

Along the Coast

Trump carried coast, but Biden made inroads, analysis shows

Personality likely drove part of vote, some on island say

By Paul Blythe

How red, or blue, are the towns and neighborhoods that make up *The Coastal Star's* distribution area?

Red enough that Donald Trump won South Palm Beach, Manalapan, Ocean Ridge, Briny Breezes, Gulf Stream, most of Highland Beach and coastal Boca

Raton, and parts of coastal Lantana, Boynton Beach and Delray Beach.

Blue, here and there, to the extent that Joe Biden won most of coastal Delray Beach, a sliver of Highland Beach, a part of coastal Boca Raton, and the County Pocket between Gulf Stream and Briny Breezes.

That's 15 of the distribution area's 20 precincts that went for Trump, and five for Biden. Or 53.9% of the area's overall vote that went for Trump, compared to 45.4% for Biden, according to a *Coastal Star* analysis of data from the Palm Beach

Local races heat up

Ocean Ridge, Delray Beach and Lantana
Pages 11,18,23

County supervisor of elections website.

Not too surprising in an area where Democratic voters are outnumbered both by Republican voters and those registered with other parties or no party. Of the distribution area's 27,624 voters registered in time for the Nov. 3 election, 11,258 or 40.8% were Republicans, 8,154 or 29.5% were Democrats and 8,212 or

29.7% were other or no party.

What is surprising, perhaps, is that Biden picked up more non-Democratic votes than Trump did non-Republican ones in 18 of the 20 precincts, for an area total of at least 1,856 such crossover votes compared with at least 620 for Trump.

Those pickups helped Biden win five precincts even though Democratic voters outnumbered Republicans in only three of them. And they contributed to Biden's winning Palm Beach County, 56% to

See **PRECINCTS** on page 10



Brighter days for tourism

We are in the middle of South Florida's prime weather months. COVID-19 has meant fewer tourists, but plenty of people still are finding their way to South County beaches, and an upswing in tourism may be imminent. 'Tourism is in recovery but is not as strong as we had hoped,' Palm Beach Tourist Development Council Executive Director Glenn Jergensen wrote in an email to *The Coastal Star*. 'The bright side is 80% of Americans are ready to begin traveling over the coming months, and summer — which is our drive-market season — could be strong as folks get vaccines and decide to take a trip.'

LEFT: (l-r) Ellen Christy, Diane Bourgeois, Elizabeth Edwards, Tom Goulet and Deanna Chandonnet, visitors from Boston, converse Feb. 26 with Delray Beach lifeguard Chris Javens. Tim Stepien/*The Coastal Star*

Along the Coast

Region a hotspot for firms on move

Pandemic pushes techies, others to friendly climate

By Mary Hladky

When looking to move his corporate headquarters out of Los Angeles, Ben Spont, CEO of e-sports and gaming company Misfits Gaming Group, set his sights on Florida.

He considered Miami, Fort Lauderdale and Orlando. But Boca Raton won out.

Misfits Gaming leased 18,000 square feet of space at The Park at Broken Sound and made the move last year.

Spoont grew up in Boca Raton, giving the city a big edge. He valued the quality of life, availability of good office space and the relatively low cost of doing business in the city.

"Boca afforded us more bang for our buck," Spont said.

Beyond that, he is seeing a transformation in

See **TECH** on page 16



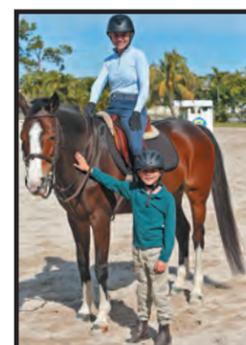
The Boca Raton Innovation Campus, once the IBM plant, designed by Marcel Breuer and Associates, is emblematic of Boca's history as a technology hub. Tim Stepien/*The Coastal Star*

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Coastal Star



Eric Shaw has been involved in the kitchen of Boca Helping Hands since its inception and served 18 years on the board of directors. **Tim Stepien/The Coastal Star**

Editor's Note

Pandemic no excuse for selfish behavior

One year after the start of a global pandemic, I realize I've gone feral. No pedicures or facials, haircuts only on a friend's patio, stuck at home paralyzed by fear of getting and spreading the disease to someone who might not survive.

I do venture after groceries and takeout, but otherwise have been content to stick close to home — safe in my comfortable little cave.

It wasn't until the vaccine became locally available that I realized just how feral I'd become.

Now that there's light glimmering at the mouth of my cave, I've decided it's time to shift out of survival mode. It's a little self-centered, after all, to focus only on my own security. It's hard to be a productive member of a community while sitting in a cave.

This has become increasingly obvious as I watch the feral nature of the upcoming March 9 municipal elections. Isn't it time we all drop our survivalist focus and shelve the partisan personality battles?

Baring teeth and pouncing on competitors may provide some stimulation to residents still hiding out from COVID-19, but it's counterproductive to building a better community.

There are big issues aimed at our South County communities that can't be ignored: extreme weather, sea-level rise, aging infrastructure, and the increasing cost of public safety, to name a few.

We elect our government officials to deal with these complex issues by looking beyond their own self-interest to what's best for the

community.

Increasing the tax base with larger homes, more density and urban infill seems attractive until fire-rescue vehicles can't pass through flooded streets during a summer thunderstorm. Protecting individual property rights sounds righteous until my neighbor's decisions block the sunlight on my home power source or create a permanent wetland in my once-dry yard.

There has to be a balance between the outcry of an organized, vocal few demanding the immediate right to increase their own property values and the long-term negative impact on overall quality of life or the value of neighboring properties.

There has to be give and take. No individual is going to have all the answers.

We elect local officials to make laws that benefit the community as a whole. They are, after all, our Home Rule. Without them we'd be legislated by state or federal governments — and no one in our libertarian-minded coastal communities wants that to happen.

As we see a glimmer of hope for a return to "normal" life after this horrible, deadly pandemic, it's time to shake off our feral tendencies, come out of our pandemic hibernation and gain a less self-focused understanding of the complex process of planning for an equitable future.



— Mary Kate Leming, Editor

FAU professor has lent a helping hand to his community for decades

By Sallie James

Eric Shaw's life has been one of service.

The 77-year-old is the longest-serving board member for the nonprofit Boca Helping Hands and a career-long academic with nearly 40 years teaching and mentoring students at Florida Atlantic University.

"I have always believed my purpose is to give back to other people in life in every way you can," said Shaw, who recently stepped down from the Helping Hands board after 18 years but will remain a board member emeritus. "I have had a wonderful career. There are so many people who are underprivileged and lack opportunities. It makes me feel good."

The Boca Raton resident and FAU emeritus professor of business decided years ago to split his time between Boca Helping Hands and FAU. His involvement at both organizations changed lives.

Shaw, who is single, joined Boca Helping Hands nearly 20 years ago when it operated from the small Friendship Missionary Baptist Church. Today it has its own building at 1500 NW First Court in Boca.

"At that time we were feeding a couple dozen people a day and now we do about 80,000 hot meals a year and about 80,000 pantry bags," Shaw noted.

Shaw fell in love with Helping Hands after he spent time volunteering for the

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organization so he could get an up-close look at its programs. He worked in the kitchen, the pantry bag line and everywhere else possible to find out more. He liked what he saw, so he joined the board, staying for 18 years.

"I was so impressed with it. It was an opportunity to do good," Shaw said.

The nonprofit gave Shaw the chance to enact his motto of giving back: Do all the good you can, in all the ways you can for everyone, as long as you can.

He is especially proud of the jobs programs he helped coordinate during his tenure at Boca Helping Hands.

"We made a big decision to not only be a soup kitchen but to also help people get jobs. We wanted to be a bridge to get them into the workforce," Shaw said. "We also started teaching them life skills. It was wonderful to see some of them get off aid, become independent and then return to become a volunteer to help others.

"It gives meaning to your life. You are making a contribution. We showed them they could do something," Shaw said.

Board President Gary Peters said Shaw's determination to serve and enduring kindness will be missed. However, in

mid-February, the organization made Shaw a board member emeritus, which means he will still attend board meetings, he just won't be a voting member.

"Eric has been a steadfast, proactive supporter of BHH from the very beginning, and I am confident that our close relationship will continue. We are greatly indebted to his service and wish him all the very best," Peters said.

Shaw's busy career at FAU was in full swing at the same time he was so involved at Boca Helping Hands.

Shaw has completed scores of teaching appointments, had numerous leadership roles and advisory positions, such as chair of a department, acting director of a school, associate dean of a college, and president of the FAU faculty. He has also published nearly 100 papers, engaged in consulting jobs and served as an expert witness.

As an undergraduate FAU student, Shaw still holds the all-time top spot on the President's List for quality points, having completed 24 credit hours with a 4.0 GPA in the spring term of 1972. His Ph.D. dissertation involved efficiency, and he has continued to publish academic papers on the topic.

Shaw is currently mentoring graduate students via video-conferencing.

"When you can see someone's eyes light up when they get something, seeing people get connected when they weren't connected. It never gets old," Shaw said. ★

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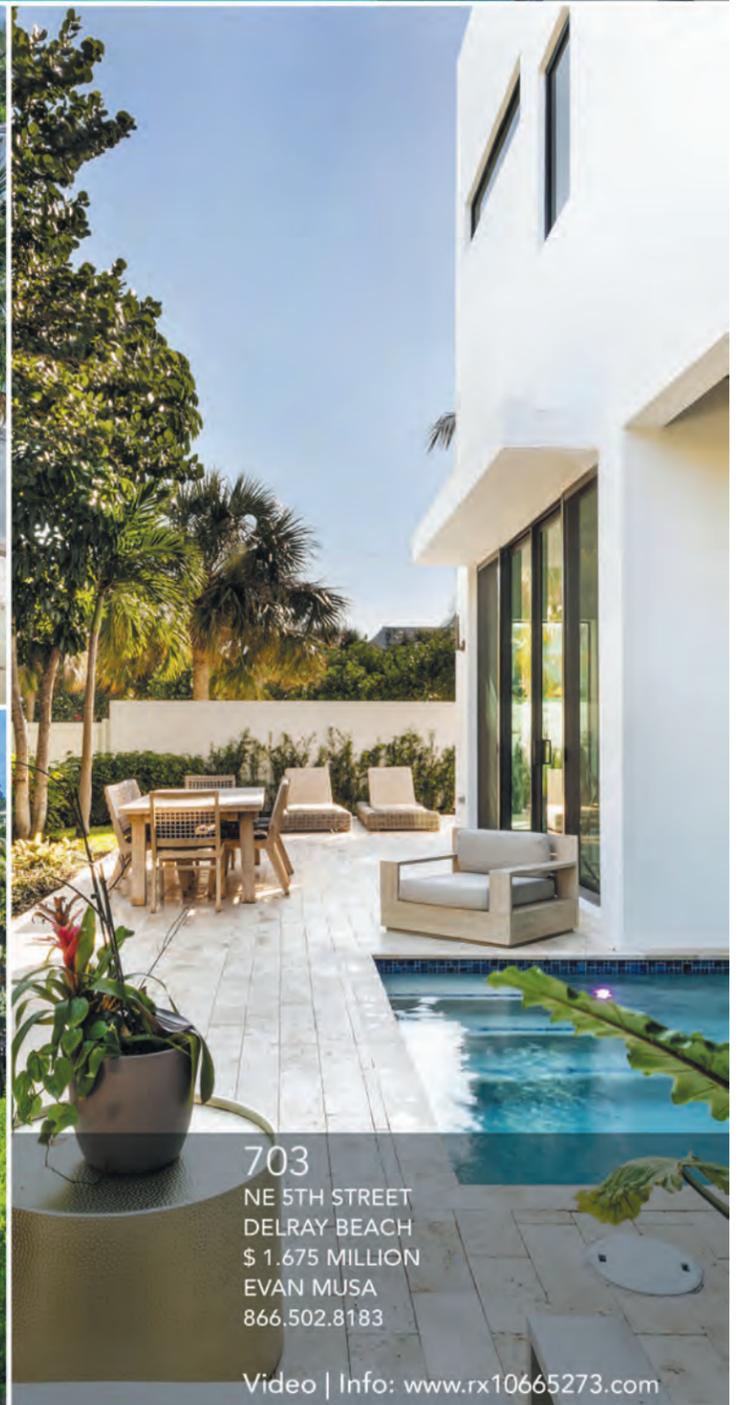
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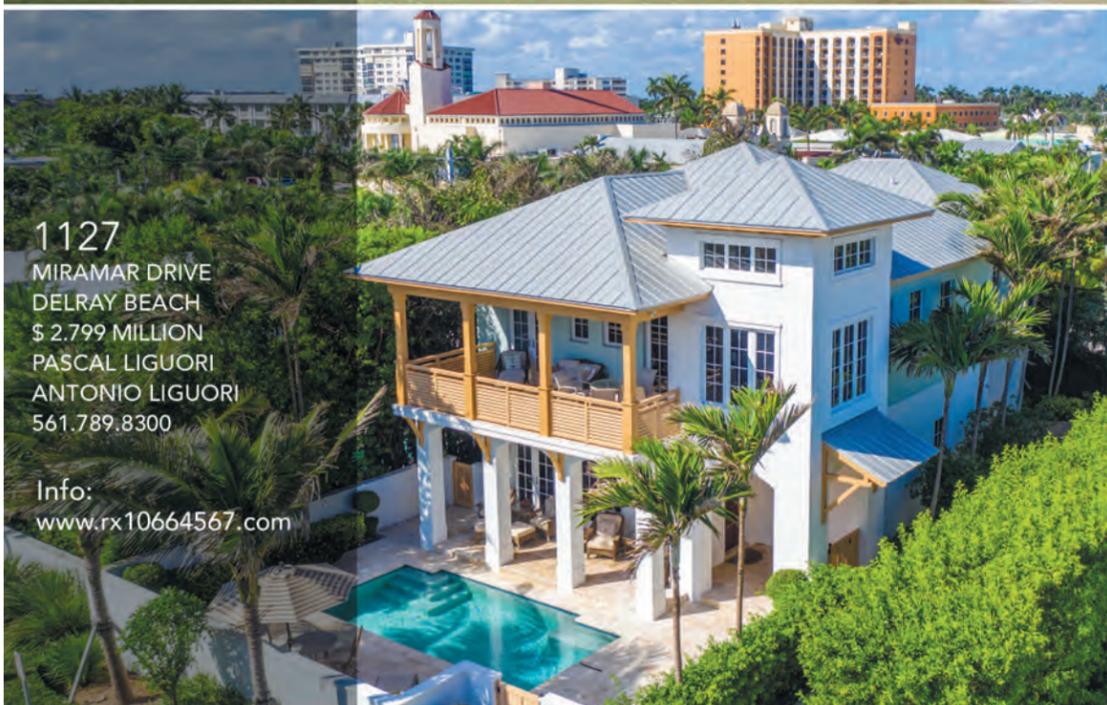
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South Palm Beach

Town Council approves contract with Palm Beach for dune project

By Dan Moffett

South Palm Beach Town Council members unanimously approved an interlocal agreement with Palm Beach on Feb. 9, clearing the last administrative hurdle in the way of their long-awaited dune restoration project.

The approval effectively turns control of executing the beach plan over to Palm Beach.

"They are in charge, so we have to wait and let it play out," said Mayor Bonnie Fischer. "We in South Palm Beach need to stay in our lane and go with the flow. We are the recipients of the project."

Palm Beach officials have

assured the council they have everything that's needed to begin hauling dredged sand to South Palm Beach's eroding dunes.

"The town of Palm Beach is responsible for securing all access," South Palm Beach Town Attorney Glen Torcivia said. "They've told us they've got this covered."

That is the good news for the town's beachfront condo owners.

The not-so-good news is that work on the project is likely to run well behind schedule.

South Palm Beach's restoration is a spin-off of a large, ongoing beach renourishment program in Palm

Beach. Fischer told the council that in recent weeks dredging and sand-stockpiling problems have occurred, forcing delays to the master project.

The mayor had said she hoped work could begin on the town's beaches by Feb. 1. That target has come and gone, and she now says the new start date for the project is April 1.

Fischer said Palm Beach officials have gotten clearance from the state Department of Environmental Protection to work through April but would need permission from Tallahassee to continue into May.

The concern for environmental officials is too

much disruption to the turtle nesting season if the work drags on.

"We've been waiting for this for 10 or 11 years now," Fischer said. "So we'll wait some more."

The partnership with Palm Beach is the replacement project for a plan to team with Palm Beach County to install groins on the beach. That ambitious initiative, more than a decade in the making, fell apart two years ago because of soaring costs and opposition from neighboring communities.

The new strategy calls for spending between \$700,000 to \$900,000 to buy sand from Palm Beach and install it with erosion-resistant plants along South Palm's dune line. Palm Beach intends to stockpile dredged sand at Phipps Ocean Park, then truck it to South Palm Beach.

Town Manager Robert Kellogg said one benefit from the efforts to make the groin plan happen was that easement

agreements for beach access with the condos were already in place.

"The easements were directly transferred from the county to the town of South Palm Beach," Kellogg said.

Fischer said she hopes that the restoration will provide some cushion between the condos and the relentless ocean incursion that has damaged seawalls and stairways.

"It's the only option we have left," she said.

In other business, town officials say they're satisfied with the warnings that went out when a broken water main in West Palm Beach forced a boil-water order for residents from Feb. 5 to 7.

The city sent out text messages and emails to all its customers, and South Palm Beach also sent alerts.

"We were in contact with them all weekend and kept residents informed," Kellogg said. ★



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Boca Raton

Preliminary work to start on Brightline station site

By Mary Hladky

Brightline is about to start preliminary work on its Boca Raton station. The company is planning to begin constructing a temporary parking lot in March, Ali Soule, Brightline chief of staff, said in an email.

The parking lot will be located immediately south of the Downtown Library.

The work also means the Junior League of Boca Raton's Community Garden will begin relocating to Meadows Park. Brightline agreed to spend up to \$300,000 on this project.

The garden was located along the FEC railway tracks east of the library.

Soule did not respond to a question on when station construction would begin. The city has leased 1.8 city-owned acres east of the library to the upscale rail company for the station and garage.

Although Brightline halted rail service between Miami and West Palm Beach last March because of the pandemic, it has moved forward on constructing stations in Aventura and PortMiami and hopes to resume service at the end of 2021. ★

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Local Voices

Elected officials lack money, political support to combat rising seas

Some politicians predict long-term solution will be a 'managed retreat' from state's coastal communities

By Jim Carroll

With not much state or federal assistance available, Florida communities have been left to pay most of the costs to defend their towns from the damage caused by sea-level rise.

Most communities can't afford it. This puts their elected officials in a tough spot.

Mind-blowing costs

A sampling of what Florida communities need to spend to protect against sea-level rise:

- \$378 million for Delray Beach (pop. 65,000), to raise roads, build/elevate seawalls, and upgrade other infrastructure (city's entire annual budget: \$225 million).
• \$75 million for South Miami (pop. 13,000), to replace flood-susceptible septic tanks with a municipal sewer system (city's entire annual budget: \$19 million).
• \$1.8 billion for Monroe County, to raise roads and relocate utilities (county's entire annual budget: \$460 million).

These are the costs today. As Boynton Beach's sustainability coordinator, Rebecca Harvey, said about sea-level rise expenditures, "You can spend a dollar now — or \$6 later."

Telling unpleasant truth

Elected officials have to tell constituents the truth about the cost and affordability of actions to confront sea-level rise. Not easy.

Philip Stoddard, former mayor of South Miami, observed, "Few political leaders are prepared to tell people the truth. ... We don't have the means to finance the infrastructure that would be needed to adapt the area to the sea-level rise of the coming decades."

Most communities don't have the money to adapt to sea-level rise. A number of them have tried to raise the money, but many voters have resisted.

In Highland Beach (pop. 3,885), commissioners in 2019 proposed that the town spend \$45 million on improvements along A1A to largely help protect against rising seas. The town's entire annual budget is \$17 million.

Town residents responded with personal verbal attacks and complaints, especially at Town Commission meetings.

In the three referenda on the proposed expenditures, they voted about 94% to 6% against them. Thereafter the mayor and vice mayor left office and the mayor was replaced by a leader of the opposition.



Better to retreat?

Lacking the necessary funds and facing a possible Highland Beach situation if they try to raise the money, some local officials feel stuck. Some are starting to resign themselves to a policy of "managed retreat" from threatened areas.

In South Miami, "a small city with 13,000 people, it would cost \$75 million to replace the defective septic tanks with a municipal sewer system," Stoddard said. "We need to tell people it's time to think about retreat while there's still time to do it calmly."

Many homes in Surfside (pop. 5,725) are at risk from rising seas. The town doesn't have the money to save them. In 2019, then-Mayor

Daniel Dietch and the Town Commission prepared a detailed climate crisis action plan, including a "resilience fund." That money is not for saving homes. Rather, Dietch said, it's "a euphemism for planned relocation" — managed retreat.

"Retreat is that word nobody likes to use," said Monroe County Administrator Roman Gastesi, even though "we're going to have to retreat from some areas."

Jim Cason, a former three-term mayor of Coral Gables, concurs. Retreat is "inevitable," he said.

Stopgap measures

If you're an elected official and you don't want to have your head handed to you while trying to raise money, but you also don't want to consign your community's vulnerable

areas to managed retreat, you can profess optimism and implement cheaper, essentially stopgap measures.

Of course, stopgap measures will leave you in the same place as doing nothing — wet. It just may take a little longer.

As Cason said about stopgap measures he helped implement in Coral Gables, "We're working hard to create solutions until we inevitably must retreat."

Not enough aid from state

Beleaguered local officials have not been able to turn to the state for meaningful funding. Gov. Ron DeSantis and the legislature are trying to create the impression that they care about the cost of combating sea-level rise. They're not succeeding.

On Jan. 22, the governor stood in front of a pretty backdrop in Key Largo and

announced grants totaling \$10.4 million to Monroe County to fight rising seas. The county needs \$1.8 billion with a "b," according to the County Commission.

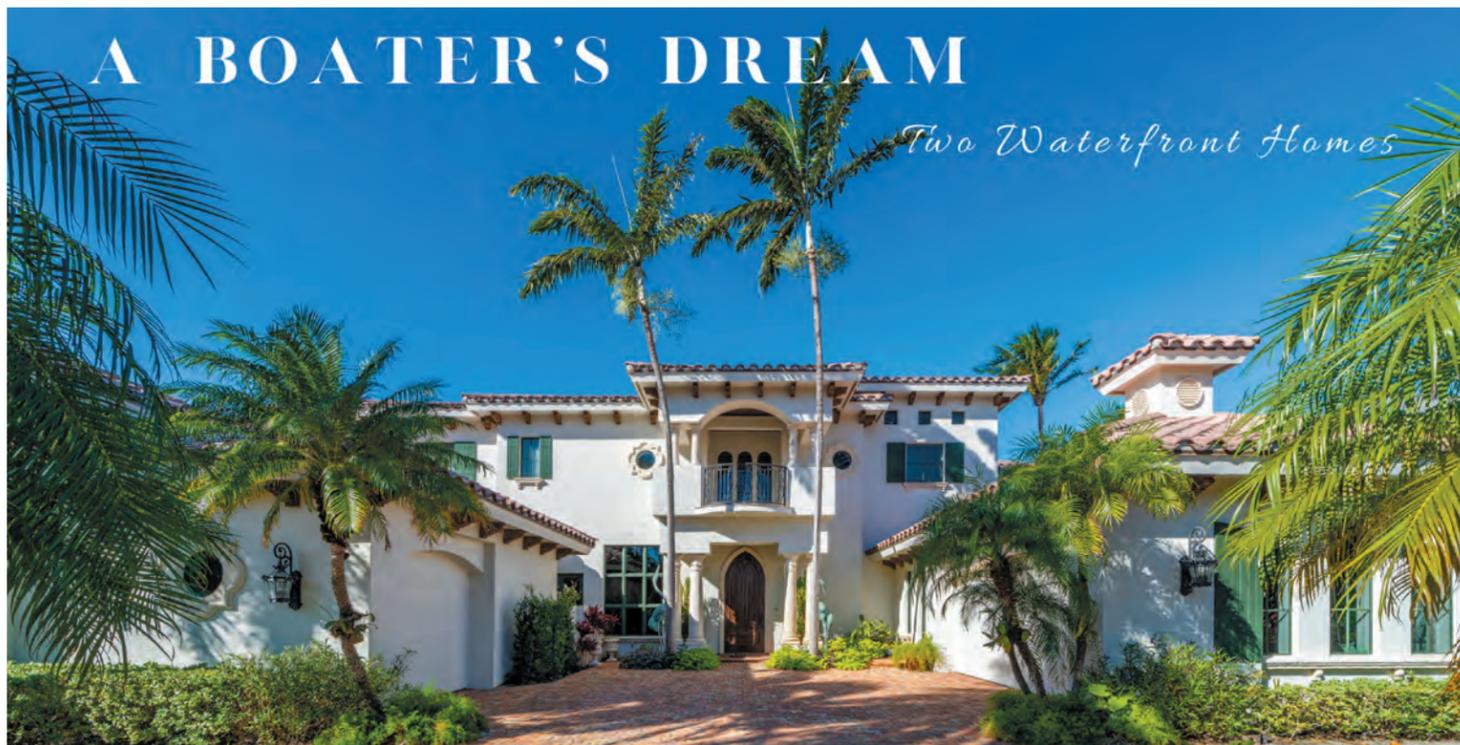
In this time of climate crisis, serving as an elected official in coastal Florida is no walk in the park.

"The Invading Sea" is the opinion arm of the Florida Climate Reporting Network, a collaborative of news organizations across the state focusing on the threats posed by the warming climate.

Jim Carroll is a Riviera Beach attorney and environmental activist, and was a candidate for the Florida House of Representatives in 2020.



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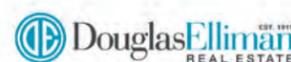
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Along the Coast

Small towns annoyed that state is bloating their COVID-19 case counts

By Dan Moffett

Manalapan officials were more than a little perplexed recently when the Florida Division of Emergency Management released statistics that reported 41 people had tested positive for COVID-19

in the town of 466 people.

The number was at least five or six times greater than what Town Manager Linda Stumpf believes Manalapan has had.

“It’s not close,” Stumpf said. “The number should certainly be less than 10.”

Officials next door in South

Palm Beach experienced the same thing. The state reported 27 cases in the town, population 1,470.

Mayor Bonnie Fischer and Town Manager Robert Kellogg have been tracking cases closely for the last year, and they believe the town had no more than six. They say Town Hall keeps in continuous contact with condo managers and residents, so officials know how many cases they’ve had.

“We know there haven’t been anything near 27 cases,” Fischer said. “It’s that ZIP code problem again.”

Small municipalities across Florida are becoming resigned to the likelihood that the state’s COVID-19 report will not be accurate, and almost always, the number of cases reported will be too high. The reason is “that ZIP code problem.”

The Division of Emergency Management bases its data collection on patients’ ZIP codes, but they are not precise instruments for capturing the cases in small towns, which often share their ZIP code numbers with much larger demographic areas.

For example, Manalapan is part of the 33462 ZIP code area that sprawls more than 6 miles west and includes some 30,000 people living in Lake Worth, Lantana, Atlantis and Hypoluxo.

Manalapan officials say COVID-19 cases from elsewhere in the large ZIP code area are being incorrectly attributed to the small town.

South Palm Beach shares a ZIP code with some 8,800 residents in Palm Beach. The state is mixing in some of them in the case counting.

Kellogg has tried to investigate the state’s methodology — with little result. “The only response I get is that we are included in the Palm Beach ZIP code number of cases,” he said.

Manalapan, too, has looked for answers. “I haven’t been able to get anything specific,” Stumpf said.

Emergency Management in Tallahassee has not responded to requests for comment.

State officials do say, however, that the COVID-19 numbers should be considered preliminary and could require more investigation. “The data in this report are provisional,” a disclaimer says, “and subject to change.”

The state’s counting is particularly annoying to South Palm Beach, because few Florida communities have been as proactive in fighting the virus. The town has handed out 13,000 face masks to residents and brought in the county’s mobile testing unit four times.

“Our town has been very careful,” Fischer said. “The numbers just aren’t right.” ★

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Along the Coast

Nonprofit's buckets engage public in cleaning litter from beaches

By Larry Keller

One bucket at a time, Andrew Abbott is making county-owned beaches cleaner. The Loxahatchee resident formed a nonprofit last year, Beach Bucket Foundation, to place plastic buckets in wooden containers or stations for beachgoers to use and collect trash on the sand.

"I have them installed in all of the Palm Beach County coastal parks from Tequesta down to Boca," Abbott said.

In all, he has buckets in 15 parks with 25 stations, including at South County beaches: South Inlet Park in Boca Raton, Boynton Inlet and Ocean Inlet Park in Ocean Ridge, Gulfstream Park and Ocean Ridge Hammock Park.

Boynton Beach Oceanfront Park is the sole municipal beach on which Abbott has buckets. He's hoping to add more.

The process is simple: A beachgoer takes a bucket, places trash in it, empties the contents in the nearest trash can and returns the bucket to the station from which it was borrowed.

"We have been getting phenomenal response from the public," said Jimmy Davis, Palm Beach County director of aquatics. "It's so simple, but it's perfect. What a great concept."

Abbott personally constructs the shelved wooden stations where the buckets are stored. Their size varies depending on the beach.

"People are using them. They are cleaning up the beaches on their own. It is working," he said.

How does he know? Lifeguards tell



Andrew Abbott's Beach Bucket Foundation is providing trash pickup buckets at Boynton Inlet (above), Ocean Inlet Park in Ocean Ridge, South Inlet Park in Boca Raton, Gulfstream Park, Ocean Ridge Hammock Park and 11 other Palm Beach County coastal parks. **Jerry Lower/The Coastal Star**

him so. Some buckets are stolen, and Abbott replaces them. But, he said, "I am very surprised at how many haven't gone missing. I've been very humbled by the honor system."

Abbott buys the pails about 50 at a time from Home Depot. None of this costs the county a cent. That's because he also finds sponsors.

"I'm a one-man operation, basically," he said. "I reach out to the local businesses and ask them if they want to

get involved. If they do, they send me their logo and I send it to my printer. I put my sticker on [a bucket] and their stickers on, and I place the bucket in a station.

"Without those guys, this wouldn't be possible. When you get the businesses involved, you start building awareness in the community."

Some cities have created their own beach bucket programs, or plan to. Boca Raton's Community Coastal Cleanup

provides metal buckets next to signs explaining the program at Red Reef, Spanish River and South Beach parks.

In the coming months Highland Beach plans to buy 40 to 50 buckets and place them at four sites along the beach. The buckets will have the town's logo and a slogan on them.

Picking up trash addresses, in a small way, the enormous global problem of beach and ocean pollution, especially from plastics.

The nonprofit Ocean Conservancy has mobilized an annual international coastal cleanup for more than three decades. In 2018, 891,255 items were collected from Florida beaches, weighing nearly a half-million pounds, the group says.

The most common types of beach trash contain plastic. The most numerous items collected on U.S. beaches are cigarette butts. Even cigarette filters contain plastic, the conservancy says. Among the other most common litter picked up: bottle caps, beverage bottles, and straws and stirrers, all made of plastic.

Plastic ends up in oceans, and it doesn't fully degrade. Marine animals, like sea turtles and fish, mistake small pieces for food. That can sicken and kill them, and be passed up the food chain.

And so, Abbott continues leaving buckets for beach visitors to do their small part to help.

"Usually, I'll stop at a beach and do a little beach cleanup myself," he said. ★

Mary Hladky and Rich Pollack contributed to this story.

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PRECINCTS

Continued from page 1

43.2%, just as Trump's area numbers contributed to his taking Florida with 51.2% of the statewide vote to Biden's 47.9%.

And, of course, it is the state total that delivered Florida's 29 electoral votes to Trump. But Biden scored a 306-232 triumph nationwide and became the 46th president of the United States.

So what does all that tell us about the coastal area's voters?

That they, like voters throughout the nation, are primarily divided into two types — one that makes decisions based on policy, and the other on personality. So say a couple of Delray Beach pros who know Palm Beach County politics about as well as anyone.

Andre Fladell has been consulting for campaigns, mostly Democratic but not always, for more than 40 years. Mary McCarty served as a Delray Beach city commissioner, Palm Beach County commissioner and the county's Republican Party chair for 22 years before she left politics in 2009 after pleading guilty to a federal charge of honest services fraud and serving 21 months of a 3½-year prison sentence.

In national and statewide races, the policy voters typically are the extremes of both sides, the hard left and hard right who vote the party line. Fladell also calls them the "message voters." Personality voters, or what Fladell calls "messenger voters" tend to be the soft Republicans and soft Democrats, and they often meet in the middle.

"The middle tries to navigate between message and messenger, and for soft Republicans, the messenger became the overriding factor," he said. Biden "peeled off the soft Republicans."

The crossover votes for Biden weren't voting against Trump's immigration or tax policies, Fladell said. They were fighting a guy who kept attacking Rosie O'Donnell and claiming he was the greatest ever.

"Humility gets the middle," he said. "Trump had policies the Republicans liked and the narcissism they didn't. ... Biden became more warm and fuzzy on a number of levels, but it didn't matter who ran for the Democrats. It was a referendum on Trump."

Similarly, McCarty said the ability of the coastal area's Republican plurality to give Trump a majority of the area's vote "speaks to people looking at policy over personality, and supporting those policies of President Trump compared to Joe Biden's policies."

So what about McCarty's east Delray neighborhood, precinct 4102, where Republicans outnumbered Democrats 569 to 469 but Biden won 594 votes to Trump's 553?

"In my precinct, more people were voting personality than policy," McCarty said. "They were just tired of the tumult that we've had the past four years."

But here McCarty

HOW WE VOTED IN THE 2020 ELECTION

| Precinct | Trump | Biden | |
|----------------------------|-------|-------|-----|
| Lantana (Hypoluxo Island) | 4002 | 546 | 539 |
| South Palm Beach | 4004 | 606 | 526 |
| Manalapan | 4006 | 196 | 105 |
| Ocean Ridge | 4028 | 769 | 606 |
| Briny Breezes | 4038 | 133 | 93 |
| County Pocket | 4044 | 39 | 52 |
| Boynton Beach (St Andrews) | 4036 | 464 | 375 |
| Gulf Stream | 4072 | 450 | 272 |
| Delray Beach | 4074 | 444 | 513 |
| Delray Beach | 4102 | 553 | 594 |
| Delray Beach | 4112 | 879 | 799 |
| Highland Beach | 4129 | 62 | 33 |
| Highland Beach | 4128 | 1019 | 810 |
| Highland Beach | 4156 | 630 | 654 |
| Boca Raton | 4172 | 820 | 872 |
| Boca Raton | 4190 | 1302 | 966 |
| Boca Raton | 4226 | 438 | 321 |
| Boca Raton | 4228 | 777 | 720 |
| Boca Raton | 4224 | 1249 | 730 |
| Boca Raton | 4230 | 502 | 430 |

Precincts are listed north to south and represent *The Coastal Star's* distribution area. **SOURCE:** Palm Beach County Supervisor of Elections. **MAP:** Bruce Borich/The Coastal Star

diverged from Fladell, as she described the tumult not as of Trump's making but as "the pushback" Trump had received from Democrats since his inauguration. "A lot of people were just exhausted," she said.

In the count for McCarty's precinct, Biden picked up 125 more votes than there were Democrats in the precinct while Trump won 16 fewer votes than there were Republicans.

That means Biden had to have won at least 125 votes from either Republicans or the precinct's 468 other- and non-party voters.

Six people voted for other candidates, while 353 sat out the election. With that many people sitting out, the precinct had a voter turnout of 76.6%, very close to the county's average turnout of 76.3%.

Of the neighborhood's swing to Biden, McCarty said, "I'm a policy voter. But I know Republicans, friends of mine, who can't get past the personality issue, so it doesn't surprise me."

Another resident of the neighborhood, a Democrat who voted for Biden, also wasn't surprised. Coldwell Banker real estate agent Terry Roy said there were no Trump yard signs in the neighborhood whereas there were Biden/Harris signs, including one in her yard that vandals stole or knocked down several times and even once replaced with a Trump sign. A stalwart, Roy reposted her Biden sign each time, always a little more securely than before.

She said she doesn't talk to neighbors about the election — "It's not the type of thing you talk about in polite company" — but added, "Republicans that I know who voted for Trump again don't advertise it."

Biden gained in 3 precincts

McCarty and Roy's precinct was one of three Republican-leaning precincts where Biden picked up enough non-Democratic votes to win.

The other two were:

- Precinct 4172, at the north end of Boca Raton east of the Intracoastal Waterway, with 733

Republicans, 705 Democrats and 679 other. Biden won 872-820, meaning he picked up at least 167 non-Democratic votes while Trump picked up at least 87 non-Republican ones.

- Precinct 4156, at the southern end of Highland Beach, with 586 Republicans, 533 Democrats and 434 other. Biden picked up at least 121 non-Democrats to Trump's 44 non-Republicans, allowing Biden to win 654-630.

In 2016, then-Democratic presidential candidate Hillary Clinton lost to Trump in all three of these precincts.

Jack Fox, who lives at the Yacht and Racquet Club in Boca Raton's precinct 4172 and is a former president of the Beach Condominiums Association of Boca Raton and Highland Beach, said he was not surprised that Biden won the precincts in Boca Raton and Highland Beach.

Like Fladell and McCarty, he said, "This may not have been an election about principles and policies. It may have been about personality."

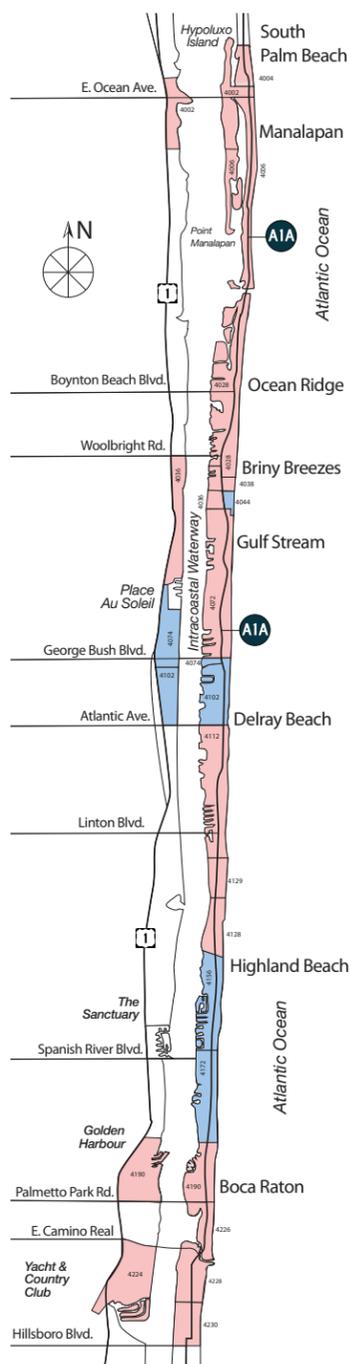
"I know a lot of Republicans who voted against Trump clearly because of his behavior. They didn't like Trump's personal traits. His total un-presidential behavior lost Republicans the election."

Fox also noted that some women in his precinct "were just incensed by President Trump's behavior."

