12:30 pm. \$175/series. Reservations: 655-7226; fourarts.org

2/12 - An Eye for Capturing Portraits and Selfies with Steve Horan at Mounts Botanical Garden, 531 N Military Tr, West Palm Beach. Guided Walk for couples and friends features ways to capture a portrait or selfie. Noon-1 pm. \$24/couple non-member; \$10/couple member. Registration: 233-1757; mounts.org

2/12 - Everything About Color Online Class presented by Creative Arts School, 51 N Swinton Ave, Delray Beach. Every F through 3/12 1-3 pm. \$175. Registration: 846-2349; oldschoosquare.org

2/12 - The Good Liar (2019 R) 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

2/12 - Angelo and Band Reminisce Dinner Show at The Pavilion Grille, 301 Yamato Rd, Boca Raton. 6 pm dinner; 7:30 pm show. \$40+/4 course dinner; +tax/gratuity. Reservations: 912-0000; paviliongrille.com

2/12 - Laser Lights & Bites: Laser Beatles at South Florida Science Center and Aquarium, 4801 Dreher Tr N, West Palm Beach. 6-9 pm. \$12/adult; \$10/child & adult member; \$8/child member; free/child under 3. 832-1988; sfsiencecenter.org

2/12 - Red Burgundy Tasting at Gourmetphile, 501 SE Mizner Blvd #80, Boca Raton. 7 pm. \$75/person w/\$25 credited to purchase of wines tasted. 757-6208; gourmetphile.com

2/12-14 - Broadway Love Songs with Anthony Nunziata at The Wick Theatre and Costume Museum, 7901 N Federal Hwy, Boca Raton. 6 pm dinner; 8 pm show. \$100/person. Reservations: 995-2333; thewick.org

Saturday - 2/13 - The Art of Japanese Fabric Wrapping at Morikami Japanese Museum and Gardens Oki Education

Center, 4000 Morikami Park Rd, Delray Beach. Learn custom/art of Japanese gift presentation; hands-on workshop. Learn to wrap a wine bottle, a watermelon, books; make a tote bag. 10:30 am-noon or 1:30-3 pm. \$35/session + \$10 materials fee. Registration: 495-0233; morikami.org

2/13 - Food Trucks on the Trail: Out of Many Cafe at South Florida Science Center and Aquarium, 4801 Dreher Tr N, West Palm Beach. Cafe is in transition, enjoy Food Trucks on the Fisher Family Science Trail. 11 am-3 pm. \$17.95/adult; \$15.95/age 60+; \$13.95/child 3-12; free/child under 3. 832-1988; sfsiencecenter.org

2/13 - Palm Beach Kennel Club MuttDerby at 1111 N Congress Ave, West Palm Beach. Benefits greyhound adoption. Dogs must be spayed/neutered, up to date w/vaccine, on flea/tick prevention program, not aggressive toward people or dogs; races organized by weight; only MuttDerby pets allowed. Tracksides BBQ, face painting, balloon artists, music, more. Held again 2/27; grand finale 3/20. 11:30 am. \$20/dog. Registration: pbkennelclub.com; 683-2222

2/13 - The Way of Tea: Sado Demonstration at Morikami Japanese Museum and Gardens, 4000 Morikami Park Rd, Delray Beach. Observe an ever-changing tea ceremony demonstration rich in sensational subtleties. Noon, 1:30 pm & 3 pm. \$5 w/paid museum admission. 495-0233 x210; morikami.org

2/13 - Madama Butterfly 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 w/ID. 655-7226; fourarts.org

2/13 - Intimate Landscape Photography Class at Creative Arts School, 51 N Swinton Ave, Delray Beach. On-location, outdoors, socially distanced; face coverings required. Every Sat through 3/13 2-5 pm. \$255. Registration: 846-2349; oldschoosquare.org

2/13 - Revolver Wine Tasting at Gourmetphile, 501 SE Mizner Blvd #80, Boca Raton. 7 pm. \$100/person w/\$25 credited to purchase of wines tasted. 757-6208; gourmetphile.com

2/13 - The Waiters featuring Julian Marley at Old School Square Pavilion, 51 N Swinton Ave, Delray Beach. 8 pm. \$100-\$260/pod. 243-7922; oldschoosquare.org

2/13 - Big AI & The Heavyweights at Arts Garage, 94 NE 2nd Ave, Delray Beach. 8-10 pm. \$25-\$35. 450-6357; artsgarage.org

FEBRUARY 14-20

Sunday - 2/14 - Dogs' Day in the Garden at Mounts Botanical Garden, 531 N Military Tr, West Palm Beach. 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

2/14 - Valentine's Day Specials at South Florida Science Center and Aquarium, 4801 Dreher Tr N, West Palm Beach. Buy one get 1 free Planetarium Shows & Mini Golf all day. 9 am-5 pm. 832-1988; sfsiencecenter.org

