

## Boca Raton

### Hospital finds fortune in challenging climb to \$250 million

By Larry Keller

The marathon campaign by the fundraising arm of Boca Raton Regional Hospital to raise \$250 million for a massive expansion and renovation project is in the homestretch.

The hospital's foundation raised \$239 million as of late November, said its president, Mark Larkin. By the fourth anniversary in January of what is called the Keeping the Promise Campaign, he



Larkin

— with entirely private patient rooms, surgical suites and retail and dining on the ground floor. The main entrance

hopes to have reached the finish line.

The revamping of the hospital ultimately will cost about \$1 billion. The most dramatic change will be construction of a nine-story patient tower — begun earlier this year

lobby will feature a two-story atrium and connect two tower concourses to elevators, reception and other areas.

The existing patient tower will be renovated “to the same standard as the new building,” Larkin says, and all of its rooms will become private. Combined with the new tower, the hospital will have 455 entirely private rooms.

Another addition will be a freestanding “medical arts pavilion” — an outpatient surgery center that will

house orthopedic and other specialty clinics.

Plans also call for expanding the Marcus Neuroscience Institute to include additional examination rooms, intensive care units and minor procedure suites.

And there will be a new cardiovascular outpatient clinic along with intensive care and step-down units in the new patient tower that provide intermediate care between an ICU and a

See HOSPITAL on page 19

## Boca Raton

### Sanborn Square yoga safely returns after devotees bend council's ear

By Mary Hladky

Leslie Glickman's free, and beloved, Saturday yoga classes in Sanborn Square have helped define the downtown's ambiance for 12 years.

That is, until October, when city officials told Glickman that safety measures are needed to protect yoga practitioners who enjoy the green oasis in the rapidly growing downtown.

They asked Glickman to pay for installing temporary barricades along Federal Highway to prevent drivers from crashing into the square or to relocate her classes.

When Glickman could not find a city staffer able to answer her questions about the barricade requirement, she and yoga devotees turned to the City Council for help, prompting city staff to find a temporary solution that allowed classes to resume last month.

See YOGA on page 24

## Holiday magic at Mizner Park



The Kozlov family from Boca Raton walks through the illuminated tree canopy and past the Ice Queen and Ice King during 'Light the Lights,' Mizner Park's annual tree lighting ceremony held Nov. 19. The festivities will be open to the public through the holiday season. Tim Stepien/The Coastal Star

Yuletide, Hanukkah festivities, Page AT26

## Along the Coast

### DeSantis' win in county, a rarity for GOP, boosts two local victors

By Joel Engelhardt

Ron DeSantis reached a plateau in Palm Beach County on Nov. 8 that no Republican candidate for governor had reached in 36 years: He tallied more votes than the Democrat.

And on his coattails rode Republicans Peggy Gossett-Seidman to victory over Andy Thomson for a Boca Raton-

centered state House seat, and Marci Woodward, a political novice, over County Mayor Robert Weinroth for a County Commission seat.

“Money didn't matter and it didn't matter how much you spent,” said campaign consultant Rick Asnani, who worked on both the Thomson and Weinroth campaigns. “Endorsements didn't matter. Any type of discussion

around experience didn't matter. This was all driven around one very simple thing, did you have an ‘R’ next to your name?”

And much of that was because of the man at the top of the ticket, said Sid Dinerstein, a former chairman of the Palm Beach County Republican Party.

“The No. 1 reason was Ron DeSantis,” he said. “We never had an election,

either party, where they won the state by 1.5 million votes. You have to start with the uniqueness of this political figure.”

Thomson, who had to resign his seat on the Boca Raton City Council to run, faced a deluge of TV attack ads paid for by the Florida House Republican Campaign Committee to pound home the message that he raised taxes and was

See ELECTION on page 12

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#### The ArtsPaper

**Fashion images**  
A look at the Erni collection of photography at the Norton.  
Page AT11



**Hey, hey, he was a Monkee!**  
Micky Dolenz still conjures up sounds of the '60s.  
Page AT1



**Nicole's damage**  
Hurricane caused flooding, beach erosion.  
Pages 26-27

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## Coastal Star



Volunteer Carolina Doering of Boca Raton teaches Spanish to preschoolers at the Fuller Center. She previously taught in her native Venezuela and in South County. **Tim Stepien/The Coastal Star**

## Editor's Note

### Philanthropic giving and your role in supporting *The Coastal Star*

It's hard to ask for money at the holidays. There are so many worthwhile organizations working to meet the needs of those struggling in our community — children, the elderly, animals. Agencies involved in these heart-wrenching efforts need your financial support. Please consider these groups as you plan your year-end giving.

Please also consider financially supporting your free, local newspaper. We realize a newspaper may not appear at first blush to be a critical need. We understand. We are, after all, a for-profit business with support of local, sustaining business partners.

These advertisers are the backbone supporting our ability to enlighten, educate and entertain our unique community — and have been for more than 14 years. We have no plans to change this business model; but with your (tax-deductible) donation, there's a whole lot more we could provide.

**Investigative reporting:** Filing public record requests, compiling and analyzing data, tracking government spending, mapping cross-jurisdictional areas of concern. These efforts all take time and resources beyond the limited number of stories we can currently provide each year.

**Legal fees:** Investigative reporting requires paying legal fees — both for pre-publication review and for the inevitable lawsuits that ensue (often frivolous) in hopes of making the newspaper back down on our reporting. Without a cushion for legal fees, simple intimidation on the part of deep-pocketed individuals and organizations can force us to back away from reporting on topics that might prove crushingly expensive.

**Community forums:** We've often felt the need to pull our coastal communities together (government, business and individuals) to host a broad

range of discussions on topics of concern to our readers. It's a role the newspaper is well-positioned to serve — when the resources are available.

**Advanced digital delivery:** Since our conception, we've been a "print first" publication. More and more our readers are seeking out our digital delivery. We'd love to ramp up these efforts for both residents and advertisers. It's critical we move forward on this front; but again, our resources are limited.

**Improved/targeted delivery:** We do a good job delivering news, information and advertising to homes, businesses and condos in our market. With more resources, we could do this better.

We promise not to solicit your contribution via email or social media on Small Business Saturday or Giving Tuesday. Instead, we're making this plea on Page 2 of our print publication in the hope you'll help us shine a brighter light on our community with your year-end contribution.

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Thank you.  
Happy holidays!



— Mary  
Kate Leming,  
Editor

## Longtime educator connects with preschoolers at Fuller Center

By Brian Biggane

Not everyone is cut out to teach preschool. Sure, kids can be adorably cute at that age, but they can also cry for their mummies, decide it's naptime in the middle of class or simply refuse to do what they're told.

In more than 40 years as an educator— much of it dealing with preschool children— Boca Raton's Carolina Doering has seen all that and more. And after lengthy stints at schools in both Venezuela and Palm Beach County and ultimately retiring, she's back at it, teaching preschoolers for the past eight years as a volunteer at the Fuller Center in Boca.

"People don't realize how important the first years of your life are," Doering said. "Everything you learn up to 5 years old is going to stay with you for the rest of your life. And these kids have the opportunity to learn so many things, and get to elementary school with a big, big base. That gives them self-esteem, that gives them security. It's so important what preschool years do for your future."

The daughter of a doctor in Venezuela who built a hospital on land he donated to the government, Doering came to the U.S. to earn a degree in education from the University of Florida in the mid '80s. She then returned home to Caracas before moving to Isla de Margarita in 1996.

"When I moved to the island there were no schools there," she said. "I started my preschool and more and more people moved there, and the parents proposed we make a big school from the

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preschool.

"It got to a point where we had 180 kids and 27 people on my staff at the preschool and they bought me out," she said. "I agreed to stay on for five years, but when that time was over the situation in the country was getting bad and my sister, who lives in Wellington, convinced me to come here."

She made the move with her two teenage sons in 2005. She tried to start a day care center but that was unsuccessful, so she joined the staff of the now-closed Claremont Montessori School, where she stayed for nine years, teaching Spanish.

Doering, 65, retired in 2013 but felt the need to give back. After exploring the possibilities, she landed at the Fuller Center, a school for underprivileged preschoolers that, as its website claims, gives children a chance "to pave their pathway out of the generational cycle of poverty."

After a year as a teacher's assistant, she became the school's Spanish teacher in 2015 and works with 15-20 children in each of six classes for 30 minutes each one day a week.

"My class is fun," she said. "If you're going to teach a language it has to be fun, especially with preschool kids."

"I do a lot of songs (and) I have a lot of resources. I speak in Spanish, and I translate what the song says, but there's a time

when I don't have to anymore. We sing about good morning, the days of the week and colors. I teach by themes and try to make it fun."

Several of her kids come from households where Spanish is the first language. "In the beginning of the year they feel good because they have the answers. It's amazing how they catch on. They don't have much exposure to the world, but they're so sharp, so smart. Every year they're smarter."

Three or four years ago, Doering and her husband, Craig, adopted a class, which brings the school additional resources. Two years ago, she was offered a spot on the board of directors and accepted. She is also active in America Developing Smiles, a Miami-based nonprofit that raises money to further the education of children in several Latin American countries.

"Life has been good for me, so you have to give back," Doering said. "I believe you have to give back doing things."

"I say to Craig, 'I don't want to give money. Let's go there and work for them.' I believe that you have to do it. You have to be involved. That way I keep in touch with kids. I feel young because of that. Being in touch with young kids gives you a good experience."

Doering said it's important that the community continues to support the Fuller Center in various ways: volunteering, tutoring, mentoring and fundraising. "Our motto is 'Tomorrow Begins Today,' so please help us make a lasting impact in our children and families." ★

### CORRECTION

A story in the November edition of *The Coastal Star* misquoted Delray Beach Commissioner Ryan Boylston regarding the Downtown Devel-

opment Authority's potential request of \$1.38 million to run the Old School Square campus. His correct quote was: "That hit me pretty hard. It's a big number."

Boca Raton

# Smaller arts center in Mizner Park looking for wider audience

By Mary Hladky

The Mizner Park Cultural Arts Center has completed a transformation that will offer more programming to broaden its reach and attract diverse audiences.

Rechristened The Studio at Mizner Park, the venue at the park's south end will celebrate its opening on Dec. 16 with an open house featuring a deejay, holiday beverages, light bites and a tour of its spaces.

Stephanie Siegel, an Emmy Award-winning New York City newscaster, is now on board as executive director, replacing an outside theater operator. Common area spaces have been redesigned and redecorated. The kitchen has been enhanced to be a fully equipped banquet kitchen for caterers. Boca Raton-based Potions in Motion is now the in-house caterer.

But the most notable changes are in the center's programming. Instead of operating only in season, the venue will be open all year and will work with cultural organizations including the Symphonia and Boca Ballet Theatre.

Instead of catering largely to an older audience, The Studio wants to bring in people of all ages with fresh and diverse programming, said



The newly named The Studio, at the south end of Mizner Park, will feature Rock and Roll Playhouse musical shows in January, February and March aimed at parents and young children.

Peg Anderson, president of the board.

"We want programming that appeals to parents, children and grandparents," she said.

One example is choreographer, hip-hop dance teacher and TikTok star Sean Green, who on Dec. 18 will offer a TikTok hip-hop dance party for children aged 5 to 12.

Rock and Roll Playhouse,

appearing on three dates in January, February and March, will perform songs created by Stevie Wonder, Bob Marley and the Grateful Dead, aimed at parents and their young children.

The Studio at Mizner Park has a 3,750-square-foot flexible theater that seats up to 297 people and a 4,575-square-foot multi-purpose space that can

be used as a banquet or party room, exhibition space or a secondary performance venue.

Other amenities include a lounge with full bar and an outdoor terrace with views of Mizner Park.

The Mizner Park Cultural Arts Center opened in 2010, replacing the ill-fated International Museum of Cartoon Art. The transition to

The Studio began about three years ago when renovations and equipment upgrades began. The process was halted by the COVID-19 pandemic before getting back on track 18 months later.

"The goal is to really elevate the experience people have when they come here," Anderson said.

The changes, she said, are intended to work with the planned Center for Arts & Innovation that is slated to be built at the north end of Mizner Park and potentially open in 2028.

Anderson has been involved in that project since its early conceptual days. She is co-chair of its board of directors and was an early donor.

"It's all about Mizner Park, bringing north and south together and having an art and cultural experience throughout the park," she said.

The arts center will have a 100-seat jewel box theater and an enclosed studio in the amphitheater with a capacity of as many as 500 patrons. At 300 seats, The Studio's theater fits in between.

The Studio will also offer up its facilities as rehearsal space for use by the center's performers.

The two venues "are designed to complement rather than compete," Anderson said. ★

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## Highland Beach

# New fire station to be built in front of police headquarters

By Rich Pollack

Town officials have the green light to sprint forward with plans to construct a new two-story fire station just a few feet from State Road A1A in what is now a parking lot.

After discovering that the previously selected site behind the Highland Beach Town Hall would require massively expensive and time-consuming preparations, town commissioners agreed last month to a new location that will partially obscure the view of Town Hall from the highway.

The decision came after Town Manager Marshall Labadie told commissioners that putting a station in that area, which now holds fewer than a dozen parking spots, was the most cost-effective and least time-consuming alternative.

“The new station in this location gives us a chance to properly provide world-class fire service within the budget established by our residents,” Labadie said.

Under the approved plan, the new station at the south end of the town’s municipal complex will include two stories of living space and a two-bay garage housing a ladder truck and a rescue vehicle.

An additional two bays at the existing station will house a backup rescue vehicle and a backup ladder truck, either of which will be moved about 135 feet south to the new station when the primary vehicle is on

a call.

“This allows us to keep all our fire services together,” Labadie said, adding that the new station will be in front of police headquarters, making it easier for the two departments to coordinate.

In approving the new location, town leaders also kept one eye on the future, considering how the new station would mesh with any construction down the road to meet future needs.

Commissioners also wanted to make sure the new building looks like it matches the existing structure.

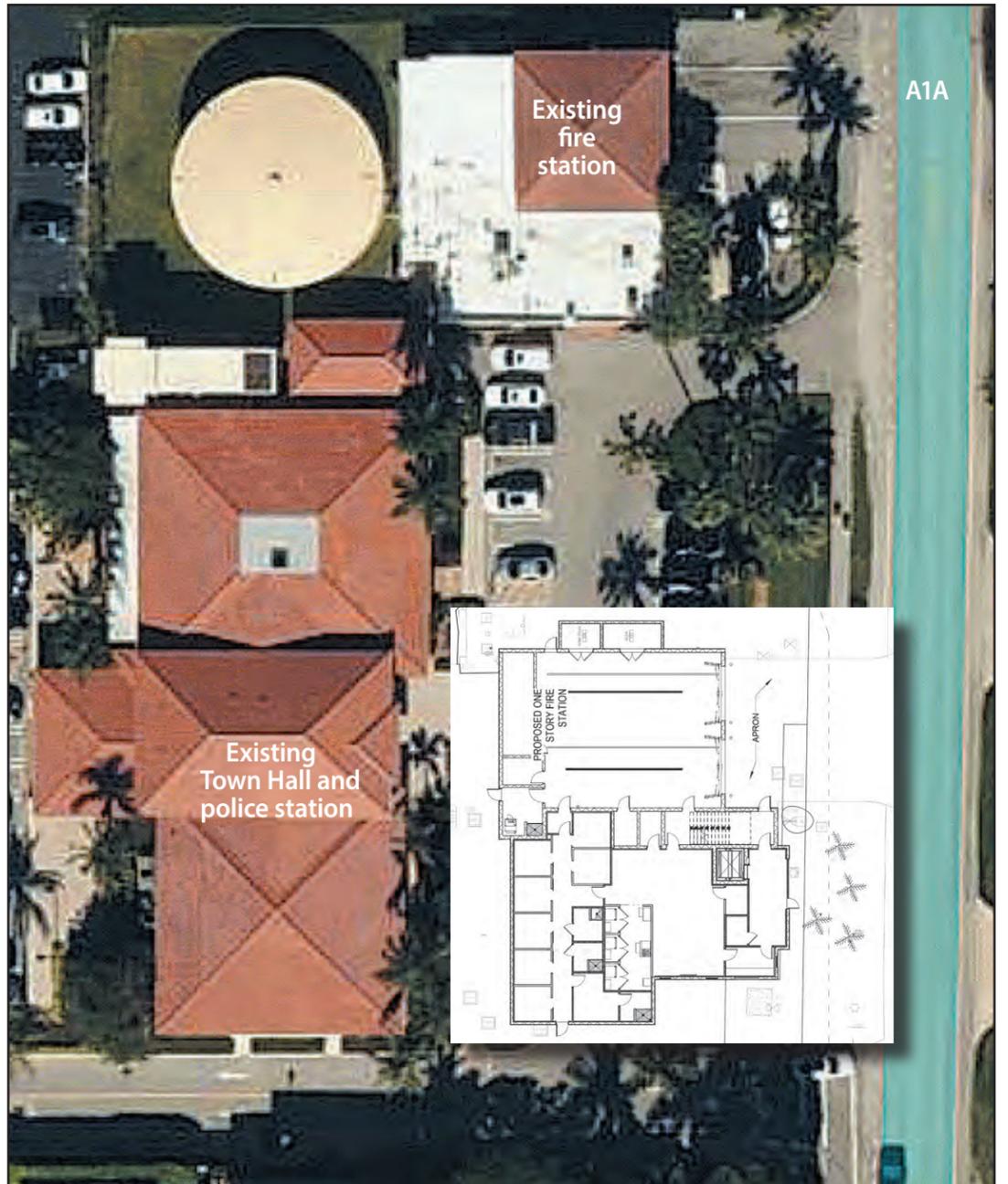
“Whatever we do, it has to look like Town Hall,” said Mayor Doug Hillman. “Or at least it should look like it’s supposed to be there.”

While the relocation of the new fire station will eat up hard-to-come-by parking spaces at the municipal complex, Labadie says that plans to demolish the living sections of the existing station will open up almost as much room for cars.

That aging station needed to be replaced, he said, because it is too old and too small to meet the needs of the town once it starts its own fire department.

Currently used by Delray Beach Fire-Rescue, which is under contract to provide service until the town’s new fire station is up and running in May 2024, the old station doesn’t meet floodplain requirements.

It also has bunks for five



Highland Beach plans to build a new fire station in front of Town Hall and the Police Department, in a portion of the existing parking lot. Bing Map photo/Rendering provided by PGAL

personnel on a shift, with Highland Beach planning for eight firefighter/paramedics per shift.

With the location of the station solidified, Labadie and other town officials will work with architects and builders

to put the fine points on the design of the station.

That process faces budget constraints with inflation and supply chain issues pushing costs up. The estimated price tag for the station now comes in at \$7.5 million.

“Our next steps are to accelerate the design process,” Labadie said. “We’re now coming up with the final design and a schedule for construction, which is expected to begin early next year.” ★

## Longtime volunteer tapped for interim commission seat

By Rich Pollack

Highland Beach has a new town commissioner — but he won’t be there for long.

During a special meeting last month commissioners unanimously voted to appoint David Stern, chairman of the town’s Financial Advisory Board, to temporarily fill the commission seat vacated by



Stern

to temporarily fill the commission seat vacated by

Peggy Gossett-Seidman, now a state representative.

Stern, who did not file to run for the remaining year of Gossett-Seidman’s term, will serve only until next March’s municipal election. But he did not rule out running for a commission seat in the future.

In selecting Stern for the vacancy, commissioners cited his extensive experience serving on several town boards as well as his overall involvement in the community.

“You probably know this town better than anyone else,”

Commissioner Evalyn David said.

Stern has served on the Financial Advisory Board for the past five years and lived in Highland Beach for more than 25 years, the last 21 in the Highland Place Condominium, where he is now president.

He previously served as chair of the Code Enforcement Board and the Board of Adjustment and Appeals, and served on the Financial Advisory Board from 2007 to 2009.

In 2012, he served on the Charter Review Board. He also served on a committee auditing the town’s water plant.

“You’ve done so much,” Commissioner John Shoemaker told Stern. “You know the town, you know our finances, you know code enforcement and you know the issues.”

During a brief interview with commissioners, Stern

said the current commission is different from others because of its enhanced emphasis on strategic planning.

“It’s one reason for the progress,” he said, adding that he has watched every town commission meeting.

An executive in the retail industry, Stern told the story of how when he was hired to be a vice president of Ross stores, he was first required to work on the loading dock and as a sales associate and to shadow managers.

“It was a good lesson for any management job,” he said. “You can really understand what’s going on so you can make the right decisions.”

Asked why he had applied for the job, Stern pointed out that he will be off the financial board because of term limits and is looking for his next role in town government.

He said he had not sought a commission seat before because his past position as president of Temple Sinai in

Delray Beach and his role as an arbitrator for the Financial Industry Regulatory Authority took up much of his time.

Prior to selecting Stern, commissioners interviewed five other candidates, including three who are running for the open seat in March.

Those who qualified for the seat and interviewed for the interim position were Margarita Chappellear, co-chair of the Natural Resources Preservation Board; attorney and mediator Judith Goldberg; and retired radiologist Peter Kosovsky.

Also interviewed for the 3½-month position were Joshua Davidson, a member of the Natural Resources board, and Myles Schlam, who chairs the Code Enforcement Board. J. Blake Murray, a former code board member, was a candidate but missed the interviews. ★



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Boca Raton

# Council for now takes hands-off stance on Ocean Breeze plans

By Mary Hladky

The City Council won't stand in the way of the Greater Boca Raton Beach and Park District's efforts to develop the former Ocean Breeze golf course property.

Council members informally agreed on Nov. 7 that they like the district's conceptual plans for the 212-acre site. Although they'd like to see a firmer proposal, they don't want to hold up the district's work to create one.

"I encourage moving forward and being supportive in a collaborative way," said Deputy Mayor Andrea O'Rourke.

"Please, go forward," said Mayor Scott Singer.

District Chair Erin Wright was gratified by the support. "I am so glad you guys have given us the go-ahead," she said.

The cordial interaction between the two government bodies stood in contrast to disagreements that marred previous efforts to work together on projects.

This time around, the district wanted to give city leaders an early look at its plans so council members and city staff could voice any concerns now to head off time-consuming and costly project delays later on.

The site was slated to become the Boca National golf course two years ago. But that plan was scuttled when The Boca Raton donated the Boca Golf and Tennis Country Club to the city, eliminating the need for another golf



The Beach and Park District proposes to redevelop Ocean Breeze — with I-95 to the west, Dixie Highway to the east, and Clint Moore Road running through the middle — into four quadrants. White structures are existing residential housing. Rendering provided by the City of Boca Raton

course. The district has been considering what to do with Ocean Breeze ever since.

District officials have held public workshops, surveyed community residents and hired engineering and landscape architect Miller Legg to create the conceptual master plan.

That plan is ambitious. The site has been divided into four quadrants with different features and facilities. Multi-use trails, which Wright said are a "top priority," run

throughout the property.

One quadrant is devoted to golf, including an executive 9-hole course, short-game and putting areas, driving range and clubhouse.

The layout is intended

to complement the city's championship course at the Boca Raton Golf and Racquet Club — the new name for the former country club — which is perceived as too difficult for many players.

A second quadrant has a dog park, community garden and butterfly/botanical garden and playground. The third features a racquet center, indoor and outdoor pickleball and tennis courts and playground. A fitness area, splash pad, boardwalk, swimming pools and field house are in the fourth.

The district wants a public-private partnership to operate the golf and racquet facilities, and partnerships for the aquatics center and field house.

The price tag would be about \$27 million. But Wright said the actual number is about \$20 million since the higher figure includes a \$5 million contingency fund and \$2 million already in hand to cover design costs.

The site would be developed in two phases, with most of the facilities completed by 2025 and the rest by 2028.

"I really, really like what we have come up with," Wright said, while emphasizing that the plans are not final.

They do not address concerns from people living

near the site about increased traffic and security, but Wright said both will be dealt with.

Although council members are not stopping the district from moving ahead, it isn't clear whether that hands-off approach will last.

Deputy City Manager George Brown voiced an apparent concern at an Oct. 25 council meeting when he said the district has not identified what kind of public-private partnerships it will be seeking.

Council members Monica Mayotte and Yvette Drucker questioned whether too much emphasis had been placed on golf and related amenities, but did not ask for any changes.

They and O'Rourke wanted Brown or City Manager Leif Ahnell to specify any issues they had with the plans.

But Ahnell said city staffers could not do that because the plans are not firm yet and any alterations could affect their analysis. That analysis, he said, would come after the district submits a detailed site plan.

Singer urged staff to voice any concerns or objections as soon as possible so that the district can address them early on.

After the meeting, Wright said she was hopeful that would happen. ★

The next edition of *The Coastal Star* will be delivered the weekend of Jan. 7

## Gulf Stream

# Town officials firmly reject proposals for contemporary houses

By Steve Plunkett

Two homes at opposite ends of the town will be built after the architects involved made multiple concessions to Gulf Stream's planning board and Town Commission to make the projects fit better into their neighborhoods.

In an unusual annexation to be finalized this month, the house at 996 Pelican Lane, on Gulf Stream's southern border, will add a sliver of land roughly 7 feet deep and 100 feet wide to the town's limits. Town officials had planned to annex the parcel at the commission's Nov. 10 meeting, but postponed the decision to Dec. 9 so the vote could be properly advertised.

Why the sliver was never incorporated into Gulf Stream or Delray Beach could not be determined, said Cristofer Bennardo, the attorney representing the owners.

"So, for all intents and purposes, we have this small parcel of land ... that is in essence a lost parcel," he said.

The other house will be built at 2775 Avenue Au Soleil. The property used to have a home that was such an eyesore that the Place Au Soleil homeowners association paid to plant a clusia hedge along its western edge so it would not be the first thing people entering the neighborhood saw.

In 2019, town commissioners reduced code enforcement liens that had prevented the heirs of the abandoned house from selling it. Commissioners hoped a new owner would make it more presentable. After a deal for a neighbor to buy it and expand his residence fell through, Chet Snavelly, president of the homeowner group, bought the property for \$400,000, demolished the house, planted sod and installed sprinklers.

He sold the vacant parcel in

### 996 Pelican Lane



Early design (top), final design (above)

Town officials required the addition of shutters, smaller glass panes, added detail to the space above the garage doors, and a front door with wood.

SOURCE: Town of Gulf Stream

March for \$890,000, county property records show.

Representatives of new owner Benedetto DiCicco made four trips to the Architectural Review and Planning Board and appeared twice before the Town Commission to get permission to build a 6,970-square-foot Colonial West Indies home.

The ARPB said no to a proposed garage with three vehicle doors facing the street, which is no longer permitted by town code. It recommended approving the plan after the third door was moved to the rear of the garage and after questioning — but leaving in — a request for a special exception for 300 square feet of covered, unenclosed floor area around the backyard pool.

Town commissioners were more critical and sought numerous changes to make the home less of what architect Shane Ames called a "modern interpretation" of Colonial West Indies style. Ames withdrew the request for the extra covered area by the pool and added

corbels under the eaves, and blue shutters. He also included a predominantly wood front door with glass instead of a predominantly glass door with a metal frame, as well as garage doors matching the wood door color, more traditional exterior lights, a gray slate roof instead of brown, two windows with shutters instead of a large picture window and no shutters on the front, and two windows with shutters instead of three tall vertical windows at the rear.

He previously added bronze windows, which the ARPB rejected. The architect and owner agreed to swap out white frames for the bronze, and the planning board scheduled a special meeting on Nov. 1 to give its blessing.

The Pelican Lane home faced a similar gauntlet of scrutiny. New owners Joseph and Laura Pehota wanted to build a 3,698-square-foot, two-story Anglo-Caribbean style house but discovered that the back 8 feet of their lot was a separate, unincorporated parcel from

### 2775 Avenue Au Soleil



Early design (top), final design (above)

Some changes Gulf Stream required were white window frames (instead of bronze), gray roof tiles (instead of brown) and fewer garage doors facing the street.

their home site.

A previous owner had built a sea wall in line with the neighbor's sea wall even though legally the lot line was 8 feet closer to the house. That meant a proposed swimming pool would have to be farther from the water, limiting the size of the new house.

Bennardo asked town commissioners to grant variances so the pool could be built as though the two parcels were joined while he investigated the requirements for annexation, but commissioners insisted that the property be annexed before a site plan could be approved.

Then there was the design of the house, which architect Richard Brummer called Anglo-Caribbean but town officials considered "contemporary" and "modern."

Over the course of three architectural review meetings and four commission meetings starting in June, Brummer increased the slope of the roof and added shutters, window

muntings to divide the glass area, a front door with wood, and detail to the space over the garage doors. He also decreased the amount of glass on the rear façade and replaced a glass rail balcony with a Chippendale and picket rail.

Commissioners approved a demolition permit outright on Nov. 10 so the Pehotas could begin construction, but made the land clearing application, as well as a special exception request for 96 square feet of covered, unenclosed floor area for a rear porch and front entry, and the site plan approvals contingent on their December vote to annex the strip of land.

Commissioners, ARPB members and town staff were pleased to have defended the recently enacted prohibition of home projects that appear massive, are dissimilar to nearby residences and do not fit comfortably on their lots. In both cases the commission sent the projects back to the review board with their comments after the ARPB had first signed off.

"I thought it worked out very well," Mayor Scott Morgan said. "It took a little while, but getting the ARPB on the same page as the commission I thought was as important as getting those two homes right."

### No election required

Five familiar faces will return to the Town Commission for the next three years.

"All the sitting commissioners filed to run again and went unopposed, so Gulf Stream will not have to have an election in March," Town Clerk Renee Basel said.

It was the first election cycle for incumbent Thom Smith, who was elevated to the commission in April from his post on the town's Architectural Review and Planning Board after Commissioner Donna White resigned.

Also gaining new terms are Morgan, Vice Mayor Tom Stanley and Commissioners Paul Lyons and Joan Orthwein.★



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## Boynton Beach

# Commission strengthens high-rise safety regulations

By Tao Woolfe

High-rise buildings will come under closer scrutiny in the coming months thanks to a new Boynton Beach ordinance that mandates thorough structural safety inspections for residential buildings 25 years or older.

The City Commission unanimously adopted the Building Milestone Inspection Program at its Nov. 14 meeting. Some 200 structures — many of them along the city’s eastern edge — could be affected by the measure.

“Most of the buildings along Federal were constructed in the ’70s and ’80s,” city building official John Kuntzman told the commissioners. “There are eight buildings on the barrier island that were all built in the ’70s.”

The barrier island buildings are within St. Andrews, he said.

Boynton Beach, like many other municipalities in South Florida, is strengthening local regulations in hopes of avoiding a building collapse like that of the 12-story Champlain Towers South beachfront condo in the Miami suburb of Surfside.

Building department staff researched how to strengthen recent state legislation that created milestone inspection requirements for multistory residential condominium and cooperatively owned buildings that are 25 years or older and are located within 3 miles of the coastline.

Boynton Beach added other building types that must be vetted —

requiring buildings taller than three stories and larger than 5,000 square feet to be included — and increased the reach of the ordinance to all residential buildings 25 years or older within the city limits.

Once homeowner associations have been served with notice from the city that their buildings qualify for recertification, they will have a year to schedule an inspection by a qualified engineer, Assistant City Manager Adam Temple said.

Once the engineer’s report has been submitted to the city, building owners will have 180 days to make the repairs and be recertified for safety compliance.

The city will offer expedited permit procedures for buildings in need of repairs, Temple said.

The state Legislature’s bill makes the repairs mandatory and places the responsibility of ensuring the work is completed on the unit owners and homeowner associations.

“They wouldn’t be required to bring the building up to current standards, but they will have to make them safer,” Temple said.

In answer to a question about how buildings near the ocean are affected by hurricanes, Kuntzman said salt intrusion is a bigger threat than wind.

“Once the salt gets into concrete, it soaks in,” he said. “Sooner or later, the salt will hit the steel.”

The building official was referring to the steel reinforcing rods, or rebar, that

strengthen concrete under tension.

The mandatory inspections are expected to include infrared thermography or X-ray that allows inspectors to look beneath surfaces for such problems as moisture infiltration, insulation gaps and separation of wall layers.

The city’s recertification program requirements were suggested by building department staff after “a yearlong effort of coordination amongst all of Palm Beach County’s building officials,” according to the draft proposal.

“The purpose of this new program is to maintain the structural integrity of buildings throughout [their] service life ... so as to not pose a threat to the public health, safety, or welfare,” the proposal says.

Buildings that are exempted from the ordinance include townhomes with three or fewer stories; school buildings; and federal, state and local municipal buildings.

### More police to be equipped with body- and dash-cams

The City Commission voted unanimously at its Nov. 14 meeting to sign a five-year, \$2.9 million contract with Axon Enterprises, to supply more body cams and dash cams to all Boynton Beach police officers.

At the moment, the department has 80 body cams, which are worn by patrol officers. That number will increase to 125 body cameras under

the new contract, Police Chief Joe DeGiulio told the commissioners. Also, 100 dashboard cameras will be placed in patrol cars, which will also be equipped with new Tasers.

### Civil suit filed against city by family of dead teen

The family of Stanley Davis III has filed a civil suit against the city of Boynton Beach in U.S. District Court.

The wrongful death suit accuses the city and former Police Officer Mark Sohn of violating the constitutional rights of Davis, a 13-year-old boy who was killed in a dirt bike incident just after Christmas last year.

The boy was fleeing from a patrol car, driven by Sohn, when he crashed into a sign in a concrete median. Sohn was fired in August. He has filed a grievance against the city for wrongful termination and is seeking reinstatement.

The lawsuit alleges that the city should have fired Sohn earlier, especially since there had been numerous complaints about the officer, including another death resulting from a high-speed chase.

Members of the Black community, including the youngster’s family, friends and supporters, had for months asked the City Commission to fire those responsible for the tragedy.

Civil rights attorney Benjamin Lloyd Crump is representing the family and estate of Stanley Davis. ★

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**ELECTION**

Continued from page 1

soft on immigration and crime.

“They treated him the way they would any other Democrat,” Asnani said. “They tied him to Joe Biden. ‘He’s a liberal. He’s a Democrat. The other person is not’ and they won.”

Thomson ran attack ads as well, Gossett-Seidman said, a point Thomson disputed.

While acknowledging the importance of the DeSantis effect, Gossett-Seidman said voters were driven by concerns about the economy, a refrain she heard as she walked the district, which includes Highland Beach, Boca Raton and much of west Boca.

“Everywhere we went, everyone is worried about the economy, prices, jobs,” said Gossett-Seidman, who served four years on the Highland Beach Town Commission and is the first former Highland Beach commissioner to serve in the

Florida House. “It was totally overwhelming. They want a normalcy to return, in terms of the economy, having freedoms — the free and open Florida.”

But the key to her victory, by 51.7% to 48.3%, was the enthusiasm for DeSantis that drew Republicans to the polls and the apathy that kept Democrats away, Thomson said. He added that he pulled in more votes in his district than Charlie Crist, who lost to DeSantis by a margin of about 3-to-2 statewide.

**Nearly a clean sweep**

Almost all of the Republican candidates at the top of the ticket scored wins in Palm Beach County, a virtually unprecedented result, thwarted only by U.S. Sen. Marco Rubio’s falling just 2,124 votes short of Val Demings, out of 542,852 cast.

The only time since 1978 that a Republican for governor scored higher than the Democrat in Palm Beach

County came in 1986, when Bob Martinez attained 53.8% of the vote to Steve Pajcic’s 46.2%.

Three times in the 1980s Palm Beach County went Republican for president — twice for Ronald Reagan and once for George Bush — but that never happened again.

On Nov. 8, DeSantis won the county with 51.2% of the vote to 48.3% for Crist.

Democrats still have a decided registration advantage in Palm Beach County over Republicans: 40% to 29%.

“Democrats had no enthusiasm and stayed home,” Asnani said. “If you didn’t have a seat that had at least a 10- to 14-point [partisan] advantage, you had no chance to win.”

For example, Democrat Lois Frankel held on to her South County congressional seat, 55% to 45%, over Dan Franzese. Two years earlier, in a similarly Democratic-leaning district, she won 59% to 39%.

**Other local races**

Democratic state Rep. Joe Casello, running in a solid Democratic House district that includes Delray Beach and Boynton Beach, held off challenger Keith Feit, 55% to 45%. State Sen. Bobby Powell, a Democrat in a district that includes the barrier islands north of the Boynton Inlet, won 55.7% of the vote in defeating Eric Ankner.

Likewise, Democratic state Sen. Lori Berman got 55% of the vote in defeating Republican Steve Byers in District 26, which runs along the coast from Glades Road to the Boynton Inlet.

But Democratic state Sen. Tina Polsky lost Palm Beach County, 52.6% to 47.4%, winning re-election on the strength of her showing in Broward County, which she carried with 59% of the vote.

Republican Mike Caruso won his new House district, which starts north of the Boynton Inlet and runs up to Palm Beach Gardens, defeating Sienna Osta 59% to 41%.

government,” Woodward took the oath of office Nov. 22. She acknowledged the learning she needs to do and pledged “to represent you the way I want to be represented myself.”

Republican Sara Baxter defeated McGovern by a similar margin in the West County district held for eight years by Democrat Melissa McKinlay, who was term-limited from running again.

Incumbent Gregg Weiss, a Democrat, won re-election with 56% of the vote, giving Democrats a reduced 4-3 majority on the new commission. He was appointed to the county’s ceremonial mayor post by his colleagues on Nov. 22.

While Woodward didn’t respond to a request for an interview, her website describes several key moments in her life, particularly her difficult efforts to conceive after marrying Michael, her high school sweetheart. They graduated in the 1990s from the University of South Carolina-Aiken before moving to South Florida in 2004.

It was here that fertility treatments left her facing years of medical issues, now resolved, she wrote.

With the coronavirus pandemic underway in 2020, she wrote, she became aware of the power of the County Commission. She wondered how business could survive the closures and limitations.

“But then came the real question: Who was making these rules?” she wrote. “Who were these new Task Force Officers and to whom did they report? And why, did it seem, the rules that were made ‘for our well-being’ were not being adhered to by those who we elected to represent us?”

“They made the rules, but WE suffered.”

When she felt like the county didn’t respond to her questions and she learned Weinroth was running unopposed, she entered the race, raising \$48,700, including \$16,000 from the county Republican Party and \$8,000 of her own money.

Weinroth, who raised \$416,000, cited his accomplishments after four years on the commission and four years on the Boca council, but said there was no way to get that across to voters intent on party support.

“They looked at the ‘R’ and the ‘D’ and decided to vote ‘R,’” he said, pointing out that he got 6,000 fewer votes in this election than his previous one, “which means to me the Democrats stayed home.”

As for the two newcomers to the County Commission, he pointed out that it’s not just a one-issue job.

“It’s not just a pandemic or voter integrity. It’s a job with multiple issues thrown at you,” Weinroth said. “I hope they take a breath and learn how our county runs, because they are on the board of directors now for all of Palm Beach County.” ★

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**New county commissioners**

But for Weinroth, a former Boca Raton City Council member, and Michelle McGovern, a one-time aide to former Democratic U.S. Sen. Bill Nelson, the governor’s coattails proved too much even though their County Commission opponents had no big money infusion for TV ads.

Taking over for Weinroth in a South County district that includes all the barrier islands south of South Palm Beach will be Woodward, a Boca Raton resident who had never run for office before. She won with 51.8% of the vote.