"Trump lost the support of suburban women," he said, "and many women in Palm Beach County were suburban women when they lived up North."

County Democratic Party Chair Terrie Rizzo agreed that woman voters and many other people just tired of Trump may have contributed to Biden's pickup of crossover votes in the coastal area but she said it also had a lot to do with her party's get-out-the-vote and vote-by-mail efforts.

"We did better than would have been anticipated based on straight registration, so that's very good and shows that the hard work of our precinct people is very good. ...



"We have some very hardworking precinct people in this area. I would attribute the turnout to that."

Biden's other two wins came in Democratic-leaning precincts that Clinton also won: 4044, the County Pocket, and 4074, another Delray precinct just north of the one where McCarty and Roy live. It includes a slice of the barrier island and many homes west of the Intracoastal. But Biden lost in the coastal area's third Democratic-leaning precinct, a precinct that Clinton won four years earlier.

Precinct 4002, in east Lantana and including Hypoluxo Island, was one of two precincts where Trump got more non-Republican votes than Biden got non-Democratic ones.

The precinct has 543 Democrats, 506 Republicans and 445 other voters but Trump won 546-539, meaning Trump picked up at least 40 non-Republican votes while Biden didn't win as many votes as there were Democrats in the precinct.

"That is interesting," Lantana Councilman Malcolm Balfour said when told of the results.

"In this neighborhood, there are many wealthy people," Balfour surmised in trying to explain the vote. He also said that he lives in the precinct but isn't among the wealthy. "And many prefer Trump's economic policies to Biden's."

The other precinct where Trump picked up more crossover votes was 4004, the sole precinct for South Palm

Beach. Its voter registration was 532 Republicans, 462 Democrats and 422 other-party voters, and Trump won 606-526, meaning he picked up at least 74 non-Republican votes to Biden's minimum of 64 non-Democrats.

Noting that Trump won South Palm Beach in 2016 as well, Mayor Bonnie Fischer said that based on her conversations with council members preceding her, "I had been assumptive there was more of a Democratic slant to our town and I was very surprised in 2016 when people supported Trump. ... Now I guess it's happened twice. The population of our town seems to be changing."

The other 13 precincts Trump won in *The Coastal Star* distribution area also were all Republican-leaning and consist of five in Boca Raton, two in Highland Beach, and one in each of Delray Beach, Gulf Stream, Boynton Beach, Briny Breezes, Ocean Ridge and Manalapan.

Biden outpaced Clinton

Overall, Biden did only slightly better than Clinton in the area's 20 precincts. He won five precincts to her three. His margin of loss to Trump was 8.5 percentage points, whereas Clinton's margin of loss was 9.6 percentage points.

And Biden received 10,010 votes to Clinton's 8,190, an improvement of 22.2%, slightly better than Trump's improved vote total of 19.1%. The increase for both Biden and Trump reflects the 18.3% increase in ballots cast in 2020 over 2016 as well as the fact that far fewer votes, less than half, went to third-party candidates in 2020 than did in 2016.

But Trump's improvement was more significant than Biden's in the countywide vote. Trump received 28.7% more votes in Palm Beach County than he did in 2016, whereas Biden's county performance was just 15.7% better than Clinton's.

A few political observers, Fox of Boca Raton and Balfour of Boca Raton and Balfour of Boca Raton, noted the vote preceded the Jan. 6 assault on the U.S. Capitol, implying that people might vote differently if the election were held today.

"I myself am an independent voter who has voted for Democrats and Republicans," Fox said. Regarding Trump, he said, "I voted for him, but I really didn't vote for him. I voted for the policies of the Republican Party. ... But I was not terribly disappointed with the results of the election."

Asked whom she voted for, McCarty said, "I voted for Donald Trump. I'm not for open borders."

On Dec. 23, in between the election and the events of Jan. 6, McCarty was one of 26 people who received full pardons from Trump for their convictions. Asked if she had experienced any second thoughts about her vote for Trump in light of recent events, she said, "Why would I? I'm a policy voter." ★

Ocean Ridge

Three challengers say commission meddling with homeowner rights

By Dan Moffett

Ocean Ridge voters have plenty of contrasts to consider as they prepare to elect two commissioners in the March 9 municipal election.

In Mayor Kristine de Haseth and former Mayor Geoff Pugh, voters have two of the most experienced and recognizable figures in town.

De Haseth has served as mayor for the past year, after two years as a commissioner. Beyond that, she is widely known as executive director of the Florida Coalition for Preservation with a long record of activism along the coast.

Pugh is one of the most experienced public servants in the town's history. He served six years as mayor (2012-2018), had 15 years overall on the commission and before that served on town advisory boards.

Two political newcomers are at the other end of the experience spectrum. Both Carolyn Cassidy and John Kramer are making their first runs for office.

Cassidy, a real estate agent, has an engineering degree from Cornell University and a record of activism in local politics back in New York.

Kramer has 45 years' experience as a corporate CFO, including with the U.S. Department of Transportation. He spent 20 years at Philip Morris International, rising to the rank of vice president.

Three of the candidates — Pugh, Cassidy and Kramer — share a common issue: They believe the commission has overreached in recent years, passing too many ordinances and meddling too much with homeowners' individual rights.

"In the last few years, we've created way too many ordinances that are actually hampering our ability to increase our property values," Pugh said during the town's virtual candidates' forum on Feb. 11.

He said that too often new ordinances "don't tell you what you can do but tell you what you can't do."

Cassidy agreed: "The addition of so many ordinances has made it extremely onerous for homeowners. ... We have to respect individual property rights."

Pugh has endorsed Cassidy.

Kramer said the commission has spent too much time mandating rules on trees and synthetic turf laws and too little time dealing with finances.

"This election should not be a popularity contest,



Cassidy



De Haseth



Kramer



Pugh

beautification project or just support a few residents," Kramer said. "It is about who has the best financial planning and infrastructure background to protect and increase the values of our homes and the town we live in."

De Haseth, the lone incumbent in the field, defended the commission's record since she came aboard in 2018.

She said recent ordinances were passed to preserve Ocean Ridge's character and will do that. Property values are climbing, she said.

De Haseth pointed to a five-year comprehensive plan she helped develop as evidence of serious work and fiscal responsibility. She cited her record as mayor during the past year and how engaging with outside communities and officials has brought COVID-19 testing to residents and made them safer.

"This year was a little bit off because of the pandemic," de Haseth said of a 2020-21 budget that required dipping into reserves to balance. "But we've never used our reserve fund as a slush fund or anything like that."

All four candidates agreed the town should keep its Police Department and not outsource services to larger agencies. All four agreed that septic-to-sewer conversion, which could cost \$30 million or more, looms as a huge

issue. But there wasn't much discussion about what action the town should take now to prepare.

There was wide agreement that the commission should work harder at communicating with residents.

Candidates pointed to the dispute in December over closure of public beach access to allow seawall repair.

"It's quite clear to me that this commission, at the direction of the mayor, does not value voices of residents," Cassidy said.

Kramer said "it's an online world" and the town should improve its access on the internet and make government "more user friendly."

Pugh said the commission should work on welcoming residents' participation. "Some of the Town Commission meetings have gotten intimidating," he said.

Despite some glitches and the pandemic, de Haseth said, her work on the commission has Ocean Ridge well-positioned.

"The town is on a positive track," she said during the forum, "and I would like to continue to do hard work for you."

Commissioners serve three-year terms. The top two vote-getters will win the at-large seats. The commission appoints the next mayor after the election. ★

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Gulf Stream

Eyesore property may remain after new subdivision is built

By Steve Plunkett

An ambitious proposal to demolish an unoccupied Intracoastal Waterway estate and add the property to a planned 14-home subdivision next to Place au Soleil appears close to falling apart.

The town's Architectural Review and Planning Board recommended approving changes Feb. 25 to Gulf Stream's comprehensive plan and zoning classification for almost 15 acres just north of Place au Soleil to allow for the 14 new homes.

But Cary Glickstein, former Delray Beach mayor and president of Ironstone Development Inc., the developer behind the plan, was not optimistic he could seal a deal on acquiring the Turner property at 2900 Avenue au Soleil. It lies between the new subdivision and the rest of Place au Soleil and in effect would add a 15th home to the project and create deeper backyards for some home sites.

The estate includes a house and a large detached garage.

"In addition to title issues, litigation has plagued the property for over a decade," Glickstein said.

He offered the ARPB two scenarios, one with Ironstone



Anthony Turner's heirs sold the property to Soleil Estate LLC in 2019 after the town reduced liens for code violations from \$200,000 to \$20,000.

Photo provided

Chet Snavely, president of the Place au Soleil Homeowners Association, already bought one longtime neighborhood eyesore, an abandoned house at 2775 Avenue au Soleil, demolished it and covered the parcel with sod.

Neighbors complained that it and the Turner property were hangouts for homeless people and drug deals.

Glickstein said he anticipated two or three spec homes being built at first, with another two or three following as sales allowed.

If Glickstein can buy the Turner property, he said, Ironstone would relocate pipes that connect a pump house to the golf course and Gulf Stream's drinking water line a ways north to not interfere with the subdivision. The narrow, west-east parcel also has a multi-vehicle garage on the Turner property that is in disrepair and would be razed.

"The 2990 property has had a tortured past, and in some respects maybe should have never been used for anything other than the public utility that traverses the property today," Glickstein said.

He praised his design team for its final proposal. "It's almost a natural extension to what is there," he said. ★

acquiring the property and one without. The board recommended that the Town Commission approve the plan without the disputed property but said Glickstein could amend his application if he succeeds in buying the parcel.

The ARPB also recommended approving a 10-foot setback for backyard pools in the neighborhood. Ironstone agreed to drop its plan for a motion-activated gate to the subdivision.

Bluewater Cove, the new name for the project originally

called Water View Lane, will have one street running east from the Place au Soleil entrance to two home sites on the Intracoastal and 12 other lots along the road. The plan calls for a path from the new street leading to an observation deck on the waterway.

Glickstein said Place au Soleil residents he has spoken with support the plan.

"I think most people feel that it's value added to their community," he said.

As envisioned, the 14 new homes would add \$37.3 million

to the town's tax base and generate almost \$140,000 a year in property taxes.

Ironstone changed the development's name after Town Commissioner Donna White complained that Place au Soleil's other streets are named after colors.

The acreage is the result of the Gulf Stream Golf Club and the Florida Inland Navigation District swapping land to give both entities parcels stretching from Federal Highway to the Intracoastal. Ironstone will be buying the golf club's property.

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Gulf Stream



Gulf Stream Mayor Scott Morgan presents Town Clerk Rita Taylor with a plaque Feb. 12 recognizing her dedication to the town. The Town Commission surprised Taylor by naming the Town Hall library in her honor. Taylor has worked for the town for 31 years. Jerry Lower/The Coastal Star

Town names library for longtime clerk

By Steve Plunkett

The one-room library inside Town Hall is now the “Rita L. Taylor Gulf Stream Library” in a show of gratitude for the town clerk’s 31 years of service.

“Rita has been over those years the face of this town, and it is her relationship with the residents here that has been so significant,” Mayor Scott Morgan said as commissioners approved the naming Feb. 12.

Taylor became only the second person in Gulf Stream to have something named after her. She was surprised by the gesture, which came while officials were celebrating her birthday. The town’s commission chambers are named for the late and longtime Mayor William F. Koch Jr.

“I don’t know of any place that I would have rather spent 31 years,” Taylor said. “I love it here. I guess it’s too much to ask for another 31 years.”

Besides being a reading room, the library is where residents and architects meet with Taylor to review building plans and where town commissioners chat with her

over upcoming agenda items.

Taylor, whose age was not disclosed, previously served 20 years as clerk in Ocean Ridge. Meanwhile, she was an alderwoman and volunteer clerk in Briny Breezes, where she owns a second home, from the early 1970s to the late 2000s.

Taylor is Gulf Stream’s second-longest tenured employee. Police Chief Edward Allen joined Gulf Stream’s police force in 1988.

Putting in decades of public service is not exactly rare in Gulf Stream. Koch was in his 46th year as mayor when he died in 2012. Town Manager William Thrasher retired in 2017 after 21 years of employment and now holds the same spot in Briny Breezes.

And Commissioner Joan Orthwein was honored by the Florida League of Cities in 2020 for her 25 years as an elected official. That did not include seven years on the Architectural Review and Planning Board.

“I feel that this is my second home,” Taylor said of Town Hall. “And I enjoy every minute of it — or most every minute.” ★

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Delray Beach

Rent waiver allowed for Intracoastal tour boat

By Jane Smith

Delray Beach city commissioners reluctantly agreed Feb. 9 to waive \$60,000 in rent owed by the owner of the Lady Atlantic yacht that docks at Veterans Park. At the same meeting, the commissioners agreed to bill the yacht's owner almost \$40,000 for a gate built to stop flooding in the park.

Commissioners hesitated to waive the rent because for nearly two years a gap had remained in the newly raised seawall that allowed the yacht to lower a gangplank for passengers to use.

The yacht's owner was responsible for creating a gate to close the gap. The opening allowed water from heavy rains, high tides and storms to flow into Veterans Park along the Intracoastal Waterway.

The yacht owner paid the city \$10,000 per month in rent, according to its 5-year lease signed in 2018. The owner has not paid rent since February 2020 because the COVID-19 pandemic closed all activities for a few months. The tour boat takes passengers on the Intracoastal.

"Once we were able to reopen after the mandatory shutdown, it was at 50% capacity, which barely covers expenses," owner Joseph Reardon said in a Jan. 28 email to the city's Parks and Recreation director.

"We went into the wettest summer on record, followed by the busiest hurricane season on record, followed by our traditionally slow season."

Passenger traffic was down by about 75% from March through November 2020 compared with the previous year, according to passenger count information from the Lady Atlantic. More recent passenger count numbers

were not provided.

Reardon wrote that he received some federal help through the Paycheck Protection Program, designed to help small businesses with payroll, rent and utility bills. He did not list the amount received.

The Lady Atlantic rent waiver is one of many the city has made since the pandemic led to a virtual shutdown of the city in mid-March 2020.

The Delray Beach commission waived fees for valet companies using city parking places on Atlantic Avenue until Dec. 31, waived fees for 40 parking spaces in the Federspiel garage, and waived more than \$70,000 in rent owed by Oceanside Beach Services because the beach was closed for eight weeks last spring.

Owner to get bill for gate

Reardon was obligated to close the gap left in the Veterans Park seawall when it was raised 20 inches during a construction project that ended in early 2019, according to Missie Barletto, Public Works director.

Reardon had asked for the opening to allow for a loading ramp used to bring passengers aboard and off the yacht. When the ramp was not used, the gap needed to be closed to prevent flooding in Veterans Park during high tides and heavy rains.

In January, commissioners heard that the city's Public Works Department had designed and built a \$38,960 gate to close the gap.

The yacht owner "had a full year of being able to design and close the gap in the seawall" before the pandemic, Mayor Shelly Petrolia said at the Jan. 19 commission meeting, when the rent waiver was first discussed. "I don't want to see the cost falling on the taxpayers."

Barletto said the city was sending the \$38,960 bill for the gate to Reardon.

The city's Community Redevelopment Agency paid for the nearly \$640,000 seawall project, built by Callaway Marine Technologies Inc. of West Palm Beach. ★

LETTERS:

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TECH

Continued from page 1

South Florida.

“The technology scene here is growing rapidly and we wanted to play a big part in that,” Spoont said. “It seems like everyone is packing up and coming to South Florida. It is absolutely happening and we are seeing it across industries and sectors.”

After a decade of effort to grow South Florida into a tech and financial powerhouse, the slow progress is moving into a faster gear.

Among the prominent companies that have either announced plans to move or expand into South Florida, or are reportedly considering it, are Elliott Management Corp., Blackstone Group, Icahn Enterprises, Virtu Financial Inc., and Goldman Sachs.

Tech company leaders also are on the move, with a sizable contingent landing in Miami or elsewhere in South Florida.

In a boon to young tech companies that have struggled to raise money here, Softbank has announced a \$100 million venture capital initiative aimed at fueling Miami-based startups or those moving to the city.

City and county economic development directors are moving quickly to seal relocation deals with an eye to landing good paying jobs and fattening tax bases. Spoont, for example, is growing his workforce from 70 to 100, with average salaries of \$95,500.

Miami Mayor Francis Suarez has drawn outsized attention for his Twitter campaign to lure tech companies.

When a principal of a venture capital firm tweeted that Silicon Valley should move to Miami, Suarez’s Dec. 4 reply “How can I help?” went viral. The support was warmly received by tech company leaders who otherwise feel besieged by criticism. They started packing their bags.

“Miami has been on fire,” Boca Raton Mayor Scott Singer said in a January virtual meeting with residents, describing Suarez as a “one-man Twitter machine.”

“We have entered the fray as well,” he said.

Singer met with Suarez and Fort Lauderdale Mayor Dean Trantalis in January to explore joint marketing efforts for the three cities.

“We have a strong tech base in Boca,” Singer said in an interview, noting that the personal computer was developed at IBM’s iconic Boca complex. “We are expanding our messaging to play on those strengths.”

While Suarez’s tweets have spurred interest, the seeds of the movement to South Florida were planted about three years ago when companies began fleeing high-tax states like New York to low-tax Florida.

The coronavirus pandemic gave companies even more reason to head to South Florida.

“I think anyone who was on the fence about coming has



A man rides a recumbent trike at the Boca Raton Innovation Campus on Feb. 20. The campus was home to IBM for almost 26 years. **Tim Stepien/The Coastal Star**



Spoont

“The technology scene here is growing rapidly and we wanted to play a big part in that.”

— Ben Spoont, CEO of e-sports and gaming company Misfits Gaming Group

decided to pull the trigger,” said Jessica Del Vecchio, Boca Raton’s economic development manager. “I really think COVID has been the last straw.”

Because of the pandemic, people have been cooped up in high-cost housing and unable to enjoy restaurants or cultural events. They’ve had to juggle working from home with overseeing their children’s schooling on Zoom.

And since their offices were closed, they realized they could work from anywhere, Del Vecchio said. So why not do so in a low-tax state with housing less costly than in New York or San Francisco and with many other advantages.

“COVID has absolutely been a game changer,” Singer said. “When you can work from anywhere, why not work in paradise.”

Kelly Smallridge, president and CEO of the Business Development Board of Palm Beach County, agrees that the pandemic is a catalyst. Company officials “started coming to us saying ‘we don’t need to be in Manhattan.’ ... COVID has opened a lot of doors to Palm Beach County,” she said.

About 30 companies are considering moves to the county, and five of those are close to making announcements, Smallridge said in mid-February.

Elliott Management, a prominent New York investment firm, made a commitment to move its headquarters to West Palm Beach last fall. Virtu Financial, an electronic trading firm, said in January it was

moving about 30 people to Palm Beach Gardens from New York, with the number expected to grow.

Boca Raton scored a victory in January when Colony Capital Inc., a digital infrastructure, real estate and investment management firm, announced the relocation of its corporate headquarters from Los Angeles. Its digital infrastructure operation has been in the city for about 10 years.

In February, Round Table Wealth Management, based in New Jersey, announced the expansion of its Boca Raton office.

In its announcement, Round Table said the expansion allows the company to maintain close relationships with clients who have moved to Florida as a result of the pandemic.

In mid-February, Del Vecchio was speaking with two companies about moving from New York City and Chicago.

Her effort to lure companies includes advertising inserts in the *Wall Street Journal*, *Chicago Tribune* and *San Francisco Chronicle*. The four-page *Journal* insert caught the eye of the companies she is now talking to.

She also sees opportunity at the Boca Raton Airport, where she has placed marketing materials that corporate executives will see as they fly in and out.

The city complemented Del Vecchio’s efforts by establishing an Office of Innovation, led by innovation strategist Pedro Moras, who joined the city about 18 months ago.

His work is focused on making Boca Raton operate

more efficiently and developing a stronger technology and startup ecosystem to attract entrepreneurs, Moras said.

“One of the biggest challenges we see in South Florida is funding for startups,” he said. “We are looking to see how we can attract other players to provide funding for these startups.”

He has worked with a very large Brazilian software development company that has established an office in the city and another Brazilian company that invests in startups and is looking to open a Boca office.

Prime space available

Companies relocating or expanding in Boca need office space, and the city has plenty to offer in two primary locations.

The Park at Broken Sound, the former Arvida Park of Commerce at 5100 Broken Sound Boulevard NW, has 5.2 million square feet of office space, 618,000 square feet of commercial/retail space and more than 1,000 multifamily residential units.

The 700-acre development is home to many corporations already located in the city.

The 1.7 million-square-foot Boca Raton Innovation Campus, built in 1969 for IBM, was acquired in 2018 by Crocker Partners and is now undergoing a \$100 million renovation.

“We want to be the technology and life sciences hub” for the southeastern United States, said Crocker marketing director Giana Pacinelli. “We want to have national recognition.”

Sitting on 123 acres at 5000 T-Rex Ave., it is designed to withstand a Category 5 hurricane, has a power plant that can maintain power for 13 days, conference center, 1,200-seat dining hall and a STEAM lab, meaning science, technology, engineering, arts and math education.

BRIC has 36 tenants, including Modernizing

Medicine — which has announced it will add more than 800 new jobs — Canon, Bluegreen Vacations, MDVIP and Baptist Health South Florida, which recently leased nearly 38,000 square feet of space.

Universities help startups

Local universities are playing a strong role in nurturing and building startups.

Florida Atlantic University’s Tech Runway, launched in 2014, is a public-private partnership that is a hub to accelerate technology development and incubate startups. It provides work space, mentoring and helps find venture funding.

Startups can then transition to FAU Research Park, where they can continue to grow.

Lynn University created a Social Impact Lab in 2017 to provide cultural and career preparation programs, social impact training and networking opportunities to help students discover “purpose-driven careers.” It also offers a bachelor of science in social entrepreneurship.

How everything Boca has to offer can help launch a new tech company is illustrated by Harald Braun, who believed he had found “the next big thing in terms of exponential growth.”

The former CEO of Siemens Networks USA and Aviat Networks started Guident last year. The company has developed technology to enhance the safety and efficiency of electric autonomous vehicles.

He plans to establish a remote monitoring and control center in Florida that would be something like an air traffic control tower. It would monitor autonomous vehicles and take over control if problems develop.

“We developed a strategy to improve safety and facilitate a

Continued on the next page

Delray Beach

City puts stop to addition of rooftop amenities in residential areas

By Jane Smith

After more than a year, the Delray Beach City Commission unanimously approved limiting rooftop uses in single-family neighborhoods citywide. On the barrier island, architects had been creating outdoor living rooms on the roofs of new construction.

Homes and duplexes are now limited to 35 feet in height and allowed to have only air-conditioning equipment and other mechanical devices on the roof, according to the ordinance approved March 2.

The equipment must be screened by a 4-foot-high wall and can take up a maximum of 10% of the roof space.

Rooftop walls between 4 and 10 feet high must be approved by a city board.

Commercial buildings, including hotels, in the central

business district can have rooftop uses, including bars, restaurants and the like.

No members of the public spoke concerning the limits on rooftop uses in residential districts. Commissioners also did not make comments or ask questions after the Development Services director said the ordinance had no changes from the first reading in February.

The commission first imposed a six-month moratorium in January 2020 while staff researched the issue of what can be allowed on residential rooftops. The moratorium was extended again in June and December.

The moratorium came about after a new duplex at 100 Gleason St. received Site Plan and Appearance Review Board approval on Dec. 11, 2019, when the architect agreed to reduce massing on the roof. The duplex

was approved to build 10 feet above the 35-foot height limit to put an elevator shaft, a grill and a wet bar on the roof.

"The neighbors are upset because their ocean views will be blocked by my developed property," John DeLeonibus, who owns the duplex with his wife, Sally, said at the December 2019 board meeting. "They all want to be the last man in paradise."

He said referring to the neighbors who spoke against his duplex's height.

The DeLeonibus couple sued the city in November 2020, asking a judge to allow them to finish the duplex according to their July 2019 building permit. That lawsuit is still open in Palm Beach County Circuit Court.

Some residences on the barrier island have outdoor living rooms on the roof, equipped with fixed grills, hot tubs, sinks and large-screen TVs. The increased height is out of character with the barrier island neighborhood, two residents who live near

the Gleason duplex said at the December 2019 board meeting.

The Beach Property Owners Association appealed to the City Commission in March 2020 to stick to the 35-foot height limits.

"Our conclusion is that these allowances have led to the equivalent of a fourth floor on these buildings," Bob Victorin, BPOA president, wrote.

Rooftop amenities, such as fixed grills and big-screen TVs, can be accommodated below the 35-foot height limit, Victorin wrote. ★



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faster adoption of autonomous vehicles," he said. "We believe it is the future."

A Boca resident since 2002, Braun said the city is a good place to start his company.

The city has many talented former IBM and Siemens employees, and the county is home to "industry captains" such as former Apple CEO John Sculley, he said.

"We are seeing a trend right now as people relocate from Silicon Valley and other parts of the U.S. ... to South Florida with hotspots in Boca Raton and Miami.

"There is a lot of talent here in the technology space," Braun said. "It is not hype."

He also notes "we are surrounded by universities and students and space."

Braun won a launch competition at Tech Runway which entitled him to office space there. He expects his control center to be completed this year. If it operates as expected and he is successful with fundraising, Braun plans to relocate to BRIC.

While the race is on to attract technology and financial companies, the counties and cities are not competing, but working together, Del Vecchio, Smallridge and Singer said.

That cooperation didn't exist until Amazon announced in 2017 that it was looking for a location for a second headquarters, Smallridge said. With a prize that big, everyone decided to join forces.

While South Florida lost out, the cooperation continues.

"They won't come to Palm Beach County unless they like South Florida first," Smallridge said. "It is really important that we promote ourselves as a region." ★

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Delray Beach

Tone of races in Delray election ranges from rude to respectful

By Jane Smith

As the March 9 election nears, a PAC involved in the Delray Beach mayoral race is spreading false allegations via phone and mailers. A 30-second robocall, underwritten by the political action committee Progress for Delray Beach, blames the Feb. 23 barrier island water main break by an FPL contractor on Mayor Shelly Petrolia. The call, featuring a woman's voice, was sent Feb. 24 to a sampling of voters citywide.

The call starts off talking about a boil-water order for the city. But the water main break affected only barrier island residents who were advised to boil water for three days as a result of the main break.

"This is just another example of Delray's drinking water crisis under Shelly Petrolia's watch," the recorded voice said. "The Florida Department of Health has found unsafe drinking



Caruso



Petrolia



Frankel



Patton



Boylston



Katz

water for the eight years Shelly Petrolia has been in charge."

But Petrolia has been mayor for only three of the past eight years. Cary Glickstein served as mayor for the previous five years; Petrolia was a city commissioner then.

Tracy Caruso, Petrolia's opponent, is linked to the robocall because the same PAC previously sent out negative fliers aimed at Petrolia.

At the end of the Greater Delray Beach Chamber of Commerce candidate debate, held Feb. 10 at the Arts Garage, candidates were able to ask each other one question.

Petrolia held up a stack of

negative fliers that Caruso's campaign had made about the mayor. Many recent fliers had a St. Petersburg return address for this same PAC — Progress for Delray Beach.

Petrolia, a residential real estate broker, asked Caruso for one positive comment.

"I would say my positive thing about you is that you will be out of office soon and able to enjoy your retirement," Caruso said.

Caruso's question to Petrolia was about the possible \$3 million in fines from the Florida Department of Health Palm Beach County that may be levied soon for problems with the city's reclaimed water system.

Delray Beach adopted the reclaimed water plan in July 2008 and failed to abide by it, according to the department.

Caruso asked, "Did the revolving door of eight city managers and the disruption it caused create this willful lack of oversight?"

Petrolia answered, "First off, I was not on the commission back then. ... When we heard about the problems in early 2020, we shut off the system."

Caruso, a downtown business owner who chairs the city's Historic Preservation Board, is married to state Rep. Michael Caruso, a Republican. Tracy Caruso changed her voter registration from Republican to no party affiliation one day after registering her candidacy in the non-partisan Delray Beach mayoral race in November.

She continues to get most of her major donations from outside Delray Beach. Of the 37 donors who gave her campaign \$1,000 in February, 21 were from outside the city limits, according to the campaign contribution reports. She had raised \$181,305 as of Feb. 25.

By comparison, Petrolia, a Democrat, had raised \$132,292.90 as of Feb. 25. In February, her reports showed five of her eight major donors were from outside Delray Beach.

While Caruso has relied on PACs to finance her negative mailings, Petrolia's materials go out under her own name, including those that say Caruso was a Trumpette. Trumpettes are Palm Beach-based women who support former President Donald Trump.

The two mayoral candidates have squared off at four debates and during one recorded interview. The interview was hosted by the Beach Property Owners Association. The interviewer was Rita Ellis, the group's treasurer and a former

Delray Beach mayor who has endorsed Caruso.

The other debates were:

In January, the Set Neighborhood Alliance broadcast its virtual debate of the mayoral candidates on Facebook.

A nonpartisan group, When We All Vote Palm Beach County Voting Squad, held a virtual forum of the commission candidates in February. The forum was broadcast via Zoom and is available on the group's Facebook page.

The St. Paul Missionary Baptist Church and the League of Women Voters in Palm Beach County held their Delray Beach commission candidate debate in February at the church. It was also broadcast on the church's YouTube video page.

Seat 1 interview stays civil

The commission Seat 1 race features incumbent Adam Frankel and political newcomer Price Patton.

Patton, a veteran journalist, residential developer and a founder of *The Coastal Star*, is on leave from the monthly newspaper. He lives on the barrier island and has endured the reclaimed water shutoffs during the past two years. He has served on the city's Historic Preservation Board and is currently serving on its Site Plan Review and Appearance Board.

He said during the BPOA interview that he would empower city employees to think outside of the box in response to Ellis' question about "the toxic culture in City Hall."

When asked what qualities he would look for in a city manager, Patton said someone who has experience in local government.

In his closing statement at the BPOA interview, Patton said, "I'm running a grassroots campaign, with a fresh but seasoned voice." He pledged to resolve the city's problems, restore creativity in City Hall, keep the charm of Atlantic Avenue and the beach, and keep working to restore the city's historic character.

Frankel, a criminal defense attorney, is serving his second stint on the City Commission.

When Ellis asked about the lack of maintenance of the beach promenade, Frankel said, "We are a tourist destination. We should prioritize its annual maintenance."

On a new city manager, Frankel proposed interim City Manager Jennifer Alvarez. "She is doing well, has the demeanor to do a great job," he said.

Frankel also said he did not agree that the city needs a crisis

public relations firm to address the reclaimed water issue. "We have a great utilities director," he said.

His closing remarks focused on the BPOA's issues: limiting what can go on a roof in the single-family neighborhoods of the barrier island, trimming sea grapes along the beach and stopping aggressive panhandling downtown.

By the Feb. 25 reporting date, Frankel had raised \$60,840, and Patton had raised \$41,035.

Rematch in Seat 3 race

The battle for Seat 3 features a rematch of the 2018 City Commission race between Ryan Boylston and Mitch Katz.

Boylston, the incumbent who likes to say he is "your vice mayor," calls himself an "organic politician." He started his political career serving on city boards.

Addressing the question about "the toxic culture at City Hall" during the BPOA interview, Boylston said, "Elected officials need to stay off Facebook. We need to resonate what our values are at the top."

When Ellis asked about fixing the reclaimed water problems, he said, "Our job is to build confidence. I'm proud we hired a firm to help our public information officer. We are in a pandemic with businesses closing and programs to help them. Then, to throw a water issue on top" would be too much.

Boylston, owner of a creative marketing company in downtown Delray Beach, said his priorities for the next three years would be to get new Congress Avenue businesses on the tax roll and open the first Haitian-American center in Palm Beach County.

At the end of the Chamber of Commerce debate on Feb. 10, Boylston asked Katz why he did not have support of prominent organizations and the unions of firefighters and police.

"That would compromise me too much," said Katz, who works for a private higher education firm.

In return, Katz asked about the state ethics violations that Boylston settled last year.

They were from the time Boylston served as chairman of the Downtown Development Agency. He voted on its budget, which included money for ads in a publication he partly owned. Before running for City Commission, he sold that stake.

"I settled those two items," he said.

By the Feb. 25 reporting date, Katz had raised \$24,587, and Boylston had raised \$66,584.

All candidates agreed that addressing the rising sea levels would require working regionally with city neighbors to the north and south. The estimated \$300 million-plus cost to raise the Delray seawalls could be met only with state and federal assistance, they said. ★



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Highland Beach

Study offers town options on separating from Delray fire rescue

By Rich Pollack

Town leaders will be focused this month on determining how the community receives fire and emergency medical services, eventually deciding if Highland Beach should continue contracting with Delray Beach, start its own department or consider a hybrid model using a private

provider.

The town also will consider creating a public safety department with its police officers certified as firefighters so they would be available to serve as backup in a major fire.

Those options were presented to Highland Beach in a draft report it received late last month from Matrix Consulting Group, which was

commissioned to take a hard look at the services the town receives from Delray Beach and evaluate feasible alternatives.

Should town commissioners choose to depart from the status quo and separate from Delray Beach, the impact will be felt both in the small town and its much larger neighbor.

At issue, according to Highland Beach Town

Manager Marshall Labadie, is the cost of the service provided by Delray Beach, which staffs a fire truck and rescue vehicle working out of a station in town.

“Everyone agrees they do a superb job, but at what cost?” he said.

The town budgeted \$4.8 million to pay Delray Beach for fire rescue service this

fiscal year, and the report from Matrix projects that number could increase to \$6.5 million by 2027.

If Highland Beach chose not to renew its contract with Delray Beach, the city would lose those millions of dollars in revenue and would lose use of the station the town owns.

The Matrix report found that in 2019, personnel working out of the Highland Beach station responded to about 650 calls outside town, with 70% being for emergency medical services.

During the same year, the crew at the Highland Beach station responded to 704 calls for service within the town, again with the vast majority being medical calls, according to the report.

In addition to presenting information about the cost of starting a municipal fire department, the report outlines possible hybrid models. One model would include hiring a private company to provide fire and medical services, with another requiring the town to create a municipal fire department and outsource emergency medical services.

Another option presented in the report would have the town contract out emergency medical services and have the police and municipal fire departments combined into a public safety department.

Training police officers as firefighters, the report says, would provide additional personnel in the event of a large fire.

While the Matrix report shows that the operational cost of most of the alternatives would be lower than the cost of staying with Delray Beach by 2027, it also points out that implementation would include significant start-up costs for at least the first three years.

Start-up costs over that time period are projected to range anywhere between about \$2 million for a public safety department and as much as \$3 million for a stand-alone Highland Beach fire rescue department, according to the Matrix study.

Although the study provided an analysis of alternatives, it did not include a recommendation on what options might be best for the town.

However, the report did recommend that should the town stay with Delray Beach, contract terms should be modified to reflect more accurate personnel costs and include performance benchmarks that can be accurately measured.

The Town Commission plans to have a special meeting on March 11 to hear a presentation from the consultant, discuss the report and start a process that could take two or three months before a decision is made. ★

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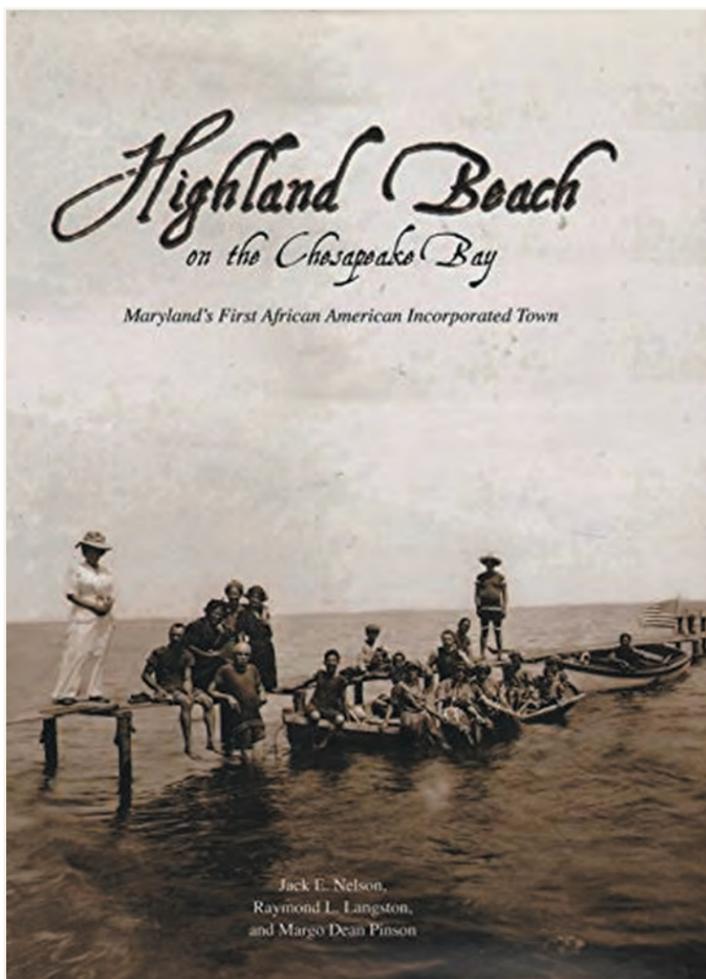
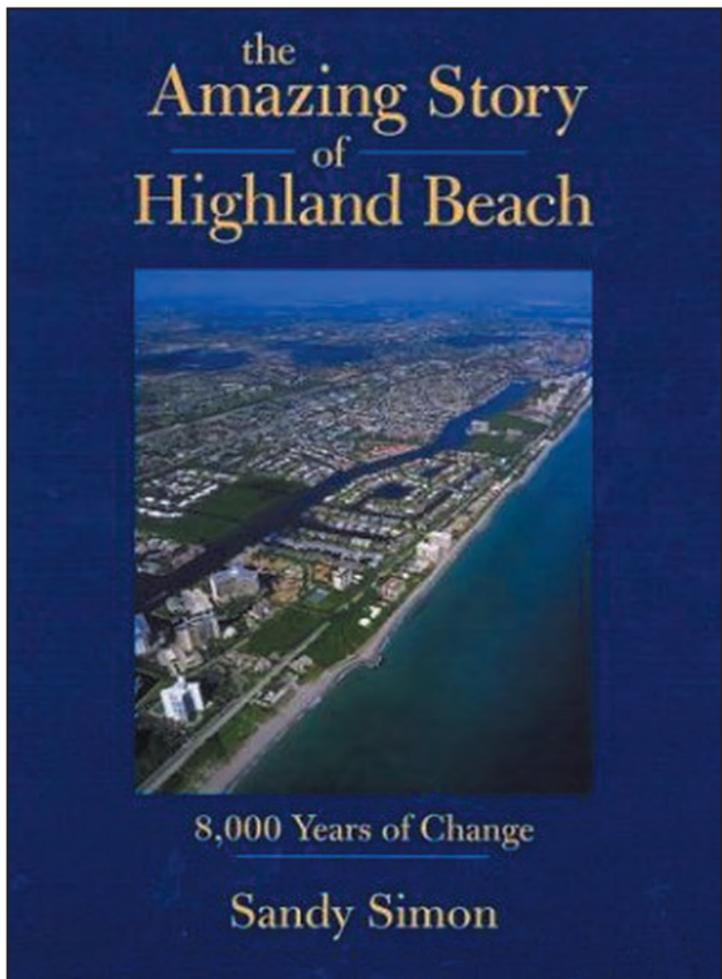
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Highland Beach



A tale of two Highland Beaches

Town connecting with Maryland counterpart

By Rich Pollack

William Sanders III was traveling from his home in Maryland to a conference in Boca Raton more than a decade ago when he was caught off guard by a sign for Highland Beach.