2/14 - Palm Sundays: Jazz & Gospel in the Gardens with Ebony Chorale at Ann Norton Sculpture Gardens, 253 Barcelona Rd, West Palm Beach. 1-3 pm. \$15/adult; \$10/age 65+; \$7/student; free/child under 5. 832-5328; ansg.org

2/14 - Discover Your Personal Painting Style Online Class at Creative Arts School, 51 N Swinton Ave, Delray Beach. Every Sun 1-3 pm. \$175. Registration: 846-2349; oldschoosquare.org

2/14 - Story Central Virtual Storytelling Slam presented by Boca Raton Public Library, 400 NW 2nd Ave. Adults. 5-6:30 pm. Free. Registration: 393-7906; bocalibrary.org

2/14 - It Takes Two Valentine's Day Dinner Show at The Pavilion Grille, 301 Yamato Rd, Boca Raton. 5 pm dinner; 7:30 pm show. \$32/3 course dinner; \$25/menu selections; +tax/gratuity. Reservations: 912-0000; paviliongrille.com

2/14 - Ben Rosenblum Trio: A Jazz Valentine's Celebration at Arts Garage, 94 NE 2nd Ave, Delray Beach. 7-8:30 pm. \$35-\$40. 450-6357; artsgarage.org

2/14 - Easton Corbin at Old School Square Pavilion, 51 N Swinton Ave, Delray Beach. 7 pm. \$100-\$200/pod. 243-7922; oldschoosquare.org

Monday - 2/15 - President's Day 2/15 - The Funky Biscuit All Stars with Special Guest Rachelle Cobra at The Funky Biscuit, 303 SE Mizner Blvd, Boca Raton. 5 pm doors open; 7 pm show. \$10-\$60. 465-3946; funkybiscuit.com

2/15-16 - John Lloyd Young at Old School Square Pavilion, 51 N Swinton Ave, Delray Beach. 8 pm. \$220-\$400/pod. 243-7922; oldschoosquare.org

Tuesday - 2/16 - 6th Annual Diaper Drive Drop off at Junior League of Boca Raton, 261 NW 13th St. Presented by Boca West Children's Foundation & Junior League of Boca Raton. Since the beginning of COVID-19 diaper requests have increased by 27% in the tri-county area. Donate in person or visit the website. 9:30 am-3:30 pm. 488-6980; bocawestfoundation.org/6th-annual-diaper-drive

2/16 - Virtual Streaming Music Class at Delray Beach Public Library, 100 W Atlantic Ave. Live presentation or video at your convenience. Teens & adults. Join Facebook Group for Live Chat. 2-3 pm. Free. Registration: 266-0196; delraylibrary.org

2/16 - Tap for Adults at Lake Worth Playhouse, 713 Lake Ave. 4-week course concentrates on basics. Age 16+. Every T through 3/9 5:30-7 pm. \$60/4 weeks advance purchase; \$20/day walk-in. 586-6410; lakeworthplayhouse.org

2/16 - Charles Tood Interviewed by Oline Cogdill about his book *A Fatal Lie* presented by Murder on the Beach Mystery Bookstore. 6 pm. Admission w/purchase of the book. 279-7790; murderonthebeach.com

2/16 - Chamber Music Society of Palm Beach: Susanna Phillips, soprano; Anne Marie-McDermott, piano; and Paul Neubauer, viola at The Breakers Palm Beach, 11 S County Rd, Palm Beach. 6 pm reception; 7 pm concert. Season subscriptions \$1,750/person. 379-6773;

cmspb.org

2/16-20 - FOTOfusion 2021 Virtual Presentation hosted by Palm Beach Photographic Center. Virtual presentations by 40 photographers, new exhibition opening reception. Free-\$175. Registration: 253-2600; fotofusion.org

Wednesday - 2/17 - Metropolitan Stories: A Novel by Christine Coulson part of Page Turners Book Discussion Group at The Society of the Four Arts King Library, 101 Four Arts Plaza, Palm Beach. Virtual & in person. 1:30 pm. Free. 805-8562; fourarts.org

2/17 - Virtual Logo Design with Adobe Illustrator Class presented by Delray Beach Public Library, 100 W Atlantic Ave. Zoom presentation. 2 pm. Free. Registration: 266-0196; delraylibrary.org

2/17 - Virtual Presentation - The Company I Keep: My Life In Beauty with George Ledes at The Society of the Four Arts, 240 Cocoanut Row, Palm Beach. Part of Campus on the Lake Lecture Series. 2:30 pm. Call box office for tickets. 805-8562; fourarts.org

2/17 - Democracy Going Forward: The State of the American Presidency. Virtual lecture presented by Florida Atlantic University Department of History. Speaker David Gergen. 4 pm. \$15/general public. 297-6124; fauevents.com

2/17 - The Front Row Virtual Lecture Series: The Science of Sight with Kirill Martemyanov, PhD and Hollis Cline, PhD presented by Scripps Research. 4-5 pm. Free. Registration: frontrow.scripps.edu