Hailing her election as “proof that a citizen does have a place in local

**Internship opportunities**

The Coastal Star will be providing paid internships in its advertising/marketing department both this spring and summer. Candidates for these positions should be students seeking a communications or business degree at a Florida university or college. Send a letter of interest and resume by Jan. 15 to: [publisher@thecoastalstar.com](mailto:publisher@thecoastalstar.com).

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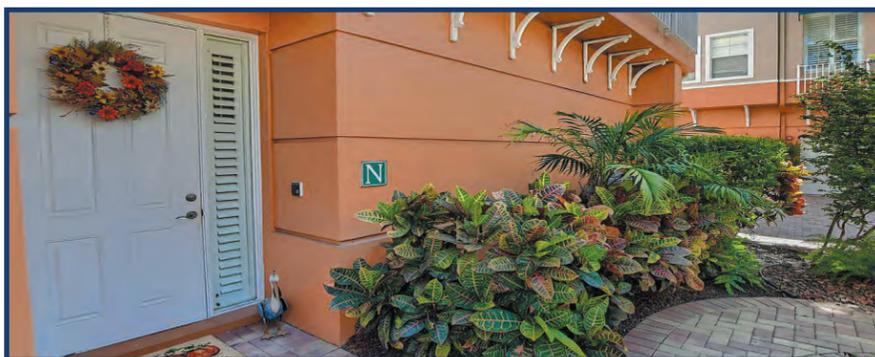
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## Highland Beach

# Five running for two commission seats; mayor not challenged

By Rich Pollack

Highland Beach voters will have a chance in March to do something they've been unable to do for the past three municipal elections — pick people who will serve as town commissioners.

Since 2020, all of the candidates for the town posts have been unopposed, depriving residents of the ability to say who has input in important community decisions.

As a result, all five of this year's commissioners have run at least once without opposition.

That's about to change.

With the close of qualifying on Nov. 22, two candidates, including the incumbent, filed to run for a three-year commission seat and three candidates filed for an unexpired term ending in March 2024.

That seat become vacant when Commissioner Peggy

Gossett-Seidman decided to run for state representative and was elected last month.

Mayor Doug Hillman was elected for a second term without opposition, after a potential challenger decided not to file.

Those filing for office are a sitting commissioner, a member of a town advisory board and three newcomers to civic involvement in Highland Beach.

Don Peters, a former police officer and town official in Yorktown Heights, New York, is running for the three-year seat against incumbent John Shoemaker, a retired business executive and Army veteran.

The three candidates for the unexpired term are Margarita Chappellear, co-chair of the town's Natural Resources Preservation Board; Judith Goldberg, an attorney, mediator and former town attorney in Patterson, New York; and Peter Kosovsky, a retired radiologist who also has a background in

private land development.

Competition for the two commission seats is a good thing, say those involved in the inner workings of the town.

"I'm happy that people are taking an interest in local government," said Commissioner Evalyn David, who was re-elected without opposition for a three-year term this year.

David, who faced opposition when she first ran in 2019, and others on the commission believe the increase in the number of people seeking office is a result of the town's success in encouraging more civic engagement and in improving communication with residents.

"We try and get people involved," said David, adding that there has been a push to encourage participation on town boards. "We need people coming up behind us."

Gossett-Seidman, who was re-elected without opposition for the term beginning in 2021

after winning a contested race three years earlier, said that she believes the level of interest in town government is based in part by satisfaction with the town's direction.

"People like saying they're from Highland Beach," she said. "They're happy to be involved and they think they can do more."

Gossett-Seidman also believes that because her former seat carries only a one-year term, it is attractive to candidates who want to get a feel for the job without a three-year commitment.

"It gives them a chance for a test drive," she said.

Jack Halpern, president of the Committee to Save Highland Beach, a political action committee that keeps a close eye on town government, believes having multiple candidates for seats benefits the voters.

"We think there needs to be a choice," he said.

Halpern believes efforts to improve awareness about the election, from both the town and his PAC, encouraged candidates to come forward.

He said his group sent out information about the election to the 2,500 addresses on its email list for the past two months.

"We've said, 'The elections are coming, the elections are coming,'" he recalled.

Halpern said that a referendum last March, where four of five proposed charter changes failed to get voter approval, may also have led to increased involvement, adding that there was concern among many residents about what was perceived as the commission's unwillingness to listen to concerns.

While the committee has spoken with some of the candidates who will be on the March 14 ballot, Halpern said it has made no decisions on endorsements. ★

## Boca Raton

# Council member-elect gets early start

By Mary Hladky

Fran Nachlas, who won election to the City Council on Nov. 9 when she was the only candidate who filed to run for a vacant seat, won't be waiting until March to take her place on the dais.

**Nachlas**

Council members voted unanimously on Nov. 22 to appoint her to the position effective Dec. 1.

"I think it makes sense to have her begin now," said Mayor Scott Singer, who proposed the appointment. "It serves a purpose to have a full complement of council members."

The three other council members concurred.

New council members typically begin serving after the March city elections. But with Nachlas already a council member-elect, "there is no point in waiting until March," said Deputy Mayor Andrea O'Rourke.

"It is a humbling experience to take the dais in this manner,"



The abstract mural at the new Brightline station. Rendering provided

Nachlas said, "and I want to say thank you."

Nachlas is a retired surgical nurse and the mother of four. She and her husband, Nathan, a reconstructive surgeon, founded the nonprofit SafeSun in 2012 to raise awareness of skin cancer.

A four-member City Council can be problematic because of the possibility of a 2-2 vote on major issues. Developers and others tend to hold off on bringing matters before the council until five members are serving.

Florida's resign-to-run law forced Andy Thomson to step down on Nov. 7 so he could pursue his candidacy for the Florida House District 91 seat, but he narrowly lost that election to Peggy Gossett-Seidman.

In December, the council will consider amending the City Charter to increase the terms of office for mayor and council

members to four years from three years.

If council members approve the change, proposed by Singer, voters will have the final say in the March 14 election. Council members would continue to be limited to serving two terms in office.

If the change is adopted, the terms of Singer, Nachlas and the person who wins election to replace term-limited O'Rourke would expire in March 2027 rather than March 2026. The terms of Yvette Drucker and Monica Mayotte would be extended by one year and expire in March 2025.

By increasing the amount of time between elections, the City Council would be more stable and more effective because members would have additional time to bolster their expertise on city matters, Singer said.

No other council member commented on Singer's proposal

on Nov. 22. But at a workshop meeting the day before, O'Rourke said she was not sure that she would want longer terms.

**In other business**, council members received an assurance from Brian Kronberg, Brightline's vice president of development, that the new Boca Raton train station will open by the end of December, as has long been expected.

"It is imminent and we are really excited about it," Kronberg said. But he declined to give a specific date, saying that Brightline typically does not announce until a few weeks before the rail service begins.

Kronberg also unveiled a mural that will adorn a 60-foot wall between the entrance of the parking garage and the main entrance to the station.

O'Rourke, a strong proponent of art in public places, had asked Brightline officials to provide

the artwork. They agreed and commissioned it from Boca Raton artist Ben Heller.

The focal point, Heller said, is a vintage city sign that will let passengers know they are arriving in Boca Raton.

The left side of the mural features an image of the golden dome on the city's old town hall. An abstract rendition of The Boca Raton's pink tower hotel building is on the right. White lines in the center connote train tracks, and a whimsical flamingo peeks out over the city sign.

"Thank you for your work," O'Rourke said. "I appreciate the nod to history."

"Also it has the cool factor. I think you hit all the marks."

"It is whimsical and fun and I think it is exactly what I would love to see here," Mayotte said. "You know you are in Boca Raton." ★

## Mayor, newcomer face no opposition; two in race for open seat

Scott Singer won a final three-year term as mayor when no candidates filed to run against him by the city's Nov. 9 candidate qualifying deadline.

"I'm truly grateful for the support of so many and excited to continue the hard work to keep Boca Raton moving forward," Singer said to voters in an email and on social media after the deadline passed.



Ritchey



Wigder

Also winning office with no opposition was Fran Nachlas,

a retired surgical nurse who will fill the council seat held by Andy Thomson, who resigned as of Nov. 7 to pursue an ultimately unsuccessful candidacy for the Florida House District 91 seat.

Council members praised Thomson during his final city meeting, crediting his ability to find solutions and his commonsense approach.

"It has been an honor and

pleasure to be on the dais with you," said council member Monica Mayotte. "I really appreciated your thoughts and perspective."

With those two elections concluded, voters going to the polls for the nonpartisan March 14 municipal election will cast ballots only to replace Deputy Mayor Andrea O'Rourke, who is term limited.

The candidates for Seat B are Marc Wigder, founder of Greenhouse Property Co. and co-founder of GreenSmith Builders, and Christen Ritchey, a partner at the Schwartz Sladkus Reich Greenberg Atlas law firm where she specializes in family law matters.

— Mary Hladky

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**Lantana**

**Lythgoe to be mayor; four running for two other seats**

By Mary Thurwachter

Four candidates will run in Lantana's Town Council elections on March 14, but the mayor's race is already decided.

Vice Mayor Karen Lythgoe, who has been acting mayor since Robert Hagerty's resignation took effect in October, was the only candidate to qualify for the mayor's race and so is elected automatically. She is 63 and is completing her first three-year term on the council. Lythgoe, who works for LexisNexis, will be sworn in on March 27, according to Town Clerk Kathleen Dominguez.



**Lythgoe**

**Group 3**



**Lastella**



**Zeitler**



**Castle**



**Raymer**

Mark Zeitler, 66, is seeking re-election to the Group 3 seat as he completes his first term. He is an air-conditioning contractor. His opponent is Raymond Lastella, 32, an entrepreneur with a boat detailing company.

John Raymer and Christopher Castle are vying for the Group 4 seat currently held by Lythgoe. Raymer, 52, a retired Army veteran and the

manager at Ace Rental Place in Lantana, finished second in a contest earlier this year against incumbent Lynn "Doc" Moorhouse. Castle, 37, has never sought office before. He is a maintenance facilities director for PetMeds.

Candidates had to submit their qualification papers by Nov. 18. Terms are for three years, and Lantana has no term limits. ★

**Council seeks to end election runoffs**

By Mary Thurwachter

Lantana Town Council members say it's time to ditch election runoffs and have approved putting a voter referendum on the issue on the March 14 ballot.

Currently, a Town Council candidate must receive at least one more than 50% of the votes in a race to be elected. If no candidate gets a majority, then a runoff election is held between the two candidates receiving the most votes in the race.

The majority vote requirement has been in effect for decades, but a forced runoff in two council elections this year has council members wondering if that's the best option. Freshman council member Kem Mason and Vice Mayor Pro Tem Lynn "Doc" Moorhouse both won runoffs in 2022, the first time a Lantana

election needed a runoff.

Many municipalities no longer have runoffs. Instead, they use a plurality system, where the candidate receiving the highest number of votes in a race — whether or not it is a majority — is the victor.

Town Attorney Max Lohman said changing the election system requires a change in the town's charter, something the council cannot do on its own. Voters get to decide the fate of any proposed charter changes.

Mason asked to discuss the issue at the council's Nov. 14 meeting. He said he had to spend extra money for his runoff, but he said that wasn't the reason the move toward plurality should be considered.

"It's costing the town money," Mason said. He didn't think it was necessary.

Moorhouse said the extra trip to the polls in 2022

cost taxpayers \$50,000 — although Town Clerk Kathleen Dominguez, reached after the meeting, said it was actually \$21,728.55 for two runoffs.

"It's going to save the town some money," Moorhouse said of the proposal, adding, "A lot of people didn't even know there was a runoff election."

Council member Mark Zeitler, who is seeking re-election in March, had concerns that the issue was added to the Nov. 14 council agenda at the last minute.

Zeitler questioned the fairness of plurality. While it may be quick, Zeitler said, more people can vote against the eventual winner than for him or her. He felt the system could be manipulated.

He also said he felt misled following former Mayor Robert Hagerty's Oct. 12 resignation. At the time, the council decided to continue with four members until the March election. Zeitler said he was told that nothing major would be coming up for a vote before March, only "housekeeping in nature" matters would be addressed.

"I don't think this is housekeeping in nature," he said.

Vice Mayor Karen Lythgoe, who is serving as temporary mayor, said she was ambivalent about which voting system was better. "I've talked to voters and some are for the change and some are against it. It's not often voters can make a decision on something we do. This is one time they can."

The council held a special meeting Nov. 29 for the needed second reading on the proposal. Several residents spoke both for and against the change. The council voted the same as it did at the earlier meeting. Moorhouse, Mason and Lythgoe voted for, and Zeitler voted against, meaning the question will be on the March ballot. ★

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**HOSPITAL**

Continued from page 1

surgical ward.

All of this means more traffic, so a 972-car garage with direct access to the hospital has been built. The entire project is slated to be completed by 2027. “It will be transformative,” Larkin says.

“We’ve opened up new areas of medicine that we’ve never had in Boca before. It’s going to be extremely successful,” adds Stanley Barry, chairman of the Boca Raton Regional Hospital Foundation’s board of trustees, who contributed \$10 million to the campaign.

It will look far different from the not-for-profit Boca Raton Community Hospital that opened in July 1967. It was a four-story facility with 394 beds. It later changed its name to Boca Raton Regional Hospital.

“The facility was getting tired,” says Barry, who formed a three-person committee with Christine Lynn and Dick Schmidt to explore a capital campaign for the hospital’s growth. “The community was growing by leaps and bounds. If we stayed in the position we were in, we really couldn’t take the next step forward.”

When the Keeping the Promise campaign was announced in January 2019, the goal was to raise \$180 million. It was subsequently bumped to \$250 million.

“I’m so pleased with the way the community responded,” Barry says.

Six months after the campaign began, the hospital merged with Baptist Health South Florida. Before the merger, the hospital didn’t have a large enough reserve or the ability to borrow the kind of money needed to undertake large-scale improvements and expansion, Larkin says. But Baptist Health invested about \$660 million toward doing so.

“They ended up being great partners,” Barry says. “It’s a totally new operation from what it’s been in the past.”

With a new, more ambitious fundraising goal, the foundation held its annual ball — by far the largest generator of gross revenue among its three signature events — in February 2020 at the Boca Raton Resort & Club. Rod Stewart entertained.

Two-and-a-half weeks later, the World Health Organization declared COVID-19 a pandemic and the foundation’s face-to-face meetings with prospective donors abruptly ended.

“It wasn’t the same as being across the table from them or walking them around the site or any of those good things we normally do,” Larkin says. But foundation staff relied on phone calls and mastered Zoom technology. “People responded well,” he adds.

The annual ball was canceled in 2021 because of COVID, but convenience store magnate Bob Sheetz and his wife, Debbie Lindstrom, said they would match all donations up to \$1 million in lieu of the ball.



Leon and Toby Cooperman



Wold

“We far exceeded that and raised \$4.1 million,” including the \$1 million match, Larkin says.

The amount exceeded the \$3.7 million in gross revenue the annual ball typically raises, Larkin says, while keeping ball expenses — which usually are around \$1.9 million — to only about \$65,000 for the direct mail campaign and follow-up. And while the pandemic presented the biggest difficulty to the capital campaign, it also spurred an appreciation for why it was important.

Donors “had a new appreciation for a really strong hospital when you’re dealing with something like COVID,” Larkin says.

The foundation also benefited from Boca Raton’s affluence. The city’s median household income in 2020 dollars was \$84,445, according to U.S. Census Bureau data, compared to \$67,521 nationwide, and 57% of residents have a bachelor’s degree or higher, versus 38% of the country as a whole.

With COVID restrictions easing, the foundation resumed its annual ball last January, with Sting as the featured performer. The next ball is on Jan. 21 at The Boca Raton, and Lionel Richie is the headliner. Larkin is hopeful he’ll be able to announce at that time that the \$250 million target has been reached.

In all, there have been more than 1,100 donors to the campaign, Larkin says, and many more contributors to the foundation generally.

To date, 44 donors have contributed \$1 million or more to the Keeping the Promise campaign, Larkin says. That includes eight donations of \$10 million or more, with two gifts of \$25 million. Those were from longtime hospital benefactor and Johnson & Johnson heir Elaine Wold, and billionaire investor and hedge fund manager Leon Cooperman and his wife, Toby.

The new hospital tower will be named for Wold’s friend Gloria Drummond. Two of Drummond’s children, ages 9 and 3, were fatally poisoned by an 11-year-old neighbor in 1962 when the nearest hospital was 15 miles away.

That spurred a campaign to build a hospital in Boca Raton. It came to fruition five years later, and Drummond was active with the hospital until her death in 2011.

Wold “wanted to recognize her good friend,” Larkin says. “Out of tragedy was born something that is really an incredible community asset now.” ★

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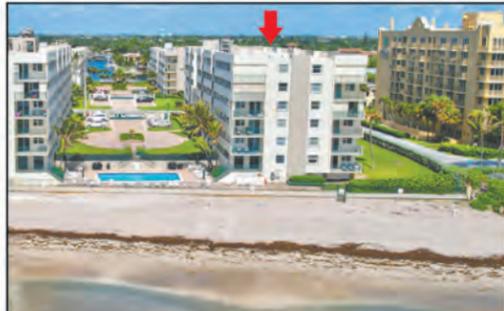
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## 10 Questions

## MEET YOUR NEIGHBOR: Michael Spencer

Those of us with green thumbs already know that Mounts Botanical Garden in West Palm Beach is unparalleled when it comes to the number and variety of herbs and vegetables available for planting our winter gardens.

We also should know when it comes time for a suggestion, or even a class in learning more about the subject, Michael Spencer is the person to see.

Spencer, 64, was named Volunteer of the Year at Mounts, located off Military Trail north of Southern Boulevard. The South Palm Beach resident has for the last six years been a staple in the cacti and succulents portion of the garden, which all told houses more than 6,000 tropical and subtropical plants from six continents.

"We're in a very unique area because we have so many transplants, especially from the Northeast, who do not realize what can grow here or will not grow that they want to bring down," said Spencer, who typically volunteers on Wednesdays. "We offer that at our help desk; if you're not sure what disease a plant has or what it is; we can tell you what grows best in sun, what grows best in shade."

Spencer said a common mistake people make when landscaping is to plant trees or shrubs too close to the house only to regret it when the roots grow out.

"A coco plum is a tree, but we treat it like a shrub," he said. "Even treated like a shrub it puts its energy to its roots, which get bigger and bigger and bigger."

Spencer gained the confidence of the staff about four years ago.

"They saw some designs I did in a greenhouse up in Illinois and gave me carte blanche to do some arrangements, and now I'm doing everything for them."

"Michael is like a thesaurus for plants," said Marissa Jacobs, the Mounts community engagement manager. "Everyone loves his classes, everyone loves Michael. He's a joy to be around."

Spencer also enjoys gardening at both of his homes, in South Palm Beach and Wellington; and he and his wife, Christine, like to travel to her native France.

Otherwise they spend most of their time at home with their two cats, one a calico Maine coon mix and the other a tuxedo.



Michael Spencer of South Palm Beach does an inventory of plants in the nursery at Mounts Botanical Garden in West Palm Beach. Since 2016 he has amassed more than 2,000 volunteer hours. He creates succulent and cacti arrangements to be sold at the Gift Shop. **Tim Stepien/The Coastal Star**

Spencer had taught watercolor at his condo during the winter months up to 2020.

"Now that things have calmed down with the pandemic, I plan to restart the class in January," he said. "I teach the class for two hours every week during the peak season and do it for free. All my students need to do is come with paints, brushes and paper to have fun and learn about watercolor."

— Brian Biggane

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

**A:** I was born and raised in Union Lake, Michigan (a northwestern suburb of the Detroit metropolitan area), attended Central Michigan University and graduated with a bachelor of arts degree in elementary education with a major in German and minors in European literature, European history and biology (botany). I also have a landscaping and greenhouse degree from Southwestern Oakland Vocational Education Center.

Having grown up in what was a rural area at that time, I was influenced by my grandfather and his love of gardening. His yard was full of a variety of fruit trees and every year he planted a large vegetable garden. My parents and my uncle and aunt, whose yard abutted the back of our yard,

were also involved. All of my uncles on my mother's side had a vegetable garden, so gardening was in my blood.

Learning about the different ways to prepare, grow, fertilize and alleviate pests of various sizes and varieties enhanced my will to learn about the environment. Since moving permanently to Florida seven years ago, I have had a vegetable garden every winter where I grow lettuce, carrots, onions, tomatoes, peppers, turnips, beets, radishes, eggplant, green beans, broccoli, Brussels sprouts, chives, rosemary, thyme, basil, parsley and other varieties of herbs and vegetables.

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

**A:** My first job was in a mall in Novi, Michigan, selling Christmas plants from SWOVEC to raise revenue for the Greenhouse and Landscaping program. After that I worked in a plant distribution center for delivery to all the Kmart and Walmarts in the state of Michigan. During college, I worked at McDonald's and as a substitute teacher.

At the beginning of my senior year at CMU, I married my wife in her hometown in the Provence region of the south of France. Once I graduated from CMU, my wife and I moved to Louisiana and both of us taught 30 years in the public schools in

the metropolitan area of New Orleans.

My favorite achievements are being named Teacher of the Year three times at the school I taught, being nominated by one of my kindergarten students for "Who's Who Among American Teachers," being a national board certified teacher in early childhood education, being recognized by the city of Kenner, Louisiana, for the 11 years I served as president for the civic association I represented, and being recognized by Mounts Botanical Garden as their Volunteer of the Year 2022.

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

**A:** Learn a foreign language. More and more people are moving to the United States or living abroad. Being a global economy, we must learn that English is not the only language spoken in the world.

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

**A:** My wife and I saw an ad more than 20 years ago about condominiums available on the ocean, and we had always spent part of our vacations when visiting family at the beach in Palm Beach or Lake Worth. In 2003, we found a nice condo to renovate in South Palm Beach. We loved the view from the apartment, so we purchased it.

**Q:** What is your favorite part about living in South Palm Beach?

**A:** Being between two public beaches, our little piece of paradise is not as crowded as the public beaches; and we have made many friends over the years here in South Palm Beach.

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

**A:** My wife and I love historical fiction and murder mystery books. Agatha Christie is one of our favorites and we are presently reading a series of books by M.C. Beaton, who has two series of detective books that are funny and entertaining.

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

**A:** I love all genres except traditional country music. I love pop/rock, hip hop, dance, international music and opera. When I want to relax I tend to listen to soft rock, and when I want to be inspired I love dance, and international singers like Julien Clerc, Umberto Tozzi, France Gall, Laura Pausini, Eros Ramazzotti, to name a few.

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

**A:** I was lucky to have my grandfather, who helped raise me after my father passed away in my teens. My mother basically moved in with him and the two of them were very influential in what I do. My mother was a kindergarten teacher and I was a kindergarten teacher for almost 30 years, one of the few in the state of Louisiana.

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

**A:** It wouldn't really matter, but if I had to think of someone, it might be Leonardo DiCaprio. People said I looked like him when I was young.

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

**A:** My nephew, Nickolas. He is so much like me and he knows the right things to say or do to get me out of the doldrums that I can encounter. He has worked so hard in his life and I am so proud of what he has accomplished.

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## Ocean Ridge



Cassidy



Galleno



Hurlburt



Wiescholek

## Two incumbents draw challengers in March election

By Joe Capozzi

Ocean Ridge voters will get the chance to choose two town commissioners in the March 14 municipal election after four candidates qualified in November to run for office.

Mayor Susan Hurlburt and Commissioner Martin Wiescholek have drawn two challengers — Carolyn Cassidy and Robert Galleno. The top two vote-getters will win three-year terms.

Hurlburt, 67, was first elected to the commission in March 2019 to fill an open seat with a partial one-year term before winning a full term unopposed.

If re-elected, she said she would continue pushing for environmental policies aimed at protecting Ocean Ridge, a barrier island community surrounded by water. That includes a conversion from septic to sewer, replacing aging stormwater infrastructure, and protecting dunes and mangroves, she said.

"I'm a big environmentalist and not just for aesthetics," she said. "I think the environment has much to do with many of the issues that need to be mitigated in the coastal islands."

She said she is most proud of having helped lead the commission's purchase this year of environmentally sensitive land in the Lake Worth Lagoon that will be rezoned for preservation.

Hurlburt has lived in Ocean Ridge for "about 10 years," and is a member of the Ocean Ridge Garden Club.

Wiescholek, 53, took office for the first time in March 2020, days before the pandemic shut down the country. For the next 18 months, he said, the fallout slowed the commission's ability to move the town forward toward important long-range projects such as septic-to-sewer conversion and resiliency improvements.

He said he is proud of having helped the commission improve town building codes and protect residents near the sites of lagging construction projects by cracking down on nuisance properties.

"Having a building official is a huge accomplishment," he said, referring to the hiring of Durrani Guy in July 2020.

But Wiescholek — who has lived in the town for six years — promised to be "more proactive about trying to move the town into the future" if he's re-elected.

"I can assure you this: If I get re-elected, there will not be a third term for me. This is going to be my last. And because it's going to be my last, I will have no problem pushing everybody and making everybody on that dais uncomfortable," he said.

"I'm just one of five votes. If

we don't get things done, at least you will know and everybody else in town will know there are four people sitting there who are procrastinating and they can't get out of their own way."

Cassidy, 59, a frequent contributor during public comment periods at town meetings, serves on the advisory Board of Adjustment. She ran for commission in 2021 and finished third by 16 votes to runner-up Kristine de Haseth in a four-way race. (Commissioner Geoff Pugh finished first and endorsed Cassidy in that race.)

Previously from Westhampton, New York, Cassidy owns a real estate business and has lived in Ocean Ridge for six-plus years. She is a member of the town's Garden Club and co-chairs a review board within Impact 100 Palm Beach County, a group that awards competitive \$100,000 grants to nonprofit organizations.

"Voters should elect me because I have a very commonsense problem-solving approach to things. I'm a good listener and I want to improve communication from the commission and the residents," said Cassidy, a board member on a new Ocean Ridge nonprofit called the Starbright Civic Collective.

If elected, she would try to fix "redundancies and inefficiencies in the building department. We need less government intrusion and more protection of property rights."

Galleno, who turns 53 in December, is vice president of claims for Trident Claims Management, a third-party administrator for Lloyd's of London. He moved to Ocean Ridge three years ago and is making his first run for public office.

He applied for the town manager's job in September but wasn't selected as a finalist.

"My motivation for running for office is to help our community to remain safe and peaceful by supporting our local law enforcement, increasing their pay scale to match other departments in the county," he said in an email.

If elected, he said, he would look into the possibility that Ocean Ridge retain control of two county-owned parks in town — Ocean Inlet Park and Ocean Ridge Hammock Park. That would allow the town to lease the parks back to the county or another operator "so we can have more funding for law enforcement and create a higher pay wage for officers," he said.

He also wants to look into installing speed bumps and pedestrian signal lights as well as creating more community events such as an annual 5K race.

Nicholas Arsali, an alternate member of the Board of Adjustment, initially filed to run but withdrew. ★

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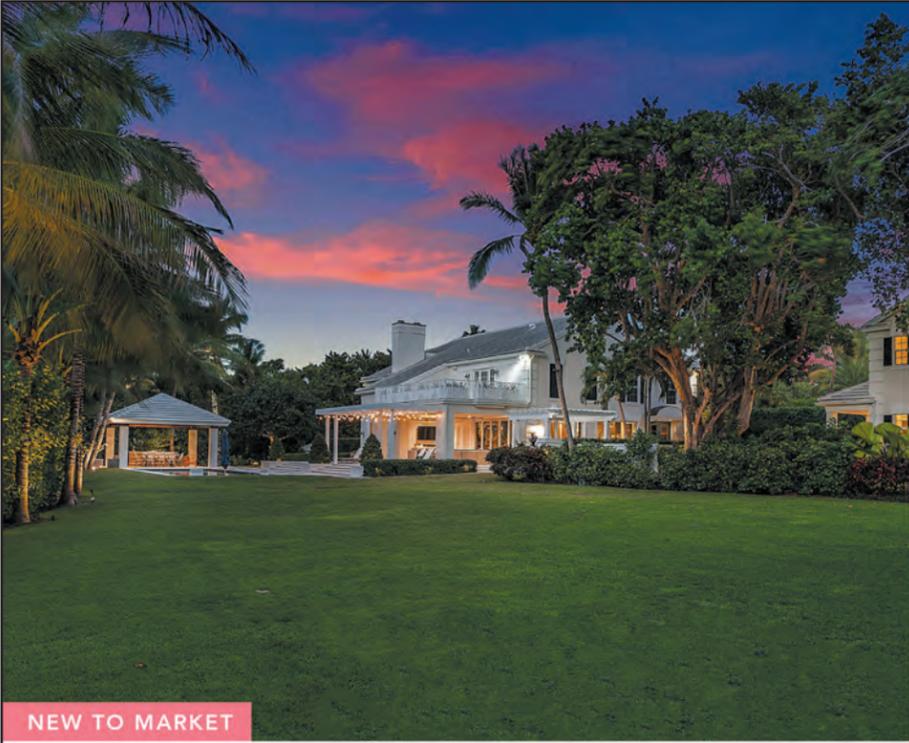
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Leslie Glickman's classes among the royal palms of Sanborn Square were suspended after the city of Boca Raton asked Glickman to pay for traffic barriers on Federal Highway. Last month the city agreed to put up barriers while it searches for a permanent solution. Photo provided by Melissa Green

**YOGA**

Continued from page 1

"There is so much joy and love in that park every week," Asya Scher said at the council's Nov. 8 meeting. "We are asking the city to find a place for it. It is what makes the city special."

Kim Smith said the classes refresh her physical and mental health. "I can feel my stress go down," she said. "It is a community support system."

Glickman asked for better communication from city officials who had not advised her about possible solutions or alternative locations.

"I am asking for communication," she said. "I am asking for respect."

She can't pay for barricades, Glickman said after the meeting, noting that the classes are free and she already is bearing the cost of equipment, Wi-Fi, and preparing the park for the classes.

"I can't afford to take it out of my pocket to put up barricades," she said. "This is my community service every week."

Yoga in the Park draws as many as 300 yoga practitioners each week, and many more who join in online from about 30



Glickman stands on a barrier Nov. 26 once classes had resumed after she and others pleaded with the City Council. 'The people's voices were heard,' Glickman says. Tim Stepien/The Coastal Star

countries and 40 states.

They include snowbirds who leave Boca in the hottest months, former students at her Yoga Journey studio who no longer live in the city, and those who have attended retreats she has held abroad.

"There are eyeballs on this from all over the world," Glickman said.

Council members pressed city staff to find a solution.

"This is not a fine moment for us," said Mayor Scott Singer.

Council member Yvette Drucker apologized for "letting

our community down."

City staff moved quickly, erecting the city's own barricades along Federal Highway at Sanborn Square. Glickman's classes then resumed on Nov. 19.

"We had the biggest crowd ever on Saturday," she said. "People couldn't have been happier. They were whistling and cheering. People were so happy to have the program back."

"This was really a beautiful day for Boca. This is the way government is supposed to work. The people's voices were heard."

Although Glickman learned only recently that organizations using Sanborn Square are responsible for installing barricades, the city had adopted that policy in January 2021.

But that was communicated to Glickman only after tourism

marketing group Discover the Palm Beaches wanted to hold an event in conjunction with Yoga in the Park, and sought a city permit that triggered the barricade requirement.

The policy is intended to make Sanborn Square safer. Since the square sits alongside busy Federal Highway, a driver — by accident or intentionally — could jump the curb and injure park users.

"We see these things happening across the country and around the world," said Assistant City Manager Chrissy Gibson. "That is one of the reasons we want to protect that space."

While the city's intention was to treat Yoga in the Park the same as other organizations that must install barricades, Gibson said the city's communication was not clear.

"There could have been

better communication," she said. "We are in tune with what (Glickman) is trying to do. We are very happy that yoga is back. It is a wonderful program."

"We put in a temporary safety solution we think works until there is a permanent solution."

In the meantime, the city's barricades will remain in place and no organizations will have to bear the cost of installing them, she said.

The permanent solution may have to await a planned renovation of Sanborn Square. The nearly \$4 million project is included in the city's budgets for fiscal years 2024-2026.

The renovation would include installation of safety bollards that can stop vehicles.

Until then, the city will look for more immediate options, Gibson said.

City Council members have said they would support that, provided the cost is not too high.

Deputy Mayor Andrea O'Rourke is not satisfied with the temporary barricades, saying at a Nov. 21 meeting that they are unsightly.

"It is not the look we want to present," she said. Council member Monica Mayotte agreed.

City Manager Leif Ahnell said installing more attractive bollards now would cost about \$750,000, an amount that council members did not want to spend.

"I hope we can find something that is more cost effective," Singer said. ★

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## Briny Breezes

# Tough decisions ahead on costly plan to keep town dry

By Joe Capozzi

Briny Breezes could be a few years away from starting construction on new sea walls, the initial step of an ambitious multimillion-dollar plan to protect the town from climate change and sea level rise, a consultant said at a town meeting Nov. 15.

But shareholders in the tiny coastal co-op of mobile homes still have tough decisions to make soon about broader long-term measures for protecting Briny Breezes over the next 50 years, said Alec Bogdanoff of Brizaga, a civil engineering firm retained by the town and corporation.

"We want to figure out how to stop the flooding already existing in the community and then we can talk about how we plan for the long term," he told about 60 people in an hourlong meeting at the Briny Breezes Community Center.

The next step is for Brizaga to conduct a vulnerability assessment that will help in developing an adaptation plan with detailed cost estimates for such construction projects as raising and armoring existing sea walls, expanding the stormwater system and elevating roads and homes.

While the assessment will help town officials rank the most vulnerable assets, it's also a requirement for different grants Briny will apply for to help pay for construction.

"Next summer we are applying for a grant to help build whatever infrastructure comes out of this assessment," Bogdanoff said.

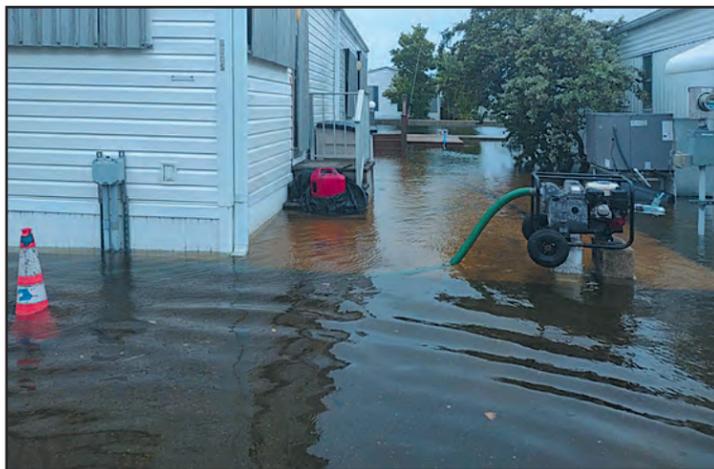
"The hope is that we can apply for grants and start thinking about construction in the next couple of years to really start fixing the assets that need to be fixed the most, which are likely to be the sea walls."

Looking beyond the short-term fixes, the town at some point will have to elevate homes and roads, some of which would have to be raised about 2½ feet, Bogdanoff said.

"Long term you have to elevate. That is really the long-term solution to protecting any community," he said.

The meeting was held just five days after Hurricane Nicole made landfall near Vero Beach. Although Vero Beach is 90 miles north of Briny Breezes, the Category 1 storm still sent 2 feet of storm surge into parts of coastal Palm Beach County, including Briny Breezes, where several streets and mobile homes on the west side of town were flooded.

"When this water came in (with) this last storm, it kept us out of our units for days," said Christina Adams, a Briny Breezes Town Council member. "I know section 4 has issues with washouts, but there are people in section 3 that have (wet) furniture on their front doorsteps and in their yards."



The east side of town, by the Atlantic Ocean, is elevated and not prone to chronic flooding. Most of Briny's flooding problems are on the west side along the Intracoastal Waterway, where most homes are closer to the water. The west side is divided into two residential districts with many aging sea walls.

Chuck Swift of Heron Drive told Bogdanoff that he's losing land "to the level where in possibly 90 days I'm gonna be in jeopardy," he said.

"I'm looking to see what your program is going to do in the next 90 days for the properties that are in crisis on Heron and on Ibis (Drive)," he said. "I'm about to lose my trailer. My deck is sinking. I have a severe washout."

When one speaker said 60% of the town's shareholders are not impacted by flooding and asked who should be responsible for the mitigation repairs, Bogdanoff urged residents to take a broader look at the community-wide benefits of fixing the problem.

"At the end of the day, if you let half of Briny Breezes flood and you don't have that property revenue, you don't have that shareholder, how does that work?" said Bogdanoff, who mentioned that all county homeowners pay school taxes even if they don't have children.

"Sometimes you pay for things in a different part of

the community that may not directly benefit you because there are things you get that they don't pay for," he said. "It's a difficult conversation. Presumably if you are applying for grants next summer, that conversation is going to have to occur in the spring at the latest."

Initial cost estimates, compiled by Brizaga in a 2021 report, called for up to \$16 million in immediate measures such as stormwater improvements and replacing the most vulnerable sea walls. It also called for up to \$125 million for long-term solutions such as raising roads and homes. Those cost estimates are expected to rise with the new assessment.

Whatever solutions Briny chooses will likely be paid for with state grants that the town will have to match with money from other sources such as federal grants. The town also might need to consider partnerships with a developer that could pay for improvements then lease the assets to the town.

In 2007, developer Ocean Land Investments reached a deal to buy Briny Breezes for \$510 million, but the transaction fell through later that year when OLI was unable to secure financing for the project as the stock market collapsed.

"The question here is you guys need a lot of money, so how do you get as much money as possible without really

Briny Breezes is seeking near- and long-term solutions to flooding that happens every fall during king tide season.

**ABOVE:** During the peak impact from Hurricane Nicole, water flowed over sea walls, making it difficult to see where the marina ends and roads begin. **Tim Stepien/The Coastal Star**

**LEFT:** Emergency pumps were deployed to contend with the flooding. **Photo provided by Jim Connolly**

changing the character of this community?" Bogdanoff said.

"You have decisions you have to make but the good news is you have 15 years to figure it out. You are starting now and you're ahead of most (communities). You might say, 'Well, I'm probably not gonna be here in 50 years,' but we all want to be able to sell our properties or pass this community on to the next generation."

Some residents wondered if the town and corporation will ever be able to afford the improvements needed to guarantee that Briny Breezes will survive the onset of rising water projected in the coming decades.

"I know people love it, but we might have to come to some really, really hard decisions in the future (about) what to do with the whole area," said Linda Malstrom, whose parents first bought in town in 1979.

"I'm sorry to say that but it's a reality."

### No election required

Three Briny Breezes council members automatically won new two-year terms without a single ballot being cast. Liz Loper retained Seat 1, Sue Thaler retained Seat 3 and Bill Birch retained Seat 5 because no one filed by the Nov. 22 qualification deadline to challenge them. ★

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## Along the Coast

# Residents amazed at force Hurricane Nicole, king tides

By Larry Barszewski  
and staff reports

Hurricane Nicole delivered only a glancing blow to Palm Beach County, but the rare November hurricane still eroded county beaches, gouged out large sections of dunes and combined with king tides to flood barrier island communities.