“I was surprised because I didn’t know there was another Highland Beach,” said Sanders, who has been the mayor of the tiny town of Highland Beach, Maryland, for the past 14 years. “This was well before the time when we began to Google everything.”

Years passed and Sanders heard little more about Highland Beach, Florida, until a few months ago when he received an introduction letter from the southern Highland Beach’s mayor and commissioners that has now sparked a pen-pal relationship of sorts.

“It was nice and heartwarming,” Sanders said. “I was moved personally as were other members of the town’s board of commissioners.”

In response, Sanders sent a letter back along with a copy of a book that explains the rich history of the town he has lived in for more than 20 years: *Highland Beach on the Chesapeake Bay, Maryland’s First African American Incorporated Town*.

Founded in 1893 by Charles Douglass, the youngest son of abolitionist Frederick Douglass, and incorporated in 1922, Highland Beach, Maryland, is



Highland Beach, Maryland, was founded in 1893 by Charles Douglass, the youngest son of abolitionist Frederick Douglass, and incorporated in 1922.

LEFT: The Frederick Douglass Museum and Cultural Center is housed in a summer home originally built for Douglass. Photos provided



Highland Beach Mayors Doug Hillman of Florida and William Sanders III of Maryland. Photos provided

believed to be the first African American beach resort in the country.

Two streets by four streets, the town near Annapolis has just 68 homes and around 100 full-time residents, about 75% of whom are African American. Like its same-named

community in Florida, Highland Beach, Maryland, has a seasonal population — but during opposite times of the year — and like its southern counterpart, the Maryland community is a town without a spotlight.

Sanders says the town grows to about 300 residents during the summer.

While Highland Beach, Florida, has its library as a cultural gathering point, Highland Beach, Maryland, is home to the Frederick Douglass Museum and Cultural Center, housed in a summer home built for Douglass, but one he never had a chance to live in before his death.

Among some of the well-known figures in history and entertainment to have had

homes in the Maryland town were Booker T. Washington, W.E.B. Du Bois, singer and actor Paul Robeson, writer and poet Langston Hughes and author Alex Haley.

The idea to start a long-distance relationship between the two towns with the same name came from Highland Beach, Florida, Commissioner Peggy Gossett-Seidman.

“I just thought it would be a feel-good idea to make contact and to have communications between two cities with the same name,” she said. “We have some broad similarities even through we’re situated on different latitudes.”

Town Manager Marshall Labadie said the Florida town is sending a book outlining some of its history to leaders in the

Maryland community and that he hopes to visit the town when he is in the area.

“There’s a wealth of history there and I would love to learn more,” he said. “With all the commotion going on in the world, it’s good to share our sense of community and history.”

Both Sanders and Highland Beach, Florida, Mayor Doug Hillman say they too are interested in visiting their same-named counterpart communities and hope residents from the other Highland Beach will come and visit.

“I’m hoping that when anyone from Highland Beach, Florida, is in the area, they come to visit,” Sanders said. ★

Lantana

Supporters of mayoral candidates spar over sign placement

By Mary Thurwachter

After a cellphone video submitted by a supporter of mayoral candidate Robert Hagerty became fodder for a local TV news story, Lantana council member Mark Zeitler, a backer of incumbent Mayor David Stewart, became the focus of a police investigation.

The video, taken on Feb. 20 and submitted to the TV station and the police by Catherine Phillips, 57, a vocal critic of Stewart, shows Zeitler, 64, tossing a Hagerty sign into the street after installing a sign for Stewart.

During an on-air interview with CBS-12, Phillips said she couldn't believe an elected official would act in that manner and that at one point she thought he was going to punch

her. She said the tenant had given her permission to put up a campaign sign.

Zeitler says there is more to the story. He said he had permission from the property owner to put up a Stewart sign at the Arnold Avenue address, and that man did not want another candidate's sign on his lawn. The property owner wanted to talk to Phillips on the phone, Zeitler said, but Phillips refused.

Zeitler said he tried to give Phillips her sign back, but she wouldn't take it and he left it on the ground in front of her car. Eventually, he tossed the sign into the street as she recorded him.

He shouldn't have done that, Zeitler told *The Coastal Star*. And he said he apologizes to Hagerty for doing so.

Hagerty's campaign manager, Jennifer Wink, appeared before the Lantana Town Council during its Feb. 22 meeting to offer this comment:

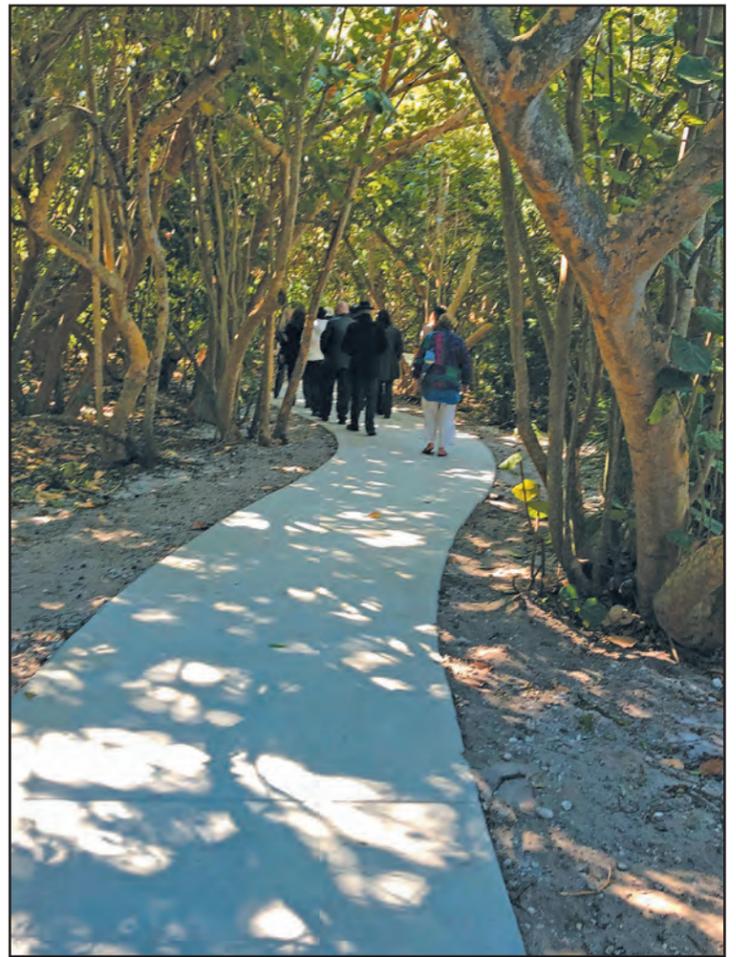
"We have been made aware of the behavior exhibited by Mark Zeitler over the weekend. We were appalled to see video footage of our local elected official acting as he did. His actions were certainly inappropriate and unwarranted. We support the constitutional rights of our fellow citizens, including those of free speech and the rights of private property.

"As the former commander of the Lantana Police Department, Robert Hagerty has faith in our local authorities to investigate the matter and we have no further comment on this issue at this time."

The police closed the case on Feb. 26 after Hagerty said he did not want to pursue it.

Supporters of both candidates have complained about signs being stolen, but as of March 1, this was the only one that spurred a police probe.

Phillips brought a sexual harassment charge against Stewart in 2018. That allegation was dismissed after an investigation by the Florida Commission on Ethics. ★



The Lantana Nature Preserve reopened Feb. 3 with a new concrete trail. Another 350 feet of the trail remains to be done. **Mary Thurwachter/The Coastal Star**

Nature Preserve reopens with new pathway

By Mary Thurwachter

On Feb. 3, town officials reopened the Lantana Nature Preserve with a new 6-foot-wide concrete trail.

The old pathway, and the entire 6½-acre preserve at 440 E. Ocean Ave., were left in shambles by Hurricane Irma in 2017. After years of debate on what kind of material to use for the walkway, the Town Council agreed on concrete last March. The original trail was made of shale rock, which had washed away over the years. Pressure-treated wood, pavers, asphalt and gunite sand had all been considered before the town settled on concrete.

Although the Town Council had asked that the entire pathway be installed at the same time, one section on the north end still remains to be done.

The north portion of the trail is bordered by mangroves and other aquatic vegetation in the waterway that is protected under various environmental regulations, according to Eddie Crockett, the town's operations director.

"To expedite the construction and subsequent opening of the path and get a usable amenity for the community up and

running quickly, we broke the construction of the path into phases," Crockett said in an email.

The first phase is complete.

"Phase II will be the remaining approximately 350 feet on the north side of the Nature Preserve," Crockett wrote. "The permit for Phase II was submitted in December 2020 and we hope to get it approved this spring and start construction shortly thereafter. Once we get an approved permit, the construction will be quick and the Nature Preserve will remain open during construction."

Crockett added: "As far as those who use the Nature Preserve that are mobility challenged, they can use the northernmost east/west path connector to avoid the unpaved portion of the trail and still enjoy a significant portion of the amenity."

In November, American Design Engineering Construction Inc. was awarded the contract to build the concrete path and repair the retaining wall at the preserve for \$144,494.

The preserve is open 7:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. daily. ★

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Lantana

Candidates weigh in on reserve funds, development, water source

By Mary Thurwachter

During an hourlong debate on Feb. 18 hosted by the Lantana Chamber of Commerce, mayoral candidates Robert Hagerty and David Stewart discussed topics that ranged from development plans to water sources to how the town should best use its \$9 million reserves.

Held at the town's Recreation Center, the well-attended debate (both in person and virtually via Zoom) was moderated by Chamber President Dave Arm. Questions were submitted by residents ahead of time.

Hagerty, a former commander with the Lantana police, and Stewart, the town's mayor for the past 21 years, had plenty to say ahead of the March 9 election. Here are their responses on a few topics.

Use of reserves

When it comes to the proper use of the town's \$9 million reserves, Stewart said it wasn't so much the proper use but how having that money, and keeping it in local banks, gave the town much better borrowing power.

"Because we have money in the bank, we were able to rewrite a lot of loans with cost savings of over \$1 million," Stewart said. "If we didn't have the money in the reserves for Sea Pines, we wouldn't have been able to write those checks for over \$340,000 to pump 12 million gallons of water out of that area when we needed it."

"If you get a major hurricane hit, you have to rebuild your infrastructure, you



Hagerty



Stewart

have to do all sorts of things to restore property values to the residents," Stewart said. "By having that (reserves), you're able to do it."

Hagerty said the reserves should be put toward repairing infrastructure.

"Right now we have a 3.5 millage rate, which as Mayor Stewart says brings in \$4 million a year. But understand we run a \$20 million budget. I think if the opportunity presents itself and repairs are necessary, it shouldn't have to wait."

"It's nice to have the money in the bank, but we can save money till we're blue in the face, but we've got to be sensible about spending it."

Stewart countered by saying, "This town has never, since I've been mayor, turned down doing any repairs that were necessary. When water lines have had situations, we have lined them, we have saved them. We have taken money from reserves when necessary to provide the infrastructure that's needed."

Town's water source

Arm said the town's water source may be in jeopardy due to saltwater incursion and other reasons. He asked candidates for their plans to address this potential problem, including

the upcoming transfer of the town's water from the Biscayne Aquifer to the Floridan Aquifer.

Hagerty said he wasn't familiar with the problem and couldn't answer at the moment, but said the town has some of the best water around. "I don't think that's going to change."

Stewart offered detail, citing permits from the state and the South Florida Water Management District obtained in 2003 during water plant work.

"Our municipality, since day one, has pulled water from the Biscayne Aquifer, which runs from 200 to 500 feet deep. Those permits will be gone in 2028. Our town's only solution when that permit is gone will be to go to the Floridan Aquifer, which is 5,000 feet down and more, which means you have to go to a reverse osmosis type of plant."

"The cost to do that would be in excess of \$10 million. We need to plan ahead so that in 2028, when the time comes, our residents and the future council will not be burdened with that problem of trying to get the water supply for this town."

The alternative, he said, would be to buy water from the county, which would cost about the same but result in loss of control of the water plant.

Future development

Lantana is experiencing a period of development, including Aura Seaside apartments, Water Tower Commons and the Kmart site, Arm said. He asked candidates for their thoughts

on development overall and balancing residents' concerns, developers' desires and the future growth of the town.

"You have to have growth to go forward," Stewart said. "Many projects have come forward and have somewhat stalled, but they will be done and they will prosper in the future. The development of certain areas will happen and it's a balance that you have to consider to not cause a problem or an inconvenience for the residents who live around it."

"At the same time, you have to consider the influx of good development. ... When something comes in front of me, I try to think, is this going to be great for Lantana four decades from now, or is it just going to be great for five years? And if it's not going to be great in 40 years, I'm usually not in favor of it."

Hagerty said he thinks the future growth of the town is on track but that 50% to 75% of businesses are unoccupied.

"I agree to a certain extent with what Stewart has said. We have to do what's going to prosper for the town for years to come. They're talking about a project at Kmart (plaza) that's more residential, but at the same time they're knocking out where commercial business used to be."

"I think the overall picture needs to be addressed again with what the residents of the town want and how our codes can build into that."

Candidate pitches

Hagerty said he would bring

a new sense of environment to the town, having worked here for 30 years.

"I think the people are first and foremost. ... I understand there's a budget hearing and only so many people come, but I want to make it so we can have additional meetings or some type of meet-and-greets. I want to make sure they have a better understanding of how things work and their voices start the planning process."

Stewart said residents have the right to get up and speak if they don't like something every two weeks at council meetings and during the four budget hearings. "I have never denied anyone who wants to talk about something."

Stewart said he was the better candidate for several reasons. "I was chairman of the planning and zoning before I ran for mayor. I attended the meetings consistently in the '80s and '90s to understand the flavor of Lantana."

Stewart also said he has established a good rapport with governors and other officeholders through his work with the Florida League of Cities. He served as president of the Palm Beach County League of Cities in 2007-2008. Having that access has been helpful with projects to take the town forward, he added.

Stewart said he has served the town well. "Your taxes have remained flat. Your property values have gone up, even in spite of the downturn in 2008. Our town has been better than it was 21 years ago. And I want to continue that." ★

Briny Breezes

Town facing complex challenge in regulating signs

By Dan Moffett

Keith Davis has been practicing government law in South Florida for two decades, so when he told Briny Breezes Town Council members that regulating signs was difficult, they knew things were going to get complicated.

But it might be getting more complicated than anyone expected — even the town attorney.

In the wake of the November election, the council wanted to rein in temporary signs, especially political campaign signs that showed up throughout town and often weren't removed after the voting. Real estate and yard sale signs were also an issue.

Davis has written sign ordinances before, one of the most recent coming in Manalapan. The trick is to regulate the size, location and display of signs without getting involved in their content and clashing with First Amendment constitutional rights.

What makes Briny different from Manalapan and other

municipalities Davis has counseled is its corporate structure. Because the corporation owns the land, the town has to find a way to work with the corporation's rules.

"The corporate layer makes it extra complicated," Davis said during the council's meeting on Feb. 25. When it comes to signs, finding the right balance between free speech and restriction "is bar none the most difficult thing to regulate I have ever encountered," he said.

One option is for the town to adopt the corporation's rules, Davis said, so that the landowner and the municipality were in sync. Another possibility is a "free speech zone" — a designated common area where residents could post signs of all persuasions. Many communities have addressed the problem this way.

The proposed ordinance would not change rules for permanent signage, such as monuments and street signs.

Council President Sue Thaler said it's clear that Briny needs stronger rules than those on the books to "keep the town from

being dumped up by a bunch of signs," especially during election season.

She said whatever the council does, it's likely some resident will challenge the new law.

Town Manager William Thrasher said that while it's important to work with the corporation, it's more important to safeguard free speech and individual rights.

"Our primary responsibility as a government is to abide by the First Amendment," he said.

Davis told the council he would do more research and bring back a revised draft of the ordinance for discussion at the next regular meeting on March 25.

Voters can chart course

Briny voters can help give the town its first formal charter by participating in the special election on March 9.

On the ballot are proposed amendments that would outline procedures for governance. The provisions would define the duties and role of the town manager, and make the town clerk an appointed position,

rather than elected.

Other measures codify rules and methodology for the Town Council's operation. Briny

has not had a comprehensive, detailed charter since its founding in 1963. ★

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10 Questions

MEET YOUR NEIGHBOR: Linda Sorenson

Linda Sorenson, a member of the Palm Beach County chapter of the League of Women Voters since she moved to Ocean Ridge 14 years ago, says people often misunderstand the organization as politically partisan.

"The league does not support any candidate or political party," said Sorenson, 81. "It's strictly an issues organization. But when you're an organization that considers itself supporting good government, it tends to be government issues.

"It's very difficult, especially in this climate with our polarization, to keep the nonpartisan reputation — which we work very hard at keeping."

A native of Albany, New York, Sorenson was a member of the board of directors in the league chapter in the Capital District. She has taken on a lower profile since coming to South County, though she did vet questions at a candidate forum in Ocean Ridge ahead of the March 9 election.

"We do take positions on bills, both on the state and national levels, and often when we study an issue we can form coalitions with groups such as the AARP or the ACLU to have a stronger voice," she said.

Sorenson said people new to the area should consider joining the league as a means of learning about the "political aspects" of their new surroundings.

"And it's a great way to meet people, like-minded people," she said.

An annual membership is \$60 for one person and \$90 for a household. Membership information is available online at <https://lwvpbc.org>.

The Palm Beach County chapter has nearly 700 members, making it the largest in the country as of January, and Sorenson said it is among the most active as well.

"We have a lot of young people, and quite a few men," Sorenson said. "It's open to men; they just don't want to change the name because of the name recognition. It's been established for more than 100 years."

Sorenson enjoys walks on the beach, swimming and travel. With children in Seattle, Utah and Boston, she has spent recent summers driving to see and spend time with all three.

"Some people don't like to drive, but I love the freedom,"



Linda Sorenson, an Ocean Ridge resident for 14 years, is a strong supporter of the League of Women Voters and the role it plays in informing the public. **Tim Stepien/The Coastal Star**

she said. "I'm not sure I'll make it out West anymore, but going up and down the East Coast is a piece of cake."

— Brian Biggane

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

A: I grew up in Albany, New York, and attended a girls Episcopal school for 12 years. The most influential part of my teenage years was meeting and falling in love with the boy who became my husband (Edward Sorenson) six years later. He was the most intelligent person I have ever known and expanded my horizons. I attended Connecticut College and we were married while in college.

I had some very influential professors who taught me to think and enabled me to explore

interests I didn't know I had. I majored in zoology.

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

A: My professional history is the four years I worked while my husband attended medical school. My field was pharmaceutical research for a division of Sterling Drug. I did animal studies on parasitic diseases and also contraceptive drug research. Once my three children started school, I took over the management of my husband's psychiatric practice office.

My achievements and fulfillments have come through other areas of life and I've been fortunate to be able to pursue my many interests. Raising three now very accomplished

and caring human beings is the legacy of which I'm proudest.

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

A: My advice would be to get a well-rounded, liberal arts education in order to be exposed to the many options available. There is time to specialize when he or she learns what excites and motivates them.

Q: How did you choose to make your home in Ocean Ridge?

A: My grandparents retired to Delray Beach in 1945 from Rochester, New York, and my parents retired to Delray Beach in 1964, so I am the third generation to have a home in this area. After my husband died 15 years ago, I decided I could be happier here for the

next chapter of my life than in the cold, snowy Northeast. It was our dream to live on the ocean and I am living out that dream in Ocean Ridge.

Q: What is your favorite part about living in Ocean Ridge?

A: I value the opportunity to see the ocean always and be outside every day. I was a runner for 40 years, but now alternate swimming and walking, an important part of my daily life. Ocean Ridge has the feel of a small, well-run, caring community. I participate in our Book Club and Garden Club.

Q: What book are you reading now?

A: I recently finished a memoir, *Permission To Fly*, by Layng Martine Jr., and am presently engrossed in *Birds In Fall*, a novel by Brad Kessler.

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

A: To relax I enjoy all kinds of what I call "mellow folk," from the '60s on. To be comforted and inspired, I usually listen to classical music.

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

A: I have had many mentors in my life, starting with my husband. In my later years, they have been people of faith — pastors, mystics and friends who have inspired me to a deeper relationship with God. I spend time every day in prayer and contemplation. I'm active at St. Joseph's Episcopal Church in Boynton Beach, where I'm a choir member. My faith propels my activism in charities that support the marginalized of our society, such as CROS Ministries, Caridad Center and Family Promise.

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

A: I have no desire to have my life made into a movie. If it came to pass, I would suggest Mary Steenburgen, someone I consider not only a great actress but down-to-earth and wholesome.

Q: Who/what makes you laugh?

A: My children and grandchildren make me laugh, and optimistic friends who have a light touch about life and see the good in all.



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Along the Coast

Palm Beach County chapter celebrates being largest of League of Women Voters

By Ron Hayes

When the League of Women Voters was founded in Chicago on Valentine's Day 1920, women couldn't vote.

Six more months would have to pass before the U.S. Constitution caught up with them.

Last year, both the 19th Amendment and the league marked its centenary, and this year began with the Palm Beach County chapter celebrating its distinction as the largest of the league's more than 750 chapters.

"I can confirm that as of January 2021, the League of Women Voters of Palm Beach County currently has the largest membership of any league in the country," reports Sarah Courtney of the nonprofit organization's national office in Washington, D.C.

"Our largest leagues by membership are geographically diverse and include St. Louis, Missouri; Austin, Texas; Cleveland, Ohio; San Diego, California; and Milwaukee, Wisconsin."

She declined to provide membership numbers for other chapters. But after competing with California chapters off and on for years, Palm Beach County has pulled ahead.

"It's a moving target," says Darlene Kostrub, the county's membership director, "but at this moment we have 662 Palm Beach County members."

Originally, the league admitted only women, in line with its initial mission to educate those newly enfranchised voters, but that policy was changed in 1973, two years before the Palm Beach County chapter was founded.

"Today, I'd say about 15-20 percent of our members are male," Kostrub says.

The county's league is one of 29 state chapters from the Panhandle to the Keys.

"It's a great honor that our state is home to the largest local League of Women Voters in the nation," said Patricia Bingham, the state board president. "We commend the leaders of Palm Beach for their phenomenal recruitment and retention work."

Local league President Ken Thomas attributes the chapter's growth in part to its work attracting younger members.

"We have a very active committee called the Young Leaguers who reach out to circles that aren't our traditional demographic," he said.

During last year's Black

Lives Matter demonstrations in West Palm Beach, for example, league members registering new voters were also able to add members by highlighting a new outreach that offers free membership to students between 16 and 26.

"A lot of these people who were peacefully protesting were interested in civic engagement and saw the league as a legacy organization with a history of doing this work," Thomas said.

Kostrub, the membership director, estimates about 60 local members are students, some still in high school, but most are college students.

Another factor in the league's healthy growth, Thomas said, is its commitment to remaining resolutely nonpartisan.

"People say we don't endorse candidates," he said, "but I like to reinforce that we don't oppose any candidates, either. We don't endorse or oppose."

On Feb. 11, the league hosted its first virtual candidates forum, with an audience watching by Zoom as Delray Beach City Commission candidates discussed the issues at St. Paul Missionary Baptist Church.

When the league realized not all the candidates could sit socially distanced on the chancel, seating for all was moved to the floor level to avoid any perception of favoritism by having them seated on two levels.

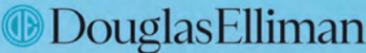
"We don't only say we're nonpartisan," Thomas said, "we actively strive to appear nonpartisan in the way we conduct ourselves."

While the league is nonpartisan, however, it is not apolitical. Statewide, it has vigorously fought for and against political policies. In 2019, state league chapters went to court to fight Senate Bill 7066, which would require ex-felons to pay off all financial obligations before they could vote, and last year, working with the ACLU, Florida members contacted more than 100,000 former felons to encourage them to register and vote.

Locally, the chapter's website touts its commitment to reproductive rights, gun safety and immigration reform.

But regardless of any candidate's position on controversial issues, all are invited to participate in the forums, and in Palm Beach County, the results are clearly effective.

"Our goal is to have 700 members," Kostrub said. ★

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Delray Beach

Some wrongly use drinking water for irrigation, records show

By Jane Smith

As Delray Beach awaits a possible multimillion-dollar fine over its mismanaged reclaimed water program, at least 10% of its barrier island residents have switched back to using drinking water for landscape irrigation, snubbing the highly treated wastewater.

About 20 of the residences converted back to potable water for irrigation and never notified Delray Beach, leaving their reclaimed water meters still installed, city records show.

In the summer months of July through September, the city paid Line Tec Inc. of Delray Beach to remove reclaimed water meters from four locations, according to city invoices.

A 2007 city ordinance makes it mandatory for properties to connect to the reclaimed water lines if the service is available to them, but the rule has gone largely unenforced by the city.

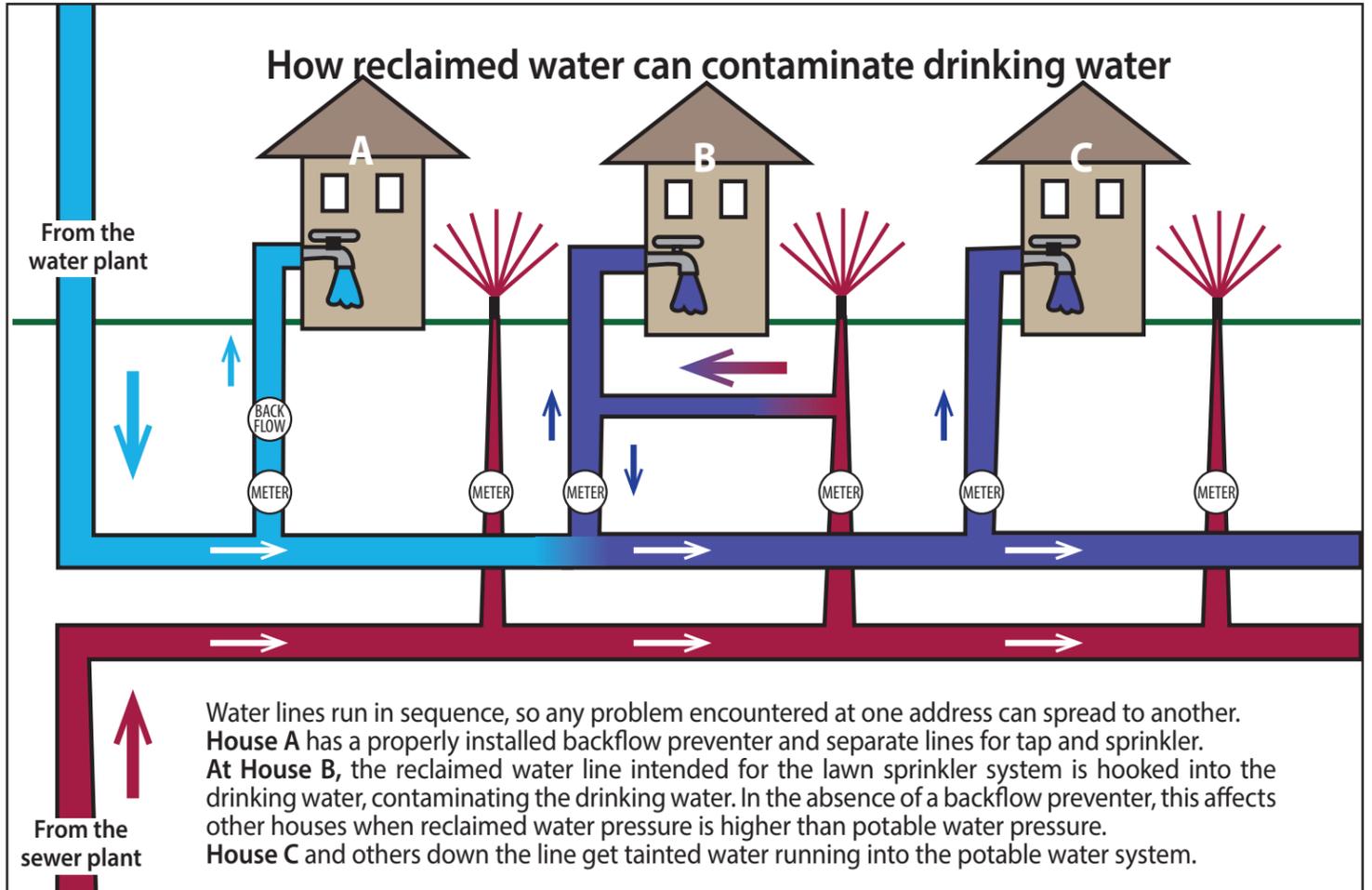
Problems with the city's reclaimed water system surfaced in January 2020, leading to a state-ordered shutdown of the system for months last year while inspectors checked all the system's connections.

Barrier island residents told the city inspectors that they converted to potable water for irrigation for a variety of reasons.

The residents said the reclaimed water was unreliable and had unforeseen shutoffs or no was longer needed because they switched to a landscape style that requires little or no watering. Some signed forms, not approved by city leaders, allowing them to opt out when reclaimed water was offered.

City leaders say they are working to bring these residents back to using reclaimed water for irrigation, but they have not said exactly how that will happen.

"It's a criminal act if you disconnect from the reclaimed



SOURCE: City of Boca Raton Utility Services Department Coastal Star Graphic by Rich Pollack and Bruce Borich

water system. Federal law protects the health, safety and welfare of drinking water," said Fred Bloetscher, whose firm did the 2020 review of the Delray Beach reclaimed water system. "In residential areas, it's all homes or nothing."

One of the four locations where a reclaimed water meter was removed by Line Tec has since been reconnected. That one, at 120 S. Ocean Blvd., converted back to reclaimed water on Jan. 21, 2021, according to the utilities inspector's notes. City inspectors had found a cross connection there in April and a boil-water order was issued for the Ocean Place condominium residents.

The other residences sit farther south on Ocean Boulevard, including one where the family and its dog were sickened in the fall of

2018, possibly from the cross connection discovered at 801 S. Ocean in December 2018. That discovery led to a boil-water order for a southern section of the barrier island.

Unenforced ordinance

What the city allows is at the crux of the reclaimed water debacle in Delray Beach. In 2007, Delray Beach passed an ordinance making it mandatory to connect to reclaimed water within 90 days of when its pipes are laid in the neighborhood. The city pays for the reclaimed meter, the backflow preventer and gives utilities customers a lower price when they use reclaimed water for irrigation.

But the city does not enforce the ordinance, according to Bloetscher, who was hired last spring to review the reclaimed water system. The situation blew up after a phone call to the Florida Department of Health in Palm Beach County in early January 2020.

A South Ocean Boulevard resident called the Health Department to say she was not adequately informed about a cross connection discovered there in December 2018. Her complaint led to the shutdown

of the entire Delray Beach reclaimed water system on Feb. 4, 2020.

The department insisted the city inspect all reclaimed water locations to make sure each had a backflow preventer installed. More than 190 of the 581 barrier island sites did not have one. The devices prevent the reclaimed water from flowing back into the drinking water supply.

The department allowed Delray Beach to turn on its reclaimed water system in phases. Most barrier island locations had the service restored by late June.

In a Jan. 7, 2021, draft letter, called a Civil Penalty Authorization Memo, the department proposed fining Delray Beach for 11 violations, amounting to nearly \$3 million.

The worst violation was for failing to provide adequate backflow prevention at 581 locations. The department proposes to fine Delray Beach \$5,000 for each site, or a total of \$2.9 million.

"The City adopted the 'City of Delray Beach Cross Connection/Backflow Prevention Program' on July 2, 2008," the state Health Department director in Palm

Beach County, Dr. Alina Alonso, explained in the letter. "The City then failed to follow its plan."

The letter also noted Delray Beach benefited financially by not implementing its plan, to the detriment of its "residents' health and welfare."

The letter and a proposed consent order are under review by the county branch of the Florida Department of Environmental Protection, which is the regulating agency over the state's clean water rules.

From there, the consent order and letter travel to Tallahassee to be reviewed by the secretary of the Florida DEP. Then, the consent order, an agreement between the Health Department and Delray Beach, will be given to Delray Beach. The city can appeal the ruling to an administrative law judge.

"The time frames for the review are not known," Alexander Shaw, the department spokesman in West Palm Beach, said in Feb. 28 email to *The Coastal Star*.

In a Feb. 16 email, Shaw wrote that the city's annual cross connection report is due by March 31. ★

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Delray Beach

Barrier island water main damaged by construction crew

By Rich Pollack

Many residents of coastal Delray Beach who have dealt with city water woes over the last few years were told once again to boil water as a result of a construction crew rupturing a main last month.

This time residents received bottled drinking water courtesy of the city and the contractor whose team was responsible for the break.

According to the city and FPL, crews installing underground power lines at the intersection of Seagate Drive and Bauhinia Road on the barrier island accidentally broke the water line at about 6 p.m. Feb. 23, a Tuesday.

The water main was repaired and the line flushed, but because the pipe was exposed a precautionary boil-water notice was issued.

While the notice was initially for just a portion of the barrier island south of Atlantic Avenue, it was later expanded to the northern portion of the coastal area out of “an abundance of caution.”

Because the city is required by the Florida Department of Health to test water for two days to be sure there is no contamination, the boil-water



Risa Levinson receives a case of water from Nelson Palomo, a maintenance worker for the city, after the Feb. 23 main break. At left is city crew leader Zach Torres. The city and FPL gave away water for parts of two days at Anchor Park amid a boil-water notice for the barrier island. **Tim Stepien/ The Coastal Star**

notice was not lifted until the following Friday morning.

After the water main break, representatives from the contractor and the city reached out to residents and offered to provide bottled water for about a day and a half at Anchor Park.

“The contractor assisted the city by distributing door

hangers to the affected homes and delivering bottled water to the affected customers due to the inconvenience,” an FPL spokesman said in an email.

Most residents were able to pull up in their vehicles and receive a case of bottled water from a city employee. Some residents, who live nearby,

walked up to receive water.

“Our contractor, as well as FPL, is committed to doing the right thing for our customers,” the spokesman said.

Many Delray residents living on the barrier island were told to boil their water in December 2018, after cross-contamination was discovered with drinking

water and reclaimed water mixing.

The city could face a fine from the Florida Department of Health of up to nearly \$3 million as a result of issues stemming from its reclaimed water distribution system. ★

Despite flaws, reclaimed system meets mission of conserving water

By Rich Pollack

Back in the early 2000s, when Delray Beach city leaders first considered providing golf courses and other large-scale users with reclaimed water for irrigation, conservation was a primary concern.

“It was good public policy to say ‘let’s give the aquifer a break,’” said former Mayor Jeff Perlman, who was on the City Commission at the time. “It just seemed to make sense from an ecological standpoint.”

While saving millions of gallons per day of treated water was a good idea from an environmental standpoint, it also turned out to be a big step toward helping the city meet regulatory requirements, which set a cap on how much water the city could pull out of the ground.

Providing reclaimed water also had the side benefit of generating additional revenue to the city’s water and sewer fund.

But the city experienced a drop of more than \$100,000 in reclaimed water revenue from 2019 to 2020 after leaders decided to stop providing reclaimed water to the barrier island for four months because a mix of drinking water and reclaimed water was discovered. Further, 10% of homeowners east of the Intracoastal Waterway have decided not to reconnect to the system.

The last portion of the reclaimed water project on the

barrier island was finished in March 2019.

According to the city, revenue from reclaimed water fell from \$289,325 to \$177,825 in 2020. Last year’s number is also lower than 2016 revenue of \$203,328.

To be fair, \$100,000 is just a drop in the bucket when it comes to the city’s utilities budget, which is about \$36 million in the current financial year.

At the same time, some of the revenue decline can be attributed to a wet 2020, which the National Weather Service says had almost 9 more inches of rain than in 2019.

Still, as people on the barrier island choose not to use reclaimed water for irrigation on properties that are often lushly landscaped and instead replace it with potable water, demand for potable water

increases.

Fortunately for Delray Beach, that increased demand is not pushing the city near capacity limits set by the South Florida Water Management District, which is charged with making sure a large chunk of the state doesn’t run out of water.

“Usage fluctuates but the city has not yet experienced capacity issues,” a city spokeswoman wrote in an email.

The city, according to the spokeswoman, had a daily flow in January of between 13 million and 15 million gallons a day to users, significantly less than its 26 million gallon a day treatment capacity and its 19.1 million gallon per day supply capacity.

The city will submit a new water supply plan to the state in July, according to the email.

Capacity concerns led Delray Beach to bring reclaimed water

to the barrier island in the first place, according to former City Manager David Harden.

“The driving force was to conserve potable water,” he said.

At that time the South Florida Water Management District provided Delray Beach with a \$500,000 grant to install reclaimed water on the barrier island.

One reason the city got the grant was it showed that by providing reclaimed water to the barrier island, it would be able to meet permit requirements. The district’s consumptive-use permit projected treated-water needs forward 20 years and how much water the city could pull from the aquifer.

Harden said the city would not have been able to meet the supply projections without providing reclaimed water east of the Intracoastal Waterway.

“The residents on the barrier island used a lot of potable water,” he said.

Harden said that the city’s decision to close off an ocean outfall, which at the time made it possible to send treated effluent into the ocean, helps make it possible to provide reclaimed water to the barrier island.

With treated water either being used for irrigation or sent into deep wells, Delray Beach was able to use the outfall pipe under the Intracoastal to provide reclaimed water to the barrier island.

At the time, Perlman said, the city held meetings with residents to assure them reclaimed water was safe.

“It was a big effort to get the barrier island residents to understand what we were doing,” he said. ★

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Obituaries

Paul William Ruopp

BRINY BREEZES — Paul William Ruopp of Briny Breezes and Brick, New Jersey, died on Feb. 22. He was 88.

Born on March 7, 1932, to Hans and Helen Ruopp in Roselle Park, New Jersey, Mr. Ruopp was a 1950 graduate of Roselle Park High



School. There he was active in sports, Glee Club and All-State Chorus in 1949. After high school Mr. Ruopp attended Pace University and received a bachelor's in business administration in 1954.

He was on active duty in the U.S. Army from 1955 to 1957 in Boston. There he served as an accountant for the recreational funds for all New England units. After his Army service, he became a certified public accountant in 1959 and worked for KPMG Peat Marwick for several years, before becoming a partner there for 25 years. Mr. Ruopp was also a past president of the New Jersey Society of CPAs and remained active in the society throughout his life.

Mr. Ruopp was still an active CPA, attending professional development seminars up until last fall and continuing to do tax returns.

Mr. Ruopp and his family resided in Cranford, New Jersey, for more than 20 years and was active in First Presbyterian Church. Mr. Ruopp was an avid golfer and was fortunate enough to play some of the best courses in the country. He was also a Freemason and a member of Loyalty Lodge 33.