2/17 - The Florida Project Film Discussion with Cristina Lucier, Ph.D. presented by Delray Beach Public Library, 100 W Atlantic Ave. 6:30 pm. Free. Registration: 266-9490; delraylibrary.org

2/17 - Friends Virtual Book Club: What Rose Forgot by Nevada Barr presented by Boca Raton Public Library, 400 NW 2nd Ave. Adults. 7-8:30 pm. Free. Email spanisriverbookclub@yahoo.com for Zoom link: 393-7968; bocalibrary.org

2/17 - The Brit Pack at Palm Beach State College Duncan Theatre, 4200 Congress Ave, Lake Worth. 8 pm. \$30. 868-3309; duncantheatre.org

Thursday - 2/18 - House on Endless Waters (tr. from Hebrew) by Emuna Elon part of Virtual World Readers Collective Book Club at Delray Beach Public Library, 100 W Atlantic Ave. 1 pm. Free. 266-0196; delraylibrary.org

2/18 - Virtual Distinguished Lecture Series - Ashley Robertson Preston, Ph.D.: Mary McLeon Bethune in Florida: Bringing Social Justice to the Sunshine State 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

2/18 - Garden Club Annual Speaker: P. Allen Smith at The Society of the Four Arts Gubelmann Auditorium, 2 Four Arts Plaza, Palm Beach. 2:30 pm. Free. Reservations: 655-7226; fourarts.org

2/18 - How America's Top Polo Player Helped Win World War II with Lynne Olson, Ph.D. at The Society of the Four

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Before

After

Arts, 240 Coconut Row, Palm Beach. Part of Campus on the Lake Lecture Series. 5 pm. \$20/non-member. Reservations: 805-8562; fourarts.org

2/18 - Drawing in the Galleries at Boca Raton Museum of Art Sculpture Garden, 501 Plaza Real, Mizner Park. Sketch among the artwork. 5:30-6:30 pm. Free w/paid admission. 392-2500; bocamuseum.org

2/18 - In Conversation with Jose Alvarez 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

2/18 - Musical Theatre Jazz for Adults at Lake Worth Playhouse, 713 Lake Ave. 4-week course concentrates on musical theatre jazz dance. Age 16+. Every Th through 3/11. 6-7 pm \$60/4 weeks advance purchase; \$20/day walk-in. 586-6410; lakeworthplayhouse.org

2/18 - Lantana Mayor's Race Candidate Forum at Town of Lantana Recreation Center, 418 S Dixie Hwy. 7-8 pm. Free. Submit questions to debate@lantanachamber.com before 2/10. 585-8664; lantanachamber.com

Friday - 2/19 - An Hour to Kill Virtual Mystery Book Club: Snow by John Banville presented by Boca Raton Public Library, 400 NW 2nd Ave. Adults. 10:30-11:30 am. Registration: 393-7906; bocalibrary.org

2/19 - Touch-Me-Not Cactus and Succulents at Mounts Botanical Garden, 531 N Military Tr, West Palm Beach. Starts in the Sun Garden of Extremes, ends in the Mounts Botanical Nursery where walkers plant their own succulent to take home. Noon-1 pm. \$15/non-member; \$5/member. Registration: 233-1757; mounts.org

2/19 - Red Joan (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

2/19 - Night Hike at Daggerwing Nature Center, 11435 Park Access Rd, Boca Raton. Join a naturalist on a nighttime boardwalk tour; look at nature from the point of view of its nocturnal residents. Ages 5+. 6 pm. \$5. Reservations: 629-8760; pbcnature.com

2/19 - La Boheme at iThink Financial Amphitheatre, 601-7 Sansburys Way, West Palm Beach. Held again 2/24. 7:30 pm. Tickets start at \$20. 833-7888; pbopera.org

2/19-20 - Christine Pedi: Great Dames at The Wick Theatre and Costume Museum, 7901 N Federal Hwy, Boca Raton. \$100/person. Call for times. Reservations: 995-2333; thewick.org

2/19-28 - Virtual 11th Annual Loop for Literacy at Bryant Park, Lake Avenue & Golfview Road, Lake Worth Beach. Benefits Literacy Coalition. Walk, run and/or cycle at the time/place of choice. Raise funds to donate. Online registration: \$50/bike roadside ride; \$15-\$35/5K USATF certified run, walk; \$10/Kids 1-mile fun run, 12 years & under; \$10/kids 100-yard dash. 7 years & under. 279-9103; literacypbc.org

Saturday - 2/20 - 20th Annual Bary Crown Virtual Walk for the Animals benefits Peggy Adams Animal Rescue League. Register to raise funds: 530-6057; walkwithpeggy.org

2/20 - Shibori Indigo Workshop: Shibori Napkin I - Beginner at Morikami Japanese Museum and Gardens, 4000 Morikami Park Rd, Delray Beach. 10 am-3 pm. \$65 + \$25/material fee. Registration: 495-0233 x210; morikami.org

2/20 - League of Women Voters Orientation interactive Zoom session. 10:30-11:30 am. Register: 276-4898; lwvpsc.org