South Palm Beach County coastal communities were spared the severe pounding that undermined beachfront condos and homes to the north in Volusia County around Daytona Beach. The Category 1 storm made landfall at about 3 a.m. Nov. 10 just south of Vero Beach on North Hutchinson Island, some 100 miles to the north of Delray Beach.

While the strong surf took a toll washing away beaches and dune staircases locally, many South County beaches were recovering nicely just a few weeks later.

Residents at The Addison on the Ocean condominium in Boca Raton were initially concerned about the beach loss there, General Manager Scott Bragg said, but the sand had built back substantially before residents celebrated Thanksgiving.

"The beach settled itself back. Now our beach is almost even bigger," Bragg said. "Mother Nature has her own strange ways."

### Briny sees worst of it

Unfortunately, her ways brought king tides together with strong hurricane storm surge and surf, producing areas of heavy flooding in South County, especially in Briny Breezes.

"There were homes down there that were entirely flooded," said Ocean Ridge Police Chief Richard Jones, whose department provides public safety services for Briny Breezes.

Exacerbating the flood problems was a malfunctioning transformer that cut off power to 255 homes on the west side of town north of the marina. That also meant water pumps that the town usually relies on were not working.

"But even if the pumps had worked," Jones said, "I mean, water was overtopping the sea walls. There is literally no way it would have mattered."

In Manalapan, waves crashed over dunes and got into homeowner tunnels that run under State Road A1A and link homes on the west side of A1A to the beachfront, Vice Mayor Stewart Satter said.

"At 1660 [S. Ocean Blvd.], when I was on the beach, the tunnel we put in, the water came up over the dune — the first time I ever saw it do that," Satter said, including even during Superstorm Sandy in 2012. "It filled the tunnel in 4 feet of water. The head wall and tunnel had a waterline at about 5 feet off of the beach. It brought all the

debris over the dune against the wall [there]."

In Lantana, safe public access to the beach wasn't restored until the end of November, due to damage to the stairs there. Town Manager Brian Raducci said a temporary fix — metal stairs with railings — opened Nov. 29. Public Works Director Eddie Crockett said lifeguards were on duty and the boardwalk and Dune Deck restaurant had remained open while the temporary stairs were installed.

### Ocean Ridge's water woes

Ocean Ridge received the most rain in the county from Hurricane Nicole, according to the National Weather Service. Nicole dumped 4.87 inches over a two-day period on the island community, which has historically battled drainage issues. One monitoring station in Boca Raton measured 4.17 inches, while Delray Beach got deluged by 3.89 inches at another.

The storm struck just days after the Nov. 8 full moon, which meant tides were already at their highest even before the storm roiled the waters.

Ocean Avenue from Ocean Ridge to Boynton Beach had flooding problems both east and west of the bridge. At the height of the storm, many Ocean Ridge streets — including Hudson Avenue, Ocean Avenue, Coconut Lane, Inlet Cay Drive and Island Drive — were underwater and impassable by police vehicles, Jones said.

"We were using maintenance trucks to access areas to check on people, and at one point, Coconut and Hudson became impassable even with the maintenance trucks," Jones said. He was drafting an "after-action" report to the Town Commission "showing what we experienced with a 2-foot storm surge."

He said he and Public Works Director Billy Armstrong will recommend the town invest in equipment such as a high-water rescue vehicle or a large tractor to be better prepared in case Ocean Ridge ever takes a direct hit from a hurricane.

"If this would have been a storm of any significance beyond what this was and people did not evacuate, there would have been absolutely no way we could have gotten to some of these people's houses," Jones said. "We are going to have to do something. In all the years I've worked here and the years Billy has worked here, neither one of us has ever seen this level of flooding."

### Beaches take a beating

Down the coast in Highland Beach, high waves fueled by Nicole's winds ate huge chunks of the dune line, creating deep sand cliffs and washing out beach stairways. The pounding came perilously close to some of the town's luxury beachfront homes, leaving some with less than half of their backyards.



Hurricane Nicole produced days of turbulent waves along the coast in advance of and after landfall.



**ABOVE:** Ocean Avenue flooded so badly in Ocean Ridge that the road had to be closed after several cars stalled out. **Rachel S. O'Hara/The Coastal Star**  
**RIGHT:** Lantana town employees Goly Rivera and Erik Canapa work to secure benches displaced by flooding at Bicentennial Park ahead of Hurricane Nicole.



"In a number of homes there's just a few feet before you fall straight down a vertical wall of about 10 feet," said John Shoemaker, a town commissioner who surveyed the damage left by the storm. "Several homes lost between 10 and 20 feet of their backyards and in some cases lost staircases."

Boca Raton municipal services and U.S. Army Corps of Engineers employees found erosion at all of Boca's beaches when they inspected them on Nov. 15. They found no obvious indication of infrastructure impacts from the erosion, but Municipal Services Director Zachary Bihl said the Army Corps will complete its analysis

in the coming weeks.

The Army Corps also inspected beaches in Delray Beach, Ocean Ridge and Jupiter and planned to survey beaches in other cities, a Corps spokesman said. The Corps then will complete an inspection report which will be sent to the county. Depending on what the report shows, the county may be

# unleashed — but feel lucky damage wasn't worse



Photos by Tim Stepien/The Coastal Star



**ABOVE:** Waves undermined a lifeguard station on Delray's public beach, but the sea oats prevented more erosion. **Photo provided by Kari Shipley**  
**LEFT:** Dune crossover stairs like these in Highland Beach were broken by Nicole.

able to seek federal funding to rehabilitate beaches, he said.

In Delray Beach, the north end of the municipal beach suffered the most with 4-foot drop-offs, according to an assessment by Chris Bell, Delray Beach's emergency manager.

The Ocean Rescue North 2 lifeguard stand was displaced by the high waves that washed out

sand from underneath it during Nicole. "It is not damaged, and Public Works staff is soliciting bids from a crane operator to reposition the tower," Bell wrote in a Nov. 17 email to City Manager Terrence Moore.

Palm Beach County was still compiling information on beach erosion on Nov. 18, finalizing the assessment for storm damage

losses.

Andy Studt, environmental program supervisor for the county's coastal resources program, said dune and berm erosion occurred, but the significance varied on whether it was on an unmanaged beach or one which had previous renourishment. Studt said the good news was that previous

big projects completed after Hurricanes Irma and Dorian protected infrastructure and property.

"So those projects did their job," he said.

## Floods were widespread

Flooding problems popped up almost everywhere. In Delray Beach, low-lying roads along the Intracoastal Waterway flooded during king tides Nov. 9 even before the storm arrived, Moore said.

In Manalapan, the intersection of Ocean Avenue and A1A — in front of the Eau Palm Beach Resort & Spa and Plaza del Mar — remained flooded and impassable hours after the storm pushed through the area.

"I thought I could walk to Publix but it's a lake. You can't get through it," South Palm Beach Mayor Bonnie Fischer, who lives north of the plaza, said late in the morning following the storm.

Manalapan Mayor Keith Waters told town commissioners at their Nov. 17 meeting that the Florida Department of Transportation is responsible for the road and needs to fix Ocean Avenue's perpetual flooding issues that were at their worst after Nicole.

"We're too nice of a town to have one of our three ways off the island blocked. That's a health issue. That's a safety issue," Waters said.

Manalapan Police Chief Carmen Mattox said: "The electric cars didn't do very well in that at all. We had one tow truck that was pulling them out and the other two trucks were loading them up and moving them out of there."

Traffic on Ocean Avenue at times was down to one lane because of flooding after the storm, Lantana's Crockett said. At Bicentennial Park and Sportsman's Park, the sea walls were breached and the parking lots were flooded.

## Wet and windy

Many Briny Breezes residents had heeded Palm Beach County's mandatory evacuation order for people living in mobile homes and returned Nov. 10 to flooded streets.

Greg "Doc" Trudell chose to ride out the storm in his double-wide mobile home on the west side of town. He did not lose electricity and he said water never breached the top steps to his home.

"It wasn't too bad at all, to be honest," he said. "The worst it got was maybe 50 miles per hour. I sat on my porch and watched it."

Nicole's strongest winds in the county were recorded at the Juno Pier, with a gust of 62 mph. Wind gusts reached 54 mph in Boca Raton and 44 mph in Boynton Beach, the weather service reported.

Nicole was only the fourth

recorded hurricane to strike the United States after October. The official hurricane season ended Nov. 30.

## Impact on businesses

Restaurants did their best to clean up and reopen quickly after Nicole moved away.

At the Old Key Lime House in Lantana, the hurricane party got a bit soggy before its hurricane-induced 7 p.m. last call Nov. 9, with ankle-deep flooding on the restaurant's outside deck and bar.

"It never got in the restaurant dining room. It's a foot higher than the deck and bar area," owner Ryan Cordero said. "Cleanup was minimal."

The parking lot flooded up to the foundation of the restaurant, but before the biggest surge, staff had moved the outside furniture indoors.

Cordero's neighbors at Sushi Bon Express were busy Nov. 10 cleaning up the water that came into their main space and dining room. There was also flooding reported in the dining room at Two Georges in Boynton Beach, and Kylie Mulhall at the neighboring Banana Boat said the parking lot flooded.

To the north, on the Lake Worth Beach Pier, Benny's on the Beach had "a lot of damage," according to chef-owner Jeremy Hanlon.

"They closed the beach on Tuesday," Hanlon said, "so we boarded up after 7 p.m., pulled in all the furniture, umbrellas and canopies."

The next morning, Nov. 9, Hanlon and crew continued to secure both restaurants — he also owns Viva la Playa in the plaza on the beach nearby. When they came back the morning after the storm, high seas were still pounding the pier.

"King tides, big waves — it was something," Hanlon said.

Although surf came over top of the east end of the pier, the water was not able to reach the dining room, as it sits almost as high as the pier entrance.

However, winds had taken out a few beer signs, damaged part of the electrical system, and caused damage to the conduit, Hanlon said. "There were other minor things, but we worked all day and got it all put back together."

Fischer, the South Palm Beach mayor, had a front-row view of the storm's aftermath from her oceanfront condo just north of Lantana Beach.

"The spray went so high it went to my sliding glass door. One came over and hit the door," she said.

"We got lucky for sure." ★

*Mary Thurwachter, John Pacenti, Jane Smith, Rich Pollack, Joe Capozzi, Mary Hladky and Jan Norris contributed to this story.*

## Ocean Ridge

## Town hires recruiting firm for new manager search

By Joe Capozzi

Launching a do-over in their search for a full-time town manager, town commissioners have agreed to retain the national recruiting firm Colin Baenziger & Associates.

The firm, based in Daytona Beach, offered to conduct the search for \$29,500, the highest fee quoted among three recruiting companies that responded to a request for proposals.

"It's a lot of money. I'm not sure there is a way around that," Vice Mayor Kristine de Haseth said at the Nov. 7 commission meeting.

But de Haseth and other commissioners were impressed by CBA's track record in Florida. Commissioner Steve Coz pointed out how the firm was responsible for filling 127 of 161 openings for town manager or town clerk in Florida over the past four years.

"They also talked a lot about proactive recruiting and I think that that was probably our downfall in our last search," de Haseth said before the commission voted to retain CBA.

Town attorney Christy Goddeau agreed to draft a professional services agreement with CBA for commissioners to consider in December.

CBA was chosen over GovHR USA, based in Northbrook, Illinois, and Strategic Government Resources, based in Keller, Texas. Those firms offered to conduct the search for \$23,500 and \$24,900, respectively.

Commissioners hope to find a new town manager by Feb. 28, when interim manager Lynne Ladner's contract expires. Ladner took

over after Tracey Stevens resigned Sept. 11 to accept the manager's job in the town of Haverhill.

When commissioners started the search process in July, days after Stevens announced her plan to resign, they opted to save money and rejected hiring a recruiting firm.

Commissioners relied on guidance from the Florida City and County Management Association's senior advisers program, which provided free recruiting services and advertised the job on trade websites and local newspapers.

Just 15 candidates applied. After a series of meetings with the commission, all but two of the finalists withdrew, prompting town officials in October to start over with a recruiting firm.

## Tree ordinance creates knotty situation

Plans for Ocean Ridge to become a Tree City USA member have been uprooted because of concerns about excessive language in a proposed ordinance creating a tree advisory board.

The ordinance, a requirement for the designation, went beyond the narrow intent for Ocean Ridge to partner with the Arbor Day Foundation and join more than 4,000 other municipalities across the country as a Tree City USA member, Mayor Susan Hurlburt said Nov. 7.

Referring to the purpose of the advisory board, Hurlburt said, "It was never the intention to oversee anything more than a singular Arbor Day celebration."

Among the stipulations in the proposed ordinance, which commissioners withdrew from the agenda Nov. 7, was for the board

to offer advice on "the care of all trees on town-owned property" consistent with the town's land development code and to "assist the town in enhancing its existing tree canopy, and raise the standards for better tree care throughout the town."

"It kind of went down a rabbit hole," Hurlburt said before asking staff to rewrite the proposed ordinance.

Commissioner Martin Wiescholak said he wants the commission to consider a new draft as soon as possible.

"I don't want to table this and just forget about it," he said. "I think it's important. I would like to have Ocean Ridge as a Tree City. I was hoping we could just discuss the flaws and straighten up this ordinance and get it done."

## In other business:

- The Starbright Civic Collective, a nonprofit formed by Ocean Ridge residents, presented the Police Department with a painting by artist Pati Maguire. The painting, called *The Weight of the Flag*, was donated as a gesture of "our gratitude and respect" to the Police Department, said Carol Besler, the group's chairwoman.

The collective also has offered to help pay for emergency medical technician training for residents and officers. Chief Richard Jones said the EMT proposal, including cost estimates, could be presented to the Town Commission as early as December.

- City officials are considering requests by the Garden Club and the Book Club to waive rental fees at Town Hall, where the clubs meet. The requests were scheduled to be considered Nov. 7 but were pulled from the agenda.

- The annual "Light the Lights" holiday event will be held from 5:30-7:30 p.m. Dec. 2 at Town Hall. But the Santa golf cart parade, first held in 2020 as a safe pandemic celebration, will not be held.

- Unwrapped toys for the annual Christmas toy drive can be dropped at the Police Department through Dec. 5. The toys will be distributed to needy children.

- The first Town Commission meeting in 2023 will be Jan. 9, a week later than the usual meeting date on the first Monday of the month. Jan. 2 marks the observance of the New Year's holiday.

- The Town Commission will hold a joint workshop with the planning and zoning board on Jan. 11. An agenda will be set in December. ★

## Obituary

## Gerald K. Shortz

MANALAPAN — Dr. Gerald K. Shortz of Manalapan died Oct. 11. He was 86.



He was born in Indianapolis on Oct. 6, 1936, and received his bachelor's degree from Wabash College in 1958 and his doctor of medicine from Northwestern University in 1962.

He was an Air Force medical officer (captain) and flight surgeon from 1963-1965. Dr. Shortz was in private practice in Delray Beach as a board certified orthopedic surgeon.

Dr. Shortz was heavily involved in the Manalapan community. He served as a town commissioner from 1978-1982, vice mayor from 1982-1988, mayor from 1988-2002, chair of

the Zoning Commission from 2003-2007 and served as vice chair from 2010-2014.

During his free time and into retirement he enjoyed playing tennis, going scuba diving and fishing, road racing cars in endurance events throughout the Southeast and Skip Barber racing, while winning many races. He was also an avid downhill skier.

Dr. Shortz is survived by his son Steven, daughter Bretton (Jeff), granddaughters Lauren and Audrey, sister Gretchen (Walton) of Vero Beach, girlfriend Kathleen Poole and fur babies Sweet Pea and Rusty.

In lieu of flowers, the family requested that contributions be made to the Peggy Adams Animal Rescue League and/or the Nature Conservancy.

— Obituary submitted by the family

## Francis Xavier Foster

DELRAY BEACH — Francis Xavier Foster of Delray Beach and West Harwich, Massachusetts, died Nov. 19 in Boca Raton. He was 95.



He was born in Cambridge, Massachusetts, to parents Anthony and Martha Foster on May 20, 1927.

In his youth he was soloist in the choir of St. Paul Church in Cambridge, as well as other local Christian churches. He thoroughly enjoyed music and entertainment throughout his life.

Mr. Foster was an entrepreneur who started many businesses, which he later sold. His pride was in the education business, when he founded New England Building Specialties, which provided design and complete furnishings of school interiors, particularly parochial schools in the Northeast. He sold his business at a young age, retiring to Cape Cod.

There he started his commercial real estate career as owner of F.X. Foster Real Estate in Hyannis. He was an active member in both Needham and Yarmouth town governments. His last position was serving as chairman of the Yarmouth finance committee.

Mr. Foster lived his life to the fullest, traveling the world on 150-plus cruises, golfing, and dining with family or friends.

When you were Frank's friend, you were his friend for life — whether or not you wished to be.

Mr. Foster was a unique, kind and generous man who unquestionably loved his family and friends, including the family of his wife, Pat. He treated her brothers as his own siblings. His sense of humor and fun-but-realistic outlook will be sorely missed by the many friends he collected over the years.

He was a longtime member of the Hyannis Yacht Club, The Little Club in Gulf Stream and the Delray Beach Club, where he served as president as well as on many committees.

He was predeceased by his parents, first wife, Frances, and five siblings. He leaves behind his wife, Patricia; son Francis X. Foster II (Theresa) of West Harwich; granddaughter Patricia Lurvey (Matthew) of Dover, Massachusetts; and two great-granddaughters, Penelope Lurvey and Lillian Lurvey.

Funeral Mass was held on Nov. 26 at St. Lucy Catholic Church in Highland Beach. Entombment followed at the Boca Raton Mausoleum. In lieu of flowers, please consider donating to St. Lucy Catholic Church, St. Jude Children's Research Hospital or to the charity of your choice in his memory.

— Obituary submitted by the family

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To place an obituary, call 561-337-1553 or email news@the-coastalstar.com

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The Coastal Star reserves the right to edit for length, style or policy. Obituaries may be rejected.

## Obituary deadline

Is 5 p.m. on the Friday prior to our monthly distribution.

Delray Beach

# DDA gets shot at running Old School Square's Cornell museum

## Auto dealership rezoning denied for second time near Place Au Soleil

By Jane Smith

The Delray Beach Downtown Development Authority moved closer to its takeover of the Old School Square campus in November when city commissioners gave the DDA \$25,000 to run the Cornell Art Museum.

"It's a short-term agreement," City Attorney Lynn Gelin said at the Nov. 15 City Commission meeting. It will terminate when the overall deal, called an interlocal agreement, between the city and the DDA is signed. The larger deal will cover the entire campus with its five venues: the Pavilion stage, the Fieldhouse, the Cornell, the Crest Theatre and the Creative Arts School.

Known as the heart and soul of the city, the Old School Square campus is mired in a lawsuit filed in November 2021 by the former operators.

The new overall agreement

with the DDA is expected to be ready in December.

The Cornell deal began on Nov. 16 and calls for free admission to the museum.

Exhibits will be a collection consisting of a Surfing Florida display, a historical retrospective of the campus and Delray Beach, and a Love Delray art exposition by local artists, DDA Executive Director Laura Simon wrote in a Nov. 21 email to *The Coastal Star*.

The prior tenants criticized the Cornell deal in a Nov. 16 email blast, saying the DDA was a taxing authority, "which means that you as a taxpayer will be paying 100% of this cost."

Simon said she had not heard that criticism.

"We have a big job to do and are staying focused on moving forward," she wrote. "We are also moving forward with establishing a [nonprofit] arts foundation to collect donations from those who want to contribute to the campus directly, just as it was originally intended back in 1987."

The former tenant, the Old School Square Center for the Arts, continues to hold

events that raise money for scholarships and mentoring, but not for the buildings because the city owns them. Its lease ended in February.

In October, the organization held LunaFest, featuring films for and about women, at the iPic Theater in downtown Delray. Nearly 400 people attended the event, which raised about "\$50,000 for arts and cultural programming for local youth in our community," according to an Oct. 19 Old School Square Facebook post by the organization.

"We are NOT back in the buildings, but we are continuing our mission to bring arts to Delray by supporting one of our partners," the organization's board wrote in a Nov. 5 email blast.

The city's Community Redevelopment Agency board agreed on Nov. 17 to enhance the Old School Square campus lighting by spending up to \$10,000 on lights.

In other news from the Nov. 15 commission meeting, commissioners:

- Denied for a second time the rezoning of property on the east side of North Federal

Highway next to Gulf Stream's Place Au Soleil neighborhood. Property owner John Staluppi Jr. wanted to put a Hyundai car dealership there.

The 11 people who spoke during the quasi-judicial public hearing opposed the rezoning, including former City Commissioner Gary Eliopoulos, who said the 8-foot wall separating the dealership and the Gulf Stream residents would limit air circulation. The other 10 live in or represented the town of Gulf Stream.

When land use attorney Bonnie Miskel gave the presentation for Staluppi, she stressed that North Federal was the preferred location for auto dealerships in the 2020 update of the city's comprehensive plan. That point was hammered home during witness cross-examinations by Beth-Ann Krimsky, a partner in the Greenspoon Marder law firm in Fort Lauderdale.

The commission vote again was 3-2 against the rezoning, with Commissioners Adam Frankel and Shirley Johnson supporting the rezoning.

- Approved a nearly \$1 million budget amendment to

cover increased payroll costs to police after new collective bargaining agreements were signed at the Oct. 25 City Commission meeting. The expenses will be offset by an unexpected \$990,000 increase in the state sales tax revenue.

- Approved a fee increase for the first time in six years at the recently renovated city marina on the west side of the Intracoastal Waterway south of Atlantic Avenue. The fees for people who want to live aboard their boats at the marina increase from \$23 a linear foot to \$29 a foot for city residents and to \$33 a foot for non-residents. For people who want only to dock at the marina, the fees rise from \$22 a linear foot to \$26 a foot for city residents and to \$30 a foot for non-residents.

The day rate stayed the same for city residents at \$60, but it increased 25% for non-residents, who will pay \$85.

The marina makeover cost about \$4.6 million, including consultants' fees. The work included 23 new floating docks, a raised sea wall, drainage and lighting improvements and installing Wi-Fi. ★

# City's reply in trademark dispute lays claim to Old School Square name

By Jane Smith

In a battle for control of the "Old School Square" name, Delray Beach says it is more entitled to use the moniker than the cultural center's ousted operators who want to make it their trademark.

The city has owned the property for more than 33 years; Old School Square has been on the National Register of Historic Places since 1988; and the city continues to hold

cultural and community events there, its outside counsel wrote in an objection filed Nov. 21 with the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office.

Old School Square's longtime former tenant, the Old School Square Center for the Arts, Inc., applied to trademark the Old School Square name in November 2021, three months after the City Commission voted to terminate the nonprofit organization's lease effective Feb. 9 of this year.

"The [former tenant] has no substantiated intent to resume use of the applied-for services in connection with the [trademark]," wrote outside counsel Anne Flanigan of the Fort Lauderdale office of Weiss, Serota, Helfman, Cole & Bierman law firm.

A spokesperson for the nonprofit organization did not respond to an email request for comment from *The Coastal Star*. The organization has until Dec. 31 to file a response with the

Patent and Trademark Office to the city's trademark challenge.

The nonprofit sued the city over its termination about the same time as the trademark application was filed. The organization has continued to raise funds for cultural and arts programs, though not specifically for ones at the Old School Square campus.

The nonprofit canceled all its events and classes on the campus as of Oct. 1, 2021, according to the city's filing.

The nonprofit listed its address in the trademark application as 51 N. Swinton Ave. — Old School Square's address — even though the organization had been told it would have to leave the campus in February 2022.

The Old School Square campus is no longer the nonprofit's physical address, according to the filing. ★

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Business Spotlight

Royal Palm estate sells for more than \$25 million

A new 8,300-square-foot residence at 500 E. Alexander Palm Road, Boca Raton, was sold to Arty Langhaus from the 500 East Alexander Palm Road Trust in a \$25.75 million transaction. The sale was recorded in September.

Langhaus is the co-founder of Silicon Valley Bank's private wealth advisory arm.

The five-bedroom spec home in Royal Palm Yacht & Country Club — fronting the Intracoastal Waterway and developed by SRD Building Corp. — was completed this year. Amenities include a club room, wine cellar and billiards room.

Steven M. Scott, an obstetrician/gynecologist and entrepreneur, owned the property.

Scott founded national health-care companies Vista HealthPlan and Phoenix Physicians. Records show that he bought the property for \$5.8 million in 2017, and in June 2021 transferred it to the trust managed by attorney Jeffrey Baskies.

David Roberts of Royal Palm Properties represented both sides of the latest deal.

Leland Ackerley, one of the owners of the second-largest independent distributor of semiconductors in the world, has new digs in Highland Beach and paid a handsome price for it: \$8.25 million.

He acquired the 5,425-square-foot, five-story, four-bedroom townhome, built in 2018, on Oct. 22 from Stuart Siegel. Among the amenities are a private elevator and plunge pool.

Ackerley co-founded the Houston-based semiconductor distributor Smith & Associates in 1984.

Siegel, who was the owner and CEO of the National Hockey League's Florida



The five-bedroom spec home in Royal Palm Yacht & Country Club was developed by SRD Building Corp. Photo provided

Panthers from 2008 to 2012, turned a nice profit on the sale. He had purchased the townhome for just \$5.995 million two years ago.

Ackerley's new residence, Unit 2 at 3621 S. Ocean Blvd., was sold by Catherine McGlennon of Engel & Völkers. Corcoran agent Suzanne Petrizzi represented the buyer.

Premier Estate Properties recently made the T3 Sixty Almanac Top Rankings. The company, with 42 agents, ranked No. 126 nationally of the Mega 1000 Brokerages, garnering 573 sales transactions, totaling \$3.116 million.

Premier ranked No. 1 nationally for the highest sales volume per agent and No. 2 for the highest sales price.

The T3 Sixty Almanac, an independent, data-driven

report, analyzes and quantifies the national rankings of top real estate companies annually.

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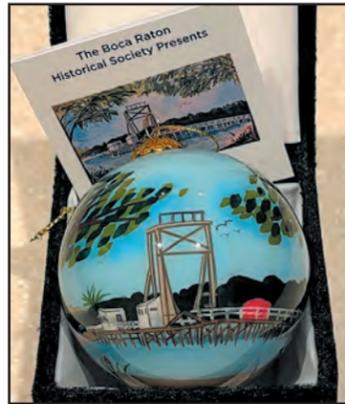
Fagan



Koscielny

Joe Fagan is replacing Florida Peninsula Insurance's vice president of underwriting, Michael Koscielny, who is retiring. Fagan spent 16 years in leadership roles with Travelers Insurance in Hartford, Connecticut, with his last six years as senior managing director of national underwriting.

Most recently, he served as underwriting governance leader



The Old Inlet Bridge holiday ornament is available for sale. Photo provided

The Boca Raton Historical Society and the Schmidt Boca Raton History Museum are now offering their annual commemorative holiday ornament, which highlights

the Old Inlet Bridge. The first bridge over the Boca Raton Inlet was built in the late 1910s with a fixed span that ran south of the present bridge, which is at the inlet near The Boca Raton resort. In 1920, it was replaced with a wood one-lane "basculer bridge," as ordered by the resort owner, Clarence Geist. In 1963, it was replaced with the current span.

This holiday collectible, based on the basculer bridge, was created by Boca Raton artist Barbara Montgomery O'Connell. It is the 21st of the holiday series.

All of O'Connell's depictions for the ornaments over the years are based on information and photographs from the Boca Raton Historical Society. This ornament can be purchased for \$22.50 at the museum's gift shop, 71 N. Federal Highway, or at BocaHistory.org. Click on "museum store."

Some of the previous ornaments are also available. The gift shop hours are 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Wednesday through Friday. For more information, call 561-395-6766.

The Palm Beach 2022 Solar Co-op selected Sprightful to install solar panels through a competitive bidding process over four other firms, because of its equipment, price, warranty offerings and experience. The co-op is free to join and open to new members until Jan. 17. Palm Beach County residents and businesses interested in joining the co-op can sign up at www.solarunitedneighbors.org/palmbeach.



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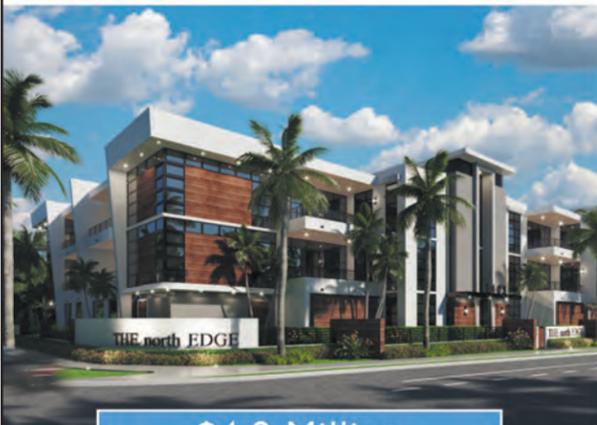
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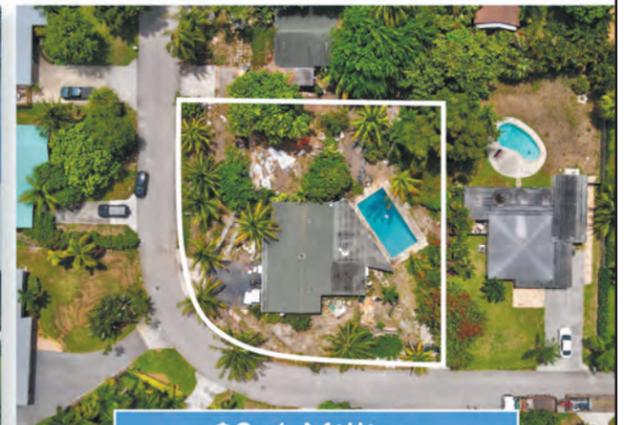
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# Around Town

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December 2022

The Coastal  Star

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'The Monkees was not a band. We were a TV show about an imaginary band that lived in this beach house in Malibu. It was a show about a band that wanted to be the Beatles.'

— Micky Dolenz



Canadian singer Anne Murray in 1973 at the Troubadour with (l-r) John Lennon, Harry Nilsson, Alice Cooper and Micky Dolenz, four of the drinking buddies known colloquially as the Hollywood Vampires. Photos provided

# The last of the PRE-FAB FOUR

Former Monkee Micky Dolenz and his band to appear in Beatles fest at Old School Square

By Ron Hayes

**W**hen the last surviving Monkee was told he'd have to play a Beatles song or two if he wanted to headline the International Beatles on the Beach Festival in Delray Beach, he was happy to oblige.

"I like to try and support the old bands nobody hears about anymore," Micky Dolenz says. "My mother and grandmother

were big fans of the Beatles, and you never hear about them anymore. I like to support those bands from the distant past."

He's joking, of course. The Monkees always got the joke, even when their harshest critics didn't.

When Dolenz and his five-piece band take the stage Dec. 16 at the Old School Square Pavilion, he'll sing *Last Train to Clarksville*, *Daydream Believer*

See DOLENZ on page AT17



Micky Dolenz, now 77, says he will play a few Beatles songs when he performs at the International Beatles on the Beach Festival, on Dec. 16 in Delray Beach.

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## Pay It Forward

### Cocktails for the Club

The St. Andrews Club



Dec. 6: The affair organized by the Boys & Girls Club of Delray Beach will kick off the holiday season with a social featuring entertainment, gourmet food stations, signature cocktails and a silent auction to support club activities. Time is 6 to 9 p.m. Cost is \$175. Call 561-676-5472 or visit [bgcpbc.org/events/4th-annual-cocktails-for-the-club](http://bgcpbc.org/events/4th-annual-cocktails-for-the-club). **ABOVE:** (l-r) Co-chairwomen Jorgette Smith, Jennifer Coulter and Virginia Costa. **Photo provided**

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## Pay It Forward

### DECEMBER

- Tuesday - 12/6 - Boys & Girls Club of Delray Beach's Cocktails for the Club** at The St. Andrews Club, 4475 N. Ocean Blvd. Kick off the holidays with a social featuring entertainment, gourmet food stations, signature cocktails and a silent auction. 6-9 pm. \$175. 561-676-5472 or [bgcpbc.org/events/4th-annual-cocktails-for-the-club](http://bgcpbc.org/events/4th-annual-cocktails-for-the-club).
- Saturday - 12/10 - Palm Beach County Food Bank's Empty Bowls Delray Beach** at Trinity Delray, 400 N. Swinton Ave. Enjoy a simple meal of soup, bread and water to raise money for hunger relief in the community. 11 am-2 pm. \$30. 561-670-2518 or [pbcfoodbank.org](http://pbcfoodbank.org).
- 12/10 - Jewish Adoption and Foster Care Options' Jacob's Ladder Award Gala** at The Polo Club of Boca Raton, 5400 Champion Blvd. Join supporters of child advocacy for a cocktail reception, dinner, dancing and a "Celebrating 30 Years of Love" ceremony. 7 pm. \$350. 954-315-8696 or [jafco.org](http://jafco.org).
- Saturday - 12/10 - Milagro Center's Ho Ho Holiday Hoedown** at Delray Beach Elks Lodge, 265 N.E. Fourth Ave. Shine up those boots for a party featuring live music, line dancing, a barbecue and a beer and wine bar. 7-10 pm. \$45. 561-279-2970, Ext. 107 or [milagrocenter.org](http://milagrocenter.org).
- Sunday - 12/11 - Hanley Foundation's Brice Makris Brunch** at Boca West Country Club, 20583 Boca West Drive, Boca Raton. Have a day of fun featuring entertainment and live and silent auctions to raise funds that will help save lives from substance abuse. 11 am-2 pm. \$150. 561-268-2355 or [hanleyfoundation.org](http://hanleyfoundation.org).

### JANUARY

- Sunday - 1/8 - Boca West Children's Foundation's 'An Evening with Jay Leno'** at Boca West Country Club, 20583 Boca West Drive, Boca Raton. Enjoy cocktails, dinner and entertainment by the acclaimed comedian followed by a live auction and raffle benefiting local children's charities. 6 pm cocktails, 7 pm dinner. \$500. 561-488-6980 or [bocawestfoundation.org](http://bocawestfoundation.org).
- Friday - 1/27 - Faulk Center for Counseling's Golden Anniversary Gala** at Broken Sound Club, 2401 Willow Springs Drive, Boca Raton. Join the center in celebrating 50 years of changing the lives of South Florida adults and children through individual- and group-counseling programs. 7-10 pm. \$200. 561-483-5300 or [faulkcenterforcounseling.org](http://faulkcenterforcounseling.org).

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Philanthropy Notes

Boca Raton philanthropist pledges \$7.5 million to FAU athletics

Eleanor Baldwin of Boca Raton has made a \$7.5 million pledge to Florida Atlantic University's athletics program, and in recognition of the gift, the basketball and volleyball facility will now be known as the Eleanor R. Baldwin Arena.

Baldwin's name is well-known at the university: It graces the Eleanor R. Baldwin House — the campus residence for the president — the Eleanor R. Baldwin History and Tradition Hall in the athletics complex, and the Eleanor R. Baldwin President's Suite at the stadium.

"Eleanor has generously supported so many projects and initiatives at FAU and throughout the community, and we are so incredibly grateful to her for this gift," said Brian White, director of athletics. "We cannot thank her enough for this support, which will impact the lives of so many Owl student-athletes, coaches, staff and community members who will utilize Eleanor R. Baldwin Arena."

Added FAU President John Kelly, "Elly has been a true champion of Florida Atlantic and its students over the years, from mentoring future educators to cheering on our sports teams to donating crucial funds to support the university's growth. The Eleanor R. Baldwin Arena will be one more shining



The basketball and volleyball arena at FAU will now be named for Eleanor Baldwin of Boca Raton. Photo provided

example of her generosity at FAU."

**Urban League's \$5.1 million grant to help minorities**

The Urban League of Palm Beach County hauled in the largest grant in the 49-year history of the organization when philanthropist MacKenzie Scott announced a \$5.1 million donation.

The gift will enable the nonprofit to elevate its assistance to the Black community and other minorities with the mission of achieving social and economic equality.

"We are so excited that Ms. Scott has recognized the work and contributions that the Urban League of Palm Beach County has made in the communities we serve across South Florida," President and CEO Patrick Franklin said. "The

board of directors and staff of ULPBC thank Ms. Scott for entrusting us with the awesome responsibility of ensuring that this generous gift will have a long-lasting and positive impact in our community."

In 2019, Scott pledged — along with some of the world's richest individuals and families — to dedicate the majority of her wealth to charity.

"When our giving team focuses on any system in which people are struggling, we don't assume that we, or any other single group, can know how to fix it," Scott said. "Instead, we seek a portfolio of organizations that supports the ability of all people to participate in solutions."

For more information, call 561-833-1461 or visit <https://ulpbc.org>.

**Boca West foundation has record year for giving**

The Boca West Children's Foundation distributed an all-time high of \$2.2 million to local children's charities this year.

Buoyed by proceeds from the annual golf tournament, which broke attendance numbers, grants were given to the foundation's 30-plus partner organizations.

"This is truly historic and remarkable," Executive Director Pamela Weinroth said. "This is a reflection of the hard work and dedication of our board, Boca West members and supporters in the community that we were able to raise record dollars in a year with an array of obstacles."

In addition to the grants, the foundation donated 45,000 volunteer hours as well as 180,000 diapers, along with cribs and other essential items for families in need.

"Despite some challenges over the last couple of years, so many good and caring people came together and kept our focus on helping the children," board Chairman Richard Zenker said.

For more information, call 561-488-6980 or visit [www.bocawestfoundation.org](http://www.bocawestfoundation.org).

**\$100,000 donation to boost reading skills**

The New York-based Soloviev Foundation has made a \$100,000 donation to Roots and Wings to support early student reading for needy families as well as teachers to support the effort.

Delray Beach-based Roots and Wings provides services to economically disadvantaged public school students in South County — more than 500 boys and girls.

"All the research has shown that the pandemic has severely damaged educational advancement for our children, particularly those in disadvantaged communities," Soloviev Group Chairman Stefan Soloviev said. "It's all our responsibility to help all our students receive a strong

education."

For more information on Roots and Wings, call 561-404-0455 or visit <https://rootsandwingsinc.org>.

**Gift drive underway for Boys & Girls Clubs**

The Boys & Girls Clubs of Palm Beach County has launched its Holiday Gift Drive to collect toys and teen-appropriate gifts for thousands of local youths.

This year, families are facing challenges as a result of inflation and the organization is counting on the community for lots of support. The goal is to ensure less-than-fortunate children receive presents under the tree.

"The holidays are right around the corner, and we need to act quickly to collect enough toys and gifts for these deserving children and teens," said Sarah Alsofrom, senior director of community relations at GL Homes, the drive's sponsor. "Inflation is eating into every dollar families try to save, and unfortunately, holiday stockings stuffed with toys may not fit into the family budget."

The drive runs through Dec. 11. Items can be dropped off at select local businesses — the list of locations can be found at the link below — and at the nonprofit's corporate offices, 800 Northpoint Parkway in West Palm Beach.

"Our annual Holiday Gift Drive is important because we believe in making sure that our club members are happy," said Jaene Miranda, president and CEO of the Boys & Girls Clubs of Palm Beach County. "For most members, this will be their only chance to receive a gift this season."