Shortly after retiring Mr. Ruopp and his wife, Joan, moved to Ocean Grove, New Jersey, year

round. He was a member of St. Paul's United Methodist Church. Previously they had lived in a tent and a cottage before finally purchasing a home on Surf Avenue.

Mr. Ruopp was an Ocean Grove Usher. In 2008 the couple moved to Greenbriar in Brick, where he was the secretary for Greenbriar Golf Club.

Mr. Ruopp cherished his winters in Briny Breezes, where he was a TV show host and active in the town's nondenominational church as the treasurer and a soloist in services on Sunday.

He will always be remembered for his bubbly personality and love for the kindness in mankind. If he ever ran into someone who was less than pleasant or enthusiastic about something, it was quite a shock to him.

Sometimes people would say that when Mr. Ruopp walked down the boardwalk he would have absolutely no problem striking up a conversation with total strangers. This could be true of anyplace he went, really.

Mr. Ruopp is predeceased by his wife and is survived by daughter Paula, of Mechanicsburg, Pennsylvania, son Andrew and his wife, Susanne, of Union, New Jersey, son Joshua and his wife, Christine Ruopp, also of Mechanicsburg, nine grandchildren and two great-grandchildren, special friend Catherine Sheridan, and brothers Ronald H. and John A. Ruopp.

A memorial service will be held at a later date when pandemic restrictions ease.

— Obituary submitted by the family

Cornelius 'Neil' P. Mahon

OCEAN RIDGE — Cornelius "Neil" P. Mahon died Feb. 5 at his home in Ocean Ridge, surrounded by his family. He was 85.

Mr. Mahon was born on March 2, 1935, to Arthur and Mary Mahon in Brooklyn, New York, and grew up along with his two sisters

(Mary Therese and Delia Rose) and a brother (Arthur) in the Glendale section of Queens. After graduating from Iona College, Mr. Mahon served as a lieutenant in the Marine Corps and subsequently moved back to New York City, where he met the woman who would become his wife, Patrice.

Throughout the early years of their marriage in New York, Mr. Mahon built his career in real estate — most notably at Huberth & Huberth Inc., where he was a partner and brokered the sale of a number of New York City's iconic buildings. As his career excelled, he moved the family to the town of Chappaqua, New York.

Mr. Mahon loved to travel, play tennis and take long walks. As their children grew, Neil supported Patrice as she took leadership roles in their community and encouraged the children to expand their horizons, explore the world through international living

and education, and grow their careers and families in his same spirit.

With their children grown, Neil and Patrice migrated in 1992 to Quechee, Vermont, where they spent many happy summers. Later in retirement, the couple became full-time residents of Ocean Ridge, where Neil loved to walk along the ocean.

Mr. Mahon served as a part-time legal arbitrator, part-time golf enthusiast, part-time travel and history buff, and full-time loving husband.

Always a quick wit and ready with a funny turn of phrase or joke, Mr. Mahon was known for his humor and sincere conversation and company. He will be sadly missed by all who were fortunate to know him.

Mr. Mahon was predeceased by his wife, Patrice, and is survived by his brother, Arthur, four children — Mary Pat, Steve, Cathie and Neil Jr. — and nine grandchildren.

Mr. Mahon's family would like to thank Audrey Simpson and Taniah Dacosta for their dedicated service and care over the last two years.

Family and friends are invited to share their memories at www.scobecombsbowdenfuneralhome.com/obituaries/Cornelius-Neil-Mahon.

— Obituary submitted by the family

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Delray Beach

City preparing to enforce new panhandling ordinance

By Rich Pollack

Delray Beach police officers and other city staff members will spend much of the next six months ironing out the processes needed to implement a new panhandling ordinance while also communicating the specifics to people who may unknowingly be in violation.

The ordinance, passed last month by a 4-1 vote, makes it illegal to aggressively panhandle anywhere in the city and prohibits any type of panhandling after dark as well as in specific locations such as within 20 feet of the entrance to a commercial property or within 20 feet of an ATM.

While proponents of the ordinance point out that it is essentially a replacement for one on the books that was unlikely to stand up to a constitutional challenge, opponents fear the new rules will be detrimental to the city's homeless population.

Commissioner Adam Frankel, who was one of the strongest proponents of the

ordinance, believes it will reduce some of the intimidation residents and visitors may feel when someone approaches them and requests money or food.

"With the passage of this ordinance, people will feel safer at restaurants, bus stops and at intersections," he said.

Frankel pointed out that a study showed that panhandling will still be acceptable in about 94% of the city, although not after dark.

During several hours over three days of presentations before the City Commission, Melbourne attorney Michael Kahn called on several business owners, police officers and other city staff members who told the commission how some panhandlers aggressively approach people and create health issues by performing bodily functions in public places.

The attorney — who specializes in these types of ordinances — said that the proposed ordinance is focused on people soliciting aggressively

for money or food and is not targeting any specific group such as homeless people.

Frankel agreed. "This isn't a homeless ordinance," he said.

But commissioners also heard from people who left telephone messages voicing concern that the ordinance was indeed aimed at the city's homeless population.

Speaking in person before the commission, Ezra Krieg — a longtime advocate for homeless people and chair of the city's homeless task force — agreed with callers that homeless people in the city would suffer as a result of the ordinance.

"Nobody is in favor of aggressive, intimidating panhandling, but this ordinance is based on people's perception not on performance," he said later. "My concern is that this isn't about people asking you for money, it's about people who make you feel uncomfortable."

Under the ordinance, those found in violation could be arrested and face as much as 60 days in jail or a fine of up to

\$500.

Frankel, however, believes that it is unlikely that many of the violators will be locked up.

He cited figures presented by City Attorney Lynn Gelin showing there were more than 1,100 calls for service regarding panhandling complaints and only 15 arrests in the last five years.

"It tells me that officers aren't looking to arrest people," Frankel said. "They're trying to stop aggressive panhandling where people are uncomfortable."

He said he is confident those charged with enforcing the law will focus on warnings and education initially and avoid making arrests whenever possible.

Prior to voting in favor of the ordinance, Vice Mayor Ryan Boylston questioned whether enough preparation and communication had been done

with people the ordinance is likely to affect.

"I would be more comfortable if a plan were worked out and communicated before this goes into effect," he said.

In the end, Boylston, Frankel and others on the commission agreed to a six-month grace period before the ordinance is fully enforced. Deputy Vice Mayor Shirley Johnson voted no.

"I think there's still a lot of communication that needs to be done," Boylston said.

Krieg said that although he doesn't agree with the ordinance, he is willing to work with the city to help with communication and implementation of the regulations.

"I'm more than happy to work with the city and the people who are implementing this to make sure what I fear could happen doesn't happen," he said. ★

Ocean Ridge

Jones to replace Hutchins as police chief

By Dan Moffett

Ocean Ridge commissioners have endorsed a succession plan that calls for police Lt. Richard Jones to take over as chief for Hal Hutchins when he retires next year.

"It's nice to have this kind of transition where you know the person and know the kind of job they'll do," Commissioner Phil Besler said during the town meeting March 1.

The commission unanimously agreed.

Jones, 40, joined the Ocean Ridge department in 2014. He is attending Barry University part time and is scheduled to earn a degree in public administration this spring. Jones has served as the No. 2 officer in the town's department and filled in for Hutchins when needed.

"Chief Hutchins has been preparing Lt. Jones for the position of chief of police for the past couple of years," Town Manager Tracey Stevens told commissioners, "and I agree with Chief Hutchins' assessment of Lt. Jones' abilities and ambition to lead the Police Department."

Jones has been the lead investigator for internal reviews and worked to upgrade the town's information technology system. He has experience in medical services oversight and construction project management — working in fields "most law enforcement professionals are not exposed to in their career," he said.

Born and raised in Clewiston, Jones was an officer with the Clewiston Police Department and a deputy with the Glades



Police Chief Hal Hutchins plans to retire in 2022, and Lt. Richard Jones will take over. **Jerry Lower/The Coastal Star**

County Sheriff's Office for seven years before joining the Ocean Ridge department. He rose to the rank of major with the Glades sheriff and worked in Glades County Public Safety in emergency medical services.

Stevens said Ocean Ridge has created a culture of hiring from within and training successors for advancement. Jones has grown with the department, she said, and "exceeded all expectations in job performance and has excellent community relations."

Under the town charter, Stevens has the authority to hire the new chief without seeking commission approval. However,

she said she brought Jones' promotion to commissioners early "in order to gain consensus on our succession plan in the spirit of transparency and respect for the commission and the community as a whole."

Jones is to take over on April 6, 2022, and earn \$105,000 annually.

Hutchins, 59, became chief in 2015 after the forced resignation of Chris Yannuzzi. A native of Lake Worth, he has a 35-year career in law enforcement, which includes 24 years with the Palm Beach Police Department. Hutchins came to Ocean Ridge in 2005. ★

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Business Spotlight

'King of Queens' star returns to Delray

Returning to Delray Beach but downsizing his domicile, actor **Kevin James** bought an 18,906-square-foot, six-bedroom oceanfront estate and guest house in the 300 block of North Ocean Boulevard. The *King of Queens* TV show actor paid \$14 million, under his real name, Kevin Knipfing, according to public records dated Feb. 3.



James

In 2016, James sold his eight-bedroom, 26,000-square-foot oceanfront mansion at 502 N. Ocean Blvd. for \$26.375 million. The seller in the recent transaction was N Ocean Capital 344 LLC, a Florida limited liability company linked to National Realty Investment Advisors.

Randall Stofft Architects with Stofft Ikasu Interiors completely renovated, redesigned and upgraded the estate. Amenities of the property include a resort-like T-shaped pool, a loggia with a summer kitchen and fireplace, entertainment lounge, wine cellar, covered terraces, a master suite comprising the third floor and a five-car garage.

Nicholas Malinosky of Douglas Elliman represented NRIA, and **Jack Elkins** of William Raveis represented James in the recent purchase.

Ray Miller, successor trustee of the EPC Residence Trust, and **Jeffrey A. Levitetz**, settlor of the EPC Residence Trust, sold the waterfront home at 5001 Egret Point Circle in Boca Raton's Sanctuary neighborhood for \$15.75 million. The buyer is **Barry J. Shkolnik** as trustee of the Romona Road Trust. The sale was recorded on Jan. 29.

Levitetz is chairman of Boca Raton-based Purity Wholesale Grocers. Shkolnik is an attorney at Nixon Peabody LLP in Chicago.

The seven-bedroom estate, with 21,607 square feet, sits on a one-acre lot. It includes a separate guest house, a pool, and 560 feet fronting the water on three sides, according to the listing, which was held by Carmen N. D'Angelo Jr., Gerard P. Liguori and Joseph G. Liguori of Premier Estate Properties.

Morgan Properties, a large national apartment owner, recently acquired a portfolio of 48 apartment communities and 14,414 units in 11 states for \$1.75 billion. The Morgan Properties and **Olayan America** joint venture purchased the North Star Portfolio from STAR Real Estate Ventures. As part of this acquisition, Morgan Properties hired 400 new employees and, in the Boca Raton area, acquired 712 units including the **Camino Real Apartments** at 33 E. Camino Real.

The company plans to open a regional office in Boca Raton to serve its expansion in the southeast region.

Atlantis resident **Amy Snook** was installed as the **Women's Council of Realtors** president for Florida for 2021 during its virtual and in-person midwinter convention in West Palm Beach.



Snook

Snook is a partner in the All About Florida Homes team of Lang Realty, along with partner Noreen Payne of Delray Beach. She has been practicing real estate and title insurance for 19 years.



Actor Kevin James downsized a bit with this 18,906-square-foot home. Photo provided

Snook is a director of the Realtors Association of the Palm Beaches and Greater Fort Lauderdale, and a director of Florida Realtors.

John Campanola, an agent at **New York Life's** South Florida general office, in February qualified as an Elite member, meaning he is recognized as one of the company's leading retirement-



Campanola

solutions professionals. Campanola, a longtime Florida resident and a graduate of Leadership Delray, is involved in the Greater Delray Beach Chamber of Commerce on various committees and organizations. He is also chairman of the Boynton Business Professionals leads group.

Mindy King is now **Florida Peninsula Insurance's** director of customer experience. The company is in Boca Raton. Previously, King was the



King

director of customer experience for **Thyssenkrupp Elevator** as well as the director of customer insights and market intelligence at **Tyco Integrated Security**. King earned a bachelor of science degree from Palm Beach Atlantic University and an MBA from Nova Southeastern University.

Steven Chase, director at **SafeRide America**, a 10-year-old 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization, has formed the **Jordan Wachtell Foundation** in Palm Beach County. The foundation was launched on Jan. 30 along with **SafeRide Services**, a designated driver for hire, in southeast Florida. That was the one-year anniversary of the death of Chase's best friend, **Jordan Wachtell**, who was killed by a drunk driver.

George Anagnostou, owner of the **Copperfish Kitchen** restaurant at Boca Center, hosted the grand opening ceremony.

Chase gives this description of how **SafeRide** helps people get home after drinking alcohol on a night out: "Our professional driver gets in your car with you and drives, while the second **SafeRide** driver follows behind as a chase driver. While DUI-related deaths have been greatly reduced over the past two decades, even a single death that is preventable is a tragedy.

"In addition to alcohol, we now have to combat the negative impact of prescription drugs and driver distraction due to things like texting and driving."

For more information, visit <https://saferideamerica.org>.

A patent-pending video compression technology, developed by researchers from **Florida Atlantic University's College of Engineering and Computer Science**, was recently acquired by **Mitsubishi Electric Corp.** The FAU research team includes **Hari Kalva**, Ph.D. and **Borko Furht**, Ph.D. They are working on the project with **Robert J.L. Moore**, president of IP Solutions, and **Velibor Adzic**, Ph.D., director of product development at **Videopura LLC**.

Compression technology is important for streaming high-quality video.

"The cutting-edge inventions developed by professors Kalva and Furht related to video compression technology have the potential to become essential patents for the new VVC standard," said **Stella Batalama**, Ph.D., dean of FAU's College of Engineering and Computer Science. "Over the next 20 years, we anticipate that this FAU-invented technology will be available on all devices with screens sold worldwide — from smartphones to tablets to autonomous vehicles."

The **Boca Raton Historical Society & Museum** with **Boca Raton Innovation Campus** presents "Today's Technology Scene & Expectations for the Future" at noon March 9. It is part of a free virtual series titled "Tech Talks: The Evolution of Tech & Innovation in Boca Raton."

Panelists will include **Daniel**

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Cane of Modernizing Medicine, **Andrew Duffell** from FAU's Research Park, and **Angelo Bianco** with Crocker Partners, owner of BRIC. The panel will be moderated by **Jessica Del Vecchio**, manager of economic development for the city of Boca Raton.

The 45-minute discussion can be viewed on BRIC's channels on YouTube and Facebook.

Others underwriting the panel discussion are the Florida Department of State Division of Cultural Affairs, Palm Beach County Board of Commissioners, Cultural Council for Palm Beach County, and Discover the Palm Beaches.

The League of Women Voters of Palm Beach County is hosting a free discussion, "Women in Economics," at noon March 17 via Zoom, with guest speaker **Kelly L. Smallridge**, president and CEO of the Business Development Board of Palm Beach County.



Smallridge

Smallridge, who received the 2013 Governor's Ambassador Medal in recognition of her work in creating jobs in the county,

has landed relocations and expansions from companies such as United Technologies, Amazon, ADT, Pratt & Whitney, G4S, FedEx, Sikorsky Helicopters, Aldi, and TBC Corp.

Register for the webinar at <https://lwvpsc.org/events>.

The Greater Lantana Chamber of Commerce and the town are conducting an adopt-a-tree program in celebration of Lantana's 100th anniversary. The goal is to plant 100 trees throughout Lantana's parks and properties, enhancing public spaces while giving individuals, groups and organizations the opportunity to honor or memorialize their loved ones, friends and associates.

Adopting a tree costs \$150, which includes installation and personalization of a plaque.

To participate, visit www.lantanachamber.com/town-centennial.

In an open enrollment underway through April 30, **Florida Prepaid College Savings Plans** is offering five plans, starting at \$45 per month, which are designed to help families maximize college savings and lock in the future costs of college.

Every prepaid plan is guaranteed by the state, and a student has up to 10 years after high school graduation to use the plan. For more information, families can use the prepaid plan pricing tool at www.myfloridaprepaid.com.



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



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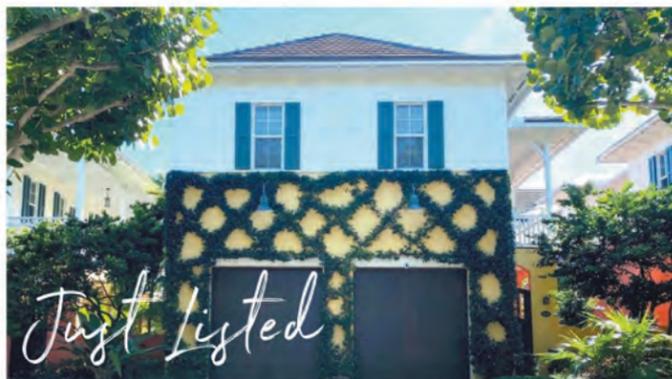
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Around Town

March 2021

The Coastal  Star

Inside



Dining

New restaurants fill out Atlantic Avenue. Page AT6



Secret Garden

Botanical art exhibit graces Preservation Foundation in Palm Beach. Page AT23



Pets

A kitten's first year is filled with wonder. Page AT24



House of the Month

An oceanfront rebuild in Manalapan. Page AT31

Along the Coast



Sarah Smith of Gulf Stream grips Keke's bridle. 'Horses are such beautiful creatures,' she says. Tim Stepien/The Coastal Star

Horse haven

Coastal community equestrians share fondness for a top-notch lesson and show stable in Delray

By Ron Hayes

While Gray Smith was busy settling in as the new head of Gulf Stream School back in July 2019, his wife was busy looking for something she couldn't find in town.

Sarah Smith needed a place to ride horses.

"I grew up in Overland, Kansas, and I've been riding since I was a little girl," she explains. "I had Dustin, a

See HORSES on page AT8

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Pay it Forward

Mark those calendars for this month's Spring Fling

By Amy Woods

Face masks and social distancing are not the highlights of the Boca Raton Garden Club's new event, Spring Fling, but they are required.

Instead, the highlights are clever hand-painted terra cotta "people" pots with heads and dangling hands and legs and angel figures created from tropical palm fronds. There are also one-of-a-kind wind chimes made of natural wood, embroidered casserole carriers, jewelry bags and kitchen aprons.

"One of the ladies today was making a wreath with flowers on it," said Patty Moum, the club's third vice president and event co-chairwoman. "They are all things that you would put in your house for the summer."

Spring Fling is a combination craft show and plant sale set for March 19 and 20. Attendees at the indoor/outdoor event must wear face masks and practice social distancing as well as submit to temperature checks and comply with other COVID-19 safety measures.

"We are really following all the rules," Moum said.



Making sure the event will be safe, (l-r) Connie Schaefer, Peggy Pattera, Phyllis Cofrancesco and Regina Derojas are ready to take temperatures and provide hand sanitizer. Photo provided

If You Go

What: Spring Fling
Time: 9 a.m. to 2 p.m.
Dates: March 19 and 20
Where: 4281 NW Third Ave., Boca Raton
Cost: Free
Information: 561-994-5642 or www.bocaratongardenclub.org

"In addition, we know with COVID, a lot of people are out of work or are struggling a bit, so we've made our prices very, very affordable."

The angel figures created from palm fronds — the club's signature product — usually

are sold at Christmastime in gold, silver, maroon and other colors of the holiday. Now they are available in blue, green, pink and turquoise.

"Some are decorated with shells on their collar," Moum said. "People just love them. They sell like hotcakes because they're so beautiful."

"We're the only ones who make them, and we don't tell people how we make them," added Mary Kaub, the club's president and event co-chairwoman. "It's something that is unique to our club."

They are 18 or so inches in length and run less than \$20. The more that are sold, the better.

"We desperately need the money because we've lost a lot of fundraising this year, and as a nonprofit we have to keep our door open," Kaub said. "It's been quite challenging."

Spring Fling anticipates 200 guests during its two-day run and \$4,000 in proceeds.

"Meanwhile, our garden club is trying everything we can to help our club survive so we can continue to serve our community," said Charlene Smith, publicity chairwoman. "Our mission is to educate the public about the environment, conservation, the right place right plant — there's a lot of knowledge we want to make the public aware of." ★

Pay it Forward

Events are current as of 2/28. Please check with organizers for any changes.

MARCH

Saturday - 3/13 - Best Foot Forward Foundation's BFF Bash, a virtual event. Learn how youths in foster care are finding success in life through education and prepare to be inspired with the event theme A Decade of Change. 6-8:15 pm. 470-8300 or bestfoot.org.

Thursday - 3/25 - Bethesda Hospital Foundation's Gala of Generosity, a virtual event. Come together online to honor Peter and Mary Blum and celebrate the institution's commitment to healthcare as well as hear stories from frontline workers and patients. 6:30 pm. 737-7733, Ext. 84445 or bethesdahospitalfoundation.org/galaofgenerosity.

APRIL

Sunday - 4/25 - National Society of Arts and Letters' Florida East Coast Chapter's Star Maker Awards at The Wick Theatre & Costume Museum, 7901 N. Federal Highway, Boca Raton. Honor Boca Ballet Theatre's co-artistic directors, Dan Guin and Jane Tyree, as well as Broadway legend Avery Sommers, all of whom will be presented with the Lifetime Achievement Award. 6:30 pm. \$250. 391-6380 or nsafloridaeast.org.

Tuesday - 4/27 - Place of Hope's Angel Moms Brunch and Benefit at The Leighan and David Rinker Campus, 21441 Boca Rio Road, Boca Raton. Join the festivities under a tent to support programs that serve foster children and those who have aged out of the foster-care system as well as hear from abduction-victim-turned-survivor-turned-activist Elizabeth Smart. 10:30 am. \$150. 483-0962 or placeofhoperinker.org.

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Sponsorship/Underwriting Opportunities Still Available

Premier tickets will receive a Party Box mailed to their residence to enjoy during the Gala of Generosity.

Must be confirmed by 3/19/2021

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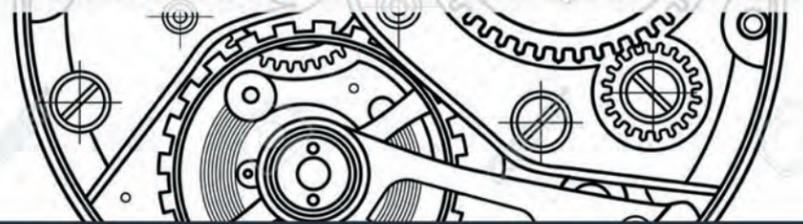
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Philanthropy Notes

Children's Foundation program to give \$50,000 grants to charities

The Children's Foundation of Palm Beach County has launched an initiative titled "The Partnership," modeled after Wall Street.

The Partnership encourages members of the community to purchase a "share" for \$500, with each "share" representing a vote to select grant recipients.

In all, five grant recipients will benefit from \$50,000 apiece.

Organizations vying for the monies include Boca Helping Hands, Boys & Girls Clubs of Palm Beach County, Center for Family Services of Palm Beach County, Education Foundation of Palm Beach County, Florence Fuller Child Development Centers, Jewish Adoption & Foster Care Options, Joe DiMaggio Children's Hospital, Junior League of Boca Raton, Place of Hope, Sweet Dream Makers, and YMCA of the Palm Beaches.

Office Depot gives \$15,000 to Pace Center for Girls

A new community partnership has been formed with Pace Center for Girls in Palm Beach County by Boca Raton-based Office Depot.

The nonprofit organization

addresses the social needs of girls ages 11 to 17 by providing them with opportunities to better their futures through academics, counseling and independent-living skills. In addition to the \$15,000 donated to the program, local members of Office Depot's Women of Color group will offer mentoring services.

For more information, call 561-472-1990 or visit www.pacecenter.org/locations/palm-beach.

Diaper Bank to become independent nonprofit

A separate board of directors with its own slate of members will govern the Junior League of Boca Raton's successful Diaper Bank.

The Diaper Bank will transition into a standalone 501(c)(3) by January 2022 while continuing to collect diapers for distribution to families in need.

"With the success of our Diaper Bank and the ever-growing need for diapers in our community, it is our responsibility not only to recognize how far we've come but also to meet the need for growth we are seeing," said Cristy Stewart-Harfmann, Junior League president. "We

Car donation

Green Market, Delray Beach — Feb. 13



Steve Muschlitz, founder of Wheels from the Heart, donated a car to a woman and her children who are clients of CityHouse. Heather Cochran, a family advocate and case manager at CityHouse, accepted the gift on the family's behalf. **LEFT:** Muschlitz, with his dog Enzo, hands over the keys to Cochran. **Tim Stepien/The Coastal Star**

are excited to announce that we will be gifting this incredible project to the community, allowing for its continued expansion."

Nias is named president of Community Foundation

The Community Foundation for Palm Beach and Martin Counties has named Danita Nias as its new president and CEO.

Nias, who has more than 20 years of experience in fundraising, strategic planning and higher education, this month will succeed Brad Hurlburt, who is retiring after seven years.

"Our board of directors is thrilled to introduce a leader of Nias' caliber to help guide the strategic direction of the Community Foundation," said Julie Fisher Cummings,

board chairwoman. "Nias brings a wealth of experience, expertise, enthusiasm and most importantly a passion for serving all people in our communities."



Send news and notes to Amy Woods at flamywoods@bellsouth.net.

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Celebrations

104th birthday celebration

The Carlisle Palm Beach, Lantana — Feb. 25



Irene Baller, who was born Feb. 3, 1917, in Poland and is a Holocaust survivor, celebrated a milestone 104th birthday with family and friends. At the celebration were Baller's daughter, son-in-law and grandson — who played the piano as everyone sang 'Happy Birthday' to Baller and others at the senior living facility. Another highlight: Lantana Mayor Dave Stewart presented Baller with a proclamation. **Photo provided**

Life-saving award

Virtual ceremony — Jan. 26



The Palm Beach and Treasure Coast Chapter of the American Red Cross honored Jonathan Price for saving the lives of three boaters. Price used his skills and training to rescue the trio, who capsized at Ocean Inlet Park in Ocean Ridge, where Price was on duty as lifeguard. He went to the vessel and ensured the three stayed above water until they could be brought ashore. 'Jonathan is a true hero,' said Jennifer Durrant, the chapter's executive director. 'His quick and decisive action during a crisis takes the highest level of courage. It's our hope that his bravery inspires others to get trained in skills that save lives.' **ABOVE:** Price holds a Certificate of Merit, the highest award the American Red Cross gives. **Photo provided**

Day of Reflection

St. Lucy Catholic Church, Highland Beach — Dec. 8, 2020



The stage was brimming with clothes, toys, diapers, cribs, infant car seats, household goods and nonperishable food collected by the Palm Beach Diocesan Council of Catholic Women. Parishioners selected recipients from the Angel Tree and purchased and colorfully wrapped hundreds of basic necessities and cheerful gifts. **ABOVE:** (l-r) Council President Michele DeGennaro; board members Peggy Brown and Rebecca Fordham; Monsignor Stephen Bosso; and board members Anne Dunn, Rose Marie Amato, Barbara Sheridan and Eleanor Hoffmann. **Photo provided**

The Coastal Star

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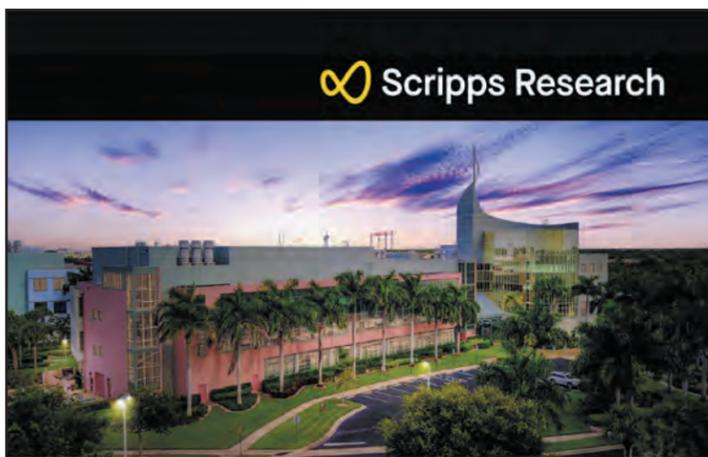
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Dining

Surge in business noticeable at Atlantic Avenue restaurants

What pandemic? A recovery is taking hold along Delray Beach's Atlantic Avenue, where restaurants are bustling again and new ones have opened to fill empty spaces quickly.

One reason is the season: Northeasterners have flocked south to escape extreme cold and heavy snow, and used the relaxed safety rules for COVID-19 in South Florida as an excuse to get out of lockdown mentality.

Then there's the vaccine, which has reached more than 3 million doses in Palm Beach County. With careful optimism, some of the older adults who had stayed away from crowds are venturing out once more and helping to fill the outdoor seating at restaurants on the avenue.

Elizabeth Grace, of the Buzz Agency public relations, said she saw a boisterous group of seniors partying at one restaurant in late January. Asked what they were celebrating, they said, "We got the vaccine."

Newcomers like **Lionfish** and the reborn **Johnnie Brown's** continue to fill seats. **Taru at Sundy House** brought back diners with a social hour at its bar and a Sunday brunch.

Despite delays brought about by the pandemic, the **Delray Marketplace** is nearing completion, and scheduled to be open by April with a variety of vendors and food choices.

Nicolas Kurban has seen the surge at

his new restaurant, **Amar**. The Lebanese bistro opened in January in the former Scuola Vecchia, and he has hosted a variety of diners, with a full house most nights.

"We don't take reservations for the outside tables — we're too small. If they arrive and there's a table, great. Otherwise, they can sit indoors, and some do, saying they've been vaccinated and feel comfortable doing so. Others say they'll wait till they get the vaccine," he said.

The new Mediterranean restaurant already has a buzz, with word-of-mouth touting its unique cuisine. "We are offering something different on the avenue, something they can't get anywhere else," Kurban said.

It's what drove him to open a place with his native cuisine.

"My wife and I would go out to eat, but there was nothing new on the avenue. Dozens of Italian, some good, some mediocre. Mexican, Asian. I wanted to do something different."

Kurban has more than 20 years of experience opening restaurants for others in the United States, mostly A-list chefs such as Wolfgang Puck and Thomas Keller with their expansions into Las Vegas, California and Chicago. He also worked several years for the Wynn Resorts, opening hotels, casinos and dozens of restaurants for the successful group.

A more recent move to the Kimpton



Amar opened in January and serves Lebanese food, something Atlantic Avenue diners 'can't get anywhere else,' owner Nicolas Kurban says. Photo provided

Group brought him to the East Coast, opening hotels and restaurants along the coast, into the Caribbean and on to Europe.

He was able to work remotely, so moved to Delray Beach to be near the ocean with his spouse and business partner, **Susanna**.

He had been looking for the right spot to open a restaurant of his own, to share his favorite foods from his father's restaurant and his mother's kitchen.

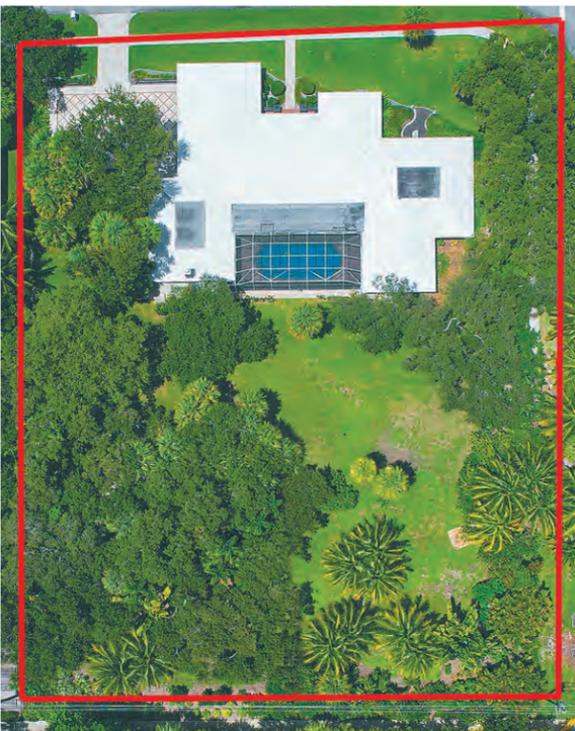
"My family owned famous restaurants in Lebanon. I want to share that food with South Florida," Kurban said.

The menu has both traditional

favorites and regional Lebanese dishes that may be unfamiliar to some diners.

"My menu is a little of both. You'll find the traditional mezze — tabouli, grape leaves, hummus and baba ganouj, falafel. You'll find the grilled kebabs, fattoush — all that, which is what people really like, because they don't get it everywhere.

"But in addition to that, there's also some stuff on the menu that no one is familiar with. So one dish I took from my childhood, which is sheikh mahshi, which is eggplant. So you take a baby eggplant and cook it, and eventually stuff it with ground beef, onions and pine nuts, and serve it with tomato sauce



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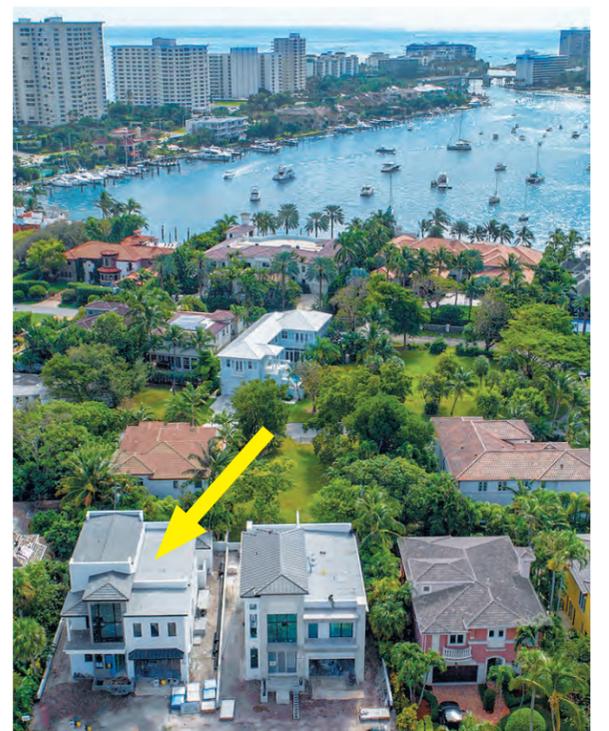
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next to a rice with vermicelli. This is very home cooking.”

He offers a vegan version of the dish, made with chickpeas and spinach, as a nod to his wife and daughters — all vegans. At least 30% of the menu is vegan.

Susanna is the mastermind behind the plant-based desserts.

“My wife is an amazing baker, and makes a chocolate cake with tahini sauce and a semolina cake that is vegan. We thought of everyone. You go to a restaurant and eat vegan and get to dessert: There’s nothing for you. Half our desserts are vegan.

“They’re so good, especially the chocolate cake, if I didn’t tell you it was vegan, you’d never know,” Kurban said.

A curated wine list includes his favorite California wines, with an international eclectic group that includes a few Lebanese wines. Those are so popular with guests that he’s ordering others.

He says he’s a month or two away from adding specials, but wants to eventually offer dishes that rotate to keep the menu exciting for frequent diners.

Diners can leave it all in the chef’s hands, however, with the multicourse “Taste of Amar” menu, a chef’s tasting menu to share among a group.

Takeout and catering are also available.

Amar Mediterranean Bistro, 522 E. Atlantic Ave., Delray Beach. Phone 561-865-5653; www.amardelray.com. Open for dinner at 5 p.m.; closed Tuesdays.

Also new on the avenue is a New York import, **Avalon Steak and Seafood**. Created by Host Restaurant Group, the parent of well-known Campagnola, Scarpetta, American Cut Steakhouse and several others in the Northeast, Avalon opened in mid-February with a complete new build-out at 110 E. Atlantic.

The restaurant meshed the former Italian restaurant Casa L’Acqua with a cigar bar. In a total redo, the coastal-themed steakhouse transformed a dining room and bar into an indoor-outdoor, bilevel space, closing in a corner entrance and moving it to the center of the dual spaces.

The bar opens to the patio with stools inside and out. The wraparound covered patio offers socially distanced tables with a unique atmosphere.

The restaurant’s design is described as “Montauk flair and Nantucket panache” — approachable but sophisticated coastal. Wraparound windows add natural light, while white-paneled walls, cool cream leatherette and modern fixtures speak comfort and entice guests to linger. Music is throwback 1970s and ’80s pop and rock at a level diners can still talk around. Service is paced with no rush.

“Dinner was made to savor,” said Curt Huegel, Host Restaurant president.

A modified menu kicked off a soft opening, but represented the planned main offerings.

The starters are mostly seafood such as lump crab cocktail and a traditional shrimp cocktail with house-made sauce. The “angry lobster” is a large bowlful of cracked lobster, with house-made Sriracha, ginger and large Pullman toast points.

Popular as a vegetarian entree, a roasted cauliflower is presented as a charred half-head of the vegetable, served with tahini and an herb



Paganuzzi

vinaigrette. Another unique side is the lobster kimchi fried rice.

“Lobster mac and cheese is

so ’90s. We wanted to do something different, lighter,” said **Antonello Paganuzzi**, managing partner and director of operations. He comes from a pedigree of hospitality that

includes Le Cirque and other top dining venues in New York, Las Vegas, Miami and London.

He described the lengthy and exact aging process for the Midwestern beef that becomes the prime steaks at Avalon. “No injections, nothing extra. The meat is cut to our order, and boom! Immediately into the box, aged exactly at temperature to our specification.”

A choice of dry aging or wet aging is offered with cuts such as bone-in or boneless ribeye, petite filet mignon, and the Kansas City cut New York bone-in steaks. A 36-ounce, dry-aged tomahawk, aged 30 days, is a signature cut.

Seafoods include crudo starters of hamachi and tuna.

Charred octopus tentacle is served with cannellini beans and diced pancetta, cherry tomatoes and drizzled with chimichurri.

As an entree, a Maine halibut fillet is served with tri-cauliflower, with a flavor mix of

pine nuts, capers and currants, sauced with citrus brown butter.

Also unique to the menu: 28-ounce dry-aged, bone-in tuna “ribeye.” For plating, it is sliced into long “ribs” perfectly seared with end bone attached.

Salad dressings, steak sauces and bread are made in-house.

“It’s all about quality,” Paganuzzi said, “and hospitality.”

Servers go through a training and testing regimen before working on the floor.

Those details will set **Avalon** apart from others, Paganuzzi said.

Avalon Steak and Seafood, 110 E. Atlantic Ave., Delray Beach. www.avalondelray.com. Open for dinner daily.

The old ice cream and burger stand **Doc’s All American** closed last month after withstanding years of development around it. The diner, which operated since 1951 at the corner of Swinton

and Atlantic avenues, was sold to a developer who has posted plans to open Swinton Station, a mixed-use project.

A lawyer for the developer says it is in the process of applying for a historic designation for the site. The City Commission must weigh in before that happens. The closing took commissioners by surprise. Published reports suggest there may be plans to reopen the restaurant in the future.

