

Older condos dominate barrier island

Residents bear rising costs of upkeep to live by water

By Joel Engelhardt

The average age of more than 300 condominiums dotting the oceanfront and Intracoastal Waterway along the barrier island from South Palm Beach to Boca Raton is 44 years, a *Coastal Star* analysis of property records shows.

That's four years older than Champlain Towers South, the 12-story Surfside condo building that collapsed on June 24.

In the three towns with the most high-rises

Inspection rules take shape

Coalition plan for coast targets buildings 25 years or older without regard to height

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— South Palm Beach, Highland Beach and Boca Raton — the average building age is 42 and the average height is seven floors, the analysis showed.

In Delray Beach, Manalapan, Boynton Beach, Gulf Stream and Ocean Ridge, the average age rises to 47

and the average height drops to three stories.

The 19-mile strip of richly landscaped estates and glossy high-rise condos is ground zero in Palm Beach County for the newfound focus on inspections and repairs born of the collapse in Surfside, which killed 98 people.

Nearly two-thirds of the 348 condos reviewed by *The Coastal Star* were built in the 1970s or before.

North Palm Beach structural engineer Don Chalaire said that most are supported by concrete columns that initially resist water, a seal that eventually gives way, allowing water and air to rust the critical rebar supports within.

"Every building we look at we see spalling damages that need to be repaired," Chalaire said.

Local governments initially indicated they were preparing to require inspections for "threshold buildings," those defined in Florida law as greater



A1A is lined with condos in Boca Raton, where 77% of barrier island condos are 40 years or older. While the City Council considers a measure to inspect buildings taller than three stories 30 years after construction, the League of Cities is pursuing an even more rigorous standard. **Jerry Lower/The Coastal Star**

See **CONDOS** on page 20

Along the Coast

Consultants' climate report calls rain, flooding top threats

By Mary Hladky

An in-depth assessment of how vulnerable southeastern Palm Beach County cities and towns are to climate change has found that the risks are increasing, with anticipated tidal flooding alone threatening more than \$10 billion in property values by 2070.

A study by a team of consultants, commissioned by seven cities, towns and Palm Beach County, identified the top climate change threats to the area and pinpointed significant facilities in each city and town that are especially at risk.

In what may surprise people who live inland, the study predicts that rainfall-induced flooding caused by changing rainfall patterns will be the biggest threat to the southeastern part of the county. This type of flooding has a big impact on inland areas, where many residents don't expect it, and can overwhelm stormwater drainage systems.

"It is really eye-opening that the flooding isn't just coastal," said Lindsey Nieratka, Boca Raton's sustainability manager. "We need to be considering our stormwater systems and green space inland." More green space would help absorb the rainfall.

Tidal flooding, long the bane of coastal residents, will become a bigger problem, the report says.

See **CLIMATE** on page 15

Along the Coast

Decades-old wildlife sanctuary faces unclear future under new owner

By Larry Keller

Rob Patten recalls the first time he stepped foot on Beer Can Island. "I thought if I was a homeless person, I could make a fortune selling aluminum cans. It was just a huge party island. Litter was everywhere. Biologically speaking, it was pretty much a wasteland."

That was three decades ago. Today, the islet is known as Bird Island — a roughly 7-acre private wildlife sanctuary adjacent to the Boynton Inlet — thanks to the years-long efforts of Patten and others, and the billionaire who owned the land and paid for its transformation.

The island's future is unclear now, however, since the Ziff

family sold its 15.65-acre ocean-to-Intracoastal estate in Manalapan for \$94.17 million in March. Bird Island is west of the estate and was sold for \$200,000 as part of the same transaction.

Patten, an expert in coastal habitat and dune restoration, says altering the island "was a

See **ISLAND** on page 16



Pelicans rest on boulders placed around Bird Island to keep boaters out. **Photo provided by Rob Patten**

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The Coastal Star

Publisher
Jerry Lower
publisher@thecoastalstar.com

Executive Editor
Mary Kate Leming
editor@thecoastalstar.com

Advertising Manager
Chris Bellard
sales@thecoastalstar.com

Managing Editors
Steve Plunkett
steve@thecoastalstar.com
Mary Thurwachter
maryt@thecoastalstar.com

Founding Partners
Carolyn & Price Patton

Advertising Executives
Judy Green
Jay Nuszer

News Operations
Tracy Allerton
Chad Armstrong
Kathleen Bell
Brad Betker
Rachel O'Hara
Victoria Preuss
Michelle Quigley
Clare Shore
Scott Simmons
Michele Smith
Margot Street
Tom Warnke
Amy Woods

ArtsPaper editor
Greg Stepanich
gstepanich@bartspaper.com

www.thecoastalstar.com
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The Coastal Star
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Editor's Note

Historical mistakes: Correcting the record

History is hard. What passes as history is most often written by those with the means to quickly share their view of events with a wide audience. Often that means newspapers.

In 1943, journalist Alan Barth called news “the first rough draft of history,” and even when that draft is *about* history it still leaves room for error.

Such was the case with errors in two stories in our June/July edition.

In a story about the town of Lantana's centennial, a comment by local historian Janet DeVries Naughton regarding two of the town's pioneer settlers was incorrectly transcribed by reporter Ron Hayes. He quoted her as saying that E.R. Bradley had opened several general stores in South Florida. In fact, Naughton said this of M.B. Lyman. Oops, wrong pioneer.

In a story on the founding of Ocean Ridge and Manalapan, the founders of Boynton Beach were referred to as the Byrds. It was Byrd Spilman Dewey who bought the land. Historian Ginger Pedersen pointed out this slip-up.

She also questioned some background material used by our writer — another local historian, Eliot Kleinberg. Kleinberg checked his notes and was unable to confirm past hotel and restaurant interests of George W. Harvey, who purchased the Boynton Hotel. Oops, misplaced notes.

These may seem like small items to most readers, but to the local historians dedicated to chronicling our communities, they are details that require correction.

We understand, and have done so in our online copy, but the print version will be archived with these errors. Only this column will stand as a correction. Hopefully future researchers will find both the original and the correction.

Historical oversights present another challenge for newspapers writing about local history.

Another local historian, Lori Durante, graciously

pointed out our oversight of the Black and Bahamian workers who settled in Lantana as they labored to bring Henry Flagler's railroad through the area and were later “relocated” to a segregated neighborhood.

The history of these often forgotten pioneers — many of whom were formerly enslaved or descendants of enslaved people — is an interesting one that reminds us of the prejudicial Jim Crow laws active here during those post-Civil War years.

So, as *The Coastal Star* celebrates local history this summer, we take our role in the interpretation and perpetuation of history seriously. We are very aware that even simple errors are often difficult to correct.

And even more important, we are cognizant that each generation of people sees previous interpretations of history through a new lens and their written records will be based on their experiences. Historians often uncover new — or buried — information that alters what had been previously accepted as fact.

In other words, carving the past into marble — or newsprint — is fraught with hidden risks. Getting history right is hard.

Caring for our community

The coronavirus continues to mutate and the Delta variant is spreading rapidly among unvaccinated and vaccinated residents. Emergency rooms are seeing an increase of infected patients once again. The local positivity rate is back in double digits.

At *The Coastal Star*, we care about the people and businesses in our community and want to see them healthy. Toward that end, we encourage our readers to get vaccinated (it's free) and wear masks (it's easy) when indoors in crowded places. Let's do this. I think we can all agree we want this pandemic to end.



— Mary Kate Leming, Editor

Coastal Star



Delray Beach resident Julie Travis greets and instructs fellow Trashy Mermaids prior to their monthly beachside cleanup on Delray Beach. **BELOW:** Travis gets to work picking up the litter she finds cluttering the shoreline. **Photos by Tim Stepien/The Coastal Star**

Mermaid's mission: Clean up the beach

By Rich Pollack

Julie Travis loves mermaids and just about all things ocean-related.

If there's one thing she can't stand, however, it's debris scattered along her favorite stretches of Delray Beach's public beach.

So when Travis decided to create a group of beach-cleaning women who would scour the sand looking for debris, the name Trashy Mermaids was the perfect fit.

The moniker — and the goal — tells you a lot about Travis, a Bostonian who transplanted to Florida decades ago to spend more time near the ocean.

“Julie has this flair for fun, but she takes a serious approach to environmental issues,” says Joan Fisk, her longtime friend and fellow Trashy Mermaid.

Just how much of a flair for fun can be seen in the titles Travis and Fisk have come up with for the leadership team of the Trashy Mermaids, an informal group that has an air of sisterhood.

Travis is the SEA-EO, instead of the CEO, and Fisk is the SEA-OO. There's also SEA-IO. The group meets once a month for what Travis appropriately named “trash talk.”

Start chatting with Travis about the beach and the junk she and others in the group have found and the wordplays and the lighthearted conversations vanish, replaced with a passion-filled denunciation of debris left on the beach and those responsible for it.

A longtime Delray Beach resident who works full time in sales support for Sensormatic Retail Solutions, Travis makes being at the beach every weekend part of her routine.

“I get to the beach every chance I get,” she said. “But I

can't come here every Saturday and Sunday and look at all the disgusting things on the sand.”

Among the things she's seen are used personal hygiene products, underwear and even buried soiled diapers.

It was a dead sea turtle at the shoreline, however, that led to Travis' transformation from a silent spectator into a mermaid with a mission.

“That was the spark that made me say I had to do something, even if it was just me, myself and I,” she said.

What really struck Travis was the group of people who had gathered around the turtle — whose death she was told was caused by ingesting trash in the ocean — and were taking photos.

“Julie felt the turtle was being disrespected,” Fisk said.

With the idea for Trashy Mermaids building momentum, Travis contacted a friend who designed T-shirts and then she went online to find other trash grabbers.

Through email and word of mouth with friends, the Mermaids organized their first cleanup on the first Saturday in May, gathering on the beach across from Sandoway Park.

“We expected 10 people and there were probably close to 20,” Travis said.

The Mermaids' first-Saturday-of-the-month cleanups have continued, and in July, a similar size group picked up trash, using grabbers and buckets — including 15 donated by the local Home Depot store.

The group included several mermaids in training (children) as well as a few “mermen.”

About half of the women who joined the cleanup were there for the first time, some having learned about the group through the Trashy Mermaids Delray Beach Facebook



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page (facebook.com/groups/trashymermaidsdelraybeach).

That Travis decided to include mermaids as part of her beach-cleaning effort comes as no surprise to anyone who has been to her home.

“I have mermaids everywhere,” she says. “My entire house is mermaids.” She has mermaids on her mousepad, mermaids on her lipstick holder and mermaids just about everywhere in her kitchen.

Travis, who turns 60 in August, was the mermaid of honor at her niece's wedding and even did a photo shoot where she and her cousin and an aunt are in full mermaid costume. Travis' husband, Craig, the owner of a yacht brokerage, is dressed as Neptune.

“Mermaids are beautiful and come in every shape, size and color,” she says. “You look at all the mermaids and even if you're having a bad day, it makes you happy.” ★

The next beach cleanup begins at 9 a.m. Aug. 7 on Delray Beach across from Sandoway Discovery Center.

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Boca Raton Regional Hospital Foundation is thrilled to be welcoming back South Florida's premier women's health event, the Go Pink Luncheon! Along with Pro Football Hall of Fame Running Back, Businessman, Entrepreneur and Breast Cancer Advocate Emmitt Smith, this year's luncheon will feature the ever-popular Pink Daisy Pick Wine Pull Raffle, the Wall of Strength for tributes to your favorite people, a fabulous amenity for every guest, and so much more!



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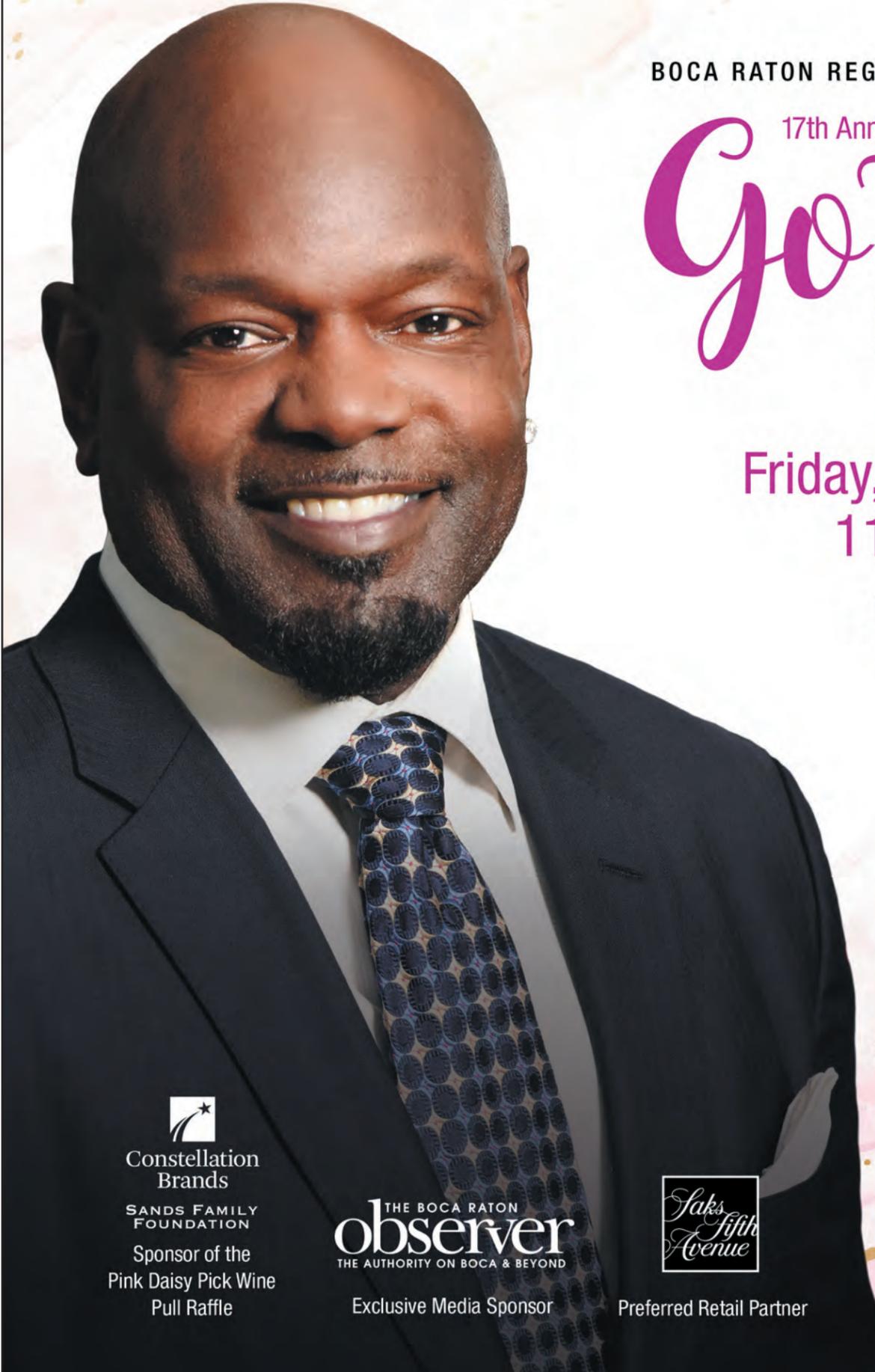
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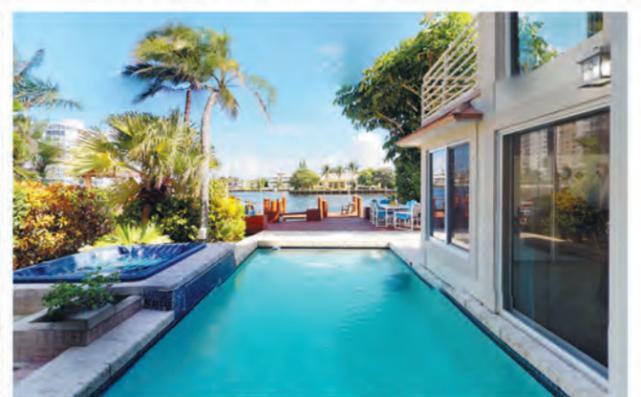
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Letters to the Editor

Bicyclists in packs are a danger on A1A

In your June/July article about bicycling on A1A, you only made a short statement referencing large groups of bikers. I find it very disturbing that I have observed over the past 10 years large groups of bicycles — 30 to 90 bikers — who ride in the middle of the street and will not move over for vehicles.

The law states they must ride one behind each other and only two side-by-side when passing and only when they do not interfere with traffic. Your article needed to put more on the laws currently on the books.

These large groups do not have a permit and are a danger to our streets. Even some of the local police have turned a blind eye to them. It leaves

the local resident to maneuver around them, putting them and oncoming traffic in danger.

You mention the new laws, saying the driver has to wait till a safe time to pass. In most cases that you mean, the large groups take control of the roads. And I would have to follow them for miles at a reduced speed. Not what the roads are for. If they want to act like they are in some race then do it off A1A. Do this in a race that blocks off the roads and has the proper permit.

I would like for you to do another article on how the large groups are a huge problem.

*Greg Harrington
Highland Beach*

Ocean Ridge commissioner clarifies position

Thank you for your coverage of not just our Ocean Ridge municipal meetings but all of our neighbors' meetings in your paper. An invaluable asset to the coastal communities.

In the article about the May 2021 Ocean Ridge commission meeting is one point I would like to clarify:

I object to the implication of my being a "de Haseth supporter." This implies there are factions in town with voting blocs. I hope that is not the case. I, for one, vote on issues before me, not in support of one or another fellow member. Where I agree with Mayor de Haseth, she will have my support and where

I agree with any of my other fellow commissioners, they will have my support.

We are five individuals mandated to make decisions with the best interest of our residents in mind. Most often they are unanimous decisions, and those that are not are done after hearing each other's arguments for or against. It is imperative to hear the arguments on critical issues, most important those with which we do not agree.

*Martin Wiescholek,
town commissioner
Ocean Ridge*

Corrections

A June/July story about bicycle safety incorrectly reported that charges against a man accused of reckless driving were dismissed because a Manalapan police officer failed to attend the trial. The case was dismissed because a witness failed to attend the trial. The officer was in attendance at the driver's traffic infraction trial, which was held on Zoom.

In a June/July story on the contentious Ocean Ridge Town Commission meeting held in May, two items were incorrect:

Vice Mayor Susan Hurlbert made the motion to delay nominations to the Board of Adjustment; she also made the motion to approve the nominees following the commission vote.

In a statement about the last-minute withdrawal of a BOA member, the order of what transpired was incorrect: Carolyn Cassidy hand-submitted her application for a seat shortly before board member Polly Joa's withdrawal of her intent to remain on the board.



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Along the Coast

Officials awaiting final U.S. guidance before using pandemic rescue money

By Mary Hladky

The massive \$1.9 trillion American Rescue Plan is providing much-welcomed relief to southeastern Palm Beach County cities and towns strained by the COVID-19 pandemic, but they aren't rushing to spend the money.

They are proceeding carefully and deliberately, soliciting input from their communities on what the biggest needs are and matching that against U.S. Department of Treasury guidance on what they can use the money for.

Cities and towns are heeding advice from both the Treasury Department and the National League of Cities to take it slow so they make the best use of the money and avoid errors that would compel them to return funds spent on ineligible projects.

They are not under pressure to make decisions quickly. The Treasury Department gives them until Dec. 31, 2024, to obligate the money and until Dec. 31, 2026, to spend it.

Municipal leaders are awaiting final rules on how the money can be spent from the Treasury Department, which accepted comments on how they would like to see the rules changed until July 16.

"We will be cautious. We will vet it out," said Boynton Beach City Manager Lori LaVerriere.

"We are going at a measured pace," said Boca Raton Mayor Scott Singer. "We are not rushing to spend it all immediately. We are going to take the appropriate amount of time to get it right."

Ocean Ridge Town Manager Tracey Stevens said she told her town commission, "You don't want to make your decisions quickly. Let's wait for the final rule and then we can move forward."

But that doesn't mean municipal officials are sitting on their hands. They already have good ideas on what they would like to use the money, and at least some have projects that could be implemented quickly.

But the process hasn't been easy. The initial Treasury guidance issued in May was 151 pages long, and its list of answers to frequently asked questions kept growing over the summer.

"We have spent hours and hours reading this," LaVerriere said. "It is really intense."

"It is going to be a tremendous amount of work. But it will also be, if we do it right, a tremendous impact on the community. We can do some amazing things with it."

South Palm Beach Town Manager Robert Kellogg said in early July that he had read the guidance at least four times and finds it understandable.

His issue is that the rules provide his town with limited opportunities to spend the money, and he hopes the Treasury Department makes them more flexible.

Kellogg thinks that other small towns likely are facing the same problem. "I am hopeful as this progresses, they will ease up on restrictions," he said.

Stevens was considering hiring a grants administrator to ride herd over the process and keep up with reporting requirements. The legislation allows cities to use some of the money they receive to do that.

For Briny Breezes Town Manager William Thrasher, any headaches that come along with

ARP funds are manageable considering the town stands to gain about \$242,000.

"I am sure I can work through the problems for that," he said. "That is a lot of money for Briny."

The ARP allocates \$130.2 billion for cities and counties, with cities and towns receiving half of that. The first tranche of money already has gone out, with the rest arriving next year. Of that, southeast Palm Beach County cities and towns will get almost \$48 million.

The amount going to the biggest cities has been revised from the initial estimates released by the House Committee on Oversight and Reform. Boca Raton will receive \$12.2 million, Delray Beach \$11 million and Boynton Beach \$13.6 million.

The process is different for small towns. The Treasury Department is sending money they will receive to the state, which will divvy it up largely based on population and send it out.

The ARP allows municipalities to use the funds to cover costs incurred responding to the COVID-19 public health crisis and to replace tax dollars lost during the pandemic. If cities laid off workers because of budget shortfalls, the money can be used to bring them back to work.

Money can go to provide "premium pay" for essential workers who worked long overtime hours and were subjected to health risks because they could not work remotely.

The ARP supports economic recovery by allowing municipalities to provide financial assistance to households, small businesses and nonprofits, and to impacted industries such as tourism, travel and hospitality.

Municipalities also can make investments in improving water, sewer and broadband infrastructure. But since these types of infrastructure aren't necessarily neatly located within a city's boundaries, a regional approach might be needed.

One example of the range of expenses and programs that can be paid for under the bill, approved by Congress on March 10, is the category of COVID-19 mitigation efforts.

They include vaccination programs, testing, contact tracing, isolation or quarantine expenses, personal protective equipment, giving vulnerable populations access to medical or public health services, surveillance of coronavirus variants, enforcement of public health orders, communication to the public, expanding health care facilities, prevention programs in schools and congregate living facilities, improving public health data systems, and ventilation improvements in health care facilities.

The ARP also spells out what the money can't be used for.

Cities can't cut taxes and then replace the lost revenue with ARP money.

They can't make a deposit into a pension fund to reduce an accrued, unfunded liability. They can't use it to pay off financial indebtedness such as a loan.

Other ineligible uses include using the money to fund debt service, pay legal settlements or judgments, or to put the money into rainy day or reserve accounts.

Infrastructure spending is limited to water, sewer and broadband. ★

No September edition

In light of the economic slowdown related to COVID-19, we have combined the August / September editions of *The Coastal Star*.

We will return to every-month publishing with the October edition.

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Delray Beach

New manager finds home in city, pledges to be 'effective, responsive'

By Jane Smith

When Terrence Moore stepped into his city manager position Aug. 2, he was the fifth manager in eight years for Delray Beach. When interim staffers are included in the count, the number jumps to 11.



"I can provide stability," Moore, 51, told *The Coastal Star* on July 20. When he left his city manager position in College Park, Georgia, on March 2 he was that city's longest continuous serving manager.

The College Park City Council offers only one-year contracts for its city manager. Moore, who had been with the city for eight years, decided against asking for another year and put himself on the city

manager market.

His city manager experience also includes a five-year stint in Las Cruces, New Mexico, and a six-year run in Sebastian.

In addition, he will live up to his promise to buy a home in Delray Beach. He has selected a townhouse in the Legacy community, west of the interstate. Moore said the closing would take place at the end of August.

"I will be a true, vested stakeholder by owning and living in the city," Moore told commissioners in early June. "I can be more effective and responsive. ... Delray deserves nothing less."

His base salary is \$230,000, less than those of the two previous city managers, who were both fired by the commission. Mark Lauzier made \$235,000 and George Gretsas started at \$265,000.

At the June 10 special

commission meeting held to vote on Moore's contract, City Attorney Lynn Gelin said, "Negotiations went very smoothly. It was actually a pleasure. It's fair to him and very fair to the city."

Gelin also negotiated the compensation package for Gretsas. She told commissioners it favored Gretsas, not the city. But they hired Gretsas.

Moore also will receive 14% of his salary, or \$32,200, into his retirement account, \$600 monthly for a car allowance, moving expenses from College Park not to exceed \$7,500, and \$2,000 a month for six months for temporary living expenses.

He initially faced three challengers for job. His competitors were: Michael Bornstein, ex-city manager of Lake Worth Beach and former town manager of Lantana; Joseph Napoli, city manager of Cooper City in Broward County

and one of the Delray manager finalists in 2019 when the job went to Gretsas; and Leonard Sossamon, Port Richey interim manager who was fired in August 2019 as administrator of Hernando County, just north of Tampa.

The morning of the commission interviews, June 8, Napoli unexpectedly dropped out. He sent an email at 7:48 a.m. that day saying he wished no longer to be considered.

Vice Mayor Shirley Johnson, who supported Napoli, gave a cryptic comment at the start of the June 8 meeting, congratulating all those who were involved in getting him to pull his name from consideration.

Johnson then grilled Bornstein, who has 23 years of city manager experience in Palm Beach County, about his role in clearing out immigrants and senior citizens from mobile

home parks in Lake Worth Beach.

Bornstein said, "There were lots of un-permitted additions and health and safety violations. ... It was never the intent to move people out of their homes."

Moore, though, tugged at the commissioners' heartstrings when he talked about growing up on the South Side of Chicago without a father and being raised by his grandmother. She recently died, he said, his eyes watering.

He earned his undergraduate degree in economics and a master's in public administration from the University of Illinois.

In Delray Beach, Moore plans to spend time on community assessment, which he defined as "matters related to roads, finances and visiting job sites to find out how Delray Beach is viewed. ... I will address all concerns about utilities."

The city faces a proposed \$1.8 million fine from the Palm Beach County branch of the Florida Department of Health for its botched reclaimed water program. Delray Beach also needs a new water treatment plant and is in the process of figuring out how to pay for it.

Moore, who was on a house-hunting trip during the first week of July, came to the July 6 commission meeting with his two sons and proudly introduced them. Parker, an incoming sophomore, is a dean's list student at Texas A&M, and Grant is an incoming high school sophomore who plays football. Moore is divorced. His sons will spend school breaks in Delray Beach.

Lauzier's trial coming up

Although they haven't been in the manager's office for months, Delray Beach's two previous city managers are still around the area.

Lauzier, fired on March 3, 2019, sued the city in April 2019 for wrongful dismissal. He asked for a jury trial. Those trials were suspended for much of 2020 after the city and counties nationwide shut down because of the coronavirus. His lawsuit has an Aug. 6 hearing, and the trial is expected to be scheduled for sometime between Aug. 16 and Sept. 10.

Gretsas, fired on Nov. 20, could not be reached for comment. He resides in Fort Lauderdale with his family.

The next position for interim City Manager Jennifer Alvarez will be determined by Moore.

Alvarez recently received a 5% increase in her salary that was converted to 13 sick days. The City Commission gave her the raise at its July 13 meeting in recognition for her "stepping up" to fill the city manager role. Alvarez had asked for six weeks' worth of sick days. Commissioners also agreed to evaluate her work by mid-August. ★

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Highland Beach/Delray Beach

Town's move to start own fire department turns emotional

By Rich Pollack

As Highland Beach moves forward with its plan to start its own fire department and sever its service contract with Delray Beach, both sides are discovering that breaking up is hard to do.

In recent weeks, two complaints about how Delray Beach handled emergency calls have surfaced at Town Commission meetings, leading Delray Beach Fire Chief Keith Tomey to wonder out loud if there was a concerted effort to discredit his department.

At the same time, the two governments could be heading into a contract dispute over whether Delray Beach has the right to add four lieutenants to the 22.5 personnel assigned to the station it operates in Highland Beach, which would increase the town's cost in the next fiscal year by 17%.

"Separation from a long-term contract isn't always easy to do," said Highland Beach Town Manager Marshall Labadie. "Emotions tend to take hold during the process."

The emotions are surfacing at a time when Highland Beach is charging ahead with its plan. The town hired Glenn Joseph, a former Boynton Beach fire chief and Boca Raton deputy fire chief, as a consultant to help with implementation. It hired a marketing firm to help develop educational materials and coordinate events.

Commissioners in early August also developed ballot language that will come before voters in November and, if

approved, would authorize the town to spend up to \$10 million to implement a new fire department. A second option on the November ballot would authorize the town to spend funds necessary to operate the department.

Complaints surface

As the transition continues, Tomey has come forward to defend his department's personnel and reiterate that the high level of service Highland Beach receives has not changed.

In July, Tomey appeared before the Highland Beach Commission to voice his concern about a letter written to the town and included in the publicly available agenda package. In the letter, resident Stewart Perlow complained about seeing a neighbor fall as he got out of the fire department's rescue truck.

Perlow wrote that the crew on the truck was negligent in allowing the resident to get out unassisted.

But Tomey said the paramedics on the truck told the resident to wait for them to help and he did not do so. The chief said he believed the town should not have posted the letter publicly and may have violated HIPAA requirements in doing so.

"This complaint and the way it was handled was to publicly disgrace the department," Tomey said.

The town did remove the name of the resident from the letter, but Labadie said that Highland Beach was simply honoring Perlow's request to have the letter included in the public comment section of the commission meeting.

At an earlier meeting, Vice Mayor Natasha Moore noted that she was jogging in early June when she saw a bicyclist get hit by a turning car across the street from the fire station.

She said she rang the doorbell at the fire station at about 8:15 a.m. and knocked on the door but got no response for several minutes. Police officers from the town responded and paramedics from the station were eventually dispatched and gave aid to the bicyclist, who suffered only minor injuries.

Tomey, at the meeting, acknowledged that the doorbell at the station was broken — which he said was the town's responsibility — and that signage pointing to a call box that would have connected Moore to dispatchers was not as obvious as it should have been. Both issues have since been addressed.

After researching the call, Tomey said that the paramedics were dispatched at 8:20 and were treating the bicyclist by 8:21.

Moore said she believes it was important for her to raise her concerns about the response so any issues could be addressed.

"When something doesn't go well, we need to give specific feedback," she said. "I agree that Delray provides a high level of service and my expectation is that they'll continue with that level of service."

Tomey says that is exactly what will happen and wants the town to know that his firefighters and paramedics are just as committed to that goal as he is.

"Delray Beach Fire Rescue is providing

the high level of service we always have," he said. "We're going to be professional."

Dispute about rising cost

To continue that high level of service, Tomey and his staff say it's important to expand the number of personnel on the rescue vehicle from two to three, which is how other stations operated by Delray Beach are staffed.

He said that had a third person been on the rescue vehicle during the incident Perlow cited, the man probably would have been prevented from leaving the vehicle unattended and falling.

In sending Highland Beach the budget projection for service in the coming fiscal year, Delray Beach officials included the four additional lieutenants, resulting in a 17% cost increase over the current amount, or about \$782,000 more.

In response, Labadie sent a letter to Delray Beach saying the town is not interested in paying for the additional personnel and asking for a revised budget projection without the 17% increase. Delray Beach recently responded to Labadie by saying it continues to request the 17% increase.

Delray Beach has argued that under the contract it can adjust staffing as it sees necessary. Labadie doesn't disagree but doesn't believe the financial responsibility for that change would fall on Highland Beach.

"They can change staffing but they can't unilaterally change the cost structure of the contract," Labadie said. ★

Along the Coast

Taxable values beat estimate, rise almost as much as in prior year

By Mary Hladky

The taxable value of Palm Beach County properties jumped higher than Property Appraiser Dorothy Jacks estimated in May, defying fears that the coronavirus pandemic would deal a harsh blow.

The preliminary tax roll that Jacks' office submitted to the

state Department of Revenue on June 24 showed that countywide taxable values increased by 5.8% from 2020 to 2021, just under last year's 5.9% rise and above the May estimate of 5.05%.

That translates to a total countywide taxable value of \$222.1 billion, up nearly \$12 billion from last year and including \$3.2 billion in new

construction added to the tax roll.

This marks the 10th year in a row that taxable values have increased.

Jacks had expected last year that the taxable value of commercial properties such as office buildings, hotels and restaurants would take a hit because of the pandemic.

That proved true but not across the board. Hotels and entertainment venues such as movie theaters and bowling alleys were hit hard, but warehousing remained strong. Restaurants suffered, but fast-food eateries with drive-thru did well.

The commercial declines were offset by an increase in

the taxable value of residential properties which began to improve at the end of last year.

"It may be difficult to recall the uncertainty of COVID-19's disruptions on real estate markets last spring, especially as residential values saw a strong rebound at the end of 2020," Jacks said in announcing the updated numbers. "However, other sectors continue to recover at a slower pace."

The valuations are good news for municipal officials, who are in the process of crafting budgets and setting tax rates for the fiscal year that begins Oct. 1.

Officials use taxable values to calculate how much property tax money they can expect in the coming year. A decline in values would have meant less tax revenue coming in, which would have forced difficult budget and tax rate decisions.

All 10 cities and towns in southeast Palm Beach County realized taxable value gains, although seven saw smaller increases than last year's.

Boca Raton was up 3.8%, Boynton Beach 5.2% and Delray Beach 5.3%.

Briny Breezes increased by 10.4%, Gulf Stream 2.5%, Highland Beach 3.5%, Lantana 9.3%, Manalapan 7.2%, Ocean Ridge 4.5% and South Palm Beach 4.4%. ★



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Gulf Stream

Town may borrow money for only second time in history

By Steve Plunkett

The town may take a loan to shave a year off its ambitious 10-year capital improvement plan for better streets and drainage.

Town commissioners on July 9 discussed borrowing perhaps \$2.6 million to speed work in the Core area from three years to two.

“Money’s available — it’s inexpensive,” Commissioner Paul Lyons said.

Gulf Stream has borrowed money only once before: \$2.43 million in 2012 to get its undergrounding project started.

The idea of a short-term loan arose after Baxter & Woodman consulting engineer Rebecca Travis reviewed the status of the plan and recommended splitting work in the Core area into west and east portions instead of the original north-south division.

“I know some of the residents, not all, are going to be like, ‘Why can’t you do it all at once if we’re going to have the disruption?’” Vice Mayor Thomas Stanley said.

Commissioner Joan Orthwein agreed.

“People on the west side are going to have a beautiful new road,” she said, “and the people on the east side are going to be, ‘Well, what happened to us?’”

Baxter and Woodman’s revised plan includes replacing a 24-inch drainage pipe with a 48-inch pipe next year from the road to the canal behind 3500 Polo Drive. To sweeten the odds of getting permission from the South Florida Water Management District, the engineers propose enlarging a .25-acre lake at The Little Club to .5 acre. The district does not consider a lake smaller than .5

acre as helping drainage.

Both projects will add \$710,000 to the \$10.3 million capital improvement plan. Gulf Stream also spent \$305,000 last year for minor drainage work.

The engineers and town officials are negotiating with The Little Club on how to minimize effects on the golf course from expanding the lake.

Also in 2022, the revised plan calls for reconstructing roadways and installing new water mains on Old School Road, Polo Drive, Middle Road and Golfview Drive west of Polo, Palm Way, Banyan Road west of Gulfstream Road, and Wright Way. Projected price: \$3.2 million.

In 2023 the engineers will design and get permits for similar work on Sea Road, Gulfstream, Bermuda Lane, Oleander Way, Middle Road

and Golfview east of Polo, Banyan east of Gulfstream, and Lakeview Drive. Construction would follow in 2024. Price tag: \$2.6 million.

Options if commissioners decide to borrow money include pushing the design of the east portion up to 2022 with construction in 2023. Lyons and Rebecca Tew, the town’s chief financial officer, will crunch numbers for the commission’s Aug. 13 meeting.

In other business:

- Commissioners set a tentative property tax rate at the rollback rate, \$3.67 per \$1,000 of taxable value, which will generate the same \$4.6 million in taxes as last year. Town Manager Greg Dunham said his budget includes \$10,000 for new carpet in the commission chambers and a 4% cost-of-living raise for town employees.

Gulf Stream has adopted the rollback rate or below for the past six years.

- In June, Assistant Town Attorney Trey Nazzaro told commissioners that a majority of Gulf Stream’s 10 police officers have petitioned the town to unionize and the county Police Benevolent Association filed a similar request with the state Public Employees Relations Commission. Once PERC decides what union would represent the department, the officers will vote on whether to join. Nazzaro had no update in July.

- Assistant Town Clerk Renee Basel was promoted to deputy clerk in July after earning her certified municipal clerk designation the month before.

- The town anticipates receiving \$413,000 in American Rescue Plan funds. ★

Lawn sprinklers the likely culprit behind low water pressure

By Rich Pollack

The water is once again flowing during early morning hours in Jim Gammon and Margo Stahl Gammon’s fourth-floor apartment at the Gulfstream Shores Condominium.

For months the couple, as well as most other residents in the 54-unit oceanfront community, struggled to get water to come out of the faucets — usually between 4 and 6 a.m.

But now, thanks to some pre-dawn sleuthing by town police, the pressure is strong enough to ensure water streams through the pipes.

“It’s not great, but at least we have water,” said Stahl Gammon. “It’s getting better and it will get better.”

The cause of the low water pressure, it seems, may be a combination of Mother Nature turning off the rain spigot in April and May and residents watering lawns when they shouldn’t have been.

“We found that the most prevalent explanation is that people are not paying attention to when they’re allowed to water lawns,” Town Manager Greg Dunham said.

Under the current town restrictions, irrigation is permitted only three days a week during non-daylight

hours. Addresses ending in odd numbers may water on Monday, Wednesday and Saturday while even-numbered addresses may water on Tuesday, Thursday and Sunday.

Irrigation is prohibited on Friday, but that hasn’t stopped some residents from running the sprinklers on that day of the week.

“We found some houses that water every day,” Dunham said.

To determine which homes may be in violation of the town rules, Dunham dispatched police officers working in the early morning hours to keep a record of where sprinklers were running when they shouldn’t have been.

“There are some houses that we know are in violation,” he said. “We’ll be contacting them personally.”

The improved water pressure at Gulfstream Shores could be

a result of residents turning off their irrigation systems because of the increase in days of rain.

Dunham thinks it could also be that some residents are paying attention to a message in the town’s newsletter reminding them to follow the watering restrictions.

“We encourage all property owners to disable scheduled irrigation when rainfall increases and to follow the mandatory conservation measures,” the town wrote.

“That probably has registered with some homeowners,” Dunham said, adding that the town will keep an eye out for those who aren’t following the rules.

Although the town could fine people who violate the water restrictions, the town manager said that’s unlikely.

“We don’t anticipate having to do that,” he said. “Our goal

is compliance.”

A project about to begin in town, the installation of smart water meters, may help Gulf Stream get a better handle on water usage by homes since information from the meters will be accessible remotely.

Dunham said that because it appears over-irrigation plays a role in water pressure problems at Gulfstream Shores, the town will no longer consider asking its engineering consultants to

investigate the issue.

The board at the condominium, however, is continuing to look seriously into purchasing booster pumps that would help ensure residents like the Gammons have water even during times of heavy irrigation.

If they decide to go that route, board members hope to have the pumps installed prior to the return of winter residents who own the majority of units. ★



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The next edition of *The Coastal Star* will be distributed the weekend of **Oct. 1**

Along the Coast

Crime in coastal communities remained low in 2020

By Rich Pollack

Reported crimes in 2020 vs. 2019

Crime in the small towns of coastal South Palm Beach County remained low in 2020, thanks in large part to a reduction in burglaries that could be attributed to more people staying home during the pandemic.

The number of serious crimes dropped in Highland Beach and Manalapan, according to statistics compiled by Florida Department of Law Enforcement, while the number of crimes in Gulf Stream, South Palm Beach and Ocean Ridge — which includes Briny Breezes — increased.

The five towns accounted for a total of 96 crimes, 21 fewer than the 117 reported in 2019, with larcenies and auto thefts accounting for the bulk of the incidents.

In the small towns, there were 14 reported burglaries — 10 in Ocean Ridge — compared to 17 the previous year.

The area's larger cities all saw decreases in burglaries, while Boca Raton, Boynton Beach and Lantana all

City/Town		Total crimes	Murder	Rape	Robbery	Aggravated assault	Burglary	Larceny	Vehicle theft
Boca Raton	2020	2,202	2	35	67	102	191	1,573	232
	2019	2,369	3	36	63	84	244	1,769	170
Boynton Beach	2020	2,317	9	20	105	389	153	1,468	173
	2019	3,184	4	30	120	412	254	2,147	217
Delray Beach	2020	2,813	5	31	67	298	245	1,929	238
	2019	2,754	5	33	87	211	299	1,914	205
Gulf Stream	2020	26	0	0	0	0	2	13	11
	2019	17	0	0	0	2	2	12	1
Highland Beach	2020	12	0	0	0	1	0	9	2
	2019	44	0	2	0	2	6	28	6
Lantana	2020	512	2	6	24	54	39	361	26
	2019	639	0	8	23	47	48	470	43
Manalapan	2020	13	0	0	0	0	2	10	1
	2019	21	0	0	0	3	3	15	0
Ocean Ridge*	2020	38	0	1	0	3	10	17	7
	2019	32	0	0	0	1	6	20	5
South Palm	2020	7	0	1	0	1	0	5	0
	2019	3	0	0	0	0	0	3	0

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

saw decreases in the total number of crimes reported. Delray Beach had a slight increase in total crimes, in large part due to auto thefts and larcenies.

Highland Beach reported the biggest drop in crime from 2019, with only 12 incidents reported compared to 44 the previous year.

Overall, Palm Beach County reported a 10.3% drop in serious crime, while the state reported a 14.1% decrease. ★

The Coastal Star wins top investigative award — plus 19 others

Statewide honors include 9 first places

By Larry Barszewski

The Coastal Star took home 20 Florida Press Association awards during ceremonies July 16, including the top investigative prize for its coverage of Delray Beach's

troubled water system.

Judges in the annual competition said the paper's reporting on Delray's water situation "provided a valuable public service that showed how the government ineptitude put people at risk."