For more information, call 561-683-3287 or visit [bgcpcb.org/2022/10/31/support-our-holiday-gift-drive](https://bgcpcb.org/2022/10/31/support-our-holiday-gift-drive).



Send news and notes to Amy Woods at [flamywoods@bellsouth.net](mailto:flamywoods@bellsouth.net).

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Pay It Forward

# Holiday Hoedown fundraiser to help kids catch up in school

By Amy Woods

The Milagro Center's popular annual fundraiser will take on a holiday twist this year and include an urgent appeal to help the 150 at-risk children it serves.

The Ho Ho Holiday Hoedown on Dec. 10 will be a country-Western shindig combining cowboys with Christmas and line dancing with the lighting of the menorah. The event will direct proceeds to the center's "Last C.A.L.L." emergency campaign, designed to rally the "Community Against Learning Losses" stemming from the pandemic.

"We are specifically raising money to increase the academic support so that these kids can make up what they have lost and start to succeed in school again," President and CEO Barbara Stark said. "COVID really put a monkey wrench into things, if you will."

The emergency campaign comes on the heels of "The Nation's Report Card"

**If You Go**

**What:** Milagro Center's Ho Ho Holiday Hoedown  
**When:** 7 to 10 p.m. Dec. 10  
**Where:** Delray Beach Elks Lodge, 265 NE Fourth Ave.  
**Cost:** \$45  
**Information:** 561-279-2970, ext. 107 or www.milagrocenter.org

published in October by the National Center for Education Statistics, a branch of the U.S. Department of Education. The data shows that fourth- and eighth-graders fell behind in reading and had the largest-ever decline in math.

"The saddest part is that COVID has had a disproportionate impact on the country's most vulnerable children and teens, like the students in our program," Stark said, noting that poor families often do not have equipment such as laptops, much less high-speed internet service.

"The additional funding will go a long way in making sure each and every student gets the



Barbara Stark, president and CEO of the Milagro Center, sits among some of the children involved in the center's programs. Photo provided

attention they need and deserve so that they have a fighting chance to achieve success in school and in life."

Funds will enable the center to hire more tutors who can work with children in small groups or, better, in one-on-one settings.

"The fact is these kids have an increased chance of school failure because of their economic status," Stark said. "Our goal is to help them graduate and pursue a career so they do not repeat the cycle of poverty."

Guests are asked to bring gift cards to hang on the gift-card tree. The cards will be distributed to middle school and high school students. There

will be a live band, a barbecue dinner, a silent auction, a raffle and more.

"It will be a fun night to enjoy," Stark said. ★

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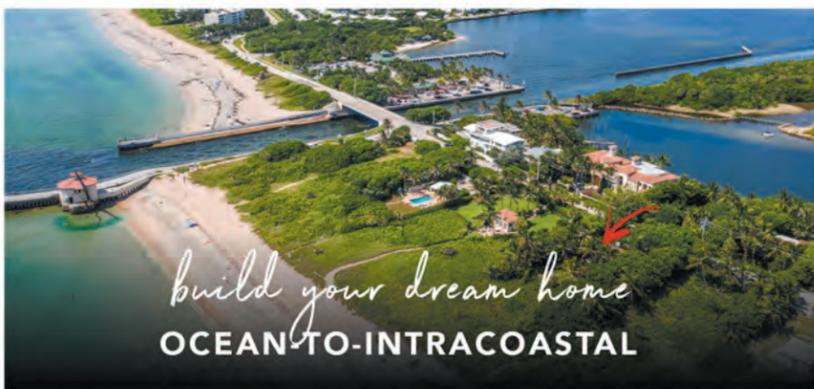
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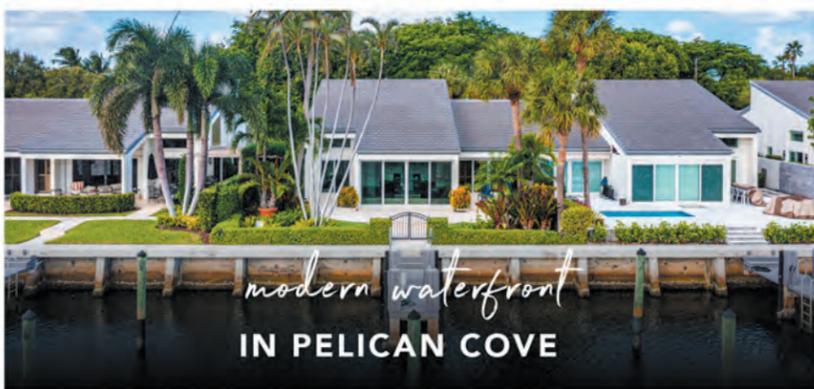
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## Celebrations

### Charity bicycle ride

Delray Beach — Oct. 29



The Achievement Centers for Children & Families' 11th annual Witches of Delray fundraiser took flight to benefit the community-based organization. More than 300 women wearing their best witch apparel atop extravagantly decorated bicycles rode through the downtown area, turning many heads. At the conclusion of the ride, the party continued at Old School Square with activities and awards. A total of \$28,000 was raised. **ABOVE:** (l-r) Achievement Centers CEO Stephanie Seibel, Andria DeVoe and Tricia McFadden. **Photo provided by Ethan Dangerwing**

### Educator awards dinner

Boca Raton Marriott — Nov. 7



More than 150 guests attended Florida Atlantic University's Arthur and Emalie Gutterman Center for Holocaust and Human Rights Education's annual gathering. During the event, the exceptional work of teachers supported by the center was celebrated. In addition, the 2021 Gutterman Family Outstanding Holocaust Educators were honored. **ABOVE:** Arthur Gutterman with Outstanding Educators (l-r) Tracy Sachs, Chelsea Dittrich and Maureen Carter. **Photo provided**

### Securing Our Future Soiree

The Boca Raton — Oct. 20



The Boys & Girls Clubs of Palm Beach County's fourth annual fundraiser raised a record-breaking \$250,000 for the agency's hunger relief program — of critical concern in light of inflation. The Great Masquerade-themed event offered guests a night of surprises including live performances. 'Boys & Girls Club of Boca Raton is the smallest and most underfunded club in the county,' advisory board Chairwoman Mandy Bohlman said. 'With all of our donors' support, we can move the needle and continue to make a difference.' **ABOVE (l-r):** Bohlman, Katie and Abraham Ovadia, and Jaene Miranda. **TOP LEFT:** Dana and Sebastian Ocampo **BELOW LEFT:** Morgan Green and Paige Kornblue. **Photos provided by Tracey Benson Photography**

### Golden Jubilee

The Addison, Boca Raton — Oct. 26



Olivia Hollaus, board chairwoman of the Boca Raton Historical Society, joined Mary Csar, executive director of the Schmidt Boca Raton History Museum, in welcoming 300 friends and supporters to the 50th-anniversary celebration. The memorable affair featured decade-inspired passed hors d'oeuvres, live-action food stations, a full open bar and dancing to live music.



**ABOVE (l-r):** Russ and LeAnn Berman, Lynn-Marie Whitefall and Anthony Crupi. **LEFT:** Dick Schmidt prepares to cut the anniversary cake. **Photos provided by Munoz Photography**

### Volunteer of the Year

The St. Andrews Club, Delray Beach — Oct. 29



The Creative Waves Foundation, which provides funding for underserved children and programs that emphasize the arts and the environment, honored Frankie Stevens for a lifetime of service to children's causes. One of those causes is building a library collection for youths at the First Haitian Baptist Church in Belle Glade. The event raised more than \$50,000 and was attended by 160-plus guests, including Grammy Award-nominated singer Cassadee Pope, who hails from Wellington. Pope serves on the foundation's board and recently donated \$88,000 to the nonprofit. **ABOVE:** Stevens and Pope sing 'Let's Stay Together.' **Photo provided**

Dining



Elisabetta's Ristorante in Delray Beach has a private room that accommodates up to 20 customers. Photo provided

## Restaurants offer spaces large and small for holiday parties

It's party season, and party checklists usually start with a room to rent. Many restaurants and hotels rent spaces for hosting various-sized groups, with food provided or allowing food to be catered.

Some smaller restaurants allow for a "buyout" — rent out the whole dining room for a party.

Some tips as you plan:

- Have alternate dates in mind, especially around the holidays. Think outside the dinner hour as well: Brunches and even "holiday PJ" breakfasts are ideas.

- Don't assume anything. Get your event spelled out in writing.

Here are some worth a look. **Kapow!** expanded and rebuilt across the street in Boca Raton's Mizner Park and now has a few party options, including an outdoor "opium garden" and three private karaoke rooms with automated AV systems. These rooms can connect to make larger spaces as well as open onto the patio. Food is modern and traditional Asian cuisine, with sushi a favorite. Contact the restaurant via [www.kapownoodlebar.com](http://www.kapownoodlebar.com).

**Farmer's Table** in Boca Raton has several rooms for rent, including the newly renovated Oak Room that accommodates 100 for a sit-down dinner, or 150 for cocktails. Other rooms and spaces indoors and out, including a pavilion overlooking the pool, seat from 30 to 140. Contact [www.dinefarmerstable.com](http://www.dinefarmerstable.com).

**Max's Grille**, a staple in Mizner Park, has a room suitable for a 12-person sit-down. Noted wine list and contemporary American grill fare are offered. Contact [www.maxsgrille.com](http://www.maxsgrille.com).

History, architecture and signature menu items come together at **The Addison** in Boca Raton. The 1920s landmark building named for its architect Addison Mizner has 10-plus rooms that accommodate intimate dinners for 12, up to 300 for a large party. It is frequently a site for weddings (and proposals) and has indoor and outdoor spaces available. Contact [www.theaddisonofbocaraton.com](http://www.theaddisonofbocaraton.com).

The **Pavilion Grille** in Boca Raton has a large, open atrium for big parties — up to 300 for sit-downs, and a smaller room for up to 60. A variety

of menu choices catering to each party is provided. Contact [paviliongrille.com](http://paviliongrille.com).

At **Eclectic Eats** in Delray Beach, indoor space accommodating 35 is available, and a lush garden setting can handle up to 125 people. Catered menus for a variety of parties and gatherings are available, or guests can arrange to bring their own foods. Contact [www.eclecticeats.com](http://www.eclecticeats.com).

**The Wine Room Kitchen and Bar** on Atlantic Avenue has a private room that seats up to 14. It is especially good for oenophiles, with wine and food pairings a natural here. Contact [www.thewineroomonline.com/delray-beach](http://www.thewineroomonline.com/delray-beach).

**Elisabetta's Ristorante**, also on the avenue, has a private area with a fireplace, great for those chilly evenings. It holds up to 20 people; the menu is modern Italian. House specialty is house-made pasta. Contact [www.elisabettas.com](http://www.elisabettas.com).

**Salt7** in Delray Beach has a private room opening to a patio suitable for up to 50 people for a sit-down affair, or 100 for cocktails. It has a trendy vibe and award-winning chef. Contact [salt7.com](http://salt7.com).

# Season's Greetings

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**La Cigale** in Delray Beach has several private rooms that can accommodate from 10 to 100 diners. Rooms are available from 8 a.m. daily, so breakfast, brunch and luncheons are possible, along with cocktail parties or dinners. Contact [www.lacigaledelray.com](http://www.lacigaledelray.com).

At the Ray Hotel Delray Beach, in Pineapple Grove, the **Ember Grill** has a private room to seat up to 40. Also available are the Rosewater Rooftop and the Garden at Rosewater, both outdoor venues with variable seating. Contact [www.therayhotel.com](http://www.therayhotel.com).

The **Opal Grand Resort**, oceanside in Delray Beach, has several venues, including a ballroom as well as the main dining room area, Drift. Seafood is Drift's focus.

Contact [www.opalcollection.com/opal-grand](http://www.opalcollection.com/opal-grand).

**Benvenuto Restaurant & Banquet Facility** is a European-themed event space in Boynton Beach, with several rooms and a large courtyard that accommodate from 30 to 250. Numerous rooms and configurations with courtyards or lounges adjoining are available. Foods are upscale American and Italian. It's one of the oldest event spaces in the area. Contact [www.benvenutorestaurant.com](http://www.benvenutorestaurant.com).

**Baciami Italiano & Prime Steakhouse** on South Federal Highway in Boynton Beach has a private room with capacity of 30 for dinner. Contact [www.baciamiitaliano.com](http://www.baciamiitaliano.com).



Amar Bakery & Market is open on Atlantic. Photo provided

### Another Amar bakery opens in Delray Beach

A new bakery and market is on Atlantic Avenue, created by the owners of Amar Mediterranean Bistro. It's just a few doors down, and carries house-made European and Middle Eastern pastries, custom cakes, breads and more.

At Amar Bakery & Market, patrons will find a mix of croissants, falafel and baklava. Owners Nicolas and Susanna Kurban bring modern twists to their native Lebanese sweets and European pastries and breads.

This is their second location; their main bakery is in

Boynton Beach.

"We planned the Delray one first, before COVID," Nicolas said. They soon realized there was not enough space in the bistro to handle the bakery production.

"We looked around, and found an existing bakery for sale in Boynton, and we took it over," he said. They've now doubled their space there to 2,000 square feet.

All the baking is done there, and delivered by 6 a.m. to the Atlantic Avenue location. They also deliver to restaurants and caterers who buy from them.

Susanna uses spices and flavor profiles that set these goods apart: Za'atar, an earthy, savory spice combination, and haloumi, a tangy goat-sheep milk's cheese, are baked into croissants.

Brownies also get the Middle Eastern treatment. Halva, a sweet candy treat similar to nut butter, pairs with chocolate to create American-style brownies.

Vegan muffins and cakes and gluten-free items are available.

Grab-and-go items from the bistro are in the bakery for takeout, Nicolas said, including baba ganouj, tabbouleh and sandwiches.

"We plan on opening more bakeries like the Delray cafe, one in Boca, one in Palm Beach, and other places," he said. "We'll continue production in Boynton, and deliver to them, like a Starbucks — they can go in small spaces."

*Amar Bakery & Market is at 526 E. Atlantic Ave, Delray Beach. Phone 561-819-9020 or visit [www.amar-bakery.com](http://www.amar-bakery.com).*

### Lake Worth bakery is a swift start-up

Lake Worth Beach also has a new bakery: Azra Nahic opened **Una Pastries and Desserts** on Lake Avenue the first week in November. She called it a whirlwind start-up.

"When we got the place, it was all within a month," she said. "We got the store and put everything in and I started baking right away."

She's had no formal training and never baked in a production kitchen before. She was working in the medical field but got tired of doing only paperwork.

"I started baking cookies and cakes, and people started ordering them," said Nahic, who has Bosnian roots. Finally, she decided to open her own bakery at age 51.

Meanwhile, her children in Fort Myers were dealing with Hurricane Ian and wound up moving in with her and her husband, Armin Becirevic. "They were stuck here for two weeks while their power and water were out."

Nahic is working long days at the bakery, along with a visiting cousin, doing everything by hand — even kneading dough for heavy

bread loaves. "We have mixers for our cakes only. Everything else is done by hand," she said.

Nahic bakes specialty desserts for a restaurant in Palm Beach, but they are pricey for the average buyer.

"I felt bad, nobody can afford the high-end, fancy desserts. Chocolate is so expensive now. Everything is so expensive. I wanted to make desserts and bake things people can buy and enjoy," she said.

Her cases feature colorful macarons, cupcakes, cookies, muffins, brownies, breads, baguettes, tarts and Balkan favorites like kifli rolls.

One of the sold-out items each day is a flaky spinach and cheese turnover, borek, that's a staple in the Balkan countries. It's also made with meat and onion — the crowd favorite.

"Everybody has their own. But people come here for mine — I didn't know there were so many people from our country here. I had a store full of people. I made 60 borek in three hours and was sold out. I love it — it makes me happy."

But she can barely keep up. "Every day, we're sold out of some things by 3 p.m. Everything is made fresh, so anything left over, we give away to the homeless. I know what it's like to be hungry," she said.

She has plans to open other bakeries. But with such an exhausting pace, first she's looking for professional help at the Lake Worth Beach store.

Nahic says her daughter Amela Agic does all of the bakery's marketing and credits her for its success.

How do they plan to handle a second bakery?

"I can do anything," Nahic says. "I survived war. I was in Bosnia for four years. You just have to be positive, happy, and don't take things for granted."

"I'm tired. But it makes me feel good. I'm happy that we're here. Food connects us."

In mid-November she was awaiting permits for indoor and outdoor seating; the bakery is takeout only with no coffee available yet. "Soon," she says.

*Una Pastries and Desserts is at 513 Lake Ave., Lake Worth Beach. Open daily except Monday, 7 a.m. to 8 p.m. Phone 727-330-0401. On Facebook under UNA Bakery.*

### The restaurateur and the service dog

Dogs are so welcome at Burt Rapoport's **Deck 84** in Delray Beach they have their own pup menu. The owner is a dog lover and has supported pet charities with 20% of the money the pup menu earns at all three of his restaurants. The others are Max's Grille and Burt and Max's.

The Boca Raton-based charity Vets Helping Heroes, which supplies service dogs to veterans, approached the restaurateur to ask for support,

and Rapoport readily agreed.

Overall, Vets Helping Heroes has received around \$5,000 from the pup menus.

"They called one day, and said, 'We appreciate what you're doing. We have a new dog coming along, and we'd like to know if you'd like to name him in someone's honor.'"

For Rapoport, the name was a "no-brainer."

"My dad was a vet — and he loved dogs."

So the new golden retriever being trained at Vets Helping Heroes has been dubbed Rappy.

"My dad's nickname," Rapoport said.

*Jan Norris is a food writer who can be reached at [nativefla@gmail.com](mailto:nativefla@gmail.com)*



Rappy is a service dog in training with Vets Helping Heroes. Photo provided

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## Gardens



A ghost orchid in bloom.  
Photo provided by Tony Pernas

### Ghost orchid may achieve federal endangered species protection

By Christine Davis

The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service announced in October that it may grant Endangered Species Act protection to the ghost orchid, following a January 2022 petition submitted by the Delray Beach-based Institute for Regional Conservation, along with the Center for Biological Diversity and the National Parks Conservation Association.

A decision is expected in January.

The rare leafless flower with long delicate petals and a spur of nectar was featured in Susan Orlean's book *The Orchid Thief* and the movie *Adaptation*, starring Meryl Streep and Nicolas Cage.

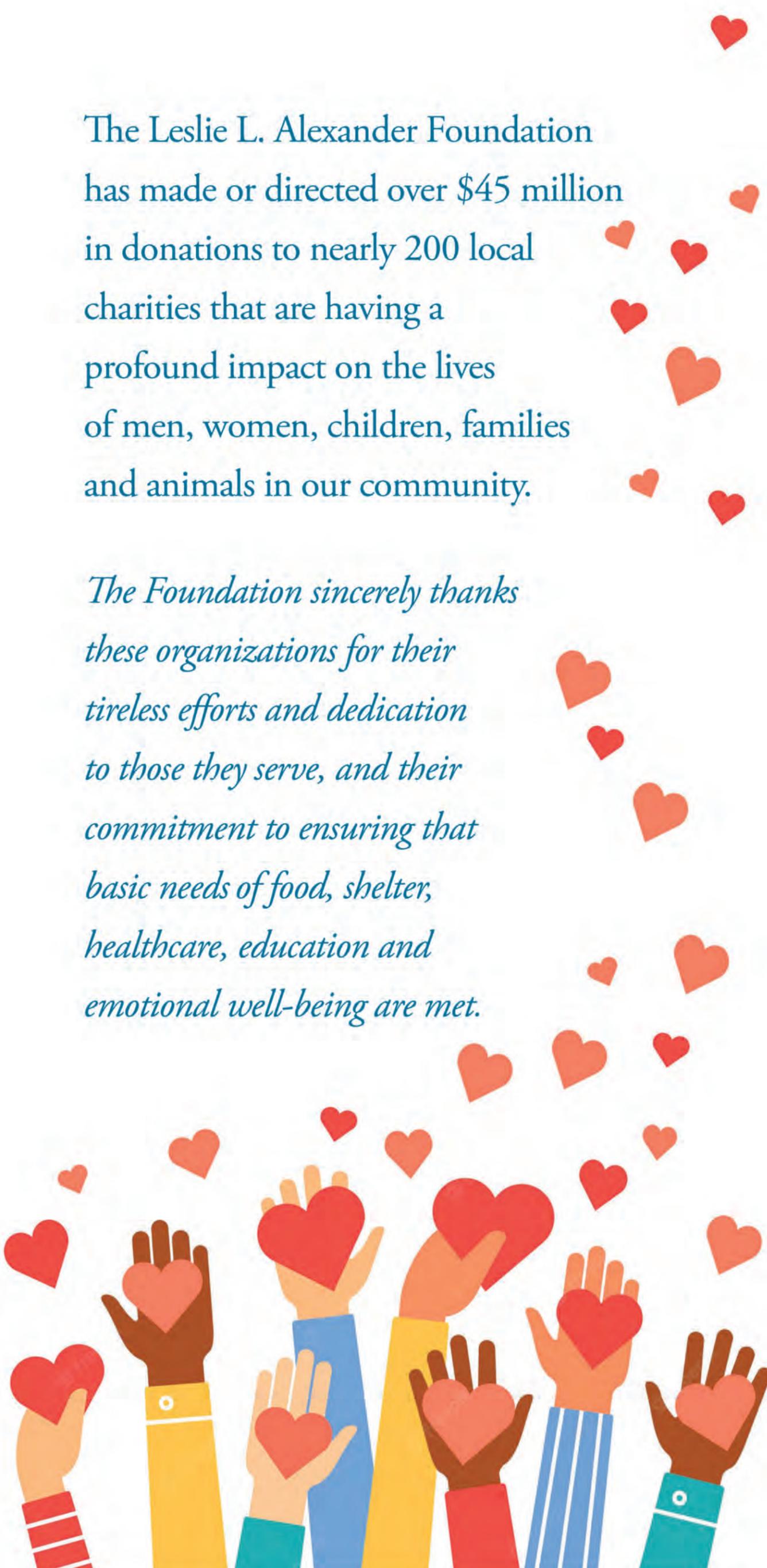
"I still remember the first time I saw a ghost orchid," said Melissa Abdo, Ph.D., the National Parks Conservation Association's Sun Coast regional director. "I was waist-deep in a swamp in the heart of the Everglades and spotted one woven around a tree trunk. I had spent six months searching, while researching the plant life throughout the 'Glades. It was a moment I will never forget.

"I understand the pull this beautiful, rare plant species has on people, but its popularity comes at a steep price," Abdo said. "Recent upticks in ghost orchid poaching have left the species in serious peril, with fewer than 750 mature orchids left in the wild."

Other factors in the ghost orchid's population decline include climate change, the draining of wetlands, and development, she said. "The ghost orchid deserves nothing less than the full federal protections necessary to keep this species alive and thriving."

The ghost orchid population has declined by more than 90% globally. Its range in Florida includes the Big Cypress National Preserve, Florida Panther National Wildlife Refuge, Fakahatchee Strand Preserve State Park, Audubon's Corkscrew Swamp Sanctuary and other conservation and tribal areas in Collier, Hendry and possibly Lee counties.

George Gann, executive director at the Institute for Regional Conservation, said he was grateful the government saw the merit in the petition. "Federal protection will help us not only to save this icon of beauty from extinction, but allow for recovery work to commence. Preventing extinction is the lowest conservation bar; our goal must be full recovery." ★



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# The Arts Paper

www.palmbeachartspaper.com

## Art



## Walking encyclopedia

Stroll through decades of 'High Fashion & Street Style' at Norton exhibit

By Jan Engoren  
Contributing Writer

If you are of a certain age and demographic or just a fashionista, the Norton Museum of Art's latest exhibit, *A Personal View on High Fashion & Street Style: Photographs from the Nicola Erni Collection, 1930s to Now*, will resonate and evoke memories of bygone eras, the supermodels who inhabited them, the fashions they wore and the photographers who glamorized them.

The exhibit, two years in the making and taking up two floors of the Norton,



**TOP:** *The Fearless Lola Walking the Lion King, Miami, for Stern, 1999*, by Esther Haase. **ABOVE:** Jean Shrimpton (cover mock-up), for Harper's Bazaar US, 1965, by Richard Avedon. **Photos provided**

runs through Feb. 12 and showcases highlights from Erni's collection, based in Steinhausen, Switzerland, which traces the origins and development of fashion and street photography.

Erni, who prefers to keep her private life private, has assembled one of the most

extensive private collections of fashion photography over the past 20 years, and this exhibition marks the first time it is shown at a public institution.

"It gives me great joy to mix fashion and street style photography in order to visualize their differences and similarities," she writes in the foreword to the exhibit. "I am truly honored to have the opportunity to show this exhibition to a broader audience."

Erni's passion project began when she started collecting works from the 1960s and 1970s that depicted the era's jet set and celebrities from the worlds of art, fashion, film and music. She later expanded her collection to include fashion and street style photography.

"The Nicola Erni Collection is a globally celebrated collection that brings together the divergent worlds of fashion and street photography, exploring glamour and style through the lens of some of the greatest photographers of the last century," Ghislaine d'Humières, CEO of the Norton Museum, said in a prepared statement.

"This exhibit expands on the Norton's

See **NORTON** on page 12

## Theater

## Two-person play explores the power of words

By Hap Erstein  
ArtsPaper Theater Writer

Ellen Lewis is not really sure what started her writing *Dorothy's Dictionary*, the two-character play that is having its world premiere run at Florida Atlantic University's Theatre Lab, but she knows she wanted to create a script about "books and words and libraries and the power of stories. All that is kind of what I'm made of," she says.

What emerged is a tale of a retired librarian, in ill health and failing eyesight, who is assigned a wayward teenager to visit her three times a week and read books to her as his court-ordered community service.

Dorothy is initially dubious about accepting the mandatory presence of Zan, and he is positive he has better things to do than waste his afternoons with this old woman. But over time, divided neatly into 12 chapters, a bond forms between them as they come to accept the power of friendship and great literature.

Lewis, who lives in Portland, Oregon, does recall when she completed the first draft of *Dorothy's Dictionary*, for it was "unhandily, just before the pandemic began." That resulted in a handful of Zoom readings of the play, as it went through major revisions in search of its optimum form.

Along the way, it had a couple of remote readings at Palm Beach Dramaworks, where the play acquired actors Karen Stephens and Elijah Moseley,

See **THEATRE LAB** on page 14

## Music

## New bar owner seeking a Wynwood vibe for Northwood

By Bill Meredith  
ArtsPaper Music Writer

Location, location, location. It's recurrently stressed as the prime factor in real estate and startup businesses, but always with an eye toward the present.

Joe DeStephan, on the other hand, has both eyes fixed on the future.

His Northwood Art & Music Warehouse in West Palm Beach is situated in an industrial region several blocks west of the Northwood section's more-populated residential areas and COVID-surviving trendy restaurants, shops, and cafes. And the venue, which opened in February, sits within a section of 28th

Street that wouldn't be out of place in a Quentin Tarantino film.

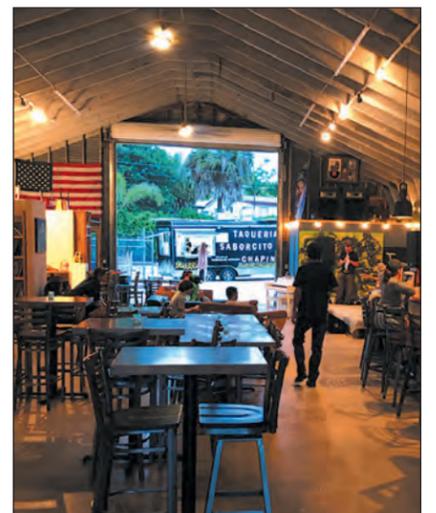
But once you get there, the aesthetic changes. The large semicircular space has 20-foot ceilings, oversized doors, and ventilation to help offset the South Florida heat without a need for air conditioning. These features also create better acoustics for the live performances emanating from the stage on the northeast corner. Couches and padded chairs are up front for those who want to listen in comfort.

"I was leasing this site to a tenant who was using it for storage," DeStephan says, "and he decided to vacate after five years. So I started buying beer and bringing in musicians to turn it into my man cave.

I was living in Miami Beach when the COVID era started, and bars were closing, so I was able to get cheap bar equipment through liquidation. I'd lived in Miami since 1993, and saw how its Wynwood district developed from nothing into an arts scene since, and figured I might be able to help make that happen here."

DeStephan may not be a musician or an artist himself — notwithstanding his customized classic trucks sitting throughout the area and adorning his business cards — but rather enjoys being surrounded by their audio and visual works. The west wall of his warehouse is a

See **NORTHWOOD** on page 13

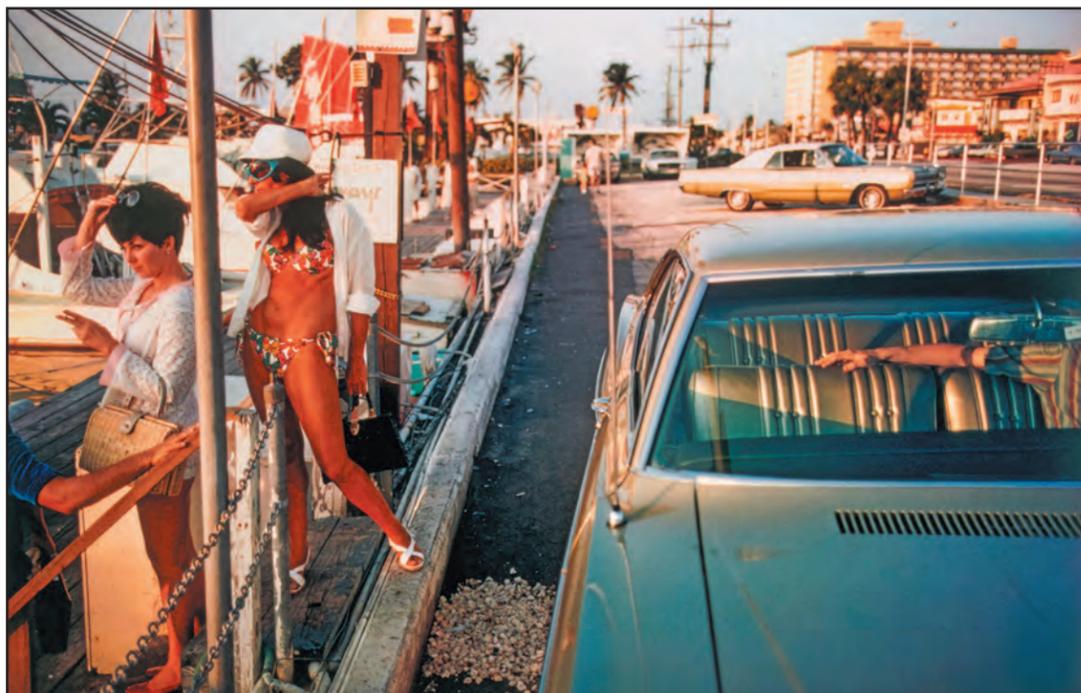


The Northwood Art & Music Warehouse was designed as a 'man cave' by owner Joe DeStephan. **Photo by Bill Meredith**

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Florida, 1967, by Joel Meyerowitz. Photo courtesy Howard Greenberg Gallery

**NORTON**

Continued from page 11

own photography collection. We are honored to be the first public museum to host this collection," he said, adding that it started with a "what if?" and a "why not?" between him and Stefan Puttaert, CEO of the Nicola Erni Collection.

Those 600 emails turned into "a fabulous collaboration," says d'Humières.

Assembled by guest curators Ira Stehmann and Birgit Filzmaier, the collection of 300 works by more than 100 artists spans nearly a century of iconic imagery — starting in 1932, when the first fashion photography graced the cover of Vogue magazine, replacing artist renderings. Fashion and photography merged in a new art form and as cameras became more portable, photographers took their art form outside.

From stars as diverse as Lena Horne and Zendaya, to 1980s supermodels Kate Moss, Cindy Crawford, Linda Evangelista and Naomi Campbell, to fashion designers such as Schiaparelli, Givenchy and Issey Miyake and famous fashion photographers including Cecil Beaton, Richard Avedon, Irving Penn, Helen Levitt, Vivian Maier and Amy Arbus, the collection is a living capsule of our celebrity and fashion culture.

The exhibition explores the history of fashion photography — from its origins in the first half of the 20th century, to the 1950s and 1960s as photographers documented the evolution of fashion from Christian Dior's famed "New Look" to the revolutionary styles of the youth movement in the 1960s to the advent of "street style," which emerged during the 1980s.

A number of key themes and cultural touchstones are explored via various categories. These include The Early Years of Fashion Photography, Street Style, The Beginnings, The New Look, Sex and Provocation, Street Style 1980s to Now, and New Blood.

Helmut Newton's 1981 photograph, titled *Sie kommen, Paris — Dressed and Naked*, part of the Sex and Provocation grouping, is a diptych comprised

of four large-scale panels and a part of his "Naked and Dressed" series that he shot for French and Italian Vogue. Featuring models Alexandra Pin, Henrietta Allias Purcell, Lisa Thorensen and Sylvia Gobel, Newton's photo explores women's sexuality and themes of gender and power.

That now legendary image caused a scandal when featured over a double-page spread in an editorial for French Vogue in November of that year. With no scenery or other distractions, the dressed and naked models were front and center. The then highly provocative image revolutionized fashion photography.

Other noteworthy photographs include an airbrushed Cindy Crawford, with one eye visible and only her signature mole and lips to identify her, a 2002 Kate Moss shot by Mario Testino, and German photographer Esther Haase's iconic image titled *The Fearless Lola Walking the Lion King*, shot in Miami in 1999.

In the accompanying catalog, the curators touch on the advent of digital fashion photography, pioneered by the Dutch-born duo Inez & Vinoodh, who were among the first photographers to employ Photoshop in the early 1990s for the British style magazine *The Face*.

The effect was hyper-realistic, distorting body parts and manipulating backgrounds to make indistinguishable the real from the unreal and the subtle from the obvious.

The exhibit also examines the birth of street photography as an artistic genre, and considers how it has influenced more traditional fashion photography. In displaying images from the 1940s and '50s by artists such as Frank Horvat and William Klein, the exhibition illustrates the shift that occurred when photographers began to capture their models away from studio backdrops in the urban streets of Paris, Rome and New York, creating a new aesthetic for Vogue, Harper's Bazaar and other fashion magazines.

Street photography, as seen in photographs by Bill Cunningham, Lee Friedlander, Helen Levitt and Scott

**If You Go**

**A Personal View on High Fashion & Street Style: Photographs from the Nicola Erni Collection, 1930s to Now** runs through Feb. 12 at the Norton Museum of Art, 1450 S. Dixie Highway, West Palm Beach.  
**Tickets:** \$18 adults; \$15 seniors; \$5 students; free for ages 12 and under.  
**Info:** 561-832-5196, www.norton.org.

Schuman, among others, personifies the life we lead, as opposed to the aspirational life of models or celebrities as seen through the lens of the fashion photographer.

Amy Arbus's 1987 photo *Flip Family*, taken at West 13th Street in the Chelsea area of New York, is the epitome of street style, depicting two rockers — a man and a woman dressed in leather and metal, the man in sunglasses and a high top hat and their dog in a leather vest with the name "Flip."

In the 1980-90s, Arbus roamed the streets of New York City with her camera, taking edgy and street-wise photographs of everyday people for the Village Voice's monthly fashion feature, "On the Street," where she shot everyone from musicians, clothing designers, performance artists, writers and painters, and even Madonna in 1983, looking like a prim schoolgirl wearing a scarf wrapped around her neck, a stained coat, clogs and carrying a bowling bag as a purse, the week her first single came out.

Also included is Bill Cunningham's 1980 photo titled *Untitled*, depicting two Black men in full-length white fur coats walking down a New York City street.

"Like the history of Palm Beach County, this exhibition is a convergence of glamour and styles, a pendulum of leisure and reality," says CEO Puttaert, who flew in from Switzerland for the exhibit. "For the Nicola Erni Collection, it is an honor to present this very personal collection and organize a project that communicates the passion of its collector and the artists on view."

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## NORTHWOOD

Continued from page 11

series of partitioned nooks with visual art and crafts by rotating area artisans. Some, like Stuart resident Jane Lawton Baldrige — whose colorful, abstract hues and motifs conjure up tropical, Key West vibes — are occasionally in attendance to meet prospective buyers.

Food trucks featuring unique cuisine sit outside the door along the back wall, and the east-side bar offers an unpredictable array of wines and Florida-friendly draft and canned beers. There are also high-top tables and ample seating through the middle of the room.

For South Florida musicians, Northwood Art & Music Warehouse brings a breath of fresh air.

“It seems to be growing in popularity,” says Jupiter-based Doug Lindsay, bassist/vocalist for the variety act Groove Merchant, a repeating band on the venue’s 2022 indoor calendar. “It’s nice to see the mix in ages from young to old. Joe did a great job of converting a warehouse, and it’s definitely a band-friendly venue, with a stage and a PA system provided.”

Yet it doesn’t stop there. Venture outside to the west on the expansive plot and you’ll find a spacious, gravel-covered area with firepits, a well-stocked tiki bar, and a large, repurposed shipping container that’s now literally locked in as the yard stage for outdoor performances. Being located in a warehouse rather than residential area also decreases the likelihood of noise complaints, as do the regular early hours (mostly 7-10 p.m.). Whatever residents are nearby, DeStephan says, are supporters.

“They love that we’re here,” he says. “We’ve had birthday parties with bounce houses for their kids in the courtyard. It’s a little too hot for outdoor shows during the summer, plus you never know when it might rain. But we’ll be utilizing it a lot soon through the winter and spring. People love to be able to be outdoors.”

A 53-year-old native of Point Pleasant, New Jersey, DeStephan has turned the site into a burgeoning arts hub, moving from Miami to Northwood in the process.

“My parents live in Stuart, so my wife and I wanted to be further up this way anyway,” he says. “Before I got my license, everything here was donations-only; beers, art and live music during COVID, but in an open setting that was safe. I thought about being a private club, or an event space, but people kept asking, ‘When are you going to open this up?’ I already had the real estate, and I realized that I always had a passion for doing this.”

After creating a beer, cars, art and music man cave, DeStephan will be extending his passion for quality brews into the building to the west.

“It’s perfectly set up for a brewery, and this shaded area



The Joey Calderaio Band plays at the Northwood Art & Music Warehouse.

Photo by Bill Meredith

will be the beer garden,” he says, motioning outside.

“It’s going to take a while, but my concept here is a themed combination of a brewery and art gallery. Most breweries are very industrial and just about the beer. I want more of an artistic experience to go with the music, the other artwork, and the vintage trucks.”

The forthcoming brewery might be the additional ticket

toward turning the Northwood Art & Music Warehouse into a destination — which it will need to be, since patrons are unlikely to experience it in passing. The site is currently surrounded by a criss-cross of railroad tracks, darkened streets, and vacant or uninhabited buildings, at least during evening hours.

If DeStephan’s vision of the area eventually becoming the next Wynwood succeeds,

especially without resorting to cost-cutting, sellout, and/or lowest common denominator musical ideas — karaoke, open mics and jams, tribute acts — he might qualify as the artistic Nostradamus of South Florida. He sees the location as a plus, not a detriment.

“What really helped make Wynwood so successful as a business district was the artists,” DeStephan notes.

### If You Go

Northwood Art & Music Warehouse is at 933 28th St. in West Palm Beach.