2/20 - Karesansui Raking Demonstration at Morikami Museum and Japanese Gardens, 4000 Morikami Park Rd,

Delray Beach. Karesansui (dry landscape garden) is founded on Zen ideology using carefully composed rock arrangements, gravel or sand. 10:30 am. Free w/museum admission. 495-0233; morikami.org

2/20 - Japanese Traditional Music - Koto: Beginners I Class at Morikami Japanese Museum and Gardens Theater, 4000 Morikami Park Rd, Delray Beach. Every Sat through 3/27 10:30 am-12:30 pm. \$150/member; \$155/non-member. 495-0233 x210; morikami.org

2/20 - King Lear part of National Theatre Live Series at The Society of the Four Arts, 100 Four Arts Plaza, Palm Beach. Previously recorded. 2 pm. \$25/adult; \$15/student. 655-7226; fourarts.org

2/20 - Artist at Work Series: Tim Tate - Online at Boca Raton Museum of Art, 501 Plaza Real. Demonstration; discussion w/the artist about process, materials, concepts of creating art. 3-4 pm. \$5/non-member. RSVP: 392-2500; bocamuseum.org

2/20 - Authors Speak; The Impact of Race on American Society hosted by The Spady Museum, Arts Garage, Delray Beach CRA. Speaker Jason Reynolds; Q&A follows. 4:40-5:30 pm. Free. Live Zoom broadcast from The Spady Museum and Arts Garage Facebook pages. 279-8883; spadymuseum.com

2/20 - Roll The Stones: A Salute To The Music of The Rolling Stones & Much More at The Funky Biscuit, 303 SE Mizner Blvd, Boca Raton. 5 pm doors open, 7 pm show. \$25-\$210. 465-3946; funkybiscuit.com

2/20 - Tour of Italy Tasting at Gourmetphile, 501 SE Mizner Blvd #80, Boca Raton. 7 pm. \$100/person w/\$40 credited to purchase of wines tasted. 757-6208; gourmetphile.com

FEBRUARY 21-27

Sunday - 2/21 - Virtual Coffee and Comedy Class with Suki Lanh presented by Bob Carter's Actor's Workshop & Repertory Company, 1000 N Dixie Hwy. Online via Zoom. Adults. Noon-2 pm. \$20. 833-7529; actorsrep.org

2/21 - German Beerfest at American German Club of the Palm Beaches, 5111 Lantana Rd, Lake Worth. Masks required. Noon-5 pm. \$30/all-inclusive age 21+; \$15/age 13-20; \$8/age 6-12; free/child 5 & under. 967-6464; americangermanclub.org

2/21 - Palm Sundays: Jazz & Gospel in the Gardens with Avery Sommers at Ann Norton Sculpture Gardens, 253 Barcelona Rd, West Palm Beach. 1-3 pm. \$15/adult; \$10/age 65+; \$7/student; free/child under 5. 832-5328; ansg.org

2/21 - Music in the Museum: Dr. Roberta Rust - In Person at Boca Raton Museum of Art, 501 Plaza Real. 3-4 pm. \$5/member; \$20/non-member. RSVP: 392-2500; bocamuseum.org

2/21 - Philippe Lemm Trio at Arts Garage, 94 NE 2nd Ave, Delray Beach. 7-8:30 pm. \$30-\$35. 450-6357; artsgarage.org

2/21 & 26 - Die Zauberflote (The Magic Flute) at iThink Financial Amphitheatre, 601-7 Sansburys Way, West Palm Beach. Sun 2 pm; F 7:30 pm. Tickets start at \$20. 833-7888; pbopera.org

Monday - 2/22 - The Nickel Boys by Colson Whitehead part of Virtual Afternoon Book Group at Delray Beach Public Library, 100 W Atlantic Ave. Every 4th M 1 pm. Free. 266-0196; delraylibrary.org

2/22 - The Writers' Academy at Kravis Center: Evolving Technique. Focus/goal is a fictional story. Zoom sessions. Every M through 3/29 1:30 pm. \$325. 833-8300; kravis.org

Tuesday - 2/23 - Friends Book Club: A Fine Balance by Rohinton Mistry at Boca Raton Public Library, 400 NW 2nd Ave. Adults. 10:30-11:30 am. Free. 393-7968; bocalibrary.org

2/23 - Boca Raton Tech Talks Virtual 3-Part Series. The evolution of tech & innovation in Boca Raton. Presented by Boca Raton Historical Society & Museum and Boca Raton Innovation Campus (BRIC). Held again 3/2 & 3/9. Noon. Free. 395-6766; bocahistory.org

2/23 - ArtSmart Lecture Series: The 30-Year Transformation of Imperial Petersburg into Communist Leningrad: 1900-1930 with Dr. Stephen R. de Angelis at Kravis Center Persson Hall, 701 Okeechobee Blvd, West Palm Beach. 1:30 pm. \$25. 832-7469; kravis.org