In addition to receiving the Claudia Ross Memorial Award for investigative reporting, The

Coastal Star won eight other first-place awards, including four for feature writer Ron Hayes. The paper received five second-place and six third-place awards.

The investigative award was a staff award because of the number of people involved in the coverage, which occurred over an eight-month period.

Coastal Star Executive Editor Mary Kate Leming said two reporters played the largest roles.

"This project wouldn't have happened without Jane Smith doing excellent digging and Rich Pollack doing exemplary explanatory journalism," Leming told colleagues in announcing the award.

"This was an extensive dive into a complicated story of public malfeasance and incompetence over a public water system," FPA judges said. "As The Coastal Star reported, people and pets were sickened, but the city did not report the problems to health authorities until long after they realized what had happened."

The Coastal Star, a monthly publication, competed in the 2021 FPA Weekly Newspaper Contest Awards against large weeklies in the state with circulations above 15,000.

"Covering the people and governments of our coastal community is our mission and it was encouraging to see these efforts recognized by judges from across the nation — especially during a global pandemic," Leming said.

"The experience and talent our journalists bring to the newspaper deserve awards every single issue. Congratulations to them all."

The complete list of award winners from The Coastal Star:

Ron Hayes: First place for Community History (*100 Years of Boynton*), Faith & Family Reporting (*Lessons from "Happy" and "Kind," two nuns named Elizabeth at St. Vincent Ferrer*); Feature Story Non-Profile (*Meals on Wheels goes extra mile to serve WWII vet*); and Feature Story Profile (*HERbert: Rescued legless crab becomes internet sensation*).

Charles Elmore: First place for General News Story

(*Overdose deaths double in Delray during pandemic*).

Larry Barszewski: First place for Agricultural & Environmental Reporting (*The great Sea Grape debate*).

Deborah S. Hartz-Seeley: First place for Serious Column (*Hallowed ground, the evolution of the National Cemetery*).

Rachel S. O'Hara: First place for Photo Series in One Issue (*Paws up for pets, drive-up pet blessing*).

Larry Keller: Second place for Agricultural & Environmental Reporting (for three stories about sea turtles) and for In-Depth Reporting Non-Investigative (*Feds accuse doctor of \$681 million fraud in substance abuse treatment billings*).

Steve Plunkett: Second place for Local Government Reporting (for articles about the Ocean Strand and about a duck that died) and third place for Roads & Transportation Reporting (for articles about Interstate 95 and about Tesla car popularity).

Mary Hladky: Second place for COVID-19 General News Story (*Empty reality of virus fallout hits home*).

Mary Thurwachter: Third place for Arts, Entertainment & Review Reporting (*Tabloid Tattle: Former National Enquirer staffers tell all in "Scandalous"*).

Rich Pollack: Third place for Outdoor & Recreation Reporting (for articles about local parks).

Staff: First place for Investigative Reporting (for articles and graphics about water woes in Delray Beach); second place for Page Design; and third place for General Excellence, Overall Graphic Design, and for COVID-19 Feature Story (*Reflections from the front line*). ★

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Along the Coast

New law limits cyclists to single file on narrow stretches of A1A

Seeking consistency in enforcement, chiefs ask state for clarity

By Joe Capozzi

Police chiefs in Palm Beach County's coastal communities are seeking clarification on how changes to state law affect bicyclists on State Road A1A.

The law that took effect July 1, following the passage of Senate Bill 950, has a host of new regulations for bicyclists and motorists, including a requirement for bicyclists to ride single file in substandard-width lanes, such as those found along most of State Road A1A, and no more than two abreast in wider lanes.

"We want to make sure everybody is on the same sheet of music," said Ocean Ridge Police Chief Hal Hutchins.

"Everybody wants to do it [enforcement] in the same manner so there is consistency and there is no confusion. Once we nail everything down, we will start to get our officers involved with it and do some public service campaigns."

When the legislation went into effect July 1, the chiefs reached out to the Florida Department of Transportation for an explanation of how it affects their enforcement.

"We told them. 'It's a state road and how do you want this enforced? What's the message? What's the law if the law is modified?'" said Highland Beach Police Chief Craig Hartmann. "We all deal with the same FDOT roadway that runs through our towns. We are trying to get some response from FDOT and how they assist us — because it's not a one-municipality issue. It's a state road issue from Broward County on up."

Ocean Ridge, Manalapan and Highland Beach are among the police departments planning to attend a virtual meeting Aug. 11 with the FDOT and the offices of Sen. Lauren Book and Rep. Christine Hunschofsky, who co-sponsored the legislation.

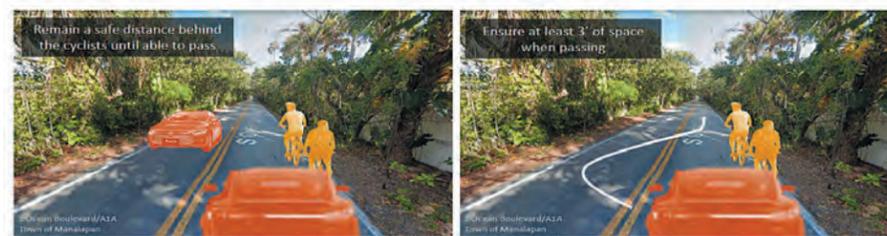
"Our hope is that a productive conversation can be facilitated to help everyone come to a mutual

Single File with No Bike Lane



Bicyclist must ride as close as practicable to the right-hand curb or edge of roadway.

Car Overtaking Bicycle or E-Bike



Changed F.S. 316.0875 - No Passing Zones: allow motorists to safely and briefly drive to the left of the center of the roadway to pass cyclists with a minimum of 3' passing distance

A couple of provisions in the new law are **TOP:** Bicyclists riding on substandard-width roads, ones without designated bike lanes, must ride single file except when passing each other. **ABOVE:** Motorists are allowed to cross a yellow center line when passing cyclists, making sure to keep at least 3 feet of separation from the cyclists. **Renderings provided by Palm Beach Transportation Planning Agency**

understanding of the current laws," Angel Gonzalez, a legislative assistant to Book, wrote July 14 in an email to Manalapan Police Chief Carmen Mattox.

The new legislation "makes it clear that bicycles shall ride in a single file while traveling on substandard roads" like the stretches of A1A in Manalapan, Ocean Ridge and Highland Beach, Mattox said July 16 in a report to the Town Commission. A1A in Gulf Stream also fits the definition of substandard.

Mattox said he asked FDOT to post new signs "mandating single-file travel" but the agency would not. He then reached out to Book's office for help.

"This issue affects many more towns than Manalapan. I have reached out to other coastal communities to request their involvement to help me find a

solution," he said in his report.

A "substandard-width lane is a lane that is too narrow for a bicycle and another vehicle to travel safely side by side within the lane," according to the law. The FDOT design manual lists 4 feet as the minimum width for a designated bike lane.

On substandard-width lanes, "persons riding bicycles may temporarily ride two abreast only to avoid hazards in the roadway or to overtake another person riding a bicycle," the statute says.

Mattox sent Book's office a series of photographs, taken on a Saturday morning in July from town cameras along A1A, showing packs of bicyclists in the vehicular travel lanes.

"My goal is to have FDOT install signage informing the bicyclist to travel

in single-file lanes," he said in his report.

"This is a multi-jurisdictional issue occurring on a state roadway. I believe it requires the assistance of the state police to address and enforce the new law.

Enforcement is difficult due to the large number of bicyclists overwhelming the number of officers enforcing the law."

A unified message from FDOT will help coastal towns educate the public, the chiefs say.

"The bicycle clubs ride legally and correctly. It's some of the loosely affiliated groups that come through that get together in a pack and end up in the roadway," Hartmann said.

Hutchins said some FDOT signs along A1A say bicyclists cannot ride more than two abreast. He wondered if those signs are in conflict with the new law.

The new law also spells out changes affecting motorists, including:

- No passing zones no longer apply to motorists who drive to the left of center to overtake a bicycle, provided the motorist gives at least 3 feet passing clearance.

- A vehicle making a right turn while passing a cyclist can do so only if the cyclist is at least 20 feet from the intersection and at a safe distance for the driver to make the turn.

- Cyclists riding in groups, after coming to a full stop at lights, may proceed through an intersection in groups of 10 or fewer. Motorists must let one group pass before proceeding.

Many people aren't aware of the new law, but public agencies are starting to get the word out.

The Palm Beach Transportation Planning Agency offered a presentation to its governing board in July.

"I typically ride in a group of two, just me and my husband, or up to about six to eight, and we are always considerate, always following the rules of the road," West Palm Beach Commissioner Christina Lambert said at the TPA presentation. "But many times we are met with aggressive drivers who do not want bicyclists on the road, so I think the more we can do to help educate to keep everyone safe, the better off we will be." ★

Manalapan

Town hires firm for sewer conversion study, hopes to tap grant money

By Joe Capozzi

Hoping to tap grant dollars available due to the coronavirus pandemic, Manalapan commissioners are trying to get a head start on an ambitious project they believe is inevitable — replacing the town's septic tanks with a municipal sewer system.

"It's going to happen and we already have word coming down" from state agencies "that sooner or later all barrier islands will be forced to make that transition. We want to do it before we are being forced to. We want to control our investment," Mayor Keith Waters said.

What kind of system, how much it will cost and who will pay for it won't be known until the engineering firm Mock Roos completes an analysis of

all options.

The report is due by Jan. 23 at the latest, according to a \$93,350 consulting services agreement approved by the Town Commission on July 23.

The town started seriously considering the project two years ago before deferring those discussions.

"Now with COVID, suddenly there are all these piles of money out there for infrastructure, so we are trying to capitalize on that," Waters said in an interview after the July meeting. "We've never really taken it to this point."

The costs will depend on what type of sewer system the commissioners choose and whether they include moving or adding other utilities — such as power lines, fiber-optic cables, natural gas pipes, stormwater drains — underground while

the streets are torn up.

Construction alone could take four years and require tearing up every street in town at one time or another.

"The preference is to do everything at one time if possible. It's just a matter of finding the money to do it," Waters said.

Waters said he'd like to avoid a special assessment on residents. Some portion of it could be paid for with property taxes. But the hope is to cover most if not all of the costs with state or federal money.

Mock Roos will consider three collection systems: gravity, vacuum and low pressure.

"It's likely the low pressure system is gonna be the right system for the town," John Cairnes, a senior project engineer for Mock Roos, told

commissioners. "The low pressure system gives you the ability to have people connect later on. You put the main trunk in the road and people can connect to it whenever they need to."

The firm's final report will guide the town as it applies for grants.

"We will get the funding to make this happen. But it's going to be a process and the biggest process is looking at the overall cost and choosing the right system," Waters said.

The report "allows us to go and start making the formal requests that we are not able to right now."

In other business:

- Commissioners approved a tentative tax rate of \$3.17 per \$1,000 of taxable value, the same as the current one, for the fiscal year that starts Oct. 1. Budget

hearings will be held Sept. 17 and Sept. 28.

"I like the thought of keeping the millage rate exactly where it is, maybe a little bit lower. We may even contemplate taking that down just a touch," Waters said at a budget workshop July 22.

The town's taxable value increased 7.2% to just under \$1.5 billion (\$1,493,978,117), according to the latest estimates from the Palm Beach County property appraiser.

- Town Manager Linda Stumpf said negotiations on a police contract are at an impasse and will be referred to a special master. The union objected to the town's coronavirus policy. "They felt it was prohibitive when cases were going down, which is not the case," she said. ★

Boca Raton

New public relations consultant paid \$4,500 fine in ethics settlement

By Mary Hladky

The Greater Boca Raton Beach and Park District has hired a former West Palm Beach communications director, who was fined \$4,500 last year for violating state ethics laws, to handle its public relations work.

Elliot Cohen, now principal of My PR Guru in Boca Raton, and the state's Commission on Ethics agreed to settle the ethics case in 2019, with Cohen admitting to three violations and agreeing to pay a fine.

The case arose from a complaint filed by the Palm Beach County Office of Inspector General, which had conducted its own investigation and issued a 40-page report in 2016 detailing Cohen's ethical and other lapses.

The ethics commission found probable cause that Cohen misused his public office to solicit business for a previous PR company he ran on the side, worked for a company that was in contract negotiations with the city while on the city's payroll, and solicited business for his company based on information he learned working for the city.

The case arose from a complaint filed by the Palm Beach County Office of Inspector General, which had conducted its own investigation and issued a 40-page report in 2016 detailing Cohen's ethical and other lapses.

The president of the county's police union called for Cohen to be fired, saying he had jeopardized lives. At least one confidential informant for the Drug Enforcement Administration was moved to a

safe location. City officials kept Cohen on the payroll.

The OIG said that Cohen should have known to redact confidential information, which was posted to the city's website in response to a public records request.

Beach and Park District commissioners voted unanimously on June 7 to approve a contract with Cohen on the recommendation of Executive Director Briann Harms.

In a memo to commissioners, Harms said a public relations firm was needed to provide residents with accurate information about the district.

She cited incorrect information reported to the media about district projects and unfair characterizations of the district's goals, priorities and financial abilities.

In an interview, Harms said she was aware of Cohen's ethics violations, saying they were "unfortunate" and that Cohen should have left his city job when he launched his company. "It happens," she said. "That doesn't make it right."

But Cohen's missteps won't interfere with what he will do for the district, she said. The work he has done for cities, Harms said, is comprehensive and "can give a message in a positive way that is easy to understand."

"There is a lot of misinformation out there that is disinformation," she said. "If we aren't controlling the narrative, someone else will."

Under terms of the contract, My PR Guru will be paid \$18,000 annually to do work similar to what the company is doing for South Miami, which includes writing a newsletter that is published on the city's website and on social media. He was hired by South Miami in December.

Harms used the terms of South Miami's contract, including the payment amount, rather than seek bids. South Miami solicited bids, and Cohen was the low bidder.

Cohen, a former TV news reporter, served as the public information officer for West Palm Beach for about eight months in 2005, leaving to become the director of media relations for the Broward County Sheriff's Office. He was rehired by West Palm Beach as PIO in 2012, promoted to communications director that year, and resigned in 2016.

The ethics commission found probable cause that Cohen improperly used his position with the city to solicit business for Cohen Publicity, his company at the time.

The commission concluded he offered his services to a Pahokee official after learning that the official had sought guidance from West Palm Beach on human resources and communications matters.

Also while working for the city, Cohen signed a contract with Redevelopment Management Associates in 2013 to provide public relations and marketing guidance. When RMA sought a contract with the city to run its Community Redevelopment Agency that year, Cohen told RMA he would suspend his work for the company until the contract was awarded.

But the ethics commission found that Cohen maintained contact with RMA officials and was paid by the company while he was also involved with the city's process of awarding the contract.

In a text message to *The Palm Beach Post* after he agreed to settle the case, Cohen said that "it was easier to simply settle and pay a fine" rather than "reconstruct the same explanations" he had given to the Palm Beach County Commission on Ethics, which cleared him in 2016.

The Beach and Park District and the city have an acrimonious relationship, with disputes including how to develop the Boca National golf course and, when that project became moot, what to do with the golf course property.

Golf course disagreements have obscured the important role that the district has in providing recreation to residents and the district's responsiveness to residents' requests, such as opening six pickleball courts at Patch Reef Park, Harms said.

A more robust public relations effort can highlight the district's achievements and explain how residents' tax money is being spent, she said.

"We need the public to understand what we do in this community and how we support (the city's) parks and recreation department," Harms said. ★



Cohen



**PUBLIC NOTICE
HIGHLAND BEACH ADVISORY
BOARDS VACANCIES**

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

BOARDS/COMMITTEES	VACANCIES / TERMS
<p>Board of Adjustment & Appeals The board hears appeals to decisions of administrative officers relating to zoning ordinances including variances.</p>	Two vacancies for three-year terms
<p>Code Enforcement Board The board hears cases involving violations of the Town Code and ordinances, and imposes administrative fines and other noncriminal penalties where a pending or repeated violation exists.</p>	One vacancy for a three-year term and five upcoming vacancies/reappointments for three-year terms
<p>Natural Resources Preservation Advisory Board The board provides constructive advice and counsel to town departments and boards, and to the town commission with a broad outlook toward environmental and natural resources preservation, protection, and conservation.</p>	One vacancy for a three-year term
<p>Planning Board The board acts in a decision-making capacity reviewing all matters of community planning, site plan reviews, plat reviews for subdivisions and any other division of land; and shall act in an advisory capacity making recommendations to the Town Commission pertaining to approval or denial of an application for development approval. It also serves as the local planning agency, pursuant to F.S. § 163.3161.</p>	One vacancy for an unexpired term ending April 30, 2022

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

Residents interested in serving on an Advisory Board or Committee can submit a Board Application to the Highland Beach Town Clerk's Office. Board Applications are available online at www.highlandbeach.us under Government, Our Commission, and Town Boards or in the Town Clerk's Office at 3614 South Ocean Boulevard, Highland Beach, Florida 33487.

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

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CLIMATE

Continued from page 1

Sea levels are forecast to rise 33 inches by 2070, according to mid-range projections by the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, causing a “near exponential increase” in the number of days of high tide flooding each year, the report states.

The third top threat is rising daytime and nighttime temperatures, which hit low-income and elderly people the hardest, the report says.

While previous assessments in South Florida have focused on sea level rise, the new study is more comprehensive, identifying 12 main threats.

It classifies sea level rise not as a threat in itself, but as a problem that exacerbates six of those threats — shoreline recession, tidal flooding, rainfall-induced flooding, storm surge, groundwater inundation and saltwater intrusion.

Other threats are algae blooms, pest and disease outbreaks, droughts, wildfires, extreme heat and high winds. Hurricane strengths will intensify and cause greater

destruction, the study predicts.

Flooding and rising seas are the “gravest threat” to the area’s economy, with flood-prone properties becoming less valuable, which in turn would reduce property tax revenue to municipalities, the report says.

Governments often finance improvements with bonds, and bond rating agencies are watching what local governments do, giving better ratings to those that invest in adaptation.

The study is intended to provide detailed, up-to-date information on the threats and to assess vulnerabilities in each city and town. That will help them identify what they can do to adapt to the changing climate and to mitigate damage and loss.

“Adaptation and mitigation will be a long process that will require sustained effort and concentration and hard work from us and everyone in this community,” Megan Houston, director of the county’s Office of Resilience, told county commissioners when the report was presented to them June 22.

Boca Raton, Highland Beach, Delray Beach, Ocean Ridge, Boynton Beach, Lantana, Lake Worth Beach and Palm Beach

County joined forces in 2019 to hire a consultant team to conduct the Climate Change Vulnerability Assessment. The team included Brizaga Inc., which develops adaptation solutions. The team worked in conjunction with sustainability managers and other city and town officials.

Briny Breezes, Manalapan and South Palm Beach did not participate.

The governments budgeted \$366,797 to conduct the assessment, augmented by two grants totaling nearly \$150,000 from the state Department of Environmental Protection.

The report comes amid extreme weather in the United States. In the Pacific Northwest and western Canada, a drought and a series of heat waves bringing triple-digit temperatures have fueled intense wildfires and claimed hundreds of lives in the Pacific Northwest and western Canada. The record-breaking heat even caused mussels, clams and other sea creatures to cook to death.

The cost of protecting cities and towns from the effects of climate change will be much more than each can do on its own.

The report urges government leaders to seek out state and federal grants to help pay for mitigation and to boost resiliency. As awareness of climate change increases, more money is becoming available.

Legislation signed by Gov. Ron DeSantis in May and appropriations in the state budget made available \$640 million to deal with the impacts of sea level rise, intensified storms and flooding.

Federal funding also is increasing. A \$3.5 trillion budget proposal, whose fate was uncertain in July, includes one of the biggest efforts that Congress has considered to address climate change.

Municipal officials described the 236-page assessment as very helpful.

“It is so useful to have that,” said Rebecca Harvey, Boynton Beach’s sustainability coordinator. “It elevates the awareness of the threats and what we can expect going into the future.”

The amount of information is so voluminous, “we are still absorbing this,” Harvey said. The next step, she said, is to present study results to city staff in all departments so that they

can integrate the information into their planning.

The report also recommended adaptation and mitigation strategies that they can use to take action, she said.

Boca Raton is taking similar steps. Nieratka said the city will incorporate the information into projects already underway and use it to identify and prioritize new projects. “I want to make it part of our process as we evaluate projects,” she said.

Ocean Ridge Town Manager Tracey Stevens said there is value in collaborating with other municipalities on the report.

“It is not something one town on its own can accomplish,” she said. “We can do better if we work together.”

Boynton Beach City Manager Lori LaVerriere said the report helps the city know where it is vulnerable.

Adaptation and mitigation “can’t be a back-burner thing,” she said. “Mother Nature will be forcing us to deal with it, like it or not.”

View the report executive summary on www.coastalresiliencepartnership.org. The full report is expected to be posted soon. ★

Along the Coast

Report identifies areas vulnerable to flooding, other extreme weather

The Climate Change Vulnerability Assessment study included key findings for each of the municipalities participating in the project, along with a list of buildings threatened. This is a partial list of the findings.

Boca Raton

81% of commercial properties in the north-central area of the city have medium or high vulnerability to rainfall-induced flooding.

80% of residential properties in the southwestern corner of the city have medium to high vulnerability to rain-induced flooding.

But residential properties are not as threatened elsewhere in the study area because they are more recently constructed.

65% of the residential properties in the eastern part of the city are vulnerable to storm surge inundation.

Buildings threatened by flooding, high winds or storm surge include Fire Rescue Stations 3, 5 and 6, Dixie Manor is vulnerable to rainfall-induced flooding and high winds, as are Florida Atlantic University and Verde and Calusa elementary schools.

Boynton Beach

The most vulnerable areas are those with aging infrastructure. Some are west of Interstate 95 and Congress Avenue, including Lake Boynton Estates and Industrial Way.

Areas near North Lake Drive are vulnerable to flooding due to low topography.

43% of buildings are vulnerable to flooding in a major storm.



State Road A1A is the main street for barrier island residents and routinely floods. This location in Ocean Ridge, with three sloped driveways and no swales, flooded June 15 after less than an inch of rain. **Jerry Lower/ The Coastal Star**

55% of major roads and 45% of minor roads potentially would be inaccessible in a major storm.

Boynton Harbor Marina is vulnerable to storm surge, flooding and high winds. Fire Stations 3, 4 and 2 are vulnerable to rainfall-induced flooding, wind or storm surge. Hester Community Center, Congress Middle School, St. Mark Catholic School, Trinity Christian Academy, Bright Horizons Preschool and Greentree Villas are vulnerable to rainfall-induced flooding and high winds.

Delray Beach

Historic properties are highly vulnerable to high winds.

Many roads likely will be inaccessible during large storms.

King tides will cause property damage in older buildings at low elevations.

Veterans Park, La Hacienda Gardens and Catherine Strong Park are vulnerable to storm surge and tidal flooding. Delray Beach Swim and Tennis Club, Delray Beach Golf Club and Fire Station 2 are vulnerable to rainfall-induced flooding. Parking areas at 134 and 148 S. Ocean Blvd. are vulnerable to storm surge, tidal flooding or rain-induced flooding.

Atlantic Community High School, Delray Full Service Center, Unity of Delray and St. Vincent Ferrer School are each vulnerable to rainfall-induced flooding.

Highland Beach

Although Highland Beach has fewer critical facilities than larger cities, residential properties have high vulnerability to storm surge that can make roads impassable during large storms.

Residential vulnerability to high winds is twice that of the area as a whole.

The town is one of the most vulnerable to shoreline recession.

The municipal complex and vacant government-owned coastal lands are vulnerable to storm surge, tidal flooding, rainfall-induced flooding and high winds.

Lantana

Rainfall-induced flooding is a major threat to roads, potentially making many properties inaccessible.

High numbers of residential and commercial properties are threatened by rainfall-induced flooding and storm surge.

Of 10 health and medical facilities, nine are highly vulnerable to high winds.

Coastal parks and McKinley Park on Hypoluxo Island are

vulnerable to storm surge, flooding and high winds. The Town Hall and the library are vulnerable to rainfall-induced flooding and high winds, as are Lantana Community Middle School, Lantana Elementary and Palm Beach Maritime Academy.

Ocean Ridge

The town has few critical facilities, but residential properties and roads are highly vulnerable to storm surge.

Residential properties are highly vulnerable to high winds because of their age.

The town has increased risk to severe storms and sea-level rise due to shoreline recession.

Town Hall and town-owned coastal lands are vulnerable to storm surge, rainfall-induced flooding, tidal flooding and high winds.

— Mary Hladky



Bird Island sits north of the Boynton Inlet and is a popular destination for boaters, shown here July 3. The island is privately owned as part of the former Ziff estate, and signs warn visitors against trespassing on it. 'The island itself is relatively unperturbed,' says John Ferber, who lives nearby. **Jerry Lower/The Coastal Star**

ISLAND

Continued from page 1

challenge. As a professional, you don't often get a chance to do something like this at this scale that is totally funded. When we started looking at it, we thought there was a unique opportunity to create something, not only beautiful, but environmentally beneficial."

The recent acquisition was made in the name of a trust. The buyer is widely believed to be James Clark, a founder of Netscape and other major tech companies.

The buyer's trustee for the sale, attorney Ronald Kochman, says he doesn't know the owner's plans for the island or what condition it's in, and couldn't comment even if he did.

Manalapan town officials say they haven't been contacted by the buyer and don't know what the future holds for Bird Island.

How job was done

Like Peanut Island near Palm Beach, Bird Island is a man-made spoil island. It was created when dredging was completed in 1927 to establish the South Lake Worth Inlet — Boynton Inlet — to connect the south end of Lake Worth Lagoon with the Atlantic Ocean. It resulted in sand accumulating to form the island.

When the late publishing mogul William Ziff Jr. bought the Manalapan mansion in the 1980s, the island came with it. He retained Patten to restore a dune on the beach east of the estate, called Gemini, and Richard Moyroud to landscape the grounds.

Patten, a retired Sarasota County environmental consultant and former manager of that county's environmental sciences division, worked on various projects for the Ziff family for about 26 years.

Moyroud, who owns a native plant nursery west of Lake Worth Beach, is a consultant and an authority on regional Caribbean plants.

After Moyroud had worked



Environmental restoration work included removal of the beer cans and other trash, as well as exotic Australian pines and Brazilian pepper trees. A lagoon was dug in the middle of the island and sandy areas were created with the hope of attracting least terns to nest. **Historic photo provided by Rob Patten**

for about eight years in the 1980s and 1990s landscaping the Gemini grounds, Ziff's interest turned to the island.

Patten, Moyroud and the Audubon Society collaborated on devising a plan to convert the island to a natural state. "We wanted to create a habitat that was beneficial to migratory birds, resident birds and native wildlife," Moyroud says.

The island was choked with tall, nonnative Brazilian pepper trees, and especially, very tall Australian pines, which sometimes displace native flora that provides wildlife habitat.

"A complete biological desert," Moyroud says.

Moyroud's job was to oversee placement of several types of plant communities into the soil, all blending seamlessly into the next, and to obtain the equipment for doing so.

Patten oversaw securing permits for the work, and collaborated with Moyroud and Audubon's wildlife biologist Richard Paul (who has since died) to enact the restoration plan.

Moyroud's team ripped Australian pines out by their roots. The trees were devoured by a huge grinder that Patten had barged over to the island, even erecting a temporary

bridge at the site. The rapacious invaders were reduced to mulch and replaced by other vegetation.

The core of the island was then planted so as to become a maritime hammock, with West Indian trees native to the region such as black ironwood, strangler figs and cabbage palms, to name a few.

Mangroves and other flora were planted on the north side of the island, along with salt marsh grasses. Saw palmetto palms and spider lilies were among the vegetation planted on the south side facing the inlet.

Boulders and riprap were added to shallow waters to slow erosion and provide marine life with habitat. A crane was used to install the huge rocks, with some workers diving below the water to position them, Moyroud says. "It was a tremendous accomplishment," he adds.

Moyroud says the birds "that really caught our attention were least terns. We wanted to create a safe nesting area. That was part of the design."

Least terns prefer nesting in colonies on sandy beaches and have lost extensive habitat because of development and human activities. The state lists

them as endangered.

As part of the Bird Island makeover, Richard Paul placed least tern decoys on sandy portions of the island in an effort to entice them to nest there, says his widow, Ann Paul, a longtime Audubon advocate in Tampa.

All of this was approved and financed by Ziff.

"Bill Ziff was an incredible individual — by far the most intelligent man I know of," Patten says. "He had a strong environmental ethos. He wasn't afraid to be bold. When he looked at a project, it was not how much did this cost ... how long will it take. His criteria were to do this right."

Ziff established a private foundation, Bird Island Trust Inc., to manage the island. His widow, Tamsen Ann Ziff, is listed as president. The foundation spent \$5,202 in 2018, according to federal tax records.

The Ziff family declined to comment for this story. The foundation's vice president and treasurer, New York City attorney Spencer Lehv, did not return a phone message.

Island still in good shape

Over time, the island's new vegetation flourished, but the least terns did not. "It was almost impossible to keep boaters and their dogs off of that sandy spit. The terns didn't have a chance," Moyroud says.

True, Patten says, but the lagoon on the north side of the island attracted shorebirds, a fish nursery and even horseshoe crabs.

Like Moyroud, Patten devoted several years to revamping the island. He was asked to return to Manalapan and Bird Island around 2008. William Ziff had died, but his right-hand man wanted Patten to do additional work on the island, such as mitigating erosion.

"I didn't find it to be trashy. I was really surprised," Patten says of the island. "The family wanted to continue to keep it at a high level."

Boaters reacted angrily in the 1990s when the island became a wildlife sanctuary and was declared off limits to them. They still can intrude despite the no trespassing signs.

Trespassing "takes more of an effort" now because of some of the changes, Patten says. "Most of the people did not want to jump over the rocks."

John Ferber estimates that the dock at his Manalapan home is no more than 500 feet from Bird Island. He's seen perhaps 200 boats at times in the cove on the north side of the island. "It's not a big collective party," Ferber says. "It's more like tailgating on the water."

Some folks set up barbecues, and it's not uncommon to see dogs running around, Ferber says. But this occurs at low tide on a sandbar, not on the island itself, he adds.

"The island itself is relatively unperturbed. There definitely are birds on the island. It's a very peaceful place," Ferber says.

Paul Davis, sanctuary coordinator at the Audubon Everglades chapter, says it's hard to know definitively without taking a census which birds and in what numbers make stops at Bird Island.

There's no question, however, that migratory birds find it to be an inviting rest stop and a place to refuel on their journeys north and south. The shallow waters around the island also appeal to wading birds, small fishes and crustaceans. And the sea grasses and mangroves there improve water quality.

Davis paddled near the island in the last year or two. "I didn't notice any exotic vegetation. It looked like it was in good shape. The canopy had matured. It's kind of an oasis."

Years later, Moyroud and Patten remain proud of what wasn't a restoration of the island, but rather a complete and complex re-creation of how it would look in its natural state.

Patten hopes that the new owner "will maintain it as the refuge from development that it is now." ★

Boca Raton

Tentative tax rate level in city, up 19% for beach-park district

Boca Raton's property tax rate will remain unchanged for the coming fiscal year, while the Beach and Park District may raise its levy by 19%.

The city's proposed rate, presented to the City Council by City Manager Leif Ahnell on July 27, is \$3.68 per \$1,000 of taxable value.

While the tax rate is staying the same, it amounts to a modest tax increase because the city's property valuations rose 3.8% this year.

The amount homeowners will pay for fire protection services will be \$145, the same as last year.

Meanwhile, Beach and Park District commissioners on July 19 set a tentative rate of \$1.05 per \$1,000 of taxable value, up from 88 cents, which would give them

an additional \$5 million for capital improvements and park operating expenses. The increase, if approved, would mean an extra \$168 in property taxes on a \$1 million home.

Commissioners can lower the tax rate but not raise it further at budget hearings in September.

The first public hearing on the city's tax rate and proposed 2021-2022 budget will be at 6 p.m. Sept. 13 at the city-owned building at 6500 Congress Ave.

A similar hearing on the district's rate and proposed budget will be at 6 p.m. Sept. 15 at Sugar Sand Park's Willow Theatre.

— Mary Hladky and Steve Plunkett

Delray Beach

Commissioners endorse keeping property tax rate same

By Jane Smith

Delray Beach city commissioners will keep the tax rate steady, but there was disagreement on doing so during their July 13 meeting.

Mayor Shelly Petrolia wanted to reduce the rate slightly to give taxpayers a break, as did Commissioner Juli Casale.

"I would like to find \$1 million to give back to our residents," Petrolia said.

Vice Mayor Shirley Johnson reminded the commissioners that in the next budget year they will have to negotiate contracts with the police and general employees unions.

The final vote was 3-2 to keep the current tax rate.

Tax rates had to be set by the end of July for the property appraiser to mail notices in mid-August to every property owner. The notices cover assessed and taxable values and proposed tax rates. The rates can be lowered but not raised during budget hearings in September.

The city's proposed rate is the same as last year's, \$6.66 per \$1,000 of taxable value. In July 2020, Delray Beach commissioners kept the tax rate the same as the previous year's.

Delray Beach will soon receive its first half of a total \$10.96 million payment from the American Rescue Plan. More details of how the city will spend that money will be provided at the Aug. 24 budget workshop, said John Lege, the city's new finance director.

The city's debt service for the next financial year dropped to \$0.02 per \$1,000.

The 2021 taxable value for Delray Beach totaled \$12.52 billion, a 5.3% increase over 2020.

Lege also told the commissioners at their budget discussion earlier that income from building permit fees should be in a separate fund and not mingled with other revenue in the general fund.

The city will take in \$5.67 million from building permits and plans, Lege said. The division will have about \$2.86 million in expenses, leaving about \$2.81 million that can be spent only on building code enforcement, he said.

The building revenues have been restricted for at least 20 years, Lege said. In 2019, the state Legislature defined how the money can be spent.

The commissioners were skeptical about the need for a special building fund.

Anthea Gianniotis, Development Services director, said her predecessor had tried to move the building permit fees out of the general fund, but then-City Manager Mark Lauzier moved the revenue back into the general fund.

"It's a bit of an accounting exercise to separate the building department needs from the planning department needs up until 2019," she said. "Then, the Legislature passed a law explaining how to do this." ★

<p>WATERFRONT BOCA RATON</p> <p>Absolutely Fabulous building directly on the Gorgeous Plantation Style Waterfront home on 1 acre which Features Wrap around front porches, Impact Windows and doors, Grand entry foyer and cascading staircase, High Ceilings, Oversized Rooms, 4 Fireplaces, Gorgeous Gourmet Kitchen open to the family room, 5 bedrooms plus one huge entertainment room upstairs (could be 6th bedroom), outdoor summer kitchen, fabulous resort style pool with waterfalls and Slide, great yard and dock with ocean access</p> <p>\$3,795,000</p>	<p>BLOCK TO BEACH BOCA RATON</p> <p>Faulous Beach house located on huge 100 x 148 ft lot w/mature landscaping including a specimen pony tail palm. Features include an open floor plan with beautiful Wood floors, huge living area and dining room, great light and bright kitchen with Natural gas stove, private office plus Den, Sonos speakers, phantom screens on the French doors, IRIS reclaimed landscape water and the backyard is an entertainer's dream with a great "salt water" pool system and separate spa located off the master, an incredible 850 sq ft covered patio featuring a summer kitchen, gas fireplace and Custom Italian wood burning pizza oven. All of this an only blocks to the Beach, Boca Resort and shops and restaurants on the Deerfield Curve.</p> <p>\$2,200,00</p>	<p>DIRECT OCEANFRONT BOCA RATON</p> <p>Absolutely Fabulous building directly on the sand and this unit has Direct Ocean views from all the major rooms! Features a renovated kitchen with stainless appliances and with the wall removed to offer a wide open floor plan, the windows have been replaced to floor-to-ceiling impact glass in the living area and new impact sliders in the bedrooms opening to the oceanfront balcony-Semi private balcony serving only 3 units per floor. All of this and only blocks to all the great restaurants, bars and shops of the Deerfield Beach curve</p> <p>\$845,000</p>
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Lantana

Islanders get chummy with fine-feathered friend

By Ron Hayes

Ann McGlenn-Work hesitated, pondering, trying to remember.

"I think it goes back to a little over a year ago," she decided. "All of a sudden it just appeared on the island. No one knows where it came from or how it got here."

At first, no one knew the proper pronouns with which to address him or her, he or she, either. But a year later, the peacock from nowhere has settled in, to become one more friend and neighbor Hypoluxo Island's humans greet, feed and photograph on their walks.

"In the beginning, we thought it was a peahen," McGlenn-Work recalled.

A female peafowl is a peahen, the male a peacock.

After Susie Bowman spotted the peafowl near her house on Lagoon Lane, she posted some stunning photos on the island's Facebook page.

"Oh, it's a male," Bowman concluded. "I read up on it."

Maura P. Powers, a zoologist at the Palm Beach Zoo & Conservation Society, studied one of Bowman's photos and agreed.

"It's a peacock," Powers reported, "and quite a handsome one at that."

Or to be more specific, the Hypoluxo Island peafowl is *Pavo cristatus*, native to India and the most cosmopolitan of three species.

"The easiest way to distinguish the two would be to look at the color of the bird's



This peacock — described as 'quite a handsome one' — showed up about a year ago. Photo provided by Susie Bowman

neck and head feathers," Powers said. "The boys have a brilliant blue hue from their head to their shoulders."

Like so many of us Floridians, peafowls are not native to the state. Most historians theorize the birds were introduced here in the late 1800s, when they were considered a status symbol.

However they arrived, they have stayed, with peacock flocks — called a "pride" or

"ostentation" — having been reported from Cape Canaveral to Miami, and especially along the Gulf Coast.

"I heard there's a community over on High Ridge Road," Bowman said, "so we think maybe somebody brought an egg over to our island."

Now the bird seems to have made himself at home, strutting about McKinley Park or perching atop the lion sculptures at the entrance to

a home on Southeast Atlantic Drive.

This was probably a major flight for a peacock, which doesn't fly much higher than the lower branches of a tree, and the birds are not generally aggressive.

"But they can be defensive," Powers noted. "If you leave them alone, they will probably leave you alone."

They can be loud, assaulting the ears with a loud, piercing honk when they're startled.

"One of the neighbors has suggested we trap him and get rid of him," Bowman said, but this seems to be a minority view. Most of the peacock's new neighbors seem more eager to feed than exile him.

"My husband, Gene, leaves blueberries out for him," McGlenn-Work said. "He's not a fan of the strawberries or raspberries we leave out. I see him eating cat food off a porch. He looks like he's being very well fed on the island."

One islander is reportedly feeding him Cheerios, which he also accepts.

The Palm Beach Zoo is home to a peahen named Sally Ride, after the first American woman in space. For a while there was talk of a naming contest for the island's peacock, but it hasn't gone anywhere, McGlenn-Work said.

"I've heard Penny the Peacock, for the alliteration," she said. "My husband and I called him Michael Jackson because he does a really good moonwalk when he gets excited. He puts up his tail feathers and

all his down gets fluffed up and he kicks his butt at you and does the moonwalk."

Moonwalking or not, the peacock seems to be on the move. He's been spotted from the northern end of the island south to Point Manalapan, and now Publix, at the corner of A1A and East Ocean Avenue.

"I saw him in the Publix parking lot," McGlenn-Work reported. "I think he's probably trying to find a mate."

Bowman agreed.

"When the plumes come in, that's to attract a mate," she explained. "He's been paying a lot of attention to the ducks on the island. He's trying to buy them a cocktail, but they won't have any part of it."

One theory being tossed around is that because the coronavirus kept more residents home, perhaps wildlife have felt more comfortable emerging.

"Or perhaps more time spent close to home has led people to become more observant of the wildlife around them," Powers suggested. "Personally, I'm hoping for the latter."

Wherever he came from, however long he stays, the humans of Hypoluxo Island have welcomed him, one more flash of color in a colorful community.

"I love him," Susie Bowman said, speaking no doubt for many. "I love seeing nature. That's what's so great about Hypoluxo Island. We have foliage and canopy, but we have little bits of nature, too, and he always puts a smile on my face." ★

Council continues to say 'no' to medical marijuana dispensaries

By Mary Thurwachter

Lantana has prohibited medical marijuana dispensaries since December 2017. But the issue resurfaced this summer when a local businessman asked the Town Council to reconsider and enact an ordinance allowing the pharmacies.

Reconsider, it did, but the town confirmed its original stance on the subject, again saying "no" to medical marijuana dispensaries.

Making the pitch to allow dispensaries was Dave Arm, owner of Lantana Fitness at 700 W. Lantana Road. He said the issue was about attracting 21st century vendors in a town that desperately needs good retailers.

"It's obvious conditions are tough for brick-and-mortar properties," Arm said. "We can see that at Water Tower Commons."

Arm argued that medical marijuana treatment centers are well-capitalized by major national corporations, are attractive and provide good jobs in the community.

Arm is president of the Lantana Chamber of Commerce, but was not speaking in that capacity.

"We talked to people in Boynton and Lake Worth Beach and they've had no issues with crime," Arm said of two places that allow the dispensaries. "Why should we have to drive to another town to have our prescriptions filled?"

On the other hand, the topic struck a sour note with residents, with dozens of them showing up to express their views during the discussion at the June 28 council meeting, and again when the subject resurfaced at the July 26 meeting.

In addition, Mayor Robert Hagerty said he received about 20 emails from residents who opposed the change.

When the final vote was taken, three council members (Mark Zeitler, Malcolm Balfour and Hagerty) voted against medical marijuana dispensaries. Hagerty said he was following the will of the people, who through their comments, both in person and via email, opposed the measure.

Voting in favor of the dispensaries was Karen Lythgoe, who said they offered an opportunity to fill some vacant storefronts with "good, attractive businesses."

Lynn Moorhouse, who attended the meeting via phone, got disconnected before the vote was taken.

Residents said ample dispensaries were nearby and Lantana didn't need its own.

Digging into reserves

The town will not raise its tax rate, continuing with \$3.50 per \$1,000 of taxable value. However, deficits approaching \$5 million in both the general and utility funds will require the town to dig deep into its reserves to balance the budget.

Why such large shortfalls? "The current draft consists of significant one-time capital improvement projects," Finance Director Stephen Kaplan said. "Within the utility fund, we have projects pertaining to drainage, water main replacements and water treatment plant improvements accounting for over \$3.5 million.

"In the general fund, police communication center equipment upgrades is included at an estimated cost of more than \$320,000." Other expenses include library renovations and furniture, money to fix Sea Pines flooding issues and

adding a new officer to the police department.