**Schedule:** Sierra Lane Band, Dec. 1; Holidazed, Dec. 2; The North 40, Dec. 3; Dominic Delaney, Dec. 8; Ukulele Russ, Dec. 9; The Rockin’ Jake Band, Dec. 10; Jazz Monday w/Neil Bacher & Company, Dec. 12; the Holidazed Duo, Dec. 15; Sierra Lane Band, Dec. 16; JP Soars, Dec. 17, Delray Jazz Collective, Dec. 19.

**Info:** 561-425-9040, northwoodartandmusic.com.

“And when I look at this area, I see something that could develop similarly: Off the beaten path, in a somewhat edgy neighborhood.

“I like the feel of an industrial area that’s not cookie-cutter. I actually see it all as lending itself to the vibe and mystique of the place.”

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**THEATRE LAB**

Continued from page 11

and the Lab's artistic director Matt Stabile, who is staging this production.

Lewis credits Stabile for helping evolve the play. "He has a great new-play sense. The structure was there, but he helped me delve deeper, clarifying."

As Stabile recalls, *Dorothy's Dictionary* stood out among the scripts that came his way during the pandemic. "Over the past few years we've gotten a lot of plays about how broken the world is, how things are horrible and why they're horrible. I think it's important to do those plays ... but also to do plays about how desperately we still need to believe in the possibility of

one another. That there's still something worth hoping for in each other, and that's what this play is about for me.

"There has to be a reason for us to keep talking to each other, because there are plenty of reasons for us to stop."

Carbonell Award winner Stephens immediately liked the script she read.

"I liked both of these characters. I loved how the relationship grows between Dorothy and Zan. I liked the script itself, the subject matter, and I liked how it ends," she says.

Stephens says she found Dorothy easy to identify with: "She suffers no fools. I'm a bit like that. It takes her a while to build trust with Zan. I'm like that with people, even though I



Elijah Moseley and Karen Stephens star in *Dorothy's Dictionary* at FAU Theatre Lab. Photo by Robert Goodrich

present otherwise."

Moseley, too, sees a lot of himself in Zan.

"I remember when I was 15, the age of the character, I had a life that was headed down a pretty rough path. And I remember having a teacher who steered me in the

right direction. If that hadn't happened, there's no telling where I'd be.

"This script has always resonated with me because of that," he says. "To me, it's such an important story, and I hope it can resonate with more kids who need to see that there are people out there who will care and offer guidance if they can open themselves up to trust and connect."

After so many Zoom readings, Lewis is eager to see *Dorothy's Dictionary* in a complete staging with an

**If You Go**

*Dorothy's Dictionary* runs through Dec. 11 at FAU Theatre Lab, 777 Glades Road in Boca Raton. Info: 561-297-6124; www.fau.edu/artsandletters/theatrelab

audience in the room.

"I want to see this baby up on its feet to see how it works. I'm looking forward to seeing the flow of the play and the transitions," says Lewis. "Transitions are really important. How does it move? How is the flow in the growth of the relationship? Spatially, how does it work?"

Asked why theatergoers should come see *Dorothy's Dictionary*, Moseley gets the last word: "Obviously for the deeper human intergenerational connections.

"But honestly, on the surface this is a great play to love if you like books. If you like to read — and a lot of people do — you will enjoy this play."

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**DECEMBER 3, 2022 THROUGH JANUARY 22, 2023**

Aoki Chie, BODY 09-1 "Impact", 2009, lacquer and hemp cloth on polystyrene foam. Minneapolis Institute of Art, Gift of the Clark Center for Japanese Arts & Culture, 2013.29.1339. Photo: Minneapolis Institute of Art

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*Hard Bodies: Contemporary Japanese Lacquer Sculpture* is organized by the Minneapolis Institute of Art and toured by International Arts & Artists, Washington, DC.

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**Music Review**

Note: Here is an excerpted review that was posted recently on Palm Beach ArtsPaper. For full reviews, visit [palmbeachartspaper.com](http://palmbeachartspaper.com).

**Seraphic Fire (St. Gregory's Episcopal, Boca Raton, Nov. 6)**

One of the crown jewels of South Florida's performing arts scene, the choral ensemble Seraphic Fire is celebrating its 20th season with seven concerts.

The celebration started at the highest level with multiple performances of selections from Claudio Monteverdi's Eighth Book of Madrigals (also called the *Madrigals of War and Love*).

Published in Venice in 1638, the eighth book by this father of modern music is one of the highest cultural and artistic achievements of Western music. It is justly famous for its monodic works — parallel experiments or offshoots of the operatic genre that Monteverdi pioneered.

The central work on the program heard at St. Gregory's Episcopal Church on Nov. 6 was the hauntingly beautiful *Lamento della ninfa*, with three more recent choral pieces added.

The afternoon started with the instrumental *Entrada* from the *Madrigals of War and Love* performed with expression and precision by a period-instrument ensemble of six players. Led by violinist Katie Hyun, the little band delivered a full sound (thanks to the nice acoustics of the venue) and a rhythmic drive that permeated all the selections.

The singers joined in for a rendition of *Altri canti d'Amor, tenero arciero*. Under the precise direction of founder Patrick Dupre Quigley, Seraphic Fire's heightened expressiveness delivered a memorable reading of this outstanding exemplar of the new *stile concitato* (agitated style) that Monteverdi invented.

The three modern selections

provided contrast and a brief respite from the bellic and erotic agitation. In *When David Heard*, Anglo-American composer Paul Crabtree combines biblical and contemporary texts woven in a dissonant landscape that provided a touching testimony against recent clergy abuses.

*Tu, Paz Mia*, a Seraphic Fire commission by Cuban-American composer Ileana Perez Velázquez, featured inspired choral writing using an evocative text.

But it was *Sea Drift*, by British composer Samuel Coleridge-Taylor, that impressed the most. A masterpiece from 1908, *Sea Drift* is almost orchestral in texture and technique.

Quigley and his singers gave it a virtuosic reading that displayed remarkable balance and cohesion of sound that was truly outstanding.

The instrumentalists joined force with four singers for the main work on the program, the justly famous *Lamento della ninfa*. Arguably the most beautiful of the many laments written from the late Renaissance to the early Baroque, its central section is a soaring soprano solo written over a repetitive bass line.

Soprano Nola Richardson gave it a full-hearted performance, emphasizing the interior pathos of the abandoned nymph.

Even though this is a choir formed by 13 master vocalists from around the country, one cannot fail to mention some standout performers such as basses John Buffett and Enrico Lagasca, whose authoritative singing provided a strong base for the ensemble.

James Reese impressed in the madrigal *Volgiendo il ciel per l'immortal sentiero* not only for his acting skills, but also for his stylistically correct approach to the extensive solo. After that, *Vago augelletto* closed this most inspiring program on a light note. — Marcio Bezerra

## Book Review

# 'Shy' reveals a Mary Rodgers who was anything but second-rate in careers and life

*Shy: The Alarming Outspoken Memoirs of Mary Rodgers*, by Mary Rodgers and Jesse Green. Farrar, Straus and Giroux, 467 pages, \$35.

By Hap Erstein  
ArtsPaper Critic

Like a less significant middle child, composer, author and philanthropist Mary Rodgers is a mere footnote in the annals of the musical theater.

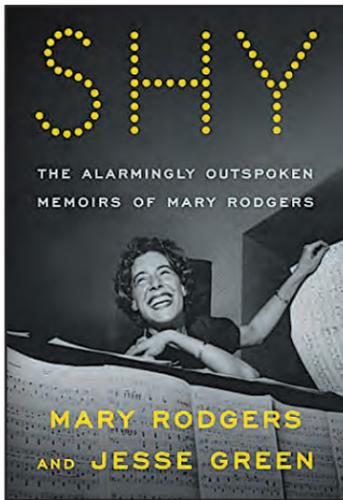
After all, she is probably best known for being the daughter of Richard Rodgers (*Oklahoma!*, *Carousel*, *The Sound of Music* and so many more) — a classic “hard act to follow” — and the mother of Adam Guettel (*The Light in the Piazza*, *Floyd Collins*). Still, her life and careers make for compelling reading in *Shy*, her conversational recollections, as coaxed into print by her co-author, Jesse Green, primary theater critic of *The New York Times*.

The book's subtitle, *The Alarming Outspoken Memoirs of Mary Rodgers*, promises chatty dish and it delivers, along with hundreds of amusing and informative footnotes compiled by Green. The footnotes allow Green to keep the main text in Rodgers' candid voice, while filling in the reportorial details as an aside.

Fans of *Once Upon a Mattress*, Rodgers' primary contribution to the musical theater, will recognize this memoir's title as the opening number sung by Princess Winnifred — a role famously originated by Carol Burnett, initially on Broadway and later on television. As the comedienne would belt out the number, making it clear that she was anything but shy, so is the description chosen ironically to sum up the perpetually outspoken Rodgers.

Hovering over her, throughout her life and this book, are Daddy and Mummy, Mary's parents, Richard and Dorothy. He is summed up succinctly as a “composer, womanizer, alcoholic, genius.” She is portrayed as icy and judgmental, not unlike the queen in *Mattress*, who haughtily disapproves of Winnifred. Don't feel bad if you never recognized the autobiographical elements in the show. Rodgers concedes that she did not either until long after she wrote it.

*Shy* would likely never have been written, and certainly not by Green, if he had not been assigned a profile of Adam Guettel by *The New York Times Magazine*. So he arranged a background interview with Mary and her second husband, Hank — Adam's parents — and found them to be a lot more outspoken and interesting than the subject of his feature article. Green struck up a friendship with Mary and, years later,



she asked him to co-write her memoirs. That led to more than a hundred hours of interviews, which he then shaped into *Shy* following her passing in 2014.

Born in 1931 into a life of privilege, young Mary Rodgers wanted for nothing, except warmth and affection from her parents. She grew up at a time when female theater composers were all but unheard of, but she fell into the practice while attending the renowned Tamiment resort in the Pennsylvania Poconos, which developed revues and book musicals to be performed for the hotel's guests each week.

There she met and began to collaborate with Marshall Barer, a wildly undisciplined lyricist who had the idea of adapting Hans Christian Andersen's *The Princess and the Pea*, loaded with Borscht Belt humor.

Subsequently fleshed out into a full-length show, under the tutelage of the aggravating but unerringly savvy George Abbott, *Once Upon a Mattress* made it to Broadway in 1959, running for 470 performances, and earning Rodgers a Tony Award nomination.

In 1966 came *The Mad Show*, a revue inspired by the satirical magazine that was a cult hit off-Broadway in 1966. Rodgers wrote most of the score, collaborating with Stephen Sondheim on one standout number, *The Boy from ...*, a sly parody of the bossa nova tune *The Girl from Ipanema*.

Rodgers had met Sondheim years earlier through her Daddy's collaborator, Oscar Hammerstein II — “Ockie” to her — Sondheim's surrogate father. Hearing his lyrics for *West Side Story*, she recognized him for the genius he was already. It was an admiration that grew into an affection and, ultimately, despite her two marriages, she described Sondheim as the love of her life. He, of course, was gay — as her first husband, Julian Beaty Jr., turned out to be. Still, in one of *Shy*'s most eye-opening revelations, she and Sondheim attempted what they called a “trial marriage.” Awkwardly, they slept together, though sleeping was all they did.

References to Sondheim continue throughout *Shy*, invariably with effusive

admiration from her. When he began writing *Company*, a concept musical on the subject of marriage, he went to Rodgers to learn about the realities of the institution. Other noteworthy name-droppings in the book include romantic links to lyricist Sheldon Harnick and producer-director Harold Prince.

Rodgers rarely has unkind words to say about anyone, but she frequently goes out of her way to heap vitriol on playwright Arthur Laurents, known for going out of his way to be nasty.

Besides the *Mad Show* number, she and Sondheim worked on a one-act version of *The Lady or the Tiger* — years before Jerry Bock and Harnick included it in *The Apple Tree* — but they shelved the project before it ever reached production.

She had several other almosts — an attempt to set Carson McCullers' *The Member of the Wedding* to music sounded particularly intriguing, but nothing came of it, largely because McCullers proved an insurmountable impediment. And she spent a frustrating year writing *Hot Spot*, a Peace Corps musical intended as a star vehicle for Judy Holliday. Alas, Holliday was fighting cancer and had to withdraw from the show, which died with her.

Rodgers was far more successful producing children than musicals. By age 37, she had given birth six times in 16 years, though one of her final three by Hank Guettel died as a lad from an asthma attack. Summing up her theatrical career, she decided that the industry did not welcome her work. She abruptly stopped composing, but that was hardly the end of her creative life.

She took to writing children's fiction, and hit it big in 1972 with *Freaky Friday*, about a mother and her teenage daughter who switch bodies and have to live as one another. She was astonished when it became an international success — spawning two musical adaptations, three movie versions and innumerable Freaky festivals. The book, as well as its two sequels, occupied her time for the next 20 years.

Her third career, late in life, was as a board member of academic institutions such as Juilliard, a role she took on with her usual candor. She describes herself as a “second-rate composer and children's book author,” but it would be hard to read *Shy* and not conclude that she was so much more.

Green's input to *Shy* is consciously invisible until he steps out of the shadows in an epilogue chapter in which he pays a very personal tribute to Rodgers. It is a marked break from his journalistic style, and *Shy* is all the richer for it.

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# Arts Calendar

Editor's note: Events listed through Jan. 6, 2023, were current as of Nov. 23. Check with the presenting agency for any changes. Ticket prices are single sales unless otherwise specified.

## ART

**Ann Norton Sculpture Gardens:** Through Dec. 30: *Abundance of Riches: Luis Montoya and Leslie Ortiz, 1972-2022.* \$15-\$253 Barcelona Road, West Palm Beach. 10 am-4 pm W-Sun. 561-832-5328. Info@ansg.org.

**Armory Art Center:** Through Dec. 16: *Radiant Masks.* Free. 10 am-4 pm M-F, 10 am-2 pm Sat. 811 Park Place, West Palm Beach. 561-832-1776, www.armoryart.org.

**Boca Raton Museum of Art:** Through Jan. 22: *The Art of the Hollywood Backdrop.* Through Jan. 29: *Reginald Cunningham: Black Pearls.* Admission: \$12; \$10 seniors. 11 am-7 pm daily. 501 Plaza Real (Mizner Park), Boca Raton. 561-392-2500, www.bocamuseum.org.

**Cultural Council for Palm Beach County:** Through Jan. 14: *Contemporary Art of the Latin American Diaspora.* Free. noon-5 pm T-Sat. 601 Lake Ave., Lake Worth Beach. palmbeachculture.com/exhibitions.

**Flagler Museum:** Through Dec. 31: *The Story of Whitehall,* a celebration of the 120th anniversary of Henry Flagler's Palm Beach estate. \$26; \$13 ages 6-12. 10 am-5 pm M-Sat, noon-5 pm Sun. 1 Whitehall Way, Palm Beach. 561-655-2833, www.flaglermuseum.us

**Lighthouse ArtCenter:** Through Dec. 10: *Hunt Slonem; Lush 2.* \$5 non-members. 9 am-5 pm M-Th; 9 am-4 pm F; 10 am-4 pm Sat. 561-746-3101, lighthousearts.org

**Morikami Museum and Japanese Gardens:** Through April 2: *Washi Transformed: New Expressions in Japanese Paper.* \$15; \$13 seniors; \$9 children; free for members, ages 5 and under. 10 am-5 pm T-Sun. 4000 Morikami Park Road, Delray Beach. 561-495-0233, morikami.org.

**Norton Museum of Art:** Through Jan. 15: *Joseph Stella: Visionary Nature; Autumn Mountains and the Light of the Harvest Moo.* Through Feb. 12: *A Personal View on High Fashion and Street Style: Photographs from the Nicola Erni Collection, 1930s to Now.* Through March 12: *Henry Ossawa*

*Tanner: Intimate Pictures.* \$18 adults; \$15 seniors; \$5 students; free for ages 12 and under. 10 am-5 pm, M, T, Th, Sat; 10 am-10 pm F; 11 am-5 pm Sun. 1450 S. Dixie Highway, West Palm Beach. 561-832-5196, www.norton.org.

## CLASSICAL

Saturday, Dec. 3

**New Canon Chamber Collective:** An orchestra billed as "a multicultural collective of South Florida's most outstanding musicians" makes its debut with a program called "American Soul." Conductor Marlon Daniel will lead the band in the Symphony No. 5 of William Grant Still, Florence Price's tone poem *The Oak*, and the concert suite from George Gershwin's opera *Porgy and Bess*. Joining them will be soprano Angela Brown and baritone Stephen Salters, along with the New Canon Vocal Ensemble. 7 pm, Amaturo Theater, Broward Center for the Performing Arts, 201 SW Fifth Ave., Fort Lauderdale. \$45-\$55. 954-462-0222 browardcenter.org. Sunday, Dec. 4

**The Symphonia:** Principal Conductor Alastair Willis leads the orchestra in the "Earth"-themed concert of this season. Included are Mendelssohn's *Hebrides Overture, Suite for Improviser and Orchestra* by the Syrian composer and clarinetist Kinan Amzeh, and *Terra Nostra*, multimedia symphony by the Franco-American composer Christophe Chagnard. 3 p.m., St. Andrew's School, 3900 Jog Road, Boca Raton. 561-376-3848 or thesymphonia.org. Sunday, Dec. 4, and Sunday, Dec. 11

**Masterworks Chorus of the Palm Beaches:** The Palm Beach County community chorus gives two performances of George Frideric Handel's *Messiah*. The first is at the First United Methodist Church of Jupiter-Tequesta and the second in its usual holiday home at the Royal Poinciana Chapel in Palm Beach. 7 pm Dec. 4, at FUMC, 815 E. Indiantown Road, Jupiter; 7 pm Dec. 11 at Royal Poinciana Chapel, 60 Coconut Row, Palm Beach. \$30. Visit masterworkspb.org for tickets or more information. Wednesday, Dec. 7

**Chamber Music Society of Palm Beach:** The SPA Trio — soprano Susanna Phillips, violist Paul Neubauer and pianist Anne-Marie McDermott — present *Songs From the Salon*, featuring music by Rachmaninov, Schumann and Gounod, plus

songs from Italy and the British Isles. 7 pm, Norton Museum of Art, 1450 S. Dixie Highway, West Palm Beach. \$75. 561-379-6773, www.cmspb.org for tickets. Wednesday, Dec. 7

**Canadian Brass:** The much-admired fivesome presents a holiday program. 7:30 pm, Society of the Four Arts, 100 Four Arts Plaza, Palm Beach. \$40. 561-655-7226 or fourarts.org. Friday, Dec. 9-Saturday, Dec. 10

**Palm Beach Symphony:** Gerard Schwarz and the orchestra present two performances of George Frideric Handel's oratorio *Messiah*, an indelible part of the Christmas season. The orchestra will be joined by the Florida Atlantic University Chamber Singers, and the Schola Cantorum. The soloists are soprano Robyn Marie Lamp, mezzo-soprano Stephanie Doche, tenor Jonathan Johnson and bass Richard Ollasarba. 7:30 Friday, 3 p.m. Saturday, Rosarian Academy, 807 N. Flagler Drive, West Palm Beach. Tickets: \$50; visit PalmBeachSymphony.org, call 561-281-0145, or stop by the box office weekdays from 10 a.m.-3 p.m. at 400 Hibiscus St., Suite 100, West Palm Beach. Sunday, Dec. 11

**George Li:** The American pianist and Tchaikovsky Competition silver medalist presents a recital of music by Schumann, Ravel and Stravinsky (*Petrushka*). 2 pm, Kravis Center, 701 Okeechobee Blvd., West Palm Beach. Tickets start at \$25. Call 561-832-7469 or visit www.kravis.org. Tuesday, Dec. 13

**Seraphic Fire:** The Miami concert choir's annual Christmas concert has developed its own traditions over the years, such as a performance of Elizabeth Poston's *Jesus Christ the Apple Tree*. 7 pm, St. Gregory's Episcopal Church, 100 NE Mizner Blvd., Boca Raton. seraphicfire.org or 305-285-9060. Sunday, Jan. 1, 2023

**Salute to Vienna New Year's Concert:** The annual South Florida tribute to Vienna's *Neujahrskonzert*, featuring singers, dancers, and the Strauss Symphony Orchestra, performing music of the heyday of the Strauss family in late 19th-century Vienna. 8 pm, Kravis Center, 701 Okeechobee Blvd., West Palm Beach. \$35 and up. 561-832-7469 or www.kravis.org. Wednesday, Jan. 4, 2023

**Delray String Quartet:** The foursome performs

in the round at the parish hall at St. Paul's Episcopal Church. On the program are works by Beethoven, Schubert and Brahms. 3 pm, St. Paul's, 188 S. Swinton Ave., Delray Beach. Suggested donation: \$20. 561-278-6003 or musicstpauls.org

## DANCE

Saturday, Dec. 3-Sunday, Dec. 4

**Ballet Palm Beach:** Colleen Smith's company presents its annual rendition of Tchaikovsky's *The Nutcracker*. 2 pm and 7 pm Saturday, 1 pm and 5 pm Sunday, Kravis Center, 701 Okeechobee Blvd., West Palm Beach. \$20 and up. 561-832-7469 or www.kravis.org. Wednesday, Dec. 28-Friday, Dec. 30

**Miami City Ballet:** The company presents the George Balanchine production of Tchaikovsky's *The Nutcracker*. 8 pm, Kravis Center, 701 Okeechobee Blvd., West Palm Beach. 7 pm W, 2 pm and 7 pm Th, 2 pm and 7 pm F. \$55 and up. 561-832-7469 or www.kravis.org.

## JAZZ

Saturday, Dec. 3

**Ann Hampton Callaway:** The popular jazz chanteuse of the Great American Songbook is a regular on South Florida stages. 8 pm, Arts Garage, 94 NE 2nd Ave., Delray Beach. \$55-\$60. 561-450-6357 or artsgarage.org. Wednesday, Dec. 7

**Emmet Cohen Trio:** The UM-trained pianist and composer is a rising star in jazz, having won praise from Downbeat and collaborated with an impressive list of luminaries. Part of the Gold Coast Jazz Society series. 7:45 pm, Broward Center for the Performing Arts, 201 SW Fifth Ave., Fort Lauderdale. \$65. 954-462-0222 or browardcenter.org. Friday, Dec. 16

**Dick Lowenthal's Big Band:** Jazz vocalist Lisanne Lyons joins Lowenthal and his band for music from the Buddy Rich, Duke Ellington, Count Basie and Benny Goodman bands, among others. 8 pm, Arts Garage, 94 NE 2nd Ave., Delray Beach. \$50-\$55. 561-450-6357, artsgarage.org.

## POPULAR MUSIC

Saturday, Dec. 10

**Frankie Valli and The Four Seasons:** The falsetto tenor is pushing 90, but he's still out there with another iteration of the vocal group that

brought him fame. 8 pm at the Hard Rock Live, 1 Seminole Way, Hollywood. \$41-\$86. Visit ticketmaster.com for tickets or more information. Thursday, Dec. 15

**Pentatonix:** The young Texas vocal quintet brings its Christmas Spectacular to South Florida. 8 pm at the Hard Rock Live, 1 Seminole Way, Hollywood. \$75-\$175. ticketmaster.com Sunday, Dec. 18

**Smokey Robinson:** The legendary Motown singer-songwriter offers a concert called "Music and Memories." 7 pm, Au-Rene Theater, Broward Center for the Performing Arts, 201 SW 5th Ave., Fort Lauderdale. \$76.80 and up. 954-462-0222 or livenation.com.

## THEATER

Through Sunday, Dec. 11

**Dorothy's Dictionary:** A world premiere play by E.M. Lewis in which Zan, who has community service to complete, has to read to Dorothy, who doesn't want him to. But they bond over literature and their need for friendship. At FAU Theatre Lab, Florida Atlantic University, Boca Raton. \$32-\$45. 561-297-6124 or fauevents.com. Through Sunday, Dec. 18

**Villainous Company:** Victor L. Cahn's 2015 play involves a shopping trip, a missing package, and three women who are not what they seem. At the Delray Beach Playhouse, 950 NW 9th St., Delray Beach. \$42. 561-272-1281, ext. 5, or delraybeachplayhouse.com.

**A Funny Thing Happened on the Way to the Forum:** Stephen Sondheim's 1962 musical about a Roman slave who tries to win his freedom by helping his master's romantic ambitions. At the Maltz Jupiter Theatre, 1001 E. Indiantown Road, Jupiter. \$68-\$120. 561-575-2223 or jupitertheatre.org. Through Saturday, Dec. 24

**Cinderella:** The 1957 Rodgers and Hammerstein musical for television ("In My Own Little Corner"), drawn from the familiar French fairy tale, updated with a new book by Douglas Carter Beane. At the Wick Theatre, 7901 N. Federal Highway, Boca Raton. \$99. 561-995-2333 or thewick.org.

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## DOLENZ

Continued from page AT1

and all the Monkees' greatest hits, but you'll hear some Beatles, too.

"I do a bit of 'Sgt. Pepper' and 'Oh! Darling,'" he says. "I've done them over the years. I was an enormous fan, a huge, huge fan."

But a Monkee? At a Beatles festival?

Imagine.

Back in 1966, both the Monkees' TV show and their records were big hits, but to rock snobs they were the Rodney Dangerfield of pop. They got no respect.

The Beatles were the Fab Four, the Monkees were the Pre-Fab Four.

The Beatles had played together for years. The Monkees were actors, hired by men in suits for an NBC sitcom.

The Beatles had John Lennon and Paul McCartney writing their own songs. The Monkees had veteran tunesmiths like Tommy Boyce, Bobby Hart and Neil Diamond writing theirs.

The Beatles played their own instruments. The Monkees' early albums were backed by studio musicians.

The Beatles were gods, the Monkees were frauds.

But that was 56 years ago. Davy Jones, Mike Nesmith and Peter Tork are dead now, leaving only Micky Dolenz to say again what they'd all said all along.

"The Monkees was not a band," he explains. "We were a TV show about an imaginary band that lived in this beach house in Malibu. It was a show about a band that wanted to be the Beatles."

A good comparison, he suggests, is *Glee*.

"That was a show about an imaginary glee club at a high school, but the actors were singers and dancers. You wouldn't call them a manufactured glee club."

### From Circus Boy to Monkee

Dolenz was already an established actor when he auditioned to be a Monkee. In the mid-1950s, he starred in *Circus Boy*, a TV series about an orphan traveling with a turn-of-the-century show. He called himself Mickey Braddock then, because his father, George Dolenz, was already starring in *The Count of Monte Cristo* series.

"To get an audition for the Monkees, you had to be able to read lines and act," he remembers, "but you also had to be able to play an instrument. I played 'Johnny B. Goode' on guitar."

Tork and Nesmith played



Micky Dolenz, then known as Mickey Braddock, starred in the '50s TV show *Circus Boy*.

guitar, too, so Dolenz, who didn't play drums, was ordained the drummer. He took lessons, learned to mime along with the prerecorded tracks, and then to really play when the band began touring.

"We were not America's answer to the Beatles," he says. "Our fans were the younger brothers and sisters of the Beatle fans."

On Feb. 9, 1964, when the Beatles made their American debut on *The Ed Sullivan Show*, Dolenz was sitting in his black 1962 Grand Prix at a Bob's Big Boy in Van Nuys, California.

"A friend of mine had a little portable, black and white TV with rabbit ears that you plugged into the cigarette lighter," he remembers, "so we watched them while having burgers."

On that same show, Dolenz might well have heard a young actor sing a song from the hit Broadway musical *Oliver*. His name was Davy Jones and a year later they would be Monkees together.

"I was the first Monkee to meet a Beatle," Dolenz says, "at Paul's house. We had a lovely dinner and Paul was very gracious. We just sat and chatted and he invited me to a recording session at Abbey Road Studios."

Dolenz arrived expecting a Beatlemania love-in funfest.

"So, I dressed accordingly in my paisley bell-bottoms and tie-dye underwear, glasses and beads. Limo picked me up. I walk in and there's nobody there except four guys in folding chairs. It looked like my high school gym, and I looked like a cross between Ronald McDonald and Charlie Manson."

John Lennon glanced up at him and said, "Hey, Monkee man, want to hear what we're working on?"

They were working on a Lennon tune called *Good Morning Good Morning*, which wound up on their masterpiece, the *Sgt. Pepper's Lonely Hearts Club Band* album.

Years later, the two partied together in Los Angeles during



The Monkees, clockwise from upper left: Peter Tork, Micky Dolenz, Mike Nesmith and Davy Jones. Photos provided

Lennon's infamous drug- and alcohol-addled "lost weekend." "I'm told I enjoyed myself," Dolenz says dryly.

### The Beatles got the joke

If Beatle snobs snubbed the Monkees, the Beatles clearly didn't. In March 1968, viewers saw an episode, written and directed by Dolenz, that began with the four Monkees being awakened by a Rube Goldberg

alarm clock that played a tune.

It was the Beatles, singing *Good Morning Good Morning*.

"It was the first time the Beatles gave anyone permission to use any of their songs, and for no money," Dolenz says proudly.

No, the Monkees were not the Beatles. Who was? But when the last surviving Monkee sings *Last Train to Clarksville* at this year's Beatles on the Beach, he will know that 56 years later, the

### If You Go

**What:** International Beatles on the Beach Festival, a four-day event featuring bands from around the world playing tribute to the Beatles, artwork displays and a performance by Micky Dolenz of the Monkees

**When:** Dec. 15-18

**Where:** Old School Square Pavilion and clubs throughout Delray Beach

**Information:** [beatlesonthebeach.com](http://beatlesonthebeach.com) for a list of venues, events and ticket sales.

group has earned an enviable amount of respect and, what's more, affection.

"The Beatles got what the Monkees was," Dolenz says. "A TV show about this group."

The TV show won an Emmy. The band had four No. 1 albums on the charts and sold 75 million records.

In May 1967, the Monkees released *Headquarters*, on which they played their own instruments.

*Headquarters* debuted at No. 1, for a single week. Then another album knocked it from the top spot.

That album was *Sgt. Pepper's Lonely Hearts Club Band*.

The Monkees stayed at No. 2, right behind the Beatles, for the next 11 weeks. ★

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Health & Harmony

# Memory of son drives Boca couple to fight drug epidemic

**O**n March 12, 2020, Boca Raton resident Brice Makris became one of the more than 100,000 people in the U.S. that year — many of them between the ages of 18 and 45 — to die from a drug overdose. He was 23.

This number was an increase of nearly 15% over 2019, according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

Many overdoses, including his, were due to the synthetic opioid fentanyl, which is more than 50 times stronger than heroin and 100 times stronger than morphine. It is linked to illicit drugs manufactured overseas and distributed through illegal drug channels.

For John and Michelle Makris, the loss of their son was devastating.

“He was a great kid — an excellent student and very bright,” remembers his dad, John Makris, 68, a retired CPA and investment adviser. “He had a great upbringing, was close to us and his older brother, Alec.”

Michelle Makris, 61, says the family “ate dinner together every night and talked about everything — sex, drugs and rock and roll.”

“Brice went to Spanish River High School and the early college program at FAU,” his father says. “He loved his summer camp in the Berkshires, practicing martial arts, being social and hanging out with



Brice Makris, shown near the Colosseum in Rome in 2019, died of a fentanyl overdose at age 23. Photo provided

friends.”

At 6-feet-5, Brice resembled his dad, with a head full of curly brown hair.

“He was athletic, and everyone considered him their friend,” his mother says. “He was fun-loving, enjoyed philosophy and intellectual discussions.”

He graduated from Florida State in August 2019 with a degree in biology and a minor in psychology, hoping to become either a physician or earn a Ph.D. in epidemiology.

That dream was cut short by one fentanyl pill.

He hurt his back and turned to unapproved drugs.

Michelle Makris, a former

marketing director for MDVIP in Boca Raton, says Brice knew he needed treatment and came to his parents for help.

“We knew he was doing OxyContin,” says his mother, who, along with her husband, retired to devote themselves to raising awareness about substance use disorder. “He was in chronic pain due to a fractured back. While his doctors never prescribed opioids for him, he got them from a friend and felt relief.”

Michelle Makris says that “substance use disorder is a disease that develops over time.”

“Brice was trying to detox on his own, but we got him into treatment.”

**If You Go**

**What:** Brice Makris Brunch fundraiser with the Hanley Foundation

**When:** 11 a.m. Dec. 11

**Where:** Boca West Country Club

**Tickets:** \$150 at hanley-foundation.org/events/brice-makris-brunch

**Honorees:** Max Weinberg of Delray Beach will receive the first Brice Makris Community Spirit Award. Other honorary guests are Troy McLellan, Tina Polsky, Andrea Virgin, Spencer Siegel and Andrea O'Rourke.

He had been doing well in recovery, and when he got out, took a job as a behavioral therapist working with autistic kids. He aspired to counsel people in the recovery community.

It was during a relapse that he overdosed and was poisoned with fentanyl.

His mother doesn't blame him for relapsing, saying she understands relapse is part of the recovery process.

“We have to understand this disease is not the effect of a bad decision, bad parenting or bad kids,” she says. “Brice had a disease and could have survived the overdose if the pill hadn't been laced with fentanyl.”

Since his death, the Makrises have made it their mission to fulfill their son's commitment to the recovery community. They have partnered with the Hanley Foundation of West Palm Beach in establishing the Brice Makris Endowment Fund for lifesaving treatment scholarships and addiction prevention programs.

On Dec. 11 the couple will host the second annual Brice Makris Brunch at Boca West Country Club to raise money to support substance abuse prevention programming in Boca Raton schools. They also are working with Palm Beach County State Attorney Dave Aronberg to advocate for local policy changes and

lay the groundwork for strong and successful recovery communities.

Aronberg and Louie Bossi, executive chef of Louie Bossi's Ristorante and founder of Delray Beach's “Taste of Recovery,” will serve as honorary chairs of the event.

“There are thousands of smart and talented individuals, like Brice, right here in our community who suffer from substance use disorders,” said Jan Cairnes, CEO of the Hanley Foundation. “Events like this are critical to spread the message of hope and raise funds that allow us to expand our substance use prevention and recovery programs.”

Experts say removing the stigma of substance abuse and recognizing it as a disease that deserves the same attention as other medical conditions are crucial to people seeking help.

“It requires research, early detection, treatment plans and follow-up,” says John Makris. “Most importantly, the stigma needs to be converted to empathy so we can erase the shame our loved ones experience.”

People with the disease “need love, kindness, treatment and supportive recovery.”

With almost three years since their loss, the Makrises have found perspective by knowing they're doing good for others.

“The grieving process is forever,” says Michelle Makris. “After a lot of therapy and allowing myself to grieve, I find I can live with joy and grief in the same place.”

“We wake up with this pain and go to sleep with it,” says John Makris. “But Brice would want our lives to go on. We do this to honor him. It's the least he deserves.”

*Jan Enogren writes about health and healthy living. Send column ideas to jenogren@hotmail.com*



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## Health Notes

# Heart Walk collects more than \$900,000 for research

The Palm Beach County Heart Walk last month at the Meyer Amphitheatre — which attracted more than 4,500 participants, including heart disease survivors and stroke survivors — raised more than \$900,000 for research for the American Heart Association.

Michele Jacobs, from the Economic Council of Palm Beach County, was the top fundraising individual, and the Health Care District of Palm Beach County was the top fundraising company, said Heart Walk chair Gina Melby, the CEO of HCA Florida JFK Hospital.

Melby also announced the 2023 Heart Walk chair, Brian Maciak, president and chief operating officer of Big O Tires, and executive vice president and general counsel of TBC Corp.

Donations are still accepted at [www.PalmBeachHeartWalk.org](http://www.PalmBeachHeartWalk.org) through Dec. 31.

People with prosthetic hands may find it difficult to perform tasks like using a screwdriver or can opener. That's because prosthetic hands have five individually actuated digits, but only one grasp function can be controlled at a time.

Aiming to empower amputees to fully control the dexterity of their artificial hands, researchers at Florida Atlantic University's College of Engineering and Computer Science have received a four-year, \$1.2 million grant from the National Science Foundation.

In the prototype they are developing, individual fingers can be controlled to accomplish more complicated tasks like the motion needed to turn a screwdriver. The technology includes a special skin sensor — an analytical device that measures biological or chemical reactions by generating signals — that can be trained by algorithms to sense the signals to control the hand.

Clinicians will interact with 10 study participants over the course of one year for muscle training via smartphone.



Randy D. Blakely, Ph.D., Florida Atlantic University's Stiles-Nicholson Brain Institute executive director, received \$5,000 from the Society for Neuroscience in a 2022 Science Educator Award at the organization's annual meeting in San Diego. An internationally renowned neuroscientist and leading expert in brain neurochemistry, pharmacology and molecular neuroscience, Blakely came to FAU in 2016 as the founding executive director for the university's Neuroscience Research Institute.

Blakely is credited with launching the institute's Ascend program (Advancing STEM: Community Engagement Through Neuroscience Discovery). Ascend at FAU addresses the shortage of middle and high school students studying science, technology, engineering and math in Palm Beach County.

Blakely is also credited for developing "Brainy Days," FAU's celebration of the neuroscience initiative, which supplements the recognition of national Brain Awareness Week during March.

ABOVE: Preparing to start the Heart Walk are (l-r) Brian Maciak, Lanelle Meidan, Patti Patrick, Troy Rice, Ava Parker, Darcy Davis, Gina Melby, Michele Jacobs and Hilda Gonzalez. Photo provided by Daniel Decius

LEFT: The prototype prosthetic hand being developed at Florida Atlantic University's College of Engineering and Computer Science. Photo provided

Lincoln Mendez has been appointed to the newly created role of north region executive of Baptist Health South Florida to go with his job as Boca Raton Regional Hospital CEO. He will be responsible for driving Boca Regional and Bethesda hospitals' growth across Palm Beach County, with a focus on expanding access to orthopedics, cardiac and vascular, cancer and neuroscience services.

Additionally, a search is underway for a new CEO for Baptist Health's Bethesda Hospitals, who will succeed Nelson Lazo upon his retirement.

Healthgrades placed Delray Medical Center within the top 10% of hospitals nationally, giving it a "Stroke Care Excellence Award" for the 14th year in a row.

"Consumers can feel confident that recipients of the 2023 award have demonstrated their ability to deliver consistently exceptional outcomes," said Dr. Brad Bowman, chief medical officer and head of data science at Healthgrades.

Delray Medical Center also



From left, Carrie Browne, Dr. Christine Koehn and Lauren Zuchman at the Palm Health Foundation panel discussion. Photo provided by Coastal Click Photography

achieved five-star ratings for its treatments of heart failure, cranial neurosurgery, upper gastrointestinal surgeries, colorectal surgeries, sepsis and respiratory failure.

Caron Treatment Centers is expanding its services for substance-use-disorder treatment and recovery in Florida with a new medical facility and additional programming.

Caron Florida, which offers the programs at Caron Renaissance in Boca Raton and Ocean Drive in Delray Beach, recently added a stand-alone mental health program.

In early 2023, Caron Florida will add detox services and an older adult program when it opens its new 10,000-square-foot medical facility, the Keele Medical Center, at 4575 Linton Blvd., Delray Beach.

The center is slated to open to patients in mid-January. For more information, visit [www.caron.org](http://www.caron.org).