2/23 - Virtual Editing Photos and Videos Class presented by Delray Beach Public Library, 100 W Atlantic Ave. Live presentation or video at your convenience. Teens & adults. Join Facebook Group for Live Chat. 2-3 pm. Free. Registration: 266-0196; delraylibrary.org

2/23 - The Liberation of Paris by Jean Edward Smith part of The Talk of Kings Book Discussion Group at The Society of the Four Arts, 101 Four Arts Plaza, Palm Beach. Attend at the King Library or remotely via Zoom. 5:30 pm. Free. Registration: 655-2766; fourarts.org

2/23 & 27 - Pagliacci at iThink Financial Amphitheatre, 601-7 Sansburys Way, West Palm Beach. 7:30 pm. Tickets start at \$20. 833-7888; pbopera.org

Wednesday - 2/24 - The World in a Grain with L.A. Journalist Vince Beiser presented by Delray Beach Public Library, 100 W Atlantic Ave. 6:30 pm. Free. Register for Zoom ID: 266-9490; delraylibrary.org

2/24 - Beach Property Owners' Association Virtual Candidates Forum features pre-recorded interviews of candidates focusing on barrier island issues; no viewer questions allowed. 7 pm. Free. BPOA members receive link via email; non-members request link at admin@bpoa-drb.com

2/24-26 - 8th Annual Delray Beach Fashion Week 2021 - Reimagined at multiple Delray Beach locations. Benefits Achievement Centers for Children & Families. Tickets limited due to COVID-19 and the safety of all attendees and participants. 243-1077; DDA@downtowndelraybeach.com

Thursday - 2/25 - 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

2/25 - Silver, Sword, and Stone: Three Crucibles in The Latin American Story with Marie Arana at The Society of the Four Arts, 100 Four Arts Plaza, Palm Beach. Part of Campus on the Lake Lecture Series. 5 pm. \$20/non-member. Book signing follows. Reservations: 805-8562; fourarts.org

2/25 - Night Stalkers at Green Cay Nature Center, 12800 Hagen Ranch Rd, Boynton Beach. Join a Naturalist on a boardwalk tour. Flashlights recommended, not

required. Age 9+. 6 pm. \$5/person. RSVP: 966-7000; pbcnature.com

2/25 - Three Artists Three Ways Series presented by Temple Israel of West Palm Beach, 1901 N Flagler Dr. Learn about a different contemporary artist each week and create a piece of art inspired by their style. Minimal cost for art supplies. 1st of 3, series continues 3/4 & 11. 7:30 pm. RSVP: 833-8421; temple-israel.com

2/25-26 - Film: Lucian Freud: A Self Portrait at Boca Raton Museum of Art, 501 Plaza Real, Mizner Park. Th 5:30-7 pm; F 2-3:30 pm. Free w/admission. RSVP: 392-2500; bocamuseum.org

Friday - 2/26 - 8th Annual Virtual Palm Beach Empty Bowls presented by The Church of Bethesda-by-the-Sea, 141 S County Rd, Palm Beach. Benefits Palm Beach County Food Bank. Communal online celebration. 11 am-2 pm. Sponsorships start at \$2,500. 670-2518; pbcfoodbank.org

2/26 - Aroma Therapy and Edible Plants at Mounts Botanical Garden, 531 N Military Tr, West Palm Beach. Meditative walk; learn about edible aromatics. Make a small therapy charm to take home. Noon-1 pm. \$15/non-member; \$5/member. Registration: 233-1757; mounts.org

2/26 - Behind the Scenes Restoration and Conservation at the Vatican Museums with Fr. Kevin Lixey at The Society of the Four Arts, 100 Four Arts Plaza, Palm Beach. Part of Campus on the Lake Lecture Series. 2:30 pm. \$20/non-member. Reservations: 805-8562; fourarts.org

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2/26 - Maria By Callas (2017 PG) at The Society of the Four Arts, 100 Four Arts Plaza, Palm Beach. 5:30 pm. \$10/non-member. Reservations: 805-8562; fourarts.org

2/26 - Moonlight Thief Works It in the Moonlight at Arts Garage, 94 NE 2nd Ave, Delray Beach. 8-10 pm. \$25-\$30. 450-6357; artsgarage.org

2/26-27 - Molly Hatchet 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-\$360. 465-3946; funkybiscuit.com

2/27 - Bob Merrill with Nicki Parrott and Ted Rosenthal: Celebrating the Wit and Wisdom of the Great American Songbook at Kravis Center Persson Hall, 701 Okeechobee Blvd, West Palm Beach. 7:30 pm. Tickets start at \$39. 832-7469; kravis.org

Saturday - 2/27 - Sea Angels Beach Cleanup at Ocean Inlet Park, 6990 N Ocean Blvd, Ocean Ridge. Last Sat 8-9:30 am. Registration: 369-5501; seaangels.org

2/27 - 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 for half-price admission for up to 4 guests. Must show ID badge. Last Sat 9 am-6 pm. 832-1988; sfscenter.org