The town had hoped to add an assistant town manager, but scrapped those plans to save money.

Public budget meetings are set for 5:30 p.m. Sept. 13 and 5:30 p.m. Sept. 23 in the council chambers, 500 Greynolds Circle.

In other action, the town:

- Approved a salary of \$140,000 for interim Town Manager Nicole Dritz. Previously the director of development services, Dritz

is also an applicant for the full-time position vacated by Deborah Manzo.

- Authorized use of the grounds of the Recreation Center, 418 S. Dixie Highway, for a "Summer Twilight Market," 5-10 p.m. Fridays from July 9 to Sept. 3. Restrooms are available inside the center. The market may return to Bicentennial Park next fall.

- Learned that the library would move to the Recreation Center in early August as the library renovation begins. ★

Saying goodbye

Lantana Town Hall — June 28



Lantana Police Chief Sean Scheller presents Deborah Manzo with an Achievement Award at her last town meeting as manager. She left to become the administrator of Okeechobee County. Tim Stepien/The Coastal Star

Delray Beach

Talks 'ongoing' to settle penalty over reclaimed water violations

By Jane Smith

More than two months after the city received a proposed \$1.8 million fine over its botched reclaimed water program, the Delray Beach legal team was still negotiating a settlement with the Florida Department of Health in Palm Beach County.

"There is no set time" for the city to respond to the proposed consent order, Alexander Shaw, Health Department spokesman, wrote in a June 21 email to *The Coastal Star*. He also wrote in a July 26 email that the city met with Health Department leaders in person on July 7, and they "continue to have constructive negotiations with each other."

He declined to reveal the substance of the negotiations.

City Attorney Lynn Gelin and two attorneys from the Lewis Longman & Walker firm make up the city's legal team.

"Negotiations are ongoing," Laurie Menekou, the publicist hired to answer media questions about the city's reclaimed water program, wrote in a July 28 email. "There is no additional information to share at this time."

The City Commission will have to approve the final agreement with the state.

The Health Department contends that Delray Beach's reclaimed water program was flawed since its start in 2007.

The city created a step-by-step implementation manual, but never followed its own instructions, which called for annual inspections of each connection site and an ongoing cross-connection control program, according to the Health Department.

That's why the Health Department wants the city to publish a public notice acknowledging it "cannot assure utility customers that the drinking water produced and distributed met the standards of the Safe Drinking Water Act for the period from inception of the reclaimed water service beginning in 2007 to the time reclaimed water was deactivated on February 4, 2020."

The city will have to publish the notice in a newspaper, in its utility bills and on its website, according to state rules.

The proposed fine does not include the \$21,194 that the Health Department spent on the investigation, as of June 21.

During an extensive review with the Florida Department of Environmental Protection in the spring, the departments determined that assessed penalties are more in line with fines that were in effect in 2018.

As a result, the proposed fine of nearly \$1.8 million is lower than the nearly \$2.9 million proposed in January in a draft consent order. The individual fines also were reduced as a result of the joint review.

Of the 11 violations cited, eight were deemed to be major

and carry civil penalties of \$5,000.

The city was cited for 12 years of not following its own program of annual inspections. It also submitted false reports saying annual inspections had taken place. The civil fine total is \$60,000, at \$5,000 per year.

In addition, Delray Beach was fined for missing 576 backflow preventers. The devices are needed on the drinking water pipes to prevent the reclaimed water from flowing back into the drinking water.

The Health Department is proposing fines of \$2,229 per location, for a total of \$1.3 million.

For submitting false information in December 2018 when a cross connection was discovered at 801 S. Ocean Blvd., Delray Beach should be fined \$5,000 for not reporting that people were sickened. No names or job titles are mentioned in the consent order.

A cross connection happens when reclaimed water lines carrying highly treated wastewater for lawn irrigation, but not safe for human and pet use, are wrongly connected with drinking water pipes.

The city also failed to report to the Health Department about a 2019 cross connection discovered at 120 N. Ocean Blvd. In addition, Delray Beach did not issue a public notice of the cross connection found there. The Health Department wants to fine the city \$10,000 total or \$5,000 for each violation.

The civil penalties total \$1.4 million. The Health Department wants to add a 25% charge for the city's history of noncompliance. The nearly \$1.8 million total was recommended at the start of initial negotiations, according to the document.

The Health Department was made aware of the problems in

January 2020 by a South Ocean Boulevard area resident's call.

That led the city to shut down its entire reclaimed water system and seek Health Department approval before turning on the reclaimed water for that location.

In 2020, Delray Beach spent more than \$1 million to fix that system. The city can't use the money spent fixing the system to offset the fines, according to the Health Department.

Another investigation of the reclaimed water program ended in May without finding a past or current city employee, department or outside vendor solely responsible.

As a result of that critical review, the city said it will educate its water customers about what reclaimed water is and its allowed use — only for lawn irrigation.

In addition, the Utilities Department started documenting all customer complaints or inquiries and tracking them in the city's computerized maintenance management system. Utilities staff will be trained in the proper documentation and

inspection reports required by the regulating agencies over reclaimed water.

Uncertainty about illnesses

The county Office of Inspector General became involved last August at the request of the Health Department. Health officials were "concerned that city staff and/or elected officials concealed and/or misrepresented their knowledge," according to the OIG report.

The Health Department could only issue civil fines. The OIG can forward its results to the State Attorney's Office for criminal prosecution.

The OIG investigated what the city staff knew about the illnesses from the December 2018 cross connection on South Ocean and whether they were reported to the Health Department as required.

The OIG "was unable to determine whether the reported illness was actually caused by the city's drinking water," according to its report. No elected official or current or past city employee was found liable.

But an unnamed city staffer identified in the report as a whistleblower submitted a lengthy rebuttal to the OIG findings based on a review by Public Management Services Inc., a firm the city hired in 2020 to independently review the system.

According to that review, a March 2019 meeting was held by an ex-assistant city manager with various department heads and the project's consultant representative. They discussed the December 2018 cross connection.

Because no medical or hospital records connected the illnesses with the reclaimed water, the illnesses were not reported to the Health Department. The ex-assistant city manager determined no more action was needed without medical or hospital records connecting the illnesses to the reclaimed water.

"It was not the city's job to determine this but to report it" to the Health Department, the whistleblower said in the rebuttal. The whistleblower did not attend the March 2019 meeting. ★



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Condos east of the Intracoastal Waterway

The Coastal Star has plotted the locations of the 348 condominiums and co-ops in our readership area that are located east of the Intracoastal Waterway.

	40 years and older	less than 40 years	Total
Boca Raton	61	18	79
Boynton Beach*	3	0	3
Delray Beach	77	16	93
Gulf Stream	16	7	23
Highland Beach	45	38	83
Manalapan	5	0	5
Ocean Ridge	27	6	33
South Palm Beach	21	7	28
Unincorporated	0	1	1
Total	255	93	348

SOURCE: Palm Beach County Property Appraiser

Lantana and Briny Breezes have no condos on the barrier island.
* St. Andrews Club is part of Boynton Beach.



Condos and co-ops
 ● at least 40 years old
 ● are less than 40 years old

CONDOS

Continued from page 1

than three stories or 50 feet tall.

Such buildings make up nearly half of the buildings analyzed by *The Coastal Star*.

In all the communities, 58 buildings, or 17%, are east of State Road A1A on the ocean, aged 40 or older and more than three stories tall. Boca Raton has the most of those buildings, with 18, followed by Highland Beach with 16 and South Palm Beach with 11.

Experts say older coastal buildings close to the water, particularly those that don't routinely conduct repairs, are most at risk.

But age alone is not a deciding factor, said Ben Messerschmidt, a forensic engineer at Epic Forensics & Engineering in West Palm Beach.

"It's how well you maintain that 40-year-old building," he said.

Overall, about a third of the barrier island condos are east of A1A, with the most in Highland Beach, 34, Boca Raton, 27, and Ocean Ridge, 19.

Local condo leaders, sporting hard-earned expertise in the nuances of concrete repair, say they are well aware of their responsibilities to assure routine maintenance, although they acknowledge it can take years to go from inspections to a completed restoration project.

One hurdle they all face: persuading condo owners to pay the bill.

"It's the price you pay for living on the beach," said Vito Licata, a past president at Highland Towers in Highland Beach.

The key is to keep up with degrading conditions, said Chalaire, who has worked in the area.

"If you do small projects more often, you'll never have the big projects," he said. "But the costs are not optional. You have to do them."

"A lot of the boards don't fix their buildings. It's like being told they have cancer and passing on the surgery."

The pitfalls of selling

At Wiltshire House in Highland Beach, a seven-story oceanfront condo facing a \$2.5 million repair bill, some owners sought out a developer who would knock down the structure and rebuild. But they couldn't find a willing buyer because the site would be limited to four stories under the town's height cap, board President Becky Schmaus said.

And even then, they didn't have the unanimous or near-unanimous support it would take to sell out.

The Wiltshire's \$2.5 million estimate — to replace windows and sliding glass doors, waterproof and paint the 25-unit condo — came before the coronavirus pandemic and now is likely to go up. But even at \$2.5 million it amounts to

\$100,000 per unit.

Despite the potential expense, five units sold between May 2019 and June 2021 for prices ranging from \$325,000 to \$749,000, property records reveal.

Although the building is listed in property records as having been erected in 1974, it actually rose as a hotel in the 1950s, Schmaus said, and was converted to condominiums in the 1970s.

Recent buyers knew about the coming assessment and, like many longtime owners, didn't want to sell, Schmaus said.

"There are so many homeowners that would never vote" for selling, she said. "We're willing to pay the assessment to keep it safe and to keep it going. The view we have, you don't get that with all the new" condo buildings.

Repairs 'never-ending'

Of the 97 buildings completed before 1970 along the 19-mile stretch of barrier island, 12 are eight stories or above: five in Boca Raton, five in Delray Beach and one each in Highland Beach and South Palm Beach.

Among the tallest, the 17-story Sabal Ridge at 750 S. Ocean Blvd. in Boca Raton, underwent \$10 million in restoration work between 2016 and 2018, property manager Devin Wardell said.

Workers removed the garage ceiling, where water had been penetrating, and installed all new steel and concrete, Wardell said.

But the garage, although beneath the tower, isn't the key structure holding up the 53-year-old building. The board restored foundational concrete columns in 2013, Wardell said, and is working with engineers now to rebuild balconies.

"It's never-ending when you live on the ocean," he said.

A major project completed

A January message on the Facebook page for Penthouse Towers, built in 1970, said, "It was a rough day today. No power, and concrete work still continuing."

But the rough days were scheduled to be over by the end of July as the 11-story building on the ocean in Highland Beach completed a 2½-year project, with new windows and restoration of all the concrete walkways and balconies, board President Skip Mongon said.

"We basically plan on concrete restoration every five years," Mongon said. The board tested a small area five years ago and was impressed by the results. The cost is in the millions but owners are willing to pay.

"Any time you live on the water, it's a big job," he said.

How to spot weaknesses

For signs of trouble, look for gutters installed in garages to ferry dripping water away from cars or makeshift efforts to shore up weak spots, forensic

engineer Messerschmidt said. Large cracks in concrete can indicate spalling, when rebar within corrodes and expands so much it fractures the column.

Insurers are required to appraise a property to make sure policies cover replacement costs, but they can also exercise influence by jacking up rates on buildings with aging roofs or insufficient windows, compelling condo boards to make improvements, said Allison Hertz, a lawyer with Kaye Bender Rembaum who works with condos.

“It’s difficult to be a board member. The opposition to assessments is huge but they know they’ve got to do the right thing,” Hertz said. “The vast majority do it and they do it well.”

Confidence in South Palm

Matthew Horey, a petroleum engineer who lives at the Imperial House in South Palm Beach, isn’t concerned that the six-story condo is 60 years old.

Aside from the unlikely chance of a second major building collapse, he points to high-quality construction in the ’60s, “when people still cared about their work,” and to

“Living on the beach carries a cost. ... Pretty much every building in South Palm Beach has been under scaffolding in the last few years. I’m glad to see people investing in maintenance.”

— Matthew Horey, Imperial House resident

the building’s supports on “a forest of concrete piles.”

Since part of the building’s seawall collapsed in 2007 and high waves in 2009 threatened the building’s foundation, forcing an evacuation, he said the condo board set up a continuous maintenance program, including concrete repair.

“Living on the beach carries a cost,” he said. “The salt and water eat away at the concrete and steel.”

Neighboring condos get it, Horey said.

“Pretty much every building in South Palm Beach has been under scaffolding in the last few years. I’m glad to see people investing in maintenance.”

Inside the numbers

The Coastal Star focused its review on condos and co-ops on the barrier island, excluding townhomes, hotels and other

commercial properties.

Completion dates, building names, addresses and in some cases building heights were pulled from Palm Beach County Property Appraiser’s Office records, compared when possible with town records, Google images and property and real estate websites.

Highland Beach has the most buildings with eight stories or more, at 40, with just 13 of them directly on the ocean. Boca Raton has 36 buildings topping seven stories, with 17 of them on the ocean. South Palm Beach has nine, seven of them on the ocean.

Ocean Ridge, Manalapan and Boynton Beach have no buildings topping seven stories and Gulf Stream has just one.

Just one in 10 of the condos along the barrier island went up after 1992, when Hurricane Andrew’s destructive path led to toughening of Florida’s

building code.

Two-thirds of those 39 post-1992 buildings were over three stories and 10 were taller than seven.

The condo stock is oldest in Ocean Ridge, with a median age — at which half are older and half are younger — of 52 years among its 33 condos.

Buildings are newest in Highland Beach, where the median age is 40 and the median height is seven floors. That height is matched only by those in South Palm Beach (median age 47) and Boca Raton (median age 46).

Boca has the tallest towers, led by the 22-story twins called Ocean Towers I and II at 2800 S. Ocean Blvd., and Chalfonte North and South, at 500 and 550 S. Ocean Blvd.

Also topping 20 stories in Boca: Stratford Arms at 2600 S. Ocean Blvd., and Marbella at 250 S. Ocean Blvd.

All six buildings were completed between 1973 and 1975, property records show.

The tallest building in Boca, the 27-story Boca Raton Club Tower built in 1969, is on the mainland.

All but four of the 28 condos in South Palm Beach are

threshold buildings, taller than three stories. Only one, the seven-story 3550 South Ocean building completed in 2019, has been built since 1995.

Oldest condos date to 1939

Delray Beach’s barrier island condos have the second-highest median age at 51 and include the two oldest buildings: The Bahama House at 72 S. Ocean Blvd. and Coral Cove at 88 S. Ocean Blvd. The two-story buildings both date to 1939, property records say.

The city’s barrier island also has among the fewest high-rises in the area. Its tallest buildings, the twin Seagate Towers, are 13 stories. Nearly 90% of the city’s 93 barrier island condos are below eight stories.

Just nine of Gulf Stream’s 23 barrier island condos are over three stories, with the tallest at eight floors. Half of the condos were built before 1974 and half after, with the newest, the two-story Villas at 4001 North Ocean, built in 2014. ★

Mary Kate Leming, Jerry Lower, Joe Capozzi, Rick Pollack, Mary Hladky, Michelle Quigley and Kathleen Bell contributed to this story.



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Aging condos

The majority of condominiums and co-ops located east of the Intracoastal Waterway from South Palm Beach to Boca Raton were built before 1980.



Source: Palm Beach County Property Appraiser Chart by Joel Engelhardt/The Coastal Star

Along the Coast

Plan targets buildings 25 or older for inspections, regardless of height

By Joel Engelhardt

A proposal to have the vast majority of older condos, apartment buildings, hotels and office buildings inspected in Palm Beach County is emerging from a coalition of cities studying the issue.

The group is taking aim at buildings — without regard to height — that are 25 years or older east of Interstate 95 and 35 years or older west of the highway, a draft proposal obtained by *The Coastal Star* revealed.

That standard is more rigorous than the 40-year reinspection rule in Miami-Dade and Broward counties.

Like the Broward approach, it would exclude one- and two-family dwelling units and most government buildings, including schools. While early discussions centered on so-called “threshold” buildings, which are greater than three stories tall, the draft proposal makes no reference to height.

The draft, by a coalition under the county’s League of Cities, came in response to the June 24 collapse of Champlain Towers South in Surfside. Despite a 2018 report outlining structural issues, the 40-year-old, 13-story Surfside condo had not addressed the issues before it collapsed in the middle of the night, killing 98 people.

More than 90% of the 348 condos along the barrier island from South Palm Beach to Boca Raton are 25 years or older, a *Coastal Star* analysis found. About half of those are four stories or taller.

Delray Beach has the most condos 25 or older, with 88, followed by Boca Raton, 73, and Highland Beach, 71.

Ocean Ridge has 31, South Palm Beach has 27 and Gulf Stream 19, the analysis of county property records revealed. It also showed five in Manalapan and three on the barrier island in Boynton Beach.

Boca Raton to be first

Building officials from the county and its 39 municipalities are participating in the drafting of the rules, which are not binding on any city. While the building officials agree on several key factors, League of Cities President Kim Glas-Castro said July 28 at a membership meeting that the final decision “is ultimately up to you, the elected officials in each of our cities.”

Boca Raton is moving forward with rules of its own, proposing a review of threshold buildings after 30 years and every 10 years thereafter. A threshold building is defined in state law as greater than three stories or 50 feet tall, with other definitions applying to buildings that offer large gathering spaces, such as churches and bus stations.

City Council members plan to vote on the rules Aug. 24, which would make Boca the first city in Palm Beach County to pass such an ordinance.

However, the city is not opposed to tweaking its rules after seeing the

league’s effort, Mayor Scott Singer said. “We will work together to harmonize and not have conflicting or confusing regulations,” he said. “The goal is safety and it is a shared goal.”

The league’s draft, which is about a month from completion and is modeled on Broward County’s rules, also calls for buildings to be reinspected every 10 years after the initial review.

The draft calls for buildings 25 or older to seek inspections according to a staggered schedule based on building size to avoid creating too much demand at one time for engineers.

Highland Beach, where more than half its 83 condos are 40 years or older and 60% rise above three stories, also is pursuing its own rules, with inspections of threshold buildings at 25 years and as often as every seven years thereafter. The rules could be in place by September.

“The overwhelming position is, this needs to be a unified process,” town building official Jeff Remus told the Town Commission at a July 13 meeting. “We also realize we all have to customize it for where we live.”

Although county commissioners discussed countywide rules at a July 13 meeting, the county can only make rules to govern areas outside of city boundaries. That could lead to different rules in various cities and at the county level.

County Vice Mayor Robert Weinroth, a former Boca Raton council member who now represents all of South County’s barrier island towns, initially urged cities to proceed in unison and suggested a 2022 countywide referendum to approve a single set of rules to apply to all.

“I don’t think we need to deal with this like the next building is going to fall down next week,” he told county commissioners July 13. “God help us, I hope not.”

But, he said July 27, while he expects state action to outweigh local approaches, he had reconsidered his insistence on uniformity after speaking to city officials.

“I don’t want to jam down the throats of any of our cities something put together at the county level,” he told *The Coastal Star*.

Still, he would be concerned if too many cities make their own rules. “I wish that wouldn’t happen,” he said. “That would be confusing.”

His concerns are echoed by Michelle DePotter, chief executive of the Florida East Coast Chapter of the Associated General Contractors of America.

“We would support consistency from jurisdiction to jurisdiction,” she wrote in an email to *The Coastal Star*. “At a minimum, we may be supportive of something countywide. However, our desire would be something statewide.”

Who’s going to pay?

While Highland Beach is looking at some combination of the League of Cities standard and its own rules, the

town wrote to condo presidents and building managers July 20 to let them know that they would soon impose a reinspection standard.

Town officials are working to determine which buildings have undergone structural inspections and when those inspections took place.

Highland Beach officials talked about helping with financing, while South Palm Beach officials talked about providing money to help condos foot inspection costs.

“There are creative ways to finance these things,” Highland Beach Mayor Doug Hillman told commissioners on July 13, citing a friend who works in finance.

South Palm Beach council member Mark Weissman suggested the town consider grants to condo boards in need. While he told *The Coastal Star* he agrees that condo owners should be responsible for covering the inspections, he said the town should still consider at least helping with the costs.

“They should pay for it themselves, but I don’t want a tragedy in our town either,” he said.

South Palm Mayor Bonnie Fischer also called for inspection of seawalls.

Fischer lives in the Imperial House, where pounding surf whipped by Tropical Storm Noel led to the collapse of the building’s seawall in 2007. At the time, many residents didn’t know that the condo was built in 1961 on pilings, which she said saved the building from collapsing into the sea.

“That’s a real Achilles’ heel in this town because we have no access to the beach and there’s no way for anybody to even address or repair the seawalls,” she said.

Details of Boca’s plan

In Boca, inspections must be conducted by both a structural and an electrical engineer. Owners would be given 180 days to complete the repairs, although they would have to be done sooner if the inspection identifies serious problems.

The city’s chief building official, Michael DiNorscio, will send a “notice of required inspection” to the owners of each building requiring certification at least one year before the recertification deadline.

Owners are responsible for hiring the engineers to inspect and prepare reports which will be submitted to the city. If city officials find problems with the reports, owners will have three chances to meet city requirements.

If problems persist, cases will be referred to the Permitting and Construction Review Board, which can turn the matters over to a special magistrate to enforce the requirements.

The city plans to create a database available to the public that will list every building 30 years old or older, when it is due for recertification and whether it is in compliance, among other things.

In a memo to the City Council,

City Manager Leif Ahnell said many buildings in the city will need to start the recertification process. On the barrier island, the city has 53 threshold buildings at least 25 years old, *The Coastal Star* analysis showed. Twenty additional buildings are less than four stories.

Ahnell expects a backlog. As a result, DiNorscio will prioritize buildings based on age, location, construction material and number of residents. Waterfront condos will be high on the priority list.

Property rights vs. safety concerns

There are no signs so far that condo owners object to recertification despite the potential for high-cost repairs.

Contacted before she had read the ordinance, Beach Condo Association President Emily Gentile said she expected to be supportive.

“A certified building will give confidence to the people in residence and future buyers,” she wrote in an email.

One of the challenges all municipalities face is determining just how far they can go to make sure owners keep up private property.

“The town has responsibility to ensure the collective safety and health of the community but doing so can’t strip everyone of private property rights and responsibilities,” Highland Beach Town Manager Marshall Labadie said.

After Surfside, many officials believe the government’s safety responsibilities outweigh private property concerns.

“I have always felt that the responsibility for public safety lies in government,” Palm Beach County Commissioner Maria Sachs, whose South County district is west of Military Trail, said at the July 13 commission meeting. “It’s the No. 1 obligation of government.”

In a presentation to the commission during that meeting, the county’s building director, Doug Wise, urged condo boards to act. But he said if a Palm Beach County building had done nothing to fix the problems identified in 2018 at Champlain Towers South, the county would have taken action.

“There would have been a placard on that building: You fix this in so many days,” he said.

The responsibility to maintain adequate reserves and to make repairs falls on the condo owners, he said.

“The cost of the maintenance of the building is what it is. But if you defer the maintenance, it’s going to cost more and it might cost lives. That’s the truth of it,” Wise said.

“People say, ‘You’re going to make it cost money for me.’ No, I’m not going to make it cost money. It is what it costs. You’re going to live on the beach, maintain it.” ★

Joe Capozzi, Rich Pollack and Mary Hladky contributed to this story.

10 Questions

MEET YOUR NEIGHBOR: Robin Austin

Robin Austin spent 30 years in marketing, working for some of the top firms in the world before starting his own, Fusion 5, then selling it for a handsome profit in 2003.

Not yet 50, Austin then faced the obvious question: What next? He didn't have to go far to find out.

"I had always been intrigued with mosaics," said Austin, 67. "I remember one done by Heineken of a tulip field in Holland, and all the mosaics were of tulips. I said, 'That's so boring.'

"So I'm literally lying in bed and saying, 'What if you did a mosaic where the mosaic is telling a story? And what if it's something fun?'"

"I figured there had to be so many artists doing this. So it was, let's find out, and to my absolute astonishment nobody was doing it. So I decided to become an iconic mosaic storyteller ... a visual celebration of the icon."

Austin used the TV series *Breaking Bad* as the theme of his first piece, a birthday present to his son James. Soon after came one of Princess Diana, then Nelson Mandela and Mick Jagger.

Using a computer and Photoshop, he used 3,500 tiny photos in a celebration of David Bowie.

Now his pieces number more than 100.

The Ocean Ridge resident entered six into a minor art show in Miami and, with the help of a story in *Venue* magazine, his work was picked up by three galleries.

"They got what I was doing," he said. "They said, 'You are shamelessly commercial.' And I said, 'Absolutely.' And now I'm in art galleries all over the world."

Austin also invented a golf putting aide called EEZ-Read that was named "Best New Product" at the 2008 PGA of America Merchandise Show.

He and his wife of 32 years, Mickey, moved to Ocean Ridge three years ago. He's a huge fan of Leeds United and the England soccer team and enjoys walking the beach and cleaning it up.

—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 Yorkshire, England, in Leeds, which is 200 miles north of London. I was born in 1954 so the '60s had a profound effect on me. In television, movies and music it was an incredibly interesting time. In the '50s the icons were movie stars and by the '60s it had changed completely. It is the music, the Beatles, the Rolling Stones; it's fashion, it's Carnaby Street, it's Flower Power. There's a rejection of conventions, like the Vietnam War. And by 1975 ... look at



Robin Austin of Ocean Ridge, a retired ad agency owner, is now a mosaic artist. This 3- by 5-foot image of Mick Jagger is titled *His Majesty*. Austin assembled hundreds of little photo squares to make light, shadow and colors in the portrait. **Tim Stepien/The Coastal Star**

The Rocky Horror Picture Show. That would have been totally unaccepted in the '50s.

So this all affected me very much. It was an era of fabulous, and I was like 'Wow.' So now when I can celebrate it in my art, I so enjoy doing it.

That was a time when a lot was happening. I went to an English boarding school and then I went straight into business.

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

A: I met Tom Bauer, the head of Procter & Gamble in Europe at the time, and when I met him with friends in the south of France he said, "This boy should be in advertising. He's creative, he's fun." So he arranged for me to be introduced to an American ad agency and it was a square peg in a square hole. It came easy to me, I had an outgoing personality, I was well-educated and well-mannered, so it really suited me.

I was in Stockholm with Young & Rubicam and they offered me jobs in London and New York. Here I am, 26 years old, and I hear "New York, Madison Avenue." I'm young and single, so off I went. I worked really hard, moved up the ladder, and another company, MCA, came along and doubled my salary before I was 30.

Then in 1993 we founded our own company. We saw a changing marketplace and identified a new problem, and created Fusion 5. Our tagline was "Innovation Out of Insight" and we were very cutting edge. I was very proud of the innovative work we did, that really influenced and changed companies' directions. We sold the company in 2003.

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

A: My advice would be to soak up everything. Knowledge is growth. In the early part just soak it up; don't take yourself too seriously but have a broad

view. Then start evaluating what you really want and are passionate about. The old story holds true: If you really like and believe in what you're doing, then go off and do it.

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

A: My wife's parents, Jim and Mary Farley, owned property down here in Gulf Stream and introduced me to the area, and who wouldn't fall in love with it? You fly from New York and land in Palm Beach and it was just fabulous. You've got Palm Beach sophistication up the road, Miami down the road. I can get to London from Miami in one plane ride. So the whole area works for me. And I didn't come to retire; this is a next chapter of my life.

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

A: The people are exceptionally nice. Young, older, the different walks of life we've come from. It's a 75- to 100-yard walk for me to the

beach and I talk to probably five people every day. And they're fantastic.

Q: What book are you reading now?

A: I use audiobooks. But I constantly listen to them. I have a range. I love getting perspective on pop culture and modern-day culture versus 20 or 30 years ago. There are a lot of very good journalists that write pieces in good magazines and then write a book to expand upon that. One I'm into at the moment is the subject of Bitcoin and cryptocurrency, which is going to be the wave of the future. The book is *Understanding Bitcoin*.

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

A: All the classics from the '60s, '70s and '80s. Springsteen. Dylan. Simon and Garfunkel. The Rolling Stones. Music plays a huge part in my life; we have it on all the time. Music is a mood-changer. You get the right music at the right time and it's fantastic. For inspiration, it's *Sympathy for the Devil*. I get cranked up. There are some classics that are timeless.

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

A: Bill Price has been incredibly special to me. I used to work for him and he was a fantastic leader and inspiring manager. He allowed me to open my wings. We started working together 30 years ago, but we've remained best friends. I've been incredibly fortunate to have a mentor like him. Also, in Sweden, Jack Grafstrom, who like me retired from business and became an artist. It was like "Maybe Jack is showing me the way here."

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

A: I really like what I've seen of Benedict Cumberbatch. He played Sherlock Holmes, and that's a passion of mine. My dad used to read him to me when I was a little boy. And Cumberbatch played him really well.

Q: Who/what makes you laugh?

A: My son James, my wife, my dog. Maybe I'm overreacting to the lockdown time, but being with friends, laughing, sharing a good bottle of wine, that makes me laugh and makes me happy.

Also, the original Tom and Jerry cartoons. I used to take the JetBlue flight from New York to Palm Beach and at 11 a.m. there would be an hour of Tom and Jerry cartoons, and people would look at me because I was laughing so hard. ★

Boca Raton

Brightline station en route to approval from City Council

By Mary Hladky

Brightline likely will get a green light from the city in August to begin construction of its Boca Raton station and garage.

The city's Planning & Zoning Board, by a 5-1 vote on July 15, recommended that the City Council approve the \$46 million project. The council is expected to take action at its Aug. 24 meeting. Board member Larry Snowden, who cast the lone dissenting vote, said he understands the importance of the station to the city.

"It is a huge, positive impact on our city," he said. "I recognize it is a game changer."

But Snowden said he was dissatisfied with Brightline's presentation to the board that he felt did not address many questions and safety issues.



The circular drive for pickup and drop-off is included in architect Juan Caycedo's vision of what the Boca Raton Brightline station will look like. **Rendering provided**

"What I have seen tonight is not ready for prime time," he said, without outlining specifics.

Brightline plans a 9,035-square-foot, one-story train station and a 4.5-story, 171,050-square-foot garage with 455 parking spaces. Surface

parking will provide another 109 spaces.

The project will be located on city-owned land along the FEC railway tracks immediately east of the Downtown Library.

In December 2019, the city agreed to lease 1.8 acres of its

land there to Brightline for 29 years, but with renewals that could total 89 years.

Library patrons will be able to use the surface parking and 64 garage spaces will be reserved for them. The remainder will be available to Brightline

passengers and the public.

A \$16.3 million U.S. Department of Transportation grant will help pay for the station and garage. Brightline will pay \$20 million of the station cost and the city will spend \$9.9 million on the garage.

Brightline broke ground on May 10 for a temporary parking lot just south of the library that its patrons will use while the station and garage are being built. It also started work at that time to move the Junior League of Boca Raton's Community Garden, which is being displaced by the station, to Meadows Park.

Brightline halted rail service between Miami and West Palm Beach in March 2020 due to the coronavirus pandemic. It now expects to resume service in the fourth quarter of this year. ★

Ocean Ridge

It's time to raise property taxes, commissioners say

By Joe Capozzi

Ocean Ridge property owners can expect higher tax bills next year. How much higher depends on whether a majority of commissioners follow through on a tentative desire to set the highest tax rate in town history.

In July, the commission voted 3-2 to tentatively raise the tax rate to \$5.65 per \$1,000 of taxable value to help balance a proposed \$8.8 million budget for the next budget year, which begins Oct. 1.

Commissioners Geoff Pugh and Steve Coz voted against the increase after saying they might be willing to consider raising the rate to \$5.50 per \$1,000.

For the owner of a home valued at \$1 million last year, a rate of \$5.65 per \$1,000 would add \$543 to the tax bill.

If the commission votes to keep the rate at \$5.35 per \$1,000, taxes would still go up because, based on town projections, property values increased 4.3% over last year to \$1.15 billion. On average, the owner of a property valued at \$1 million last year would see about

\$230 more in taxes.

Commissioners can lower the rate and tweak the budget before voting on a final version in September. But if they vote to keep the current rate of \$5.35 per \$1,000 of taxable value, they'd need to tap \$439,404 from reserves to balance the budget, a strategy that didn't sit well with a majority of commissioners.

The tax rate has been \$5.35 per \$1,000 for the past nine years except for 2018, when it dropped to \$5.25 per \$1,000.

Last year the commission earmarked \$706,421 from reserves to cover the expected shortfall. The actual amount used won't be known until the end of the year, but it could be less than \$706,421.

"I think we are being fiscally irresponsible by not considering a millage increase," Mayor Kristine de Haseth said at a July budget workshop.

"I think the time was long overdue probably about five years ago and the level of service that this town has and demands is going to do nothing but increase."

The first budget workshop was held

as Hurricane Elsa approached South Florida. The region was spared, but the mayor noted that Elsa was one of the earliest-forming storms on record.

"Given the scare of Elsa, that's kind of a wakeup call for all of us that storms are going to happen eventually," de Haseth said. "It's not the percentage of the budget we have in reserves. It's how much, how far will those reserve monies go and sustain us."

Town Manager Tracey Stevens' proposed spending plan is nearly 6.1% higher than the current budget mainly because of capital improvement projects, bridge repairs, drainage projects "and uncontrollable increases in general operating expenses" such as insurance and retirement rates and raises for employees, she wrote in a memo Aug. 2.

The extra costs add up to \$493,656, with \$365,000 going to improvements mandated by the Florida Department of Transportation: \$240,000 for bridge repairs and \$125,000 for replacing street lights on Ocean Avenue.

Also driving the increases are

insurance rates in workers' comp and general liability claims and contract increases for police, fire and emergency medical services.

Stevens' first proposal called for using \$653,540 in reserves. The latest plan, tweaked through four workshops, calls for \$216,130 from reserves.

She reminded commissioners that she expects the reserve fund to be replenished by unused money at the end of the next budget year.

"Town Reserves have typically increased over the past several years by the end of the fiscal year due to staff turnover, or short-staffing which causes projects to not be completed by the end of the fiscal year," she wrote.

Commissioner Martin Wiescholek said he is not in favor of tapping too much from the reserves every year. "The prudent thing is to replenish reserves or attempt to," he said at the July budget meeting. "We are living in a town with a lot of services, we have to pay for it."

Public hearings are Sept. 7 and Sept. 21. ★

Oceanfront property owner gets break on fines, but not discount requested

By Joe Capozzi

The owner of an oceanfront property that fell into disrepair, sparking complaints from neighbors about rats and debris, will get a discount on code fines from Ocean Ridge.

But it wasn't the reduction the owner was hoping for.

Brookshore Ltd., which owns the property at 6009 N. Ocean Blvd., must pay \$116,230 of the original \$162,031 in liens stemming from code violations going back at least to 2019, town commissioners agreed Aug. 2.

Brookshore had asked to pay just \$50,000, a request that insulted at least two commissioners.

"I think it is disingenuous, honestly, for a property that is minimally worth \$5 million

to come in with a 1% offer of \$50,000," said Mayor Kristine de Haseth, who initially wanted to reduce the original total by just \$19,751, which represents the interest accrued.

Sam Caliendo, an attorney for Brookshore, said the owner of the company is an elderly man in New York who allowed a friend, Jose Esquivel, to live on the property with the understanding that Esquivel would take care of it.

"He did not take care of it. We tried to evict him on several occasions," Caliendo said.

He said Esquivel fell ill and died, then Kenneth Frank, the owner's son, got involved and started addressing the violations, which started accruing in 2019. The house was eventually demolished and the land cleared.

The property came into compliance in June. But fines started accruing in July 2019. And on Nov. 1, 2019, the town sent Brookshore a letter via certified mail warning the property was "an unsafe structure."

When Brookshore's owner asked Esquivel about the problems, the tenant said "the situation was not as bad as the town thought it was," Frank said, speaking to the council via audio call. "It's just unfortunate that I am in New York. We could have rectified it sooner."

At least two commissioners weren't moved by Frank's response.

"Being in New York, you did not get the pleasure of having our residents parade through and talk about the rats that were infesting their property and talk

about the blue tarp pieces flying in their pools," de Haseth said.

"This situation went on well too long and too many people either turned their heads or did not choose to know what was going on," she said. "All it would have taken was a two-minute stroll into our town in the last five years."

Commissioner Martin Wiescholek said the problems had been going on long before the fines started accruing in 2019.

At one point, the home was boarded up "with the roof half falling in and a blue tarp that got ripped in two hurricanes and was still sitting around to the point where the town was looking into replacing the roof at town's expense," he said.

"That to me says, 'We don't care about the community.

We don't care that you need to see this, on prime property.' When the owner doesn't care enough that the community is impacted by it, I don't think the community should care if the owner has to pay the fine."

Commissioner Geoff Pugh suggested cutting the lien total in half, saying the town has done that in previous cases. Commissioner Steve Coz, noting Frank was now taking responsibility, suggested dropping the fine to \$100,000.

The final \$116,230 total commissioners agreed on is the average of what each of the four commissioners wanted.

Vice Mayor Susan Hurlburt was absent, but a letter from her objecting to the reduction request was read into the record. ★

Delray Beach

Stories of homeless people emerge from library's good works

By Ron Hayes

You've probably noticed that libraries aren't what they used to be.

You might even wonder if they need a new name.

The word derives from the Latin *librarius*, meaning "of books."

The Delray Beach Public Library still has plenty of books — 124,067 in print and another 8,574 available for download.

But you can also borrow DVDs, use the free computers, attend a virtual yoga class, or find help preparing a résumé.

You can request a series of "memory kits" with DVDs, flash cards and booklets to help people struggling with memory loss.

And then there's "Wash & Read," a library laundry service for homeless people. On the third Wednesday of every month, Mykal Banta, the library's assistant director, arrives at the Laundry Stop on George Bush Boulevard bearing backpacks and satchels, blankets, laundry detergent, laundromat debit cards and, of course, books.

"We began in November 2019, and we haven't missed a Wednesday," he says. "We talked about stopping the program for COVID, but I didn't want to do that. There's nothing like putting on clean clothes, especially when you're homeless and don't have the opportunity very often."

On an average Wash & Read Wednesday, five or six men and women arrive. Once or twice a dozen have shown, sometimes only two.

"I've never had nobody come," Banta says.

On this third Wednesday in July three men and a woman appear, carrying their dirty clothes in backpacks or travel bags.

Jonathan Neves, 26, grew up in Coral Springs.

"I'm sleeping out," he says. "I have a tent hidden away in a little forested area. For some it's tough, but I have a tent and a mat, so it's not too bad. I wouldn't say I'm lucky, but it's peaceful."

Neves has been living like this, off and on, for four years.

"I struggle with some mental issues," he says. "I'm bipolar with some social psychosis, animosities. Sometimes I completely freak out."

Has he no family to help him out?

"Blood family? Not so much. They're very judgmental and unaccepting. I do have someone who cares for me, but she's in Costa Rica. We talk on the internet."

Along with the laundry soap and debit cards, Banta fulfills his librarian job by offering each customer a brand-new paperback novel. The authors are familiar names. Agatha Christie. Lee Child. James Lee



Mykal Banta, library assistant director, helps Audrey Vassallo at the monthly Wash & Read at the Laundry Stop. The library gives away cards for the machines and paperbacks.



Burke. Neves accepts a backpack and satchel, but won't take a free book.

"I read," he explains, "but strictly only the Bible. I wouldn't touch a book except the Bible."

Wash & Read began as a suggestion from Isabella Rowan, the library's director of programming and volunteers. The idea was to engage a different area laundromat each month, but they couldn't reach the owners. And then they called Stacey Runfola, who had bought the Laundry Stop at 718 George Bush Blvd. in January 2019.

"Of course," Runfola said, "I'd be happy to host it every month."

And she offered to match the library's contributions.

"Most people who are homeless are not there by choice, but by circumstance," she says, "whether it's mental illness or a million other circumstances, so this was an ideal opportunity to help."

Now the program is funded by a \$12,000 grant from the Virginia & Harvey Kimmel Family Foundation. It's money the library also uses to support the Caring Kitchen food truck in the library parking lot every Monday, Wednesday and Thursday, and the funds support the shower truck that visits St. Matthew's Episcopal Church on Wednesdays and Fridays. The

shower truck is operated by the Interfaith Committee of Social Services, where Banta serves on the board.

Audrey Vassallo, 64, is from Bergen County, New Jersey. Most of the people who have come to the Wash & Read this week are friendly, polite and happy to talk. Vassallo can't seem to stop talking. She chatters on and on, her brain leaping from one passing thought to the next in an almost acrobatic display of free association.

"I just found out about this. Nutrition is my hobby. I've been in Delray two months and three weeks. I sleep anywhere. On the beach. I'm signing up for rental assistance. I was on the rental assistance on the Jersey Shore. I had a lot of falls and injuries when I was 16 and my mother smoked a pack a day and had a slight drinking problem. She'd hit and slap and all that."

And on and on.

Mykal Banta has been a librarian for 27 years, all of them in Delray Beach. His mother was a librarian before him. Librarians are legendary for shushing those who talk too loudly in the library, but Banta indulges Vassallo's monologue with admirable patience.

"It's in a librarian's nature to help," he says. "Librarians want to make lives better, to help people enjoy their full potential,

He has been arrested 20 or 25 times — for panhandling, open container violations, narcotics.

"I've been married twice," he says. "I've had plenty of good jobs. Houses."

This week he chooses a free blanket and *The Guardian*, a John Grisham legal thriller.

"Maybe one day I'll get it together," he says. "Who knows?"

Brian Williams, 52, is a former roofer who has been living in South County for 36 years and homeless for six.

"I'm an alcoholic, and that keeps me from finding regular employment," he says. "I've had a broken hip and lung cancer. And I'm still smoking cigarettes. It's a hard addiction to quit."

Williams has been doing his laundry at Wash & Read since the library started the service.

"I love the library," he says. "I go there every day to use the computer system to look for work, and I borrow books all the time."

This week he accepts a free copy of *Immortal Angel*, by Lynsay Sands.

"I'm a sci-fi geek," he explains.

Unlike Koenig, Williams insists that he does not panhandle, ever. But he does have a clever technique to help him get money.

"Panhandling is illegal, so I don't do it," he begins. "Have you ever heard of *The Mandalorian*? It's a Star Wars show, and Baby Yoda is the main character."

Six months ago, Williams explains, he bought a stuffed little Baby Yoda at Walmart.

"He rides in my backpack."