We were unable to reach Doc’s owners for comment.

Chez Andrea, a French restaurant that opened in Boynton Beach’s downtown a few weeks before the pandemic, has closed. An effort to pivot to takeout was unsuccessful.



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

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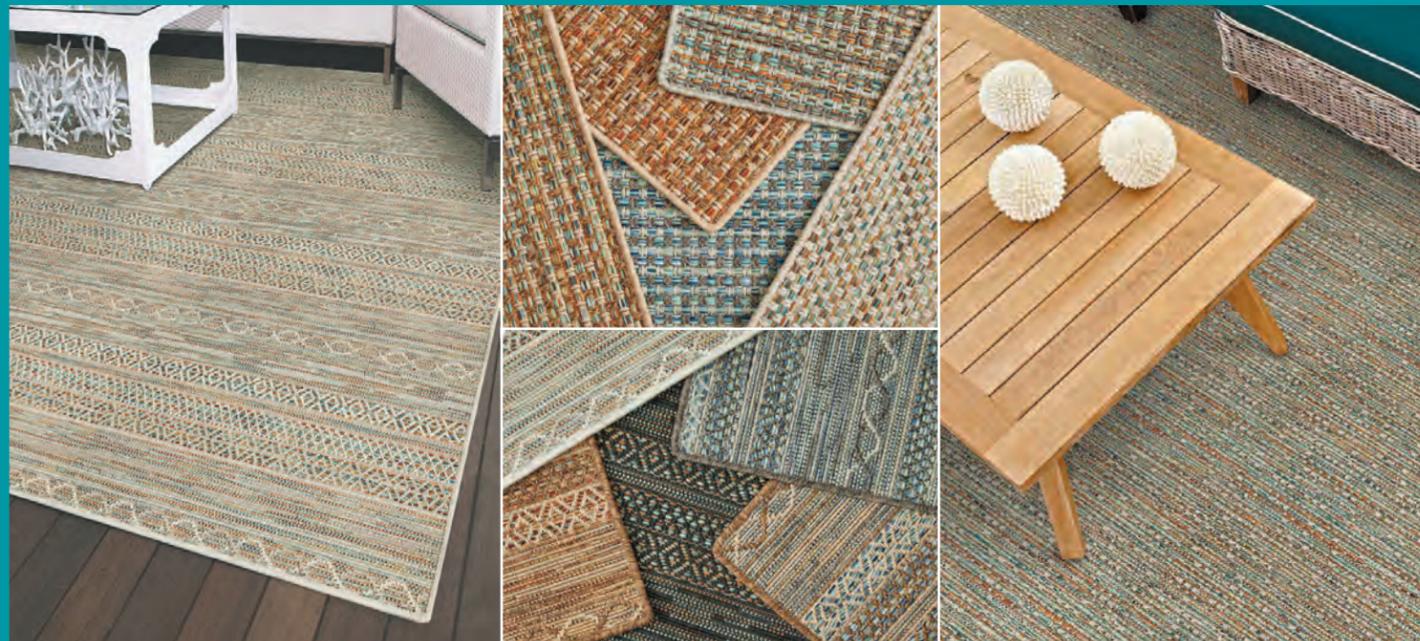
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HORSES

Continued from page AT1

thoroughbred gelding I showed at high-level shows. When I went off to Stephens College in Columbia, Missouri, I was able to take him with me because they had an equestrian program. And then I rode in law school, too.”

Smith asked around, and learned two things. A lot of adults and children in the coastal communities ride, and most recommended Bramasole Stables at Johnson’s Folly Horse Farm.

Just off Military Trail north of Atlantic Avenue, the closest stables to Gulf Stream sit on 8 acres only 3 miles west of downtown Delray Beach, a beautifully rural spread of grass paddocks, dressage arenas and a new covered riding ring.

Now Smith is out there twice a week, riding a jumper named Keke.

“I just love the animal,” she says. “Horses are such beautiful creatures. They’re very smart, and then there’s the sport, which is one of the few where men and women compete against each other. You and the animal are competing as a team.”

She’s often accompanied by the couple’s sons, Ward, 8, and James, 10.

Ward Smith has been riding since he was 4 — half his life. At Bramasole, he favors an American paint named Rocky.

“I almost fell off once when my foot came out of the stirrup,” he says, “but I love riding. It’s fun. It makes me feel good.”

The owner and trainer at Bramasole is Kim Nadler-Russo, who began riding in the first grade, started competing at horse shows in the fifth grade, and has made a career of her love for the sport.

In 2003, she opened her first stables in Parkland and named it Bramasole, Italian for “under the sun.” Eight years ago, she brought the business to Johnson’s Folly Horse Farm.

“About 30 or 40 percent of our riders are from the coastal communities,” she says, “and



Sarah Smith on Keke (l-r), Gracie Robinson on Sky, Sarah Ghostine on Luke The Duke, and Allison Adams on Tank, with Bramasole Stables trainer Kim Nadler-Russo. Photos by Tim Stepien/The Coastal Star



Sarah Ghostine, 14, says Luke The Duke ‘loves his job.’

many of those are from the Gulf Stream School.

“We show from beginners to Double-A, the highest level of competition. We’re a lesson and show barn, a more advanced farm. We don’t do trail rides. No birthday parties, no pony rides. We’re a serious barn.”

Another serious equestrian from Gulf Stream School is Sarah Ghostine, 14, of Hypoluxo Island, who came

to riding when a school friend shared her love of horses.

Her mother, Debra, was not sure this was a good idea.

“I said, ‘OK, try it,’ but I was kind of hoping she’d maybe not get too into it,” she recalls. “Then Sarah said she wanted to take lessons and I had to go up to the horses and pretend I wasn’t nervous.”

That was five years ago. “When I started, I hadn’t been into sports,” Sarah says. “I was only concentrating on academics, so I started riding for fun and came to love the animals.”

Now she’s at the stable six days a week from 3:30 to 6 p.m. Then home to homework.

The family leases a Holsteiner named Luke The Duke, and for Sarah, he’s not just a horse. He’s a teammate in the sport.

“Luke loves his job,” she



The hand-painted sign above Keke’s stall.

says. “He has such a passion to go out there and jump and have fun. Sometimes he refuses to jump. He’ll stop short right in front of the fence. There’s so much you have to think about when you’re riding. Posture, legs and sitting tall. You can have bad riders, too.”

Allison Adams of Ocean Ridge was visiting her grandparents in Londonderry, Vermont, where a neighbor used a draft horse named Pete when collecting maple syrup.

“I met my first horse at 3 years old and I was in love,” Adams recalls.

At 16 she was working at a show stable back home in Pennsylvania, and a year later she got her first horse, Roy, short for Royal Ascot.

Since then, she’s had Knight Course and Willow Grove, Nugget, Frosty and Picasso.

These days, it’s Cantankerous, a gift from her husband, Bob, for their 20th anniversary.

“I call him Tank for short because he looks like a tank,” she says. “He’s huge and tall and wide. The most impressive horse I’ve ever seen in my life. To have control of a 1,500-pound animal is the most

amazing feeling, the adrenaline rush of getting him to do what you want. But if you’re scared, the horse can sense it. You have to have horse sense or you’re going to get stepped on.”

Six days a week, she and Tank are together at Bramasole.

“It’s like a family here at the farm, friendly and laid-back with a top-notch riding program,” Adams says. “Kim’s a great trainer.”

A love of horses does not necessarily travel from parent to child, or vice versa. Gracie Robinson, 13, of Delray Beach, has been riding since the first grade. At Bramasole, her horse is Sky. But ask her father, Joe, if he rides and you get a poker-faced reply.

“I do not,” he says. “I’m from Brooklyn.”

They’re a special breed, equestrians. Talk to several riders, and you find that, whether they own horses or lease them, no matter their age or the breed they ride, they share a common experience.

They started out riding a horse, and wound up having a relationship with it.

“It’s different every day, and it’s a humbling sport,” Nadler-Russo explains. “One day you’re on top of the world and the next day you can’t do a basic exercise, so just because you’re in the mood to do something one day doesn’t mean the horse is. People don’t realize that both the rider and the horse have to be athletes.

“You’re dealing with two brains.” ★

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Art



After undergoing a \$100 million renovation, the Norton Museum of Art reopened to much fanfare in February 2019 and was going strong until the pandemic forced it to shut for much of 2020. Photos by Jerry Lower/The Coastal Star

Fresh eyes on the Norton

Museum's new director sees facility as a hub for creativity, dialogue

By Gretel Sarmiento
ArtsPaper Art Writer

Early into a recent interview, it becomes clear why Ghislain d'Humières landed the job of director and CEO of the Norton Museum of Art.

A native of France with a last name that exudes harmony and elegance, d'Humières is grounded, energetic and has the well-rounded business acumen to take one of Palm Beach County's most precious cultural jewels to the next level.

This killer combination of experience and spirit is precisely what's needed to resurrect the momentum lost to the pandemic and the sudden departure of former director Elliot Bostwick Davis last year. The Norton Museum technically should have been riding the tail end of the celebratory wave brought on by completion of a \$100 million expansion. The new, bold 59,000-square-foot building opened to the public in February 2019 with a lush Sculpture Garden and commanding grand hall, but the buzz was short-lived.

The museum went on to close for eight months before finally reopening with limited hours. Lost revenue meant furloughs, layoffs and pay

reductions.

Enter d'Humières, who took the reins in late January and has already instituted some changes that are designed to lift staff morale and inject some much-needed enthusiasm. Those familiar with his curriculum, which includes Christie's and Sotheby's, won't be surprised.

He most recently served as director and CEO of the Speed Art Museum in Louisville, Ky., where he oversaw a comprehensive three-year renovation project and established critical partnerships and initiatives.

D'Humières is also credited with doubling attendance at the Fred Jones Jr. Museum of Art at the University of Oklahoma, where he worked as director and chief curator from 2007 to 2013 and spearheaded the development and management of the museum's new 20,000-square-foot wing. He is also a longtime supporter of and volunteer for Casa Alianza Guatemala, the first Covenant House site established in Latin America, which serves under-resourced children.

That's not fluff on his résumé but the real stuff. D'Humières is quick to adapt, unapologetic

See **NORTON** on page AT10



Ghislain d'Humières took the Norton helm in January. Photo provided



The museum's collection includes this permanent installation of 'Persian Sealife Art Glass Ceiling' by Dale Chiluly, composed of more than 600 pieces of glass.



Outdoor spaces at the Norton were greatly improved during the renovation, and now include the 37,200-square-foot Sculpture Garden — a popular spot to gather and take in nature as well as art such as this whimsical face.

Theater

An optimistic Kravis Center books 2021-22 Broadway season

By Hap Erstein
ArtsPaper Theater Writer

Dark for nearly a year because of the coronavirus pandemic, West Palm Beach's Kravis Center has announced firm dates for its seven-show 2021-22 Broadway series, beginning in November.

The schedule includes two previously announced shows that had to be postponed when the performing arts center shut last March, *Come from Away* (now booked for Nov. 16-21) and *Summer: The Donna Summer Musical* (Jan. 5-9, 2022). Also slated to be presented are two popular shows new to the Kravis, *Dear Evan Hansen* (Dec. 15-19) and *Anastasia* (March 9-13, 2022); a pair of perennial favorites recently revived on Broadway, *Cats* (Feb. 8-13, 2022) and *My Fair Lady* (April 19-24, 2022); and an Australian import that has yet to play Broadway, *An Officer and a Gentleman* (May 3-8, 2022).

"We're very clear that we're going to start in November. We really are," says Lee Bell, the Kravis's senior director of programming. "When we started talking to agents, they were pushing us to start as early as October. Some of our colleagues are starting in September."

Bell typically books the Kravis on Broadway series seasons ahead, but last year's disruption played havoc with his plans for the fall. "We've got some good shows for this year, but it's completely changed from what I had in mind for '21-'22." Originally slated for the coming season was another visit by the megahit *Hamilton*, as well as 2019 Tony Award winner *Hadestown* and the jukebox musical biography of Motown supergroup The Temptations, called *Ain't Too Proud*.

Now those shows are likely to arrive at the Kravis a year later.

The disruption of Bell's plan for the upcoming season is the chief effect that the pandemic has had on the Broadway series. "It was a different season, not what we have now," Bell concedes. "But still, this season that we finally have now, turned out to be the best of the past two seasons."

If anything, COVID has led Bell in search of lighter shows to book. "We want a balance of themes and tones, but we are limited by what's out touring. But yes, lightness was something we wanted to emphasize now," he says. "We have 'An Officer and a Gentleman,' 'Come from Away' and 'My Fair Lady,' they're all pretty positive in their messages."

See **KRAVIS** on page AT11

NORTON

Continued from page 9

and has already adopted the passionate/paternal tone when talking about his new home. He uses “we” instead of “I” and seizes on each opportunity that invites promotion of the museum’s main objective: connecting with each other and the community at large. Under his leadership, expect the Norton to go deep and broad.

Palm Beach ArtsPaper recently sat down with d’Humières for a talk about his new mission. Here is an edited version of that conversation:

ArtsPaper: First of all, congratulations on the new position and welcome to South Florida. This place can get a little bit crazy. We have hurricanes, road rage, gigantic alligators; add to that this pandemic. Not to make you second-guess your decision, but how badly did you want this job?

D’Humières: Well, you may have all the things you mentioned, but then you have the beautiful beach, great weather, great people who care for art and culture and a great community who cares for family and education. There is so much here to be done. This place is beautiful.

Since you assumed the role of director and CEO, what is your impression so far? First order of business?

I’m very excited about the job because it’s about bringing the Norton to the next step. I consider myself to be a steward; it’s not about me or the ego but about making sure that, in the next 10 or 15 years, we become an even better place, more productive, meaningful and relevant to the community. A place with great exhibitions but also interactive programs, performing arts, music, dance and so on. There’s so much that can be done in that beautiful building. I will try to

break a little bit the seasonal impression about the museum, because I disagree with that concept. The museum should not be seasonal.

I met all the staff via Zoom and I’m now meeting them one-on-one in the garden of the museum. I do that every week so it will take some time. The other thing I’ve been doing is meeting every trustee of the museum one-on-one. I have been listening. I want to listen to what people have to say — the positive, the constructive, the negative — and commit to absorbing as much information to make sure there is a soft transition and that we can move forward with all the projects we have.

You have developed a reputation for being very good at elevating a museum’s profile in the local and global communities. Assuming you believe that art museums today should strive to be a community resource/partner, do you have specific community initiatives in mind to meet that goal?

I believe in art, of course, and in every level of creativity, which is visual art, performing art, dance, expression, literature and so on. A museum has a duty to preserve and present art but also to be a tool for the community. I think more of a museum being a hub of creativity where you can really establish a dialogue between generations.

It’s very important for us that the dialogue between the young kids and the older generation happen in front of a work of art or a contemporary dance and so on and always using art from around the world. Why? Because the next generation is global already and we have a duty — not to educate, I don’t believe in imposing knowledge — but to expose the next generation to constructive criticism, understanding creativity and understanding differences from people from

around the world through the arts.

That’s the best way to prepare our children to face the world of the future. This is extremely important for society, which has the tendency to lose a sense of dialogue.

You joined the Speed Museum in 2013 as it embarked on a \$60 million expansion project and you successfully oversaw that. How different do you anticipate leading the Norton will be?

An expansion is always important not so much for the statement of the building but for the impact it could have internally on the staff and externally on the community. It gives you an opportunity to completely rethink your institution. Here, yes, the building is done and it’s beautiful but to be honest with you, something happened because of the departure of Hope Alswang, who retired, and Elliot, and then COVID arrived. There were some great opening months there, but we went back a little bit into a quiet place. This gives me the possibility to brainstorm with staff and really reactivate the spaces.

This summer, between Memorial Day and Labor Day weekends, we are going to try to do more activities outside in the garden and get the community to come around the museum, do things with us and then enter the museum.

The second focus is making sure that we create a great internal culture by revisiting job descriptions and having an open conversation to address the issue of increasing diversity, access and equity.

So, you are looking to revive some of the momentum lost to the pandemic and transitions.

I don’t know if it was lost. I think nobody had the time to think about it because we were facing a pandemic. This is really the reason why I’m going to do more things outside to take advantage of the beautiful weather and that great lawn on the side of the building.

Let’s talk brand equity. Ideally, what association would you like people to make with this institution?

What feeling would you want the mention of the Norton Museum to evoke?

This institution has to be here for the community. Palm Beach County is an interesting case because you have a very diversified community; from the island, where you have a concentration of wealth, to the west, where you have rural areas and communities that are challenged. We need to be here for everybody. That means, how do we make the museum more welcoming and programming-relevant?

When time and budget permit, I would love the Education Department to be 50% out of the museum and in the community. They have been doing a fantastic, dynamic job for many years, but we would love to do more of that and become known for being in and out in the community.

With the arts industry particularly hit right now, how do you plan to keep this institution foremost on the minds of potential donors and the community at large?

It was tough for the staff of the Norton; there were furloughs and reductions of salary. The first thing we did in January was to get everyone back full-time. We also made the decision to increase the hourly salary from \$12 to \$15.

It is challenging because we don’t do the weddings, the space rentals and all those things that bring in revenue. That said, we do have trustees who were generous enough to give us support to help us get through that. We are doing different projects and looking at how to best balance the budget, but we don’t have a crystal ball and we have no idea what the future will look like.

Do you think the division we have seen in this country in recent times poses an opportunity for art to emerge as the great unifier or do you believe we shouldn’t pin our hopes for unity on art?

I may just open it up a little bit. I’m wondering if art is the great unifier or creativity is the great unifier? Art is an expression of creativity. Creativity is not only about art. Again, it can be performing art, a movie, technology.

The role of creativity is generating a dialogue. You could have three people in front of a photograph, movie or something. These people will talk. They might not agree but they will talk. I think as long we continue that dialogue, that will be good.

Even the new art coming out today seems to be a repetition of something already created in the past. Do you believe creativity has reached its limit? Is there such a thing as original art?

Pure creativity does not exist. One person is always going to be inspired by something else that came before. It’s inspiration. Even the cavemen who painted on the walls were inspired by the animals around them. This is just my personal belief. Many people will disagree.

What’s your take on the role augmented reality, deepfakes and technology in general are playing in defining the museum visitor’s experience? Is there such a thing as too much technology?

For a museum of art specifically, my answer is yes. You still have to experience the art by itself, be able to look at the thickness of the painting and the beauty of the line.

What I like is for technology to completely support the experience. You don’t interfere with the art, but then you find a new way for visitors to interact and connect with the art. Technology is going to be very important for outreach purposes. I think it will be stupid to refuse technology for the sake of technology.

Do you ever worry that inclusion of technology, and modern tools in general, could alienate the traditional visitors? Is that a risk worth taking in the name of attracting youth?

No. There is enough space for everybody. If a person wants to have a certain experience, they will have that experience.

Again, the idea is to try to put you in the position to dialogue with a work of art, to dialogue with someone else about it and to be able to share the emotional response you had.

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Books

Book Festival to offer another chapter of virtual programming

By Jan Engoren
Contributing Writer

The Palm Beach Book Festival, now in its seventh year, returns for the second year as a virtual event. Zoom panels will feature *New York Times* bestselling authors Larry Loftis, author of *The Princess Spy*, Kristin Harmel, author of *The Book of Lost Names*, and George Saunders, author of *A Swim in a Pond in the Rain*, among others.

Festival founder Lois Cahall, an author and former newspaper reporter, said, “I don’t know many festivals who have had to miss two years in-person but I also don’t know many festivals who have had a team like mine — the extraordinary FAU team of (Dean) Michael Horswell and Director of Communications Polly Burks.

“We put our heads together and decided to do monthly one-offs over the summer and fall with various authors,” she said. “It worked well and we learned how to navigate Zoom together.

“Hopefully, 2021 is the last Zoom festival,” she said. “We hope to go live in 2022. I miss hugging our patrons and feeling the energy of a live show.”

Returning author Loftis is on the first panel, *World War*



Loftis

II Heroines in the Shadows: Codes, Cunning and Covert Ops, with fellow Orlando-ite Harmel. It is 4-5 p.m. March 19.

Loftis’ works include the bestselling nonfiction spy thrillers *Code Name: Lise — The True Story of the Woman Who Became WWII’s Most Highly Decorated Spy* and *Into the Lion’s Mouth: The True Story of Dusko Popov — World War II Spy, Patriot, and the Real-Life*



If You Go

The Palm Beach Book Festival is March 19-20. Tickets: \$10 for each virtual session, more to also buy the book. Info: palmbeachbookfestival.com

Kristin Harmel became fascinated with stories of WWII resistance after reading Anne Frank’s diary as a child. Photo provided

Inspiration for James Bond.

His latest, *The Princess Spy*, recounts the true story of María Aline Griffith Dexter, Countess of Romanones, an American-born spy from Pearl River, N.Y. who worked in the U.S. Office of Strategic Services (OSS) during World War II and later for the CIA.

Her story was little-known until Loftis brought it to light.

“It’s a wonderful story and I completely fell in love with it,” said Loftis.

After being recruited to help the American war effort as a spy, she met and married Luis Figueroa, the Count of Romanones. She continued her espionage activities for the CIA well into the 1980s.

The countess died at age 94 in 2017, and left behind her memoirs, first-person accounts of her exploits, which Loftis used in writing this book.

“Under all the espionage — the danger and murders and Alfred Hitchcock-esque suspense and drama — is a love story,” said Loftis, who spent a year researching and a year writing the book. “Everything is true and documented.”

A former attorney and trained on the Law Review, Loftis is meticulous with his research and has 63 pages of end notes to prove it.

“It’s a lot of work, but I get to go home with a full basket

of gold,” he said about his time researching. “That’s the enjoyment.”

Harmel is a former writer for *People* magazine, whose best-selling novel *The Book of Lost Names* also takes place during WWII — her fifth novel set during that era. Her other books include *The Winemaker’s Wife* and *The Room on Rue Amélie*, both set during the French resistance.

Harmel’s interest in all things WWII began as a child after she read the *Diary of Anne Frank*.

While researching and writing her books, Harmel (who has Jewish ancestry on her father’s side) became fascinated by stories of people escaping the Nazis using falsified documents. She began to wonder: Who made these documents? How and where did they make them? What was their background?

“I find the forgers fascinating,” Harmel said by phone where she was doing double-duty, watching her 5-year-old son, Noah, on a playdate. “Using art, science and their imagination, these people put their own lives at risk to save hundreds of thousands of lives.”

What saved her own life (metaphorically speaking) during the quarantine, was creating the Friends and

Fiction Facebook group with fellow authors Mary Kay Andrews, Mary Alice Monroe, Patti Callahan Henry and Kristy Woodson Harvey. She considers this one of the highlights of her career to-date.

The group, which has grown to 30,000 members, discusses books, writing, and hosts authors each week on Facebook Live while promoting independent bookstores.

For Harmel, who hopes to pen a screenplay, uncovering surprising aspects of history and sharing them with readers are what keep her going.

“We all have it within us to do extraordinary things,” she said. “These are lessons to learn from World War II fiction: Ordinary people have the capacity to rise up and do extraordinary things — something relevant to our current time in history.”

The keynote panel, 10-11 a.m. March 20, highlights Saunders, who has written 10 books — including *Lincoln in the Bardo*, which earned him the Man Booker Prize — and teaches in the creative writing program at Syracuse University.

The panel will be moderated by *O Magazine* editor Leigh Haber.

“It’s not heavy,” said Saunders, 62, about *A Swim in a Pond in the Rain*, his takeaway on seven classic Russian short stories he finished during the quarantine. “They’re valuable for what they can teach us about the craft of writing and about ourselves.”

His go-to authors include Russians Tolstoy, Chekhov, Gogol, Turgenev and Dostoevsky as well as Tobias Wolff, Grace Paley, Kurt Vonnegut and Toni Morrison, a personal friend of his wife, Paula, also a writer.

The two met in the graduate creative writing program at Syracuse University and got engaged after three weeks.

The author, despite tackling

the serious subject matter of Russian literature, has appeared on *The Late Show with Stephen Colbert* and been called a “rockstar author” — a term he rejects, saying, “it’s a bit like being called the tallest pygmy.”

Saunders said that there is “no formula” for writing short stories, comparing the effort to crafting a joke. “You have to drive to the punch line quickly,” he said. “Understand pacing and efficiency and be specific.”

Now living part time in northern California and part time in the Catskills in upstate New York, Saunders said the Russian writers were the first writers who spoke to him.



Saunders

For them, “the purpose of literature is to make life richer. This has been lost in our culture, where reading and writing have become

marginalized,” he said. “Cultures who put literature first, thrive,” he noted, making an analogy about “a loss of storytelling and loss of empathy” contributing to the Jan. 6 storming of the U.S. Capitol.

Paraphrasing Wolff, Saunders admitted he’d “be very sad,” if he couldn’t write.

“I am very lucky to be able to write for a living,” he said.

The third panel, 1:30-2:30 p.m. March 20, is *Four Hundred Souls: A Community History of African America*, a Q&A between FAU professor Candace Cunningham and author Keisha Blain.

The final panel, 4-5 p.m. March 20, is titled *You Don’t Have to Be Jewish to Love this Panel!* It features director Barry Sonnenfeld, author of *Barry Sonnenfeld, Call Your Mother!* in conversation with Patricia Marx, author of *You Can Only Yell at Me For One Thing at a Time*.

KRAVIS

Continued from page 9

Dear Evan Hansen, about a high schooler’s lie that goes viral, “has some angst to it, but we love that show.”

The season was built around the two previously canceled shows — *Come from Away*, about airline passengers stranded in a tiny Canadian town after the 9/11 attacks, and *Summer*, a disco-heavy celebration of the life and career of Donna Summer.

Then, Bell explains, “we wanted a family-friendly show, and we found that in ‘Anastasia,’ a musical fable about a young girl who may be a long-lost Russian princess. “We like to have a revival or two, we have that in ‘My Fair Lady’ and ‘Cats,’ and ‘An Officer and a Gentleman’ is a new show,” based on the 1982 Richard Gere-Debra Winger film. “The criteria



An Officer and a Gentleman, a new show on the touring circuit, is scheduled for May 3-8, 2022. Photo provided

is what is hot on Broadway, like ‘Dear Evan Hansen,’ then a family-oriented show like ‘Anastasia’ and ‘My Fair Lady,’ then more popular things like ‘Cats’ and ‘Summer.’”

Oy, *Cats* again? Why, Lee?

“It definitely has audience appeal and there was a revival on Broadway in 2016-17. This is

the tour that grew out of that,” he says. “And yeah, audiences can’t get enough of ‘Cats.’”

He hopes the stage revival of the frisky felines vying for ascension to the Heavyside Layer will blot out memories of the much-maligned 2019 movie version of the show. “That movie put a damper on a lot of ticket

If You Go

Subscriptions to the seven-show series start at \$268 and go up to \$658. The Kravis box office will reopen this month, but new subscriptions will not be available until June. Info and tickets: 561-832-7469

sales,” he notes.

If Bell is going out on a limb with any show, it is *An Officer and a Gentleman*, the only musical in the Broadway series he had not yet seen. “They’re just putting it together now. But we had discussions with the producers and the director. They had a great presentation for us and got a lot of us to come onboard for that show.” In addition to the film’s hit song, “Up Where We Belong,” the show’s score will be augmented

by pop tunes from that period. “It’s more of a millennial-type musical,” suggests Bell. “They’ll recognize all the songs in it.”

Kravis patrons will notice the effects of the pandemic when they return in the fall. “We have a lot of different sanitizing going on constantly and we’re requiring people to wear masks,” says Bell. “But no, we anticipate that there will not be social distancing for the audience in Dreyfoos Hall.” The math would simply not work out to afford these shows otherwise. “These shows require full capacity.”

Still to be determined is whether theatergoers will be ready to return to the Kravis by November. “We keep getting emails asking when we are announcing our season, so the interest is there,” reports Bell. “So I think we’ll be fine. We’re hopeful.”

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.

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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.

Music

Jazz documentaries capture pain and pleasure of the genre

ArtsPaper staff

Two documentaries about the Golden Age of jazz, new on video from Kino Lorber and its affiliates, spotlight both the agonies and ecstasies of the lives of its performers. Both are essential, but if you're going to make a double feature out of them, it's best to get the tough one out of the way first.

James Erskine's arresting *Billie* (\$13.99 DVD) charts the tragic life of Billie Holiday through the prism of one of Lady Day's most important biographers. In the 1970s, freelance journalist Linda Kuehl spent seven years interviewing nearly 200 of Holiday's friends, family, colleagues and contemporaries, only to die before her book could be completed. But her rich trove of audio interviews provides innumerable insights into her tortured subject and the mores of the Jim Crow era — and her voice becomes the skeleton for Erskine to supplement her work with archival film clips and images.

The result is a portrait of the greatest jazz singer that is beyond "warts and all." We learn that Holiday turned tricks as a young woman, cussed like a sailor and became hooked first on marijuana and then, at the behest of the cruel men in her life, harder substances.

She suffered the constant indignities of life on the chitlin' circuit, a period of whitewashing, subjugation and exclusion, as white artists stole and polished the acts of Black entertainers. Harassed by federal law enforcement eager to make an example out of an African-American celebrity, she was actually imprisoned for a year for possession of marijuana, a reality unthinkable for the melanin-lacking performers of her, or any other, time. She died at 44 with \$750 to her name.

Unabashedly libidinous, and with a poor track record for choosing partners, Holiday is painfully judged by the men — and they're pretty much all men — who speak into Kuehl's recorder: She was "really a psychopath"; "she loved the punishment" doled out by her abusive boyfriends; "she was only happy when she was unhappy."

The viewer of *Billie* yearns for the book that never was. Kuehl's untimely demise, ruled a suicide outside a Washington, D.C., hotel following a concert by Count Basie, with whom Kuehl reportedly was romantically linked, reminded me of Michelle McNamara, the crime writer whose life was cut short before the completion of her magnum opus *I'll Be Gone in the Dark*. Erskine essentially chases one ghost who was chasing another, deftly entwining biographer and



subject.

Tellingly, the biggest impression from *Billie* is an extended, single-camera close-up of Lady Day performing "Strange Fruit," arguably the most important song of the 1930s. It is harrowing, heart-stopping and as vital a three minutes as ever put to record; it is Holiday's legacy crystallized.

Which brings us to happier territory, and Bert Stern's concert film *Jazz on a Summer's Day* (\$19.89 Blu-ray, \$13.99 DVD), an exuberant celebration of the performance of this indelible art form. Filmed at the 1958 Newport Jazz Festival, it's a flawless introduction to the greats of the time. We get to hear Jimmy Giuffre wailing on the clarinet, Thelonious Monk performing "Blue Monk" and a gloriously scattin' Anita O'Day.

Chuck Berry delivers a roiling "Sweet Little Sixteen," and Dinah Washington's "All of Me" approaches the sublime. Mahalia Jackson's midnight headline is literally a religious experience. Stern's camera is often so close to the performers you can see the beads of sweat dripping from their noses.

But Stern, a renowned fashion photographer who shot the film verité-style and on the cheap, was more than a chronicler of a historic festival. He worked with editor Aram Avakian to forge new ground in the syntax of the concert doc, associatively cutting to and away from the music, but always in harmony with it — whether it's abstract visions of rippling water in Newport's nearby marina or riveting aerial photography of the America's Cup yacht races happening just offshore. Stern is also an astute people-watcher, capturing audiences immersed in the music and oblivious to the camera.

Newport in 1958 comes across as a fairly wholesome idyll, and the effect of Stern's and Avakian's vision is that, for one weekend anyway, jazz was not just a genre performed onstage; it was embedded into the fabric of the city.

It's easy to get swept up in the electricity of it all, yearning, as all music lovers are in concert-starved 2021, for the return of this glorious, if temporary, symbiosis.

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Arts Calendar

Editor's note: Events are listed through April 3 and were current as of Feb. 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 from the National Trust for Historic Preservation's collection of 44 artists' homes; *War and Peace*, sculpture by Edwina Sandys; *The Ostrich*, sculpture by Bjorn Skaarup. Hours: 10 am-4 pm W-Sun. Members free, adults, \$12; seniors, \$8; children/student, \$5. 253 Barcelona Road, West Palm Beach. 561-832-5328. Info@ansg.org.

Armory Art Center: March 13-April 2, Armory Faculty Show, annual exhibition of work by Armory instructors. \$5, non-members. 10 am-4 pm T-F, 10 am-noon Sat. 832-1776 or armoryart.org.

Boca Raton Museum of Art: Through May 30: *Paul Gervais: Face and Forms*. Through Sept. 5: *Glasstress; 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: See *Art. Be Happy:* Works by Takashi Murakami, and pieces by Alex Beard, The Boca Ballet Theatre, Sally Cooper, Michelle Drummond, Jill Hotchkiss, Tyler Levitez, Pablo Picasso, Jonathan Rosen, Sonya Sanchez Arias and Brenda Zappitell. Curated by Melanie Johanson. Noon-5 pm T-Sun. \$15; \$8 children 4-17; free for members, veterans, children under 3. 243-7922 or oldschoolsquare.org.

Cultural Council for Palm Beach County: Through March 13: *Karibu*. Through May 28: Biennial 2021, a juried exhibition featuring

work by professional Palm Beach County artists. Guests limited to 30 an hour at the council galleries in Lake Worth Beach. Noon-5 pm T-F, first Saturday. 471-2901 or palmbeachculture.com.

Norton Museum of Art: Through June 13, *Celebrating the Norton: Eighty Years* features a selection of acquisitions and archival materials telling the story of the Norton Museum; through May 30, *Art Finds a Way*; through May 16, *George Cohen: Artist of the Chicago Avant-Garde*; through May 9, Jose Alvarez: *The Krome Drawings*; through March 28, *The Feldberg Collection*. 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*, works by the celebrated abstract expressionist and his lesser-known older brother; through May 2: *Fiori*, works on a floral theme by the leading glass sculptor Dale Chihuly, in the Sculpture Garden. Admission to the Pollock exhibit is \$10. 10 am-5 pm M, W, Th, F, Sat, 1-5 pm Sun. 655-7226 or fourarts.org.

Flagler Museum: From March 16-19, the museum will offer teachers free admission from 10 am to 4 pm. Reservations and ID are required. Visit flaglermuseum.us/teacher-resources. 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*. 1-4 pm T-F, 1-5 pm Sat. 297-2661 or fau.edu/galleries.

Lighthouse ArtCenter: Through March 10: *Soul on Art: Ghosts of Africa*, displaying artworks by Leonardo Drew, Adam Pendleton, William Kwamena-Poh, Ransome, Kara Walker, and Purvis Young. \$10, free for members, ages 12 and under. 10 am-4 pm. M-F, 10 am-2 pm Sat & Sun. 746-3101 or lighthousearts.org.

Morikami Museum and Japanese Gardens: Through March 7: *Collecting Stories*, more than 100 works drawn from the museum's permanent collection gathered over 40 years. \$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. \$17.95 adults, \$13.95 ages 3 to 12, \$15.95 for ages 60 and older. sfsciencecenter.org.

DANCE

Friday, March 5-Saturday, March 6 Dimensions Dance Theatre of Miami: Founded in 2016 by former Miami City Ballet principal dancers Jennifer Kronenberg and Carlos Guerra, the troupe offers audiences a fresh and diverse view of contemporary ballet. Part of the Friday and Saturday Dance Series at the Duncan Theatre on the Lake Worth Beach campus of Palm Beach Community College. Both shows at 8 p.m. \$45. 561-868-3309.

THEATER

Through Sunday, March 7 Deathtrap: The Ira Levin thriller. Sidney Bruhl, a successful mystery writer, is struggling

to overcome a serious case of writer's block. A possible break 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. At Lake Worth Playhouse, Lake Worth Beach. Limited seating; social distancing. 586-6410 or lakeworthplayhouse.org.

Opens Friday, March 12 Stage Struck: Simon Gray's play about a successful actress in London and her less successful stage manager husband, who may be

bent on murder. Through March 28 at Delray Beach Playhouse, Delray Beach. 272-1281, ext. 5, or delraybeachplayhouse.com.

Opens Friday, March 26 Next to Normal: The musical by Tom Kitt and Brian Yorkey explores how one suburban household copes with crisis and mental illness. Winner of three 2009 Tony Awards, including Best Musical Score and the 2010 Pulitzer Prize. Through April 11 at Lake Worth Playhouse, Lake Worth. Limited seating; social distancing. 586-6410 or lakeworthplayhouse.org.

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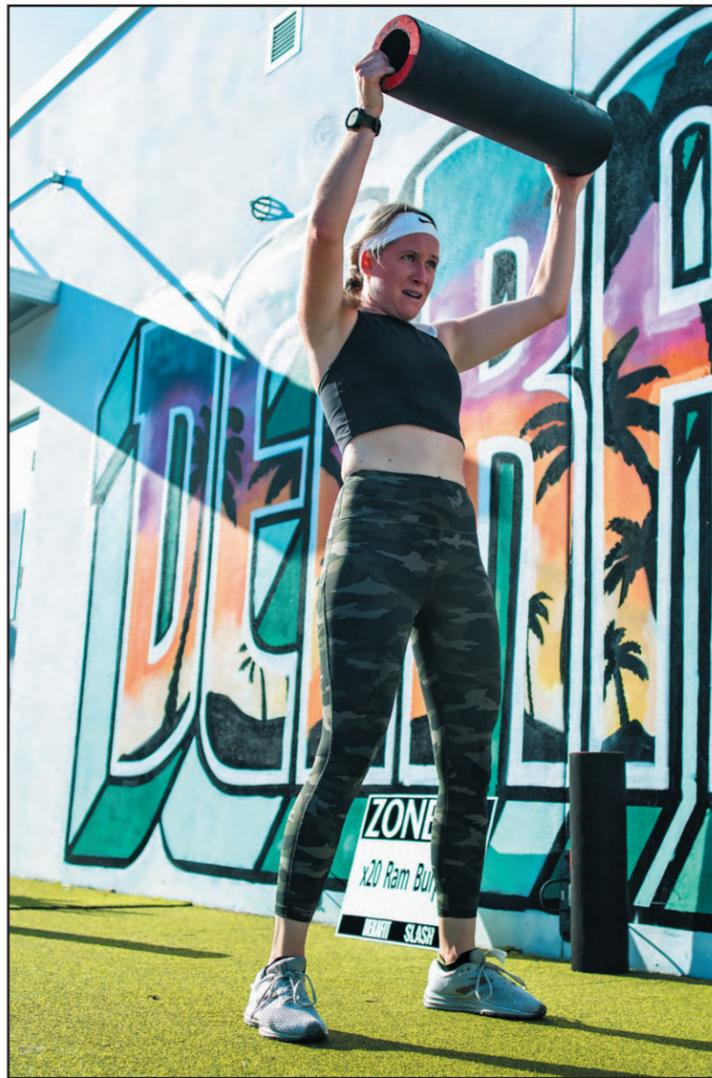




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Health & Harmony

Start small, but make a plan to combat the 'quarantine 15'



Struggling with the pandemic has put some people's fitness goals on hold. If you want to get back into it, start small and expand your workout over time, owners of Slash Fitness in Delray Beach advise. Photo provided

Last spring Margo Willis, a seasonal resident of Delray Beach, saw pandemic closures knock out favorite parts of her fitness routine.