2/27 - Cavalleria Rusticana & Pagliacci 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 w/ID. 655-7226; fourarts.org

2/27 - Virtual Masterworks IV: Bach, Stravinsky & Beethoven presented by South Florida Symphony Orchestra. 8 pm. \$45. 954-522-8445; southfloridasymphony.org

FEB 28-MARCH 6

Sunday - 2/28 - Bavarian Fruhschoppen at American German Club of the Palm Beaches, 5111 Lantana Rd, Lake Worth. No t-shirts or shorts. Facial coverings required except while at

your dining table. 4th Sun Jan-Sep 10:30 am-2:30 pm. Free admission; all items a la carte. 967-6464; americangermanclub.org

2/28 - 7th Annual Brain Bowl Bark & Browse at Burt Aaronson South County Regional Park, 1120 Park Access Rd, Boca Raton. 11 am-2 pm. \$20/person. 496-4222; brainbowlevents.org

2/28 - Palm Sundays: Jazz & Gospel in the Gardens with Ritah Wilburn at Ann Norton Sculpture Gardens, 253 Barcelona Rd, West Palm Beach. 1-3 pm. \$15/adult; \$10/age 65+; \$7/student; free/child under 5. 832-5328; ansg.org

2/28 - Coyote Wild at Arts Garage, 94 NE 2nd Ave, Delray Beach. 7-8:30 pm. \$30-\$35. 450-6357; artsgarage.org

2/28 - Nella at Kravis Center Persson Hall, 701 Okeechobee Blvd, West Palm Beach. 7:30 pm. Tickets start at \$39. 832-7469; kravis.org

Monday - 3/1 - Oxbridge Academy Annual Golf Classic Fundraiser at Ocean Course at The Breakers Palm Beach, 1 S County Rd. Golf legend/Oxbridge parent Greg Norman hosts a clinic w/Oxbridge

Academy Boys & Girls Varsity Golf Team. Shamle format tournament includes course events, lunch, post-tournament cocktail party, awards ceremony, silent auction. Includes greens fees, golf cart, boxed lunch, beverage cart & cocktail reception. 10 am check-in; 11:30 am golf clinic; 12:30 pm shotgun start; 4:30 pm awards/cocktail reception. \$2,980/foursome; \$745/single player. 972-9679; oapb.org/golf

3/1 - Origins of Modernism in Art Master Class with Philip Rylands, Ph.D. - Abstraction at The Society of the Four Arts, 100 Four Arts Plaza, Palm Beach. 11:30 am. \$25/lecture. Reservations: 805-8562; fourarts.org

3/1/2021 - The Art of The Host with Alex Hitz 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

3/1 - Virtual Culture & Cocktails - Bosom Buddies: A Dishy Chat Between Faith Prince & Rob Russell presented by Cultural Council for Palm Beach County. Streamed live online. 5-7 pm. \$15. RSVP: 472-3330; palmbeachculture.com

Tuesday - 3/2 - Photography on the Move Online Class presented by Creative Arts School, 51 N Swinton Ave, Delray Beach. Class 1 is a photoshoot at Lion Country Safari. Class 2 via Zoom. Held again 3/9. 9:30-11:30 am. \$79; + admission to Lion Country Safari. Registration: 846-2349; oldschoolsquare.org

3/2 - 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 3/23. Beginners 11 am-1 pm; Intermediate 1-3 pm. \$70/member; \$80/non-member; + \$80/flower fee. Registration: 495-0233; morikami.org

3/2 - Powerful Doctoring Women with Dr. Martha Bireda presented by Delray Beach Public Library, 100 W Atlantic Ave. 2 pm. Free. Register for Zoom ID: 266-9490; delraylibrary.org

3/2 - Virtual GPS for Social Distancing Class presented by Delray Beach Public Library, 100 W Atlantic Ave. Live presentation or video at your convenience. Teens & adults. Join Facebook Group for Live Chat. 2-3 pm. Free. Registration: 266-0196; delraylibrary.org

3/2 - The Yellow House: A Memoir by Sarah M. Broom part of The Talk of Kings Book Discussion Group at The Society of the Four Arts, 101 Four Arts Plaza, Palm Beach. Attend at the King Library or remotely via Zoom. 5:30 pm. Free. Registration: 655-2766; fourarts.org

3/2 - Virtual Art Salon presented by Armory Art Center, 811 Park Place, West Palm Beach. 7-9 pm. Free. Registration: 832-1776; armoryart.org

3/2 - Comedy Night at Arts Garage, 94 NE 2nd Ave, Delray Beach. In person or virtual. 8-10 pm. \$5-\$6. 450-6357; artsgarage.org

Wednesday - 3/3 - Ikebana: Flower Arrangement/Sogetsu Class at Morikami Museum and Japanese Gardens, 4000 Morikami Park Rd, Delray Beach. Contemporary flower arranging using fresh flowers. Every W through 3/24. Beginner 10:30 am-12:30 pm; Intermediate 1:30-3:30 pm. \$70/member; \$80/non-member; +\$60-\$80/flower fee. Registration: 495-0233 x237; morikami.org