The Palm Health Foundation hosted a "Celebrating Human Flourishing Through the NeuroArts" panel discussion

in October at the Max Planck Florida Institute for Neuroscience, in Jupiter.

Speakers focused on the scientific study of neuroarts, showing how artistic experiences lead to improved physical and mental health, disease prevention and enhanced brain development in children.

The discussion was moderated by Palm Health Foundation's director of stewardship and strategic partnerships, Carrie Browne.

Panelists included: Nicole Baganz, Ph.D., director of community engagement and programming, FAU Stiles-Nicholson Brain Institute; Cindy Surman, program director of BBT4PD (dance for those living with Parkinson's) at Boca Ballet Theatre; McLean Bolton, Ph.D., research group leader, Max Planck Florida Institute for Neuroscience; and Kenya Madison, Ed.S., senior director for Healthier Delray Beach, a Palm Health Foundation Healthier Together initiative.

Send health news to Christine Davis at [cdavis9797@gmail.com](mailto:cdavis9797@gmail.com).

## Health Calendar

Note: Events are current as of 11/22. Please check with organizers for any changes.

### DECEMBER 3

**Saturday - 12/3 - Yoga Class** at South Palm Beach Town Hall, 3577 S Ocean Blvd. Every Sat 9 am. \$5/class. 561-588-8889; [southpalmbeach.com](http://southpalmbeach.com)

**12/3 - Alateen** at St. Joan of Arc Catholic School, 501 SW 3rd St, Boca Raton. Every Sat 10 am. Free. 888-4AL-ANON; [al-anon.org/teen-info](http://al-anon.org/teen-info)

**12/3 - OA (Overeaters Anonymous) Meeting** at Unity of Delray Beach Fellowship Hall, 101 NW 22nd St. Every Sat 11 am. Free. 561-276-5796; [unityofdelraybeach.org](http://unityofdelraybeach.org)

**12/3 - Judo Class** at Boca Raton Community Center, 150 Crawford Blvd. Warm-up exercises, instruction, practice, tournament training. W 6-8 pm mixed ages/ranks; Sat 10 am-noon all groups. Per month \$21.50/resident; \$27/non-resident. 561-393-7807; [myboca.us](http://myboca.us)

**12/3 - AA Meeting** at Unity of Delray Beach Fellowship Hall, 101 NW 22nd St. Every Sat 5:30 pm. Free. 561-276-5796; [unityofdelraybeach.org](http://unityofdelraybeach.org)

### DECEMBER 4-10

**Sunday - 12/4 - CODA (Codependents Anonymous) Meeting** at Unity of Delray Beach Fellowship Hall, 101 NW 22nd St. Every Sun 6 pm. Free. 276-5796; [unityofdelraybeach.org](http://unityofdelraybeach.org)

**12/4 - Coco Connections Market** at Veterans Park, 802 NE 1st St, Delray Beach. Monthly wellness market: 30 local vendors, health/wellness professionals w/various healing modalities; live music; 2 free yoga, meditation or fitness classes per event. 1st Sun through 12/31 9 am-2 pm. 561-870-4090; [thecocoyogi.com/market](http://thecocoyogi.com/market)

**Tuesday - 12/6 - Al-Anon 12-Step Study** at Unity of Delray Beach Fellowship Hall, 101 NW 22nd St. Every T 7 pm. Free. 561-276-5796;

[unityofdelraybeach.org](http://unityofdelraybeach.org)

**Wednesday - 12/7 - Strength & Stretch Class** at South Palm Beach Town Hall, 3577 S Ocean Blvd. Every W 10:30 am. \$5/class. 561-588-8889; [southpalmbeach.com](http://southpalmbeach.com)

**12/7 - LGBTQ AA Meeting** at Unity of Delray Beach Fellowship Hall, 101 NW 22nd St. Every W 7 pm. Free. 561-276-5796; [unityofdelraybeach.org](http://unityofdelraybeach.org)

### DECEMBER 11-17

**Thursday - 12/15 - Yoga at the Museum: Yin** at Boca Raton Museum of Art Outdoor Sculpture Garden, 501 Plaza Real. Limited seating. 6-7:30 pm. \$10/member; \$40/non-member. RSVP by 12/13: 561-392-2500; [bocamuseum.org](http://bocamuseum.org)

**Sunday - 12/18 - Palm Beach VegFest** at Mizner Park Amphitheater, 590 Plaza Real, Boca Raton. 100% vegan event. 11 am-5 pm. Free. [pbvegfest.com](http://pbvegfest.com)

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## Religion News

## Drive-thru Bethlehem returns to St. Joseph's in Boynton Beach

St. Joseph's Episcopal Church's Spontaneous Christmas Pageant is on hiatus for one more year, says children's minister Dee Zlatic, wife of Pastor Marty Zlatic.

The showcase of children from the congregation is a popular event, filling the church to overflowing. Coronavirus infections may be down, but church leaders decided on a safer outdoor celebration again in 2022.

The church will host its third Drive-thru Bethlehem from 4-5 p.m. on Christmas Eve. Church members have created a series of vignettes with live actors that tell the Nativity story, and guests drive through the Boynton Beach campus using a simple prayer sheet to follow along. Christmas hymns and carols will be broadcast between stations. There is also a stay-in-your-car Communion station at the end.

Also at St. Joe's: A special fundraiser will take place from 10 a.m.-2 p.m. Dec. 3. This Santa's Workshop will feature unusual handmade gifts by people in Madagascar. The sale will raise money to bring a group to perform *Miaraka: A Time to Dance*, a musical about redemption, at three churches in Palm Beach County in March.

The gifts include handmade fabrics and bead necklaces made from upcycled magazine paper. Bring your dull knives for sharpening. A Christmas cookie sale and a hot dog lunch are also planned.

For more information, call the church at 561-732-3060 or visit [www.stjoesweb.org](http://www.stjoesweb.org).

## Happy Anniversary

St. Gregory's Episcopal Church in Boca Raton will celebrate its 69th anniversary on Dec. 4 with a brunch after the 10 a.m. service.

The festivities include raffles and a silent auction that features yacht trips and intimate dinners.

One of the most coveted dinners is the one with the auction winner and the Rt. Rev. Peter Eaton, bishop of the Diocese of Southeast Florida, enjoying a meal prepared by the Rev. Andrew Sherman and his family. The money raised supports the church's missions. Call 561-395-8285.

Other noteworthy events at St. Gregory's:

- Open house: On Dec. 11, after each service, the church will host an open house at the rectory. Come and have



The Council of Catholic Women of St. Lucy Church in Highland Beach has decorated its Giving Tree for the season. The tree is adorned with donation requests for underserved people in the community. To support them and brighten their holidays, parishioners select a recipient and shop or donate items requested on the paper angels decorating the tree. Recipients of this goodwill are local groups: AVDA (Aid to Victims of Domestic Abuse), Birthline/lifeline (which helps pregnant women and their babies), Fisher House (a group that supports veterans and their families), and St. Mary's of Pahokee (a church in western Palm Beach County).

**ABOVE:** (l-r) CCW members Diana Barrens, Glenn O'Neill, Mary Alice Dill and Rose Bond at the debut of the Giving Tree. **Photo provided**

tea, coffee and pastries and meet the church leaders.

- Bake sale: On Dec. 18 the Episcopal Church Women will hold a bake sale after services. Proceeds support the ECW's missions.

## Children's Christmas show

First Presbyterian Church of Delray Beach presents the children's choir in its first evening performance of its Christmas pageant, "Sing with us the Christmas Story," at 6 p.m. Dec. 11 in the church's sanctuary. This short musical tells the story of the first Christmas. A reception follows in Fellowship Hall where guests can meet the performers. Free.

First Presbyterian is at 33 Gleason St. Call 561-276-6338 or visit <https://firstdelray.com>.

Also happening at First Presbyterian Church:

- The Deacons' Christmas Tree, which raises money to provide 300 \$25 gift cards to children in our community, supports these five agencies: Achievement Centers for Children & Families, Adopt-A-Family of the Palm Beaches, AVDA (Aid to Victims of Domestic Abuse), Boys and Girls Clubs of Palm Beach County, and Milagro Center.

Here's how you can help this more than 50-year-old tradition: Mail a check with "Deacons' Xmas Tree" on

the memo line. Drop off a check in the lobby offering box. Or easiest: Donate at <https://firstdelray.com/give>. Include "Deacons' Xmas Tree" in the notes section.

- The Holly House Holiday Gift Shop is still open for shopping from 10 a.m. to noon Tuesdays and Thursdays and 10 a.m.-1 p.m. Saturdays and Sundays, until Dec. 18. Call 561-330-0245.

## Music at St. Paul's

Music at St. Paul's rings in the holidays with its annual concert, A Festival of Lessons & Carols, at 3 p.m. Dec. 11.

The concert features the Chancel Choir of St. Paul's under the direction of David Macfarlane and will also feature congregational Christmas carols and lighting of candles. Organ voluntaries by César Franck and Gerald Near will be played on the Moeller pipe organ.

"A series of readings leading from the Hebrew scripture prophecies to the New Testament birth story is complemented with Christmas carols from a variety of traditions to create a beautiful, seasonal celebration," Macfarlane said.

A Festival of Lessons & Carols is open to the public, and St. Paul's Episcopal Church is handicapped accessible. A freewill offering supports Music at St. Paul's programming.

The church is at 188 S. Swinton Ave., Delray Beach. 561-276-4541 or <https://musicstpauls.org>.

## Happy Hanukkah!

Old School Square will again host the lighting of the menorah at sundown on Dec. 18, the first night of Hanukkah.

Rabbi Shmuel Biston of Chabad of East Delray, who will speak again this year, expects a record turnout. Previous years have drawn crowds of more than 1,500 people.

Delray Beach Police Chief Russ Mager has been asked to light the first candle.

An Israeli Beatles tribute band, in town for the Beatles on the Beach festival, will perform, Biston said. There also will be games for the kids and lots of festive treats.

Old School Square is at 51 S. Swinton Ave., Delray Beach.

Send religion news to Janis Fontaine at [fontaine423@outlook.com](mailto:fontaine423@outlook.com)

## Religion Calendar

Note: Events are current as of 11/22. Please check with organizers for any changes.

## DECEMBER 4-11

## Sunday - 12/4 - 69th Anniversary

**Celebration Brunch** at St. Gregory's Episcopal Church, 100 NE Mizner Blvd, Boca Raton. Featuring raffles and silent auction. Held after 10 am service. Free. 561-395-8285

**Monday - 12/5 - Women's Bible Study via Zoom** at First Presbyterian Church of Delray Beach, 33 Gleason St. Every M 10 am. Free. 561-276-6338; firstdelray.com

**12/5 - Rosary for Peace** at St Vincent Ferrer Adoration Chapel, 840 George Bush Blvd, Delray Beach. Every M 5:45 pm. Free. 561-276-6892; stvincentferrer.com

**Tuesday - 12/6 - Tuesday Morning Prayer Service** at Unity of Delray Beach Church, 101 NW 22nd St. Masks optional, social distancing practiced. 10 am. Free. 561-276-5796; unityofdelraybeach.org

**12/6 - Advent Day of Reflection** at St. Vincent Ferrer Catholic Church, 840 George Bush Blvd, Delray Beach. 5:30 pm. Free. 561-276-6892; stvincentferrer.com

**Wednesday - 12/7 - Wednesday Evening Meditation Service** at Unity of Delray Beach

Church, 101 NW 22nd St. Led by Rev. Laurie Durgan. 6:30 pm. Free; love offering. 561-276-5796; unityofdelraybeach.org

## Thursday - 12/8 - Thursday Morning

**Prosperity Coffee** at Unity of Delray Beach Church, 101 NW 22nd St. Led by Charlene Wilkinson. 7 am 1st Th in person; phone meeting (720-740-9634, passcode 2152894) all but 1st Th. Free. 561-276-5796; unityofdelraybeach.org

**12/8 - Men's Fellowship** at First Presbyterian Church of Delray Beach, 33 Gleason St. Every Th 8:30 am. Free. 561-276-6338; firstdelray.com

**12/8 - Women's Discipleship Group** at First Presbyterian Church of Delray Beach, 33 Gleason St. Every Th 10 am. Free. 561-276-6338; firstdelray.com

**Friday - 12/9 - Legion of Mary** at St. Vincent Ferrer Family Life Center, 840 George Bush Blvd, Delray Beach. Every F 5:30 pm. Free. 561-276-6892; stvincentferrer.com

**12/9 - Virtual Shabbat Service** at Temple Sinai of Palm Beach County, 2475 W Atlantic Ave, Delray Beach. Every F 7:30 pm. Free. 561-276-6161; templesinaipbc.org

## DECEMBER 11-17

**Sunday - 12/11 - Open House** at St. Gregory's

Episcopal Church, 100 NE Mizner Blvd, Boca Raton. Have tea, coffee & pastries and meet the church leaders. Held after each service. Free. 561-395-8285

**12/11 - A Christmas Gift** at First Church of Christ, Scientist, Boca Raton at 566 W Palmetto Park Rd. All are invited to celebrate the advent and nativity with an inspiring hour of music, caroling and readings. 2:30 pm. Free. [christianscienceboca.org](http://christianscienceboca.org)

**12/11 - Christmas Pageant: Sing With Us The Christmas Story** at First Presbyterian Church of Delray Beach, 33 Gleason St. 6 pm. Free. 561-276-6338; firstdelray.com

## DECEMBER 18-24

**Saturday - 12/24 - Annual Drive-thru Bethlehem** at St. Joseph's Episcopal Church 3300 Seacrest Blvd, Boynton Beach. 4-5 pm. Free. 561-732-3060; stjoesweb.org

**12/24 - Christmas Eve Services** at St. Paul's Episcopal Church, 188 S Swinton Ave, Delray Beach. 4, 7 & 10 pm. Free. 561-276-4541; stpaulsdelray.org

**12/24 - Christmas Eve Candle Lighting Services** at Unity of Delray Beach Church, 101 NW 22nd St. 6 & 8 pm. Free. 561-276-5796; unityofdelraybeach.org

**12/24-25 - Christmas Mass** at St. Vincent Ferrer Catholic Church, 840 George Bush Blvd, Delray Beach. 12/24 4 & 6 pm, midnight; 12/25

7, 9, 11 am. Free. 561-276-6892; stvincentferrer.com

## DECEMBER 25-31

**Sunday - 12/25 - Christmas Services** at Unity of Delray Beach Church, 101 NW 22nd St. 10 am. Free. 561-276-5796; unityofdelraybeach.org

**12/25 - Christmas Day Services** at St. Paul's Episcopal Church, 188 S Swinton Ave, Delray Beach. 10 am. Free. 561-276-4541; stpaulsdelray.org

**Saturday - 12/31 - New Year's Eve Meditation** at Unity of Delray Beach Church, 101 NW 22nd St. 7-8 pm. Free. 561-276-5796; unityofdelraybeach.org

**12/31/1 - New Year's Mass** at St. Vincent Ferrer Catholic Church, 840 George Bush Blvd, Delray Beach. 12/31 4 pm; 1/1 7, 9, 11 am. Free. 561-276-6892; stvincentferrer.com

## JANUARY 1-7

**Wednesday - 1/4 - Burning Bowl Ceremony** at Unity of Delray Beach Church, 101 NW 22nd St. 7 pm. Free. 561-276-5796; unityofdelraybeach.org

**Thursday - 1/5 - Islamic Center of Boca Raton Open House** at 3480 NW 5th Ave, Boca Raton. All welcome. Refreshments, tour of the mosque, Q&A. 1st Th 7-9 pm. Free. 561-395-7221; icbr.org

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Finding Faith

The best gifts come with treasured memories

We asked some of our friends in the religious community to tell us about their most memorable Christmas or Hanukkah gifts. Here are their touching, thoughtful reflections.

**A grateful recipient**

The Christmas season brings with it the spirit of reflection and joyful anticipation for the year to come. For me, the season is a reminder of the art of being a grateful receiver.

In 2020, in the middle of COVID, my family got the news that my dad had been diagnosed with esophageal cancer. One of the silver linings of COVID and the normalization of virtual learning was I had opportunities to fly back and forth to my hometown of Memphis, Tennessee, to spend time with my family.

During one of my visits, my dad and I were going through his closet, cleaning, sorting things, and mostly just talking. Out of one of his drawers, he pulled out a pair of thick, wool, dog print tube socks. "You need these, Genevieve. You love dogs!"

My first reaction was to remind him how incredibly hot it is in South Florida, and how I wouldn't be able to wear them.

After a long pause, he said, "Well, I don't think I'll be able to wear them where I am going either. Just accept the gift, Genevieve, you can always throw them away later."

These socks represent a defining moment in my life. They help me remember that over the course of life, you will be likely to find yourself being offered a meaningful gift. It could be a tangible item, or someone's time, their money, their advice, their help. Dad's dog socks help me remember how incredibly precious this act of giving is — that this person cares for you, loves you, and wants to support you so much that they offer up a little piece of themselves.

Every gift that comes from the heart has the ability to strengthen a relationship. Accept the gifts you're offered, graciously and with thanks. You may not realize how meaningful they are until later.



— Genevieve Hoppe, head of school, Unity School of Delray Beach

Hoppe

**A symbolic acorn**

As a pastor for nearly 36 years, I have experienced generosity beyond anything I deserve — from a Starbucks gift card to an all-expense-paid trip to Israel with my wife. Yet, the singular gift that quickens my heart and draws tears of gratitude each Christmas was given in June of 2012, when I said goodbye to a congregation

in Bucks County, Pennsylvania, that I had loved for over 12 years to accept a new ministry in Delray Beach.

One of my dearest friends in that church presented me with a tiny box wrapped with clumsy 75-year-old fingers. Over the last 12 years, we had buried his wife, shared more lunches than I can count, spent hours together driving scenic roads and took a day trip to New York City marked by continuous laughter.

Inside, I found a gold acorn Christmas ornament. He said that 12 years ago when I became his pastor, I was then only an acorn in his life. But in that time, our relationship has grown into a mighty oak tree.

Some months ago, Bill moved his church membership to the church triumphant and he will celebrate his first Christmas with his Lord in heaven this year. That simple gold ornament hangs on my Christmas tree and each time I see that small acorn, I'm filled with gratitude for the gifts of friendship and love we shared.



— Doug Hood, senior pastor, First Presbyterian Church of Delray Beach

Hood

**Grandson changed me**

Some people say, "I don't really care about gifts, I have everything I want."

I envy them because I care about gifts and still seem to want things. As a Christian pastor I preach annually that "Jesus is the best gift of this and any Christmas."

And I believe it. But the second-best gift I ever received was in the middle of the pandemic, three days before Christmas when my grandson was born. It may be commonplace to say, "I didn't

realize how much it would change me," but it has changed me. And my wife, Grandma Zu Zu, and my son, now "Dad."

It's the reason climate change is really starting to bother me. The change shows in how much I hope he'll play guitar like me. He wasn't on any list or in any



sermon. He just was. And is. What a gift!  
— Andy Hagen, lead pastor, Advent Church, Boca Raton

Hagen

**Family is everything**

When I left my country, the Philippines, to come to the United States for work, I knew that it would be difficult for me to go home on Christmas. That's the nature of working in health care and as a priest.

Because of some immigration restrictions, I was only able to go home and visit my country three years after I landed to the United States.

Finally, I was able to return home in 2005 during the Christmas season. In early November, I got my green card, proof of a permanent U.S. resident status, meaning I could travel freely outside the U.S. Then, the excitement of seeing my country and my loved ones, the joy I felt as I picked some Christmas presents for my family and close friends, and the opportunity to celebrate Christmas with family and loved ones was the greatest Christmas present I ever got.

I don't know when this opportunity will happen again in my life. I share the love of family with those who are around me on Christmas. I pray that my presence to those people who the Lord has entrusted to my care will bring joy to their lives and draw them closer to their loved ones as well, on

Christmas and throughout the year.

— Father Dennis Gonzales, St. Vincent Ferrer Catholic Church, Delray Beach



Gonzales

**A POW's compelling log**

My grandfather, James Feerick, volunteered for the Army Air Corps (predecessor to the Air Force) and was a bombardier when he was shot down over Germany. He ended up in the same POW camp *The Great Escape* memorialized. My grandfather led choir practice to cover up the sound of hammering inside the barracks and would sing his favorite songs to encourage the men, even when he was punished for it. At POW reunions, many people said his singing kept their spirits alive and helped them survive.

In 2013, my parents gave my sisters and me a reproduced version of my grandfather's wartime log that he kept as a POW. It is full of names and roles of other prisoners, sketches and journal entries. My parents added pictures and entries that testify to the full life he lived after the war. It is a gift that inspires us to live life to the full and never forget that acts of heroism can be as simple as a song.



— the Rev. Kevin McQuone, spiritual director and assistant professor of pastoral theology at St. Vincent De Paul Regional Seminary, Boynton Beach

McQuone

**A Hanukkah miracle**

Most of my possessions

were in storage because I was renovating a house. When it was time to move into our home, I discovered that the head of the moving company had disappeared. A few boxes were returned, and we were making do with what we had.

But all of my ritual objects were gone! The night before Hanukkah, I noticed a box that I'd had a television sitting on top for a few weeks. I moved the television and looked in the box. I found a hanukkiyah (Hanukkah menorah) that was a family heirloom, a piece from the 17th century.

Finding it has become our family's Hanukkah miracle!

— David Steinhardt, senior rabbi, B'nai Torah Congregation, Boca Raton

Steinhardt

**Menorah memories**

Each Hanukkah at my house, we light a menorah that I purchased in Israel while competing as part of the World Maccabiah Games. It gives me an opportunity to think about my many beautiful memories



exploring Israel while representing the USA and my Jewish heritage.

— Melissa Perlman, president, Bluely Communications

Janis Fontaine writes about people of faith, their congregations, causes and community events.



Contact her at fontaine423@outlook.com

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Outdoors

# Delray fishmonger slays on social media with filleting skills

By Jan Norris

Call him the Dexter of seafood.

Like the handy-with-a-blade star of the Showtime TV series, Reed Brand, aka Reed the Fishmonger, has thousands of people watching his knife skills as he goes about his work filleting fish.

One of the sons in the Captain Clay & Sons Seafood Market family, 29-year-old Brand has become an internet sensation of sorts, posting reels and videos on social media, showing how he slides his knife along the side of a fish with the precision of a surgeon.

On some, he'll instruct, telling viewers about the type of fish, how deep it's caught and its flavor, then explaining his cuts and method. On others, it's simply showing the work table, the fish and his knife, and has only the sound of the cuts as he works.

More than 130,000 people subscribe to his channels and videos on YouTube and Instagram, but he shines on TikTok with 245,000 viewers. Views for his posts combined exceed 12 million.

Brand posts on one or the other daily, recording the videos in the store around 5 a.m. when the fish come into the market fresh off the boats. He then uploads the reels later the same day.

"It blows my mind how many people want to watch fish cleaning," he said. "I'm humbled and grateful, and excited to show off our brand new market."

Captain Clay & Sons, currently on Northeast Fourth Street in Delray Beach, is moving to a larger store at 1319 N. Federal Highway, just north of George Bush Boulevard, scheduled to open in December.

A year and a half ago, Brand decided he wanted to



Reed Brand has become a digital star with no-frills videos on how to clean and fillet fish. In a YouTube video he uses a yellow-tail snapper as an example of how to fillet a fish while leaving the skin on. 1 Make a single cut behind the gills through the fleshy part of the fish. 2 With the sharp side of the blade facing away from the body of the fish, make a shallow cut along the backbone. 3 Flip the sharp side of the blade toward the body to slice between the ribs and the meat of the fish in a single movement. 4 Use your thumb to pull the fillet open from the body and make a second slice to remove the fillet. **Photos provided**

post instructional videos and share recipes for the market's products to promote the new place, so he asked a tech-savvy friend how to get started.

"He told me to go to TikTok. I never even heard of it."

He started there and as he got more confident, branched out to the others. Now, TikTok is his most popular platform, pulling in a younger audience than most others.

Brand says he has viewers of every age, though most followers are of his generation — those who use social media as second nature.

"Think about it like how to change a tire. You and I know, but for the younger people, they pull out their phone and go to YouTube and search a video," he said. "It may take them once or twice, but they'll get it."

It's the same with cleaning fish — not many people buy whole fish, so breaking them down is foreign to them. "They go to YouTube and can watch how to clean a snapper."

Although some do watch for the instruction, he admits others are there "for the ASMR. Do you know what that is?"

We didn't. It stands for



autonomous sensory meridian response, a buzzword in videos.

"It's relaxing entertainment. People say the sound of the knife sliding along the fish is satisfying. It relaxes them," Brand said. The viewer will watch over and over for ASMR's tingling sensation.

Comments on the videos "like slicing through butter" and "sick!" encourage him to do more.

So, he sometimes merely shows the fish, then cuts it slowly, separating the flesh from the skin or bones and filleting or steaking out the fish

with no sound except the knife.

He says all the fish shown is used: The scraps go into fish cakes or the store smokes it or makes fish stock to sell to restaurants.

Occasionally he'll show recipes or other techniques — how to devein a shrimp easily, or the story on stone crab claws, coming to the market now.

The store has its own fishing boat, and Brand recently went out on it for recreation and caught his first swordfish — his favorite fish to fillet. Naturally, he took a video of the trip, and will post it, though he says catching fish is a lost cause on social media.

"There are literally millions of videos of people fishing and catching fish. It's saturated with those. But there aren't that many of people cutting and cleaning fish," Brand said.

He gets plenty of feedback. The No. 1 comment, however, is a question: What kind of knife do you use?

He answers: Just a bunch of fillet knives. He's had dozens of offers daily trying to get him to promote cutlery and other equipment or foods. But he says he has no interest in marketing affiliation or promotions that make some internet stars serious money.

"I just want to promote my family's market," he said. "Let people know what they can find in the store. It's all locally caught, fresh fish, with every fish cut that day that it comes in." ★

Find his videos on Instagram, YouTube and TikTok under Reed\_thefishmonger.

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Outdoors

# Post-hurricane is prime time to go lobstering

Hurricane Nicole pounded our shore with intense waves and 24 hours of heavy rain and blustery winds. Intracoastal flooding made a mess of some roads and plenty of backyards. It also affected the lobster diving around the county's coral reefs.

The rough seas created by Nicole's winds resulted in silt-laden water off the region's beaches, which prompted lobsters to move to deeper, cleaner water. After a storm, the crustaceans, which also are known as "bugs," return to South Florida's three coral reefs, where they gather in clusters as they look for new homes.

One of the coolest sights a lobster hunter will ever see is when the crustaceans walk in a line in the sand. No one knows the reason for a lobster walk, where dozens of bugs walk north in single file in 8 to 20 feet of water.

After Hurricane Ian, which made landfall on Florida's Gulf Coast in late September, lobsters walked for two weeks, according to Jim "Chiefy" Mathie, a retired Deerfield Beach Fire-Rescue division chief.

The author of *Catching the BUG: The Comprehensive Guide to Catching the Spiny Lobster*, which is available at South Florida dive shops and at chiefy.net, Mathie waits for the waters around the Boca Raton Inlet to clear after a storm so he and his dive buddies can see the lobsters walking.

On his first trip a couple of days after Nicole's passage through South Florida last month, Mathie said the visibility in shallow water was poor. So, he and his friends went to the third reef in 65 feet, where the visibility was better and they could see lobsters huddled together.



Chuck Van Buskirk and Jim 'Chiefy' Mathie show off their catch of lobsters following Hurricane Nicole. The lobsters were clustered in a coral reef in 35 feet of water just south of the Boca Inlet. Photo provided by Jim Mathie

Five days after the storm, Mathie and his buddies found the bugs gathered together in the second reef in 35 feet just south of the Boca Inlet, and they quickly caught their daily limit of six lobsters apiece.

"One and done," Mathie said of his and his crew's needing only one dive to catch 24 lobsters. "We found them clustered with some big boys."

It was the same story the following day. The lobsters were clustered together, but not walking.

Catching lobsters is easy when they are walking. When the bugs are shallow, snorkelers can swim from the beach and use a net or snare to capture

their limit.

Mathie said that during the walk after Hurricane Ian, commercial lobster scuba divers whom he knows sat on the bottom in the sand and waited for the lobsters to walk to them. Those divers easily caught their commercial daily limit of 250 bugs.

Before heading in his boat to the reefs, Mathie looks for lobsters walking off the beach, usually by having one of his divers jump in the water with a mask, fins and snorkel. If the lobsters are there, his crew members will don their scuba gear, go to the bottom and pick out the six biggest bugs that they see.

"After Ian, we saw as many as 100 lobsters walking in a line," Mathie said. "When we'd take one or two, the line would break up a little, and then there'd be like 20 walking in a line."

The walk was so good, Mathie said, anglers on local fishing piers caught some lobsters — hooking them with their rods and reels, which is illegal.

As word of a lobster walk spreads, it brings out people who don't dive, but like the idea of catching a delicious dinner. Anyone catching lobsters must have a saltwater fishing license, which costs \$17 for Florida residents, and a \$5 spiny lobster permit.

Snorkelers and divers who head out from the beach must have a floating dive flag so boaters can see them. They also

must have a measuring device with them. Lobsters must have a minimum carapace length of more than 3 inches and must be measured in the water.

For all lobster regulations, visit <https://myfwc.com/fishing/saltwater/recreational/lobster>.

**Editor's note:** Willie Howard has retired from The Coastal Star to focus on his charter business and his family. We welcome Steve Waters as an occasional columnist. Many of you may remember him from his days as the outdoors writer at the Sun Sentinel.



Steve Waters is a freelance outdoors and golf writer. Email [steve33324@aol.com](mailto:steve33324@aol.com).

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## Outdoors Calendar

Note: Events are current as of 11/22. Please check with organizers for any changes.

### DECEMBER 3

**Saturday - 12/3 - Sand Sifters Beach Clean Up** at Oceanfront Park, 6415 N Ocean Blvd, Ocean Ridge. Meet at south pavilion, lower parking lot. Bring water, hat, sunscreen. Bags, gloves, grabbers provided. 8-10:30 am. Free. [jefflev02@gmail.com](mailto:jefflev02@gmail.com)

**12/3 - Outdoor Marine Aquarium Feedings** at Gumbo Limbo Nature Center, 1801 N Ocean Blvd, Boca Raton. All ages; child must be accompanied by an adult. Daily 12:30 pm. Free. 561-544-8605; [gumbolimbo.org](http://gumbolimbo.org)

**12/3 - Sea Turtle Talk** at Gumbo Limbo Nature Center, 1801 N Ocean Blvd, Boca Raton. Age 8+; child under 18 must be accompanied by an adult. Daily 2 pm. Free. 561-544-8605; [gumbolimbo.org](http://gumbolimbo.org)

### DECEMBER 4-10

**Sunday - 12/4 - Intracoastal Adventures: Intro to Canoeing** at Gumbo Limbo Nature Center, 1801 N Ocean Blvd, Boca Raton. Includes short talk about South Florida's unique animals/ecosystems. Age 12-adult; child under 18 must be accompanied by an adult. 10-11:30 am. \$20/member; \$25/

non-member. Reservations: 561-544-8605; [gumbolimbo.org](http://gumbolimbo.org)

**Tuesday - 12/6 - A Walk in the Hammock** at Gumbo Limbo Nature Center, 1801 N Ocean Blvd, Boca Raton. Guided nature walk along the ¼-mile boardwalk trail along the mangroves by the Intracoastal. All ages; child must be accompanied by an adult. Held again 12/20. 9:30-10:30 am. \$5/resident; \$8/non-resident. Reservations: 561-544-8605; [gumbolimbo.org](http://gumbolimbo.org)

**Friday - 12/9 - Beach Treasures** at Gumbo Limbo Nature Center, 1801 N Ocean Blvd, Boca Raton. Learn about seashells, the animals that make them. Caravan to Red Reef Park, 1400 N State Rd A1A, to search for ocean treasures. All ages; child must be accompanied by an adult. Held again 12/13 2-3:30 pm. Free. Reservations: 561-544-8605; [gumbolimbo.org](http://gumbolimbo.org)

### DECEMBER 11-17

**Sunday - 12/11 - Intracoastal Adventures: Kayaking** at Gumbo Limbo Nature Center, 1801 N Ocean Blvd, Boca Raton. Includes short talk about South Florida's unique animals/ecosystems. Age 7-adult; each child under 12 must be accompanied by one adult. Held again 12/17. 9-10:30 am. \$20/resident & members; \$25/

non-member. Registration: 561-544-8605; [gumbolimbo.org](http://gumbolimbo.org)

### DECEMBER 25-31

**Tuesday - 12/27 - Eco-Watch Lecture Series: Respect the Locals: Diving into LMC's Conservation Based Initiatives with Valerie Tovar, Conservation Coordinator, Loggerhead Marinelife Center** presented by Gumbo Limbo Nature Center at Boca Raton Public Library, 400 NW 2nd Ave. Age 13 & up; child under age 18 must be accompanied by an adult. 6:30-7:30 pm. Reservations: 561-544-8605; [gumbolimbo.org](http://gumbolimbo.org)

**Thursday - 12/29 - Early Birding with AI** at Gumbo Limbo Nature Center, 1801 N Ocean Blvd, Boca Raton. Learn about native & migratory birds from an experienced birder; walk the Ashley Trail/boardwalk in search of warblers, gnatcatchers, woodpeckers, other avian species. Binoculars recommended. Meet on nature center front porch. Age 10+; child must be accompanied by an adult. 8:30-10 am. Free. 561-544-8605; [gumbolimbo.org](http://gumbolimbo.org)

**Saturday - 12/31 - Sea Angels Beach Cleanup** at Ocean Inlet Park, 6990 N Ocean Blvd, Ocean Ridge. Last Sat 8-9:30 am. Pre-registration: 561-369-5501; [seaangels.org](http://seaangels.org)

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Route Info & More

**Tots & Teens Calendar**

Note: Events are current as of 11/22. Please check with organizers for any changes.

**DECEMBER 3**

**Saturday - 12/3 - Drop-In Family Storytime** at Boca Raton Public Library, 400 NW 2nd Ave. Up to age 5. Every Sat 10-10:30 am. Free. Registration: 561-393-7968; bocalibrary.org

**12/3 - Saturday Morning Art (smART)** at Boca Raton Museum Art School, 801 W Palmetto Park Rd. Studio workshops; families/intergenerational groups focus on artistic fun to learn, create, enjoy visual arts. Held again 1/7 10-11 am. \$5/member; \$10/non-member. Reservations: 561-392-2500; bocamuseum.org

**12/3 - Space Camp** at Delray Beach Public Library, 100 W Atlantic Ave. Age 8-12. 10:30 am-12:30 pm. Free. Registration: 561-266-0194; delraylibrary.org

**12/3 - Family Art Day** at Florida Atlantic University Schmidt Center & Ritter Art Galleries, 777 Glades Rd, Boca Raton. Children/families participate in fun/interactive tours of exhibitions; experience art/create works of art. 10:30 am-3:30 pm. Free. 561-297-2661; fau.edu/artsandletters/galleries/events

**12/3 - Pulp, Paper and Play Class** at Boynton Beach Arts & Cultural Center, 125 E Ocean Ave. Age 6-17. 10:30 am-noon. Per class \$5/resident; \$7/non-resident. Registration: 561-742-6221; boynton-beach.org

**12/3 - Chess Club** at Spady Cultural Heritage Museum, 170 NW 5th Ave, Delray Beach. Every Th 5-6 pm; Sat noon-2 pm. 561-352-7145; spadymuseum.com

**12/3 - Tail Waggin Tutors** at Boca Raton Public Library, 400 NW 2nd Ave. Elementary school children read to certified therapy dog. Grades K-5. Held again 12/17 & 1/7 noon-3 pm. Free. Registration: 561-393-7968; bocalibrary.org

**12/3 - Daily Aquarium Feedings** at Sandway Discovery Center, 142 S Ocean Blvd, Delray Beach. All ages. T-Sun 2 pm. Free w/\$6 admission. 561-274-7263; sandway.org

**12/3 - Alligator Meet & Greet** at Sandway Discovery Center, 142 S Ocean Blvd, Delray Beach. All ages. Every W & Sat 2:30 pm. Free w/\$6 admission. 561-274-7263; sandway.org

**DECEMBER 4-10**

**Monday - 12/5 - PAWS to Read** at Boynton Beach City Library, 100 E Ocean Ave. Join Ms. Rose & her therapy dog, to practice reading. Age 5-12. Held again 12/19 & 26 4-5 pm. Free. 561-742-6390; boyntonlibrary.org

**Tuesday - 12/6 - Teen Tech Sandbox** at Delray Beach Public Library, 100 W Atlantic Ave. Age 13-17. Held again 12/13 & 20 3:30-4:30 pm. Free. Registration: 561-266-0194; delraylibrary.org

**12/6 - Teen Tuesday** at Boynton Beach City Library, 100 E Ocean Ave. Age 13-17. Every T through 12/27 5-7 pm. Free. 561-742-6393; boyntonlibrary.org

**12/6 - Youth Basketball League** at Hester Center, 1901 N Seacrest Blvd, Boynton Beach. Age 8-10. Every T through 3/7 6-8 pm. \$60/resident; \$75/non-resident. 561-742-6550; boynton-beach.org

**12/6-7 - 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 & W 3-3:45 pm. 10-10:45 am. Free w/paid admission. 561-742-6780; schoolhousemuseum.org

**Wednesday - 12/7 - Outdoor Storytime** at Boynton Beach City Library under the banyan tree, 100 E Ocean Ave. Enjoy stories, rhymes, more. Held again 12/21. 10-10:30 am. Free. 561-742-6393; boyntonlibrary.org

**12/7 - Little Artists** at Boynton Beach City

Library, 100 E Ocean Ave. Age: preschool to kindergarten. Held again 12/21 10:30-11 am. Free. 561-742-6393; boyntonlibrary.org

**12/7 - The Elves and The Shoemaker** at Lake Worth Playhouse, 713 Lake Ave. Performed by ACT for Youth Touring Program. Grades K-5. 11 am. \$8/adult; \$7/child 12 & under. 561-586-6410; lakeworthplayhouse.org

**12/7 - Youth Chess Club** at Boynton Beach City Library, 100 E Ocean Ave. Age 12-17; all skill levels. Every W 4-5 pm. Free. 561-742-6390; boyntonlibrary.org

**12/7 - Youth Basketball League** at Hester Center, 1901 N Seacrest Blvd, Boynton Beach. Age 11-15 Every W through 3/8 6-8 pm. \$60/resident; \$75/non-resident. 561-742-6550; boynton-beach.org

**Thursday - 12/8 - Drop-In Family Storytime** at Boca Raton Public Library, 400 NW 2nd Ave. Up to age 5. Every Th 10-10:30 am. Free. Registration: 561-393-7968; bocalibrary.org

**12/8 - Snips, Snaps, Tales, & Tunes** at Delray Beach Public Library, 100 W Atlantic Ave. Story/related craft to develop listening skills, print awareness, motor coordination. Age 3-5. 2nd & 4th Th 3:30 pm. Free. 561-266-0194; delraylibrary.org

**12/8 - Creative Writing Class** at Boynton Beach City Library, 100 E Ocean Ave. Grades K-8. 4:30-5:30 pm. Free. 561-742-6390; boyntonlibrary.org

**Friday - 12/9 - Animal Encounters** at Sandway Discovery Center, 142 S Ocean Blvd, Delray Beach. All ages. Every F 3 pm. Free w/\$6 admission. 561-274-7263; sandway.org

**12/9 - Winter Art Making Activities** at Boca Raton Public Library, 400 NW 2nd Ave. All ages. 3-4 pm. Free. 561-393-7968; bocalibrary.org

**12/9 - The Art of the Story** at Schoolhouse Children's Museum & Learning Center, 129 E Ocean Ave, Boynton Beach. Children create their own art in the style of the featured book. Age 3-7 yrs. 3-3:45 pm. Free w/paid admission. 561-742-6780; schoolhousemuseum.org

**Saturday - 12/10 - Spanish Story Time: Fun with Fernanda** presented by Delray Beach Public Library at Merritt Park, 316 SW 2nd Ave. Age 0-4. 9 am. Free. Registration: 561-266-0194; delraylibrary.org

**12/10 - Little Wonders** at Gumbo Limbo Nature Center, 1801 N Ocean Blvd, Boca Raton. Hike, crafts, stories. Age 3-4 w/an adult. 10-11 am. \$8/resident & member; \$10/non-member. Reservations: 561-544-8605; gumbolimbo.org

**12/10 - Holiday Hoops Basketball Tournament** at Hester Center, 1901 N Seacrest Blvd, Boynton Beach. Age 11-14. 11 am-8 pm. \$150/resident; \$188/non-resident. 561-742-6550; boynton-beach.org

**12/10 - Nature Detectives** at Gumbo Limbo Nature Center, 1801 N Ocean Blvd, Boca Raton. New mystery each month. Age 5-6 w/an adult. Noon-1 pm. \$8/resident & member; \$10/non-member. Reservations: 561-544-8605; gumbolimbo.org

**12/10 - College Readiness** at Delray Beach Public Library, 100 W Atlantic Ave. Grades 9-12. 1-2:30 pm. Free. Registration: 561-266-0197; delraylibrary.org

**12/10 - Got Gaming Club** at Delray Beach Public Library, 100 W Atlantic Ave. Age 13-17. 3-4:30 pm. Free. Registration: 561-266-0194; delraylibrary.org

**12/10-11 - Creation Station** at Boca Raton Museum of Art Sculpture Garden, 501 Plaza Real. Limited seating. Noon-4 pm. Free w/admission. 561-392-2500; bocamuseum.org

**DECEMBER 11-17**

**Sunday - 12/11 - Chess Moves: Open Play or Tournament Play** at Boca Raton Public Library, 400 NW 2nd Ave. Age 6+. 10 am-4 pm. Free. Registration: 561-393-7968; bocalibrary.org

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## Tots &amp; Teens

## Delray mom's site can point you in right direction for holiday fun

By Janis Fontaine

For many, the coronavirus pandemic is a memory and the calendar is packed. If you're planning your holidays, check the details, or find someone reliable to do it for you.