First to go were the chair yoga classes she and her husband, Stuart, enjoyed several times a week at their Boca Raton gym. Swimming was out when the community pool closed. They could still walk, another activity they enjoyed together. But as the pandemic delayed their return North, they faced the challenge of muggy heat.

"I was not comfortable walking, but I continued to do it because I knew I had to. There was no choice," says Willis, a retired teacher. "The other thing is, you start to realize you really have to cut down on your portions, or somewhere you have to cut down on calories, because if you're not exercising, how are you burning calories?"

Maintaining healthy exercise and eating habits amid what Willis describes as "a sitting culture" has been a twin challenge of the lockdowns, shutdowns and the general stress of pandemic life.

In a University of Florida survey of more than 3,000 people conducted between April and June 2020, 38% said they'd added weight since the stay-at-home orders were issued in March — a phenomenon pop culture has dubbed the "quarantine 15," give or take a few pounds. Just over 34% of respondents said they'd exercised less.

A year into the pandemic, signs are everywhere that people in South County are again on the move, reclaiming favorite ways of staying fit or finding new activities to keep them within their coronavirus-safety comfort zones. Walking trails are busy and gyms are open again, many offering socially distanced workouts outdoors and on Zoom.

But busting out of a fitness slump may certainly feel more challenging while the pandemic pulses on. If you're feeling logy and looking for motivation to get started, Delray Beach certified personal trainer Austin Brock suggests letting a simple philosophy guide your efforts: "better every day."

"Just because you don't think you can drink a gallon of water a day doesn't mean you shouldn't have a sip," he says. "Something is always better than nothing."

Incremental improvement is the platform on which Brock and co-founder Joe Ardagna have built Slash Fitness, their studio on Southeast Sixth Avenue in Delray Beach. People of all abilities and ages progress at their own speed, one movement at a time.

"Our philosophy is to focus on getting 1% better in whatever it is you're trying to improve," the owners say on their website.

"I tell people all the time, start with 10 minutes and you'll be amazed at how a 10-minute walk can turn into a 30-, 45-, 60-minute walk," Brock says.

Here are some other strategies he says can help:

Make a plan: "Creating a plan is so important but within that plan, what's in it is important, too. And a lot of it again seems like basic things, but if you don't have the basics, or the foundation, it's tough to add on that."

"So ... make sure you're scheduling in your seven to eight hours of sleep a night, make sure you're scheduling in your ... 45 to 60 minutes of activity throughout the day."

"Make sure you're scheduling in times to eat. I think as much as we're all glued to our computers at times now, people forget to do that."

Buddy up: "Getting an accountability partner is such a huge thing, too. And that doesn't have to be a gym. It doesn't have to be a trainer. It can be your spouse. It can be your kids. It can be a family member across the country, or it can be a neighbor."

"But it's somebody that when you are having one of those days where you're just not feeling it, and you think, all right, I'm just going to sit this workout out, you've got that person on the other side of that phone, or that screen or the fence on the other side the yard, telling you, get your butt off the couch and we're going for a walk."

Get going: "Just start. I tell people that all the time. Just start doing something. Our bodies were meant to move. When we're sedentary, that's when we get inside of our own heads. I don't feel good. I'm tired. I'm sluggish today. Oh, the weather's not perfect. You know, I don't have my cool new shoes yet. Whatever it is, it doesn't matter. Just start doing something. And the easiest thing you can do is open up your front door and walk. And once you start doing that, you can build on that."

The Willises have resumed all their favorite activities, but Margo says she learned during the lockdown how helpful doing activities in "small chunks" can be. She and her husband walk four laps around the shaded Cypress Swamp Boardwalk at the Arthur R. Marshall Loxahatchee National Wildlife Refuge to notch a mile.

"Just take what you have and expand on it," she says.

Or as Brock puts it: "If you can be a little bit better day-to-day, week-to-week, month-to-month, by the end of a year's time, you'll be amazed at what kind of numbers have changed in your life."



Joyce Reingold writes about health and healthy living. Send column ideas to joyce.reingold@yahoo.com.

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Health Notes

JFK doctors tell why colorectal cancer screening is essential

March is Colorectal Cancer Awareness Month, and at JFK Medical Center, Dr. Heidi Bahna and Dr. Juliet Ray are working to improve awareness about the importance of getting screened, which is the best way to detect polyps and prevent colorectal cancer, they say.

“The most common symptom of colorectal cancer is no symptom at all, and colonoscopy can find and remove polyps early, before they can grow and develop into cancer,” Bahna said.

Bahna and Ray, both board-certified surgeons trained in colon and rectal surgery, also want to make sure the community is aware of the recent change in the recommended age to get a first colonoscopy, from 50 to 45.

“We’re seeing younger and younger patients that are presenting with advanced stages of colon and rectal cancer that didn’t even meet prior screening guidelines,” Bahna said. “If we can find colon cancer in someone who is asymptomatic getting a screening colonoscopy, those patients will be cured of that cancer 90% of the time.”

In addition to screening, they advise that it is helpful to limit alcohol consumption; stop any use of tobacco; be physically

active and move around on a daily basis; reduce consumption of red and processed meats, as well as charred meats; and increase fiber and water consumption.

For information about colorectal cancer screening and treatment options, visit JFK’s website at <https://jfkmc.com/specialties/colorectal-cancer>.

On Feb. 16, JFK Medical Center’s North Campus hosted a ribbon-cutting ceremony to mark completion of its Behavioral Health Pavilion expansion, a \$26 million construction project. The pavilion, which offers psychiatric and behavioral health services, has grown from an 88-bed unit to a 124-bed unit with the addition of 12 adolescent beds and 24 adult beds. The pavilion is adjacent to JFK Medical Center, 2201 45th St., West Palm Beach.

As part of Florida Atlantic University’s new registry and repository to contribute to COVID-19 discoveries and knowledge, researchers are collecting blood and saliva samples from participants who have had positive tests. The registry is spearheaded by FAU’s Institute for Human Health and Disease Intervention and its

Clinical Research Unit.

“These data and specimens will provide information about the progression of the disease, treatment response, long-term effects and economic effects, among others. Currently, there are no databases outside of research collecting this type of information,” said Ximena Levy, M.D., M.P.H., director of the Clinical Research Unit, who is leading the project.

Recruitment is underway. Each participant must have a documented positive test report and be showing no symptoms of COVID-19. Appointments are required. To register, visit fau.edu/research-admin/cores/clinicalresearchunit/tested-positive-covid-19. For more information, call or text 561-235-4467 or email crudor@health.fau.edu.

In January, gynecologic oncologist Thomas Morrissey,



Morrissey

M.D., FACOG, FACS, joined the Eugene M. & Christine E. Lynn Cancer Institute as director of gynecologic oncology. He is a specialist in the surgical and chemotherapeutic treatment of ovarian, uterine, cervical

and other female genital-tract cancers. Morrissey also has experience in robotic-assisted laparoscopic surgery and radical surgical procedures to treat gynecologic cancers.

Previously, he was head of the division of gynecologic oncology for Cleveland Clinic Florida.

Morrissey will see patients at the Lynn Cancer Institute, Harvey & Phyllis Sandler Pavilion, 701 NW 13th St., Boca Raton.

Mamun Al Rashid, MD, and Vani Sabesan, MD, have joined Atlantis Orthopaedics. Fellowship-trained



Al Rashid

orthopedic surgeon Al Rashid specializes in total hip and knee replacement and orthopedic oncology.

Sabesan specializes in complex shoulder and elbow surgery. The orthopedic practice, part of HCA Healthcare’s East Florida Division, plans to expand to additional locations in 2021, including Boynton Beach. For more information, visit AtlantisOrtho.com, or call 561-967-4400 or 561-627-8500.

Delray Medical Center

announced the appointment of its new governing board members for the 2021 calendar year. They are: Deputy Police Chief Richard D. Morris of the West Palm Beach Police Department; Dr. Jeffrey H. Newman, who is the center’s medical director of cardiothoracic surgery; Shelly Petrolia, mayor of Delray Beach; and Dr. Timothy R. Williams, medical director of the South Florida Proton Therapy Institute.

Palm Beach County Medical Society installed Roger L. Duncan III, MD, as its new president. He is vice chief of anesthesia at Palms West Hospital and fellow of the American Society of Anesthesiologists.

South County members joining the society’s board of directors include Gregg Goldin, MD, a radiation oncologist at Boca Raton Regional Hospital; Harish Madhav, MD, an OB-GYN in private practice in Boynton Beach; Ali Syed, a resident at FAU’s Charles E. Schmidt College of Medicine; and Charles Szuchan, MS, a medical student at FAU.

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



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ginny@aco-music.org

Ballet Palm Beach

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joanna@festivalboca.org

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Florida Grand Opera

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giving@fgo.org

Gable Stage

305-445-1119
gablestage.org/ways-to-give

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goldcoastjazz.org/contact-us

Gumbo Limbo Nature Center

561-544-8608
admin@gumbolimbo.org

The Harid Conservatory

561-997-2677
annabel.russell@harid.edu

Raymond F. Kravis Center for the Performing Arts

561-833-8300
development@kravis.org

Lake Worth Playhouse

561-586-6410
ssmith@lakeworthplayhouse.org

Lynn Conservatory of Music

561-237-7875
gbald@lynn.edu

Maltz Jupiter Theatre

561-575-2223
go.jupitertheatre.org/donations/online

Mandel JCC

561-740-9000
jconline.com/donate

Master Chorale South Florida

954-641-2653
finance@masterchoraleofsouthflorida.org

Mizner Park Cultural Center

844-672-2849
info@miznerparkculturalcenter.com

Morikami Museum & Gardens

561-495-0233
ssamuels@pbcgov.org

Mounts Botanical Garden

561-233-1757
development@mounts.org

Norton Museum of Art

561-832-5196
norton.org/get-involved/give

Old School Square

561-504-3795
lgriffith@oldschool.org

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sharblake@hotmail.com

Society of the Four Arts

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South Florida PBS/WXEL

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South Florida Symphony

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jlorber@southfloridasymphony.org

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annabel@thesymphonia.org

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954-335-7002
info@sota.org

The Wick Theatre & Costume Museum

561-995-2333
thewick.org/donations

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Health & Harmony Calendar

Note: Events are current as of 2/24. Please check with organizers for any changes.

MARCH 6

Saturday - 3/6 - 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. Every Sat noon-1:30 pm. \$10/couple; payment due before class date. 369-2229; publicrelations@BHInc.org
3/6 - 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 3/13. 3-5:30 pm. Free. Registration: 369-2229; publicrelations@bhinc.org

MARCH 7-13

Monday - 3/8 - 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
3/8-11 - Virtual Workshop: Change Your Mind - Create New Results presented by The Academy for Addiction Professionals. Online, interactive 8-hour workshop on the Neuroscience of Change & Recovery with holistic executive coach. 6-8 pm. \$849. 954-771-2934; addictionacademy.com/change-your-mind.php

Tuesday - 3/9 - 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
3/9 - 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

3/9 - Baby Basics Zoom Class presented by Bethesda Heart Hospital, 2815 S Seacrest Blvd, Boynton Beach. Diapering, feeding, bathing, soothing baby. Held again noon 3/13 & 20, 5 pm 3/16, 23 & 30. 5-6:30 pm. Free/both parents encouraged to attend. Registration: 369-2229; publicrelations@BHInc.org

3/9 - 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 - 3/10 - 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 3/17, 24 & 31. 5-6:30 pm. Free/both parents encouraged to attend. Registration: 369-2229; publicrelations@bhinc.org
3/10 - 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
3/10 - 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 - 3/11 - 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
Friday - 3/12 - Get Back to Our Senses Guided Walks at Mounts Botanical Garden, 531 N Military Tr, West Palm Beach. Reconnect w/nature & your inner self. Different experience each week; check website for topics. Adults only. Held again 3/19. Noon-1 pm. Fee includes full garden admission: \$12/non-member; \$5/member. Registration: 233-1757; mounts.org

MARCH 14-20

Thursday - 3/18 - Virtual Project C4OPE: A Forum Series for Families in the Opioid Crisis at Pompey Park Community Center, 1101 NW 2nd St, Delray Beach. Presented by Hanley Foundation, Project COPE designed to connect people in our community who share the experience of a loved one who has died of opioid overdose, survived an overdose, or are at high risk for overdose. 3rd Th 6:30-8:30 pm. Free. RSVP: 268-2357; hanleyfoundation.org/project-c4ope
Saturday - 3/20 - 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 3/27. 3-5:30 pm. Free. Registration: 369-2229; publicrelations@bhinc.org

MARCH 21-27

Thursday - 3/25 - The Front Row Virtual Lecture Series: Cracking the Code of Chronic Inflammation with Mark Sundrud, PhD presented by Scripps Research. Deciphering new networks of immune regulation that operate locally in specific tissues, not globally throughout the entire body, how this informs the development of safer, more targeted therapies for chronic inflammatory diseases that avoid potentially life-threatening consequences of global immune suppression. 4-5 pm. Free. Registration: frontrow.scripps.edu

Outdoors Calendar

Note: Events are current as of 2/24. Please check with organizers for any changes.

MARCH 7-13

Friday - 3/12 - Night Hike at Daggerwing Nature Center, 11435 Park Access Rd, Boca Raton. Join a naturalist on a boardwalk tour; look at nature from the point of view of its nocturnal residents. Ages 5+. 6 pm. \$5. Reservations: 629-8760; pbcnature.com

MARCH 14-20

Friday - 3/19 - Fishing Fun at Daggerwing Nature Center, 11435 Park Access Rd, Boca Raton. Basics of freshwater fishing, practice learned skills. Includes fishing pole basics, casting tips, freshwater fish identification. All supplies provided. Bring water bottle, sun protection, closed-toed shoes that can get wet/muddy. Age 8+. 10 am. \$10/person. RSVP: 629-8760; pbcnature.com

MARCH 21-27

Thursday - 3/25 - Geocaching by Bike at Daggerwing Nature Center, 11200 Park Access Rd, Boca Raton. Bring your bike, get outside, participate in the worldwide scavenger hunt called geocaching. Learn to use a GPS handheld unit or bring your own smartphone w/free Geocaching Intro app installed. Age 8+. 10 am. \$5. Reservations: 629-8760; pbcnature.com
3/25 - Night Stalkers at Green Cay Nature Center, 12800 Hagen Ranch Rd, Boynton Beach. Join a Naturalist on a boardwalk tour; look at nature from the point of view of its nocturnal residents. Flashlights recommended, not required. Age 9+. 7 pm. \$5/person. RSVP: 966-7000; pbcnature.com
Saturday - 3/27 - 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

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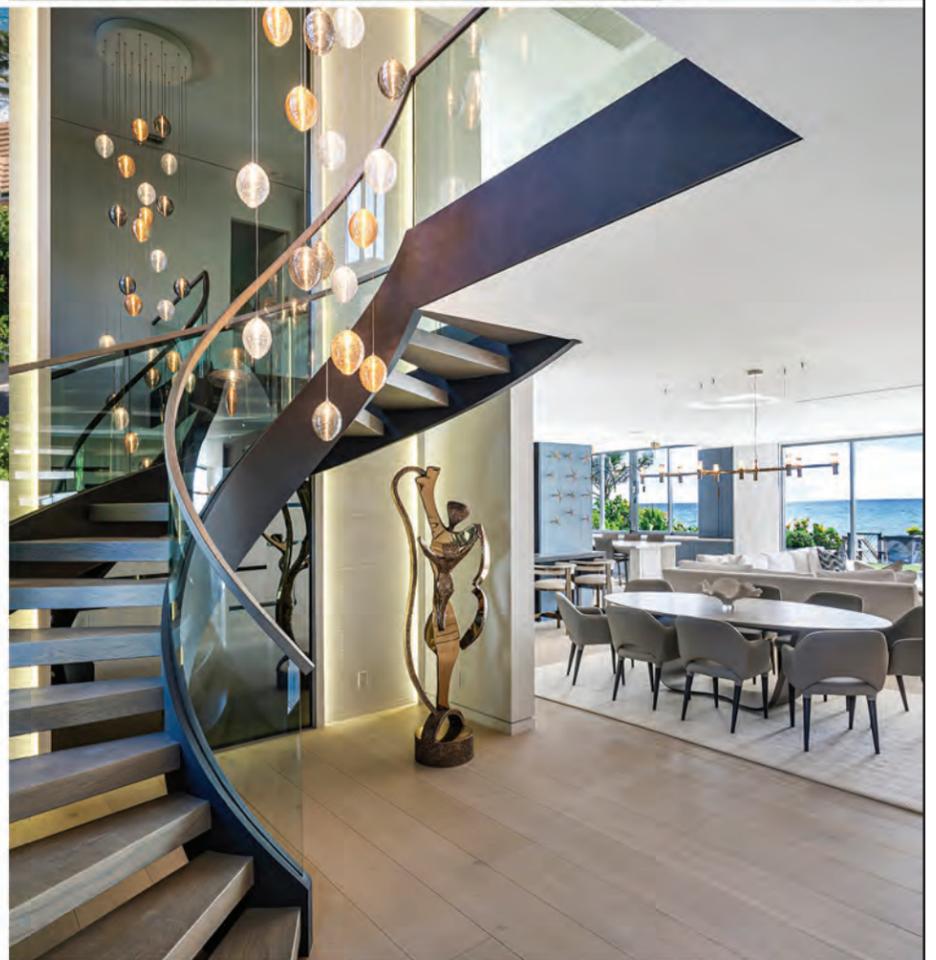


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Finding Faith

Some of usual Passover, Easter to return as pandemic eases

Happy Passover! And Happy Easter! Because both are tied to the lunar calendar, Easter, the most important Christian holiday, will always coincide with Passover, the first festival of Judaism, but the spring timing isn't all they share.

Jews have been celebrating Passover — which commemorates their escape from slavery in Egypt — since the exodus itself, scholars say, which was around the 13th century B.C.

Centuries later, Jesus would be crucified during the Passover day of preparation, what Christians call Good Friday. The night before, Jesus hosted the Last Supper, a Jewish seder.

It is called Maundy Thursday or Holy Thursday now, and Christians revere the day as the origin of Christianity's most important sacrament: the Eucharist of which Holy Communion is part.

Maundy Thursday services will be held on April 1 this year, with Easter on April 4.

At St. Joseph's Episcopal Church in Boynton Beach, the annual seder that brings Christians and Jews together to celebrate has been canceled because of the coronavirus for the second straight year, but the interfaith spirit of goodwill remains. The church hopes the seder can return next year.

For some Christians, Easter is a one-day holiday. But the season really begins on Ash Wednesday, which this year was Feb. 17, and lasts about six weeks.

On Ash Wednesday, the ashes from the burning of palms from the previous year's Palm Sunday, which have been crushed into a fine powder and blessed by the priest, are applied to the forehead in the shape of a cross.

The minister prays, "Turn away from sin and believe in



Dozens of students, including kindergartner Sarah Lash, were marked with ashes on Ash Wednesday at St. Joseph's Episcopal Church in Boynton Beach, using ingenuity in the form of 9-inch cotton-tipped applicators. Photo provided

the Gospel" (Mark 1:15), or "Remember that you are dust, and unto dust you shall return" (Genesis 3:19), the older, more traditional invocation. The ashes are also a plea to God for mercy and compassion, pardon and forgiveness.

In this no-touch pandemic world, Pastor Dave Franklin at Advent Church in Boca Raton said about 35 drivers came to the church drive-thru to be marked with ashes.

At St. Joseph's Episcopal, the Ash Wednesday service was live-streamed to classrooms, then kids were taken one class at a time to the church, where they were marked with ashes. Nine-inch cotton-tipped applicators were used, which was fun, funny and a break from the isolation of the pandemic.

Rabbi Josh Broide at Boca Raton Community Synagogue says his congregation is eager to celebrate Passover, which is March 27 to April 4, but many still feel vulnerable to the virus. Involving the children in the retelling of the Exodus story and the Resurrection story is important to both faiths.

"Families look forward to getting together, and it's important to engage the children," Broide said. "It's also a time to reflect and see what matters. Politics are divisive, the

economy is erratic. Do we really need to fight with each other?"

St. Joseph's and most other churches and synagogues are finalizing Easter and Passover plans and, as with Ash Wednesday, celebrations may require creativity. Some will be virtual only and some usual activities will be canceled as they were last year during lockdowns. But in-person services have resumed in places, and Broide and Franklin feel positive about the future.

"We have a tight community and that helps," Franklin said. "It's been a blessing to have virtual church because it allows us to stay connected, to engage with people online who don't feel comfortable coming to in-person worship, and it's especially important at Easter."

Holidays can make people feel more isolated, Broide said. "I get a lot of calls from lonely people and I tell them to stay strong. I believe we can see the beginning of the end," he said. "Call it cautious optimism."

Or faith.

Janis Fontaine writes about



people of faith, their congregations, causes and community events. janisfontaine@outlook.com.

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Religion Calendar

Note: Events are current as of 2/24. Please check with organizers for any changes.

MARCH 6

Saturday - 3/6 - 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

MARCH 7-13

Sunday - 3/7 - St. Vincent Ferrer Live-Stream Mass. 840 George Bush Blvd, Delray Beach. Every Sun 9 am. Free. 276-6892; stvincentferrer.com

3/7 - 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; fumcbocaraton.org

3/7 - First Presbyterian Church of Delray Beach Live-Stream Service. 33 Gleason St. 10 am. Free. 276-6338; firstdelray.com

Tuesday - 3/9 - Tuesday Morning Prayer

Service at Unity of Delray Beach Church, 101 NW 22nd St. Masks are mandatory, social distancing practiced. 10 am. Free. 276-5796; unityofdelraybeach.org

Wednesday - 3/10 - Wednesday Evening Meditation Service at Unity of Delray Beach Church, 101 NW 22nd St. Masks are mandatory, social distancing practiced. 6:30 pm. Free. 276-5796; unityofdelraybeach.org

MARCH 14-20

Wednesday - 3/17 - Just Over Yonder? Joining Others = Yields at Chabad of East Boca Raton, 120 NE 1st Ave. Monthly zoom course for women from Rosh Chodesh Society. 7 pm. \$20/per class. RSVP: 394-9770; bocabeachchabad.org

MARCH 21-27

Monday - 3/22 - Zoom Cantor Sarah's Stories presented by Delray Beach Public Library, 100 W Atlantic Ave. Musical story time; learn about the springtime holiday of Passover. Age 5-11 years. 4 pm. Free. 266-0197; delraylibrary.org

Wednesday - 3/24 - Black Letters, White Spaces: Learning About Jewish Mysticism Series presented by Temple Israel of West Palm Beach, 1901 N Flagler Dr. Taught by Rabbi Jeffrey Salkin. Series continues 3/31 & 4/7. 7 pm. RSVP/Zoom access: 833-8421; temple-israel.com

Saturday - 3/27 - Passover

MARCH 28-APRIL 3

Sunday - 3/28 - Virtual Community Seder for 2nd Night of Passover presented by Temple Israel of West Palm Beach, 1901 N Flagler Dr. The Haggadah available for download. Led by Rabbi Jeffrey Salkin. Participants should have their own Seder plate & meal prepared. 6 pm. Free. 833-8421; temple-israel.com

Monday - 3/29 - Consecration to St. Joseph at St. Vincent Ferrer Kelleghan Hall, 840 George Bush Blvd, Delray Beach. Read/discuss Fr. Don Calloway's *Consecration to St. Joseph, the Wonders of Our Spiritual Father*. Purchase book at SVF Gift Shop, Amazon, ShopMercy. Masks required. Every M through 4/26 7-8:15 pm. Free. Registration required: 665-8566; fsmilylife@stvincentferrer.com

Friday - 4/2 - Good Friday

Religion News

Food has extra meaning in traditions of holidays

As people prepare to celebrate Easter and Passover toward the beginning of April, food is definitely part of the plan.

Both holidays are celebrations: Passover celebrates the freedom of the Israelites after centuries of slavery. Easter celebrates the forgiveness of sins and a guarantee of eternal life. And when people are happy, we feast!

The foods Christians and Jews eat have symbolic meanings.

For Christians, eggs symbolize life and Christ's resurrection. Bread is also symbolic of Jesus, and of course the lamb is Christ as well. Salt represents purification, and horseradish is symbolic of the bitter sacrifice of Christ. Ham and bacon are symbolic of great joy and abundance.

In the Jewish tradition, symbolic foods found on the seder table include a roasted lamb shankbone, which represents the sacrifice of the ancient Hebrews. Maror and chazeret are "bitter herbs," frequently horseradish and romaine, which recall the bitterness of slavery. Charoset, a sweet salad of apples, nuts, wine and cinnamon, represents the mortar used by the Hebrew slaves to make bricks. And karpas — a green vegetable, usually parsley — symbolizes the freshness of spring. A roasted egg is a symbol of springtime and renewal. It isn't eaten, but should look roasted to complete the plate.

But matzo is probably the most important symbol on the seder table. Three pieces of unleavened bread are covered with cloth. The unleavened bread (made without yeast) reminds Jews of how quickly they fled their enslavers — so quickly they could not wait for the bread to rise.

At St. Vincent Ferrer Catholic Church, a centuries-old tradition called the Blessing of the Easter Basket is still practiced, but it doesn't involve chocolate bunnies or jelly beans.

On Holy Saturday, congregants bring the food they'll serve for Easter dinner to the church to be blessed by the priest. The tradition can be traced back to Eastern Europe with different cultures:

In Poland, the practice is called Świąconka; the main food is an egg, which is broken and shared by all on Easter Sunday morning. The lamb is molded of butter or made from pastry as a centerpiece for the Easter table.

In Rome, a crisp white tablecloth is adorned with an uncooked Easter lamb and decorated with flowers, wine and fruit. A large traditional

cake called "pizza" is also served.

In Russia, you'll find painted eggs in the basket, as well as the makings for a traditional Orthodox Easter cake called kulich, a tall cylinder of yeast dough frosted with icing and nuts. The elites in Old Russia once served 48 dishes to match the number of days of the Lenten fast.

The biggest Easter food basket blessing in the world is held each year in the Romanian town Miercurea Ciuc. In 2018, more than 7,000 people came to have their Easter baskets blessed.

Here are the local Blessing of the Easter Basket and other Easter services for 2021 available as of late February:

Advent Church of Boca Raton — Easter services likely will take place at 9 and 10:30 a.m. April 4 in person. A sunrise service was in the planning stages. Check the church website at www.adventboca.org.

Ascension Catholic Church, Boca Raton — Holy Thursday, 7 p.m.; Good Friday, 3 p.m.; Saturday, 7 p.m. vigil; Sunday Mass at 8, 10 and noon. Visit www.acboca.net.

First Presbyterian Church of Delray Beach — The church has been virtual-only since January, but is counting down to reopening, it hopes in time for the Easter services. Check the church website at www.firstdelray.com.

First United Methodist Church, Boca Raton — Virtual and in-person worship outside by reservation. Check with the church for details at www.fumcbocaraton.org.

St. Gregory's Episcopal Church, Boca Raton — Check with the church at www.stgregorysepiscopal.org.

St. Joseph's Episcopal Church, Boynton Beach — Check with the church at www.stjoesweb.org.

St. Lucy Catholic Church, Highland Beach — Check the church website at www.stlucycommunity.com.

St. Paul's Episcopal Church, Delray Beach — Palm Sunday vigil, 5 p.m. March 27, and Palm Sunday services, 8 and 10 a.m. March 28. An Easter Vigil, 6 p.m. April 3, Easter Sunday services, 7:30, 9 and 11 a.m. April 4. Virtual services will be broadcast on the church's website and YouTube channel. <https://stpaulsdelray.org>.

St. Vincent Ferrer Catholic Church, Delray Beach — Holy Thursday, 7 p.m.; Good Friday, 3 p.m.; Holy Saturday, 1:30 p.m. Blessing of the Easter Basket; Easter Mass, 7, 9 and 11 a.m. Sunday.★

—Janis Fontaine

School Blessing and Dedication

St. Vincent Ferrer Catholic Church and School, Delray Beach — Jan. 31



St. Vincent Ferrer Catholic School in Delray Beach completed a \$6.5 million renovation and addition in 2019 and dedicated the finished work Jan. 31. **ABOVE:** Monsignor Thomas J. Skindeleski blesses the school courtyard.

LEFT: A plaque honors Mary Babione Veccia, a former student, whose family donated the money for the clock tower. Family attending the event included (l-r) Mary's husband, Joe Veccia, mother, Helen Babione, daughter Kim Veccia Amsalem and grandson Bruno Amsalem. **Photos by Tim Stepien/The Coastal Star**



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Garden Clubs

Valentine arrangements

Pelican Cove Clubhouse, Ocean Ridge — Feb. 12



More than a dozen Ocean Ridge Garden Club members made 63 floral arrangements that were given to shut-ins, first responders and recipients identified by faith-based organizations. **ABOVE:** (l-r) Sylvie Glickstein, Lynn Allison and Christina Benisch organized the event. **Photo provided**

Garden Calendar

Note: Events are current as of 2/24. Please check with organizers for any changes.

MARCH 21-27

Saturday - 3/27 - Tropical Fruit Tree & Edible Plant Sale at South Florida Fairgrounds Agriplex Building, 9067 Southern Blvd, West Palm Beach. Presented by Palm Beach Chapter of the Rare Fruit Council International. Fruit trees, herbs/spices, honey fertilizer, more. 9 am-2 pm. Free. 855-732-7273; pbrarefruitcouncil.org
3/27 - Butterfly Gardening at Daggerwing Nature Center, 11435 Park Access Rd, Boca Raton. Learn about local butterflies; discover how to attract them w/a garden; enjoy a guided tour of Daggerwing's butterfly garden. Age 5+ w/guardian. 10:30 am. \$3/participant; Reservations: 629-8760; pbcnature.com.

MARCH 7-13

Wednesday - 3/10 - Delray Beach Orchid Society Virtual Meeting, 2nd W 7 pm. Free. 573-2422; delraybeachorchidsociety.com
Thursday - 3/11 - Boca Raton Orchid Society Virtual Meeting, 2nd Th 7:30 pm. Free/member & 1st-time guest. 810-6547; brosonline.org

MARCH 14-20

Friday - 3/19-20 - Spring Fling Craft and Plant Sale at Boca Raton Garden Club, 4281 NW 3rd Ave. 9 am-2 pm. Free. 395-9376; bocaratongardenclub.org



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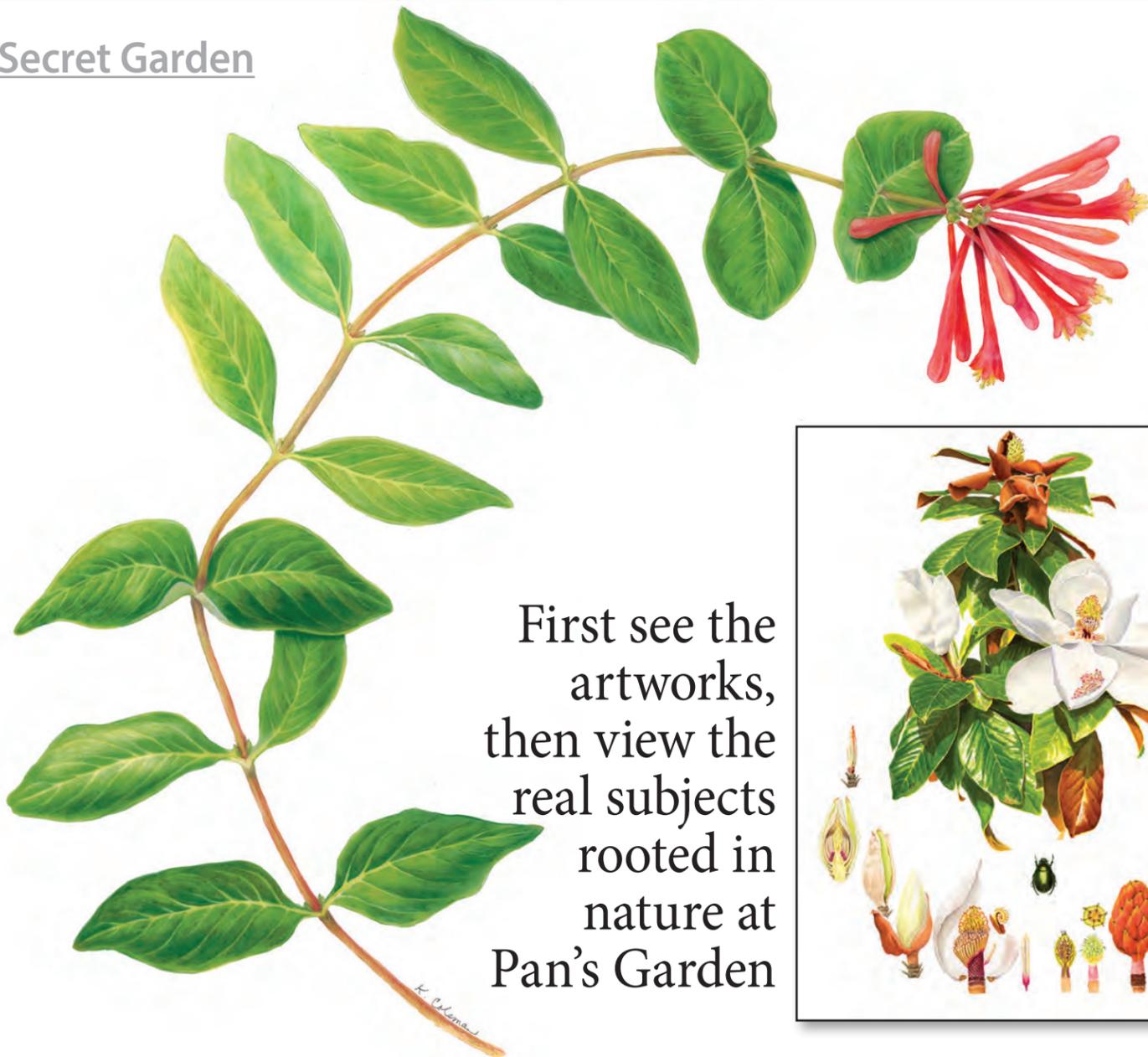


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Secret Garden



First see the artworks, then view the real subjects rooted in nature at Pan's Garden



BACKGROUND: *Mutual Attraction* by Karen Coleman shows a ruby-throated hummingbird feeding on a coral honeysuckle.

LEFT: Another Florida native, the *Southern Magnolia*, in a classic botanical illustration by Charlotte Ricker.

Both nature enthusiasts and art lovers will find plenty to enjoy at the Preservation Foundation of Palm Beach through April 30. That's when the foundation — known for celebrating the architectural, botanical and cultural heritage of Palm Beach — is hosting "Wildly Exquisite: Florida's Native Plants."

"It's an art show that features 34 botanical works depicting native Florida plants that are often cultivated in gardens," says artist Carol Woodin, who helped curate the show and is the director of exhibitions for the American Society of Botanical Artists.

But this indoor event is only the beginning.

Once you've seen the realistic and detailed artworks demonstrating the intricacies and nuances that make Florida's native flora so attractive, you can step outside into Pan's Garden, which is owned by the foundation.

Here, in Florida's first all-native botanical garden, you can see how more than a dozen of the show's subjects put down their roots in nature.

"The exhibition is a useful tool to get people engaged with native plants and to understand their importance," says the foundation's director of horticulture, Susan Lerner, who oversees Pan's Garden.

To help, she has carefully labeled the plants shown in the art that also appear in the garden.

During judging of 86 entries for the show, Woodin instructed the

four judges, including Lerner, to look for works that provided botanical accuracy, were pleasing to view and whose artists showed proficiency of technique strong enough to make accuracy possible.

"Artists need to take into consideration elements of both traditional artwork and science. Botanical art is a melding of the two," says Woodin.

For example, Karen Coleman's entry called *Mutual Attraction* depicts the tubular red flowers of the honeysuckle plant that will nurture a hovering hummingbird preparing to sip their nectar.

Outside in Pan's Garden, that same honeysuckle drapes over a wall — adding color, life and, yes, hummingbirds to the curated space.

Other artworks provide an in-depth look at their plant subjects. Consider the *Southern Magnolia*, by artist Charlotte Ricker. She not only skillfully reproduces the plant's lush white flowers but also the progression of those flowers from bud to ripened fruit. You'll even see the green beetle that is the magnolia's main pollinator.

"All those details that the botanical artist selects to portray must be accurate," says Woodin. "You can't fudge things."

That's why you'll come away from a study like this really knowing something about the magnolia, which also grows in Pan's Garden.

Just remember that although all the

plants depicted in this show are Florida natives, many also grow in other areas of the country and the world. And not all of these plants are native to South Florida.

Consider *Ashe's Magnolia*, for example. Its pink-tinged white flowers have been boldly reproduced for the show in etching techniques by Monika deVries Gohlke.

Listed as endangered by the state of Florida, this magnolia is native to only a few steep-sided ravines and bluffs in Florida's Panhandle, according to informational notes written by Lerner.

Although it can be grown in gardens from seeds provided by permitted nurseries, you won't find it in Pan's Garden. However, its unique beauty deserves a place in this show.

By viewing these plants up close in the artwork, away from the green background of other plants you have in a garden, you may come to understand that natives tend to be smaller and less showy than the exotics from China and Africa. But they are no less beautiful, their details worthy of appreciation.

"I hope they inspire you to plant natives in your garden," says Lerner.



Deborah S. Hartz-Seeley can be reached at debhartz@att.net.

If You Go

What: *Wildly Exquisite: Florida's Native Plants* botanical art show plus Pan's Garden.

Where: Art show at Preservation Foundation of Palm Beach, 311 Peruvian Ave.; Pan's Garden is adjacent at 386 Hibiscus Ave., Palm Beach.

When: 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Monday through Friday. Art show runs through April 30; Pan's Garden is open year-round.

Admission: Both the botanical art show and Pan's Garden are complimentary.

Parking: On-street only.

More information: Preservation Foundation of Palm Beach and Pan's Garden at www.palmbeachpreservation.org or 561-832-0731; for Pan's Garden request extension 113. To learn more about the American Society of Botanical Artists, visit www.asba-art.org.

For your visit: The *Wildly Exquisite* catalog, including 34 color plates of the artworks, costs \$20 at the show, with proceeds funding the Preservation Foundation and the ASBA. Or you can order the catalog for \$29.95, including U.S. shipping and handling. A free pamphlet with information about the artworks but with no color plates is available to viewers at the show. Works in the show are available for sale.

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Paws Up for Pets

Ocean Ridge couple enjoys the wonder of kittens' first year

Kittens do the darnedest things. They can tackle toes, ambush ankles, leap like acrobats, wink at you with soft eyes, suddenly plop into a deep nap and try to chat with you in high-pitched meows.

Finding out what makes kittens tick can be tricky. They aren't born with owners' manuals. I often equate the first year of a kitten's life as the wonder year — as in, you wonder where your sanity went.