Williams parks himself on a bench by the beach with Baby Yoda peeking adorably out of the pocket on his backpack, and when diners leaving Boston's or Caffe Luna Rosa pass, he humbly asks, "Are you going to eat those leftovers?"

"I don't ask for any money, but sometimes when they see Yoda they'll give me a couple bucks," he says. "Everybody loves Baby Yoda."

At the moment, Baby Yoda is in the dryer.

On the very first Wash & Read in 2019, Stacey Runfola remembers, a homeless man was pulling his clothes out of a dryer when she heard him murmur, "That smells like self-respect."

No, that simple word "library" doesn't begin to describe what the Delray Beach Public Library is doing.

Maybe it needs a new name. But what?

"You can tell the library really cares about us by the way they carry themselves," Jonathan Neves says as he pulls his own clean clothes from the dryer, heading back to his tent in the woods. "The library is a cornerstone of the community."

The Delray Beach Public Cornerstone?

That would work. ★



ABOVE: An Agatha Christie novel was among the offerings in July.

LEFT: Jonathan Neves says the program shows that 'the library really cares about us.'

Photos by Bruce Bennett / The Coastal Star

and the greater the need, the greater is our need to help."

John Koenig, 40, grew up in Monmouth County, New Jersey. He has been in Delray Beach 10 years and homeless for three because his great need is heroin.

"I'm a heroin addict," he says. "I've been shooting up for 22 years. That's why I'm homeless. I've been in rehab numerous times, inpatient and outpatient, AA, the whole nine yards. And I failed."

This is his first visit to Wash & Read, which he heard about at the Caring Kitchen's library visit this morning.

"I used to come here and pay and it cost about \$10," he says, waiting to move two loads from the washers across to the dryers. "I've had hep-C and I still drink a half gallon a day of the cheapest, crappiest vodka I can buy."

Koenig's eyes are clear and his speech is alert and notably articulate. It's easy to believe he was in his junior year at Rutgers University when he got arrested for a crime he doesn't want published and started downhill to homelessness.

"I pretty much sleep wherever I can," he says. "Anywhere the cops won't hassle you."

Sometimes his family in New Jersey sends money.

"And I can make \$100 a day on the Atlantic Avenue on-ramp," he says.

Obituaries

Lynda Scheerer Stokes

GULF STREAM — Lynda Scheerer Stokes of Gulf Stream and East Hampton, New York, died June 21. She was 95.

The eldest of Paul and Gladys Scheerer's three children, Lynda was born on Nov. 13, 1925, and raised in Llewellyn Park, New Jersey. She graduated from the Ethel Walker School in Simsbury, Connecticut, later becoming a fixture on the Bromley ski slopes in Vermont and joining the ski patrol.

She married John William Tiernan in 1949 and moved with him to Delray Beach in 1954 to raise their family. When her husband died in 1973, she became CEO and chairwoman of the board at Mark, Fore & Strike, the resort wear chain that was a family business. Under her leadership, the company doubled its revenues and launched a direct-to-consumer catalog that would sustain it for years to come.

In 1974 she married Alexander Coxe Stokes of Philadelphia and lived with him there and in Gulf Stream until his death in 1997. Notably, both her husbands were recipients of the Distinguished Flying Cross for their service in World War II.

Mrs. Stokes was an avid golfer and won multiple club championships spanning five decades at clubs in Massachusetts, New Jersey, New York and Florida. She had the distinction of shooting her age well into her 80s, and of having beaten both her mother and her daughter in a club final.

Additionally, Mrs. Stokes — who also went by Stumpy, Auntie Car and Gaga — was a highly competitive tennis player, an outstanding bridge player and an absolute shark at backgammon. She was very passionate about family values, love for her country and the dignity of work. She adored her friends, her family and an occasional drink called the "hummer."

Mrs. Stokes was predeceased by her two husbands, her sister Mary Babcock and her son William Scott Tiernan. She is survived by her brother Paul R. Scheerer Jr., her son Michael Tiernan, her two daughters, Ann Purcell (Kim) Tiernan and Martha Tiernan Ely, her stepdaughter, Sandra Stokes, 10 grandchildren, two step-grandchildren, 14 great-grandchildren and two step-great-grandchildren.

In her last days she was surrounded by her family, loving caregivers, and a motley crew of beloved characters only she could assemble. She was spirited and resilient until the end.

In lieu of flowers contributions would be appreciated to the CRC Recovery Foundation in honor of her late son, Scott. (CRC Recovery Foundation Inc., 309 NE First St., Delray Beach, FL 33483, Attn: Scott Tiernan Fund.)

Obituary submitted by family



Thomas Joseph Thornton Jr.

By Sallie James

ATLANTIS — He was a devoted father, a savvy businessman and dedicated public servant, but those who best knew former Manalapan Commissioner Thomas Joseph Thornton Jr. say it was his zest for life that made him so unforgettable.



An avid storyteller with a quick wit, Mr. Thornton died June 20 at home in Atlantis from complications of Parkinson's disease. He was 75.

"He was kind of the life of the party," said his wife, Mary Ellen, whom he married in 1972 after they met in Manhasset, New York. "He was an extrovert with a good sense of humor."

The disease progressed over about six years, slowing him greatly, but he never complained, she said.

Mr. Thornton served as a town commissioner from 2004-2010, and again from 2013-2015 before resigning to move to Atlantis. He was mayor pro-tem his last two years on the commission.

"He was wonderful. We just thought the world of Tom," said Manalapan Town Clerk Lisa Petersen. "So kind, so gentle, very soft-spoken. Just a gentleman."

Former Manalapan Mayor Kelly Gottlieb remembered Mr. Thornton as a dedicated public servant who loved what he did.

"He did a fabulous job. He was one of the ones who read his booklet every meeting. Very well respected and professional," Gottlieb said. "He was soft-spoken, but he would always get what he wanted."

Mr. Thornton was born on March 31, 1946, in Brooklyn, New York, to Catherine and Thomas Thornton. He attended St. Mary's High School, followed by the University of Notre Dame in Indiana, and was a die-hard Notre Dame fan for life.

He received his MBA at Long Island University in New York.

Mr. Thornton began his business career at W.R. Grace & Co., a large chemical company in Manhasset, where he worked as assistant to the company president, Peter Grace. He advanced to

acquisitions and mergers, then became CEO of Orchard Supply Hardware in California.

He later served as CEO of Mr. Goodbuys, and of the gourmet food pioneer Dean and Deluca in New York City. He also did consulting for Campbell's Soup, Fauchon, Lindt Chocolate, Junior's Cheesecake and Kluge Winery.

He completed his career as CEO of Carmine's in Palm Beach Gardens.

He had keen interest in gadgetry and gourmet foods, bringing home oddities like basil pesto in the early 1990s before anyone had ever heard of it, according to his son TJ Thornton.

"I had never tasted anything like it," said TJ Thornton.

His two sons say their father's love of storytelling is among their fondest memories.

"His was a life with a lot of accomplishments and one filled with pride. He had all sorts of stories," said TJ. "Stories from a life well-lived. Some stories my mom wished that Ryan and I had never heard."

"But these stories weren't just for entertainment. The stories heard and the time spent with Dad demonstrated to all of us his resilience, his humility, his intelligence, his amazingly broad interests and knowledge."

Ryan Thornton remembered a devoted father who did everything he could so his kids could embrace their passions. In Ryan's case, that was hockey.

"Hockey practice was early, the weather was cold, the rink was outdoors, they were on Saturday and Sunday mornings," Ryan Thornton recalled. "But he still got me there on time, every time, and he was not only there, but he was present — that's a big difference. Making new friends in the stands or cheering me along, most certainly embarrassing me with compliments the whole ride home."

"Dad shared his life with us, he was our entertainment, he loved to make us laugh, he loved a good spotlight," Ryan Thornton added.

Thomas Thornton is survived by his wife; his two sons; and his grandchildren, Alice Marie and Sam Thomas Thornton. Services were held July 16 at St. Edward Catholic Church in Palm Beach.

Memorial contributions can be made to the Parkinson's Foundation of Florida, 200 SE First St., Suite 800, Miami, FL 33131.

Judy Craig

DELRAY BEACH — Judy Craig, mother of two, reader and traveler, died June 4. She was 78.

Born Dec. 8, 1942, Ms. Craig grew up in rural Wayne County, North Carolina. She relocated to Delray Beach in 1986 and became an exceptional real estate agent for over 30 years.



Ms. Craig had a passion for reading and travel. Her library was extensive, with books on subjects from medicine to religion and movie stars to the classics. Her passports show 40 years of adventures around the world.

Ms. Craig was known for her quick wit, her infectious smile and her kind and compassionate spirit.

She is survived by her daughter, Victoria Mitchell, her son, Michael, her sister, Joyce Brock Smith, first cousin, Betty Lee Gray, and her grandson Jason Mitchell and his wife, Heather. She has many second, third and fourth cousins from her hometown.

Ms. Craig is also survived by her longtime friend Lowry Watkins Jr.

Memorial services were held at St. Paul's Episcopal Church, Delray Beach. In lieu of flowers, donate in her name to a favorite charity or to the American Cancer Society.

— Obituary submitted by family

Patricia 'Pat' Esterman

BRINY BREEZES — Patricia "Pat" Albers Esterman died May 10. She was 89.

Born July 7, 1931, in Cincinnati to Frank and Blanche Albers, and married for 65 years to Harry Esterman, Mrs. Esterman was a devoted mother and homemaker with a professional career.



Before marrying, she was a hairstylist. While raising their five children, she returned to the University of Cincinnati, where she received a bachelor's and a master's in nutrition and dietetics. Licensed as a professional dietitian, she worked as an extension agent for Purdue University and for the Women, Infants and Children program. She developed innovative programs and consulted with individuals on nutrition issues.

Mrs. Esterman was an avid reader. She shared her love of reading with children, volunteering at schools and libraries. While quiet and modest about her many volunteer activities, she took pride in founding a United Way chapter in Franklin County, Indiana, where she resided at the time.

In 1977, the Estermans had surprised their children by moving to an 80-acre farm in Milan, Indiana. Their dream was to be able to live off their farm, its harvests and resources. Besides having a bountiful farm yielding fruits and vegetables, they raised cows and pigs.

The couple also loved to travel, starting

their life together with a honeymoon to Fort Lauderdale. In the 1960s they were founding members of the Travel-A-Go-Go Club in Cincinnati. They flew on numerous trips with their club friends. They invested in a 1970s movie about Coco Chanel and had the chance to meet the actors and tour France.

They had a lifelong love of Florida, returning for many family vacations to Pensacola, the Keys, the West Coast, Orlando, and culminating in their retirement to The Villages and Briny Breezes.

As a second-generation Brinyite, Mrs. Esterman served on the Town's Planning and Zoning Board and was a devoted town library volunteer. She treasured the camaraderie and close friendships at Briny Breezes. She and Harry were active in bridge, square dancing, shuffleboard, history club and travel club.

Harry Esterman died in 2016. They are survived by children Sue (Mike) Thaler, Sally (Paul) Lukez, Joyce (Wes) Culbertson, Bob Esterman, and Greg (Michelle) Esterman, as well as six grandchildren and five great-grandchildren.

In lieu of flowers, memorial donations may be sent to the Indiana Alzheimer's Disease Research Center at <https://medicine.iu.edu/research-centers/alzheimers/giving> or Briny Breezes Library, 5000 N. Ocean Blvd., Briny Breezes, FL 33435.

— Obituary submitted by family

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Obituaries

William Davis Hood

DELRAY BEACH — William Davis Hood, a 48-year resident of Delray Beach, died July 15 from complications of Lewy body dementia, surrounded by family. He was 82.

Mr. Hood is survived by his wife, Carolyn, and six children: Jennifer Zimmerman and husband, John; William D. Hood II and wife, Kirsten, of Boca Raton; Kimberly Trevino and husband, John, of Boynton Beach; Christian Hood and wife, Danielle, of Delray Beach; Ashley Sims and husband, Rob, of Auburndale; and Alexander Hood of Boynton Beach, as well as 11 grandchildren.



He graduated from Colby College in Waterville, Maine, in 1961. In 1975, Mr. Hood started the first discount securities brokerage house in Boca Raton. Then in 1991, he started his own auction house, Bill Hood and Sons Art and Antique Auction, in Delray Beach. He had a passion for playing tennis and coaching. His ultimate joy in life came from his faith, family and friends.

A celebration of life was held at Boca Raton Community Church in the chapel.

— Obituary submitted by family

Eileen Simons Giacalone

GULF STREAM — Eileen Simons Giacalone, a longtime resident of Philadelphia, Miami and Boca Raton, died July 26. She was 84.

The beloved wife, mother and grandmother enjoyed putting a smile on everyone else's face and was always upbeat. She was not shy to tell anyone how much she loved her family.



A former model and business owner (The Second Chance), she enjoyed a second career as an aesthetician and was the owner of many fashionable hats.

Mrs. Giacalone was a great host for parties and was always happy to volunteer when needed. Another great joy for her were her grandchildren, who will always remember her fondly.

She is survived by her husband, Frank Giacalone Jr., and son, Barry L. Simons (Amy, grandchildren Chloe and Dani); daughter, Susan E. Wisely (Scott); brother-in-law Charles Simons (Beth, nephews Michael and David); and brother-in-law Arthur Simons (Jessie and niece Jennifer). She was predeceased by her husband, Alan Simons, parents, Frank and Edith Summers, and brother, Frank Summers.

Friends may make memorial contributions in Mrs. Giacalone's name to a charity of their choice.

— Obituary submitted by family

Memorial

Coach to be remembered at FAU gathering

Florida Atlantic University will hold its long-awaited celebration of life for legendary football coach Howard Schnellenberger on Sept. 10 at the FAU Stadium in Boca Raton.

Mr. Schnellenberger, whose accomplishments included coaching the University of Miami to its first national championship in 1983 and founding the FAU football program in 1998, died after a lengthy illness on March 27 at age 87.



Mr. Schnellenberger was an All-America tight end under Bear Bryant at Alabama, played briefly in the Canadian Football League and then started his coaching career at Kentucky. Among his other stops in six decades of coaching was under Don Shula

with the Miami Dolphins, where the two played integral roles in the 1972 Dolphins' becoming the only team in NFL history to go undefeated.

Mr. Schnellenberger built the FAU program from scratch and served as head coach from 2001-11.

Along the way he recruited Joe Namath to play at Alabama and coached dozens of other notable players, including Jim Kelly, Bernie Kosar and Vinny Testaverde at Miami.

A number of former players and coaches are expected, but a full list won't be available until later in August.

The event will take place from 5 to 8 p.m. and is free to the public.

— Brian Biggane

South Palm Beach

Manager confident new push will finally result in work on Town Hall

By Joe Capozzi

South Palm Beach Town Council members are poised to take another look at a project they've debated for more than five years — what to do with their aging Town Hall.

Four firms are interested in doing a feasibility study on whether to renovate the existing 45-year-old building or construct a new facility.

At the council's next meeting on Aug. 17, Town Manager Robert Kellogg will make a recommendation on which firms to interview.

The firms that responded to a July 29 deadline for a Request For Qualifications are: CPZ Architects in Jensen Beach, Synalovski Romanik Saye Architects in Fort Lauderdale, Alexis Knight Architects in Boynton Beach, and Song + Associates in West Palm Beach.

If and when the council votes to hire a firm, it will mark the fourth time in six years, and the first time since March 2020 that the town will debate the future of Town Hall.

"The can has been kicked down the road for several years and I am hoping with the proposals we get and evaluate, we can make a recommendation to council and move this thing forward once and for all," Kellogg said.

The existing Town Hall was constructed in 1976 as a public safety building and has evolved with additions built in 1993 and 1996.

The council's first attempt at dealing with the building's problems came in 2016 with the hiring of Alexis Knight Architects. The firm spent months studying the building, and interviewing administrative staff and residents, leaving the town with a bill for about \$50,000.

The architects' report filed the next year uncovered numerous deficiencies and code violations, and concluded with a proposal that the town replace the hall with a five-story, \$6 million multiuse building.

The council quickly and unanimously shot down the idea as far too extravagant.

A second report, filed in 2018 by North Palm Beach architect John Bellamy for \$5,000, recommended "adaptive reuse" of the building. Bellamy cited many of the problems uncovered by Alexis Knight, but concluded that the structure could be upgraded and repaired.

In March 2020, the council agreed to focus on the Bellamy report before the pandemic lockdown scuttled that plan. A year later, as the town started phasing out of the lockdown, officials decided "maybe we ought to take a fresh look at having someone else come in," Kellogg said.

The overriding decision awaiting the council is whether to try to improve the building or tear it down and build a structure from the ground up.

If a new firm is hired, one

of its duties will be to reach out to the Palm Beach County Sheriff's Office and Palm Beach County Fire Rescue about participating in, and contributing construction money for, the project.

Seven deputies are stationed at South Palm Beach Town Hall.

The town gets fire rescue service from county crews stationed at Manalapan Town Hall. An option would be to move them to a new South Palm Beach Town Hall, unless that cost turns out to be prohibitive.

Fire rescue officials recently told the town the department has no money in its five-year budget for capital improvements.

Since 2016, the town has spent about \$55,000 on studying the idea. But Kellogg said he is confident some form of the project will proceed this time.

"I think the realization has come that we need to do something with Town Hall," he said. "I know all these council members are very fiscally responsible."

In other business, the council in July set a tentative tax rate of \$3.54 per \$1,000 of taxable value, the same as the current year's rate. A budget workshop will be held at 2 p.m. on Aug. 31 and the first public hearing is set at 5:01 p.m. on Sept. 7. ★



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Boynton Beach

CRA to buy Hurricane Alley site, nearby buildings for \$3.6 million

By Larry Barszewski

The Boynton Beach Community Redevelopment Agency plans to purchase the Hurricane Alley site and two buildings west of it for \$3.6 million, to be part of a larger downtown redevelopment project.

The Ocean Avenue properties, owned by the Oyer family, would be added to adjacent land already owned by the CRA at 115 N. Federal Highway. It would be used in a project that would extend from Ocean Avenue to Boynton Beach Boulevard between Northeast Fourth Street and Federal Highway.

City commissioners, serving as the CRA's governing board, agreed to the purchase price at the CRA's July 13 meeting, with a sale likely before the end of the year.

The Oyer buildings at 511, 515 and 529 E. Ocean Ave. don't have any historical designation, though they are some of the oldest remaining in the city. Harvey Oyer said his grandfather purchased the buildings some 90 years ago and they have since been passed down through the family.

The family has resisted past offers by the CRA to purchase the properties.

"It's a tough decision for us. There's a lot of family history there," Harvey Oyer said. "Emotionally it may be hard to part with, but looking at where the city is today, our vision and our father's vision was always for the city to be successful."

Commissioners see the potential projects in the Federal Highway blocks immediately north of Ocean Avenue as critical to downtown's success.

"This is the Ocean Avenue frontage that is kind of our signature street in Boynton Beach," Mayor Steven Grant

said. "The project that we have moving forward with 115, this would only enhance it such a great deal because of the value Ocean Avenue has on the property as a whole."

The Oyer properties were appraised at \$3.4 million in October. Commissioners are willing to go to the \$3.6 million asking price to secure them, saying their value has likely increased anyway over the past nine months.

One concern for commissioners is making sure Hurricane Alley Restaurant and Raw Bar has a downtown home once redevelopment of the block begins. They'd like to see Hurricane Alley included in the larger redevelopment and are hopeful it can be relocated temporarily during construction.

Commissioners also decided they want to entertain as many offers as possible for the development of the CRA property on the block. The CRA is issuing a request for proposals, known as an RFP, to see what developers are interested in building on the site.

Commissioners turned down an alternative offer from Hyperion Development Group, supported by Davis Camalier, for the CRA to skip the RFP process and work directly with Hyperion to develop properties on both sides of Federal Highway north of Ocean Avenue as one project.

Camalier owns the property in the block on the east side of Federal Highway and is in the process of selling it to Hyperion. He received site plan approval from the city in 2017 for a multiuse project there called Ocean One, but nothing was ever built.

Camalier and Hyperion also have leverage because they control a key parcel that the

CRA has yet to acquire on the west side, the property that is home to Boardwalk Italian Ice & Creamery, a parcel Hyperion is also buying.

Bonnie Miskel, an attorney who represents Camalier, said combining the properties on both sides of Federal Highway would make for a true gateway project that commissioners have said they want. It would also be paid for almost exclusively by Hyperion, she said.

"The project is a \$350 million project," Miskel said. "In all of the years that I've been doing this, I can't even think of another CRA project where the private developer spent 90% of the money to get the buildings out of the ground."

Camalier said commissioners should not discount the ability of Hyperion to do a great project.

"They are capable of raising huge amounts of capital," Camalier said. "This could be our Rockefeller Center in Boynton Beach."

Commissioners said Hyperion could submit a proposal just like any other interested group — and it might have an advantage because of the property it already plans to buy. They were reluctant to short-circuit the proposal process given the high level of interest from developers. Last year, six separate development groups submitted letters of interest for developing the CRA property on the west side of Federal Highway.

"People are interested in this property. There is a fight to be had for a champion to rise," Commissioner Justin Katz said. "If everyone believes that competition is good, if everyone believes that a fight is good and will produce the champion, the best person or outfit to do this, the RFP is the only process."

Only Grant and Vice



The area is home to the Hurricane Alley eatery and Oyer, Macoviak and Associates insurance agency. **Coastal Star photo**

Mayor Woodrow Hay favored accepting Hyperion's letter of interest.

"I feel we are missing out on an opportunity here," Hay said. "I've seen RFPs where the best did not rise to the top. We ended up going into litigation as we're currently doing with Town Square," a public-private partnership that's in a dispute over two planned parking garages that have yet to be constructed.

Grant said the ability to have a combined project on both sides of Federal Highway would allow for uses that may not be included if they are done separately. He fears the new proposals will all include large apartment complexes.

"I would want to see office space. I would want to see condos. I would want to see a hotel. I do not want more residential," Grant said. "We are missing the boat on Class A office space that is needed. It is the combined aspect of the hotel, the residential, the retail and the commercial. I don't believe anyone else can offer that."

Hyperion CEO Rob Vecsler said his company may move forward with plans for just the east side "because maybe we believe that waiting on the RFP adds too much uncertainty in timing. We feel the time to strike is now. The iron is hot now."

The main portion of the CRA property is 1.58 acres it purchased for \$3 million in 2018, which is now being used

as surface-level parking while awaiting development. In April, the CRA approved the purchase later this year of an adjacent 0.29-acre property at 508 E. Boynton Beach Blvd. — west of Ace Hardware — for \$915,000. The purchase of the three Oyer properties, with their 0.41 acres, will bring the CRA-owned portions of the block to 2.29 acres at a cost of \$7.5 million.

Commissioners hope to have the RFP proposals in and reviewed, with a winner selected and negotiations completed so that a final contract can be approved at the CRA's February 2022 meeting. The mayor and two of the four other commissioners are term-limited, so they would like to see their efforts finished before a new board is seated following the March elections.

The CRA's purchases may not be ended. Besides the Boardwalk Italian Ice site, other privately owned properties in the eastern block include a convenience store on Ocean Avenue at Federal, a gas station at Boynton Beach Boulevard and Federal, and Ace Hardware on Boynton Beach Boulevard.

"We need to keep going and accept that the adjacent property, particularly the convenience store, likely needs to be acquired now," Katz said. "The acquisition of the Oyer property necessitates the acquisition of the corner parcel now, because then we have the entire Ocean (Avenue) frontage." ★

Briny Breezes

Town may conduct utilities survey as precursor to seawall project

By Joe Capozzi

As Briny Breezes continues looking for the big dollars needed to repair or replace its seawall along the Intracoastal Waterway, the town may soon take a preliminary step to move the project along.

At a workshop July 22, the Town Council directed the town manager to include some money in the 2021-22 budget for a survey of underground utilities — a move that not only would provide a useful tool for general needs, but also could help streamline efforts to fix the seawalls.

"I think it's time to start moving forward on the seawall," Manager William Thrasher told the council. "If we believe in the

seawall project, we're going to have to start doing our limited amount of work towards that end and it should probably start sooner than later."

Incorporated east of Boynton Beach in 1963, Briny Breezes is a co-op consisting of 488 mobile homes on 43 acres between the Intracoastal Waterway and the Atlantic Ocean.

It is extremely vulnerable to hurricanes, storms and king tides. The western part of the town, where many seawalls are low, already sees frequent tidal flooding.

Town officials are working with state Rep. Mike Caruso and state Sen. Lori Berman on securing state money and grants for the project, which will cost millions.

Completing a survey of underground utilities, which could cost up to \$85,000, "is one of the next-step requirements for any, in my opinion, grant applications," Thrasher told the council.

"It's basic information for our town. It would be useful whether or not the seawall project proceeds, because it would allow us to look at a stormwater master plan," which could cost \$60,000, he said.

One option Briny will consider is the Resilient Florida program, which provides grants created from new legislation aimed at helping Florida communities prepare for the potential impacts of climate change, including sea level rise, intensified storms and

flooding. The deadline for grant applications is Sept. 1.

But the seawall isn't the only important piece of Briny Breezes infrastructure in need of repair.

"The big project we are working on right now is relocating our water mains because they are right next to the seawall and before we can do work on the seawalls we've got to move those water mains away," council President Sue Thaler said after the July 22 meeting.

Thrasher said he would massage his proposed \$887,857 budget to free up money for the utilities survey.

Briny will again be capped at the statutory tax maximum of \$10 per \$1,000 of homeowners' property value next year, as the

tax rate has been since 2009.

Public hearings on the rate will be Sept. 7 and Sept. 23 at 5:01 p.m.

Despite its infrastructure issues, Briny Breezes saw a 10.4% jump in taxable valuation, one of the largest increases among Palm Beach County municipalities.

In other business, the council approved a \$500 fee to American Legal Publishing to add the town's code of ordinances online. It would be accessible at the company's website.

"It's not much money to bring us into the 21st century," said Alderwoman Kathy Gross. "It would be more professional." ★

Boynton Beach

Mediation sessions are latest chapter in Town Square dispute

By Jane Smith

As Boynton Beach's dispute with the Town Square private developer went into its second mediation session in early August, frustration over the terms of the contract and missed deadlines showed in the comments of the city's commissioners.

Although a majority of the commissioners have shared their frustrations, Mayor Steven Grant continues to support the developer, John Markey, and his firm, JKM, despite the drama caused by the firm's failure to meet deadlines on the promised construction of two parking garages.

Grant, who has a friendly relationship with Markey, has tried to calm the differences. The mayor and Markey are golfing buddies who played together for years, Grant told *The Coastal Star* on July 21. Markey also watched Grant's dog while his daughter was being born in late March 2020.

Although all the public buildings in the nearly 16-acre site opened last year, the project still lacks the private pieces of the \$250 million Town Square.

Missing are a hotel, new apartments, shops, restaurants, offices and garages to provide parking for city staff, library

workers and patrons, and visitors to the renovated historic high school and Schoolhouse Children's Museum.

In July 2020, on the same day Boynton Beach leaders and elected officials celebrated the city's centennial with the opening of the new city hall/library building, the commission found out that JKM would not be able to deliver the garages on time, as it had promised.

JKM has since allowed Boynton Beach to park cars on the Town Square land the firm owns, according to a deal worked out by an ex-assistant city manager.

At the July 21, 2020, commission meeting, Commissioner Justin Katz questioned if shoveling more money into the project from the city solidifies the deal or converts it into a city project. "We should be in the position to take the reins back if we are doing everything other than building it," he said.

The city sued JKM in November 2020, asking a judge to decide whether it had met all terms of the deal. By affirming the city has met its obligations, the suit claims JKM has not upheld its part of the contract and the relationship can be severed. Even if the city wins, JKM will still own the land.

The city gave three parcels of Town Square land to JKM. The firm also

received nearly \$2 million in cash "for considerations," according to the original March 2018 agreement. The city had an options clause in the agreement that allowed it to buy back the land for \$100 a parcel. The options clause was removed in December 2018 after JKM received city approval for its site plans.

At a June 15 commission meeting held one week before the first scheduled mediation session, Katz expressed his frustration again over the contract terms when he called Markey a "property hostage taker."

Grant disagreed.

"I have a different perception," he said. "If we can get a better project that we could not have received three years ago, that is something the commission should look for."

Commissioner Ty Penserga has asked for an investigation of how the deal was created, and Vice Mayor Woodrow Hay requested a workshop to explain how the deal came together. Neither one was on the commission in 2018 when the Town Square pact was made. Each suggestion failed for a lack of support at the June 15 commission meeting.

"Maybe I am taking it a little bit personally," City Manager Lori LaVerriere told commissioners at that

meeting. "There was no action taken on this project in terms of agreements or modifications to any documents without the commission being fully aware of it, voting on it and being informed. I just want to make that clear for the public. Nothing happened in the back room."

The first mediation session was held June 23 at Boynton Beach City Hall. Markey proposed a revised agreement then, and each city commissioner received a copy of it from the city attorney, Grant said. Commissioners then were supposed to tell the city attorney whether the deal was acceptable.

A second mediation session was Aug. 2 at the law offices of Tripp Scott in Fort Lauderdale. The law firm's president, Ed Pozzuoli, is the mediator. He also is a former chairman of the Broward County Republican Party and a Fox News analyst, according to his profile on the Twitter social media platform.

The second mediation produced a workable agreement that the City Commission will discuss behind closed doors in mid-August, Grant told *The Coastal Star*. If a majority of the commissioners support the deal at that session, then the commission would discuss the settlement publicly in September. ★

'Funky' idea for preserving historic house: Eatery with railroad crates for more space

By Larry Barszewski

The only shipping containers ever seen on Ocean Avenue are usually being transported on freight trains rumbling down the railroad tracks that cross the downtown Boynton Beach street.

But if Anthony Barber has his wish, he'll use up to a half-dozen shipping containers to turn a languishing historic home on the avenue into a restaurant success.

Boynton Beach city commissioners may let Barber take a stab at trying to make something out of the 1919 Oscar Magnuson house at 211 E. Ocean Ave., just east of the Schoolhouse Children's Museum and Learning Center.

The historic property sits unused and in disrepair in the heart of the city's redevelopment area, largely because developers have found converting the century-old house to a commercial use to be cost prohibitive.

Barber would have shipping containers as the restaurant's kitchen and bathroom spaces, reducing renovation costs, while using the historic house and constructing a new outdoor patio for seating dinner guests. The containers are typically corrugated steel, 8-by-8.5 feet and 20 or 40 feet long.

Barber, who previously served on the CRA's advisory board, would place the shipping containers to the rear of the house and dress them up to blend in with the overall look of the property.

Commissioners, acting as

the Community Redevelopment Agency's governing board, agreed to accept a letter of interest from Barber for developing the CRA-owned property at the CRA's July 13 meeting. That acceptance allows anyone else interested in using the property to submit proposals by the time of the board's September meeting.

Commissioners will then decide whether to let Barber's plan move forward, select a different proposal, or decide to reject all proposals and leave the property alone for now.

Barber currently owns Troy's Barbeque on South Federal Highway in the city. His stepfather, Troy Davis, initially began the business 25 years ago from a roadside stand. Barber is getting set to open a second restaurant on Georgia Avenue in West Palm Beach after a failed 2019 venture in Boca Raton, where Barber said his restaurant at Glades Road and Dixie Highway just wasn't in a good location to generate business.

Boynton Mayor Steven Grant said he would rather see a mixed-use development — which would bring in more tax revenue to the city — and not shipping containers on the avenue. A mixed-use project would also involve combining several adjacent properties and would be more in character with other planned redevelopment downtown, he said.

"We're talking about all of these other high-end developments that are coming. I don't think that the shipping containers on Ocean Avenue is necessarily the best fit," Grant



Anthony Barber envisions the 1919 Oscar Magnuson house as only the indoor seating part of his proposed restaurant. He could buy the property, lease it, or the city could consider other ideas for the vacant building. **Coastal Star photo**

said. But Commissioner Justin Katz said nothing else has worked so far to get the property redeveloped.

The CRA purchased the Magnuson house in 2007 for \$850,000, initially expecting to turn the building into the CRA's offices. The CRA moved to a different location on Federal Highway instead and has since been unable to get the Ocean Avenue property developed.

The CRA sold the property for \$255,000 in 2016 to a restaurant developer, but took back the property two years later after the restaurant project fell through.

"I'm open to exploring this idea, if only because previous attempts to consolidate those lots didn't bear any fruit," Katz said. "We've had this property forever. It has been worthless."

Although Barber is interested in buying the property, CRA Executive Director Michael Simon said the site could be leased to Barber with the idea of working his restaurant into any

future redevelopment project. Simon is leaving the CRA, having submitted his letter of resignation in June. He plans to leave Aug. 12 following the CRA's August meeting.

Commissioner Christina Romelus would like to see Barber's restaurant, which he said would not be a barbecue establishment, be a permanent fixture downtown.

"You have been a local success story that I think is exemplary of what a Boynton Beach business has the capability of doing," Romelus said. "I want something funky and unique and different, because that's what Ocean Avenue has to be in order for it to become the vibrant downtown we want it to be. We can't just create a lot of mixed-use properties all up and down Ocean Avenue and think that's what's going to make us viable."

An adjacent property owner who would like to do his own redevelopment of the property spoke against Barber's plan.

Brian Fitzpatrick said he has been trying for 35 years to put a development together that would include the property — only to have the Magnuson house be a sticking point for any prospective developer. He said the house should be moved.

"You are not going to find a more willing, flexible individual to do business with. I envision a public-private partnership where the city retains equity," Fitzpatrick told commissioners. "What I'm offering you is the possibility of creating something great."

Grant told Fitzpatrick he could submit his own offer if he desired, but he'd probably have to come up with something more substantial if he wants to convince commissioners.

"We're not going to be sold on possibilities. We want to be sold on realities," the mayor said.

"We need to have the reality if you want to get a mixed-use project." ★

Business Spotlight

Owners sad about closing Delray Ace but say it's right time to move on

Pam Schafer, 65, and her son Glennon, 26, have sold Delray Ace, at 50 SE Sixth Ave., meaning the hardware store will close after nearly 50 years.

The business was started by Pam's father-in-law and Glennon's grandfather, Frank Shafer, in 1972 and taken over by Pam's husband and Glennon's father, Bud, in 1989.

The store is scheduled to close Aug. 24 and is running a 40%-off sale until then. The Schafers had hoped that someone would keep the store running, but the new owner bought the property, not the business, they explained.

"It's bittersweet," Glennon says. "But with e-commerce and COVID, it's been tough. The demographics have changed. People are not doing things around the house so much anymore."

Pam Schafer — who has other longtime work at St. Joseph's Episcopal School in Boynton Beach, first as a teacher's aide and now as an administrative coordinator — has been overseeing the store and spends about 30 hours a week there, she says.

"After my husband bought the store from his father, he ran it until he passed away in 2005. I had to quit the school when Bud got sick to take care of him and started working part time at the hardware store.

"I ran it with my manager, Dale Hussey, all those years, but then he got sick and Glennon came in."

"It was my turn to step up to the plate," Glennon said. "I didn't have much of a choice. I was going to college and teaching tennis at the time.

"I've been in charge of IT, behind-the-scenes stuff."

Now, though, Pam has decided to focus on her work at St. Joseph's, and Glennon, with an MBA from Florida Atlantic University, has realized that retail is not his thing.

However, the highlight of the business for both has been the service it provided to the community.

"I love Delray Beach and all our very nice customers who came in here all the time," Pam said. "They are a good group of people, and trying to accommodate everyone's needs,



I really enjoyed that aspect of the store, but Glennon and I are ready for different chapters."

They say they will look at other ways to further their family's legacy.

"We'd like to continue from where my grandfather and father left off, something that will serve the community in some realm," Glennon said.

In July, the **Boca Raton Resort & Club** unveiled its new name, **The Boca Raton**, referencing "a new golden era," beginning with a \$175 million Phase One transformation set to be fully complete by winter 2021/2022.

The resort's owners, **MSD Partners, L.P.** and **Northview Hotel Group**, are stewarding the property into its new era with the architecture and design firm Rockwell Group, landscape architecture firm EDSA, branding and marketing agency King & Partners, and GarciaStromberg, a firm of architects, designers and artists.

Skye at Boynton Beach LLC, tied to LeCesse Development Corp., sold **500 Ocean Apartments**, 101 S. Federal Highway, Boynton Beach, for \$105 million to four Delaware entities, with three tied to Avanti Residential in Denver, the property management arm of Capital Real Estate. The fourth entity, 101 S. Federal Highway Ground Owner LLC, is tied to Safehold, a New York-based real estate investment trust. The sale was recorded on

June 25.

The Avanti entities financed the purchase with a \$42 million loan from Berkeley Point Capital. Records show LeCesse paid \$4.7 million for the 4.5-acre property in 2015, and built the complex in 2018. 500 Ocean Apartments consists of one- to three-bedroom units that range from 744 square feet to 1,306 square feet, according to its website. Amenities include a bowling alley, an infinity pool, a parking garage and a theater room and game room in the clubhouse. The property includes office and retail space.

Real estate investor and motivational speaker **Grant Cardone** of **Cardone Capital LLC** announced on May 28 the acquisition of **Camino Real Apartments**, a 235-unit apartment midrise at 33 E. Camino Real, Boca Raton. According to *The Real Deal*, it was purchased for \$69 million from Morgan Properties in an off-market deal. Morgan Properties purchased the complex in February for \$46.8 million. Cardone plans to make \$10 million in capital improvements to the apartments and common areas.

John Krediet's ocean-to-lake estate on 1.9 acres at 1780 S. Ocean, Manalapan, sold for \$29,144,675 to **1780 SOB, LLC**, according to public records dated July 8. Krediet, founding partner of C.F. Capital Management, bought the property for a recorded \$4

million in 2010. The buying entity took out a \$20 million loan from First Republic Bank, according to records, with James D. Robinson IV signing as the borrower.

Douglas Elliman agents **Nicholas Malinosky** and **Randy Ely** co-listed the property at \$35 million. Agent **Suzanne Frisbie** of the **Corcoran Group** represented the buyer.

Built by Mark Timothy Inc., designed by Affiniti Architects and furnished by Marc-Michaels Interior Design, the custom estate has 160 feet of waterfront on the ocean and Intracoastal Waterway, a tunnel under A1A, full-floor master wing, custom wine cellar, heated saltwater infinity-edge pool, and expansive grounds.

Michael Cantor's 1160 Manalapan LLC sold the 20,075-square-foot estate at 1160 S. Ocean Blvd., Manalapan, to a land trust managed by City National Bank of Florida for \$28 million, according to property records dated June 1. The trust financed the purchase with a \$20.3 million loan from HSBC Bank.

The recently renovated seven-bedroom estate sits on a 1.7-acre lot with a tennis court and 160 feet of waterfront on the Intracoastal and ocean.

Holly Meyer Lucas of **Compass** and **Sara Eavenson** and **Missy McCloskey** of **Douglas Elliman** represented the seller. **Casey Flannery** of **Equestrian Sotheby's**

International Realty brought the buyer. **Michael Cantor** is the CEO of Cantor Enterprises. Michael Cantor's father, Edward Cantor, paid just over \$1 million for the property in 1987.

Randal Perkins, through **1111 South Ocean LLC**, bought the oceanfront mansion at 1111 S. Ocean Blvd., Delray Beach, from **Thomas and Michell Marra** for \$21.1 million in May. Perkins, the founder of **AshBritt Environmental**, a national disaster response and environmental services contractor, then sold the house on July 9 for \$21,910,500. The new owner is **1111 Ocean Land Trust**, with Boca Raton attorney **Stuart R. Morris**. It was purchased with a \$14.2 million loan from Bank of America.

The 21,000-square-foot, seven-bedroom mansion, situated on an acre with 120 feet of oceanfront, includes a theater, gym, game room, an eight-bay garage, and a four-hole putting green. The house was designed by Randall Stofft and built by Cudmore Builders, according to the listing, which was held by Douglas Elliman's Nick Malinosky and Randy Ely. They represented the buyer and seller in the earlier transaction but said they could not comment on the second sale.

The late shoe mogul **Bobby Campbell's** waterfront estate at 819 Orchid Drive in Boca Raton sold for \$17.9 million in June.

The buyer was Florida-based **819 Orchid Drive LLC**, with **Eric Glazer** as the LLC's registered manager and agent. **Oren Alexander** of **Douglas Elliman** represented the buyer and seller.

The deal marks a record for single-family home sales in Boca, according to the brokerage, topping the \$17.375 million sale in 2017 of 201 New Castle St.

Campbell, who died last year at age 82, was chairman and CEO of **BBC International**, a footwear property whose brands include Cole Haan, Polo Ralph Lauren, Tommy Hilfiger and Nine West.

Campbell paid \$3.8 million for the property in 2000 and built a new house in 2019.

The 12,673-square-foot

Batmasian Family Grants help 15 small businesses

More than 150 Broward and Palm Beach County businesses applied to be considered for the Batmasian Family Grant for small business.

In June, 15 grants were awarded. Founders of Investments Limited, Propel, and Changing Lives, Jim and Marta Batmasian support both small businesses and nonprofit organizations with a goal to make a difference in the community.

The first-place winner, **Invictus Barber Shop**, was awarded \$20,000. The second-place winner, **Salutations of Delray**, received \$10,000. The third-place winner, **K&E Travel Agency**, was awarded \$10,000.

The remaining top finalists each received \$5,000. They were: **Doria Media**, **Swim Boca**, **Wine House Social**, **Urban Youth Impact**, **Six Tables**, **Music For Young Voices**, **Toby Center**, **The Loft At Congress**, **Everyday Learning**, **ScentsAbility**, **Project Speech** and **Atlantic Allcare**.

The judging panel was made up of business leaders, with the Greater Boca Raton Chamber of Commerce reviewing all applications. Winners also received three months of one-on-one consultation sessions with the Batmasians and the judging panel.

— Christine Davis



Diana Bush, owner of the retail boutique **Salutations of Delray**, accepts the second-place prize of \$10,000 in the Batmasian Family Grant small business award competition. Also at the presentation are (l-r) attorney **Ken Ronan**, **Troy McLellan** of the Greater Boca Raton Chamber of Commerce, and **Lauren Ricks** of **Into The Blue Agency**, which promoted the grant competition. **Photo provided**

mansion, with nine bedrooms, four infinity pools, a dock, and atrium-like interiors, sits on a 0.59-acre corner lot with 343 feet on the Intracoastal Waterway.

Joseph A. and Melissa L. Walsh bought the estate at 1315 N. Ocean Blvd. in Gulf Stream for \$12.6 million from the Sharon Ann Millar Revocable Trust Agreement, with **Sharon Ann Millar and Lawrence A. Sala** acting as trustees. The sale was recorded July 7.