Consider Erin McGrogan, a Delray Beach mother of two, who keeps a calendar of family-friendly events updated year-round on her website, [delraymom.com](http://delraymom.com). McGrogan also owns Keene Designs, a graphic design company, and says she started her Delray Mom site five years ago because finding fun events for her daughters in one centralized location was a challenge.

"We wanted things to do as a family and we like to stay local," McGrogan said.

Her daughters, Ashlyn, now 10, and Emily, 7, were so excited about all the events they wanted to put up decorations and play Christmas music right after Halloween.

So, what tops their list?

"We love going ice skating at the tree in Delray Beach," McGrogan said.

Well, it isn't really ice and you don't wear ice skates, but McGrogan's Florida-born-and-raised daughters don't know any different. A twirl or two is all it takes and it's on to tour the tree.

Delray Beach's iconic 100-foot tree has been welcoming visitors since 1993. The tree lighting has become a symbol marking the start of the holidays, and a visit to the tree is a tradition for many families.

Adorned with 18,000 ornaments and boasting 217,980 individual LED lights, the tree is worth a trip even if you've seen it before. At



Erin McGrogan makes holiday cookies with her daughters, Emily and Ashlyn. Erin is the blogger Delray Mom, who ferrets out fun events for kids. Photo provided

the adjacent Holiday Village, activities for kids such as carousel rides and skating are offered through Dec. 31.

One tradition the McGrogan family missed during the pandemic was visiting Santa in Town Center Boca Raton. The mall has been a go-to for Santa visits since it opened in 1980.

"They have a really good Santa," McGrogan said, "and I just read Neiman Marcus is having Breakfast with Santa."

She's correct.

Santa is on site daily until Christmas Eve. Reservations are recommended at [whereissanta.com](http://whereissanta.com).

Neiman Marcus serves breakfast to Santa and his guests at 8:30 a.m. Dec. 10 at the mall store. Tickets are \$50 for kids aged 3-12 and \$60 for adults at [www.eventbrite.com](http://www.eventbrite.com). Search "Neiman Marcus

breakfast with Santa."

The McGrogans do have one tradition that takes them out of the county: the Holiday Fantasy of Lights at Tradewinds Park on Sample Road in Coconut Creek. The drive-thru adventure boasts "3 miles of giant, animated holiday lights and illuminated trees."

The park is only 10 miles from downtown Boca Raton. Pack some hot chocolate and Christmas cookies. The display is open from 6-10 nightly through Jan. 1.

Tickets are \$24 per car. For more information, visit <https://holidaylightsdrivethru.com>.

The light display is a stay-in-your-car event, and for some people who still don't like big gatherings among strangers, that's a good thing. The reality is, many of us have a new mentality when it comes to

celebrating in large groups.

That's one reason Mizner Park organizers again decided to spread the joy over several weeks. Instead of one big night of entertainment, the city hosts four mini-celebrations called "Merry in Mizner," a free event from 6-9 p.m. Fridays through Dec. 23.

New lighting displays and decorations — more than 50,000 LED lights and other embellishments — have created a stunning holiday milieu.

"The goal was to capture an enchanted, wintry forest feeling," said Amy DiNorscio, the amphitheater and community events manager at the city of Boca Raton.

And since icicles and ice crystals — which along with snow are nature's contribution to the perfect Northern Christmas tableau — don't form naturally in Florida, the decorators found a way to replicate the effect. Guests can meander under the glow of twinkling lights and enjoy different strolling entertainers performing each week.

DiNorscio says that spreading the holiday celebration over several nights lets more people visit.

"There's been lots of anticipation around all of the events. The parade response has been wonderful," DiNorscio said.

Nearly 70 floats will make their way down Federal Highway on Dec. 7 in Boca Raton.

For people who prefer their parades with a water backdrop, the city's 48th annual Holiday Boat Parade takes place at 6:30 p.m. Dec. 17.

It lights up the Intracoastal Waterway beginning at

## If You Go

**What:** The 100-Foot Christmas Tree and Holiday Village, Delray Beach  
**When:** Through Dec. 31.  
**Hours are:**

- 5-9 p.m. Monday-Friday and 1-9 p.m. Saturday and Sunday through Dec. 21.
- 1-9 p.m. Dec. 22-23 and Dec. 26-31.
- 5-9 p.m. Dec. 24-25.

**Where:** Old School Square, 51 N. Swinton Ave.

**Cost:** Carousel rides are \$4 except Dec. 24-25 when rides are free. Ice skating is \$4. A ride-all-day wristband is \$12. Walk-thru tours of the tree are free.

**Info:** [www.delraybeachfl.gov/our-city/things-to-do/100-ft-christmas-tree](http://www.delraybeachfl.gov/our-city/things-to-do/100-ft-christmas-tree)

## Merry in Mizner

**When:** 6-9 p.m. Dec. 2, 9, 16 and 23.

**Where:** Mizner Park, Plaza Real, Boca Raton.

**Cost:** Free.

**Info:** [www.myboca.us/2074/Merry-in-Mizner](http://www.myboca.us/2074/Merry-in-Mizner)

the C-15 canal at the Boca Raton/Delray Beach line and travels south to the Hillsboro Boulevard Bridge in northern Broward County. Public viewing areas include Red Reef Park, Wildflower Park and Silver Palm Park in Boca Raton.

South County's other annual boat parade starts 6:30 p.m. Dec. 9 from near the Boynton Harbor Marina and goes to the C-15 canal. ★

Janis Fontaine writes about tots and teens. Contact her at [fontaine423@outlook.com](mailto:fontaine423@outlook.com)

**12/11 - Chess Classes for Teens & Tweens** at Boca Raton Public Library, 400 NW 2nd Ave. Age 9-18. 10:30-11:30 am. Free. Registration: 561-393-7968; [bocalibrary.org](http://bocalibrary.org)

**Monday - 12/12 - Audition Workshop with Beverly Blanchette** at Lake Worth Playhouse, 713 Lake Ave. For students planning to audition for Bak School of the Arts. Grades 4-5. 5-8 pm. \$125. Registration: 561-586-6410; [lakeworthplayhouse.org](http://lakeworthplayhouse.org)

**Tuesday - 12/13 - Manga Readers Meetup** at Delray Beach Public Library, 100 W Atlantic Ave. Age 13-17. 5-6 pm. Free. Registration: 561-266-0194; [delraylibrary.org](http://delraylibrary.org)

**12/13 - Bedtime Storytime** at Boca Raton Public Library, 400 NW 2nd Ave. Up to age 5. 6:30-7 pm. Free. 561-393-7968; [bocalibrary.org](http://bocalibrary.org)

**Wednesday - 12/14 - Bilingual Outdoor Storytime** at Boynton Beach City Library under the Banyan tree, 100 E Ocean Ave. Stories, rhymes, more. Held again 12/28. 10-10:30 am. Free. 561-742-6390; [boyntonlibrary.org](http://boyntonlibrary.org)

**Thursday - 12/15 - Special Guest Drop-In Family Storytime: Mr. Adrian and his Tractor** at Boca Raton Public Library, 400 NW 2nd Ave. Up to age 5. 10-10:30 am. Free. Registration: 561-393-7968; [bocalibrary.org](http://bocalibrary.org)

**12/15 - Youth STEM Lab** at Boynton Beach City Library, 100 E Ocean Ave. Age 5-12. 4:30-5:30 pm. Free. Registration: 561-742-6390; [boyntonlibrary.org](http://boyntonlibrary.org)

**12/15 - Audition Workshop with Beverly Blanchette** at Lake Worth Playhouse, 713 Lake Ave. For students planning to audition for Dreyfoos School of the Arts. Grades 7-8. 5-8 pm. \$125. Registration: 561-586-6410; [lakeworthplayhouse.org](http://lakeworthplayhouse.org)

## DECEMBER 18-24

**Monday - 12/19 - TAB (Teen Advisory Board) Meeting** at Delray Beach Public Library, 100 W Atlantic Ave. 5-6 pm. Free. Registration: 561-266-0194; [delraylibrary.org](http://delraylibrary.org)

**12/19-23 - Fall ArtSea Camp** at Art-Sea Living, 412 E Ocean Ave #1, Boynton Beach. 10 am-2 pm. \$299/5 days. Extended care 2-3 pm additional \$25/day. 561-737-2600; [artsealiving.com](http://artsealiving.com)

**Wednesday - 12/21 - Special Guest Storytime: Trixie the Holiday Pixie** at Boynton Beach City Library, 100 E Ocean Ave. 10-10:45 am. Free. 561-742-6393; [boyntonlibrary.org](http://boyntonlibrary.org)

**Thursday - 12/22 - Hot Chocolate Storytime** at Boynton Beach City Library, 100 E Ocean Ave. Stories, rhymes, more. 4-6 pm. Free. 561-742-6390; [boyntonlibrary.org](http://boyntonlibrary.org)

**Saturday - 12/24 - Citizen Science Squad** at Gumbo Limbo Nature Center, 1801 N Ocean Blvd, Boca Raton. New hands-on science experience every month. Age 9+; must be signed in/out by parent/guardian. 2-3 pm. \$5/resident & member; \$8/non-member. Reservations: 561-544-8615; [gumbolimbo.org](http://gumbolimbo.org)

## DECEMBER 25-31

**Monday - 12/26-30 - One Week Wonder Camp: Fairy Tale Invasion** at Lake Worth Playhouse, 713 Lake Ave. Age 8-14. M-F

9 am-4 pm. \$375/child. 561-586-6410; [lakeworthplayhouse.org](http://lakeworthplayhouse.org)

**Tuesday - 12/27-29 - Sea Turtle Camp** at Gumbo Limbo Nature Center, 1801 N Ocean Blvd, Boca Raton. Games, crafts, educational activities. Learn importance of caring for/protecting sea turtles, other marine life. Age 9-12. 8:30 am-noon. Per day \$30/resident & member; \$35/non-member. Reservations: 561-544-8605; [gumbolimbo.org](http://gumbolimbo.org)

**12/27-1/3 - Holiday Break Camp** at Sims Center, 225 NW 12th Ave, Boynton Beach. Age 5-12. M-F 7:30 am-5:30 pm. \$130/resident; \$163/non-resident. Registration: 561-742-6640; [boynton-beach.org](http://boynton-beach.org)

## JANUARY 1-7

**Tuesday - 1/3 - Teen Game Day** at Boynton Beach City Library, 100 E Ocean Ave. Age 13-17. 4-6 pm. Free. 561-742-6393; [boyntonlibrary.org](http://boyntonlibrary.org)

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# Holiday Events

Note: Events are current as of 11/22. Please check with organizers for any changes.

## DECEMBER 3

**Saturday - 12/3 - A Southern Christmas Show** at The Fieldhouse at Old School Square, 51 N Swinton Ave, Delray Beach. Presented by Southern Handcraft-Boca Raton Chapter. Handcrafted gifts and home decor. 9 am-1 pm. Free. 561-732-2597  
**12/3 - Santa's Workshop** at St. Joseph's Episcopal Church 3300 Seacrest Blvd, Boynton Beach. Unusual handmade gifts by people in Madagascar. 10 am-2 pm. Free. 561-732-3060; stjoesweb.org  
**12/3 - Affordable Art Show: Holiday Edition** at Boynton Beach Arts & Cultural Center, 125 E Ocean Ave. Palm Beach & Broward County artists showcase 100+ pieces to suit a range of budgets (\$25-\$250). Runs through 1/3. Gallery Hours M-F 10 am-8 pm; Sat 10 am-1 pm. Free. 561-742-6026; boynton-beach.org  
**12/3 - Ornaments Naturally** at Gumbo Limbo Nature Center, 1801 N Ocean Blvd, Boca Raton. Create nature ornaments/decorations w/holiday themes using shells, sea beans, pine cones, other materials (provided). Age 7 & up, child under 18 must participate w/an adult. 10-11:30

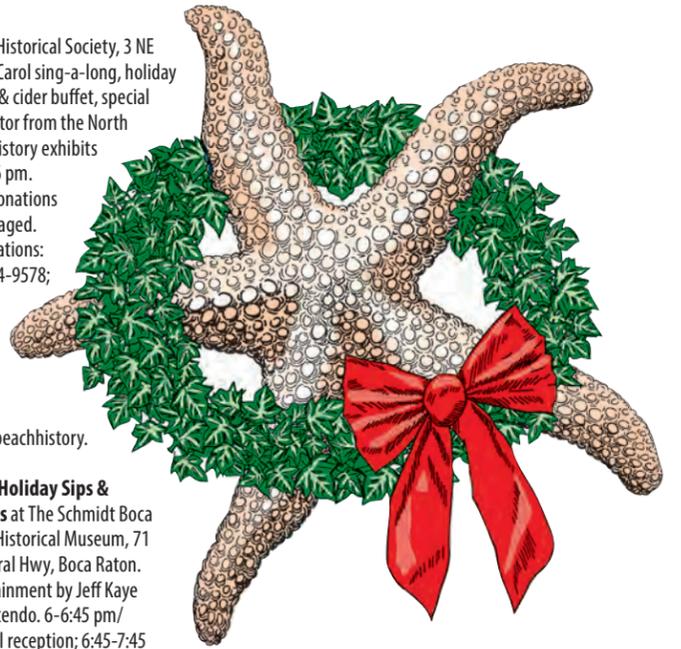
am & 1-2:30 pm. \$10/resident & member; \$13/non-member. Reservations: 561-544-8605; gumbolimbo.org  
**12/3 - 51st Annual Boynton Beach Holiday Parade** in Downtown Boynton, Federal Hwy & Ocean Ave. 4-6 pm. Free. 561-742-6010; boynton-beach.org  
**12/3 - Rockin' Around the Block & Holiday Market** at Dewey Park, 100 NE 4th St, Boynton Beach. Live music/entertainment, children's activities, unique vendors, food/beverage offerings from local businesses. 4-9 pm. 561-600-9097; boyntonbeachcra.com

## DECEMBER 4-10

**Sunday - 12/4 - FAU Tuba Christmas Concert** at Mizner Park Amphitheater, 590 Plaza Real, Boca Raton. Bring chairs/blankets. 5 pm. Free. 561-297-6124; fau.edu/artsandletters/music/events/tubachristmas  
**12/4 - Christmas Concert** at First United Methodist Church of Boca Raton, 625 NE Mizner Blvd. 7 pm. 395-1244; fumbocaraton.org  
**12/4 - Annual Christmas Concert** at First United Methodist Church Boca Raton, 625 NE Mizner Blvd. 7-9 pm. Free. 561-395-1244; fumbocaraton.org  
**Monday - 12/5 - Holiday Gift Wrapping Party** at Boynton Beach City Library, 100 E

Ocean Ave. Adults. Held again 6-8 pm 12/22. 10 am-noon. Free. Registration: 561-742-6390; boyntonlibrary.org  
**12/5-6 - Lunchbox Matinee: The Victory Dolls Christmas Show** at The Delray Beach Playhouse, 950 NW 9th St. 12:30 pm. \$49. 561-272-1281; delraybeachplayhouse.com  
**Tuesday - 12/6 - Holly House Holiday Gift Shop** at First Presbyterian Church of Delray Beach, 33 Gleason St. Every T/Th through 12/29 10 am-noon. Free. 561-276-6338; firstdelray.co  
**12/6 - Gumbo Limbo Aglow!** at Gumbo Limbo Nature Center, 1801 N Ocean Blvd, Boca Raton. Experience holiday ambiance w/a special evening visit to "glowing" outdoor aquariums. Holiday refreshments, yard games, festive photo op w/mascot Luna. All ages: child 2 & up must be registered; child under 18 must participate w/an adult. Held again 12/16, 20 & 30 6-7:30 pm. \$14/member; \$17.50/non-member. Reservations: 561-544-8605; gumbolimbo.org  
**Wednesday - 12/7 - 50th Annual Holiday Street Parade: Groovy 70s** begins at Federal Highway & SE 5th Street, north to the Mizner Park Amphitheater in Boca Raton 7:30-9:30 pm. 561-367-7073; myboca.us/specialevents  
**Thursday - 12/8 - United We Rock Holiday Networking Champions Annual Toy Drive** at Hyatt Place Delray Beach, 104 NE 2nd Ave. 5-8 pm. Free. Reservations: unitedwerock.net  
**12/8 - Christmas at Cason Cottage** at Delray

Beach Historical Society, 3 NE 1st St. Carol sing-a-long, holiday cookie & cider buffet, special VIP visitor from the North Pole. History exhibits open. 6 pm. Free: donations encouraged. Reservations: 561-274-9578;



delraybeachhistory.org  
**12/8 - Holiday Sips & Sounds** at The Schmidt Boca Raton Historical Museum, 71 N Federal Hwy, Boca Raton. Entertainment by Jeff Kaye & Krescendo. 6-6:45 pm/cocktail reception; 6:45-7:45 pm performance. \$60/member; \$70/non-member. Registration: 561-757-4762; festivalboca.org  
**12/8 - A Charlie Brown Christmas Concert: The Music of Vince Guaraldi with Zachary Bartholomew** at Florida Atlantic University Friedberg Auditorium, 777 Glades Rd, Boca Raton. 7-8:30 pm. \$60/annual membership; \$30/member; \$35/non-member & one-time guest pass at door. 561-297-3185; olliboca.fau.edu  
**Friday - 12/9 - Make Festive Holiday Cards to Take Home** at Boca Raton Public Library, 400 NW 2nd Ave. Adults. 2-4 pm. Free. Registration: 561-393-7906; bocalibrary.org  
**12/9 - Lantana Tree Lighting & Winterfest** at Lantana Town Hall, 500 Greynolds Circle. Tree & Menorah Lighting ceremony, giveaways, arrival of Santa & Mrs. Claus, food/holiday craft vendors. 6-8 pm. Free. Lantana Residents Only. 561-540-5754; lantana.org/enjoy-lantana-events

Playhouse, 713 Lake Ave. 6 pm. \$30-\$40. 561-586-6410; lakeworthplayhouse.org  
**12/17 - 48th Annual Holiday Boat Parade** from C-15 Canal to Hillsboro Bridge. Public viewing at Red Reef Park, 1400 N Ocean Blvd; Wildflower Park, 551 E Palmetto Park Rd; Silver Palm Park, 600 E Palmetto Park Rd. 6:30-8:30 pm. 561-367-7073; myboca.us/specialevents  
**12/17 - Comfort & Joy: A Holiday Concert** at St. Mark Greek Orthodox Church, 2100 Yamato Rd, Boca Raton. Presented by Master Chorale of South Florida. 8 pm. \$35/advance, \$40/door, free/students. 954-641-2653; masterchoraleofsouthflorida.org  
**12/17 - Holiday with the Housewives** at The Studio at Mizner Park, 201 Plaza Real, Boca Raton. Celebrity housewives Ramona Singer, Margaret Joseph and Marysol Patton discuss life on television with interactive holiday games. 7 pm/VIP reception, 8 pm/event. \$69-\$99. Tickets: thestudioatmiznerpark.com

## DECEMBER 18-24

**Sunday - 12/18 - South Florida's Craft Show: Christmas** at Old School Square, 51 N Swinton Ave. 11 am-4 pm. Free. 754-800-1166; msha.ke/southfloridascraftshow  
**12/18 - Grand Delray Beach Chanukah Festival** at Old School Square Pavilion, 51 N Swinton Ave. Rabbi Shmuel Biston of Chabad of East Delray will speak, plus Israelie Beatles tribute band, games and festive treats. 5-7 pm. Free. jewisheatdelray.com  
**12/18 - Gianni Organ Trio (GOT) The Holiday Soul** at Arts Garage, 94 NE 2nd Ave, Delray Beach. 7-8:30 pm. \$50-\$55. 561-450-6357; artsgarage.org  
**Monday - 12/19 - Hanukah Luxury Soiree** at Club One 11 Boca Raton, 111 SE Mizner Blvd. Charity networking party. 6 pm. \$100/at the door. Black tie optional. hanuka.org  
**12/19-24 - Holiday Evening Tours** at Flagler Museum, One Whitehall Way, Palm Beach. Discover the wonder and magic of a Gilded Age Christmas while touring Whitehall at night. Tours: 6:30 pm, 6:45 pm, 7:00 pm, 7:15 pm. \$50/adults, \$30/children 17 and under. Reservations: 655-2833 ext. 10; flaglermuseum.us  
**Wednesday - 12/21 - Annual Community Chanukah Concert** at Sanborn Square, 72 N Federal Hwy, Boca Raton. Starring Sony recording artist Shulem. 7 pm. Free. 561-394-9770; bocabeachchabad.com/chanukah5783  
**Saturday - 12/24 - Menorah Lighting** at Mizner Park, 201 Plaza Real, Boca Raton. 6:30 pm. Free. 561-394-9770; bocabeachchabad.com/chanukah5783

## DECEMBER 25-31

**Monday - 12/26 - Kwanzaa Celebration/ Kuumba Village** at The Spady Cultural Heritage Museum, 170 NW 5th Ave, Delray Beach. Gift making, live music, art activities, storytelling for children, food. Held outside. 2:30-5 pm. Free. 561-278-8883; spadymuseum.com  
**Saturday - 12/31 - New Year's Eve Celebration** at The Pavilion Grille, 301 Yamato Rd, Boca Raton. Dinner buffet, dessert table w/ ice cream bar, champagne toast at midnight. 7:30 pm. \$120/person + tax/service charges. Pre-paid reservations required: 561-912-0000; paviliongrille.com  
**12/31 - Bubbles & Balloons** at Eau Palm Beach's Grand Ballroom, 100 S Ocean Blvd, Manalapan. Sponsored by Dom Perignon. Black tie dinner and dancing. 7:30 pm-12:30 am. \$525/guest at all-inclusive private table includes reception, cocktail hour, 5-course dinner, open bar and live music. Reservations: 561-540-4923; eauplambeach.com  
**12/31 - New Year's Eve at The Addison: Gold Rush** at 2 E Camino Real, Boca Raton. Live band/DJ, hors d'oeuvres, 4-course seated dinner, open bar, complimentary valet parking. \$495. 8 pm. 561-372-0568; theaddisonofbocaraton.com

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## DECEMBER 11-17

**Sunday - 12/11 - A Festival of Lessons & Carols** part of Music at St. Paul's Episcopal Church, 188 S Swinton Ave, Delray Beach. 3 pm. \$20/person; free/age 18 & under. 561-276-4541; musicstpauls.org  
**Wednesday - 12/14 - Holiday Party Toy Drive** at Saxies Restaurant & Lounge, 618 Lantana Rd. Presented by Lantana Chamber of Commerce; supports National Youth Advocate Program. Donate new, unwrapped toys for local children in foster care. 5:30-7:30 pm. 561-585-8664; lantanachamber.com  
**Saturday - 12/17 - Organic Movements presents Holiday 2022: The Little Match Girl and Whoville Holiday** at Lake Worth

## Paws Up for Pets

# How to keep holidays from turning into yowl-i-days

Face it, our dogs and cats are definitely creatures of habit. You may swear they sport invisible watches as they try to herd you into the kitchen about five minutes before their meal time. You may notice that your cat naps on the cat tree in the morning and heads for a snooze session on the sofa in the afternoon. Or, your dog has an uncanny way of knowing when you are heading to work or about to take him on a walk based on which shoes you put on.

As the holiday season shifts into high gear, routines get disrupted and that can affect your pet's attitude, appetite and behavior. Emerging from the pandemic, many of us look forward to hosting or attending social gatherings. And, many of us finally feel safe to travel and may opt to have our pets cared for by a professional pet sitter or boarded at a reputable pet boarding facility.

More changes. New sights, sounds and smells. So, to help you — and your pets — keep the holidays from transforming into the yowl-i-days, I gift you a holiday survival guide.

Be on the lookout for signs of holiday stress in your pets. Among the signs are:

- Loss of appetite.
- Lip licking and/or yawning.
- Hiding, cowering or ignoring your "come" calls.
- Urinating or defecating outside the litter box and in the house after years of displaying stellar potty habits.
- Becoming destructive by shredding the toilet paper or chewing on sofa pillows or the stack of mail you left on the coffee table.
- Transforming into a clingy



The holidays can be a trying time for pets. Be on the lookout for changes in behavior or eating habits that may be signs of stress. **Photo provided**

pet who shadows your every step in the house.

Even though you know and welcome relatives and friends, recognize that your pets may not and could react with loud barks or dashes under the bed when guests enter through the front door. Consider keeping your pet in a closed, cozy room like a bedroom with some favorite toys, bedding and water before house guests arrive. Once the guests settle in, let your pets meet them when they are in a calmer state of mind.

And, a week or two before overnight guests arrive, relocate your cat's litter box from the spare bedroom to a quiet, safe area to give your cat time to adjust.

There is a long list of no-no holiday foods for pets. No one wants to spend the holidays at the veterinary emergency hospital with a pet who ate something poisonous or

dangerous, like a turkey bone, or incurred painful pancreatitis from eating greasy, highly seasoned foods.

Big no-nos: gravy and meat drippings, turkey skin and bones, pumpkin pie, chocolate, nuts, alcoholic drinks, onions, stuffing, and any holiday foods containing the artificial sweetener xylitol (also goes by the name of birch sugar).

Safe holiday foods for pets: cooked turkey meat rinsed of any seasoning, plain mashed potatoes (minus butter or salt), unseasoned cooked green beans, dried cranberries, and unseasoned cooked pumpkin and sweet potatoes.

### Sitters and boarding

I reached out to a pair of local professionals for advice on these and other topics. Both agree that you need to book sooner rather than later, as this time of year gets very busy.

Denise Purificato has owned A Best Friend Pet Sitting Inc. for 15 years. Her professional pet sitting squad provides dog walks, pet visits and more in Boca Raton and Delray Beach.

"There are so many ways we need to keep our pets healthy and safe when decorating over the holidays," she says. "My top tips for pet parents this holiday season are to be aware of the popular holiday plants like poinsettias, holly and mistletoe that are all dangerous to pets if

accidentally ingested."

Her second tip: "Giving your pets a sense of their normal routine is really important during the holidays with so much activity going on. To reduce stress in your pet, try to keep their meal times consistent and do not skip a meal or feed them late."

To keep the holidays jolly for you and your pet, she suggests that you take your dogs for daily walks; provide your pet with a new, pet-safe holiday toy, and book one-on-one play sessions to fend off stress in you both. Learn more at [www.abestfriendpetsitting.com](http://www.abestfriendpetsitting.com).

Katie Glazier is the director of operations at Dog Unleashed in Boynton Beach. This facility offers dog day care, boarding and grooming and features Boynton Beach's first spacious indoor dog park.

She and her staff ensure dogs in day care or boarding feel safe and happy.

"All dogs undergo temperament tests and we offer several types of play groups," says Glazier. "Our pups are never left unattended and are consistently getting body checks by our staff throughout the day to ensure they have no injuries or marks from rough play."

To help canine guests celebrate Christmas, the Dog Unleashed staff serves up a special dinner that includes

homemade turkey, sweet potatoes, green beans and pumpkin — all unseasoned. Of course, any dietary restrictions are factored in.

"Another fun tradition we have is to have our professional photographer come before Christmas to get pictures of our doggy guests with Santa," Glazier adds.

Learn more at <https://dogunleashed.pet>.

### Best gift of all

What's the best gift to give your pet this holiday season? Quality time spent with you. Step away from the holiday bustle for even five uninterrupted minutes a day to cuddle or play together.

From my furry crew of dogs Kona and Emma plus cats Casey, Mikey, Rusty and Baxter, I wish you and your pets a pawsome, safe holiday season!

Arden Moore is an author, professional speaker and master certified pet first-aid instructor. She hosts a weekly syndicated radio show, "Arden Moore's Four Legged Life" ([www.fourleggedlife.com](http://www.fourleggedlife.com)), and the "Oh Behave!" podcast on Pet Life Radio. To learn more, visit [www.ardenmoore.com](http://www.ardenmoore.com).



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# Community Calendar

Note: Events are current as of 11/22. Please check with organizers for any changes.

## DECEMBER 3

**Saturday - 12/3 - Pickleball** at Hester Center, 1901 N Seacrest Blvd, Boynton Beach. Combines badminton & tennis. Adults. Sat 9 am-noon; M/W 6-8 pm. \$5; \$50/30-visit pass. 561-742-6550; boynton-beach.org

**12/3 - Calling All Serious Writers! Saturday Zoom Writers Studio** presented by Delray Beach Public Library, 100 W Atlantic Ave. Every Sat 10 am. Free. 561-266-0194; delraylibrary.org

**12/3 - Freestyle Saturdays Art Class** at Boynton Beach Arts & Cultural Center, 125 E Ocean Ave. Age 18+. Every Sat through 12/24 10 am-12:30 pm. Per class \$29/resident; \$35/non-resident. Registration: 561-742-6221; boynton-beach.org

**12/3 - Computer Basic Class for Seniors** at New Hope Missionary Baptist Church, 819 Washington Ave, Lake Worth Beach. Every Sat 10-11:30 am. Free. Registration: 561-588-9724; new-hope-mbc.org

**12/3 - Hardbodies: Contemporary Japanese Lacquer Sculpture** at The Society of the Four Arts, 102 Four Arts Plaza, Palm Beach. Exhibit opening. Runs through 1/22. 10 am-5 pm M, W-Sat; 1-5 pm Sunday. \$10. fourarts.org

**12/3 - Current Events Discussion** at Highland Beach Library Community Room, 3618 S Ocean Blvd. Every Sat 10:30 am. Free. 561-266-9702; highlandbeach.us

**12/3 - Workshop: Shadow Play with Sumi Ink** at Arts Warehouse, 313 NE 3rd St, Delray Beach. 10:30 am-12:30 pm. \$40. 561-330-9614; artwarehouse.org

**12/3 - Workshop: Paint Your Pet Portrait** at Arts Warehouse, 313 NE 3rd St, Delray Beach. 11 am-2 pm. \$110. 561-330-9614; artwarehouse.org

**12/3 - Publish or Perish** at Delray Beach Public Library, 100 W Atlantic Ave. Presented by Barbara Cronie, Director, The Writers' Colony. 1-4:30 pm. \$75. Registration: 561-266-0194; delraylibrary.org

**12/3 - Culture Talks: David Walker in Conversation with Greg Stepanich** at Cultural Council of Palm Beach County, 601 Lake Ave, Lake Worth. Hosted by Palm Beach ArtsPaper. 2-3 pm. Free. Registration: 561-471-2901; palmbeachculture.com

**12/3 - Loukas Tsokos, General Counsel of Greece** at The Schmidt Boca Raton History Museum, 71 N Federal Hwy. Tampa-based Consul General speaks about Greek-American relations and the politics, economy, history and culture of Greece. 2:30 pm. Free. 561-395-6766; bocahistory.org

**12/3 - Workshop: Intro to Creativity - Paul Klee Week** at Arts Warehouse, 313 NE 3rd St, Delray Beach. Age 16+. 2:30-4:30 pm. \$55. 561-330-9614; artwarehouse.org

**12/3 - Lecture: The Architecture of Suspense with Christine Madrid French** at Boca Raton Museum of Art, 501 Plaza Real. Limited seating. 3-4 pm. \$5/member; \$15/non-member. 561-392-2500; bocamuseum.org

**12/3 - Candela: The FAU Salsa and Latin Jazz Ensemble** at Florida Atlantic University Studio One Theatre, 777 Glades Rd, Boca Raton. 7 pm. \$10/general public; \$5/alumni; free/faculty, staff & child under 13. 561-297-6124; fauevents.universitytickets.com

**12/3 - Sick Puppies Improv Comedy Show** at Doghouse Theater, 105 NW 5th Ave, Delray Beach. Every Sat 7:30 & 8:30 pm. \$20-\$25. 954-667-7735; sickpuppiescomedy.com

**12/3-4 - 22nd Annual Downtown Delray Beach Art Festival on 4th** at 401 E Atlantic Ave. Juried outdoor craft showcase, original crafts, green market, craft media. 10 am-5 pm. Free. 561-746-6615; artfestival.com

**12/3-4 - Calendar Girls by Tim Firth** at Lake Worth Playhouse, 713 Lake Ave. F/Sat 8 pm; Sat/Sun 2 pm. \$38/show only; \$61-\$114/dinner & show. 561-586-6410; lakeworthplayhouse.org

**12/3-4 - DW Live!** at Lake Worth Playhouse, 713 Lake Ave. Recommended for teens, young adults. Sat 8 pm; Sun 2 pm. \$25/adult; \$12.50/student & senior. 561-586-6410; lakeworthplayhouse.org

## DECEMBER 4-10

**Sunday - 12/4 - Film: Hitchcock/Truffaut** at Boca Raton Museum of Art, 501 Plaza Real. Limited seating. 11 am-1:30 pm. \$5/member; \$15/non-member. 561-392-2500; bocamuseum.org

**12/4 - Lecture - Mistresses of Suspense: Joan Harrison and the Women Behind Hitchcock** at Boca Raton Museum of Art, 501 Plaza Real. Limited seating. 3-4 pm. \$5/member; \$15/non-member. 561-392-2500; bocamuseum.org

**12/4 - Friends Music Series: Women of Note** at Boca Raton Public Library, 400 NW 2nd Ave. 3 pm. Free. 561-393-7852; bocalibrary.org

**12/4 - Kat Riggins & Her Blues Revival** at Arts Garage, 94 NE 2nd Ave, Delray Beach. 7-8:30 pm. \$30-\$35. 561-450-6357; artsgarage.org

**Monday - 12/5 - American Politics Inside the Midterm Elections with Kevin Wagner** at Florida Atlantic University Friedberg Auditorium, 777 Glades Rd, Boca Raton. 10-11:30 am. \$60/annual membership; \$30/member; \$35/non-member & one-time guest pass at door. 561-297-3185; olliboca.fau.edu

**12/5 - Adult ESOL Class for Beginners** at Boynton Beach City Library, 100 E Ocean Ave. Basics of English: survival skills, greetings, numbers, money, personal information, housing, shopping, going to the doctor, more. Adults. Every M-Th through 11/30 10 am-noon. Free. 561-742-6390; boyntonlibrary.org

# Municipal Meetings

**12/5 - Ocean Ridge** - First Monday at Ocean Ridge Town Hall, 6450 N Ocean Blvd. 6 pm. Agenda: oceanridgeflorida.com

**12/6 - Highland Beach** - First Tuesday at Highland Beach Town Hall, 3614 S Ocean Blvd. 1:30 pm. Agenda: highlandbeach.us

**12/6 & 12/13 - Delray Beach** - First & third Tuesdays at Delray Beach City Hall, 100 NW 1st Ave. 4 pm. Agenda: delraybeachfl.gov

**12/6 & 12/20 - Boynton Beach** - First and third Tuesday at Boynton Beach City Hall, 100 E Ocean Ave. 6 pm. Agenda: boynton-beach.org

**12/8 - Briny Breezes** - Fourth Thursday at Briny Breezes Town Hall, 4802 N Ocean Blvd. 4 pm. Agenda: townofbrinybreezes-fl.com

**12/9 - Gulf Stream** - Second Friday at Gulf Stream Town Hall, 100 Sea Rd. 9 am. Agenda: gulfstream.org

**12/12 - Lantana** - Second & fourth Mondays at Lantana Town Hall, 500 Greynolds Cir. 6 pm. Agenda: lantana.org

**12/13 - Manalapan** - Fourth Tuesday at Manalapan Town Hall, 600 S Ocean Blvd. 10 am. Agenda: manalapan.org

**12/13 - South Palm Beach** - Second Tuesday at the South Palm Beach Town Hall, 3577 S Ocean Blvd. 4 pm. Agenda: southpalmbeach.com

**12/13 - Boca Raton** - Second & fourth Tuesday at the auditorium, 6500 Congress Ave. 6 pm. Agenda: myboca.us

**12/5 - The Missing Galleon: Searching for the San Fernando, the Last of the 1733 Treasure Fleet with William Baxley** at Florida Atlantic University Friedberg Auditorium, 777 Glades Rd, Boca Raton. 12:30-2 pm. \$60/annual membership; \$30/member; \$35/non-member & one-time guest pass at door. 561-297-3185; olliboca.fau.edu

**12/5 - Computer Basics Class** at Delray Beach Public Library, 100 W Atlantic Ave. 2 pm. Free. Registration: 561-266-0194; delraylibrary.org

**12/5 - Advanced Squares** at Boynton Beach Arts & Cultural Center, 125 E Ocean Ave. Adults. Every M 2-4 pm. \$6. 561-742-6221; boynton-beach.org

**12/5 - New Discoveries from the James Webb Space Telescope with Ata Sarajedini** at Florida Atlantic University Friedberg Auditorium, 777 Glades Rd, Boca Raton. 3-4:30 pm. \$60/annual membership; \$30/member; \$35/non-member & one-time guest pass at door. 561-297-3185; olliboca.fau.edu