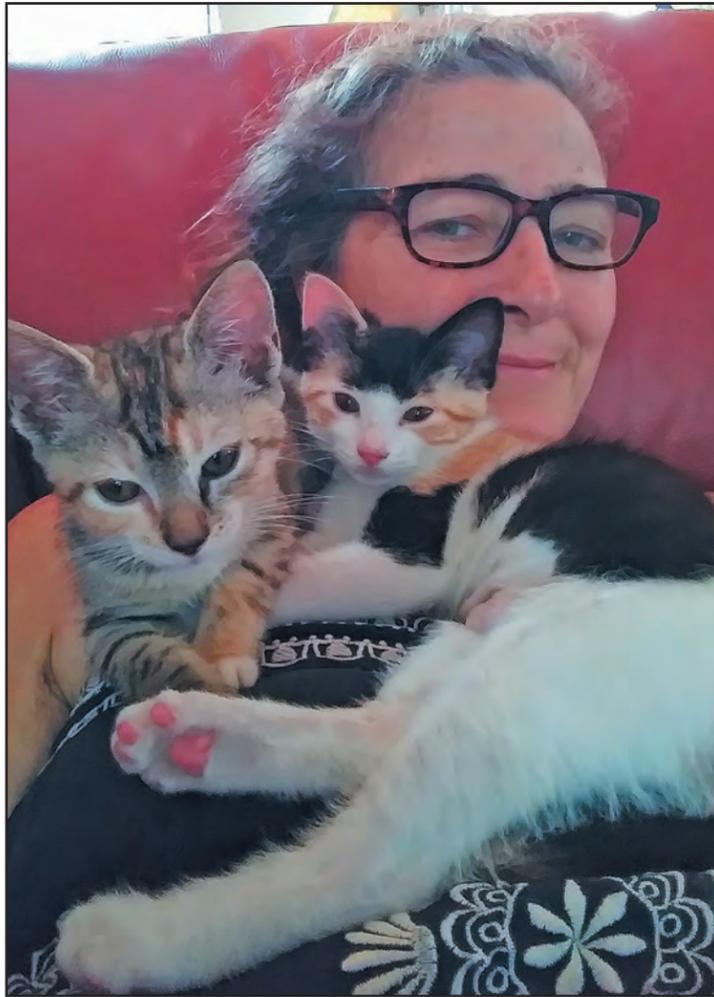
Too often, nouveau kitten adopters learn as they go — and as their kittens grow. Just ask Christel and Jim Connelly, of Ocean Ridge. Their quiet home has erupted into delightful energy thanks to the arrival of a pair of sibling kittens they named Binoche and Juliette.

They were bestowed French names on purpose when the Connellys adopted them last month from the Peggy Adams Animal Rescue League (via foster volunteer Emily Minor). Christel was born in Dijon in the Burgundy region of France (known for mustard and red wine).

She teaches French to high school students, usually via her home laptop due to the pandemic. In the background, her new kittens often make surprising and fun appearances.

Their antics have made Christel realize she needs to learn a third language — cat.

"They are super sweet and love to play, cuddle and sleep, but I do feel like I am learning a new language so I can communicate with them," laughs Christel. "Sometimes when I am teaching, they try to play with my computer screen and then they will lay down on my attendance book, purr and fall quickly asleep. Building relationships remotely is not always easy, but my kittens are



Christel Connelly of Ocean Ridge adopted two kittens from the Peggy Adams Animal Rescue League. Connelly, a high school French teacher, named them Binoche (left) and Juliette and says, 'They make our house feel alive.'

Photo provided

definitely helping me connect with my students who love their antics."

Christel admits her feline knowledge is limited, but she is determined to learn more about cat health and behavior. Years ago, she had a cat named Chloe and is grateful now that her kitten duo received a healthy start from Minor's fostering for a few weeks.

"I think that they are better-behaved than I expected and I believe it is due to the fact that they were fostered and the

foster mom did a good job," says Christel.

Minor and her husband, Marty, of West Palm Beach, picked up this kitty pair on Christmas Eve from the Peggy Adams Animal Rescue League. In about one year, they have fostered 23 kittens, including a trio currently with them named Linc, Pete and Julie (from the classic *Mod Squad* television show of the late 1960s and early 1970s).

"Even before the pandemic, I felt like I needed more joy in

my life and I decided to start fostering kittens," says Minor, a former newspaper reporter who now also volunteers for Meals on Wheels. "It has been so much fun fostering kittens who are adorable, but very young."

"Peggy Adams provides us with everything we need — blankets, cat food, toys, kitty pens — and we socialize them in our home until they are ready for permanent homes to enjoy wonderful lives."

Katie Buckley-Jones, associate director of animal operations at Peggy Adams, notes that kitten season in Florida typically starts around March and April and continues through November.

Check out the numbers from this shelter: In 2020, Peggy Adams adopted out 3,216 kittens that were born primarily from free-roaming cats.

"Most of our kittens come from outside community-cat populations, so it is really important that we follow strict quarantine protocols with the kittens," says Buckley-Jones.

"We do not put unrelated litters together for play sessions because of this. Our foster families make sure to keep their pets separated from the kittens as well."

She continues, "At that fragile age, kittens are at risk for so many diseases that can be potentially fatal, so it is important we protect them from any possible disease."

For anyone who is interested in fostering or adopting kittens, Buckley-Jones offers these tips and insights:

- Do not engage in any hand play with kittens. Felines need to learn at an early age that hands are not toys. Playful hand wrestling with kittens can unintentionally teach them to bite or attack hands and other

body parts in play. Instead, redirect kittens' high-energy play toward wand toys or toss cat toys for them to chase and pounce on.

- Size up the litter box for success. Newly adopted kittens fare best with small litter boxes with low sides to give them access. Also, initially confine your kitten to a small, cozy room like a bathroom that has kitty amenities like bed, litter box and food/water bowls.

"Letting new kittens free roam in homes can cause them to become overwhelmed and stressed," says Buckley-Jones. "Give them time to gradually get acclimated into your home."

- Do a room-by-room safety inspection. "Make sure to kitten-proof your home before they arrive," she says. "Kittens like to play with dangly things like cords and wires. They like to try to climb up high and they like to scratch on things. Get them comfortable with having their nails trimmed while they are small and make it fun and rewarding with treats."

Christel and Jim Connelly report that the fast-growing sisters Juliette and Binoche keep them amused and happy.

"They make me smile the first thing in the morning and with COVID-19 concerns these days, it is nice to smile the first thing in the morning," says Christel. "I love to hear them purr and I love that they are cuddlers. They make our house feel alive."

To learn more about adopting or fostering kittens, contact the Peggy Adams Animal Rescue League via www.peggyadams.org. The adoption center is open between 11 a.m. and 6 p.m. daily by appointment only.

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.



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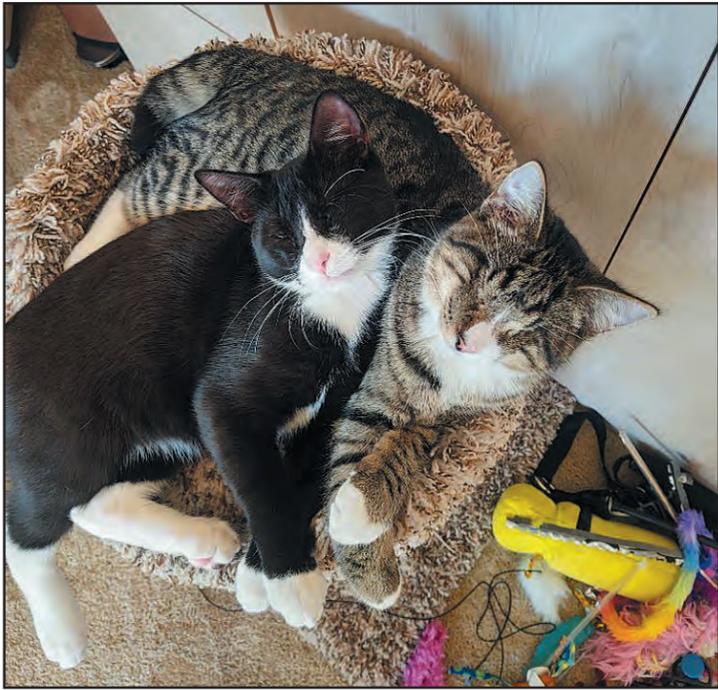
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Letter to the Editor



Ozzie and Harry, both born Sept. 1, have eyelid agenesis. One of Ozzie's eyelids and both of Harry's needed to be sewn shut. Their foster parent thinks they would be fine ambassadors or therapy cats for an organization devoted to blind people or for a retirement community. **Photo provided**

Fostering Ozzie and Harry: What a wonderful life

I have done a lot of fostering cats and kittens over the last 10 to 15 years, working with different agencies and taking breaks when needed. I love each and every one of the felines put under my care.

But this experience was unusual. Both kittens born Sept. 1, 2020, had eye issues. The condition was eyelid agenesis and the end result was Harry had both eyelids sewn shut and Ozzie has one good eye and one eyelid sewn shut.

They are just the cutest brothers and are inseparable. They came to me from Ru4me Pet Rescue. My household includes two cats, both rescues, and two dogs, one rescued from a kill shelter and one from Puerto Rico. All the animals get along and some have developed special relationships — with Ozzie and Harry even napping

together.

The boys can be lap cats, they can play hard, jump up on chairs, and manage stairs. Sometimes you would not even know that Harry cannot see and Ozzie has only one eye.

They are very affectionate and love people — even napping or sleeping with me.

As you can see, these brothers are destined to be “special” cats. It would be wonderful if they could be ambassadors for a special-needs group or therapy cats for a blind organization or retirement community.

Perhaps there is someone with a little extra time, due to the pandemic, who could make this happen.

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Tots & Teens

Philanthropy Tank finalists seek to bridge digital divide

By Janis Fontaine

Using an idea borrowed from television, a group of local business leaders and entrepreneurs introduced the Philanthropy Tank six years ago. The program energizes the next generation of “change makers” by challenging high school students to develop and implement sustainable public service projects in Palm Beach County.

The students pitch their ideas to solve community problems in an effort to win \$15,000 in grant money to implement them. Hundreds of students in grades 8 through 12 applied to make presentations (virtually this year) in front of a panel of mentors who make the final decisions.

Seven teen group finalists have been chosen for the March 30 finals, including Sarik Shah of Ocean Ridge and Ashwin Parthasarathy of Boynton



Shah



Parthasarathy

Beach, both high-achieving juniors at American Heritage High School Boca/Delray.

They had heard about the digital divide — the chasm between students who have access to computers and the internet and those who don't — but when the coronavirus hit, it highlighted the problem for the friends. “I'm a tennis player, Sarik said, “and it's like asking a kid to play tennis without a racket. He could play, but barely.”

Sarik and Ashwin did their research and learned that at least 50,000 student households in Palm Beach County didn't have computers.

“I knew there was a need, but it was double or triple what I thought, partly because there might be several kids in that house who are sharing a computer,” Sarik said.

The digital divide denies students access to an education, and “education is everyone's right,” he said.

Sarik's partner, Ashwin, agrees: “Education allows students to secure better jobs and ensure a better path for their future, so I strongly believe no student should be denied the right to reach their full potential due to lack of computer access.”

Sarik and Ashwin propose to change that by collecting used computers and getting them into the hands of people who need them. “Many gently used computers often go to waste after they are no longer being used. We recognized the opportunity to refurbish these computers and redistribute them to students in working

condition,” Ashwin wrote in their pitch for Digital Edge.

They've collected about a dozen computers and have reached out to businesses for used computers and assistance with repairs. “Minor problems I can fix,” Sarik said.

The idea to present Digital Edge to the Philanthropy Tank “just clicked,” Sarik said. “I had friends who had participated in the past and we already had the idea for Digital Edge.”

Despite their demanding school schedules, the duo decided to commit to the Philanthropy Tank.

“These students' passion for making a difference in their community in very personal ways is incredibly inspiring,” Amy Brand, CEO for the Philanthropy Tank, said in an email. “The founders, staff, and the mentors who volunteer to guide these students are looking forward to watching each finalist's upcoming

presentation on March 30.”

So far, the Philanthropy Tank has infused more than \$600,000 into 45 student projects, which have helped more than 300,000 local citizens. More than 500 students have benefited from participating.

Sarik and Ashwin's goal is to donate 150 computers by the end of their first year and then increase the total by 50 in each of the following years.

Now, they are practicing their presentation, fine-tuning their pitch so they can move Digital Edge forward.

But Sarik says he already learned an important lesson: “We take way too much for granted.” ★

Register to watch the live-streamed event at www.eventbrite.com; search for Philanthropy Tank Palm Beach. If you have a gently used computer to donate, contact Sarik or Ashwin at DigitalEdgeFL@gmail.com.

Tots & Teens Calendar

Note: Events are current as of 2/24. Please check with organizers for any changes.

MARCH 6

Saturday - 3/6 - 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/member & child under 3. 832-1988; sfsciencecenter.org

3/6 - 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

3/6 - Sensational Snakes at Daggerwing Nature Center, 11435 Park Access Rd, Boca Raton. Join a naturalist for fun/educational presentation including how to identify the most common snakes found in Florida. Age 5+. 10:30 am. \$3. Reservations: 629-8760; pbcnature.com

3/6 - 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

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 Japanese wooden figurine to

celebrate Hinamatsuri, Doll's Day. Craft templates/instructions via social media. Noon-3 pm. Free. 495-0233; morikami.org

3/6 - 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. Enroll for Zoom info: 393-7968; bocalibrary.org

MARCH 7-13

Monday - 3/8 - Zoom Kindergarten Readiness Story Time with Ms. Tea presented by Delray Beach Public Library, 100 W Atlantic Ave. Age 3-5. Every M 10 am. Free. Registration: 266-0194; delraylibrary.org

3/8 - Zoom Oh Baby presented by Delray Beach Public Library, 100 W Atlantic Ave. Pre-literacy class: music, stories, rhymes, lap bounces. Age 3 months to not-yet-walking. Held again 3/15. 10 am. Free. 266-0197; delraylibrary.org

3/8 - 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

3/8 - Zoom Story Chasers Book Club presented by Delray Beach Public Library, 100 W Atlantic Ave. Grades 1-3. Every 2nd M 3:30-4:15 pm. Free. Registration: 266-0194; delraylibrary.org

Tuesday - 3/9 - 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

Wednesday - 3/10 - 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

Thursday - 3/11 - 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. Takes place outdoors, limited to 5 families per class. Age 3-6. Every Th 9:30-10 am & 10:15-10:45 am. \$30/4 classes; \$8/class + \$6 admission. RSVP: 274-7264; sandowayhouse.org

3/11 - Zoom Tween Time presented by Delray Beach Public Library, 100 W Atlantic Ave. Age 7-12. Held again 3/18 3:30 pm. Free. Registration: 266-0194; delraylibrary.org

Saturday - 3/13 - Story Time at the Beach presented by Delray Beach Public Library, 100 W Atlantic Ave. Join Ms. Tea & 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

MARCH 14-20

Sunday - 3/14 - Virtual Family Friendly Concert: Prokofiev's Peter and the Wolf presented by South Florida Symphony Orchestra. 5-6:15 pm. Free. 954-522-8445; southfloridasymphony.org

Monday - 3/15 - Spring Break Playdate at Pompey Park, 1101 NW 2nd St, Delray Beach. Presented by Delray Beach Public

Library. Age 3-10 years. 2 pm. Free. 243-7356; mydelraybeach.com

Wednesday - 3/17 - 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 am. \$10/payment required at registration. Reservations: 629-8760; pbcnature.com

Thursday - 3/18 - Teen Virtual Book Club: Pudge & Prejudice by A.H. Pittman presented by Boca Raton Public Library, 400 NW 2nd Ave. Age 13-17. 5:30-6:30 pm. Free. Registration: 393-7968; bocalibrary.org

Saturday - 3/20 - Teen Workshop: Poetry Writing with Robert Forbes 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

3/20 - 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; sfsciencecenter.org/code-palm-beach

MARCH 21-27

Monday - 3/22 - One-Day Camp: Mining for Treasures at South Florida Science Center and Aquarium, 4801 Dreher Tr N, West Palm Beach. Age 7-12. 9 am-4 pm. \$45/member; \$50/non-member. 832-1988; sfsciencecenter.org

3/22 - Advanced Acting for Kids at Lake Worth Playhouse, 713 Lake Ave. 8-week course. Age 8-14. Every M through 5/10 4:30-5:30 pm. \$160/session. 586-6410; lakeworthplayhouse.org

3/22 - Improv Class for Kids at Lake Worth Playhouse, 713 Lake Ave. 8-week course. Age 10-14. Every M through 5/10 5:45-6:45 pm. \$160/session. 586-6410; lakeworthplayhouse.org

Tuesday - 3/23 - Fundamentals of Acting for Kids at Lake Worth Playhouse, 713 Lake Ave. 8-week course. Age 8-13. Every T through 5/11 4:30-5:30 pm. \$160/session. 586-6410; lakeworthplayhouse.org

Wednesday - 3/24 - Zoom Vamos A Cantar: Songs & Spanish with Mr. Lilo presented by Delray Beach Public Library, 100 W Atlantic Ave. Children's musician/teacher uses bilingual songs to teach Spanish to children. Age 3-6. Every 4th W 10 am. Free. Registration: 266-0194; delraylibrary.org

3/24 - Musical Theatre Performance for Kids at Lake Worth Playhouse, 713 Lake Ave. 8-week course. Age 8-14. Every W

through 5/12 5:15-6:45 pm. \$212/session. 586-6410; lakeworthplayhouse.org

Saturday - 3/27 - Climate Kids Clean Beaches Meet Up presented by Delray Beach Public Library, 100 W Atlantic Ave. Help clean the beach, protect/conserv our valuable coastal areas. Supplies provided. Meet at the beach across from Sandoway Center. Age 6-12. 9-10 am. Free. Registration: 266-0194; delraylibrary.org

3/27 - 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/fee required at registration. RSVP: 966-7000; pbcnature.com

3/27 - Youth Improv Virtual Class with Kat Kenny presented by Bob Carter's Actor's Workshop & Repertory Company, 1000 N Dixie Hwy, West Palm Beach. Online via Zoom. Age 7-11. Every Sat through 5/1 11 am-12:30 pm. \$150. 833-7529; actorsrep.org

3/27 - Teen Improv Virtual Class with Kat Kenny presented by Bob Carter's Actor's Workshop & Repertory Company, 1000 N Dixie Hwy, West Palm Beach. Online via Zoom. Age 12+. Every Sat through 5/1 1-2:30 pm. \$150. 833-7529; actorsrep.org

MARCH 28-APRIL 3

3/29 & 4/1 - Curbside Peter Cottontail Events presented by The Society of the Four Arts Rovensky Administration Building, 2 Four Arts Plaza, Palm Beach. The Easter Bunny hands out prepackaged Easter bags. One bag per child; must remain in car. 10-11 am. Free. 805-8562; fourarts.org

Tuesday - 3/30 - Virtual GEMS Club: Your Untold Story presented by South Florida Science Center and Aquarium, 4801 Dreher Tr N, West Palm Beach. Empower young girls to explore STEM fields. Girls grades 3-8. High school girls can volunteer to be mentors. 5:30-6:30 pm. \$5/virtual class. Registration: 370-7710; sfsciencecenter.org/gem

Thursday - 4/1 - Virtual Mori Stories: Kamishibai Folktales: The Old Man Who Made the Trees Bloom at Morikami Museum and Japanese Gardens Classroom A, 4000 Morikami Park Rd, Delray Beach. 1 pm. Free. 495-0233; morikami.org

Friday - 4/2 - One-Day Camp: Explosions 101 at South Florida Science Center and Aquarium, 4801 Dreher Tr N, West Palm Beach. Age 7-12. 9 am-4 pm. \$45/member; \$50/non-member. 832-1988; sfsciencecenter.org

College Admissions have Changed

Please contact me for a complimentary virtual consultation to discuss the current college landscape and how we can optimize your student's potential.

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Spring Break Camps

Note: Events are current as of 2/24. Please check with organizers for any changes.

MARCH 14-20

Monday - 3/15-19 - Surf Camp at Red Reef Park, 1400 N State Road 11A, Boca Raton. No previous surfing experience necessary; participants must be able to swim. Equipment provided. Age 5-15. Held again 3/22-26. 9 am-3 pm. Call for pricing information: 393-7807; myboca.us

3/15-19 - Spring Break Camps at South Florida Science Center and Aquarium, 4801 Dreher Tr N, West Palm Beach. Sense? Nonsense! Age 7-12. 9 am-4 pm. \$230-\$255. 832-1988; sfscenter.org

3/15-19 - Spring Break Camp: Crab Cakes and Murder by Michael Druce at Lake Worth Playhouse, 713 Lake Ave. Performance 11 am 3/20. Bring lunch, snack, water; wear closed toe shoes. Age 8-14. 9 am-4 pm. \$250/student. 586-6410; lakeworthplayhouse.org

3/15-19 - Spring Break Camp at Space of Mind, 102 N Swinton Ave, Delray Beach. Age 5-10 M-F 9 am-3 pm \$80/day, \$350/week; Age 10-14 M-F 9 am-3 pm \$350/week. 877-407-1122; findspaceofmind.com

3/15-19 - Virtual Spring Break Theatre Camp presented by Bob Carter's Actor's Workshop & Repertory Company, 1000 N Dixie Hwy, West Palm Beach. Age 7-12. M/W/F 10 am-noon. \$75. Online via Zoom: 833-7529; actorsrep.org

3/15-19 - Animal Adventure Virtual Camp presented by Gumbo Limbo Nature Center, 1801 N Ocean Blvd, Boca Raton. Go To Meeting explores topics in science, nature. Grades 1-3 M/T/W 11:30 am-1:30 pm; Grades 4-5 Th/F 11:30 am-1:30 pm. Daily \$10/member; \$12/non-member. Reservations: myboca.us/1977/Spring-Break-Virtual-Camps

3/15-21 - Virtual Spring Camp: A Backyard Adventure presented by Delray Beach Historical Society. Take-home kits available for pre-order. Age 6+.

\$35/camper. 274-9578; delraybeachhistory.org
Tuesday - 3/16 - Teen "No Fear" Shakespeare Virtual Class with Nate Stubbs presented by Bob Carter's Actor's Workshop & Repertory Company, 1000 N Dixie Hwy, West Palm Beach. Age 13+. T/Th 1-3 pm. \$55. Online via Zoom: 833-7529; actorsrep.org
3/16-19 - Spring Break Teacher Appreciation Hours at Flagler Museum, One Whitehall Way, Palm Beach. Celebration of classroom heroes: free admission, free educational resources, special gift offered to local educators. Safely explore Whitehall, the Flagler Kenan Pavilion & Museum grounds; self-guided tour. Pick up gift bag & resources at the Museum Store, open for socially-distanced shopping. 10 am-4 pm. Free/educator w/valid ID. Reservations: 655-2833 x10; flaglarmuseum.us

Community Calendar

Note: Events are current as of 2/24. Please check with organizers for any changes.

MARCH 6

Saturday - 3/6 - Delray Beach Playhouse seeks Camp Instructors for summer camp program. Instructors start in May for training/preparation of the camp. Instructors must be age 16+. Contact: 272-1281; marinawolfsdp@gmail.com

3/6 - Zip Ode to Your Library Contest at Delray Beach Public Library, 100 W Atlantic Ave. Write an ode to your library based on your zip code. ZipOde is a short poem based on the zip code where you live. Each number of your zip code represents one line of the ode and determines how many words are in that line. Submit your ode via email to isabella.rowan@delraylibrary.org by March 31; the best odes will be published on the library website & social media during National Library Week 4/4-10. Free. 266-0196; delraylibrary.org

3/6 - 2021 Virtual Judy Levis Krug Boca Raton Jewish Film Festival presented by Adolph & Rose Levis Jewish Community Center. 50+ Jewish-themed films to watch at home. Runs through 5/16. Individual tickets \$4.99-\$12; film pass packages \$59-\$299. Schedule/tickets: 961-8002; bocajff.org

3/6 - Lake Worth Farmers Market every Saturday through 4/14, at A1A and Lake Ave, Lake Worth Beach. 9 am-1 pm. Free. 547-3100; lakeworthfarmersmarket.com

3/6 - Delray Beach GreenMarket every Saturday through 5/22, Old School Square Park, Cornell Museum front lawn, 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

3/6 - Calling All Serious Writers! Saturday Zoom Writers Studio presented by Delray Beach Public Library, 100 W Atlantic Ave. 10 am. Free. 266-0194; delraylibrary.org

3/6 - Historical Walking Tour meets at Palm Beach County History Museum, 300 N Dixie Hwy, West Palm Beach. 90-minute guided tour showcases the evolution of downtown West Palm Beach buildings/landmarks. Tours begin at NW edge of 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

3/6 - Omotesenke School Sado Tea Ceremony Workshop at Morikami Museum and Japanese Gardens Seishin-an Teahouse, 4000 Morikami Park Rd, Delray Beach. 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 - Euphoria Dinner Show at The Pavilion Grille, 301 Yamato Rd, Boca Raton. Held again 3/9, 27 & 4/3. 6 pm dinner; 8 pm show. \$32/3 course dinner; \$25/menu selections; +tax/gratuity. Reservations: 912-0000; paviliongrille.com

3/6 - Dinner Cabaret: Hindsight's 2020 - Nicolas King at The Wick Theatre and Costume Museum, 7901 N Federal Hwy, Boca Raton. 6:30 pm. Call for price/reservations: 995-2333; thewick.org

Municipal Meetings

3/8 & 22 - Lantana - Second & fourth Mondays at Lantana Town Hall, 500 Greynolds Cir. 7 pm. Agenda: lantana.org

3/9 - South Palm Beach - Second Tuesday at the South Palm Beach Town Hall, 3577 S Ocean Blvd. 4 pm. Agenda: southpalmbeach.com

3/12 - Gulf Stream - Second Friday at Gulf Stream Town Hall, 100 Sea Rd. 9 am. Agenda: gulf-stream.org

3/12 & 25 - Delray Beach - First & third Tuesdays at Delray Beach City Hall, 100 NW 1st Ave. 4 pm. Agenda: delraybeachfl.gov

3/16 - Highland Beach - First Tuesday at Highland Beach Town Hall, 3614 S Ocean Blvd. 1:30 pm. Agenda: highlandbeach.us

3/16 - Boynton Beach - First and third Tuesday at Boynton Beach City Hall, 100 E Ocean Ave. 5:30 pm. Agenda: boynton-beach.org

3/23 - Manalapan - Fourth Tuesday at Manalapan Town Hall, 600 S Ocean Blvd. 10 am. Agenda: manalapan.org

3/23 - Boca Raton - Second & fourth Tuesday at Boca Raton City Hall, 201 W Palmetto Park Rd. 6 pm. Agenda: myboca.us

3/25 - Briny Breezes - Fourth Thursday at Briny Breezes Town Hall, 4802 N Ocean Blvd. 4 pm. Agenda: townofbrinybreezes-fl.com

3/6 - Festival of the Arts Boca: Nadine Sierra and Friends. Virtual; performance captured live. Superstar soprano, Boca Raton native, joins pianist Gordon Roberts, trumpeter Jeff Kaye, violinist Mei Mei Luo. 7 pm. Free. Reservations: festivalboca.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 - 31st Annual Donald M. Ephraim Virtual Palm Beach Jewish Film Festival. 30 Films, 11 Q&A discussions. All screenings/Q&A events take place on Eventive. Runs through 4/2. Full schedule: 877-318-0071; pbjff.org

3/6-7 - Movie: Stray at Lake Worth Playhouse Stonzek Studio, 713 Lake Ave. Sat/Sun 5 pm; Sat 7 pm; Sun 3 pm. \$6-\$9. 586-6410; lakeworthplayhouse.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

3/6-7 - Max Weinberg's Jukebox at The Funky Biscuit, 303 SE Mizner Blvd, Boca Raton. Sat 6 & 9 pm; Sun 5 & 8 pm. \$60-\$480. 465-3946; funkybiscuit.com

MARCH 7-13

Sunday - 3/7 - Boca Talk: Susie J. Silbert at Boca Raton Museum of Art, 501 Plaza Real. Virtual or in-person. 3-4 pm. Non-member \$5/virtual, \$15/in person. RSVP: 392-2500 x213; bocamuseum.org

3/7 - Festival of the Arts Boca: James Ehnes in Concert. Virtual; solo violin & viola recital. 7 pm. Free. Reservations: festivalboca.org

3/7 - Soulpax at Arts Garage, 94 NE 2nd Ave, Delray Beach. 7-8:30 pm. \$20-\$25. 450-6357; artsgarage.org

Monday - 3/8 - An Illustrated History of Palm Beach: Two Lectures with Russell Kelley at The Society of the Four Arts Dixon Education Building, 240 Coconut Row, Palm Beach. Part of Campus on the Lake Lecture Series. 11 am & 2:30 pm. Per Lecture \$20/non-member. Reservation: 805-8562; fourarts.org

3/8 - The Funky Biscuit All Stars with Special Guest Tas Cru at The Funky Biscuit, 303 SE Mizner Blvd, Boca Raton. 5 pm doors open; 7 pm show. \$10-\$60. 465-3946; funkybiscuit.com

3/8 - Festival of the Arts Boca: Admiral James Stavridis Talks Geopolitics. BocaFest Stream; streaming event. 7 pm. Free. Reservations: festivalboca.org

Tuesday - 3/9 - Municipal Elections, 7 am-7 pm.

3/9 - Virtual Coffee Chat presented by Boynton Beach City Library, 100 E Ocean Ave. Join Maddie the Library Barista: different aspects of coffee culture. Follow on social media or visit our YouTube channel. 2nd T noon. Free. 742-6886; boyntonlibrary.org

3/9 - Virtual Instagram App Class presented by Delray Beach Public Library, 100 W Atlantic Ave. Live presentation or video at your convenience. Teens & Adults.

Delray Beach GreenMarket

25th Anniversary

GREENMARKET RELOCATES TO THE FRONT LAWN OF CORNELL ART MUSEUM ON OLD SCHOOL SQUARE CAMPUS THRU MARCH 20TH.

Shop with 60 of South Florida's premier farmers, bakers, and culinary artisans.
EVERY SATURDAY | 9AM - 2PM | FREE PARKING
 For more information call (561) 276-7511

Logos for Community Redevelopment Agency, Delray Beach CRA, and City of Delray Beach.

2-3 pm. Free. Registration: 266-0196; delraylibrary.org

3/9 - Ally Venable Band Album Release Show at The Funky Biscuit, 303 SE Mizner Blvd, Boca Raton. 5 pm doors open; 7 pm show. \$15-\$150. 465-3946; funkybiscuit.com

3/9 - Virtual Concert Series: Dean's Showcase No. 1 presented by Lynn University Amarnick-Goldstein Concert Hall, 3601 N Military Tr, Boca Raton. 6 pm. Registration: 237-9000; lynn.edu/events

3/9 - Festival of the Arts Boca: Bruce Feiler on Transitions. BocaFest Stream; streaming event. Discusses his book *Life in the Transitions: Mastering Change at Any Age*. 7 pm. Free. Reservations: festivalboca.org

3/9 - 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/advance purchase general admission. 450-6357; artsgarage.org

Wednesday - 3/10 - Resume Coaching at Delray Beach Public Library, 100 W Atlantic Ave. Every W through 3/17 1-4 pm. Free. By appointment: 266-0196; delraylibrary.org

3/10 - Green Fig and Lionfish with Allen Susser part of Florida Voices series at The Society of the Four Arts, 240 Coconut Row, Palm Beach. Attend at the King Library or remotely via Zoom. 1:30 pm. Free. Registration: 655-2766; fourarts.org

3/10 - Virtual Lecture - Egyptian Art Deco: The Ancient Civilization with Sharon Koskoff presented by The Art Deco Society of the Palm Beaches in collaboration w/Armory Art Center, 811 Park Place, West Palm Beach. 7 pm. Free. See website for Zoom link: 276-9925; artdecopb.org

3/10 - 3-Part Art Appreciation Series presented by Temple Israel of West Palm Beach, 1901 N Flagler Dr. Facilitated by artist/lecturer Mark Cohen; different artist each week. Series continues 3/10 & 17. 7:30 pm. RSVP: 833-8421; temple-israel.com

Thursday - 3/11 - Prosperity Coffee Hour by Phone at Unity of Delray Beach Church, 101 NW 22nd St. 7 am. Free. To join: 720-740-9634 passcode 2152894; unityofdelraybeach.org

3/11 - 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

3/11 - George Washington's Final Battle with Dr. Robert Watson presented by Delray Beach Public Library, 100 W Atlantic Ave. 1 pm. \$10. Registration: 266-9490; delraylibrary.org

3/11 - ArtSmart Lecture Series: A Tribute to Maria Callas - Her Life and Great Performances with Dr. Roni Stein-Loreti at Kravis Center Persson Hall, 701 Okeechobee Blvd, West Palm Beach. 1:30 pm. \$25. 832-7469; kravis.org

3/11 - Virtual Video Editing with Adobe Premiere Pro Class presented by Delray Beach Public Library, 100 W Atlantic Ave. Live Zoom presentation. 2 pm. Free. Registration: 266-0196; delraylibrary.org

3/11 - Virtual Distinguished Lecture Series: Tina Cassidy 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

3/11 - Leadership on the Edge with Robert Swan at The Society of the Four Arts Dixon Education Building, 240 Coconut Row, Palm Beach. Part of Campus on the Lake Lecture Series. 2:30 pm. \$20/ non-member. Reservations: 805-8562; fourarts.org

3/11 - Frank and Dean and Friends starring John Tarangelo and Tony Sands at Maggiano's Little Italy, 21090 St Andrews Blvd, Boca Raton. 6:30 pm dinner, 8 pm show. \$55. 239-293-6602; tonysands.com

3/11 - Festival of the Arts Boca: An Evening with Sonia Shah. BocaFest Stream; streaming event w/Q&A. Discusses her books *The Next Great Migration* and *Pandemic*. 7 pm. Free. Reservations: festivalboca.org

3/11 - Unbound World Virtual Book Club: Ring Shout by P. Djeli Clark presented by Boca Raton Public Library, 400 NW 2nd Ave. Adults. 7-8 pm. Free. Registration: 393-7968; bocalibrary.org

3/11 - Club Vibes: The Off the Ave Nightclub Experience for the Culture at Arts Garage, 94 NE 2nd Ave, Delray Beach. DJs, great music, full bar. In person or virtual. Age 21+. Every Th 9 pm-1 am. \$5/cover charge; ladies/free. 450-6357; artsgarage.org

3/11-12 - Blaque Dynamite at The Funky Biscuit, 303 SE Mizner Blvd, Boca Raton. 5 pm doors open; Th: 7 pm show, F: 9 pm show. \$30-\$240. 465-3946; funkybiscuit.com

3/11-13 - Dinner Cabaret: Nicole Henry at The Wick Theatre and Costume Museum, 7901 N Federal Hwy, Boca Raton. 6:30 pm. Reservations: 995-2333; thewick.org

3/11-14 - Black Box Series: Sweat by Lynn Nottage at Lake Worth Playhouse Stonzek Studio, 713 Lake Ave. Runs through 3/21. Sun 2 pm; Th-Sat 8 pm. \$25. 586-6410; lakeworthplayhouse.org

Friday - 3/12 - The Journey (2016 PG-13) at The Society of the Four Arts Gubelmann Auditorium, 100 Four Arts Plaza, Palm Beach. 2 & 5:30 pm. \$10/non-member. Reservations: 805-8562; fourarts.org

3/12 - Laser Lights & Bites: Pink Floyd Dark Side of the Moon 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; sfsccenter.org

3/12 - It Takes Two Dinner Show at The Pavilion Grille, 301 Yamato Rd, Boca Raton. Held again 3/23. 6 pm dinner; 7:30 pm show. \$32/3 course dinner; \$25/menu selections; + tax/gratuity. Reservations: 912-0000; paviliongrille.com

3/12 - Great Values Tasting at Gourmetphile, 501 SE Mizner Blvd #80, Boca Raton. 7 pm. \$35/person. 757-6208; gourmetphile.com

3/12 - The Five Boroughs Return at Arts Garage, 94 NE 2nd Ave, Delray Beach. In person or virtual. 8-10 pm. \$35-\$40. 450-6357; artsgarage.org

3/12-14 - Movie: M.E. Escher at Lake Worth Playhouse Stonzek Studio, 713 Lake Ave. F/Sat/Sun 5 pm; Sat 3 pm; Sun 7 pm. \$6-\$9. 586-6410; lakeworthplayhouse.org

Saturday - 3/13 - Hillsboro Lighthouse Tour - 114th Hillsboro Lighthouse Birthday Tour meets at Sands Harbor Resort and Marina, north side, 125 N Riverside Dr, Pompano Beach. Visitors park in Pompano Beach City Parking (fee required) across from Sands Harbor. Look for HLPs Lighthouse tour table beginning at 8:30 am. Transportation to/from lighthouse only by tour boat provided by South Florida Diving Headquarters. First boat departs 9 am. Last boat returns 3 pm. USCG regulations require closed-toe flat shoes w/rubber soles to climb lighthouse. Children must be accompanied by an adult and a minimum of 48" tall to climb the tower. No pets allowed. 9 am-3 pm. \$35 transportation fee. 954-942-2102; hillsborolighthouse.org/tours

3/13 - The Way of Tea: Sado Demonstration at Morikami Japanese Museum and Gardens Seishin-an Teahouse, 4000 Morikami Park Rd, Delray Beach. Observe Japanese sado by the OmoteSenke tea group, an ever-changing tea ceremony demonstration rich in sensational subtleties. Noon, 1:30 pm & 3 pm. \$5 w/ paid museum admission. 495-0233 x210; morikami.org

3/13 - The Gershwins' Porgy and Bess 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

3/13 - Art Talks: Journey to Sunday Dinner with Gillian Kennedy Wright at Cultural Council of Palm Beach County, 601 Lake Ave, Lake Worth. 2-3 pm. \$10/non-member. RSVP: 471-2901; palmbeachculture.com

3/13 - Shamrockin' the Haus St. Patrick's Shindig with Alex Meixner and his Band of Hooligans at American German Club of the Palm Beaches, 5111 Lantana Rd, Lake Worth Beach. Masks required. 4-9 pm. \$20/includes admission & dinner; drinks a la carte. 967-6464; americangermanclub.org

3/13 - Damon Fowler at The Funky

Biscuit, 303 SE Mizner Blvd, Boca Raton. 5 pm doors open; 7 pm show. \$20-\$180. 465-3946; funkybiscuit.com

3/13 - David Morin Dinner Show at The Pavilion Grille, 301 Yamato Rd, Boca Raton. Held again 3/20 & 26. 6 pm dinner; 8 pm show. \$32/3 course dinner; \$25/menu selections; +tax/gratuity. Reservations: 912-0000; paviliongrille.com

3/13 - Wagner Family Tasting at Gourmetphile, 501 SE Mizner Blvd #80, Boca Raton. 7 pm. \$75/person w/\$25 credit to purchase of wines tasted. 757-6208; gourmetphile.com

3/13 - Exhibition Opening Reception: Blank Slate - Recent Works by Domenic Esposito at The Box Gallery, 811 Belvedere Rd, West Palm Beach. Runs through 3/29. 7 pm. Free/donation at the door. 786-521-1199; theboxgallery.info