Joseph Walsh is CEO and president of the Dallas-based software support company **Thryv**. Melissa Walsh is a founder of **Capital Blackbook**, an event design and management firm near Washington, D.C., according to her LinkedIn page.

Sharon “Sherry” Millar is the widow of James F. Millar, who died in 2020. According to his obituary, he was president and CEO of Dublin, Ohio-based Cardinal Health. He also served on the board of Wendy’s International, First Industrial Realty and Columbus Industries.

Miami-based **Sabal Development’s** founder, **Pascal Nicolai**, paid \$9.85 million in June for an oceanfront, 55,000-square-foot lot at 3050 S. Ocean Boulevard, Manalapan. He plans to build a 12,000-square-foot, six-bedroom home with a movie theater, gym, lounge, elevator, and a beach house with a dock. Architecture and interior finishes will be designed by TOGU Design of Miami.

The sellers, **Kenneth Brodlied**, chairman of New York-based car dealership **East Hills Auto Group**, with his wife, **Andrea**, paid \$7.9 million for the lot in October 2020. The lot was listed in March for \$12 million, then cut by \$1 million in April, according to Realtor.com. **Christopher Leavitt** with **Douglas Elliman** represented the sellers, and **Gilles Dalco** of **Bonaparte Real Estate** represented the buyer, according to Zillow.com.

Joshua D. and Victoria Frank purchased the waterfront home at 429 E. Alexander Palm Road, Boca Raton, from **Cindy Barad Elias**, a trustee of the **Alexander Palm Revocable Trust**. The 8,082-square-foot, six-bedroom home, with 88 feet of waterfront, sold for \$9.6 million, with the sale recorded June 2.

The estate was built in 2012 by SRD Building Corp., with amenities include a club room with a bar, custom wine room, gym and infinity pool. Elias bought the property in 2013 for \$6.456 million.

Bambi Ross of **One Sotheby’s International Realty** represented the seller, while **Devin Kay** of **Douglas Elliman** represented the buyer. Joshua Frank is a partner and the co-head of research at

Nutrition Cottage closing

Boynton Beach — July 23



Karen Stowe (right), who co-owned the health food store at 1815 S. Federal with her husband, Mark, speaks with longtime customers Nazra Sansur and Dorina Scalia during one of the business’s final days. The store served the community since 1975. **Tim Stepien/The Coastal Star**

Trian Partners, an investment management firm with offices in New York and Palm Beach, according to its website.

David Gibbs and his wife, **Sharon**, paid \$8.465 million in May for an Intracoastal home at 550 Middle Road, Gulf Stream.

Gibbs is CEO of **Yum Brands**, owner of KFC, Pizza Hut and Taco Bell.

The seller is listed as a trust in **Patricia Moran’s** name. Moran is the former chair and CEO of **JM Family Enterprises**, a Deerfield Beach-based auto company that was founded by her father, Jim Moran.

She purchased the 6,401-square-foot home in 2016 for \$6.7 million. The estate was built in 2001 on a 9,001-square-foot lot with 330 feet of waterfront.

The **Boca Raton Arts District Exploratory Corp.** has appointed **Matthew Cimaglia**, the CEO and co-founder of **Third Summit**, to its board of directors.

BRADEC is seeking a deal with Boca Raton to build a \$130 million performing arts center in Mizner Park. The project would be funded by donations from cultural arts supporters and corporations.

“It is critical to our mission to have an experienced professional of his caliber on our team in order to support the center’s focus on technology and innovation,” **BRADEC** President **Andrea Virgin** said in announcing Cimaglia’s appointment in June.

Third Summit is a network of digital media and financial companies, whose flagship platform is Alton, a cloud-based, artificial intelligence-driven ecosystem for digital content creators.

Cimaglia, who grew up in Boca Raton, also has worked with Fortune 100 and 500 companies.

In a 4-0 vote of the City Commission, **FAU Tech Runway** was approved on July 20 to lease the 1,850-square-foot, ground-floor office space at City Hall at Boynton Beach Town Square, 100 E. Ocean Ave.

Boynton Beach’s Department of Economic Development and Strategy is providing a one-time \$50,000 grant for programming within the space.

Tech Runway, which received a five-year lease, is a startup incubator that connects entrepreneurs with educational resources, mentors and funding opportunities.

The **Executive Women of the Palm Beaches Foundation** has named its new board for the 2021-22 year, with **Amy Brand**, CEO of **Philanthropy Tank**, to serve as president.

The selection came June 23 at the organization’s annual meeting at the Beach Club in Lake Worth Beach.

Brand will be joined by **Cecilia Hudnet**, director of sales with the **Chesterfield Palm Beach**, as vice president of resource development/membership; **Kae Jonsons**, director of development with the **Delray Beach Public Library**, as vice president of resource development/fundraising; **Kathy McGuire** as vice president of programs and education; **Angie Francalancia** of **The Connection Public Relations** as secretary, and **Trudy Crowetz** as treasurer and immediate past president.

Cindy Pollack, a vice president at **Edward Jones**, is treasurer-elect, and **Nellie King** is legal counsel.

Board members include **Jessica Clasby**, **Sailynn Doyle**, **Lisa Huertas**, **Barbara Scarlata**, **Lena D’Amico**, **Jackie Halderman**, **Marlene Ryan**, **Marcella Scherer** and **Trixy Walker**.

During the meeting, Jonsons was named 2021 member of the

year, and **Jo-Ann Clync** was named new member of the year.

Jorge Pesquera, president and CEO of **Discover The Palm Beaches**, received the Presidents Award during the **Gold Coast PR Council Bernays Award**



Pesquera

presentations announced July 20 via Zoom.

Pesquera was honored for aggressively promoting and protecting South Florida’s vital tourism and hospitality industry during the pandemic.



De La Rionda

Lisa De La Rionda, director of **Palm Beach County’s Public Affairs Department**, was named PR Star for how she communicated the county’s response to the pandemic to the public and the media.

The **Founders’ Award** went to the **Gold Coast PR Council’s** treasurer, **Michael Turnbell**, for keeping the organization solvent and viable during the



Turnbell

difficult economic environment.

Other award recipients included: **Palm Tran**, in the nonprofit project or campaign, small category; **T. Leroy Jefferson Medical Society**, in the nonprofit project or campaign, large category; and **Loggerhead Marine Life Center**, in the social media campaign, nonprofit category.

The **Crisis Communications** award went to **Food For The Poor**. **Labor Finders** received the award for marketing materials, print, internal and external category. **Multi-Media Works, Inc.** was the

winner in marketing materials, digital/video, internal and external category.

Solid Waste Authority of Palm Beach County won in the special event, live or virtual category. **Boardroom PR** won the award for social media campaign, for profit category.

Kaye Communications Inc. won for PR campaign by a small company or firm, and **Lynn University** for PR campaign by a large company or firm.

The awards were hosted by **Rich Pollack** of **Pollack Communications**, **Anne Dichele** from the **Gold Coast Down Syndrome Organization**, and **David DiPino** from **Tenet Florida Physician Services**.

The annual awards recognize excellence in public relations campaigns, marketing programs, and media coverage.

Robert Carlo is now **Florida Peninsula Insurance’s** director of litigation. Carlo began his



Carlo

claims career at **Progressive Insurance** and continued with roles at **GMAC Insurance**, **American International Group**, **Acceptance Insurance**, **Direct General Insurance**, **Windhaven Insurance Co.**, **National General Insurance**, and **Fed Nat Insurance**.

Carlo is a native Floridian who completed his undergraduate studies at the **University of Florida** and earned his MBA at the **Keller Graduate School of Management**. Carlo will work out of the company’s **Boca Raton** office.

New degree and certificate programs in construction and the health sciences are slated to begin this fall term at **Palm Beach State College**, aiming to meet industry demands. Fall term classes begin Aug. 23.

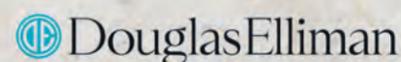
The building construction management associate degree and building construction specialist college credit certificate focus on managing the construction process and high-demand knowledge and skills. For more information, visit www.palmbeachstate.edu/career-pathways/pathway-industry.

The health services management associate degree will prepare students to work on the business and financial sides of health care delivery. The surgical services associate degree will prepare surgical technologists. For more information, visit www.palmbeachstate.edu/career-pathways/pathway-health.



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

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Around Town

August/September 2021

The Coastal  Star

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On the water in Boca Raton. Page AT6



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Peggy Adams Rescue plans to open cat café. Page AT15



House of the Month
An oceanfront Delray Beach estate. Page AT23

Along the Coast



Jamie Sauer, president of the Junior League of Boca Raton (from left), Lynne Moyer, Sosy Faradyan, Mado Faradyan, Fabiola Padernacht, Irina Oyfe and Jocelyn Mijares box food at Boca Helping Hands. Tim Stepien/The Coastal Star

50 years OF SERVICE

Boca's Junior League celebrates long tradition of helping, from providing diapers, meals for children to keeping community garden

By Ron Hayes

You'll find them right around 6 p.m. any Thursday, eight or 10 women lining both sides of a worktable on the second floor of a warehouse on Northwest First Court in Boca Raton.

For the next hour or two, they will pick up individual servings of Kraft Macaroni & Cheese, Pop Tarts, Pringles or mixed fruit cups and place one of each in cardboard boxes.

Fruit cup after fruit cup, Pop Tart after Pop Tart, this would be awfully boring work if they were just packing boxes. But these women are at Boca Helping Hands to make sure about 700 South County elementary school students don't go hungry every weekend.

They are the Junior League of Boca Raton, and on Sept. 23 many of their 600-plus members will gather at The

See LEAGUE on page AT5



Members of the Junior League of Boca Raton gather at an event in the 1980s. This chapter of the league began in 1971. Photo provided by the Junior League of Boca Raton

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Philanthropy Notes



An ACCF student practices a coding workshop before meeting Coco Gauff via a Zoom call.

Photo provided

The Coastal Star

Publisher
Jerry Lower
publisher@thecoastalstar.com

Advertising Executives
Judy Green
Jay Nuszer

ArtsPaper editor
Greg Stepanich
gstepanich@pbartpaper.com

Executive Editor
Mary Kate Leming
editor@thecoastalstar.com

Advertising Manager
Chris Bellard
sales@thecoastalstar.com

Managing Editors
Steve Plunkett
steve@thecoastalstar.com
Mary Thurwachter
maryt@thecoastalstar.com

Founding Partners
Carolyn & Price Patton

News Operations
Tracy Allerton
Chad Armstrong
Kathleen Bell
Brad Betker
Rachel O'Hara
Victoria Preuss
Michelle Quigley
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5114 N Ocean Blvd.
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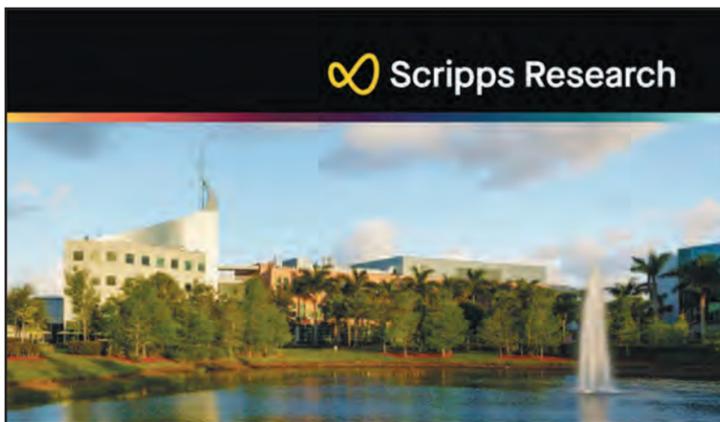
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Gauff teams with Microsoft to donate devices for Delray kids

As a professional tennis player and full-time remote student, Coco Gauff sees firsthand the ways technology benefits education.

While completing classes despite maintaining a rigorous training and tournament schedule, the local celebrity was inspired to provide some of the same tools to Delray Beach students.

"This community has given me a lot, so it's definitely important to give back," the 17-year-old Gauff said of her hometown.

Teaming up with Microsoft, she helped refresh the main computer lab and build two additional labs for the Achievement Centers for

Children and Families with the donation of new devices.

"We are extremely thankful to have been chosen as the recipients for this collaboration," said Stephanie Seibel, the nonprofit's CEO. "We want to extend an enormous thank you to Coco and Microsoft for this generous contribution."

For more information, call 561-276-0520 or visit <https://achievementcentersfl.org>.

Quantum awards \$1.5 million to nonprofits

Through its Quantum in the Community initiative, the Quantum Foundation allocated nearly \$1.5 million in grants for the first and second quarters of 2021, the largest of which went to FoundCare, one of the government's federally qualified health centers.

FoundCare will apply the \$250,000 toward construction of a new in-house pharmacy at its West Palm Beach location.

"We are deeply grateful for the generous support we have received from our friends at Quantum Foundation," CEO Yolette Bonnet said.

The other grant recipients include The Women's Breast & Heart Initiative; Center for Family Services of Palm Beach County; Children's Bereavement Center; Helping Our Wounded Foundation of South Florida; Homeless Coalition of Palm Beach County; Meals on Wheels of the Palm Beaches; TeleHealth Access for Seniors; Education Foundation of Palm Beach County; Healthy Mothers, Healthy Babies Coalition

Continued on the next page

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Debuting in November

Philanthropy Season Preview: an in-depth look at the local philanthropic scene

Advertising space reservation deadline: Oct. 15

Around Town Philanthropy Season Preview

Non-profits back after COVID hiatus

Charitable organizations are ready to return to normal

Your guide to the 2021-2022 Giving scene

Deadlines: space reservation and editorial content by October 15, Ads we are building for you by October 25, Ads your agency is providing by October 27

Pay it Forward

Mirror Ball trophy up for grabs at annual dance fundraiser

By Amy Woods

The George Snow Scholarship Fund's Ballroom Battle returns for its 14th year and its second as a televised event to raise money for aspiring college students.

The *Dancing with the Stars*-themed competition is set for 7 p.m. Aug. 14 and will air on WPTV-TV from the station's studios as well as online. It features eight dancers, each paired with a professional, strutting their stuff during choreographed routines.

"Over the last 13 years, our event has become the do-not-miss event of the season as eight of our community's most recognizable personalities take to the dance floor for a good cause," said Tim Snow, the organization's president. "Not to mention that coveted



Benavente



Fleming



Garcia



Hancock



Reiter



Shikiar



Snyder



Stein

fundraising Mirror Ball trophy."

Among those vying for the trophy awarded to the top fundraisers is Dr. Jeffrey Stein, 63, a Boca Raton internist.

"Am I going to be the best dancer?" Stein mused. "I don't know. But I do know I am going to have the most fun."

He plans to channel his inner John Travolta in a rhinestone-studded disco outfit.

"There's a lot of people who do this, and they get out of their comfort zone," Stein said. "This was a fundraiser

that was so easy for me to do. I'm enjoying learning certain dances. At the same time, I'm hopefully going to put some kids through college."

Dancing always has been part of his life, especially while he attended medical school at the American University of the Caribbean in Montserrat.

"It was my release," Stein said. "I just used to put on a cassette and listen to '70s music and dance in my dorm room to take the pressure off an exam or to distract me. It was my way to decompress."

The other dancers are Elmar Benavente, Kelly Fleming, Dre Garcia, Dr. Melyssa Hancock, Ryan Reiter, Mindy Shikiar and Robert Snyder. Fred Astaire Dance Studios in Boca Raton is giving all of them a series of lessons to perfect their moves.

"Whether I win or not is immaterial because the only people who are winning are the kids who are going to get a scholarship," Stein said. "My life is not going to change with what happens, but if I can change kids' lives, that's what matters."

If You Go

What: Ballroom Battle for George Snow Scholarship Fund

When: 7 p.m. Aug. 14

Where: On air at WPTV-TV, online at www.wptv.com and <https://scholarship.org/ballroom-battle>

Information: 561-347-6799 or www.ballroombattle.com

of Palm Beach County; Farmworker Coordinating Council of Palm Beach County; Miami Lighthouse for the Blind and Visually Impaired; Palm Beach County Health Department; Promise Fund of Florida; T. Leroy Jefferson Medical Society, and Northend RISE.

For more information, call 561-832-7497 or visit <https://quantumfnd.org>.

Roots and Wings keeps soaring during summer

This year's Honda Classic golf tournament donated \$5,000 to Roots and Wings, a charity that works to improve the quality of education in South Florida, and its Project UpLift program.

A check presentation took place in June featuring executives from the tournament, board members from Roots and Wings and Plumosa School of the Arts Principal Cathy Reynolds.

Project UpLift helps second- and third-graders who have been identified by their teachers as needing extra help in reading.

Roots and Wings' education celebration also took place in June, recognizing recipients of the Above and Beyond Award.

More than 100 winners and their guests joined Janet Meeks, the city of Delray Beach's education coordinator, at the Arts Warehouse for the affair, which included a buffet, a raffle and plaques to the Above and Beyond champions.

For more information, call 561-404-0455 or visit <https://rootsandwingsinc.org>.



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

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Celebrations

Literacy Links

Palm Beach Par 3 — June 11



Dozens of golfers showed their support for the Literacy Coalition of Palm Beach County at an outing that included lunch and a silent auction. A total of \$25,000 was raised for programs serving children and adults in need. The winning foursome was Craig Tanner, Dennis Drucker, Devin Rosenberger and Luciana Garcia. **ABOVE:** (l-r) Literacy Coalition of Palm Beach County CEO Kristin Calder with board members Robert Mitchell, Nancy Vera, Joe Grant, Regine Bataille, Sharon Hill, Debra Ghostine, Len Gray and Maggie Dickenson. **Photo provided**

Retirement honor

Café Saponi, West Palm Beach — July 10



More than 35 years ago, Il Circolo, The Italian Cultural Society, donated \$5,000 to Florida Atlantic University to kick-start an Italian program. Myriam Ruthenberg was hired to teach it. Since that time, Ruthenberg's class evolved into a full-study curriculum recognized by the Italian government. The charity lauded the recently retired professor and gave her a clock as a gift (above). 'The investment Il Circolo made has brought the richest of returns, taking pride knowing that our young students have benefited from our support,' volunteer Sally Valenti said. 'We salute Dr. Ruthenberg for skillfully and relentlessly making this possible and wish her a peaceful and enjoyable rest.' **Photo provided**

Butterfly release

Faulk Center for Counseling, Boca Raton — May 18



The Faulk Center raised awareness about mental health amid the COVID-19 crisis with a livestreamed event on Facebook. Butterflies symbolize transformation and renewal and represent hope and strength for people struggling with mental illness. 'Understanding the impact of the pandemic on mental health, and on those with serious mental illness, is critical,' said Jonathan Price, the center's CEO. Its mission is to promote emotional well-being through free and low-cost programs. **ABOVE:** (l-r) Lois Weisman, Marla Kosec, Rita Thrasher and Price. **Photo provided**

World Environment Day

Atlantic Dunes Park, Delray Beach — June 5



The Institute for Regional Conservation, a nonprofit dedicated to protecting and restoring ecological diversity in Delray Beach, celebrated the United Nations' annual holiday by planting populations of species that historically grew in the area but have become extinct or underrepresented. Staff members Cara Abbott, George Gann and Michelle Smith worked with a group of volunteers from the community on the Restoring the Gold Coast program. 'While sandy beaches have been renourished, sea oats have been planted and turtle nests protected, the vast diversity of coastal uplands has remained in a depleted state,' Gann said. **ABOVE:** (l-r) Smith, volunteer John Campanola, Gann, volunteer Tina Pugliese and Abbott. **Photo provided**



'I Will Survive'

Royal Palm Place, Boca Raton — May 21

The evening event put on by Changing Lives, an organization focused on meeting the immediate needs of homeless people in Palm Beach County, gave guests a better understanding of a day in the life of a growing population and what the nonprofit has done to help. Nearly \$147,000 was raised. Celebrities lined up to show their support for the cause, including former NFL linebacker Darius Fleming and Grammy Award winner Gloria Gaynor, whose hit song inspired the title for the fundraiser. 'It was truly heart-warming to see the community come together to help those in need, especially during these trying times,' said Lesly Morales, director of operations for Changing Lives. **LEFT:** Marta and James Batmasian. **Photo provided**

LEAGUE

Continued from page AT1

23 many of their 600-plus members will gather at The Addison to celebrate 50 years of service to their community.

"We find a need, and we work to fill it," says Jamie Sauer, the league's president. "In the past 50 years, we've volunteered more than a million hours."

That's a million hours of volunteerism since 1971, when 26 young women declared themselves the Junior Service League of Boca Raton and set about to gather 100 members under 35 so they could be recognized by the national organization.

Mary Lavallo joined in 1973. She'll turn 78 in December and is still active with the league.

"It was a way of making new friends," she recalls. "I had children, they had children. When I joined there were not so many women working outside the home. I'm a volunteer. I like to do things, and the league has taught me how to be a productive volunteer."

By 1984, the Junior Service League had found its 100 members, been recognized by the national body, and dropped the word "Service" from its name.

They've never dropped the commitment to service.

In the earliest days, that meant puppet shows and consignment shops, or supporting the Morikami Museum, Planned Parenthood and Children's Home Society.

Then they helped found the Boca Raton Historical Society and the Children's Museum.

In 2010, the league was entrusted with launching the Boca Raton Community Garden on 1½ acres by the railroad tracks on Northwest Fourth Street, land donated by the city.

Ground was broken on Earth Day 2010, with residents who leased the 100 plots agreeing to donate 10% of their fruits and vegetables to Boca Helping Hands.

A decade later, on May 10, 2021, ground was broken on a new community garden at Meadows Park on Northwest Eighth Street to accommodate the Brightline station to be built near the Downtown Library. Brightline underwrote the new garden's construction and the city donated the land and water, but it will continue to be managed by the league.

"We've had a volunteer shift working together with Brightline, Kaufman Lynn Construction and the city to build the 100 garden boxes," Sauer reports. "We're very excited to get started in August."

When league members learned that food stamps and the federal Women, Infants & Children program don't cover disposable diapers,



Members of the Junior League of Boca Raton entertain underserved children at an event. Some of the league's members say they are motivated to help children after raising kids of their own. Photos provided by the Junior League of Boca Raton



Jamie Sauer, president of the Junior League of Boca Raton, and Mary Lavallo, a president in the early 1980s, united at Boca Helping Hands with several other volunteers to pack meals for distribution to children in need. Tim Stepien/The Coastal Star



Junior League of Boca Raton members attend a 1986 fundraiser. By then, the group had more than 100 members.

they marked their 40th anniversary in 2011 by setting up the Junior League Diaper Bank.

A decade later, they've given away more than 5 million diapers and are currently serving about 3,000 children through 23 local nonprofits.

"On average, we distribute between 100,000 and 200,000 diapers every other month," Sauer reports. "We've helped over 15,000 families in the past 10 years."

Next year, the Diaper Bank will become an independent nonprofit. "But the Junior League will continue to be supportive, with members on the board, volunteer shifts and more," Sauer emphasizes. "We're eager to see what we

started 10 years ago grow even more as a new nonprofit."

And then there's the Done-In-A-Day project, in which members volunteer to spend two to four hours at area nonprofits, such as Twin Palms Center for the Disabled, CROS Ministries, or parks and beach cleanups.

On July 23 and 24, volunteers filled backpacks with school supplies in support of the Spirit of Giving Network's Back to School Bash.

"I was a homeroom mom," says Jocelyn Mijares, who chairs the Done-In-A-Day committee. "Now my kids are older, so I volunteer a lot.

"My whole thought is, there but for the grace of

50th anniversary celebration

The Junior League of Boca Raton will celebrate its 50 years of service to the community with a dinner, an open bar, entertainment and a silent auction.

Where: The Addison of Boca Raton, 2 E. Camino Real

When: 7 p.m. Sept. 23
Tickets: Cost is \$171 per person, available at www.jlbr.org.

For more information: Call 561-620-2553 or email 50anniversary@jlbr.org.

of Boca Raton is one of 295 chapters with 125,000 members in the U.S., Canada, Mexico and the United Kingdom, and women can now join at 21.

The helping hands at Boca Helping Hands are not wearing white gloves, and they are not lazy. When the women left on June 24, they had packed 185 boxes of food.

"The Junior League has been volunteering here since 2009," says Bill Harper, Helping Hands' director of food and warehouse operations. "They generally pack about 200 boxes a week."

Each box contains six small meals of macaroni and cheese, spaghetti and beef, and three snacks that provide 2,400 calories to feed poor children every weekend.

Before the pandemic, the meals went in backpacks. Now, they're delivered in the cardboard boxes rather than repacking backpacks that, going from their homes to the schools to the Helping Hands warehouse, could carry the virus.

"During the school year, we feed about 700 students in six South County elementary schools," Harper explains. "That's 700 boxes a week in a full 38-week school year. Now we're distributing at summer camps and Boys & Girls Clubs."

Of the 185 boxes the women of the Junior League packed on June 24, 117 alone were scheduled to go to feed students from Boca Raton Elementary School.

For Lynne Moyer, a member of the league's public affairs committee, this was her first stint packing food at Boca Helping Hands.

"I joined three years ago after retiring," she said. "I was a Latin teacher. Now I play tournament croquet, but I need to do something for people in need."

And so she found the women of the Junior League, who have done just that for 50 years. ★

God go I," she says, placing another fruit cup in a box at Boca Helping Hands. "One different decision and I could be on the receiving end of these boxes."

No more white gloves and pearls

And still there are some who think "Junior League" means pampered women in white gloves and pearls who lunch on lobster and make chitchat. But the cliché didn't come out of nowhere.

The national Junior League was already 70 years old when those 26 women in Boca Raton formed their chapter.

Originally called the Junior League for the Promotion of the Settlement Movements, it was founded in 1901 by Mary Harriman Rumsey, a student at Barnard College and the sister of W. Averell Harriman, a future governor of New York, and the daughter of Edward H. Harriman, a railroad executive. She was 19.

Perhaps she wore white gloves and pearls at times — along with Eleanor Roosevelt, 19 when she joined, too — but they worked to aid poor families who had arrived in the country during the influx of European immigrants in the late 19th century.

Today, the Junior League

Dining

Restaurant Month returns in Delray; dock-and-dine arrives in Boca

August is Restaurant Month in Delray Beach, a promotion set up by the Downtown Development Authority to fill empty dining rooms during a usually slow season.

That's not the case this year, as diners are often seeing long waits at restaurant doors — even with reservations.

Laura Simon, executive director of the DDA, points to an extended season, saying Delray Beach is marking higher tourism numbers this summer, long past the usual time for both visitors and seasonal residents to head North.

"We're fortunate to live in Delray and with the great work we're doing together to promote the city, we're seeing higher hotel occupancy than usual this time of year," she said.

"It's also a combination of things that are contributing to the wait times."

These include good weather, plenty of outdoor seating — still popular with diners — and the variety of choices available within the downtown area.

Simon also acknowledges the diminished workforce, as many hospitality workers go North in summer to work in resorts or sister restaurants. Others changed jobs altogether during the pandemic. That has created a dwindling pool of servers as well as kitchen staff in Delray and across the country.

Some restaurants have begun parsing out seating during busy times to accommodate diners according to their serving capabilities; others are shrinking operating hours.

Ali Carr, who handles the host station and reservations at Lionfish, said early diners have the best chances at snagging seats, while those who prefer to eat at 7 p.m. or later may have an hour or more wait. Large parties are advised to book well in advance.

Popular spots like Elisabetta's, Rocco's Tacos, Rose's Daughter and Caffe Luna Rosa also have long waits, especially on weekends, but they provide a check-in so diners can stroll around the area until they are notified by phone that their table is ready.

"Restaurants are trying to be creative, and encourage reservations well in advance," Simon said.

The restaurants that are signed up for special prix fixe lunch and dinner meals for the



SeaSpray Inlet Grill enjoys a prime view of Lake Boca Raton at the Waterstone Resort, and has a dock for boaters. Photo provided

Restaurant Month program have partnered with Open Table to secure reservations for their diners wanting the specials.

Restaurant Month, which offers special menus or discounts for three- and four-course meals, expanded from a weeklong program in years past to a monthlong affair last year, Simon said. Owners whose restaurants had been closed or had implemented restricted capacity appreciated the extra time to showcase their specialties.

"The community likes the opportunity to have that time to explore smaller restaurants or those that aren't usually in the spotlight," Simon said.

More than 30 restaurants were on the list to participate before Aug. 1, with more being added to the website (www.downtowndelraybeach.com) as word gets around. Newcomers Amar, Lionfish, and Avalon Steak & Seafood are joined by old favorites such as The Office, The Wine Room, The Grove, Rose's Daughter, Dada, Death or Glory, Deck 84, the Atlantic Grille and Caffe Luna Rosa.

Diners are encouraged to give feedback, and return to support the restaurants they discover in the program.

New at the Waterstone

Many restaurants used the downtime in the last year to renovate or redesign. At the Waterstone Resort in Boca Raton, a \$500,000 renovation led to a redo of the site's restaurant, now called the SeaSpray Inlet Grill, along with the addition of a marina.

It's now Boca's only restaurant on the Intracoastal Waterway with docking. Boaters can tie off there and choose from an American grill menu or come for happy hour and eat at the bar. Serving the resort, the al fresco SeaSpray is open for breakfast through dinner daily.

Chef Kelley Randall, who cooked at Venu, The Office, and Vic and Angelo's, keeps the menu tight with crowd pleasers. Grilled octopus, a mahi Reuben and frutti di mare are among the seafood offerings. The menu has skirt steak, chicken paillard and a pear tortellini in a truffle cream sauce. Several sandwiches fill out the list, as well as a few vegetarian options such as sticky cauliflower appetizer with a sesame-soy glaze.

The waterside brunch has become the place to be on the weekends — expect a wait.

SeaSpray at the Waterstone Resort, 999 E. Camino Real, Boca Raton. Phone 561-368-9500; www.seasprayboca.com.

Fine dining at Boca resort

The Boca Raton, the recently transformed resort, now has the Flamingo Grill as its signature restaurant.

New owners of the 95-year-old property, MSD Partners, L.P. and Northview Hotel Group, are calling the \$175 million Phase One upgrade "A New Golden Era." They joined with Major Food Group to create a restaurant evocative of the fine dining prevalent in the mid-1900s.

The menu created by Mario Carbone and executive chef Will Cox highlights foods familiar to diners but with contemporary twists. Dressed lobster is napped with a French curry aioli and served with pickled green apple, while tomato gazpacho includes watermelon. Entrees include whole branzino and prime steaks along with a half zesty chicken with roasted garlic vinaigrette.

Traditional service includes dinner captains in the main dining room, which is decorated in a tropical theme by the Rockwell Group. Al fresco seating on the veranda, as well as at the bar, is available. An outdoor terrace has a bar with a lighter-bites menu and signature cocktails.

Other restaurants will be added as the resort continues

renovations. During the winter season 2021-2022, MFG management plans to open Sadelle's, a popular brunch eatery with locations in New York and Las Vegas, and others focused on Japanese and Italian fare.

Currently, the Flamingo Grill is open to hotel guests and members of the resort for dinner only, Tuesday through Sunday. Lunch is expected to launch by summer's end.

The Flamingo Grill at The Boca Raton, 501 E. Camino Real, Boca Raton. Phone 561-447-3000; www.thebocaraton.com.

Pizza goes and comes

The closing of Mellow Mushroom in Delray Beach had some pizza lovers feeling not so mellow, but the space will see new pies soon.

Nick's New Haven Style Pizzeria and Bar in Boca Raton's Glades Plaza signed on to lease the place at 25 SE Sixth Ave. as soon as the ink dried on Mellow's exit contract.

Nick's is known for thin crust, coal-charred, Neapolitan pies, as well as white clam pizzas — and they're pronounced colloquially "apizza."

Loyalists of the coastal city and the unique style with plenty of sauce have kept Boca's locale busy; the owners are banking

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on even more exposure close to Atlantic Avenue.
No opening date has been set.

More pies for the Grove

The opening of Izza Pizza in Pineapple Grove has others, notably the vegans, doing a happy dance.

Izza Pizza has both conventional and vegan pies, as well as gluten-free. Plant-based meatballs and cashew ricotta along with cauliflower land on the animal-free list, while the omnivores can relish specialty pizzas such as bulgogi and kimchi, or bacon and onion jam, or pineapple, prosciutto and jalapeño.

Described as a cross between New York and New Haven style, with a thin, crispy crust, the conventional pizzas offered include traditional pepperoni and mushroom. You can mix and match. Order plant-based cheese with the sausage if you choose. They don't judge.

This is one for the night workers, too. Izza Pizza says it is open 11 a.m. to 3 a.m. daily.

Izza Pizza, 25 NE Second Ave., Delray Beach. Phone 561-455-2442; www.izzapizza.com.

Vegan smoothies in Delray

A talent executive who helped launch Lady Gaga's career has opened an outdoor vegan smoothie spot behind a hot yoga studio in north Delray Beach, and is getting rave reviews from her followers.

The products at Joyfull, ranging from a soft-serve dessert to smoothies and lattes, also are organic, dairy- and gluten-free.

Leah Landon, a former smoothie chain vice president, opened the tropical, sand-covered yard this summer. It's studded with bright benches, chairs and tables, and shaded by poinciana and cassia trees and a few palms.

Joyfull is aligned with Anuttara Yoga Shala in a health and wellness partnership.

Smoothies have oat milk and coconut milk bases. A variety of fruits, berries, plant powders and spices are added for flavors. The soft-serve dessert is oat-milk based and available in house-made waffle cones.

Add-ins for protein and energy boosts and beneficial antioxidants are on tap.

Joyfull, 2219 Seacrest Blvd., Delray Beach. Open 9 a.m.-8 p.m. daily. www.choosejoyfull.com.

In brief

• Talk about pivoting: **Burt Rapoport** of Delray Beach's Deck 84 has offered up a number of restaurant concepts over the decades, from American grills to Mediterranean and Italian. The latest in the works is a new homestyle Chinese called **Pagoda Kitchen**. It is scheduled to open in the Delray Marketplace on West Atlantic Avenue sometime in October.

Rapoport has based it on his former San Francisco Chinese

restaurant, Betelnut. Peking duck, bao buns and lo mein will be on the menu, which is described as "comfort" and "neighborhood" Chinese fare.

• New England restaurateurs are buying up space to open eateries in South County.

Among them is **Meso Beach House**, a New York Mediterranean seafood restaurant expected to open in November. It will take over the spacious former Che!!! Argentinean chop house on the Intracoastal off Atlantic Avenue. Che!!! closed in June.

Owner **Bobby Khorrami**, a part-time Delray resident, closed two restaurants in New York because of lack of business during the pandemic. The Big Apple was particularly hard-hit, with tourism at a standstill and severe restrictions. South Florida, in contrast, is attracting visitors, has low taxes and welcomes businesses. Meso Beach House plans to offer a trendy, modern seafood menu that also includes land fare and vegan offerings.

• **Flavor Palm Beach** returns after a year's hiatus in September. The monthlong restaurant program with a fixed-price menu for participating restaurants was slow to take off, said Briana Beaty, the program's founder.

"The restaurants were reluctant at first because they said we bring so much business, they were afraid they won't have enough staff to accommodate all the diners," she said.

They've come aboard, she said, with newcomers such as **La Goulue** and **Almond** in Palm Beach, **True Food Kitchen** in Boca, **Amar** in Delray Beach, and in West Palm Beach, the new **Planta**. In all more than 40 restaurants have signed up with up to 50 expected. The program benefits the **Palm Beach County Food Bank** this year. Find the list and information at www.FlavorPB.com.

• **Jason Emmett** stepped down as president of the Duffy's Sports Grill chain, and partnered with **Carl Berry** and **Amy Siegel** to create **Paradigm Hospitality Group**. They've acquired three restaurant concepts during the pandemic. They own the **American Icon Brewery** in Fort Lauderdale and Vero Beach, the **Agency Kitchen & Bar** in the Delray Marketplace, and have taken over the **Sundy House** in Delray Beach. Expect more from the group, now that the dust seems to have settled.

• Coming to **Mizner Park** this fall: **Pure Green**, a smoothie and bowls meal outlet, and **Subculture Coffee**, a coffee and sandwich shop owned by Rodney Mayo's group. Look for other dining and shop additions as Mizner undergoes a redo.



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



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Lantana celebrates its 100th birthday



Extended fireworks display caps Fourth of July centennial bash

TOP LEFT: Zach Gorman of Boynton Beach was one of six co-winners in the watermelon-eating contest that was part of the festivities at Bicentennial Park.

TOP RIGHT: Lantana Mayor Robert Hagerty recognizes the Kresak family visiting from North Carolina. The family is descended from Lantana pioneer M.B. Lyman and his father, M.K. Lyman. Mark and Brenda Jamison Kresak have seven sons (l-r): Ian, Landan, Brendan, Ethan, Ryan, Aidan and Nolan. The boys are seventh-generation Lyman descendants. Brenda is Cindy Lyman Jamison's daughter. Cindy's father was Capt. Kenny Lyman. Kenny's father was Walter 'Pop' Lyman. Pop Lyman was Morris Benson Lyman's son. Morris Kennedy Lyman and Morris Benson Lyman came to the region in 1884.



CENTER: Contestants await results of Lantana's 'Most Patriotic Baby' competition. One of the three winners was Lantana resident Logan Castillo, 10 months, pictured top right with his father, Danny Castillo.

BOTTOM LEFT: Michelle Jackson, a traveling nurse from Tennessee who spent the previous three months working at JFK Medical Center, was one of the winners in the hula hoop contest. She and two children outlasted a field of more than 20 participants.

BOTTOM RIGHT: The fireworks lasted for a half hour, and many in the crowd commented on how exciting they were. The town didn't have fireworks last year because of the pandemic, so it spent twice as much, \$60,000, this year.

Coastal Star photos by Dave Meeks, Tim Stepien and Jerry Lower

The ArtsPaper

www.palmbeachartspaper.com

Art

See them ROAR

Female-centric exhibit at Norton shows the might of women artists

By Gretel Sarmiento
ArtsPaper Art Writer

Bronze limbs shaped as rustic geometric figures form an abstract construction that is darkened and firm, primitive and totem-like.

Gender doesn't come into it, but if it did, assigning female to this sculpture would be unlikely. Certainly, a woman's artwork is more organic, erratic, softer, and emotional.

That erroneous assertion is still common, even if it's now voiced privately.

Prophets, by Dorothy Dehner, is one of 50 works the Norton Museum of Art recently drew from its collection to set the record straight. It would take this American artist many years to earn the attention her former husband, a sculptor, received. Collectors presumably admitted to her that buying the works of a woman was not practical.

By the time *Prophets* was made in 1965, however, Dehner was no longer under the radar and had developed thick skin. We can tell by the confidence and unwavering quality of her piece that she had grown comfortable in the role of creator, not muse or model or sidekick.

Female artists like her have always generated art as diverse, rich and audacious as that produced by her male

counterparts. Representation is the part that lagged.

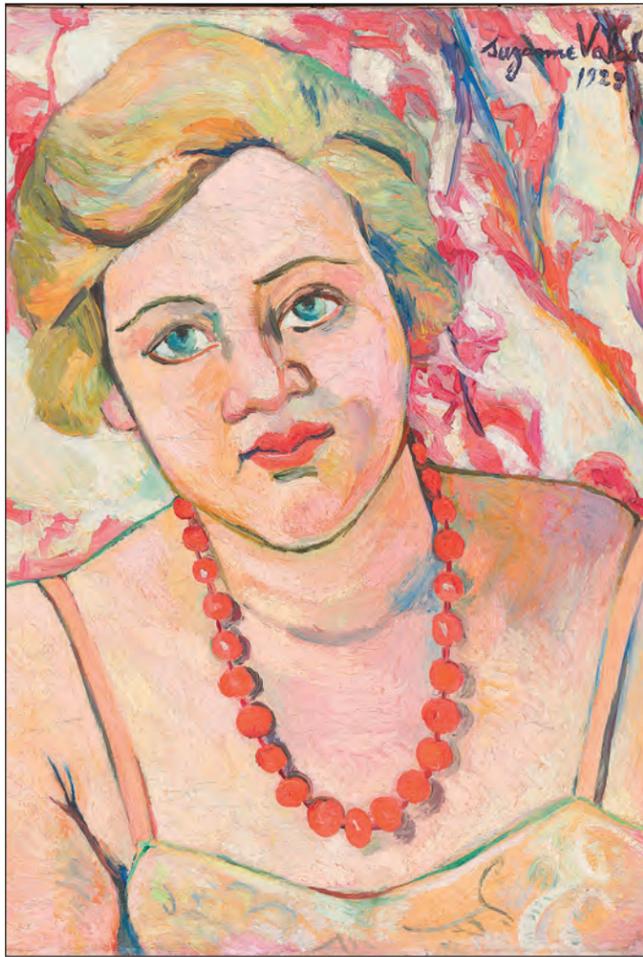
For the Record: Celebrating Art by Women, which runs through Oct. 3 at the Norton Museum of Art, aims to cure the deficiency with a selection of video installations, ceramics, paintings, sculptures, and photographs spanning more than a century. Five of the works are displayed for the first time, including a moving print titled *Nike*, by American artist Sarah Charlesworth, that features the famous winged Hellenistic statue floating in the center of the frame as she slowly fuses with the background. A stunning blue tint washes the entire dreamy scene.

Combined, the works frame the female artist as skilled, versatile, unpredictable, and daring. The plethora of styles, themes and media on view shouldn't come as a shock and yet finding modern, refreshing takes in the way of sculpture and film somewhat surprises us.

Take Japanese artist Mariko Mori's *Butterfly* fiberglass sculpture from 2013. The smooth silver body showcases its holographic quality as it twists and turns to form a figure 8. It's clean, light and playful.

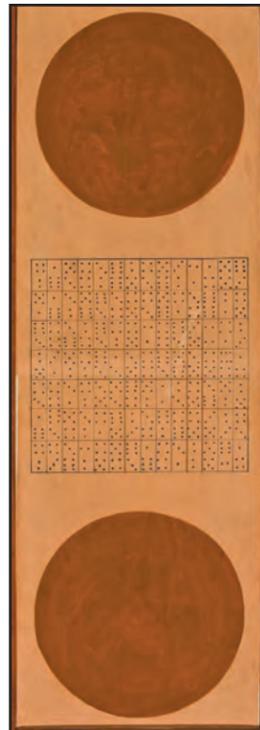
Meanwhile, American artist Jennifer Steinkamp treats us to a relaxing video of swinging

See **WOMEN** on page AT12



ABOVE: *Portrait of a Woman* (1928) by Suzanne Valadon.
RIGHT: *Dominoes* (1960) by Agnes Martin.