**12/5 - Gods & Kings Book Discussion** at Boca Raton Public Library, 400 NW 2nd Ave. Adults. 6-7 pm. Free. 561-393-7968; bocalibrary.org

**12/5 - We've Grown Accustomed to Lerner and Loewe with Robert Wyatt** at Florida Atlantic University Friedberg Auditorium, 777 Glades Rd, Boca Raton. 7-8:30 pm. \$60/annual membership; \$30/member; \$35/non-member & one-time guest pass at door. 561-297-3185; olliboca.fau.edu

**Tuesday - 12/6 - Career & Employment Help with CareerSource PBC** at Boynton Beach City Library, 100 E Ocean Ave. Assistance w/employment, resumes, unemployment, career path assistance. Representative fluent in English, Creole, French. Adults. Every T 9 am-4 pm. Free. 561-742-6390; boyntonlibrary.org

**12/6 - Israel between Ukraine and Russia: Dilemma and Threat! With Robert G. Rabil** at Florida Atlantic University Friedberg Auditorium, 777 Glades Rd, Boca Raton. 12:30-2 pm. \$60/annual membership; \$35/member; \$40/non-member

Auditorium, 777 Glades Rd, Boca Raton. 10-11:30 am. \$60/annual membership; \$35/member; \$40/non-member & one-time guest pass at door. 561-297-3185; olliboca.fau.edu

**12/6 - The Forgotten Tudors and the "What Ifs" of English History with Ben Lowe** at Florida Atlantic University Friedberg Auditorium, 777 Glades Rd, Boca Raton. 12:30-2 pm. \$60/annual membership; \$30/member; \$35/non-member & one-time guest pass at the door. 561-297-3185; olliboca.fau.edu

**12/6 - Socrates Café** at Boca Raton Public Library, 400 NW 2nd Ave. Philosophical discussions. Every T 1:30-3 pm. Free. 561-393-7852; bocalibrary.org

**12/6 - Internet Basics Class** at Delray Beach Public Library, 100 W Atlantic Ave. 2 pm. Free. Registration: 561-266-0194; delraylibrary.org

**12/6 - Art Journaling Mixed Media Class** at Art-Sea Living, 412 E Ocean Ave, #1, Boynton Beach. Bring your own mixed media art journal. Every T through 12/27 2-4 pm. \$80/4 weeks; \$25/one class. 561-737-2600; artsealiving.com

**12/6 - From Ukraine to the Middle East: The Endless Wars with Walid Phares** at Florida Atlantic University Friedberg Auditorium, 777 Glades Rd, Boca Raton. 3-4:30 pm. \$60/annual membership; \$30/member; \$35/non-member & one-time guest pass at the door. 561-297-3185; olliboca.fau.edu

**12/6 - The New Belters** at The Wick Theatre and Costume Museum, 7901 N Federal Hwy, Boca Raton. Dinner: 6 pm; show: 8 pm. \$200. Reservations: 561-995-2333; thewick.org

**12/6 - Comedy Night** at Arts Garage, 94 NE 2nd Ave, Delray Beach. 8-10 pm. \$5-\$10. 561-450-6357; artsgarage.org

**Wednesday - 12/7 - German Unification with Ralph Nurnberger** at Florida Atlantic University Friedberg Auditorium, 777 Glades Rd, Boca Raton. 12:30-2 pm. \$60/annual membership; \$35/member; \$40/non-member

& one-time guest pass at door. 561-297-3185; olliboca.fau.edu

**12/7 - Expressive Pastels Art Class** at Boynton Beach Arts & Cultural Center, 125 E Ocean Ave. Age 18+. Every W through 12/28 1-4 pm. \$140/resident; \$175/non-resident. Registration: 561-742-6221; boynton-beach.org

**12/7 - This Land Is Your Land: The Life and Song of Woody Guthrie** at The Delray Beach Playhouse, 950 NW 9th St. 2 pm. \$30. 561-272-1281; delraybeachplayhouse.com

**12/7 - Appy Hour: Password Managers** at Delray Beach Public Library, 100 W Atlantic Ave. 2 pm. Free. Registration: 561-266-0194; delraylibrary.org

**12/7 - Physical Activity: A Virtual "Magic Bullet" with Drs. Charles H. Hennekens, Jennifer Caceres, Michelle Lizotte-Waniewski & Steven F. Lewis** at Florida Atlantic University Friedberg Auditorium, 777 Glades Rd, Boca Raton. 3-4:30 pm. \$60/annual membership; \$30/member; \$35/non-member & one-time guest pass at door. 561-297-3185; olliboca.fau.edu

**12/7 - English Conversation Group** at Delray Beach Public Library, 100 W Atlantic Ave. Held again 11/16 6:30 pm. Free. Registration: 561-266-0194; delraylibrary.org

**Thursday - 12/8 - Quilters** meet at Boynton Beach City Library, 100 E Ocean Ave. Share quilting information, perpetuate quilting as a cultural & artistic form. Sale of quilted items supports the Library. Limit 10 quilters at a time. Every Th 9 am-noon. \$1/lifetime membership. 561-742-6886; boyntonlibrary.org

**12/8 - Intro to Laser Cutting with Glowforge Class** at Delray Beach Public Library, 100 W Atlantic Ave. 10 am. Free. Registration: 561-266-0194; delraylibrary.org

**12/8 - The Future of the Supreme Court with Burton Atkins** at Florida Atlantic University Friedberg Auditorium, 777 Glades Rd, Boca Raton. 10-11:30 am. \$60/annual membership; \$30/member; \$35/non-member & one-time guest pass at door. 561-297-3185; olliboca.fau.edu

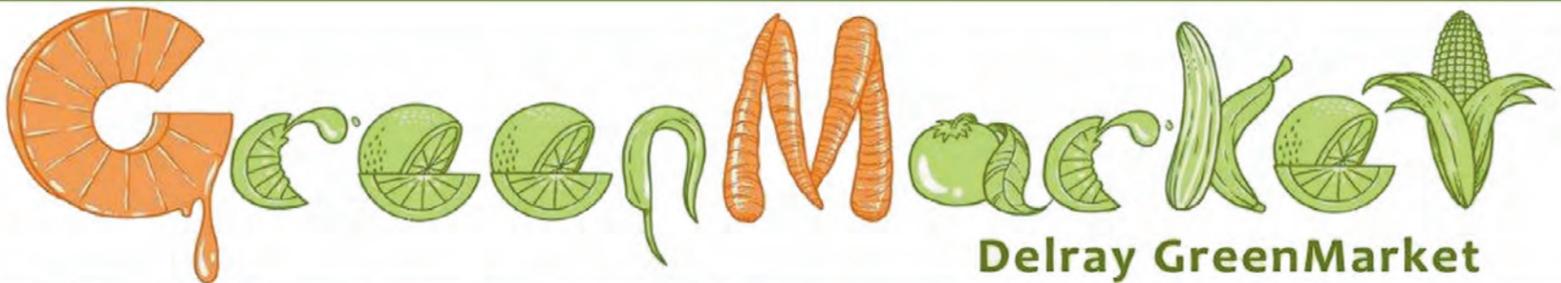
**12/8 - Line Dancing** at Boynton Beach Arts & Cultural Center, 125 E Ocean Ave. Adults. Basic modern western square dancing. Every Th 10:30-11:30 am. \$6. 561-742-6221; boynton-beach.org

**12/8 - Green Energy or Greenwashing?: Costs and Benefits of the Green Energy Transition with Scott Markwith** at Florida Atlantic University Friedberg Auditorium, 777 Glades Rd, Boca Raton. 12:30-2 pm. \$60/annual membership; \$30/member; \$35/non-member & one-time guest pass at door. 561-297-3185; olliboca.fau.edu

**12/8 - Meet the Artist Store Event: Kathleen Lang** at Boca Raton Museum of Art Store, 501 Plaza Real. Limited seating. Held again 12/10. 2-4 pm. Free w/museum admission. 561-392-2500; bocamuseum.org

**12/8 - The Mona Lisa Conspiracy: Is The Masterwork Hanging in the Louvre a Fake? With Laura Reich** at Florida Atlantic University

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## Green Markets

**Lake Worth Farmers Market** every Saturday under the overpass at A1A and Lake Ave, Lake Worth Beach. 9 am-1 pm. Free. 561-547-3100; lakeworthfarmersmarket.com  
**Delray Beach GreenMarket** every Saturday at Cornell Art Museum Front Lawn, 51 N Swinton Ave. Fresh local produce, baked goods, gourmet food items, plants, live music, children's activities. 9am-2pm. 561-276-7511; delraycra.org/green-market  
**Lantana Green Market** every Sunday at The Courtyard, 204 E Ocean Ave, Lantana. 11 am-3 pm. 561-515-9919; shorelinegreenmarkets.com

Friedberg Auditorium, 777 Glades Rd, Boca Raton. 3-4:30 pm. \$60/annual membership; \$30/member; \$35/non-member & one-time guest pass at door. 561-297-3185; olliboca.fau.edu  
**12/8 - Lecture: Zenon Bilas** at Highland Beach Library, 3618 S Ocean Blvd. 5:30 pm. Free. 561-278-5455; highlandbeach.us  
**12/8 - Monterey & Paso Robles Wine Tasting** at Boca Raton Museum of Art, 501 Plaza Real. Limited seating. 6-7:30 pm. \$75/member; \$95/non-member. 561-392-2500; bocamuseum.org  
**12/8 - Poets on the Fringe** at Boca Raton Public Library, 400 NW 2nd Ave. Adults. Every Th 6-7:45 pm. Free. 561-393-7906; bocalibrary.org  
**12/8 - Virtual Book Club for Adults: Best Books of 2022** presented by Boca Raton Public Library, 400 NW 2nd Ave. Adults. 6:30-7:30 pm. Free. Link emailed upon enrollment: 561-393-7968; bocalibrary.org  
**12/8 - Celebrity Housewives Invade Delray Beach** featuring **Meredith Marks** at The Delray Beach Playhouse, 950 NW 9th St. 7:30 pm. \$50-\$75. 561-272-1281; delraybeachplayhouse.com  
**Friday - 12/9 - Florida's Raging Book Wars with Margery Marcus** at Florida Atlantic University Lifelong Learning Classroom, 777 Glades Rd, Boca Raton. 10-11:30 am. \$60/annual membership; \$40/member; \$50/non-member & one-time guest pass at the door. 561-297-3185; olliboca.fau.edu  
**12/9 - Solo Gallery Exhibition: David Rubinson** at Cultural Council of Palm Beach County, 601 Lake Ave, Lake Worth. Runs through 1/21. T-Sat noon-5 pm. Free. 561-471-2901; palmbeachculture.com  
**12/9 - Jerusalem and the Jews: Mark Twain's Journey of Enlightenment in the Holy Land with Matt Klauza** at Florida Atlantic University Friedberg Auditorium, 777 Glades Rd, Boca Raton. 12:30-2 pm. \$60/annual membership; \$30/member; \$35/non-member & one-time guest pass at the door. 561-297-3185; olliboca.fau.edu  
**12/9 - iPad Basics Class** at Delray Beach Public Library, 100 W Atlantic Ave. 1 pm. Free. Registration: 561-266-0194; delraylibrary.org  
**12/9 - Beginner Squares** at Boynton Beach Arts & Cultural Center, 125 E Ocean Ave. Adults. Every F 6:15-7:15 pm. \$6. 561-742-6221; boynton-beach.org  
**12/9 - Turnstiles: Billy Joel Tribute** at Old School Square Pavilion, 51 N Swinton Ave, Delray Beach. 6:30 pm gates open; 7:30 pm concert. Free. 561-243-6209; delraybeachfl.gov/parksandrecreation  
**12/9 - Castoffs Square Dance** at Boynton Beach Arts & Cultural Center, 125 E Ocean Ave. Basic modern western square dancing. Adults. Every F 7:15-9 pm. \$6. 561-742-6221; boynton-beach.org  
**12/9 - Sick Puppies Stand-Up Comedy Show** at Doghouse Theater, 105 NW 5th Ave, Delray Beach. Every F through 12/30 8 pm. \$25-\$30. 954-667-7735; sickpuppiescomedy.com  
**12/9-10 - Repertory Theatre Dance Ensemble Presents Nut/Cracked** at Florida Atlantic University Theatre, 777 Glades Rd, Boca Raton. F/Sat 7 pm; Sat 1 pm. \$25/general public; \$18/alumni, faculty & staff. 561-297-6124; fauevents.universitytickets.com  
**12/9-24 - Twelve Angry Men** at Palm Beach Dramaworks, 201 Clematis St, West Palm Beach. Call for times/prices: 561-514-4042, ext 2; palmbeachdramaworks.org.  
**Saturday - 12/10 - Tree Planting Event** at Fire Station #2, 2615 Woolbright Rd, Boynton Beach. City of Boynton Beach partners w/ Community Greening & St. George's Society of Palm Beach. 9-11 am. Registration: communitygreening.org  
**12/10 - Workshop: Mixed Media & Street Art Techniques** at Arts Warehouse, 313 NE 3rd St, Delray Beach. Age 16+. 10:30 am-4 pm. \$120. 561-330-9614; artwarehouse.org  
**12/10 - Meet & Greet with TCM Host Ben Mankiewicz** at Boca Raton Museum of Art, 501 Plaza Real. Limited seating. 1-2 pm. Free w/ admission. 561-392-2500; bocamuseum.org  
**12/10 - Inventors Society of South Florida Virtual Meeting.** 2nd Sat 1 pm. 1st meeting free. Registration: 561-676-5677; inventorsociety.net  
**12/10 - Workshop: Experimental Watercolor Painting** at Arts Warehouse, 313 NE 3rd St, Delray Beach. 2-5 pm. \$60/workshop. 561-330-9614; artwarehouse.org

**12/10 - Wine Glass Painting** at Art-Sea Living, 112 S. Federal Highway #7, Boynton Beach. Bring your own drinks. 4-6 pm. Paint 2 glasses \$35/supplies included. 561-737-2600; artsealiving.com  
**12/10 - Otis Cadillac & the El Dorados Rhythm and Blues Revue featuring The Sublime Seville Sisters** at Arts Garage, 94 NE 2nd Ave, Delray Beach. 8-10 pm. \$45-\$50. 561-450-6357; artsgarage.org  
**12/10-11 - Annual Boca Raton Fine Art Show** at Sanborn Square Park, 72 N Federal Hwy. 10 am-5 pm. Free. hotworks.org

### DECEMBER 11-17

**Sunday - 12/11 - Flamenco Soul Academy presents Memorias** at Lake Worth Playhouse, 713 Lake Ave. 3 pm. \$25/advance; \$28/at the door. 561-586-6410; lakeworthplayhouse.org  
**12/11 - 2nd Annual ACCF Pickleball Tournament** at Delray Beach Tennis Center, 201 W Atlantic Ave. Play in King/Queen of the Court Tournament or learn to play w/a certified pickleball pro at Beginner's Clinic. Benefits Achievement Centers for Children & Families. 3 pm. \$75/King/Queen player or beginner's clinic; free/spectator. 561-276-0520; achievementcentersfl.org  
**Monday - 12/12 - Custom Card Crafting Club** at Boynton Beach City Library, 100 E Ocean Ave. Create custom greeting cards. Adults. 10 am-noon. Free. 561-742-6390; boyntonlibrary.org  
**12/12 - Voting Rights and Wrongs: Are Recent Developments Threatening our Democracy?** with **Roy Klein** at Florida Atlantic University Friedberg Auditorium, 777 Glades Rd, Boca Raton. 10-11:30 am. \$60/annual membership; \$30/member; \$35/non-member & one-time guest pass at door. 561-297-3185; olliboca.fau.edu  
**12/12 - Secrets of the Shanghai Ghetto with Helene Herman** at Florida Atlantic University Friedberg Auditorium, 777 Glades Rd, Boca Raton. 12:30-2 pm. \$60/annual membership; \$30/member; \$35/non-member & one-time guest pass at door. 561-297-3185; olliboca.fau.edu  
**12/12 - Gmail Basics Class** at Delray Beach Public Library, 100 W Atlantic Ave. 2 pm. Free. Registration: 561-266-0194; delraylibrary.org  
**12/12 - The Four Lives of Jackie O with Rene Silvin** at Florida Atlantic University Friedberg Auditorium, 777 Glades Rd, Boca Raton. 3-4:30 pm. \$60/annual membership; \$30/member; \$35/non-member & one-time guest pass at the door. 561-297-3185; olliboca.fau.edu  
**12/12-15 - Celebrating The Songs of Jule Styne: A Musical Memories Concert** at The Delray Beach Playhouse, 950 NW 9th St. Runs through 12/20. M-Th 2 pm; T/W 7:30 pm. \$42. 561-272-1281; delraybeachplayhouse.com

**Tuesday - 12/13 - Russian Oligarchs, the State and the Vory with Robert G. Rabil** at Florida Atlantic University Friedberg Auditorium, 777 Glades Rd, Boca Raton. 10-11:30 am. \$60/annual membership; \$35/member; \$40/non-member & one-time guest pass at door. 561-297-3185; olliboca.fau.edu  
**12/13 - An Hour to Kill Mystery Book Club: Wrong Place Wrong Time** by **Gillian McAllister** at Boca Raton Public Library, 400 NW 2nd Ave. Adults. In person or virtual. 10:30-11:30 am. Registration: 561-393-7906; bocalibrary.org  
**12/13 - Junk Jewelry on Canvas Class** at Art-Sea Living, 112 S. Federal Highway #7, Boynton Beach. 11 am-1:30 pm. \$50. 561-737-2600; artsealiving.com  
**12/13 - America's Drug Problem: An American Life Lost Every 5 Minutes with Robert Stutman** at Florida Atlantic University Friedberg Auditorium, 777 Glades Rd, Boca Raton. 12:30-2 pm. \$60/annual membership; \$30/member; \$35/non-member & one-time guest pass at door. 561-297-3185; olliboca.fau.edu  
**12/13 - Gmail Advanced Class** at Delray Beach Public Library, 100 W Atlantic Ave. 2 pm. Free. Registration: 561-266-0194; delraylibrary.org  
**12/13 - Dramawise: 12 Angry Men with Gary Cadwallader** at Florida Atlantic University Lifelong Learning Classroom, 777 Glades Rd, Boca Raton. 3-4:30 pm. \$60/annual membership; \$40/member; \$50/non-member & one-time guest pass at door. 561-297-3185; olliboca.fau.edu  
**12/13 - Cybersecurity: How to Protect Yourself From Cybercrime!** with **Michael Levin** at Florida Atlantic University Friedberg Auditorium, 777 Glades Rd, Boca Raton. 3-4:30 pm. \$60/annual membership; \$30/member; \$35/non-member & one-time guest pass at door. 561-297-3185; olliboca.fau.edu  
**12/13 - The Discreet Hero** by **Mario Vargas Llosa** part of Tuesday Book Group at Delray Beach Public Library, 100 W Atlantic Ave. 6 pm. Free. Registration: 561-266-0194; delraylibrary.org  
**12/13 - Custom Card Crafting Club: Evening Edition** at Boynton Beach City Library, 100 E Ocean Ave. Create custom greeting cards. Adults. 6-8 pm. Free. Registration: 561-742-6390; boyntonlibrary.org  
**12/13 - Frank, Sammy, and Dean: A Night of Swinging Music with Taylor Hagood** at Florida Atlantic University Friedberg Auditorium, 777 Glades Rd, Boca Raton. 7-8:30 pm. \$60/annual membership; \$60/member; \$30/member; \$35/non-member & one-time guest pass at door. 561-297-3185; olliboca.fau.edu  
**12/13 - All Arts Open Mic Night** at Arts Garage, 94 NE 2nd Ave, Delray Beach. 2nd T 8-10 pm. \$5-\$10. 561-450-6357; artsgarage.org  
**Wednesday - 12/14 - GFWC Woman's Club of Delray Beach Meeting** at Teen Center, 505 SE 5th Ave. Bring your own refreshments/coffee. 10 am. Free. delraywomensclub.com  
**12/14 - The Presidency of Abraham Lincoln at 150 Years: Lessons for a New Age with Stephen Engle** at Florida Atlantic University Friedberg Auditorium, 777 Glades Rd, Boca Raton. 10-11:30 am. \$60/annual membership; \$30/member; \$35/non-member & one-time guest pass at door. 561-297-3185; olliboca.fau.edu

**12/14 - Stephen Sondheim: The Maverick of American Musical Theater: An Exploration of Broadway's Most Revered and Influential Composer & Lyricist with Paul Offenkrantz** at Florida Atlantic University Friedberg Auditorium, 777 Glades Rd, Boca Raton. 12:30-2 pm. \$60/annual membership; \$30/member; \$35/non-member & one-time guest pass at door. 561-297-3185; olliboca.fau.edu  
**12/14 - Appy Hour: Streaming Video** at Delray Beach Public Library, 100 W Atlantic Ave. 2 pm. Free. Registration: 561-266-0194; delraylibrary.org  
**12/14 - Ukraine: A Tragic, Complicated, and Interesting History with Stephen Berk** at Florida Atlantic University Friedberg Auditorium, 777 Glades Rd, Boca Raton. 3-4:30 pm. \$60/annual membership; \$35/member; \$40/non-member & one-time guest pass at door. 561-297-3185; olliboca.fau.edu  
**12/14 - Artistic Journeys Art Lecture** at Delray Beach Public Library, 100 W Atlantic Ave. 6 pm. Free. Registration: 561-266-0194; delraylibrary.org  
**12/14 - Town Hall Talk: The Second Seminole War in Palm Beach County** The Schmidt Boca Raton History Museum, 71 N Federal Hwy. 6 pm check-in/refreshments; 6:30 pm lecture. Free/BRHS member; \$10/guest. 561-395-6766 x100; bocahistory.org  
**12/14 - Writer's Corner** at Boynton Beach City Library, 100 E Ocean Ave. Manuscript critiquing by published authors. Adults. 2nd W 6:30-8 pm. Free. 561-742-6390; boyntonlibrary.org  
**Thursday - 12/15 - BYOB (Bring Your Own Book) Club** presented by Delray Beach Public Library at The Coffee District, 325 NE 2nd Ave. 3rd Th 9:45 am. Free. Registration: 561-266-0196; delraylibrary.org  
**12/15 - Create a Greeting Card with Adobe InDesign** at Delray Beach Public Library, 100 W Atlantic Ave. 10 am. Free. Registration: 561-266-0196; delraylibrary.org  
**12/15 - Peaceful Shell Wreath Class** at Art-Sea Living, 112 S. Federal Highway #7, Boynton Beach. 11 am-2 pm. \$65. 561-737-2600; artsealiving.com  
**12/15 - Building Boca's Land Boom: Addison Mizner and Early 1900s Boca Raton** at Boca Raton Public Library, 400 NW 2nd Ave. Adults. Noon-1:30 pm. Free. 561-393-7968; bocalibrary.org  
**12/15 - The Beatles Film Fest: Nowhere Boy (2009 R)** at Delray Beach Public Library, 100 W Atlantic Ave. 1 pm. Free. Registration: 561-266-0194; delraylibrary.org  
**12/15 - Abstract BYOB Painting Class** at Art-Sea Living, 112 S. Federal Highway #7, Boynton Beach. Bring your own drinks. 4-6 pm. \$40. 561-737-2600; artsealiving.com  
**12/15 - Hallu - The Korean New Wave Films: Oldboy (R)** at Boca Raton Public Library, 400 NW 2nd Ave. Adults. 6-8 pm. Free. 561-393-7968; bocalibrary.org  
**12/15 - Boynton Beach Gold Coast Band: Sounds of the Winter Season** at Boynton Beach First Baptist Church, 301 N Seacrest Blvd. 7:30 pm. \$10/adult; free/child 12 & under. goldcoastband.org  
**12/15-18 - International Beatles On The Beach Festival** at multiple locations in Delray Beach. beatlesonthebeach.com  
**Friday - 12/16 - iPad Intermediate Class** at Delray Beach Public Library, 100 W Atlantic

Ave. 1 pm. Free. Registration: 561-266-0194; delraylibrary.org  
**12/16 - The Beatles Film Fest: Yesterday (2019 PG13)** at Delray Beach Public Library, 100 W Atlantic Ave. 1 pm. Free. Registration: 561-266-0194; delraylibrary.org  
**12/16 - Basic Orchid Care Class 4: Name the Orchid!** at Delray Beach Public Library, 100 W Atlantic Ave. 3 pm. Free. Registration: 561-266-0196; delraylibrary.org  
**12/16 - Friday Flicks: Elf** at Centennial Park Under the Banyans, 120 E Ocean Ave, Boynton Beach. Different movie every month. 5-8 pm. Free. 561-742-6010; boynton-beach.org/flicks  
**12/16 - Bonfire on the Beach** at Lake Worth Casino and Beach Complex, 10 S Ocean Blvd. Bring beach chairs/blankets. Held again 1/6-6-10 pm. Free; metered parking. 561-533-7395; lakeworthbeachfl.gov  
**Saturday - 12/17 - Oceanfront Bark** at Oceanfront Park, 6415 N Ocean Blvd, Boynton Beach. Well-behaved dogs welcome to "pawty" on the beach. Dogs allowed off leash on the beach & in the water. Dogs must be appropriately licensed & well-behaved. 9 am-noon. Free. 561-742-6221; boynton-beach.org  
**12/17 - Madden NFL Tournament** at Hester Center, 1901 N Seacrest Blvd, Boynton Beach. Age 18+. 10 am-2 pm. \$20/resident; \$25/non-resident. 561-742-6550; boynton-beach.org  
**12/17 - The Beatles Film Fest: I Wanna Hold Your Hand (1978 PG)** at Delray Beach Public Library, 100 W Atlantic Ave. 10 am. Free. Registration: 561-266-0194; delraylibrary.org  
**12/17 - Open Figure Studio with Model** at Arts Warehouse, 313 NE 3rd St, Delray Beach. Age 18+. 10:30 am-12:30 pm. \$15. 561-330-9614; artwarehouse.org  
**12/17 - The Beatles Film Fest: Living is Easy with Eyes Closed (2013 NR)** at Delray Beach Public Library, 100 W Atlantic Ave. In Spanish w/English subtitles. 1 pm. Free. Registration: 561-266-0194; delraylibrary.org  
**12/17 - Workshop: Basics of Figure Drawing** at Arts Warehouse, 313 NE 3rd St, Delray Beach. 2-4 pm. \$50. 561-330-9614; artwarehouse.org  
**12/17 - Artist at Work: Sarah E. Huang** at Boca Raton Museum of Art, 501 Plaza Real. 3-4 pm. \$5/member; \$15/non-member. 561-392-2500; bocamuseum.org  
**12/17 - Anthony Geraci & The Boston Blues All-Stars** at Arts Garage, 94 NE 2nd Ave, Delray Beach. 8 pm. \$40-\$45. 561-450-6357; artsgarage.org

### DECEMBER 18-24

**Sunday - 12/18 - Chanukah begins**  
**12/18 - Blackmer's Market** at Spady Museum, 170 NW 5th Ave, Delray Beach. Food, clothing, community organizations. Family fare. 3rd Sun through 3/19. 11 am-4 pm. Free/admission. 561-243-1077; downtowndelraybeach.com  
**12/18 - Friends Speaker Series: Inexpensive but Effective Wills, Living Wills, Health Care Surrogacy, and Power of Attorney with Robert I. Rubin** at Boca Raton Public Library, 400 NW 2nd Ave. Adults. 11:30 am-1 pm. Free. 561-393-7968; bocalibrary.org  
**12/18 - Exhibit Artists Reception: Innovative** at Artist's Eye Gallery Boutique, 604 Lucerne Ave, Lake Worth. Runs through 1/7. 1-3 pm. Free. 561-586-8666; lwartleague.org  
**12/18 - The Beatles Film Fest: Good Ol' Freda (2013 PG)** at Delray Beach Public

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Library, 100 W Atlantic Ave. 2 pm. Free. Registration: 561-266-0194; [delraylibrary.org](http://delraylibrary.org)  
**12/18 - Story Central Storytelling Slam** at Boca Raton Public Library, 400 NW 2nd Ave. Adults. 4-5:30 pm. Free. 561-393-7906; [bocalibrary.org](http://bocalibrary.org)

**12/18 - Anthony Rodia - The Road Rage Tour** at The Delray Beach Playhouse, 950 NW 9th St. 5:30 pm & 8:30 pm. \$69-\$89. 561-272-1281; [delraybeachplayhouse.com](http://delraybeachplayhouse.com)

**Monday - 12/19 - Pep Rally for Roofclaim.com Boca Raton Bowl** at Mizner Park Amphitheater, 590 Plaza Real, Boca Raton. 6-9 pm. Free. [roofclaimbocaratonbowl.com](http://roofclaimbocaratonbowl.com)

**12/19 - Poetry Night** at Arts Garage, 94 NE 2nd Ave, Delray Beach. 3rd M 8-10 pm. \$5-\$10. 561-450-6357; [artsgarage.org](http://artsgarage.org)

**Tuesday - 12/20 - Proust Book Club: Swann's Way** at Boca Raton Public Library, 400 NW 2nd Ave. Adults. 10:30-11:30 am. Free. 561-393-7968; [bocalibrary.org](http://bocalibrary.org)

**12/20 - 2022 Roofclaim.com Boca Raton Bowl** at Florida Atlantic University Stadium, 777 Glades Rd, Boca Raton. Postseason college football. 7:30-11 pm. Tickets start at \$32. 561-362-3650; [roofclaimbocaratonbowl.com](http://roofclaimbocaratonbowl.com)

**12/20 - FAU Astronomical Observatory** public viewing day at Florida Atlantic University Science & Engineering Building 4th floor, 777 Glades Rd, Boca Raton. 1st F & 3rd T 7:30 pm. Free. Schedule subject to change; check website: 561-297-7827; [cescos.fau.edu/observatory](http://cescos.fau.edu/observatory)

**Thursday - 12/22 - Tap Dancing Through Auschwitz: A Play** by Tyler Ellman directed by Christine Barclay at Arts Garage, 94 NE 2nd Ave, Delray Beach. Held again noon 12/24. 7:30 pm. \$30-\$35. 561-450-6357; [artsgarage.org](http://artsgarage.org)

**Friday - 12/23 - Love and Joy: The Sounds of The Bahamas** featuring The Togetherness Band at Arts Garage, 94 NE 2nd Ave, Delray Beach. 7-10 pm. \$40-\$45. 561-450-6357; [artsgarage.org](http://artsgarage.org)

**DECEMBER 25-31**

**Sunday - 12/25 - Christmas Day**

**Monday - 12/26 - Hanukkah ends**

**Tuesday - 12/27 - Friends Virtual Book Club: The Word is Murder** by Anthony Horowitz presented by Boca Raton Public Library, 400 NW 2nd Ave. Adults. 10:30-11:30 am. Free. Email for zoom link: [DTLbookclub@bocalibraryfriends.org](mailto:DTLbookclub@bocalibraryfriends.org); 561-393-7968; [bocalibrary.org](http://bocalibrary.org)

**12/27 - Crafts and Coffee: Beeswax Roll-up Candles** at Boynton Beach City Library, 100 E Ocean Ave. Materials & instruction provided. Adults. 5-7 pm. Free. Registration: 561-742-6390; [boyntonlibrary.org](http://boyntonlibrary.org)

**Thursday - 12/29 - Hallyu - The Korean New Wave Films: Burning (R)** at Boca Raton Public Library, 400 NW 2nd Ave. Adults. 6-8 pm. Free. 561-393-7968; [bocalibrary.org](http://bocalibrary.org)

**Friday - 12/30 - Garage Queens: Fierce, Fabulous and Fascinating** at Arts Garage, 94 NE 2nd Ave, Delray Beach. 8-10 pm. \$30-\$35. 561-450-6357; [artsgarage.org](http://artsgarage.org)

**12/30-1/1 - Feelin' Good: Michael Buble Tribute Concert** at The Delray Beach Playhouse, 950 NW 9th St. F/Sat 8 pm; Sun 2 pm. \$45-\$125. 561-272-1281; [delraybeachplayhouse.com](http://delraybeachplayhouse.com)

**JANUARY 1-7**

**Sunday - 1/1 - New Year's Day**  
**Monday - 1/2-3/2023 - Auditions: Dial "M" For Murder** by Fredrick Knott at Lake Worth Playhouse, 713 Lake Ave. Production dates 3/3-12/2023. 7 pm. First come first served. 561-586-6410; [lakeworthplayhouse.org](http://lakeworthplayhouse.org)

**1/2-3/2023 - Auditions for Plaza Suite (3 Men & 2 Women)** at The Delray Beach Playhouse, 950 NW 9th St. 7:30 pm. 561-272-1281; [delraybeachplayhouse.com](http://delraybeachplayhouse.com)

**Tuesday - 1/3 - Boca Raton Garden Club Meeting** at Boca Raton Community Center, 150 Crawford Blvd. Roger Brooks, retired Science Educator, Nursery Owner: Tissue Culture/Reproduction of Plant Material. 1 pm. Free. 561-395-9376; [bocaratongardenclub.org](http://bocaratongardenclub.org)

**1/3 - Comedy Night** at Arts Garage, 94 NE 2nd Ave, Delray Beach. 8-10 pm. \$5-\$10. 561-450-6357; [artsgarage.org](http://artsgarage.org)

**Wednesday - 1/4 - The Ultimate Folk Experience: Songs of The Great American Folk Music Revival** at The Delray Beach Playhouse, 950 NW 9th St. 2 pm. \$32. 561-272-1281; [delraybeachplayhouse.com](http://delraybeachplayhouse.com)

**1/4 - DSQ in The Round** part of Music at St. Paul's Episcopal Church, 188 S Swinton Ave, Delray Beach. 7:30 pm. \$50-\$60. 561-276-4541; [musicstpauls.org](http://musicstpauls.org)

**Thursday - 1/5 - Jill Switzer Book Signing: The Contemporary Singer's Blueprint: From Amateur to Professional and Beyond** at Arts Garage, 94 NE 2nd Ave, Delray Beach. 5-7 pm. \$15. 561-450-6357; [artsgarage.org](http://artsgarage.org)

**1/5 - Hollywood Movie Trivia Night** at Boca Raton Museum of Art, 501 Plaza Real. 6-8 pm. \$10/member; \$25/non-member. RSVP by 1/5: 561-392-2500; [bocamuseum.org](http://bocamuseum.org)

**1/5 - Norwegian Film Series: Painter and the Thief** at Boca Raton Public Library, 400 NW 2nd Ave. Adults. 6-8 pm. Free. 561-393-7968; [bocalibrary.org](http://bocalibrary.org)

**1/5-8 - Tapestry: The Carole King Songbook** at The Delray Beach Playhouse, 950 NW 9th St. Th/F 8 pm; Sat/Sun 2 pm. \$45. 561-272-1281; [delraybeachplayhouse.com](http://delraybeachplayhouse.com)

**1/5-23 - Time Alone** by Alessandro Camon at Boca Stage at Sol Theatre, 3333 N Federal Hwy, Boca Raton. Runs through 1/22. Th preview 8 pm; F/Sat 8 pm; Sun 2 pm. \$40-50. 561-447-8829; [bocastage.org](http://bocastage.org)

**Friday - 1/6 - Exhibition: Serge Strosberg: Veni, Vidi, Vici** at Cultural Council of Palm Beach County, 601 Lake Ave, Lake Worth. Runs through 2/18. T-Sat noon-5 pm. Free. 561-471-2901; [palmbeachculture.com](http://palmbeachculture.com)

**1/6 - Learn Basic Cricut Design Session 5: Vinyl Basics** at Delray Beach Public Library, 100 W Atlantic Ave. 3 pm. Free. Registration: 561-266-0194; [delraylibrary.org](http://delraylibrary.org)

**1/6 - K Luv + United Funk Foundation** at Old School Square Pavilion, 51 N Swinton Ave, Delray Beach. 6:30 pm gates open; 7:30 pm concert. Free. 561-243-6209; [delraybeachfl.gov/parksandrecreation](http://delraybeachfl.gov/parksandrecreation)

**1/6 - Drive-In Movie Night** at Lantana Sports Park, 903 N 8th St. 7 pm. 561-540-5754; [lantana.org](http://lantana.org)

**1/6 - Kevin Bozeman: The Art of Laughter** at Arts Garage, 94 NE 2nd Ave, Delray Beach. 8 pm. \$45-\$50. 561-450-6357; [artsgarage.org](http://artsgarage.org)

**Saturday - 1/7 - Selwyn Birchwood Returns** at Arts Garage, 94 NE 2nd Ave, Delray Beach. 8-10 pm. \$30-\$35. 450-6357; [artsgarage.org](http://artsgarage.org)



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## House of the Month

A well-appointed living room overlooks a terrace with the water beyond.



The master bedroom suite is 14-by-14 with ample closets and en suite bath.



You can enjoy the stunning sunset views across the lagoon, nature preserve and the Intracoastal Waterway while sitting on your outdoor terrace.

## Ocean Ridge pied-a-terre with protected lagoon view



Custom cabinetry, stainless steel appliances and marble countertops are features of the open kitchen.

Located between the beach and the Intracoastal in quiet Ocean Park Manor in Ocean Ridge, this completely updated 2-bedroom, 2-bath condo has custom cabinetry, travertine and tile floors, a washer/dryer and carport.

The corner first-floor residence has East exposure and plenty of light through its full impact glass windows and doors along with the breathtaking direct waterfront views.

It is situated directly across from the beach and is the perfect location for privacy and barrier island living. The complex is pet friendly with some restrictions. Furnishings are negotiable.

Offered at \$799,000. Valerie Coz, Douglas Elliman Real Estate, 900 East Atlantic Avenue, Suite #1, Delray Beach; 561-386-8011, [valeriecoz@gmail.com](mailto:valeriecoz@gmail.com)

Located on Ocean Boulevard in Ocean Ridge, the unit has a view across to mangroves in the Intracoastal Waterway.



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 homes.

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## Featured Listings



**Opportunity to Build on Direct Ocean Parcel | Manalapan**  
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Shelly Newman | 612.860.4599



**Ocean Ridge**  
51 River Drive | \$3,750,000  
Nick Younker | 440.867.3930



**Delray Beach**  
424 Palm Trail | \$2,850,000  
Margaret Russell | 561.358.1298



**Thirty Three Sixty Condo | Palm Beach**  
3360 S. Ocean Boulevard 5A11 | \$1,995,000  
Jason Haverkamp | 415.846.8216



**The Fields | Lake Worth**  
8305 Pedigree Circle | \$1,050,000  
Cynthia Hauber | 561.827.7130  
Christina Soave | 561.577.2805



**Boca Raton**  
18146 Long Lake Drive | \$4,950,000  
Matthew Bachrad | 917.628.4021  
Danielle Stern | 818.216.2320



**Villa Magna | Highland Beach**  
2727 S. Ocean Boulevard 801 & 805 | \$5,600,000  
Terri Berman | 561.445.2929  
Laura Gallagher | 561.441.6111



**Royal Oak Hills | Boca Raton**  
401 S.W. 7th Avenue | \$719,000  
Terry Larsen | 561.302.5555



**Boynton Beach**  
2111 S.W. Park Drive | \$345,900  
Amanda Clark | 954.234.9203  
Clark Parriott | 443.250.2910

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