3/3 - Virtual Image Compositing with Adobe Photoshp Class presented by Delray Beach Public Library, 100 W Atlantic Ave. Live Zoom presentation. 2 pm. Free. Registration: 266-0196; delraylibrary.org

3/3 - 2nd Annual Golf & Give Charity Game at Drive Shack, 1710 Belvedere Rd, West Palm Beach. Benefits scholarships,

year-end holiday celebration. Open bar/food. 5:30 pm registration; 6-8 pm game time. \$100/person. 239-2847; golfandgive2020.com

3/3 - League of Women Voters: Conversations with the League - Why Like Solar? Interactive ZOOM video session. 6-7:30 pm. Free. Join Zoom meeting no sooner than 5:50 pm via link: 276-4898; lwwpbc.org

Thursday - 3/4 - Sumi-e Ink Painting Class: Beginners Floral Session 6 at Morikami Museum and Japanese Gardens, 4000 Morikami Park Rd, Delray Beach. Every Th through 3/25 10:30 am-12:30 pm. \$41/member; \$45/non-member. Registration: 495-0233; morikami.org

3/4 - Virtual Distinguished Lecture Series - Leslie K. Poole: Saving Florida: Women's Fight for the Environment in the Twentieth Century 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

3/4 - Florida Talks - Dr. Caren Neile: Only in Florida Your Story, Your Art at Boca Raton Museum of Art, 501 Plaza Real. Online webinar. 5-6 pm. \$5/non-member. RSVP: 392-2500; bocamuseum.org

Friday - 3/5 - The Divine Order (Die Göttliche Ordnung) (2017 NR) 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

3/5 - First Friday Art Walk - Metamorphosis: Female Identity in the 21st Century at Arts Garage, 94 NE 2nd Ave, Delray Beach. 6-8 pm. Free. 450-6357; artsgarage.org

3/5 - Film Series: Shoplifters (2018 R) by Kore-Eda Hirokazu at Morikami Museum and Japanese Gardens Theater, 4000 Morikami Park Rd, Delray Beach. In Japanese, subtitled in English. 7 pm Tickets: \$5-\$7. 495-0233; morikami.org

3/5 - Drive-In Movie Night at Lantana Sports Park, 903 N 8th St. 7 pm. Free. 540-5754; lantana.org

3/5-6 - Dimensions Dance Theatre of Miami at Palm Beach State College Duncan Theatre, 4200 Congress Ave, Lake Worth. 8 pm. \$45. 868-3309; duncantheatre.org

3/5-14 - Festival of the Arts Boca. All events virtual & free. Register: 571-5270; festivalboca.org

Saturday - 3/6 - Omotesenke School Sado Tea Ceremony Workshop at Morikami Museum and Japanese Gardens Seishin-an Teahouse, 4000 Morikami Park Rd, Delray Beach. Learn basics of sado Tea Ceremony necessary to know in order to learn more about the aesthetics of sado or better understand, fully enjoy the tea ceremony itself. Workshop is a prerequisite to study sado at Morikami. 1:30-3:30 pm. \$40. Registration: 495-0233 x237; morikami.org

3/6 - An Evening with Keller Williams at Old School Square Pavilion, 51 N Swinton Ave, Delray Beach. 8 pm. \$120-\$300. 243-7922; oldschoolsquare.org

3/6 - The Chris Thomas Band: Swingin', Groovin', Steppin' at Arts Garage, 94 NE 2nd Ave, Delray Beach. 8-10 pm. \$40-\$45. 450-6357; artsgarage.org

3/6-7 - 2021 5th Biennial Kinetic Art Exhibit at Boynton Beach Town Center & Cultural Center, 120-125, E Ocean Ave. Outdoor & indoor artworks, live music, food for purchase, more. Sat 9 am-6 pm; Sun 11 am-4 pm. Free. 665-0029; boynton-beach.org

3/6-7 - 22nd Annual South Florida Garlic Fest at Wellington Green Park, 2175 Wellington Green Dr. Sat 10 am-9 pm; Sun 10 am-6 pm. \$53.50/VIP; \$11.64/general admission; free/child 12 & under. 279-0907; garlicfestfl.com

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The Florida Press Association has partnered with its members, including *The Coastal Star*, to create The Community News Fund, a way for readers like you to make tax-deductible donations to help support community journalism.

To contribute, go to <https://fpf.column.us/the-coastal-star>, where you will see this page and have the ability to donate by credit card. Or call 561-337-1553, to receive a pre-addressed envelope to the Florida Press Association with instruction to donate by check.

The Coastal Star serves the communities of Hypoluxo Island, South Palm Beach, Manalapan, Ocean Ridge, Briny Breezes, Gulf Stream, Highland Beach and eastern Delray Beach and Boca Raton. Your tax-deductible donation helps us continue to be the best source for community news.