BELOW: *Weeping Woman* (1990-91) by Viola Frey.
Photos courtesy Norton Museum of Art



Theater

New program director at Kravis relishes the possibilities

By Hap Erstein
ArtsPaper Theater Writer

Georgiana Young was perfectly content in her job as vice president of marketing and sales at Miami's Arsht Center for the Performing Arts. Then she got a call from Lee Bell.

She was aware that Bell, senior director of programming at the Kravis Center for the past 24 years, had announced his intention to retire, so she felt she owed him a call or maybe lunch. But Bell beat her to the punch, calling her and opening with a sentence that would change her life.

As Young vividly recalls, "He said, 'Georgiana, I have a little idea for you.' And that's how it started."

He felt she was the right person to fill his shoes and, after a series of interviews, the Kravis board of directors felt so too.

Young officially begins her new duties Aug. 23, but she sat in a Cohen Pavilion boardroom in mid-July for a free-wheeling chat about the challenges before her.

After researching the West Palm Beach arts complex, she was eager to take the position because "well, it's a combination of things," she says. "You have this spectacular performing arts center here that has a very broad portfolio of programming. They're going to do

See **YOUNG** on page AT11



Young

Entertainment

Good karma on tap for Lake Park with opening of brewpub

By Bill Meredith
ArtsPaper Music Writer

If you could go back in time to pick a worse date to open a new business than May 2, 2020, Coastal Karma Brewing proprietors Charles and Sara Chase would like to know what date that would be.

The married couple had little choice but to open their Lake Park brewery as scheduled just as the COVID-19 pandemic was hitting its first wave. Which meant only cautious, temporary attendance that made its large main room seem even more empty, because masked customers could only be served the couple's specialty craft brews in plastic cups and then consume the beer outdoors.

"It took us a year before that to build this place out, and then we had a lot of problems with our electrical engineer that delayed us opening," Charles says. "It took about six months just to complete the electricity."

"We signed our lease in March of 2019," Sara adds, "and could've opened before COVID-19 if not for those delays. But, of course, we still had to pay rent after the signing and throughout the pandemic."

It's only slightly more than two years since that signing, and a year past the brewery's opening date, but it seems like light years removed as the couple speaks on an early Friday evening in June. They're seated at the back corner of the establishment's lengthy bar, without masks, as the brewery fills with patrons, most of them also without masks.

Draft beers are flowing, and served in pint and tulip-style glasses, not plastic cups. A few people are seated outside by choice, and also perusing the fare of the evening's food truck, Krazy Cuban Flavor. Coastal Karma rotates its food trucks,

See **BREW PUB** on page AT10



Charles and Sara Chase at Coastal Karma, joined by Kismet the brewery cat. The couple opened the Lake Park business just as the pandemic was taking off in 2020. Photo by Regina Campbell

Music Brief

Morissette set to play in West Palm on Aug. 18

Mission accomplished for Canadian singer/songwriter Alanis Morissette.

"All she ever wanted to do was be a star," says veteran West Palm Beach-based jazz guitarist Jim McCreavy, who knew Morissette when she was a child in Ontario before he moved to South Florida.

Now 47 years old, Morissette released two albums on the MCA Records Canada label that few will remember before the breakthrough release that few could forget. *Jagged Little Pill* (Maverick Records, 1995) spawned a whopping six hit singles — "You Oughta Know," "All I Really Want," "Hand in My Pocket," "Ironic," "You Learn" and "Head Over Feet" — that helped the album sell more than 33 million copies



Morissette

worldwide.

Everything since has been gravy, from her moving to the United States and her critically acclaimed follow-up *Supposed Former Infatuation Junkie* through acting stints including portraying God in director

Kevin Smith's 1999 religion spoof *Dogma* and her latest release, last year's *Such Pretty Forks in the Road*.

A true artist, Morissette has favored unpredictability over necessarily giving the people what (they think) they want for decades.

But what hasn't changed, aside from the attitude and keeping listeners guessing, is her emotive, angst-filled mezzo-soprano delivery.

See Alanis Morissette, with Garbage and Liz Phair, at 7 p.m. Aug. 18 at *iTHINK Financial Amphitheatre*, 601-7 Sansburys Way, West Palm Beach (561-795-8883, \$71 + up).



Coastal Karma's airy inside includes plenty of bar seats, picnic tables, comfortable chairs and couches, and even swings, for enjoying the craft brews. Photo by Regina Campbell

BREW PUB

Continued from page 9

which appear every Thursday through Sunday, and also serves wines, hard seltzers, non-alcoholic water, soda, coffee and tea, plus snacks. The bartender is Jocelyn, who also is its 10:30 a.m. Saturday yoga instructor (the \$20 fee for a class includes a pour of your choice afterward).

And in between Charles and Sara, lying directly on that bar, is Kismet, the stray cat that adopted the couple by wandering in and making himself at home only a couple months earlier. Signs on the front door and inside offer fair but unnecessary warnings about the affectionate "brewery cat," mostly to make sure any canines entering the dog-friendly watering hole are kept on leashes.

"He's blind in one eye and has no teeth," Sara says. "He has almost everything imaginable wrong with him, but we give him IVs three times a week, and he's put on seven pounds since we first met him."

The Chases, married since December 2019, seem made for this juncture. The West Palm Beach-born Charles is a longtime home brewer and beer festival frequenter who met the Naples-born Sara, a veteran of the restaurant industry, at her workplace while he had a job as a beer distributor.

Notes Sara: "Charles was my beer rep when I was managing a restaurant in Vero Beach."

"When I decided that I wanted to get into the craft beer industry," Charles says, "I wanted to go through all the facets. So in addition to the home brewing I was doing, I worked for World of Beers as a product manager, and Brown Distributing as a craft beer rep. And I love what I'm doing now. It's all about putting flavors together, and seeing what works creatively and traditionally."

Housed in a nondescript strip mall near the intersection of 10th Street and Park Avenue — in which there are as many vacancies as operating businesses — Coastal Karma has an interior that practically defies typification. The floor is ornately tiled; the walls stylishly wood paneled, and there are comfortable couches and chairs throughout in addition to its picnic tables. Model ships built

by Charles's father are a draw throughout. And a portion of the interior features artificial turf with swings hanging from the ceiling, a major draw for the children who visit the family-friendly brewery before it becomes 21-and-over at 7 p.m.

"I wanted an outdoor space," Sara says, "so this was how we brought the outdoors indoors. But we've been approved to build a deck out front, so we'll eventually have a real outdoor as well as indoor area."

The couple looked in the Northwood Village section of West Palm Beach, plus Jupiter and Palm Beach Gardens, before finding Lake Park to be the right fit for their blend of beer, beach and metaphysics.

"We went to town meetings in Lake Park," says Charles, "and everyone was great. We told them our idea of opening a brewery, and they were very supportive and welcoming."

"Their interior is warm and inviting," says Dawn René Chadwick, a law professional who lives in Palm Beach Gardens. "And I liked the Oogie Boogie wheat ale, which was tangy with a hint of orange."

"They have friendly bartenders and a cozy atmosphere," says John Hansen, a print shop owner who lives within walking distance.

Coastal Karma offers a variety of rotating beers, including the Day Drinker by the Noble Brewing Company, which is run by James Noble, former proprietor of the Orange Door, the black-box theater that presented live music in the same plaza from 2005 to 2012. Other popular selections include India pale ales like the Karma Hoptra and Wicked Hoppy, the Professor Pickles Tart Ale, and stouts like Good Karma and Chocolate Starfish.

Instead of offering traditional glass growlers, Coastal Karma specializes in "crowlers," which are sealed 32-ounce cans of beer. There's also its Mug Club, in which customers who sign on get a customized beer mug and various other perks.

Small-town Lake Park and its surrounding area has joined the big time recently regarding craft breweries. When COVID-19 practically shut down the live music-and-art-centered Brewhouse Gallery only a few blocks away, its owners kept it afloat, in part, by opening their

If You Go

Coastal Karma Brewing is located at 796 10th St., Suite 798, in Lake Park.
Hours: 3-8 p.m. Monday; 3-10 p.m. Tuesday-Thursday; 3-11 p.m. Friday; noon-11 p.m. Saturday; noon-8 p.m. Sunday.
Info: 561-249-1491; www.coastalkarmabrewery.com.

Kelsey City Brewing Company. A forthcoming NOBO Brewing Company site is under construction in the building adjacent to the Brewhouse Gallery's plaza.

Not far away, Twisted Trunk Brewing is well established in Palm Beach Gardens, as is Skunkworts Brewing in Northwood, and Stormhouse Brewing recently opened nearby in North Palm Beach.

Rather than viewing the other breweries as competition, the Chases frequent them and take the karmic route.

"We all talk to each other and help each other out if we have questions," Charles says. "That being said, the more breweries there are in an area, the more important it becomes to offer something special, whether it's the beer, the atmosphere, or both."

"That's true," Sara adds, "but I also think that having multiple breweries in this area brings more people around than if it was just us."

Among the events they offer to set themselves apart is a popular, deejay-led bingo night from 7 to 9 p.m. on Thursdays.

Live music at Coastal Karma has been sporadic through the COVID-19 pandemic, as it has been at most other venues, but the Chases say it'll pick up as the virus continues to recede.

On Aug. 7, Coastal Karma Brewing will host its official one-year anniversary celebration.

"That will be a good day of partying," Sara says. "Instead of doing it in May, when we actually opened but had to essentially serve everything to go, we decided to celebrate in August, when our taproom was finally able to open regularly. We'll have two bands that day and into the evening; two or three food trucks, and glow-in-the-dark ax-throwing that night."

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Renate Bertmann, *Rosemarie's Divorce* [detail], 2019, Glass, pedestal, scalpels, steel. Courtesy Berengo Studio. Photo: Francesco Allegretto.

Glasstress Boca Raton 2021 presented by Fondazione Berengo, Venice, Italy with additional support provided by the Museum's Leadership Donors.



Art

Cultural Council celebrates first artistic fellows with party, exhibit

By Jan Engoren
Contributing Writer

"This came at exactly the right time," said Dave Lawrence, CEO of the Cultural Council for Palm Beach County.

He was speaking June 19 at the opening reception for the council's summer exhibit, which marks its inaugural Artist Innovation Fellowship Program.

"We're so thrilled to be here," he said. "It was a challenging year for everyone. Tonight is a night of jubilee, to celebrate Juneteenth and the five artist recipients of the Fellowship Program."

Those artists — visual artists Anthony Burks Sr., Isabel Gouveia and Amy Gross, musical artist Joshua Lubben and choreographer Donna Murray — were awarded \$7,500 grants to work on their vision over the past pandemic year.

The Artist Innovation Fellowship, funded in part by the Klorfine Foundation, focuses on personal creative growth and the belief that an entire community will benefit through investments in creative individuals. It is designed to address the pursuit of innovation in either existing avenues of creative expression or through new ideas and projects.

The evening included a

musical set by the Lubben Brothers and a performance by Murray, a Jupiter-based dancer and choreographer, who premiered her original work *Landscapes*.

The Lubben triplets — Joshua, Tom and Michael — are classically trained musicians and folk artists from rural Idaho who take inspiration from Woody Guthrie and Bob Dylan.

They performed three original songs, "When You're Gone," "Dance For Love" — released on Veterans Day 2020 as a tribute to veterans, and "Charleston Massacre," their musical response to the 2015 mass shooting in the Emanuel African Methodist Episcopal Church in Charleston, S.C., where nine African-American worshippers were killed.

"It's an incredible gift to be here tonight," said Joshua Lubben from the stage, "especially after a year when all live music performances were canceled. The pandemic gave us time to sit and think."

Work from the other fellows can be seen in the exhibit.

Mixed-media and fiber artist Amy Gross's work transports viewers into a fantastical natural world, one of her own making and imagination.

Trained as a textile artist specializing in children's



The Lubben Brothers — Michael, Joshua and Tom — perform at the Cultural Council opening. Photo by Jacek Gancarz

products and toy design, Gross moved to Florida in 2000 and began combining Photoshop and photography with her intricate beaded fiber sculptures replicating nature.

The Delray Beach resident's fascination since a young age with stereoscopes brought her to a point where she shoots the same image of her intricate creations on two cellphones, mimicking the left and right eye, resulting in a single 3-D image.

"My sculptures are conglomerations of my encounters with living things filtered through my experiences and recreated as invented plants, animals and fungi," she said.

"I want them to seem alive

but clearly not be, presented in clean, white spaces like artifacts," she says.

Anthony Burks Sr., whose works were recently acquired by the Norton Museum of Art for its permanent collection, creates stunning portraits utilizing colored pencils, watercolor and pen and ink.

"It's been a dream of mine to have my work at the Norton," says Burks, who was born and raised in West Palm Beach. "To leave my legacy here is very powerful and meaningful."

His series of colored pencil drawings of women in profile, *Natural Beauty*, is paired with a men's series titled *One Love*.

Burks says it's the connection with his subjects that allows

If You Go

Artist Innovation exhibit runs through Aug. 27 at the Council's headquarters, 601 Lake Worth Ave. Admission is free, but registration is encouraged; go to palmbeachculture.com/AIFP.

him to convey their essence.

"Soulful," is how he describes his work, and said he draws inspiration from everyday surroundings and people he meets. His first love is portraying animals, although for this show the human portraits take precedence.

Burks said he feels the need to create viscerally: "I have a drum beating in my head and can't rest until I get it out."

He credits the Cultural Council and Lawrence specifically, for opening doors to more visual artists.

"I'm very grateful and honored for this opportunity," Burks said. "It's a blessing."

Also on display are works by Lake Worth Beach-based artist Isabel Gouveia, who uses abstraction and representation to symbolize mutations in the natural environment through painting, printmaking, installations, mosaics, and digital media.

YOUNG

Continued from page 9

the fun comedians, but they're also going to do (opera star) Renée Fleming. They do major orchestras, like the Cleveland Orchestra, and they have a big commitment to dance."

In addition, she noted the organization's "major commitment to education, a major commitment to Broadway. And it's an equal commitment to all of it. To me it says we're trying to serve the entire community."

Young, 61, divorced, fluent in Spanish, has more than three decades of experience in arts management. She served as chief programming and marketing officer at the Straz Center in Tampa, and has production experience in such diverse locations as the U.K., Spain, Italy, Germany, the Middle East and China.

Music was a large part of her life growing up. "It was a musical family. We always sang. I was the vocalist for the jazz band at Rice (University in Houston)," where she graduated with a B.A. in English literature and Spanish translation. "But I had absolutely no idea what I wanted to do when I graduated. I didn't even know that jobs like this existed."

Soon after college, Young worked as a production assistant at the Tower Theatre in Houston. "When the show closed, someone said the people who owned the theater

were looking for someone in motor sports. It was Pace Entertainment Group, a very small company at the time. And I got hired in motor sports for a year, until somebody quit in their new theatrical division," and she switched over to it as the division kept growing. "They wound up being the largest entertainment company in the world," including renting the Kravis Center for Broadway shows, Young says.

Almost 30 years after the Kravis first opened its doors, Young feels the main challenge she faces is introducing the performing arts center to the many South Floridians who have never been inside.

"I'm not an expert on Palm Beach County," she concedes. "But ... you've got people driving by the theater every single day and they probably look to their right and go, 'I wonder what they do in there.'"

Young is raring to go, to flex her programming muscles, but as with all arts centers of the Kravis's size, Bell has already booked most of next season and beyond.

How will she measure her success at the Kravis? "It's not like the days in commercial theater where your success was based on how much money you make," Young says.

"Of course, it's always going to be about artistic excellence but it's also about growing the audience. And it's about balancing those two."



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Theater

Maltz goes big with 2021-22 season

By Hap Erstein
ArtsPaper Theater Writer

Never accuse the Maltz Jupiter Theatre of thinking small.

During the past year, when most resident stage companies were idled by the COVID-19 pandemic, the Maltz was busy demolishing its theater chamber and rebuilding a larger complex to the tune of \$36 million. The new theater could eventually house pre-Broadway tryouts, and in a later phase an expanded education conservatory, a second stage devoted to new works and classic dramas, and an in-house restaurant.

Producing artistic director Andrew Kato recently announced that the Maltz season would begin in January, but at an alternative venue. The season opener will be *Jersey Boys*, the Tony Award-winning biography of Frankie Valli and the Four Seasons (Jan. 11-30). Gaining the production rights to the popular show is coup enough, but the more startling news is that the show will be produced at Jupiter's Roger Dean Chevrolet Stadium.

"It's not weeks in the planning, but months," Kato said. "When you do something like going to Roger Dean Stadium, that means many meetings, going to the county for permission, talking about how we're going about selling it, and then dealing with the unions as well, because they have their own requirements."

For *Jersey Boys*, a stage will be constructed at home plate, with 1,600 seats made available "fanned out, in the center part of the stands. No, we're not expecting to get 1,600 people a night; but you never know," Kato said. "We could draw the people who don't typically go to the theater. That's what we're hoping."

Among the challenges of producing a musical at Roger Dean are sound and rain. Kato is not worried about either one.

"We did some sound tests in the stadium. ... The sound system they use at Roger Dean Stadium is very clear. We're just in the planning stages now. If needed, there will be additional

sound infrastructure. We'll do our best to make it a great experience."

And as to the weather, Kato said, "It's the least rainy month here and it's the coolest, and the sun goes down early."

Next up in the Maltz season is the previously announced Paul Rudnick comedy *I Hate Hamlet*, about a television actor haunted by the ghost of John Barrymore. It will play Feb. 8-20 at The Benjamin School, which has an 800-seat theater.

"Our audiences love comedies, but I'd bet that 99.5% of our audience has never seen *I Hate Hamlet*," Kato said. "It's a romp."

Unlike Roger Dean Stadium, which will require lots of modification, producing at the Benjamin School should be easier, he noted.

Then on Feb. 19 (through March 9), theatergoers will get their first look at the new Maltz theater with the season's third show, *Sweet Charity*, the Cy Coleman-Dorothy Fields-Neil Simon musical about a lovelorn taxi dancer. It will be followed by *Dirty Rotten Scoundrels* (March 22-April 10), a David Yazbek musical about a pair of con men, based on the movie that starred Michael Caine and Steve Martin.

Both shows have long been on the Maltz's drawing boards, so they did not intend to demonstrate the capabilities of the new theater.

"I don't know what modifications we may make to show it off," Kato said.

Still, theatergoers will probably notice the higher proscenium arch and stage size that will allow Broadway-bound shows to rent the space.

"The proscenium is going up three feet — to 20 feet high — that's probably the most impressive part of the whole build-out," Kato said. "And the stage now has traps, so they dug down 20 feet into the ground. It's like a large swimming pool under there."

"The stage will be 10 feet deeper, 6 feet wider, so that when we're ready to do pre-Broadway, it will match a Broadway space. Inside the theater chamber, we will be adding 42 seats to the first three rows," Kato said. "But the intimacy of the theater space will not change."

WOMEN

Continued from page 9

daisies playing on a giant screen. The wind sets things in motion in *Daisy Chain 1* (2004) as it directs the colorful chains of flowers through a simple synchronized choreography.

By contrast, the economy of color paired with a restraint in shapes make *Dominoes* a discreet, mute piece. Agnes Martin's minimalist work does not scream femininity or sensuality. Its vertical direction and markings allude to the table game but it's not the life of the party. It rests solely on the merit of quiet execution and self-control to stand out.

For *the Record* does a brilliant job of updating incorrect assumptions that persist about the body of work put forth by women. For one, it confirms there is no exclusivity to the experiences and emotions orbiting creativity. Pain, loss, sadness, joy, love and many other universal emotions are endured by everyone. Secondly, it reminds us productivity was never the problem; lack of air time was.

According to a 2019 study by artnet News, work by female artists represented only 11% of all acquisitions and 14% of exhibitions at 26 renowned museums in the United States between 2008 and 2018. African-American women represented 3.3% of the total number of female artists.

The Norton has clearly seized on the opportunity to further correct the gender imbalance that persists. It

If You Go

For the Record: Celebrating Art by Women runs through Oct. 3 at the Norton Museum of Art, 1450 S. Dixie Highway, West Palm Beach.

Hours: 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday; 10 a.m. to 7 p.m. Friday; 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. Sunday.
Info: 561-832-5196; www.norton.org

remains to be seen whether the ongoing exhibition is a temporary strategy or a genuine commitment to helping close the equity gap in the art world.

A snapshot of recent acquisitions made by the museum in the past two years does seem encouraging. Of 184 works purchased, 30.5% were produced by female artists. That's an improvement over the 23.5% representative of women among acquisitions made between 2008 and 2018.

For *the Record* provides a sweet note and we really want to celebrate it, but its mere existence is also a reminder that equity still needs to be forced and staged because it refuses to be born naturally.

Just ask French artist Louise Bourgeois, whose gouache piece *Happiness* (done a year before her death) echoes the raw and brutal honesty of the words she shared with art critic Cindy Nemser in 1971: "A woman has no place as an artist until she proves over and over that she won't be eliminated."

Arts Calendar

Editor's note: Events were current as of July 30. 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: 10 a.m.-4 p.m. W-Sun. Members free, adults, \$12; seniors, \$8; children/student, \$5. 253 Barcelona Road, West Palm Beach. 561-832-5328. Info@ansg.org.

Boca Raton Museum of Art: Through Sept. 5: *Vickie Pierre: Be My Herald of What's to Come*, works by the Miami artist; *Glasstress Boca Raton* showcases more than 30 international artists who have created works in glass in collaboration with the master glass artisans at Berengo Studio on the island of Murano in the Venetian lagoon; *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.

Cultural Council for Palm Beach County: Through Aug. 27: *The Power and Pleasure of Artistic Place: Where Women Made History*, photos of artists at work in their homes; Artistic Innovation exhibit. Free admission. Noon-5 pm T-F, first Saturday. 471-2901 or palmbeachculture.com/exhibitions.

Morikami Museum and Japanese Gardens: Through Sept. 19: *Painting Enlightenment*, works by the Japanese scientist and artist Iwasaki Tsuneo. \$15; seniors, \$13; children, \$9. 10 am-5 pm T-Sun. 495-0233 or morikami.org.

Norton Museum of Art: Through Oct. 3: *For the Record: Celebrating Art by Women*, an exhibit of art by female creators, taken from the Norton's own collections. 10 am-5 pm, M, T, Th, Sat; 10 am-7 pm F; 11 am-5 pm Sun. 832-5196 or www.norton.org.

Society of the Four Arts: 10 am-5 pm daily (closed T); 1-5 pm. Sun. 655-7226 or fourarts.org.

POP MUSIC

Wednesday, Aug 18

Alanis Morissette: The alt-rockers play iTHINK Financial Amphitheatre with Garbage and Liz Phair. 7 p.m. \$71 and up. 601-7 Sansbury Way, West Palm Beach. 561-795 8883.

Tuesday, Sept. 7
The Black Crowes: The Robinson brothers have reunited, and that means their 30-year-old swamp music project is back in business. The *Shake Your Moneymaker* tour will doubtless feature songs from their now-classic 1991 album. \$42 and up. iTHINK Financial Amphitheatre, 601-7 Sansbury Way, West Palm Beach. Visit livenation.com for tickets. Thursday, Sept. 23

Maroon Five and Meghan Trainor: Megastar Adam Levine returns to his original role as frontman for this popular romantic-pop band whose tunes have included some staples of early 21st-century airplay. The Angelenos are joined by Trainor, whose *All About That Bass* shot her to stardom in 2014. iTHINK Financial Amphitheatre, 601-7 Sansbury Way, West Palm Beach. \$32 and up. Visit livenation.com for tickets.

THEATER

Opens Friday, September 3

The Shadow Box: Michael Cristofer's Pulitzer- and Tony-winning 1977 play about three terminally ill people and the family issues they try to resolve. Through Sept. 12. At Lake Worth Playhouse, downtown Lake Worth Beach. Limited seating; social distancing. 586-6410 or www.lakeworthplayhouse.org

The Great American Trailer Park Musical: The 2005 Off-Broadway show by David Nehls and Betsy Kelso examines the lives of the residents of a trailer park in Florida's own Starke. Through Sept. 12. At Lake Worth Playhouse, downtown Lake Worth Beach. Limited seating; social distancing. Call 586-6410 or visit www.lakeworthplayhouse.org

A Doll's House, Part 2: Lucas Hnath's clever 2017 play that picks up 15 years after Nora leaves in Henrik Ibsen's *A Doll's House*. Through June 27. At Delray Beach Playhouse. 272-1281, ext. 5, or www.delraybeachplayhouse.com.



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If You Go

Vicki Pierre: Be My Herald of What's to Come runs through Sept. 5 at the Boca Raton Museum of Art, 501 Plaza Real. **Hours:** noon to 7 p.m. Wednesday through Sunday **Admission:** \$12 **Info:** 561-392-2500; bocamuseum.org

Vicki Pierre stands in front of her 2019 artwork, *Totems for My Sisters (We Are Illuminous!)*. Photo by Jacek Gancarz

Art

Boca exhibit puts 'princess' tropes on trial

By Gretel Sarmiento
ArtsPaper Arts Writer

"Once upon a time" meets "Off with their heads!" in the latest exhibition from the Boca Raton Museum of Art, where tar-colored vintage ornaments, baroque motifs and headless perfume bottles make for a twisted fairy tale.

Witness me.

Release me.

I shouldn't let you conquer me so sweetly.

These are among the cryptic opening lines framing the romantic wall installations in *Vicki Pierre: Be My Herald of What's to Come*. Running through Sept. 5, the show explores personal and universal notions of identity, femininity, colonialism, and race while avoiding the excessively declarative tone.

The heavily decorative characteristic of Pierre's assemblages floods the second-floor gallery with drama and theatrics; the sanitized and dull get flushed out. The creations combine elements from her memories and Haitian heritage, with fantasy, surrealism, and pop culture.

"My intention is always to create work that is honest and authentic to me, that moves me forward on a path of personal growth and understanding of my place in the world, universe," said Pierre, who grew up in Brooklyn and attended the School of Visual Arts in New York City.

Each piece contains within it mini-vignettes dressed up in rococo, European flourishes and Victorian adornments, all of which Pierre recalls from her childhood home in Brooklyn. They are made up of items the artist has collected through the years — such as Avon perfume bottles — that personify women in period skirts and capes and galleon ships that symbolize the slave trade. The ornamental clusters formed by the grouping of these objects are not meant to be seen isolated. Each piece should be taken in as a whole, hence the sparkling beads connecting all the mini-scenes

in *I Can't Say No to You (Good Enough)*.

In this work from 2014, the beads act as sails pushing the canvas forward while the elongated blue drops mimic the blades of oars. In characteristic Pierre fashion, gold accents such as bracelets and fleur-de-lis symbols, appear randomly and here underscore the disturbing mission of the Atlantic slave trade: trading human beings for gold.

Pierre's installations are said to possess a charming storybook quality. We can see why in the treatment mimicking the twirls and creases of a princess dress, except there is also no sugar-coating here. The artist's take on the idea of a princess consists of removing the top of perfume bottles, essentially decapitating the character.

Snow White, Cinderella and Sleeping Beauty are replaced instead by original new characters, who convey empowerment and refuse to justify their presence. They are what they are; no need to underline their value.

In *And Though I May Have Lost My Way, All Paths Lead Straight to You*, white flaxen hair removed from dolls pours out of white perfume bottles placed against a powder-blue monochromatic background. At the top, in neon pink letters, a proclamation reads *Nothing Real Love Can't Undo*.

The text is an integral part of Pierre's creative process and stems from music and song lyrics she listens to while working. At times, it echoes the romantic, sensual sentiment associated with the fairy tales the characters emerge from. Other times, the writing alludes

to something ethereal and futuristic.

"It has to evoke a certain feeling for me," said the Miami-based artist. "Sometimes, I return to the same song over and over so I can sit in the moment perpetually while creating, so I'm sort of in a trancelike state."

The choice of color, too, as seen in *All Paths Lead Straight to You*, is unexpected and far from accidental. It recalls French toile fabrics printed with pastoral scenes and the relief style of Wedgwood stoneware.

"It creates a mood, a starting path for me to express the overall narrative," said Pierre.

The current solo show is a natural progression for Pierre, who showcased her work in the All Florida Invitational group exhibition put on by Boca Museum in 2016. Two of her murals now adorn the museum's recently unveiled courtyard.

Also included in the show is a tall freestanding sculpture from 2020 that might be the most personal yet and through which the artist honors George Floyd, Breonna Taylor, Ahmaud Arbery and other, nameless victims of racial and social injustice. Titled *Black Flowers Blossom (Hanging Tree)* and resembling a carousel, it represents a prayer with hand-strung glass and plastic beads cascading from its ceiling. Glitter and plastic butterflies and flowers put the finishing touches in what indisputably must be the star of the show.

Several other remarkable pieces in *Be My Herald* go on to prove the spell Pierre's pieces cast lasts well beyond midnight. We'll leave you to discover the rest of the story.

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Health News

Lynn Cancer Institute opens at Bethesda

The Eugene M. & Christine E. Lynn Cancer Institute at Boca Raton Regional Hospital has opened the Lynn Cancer Institute at Bethesda — Radiation Oncology, at Bethesda Health City, 10301 Hagen Ranch Road, Boynton Beach.

Boca Raton Regional Hospital, Bethesda Hospital East and Bethesda Hospital West are all part of Baptist Health South Florida. The institute will be under the direction of Michael Kasper, M.D., medical director of radiation oncology at Lynn Cancer Institute.

“We look forward to this partnership that will help us bring state-of-the-art comprehensive oncology care closer to our patients and community,” said Nelson Lazo, CEO of Bethesda Hospital East and Bethesda Hospital West.

Haroula Protopapadakis Norden was appointed chief operating officer of **Boca Raton**



Norden is a fellow of the American College of Healthcare Executives and served as the 2020

Regional Hospital, part of Baptist Health South Florida. Protopapadakis Norden is a fellow of the American

president of the South Florida chapter’s board of directors. She comes to Boca Regional from Memorial Regional Hospital in Hollywood, where she was associate administrator.

Cardiac and thoracic surgeon **Ahmad Hamzah, M.D.**, has joined **Baptist Health Medical Group North**. Previously,



Hamzah he worked at Regional Medical Center Bayonet Point in Hudson. Hamzah will see patients at Boca Raton Regional Hospital and Bethesda Hospital East.

Seif Elbualy, M.D., has joined **Marcus Neuroscience Institute** at Boca Raton Regional Hospital, as the director of interventional pain management. Previously, Elbualy was director at the Comprehensive Center for Pain Management at Boca Regional. He will see patients at 800 Meadows Road in Boca Raton.

Mary Elizabeth “Libby” Flippo is now a member of the **Florida Board of Nursing**, as appointed by Gov. Ron DeSantis. The board has 13



Delray Medical Center recently honored its first two graduates from the Florida Atlantic University Cardiovascular Fellowship at the center: Dr. Priya Bansal and Dr. Haider Al Taii. Under the leadership of Dr. Brij Maini, national and Florida medical director for cardiology for Tenet Healthcare and fellowship director of cardiovascular diseases for the Charles E. Schmidt College of Medicine at FAU, the fellows trained with Delray physicians and nursing staff. **ABOVE (l-r):** Maini with Al Taii, cardiologist Dr. Houman Khalili, Bansal, and Maggie Gill, CEO of Delray Medical Center. **Photo provided**

members. It licenses, monitors, disciplines and educates licensees. Flippo is the chief nursing officer for the Palm Beach Health Network, which includes Delray Medical Center, Good Samaritan Medical Center, Palm Beach Children’s Hospital, Palm Beach Gardens Medical Center, St. Mary’s Medical Center and West Boca Medical Center.

Dr. Erica R. Podolsky, a general surgeon with expertise

in bariatric and minimally invasive surgery, recently performed her 500th robotic surgery with the da Vinci robot at Delray Medical Center.

Podolsky is the medical director of the Surgical Weight Loss Program at Delray Medical Center, where she specializes in robotic laparoscopic abdominal surgery. She also serves as the chair of quality and patient safety on Delray Medical Center’s Medical Executive Committee.

Podolsky’s office is at 4600 Linton Blvd., Suite 340, Delray Beach. Visit DrEricaPodolsky.com or call her office at 561-939-0455 for more information.

For more information about Delray Medical Center’s bariatric and robotic services, call 844-474-8378 or go to www.delraymedicalctr.com.

In May, **JFK Medical Center North** campus began performing joint replacement surgery using the Mako robot, which allows surgeons to perform a more customized joint replacement surgery.

“The 3D CT allows me to create a personalized surgical plan based on each patient’s unique anatomy,” said Dr. Lyall Ashberg, orthopedic surgeon at JFK Medical Center North. “During surgery, I can validate the plan and make any necessary adjustments. This allows me to execute the procedure with the highest degree of precision and accuracy.”

Heartland Health Care & Rehabilitation Center of Boca Raton, 7225 Boca Del Mar Drive, was recognized as a 2021 recipient of the Silver — Achievement to Quality Award by the **American Health Care Association and National Center for Assisted Living**. The distinction is the second of three progressive award levels that honor association members across the country

that have demonstrated their commitment to improving quality of care for seniors and people with disabilities. The awards will be presented during American Health Care Association and National Center for Assisted Living’s 72nd convention and expo in National Harbor, Maryland, in October.

Hanley Foundation is offering a series of training at 7 p.m. Wednesdays through Aug. 25. Free and open to the public, the **Recovery Leadership Institute Summer Advocacy Training** was designed to produce equitable outcomes for people impacted by substance use disorder, including recovery and addiction specialists and leaders, families of people with addiction disorders, people in recovery, and families who have had life-adjusting experiences related to addiction.

The workshops have in-person and online attendance options, and the members of the public can choose which ones they want to attend. All presentation recordings will be made available Sept. 1 in honor of the start of National Recovery Month.

Participants are encouraged to join the livestream or in-person sessions as these sessions are interactive, led by credentialed volunteer instructors. In-person presentations take place at the Palm Beach County HUB at 2120 W. Atlantic Ave., Delray Beach.

To view the remaining workshops and to register, visit HanleyFoundation.org or contact Clarice Redding Louis, Hanley Foundation’s chief recovery community officer, at Clarice@HanleyFoundation.org.

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

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Paws Up for Pets

Peggy Adams café will let you cozy up to cats looking for homes

Mega coffee chains like Starbucks can offer you many varieties of coffee, but they can't serve you a latte with a purr. That combination is available only at cat cafés, places to savor coffee and other beverages while interacting with cats up for adoption.

A few years ago, I visited Koneko in downtown Manhattan, where the felines roaming inside come from the Anjellie Cats Rescue group. Koneko means "kitten" in Japanese.

It was a unique experience that motivated me to seek out other cat cafés to visit. My total is now five, including ones in San Diego, Chicago and a couple in Texas.

But now, you won't have to leave Palm Beach County to partake in this experience, because plans are underway to open a cat café at the Peggy Adams Rescue League center in West Palm Beach.

"We hope to open our cat café in about a month," says Rich Anderson, executive director/CEO at Peggy Adams. "We thought our community would love being able to spend time and get to know adoptable cats in a super-comfortable setting, and to do so while enjoying coffee or tea. Each day, a few cats will be introduced to the café and our human guests will also be able to watch cats playing in the adjacent patio."

This cat café is inside the newly opened Lesly S. Smith

Learn more

For more information about the cat café, the new Lesly S. Smith Pet Adoption Center and other activities at the Peggy Adams Rescue League, visit www.peggyadams.org.

Pet Adoption Center, which includes a cat adoption wing, three dog wings plus a new humane education center, a grooming room, veterinarian's office and much more. In total, the facility is 28,000 square feet and is designed to showcase pets in need of adoption and offer classes and other programs to the pet-loving public.

"Lesly Smith has served as chairman of the board of Peggy Adams Animal Rescue League since 2009, and no person has meant more to the organization or the animals of the community than she," says Anderson. "It was never Lesly's intent to see the new pet adoption center named for her. Prior to the launch of the capital campaign, Lesly's daughter, Danielle Moore, approached us with her wish to make the lead gift in her mother's honor."

This new wing with a cat café represents an evolution in how successful animal shelter centers operate. The days of shelters referred to as pounds and found in seedy locations in cities are thankfully disappearing. Surfacing are shelters like Peggy



This purr-fect pour has a cat's portrait. Photo provided

Adams that seek to become community centers that go beyond housing cats and dogs and other companion animals to be adopted.

"So much has changed for the better in the last 20 years nationwide for shelter animals," says Anderson. "Adoption and foster programs have become so successful that more attention and resources have been able to shift toward programs meant to prevent animals from entering shelters in the first place. Our Safety Net programs — affordable and free veterinary care, our free pet food pantry, behavior training and support — continue to expand."

Cat cafés exist all over the globe. Honors for being the world's first belong to Cat

Flower Garden, which opened in Taipei, Taiwan, in 1998. The United States has an estimated 140 cat cafés.

And, yes, they strive to have playful feline names, such as The Tippy Tabby in Newmarket, New Hampshire, Eat, Purr, Love Cat Café in Columbus, Ohio, and Purrington's Cat Lounge in Portland, Oregon.

Some cafés serve coffee and/or alcoholic beverages. Some offer food, but all offer an opportunity to hang out with cats in a relaxing, living-room like setting.

Quality cat cafés ensure all cats are up-to-date on vaccinations. Think of them as cageless shelters for cats and kittens. They feature cat trees for felines to survey activity

from preferred high places as well as cubby holes to nap uninterrupted, comfy beds, toys and much more. Litter boxes are often out of sight, but accessible to the cats.

This enriching environment enables cats to feel safe, relax and display behaviors that may win them forever homes.

Each café has its own rules for visitors, but topping the list is practicing good hygiene by thoroughly washing your hands before and after handling cats, and never picking up a cat, but rather, allowing the cat to come to you.

Until the new cat café opens at Peggy Adams, I will enjoy sipping my coffee inside a ceramic mug sporting the photo of my favorite feline, Pet Safety Cat Casey, who assists me in my pet first-aid and pet behavior classes. And, I will look for new episodes of *Call Me Kat* airing on Fox this fall, starring Mayim Bialik as an owner of a fictional cat café in Louisville, Kentucky.

Coffee and cats definitely blend well together.

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.



Health Calendar

Note: Events are current as of 7/28. Please check with organizers for any changes.

AUGUST 7

Saturday - 8/7 - Yoga Class at South Palm Beach Town Hall, 3577 S Ocean Blvd. Every Sat 9 am. \$5/class. 588-8889; southpalmbeach.com

AUGUST 8-14

Sunday - 8/8 - Improv Gym Class with Heather Hilend at Bob Carter's Actor's Workshop & Repertory Company, 1000 N Dixie Hwy. Adults. 11 am-1 pm. \$20/class. Registration: 833-7529; actorsrep.org

Monday - 8/9 - Yoga in the Garden at Norton Museum of Art, 1451 S Olive Ave, West Palm Beach. Every M through 8/30 9-10 am. \$10/member; \$20/non-member. Registration: 832-5196; norton.org

8/9 - 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

8/9 - Yoga at the Library at Delray Beach Library, 100 W Atlantic Ave. Every M 6 pm. \$2. Registration: 266-0194; delraylibrary.org

Tuesday - 8/10 - 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

8/10 - Mindful Movement: A Meditation Series with Ruth Sanders at Florida Atlantic University Friedberg Auditorium, 777 Glades Rd, Boca Raton. Every T through 8/31 12:30-2 pm. \$60/annual membership; \$60/member; \$80/non-member; \$25/one-time guest pass at the door. 297-3185; olliboca.fau.edu

8/10 - Baby Basics Zoom Class presented by Bethesda Hospital East, 2815 S Seacrest Blvd, Boynton Beach. Diapering, feeding, bathing, soothing baby. Held again T 8/24-9/28. 5-6:30 pm. Free/both parents encouraged to attend. Registration: 369-2229; bethesdaweb.com

8/10 - 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 - 8/11 - Sunflower Power Walk at Mounts Botanical Garden, 531 N Military Tr, West Palm Beach. Held again 8/18 & 25. 8:30-9:30 am. Includes garden admission: \$5/member; \$15/non-member. Registration: 233-1757; mounts.org

8/11 - Qi Gong Class at Mounts Botanical Garden, 531 N Military Tr, West Palm Beach. Relieve stress; increase metabolism, flexibility, strength. Held again 8/18 & 25. 10-11 am. \$10/member; \$25/non-member. Registration: 233-1757; mounts.org

8/11 - Yoga Series at Compson Place at Renaissance Commons, 1880 N Congress Ave, Boynton Beach. Every W 5:30-6:30 pm. Free. 413-5909; facebook.com/compsonplace

8/11 - 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

8/11 - 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

8/11-8/25 - Recovery Leadership (RLI) Summer Advocacy Training Series presented by Hanley Foundation at Palm Beach County HUB, 2120 W Atlantic Ave, Delray Beach. Designed to offer hope to individuals, families, communities affected by alcoholism & drug addictions. In-person/online options. Free. Every W 7 pm through 8/25. Register: 268-2355; hanleyfoundation.org

Thursday - 8/12 - 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

8/12 - Tai Chi/Chi Kung Class at Green Cay

Nature Center, 12800 Hagen Ranch Rd, Boynton Beach. Every Th through 10/7 2 pm. \$40/member; \$50/non-member; \$20/drop-in fee for one session. 966-7000; pbcnature.com

Friday - 8/13 - Guided Meditative Wellness Walk at Mounts Botanical Garden, 531 N Military Tr, West Palm Beach. Held again 8/20 & 27. 9-10 am. \$5/member; \$15/non-member. Registration: 233-1757; mounts.org

Saturday - 8/14 - Breastfeeding Zoom Class presented by Bethesda Hospital East, 2815 S Seacrest Blvd, Boynton Beach. Expectant parents learn about benefits of breastfeeding. Held again 5 pm 9/15. 11 am. Free/both parents encouraged to attend. Registration: 369-2229; bethesdaweb.com

AUGUST 15-21

Tuesday - 8/17 - Virtual Yoga presented by Delray Beach Library, 100 W Atlantic Ave. Part of Appy Hour class series. 2 pm. Free. Registration: 266-0196; delraylibrary.org

Wednesday - 8/18 - The Front Row Virtual Lecture Series: Harnessing the Power of the Microbiota to Boost Immunity Against Infection and Cancer presented by Scripps Research. Department of Immunology and Microbiology Professor Howard Hang, PhD. 1 pm. Free. Registration: frontrow.scripps.edu

AUGUST 22-28

Tuesday - 8/24 - Hand Drumming for Fun, Meditation, Healing at Creative Arts School, 51 N Swinton Ave, Delray Beach. Every T through 9/7. Virtual 1:30-2:30 pm \$63; in-person 6:30-8 pm \$87. Registration: 846-2349; oldschoolsquare.org

SEPTEMBER 5-15

Wednesday - 9/15 - The Front Row Virtual Lecture Series: Getting to the Heart of the Matter: Precision Therapies for Age-Related Neurodegenerative Diseases presented by Scripps Research. Lita Annenberg Hazen Professor of Chemistry, Jeff Kelly, PhD. 1 pm. Free. Registration required: frontrow.scripps.edu

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Finding Faith

Delray Beach pastor spearheads vaccination effort

For the Rev. Joseph Dawkins of St. Paul Missionary Baptist Church in Delray Beach, serving the senior community has been a passion since he was a young man. When ambition took him to Dallas and he had to leave his mother behind in Ocala, Dawkins worried.