3/13 - Festival of the Arts Boca: Constantine Kitsopoulos and The Festival All Stars. Virtual; music from Addison Mizner's time. 7 pm. Free. Reservations: festivalboca.org

3/13-14 - Sound & Movement Workshop for Actors Virtual Class with Lindsay Carretero presented by Bob Carter's Actor's Workshop & Repertory Company, 1000 N Dixie Hwy. Adults. 11 am-1 pm. \$100. Online via Zoom: 833-7529; actorsrep.org

3/13-14 - Call to Audition: Mr. Burns, A Post Electric Play at Lake Worth Playhouse, 713 Lake Ave. Actors asked to prepare a 1- to 2-minute contemporary monologue. Performance 5/14-23. No appointment needed. 1 pm. 586-6410; lakeworthplayhouse.org

MARCH 14-20

Sunday - 3/14 - Daylight Saving Time Begins

3/14 - Dogs' Day in the Garden at Mounts Botanical Garden, 531 N Military Tr, West Palm Beach. Held throughout the garden; bring water/treats for pets. 2nd Sun through 5/9 9 am-3 pm. Regular admission \$10/general; \$5/child age 5-12. 233-1757; mounts.org

3/14 - The Way of Taiko: The Heartbeat of Japan at Morikami Japanese Museum and Gardens Theater, 4000 Morikami Park Rd, Delray Beach. Introduction to the history of taiko; understand sounds/ movements, how to connect nature, the meaning of body movement; become familiar with the way of taiko; learn how to drum. Wear comfortable clothes, shoes; jewelry not recommended. 11 am-1 pm or 2-4 pm. \$50. Registration: 495-0233; morikami.org

3/14 - Friends of the Uffizi Lectures: Dr. David Dolata at Boca Raton Museum of Art, 501 Plaza Real. Speaker Dr. Karen Rose Mathews. 3-4 pm. \$15/non-member. 392-2500; bocamuseum.org

3/14 - Concert: Drew Petersen, piano at The Society of the Four Arts Gubelmann Auditorium, 100 Four Arts Plaza, Palm Beach. 3 pm. \$30/non-member. 805-8562; fourarts.org

3/14 - 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

3/14 - Festival of the Arts Boca: Festival Finale with Nestor Torres. Virtual; captured live at the iconic grounds of Boca Raton Resort and Club. Swinging jazz originals & standards. 7 pm. Free. Reservations: festivalboca.org

3/14 - Tas Cru and His Band of Tortured Souls at Arts Garage, 94 NE 2nd Ave, Delray Beach. 7-8:30 pm. \$35-\$40. 450-6357; artsgarage.org

Monday - 3/15 - Watercolor 102 Online Class presented by Creative Arts School, 51 N Swinton Ave, Delray Beach. Drawing skills necessary. Every M through 4/12 9 am-noon. \$207. Registration: 846-2349; oldschoolsquare.org

3/15 - Virtual Jazz & Java: Big Bands - 1960-2000 with Dick Lowenthal at Arts Garage, 94 NE 2nd Ave, Delray Beach. 6-week session through 4/19 10-11:30 am. \$120. 450-6357; artsgarage.org

3/15 - An Artful Life with Leslie Chihuly at The Society of the Four Arts Gubelmann Auditorium, 100 Four Arts Plaza, Palm Beach. Part of Campus on

the Lake Lecture Series. 11 am. \$20/non-member. Reservations: 805-8562; fourarts.org

3/15 - Discover Your Personal Painting Style Online Class presented by Creative Arts School, 51 N Swinton Ave, Delray Beach. Every M through 4/12 1-3 pm. \$175. Registration: 846-2349; oldschoolsquare.org

3/15 - Nature and Wildlife Photography Class presented by Creative Arts School, 51 N Swinton Ave, Delray Beach. Learn through on-location field trips, lectures/in-depth critiques how to capture landscapes, wildlife images; all outdoors & socially distanced. Face coverings required. Every M through 4/12 2-5 pm. \$255. Registration: 846-2349; oldschoolsquare.org

3/15 - The Invention Of Nature: Alexander Von Humboldt's New World with Andrea Wulf at The Society of the Four Arts Dixon Education Building, 240 Coconut Row, Palm Beach. Part of Campus on the Lake Lecture Series. 5 pm. \$20/ non-member. Reservations: 805-8562; fourarts.org

3/15 - The Funky Biscuit All Stars with Special Guest Memphis Lightning at The Funky Biscuit, 303 SE Mizner Blvd, Boca Raton. 5 pm doors open; 7 pm show. \$10-\$60. 465-3946; funkybiscuit.com

3/15-16 - Auditions for Steel Magnolias: A Play by Robert Harling at Delray Beach Playhouse, 950 NW 9th St. 6 women age 18-mature. Rehearsals begin 4/13. 7:30 pm. 272-1281 x5; delraybeachplayhouse.com

Tuesday - 3/16 - Get Some Perspective! Beginner Pencil/Marker/Watercolor Online Class presented by Creative Arts School, 51 N Swinton Ave, Delray Beach. Every T through 4/13 10 am-12:30 pm. \$215. Registration: 846-2349; oldschoolsquare.org

3/16 - Pathway to Drawing - Beginner/Advanced Beginner Pencil & Charcoal Online Class presented by Creative Arts School, 51 N Swinton Ave, Delray Beach. Every T through 4/13 1:30-4 pm. \$215. Registration: 846-2349; oldschoolsquare.org

3/16 - Hand Drumming for Fun, Meditation, Healing at Creative Arts School, 51 N Swinton Ave, Delray Beach. Every T through 4/13. Virtual class 1:30-3 pm; in-person class 7-8:30 pm. \$135. Registration: 846-2349; oldschoolsquare.org

3/16 - Collage and Mixed Media Online Class presented by Creative Arts School, 51 N Swinton Ave, Delray Beach. Every T through 4/13 1-4 pm. \$255. Registration: 846-2349; oldschoolsquare.org

3/16 - Virtual How to Stop Robocalls Class presented by Delray Beach Public Library, 100 W Atlantic Ave. Live presentation or watch the video at your convenience. Teens & adults. 2-3 pm. Free. Registration: 266-0196; delraylibrary.org

3/16 - Beginning Saxophone Virtual at Creative Arts School, 51 N Swinton Ave, Delray Beach. Every T through 4/13 2-4 pm. \$175. Registration: 846-2349; oldschoolsquare.org

3/16 - Book Club - The Sword and the Shield: The Revolutionary Lives of Malcolm X and Martin Luther King Jr. by Peniel E. Joseph presented by Boca Raton Public Library, 400 NW 2nd Ave. Adults. 4-5 pm. Registration: 393-7906; bocalibrary.org

3/16 - Cachet Band with Johnny Minnis Dinner Show at The Pavilion Grille, 301 Yamato Rd, Boca Raton. 6 pm dinner; 7:30 pm show. \$32/3 course dinner; \$25/menu selections; +tax/gratuity. Reservations: 912-0000; paviliongrille.com

3/16 - Guitar Fundamentals Online Class presented by Creative Arts School, 51 N Swinton Ave, Delray Beach. Every T through 4/13 6-7:30 pm. \$135. Registration: 846-2349; oldschoolsquare.org

3/16 - Solar United Neighbors Palm Beach County Co-op Virtual Meeting presented by League of Women Voters & Solar United Neighbors. Co-op is free to join, open to homeowners & business owners in Palm Beach County. Learn about solar energy & leverage bulk purchasing to ensure competitive pricing & quality solar installations. 6 pm. Free.

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3/16 - Chamber Music Society of Palm Beach: Kristin Lee, Violin; Arnaud Sussman, Violin; Cindy Phelps, Viola; Melissa Reardon, Viola; Brook Speltz, Cello; Edward Arron, Cello at Eau Palm Beach, 100 S Ocean Blvd, Manalapan. Virtual single concerts tickets available to live stream. 6 pm reception; 7 pm concert. Season subscriptions \$1,750/person. 379-6773; cmspb.org

3/16 - The Electric Light Orchestra Experience at Palm Beach State College Duncan Theatre, 4200 Congress Ave, Lake Worth. 8 pm. \$39. 868-3309; duncantheatre.org

3/16 - Poetry Night at Arts Garage, 94 NE 2nd Ave, Delray Beach. In person or virtual. 3rd T 8-10 pm. \$6/virtual ticket; \$5/advance purchase general admission. 450-6357; artsgarage.org

3/16-17 - Sibling Harmony: The Everly Brothers' Story and Songs at The Delray Beach Playhouse, 950 NW 9th St. 2 pm. \$25. 272-1281; delraybeachplayhouse.com

Wednesday - 3/17 - St. Patrick's Day 3/17 - Watercolor Basics 101 Online Class presented by Creative Arts School, 51 N Swinton Ave, Delray Beach. Drawing skills necessary. Every W through 4/14 9 am-noon. \$255. Registration: 846-2349; oldschoosquare.org

3/17 - 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 of your choice. Materials provided to all who need them. All ages. 10 am. \$3/payment required at registration: 966-7000; pbcnature.com

3/17 - League of Women Voters Hot Topic Luncheon: Women in Economics. Guest Speaker Kelly L. Smallridge. Interactive Zoom session. Noon-1 pm. Register: 276-4898; lwvpsc.org

3/17 - Different Strokes for Online Folks: Acrylic Class presented by Creative Arts School, 51 N Swinton Ave, Delray Beach. Every W through 4/14 10 am-noon or 1-3 pm. \$175. Registration: 846-2349; oldschoosquare.org

3/17 - Zoom Photography 101: Composition Beginner/Intermediate Class at Creative Arts School, 51 N Swinton Ave, Delray Beach. Every W through 4/14 1-3 pm. \$175. Registration: 846-2349; oldschoosquare.org

3/17 - Picturesque Pastels: Beginners/Intermediate Online Class presented by Creative Arts School, 51 N Swinton Ave, Delray Beach. Every W through 4/14 1-4 pm. \$255. Registration: 846-2349; oldschoosquare.org

3/17 - Zoom Photoshop for Photographers at Creative Arts School, 51 N Swinton Ave, Delray Beach. Every W through 4/7 1:30-4 pm. \$175. Registration: 846-2349; oldschoosquare.org

3/17 - The Testaments by Margaret Atwood part of Page Turners Book Discussion Group 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. Reservations: 805-8562; fourarts.org

3/17 - St. Patrick's Day with Fusion Band at The Pavilion Grille, 301 Yamato Rd, Boca Raton. 6 pm dinner; 7:30 pm show. \$32/3 course dinner; \$25/menu selections; +tax/gratuity. Reservations: 912-0000; paviliongrille.com

3/17 - Fashion Illustration 101 Online Class presented by Creative Arts School, 51 N Swinton Ave, Delray Beach. Every F through 4/14 6:30-8:30 pm. \$175. Registration: 846-2349; oldschoosquare.org

3/17 - Speech and Diction Virtual Class with Bob Carter presented by Bob Carter's Actor's Workshop & Repertory Company, 1000 N Dixie Hwy. Online via Zoom. Adults. Every Th through 4/21 7-9 pm. \$150. 833-7529; actorsrep.org

3/17 - Friends Virtual Book Club: Caste by Isabel Wilkerson 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

3/17-18 - Auditions for A Doll's House - Part 2: A Play by Lucas Hnath at Delray Beach Playhouse, 950 NW 9th St. 3 women, 1 man. Rehearsals begin 5/3. 7:30 pm. 272-1281 x5; delraybeachplayhouse.com

Thursday - 3/18 - Virtual Travel Sketchbook Class at Creative Arts School, 51 N Swinton Ave, Delray Beach. Every Th through 4/15 10 am-12:30 pm. \$215. Registration: 846-2349; oldschoosquare.org

3/18 - Abstract Painting: Acrylic Online Class presented by Creative Arts School, 51 N Swinton Ave, Delray Beach. Every Th through 4/15 11 am-1 pm or 3-5 pm. \$175. Registration: 846-2349; oldschoosquare.org

3/18 - Virtual Art About You Class at Creative Arts School, 51 N Swinton Ave, Delray Beach. Every Th through 4/15 1-4 pm. \$255. Registration: 846-2349; oldschoosquare.org

3/18 - Tender is the Flesh (tr. from Spanish) by Agustina Bazterrica part of Virtual World Readers Collective Book Club at Delray Beach Public Library, 100 W Atlantic Ave. 1 pm. Free. 266-0196; delraylibrary.org

3/18 - Zoom Photography Salon Class at Creative Arts School, 51 N Swinton Ave, Delray Beach. Every Th through 4/15 1-3 pm. \$175. Registration: 846-2349; oldschoosquare.org

3/18 - Virtual Distinguished Lecture Series - Dr. Tracy Revels: Grandeur in Her Daughters: Florida's Women During the Civil War 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

3/18 - Heli at The Funky Biscuit, 303 SE Mizner Blvd, Boca Raton. 5 pm doors open; 7 pm show. \$10-\$120. 465-3946; funkybiscuit.com

3/18 - Watercolor Basics 101 Online Class presented by Creative Arts School, 51 N Swinton Ave, Delray Beach. Drawing skills are necessary. Every Th through 4/15 6-8:30 pm. \$215. Registration: 846-2349; oldschoosquare.org

3/18 - Ukulele Magic Online Class

presented by Creative Arts School, 51 N Swinton Ave, Delray Beach. Every Th through 4/15 6-7:30 pm. \$135. Registration: 846-2349; oldschoosquare.org

3/18-19 - Dinner Cabaret: Hooray for Hollywood at The Wick Theatre and Costume Museum, 7901 N Federal Hwy, Boca Raton. 6:30 pm. Reservations: 995-2333; thewick.org

Friday - 3/19 - An Hour to Kill Virtual Mystery Book Club: The Searcher by Tana French presented by Boca Raton Public Library, 400 NW 2nd Ave. Adults. 10:30-11:30 am. Registration: 393-7906; bocalibrary.org

3/19 - Zoom More About Color Class at Creative Arts School, 51 N Swinton Ave, Delray Beach. Every F through 4/16 1-3 pm. \$175. Registration: 846-2349; oldschoosquare.org

3/19 - Mrs. Lowry And Son (2019 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

3/19 - Led Zep: Classic Live Zeppelin at The Funky Biscuit, 303 SE Mizner Blvd, Boca Raton. 5 pm doors open; 9 pm show. \$25-\$210. 465-3946; funkybiscuit.com

3/19 - 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

3/19 - Louis Jadot Tasting at Gourmetphile, 501 SE Mizner Blvd #80, Boca Raton. 7 pm. \$75/person w/\$25 credit to purchase of wines tasted. 757-6208; gourmetphile.com

3/19-20 - FAU/Palm Beach Virtual Book Festival: Words in Paradise presented by Florida Atlantic University Theatre, 777 Glades Rd, Boca Raton. F 4-5 pm; Sat 10-11 am & 4-5 pm. \$25/3 panel zoom sessions; \$10/per session; \$25-\$52/books w/session. See website for more details: palmbeachbookfestival.com

3/19-21 - Movie: Oliver Sacks (2020 NR) at Lake Worth Playhouse Stonzek Studio, 713 Lake Ave. F/Sat 4:30 pm; Sat 2:30 pm; Sun 5 & 7 pm. \$6-\$9. 586-6410; lakeworthplayhouse.org

3/19-21 - Assisted Living - The Musical at Mizner Park Cultural Center Main Theatre, 201 W. Plaza Rd, Boca Raton. F/Sat 7:30 pm; Sat/Sun 2 pm. \$35-\$45. 844-672-2849; miznerparkculturalcenter.com

Saturday - 3/20 - All People's Day Diversity Festival Goes Virtual. Retrospective of 10 years of free festivals at Pompey Park, Delray Beach; honors people of all ages, colors, religion, cultures, sexual orientation, sizes, different abilities. 11 am; repeats for 8 hours. Free. allpeoplesday.org

3/20 - Cyrano de Bergerac part of National Theatre Live Series at The Society of the Four Arts Gubelmann Auditorium, 100 Four Arts Plaza, Palm Beach. Previously recorded. 2 pm. \$25/adult; \$15/student. 655-7226; fourarts.org

3/20 - Intimate Landscape Photography Class presented by Creative Arts School, 51 N Swinton Ave, Delray Beach. Only offered on-location, outdoors, socially distanced. Face coverings required. Every Sat through 4/17 2-5 pm. \$255. Registration: 846-2349; oldschoosquare.org

3/20 - Albert Castiglia at The Funky Biscuit, 303 SE Mizner Blvd, Boca Raton. 5 pm doors open; 7 pm show. \$20-\$180. 465-3946; funkybiscuit.com

3/20 - Fred Astaire Dance Studios Presents Show Must Go On Showcase at Kravis Center Rinker Playhouse, 701 Okeechobee Blvd, West Palm Beach. 6 pm. Tickets start at \$200/table of 4. 832-7469; kravis.org

3/20 - Making It On Broadway presents Middle of a Moment at The Wick Theatre and Costume Museum, 7901 N Federal Hwy, Boca Raton. 8 pm. \$50-\$70. makingitonbroadway.ticketspice.com/concert

3/20 - Virtual Masterworks V: Ginastera, Ravel & Elgar presented by South Florida Symphony Orchestra. 8 pm. \$45. 954-522-8445; southfloridasymphony.org

3/20-21 - 2nd Annual Original Boca Art Show at Boca Center, 5150 Town Center Circle, Boca Raton. 10 am-5 pm. Free. 746-6615; artfestival.com

MARCH 21-27

Sunday - 3/21 - German Beerfest at American German Club of the Palm Beaches, 5111 Lantana Rd, Lake Worth Beach. Facial coverings required except while at your dining table. Admission includes food/drink. Noon-5:30 pm. \$30/guests 21+; \$10/age 13-20; \$6/age 6-12; free/child 5 & under. Advance tickets required: 967-6464; americangermanclub.org

3/21 - Discover Your Personal Painting Style Online Class presented by Creative Arts School, 51 N Swinton Ave,

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Delray Beach. Every Sun through 4/18 1-3 pm. \$143. Registration: 846-2349; oldschoollibrary.org

3/21 - I Capuleti E I Montecchi (The Capulets And The Montagues) at The Pavilion at Old School Square, 51 N Swinton Ave, Delray Beach. 2 pm. Tickets start at \$20. 833-7888; pbopera.org

3/21 - Palm Beach Symphony: Vladimir Feltsman performs Mozart at Kravis Center, 701 Okeechobee Blvd, West Palm Beach. Virtual or in-person. 3 pm. \$30. 281-0145; palmbeachsymphony.org

Monday - 3/22 - Amazonia with Beyer Artist-in-Residence Lucy + Jorge Orta at The Society of the Four Arts Dixon Education Building, 240 Coconut Row, Palm Beach. Part of Campus on the Lake Lecture Series. Held again 3/26, 29, 31 & 4/2. 9:30 am-12:30 pm. \$425. Reservations: 805-8562; fourarts.org

3/22 - Just Mercy: A Story of Justice and Redemption by Bryan Stevenson - Part of Virtual Afternoon Book Group at Delray Beach Public Library, 100 W Atlantic Ave. 4th M 1 pm. Free. 266-0196; delraylibrary.org

3/22 - Conversations on Style with Steven Stolman 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. \$25. Reservation: 805-8562; fourarts.org

3/22 - The Funky Biscuit All Stars with Special Guest Eliza Neals at The Funky Biscuit, 303 SE Mizner Blvd, Boca Raton. 5 pm doors open; 7 pm show. \$10-\$60. 465-3946; funkybiscuit.com

3/22-25 - The Songs of Harold Arlen: Come Rain or Come Shine at The Delray Beach Playhouse, 950 NW 9th St. Runs through 4/1. M-Th 2 pm; M-W 7:30 pm. \$38. 272-1281; delraybeachplayhouse.com

Tuesday - 3/23 - Drawing & Painting Alla Prima Online Class presented by Creative Arts School, 51 N Swinton Ave, Delray Beach. Drawing skills necessary. Every T through 4/13 9-11:30 am. \$175. Registration: 846-2349; oldschoollibrary.org

3/23 - Friends Virtual Book Club: The Orphan Collector by Ellen Marie Wiseman presented by Boca Raton Public Library, 400 NW 2nd Ave. Adults. 10:30-11:30 am. Free. Email for zoom link: DTLbookclub@bocalibraryfriends.org. 393-7968; bocalibrary.org

3/23 - Virtual eBay Basics Class presented by Delray Beach Public Library, 100 W Atlantic Ave. Live presentation or watch the video at your convenience. Teens & adults. 2-3 pm. Free. Registration: 266-0196; delraylibrary.org

3/23 - Zoom Author Event: Heather Graham about his book *Danger In Numbers* presented by Murder on the Beach Mystery Bookstore. 5:30 pm. Admission is w/ purchase of the book \$27.99. 279-7790;

murderonthebeach.com

3/23 - Tap for Adults at Lake Worth Playhouse, 713 Lake Ave. 4-week course concentrates on basics. Age 16+. Every T through 4/13 5:30-7 pm. \$60/4-weeks advance purchase; \$20/day walk-in. 586-6410; lakeworthplayhouse.org

Wednesday - 3/24 - Art Of The Extreme: Antarctica, Amazonia And Beyond with Beyer Artist-in-Residence Lucy + Jorge Orta at The Society of the Four Arts, 240 Coconut Row, Palm Beach. Part of Campus on the Lake Lecture Series. 2:30 pm. Free. Reservations: 805-8562; fourarts.org

3/24 - 50's Sock Hop at Ellie's 50's Diner, 2410 N Fed Hwy, Delray Beach. Benefits Delray Beach Public Library. Features Elvis impersonator David Moran & costume contest for best pair. Held outdoors & socially distanced. 5:30 pm doors open. \$50-\$500. 266-0798; kae.jonsons@delraylibrary.org

3/24 - Authors Speak; The Impact of Race on American Society hosted by The Spady Museum, Arts Garage, Delray Beach CRA. Speaker Tina K. Sacks, author of *Invisible Visits, Black Middle-Class Women in the American Healthcare System*; Q&A follows. 6-8 pm. Free. Live Zoom broadcast from The Spady Museum & Arts Garage Facebook pages. 279-8883; spadmuseum.com

Thursday - 3/25 - Virtual Online Portfolios with Wix Class presented by Delray Beach Public Library, 100 W Atlantic Ave. Live presentation or video at your convenience. 2 pm. Free. Registration: 266-0196; delraylibrary.org

3/25 - Audition Prep for Adults at Lake Worth Playhouse, 713 Lake Ave. 6-week course concentrates on audition prep for musical theatre. Age 16+. Every Th through 4/29 5-6 pm. \$150/session. 586-6410; lakeworthplayhouse.org

3/25 - Cas Haley at The Funky Biscuit, 303 SE Mizner Blvd, Boca Raton. 5 pm doors open; 7 pm show. \$15-\$150. 465-3946; funkybiscuit.com

3/25 - 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 4/15 6-7 pm. \$60/4 weeks advance purchase; \$20/day walk-in. 586-6410; lakeworthplayhouse.org

3/25 - Croce Plays Croce at Palm Beach State College Duncan Theatre, 4200 Congress Ave, Lake Worth. 8 pm. \$35. 868-3309; duncantheatre.org

3/25-26 - Film: David Hockney at the Royal Academy of Arts at Boca Raton Museum of Art, 501 Plaza Real. Th 5:30-7 pm; F 2-3:30 pm. Free w/admission. RSVP: 392-2500; bocamuseum.org

3/25-27 - Dinner Cabaret: Vaccine Canteen at The Wick Theatre and Costume Museum, 7901 N Federal Hwy, Boca Raton.

6:30 pm dinner, 8 pm show. Call for price/reservations: 995-2333; thewick.org

3/25-28 - 2021 Palm Beach International Boat Show at West Palm Beach waterfront, 101 S Flagler Dr. Th 12-7 pm; F/Sat 10 am-7 pm; Sun 10 am-5 pm. \$250 per day/VIP Experience; \$52/adult 2-day; \$28/adult; \$15/child 6-15; free/child under 6. 954-463-6762; pbboatshow.com

Friday - 3/26 - Virtual Dramawise Series: The Bell of Amherst presented by Palm Beach Dramaworks, 201 Clematis St, West Palm Beach. 10 am-noon. \$15. 514-4042 x2; palmbeachdramaworks.org

3/26 - Karesansui Raking Demonstration at Morikami Museum and Japanese Gardens Late Rock Garden, 4000 Morikami Park Rd, Delray Beach. Karesansui/dry landscape garden is founded on Zen ideology, uses carefully composed rock arrangements w/gravel or sand. 10:30 am. Free w/museum admission. 495-0233; morikami.org

3/26 - Exhibition Opening: Biennial 2021 Exhibition at Cultural Council for Palm Beach County, 601 Lake Ave, Lake Worth Beach. Features 30 local artists. Runs through 5/28. 1st Sat & T-F noon-5 pm. Free. 471-2901; palmbeachculture.com

3/26 - Song Of Lahore (2015 PG) at The Society of the Four Arts Gubelmann Auditorium, 100 Four Arts Plaza, Palm Beach. 5:30 pm. \$10/non-member. Reservations: 805-8562; fourarts.org

3/26 - The Writers' Academy at the Kravis Center: Showcase the Writing presented by Kravis Center. Zoom session. 7 pm. \$10. 833-8300; kravis.org

3/26-27 - Meet the Artist: The Man Who Paints Rock & Roll - John Douglas at Opal Grand Oceanfront Resort and Spa, 10 N Ocean Blvd, Delray Beach. F noon-3 pm & 6-9 pm; Sat noon-4 pm & 6-10 pm. Free. 866-240-6316; opalgrand.com

3/26-27 - Martin Barre Band at The Funky Biscuit, 303 SE Mizner Blvd, Boca Raton. F 9 pm; Sat 8 pm. \$55-\$75. 465-3946; funkybiscuit.com

Saturday - 3/27 - 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; sfsccenter.org

3/27 - The Marriage of Figaro 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

3/27 - Lauren Henderson Quintet at Arts Garage, 94 NE 2nd Ave, Delray Beach. 8-10 pm. \$35-\$40. 450-6357; artsgarage.org

3/27 - Pink Martini featuring China Forbes at Kravis Center Dreyfoos Concert

Hall, 701 Okeechobee Blvd, West Palm Beach. 8 pm. Tickets start at \$29. 832-7469; kravis.org

MARCH 28-APRIL 3

Sunday - 3/28 - Basics of Sushi Workshop at Morikami Japanese Museum and Gardens Oki Education Studio, 4000 Morikami Park Rd, Delray Beach. Hands-on workshop led by Chef Mitsutoshi Sekita; basics of sushi making, cultural information about sushi. Participants must bring sharp 7-8 inch knife, cutting board (approx 10"x15"), apron, dish towel. 10 am-noon. \$70. Registration: 495-0233; morikami.org

3/28 - 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. Reservations: 967-6464; americangermanclub.org

3/28 - Tony Holiday & The Soul Service at Arts Garage, 94 NE 2nd Ave, Delray Beach. 7-8:30 pm. \$40-\$45. 450-6357; artsgarage.org

Monday - 3/29 - African Exodus: Migration and the Future of Europe with His Imperial Highness Prince asfa-Wossen Assefate at The Society of the Four Arts Dixon Education Building, 240 Coconut Row, Palm Beach. Part of Campus on the Lake Lecture Series. 2:30 pm. \$20/non-member. Reservations: 805-8562; fourarts.org

3/29 - Palm Beach Plant Based Eat & Learn with Chef Alex Cheblal at The Society of the Four Arts Dixon Education Building, 240 Coconut Row, Palm Beach. 4:30-7:30 pm. \$85. Reservations: 805-8562; fourarts.org

3/29 - The Funky Biscuit All Stars with Special Guest Jimi Fiano at The Funky Biscuit, 303 SE Mizner Blvd, Boca Raton. 5 pm doors open; 7 pm show. \$10-\$60. 465-3946; funkybiscuit.com

3/29 - Randall Goosby, Violin at Kravis Center Rinker Playhouse, 701 Okeechobee Blvd, West Palm Beach. 7:30 pm. Tickets \$32. 832-7469; kravis.org

3/29 - Jam Session at Arts Garage, 94 NE 2nd Ave, Delray Beach. In person or virtual. Last M 8 pm. Free/performer; \$5/patron. 450-6357; artsgarage.org

3/29-30 - Call to Audition: Hedwig And The Angry Inch at Lake Worth Playhouse, 713 Lake Ave. Actors asked to prepare 16-36 bars of 2 contemporary pop/rock songs. Bring sheet music in your key, or bring a prepared track for your audition. Performance 6/4-20. No appointment needed. 7 pm. 586-6410; lakeworthplayhouse.org

Tuesday - 3/30 - ArtSmart Lecture Series: Divine Connections: History of Freedom's Call with William "Bill" Nix at Kravis Center Persson Hall, 701 Okeechobee Blvd, West Palm Beach. 1:30 pm. Virtual: \$10; In person: \$50-100. 832-7469; kravis.org

3/30 - Virtual How to Get eBooks Class presented by Delray Beach Public Library, 100 W Atlantic Ave. Live presentation or watch the video at your convenience. Teens & adults. 2-3 pm. Free. Registration: 266-0196; delraylibrary.org

3/30 - Virtual eBooks, eMagazines, & Audiobooks Class presented by Delray Beach Public Library, 100 W Atlantic Ave. Join Facebook Group for Live Chat. 2 pm. Free. Registration: 266-0196; delraylibrary.org

3/30 - Al Di Meola: An Evening of Questions & Answers & Music at Old School Square Pavilion, 51 N Swinton Ave, Delray Beach. 7 pm. \$180-\$275/pod. 243-7922; oldschoollibrary.org

Wednesday - 3/31 - Virtual Event - Trafficking Among Us: A Conversation with a Survivor with Dr. Katariina Rosenblatt presented by Lynn University Wold Performing Arts Center, 3601 N Military Tr, Boca Raton. Noon. Free. 237-9000; lynn.edu/events

3/31 - 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

Thursday - 4/1 - Sumi-e Ink Painting

Class: Beginners Floral Session 7 at Morikami Museum and Japanese Gardens, 4000 Morikami Park Rd, Delray Beach. Every Th through 4/22 10:30 am-12:30 pm. \$55/member; \$60/non-member. Registration: 495-0233; morikami.org

4/1 - Legendary Film Directors: Billy Wilder with Bill David at The Society of the Four Arts Dixon Education Building, 240 Coconut Row, Palm Beach. 2:30-4:30 pm. \$35. Reservations: 805-8562; fourarts.org

4/1 - Chamber Music Society of Palm Beach: Gilles Vonsattel, Piano; Ben Beilman, Violin & Viola; Arnaud Sussmann, Violin & Viola; Guy Johnston, Cello at The Breakers Palm Beach, 11 S County Rd, Palm Beach. Virtual single concerts tickets available to live stream. 6 pm reception; 7 pm concert. Season subscriptions \$1,750/person. 379-6773; cmspb.org

4/1-3 - Dinner Cabaret: Billy's Place at The Wick Theatre and Costume Museum, 7901 N Federal Hwy, Boca Raton. 6:30 pm. Call for price & reservations: 995-2333; thewick.org

Friday - 4/2 - Apostasy (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

4/2 - The Seth Rosenbloom Band at Arts Garage, 94 NE 2nd Ave, Delray Beach. 8-10 pm. \$30-\$35. 450-6357; artsgarage.org

4/2-6 - Virtual Production: The Bell of Amherst presented by Palm Beach Dramaworks and Actors' Playhouse. Benefits Palm Beach Dramaworks and Actors' Playhouse. Purchase ticket, view play at your convenience 4/2-6. \$30. 514-4042 x2; palmbeachdramaworks.org

Saturday - 4/3 - ACCF Annual Golf Tournament: Swing to Achieve at Palm Beach Par 3, 2345 S Ocean Blvd. Benefits Achievement Centers for Children & Families. 8 am registration; 9 am shotgun; 1-2:30 pm cocktails/bites. \$150/participant. 276-0520; achievementcentersfl.org

4/3 - Easter Egg Hunt at Flagler Museum, One Whitehall Way, Palm Beach. Age-appropriate sections, photo w/ the Easter Bunny, face painting, crafts, commemorative wooden Easter Egg. Bring your basket. 9 am gates open; 10 am hunt begins. \$18/adult; \$15/child. 655-2833; flaglERMuseum.us

4/3 - Drive-Through Egg Hunt at Maddock Park, 1200 W Drew St, Lantana. 9-11 am. Free. 540-5754; lantana.org

4/3 - 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; bocajiff.org

4/3 - Shiori Indigo Workshop: Shiori Scarves at Morikami Japanese Museum and Gardens Oki Education Center, 4000 Morikami Park Rd, Delray Beach. 10 am-3 pm. \$65 + \$25/material fee. Registration: 495-0233 x210; morikami.org

4/3 - Japanese Traditional Music: Koto Demonstration at Morikami Japanese Museum and Gardens Theatre, 4000 Morikami Park Rd, Delray Beach. Learn basics of how this instrument is played; receive a koto music sheet of the most famous Japanese song, Sakura, Cherry Blossom. Noon, 1:30 & 3 pm. \$5 w/paid admission. 495-0233 x210; morikami.org

4/3 - Exhibition on Screen: Easter In Art at The Society of the Four Arts Gubelmann Auditorium, 100 Four Arts Plaza, Palm Beach. 2 pm. \$15. Reservations: 805-8562; fourarts.org

4/3 - The Long Run at The Funky Biscuit, 303 SE Mizner Blvd, Boca Raton. 5 pm doors open; 7 pm show. \$25-\$210. 465-3946; funkybiscuit.com

4/3 - The Swon Brothers at Old School Square Pavilion, 51 N Swinton Ave, Delray Beach. 8 pm. \$50-\$200/pod. 243-7922; oldschoollibrary.org

4/3 - Otis Cadillac & the El Dorados Rhythm and Blues Revue featuring the Sublime Seville Sisters at Arts Garage, 94 NE 2nd Ave, Delray Beach. 8-10 pm. \$35-\$45. 450-6357; artsgarage.org

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House of the Month



The expansive living and dining rooms offer unending views of the ocean.



This house, a mile south of Plaza del Mar, was originally designed by the renowned architect John Volk.

An oceanfront classic in Manalapan

Nestled one mile south of the Eau Palm Beach, this one-of-a-kind ocean-to-Intracoastal, British West Indies-style estate property is on one of the finest lots in Manalapan. Encompassing over two acres, the property presents an impressive 193 feet of water frontage across each of the beach and lake coastlines. It is equipped with a new seawall and private dock that can support vessels up to 40 feet.

The grand entrance foyer offers unparalleled views of the ocean and Intracoastal at every turn through the natural light of the dozens of impact windows and doors that encircle the

home. It is a 12,856-total-square-foot estate boasting seven bedrooms and five bathrooms.

The formal living room and dining room flow into each other and into the adjacent kitchen. A state-of-the-art wine room will serve the discerning collector. Most impressive in this lineup of extraordinary features is an oversized balcony overlooking the front of the property, where you can enjoy beautiful sunsets over the private mini-golf course and one of two pools on the front lawn. If sunrises are more important, simply walk around to the other side of the house and watch over the private oceanfront beach and backyard pool.

Offered at \$34.85 million. Contact Steven Presson, The Presson Group, Corcoran, 901 George Bush Blvd., Delray Beach, FL 33484. 561-843-6057. stevenpresson@corcoran.com

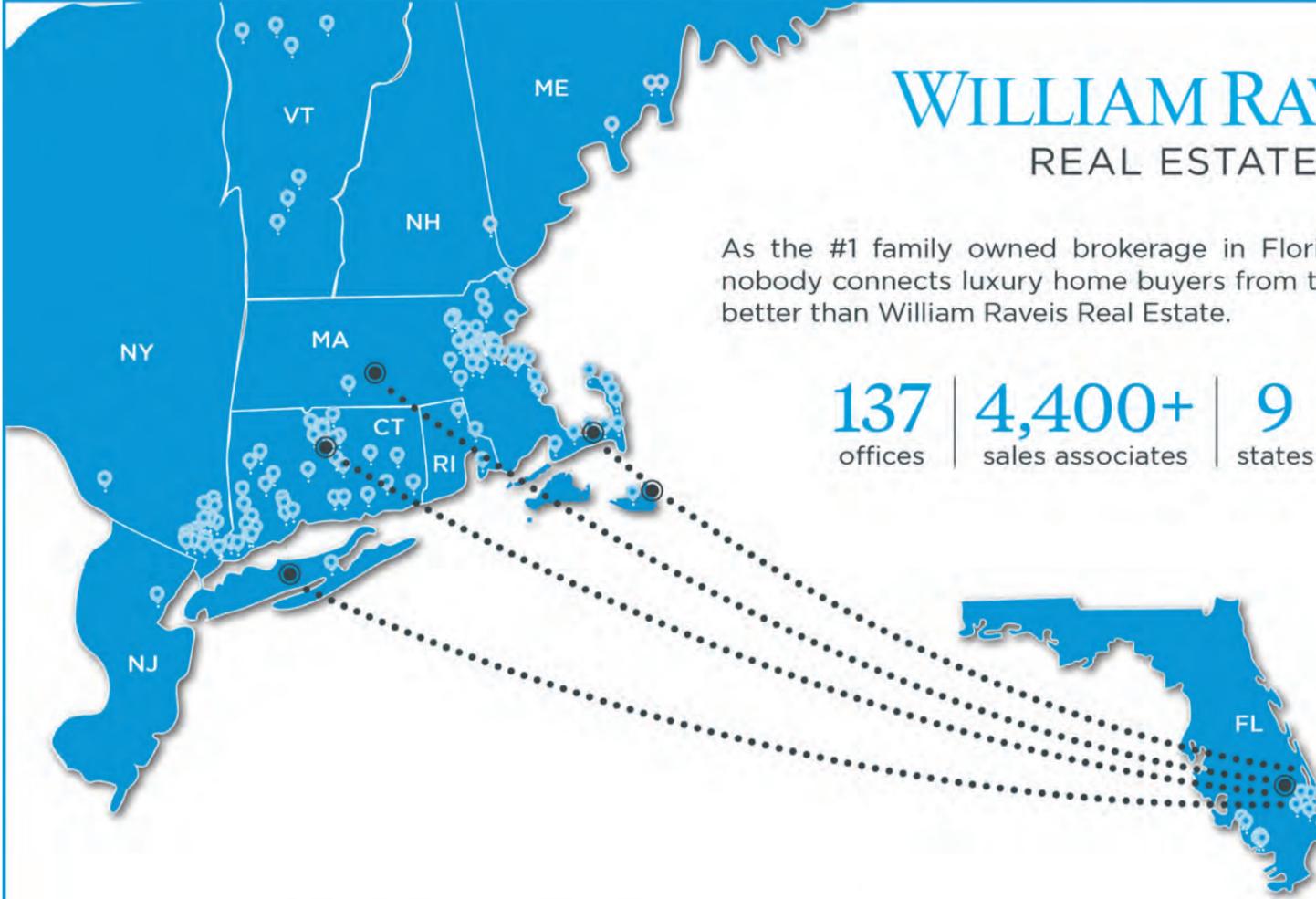


The renovated dine-in chef's kitchen offers a large center island for entertaining and serving hors d'oeuvres and beverages.

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



The estate runs from the ocean to the lake, offering 193 feet of water frontage.



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