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

The Coastal Star

3/2 - Powerful Doctoring Women with Dr. Martha Bireda presented by Delray Beach Public Library, 100 W Atlantic Ave. 2 pm. Free. Register for Zoom ID: 266-9490; delraylibrary.org

3/2 - Virtual GPS for Social Distancing Class presented by Delray Beach Public Library, 100 W Atlantic Ave. Live presentation or video at your convenience. Teens & adults. Join Facebook Group for Live Chat. 2-3 pm. Free. Registration: 266-0196; delraylibrary.org

3/2 - The Yellow House: A Memoir by Sarah M. Broom part of The Talk of Kings Book Discussion Group at The Society of the Four Arts, 101 Four Arts Plaza, Palm Beach. Attend at the King Library or remotely via Zoom. 5:30 pm. Free. Registration: 655-2766; fourarts.org

3/2 - Virtual Art Salon presented by Armory Art Center, 811 Park Place, West Palm Beach. 7-9 pm. Free. Registration: 832-1776; armoryart.org

3/2 - Comedy Night at Arts Garage, 94 NE 2nd Ave, Delray Beach. In person or virtual. 8-10 pm. \$5-\$6. 450-6357; artsgarage.org

Wednesday - 3/3 - Ikebana: Flower Arrangement/Sogetsu Class at Morikami Museum and Japanese Gardens, 4000 Morikami Park Rd, Delray Beach. Contemporary flower arranging using fresh flowers. Every W through 3/24. Beginner 10:30 am-12:30 pm; Intermediate 1:30-3:30 pm. \$70/member; \$80/non-member; +\$60-\$80/flower fee. Registration: 495-0233 x237; morikami.org

3/3 - Virtual Image Compositing with Adobe Photoshp Class presented by Delray Beach Public Library, 100 W Atlantic Ave. Live Zoom presentation. 2 pm. Free. Registration: 266-0196; delraylibrary.org

3/3 - 2nd Annual Golf & Give Charity Game at Drive Shack, 1710 Belvedere Rd, West Palm Beach. Benefits scholarships,

Send calendar items to
thecoastalstarcalendar@gmail.com

House of the Month

The foyer presents a spectacular floating staircase and unrivaled ocean views.



Minimalist in its design, the bar has a view of the oceanfront.



Elegantly styled and outfitted for culinary pursuits, the kitchen includes top-shelf appliances and a beautiful island for prep space as well as casual dining.

Oceanfront redo in Ocean Ridge

On a secluded street in one of the most sought-after areas of Ocean Ridge, this residence is sited on 80 feet of direct oceanfront. It features 4,700 +/- total luxurious square feet.

Designed and redone in 2019 by renowned architect Randall Stofft, the home has the finest finishes sourced from around the world, including hardwood floors. The design is a warm, yet chic, modern style with five bedrooms, five and one-half bathrooms in the main house, inside laundry room, two garages and a detached guesthouse with full bath.

The private courtyard entry creates just the right atmosphere for welcoming family, friends and guests to cozy sunset entertaining. Inspired by the ocean, the view-focused living/dining room is designed with floor-to-ceiling windows and doors that bathe the interior with abundant light. The first-floor master suite is a peaceful retreat where people can enjoy the sights and sounds of the Atlantic. The sumptuous Zen-like bathroom features custom design cabinets with a separate tub and shower and spaciouly designed closets.

Upstairs you will find four guest suites with ocean views and private balconies. The grounds offer swaths of lush lawn and tropical landscaping, a saltwater pool, sunken Jacuzzi and an outdoor shower.

Offered at \$9,200,000. Contact Candace Friis, 561-573-9966, candace.friis@corcoran.com, or Phil Friis, 561-706-1922, phil.friis@corcoran.com; The Corcoran Group, 901 George Bush Blvd., Delray Beach, FL 33483.



Located on a quiet one-way street in Ocean Ridge, the recently remodeled compound overlooks the Atlantic Ocean.

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Delray Beach
418 N. Ocean Boulevard | \$34,000,000
Jack Elkins | 561.373.2198



Bellaria | Palm Beach
3000 S. Ocean Boulevard 202 | \$2,795,000
Shelly Newman | 612.860.4599



PB Hampton | Palm Beach
3100 S. Ocean Boulevard 505N | \$2,350,000
3100 S. Ocean Boulevard 305N | \$2,150,000
Greg Giuliano | 561.301.1591



Ocean Ridge Yacht Club
5608 N. Ocean Boulevard | \$2,395,000
Terri Berman | 561.445.2929
Laura Gallagher | 561.441.6111



Ocean Towers | Boca Raton
2800 S. Ocean Boulevard PH-G | \$1,695,000
Terri Berman | 561.445.2929
Laura Gallagher | 561.441.6111



Downtown Delray Beach
280 N.E. 6th Avenue | \$1,095,000
Barry Frette | 954.448.2598



Delray Dunes | Boynton Beach
4608 Bonsai Drive | \$449,000
Margaret Russell | 561.358.1298

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