When she told him a young man, without being asked, had been coming by to mow her lawn for free, Dawkins was first suspicious, then grateful. That man's act of kindness made such an impression, Dawkins made a commitment to help people who can't do for themselves. It's a passion the pastor shares with his wife, Reather.

When the coronavirus came along 18 months ago, it seemed to draw a bead on the population Dawkins was most committed to serving. An unexpected blessing was that the church had already been getting ready to add virtual services.

"We were ahead of the curve," Dawkins said. "We'd already bought the equipment. We had brought in installers and hired a few experts and we were ready to go."

The church was ready



A vaccinated man gives a thumbs up during the Rev. Joseph Dawkins' campaign to protect his congregation. Photo provided

to reach and be reached on Facebook or YouTube or the church's website.

But people were still vulnerable. When vaccines against COVID-19 became available to older adults, it became Dawkins' mission to see that St. Paul MBC's seniors got the shots. "Our vaccination rate is high among age 55 and older," he said. "Almost 100% are vaccinated."

The church accomplished this through a series of vaccination outreach efforts, which initially included helping people register with public health agencies, then hosting a series of vaccination days in April and May in partnership with Meadows Pharmacy.

The church became a state-sanctioned vaccine distribution site, but when the rate of vaccinations fell to a trickle, it became easier to send people directly to Meadows Pharmacy than to host clinics.

Still, vaccination rates among ages 54 and younger in his church community are lower than Dawkins would like: He guessed only about half have taken the shots.

At first the impediments were getting people registered for the vaccine and arranging transportation. But the team solved those issues, almost on a one-by-one basis. Don't have computer access? We'll enter the data. Can't get out of your car? We'll come out to you.

Don't have an appointment? We take walk-ups. Don't have transportation? We'll drive you or find someplace easy to get to on public transportation.

Those were easy problems to solve, Dawkins said. And it's still easy to register, whether you're a church member or not. Just call the church to set up your appointment at the pharmacy and "skip the line."

Today the biggest hurdle is misinformation. But Dawkins deals with this issue the same way: calmly and one on one.

"We went knocking on doors and talking to people sitting under the trees. We tried to explain facts and dispel rumors. It was a boots-on-the-ground effort," he said.

The Rev. Howard Barr of St. Paul "has a live prayer line every morning from 7:30 to 8 a.m.," Dawkins said. "He does more than pray. He tries to get the facts out. He answers questions and settles arguments." With listeners from New York to Dallas, he

tries to calm the vitriol of social media and cable news.

But it's not just negative reporting that keeps people away. Dawkins says some cultural obstacles exist, including a general mistrust about medical procedures.

But right now, Dawkins is excited about another milestone: The church will commemorate 92 years of service to the community in August with a series of events. This will include a celebration on the fourth Sunday, Aug. 22.

Check www.saintpaulmbc.org or call 561-278-7149 for details. The church is at 46 SW 10th Ave.

Janis Fontaine writes about

people of faith, their congregations, causes and community events.

Contact her at janisfontaine@outlook.com.



Religion Calendar

Note: Events are current as of 7/28. Please check with organizers for any changes.

AUGUST 7

Saturday - 8/7 - Saturday Shabbat Service at Temple Sinai Palm Beach County, 2475 W Atlantic Ave, Delray Beach. Every Sat 10 am. 276-6161; templesinaipbc.org
8/7 - 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 6 pm. Free. 248-660-4036; thebasels@comcast.net

AUGUST 8-14

Sunday - 8/8 - St. Vincent Ferrer Live-Stream Mass. 840 George Bush Blvd, Delray Beach. Every Sun 9 am. Free. 276-6892; stvincentferrer.com
8/8 - 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; fumbocaron.org
8/8 - St. Joseph's Episcopal Church Live-Stream Service. 3300A Seacrest Blvd, Boynton Beach. 9:30 am. Free. 732-3060; stjoesweb.org
8/8 - First Presbyterian Church of Delray Beach Sunday Morning Worship at 33 Gleason Street. In-person & online. Every Sun 10 am. Free. 276-6338; firstdelray.com
8/8 - Open House at Temple Sinai Palm Beach County, 2475 W Atlantic Ave, Delray Beach. 1-3 pm. Free. 276-6161 x128; templesinaipbc.org
Monday - 8/9 - Women's Bible Study via Zoom at First Presbyterian Church of Delray Beach, 33 Gleason St. Every M 10 am. Free. 276-6338; firstdelray.com
Tuesday - 8/10 - 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 - 8/11 - Men's Fellowship at First Presbyterian Church of Delray Beach Courtyard, 33 Gleason St. Every Th 8:30 am. Free. 276-6338; firstdelray.com
8/11 - Wednesday Evening Meditation Service at Unity of Delray Beach Church, 101 NW 22nd St. Led by Rev. Laurie Durgan in the Sanctuary. Masks are mandatory, social distancing practiced. 6:30 pm. Free. 276-5796; unityofdelraybeach.org
Thursday - 8/12 - Virtual Shabbat Service at Temple Sinai of Palm Beach County, 2475 W Atlantic Ave, Delray Beach. Every F 7:30 pm. Free. 276-6161; templesinaipbc.org
Friday - 8/13 - Erev Shabbat Service at Temple Sinai Palm Beach County, 2475 W Atlantic Ave, Delray Beach. Every F 7:30 pm. 276-6161; templesinaipbc.org

AUGUST 22-28

Saturday - 8/28 - S'lichot at Temple Israel, 1901 N Flagler Dr, West Palm Beach. Special program w/Havdallah followed by Workshop service, cheesecake reception. 7:30 pm. Free. RSVP: 833-8421; temple-israel.com

SEPTEMBER 5-11

Monday - 9/6 - Rosh Hashana 9/6 - Erev Rosh Hashanah Worship Service at Temple Israel of West Palm Beach, 1901 N Flagler Dr. 7:30 pm. Tickets required: 833-8421; temple-israel.com
9/6-7 - Rosh Hashanah Services at Temple Sinai Palm Beach County, 2475 W Atlantic Ave, Delray Beach. M 7:30 pm; W 10:30 am; family & children W 2 pm. Call for tickets: 276-6161 x100; templesinaipbc.org
9/6-8 - Rosh HaShanah Services at Temple Beth El Schaefer Family Campus, 333 SW 4th Ave, Boca Raton, & FAUs Kaye Auditorium, 777 Glades Rd, Boca Raton. Members may celebrate at either location; guests who are not members must attend at FAU. M 8 pm; T 10 am (in-person and virtual); W 10 am. Free/member; \$180/non-member covers all High Holy Days services. 391-8900; tbeoca.org
Tuesday - 9/7 - Erev Rosh Hashanah Worship Service at Temple Israel of West Palm Beach, 1901 N Flagler Dr. 9 am/free family workshop; 10:30 am/traditional service. Tickets required: 833-8421; temple-israel.com

SEPTEMBER 12-19

Wednesday - 9/15-18 - Yom Kippur 9/15 - Erev Yom Kippur (Kol Nidre) Evening Worship Service at Temple Israel of West Palm Beach, 1901 N Flagler Dr. 7:30 pm. Tickets required: 833-8421; temple-israel.com
9/15 - Erev Yom Kippur (Kol Nidre) Evening Service at Temple Sinai Palm Beach County, 2475 W Atlantic Ave, Delray Beach. 7:30 pm. Call for tickets: 276-6161 x100; templesinaipbc.org
9/15-16 - Yom Kippur Services at Temple Beth El Schaefer Family Campus, 333 SW 4th Ave, Boca Raton & FAUs Kaye Auditorium, 777 Glades Rd, Boca Raton. Members may celebrate at either location; guests who are not members must attend at FAU. W 8 pm; Th 10 am (in-person and virtual) & 3:30 pm. Free/member; \$180/non-member covers all High Holy Days services. 391-8900; tbeoca.org
Thursday - 9/16 - Yom Kippur Service at Temple Israel of West Palm Beach, 1901 N Flagler Dr. 9 am/family worship (free); 10:30 am/traditional service; 3 pm/discussion program; 4 pm/afternoon Torah service; 4:45 pm/Yizkor/N'ilah (concluding service). Tickets required: 833-8421; temple-israel.com
9/16 - Yom Kippur Service at Temple Sinai Palm Beach County, 2475 W Atlantic Ave, Delray Beach. Service 10:30 am; Yizkor 4 pm. Call for tickets: 276-6161 x100; templesinaipbc.org

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Religion News

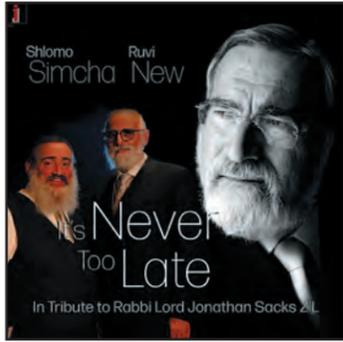
Rabbi New releases upbeat single

You may not know that Rabbi Ruvy New, co-director of Chabad of East Boca Raton, is a talented songwriter. His latest music video, featuring Canadian Hasidic Jewish cantor and singer Shlomo Simcha, is called *It's Never Too Late*.

It's a catchy, upbeat, folk-inspired song, offering encouragement amid the current political climate. Its primary message is one of love, followed closely by the advice "Be proud to be a Jew," and "Be the leader you were born to be."

In 2017, New fulfilled his lifelong dream by making *Storm the World*, an album featuring 12 original songs.

See the latest video at www.StormTheWorldProject.com.



Ruvy New teams up on a video offering a message of love.

the way for Rabbi Rony Keller, the synagogue's senior associate rabbi, to become senior rabbi on July 1. Keller, a native Floridian with a degree from the USF, joined CBI in 2017. He has updated and improved the school curriculum, led Shabbat and High Holy Days services and helped restructure the congregation's bylaws.

Visit www.cbiboca.org for more information on the synagogue and the clergy.



Silvers



Keller

Changing of the guard at Congregation B'nai Israel

It's the end of an era at Congregation B'nai Israel of Boca Raton. After 27 years, Rabbi Robert A. Silvers was elevated to rabbi emeritus. Generally, the role of a rabbi emeritus involves stepping back and being suitably honored, but Silvers is not in the habit of stepping back. Perhaps he'll spend his time pursuing his interest in reading and collecting Jewish stories and in Sephardic history and spending more time with his family.

Silvers' promotion cleared

St. Paul's to hold series of discussions on race

St. Paul's Episcopal Church of Delray Beach will host the 2021-22 "Sacred Ground Dialogue Circle," a program that focuses on anti-racism and reconciliation through small-group discussions.

The 13-session series will begin with an orientation on Monday, Sept. 27 at 7 p.m. Subsequent sessions will meet periodically at 7 p.m. Mondays through March 28.

The program is free but you must register at <https://stpaulsdelray.org>.

St. Paul's is at 188 S. Swinton Ave. Call 561-276-4541.

— Janis Fontaine

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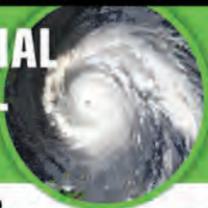
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Tots & Teens

Delray garden helps young kids embrace nature by playing, learning

By Janis Fontaine

On three-quarters of an acre just a block from the Delray Beach courthouse and active Atlantic Avenue is a tiny garden just for kids. In the Delray Beach Children's Garden, kids can climb trees and rope-ladders, plant and harvest vegetables, make mud pies and mud soup, find friends in a colony of worms, and learn about the importance of green space.

To its founders, the garden is a place to nurture eco-consciousness in children because kids who love nature will want to protect it. It's their legacy.

But it's also about having good, clean fun, being a kid and getting wet and dirty. On Saturdays from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m., the garden is open to the public for playtime. The garden is closed on Sundays through August but will reopen for play on Sundays too in September. A donation of \$5 is requested.

Playgrounds are nice, program manager Veronica Green said, but some have hard surfaces or rubber mulch. Nothing compares to real dirt under your feet, the sweet fragrance of the plants and herbs thriving in the South

Florida sun and access to nature everywhere you look.

Green says the garden is about "unstructured play. We added a lot of features to encourage free play."

A water table with bins and buckets is popular. A wash-away art board with bright tempura paints is ready for creative moments. The worm farm, where delicate red wigglers (*Eisenia foetida*) make the world's best fertilizer by eating your nasty old banana peels, is a marvel.

Nooks and crannies throughout the garden provide comfy seating where parents can mingle and enjoy the shade — there's plenty — while kids make new friends with beetles and butterflies, lady bugs and goldfish. A repurposed rowboat allows for imaginary voyages, and fruit trees yield delicacies such as cotton candy berries and chocolate pudding fruit.

The garden was founded by Jeannie Fernsworth, a horticulturist, and Shelly Zacks, a retired preschool teacher, in 2015. Green is a certified educator through the Eastern Regional Association of Forest and Nature Schools and keeps the trains running on time. She and Executive Director Christina Nicodemou

facilitate the classes the garden offers.

Mother Nature & Me, offered every Thursday, is designed for ages 1-5 years. In addition to unstructured playtime, kids have time for arts and crafts and to listen to Ms. Veronica's story time under the Simon Grass River Chickee Hut. Registration for the class is required and a donation of \$10 per child is requested.

Green is also a children's book author, and her series *The Adventures of Veggie Vero* features a vegan superhero who rescues animals and teaches children about compassionate living. The books also teach the importance of a plant-based diet, and at the end of each book Green includes a recipe kids can make.

In fall and spring, the garden offers an extensive Nature Education Cooperative for home-schoolers. The 10-week program, for ages 3 to 8, meets weekly for three hours of science, cooking, art, math, language, mindfulness activities, and gardening. The September program is full but registration opens in November for the spring session, which begins in January.

The coronavirus pandemic hit the garden hard, Green said.



Garden coordinator Veronica Green pulls weeds from a raised bed to prepare it for the next crop. Photo provided

For almost a year, no children could visit. The garden, which leases its space from St. Paul's Episcopal Church, recently started a Sponsor of the Month campaign.

By paying the garden's monthly rent (\$1,000), sponsors get a beautiful sign in the garden, acknowledgment in the garden's monthly newsletter, on its website and on social media,

and the appreciation of the community.

The Delray Dunes Garden Club sponsored the garden in July. A sponsor is still needed for December. Check the children's garden website for other ways to help. ★

Delray Beach Children's Garden is at 137 SW Second Ave. Visit www.delraybeachchildrensgarden.org.

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Tots & Teens Calendar

Note: Events are current as of 7/28. Please check with organizers for any changes.

AUGUST 7

Saturday - 8/7 - Sensory Saturdays: Special Exploration Hours at South Florida Science Center and Aquarium, 4801 Dreher Tr N, West Palm Beach. For families affected by autism spectrum disorder. No heavy crowds; softened general lighting, decreased noise level/visual stimulation on interactive exhibits wherever possible. 1st Sat 9-10 am. \$7.50/adult; \$6.50/senior; \$5.50/child 3-12; free/member & child under 3. 832-1988; sfscenter.org

8/7 - Sensory-Friendly Saturday at Children's Science Explorium, 300 S Military Tr, Boca Raton. Explore the museum in sensory modified setting with sound/light adjustments. Held again 10/2. 1st Sat 9-10 am. Free. 347-3912; scienceexplorium.org

8/7 - Story Time with Nature at Green Cay Nature Center, 12800 Hagen Ranch Rd, Boynton Beach. Discover nature through crafts, stories about animals, other nature-related themes. Age 4-10. 10 am. \$2. RSVP: 966-7000; pbcnature.com

8/7 - smART: Watercolors at Boca Raton Museum of Art School, 801 W Palmetto Park Rd. Studio workshops for families/intergenerational groups; focus on artistic family fun to learn, create, enjoy the visual arts. 10-11 am. Free. RSVP: 392-2500 x106; bocamuseum.org

8/7 - Family Saturdays: Kid's Corner, Sea Turtle Fun at Cultural Council Project Space, 11 S L St, Lake Worth Beach. Bring towels or mats. Facial coverings & social distancing required. 10-11:30 am. Call for price/reservations: 471-2901; palmbeachculture.com

8/7 - 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

8/7 - Family Studio - For the Record: Celebrating Art by Women at Norton Museum of Art, 1451 S Olive Ave, West Palm Beach. Children w/adult partner tour the current special exhibition, create their own artwork. Age 5-12 w/parents. 10:30 am-12:30 pm. \$3/family; free/member. Registration: 832-5196 x1138; norton.org

8/7 - Youth Origami Workshop at Morikami Museum and Japanese Gardens Oki Education Center, 4000 Morikami Park Rd, Delray Beach. Grades 3-12. 11:30 am-12:30 pm. \$22/+ museum admission. 495-0233; morikami.org

8/7 - Daily Aquarium Feedings at Sandoway Discovery Center, 142 S Ocean Blvd, Delray Beach. All ages. T-Sat Noon; Sun 12:30 pm. Free w/\$6 admission. 274-7263; sandowayhouse.org

8/7 - Virtual Dungeons & Dragons for Teens & Young Adults presented by Boca Raton Public Library, 400 NW 2nd Ave. Age 13+. Every Sat through 9/11 2-4:30 pm. Free. Registration: 393-7968; bocalibrary.org

8/7 - Comic Book Workshop with Ben Kahn at Delray Beach Public Library, 100 W Atlantic Ave. Age 10-17. 2-5 pm. Free. 266-0197; delraylibrary.org

AUGUST 8-14

Sunday - 8/8 - Science Make & Takes at Children's Science Explorium, 300 S Military Tr, Boca Raton. Learn about science concepts, make a fun craft to take home. Age 5+. 1st Sun 11:30 am. \$5. 347-3912; scienceexplorium.org

Monday - 8/9 - First Day of School at St. Vincent Ferrer School, 810 George Bush Blvd, Delray Beach. 278-3868; stvincentferrer.com

Tuesday - 8/10 - First Day of School at Palm Beach County Schools. 434-8000; palmbeachschools.org

8/10 - Sensational Story 'n More at Schoolhouse Children's Museum & Learning Center, 129 E Ocean Ave, Boynton Beach. Children's books come to life through interactive performance, singing, movement, props. Age 2-5. Every T 10-10:45 am. Free w/paid admission. 742-6780; schoolhousemuseum.org

8/10 - The Art of the Story at Schoolhouse Children's Museum & Learning Center, 129 E Ocean Ave, Boynton Beach. One author/illustrator at each class; children create their own art in the style of the featured book. Age 3-7 yrs. Every T 3-3:45 pm. Free w/paid admission. Registration: 742-6780; schoolhousemuseum.org

8/10 - Virtual TAB (Teen Advisory Board) Meeting presented by Delray Beach Public Library, 100 W Atlantic Ave. 4 pm. Free. 266-0197; delraylibrary.org

Wednesday - 8/11 - Art Explorations at Schoolhouse Children's Museum & Learning Center, 129 E Ocean Ave, Boynton Beach. Age 3-7. Every W through 8/25 10-10:45 am. \$8/member; \$10/non-member + admission. Registration: 742-6780; schoolhousemuseum.org

8/11 - Summer Science Fun at Schoolhouse Children's Museum & Learning Center, 129 E Ocean Ave, Boynton Beach. Hands-on science fun exploring a variety of experiments/activities designed to bring out the scientist in your little one. Age 3-7. 11-11:45 am. Per class \$8/member; \$10/non-member + admission. 742-6780; schoolhousemuseum.org

Thursday - 8/12 - Summer Tales Storytime at Boca Raton Public Library, 400 NW 2nd Ave. Fun stories, music & movement, songs, rhymes; take-home arts & crafts kit at conclusion of program. Age 0-5. Held again 8/19 & 26. 10-10:30 am. Free. Registration: 393-7968; bocalibrary.org

Saturday - 8/14 - All About Amphibians at Daggerwing Nature Center, 11435 Park Access Rd, Boca Raton. Age 5+. 10:30 am. \$3. Reservations: 629-8760; pbcnature.com

AUGUST 15-21

Monday - 8/16 - First Day of School at St. Joseph's Episcopal School, 3300 S Seacrest Blvd, Boynton Beach. 732-2045; sjsonline.org

Tuesday - 8/17 - Mother Nature & Me: Colors in Nature at Daggerwing Nature Center, Experience exciting nature topics through stories, puppets, games, role play, nature walks, crafts. Age 2-5 w/guardian. 10:30 am. \$4/child. Reservations: 629-8760; pbcnature.com

Thursday - 8/19 - Teen Graphic Novel Club: Almost American Girl by Robin Ha at Boca Raton Public Library, 400 NW 2nd Ave. Age 13-17. In-person or virtual. 6-7 pm. Free. Registration: 393-7968; bocalibrary.org

Saturday - 8/21 - Animal Keeper For a Day at Green Cay Nature Center, 12800 Hagen Ranch Rd, Boynton Beach. Work behind the scenes w/ animal care staff & volunteers. Age 9+. 10 am. \$10. RSVP: 966-7000; pbcnature.com

8/21 - Playful Projects at Sugar Sand Park, 300 S Military Tr, Boca Raton. Kids create unique DIY craft projects, taught step by step. Each class features a different theme; includes supplies. Age 5-12. Virtual 10 am & 2 pm 8/28. Held again 9/26. 2-3 pm. Free/resident; \$5/non-resident. 347-3900; sugarsandpark.org

8/21 - Virtual Family Fun Day: Kakigori at Morikami Japanese Museum and Gardens Classroom A, 4000 Morikami Park Rd, Delray Beach. Learn how to make kakigori, a Japanese summer treat of finely shaved ice. Craft templates/instructions via social media. Noon-3 pm. Free. 495-0233; morikami.org

8/21 - 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 pm. \$2. Registration: 425-8918; sfscenter.org/code-palm-beach

AUGUST 22-28

Wednesday - 8/25 - Stroller Daze at South Florida Science Center and Aquarium, 4801 Dreher Tr N, West Palm Beach. Live science demonstrations, STEM kit giveaway, Splash Pad & Mini Golf Course included w/admission, planetarium shows, current exhibit, more. Food available for purchase. Age 5 & under w/partner or guardian. 9 am-noon. 50% admission/adult; free/child & member. 832-1988;

sfscenter.org

Friday - 8/27 - Jaws, Paws, and Claws Night At The Museum at South Florida Science Center and Aquarium, 4801 Dreher Tr N, West Palm Beach. Science crafts, activities, entertainment, exhibits, planetarium shows, a chance to view the night sky. 6-9 pm. \$15.95/adult; \$13.95/senior; \$11.95/child age 3-12 & adult member; free/child member & kids under 3. 832-1988; sfscenter.org

Saturday - 8/28 - Nature Trek! at Mounts Botanical Garden, 559 N Military Tr, West Palm Beach. Become a plant detective! Age 7-11. 9:30-11:30 am. Free/member; \$10/adult non-member; \$5/all children. 386-7812; mounts.org

AUGUST 29-SEPT.4

Tuesday - 8/31 - Virtual GEMS Club: Scales of Nature 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. Held again 9/28. 5:30-6:30 pm. \$5/virtual class. Registration: 370-7710; sfscenter.org/gem

Wednesday - 9/1 - First Day of School at Gulf Stream School, 3600 Gulf Stream Rd. 276-5225; gulfstreamschool.org

9/1 - Oh Baby Story Time 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. 1st & 3rd W 10 am. Free. 266-0197; delraylibrary.org

Friday - 9/3-5 - Annual College Dance Fair at Boca Ballet Theatre's Countess de Hoernle Center for Dance, 7630 NW 6th Ave, Boca Raton. High school dance students & their parents network/navigate the college dance world. Topics include admission requirements, audition advice, more. Rising high school juniors & seniors. F 6:15-8 pm; Sat 9:30 am-7 pm; Sun 9:30 am-4:30 pm. \$199. Registration: 995-0709; collegedancefair.org

Saturday - 9/4 - Sensory-Friendly Saturday at Children's Science Explorium, 300 S Military Tr, Boca Raton. Explore the museum in sensory modified setting with sound/light adjustments. 1st Sat 9-10 am. Free. 347-3912; scienceexplorium.org

9/4 - Family Saturdays: Family Fun Theatre Workshop at Cultural Council Project Space, 11 S L St, Lake Worth Beach. Bring towels or mats. Facial coverings & social distancing required. 10-11:30 am. Call for price/reservations: 471-2901; palmbeachculture.com

9/4 - Family Studio: Clay in the Garden at Norton Museum of Art, 1451 S Olive Ave, West Palm Beach. Children w/adult partner tour the current special exhibition, create their own artwork. Age 5-12 w/parents. 10:30 am-12:30 pm. \$3/family; free/member. Registration required: 832-5196 x1138; norton.org

SEPTEMBER 5-11

Saturday - 9/11 - Virtual Family Fun Day: Orizuru for Peace at Morikami Japanese Museum and Gardens Classroom A, 4000 Morikami Park Rd, Delray Beach. Commemorate the 20th anniversary of the World Trade Center tragedy; make orizuru, Japanese paper cranes. Craft templates/instructions via social media. Noon-3 pm. Free. 495-0233; morikami.org

SEPTEMBER 12-18

Sunday - 9/12 - Grandparents' Day Monday - 9/13 - Kindergarten Readiness Story Time with Ms. Tea presented by Delray Beach Public Library, 100 W Atlantic Ave. Age 3-5. 2nd & 4th M 10 am. Free. Registration: 266-0194; delraylibrary.org

Thursday - 9/16 - Roblox Gaming Glory on Zoom presented by Delray Beach Public Library, 100 W Atlantic Ave. Grades 3-6. 3rd Th 3:30-4:15 pm. Free. Registration: 266-0194; delraylibrary.org

9/16 - Teen Book Club: The Cruel Prince by Holly Black at Boca Raton Public Library, 400 NW 2nd Ave. Age 13-17. In-person or virtual. 6-7 pm. Free. Registration: 393-7968; bocalibrary.org

Saturday - 9/18 - 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 pm. \$2. Registration: 425-8918; sfscenter.org/

code-palm-beach

SEPTEMBER 19-25

Monday - 9/20 - Story Chasers Book Club presented by Delray Beach Public Library, 100 W Atlantic Ave. Grades 1-3. In-person or Zoom. 3rd M 3:30-4:15 pm. Free. Registration: 266-0194; delraylibrary.org

Tuesday - 9/21 - Tot Time at Sugar Sand Park, 300 S Military Tr, Boca Raton. Crafts, snacks, indoor play stations. Drop in anytime during the program. Age 1-4. 10 am-noon. \$5/child. 347-3900; sugarsandpark.org

Friday - 9/24 - Wacky Weather Night at The Museum at South Florida Science Center and Aquarium, 4801 Dreher Tr N, West Palm Beach. Science crafts, activities, entertainment, exhibits, planetarium shows, a chance to view the night sky. 6-9 pm. \$15.95/adult; \$13.95/senior; \$11.95/child age 3-12 & adult member; free/child member & kids under 3. 832-1988; sfscenter.org



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Paddle board event

Lake Worth Beach — June 27

Casey Kiernan runs toward the finish as the overall winner of the 2021 Crossing for Cystic Fibrosis, an 80-mile open ocean competitive stand-up paddle race. Paddle boarders, kayakers and a wake boarder completed the crossing from Bimini in the Bahamas to Lake Worth Beach. The event raised more than \$635,000 to support families affected by cystic fibrosis. **Tim Stepien/The Coastal Star**



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Outdoors Calendar

Bring binoculars. All ages. 9 am. \$3. RSVP: 966-7000; pbcnature.com

Note: Events are current as of 7/28. Please check with organizers for any changes.

AUGUST 7

Saturday - 8/7 - Regular Spiny Lobster Season Open through 03/31/22. Myfwc.com
8/7-8 - Intracoastal Adventures: Kayaking at Gumbo Limbo Nature Center, 1801 N Ocean Blvd, Boca Raton. Short talks about South Florida's unique animals/ecosystems. Age 7-adult; children under 18 must be accompanied by an adult. Held again 8/21-22 & 8/28-29. Sat 9-10:30 am or 2-2:30 pm; Sun 10-11:30 am or noon-1:30 pm. \$20/resident & member; \$25/non-resident. 544-8605; gumbolimbo.org

AUGUST 8-14

Saturday - 8/14 - Bird Talk and Walk at Green Cay Nature Center, 12800 Hagen Ranch Rd, Boynton Beach. Florida bird presentation followed by 1-hour birding tour w/a naturalist.

AUGUST 22-28

Thursday - 8/26 - 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+. 7:30 pm. \$5/person. RSVP: 966-7000; pbcnature.com
Saturday - 8/28 - Sea Angels Beach Cleanup at Ocean Inlet Park, 6990 N Ocean Blvd, Ocean Ridge. Held again 9/25. Last Sat 8-9:30 am. Registration: 369-5501; seaangels.org

SEPTEMBER 12-18

Saturday - 9/18 - 2021 International Coastal Cleanup at multiple locations in Palm Beach County. Coordinated by Keep Palm Beach County Beautiful, Inc. The world's largest, 1-day volunteer effort to clean up the marine environment. Check website for locations/times. Free. Registration forms: 686-6646; keeppbcbeautiful.org

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Community Calendar

Note: Events are current as of 7/28. Please check with organizers for any changes.

AUGUST 7

Saturday - 8/7 - Impacting Your Reader with Interior Description with Instructor Victoria Landis part of Florida Authors Academy Workshop at Murder on the Beach Bookstore, 104 W Atlantic Ave, Delray Beach. 10 am-noon. \$25. Registration: 279-7790; murderonthebeach.com

8/7 - Calling All Serious Writers! Saturday Zoom Writers Studio presented by Delray Beach Public Library, 100 W Atlantic Ave. Every Sat 10 am. Free. 266-0194; delraylibrary.org

8/7 - Saturday Morning Writers' Group presented by Boca Raton Public Library, 400 NW 2nd Ave. Group engages in productive critique. Drop-ins welcome, frequent participation encouraged. Age 18+. 1st & 3rd Sat 11 am-12:30 pm. Free via Zoom. 393-7852; bocalibrary.org

8/7 - Plumpjack Winery Tasting at Gourmetphile, 501 SE Mizner Blvd #80, Boca Raton. 7 pm. \$100/person. 757-6208; gourmetphile.com

8/7 - Doctor Nativo de Guatemala at Arts Garage, 94 NE 2nd Ave, Delray Beach. In-person or virtual. 7-9 pm. \$11/virtual, \$40-\$45/in person. 450-6357; artsgarage.org

8/7 - Blues Brothers Soul Band: A Soul Rhythm & Blues Tribute at The Funky Biscuit, 303 SE Mizner Blvd, Boca Raton. 7 pm. \$25-\$30 + minimum \$25 food/beverage purchase. 465-3946; funkybiscuit.com

8/7-8 - We Will Rock You at Lake Worth Playhouse, 713 Lake Ave. Runs through 8/8. Limited tickets available: 586-6410; lakeworthplayhouse.org

8/7-25 - 8th Annual Squares on the Square Benefit Art Sale and Exhibition at Old School Square, 51 N Swinton Ave, Delray Beach. Original artwork; benefits The Cornell Art Museum. Exhibition Th-Sun noon-5 pm through 8/25; sale/reception 8/25 6-9 pm. \$35/early access pass permits purchase prior to sale/reception; \$5/regular admission. 243-7922; cornellartmuseum.org

8/7-9/7 - Boca Raton Historical Society & Museum Traveling Exhibition; Life's a Beach at Sugar Sand Park, 300 S Military Tr, Boca Raton. Explores the history of our coast. Daily 8 am-10 pm. Free. 395-6766; bocahistory.org

AUGUST 8-14

Sunday - 8/8 - Cat Video Fest 2021 at Lake Worth Playhouse Stonzek Studio, 713 Lake Ave. 3 pm. \$9. 586-6410; lakeworthplayhouse.org

8/8 - Story Central Virtual Storytelling Slam presented by Boca Raton Public Library, 400 NW 2nd Ave. Adults. 5-6:30 pm. Free. Enroll for Zoom info: 393-7906; bocalibrary.org

8/8-24 - Peter and The Starcatcher at Lake Worth Playhouse, 713 Lake Ave. Runs through 10/24. Limited tickets available, call for dates/prices: 586-6410; lakeworthplayhouse.org

Monday - 8/9 - Custom Card Crafting Club at Boynton Beach City Library, 100 E Ocean Ave. Adults. 10 am-noon. Free. 742-6390; boyntonlibrary.org

Tuesday - 8/10 - Journal Class at Mounts Botanical Garden, 531 N Military Tr, West Palm Beach. Class, open to all levels, begins with a nature walk. Artist/instructor then guides participants through the drawing process showing how explorations can be recorded/translated into a journal. Adults. Every T through 8/24. Sketchbook Journal 9-11 am; Watercolor Journal 11:30 am-1:30 pm. Per class \$20/member; \$25/non-member. Registration: 233-1757; mounts.org

8/10 - Boca Raton Noon Toastmasters Virtual Meeting. Improve public speaking, leadership abilities. Every T 12:15-1:15 pm. Free. Register: 251-4164; bocanoon.toastmastersclubs.org

8/10 - Virtual Verify Your Sources 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

8/10 - Villains and Victims: The Anatomy of a Thriller with Shelly Isaacs at Florida Atlantic University Friedberg Auditorium, 777 Glades Rd, Boca Raton. Every T through 9/28 3-5 pm. \$60/annual membership; \$90/member; \$120/non-member; \$25/one-time guest pass at the door. 297-3185; olliboca.fau.edu

8/10 - Mission PAWSsible at Walt's American Grill, 6030 SW 18th St, Boca Raton. Benefits Vets Helping Heroes. Part of Boca Chamber Festival Days. 5:30-7:30 pm. 395-4433; web.bocaratonchamber.com/events

8/10 - Tuesday Night Improv Drop In Class at Bob Carter's Actor's Workshop & Repertory Company, 1000 N Dixie Hwy. Adults. Held again 8/24. 7-9 pm. \$20. Registration: 833-7529; actorsrep.org

8/10 - All Arts Open Mic Night at Arts Garage, 94 NE 2nd Ave, Delray Beach. In person. Held

again 9/14. 2nd T 8-10 pm. \$5/advance general admission. 450-6357; artsgarage.org

8/10-12 - Picnic by the Café des Beaux-Arts at Flagler Museum West Room, One Whitehall Way, Palm Beach. Purchase refreshments at the new Picnic by the Cafe des-Beaux Arts adjacent to the Museum Store; light bites, sweet treats, iced tea, lemonade to enjoy outside in the shade of the Coconut Grove. Every T/W/Th 11:30 am-3 pm. 655-2833; flaglermuseum.us

Wednesday - 8/11 - Armory Art on the Go with Van Gogh at Armory Art Center, 811 Park Place, West Palm Beach. Luxury coach trip to Ice Palace Studios in Miami. All must comply with health & safety procedures. 9:30 am-4:30 pm. \$99. Reservations: 832-1776; armoryart.org

8/11 - The Great American Short Story Club with Caren Neile at Florida Atlantic University Friedberg Auditorium, 777 Glades Rd, Boca Raton. Every W through 9/29. 10-11:30 am. \$60/annual membership; \$150/member; \$195/non-member; \$35/one-time guest pass at the door. 297-3185; olliboca.fau.edu

8/11 - Discover Your Inner Artistry in Still Life Painting with Terryl Lawrence at Florida Atlantic University Lifelong Learning Classroom, 777 Glades Rd, Boca Raton. Every W through 9/29. 12:30-2:30 pm. \$60/annual membership; \$200/member; \$240/non-member; \$45/one-time guest pass at the door. 297-3185; olliboca.fau.edu

8/11 - Julie & Julia (2009 PG-13) presented by Delray Beach Public Library, 100 W Atlantic Ave. Socially distanced square for 2. Space limited. Popcorn/refreshments provided. Adults. 2 pm. Free. Registration: 266-0196; delraylibrary.org

8/11 - Bingo at Temple Sinai of Palm Beach County, 2475 W Atlantic Ave, Delray Beach. \$2,500 in prizes every week. Refreshments available for purchase. Every W 5 pm doors open; 6:30 pm 1st game. 276-6161; templesinaipbc.org

8/11 - Back the Blue Taste Passport at Boca Raton Marriott at Boca Center, 5150 Town Center Circle. Benefits Boca Raton Police Foundation. Part of Boca Chamber Festival Days. 5:30-8 pm. \$35/advance; \$45/at the door. 395-4433; bocaratonpolicefoundation.org/events

8/11 - Writers' Corner Group at Boynton Beach City Library, 115 N Federal Hwy. Manuscript critiquing by published authors. 6:30-8 pm. Free. 742-6390; boyntonlibrary.org

8/11 - Delray Beach Orchid Society Virtual Meeting. Held again 9/8. 2nd W 7 pm. Free. 573-2422; delraybeachorchidsociety.com

Thursday - 8/12 - Prosperity Coffee Hour by Phone presented by Unity of Delray Beach Church, 101 NW 22nd St. Every Th 7 am. Free. To join: 720-740-9634 passcode 2152894; unityofdelraybeach.org

8/12 - 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

8/12 - Plaster Mold Making Demonstration and Workshop at Norton Museum of Art, 1451 S Olive Ave, West Palm Beach. 10 am. \$5/member; \$10/non-member. Registration: 832-5196; norton.org

8/12 - Virtual 3D Printing and Design with TinkerCAD Class presented by Delray Beach Public Library, 100 W Atlantic Ave. Zoom. 2 pm. Free. Registration: 266-0196; delraylibrary.org

8/12 - Clematis by Night at Waterfront Commons, 101 S Flagler Dr, West Palm Beach. Weekly concert series; different act each week. Every Th 6-9 pm. Free. 822-1515; wpb.org

8/12 - Uptown Express Dinner Show at The Pavilion Grille, 301 Yamato Rd, Boca Raton. Held again 8/26. 6 pm dinner; 7:30 pm show. \$20/minimum per person. Reservations: 912-0000; paviliongrille.com

8/12 - Historical Fictionados Virtual Book Club: Conjure Women by Afia Atakora presented by Boca Raton Public Library, 400 NW 2nd Ave. Adults. 7-8 pm. Free. Enroll for Zoom info: 393-7906; bocalibrary.org

8/12 - Matt Schofield's Birthday Bash at The Funky Biscuit, 303 SE Mizner Blvd, Boca Raton. 7 pm. \$20-\$30 + minimum \$25 food/beverage purchase. 465-3946; funkybiscuit.com

8/12 - Boca Raton Orchid Society Meeting at Safe Schools Institute, 1790 NW Spanish River Blvd. 2nd Th 7:30 pm. Free/member & 1st-time guest. 810-6547; brosonline.org

8/12 - Club Vibes: Caribbean Night at Arts Garage, 94 NE 2nd Ave, Delray Beach. DJs, music, full bar. Age 21+. Held again 9/9. 9 pm-1 am. Free entry, cash bar. 450-6357; artsgarage.org

Friday - 8/13 - An Hour to Kill Virtual Mystery Book Club: The Plot by Jean Hanff Koretz presented by Boca Raton Public Library, 400 NW 2nd Ave. Adults. 10:30-11:30 am. Registration: 393-7906; bocalibrary.org

8/13 - Happy Hour with Twocan Blue at The Funky Biscuit, 303 SE Mizner Blvd, Boca Raton. Held again 8/20 & 27. 5 pm. Free. 465-3946; funkybiscuit.com

Municipal Meetings

8/9 & 23, 9/13 & 27 - Lantana - Second & fourth Mondays at Lantana Town Hall, 500 Greynolds Cir. 7 pm. Agenda: lantana.org

8/10 & 17, 9/13 & 23 - Delray Beach - First & third Tuesdays at Delray Beach City Hall, 100 NW 1st Ave. 4 pm. Agenda: delraybeachfl.gov

8/13 & 9/10 - Gulf Stream - Second Friday at Gulf Stream Town Hall, 100 Sea Rd. 9 am. Agenda: gulf-stream.org.

8/17 & 9/7 - Highland Beach - First Tuesday at Highland Beach Town Hall, 3614 S Ocean Blvd. 1:30 pm. Agenda: highlandbeach.us

8/17, 9/7 & 21 - Boynton Beach - First and third Tuesday at Boynton Beach City Hall, 100 E Ocean Ave. 5:30 pm. Agenda: boynton-beach.org

8/17 & 9/13 - South Palm Beach - Second Tuesday at the South Palm Beach Town Hall, 3577 S Ocean Blvd. 4 pm. Agenda: southpalmbeach.com

8/24 & 9/14 & 28 - Boca Raton - Second & fourth Tuesday at Boca Raton 6500 Building, 6500 Congress Ave. City Hall, 201 W Palmetto Park Rd. 6 pm. Agenda: myboca.us

8/24 & 9/28 - Manalapan - Fourth Tuesday at Manalapan Town Hall, 600 S Ocean Blvd. 10 am. Agenda: manalapan.org

8/26 & 9/23 - Briny Breezes - Fourth Thursday at Briny Breezes Town Hall, 4802 N Ocean Blvd. 4 pm. Agenda: townofbrinybreezes-fl.com

9/7 - Ocean Ridge - First Monday at Ocean Ridge Town Hall, 6450 N Ocean Blvd. 6 pm. Agenda: oceanridgeflorida.com

8/13 - Lantana Summer Twilight Market

every Friday night through 9/3, at the Lantana Recreation Center, 418 S Dixie Hwy. Featuring live music, craft beers and dozens of Artisan & Food Vendors. 5-10 pm. 515-9919; shorelinegreenmarkets.com/summer-market

8/13 - Angelo and Band Reminisce Dinner Show at The Pavilion Grille, 301 Yamato Rd, Boca Raton. 6 pm dinner; 7:30 pm show. \$20/minimum per person. Reservations: 912-0000; paviliongrille.com

8/13 - Screen on the Green: Dolittle (2020 PG) at Waterfront Commons, 101 S Flagler Dr, West Palm Beach. Family friendly. 6:30-10 pm. Free. 822-1515; wpb.org

8/13 - Native Grapes of Piedmont Tasting at Gourmetphile, 501 SE Mizner Blvd #80, Boca Raton. 7 pm. \$60/person w/\$10 back toward purchase of wines tasted. 757-6208; gourmetphile.com

8/13 - Mason Pace King of Hearts EP Release Showcase at Crazy Uncle Mike's, 6450 N Federal Hwy, Boca Raton. 7-10 pm. \$10-\$15. Eventbrite.com

8/13 - Laser Shows at South Florida Science Center and Aquarium, 4801 Dreher Tr N, West Palm Beach. 2nd F 7 pm. \$10/member; \$12/non-member. 832-1988; sfscenter.org

8/13-14 - Ann Hampton Callaway: Broadway Classics at Arts Garage, 94 NE 2nd Ave, Delray Beach. 8-10 pm. \$55-\$60. 450-6357; artsgarage.org

8/13-14 - Earth, Wind & Fire Tribute Band: Let's Groove Tonight at The Funky Biscuit, 303 SE Mizner Blvd, Boca Raton. F/Sat 9 pm; Sat 6 pm. \$25-\$45 + minimum \$25 food/beverage purchase. 465-3946; funkybiscuit.com

Saturday - 8/14 - Hillsboro Lighthouse 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 is 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. Held again 9/11. 9 am-3 pm. \$35 transportation fee. 954-942-2102; hillsborolighthouse.org/tours

8/14 - Forensics For Writers with Instructor Elaine Viets part of Florida Authors Academy Workshop at Murder on the Beach Bookstore, 104 W Atlantic Ave, Delray Beach. 10 am-noon. \$25. Registration: 279-7790; murderonthebeach.com

8/14 - Inventors Society of South Florida Virtual Webinar. 2nd Sat 1 pm. 1st meeting free. 676-5677; inventors-society.net

8/14 - 14th Annual Ballroom Battle broadcast on WPTV-Channel 5. Benefits George Snow Scholarship Fund. 7 pm. Tickets start at \$100. Purchase tickets/sponsor dancers: 445-9922; ballroombattle.com

8/14 - Twelfth Night or What You Will at Mizner Park Cultural Center, 201 Plaza Real, Boca Raton. 7:30 pm. VIP/\$25; free/general admission. 844-672-2849; miznerparkculturalcenter.com

8/14 - Rocky Horror Live in Concert at Lake Worth Playhouse, 713 Lake Ave. 8 pm. \$35-\$75. 586-6410; lakeworthplayhouse.org

8/14-15 - Obon Weekend at The Morikami Japanese Museum and Gardens, 4000 Morikami Park Rd, Delray Beach. Stroll through the gardens, fill out tanzaku slips in memory of lost loved ones, enjoy taiko drumming performance in the spirit of Obon, pay respects to George Morikami at the Bon altar. Families decorate their altars w/a variety of offerings like incense, flowers, fruits. Taiko drum performances 11:30 am, 12:30 & 3:30 pm: \$5/member; \$7/non-member. 10 am-5 pm. \$15/adult; \$13/military & seniors 65+; \$11/college student w/ID; \$9/age 6-17; free/child 5 & under. 495-0233 x237; morikami.org

AUGUST 15-21

Sunday - 8/15 - Twelfth Night or What You Will at The Delray Beach Playhouse, 950 NW 9th St. 2 pm. \$25/VIP; free/general admission. 272-1281; delraybeachplayhouse.com

8/15 - The Sunday Sleuths Book Group Discussion: Darling Rose Gold by Stephanie Wrobel at Murder on the Beach Bookstore, 104 W Atlantic Ave, Delray Beach. 3 pm. Free. 279-7790; murderonthebeach.com

8/15 - Sunday on the Waterfront: The Beatlemania USA at Meyer Amphitheatre, 105 Evernia St, West Palm Beach. Family friendly. 4-7 pm. Free. 822-1515; wpb.org

8/13-15 - Searching for Mr. Rugoff at Lake Worth Playhouse Stonzek Studio, 713 Lake Ave. See website for times. \$9. 586-6410; lakeworthplayhouse.org

Monday - 8/16 - Movie Mondays: Pitch Perfect at Boynton Beach City Library, 100 E Ocean Ave. Adults. 3rd M 1-3 pm. Free; popcorn & coffee provided. 742-6390; boyntonlibrary.org

8/16 - The Secret Lives of Church Ladies by Deesha Philyaw part of Afternoon Book Group at Delray Beach Public Library, 100 W Atlantic Ave. 1 pm. Free. Registration: 266-0196; delraylibrary.org

8/16 - Margarita Monday at Rocco's Tacos, 5250 Town Center Circle, Boca Raton. Benefits KidSafe Foundation. Part of Boca Chamber Festival Days. 5:30-7:30 pm. \$35/advance; \$40/at the door. 395-4433; kidsafefoundation.org/roccos

8/16 - Biscuit Jam featuring Dan Dratch and The Blues Crusaders at The Funky Biscuit, 303 SE Mizner Blvd, Boca Raton. 7 pm. \$10 + minimum \$25 food/beverage purchase. 465-3946; funkybiscuit.com

8/16 - Poetry Night at Arts Garage, 94 NE 2nd Ave, Delray Beach. Held again 9/20. 3rd M 8-11 pm. \$5. 450-6357; artsgarage.org

8/16-9/30 - Boca Raton Historical Society & Museum Traveling Exhibition; Over Boca Raton at Lynn University, 3600 N Military Tr, Boca Raton. Aerial photos "then" from the Society collection & "now" provided by Peter Lorber. Call for viewing days/hours. Free. 395-6766; bocahistory.org

Tuesday - 8/17 - Lake Worth Art League Summer Art Show at Artist's Eye Gallery Boutique, 604 Lucerne Ave. Runs through 10/16 T-Sun noon-4 pm. lwartleague.org

8/17 - Steps Away from the Sand at Ocean 234, 234 N Ocean Dr, Deerfield Beach. Benefits FUA's CARD (Center for Autism and Related Disabilities). Part of Boca Chamber Festival Days. 5:30-7 pm. \$25. 395-4433; eventbrite.com/e/steps-away-from-the-sand-tickets-158935918611

8/17 - Cacht Band with Johnny Minnis at The Pavilion Grille, 301 Yamato Rd, Boca Raton. Held again 9/21. 6 pm dinner; 7:30 pm show. \$20/minimum per person. Reservations: 912-0000; paviliongrille.com

8/17 - Trivia Tuesday: General Knowledge Trivia at Boynton Beach City Library, 100 E Ocean Ave. Adults. 7-9 pm. Free. 742-6390; boyntonlibrary.org

8/17-18 - Season Auditions at MNM Theatre Company Studios, 100 NW 11th St, Boca Raton. Presented by MNM Theatre Company and King of Cats Theatre Company. Appointments required by emailing kingofcats.theatre@gmail.com; no walk-ins considered. Season productions are *Awaken, Romeo and Juliet, Treasure Island, Robin Hood*. 10 am-6 pm. 725-7025; mnmtheatre.org

Wednesday - 8/18 - Book Buzz: Adult Book Club at Boynton Beach City Library, 100 E Ocean Ave. Adults. 3rd M 10:30 am-noon. Free. 742-6390; boyntonlibrary.org

8/18 - League of Women Voters Hot Topics Luncheon: Home Rule with Melissa McKinlay. Interactive Zoom video session. Noon-1 pm. Free. 276-4898; lwvpsc.org

8/18 - Chocolat (2000 PG-13) presented by Delray Beach Public Library, 100 W Atlantic Ave. Socially distanced square for 2. Space limited.

Popcorn/refreshments provided. Adults. 2 pm. Free. Registration: 266-0196; delraylibrary.org

8/18 - Lucy Burdette and Jenn McKinlay Interviewed by Oline Cogdill on Zoom presented by Murder on the Beach Mystery Bookstore. 6 pm. Free. Reservations required for Zoom invite: 279-7790; murderonthebeach.com

8/18 - Annual Boca's Got Talent at Crazy Uncle Mike's, 6450 N Federal Hwy. Benefits Child Rescue Coalition. Part of Boca Chamber Festival Days. 6-8 pm. \$25/including 1 drink. 395-4433; e.givesmart.com/events/mOm

8/18 - Victor Wainwright & The Train at The Funky Biscuit, 303 SE Mizner Blvd, Boca Raton. 5 pm doors open; 7 pm show. \$25-\$45 + minimum \$25 food/beverage purchase. 465-3946; funkybiscuit.com

Thursday - 8/19 - Palm Beach County Resident Day at Mounts Botanical Garden, 531 N Military Tr, West Palm Beach. Held again 9/16. 9 am-3 pm. Free w/proof of residency. 233-1757; mounts.org

8/19 - Financially Fit: Financial Check-Up 101 at Boynton Beach City Library, 100 E Ocean Ave. Adults. 1-2:30 pm. Free. 742-6390; boyntonlibrary.org

8/19 - Introducing Blockchain Class presented by Delray Beach Public Library, 100 W Atlantic Ave. Learn about the technology behind the cryptocurrency revolution, decentralized app development, NFTs. Zoom live. 2 pm. Free. Registration: 266-0196; delraylibrary.org

8/19 - Sing, Sing a Song: Six Great Movie Musicals with Kurt F. Stone at Florida Atlantic University Friedberg Auditorium, 777 Glades Rd, Boca Raton. Every Th through 9/30. 3-5 pm. \$60/annual membership; \$90/member; \$120/non-member; \$25/one-time guest pass at the door. 297-3185; olliboca.fau.edu

8/19 - Summer Vibes and Stroll at Renaissance Commons, 1880 N Congress Ave, Boynton Beach. Resident artists, live music, entertainment, face painting, caricature art, more. Food, beverage, more available for purchase at restaurants/shops. Family fare. 5-8 pm. Free. 413-5909; comsoplaceboynton.com

8/19 - Club Vibes: Ladies Night at Arts Garage, 94 NE 2nd Ave, Delray Beach. DJs, music, full bar. Age 21+. Held again 9/16. 9 pm-1 am. Free entry, cash bar. 450-6357; artsgarage.org

Friday - 8/20 - 30 Minute Art Talk - Theresa Bernstein: Rogers Street - In Person at Boca Raton Museum of Art, 501 Plaza Real. 6-6:30 pm. \$12/adult; \$10/senior 65+; free/member & student w/ID. Reservations: 392-2500; bocamuseum.org

8/20 - Brooklyn's Best at The Pavilion Grille, 301 Yamato Rd, Boca Raton. 6 pm dinner; 7:30 pm show. \$25/minimum per person. Reservations: 912-0000; paviliongrille.com

8/20 - Sean Chambers: That's What I'm Talkin About - CD Release Party at Arts Garage, 94 NE 2nd Ave, Delray Beach. 8-10 pm. \$25-\$30. 450-6357; artsgarage.org

8/20 - The Long Run: America's Favorite Tribute to The Eagles at The Funky Biscuit, 303 SE Mizner Blvd, Boca Raton. 9 pm. \$25-\$35 + minimum \$25 food/beverage purchase. 465-3946; funkybiscuit.com

8/20-22 - Cryptozoo at Lake Worth Playhouse Stonzek Studio, 713 Lake Ave. See website for times. \$9. 586-6410; lakeworthplayhouse.org

Saturday - 8/21 - 17 Things I've Learned About Writing with Instructor Brad Parks part of Florida Authors Academy Workshop at Murder on the Beach Bookstore, 104 W Atlantic Ave, Delray Beach. 10 am-noon. \$25. Registration: 279-7790; murderonthebeach.com

8/21 - Breaking into The Biz Workshop at Bob Carter's Actor's Workshop & Repertory Company, 1000 N Dixie Hwy. Adults. Noon-3 pm. \$90. Registration: 833-7529; actorsrep.org

8/21 - Natural Dyes Workshop at Mounts Botanical Garden Pavilion, 531 N Military Tr, West Palm Beach. Introductory class: learn how to make natural organic dyes, receive fabric samples to dye/take home. 1-3:30 pm. \$35/member; \$40/adult non-member. Registration: 233-1757; mounts.org

8/21 - Tennis for Turtles Benefit for Gumbo Limbo Nature Center at The Boca Raton, 501 E Camino Real. All skill level clay court tennis clinic with Erik Silver & pros from The Boca Raton. Features clinic, raffle, light refreshments. 1:30-4 pm. \$100. 447-3100; artsinboca.org

8/21 - Rock the Plaza at Ocean Plaza, 480 E. Ocean Ave, Boynton Beach. Live music/entertainment, stroll the plaza, visit downtown merchants & restaurants. 3-6 pm. Free. 600-9097; boyntonbeachcra.com

8/21 - German Beerfest Under the Stars 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. 5-8 pm. \$35/guest. Advance tickets required: 967-6464; americangermanclub.org

8/21 - Wine & All That Jazz at The Boca Raton, 501 E Camino Real. Boca Chamber Festival Days event. 100 varieties of wine, dining by the bite, live music, entertainment, raffle prizes, dancing, more. Age 21+. 7-10 pm. \$75/general admission; \$150/VIP. 395-4433; wine-and-jazz.com

8/21 - Old Boca Music Festival 8 at The Funky Biscuit, 303 SE Mizner Blvd, Boca Raton. 7 pm. \$25-\$45 + minimum \$25 food/beverage purchase. 465-3946; funkybiscuit.com
8/21 - The Jesse Jones Jr. Quintet at Arts Garage, 94 NE 2nd Ave, Delray Beach. Sponsored by The Spady Cultural Heritage Museum and Arts Garage. 8-10 pm. \$25-\$30. 450-6357; artsgarage.org
8/21-22 - Summer in The City at The Big Apple Shopping Bazaar, 5283 W Atlantic Ave, Delray Beach. Indoor art show presented by Delray Art League. Held again 9/18-19. Sat 10 am-5 pm; Sun 11 am-5 pm. Free/admission & parking. delrayartleague.com

AUGUST 22-28

Sunday - 8/22 - Bavarian Fruehschoppen at American German Club of the Palm Beaches, 5111 Lantana Rd, Lake Worth. No t-shirts or shorts. Held again 9/26. 4th Sun 10:30 am-2:30 pm. Free admission; menu items a la carte. Reservations: 967-6464; americangermanclub.org
8/22 - Music in the Museum: Poletaeva & Konovalova in Person at Boca Raton Museum of Art, 501 Plaza Real. 3 pm. \$5/member & student; \$25/non-member; free/child age 0-12. Limited seats/ticket required: 392-2500; bocamuseum.org
Monday - 8/23 - Biscuit Jam featuring David Julia at The Funky Biscuit, 303 SE Mizner Blvd, Boca Raton. 7 pm. \$10 + minimum \$25 food/beverage purchase. 465-3946; funkybiscuit.com
Tuesday - 8/24 - Friends Virtual Book Club: The Girl with the Louding Voice by **Abi Dare** 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
8/24 - Zoom Streaming Music Class at Delray Beach Public Library, 100 W Atlantic Ave. Part of Appy Hour class series. 2 pm. Free. Registration: 266-0196; delraylibrary.org
8/24 - Crafts and Coffee: Plastic Mesh Cup Coaster at Boynton Beach City Library, 100 E Ocean Ave. Adults. 5-7 pm. Free. 742-6390; boyntonlibrary.org
8/24 - Euphoria Dinner Show at The Pavilion Grille, 301 Yamato Rd, Boca Raton. 6 pm dinner; 7:30 pm show. \$25/minimum per person. Reservations: 912-0000; paviliongrille.com
Wednesday - 8/25 - 8/25 - Dough (2015 NR) presented by Delray Beach Public Library, 100 W Atlantic Ave. Socially distanced square for 2. Space limited. Popcorn/refreshments provided. Adults. 2 pm. Free. Registration: 266-0196; delraylibrary.org
8/25 - Music Americana: The Music of Modern Times at Florida Atlantic University Friedberg Auditorium, 777 Glades Rd, Boca Raton. Every W through 9/29. 3-5 pm. \$60/annual membership; \$60/member; \$80/non-member; \$25/one-time guest pass at the door. 297-3185; olliboca.fau.edu
8/25 - Celebrity Game Night at Crazy Uncle Mike's, 6450 N Federal Hwy. Benefits American Association of Caregiving Youth. Part of Boca Chamber Festival Days. 5:30-8 pm. \$25/including 1 drink. 395-4433; aacy.org
8/25 - Ghaleb Dinner Show at The Pavilion Grille, 301 Yamato Rd, Boca Raton. 6 pm dinner, 8 pm show. \$60/3 course dinner includes tax/gratuity. Reservations: 912-0000; paviliongrille.com
Thursday - 8/26 - Herb Garden Tour & Activity at Mounts Botanical Garden, 559 N Military Tr, West Palm Beach. Walk in the Garden of Well-Being; learn how flowers, herbs, spices can be used to make body products & teas. Make your own herbal tea mix & body scrub. 10 am-12:30 pm. \$20/member; \$25/non-member. 386-7812; mounts.org
8/26 - Photography Salon Online Class presented by Creative Arts School, 51 N Swinton Ave, Delray Beach. Every Th through 9/9 1-3:30 pm. \$135. Registration: 846-2349; oldschoolsquare.org
8/26 - Club Vibes: Oldies Night at Arts Garage, 94 NE 2nd Ave, Delray Beach. DJs, music, full bar. Age 21+. Held again 9/24. 9 pm-1 am. Free entry, cash bar. 450-6357; artsgarage.org
Friday - 8/27 - Battle of the Bartenders at Boca Raton Marriott, 5150 Town Center Circle. Benefits Best Foot Forward. Part of Boca Chamber Festival Days. 6-8 pm. \$35/advance; \$50/at the door. 470-8300; bestfoot.org
8/27 - Electric Kif Album Release at The Funky Biscuit, 303 SE Mizner Blvd, Boca Raton. 7 pm. \$15-\$25 + minimum \$25 food/beverage purchase. 465-3946; funkybiscuit.com
8/27 - Larry Johnson's Essence of Motown at Arts Garage, 94 NE 2nd Ave, Delray Beach. 8-10 pm. \$40-\$45. 450-6357; artsgarage.org
8/27-28 - Icons: The Art of Celebrity Illusion at Mizner Park Cultural Center, 201 Plaza Real, Boca Raton. F 7:30 pm; Sat 8 pm. \$45-\$55. 844-672-2849; iconsdragshow.com
Saturday - 8/28 - Half Price for Heroes Day at South Florida Science Center and Aquarium, 4801 Dreher Tr N, West Palm Beach. Doors open 1 hour early for half-price admission for frontline

workers/first responders, up to 4 guests; must show ID badge. Last Sat 9 am-6 pm. 832-1988; sfsiencecenter.org
8/28 - Seeing (For Writers) with Instructor John Dufresne part of Florida Authors Academy Workshop at Murder on the Beach Bookstore, 104 W Atlantic Ave, Delray Beach. 10 am-noon. \$25. Registration: 279-7790; murderonthebeach.com
8/28 - Jessy J at The Funky Biscuit, 303 SE Mizner Blvd, Boca Raton. 6 & 9 pm. \$25-\$45 + minimum \$25 food/beverage purchase. 465-3946; funkybiscuit.com
8/28 - Friends Virtual Book Club: The Premonition by **Michael Lewis** presented by Boca Raton Public Library, 400 NW 2nd Ave. Adults. 7-8:30 pm. Free. 393-7968; bocalibrary.org
8/28 - The Chris Thomas Band: Sinatra to Soul at Arts Garage, 94 NE 2nd Ave, Delray Beach. 8-10 pm. \$40-\$45. 450-6357; artsgarage.org

AUG. 29-SEPT. 4

Sunday - 8/29 - Community Stage Concert: I 95 Band on the lawn at Norton Museum of Art, 1451 S Olive Ave, West Palm Beach. Bring blanket or chair. Food/drinks available for purchase. 3-5 pm. Free. Eventbrite registration required. 832-5196; norton.org
8/29 - Joey Dale Memorial Tribute at The Pavilion Grille, 301 Yamato Rd, Boca Raton. 5-9:30 pm. \$20/minimum per person. Reservations: 912-0000; paviliongrille.com
Monday - 8/30 - Auditions for Sister Act at MNM Theatre Company Studios, 100 NW 11th St, Boca Raton. Prepare 16-32 bars of a musical theatre song showing range & personality. Bring sheet music in the appropriate key; pianist provided. Bring headshot/resume stapled together. Callbacks held 8/31. Rehearsals begin 1/25/22; performances 2/8-3/6/22. 10 am-6 pm. Appointment required: 725-7025; mnmtheatre.org
8/30 - Midsummer Party and Last Look at the current exhibition at Boca Raton Museum of Art, 501 Plaza Real. Boca Chamber Festival Days event. Light bites, libations. 6-8 pm. Free/member & child age 0-12; \$25/non-member. RSVP by 8/25: 392-2500; bocamuseum.org
8/30 - Biscuit Jam featuring JP Soars at The Funky Biscuit, 303 SE Mizner Blvd, Boca Raton. 7 pm. \$10 + minimum \$25 food/beverage purchase. 465-3946; funkybiscuit.com
8/30 - Jam Session at Arts Garage, 94 NE 2nd Ave, Delray Beach. Last M 8 pm; in person. Free/performer; \$5/patron. 450-6357; artsgarage.org
Tuesday - 8/31 - Virtual Editing and Managing Your Photos Class presented by Delray Beach Public Library, 100 W Atlantic Ave. Part of Appy Hour class series. Zoom live. 2 pm. Free. Registration: 266-0196; delraylibrary.org
8/31 - Brain Bowl Comedy Show at Oceans234, 234 N Ocean Dr, Deerfield Beach. Part of Boca Chamber Festival Days. 5:30-7:30 pm. \$40. 496-4222; brainbowlevents.org
8/31 - Carol J. Perry and Traci Wilton Virtual Author Event presented by Murder on the Beach Mystery Bookstore. 6 pm. Free. Reservations: 279-7790; murderonthebeach.com
Wednesday - 9/1 - League of Women Voters: Conversations with the League. Interactive Zoom video session. 6-7 pm. Free. Join Zoom meeting after 5:50 pm via link: 276-4898; lwvpsc.org
9/1 - Exhibition Opening Reception: 25th Annual Members' Show at Palm Beach Photographic Centre, 415 Clematis St, West Palm Beach. Runs through 10/30. 6 pm. Free. 253-2600; fotofusion.org
9/1 - Taking It to the Next Level Improv Class with Kat Kenny at Bob Carter's Actor's Workshop & Repertory Company, 1000 N Dixie Hwy. 8-week class designed for intermediate/advanced improvisers. Adults. Runs through 10/20. 7-9 pm. \$200. Registration: 833-7529; actorsrep.org
Thursday - 9/2 - Club Vibes: Hip Hop Night at Arts Garage, 94 NE 2nd Ave, Delray Beach. DJs, great music, full bar. Age 21+. 9 pm-1 am. Free entry, cash bar. 450-6357; artsgarage.org
Friday - 9/3 - Jazz Fridays: The Ciel Experience at Norton Museum of Art, 1451 S Olive Ave, West Palm Beach. Timed entry 4-6 pm. Free. Reservations: 832-5196; norton.org
9/3 - First Friday Art Walk at Arts Garage, 94 NE 2nd Ave, Delray Beach. In-person. 6-8 pm. Free. 450-6357; artsgarage.org
9/3 - Fusion Band at The Pavilion Grille, 301 Yamato Rd, Boca Raton. 6 pm dinner; 8 pm dancing. \$20/minimum per person. Reservations: 912-0000; paviliongrille.com
9/3 - Nanny Assis: A Brazilian Experience at Arts Garage, 94 NE 2nd Ave, Delray Beach. 8-10 pm. \$30-\$35. 450-6357; artsgarage.org
9/3-5 - The Great American Trailer Park Musical at Lake Worth Playhouse, 713 Lake Ave. Held again 9/10-12. F/Sat 8 pm; Sun 2 pm. \$35/show; \$55-\$75/dinner & show package. 586-6410; lakeworthplayhouse.org
9/3-12 - Black Box Series: The Shadowbox by **Michael Cristofer** at Lake Worth Playhouse

Stonzek Studio, 713 Lake Ave. Runs through 9/12. Sun 2 pm; F/Sat 8 pm. \$25. 586-6410; lakeworthplayhouse.org
Saturday - 9/4 - The Motowners: The Ultimate Motown Tribute at The Funky Biscuit, 303 SE Mizner Blvd, Boca Raton. 7 pm. \$25-\$35 + minimum \$25 food/beverage purchase. 465-3946; funkybiscuit.com
9/4 - Portrait of a Queen starring CeCe Teneal at Arts Garage, 94 NE 2nd Ave, Delray Beach. 8-10 pm. \$40-\$45. 450-6357; artsgarage.org
9/4-5 - The Impracticality of Modern-Day Mastodons by **Rachel Teagle** at Florida Atlantic University Theatre Lab at Parliament Hall, 777 Glades Rd, Boca Raton. Runs through 9/19. Sat 2 & 7 pm; Sun 3 pm. \$20-\$25/adult; free/child under 18 w/adult admission. 297-6124; fauevents.com

SEPTEMBER 5-11

Monday - 9/6 - Labor Day
9/6-8 - Rosh Hashana
Tuesday - 9/7 - Comedy Night at Arts Garage, 94 NE 2nd Ave, Delray Beach. 8-10 pm. \$5. 450-6357; artsgarage.org
Thursday - 9/9 - Boca Raton Historical Society & Museum Virtual Lecture Series: Caring for Your Family Collections. Half-hour Zoom lectures. Caring for Your Family Photos; Caring for Family Documents and Scrapbooks; Getting the Bugs out: How to Identify Pests that Threaten Your Collections. Held again 9/16 & 23. Noon. Free/BRHS&M member; \$5/non-member. Register: 395-6766; research@BocaHistory.org
9/9 - Unbound World Book Club: Ariadne by **Jennifer Saint** at Boca Raton Public Library, 400 NW 2nd Ave. Adults. In-person or virtual. 7-8 pm. Free. 393-7906; bocalibrary.org
Friday - 9/10 - Howard Schnellenberger Celebration of Life at Florida Atlantic University Stadium, 777 Glades Rd, Boca Raton. 5-8 pm. Free. tickets@fau.edu
9/10 - Screen on the Green: Croods: A New Age (PG) at Waterfront Commons, 101 S Flagler Dr, West Palm Beach. Family friendly. 6:30-10 pm. Free. 822-1515; wpb.org
9/10 - The Brandon Goldberg Trio at Arts Garage, 94 NE 2nd Ave, Delray Beach. 8-10 pm. \$40-\$45. 450-6357; artsgarage.org
Saturday - 9/11 - Charity Shred Event at Lantana Recreation Center Parking Lot, 418 S Dixie Hwy. Benefits Hypoluxo-Lantana Kiwanis Club. On-site shredding. 9-11 am. \$5/box. 585-8664; lantanachamber.com
9/11 - The How-To of Deep Point of View with Instructor Alison McMahan part of Florida Authors Academy Workshop at Murder on the Beach Bookstore, 104 W Atlantic Ave, Delray Beach. 10 am-noon. \$25. Registration: 279-7790; murderonthebeach.com
9/11 - 9/11 Remembrance Ceremony at Tom Kaiser, USN, Boynton Beach Veterans Memorial Park, 411 N Federal Hwy. Community invited to join a ceremony to honor those we lost 20 years ago. Noon. Free. 732-299-6225 or jwczizik@aol.com
9/11 - Jeff Kashiwa at The Funky Biscuit, 303 SE Mizner Blvd, Boca Raton. 6 & 9 pm. \$25-\$35 + minimum \$25 food/beverage purchase. 465-3946; funkybiscuit.com
9/11 - Mac Arnold & Plate Full O' Blues at Arts Garage, 94 NE 2nd Ave, Delray Beach. 8-10 pm. \$40-\$45. 450-6357; artsgarage.org

SEPTEMBER 12-18

Sunday - 9/12 - Story Central Virtual Storytelling Slam presented by Boca Raton Public Library, 400 NW 2nd Ave. Adults. 5-6:30 pm. Free. Enroll for Zoom info: 393-7906; bocalibrary.org
Tuesday - 9/14 - The Right to Vote and the Constitution with Asteed W. Herndon at Florida Atlantic University Friedberg Auditorium, 777 Glades Rd, Boca Raton. 2-3 pm. \$60/annual membership; \$35. 297-3185; olliboca.fau.edu
Wednesday - 9/15 - League of Women Voters Hot Topics Luncheon. Interactive Zoom video session. Noon-1 pm. Free. 276-4898; lwvpsc.org
9/15-18 - Yom Kippur
Friday - 9/17 - The Wolfepak Band at Arts Garage, 94 NE 2nd Ave, Delray Beach. 8-10 pm. \$30-\$35. 450-6357; artsgarage.org
Saturday - 9/18 - Research: The Foundation of Fiction with Instructor Charles Todd part of Florida Authors Academy Workshop at Murder on the Beach Bookstore, 104 W Atlantic Ave, Delray Beach. 10 am-noon. \$25. Registration: 279-7790; murderonthebeach.com
9/18 - Japanese Traditional Music: Koto Workshop at Morikami Japanese Museum and Gardens Theater, 4000 Morikami Park Rd, Delray Beach. One-day introductory workshop; learn the history of this instrument & how to play it. Instrument provided to use in the workshop. 10:30 am-12:30 pm. \$50. 495-0233 x210; morikami.org
9/18 - Daniella Mass: Viva la Vida at The Wick Theatre and Costume Museum, 7901 N Federal Hwy, Boca Raton. 2 & 8 pm. \$75-\$85/adult; \$35/child 14 & under. 995-2333; thewick.org
9/18 - YYNOT at The Funky Biscuit, 303 SE

Mizner Blvd, Boca Raton. 6 & 9 pm. \$25-\$35 + minimum \$25 food/beverage purchase. 465-3946; funkybiscuit.com
9/18 - Three Dog Night Tribute Concert at Mizner Park Cultural Center, 201 Plaza Real, Boca Raton. 8 pm. \$25-\$35. 844-672-2849; miznerparkculturalcenter.com
9/18 - Dr. Ed Calle at Arts Garage, 94 NE 2nd Ave, Delray Beach. 8-10 pm. \$40-\$45. 450-6357; artsgarage.org
9/18-19 - Exotics & Orchids Sale at Mounts Botanical Garden, 559 N Military Tr, West Palm Beach. More than 30 South Florida premier vendors. Sat 9 am-4 pm; Sun 9 am-3 pm. \$10/non-member, \$5/child age 5-1. 386-7812; mounts.org
9/18-19 - Indie Art Festival at Cornell Art Museum at Old School Square, 51 N Swinton Ave, Delray Beach. Sat 10 am-5 pm; Sun 10 am-4 pm. Free. 243-7922 x1; oldschoolsquare.org

SEPTEMBER 19-25

Sunday - 9/19 - 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-3:30 pm. \$30/guest. Advance tickets required: 967-6464; americangermanclub.org
9/19 - Sunday on the Waterfront: Def Legend at Meyer Amphitheatre, 105 Evernia St, West Palm Beach. Family friendly. Every 3rd Sun 4-7 pm. Free. 822-1515; wpb.org
Tuesday - 9/21 - Russia vs the U.S. in the Middle East: The New Cold War? with **Samuel M. Edelman** at Florida Atlantic University Friedberg Auditorium, 777 Glades Rd, Boca Raton. 12:30-2 pm. \$60/annual membership; \$30/member; \$35/non-member. 297-3185; olliboca.fau.edu
Wednesday - 9/22 - Friends Virtual Book Club: This Tender Land by **William Kent Krueger** presented by Boca Raton Public Library, 400 NW 2nd Ave. Adults. 7-8:30 pm. Free. 393-7968; bocalibrary.org
Thursday - 9/23 - Virtual Author Talk: Doug Alderson and Florida's Rivers presented by Boynton Beach City Library, 100 E Ocean Ave. Adults. 11 am-noon. Free. Registration: 742-6390; boyntonlibrary.org
9/23 - The Crystal Ball: A Deep Dive for Solutions with Cyndi Stein-Rubin at Florida Atlantic University Friedberg Auditorium, 777 Glades Rd, Boca Raton. 12:30-2 pm. \$60/annual membership; \$30/member; \$35/non-member. 297-3185; olliboca.fau.edu
9/23 - Virtual Tasting: A Bourbon Affair benefitting Trustbridge Hospice Foundation. Receive a tasting kit of 4 high-end Bourbons, learn about each one. 7-8 pm. \$100. 954-315-6788; trustbridgefoundation.org
Friday - 9/24 - Michael Lington & Paul Taylor at The Funky Biscuit, 303 SE Mizner Blvd, Boca Raton. 6 & 9 pm. \$45-\$55 + minimum \$25 food/beverage purchase. 465-3946; funkybiscuit.com
Saturday - 9/25 - Heroes vs. Villains: Police Procedure for Writers with Instructor David Putnam part of Florida Authors Academy Workshop at Murder on the Beach Bookstore, 104 W Atlantic Ave, Delray Beach. 10 am-noon. \$25. Registration: 279-7790; murderonthebeach.com
9/25 - League of Women Voters: A Taste of the League - New Member Online Orientation. Orientation; presentation on voter suppression. 10:30-11:30 am. Free. RSVP: 852-0496; lwvpsc.org
9/25 - Puppy Pals at Mizner Park Cultural Arts Center, 201 Plaza Real, Boca Raton. 1 pm. \$25-\$35. 844-672-2849; miznerparkculturalcenter.com
9/25 - Season 3 Golden Bell Battle of the Bands at Boca Raton Innovation Campus, 5000 T-Rex Ave, Boca Raton. 6-11 pm. \$50-\$75. 395-4433; bocaratonchamber.com
9/25 - The Mark Zaleski Band at Arts Garage, 94 NE 2nd Ave, Delray Beach. 8-10 pm. \$25-\$30. 450-6357; artsgarage.org
9/25-26 - The Life and Times of A. Einstein at The Wick Theatre and Costume Museum, 7901 N Federal Hwy, Boca Raton. Sat 8 pm; Sun 3 & 7 pm. \$65. 995-2333; thewick.org

SEPT. 26-OCT. 2

Sunday - 9/26 - Puppy Pals Comedic Stunt Dog Show starring **Wesley Williams** at The Delray Beach Playhouse, 950 NW 9th St. 1 pm. \$25-\$35. 272-1281; delraybeachplayhouse.com
9/26 - Hags Jazz Society Concert at Boca Raton Shrine Club, 601 Clint Moore Rd. Presented by Hot Jazz & Alligator Gumbo Society. 1-4 pm. \$5/member; \$10/non-member. 330-9303; hagsjazz.com
Monday - 9/27 - Little by **Edward Carey** part of Afternoon Book Group at Delray Beach Public Library, 100 W Atlantic Ave. 1 pm. Free. 266-0196; delraylibrary.org
9/27 - Jam Session at Arts Garage, 94 NE 2nd Ave, Delray Beach. Last M 8 pm. Free/performer; \$5/patron. 450-6357; artsgarage.org
Tuesday - 9/28 - Romeo and Juliet: Such Sweet Sorrow with **Margery Marcus** at

Florida Atlantic University Friedberg Auditorium, 777 Glades Rd, Boca Raton. 10-11:30 am. \$60/annual membership; \$30/member; \$35/non-member. 297-3185; olliboca.fau.edu
9/28 - Friends Virtual Book Club: No Ordinary Time by **Doris Kearns Goodwin** 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
9/28 - What Artificial Intelligence Can Teach Us About Creativity with Oge Marques at Florida Atlantic University Friedberg Auditorium, 777 Glades Rd, Boca Raton. 12:30-2 pm. \$60/annual membership; \$30/member; \$35/non-member. 297-3185; olliboca.fau.edu
Wednesday - 9/29 - Nine & Wine Kick Off Party presented by South Florida Science Center at Palm Beach Par 3, 2345 S Ocean Blvd. Women's Golf Clinic, pre-golf cocktails, wine reception, awards ceremony. 4 pm. \$75/golfer; \$35/reception only 7-8:15 pm. 832-1988; sfsiencecenter.org
Thursday - 9/30 - Finding Humor in the News with **Frank Cerabino** at Florida Atlantic University Friedberg Auditorium, 777 Glades Rd, Boca Raton. 10-11:30 am. \$60/annual membership; \$30/member; \$35/non-member. 297-3185; olliboca.fau.edu
9/30 - Jaqueline Kennedy's Life and Impact As First Lady with **Rose Feinberg** at Florida Atlantic University Friedberg Auditorium, 777 Glades Rd, Boca Raton. 12:30-2 pm. \$60/annual membership; \$30/member; \$35/non-member. 297-3185; olliboca.fau.edu
9/30 - Securing Our Future: A Night in Monte Carlo at The Addison, 2 E Camino Real, Boca Raton. Casino games, live entertainment, tasty bites, cocktails. Boca Raton Boys & Girls Club Youth of the Year speaks on the impact the organization has made on her life. 6:30-10 pm. Tickets start at \$250. 683-3287; bgcpbc.org
9/30 - Club Vibes: LGBTQIA+ Night at Arts Garage, 94 NE 2nd Ave, Delray Beach. DJs, great music, full bar. Age 21+. 9 pm-1 am. Free entry, cash bar. 450-6357; artsgarage.org
Friday - 10/1 - Sumi-e Ink Painting Class at Morikami Museum and Japanese Gardens, 4000 Morikami Park Rd, Delray Beach. Beginner & Intermediate class combined. Every F through 10/22: Floral 10:30 am-12:30 pm; Landscape 1:30-3:30 pm. \$65/member; \$70/non-member. Registration: 495-0233; morikami.org
10/1 - First Friday Art Walk at Downtown Development Authority, 85 SE 4th Ave, Delray Beach. Self-guided tour through a myriad of styles in art, photography, furnishings, live entertainment at Arts Garage, Atlantic Avenue Galleries, Pineapple Grove, Artists Alley Studios & Galleries. 6-9 pm. Free. 243-1077; downtowndelraybeach.com
10/1 - Brett Eldredge: Good Day Tour presented by Live Nation at Mizner Park Amphitheater, 590 Plaza Real, Boca Raton. 6:30 pm doors open; 7:30 pm show. Tickets start at \$41.50. 393-7890; myboca.us/826/Mizner-Park-Amphitheater
10/1 - The Bronx Wanderers at Old School Square Pavilion, 51 N Swinton Ave, Delray Beach. 8 pm. Tickets \$100-\$200. 243-7922; oldschoolsquare.org
10/1-30 - Boca Raton Historical Society & Museum Traveling Exhibition: HERstory at Boca Raton Community Center, 159 Crawford Rd. Boca Raton's first women pioneers. M-F 9 am-8 pm; Sat 9 am-4 pm. Free. 395-6766; bocahistory.org
Saturday - 10/2 - Hustle to End Hunger 5K at John Prince Park, 3034 Prince Dr, Lake Worth. Virtual or in-person 5K run or walk benefits CROS Ministries' food pantries. 7:30 am start. \$45. 233-9009; crosministries.org
10/2 - Bangs and Booms with Instructor John Gilstrap part of Florida Authors Academy Workshop at Murder on the Beach Bookstore, 104 W Atlantic Ave, Delray Beach. 10 am-noon. \$25. Registration: 279-7790; murderonthebeach.com
10/2 - Japanese Traditional Music: Koto Class at Morikami Japanese Museum and Gardens Theater, 4000 Morikami Park Rd, Delray Beach. Every Sat through 11/6: Beginner 10:15 am-12:15 pm; Intermediate 1-3 pm. \$150/member; \$155/non-member. 495-0233 x210; morikami.org
10/2 - Churchill starring **David Payne** at The Delray Beach Playhouse, 950 NW 9th St. 4 & 8 pm. \$50. 272-1281; delraybeachplayhouse.com
10/2 - An Evening on The Love Boat at Delray Beach Elks Lodge, 265 NE 4th Ave. Benefits Achievement Centers for Children & Families and Living Hungry. Dinner, interactive games, silent auction, raffle; cash bar. 7-10 pm. \$30. 276-0520; achievementcentersfl.org
10/2 - Jackie "The Joke Man" Martling at Mizner Park Cultural Arts Center Razz Room, 201 Plaza Real, Boca Raton. 7:30 pm. \$39-\$49. 844-672-2849; miznerparkculturalcenter.com
10/2 - The Motowners: Ultimate Motown Tribute Show Experience at Arts Garage, 94 NE 2nd Ave, Delray Beach. 8-10 pm. \$45-\$50. 450-6357; artsgarage.org

House of the Month



The gated property has after-beach amenities such as a summer kitchen, an outdoor shower, a full cabana bath and a serene beachfront terrace with firepit.

Oceanfront estate in Delray Beach

This serene three-story beach house was artfully redesigned with clean lines and superb finishes. It has a design focused on comfort, convenience and laid-back luxury living.

The house sits on 101 feet of oceanfront and features an executive office with conference room and a complete one-bedroom apartment on the top floor overlooking the ocean. A formal dining room on the first floor has a built-in granite-top table with sofa style seating and french doors leading to the oceanfront terrace with a screened-in pool loggia.

Take the elevator to the sumptuous master suite on the second floor, which has a sitting room, an oceanfront balcony, a linear gas fireplace, a morning bar, and a massive walk-in island closet. Also on this level are a gym, two additional ensuite bedrooms and a two-bedroom staff suite.

Fine details such as marble, stone and wood floors, motion-sensitive lighting, a barrel tile roof and updated CBS construction complete the checklist of amenities in this prime location property.

Offered at \$14,500,000 by Pascal and Antonio Liguori, Premier Estate Properties, 900 East Atlantic Avenue, Delray Beach, FL 33483, 561-789-8300.



The home is accessed through an enclosed front entry brick paver motorcourt with three garage bays.



ABOVE: The high-end, fully equipped kitchen has Wolf and Sub-Zero appliances, and a temperature-controlled wine room for about 1,000 bottles. **LEFT:** The living room with coffered ceiling also has ocean view floor-to-ceiling impact windows.

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.

WILLIAM RAVEIS REAL ESTATE



Manalapan - Ocean to Intracoastal

1840 S. Ocean Boulevard | 2± acres | 300' water frontage | \$19,500,000
1860 S. Ocean Boulevard | 2.5 acres | 400' water frontage | \$29,900,000
Shelly Newman | 612.860.4599



Beach Point | Palm Beach

2660 S. Ocean Boulevard 306S | \$2,500,000
Douglas Drake | 561.531.9182



Moderne Boca | Boca Raton

4040 N.W. 17th Avenue 4040 | \$1,365,000
Alan Ferguson | 561.317.3705



5 Palms | Boca Raton

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